22 evaluation questions to tell us whether a tool is responsive to both women and men

**Evaluation questions (what do we want to know about the tool?)**

**Why is this question relevant to a gender perspective?**

**Some possible indicators**

**Some possible information sources**

**CRITERIA 1: TOOLS, PARTICIPATION BY WOMEN AND MEN AND GENDER-RESPONSIVE GOVERNANCE**

1. Does the tool demand a participatory and inclusive approach to implementation and evaluation?
   - To promote inclusivity, access, and effective action that ensures all stakeholders are engaged, particularly women, and that the tool is based on the principle of gender equality and equity
   - To promote the participation of women and men in the decision-making process
   - To acknowledge that a paradigm shift is needed if access to land is to be truly equal for women and men

2. Does the tool provide gender-sensitive dispute resolution mechanisms?
   - To promote participatory land use policies and practices that are responsive to both women and men
   - To ensure that all women and men are included in the decision-making process
   - To ensure that the tool is based on the principle of gender equality and equity

3. Does the tool explicitly spell out the target group?
   - To promote the participation of women and men in the decision-making process
   - To ensure that the tool is based on the principle of gender equality and equity

4. Does the tool explicitly spell out the target group?
   - To promote the participation of women and men in the decision-making process
   - To ensure that the tool is based on the principle of gender equality and equity

**CRITERIA 2: CAPACITY BUILDING, ORGANIZATION AND EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN AND MEN TO USE, ACCESS AND BENEFIT FROM THE TOOL**

5. Does the tool explicitly spell out the target group?
   - To promote the participation of women and men in the decision-making process
   - To ensure that the tool is based on the principle of gender equality and equity

6. Does the tool explicitly spell out the target group?
   - To promote the participation of women and men in the decision-making process
   - To ensure that the tool is based on the principle of gender equality and equity

**CRITERIA 3: THE TOOL INCLUDES SOCIAL AND CULTURAL CONSIDERATIONS IN REGARD TO WOMEN AND MEN’S ACCESS TO LAND**

7. Does the tool explicitly spell out the target group?
   - To promote the participation of women and men in the decision-making process
   - To ensure that the tool is based on the principle of gender equality and equity

8. Does the tool explicitly spell out the target group?
   - To promote the participation of women and men in the decision-making process
   - To ensure that the tool is based on the principle of gender equality and equity

**CRITERIA 4: THE TOOL INCLUDES ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS IN REGARD TO WOMEN AND MEN’S ACCESS TO LAND**

9. Does the tool explicitly spell out the target group?
   - To promote the participation of women and men in the decision-making process
   - To ensure that the tool is based on the principle of gender equality and equity

10. Does the tool explicitly spell out the target group?
    - To promote the participation of women and men in the decision-making process
    - To ensure that the tool is based on the principle of gender equality and equity

11. Does the tool explicitly spell out the target group?
    - To promote the participation of women and men in the decision-making process
    - To ensure that the tool is based on the principle of gender equality and equity

12. Does the tool explicitly spell out the target group?
    - To promote the participation of women and men in the decision-making process
    - To ensure that the tool is based on the principle of gender equality and equity

This table shows the progress by GLTN so far and will be further refined during further piloting of the evaluation questions in 2009-2010.

The Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) is focused on establishing a continuum of land rights and the creation of innovative, pro-poor, scalable and gender-sensitive land management and land tenure tools. It achieves this by a range of activities including organizing workshops and e-forums to facilitate a wide range of stakeholder inputs. The goals, values and priorities of the GLTN underline the need for all land tools to be gender-sensitive, as does the process of tool development itself. Gender is a central aspect of the Network through a gender mechanism, of which this work on gender evaluation criteria is a part (see www.gltn.net).
Our process so far
GLTN has completed an e-forum to generate questions we need to ask to judge whether a land tool is responsive to both women and men’s needs. Further information is available on www.gltn.net.

The e-forum built on knowledge gained from the two workshops organized by GLTN during 2007-08. The e-forum was supported by various GLTN partners, representing multiple stakeholders, including the Huairou Commission, the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) and the University of East London (UEL).

The gender evaluation matrix shows the steps that have been taken to:

- Develop the evaluation questions;
- Ensure that they deal with gender rather than being general questions;
- Identify the kind of information to answer the evaluation questions, including possible indicators; and
- Identify possible sources of information to answer these questions.

The table in this brochure is only a start, and the gender evaluation criteria framework will be piloted and further enhanced by GLTN partners and others interested in this process. Questions, indicators and information sources will all need to be adapted depending on the specific local context and tool being assessed.

