



UN-REDD
PROGRAMME

Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment – Strengthening the Sustainability of REDD+

UN-REDD Programme Ninth Policy Board Meeting
Brazzaville, Republic of the Congo, 25 October 2012



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*





Why is a gender perspective important for managing forests?

- **Women are the primary users of forests**
- **Women and men are holders of valuable knowledge and skills**
- **However:**
 - **Women are marginalized** in decision-making
 - **Women often have access to land, but limited control over it**



Why is gender a key variable for REDD+?

- Men and women may experience the effects of climate change and REDD+ strategies differently
- Given women's dependence on natural resources, they may be adversely affected by climate change policies on REDD+
- Gender-differentiated *needs, uses and knowledge* have critical influence on REDD+ strategies



Gender roles around land tenure

- *Unclear or insecure tenure* may itself promote deforestation because resource users may have little incentive to protect the resource if they feel they have no stake in it
- In many places women do not legally own land
- Where tenure is weak, it often women who are pushed to marginal land



Understanding the gender differentiated role in sustainable forest management

- The integration both men and women's *roles, responsibilities, knowledge and skills* is vital to the success of REDD+
- Men and women play varying roles *throughout the value chain*:
 - Enables a more accurate definition of the problem and who is driving deforestation, where and how
 - Helps identify potential solutions



Sustainable and effective REDD+

A sustainable and gender-responsive REDD+ framework would ensure that:

- Women have equitable access to REDD+ benefits
- Women's rights to forests and land resources are recognized
- Good practices are promoted and gender inequality between men and women are not perpetuated or exacerbated
- Women's role in REDD+ is carefully considered and reflected at every stage



How to integrate gender equality concerns into REDD+ strategies

Key entry points include:

- Engaging *women and men as key stakeholders* in decision-making
- Conducting a *gender analysis*
- Creating *gender-sensitive M&E* processes
- Allocating *adequate financial resources* to mainstream gender
- Consulting *technical gender expertise*



Engage women and men as key stakeholders in all phases of decision-making

- Consult and seek the participation of local actors in REDD+ programmes
- Broaden the reach of such consultations
- Ensure women *are actively involved in* and can influence decision-making processes





Conduct a gender analysis

- Timing:
 - Conduct a gender analysis *during programme design*
- Key features include:
 - Analysis of stakeholders' *roles, needs, priorities and opportunities*
 - Identification of the *socio-economic and political context* of both women and men stakeholders affected and/or involved in REDD+ strategies



Ensure monitoring and evaluation processes are gender-sensitive

- Gender-responsive M&E systems will help identify the gendered dimensions of REDD+ strategies
 - and promote effective programme implementation
- Gender-responsive M&E systems should:
 - *Disaggregate data by sex*
 - *Create gender indicators*





Allocate adequate financial resources to ensure gender equity in REDD+

- Gender equality activities require *sufficient, dedicated funds* throughout all phases of REDD+
- Gender-responsive budgeting:
 - Involves *re-prioritizing of financial resources* within activities rather than just increasing overall expenditures
 - Helps address gender gaps in programming





Involve technical social and gender expertise in REDD+ activities

- Consult with gender specialists throughout all phases of REDD+
 - Partner with *local gender expertise*

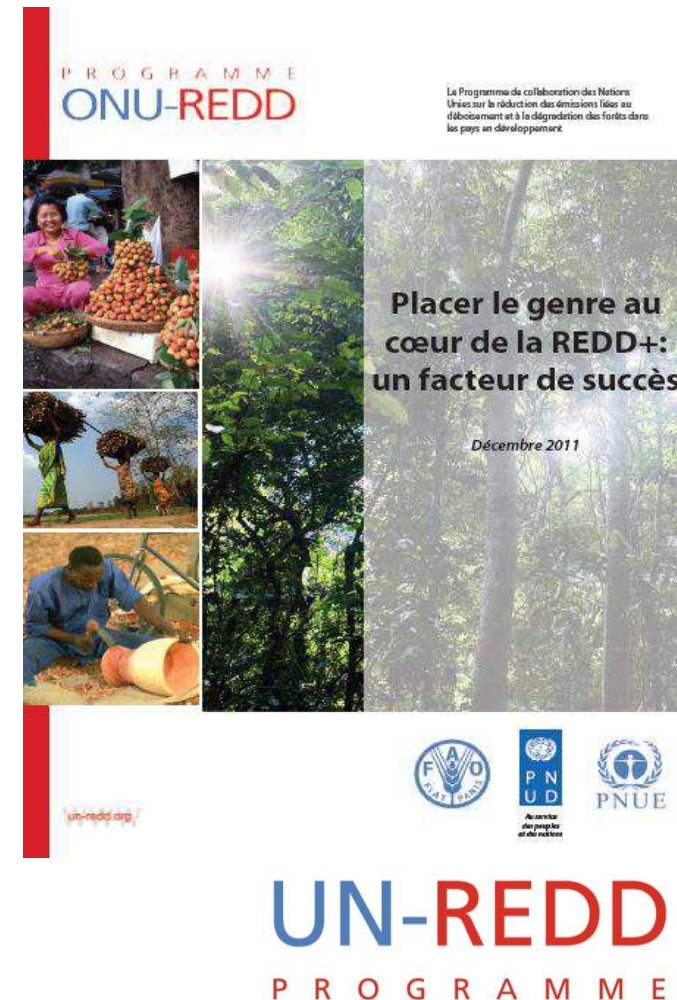
Gender expertise can help provide technical assistance in:

- *Mainstreaming gender* in REDD+ strategies
- Developing *measurable gender indicators*
- Facilitating *stock-taking of progress* on gender mainstreaming milestones



Business case for mainstreaming gender in REDD+

- Published in December 2011
- Demonstrates :
 - Gender equality in REDD+ will create *a more stable investment environment, ensure permanence, and reduce the risk of reversals* for investors
 - *Inclusive* REDD+ systems have the potential to mitigate climate change while advancing sustainable development





Multiple benefits

As shown by this Business Case, mainstreaming gender in REDD+ can:

- Increase **efficiency** of REDD+
- Increase **efficacy** of reducing greenhouse gas emissions
- Increase **sustainability**

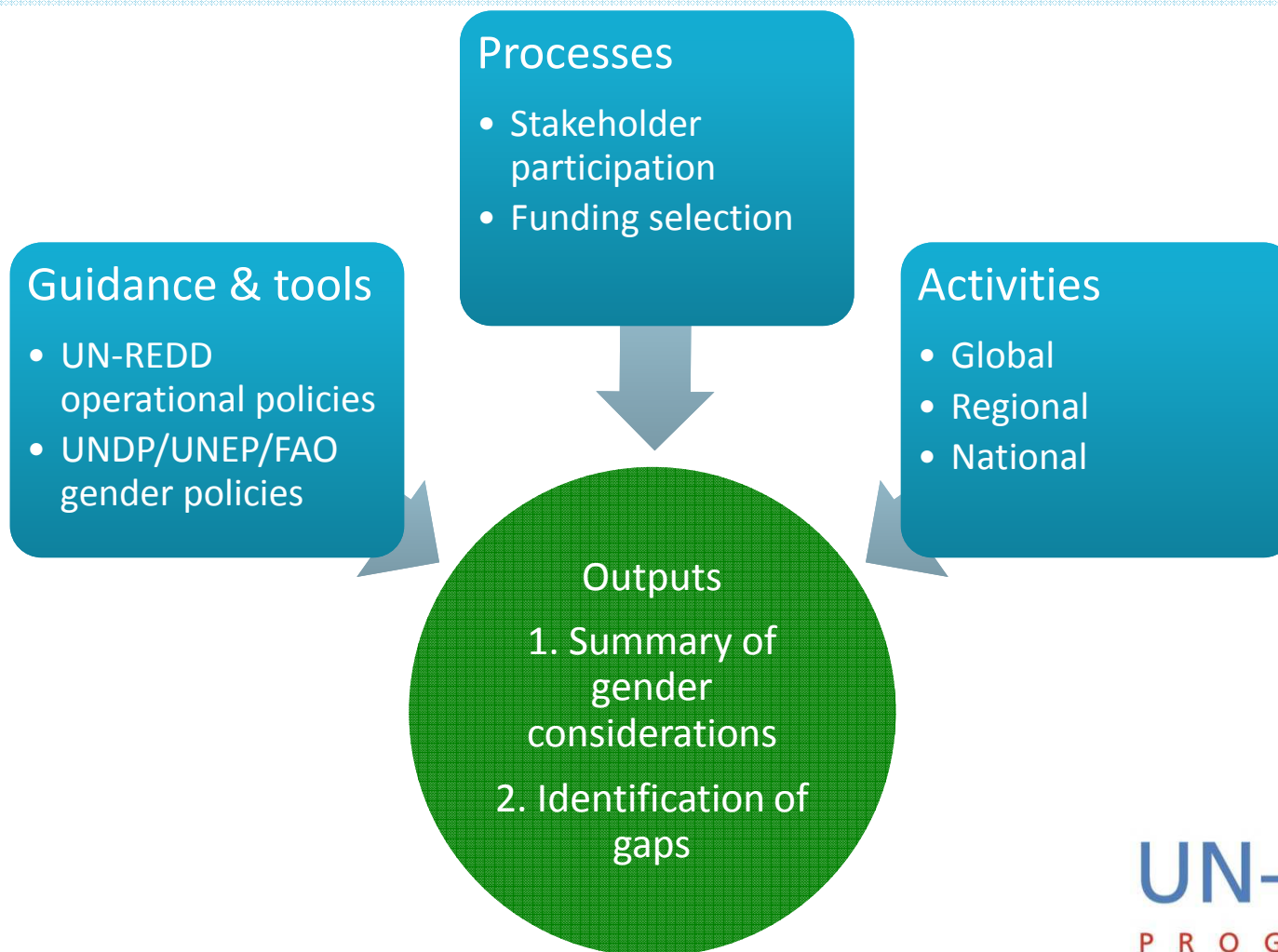


How to integrate gender considerations in UN-REDD?

1. How can the UN-REDD Programme best ensure integration of a gender perspective in its activities to strengthen the sustainability of REDD+ readiness and implementation?
2. How to integrate gender equality and women's empowerment principles into REDD+ strategies and processes at the country level?



UN-REDD gender screening process





Some questions for consideration...

- How has gender been relevant for REDD+ processes in your country (or other countries)?
- What are the challenges to integrating gender in REDD+ processes?
- Who can be partners in strengthening gender considerations in REDD+?
- How do you think the UN-REDD Programme could strengthen integration of gender considerations in the Programme?



Thank You!

Silje.Haugland@undp.org

Elizabeth.Eggerts@undp.org

Solange.Bandiaky@undp.org