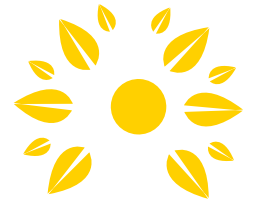


A Guidance Document
for practitioners

Gender and Food Security



Empower Women
Benefit for All



Women in Europe for a Common Future | WECF

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A Guidance Document for Practitioners

Gender and Food Security

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Introduction of the Gender and Food Security Guidance document

This guidance document focuses on several aspects of food security and its relation with gender. The purpose is to raise awareness on gender and gender-differentiated impacts and the different roles that men and women play in food security and sustainable development. Just as well in this document the opportunities and benefits of implementing equal access for men and women to financial and agricultural resources are highlighted.

Who can use this document?

This document is developed for practitioners who work with communities, mainly on food security and sustainable development issues.

How to use this document?

This guidance document can be used as a first basic background document and/or as an additional tool for those working in communities on participatory processes, gender, agriculture and food security. The guidance document is to be considered as a first orientation on the issue gender and food security, and will not deliver a complete overview of all the aspects related to gender and food security. For users who wish or need more information it is recommended to have a look at the several by the manual provided references.

For working in communities, this document is recommended to be used complementary with the Training of Trainers manual „Gender in Sustainable Development, Collection of exercises for Training of Trainers (ToT) ”¹. The ToT manual is developed to provide a standard package of training materials on the basic concepts of gender, gender analysis and gender mainstreaming. It is a collection of tools complemented with the respective theoretical explanations and background information. Therefore, the manual Gender and Food Security will not provide general information about gender or implementing participatory processes or group work.

On closing the manual provides a list with guiding questions supporting a gender sensitive process on assessing and improving food security in communities

¹ Gender in Sustainable Development – Collection of Exercises for Training of Trainers (ToT), WECF 2014. Downloadable at <http://www.wecf.eu/download/2014/September/GenderToTfinalEN2.pdf>

1. The right to food

People have to right to be free from hunger, as recognized under international law. This right to food gives a state the responsibility to ensure that its citizens always have physical as well as economic access to enough food. The food should be nutritious and safe so that people can lead a healthy and active life. However, the right to food does not means a state has to feed its citizens.²

Box 1. The Right to Food³

Rome Declaration on World Food Security, 1996: “We, the Heads of State and Government reaffirm the right of everyone to have access to safe and nutritious food, consistent with the right to adequate food and the fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger.”

International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 1966: “The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize the right of everyone to an adequate standard of living ... including adequate food ...” and agree to take appropriate steps to realize this right. Article 11(1)

Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948: “Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and wellbeing of himself and of his family, including food ...”Article 25 (1)

It is a common misunderstanding that the right to food is synonymous with the right to be fed. The right to food should be primarily interpreted as a right for people to feed themselves with dignity. This means that a state is required to ensure that there exist possibilities for people to produce or buy food (for example access to land and opportunities for jobs) and that individuals have the responsibility to feed themselves through their own efforts. However, there exists an exception within the right to food. When citizens are not able to feed themselves, for example because of war, a natural disaster, or because they are in jail, the state is obliged to provide food.⁴

Besides the national obligations on fulfilling the right to food for their population, in many cases also on local level more could be done for those people who are facing food-insecurity. Access to affordable financing systems, such as village saving and loan groups, micro financing and support, education and training enabling the most-poor people to grow and prepare healthy food in home or community gardens, could contribute to an improvement of their livelihood. All around the world good examples or local initiatives on improving access to food can be found. Urban food gardens are initiated and established in many developing and developed countries. Education and trainings, farmer field schools for smallholders contribute to sustainable agricultural technics with the focus on low-input technics and soil rehabilitation.

It is important to develop programmes that will increase food security and incomes in rural areas. Therefore different systems for agriculture are necessary. A wider range is needed for the projects on the Special Programmes for Food Security. The concept of food security and income generation should also be promoted in rural areas and communication may have the potential to achieve this. Field personnel must also ensure that women receive recognition for the contributions they make and that their potential is being encouraged by including them in the decision-making processes. Women should also be provided with support in their production and other agricultural activities.⁵

² <http://www.fao.org/worldfoodsummit/english/fsheets/food.pdf> p1

³ UNHR, The right to adequate food <http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/FactSheet34en.pdf>

⁴ <http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/FactSheet34en.pdf> p3, 4

⁵ <http://www.fao.org/docrep/006/y5061e/y5061e08.htm>

2. What is Food Security?

According to the FAO, food security means: “all people have physical and economic access to sufficient safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life”⁶. When food security is applied to members of households this is called household food security.

