

Regional Initiative for Promoting Small-Scale Renewable Energy Applications in rural areas of the Arab Region

First Regional Coordination Meeting

Lebanon – 25th September 2018

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

Gender mainstreaming strategy and action plan

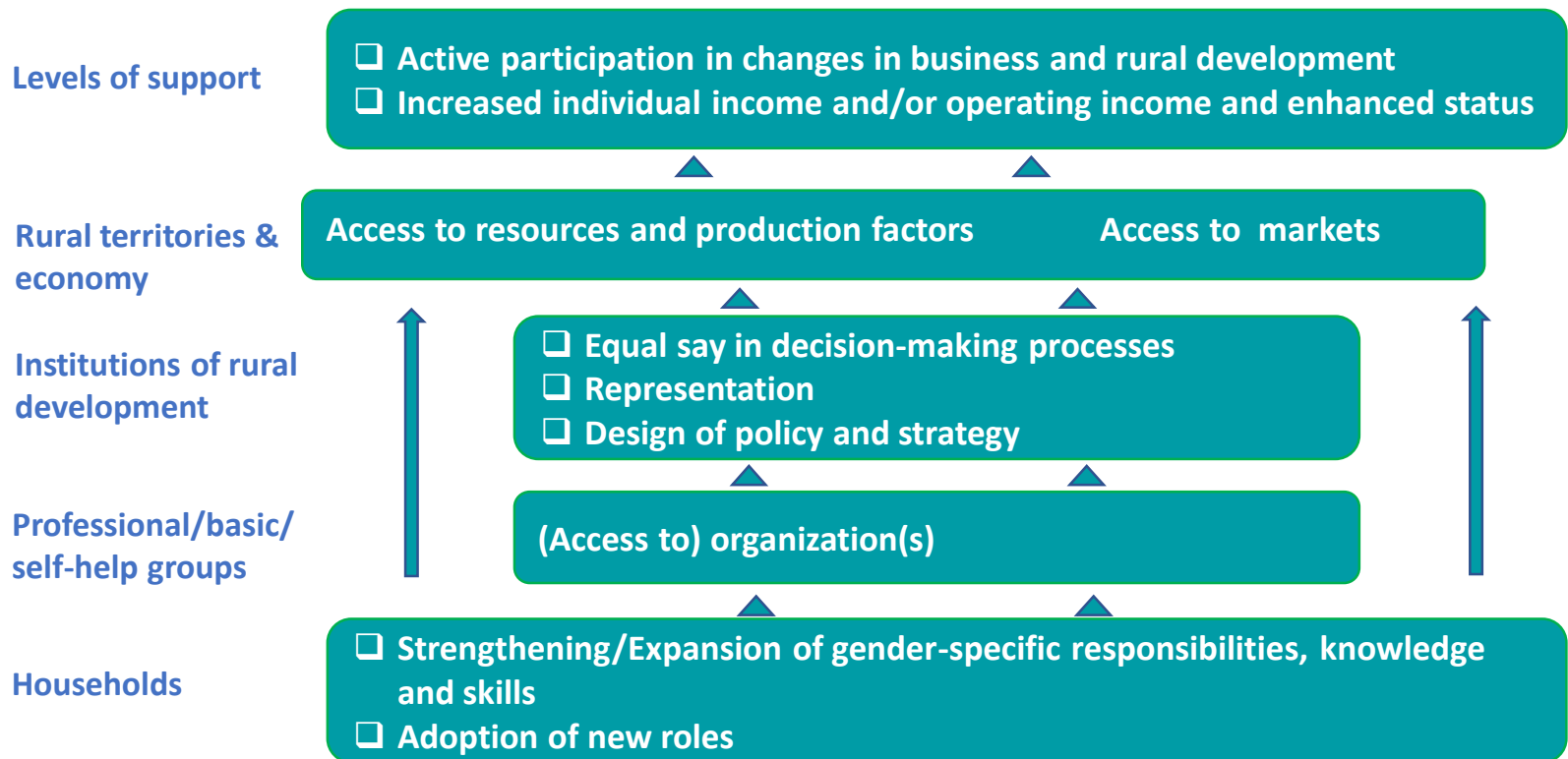


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Sustainable Development Policies Division – Energy Section

