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Gender and Development

Faculty of Economics, Thammasat University

Outline

9:00 AM	Overview
10:30 – 10:45 AM	Gender mainstreaming
12:00 – 1:00 PM	Sector Issues in Gender
2:30 – 2:45 PM	Gender in CLMV
4:00 – 4:30 PM	Conclusion

Importance of women's participation

- With rapid social and economic change, absence of women's participation means that potential contribution of half of the population is unutilized
- Higher rate of economic growth is attributed to women's participation in the economy, which include improved productivity and reduced health and welfare costs



Recognizing women's role in development

- Given their important role in development, women need to be recognized and their status improved
- Therefore improving the status of women is important not only for reasons of equity and social justice, but also makes economic sense
- Efforts must also be made to improve women's well-being



Improving women's education

- Better education, health and nutrition, improves women's quality of life; and increases productivity and economic efficiency and growth
- Investing in girls' education benefits society, enhances future earning capacity, increases labor market access and reduces health risks associated with childbirth



Improving women's health access to finance

- Healthy women means healthy children, reduced health costs, lowers fertility, and infant and maternal mortality rates, and reduces poverty
- Improving women's access to financial services contributes to poverty reduction and enables women to contribute to family income



Preventing discrimination and abuse

- Discrimination against women entails costs not only for the individual, but also for the overall society
- Therefore it is imperative to promote, support, enhance, and ensure women's participation and equitable share of the rewards of development





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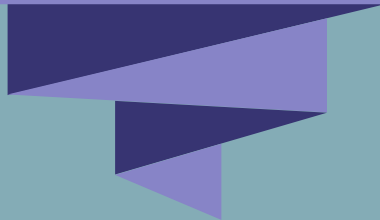


GENDER MAINSTREAMING



GENDER REPRESENTATION

ensuring women and men as policy beneficiaries
and better gender balance in the labor force and in
the decision making processes



Implementing gender representation

- Numbers are important
- Also important is how gender relates to policy content, and better understanding how women and men would benefit;
- A gender responsive policy ensures that the needs of all citizens, women and men, are equally addressed





GENDER MAINSTREAMING

the integration of gender perspectives into the preparation, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies, regulatory measures and spending programs

Purpose of gender mainstreaming

- Promote equality between women and men
- Combat discrimination
- Address the issue of representation of women and men in a given policy area
- Avoid the creation or reinforcement of inequalities

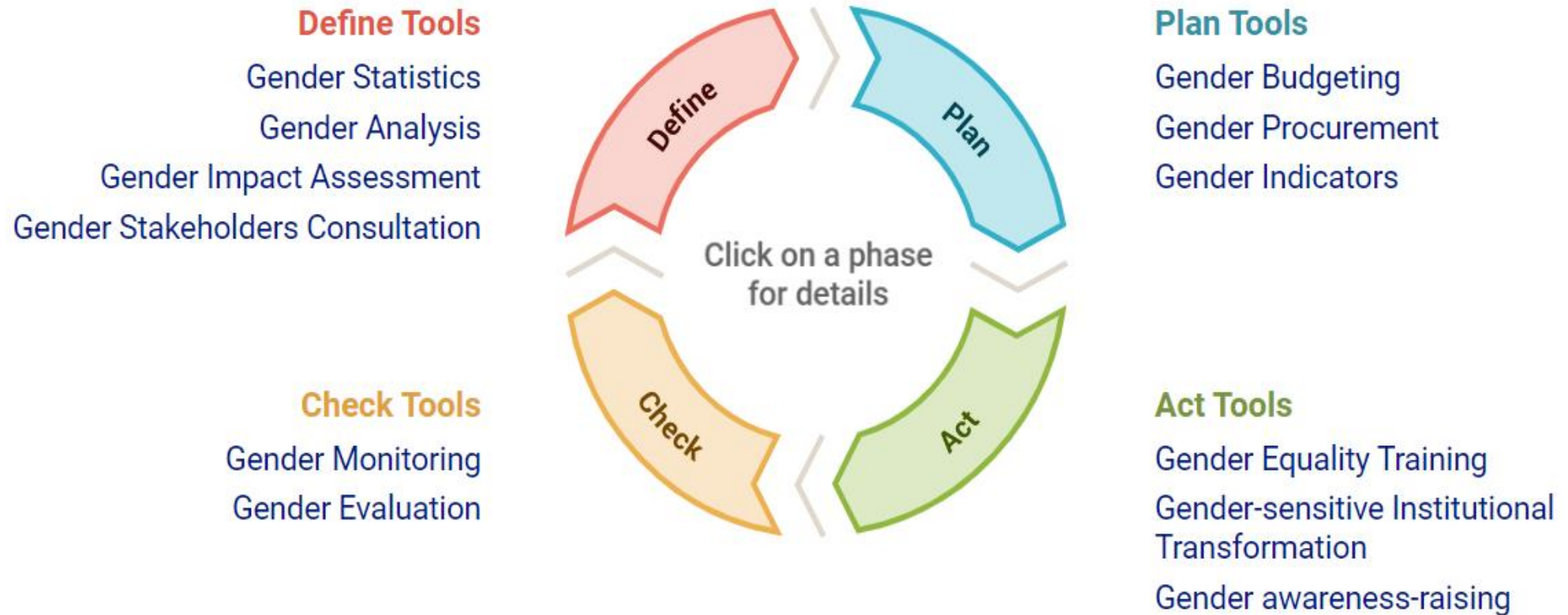


Analysis and action

- Gender mainstreaming implies analyzing the existing situation, to identify inequalities, and develop policies to redress these inequalities and undo the mechanisms that caused them



