

Costa Rica: Country WID Profile

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Country WID Profile (Costa Rica)

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Abbreviation
(Costa Rica)

BCG	Bacille de Calmette-Guerin
BID	Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo
DPT	Diftheria, Pertussis, and Tetanus
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization, UN
F/P	Family Planning
FNUAP	Fondo de Población de las Naciones Unidas
CEDAW	Convention for the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against Women
CEN	Education and Nutrition Center
CINAI	Child Care Center
CMF	Center for Advancement of Women and Family
CABEI	Central American Bank for Economic Integration
DGEC	Dirección General de Estadística y Censos
GAD	Gender and Development
GTZ	Agencia Alemana de Cooperación Internacional
GDP	Gross (Value of) Domestic Product
IDA	Institute for Agrarian Development
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank
ILO	International Labour Organization
INA	National Institute for Training
INAMU	National Institute for Women (Instituto Nacional de las Mujeres)
IMF	International Monetary Fund
HIV/AIDS	Human Immunodeficiency Virus /Acquired Immuno-Deficiency Syndrome
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
MS	Ministerio de Salud
MIDEPLAN	Ministerio de Planificación Nacional y Política Económica
PIOMH	National Plan for Gender Equity among Men and Women
STD	Sexually Transmitted Diseases
SIDA	Swedish International Development Authority
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WID	Women in Development
WHO	World Health Organization

1. Basic Profile

1-1 Socio-Economic Profile

Socio-Economic Profile						Ref.
Economic Indicators	GNP/Capita	Growth rate of real GDP		Inflation Rate*	Gini coefficient*	
	US\$2,610	3.2%('97)		11.2%	0.461	1)
Public Sector('91-'95)	Health	Education	Social Welfare	Defense	Others	
Expenditure to sectors	26.7%	21.0%	14.4%	NA	38.0%	1)
Population(mid-1996)	Total	% of urban population		Population growth rate('90-'95)		
	Total	3.2million		50.0%		2.3%
	Women	1.59million		NA		
Industry/GDP	Agriculture	Industry(Manufacture/Industry)		Service		
	17%	24%		58%		1)
Proportion of workers('90)	Agriculture	Industry	Service	Aid/GNP		
	Total	26%	27%	47%	0.9%	1)
	Women	NA	NA	NA		1)
Labour Indicators	Total No.	Unemployment R.	Minimum wage	Women/Total*(1994)		
	Total	1million	4.9%	0.94US\$(1hr)	288US\$(average monthly salary)	2)3)
	Women	21%	7.5%	NA	271US\$(average monthly salary)	2)
Decision-making	Women/Total			Women/Total(1991)		
	Member of parliament	15.8%		Managers	21.1%	2)
	Ministries(1995)	15.0%		Technicians	44.9%	2)
	Deputy ministries('95)	24.0%				2)
Law for women		Year	Details			
	Regulation on Unmarried Couple	1995	NA			3)
	Sexual Harassment on Labour Education	1995	NA			3)
	Violence against Women	1996	NA			3)
	Law on Teen Ager Mother	1997	NA			3)
Ratification and signature of international law for women			Ratification	Year		
	CEDAW		Yes	1984		3)
Policy of WID						
	World Action Plan(1994)		NA			3)
	National Plan for Equal Gender		law amendment, equal gender in household, elimination of discrimination on education			3)
	Prevention Plan on Violence against Women		elimination of socio-cultural factors, prevention of early prevention			3)
Governmental organization of WID						
	National Machinery	INAMU				3)
		Independent government organization				3)

References

- 1) World Bank, World Development Report 1997, 1997
- 2) UNDP, Human Development Report 1997, 1997
- 3) Stein, Study Profile on Women in Development-Costa Rica, 1998

*Refer to 7. Definitions (P.20)

1-2 Health Profile

Health Profile					Ref.
Life expectancy(1996)	Total 76.2 Male 73.2 Female 78		Population growth rate	2.3%('90-'95)	3)
Expansion of health service	883 persons/ Doctor		1,800 persons/ Nurse and Midwife		3)
Government expenditure to health (% of GDP '91-'95)		26.7%			1)
Infant mortality rate(per1,000) *			% of the vaccinated	1-year-old children	
Total	13 (1996)		BCG('90-'95)	91%	4)
Female	NA		DPT('90-'95)	84%	4)
Under-5 mortality rate(per1,000) *			Polio('90-'95)	84%	4)
Total	15 (1996)		Measles('90-'95)	86%	4)
Family planning	Contraceptive rate('90-'97)	75%	Total fertility rate(1993) *	3.2	3)
Births attendance rate *	98%		Age at first marriage	NA	3)
Maternal anemia rate *	28.5%		% of infants with low birth weight	7%('90-'94)	2)
Maternal mortality rate	55 persons per 0.1million				2)
Nutrition			Oral rehydration therapy use rate*	31%	4)
Iodine deficiency	households consuming iodized salt NA		Malnutrition	2%(under 5, 89-95)	2)4)
Community health service('90-'96)					
Access to safe water	urban100 % rural 92 %		Access to adequate sanitation	urban95 %rural70%	4)
HIV / AIDS	HIV infected		AIDS cases		
Statistics(1997)	NA		202 persons		3)

1-3 Education Profile

Education Profile					Ref.
Education system	Compulsory education(9year)、 Primary education(6 year)				5)
Public expenditure on education			19.9%		5)
% of GNP(1995)	5.8%				5)
Adult literacy rate(1995)	Total 92.2%				3)
by region	NA				
Primary education('93-'97)	Net enrollment ratio		% of dropout(day)	(night)	
Male	86%		4.8%	28.3%	3)4)
Female	87%		4.2%	19.1%	3)4)
Secondary education('93)	Net enrollment ratio *		% of dropout(day)	(night)	
Male	47%		12.5%	38.1%	3)4)
Female	51%		9.9%	28.0%	3)4)
Higher education('93)	Enrollment ratio				
Total	NA				5)
Female	NA				5)

References

- 1)UNDP, Human Development Report1997,1997
- 2)World Bank, World Development Report1997,1997
- 3)Guzman, L. , Study Profile on Women in Development -Costa Rica,1998
- 4)UNICEF, The State of the World's Children,1998
- 5)UNESCO, World Education Report1998, UNICEF Publishing

*Refer to 7. Definitions (p.20)

2. General Situation of Women and Government Policy WID/Gender

2-1 General Situation of Women

General Situation of Women

- Costa Rica is, politically speaking, a stable democratic country in central America. The law amendment and public policy on the gender equality have been implemented.

