

## **I. Overview**

The late 1990s and early 2000s saw a conscious effort by CIFOR to integrate gender analysis into its programmes and projects. These efforts explored gendered access, decision making and benefits across a wide range of forestry issues: adaptive collaborative management (ACM) for sustainable forest management, collective action and property rights (CAPRI) for poverty reduction and resource sustainability; and the use and conservation of non timber forest products (NTFPs). New/ongoing projects are exploring gendered decision making in community forestry, gendered vulnerabilities to climate change and furniture value chain.

Overall, CIFOR's gender integration efforts in research have contributed as follows:

- By promoting the adaptive collaborative management approach in forest management, CIFOR has contributed to increased decision-making powers for women and marginalised groups. Relations between multiple stakeholders in forest management have improved, especially in the community forests area. This approach has assisted locals in negotiations at the district level and improved their bargaining power.
- In decentralised governance reforms, by involving women and marginalised groups in their work (through the programme of CAPRI), groundwork has been laid for strengthening land tenure security and improving incomes. More benefits were diffused to broader society for example in education where women's participation in budgeting processes resulted in increased allocations to education and schooling programmes i.e. programmes whose benefits are more widely diffused in society.
- The roles of women in NTFPs trading process was highlighted, where the NTFPs studies showed that continuing empowering women and understanding their roles in the process will help not only to increase women's income, giving them more chance to control their income, but also will contribute to local economies.
- Adaptation to climatic variability is decidedly gendered. Women emerge more vulnerable as their workloads increase with men's migration. In order to compensate household income shortfalls women took up risky jobs, such as charcoal production and small-scale commercial activities. However, in longer term, their new incomes might give them more independence and allow them to enter new social spaces.

## **II. Description of selected programmes and projects**

The programmes and projects chosen are representative on gender inclusion, but not limited to ACM, CAPRI, NTFPs; adaptation to climate change; community forests; and teak furniture value chain. The following projects have been selected for either of two reasons: i) they are global and comparative in nature or ii) form a component of part of a global research programme that is not CIFOR led (e.g. CAPRI).

### **1. Adaptive collaborative management (ACM)** [\(http://www.cifor.cgiar.org/acm/\)](http://www.cifor.cgiar.org/acm/)

ACM programme was the combination of two streams of research in CIFOR: the research on criteria and indicators for sustainable forestry management and the livelihoods of local people in

forested, protected areas. ACM programme explored approaches for promoting, strengthening and institutionalising collaborative learning for forest management in 11 countries across 30 research sites in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

**Research question:** The core research question of the ACM was: how to facilitate processes that integrate input from various segments of forest communities in a just and fair way?

**Research sites:** Tropical forested areas in Bolivia, Brazil, Cameroon, Ghana, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Madagascar, Malawi, Nepal, Philippines, and Zimbabwe. Gender studies were conducted in 7 out of 11 countries.

**Methods:** The ACM approach assumes that management and governance are rooted in a process of conscious, intentional learning by groups facing shared problems and interested in joint problem solving and innovation. The anchors of the approach are: (i) communication and creation of a shared vision, (ii) learning among stakeholders and (iii) joint or collective action. The programme used the following methods:

- Participatory action research (PAR) where researchers worked closely with local stakeholders in identifying problems, planning, monitoring and re-planning. This process involved women and other marginalised groups;
- Situational analyses;
- Networking and negotiation among stakeholders.

**How gender was incorporated:** Beyond the integration of gender into research and analysis, most field teams conducted their work explicitly with women and institutionalised interventions designed to improve the environment and human well being with and by women in the communities. Women were also included in efforts to link community and district level activities.

### **Results across the research sites:**

The programme produced a series of publications, among which were *The Equitable Forest* and *People Managing Forests*. Both books provided new information about the importance of women and other marginalised group in forest management; approaches on how to better involve women in formal forest management; and insights into how people who live in and around tropical forests think about and use their systems of resources.

- In Nepal and Zimbabwe, the number of women and marginalised users involved in community forest management decision making soared; especially in Nepal, the percentage of women and marginalised groups involved in community committee has grown from 27 percent to 45 percent;
- In Cameroon and Bolivia, communication and interaction among stakeholders rose dramatically, resulting in improved conflict management;
- In Indonesia and Zimbabwe, the ability of people in study communities to negotiate successfully with district level policy makers increased dramatically, as did the frequency of such negotiation;
- In Brazil, Indonesia, and the Philippines, community members learned to approach management iteratively, building in explicit monitoring and feedback mechanisms;

- In Nepal, community members were able to detect and sanction dishonest community elites whose positions had previously allowed them free hand in the management of community forest funds.

