Introduction to Gender Equality Concepts in Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration (FOLUR)

Course 1

JULY 10TH
9–10.30AM EDT / 8–9.30PM UTC+7

Delivered by: UNDP Food & Agricultural Commodity Systems (FACS) & FOLUR World Bank
Capacity Development for Gender Responsive Interventions in FOLUR Country Projects

Patricia Kristjanson, World Bank
Agustela Nini-Pavli, UNDP
Agenda

• Welcome & Introduction – Sandra Andraka, FACS Community
• Share results of pre-session survey – Stela Nini-Pavli, UNDP
• Key gender equality concepts (Mentimeter) - Stela Nini-Pavli, UNDP
• Questions & Answers Session – Stela Nini-Pavli, UNDP & Patti Kristjanson, WB
• Benefits of Gender-Responsive Approaches - Patti Kristjanson, WB
• Applying concepts and gender-responsive approaches in practice - Breakouts
• Wrap-up & Closure – Sandra Andraka, FACS Community
A Gender Learning Programme for FOLUR

**Course 1** – Introduction to gender equality concepts in the context of land use and food and agriculture commodity systems

**Course 2** – Gender in Integrated Landscape Management Systems (ILMS) and restoration initiatives

**Course 3** - Gender and Sustainable Food and Agriculture Systems
Course 1 – Structure

Section 1 - Key gender equality concepts and international framework relevant to land use, food system and restoration - information to help us reflect on the status of gender equality in these areas.

Section 2 - Introduction to gender integration/mainstreaming in FOLUR areas - basic tools to be used in development programmes in these areas that help address gender inequalities
Why is gender relevant to land use, food system and restoration?

Both women and men make crucial contributions in these areas, but women’s role are often not recognized or valued sufficiently.

Critical gender inequalities persist in most countries.

Understanding gender concepts (gender roles, relations, inequalities and discrimination) helps us identify the specific challenges and needs, faced by women and men and opportunities to address them.
Gender roles in agriculture

• Informal social attributes and responsibilities that men and women are expected to occupy in agricultural work.

• These roles influence the division of labour and responsibilities within the household, in value chains, decision making processes, etc.

• Gender-specific roles are often conditioned by household structure, access to resources, economy, conflicts or disaster, and other locally relevant factors such as ecological conditions.
Gender relations in agriculture

The difference between what people do, does not necessarily produce gender inequality; BUT these roles influence unequal power relations, which creates inequality and hierarchical structures.

To develop effective agricultural technologies, programs, and policies, it is important to understand the status of different gender roles and relations in the specific context of your work.

Gender roles and relations in agriculture are changing, and there is a growing recognition of the need to challenge traditional norms and promote gender equality.
Gender Inequalities and Discrimination

Gender inequalities: Differences in access to opportunities based solely on gender, which are widespread.

Gender Discrimination: Disadvantageous treatment of an individual or group based on gender.

Gender equality is a human right and gender discrimination violates that right.

Discrimination could be: Direct, Indirect and Multiple (intersecting forms of discrimination)
Questions for reflection

**Politics:** who is the leader of your country of birth/residence? What is the percentage of women MPs?

**Economics:** Do women and men earn the same in your country? What jobs do women mainly do?

**Domestic sphere:** who does most of the domestic work in your country/home?

**Law:** Are there laws treating women and men differently in your country? Gender-discriminatory laws?

**Land:** Who owns land? Are there any restriction on women’s land ownership?
Gender inequalities and discrimination in food systems

- Limited access to land
- Unequal access to resources
- Limited participation to decision making
- Gender wage gap
- Unpaid care work
- Limited access to markets and value chains
- Lack of representation in research and innovation
- Others?
Women’s Empowerment

**Women and girls gaining power and control over their own lives:** Not only equal capabilities (such as education and health) and access to resources and opportunities (such as land and employment), but the agency to use these rights.

To ensure women’s empowerment, necessary conditions/changes include:

- Reforming discriminatory laws
- Providing opportunities for gaining and exercising power over their own lives; and building self-confidence and self-efficiency
- Expanding choices
- Increasing access to and control over resources
- Transforming structures and institutions
Key international framework on gender equality and FOLUR areas of work

Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)

Article 14 - Rights of Rural Women: focuses on the specific concerns and rights of rural women, aiming to:

- ensure their access to healthcare, education, economic opportunities, and active participation in decision-making processes
- Address discriminatory practices and;
- Promoting gender equality in rural areas.
General Comment No.34 of CEDAW Committee on the Rights of Rural Women

• Participation;
• Economic and social life;
• Land and natural resources, land acquisition and resettlement
• Agricultural and land policies, and organic farming
• Financial services, including agricultural credits, loans and insurance
• Markets and marketing facilities
• Information and communication technologies (ICT)
• Employment
Sustainable Development Goals

**Goal 5 - Gender Equality** and goals on poverty reduction (Goal 1) food security (Goal 2) environmental sustainability, and inclusive economic growth.

