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“Why Integrate Gender into Livestock Research? The Importance of Systems Thinking”

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Photo: Kroma, 2013



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OUTLINE OF SEMINAR

What is Gender?

- Gender as part of a Livelihood System

Why is it important in agricultural research?

- Gendered statistics
- Gendered constraints

What can you do?

- Integrating gender into project planning and implementation

Monitoring and Evaluation

- Does it make a difference in project impact?





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WHAT IS GENDER???

“Sex”

Biological, fixed, mostly unchangeable differences between males and females

“Gender”

Socially constructed, changeable, culturally specific roles for women and men

What other factors influence Gender Roles?



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HOW DOES GENDER AFFECT AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH?

GENDER ROLES ARE:

- Dynamic and change over time
- Differ by particular local contexts
- Shaped by ideological, religious, cultural, ethnic and economic factors
- Key determinant of the distribution of resources and responsibilities between men and women; which are often unequal and inequitable



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GENDER IS PART OF A RURAL LIVELIHOOD SYSTEM THAT INCLUDES THESE DIMENSIONS

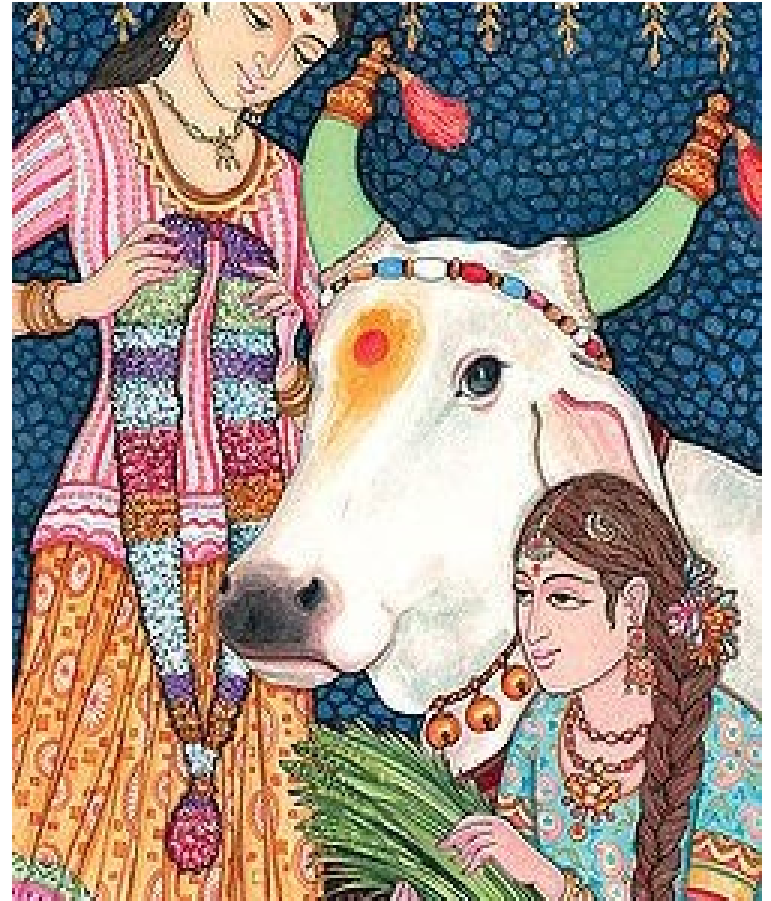
Physical – land, machinery, livestock

Human – labor, nutrition, education,
health

Social – networks, labor sharing

Financial – formal and informal
credit, savings

Natural – soil, water, air



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RURAL LIVELIHOOD SYSTEMS

Households make decisions on consumption and production based on the level and quality of the resources they control and the constraints they face

Extreme poverty (less than \$1.25/day) is disproportionately concentrated in rural areas. By 2010, 78 percent of the extreme poor were living in rural areas, many were women and children

(World Bank, 2015); Photo ILRI



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THE IMPACT OF AGRICULTURAL INTERVENTIONS ARE AFFECTED BY:

Gender

Agroclimatic conditions

Economic context (prices, infrastructure, markets)

Social context (community, culture)

Source: FAO, 2014



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GENDER AND AGRICULTURE

Rural people in most developing countries, especially sub-Saharan Africa, rely on agriculture for a major share of their incomes

YET...

