



Climate & Development
Knowledge Network

Advancing gender equality and climate action: Setting targets and monitoring progress

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About today's presentation and discussion

1. (In brief) The relation of gender equality and climate action: general issues to consider
2. Zooming in on your specific situation analysis and climate-development-gender problem statement (people's needs)
3. Making sense of needs, mapping options planning for action
4. Developing indicators of progress and implementing M&E
5. Free discussion

in ways that are not
'gender-blind' but
actively empowering
women, girls and
disadvantaged groups

This powerpoint presentation will be made available to participants

The content is free to use if you attribute Mairi Dupar/CDKN and cite any underlying sources/references



Why gender issues and climate action go hand in hand

Women are often more affected by climate hazards (but men may be too)

Depending on groups of people's exposure and vulnerability (e.g. work, living) which are shaped by their economic situation, social norms

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Example: exposure to heatwave hazard: greater for women (left, under hot tin roofs) or for men (right, in traffic) according to activities that are economically driven and socially defined

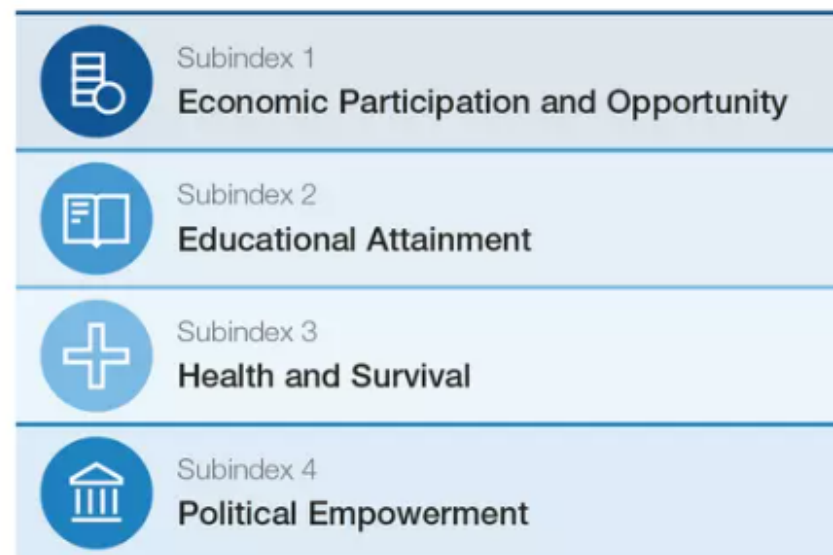
Existing discrimination means that women are less resilient to climate shocks and stresses

Women have less access to the development services and support – such as adequate healthcare, education and modern technology, and critically, decision-making power – that make people more resilient to climate change and other shocks and stressors

In 2024, the WEF measured the 'Global Gender Gap' as 68.5%

(Women's attainment across four areas (right) is 68.5% of men's
www3.weforum.org)

The Global Gender Gap Index Framework



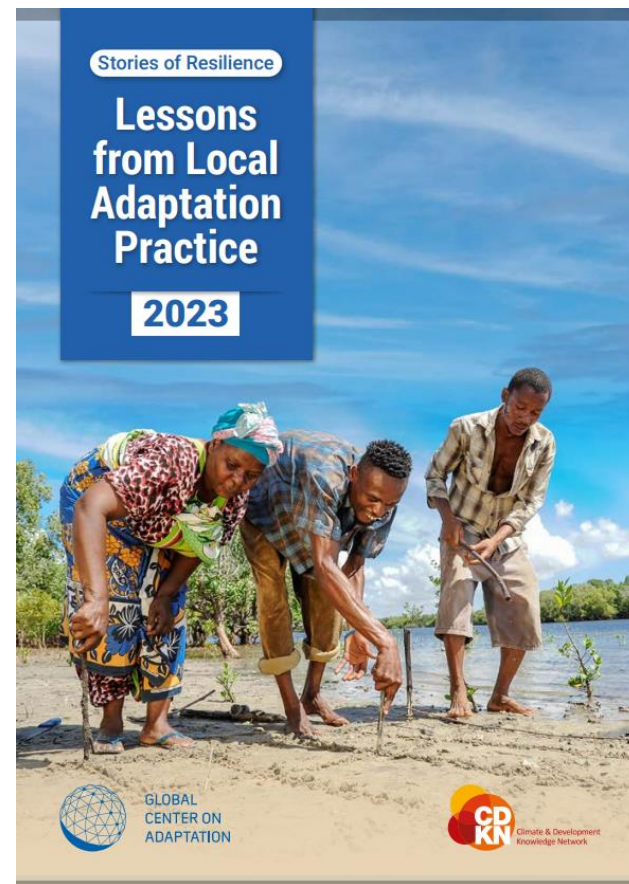
Cascading impacts from climate events can be discriminatory

