How to Promote Gender-Responsive Forest Tenure Reform

- **FOCUS**: gender equality in community-based forest tenure regimes
- **Goal**: accelerating the pace of change by initiating high impact interventions at two main levels
- **Forest tenure policy, legal reform and government administration**
- **Community-based forest tenure regimes**
Three Chapters

a. Gender Responsive Accelerators for Forest Tenure Reform

b. With Gender in Mind: Forest Tenure Policy, Legal Reform, and Government Administration

c. Gender Matters in Community-Based Forest Tenure
Approach

- Africa, Asia and Latin America
- Tremendous diversity in contexts: gender dynamics, political economy, history, policy and law, women and democracy movements
- Multiple forms of guidance: conceptual ideas, operational direction, good practices, case-study insights, research findings, and resources for further exploration
Three-Step Pathway to Accelerate Change

**ANALYZE**
Understand achievements, as well as future challenges and needs

**STRATEGIZE**
Decide on an effective strategy for achieving change within a specific time frame

**REALIZE**
Implement the strategy through a set of sequenced and paced activities, integrating reflection and learning
His Her Forest Tenure Insights

- Twelve case studies: diverse themes
- Question for Reflection, and Lessons
- Build understanding of how changes are taking place: both positive and negative
- To explore concepts such as gender intersectionality through real-world cases
- To identify how changing conditions such as migration are affecting tenure governance
Her His Forest Tenure Insight

- Massive Potential: Forest Rights Act in India
- Global Gender Accelerator: International Tropical Timber Organization
- New Community Forestry Strategy: DRC
- Gender Leap Forward: Participatory Mapping and AMAN in Indonesia
- What does Research Say: Women’s Participation
HARMONIZING CHANGE: Gender equality and the Community Rights Law of Liberia

QUESTION FOR REFLECTION

Why does the National Forest Policy of Liberia not match the principles set out in its National Gender Policy when it comes to gender equality?

In Liberia, a post-conflict country, has been going through a lengthy peace-building and reform process that has included land and forest tenure reform. Active steps were taken to integrate gender equality into the 1986 Constitution, create a Ministry of Gender and Development in 2001 and issue a National Gender Policy in 2009 (later revised and validated for the period 2018-2022). However, the laws governing forest policy, such as the 2009 Community Rights Law (CRL), only refer to gender issues in passing (Weah 2012, Bandia-Badji et al. 2016, Zinnah et al. 2020). This is somewhat contradictory since Liberia is clearly committed to gender equality: the Constitution enshrines the principle of equal rights for men and women and prohibits gender discrimination; and it is also a CEDAW signatory. Therefore, this mismatch is probably the result of timing: the Gender Policy and CRL came out in the same year of 2009. So what is to be done now?

It is clear that all the objectives of the National Gender Policy directly relate to the forestry sector. The policy provides a comprehensive set of goals: promoting gender-equitable socioeconomic development; enhancing women’s and girls’ empowerment; increasing gender mainstreaming in national development; and creating and strengthening structures, processes and mechanisms in which women participate equally and that ensure women and men can equally access, control, and benefit from the country’s resources. Certainly, these objectives have already been applied to the land tenure sector. Ex-President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, the first democratically elected female head of state in Africa, was vocal in her support of the legal recognition of women’s land rights. As a result, the 2018 Land Rights Act sets out strong ownership and customary land claims for women (and youth from minority groups) stating they have equal rights to use and manage community land. It also requires the community land governance body to be equally composed of women, men and youth and make decisions by consensus. Further, it establishes that concessions need to adhere to national gender and other related policies (Dodd et al. 2018; Zinnah et al. 2020).

