



FOREST TENURE PATHWAYS TO **GENDER EQUALITY**

A PRACTITIONER'S GUIDE

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RESEARCH
PROGRAM #1
Forests, Trees and
Agroforestry



RESEARCH
PROGRAM #2
Policies,
Institutions,
and Markets
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How to Promote Gender-Responsive Forest Tenure Reform

- **FOCUS:** gender equality in community-based forest tenure regimes
- Goal is 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

A woman with dark skin, wearing a red shirt and a striped top, is carrying a large woven basket filled with green seedlings on her head. She is looking down at the basket. The background is a bright blue sky with white clouds.

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; Badiaky-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



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 work force.

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

Illustrative Interventions: Staff Work Process and Guidance

Chapter 3

Types of devolution

Reach, Benefit
and Empower

8 Domains of
Women's
Empowerment



TYPE (BASED ON FAO 2019C)

CHARACTERISTICS

MODALITY

EXAMPLES



WEAK DEVOLUTION

Delegated

Participatory involvement in program-led activities

Little authority to make decisions

Some rights to harvest forest resources such as fuelwood, fodder or other NTFPs

Large-scale afforestation projects

Community protected-area management

Sri Lanka
Cambodia



MODERATE DEVOLUTION

Shared and partly devolved

Share benefits from government-owned forests

Established through policy framework

Shorter or insecure tenure duration

Limited community authority

Some employment opportunities in government's forest management work

Rights to use certain forest products with controls on timber harvesting

Joint forest management

Community forestry

India
Thailand



STRONG DEVOLUTION

Fully devolved

Collective management of forests involving devolution of rights to use, manage and regulate

Established through legal framework

Enduring rights in perpetuity

Autonomy

Devolution of rights based on approval of a forest management or operational plan

Specified rights to sell timber commercially

Community forestry

Local community forestry concessions

Nepal
Democratic Republic of Congo



OWNERSHIP

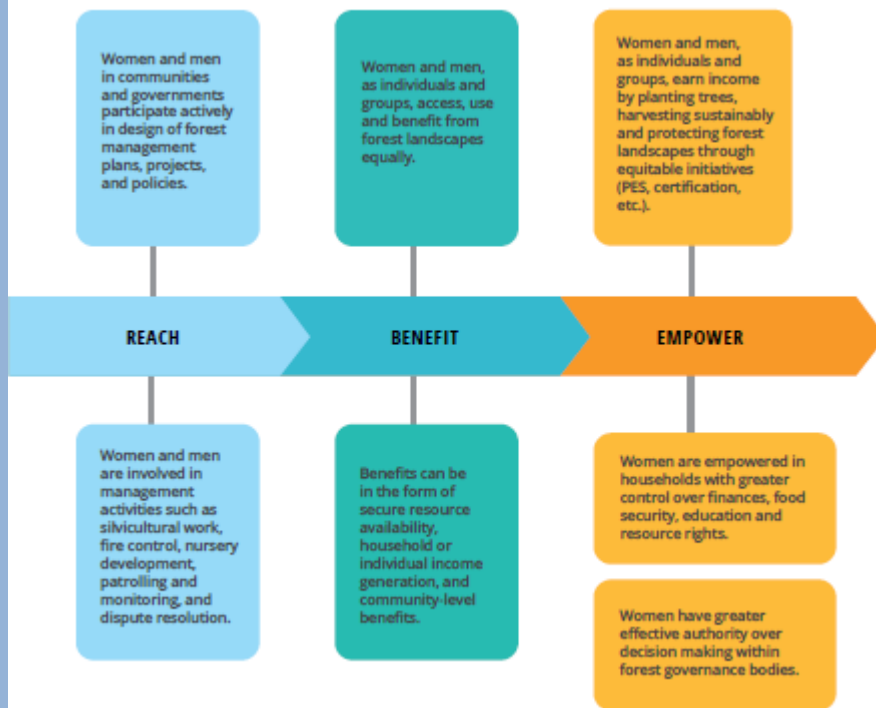
Owned

Full title to customary lands including forest areas

All responsibility to use and manage lies with community

Native or peasant community

Peru



Chapter 3

Participatory Mapping

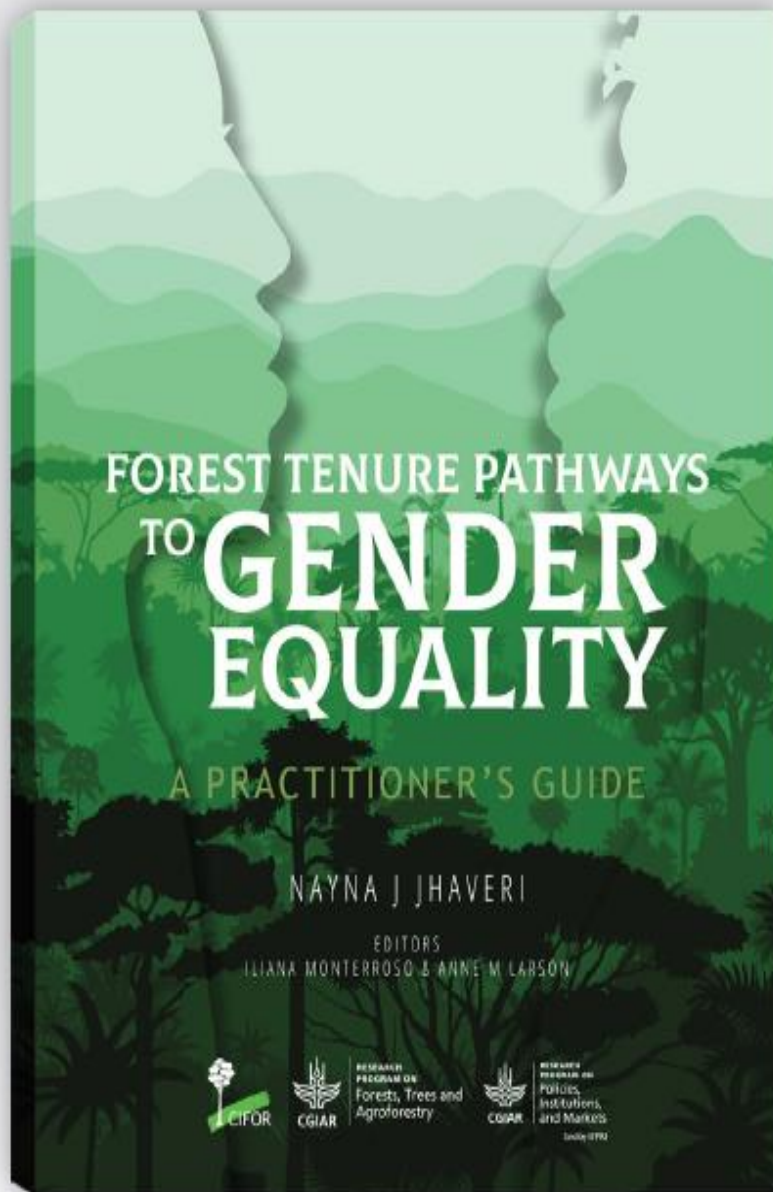
Forest-Based Enterprises

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>

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