Society's spontaneous reactions to climate hazards can be discriminatory

When climate shocks and stresses occur, gender inequalities can become more acute ('amplified' by climate)

This may result in exclusion from life-saving goods and services, including food, because of discriminatory social norms

Crises may prompt even more gender-based violence



Why gender and climate action go hand in hand (mitigation)

The 'barriers to entry' for women into 'green' work and livelihood opportunities may be greater than for men, especially for certain groups of women

Some examples:

- Exclusionary social norms and expectations for women and girls in 'green tech' (e.g. Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) training, job opportunities)
- Women and girls may have even less accessibility to low-carbon production systems, information and markets than men (e.g. low-carbon agriculture inputs, training, market intelligence, physical and digital market outlets, etc). (Low carbon consumer choices are more complicated!)



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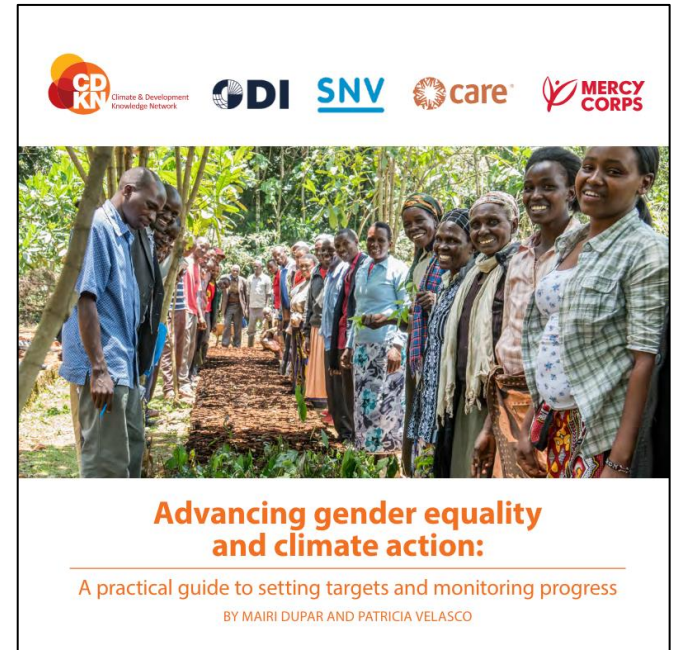
From 'why' to 'how'

Lots of resources are available on 'why' pay attention to gender issues in climate action' (achieving SDG 5 & SDG 13 together)

www.cdkn.org/genderequality
(manual)

www.cdkn.org/gendertraining
(free-to-edit training slides)

Today's focus is on 'how' you do it



Understanding people's needs*

*and capacities to act on climate change

Define the climate and development problem in your specific programme or project context: what do local people need?

EXAMPLE: climate and development issue

Climate change is negatively affecting crop yields, food security and farmers' incomes. There is great potential to adapt farming practices to improve the situation through climate-smart agriculture



Understanding how groups of people have different needs and capacities

EXAMPLE: gender and intersectional angle

Climate-smart techniques are available in agriculture and can be/are being introduced in Nepal, but they are male-biased, even though women farmers dominate the sector due to male out-migration – most farmers are women!

‘Intersectionality’ means other characteristics that people have (as relevant in local context) that affect their vulnerabilities to climate change and access to power and resources, e.g. poverty/income status, disability, ethnicity, caste



Approaches to understanding people's different needs and capacities

- Gather gender-disaggregated data on women and men's different forms of climate vulnerability and/or their ability to access climate solutions; AND include intersectional analysis that is relevant to local context
- Incorporate the data into a gender and social inclusion analysis, involving focus groups and participatory discussions with affected people, to define a common understanding about what the key problems are at the climate-development nexus, for different groups. This will form the foundations for moving forward to identify and select solutions!



