

Unit 3-2: Gender issues in agricultural and rural development

Chapter 1 Introduction

This unit focuses on gender as a factor in agricultural and rural development. It presents fundamental concepts of gender and the specific gender related issues that must be taken into account when carrying out an agricultural and rural development project.

Chapter 2 Why is gender important? – Background and concepts –

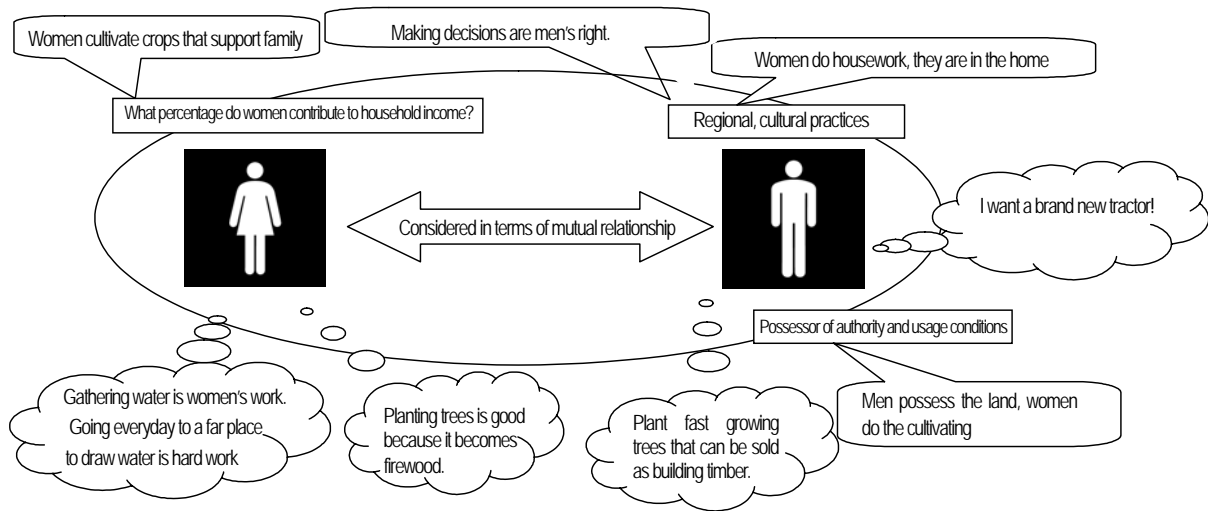
2.1 What is gender?

2.1.1 Basic knowledge about gender

Development projects in the 1970s did very little analysis from a human perspective and were instead conceived with an emphasis on economic development and with the aim of creating a ripple effect that would improve the living standards of people as a whole. Moreover, even when thinking from a human perspective, women were compared to men and tended to be regarded as non-paid labor working in a private space, and since, in this view, women “didn’t work” they made no contribution to economic development. Experience gained through development projects and surveys and research raised awareness of the important role women have in agricultural and rural society and in the family unit and this led to a rethinking of their contribution. As result, instead of male and female (sex) terms, societal development and development projects came to be thought about in terms of gender.

Sex (biological sex difference)	Gender
Biologically distinct males and females	Male-female differences determined according to regionally and historically contingent values.
Classified according to physical characteristics	Socially and culturally determined male-female roles, concepts of masculinity and femininity, male-female mutual interaction.
Fundamentally fixed	Changes in roles occur as society and the attitudes of people change over time.

Illustration 2.1 What is gender?



When analyzing the various needs of women from a gender perspective, needs can be classified into the following practical and strategic needs.

Table 2.1 Practical and strategic needs

Practical needs (practical gender issues)	Strategic needs (strategic gender issues)
<p>Food, drinking water, medical care and other things easily recognized as daily needs for women can be solved by providing specific inputs (for example, providing food, building a well, setting up a medical clinic, and so on). While dealing with practical needs can improve living conditions, it is difficult to change fixed male-female roles and assigned burdens and social relationships through these alone.</p>	<p>Problems such as lack of resources and education and the inability to resist poverty and violence are a product of the disadvantaged status of and gender bias against women. Though many women share these needs they may not necessarily be aware of their disadvantaged situation and their potential for changing it. Dealing with strategic needs requires the empowerment of women that enables social and political change and take a relatively long time to solve.</p>

(Source: Muramatsu Yasuko, 2005: "Forming and developing a theory of gender and development" – an experiment in gender economics

Box1 Feminizing poverty

About 70% of the impoverished population of developing countries are said to be women. Moreover, according to IFAD surveys and research, over the last 20 years the number of rural women in absolute poverty has increased 50% to 565 million. Over this same period, men in absolute poverty increased 30%. Thus, the percentage of women in poverty is increasing and the proportion of women in poverty is increasing as well.

In terms of population ratio as well, there are many regions with a high level of female poverty. Moreover, these impoverished women lack the power to deal with their situation, making their inability to escape poverty a very serious problem. While this has many causes, some major causes are thought to include barriers to land ownership and credit, barriers blocking access to basic services and education, and the biasing of work to men (that is, employment generated by the introduction of new technology tends to be monopolized by men). In addition, women were the first to feel the brunt of structural reorganizing policies (promoting cash crops in order to obtain foreign currency, reducing education, insurance, and other health and welfare expenditures, etc.) in African nations and elsewhere, demonstrating that women are often the most effected when a crises surfaces.

(UNFPA, 1998; UNDP, 1997; Dalla Costa et. al., 1995)

Why is gender consideration necessary? There are many fundamental discussions on why the gender mainstream (refer to 2.1.3 in this unit) is important by academics and those involved in development projects.

