



Joint Initiative for Promoting Greater Gender Equality in SFM Policy & Practice

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TFD, Chiang Mai, Thailand 7-9 October, 2014



Outline of Presentation

1. Introduction
2. Rationale for Joint Regional Initiative
3. Methodology
4. Steps taken
5. Findings



Introduction

The Regional Joint Initiative by:

- USAID LEAF (Lowering Emissions from Asia's Forests) project
- WOCAN (Women Organizing for Change in Agriculture and NRM)
- UN-REDD Programme

Initiated in 2012 to identify practical entry points for women's inclusion and gender perspectives in REDD+ in Asia.

Overall Goal: To enhance the effectiveness of REDD+ through greater inclusion of women and gender perspectives in all relevant policies and practices.

Through:

- Examination of specific challenges and barriers that prevent the integration of gender perspectives;
- Analysing relevant evidence of good practices of women's inclusion in forest and other land use sectors; and
- knowledge sharing for replication of successful practices.

Geographical Coverage: secondary data analysis across Asia, with field studies in Cambodia, the Philippines, and Sri Lanka

Rationale



International Guidance on REDD+:

UNFCCC, Cancun Agreements

1/CP.16 Para. 72. “Also requests developing country Parties, when developing and implementing their national strategies or action plans, to address...the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, land tenure issues..., ***gender considerations and the safeguards identified in paragraph 2 of appendix I*** to this decision, ensuring the full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, inter alia indigenous peoples and local communities;”

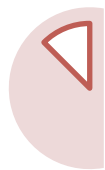
WOCAN in 2011 reached out to key regional development partners to discuss:

- Opportunities and risks of REDD+ and PES with regard to gender equality and women’s inclusion and empowerment;
- How to go beyond the status quo of advocacy into more action oriented dialogue and demonstrations;

This led to the discussion of creating our joint initiative.

Methodology

To enhance the overall effectiveness of SFM and status of women through greater integration of gender and women's perspectives in all relevant policies and practices



Step 1

Problem Identification - Scoping Dialogue
(with TFD)

Kathmandu, Nepal
September 2012

*Identify key **impediments** and **recommended actions** to promote women's inclusion and gender equality in SFM and REDD+*



Step 2

Evidence Searching

January – June 2013

*Identify **existing good practices** for women's inclusion in the forest and other land-use sectors to draw out **key enabling interventions** contributing to enhanced women's inclusion and gender equality in SFM and REDD+*



Step 3

Solution seeking

In Cambodia, Sri Lanka and the Philippines
July – December 2014

*Analyse **enabling Interventions** to explore the current status and **effectiveness of policies and practices** in the forest and other land-use sectors.*

*Identify **actions** through a participatory process*



Step 4

Experience Sharing

Bangkok, Thailand
March 2014

Share findings, solutions and lessons from Steps 2 and 3 at the regional workshop in Bangkok

Step 1: Scoping Dialogue



33 participants (22 women and 11 men) from 13 countries.
Held in Kathmandu, Nepal on September 22-24, 2012 by
WOCAN in Collaboration with The Forest Dialogue.

Key Impediments

- Forestry is still very much associated with timber and men
- Women's use of forests is deemed insignificant and passive
- Women's exclusion is primarily as a result of socio-cultural factors
- Forestry institutions lack awareness of gender issues
- Women's rights are not recognized in property rights and customary rights
- There is a lack of champions for women's rights

Step 2: Evidence Searching

-Regional Scoping Study-



Key Interventions

- Ensuring women's participation
- UN-REDD PROGRAMME wocan leaf Learning Exchange IN AGRI-CULTURE'S FORESTS USAID FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE
- men's
- Scoping Study of Good Practices for Strengthening Women's Inclusion in Forest and Other Natural Resource Management Sectors
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August 2013

Step 3: Solution Seeking

- Country Level Analysis -



Country Reports (Cam, SL, Phil)

- Analyse the current policies and practices,
- Identify the gaps between policies and practice, and
- Determine factors that prevent inclusion and identify factors that enable women's inclusion in policies, laws, programmes, and projects.



National Forest Dialogues

Objectives

- To engage key stakeholders in a dialogue on women's exclusion/inclusion in REDD+ and forestry sector
- To identify strategic practical entry points and actions
- To improve the effectiveness of REDD+ through greater inclusion of women in forest policies, programmes and projects.



