

GENDER ANALYSIS
INCREASED RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE IN NORTHERN
GHANA THROUGH THE MANAGEMENT OF WATER RESOURCES AND
DIVERSIFICATION OF LIVELIHOODS
(ADAPTATION FUND PROJECT)



**Sustainable Livelihood Adaptation (SLA) through the Introduction of
Improved Groundnut oil Extraction Technologies and Market
Linkages.**

(Bulsa South District: Gbedema-Kunkua and Kasiesa)

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Report By:

Mr. Daniel Kansake

LINK – Ghana

P.O. Box 2122, Tamale N/R

Ghana, West Africa

Web: www.inkghana.org

Introduction

The gender analysis examines the different roles, rights, needs, and opportunities of women and men, boys and girls and the relations between them in the project's context. The analysis is used in identifying the opportunities and entry points for promoting gender equality and women's economic empowerment in the Sustainable Livelihood Adaptation (SLA) through the Introduction of Improved Groundnut oil Extraction Technologies and Market Linkages. The analysis was conducted in the two communities (Gbedema-Kunkua and Kasiesa) in the Builsa South District of the Upper East Region of Ghana under which the SLA project is being implemented. This report is therefore an outcome of the application gender tools at the community and stakeholder level in addressing key gender questions relevant to the project.

Gender Analysis Questions

<p>What is the context?</p>	<p>It is widely accepted that agricultural development will be severely curtailed without addressing the risks and capitalizing on the opportunities posed by climate change and gender issues. The agriculture sector must adapt to the impacts of climate change in order to provide food security to the world's growing population at the same time addressing gender issues.</p> <p>Concurrently, it is internationally recognized that addressing gender issues in agriculture reduces hunger and poverty. In fact, it is estimated that more than 100 million people could be lifted out of poverty if women had the same access to and control of resources as men (FAO, 2011a). What is commonly perceived in the country is that men still have a lot of access and control of productive resources over women. Men are therefore seen to have power to allocate and re allocate productive resources such as land, livestock, and forest use However over time women with the advent of awareness and education, women have gained access to productive resources and even to a large extent control among the educated elites. However in rural Ghana men still dominate with women having access to productive resources but lack control. Some of the gender norms and values in Ghana which is still persistent in rural Ghana are that women or girls are more responsible for household chores, women do not require much education, women do not have access and control over productive resources and they are often not household heads. On the other hand women are highly honored as custodians of the customs and traditions. Men wield power, access to productive resource and also have the authority to decide their uses. Generally in the country you have more men educated (65%) educated compared to their female counterpart which is 45%. Although they are important food producers and providers, women presently have limited access to and control of resources. However, to date, these ideas – that climate change and gender issues are integral parts of agricultural development – have not been implemented in an effective way.</p> <p>LINK Ghana in partnership with UNDP / METSI under the Adaptation Fund (ADF) seeks to fill this gap by strategically identifying the gender issues / dimensions so as to</p>
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	<p>holistically respond to climate change in the implementation of its interventions. The final goals are to improve food production, livelihood security and gender equality in the context of the changing climate and economic conditions both locally and internationally.</p>
<p>Who does what?</p>	<p>In all the project areas, the analysis revealed that workload on women and girls are heavier than men and boys with very little variations seen with both productive and reproductive roles. Practically women have to work on their husband’s farm, which is referred to as the “family farm” before working on theirs. In addition, women’s time, labour and other resources are used to work on the man’s field. They do not have control over their resources (both human and non human) and can only start working on their own field after work is done on their spouse’s farm. The activities of women are concentrated in the “care of children and the elderly” activities in the family though they equally work outside their homes like their spouse’s when the daily activity time lines were administered, women work for about fourteen to eighteen hours (12 to 17+) hours daily whilst men have eight and a half (8 ½). Both men and women manage the household with the man basically providing protection, social obligations and major food items. The women in addition to the care role ensures the family meals are prepared, hygiene and provision of food ingredients. Again, when it comes to oil extraction, it is generally a female (100%) dominated activity. However when the oil is produced, women are able to sell it in the open market for their households and business expansion. The project therefore sees a great opportunity here where there is an established good working relationship which can further support development their groundnut oil extraction businesses.</p>
<p>Who has what?</p>	<p>Men and women do not have equal access and benefits to resources at the local level though there are a lot of efforts to ensure there is access and benefits to resources at the national level. Specifically, In terms of finance, access to credit and insurance are important for accumulating and retaining other assets. Smallholders everywhere face constraints in accessing credit and other financial services, but in general, female smallholders have less access to loans, for example, as they generally have less control over the types of fixed assets necessary as collateral for loans. Female smallholders also face institutional discrimination where they are offered smaller loans than male smallholders (FAO, 2011b). It is estimated that countries where data are available, between 10 percent and 20 percent of all land holders are women, although this masks significant differences among countries even within the same region. In Ghana and for that matter the local level women have the lowest land holding, Labor Market: Farms or most activities run by female-headed households tend to have less labor available for farm work because these households are typically smaller and have fewer working-age adult members. Furthermore, women have heavy and unpaid household duties that take them away from more productive activities.</p> <p>Education has seen improvements in gender parity at the national level, with females exceeding male attainment levels in some countries, but in most regions women and girls still lag behind. The gender gap in education is particularly acute in rural areas, where female household heads sometimes have less than half the years of education of</p>