- According to the universalization of the education, the gender gap in enrollment ratio and dropout ratio has been decreasing. In recent years, the female enrollment ratio in primary and secondary education is higher than that of male.

- In reality, the discriminative customary labour law still remains due to the gender stereotyping. Since statistics on women in each sector was not shown in concrete way, the opportunity of credit and technical training are limited.

- In health sector, the maternity mortality rate is 55 persons per 0.1 million, regarded as high in terms of income level. The reasons are the teen age pregnancy, dieting during pregnancy. The problems such as increase of divorce rate, decrease of marriage, separate, female cohabitation have been pointed out. The children who are given birth without marriage are increasing.

Costa Rica is, politically, a stable democratic country in central America, and achieved a higher economic growth than other central American countries. GNP per capita is 2,610 US\$ ('95). Real GDP growth rate is 3.2%. Costa Rica achieved a stable growth. Owing to the social sector investment, the educational standard is high (Kokusai Kyouryoku Suishin Kyokai, 1996).

Population is 3.2 million. Population density is lower than other central American countries. Unlike other central American countries, owing to the large share of medium scale agricultural owners, independent farmers, the large agricultural ownership has not been developed. The income disparity is not so evident. However, the gini co-efficient is 0.461. There exists disparity between the low income and high income brackets. 70 % of population is concentrated on the central region (Guzmán, 1998).

Since 1975, Costa Rica conducted various policies, the law amendment and drafting law, which contributed to improvement of women's status in order to ensure women's rights and gender equality. National Plan for Gender Equity among men and women (PIOMH) was launched as a policy which makes clear for issues and programs regarding the law, education, health, culture, communication labour, environment and decision making.

However, in reality, the access to the production resources for women is not guaranteed and the opportunity of credit and technical transfer is limited. It is pointed out that the women's contribution in rural area and informal sector are not measured as indicators (Guzmán, 1998). In the vocational and technical education, the training courses are traditional job or labour of low wage. Teenagers and young women do not match the needs and concerns (Guzmán, 1998).

Female enrollment ratio in primary and lower secondary is higher than that of male. The female access to education is ensured. However, gender stereotyping still remains in the curriculum. The elimination of gender discrimination is needed, especially in technical subjects. As a gender equality policy in the education field, gender sensitive training in the teacher education and teacher training is promoted. For the equity of educational opportunity for both genders in the classroom, family and community, the comprehensive basic education was introduced (Guzmán, 1998).

Health services are most prevailing in Central American countries. The problem of female obesity due to eating too much has been closed up. The rate of obesity in rural areas is 28.2%, in urban areas 38.5%. Women consume fewer proteins than men and high intakes of sugars and fats, contributing to nutritional health problems such as heart disease, diabetes, high pressure, anemia (National Survey on Nutrition, 1997, Guzmán, 1998). 25% of female death reason are breast cancer and cervix cancer. It is necessary to increase the access to medication, focusing on reproductive health and prevent female diseases. As a result of teenager's pregnancy, the maternity mortality rate due to diet is high, and it is

also the reason of low infant birth rate. Female STD following the infection of HIV/ AIDS is increasing (Guzmán,1998).

The family structure has been changing in two decades. Most of families are matrilineal nuclear family. The matrilineal extended families are dominant in the rural area and urban poor strata. In 1992, one fifth of all households in this country were female headed households. The increase of divorce, decrease of marriage, the separate and the female cohabitation have been pointed out. The number of children who are given birth without marriage are increasing (Guzmán,1998).

2-2 Government Policy on WID/Gender

Government Policy on WID/Gender

- The Costa Rican constitution guarantees the principle of equality. According to article 7, international treaties have a similar to the constitution.
- Costa Rica ratified the Convention for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) in 1984 which aimed to reform the laws and regulations to eliminate female discrimination and ensure the gender equity.
- National Plan for Gender Equity among men and women (PIOMH) are launched as a policy which makes clear for issues and programs regarding the eight areas, such as the law, education, health, culture, communications, labour, environment and decision making.
- Decision making participation is promoted in the community, social organization, political party and public organization.
- For the strengthening of the function of coordination of Women's Unit each ministry and autonomous institutions, the gender training for the staff, distribution of brochure and promotion of institution building for the access to the decision making have been done.

【Laws on WID/Gender】

Since 1975, Costa Rican Government fostered several initiatives to implement the principle of equality and commitments with women's human rights. The Costa Rican constitution guarantees the principle of equality. According to article 7, international treaties have a similar status to the constitution. General laws are family law, labour law, administrative law, commercial law, criminal law, child and adolescence codes, which refer to the women's rights (Guzmán, 1998).

Costa Rica ratified the Convention for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) in 1984. In 1993, the World Conference on Human Rights, convened in Vienna, brought a large impact on the Costa Rican societies. The violence against women was foased. Costa Rica ratified the Inter-American Convention to prevent sanction and eradicate violence against women in 1995, and ratified several ILO Conventions protecting working women's rights. In recent years, the gender related laws which has been passed through the parliament are shown below.

