



FAO-EU FLEGT PROGRAMME  
 Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations  
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## GENDER MAINSTREAMING IN FLEGT

Seminar on Gender Equality and Social Inclusion in Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT)  
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Presenters name  
 On behalf of the  
 FAO-EU FLEGT  
 Programme

## OUTLINE

- Introduction
- Issues and options for Gender Mainstreaming in the forestry sector
- Case studies of Gender Mainstreaming in FLEGT
  - Viet Nam
  - Lao PDR
  - Liberia
  - Ghana
- Key messages
- Available resources



## INTRODUCTION



Forestry systems are not gender-neutral – women are frequently disadvantaged, for a range of interrelated cultural, socio-economic and institutional reasons

Women play specific roles in forestry value chains and make up a significant proportion of the small business workforce in the forest and timber sector globally.

However, women's roles in forestry and value chains are poorly supported by policy-makers and the lack of gender-disaggregated data further compounds this problem.

The FLEGT and the VPA offers potential opportunities for women as well as challenges but little is known about the potential gender specific impacts the FLEGT VPA could / would have on women

## 3 SIMPLE GENDER SPECIFIC ACTIONS



### Sex Disaggregated Data Collection

- Commit to collecting gender disaggregated data, continuous monitoring of negative impact, share positive impacts – encourage uptake
- Information on how VPAs affect men and women differently along the timber value chain is missing. Carry out studies to address this gap and follow up with gender equitable projects

### Mainstreaming Gender

- Integrate gender analysis in the project's situational/baseline assessments
- Integrate gender sensitive indicators in project monitoring

### Capacity building for women in forestry

- Women have less access to and benefits from technologies, services, markets, information and inputs in forest communities. Commit to capacity building exercises specifically targeting women, women's groups, and women-led microenterprises to improve this.
- Addressing these disparities can increase the productivity of agriculture and forestry and improve food security and nutrition.

## CASE STUDIES OF GENDER MAINSTREAMING IN FLEGT VPA

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In 2017, the FAO EU FLEGT Programme took concrete steps to mainstream gender into the programmatic work as part of a strategic action towards more gender sensitive actions in the future. These includes:

1. Adding a gender field in the call for proposals
2. Increasing score for gender in the full proposal evaluation (10 to 15)
3. Supporting gender analysis at the country level
4. Working with EFI (SIDA funding) to promote gender mainstreaming in the private sector (small and micro enterprises) e.g. Laos and Thailand
5. Implementing the gender focused project starting with Liberia in 2017.

Case studies from the FAO-EU FLEGT Programme's implementation in – Viet Nam, Lao PDR, Liberia and Ghana (next slides)

## VIET NAM - ASSESSING POLICY IMPACTS OF NEW COMMITMENTS UNDER THE FLEGT VPA

Administrative Impact Assessment on VPA/FLEGT between Vietnam and EU is required by the law on International Treaties (2016)

Assessments includes potential impacts of the FLEGT VPA on political, national security, social and economic impacts of the VPA

Target Groups of the Assessment with relevance to women:

- Household and Small and Medium wood processing enterprises
- Smallholder tree growers



## VIET NAM (CONT.) – KEY FINDINGS WITH POTENTIAL IMPACT ON WOMEN

### Positive

Labor: workers in wood businesses will be more secure in terms of insurance, fire safety, signed employment contracts so the work is more stable and safe – this extends to women.

Income : Ensure more stable livelihoods for workers – including women

### Negative

Small and micro enterprises could be negatively affected by additional FLEGT VPA requirements and their ability to hire and retain staff

Many small businesses may have to shut down because they cannot afford to meet the certain environmental and social criteria for workers

Requirements such as insurance and contracts for all workers may affect women who are often engaged in seasonal work in the forest sector

## LAO PDR - GENDER TRAINING FOR CSOS

PADETC (Participatory Development Training Centre) ran a three day training on "Gender-integrated Planning for CSOs working with the wood processing sector"

Training was open to the Lao FLEGT CSO Network members (28 FLEGT NPAs in Lao PDR)

Aim: to provide CSO representatives with methods and tools for gender mainstreaming to increase participation of women in small holder wood processing

In Lao PDR, CSOs are working with small household wood processing enterprises to facilitate participation of both men and women in managing their household business in a challenging regulatory environment

This was the 1<sup>st</sup> exposure to formally promote tools and methods and to carry out gender analysis and mainstreaming



## LIBERIA - PROMOTING WOMEN AND COMMUNITY RIGHTS IN FOREST GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT IN LIBERIA

### Key findings of gender and forest management study :

- A key indicator of women's confidence in engaging with forestry decision-making was whether NGOs had engaged with the community in the past, over a sustained period of time.
- When women were involved in forestry decision-making, their participation did not necessarily trickle down to all women in the community.
- The primary markers of disparity in women's participation were education, standing in the



## LIBERIA (CONT.) - RECOMMENDATIONS

- The connection between sustained NGO intervention and the position of women in decision-making processes indicates that CSOs such as Action Aid Liberia (AAL) have an important role to encourage change and boost the involvement of women.
- Where women are excluded from participation in decision-making due to cultural factors, both women and men will need to be provided with training that emphasizes a rights-based approach as well as information about improved outcomes that will result from women having a greater say.
- Working with traditional leaders (mostly men) is likely to strengthen advocacy training for women.

## GHANA - ANALYSIS OF GENDER IN THE FOREST INDUSTRIES SECTOR

Global Timber Forum (GTF) assessed gender along the wood processing value chain in Ghana.

Key findings of the report indicate a major imbalance of equality amongst men and women in the wood processing sector, specifically in the following categories:

- Limited involvement of women in governance and leadership
- Limited understanding and appreciation of the impact of gender imbalances
- Ignorance of women's rights and lack of knowledge on existing laws on women's rights
- Women's limited power + Lack of recognition / respect for and protection of women's rights
- Lack of NGOs / CSOs working on gender and women's rights in the wood processing



## KEY MESSAGES

Gender mainstreaming in the forestry sector is relatively new – a key constrain is the lack of data on the role of women and impacts on women

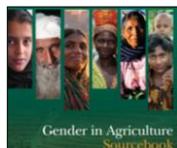
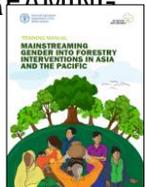
There are simple ways to start implementing gender specific action but this involves intentional planning (not after thought)

CSOs have a role to play in gender mainstreaming and in collecting the much needed data / information – including success stories

Empowering women in the forest sector can create significant development opportunities for them and generate important spill-over benefits for their households and



## AVAILABLE RESOURCES TO SUPPORT GENDER MAINSTREAMING



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## THANK YOU

For more information and support please contact:

Taylor Tondelli [taylor.tondelli@fao.org](mailto:taylor.tondelli@fao.org)  
Gender Focal Point, FAO EU FLEGT  
Programme

Kalpana Giri [kalpana.giri@recoftc.org](mailto:kalpana.giri@recoftc.org)  
Gender and Social Equity, RECOFTC/V4MF