**Target 1.4:** ensure that all men and women, particularly the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership, and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology, and financial services including microfinance;

**Indicators 5.a.1** - (a) Percentage of people with ownership or secure rights over agricultural land (out of total agricultural population), by sex; and (b) share of women among owners or rights-bearers of agricultural land, by type of tenure;

**Indicator 5.a.2** - Proportion of countries where the legal framework (including customary law) guarantees women’s equal rights to land ownership and/or control
• Questions?

• Reflections?
Section 2 – Integrating/mainstreaming gender in food systems and agricultural/forest landscape initiatives

Why worry about ‘gender mainstreaming’? After all, these are not ‘gender projects/programs’

- **Gender mainstreaming** is an approach/strategy that aims to integrate gender perspectives and considerations into all stages and aspects of policies, programs, and projects

- We all have the opportunity to tackle gender discrimination and promote gender equality: **WHY? To enhance our results and impacts!!**
Twin track approach

• Targeted approaches:
  - Dedicated interventions that focus on specific gaps and challenges to gender equality; making addressing a key challenge/gap the main goal
    - E.g. Women’s Farmer Field Schools; Land Certificates signed by women

• Integrated Approaches:
  - Integrating relevant gender equality issues into policies, programs and project activities; making them gender-responsive (a goal of FOLUR)
    - E.g. Inclusive, participatory community resource mapping and other integrated land-use management approaches
Gender mainstreaming in the context of FOLUR

We know that **gender disparities** persist:

- In **access to and control over land & resources and key decision-making processes** (e.g. discriminatory land tenure systems, limited access to credit, women’s (and others) exclusion from decision-making forums re: forest, water, land management)

**Gender mainstreaming** simply means being conscious of, and taking action to address these disparities and promote more inclusive and equitable practices
Examples of actions aimed at key gender challenges in food systems, agricultural and forest landscape and restoration projects

**Access to Resources:** Enhancing equal access to good quality agricultural land, credit, seeds, fertilizers, and appropriate technologies

- e.g. not making land ownership a pre-condition for access to credit or inputs; involving women in development of appropriate technologies; direct payments to women planting trees, running nurseries, doing restoration, etc.

**Training/Capacity Strengthening:** Providing opportunities to women and men in e.g. sustainable agricultural practices; financial management; marketing. Tailor them to address specific needs and constraints women face in fully participating, e.g. re: timing, location, access to information, safety issues.
Tools for gender mainstreaming – Start with Gender Analysis

• Gender analytical approaches identify areas where there is inequality, discrimination and specific challenges related to gender – in context!

• They identify actions to address these issues, ideally by and with those most familiar with the challenges and how to meet expressed needs, priorities and aspirations.

• They uncover opportunities to utilize the knowledge, experience, contributions, and leadership of women, men, and gender-diverse individuals.
Key Steps: Analysis – Actions – Indicators
Identifying activities/actions to achieve your desired gender outcomes

**Gender-responsive outcomes**: Achieved with interventions that primarily target other development objectives, such as environmental goals. E.g. a project activity aimed at integrating gender considerations into landscape planning (resulting in a change in behavior of a land-use management entity).

**Gender-specific outcomes**: Focus directly on promoting gender equality and empowering women as the primary objective. E.g. creating a WhatsApp Group that links and empowers women throughout a commodity value chain (resulting in changes in behavior of multiple actors across the Value Chain).
Monitoring and Evaluation of Gender Equality Results

All M&E processes must be made explicitly gender-responsive to measure gender impact on inequalities, gender relations, women’s rights and empowerment by:

- formulating gender indicators;
- collecting sex-disaggregated data.

**Aim**: Measure and document results that have occurred such as changes in:

- policies; access to natural resources, services, support and benefits;
- balanced participation in decision-making in planning and governance at the formal level of land management and food systems; progress in shifting towards more equitable gender norms and practices
Change/commitment within the organization for gender equality results

- **Institutionalizing attention to gender equality** within core work in any organization in policies, planning, budgets, implementation processes and monitoring and documentation is an important challenge we all face.

- It means **developing capacity and assigning roles and responsibilities to achieve gender equality aims for all personnel**.

- Critical for FOLUR and other project teams – it means resources must be provided to support institutionalization efforts, and that **proper budget planning of gender-responsive interventions is essential to achieve the intended gender equality results**.
Breakout Group Discussion

1. What challenges are you facing in applying gender-responsive approaches in your project(s)? (Sharing examples of strategies/approaches and project activities that are you applying to address them are welcome!)

2. What information would help you the most (what would you like to learn) in addressing these challenges? We would like to target addressing these needs in the next 2 courses!
Resources

• UN Women’s [I Know Gender Training](#)
• FAO’s Course: [Developing gender-sensitive value chains](#)
• Resources included In “Capacity Development For Gender Responsive Interventions in Country Projects of the Folur Impact Programme (Food Systems, Land Use And Restoration). A Resource Guide on Gender Equality for FOLUR”, UNDP, 2023 and in particular:
  • Handbook on Gender Mainstreaming for Gender Equality Results, UN Women, 2022
  • “Gender mainstreaming in global agricultural supply chains can accelerate good growth: What works and for whom?, Good Growth Partnership (GGP)2020
  • Tools and methods for gender research and integration in agricultural value chain, market and entrepreneurship projects (Working Paper), CGIAR Gender Platform, 2021