
Stakeholder workshop on integrating livelihoods and rights in livestock,
microcredit and value chain development programs for empowering
women

Report of a workshop held on 25 February 2013 at the International Livestock
Research Institute (ILRI), Nairobi

Elizabeth Waithanji, Edna Mutua, Luke Korir, Elizabeth Mukewa, Nabintu
Bagalwa, Pauline Muindi and Katryn Gituma

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1. Introduction

To measure the impacts of economic development, gender scientists are increasingly using assets over income. Focus on empowerment and sustainability of empowerment as indicators of economic development has also increased. Although earning an income can increase women's autonomy and enhance their economic and social status, it can no longer be assumed that earning an income or having access to credit and other financial assets bring automatic benefits for women or for households (Esplen and Brody 2007). A critical question in economic development is on how to translate increased access to resources into changes in empowerment, defined as the strategic choices that women are able to make – at the level of the individual women, household and community (Kabeer 1999). For empowerment to happen, the processes through which women gain access to resources should be empowering and the impacts of these processes should lead to broader changes in gender relations and norms.

The human and women rights movements have focused on ensuring that women enjoy the same rights as men and have also addressed some of the gender specific circumstances, such as reproductive roles and domestic violence. When addressing rights and equality issues, many liberal and multicultural feminist views on women's rights often neglect economic issues and end up limiting the benefits of discussions on universal human rights for poor women. The basic argument, used in the study reported here, is that the granting of rights is ineffective without the corresponding ability to exercise those rights. The economic status of women is bound up not only with their quality of life, but also with their ability to exercise political and legal rights.

Although combining women's economic opportunities and women's rights could have the potential to lead to broader women's empowerment and changes in gender relations, these two dimensions have rarely come together. Recently, however, researchers in this study recognized that providing women economic opportunities does not necessarily lead to empowerment and women being aware of their rights without the financial resources to exercise rights most often does not lead to empowerment either.

The workshop reported here sought to develop strategies for combining livelihood and rights interventions in development intended for women's empowerment. The workshop brought together practitioners from the fields of economic development and advocates for women rights to a sharing forum where they established how best these two (often mutually exclusive) approaches to development could be integrated in the same project in order to accelerate the process of sustainable economic development.

In addition, the workshop intended to forge partnerships among actors in economic development and women's rights fields by building their capacity to integrating rights and livelihoods. The workshop host, ILRI, shared an invited key note presentation on the necessity of integrating rights and livelihoods, by Jemimah Njuki from CARE USA and another presentation on results of studies that used the Women Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI) adapted for measuring empowerment for women and men in economic and rights dimensions. Participants conducted a practical working session on strategies of integrating rights and livelihoods in select projects.

1.1 Objective

1. To bring together development practitioners working in livelihood programs and those working in rights programs, which target women, to share lessons and develop strategies for practical and simultaneous integration of livelihoods and rights based approaches for women's empowerment

1.2 Activities

1. Share experiences from CARE USA work that simultaneously integrates livelihoods and rights in programs that target women
2. Share findings on a pilot study to measure impacts of livelihood projects on women's empowerment, including rights, using the adapted Women Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI)

3. Develop strategies for integrating livelihoods and rights, simultaneously, in programs aiming at empowering women

1.3 Workshop output

A strategy of integrating livelihoods and rights for empowering women and their households through livestock microcredit and value chains

1.4 Workshop process

The meeting began with welcoming remarks from Dr Kathleen Colverson, the team leader of the Livelihoods, Gender and Impact (LGI) team. The LGI team leader gave a brief presentation on the Gender Strategy of ILRI's led CGIAR Research Program on Livestock and Fish. The desired outcome of the strategy is that poor women, men and the marginalized groups have improved and more equitable access to affordable animal source foods through gender equitable interventions. In her welcome address, Dr Colverson also reminded the workshop participant that the intended output of the workshop was a strategy to integrate livelihoods and rights for empowering women and their households through livestock micro-credit and value chains development programs. After the opening remarks, Dr Colverson led the workshop participants through a process of self-introduction. Also present at the workshop were Dr John McIntyre Deputy Director General – Integrated Sciences, and Mr Maurice Makoloo, the Ford Foundation representative.

2. Leveling expectations of the workshop

Participants shared their expectations of the workshop, by writing them on cards. These were summarized into the following categories:

- To contribute to the development of gender transformative actions in micro-credit and value chains in livestock programs
- To practically apply best practices in the use of rights based approaches in livelihood projects
- To understand, conceptualize and learn how to apply the Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI) in livelihood research projects
- To develop tools that identify issues and gaps in integrating livelihoods and rights in livestock value chains and micro-credit development programs that aim at empowering women
- To explore opportunities for partnerships and build supportive social networks

3. Presentations

The workshop comprised of two main presentations made in plenary:

3.1. Livelihoods and rights perspective: Conceptualizing, operationalizing and measuring women's empowerment by Jemimah Njuki (CARE, USA)

This presentation introduced the subjects of livelihoods, rights, and empowerment and how these are interlinked using examples from the work done in the various women empowerment projects implemented by CARE USA.

