



IDEV

Independent Development Evaluation
African Development Bank



Experience at IDEV to integrate gender in evaluation: progress, challenges and future proposals

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Integrating gender into project-level evaluation

ECG reference document

ECG
EVALUATION COOPERATION GROUP



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Content

1. Key concepts about GRE
2. Progress of IDEV in GRE, including examples
3. Challenges encountered
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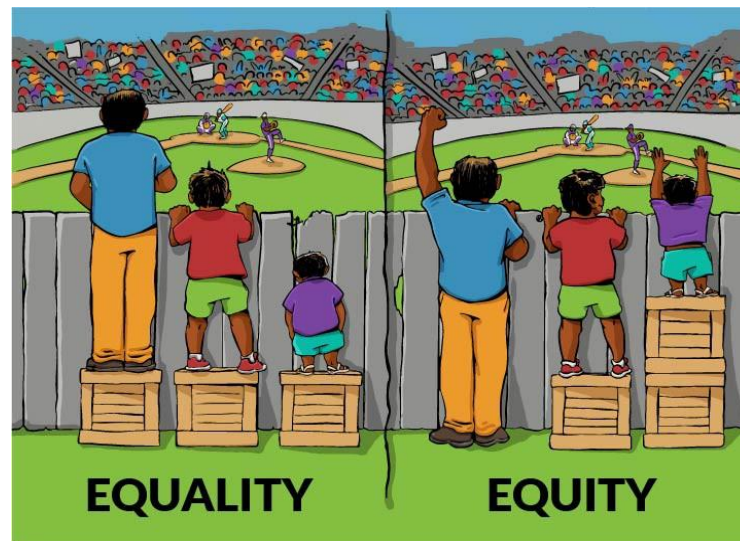
Some key concepts...

Gender equality entails the concept that all human beings, both men and women, are free to develop their personal abilities and make choices without the limitations set by stereotypes, rigid gender roles or prejudices. Therefore, needs of women and men, rights, responsibilities and opportunities will not depend on whether they are born male or female.

<http://www.uneval.org/document/detail/1616>

Key dimensions of Gender Equality are related to access to resources, services and decision making.

Gender equity in the development context usually implies measures to compensate for the historical and social disadvantages of women (and vulnerable people).



<https://medium.com/@andrewlovseth/gender-equity-in-ultimate-2c0e4571b0a6> Name

Gender equality as an end in itself (rights-based approach) and/or as a means for attaining higher levels of development (instrumental approach).



Gender assessment / analysis..

... usually entails the analysis of any available relevant data about the distributional impacts of operations on men and women, as well as the constraints faced by women to access resources. Gender with an intersectional perspective looks at broader social inclusion aspects such as age, race, and income level.

The assessment should be focused on how the intervention increased/reduced the **gender gap**.

Most Gender-responsive evaluations (GRE) are based on a gender analysis that helps identify the key issues and questions that should be covered.



Gender-responsive Evaluation (GRE) principles

- Recognition that GRE does not just focus on women but examines the differential impacts of development interventions on women and men;
- GRE should not only studies sex differences but also examines the interaction between sex and other variables such as age, class, education, location and ethnicity.
- Sound GRE uses participatory and consultative approaches and evaluation mixed-methods designs that combine quantitative and qualitative approaches.
- Most GREs do have a strong focus on women for two reasons:
 - ✓ Women continue to experience economic, political, social and cultural disadvantages in most societies;
 - ✓ A lot of data are not sex-disaggregated and important gender-specific information such as time-use, access to productive resources and gender-based violence are not collected.

Gender-responsive Evaluation (GRE) in practice

Most organizations adopt standard evaluation tools rather than customized ones to capture gender results.

Need to go beyond aggregate indicators and differences in averages, including the “leave no one behind” approach.

Three levels of depth and intensity of the evaluation:

- Level 1: diagnostic of the current situation
- Level 2: *Pre-test post-test comparison.*
- Level 3: *Analysis of causality and transformative change.*

Defining the boundaries of the evaluation:

- Only the direct /primary gender objectives defined in the project design (not only the situation of women, but differential project effects on women and men and on the interaction and gaps between them)
- Potential secondary outcomes on the target population, not defined in the design.
- Potential tertiary outcomes beyond the target population.

IDEV progress on GRE (I)

Programming and budgeting evaluations:

IDEV does not have a structured approach to integrate gender into design of evaluations in the work program.

Reviewing / validating self-evaluation:

The review of PCRs does not include a specific gender dimension.

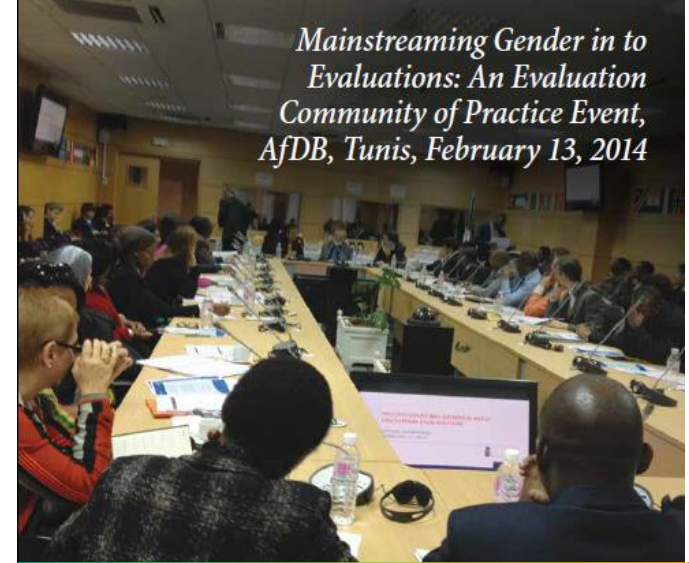
Designing and implementing evaluations:

- ✓ Gender is usually integrated into evaluation questions related to cross-cutting issues (stand alone or as part of inclusiveness); additional question on an ad-hoc basis; CSPE Cabo Verde piloted a stand-alone evaluation criterion, merging GE and social inclusion.
- ✓ No gender context assessment is commonly conducted or special attention in Theory of Change developed during the evaluation.