Gender Related Law

Name	Year
Law for the Advancement of Social Equality for Women	1990
Law Regulating Cohabitation among Non-married Couples	1995
Law Against Sexual Harassment at Work and Education	1995
Law Against Domestic Violence	1996
Law on Commercial Advertising Using Women's Image	1975
Law for the Protection of Breastfeeding	NA
General Law for the Protection of Teen-Age Mothers	1997

Resource: Guzmán, 1998

However, it is pointed out that up until the 90s, the law reforms and policy implementation are partially conducted (Guzmán, 1998). The reasons of women's problems inside the country, are traditional discriminative way of thinking or the culture and customs of stereotyping of birth and taking care of children (Guzmán, 1998).

【Gender Equality/WID Policy】

National Plan for Gender Equity among Men and Women (PIOMH) are launched as a policy which promotes gender equality regarding the eight areas, such as the law, education, health, culture, communication, labour, environment, decision making. The contents of PIOMH are presented below.

- legal reforms, the elimination of discriminative norms, implementation of new laws, staff training on the law system, implementation of legal literacy.
- family strengthening as a social organization to ensure the equal opportunity, promotion of female participation in public areas, strengthening of male responsibility in household activities.
- elimination of gender discrimination in education
- development of approaches to change the stereotyping of the gender role which are bought by culture and mass media
- promotion of gender sensitive health service, prevention of cervix cancer and womb cancer programme, promotion of reproductive health.
- environment protection in gender equality, active participation in development model by both gender
- promotion of participation in decision making at all levels.

Since 1994, gender equity and WID policies related programs are implementing as below

Gender equity and WID Policies related Programs

National Plan	Contents
National Plan for Gender Equity among Men and Women(PIOMH)	government policy which promotes gender equality regarding the eight areas, such as the law, education, health, culture, communication, labour, environment, decision making.
National Plan on Intervention and Prevention of Domestic Violence(PLANOVI)	implementation of government organization, non-government organization, elimination of socio-cultural factors which stimulate violence against women, the prevention and early detecting of domestic violence.
National Plan for Elimination of Poverty	labour market, educational structural problems, reviewing the gender traditional role, the access to the production resources
Coordination of Women's Offices in Ministries and Autonomous Institutions	for the substantialization of coordination of Women's Unit in the each ministry and autonomous institution, the gender training for the staff and making and distributing brieflet, the promotion of institution building for the access to the decision making.
Program for Advancement of Women's Active Citizenship(PROCAM)	promotion of participation in community, social organization, political party and public organizations.
Program for Adolescent Women	prevention of teenagers' pregnancy and nurturing the fatherhood with responsibility, policy formulation and implementation for the health · education · vocational training of adolescence women in collaboration with public organization and non-public organization.

Resource: Guzmán, 1998

2- 3 National Machinery

National Institute for Women(INAMU)

- National Machinery is National Institute of Women(INAMU), which was established as an autonomous organization by the law 7801 in 1997. It was under the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports.
- Budget is approximately 1.5 million dollars and the number of staff is about one hundred people.
- INAMU participates in the high decision making organizations like Executive Council which consists of president, vice president, ministry of the state and head of government organization

(Guzmán,1998).

- The subjects which National Machinery has to tackle are, coordination with social welfare organization for the gender equity, the protection of female rights, female social · political · cultural · economical participation in economic activities by women

【Background】

Government established Office on Women's Programs under Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports for the purpose of improvement of female status. This Office on Women's Programs was set in the Autonomous Institution to monitor the gender policy, and to take responsibility of institutional plans and programs. The office changed its name to Center for Advancement of Women and Family (CMF), as an organization for the promotion of policy of gender equity and coordination. It also changed its name to National Institute for Women (INAMU) and participates in high decision making organizations like Executive Council which consists of president, vice president, ministry of state and head of government organizations (Guzmán,1998).

【Budget and Staff】

National Institute of Women (INAMU) is an autonomous organization established by the law 7801 in 1997. Budget is approximately 1.5 million dollars and the number of staff is about one hundred people. Activities are shown below.

- promotion of gender equality and equal opportunity
- improvement of female labour situation
- prevention of domestic violence
- countermeasures on female poverty
- countermeasures on teenager's issues (such as young pregnancy)

【Main Activities】

The main issues are pointed as below in accordance with the expansion of activities described below. (INAMU,1998).

- coordination with social welfare organization for the gender equity
- protection of female rights
- social · political · cultural · economical participation in economic activities by women

3.Current Situation of Women by Sector

3-1 Education

Education

- Net enrollment ratio in primary education is male 86%, female 87%, considered higher than other Latin American countries ('93-'97).
- Total literacy education is 92.2%, showing the highest standard in Central American countries. (1995).
- For primary and secondary education, the night schools are also established.
- Gender stereotyping in the curriculum and textbooks still remains.
- Government provides the access to community homes and part-time childcare services with children as well as those who care for brothers and sisters,
- In order that the child and youth in the age as schooler could go to school, the children labour prohibition law under the fifteen years of age, was put in force in 1998.

【General Situation】

As a result of the active expansion of education, education expansion has been widely promoted

amongst Central American countries . The educational expenditure of public expenditure in 1995 is 19.9%, which is 4.5% of GNP investment for education. Compulsory education is 9 years, and the primary education is 6 years. Since 1949, the compulsory education are provided free. Ministry of education implements the policy formulation for educational system and monitoring. Based on the Basic Education Law, there are preschooling, primary education, secondary education and higher education(Superior) in public school. In the secondary school, there are Diversified Vocational Education and Technical- Vocational Education (Guzmán,1998).

