

Gender Mainstreaming in National Sustainable Development Planning

Dr. Gabrielle Hosein

17 June 2019

ECLAC study: Scope and Objectives

1. Assess how Caribbean countries are mainstreaming gender in national development planning by mapping gender equality plans and development plans;
2. Highlight best practices, as well as challenges, faced by Caribbean country in this process;
3. Provide recommendations on how technical assistance could be provided to Caribbean governments to advance inclusion of a gender perspective in national development planning.

Countries under analysis

ECLAC 29 CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION COMMITTEE (CDCC) MEMBER COUNTRIES:

Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Island, Cuba, Curacao, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Montserrat, Martinique, Puerto Rico, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Sint Maarten, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands, and the United States Virgin Islands.

Definition of Gender Mainstreaming

“Mainstreaming a gender perspective is the process of assessing the implications for women and men of any planned action, including legislation, policies or programs, in all areas and at all levels. It is a strategy for making women’s as well as men’s concerns and experiences an integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programs in all political, economic and societal spheres so that women and men benefit equally and inequality is not perpetuated. The ultimate goal is to achieve gender equality.”

Definition of Gender Analysis

A tool that brings to the surface gender disparities of a core problem. It reveals the connections between gender relations and the development challenge to be solved, it indicates exactly what that impact is likely to be, and promotes alternative courses of action.

UNDP, 2016

Background to Integrating Gender Analysis in National Development Planning

- Women in Development

VS



- Gender and Development



Evolution of the concept of gender mainstreaming

- 1977: UN ECOSOC Resolution
- 1977: Regional Plan of Action La Habana
- 1979: Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)
- 1985: Concept introduced in Nairobi World Conference on Women
- 1994: Regional Programme of Action Mar del Plata
- 1995: UN Fourth World Conference on Women - Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action
- 1997: Santiago Consensus
- 2000: Lima Consensus
- 2004: Mexico City Consensus
- 2007: Quito Consensus
- 2010: Brasilia Consensus
- 2013: Santo Domingo Consensus
- 2015: 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and 17 Sustainable Development Goals
- 2016: Montevideo Strategy

Why is Gender Mainstreaming important in development planning?

- It puts people at the heart of policy-making
- It leads to better governance
- It involves both women and men and makes full use of human resources
- It makes gender inequalities visible in society in order to tackle them

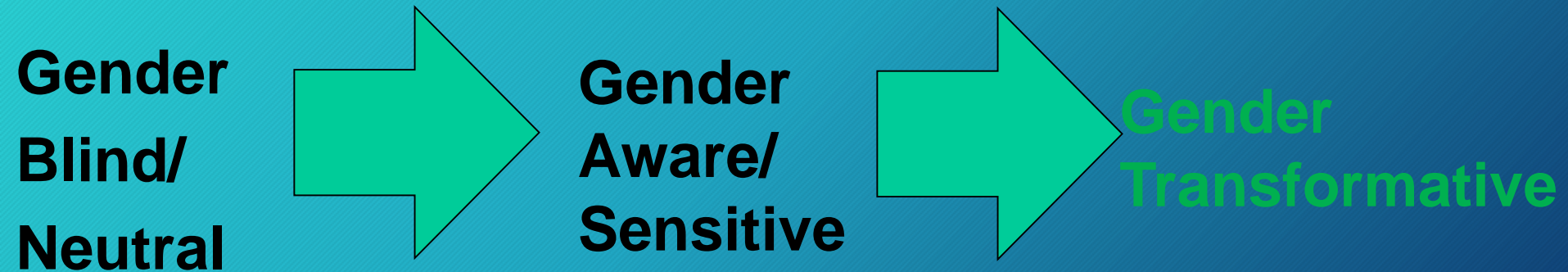
Necessary prerequisites for Gender Mainstreaming in development planning

- ✓ Political will
- ✓ Adoption of Gender equality policy, plan and programmes
- ✓ Research including sex-disaggregated data, forecasts, cost-benefit analyses, gender impact assessments, gender responsive budgets
- ✓ Comprehensive knowledge of gender relations and an integration of gender in development studies

Necessary prerequisites for Gender Mainstreaming in development planning

- ✓ Knowledge of the administrative rules, processes, authorities and networks
- ✓ Checklists, guidelines, targets and terms of reference that supporting monitoring and evaluation
- ✓ Necessary funds and human resources
- ✓ Greater participation of women in decision-making processes

Gender Mainstreaming Framework for Assessing Policies and Development Plans



Gender Mainstreaming is undertaken through:

An assessment of impact:

What is the gendered impact of past policies and activities?

