

INTERLINKAGES, PARTICIPATION, GENDER EQUALITY AND SDGS

Lesha Witmer, Women for Water Partnership



THEY “GOT” IT ALREADY IN 1992: DUBLIN PRINCIPLES, THE RIO PRINCIPLES, BEIJING PLAN FOR ACTION / CEDAW

3. Women play a **central role** in the supply, management and safeguarding of water.



- 💧 key role in water management
- 💧 a place at the decision-making table (water governance)

CHALLENGE

- Intergovernmental architecture missing (who receives, who guidance etc.?)
- Ministries, agencies all “ vertical” >> coordination needed at all levels
- Accept other type of data bot from experts outside university and citizens data
- Identifies the “ connectors” government <> science
- Identify the real driving force

LEVELS OF PARTICIPATION AND CONTRIBUTE TO SDG17: ⁴

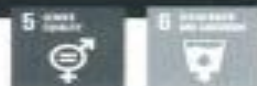
1.	Sharing information (informative level)	information
2.	Seeking advice (consultative level)	consultation
3.	Pursuing common objectives (collaborative level whereby strategies and inputs are aligned)	collaboration
4.	Systematically combining decision-making, resources and actions (integrative level)	full participation

MAIN MESSAGES

- Equality is impossible without equal access to water and sanitation for all for all uses – so connect implementation of SDG6 and 5 (see inter alia Brief for HLPW and UN Water report)
- Implementation is “falling short” if not based on (sex-/ gender) disaggregated data (SDG 17.18); current practise – even if data are collected – leads to consolidation that “ignores” these type of data and analysis taking diversity into account is not really possible
- Gender mainstreaming - and stakeholder participation strategies are operationalized and implemented and not “just” depending on gender experts/ focal points
- Vocational training/ secondary education is/ should be accessible for and promoted especially for women in non-traditional areas(SDG 4.3)
- Adverse effects of targets of different SDGs towards each other are discussed and addressed (e.g. hydropower; sdg6 and 7; see also UN Water report)
- Governments should be more aware of existing tools and use of developed tools should be enhanced: inter alia Hydropower sustainability assessment protocol, water stewardship Standard, gender sensitive budgeting, ...

Define Success: How the world would be different if the issues were properly addressed?

Gender equality in water resource management, sanitation and hygiene



All global forums dedicated to water resource management and WASH will be socially inclusive and provide platforms for women and gender discriminated peoples to provide input and influence.

Women will have access to land, water rights and finance at the same level as men.

Gender disparities in each cultural context will be revealed from the outset, and all decisions around water governance and WASH will be made to work through and beyond these constraints.

Women, particularly in developing contexts, will be taking up more places in the fields of engineering, government, law and science to support their engagement in the water and sanitation governance sectors.

All water governance and WASH programming will pay special attention to the most vulnerable people in our societies.

Men will be champions of equality and involved in all levels of gender mainstreaming so that change is owned by men and women alike.

Women and children will no longer bear the burden of carrying heavy water from far away.

Women, children, transgender and intersex people will no longer be raped or suffer sexual harassment as they travel to the toilet outside of the home.

There will be fewer babies dying as a result of mothers giving birth in unhygienic environments.

Every girl and woman will have access to appropriate information about sexual and reproductive health and rights and appropriate menstrual hygiene management products and services.



Women and gender discriminated people will hold positions of leadership and power in water and sanitation focused organisations.

Women's organisations will be engaged and consulted.

Women and girls, boys and men will all be working together after a natural disaster, including those resulting from climate change.



Developed by the UN Institute for Sustainable Partners and WASH4D for the National Departments of Foreign Affairs and to be

THE CONNECTION?

- Mm, yes, women are 51% of the world population – you think you can do this without them?
- Women tend to look from and for the combined impact
- By know – we think and hope – people do understand the connection between provision of safe, gender-sensitive toilets for women's health, education, work – so SDG 6.2
- Women are far more in contact with food and direct contact with feces (child-care; health-care personally, domestically and professionally). The risk of contamination is very high
- Cleaning and emptying toilets is most of the time (unpaid) women's work
- growing amount of pesticides, hormones, medication, chemicals in waste water. This can have very nasty longer term effect on the health of people especially women (both older (osteoporosis) and pregnant (blue babies, miscarriages)). This may become an even bigger issue when considering reuse of used water e.g. for agricultural purposes, exposing again mainly women working in agricultural (70%) and affecting food-security (when not done expertly).

IDEAS AND RESOURCES

- 💧 (sex-) disaggregated data (e.g. UNESCO-WWAP tool)
- 💧 Gender sensitive budgeting analysis tool (e.g. TGNP methodology)
- 💧 Acknowledge contribution of women / stakeholder groups > Citizens data
- 💧 Quota and meaningful involvement/ division of roles
- 💧 Guidance on equality (data base UNESCO-WWAP and WWF for IW:Learn)
- 💧 Guidelines and standards, inter alia: Hydropower sustainability assessment protocol; (global) water stewardship standard
- 💧 Ecosystem services <> services to ecosystems
- 💧 See e.g. report of the special rapporteur on HRWS:

<https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/G16/166/97/PDF/G1616697.pdf?OpenElement>