**Selected publications:**

Colfer, C.J.P. (ed.) 2005a The equitable forests: diversity, community and resource management. Resources for the future, Washington, DC.

Colfer C.J.P. 2005b The complex forest: communities, uncertainty and adaptive collaborate management. Resources for the future, Washington, DC.

Colfer, C.J.P. and Byron, Y. (eds.) 2001 People managing forests: the link between human well-being and sustainability. Resources for the future, Washington, DC.

**2. Collective action to secure property rights for the poor: Avoiding elite capture of natural resource benefits and governance systems (CAPRI)**  
**(<http://www.cifor.cgiar.org/acm/projects/capri-summary.html>)**

CAPRI is a CGIAR system wide programme on collective action and property rights. CIFOR has joined the programme and deployed its work in Indonesia, with two sites in Jambi province and expanding to Tanzania.

**Research questions:** The project focused on understanding:

- How complex institutional contexts (e.g. decentralisation reforms) shape property rights regimes, especially resource access by poorer rural communities, both men and women;
- How collective action can enhance local people’s bargaining power and access to influential decision-making networks so that policy outcomes reflect their long-term development interests.

**Research sites:** Bungo and Tanjung Jabung Barat districts, Jambi province, Indonesia.

**Methods:**

Participatory action research (PAR) at two levels:

- Local communities (women’s and men’s groups) through planning-action-reflection steps to facilitate equitable collective action to secure property rights and to articulate their needs and aspirations.
- District level and local officials to identify policies and practices (including interactions with private companies, NGOs and the Ministry of Forestry) that foster collaborative land use planning and equitable benefits distribution.

**How gender was incorporated:** Using the method of participatory action research with focus on women’s and men’s group, this project did a good job on gender integration. It shed the light to the situation of gender at the site, in which the pros and cons in integrating gender was analysed with recommendations to effectively incorporate women. Gender issues were also critically looked at in terms of land management rights and in development planning process at village, sub-district and district levels.

**Results:**

*Overall*

- Resulted in inclusive decision making processes and a clarification of property rights of local communities to forests;
- Strengthened communication between communities and regional planning office to collaboratively provide feedback, plan and act on the community's efforts for land certification and alternative income generation;

*In terms of gender inclusion*

- Women's voices are now recognised. Men allow their wives to actively participate in meetings, workshops, training, etc. Women's participation in budgeting processes, unlike men's, resulted in increased allocations to education and schooling programmes. Women's resistance (through protest) resulted in thwarting private companies' taking over of forests for oil palm development.
- Groundwork has been laid for strengthening land tenure security and improving incomes. These are longer-term goals - not realistically anticipated during a two-year project - but the capacities to analyse situations, develop plans and monitor them together, assess progress and correct course as needed, communicate effectively and negotiate with outsiders, and bring group pressure to bear on individuals and/or groups working against community interests are all skills acquired that are anticipated to contribute to securitising group and individual assets and benefits capture.

**Selected publications:**

- de Vries, D.W. and Sutarti, N. 2006 Gender equity: revealing the reality for the women of Jambi. Governance brief 29. CIFOR, Bogor, Indonesia.
- Komarudin, H., Siagian, Y.L., and Colfer, J.P.C. 2008 Collective action to secure property rights for the poor: a case study in Jambi province, Indonesia. CAPRI Working Paper 90. International Food Policy Research Institute, Washington, DC.
- Siagian, Y. and Neldysavrino 2007 Collective action to secure land management rights for poor communities. Governance brief 35. CIFOR, Bogor, Indonesia.

**3. Assessment of the potential for non-timber forest products (NTFPs) based development**

From 1996-2000, a group of CIFOR researchers and partners in Asia, Africa and Latin America conducted a multi-country study of NTFPs.

**Research questions:** The project aimed at understanding the nature and distribution of NTFPs and exploring/quantifying the relationship between NTFPs commercialisation, poverty reduction and forest conservation.

**Research sites:** 21 cases from Asia, 17 from Africa and 23 from Latin America.

**Methods:** Compared and contrasted a large number of NTFPs case studies using a standardised set of variables.

**How gender was incorporated:** Gender dimension was studied with focus on women's involvement in the production-to-consumption system (PCs) and the gender differentiation surrounding NTFPs.

**Results:**

### ***Overall***

- Facilitate a sound understanding of NTFPs markets and their potentials to further enhance fair livelihoods strategies for people in developing countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America.
- This project has provided a rare and valuable resource – a set of NTFPS case studies presented in a consistent and comparable manner.

### ***In terms of gender inclusion***

Many NTFP systems were of particular importance to women. Women played important roles in the marketing of and trade in NTFPs.