Almost 75 percent of farms in low and middle-income countries are smaller than one hectare – too small to sustain a family

The ultra-poor spend about 65–80 percent of total household expenditure on food, which disproportionately affects female headed households and widows

Source: Ahmed *et al.*, 2007



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INCREASING FEMALE HEADED HOUSEHOLDS

In sub-Saharan Africa - male migration, civil conflicts and wars, unpartnered adolescent fertility and family disruption create increasing numbers of female headed households.

FHHs have less access to land, livestock, other assets, credit, education, health care and extension services. In Zimbabwe, female-headed households have 30-50% smaller landholdings than male-headed households. In eastern and southern Africa 25-60% of rural households in countries in the region were headed by women.

FHHs' food security increases with land quality, farm size, and their social capital network (the number of traders that farmers know within their vicinity, and their membership of farmers' groups).

Sources: ([Odame, Hafkin, Wesseler, & Boto, 2002](#); [Quisumbing, 1995](#); [World Bank, 2001](#); IFAD, 1999; Kassie, et.al. 2013)

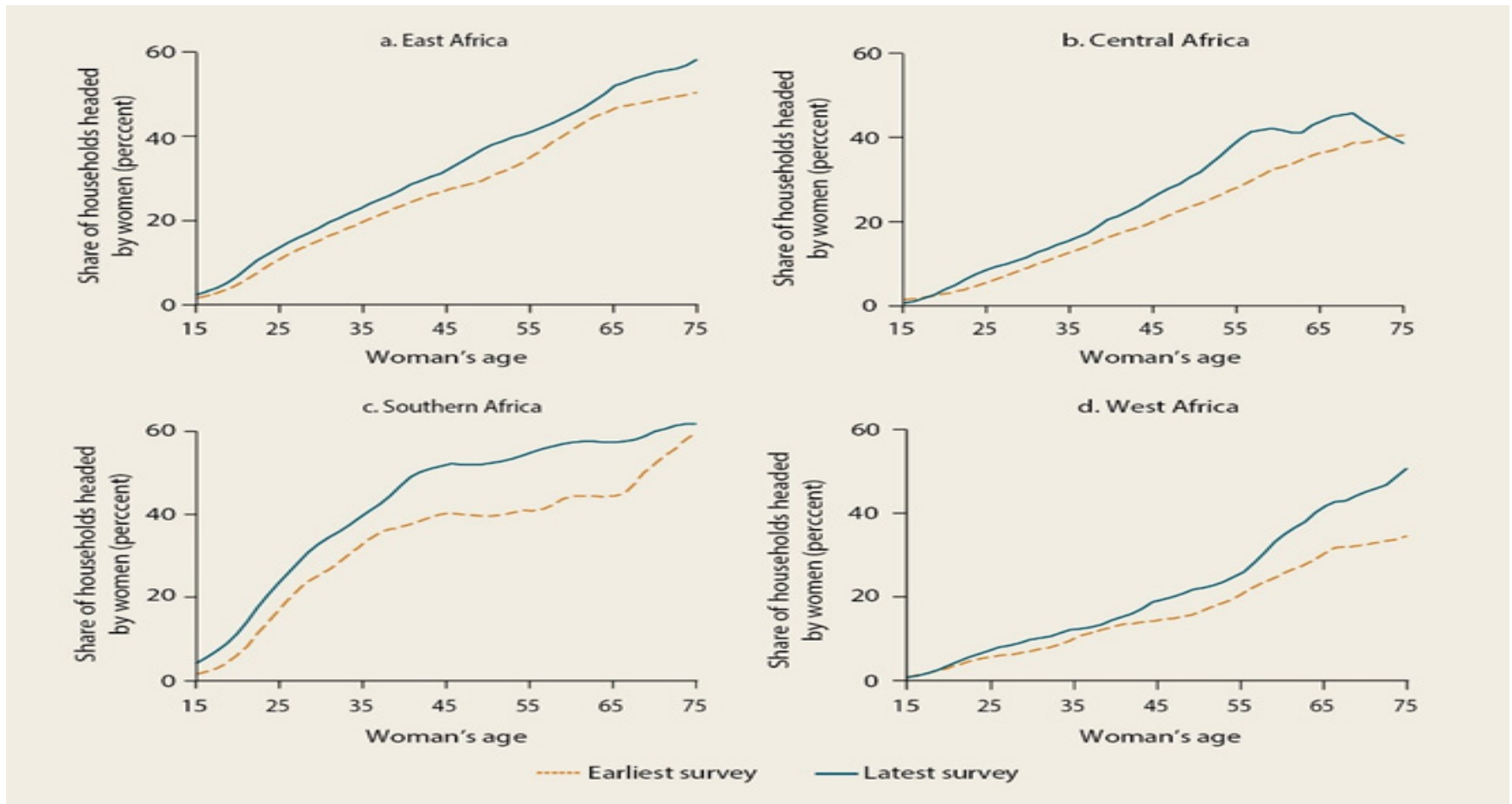




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FEMALE HEADED HOUSEHOLDS: *SOURCE: MILAZZO AND VAN DE WALLE (2015)*



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GENDER AND AGRICULTURE

Women supply 43 percent of all agricultural labor in low- and middle income countries; and at least 50% in sub-Saharan Africa

But women farmers face a number of constraints in accessing agricultural inputs, services and markets, including:

- Limited control over assets and resources (including labor)

- Lower levels of education

- Greater domestic care responsibilities

- Limited social ties facilitating wage employment

- Less access to and ownership of land and credit

- Less access to agricultural extension services



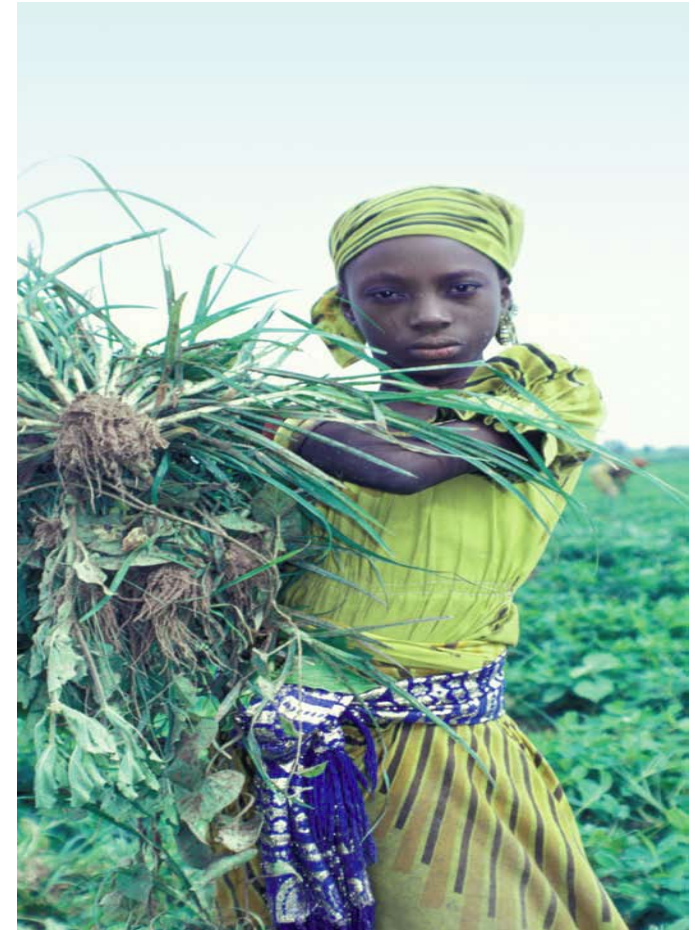


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Women also face constraints in decision making capacity and ability to act (agency):

- Intra-household decisions over labor and livestock and incomes
- Legal restrictions (the need for a male's signature, for example) negate women's agency in decision-making
- Customary rules around land (exclusion from holding titles; no collateral)



From Rubin et al, 2009



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FEMINIZATION OF AGRICULTURE

Reasons:

Migration – Men are leaving rural areas in search of work. Women remain behind with families.

In Bangladesh, when men migrate, women take over their duties, increasing their workload. Some women resort to hiring tenants or laborers from outside the household to take over farm duties when their husbands migrate (Rahman (2009) and Debnath and Selim (2009)).

Wars and Genocide -

In Rwanda, men traditionally milk cows, but women are now doing this because of a shortage of male labor after the genocide. (Feed the Future (FtF), 2015. “Gender Analysis for USAID/Rwanda”).





FACTORS INFLUENCING MIGRATION

In Mexico: single women are more likely to migrate than married ones (Kossoudji and Ranney 1984). Men's migration increases with the number of children in the household, while this relationship is not observed for female migrants (Kanaiaupuni 2000).