Questions to ask about people's needs and capacities: 1

A gender and social inclusion (GESI) analysis to define the climate-development problem and its social dynamics may ask the questions:

Labour:

Who does what? How? Where? When? Why?

Access to productive resources (including natural resources):

Who uses what, how, where? When? Why?

Decision-making and control over productive resources:

Who controls what? How? Where? When? Why?

Knowledge:

Who knows what? How? Where? When? Why?

Benefit sharing:

Who benefits from what? How? Where? When? Why?

Participation:

Who is included in what? How? Where? When? Why?

Adapted from: FAO, 2011.

Questions to ask about people's needs and capacities: 2

To link these scoping questions specifically to climate hazards and climate change trends, you can ask:

- What is the impact of climate hazards/climate change on individuals, households and communities?
- Do women and men have different climate risks, and how do these factors affect their adaptive capacity? If climate actions are implemented, or scaled up, what are the implications for gender relations and the environment?
- Could climate actions introduce new risks? Can these risks be managed? How?
- How can the environmental, social and economic sustainability of climate actions be ensured and, especially, how can the equal and equitable participation and distribution of benefits to women and men (and to disadvantaged groups) be guaranteed?

Approaches to understanding people's different needs and capacities (continued)

- Put together a representative stakeholder committee to oversee data gathering and analysis and discuss, define i. the problem ii. options and solutions iii. results, evaluation and learning. Should not just involve people who commission, supervise the programme but also people who are/will be affected



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Making sense of needs and capacities, mapping options and planning actions

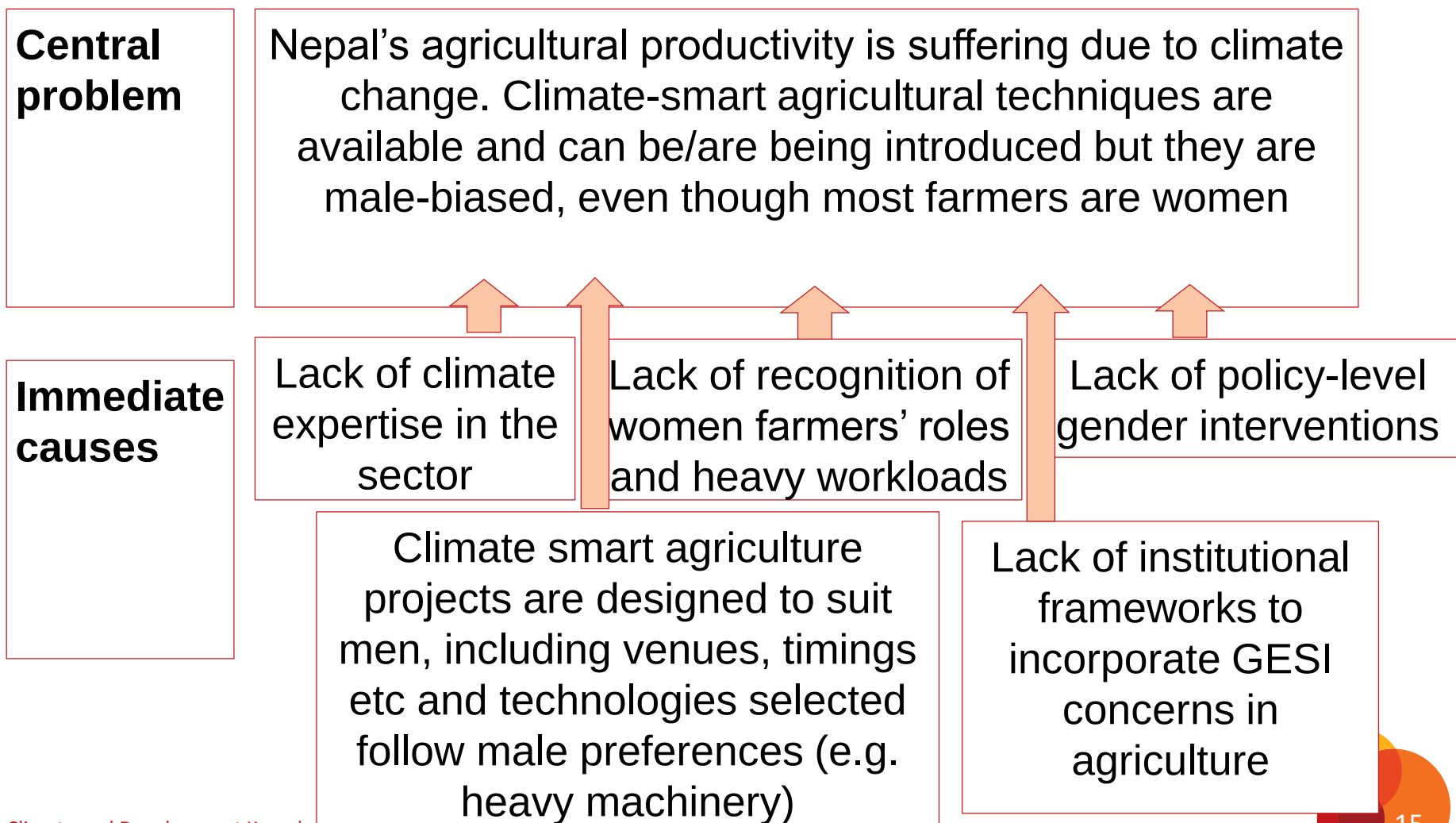
‘Problem tree’ method and worked example in www.cdkn.org/gendertraining

