



Gender Integration in Water Resources Management

Panel: Enhancing participation of women in
decision-making on water resource management

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Integrated Water Management - Definition

*“a process which promotes the co-ordinated development and management of water, land and related resources, in order to maximise the resultant economic and social welfare in an **equitable manner** without compromising the sustainability of vital ecosystems”*

(Global Water Partnership TAC Background Paper No. 4)





Why Gender Integration in Water Resources Management?

Complex interactions

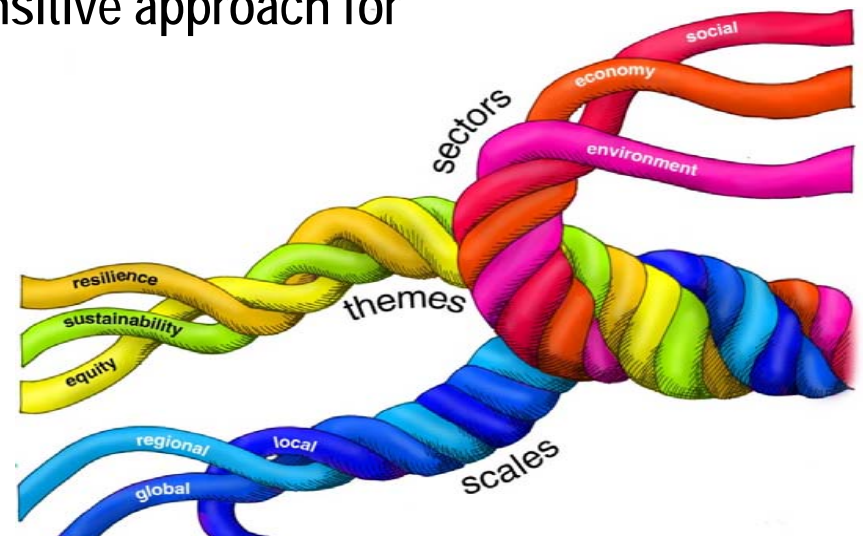
Involvement of various disciplines

Variety of actors and institutions („Stakeholders“) –

Women are an important stakeholder group

This requires an integrated and gender-sensitive approach for policies, programmes and projects:

- Design
- Implementation
- Coordination
- Protection of water resources
- Communication
- Economic Use
- Security