The gender standards regulated in the existing social structure have been implemented by people in power and always were an elimination process that did not always help the socially vulnerable.

In a society that where major changes have occurred with social and economic development and with disasters and conflicts, the gender concepts have also altered. When some kind of change occur in economic development or in a revision in social welfare systems, or when disasters and conflict happen, it is females and the socially lower class, who do not have a strong social status, that are hard hit with the change and negative impacts. Although there are opinions that benefits should not be focused only to a certain group, it is very important to take a comprehensive approach in developing in total the gender perspectives to realize the mission in making a better society and to dissolve the sense of discomfort when no one notices females or the socially weak, who configure the majority in society. However, it is regrettable that in recent years, even if the concept of gender is being recognized, the social trend does not necessarily accept the diversity in gender into the mainstream.

2.1.2 The WID and GAD concepts and how they are different

The concept of gender and the including of women in the development process has lead to new concepts of development. One of these is Women in Development, or WID, which aims at improving the social status of women hindered by disadvantages and barriers to access. In the WID concept, women are the sole focus of development, and as a result there have been cases where WID's single-minded focus on women has caused entire projects to fail. This in turn gave rise to Gender and Development, or GAD, which,

rather than focusing solely on women, stressed the male-female relationship and their different responsibilities and roles. GAD recognizes the importance of empowerment but goes beyond merely improving the status of women to focus on building a new society and world and the role of women in it. Women transcend their existing roles in the productive sphere and reproductive sphere, and in managing and administrating local society, and instead are recognized as agents driving the change toward a new world. The differences between WID and GAD are summarized in the following table.

The main GAD approach takes the stance that if focus is centered on females as in the WID approach, the actual problem that females are place in a supplementary role against men will not be solved. In other words, when making proposals to support females who are in the development process, it advocates that it will not be sufficient to focus only on females but to consider the social relationship between both male and female.

Table 2.2 Difference of WID and GAD

	WID	GAD
Basic approach	Deals with the problem of the inadequate participation of women in development and the disadvantages of women.	Human centered development approach
Focus	Women	Male-female relationship and roles
Principle issues	Women excluded from the development process	Obstruction of egalitarian development and full female participation, unequal male-female roles.
Objectives	More efficient and effective development	Men and women share in the decision making, fair and sustainable development
Means of solving	Bring women into existing structure, integrate	Strengthen the skills of people and women in disadvantaged positions Change inequality and the structures that support it
Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projects limited to women • Improve productivity of women • Expand the income of women • Improve the household managing skills of women 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specify the practical needs that women and men require to improve their conditions and work to meet them • At the same time, attend to the strategic gender needs of men and women • Human focused development that deals with the strategic needs of the impoverished.

(Source: excerpted and collected from the JICA Knowledge Site “Gender – WID terms”)

Box2 The WID gender approach

WID has formulated a number of ways for addressing the needs of women once they have incorporated into the development process.

【Gender equality approach】

Women move from their two productive and reproductive roles to active participants who play a decisive and crucial role in economic growth. The goal is gender need satisfaction by obtaining livelihood sustaining income. Moreover, move beyond the development sphere and achieve gender equality across the entire socioeconomic spectrum.

【Anti-poverty approach】

Establish working poor as target group, make job creation in the informal sector the lever to satisfy food, clothing, housing, fuel, education, human rights, and other basic human needs.

【Efficiency oriented approach】

Women are productive and reproductive agents, and as a result of their reproductive roles are expected to take a managing role and function in local society.

【Social welfare approach】

Focus is on social policies that support the physical subsistence of women. Maternal and child health, reproductive health and rights, etc.

(Source: excerpted from Muramatsu Yasuko, 2005: "Forming and developing a theory of gender and development" – an experiment in gender economics)

When discussing gender issues, although the discussions are focused on both male and female, many surveys only focus on females or the socially weak when grasping the process in social change or when finding the impact on development projects. However, when considering the essential perspectives in gender issues, it is not appropriate to focus only on a certain subject but must always take a stance in being conscious of a wider concept within the diverse relationships of male and female who both take socially different roles.

For agricultural and rural development projects and for every phase of a strategic need based project, from planning, preparation, and execution to monitoring, and evaluation, there are a number of cases that work to open W/S by gender and by social class while also carrying out a number of specific actions taken to address practical needs (increasing income, improving living standards, etc.). Examples of specific gender considerations are introduced in the Boxes in this unit.

2.2 Organizational and institutional requirements for bringing gender into the mainstream

2.2.1 What gender mainstreaming means

To promote understanding of the aforementioned concept of gender and to incorporate gender into the development planning, execution, monitoring, and evaluation projects today, the implementing of "gender mainstreaming" measures and countermeasures are a major development issue.

As bias towards gender is exists deeply in the social infrastructure and systems, it is not enough to

simply attach female elements to the existing system. To make it more mainstream, and to promote gender equality in the development, female participation must be promoted and all concerned parties must make critical analysis to restructure the existing system and organizational framework.

For Gender mainstreaming, institutions and a social environment to promote it are crucial. To this end, “national machinery” is being promoted to serve as the framework for promoting gender mainstreaming. National machinery refers to a single organization recognized by a government that works to improve the status of women, it is a framework for bringing various organizations working under different authorities into a single organizational complex. Every agency puts in place a manager and post that serves as the focal point for gender mainstreaming and who works to ensure that gender is reflected in policy and project planning, preparation, and execution. While most United Nation member countries have such an organization in place, World Conference on Women conferences frequently discuss the need to improve the problem of ill-defined authority, inadequate staff and budget, and lack of commitment from domestic political leaders that has occurred in many instances of gender mainstreaming.