Areas of support and impact for equal participation in rural development



Gender Mainstreaming

Gender mainstreaming is addressed in the various components of the Project undertaken to enhance rural development:

- As member of the Steering Committee (SC).
- As member of the Local Facilitating (LFT) for national coordination.
- Conduct targeted study on gender mainstreaming to find means of contributing to the wider resilience, not only arising from climate change but also from conflict.
- Develop Gender Mainstreaming Strategy and Plan.
- Collect of gender-disaggregated information to investigate the role played by women in entrepreneurial development within the rural area.
- Establishment of Gender based advisory network on energy and entrepreneurial skills in rural development to support applying a gender and human rights-based approach to energy.
- Involvement of Women's associations in each pilot country as an implementing partner.
- Part of the mentors and Agent of Change through the life cycle of the Project.
- ESCWA will also ensure equal women participation at various national and regional capacity buildings including the Training of the Trainers.
- Support the role of women in the Private Sector in Income Generating Activities (IGA) by incorporating in the proposed pilot projects specific goals on gender equality and encourage entrepreneurial and employment opportunities.

Gender mainstreaming Strategy through project Life Cycle



Engendering the Main Implementation period

- Ensuring that at least a critical mass of 30% of women is represented at the highest decision-making level of the Project
- Being gender responsive in all result-oriented activities by identifying the implications of the project activities and results for women as compared to men. This includes adjustments of the project, when deemed necessary, to prevent that the project perpetuates gender inequalities and to ensure that women's empowerment and gender equality will be enhanced throughout the implementation stage.
- Keeping records on gender the Project disaggregated data, and being transparent/accountable for the deliveries to man and women
- Enhancing ownership by men and women through participatory monitoring processes, especially regarding processes to promote gender equality
- Including gender-responsive budget analysis of the project in the progress reports in order to link the commitments to gender equality and women's human rights to the distribution, use and generation of the Project resources.
- Peer review of all materials developed for publication in the Project by the SWAP coordinator or a gender focal point from the ESCWA Center for Women.
- Ensure that the TOR of each consultancy assignment includes a gender clause and that the consultant have expertise in gender mainstreaming.

Engendering the Phasing-out period

- During this period all responsibilities are handed over to the local/national partners. It is important to pass the responsibilities to gender aware local partners.
- The more ownership of the project results by both women and men has been achieved, the easier it will be to put maintenance plans in place that are owned and controlled by both genders. Maintenance plans will be in place through the ToT, “Rural development and “Gender Network”.
- The project management will ensure that all relevant skills are effectively transferred. This also means that due consideration will be made to ensure that skills and expertise on mainstreaming gender equality in related areas of rural development are effectively transferred.
- Allocated budget to follow-up on the technical advisory services after the completion of the Project should be based on gender budget analysis to ensure that appropriate budget allocations are available to address gender issues.

Engendering the Project Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring as engine for project effectiveness

- Participative processes to monitor and review the gender specific results of the project, will be used to ensure maximum transparency and accountability on gender issues, and will support in enhancing ownership and become an instrument for women's empowerment.
- Developing a set of gender disaggregated performance indicators, with gender disaggregated data.

Engendering the Evaluation stage

- Will include gender equality issues to be addressed following certain criteria in terms of relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, impact and sustainability and in compliance with the UN rules and evaluation Frameworks.
- The gender balance and/or adequate level of gender expertise will be required in the evaluation team. The evaluation report will be based on qualitative and quantitative data, disaggregated by sex, to measure results and long-term outcomes for both women and men.