	<p>their male counterparts. Nevertheless, recent years have shown significant gains, especially in primary school enrolment rates for girls.</p> <p>Technical knowledge: Women are much less likely to use purchased inputs and improved seeds or to make use of mechanical tools and equipment. In many countries like Ghana women are only half as likely as men to use chemical fertilizers or new technologies. One of the underlying reasons being the obstacles of access to credit.</p>
Who decides?	<p>In the participation in the decision making in the household level, both men and women do depending on the household issues to be discussed. In most cases though both men and women participate the man makes the final decision. At the public and corporate sector though most decisions are taken based on laid down rules and regulations men dominate in most leadership roles are occupied by men. There are different bargaining positions for women and men. Women are involved in making economic decisions with an equal participation of women and men in the political sphere. The participation in politics is opened to both men and women pending once financial, confidence and abilities. The sector is currently dominated by men who also have stronger political influence in the country.</p>
Who benefits?	<p>There are opportunities to ensure equal participation and benefits of the Sustainable Livelihood Adaptation (SLA) through the Introduction of Improved Groundnut oil Extraction Technologies and Market Linkages. There is a good working relationship between men and women which is needed to ensure effective project implementation. The project is aimed at addressing the strategic needs of both men and women hence their participation is very for successful implementation of the project activities. A culture of mutual respect, hard work and support is a great opportunity to leverage on as an entry point. It is also observed that both men and women have engaged with other development actors hence understand and appreciate the introduction of new ideas and proposals in addressing their current situation. Clearly the project addresses the different needs and priorities of women and men not as well as their economic needs through a strong oil extraction value chain linkage. The project provides and strengthen social capital which benefits the whole community. The provision of technologies such as bee hives, extractors and knowledge and skills by the project will be available and accessible to both women and men at the community level. The project recognize the distinct vulnerabilities of women and men and the specific project strategies and approach addresses each target group. Adoption of the Nucleus Business Driver (NBD) model is a strategic model that places gender first hence women identified and mentored to expand business opportunities that benefit men and women, boys and girls and the community in general.</p>

Acknowledgement

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Executive Summary

Sustainable Livelihood Adaptation (SLA) through the Introduction of Improved Groundnut oil Extraction Technologies and Market Linkages is an integrated project that seeks to enhance the resilience of communities thorough economic empowerment processes and food security. It is designed to increase resilience to climate change through improved food security and sustainable economic development. The Gender analysis shows there is a gender gap where men dominate in decision and control of productive resources in the Builsa South District.

The gender roles as prescribed by the culture and religious institutions as well as community values and beliefs have a lot of influence on resource access and control. Women and men in the district have access to productive resources but women are limited in terms of control and final decision making on how resources are used. Women culturally are care providers especially household chores and hygiene while men providing the protection and key food stuff for the family. There is a good relationship between the traditional governance system and the modern political system in the district which provides an opportunity for community development by leveraging on both political systems.

