



From practical to strategic change:

Enabling gender transformation in Vietnam



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What aspect of promoting women's participation?

| Types of | Household | Public arena | |
|-----------------------------|--|--|--|
| changes | | Community | Governance/ |
| | | | institutions/ |
| | | | workplaces |
| Changes in self/individuals | For example, changes in women's workload, men's attitude to household roles | For example, changes in women's confidence, and in men's attitudes | For example, changes in interest to be a female entrepreneur |
| Changes in relationships | For example, changes in household negotiation and decision-making processes | For example, changes in community decision- making processes | For example, changes in women's status in the workplace |

Carrard, N.R., Crawford, J., Halcrow, G., Rowland, C. & Willetts, J.R. (2013) 'A framework for exploring gender equality outcomes from WASH programmes', *Waterlines: international journal of water, sanitation and waste*, vol. 32, no. 4, pp. 315-333.

Monitoring of changes in gender relations across four of the dimensions shown in this published framework



Photo: ISF-UTS









Purpose and significance of the study



Plan's monitoring tool (GWMT) – uses participatory dialogue methods and scoring at household and community level PURPOSE: To determine the extent to which Plan International's Gender and WASH Monitoring Tool (GWMT) contributed to achievement of strategic gender outcomes

SIGNIFICANCE: Provides robust empirical evidence from Central Vietnam demonstrating how WASH programs and their monitoring can influence gender and power relations between men and women

"Before, making decision who work what in the family belonged to me, my wife did all houseworking, and cut grass near the house, husband go to the forest, field. Now, I and my wife discuss all works, sometimes she makes the decision" (Man in Ta Leng village)









Key results and implications

- Most (81%) participants (n = 48) identified at least one strategic gender change. Of these changes:
 - 31% were directly linked to WASH
 - 69% were attributed to broader societal factors
- 2 The monitoring tool processes were found to be valid and important, but as a tool (on its own) did not produce additional gender outcomes
- 3 Change at household level was more commonly reported than at community level, and age and ethnicity influenced results
- 4 Some changes of *decreased* gender equality were reported (8 negative changes in 101 reported changes)









Consider (and where possible leverage) societal gender context and dynamics in WASH programming

Participatory monitoring must be accompanied by other strategies to address gender equality

Affecting change at community level may be more difficult, and we need different strategies to reach different groups

We need to give focus to "do no harm" principle

References and links



Leahy, C., Winterford, K. Kelleher, J., Leong, L., Nghiem, T., Hoa. N.Q. and Willetts, J., (2016). *From practical to strategic changes: Strengthening gender in WASH. Final research report,* Prepared by Institute for Sustainable Futures, University of Technology Sydney. *Full and summary research reports can be downloaded from the CS WASH Fund website: <u>www.cswashfund.org</u>*

Plan's gender and WASH monitoring tool (GWMT):

https://www.plan.org.au/~/media/plan/documents/resources/gwmt-march-2014.pdf

Poster on the GWMT and this study: <u>https://www.uts.edu.au/sites/default/files/Plan_UTS_GWMT_POSTER_for_WASH</u> <u>_Futures2016.pdf</u>

Journal paper: Leahy, C. Winterford, K., Nghiem, T., Kelleher, J. Leong, L. and Willetts, J. (2017) Transforming gender relations through water, sanitation and hygiene programming and monitoring in Vietnam, Gender and Development, Volume 25:2, July 2017

<u>http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/13552074.2017.1331530?journalCod</u> <u>e=cgde20</u> Get in quick to get a free e-print- 50 copies available!!: http://www.tandfonline.com/eprint/i6vifDwVnxf2CZ6Vkq7N/full