In Japan, the national machinery for gender mainstreaming is the Headquarters for Promoting Gender Equality, which consists of the Prime Minister as president, the Chief Cabinet Secretary as vice president and minister responsible for women’s affairs, and includes all cabinet members, and the national focal point is the Gender Equality Bureau of the Cabinet Office.

2.2.2 Agricultural and rural development gender mainstreaming

Rural society projects that, for example, focus on standardizing new types of products aimed at increasing production are carried out by not only studying how to incorporate gender into agricultural technology related issues but how to incorporate gender into every area that affects the living standards of the inhabitants. Also essential is to put in place information sharing and partnerships among not only the organizations that receive and dispense project resources and the administrative offices responsible for gender mainstreaming but among other government bodies, NGOs, and indeed every other specialized organization. When executing an actual project it is crucial that it has incorporated a gender perspective and that the project as a whole has in place a framework for gender mainstreaming.

<p>Box3 Making farm tools compatible with the needs of women farmers</p> <p>For a project to develop farming tools in Kenya it was clear that the farmer’s lack of suitable farming tools was an impediment to greater agricultural productivity. Local blacksmiths, however, showed little interest in what the farmers had to say about how to make more useful tools.</p> <p>To address this issue, workshops were held to study how to make farm tools that met the needs of the farmers. In this region, women were in charge of the farming done on small local farms but men made the purchasing decisions, so when a “farm tool day” workshop was held only men showed up. As a result of that experience, a “farmer’s day” was held with the aim of gaining the participation of women. The gathering of blacksmiths, women farmers, and merchants began, and a discussion ensued that included working out the sales channel for the kind of farm tools that the farmers needed for their work. At the workshop, people can forth who put real effort into making farm tools that were compatible with the farmer’s needs.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Jeans, 1996)</p>

Chapter 3 Introduction on How to Promote Female Participation

This chapter will summarize the social and gender analysis necessary for the development of agriculture and rural areas, and the concrete methods that should be used including some attentive issues. Some examples will be displayed when describing each stage in the project (planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation).

Time should be taken to do research on the social characteristics of the survey area. However, there are restraining factors such as time, budget, and the very little amount of information.

It is important to improve the male/female relationship (freedom of speech by females, right to make decisions, access and control, improve the status of females) by reducing the labor load for females, create income for females, distribute income to females, and have females participate in the society.

Box 4 Case study on how female opinions helped improve varieties in beans

A collaborated research on the improvement of bean variety conducted in an agricultural research institute in Rwanda by Centro Internacional de Agricultural Tropical (CIAT), an international research institute, and local researchers. This research involved the help of regional female farmers. The female farmers, who were invited to the research institute, took home over twenty different varieties of beans. They were to select promising varieties after growing them in their normal environment and using the harvested beans.

The perspectives of their choice in variety covered a number of factors such as taste and time taken to cook the beans whereas those in research would only showed interest in bean yield. As a result, the beans chosen by the females have been cultivated for many years.

(IFPRI, 1995)

Box 5 An animal husbandry project that did not show significant results due to lack of consideration for females

In the small farming development project in Nepal, a small sized investment was conducted to purchase dairy water buffalos for poor households. The villages created diary cooperatives to sell the water buffalo milk collected from the farmers. With the increase in compost, the agricultural production grew. Calculations showed that at least one third of the households benefited. Furthermore, support was provided to a democratic cooperative operation considering the social structure of ethnic groups and the caste system.

However, the investment was given to males who were the head of the household. With the increase in the number of domestic animals, the amount of labor increased for the females as it was their job to collect feed. Even though the females were overworked, they did not receive any rewards as the males controlled the income from the milk. Deforestation accelerated as the leaves were used for feed.

If the project reflected female opinions during the planning stage, the program would have included measures by the village to use and control forests as resources for feed, participation by females in the cooperatives, and support for the females to buy water buffalos themselves.

(FAO, 1998)

3.1 Grasping the Gender Situation at the Preparatory Planning Stage and Orientation

The preparatory planning stage must substantiate the project content using various survey frameworks to grasp the present social and gender situation and their needs.

The following three points must be examined when devising and planning the total project (such as the product data management) when deliberating the contents of cooperative activities with other governments.

1. If profits and participation are socially fair and considered for both male and female
2. If surveys and specialists are placed to conduct gender orientation
3. If there is an index regarding gender orientation

3.1.1 Various survey frameworks

Presently in projects to develop agriculture and rural areas, the mainstream survey conducted by the residents themselves is the Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA; refer to Section 3.1) and there are many participating type frameworks that include resident empowerment which are being implemented. Since social and gender surveys analyze the social characteristics of the survey area from a number of perspectives, a more detailed information can be obtained by combining interviews using participation type surveys and survey slips.