The introductory section of this presentation addressed different definitions of empowerment and stated why it considered Kabeer's definition as the most acceptable. Kabeer (1999, 2002), defines empowerment as "the process through which those who have been denied the ability to make strategic life choices acquire such an ability." According to this definition, there are two important aspects of empowerment namely: the process (towards gender equality) and agency (with women as significant actors of the process of change). Empowerment was thus defined as the sum total of changes needed for an individual to realize their full human rights – the interplay of changes in the three spheres of empowerment: agency, structure and relations. Agency refers to one's own aspirations and capabilities to control resources and decisions. Structure is the totality of environment that surrounds and conditions choices that women face. Relations address how power

relations determine the negotiating path by women be it the household, community or at national level. These three spheres form CARE's empowerment framework. Within this framework, empowerment is analyzed in the context of several indicators which include: Economic, social/cultural, political, legal and psychological.

CARE USA uses a holistic view of empowerment and gender equality and hence there is need to look at multiple dimensions and different levels of dimensions. For instance, (1) economic empowerment does not necessarily lead to social, cultural, legal or psychological empowerment; (2) empowerment of women at the individual level, or agency is necessary but not sufficient for changes at the community, institutional or national levels and (3) working at Agency without focusing on relations and structures will not achieve broad empowerment for women. On the other hand, having the legal mechanisms in place without increasing women's agency to take advantage of these does not lead to empowerment either.

Operationalizing empowerment and gender equality in CARE USA through gender analysis uses the project cycle to address differences in inequalities between women and men to achieve greater social equity, empowerment and improved outcomes. Addressing gender and context together ensures that CARE USA understands the gender constraints and opportunities in specific contexts as they vary over time and across different scales. Gender constraints and opportunities specifically vary across social relationships: partnership, households, communities, civil society and government organizations and institutions as well as social cultural contexts like ethnicity, class, race, religion and age. A good practices framework to address these constraints and opportunities across different scales is one that looks at the broader context of gender and empowerment and then focuses on core areas of inquiry: division of labor, household decision making, control over productive assets, access to public spaces, rights to meaningful political participation, control over one's body, violence and restorative justice as well as aspirations and strategic interests while addressing strategic issues and practical needs of the impact group.

Gender can be integrated into programs/projects in three ways. The first level in the continuum is the exploitative level, which focuses on approaches that take advantage of rigid gender norms and existing imbalances in power to achieve project/ program objectives. The second is the gender accommodating level, which acknowledges the role of gender norms and inequalities and seeks to develop actions that adjust and compensate for them while working towards the third level in the continuum. The third level, the gender transformative level, address issues of change in gender norms and imbalances of power to achieve outcomes and gender equity objectives.

In measuring empowerment, Care takes into account the multidimensional nature of empowerment and operationalizes the concept of empowerment at various levels and at different contexts. CARE USA identifies difficulties inherent in the measurement process and strategic life choices owing to the infrequency of their occurrence as well as long-term and short-term nature of empowerment. In adapting the Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI) within the core focus and objectives, CARE USA, seeks to address aspects of mobility, political participation, women's aspirations and changes in gender relations with data from across six countries. The WEAI index provides a tool that can be used to measure women's empowerment in the context of agriculture. The index can be adapted to include other domains of interest and different levels of empowerment

The full presentation describing in detail the above highlights is can be found at <http://agrigender.files.wordpress.com/2013/03/weai-womensempowerment-care.pdf>

3.2. Discussion on livelihood and rights perspectives

The presentation by CARE USA elicited various questions, comments and answers from the workshop participants which are summarized in this section of the report.

3.2.1. CARE's approach to measuring empowerment and improvement of communication with partners and stakeholders

The presentation by Dr. Njuki emphasized that empowerment is a continuous process and the use of an index allows an organization/institution to compare dimensions across different countries and at different scales. Many indicators of empowerment are qualitative; hence data is collected and analyzed qualitatively to give the indices of empowerment. Women's aspirations are hard to quantify hence their aspects are analyzed qualitatively. Organizations are still finding it difficult to understand that addressing issues of empowerment requires a holistic approach. Gender perspectives and empowerment are difficult to integrate in different institutions especially in implementation of programs since people think of empowerment as an abstract concept hence partnerships are very important in bringing together the different components to achieve empowerment.

CARE USA's approach to partnership building is termed the "impact group approach" with women and girls as the impact group. Different projects are designed to focus on the impact group. Care partners with other organizations to address issues affecting this group. Many organizations still struggle with challenges of understanding and conceptualizing empowerment in a holistic way. Care addresses these challenges by ensuring that empowerment is addressed using different indicators and across different scales and there is constant communication among partners and stakeholders to address challenges and various opportunities on the impact group.

3.2.2. CARE's strategy to identify women and girls as a heterogeneous group at different scales

Care conducts country analysis of women and girls in order to address the challenges of each category of women and girls within the impact group. Categories can arise due to variation in age, needs, geographic location and social cultural characteristics of the impact group. Example: In Tanzania the focus on adolescent girls of reproductive ages of 15 and 16 years addresses the issue of early marriages to create specific programs that can mitigate this challenge.

