Forests and SDG5: Empowerment of Women and Girls

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Outline

1. Global Forest Goals and SDG5 – setting the scene

2. Analytical framework for forests and SDG5: rights, power and equity

3. A gender transformative agenda for forests – issues and data to aid decision making
1. Global Forest Goals and SDG5 – setting the scene

Global Forest Goals

- SFM – reverse loss of forest cover
- Forest based economic, social and environmental benefits – financing for SMEs and integration to value chain
- Protected areas and sustainably managed forests – management plans, sustainable products
- Additional financial resources for SFM, scientific and technical cooperation and partnerships
- Governance frameworks for SFM – FLEG, forests in land use planning and development
- Enhance cooperation

Gender equality and empowerment of all women and girls

- End Discrimination
- Eliminate violence
- Eliminate harmful practices
- Value unpaid care and domestic work
- Equal rights to economic resources, ownership and control of land and other assets, financial services
- Empowerment of women through technology
- Strengthen and enforce policies and legislation – empowerment of all women and girls

It does not matter where we are in the globe – women face challenges in the forest sector

Sharing the load in different forest activities (above); conducting research (below)…
2. Overview of the analytical framework: rights, power and equity

- **Rights**
  - Equal rights to economic resources
  - Tenure – the conflict between statutory and customary rights
  - Provisions and practices: access to valuable and productive assets (land, forests and carbon), control, inheritance
  - Right to education, employment and equal pay
  - Financial resources

- **Equity**
  - Participation in generation of benefits – value chains
  - Equal opportunities and benefits – financial resources
  - Distribution of benefits

- **Power**
  - Formal and informal education of women and girls
  - Women in Decision Making positions
  - Women in business

- **Forests and SDG5**
  - Participation: Representation and influence in decision making at different level
  - Accountability - monitoring
Exercising power - Skills, access to technology and networks

For the first time, women are now in leading forestry roles in both Forestry Commission Scotland and at the Scottish Government – 2015 - https://www.farminguk.com/News/Changing-face-of-modern-forestry_36035.html

Source: http://theforestsdialgue.org - public and private sector, different Sectors and regions, NGOs, donors and multilateral agencies

Equaltree – forestry training for women Right weight of equipment, right size => right technique versus physical strength!

Source: http://theforestsdialgue.org

Female employees in the forest sector

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Share of female employment (2010)</th>
<th>Number of female employees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mali</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>180,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mongolia and Namibia</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>600,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil and France</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>Brazil – 90,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden, Switzerland</td>
<td>5-8%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Women in business – barriers affecting SMEs’ access to financial resources

Interest rates – the cost of lending or borrowing can be enable or prohibitive; low interest rates offer incentive for SMEs, but not always available

The grace period – real start ups or SMEs expanding to new areas of investment require a period of delayed payments (e.g. a year)

Rate of return – the profit on investment determines capacity to repay credit; financial viability of business is critical; operational costs (e.g. Due to lack of infrastructure)

Access to finance by SMEs – challenges for investments in sustainable and inclusive forest and agriculture businesses

Risk – perceived or real risk of default and money loss for public and private investors

Repayment period – short versus long term investment; financing decisions on annual crops and commerce versus long term crops such as tree or forest management

Scale – multiple small scale investments associated with high transaction costs (management), but what about their cumulative net economic, social and potentially environmental and climate gains?

Women in business – barriers affecting SMEs’ access to financial resources

Legal registration

Collateral or guarantees – preference for assets such as land, physical assets and equipment associated with liquidity

Business management capacity – understanding of production potential, technology and markets; financial management systems by beneficiaries

Natural disasters – floods, droughts, wind storms, fire

EIGE – gender in entrepreneurship

• Women empowerment and social inclusion makes economic sense – OECD countries

• constraints to entrepreneurship and gender inequalities

• Access to credit, finance and capital – lack of collateral such as land or property, women’s lower income, absence of financial products for women; work and family life balance; networking opportunities;

• unfavourable business regulations, cultural barriers, information and training gaps;
Local voices - Nepal

‘Women have a huge responsibility – cook food, take care of children, fetch fuelwood from forest and they have no time to take part in the CFUG meetings that make decisions on the rules regarding resource use in their forest. And how can one blame a women on breaking forest rules’
A woman member, Janakalyan CFUG, Nawalparasi

‘A sukumbasi doesn’t have land to seek loans, nor has any money to start a business, so why wouldn’t he chose to sale forest products to earn a living. So until and unless the government come up with alternative livelihood plan for the sukumbasis, deforestation and forest degradation will not stop’
A user group member, Janakalyan CFUG, Nawalparasi

An example (Mozambique) of what it takes to transform small scale artisanal loggers to become concessionaires (partnership of men and women) – PUBLIC Finance to leverage Private Finance

Negotiation
To join the model - 2013

Timber operators negotiate among themselves and decide on enterprise groupings - 2014

Capacity development - 2015
28 operators (24 from Zambézia, 2 from Manica e 2 from Sofala)
• organization, business management
• Resources assessment and management planning
• Forest legislation

Field activity in each of the 24 areas – 2015-2016
Zoning
Forest Inventory (timber and NTFP)
Management plan
Reforestation Plan

Registration of 9 businesses (now legal entities) - 2015
Timber operators designed their management structure and statutes

Business planning for each of the businesses - 2016
Processing capacity
Acquisition of equipment

Submission of process to legalization of forest concessions

Approval of Forest Concessions by government

Start operations

Land delimitation for acquisition of DUAT for the heavily deforested areas

Establishment of Forest plantations; Forest restoration

Monitoring effectiveness of the businesses (profitability) and reduction of emissions

2016 - onwards

Value added products
Sustainable Forest Management
Reforestation
Reduced emissions and Enhanced carbon stocks

Simple Licence
From 1 to 5 years
10,000 ha
500 m3/year
Log export to China
3. A gender transformative agenda for forests

Gender sensitive forest based SD

Education of women and girls at all levels

Equal rights to economic resources

Employment in public and private sector

Subsector, responsibility, pay gap, gender sensitive work-life balance

Address scale (associations, partnerships); collateral and guaranties

Data: responsive curriculum to emerging trends in the sector; training of women and girls; statistics on enrolment and graduates at different levels

Gender friendly financing instruments

Data: responsive curriculum to emerging trends in the sector; training of women and girls; statistics on enrolment and graduates at different levels

Thank you

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