Promoting Gender Equality in National Programmes on Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change Adaptation

21-22 July 2011, Ho Chi Minh

1st Meeting of Climate Change Adaptation Demonstration Projects in the Lower Mekong Basin sharing lessons and experiences
Context

• 2007: National Strategy for Natural Disaster Prevention, Response and Mitigation to 2020
• 2008: National Targeted Programme to Respond to Climate Changes (Decision 185/QD-TTg)
• 2008: MARD Action Plan Framework For Adaptation To Climate Change 2008-2020 (Decision 2730 /QD-BNN-KHCN)
• 2009: National Programme on Community Based Disaster Risk Management (Decision 1002/QD-TTg)
• 2011: National Strategy to respond to Climate Change to 2050 with vision toward 2100
• 2012: Law on Disaster Preparedness, Prevention and Mitigation
• 2012: Green Growth Strategy? Law on Climate Change
Context

• Who raised gender issues in the programme formulation
• Why gender issues lost again in official legal binding programmes
• Why an identical process to indentify and address gender gaps
• Trickle down in implementation?
UN support DRM and CCA versus promote gender equality

• Support focus: MARD (CBDRM) + MONRE (NTP-RCC) and targeted provinces

• Approach: Linking local practices to national programmes;
  – Partnership for capacity development in UN supported projects in two Ministries and Women institution (VWU)
  – Observe evidences and changes e.g. in collaboration Oxfam project in Quang Tri
  – Trickle down piloting gender mainstream in national programmes in e.g. Phu Yen, CanTho, Binh Thuan, Cao Bang, etc.
  – Up scaling
1. Practice in Capacity Development

- Essential to partnership with Vietnam Women Union (VWU): Women’s Union as one of main partners
- Promote operation and financial scheme for VWU membership in CBDRM and NTP-RCC in relation with the implementation of sections of 2006 Law on Gender Equality
- Building ToT on Gender and CCA and DRR - standardize national training materials of Gender in DRR and CCA
- Engage Women Leaders in CC Negotiation
- Training and High level Dialogues of Gov Officers on Gender and CC;
Participation of women delegates in training on CC negotiation for COP
Women trained on how to prepare and respond to flooding.

Photo- Maria Larrinaga
Legal binding that promote concrete support to gender equality

- Setting up partnership and legal binding agreement for National Programme implementation: e.g. National DMC+VWU+RedCross and CSOs
- The on-going formulation process of Disaster Risk Management Law have gender sensitive:
  - Aim to promote VWU to be formal member of National DRM body (CCFSC)
  - Call for INGOs and UN to provide gender lens for the Law
  - Target women leaders and women national assembly members in consultation process of the law;
  - Need cost-benefit analysis for gender mainstreaming for national programme budget planning (INGOs? Researchers?)
2. Practice: Observe evidences and changes of gender issues

- Collaboration build on grass-root interventions of CSOs
- Observation of evidence and changes in gender equality
- Policy dialogues at national level and tailored policy changes
- Feed in national programme designs and planning, implementation process
Built on Evidences with CSOs

• Quang Tri province, Hai Lang district (with support from Oxfam project): since 2005-now on preparedness-DRR and adaptation

• Hai Lang HAVE:
  – Just US$2.5 each year enables to train a trainer + gender
  – US$1,850: one disaster training session for 120 people, with over 1,000 observers, on search and rescue and first aid (min.50% women)
  – US$3,121 = 3 large rescue boats → 8 boats
  – US$6.18 = 1 lifevest → 500 lifejackets
  – US$2,180 = 1 disaster communication system, including loudspeakers, microphone, amplifier, etc.
  – US$1,000 = district-level disaster management two-day workshop for 25-30 people (approx US$33-40 per person) → maintained annually
UN evidence and changes observed

Hai Lang HAVE NOT
(from UN and Oxfam: Gender and CC report 2009)

- Often only men go to local meetings (CCFSC membership…)
- Women leadership? Roles of Women’s Union in local CCFSCs
- Gender needs not taken into account in emergency relief programs (CCFSC);
- tool commonly used in CBDRM – not always analyze through a “gender lens”, though explicitly draw out in methods

- Feminization of agriculture (women are less mobile as social perception);
Verify evidence and changes
Verify evidence and changes

A clean park, and pedal power
By a group of girls (Hai Lang district)

A window on the future, with green-smoke industry
By a group of boys (Hai Lang district)
Dialogues and Continue Monitor

• Local and national dialogues and for gender mainstreaming in CBDRM + NTP-RCC planning processes
• Currently arranging to monitor trends of gender issues in migration and reallocation areas due to in Quang Tri and surrounding zones.
3. Practice: trickle down pilot to full implementation

- Gender included in assessment tools and in the MARD/DMC Guidelines on Emergency Response and Early Recovery;
- Ensure min. 30% female resource trainers for national standard DRM and CCA training curricular for CCFSC and Universities in Vietnam (which has recently been approved by GoV);
- Innovative gender project in Phu Yen province: Communication program for awareness raising on DRR and CCA through television, radio, soap opera, women group discussions, local meetings…
- Targeted interventions on vulnerable women: e.g. trainings for women on swimming and survival skills.
Planning before disaster season

Local meetings: Ensuring local DRR and CCA agenda and invitation is name out women instead of past behavior where local authority only send invitation to the husband/male member in the household.
Targeted women as direct beneficiaries
UN-Women project: empowerment and awareness on DRR in Phu Yen

Soap Opera & local dialogues

Soap opera in Radio
Some of Lessons:

• More upfront dialogues and “binding” agreements of GoV agencies and CSOs and mass organizations before pilot/demonstration

• Stronger alignment of INGOs and CSOs projects toward national programme from the beginning will save a lot of resources

• Small intervention may help to change

• Awareness raising and education of DRR and CCA for women are key

• Setting objectives on gender in National programme and budget is allocated based on grass-root evidence.
Questions?

Thank you very much