【Gender Equality】

Female enrollment ratio in the primary and secondary education is higher than that of male. Female access to education is ensured. However, the gender stereotypes of the technical curriculum and textbook still remains. Especially, the technical subjects need to eradicate the discrimination (Guzmán,1998).

As gender equity policies for the education sector, the teacher education and teacher training which consider gender issues are promoted. It tries to eliminate the gender discrimination in the system, concepts and customs. In addition, a series of textbooks(math, science, Spanish, foreign languages, social studies) try to avoid gender stereotyping image. To promote the equity of education opportunity in classroom, family and community, the manual of general basic education were introduced (Guzmán,1998).

Gender equity policies for the education sector are shown below (Guzmán,1998).

- increase retention periods of formal education among girls, teen-agers and adult women by putting forth incentives and support programs
- providing the access to community homes and part time childcare services with children as well as those who care for brothers and sisters,
- elimination of sexism from contents, texts and curricula
- strengthening gender sensitive in training of teachers
- education of parents and students to match their life cycle in order to get academic and professional work.

【Adult Education • Literacy Education】

Government puts emphasis on literacy education and total literacy rate is 92.2%(Guzmán,1998). Government promotes the literacy education that if students complete the private and public education in one course, they can get a certificate. There is a night school for people above 15 of age at national level. (Guzmán,1998).

【Pre-school】

The strengthening of pre-school education is promoted. For the purpose of ensuring the women's status for economic activities and social status, pre-school education are expanded. The fundamental education law was reformed in 1997 to make pre-schooling compulsory for all Costarican children (Guzmán,1998).

【Primary • Secondary Education】

Educational expansion has decreased gender gap in enrollment ratio and dropout ratio. Presently, the female enrollment ratio is higher than that of male. Net enrollment in primary education is 86% male, 87% female, and that of secondary education is 47% male, 51% female. The male rate of dropout is higher than that of female. Male in dropout rate of day school at the primary education is male 4.8%, female 4.2%. That of night school is male 28.3%, female 19.1%. In order to increase enrollment in school age of the youth, the prohibition of child and youth labour under 15 year old was enforced in 1998(Guzmán,1998).

Dropout Rate by Gender
in Primary and Secondary School(1996)

	Female	Boy
<Primary> day	4.2%	4.8%
night	19.1%	28.3%

<Secondary>		
day	9.9%	12.5%
night	28.0%	38.1%

Source:Ministerio de Educación Pública(1996),
Guzmán,1998

【Higher Technical and University Education】

The female students of technical education shares 25% in the latter half of 1980s, and now shares 50%. Most of the women major in the technical vocational field such as service, industrial field(fiber, accounting, secretary) and these are regarded as female trade. INA has provided non-formal education related with vocational education since 1965. There is a gender difference between men and women. Women tend to participate in the short-time programme and community workshop, focusing on the service sector(Guzmán,1998). Along with the educational expansion from the 1970s, Technological Institute of Costa Rica(ITCR), National University, State Distance University were established. Enrollment of university in 1994 was 41.6%. There are no specific information on female enrollment rate of it(Guzmán,1998).

【Impact by Structural Adjustment】

Since the 1950s, the building of education system was regarded as the prerequisite critical items. Under the structural adjustment policy, education budget of national budget increased from 8.3 % in 1987 to 11.7% in 1997. To maintain the policy on education, more than 6% of GNP ought to be ensured in accordance with revised constitution. So, the impact of the structural adjustment has been minimized (Guzmán, 1998).

3-2 Health

Health

-As a result of teen ager's pregnancy, the maternity mortality rate is increasing. It becomes the reason of the low infant rate.
-Female STD is increasing with the expansion of HIV/AIDS.
-The family prevalence rate is 75%('90-'97). Compared with income standard, prevalence rate is high. The total fertility rate is 3.2. The population increase rate is 2.3%.

【Health】

Total average expectancy rate is 76.2, male 73.2, female 78.0. The situation of health prevalence is 883 persons/one doctor, persons/one nurse and midwife(UNICEF,1998). The safe water prevalence rate is urban 100%, rural 92%. The sanitation facility is urban 95%, rural 70%(UNDP,1997).

【Gender Equality Policy】

There are laws and regulations related to the female health protection under below.

- Law for Advancement of Women's Social Equality
- General Health Law
- Inter-American Convention to Prevent, Sanction and Eradicate Violence against Women
- Domestic Violence Law
- Law on Breast-Feeding
- Law Against Sexual Harassment at Work and Education
- Code on Child and Adolescence and General Law for the Protection of the Teen-Age Mother

【Nutrition/MCH】

The health services are most prevailing in Central American countries. The problem of female obesity due to overeating has been closed up. The rate of obesity in rural area is 28.2%, in rural area 38.5%. Women refrain from taking the protein, and take sugar and oil a lot which induce the various disease such as heart disease, diabetes, high pressure, anemia (National Survey on Nutrition, 1997, Guzmán,1998). The rate of anemia of pregnant women is 28.5% in 1996. The low infant mortality rate under 5 year old is 6.6% in 1992, and increase up to 7.3% in 1996. The major reason is the increase of the number of maternity mortality rate due to teen ager's pregnancy (Guzmán,1998). The rate of delivery with help is 98%('90-'97). The rate of the maternity mortality rate is 55 persons per 100,000 in compare to the income standard. Immunization prevalence rate of one year child('90-'95) is BCG 91%, DPT 84%,

polio 84%, measles 86% (UNICEF,1998).

【Family Planning/Reproductive Health】

The right to information and service of the reproductive health is ensured according to the General Health Law and CEDAW(Guzmán,1998). The preliminary service and the secondary service are conducted through EBAIS(Health Basic Teams) at the administrative level. Prenatal and post natal medical check-up(include dental health, breast cancer, gynaecologics), are provided free with family planning and adolescence health service(Guzmán,1998).

