Gender and Natural Resources: Global Overview

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Society for Range Management
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1. Feminist Political Ecology

Rocheleau, Thomas-Slayter, and Wangari (1996):

1. gendered environmental knowledge
2. gendered environmental rights and responsibilities
3. gendered environmental politics and grassroots activism

More recent focus on mutual construction of gender subjectivities and environments

Strong critique of approach that naturalizes NR-related roles, rights and subjectivities based on gender
I. Conceptual Frameworks for Analyzing Gender & Natural Resources

2. Gendered Sustainable Livelihood Framework

A. Livelihoods Framework (Chambers & Conway 1991): People + Activities + Assets → a Living

B. Capital Assets Framework (Rakodi 1999) Focus on ASSETS (human, social, natural, financial, produced, cultural, political)

Where is gender? Differential stores of and access to types of assets, but also...
Livelihood Activities and Assets as Embedded within a Dominant Gender Ideology:

1. Conceptual Frameworks for Analyzing Gender & Natural Resources

(Radel 2012; Figure adapted from Chambers and Conway 1991)
I. Conceptual Frameworks for Analyzing Gender & Natural Resources

C. Sustainable Livelihoods Framework
(Scoones 1998)

The SLF helps us move from simply thinking of gender differences in assets to thinking in more processual and relational terms.
Role of Women’s Collective Organization:

- Change capital stocks and flows for individuals
- Begin to transform gender ideology through changing norms and expectations
3. Gendered Relations of Agricultural Production

(see Radel, C., B. Schmook, J. McEvoy, C. Méndez, and P. Petrzelka. 2012.)

1. Labor
2. Management / Decision Making
3. Tenure / Asset Control

Each can have multiple sub-facets. For asset control this can include, e.g. use access & decision-making over any income from the asset.
4. Women’s Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI)  

(See Alkire et al, 2012)

- Two sub-indexes:
  1. 5 Domains of Empowerment (5DE) – 90%
  2. Gender Parity Index (GPI) – 10%

- Questionnaires and manuals publicly available

- Some limitations:
  1. Doesn’t include forestry and NTFP activities
  2. Doesn’t quantify assets (so can compare WEAI to wealth)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Domain</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Production</td>
<td>Input in productive decisions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Autonomy in production</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resources</td>
<td>Ownership of assets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Purchase, sale, or transfer of assets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Access to and decisions on credit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income</td>
<td>Control over use of income</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leadership</td>
<td>Group member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Speaking in public</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Workload</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Leisure</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
II. Data

Searching for Existing Global Data Sets...
(quantitative, gender-disaggregated data...)

• Millennium Development Goal 3: Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women
  – Only defined target is in education
  – But role of NR assets in goal is clear
  – Available data largely inadequate:
    lack of baselines for gender equality
    & women’s empowerment in agricultural and other NR sectors

• World Bank, FAO, and CGIAR (IFPRI, ILRI, CIFOR) Data
  – 2012 World Development Report: *Gender Equality and Development*
  – *Gender in Agriculture Sourcebook* (2009, World Bank, FAO, IFAD)
II. Data

Food and Agriculture Organization

- Rural Income Generating Activities (RIGA) project: Database of rural household income sources for more than 27 countries. Collaboration with World Bank’s Living Standards Measurement Study (LSMS)
  - Data available on request
- WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE: Closing the Gender Gap for Development (2011) (FAO’s State of Food and Agriculture Report, 2010-2011)
II. Data

Some of the best data we have is on women’s labor participation in agriculture. This is an example. Notice the diversity of proportions.

From *Women in Agriculture: Closing the Gender Gap for Development* (FAO, 2011)
II. Data

“An agricultural holder is defined as the person or group of persons who exercise management control over an agricultural holding. The holding may be owned, rented or allocated from common property resources and may be operated on a sharecropped basis.” (FAO, 2011)

Data such as these underpin the idea that we have a global gender gap in agriculture.

Limitation of RIGA data: key data is not disaggregated within the household, so frequently we are looking at female-headed vs. male headed HHs, not at intra-HH comparisons.

From Women in Agriculture: Closing the Gender Gap for Development (FAO, 2011)
II. Data

**FIGURE 10**
Household livestock assets, in male- and female-headed households

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Female-headed households</th>
<th>Male-headed households</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bolivia</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecuador</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guatemala</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicaragua</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panama</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nepal</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madagascar</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malawi</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Average tropical livestock unit (TLU)
II. Data

Living Standards Measurement Study - Integrated Surveys on Agriculture

• World Bank and Gates Foundation partnership
• 7 partner countries in sub-Saharan Africa: Ethiopia, Malawi, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Tanzania, Uganda
• Panel HH data to study links between agriculture, socioeconomic status, and non-farm income activities
• Data is collected to allow for gender-disaggregation, and includes:
  – Access to natural and common property resources
  – Quantification of current stock, sales and input expenditures
  – Reliance on veterinary practices
  – Quantification of livestock by-product production and sales
II. Data

IFPRI/ILRI

- IFPRI’s Gender and Assets Research Program
- IFPRI-ILRI’s GAAP project (gender, agriculture & assets): 9 projects, focus on qual. and quant. gender-disaggregated data
  - developed by IFPRI, Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI), and USAID
  - 2011 pilot in sub-regions of Bangladesh, Guatemala, and Uganda
  - Datasets available online (Can look forward to more data in future as WEAI is incorporated in USAID Feed the Future efforts.)
III. Some Reflections

Gender Equality in the Service of Other Goals: e.g. Food Security
III. Raising Some Questions

Reflections on the “Gender Gap” in Natural Resources

• Need to be wary of resting gender equality demands on assumptions that potentially naturalize gender differences

• Particular attention must be given to:
  – How and why gaps persist
  – How individuals and collective groups both reinforce and challenge gender ideologies

• Continue to need more and better baseline data!

• Gender norms around world might be changing...?

**FIGURE 1.6: PERCEPTIONS ON WHAT WOMEN’S ROLE SHOULD BE**

- Rural young men
- Rural young women
- Rural adult men
- Rural adult women
- Urban young men
- Urban young women
- Urban adult men
- Urban adult women

Note: Data from a total of 370 focus groups.
References


