

Module B2 ***Research and Investigation***

Time
2 hrs

Material

The teaching aids required for the session are:

- Whiteboard
- Whiteboard markers
- Flipchart and markers

Examples/Handouts

International Examples

Examples from Pakistan

Note: depending upon the target group of participants either use the examples to illustrate training points or explain concepts or give these as a handout.

Guideline / Procedures and Main Training Points

1. Introduction to Module B2

Procedure

- Start the session by stating the topic and objective of the module

Topic: **Research and Investigation**

Objective: **to understand the importance and role of research and investigation in gender mainstreaming in IWRM**

- Introduce and state the main training points of Module B2

Introduction

- Research helps focus attention on the enormity or persistence of problems that need gender mainstreaming solutions
- Such solutions are more effective when supported by research findings
- Gender-disaggregated data helps define gender gaps and problems in the situation that IWRM initiatives are trying to address, and for monitoring the gender effects and benefits of particular IWRM interventions
- Much of the existing material on Gender and IWRM have details on gender mainstreaming largely in the context of local communities, grassroots level consultation processes, and small water projects in developing countries.

- There is much less on the vital political, substantive, perceptual and legal aspects across the globe, and the synergic integration among these areas, that is needed for effective gender empowerment and gender mainstreaming in IWRM.

Main Training Points

1. Research and investigation is essential for generating gender-disaggregated data
2. Framework for gender analysis

2. Training Point 1

Procedure

- brainstorm with the participants on training point 1 and write down the relevant responses on the whiteboard
- ask 1 or 2 participants to summarize main training points on the whiteboard as you go along

Training Point

Research and investigation is essential for generating gender-disaggregated data

A research base is required both for ultimate goals as well as for the specific change processes entailed in moving towards more integrated approaches.

Monitoring and evaluation are critical to determining whether implementation is on track and if actions taken are having the desired social, economic and environmental impacts.

The most critical step from the gender mainstreaming perspective is to develop sex-disaggregated indicators.

Gender differentiated examination of the implications of water and economic reforms on rural livelihoods, for example, are difficult to design and monitor, unless there is benchmark data and regular data collection.

National water and agricultural statistics of most countries do not obtain gender-disaggregated data. Benefits and costs that accrue from a project or programme intervention are also not always disaggregated by gender.

Consequently it becomes difficult to understand the effects of those interventions on women and men and manage gender mainstreaming effectively.

A review of research studies on water in Pakistan has shown that very few actually attempt a gender analysis or speak of gender impacts. Gender-disaggregated data is very rarely available or is very rudimentary, if available. The regular demographic and statistical reports have no reference to water, or refer only to drinking water and sanitation (but not disaggregated by gender). Some data is available from project documents that usually cover local areas.

To be useful as the basis for sound strategies, *water resources assessments* must identify critical gender differences, as they have a significant impact on whether such strategies succeed or fail in their social and economic goals.

3. Training Point 2

Procedure

- read through the summary of training point 1 to lead on to training point 2
- brainstorm with the participants on training point 2 and write down the relevant responses on the whiteboard
- ask 1 or 2 participants to summarize main training points on the whiteboard as you go along

Training Point

Framework for gender analysis

Gender analysis (an examination of women's as well as men's roles, resources, needs and priorities in relation to water) and **social gender analysis** (a type of gender analysis that also takes social realities and class into account), is the backbone of gender-sensitive knowledge-gathering.

Creating a socioeconomic profile of key stakeholder groups in the target population; disaggregating data by sex; examining gender differences in practices, roles, status, needs, constraints, knowledge and attitudes; and assessing the capacity of both men and women to participate: these are key elements of a gender-sensitive water resources assessment.

Key areas for attention are the relationship between domestic and productive uses of water, who participates in community decision-making around water issues, and who stands to benefit from infrastructure and service improvements.

Some of the following questions would be useful components of gender research for designing IWRM interventions.