3.2.3. Role of men's and boys' programs to increase women's and girls' empowerment

CARE USA uses men's and boys' programs to increase women's and girl's empowerment in the community. Previous work by Care has shown that community theatre is a good tool to educate men and boys on the tangible benefits of women's empowerment. Such programs, focusing on men and boys, educate them on the need to participate in household chores, which in turn allows women and girls to have more time for themselves or other activities after sharing the workload with the male household members. Furthermore, community theatre has illustrated the importance of family planning. International Fund for Agriculture and Development (IFAD) uses the Balanced Tree Approach in Uganda and Rwanda and its main emphasis is to show that empowerment for women does not disfranchise men in households. The approach involves working with all members in a household: women, girls, men and boys to identify their own visions, ambitions and challenges as a group in an attempt to empower them collectively.

3.3. Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI)

The WEAI is constructed using the Alkire Foster Method developed by Sabina Alkire, director of the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) at the University of Oxford, and James Foster of George Washington University and OPHI. A method for measuring multidimensional poverty, well-being, and inequality, it measures outcomes at the individual level (person or household) against multiple criteria (domains and/or dimensions and indicators).

The WEAI shows, on aggregate, who is empowered by analyzing in which domains women are empowered and how these compare to men's. The Alkire Foster Method is unique in that it can distinguish between, for

example, disempowered people who are not empowered in just one domain versus those who are not empowered across three domains at the same time.

The WEAI is a composite measurement tool that indicates women's control over critical parts of their lives in the household, community, and economy. It allows us to identify women who are disempowered and understand how to increase autonomy and decision making in key domains. The WEAI is also a useful tool for tracking progress toward gender equality, which is one of the Millennium Development Goals.

The WEAI was first developed to track the change in women's empowerment levels that occurs as a direct or indirect result of interventions under Feed the Future, the US government's global hunger and food security initiative. The United States Agency for International Development, International Food Policy Research Institute, and Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative collaboratively developed it.

The WEAI is composed of two sub-indices: One measures women's empowerment (5DE) and the other measures the gender parity in empowerment within the household (GPI). This index measures the roles and the extent to which women are engaged in agriculture in five domains (5DE) namely: decisions about agricultural production; access to and decision-making power over productive resources; control over and use of income; leadership in the community and time use. It compares women's and men's empowerment within households. This tool uses individual data obtained from primary males and females in the households. The 5DE assesses whether women are empowered in some or all the five domains, the percent domains in which women are disempowered and the percentage of domains that women need to achieve the required threshold so that they can experience sufficiency in empowerment (IFPRI 2012).

The Gender team at International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) has adapted the WEAI to include a sixth dimension that looks at decision making over personal reproductive health and attitudes towards gender based violence using three case studies. The presentation by ILRI during this workshop aimed at disseminating results from three case studies, namely: baseline data on an internally displaced community in Naivasha and a rural vulnerable community from Malindi, identified by the Kenya Agriculture Research Institute (KARI) as potential beneficiaries of an improved indigenous poultry project; impact evaluation of a microcredit project that provides loans for purchasing livestock and farm inputs, to predominantly women, in Trans Nzoia District by Juhudi Kilimo; and a comparison of benefits to farmers who market milk through groups as a result of the influence of the East Africa Dairy Development (EADD) project and those who sell as individuals and are not considered to be beneficiaries of EADD in Nandi and Bomet counties.

3.4. Presentation on WEAI findings from case study research

Findings from Kenya's Pilot Study (KARI, Juhudi Kilimo and EADD): Evaluating the impacts of livestock micro credit and value chain programs on women's empowerment using the Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI) by Elizabeth Waithanji (ILRI)

Dr. Waithanji shared results on studies on women and men's empowerment conducted by ILRI on projects associated with the three development partners in the project, which was funded by the Ford Foundation.

The hypotheses informing this study were as follows: (1) Providing women with economic opportunities, while denying them their rights does not necessarily lead to empowerment; (2) Neither does women's awareness of their rights without the financial resources to exercise these rights automatically lead to empowerment. Past studies have not addressed these two dimensions (economic opportunities and rights) together in development interventions. In this regard, ILRI and partners, in this pilot study sought to adapt the WEAI by including a rights domain, which consisted of two indicators – one on gender based violence and the other on control over one's own reproductive health. This sixth domain was labeled health, as rights constitute a health component when health is defined as a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease, as was defined by the World Health Organization in 1946.

The pilot study answered the following research questions:

- What are the empowerment patterns of project beneficiary and non-beneficiary men and women?
- What factors, livelihood, rights or both, have contributed most to the disempowerment of the disempowered women?
- Are the factors that contribute to women's disempowerment similar to those that contribute to men's disempowerment?
- Do different livelihood interventions contribute differently to women's empowerment?
- How do women perceive themselves in terms of empowerment and how does this self-assessment compare with the WEAI measurements?

