Gender-focused Portfolio Review of Forest Projects
## for the
Environment and Natural Resources Program on Forests (PROFOR)
of the World Bank

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Acknowledgements

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

AFR	African Region
AM	Aide-Memoire
BioCF	BioCarbon Fund
CC	Climate Change (Cross Cutting Solution Area of the World Bank)
CCSA	Cross Cutting Solution Area
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
EAP	East Asia and Pacific
ECA	Europe and Central Asia
ENR	Environment and Natural Resources (Global Practice of the World Bank)
FAP	Forest Action Plan
FCPF	Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
FIP	Forest Investment Program
FY	Fiscal year
GEF	Global Environment Fund
GP	Global Practice (the World Bank's organizational structure)
IBRD	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
ICR	Implementation Completion Report
IDA	International Development Association
IDF	Institutional Development Fund
IPF	Investment Project Financing
ISR	Implementation Status and Results Report
LCR	Latin America and the Caribbean Region
LSMS	Living Standards Monitoring Survey
m	Million
MNA	Middle East and North Africa
NTFP	Non-timber forest product
OM	Operations Manual
PAD	Project Appraisal Document
PIM	Project Implementation Manual
QAE	Quality at Entry
QAI	Quality at Implementation
REDD	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
SAR	South Asia Region
SESA	Strategic Environment and Social Assessment
SIL	Specific Investment Loan
SURR	Social, Urban, Rural, and Resilience (Global Practice of the World Bank)
TAL	Technical Assistance Loan
WBG	World Bank Group

Executive Summary

The World Bank's new Gender Strategy underlines the importance of addressing gender inequalities in economic opportunities, agency, and endowments. It emphasizes outcomes and results, better country-level diagnostics, the inclusion of sex-disaggregated information, and the identification of key gender gaps. The capacity to learn more systematically from success requires that the evidence of what works is shared with task teams and clients. To learn what forest-related projects are doing with respect to gender, a gender-focused portfolio review of 56 WBG forest projects[1] was undertaken. It analyzes the forest portfolio for the past 5 years (FY11-16), identifying projects that include gender-related dimensions related to *analyses, actions, and indicators* for monitoring and evaluating progress towards gender-related outcomes.

The review reveals that while progress has been made to include gender throughout project life cycles, there remain many opportunities for improvements. It found that at the project design phase, 33 percent of the projects included all three dimensions: gender analysis, actions and M&E indicators. Twenty-two percent of the projects included no gender aspects at all.

Gender analyses were found in 45 percent of Project Appraisal Documents (PADs), and gender actions were included in 56 percent of the projects reviewed. The gender-targeted actions described a wide range of potential activities but often provided few specifics. The gender actions most frequently described in these initial project documents were gender-inclusive information sharing, consultations with women, and ensuring women's representation in project governance bodies or national committees. Actions focusing on economic benefits for women and on building women's capacity and skills were also found.

Encouragingly, 60 percent of the project teams identified at least one gender indicator for monitoring the project's gender performance at the project design stage. In 28 percent of the projects, however, only the core indicator of "people in targeted forest and adjacent communities with increased monetary or non-monetary benefits from forests, of which women" was included—pointing to the need for project teams to ensure that this indicator can indeed be measured (for instance, through the use of appropriate tools and the collection and analysis of sex-disaggregated data). The share of projects that actually reported against the core indicator was only 12 percent, however.

A review of the Implementation Status and Results Reports (ISRs) for the same projects showed that only one-quarter actually mentioned or included any type of gender analysis, indicating that the gender gaps relevant to a project's success are seldom being identified through external sources (such as research reports) or internal sources (such as social and environmental assessments). Some projects may have no pertinent gender gaps to address, but if no gender analysis occurs at any phase in the project cycle, this cannot be determined. In terms of gender actions being identified, again one-quarter of the project teams, according to the ISRs, undertook gender-targeted activities. These activities included, for example, designing grants for women engaged in non-timber forest product activities, ensuring women's

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[1] This included projects from any sector that designated 50% or more of their budget to forest-related activities.

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representation on forest committees at the local and national level, and including women and youth in technical training such as programs to build forest fire management skills.

The analysis of the implementation reports revealed that 33 percent of the projects did not track any gender-specific indicators—in other words, planned indicators presented in PADs to monitor gender inclusion were not always followed. This finding demonstrates a large disconnect: gender actions planned at the design phase were not actually implemented (or if they were, their implementation was not captured in the reporting documents). This discrepancy highlights the magnitude of the opportunities that are being missed to undertake or use existing gender analysis and knowledge to formulate actions and indicators to track progress toward outcomes and impacts—in other words, to make explicit a gender theory of change.

Recommendations

Setting gender targets. A key "baseline" figure coming out of this analysis is that only four percent of the projects covered in the review included gender in all three dimensions (analysis, action, and indicators) in the implementation phase. It is recommended that the Environment and Natural Resources Global Practice use this and other data presented in the review report to reflect on the challenges that lie ahead—and track progress over time—in successfully incorporating gender throughout the project cycle for projects with significant forest-related investments. This review can serve as a basis for stimulating more widespread dialogue on what gender targets, and timeframes for achieving them, the Global Practice should adopt.

Budget for gender. With respect to specific budget commitments for gender interventions, the analysis revealed that it is not easy to calculate gender-targeted resource commitments when gender subcomponents are rarely explicitly identified. Management should encourage project leaders to include an explicit line item on gender in their budgets to cover gender-targeted activities.

Seek out gender studies and identify specific project-relevant gender gaps. The results suggest that more work is needed to develop and provide guidance on the best approach for identifying relevant gender gaps in the earliest stages of project and program design. At the project design phase, (and ideally at the concept note stage, although this stage was not part of the review), there is still much room for improvement in identifying specific gender gaps and opportunities that are relevant to the project. This finding undoubtedly reflects the fact that sex-disaggregated information is generally not available for the forest sector or not easy to find, but it also points to the need to increase efforts and investment in collecting such information at the earliest stages. Socioeconomic studies and social assessments that are carried out by the WBG and others within client countries are possible sources of information on gender gaps, for example. Many countries that have gone through the REDD+ preparedness process, or that have been working on climate change adaptation and mitigation plans, now also have gender action plans that will be a good source of information on potential gender gaps in forest landscapes.[2]

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[2] Examples for countries with gender action plans: http://genderandenvironment.org/resource/cameroon-ghana-ugandas-gender-redd-roadmaps-a-national-policy-level-initiative/.

For example, the exclusion of women from forest decision-making bodies is a common gender gap identified in the project documents that were reviewed. A lack of awareness and skills was also mentioned frequently, but often the specific information and/or skills that were required were not described. Where some gender analysis was presented in the PAD, references were often not included that would allow implementation teams to follow up and possibly use the data as a baseline for project reporting on progress toward gender outcomes. The absence of such documentation also prevents other projects from using those analyses.

The new WBG gender tag guidance emphasizes the importance of identifying key gender gaps, which helps to devise specific opportunities and strategies to close those gaps and improve the performance and impact of the project. The literature on gender and forests[3] points to widespread gender gaps in access to forest-related information, technologies, and credit, as well as to insecure land and tree tenure, limited representation of poor women in forest-related decision-making bodies, and other gaps. Participatory approaches are one way of identifying these critical gaps, allowing the project team to design strategies aimed at tackling them.[4]

Actions aimed at equitable participation need to be made more explicit and have to be tracked. Good intentions for integrating gender in project activities at the design phase do not always translate into interventions in practice; nor is gender seen as important enough to be reported on and tracked by indicators in implementation documents. Most projects signaled an intention to "ensure participation of women," but at the design/entry phase, many were unable to say what approach or what strategies or actions they would pursue to do so. This limited specificity is understandable if participatory approaches with local partners are expected to lead to the identification of specific ways of enhancing equitable and active participation, but often such participatory approaches were not mentioned in the PADs. Actions to consider include:

- Including women representatives in Village Development Committees.

- Involving women in decision making within Community Forest and Pasture User Associations.

- Recruiting women facilitators as members of the project team.

- Including women in the preparation of community forest and pasture management plans.

- Scheduling consultation meetings that take account of restrictions imposed on women's time and travel by their workload and sociocultural norms.

More actions aimed at ensuring more equitable benefits are needed. Indicators measuring whether women, or women's organizations, are directly benefiting from the project were found in some of the reviewed projects. These included measures such as the number of women taking up new forest-related technologies, starting a forest micro-enterprise, receiving a grant, or registering land. Other indicators

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[3] See the annotated bibliography from PROFOR at http://www.profor.info/knowledge/catalyzing-gender-forests-actions.
[4] See http://www.profor.info/knowledge/catalyzing-gender-forests-actions for tools and approaches for addressing forest-related gender gaps.

related to benefits were measures of satisfaction with the services delivered or other benefits received through the intervention. Capacity strengthening through training efforts that targeted women was another type of benefit seen across many projects (with indicators relating to numbers of women trained—for instance, in forest and micro-enterprise management, value addition or marketing, or female government forestry staff).

Actions aimed at empowerment should be included in project design where possible. Efforts aimed at fostering inclusive engagement, promoting participatory approaches, and strengthening capacity are often empowering. Capacity-building initiatives and efforts aimed specifically at enhancing the benefits of forests (such as income) can contribute to women's empowerment, and indicators that capture improvements in empowerment should be considered, for example:

- Proportion of females who report increased self-efficacy at the conclusion of WBG-supported forest-related training/programming.

- Proportion of target population reporting increased agreement with the concept that males and females should have equal access to social, economic, and political opportunities.

- Number of forest-related laws, policies, or procedures drafted, proposed, or adopted that promote gender equality at the regional, national, or local level.

Reporting regularly is key. Without designated gender sections in key reporting documents, gender actions that are being undertaken are likely being under-reported. Task teams could be encouraged to ensure they report even very briefly on gender actions in the "implementation status" section of the ISR, as well as in the AM—especially if the actions are based on a menu of options in the PAD, as reporting on what activities actually were implemented is important. Many projects do not regularly report on all the indicators, and most teams appear to leave the reporting on (gender) targets/(female) beneficiaries to the end of the project. It would be helpful to enforce the reporting at regular intervals so that project progress on gender inclusion can be reviewed throughout the project cycle, for example at the mid-term review. Having a local gender specialist in the project implementation unit could improve attention to and reporting on gender actions.

The new WBG gender tag guidance[5] now requires projects to define if they are going to undertake analysis, actions, and include indicators at the concept note stage. Clearly thinking about gender from the earliest stages is critical. The key to addressing gender gaps is to define what kinds of activities to design, as well as what indicators to include, to track progress toward gender outcomes. An initial forests-gender guidance note has been developed (http://www.profor.info/knowledge/catalyzing-gender-forests-actions), and this can be built upon as the body of evidence grows on the benefits of investing in gender in forest landscapes and on the kinds of actions that have the greatest impact.

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[5] Available internally at http://globalpractices.worldbank.org/gender/Pages/en/guidance.aspx.

1   Background

The World Bank's new Gender Strategy underlines the importance of addressing gender inequalities in economic opportunities, agency, and endowments. It emphasizes outcomes and results, better country-level diagnostics, the inclusion of sex-disaggregated information, and the identification of key gender gaps. The capacity to learn more systematically from success requires that the evidence of what works is shared with task teams and clients. This review initiates such efforts for the forest sector by analyzing the current forest portfolio and creating a database of gender-relevant analyses, actions, and indicators.

