

Working Groups - Participants' Presentations

Group 8

Gender-sensitive SSNs for social transformation and empowerment

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Outline

1. Key terms and meanings
2. Why is it important for SSNs to be gender-sensitive
3. How to integrate gender into SSNs
4. How has it been done
5. Good practices, challenges and lessons

Basic concepts

Women's empowerment

Gradual process through which women become capable of making more informed choices and acquire new skills to exercise full agency in their lives. It requires an equal access of women alongside men to **resources, opportunities and power**. It involves awareness-raising, building self-confidence, expanding choices, increasing access to and control of resources and reforming institutions and structures so that they contribute to gender equality.

Gender equity

It refers to situations or acts in which women and men, girls and boys, are treated fairly, acknowledging that treatment may be different so as to meet specific needs and interests that contribute to reducing inequalities. **Equity leads to equality.**

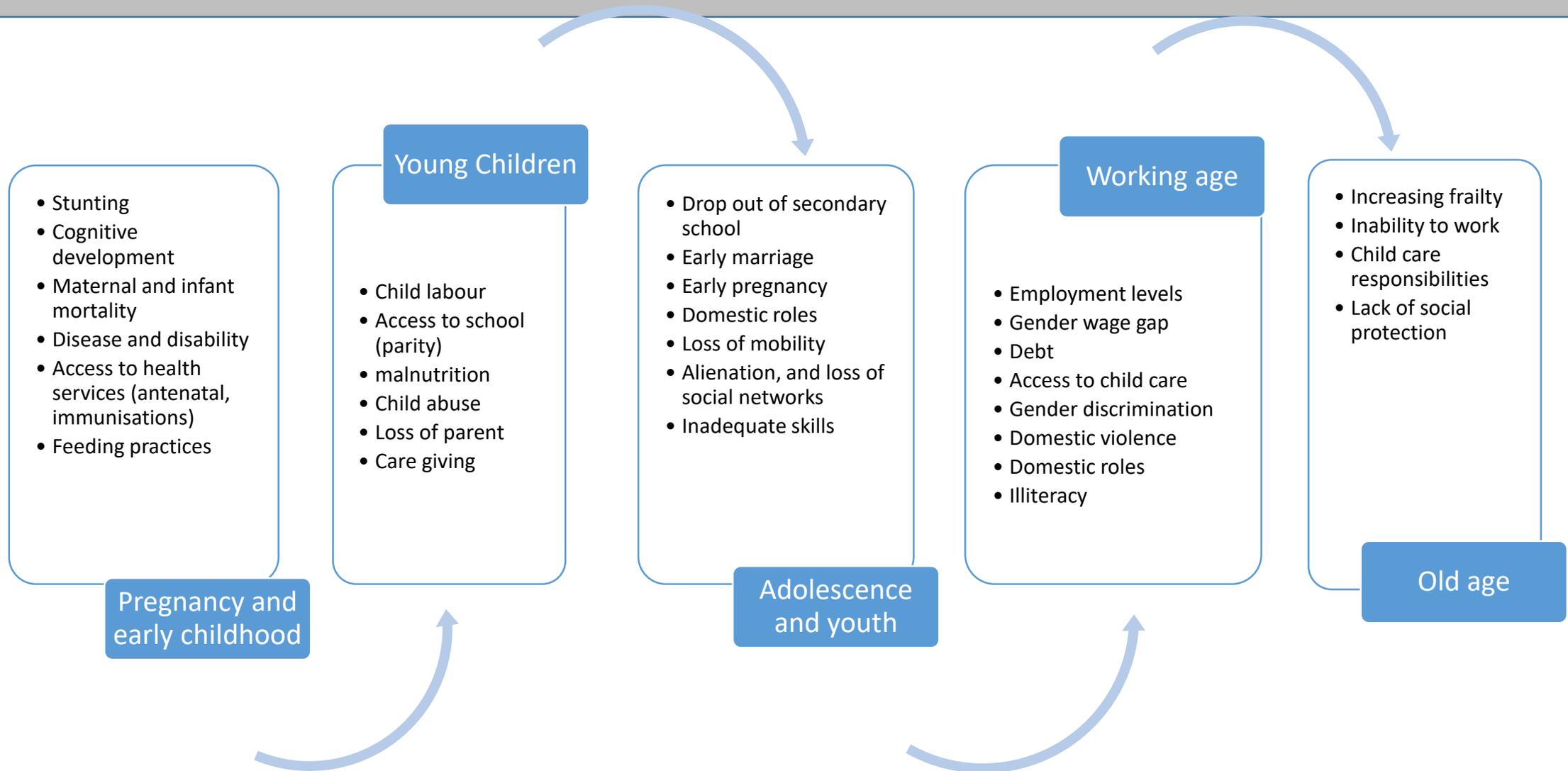
Gender Transformation

Substantial changes in gender relations - in society, institutions, cultures, economics, etc - towards equality between women and men (girls and boys).

Why are gender-sensitive SSNs important?

- SSN programs to affect poverty and vulnerability must be tailored to reduce gender gaps;
- SSN interventions can be tailored to promote women empowerment by ensuring specific opportunities for women and girls;
- Innovations in SSNs can help address gender-based violence and enhance gender equity issues.

Life cycle – Gendered vulnerabilities



Evidence – outcomes on women's and girls' lives/ gender transformative outcomes

Bastagli et al (2016)

<https://www.odi.org/publications/10749-impact-cash-transfers-women-and-girls>

- Cash transfers can increase school attendance for both girls and boys, but this does not always lead to improved learning outcomes
- Cash transfers are associated with a decrease in child labour for both girls and boys, though larger reductions are seen for boys.
- Cash transfers can have different impacts on the way women and men spend their time, with women increasing time on domestic work
- Female headed households in some case make greater productive investments that male-headed households.
- Some evidence to suggest cash transfers reduce experience of physical violence
- Some evidence to suggest cash transfers increase women's decision-making particularly on contraception use, fertility decisions.

