



WAVES

Developing gender-transformative innovation bundles: the case of maize leaf stripping



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Structure of the Presentation

How can gender-transformative bundles be developed based on SIAF evaluations?

- New research/donor commitment to gender-transformative work: Why?
- Gender norms, gender-transformative approaches and innovation bundles: What are they?
- Leaf stripping intervention: What have we done? What can we learn?
- Gender-transformative innovation bundles: How can the leaf stripping results be used?



New research/donor commitment to gender-transformative work: Why?

- Over the past five years shift from conventional to gender-transformative approaches



Gender transformative approaches in a rural world
Tackling root causes of discrimination against rural women and girls

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

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Gender

Background News Insights Projects Resources Special initiatives

A paradigm shift to achieve gender equality and food security

FAO, IFAD and WFP launch a Compendium of Good Practices on Gender Transformative Approaches for Food Security and Nutrition.

10/12/2020

On 10th December, the last day of the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence Campaign, one of the highlights of the 16 Days of Activism Campaign was the launch of the Compendium of 15 Good Practices on Gender Transformative Approaches, by Máximo Torero Cullen, Economist, FAO, Guoqi Wu, Associate Vice-President, IFAD and Guarnieri, Assistant Executive Director, WFP. The Compendium

GTAs have been endorsed at the highest levels. In the run-up to the setting of Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2015, UN Women called for the new SDG framework to be *transformative*, by addressing the structural impediments to gender equality and the achievement of women's rights.² This led to the concept of gender transformation being embedded in the language of Agenda 2030.³

In line with this discourse on gender transformation, the EU has also moved from promoting traditional, more technical gender approaches on their own towards promoting a combination of technical approaches and GTAs. Section B provides examples of EU-funded GTAs in the rural sector.



New research/donor commitment to gender-transformative work: Why?

Conventional gender approaches (accommodating approaches):

Participation (in interventions) + Benefits (from them)

Transformative gender approaches:

Participation + Benefits (symptoms; outcomes of norms): tangible inequalities



Underlying norms (deeper layer of rules, beliefs): inequitable gender norms

Norms need to be targeted to make development outcomes equitable and sustainable



Gender norms, gender-transformative approaches and innovation bundles: What are they?

Gender norms: outline expectations for appropriate behavior for a man or a woman in a social group; embedded in institutions (Cislaghi 2017)

Gender-transformative approaches: promote critical reflection on norms that create inequalities and seek innovative social arrangements (Kantor et al. 2015)

Gender-transformative innovation bundles: innovations as always consisting of technical and social dimensions (Leeuwis 2004); need to design social innovations in a gender-transformative manner



Leaf stripping intervention: What have we done?

Problem: feed scarcity during the cultivation period

Leaf stripping: removal of the lower leaves of the maize plant at a certain growth stage of the maize plant to provide feed for livestock during the cropping season without compromising grain yield

- Approach: package, technology park, on-farm
- Criteria for selection of farmers
- Number of farmers: 90 farmers (W=27; M=63;) from 12 sites across the 3 project regions – low participation of women!
- Numbers of seasons: 2 seasons (2017/18 and 18/19 cropping seasons).



Leaf stripping intervention: What have we done?

SIAF gender evaluation of the leaf stripping intervention

- **Sampling:** Purposively sampled 60 farmers (W=21, M=39) and five technical staff (all male)
- **Mixed method approach in data collection:**
 - A short survey, FGDs (19 in total), participatory exercises, key informant interviews
 - Data collection in 2019; second evaluation in 2020 with the same farmers
- **Data processing and analysis**
 - Audio-recordings of FGDs and key informant interviews transcribed
 - Survey data was analyzed with STATA
 - Qualitative data analysis using Atlas.ti



Leaf stripping: Tangible inequalities

Participation

- Low representation of women and young people in intervention limits benefits (individual benefits, benefits from collective action)
 - 35% women, 65% men;
 - Average age is 47 years (only 7 farmers are below 35 years)
- More technology experimentation on households plots controlled by men as compared to individual plots controlled by women or young household members
 - Largely men headed households (72% monogamous; 18% polygamous)
 - 10% female headed



Leaf stripping: Tangible inequalities

Benefits: sales and labor

- Inequitable livestock ownership (sheep and goats): blurred ownership of livestock by women
- Low direct engagement of women in livestock marketing
 - In men-headed household, women need husbands consent to sell
 - Men selling livestock on behalf of women may make hidden deductions
- Livestock sales (after livestock being fed with stripped leaves) may not benefit women
- Restriction on women activities in spheres perceived as “wild” (restricted feed options)
 - Women cant go into the bush to harvest pasture but high involvement in feeding and watering livestock at homestead
 - Leaf stripping provides space for women to engage in feed collection on farms
 - Stripping needs training (especially for tasseling stage): participation of one person per household (mainly male); no training for temporary laborers



Leaf stripping: Underlying inequitable gender norms

Gender norms favoring

- men's land ownership
- men's decision making on land use and technology adoption
- men's decision making on labor
- men's decision making on use of produce and income: unequal benefits (income from maize and livestock)

Gender norms

- restricting women's activities to the domestic sphere and limiting women participation in the market space
- associating livestock ownership with masculinity and social standing



Gender-transformative innovation bundles: How can the leaf stripping results be used?