The family planning has been prevailing since the 1970s. Compared to the income standard, the prevalence rate is high(Guzmán,1998). Family planning rate is 75%('90-'97). Although the rate itself is high, the total fertility rate is 3.2 persons. The rate of population increase is 2.3%. The reproductive health report in 1993 told that 70% of female needs some contraception. 19% operation, 28% oral pill, or IUD or injection, 13% of conventional contraceptive method such as condom(Guzmán,1998).

【HIV/AIDS/STD】

Female STD infection is increasing with the expansion of HIV/AIDS. The STD of the younger generation is increasing among the young women and housewife who have the hetero sexual relation. 0.012 million HIV infectious has been reported up until now. 20.4% of them are female. In prenatal care the STD checkup are implemented through the EBAIS (Health Basic Teams) (Guzmán,1998).

3-3 Agriculture, Fisheries and Forest

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forest

-The female agriculture labour is reported as less than actual contribution due to the recognition of the extension of household labour.
-The female role are traditionally stereotyping. Female are not regarded as the agriculture producer in the technology transfer.
-In the training and agriculture workshop, the needs and interests of women are not considered and factors affecting women's participation are not examined, due, to the strict condition of the agricultural credit for women are limited.

【General Situation】

The female agriculture labour is reported as less than actual contribution because female agricultural labour is regarded as an extension of household labour. In accordance with the official statistics, the rural male agriculture worker are 27.12%, whereas female agriculture workers, only 2.63% (DGE,1997, Guzmán,1998). They are engaged in planting, harvesting, processing as temporal and seasonal labour for agricultural products for export. The agriculture major products such as corn, beans, rice, depend on female labour. Women play an important role in the local community and cooperatives (Guzmán,1998).

Government of Costa Rica is implementing the Gender Equity Plan which aims to improve the access to production resources by women. The social service on credit and technical assistance are not provided for women as the major target population (Guzmán,1998).

【Agricultural Budget】

Agricultural budget in 1997 is 2.5 billion 5.02 million US\$. There is no WID expenditure in the agricultural budget (Guzmán,1998).

【Agriculture】

IDA(Institute for Agrarian Development) and Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock are implementing about 80% of agricultural extension through the agricultural lessons and visits. Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock is implementing the agricultural studies. Since the Gender Equity Plan for the agricultural sector are implementing, technical assistance for women are beginning to be conducted (Guzmán,1998). NGOs are conducting institutional building, and technical support, but are not working on technical

assistance. Agricultural studies at the local level, and the number female workers for agricultural extension is limited. 12% of the technical experts are female(Guzmán,1998).

The Ministry of Education is in charge of the vocational education through the Agriculture High Schools and National Institute for Training (INA). 70% of women who finished Agricultural High School are not engaged in the agriculture because of low wages in the agricultural sector. They are employed in the service sector (Guzmán,1998).

As National Plan Against Poverty, the programs for women heads of household are implemented by the National Vocational Training Center, INAMU and IMAS(Guzmán,1998).

【Land Use】

Agricultural Land Development Institute have right to have land allocation and land registering, and allocate the land for the purpose of social economics. However, the allocation of land for women is limited. It is said that after the approval of the Law for Advancement of Social Equality for Women, the rate of the female land allocation increased(Chiriboga, Grynspan & Perez,1995, Guzmán,1998). Owing to the enforcement of the law, wife and husband registered the land at Agricultural Land Development Institute.

3-4 Economic Activities

Economic Activities

- Due to the gender stereotyping and male dominant thinking, in reality, discriminative customs remain in the labour related laws.
- Female work is considered as secondary or tentative. The female labour conditions are not good due to low wages and lack of training. Female unemployment rate is higher than for male. Unemployment of rural women is especially high.
- Credit programs are being implemented for the small scale enterprises by public and NGOs and are quite limited. Women are not regarded as the entrepreneur to meet the severe market competition.

【Labour related Law】

The constitution guarantees gender rights in labour market and also ensures implementation of the law against the sexual harassment and the access to the pension system. Female work is considered as secondary or temporary. Women’s labour conditions are not good, for example, low wage and shortage of training. The female unemployment rate is higher than that of male. Especially, that of rural women are higher (Guzmán,1998).

【Employment Situation】

According to the National Household Survey, as of July in 1996, 69.9% of labour force is male. 30.1% female. In 1992, the active economic population was 29.2%, and increased up to 30.1% in 1996. Female unemployment rate(8.3%) is higher than that of male(4.8%). Furthermore, in rural areas, female unemployment rate(4.8%) is higher than that of male(9.2%) (Guzmán,1998).

Costa Rica. Unemployment Rates
in the Labour Force By Zone (1996)

	Female	Male
Total Unemployment	8.3%	5.3%
Urban Zone	7.6%	6.0%
Rural Zone	9.2%	4.8%

Resource: Dirección of General de
Estadística y Censos,1997
Guzmán,1998

【Vocational Education】

Higher technical education and INA are conducting the vocational education in the framework of non-formal education. Women tend to choose the textiles, services, secretary, accountancy and management. In these vocational training facilities, the equipment is obsolete, and the needs do not match the labour needs. Few students take courses in the non traditional sector. Since policy of gender equity was introduced, vocational counseling and curriculum for women and incentives for the implementation were undertaken.

【Micro Financing · Business Administration】

The credit programs are being implemented for the small scale enterprises by public and NGOs and are quite limited. Bank of Costa Rica and Popular and Community Development Bank have conducting the specific program of small scale entrepreneurship. CREDIMUJER, CEFEMINA, FUNDES such as NGO is implementing the financial program. A large number of women are expecting the credit of the Savings and Credit Cooperatives, however the actual number are not grasped(Guzmán,1998). Enterprise development at all administrative levels are lagged behind to take countermeasures. Women are not regarded as the entrepreneur to meet the severe market competition(Guzmán,1998).