1.0 Introduction

1.2 Methodology

1.2.1 Initial Meetings and arrangements

LINK Ghana held inception meetings on the 17th – 23rd April 2018 with key District Stakeholders such as Chiefs, District Coordinator, District Chief Executives, and Opinion Leaders. The objective of the meeting was to inform, solicit support for the work to be done also seeking full access to the beneficiary communities. The Regional Director of EPA and Forestry Commission were all visited and briefed on the project. Commitment was gained by all stakeholders and community meetings plans were developed.

1.2.2 Community meetings and consultations

Community meetings were held and there were discussions on specific project intervention so as to ensure that the beneficiaries understood what the project intends to achieve and why it was necessary to seek their full involvement and endorsement. To ensure there was endorsement for the continue engagement of communities on the project there was endorsement by community chief with a written consent. In addition the endorsement was also made by LINK Ghana that the project concept as explained was going to be effectively delivered as stated. ***Evidence of community endorsement is attached as Annex 1.*** What was observed during the community engagement is the strong community ownership and commitment in ensuring project succeeds. Key concerns that were also raised which the project from inception of the design had considered is that, communities were quite buy on their farming activities and hence were interested in knowing the time lines for planning purposes. The list of communities and number of males and females visited in the district are presented in ***table 1.***

Table 1: Number of participants / Community

Community Name	Number of participants / Community		
	Males	Females	Total
Gbedema-Kunkua	45	52	97
Kasiesa	20	39	59
Total	65	91	156

1.2.3 Participatory Rural Appraisal Tools

LINK Ghana in gathering the relevant information adopted a number of Participatory Rural Appraisal tools which are seen to be effective. The tools were used to get people's views and perceptions on gender roles that aided the measurement of the likely impacts and benefits of the proposed project. Some of the tools used included the use of Gender Role Matrixes, Transect Walks, Seasonal calendars, Hazard Maps and observations. Data collection tools have been attached as *Annex 2*. Information gathered through the PRA tools were reviewed, compiled and analyzed looking at individual and group answers and comments. This report is the final product of the information gathered.

1.2.4 Challenges Faced

There were limited limitations or challenges faced by LINK Ghana in getting information data using the tools as LINK Ghana has had over decades experience in the application of the selected tools. However that major challenge in the collecting the data was the short nature by which the expected data was expected to be collected and a full report produced. This however did not given staff the luxury to review and triangulate the information gathered on the field with communities. However, the collected information was confirmed by review of existing liturgy so as to confirm some of the community issues raised.

1.2.5 Gender Disaggregated Data/Number of men and women consulted and

The number of people who were consulted are presented in table 2. Their consultation was based on their relevance and contribution to the project success. These stakeholders ranged from policy and law enforcement, traditional authorities to community beneficiaries.

Table 2: Number of participants consulted

Community (s) / Stakeholders	Number of participants / Community		
	Males	Females	Total
Gbedema-Kunkua	45	52	97
Kasiesa	20	39	59
Stakeholders (EPA, Cheifs, FC, Das etc)	8	3	16
	73	94	167

2.0 Vulnerabilities to Climate Change, Water Resource Management Strategies and Resilience of Communities.

Briefly provide specific climate change impacts on the communities and specific CC adaptation measures that your project intends to adopt to reduce the vulnerabilities of the people.

2.1 Vulnerabilities: The Bongo District vulnerabilities and traditional and project adaptation strategies are presented in 2.1.1 and 2.2

2.1.1 The Builsa South District in the Upper East during the hazards mapping revealed that the district and for that matter in all the communities were highly exposed with the following vulnerabilities: drought, outbreak of crop pest and diseases, storms / strong winds, and incidence of CSM due to the poor housing and high temperatures in the district. The outbreak of human related diseases such as cholera.

