Gender transformative framework in the context of rural development in IFAD evaluations

Raising the bar for IFAD

April 2021 EvalGender+ EvalForward webinar
GEWE Theory of Change

Design

- Gender mainstreaming, understanding women’s priorities
- Analysis of contextual constraints and opportunities
- Gender sensitisation, understanding gender beliefs and norms
- Targeted interventions (or components)
- Promoting women’s rights (addressing drivers of exclusion, advocacy)
- Gender disaggregated monitoring
- Capacity building
- Scaling up successful practices

Interventions

- NRM, climate changes
- Access to markets, value chain development
- Enterprise development
- Rural financial services
- Agricultural & livestock production, technologies
- Empowerment: community, household
- Producer organizations, rural institutions

Strategies

- Improved access to resources, services and opportunities
- Reduced time burden and equal responsibilities
- Enhanced awareness, consciousness and confidence
- Political, legal and institutional constraints addressed
- Root causes of inequality and discrimination addressed
- Challenging gender roles and power relations
- Enhancing women’s self-esteem, decision making and recognition
- Policy influence & practice uptake
- Equity, inclusion, non-discrimination
- Sustainable development & equitable poverty reduction

Results

- Equal benefits to those hard to reach

Impact (longer term)

Transformational changes

Practice areas

Social and political conditions
- Reduced time burden and equal responsibilities
- Policy influence & practice uptake
- Sustainable development & equitable poverty reduction

Cultural values and beliefs
- Improved access to resources, services and opportunities
- Policy influence & practice uptake
- Sustainable development & equitable poverty reduction

Capacity building

Independent Office of Evaluation

IFAD
Investing in rural people

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GEWE impact spheres
• Strong contribution to gender equality and the empowerment of poor rural women – **but was it transformative?**
• Significant progress towards women’s economic empowerment, but also some **missed opportunities** to maximize the benefits for poor women and to address gender inequalities
• Men hired for jobs in social enterprises on the basis of it being “men’s work” (at **higher pay**) - without considering whether women could have been trained up to do the work
• Increased access to finance by women – but women often take out loans for farming and **enterprises managed by husbands and sons.**
GEWE (2007-2019)
Percentage of projects rated moderately satisfactory or better by three-year moving period

Source: IOE evaluation database (PCRV/PPE), February 2021.
Further reading

• 2017 Evaluation Synthesis: What works for gender equality and women’s empowerment – a review of practices and results

• 2020 Project Performance Evaluation: Tejaswini Women’s Empowerment Programme

• IFAD Independent Office of Evaluation
  https://www.ifad.org/en/web/ioe/home