MAINSTREAMING GENDER INTO ACCESS AND BENEFIT SHARING (ABS) UNDER THE NAGOYA PROTOCOL

Experimenting new approaches to Think Equal, Build Smart, and Innovate for Change

Gender & ABS webinar - 13 March 2019
GENDER TOOLKIT

This Toolkit features the MIND Your Step! Gender Tool, case studies, key findings and practical recommendations. It provides a good foundation for quality assurance and will guide ABS country teams and other development professionals in their journey to mainstream gender considerations into various ABS interventions.
MIND Your Step!
A Gender Tool for ABS compliant value chains
The gender tool was designed with the idea of prototyping a user-friendly, low-cost and rapidly actionable analytical framework to understand the underlying gender dynamics within a given context applicable to genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge and identify entry points to design gender smart and ABS-compliant value chains.
The MIND Your Step! Gender Tool is not an exhaustive gender analysis methodology, and the information provided in the case studies is not based on exhaustive academic gender analyses but rather on the available literature and additional data gathered from limited questionnaire-based field investigations.
It is a simplified analytical tool developed for the purpose of this experiment, with the idea in mind of providing a hands-on, user-friendly and more importantly an actionable tool for ABS practitioners in the field. It can be further adapted to answer the needs of other sector specific interventions in the fields of biodiversity, natural resources management and beyond.
01
INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, we will have a brief overview of some of the key concepts, introduce the key international instruments on gender, and illustrate the interlinkages between gender and biodiversity while focusing on genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge. We will also shed some light on the Access and Benefit Sharing regime of the Nagoya Protocol.
MIND YOUR STEP! GENDER TOOL

Overview of some of the key concepts, international instruments on gender, a description of interlinkages between gender and biodiversity while focusing on access to genetic resources, benefit sharing and associated traditional knowledge.
Despite the fact that women play key roles in the conservation, sustainable management of biodiversity and equally important the transmission of traditional knowledge to younger generations, women and girls tend not to fully benefit from ABS partnerships. There are in fact several root causes explaining some of the reasons behind women’s marginalization in ABS interventions.
MIND YOUR STEP! GENDER TOOL

Mainstreaming gender into ABS projects entails a strategy to address the particular needs, priorities, power structures, status and relationships between men and women within a given context. Development professionals need to understand the roles of different social groups involved in ABS-compliant value chains to ensure that their interventions are more inclusive of those groups.
02

MIND Your Step!

How do we mainstream gender into ABS interventions? MIND your Step! This chapter is an attempt to answer the question that you will often hear from most ABS professionals. By running the MIND Your Step tool on a specific value chain, you will put on your gender lenses to visualize gender dynamics in a specific context. You will understand the social determinants behind and assess the incremental added value of gender equality to the productivity and the overall performance within a given ABS-compliant value chain. You will be able to design gender-smart interventions and over time, you will hit the ‘reset’ button to redefine the roles played in ABS schemes and reap the real benefits of ABS for women, men, youth and elderly.
An attempt to answer the question that you will often hear from most ABS professionals. How do we mainstream gender into ABS interventions?

MIND your step!
1. Map-out gender roles
2. Identify social determinants
3. Notice the interlinkages
4. Design gender-smart ABSVCs
Put-on your gender lenses to visualize gender dynamics in a specific context; Understand the social determinants and assess the incremental value of gender equality within a given ABS-compliant value chain; Design-gender smart interventions and, over time redefine the roles played by different social-groups in ABS schemes and reap the benefits of ABS for women, men, youth and elderly.
MIND YOUR STEP! GENDER TOOL

- Stage 1 - PIC & MAT (Prior Informed Consent and Mutually Agreed Terms)
- Stage 2 - Input provision, production & harvesting
- Stage 3 - Processing, transportation & export
- Stage 4 - R&D and commercialization

MIND your step!
In this Chapter, we will provide ABS professionals with concrete examples, illustrate different gender dynamics and walk step-by-step through the gender mainstreaming process. We examined pilot value chains selected by triangulating social, economic and environmental criteria and representing different socio-cultural contexts in Africa, Central Asia and Latin America. From Comoros to Mexico.
MIND YOUR STEP!

#1 MAPPING GENDER ROLES
MIND YOUR STEP!

#2 IDENTIFY SOCIAL DETERMINANTS

- Ownership & control over land & assets
- Access to education, financial resources and markets
- Understanding of the values & benefits related to GR/aTK
- Gender biases in the scientific community
- Pay-gap and glass-ceiling
• Strong linkages between gender mainstreaming, business competitiveness, and sustainable development.

• Practitioners will not just make a stronger business case for gender mainstreaming but will also yield significant development co-benefits.
04
TIME FOR ACTION

At this stage, you need to go step by step, depending on contexts it is hard to challenge social determinants and deconstruct layers and layers of inequalities. Unpacking the performance-based narrative on a case by case basis is the ultimate key to challenge existing power structures.
• Recognize the vital role of Women in the ABS compliant value chain
• Entry points: while drafting ABS laws, policies and regulations; while developing biocultural community protocols; while documenting aTK and developing aTK databases
MIND YOUR STEP!

