

GENDER DIFFERENTIAL IMPACTS OF SAPP INTERVENTIONS

Department of Agriculture Extension Services, Malawi

Introduction

- The Programme goal is to contribute to reduction of poverty and improved food security among the rural population. The specific development objective is to achieve a viable and sustainable smallholder agricultural sector employing good agricultural practices (GAPs).
- In order to achieve this gender disparities that exist between men and women in access to and control over agricultural resources and benefits, gender division of labour, income levels and participation in decision making at household level need to be addressed among others. Thus, gender issues were identified and addressed since programme inception.

Gender Mainstreaming Process in SAPP

Identification of issues

- Identified Issues among the farming communities through PRAs in SAPP implementing districts. Some of the tools used include Visioning, gender responsive river code, gender balance tree, power walk and gender responsive action planning.

Internalization

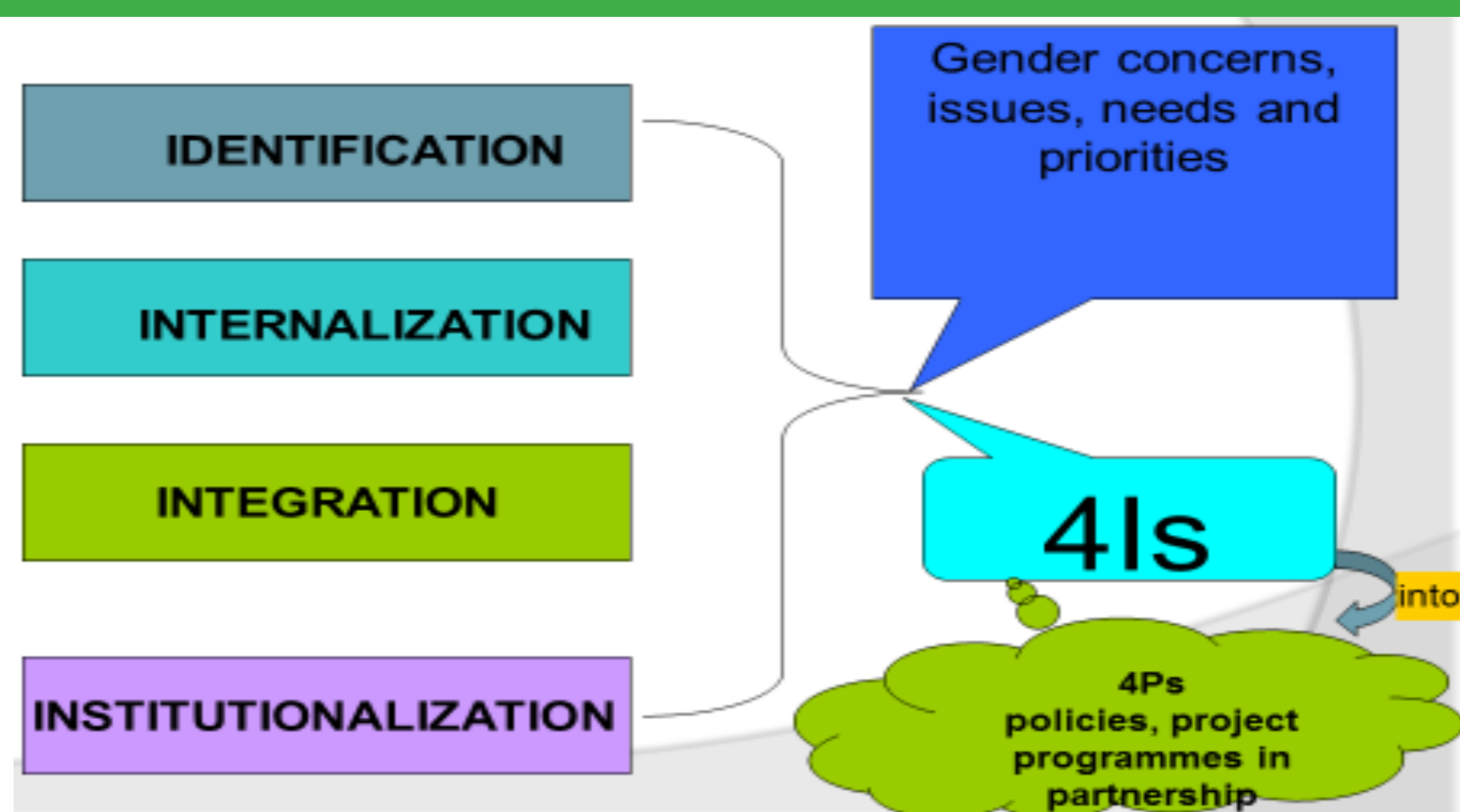
- This is a process where farming communities, local leadership and stakeholders own and get committed to deal with the identified gender issues and concerns alongside agriculture issues. Drama, role-plays, case studies and focus group discussions were used to help farmers reflect on real life situations.

Integration

- Village level strategies and actions are developed into a gender responsive action plan with indicators, targets and required resources. This also involves linking farmers to other service providers. Gender responsive reviews of the action plans were done periodically.

Institutionalization

- Established Gender committees at village level, trained staff at all levels, oriented all DAESS structure and local leaders on gender who in turn facilitated gender mainstreaming in all SAPP processes.