- In Asia, results showed no general patterns in gender roles but it revealed that trade in NTFPs created opportunities for women at all stage of the production chains, their involvement ranges from hired labourers for harvesting to independent traders. This gave women the control over part of the household money which provided them with decision making power over household expenditure. However NTFPs commercialisation often resulted in men taking over business from women.
- In Africa, gender was the main factor differentiating size of business, product specialisation, and market strategies among traders. The results also confirmed that, given the right conditions, women entrepreneurs could be as successful as men and that the gender gap in NTFPs access, use and trade was closing among the younger generation entering the market. The work is suggestive of the potential of women’s experiences for Africa’s economic development, where the roles of women in food marketing represented between 30 percent and 80 percent of the traders in Africa.

### **Selected publications:**

- Alexiades, M.N. and Shanley, P. (eds) 2004 Productos forestales, meditos de subsistencia y conservación. Estudios de caso sobre sistemas de manejo de productos forestales no maderables. Volumen 3- América Latina. CIFOR, Bogor, Indonesia.
- Kusters, K. and Belcher, B. (eds) 2004 Forest products, livelihoods and conservation: case studies of non-timber forest products systems. Volume 1- Asia. CIFOR, Bogor, Indonesia.
- Sunderland, T. and Ndoye, O. (eds) 2004 Forest products, livelihoods and conservation: case studies of non-timber forest products systems. Volume 2- Africa. CIFOR, Bogor, Indonesia.

#### **4. Vulnerability to climate variability and change among communities depending on livestock and forest in northern Mali: a cross-scale analysis**

The research assessed the vulnerability of local communities depending on livestock and forests in northern Mali. Research was conducted in settings where drastic climatic and political shocks were recently experienced, for instance the climate-induced transformation of a lake into a forest. Research design also facilitated cognitive reflection processes in the vulnerability assessments. This study is within the “Tropical forests and climate change adaptation-TrofCCA” ([http://www.cifor.cgiar.org/trofcca/\\_ref/home/projects.htm](http://www.cifor.cgiar.org/trofcca/_ref/home/projects.htm)) project.

**Research questions:** The study aimed at assessing with different stakeholders at different scales, the vulnerability of local communities depending on livestock and forests in northern Mali.

Beside assessing vulnerability and adaptation strategies, the research design allowed for facilitating cognitive reflection processes in the assessments within and across scales, groups and stakeholders.

**Research sites:** The study was conducted in two villages (Tin Aicha and Ras El Ma) in the northern part of the lake Faguibine, Goundam district, Timbuktu region, northern Mali.

**Methods:**

Participatory methods across scales and genders; combined qualitative and quantitative methods

- Interviews with diverse stakeholders at the country, region and district levels to analyze stakeholders and linking the research into ongoing processes and initiatives related to adaptation;
- Workshops at district and community level, and focus group discussions with men and women at the community level.

**How gender was incorporated:** The research group did participatory workshops at community level with different groups of men, women and young people. This is to understand their different perceptions on vulnerability and to capture the effects of adaptive strategies to women.

**Results:**

- Power, politics and perceptions shape the understanding of vulnerability and the adaptive strategies. The understanding of who is vulnerable to climate change differs between men and women, between governmental and non-governmental, and between local, sub national, and national actors.
- In a changing environment, forests have gained a new role in local adaptive strategies but political interests and social barriers constrain the potential of forests to reduce vulnerability.
- Women's workload has increasing.
- Women faced a growing vulnerability to climate shocks as adaptive strategies led to male migration and labour declines households, and the adoption of new income generating activities such as charcoal production and small-scale commercial activities. These activities could, in a longer term, facilitate the empowerment of women and their influence in decision-making processes, as their new incomes may give them more independence or their new activities allow them to enter new social spaces.

**Selected publications:**

Djoudi, H. and Brockhaus, M. 2010 Is adaptation to climate change gender neutral? A case study from northern Mali. Presented in IASC 13th Biennial Conference, Hyderabad, India, January 2011. Submitted to International Forestry Review, January 2011.

**5. Gender, Tenure and Community Forests in Uganda and Nicaragua**

**Research questions:**

- To what extent are women involved in decision-making, agenda definition and benefit sharing at multiple levels of governance, from local to district and regional scales? What are the main impediments to their greater participation?

- Do external actors such as NGOs and governments (local, regional and national) support women's participation in community forest management? In what way and with what outcomes?
- What kinds of governance arrangements, processes and structures can be designed to encourage the inclusion of women in community forestry? How would this affect forest sustainability and benefits?

**Research sites:** Nicaragua and Uganda. The choice of these two countries as study cases provides distinct opportunities for the sharing of lessons across continents.

