GTA tools for value chain assessment

Experiences from testing the toolkit in the Bangladesh fish value chain

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GTA tools

Tools for gender transformative analysis of the value chain, version 1.0

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Introduction

The draft toolkit adds analysis of the wider social context within which the value chain operates to value chain analysis. Information from this analysis can support the design of interventions that work to open up more and better quality opportunities for poor and marginalized women and men working in the value chain through addressing identified social constraints, leading to improved livelihood security outcomes and value chain performance. The tools do not currently include guidance on using the results to develop such intervention strategies or monitoring and evaluation indicators, though some of the tools contribute towards these. A future manual is planned to provide this guidance. We hope that different value chain teams will test these tools and provide feedback so they can be finalized and shared more widely. Please send feedback and questions to Paula Kantor (p.kantor@cgiar.org) and Froukje Kruijssen (f.kruijssen@cgiar.org)

The tools start with an assumption that a gender-responsive mapping of the value chain has already been done, identifying where women and men, and boys and girls are active in the value chain, and under what conditions. This set of tools adds depth to that information, along the following three dimensions.

Visible Structure. This first bundle of tools is grouped together under 'Visible Structure'. The tools focus on mapping and discussing the expressions of gender relations that everyone can - as a result of the process - quickly see and agree to be true. The tools include resource ownership and access, decision making, and gendered differences in how time is allocated to various activities.

Deep Structure. This set of tools goes one step deeper. The tools focus on understanding the 'Deep Structure' which underpins the more easily recognizable expressions of gender relations. They work to identify and map locally relevant gender norms, how such norms reveal themselves in commonly held attitudes, and how they shape important relationships. Since Deep Structures also undergo change, the tools work to capture drivers of change.

Planning the Value Chain (moving forward). This tool brings together the previous analytic steps and encourages participants to lay the foundations for gender-transformative value chains.

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2012: development of initial VC assessment tools

2013: L&F gender strategy with explicit output on gender transformative approaches

2013/2014: development of GTA tools – waiting to be tested

Objectives of the Bangladesh fish VC assessment

To assess the existing situation of the VC among aquaculture producers of tilapia, silver carp, rohu and mola across production systems and scales and identify constraints and opportunities

- Characterize the fish production systems and value chain in southwest Bangladesh

- Identify constraints, barriers to participation by poor men and women

- Understand the wider social context and barriers for improved participation of poor and marginalized women and men in the value chain

- Identify opportunities to improve the value chain and participation of poor women and men

- **Test and revise gender transformative tools for VC analysis**

Study sites

Locations: 6 communities in Khulna, Bagerhat and Barisal districts in SW Bangladesh

Species: Silver carp, tilapia, rohu and mola

Criteria:

