

Module two: Methods to understand, analyze and consider women and men interests' when formulating reuse projects and policies



Learning Objectives



To understand the differences between women and men interests' when formulating reuse projects and policies



To Define what is meant by Gender Inequality and understand the relevance for differences between men and women



To understand the importance of incorporating gender perspectives in policy analysis



To know the key questions that have to be asked when formulating a water re-use project

Introduction



- It is very important to understand the differences between women and men interests' when formulating reuse projects and policies
- Women have accumulated considerable knowledge about water resources, including location, quality and storage methods for domestic water
- However the central role of women in water management is often overlooked

Why Differences between Women and Men are Important?

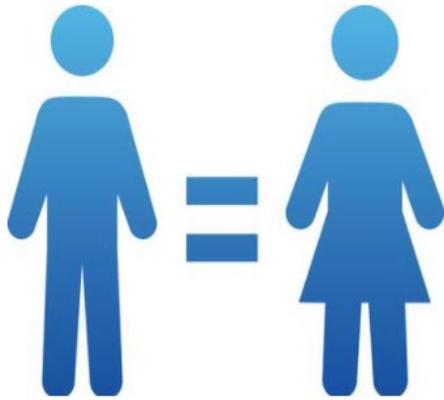
IRC

A study by the International Water and Sanitation Centre (IRC) in 88 communities in 15 countries found that projects designed and run with the full participation of women are more sustainable and effective than those that do not



This supports an earlier World Bank study in 2015 that found that women's participation was strongly associated with increased effectiveness of water and sanitation project

What is Gender Equality?

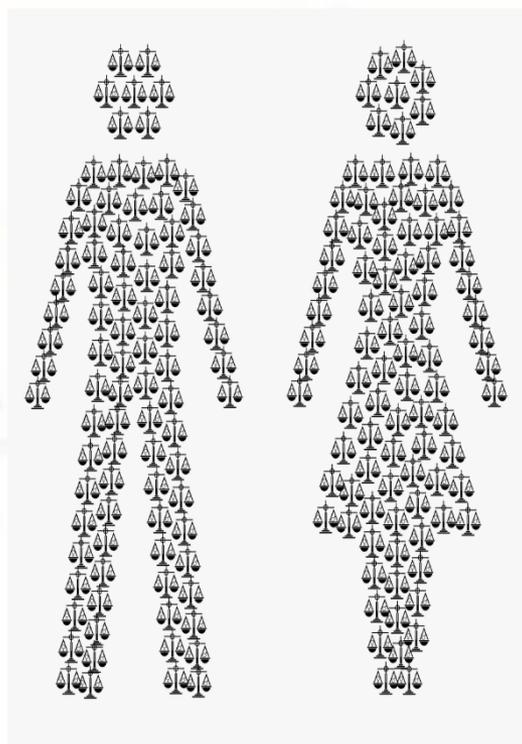


Gender equality is the equal:

- **Visibility**
- **Opportunities**
- **Participation of women and men in all spheres of public and private life**

Often guided by a vision of human rights, which incorporates acceptance of equal and inalienable rights of women and men

How differences Between Women and Men are Relevant?



- **Inequalities in political power:** Women are under-represented in political processes throughout the world
- **Inequalities within households:** Inequalities in negotiating and decision-making potential and access to resources
- **Differences in legal status and entitlements:** Despite national constitutions and international instruments, there are many instances in which equal rights to personal status, security, land, inheritance and employment opportunities are denied to women by law or practice

How differences Between Women and Men are Relevant?