SIAF leaf stripping evaluation as an doorway to more conscious bundling in future (scaling): additional components?

	General level of assessment	Levels of gender analysis	Identification of new bundle components
SIAF	Performance of core technology	Immediate interaction with core technology	???
	Environment	Underlying norms versus technology	???

Performance = increase in forage availability vs. **Environment** = lack of transport

Immediate interaction = imbalanced participation/benefits vs. **Norms** = livestock ownership



Gender-transformative innovation bundles: How can the leaf stripping results be used?

What could the gender-transformative component look like (work on norms)?

- Combining technical training with gender reflection (Mulema et al. 2020)
- Drama tool (Cole et al. 2020)
- Household methodologies (Africa RISING)



General level of assessment	Levels of gender analysis	Identification of new bundle components
Performance of core technology	Immediate interaction with core technology	???
Environment	Underlying norms versus technology	???

Community conversation sessions Discussion area

1st session	Gender division of labor
2nd session	Human-livestock interactions and zoonoses
3rd session	Access to and control over livestock resources and social structures
4th session	Reflection: sharing lessons and end-line evaluation
Total	





Gender-transformative innovation bundles: How can the leaf stripping results be used?

How can gender be integrated into all new components?

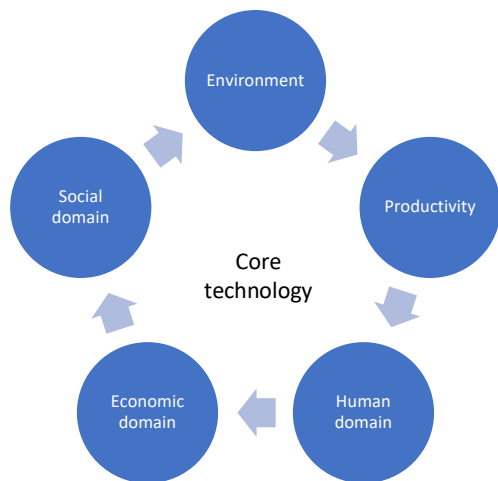
General level of assessment	Levels of gender analysis	Identification of new bundle components
Performance of core technology	Immediate interaction with core technology	???
Environment	Underlying norms versus technology	???

All new bundle components need gender consideration!
More use of residue for feed through improved transport facilities (example): How do women have access to transport? Are there norms that restrict them?

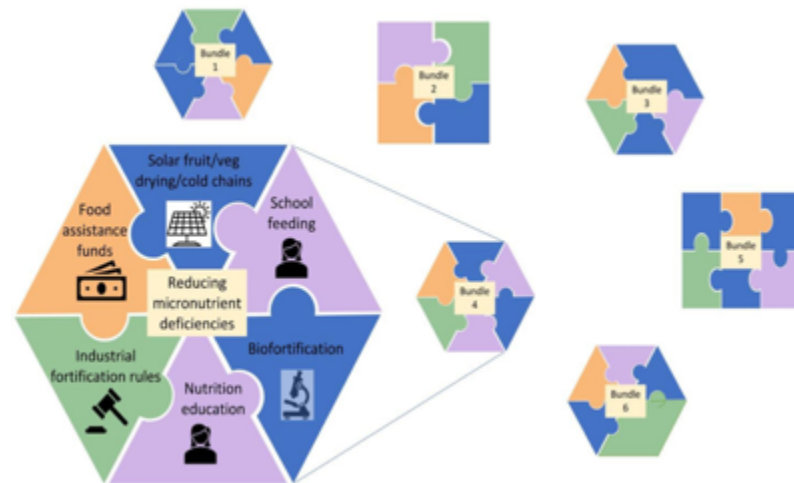


Conclusion

SIAF domains



Bundling technology with innovations for uptake in a specific context



Bundling innovations for an objective in a specific context

Same or different approaches?

New emphasis on social components (room for gender-transformative work)!



Socio-Technical Innovation Bundles for Agri-Food Systems Transformation



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