

Validation/Dissemination Workshop

**Gender in Community-Based Forest
Management for Conserving Forests through
Sustainable, Forest-based Enterprise Support in
Tanzania**

By

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TAFORI

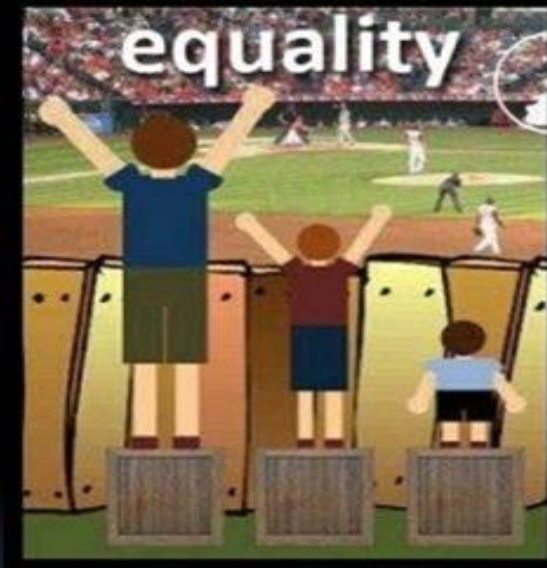
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Introduction about CoFoREsT

- With financial support from (SDC), the TFCG) in partnership with MJUMITA) are implementing the CoForEST. project
- The goal is to enhance a sustainable, pro-poor community natural forest management that transforms the economics and governance of the forest products value chains
- This action research aimed to generate practical recommendations to achieve greater gender equity in CBFM and sustainable forest products value chains

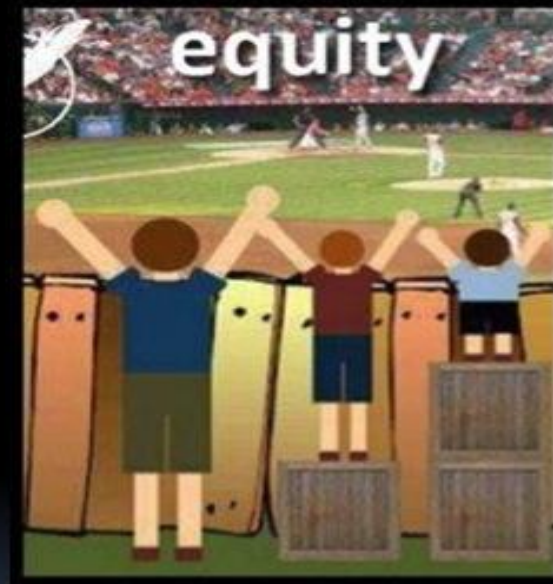
Gender equality vs Equity

Equality vs. Equity



EQUALITY=SAMENESS

GIVING EVERYONE THE SAME THING → It only works if everyone starts from the same place



EQUITY=FAIRNESS

ACCESS to SAME OPPORTUNITIES → We must first ensure equity before we can enjoy equality

Gender Equality Continuum Tool

Ignores:

- the set of economic/social/political roles, rights, entitlements, responsibilities, obligations and power relations associated with being female & male
- dynamics between and among men & women, boys & girls

Gender Blind



Gender Aware

- Examines and addresses these gender considerations and adopts an approach along the continuum

Exploitative

Reinforces or takes advantage of gender inequalities and stereotypes

Accommodating

Works around existing gender differences and inequalities

Transformative

- Fosters critical examination of gender norms* and dynamics
- Strengthens or creates systems* that support gender equality
- Strengthens or creates equitable gender norms and dynamics
- Changes inequitable gender norms and dynamics

GOAL

Gender Equality and better development outcomes



* Norms encompass attitudes and practices

* A system consists of a set of interacting structures, practices, and relations

Introd....