1.1   Gender and Forests

Over 300 million people, half of them indigenous, are estimated to live in or near dense forests and to pursue livelihoods that depend almost exclusively on these forest resources (Chao 2012). Many more relatively poor rural households derive multiple benefits from forests, including employment, forest products, income, and other livelihood contributions. Income from forests for households living in or near forests has been estimated to be roughly one-fifth of overall income (Angelson et al. 2014). Timber and non-timber product earnings, and their role in diversifying income, help households to move out of extreme poverty in some cases, and provide a critical safety net when economic or weather-related shocks occur. Men and women, poor and non-poor, and indigenous peoples, among others, depend upon, use, manage, and benefit from forest resources differently. They also face different constraints. Rural women, for example, typically have less access to information, services, productive resources, markets, and value-addition activities, and they have less secure land tenure rights than men. Forestry is seen as a male profession in many countries, and women and other disempowered groups are largely excluded from pertinent decision-making bodies. Understanding these differences is key for effectively tackling the wide range of challenges and opportunities that forest landscapes present in different environments. Designing forestry and agroforestry projects and programs with gender in mind will lead to more sustainable as well as more equitable development outcomes.

The Forest Action Plan FY16–20 (FAP) recently issued by the World Bank Group (WBG) provides guidance on strategies and ways of supporting client countries' efforts to implement priority actions linked to forest landscapes (Annex D). It identifies two focus areas for WBG engagement for the next five years: (1) sustainable forestry, aimed at investments contributing to sustainable management of forests and value chains, and (2) forest-smart interventions, aimed at ensuring interventions in other sectors do not come at the expense of forest capital (WBG 2016). It also recognizes that investments are needed in three areas to improve the enabling environment and strengthen the foundation for effective outcomes: climate change and resilience, rights and participation, and institutions and governance. While tackling gender issues is not mentioned explicitly as a cross-cutting theme in the FAP, it is a crucial aspect of the enabling environment in all three of those investment areas.

1.2   Tracking Gender at the Corporate Level

The Bank has been monitoring progress toward incorporating gender in its operations using the Quality at Entry (QAE) methodology since 2006 (for details see Annex A). QAE reviews are carried out before projects are approved. The review rated projects as "gender-informed" if they met at least one of the

following three criteria—inclusion of gender in design, project actions, or monitoring and evaluation (M&E). The corporate-level QAE analysis is conducted by the Gender Cross Cutting Solution Area (Gender CCSA) and includes only IDA lending projects. In FY10, 63 percent of forest projects were considered gender-informed. Since FY13, 100 percent of forest-related operations have been rated gender-informed. The current goal, stated in the FAP, is for the forest portfolio to continue to be 100 percent gender-informed, but since FY15 projects are expected to meet all three criteria to be rated gender-informed, in accordance with the Bank's new "gender tag" guidance. *In FY16, 70 percent of the Environment and Natural Resources Global Practice's projects were rated as having integrated all three gender dimensions, based on a review of PADs.*[6] Reviewing if and how gender considerations have actually been incorporated and addressed in projects also requires examining documents related to implementation and final reporting, as described below.

During FY02–15, the World Bank supported 309 operations with forest components/activities (forest-coded operations of the Environment and Natural Resources Global Practice). The portion of lending that directly targets forest-related activities amounted to US$3.2 billion. The forestry portfolio is multisectoral; while most of the forest-coded operations are implemented through the Environment and Natural Resources Global Practice (GP), many other GPs—such as Agriculture; Water; Energy and Extractives; and Social, Urban, Rural, and Resilience (SURR)—have traditionally included forest components or activities in their portfolios. Trust Funds are important sources of financing, although IBRD/IDA[7] has traditionally been by far the largest source of forest-related financing in terms of volume.

2   Objectives

The objectives of this portfolio review are to: (1) evaluate the gender approaches that are being planned at the design phase *and implemented* within WBG forest-related lending operations in different regions; and (2) to identify best practices and provide guidance for future operations aimed at achieving more gender-equitable outcomes. The review is based on information found in project documents—Project Appraisal Documents (PADs), Implementation Status and Results Reports (ISRs), Aide-Memoires (AMs), Project Implementation Manuals (PIMs), and Operations Manuals (OMs)—for the Bank's forest-related projects under implementation in FY11−FY16. Specifically, the evaluation attempts to answer the following questions in relationship to the Forests portfolio:

- How and to what extent are gender dimensions (analysis, actions, M&E) included in projects?
- What kind of gender-sensitive or gender-targeted actions, processes, and strategies have been included and prioritized?
- Are there differences in gender integration in forest projects between regions?
- Is there a correlation in lending projects that are "gender-informed" (QAE, found in PADs) and "gender-implemented" (QAI, found in ISRs, AMs, and other relevant documents)?
- What kind of gender-sensitive and gender-disaggregated indicators have been used?
- Have there been specific budget commitments to gender in forest actions/components?

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[6] Gender CCSA FY16 Q4 Validation data: Environment and Natural Resources GP, from Kotikula, Gender CCSA.
[7] IBRD (International Bank for Reconstruction and Development); IDA (International Development Association).

- What lessons and good practices can be drawn regarding gender integration in forest projects to improve future performance in this area?

3 Methodology

This review analyzes gender integration at the project design phase (also referred to as entry), as well as at the project implementation phase, for the portfolio of projects with significant forestry content over FY11–16. A total of 133 projects included some level of forest sector lending. To focus the review on operations with substantial forest sector content, a cut-off share for forestry sector lending of 50 percent was applied, making 65 projects eligible for the review (described in Annex C). These projects include grants, technical assistance, and loans. Nine of these projects were subsequently excluded from the analysis because no project documents were available for the review (they were mainly Recipient Executed product lines), leaving 56 projects to be reviewed.

3.1 Quality at Entry Methodology: Adopting the Corporate-level Gender Screening

The corporate-level QAE methodology, rating projects gender-informed if all three gender dimensions are included in the PAD, was the basis of this review. The new gender tag methodology is replacing the QAE methodology, but this review was undertaken before the new system was in place and thus uses the QAE methodology. Sixteen of the forest projects included in this review had previously been scored on gender using QAE by the CCSA; these "at entry" scores have been directly used for this review. In addition, details of the type of gender analysis, actions, and indicators, based on a review of the PADs, were recorded and analyzed for this review.

3.2 Quality at Implementation Methodology

The Gender Quality at Implementation (QAI) methodology, originally developed for a portfolio review of agriculture projects (Mollard et al. 2015), was also used for this review. Based on the QAE methodology, the QAI methodology tracks gender mainstreaming at the implementation phase by reviewing project implementation documents (ISRs, AMs, PIMs, and OMs), once again considering the three critical gender dimensions of gender analysis, gender actions, and gender M&E (for details on these methodologies, see Annex A).

4 Findings

4.1 Description of the Projects Reviewed: Forest Lending Product Lines and Instruments

The combined forest lending amount for the 56 projects reviewed here is US$1,047 million. The average amount of forest component lending was US$18.7 million, with significant regional variation. Latin America and the Caribbean Region (LCR) and the Africa Region (AFR) had the largest number of projects in the cohort. LCR had by far the largest overall amount of forest lending, followed by East Asia and Pacific (EAP), Africa Region (AFR), and Europe and Central Asia (ECA). EAP and LCR had the largest average forest lending amounts per project (**Error! Reference source not found.**). Forest components ranged in size from US$0.2 million in the Tunisia Forest Investment Plan Preparation project (P157919) to US$318 million in the Mexico Forest and Climate Change project (P123760).

The majority of projects (51 of the 56) belong to the Environment and Natural Resources GP; 4 are under the SURR GP; and 1 is mapped to the Climate Change CCSA. The cohort of projects under review is skewed toward recent projects (Table 2).

The product lines of the projects were as follows: 23 Recipient Executed, 16 IBRD/IDA, 11 Global Environment Fund (GEF), 4 Carbon Offset, 1 Institutional Development Fund (IDF), and 1 Rainforest.

Table 1: Forest lending amounts in projects included in the review (n=56, FY11−16)

Region (number of projects)	Forest lending amount (US$ m)	Average forest lending amount per project (US$ m)
AFR (n=16)	152.31	9.5
EAP (n=8)	260.95	32.6
ECA (n=10)	123.33	12.3
MNA (n=1)	0.2	0.2
LCR (n=16)	440.83	27.6
SAR (n=4)	65.1	16.3
World (n=1)	4.72	4.7
Total (n=56)	**1,047.44**	**18.7**

Note: AFR (Africa Region); EAP (East Asia and Pacific); ECA (Europe and Central Asia); MNA (Middle East and North Africa); LCR (Latin America and the Caribbean Region); and SAR (South Asia Region).

Table 2: Distribution of forest projects under review by region and fiscal year approved

Region (number of projects)	FY11	FY12	FY13	FYF14	FY15	FY16
AFR (n=16)	3	2	0	3	2	6
EAP (n=8)	1	2	2	0	1	2
ECA (n=10)	1	1	2	2	3	1
MNA (n=1)	0	0	0	0	0	1
LCR (n=16)	3	3	0	1	5	4
SAR (n=4)	2	0	1	0	0	1
World (n=1)	0	0	0	0	1	0
Total (n=56)	**10**	**8**	**5**	**6**	**12**	**15**

Note: AFR (Africa Region); EAP (East Asia and Pacific); ECA (Europe and Central Asia); MNA (Middle East and North Africa); LCR (Latin America and the Caribbean Region); and SAR (South Asia Region).

4.2   Gender at the Project Design Phase: Quality at Entry Review

Gender at the project design phase was captured by reviewing PADs or supplementary documents for addressing the 3 dimensions of analysis, actions and indicators

4.2.1   Gender *analysis* at the project design phase

On average, **45 percent of projects presented a gender analysis**—in other words, a discussion of the gender issues and gaps as they related to forestry—in the PADs or supplementary documents. The quality and depth of gender analysis related to forests varied greatly across the 56 projects. Stark regional differences exist: only 13 percent of projects in LCR and 20 percent in EAP included a gender analysis,

while three-quarters of projects in AFR and 60 percent of those in ECA included some kind of gender analysis (Annex A and Figure 1).

Figure 1: Gender analysis at the design phase in forest projects (FY11–16) by region
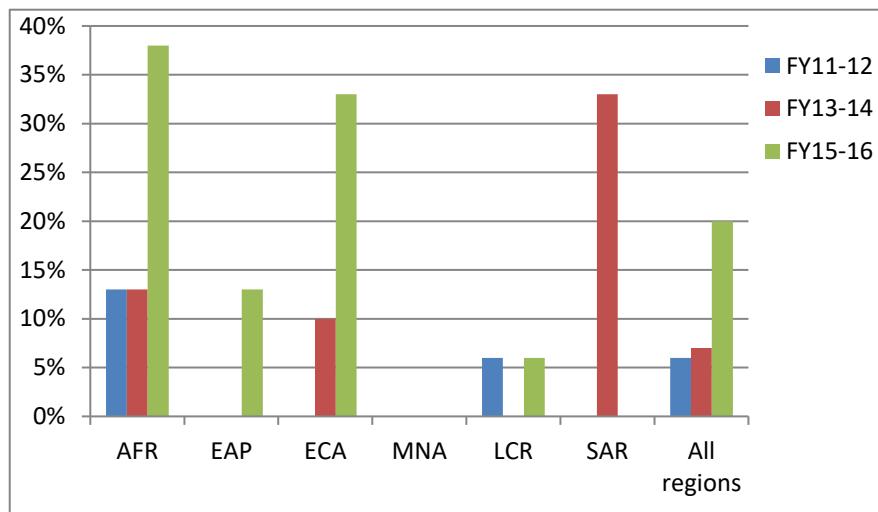
Note: AFR (Africa Region); EAP (East Asia and Pacific); ECA (Europe and Central Asia); MNA (Middle East and North Africa); LCR (Latin America and the Caribbean Region); and SAR (South Asia Region).

