

Gender Performance of the Irrigated Agriculture: Approaches, Assessment Methods and Issues

(case from WUAs in Fergana Valley)

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Content of the Presentation

- Water- Poverty-Gender Nexus
- Gender Issues of Water management
- Gender Performance Assessment-GPII (application for Pilot WUAs in IWRMFV project)
- How to Improve Gender Performance



A schematic Representation of Water-Poverty-Gender Nexus

(Saleth, et.al.2004)

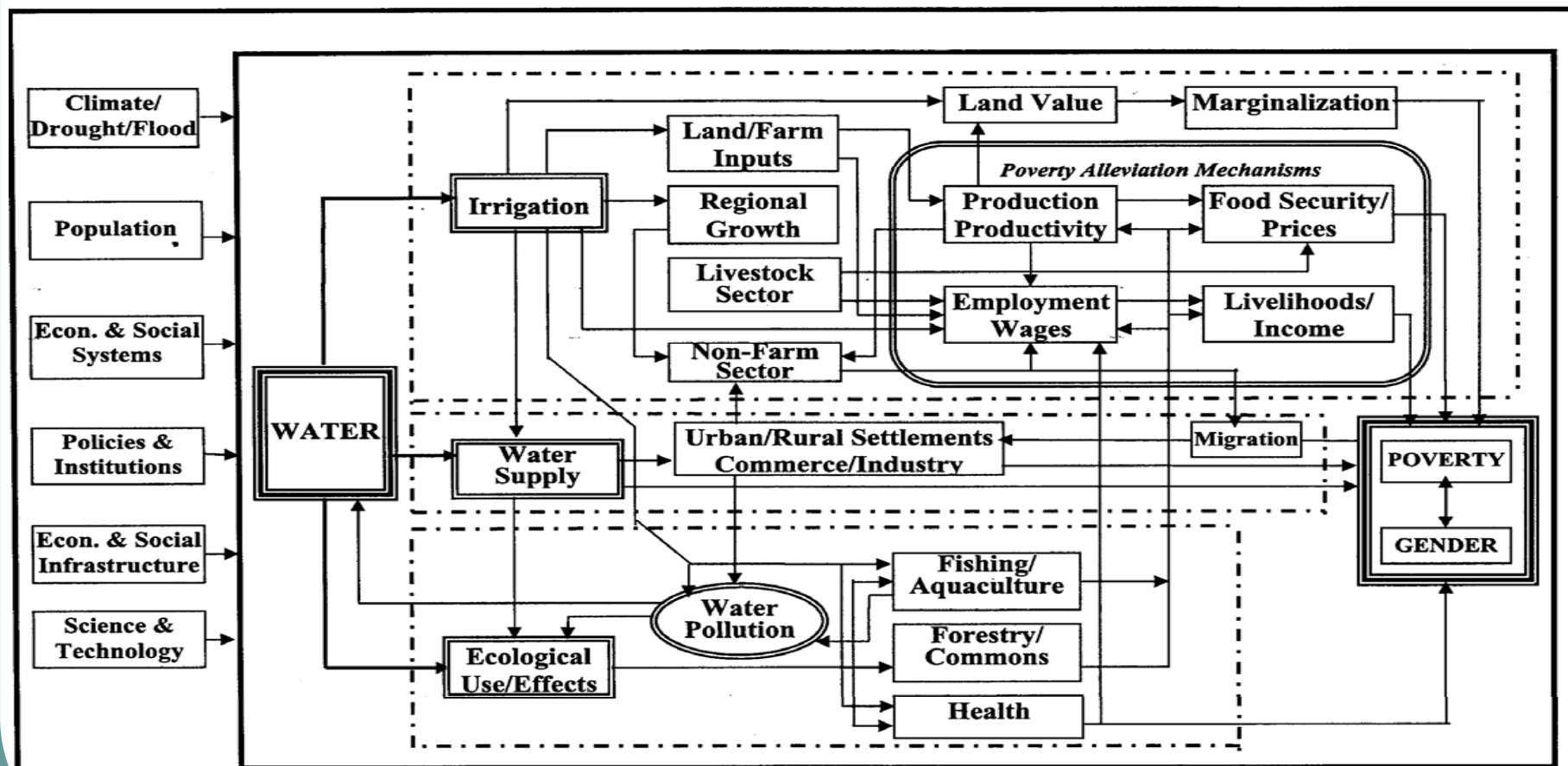


Figure 1
A Schematic Representation of Water-Poverty-Gender Nexus

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The critical areas of gender disparity in the agriculture sector are identified as following by GWA (GWA, 2003):

- **Land Tenure:** man and women have different experiences and expectations regarding inheritance of land and the social reality of their claim to communal property.
- **Access to water:** women have low expectations and influence
- **Participation:** men and women have different expectations and experience, carrying different responsibilities, respond to different time schedules, social networks and meeting places
- **Resource control:** reinforces stereotypical roles and social norms, by directing technical and financial control to male farmers
- **Capacity and skill development:** influenced by established social roles and by gender-incentive educational and economic policies, established civil society structures
- **Marketing and commercial linkages:** follow well established, male dominant paths

The gender sensitive approach should address following questions in water resources development and management (GWA. 2003):

- How do women and men use **water resources** and for what purposes?
- How are **contributions** (labor, time, payments and contributions in kind) to the development and management of water resources divided between man and women, rich and poor?
- Who makes the **decisions** at various levels
- Who **benefits** from projects and programme resources, such as knowledge, jobs and training
- Who **benefits from water resources development** and has control over these benefits?
- Who **carries the costs** and disbenefits of a project or programme?
- Do women and men from **different age, wealth**, religious and ethnic groups benefit equitably?

Gender approach in the water sector strives for balanced division between man and women in the following aspects:

- Decision making
- Access to and control over resources and benefits
- Access to information
- Physical work
- Contributions in time and cash

Gender Performance Indicator of Irrigation (GPPI)*

- Good gender performance: gender based differences are absent (+)
- If there are limited differences (mild) exist it is categorized as moderate performance (+/-)
- If there is women excluded by all means from the system it is identified as low gender performance (-).

* Van Koppen, B. 2002. A gender performance indicator for irrigation: Concepts, tools, and applications. Research Report 59. Colombo, Sri Lanka: International Water Management Institute

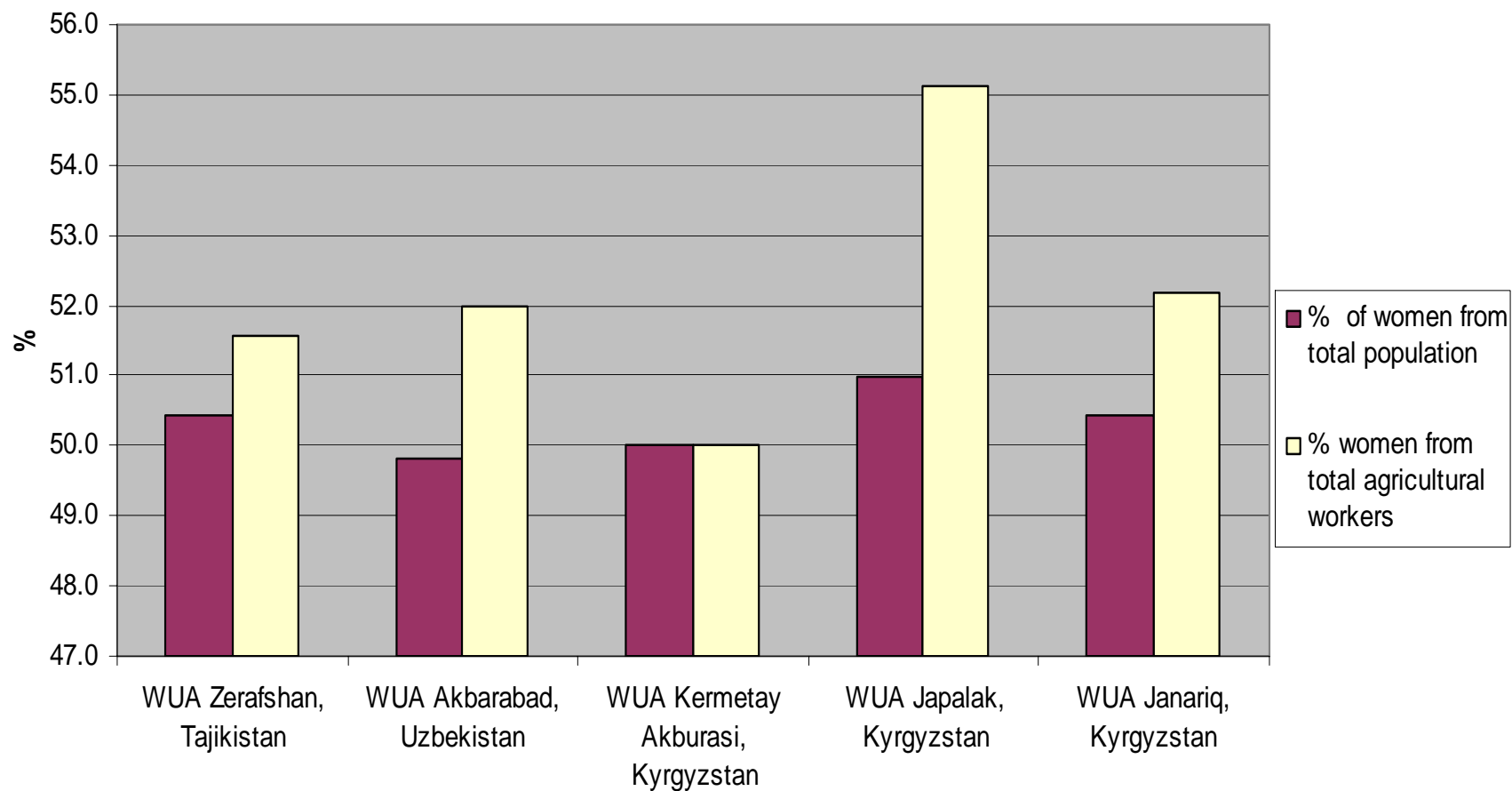
There gender performance assessment is done for 3 levels:

- Equal ***farm-level access to water*** and related obligations (water rights connected to obligations that every farmer should carry out in order to earn rights)
- Equal ***participation in forums*** or networks for collective water management arrangements- generally required for strengthening access to water at farm level
- Equality at ***leadership level***, in sense that gender composition of the leadership should reflect gender composition of the farmers in the scheme. Also, women leader should be able to act as men

Level of the assessment-WUAs

- Why WUAs:
 - Level where water and people (users) interact actively
 - Level where water users themselves can make difference
 - Level which represents most gender problems of the society
- 5 WUAs- located in Fergana Valley (Tadjikistan-1, Uzbekistan-1 and Kyrgyzstan-3)
- IWRMFV project (SDC supported, SIC-IWMI project in Fergana Valley)

Indecies of the Pilot WUAs



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Gender Indices of Farming

Indexes	WUA Zerafshan, Tajikistan	WUA Akbarabad, Uzbekistan	WUA Kermetay Akburasi, Kyrgyzstan	WUA Japalak, Kyrgyzstan	WUA Janariq, Kyrgyzstan
Number of Farm units	15	40	985	104	260
Women Farm Leaders	0	5 (12.5%)	40 (4%)	18 (17%)	12 (4%)
Women, leading farm for husband (proxy leaders)	0	0	12 (1.2%)	15 (14.4%)	4 (1.5%)

Indexes	WUA Zerafshan, Tajikistan	WUA Akbarabad, Uzbekistan	WUA Kermetay Akburasi, Kyrgyzstan	WUA Japalak, Kyrgyzstan	WUA Janariq, Kyrgyzstan
Number of WUA members	1966	40	985	639	260
Women WUA members	1056	3	280	18	21
Number of meetings, forums in year 2003	5	4	16	12	9
Number of people attended meetings and forums	4200	826	3600	4000	1760
Number of women attended in meetings and forums	500(12%)	329 (39)	570 (16%)	180(4.5%)	205 (12%)
Number of WUA Council and Committee members	23	15	15	5	9
Number of women WUA Council and Committee members	0	2	0	0	0
Number of grievances from water users in 2003	11		2	5	1
Number of grievances from women water users in 2003	0		0	2	1

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Gender Performance of the Pilot WUAs

<i>WUAs</i>	<i>Categorical and concretized land rights</i>	<i>Categorical membership rights</i>	<i>Concretized water rights at farm level</i>	<i>Concretized inclusion in forums</i>	<i>Concretized inclusion as leaders</i>	<i>Ability to function as leaders</i>
WUA Zerafshan, Tajikistan	+/-	+/-	+/-	-	-	-
WUA Akbarabad, Uzbekistan	+/-	+/-	+/-	-	+/-	+/-
WUA Kermetay Akburasi, Kyrgyzstan	+/-	+/-	+/-	-	-	+/-
WUA Japalak, Kyrgyzstan	+/-	+/-	+/-	-	-	+/-
WUAs Janariq	+/-	+/-	+/-	-	-	+/-

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tural jobs performed only by women of the household by

		WUA of respondent					
		Akbarabad		Zarafshon		Kerme-Top Akburasy	
Jobs performed by women		Cases	Subtable Response %	Cases	Subtable Response %	Cases	Subtable Response %
Milking		56	93,3%	60	00,0%	57	95,0%
Weeding		20	33,3%	55	91,7%	6	10,0%
Picking cotton		6	10,0%	59	98,3%		
Livestock and poul		5	8,3%	55	91,7%	21	35,0%
Sowing		9	15,0%	31	51,7%		
Picking fruits, vegie		2	3,3%	8	13,3%	6	10,0%
Selling goods at the						25	41,7%
NA		322	36,7%	152	53,3%	305	08,3%

IWRM-Ferghana - 2003



Analysis of Gender Situation in WUAs

- Farming systems within the pilot WUAs are mainly man led
- Legal, land rights are indiscriminatory, but implementation causes gender bias . Water rights are confusing. Inequities on waster distribution are not based on gender, rather location within canal, poor infrastructure
- Mild discrimination in WUA Representation
- Inclusion of the women into WUA forums is low. Which might be due to the social structure of the agrarian society
- Clearly gendered roles, both in productive and re-productive areas

Existing situation on gender can be improved by following measures:

- Identifying the dispersed minority of women farm leaders
- Publicly recognizing them as irrigators, for example through joint membership into WUAs
- Explicitly inviting them for meetings
- Fixed quotas in representative structures of WUAs
- Facilitating women landowners to formalize their land-water rights
- Awareness and Capacity Building
- Challenging the rigid norm that irrigation is, only and exclusively, a male affair

Let Us Make Difference and Let
Women Benefit From Water

Thank You !!!

