

## **SUPPORTING NATIONAL ACTION THROUGH HLPF OUTCOMES**

I am Evelyn Ugbe speaking on behalf of Women Environmental Programme and a member of Women's Major Group

Challenges still exist in actualizing gender equality and full human rights for women and girls. Over the last two decades there have been many new commitments and increasing political rhetoric on gender equality and the realisation of rights for women and girls, but limited real progress in achieving gender equality. All the SDGs, even the SDGs that do not have language on women or gender equality, must be implemented with a gender perspective while focusing on women and girls.

Experiences in Nigeria including challenges to implementing P2015 agenda

The priorities of developing governments and individuals such as Nigeria are often short term e.g. meeting the basic needs of population today. For example, providing shelter and food. Many developed countries are experiencing internal conflict/natural disasters and money is spent on the military/disaster relief rather than on these basic needs and longer term sustainable initiative.

Challenges of finding sustainable energy for Nigerians particularly the rural women . Renewable energy constitutes a panacea of sorts, offering solutions to every one of the problems posed by conventional energy sources. They are clean, safe, inexhaustible, and they satisfy the criteria for sustainability prescribed by the United Nations: the ability to meet the energy needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Nigeria is off track in meeting the MDGs, many of which happen at the local level and must be mindful of the need for better integration between levels of government, mainstreaming support within budgets, and improving transparency and accountability

In a bid to address the challenge of sustainable development globally, and particularly in Nigeria, all available means must be employed to tackle related problems of the environment as well as economic and social issues

Recommendations on how HLPF can support countries in implementation and achieving the SDGs

Review architecture by creating an integrated multi-level review architecture of the HLPF can support national level implementation.

Countries should set up time bound national action plans to reach goals. Regular national reviews and global monitoring of progress will support forward movement, ensuring that no one is left behind.

An important challenge that must be met is participation of civil society. The forum should entrench periodic reviews of the progress of implementing SDG at the national/sub-national level, with active participation of CSOs and major groups where appropriate, with view support reaching targets and goals. . For example, ministries often host working groups on

specific issues and thematic issues, and HLPF can support sharing best practices in this regard among countries.

The HLPF can support national level implementation through a technology facilitation mechanism to Review and address systemic obstacles to accessing environmentally safe, socially appropriate, gender-sensitive and economically equitable technologies, innovations and knowledge, including traditional knowledge and practices

They should recognize the developmental role of local government as a partner in the implementation of the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Work to ensure that implementation should be undertaken as locally as possible, and influence the decision makers who will be at the HLPF to carry this message forward, so that local government and other stakeholders such as grass root based NGOs can play its rightful role in implementing the SDGs post 2015

Member States must take responsibility for their actions and commitments through gender sensitive financing (public financing), transparency and accountability as well as monitoring and evaluation for the effective implementation of the post2015 SDGs particularly climate change and development.

On a final note Encourage capacity-building efforts by providing space to exchange policy solutions, best practices and lessons learned, and create new collaborations .