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Power and Poverty

Reducing gender inequality by ways of rural employment?

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Gender

PATHWAYS OUT OF POVERTY

Rural Employment





Objectives:

1. Reframing measures of economic development in a gender equality perspective
2. Heading for an improved gender equality performance and its monitoring



Objective 1, project example Empowerment via Agroforestry: LEAF* in Bangladesh

Based on findings of a participatory gender analysis, the project "LEAF" was **modified**.

Women's position in the local society changed as follows:

- 63% improved family status
- 30% improved position at community level
- 50% assume responsibility for household decisions
- 49% of CBOs send women representatives to local committees
- 93% of clusters adopted at least one initiative for reducing legal gender discrimination
- 86% (79%) benefit from increased income

* Livelihood, Empowerment and Agro-Forestry project



Objective 1, project example LEAF: Empowerment in Agroforestry in Bangladesh

Challenges:

- Only 4% of women increased control over their income
- Women's participation on higher levels of value chain remains limited
- Inequality in wage rates remained at a level of 30%
- Despite of increased female representation in local CBO committees, women's involvement in decision making remained low (5%)

Question: Under what circumstances do women's inclusion in the labour market and their economic empowerment lead to inclusion regarding control and the power to choose?



Objective 2:

Good practice: The Country Gender Assessment CGA in Mongolia as a baseline for intervention

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Program Context: Improving access to cash income (herding and mining communities)

Modifications based on CGA findings

- Long-term perspective on how women's lives might be affected by access to income: shift in how impact is defined and measured by agencies
- Consider change at community level as well as political decision making and international agreements
- Be aware of empowerment strategies which foster inequalities among women
- Importance to link analysis of intra-household gender relations to state's policy and provide a cross-sectoral approach

Question: What are the possibilities to include the above raised claims within the project instruments? Do we need experimental monitoring systems?



Conclusions

Linking 3 fields of action to meet the challenge of context and complexity in project implementation, monitoring and evaluation:

- 1. the political field
- 2. the economic field
- 3. the sphere of well-being