**GENDER-SENSITIVE ENTERPRISE SELECTION AND CLIMATE ADAPTATION**

We are undertaking a consultative process to better understand how agricultural enterprise selection at your county incorporate gender considerations, climate smart practices and support for women led enterprises. This interview aims to identify, how enterprise selection has been conducted at the county level. how gender norms shape gender roles across the various agricultural value chain, critical barriers, opportunities, and policy gaps that affect the inclusion of women, youth, and marginalized gr...

This exercise is intended to support counties in documenting enterprise performance, community preferences, and contributions to climate-smart agriculture (CSA) strategies. Your insights will help us navigate these specific objectives, inform investment priorities, and shape inclusive policies. We welcome your guidance and local context as we align our efforts with the evolving needs of your county. Your responses will be used solely to inform evidence-based programming and policy recommendations.

**Group 1 Responses**

**Enterprise Selection and Community Involvement**

1. How was the selection of agricultural and livestock enterprises conducted in your county, and what criteria guided this process?

* Suitability in different agro –ecological zone
* No. of farmers involved including men ,women and youth
* Market availability with bias to export
* Possibility of value addition (raw material for cottage industries )
* Value in terms of income
* In line with Government policies in place

1. In what ways were community members—including women, youth, and elders—engaged in the enterprise selection process?

* Value chain analysis in community barazas
* Participatory Intergrated Community Development (PICD) process
* Common Interest Group formation

1. What patterns have you observed in enterprise preferences across different community groups (e.g., by gender, age)?

* Income levels influence the level of investment in agriculture
* Technologies and innovations involved
* Duration of taken by the enterprise to generate income or returns
* Market availability of the finished product
* Initial capital
* Inputs required
* Labour involved
* Risk level

**Identification of Agricultural Enterprises**

1. What agricultural enterprises (both livestock and crops) are predominantly led by women, men, youth and elderly in each county?

**Men**

* Green grams
* Sorghum
* Millet
* Dairy cow
* Meat Goats
* Beef cattle
* Apiary (beekeeping)

**Women**

* Green grams
* Cowpeas
* Pegionpeas
* Poultry
* Dairy cow

1. What traditional and non traditional agricultural enterprises are women currently involved in?

**Traditional**

* Arrowroots
* Sweet potaoes
* Cassava
* Millet
* Sorghum
* Indigenous vegetables

**Non traditional**

* Green grams
* Cowpeas
* Pegion peas
* Poultry
* Dairy cow

1. What factors contribute to women’s dominance in these enterprises? (e.g., ease of entry, cultural norms, policy incentives)

* Ease of entry-Resources required and labor involved
* Availability of technologies .e.g green gram Drough resistant varieties
* Cultural norms especially for poultry
* Ownership and control especially for poultry
* For food and nutrition security
* Income generation- quick turnover period

1. What social or institutional barriers have you seen affecting women’s leadership or decision-making in enterprise development?

* Culture and perception
* Ownership and control of land
* Limited access to resources - no collateral for financial services access
* Low literacy levels
* Lack of political goodwill

**Gender Roles in Agricultural Enterprises ( for each of the enterprise selected ask the following questions**

1. What specific tasks/ roles in these enterprises are performed by women, men, youth and elderly or shared?( for each enterprise selected probe for the gender roles across the value chain and reasons why?

Enterprise Men Women Youth Reasons why

Green grams Provision of land

Land preparation

Purchase of inputs

Planting

Spraying herbicides and pesticides

Baging

Transportation by use of bodaboda and oxen-drawn cart

Price negotiation

Selling

Decision-making on the use of income Planting - seeding

Weeding

Harvesting

Drying and threshing

Cooking

Land preparation

Planting

Spraying herbicides and pesticides

Weeding

Harvesting

Threshing

Transportation

Market linkages

Men –ownership, labour intensive ,skills and experience required, control of income, cultural expectations.

Women – less skill and labour, cultural norms, precision and skill.

Youth – quick money ,less time required

Sorghum Provision of land

Land preparation

Purchase of inputs

Planting

Bird scaring

Baging

Transportation by use of bodaboda and oxen-drawn cart

Price negotiation

Selling

Decision-making on the use of income Planting - seeding

Weeding

Bird scaring

Harvesting

Drying and threshing

Value addition and cooking

Land preparation

Planting

Bird scaring

Weeding

Harvesting

Threshing

Transportation

Men –ownership, labour intensive ,skills and experience required, control of income, cultural expectations.

