

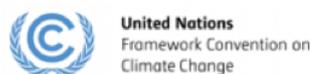


Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.



# SYLLABUS

## Open Online Course on Gender and Environment





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# Why You Should Take This Course?

**Do you want to find out why promoting gender equality and women's empowerment can help deliver better environmental outcomes as well as learn how you can do it? Then, this course is for you!**

The Open Online Course on Gender and Environment will help you better understand the linkages between gender and the environment. It will provide you with the knowledge and tools to mainstream gender, and to be an effective change-maker for sustainable development. It will also give you facts and figures, and a better understanding of the global international frameworks related to gender and environment. It is a "one-stop-shop" for information and illustrations on gender dimensions linked to biodiversity, climate change, land degradation, international waters, and chemicals and waste.

This self-paced free course has been developed by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP), UNITAR/UN CC:Learn, with valuable contributions from the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), UN Women, UNDP, UN Environment and the Secretariats of the Multilateral Environmental Agreements that the GEF serves, including the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, among others.

## Target Groups and Learning Objectives

**The course provides clear, concise and up-to-date information for anybody interested in exploring the linkages between gender and environment, particularly:**

- Specialists working on biodiversity, climate change, land degradation, international waters, chemicals and waste.
- Development practitioners working at the international, national or at the local level in environmental sectors.
- Policy-makers or government officials working on environmental policies and projects.
- Anyone curious who would like to learn more about how efforts to address environmental degradation and promote gender equality can be mutually supportive.

**After completing the course, participants will be able to:**

- Describe the main links between gender and environment.
- Identify the main global environmental frameworks that include gender-sensitive approaches.
- Explain how gender-responsive policies and projects can support environmental outcomes.
- Illustrate key benefits of promoting gender equality in biodiversity, climate change, land degradation, international waters, chemicals and waste.

## Course Structure and Content

**The course is structured around six introductory modules:**

1. Gender and Environment
2. Gender and Biodiversity
3. Gender and Climate Change
4. Gender and Land Degradation
5. Gender and International Waters
6. Gender and Chemicals and Waste



## Module 1: Gender and Environment

This module introduces the linkage between gender and environment and shows how addressing this nexus benefits our societies and ecosystems. It includes references to international commitments and highlights opportunities for mainstreaming gender in biodiversity, climate change, land degradation, international waters, and chemicals and waste management.

### Learning Objectives

After completing Module 1, participants will be able to:

- Identify the relationship between gender and the environment.
- Indicate international legal frameworks and commitments on gender equality and the environment.
- Explain how gender equality leads to environmental benefits and provide concrete examples.
- Describe the links between gender and biodiversity, climate change, land degradation, international waters and chemicals and waste.

### Sections

- Environment Meets Gender
- International Commitments to Gender Equality and the Environment
- Why a Gender Responsive Approach Matters
- Gender and Biodiversity, Climate Change, Land Degradation, International Waters and Chemicals.

## Module 2: Gender and Biodiversity

This module focuses on the link between gender and biodiversity and presents relevant international commitments, as well as action at the national and local level, highlighting how gender equality can contribute to biodiversity conservation.

### Learning Objectives

After completing Module 2, participants will be able to:

- Describe the relationship between gender and biodiversity.
- Identify key international commitments on gender equality and biodiversity conservation.
- Explain how gender equality contributes to biodiversity conservation.
- Provide examples of gender-responsive biodiversity conservation initiatives.

### Sections

- Gender and Biodiversity
- Dimensions of Biodiversity Conservation and Management from a Gender Perspective
- Gender and Biodiversity: International Frameworks and Actions.



## Module 3: Gender and Climate Change

This module introduces the link between gender and climate change, underlining how women and men are experiencing its effects differently, as well as how they are both part of the solution. It also outlines the main international and national instruments relating to gender equality and climate change and presents suggestions for action.

### Learning Objectives

After completing Module 3, participants will be able to:

- Describe the relationship between gender and climate change.
- Identify the main international commitments on gender equality and climate change.
- Explain how gender equality contributes to addressing climate change.
- Provide examples of gender-responsive initiatives addressing climate change.

