



**Bringing gender back in to REDD+ decision processes**

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**Anne Larson, Carolyn Peach Brown, Esther Mwangi, Hoang Yen Mai, Maria Brockhaus, Thuy Thu Pham**

  
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## Outline

- Research questions and study locations
- Some methods
- Key findings
- What to do?
  - Addressing agency issues
  - Designing a global comparative study on gender in policy processes



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## Research questions

- Is there gender differentiation in participation in REDD+ decision making?
  - How is participation (women's) treated in REDD+ policies and legal frameworks?
  - How are women involved in decision-making related to climate change or REDD+ ?
  - How can equity and fairness concerns be addressed in design & implementation of such policies?



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## Methods

- National and sub-national
- Policy content analysis
- Semi-structured interviews (98 Congo Basin; 56 Vietnam)
  - Representatives of institutions related to forests or climate change
  - Included government, regional and international institutions, the private sector, civil society and indigenous peoples

Review of REDD+ documents, reports, working papers from various organizations



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## Research sites



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## Findings (emerging)



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### Vietnam

- Gender equity mentioned in national laws and REDD strategies
- Gender equity widely viewed as essential requirement for REDD+ success)
- No guidance for gender integration
- 3 of all 5 REDD technical working groups are chaired by women (in Vietnam); but do not represent women
- Out of 54 only 2 organisations have gender experts in their REDD team
- The design of pro-women REDD benefit sharing leads to conflict and is based on



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cash payments alone

## Vietnam



- International organizations are driving gender agenda
- International NGO design own gender manual and organise annual training for their staff
- Representative group of women (e.g. Women's Union) is the party arm—a party propaganda tool
  - Detailed requirements and guidance on how gender mainstreaming should be carried out both at national and sub-national levels is still limited



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### Overall

- Participation in REDD+ processes is limited
- Participation as numbers of women?
- Questions of representation
- Lack of knowledge and understanding of REDD+ at all levels



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## Now what? Addressing womens' agency concerns & technocratic issues



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- Guidance on integrating gender for local authorities/national agencies (Training & Capacity-building)
- Involve 'gender' govt and non-govt institutions in climate change ad REDD+ planning
- Good practice, process oriented, widely shared
- Both formal and informal women's groups
- Selecting "right" representatives
- Benefit sharing to meet both women and men's needs---adapted to local cultures
- Needs & interests must be made explicit in agendas, budgets & institutions
- Gender-sensitive campaigns & deliberate facilitation




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Thank you

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