

IUFRO 6.08 – Gender and Forestry Conference

**Environmental governance and four decades of
gender research: Where do we stand?**

27 November - 29 November 2012

Wondo Genet Forestry College, Ethiopia



Organized in cooperation with Faculty of Forest Sciences, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Wondo Genet Forestry College, Ethiopia and the project: Gender and REDD - Global Instruments and Changing Forest Governance

About the Conference

Since at least the 1970s, researchers have documented the differing opportunities for women and men in environmental and development programs. In the 1980s, “women in development specialists” in the global South focused attention on the effects of forestry decisions on women and the near invisibility of women in forest-related work and in decisions about forests. In the last two decades, efforts have been made to raise awareness and understanding of both women’s and men’s roles in forest management internationally. The renewed focus on forests with the debates on climate change makes it crucial to consider how gender is central, both to practices and policy-making in relations to forests. Programs such as REDD+ that propose to combine both development and environmental goals have important gendered implications that need to be examined closely. With experiences from the past, how can we now look ahead to shaping gender equitable environments?

In 2006, the first International Seminar and IUFRO 6.08.01 Workshop on Gender and Forestry brought together more than 60 foresters and researchers from 15 countries in Umeå, Sweden. This seminar was held to raise awareness of the present gender structures in forest ownership and forest organizations and to reveal the impact on the perception of forests and forestry in Europe, CIS and North America. In 2009, a second conference in Umeå, “Making a Difference”, sought to report on progress and backlashes to identify actions that might make a difference through research, policy, education, and networking.

In 2012, we invite researchers and practitioners to reflect on “Where Do We Stand?” on gender, forestry and environmental governance after four decades of research. We will meet at Wondo Genet Forest College, Ethiopia and invite you to make a presentation that addresses one or more of the following questions:

- What are some of the common issues and challenges related to gender and environment across different places?
- What lessons can we share, particularly between countries in the global South and the North?
- How can researchers of gender and forestry learn from gender researchers in other contexts and vice versa?
- How do concerns of feminist scholars such as intersectionality, identity, and masculinity apply to forestry?
- How can gender and forestry research focus on theory and practice? How can theory be used to inform practice and practice inform theory effectively?
- Where should messages about gender and forestry be sent? (e.g., forestry and natural resource management programs, forestry organizations, government agencies, non-governmental organizations, community forest organizations, small-scale operators, public or private sector forestry companies.) What messages do we want to be heard?

Conference Program

Monday November 26th

Evening – Registration & Get together

Tuesday 27th

Registration 8-9

9.00 Opening ceremony; IUFRO 6.08 Coordinator Gun Lidestav,
Dean of Wondo Genet Forest College Dr. Tesegaye Bekele
Vice-Dean SLU Forest Faculty Dr. Jonas Rönnberg

9.20 Four decades of Gender research in forestry – Where do we stand?

Moderator: *Gunilla Bjerén*

Key note 1: What happened and what has changed? - Personal Reflections over the last 4 decades based on experiences from research and work in development cooperation
Lisbet Bostrand (30 minutes)

Keynote 2: 40 years of environmental governance, policy and gender studies: where do we stand? *Seema Arora-Jonsson (30 minutes)*

10:20 -10.40 Coffee and refreshments

10:40 – 12:00 Session: Gender, environmental governance and development today

- The implication of gendered division of labor for the introduction of REDD+ in Lindi Rural District, Tanzania *Andrea Petitt and Beatus Temu (15 minutes)*
- The forest kingdom –with values for the world? Gendered relations in the Swedish climate-forest policy interface.
Sara Holmgren (20 minutes)
- Defining Solutions, Finding Problems
Lisa Westholm and Seema Arora-Jonsson (20 minutes)
- Analysing participation in Swedish forest commons: where do women stand?
Mahesh Poudyal and Gun Lidestav (20 minutes)
- Discussion (20 minutes)

12.20 – 13.20 Lunch

13.20 – 14:50 Session: Gender and forestry in education and learning

Moderator: *Gun Lidestav*

Keynote 3: Gender and forestry in higher education – implementation for sustainable and long term change. *Jonas Rönnberg (30 minutes)*

- Gender based affirmative action and higher education in Ethiopia: Prospects and challenges, *Bisrat Agegnehu (20 minutes)*
- Under what conditions does social learning contribute to women’s empowerment in forest-based communities?
Felicitas Egonyu and Maureen Reed (20 minutes)
- Private Forest Owners in Sweden: Communication, Culture and Gender
Patrik Häggqvist (20minutes)

14:50-15.20 Coffee and refreshments

15:20 – 16:40 Session (cont.)