Chart 3.1 Characteristics of Survey Frameworks related to Gender and Remarks

	Characteristics	Remarks
Qualitative Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can understand the survey area better than qualitative information • Can capture the characteristics of the survey area and grasp the key words and key points that are the indexes for monitoring and assessment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As it is a qualitative survey using samples (key informants), it should be known as a powerful survey used not as a baseline but to examine the items of the baseline survey and to analyze the results of the baseline survey. • There is bias on how the survey samples are chosen. The key informant are usually influential people in the area and as there is bias in the collected data, it is necessary to devise ways to collect data from several sources and to be objective about the collected data by finding the background of the obtained opinion and the positioning of the informant in the area. • Make sure the samples include both male and female.
Quantitative Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can prevent bias in the collected data by collecting information from several informants and can have an objective data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The survey should be conducted with care as it takes time and money to execute and analyze the survey. • Usually the characteristics are difficult to grasp as the situation and opinion of the various people are averaged out when summarizing the data. • The content range is restricted to questions on the questionnaire. • Under the above restrictions, by supplementing the qualitative survey, it is possible to devise a valid questionnaire and to tabulate an effective analysis as a great deal of data will be eliminated.
Participation Type Survey Method	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use visual tools that are easy to obtain • Make the residents feel as if they participated by including entertainment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The success of the survey depends mainly on the ability of the facilitator. • There are times when the participants are mainly male residents who are influential in the area and it is difficult for females or the poor to join the survey. • It is necessary to secure an actual participation of people who socially do not have the freedom of speech. On the other hand, their participation may lead to conflict and hostility. • Secure participation by both male and female (have couples participate, use a female moderator, plan the survey so that the time and place is easy for females to participate.) • Create an atmosphere where both male and female can give their opinions easily (use a female moderator, depending on the meeting have a female-only meeting and so forth)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid excess expectations and disappointment to the project when clarifying the consciousness and needs (it is necessary to receive consent regarding the range that the project can handle)
Social and Gender Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mainly analyze the qualitative survey results • Clarify the division of labor between male and female and the difference between access and control of the resource • The roles and rights between male and female will be clarified and will play the role of enlightening the participants (effective at male and female participating meetings) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As it is a written survey, it is difficult to find the relating factors. It will be necessary to supplement the survey with an analysis result from other surveys (a quantitative survey that gives an integrated view of rural life) during the planning stage.

(Source: JICA 1999) Excerpts and created from *Handbook of Women in Development (WID) and Gender for Cooperation in Agricultural and Forestry*

There are several frameworks in analyzing society and gender in the above chart. There are several major frameworks such as the Harvard framework and the Socio-Economic and Gender Analysis (SEAGA) that was devised by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). The survey tools used in the gender survey are similar to the tools used in PRA. Chart 3.2 shows some of the major frameworks in gender analysis.

Chart 3.2 Major Frameworks in Gender Analysis

Harvard Framework	This method was developed in 1984 jointly by Harvard University and USAID. This method creates an activity profile, a profile for access and control of the resource and its benefits, and analyzes the factors that affects the activities, access and control and analyzes the results of the project cycle.
The Moser Framework	This is a method that was devised by Moser and conducts the three female roles (reproducing activities, production activities, community activities), grasps the gender needs and sets up strategies.
The IDS/Social Relations Framework	This framework was devised by N. Kabeer of Sussex University in 1990. It analyzes the social relationship of gender in the government, markets, communities and households which all create gender relationships.
The Logwe Method/ Women's Empowerment Framework	This framework was devised in the beginning of the 1990s under the cooperation of Longwe, a consultant in Zambia, the Uganda government, and UNICEF. It is a framework that helped to devise concepts on how to conduct empowerment. intervention for females
Socio-Economic and Gender Analysis	This is a framework that was devised by FAO in 1993. It analyzes socio-economic patterns of macro systems (policies on an international and government level) and systems and organizations (ministries, private companies, and NGOs) that connect macro and field levels, and field levels (households and communities).

(Source: JICA knowledge site excerpts from the Gender Glossary revised in 2005)

The following is a gender analysis using the Harvard framework.

(1) Profile of Activity

List up the production activities, reproduction activities, community activities in the survey area and coherently describe the role-sharing situations of male and females. Acquire the data by holding group meetings or conducting individual household surveys.

(2) Access and Control Analysis

The access and control analysis is a coherent description of the access (usage) and control (managing) of the resources (land, agricultural tools, animal stock, water resources, fuel and such) necessary to conduct the above activities and the benefits (income and such) that is generated from the activities. The description is divided into male and female. When there is only access without any control, it is possible that the access can be lost by the will of the controller. It is important to keep the control of the activities.

(3) Factor Analysis

Analyze the data obtained through the activity profile and analysis of access and control with the factors configuring the situation under the following concepts.

1. General economic conditions (poverty level, inflation rate, income distribution rate)
2. Organization structure (characteristics of the bureaucrat, divisional structure of knowledge and technology)