【Support for Working Mother】

Ministry of Labour has been implementing childcare Program centers for low income working mothers since 1952. In 1980, the program was expanded to target the six month to 9 years old children at national level(Guzmán,1998). During the coffee and sugar cane harvest seasons, the temporary childcare facilities were offered was provided. At present, there are 1,095 daycare facilities, 51% out of them are public daycare. (Guzmán,1998). According to General Child Care and Home-School Law No.7380 in 1994, ministry of labour monitors private daycare centers. In accordance with Law for Advancement of Women's Social Equality, more daycare facilities are foreseen(Guzmán,1998).

As the support program for women, students and women who have the economic issues, the ministry of health established Child Care Centers(CINAI) for 2-6 year old child in 1975. The Education and Nutrition Centers(CEN) provides the food service for these children and pregnant or lactating women. The vocational training and technical assistance, infants' and schoolers' daycare programs are offered, especially, for the female headed household and the disabled (Guzmán,1998).

4. WID/Gender Projects by Other Donors

Title	Implementing Agency	Donor	Duration	Content
<General>				
Women and Poverty	IMAS Note: until 1992 the aid 207.5 millions of DM	German Federal Republic RFW y GTZ	Bi-annual	Poverty among women and women's productivity
Betterment of Women's Status	Centro Mujer y Familia ¹	AECI España	1995	
Democratizing Women Development	Ministry of Treasury	FINNIDA Finland	1990	
Support to Research	Centro Mujer y Familia	UNPF	18 months	Research on masculinities
Information	Centro Mujer y Familia	ACDI/Canada	6 months	Support IV Women's Conference Beijing
Publications	Centro Mujer y Familia	UNDP	3 months	Political rights
Research	Centro Mujer y Familia	UNICEF	1 year	Adolescent program
Campaigns Publications	Centro Mujer y Familia	AECI	1 year	Violence against women
Social Indicators	Centro Mujer y Familia	UNIFEM	6 months	Research on social indicators training workshops
Support Government Women's Offices	CMF	Mexico	1 year	Support of women's Bureau Mexico and Central America
Political Rights	Centro Mujer y Familia	Fundación Ebert	4 months	Empowerment, political rights
Child Care Women & Housing	Agreement MIDEPLAN Canada Gov.	ACDI Canada	1989-1994	Support for community homes. housing information system.
<Education>				
Education	M.E.P	Holland		Education, work, productivity on radio programs for women, children, ecology
	ICER	Holland		
Training	Centro Mujer y Familia	European Community	1 year	Training of organized women's groups in Osa and Golfo Regions
Training	Centro Mujer y Familia	European Community	1 year	Adolescent training (Empowerment) Series: Gender & adolescence
Training and campaigns	Centro Mujer y Familia	Sweden	4 years	Rights & policies for women
Training	Centro Mujer y Familia	OPS/WHO	2 years	Violence against women
Women in Agrarian Sector	Centro Mujer y Familia	World Bank	2 years	Public personnel training on WID (rural development)
Training	Centro Mujer y Familia	Holland	2 years	Violence and public policies; documentation preparation

¹ El Centro Mujer y Familia es desde mayo de 1998 el Instituto Nacional de las mujeres.

5. WID/Gender Information Sources

5-1 List of International Organizations and NGOs related to WID/Gender

【International Agency】

Name	Main Activities	Contact Address
Ministerio de Justicia (Ministry of Justice)	Departamento de Propaganda	P. O. Box 10065-1000 Telephone: 221-44-06 Fax: 257-21-94
Instituto de las Mujeres (National Institute on Women)	Delegación de la Mujer, complaints and special services for battered women and gender violence problems	P. O. Box 10065-1000 Telephone: 222-75-33 Fax: 233-52-13
Ministerio de Planificación y Política Económica (Ministry of Planning and Economic Policy)	Oficina Ministerial de la Mujer (development of gender sensitive programs, monitoring or implementation of gender equity policies)	Telephone: 223-23-22 Fax: 223-20-07
Ministerio de Salud Pública (Ministry of Health)	Comisión Nacional Mujer Salud y Desarrollo (development of gender sensitive research and training programs)	P. O. Box: 10123-1000 Telephone: 223-03-33 Fax: 255-21-48
Ministerio de Educación Pública (Ministry of Public Education)	Education, work and production	P. O. Box: 100-87 Telephone: 255-22-42 Fax: 233-22-95
Defensoría de los Habitantes (Ombudsperson Office)	Defensoría de la Mujer (violation women's human rights, research, information, gender sensitive training on women's human right for public staffs)	P. O. Box: 1240-1007 Telephone: 296-36-06 Fax: 296-25-12
Ministerio de Salud (Ministry of Health)	Departamento Salud de la Mujer y la Familia (Dept. of Women and Family Health) primary programs for women, children and adolescent population	P. O. Box: 10123 Telephone: 223-03-33 Fax: 233-37-72
Ministerio de Cultura Juventud y Deportes (Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports)	Oficina Ministerial del Ministerio de Cultura Juventud y Deportes (development of gender sensitive programs, monitoring or implementation of gender equity public policies)	P. O. Box: 10227 Telephone: 255-33-76 Fax: 233-70-66
Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería (Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock)	Oficina Ministerial del Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería (development of gender sensitive programs, monitoring or implementation of gender equity public policies)	P. O. Box: 1298-100 Telephone: 231-23-44 Fax: 232-50-54
Ministerio de Educación Pública (Ministry of Education)	Oficina Ministerial del Ministerio de Educación Pública (development of gender sensitive programs, monitoring or implementation of gender equity policies)	Telephone: 233-90-50 Fax: 255-28-68
Ministerio de Salud (Ministry of Health)	Oficina Ministerial de Salud (development of gender sensitive programs, monitoring of implementation of gender	P. O. Box: 10123 Telephone: 223-03-33 Fax: 255-25-94