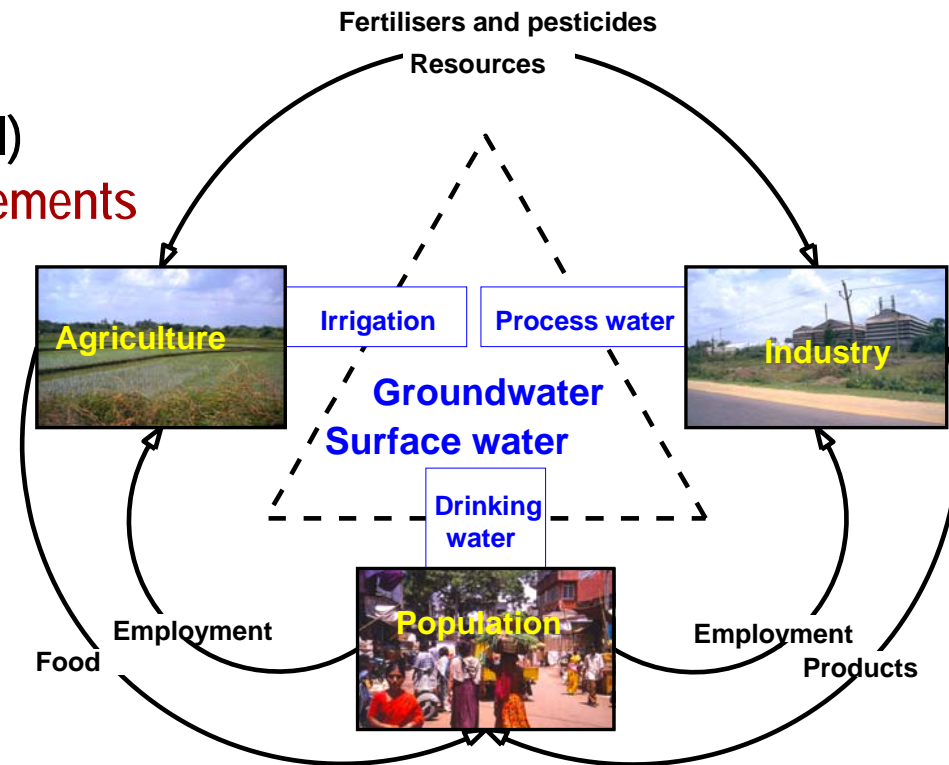


→ **Gender equity in participation and benefits**

Integrated Water Management – User and gender requirements

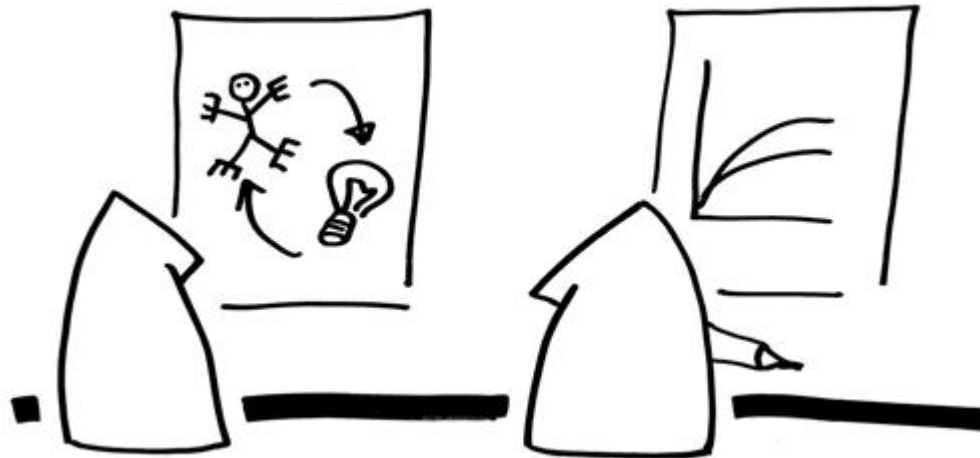
Multiple Use of Water Resources

- Variety of „stakeholders“
- Conflicts of interest (spatial and temporal) through different **user and gender requirements**
 - Water supply
 - Sanitation
 - Agriculture
 - Industry
 - Fishery
 - Water power
 - Recreation/tourism
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Integrated Water Management – Women are Important Stakeholders



- Sensibilisation and raising awareness through gender integration and participative approaches
- Bringing together different genders, disciplines and institutions
- Initiating discussion at different levels
- Development of a joint perspective



Women`s traditional roles in water management in developing (water-scarcity) countries

- Women play a central role in domestic water supply and sanitation
→ Experience in domestic water management
- Spend much time and efforts to collect water
→ Low development and income generation possibilities for women and girls
- Socio-economic aspects of water collection
→ Public wells as societal meeting and communication places
- Water is vital to improve the lives of women
→ Poverty alleviation goes hand in hand with education and training
- Implementation of gender perspectives shall start at the community level
→ Different effects of local measures on women and men, gender impact assessment is strongly required



Pollution Prevention in India

HyWaMIS – Hyderabad Water Management Information System (EU Asia Urbs Programme)

- Design of an integrated water management information system
- Participative approach – development of a stakeholder platform and advisory panel
- Emphasis on involvement of women in advisory panel, working groups and workshops
 - Involvement in decision-making
 - Dissemination of water relevant information





Lake restoration – Safilguda Lake, Hyderabad

(HUDA – Hyderabad Urban Development Authority)

Elements of lake remediation programme :

- Technological interventions (ring sewers, sewage treatment plant, ring bunds etc.)
- Beautification of lake bund & periphery – park and recreational area, residential area
- Improvement of local health situation (malaria)
- Stakeholder and community participation
 - Institutional interventions
 - Awareness programme
 - Involvement and active participation of local residents



Active participation of local women -

Formal establishment of a Lake Protection Committee

- Responsibility for lake protection and surveillance
- Women operate a small canteen – generation of income





Strategies for Gender Integration in Water Resources Management – Important Elements and Perspectives

- Balanced representation of women and men in water management institutions
- Gender impact analysis of projects, programmes and policies (including monitoring and feedback)
- Capacity building and training to:
 - Build capacity of women to manage water and related financial resources to improve efficient water use
 - Increase scientific and technical education of women
 - Support water professionals in integrating gender perspectives in their programmes and projects
- Collection of gender disaggregated data to reflect existing inequities and to distinguish differences in needs, interests, and priorities in water resources management

Gender is a crosscutting issue and should be mainstreamed within the integrated sectoral approach. It is no longer a stand alone issue.