Module 3: Assessing people’s climate risks and resilience

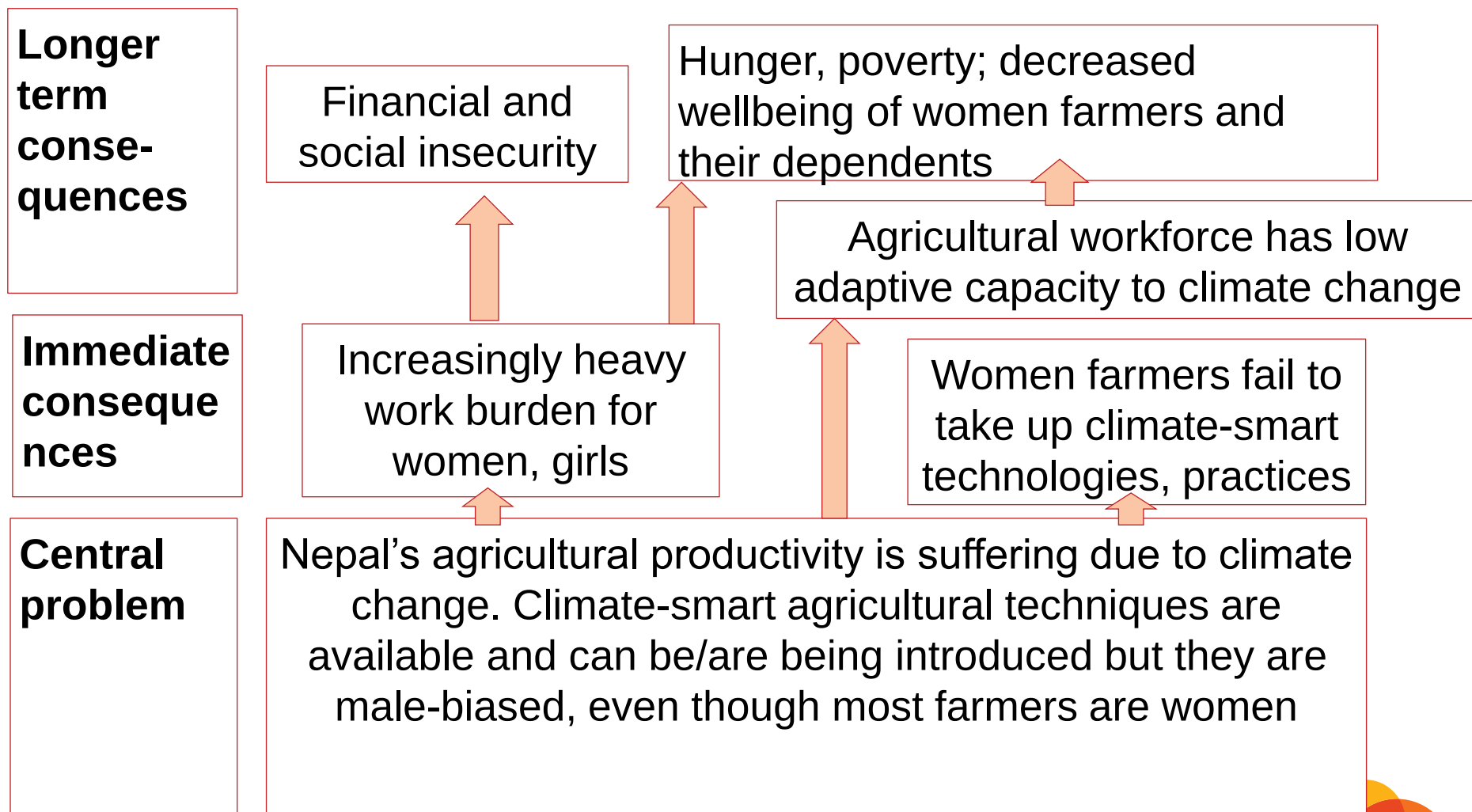
- [Powerpoint slides: Assessing people’s climate risks and resilience](#). *For facilitators.*
- [Participant handout](#) Guidance on integrating gender equity and social inclusion in stakeholder consultation processes (adapted from ICLEI's CapaCITIES project). *For distribution to all participants as a handout, in digital or hard copy*
- Participant handouts: A [blank template for the UNFCCC/UN Women's problem tree exercise \(Word doc\)](#), for participants to use in laying out the climate/development problem and its gender challenges, to identify risks and hurdles to action and to help devise interventions. Also, a [worked example of a problem tree analysis from Nepal \(image file\)](#).

