

Gender and Environment

Changes in the environment affect everyone but they affect men and women differently. Women and girls, due to their traditional roles as providers and are lot more closely connected to natural resources and the climate, making them more vulnerable to environmental hardships caused by changes. Longstanding social/traditional inequalities (that silence their voices and neglect their needs) also negatively and disproportionately impact on women's ability to cope negative effects of environmental changes.

Identifying and addressing women's and men's needs, as well as promoting women as decision makers, are therefore critical elements to ensuring the success of environmental policy and programming. EIF uses this tool to determine potential effects of proposed projects on gender relations in order to capitalise on the positives and avoid or mitigate against the negatives.

Application Responsibility

EIF staff member responsible ESS or Gender Specialist (if employed) will administer this tool to all applications for funding which have passed the initial technical screening. This report, alongside ESS summary report, will be attached to such applications and will form part of formal project appraisal process.

The Report

The report will be compiled on the following format:

1. Representation

- 1.1. How many women and how many men participate in the proposed project?
- 1.2. How many women and how many men occupy leadership positions in the proposed project?

2. Resources and Benefits

2.1. How are the different resources and benefits associated with the project (going to be) distributed between women and men?

3. Explanation of the Conditions

- 3.1. Explanation and analysis of why the situation is like it is under points 2 and 3 above?
 - What are the cultural, customary or traditional norms and values behind?
 - Do women and men perceive the benefits/services in the same way?
 - Are the interests/needs of women and men taken into account in the same way, and what determines how they are taken into account?
- 3.2. What are the legal reasons underpinning the above mentioned (laws, regulations,...)?

4. Analysis

- 4.1. Analyse and describe of potential effects on gender relations by the proposed project.
- 4.2. Evaluate both positive and negative effects.
- 4.3. Ascertain if any mitigation or management measures are proposed for potential negative impacts and assess their adequacy.
- 4.4. Are there any mitigation/management measure recommended for EIF to require as pre-conditions?