

Gender considerations

Country specific objective and actions

Ensure equitable distribution of benefits between women and men

Ensure equitable distribution of benefits:

1. Assess benefits sharing schemes to identify opportunities and constrains for women
2. Adapt benefits sharing schemes (or create new) to promote opportunities and address constrains for women
3. Train women on benefits sharing schemes negotiation techniques
4. Prepare an gender sensitive evaluation to determine revenue distribution, utilization and monitoring fallouts.



Ensure that women receive compensation, incentives, benefits and revenues

To guarantee that women's access to funds:

1. Create a forest conservation and women protection fund and secure resources (Tree Fund, private sector)
2. Train local women on fund acquisition procedures
3. Reflect on options to make fund acquisition process easy and affordable to women



Gender sensitive monitoring and evaluation system

To ensure that gender considerations are fully integrated in forest sector and REDD+:

1. Institutionalize gender sensitive benefit sharing schemes, MRV system, forest management, AF systems, and information and communication system through: review lessons, taking note of best practices; guidelines and criteria identified during pilot schemes; where necessary, review policy and legislation ; update monitoring and evaluation schemes



Conclusion

This initiative enabled the development of the first roadmaps on Gender and REDD+. An essential point of departure – and a central driving principle throughout – was to ensure that both women and men are fully recognized as important forest stakeholders: that they are afforded equal opportunity to learn about the initiatives, build the required capacity, and that they are able to meaningfully participate in-, contribute to-, and henceforth also benefit from forestry and climate change policies, programs and funds.



Contact Lorena Aguilar
IUCN Global Senior Gender Adviser
Lorena.aguilar@iucn.org

Andrea Quesada-Aguilar
WEDO Project Coordinator
andrea@wedo.org

For Further Information Please Visit:
The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). www.iucn.org
IUCN-Gender and Environment. www.genderandenvironment.org
Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO). www.wedo.org



Gender and REDD+ Roadmaps

Gender considerations are essential to REDD+. Gender sensitive REDD+ initiatives have the potential to become a conservation, poverty reduction and climate mitigation strategy. However, if REDD+ projects are not designed and implemented with a gender perspective, they will not be as efficient and effective and, at worse, could contribute to an increase in the gender gap. As countries begin to implement REDD+ policies and develop their national strategies, they must address gender considerations and will require a plan of action to identify gender differentiated risks and opportunities, generate data to highlight best practices, and set guidelines to incorporate a gender perspective from the outset.

In September 2011, a new initiative was embarked upon by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Pro-Poor REDD+ project, funded by the Danish International Development Agency – DANIDA. This initiative aimed to deliver roadmaps to guide the design and implementation of gender-sensitive REDD+ strategies in Cameroon, Ghana, and Uganda; and was jointly implemented by IUCN and the Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO).

These Gender and REDD+ roadmaps are products of multi-stakeholder workshops that brought together women's organizations, gender experts and national level policy makers. The workshops allowed participants to enhance their knowledge on gender and REDD+, discuss country-specific gender issues, and propose actions that would lead to gender-sensitive REDD+ national processes. Many of the proposed actions are based on the following general suggestions to address gender considerations in REDD+:

Readiness

1. Recognize women as forest stakeholders.
2. Establish and support women and women organizations networks to work on gender and forest issues.
3. Empower and building the capacity of women and women's organizations.
4. Ensure the inclusive and meaningful consultation and effective participation of women in the design, negotiation with stakeholders and in demonstration activities (pilot projects).
5. Support the mainstreaming of gender in policy reforms associated with REDD+
6. Strongly encourage and promote the collection of sex-disaggregated data throughout the project and the inclusion of gender analyses for the use of, access to and control of forest resources.
7. Design a gender-sensitive information system with media and information-sharing practices that reflects women's needs.
8. Develop safeguards to ensure women's rights to land and natural resource use. Ensure that subsequent changes in proposed by the project comply with international women's rights legislation and mandates.
9. Incorporate a grievance mechanism that establishes and supports legal protection of the rights of women on an equal basis with those of men.



Implementation and Consolidation

1. Enable full and effective consultation and participation of women and men at all stages.
2. Provide women and men equal access to information regarding all aspects of REDD+
3. Build the capacity of women and men to enable inclusive, fair decision-making and consent.
4. Involve women in all monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) activities and provide the necessary tools and knowledge needed for women to engage meaningfully.
5. Ensure that women have the option to undergo all types of training and education, formal and non-formal, in order to increase their technical capability to engagement in MRV activities fully.
6. Ensure the equitable distribution of benefits. Paying special attention to traditional practices that entrench inequality and could exclude women from participating in all activities and/or having access to or control over resources.
7. Design and implement gender-sensitive benefit sharing systems that ensure women are provided with fair and appropriate compensation, incentives, benefits and revenues associated with the projects.
8. Design and implement a gender sensitive monitoring and evaluation system
9. Create opportunities and capacity building for girls to be involved in all technical aspects, looking at sustaining efforts into the next and future generations