Actions that have the purpose to improve the level of food security at the national level might be different from activities that have the goal to improve the household food security. But both levels experience gender implications. The concept of food security has many different features and ranges from food production and distribution to health and education. Food security exists of four dimensions, namely *availability*, *access*, *utilization* and *stability*. In achieving food security men, women, boys and girls carry out their own role.⁷ See table 1.



Food security is about availability, accessibility, stability and utilisation

3. Why Gender and Food Security?

The division of labour between men and women in farming is well defined. The role of men is focused on land clearing and preparation, while women carry out tasks as planting, weeding, harvesting, winnowing and grinding.⁸ So women are crucial in the agriculture sector, mostly in subsistence agriculture, as they are often the persons who cultivate food (vegetables) crops. In general, women are in charge of food selection, preparation and childcare. If they generate an income, this is most likely to be spent on food and the needs of their children.⁹ However, many women are now performing men’s tasks as the men have migrated or have died from HIV or AIDS.¹⁰

Although women play a crucial role within the subsistence agricultural sector, their work in producing food is often undervalued. Also they have less opportunities and access to resources than men. The unequal position of women has led in some societies to food discrimination. So within families some members may be malnourished, while other members are not because they have enough food. It is

⁶ FAO, The State of Food Insecurity in the World 2001 (Rome, 2001)

⁷ <http://pakresponse.info/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=PnStSD3PRNY%3D&tabid=107&mid=630> p1

⁸ <http://www.ifad.org/gender/pub/sourcebook/gal.pdf> p289

⁹ <http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTGENAGRLIVSOUBOOK/Resources/Module1.pdf> p2

¹⁰ <http://www.ifad.org/gender/pub/sourcebook/gal.pdf> P289

possible for households to be food insecure, while at the national level sufficient food supplies exist. This can be a result of poverty or a general lack of access to the food supplies.¹¹

So although women play an important role in the food security at the household and communal level, their potential capacity and contribution to a sustainable rural development and food security are often not recognized and due to existing inequalities between men and women not explored. See box 2 and 3.

Box 2. Key Facts (from FAO)¹²

- Women comprise, on average, 43 percent of the agricultural labour force in developing countries, ranging from 20 percent in Latin America to 50 percent in eastern Asia and sub-Saharan Africa.
- Women own, on average, 19 percent of landholdings, significantly less than men in every region of the world. In sub-Saharan Africa the average is 15 percent, ranging from less than 5 percent in Mali to over 30 percent in Botswana, Cape Verde and Malawi. In countries of North Africa and West Asia for which data are available, women represent less than 5 percent of all agricultural landholders.
- In rural areas of developing countries women are less likely than men to work in wage employment. In rural areas of Ghana almost 15 percent of men and less than 4 percent of women receive a wage; in rural Bangladesh 24 percent of men and 3 percent of women work in wage employment; and in rural Ecuador almost 30 percent of men and 9 percent of women are employed for wages.
- If women had the same access to productive resources as men, they could increase yields on their farms by 20 to 30 percent.
- Ensuring that women have the same access to agricultural resources as their male counterparts could lift 100 to 150 million people out of hunger.

3.1 Unequal access to resources

The availability of resources and the access to these resources affect the level of food security of persons, especially those of women and girls. The existing social and economic inequalities between men and women have also an impact on the food security.¹³ These disparities, particular within agriculture and rural employment, have a negative impact on the education of women and their prosperity (see box 2). Knowing the inequalities between men and women, for example can men only make the decisions, how is the division of labour, who has access to resources, is essential for developing programs on increasing food security at the household, community and national level. Also, when men and women have both equal access to agricultural and financial resources and job opportunities, the well-being of families, communities and countries will increase¹⁴ (see box 1).

The reason why many food security programs and policies now fail is that large groups are being regarded as homogeneous, which they are not. It are different socio-economic and gender groups with their own needs and interests¹⁵, but that is overlooked.