General Findings



Primary Barriers

- **Ideological & Cultural Norms**
- **Lack of Financial Commitments**
- **Lack of Women's Representation**

Priority Recommendations

- **Active Participation of Women's Groups**
- **Capacity Building of Women's Group**
- **Gender Analysis & Planning**

Specific Findings -Cambodia

Skill Building

National level

- Training on technical REDD+, particularly for women's groups and institutions supporting gender equality (including MoWA).

Local level

- Trainings for women's meaningful participation in REDD+,
 - Technical training (safeguards, forest monitoring),
 - Public speaking & organizational management
 - Confidence building training

Support Gender-Disaggregated Analysis & Planning

Collect baseline data and conduct gender analysis to ensure REDD+ gender mainstreaming .

Promote Gender Responsive Budgeting & Capacity Building

REDD+ policy makers should understand gender-responsive budgeting & allocate budgets to support initiatives



Skill Building

Training for women on

- Forest & land use planning skills
- NTFP extraction & processing
- Micro-finance,
- Enterprise development/value chain engagement
- Leadership

Training for extension officers, facilitators/ mobilizers on

- How to mobilize & support women to ensure their active participation

Support for developing curricula & training packages that incorporate gender considerations in community forestry

Support Gender-Disaggregated Analysis & Planning

To engender the REDD+ process:

- Collect baseline data and conduct gender analysis
- Add to the data bank being developed by the Women's Bureau.

Develop and Support Women's Organizations, Networks & Federation

- Ministry of Child Development and Women's Affairs to actively support women's organizations, networks & federations
- Women professionals working in forest & home garden, energy & water sectors to promote local level women's groups.

Specific Findings - Sri Lanka

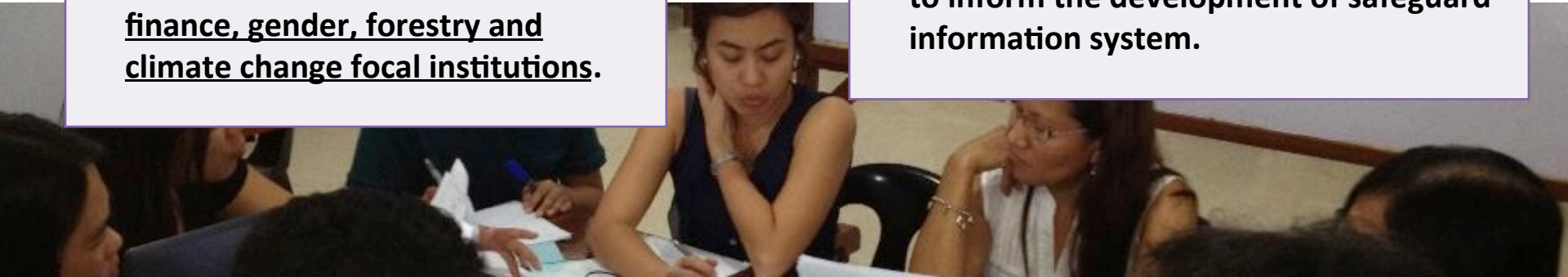
Specific Findings -Philippines

Institutionalise Gender Equality in NRM Sector

- Strengthening of Gender and Development Focal Point System (GADFS) at national and community levels
- Enhancing awareness on gender issues in REDD+ to key stakeholders,
- Conducting gender audit of selected forest policies,
- Integrating sex-disaggregated data into forestry and REDD+ planning,
- Better integration of planning, finance, gender, forestry and climate change focal institutions.

Integrate Gender Perspectives & Women's Inclusion in REDD+

- Develop a cross practice entity addressing forestry, climate change and gender concerns.
- Incorporate gender perspectives into Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) and other technical work areas.
- Ensure equitable benefit sharing systems that fairly reward women and men.
- Develop project-level gender standards to inform the development of safeguard information system.



Step 4: Experience Sharing

Regional Workshop on Women's' Inclusion in REDD+, Bangkok, 26-27 March

- Participants from more than a dozen Asia-Pacific countries gathered to discuss how to promote women's inclusion in REDD+.
- Findings from these studies were presented and discussed during the meeting.
- Participating countries identified action plans for further ensuring the integration of gender considerations and inclusion of women as a critical part of their REDD+ readiness processes
- Countries indicated the need for regular follow up on progress and South-South exchange.
- Joint Regional Initiative agreed to develop a roadmap describing how country-level actions and needs across the region can be strategically supported by the current partnership between UN-REDD, USAID's LEAF and WOCAN.
- Look for additional partners. We will present the Roadmap framework for more discussion tomorrow.





Thank you !!!!

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