- Gender mainstreaming in natural resource management in semi-arid region
Taisser H. H. Deafalla, Mustafa M. El Abbas (20 minutes)
- Collective-organization of Swedish female forest owners: Strategies of resistance to cope inequalities in the forest sector
Elias Andersson and Gun Lidestav (20 minutes)
- Women's networks in forestry: German case
Katharina Schneijderberg and Siegfried Lewark (20 minutes)
- Discussion (20 minutes)

18.00 – 20.00 IUFRO 6.08 Business meeting

Wednesday 28th

8:30 – 9:00 Forty years of gender research in Ethiopia

Moderator: Mahesh Poudyal

Key note 4: Studying gender relations with a 40 year perspective: the case of gender, livelihoods, migration in Shashemene in the face of momentous social change.
Gunilla Bjerén (30 minutes)

9.00 – 12:00 Workshop: Gender research in Ethiopia

- Gender perception on conservation of forest resources: the case of Wondo Genet, Ethiopia, *Bezashwork Melaku (15 minutes)*
- From diversity to monoculture: Gendered impacts of change In Ethiopia, *Mersha Gebrehiwot Sahilu and Gun Lidestav (15 minutes)*
- Social impact on khat abuse among students
Gete Tesegaye (15 minutes)
- The Women Challenges and Contributions in Natural Resource Management, *Hiwot Workagegnehu Tafere and Meseret Kassahun Tekle (15 minutes)*

10:00-10:30 Coffee and refreshments

10:30 – 11:30 Group discussions: What lessons can we share, particularly between countries In the global South and the North?

11:30 -12.30 Reporting and discussion, plenary.

12.30 Lunch

13.30- 14.30 Wondo Genet College campus sight seeing

14:30 – 15.00 Coffee and refreshments

15.00 – 18.00 Optional tour to hot spring/Royal family summer residence

Thursday 29th

8:30 - 9:00 Keynote 5: **Is gender analysis in forestry research useful?**

Gun Lidestav & Maureen Reed

Moderator: *Seema Arora-Jonsson*

9.00 – 12:00 Session: **Looking into the future – challenges ahead of us (theory and practice)**

- Feminist Theory - Gender Categories: What for and How to be applied in Analyses of Nature Resource Management. *Christine Katz (20 minutes)*
- Adapting to change in Swedish reindeer husbandry: using Neo-Marxist traditions to understand technological and knowledge determinants of adaptive capacity. *Elias Andersson¹ and Carina Keskitalo (20 minutes)*
- Empowering women in village community organizations to evolve approaches for adaptation of agriculture to climate change in Shivalik hilly region in India *Pratima Singh (20 minutes)*

10:00 – 10:30 Coffee and refreshments

- Local Job Creation and Job Multiplier Effects With Respect To Gender: A Case of Mikumi and Kilimanjaro National Park *Abdallah, J.M., Mwakalobo, A.B.S., Glory, M., Mwapeta, U. (20 minutes)*
- Gender and firewood - An example of gender division of labor within forestry, *Ingegerd Backlund (20 minutes)*
- Women's Role in Restoring Degraded Rural Landscape in Vietnam: Potentials and Challenges *Kajsa Sandewall and Josefina Dizon (20 minutes)*

Discussion (20 minutes)

12.20 – 13.20 Lunch

13:20 – 14:30 Panel discussion: How can theory be used to inform practice and practice inform theory effectively?

14.30 – 15.00 Coffee and refreshments

15.00 **Looking into the future – challenges ahead of us**

Plenary discussion Moderator: *Gun Lidestav*

16.00 End of Conference

Abstracts

What happened and what has changed? - Personal Reflections over the last 4 decades based on experiences from research and work in development cooperation

Lisbet Bostrand¹

In my Keynote I will present mixed reflections on the development of the agenda “Gender in Forestry”. The points of departure are my personal experiences of becoming Sweden’s second (one of three) female foresters in 1973. I applied an interdisciplinary approach, combining forestry and social sciences in my doctoral studies and thesis. The focus on people rather than on forest became evident even before my graduation.

The invitation to present the key address on “Women in Forestry – the need for research” at FAOs 8th World Forestry Congress, Forest for People, in Jakarta 1978, led to a desire to work with poverty reduction and capacity development in developing countries, which became my destiny until today.

My keynote deals with the start and the development of the issue “Women/Gender and Forestry” since 1975. Aspects covered are awareness vs. advocacy among decision- and policymakers; political will; new knowledge and recycling of old; access to information; development of policies and action plans within Sida since 1985.

It also reflects on rhetoric vs. implementation; the dilemma of numerous stakeholders’ conflicting interests and links to failures of forestry projects. The changes of the forestry sector linked to the introduction of new issues e.g. environmental protection, climate change, concessions, land-grabbing and food security requires integration and interdisciplinary approaches, as well as acknowledgement of that women’s and men’s roles are not static but context specific.

Finally it the keynote ends with some reflections on the future and what is required with respect to action and use of available knowledge and the need for new ideas.

¹ Sida, Sweden

40 years of environmental governance, policy and gender studies: where do we stand?