- **Gender division of labour:** Women are more likely than men to be in low-paid jobs and “non-standard” work (part-time, temporary, home-based), and likely to have less access than men to productive assets such as education, skills, property and credit
- **Inequalities in the domestic/unpaid sector:** Women shoulder most of the responsibilities and tasks related to the care and nurturing of the family (including laundry, food preparation, childcare, care of the sick and cleaning)

Incorporating Gender Perspectives in Policy Analysis



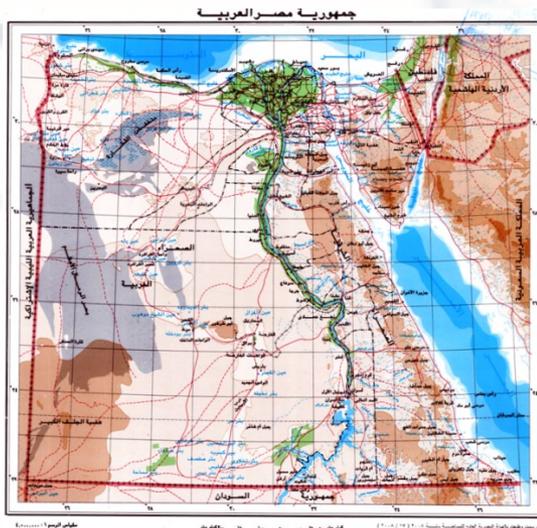
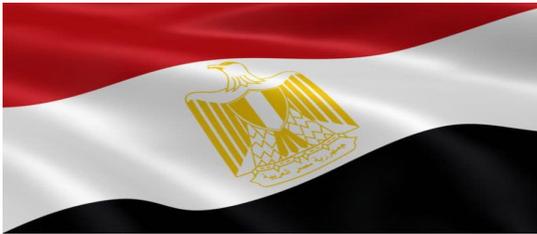
It is very important to ask specific questions when formulating a national water strategy or any strategy for water reuse in order to be able to capture the differences in women and men interests'

Important specific questions that have to be asked when formulating a project



- Questions about the **responsibilities, activities, interests** and priorities of women and men, and how their experience of problems may differ
- Question assumptions about “families”, “households” or “people” that may be implicit in the way a problem is posed or a policy is formulated
- Obtain data or information to allow the experiences and situation of both women and men to be analyzed. Sex-disaggregated data should be used at all times to gain a more informed understanding
- **Seek the inputs and views** of women as well as men about decisions that will affect the way they live.
- Avoid assuming that all women or all men share the same needs and perspectives. **There are differences among women and among men that relate to class, religion, age, ethnicity and other factors.**

Case Study: Women and Water in Egypt - Agricultural vs. Domestic Use



- Men typically require water for irrigation works, raising large livestock or growing crops. Usually women and girls collect all water for domestic use, such as cooking and cleaning
- Females are the prime water users worldwide, nevertheless women are marginalized when it comes to decision making in agriculture production and irrigation management
- Females are represented in Water User Associations in some areas in Upper Egypt (e.g. Fayoum), but not on an equal level to their male counterparts

Case Study: Women and Water in Egypt - Agricultural vs. Domestic Use



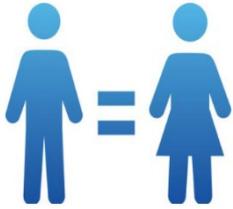
- The total time spent collecting water can be up to 10 hours per day. As a result, the time spent collecting water takes away from the education of women
- Further, they miss opportunities for income generation and social participation, further widening the gender gap
- Only if women are land owners themselves, they usually take over decision-making responsibility for all agriculture and irrigation related operations

Case Study: Women and Water in Egypt - Agricultural vs. Domestic Use



- But even in this case women in Upper Egypt often rely on their male relatives or neighbors to represent them when problems occur
- Thus, In many countries such as Egypt **women face obstacles** to increasing their active participation in Water Use Associations
- A project funded by the Government of the Netherlands was implemented to increase the representation of women
- In Water Use Associations to ensure that the needs of women are reflected in the decisions of the Water Use Associations

Conclusions



Gender equality is the equal

- Visibility,
- Opportunities
- Participation of women and men in all spheres of public and private life

Differences between Women and Men are Relevant mainly women are more likely than men **to be in low-paid jobs and “non-standard” work (part-time, temporary, home-based)**. Moreover, Women shoulder most of the responsibilities and tasks related to the care and nurturing of the family



There are important specific questions that have to be asked when formulating a project to ensure **incorporating gender perspective**

Questions