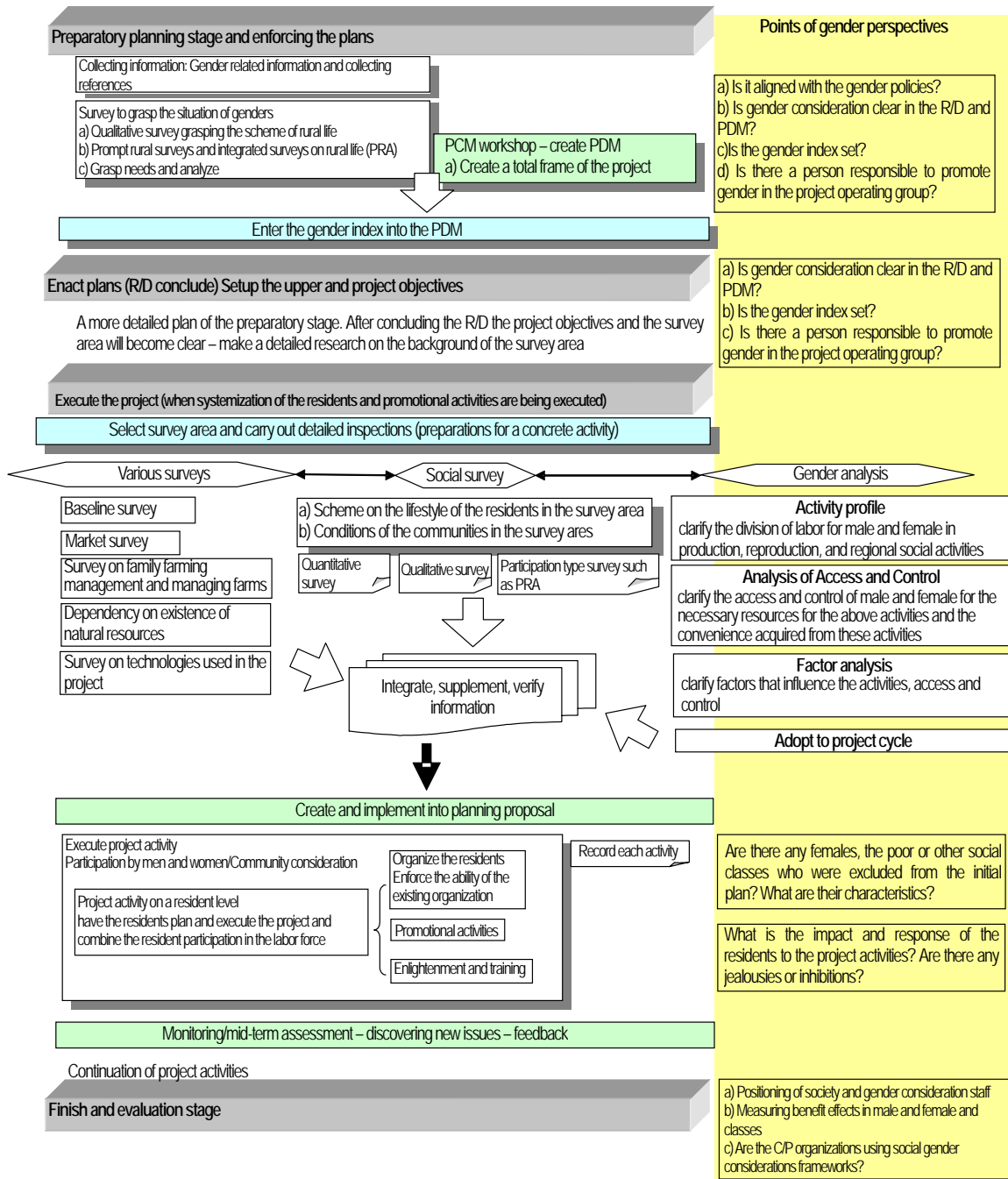
3. Demographic factors
4. Socio-economic factors
5. Standards of the community and household, cultural factors such as religion
6. Legal factors
7. Education and training factors
8. External factors such as domestic and international political events

(4) Adoption to Project Cycles

To make use of the project results to give equity to females, execute social and gender analysis in all stages such as the selection, planning, and execution of the project, and by examining how the above analysis will affect the project, and by offering opportunities to use female roles and potential abilities.

The following figure shows the gender consideration in the total project cycle.

Figure 3.1 Gender Consideration in Each Stage of the Project Cycle



Box 6 Case study to find the correct index in the region

In the project conducted in Cartagena, Columbia, it was difficult to grasp how to take the households into account during the designing stage of the survey slip as a whole. Therefore a detailed case study was carried out on people cohabitating in one house. There was a large matchet, two beds, and two ovens in the house. There was an oven for each brother and his family. But there were no significant socio-economic cooperative relationship to be seen between the brothers.

Therefore it was conceived that the provision and consumption of the meals was more important than the structure of the living quarters. After visiting the families several times, it was found that the olla (cooking pot) that was used in the same oven and sharing a meal from the pot was the significant factor in shaping the household. In a poor household, meals were the basis of survival. Their household was depended on whose olla was used. This survey proved that it was a valid index to clarify groups that shared basic economic resources.

(Valadez and Bamberger, 1994)

Box 7 Are traditional technologies non-productive?

Rootstock such as yam and taro are cultivated in Southern Asia and in the Pacific Region. Generally a digging stick is used when farming these crops. The digging stick is a tree trunk that is wide enough to be held in one's hand and the tip is sharpened so that the farmer can dig into the soil. In the Bohol Islands in the Philippines, females use the digging stick even though they have a steel shovel in the house. Farming using a digging stick is considered to be a primitive farming method and is considered to be old fashioned. However the females find the digging stick to be light to carry, will not bruise the potato, and can be used in various farming processes other than digging. This proves that tools and techniques that may seem to be simple and old fashioned can actually be multi-functional and is much easier to use than single functional sophisticated tools or heavy tools. Therefore this is a good example where an appropriate technological view stimulates the concept on how technology should be.

(JICA 1996)

Box 8 A qualitative case study on participation type frameworks

The Kribhco Indo-British Rainfed Farming Project (KRIBP) project in India conducted a project by adopting the participation type framework. While executing a PRA on a village level, they were conducting an informal qualitative survey in a specific village to find various differences in the society of the survey area in detail to monitor the transition in gender and poverty.

Firstly, a rich-poor ranking (a method to rank the rich-poor households based on the regional index used by several informants) within the village using a male and a female group was carried out. A socially significant index was found. With this index, a few households that were seen to be in unfavorable conditions were chosen and a detailed case study was conducted on them.

The project staff spent a great deal of time with the case examples and found how their lifestyle was formed. A descriptive report was recorded on the data of the case examples and analysis was made on how they made a living. Deeper understanding was developed towards the survey area by taking time in

this survey. It was found that the results of the PRA that was conducted in the beginning of the project differ qualitatively from the analytical perspectives of the livelihood obtained from this survey.

By conducting a PRA, female participation was promoted and deeper understanding developed on the division of labor by gender and the effects of subsidies. Furthermore, the data obtained through the PRA was useful to write up the plan as it was related to the project content.

(Mosse. D., et al 1995)

3.2 Gender Consideration in the Execution Stage

A survey concerning gender overlapped with the analysis of the surveyed society as a whole can cause jealousy and interference from other stakeholders such as males. The more the project developed, the more difficult the gender consideration at the execution stage of the project showed. Although the gender consideration is significant factor during the development activity, it is important to conduct a balanced gender consideration based on the goal, objective and axis of the project itself.