Seema Arora-Jonsson²

The relative absence and invisibility of women is evident in institutions for environmental governance, both at the global level as for example in negotiations on climate change and in organizations for environmental management at the local level. Despite the inclusion of women in decision-making bodies and a backdrop of 40 years of gender scholars and feminists calling for change and gender mainstreaming, change has been slow. Rather than the gender neutral institutions as they tend to get presented, local organizations and government bodies are gendered entities in which women as a group have had less room to maneuver than men. There have been calls for the presence of a critical mass of women in organizations for environmental governance. But, the assumption that competing interests can be negotiated within institutions is also problematic.

What if we were to turn the question around and look at the years of gender research in the places that women are active? Considerable feminist research has been devoted to understanding the work that women do in their environments and the value ascribed to it. What counts as work and whose definitions of the forest are taken as legitimate are crucial in understanding processes of power and gendered exclusion. Is women's invisibility in public arenas such as government organizations or environmental committees the piece of the puzzle that is missing in sustainable environmental governance? How important is the 'public' nature of women's own work and organizing? In this talk I turn to current questions in the light of past research and examine where we stand today – what appears to be standing still, where are we moving and where to?

² Department of Urban and Rural Development, SLU

The implication of gendered division of labour for the introduction of REDD+ in Lindi Rural District, Tanzania

Andrea Petitt³ and Beatus Temu

Climate change mitigation projects often imply new strategies for using the environment. In Tanzania, pilot projects for reducing emissions from deforestation and degradation (REDD+) are under way where the aim is to conserve carbon in standing forests instead of cutting them down. This study focuses on how the local gendered division of labour in two villages in Southeast Tanzania shapes men's and women's experience of the introduction of REDD+ pilot projects in their village forests. Further, the study examines how the implementing organisation of the REDD+ project as well as District forest officials understand the gender dynamics of the project and act to promote gender equality. Using mainly participant observation and interviews the views of men and women about their daily lives before and after the introduction of the REDD project were recorded, and analysed thematically. The study concludes that the introduction of the REDD project did not lead to a change in the existing gendered division of labour, but encouraged an increase in non-forest gendered activities as well as farming. The study finds that the REDD+ project affected men's forest activities more than women's, but led to an increase in labour for both men and women as they are mutually dependent in the household. District office staff as well as project implementing staff were aware of that the REDD pilot project affected men's forest activities more than women's, but did not perceive it as a problem. Confusion over REDD+ rules- among villagers as well as District office staff and implementing project staff – led to women refraining from collecting forest products that were not restricted by the project, and thus probably suffered harder than necessary. The gendered division of labour was found to play an important role in the accessibility to alternatives to the former use of forest products as breaking traditional gender roles were not perceived as an option for either men or women. Further, the District Office and project implementing staff used the REDD+ pilot project to enhance women's participation in decision making through participation in committees as well as giving them the responsibility of the part of the project's pilot payments destined to the children to the child's mother.

³ Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences and Sokoine University of Agriculture, Tanzania

The forest kingdom –with values for the world?

Gendered relations in the Swedish climate - forest policy interface

*Sara Holmgren*⁴

In Sweden, economic, social and cultural constructions of forests and subsequent struggles for control have to a great extent been dominated by masculine representations derived from the 1800th century lumberjacks, and the production of timber. Paradoxically, Sweden has promoted social forestry, participation and gender equality in international forums and development aid, whereas these discussions have been absent on a domestic level. Meanwhile, issues of participation and gender are currently emphasized in forest governance on global scales, e.g. through REDD+. As a response to climate change and an increasing demand for different forest products, the Swedish government has launched an action plan, *The forest kingdom – with values for the world*, aiming to strengthen the role of the Swedish forest sector on a global scale. Based on a discourse analysis of documents associated with the action plan and the institutionalization of the forest-climate interface in Swedish forest policy, the aim of this paper is to explore the gendered relations produced in the Swedish climate-forest discourse. Concerning the six encompassing conference questions, the paper thus address the first - issues and challenges connected to gender relations in a Swedish forest policy context.

⁴ Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

Defining Solutions, Finding Problems

*Lisa Westholm and Seema Arora-Jonsson*⁵

REDD+ can be seen as an example of global governance as defined by Slaughter (2003), where developing countries are expected to present locally based solutions to an ultimately global problem. In an effort to participate in the global REDD+ scheme the government of Burkina Faso, in collaboration with the World Bank, are developing a strategy for reducing deforestation and forest degradation to thereby reduce greenhouse gas emissions. In order to do this, the problem of deforestation, defined in a multinational arena, needs to be comprehensible in the national and local context of Burkina Faso. At the same time, Burkina Faso must be made 'legible' (c.f. Scott, 1998) in the multilateral arena in order to be eligible as a REDD+ country. This is done in a process of negotiation between government officials and World Bank officers, through the formulation of plans and documents.

Through interviews with key actors, analysis of related documents and participation at meetings, drawing on the work of Bacchi (1999), we ask how the problems are represented in this process. What solutions do these representations result in? In particular, we look at the role of women and gender in this making of global governance.

⁵ Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

Analysing participation in Swedish forest commons: where women stand?

