

Annex 2: Addressing Gender Equality in the NRM Programme

Entry Points for further consideration during the annual work planning session

Natural resources underpin the national and subsistence economies in Kenya, yet their contribution to wealth creation and poverty reduction remains under-developed. The ongoing degradation and unsustainable use of the existing natural resources threatens vulnerable habitats and biodiversity as well as livelihoods and long-term food and income security for a large proportion of Kenya's population.

Gender equality is an integral component of Danish Programme Support. It is in this regard that the Danida NRM programme in its overall objective '*Contribute to reduced poverty in the context of Kenya's Vision 2030 in safeguarding the state of the environment and promoting sustainable management of natural resources*' intends to contribute towards gender equality in the management of natural resources for sustainable development in Kenya.

Gender equality, i.e. equality between men and women, herein refers to equal rights, control of and access to natural resources, as well as equal opportunities to achieve political and economic influence over natural resources for both women and men.

In Kenya, women are still largely absent at all levels of policy formulation and decision-making in natural resource management. This is evidently seen right from the local/village to national levels.

It is important to note that gender equality within the environment sector in Kenya can only be considered by strengthening the institutions, human capacity and communities in understanding the concepts and modes of operationalising mainstreaming. To achieve gender equality in the NRM programme, a two-pronged methodological approach will be utilised:

- i. Gender related issues will be mainstreamed at all levels of interventions within the programme. This therefore implies that at all levels women and men's rights, access, decision making and opportunities will be considered as part of intervention efforts.
- ii. Special interventions addressing gender related concerns in NRM will be created in support of fundamental structural changes in related institutions, policies, legislation, as well as to promote women's role, access, participation and decision making processes in management and sustainable use of natural resource.

Recommendations for prioritisation of entry points for gender mainstreaming within the NRM Programme

The NRM programme will have provisions to support the implementation of gender equality activities in each component. Special interventions will be made as deemed necessary in each component so as to strengthen opportunities of improving gender equality in the programme.

The following outputs and activities in order of priority are key entry points that should be considered both during the inception phase and at each annual work planning sessions:

- Strengthened capacities of key institutions within the programme for enhanced gender data collection, dissemination and information coverage and application, in support of planning, monitoring and evaluation of gender activities. Proposed activities to be considered are as follows:
 - Technical assistance in support of gender mainstreaming of institutional policies, strategies, plans and programmes, e.g. Engendering the MEMR, NEMA & OPM strategic and action plans, MTEP and MTEF, i.e. *inclusion of gender-related indicators*.
 - Technical assistance in developing gender-related guidelines: i) in support of annual work planning; ii) calls for proposals for CDTF; iii) training in developing gender responsive budgets – *across the board in all key institutions*.
 - Developing gender-responsive communication strategies/action plans/related materials, e.g. developing gender-related materials as part of raising awareness in the Environmental Education and Awareness Initiative of MEMR & NEMA, use of print and electronic media in highlighting gender concerns on various environmental issues, e.g. support in engendering CDTF communication strategy and materials.
 - Provisions for setting up systems for the collection and analysis of sex-disaggregated data in all institutions that are supported in the programme.
 - Development of gender-sensitive databases, information and monitoring systems.
 - Establishing strategies and mechanisms to increase the proportion of women in decision making within national levels of natural resource management.
 - Developing early warning indicators and pilot projects addressing the effects of climate change on communities, especially women and children around depleted resources.
 - Proposed interventions promoting women's and children's participation in climate change adaptation measures, so as to ensure that the national climate change policy and local community grassroots interventions respond to community needs and knowledge, e.g. increasing women's knowledge and access to new technologies on adaptation.

Note: MEMR has officially requested UNEP to support them in developing a gender capacity building strategy. Discussions on further collaboration with UNEP in support of gender activities for MEMR will be followed closely.

- Gender equality issues effectively and efficiently addressed as part of support to arid lands resource management. Proposed activities to be considered are as follows:
 - Establishing strategies and mechanisms to increase the proportion of women in decision making within decentralised and local levels of natural resource management, e.g. to develop and support forums and committees in which women can participate.
 - Documenting gender issues in environmental education, public participation and awareness strategies, e.g. NEMA environmental education and awareness initiative materials.
 - Addressing gender issues in local level public consultation processes of EIAs, e.g. NEMA enforcement and compliance responsibilities.

- Tailor-made training programmes of staff and committees at decentralised levels on gender mainstreaming, e.g. provincial and district level environment coordination committees, ALRMP and CDTF staff and programme implementation committees.
- Development of gender guidelines and criteria assessment tools for programme design and implementation – CDTF calls of proposals, project implementation assessments.
- Proposed interventions promoting women’s and children’s participation in climate change adaptation measures so as to ensure that the national climate change policy and local community grassroots interventions respond to community needs and knowledge, e.g. increasing women’s knowledge and access to new technologies on adaptation.
- Proposed interventions promoting women’s and children’s participation in undertaking renewable energy measures so as to ensure that local community grassroots interventions respond to community needs and knowledge, e.g. increasing women’s knowledge and access to new technologies on renewable energy.
- Providing skills in project and business management of nature-based enterprises for rural communities, especially women and youth.

Note: The World Bank has supported the development of a gender strategy for the ALRMP, which this programme will also support, in addition to promoting the abovementioned proposed additional activities. The EC is also keen about addressing gender issues in CDTF. Further harmonisation of actual gender related activities will be undertaken once their Programme Document is completed.

- Enhanced support to civil society groups in addressing gender equality and advocacy initiatives for the inclusion of gender in environmental policies, management and related natural resources development initiatives. As part of support to civil society, the programme will provide further skills in undertaking advocacy on gender-related issues in key environmental areas of concern.