- Level of salinity (medium, low, zero)
- farming system (pond, gher, homestead)
- Distance to market (near, far)
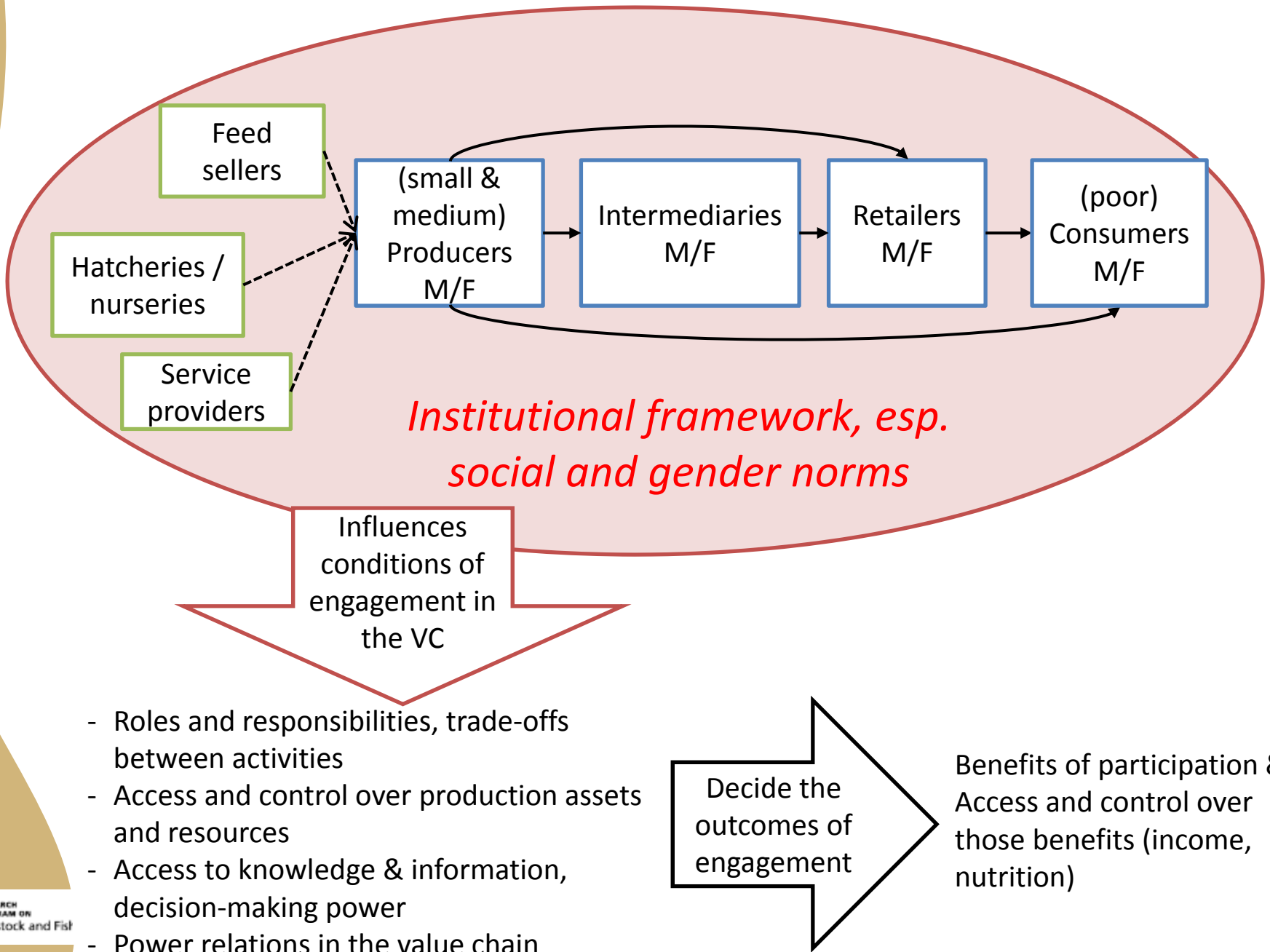- Cultural diversity

Timeline

2014

- Jun: set of general GTA tools finalized
- Aug – Oct: Bangladesh fish VC literature review
- Nov- Jan '15: toolkit adaptation, translation and testing, preparation of gender norm drawings and VC mapping cards, site selection, team recruitment

2015

- 1-10 Feb: training for field team and field practice
- 12 Feb–20 Mar: data collection (focus groups)
- 20 Mar–16 Apr: finalization of transcripts
- 19-22 Apr: coding workshop
- May-June: coding cont'd, analysis and reporting
- July onwards: validation of findings, development and testing of gender-integrated best
- Sept: finalization of general VCA & SGA manual

Gender transformative approach in value chains: key concepts

Feed sellers

Hatcheries / nurseries

Service providers

(small & medium) Producers M/F

Intermediaries M/F

Retailers M/F

(poor) Consumers M/F

Institutional framework, esp. social and gender norms

Influences conditions of engagement in the VC

- Roles and responsibilities, trade-offs between activities
- Access and control over production assets and resources
- Access to knowledge & information, decision-making power
- Power relations in the value chain

Decide the outcomes of engagement

Benefits of participation & Access and control over those benefits (income, nutrition)

Questions being addressed

- What is the 'state of the system' in terms of production systems, species, products, market channels, roles and responsibilities, inefficiencies and bottlenecks.

- How is the 'state of the system' different for men and women?

- What are the root causes for inefficiencies and bottlenecks?

- What are the root causes for differences between men and women including in the wider social context ?

