



## Gender-sensitive Approaches in EU-GIZ ACSE

### Introduction

**Gender** refers to the social, behavioural, and cultural attributes, expectations, and norms associated with being male or female.

**Gender equality** is founded on the concept that all humans are free to develop their personal abilities and make choices without being limited by stereotypical, prejudiced and rigid gender roles. There should be no discrimination on the grounds of gender in the allocation of resources or benefits, or in the provision of access to and use of services.

Project activities are **gender-sensitive** when they recognise, and raise awareness and consideration of the different needs and constraints of individuals based on their gender. **Gender-responsive** activities seek to include remedial action beyond creating gender awareness, and to achieve equal project benefits to all social groups.

This fact sheet explores gender-sensitive and gender-responsive approaches and activities applied in EU-GIZ ACSE projects on the ground.

### A Gender-oriented Approach

In the planning phase, EU-GIZ ACSE projects engaged with a broad number of stakeholders. In many cases, separate community consultation sessions were held with women, elderly and youth. The feedback from these consultations contributed to the design and implementation of the projects. To further

strengthen the gender perspective, specific projects added gender analyses as an activity to their workplans.

### Specific Gender-sensitive Interventions

The 22 EU-GIZ ACSE projects work in a broad range of scenarios and contexts. They are implementing gender-sensitive interventions such as

- Providing improved and secure access to resources for all (electricity, water, agricultural infrastructure, stoves)
- Including the participation of men, women and youth
  - in project-related leadership committees and livelihood activities.
  - in project-related decision-making, design and implementation.
  - in training sessions and educational workshops.
  - in local development plans and policies.

### Common Challenges

The most common challenges that emerge when implementing gender-oriented approaches are:

- Including relevant results from consultations in designs and operational realisation of construction measures.
- Lack of awareness, personnel capacity and scope to carry gender-oriented activities forward.
- Remote locations of project sites may impede approaches for participatory gender action and monitoring.

- EU-GIZ ACSE has employed a gender-oriented approach in the planning of all projects
- Gender-sensitive consultations are a best practice to ensure needs of both, women and men, are taken into account
- Additional gender-sensitive approaches are used for specific project goals
- Results from consultations must be included in the realisation of project activities and construction measures

## Papua New Guinea: Integrated Water and Sustainable Energy (IWASE) Project

- Provision of improved and secure access to water through more secure public water collection points.
- Participation of women in community education and awareness training on water and energy conservation.
- Inclusion and involvement of women in management committees, and the design and construction stages of the project.
- Training of women in the operation and maintenance of the renewable energy systems that will be installed.



## Fiji: Sustainable Energy Hybrid Power Project (FSEHPP)

- Conducting feasibility studies and consultations with all groups in the society, including women.
- Consultation of women regarding the design of the energy grids.
- Training of women as solar technicians and inclusion in the committees to manage the solar hybrid systems.

## Vanuatu: Freshwater Aquaculture Trials and Governance Project

- Including the Ministry of Women in the project as a stakeholder.
- Allocating 50% of the trial farms to Women's Groups.
- Involving women in extension work.
- Reviewing the Aquaculture Development Plan of Vanuatu, with emphasis on the inclusion of women in the industry.



## Timor-Leste: Integrated Action for Resilience and Adaptation (IA4RA) to Climate Change in Raumoco Watershed

- Encouraging equal participation of men and women in project activities including:
  - Adopting climate resilient food systems, and water and energy efficient technologies
  - Community driven vulnerability evaluations, and climate field school training.

## Useful Resources

- Pacific Gender and Climate Change Toolkit: <https://www.pacificclimatechange.net/document/pacific-gender-climate-change-toolkit-complete-toolkit>
- Toolkit to Mainstream Gender into Energy & Climate Change Community based Adaptation Projects in the Pacific: <http://comm.gendercc.net/mod/resource/view.php?id=204>
- Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change Experiences: Gender and climate change adaptation: <https://www.sprep.org/pacc/experiences/gender>
- Global Gender and Climate Alliance: <http://gender-climate.org>
- Gender and sustainable energy guide: <http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/>

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