### **Methods:**

- At the global scale, the quantitative and qualitative analysis of the International Forest Resources and Institutions (IFRI) research programme database;
- Regional and national scale methods will include the consultation of a broad range of national or regional data sources on law, policies and practices regarding gender and forestry; semi-structured key informant interviews at multiple scales; and focus groups with forest user groups.
- The local scale methods will include Adaptive Collaborative Management (ACM) and Participatory Action Research.

### **How gender is incorporated:**

The overall goal of this research project is to improve women's tenure rights to forests through their increased participation in community forest user groups with regard both to decision-making and livelihood benefits. The purpose of the project is to enhance stakeholder uptake of institutional and policy innovations to promote women's participation, specifically regarding the way in which community forestry-related decisions include women and reflect their particular interests. These innovations will be based on a clear understanding of the obstacles to, and the motivations and conditions for, the emergence of mixed user groups and women in positions of authority over natural resources.

### **Expected outputs:**

- The action-based results from the ACM processes will benefit communities directly and the learning from these experiences will be incorporated into new training modules, publications and policy briefs for broader impact for other forest user groups, policy makers, development practitioners and researchers.
- The involvement of influential individuals selected from government and civil society in the research will expose them to key constraints and opportunities for women's participation. It will also encourage and support their identification of institutional arrangements, strategies and policies they can adopt to enhance women's inclusion in decision making. Dissemination of the results to non-committee members through a variety of means (briefs, discussions, workshops), as well as to non-participating communities (through popular manuals, exchanges, and so on), will further these goals.
- By including a series of multi-stakeholder forums that include local women's representatives, NGOs and government actors, these forums will provide opportunities for vertical and lateral information flows that are critical for accountability. These, combined with community processes, will be fully grounded in local conditions and

women's own aspirations; will result in strengthening women's role in natural resource decisions and benefits from resources.

## 6. **Teak furniture value chain**

<http://www.cifor.cgiar.org/furniture/ref/home/index.htm>

### **Research questions:**

- What roles do women have in different furniture value chain governance types which have different power relation and decision making processes?
- How do specific interventions, such as trade exhibitions, trainings and setting up producer associations, affect women's participation in the chains?
- How can the industry make value chain governance more open to women?

**Research sites:** The project took place in Jepara, Central Java, where the center of teak-based Indonesian furniture, annual furniture exports are valued at US \$150 million. In Jepara District, Central Java, an estimated 12,000 business units operate, including workshops, showrooms and warehouses. They employ 120,000 workers. The furniture industry, which processes 0.7 million m<sup>3</sup> wood per year, contributes about 27% of Jepara's economy. Exports were valued at about \$120 million in 2009. The industry mostly produced products with little added value and the government has categorised the furniture sector as an industry in decline.

**Methods:** Action research and value chain analysis.

**How gender was incorporated:** We use action research and value chain analysis (VCA) to understand the role and position of women workers in Jepara's teak value chain, and their struggle to earn more for their labour and move into more specialised and higher paying jobs within the industry upgrade to more valuable value chains and positions.

**Results:** The study describes women's roles in every type of value-chain governance namely: market based, balanced network, directed network and hierarchy. Each value-chain governance type generates different kinds of involvement for women in the furniture industry. Market based value chains provide a case with the lowest level of gender segregation in its production process, but women's involvement is heavily undervalued. Balanced network chain tends to go toward a clearer gender segregated production for efficiency reason. Directed network value chain type give a stronger inclination for gender segregated processes, and the hierarchical chain gives the strongest one due to the mechanisation of its production systems. Both men and women are involved at all nodes along the furniture value chain. The furniture value chain has also seen rising levels of female employment. However, the role of women in the industry has yet to be clearly identified. And though women workers are important in generating revenue, they are paid less than men who work the same hours. They are also less powerful, exercising less control over resources, decision making, product determination and bargaining.

### **Publications:**

Purnomo, H., Irawati R.H., Fauzan, A.U., Melati. 2010 Value chain governance and gender in the furniture industry. Presented in IASC 13th Biennial Conference, Hyderabad, India, January 2011. Submitted to International Forestry Review, January 2011.

Fauzan, A.U., Melati, Irawati, R.H [forthcoming] Gendering furniture value chains: a case study from Jepara, Indonesia. CIFOR, Bogor, Indonesia.

Nansereko, S.C. 2010 A gender perspective to value chain analysis for wood-furniture industry upgrading: a case of Jepara, Central Java, Indonesia. Thesis for Department of Forest and Landscape Planning; Faculty of LIFE Sciences; Copenhagen University, Denmark.