Women – less skill and labour, cultural norms, precision and skill.

Youth – quick money ,less time required

Millet Provision of land

Land preparation

Purchase of inputs

Planting

Bird scaring

Baging

Transportation by use of bodaboda and oxen-drawn cart

Price negotiation

Selling

Decision-making on the use of income Planting - seeding

Weeding

Harvesting

Drying and threshing

Value addition and Cooking

Land preparation

Planting

Bird scaring

Weeding

Harvesting

Threshing

Transportation

Men –ownership, labour intensive ,skills and experience required, control of income, cultural expectations.

Women – less skill and labour, cultural norms, precision and skill.

Youth – quick money ,less time required

Cowpeas Provision of land

Land preparation

Purchase of inputs

Planting

Spraying herbicides and pesticides

Baging

Transportation by use of bodaboda and oxen-drawn cart

Price negotiation

Selling

Decision-making on the use of income Seed selection

Planting - seeding

Weeding

Harvesting

Seed preservation

Drying and threshing

Cooking

Land preparation

Planting

Spraying herbicides and pesticides

Weeding

Harvesting

Threshing

Transportation

Men –ownership, labour intensive ,skills and experience required, control of income, cultural expectations.

Women – less skill and labour, cultural norms, precision and skill.

Youth – quick money ,less time required

Pegionpeas Provision of land

Land preparation

Purchase of inputs

Planting

Spraying herbicides and pesticides

Baging - dry product

Transportation by use of bodaboda and oxen-drawn cart

Selling

Decision-making on the use of income Seed selection

Planting - seeding

Weeding

Harvesting of vegetable pegion peas.

Seed preservation

Drying and threshing

Price negotiation- vegetable pegion peas

Cooking

Land preparation

Planting

Spraying herbicides and pesticides

Weeding

Harvesting

Threshing

Transportation

Market linkages

Men –ownership, labour intensive ,skills and experience required, control of income, cultural expectations.

Women – less skill and labour, cultural norms, precision and skill.

Youth – quick money ,less time required

Meat Goats Provision of land

Purchase of breeding stock

Labour - herding by eldery

Construction of housing structures - goat pen

Spraying acaricides

Branding and identification

Selling

Control of income generated Provide labour - herding, milking, watering

Cleaning the goat pen

Taking care of the kids

Transportation to market- hand-held

Provide labour- herding, milking, watering

Slaughtering

Transportation to market- bodaboda, hand-held

Branding

Men –ownership, labour intensive ,skills and experience required, control of income, cultural expectations.

Women – less skill and labour, cultural norms, precision and skill.

Youth – quick money ,less time required

Poultry Construction of poultry housing structures

Scaring of predators

Control of income generated Sourcing of breeding stock

Provide labour - feeding and watering

Cleaning the chicken house

Disease control

Slaughtering and value addition

Transportation to market

Selling

Donation/appreciation

Control of income generated Purchase of breeding stock

Feeding

Slaughtering

Transportation to market- bodaboda, hand-held

Men –ownership, labour intensive ,skills and experience required, control of income, cultural expectations.

Women – less skill and labour, cultural norms, precision and skill.

Youth – quick money ,less time required

Apiary (beekeeping) Provision of land

Agroforestry

Purchase of hives

Siting and hanging of hives

General maintenance of hives

Honey harvesting and refinery

Packaging

Selling

Control of income generated Agroforestry

Market linkages

Agroforestry

Purchase of hives

Siting and hanging of hives

General maintenance of hives

Honey harvesting and refinery

Packaging

Selling

Men –ownership, labour intensive ,skills and experience required, control of income, cultural expectations.

Women – less skill and labour, cultural norms, precision and skill.

Youth – quick money ,less time required

Beef cattle Provision of land

Purchase of breeding stock

Labour - herding by eldery

Construction of housing structures - cattle boma

Fodder harvesting and preservation

Spraying acaricides

Branding and identification

Transportation to the market- hand-held

Selling

Control of income generated Provide labour - milking, watering

Cleaning the cattle boma

Taking care of the calves

Provide labour- herding, milking, watering

Fodder harvesting and preservation

Slaughtering

Transportation to market- hand-held

Branding

Men –ownership, labour intensive ,skills and experience required, control of income, cultural expectations.