- Have gender disaggregated databases been developed, and can they be used to monitor impacts on women and men respectively (if not they should be designed and used)
- Is planning for the project based on authentic data on productive and domestic uses of water by both men and women (if not, such data should be collected)
- Does the design recognize the different needs and priorities of women and men
- In assessing the trade-offs between competing demands for water, have the different capacities of women and men to express their needs been taken into account
- Do project activities include measures to ensure that women's voice will be heard

4. Winding up

Procedure

- Wind up the module with a summary and thanks to the participants
- If more than one session in the workshop, announce break and time to return for the next session

Examples of Module B2 ***Research and Investigation***

NATIONAL EXAMPLES

Impact of Gender KAP Studies

A drainage service and communications project in Southern Pakistan, *Drainage Advisory Services, LBOD Communications Services, Main Report and Support Volumes SV 1 – 5, GOP/DFID/MM/ Raasta, 1998*, commenced with several gender research studies on various aspects of gender relations and gender differences, land holding patterns, anthropological research on village life, a knowledge, attitudes and practices (KAP) study in relation to irrigation and drainage, patterns of organization used by local women and their views of both men and women on project infrastructure. Because of this meticulous research, the designed gender sensitive community participation and communications interventions were appropriate, took root quickly and women became visible, vocal and organized. It is clear that obtaining gender disaggregated data and designing pre-project research to take gender differences into account leads to better designing of water and IWRM initiatives.

Gender Analysis Framework for Community Level

The Gender Analysis Framework, referenced from Gender Briefing Kit, UNDP, 1995, is now widely used for situation analysis and pre-project research, especially in project-based development interventions, and has the following as key elements:

- Activity Profile: who does what in the target sector, area of group
- Access and Control Profile: who has what (power, clout, assets)
- Analysis of Factors and Trends: what factors influence gender differences
- Institutional Analysis
- Programme Cycle Analysis

A Gender Perspective in the Water Resources Management Sector, SIDA, Handbook for Mainstreaming, Department for Natural Resources and the Environment, Stockholm, 1997, covers some of the following questions as useful components of gender research for designing IWRM interventions:

- Have gender disaggregated databases been developed, and can they be used to monitor impacts on women and men respectively (if not they should be designed and used)
- Is planning for the project based on authentic data on productive and domestic uses of water by both men and women (If not, such data should be collected)
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A gender-sensitive water resources assessment at the community or district level

Current situation with regard to water use, access and control

- Who in the target areas has access to water resources and for what purposes?
- Who in the target area has control over water resources? If community groups have control, what is the position of men and women (as well as different socio-economic groups) in terms of decision-making and negotiating power within those organizations?
- What laws or policies affect questions of ownership and control in relation to water (for instance, inheritance laws)?
- What traditional structures exist to mediate conflict over water use? What is the status/power of women in these structures?
- Who is responsible for the operation and maintenance of current infrastructure? What technical skills do women and men possess?
- How does water pollution (agricultural run-off, industrial waste, human excrement) affect the health of women, men and children?
- Who is currently benefiting from employment opportunities created by water resources infrastructure and management?
- How much time do women and men spend hauling water and participating in users' and management groups?

Productive vs. domestic uses of water

- What is the relationship between domestic and productive uses of water?
- Is it possible to assign an economic value to non-productive uses of water (for health, nutrition, sanitation)?

Such an economic valuation can allow non-productive uses to be accurately compared with productive uses of water in terms of return on investment.

Institutional context

- Do women have the time and the "right" to take part in water users groups?
- What, if any, mechanisms exist to ensure that women's voices are heard, given that in many communities women are not able to express themselves freely when male family members are present or when they are in large or mixed-sex groups.
- What government agencies, NGOs, community-based groups and women's organizations operate in the water arena in the target area? What is their interest in, commitment to and capacity for gender analysis and gender-sensitive planning and programming?

Looking ahead: priorities for water management, development and use

- What are the priorities of women in terms of water management, development and use?
- What are the priorities of men in terms of water management, development and use?
- When these priorities conflict, how are the conflicts resolved?

How have past water initiatives in the target population or area involved women and men, and what lessons can be learned from those experiences?



NATIONAL EXAMPLES

Researching Water Collection and Access to Water

In Pakistan, water collection is culturally defined as 'women's work', and remains the main focus of gender interventions, given that women expend much time, effort and energy in this crucial domestic responsibility.

According to a paper presented by Kamal S, *The Role of Women in the Rural Economy of Pakistan, in the seminar on FAP's Vision about Sustainable Growth of the National Economy and its Linkages with Rural and Agricultural Sector*, Islamabad, May 1995, there was clear gender division of labour with women fetching water. In Baluchistan women had to travel for miles each day, with heavy rubber cans, twice or sometimes thrice a day. In the Thar Desert in Sindh, some women walked up to ten miles a day to fetch water.