Mahesh Poudyal & Gun Lidestav⁶

Community forestry is considered as one of the finest examples of decentralised forest governance as well as of empowering local stakeholders, including women. In Sweden, 'Forest Commons' come closest to resembling similar community forestry institutions elsewhere. Despite an increasing female forest ownership in Sweden in recent years, studies have shown significant gender differences, which are likely to be replicated in forest commons. This study analyses the nature of gender differences in the Swedish forest commons using mail survey data from three major forest commons in the country. We find women's participation in and benefits from the commons to be significantly lower than their male counterpart. Moreover, a significantly larger proportion of female shareholders express indifference through 'no opinion' response on various issues, a major concern at a time when participation in the forest commons is declining generally and a large number of forest-owners are becoming non-resident owners/shareholders by moving away to larger towns and cities. Success of any participatory resource management institution lies in the active and dynamic participation of its members, and as such this study shows that encouraging greater participation of women in all aspects of their forest commons should be a major policy priority.

⁶ Forest in Rural Studies unit, Department of Forest Resource Management, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Umeå

Gender and forestry in higher education – implementations for sustainable and long term change

Kim Wickman and Jonas Rönnerberg⁷

There is a persistent pattern of under representation of female students within the program of MSc in Forestry and the program of BSc in Forest Management at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences. Another pattern of occupational segregation is the concentration of men in the prestigious and rewarded positions at the Faculty of Forest Sciences and within the forestry sector. This abstract outlines examples of implementations of an ongoing project. The aim of the project is to create methods that reduce gendered educational choices to the program of MSc in Forestry and the program of BSc in Forest Management by a) involving students and teachers in a participatory inventory of topics/issues and teaching methods in education that are associated with "gender-bias", b) examining the ways in which this affects the students in the choice of field of study, and c) proposing and initiating changes. To give answers to the stated questions the faculty management decided that all teachers would undergo a gender and equality education including 7-days of study over a three-year period. Regarding the involvement of students, three implementations of gender and equality is planned for each cohort. First, the students are given an introductory lecture on the key concepts of gender and gender equality. Second, during a seminar on suppression techniques and counter-strategies the students are given the opportunity to reflect upon and critically discuss cases from their own context. Thirdly, during a seminar with professionals from the field, students are given the opportunity to discuss gender and equality related to the professional role. The preliminary findings illustrate how complex and powerful the dominant gendered culture and structure is. Consequently, to make the implementations trustworthy and possible to anchor it is necessary to keep the examples used as close to the participants' own context as possible, i.e. examples from their educational setting or from the forest sector as in this case. Another important factor to legitimize the process of change among teachers and students seems to be a clear directive from the faculty management that gender and equality is a priority. Finally, it takes time to change teachers and students understanding of gender and equality from considering it as an area of interest to understand and relate to it as an area of knowledge.

⁷ Faculty of Forest Sciences, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

Gender based affirmative action and higher education in Ethiopia: Prospects and challenges

Bisrat Agegnehu⁸

Gender based affirmative action was an idea introduced to the struggle for women equality by the second wave of feminism during the second half of the 20th century. In an ambition to increase women's participation in higher education, the government of Ethiopia is using gender based affirmative action as a strategy. This strategy is supported by the constitution and other proclamations set by the government. Based on a review of empirical researches conducted in public higher institutions in the country, this study found that the strategy has started to show fruits by increasing the number of female students enrolled in public universities. The result is not, however, as expected beyond the improvement registered at the entry level since many of the students enrolled by affirmative action faced dismissal from the universities. This is because, as the study reveals, the follow up strategy is weak and uncoordinated with the strategy designed at the entry level. For affirmative action to contribute much to gender equity, and access to university education there is need for the government and universities to adopt multidimensional approaches in which various packages or strategies support one another to close the gender gap in higher education.

⁸ Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

Under what conditions does social learning contribute to women's empowerment in forest-based communities?

Felicitas Eguny and Maureen Reed⁹

Collaborative governance arrangements are usually established to empower local communities by providing access to resources and involving them in management. Similarly, social learning has the potential to empower local communities by engaging local people, helping them identify their needs, encouraging them to find their voice, and helping them gain access to resource entitlements. Hence, social learning may be a tool of empowerment within collaborative forestry initiatives.

Social learning is a process whereby groups learn through social interaction. Social learning can enable people to develop a shared understanding of the issues at hand and identify opportunities that enable access forestry resources. While there is considerable attention to gender in literature on collaborative forestry, there is relatively little attention to gender in social learning literature. The literature suggests that women and men have different learning styles and outcomes.

This presentation addresses the question in the context of collaborative forestry in developing countries: Can social learning be an effective tool of empowerment? Drawing primarily on secondary sources, this paper presents a conceptual framework to guide research about gender, social learning, collaborative forest management, and empowerment. I explore the conditions that influence learning opportunities and consider the extent to which social learning can be a mechanism for empowerment.