Women – less skill and labour, cultural norms, precision and skill.

Youth – quick money ,less time required

Dairy cow Provision of land

Purchase of breeding stock

Labour

Construction of housing structures - dairy unit

Pasture and fodder harvesting and preservation

Spraying acaricides

Branding and identification

Selling

Control of income generated Provide labour -milking, watering

Cleaning the dairy unit

Taking care of the calves

Selling milk

Provide labour- milking, watering

Pasture and fodder harvesting and preservation

Slaughtering

Branding

Selling milk

Men –ownership, labour intensive ,skills and experience required, control of income, cultural expectations.

Women – less skill and labour, cultural norms, precision and skill.

Youth – quick money ,less time required

1. What barriers( social cultural economic) prevent women from expanding their roles in these enterprises?

* Limited resource access
* Inadequate knowledge and skills
* Inadequate appropriate gender friendly innovations and technology
* Lack of control and decision making especially concerning assets and income
* Cultural stereotypes and perceptions

1. At which process/ value chain for each enterprise do women control decision-making and income and why?

Value chain

Process

Why

poultry Sourcing of breeding stock

Provide labour - feeding and watering

Cleaning the chicken house

Disease control

Slaughtering and value addition

Transportation to market

Selling

Donation/appreciation

Control of income generated Less skill and labour, cultural norms, precision and skill.

Goats meat goat Provide labour - herding, milking, watering

Cleaning the goat pen

Taking care of the kids

Transportation to market- hand-held Less skill and labour, cultural norms, precision and skill.

Dairy cow Provide labour -milking, watering

Cleaning the dairy unit

Taking care of the calves

Selling milk Less skill and labour, cultural norms, precision and skill.

Green grams Planting - seeding

Weeding

Harvesting

Drying and threshing

Cooking Less skill and labour, cultural norms, precision and skill.

Cowpeas Seed selection

Planting - seeding

Weeding

Harvesting

Seed preservation

Drying and threshing

Cooking Less skill and labour, cultural norms, precision and skill.

Pegion peas Seed selection

Planting - seeding

Weeding

Harvesting of vegetable pegion peas.

Seed preservation

Drying and threshing

Price negotiation- vegetable pegion peas

Cooking Less skill and labour, cultural norms, precision and skill.

**Climate Change and Emerging Enterprises**

1. How have changing climatic conditions influenced the types of enterprises being prioritized in your county?

* Influenced diversification to other crops and livestock
* Influenced adoption of climate smart technologies, innovations and practises
* Influenced emergence of other support value chains such as pasture and pasture seed production, tree nursery and agroforestry
* Influence enhancement of apiculture value chain

2. What are some examples of new enterprises that have emerged as a direct response to climate challenges, and how are they distributed across different gender or age groups?

* Poultry which has seen introduction of improved kienyeji chicken which has multipurpose use - mostly for women and youth
* Pasture and pasture seed production, tree nursery and agroforestry establishment - for men and male youth
* Kitchen garden farming - for women
* Beekeeping and hive making enterprises - for men and male youth

**Access to Resources and Digital Tools**

1. In your experience, how do men and women, youth and elderly differ in accessing critical resources such as

a. land,

Resource Gender ACCESS

Land Men High

Women Low

Youth Low

Finance Men High

Women Medium (Informal services)

Youth Low

Training/Knowledge/Extension services Men Enterprise based

Women Enterprise based

Youth Enterprise based

Information on market and weather Men High

Women Medium

Youth High

Technology and digital gadgets Men Medium

Women Medium

Youth High

b. Finance-the overall financial landscape for access including the informal such as community Savings and loans associations), SACCOs, banks, insurance services

c. Access to training and knowledge/extension

d. Access to information as market, weather

e. Access to technology eg ICT, digital gadgets, internet, digital literacy

2. What challenges do women face in using digital platforms or ICT tools for enterprise development, and how are they navigating these barriers?

**Group 2 Responses**

**Economic Viability & Market analysis**

1. How is the market demand for the product (specific value chain)

Enterprise Market Demand Competition Profitability Income and Sustainability Socio-Economic benefits

Green gram High Low High  Male dominated with low income to women.

 Sustainable enterprise  Improved access to education

 Improved housing

 Improved food & nutrition security

 Improved clothing

 Improved access to health care services

Cow peas Medium Low Medium  Low income

 Sustainable enterprise  Improved access to education

 Improved food & nutrition security

 Improved clothing

Sorghum High Low High  Male dominated with low income to women.

