FOREST TENURE PATHWAYS TO GENDER EQUALITY
A PRACTITIONER’S GUIDE

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ABBREVIATIONS

ACM  adaptive collaborative management
AMAN  Indigenous People’s Alliance of the Archipelago (Aliansi Masyarakat Adat Nusantara)
AAL  adequate asset livelihoods
BWRA  Ancestral Domain Registration Agency (Badan Registrasi Wilayah Adat)
CEDAW  Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CFUG  community forestry user group
CIFOR  Center for International Forestry Research
CONAFOR  National Forestry Commission of Mexico (Comisión Nacional Forestal)
COP  Conference of the Parties
CRL  Community Rights Law
CSO  civil society organization
DRC  Democratic Republic of Congo
FAO  Food and Agriculture Organization
FDST  Forest Dwelling Scheduled Tribes
FECOFUN  Federation of Community Forestry User Groups, Nepal
FLR  forest landscape restoration
FPIC  free, prior and informed consent
FRA  Forest Rights Act
FRC  Forest Rights Committee
GAD  Gender and Development
GESI  gender and social inclusion
GPA  gender plan of action
Ha  hectare
INDC  Intended Nationally Determined Contributions
IPCC  Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IPLC  Indigenous Peoples and local communities
ITTC  International Tropical Timber Council
ITTO  International Tropical Timber Organization
IUCN  International Union for Conservation of Nature
JFM  joint forest management
JKPP  Indonesian Community Mapping Network (Jaringan Kerja Pemetaan Partisipatif)
KPA  Consortium for Agrarian Reform (Konsorium Pembaruan Agraria)
LAL  low asset livelihoods
MRVS  monitoring, reporting and verification system
NFLRA  National Forest Landscape Restoration Assessment
NGO  non-governmental organization
NMWA  National Mechanism for Women’s Affairs
NTFP  non-timber forest product
ONAMIAP  National Organization of Andean and Amazonian Indigenous Women (Organización Nacional de Mujeres Indígenas)
OTFD  Other Traditional Forest Dwellers
PES  payment for environmental services
PPA  participatory prospective analysis
REDD+  reducing emissions from deforestation and degradation plus
ROAM  Restoration Opportunities Assessment Methodology
RRI  Rights and Resources Initiative
SDG  sustainable development goal
SGBV  sexual and gender-based violence
SLAL  severely limited asset livelihoods
SSFE  small-scale forest enterprise
UNDRIP  United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
VGGT  FAO Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security
WID  Women in Development
THE PRACTITIONER’S GUIDE IN A NUTSHELL

This practitioner’s guide explains how to promote gender-responsive forest tenure reform in community-based forest regimes. It is aimed at those taking up this challenge in developing countries. There is no one single approach to reforming forest tenure practices for achieving gender equality and women’s empowerment. Rather, it involves taking advantage of opportunities that emerge in various institutional arenas such as policy and law-making and implementation, government administration, customary or community-based tenure governance, or forest restoration at the landscape scale. The overall aim is to promote the responsible governance of forest tenure so that it serves the interests of both women and men of all backgrounds.

This sourcebook provides multiple forms of guidance: conceptual ideas, operational direction, good practices, case-study insights, research findings and resources for further exploration. It is designed to support a wide range of practitioners, women and men, from a range of institutions such as government offices, non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, donor agencies, women’s organizations, as well as networks and federations. This includes gender experts who are responsible for the integration of gender equality and women’s empowerment in their respective organizations, and also those working broadly in the world of land tenure, forest tenure and governance, forest landscape restoration, agroforestry, value-chain development and social impact enterprises.

The goal is to journey along the pathways to forest tenure reform through a three-step process: Analyze, Strategize and Realize. Focused diagnostic analysis to create an empirical foundation for change can support the design of sequential interventions to promote gender-responsive forest tenure reform at various scales. To this end, the guide is a timely resource to support high-impact interventions suited to accelerating change within the national and local context in community-based forest tenure regimes.

The first chapter sets out how to think about creating gender-responsive accelerators for forest tenure reform. The focus is narrowed in the second chapter on improving gender equality and women’s empowerment through forest tenure policies, laws and government administrative systems. The final chapter focuses on how to bring about gender-responsive changes in community-based forest tenure regimes. No one set of methods or approaches will work for all contexts and, as such, the guide aims to showcase a range of knowledge and tools. These can be tailored and adjusted over time in an adaptive and collaborative manner to suit particular situations. This practitioner’s guide offers numerous case studies as well as resource materials from across Africa, Asia and Latin America so that each issue can be explored through real-world experience. Moreover, the guide draws upon the latest manuals and guidance documents available on promoting gender-responsive forest tenure reform.