Mainstreaming Gender in Local Climate Change Adaptation Plans

The Philippine Experience

Under the project NAP-Ag
Integrating agriculture in National Adaptation Plans

Safeguarding livelihoods and promoting resilience through National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)
The agriculture sector contributes ~ 12% of the country’s GDP and employs 32% (11 million) of the economically active population.

By 2050, climate change is estimated to cost the Philippine economy approximately 500M USD per year.

The agriculture sector absorbed an average of 27% of the economic impacts from natural hazards from 1995-2013.

Due to its geographical location, the Philippines is vulnerable to seasonal events, such as typhoons, cyclones, droughts, and floods.

Challenges are likely to be exacerbated by potential increases in mean temperature and reduction in rainfall.
Numerous enabling policies to close the country’s gender gap have been enacted yet gender disparities in the agriculture sector still exist.

Women contribute 74% to unpaid care work.

There are institutional practices that exacerbate inequality - i.e. practice of masterlisting.

Compared to men, Filipino women have significantly less access to – irrigation, fertilizers, seeds and other agricultural inputs, credit or financial assistance.
Gender gap in the agriculture sector in the Philippines

• ¾ of employed persons in agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing are men, ¼ are women however this does not account for unpaid work.

• Women are less likely to be targeted for extension services, as many extension agents still do not recognize women as agricultural producers.

• Men are often excluded from discussions and efforts that address food security and nutrition. While women are often excluded in DRRM planning.

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• Gaps in the knowledge and capacities of designated Gender Focal Points, especially among providers of agricultural research, training and extension services.
  • Knowledge is uneven even across mid-level government officials.

• Gaps in knowledge of farmers on climate change adaptation and mitigation.
  • Farmers from the regions most affected by climate change were more aware of CC concepts but lack understanding of mitigation strategies.
  • Farmers least affected by climate change only have surface understanding of the concepts.
Challenges in mainstreaming gender in NAP

- Lack of synergy between national level planning and local level planning.
  - National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP) spearheaded by the Climate Change Commission which is very central.
  - Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Plan (AFMP) is spearheaded by the Department of Agriculture (DA) which has regional offices.
  - The Philippines has opted not to develop a separate National Adaptation Plan (NAP) but will be integrating the NAP process in the NCCAP updating.
Opportunities in mainstreaming gender in NAP

- DA is supportive in pursuing localized adaptation plans.
- Local climate change action plans (LCCAP) are more flexible.
- Regional agricultural offices are more receptive.
- Local agricultural offices have separate budget for capacity building.
- 5% local budget mandated for gender-related projects.
- The relationship between local agriculture office and local government is more synergistic.
- Openness to innovation – NAP-Ag team and partners.

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• Actual existing LCCAPs were enhanced.
• Only actors with direct impact and knowledge of LCCAP were trained – DA regional directors, fisheries officers, gender and/or agri focal at the local government, and representatives from the farmers’ cooperatives.
• Intimate workshop – 15 pax max
• At the end of the 3-day coaching, the participants would have identified 3 priority areas in the LCCAP, conducted gender analysis on the 3 priority areas and identified gender-responsive indicators.
• Intersectionality of climate change and gender.
• Harnessing the demographic dividend and its impact on climate change.
  • The economic growth potential that can result from shifts in a population’s age structure (UNFPA)
• Conducting a rapid gender analysis.
• Formulating gender responsive indicators.
Lessons Learned

• The identified LCCAP priority areas per province greatly varies.

• Issues were raised at the local level which were not addressed in the national plans
  • Climate information does not arrive in a timely manner.
  • Lack of transport link from farm to market.
  • Women tend to be less integrated in value chains than men.
  • Low acceptance of products from indigenous communities.
  • Need for market research for value adding products.
  • Lack of savings. Multiple debts from informal sources.
  • Prevalence of teenage pregnancy among farmer families.
  • Lack of access to contraceptives.
Way Forward

- Enhance the coherence and synergies among different plans – NCCAP, AFMP, Philippine Development Plan, etc.

- Include local actors in the national consultation process for the updating of the plans.

- Increase technical assistance to local governments to access funding for LCCAPs.
For questions, you may contact:

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