- **How can the root causes for bottlenecks and differences between men and women be addressed?**

The tools

Toolkits (VC assessment & GTA)

Original VC toolkit

A - Livelihoods analysis

B - Seasonal calendar

C - Gender roles (activity clock)

D - Decision making

E - Group membership / collective action

F - Objectives for and systems of L&F production

G - Value chain mapping

H - Feeds and feeding

I - Breeding / seed input

J - Constraints and solutions

GTA tools

1 - Access to Resources

2 - Decision Making

3 - Activity and time use Matrix

4 - Gender Attitudes

5 - Gender Norms

6 - Relationships Wheel

7 - Envisioning a Gender Transformative Value Chain

Combining VCA and GTA tools

A - Livelihoods analysis and purposes for and systems of aquaculture production (A + F + H + I)

B - Seasonal calendar (B)

C - Value Chain Decision-Making (D + 2)

D - Fish value chain mapping (G)

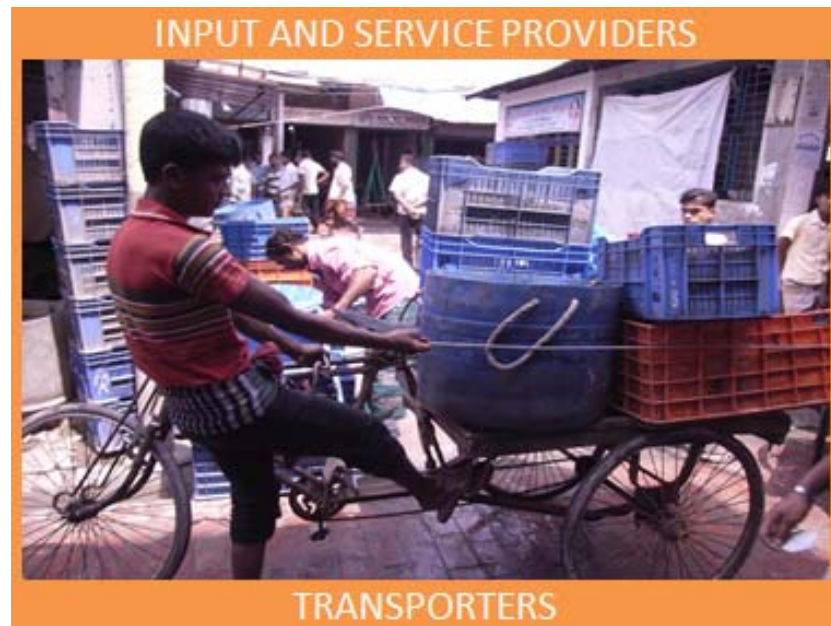Gender Attitudes Energizer! (4)
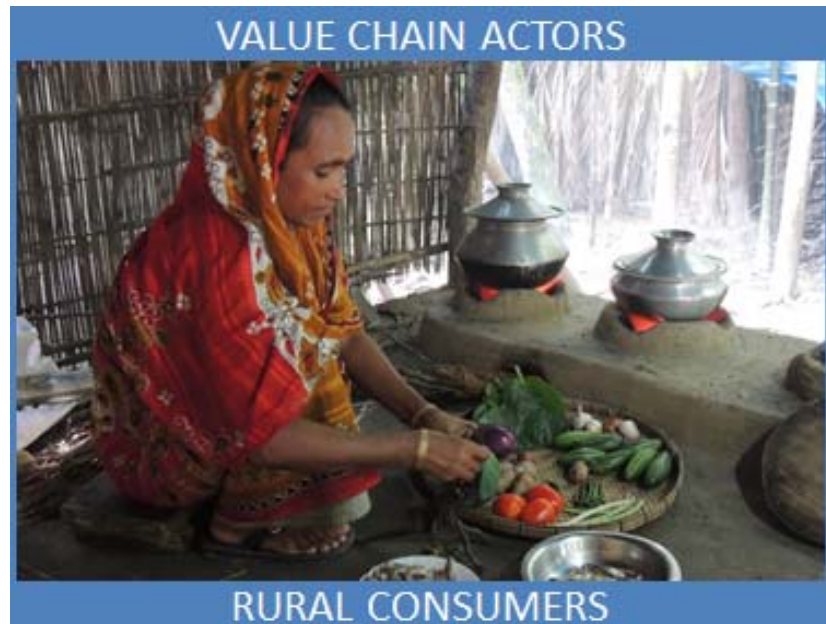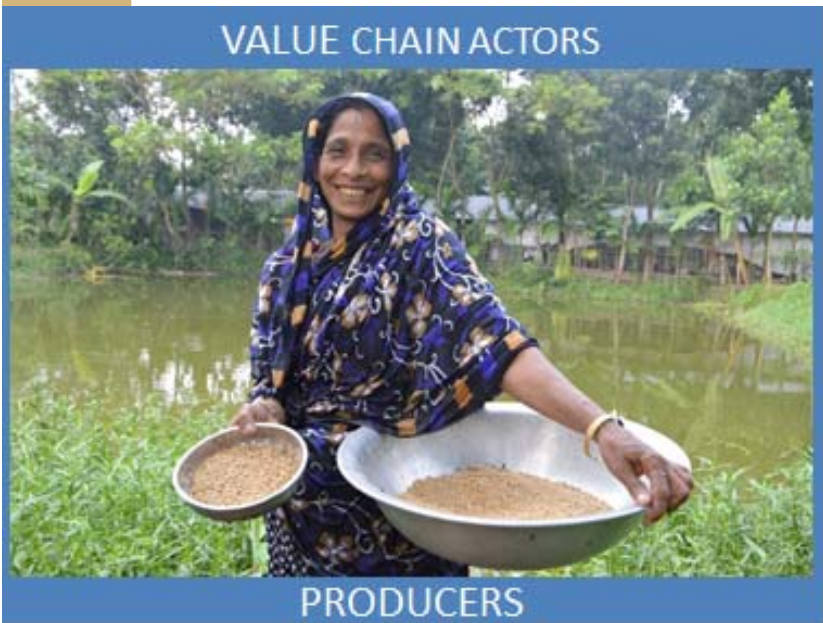
E - Activities and Time Use (C + 3)