In general, the review found that the analytical sections rarely included references to the source material and data used in the analysis. Extensive third-party sources and analysis relating to gender and forests typically are not available in many regions, so most projects have to use their own resources to carry out gender analyses. With time and budget limits for project preparation, a thorough analysis is not always feasible or recognized as a priority. The new gender tag guidance emphasizes the need to define relevant gender gaps and opportunities for all projects as a critical input to project design, however. This guidance strongly encourages project design teams to examine gender data and analyses done by other development organizations (such as United Nations organizations, civil society organizations, bilateral donors, and research organizations) in the target area, as well as gender analyses included in the Systematic Country Diagnostics and Country Partnership Framework documents.

One **example of gender analysis** found in the reviewed PADs is the analysis for the Congo Forest Dependent Communities Support Project (P149049), which includes a comprehensive sociocultural analysis with a strong focus on gender roles, presented in detailed annexes. The analysis is based partially on literature describing the research results on forest communities in the project area, and it also presents relevant lessons drawn from other countries. It includes information on the sociocultural setting for forest-dependent communities in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), with lessons on how to ensure greater inclusion of women throughout the project cycle. The analysis also describes community-driven development challenges in forest settings through a gender lens (Box 1). Because the numerous sources used in the analysis are listed, they can serve as additional resources for the project implementation teams.

4.2.2   Gender *actions* at the project design phase

More than half of the projects (56 percent) included gender actions in the PAD. AFR, with 16 projects reviewed, had the largest share of PADs that integrate gender actions in the projects (84 percent), as well as ECA, with almost two-thirds. Although MNA and SAR show a high percentage as well, this result is based on a very small number of projects and may not be representative (Annex B and Figure 4). EAP and LCR had the lowest share of projects with gender actions.

The forest-related gender actions planned in the PADs can be grouped into six broad categories: economic benefits to women, gender-inclusive information sharing and consultations, capacity building on gender issues, skills training for women, representation of women in governance bodies, and gender mainstreaming (Table 3). The most common gender actions were gender-inclusive information sharing, consultations with women, and ensuring women's representation in project governance bodies or national committees. Details on the content of the capacity building/training initiatives for women were usually not provided.

Table 3: Examples of gender activities planned at the project design phase (taken directly from PADs of 31 projects that included gender actions)

Economic project benefits targeting or specifically including women
- Develop special *awareness and promotional material* targeting women to create demand and increase the number of women benefiting from the investment activities
- Design *grant windows* focused on women for non-timber forest product (NTFP)/micro-project beneficiaries
- Emphasize women to ensure they are *fairly treated* in any environmental payment scheme considered by the project
- Promote collection and sales of NTFPs that mostly rely on women
- *Treat women as partners* in the planning, operation of funds, and the deployment of support for various activities
- Use a *Community and Gender Driven Development approach* where investments target activities that support local development
- Ensure that women will *benefit directly* from income streams from environmental services
- Engage women in *trainings* activities with a view to increasing their employment in the forest sector
- Prepare a Forest Investment Program/Plan that promotes gender equality and social sustainability
- Give *priority to female-headed households* in programs to support alternative livelihoods
- Assign *extra qualifying points for proposals* submitted by women for National Forest Commission incentive programs
- Provide improved cooking stoves to 8,000 households and schools that depend on firewood for cooking and heating
Gender-inclusive information sharing and project consultations
- Target women for the promotion of sustainable land-use and natural resource management practices to advance the livelihoods of local communities
- Address needs of women in sustainable land use practices, land use plans, and micro-plans
- Provide space for female voices, and provide opportunities for women to perform their roles as citizens and influence development priorities in ways that reflect their needs
- Consult women using a Community Engagement Framework to endorse Community Action Plans and Conservation Agreements
- Ensure participation and involvement of women in regional workshops
- Target communication efforts at women and youth
- Schedule consultation meetings that take account of restrictions on women's time and travel for cultural and workload reasons
- Include activities that build women's capacity and awareness in appropriate methods (REDD+ and climate mitigation)†
- Support women's groups and communities in the establishment and reinforcement of the community based management organization
- Hold female-only focus group discussions as part of community consultations in order to capture the specific needs of women in local governance as well as social service needs
- Target women through communication and outreach in collaboration with women leaders and female role-models, with flexible time schedules because of women's childcare responsibilities
- Make an effort to reach women's Community Service Organizations
Building capacity on gender issues
- Train state forest officers in gender issues

-	Train beneficiaries on gender awareness, women's rights, and equal opportunities
-	Highlight data on the participation of women and youth to raise awareness among officials

Skills and technical training targeting women

-	Include women in the development of an afforestation/reforestation awareness strategy and planning
-	Build awareness and run information campaigns for fire prevention with a specific gender focus
-	Ensure that gender concerns for improved watershed management are addressed through participatory processes
-	Include youth and women in professional training for forest user associations
-	Provide support to strengthen local women's organizations
-	Focus on indigenous women to ensure their effective participation in decision-making processes through capacity building in organizational, technical, and entrepreneurial skills
-	Focus on women and youth in REDD+ and climate change mitigation capacity building and awareness raising

Representation in project governance and government decision-making bodies

-	Promote representation of women in policy discussions at the national, regional, and subregional level
-	Achieve adequate representation of women through a quota (a best practice is to ensure a minimum presence of 25 percent women)
-	Represent women on the national project steering committee
-	Include representatives of women in Village Development Committees
-	Incorporate gender-responsive features in the co-management of forests at the Ministry of Forests: (1) involve a gender focal person with responsibility for mainstreaming gender considerations throughout the methods development process; (2) collect gender-disaggregated data and conduct needs assessments and problem identification exercises with separate male and female groups; and (3) ensure equal participation of both men and women in conservation co-management
-	Represent women in working groups in nature conservation
-	Institutionalize village grievance and redress mechanisms by a selected group of people, involving women
-	Establish village gender focal points
-	Rely on community gender focal points to act as primary sources of information for the grant scheme and its grievance redress mechanism
-	Involve women in decision making within the Community Forest and Pasture User Associations
-	Form community-based organizations in villages where such groups do not exist, and assure that a substantial proportion of the group leaders are women as advocates of conservation
-	In subprojects related to managing Community and Biodiversity Investments, recruit women facilitators with local language skills to be part of the extension and livelihood teams
-	Include women in the preparation of Communal Micro-Catchment Plans and Community Forest and Pasture Management Plans

Gender mainstreaming

-	Demonstrate an approach to gender mainstreaming in all subproject proposals
-	Conduct a gender assessment at mid-term and reflect results in project redesign and implementation
-	Mainstream gender into all project components by formulating a gender action plan (GAP)

† REDD+ (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation).

The actions listed in Table 3 frequently use terms such as "involving women in," "ensuring participation of women," and "including women." Yet often at the design phase the project documentation lacks details on exactly how women's involvement and active participation will be attained. With few exceptions, a similar vagueness prevails with regard to specific steps that will be taken to enable women and other disempowered groups to benefit from the project, and with regard to the exact nature of those benefits. The PADs seldom describe specific topics or approaches that will be used to understand and meet women's needs (for training, for instance); nor do they describe the corresponding actions for doing so.

Some of the more concrete actions in Table 3 include designing grants for women undertaking activities related to NTFPs, ensuring women's representation on local as well as national forest management committees, and including women and youth in technical training, such as training in skills for forest fire management.

4.2.3 Gender in *monitoring and evaluation indicators* at the project design phase

The review found the clearest inclusion of gender aspects in the M&E sections of the PADs—compared to the inclusion of gender analysis or actions. **Sixty percent of the projects planned to track gender-related forest activities with gender-disaggregated or gender-specific indicators**.

The most commonly used indicator was the **forest sector core indicator**: "People in targeted forest and adjacent communities with increased monetary or non-monetary benefits from forests, of which female." This indicator has been used since 2009.

Fifty percent of projects included only this core indicator, even though many of them outlined gender actions that could have been tracked more specifically. Thirteen percent of projects included gender actions but no indicators to track the actions. The implementation documents that are available often do not include information as to whether the detailed recommendations discussed in the PAD were indeed followed, so in the absence of an indicator, the implementation and success of these actions is not documented.

Every gender indicator has a defined target value (*x* share of female beneficiaries by project end; *x* number of women's training days; *x* share of grants to go to women) that is to be achieved by certain stages of project implementation. The target share of female beneficiaries as measured by the core indicator varied widely, from 10 to 52 percent. In some instances project goals for the targeted number of female beneficiaries were very ambitious: the PAD for the Ghana Enhancing Forest Landscapes Project anticipated that 450,000 females would benefit from project interventions, and under the Madagascar EP3 AF Project (P107484), natural resources and livelihood activities would target 240,000 women. Other targets were more modest: for example, the Belarus Forest Development Project (P147760) and Brazil FIP (P143334) each sought to reach a target of 10 percent female beneficiaries. Very rarely was a target set for the share of women as grant recipients; the exception here was the Albania Environmental Services Project (P150450), which planned to disburse 15 percent of the grant budget to female applicants. Very few projects (3 of 56) included qualitative outcome indicators that would measure women's satisfaction with (for example) a service or the functionality of newly created women's enterprises (the Ghana Enhanced Forest Landscapes project; the Benin Support to Protected Areas project; the Brazil DGM for Indigenous People project).

A review of the gender indicators planned at the project design phase (shown in Box 2 as written in the PADs) reveals that the number of women participating in the project in some manner, and the number of women trained in "something" (often unclear what), are the most common indicators included to date. Some attempts are made to assign indicators that measure whether women, or women's organizations, are benefiting directly from the project. Measures of the uptake of new technologies and registration of

land by women are also found. Also related to benefits are measures of satisfaction with the services delivered or other benefits received through the initiative.