- Under the previous phase of the CoForEST, a review of the project's work on gender was carried out
 - *Gender analysis in Community Based Forest Management in Kilosa, Mvomero and Morogoro Districts*
- Recommendations:
 - gender mainstreaming in Phase 3 planning
 - undertake research on 'gender disparities in the distribution of benefits from CBFM
 - evaluation of strategies to address gender disparities
- This research focused on strategies to address gender disparities

Objectives for the research

■ Overall objective

- To contribute new knowledge on strategies to address gender disparities in community-based forest management and sustainable forest-based enterprises

■ Specific objectives

■ To identify strategies:

- Explore the influence and accessibility of CBFM benefits to overcome the economic, social, cultural, political and legal factors that limit women and other disadvantaged groups
- Examine gender and climate change in CBFM areas in terms of mitigation, coping and adaptation strategies.

Methodology

Approach and Methodology

■ Research Approaches:

- adopted action research approaches for robust evidence to substantiate the conclusions and recommendations for the objectives of the study

■ Methodology

- Used mixed methods within a Participatory Action Research (PAR) approach.
- Participants observation, community meetings, resource mapping and planning
- Focus group discussions and Key informant interviews

Villages Surveyed

SN	District	Village	Survey Date
1	Kilosa	Msimba	11.11.2021
2		Ulaya Mbuyuni	13.11.2021
3		Kitunduweta	12.11.2021
4	Mvomero	Maharaka	15.11.2021
5		Msongozi	18.11.2021
6		Kihondo	17.11.2021
7	Morogoro	Diguzi	20.11.2021
8		Mlilingwa	23.11.2021
9		Matuli	19.11.2021

Findings

Findings

- Overall, gender disparities are still widespread in many aspect including:
 - participation, leadership, land tenure rights, forest and use of natural resources, division of labour and workload, access to and control of income, access to credits, access to markets, access to employment opportunities and policy engagement
- Gender responsive interventions
 - The strategies to increase awareness and participation in the CBFM have impact on overcoming barriers for livelihood improvement

Findings

- Gender-responsive integration in CBFM is important for two overarching rationales: it is a rights-based argument and many opportunities are missed because of ignoring gender considerations or being gender-blind
- Issues on gender inequalities should not just be seen as problems but as potential opportunities (essence of action research)!
- Strategies and initiatives to increase governance in CBFM by local actors/villages:
 - awareness creation
 - strengthening the local institutions

Findings

- improving the power relations among forest stakeholders
- Study revealed that awareness may help to prevent corrupt practices within forest governance
- BUT: lack of implementation of existing laws and bylaws is a central problem
 - E.g. powerful actors may resist legal enforcement where there is weak or lack of legal knowledge at local level
- Despite the effort to decentralize governance in the forest sector, substantial power remains with the district authorities especially in the benefit sharing at village and household levels

Strategies to enhance equality and equity in CBFM

- Most of the interventions undertaken to reduce gender disparities in the access to and control of the resources in CBFM, were found to address disparities in poverty
- Some approaches addressed the drivers and causes for gender disparity, while others aimed at reducing the impact of such disparities as well improving livelihood outcomes
- The combined initiatives to address poverty & improve the livelihood in CBFM, have potential to reduce gender disparity.
- Strategies/interventions include:

Findings...

■ **Strengthening Women's Participation**

- The quota setting for women participation in leadership is effective than generalized approach where it is assumed that men and women have equal status and power in the society.

■ **Strengthening Forest, Land and Tree Tenure Rights**

- Sensitization of community on land use planning enable women to own land including the harvesting charcoal plots.
- Formation of economic groups such as VLSA are effective in increasing women participation and ownership of land and other forestry related resources

Findings...

- **Designing Equitable Benefit-Sharing Mechanisms.**
Effective strategies include:
 - The advocacy and enforcement of Equitable PES initiatives
 - marketing and market linkages for the CBFM products such as charcoal and timber value chains
 - promoting transparency and publicly available information on forest-related revenues collection, distribution, and management
- **Supporting inclusive Local institutions, Networks and Platforms Related to Forest Landscapes**
 - Women do actively participate in horizontal linkages through women only groups and informal meeting.
 - Women collective actions strategies are effective. .