### Sections

- Gender and Climate Change
- Dimensions of Climate Change and the Gender Gap
- Gender and Climate Change: A Framework for Action.

## Module 4: Gender and Land Degradation

This module introduces the ecological, economic and social drivers of land degradation, where gender aspects need to be considered and why sustainable land use, gender equality and women's empowerment are inextricably linked.

### Learning Objectives

After completing Module 4, participants will be able to:

- Describe the relationship between gender and land degradation.
- Identify the main international commitments on gender equality and land degradation.
- Explain how gender equality contributes to achieving sustainable land use and management.
- Provide examples of gender-responsive initiatives on sustainable land use and management.

### Sections

- Gender and Land Degradation: The Nexus
- Dimensions of Land Degradation and the Gender Gap
- Institutional Framework for Action.



## Module 5: Gender and International Waters

This module presents how women and men interact with water resources differently, the structural barriers that lead to gender inequalities in the management of international waters, and the importance of engaging both women and men in improved governance systems that will foster more equitable and sustainable water resource use.

### Learning Objectives

After completing Module 5, participants will be able to:

- Describe the relationship between gender and international waters.
- Identify key international commitments on gender equality and international water resources.
- Explain how gender equality contributes to the sustainable management of international waters.
- Provide examples of gender responsive initiatives related to international waters.

### Sections

- Gender and International Waters
- Dimensions of International Waters and the Gender Gap
- Gender and International Waters: A Framework for Action.

## Module 6: Gender, Chemicals and Waste

This module highlights the links between gender, chemicals and waste, the gender differences in exposure to toxic chemicals, and their impacts on human health and the environment, and how gender responsive approaches can contribute to the sound management of chemicals and waste.

### Learning Objectives

After completing Module 6, participants will be able to:

- Describe the relationship between gender, chemicals and waste.
- Identify key international commitments on gender equality and sound management of chemicals and waste.
- Explain how gender equality contributes to sound management of chemicals and waste.
- Provide examples of gender-responsive initiatives on chemicals and waste safety.

### Sections

- Gender and Chemicals
- Dimensions of Chemicals and Waste Management and the Gender Gap
- Gender, Chemicals and Waste: A Framework for Action.



## Methodology, Certification and Feedback

The course is self-paced and not moderated. It has been divided into six modules to help reach the overall learning objectives. The modules are self-standing and can be completed in any order. It is however suggested to start the course with Module 1, providing a general introduction to the gender and environment nexus, including key concepts, and then continue with the thematic modules of interest. Each module contains an interactive lesson and a quiz.

The interactive lessons are provided with the purpose of achieving the 4 specific learning objectives of each module and contain 40-60 slides of content supported by case studies, videos and exercises. The lessons take around 1 hour to complete.

All modules can be downloaded in PDF format for offline study or for training purposes. The modules also contain a wealth of links to other resources on gender and environment and are thus a gateway to more in depth and specific information. All these resources open in new external windows.

The quizzes can be completed at any time. They assess the achievement of the learning objectives for each module. A quiz can be attempted a maximum of three times. After passing each quiz with at least 70% of correct answers, the learner can automatically download a certificate of participation from the course home page. Once the six quizzes successfully passed, the learner can download a certificate of completion.

Participants can provide feedback on the course by filling a feedback form which can be accessed in the 'Certificate and Course Evaluation' section on the course home page.

## Technical Requirements

### Browser:

- The course works best with Firefox 3.6 or higher (download for free at <https://www.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/new/>).
- The course is also compatible with Google Chrome (download for free at <https://www.google.com/intl/en/chrome/browser/>).
- For technical reasons, it is not recommended to use Internet Explorer.
- Note JavaScript & Cookies must be enabled.

### Software:

- Adobe Acrobat Reader (download for free at <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>).
- Microsoft Office (Windows or Apple version) or Open Office (download for free at <http://www.openoffice.org>).

**Platform:** Windows 95, 98, 2000, NT, ME, XP or superior; MacOS 9 or MacOS X

**Hardware:** 64 MB of RAM, 1 GB of free disk space; Modem: 56 K.