3.4.1. Study design, selection of sites and sample and data analysis

Three case studies were conducted: two on livestock value chains and one on a livestock microcredit. Four partners were involved, a donor – The Ford Foundation; and three economic empowerment livestock projects implemented by the following partners in the study, KARI, EADD and Juhudi Kilimo. Study sites were sampled purposively based on the type of project and partners (with an interest in gender focus). Individuals interviewed in this study, from all sites, were selected using a multi-stage random sampling method.

Quantitative and qualitative data were collected and analyzed. Quantitative data was collected from household heads and other individuals in the household using a questionnaire. The “other individuals” category was constituted by primary women from male headed households. The household questionnaire had two sections; one section asked questions about the household and the other section asked questions about the household head as an individual within the household. Household heads were either male or female. Only *de jure* female heads of households were considered. These included those that had never married or were divorced, separated or widowed. Qualitative data was collected using in-depth face-to-face interviews with women, namely, female heads of households (FHH) or Women from Male Headed Households (WMHH) purposively selected from among those interviewed as individuals during the quantitative survey. Quantitative data collected from this study was analyzed using SPSS and STATA and qualitative data was analyzed inductively.

3.4.2. Results

3.4.2.1. Question 1

- I. What are the empowerment patterns of project male and female beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries?
 - What factors, livelihood or rights, have contributed most to the disempowerment of the disempowered women?
 - Are the factors that contribute to women's disempowerment similar to those that contribute to men's disempowerment?

Results of Question 1: This study indicated that:

- A larger proportion of men than women was empowered (in the three case studies)
- A larger proportion of men selling milk through other modes than those selling through groups was empowered (EADD)
- A larger proportion of women selling milk through groups than through other modes was empowered (EADD)

Conclusion 1

- The empowerment patterns among women and men varied with the context, namely, the location of the study and the type of intervention. These patterns should, therefore, not be generalized. For example, it would be wrong to conclude that among resettled Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), one is likely to find more empowered women than men, just because a larger proportion of women than men from the Naivasha IDP camp was empowered.

- The domains contributing most to women's disempowerment were resources and health. Disempowerment in time, leadership and control over income varied with context, e.g. women who took loans through Juhudi Kilimo were more disempowered in the time and leadership domains than women who did not take loans.
- Well-meaning interventions could leave some beneficiaries worse off than they were before the intervention, e.g. Women with loans from Juhudi Kilimo were more disempowered than those without loans in terms of time.
- Factors that contribute to women's disempowerment may be similar e.g. KARI study where men and women were disempowered almost equally in most dimension, or different, e.g. Juhudi Kilimo and EADD where women were much more disempowered than men in almost all dimension, from those that contribute to men's disempowerment.
- One can only be sure of what specific factors cause disempowerment by measuring each dimension and its indicators and documenting them as was done in this study

3.4.2.2. Question 2

- Do different livelihood interventions contribute differently to women's empowerment?

Results to question 2 and conclusion

- The results indicated that different livelihood interventions can contribute differently to women's empowerment.
- The finding from KARI (baseline) indicates that female heads of households (FHH) were more empowered than women from male headed households (WMHH).
- The finding from EADD suggested that the intervention by EADD empowered women from FHH and Male Headed Households (MHH) equally.
- The finding from Juhudi Kilimo suggests that the intervention by Juhudi empowered women from FHH, but disempowered women from MHH. This finding can be explained by the fact that women from FHH have full control of their income, but women from MHH tend to lose control of their income share as household income increases (Njuki et al. 2011). Benefits from value chains are determined by a person's ability to control productive assets and household decisions (Coles and Mitchell 2011).

3.4.2.3. Question 3

- How do women perceive themselves in terms of empowerment and how does this self-assessment compare with the WEAI measurements?

Results of and conclusion to Question 3

- Most empowered women believed that they were empowered.
- Most disempowered women believed that they were empowered.
- All FHH interviewed from all sites were empowered in terms of 6DE and own rating
- There were similarities and differences between women's empowerment in terms of their self-evaluation and evaluation using the index.
- Empowered women, according to the index, mostly considered themselves to be empowered using their own measures of empowerment. Some disempowered women according to the index also appeared to consider themselves empowered using their measures of empowerment.

Based on these findings, some questions arose, namely, whose measure is right, is it the index, the women's own measure, or both? Why? These questions call for a need to harmonize indicators used by researchers and those used by the women to measure empowerment in order to represent the women's perceptions.

The detailed presentation is provided at <http://www.slideshare.net/ILRI/weai-evaluating-impacts>

3.5. Plenary discussion on WEAI and livestock value chains and micro credit programs

3.5.1. The importance of Self-assessment as a measure of women's empowerment

Women's perceptions are influenced by the sum total of their environment – cultural, economic, legal, social and psychological. There should, therefore, be a balance between the index and women's self-assessment through harmonization of the two metrics to reflect women's perception of empowerment. For example, women felt empowered because their self-worth was enhanced whenever they were able to provide their families' food and other needs using their own income. This study concludes, for example, that self-worth / self-esteem should be an integral qualitative indicator of empowerment that should be measured before and after each intervention.

