



## Gender Webinar, 15<sup>th</sup> October 2020 – Outstanding Questions

1. **Question:** How to integrate gender with LEGS during emergency?
  - **Answer:**
    - The Discussion Paper 'Gender and Livestock in Emergencies' addresses this question.
    - Understanding that keeping of livestock has four functions is an important starting point. The basic tool 'Gender and Age' lens is simple to apply at all stages of service provision in emergency settings. Understanding that through interventions one can contribute to gender transformation is of key importance, while involving more female oriented local organisations is a valid entry point.
  
2. **Question:** What is the age limit for children to work in the livestock sector especially for females?
  - **Answer:**
    - This depends on the setting, the culture, and the type of work. For instance, when girls join and help their mother who is caring for sick animals kept at home, this is more about learning by doing than child labour per se.
    - However, the term "child labour" is often defined as work that deprives children of their childhood, their potential and their dignity, and harmful to physical and mental development. It refers to work that: is mentally, physically, socially, or morally dangerous and harmful to **children**. Visit the [International Labour Organisation](#) (ILO) for details.
  
3. **Question:** You mentioned gender-specific language (GSL) for the handbook, is GSL translatable to local or national languages?
  - **Answer:**
    - Gender-Specific Language is not necessarily easy to translate into local languages. Sometimes it needs to be described. However, one also observes that new words are introduced, for instance, in Kiswahili especially in Tanzania.
    - In the paper, we therefore purposely included various diagrams which might be helpful when translating into a national or local language.
    - The term 'gender transformation' is likely tricky and this is even the case in English. Referring to a gender transformative approach is practical as it indicates a mode of working. In the paper [Gender-transformative adaptation, from Good Practice to Better Policy](#) plenty of cases are presented, which might assist in understanding the concept.
    - Sometimes it sufficient to explicitly mention 'women and men' instead of 'all'; and this is always translatable

4. **Question:** Kindly elaborate more about the localisation agenda.
- Answer:
    - In principle, it is about decentralisation in implementation and decision making, and shifting more power to local actors such as local governments, civil societies, local private sector (paravets for example), etc. The paper argues that this provides opportunities to deliberately involve women and women's organisations where this would generally be overlooked. For more detail, see for example: [http://media.ifrc.org/grand\\_bargain\\_localisation/wp-content/uploads/sites/12/2019/08/13082019-FV-UN-Women-Guidance-Note-Summary-Localisation.pdf](http://media.ifrc.org/grand_bargain_localisation/wp-content/uploads/sites/12/2019/08/13082019-FV-UN-Women-Guidance-Note-Summary-Localisation.pdf)
5. **Question:** Since women are affected most during any crisis, why can't LEGS consider restocking of small livestock/poultry as a technic standard intervention for WES?
- Answer:
    - We're not clear what WES stands for, but restocking is a technical chapter in LEGS which covers small livestock and poultry, including in case study 9.2. This strategy for women could potentially be expanded further in the next edition.
    - However, it is correct that women should primarily benefit from restocking of small livestock as normally women are in charge of small flocks of small ruminants and/or poultry, When it concerns large herds, the situation might be different.
6. **Question:** Is there variability in the results of using the gender lens for different production systems (e.g. purely pastoral production system verses mixed crop-livestock system)?
- Answer:
    - Yes, there are, but a pure pastoral production system in Mongolia is different from one in Chad, while a mixed crop livestock system in tribal areas of India is different from one in the highlands of Kenya.
    - In many smallholder mixed farming systems, men are often (seasonally) off farm and young, adult, and elderly women are then in charge of all the farm activities.
    - In pure pastoral systems, the women normally stay at the camps to care for the young stock, sick animals, and household duties while the men herd their flocks.
    - When applying the Gender and Age lens, it helps to identify the differences and the explicit roles of each of the gender-age categories for a particular production system in a particular country/ culture.
7. **Question:** Hello, thanks for the presentation, one of my questions is if there is something specific to mention in maintaining the health of the livestock and not talking about maintaining acceptable aspects of animal welfare?
- Answer:
    - Animal welfare is an integral part of LEGS which is described in more detail in the Introductory chapter and is referred to throughout the Handbook in the technical chapters. We will of course keep animal welfare as a key issue when the Handbook is revised.
    - In principle, maintaining the health of animals includes animal welfare. The latter is as much a preventive measure to keeping healthy animals.

8. **Question:** And another aspect is that in the LEGS handbook it would be good to have studies or investigations on animal abuse related to violence in the family and the role that women play in better care for animals and the family.

- Answer:

- Animal abuse as an indicator of violence in the family is an interesting issue that we will certainly consider in the next edition of the Handbook.
- Existing norms and values, as well as the position of women in a given culture might imply that beating your wife is not perceived as abnormal. (Economic) empowerment of women is a step in the right direction in terms of combating these practices.
- Human trafficking often concerns women and does happen in certain crisis situations. One shouldn't be blind to it and also realise that those knowing the rough terrains -normally pastoralists- can be engaged in this.

