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 groups in agricultural value chains, particularly in the face of climate change. The identification and tracking of such gender-responsive enterprises are key to generating knowledge products under the AAAA framework.

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.

1. **Enterprise Selection and Community Involvement**
2. How was the selection of agricultural and livestock enterprises conducted in your county, and what criteria guided this process?

**Crop suitability in terms of Soil types, AEZs, soil pH, cultural norms,e.g sorghum enterprise, rainfall requirement, altitude, and rainfed vs. irrigated farming and crop varieties**

**For livestock in the county, AEZs there are 2 zones where we have a mixed farming crop and livestock zone, horticulture and dairy zone, as well as livestock types and breeds suitability**

**Climate resilient varieties, forages for livestock and crops**

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

meeting, barazas and discussions , the value chains already had strategies in place)

**Through public participation; meetings(stakeholder engagement), barazas (in some projects level), focused group discussion- number of people with different expertise to advice**

1. What patterns have you observed in enterprise preferences across different community groups (e.g., by gender, age)? **In lowlands;** **Women and youth actually go for poultry farming, goat rearing (both in dividual and even group)while men go cattle (dairy and beef)**

**In highlands; women will propose dairy and poultry**

**For crops; women and youths moreso youths o for less laborious enterprises such as horticultural crops**

**Financially they tend to shy away from high value crops**

**Tend to shift towards enterprises with quick returns, short term crops- those that do not need longer maturing period**

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

|  | Enterprise |
| --- | --- |
| Men | Cattle(beef and dairy), goats, banana, tomatoes, onions,watermelon, rice |
| Women | Goat rearing, poultry, dairy in highland areas, horticulture (fruits and vegetables) and pulses(beans and peas), maize and beans, cassava (kimanga) |
| Youth | poultry, horticulture |
| Elderly | poultry and goats, maize and beans on small scale, pulses |

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

**traditional - maize and beans, cassava, pulses, poultry, goats**

**non-traditional- dairy goats, horticulture, pulses for export such as sugar snaps and french beans**

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

**Financial factors- enterprises that require low capital**

**Short maturity period - generate returns within a short period**

**Less labour intensive enterprises**

**such as poultry and goat farming where the Number of animals is around 6-10 heads of goats, 10-30 chickens**

**Cultural norms- men are the sole owners of the land and the decision makers.**

small portion of lands, non control of land, cultural norms- some got the parents , those with less value are given to women

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

**Cultural norms where men own and control the land and its use**

**Financial institution- women do not own land therefore lack colateral(title deeds) limiting from accessing loans**

**Lack of awareness on the 1/3 gender rule in women leadership and decision making.**

1. **Gender Roles in Agricultural Enterprises( for each of the enterprise selected ask the following questions**
2. 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?

Crops

| **Activity** | **men** | **women** | **youth** | **elderly** | **remarks** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Input acquisition | ü | ü | ü | ü | Head of households in decision making  Financial access  Women – small inputs |
| Decision on LAND USE | ü |  |  |  | Men own and control the land |
| Land preparation |  | ü | ü |  | Provision of labour services.  Men ready to pay for those services  Women take up to earn money for household needs  Youth involved for quick money |
| Weeding |  | ü | ü |  | Provision of labour services.  Men ready to pay for those services  Women take up to earn money for household needs  Youth involved for quick money |
| Harvesting |  | ü | ü |  | Provision of labour services.  Men ready to pay for those services  Women take up to earn money for household needs  Youth involved for quick money |
| Marketing | ü |  |  |  | Men want to control and the manager the income |
| Control of income | ü |  |  |  | Men want to control and the manager the income |

Livestock

| **Activity** | **men** | **women** | **youth** | **elderly** | **Remarks** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Input acquisition | ü | ü | ü | ü | All involved in acquisition |
| Decision on LAND USE | ü |  |  |  | Men own and control the land |
| Grazing |  | ü | ü |  | Provision of labour services.  Men ready to pay for those services  Women take up to earn money for household needs  Youth involved for quick money  Zero grazing mostly youth. But hay And sell to the dairy cattle farmers |
| Watering |  | ü | ü |  | In zero grazing units |
| Harvesting |  | ü | ü |  | Harvesting and conservation such as silage and hay |
| Milking |  | ü | ü |  | Men ready to pay for those services |
| Pest and disease control | ü |  | ü |  | Considers a man’s job. labour intensive |
| Marketing of livestock | ü | ü | ü |  | Men involved for control of income  Youth involved in transportation |
| Control of income | ü |  |  |  | Men want to control and the manager the income |

