Final Regional Policy Workshop on the Water-Energy Nexus, Beirut, 11-12 December

ESCWA
OUT LINE

- Gender verses Sex
- Gender importance
- Why gender in water and energy
- Palestine as case
- Gaps
- Recommendations
**What is ‘gender’ about? Basic definitions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>This is different from ‘sex’:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Identifies the social relations between men and women. It refers to</td>
<td>Identifies the biological differences between men and women. For example, women can give birth,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the relationship between men and women, boys and girls. It also</td>
<td>and men provide sperm. These sex roles are universal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>identifies how these relationships are socially constructed. Gender</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>roles are dynamic and change over time.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
WHY IS GENDER IMPORTANT?

**Why do we need to think about gender?**

- There are socially determined differences between men and women based on learned behaviour, which affect their ability to access and control resources.
- Access and control are also determined by other factors such as: class, ethnicity, age, (dis)ability, location, sexuality, nationality etc.

**Gender awareness is about recognising that...**

- Women and men have different needs based on their different roles.
- Structural inequalities exist in every society that disadvantage women on social, political and economic levels.
- Women’s needs and rights are often made invisible or ignored.
- Men can also be negatively affected because of social expectations of how they should behave and what they should achieve.
- The contributions of both men and women are needed for positive and lasting change.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefits of a gender focus</th>
<th>Risks of not making gender a focus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I. The different needs of women, men, girls and boys are met</td>
<td>I. Specific needs of different groups in the community are not met, which prevents realising communal W &amp; E benefits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II. Equal involvement of women and men has been correlated with improved sustainability of W &amp; E programs</td>
<td>II. Poor sustainability is a critical risk in the W &amp; E sector, not making gender a focus increases this risk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III. Women are primary users and managers of W &amp; E, so are well placed to contribute to planning, decision making and management</td>
<td>III. Women’s perspective and potential role may be missed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV. All in the community can participate and benefit from WASH programs</td>
<td>IV. Benefits may flow to one or more groups but not all, creating inequities and potential conflict</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V. WE programs can achieve positive outcomes for women, men and relationships generally, increasing equity and creating opportunities for participation</td>
<td>V. Existing inequalities may be entrenched or made worse</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Gender relations in the WBG are unique and complex given the political and socioeconomic contexts of the two geographic areas. Despite a long tradition of women’s engagement in political life and aspirations to gender equality, a traditionally male-dominated social structure and cultural values prevail.

Population Census 2007:
3,761,646

3.0%

Crude birth rate 2006:
36.7 births /1000 population

Crude death rate 2006:
3.9 deaths /1000 population

Infant mortality rate 2006:
25.3 death /1000 live births

Total fertility rate 2006:
4.6 children born/woman

Life expectancy at birth 2006:
Males: 71.7 years
Females: 73.2

Illiteracy rate (aged 15+ years) 2007:
Males: 2.8%
Females: 9.5%
Both Sexes: 6.1%

Population aged 15 years and over by Labour Force Status : 2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Males</th>
<th>Females</th>
<th>ILO standards</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Labour Force Participation Rate</td>
<td>67.7%</td>
<td>15.7%</td>
<td>41.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full Employed</td>
<td>68.6%</td>
<td>78.6%</td>
<td>70.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Underemployed</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed:</td>
<td>22.1%</td>
<td>19.0%</td>
<td>21.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not in Labour Force</td>
<td>32.3%</td>
<td>84.3%</td>
<td>58.1%</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Indicator about Public Life 2006

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of women in parliament</td>
<td>12.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of women as Ambassador</td>
<td>7.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of women as Judges</td>
<td>11.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of women in Labor Union Members</td>
<td>8.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
GENDER & WATER IN PALESTINE

Policies

Strategies 12-17 GS
Action Plans 15-17
Gender Auditing 2017

Institutional

Projects: TACAIF
Toolkits (Gender Mainstreaming in WASH)
Guidelines (GM Guidelines in WS)

Researches MS thesis Papers

Public Participations

- Awareness Campaigns
- Gender Trainings
- NGOs Participation
ENERGY & GENDER

Governmental status

- Energy Sector in Palestine still ignores the need of including gender in sectoral policies, Plans and programs

Civil Societies interventions

- AYCM- Pal (Rural Women & Climate Change 2016-2017)
WHY NEXUS

The Water-Energy Nexus

Energy is used for pumping water

Dams produce electricity

Power plant cooling uses water

Water used for mining fuels

Water supply uses energy

Energy used in water/wastewater treatment

Water Flows

Energy Flows

Water as well as energy have never been a ‘free good’ for the poor, particularly women, who bear a disproportionate burden with respect to their access to and control over water resources and energy technologies.
WATER- ENERGY- GENDER- NEXUS SEED PROJECT : PALESTINE

- Funded by Palestinian-Dutch Academic Cooperation Program on Water
- Aims to bring together different perspectives to understanding and improving the gender dimension of the water-energy-food nexus.
OUT COMES OF NEXUS SEED PROJECT

I. Scientific papers:


C. “Overview on Innovative Ways of gender Empowerment on the Water-Energy-Food Nexus in Morocco”, S. Bouchikhi
2. International workshop
3. Consortium formed
4. Proposals submission and follow up with researches
Gender inequality is a significant barrier to sustainable development

- Lack of situational analysis
- Lack of disaggregated data
- No gender analysis
- Gender experiences is not documented in an official forms
RECOMMENDATIONS

- Collecting and analyzing sex-disaggregated data
- Strengthening the most vulnerable strata involvement in environmental decision-making
- Institutionalization of gender approach in water and energy sectors
- Gap identification and recognizing of gender practical and strategic needs
To achieve SDGs: shift from equality to harmony