9. **Question:** Gender transformative programming is usually long term, and takes place in a relatively stable context, can you give examples for gender transformative programming in a humanitarian context?

- Answer:

- Cash transfer programmes show that when women are targeted, this improves their position within the household. See, for instance, the following Impact Study: Oxford Policy Management (June 2013): Kenya Hunger Safety Net Programme (M+E Component): Impact Evaluation Final Report: 2009 to 2012 by Fred Mertens, Alex Hurrell, Marta Marzi, Ramla Attah, Maham Farhal, Andrew Kardan and Ian MacAuslan. [Available here](#)
- If you want women to benefit (which would contribute to gender transformation), target value chains they have access and control over: milk, manure, gums and resins, hides and skins, fodder, small stock trade, butter, ghee, yoghurt, caring for health of sick animals, etc. are very important value chains to act as entry points for women because these are where (in general) women have access to and control of resources as well as a major say in decision-making. For example, in the case of milk, women usually have full control of the milk value chain including marketing because milk is considered a woman's responsibility. The commercialization of milk and the proceeds from these sales remain in the hands, and under the management, of women when targeting them from the onset, which can start in a crisis situation where, for instance, reintegration and/or resilience building is part of a humanitarian program.

10. **Question:** Responding to marginalized groups during this pandemic has led to more planning for livelihood support to include even those within urban areas. Besides backyard vegetable production, range chickens and goats are the more likely preferred livestock not only by women but also young men and women alike. I believe using the gender lens in this humanitarian context can be considered generalized?

- Answer:

- Not so clear what the exact question is. The Gender and Age lens never generalises as it is a tool. Using it will tell you what the problems and opportunities are for each gender and age group.
- Indeed, young men can opt for poultry rearing. However, experiences show that young men generally opt for commercial poultry rearing (all in, all out systems),

while women prefer the typical backyard system (scavenging and feeding kitchen waste, some grains, etc.).

- It is also important to be aware that a certain demand is (purposely) in line with what the programme can offer: for example young men realise that poultry is on offer and free pullets, feed and equipment are given for free. That could well be the reason they opt for it!

11. **Question:** What can the international community help to empower rural women headed households in Africa, particularly for the mixed crop livestock producers?

- Answer:
  - First of all: insist on consulting women directly about their needs and priorities, do not assume the village chief knows what the women want, even if he assures you!
  - One of the key problems of female headed households in many parts of Africa in mixed crop-livestock systems is the workload, which is often overlooked. Women are in many cases not even able to attend extension activities, for instance. Also the timing of interventions is important: sometimes women have time off in the evening, but not during the day.
  - Addressing issues of workload is therefore important; yet more income does often allow a woman to hire labour. Investing in access to water at a reasonable distance can easily make already a difference ,namely instead of every second day being busy four hours to collect water, to reduce it to one hour (but again, always consult the women themselves first: sometimes they prefer to have the water point away from the village as it allows a moment of free talking with their neighbours!).

12. **Question:** How do we make sure that this very important gender agenda doesn't put women at additional disadvantage by shaking the local norms and systems too much too soon?

- Answer:
  - Indeed, how to find the right balance. Yet, it is important that this argument 'shaking the social fabric' is not used to prevent change. Thus, it is important to understand who argues about it. Are these MY, MA, ME or FY, FA, FE? It matters who raises this argument.
  - Always keep in the back of your mind that cultures, attitudes and behaviour are not static; nothing is carved in stone
  - Engaging (influential) men and getting them on board on the issue of gender equality and women's rights is highly instrumental in achieving change.

13. **Question:** During the pandemic time, most of the young girls got married due to a lot of free time in South Sudan, forced by their parents, and when we talk with the parents most of them were saying that their daughters are the source of income through bride price, how can we convince such parents that girl child education is important?

- Answer:
  - Lots of free time: is this related to a refugee camp setting?
  - Marrying young girls is often a source of income as well as allowing the brothers to get married as a bride price should be paid. Many factors play a role. However, when a household has a proper income, the likelihood that girls and boys can go to school is higher. Poverty is a key factor in such behaviour.

- Convincing men that an educated daughter may earn a decent income later is sometimes a convincing argument (like a South Sudanese influential person once told me: he introduced the chief of a village to a female pilot flying in with emergency food items, and told him that this girl earns a very good salary, due to her education!)

14. **Question:** In the context of under-developed countries what fundamental measures should be done by the authorities

- Answer:
  - Aiming at implementation of the 17 [Sustainable Development Goals](#) is for all Governments and related authorities of key importance.
  - Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls, SDG 5, is indeed of key importance.
  - SDG 5 is about empowering women and promoting gender equality to accelerate sustainable development. Ending all forms of discrimination against women and girls is not only a basic human right, but it also has a multiplier effect across all other development areas.