⁹ University of Saskatchewan, School of Environment and Sustainability

Private Forest Owners in Sweden: Communication, Culture and Gender

Patrik Häggqvist¹⁰,

The aim of this project is to study the discourses and systems of knowledge and beliefs surrounding private forest owners in Sweden. To do this four separate studies were conducted and this presentation consists of the results from these. Using a variety of methods, before and after-test at a Forest Day measuring the learning effects among the participants, statistical analysis of knowledge sources to forest owners using data from a mail questionnaire, discourse analysis of two forest trade fairs using still photographs for analysis and presentation and a discourse analysis focusing on the image of the forest owner presented in seven volumes of the magazine We Forest Owner (Vi Skogsägare). In overall the results show a male dominance in Swedish private forest ownership concerning the studied aspects but also that the male dominance is expressed in different ways. The variety of methods used and the results from each separate study provides a good foundation for a discussion about the relation between gender and forestry in Sweden and also some recommendations for future communication and education of private forest owners.

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Gender mainstreaming in natural resource management in semi-arid region

Taisser H. H. Deafalla¹¹, Mustafa M. El Abbas¹²

Like other developing countries, Sudan has weaker strategies, policies and legal frameworks that support the women's rights. Despite of that, gender plays a key role in the degree to which rural areas that depend on Non Wood Forest Products (NWFPs) in responsibilities decision making, meetings, extension, motivation and outlook within the milieu of natural resources. The results revealed a high significance of women's influences on forest harvesting and processing. Meanwhile, the majority of them are subsistence poor farmers who suffer scarcity of food supplies and health care. Therefore, they count on NWFPs which provide them with critical subsistence in addition to job opportunity especially during the dry season when other alternatives are unavailable. Data was collected based on semi-structured interviews of household heads. Total sample size was three hundreds households distributed among administrative units of Rashad locality in Nuba Mountains according to the principle of population proportional to size. Descriptive statistics were applied to analyze the data using Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) software. More emphasis on potential role and the ability of women to participate in public forums by integration with more develop programs as possible could contribute to both rural development and objectives of biodiversity conservation.

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Technische Universität Dresden, Institute of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing, Germany

Collective-organization of Swedish female forest owners: Strategies of resistance to cope inequalities in the forest sector

Elias Andersson and Gun Lidestav¹³

Women's collective agency and development of various strategies to cope with and resist inequalities within a patriarchal society has been a central theme in feminist research during the last decades. In Sweden, the forestry sector has one of the most unbalanced workforces with high male dominance. Despite that nearly 40 % of the private forest owners are women; the male body is reproduced as the subject and main knowledge possessor in the sector. For women, this creates major obstacles, limitations and difficulties establishing their identities within forestry professions and forest owners.

In Sweden, the forming of forest owners' networks for women is one of the various strategies that have been adopted by women to negotiate their positions in the forest sector. Through a focus group study, including members from all major Swedish networks, the experiences of the various networks and their strategies are studied. The separate organization of women is seen as one of the most forbidden acts in a liberal society. However, the results show that women's forest networks constitute a vital local platform for alternative knowledge production, solidarity and resistance against inequalities in the forest sector

¹³ Forest in Rural Studies unit, Department of Forest Resource Management, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Umeå.

Women's networks in forestry: German case

Katharina Schneijderberg and Siegfried Lewark¹⁴

What is it like to be a woman in forestry? The question of equal opportunity for women and men in forestry will be addressed from an international perspective through an exploration of women's forestry networks. Gun Lidestav and Elias Andersson (SLU, Sweden) examined women's networks in Sweden, while Siegfried Lewark and Katharina Scheijderberg (University of Freiburg, Germany) added to the discussion of the country study with the question: 'How are women in the German forestry context organized?' And: Which similarities and differences exist in terms of experience and treatment of women in forestry, as compared to men; what are some potential future developments? Methods used included group discussions with a focus on women's networks, their goals and organisational structure.

The country-wide association 'Women in Forestry' in Germany has existed for 25 years, a timeframe that mirrors the careers of many of its members. In this case it is impossible to separate women's work experience (under-representation, stigma, discrimination) from their family lives. In both their professional and private lives, women always mentioned their pressure of time, as well as a desire to have their interests represented in the political sphere.

¹⁴ Universität Freiburg, Universitätsverwaltung

Studying gender relations with a 40 year perspective: the case of gender, livelihoods, migration in Shashemene in the face of momentous social change

*Gunilla Bjerén*¹⁵

I entered the field of social science research in Ethiopia in 1967. In 1972 I started a study of mobility to and from Shashemene, just north of Wondu Genet. In 2008 I had the opportunity to return and size up the effects of the shattering that has struck Ethiopia in the last forty years. In between I've taught and organized the field of Gender Studies at a Swedish university.