2.2 Resilience and Traditional CC Adaptation Strategies adopted by the project adopts an integrated market led project which also places emphasis on the environment. Specifically, the introduction of oil extraction not only an economic opportunity in the district but also it does not depend directly on water utilization, which is even scars in the district. The project also ensures that locus and focus are shifting from the over dependence on climatic factors such as rain to a more diversified and less water requirement interventions like agro processing. This increases their resilience by introducing an additional livelihood thereby varying their livelihoods options. Communities and the business drivers will be encouraged to preserve the natural environment and tree planting. Also agro pressing reduces the risk of crops and livestock diseases and pests hence reducing their vulnerabilities to climatic shocks and trends.

2.3 Water resource management strategies

Agro processing in itself does not depend much on water making it a more sustainable and resilient to climate change. Also, the promotion of vegetation management and growth ensures native trees to grow naturally which improves vegetation cover, water and soil fertility.

3.0 Gender Roles

3.1 Governance and decision making

The Builsa District is headed by the **Buil Naab** who oversees the people of Builsa district with community chiefs providing leadership on his behalf. The **Buil Naab** is reserved for men only. At the community and household levels decisions are taken by men though in some cases women participate based on their social and cultural roles. Women and men do not have equal say with men dominating in final decision making. The traditional governance system work with the Local governance structure in promoting community development. There is a peaceful relationship and respect between these institutions which is one of the greatest asset to the District.

3.2 Control and access to land, resources and water

Through the resource allocation exercises, it was observed that land ownership in the district and hence all communities is primarily through patrilineal lines. Women have access to land and water resources through their being members of clans but the control of such resources is limited. Women have limited influence over land and water decision making processes. They have rights to access and use of land and water resources. For the siting of agro processing center women have say in areas where the structure should be constructed since they are the final users of the facility

The impact of this current situation will ensure increase production and incomes as well as strong social capital. What can be done to influence equal participation, access and control over community resources is to continuously create the awareness and deliberately involving both men and women in decision making.

3.3 Culture and Gender

During the PRA processes, the culture and gender roles were determined. The PRA process revealed that gender roles are determined in the communities by existing community structures dominated by men. These cultural and gender entrenches stereotypes of women as caregivers, responsible for domestic chores and for sustaining households. The cultural roles in many cases are also strengthened by religious influence in communities and women, especially wives, play subservient roles in households. These cultural values and beliefs to a large extent are being miss interpreted by communities and hence putting women in a more stereotype passion. Where as both men and women views needs to be respected with consultations by both parties with mutual respect as stipulated by religious structures, communities understanding is men dominate and be respected by women.

3.4 Agriculture, Fisheries and Marketing Products

3.5 Challenges and Barriers to Women's Full Participation

The cultural norms and the social structures such as men having access and control over productive resources, to an extent could affect women participation in terms of decision-making. Also the Builsa South District as alluded to by stakeholders and gender role analysis, the social respect for status in communities and traditional leadership result in women not being vocal or proactive in decision making processes. As a result of this highly revered social respect status, there is a culture of silence where people especially women respect authority without questioning, and where women have been socialized to attend to catering and looking after visitors and development workers rather than being engaged in constructive dialogue forums result in women having limited knowledge of development projects introduced to a community.

4.0 Gender Impacts and Benefits

The likely impacts of the projects are increased in incomes from the sale of honey, accumulation of social capital as individuals come together as groups, environmental protection as natural environment is protected. Any long term positive impact of proposed adaptation strategies are the increase in water and soil fertility and the sustained increase in farmers livelihoods diversification as a result of their engagement in the project. The project adopts an integrated approach which ensures that project design considered the views of both men and women. It also ensures the multiple benefits of increased incomes, market linkages, trainings, use of technologies and others are considered for men and women. Both men and women will therefore have easier access to introduced technologies such as hives, extractors, and suites thus time for activities/honey harvesting activities will be reduced and there will be available quality honey for food security and income generation. The inclusion of women in the development of agro processing center and its utilization empower women and allows them to have more control over project activities. Their confidence level will be built to have the confidence in managing and controlling the project activities.