Or, see the manual www.cdkn.org/genderequality page 23

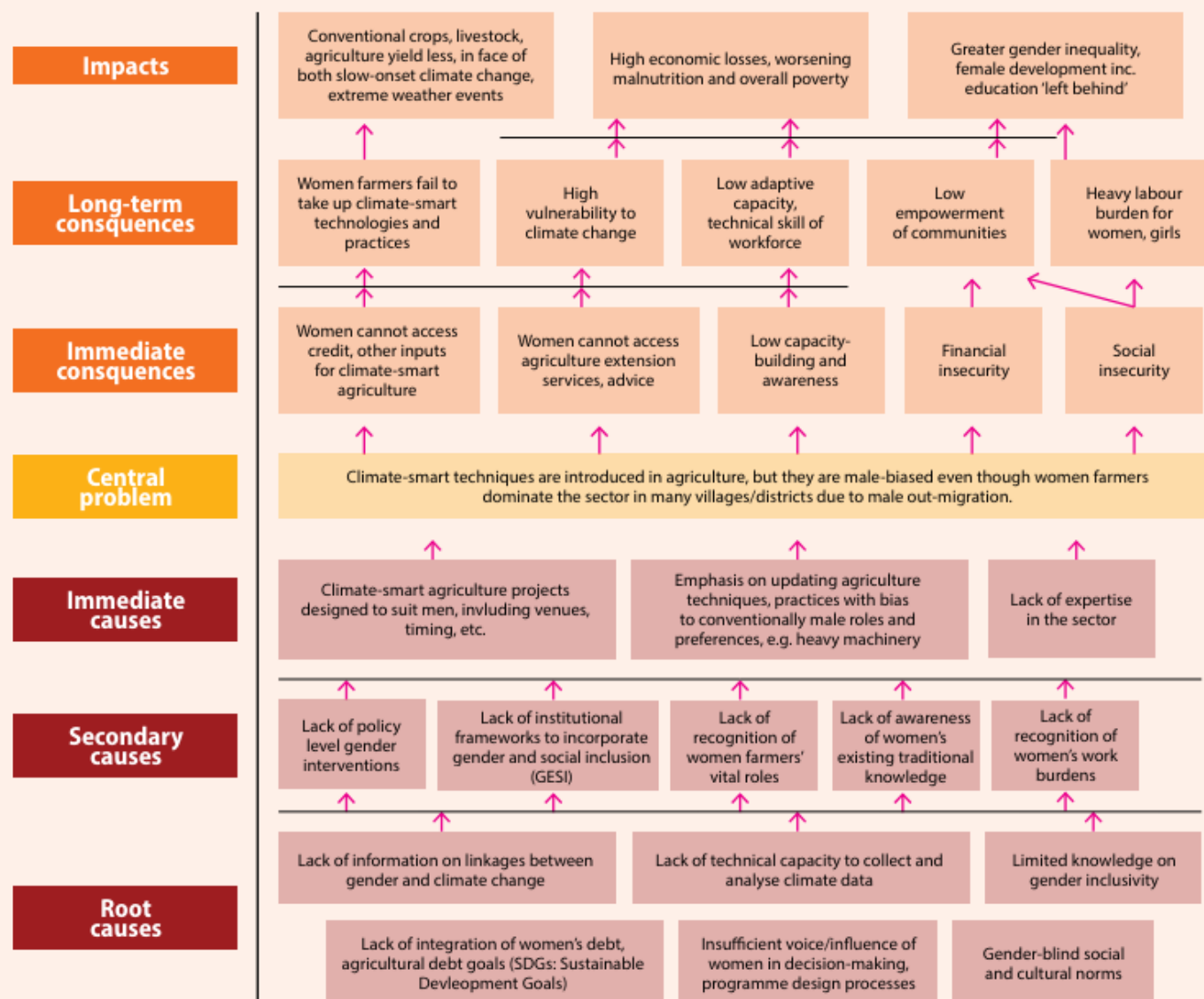
Problem tree method: identify the drivers (causes) of the problem



