|  |
| --- |
| **GENDER INTEGRATION GUIDANCE: PROBLEM ANALYSIS AND OBJECTIVES** |
| Why address gender issues at this stage? | Addressing gender issues during the problem analysis and objectives development leads you to consider if particular groups of people are affected differently by the problems identified or if there are problems that affect specific groups of people that need to be addressed. |
| Objective of addressing gender issues | * To identify how general problems might affect different groups of individuals
* To identify specific problems affecting groups of people
 |
| How to address gender issues | **Identify key gender-based constraints in the targeted area or related sector.**What are gender-based constraints (GBC)?Gender-based constraints refer to restrictions on men’s or women’s access to resources or opportunities that are based on their gender roles or responsibilities. The term includes: 1. Measurable disparities that are revealed by sex-disaggregated data collection and gender analysis, and
2. Identification of the factors that cause the conditions of disparity.

The process of identifying GBCs is similar to your problem analysis. However, in this case you are looking to identify specific differences or disparities between men and women, and the factors that are causing those differences. Use Table 2 to help you identify and construct GBCs. The first step is to identify the major inequalities or disparities between men and women using the data from your needs assessment. Your needs assessment will also help you identify some of the factors that may be causing those disparities. For example, women may have less access to credit than men (a disparity) because the terms and conditions of the loan require women to get their husband’s signature (factor). You will often find that general constraints have elements that affect some groups more than others. That is, there are gender-based constraints related to general constraints as per the examples below.

| **General Constraints** | **Gender-Based Constraints** |
| --- | --- |
| Small land holdings | Laws or customs that restrict women’s land ownership |
| Lack of access to market information | Social norms that limit women’s networking abilitiesNorms and beliefs that inhibit women’s mobility |
| Limited range of finance and credit options | Bank policies that require land ownership to make a loan, or require married women to obtain her husband’s signature |
| Low productivity | Lack of control over household labor, especially men’s laborAccess to land of small sizes and poor quality  |

You can identify GBCs at the same time as you work through the Problem Analysis worksheet in the Project Design Workbook. If that is too difficult, you can identify the GBCs in a separate worksheet and then integrate them into the larger analysis. There is no right or wrong here. You may find it easier to work through the processes separately and then link them before you move onto the Problem Analysis to Objectives.**Prioritize and link the GBCs to other causes identified in your problem analysis.**You will not be able to address all the GBCs identified and will therefore need to make some choices about what is within the manageable interest of the project. This process will help you prioritize what GBCs are most necessary to include in your project design. To help with this decision-making process, consider the following:* What GBCs link to other causes you identified in your problem analysis? For example, if farmers have trouble accessing markets and are joining a cooperative to overcome that constraint, are women able to join the cooperative?
* Are the GBCs within the scope and interest of LWR or the donor?
* Will addressing the GBCs potentially have a significant impact on women’s lives?

You can use Table 3 to help you organize this information.Not all GBCs will be linked to other identified causes. Some may be their own cause. For example, women’s disproportionate responsibility for household chores may limit their ability to participate in marketing activities. This may not link to other issues you have identified and may become its own cause, and ultimately its own objective. |
| How to use the Gender Dimensions Framework | **Use the GDF as a guide for identifying the areas of disparity.**As illustrated in Table 2, you can examine your data to identify areas of disparity in each of the dimensions. When you examine your needs assessment data, consider some of the questions below:*Access to assets** Are there differences in men’s and women’s land ownership or access to land?
* Are there differences in men’s and women’s access to credit?
* Are there differences in the amount of credit they obtain?

*Practices and participation** Are there differences in how men and women spend their time during the day, e.g., productive activities, household chores, community activities, leisure?
* Are there differences in men’s and women’s membership in groups, e.g., village management committees, cooperatives, etc.?
* Are there differences in men’s and women’s participation in leadership roles in groups, e.g., village management committees, cooperatives, etc.?

*Laws, policies, and institutions** Are there differences between how men and women can inherit land or other property?
* Are there legal restrictions about when and where men or women can work?
* Are there different criteria for men and women to access a loan from a bank or for becoming a member of a group?

Note: It is often difficult to identify beliefs and perceptions that are conditions of disparity. Most often information you collect about beliefs and perceptions are factors that create disparities.**Use the GDF to identify factors that could explain the disparities.**Using Table 2 again to organize your information, you can write in the potential factors (or sub-causes) related to each disparity in the third column. There may be more than one factor, and the factors may relate to different dimensions.For example, you may discover that women have less access to credit than men and that the factors explaining this difference in access are because women do not own land or other property that can serve as collateral **(access to assets)** and that the financial institutions require their husbands to sign **(laws, policies, and institutions)**, and men in that area believe it’s not appropriate for women to take loans **(beliefs and perceptions)** and therefore do not help their wives. |
| Checklist | * Have you highlighted gender-based constraints in the problem tree?
* Have you linked the GBCs to other causes identified in your problem analysis?
* Have you prioritized the gender-based constraints?
 |
| Where to find additional information | * USAID Promoting Gender Equitable Agricultural Value Chain: A Handbook
 |

Table 2: Identifying gender-based constraints

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Dimension** | **Condition of disparity**  | **Potential factors causing the disparity**  | **Gender-based constraint** |
| **Access to assets** |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Practices and participation** |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Laws, policies, and institutions** |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

Table 3 Prioritizing Gender-based Constraints

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Gender-based constraint** | **Linked to what cause** | **Priority (low, medium, high)** |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |