Evaluating Land Tools from a Gender Perspective: GLTN's Experience of Implementing the Gender Evaluation Criteria

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Structure of the presentation

1. Why gender is important in land administration?
2. Gender Evaluation Criteria: how we can assess gender responsiveness of land tools?
3. Opportunities and Next Steps
1. Why gender is important in land administration

Why is gender important?

- Women own only 2% of the land in developing countries.
- Not right to assume that there is equal access and benefit on land by women and men.
- Despite progress, challenges remained:
  - Patriarchal attitudes
  - Cultural practices
  - Lack of education and information
  - Lack of enforcement
  - Lack of political will
Why is gender important? [2]

Women suffer under various disguises:

- Living in informal settlements/slums; female-headed households, indigenous women, disabled, elderly, widows and refugees

- Women’s access to land is often through their husbands or fathers, and they often lose access after widowhood (esp. in era of HIV/AIDS), divorce, and male migration

Why is gender important? [3]

1. Access to land and tenure security are important as they lead to other development opportunities. **Therefore, secure land access and tenure for ALL!**

2. It makes **economic sense**: there is a strong correlation between improving women’s land rights and reducing poverty
Why do we need a gender lens?

Gender is fundamental for land governance

Land governance:

“concerns the rules, processes and structures through which decisions are made about access to land and its use, the manner in which the decisions are implemented and enforced, the way that competing interests in land are managed.”
Why is scale important?

- Good projects but operate at a very local, small scale
- Excellent work but not sufficient to meet the demand
- Need to document lessons from these projects
- Aim for upscaling

Gender as a cross-cutting theme for GLTN
Why gendering land tools?

- Women are disproportionately affected by gender blind, ‘neutral’ approaches.
- Governments, civil society, land professionals and analysts all point to the lack of effective, scalable gendered land tools as hindering the realisation of women’s rights.

2. Gender Evaluation Criteria: How we can assess gender impacts of land tools?
Development and testing of the tool

Criteria piloted in 2009/2010:

- Ghana: evaluating the gender-sensitivity of the Land Administration Programme
- Nepal: using the criteria for advocacy during the design phase of a new Land Policy
- Brazil: Looking at the implementation of the Statute of the City from a gender perspective

What is gender criteria?

A set of questions around key topics to be able to - when adding all the answers together—assess or say:

‘YES, great, this land tool is really thinking about both women & men because of x, y and z’

or

‘NO, this is terrible, this land tool does not sufficiently consider women and men’s needs or do not take them into account in the planning and implementation because of x, y and z’
Why do we need evaluation criteria?

1. Land tools have often been designed to serve male interests and priorities & to be effective they need to incorporate women's interests
2. We need to know what tools have worked for both women and men, and why, so that they can be shared
3. We need to know which tools have not worked for both women and men, and how they can be improved
4. We need to know what steps/aspects of new tools should be included not to make the same mistake
5. We need to know what makes some community-land tools gender-responsive, and how to do the same large-scale

Once we have criteria, land professionals are in a position to:

• Assess whether a large-scale tool has acceptable gender-responsiveness (so we can share good practices)
• Basic gender-responsiveness, or
• Weak gender responsiveness (where tools need to be refined to better reach both women & men)
## Evaluation questions in six main areas

1. **Equal participation** by both women and men and gender-responsive governance
2. **Capacity building** organization and empowerment of both women and men to use, access and benefit from the tool
3. **Legal and institutional considerations** of both women and men by the tool
4. The tool includes **social and cultural considerations** in regard to women and men’s access to land
5. The tool includes **economic considerations** in regard to women and men’s access to land
6. **Scale, coordination and sustainability** of tool to reach more women and men

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluation question</th>
<th>Why is this question relevant from a gender perspective?</th>
<th>Indicators/entry points for change</th>
<th>Places to find information (sources)</th>
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| Is the decision making process in developing the tool, and within the tool itself transparent and inclusive for both women and men? | To provide opportunities for enhancing education and participation for both women and men toward influencing the processes from their perspective and needs | - An agreed critical mass (e.g. 30%) of the decision makers is women  
- An agreed number of meetings held regularly (y timeframe) and attended by a representative group [xx%] of stakeholders according to gender, age, caste etc.  
- An agreed set of critical information available on the Internet | - Organograms  
- Announcements and notes of meetings  
- Names of members of decision making bodies on the Internet  
- Attendance lists of meetings  
- Interviews with female and male stakeholders |
What have we learnt?

• Issues around gender & land are complex
• Evaluation criteria requires many lenses—from social to technical
• Different stakeholders will use the criteria in different ways (and can be used in design of a new tool, or during evaluation)
• Using the Gender Evaluation Criteria can provide evidence-based information that makes discussions around gender more precise and facilitates identification of entry-points for change
• Criteria allows us to measure success and failure over time, in a way that is understandable to multiple stakeholders

What have we learnt?

Gender Evaluation Criteria is already showing results:

• The Government of Brazil has agreed not to evict 55,000 families and to regularise the informal settlements in Ponto do Maduro, Recife.
• On-going regularisation taking place applying the gender lens
3. Opportunities and Next Steps

Opportunities and next steps

- **Gender Evaluation Criteria** is available on different languages – English, French, Spanish, Portuguese
- **Training package for land professionals** on how to use the Gender Evaluation Criteria just produced, and ready to be rolled-out.
- For implementation by Uganda Land Alliance to assess links between formal and informal land systems and gender implications.
- **Pilot-training** in Mombasa, Kenya in Nov. 2010 in conjunction with FIG Africa Task Force workshop
- Conduct of Training-of-Trainers to strengthen the pool of resource persons
Thank you very much!

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