

Joint Regional Initiative for Women's Inclusion in REDD+

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Introduction

-established by the UN-REDD, WOCAN, and LEAF to identify practical entry points for women's inclusion and gender perspectives in REDD+ in Asia-Pacific. This involves further examination of:

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

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

Countries: Cambodia, Philippines and Sri Lanka.



Methodology

Step 1

Problem Identification The Scoping Dialogue

Identify the key impediments and recommended actions

to promote women's inclusion and gender equality in Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) and REDD,

Led by WOCAN with The Forest Dialogue

Step 2

Evidence Searching

Identify existing good practices

for women's inclusion in REDD+ Readiness initiatives within forest and other land-use sectors to draw out the

Key Enabling Interventions

that have contributed to program effectiveness.

Led by WOCAN

Step 3

Solution seeking

Country Level Analysis of Enabling Interventions

to explore the current status and effectiveness of policies and practices related to gender and women's inclusion in forest and other NRM sector and

Identified Recommendations

led by WOCAN and UNREDD

- Cambodia & Sri Lanka Led by LEAF
- **Philippines**

Step 4

Experience Sharing

Share findings, solutions and lessons from Step2 and Step 3 at the

> Regional Workshop

Led by LEAF



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: Regional Scoping Study: Best Practices



Key Intervention

- Ensuring women's representation and participation
- Facilitation and capacity building for women's participation
- 3. Skill building
- Gender-disaggregated analysis and planning to meet women's livelihood needs
- 5. Labor-saving & time-reducing technologies
- 6. Women-only groups
- 7. Women's networks and federations
- 8. Presence of women leaders and male and female gender champions
- 9. Equitable benefit sharing mechanisms
- Enterprise development and Credit Provision



Step 3: Country Level Analysis



Country Report

- Analyzes the current policies and practices,
- Identifies the gaps between policies and practice,
- Determines factors that prevent inclusion and identifies factors that enable women's inclusion in policies and projects



National Forest Dialogue

Objectives

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



Findings

Primary Barrier

- 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 Groups
- Gender Analysis & Planning



Country Specific Recommendations: 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 (leadership training)





Country Specific Recommendations: Cambodia

Support Gender-Disaggregated Analysis & Planning

To ensure REDD+ gender mainstreaming,

Collect baseline data and conduct gender analysis .

Promote Gender Responsive Budgeting & Capacity Building

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





Country Specific Recommendations: Sri Lanka

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 at the Sri Lankan Institute of Forestry



Country Specific Recommendations: Sri Lanka

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 & Federations

- 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.



Country Specific Recommendations: Philippines

Institutionalize Gender Equality in Department of Environment and Natural Resources

- Strengthening of Gender and Development Focal Point System (GADFS) system 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,
- Expanding strategic engagement and stronger coordination with line agencies such as Philippines Commission of Women, The National Climate Change Commission, Department of Budget and Management, Department of Interior and Local Government, People Organizations



Country Specific Recommendations: Philippines

Integrate Gender Perspectives & Women's Inclusion in the REDD+ framework

- Develop an entity that will address forestry issues in climate change negotiations and incorporate gender into its scope.
- Incorporate gender perspectives into Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) and other technical work (participation of women, IP and other key actors) of REDD+.
- Ensure both women and men's contribution in result-based performance of REDD+ by devising equitable benefit systems that fairly reward women and men.
- Develop project-level gender standards (gender analysis baseline, monitoring, reporting) to inform the development of safeguard information system.
- Stimulate discussions on non-carbon benefits in conformance with Philippines' triple carbon-economy framework that includes community, biodiversity and carbon



Conclusion

Actions:

- Most important is to make a start
- Use a methodology to collect data on barriers, good practices from other sectors as well as forestry
- initiate discussions with women's groups and Ministries of Women's Affairs who have responsibilities for mainstreaming gender into all sectors and ministries
- Identify approaches that bring real benefits to women, ie. renewable energy and other labor saving technologies, enterprise development etc.
- Ask for help for skills, resources that are not available within your institutions
- Join regional and global networks that are focused on improving practices for gender integration in REDD+



Thank you.





Key Issues Identified

- Improve capacity of women and youth: Need to build capacity of women, as well as male and female youth and deal with general educational gaps (e.g., literacy, informing on national and international rights)
- <u>Identify gender champions among men and leaders</u>: Build capacity of men, community leaders and local authorities on gender equality issues and the effective inclusion of indigenous women.
- <u>Link REDD+ to local contexts:</u> Link REDD+ to issues relevant to women and men in local communities (e.g. sustainable management of forests, agriculture, mining and water quality issues, etc.)
- <u>Economically support and empower women:</u> Fund women's attendance and participation in consultations/decision-making processes on REDD+. Livelihood/economic empowerment (e.g. planting fruit trees), can increase status and negotiating powers within communities.