How to integrate gender into SSNs

Analysis: Include gender and age analysis – and protection when required - into context analysis and needs assessments. Qualitative and quantitative (disaggregated data)

Design – use information provided in analysis phase

- Include measures to support girls and boys school attendance and retention (primary & secondary);
- Ensure equitable access to required technology (e.g. mobile phones), financial information & services (e.g. banking) and capacity-strengthening opportunities for CBT & risk financing programs

Implementation

- Ensure that sensitization campaigns reach, inform and engage the diverse women, men, girls and boys and their organizations
- Ensure measures are in place for women and men to equitably access and benefit from the assistance (in-kind, market-based transfers);
- Set up and manage safely accessible, inclusive and accessible complaints and feedback mechanisms

Monitoring: Monitor social protection programs in a gender-responsive manner, which implies disaggregating data by sex and age

RBJ REGIONAL GENDER STRATEGY 2016-2020

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



THE VISION



Programmes in Southern Africa are informed by greater gender analysis and aim to increase the retention rate of girls in school, improve food and nutrition security and learning outcomes for girls.

THE GOALS



Programme planning and implementation of project cycles are better informed by gender analysis



Improved gender focused programmes



Gender equality and women's empowerment is strengthened through partnership

OUR STRATEGY

This is a regional strategy not just a regional bureau one. Everyone is needed to put this strategy into action and improve gender equality and women's empowerment in the RBJ region. The strategy calls for a co-ordinated and sustained effort from all units and all staff in the region.



3 CORE DRIVERS OF CHANGE

1

Leadership and Oversight

2

Sufficient professional capacity

3

Financial Resources

TRANSFORMATIVE APPROACHES

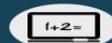


All WFP programmes in the region will not add to the already high burden of women, but rather incorporate strategies to reduce, recognise and redistribute the burdens of unpaid work.

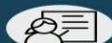


Incorporate social behaviour change that recognises women's contribution and are aimed at inclusion and participation of men and boys as well as women and girls in nutrition and food security initiatives.

THE RESULTS



Oversight mechanisms enhance accountability for the implementation of corporate commitments to GEWE.