F - Access to, and Control over, Resources (E + 1)

G - Relationship ranking (6)

H - Gender Norms (5)

I - Constraints and solutions for the fish value chain (J + 7)

VC mapping cards (D)

VALUE CHAIN ACTORS

PRODUCERS

VALUE CHAIN ACTORS

RURAL CONSUMERS

INPUT AND SERVICE PROVIDERS

NURSERIES

INPUT AND SERVICE PROVIDERS

TRANSPORTERS

Gender attitudes energizer !

Statements

- Women are as capable as men to buy good quality inputs for aquaculture

- It is acceptable for women to go to the market to sell fish

- Men who help with domestic work are good role models for boys and girls

- It is acceptable for women to take responsibility for regularly feeding fish in ghers

- Women who run a successful hatchery/nursery business in the value chain are good role models for boys and girls

Gender norm drawings

02-women and men avoiding or not being allowed to work in non traditional ways or being prevented from trying new tools

01-women juggling HH work-care with productive work in the value chain

Gender norm drawings

08-men looking after children and cooking

06-women in the marketplace bargaining with traders

What do these tools add to the existing VC assessment?

- Better understanding of gender roles and gender division of labor

- Understanding of gender and social norms, attitudes and practices and how they influence what men and women can and cannot do

- Understanding of relationships in and outside the chain that enable or hinder VC participation and how these differ for men and women

- More in-depth understanding of access, control and ownership of assets and resources for VC participation, and benefits derived from participation

What does this enable us to do?

- We are able to understand how barriers and outcomes differ between men and women or different categories of farmers

- We better understand potential trade-offs

- We understand constraints related to social and gender norms: social and institutional context is otherwise invisible

Without this VC interventions fail to address the underlying issues so would not lead to real VC transformation

Next steps

Bangladesh fish VC

- Finalize report, including recommendations for gender-integrated and gender-transformative best-bets

- Stakeholder workshop for validation and prioritization of best-bets

- Design of pilots including proposal development to raise funds for best-bet implementation

Global

- Develop general GTA for VCs toolkit for use in wider program

- Develop / adapt tools for other VC actors (to be tested in fish VC Bangladesh)

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