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

**Cultural norms where men own and control the land and its use.**

**Technological and machineries - gender unfriendly technologies and equipments**

**Financial barriers- women do not own land therefore lack colateral(title deeds) limiting from accessing loans**

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

**Decision being made is on yields - they prioritize suitable varieties, type of feeds**

**Women are dominant in the value chains with low startup capital therefore having a decision making role in these.**

**Play a role in input accessibility**

**4. Climate Change and Emerging Enterprises**

1. How have changing climatic conditions influenced the types of enterprises being prioritized in your county? **Opting for climate resilient drought tolerant varieties, resilient breeds for livestock, high value pasture and fodders suitable for ASAL areas. Disease tolerant varieties and breeds. Value addition for example converting forages into silages for use during dry seasons. Value addition in crop produce e.g drying, packaging and agro processing.**

**Early maturing crop varieties that require less rainfall**

1. 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? **Livestock - dairy goats, requires low inp[ut in terms of feeds but high monetary value dominated mostly by women**

**Sorghum, cassava, sweet potatoes, cowpeas, pigeon peas and green grams - drought tolerant crops dominated mostly by women**

**Poultry - improved kienyeji. dominated by women groups and youth groups**

**5.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
   1. land,
   2. Finance-the overall financial landscape for access including the informal such as community Savings and loans associations) Saccos banks, insurance services
   3. Access to training and knowledge/extension
   4. Access to information as market, weather
   5. Access to technology eg ICT, digital gadgets, internet, digital literacy

| Resource | Men | Women | Youth | Elderly |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Land | Leading | This follows after the male youth | follows men | Elderly abortion to men |
| Finance | Men have the collateral for loans but they mostly do not use that opportunity | Highly because of loans and chamas, merry go round, and other sources and groups | Male youth especially those in groups | Low |
| Access to training and knowledge/extension | More men in residential training are dominated by men. | Training within is dominated by women. Most women are housewives and they mostly do not have time for residential trainings. Husbands have a say on whether the women can attend trainings or not | Few youths avail themselves for the extension services | The elderly are not included in most trainings because of the education and literacy levels, unless they are translated to the local languages |
| Access to information as market, weather | Men lead. Men are the once to take control of the proceeds from sales |  |  |  |
| Access to technology eg ICT, digital gadgets, internet, digital literacy | Follow after women. | They follow after youth. Women are mostly closer to their mothers and so mothers get more information through these interactions | Youth lead | Come last |

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

***How to use the tool and data are the limiting factors. They mainly navigate the tool through the help of the youths.***

**6.Economic Viability & Market analysis**

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

The priority value chains include ***banana, beef cattle, green grams***

***The market demand is not static. The selection of the priority value chains are based on the suitability of AEZ. The market for these value chains is readily available. There is support from development partners.***

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

Banana; Male **Youth and women *stand to tap opportunities in harvesting, transport (male youth)ripening, packaging, value addition (crisps, jam, s, wine, flour, ), and marketing.***

Greengrams: Men do threshing, value addition (chapati, samosa, dominated by women)

irish potatoes: ***Women gain from value addition (chips, etc)***

Dairy cattle: ***Management (men), milking (women), transportation (male youth), value addition (yorghut, mala, dominated by women/ youth)***

Indigenous chicken- ***dominated by women, when the numbers increase, men join***

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

***Bananas and green grams are fairly profitable, dairy is not as profitable as a few people are involved in it. When the family is in need of money they can sell chicken to settle some needs***

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

***Men dominated value chains are more sustainable and profitable compared to those for women. Example: Dairy cattle is dominated by men***

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

**These value chains help in paying children school fees, improved food and nutrition, clothing, . The priority by women dominated value chains start with the food and nutritions, then clothing, followed by assisting the husband in paying school fees etc and ploughing back to the farming.**

**7. Replicability & Scalability**

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

***These value chains succeed because of the readily available market, support by the stakeholders/donors, political goodwill by the county, most donor funded projects, uptake by the community***

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

***Yes, Some such as green grams, bananas can be replicated elsewhere such as the Tana River. The conditions such as in question 1 above are required***

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

***Infrastructure. There is a need for good roads, aggregation centers, FPOs, utilization of digital tools where the seller and the buyer can interact. Value addition***

**8. Data Availability & Policy Support**

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

***From the secondary sources e.g reports and beneficiary/attendance lists in various departments.***

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

***There is a cross border trade policy. Women in trade. For the banana value chain in Taveta, traders from both sides cross the border during market days without requirement for scrutiny.***

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

***There are registered women groups CIGs (Common interest groups and VMGs (Vulnerable Marginalized Groups e.g elderly, youth, indigenous people ). There are 4 groups in VOI for the indigenous groups***

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

***There are limited values that are focused on women. For example, buying motorbikes for the agricultural extension services is not women friendly. A policy should be in place to guide on this***

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

***There is a need in having policy to support certain value chains to consider value addition and selling the products as a group(FPO) as opposed to as an individual. By way of FPOs there is a bargain for better prices and helps limit the influence brokers who exploit the farmers. For example bananas, green grams can be sold through FPOs.***

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

***There are limited number of policy in this regard***

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

**Capacity building (financial literacy/management, ), financial support (loans, value addition)**