#4 DESIGN GENDER SMART VCS

- Provide women with appropriate avenues to enable their effective participation
- Entry points: provide women and men with the appropriate space to share their differentiated expertise related to GR/aTK; choose the right time and place to capture their inputs, value their contributions
Empower women to fully benefit from the market potential

Entry points: facilitate access to financial resources by pooling-together small scale producers to reach a critical market size; Support provider groups via technology-driven solutions to facilitate their access market
• Raise awareness to narrow the gender gap due to persisting stereotypes along R&D, commercialization and marketing
• Entry points: use ABS negotiations to advocate against gender biases within the scientific community; analyze interlinkages between gender-sensitive ABS compliant value chains and business performance
The potential impact of GRs as SDGs accelerators can only be triggered if all social groups involved in ABS transactions, in particular women, youth and elderly are empowered to fully benefit from the utilization of their genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge.
Better results with regards to mainstreaming gender into Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) under the Nagoya Protocol, may be achieved by combining a Human Rights Based Approach with a strong business case for industries using genetic resources.

MIND your step!
A LIVING EXPERIMENT

This gender toolkit is a living experiment to ignite the ongoing ABS dynamics in view of further stimulating reflections on how ABS interventions can foster the inclusion of the most vulnerable groups so as to ensure that no one is left behind in the share of the benefits that can potentially arise from the utilization of genetic resources and the associated traditional knowledge.

MIND your step!
As the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol is moving forward, we hope that ABS professionals and other development practitioners will find this toolkit useful to design gender responsive interventions to accelerate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goal on gender equality and women’s empowerment (SDG 5).

**SDG5**

*MIND your step!*
Ensure the triple bottom-line where ABS is not only considered as a source of innovation to develop new products but also as a mechanisms that can be leveraged to enhance environmental benefits, generate sustainable business dividends and act as true accelerator of the 2030 sustainable development agenda.

MIND your step!
05 ANNEXES
Sample Gender Action Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Source of verification</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conduct a gender analysis of the candidate ABS compliant value chain</td>
<td>% of ABS compliant value chains or partnerships that have conducted a gender analysis</td>
<td>Baseline</td>
<td>Report of the gender analysis</td>
<td>USD X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design gender-smart ABS compliant value chains or partnerships</td>
<td>% of women, youth and elderly who participated in PC/MAL negotiations</td>
<td>Baseline</td>
<td>Reports</td>
<td>USD X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>% of ITK databases containing sex and age disaggregated data about ITK holdings</td>
<td>Baseline</td>
<td>Reports</td>
<td>USD X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Share of women having access to financial services and technology-driven solutions in the ABS compliant value chain supported by the project</td>
<td>Baseline</td>
<td>Reports</td>
<td>USD X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of advocacy campaigns to raise awareness about gender biases within the scientific community, pay-gap and glass ceiling issues in ABS Compliant value chain</td>
<td>Baseline</td>
<td>Reports</td>
<td>USD X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An adequate attention is given to gender during project M&amp;E</td>
<td>Percentage of ABS compliant value chains or partnerships with gender-responsive results frameworks</td>
<td>Baseline</td>
<td>Project Results Frameworks</td>
<td>USD X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sample Terms of Reference for Consultants

The Global ABS Team will provide the necessary methodological expertise and technical background to facilitate trainings of trainers specific to the Mind Your Step gender tool. Given the peculiar nature of gender mainstreaming in ABS Compliant value chains, experience shows that a blended expertise is needed to address the drivers of gender inequality in the context of ABS compliant value chains to go beyond a human rights-based approach and build a strong case for enhanced business dividends and environmental benefits.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Consultant to mainstream gender into the ABS Compliant value chain of (please specify the resource(s) if not confidential) in (please indicate country/area)

Introduction

In this paragraph, please introduce your project, interventions and expected results. Please also introduce the legal, institutional context of implementation of the Nagoya Protocol and the related Access and Benefit Sharing arrangements for ABS partnerships.

Objectives

The consultant should provide a top-notch expertise and high-quality advisory services to mainstream expertise into project interventions and design gender-smart ABS compliant value chains. More specifically, She/he will conduct a participatory analysis of the underlying gender dynamics using the “MIND Your Step” gender tool in the (please specify the resource if not confidential) ABS compliant value chain. The consultant will provide actionable recommendations and identify entry points to design a gender-smart ABS value chain to ensure that women, men, youth and elderly benefit fully from ABS interventions proposed within the project. She/he should design gender responsive results framework to ensure that gender mainstreaming is given adequate attention in project monitoring and evaluation.

She/he will:

Conduct a participatory analysis of the underlying gender dynamics using the MIND Your
LIMITATIONS

The MIND Your Step! Gender tool is not an exhaustive gender analysis methodology, and the information provided in the case studies is not based on exhaustive academic gender analyses. Another limitation to this tool is the limited number of field surveys and investigations conducted based on the available resources and timeframes.
LIMITATIONS

To ensure good results, it is highly recommended to triangulate initial findings from the desk review of secondary data with primary data collected from semi-structured interviews and focus groups. The statistical validity of findings will depend on the methodologies used and the size of samples covered.
We owe a great debt of gratitude to all the contributors who provided useful data, context and comments to support this work.