In this address I will reflect on the development of gender studies and how this has influenced the work I am now doing on the social structure and its many facets in Shashemene. In the beginning of the 1970s, the field of gender studies had yet to be invented. An economic view of social processes was dominant which meant among other things that women and women's activities had a tendency to be filtered out in social research, either because they were seen solely as dependents on some economically active man, or because their activities were discarded as fundamentally "social" – relating to the domestic arena – where nothing worth noting was supposed to be happening. This coloured also the premises of my own research although the analysis eventually showed that ignoring women made social processes incomprehensible.

In the new study I begin work with the conclusions from the original study, more the understanding created by more than thirty years of gender studies. I am also that much older which in itself speaks for another type of understanding of social and economic processes. Women's agency and judgements are given equal weight as those of men from the beginning. I do not belittle reproductive life as "merely" social but bring in it as a motivating factor as strong, or stronger, than strictly economic life. The result is more complex and more difficult to disentangle, but eventually closer to life as it is lived.

¹⁵ Gender Studies, Stockholm University

Gender perception on conservation of forest resources: the case of Wondo Genet, Ethiopia

Bezashwork Melaku¹⁶

Despite the huge environmental and socio economic importance of forest resources, there is a burgeoning depletion of these resources in Ethiopia. Different factors have been stated as causes of deforestation and major efforts have been put into it to reverse the situation in the country. Recently the importance of considering gender in forest resource conservation and management has drawn the attention of many scholars. Consequently there is a growing interest to assess and investigate women's and men's place and role in the society in relation to forest resource conservation and development. Therefore, the major objective of this study is to closely examine the perception of different gender groups about deforestation and the role played by men and women in forest resource conservation in Wondo Genet South Nation Nationalities and People Regional State. To achieve the objectives, different approaches was followed. Primary and secondary data were collected using quantitative and qualitative methods. The result revealed that the increasing rate of deforestation is perceived by both gender groups. However they are still dependent on the forest resources for different purposes. Men in the study area had more practical participation in the planting of tree around farm and homestead. Because they are the one who are the owner of land and other resources and have more decision making power on resource use. On the other hand lack of decision making power and access to resource may limit women to participate in tree planting activities.

¹⁶ Wondo Genet Forest College

From diversity to monoculture: Gender impact of change in Ethiopia

Mersha Gebrehiwot Sahilu and Gun Lidestav¹⁷

Homegarden agroforestry in Ethiopia is characterized by large diversity of trees, crops and livestock's that supports livelihoods of 521 persons per square kilometer in the densely populated South Nations Nationalities and People Regional State (SNNPRS). This traditional land use is gradually changing to cash crops (Khat and Eucalyptus) production. In this paper we investigated and presented the gender differentiated and the gender power impact of the change, using key informants and household interviews, focus group discussions and sample land use measurements. The conceptual model suggested by Lidestav and Nordfjell (2005) was adapted as a framework of analysis. Our result revealed that: 1) decision on change was made by men to meet increasing market demand of cash crops 2) decreasing subsistence household income mainly controlled by female was replaced by cash crops income controlled by male. The change in production and processing resulted in a change the strict traditional household division of labour, access to land and market that affected decision making and equal share and distribution of income. Consequently the change impacted the traditional gender division of labour and established a new gender role and power relationship by rising males' economic power through trading of cash crops, and excluding women from their control over the traditional land use products, besides unequal and unfair share of income in the family as most is spend outside the household. The conceptual model used demonstrated its potential for better understanding of different aspects and phenomenon of the changing land use.

Key words: Homegarden agroforestry, land use, SNNPRS, conceptual model, division of labour, gender role, gender power

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The Women Challenges and Contributions in Natural Resource Management

Hiwot Workagegnehu Tafere and Meseret Kassahun Tekle¹⁸

Natural resources are fundamental inputs of our daily life. Most importantly the life of rural community is directly linked to nature. In most developing countries the duty of feeding the family, child care and supplying the house with consumable goods such as fuel wood, water and others are dominantly the task of the women. This makes the woman to be more dependent and attached to nature. Thus the aim of this paper is to present some of the challenges faced by the women in relation to Natural resource and their contribution for its conservation from studies made in different countries. The challenges in relation to natural resource use experienced in some countries can be broadly categorized as: policy, tradition, and lack of skill and knowhow. However, having these bottlenecks for freely expressing their desire of using the natural resources, they too have great contribution in the conservation and management of the resource. Women contribution to the management of natural resource is expressed through, non-destructive use of the natural resource, directly contributing in the enrichment of the natural resource, and using alternatives which can reduce the pressure on the natural resource.

Key Words: Women, Natural Resource, Challenges, Contribution.

¹⁸ Wondo Genet College of Forestry and Natural Resources

Is gender analysis in forestry research useful?

Gun Lidestav¹⁹ and Maureen Reed²⁰

In this paper, we review research conducted on gender and forestry in Scandinavia and North America in the last 40 years to identify common and distinctive issues and challenges. Given the commitment of both regions to gender equality in public institutions and social life, we were eager to examine how “gender-based” had developed over time. We used a bibliographic search strategy across multiple databases to identify the broadest possible range of research for evaluation. We examined patterns relating to forest resource degradation; property rights and access; decision-making, management, and governance; systems of knowledge; forestry employment; forms of organization; forms of activism; and emerging issues.