In Nepal: men migrate internationally to get out of debt (economic reasons) as well as children's educations, while women migrate primarily to follow their husbands (Thieme and Wyss 2005).

In Andhra Pradesh, India, women migrated with their husbands for seasonal or contract work (primarily motivated by economic reasons) (Garikipati 2006, 2008).

Women are about half of all migrants....



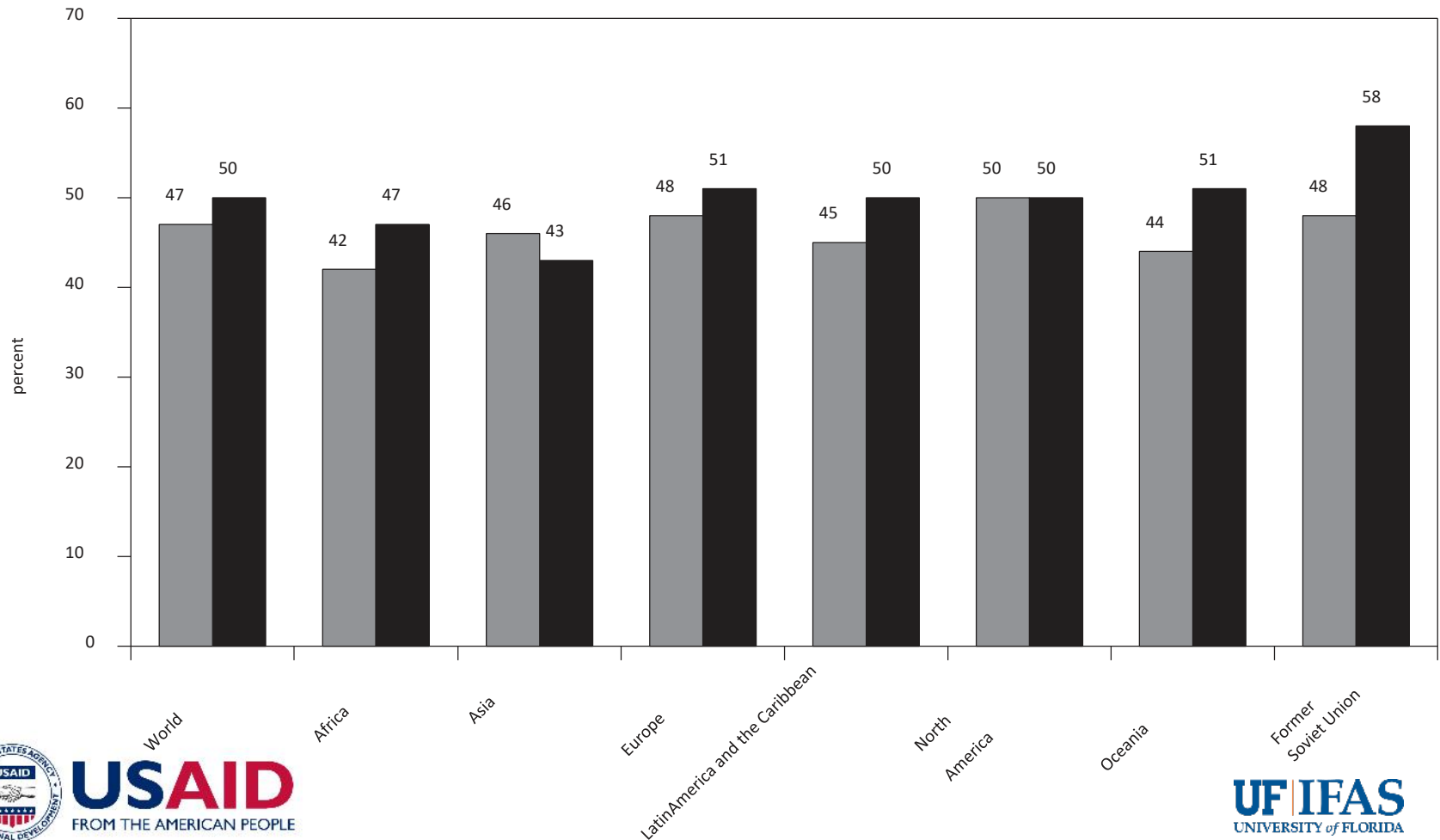


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PERCENTAGES OF FEMALE MIGRANTS

Source: United Nations 2006



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FEMINIZATION OF AGRICULTURE

Remittances:

In 2015 remittance flows to developing countries are expected to reach \$440 billion (World Bank 2015).