> **Box 2: Gender indicators included at the project design phase**
>
> **Training/awareness building:**
>
> - Number of direct project beneficiaries (of which women) as measured by additional staff of public and partner's institutions having completed basic adaptive training (short courses)
> - Forestry staff trained, disaggregated by gender
> - Number of female training days
> - People who participated in public awareness activities, disaggregated by gender
> - Female forest resource user participation at public hearings
> - Intended beneficiaries that are aware of project information and project supported investments - female
> - % of participants whose work focuses on mainstreaming the concerns and interests of women
>
> **Capacity building/technical skills:**
>
> - Farmers/participants provided with capacity-building support to improve management practices for tree planting or nurseries (females)
> - Percentage of participating communities receiving support from innovative Landscape Management Agents (women)
> - Small forest producers trained in sustainable forest management, value addition, and marketing (women)
> - Female government officials trained
> - Female staff trained in rural environmental cadaster database system to analyze and validate data
>
> **Grant recipients:**
>
> - Direct project beneficiary recipient of livelihood or conservation grants (of which women or women organizations)
> - Program and small grant funding, with at least 80% of their members being poor and at least 50% women
> - Female breadwinners targeted
>
> **Satisfaction/outcome of project support:**
>
> - Farmers/participants in targeted landscapes reporting satisfaction with service delivery or benefits received under the project (females)
> - Beneficiaries that feel project investments reflect their needs, female percentage
> - Number of micro-enterprises created and functional at the community level (of which % of micro-enterprises created by women)
> - Number of women to adopt agro-forestry technologies
> - Composite indicator: an aggregate score on community-based land and forest governance in four pilot sites based on a scoring system to assess how advanced the official process has been; 3 out of 25 possible points are assigned for "fair representation of women"
>
> **Land titling/legal representation:**
>
> - Female landowners by small medium large holdings registered into new cadaster system

4.2.4 Budgeting for gender actions at the project design phase

At the project design phase, the 56 projects in this review contained components worth US$89.2 million that explicitly targeted or included women—which translates to a share of 8.5 percent of the forest lending amount in these projects (US$1,047 million).[8] Regional differences exist in the allocation of lending for specific gender components: the average lending amount targeting women per project was US$1.4 million. Where the number of projects in the sample allows such a generalization, it appears that gender lending in ECA is significantly below this average, and lower than that seen in AFR, LCR, or EAP. The seemingly high gender lending amount in LCR was distorted by one large gender component (US$14 million) in the Argentina Forests and Communities Project (FY15, P132846), which distributed improved cooking stoves (Table 4).

Table 4: Forest lending targeting women at the project design phase

Region (project number)	Sum of project lending targeting women (US$ m)	Average project lending targeting women (US$ m)	Share of gender lending (% gender lending of total forest lending)
AFR (n=16)	35.7	2.2	24
EAP (n=8)	11.5	1.4	4
ECA (n=10)	5.3	0.5	4
MNA (n=1)	0.03	0.03	13
LCR (n=16)	32.2	2.0	7
SAR (n=4)	2.2	0.5	3
World (n=1)	2.4	2.4	50
Total (n=56)	**89.2**	**1.6**	**8.5**

Note: AFR (Africa Region); EAP (East Asia and Pacific); ECA (Europe and Central Asia); MNA (Middle East and North Africa); LCR (Latin America and the Caribbean Region); and SAR (South Asia Region).

4.2.5 Summary of findings at the project design phase

Figure 2 shows which of the three dimensions—analysis, actions, and indicators—were included in the PADs. All three gender dimensions were included in 31 percent of these projects at the design phase, and 24 percent did not include gender in any of the three dimensions.

Regional differences are shown in Figure 3. The figure suggests that AFR and SAR are paying the most attention to gender, particularly with respect to analysis and actions.

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[8] The amount of forest lending targeting women was calculated as follows: either by using the amount allocated to a women's subcomponent (very rarely the case) or by using the share of female beneficiaries of a project activity to calculate the lending amount of a subcomponent (such as a subcomponent for capacity building, grants, training, and so on) that is benefiting women. The latter approach was possible whenever the share of female beneficiaries of a project activity was specified in the indicator related to that activity (for example, the share of women targeted by the activity, the share of grants awarded to women, and so forth).

Figure 2: Gender inclusion at the project design phase for forest projects (based on 56 projects, FY11−16)
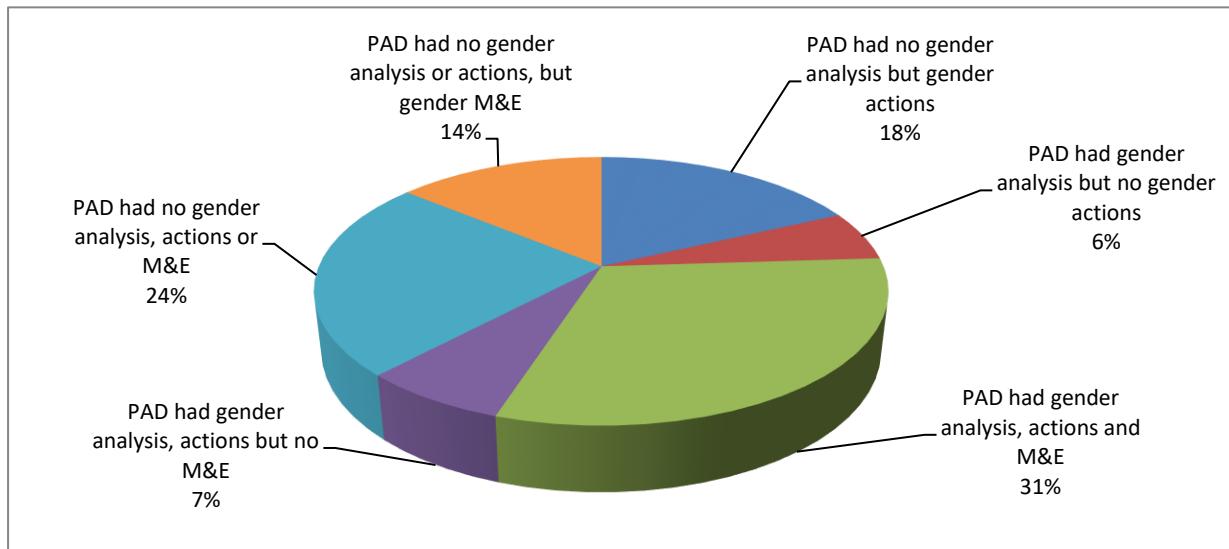

Figure 3: Percentage of forest projects for each of 3 gender dimensions (analysis, actions, and M&E) at project entry phase, by region, FY11−16
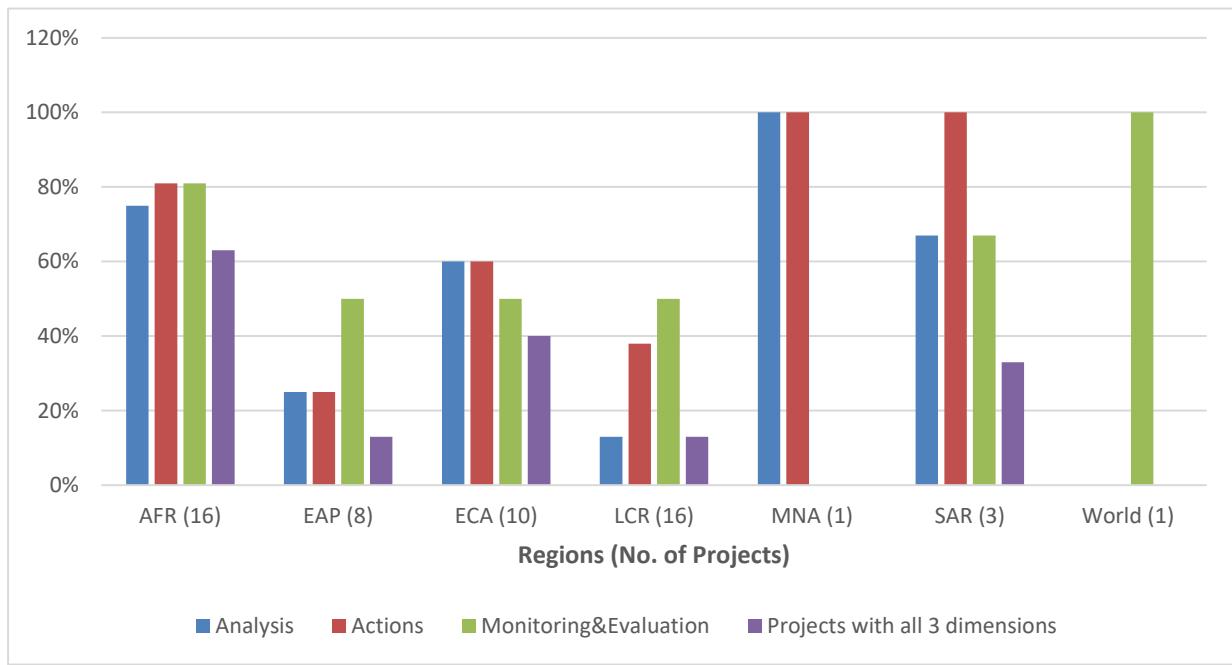
Note: AFR (Africa Region); EAP (East Asia and Pacific); ECA (Europe and Central Asia); MNA (Middle East and North Africa); LCR (Latin America and the Caribbean Region); and SAR (South Asia Region).

4.3 Gender in Project Implementation Documents: Quality at Implementation Review

The review of how gender is being captured during implementation encompassed 52 projects. Of the initial cohort of 56 projects, 4 had to be excluded because no implementation documents were available. Project manuals (PIMs or OMs) were obtained for only 4 of those 52 projects. For these four projects it was possible to assess in more detail the actions and analysis that occurred during implementation, but such an assessment was not always possible for the other projects because the documentation available, mainly AMs and ISRs, had no designated gender section, making it difficult to issue statements about gender inclusion or the lack thereof. For the review of how gender is captured in M&E, 46 projects were considered, because no ISRs were available for the other 6 projects.

4.3.1 Gender *analysis* at the implementation phase

Implementation documents for roughly **one-quarter of the projects (23 percent) presented a gender analysis**. Six projects presented additional analyses; for two of them the additional analysis was found in the OM/PIM, and one project had prepared a separate gender analysis. The additional material mainly covered outcomes of project consultation meetings that included women. One-third of the projects had not presented any gender analysis at the design phase (in the PAD). The amount of further analysis was low, however. In many cases, the AM repeated in a cut-and-paste fashion the gender analysis text from the PAD. Because OMs and PIMs were available for four projects only,[9] the discussion here is based largely on AMs, making it likely that underreporting is prevalent (Figure 5, Annex B).

4.3.2 Gender *actions* at the implementation phase

Similarly, one-quarter of the projects included gender actions in their implementation documents. The M&E section of ISRs played a key role in indicating whether any gender actions were undertaken. If it were not for the ISRs, which include a section to report on indicators, gender actions in forest interventions would often go unrecognized, especially if they were not previously described in any detail in the PAD. PADs often included a menu of micro-project options, but implementation documents did not show which options were chosen and actually implemented. The gender indicators found in the ISRs do not describe the underlying activities, and thus prevent learning about what worked and did not work for the benefit of other task teams and partners.

Figure 5 shows that 46 percent of projects that had planned gender actions at the design phase (documented in the PADs) did not report on them in implementation documents (AMs) and did not include them in ISRs. It is not known if the actions were not taken, or if they were just not reported upon. Access to all OM/PIM documents coupled with interviews with task teams would have allowed for a deeper exploration of gender actions implemented.

Two specific **examples of gender actions** stand out. The FY16 Sri Lanka Ecosystems Management Project (P156021) included a number of guidelines for actions being taken regarding gender inclusion in the scoring of proposals, in field appraisals, and in consultations. The Mexico Forest and Climate Change Project also stands out as a good model. It leveraged a forest policy process already underway in Mexico

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[9] The 4 projects with OMs/PIMs were: (1) Sri Lanka P156021, Ecosystem Cons. and Management; (2) Madagascar P107484-MG, Additional Financing to EP3; (3) Croatia P111205, EU NATURA 2000; and (4) Belarus P147760, Belarus Forestry Development.

to include a cross-cutting gender perspective. The project was instrumental in supporting the development of a new gender strategy for the forest sector (Box 3). Even so, this project also highlights a missed opportunity, because in its implementation phase, it did not include any gender-disaggregated indicators or targets, even though in its design phase several such indicators (for instance, female participation as landscape agents, or in operational agreements) had been included in the PAD.