Gender mainstreaming cycle



Capturing benefits of gender inclusiveness

- To capture the benefits of gender inclusiveness, development programs should include measures to expand women's economic opportunities, increase their incomes, and promote improvements in health and education





WOMEN IN DECISIONMAKING AND MANAGEMENT

Information technology

TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

"The demand for qualified ICT workers is high in line with the fast-growing ICT sector, but there is a shortage of qualified workers in Indonesia who are ready to work. Many programmers that I interviewed couldn't code, so they needed more time to take coding training. The outdated curriculum that could not keep up with the industry's rapid growth was a factor that caused this shortage... Taking opportunity from the digital momentum, I built Markoding with the vision to address the skills mismatch by preparing the young with skills for their future."

Markoding founder Amanda Simandjuntak
on teaching women and girls to code
(February-March 2021)



▲ **Bamnang Creative Innovation**
co-founder **Seng Rothsethamony**
on technological innovation
(February-March 2021)

"Technology is growing in ASEAN, and young people in the region are quite tech-savvy. Unfortunately, most are still using it for entertainment only. I really hope ASEAN and other entities can help improve the digital literacy of the youth on how to use technology for other purposes, like education and business."

Health

▲ HEALTH

"Ultimately, COVAX is about providing equitable global access to COVID-19 vaccines, but it is also more than that: it is a model for international cooperation that shows governments can put aside national interests in the pursuit of a goal greater than any one of them could achieve on their own. We believe that the spirit of COVAX, the lessons we will learn, and the infrastructure and expertise we are building will help us be better prepared to respond to pandemics and other global emergencies in the future."

**In March 2021, Dr. Iweala began her five-year term as Director-General of the World Trade Organization (WTO). She is the first woman to serve as Director-General.*



"I always believe that everybody should get access to treatment, whether you are rich, poor, white, black, or whatever. This is a basic human right...I try to teach communities to produce drugs by themselves, especially herbal medicines. It is important to produce drugs locally. People cannot rely on drug donation all the time. Once the donation is done, what are they going to do if they cannot produce drugs by themselves?"

**Pharmacist and Ramon Magsaysay awardee
Krisana Kraisintu on her lifelong mission
to develop affordable medicines (July 2020)**

“We still have a lot of work to do to improve our health system. The policymakers down to the people need to be more solid in responding to health emergencies in the future. It's also important to improve our information system, especially on health, so people won't be easily misled by fake news. We can also learn from the other ASEAN countries in responding to the health crises, and collaborate more to improve our health systems so that if we face another pandemic in the future, we all can have the same standards in responding to it.”

**Medical doctor Disa Edralyn
on the health system
(November-December 2020)**



Disaster preparedness and climate change

SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE ACTION

"Agriculture is considered one of the most unsustainable industries because it has a lot of greenhouse gas emissions, it pollutes a lot of areas, and it causes a lot of deforestation. But with sustainable and regenerative agriculture, we're integrating it into forests and towards sustaining land so that it's intrinsically sustainable."

Social entrepreneur and Cacao Project founder **Louise Mabulo** on shifting to sustainable agriculture (August 2020)



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"Climate change mitigation and adaptation need not only come from urban and technology improvements. For example, UNEP is supporting efforts in Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Myanmar to improve resilience to climate change by protecting, maintaining, and rehabilitating priority ecosystems. Reducing deforestation would significantly reduce emissions."

UN Under-Secretary-General and Environment Programme Executive Director **Inger Andersen** on solving environmental threats in ASEAN (September 2020)

DISASTER MANAGEMENT

"With the climate crisis upon us, the adverse impacts of drought will become even more severe if no actions are taken. ESCAP's subregional and country-level engagements seek to support governments to turn the cyclical and slow-onset nature of drought into an opportunity to take risk-informed measures to strengthen the capacity of institutions, sectors, and populations to adapt. We seek to ensure that policymakers have all the evidence and skills they need to make informed decisions that strengthen climate resilience through our intergovernmental platforms, policy research, and capacity building functions."

UN Under-Secretary-General and UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific Executive Secretary **Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana** on addressing drought (October 2020)

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Education

“You cannot have sustainable development if women and girls are still subject to exclusion, discrimination, sexual assault, and violence. There are strong arguments for reviewing and reforming institutions and processes, particularly so the multilateral system better reflects the diversity of the human family and gives a voice to women, young people, and other marginalised groups in society. We also need sustained investment in education so a whole generation of young women and girls are not further marginalised after the pandemic has disrupted their schooling and often plunged their families into poverty.”

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“Employers need to understand that women put in 100 per cent at work, and also 100 per cent at home. They don’t scale back.”

University of Malaya professor and ASEAN-US Science Prize for Women winner Yoke-Fun Chan on changing gender stereotypes (November-December 2020)





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CONCLUSION

Conclusion

- Promoting and improving the status of women is important not only for reasons of equity and social justice but also because it makes economic sense and is good development practice
- To capture the benefits of gender inclusiveness, development programs should include measures to expand women's economic opportunities; increase their incomes and promote improvements in health and education

Conclusion

- Gender mainstreaming is the integration of gender perspectives into the preparation, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies, regulatory measures and spending programs
- Gender mainstreaming seeks to avoid the creation or reinforcement of inequalities which can have adverse effects on both women and men

THANK **Y**OU!

Merry Christmas!

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