Women, men and land
Women often face discrimination under formal, informal and customary systems of land tenure. In many parts of the world women face large barriers in obtaining land because social customs or patriarchal tenure systems prevent them from holding rights to land. As women often gain access to land through male relatives, their rights are vulnerable to breakdown in relationships, divorce or to the changing priorities of male land owners. The adverse impacts of commoditization of land and globalization also disproportionately affect women. Many women experience low status and economic dependence because of their general inability to access property rights.

Land tools (defined as practical ways of achieving objectives set by laws and policies) have often been designed to serve male interests and priorities. To be effective, these tools need to be developed to also incorporate women’s experiences, needs and participation. This means recognizing that tools may impact differently on men and women. It also requires that women and men are actively involved in the design of the tool, implementation and evaluation processes.

Creating a gender evaluation framework
While many of us know these facts, we may differ on what we think are the best ways to tackle these gender inequalities in access to land. We need to objectively try to assess if land tools have been, more or less, gender-responsive. Then we must review (or consider, if at the design phase) the impact a tool has/had since for both women and men, and areas that may need to be improved. To acquire this information requires a set of gender evaluation criteria.

Once we have decided the criteria, we can use to evaluate existing land tools, and to identify steps that should be included in the design of new land tools to meet the needs of both men and women.

The process of designing the evaluation criteria itself also needs to be gender-responsive—taking into account different voices from grassroots to land professionals, to make sure we find out what we need to know about land tools, such as land titling, land taxation, enumeration or city-wide slum upgrading.

Context for evaluations

| Understanding | The evaluation questions and related indicators must be understandable to stakeholders, especially local communities; though not all questions will be relevant to application by every stakeholder group. |
| Inclusion | The evaluation questions need to capture both formal and informal systems, and gender in legal and “on the ground” situations. |
| Participation | Local communities representing both women and men, and civil society, should not merely be beneficiaries but participate in the design and implementation of an evaluation. |
| Local content | The evaluation frameworks must be flexible enough to be applicable to a large number of contexts and environments, which can then be adopted, tailored to meet the local content. |
| Recognizability | Women and men are not homogeneous groups and the evaluation framework needs to consider variables such as age, ethnicity, religion, marital status, income level, education, urban/rural residence and health status. |
| Emphasis | Women, who have been long been disadvantaged and disempowered in land, should be the focus of the gender responsiveness changes required. |
| Validity | Though evaluation questions should be considered when designing an evaluation tool some may not be applicable to every tool and different priority questions may be relevant. |
| Measurement | The final indicators used for a question need to be SMART: Specific and sensitive to changes as a result of actions taken. Measure progress that can be shown and is not easily manipulated. Achievable and applicable to the policy and action envisaged. Relevant to the area under investigation (gender). Time bound and indicate showing changes over time. |
| Collection | In addition to the possible sources of information to answer or take a set of land tool regarding gender, one also needs to think about what method to use. |

The way forward
Initial testing of the evaluation questions have already been done during the e-forum by looking generally at whether information can be found to answer the questions, and relate them to indicators, for different land tools. Similarly, a number of case studies were examined.

The next step is to run pilots to test the gender evaluation criteria in different countries, to refine the evaluation questions, design local indicators, find appropriate information sources and collection methods and see if the method works.

The piloting exercise will need to decide:

- Which questions and indicators are appropriate for the particular situation, country and tool being assessed.
- How new tools being developed could be more responsive to gender.
- Which stakeholders are driving the gender agenda, as this will change which questions and indicators are prioritized; and
- What scale is being used, as different questions and indicators will be more appropriate for different scales (for example, at city or on national level).

The gender evaluation criteria table was compiled by Diane Dumashie, Ana Jimenez, Vilma Mantilla, Iraj Soltani, Birr Silcocks and Jane Wallace based on contributions by participants from the above e-forum.

Gender evaluation criteria for large-scale land tools

How can we judge if a land tool is responsive to both women and men’s needs?

Despite progress on women’s rights, rights to land and security of tenure are not enjoyed equally by women and men in many parts of the world. This goes against international human rights, and also impacts negatively on households and the economy.

Gender issues related to land are complicated. They involve sensitive social and cultural territories and challenge deeply rooted power structures. At the same time, we know that not a land tool can be effective, it needs to go beyond a technical lens and also consider social dimensions such as gender.

The Global Land Tool Network’s work to date on criteria for designing new, or evaluating existing, land tools from a gender perspective is presented in this brochure. The gender evaluation criteria framework explores how to judge whether a large-scale land tool is sufficiently gender-responsive, to identify where more work needs to be done, and possible entry points to make a tool equally beneficial to women and men.

GLTN strives to be at a stage where we can assess whether a large-scale land tool has acceptable gender-responsiveness (so we can share good practices), basic gender-responsiveness, or weak gender-responsiveness (where tools need to be refined to better reach both women and men), and explores what factors make a tool particularly gender-responsive or not.