Problem tree method: understand the consequences of the problem



**Figure 5: Problem tree analysis:
Nepal climate-smart agriculture case study**



From problem analysis to options for action

The 'situation analysis' of the climate-development problem and its 'gender and social inclusion (GESI) analysis' are the foundations for action

Flip over the mapping of the climate-development-GESI problem, the root causes that the project stakeholders can control or influence, and turn those into the 'positive outcomes we want to see'

-> Remembering the co-development principles and equitable local ownership of the solutions



Spectrum of ambition for gender equality and social inclusion outcomes

	Gender and inclusion sensitive	Gender and inclusion responsive	Gender and inclusion transformative
Key questions to ask	Does the project design include analysis of the differentiated roles, experiences, and impacts for men, women, girls, boys, non-binary people and/or specific populations?	Does the project use analysis to implement actions and to address, build on, and respond to the results of the analysis?	Does the project go beyond the analysis of differentiated roles, experiences, and perception gaps and explore the underlying structural causes, norms, and power relations that caused these differences? PLUS: does the project implement actions to address these underlying structural causes, norms, and power relations that caused the differences?

(C) IDRC Step Change programme, 2022

‘Outcomes we want to see’ can be about...

- Introducing proactive, new climate-development measures e.g. climate-smart agriculture inputs, technologies, practices (can be made gender-responsive)
- Addressing immediate barriers to women’s and other groups’ participation and benefit from the climate action (can be made gender-responsive)
- Tackling some of the underlying drivers of discrimination, inequitable power relations (can be made gender-transformative)

As we will see in our Nepal story...



How Nepali stakeholders used their GESI analysis to generate targets and actions

www.cdkn.org/gendertraining

Aastha Bhusal, Lakpa Sherpa and
Laxman Khatri

Local Initiatives for Biodiversity,
Research and Development



The essential results of CDKN's research and learning
Visit www.cdkn.org to explore the topic in depth

CDKN ESSENTIALS

September 2020

Climate-smart agriculture takes off, thanks to 'women-friendly' tools and a gender-smart approach

Key messages

A climate-smart agriculture initiative by Local Initiatives for Biodiversity, Research and Development (LI-BIRD) across different agro-ecological areas of Nepal demonstrates key 'success factors' for achieving climate-resilient rural development. These include:

1. **Work with women farmers** to understand how climate-smart agriculture technologies can deliver multiple development and wellbeing benefits for them and their families. In particular, identify site-specific solutions that could reduce women's workloads while delivering improved income stability and food security.
2. **Integrate climate smart-agriculture** into the government's regular work programme at provincial and municipal levels. In this case, LI-BIRD established how the Chief Minister's Environment-Friendly Model Agriculture Village Programme (CNEFMVVP) of Gandaki province could be effectively integrated into local agricultural strategies.
3. **Engage women political leaders** in the process. In Nepal, 'travelling seminars' enabled female politicians to have interactive discussions with farmers and learn about on-the-ground realities of agriculture and climate change. Through this initiative, women political leaders developed important messages for advocating in policy processes.