How did they address practical and strategic needs?

To what extent was gender inequality reduced?

An assessment of challenges:

Is achieving gender equality considered a challenge in this sector?

Does gender equality impact or intersect other challenges?

Outline of development goals:

Is gender equality a stated goal of the sector?

How does it affect achievement of other goals?

Target setting:

Are gender equality targets specified and their achievement measurable through sex-disaggregated data?

Can progress at different stages of the process be assessed?

Policy-making:

What policies and activities are proposed to address gender equality challenges, goals and targets?

What is the gender impact of policies that address macroeconomic or sectoral concerns?

Identification of a legislative agenda:

Is legislation needed to eliminate gender bias and promote gender equality?
What is the gender impact of proposed legislation designed to achieve other objectives?

Gender Equality Plans



- Antigua and Barbuda: Action Plan for Gender Equality and National Strategic Action Plan to End Gender Based Violence



- Belize: National Gender Policy



- British Virgin Islands: National Policy for Gender Equity and Equality



- Cayman Islands: National Policy on Equity and Equality



- Dominica: National Policy and Action for Gender Equity and Equality



- Grenada: National Gender Equality Policy and Action Plan

- Guyana: National Gender and Social Inclusion Policy

- Haiti: Gender Action Plan

- Jamaica: National Policy for Gender Equality

- Trinidad and Tobago: National Gender Policy (Green Paper)

- Suriname: draft Gender Vision policy document 2021 - 2035 and Gender Action Plan for 2019 and 2020



National Development Plans

Long term



Medium term



In development



Case study- Dominica



- Dominica is one of the few countries in the region to integrate and combine its gender policy commitments with national development planning.
- Gender is mainstreamed using several strategies throughout the National Resilience Development Strategy Dominica 2030

Case study- Dominica : National Strategies



- Reinforce priorities around poverty reduction, promotion of justice, and economic and social empowerment of women and girls informal sector work and contraceptive use
- Strengthen mechanisms to improve the management of gender issues
- Support gender sensitive research, analysis and development
- Enhance capacity to monitor and evaluate progress

Case study- Dominica : National Strategies



- Reinforce priorities around poverty reduction, promotion of justice, and economic and social empowerment of women and girls informal sector work and contraceptive use
- Strengthen mechanisms to improve the management of gender issues
- Support gender sensitive research, analysis and development
- Enhance capacity to monitor and evaluate progress

Main Challenges of Gender Mainstreaming in National Development Planning

- Absence or outdated normative and policy frameworks on gender equality;
- Limited human resources at the government level and frequent rotation of personnel;
- Limited financial resources, particularly when discussions about women's issues are now being debated against the perception of men at risk or marginalized;

Main Challenges of Gender Mainstreaming in National Development Planning (Cont.)

- **Shift in priorities by funding agencies as well as the lack of mechanisms to ensure sustainability, many agencies and NGOs ceased to exist;**
- **Limited monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, including availability of data disaggregated by sex; and**
- **Traditional stereotypes, attitudes, expectations of society.**

A Way Forward: Preliminary Recommendations

- **Develop, adopt and effectively implement national gender equality policies**
- **Adopt frameworks for gender analysis and gender impact assessments**
- **Develop, adopt and effectively implement national sustainable development plans which involves the National Mechanisms for the Advancement of Women**
- **Establish inter-ministerial institutional frameworks for gender equality and mainstreaming to avoid working in silos**
- **Ensure effective participatory mechanisms for coordination between governmental institutions, the private sector, social partners and civil society**

A Way Forward: Preliminary Recommendations (Cont.)

- Establish monitoring and evaluation mechanisms for sound accountability and oversight on gender mainstreaming in national development planning
- Strengthen collection, analysis and dissemination of sex-disaggregated data and statistics
- Integrate Gender Responsive Budgeting
- Institutional Development/Capacity Building, including gender focal points in ministries and agencies

Questions and Answers



THANK YOU!