The lack of women's access to resources does not only affect their income and opportunities, it also affects the benefits that can be derived from women's' capacities when they contribute to the

¹¹ <http://pakresponse.info/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=PnStSD3PRNY%3D&tabid=107&mid=630> p2

¹² FAO Gender equality, 2010. Down loadable at <http://www.fao.org/docrep/014/am859e/am859e10.pdf>

¹³ <http://www.fao.org/docrep/014/am859e/am859e10.pdf> p1

¹⁴ <http://www.fao.org/docrep/014/am859e/am859e10.pdf> p1

¹⁵ <http://om.ciheam.org/om/pdf/a77/00800475.pdf> p19

economy and sustainable development at the local and national level.¹⁶ Therefore, understanding the different roles of women and men, and recognizing their input in the development process by creating opportunities is essential for the whole sustainable development of countries and nations.

Box 3. Gender gaps in agriculture and rural employment according to the FAO¹⁷

Compared with their male counterparts, women:

- operate smaller farms, on average only half to two-thirds as large;
- keep fewer livestock, typically of smaller breeds, and earn less from the livestock they own;
- have a greater overall workload that includes a heavy burden of low- productivity activities such as fetching water and firewood;
- have less education and less access to agricultural information and extension services;
- use less credit and other financial services;
- are much less likely to purchase inputs such as fertilizers, improved seeds and technical equipment;
- if employed, are more likely to be in part- time, seasonal and low-paying jobs; and
- receive lower wages for the same work worldwide, even when they have the same experience and qualifications.

4. General factors determining food security

Food security exists when individuals have permanently access to sufficient food, which also contains a right dietary mix. This means persons are food secure. The opposite situation is food insecurity. There are different types of food insecurity, namely *chronically food insecurity*, *seasonally food insecurity* and *transitorily food insecurity*. People who are chronically food insecure never take in sufficient quality food.

Persons who are dependent on the seasons for their access to an adequate diet are named seasonally food insecure. Individuals who are transitorily food insecure are affected by disasters, for example war, which leads to an interruption in their food access. In normal circumstances they would have access to enough food.¹⁸

The concept of food security is built upon four pillars, namely food availability, food stability, food access and food utilization.¹⁹ See table 1 for more details.

Land availability is one of the key factors influencing particularly the first three pillars. Agriculture and food security are therefore also inextricably linked. The role women play in the food production within agriculture is big. In a lot of societies it are the women who supply most of the labour that is needed to produce food crops and often they are also the ones responsible for the sale of the products that were grown on plots they manage.²⁰ However, it is less likely for women to own land than for men, due to for example cultural habits or lack of financial resources.

¹⁶ <http://www.fao.org/docrep/018/i3385e/i3385e.pdf> p1

¹⁷ <http://www.fao.org/docrep/014/am859e/am859e10.pdf> p1

¹⁸ <http://www.ifad.org/gender/pub/sourcebook/gal.pdf> p14

¹⁹ Ibid and World Bank

²⁰ <http://www.ifad.org/gender/pub/sourcebook/gal.pdf> p11,15

Table 1. Gender issues related to the four dimensions of food security according to FAO and the World Bank²¹

Component	Definition	Gender Issues
Availability	Food availability means sufficient quantities of food of appropriate quality, supplied through domestic production or purchase.	Women and men each play key roles in food production, “however lacking ownership of, access to, and control of livelihood assets (such as land, water, energy, credit, knowledge and labor), will negatively affect women’s food production. The lower production reduces not only women’s potential income, but also the availability of food for household consumption” (World Bank, et al., 2009).
Access	Food access refers to access by individuals to adequate resources required for appropriate foods needed for a nutritious diet. Access to food refers also to the possibility to produce and sell food for consumption and the market.	Food distribution within the household can vary according to one’s gender. Although food may be available within the household, but due to hierarchy within the family, may be not as accessible by women compared to men.
Stability	Stability means having access to adequate food throughout the whole day and year	“Individuals whose access to an adequate diet is depending on certain seasons, are seasonally food insecure. Also differences in risk and vulnerability between men and women can affect the accessibility to food. For example, “During times of crisis, women and girls are often forced to reduce their intake in favor of other household members” (Ibid.).
Utilization	Utilization means use of food through adequate and a healthy diet, clean water, sanitation and health care to reach a state of nutritional well-being.	“Women’s role in food utilization for food security is perhaps the most critical and underlines the importance of their role in food production and how they spend the income they earn. Women are typically responsible for food preparation and thus are crucial to serve varied and well-balanced meals for their households” (Ibid.).