Authors:

Aastha Bhusal, Lakpa Sherpa and Laxman Khatri

There is an urgent need for climate-smart agriculture in Nepal. Climate change is affecting the livelihoods of the two-thirds of Nepalis who work in agriculture.¹ Many farmers already follow farming practices that cause long-term environmental damage, such as haphazard over-application of chemicals and unsustainable natural resource use, which degrade soil quality and fertility. Climate change compounds these detrimental effects.

Nepal has three agro-ecological regions: high hill, mid hill and Terai (flat plains) regions. All three suffer from climatic hazards. Villages located at higher altitudes are exposed to drought, landslides and hailstorms. The Terai is exposed to floods, cold and heat waves and drought. These climatic hazards negatively affect agricultural productivity and yields; for example, by eroding top soils. This has knock-on effects on communities' income and food security.

There is a lack of information among Nepal's farming communities and across the country's agro-ecological regions for tackling these climate hazards and their subsequent social, economic and environmental impacts. Women are especially hard hit. They face structural power inequalities and, as such, have especially poor access to information and resources that could bolster their climate resilience. Furthermore, a male exodus for overseas employment has made rural women's position more precarious. That is why a gender-responsive approach to climate-compatible development is vital.



Women's group works at plant nursery, Nepal.

How Nepali stakeholders used their analysis to generate targets and actions

Problem identified	Project's response: the gender-smart target
Insufficient capacity in the sector (among Nepali farmers and agricultural planners, managers) for climate-smart techniques	Assess site-specific agricultural measures (inputs, infrastructure) that would reduce climate vulnerability. Organise trainings, making sure to arrange them at times and places that would suit women – the majority of farmers <i>Integrate Chief Minister's Environment Friendly Model Agriculture Village Programme (CMEFMAVP) in village and district planning in Gandaki province</i>

How Nepali stakeholders used their analysis to generate targets and actions

Problem identified	Project's response: the gender-smart target
Because existing climate-smart agriculture approaches are male-biased (hard to use by women, do not reduce their drudgery), there is little uptake by women Without climate-smart techniques, women's and girls' labour burdens keep increasing, leaving them worse off under climate change	Work with women farmers to understand how climate-smart agriculture technologies can deliver multiple development and wellbeing benefits for them and their families and invest in women-friendly / women-appropriate technologies and farm tools Identify site-specific solutions that could reduce women's workloads while delivering improved income stability and food security, such as diversification (adoption of ducks, etc).

How Nepali stakeholders used their analysis to generate targets and actions

Problem identified

Lack of understanding among decision-makers, of women's roles in agriculture. Lack of policy-level focus on women farmers' need for capacity-building and support in appropriate climate-smart methods.

Project's response: the gender-smart target

Engage women political leaders in the process through 'travelling seminars', which enabled them to have interactive discussions with women farmers and learn about on-the-ground realities of agriculture and climate change. Through this initiative, women political leaders develop a deeper understanding of the issues and formulate important messages for advocating for women farmers in policy processes.

Plan and budget for equity

- The LIBIRD project created budget lines to implement all the gender-responsive and gender-transformative activities identified in the early assessment and consultation phases.
- The lesson: budget for and pay for actions that are equitable.



Equality = Sameness

GIVING EVERYONE THE SAME
THING ———→ It only works if
everyone starts from the same
place

(c) Saskatoon Health region



Equity = Fairness

ACCESS TO THE SAME
OPPORTUNITIES ———→ We
must first ensure equity before we
can enjoy equality

© 2014, Saskatoon Health Region

Monitoring, evaluation and learning - Indicators of success

How to set metrics to measure progress against our targets?

How will we know when we have succeeded?

The key is:

- Measure women's changes in benefit/wellbeing as a result of the project, as a distinct, disaggregated from men
- Measure changes to benefit/wellbeing for groups with other characteristics that are relevant to context: e.g. age, disability, ethnicity, marital status, LGBTQI+ status, caste, etc.

It is imperative to:

- Define your methods for gathering and analysing data (MEL system)
- Develop approach with the representative stakeholder committee or broader programme stakeholders: how participants will contribute to MEL and be included in results-sharing

Metrics of equity and empowerment

50% - 50% participation of women and men in a project (giving everyone the same thing) is not enough to be 'gender responsive'. You want to measure achievement of actions that are equitable and raise up those who are disadvantaged or left behind. You want to measure outcomes that demonstrate people have a more equal status after your intervention.



