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Gender sensitive indicators in sanitation and wastewater planning and implementation

“Participatory Planning of Community Based Sanitation – Making Space for Women's Voices”

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Why is a gender perspective key in sanitation planning and management?

Ensuring equal access and sustainable use!

“At night we cant go to a far away community toilet, even if it is a very nice one” Women’s group members

Different needs of women, girls, and children

- Safety and dignity
- Physical needs (maternal health, menstrual hygiene, small children)
- Social/religious context



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The gender dimension in BORDA projects

Case study: Participatory sanitation planning and management in central India

- Multi-stakeholder approach (community, women's group, local government, NGO, INGO) for decentralized wastewater treatment
- Empowerment of women's groups (incl. WASH education)
- Taking women's input into account during planning
- Bringing local government to one table with women's group
- Supporting the financing of women friendly infrastructure
- WASH committee/Community based organization for long term management



How can the gender dimension be measured through indicators?

Suggestions from the field – Questions to be asked:

- Had women the space to talk during the planning phase?
- Had women the courage to talk during the planning phase?
- Were the women's suggestions taken into account?
- Are women involved in management after construction?



How can the indicator be monitored at national level?

Suggestions from the field – check list:

- Discussions were held in a ‘women only’ group
- A trained/certified (female) facilitator was involved
- Documents proof that
 - 1) the women’s suggestions were checked for feasibility (costs, land availability etc.) and
 - 2) the reasons to not follow the women’s suggestions are valid
- Women are member of facility management/decision making group or sanitation committee





Thank You!

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