Achievements

- Conducted gender responsive PRAs conducted leading to gender responsive action plans in 1084 model villages
- 913 staff (433 females) trained on gender mainstreaming, 583 staff (207 females) trained on gender responsive PRAs, 653 staff (270 females) trained on IGP organization and management
- 8,889 lead farmers (3,994 females) trained on gender mainstreaming
- 7,416 female farmers hosting demonstrations which increases adoption of technologies by female farmers
- 16,082 households out of 5000 households implementing HHA representing 322%
- Increased participation of women in approaches: 25,322 in FFS, 10, 467 in FBS
- 16,014 households using rocket stoves which reducing the burden on women

Outcomes and Impacts

Improved Food and nutrition Security

- More Female Headed households reported that their maize yield have exponentially increased over years due to adoption of GAPs
- Crop diversification has helped women to prepare more diversified diets for their families hence reduced malnutrition incidences among children
- For instance, Mrs Kanthiti (below) from Lilongwe district realised increasing yields where in 2014/15, she got 47 bags and in 2015/16 she got 93 bags of 50kg maize from the same piece of land.



Reduced workload among women

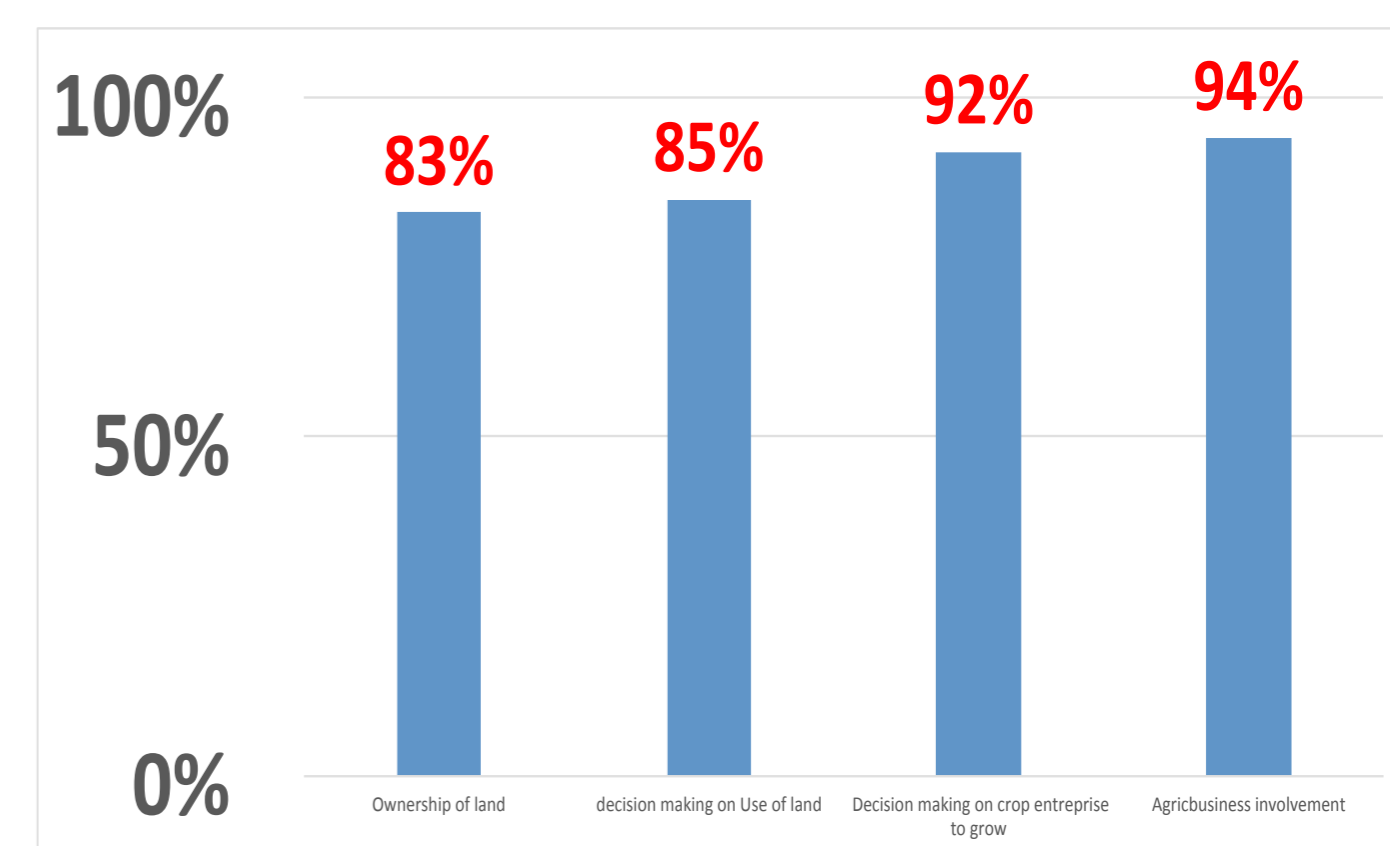
- Female farmers continue to realise benefits for their continued participation in SAPP interventions.
- Use of rocket stoves has helped women to save time and also reduce deforestation in SAPP impact sites
- For instance, Mrs. Lima Gayesi (below), a middle aged mother of three from Mizinga village in Balaka can now afford a smile as a result of using rocket stove just like many women in the impact



“I now use the time I was spending travelling to Liwonde National Park taking care of my family and my garden. I feel proud of this stove, not only for cooking fast and saving fire wood but also it is healthier.” -Lima Gayesi.

Women participation in decision making

- Increased agricultural knowledge and skills among females farmers has resulted in improved status of women in their communities such that:
- More women being elected leaders of community based institutions
- Increased joint decision making among men and women in married households as illustrated in the graph below (Source 2018 Annual Outcome Survey report)



Acknowledgements

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