Technical and professional expertise on GEWE programming in place.



Funding is mobilised, tracked and contributes to GEWE across all operations and functional areas.



All WFP partnerships adequately include elements of GEWE.



Needs assessment, data collection processes and analyses support effective and accountable integration of GEWE into operations.



Planning processes and tools support effective integration of GEWE into WFP operations with clear accountability for concrete results.

Southern Africa – regional gender strategy

Overview:

- Gender and protection are intrinsically linked to food and nutrition security as well as gender inequalities that exacerbate hunger and poverty (for women and families and communities)
- Given the historical colonial and apartheid burden, and the negative outcomes of mining that separated families as well as the HIV AIDS scourge, women in Southern Africa bear a disproportionate burden of hunger and poverty
- High levels of school dropout amongst girls, teenage pregnancies, micronutrient deficiencies, and vulnerability to HIV are key drivers to ongoing poverty and gender inequality in southern Africa. Prevailing cultural norms, unequal access to education, food insecurity and lack of nutrition are primary causes and drivers of many challenges for women and girls and further perpetuate gender inequalities. These gender inequalities have a serious and negative impact on the implementation of WFPs development work in the southern Africa region.

The outcome of the strategy is therefore:

- Programmes in southern Africa are informed by greater **gender analysis** and aim to increase the retention in school of girls in school, improve food and nutrition security and learning outcomes for girls.
- WFP prioritised key pre-conditions required to support the implementation of the strategy that is underpinned by three core drivers for change:
Leadership and oversight,
- Sufficient professional capacity
- Financial resources.

The main principles informing the strategy are:

- Country office ownership of planning and implementation of GEWE through action plans and development of strategies with provision of coordination, guidance and technical support from RBJ. Practical initiatives promoted that can achieve impact for greater GEWE that are specific, measurable, attainable, realistic and targeted (SMART). Corporate commitment to GEWE continues.
- The region will strengthen GEWE (gender equality and women empowerment) and do things differently for the coming years by implementing two approaches that aim to be transformative and innovative in the aim to end hunger and reduce inequality:
- That all WFP programmes in the region will not add to the already heavy labour demands for women but rather incorporate strategies to re-duce, recognise and redistribute burdens of unpaid work. This will be achieved by gender focused programmes through working with part-ners, communities and building capacity amongst all staff at RBJ and COs, using check list tools at programme planning level.
- Incorporate social behaviour change approaches that recognise women's contribution and are aimed at inclusion and participation of men and boys as well as women and girls in nutrition and food security initiatives. This will be mainly by working in partnerships with organisations with experience and success in this field.

Case Study India: BBBP- Beti Bachao Beti Padhao ' Save Daughter- Teach Daughter ' launched in Jan 2015

Defining the problem : Constantly declining Child Sex Ratio (CSR) i.e Number of girls between 0-6 yrs of age per 1000 boys.

945- 1991; 927 -2001; 918- 2011

Absence of coordinated and convergent effort to ensure survival, protection and empowerment of girl child

Objectives: Prevention of gender biased sex selection elimination; ensuring survival and protection of the girl child and ensuring education and participation of the girl child .

BBBP implemented through a national campaign and focused on multi sectoral action in 100 selected districts low in CSR

Ministry of women and child Development

- Training of stakeholders
- Community mobilization and sensitization
- Gender champions
- Reward and organize institutions and frontline workers
- Registration of pregnancies in first trimester
- Improved access to community centers and toilets
- Provide Crèche and working women hostels
- Improving the nutrition and health status of adolescent girls
- Mainstreaming out of school adolescent girls into formal/ non formal education
- Upgrading home based skills, life skills and integrating with national skill development programmes

Ministry of health and family welfare

- Monitoring and implementation of Pre Conception & Prenatal Diagnostic Technique Act (PC&PNDT) 1994
- Strengthening PNDT cells
- Setting up monitoring committees
- Registration of birth
- Increased institutional deliveries

Ministry of Human Resource Development

- Universal enrollment of girls
- Decreasing dropout rate
- Setting up Girl Friendly schools
- Strict implementation of Right to Education Act
- Right to free and compulsory education through multidimensional intervention of government local authorities

Case Study: BBBP- Beti Bachao Beti Padhao India – Cont 2

Challenges

Grassroots level barriers – Steadily increasing enrollment at school level is offset by high dropout rate at upper primary (32.9%) and secondary level (46.7%). This is primarily due to traditional attitude of the patriarchal society which poses demand side obstructions and requires holistic approach oriented towards community mobilization and attitudinal change towards girl education.