 It is a sustainable enterprise  Improved access to education

 Improved housing

 Improved food & nutrition security

 Improved clothing

 Improved access to health care services

Pigeon peas High Medium High  High income

 Sustainable enterprise  Improved access to education

 Improved housing

 Improved food & nutrition security

 Improved clothing

 Improved access to health care services

Meat Goat High Medium - Competition from other neighboring ASAL Counties Medium  Male dominated with low income to women.

 Sustainable enterprise  Improved access to education

 Improved housing

 Improved food & nutrition security

 Improved clothing

 Improved access to health care services

Poultry High Medium - Competition from other producing Counties Medium  High income

 Sustainable enterprise  Improved nutrition

Bees High Low High  Male dominated

 Sustainable enterprise  Improved access to education

 Improved housing

 Improved food & nutrition security

 Improved clothing

 Improved access to health care services

Beef Hi High - Competition from other producing Counties Medium  Male dominated

 Sustainable enterprise  Improved access to education

 Improved housing

 Improved food & nutrition security

 Improved clothing

Improved access to health care services

Dairy cattle-Milk Low Low High  High income

 Not sustainable enterprise  Improved food & nutrition security

 Improved clothing

2. What is the competition landscape for this product and any opportunity where women can tap more on through value addition etc

3. What are the economic benefits and profitability levels of these enterprises for women?

4. How do these enterprises compare to male-dominated ones in terms of income and sustainability?

The male dominated enterprises generate more income as compared to female dominated enterprises.

5. What socio-economic benefits (e.g., improved household welfare, community development) do these enterprises bring?

* Improved access to education
* Improved housing
* Improved nutrition and health
* Improved clothing
* Improved access to health facilities.

**Replicability & Scalability**

1. What factors contribute to the success of these enterprises?

* Availability of land
* Availability of capital
* Availability of skilled and unskilled labor
* Technical knowhow
* Access to market
* Water, pasture, fodder and foliage

2. Can these enterprises be replicated in other counties/regions? What conditions are necessary? Yes

**Conditions necessary**

* Suitable climatic conditions for the growing of crops and raising of livestock based enterprises
* Availability factors of production (land, Capital, labor and technical knowhow)

3. How can value chains and market access be improved to enhance their viability?

* Upscaling value addition
* Adoption of digital marketing technology
* Market survey and linkages
* Product aggregation
* Produce branding and advertisement
* Grow more food campaigns for the specified enterprises
* Improvement of infrastructure (e.g. Roads, electricity, communication networks etc.)

**6. Data Availability & Policy Support**

1. What data sources exist to track the success and impact of these women-led enterprises?

* County ministry of agriculture and livestock progress reports,
* Farmer cooperatives,
* Development partners,
* Other County Ministries e.g. Culture, Gender, Youth, ICT, Sports & Social Services, Trade, Industry, MSMEs, Innovations & Cooperatives, and
* Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS).

2. Qualitatively capture the policy frameworks supporting the women -led V.Cs

* Kitui County Gender policy, and
* Kitui Sorghum Act 2015.

3. Map the landscape for women’s collectives or cooperatives that would enhance their collective voices for favorable enabling environment.

1. Are there any policy gaps that need to be addressed to further support women in these enterprises? Yes

* Value chain policy
* Financial policy
* Farmer SACCO policy

5. What recommendations can be made to strengthen these enterprises through policy interventions and investments?

* Affordable and flexible credit access to women,
* Tailor made credit access to women led enterprises,
* Establishment of revolving fund for women enterprises,
* Continuous capacity building of women groups,
* Formation and strengthening of women organizations, and
* Establishment of cottage industries for value addition,
* Introduction of subsidies on agricultural inputs, and
* Zero rating of raw materials for agricultural production

6. From your perspective, what policies are currently enabling or hindering women’s participation in climate-resilient enterprises?

* High taxation regime leading to high cost of inputs,
* Uncontrolled importation of certain commodities which are locally produced like eggs and milk,
* High interest rates on agricultural related credit facilities,
* Unattractive terms of credit

7. What kinds of support (e.g., financial, technical, policy) would make it easier for women and marginalized groups to thrive in enterprise development?

* Linkage to affordable financial and insurance services,
* Capacity building on modern production technologies, and
* Provision of agricultural inputs to women,