Men and women spend remittances differently ~

In India, remittances from female migrants are mostly allocated for savings, education, and medical treatment while those from male migrants are primarily used for business and loan repayment (Garikipati 2006, 2008).

In the Philippines remittances sent home by husbands are used to purchase land, though this decision is resisted by women, for whom more land results in a greater workloads (Lukasiewicz 2011).



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THE POVERTY CYCLE FOR WOMEN

Poor maternal and infant nutrition and health result in low birth weight and stunting as well as impaired cognitive development and lower school attainment

Childhood stunting reduces adult productivity and wages

Stunted girls grow up to become stunted mothers; maternal stunting is one of the strongest predictors of giving birth to a low-birth-weight infant

Constraints on women's time are a major cause of their lower earnings and productivity – triple roles – productive, reproductive, community

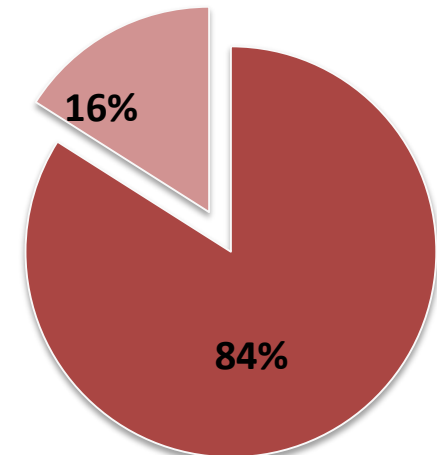
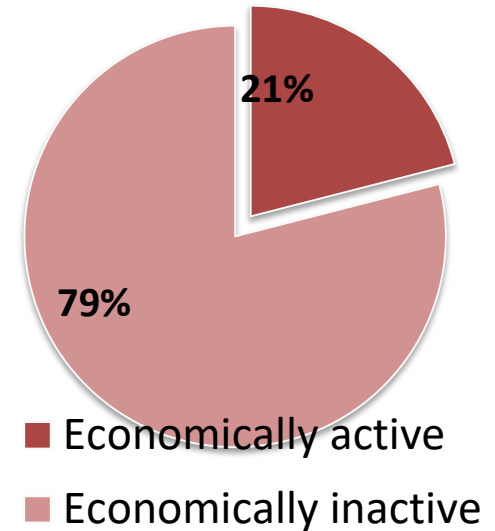
Sources: Alderman, 2010; Hoddinott *et al.*, 2013; Strauss and Thomas, 1998; Hunt, 2005





The percentage of 'economically active' women increases significantly when certain activities – cultivating a home garden, raising animals, gathering firewood – are recognized as productive

The proportion increases further when certain activities within the 'reproductive sphere' are included, such as meal preparation and child care





Why integrate gender into projects?

- If women had the same resources as men, they could increase yields on their farms by 20-30%
 - raise agricultural output by 2.5-4% and reduce hungry people by 100-150 million (FAO, 2011)
- Income under the control of women is more likely to be used to improve family welfare
 - women spend up to 90% of their income on their families, while men spend 30-40%
 - strengthening marital bargaining power and "voice" within the household decision-making





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REDUCING GENDER INEQUALITY IS CRITICAL TO ACHIEVING GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY

There is consistent and compelling evidence that when the status of women is improved, agricultural productivity increases, poverty is reduced, and nutrition improves.



African Wildlife Foundation



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INTEGRATING GENDER INTO R4D PROJECT ACTIVITIES

STEPS:

- 1) Do a gender analysis
- 2) Collect and analyze sex-disaggregated data
- 3) Employ participatory methods – qualitative and quantitative
- 4) Target gender issues and women in research and training to increase women's participation and benefits
- 5) Include men in research, discussions, and training around gender issues
- 6) Find synergies at the intersections of technical and social goals