Also the right to use land can usually only be enjoyed by women when it is mediated through a male relative. This insecurity for women to own land leads to a lower investment and this can harm the potential future production and it also increases the food insecurity. Legal reforms and national policies should therefore take into account the different rights of land use, particularly women’s rights, as well as the various ways by which women acquire access to land, for example through divorce and inheritance systems.²² Women’s ownership of land is usually hindered by traditional paternal heritage systems.

²¹ Training Guide – Gender and Climate change Research in agriculture and Food Security for rural development. FAO, 2012. <http://www.ifad.org/gender/pub/sourcebook/gal.pdf> (with minor adaptation by the author)

²² Ibid. p 15

The agricultural sector is always depending on the natural resources that are available in the country, but also on the national and international policies and the institutions that govern these resources.²³

The location, climatic, geographical and economical conditions and available human and financial resources are the main determinants if food can be produced locally, regionally or needs to be imported from other countries. However agricultural products can be produced in abundance in a country but due to external or national policies not being available, affordable or accessible for all inhabitants. For example, prices for basic food can be not affordable for the poor, or agricultural products are not covering the local needs, but rather intended as fodder or energy to be exported. National and local decision-makers should prioritize the national overall food security above doing business with external investors.

Since the energy and financial crises, public and private investors are buying or leasing large tracts of fertile land from developing countries commonly referred to as “land-grabs”. Land-grab by investors, agro industry, producing crops for bio energy/fuel or intensive livestock keeping, contribute more and more to food insecurity for certain groups in several countries. In many cases governments selling this land don’t consider the local population that has been cultivating this land for generations. Farmers have to leave their land and are driven into poverty.

Box 4. Dr. Vandana Shiva and Dr. Vaibhav Singh about land grab in India²⁴

“All the scientific research shows that small farmers produce more food. Eighty percent of the world’s food even today comes from small farms. Giant industrial farms grow commodities, not food. Commodities go to drive cars as biofuel, or torture animals in factory farms. Land grab is a major threat to food security.”

Poverty, having no physical or financial access to food, is a major driver of food insecurity, but there is not always a link between the two. Poor women are more successful in providing their children with nutritional food than poor men. So men who do not have the knowledge about food preparation might not be able to turn the available food in nutritional food. Although most food is produced in rural areas, it are poor rural people who are the buyers of food instead of sellers in a lot of countries.²⁵

Food utilization means that the food that is available to a family is turned into nutritional food that can be eaten by the members. Existing nutritional standards indicate what the nutrition needs are for men, women and children of different ages. They provide people with information on the average daily need of proteins, calories, vitamins and minerals.²⁶

Malnutrition can occur when the diet is not balanced enough and lacks essential nutrients or when poor feeding takes place (see box). *Hidden hunger* is usually the result of poor food utilization. The diet of a person does not contain the right balance between calories (macronutrients) and vitamins (micronutrients). So a person may look well-nourished and also consume enough calories (through bread or rice for example), but lacks important micronutrient as vitamin A, iron and iodine that can be found in meat, vegetables and fruit.²⁷ This can lead to for example tiredness or a disorder of the hormone system.

²³ Ibid. p11

²⁴ <http://www.faiobserver.com/article/india-food-insecurity-ordinance>

²⁵ <http://www.ifad.org/gender/pub/sourcebook/gal.pdf> p13,14,17

²⁶ <http://www.ifad.org/gender/pub/sourcebook/gal.pdf> p14

²⁷ <http://www.ifad.org/gender/pub/sourcebook/gal.pdf> p14



Poverty is a major driver for food insecurity

Hygiene, sanitation, health care practices, the safety and quality of food also add to good food utilization. When people are living in an unhealthy environment where good hygiene and sanitation are lacking, they fall frequently ill and this also affects the nutritional outcomes, despite the fact that enough food is available. It is also possible that infants and young children do not receive sufficient nutritious food when their mothers are too busy, particularly during harvest seasons, to feed them as often as needed.²⁸

Malnutrition contribute to more than one third of all child deaths (WHO)²⁹

The World Health Organisation estimated that malnutrition contribute to more than one third of all child deaths, caused by lack of access to highly nutritious food, poor feeding practices, such as inadequate breastfeeding, offering the wrong foods and not ensuring that the child gets enough nutritious food, contribute to malnutrition. Infection – particularly frequent and persistent diarrhoeas, pneumonia, measles and malaria – also undermines a child’s nutritional status.