3.2.1 Measures towards jealousy, defamation, and interference

From the results of the social and gender analysis, it was found that female roles and activities were indispensable in the rural life, the improvement in agricultural production, and the stability of the rural life. Moreover, by focusing on the differences in the roles between male and female, discussions will be centered on how males and females should cooperate to create a better society.

However, as the surrounding residents highly evaluated the large profits given to the vested interests and the direct subjects of the project, there were many cases where the group that could not receive the benefits objected to the results. This type of movement is a phenomenon that is generated when the development activity is concentrated in a certain social organization and class. This could occur when adopting a participation type method for gender consideration or conducting enlightening activities.

It is important to repeatedly discuss that it is a gender consideration for the community as a whole in a number of situations. By making use of these unavoidable experiences regarding gender, this would improve the development and effects in the following development activities, and at the same time it would endeavor to suppress the objections made as much as possible so that the development will be successful

3.2.2 Consideration to Regional Society (Community)

To promote the participation by both male and female, it would be difficult if the approval came only from one part of the regional society. The gender role of male and female should be related to the regional society as a whole.

The community is the basic organization for residential participation. It also the mother state that shares values and customs that creates gender. On the other hand, from a gender perspective, most communities are supported by existing and fixed gender consciousness. Even if the community structure is not considered to be a major item in the preparatory stage, in many instances the characteristics become more obvious during the execution stage.

For example, when the survey involves the existence or the nonexistence of agricultural productions and farms, there is a tendency to have land owners and farms where the farm owners are male be the

representatives and the activities are planned around them for issues regarding systemization and laying a dissemination structure. When including agricultural productions as well as the processing of the products, it will be important to have a widespread effects of the project to all the regional residents including females.

Important Roles held by the Regional Society	
Regional society is the basic organization of residential participation (values that create gender and sharing of customs)	• Route of transmitting public relations
• Decision making system	• Priority approval organization
• A place to adjust various needs	• Operational organization for shared labor
• Functions to adjust social stress	• Main body in developing independence
• Adjustment with intervention by other developments	

< Community associations and gender consideration >

Strategically, community associations considering gender either organize new associations separately from the regional society or use existing organizations in the regional society.

(1) Creating a rural female group and the effects of spreading their activities

There are advantages in organizing female groups. It can deliver information, liven the exchange of information between female groups and stimulate each other, and can become an opening to create leaders. These activities bring about many wide spread effects and lead to successive activities.

Box 9 How gender consideration contributes to regional society

The Arenal Conservation Development Project in Costa Rica is a region that conducted a participation type successive agricultural development. The project was conducted under the concept that “the conservation of nature and gender issues are both sides of a coin where a sustainable development and rural expansion cannot occur if one or the other is lacking. Conservation of nature and socio-economic development should be carried out simultaneously. The gender issue cannot be ignored when aiming at a high quality lifestyle.” Female sewing groups and female groups that process agricultural produce were formed. As an effect in gender consideration, this project was able to make technical training and developing abilities possible, could find ways to make some income for females, to be freed from the home environment, and to create a female network and share information.

(2) Create a new organization for inhibited females and the poor

In addition to social class systems such as the caste system and the male–centric social structure, when there are many accumulating issues such as the overload of labor on females. A new organization is effective only when there are no organizations for people who cannot net the developed profits. However,

when creating a new organization, it can decrease the number of inhibitions and defamation by obtaining community consensus.

(3) Linking with community activities

The organizations made from the project would not be able to become independent unless it was acknowledged or approved by the whole regional society. Even if a female group was created, unless there was understanding from the regional society, this female group could be inhibited. The female group should report their activities and appeal to the community during community activities to link up with the regional community and to make it easier to operate within the community.

3.2.3 Gender consideration in promotion activities

Promotional activities are not about one sided technical transfer. It should be conducted by directly bringing out the issues and needs of the residents. This should be achieved by holding repeated communications with the residents. Also, the development should be perceived in a wider scale where new technologies should not be transmitted with the understanding by the farming residents and their lifestyles but by positively assessing the farming maintained by the residents, particularly the females. The production technologies should take on the role to promote the development with the residents.

The following are reminders for promotional activities:

1. Are the promotional medium easy for females to participate in?
 - Time, period, place are planned so that it will be easy to participate. Organizing day care and baby sitters.
 - The use of female lecturers
 - Preparations for both male and female participation
 - Hold meetings and lectures for females only if necessary
2. Clarify the agriculture and fishery industries that are closely supported by females and include the females in the existing technology-related issues when introducing new types of technologies and improvements
3. Secure female promoters and create an organization that is easy for females to make contact
4. Make a survey on female needs and develop a promotional activity that will reflect those needs (income generating activities, literacy education and such)

Box 10 Case study on plans to reinforce training on improvement of rural life in the Philippines

【Outline of the project】

Agriculture is one of the major industries in the Philippines and two thirds of the total population live in rural areas and are directly involved in agriculture. Female farmers play important roles not only on the farms and in the household but also in the society. An integrated improvement that involves an active use of human resources on the farms under gender consideration, as well as perspectives on labor, nutrition, and the living environment are important keys to improve the standard of life in the rural areas.

On the other hand, the improvement of rural life is positioned as one of the promotional agricultural operations but in 1991 the transition of the public servants involved in this dissimulation from the central government to local authorities resulted in the acknowledgement that the permeation of the comprehensive policies by the government to the rural regions and the systems to offer services directly

to the farmers were inadequate. With this, there is rapid movement in establishing a new system where there is cooperation between the central government and local authorities and creating an organization that can be effective in the rural areas.

