



This checklist is intended for use by investors to:

- 1 Support your **due diligence process** to check if an investment qualifies as gender-smart climate finance.
- 2 Identify opportunities to deepen the gender and climate impact of the investment.

**A gender-smart climate finance investment delivers climate outcomes and promotes gender equality and women’s empowerment.**  
 These investments can be defined as Paris-aligned, and meeting both climate finance criteria and **2X criteria**. More detailed definitions can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

Thematic area	Due diligence for climate finance with a gender lens: Checklist questions:	Yes	No
<b>1. Paris alignment</b>	<b>Have you verified that 100% of the activities of the organisation / project are Paris-aligned?</b>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the investee fund or FI have a Paris alignment approach? (e.g. a 1.5 degree aligned net zero target)</li> <li>• Are women playing an active role in this, for example through leadership and decision-making?</li> </ul>		
<b>2. Physical and Transition risk (TCFD)</b>	<b>Has the financial institution or fund adopted the recommendations of the Taskforce for Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD)?</b>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Has it made one or more disclosures?</li> <li>• Is this institution or fund TCFD-ready, or taking steps to become TCFD-ready?</li> <li>• Have you identified areas for improvement during TCFD-aligned processes and due diligence?</li> <li>• Does it consider gender when assessing physical or transition risks?</li> </ul>		
<b>3. Climate Finance qualification</b>	<b>Have you verified that the deal qualifies as climate mitigation and/or adaptation finance, using criteria based on an existing and recognised taxonomy?</b>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have you quantified the percentage of the investment that qualifies as climate finance?</li> <li>• Have you overlaid a gender lens on the climate finance qualification?</li> </ul>		

Thematic area		Due diligence for climate finance with a gender lens: Checklist questions:	Yes	No	
4. Gender-smart qualification (2X)	2X Criteria applied at the gender and climate nexus	Have you verified that the climate finance deal meets at least one of the <b>2X Challenge criteria</b> ?			
	Entrepreneurship (funds only)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Was the climate fund founded by one or more women?</li> </ul>			
	Leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do women represent 30% or more of the Board or senior management team?</li> </ul>			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Has the leadership committed to positive climate impact?</li> </ul>			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Are any initiatives in place in the climate finance fund or FI to promote women in leadership?</li> </ul>			
	Employees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do women make up 40% or more of the workforce? (for “classic” FIs only) Or 30-50% or more of the workforce, with the 2X % threshold determined by the sectors invested in (for FIs or funds with a sector-specific lens)</li> </ul>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Are there specific policies to support inclusivity of women, including equal opportunities to employment, retention, equal pay, and career advancement?</li> </ul>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have steps been taken to ensure women in the workforce (including permanent, contract and seasonal staff, and those in certain roles) are not disproportionately vulnerable to health, safety, or gendered risks?</li> </ul>					
Consumers (& end users)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(For customer facing funds or FIs only) Does the FI specifically target female customers and/or design climate-smart products and services tailored to women’s needs?</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(For customer facing funds or FIs only) Does the FI or fund collect and monitor gender-disaggregated data on demand, product and/or service usage, and customer satisfaction for its climate-smart products or services? (for example, data related to accessibility and affordability, to inform decision-making related to financial product design, marketing, sales, pricing, and distribution)</li> </ul>				
Investments through Financial Intermediaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(For non-customer facing funds or FIs only) Do 30% of the portfolio companies of the climate finance fund meet at least one direct 2X criteria (for entrepreneurship, board representation/leadership, employees and customers)?</li> </ul>				
5. Climate and gender business case	<b>What are the expected benefits to the business of the climate and gender smart activity?</b> (e.g. greater customer loyalty or reaching a new customer base, less employee turnover)				
6. Climate and gender impact	<b>Have you evaluated, and where possible quantified, the investment’s expected climate and gender impact?</b> (it is <u>recommended that this covers</u> what the expected impacts are; who benefits; by how much; and the enterprise’s contribution and any risks to impact)				
	<b>Understanding the impact case at the climate and gender nexus</b>				
	Is there commitment or capacity for the climate finance investment to do any of the following:				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote or accelerate women entrepreneurs and/or women leaders to advance climate action</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create green quality jobs for women and undertake workforce gender diversity and inclusion efforts</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhance women’s and girls’ resilience and adaptive capacity to climate change and environmental degradation</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Design or refine product or service offerings to better serve female customers and improve women’s access to finance for low-emission or climate resilient solutions?</li> </ul>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Address known gender gaps / inequalities through the climate-smart products / services generated through the investment (e.g. financial products for women entrepreneurs offering climate-smart solutions; provides grant funding for gender-smart green energy projects)</li> </ul>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Address gender-related risks (e.g. women entrepreneurs’ vulnerability to financial losses from physical climate risks)</li> </ul>					