3.5.2. The role of institutions and custodians of power

Rights, power and institutions – socio-cultural, economic and legal – are intertwined and work together for or against women's empowerment. The custodians of these determinants of empowerment such as community leaders, elders and those who construct and maintain the formal and informal rules that people live by must be engaged to facilitate change. The disempowered women must also get involved in effecting the change through their agency.

3.5.3. The importance of a sound research design

Primary males and females were interviewed from male headed households (MHH) and primary females from female headed households (FHH). Findings from this study demonstrated that most women from MHH who take loans were not able to control the use of the money loaned because the loans were mostly appropriated by men for their own activities. Results from this study not presented at this workshop also showed that women from MHH who took loans had a lower decision making power than men from MHH and women from FHH who took similar loans in terms of where to borrow the money, how to use the money and who to repay the loan. The cumulative reduction in the ability to make decisions over money borrowed contributed to the various indicators used to measure empowerment, making the sum total of empowerment for these women even lower than that of women from MHH who did not borrow loans.

3.5.4. Who asks the question, what question and how the question is framed matters

A disparity in responses from women and men from the same environment was evident. For example, on gender based violence in Malindi, many women said that they believed that it was right for women to be beaten if they neglected their children, whereas men did not seem to claim this belief. This disparity could be translated in several ways, namely (i) how women and men may want to be seen by the external interviewer, women as victims and men as good guys – the offended party is more likely to talk about the violence than the offending party; (ii) there could be a misrepresentation of the truth, whereby one may overstate or understate their case; and (iii) the responses could represent how women and men perceive themselves, which would not necessarily be their reality (iv) people may also not wish to expose the truth about them. This observation led to the question whether certain questions could be standardized to avoid discrepancies as a result of politically correct answers. Sometimes, it is left to the researchers' prerogative to establish who is likely to be telling the truth and who is not. For example, it might be easier for women to say that they are beaten by men than for men to say that they beat women.

Care and consideration must be taken in the type of questions asked, the geographic area covered and the culture of the area of data collection. An example was given where women in Dadaab Camp were asked of their experiences following female circumcision. They were puzzled and wondered why other women asked them to share their experiences because they had assumed all along that all women underwent circumcision.

3.5.5. Adaptation of the WEAI to other projects

Although WEAI was initially developed for women in agriculture, it has been used to measure empowerment of women and men in non-agricultural activities. Owing to its flexibility, WEAI was adapted from a five to a six dimension index.

3.5.6. Total empowerment and women's rights in the case studies

Is there an end to empowerment? Is there an achievement of an empowerment score of 1? Empowerment is relative term and there is no end to it. In the Kenyan case study, a woman was defined as empowered if she had adequate achievements in 4 out of 6 of the domains hence it is difficult to talk of total empowerment. The WEAI was developed to seek interventions by considering the current empowerment level of women and identifying where more efforts are required to bring about change. For all projects in this study, there had been no deliberate effort to integrate women's rights in the project intervention. This lack of effort could have contributed to low levels of empowerment for both indicators of the health dimension.

3.5.7. The role of psychology in empowerment

In order to design appropriate intervention programs, development actors should engage psychologists, who can use the right tools to measure perceptions and attitudes of the women to help establish who is more empowered than another. Intentions for appropriate interventions notwithstanding, change in the desired direction is often hampered by a lack of capacity to act caused by a shortage or lack of resources, and often, a lack of the commitment to act.

4. Group work sessions: Strategies of integrating livelihoods and rights to empower women

Owing to the complexity of the nature of discussions in this workshop, the discussions were loosely tailored and discussants given the leeway to decide on the approach they chose for their group topic.

4.1. Identification of thematic groups and discussion topics

Drawing from the issues brought out by the presentations and discussions, and the wealth of knowledge among the participants from multiple development backgrounds, participants were requested to choose the groups in which they would like to participate. Three groups ensued as follows.

- Integrating rights in agricultural (including livestock) value chain projects
- Integrating rights in micro credit projects and
- Integrating livelihoods in rights based projects

The group discussants were requested to answer the following questions and present their results in a plenary session:

- Beyond what was presented on WEAI, what other rights/livelihood indicators would you like to consider integrating in your projects?
- What constraints/challenges/issues would you anticipate when integrating rights/ livelihoods?
- How and when in the project cycle would you address each of the challenges identified above?
- What indicators would you use to measure progress of implementation and change?

The first two groups on integrating rights into livelihood projects identified some rights that might accelerate the empowerment of women in their project interventions. The third group on integrating livelihoods into rights interventions shared experiences on human rights and documented livelihood strategies that could make a difference in women's lives if they were integrated into rights interventions.

4.2. Integrating rights into value chains

The Bill of Rights is an integral part of Kenya's democratic state and is the framework for social economic and cultural policies. The purpose of recognizing and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms is to preserve the dignity of individuals and communities and to promote social justice and the realization of the potential of all human beings (Constitution of Kenya 2010).

