KNOWLEDGE & EXPERIENCE SHARING SYMPOSIUM

Towards Highly Rewarding and Inclusive

Flood-based Livelihoods

Letty Fajardo Vera

Email: lfajardovera@metameta.nl

Community Engagement Program

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VOI WILDLIFE LODGE, TAITA TAVETA COUNTY, KENTA
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- Global picture
- Research Ethiopia and Yemen
- common obstacles for economically empowering women, political, economical and social challenges
- Woman and water activities
- Well-being Method for Social Survey
- Unlocking the opportunities in FBLN
- Successful practices
Global Picture
In Sub-Saharan Africa, According to Food & Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

- Women account for 60% of the labor force
- Women produce 80% of food
- Improving situation of women in the agricultural sector would cause an increase in productivity and in food security indexes, as well as economic growth and social welfare.

Globally, women’s role in agriculture is increasing – in Asia, Africa, Latin America

So, should our efforts not primarily be directed at women farmers?
SPECIAL FOCUS: WE NEED to APPRECIATE..

- What are female farmers’ perspectives on flood water governance and climate change adaptation?
- What are the main constraints on women’s roles in agriculture, flood based water management?
- What resources and practical measures are needed to remove women’s constraints and strengthen their roles in flood water management and agriculture, flood-based livelihood improvement and climate change adaptation?
- How can farmers (especially women) gain secure access to these resources and measures?
- What can we do immediately that has large impact later?
Research
Women & Water In Flood - Based Livelihoods & Spate Irrigation (1) - What Do We Know?

- Not much known or understood
- Research from Tuban, Yemen (Conchita Garcia, Nada Al-Syed Hassan, Carin Vijfhuizen 2007)
- 30% of women own land – mostly through inheritance and often registered still in name of deceased father – not full ownership
- 20% of farmers are women (this was the more liberal South Yemen)
- There are more female agricultural workers than male agricultural workers
- Women do most small livestock
- Women clean canals and do land preparation
- Women not well represented in WUAs – in fact they are disempowered as WUAs dominated by men – more than even land ownership would suggest
Research
Women And Water In Flood-Based Livelihoods And Spate Irrigation (2) – What Do We Know?

- Research from Raya, Ethiopia (Aurora Rigghetti 2018)
- Unmarried women only exceptionally have access to land (11%)
- Married women have, also through their husband 36,7%
- Women engaged in irrigation activities, training 6,7% man 20%
- Woman in charge of maintenance 0% man 53%
- Women involved in agricultural activities 6,7% %
- Contribute to WUAs through: Labor 26,7% Labor and money 13,3% man 73%
- Women in touch with WUAS (47%) take part in activities (27%), though not as much as men (100%)
- Have physical problems in handling the flow (40%)
WOMEN & MEN: CROPS & TASKS

WOMEN - SPECIFIC
- HOME GARDENS
- FRUITS
- LIVESTOCK
- SEEDS
- STORAGE AND PROCESSING

MEN - SPECIFIC
- MAIN CROPS
- IRRIGATION
- LIVESTOCK
- MARKETING

Note that these are areas where much improvement and economic gains are possible.
yet many political obstacles

The Most Disadvantaged Group of Farmers

- Farming, irrigation and water management are almost exclusively a men’s issue.

- Female-headed households, lease out their land to another farmer who will be in charge of farming, paying for water management

- Married woman, most of the activities connected to farming and irrigation are largely responsibility of the husband

- Women are not involved in most physical activities connected to spate irrigation, so it follows that there is no need to take them into account when trainings are organized

- Mechanisms of the WUAs - male-biased
Economic Obstacles
Women Face Numerous Obstacles To Access Productive Inputs, Access To Water, Land And Services Required For Rural Livelihoods

INCLUDING
- Access to capacity building
- Access to fertilizers
- Access to livestock
- Mechanical equipment – also at household levels (churners, presses)
- Improved seed varieties
- Extension services, information, mobile phones
- Credit
- Transport and marketing
SOCIAL OBSTACLES

- Household activities
- Domestic violence, rape
- Migration
- Lack of appropriate knowledge,
- Low self-esteem,
- Cultural norms
- Health
- Perceptions and patterns
- Permission of husband or head of family
Low productivity, low added value, & failed crops

Climate changes

Food scarcity

Insecure access to land & water

External Treat
Well-being method for social survey

How to create a connection between the interviewed person and the person interviewing?

Points of Departure

Both parties are equal
Well-being is the central interest
The social research themes are understood in the context of the lives of the people and not separate from this
DIFFERENT PERCEPTION & THINKING AMONG MEN & WOMEN

- What worries are
- How we manages
- What one hopes for
- Between women interest and goals
- Positions in society and family
- Opportunities and talents
- And the opportunities in improved flood based farming are different
Research have shown that women are willing strongly to participate in water user groups if good arrangements are made. Women assisted men in water conflict management. Women’s role in food utilization for food security, Food Production, and how they spend the income they earn is critical and outweighs the importance. Yet, let jump over these obstacles can we also think of opportunities?
This diagram shows current practices & possible improved practices in flood based farming.

Where do we see opportunities for women to play a leading role in coming to more productive farming?
WHAT ARE the OPPORTUNITIES in the FBLN PROGRAM?

What do you see?
HOW to ACHIEVE ACTIONS

**Identifying Action**
- Capacity building activities
- Gender mainstreaming tools
- Research
- Woman representative in the board
- Recognition of woman position in relation to farming
- Separate womens meetings
- Create incentives for women
- Suitable timing of meeting
- Specific training

**Community Engagement**
- Promote women’s training on farming adaptation techniques such as rainwater harvesting and agroforestry, and on agricultural diversification to increase their resilience.
- Design services to reduce women’s and children’s time spent getting to, and from water and food distribution points.
- Motivating competent women to share experiences, skills and information that would empower and enhance the knowledge and capacity of other women – horizontal learning
- Community awareness
Research
Growing food demand
Focus on crops suitable for woman to cultivate
Rich in nutrient and high value

Education
Training capacity building

Current opportunities

Political Agenda

Better connectivity
Local markets opportunities
WOMEN & MEN WORKING TOGETHER in WUAS TURKMENISTAN
CREATE SPACE for DISCUSSION
FACILITATING WOMEN’S ACTIVE PARTICIPATION: AMAZON REGION ECUADOR
Economical autonomy give woman a better position in the family and community.
LOOK FOR NEW PRACTICAL IMPROVEMENTS - NOT NECESSARILY INNOVATIONS
MEN COLLABORATION VITAL
Thank You !