State level impediments – State wise variation in realization of targets undermining the objectives of BBBP.

Next steps

- Better allocation of funds and monitoring of expenditure for community mobilization
- Encouraging participation and involvement of elected local authorities, parents and teachers in BBBP
- Sustained and proactive engagement of the state governments in BBBP

Logo Designed through crowd sourcing – 3100 entries received – Winner is gender sensitive, Mr Raghvendra from Hyderabad



Case study: Northern Nigeria – UCT programme (Child Development Grant Programme Northern Nigeria)

Overview

- Type of programme : Nutrition sensitive cash transfer programme
- Objectives: aimed at reducing malnutrition and hunger and tackling poverty. Expected to contribute to improved intake of nutritious food and increased food security within the beneficiary households.
- Targeting: Geographical and categorical (pregnant women from pregnancy till their children reach the age of two (2).) The programme will ultimately benefit 110,000 pregnant women, reaching 770,000 persons based on population estimates of 7 persons per household
- Programme Design - Monthly cash transfer of 3,500 NGN per month accompanied by nutritional education, advice and counselling.

Gender sensitive approaches- What was done – Design

- Targeting women as beneficiaries
- Citizens outreach included women organizations (FOMWAN)
- Gender sensitive selection of implementing staff and CV
- Respecting the traditional structures of the community and recognizing men's leadership role.

Implementation

- Educational programmes for women on nutrition and livelihood
- Limiting the time spent travelling to cash collection points by bringing the payment points close to the beneficiaries.
- Having female and male community volunteers to facilitate the participation of female participants in the programme and boost the functionality of the CRM procedure. (Male and female beneficiary groups)
- Encouraging full participation of men and women in carrying out programme activities.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- Integrating gender sensitive indicators in the M&E tools

Outcomes and results

Access to assets/resources

- Some beneficiaries were able to use the cash to invest in long-term productive assets, such as purchasing goats or starting small businesses.
- Increased women participation in resource management and household decision making. Bargaining powers of women on how to use the cash and what to eat.

Level of Violence and Conflict –

- The impact of cash on gender relations within the household leading to cordial relationship and dropping the level of violence and conflict
- Significant drop in divorce rate within benefiting communities and a sense of appreciation experienced by women.
- Some beneficiaries self-reported that they are more confident to negotiate better now and feel a sense of worth in the household.

Challenges

- Level of literacy amongst women was very poor and led to reliance on men for literacy related activities (e.g record taking, or utilizing phones)
- The programme is designed to address practical needs of women and limited focus on the strategic needs.

Case study Ghana: Ghana School Feeding Programme (GSFP)

- The objective of the programme is to increase school enrolment, retention and attendance and reduce short term hunger and malnutrition by providing one hot nutritious meal per child per school day.
- The programme currently covers 1.7m school children in 5,285 schools across all 10 regions of Ghana.
- It is gender sensitive for two main reasons (a) it reduces the daily burden on women to provide nutritious meals for their school age children (b) it empowers women economically since the contracts to prepare the school meals are given to female caterers.
- Challenges include; delayed payment of caterers sometimes and poor quality of food served in some schools.

Conclusions

- Design based on gender and age analysis
- Gender empowerment intentionally included from the design phase leads to stronger outcomes vs women empowerment as a by-product
- Graduation programs not designed with a gender perspective don't lead to sustainable results – NO transformation!
- Instrumental role of women more than gender empowerment being an outcome (long-term process)
- Multi-sectoral approach, SSN +, quality of services (education, health, financial) (India)
- Life-cycle approach (India)



Thank you!
Group 8 Team
SSN core course 2017