Gender considerations	Country specific objective and actions
Women's network	<p>To support the establishment of a gender and forest task force:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify representatives from: women NGOs; national level women networks; organizations working on specialized topics (i.e. land tenure rights, domestic relations); national women mechanisms; women parliamentarian; gender focal points of development partners 2. Appoint a full time coordinator 3. Mobilize resources to support the activities of task force 4. Identify decision-making bodies and processes where women need to be represented 5. Advocate for women inclusion in decision-making bodies and -processes 
Capacity building for women and women's organizations	<p>To build and strengthen women's- and gender focused organization's capacity on REDD+ issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop training materials on sustainable management of forests and REDD+ accessible to women 2. Conduct a sensitization campaign that pays special attention to women's media preferences 3. Conduct trainings for local women on forestry and REDD+ issues 
Meaningful consultation and effective participation of women in design of REDD+	<p>To ensure effective consultation and participation of women in the design of the national strategy:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop a methodology that promotes the consultation and full and effective participation of women which includes: assessment of barriers that limit women's participation, mapping of target groups; organization and support of women platforms, actions that take into consideration community consultative meetings 
Meaningful consultation and effective participation of women in negotiations	<p>To enhance participation through formal/informal education for women and girls in forestry sector:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify training institutions and conduct gender trainings for staff 2. Identify/create REDD+ relevant courses 3. Develop scholarship schemes and identify interested and qualified women 4. Motivate women to remain in the forestry sector 
Meaningful consultation and effective participation of women in pilot projects	<p>To guarantee women's participation in REDD+ demonstration activities (pilot projects):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify good practices and actions to fully and effectively integrate women and replicate in pilot projects 2. Encourage the participation and involvement of women through the provision of resources (e.g. per diem) 3. Build the capacity of local women to participate and/or coordinate activities of pilot project 4. Provide women and men equal access and control over tools, equipment, technology and resources 
Gender is mainstreamed in policies reforms associated to REDD+	<p>To support the mainstreaming of gender considerations in current revisions of policies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify current policies under revision 2. Define mechanisms needed for women representatives to participate in these revisions 3. Facilitates consultations at the local and regional levels 4. Women representatives disseminates revised policies to their constituencies 
Collection of sex-disaggregated data and inclusion of gender analyses	<p>To conduct gender-sensitive baseline studies and monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. MRV system generates sex disaggregated data on ownership, use, management, and access to resources 2. Identify activities carried out by women that contribute to the data collection in MRV 3. Capacity building sessions for women on MRV methodologies and tools 4. Involvement of women in REDD+ MRV 5. Identify good gender practices and promote their implementation at a broader scale 

Gender considerations	Country specific objective and actions
Gender-sensitive information system	<p>To create gender-sensitive awareness and communication strategy for all REDD+ processes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assessment of women's needs, constraints, and preferred media/ communication tools 2. Consult with women NGOs that have developed gender sensitive strategies to identify good practices 3. Design gender sensitive communication strategy that: incorporates data from the assessment and good practices; promotes gender sensitive messages; uses products with gender sensitive language and images 
Develop gender sensitive safeguards and grievance mechanism	<p>To avoid negative impacts of REDD+ initiatives on women rights:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify potential risks of REDD+ implementation on women livelihoods 2. Modify the safeguards or create new safeguards to prevent violation and enhance women rights, 3. Inform local women of their rights, safeguards and build their capacity to use grievance systems 4. Provide orientation sessions to the judicial system on women's rights issues pertinent to forest sector 5. Foster a dialogue with traditional authorities/ local government institutions on women's rights issues 6. Engage and build the capacity of traditional women leaders (i.e. queen mothers) to support the acknowledgement of women's rights, in close collaboration with Women's Ministry and UNWomen 
Develop safeguards to ensure women's rights to land and natural resource use	<p>To guaranty women rights to land ownership:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assessment of gaps, challenges and opportunities for women in the land tenure systems 2. Foster a dialogue with traditional authorities/ local governments on women's rights to land tenure 3. Support traditional authorities/local government to createmechanisms to facilitate women's land acquisition 4. Train local women on land acquisition procedures 5. Reflect on options to make land acquisition process easy and affordable to women 6. Work in collaboration with women parliamentarians to promote land legislation reforms 


Implementation and Consolidation

Gender considerations	Country specific objective and actions
Full and effective consultation and participation of women and men at all stages	<p>Involve women in all REDD+ activities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify activities under the REDD+ national strategy and target groups per sector of activity 2. Train local women on SFM and other REDD+ activities, such as low impact agriculture , afforestation, forestry certification, agroforestry, NTFP processing 3. Empower local women to assume leadership roles through capacity building 4. Resources are ensured for local women to perform SFM and other REDD+ activities 
Equal access to information to women and men regarding all aspects of REDD+	<p>To ensure that women capacities are enhanced and effective to participate at various levels:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify new emergent skills and knowledge that REDD+ implementation might have 2. Gender analysis of gaps in the skills and knowledge in women and girls 3. Reinforce gender sensitive regional and local information and communication systems 4. Establish and support regional/local information flow, capacity building sessions and vocational trainings 5. Capacity building for the youth, especially girls, in technical aspects of REDD+ 
Involve women in monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV)	<p>To involve all stakeholders in the monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Design training methodology that allow women and men to involve in MRV actions 2. Capacity building sessions for women in MRV and all technical aspects related to REDD+ 3. Sensitize implementing partners on the importance of including women in MRV process 4. Support the design of a MRV system where gender is a crosscutting issue 5. Capacity building for local girls on technical issues to ensure their involvement in REDD+ (through the development of a school curricula, scholarships, vocational training, internship programs) 