The *Study of Rural Access and Mobility, WB/Raasta, 2002*, clearly showed that this load falls predominantly on women members of the households. Except in the singular case where water tap connections were provided, women were the carriers and that head and back loading were normal. Trip frequency could be more than one/day and was determined by:

- Distance to the source
- Household size
- Air temperature
- Size of container
- Person making the trip (adult or child)
- The number of competing households

Gender Research on Ground Water and Drainage

In some projects undertaken by the government of Pakistan with donor support, systematic research studies were carried out covering gender relations, KAP survey, exploratory study and case studies - all part of *GOP/WAPDA Drainage Advisory Services (DAS) Programme, supported by MM and Raasta under assignment to DFID, 1998*. These studies disaggregated data by gender, and provided analytical vigor such that programme design was altered to fit the realities. Under *DAS communication strategy report*, in one instance the proposed route of a drainage channel was changed such that a path used by women to fetch water from fresh water well, would not be bisected by the channel. These studies showed the gender impacts when women participated in drainage projects and women were able to identify the advantages that accrued as a result of interventions for improving drainage, and could speak of the disadvantages.

The *Drainage Advisory Services data from Districts Sanghar and Nawabshah, Sindh, 1997* also showed that, contrary to general beliefs, **women can play an active role in drainage projects**. In these districts women convinced men to desist from plugging channels and removed weeds and grasses from the channels in organized women's groups. They kept children and animals away from channels, looked after installations as self appointed 'policewomen' and 'caught' people trying to tamper with the equipment and electricity wires.

The gender analysis in this instance also showed that the **workload of women actually increased as a result of the interventions** – with land improvement and less effort in fetching drinking water, women now worked more in the field.

Results of Investigation on Gender Impacts of Drought

The gender impacts of drought have been relatively better researched and there are several documents that depict the gender aspects of drought vulnerability and its long term effects on men and women. As seen in *Supplementary Study of Drought Impacts: Targeting and Mitigation*, ADB 2001, *Interventions for Drought Recovery, Mitigation and Sustainable Future Development in Baluchistan*, Oxfam/Raasta, 2002, *TRDP drought assessments and reports, 2000-2004*. Given that water, health, livelihood and development are so intertwined in arid zones, the impacts of drought cannot always be neatly categorized.

The gender impacts are given below:

- Heightened vulnerability among rural populations, especially women and children, who are usually unable to migrate readily
- Decreased terms of trade for locally produced products that sustained livelihoods, including the products of women owned and managed kitchen livestock and gardens
- Loss of both assets and entitlements, especially women's meager assets in terms of personal jewelry, and one or two heads of small livestock
- Lower food consumption, where women tend to ensure that men and children eat first, leading to their own sharper malnutrition

Research leading to better Gender Impacts of Drinking Water Supply Schemes

It is clear that in Pakistan where research in the water sector takes gender differentials into account, the picture that emerges is often different from stereotypical assumptions, and that in a few instances such research has made a difference in identifying the appropriate gender issues for action.

The Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF) Sindh Coastal Area Development (SCAD) Programme: Monitoring Report, World Bank / Raasta, 2008 showed that there was great scope for introducing gender concepts through women consultations and trainings at the CO level as well as envisioning similar schemes that helped in benefiting women:

- The impact of the water scheme was very clear whereby women now got water near their houses and did not have to stay away from their homes at a stretch
- Income generation for women (with easy access of water in the village, women get 2 to 3 hours free which they utilized by doing embroidery and handicraft work for both self use/making dowry/marriage tents as well as for selling purpose)
- Women also used this water for livestock and kitchen gardening to supplement their earnings
- Community families got food on time (as their women can better manage time now)
- Adult Literacy (by saving time more and more women were now attending the adult literacy classes and reportedly finished their daily chores in time)
- Improved the quality of life (communities now bathed on a daily basis and also purchased livestock for own use due to availability of water. Women also cleaned their houses and washed clothes easily)
- Better health (communities felt that water is basic need of human and they had faced this problem since several years and now they finally got good quality water within the village which eventually led to reduced health problems)

NOTE: Under the PPAF SCAD programme, an overall gender mainstreaming outline was developed and reflected in the Reporting and Monitoring Framework