The group identified and listed 17 rights that apply to and can be analyzed in value chains

1. Right to equality and freedom from discrimination
2. Rights to human dignity
3. Right to freedom and security of the person
4. Right to privacy
5. Right to economic and social rights
6. Right to freedom of conscience and religious belief
7. Right to freedom of expression
8. Right of access to information
9. Right to political choices
10. Right to freedom of association
11. Right to assembly
12. Right to freedom of movement and residence
13. Right to property
14. Right to fair labour practices
15. Right to access to justice
16. Consumer rights
17. Right to clean and healthy environment

Value chains in this context are defined as the various activities (nodes) carried out to bring a product from the initial stage in the production process source to the consumers through a series of steps which include: Input, Production, Processing, Marketing and Consumption. Every node has several actors including farmers, middlemen and transporters and finally the consumer.

Table 1: Summary of the identified human rights that affect actors at different value chain nodes

Value chain nodes	Actors	Human rights
Input	Microfinance Institutions, banks, producers, suppliers of seeds, fertilizers etc.	1,3,5,8,9,11,12,14,15,17
Production	Farmers, Laborers	3, 5,8,9,10,14,15
Processing (harvesting and marketing)	Farmers, Buyers, Warehousing, Processing-grinding, polishing, etc	5, 8, 9,10,13,14, 15,16,
Marketing	Farmers, Middlemen, Transporters, Distributors	1, 5, 3,7,8, 9,10, 11,14,15,
Consumption	Final consumers	1,2,3,5,6,7,8,15,16

The group agreed that all rights carry the same weight. These human rights are intrinsically linked to each other and they also cut across all the value chain nodes, as can be observed in the table above. The rights to information, to assembly, to freedom of movement, to fair working conditions for example are crucial throughout the value chain nodes.

Human rights perspectives are very crucial in women's lives and livelihoods and should be considered at the beginning of any project. A situational analysis of rights among other issues should be conducted with stakeholders in the beginning of a project in order to identify and prioritize areas of intervention. For example, the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI) Indigenous Chicken (IC) project provides an excellent opportunity to address the people's economic and social rights. (No 5 above).The potential project beneficiaries identified an urgent economic and food need. KARI facilitated key interventions in IC production like management of disease and marketing. Marketing therefore became the entry point of securing the

people's economic rights. With improved economic levels the other social rights of clean water, housing, health and sanitation can be tackled.

Among the challenges associated with integration of interventions that address rights directly require the concerted efforts of multiple organizations through strategic partnerships with the livelihoods and rights organizations. Rights are also often complex and sensitive to handle, especially those touching on property, consumer rights, fair labour practices and beliefs.

Another challenge associated with integrating rights in value chain interventions was that it is difficult to measure impact in terms of improved rights and the impacts of the improved rights on livelihoods. Owing to the difficulty anticipated in measuring an intervention's impacts on rights and the impacts of enhanced rights on livelihoods, the integration of rights into the value chain interventions is likely to be a slow process. Moreover, most organizations work with objectives of attaining measurable results within a specific period, often a year or two. A year or two constitute too short a time to measure changes in rights and the impacts on livelihoods as a result of these changes (attribution). Capacity in this rights approach is limited among economic development workers, who might be reluctant to integrate rights in the project. Furthermore, short term development project actors may find the duration it takes to achieve rights associated impacts not worth the effort it takes to integrate rights in a project.

This group looked at indicators of 2 of the above 17 rights.

1. The right of access to information

Farmers, for example often complain of inadequacy in dissemination of information to them.

The above value chain actors need to have:

- i) Access to regular, timely and appropriate information. Appropriate in this case is current, relevant and accurate information in an appropriate language.
- ii) Information relayed to them in forms that are acceptable and practical.

2. The right to economic and social rights

Of the economic and social rights, the group looked specifically at the right to food and suggested that institutions should:

- i) Analyze how much of what food varieties communities have access to using food access and diversity scores.
- ii) Study the results of tracking months of sufficient and insufficient levels of food with the aim of achieving stability of food availability in the annual trends.

These analyses would be useful for informing livelihood programs on nutritional messages to communicate to communities and other food and nutrition security stakeholders.

4.3. Integrating rights into microcredit

This group identified several rights that can be integrated into micro credit programs but due to time constraints, only the first two rights were discussed exhaustively. This group did not refer to any legal institutions' list but developed and defined their own list relevant to the microcredit context.

4.3.1. List of rights identified

- Right to mobility because women involved in micro finance projects such as the Juhudi Kilimo are tied to the household most of the time,
- Right to mobile phone,
- Right to voice, and

- Right to ownership of other assets.

4.3.2. Rights to mobility

4.3.2.1. Constraints/challenges anticipated in the integration of rights to mobility

- Gender reproductive and productive roles contribute to time constraints denying women the opportunity to move out of the home,
- Gender and cultural norms of women's seclusion due to men feeling that they cannot control women's actions, and women's socialization that a good woman does not leave the home, and
- Resistance to change due to cultural norms and practices, expectations and attitudes such as men's belief that women are too naive to engage in mobility outside the homestead and women's fear of judgment or condemnation if they disrupt cultural norms.