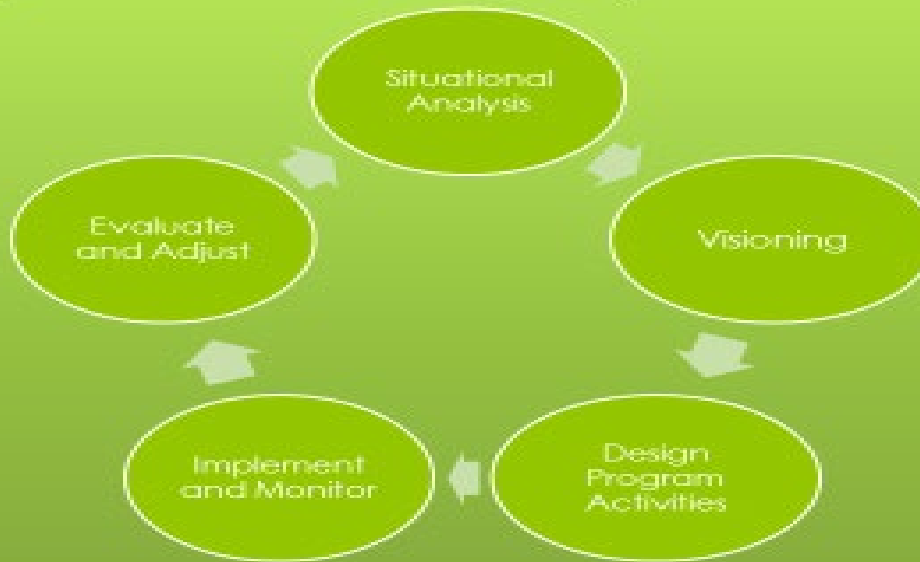


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INTEGRATING GENDER INTO PROJECT PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION

Project Planning Cycle



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GENDER ANALYSIS – KEY QUESTIONS FOR SITUATION ANALYSIS

Crop production:

Who provides labor?

Who decides?

Who markets the crops?

Who keeps the revenues?

Who owns the equipment? Who uses it?

Livestock production:

Who owns the animals?

Who makes decisions?

Who cares for the animals?

Who benefits from the sale of animal based products?

Source: Doss, et. al. 2014





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GENDER ANALYSIS IN AGRICULTURAL SYSTEMS- SEASONAL CALENDAR

Activity \ Month		MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB
Crop	Seed Selection												
	Tilling/Group Preparation												
	Planting												
	Fertilizing												
	Irrigation												
	Weeding												
	Harvesting												
	Post-Harvest												
	Marketing												
Livestock	Livestock Selection												
	Feeding												
	Watering												
	Grazing												
	Veterinary Care												
	Birthing												
	Care of Young												
	Weaning												
	Castrating												
	Marketing												
Household	Childcare												
	Housework												
	Elderly Family Members												
	Sick Family Members												

Legend	
	Mostly a female adult task
	Mostly a male adult task
	Joint activity
	Male child
	Female child