With the development of human resources considering the participation of females and to improve the quality of living standards in the rural areas, this new system is aimed to enforce training functions by the department of agricultural training in the Ministry of Agriculture by enacting training curriculums which will be summarized by the public servants into a prototype for the improvement of living standards that will include various issues that are faced by the residents in the rural region.

This project is not particularly advocating WID as it was judged that it can detect an equal and substantial gender relationship from the residential lifestyles without setting any special attention to females as found in the opinions of males and females during PCM workshops carried out at each village during the long term surveys in the project preparatory planning stage. Males and females participated in decision-making resident frameworks such as visioning workshops and planning workshops where they deliberated on the same levels to select activities that can be aligned to regional needs.

1. Improvement in rice cultivating technologies, development of yam processed foods (generate income)
2. Lay small sized water resources and improve water services (living environment infrastructure)
3. Create maps to inspect living environments (living environment infrastructure)
4. Improve appropriate feed for pigs (Use of resources)
5. Create farms for hillside farming, create and spread house gardens (generate income)
6. Plant mangroves (improve the environment and generate income)
7. Collect successful case studies to vibrate agricultural activities

【Gender Consideration Methods】

The final goal of this project is to create a training program that can improve the living standards to a higher level. A pilot trial to improve rural lifestyles is being conducted in the experimental area in the Bohol Islands south of Cebu. The resident male and females are participating in a workshop that is being executed to understand the present situation and to plan and enact agricultural production, rural lifestyles, and rural regional societies. The results have emerged into pilot activities.

Pilot activities are being executed in various areas in the rural life particularly the activities in participation by the resident male and females as teachers (project staff) and reevaluation of regional specialty processed goods using regional resources.

(JICA)

3.2.4 Links between promotional activities, and enacting organizations

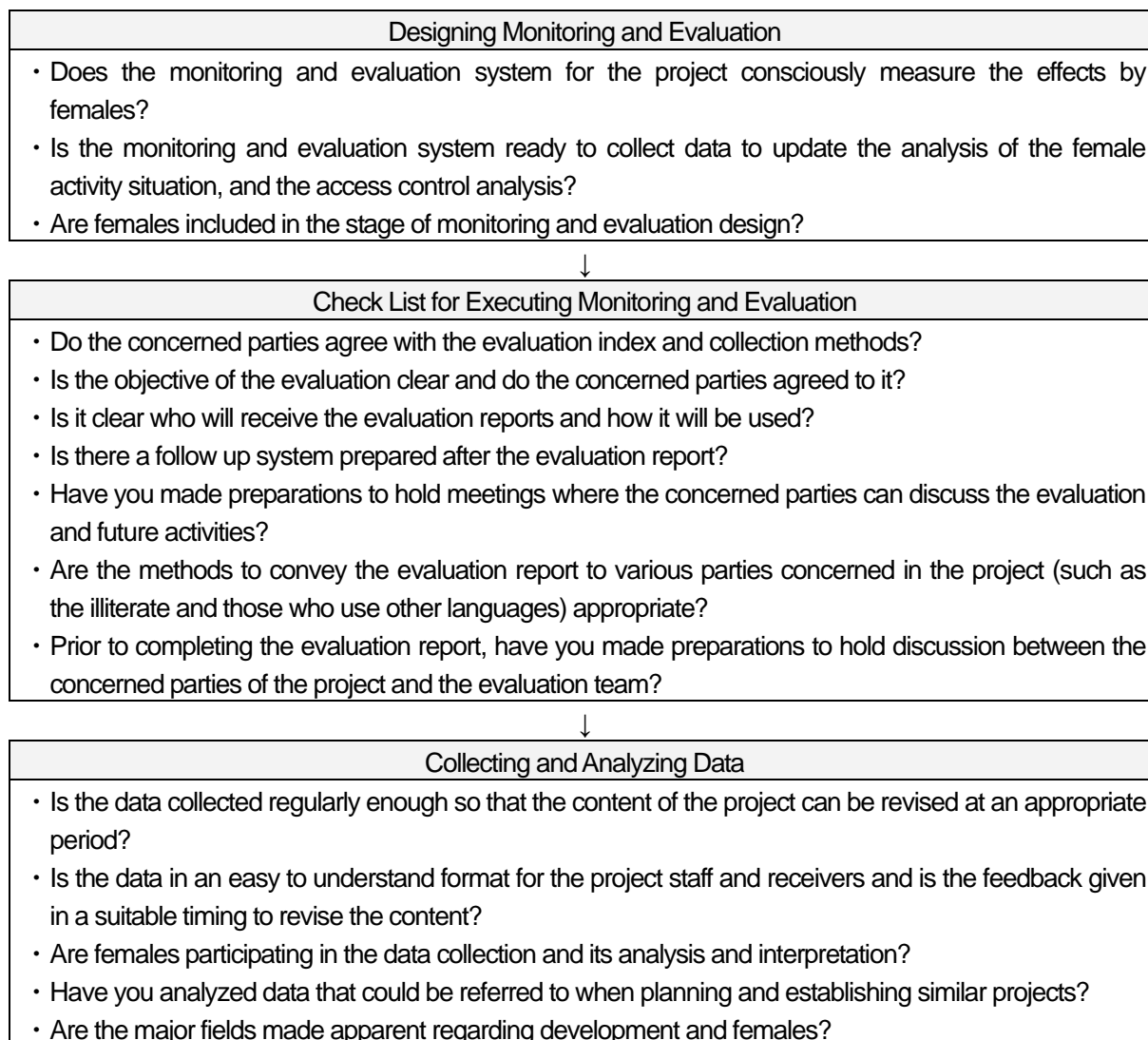
A variety of needs in both male and female emerged in a number of classes and group when promoting gender consideration. In promotional activities, issues not only involved specific agricultural technologies but the total rural lifestyle and social problems. This could be solved and supplemented by making contact and cooperating with other development projects and enacting organizations that are operating in the same region.