Name	Main Activities	Contact Address
	equity public policies)	
Ministerio de Vivienda y Asentamientos Humanos (Ministry of Housing and Human Developments)	Oficina Ministerial (development of gender sensitive programs, monitoring of implementation of gender equity public policies)	P. O. Box: 222-1002 Telephone: 220-38-35 Fax: 220-24-31
Caja Costarricense del Seguro Social (Social Security Administration Office)	Oficina Sectorial Mujer (development of gender sensitive programs, monitoring of implementation gender equity public policies)	P. O. Box: 10105-1000 Telephone: 233-95-69 Fax: 233-95-69
Instituto de Desarrollo Agrario IDA (Instituto for Agrarian Development)	Oficina Sectorial de la Mujer (development gender sensitive programs, monitoring of implementation of gender equity policies)	P. O. Box: 5054-1000 Telephone: 224-60-66 Fax: 253-62-43

【 Research Institute】

Name	Activities	Contact
Universidad de Costa Rica (University of Costa Rica)	Programa Interdisciplinario de Estudios de Género, PRIEG. Established in 1987. Research, educational support and extension programs in Gender Studies and WID. Documentation center.	P. O. Box 2060 UCR Telephone: 207-40-19 Telefax: 234-14-95
Universidad Nacional (National University)	Instituto de Estudios de la Mujer. IEM, Research. educational support and extension programs.	P. O. Box 86-3000 Telephone: 277-34-35 Fax: 260-05-49
Universidad de Costa Rica Universidad Nacional	Maestría en Estudios de la Mujer (Master's Program in Women Studies). research and graduate program.	Telefax: 234-1495 M. A. Ma. Luisa Alvarado Director UNA Telefax: 277-3399
Instituto Tecnológico de Costa Rica (Technological Institute of Costa Rica)	Unidad de Equidad de Género (Gender Equity Unit) research/ technical training programs	Telephone: 552-5333 ext. 2613

【 NGO】

Name	Activities	Contact
Alianza de Mujeres Costarricenses	Legal advise and empowerment training for women. Legal literacy programs for rural and urban women.	P. O. Box. 6851-1000 Telephone: 233-57-69 Fax: 233-01-51
Asociación ANDAR	Empowerment methodology for legal literacy of rural women	P. O. Box. 841-2050 Tel: 283-08-44 Fax: 224-39-03

Asociación Demográfica Costarricense	Reproductive health and research	P.O. Box. 10203-1000 Telephone:231-42-11 Fax: 231-44-30
Asociación para la Asesoría Mujer Cooperativista APROMUJER	Vocational, leadership and entrepreneurial training of women in cooperatives (rural and urban)	P.O. Box 4849-1000 Telephone: 237-31-27 Fax: 260-20-79
Centro de Orientación Familiar COF	WID/Health training Organizational/empowerment training of women	P.O. Box 6808-1000 Telephone:221-47-76 Fax: 258-03-37
Centro Feminista de Información y Acción	Sustainable development, Self-help housing programs for women Domestic Violence, Credit for women's micro-enterprises	P.O. Box 5355-1000 Telephone: 224-61-90 Fax: 224-39-86
CREDIMUJER	Credit for women's micro-enterprises	P.O. Box:3128-1000 Telephone:234-90-70 Fax: 224-60-95
Fundación Arias para la Paz y el Progreso Humano	Legal development WID research, Women's Access to productive resources	P.O. Box: 86410-1000 Telephone: 255-29-55 Fax: 255-22-44
Fundación PROCAL	Shelters for pregnant, sexually abused and battered adolescent women.	P. O. Box 142300 Telephone: 253-08-75 Fax: 272-01-90
Fundación de solidaridad contra el Cáncer de Mama FUNDESO	Information, personnel training and support groups for prevention of breast cancer	P.O. Box 122-1000 Telephone:233-16-92 Fax: 256-46-87
PANIAMOR	Research and non-formal education programs prevention of child abuse	P.O. Box 376-2150 Telephone:255-50-31 Fax: 234-29-56

【Other Organization】

Name	Activities	Contact Address
ILANUD (United Nations Institute of Prevention and Treatment of Criminality/ Latin America)	Regional Program Training against Domestic Violence (Administration of Justice personnel)	P.O.Box. 10071-1000 Telephone: 257-58-26 Fax: 233-71-75
Instituto Interamericano de Derechos Humanos. IIDH (Inter-American Institute on Human Rights) Gender and Human Rights Program	Training, technical assistance, advising, conflict resolution women's human rights	P.O. Box. 10081-1000 Telephone: 234-04-04 Fax: 234-74-02
Instituto Latinoamericano de Promoción y Educación en Salud ILPES (Latin American Institute for the Advancement and Education on Health)	Gender and Human Sexuality Prevention of STD and HIV/AIDS	P.O. Box. 561-1002 Telephone:253-86-62 Fax: 253-76-25
Fondo de Población de las Naciones Unidas FNUAP (United Nations Population Fund)	WID Research and Empowerment training of adolescent population – Health, reproductive/ sexual rights	Telephone: 296-15-44 Fax: 296-15-45

