



INITIATIVE ON
Aquatic Foods

Gender Inclusion in the Designing and Implementation of Multistakeholder Platforms in Zambia

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Presentation Outline

- Introduction
- MSP Overview
- Principles for Implementation
- Stakeholders
- Preliminary Reflections
- Conclusion

Introduction



“MSPs are not about organizations, **they are about people**. And they are about organizations only as far as organizations can serve the needs of people (**poor and vulnerable children, women and men**)”

From Research to Impact – Resilient AgriFood Systems

MSP Overview

- **Meaningfully engaging women** in **accessing** and **controlling benefits** from agriculture – illusion – mirage – years required for equality.
- Multistakeholder Platforms aim to ensure that there is a **discussion** of **challenges facing communities** within the **different landscapes** and how **solutions are crafted** to address the challenges through **practical development interventions**.
- Multistakeholder Platforms - how gender equality and social inclusion can be made **intentional** by including **women and youths in the processes**.
- Monitored and critiqued through the **process documentation** of MSP implementation to ensure that women and youths are included
- The **documentation** goes beyond inclusion to document the processes and **outcomes** as a result of women and youth inclusion
- Situating MSPs within the broader **CGIAR's MSPs' Community of Practice** to draw further **common threads** across different contexts, different resources and across different scales.

MSP Overview (cont'd)

- Multi-stakeholders' learning platforms will **catalyze at the national and sub-national levels** the evidence to include **integrated systems** into project design and policies.
- Water-Energy-Food-Environment **nexus lens**
- **Holistic** development

Principles for implementation

- Co-ownership of development outcomes
- Forum for genuine dialogue (gendered power dynamics)
- Gendered knowledge exchange,
- Co-creation of knowledge (IKS, men, women, youths)
- Joint learning – across different stakeholders
- Inclusiveness (GESI)
- Stronger together – Leave No Stakeholder Behind!

Stakeholders



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Preliminary Reflections

- Established a gender intentional functional Multi Stakeholder Platform for the Lower Kafue Basin – 3 October 2023 launched.
- Appropriate communication and coordination tools and channels are established among all the stakeholders.
- Effective and meaningful engagement for all the key stakeholders in the Lower Kafue especially women, youths and the vulnerable.
- Lessons learnt from the Lower Kafue MSP implementation are being documented.
- Inclusive and sustainable MSP.
- Efficient conflict resolution mechanisms established.
- Increased basket of benefits being shared equitably in the Lower Kafue.
- A suite of development interventions identified, prioritized and funding opportunities explored.

Preliminary Reflections (cont'd)

- It is possible to engage women, youths and vulnerable in the designing, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the MSPs.
- Such engagement needs to be intentional and must invest time and resources in ensuring that participation goes beyond attendance to informing and influencing the priorities and even going further to ensure those priorities are implemented and reflected upon
- Dam operational rules and early warning system
- Upstream-Downstream linkages – PES
- CSR – dividends for development
- Gender specific interventions – aquaculture for women groups

Conclusion

- MSP participation is not absolute – it is fluid, created, challenged, modified, negotiated and re-configured - importance of facilitated stakeholder engagement.
- Arena where patriarchal norms are challenged and reconfigured.
- Move away from the stereotypes/binary *powerful* and *less powerful (men – women)* – nuanced intersectional gradient.
- ‘I participate. You participate. He participates. **She participates.** We participate. They control’
- MSP as a solution out of such a conundrum – **translating research into impact**

Zikomo Kwambili
Thank you very much

