

Åsa Jonsson, Human Settlements Officer
UN-Habitat

Session 2:
**Understanding the
Gender Evaluation Criteria**

Wednesday 20 June, 10.30-11.30 am



What we will address in this session

1. Why focus on gender and land?
2. What is the Gender Evaluation Criteria?
3. Evidence of the usefulness of the Gender Evaluation Criteria
4. Different actors roles in the process



What do you think about
when you hear 'gender'?



1. Why focus on gender
and land



I Why focus on gender and land



We can not assume that women and men access land and benefit from it equally

Women own only 2% of the land in developing countries



Despite progress on women's equal access to land in laws and policies, there are still a lot of obstacles: patriarchal attitudes, cultural practices, lack of information & lack of political will and resources



UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

Gender equality fundamental for land governance



'Concerns the process by which decisions are made regarding access to and use of land, the manner in which those decisions are implemented and the way that conflicting interests are reconciled. Key elements of the definitions include decision making, implementation and conflict resolution, with dual emphasis on process and outcomes.'



UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

I Why focus on gender and land



Women suffer under various disguises:
Living in informal settlements/slums; female-headed households, indigenous women, disabled, elderly, widows and refugees

Women's access to land is often through their husbands or fathers, and they often lose this access after widowhood & (esp. in era of HIV/AIDS), divorce, desertion male migration



UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

Poor **women and men** bear the brunt of failed governance, as they have far less resources to pay their way to equitable access and secure land tenure

Grassroots groups suffer the most because they are far from centers of decision making

Sorry, Those Aren't Your Rights

HIV-Positive Namibian Women Face Coerced Sterilization



UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

Gender stereotypes: Implications on land access & tenure security

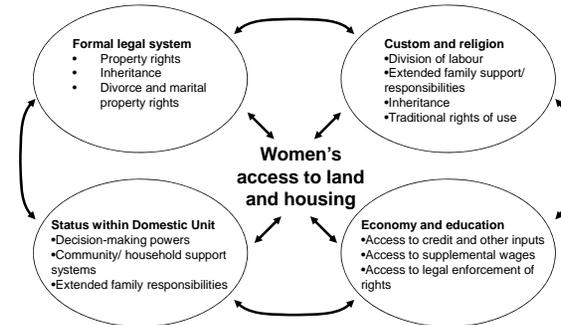
A woman's place is in the home; the man is the breadwinner of the family.	Men are given more opportunities to use land as a source of income; sons and other male relatives are priorities in land inheritance.
The man is the head of the family.	Land tenure instruments (e.g. land titles, leasehold contracts, usufruct certificates) are placed in the name of the man.
Women are weak, dependent and emotional: whereas men are strong, independent and rational. Thus men are better leaders than women.	Women are not involved in decision-making pertaining to land and other properties of the family; women are not, or are less, represented in community decisions making structures.



Gender dimensions and land

Institutions that affect women's access to land rights

(Source: FAO, 2002: 10)

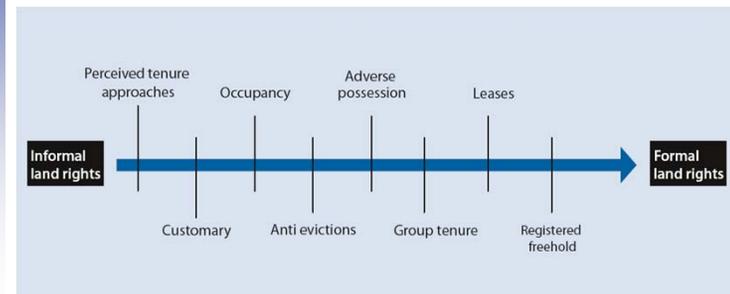


I Why focus on gender and land

- We all learn gender values and expectations appropriate to our own culture and society as we grow up
- Gender roles and expectations are culturally specific and therefore different in different places and different societies; there is no one way to be a woman or a man
- Even within the same society gender roles and expectations change over time
- Gender roles and expectations change due to planned and unplanned factors. The processes of change are often slow
- Change is not straight forward and it can be positive or negative



The continuum of land rights



I. Why focus on gender and land

Flexible tenure options:

- Dominant focus on individual property rights/ titling
- Need for a continuum of land rights
- Examples:
 - Customary communal tenure for e.g. women's groups or cooperatives
 - Collective adverse possession
 - Co-ownership and leases (joint registration)



UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

How many women does the land profession have?