We found that forestry research using gender-based analysis is a small fraction of scholarship within feminist or environmental frameworks. Research in North America is smaller than that in Scandinavia and has focused greatest attention to women’s engagement in forestry occupations, particularly in the public service. In Scandinavia, greater attention is paid to women as forest owners, and the implications for inheritance, perceptions and attitudes of forest owners towards environmental protection, and differential opportunities for political organization. There is an emerging literature in both regions related to “doing gender” and how traditional notions of “masculinity” and “femininity” constrain gender equality for both women and men. Finally, we consider future research needs and strategies for influencing public and private-sector policies to enhance gender equality in these northern settings.

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Feminist Theory - Gender Categories: What for and How to be applied in

Analyses of Nature Resource Management

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Feminist theorists have elaborated Gender as an identity, as a structural, as a process and an epistemological category thereby pointing to different concepts of Gender/ Sex and thus different relations between Material and Construction/ Discourse. In empirical research these categories are used next to each other - sometimes even in the same study. Gender analyses in the realm of land use, nature resource management and forestry mostly establish an identity and structural perspective on Gender, i.e. are looking at working and social conditions of women in their interaction with power relations. Empirical analyses which are attached to (de-)constructive theories thus conceptualizing gender as a process, as doing gender, are deficient as well as sustainability (and intersectional) approaches integrating e.g. ecological, social, economic and cultural aspects.

The contribution will reflect critically the scientific and practical consequences if gender theory and the above mentioned categories are put in research on nature resource management and forestry (1). The constructivistic approach "doing gender" is presented in its interconnection with "doing nature", i.e. demonstrating exemplary how gender is constructed during concrete occupational forest nature related activities - becoming influenced and influencing them at the same time. "Doing gender while doing nature" is discussed as an effective (and needful) way to identify the interdependence and hegemonic patterns in the linkages between gender and nature and its relevance for Gender relations and land use or nature management respectively (2). It will be shown that focusing on the tangible "Doing" will enable us, to illustrate the interwoven physical and discursive dimensions of nature and gender relations. By this more information on the processes and structures leading to injustice and dominance between humans and towards nature is gained than data to prove and explain difference (3).

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Adapting to change in Swedish reindeer husbandry: using Neo-Marxist traditions to understand technological and knowledge determinants of adaptive capacity

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Technological developments and innovations are often seen as important factors for rationalising and rendering production more effectively, however previous research has emphasised the social and gendered impact and development of technologies. This article develops the understanding of the factors of technology and knowledge within adaptive capacity literature through the theoretical lens of Neo-Marxist perspective. The effect of changes in technology, skills and knowledge on social relations, both on a micro and macro level, are illustrated within the context of Swedish reindeer herding, a sector largely dependent on natural grazing resources.

The implementation of maps, satellite image and GPS collars in the process has brought on a shift in the power of the “know-how”, devaluation of knowledge and skills that fall outside present technological knowledge regime. The technical reorganisation of production effects the social, aged and gendered division of labour within the communities. The process of deskilling of traditional knowledge and the changing physical conditions of the herders show that the embodiment of different forms of technologies and tools produces different forms of experiences and subjects. The article in particular adds to discussions of adaptations in general, and technology in particular, by emphasising the power relations and the historical process that impact adaptive capacity as well as its social and gendered affects.

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Empowering women in village community organizations to evolve approaches for Adaptation of agriculture to climate change in Shivalik hilly region in India

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Shivalik hilly region in Haryana, India is characterised by sandy soil, rain-fed agriculture, low agricultural yield and poverty. Because of lack of irrigation, agriculture in this region is very vulnerable to climate change and crops suffer from moisture stress. The village communities are trying to adjust agricultural practices to climate change. As irrigation is critical for adaptation of agriculture for climate change, the village communities in some villages joined together in constructing small earthen dams to store rain water and in efficiently using the stored water for irrigation through formation of Water Users Associations (WUAs). In these hills, most of the agricultural operations, including irrigation, are done by women. They are, however, kept out of decision making in village level organizations of which WUAs are a part. The sustainability of arrangements for efficient use of irrigation water is, therefore, doubtful without involving the women. Empowerment of women in decision making is thus most crucial for adaptation of agriculture to climate change in this hilly region.