IDEV progress on GRE (II)

- ✓ Evaluation synthesis on gender in 2012
- ✓ IDEV-ORQR evaluation COP event and eValuation matters (2014)
- ✓ ECG reference document on integrating gender into project-level evaluation and practitioners workshop (2017)
- ✓ Pilots: CSPE Cabo Verde & MTR of CSP in Guinea Bissau
- ✓ Upcoming Evalmatters in 2018 about gender

Mainstreaming Gender in to Evaluations: An Evaluation Community of Practice Event, AfDB, Tunis, February 13, 2014



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gender

Main Messages and Findings from the ECG Gender Practitioners Workshop
Washington, DC, September 2017

01
Rationale, Challenges, and Advocacy on Gender-Responsive Evaluations

02
Meeting the Challenges of Integrating Gender in the Evaluation of Community-Driven and Rural Development Projects

03
Meeting the Challenges of Integrating Gender in the Evaluation of Private Sector Projects

04
Meeting the Challenges of Integrating Gender in the Evaluation of Country Programs

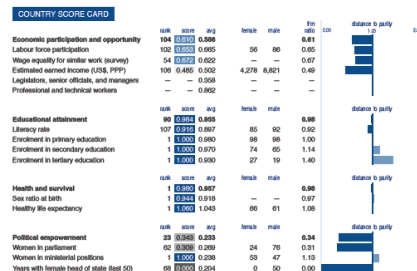
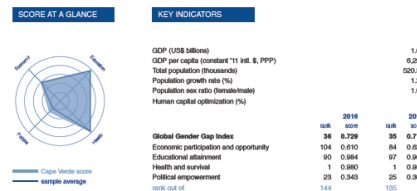
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Gender as a Safeguard – the Human Rights Approach

Example of gender integration: the CSPE of Cabo Verde (2018)

use of gender analysis with a view to capturing missed opportunities.

CSP-level :

- Country and sector gender gap analysis
- Assessment of the robustness of GE & SI consideration at CSP design
- Level of alignment of the AfDB portfolio with the pillars of AfDB's Gender Strategy (relevance)
- Level of alignment and contribution of the AfDB strategies to Government's gender-related policies (relevance)
- Geographic distribution of the benefits of the AfDB's program (relevance and effectiveness)
- Aggregated gender results of the portfolio



Pillar 1: Legal status and property rights

Pillar 2: Women's economic empowerment

Pillar 3: Knowledge management and capacity building

Example of gender integration: the CSPE of Cabo Verde (2018)

use of gender analysis with a view to capturing missed opportuni

Intervention-level :

- Follow-up of comments on the gender dimension of the Readiness Review at design.
- Assessment of gender-responsive design:
- Assessment of results in relation to design and missed opportunities to integrate gender.



Example of gender integration: Mid-term evaluation of Guinea Bissau's CSP

Assessment of Gender integration at design (no results available yet)

- Level of alignment between country national development plans, Bank's CSP and interventions regarding gender issues
- Alignment between the Bank's CSP and Bank's country Gender Profile
- Analysis of the integration of gender equality dimension in CSP and individual project designs:
 - incorporation of sex-disaggregated indicators in projects logframes,
 - analysis of the way gender is considered (only the usual quotas for women and men?, consideration of land and financial resources access issues?)



Challenges to conduct GRE at IDEV

- IDEV does not have a strategic approach to GRE
- Overall lack of incentives to undertaken GRE, advocacy and marketing role at individual evaluator level
- Financial and human resources are still a constraint (expertise needed).
- Data availability challenges arise from the retrospective nature of independent evaluations, usual very limited sex-disaggregated data available and no time/budget for primary data collection during evaluation.
- Evaluators often do not have control over the definition of gender objectives (design stage) and the type of data available (implementation/monitoring/supervision). Sometimes, when projects have gender objectives, they are narrowly defined.





Challenges found to conduct GRE at IDEV (II)

- Methodological issues in assessing gender equality changes, evaluation tools for GRE
- Capturing gender impacts requires a good understanding of the cultural context (short field evaluation missions, concentration in institutional-level stakeholders).
- Timeline discrepancies between project results and gender-related results, especially those related to power relations, behavioral change, women's time constraints and access to resources, roles in decision-making processes and empowerment.



Future proposals to integrate Gender into IDEV evaluations



- ❑ Undertake GRE and learning/ exchange sessions internally at IDEV, with the Gender Department and other IOE within ECG.
- ❑ Collaborative platform with the gender department of the Bank to pilot evaluations (conceptual coaching of evaluators), while keeping independence.
- ❑ Help to develop a Gender Responsive Independent Evaluation Strategy and tailor GRE guidance for IDEV evaluations

**Thanks for your attention,
Merci pour votre attention.**

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