5.0 Overcoming Potential Issues

It was observed during the gender role matrix key potential gender issues which were common among all communities and proposed solutions are presented below;

- Land tenure and access to community lands could be an issue; LINK Ghana is therefore working with clan heads, chiefs, and family heads to release lands for the project activities. This was strategically addressed during the project design where chiefs, land owners and beneficiaries were involved in mapping out some of these potential challenges and proposed solution's.
- To ensure equitable distribution of benefits from the project, women and men were involved in all phases of the project and regular monitoring system to have sex differentiated parameters taken into account. Joint monitoring will be conducted with community opinion leaders, and stakeholders as well as beneficiaries. This will ensure that benefits and gains are equitable distributed as agreed upon. Also the group concept ensures that the whole groups benefits from the benefits hence ensuring that both men and women mutually benefit from project.
- To accurately measure the impact and benefit of the project the project jointly together with beneficiaries designed the target beneficiaries in such a way that at least 65% of beneficiaries are women which is very responsive in addressing the gender issues. There will also be quarterly joint monitoring and evaluation to ensure that these bench marks are achieved.
- Though communities in the district has over the years not had communal conflict, the project in identifying some of the potential hazards identified potential intra conflict among community members if care is not taken. As a result the project engaging all stakeholders such as chiefs, clan heads and family heads will go a long way to ensure sustainable peace and potential intra conflict.
- Drought and harsh climatic factors were also identified as common in the district that if not well managed could affect project activities. With the outbreak of these hazards, communities might abandon project activities in searching for coping mechanisms. As a result the project jointly with communities has identified coping strategies such as; first adopting practices such as vegetative management promoted by the project, livelihoods diversification, engaging the District Assembly and external donors, reliance on friends and being very conscious of their environment. With these strategies communities are in a better position to protect their communities and project interventions as they will not over depend on the environment for their livelihoods.

6.0 Recommendations

- Sensitization and awareness creation on the importance for women to be supported in carrying out their reproductive roles. Boys must be encouraged to be part. A strategy for women to have control over their time and labor and other resources. Igniting the inner potentials and capabilities of women and the role of men in doing this is very critical for a holistic community development. This should be part of project sensitization processes at all times and at all levels.
- Advocacy and lobbying of opinion and land owners to make arable lands available for women and the landless for livelihoods development. There is the need to integrate access

and rights as well as benefits of economic empowerment of women in all projects and programs.

- Strategically building the capacity of women to be able to have confidence in what they do while also providing the immediate needs that such as credit support, business development skills and development that helps build their financial and social capitals.
- There should be conscious efforts in targeting women in community projects such that more women are able to benefit from project activities. This over time is expected to enhance and the capacities and skills of women which can place them in a better decision making position.

7.0 Conclusions

Sustainable Livelihood Adaptation (SLA) through the Introduction of Improved Groundnut oil Extraction Technologies and Market Linkages is an integrated project that seeks to enhance the resilience of communities thorough economic empowerment processes and food security. It is designed to increase resilience to climate change through improved food security and sustainable economic development. The Gender analysis shows there is a gender gap where men dominate in decision and control of productive resources in the Builsa South District.

The project design used an integrated, holistic and participatory approach to target a variety of livelihood options for smallholder women and men in the district as a way to enhance climate change resilience. The gender roles as prescribed by the culture and religious institutions as well as community values and beliefs have a lot of influence on resource access and control.

The ultimate outcome of the project for men and women in vulnerable households in the targeted communities are: increased resilience to climate change through improved food security and sustainable economic development. Household food security and income are both expected to increase over the period of the project. This can only be achieved with a very good and responsive gender-responsive climate adaptation actions and increased adoption of gender-responsive climate-resilient livelihood strategies and technologies like rearing of bees by vulnerable women and men in the targeted communities.

Women and men in the district have access to productive resources but women are limited in terms of control and final decision making on how resources are used. Women culturally are care providers especially household chores and hygiene while men providing the protection and key food stuff for the family. There is a good relationship between the traditional governance system and the modern political system in the district which provides an opportunity for community development by leveraging on both political systems.

8.0 Bibliography

-FAO Gender website. WWW.FAO.ORG/GENDER/EN/

9.0 Appendix/High resolution pictures/meeting records etc ([capture community engagement sessions, sample of gender issues among others](#))