When it comes to forestry, the scenario is puzzlingly different. The CRL was developed in accordance with the 2006 National Forestry Reform Law in order to empower communities to fully engage in sustainable forest management. While the CRL permits the creation of a Community Council as its highest decision-making body, it only asserts that it is up to the community to ensure that all gender and community segments are represented (Weah 2012; Onzere et al. 2020). Moreover, the CRL only directly refers to women in section 4.2(a) when it states that "a five member Community Forestry Management..."
Analyze
Strategize
Realize
CHAPTER 2: WITH GENDER IN MIND

Forest Tenure Laws and Policies

Government Administration
Illustrative Interventions:

Gender-Responsive Review of Forest Tenure Laws
Illustrative Interventions: Staff Work Process and Guidance

TYPE OF INTERVENTION

Provide tailored support for senior management in terms of how to integrate gender equality into policy development and administration, including providing gender briefs, as well as communication and media opportunities.

Create incentives for junior staff to become inspired by the vision of a gender-equal workforce.

Provide gender training that is targeted to specific levels and responsibilities of staff that clearly specify how to respond to types of roles and scenarios.

Consider how the senior management can build strategic alliances with forestry federations, women’s groups, farmer groups, indigenous groups, pastoralist groups, and legal experts in order to strengthen gender equality within relevant forest tenure policies and laws.

FIGURE 19. Interventions to guide staff work process and capacity building
Chapter 3

Types of devolution

Reach, Benefit and Empower

8 Domains of Women’s Empowerment
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TYPE</th>
<th>WEAK DEVOLUTION</th>
<th>MODERATE DEVOLUTION</th>
<th>STRONG DEVOLUTION</th>
<th>OWNERSHIP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Delegated</td>
<td>Participatory involvement in program-led activities</td>
<td>Share benefits from government-owned forests</td>
<td>Collective management of forests involving devolution of rights to use, manage and regulate</td>
<td>Owned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Little authority to make decisions</td>
<td>Established through policy framework</td>
<td>Established through legal framework</td>
<td>Full title to customary lands including forest areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Some rights to harvest forest resources such as fuelwood, fodder or other NTFPs</td>
<td>Shorter or insecure tenure duration</td>
<td>Enduring rights in perpetuity</td>
<td>All responsibility to use and manage lies with community</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Limited community authority</td>
<td>Autonomy</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Some employment opportunities in government’s forest management work</td>
<td>Devolution of rights based on approval of a forest management or operational plan</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rights to use certain forest products with controls on timber harvesting</td>
<td>Specified rights to sell timber commercially</td>
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<tr>
<td>MODALITY</td>
<td>Large-scale afforestation projects</td>
<td>joint forest management</td>
<td>Community forestry</td>
<td>Native or peasant community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Community protected-area management</td>
<td>Community forestry</td>
<td>Local community forestry concessions</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>EXAMPLES</td>
<td>Sri Lanka, Cambodia</td>
<td>India, Thailand</td>
<td>Nepal, Democratic Republic of Congo</td>
<td>Peru</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Women and men in communities and governments participate actively in design of forest management plans, projects, and policies.

Women and men, as individuals and groups, access, use and benefit from forest landscapes equally.

Women and men, as individuals and groups, earn income by planting trees, harvesting sustainably and protecting forest landscapes through equitable initiatives (PES, certification, etc.).

Reach

Women and men are involved in management activities such as silvicultural work, fire control, nursery development, patrolling and monitoring, and dispute resolution.

Benefits can be in the form of secure resource availability, household or individual income generation, and community-level benefits.

Women are empowered in households with greater control over finances, food security, education and resource rights.

Empower

Women have greater effective authority over decision making within forest governance bodies.

Benefits

Secure tenure rights over varied productive forest resources to meet household needs

Control over use of individual and household income

Access to capital and knowledge for forest-based enterprises

Access to and use of various technologies and equipment

Decision-making authority in household over forest resource use

Decision-making authority in forest governance bodies

Reducing time and labor burdens to meet household needs

Building leadership in the community
Chapter 3

Participatory Mapping

Forest-Based Enterprises

Restoration of Multifunctional Landscapes
Journeys on the Forest Tenure Pathways!
Read the guide (#OpenAccess): https://doi.org/10.17528/cifor/007909

For more information on the Global Comparative Study on Forest Tenure Reform, visit: https://www2.cifor.org/gcs-tenure/

Recording of this webinar will be available at http://bit.ly/FTPGEguide

For more information, contact Anne Larson a.larson[at]cgiar.org