Access to food can be limited physically, as a result of impassable roads that prevent access to markets, or more common, economically, due to a lack of income. Even though food is mainly being produced in rural areas, it are these areas that are being confronted with food insecurity.³⁰

²⁸ <http://www.ifad.org/gender/pub/sourcebook/gal.pdf> p14

²⁹ http://www.who.int/maternal_child_adolescent/topics/child/malnutrition/en/

³⁰ <http://www.ifad.org/gender/pub/sourcebook/gal.pdf> p14

5 How to increase food security and close the gender gap?

Assessing the situation and causes of food insecurity

When in a region, or within certain families, food insecurity exists, the most important issue will be to assess the evidence, the situation and the possible causes of the food insecurity. What are the obstacles of not having the availability or accessibility to enough or adequate food? Is there a lack of knowledge on how to produce, prepare and serve healthy food to the family? Which groups are most affected? In many countries, all over the world, knowledge about healthy food, about adequate storage and preparation of safe food is lacking. On the local level families can maybe improve the balance of their diet by growing for example fruits and vegetables. If there is also a need to minimise the occurrence of diarrhoea among family members, this could be discussed as well.

Data about food insecurity could be collected through for example interviews or groups discussion as presented in the manual „Gender in Sustainable Development, Collection of exercises for Training of Trainers (ToT) ”³¹.



A home garden contributing to food security and diet variety for a family



Training on hygiene and healthy food may support households to consume safe food and well balanced diet

Support to Households

Trainings and demonstrations on issues that are listed below, and may help families to increase their food security. This list only presents examples and does not pretend to be complete.

- Home gardening: If no garden is available, vegetables and herbs could be grown on heaps or in bins
- Communal gardening: often communities own pieces of land, which are not used or abandoned. Communities could make these fields available for communal food production.
- Fertilizing and soil improvements: Often farmers state they lack fertilizers or they say that the soil is not suitable for growing crops or vegetables. But human urine, if used in a safe manner, can

³¹ Gender in Sustainable Development – Collection of Exercises for Training of Trainers (ToT), WECF 2014.
<http://www.wecf.eu/download/2014/September/GenderToTfinalEN2.pdf>

serve as a cheap and excellent fertilizer (WECF, 2010)³². Soils can be improved by using compost (WECF, 2011)³³.

- Social transfer: solidarity mechanisms could be introduced for the most poor or for families that do not have access to food: e.g. food for work or food-banks (centralised collection of donated food for the most poor)
- Trainings/lectures on healthy and well-balanced food. Which products are protein, mineral and vitamin rich (and cheap). E.g. lentils and beans are very mineral and protein rich.
- Trainings/lectures on how to prepare, store and conserve food in a safe and adequate manner.
- Training on hygiene in general and hygiene in the kitchen.
- Support to breastfeeding mothers: why, how and when to feed the baby. How to feed yourself in order to have an adequate milk production for the baby



Gender sensitive measures and alternative concepts may contribute to more food and food security

Support to farmers

The farmers' food production and improvements will greatly depend on four key areas, and women can face discrimination in all these areas. The four areas 1) knowledge, 2) access to financial resources, 3) agricultural research and 4) access to markets are interlinked and can be considered at the community level, but also on the national level, and should not be issued solitaire in gender sensitive strategies for the development and empowerment of farmers in rural areas. However, the practice of the four areas is often not gender sensitive. For example:

³² WECF, 2010, Urine - the yellow gold. <http://www.wecf.eu/english/publications/2010/urine-flyer.php>

³³ WECF, 2011, Compost - the black gold. <http://www.wecf.eu/english/publications/2010/compost-flyer.php>

Knowledge on productive farming is depending on the level of education and/or experiences, accessibility to consultancies; on average, women enjoy less education than men; consultancies focus in general on men.

Access to financial resources: minimal requirements for farming as having access to land, to adequate seeds and equipment, or for paying rent of the field or equipment; Women face more difficulties in receiving a loan and in having access to the family budget.

Agricultural research resulting in certain advises from national or regional farmer institutions or developments focus mainly on intensive farming with high inputs, which is mostly dominated by men.

Markets accessibility will depend greatly on the mobility of the farmer and/or the accessibility of the farm. If households have a vehicle, then it are mostly the men who are using it; retailers communicate with men.