An example of the brief and vague language typically found in AMs indicates the shortfall of using these documents as a source of information on gender inclusiveness: "Of particular value is the project's gender focus, given the project's strong emphasis on inclusion and participation of women in all project components and in the implementation structures." Taken at face value, this statement sounds like gender mainstreaming, but without supporting details, it allows neither learning by other task teams or partners, nor validation of the nature, quality, or volume of the gender activities, especially if no gender indicator is included.

> **Box 3: Mexico's Forest and Climate Change Project (P123760) develops a national gender-inclusive strategy for the forest sector**
>
> CONAFOR is the government agency tasked with developing and promoting the conservation, restoration, and sustainable development of Mexico's forests, and it is the main partner for the Forest and Climate Change Project. The project objective was to consolidate and improve CONAFOR's incentive programs for community forestry and environmental services. The forest sector benefited from the fact that the National Development Plan 2013–18 includes a cross-cutting emphasis on gender. An analysis of the current status of gender issues in Mexico's forest sector showed that:
>
> - Forest policies were highly oriented to timber production and thus targeted male landowners and tenants.
> - Few women owned forest resources.
> - Female participation in decision-making bodies (assemblies, committees, councils) was low.
> - Most women participated in non-timber forest activities.
>
> CONAFOR developed a program (2014–18) to lower institutional and social barriers that prevented CONAFOR from mainstreaming a gender perspective in its institutional processes and to increase the participation of women and indigenous people in forest resource management and conservation. The following actions are planned and supported by the Forests and Climate Change Project:
>
> - Develop a framework document for the inclusion of gender and indigenous people in public policy on forests.
> - Incorporate a gender perspective in normative documents such as operational guidelines and annual workplans.
> - Propose a specific program to strengthen women's participation in the forest sector
> - Hold a national forum with women in the forestry sector to recognize their contributions and promote their participation in decision-making.
> - Hold regional workshops for technical and operational staff on a gender equality approach.
> - Plan regional forums on women in forest ecosystems and climate change to facilitate:
>   - Technical support for women on operational guidelines and programs.
>   - Exchange of knowledge across communities by female community leaders.
>   - Research on women's activities in forest ecosystems.
>   - Capacity building in environmental education.
>   - Gender-oriented programs, with budget allocations.
>
> The strategy also specifies a number of challenges that need to be overcome to assure its success:

4.3.3   Gender in *monitoring and evaluation indicators* at the implementation phase

This section is based on the review of the 46 projects for which ISRs were available. It presents the type of indicators included (Table 5) and the number of projects that actually reported against the target value associated with the indicator in the ISR (Table 6). Table 6 is organized by year, because it can be argued that more recent projects may not have had time to report against the target yet.

The notable results at the implementation phase include (Table 5):

- 33 percent of projects did not include any gender indicators at all in the ISRs.
- 67 percent of projects included at least one gender indicator in the ISRs (at the design phase, 60 percent of projects included gender indicators).
- 28 percent of projects can be considered "gender implemented" for including more than 1 gender indicator in the ISR.
- 57 percent included the core indicator (mainly in AFR and SAR).
- 41 percent included another gender-disaggregated indicator (mainly in ECA, EAP, and SAR).

Conclusive statements on regional differences are difficult to make because some regions had few projects included in the review (MNA, SAR, and EAP) (Table 5). The number of projects is fairly robust in AFR, ECA and LCR, however, and a comparison suggests that projects in LCR scored lower for gender in M&E indicators across these three regions—although, as discussed, Mexico's Forest and Climate Change Project stands out as a good example of gender integration (Box 3).

Only 12 percent of projects that included the core female beneficiaries indicator reported progress against the target value (3 projects altogether—1 in AFR and 2 in ECA) (Table 6). In contrast, 44 percent of projects that included other gender-disaggregated indicators reported progress against this indicator (3 in EAP, 3 in ECA, 1 in AFR, and 1 in SAR). For both groups, reporting was higher for young projects, defusing the argument that newer projects may not have had any results to report.

Table 5: Gender integration at the implementation phase in forest projects (FY11–16)—the gender monitoring and evaluation dimension

Region (project number)	Core gender indicator included (%)	Other gender indicators included (%)	No gender indicators included (%)	Share of projects considered Gender Implemented for M&E (= the core indicator and at least one other gender indicator included)
AFR (n=13)	100	25	0	31
EAP (n=6)	17	50	33	0
ECA (n=9)	44	67	33	44
LCR (n=14)	36	21	64	21
SAR (n=4)	75	50	25	50
Total (n=46)	**57**	**41**	**33**	**28**

Note: AFR (Africa Region); EAP (East Asia and Pacific); ECA (Europe and Central Asia); LCR (Latin America and the Caribbean Region); and SAR (South Asia Region).

Table 6: Reporting of results against gender indicators in ISRs of forest projects, FY11–16

Approval FY	Total number of projects	Number of projects with "direct beneficiary - female" core indicator	Of which, number of projects reporting results	Number of projects with other forestry-related, gender-disaggregated indicator	Of which, number of projects reporting results
FY11	8	2	1	3	3
FY12	6	2	1	0	0
FY13	5	1	1	4	4
FY14	5	3	0	1	0
FY15	10	8	0	6	1
FY16	12	10	0	4	0
Total	**46**	**26**	**3**	**18**	**8**

4.3.4 Summary of findings at the project implementation phase

Four percent of projects received a positive score in all three dimensions of addressing gender under implementation (gender analysis, gender actions, and gender M&E indicators). Almost half of all forest projects (46 percent) received a positive score in at least one of those three implementation dimensions, however (Figure 4). In the regions with the largest number of projects in the review (AFR and LCR), none of the projects received positive scores for all three dimensions—in other words, none of them can be considered "gender implemented." The two projects rated as "gender implemented" are found in ECA and in SAR and were approved in FY15 and FY16, respectively. Detailed results can be found in Annex B.

Figure 4: Percentage of forest projects for each of the 3 gender dimensions (analysis, actions, and M&E) and overall gender implementation score at the project implementation phase, by region, FY11−16
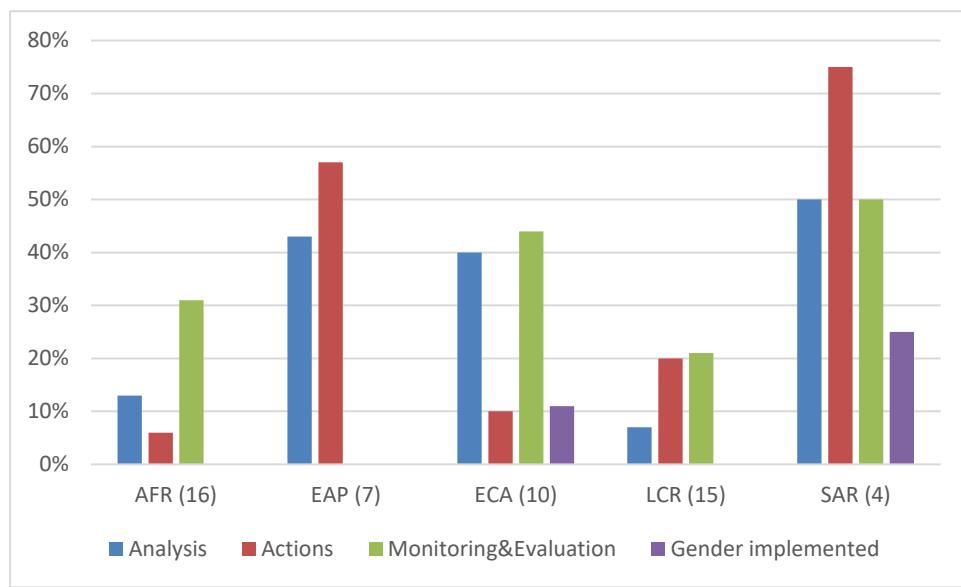
Note: AFR (Africa Region); EAP (East Asia and Pacific); ECA (Europe and Central Asia); LCR (Latin America and the Caribbean Region); and SAR (South Asia Region).

4.4   Comparing Results at the Design and Implementation Phases

Only about half of the forest projects that had included gender in each of the three dimensions (analysis, actions, M&E) in the PAD also included them in the implementation phase (Figure 5). This finding points to a large disconnect: analysis, actions, and gender indicators that were planned at the design phase were not implemented (or if they were implemented, their implementation was not captured in the reporting in AMs or ISRs). It also points to missed opportunities to undertake or use existing gender analysis and knowledge to formulate actions.

Figure 5: Comparison of gender inclusion at project entry and implementation phase for forest projects, FY11–16
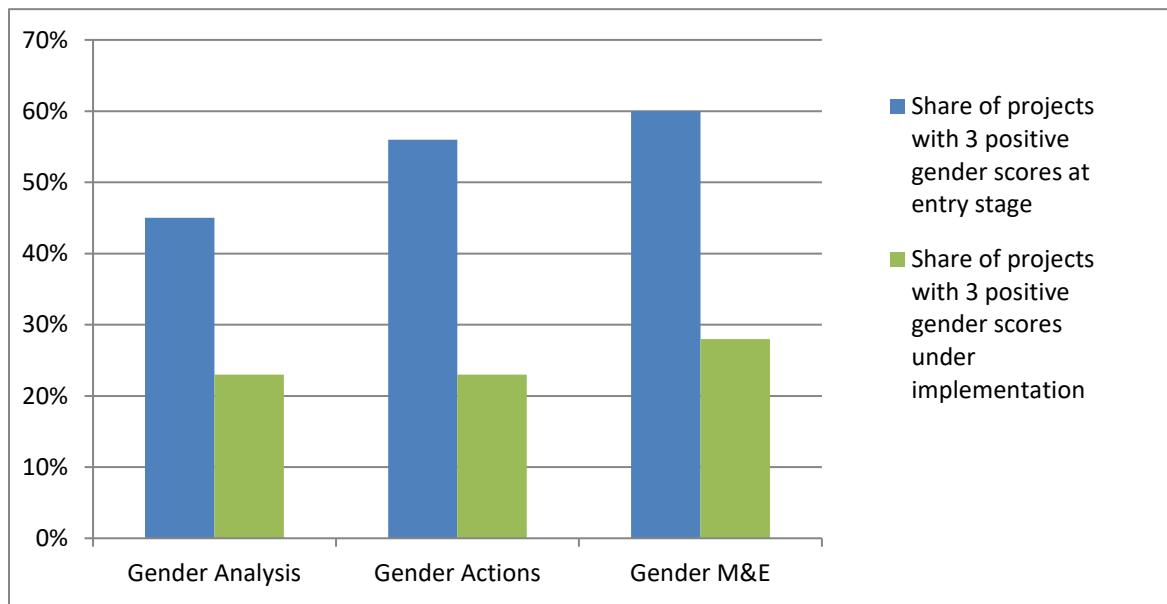
The analysis also found that more than three-quarters of projects (78 percent) carried out *at least one* of the gender dimensions of analysis, actions, or M&E. And although roughly **one-third of projects scored positively in *all three* dimensions at entry, this share shrank to just 4 percent at the implementation phase**.