Findings...

- **Strengthening Women's Access to Credit and value Chains for Forest-Related Activities and Enterprises**
 - The strategy on VLSA serves as a reliable source of small capital.
 - Low capital of the revolving fund does not attract men participation.
 - The quality of the products produced from the investment of such VLSA capital is of low quality.
- **Building Knowledge and Skills**
 - Empowering women (and other disadvantaged groups plus men) in CBFM and NTFP by developing enterprises using CFNM
 - Targeted trainings, technology transfer, business skills development, leadership and negotiation capacity strengthening,
 - Enhanced access to and ability to use market information systems.

Overcoming the economic, social, cultural, political and legal factors

- Regular education on gender and sustainable management of the CBFM resources
 - Social construction of inequalities require concerted efforts not one or two time event
- Promote development of entrepreneurship activities
 - There is a strengthen and promote &entrepreneurial activities including the ones promoted by TFCG e.g. VLSA to youth and women
- Support formation of Gender groups in economic activities for livelihood improvement
 - Gender economic empowerment is a precondition for equality and equity

Overcoming...

- Supporting establishment of secured markets for CBFM products
 - Strengthen market linkages for CBFM products beyond charcoal and timber
- Supporting law enforcement in CBFM implementation
 - Continue strengthening law enforcement in CBFM implementation to ensure gender equity and maximize benefit sharing

Gender and climate change in CBFM: mitigation, coping and adaptation

- All villages have experienced climate change effects (erratic rainfall and frequent droughts)
- To cope with the impacts:
 - Adopted afforestation as advised
 - Adopt alternative crops e.g. vegetable gardening
 - Engagement in other IGAs e.g. petty trading, credit and serving groups
- For long term mitigation
 - Establishment and strengthening of the producer and marketing groups

Proposed strategies to address gender disparities in CBFM

- Preparation of a detailed plan on how mitigate gender inequality in CBFM was difficult at village level
- Despite an understanding that harvesting of CBFM products like charcoal and other NTFPs is done in a sustainable, plan to improve gender equality could not be established
- There are multiple options to consider for closing gender gaps
- Mind-set transformation to increase men, women and youth participation in the CBFM is not enough to end gender inequalities

Proposed

- Gender disparities decreases as the level of poverty is reduced through increased participation, decision making regarding the use of benefits obtained.

Conclusions and policy recommendations

Concl... & Rec...

- To overcome gender inequalities in CBFM - need for regular provision of education on gender and sustainable management of the CBFM
- Establish secured markets for CBFM products including value addition and linkages with proper communication
- Design the institutional frameworks for CBFM and forest related policy making, formation of groups, networks, and inclusive forest-related platforms, awareness-building actions on their role in forestry value chains

Concl... & Rec...

- LGAs should advocate for enforcement of legal framework that recognize community-based tenure, including specific provisions on respecting and protecting women's rights e.g., village land use plans Contracts (related to concessions, PES schemes)
- device gender parity rules for local councils, cooperatives and producer organizations to open up greater access by women to key decision making arenas

Conc. & Rec.

■ How can the findings of our research be applied?

- The empirical evidence provided in our research indicate the relationship and impact of poverty in the initiatives to bring equality, it informs the policy makers and practitioners CBFM
- Prepare Policy Foras to inform relevant sectors for mainstreaming key issues in policies, strategies and workplans
- Prepare popular publications such as posters, Newsletters and Leaflets to share key information with other stakeholders including local communities
- Collaborate with research and academic institutions to disseminate information during workshops and seminars to wider audience

Conc. & Rec.

■ Further research:

- Gender Capacity building in other CBFM related resources: sustainable production, marketing and value addition
- Strengthening CBFM products marketing system – linking organized gender producer groups to sustainable markets
- Support to enhance gender adaptive capacities to climate change impacts

Thank you