【Consultant】

Name	Thesis	Occupation	Field	Telephone	Degree
María Angelica Fauné	Situation of poor women in Costa Rica	Sociologist	Public policies for gender equity family, poor women WID	267-00-52 Nicaragua	Máster
Flor María Abarca	Education Modules for a life without violence Literacy program for migrant women	Sociologist	Non-formal education strategies, educational modules, empowerment training	260-64-29	Licenciatura
Silvia Lara Povedano	Political Rights Active Citizenship of Women	Sociologist	Women's active citizenship, Political rights, leadership training	235-73-86	Master
Rose Mary Madden	Status of Women in the Americas: Costa Rica.	Lawyer	Legal literacy of women, public personnel, and NGOs	233-97-08	Master
Ana Elena Obando	Assessment, problems and obstacles confronted by women victims of violence	Lawyer	Implementation of Law against Domestic Violence	224-24-00	Master
Eugenia Salazar	Legal advancements to gender equity	Lawyer	Follow-up legal reforms being discussed in Congress Legal Literacy programs	222-35-51	Licenciatura
Ligia Sánchez	Assessment of vocational training for adolescent women in Central America	Education	WID in vocational education research and personnel training, development of support programs	259-3131	Master

5-2 List of Reports and References related to WID/Gender

【Socio/Gender Analysis】

Title	Author	Year	Publisher
Mujeres y familias Centroamericanas: Principales Problemas y Tendencias	Economía Faune, Ma Angelic	1996	Tomos, Costa Rica PNUD
Imágenes de Género, San José	FNUAP, MIDEPLAN y Centro Nac. Mujer y Familia	1995	Costa Rica: MIDEPLAN

【Health】

Title	Author	Year	Publisher
Estadísticas Trimestrales VIH/SIDA	CONASIDA	1997	San José, Costa Rica: CONASIDA/ Ministerio de Salud

【Agriculture】

Title	Author	Year	Publisher
Mujeres Productoras Rurales	Chiriboga, Manuel, Pérez, Laura & Grynspan, Rebeca	1995	San José, Costa Rica: IICA
Organización y Producción Rural: los Grupos Productivos de Mujeres. Tesis de Licenciatura en Promoción y Planificación Social.	Cordoba, Mariá & Padilla, Mayra	1998	Universidad Nacional Heredia, Costa Rica

【Mining and Industry】

Title	Author	Year	Publisher
Encuesta Nacional de Hogares y Propósitos Múltiples,	DGEC	1997	San José, Ministerio de Economía

【Other】

Title	Author	Year	Publisher
Empowering Women Through Female Income Generating Groups :The Case of Costa Rica	Guzmán, Laura	1991	Thesis Doctor(Ph.D) in Social Work Arizona State University, Temple Arizona.
Panorama Social Costa Rica	MIDEPLAN	1995	MIDEPLAN/BID, 1998
Principales Indicadores de Costa Rica			San Jose, Costa Rica: Ministerio de Planificación y Política Económica

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Imágenes de Género, San José, Costa Rica: MIDEPLAN
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Empowering Women Through Female Income Generating Groups :The Case of Costa Rica, Thesis Doctor(Ph.D) in Social Work Arizona State University, Temple Arizona
- Instituto de la Mujer y FLACSO,1993
Mujeres Latinoamericanas en Cifras, Costa Rica Santiago,Chile: de la Mujer
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7. Definition

<Technical Terms>

Gender

Analytical concept to clarify the social role of men and women and interrelation between them. Sex (biological) is basically impossible to change, while gender implying the role of men and women and their interrelationship is likely to change according to social notion and sense of values.

Informal sector

Part of economy consisting of small competitive individual or family firms listed in the labor indicators. According to the definition of ILO, those engaged in this sector have simple technology, insufficient amount of capital, unidentified business location, minimum number of employees (or none of them), lack of legality and registration, and no capability of bookkeeping.

WID (Women in Development)

Concept of development incorporating women's participation into development processes, taking it into account that women are active agents and beneficiaries of development.

Reproductive health/rights

Health/Rights concerning sex and reproduction. To be able to live safe and satisfied sex life, and to have freedom to decide whether, when and how many children to deliver.

National machinery

Administrative organization to promote equal participation between men and women, and to implement and strengthen policies related to women, and to supplement organization for women.

Empowerment

To empower individuals or groups in political, economical and social sense

Affirmative action

Prioritized positive measure to promptly correct the difference, in the case that discriminated groups are placed in extremely unequal conditions to other groups, due to the discrimination accumulated in the past

Access and control

Access is to be able to use resources and services for the economic activity, or to have a right to exercise them. Control is a right to decide how to manage resources and services or to own them.

Reproductive activity

Activity to "reproduce for the next generation" including to give a birth and raise the children, and to sustain the daily life, for instance, washing and cooking

<Indicators>

Inflation rate

Instead, GDP deflator is used.

Gini coefficient

Aggregate numerical measure of income inequality ranging from 0 to 1. 0 means perfect equality, and 1 perfect inequality. Larger than 0.4 are supposed to be high inequality.

Percentage of Women's Income

There are no appropriate data comparable to each country. UNDP works out that the women's income is 75% of men's in non-agricultural sector.

Total fertility rate

Average number of children whom a woman delivers in all her life

Under-one mortality rate

Annual number of infants who die among 1,000 newborn babies within 1 year after the birth

Under-five mortality rate

Annual number of infants who die 1,000 newborn babies within 5 years after the birth among

Maternal mortality rate

Annual number of mothers who die among 100,000 cases of delivery because of pregnancy

Percentage of births attended by trained health personnel

The rate of births with the help of doctors, nurses, midwives, trained health personnel, or trained traditional midwives

Percentage of infants with low birth weight

The rate of newborn children of which the birth weight is less than 2,500 grams

Oral Rehydration Therapy (ORT) use rate

The rate of using oral rehydrate salt or substitute solution for under-five infants having diarrhea

Enrolment ratio of primary and secondary school

Total enrolment ratio (or gross enrolment ratio) is the rate of pupils going to school with no respect to school age against population at the school age. Net enrolment ratio is the rate of pupils going to school at the school age against the people at the school age.