4.3.2.2. Interventions: *What, how, who and when? What and how?*

- Dissemination of advocacy messages to ease resistance to change
- Use of role plays theatres to effect change in cultural attitudes and beliefs about mobility of women
- Create a forum where women and men make an economic case on the benefits of increasing women's mobility
- Integrate a gender component in the project that looks at women's issues as a human right issues
- Affirmative action conditions for loans by loaning agency that will deliberately work for women's empowerment without disempowering men
- Staff training to identify key issues and situations affecting men and women
- Open negotiations between men and women to create a forum of openness to improve decision making in the household
- Have training programs that promote businesses as family businesses and thus involve everyone in the household
- Sensitize men and women on the benefits of shared decision making in the household and especially the need for discussions and negotiations in micro credit enterprises
- Train loan officers to be able to identify specific characteristics of men and women as loan beneficiaries
- Create partnerships with other organizations to visualize what works in specific contexts to address the challenges in question
- Train leaders in the community to participate in dissemination of advocacy messages
- Identify who the duty bearers for a given right are, and create awareness on what they need to do to facilitate the right holders' claim to these entitlement and the cost of bearing these duties
- Identify who rights holders' are and the strategies that should be used to increase awareness of rights and the specific responsibilities that come with attainment of a given right.

4.3.2.3. Main actors (Who?)

- Men, women, girls and boys
- Community leaders
- Partnering Institutions and organizations working in the community
- Loan officers

4.3.2.4. When

- The above constraints should be addressed in the beginning of the project and even before the women submit applications for micro credit loans
- There should also be continuous monitoring at all stages of the project cycle to document any changes and identify areas that need more interventions
- A baseline and subsequent (periodic) evaluations are necessary to monitor impacts of intervention on empowerment.

4.3.2.5. Indicators of progress of implementation and change

- Time women spend away from home: number of hours/days that women are away from their homes over a given period (e.g. week, month)
- Points of sale where women are involved: from farm gate to larger markets away from home
- Amount of money borrowed by each woman
- Decisions on loans and the rate of loan repayment by women – what proportions of women are making decisions when to borrow, how much to borrow, from who to borrow, how to use the money and of the loans borrowed by women, what proportion is repaid by women
- Number of women from a specific community who have established projects outside and away from home

4.3.3. Rights to mobile phones

4.3.3.1. Constraints/challenges anticipated in the integration of rights to mobile phones

- Lower literacy levels of women than men may hamper the use of mobile phones by the women
- Loan officers may not implement services on phone technology efficiently due to lack of training and will power, as the phone enables beneficiaries to access services even without the help of loan officers (fear of working themselves out of jobs)
- Expense of phone usage especially in cases where women do not know how to compose and send phone text messages but solely rely on making phone calls to get information
- Appropriation of women's phones by men

4.3.3.2. Interventions: What and how?

- Proper phone technology training and provision of incentives to loan officers who train beneficiaries on the phone technology
- Educate clients/ women on how to use phones and the need to only communicate important messages to minimize transaction costs
- Provide women with cell phones that are unappealing to men: e.g. with specific feminine colours such as pink
- Partner with phone technology companies/service providers to train loan officers and clients.

4.3.3.3. Main actors

- Education and literacy focussed partners: phone technology companies/service providers
- Loan officers
- Clients: Men and women

4.3.3.4. When

- At the beginning of the project and even before micro credit loan applications are submitted to the micro credit provider
- Continuous training and monitoring at different phases of the project

4.3.3.5. Indicators of progress of implementation and change

- Increased use of mobile phones and services by women taking loans
- Increased number of women taking and repaying loans
- Increase in the amount of loan taken by each woman
- Increased financial and agricultural knowledge
- Number of mobile phone loan transactions and amount of information disseminated by loan officers
- Administering change surveys and interviews to monitor change

4.4. Livelihood interventions in rights' perspectives

"What can you tell people about their rights when they are hungry and have no shelter?" (James Kinyanjui, KNHCR)

4.4.1. Constraints/challenges anticipated in the integration of livelihoods into human rights

Integrating livelihood interventions together with human rights interventions is a very dynamic process which involves critical planning and analysis as most aspects of peoples' lives are mainly governed by human rights. Owing to the low representation of rights based organizations at the workshop, this group on integrating livelihoods into rights interventions was very small. This group shared experiences and came up with examples where livelihoods' interventions could have made a difference if they had been integrated into rights interventions.

4.4.2. Examples of linking livelihoods into human rights: Constraints/challenges

- Unsustainable livelihoods due to shocks associated with displacement:
In Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camps, most individuals are very desperate about the living and survival conditions caused by negative livelihood shocks. Therefore it is not easy to make an entry into such a community to solely talk about human rights issues without looking into the livelihood challenges that these people face in their daily lives. It is prudent to urgently address the immediate livelihood needs e.g. food and shelter before trying to deal with rights issues.
- Cultural land ownership issues that challenge the ownership of land by women thus disabling women's claims to land and produce food for their families
- Inadequacy in capacity and capacity building initiatives on rights due to lack of resources
- Low levels of knowledge about human rights.