3.3 Gender Considerations when Monitoring and Evaluating Operations

Monitoring and evaluation play a part in monitoring and confirming the operations to check whether the projects are efficiently injecting the resources and is reeling results based on the plans and objectives. They improve the learning of the project and its content.

The following three points are the advantages in combining monitoring and evaluation into gender perspectives:

1. As females are playing important roles as an actual producer in the agricultural field, their information and opinions are conditions that make the project contents more fulfilling
2. By reflecting the opinions of females who not only take care of production but livelihood as well, the project can be reflected from an integrated view of the rural life and will be helpful in future plans
3. By giving attention to females who stand on different cultural and social systems, the project results will benefit the region in a fairer and equal way.



At the preparatory stage, it is better if the gender perspectives are sufficiently included in the index when measuring the project results. There are times when the gender perspectives are not sufficiently included during the planning stage because it was not acknowledged fully. Also, even if the gender situation is thought to be known at the planning stage, there are always unexpected issues and new evidence that emerge as the project goes underway.

In addition to confirming the transition of values in the set index, and including the above, it is necessary to reconsider the changes in the regional residents, the effects of the projects by checking the mutual relationships. Therefore it will be possible to reset better indexes with a deeper understanding of the project in the initial stages, where the regional gender issues and the policies the project should take will become apparent.

When the activity is enacted and during the development stages, transitions in the regional society will emerge. It is important to monitor these movements because social classes such as the females and the poor who were excluded from the project will surface and the target group will need to be revised. The residents will make direct response to the project. Additional surveys and monitoring surveys will need to be conducted. Society will not respond as planned. It is best to accurately monitor the changes in the development activities.

<p>Box 11 Differences in the evaluation index that was indicated by males and females</p> <p>The NGO staff and staff from neighboring supportive organizations who were carrying out a regeneration project for feed (a type of millet) along the banks of Niger River were wondering if the regional habitants were interested in this project because they could secure feed that will be sufficient for their animals during the dry season. The habitants chose the index of the project to be the amount of milk yield and if that they can offer more milk to their visitors. However, the females displayed a different index during their discussions. They asked whether their children could drink more kundú (a sweet drink made from the feed). Furthermore, during the discussion, it was found that this index was the only index that could make prompt evaluation of the various views in this project. For the children to be able to drink kundú meant that the male could give enough feed to the animals.</p> <p>This example clearly states the difference in priorities between male and female. It also shows that it is important to hold a full scale discussion between the male and female in the planning stages.</p> <p>(Marsden, Oakley and Pratt, 1994)</p>

<p>Box 12 Leaving records of your activities</p> <p>Activities are taking place with the regional female farmers at the Polana development center in Cochabamba in Bolivia. The females never experienced this type of group activity because they were too busy and did not have any right to speech. Furthermore, they were extremely weary of outsiders such as NGOs. The development center decided to call on the females by creating a group of comnidads taking the stance that they wanted to learn from each other. The females recognized their lifestyle and the situation of the village by using a participation type framework using pictures and started activities by solving problems themselves. The development center would write up a bimonthly wall newspaper</p>
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including photographs and illustrations to show the activities of each group. These newspapers are hung in each community. It is popular among the females as they can see what the other groups are doing and because it is free.

As the females do not want to forget what they had accomplished, they asked the development center to make a brochure that outlines their activities. Due to this request, a small brochure named *Organizational Leadership and Control* is being published. As the females cannot read the alphabet, the brochure is full of illustrations with content on *Our Rights, How to Make Organizations, The Meaning of Participation, and Mass Participation*. They are distributing the brochure to their fellow members.

(JICA Basic Survey 1997)

3.4 Evaluation regarding Gender Consideration in the Final Stages

Evaluation in the final stages confirms the operative efficiency of the project, the achievement of the project goals, the beneficial effects, the possibilities of sustainable development, the extension of the cooperative period, and the necessity of a follow up.

Furthermore, the following will be evaluated (participation type evaluation) under the resident perspectives in the survey area as well as collected information and data analysis of the preparations, the social characteristics accumulated throughout the survey, the mainstream issues of gender.

- Measure the beneficial affects by dividing the results between male, female, and class
- Surveys on new needs (in case a post project is being scheduled)
- Execute an integrated survey on rural life under the same conditions as the initial stage

With the related operations to the evaluation, there was deeper understanding on the recognition on gender consideration among the residents and the enacting organizations. This will also help maintain gender consideration after the project is completed and the sustainability in the activities. Furthermore, the experience and skill obtained from the project will be set up as training and advice to be used in future gender policies. Gender issues will become mainstream by promoting it throughout the country.

Chapter 4 Conclusion

The most important role and difficulty in gender consideration is to create a balanced relationship with other parties, perceiving the society from a multiple viewpoint, and agreeing with government policies. With the development of society and economics and the changes in society due to disasters and conflicts, the concept of gender will also change at the same time.

Many times the social status of the advocator and the attention to the minority opinion holders sway the proposals of the gender perspectives or the details in each stage.

This section has described important items, PCM, and perspectives of a participating type development framework under a gender consideration using check list items and would like to have these items rechecked to see whether the gender considerations have been enforced.

Gender consideration is an important factor in the development activities but is it vital that a balanced consideration is enforced based on the original objectives of the operation, its target, and foundation.

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