Output 1.1	Baseline Study of socio economic and political dynamics and environmental consideration linked to productive activities by sector, access to energy services requirements and availability of sources of energy supply, and associated technologies needed to support resilience in rural community.	Gender mainstreaming would be ensured through this Output in the content of the Preliminary Assessment Report and role of women would be ensured through their membership in the LFTs and the plan of action to be developed for enhancing gender equity as cross cutting issue through the activities of the project.
Output 1.2	Country Gender Assessment on entry-points to energy access, entrepreneurial development, and building resilience to climate change of the targeted communities of the Arab rural areas.	This output is fully engendered as it intends to support enhancing gender mainstreaming through the project and at national level of the targeted countries but also to be extended through dissemination with other Arab countries.
Output 1.3	Toolkits, Fact Sheets/Booklets and other promotional material on appropriate Small Scale RE	The TOR of the consultancy to perform the technical review and development of the technical material will be shared with the Gender focal point at ESCWA to incorporate gender issues, e.g. gender balance, women empowerment. Preer review and consultation process on the draft material would enhance its expected outcome and would serve for gender sensitive interventions in the project.
Output 2.1	Conceptual Comprehensive Business models for implementation of small-scale RE technologies in support of resilience of the targeted population, developed, tested and disseminated.	The conceptual Business Model will show an understanding of the roles, responsibilities and capabilities of men and women to ensure that both benefit from the proposed opportunities of small scale RE technologies and use in rural productive sectors. The conceptual business models will, where appropriate, propose special measures to promote women's participation in decision making processes, capacity development, entrepreneurship, SMEs,...etc.
Output 2.2	Pilot projects implemented in selected local communities of the rural area of targeted Arab countries to test and fine-tune the Comprehensive Conceptual Business models.	The pilot projects will be identified and selected based on their substantial impact on gender equality and women empowerment where priority will be given explicitly for specific initiatives to engage women as entrepreneurs. The Business Models will be designed and comprise the gender component as a cross cutting issue and one of the key pillars.
Output 3.1:	Policy Toolkit as Regional Strategic guidelines to improve the enabling environment for the private sector and women entrepreneurs to invest in income generating activities by increasing use of small-scale RE technologies in productive activities in the Arab rural areas.	The Policy Toolkit will build-in incentives for women entrepreneurs as to come to real formulation and implementation of gender-affirmative actions that will make a difference in women's lives. Drawing on successful models such as Grameen Shakti model in Bangladesh, the SEWA model in India and other international and regional initiatives. The recommendations and suggestions for reforms included in the Toolkit should provide a gender sensitive action plan for policy makers and financial instructions to support the decision making and that adopted reforms would make impact on enhancing the gender equality and women empowered specifically in productive sectors of rural areas of the Arab region.
Output 4.1:	A Regional Entity established to adopt the developed policy frameworks and implementation tools	Given the long term dimension expected from establishing this "Regional Entity" , gender perspective is considered as key pillar of its area of intervention at national and regional level and it is ensured through the dissemination and sharing best practices and business models developed in framework of this project.
Output 4.2:	Training of the Trainers (ToT) and establishment of a Network of Arab-Rural Practitioners	The training technical material as well the audience selected to benefit from the Project outputs will be significantly engendered in line with the project expected accomplishment. Moreover, the female mentors and women entrepreneurs as well the Network of Arab-Rural Practitioners to be established would ensure the consideration of the gender balance.
Output 4.3:	Multi-Stakeholder Forum (MSF) on Small Scale RE technology use for entrepreneurial development and gender mainstreaming in productive sector within the rural area of the Arab Countries	As a as a match-making event, the gender balance will be ensured at the MSF from its audience to its technical material and dissemination process the gender dimension will be considered and would contribute to identify potential women entrepreneurs and Actors of Change that would support the sustainability of the Project outputs after its completion.
Output 4.4:	Dissemination of Information and Knowledge of the Project Outputs	Dissemination process and project outputs will take into consideration the gender sensitive issues and data given that will be using the Project Outputs and participants at different workshops and capacity building workshops and expert meetings where gender balance will be taken into consideration.
Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting:		It will be considered during the project implementation, monitoring and evaluation to set-up a gender responsive Monitoring & Evaluation system using gender-sensitive indicators and ensuring the recollection of gender disaggregated data. This includes adjustments of the project where and when necessary and depending on the progress reports and the Donor Strategy in order to prevent that the project perpetuates gender inequalities and to ensure that women's empowerment and gender equality will be enhanced throughout the implementation stage.

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Thank YOU