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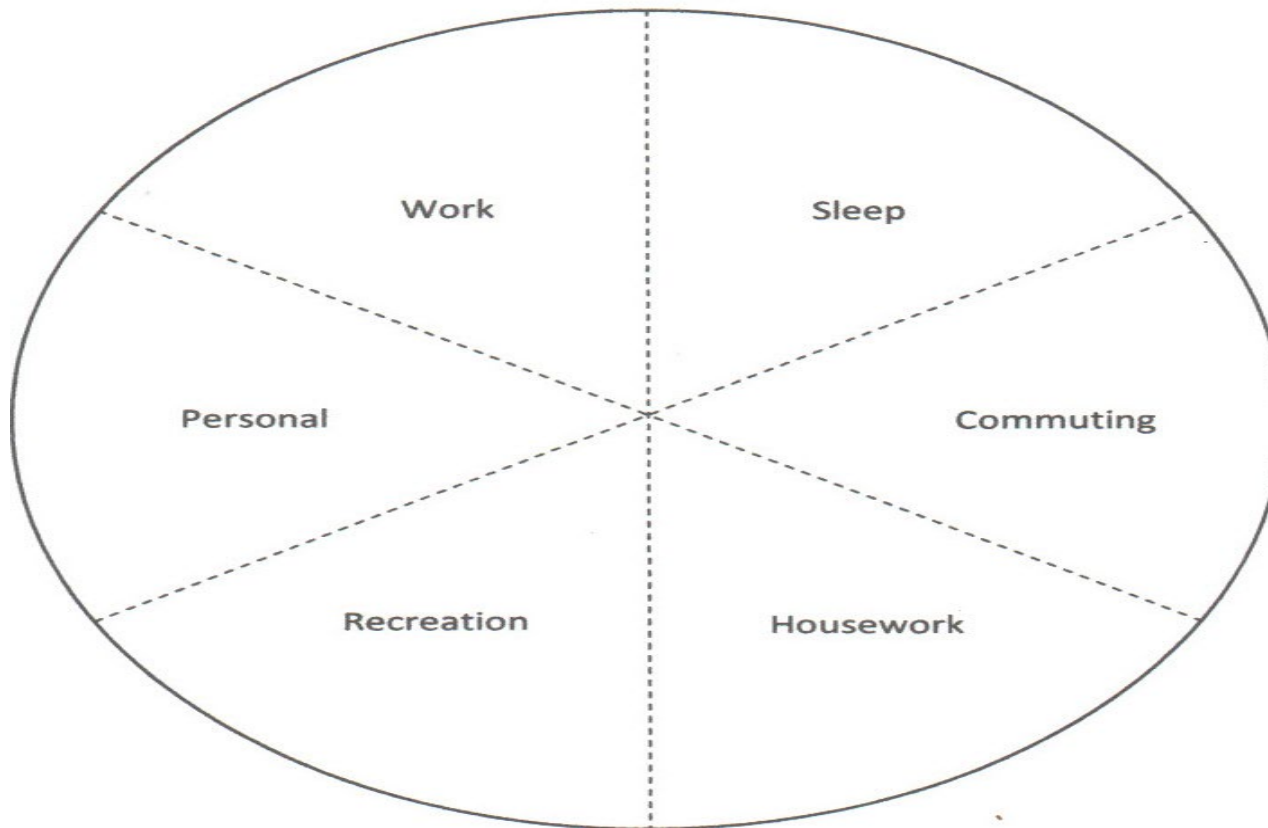
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GENDER ANALYSIS IN AGRICULTURAL SYSTEMS- 24 HOUR CLOCK



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GENDER ANALYSIS - VISIONING

Key Questions:

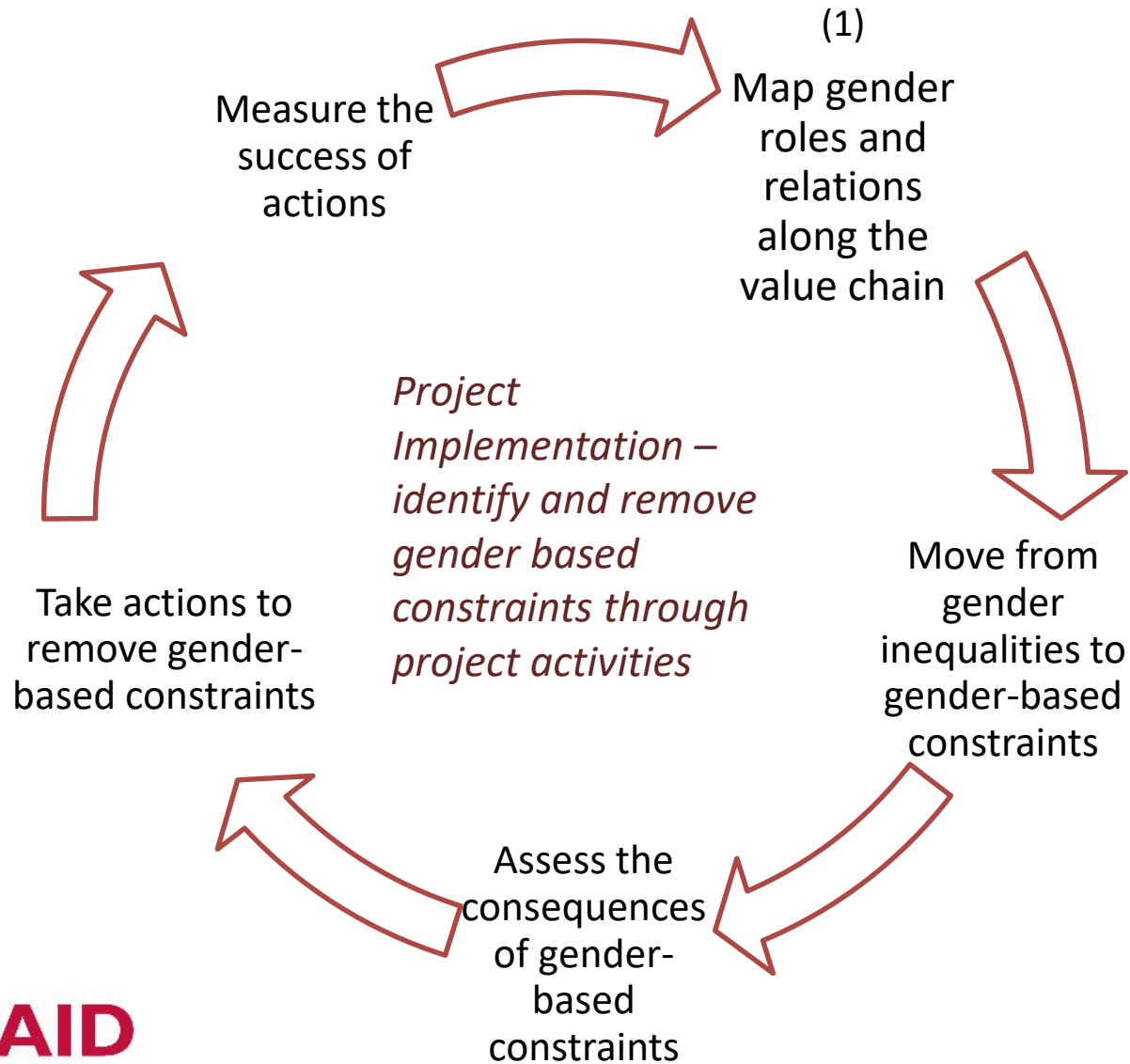
- Who benefits from this project?
- How do they benefit?
- Are benefits shared equally among all family members?
- How will this project affect the workload of all family members?
- What would we like to see as the outcome of this project as it relates to gender equity?





