

# Gender and Extension



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# Gender

- ▶ Globally there has been recognition that gender and its impacts play key role towards equitable and sustainable development
- ▶ This has led to gender mainstreaming in International development agendas (MDGs, SDGs, 2030 Agenda, CEDAW)
- ▶ Kenya become signatory to these global treaties and has expressed its commitment by putting emphasis to gender in its legal frameworks; Constitution, 2010 and vision 2030

# Gender mainstreaming in extension

- ▶ Gender and extension plays a significant role towards increasing agricultural productivity, food and nutrition security, and poverty eradication in sub-Saharan Africa
- ▶ Gender mainstreaming in the agricultural sector (Research and extension) started around 1995 in Kenya
- ▶ This was based on recognition of woman participation in agricultural development
- ▶ Women have gender specific challenges;
  - ▶ Limited access to resource and services
  - ▶ Poor participation in technology development and transfer process
  - ▶ Low or no participation in decision making processes



## In Kenya gender mainstreaming in extension involved;

- ▶ Cultivating the political will through gender sensitive policies and strategies (ASDS, NASEP, draft agriculture sector gender policy)
- ▶ Capacity building among researchers and extension service provider
- ▶ Establishment of gender units /desks/focal points in sector ministries and institutions
- ▶ Ensuring gender sensitivity in programmes and projects

## Gender sensitivity in programmes and projects calls for;

- Identification of the factors that hinder equal gender access to the extension services
- Ensuring gender concerns are inputted in the design and implementation of agricultural extension
- Designing and piloting approaches that enhance women's access to extension services
- Identifying most effective approaches



# Examples of gender sensitive approaches in extension

Some of the gender sensitive approaches used in Kenya include;

1. Farmer Field School (FFS)
2. Common Interest Groups (CIGs)
3. Contracted Extension Services (CES)



# Gender mainstreaming in extension services

- ▶ Some specific programmes/projects have had gender issues embedded to include;
  - ▶ National Agricultural and Extension Policy (NALEP)
  - ▶ Agricultural Sector Development Support Programmes (ASDSP )
  - ▶ Kenya Agricultural Productivity Project (KAPP) - Several projects within the programme e.g. (KACCAL, KAPSLUM)



# Lessons from gender sensitive approaches to extension

- ▶ Brought together farmers (men and women) with a common interest in a specific value chain
- ▶ Enabled farmers to demand extension services from contracted service providers (SPs)
- ▶ Gave the farmers opportunities to address production to post production and marketing challenges
- ▶ Catalyzed formation of farmer cooperatives for high level VC interventions and incomes
- ▶ Enhanced social cohesion among the farmers





# Achievements from gender sensitive approaches to extension...

## Contracted Extension Services Approach – KAPAP-KAPSLM project

Table 1: % beneficiaries by catchment area

Project area	Participation by Gender (%)	
	Male	Female
Kikuyu Kinale	61	39
Cherangany	68	32
Taita	50	50

Certain activities require some incentives for both men and women at the beginning

# Achievements on gender and extension...

Table 1: % Gender responses increases on income of selected value chain commodities

Value chain	% Increase income	
	Females	Males
Banana	15.58	0.64
Mango	43.33	2.24
Irish potato	65.66	51.21



Females % increase incomes  $\geq$  males in all the Value chain

# Gender equity Model among Dairy CIG in West Pokot

- ▶ Registration of both husband and wife as members of the dairy cooperative
- ▶ Sharing of milk and income from milk
- ▶ Women's empowerment
- ▶ Improved household gender relations



# What is the significant of closing the gender gap?



Closing gender gap= Gender equity

1. What more should be done to enhance gender equity in agriculture and who should do it?
2. “ The world has to feed an estimated world 9 billion people by 2050”
3. How can we ensure sustainability framework for incentives- some of which are being used to enhance gender participation
4. What happen when system change e.g. devolution of Ministry of Agriculture sector

Men integration is a must as we forge for gender-extension considerations