Forty-three percent of projects outlined gender activities at the design phase but did not mention these gender actions in the AMs[10] (Figure 6). Even so, more than half of these (29 percent of total) included gender indicators in the ISRs, suggesting that gender actions were in fact taken.

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[10] Or in the OMs/PIMs where these were available.

Figure 6 also shows that 16 percent of projects included gender actions in the PAD, mentioned those actions in the AMs and OMs/PIMs (in other words, they were implementing them), and also included gender indicators. In contrast, 30 percent of these projects included no gender actions in the PAD, mentioned no gender actions in the AMs and OMs/PIMs, and included no gender indicators in the ISRs (Figure 6).

Figure 6: Comparing gender results at entry with the gender inclusion under implementation QAI

for forest projects FY11—16—gender actions and indicators
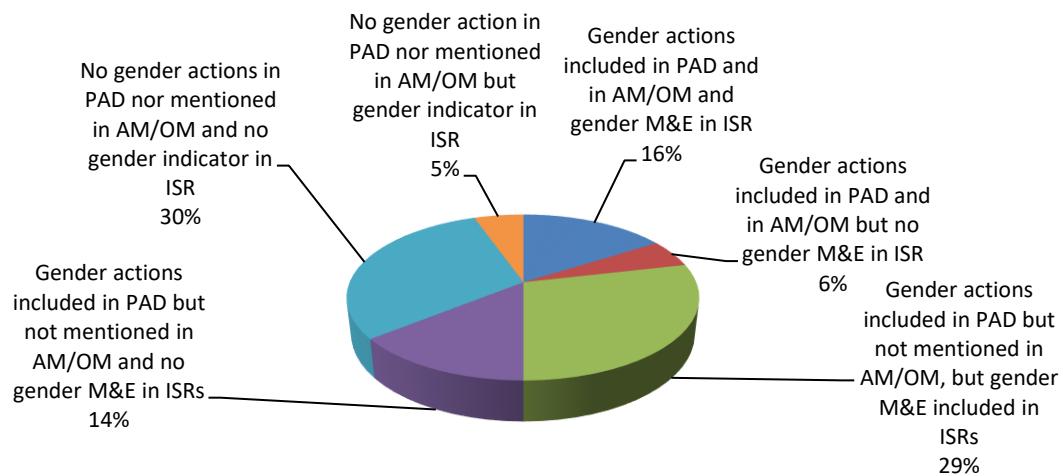
5 Conclusions and Recommendations

Based on the lessons and findings from this review, ten conclusions and recommendations for future efforts have been formulated. They are followed by a brief note on actions and recommendations for moving forward.

5.1 Conclusions and Recommendations

1. Gender is recognized as an important issue by forest project and program designers, but large disconnects remain between the planning stage and actual implementation. One-third of the projects included all three gender dimensions at the design phase—they have (1) referred to gender analysis and relevant gender gaps, (2) defined some actions to address them, and (3) identified gender indicators—yet only 4 percent included all three dimensions in the implementation phase. Encouragingly, 67 percent of projects included a gender-related indicator at the implementation phase for tracking progress, and 41percent included more than the core indicator. These results suggest that integration of gender is not being thought of as a results chain, in which analysis creates the basis for targeted actions, to be tracked in M&E activities.

2. Early on, when projects are first conceived and designed, most projects are not identifying key gender gaps that they could address. At the project design phase, (and ideally at the concept note stage, even those this stage was not part of the review), there is still much room for improvement in identifying specific gender gaps and opportunities that are relevant to the project. This conclusion undoubtedly reflects the fact that sex-disaggregated information is generally not available for the forest sector or not easy to find, but it also points to the need to increase efforts and investment in collecting such information at the earliest stages. Socioeconomic studies and social assessments (such as SESAs) are possible sources of information on gender gaps, for example. Many countries that have gone through the REDD+ preparedness process, or that have been working on climate change adaptation and mitigation plans, now also have gender action plans that will be a good source of information on potential gender gaps in forest landscapes.[11]

For example, the exclusion of women from forest decision-making bodies is a common gender gap specified in the documents reviewed. A lack of awareness and skills was also mentioned frequently, but often the specific information and/or skills that were required were not described. Where some gender analysis was presented in the PAD, references were often not included that would allow implementation teams to follow up and possibly use the data as a baseline for project reporting on progress toward gender outcomes. The absence of such documentation also prevents other projects from using those analyses.

The new WBG gender tag guidance emphasizes the importance of identifying key gender gaps, which helps to devise specific opportunities and strategies to close those gaps and improve the performance and impact of the project. The literature on gender and forests[12] points to widespread gender gaps in access to forest-related information, technologies, and credit, as well as to insecure land and tree tenure,

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[11] Examples for countries with gender action plans: http://genderandenvironment.org/resource/cameroon-ghana-ugandas-gender-redd-roadmaps-a-national-policy-level-initiative/.
[12] See the annotated bibliography from PROFOR at http://www.profor.info/knowledge/catalyzing-gender-forests-actions.

limited representation of poor women in forest-related decision-making bodies, and other gaps. **Participatory approaches** are one way of identifying these critical gaps, allowing the project team to design strategies aimed at tackling them.[13]

3. Actions aimed at equitable participation need to be made more explicit and have to be tracked. Good intentions for integrating gender in project activities at the design phase do not always translate into interventions in practice; nor is gender seen as important enough to be reported on and tracked by indicators in implementation documents. Most projects signaled an intention to "ensure participation of women," but at the design/entry phase, many were unable to say what approach or what strategies or actions they would pursue to do so. This limited specificity is understandable if participatory approaches with local partners are expected to lead to the identification of specific ways of enhancing equitable and active participation, but often such participatory approaches were not mentioned in the PADs. There appears to be a lack of knowledge of specific strategies or approaches to employ that will lead to more equitable participation—not just by women, but in many cases, by young people and indigenous peoples, or other less empowered groups. Some of the approaches mentioned in the PADs were to:

- Include women representatives in Village Development Committees.
- Involve women in decision making within Community Forest and Pasture User Associations.
- Recruit women facilitators as members of the project team.
- Include women in the preparation of community forest and pasture management plans.
- Schedule consultation meetings that take account of restrictions imposed on women's time and travel by their workload and sociocultural norms.

The most commonly used indicator—the core sector indicator ("People in targeted forest and adjacent communities with increased monetary or non-monetary benefits from forests, of which female")—remains challenging to measure in practice. Projects that implement the new Forests-LSMS module will have a baseline on monetary and non-monetary benefits from forests, but it will be important to apply the questionnaire to both men and women in order to measure sex-disaggregated benefits comprehensively. Qualitative approaches, which focus on perceptions of benefits, can also be taken and should be considered.[14]

An examination of gender-related indicators in the PADs and ISRs also reveals that many activities are being undertaken to **reach women**—not only to enhance the number of women actively participating in the project in some manner (as mentioned), but also to strengthen their capacity, usually considered as the number of women trained (often not clear in what). One innovative indicator of reach included, for example:

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[13] See http://www.profor.info/knowledge/catalyzing-gender-forests-actions for tools and approaches for addressing forest-related gender gaps.
[14] PROFOR Poverty-Forests Linkages toolkit: www.profor.info/node/3

- A composite indicator, based on an aggregate score for community-based land and forest governance in four pilot sites that rates how advanced the official process has been; 3 out of 25 possible points are assigned for "fair representation of women."

4. Relatively few actions are being aimed at ensuring more equitable benefits. Indicators measuring whether women, or women's organizations, are directly *benefiting* from the project were included in some projects. These included measures such as the number of women taking up new forest-related technologies, starting a forest micro-enterprise, receiving a grant, or registering land. Other indicators related to benefits were measures of satisfaction with the services delivered or other benefits received through the intervention. Capacity strengthening through training efforts that targeted women were another type of benefit seen across many projects (with indicators relating to numbers of women trained—for instance, in forest and micro-enterprise management, value addition or marketing, or female government forestry staff).

5. Actions aimed at empowerment are challenging. Efforts aimed at fostering inclusive engagement, promoting participatory approaches, and strengthening capacity are often empowering. Yet while capacity-building initiatives and efforts aimed specifically at enhancing the benefits of forests (such as income) can contribute to women's **empowerment**, this review found few indicators that specifically attempted to capture improvements in **empowerment**. Examples could include indicators such as:

- Proportion of females who report increased self-efficacy at the conclusion of WBG-supported forest-related training/programming.
- Proportion of target population reporting increased agreement with the concept that males and females should have equal access to social, economic, and political opportunities.
- Number of forest-related laws, policies, or procedures drafted, proposed, or adopted that promote gender equality at the regional, national, or local level.

6. Reporting regularly is key. If not for the ISRs, which include and report on gender indicators, gender actions would often go unrecognized, especially if they have not been previously described in any detail in the PAD. Evidence of specific gender-responsive activities can be seen in the ISRs in the form of indicators. These indicators do not reveal much information, however, about the activities themselves or the lessons learned regarding what worked and what did not work. Including this information would benefit other task teams and partners. As AMs and ISRs do not include a designated gender section, the result is under-reporting of gender actions that are being undertaken. The task teams could be encouraged to ensure they *report even very briefly on gender actions in the "implementation status" section of the ISR, as well as in the AM—especially if the actions are based on a menu of options in the PAD, as reporting on what activities actually were implemented is important*. Many projects do not regularly report on all the indicators, and most teams appear to leave the reporting on (gender) targets/(female) beneficiaries to the end of the project. It would be helpful to *enforce the reporting at regular intervals so that project progress on gender inclusion can be reviewed throughout the project cycle*, for example at the mid-term review. Having a local gender specialist in the project implementation unit could improve attention to and reporting on gender actions.

7. Sharing knowledge and learning from others can enhance project-related gender outcomes. The project teams could benefit from sharing OMs/PIMs, cross-regional analytical reviews, and other documentation with other task teams. There are also lessons to be learned from other development organizations undertaking gender work in the region and sector. It would be helpful to include the references/sources used for the gender analysis that is presented in the PADs, and/or make them available in a database that can be searched by theme or country/region.

8. The new gender tag guidance[15] now requires projects to define if they are going to undertake analysis, actions, and include indicators at the *concept note stage*. Clearly thinking about gender from the earliest stages is critical.

9. Identify flagship gender projects. While not every project needs to include gender, it would be useful to identify the projects for which gender actions are the most critical, and to track these "flagship gender projects" closely. This approach will lead to a more extensive list of best practices, potential actions and activities, and indicators that project teams should be including from the concept note stage onward.

10. The WBG's Gender Strategy, launched in December 2015, has renewed the Bank's interest in gender. New "gender action plans" specific to each GP are under development and will define each GP's approach to achieving the objectives of the Gender Strategy. These plans will provide an even stronger foundation for future gender-focused work.

5.2   Moving Forward

This review provides a baseline that the Environment and Natural Resources GP can use to reflect on the challenges faced, and to track progress over time, in successfully incorporating gender throughout the project cycle for projects making significant forest-related investments. Setting targets can incentivize projects and regions to improve their performance and monitor progress against the agreed targets. This document provides a good basis for stimulating a more widespread dialogue on what those targets, and the timeframes for achieving them, should be (Table 7).