The author carried out a study covering 10 villages to understand the level of participation of women in decision making process in village level organizations in Shivalik region. The study was conducted through personal interviews of women respondents selected from different social strata adopting stratified sampling and using a well-structured questionnaire. Understanding the level of participation of women in the meetings of village level organisation held to discuss watershed issues including water use is important to determine the role of women in decision making. The study results showed that because of strong male domination in these villages, about 87% of women could not attend meetings as they were either not informed or time of the meeting was inconvenient to them. Out of the remaining 13% who attended, 6% sat in meetings only for part of the time and only 7% remained throughout the meeting and out of the latter group, about 93% took no part in discussion and remained only silent spectators. The participation of women in decision making was thus very nominal. The factors responsible for very low participation of women in decision making included the following: i) As a result of illiteracy and lack of confidence, the women were unable to articulate their views; ii) Because of *parda* (veil) system, the women hesitated to attend meetings with males and those who ventured to come, remained huddled together in one corner and did not normally speak; iv) Majority of the women thought that their views were not respected by men and that they were asked to attend the meeting to fulfil the requirement of the minimum quorum. The study suggested that following measures can significantly improve their participation: in decision making i) capacity building of women through awareness creation and appropriate training programmes; ii) encouragement of women to express their views in meetings; iii) arranging separate meetings for women and appointment of female extension workers.

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Local Job Creation and Job Multiplier Effects With Respect To Gender: A Case of Mikumi and Kilimanjaro National Park

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Protected areas are being considered as a positive tool for communities' poverty reduction and sustainable livelihoods. PAs, in most cases, are located in the poorest parts of the country where people's livelihoods depended to a great extent on natural resources locate vicinity. However, communities living in the vicinity of these PAs, who historically are the custodian of the wildlife, have been denied consumptive access to wildlife resources. Long term survival of PA's ecosystem including the wildlife, depend on the support of the local community to the conservation efforts. Kilimanjaro MINAPA National Parks among the establishment objectives was to improve the living standard of local communities surrounding the park need to take into consideration gender when providing direct and indirect jobs. However there is little information available on job creation and multiplier effect attributable to the parks with respect to gender. The hypothesis that protected areas deliver job multiplier effects and leakages with respect to gender in Tanzania is largely untested. KINAPA and MINAPA present perfect cases for researching park job creation and its multipliers effects with respect to gender, hence the need for this study. Parks' managements and purposefully sampled employees in the park departments were selected for in-depth interview. Snowball sampling was used to select respondents outside the park. Data were summarised using descriptive statistics, and results were presented in form of percentage, frequencies, tables and pie charts. The numbers of hours generated by a particular job were divided by the particular number of hours per annual and the converted into percentage of a person per year by gender. For the data on visitors stay was used as baseline information on obtaining indirect jobs by gender. Models developed by Davis (1990) and Freeman (2008) were used to determine number of jobs created and the leakages by gender. Results show that there is an increase in number of jobs created for local and non-local communities by both parks, but dominated by male. The Job multipliers effects of the parks are higher in MINAPA and relatively lower in KINAPA. But parks' multipliers effects were more observed to male than female. Job leakage was also very high (83% and 70% for MINAPA and KINAPA respectively) but biased to male. MINAPA had lower job multiplier effects this could have been contributed by accommodation facilities, low staff motivations, weak infrastructure. Increasing accommodation facilities such as public and special campsites, hostel, bandas, rest houses and guesthouses in compliance with the conservation and management objectives would contribute to gender balance as majority of these jobs attracted females. More road networks that acquiescent with conservation could be constructed in order to diversify tourism activities hence create more gender preferential jobs to the community around.

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Gender and firewood

- An example of gender division of labour within forestry

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Firewood has been used by human to cook food and heat our homes for thousands of years, and the preparation of firewood is hard work all over the world. Preparing firewood is men's work in Sweden, but women's work in Ethiopia. Why does the gender code of firewood preparation differ between the countries? A comparative literature study has been performed to examine the differences in gender division of labour within forestry between Ethiopia and Sweden, with a focus on firewood preparation. In Ethiopia firewood consists mainly of sticks and branches, is used for cooking and the work is performed mainly by women all year round. In Sweden, trees are cut down in spring to support the firewood need for a whole year, a work done predominantly by men. The conclusion is that there are several reasons for the differences in gender division of labour between Sweden and Ethiopia in the case of firewood: ownership of forest resources, perceived value of labour and resource, main use of the resource, mechanization degree, distribution of time resources and overall society context regarding gender.

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Women's Role in Restoring Degraded Rural Landscape in Vietnam: Potentials and Challenges

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Privatizing forestland, associated with formally allocating it to local households and communities, is a policy tool being introduced in a number of developing countries. It has aimed towards sustaining land use, by increasing investments and reverting deforestation. However, gender inequality within households and communities has often made the reforms inefficient, or generated socio-economic and environmental imbalances. This qualitative study, in the northern mountainous part of Vietnam, employing various methodologies, such as, in-depth interviews, observations and document analysis, exemplifies how a local women's organization (women's group) has reached achievements in reforestation, which have contributed to improving environment, facilitating social well-being, and lifting the status of the women in the community. In spite of the achievements to date, the women's group faces many challenges such as, rapid changes in government policies and in market development.

While community-based initiatives are accepted within the current policy and legal framework, the main focus is on management by individual households, which often benefits resourceful families, but rarely women. Furthermore, when the market changes are in favor of cash crops, it is mostly the men who will take over.

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