Integrating Gender in SANREM and Feed the Future Programs

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Gender breakfast at the 2007 SANREM Annual Meeting in Cochabamba

Foreshadows cross-cutting research activities in Phase IV
2007 SANREM Annual Meeting in Cochabamba

He can sing, but can he dance?
Framing the Gendered Dimensions of Sustainable Agriculture and Natural Resource Management

1. How does gender affect the sustainable results of our programs?
2. How do our programs affect gender relations?
Gender Dimensions Framework

- Beliefs and perceptions
- Access to resources
- Laws, legal rights, policies, and institutions
- Practices and participation

The Landscape (Space)

(Rubin et al. 2009)
Feed The Future Gender Strategy

- “...investments in women both reduce poverty and promote global stability” (Feed the Future 2012)
  - Promote women’s access to and control over physical and financial assets so as to improve women farmer’s agricultural output

- “The benefits of increased productivity and income for women have the potential to amplify across families and generations” (Feed the Future 2012)

- Comprehensively monitor and evaluate how programs affect women and men as well as the relations between them:
  - Collection of sex-disaggregated data
  - Utilization of impact evaluations designed to critically evaluate women’s empowerment and gender integration
  - Applying the Women’s Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI)
Women’s Empowerment In Agriculture Index

- Documents women’s engagement in agricultural production relative to five dimensions (Fig 1)
- Used to identify specific constraints and opportunities women’s involvement in agriculture
- Developed in partnership by USAID, IFPRI, and the Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative
- Pilot surveys conducted in Bangladesh, Guatemala, and Uganda

Fig 1 The Five Domains of Empowerment in the WEAI

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Domain</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Production</td>
<td>Input into productive decisions</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Autonomy in production</td>
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<tr>
<td>Resources</td>
<td>Ownership of assets</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Purchase, sale, or transfer of assets</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Access to and decisions on credit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Income</td>
<td>Control over use of income</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leadership</td>
<td>Group member</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Speaking in public</td>
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<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Workload</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Leisure</td>
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(Alkire et al. 2013)
Survey response options were operationalized based on qualitative interviews in pretesting so as to reflect agricultural production decisions relevant in Battambang.
**Women’s Empowerment In Agriculture Index**

Input into Productive Decisions: Farm Management Activities

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<table>
<thead>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Getting inputs for agricultural production</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>The types of crops to grow for agricultural production</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Taking crops to the market (or not)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Livestock raising</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Your own (singular) wage or salary employment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Major household expenditures (such as a large appliance for the house like refrigerator)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>Minor household expenditures (such as food for daily consumption or other household needs)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**WEAI (2012)**

**Questions:**

“How much do you participate in decisions?

(Not at all)

- Small Extent
  - Participant is not asked for their opinion or respondent can give their opinion, but not considered in the final decision

- Medium Extent
  - Participant is able to participate in the decision and everyone in the decision has to come to an agreement

- High Extent
  - Participant can make the decision even if other individuals in the household disagree

**SANREM adapted WEAI**
WEAI Application In Cambodia

- Adapted the WEAI to context-specific conditions in SANREM program areas in Siem Reap and Battambang provinces.

- Documented men’s and women’s participation in agricultural activities as well as access and control over productive assets (land, agricultural machinery, credit, and information).

Pre-testing the WEAI with farmers participating in a joint SANREM IL and Horticulture IL program in Siem Reap.
Lessons Learned From Utilizing the WEAI

• Qualitative responses help contextualize the WEAI and enhance the understanding of men’s and women’s roles and responsibilities in agriculture

• Questions and indicators may not capture all of the nuances related to men’s and women’s control over resources and income
  
  (Alkire et al. 2013)

• WEAI Indicators assessing autonomy offer an insight into the motivations behind women’s decision-making in agricultural production
  
  (Malapit et al. 2013)

Semi-structured interview following WEAI survey
Cross-Cutting Research Activity: Gendered Perspectives for Conservation Agriculture: Local soil knowledge and crop-livestock interaction

- Collaboration with Soil quality and carbon sequestration and Technology networks CCRAs (8 and 9)
- Collaboration with Long Term Research Awards
  - Graduate student research (LTRAs 7 and 12); undergraduates in Cambodia

Mali - Collaboration with CCRA 9 and LTRA 8
Labor Allocation

- **Mozambique** - CAPS assessed in regards to their burden on men’s and women’s labor allocation
- **India** - Intercropping in CAPS increased the number of labor hours needed for manual weeding (Lai et al. 2012)
- **Cambodia** - Specialized no-till machinery used in CAPS can reduce men’s and women’s labor burden in land preparation

*Left:* Land preparation in conventional production (Cambodia)
*Right:* Land preparation in CAPS (Cambodia)
Increasing Women’s Involvement Through Participatory Research

- **Ecuador** - Women’s inability to speak Spanish limited their ability to participate in program activities so bilingual assistants were hired to help increase their involvement.

- **Uganda** – Two participatory rural appraisals focused on gender issues were conducted with stakeholders in Kapchorwa and Tororro.

- **Mozambique** - Data from field days and farmer discussion events is disaggregated by sex to ensure that women’s evaluation of CAPS are incorporated into development and dissemination programs.
Intra-household Decision-making

- **Lesotho** – A Masters student is assessing the drivers of CAPS adoption, including gender’s role in intra-household negotiations.

- **Nepal** – Men have more control than women over land-use and agricultural decision-making.

- **Ecuador** – Despite women’s participation in farming decisions, men were more likely to be responsible for decisions about implementing soil conservation practices.
Access to Assets

- **Philippines** – Women do not own land as often as men. Women are legally allowed to own land but local attitudes and policies limit women’s access (Harman Parks et al. 2014)

- **Lesotho** – Access to loans and credit increases the long-term usage of CAPS especially for women

- **India** – Tillage operations are carried out by men but men and women have joint ownership over draught animals with women primarily responsible for their care

(LTRA 8 – Ghana) (LTRA 12 – Philippines)
Cambodia – Field agricultural trainings and CAPS demonstrations are primarily attended by men. Because the trainings focus on field activities they are perceived as men’s domain.

Philippines – Men and women have access to community basketball courts. Women use them to dry maize while men use them as a meeting place. (Harman Parks et al. 2014)
References


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