Table 7: Tracking progress on gender in forest projects in implementation

Objective	Baseline: FY16	Target: FY20	Approach	Sources
Gender is systematically integrated in forest projects (i.e., they include gender analysis, actions, and indicators that are monitored)	8%	75%	Review of all project documents	ISRs, ICRs, PADs, AMs, Gender CCSA gender tag evaluation
Gender tools, best practices, lessons learned, and so on being used and shared systematically among task teams	<10%	75%	Review of key documents for citations of WBG gender-related work	PROFOR, forest project ICRs
Inclusion of at least one gender indicator	27%	100%	Review of project documents	ISRs, ICRs
Inclusion of gender indicators related to equitable benefits	10%	50%	Review of project documents	ISRs, ICRs

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[15] Available internally at http://globalpractices.worldbank.org/gender/Pages/en/guidance.aspx.

Inclusion of gender indicators related to empowerment	0%	30%	Review of project documents	ISRs, ICRs

As important as the "sticks" are the "carrots." Here, the key is to continue developing and providing guidance—first, on how to identify gender gaps in the earliest phases of project and program design, and second, on the specific kinds of actions, activities, and indicators to include to address those gender gaps and track progress toward gender outcomes. An initial forest-gender guidance note (PROFOR 2017) has been developed, and future notes will build on it, as the body of evidence grows on why paying attention to gender in forest landscape investments is important, and what actions have the greatest impacts.

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Annex A: Quality at Entry and Quality at Implementation Methodologies

Table A.1: Quality at Entry methodology

Gender Dimension	Criteria for rating project: The activity…	Guiding questions Does the project…	Check	Score 1/0
Gender Analysis	includes analysis and/or consultation on gender-related issues	-identify and analyze gender issues *relevant* to the project objectives or components?		1/0
		-report findings of country/regional gender diagnostics (gender assessment, poverty assessment, etc.) relevant to project development objectives or components, or does the project undertake a social or environmental or poverty and social impact assessment?		
		-reflect the results of consultations with women/girls/men/boys and/or NGOs that focus on these groups and/or specific line ministries?		
►If at least one check above, a score of 1 is achieved				
Gender Actions	is expected to narrow gender disparities, including through specific actions to address the distinct needs of women/girls (men/boys) and/or to have positive impact(s) on gender equality	-include specific or targeted actions that address the needs of women/girls or men/boys?		1/0
		-propose gender-specific safeguards in a social/environmental assessment or in a resettlement framework?		
		-show how interventions are expected to narrow existing gender disparities?		
►If at least one check above, a score of 1 is achieved				
Gender Monitoring and Evaluation	includes mechanisms to monitor gender impact and facilitate gender-disaggregated analysis	-include specific gender and sex-disaggregated indicators in the results framework?		1/0
		-propose an evaluation, which will analyze the gender-specific impacts of the project?		
►If at least one check above, a score of 1 is achieved				
Overall Score	In how many dimensions does the project score 1?			0–3
►Since FY15, the project must score 3 to be rated Gender Informed by Gender Cross-Cutting Solution Area			Y/N	

Table A.2: Quality at Implementation methodology

Gender in implementation and completion				
Gender Dimension	**Criteria for rating project:** *The activity…*	**Guiding questions:** *Does the project…*	**Check**	**Score**
Gender Analysis	Gender analysis is incorporated in project manual(s), and/or further analysis on gender-related issues is conducted.	-Was any gender analysis conducted (e.g., studies, social and environmental assessment, a substantive gender component of a study)?		1/0
Gender Actions	Actions are taken to narrow gender disparities and to address the distinct needs of women/girls (men/boys) and/or to have positive impact(s) on gender equality.	-Are actions to incorporate gender mainstreaming outlined in project manual(s)?		1/0 If 2 boxes are ticked under Gender Actions, a score of 1 is achieved
		-Are recommendations to mainstream gender made to government by the World Bank?		
		-Did activities to mainstream gender occur?		
Gender Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)	Mechanisms to monitor and evaluate gender outputs and outcomes are functional.	-Is the core compulsory gender indicator in the results framework?		1/0 If 2 boxes are ticked under Gender M&E, a score of 1 is achieved
		-Are additional gender-disaggregated indicators in the results framework?		
		-Were additional gender data collected and reported?		
Overall score at implementation	Number of 1's in Gender Dimensions			1–3
Gender Implemented	► Project must score at least two points, one of them being Gender Actions, to be rated Gender Implemented		Y/N	
Qualitative review of implementation (potential source documents in parentheses)	-Did the team include a gender specialist (World Bank/Donor/Government/Other)? (AM) -What type of gender actions were taken? (AM, PIM) -To what extent is gender disaggregated in the results framework? (ISR) -Were any gender issues brought to the attention of government? (ISR, AM) -Were any gender issues brought to the attention of World Bank Management? (ISR, AM) -What kind of gender-related operational measures were included in the PIM?			
COMPLETION (Project Implementation and Completion report)	How successfully was gender mainstreamed in the project from entry to completion? -How was gender addressed? -Were gender activities successful? -What lessons were learned from gender mainstreaming?			

Annex B: Gender Integration at the Design and Implementation Phases in Forest Projects (FY11–16)—Share of Projects that Scored Positive for Gender Integration

Table B.1: Gender inclusion at the project design phase

Region (number of projects)	Analysis (% projects with positive score)	Actions (% projects with positive score)	Monitoring and evaluation (% projects with positive score)	Projects having at least 1 dimension with a positive score (%)	Gender implemented (% projects with all 3 dimensions scored positive)
AFR (16)	75	81	81	87	63
EAP (8)	25	25	50	75	13
ECA (10)	60	60	50	80	40
LCR (16)	13	38	50	56	13
MNA (1)	100	100	0	100	0
SAR (3)	67	100	67	100	33
World (1)	0	0	100	100	0
Total (55)	**45**	**56**	**60**	**78**	**33**

Note: AFR (Africa Region); EAP (East Asia and Pacific); ECA (Europe and Central Asia); MNA (Middle East and North Africa); LCR (Latin America and the Caribbean Region); and SAR (South Asia Region).

Table B.2: Gender inclusion at the project implementation phase

Region (number of projects)	Analysis (% projects with positive score)	Actions† (% projects with positive score)	Monitoring and evaluation‡ (% projects with positive score)	Project having at least 1 dimension with a positive score (%)	Gender implemented (% projects with all 3 dimensions scored positive)
AFR (16)	13	6	31	31	0
EAP (7)	43	57	0	71	0
ECA (10)	40	10	44	50	11
LCR (15)	7	20	21	40	0
SAR (4)	50	75	50	75	25
Total (52)	**23**	**23**	**28**	**46**	**4**

† In contrast to the QAI methodology that was applied for agricultural projects, a positive score was given for gender actions as long as one gender action was mentioned.

‡ The M&E dimension is based on 46 projects: 13 in AFR, 6 in EAP, 9 in ECA, 14 in LCR, and 4 in SAR.

Annex C: Projects Included in the Review

Table C.1: Projects included in this gender in forestry review, FY11−16

FY	Region	Country	Global Practice	Product line	Project ID	Project title	Lending instrument	% lending for forestry	Total commitment (US$ m)
FY11	AFR	Madagascar	ENR	IBRD/IDA	P107484	MG-Additional Financing to EP3	SIL	79	42.00
FY11	AFR	Benin	ENR	IBRD/IDA	P122419	BJ-Support to Protected Areas Management Project	SIL	67	5.00
FY11	AFR	Liberia	ENR	GEF Med Size	P114580	Liberia: Protected Areas Network II	SIL	100	1.00
FY12	AFR	Africa	ENR	GEF	P113167	Regional REDD Congo Basin	TAL	57	13.00
FY12	AFR	Africa	ENR	GEF Med Size	P116805	Strengthening COMIFAC Coordination Role	SIL	70	0.82
FY14	AFR	Zimbabwe	ENR	GEF	P124625	ZW:HSBC Project	SIL	57	5.65
FY14	AFR	Congo, DR	ENR	Recipient Executed A	P128887	DRC FIP Improved Forested Landscape Management	SIL	81	36.90
FY14	AFR	Burkina Faso	ENR	Recipient Executed A	P143993	Burkina Faso FIP Forest Management	SIL	65	16.50
FY15	AFR	Rwanda	ENR	GEF	P131464	Landscape Approach to Forest Restoration/ Conservation	IPF	60	5.49
FY15	AFR	Ghana	ENR	Recipient Executed A	P148183	Ghana FIP— Enhancing Forest Landscapes	IPF	70	29.50
FY16	AFR	Mauritania	ENR	GEF	P144183	Sustainable Landscape Management Project	IPF	55	4.81
FY16	AFR	Congo, DR	ENR	Recipient Executed A	P149049	Forest Dependent Communities Support Project	IPF	50	6.00
FY16	AFR	Burkina Faso	ENR	Recipient Executed A	P149434	Local Forest Communities Support Project	IPF	50	4.50
FY16	AFR	Liberia	ENR	Recipient Executed A	P154114	Liberia Forest Sector Project	IPF	80	37.50
FY16	AFR	Africa	SURR	Recipient Executed A	P155373	FCPF-Capacity Building on REDD IPs-AFR	IPF	100	0.77
FY16	AFR	Africa	SURR	Recipient Executed A	P155374	FCPF-Capacity Building on REDD CSOs-AFR	IPF	100	0.36
FY11	EAP	China	ENR	IBRD/IDA	P105872	CN-Integrated Forestry Development	SIL	95	100.00

FY	Region	Country	Global Practice	Product line	Project ID	Project title	Lending instrument	% lending for forestry	Total commitment (US$ m)
FY12	EAP	China	ENR	IBRD/IDA	P121289	CN-Ningxia Desertification Control	SIL	50	80.00
FY12	EAP	Vietnam	ENR	IBRD/IDA	P126542	Forest Sector Development Project AF	SIL	60	30.00
FY13	EAP	China	ENR	IBRD/IDA	P125021	CN-Hunan Forest Restoration	SIL	96	80.00
FY13	EAP	Indonesia	ENR	Recipient Executed A	P130632	Indigenous People – Forestry	SIL	100	3.00
FY15	EAP	Lao PDR	ENR	IBRD/IDA	P152066	2nd Lao Env and Social (Add. Fin. PAW)	IPF	52	15.00
FY16	EAP	China	ENR	GEF	P122383	CN Landscape Approach to Wildlife Conservation	IPF	100	3.00
FY16	EAP	Indonesia	ENR	Recipient Executed A	P144269	FIP Forest Management Unit Development	IPF	100	17.35
FY11	ECA	Croatia	ENR	IBRD/IDA	P111205	EU NATURA 2000	SIL	51	28.80
FY12	ECA	Albania	ENR	Recipient Executed A	P120961	TF-Natural Resource Development	SIL	100	2.00
FY13	ECA	Russian Federation	ENR	IBRD/IDA	P123923	Forest Fire Response	SIL	68	-
FY13	ECA	ECA	ENR	Recipient Executed A	P131138	ENPI East Countries FLEG II Program	TAL	52	11.10
FY14	ECA	Bosnia and Herzegovina	ENR	GEF	P129961	Sustainable Forest and Landscape Management	SIL	95	5.58
FY14	ECA	Caucasus	ENR	Recipient Executed A	P147833	FLEG II plus	IPF	52	2.13
FY15	ECA	Albania	ENR	IBRD/IDA	P130492	Environmental Services Project	SIL	100	10.00
FY15	ECA	Belarus	ENR	IBRD/IDA	P147760	Belarus Forestry Development Project	IPF	100	40.71
FY15	ECA	Albania	ENR	Recipient Executed A	P150450	Environmental Services Project	IPF	100	10.55
FY16	ECA	Kyrgyz Republic	ENR	IBRD/IDA	P151102	Integrated Forest Ecosystem Management	IPF	50	12.00
FY11	LCR	Brazil	ENR	Carbon Offset	P096337	BR AES-Tiete Reservoirs Riparian Forests	#	80	4.90
FY11	LCR	Chile	ENR	Carbon Offset	P111918	CL SIF Forest Carbon	#	100	2.40
FY11	LCR	Brazil	ENR	Rainforest	P120490	BR Degraded Areas:Amazon	#	80	0.69