Decision makers on all levels are the key actors on which the approach will be practiced to decrease food and nutrient insecurity among the people in need. Programs focused on farmers support, education, financial systems, agricultural research and market policies are greatly influenced by policy makers and as shown in table 2, often do not include gender aspects. Nevertheless, gender sensitive measures and alternative concepts (table 2) may contribute to more food and nutrient security.

Table 2. Gender-Sensitive Support to Farmers and Alternative Farming Models (FAO/ADB, 2013) ³⁴

	Dominant Model	Gender-sensitive remedial measures	Alternative Model
Knowledge	Extension services populated by men, with men as main beneficiaries (as heads of households or members of producers' organizations).	Increased representation of women among advisors; Targeting women through women's organizations; Training taking into account women's time poverty and mobility constraints.	Prioritizing farmer-to-farmer (horizontal) transmission of knowledge through farmer field schools or farmers' organizations, particularly women's organizations.
Financial services	Weak access to credit for small-scale food producers; Microfinance, even targeted at women, may lead to loans being controlled by men, and may not reach the poorest women.	Access to credit by women through social collateral (group lending), e.g. through women's cooperatives, or through contract farming schemes designed to benefit women.	Low-cash agriculture (limited use of external inputs) to reduce need for credit.
Agricultural research and development	Focus on high-yielding and high-value crops, in mono cropping schemes.	Focus on crops easier for women to cultivate (e.g., requiring less labour), but that also fetch high prices on the market.	Focus on food crops that are easiest to prepare and preserve, and that are the most nutritious and taste better; multi cropping schemes.

³⁴ FAO, ADB, 2013. Gender equality and food security—women's empowerment as a tool against hunger. <http://www.fao.org/wairdocs/ar259e/ar259e.pdf>

Markets	Markets insufficiently hospitable to women; buyers turn to men; and time and mobility constraints limit women's ability to sell.	Improved infrastructure and information about prices, and sales through cooperatives, with access facilitated for women farmers.	Production primarily geared toward consumption for family and community needs; surplus sold on local markets
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6. Annex.

How to integrate gender into practical food security programmes and projects? Some guiding questions for integrating gender into food security projects³⁵

The following guiding questions can be helpful in the process of integrating a gender perspective into improving food security and rural development on household, community and national level.

Gender analysis

- Have you developed a socioeconomic profile of the target population?
- Have you investigated gender issues related to agriculture and food security in the project area?
- Are women's (and men's) needs, interests and priorities regarding water use investigated?
- What are the gender-specific elements in the agriculture and food security policies and strategies of the government, company or institution/implementing organisation?
- Did you use a gender perspective when gathering information? Is the gathered data sex-disaggregated?

Institutional aspects

- Is expertise in sustainable development, sustainable food production education available in the organisation, project or program team?
- Are women and men fully involved in the organisation and have internal discriminatory factors been tackled successfully?
- Are there any constraints for women and/or men to access and have control over agricultural or financial resources (legal, traditional, general)?

Gender impact assessment

- Will the program objectives and activities have an impact on existing inequalities between women and men, boys and girls?
- How will women and men be affected by the program? E.g. will their work burdens be in/decreased; their health be affected; are there economic benefits?. Is there gender balance in the burdens and benefits?
- Is the budget gender sensitive? E.g. who will sell the produce.

Gender specific monitoring and evaluation

- Did you measure and monitor for separate effects on women, men, girls and boys? How?

Technology and resources

- Does the technology used reflect women's and men's priorities and needs? E.g. do not only men or only women benefit from the used technology or is the needed equipment suitable for women (may be too big or too heavy)?

³⁵ Adapted from Making Sustainable Sanitation work for women and men. WECF, 2009.
<http://www.wecf.eu/english/publications/2009/genderandsanitation.php>

- Is the technical and financial planning for on-going activities in place? And how are women involved?
- Have funds been earmarked for financing input and equipment?

Empowerment and decision-making

- Are women's and men's capacities developed and is their participation in the training encouraged?
- Are women and girls and men and boys enabled to acquire access to relevant information, training and resources?
- Is there a gender balance in decision-making?
- Are women and men involved in the planning (incl. selection of crops and other agricultural products) and management of the activities?
- Have education on healthy food production and preparation been promoted through trainers, women's and farmer groups, schools and health clinics?

7. Further readings

- 1) The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), UN Women. Downloadable at: <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/>
- 2) Achieving Women's Economic and Social Rights (2006), The Association for Women's Rights in Development. Downloadable at: www.awid.org
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