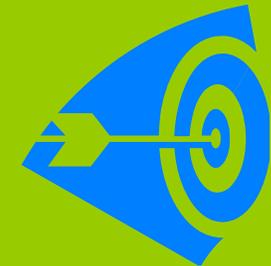
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

How many statutory and customary systems allow co-ownership and joint titling?



UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

No silver bullet.....



UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

Some definitions



Gender and Development (GAD)

- A development approach which challenges the structures and processes that reinforce gender inequality and block women's participation. It is based on gender analysis that seeks women's empowerment through equitable relations between men and women.
- Not only 'including women in the development process'

Gender responsiveness

- One of the core values of GLTN.
- Every land tool—existing or under development—evaluated for its gender responsiveness.

In this context:

- = Moving away from ad hoc and incremental view of small scale projects for women to prioritising systemic tools.



Some definitions

Gender:

Culturally prescribed social roles and identities of men and women that are highly variable across cultures and are subject to change, as contrasted with sex which is the biological difference between men and women determined at birth.

Land Tools:

Land tools (used by GLTN) are practical ways to solve problems in land administration and management

Gendered Tools:

Land tools that can be used towards gender equality, recognizing the differential impact of a tool on women and men.



Gender equity

- The process of ensuring fair treatment of women and men with the eventual aim of achieving gender equality
- Incremental strategy sensitive to cultural, religious or practical resistance to calls for immediate gender equality

Gender equality

- Explicit recognition that women and men have equal rights, equal treatment before the law and therefore should have equal outcomes for both women and men



2. What is the Gender Evaluation Criteria



1. What is the GEC

- GEC = Gender Evaluation Criteria
- Tool or methodology to judge whether a large scale land intervention is responsive to both women and men's needs
- Matrix (with criteria, questions, indicators, etc.) provides flexible framework for evaluation
- Multi stakeholder approach
- Basic and simple to use



Reflection – Your experiences

Has any land activity that you have been involved with been tested/assessed for gender impact/equality?

If yes: What was the result of the evaluation?

OR,

If no: Why was it not tested?



The four columns in the matrix

The gender evaluation matrix includes 4 parts:

Evaluation question (22 in total clustered around 6 criteria)	Why is the question relevant	Possible indicators	Possible sources to get this information
--	------------------------------	---------------------	--



Evaluation questions in 6 main areas

- **Equal participation** by both women and men and gender-responsive governance
- **Capacity building** organization and empowerment of both women and men to use, access and benefit from the tool
- **Legal and institutional considerations of both women** and men by the tool
- The tool includes **social and cultural considerations** in regard to women and men's access to land
- The tool includes **economic considerations** in regard to women and men's access to land
- **Scale, coordination and sustainability**



UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

What is the gender evaluation criteria?

Often we have some idea about how land laws, institutions or activities affect women and men

But even when we do, we usually do not measure it in a systematic way or collect the facts (**evidence**)

If we had this evidence– we could **make a stronger case and advocate for change**



UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

Evaluation question	Why is this question relevant from a gender perspective?	Indicators/entry points for change	Places to find information (sources)
Is the decision making process in developing the tool, and within the tool itself, transparent and inclusive for both women and men?	To provide opportunities for enhancing education and participation for both women and men toward influencing the processes from their perspective and needs	<p>An agreed critical mass (e.g. 30%) of the decision makers is women</p> <p>An agreed number of meetings held regularly [y timeframe] and attended by a representative group [xx%] of stakeholders according to gender, age, caste etc.</p> <p>An agreed set of critical information available on the Internet</p> <p>Information published [half yearly] in newspapers, and in libraries and community centers</p>	<p>Organograms</p> <p>Announcements and notes of meetings</p> <p>Names of members of decision making bodies on the Internet</p> <p>Attendance lists of meetings</p> <p>Interviews with female and male stakeholders</p>



UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

1. What is the GEC--history

Development of the GEC by global and multi-stakeholder input

- 2006: WUF Vancouver - Declaration at GLTN Round Table
 - 2008: Nairobi - Grassroots & Professionals Voices developing criteria
 - 2009: Bagamoyo - Professionals **Lens** input into Criteria
- > resulting in draft Matrix
- 2009 E-Forum: International participation with **Voices** from All
 - 2009/10: Grassroots Pilot testing GEC in Brazil, Ghana and Nepal
 - 2010: Pilot training workshop on GEC for Land professionals
 - 2011: Use of the GEC by Uganda
 - 2012: Widening the pool of users



UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

2. Why is the GEC important

Because it helps

- To assure the usefulness of land interventions/activities for both women and men
- To improve existing large scale land tools and to those under development
- To identify gaps to be addressed
- Argue from a “knowledge-based” position
- To provide a practical method to ‘gender mainstream’
- To identify particular land activities/interventions/institutional set-ups that work well for women and consider how to up-scale



UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

Criteria 4 - Traditional/ Customary Practices

Example:

- Grassroots in Ghana evaluate Land Administration Project in regard to Criteria 4 and find out that the “Inheritance law must be made more explicit”
- Criteria 4 is not applicable in Brazil and Nepal



UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

3. How does the GEC work

Adaptation to local/country context necessary

- Choose relevant criteria
- Select relevant questions, adapt and add if necessary
- Develop country specific indicators
- Identify potential information sources for your local/country context



UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

3. Evidence of the usefulness of the Gender Evaluation Criteria



UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

4. Evidence of the usefulness of the GEC

Piloting of the GEC in 2009/2010 by 3 grassroots women organisations in 3 different countries/continents:

- **Brazil:** Looking at the Statute of the City (master plans) from a gender perspective for application to rural areas
- **Ghana:** Evaluating the gender-sensitivity of the Land Administration Programme (focussing on customary rights)
- **Nepal:** Using the criteria for advocacy during the design phase of new Land Policy



UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

4. Evidence of the usefulness of the GEC

How to deliver tenure security through evaluation?

- Objective of gender evaluation of tools: improving access to land and tenure security
- Evaluation is only one step in the process towards gender-responsive land administration and management and gender equality
- Brazil: Empowerment of grassroots women led to security of tenure for 8,500 families



UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

4. Evidence of the usefulness of the GEC

Lessons learnt from piloting the GEC:

- Represent a valuable framework to those working on the ground
- Land professionals, government and communities are the key stakeholders
- Have to be adapted to national contexts and translated to local and more informal languages i.e. using examples, especially for grassroots
- Guidance on how to run a pilot, how to do a gender analysis, how to use the evaluation criteria and how to link the evaluation with existing projects is needed



UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

1. Issues around gender & land are **complicated**
2. Adding evaluation criteria as an other layer makes it even **more complicated**
3. It is easier to look at case studies that **design indicators**
4. Evaluation criteria requires **many lenses**—from social to technical
5. Different stakeholders will use the criteria in **different ways**
6. Criteria allows us to **measure success and failure** over time, in a way that is understandable to all stakeholders



UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

4. Different actors roles in the process

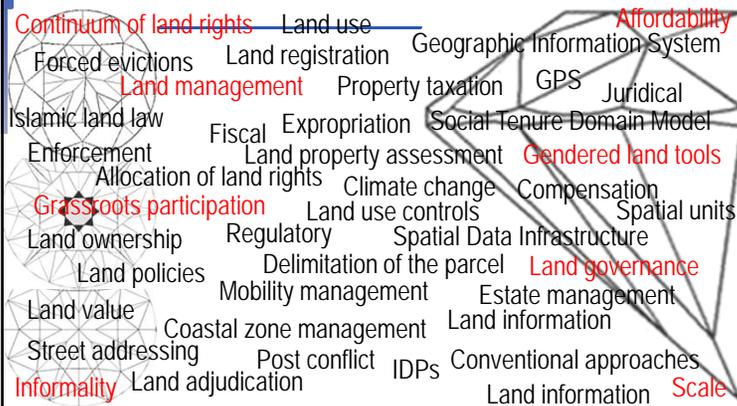


5. Your potential role in the process

What do you think your role is?



The land diamond – many ways to see land



Understanding the Gender Evaluation Criteria

At the end of the session we should be able:

1. To gain an understanding of what the GEC is
2. To understand why gender evaluation of tools/interventions is important
3. To recognise how the GEC was developed through consultations
4. To explore the key features of the Gender Evaluation Criteria (GEC)
5. To create ownership of GEC emphasising shared principles, rather than fixed rules