FY	Region	Country	Global Practice	Product line	Project ID	Project title	Lending instrument	% lending for forestry	Total commitment (US$ m)
FY12	LCR	Mexico	ENR	IBRD/IDA	P123760	MX Forests and Climate Change (SIL)	SIL	91	350.00
FY12	LCR	Brazil	ENR	GEF	P114810	BR GEF Amazon Region Protected Areas Phase 2	SIL	74	15.89
FY12	LCR	Brazil	ENR	Carbon Offset	P120637	BR PLANTAR Green Pig Iron Project	#	50	12.30
FY14	LCR	Colombia	ENR	Carbon Offset	P132851	CO Magdalena Bajo Seco Carbon Offset	#	100	3.26
FY15	LCR	Argentina	ENR	IBRD/IDA	P132846	Forests and Community	IPF	90	58.76
FY15	LCR	Argentina	ENR	GEF	P114294	AR GEF Rural Corridors and Biodiversity	IPF	50	6.28
FY15	LCR	Brazil	ENR	Recipient Executed A	P143492	BR DGM for Indigenous People	IPF	50	6.50
FY15	LCR	Colombia	ENR	GEF	P144271	CO Forest Conservation in the Amazon	IPF	60	10.40
FY15	LCR	Brazil	ENR	Recipient Executed A	P150892	ProCerrado Federal	IPF	50	4.30
FY16	LCR	Brazil	ENR	Recipient Executed A	P143185	BR-FIP: Cerrado Monitoring Systems	IPF	65	9.25
FY16	LCR	Brazil	ENR	Recipient Executed A	P143334	BR FIP Environmental Cadaster	IPF	60	32.48
FY16	LCR	Latin America	SURR	Recipient Executed A	P155976	FCPF Capacity Building Program IPs (LCR)	IPF	100	0.73
FY16	LCR	Latin America	SURR	Recipient Executed A	P155978	FCPF Capacity Building Program CSO (LCR)	IPF	100	0.40
FY16	MNA	Tunisia	ENR	Recipient Executed A	P157919	Tunisia Forest Investment Plan Preparation	IPF	80	0.25
FY11	SAR	India	ENR	IBRD/IDA	P088520	IN: Biodiversity Conservation and Rural Livelihood	SIL	69	15.36
FY13	SAR	Bangladesh	ENR	Recipient Executed A	P127015	BD: Afforestation/ Reforestation Project	SIL	50	33.80
FY16	SAR	Sri Lanka	ENR	IBRD/IDA	P156021	Ecosystem Conservation and Management	IPF	83	45.00
FY11	SAR	Nepal	ENR	IDF	P125891	NP: Strengthening Capacity of DNPWC	#	50	0.50
FY15	OTH	World	CC	Recipient Executed A	P128748	FIP DGM for IPs and Local Communities	IPF	100	4.72

Annex D: Gender in the Forest Action Plan (FY16-20)

The WBG's recent Forest Action Plan (FAP) provides guidance on strategies and ways to support client countries' efforts to implement priority actions linked to forest landscapes. It identifies two focus areas for WBG engagement for the next five years: (1) sustainable forestry, aimed at investments contributing to sustainable management of forests and value chains, and (2) forest-smart interventions, aimed at ensuring interventions in other sectors do not come at the expense of forest capital (WBG 2016). It also recognizes that investments are needed in three areas to improve the enabling environment and strengthen the foundation for effective outcomes: climate change and resilience, rights and participation, and institutions and governance.

Gender and the enabling environment for effective forest landscape outcomes

While not explicitly mentioned as a cross-cutting theme, gender issues are a crucial aspect of the enabling environment in all three of the areas just mentioned:

1) **Climate change and resilience**. The FAP states that "climate finance has the potential to be transformational in how forested areas are valued and used." It also has the potential to exclude women, indigenous peoples, and others from participating and benefiting from forest-related interventions such as REDD+ payments. For this reason, WBG forest-based climate funds such as the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF), Forest Investment Program (FIP), and BioCarbon Fund (BioCF) are taking steps to ensure that women and indigenous groups participate and benefit from such programs (for example, through the development, with client governments, of "gender action plans").

2) **Rights and participation**. The FAP points out that forest-related interventions can yield full and sustainable impacts on peoples' welfare only if the rights of use and access to forests and trees are clear and secure. It specifically mentions that women still face inequalities in rights over forest resources, representation in relevant decision-making bodies, and access to credit lines. It commits the WBG to help its clients improve land tenure laws and regulations and modernize land administration systems, and it also commits to a focus on decentralized forest management and community-based and participatory forest management. Mainstreaming citizen engagement through innovative use of ICT-based approaches is another goal. *Mainstreaming the gender dimension in all forest-related interventions and identifying opportunities to empower women* is highlighted. The FAP also calls for paying specific attention to indigenous peoples and forest-dependent communities through mechanisms such as FIP's Dedicated Grant Mechanism for Indigenous People and Local Communities.

3) **Institutions and governance**. The FAP observes that forest agencies in many countries are not optimally designed, staffed, or financed for effective forest management. Assistance to forest institutions will aim to shift them from a policing focus to a servicing role. The introduction of new technologies and use of ICTs are noted in this regard. Although gender issues are not specifically mentioned, presumably opportunities to include, benefit, and empower women in the reform of forest-related institutions and policies should be sought.

Performance indicators and gender

Appendix B of the FAP includes performance indicators that all forest-related operations will have to monitor. The gender-disaggregated indicators in that list are: *number of beneficiaries (of which, women; and of which, vulnerable and marginalized people)*; and *number of representatives in community-based decision-making and management structures that are from the vulnerable or marginalized beneficiary population.*

Other indicators that could potentially be (and are recommended to be) similarly and fairly easily gender-disaggregated include:

- Number of people in targeted areas with increased monetary benefits from forests and trees.
- Number of land users adopting sustainable land management practices as a result of the project.
- Number of people employed in production and processing of forest product.
- Number of participants in consultation activities during project implementation.
- Number of target population with use or ownership rights recorded as a result of the project.
- Forest users trained.

Annex E: Gender-Forest Landscapes Information Resources

Table E.1: Annotated list of information resources and toolkits on gender and forest landscapes

CGIAR Gender and Inclusion Toolbox: Participatory Research in Climate Change and Agriculture
This toolbox assembles tested gender-sensitive and socially inclusive participatory action research tools.

FAO Gender and Land Rights Database
This portal highlights the major political, legal, and cultural factors that influence women's ability to claim their land rights throughout the world. It includes 84 country profiles, land tenure statistics disaggregated by gender, and a Legislation Assessment Tool for gender-equitable land tenure.

FAO Agri-gender Statistics Toolkit
This toolkit supports increased collection and analysis of sex-disaggregated agricultural data. It includes a compilation of gender-sensitive questions, questionnaire components, and tables. The database is structured around nine items related to agriculture: agricultural population and households; access to productive resources; production and productivity; destination of agricultural produce; labor and time use; income and expenditures; membership in agricultural or farmer organizations; and food security poverty indicators.

GEF Gender Equality Action Plan
The Global Environment Facility (GEF) Secretariat, in collaboration with GEF Agencies and other relevant partners, developed this action plan on gender to enhance gender mainstreaming, including the use of gender-sensitive indicators and sex-disaggregated data.

IFAD Rural Poverty Portal
This portal provides brief descriptions of the poverty status in rural areas in different countries as well as general information on rural poverty.

IUCN Restoration Opportunities Assessment Methodology (ROAM)
https://www.iucn.org/theme/forests/our-work/forest-landscape-restoration/restoration-opportunities-assessment-methodology-roam
ROAM is a framework for countries to rapidly identify and analyze areas that are primed for forest landscape restoration and to identify specific priority areas at a national or subnational level.

Living Standards Survey/LSMS new Forests Modules (WB/FAO)
http://foris.fao.org/preview/90390/en/
Guidance and survey modules for measuring the multiple roles of forests in household welfare and livelihoods.

PROFOR: Catalyzing Gender-Forests Actions
http://www.profor.info/knowledge/catalyzing-gender-forests-actions
Description of the challenges, expected outcomes, and results of this PROFOR activity (continually updated).

PROFOR Poverty-Forests Linkages toolkit:
www.profor.info/node/3
Includes rapid appraisal methods to gather information on economic as well as other contributions from forests to households, especially the poor; methods for analyzing field data for the potential role of forests in reducing poverty and vulnerability and policy options for improving the contribution of forests to rural livelihoods; suggestions for framing results in ways that are relevant to planners, government agencies and other institutions and organizations, at both local and national levels; an explanation of the PRSP process and identification of the strategies and skills needed for influencing the PRSP process (including potential entry points for forestry); and a Field Manual to support training and capacity building for local government forest officials, collection of information to understand forest dependence locally and hands-on application of participatory assessment tools.

The REDD+ desk
A help desk and collaborative resource for REDD readiness that directs users to wide range of information resources.
theredddesk.org/what-redd

UN-REDD: Guidance Note on Gender Sensitive REDD+
This note is organized around five action steps that are designed to assist those engaged in REDD+ efforts at all levels (global to local) to promote REDD+ processes that are gender-sensitive and contribute to gender mainstreaming and gender equality.

UN Statistics: The World's Women
This portal highlights differences in the status of women and men in eight areas: population and families; health; education; work; power and decision making; violence against women; environment; and poverty.

UN Women Watch: Facts and Figures: Rural Women and the Millennium Development Goals This portal highlights rural women's progress in achieving key Millennium Development Goal indicators, pointing to advances that have been made and gaps that remain. In addition, the portal describes the comparative advantage of different UN organizations in relation to rural women.
World Bank: Gender Equality Data and Statistics This gender data portal is a one-stop shop for gender information, catering to a wide range of users and providing data from a variety of sources. The portal has indicators related to five dimensions of gender equality: economic structures and access to resources; education; health and related services; public life and decision-making; and human rights of women and girl children.
World Bank: Women, Business and the Law *Getting to Equal* measures legal and regulatory barriers to women's entrepreneurship and employment in 173 economies. It provides quantitative measures of laws and regulations that affect women's economic opportunities in seven areas: accessing institutions, using property, getting a job, providing incentives to work, going to court, building credit, and protecting women from violence.
World Economic Forum: Annual Global Gender Gap Report The Global Gender Gap Index 2015 ranks 145 economies according to how well they are leveraging their female talent pool, based on economic, educational, health-based, and political indicators.