

Livestock Development

The livestock sub-sector comprises activities contributing to sustainable livestock production to reduce poverty, support widely shared growth, and increase food security. Sustainability in livestock production entails the provision of technology, information, supporting services, and enabling policies to ensure growth while increasing the efficiency of renewable resource use.

Rationale for Integrating Gender into Livestock Projects

Male and female producers have somewhat different needs for technology and support services, due to gender differences in roles and responsibilities in livestock activities. Women generally raise small stocks and are involved in processing activities while men are responsible for large animals and marketing produce. Livestock projects should take these differences into account in order to increase project effectiveness and sustainability.

Mid-course Changes Benefit Rural Women: National Small Livestock Project in Togo

Initiated in the early 1980s in collaboration with USAID and IFAD, the Bank executed the National Small Livestock Project in Togo which aimed to increase productivity and production of small livestock, so as to improve the income potential from livestock activities and the level of animal protein consumption in the villages. The project was executed and supervised by the Bank. The project's initial focus was on sheep, considered a sacred animal in Islam and traditionally raised by men. Institutional capacity was improved in animal healthcare facilities, vaccination, and applied research in feed improvement, and breeders' organizations were strengthened.

The mid-term review revealed the need to expand the focus to other "small" livestock activities (goats, pigs and poultry), associated with women and the poor in the villages. Although pig rearing had never before been considered an option as a significant activity because of religious restrictions, big demand for pig rearing in non-Islamic areas in the country, essentially from subsistence farmers and women, led to mid-course corrections in the project. The project provided for some simple improvements like housing for pigs with cemented floors, brooms, and wheelbarrows, and also offered training to pig farmers. This support went exclusively to women because pigs are fed the residues from cottage beer brewing, traditionally a female activity. The project also introduced a heat-tolerant vaccine which had a significant impact on village poultry production, benefiting mostly women and the poor.

The shift in project focus made an enormous impact on rural women. Expansion of activities also increased protein availability for the poor in the villages. The project's efforts led to the reinforcement of breeder's organizations, particularly those comprised of women.

- Women have good knowledge of the production characteristics and behavior of animals they tend
- Women are generally knowledgeable about the availability of quality feed and local fodder resources. They give importance to feed materials that improve fat percentage in milk and induce heat.

Crash Program in Gender Integration: a Case Study from Nicaragua

The "Programa Integrado de Desarrollo Rural" (PIDR) Phase I centered on dairy farming and improving farm environment and economics. It sought to increase women's active participation in all developmental processes and therefore had a separate component for women's development. However, the mid-term review recognized that, although women's participation was considered decisive in all project activities, women's integration and overall participation was non-existent.

Based on this experience, some critical actions taken before the Phase II project, "Proyecto de Desarrollo Rural Ganadero" (PRODEGA), helped improve project's gender focus. These were:

- Socio-economic survey to find a strategy for better gender integration
- Clear instructions for a closer linkage between the WID component and other activities in the project
- Gender training workshops for project staff, and recommendation to increase the percentage of women project staff members to 50%
- Development of a new gender strategy to change perceptions of women's role in society and improve their self esteem as producers and income generators
- Removal of cultural barriers in institutionalizing gender, and raise gender awareness
- Increase in number of women beneficiaries, with preference given to farms owned by women.

Lessons that emerge from the experience are:

- Separate assessments of men's and women's substantive needs and interests enhance the impact of the project
- Women are generally excluded from most project benefits when their role in productive activities is recognized belatedly and/or a gender component is added later on
- Monitoring and evaluation are crucial to success in gender integration, and sex disaggregated data are important to assess if men and women are obtaining equitable benefits from project activities.

Source: *Looking at Gender, Agriculture and Rural Development*, Department of International Development Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland, Helsinki, 1995

Checklist of Gender-Related Issues and Activities during the Project Cycle

	Identification and Preparation	Design and Appraisal	Implementation and Supervision	Implementation Completion
Socio Economic Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Gender based roles and activities in livestock production, processing and marketing; gender relations in control over income ✓ Gender specific needs in livestock activities ✓ Impact of livestock activities on nutrition and availability of dietary animal protein 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Project activities related to gender-driven small and large livestock production ✓ Gender input into value-added processing and efficient marketing ✓ Gender roles in utilization of animal draught power for farming and transport 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Equitable gender balance in beneficiary selection to reflect project-supported livestock activities ✓ Women's participation in decision making increased ✓ Reduction of women's workloads 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Improvement in returns from livestock for all categories of producers ✓ Improvement in men's and women's income from livestock ✓ Improvement in consumption level of animal protein at family level
Policy and Institutional Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Gender discrimination, if any, in livestock ownership and inheritance ✓ Men's and women's access to livestock support services in extension, healthcare, credit, and insurance ✓ Gender balance in producers' and marketing cooperatives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Initiatives to mitigate gender bias in livestock policies ✓ Project support to improve access to extension, production inputs, credit and marketing ✓ Emphasis on women's participation in farmers' groups and cooperatives. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Policy recommendations on gender equity followed ✓ Increase in men's and women's use of livestock support services ✓ Improvement in marketing networks for women producers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Men and women's income from livestock activities increased or at least maintained
Technology and Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Assessment of specific technology needs of men and women in livestock activities ✓ Existing capacity in livestock support services to address gender-based needs ✓ Gender balance in the provision of livestock services – para-vets, AI services, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Emphasis on applied research on micro livestock ✓ Capacity development and training on gender issues in livestock activities for research and extension staff ✓ Training of rural women as paramedics, para-vets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Increase in women's participation and income from micro livestock ✓ Improvement in number of trained extension workers and para-vets in villages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Improved efficiency and sustainability of livestock systems
Notes to Task Teams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Carry out initial beneficiary survey to identify potential gender issues ✓ Undertake a detailed social and gender analysis only if warranted. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Integrate gender aspects into all the project components in which roles and needs are demonstrated ✓ Where necessary, appoint a gender specialist to develop a gender action plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Monitor progress in terms of changing roles by women availing support services, access to markets, credit, ownership of animals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Impact evaluation should reflect general improvement in health and nutritional status in addition to increase in income.

Suggested Gender-Related Indicators for Livestock Development Projects

Sub-sector Indicators	Input/Process Indicators	Output Indicators	Impact Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ % of women among livestock producers by animals ♦ Contribution of livestock to women's/men's income and subsistence ♦ Amount of milk and animal protein consumed by the family. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Men's and women's level of participation in village level planning ♦ Existing policy initiatives to address gender issues in access to resources in livestock sector ♦ Funds allocated/disbursed for capacity building—training on gender for research & extension staff ♦ Women's level of participation in producers' cooperatives; women's group for collection and marketing ♦ Fund allocation for improvement in animal healthcare facilities, accessibility, affordability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Gender balance among extension staff; No. of staff trained on gender ♦ Number of extension messages produced/disseminated on gender issues in production ♦ Number of women receiving help, availing health care services ♦ Number of women healthcare providers ♦ Number of women in producers' cooperatives ♦ Changes in marketing network and infrastructure for livestock produce — proximity, milk routes, transport. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Changes in income and subsistence—equitable share of income among men and women ♦ Changes in nutritional status – availability of milk and animal protein for the family.