4.4.3. Interventions: What and how?

- Build partnerships with relief organizations like the Red Cross to provide food, shelter and medical supplies before human rights staff can address issues of justice. For example, the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights works with partner organizations to provide resources and meet basic livelihood needs in IDP camps and in other unstable communities
- Use legal systems to influence systemic cultural structures that deny women their rights to support women's rights to own land and engage in agricultural production to achieve a sustainable livelihood
- Partnerships with capacity building organizations around issues of sustainable livelihoods and human rights

4.4.4. Main actors

- Men and women facing livelihood and human rights challenges for example community members in IDP camps.
- Human Rights Organizations for example Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR) and Kenya Human Rights Commission (KHRC)
- Partnerships with organizations addressing issues of sustainable livelihoods with affected groups
- Legal institutions

4.4.5. When

- Interventions should take place as a matter of urgency when groups of people or individuals are faced with negative shocks in their livelihoods as well human rights issues
- Continuous monitoring of the livelihoods of affected groups or individuals to establish the patterns of sustainable solutions to their livelihoods and human rights issues

4.4.6. Indicators of progress of implementation and change

- More actors from sustainable livelihoods projects working with human rights actors

5. Conclusion: Way forward

The following were the key messages from the workshop addressing the issue of integrating livelihoods and rights in same projects:

- There is no livelihood intervention without rights issues and no rights intervention without livelihoods issues; they are intertwined and inseparable and development actors should look at them as they are
- Building partnerships to address issues of rights and livelihoods in projects intended to empower women e.g. livestock value chains and micro credit interventions is crucial
- Sharing forums among network actors where tools and experiences are shared, and capacities built on how to address the barriers in gender focused rights and livelihood projects to increase women's empowerment should be encouraged

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7. Appendices

7.1 Appendix I: Workshop program

Time	Session description /Activities	Person responsible
	SESSION I	
08:00-08:30	Registration of participants	Edna Mutua (EM) - ILRI
08:30-08:45	Introductions and Leveling expectations	Elizabeth Waithanji (EW)-ILRI
08:45-09:00	Opening ceremony/speech	John McIntyre – Deputy Director General, Research, ILRI
09:00-09:30	Presentation from a livelihoods and rights perspective	Jemimah Njuki (JN)-CARE
09:30-10:00	Discussion on livelihoods and a rights perspective	Immaculate Maina -KARI and Rachel Brooks - Juhudi
10:00-10:30	Presentation of WEAI findings from Kenya’s pilot study (KARI, Juhudi and EADD)	EW-ILRI
10:30-11:00	TEA BREAK	ALL
	SESSION 2	
11:00-12:00	Plenary Discussion of presentations – Strategies of implementing livelihoods and rights simultaneously to empower women in our projects (Dairy and poultry value chains and microcredit interventions) What other rights to consider?	Esther Njuguna-KARI; Jemimah Njuki; EW
12.00 – 12.30	Identification of group-work themes and rights concerns for consideration Selection of groups on how to integrate livelihoods and rights in plans and activities	EW-ILRI
01:00-02:00	LUNCH BREAK	ALL
	SESSION 3	
02:00-02: 45	Group work – How to integrate livelihoods and rights to empower women in each of the three projects (KARI, Juhudi and EADD)	JN-CARE, EW, EM, NB, LK-ILRI,
02:45-03:30	Presentation of group work and discussions in plenary	Groups
03:30-03:45	Conclusions and way forward	EW-ILRI
03.45 – 4.00	Workshop evaluation	All
04:00-04:30	TEA BREAK AND DEPARTURE	ALL

7.2 Appendix 2: WEAI workshop participants

	Name	Institution
1	Immaculate Maina	KARI
2	Esther Njuguna	KARI
3	Muthoni Muta	KARI
4	Patrick Wahome	KARI
5	Kathryn Gituma	KARI
6	Seth Amboga	KARI
7	Isabelle Baltenweck	EADD
8	Elizabeth Mwiyeria	EADD
9	Rachel Brooks	JUHUDI KILIMO
10	Nancy Butama	JUHUDI KILIMO
11	Jemimah Njuki	CARE
12	James Kinyanjui	KNHCR
13	Charles Olungah	UoN
14	Salome Bukachi	UoN
15	Giulia Polidori	UN-WFP
16	Elizabeth Ssendiwala	IFAD
17	Maurice Makoloo	Ford Foundation
18	Nelly Maina	World Vision International
19	Queen Katembu	FAO
20	Karine Garnier	FAO
21	Grace Kinyanjui	IRRI
22	Banu Khan	UN-Women
23	John McIntyre	ILRI
24	Tezira Lore	ILRI
25	Elizabeth Waithanji	ILRI
26	Edna Mutua	ILRI
27	Luke Korir	ILRI
28	Harrison Rware	ILRI
29	Kathleen Colverson	ILRI
30	Elizabeth Mukewa	ILRI
31	Kathryn Gituma	ILRI
32	Pauline Muindi	ILRI