NAKURU 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.

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?

**Agricultural and livestock enterprises were selected through a participatory process using the "one ward, one cooperative" model. Farmers led the selection, guided by criteria such as number of people involved, production volume, adaptability, and profitability. Enterprises were scored out of 45 to prioritize value chains per ward.**

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

***All these groups were actively represented during the enterprise selection process. Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) were conducted, ensuring participation from diverse representatives across different locations within the ward. This inclusive approach allowed women, youth, and elders to voice their views, contribute local knowledge, and help identify suitable enterprises based on community needs and priorities.***

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

**Poultry - Poultry is for women but if the economic value is more this shifts to ownership by men**

**Through NAVCDP they conduct broad participatory integrated community development plan - can get gendered info in this report. All the 50 agri wards have the CIDP community integrated development plan - can get this information in soft copy from the CDA**

**Dairy goats - female are predominantly the owners especially if they are a few, if they are more this becomes for men**

**dairy cattle - mostly men. feeding is both gender, milk goes to women especially evening milk. The morning milk is for men.**

**beekeeping - male dominated**

**horticulture - if it is kitchen garden it is for women otherwise if it is commercial e.g carrots, green peas, cabbages, this is for men**

**\*SCAOs have this**

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

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

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

**In terms of feeding, if small numbers and small space to occupy. those value chains that require minimal resources become for women. Enterprises that require small capital is for women. E.G in Kuresoi if the number of poultry is above 50 or 100 it becomes for men. This is believed discriminatory as women are denied chance of ownership of profitable value chains**

**Transport logistic -male youths**

**The young females are missing in all these value chains and activities**

**The traditional cash crops e.g tea, avocadoes, coffee, pyrethrum are elderly men mostly own pyrethrum, the farmers are mostly 60+. So is to coffee**

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

***Those who turn up in value chain based meetings are men. Socially women have roles that prevent them. The county at times uses affirmative action in calling for meetings***

***Culture and tribe is a factor. Some women are more empowered than others based on this e.g kikuyu community women have more powers to decision making than for example kalen etc***

***some women in other communities are do long distance business because they have been cultured***

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?

***In production activities women and youth lead. Marketing and transport mainly male youth and men***

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

**Control of resources is dominated by men. Decision making is mostly by men. Access to land and capital to undertake this value chains is mostly by men. Responsibilities women have like reproductive responsibilities child care etc**

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

**preparing the land - mechanized it is men. This cuts across but in most cases women rise up early to go prepare the land**

**milking - for cattle with more milk , men do . Otherwise it is women**

**cattle feeding - mostly women especially if not employed.**

**harvesting - for hired labor it is mostly both. If potatoes - men, pyrethrum/tea/ - women. Maize -mixed. Cabbages -men especially if many and when it involves loading into a lorry**

**wedding - mostly women.**

**application manure - women**

**spraying - men**

**marketing -men**

Climate Change and Emerging Enterprises

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

**Traditional maize growing wards have ventured into other value chains for example Kuresoi was not a maize zone but now they are doing. There has been suitability shifts as a result of climate change.**

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?

**Maize non-traditional places have embraced maize because they have become warm and the yield has increased. In some areas maize has been taking about 9 months but now taking shorter. Similarly this is happening for beans.**

**Conditions have been more conducive for pests and diseases. There are emerging pests and diseases e.g the persian mines affects avocadoes**

**Change of crop varieties e.g there are 3 -4 months has been adaptable to nakuru. Farmers have become open to short duration varieties**

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,

***Land is mostly for men as the head of the family***

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

**saccos -mainly men**

**Huge amounts of loans are accessible to mostly men**

**table banking is mostly for women but men have started participating**

c. Access to training and knowledge/extension

**Training for the county does a targeted approach. For a normal training it mostly attended by me**

**men attend training but women learn by practicing. In other cases, men become TOT trainers, they explain new knowledge to their women who then are the implementers**

**Most men have access to knowledge and extension training skills. Ladies learn by doing, ladies can identify**

d. Access to information as market, weather

**Mostly men**

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

**Mostly men, youths**

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

**Challenges: Little exposure of digital training, women just fear due to limited exposure, they mostly do not afford or own the technology including gadgets etc**

**How they navigate: they are being assisted by their children. The developers of these technologies have come up with USSD to help them. Local radio stations/tv**

Economic Viability & Market analysis

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

**Tea - High and this a high end crops**

**Maize - High - has demand but fluctuates with season. This is the leading crop followed by irish potatoes**

**Wheat - prices and market fluctuate . quelea birds, wheat rust is common threat. The cost of production is high. Most people are shifting away. Heavily mechanized**

**Potatoes - leading after maize. Prices and demand is erratic**

**Dairy cattle - Very stable and lucrative market**

**poultry - Demand is high. Misuse and overuse of antibiotics so exposing human beings to antibiotic resistance**

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

**Dairy cattle - ladies are emerging investors in this**

**Poultry - women are included in this**

**potatoes - women are involved**

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

**Dairy cattle , poultry, potatoes, maize, there are moderate economic and profitability benefits**

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

**For men, they are more sustainable and highly profitable because they have the most high value cash crops. Investment is high hence profitability margins is also high**

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

**Dairy cattle , poultry, potatoes, maize contribute to household income, food and nutrition security.**

Replicability & Scalability

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

**Dairy cattle , poultry, potatoes, maize are favored by climatic conditions, source of and availability of farm inputs, markets and technical know-how**

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

**Dairy cattle , poultry, potatoes, maize . Yes. As long as they have similar ecological, political, socio economic factors. Population is a factor in which high population provides the demand and market**

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

**Dairy cattle , poultry, potatoes, maize . If dairy cattle can be improved by having high yielding breeds, availability of AI services, quality feeds, enhanced diseases prevention mechanisms, and market for the product. Intensive system as opposed to free range. increase the infrastructure of cold chain. Crop value chain source of quality inputs, production technologies, road network**

6. Data Availability & Policy Support

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

**Crop(Irish potato) regulation 2019 advocates for packaging of potatoes into packages not more than 50kgs. Reduces the exploitation in terms of market**

**Nakuru gender and development policy advocate for support the women led enterprise**

**For all procurement at the national and county government requires certain threshold of meeting the gender need**

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

**For nakuru county potato cooperatives union -negotiates with processors on behalf of the potatoes cooperatives. Offers mechanization services**

**nakuru dairy cooperative union - negotiates with processors on behalf of the dairy cooperatives**

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

**Under NAVCDP access to finance for the small holder farmers who are members of CID (Common interest groups/ farmer producer organizations will access funding from saccos within every ward. Since every ward will have a sacco per ward. Each ward in all the counties implementing NAVCDP have a cooperative sacco**

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

**Village Savings and Loans Association (VSLA) - this incorporates women . Women belong to certain groups which if elevated to VSLA, then they stand to benefit**

**Infrastructure that supports value addition of products . E.g nakuru have promoted sunflower and there is need for processing to extract value added products**

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

**Limited financial resources. They can be able to set up infrastructure such as for irrigation**

**Technical know-how. technologies that will help them participate in climate smart enterprises**

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

**Nakuru county has a women enterprise fund**

**Through NAVCDP it supports cooperatives that are at ward level. Inclusion grant assist them digitizing so they are able to use digital platforms as opposed to paper based. their operations Matching grant, if members are mobilized so that a portfolio can be able to be give a good load**

**enterprise fund this is beneficial to women led enterprises**