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Adapted from: Rubin et al. 2010



MONITORING AND EVALUATING GENDER IMPACTS

Men and women are not homogenous and are therefore involved in and affected by projects differently

When designing the project, include **gender specific indicators** in the project cycle that will be used for M&E to show how the intervention has affected men and women and if there are differences

At the least – collect “sex-disaggregated data” that counts the number of men and women involved in all activities

Preferable to identify specific gender indicators, ie. Women’s access and control of agricultural resources





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EXAMPLE: DAIRY PROJECT TO INCREASE MILK PRODUCTION AND IMPROVE HOUSEHOLD NUTRITION IN RURAL AFRICA

Research Question:

Has women's control of income increased due to increased milk production?

Activities: Gender analysis of dairy value chain to determine:

- Who does what and when?
- Who has access and control of resources needed for production and marketing?
- What constraints do women farmers face in realizing a fair share of income or benefits from the products produced? Does everyone in the family benefit from milk sales?
- Who in the family consumes milk if it is not sold?

Design interventions to increase women's access to inputs and control of income from milk sales based on information gathered.



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GENDER, AGRICULTURE & ASSETS PROJECT (GAAP)

IFPRI and the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) in Mozambique

Collected data and facilitated focus-group discussions on gender roles in dairy production, cattle ownership, labor, marketing, and income management.

Developed interventions to address the gender gaps and designed a monitoring and evaluation system. Lessons learned:

- (1) register the cows given to each household in the name of at least one male and one female adult,
- (2) organize and train groups of farmers on gender relations and promote women's leadership,
- (3) register both male and female adults in the marketing cooperative, and
- (4) include women in the cooperative management committee.

Source: IFPRI and ILRI, 2012





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RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVED GENDER INTEGRATION

- Consider meeting times and locations - childcare provision should also be considered to encourage attendance
- Consider cultural context - may be necessary to build women's confidence in single sex groups first before engaging them in mixed sex groups to ensure their participation later
- Ensure that gendered division of labor will not adversely affect women with project introduction
- Reduce women's workload through appropriate technologies like mills and energy efficient cookstoves



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RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVED GENDER INTEGRATION

Using Technology:

Access to the Internet and the use of mobile phones can help women get information about prices and connect them with buyers

Increase Access to Credit:

Women are less likely to have credit records than men, and lower asset bases to draw on for collateral, provide training and strategic assistance for the staff of financial institutions to help banks increase their numbers of woman clients.

Engage men more in non-traditional activities such as nutrition and health – use a “family focus”

Work with Extension Providers to explore innovative ways to engage male extension workers and train additional female extension workers



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QUESTIONS???

THANK-YOU!

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