Equality = Sameness
GIVING EVERYONE THE SAME
THING —————> It only works if
everyone starts from the same
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Equity = Fairness
ACCESS TO THE SAME
OPPORTUNITIES —————> We
must first ensure equity before we
can enjoy equality

Metrics of equity and empowerment

Measuring 'empowerment' is multidimensional. There's an open debate to 'what is empowerment'. Defining what is deeply 'empowering' and 'transformational' of gender relations can be context-specific.

SAMPLE METRICS

- **Women's, other disadvantaged groups' increased participation in decision-making processes: household-level and collective public decision-making**
- **Women's, other disadvantaged groups' improvement in their status (in household, community) – this can emerge from the 'demonstration effect' of their climate-development actions**
- **Women's, other disadvantaged groups' improved access to productive assets and markets for climate-smart development and wellbeing, including finance, inputs, information/training, natural resources and land tenure and use, decent green jobs**

Metrics of equity and empowerment

SAMPLE METRICS

- **Water security is increased for the most climate-affected people, disaggregated for women**
- **Agricultural productivity, food security and income security in rural systems are increased for the most climate-affected people, disaggregated for women**
- **Access to reliable, renewable energy as a means of reducing labour, improving wellbeing and enhancing productivity in supply chains is enhanced for those who need it, disaggregated for women**

METRICS CAN ALSO BE LINKED TO EXERCISE OF BASIC RIGHTS

(at a foundational level: stopping harms that are a barrier to climate action)

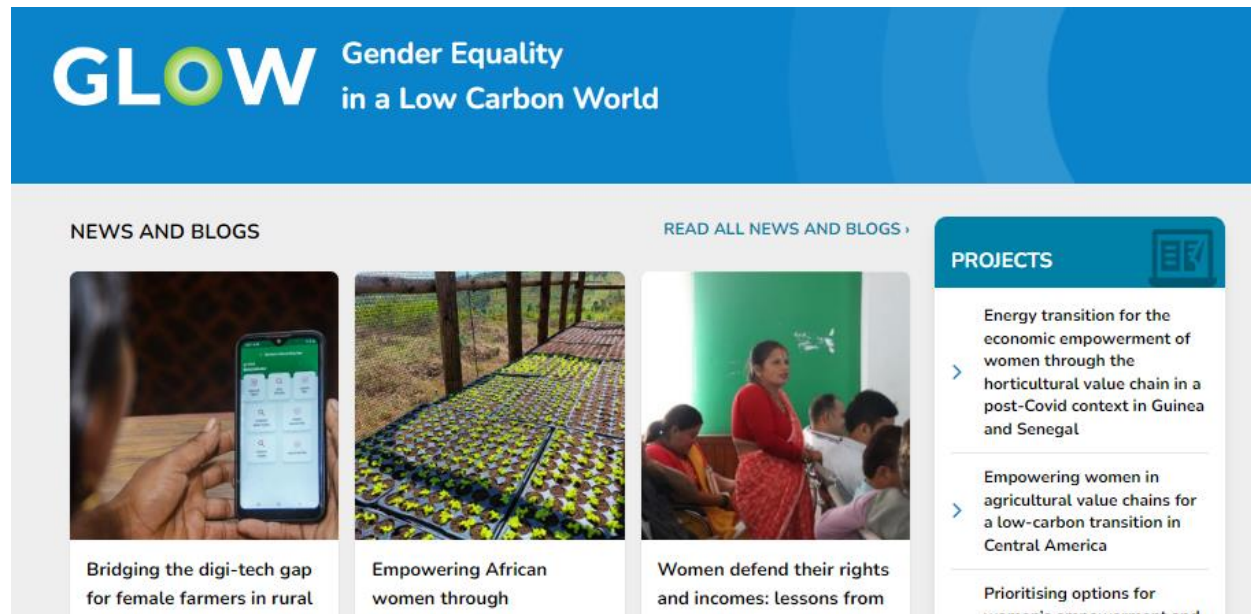
- **Women have better access to protection from gender-based violence**
- **Gender-based violence is reduced**

More resources to explore women's empowerment in climate action

<https://cdkn.org/genderequality>

<https://cdkn.org/gendertraining>

<https://glowprogramme.org>



Thank you!

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