

Trade and Gender

REGIONAL WORKSHOP

on

EIF Phase Two: Enhancing Value for Money

8-10 November 2016

United Nations Conference Centre (UNCC), Bangkok, Thailand

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Trade & Gender Linkages

- Trade brings opportunities as well as challenges.
- Countries take commitments to liberalise their trade, investment and other areas of economy.
- Trade Policy:
 - ✓ Negotiations (namely WTO and Regional Trade Agreements).
 - ✓ Autonomous liberalisation
- Trade Policy is considered “**Gender Neutral**”.
 - But the effects of liberalisation is not.

2030 ASD and Gender

TITLE	SDG
Improving Women's position in the labor market	SDG 5.5 SDG 8.5
Improve Incomes in the Agricultural Sector which is largely dominated by Women	SDG 2.3, SDG 2.b
Removing Barriers to Women's Access to the Labor Market through access to Vocational Training	SDG 4.5 SDG 4.b
Removing Barriers to Women's Access to the Labor Market through access to Technology	SDG 5.b SDG 8.2 SDG 17.8 SDG 9.b
Creating Structures to enable Entrepreneurship amongst Women	SDG 1.4, SDG 5.a, SDG 8.3, SDG 8.10, SDG 9.3,SDG 9.a, SDG 10.b

2030 ASD and Gender

TITLE	SDG
Removing Barriers to Trade for Women	SDG 17.10 SDG 17.11
Implications resulting from greater labor force participation for Women	SDG 5.4
Lack of Availability of Gender Disaggregated Data	SDG 17.18

Mainstreaming Gender Through Trade

- **Challenges:**
 - **Targets:**
 - ✓ **Entrepreneurs**
 - ✓ **Employees**
 - ✓ **Formal versus informal sector employments**
 - **Instruments:**
 - ✓ **Policies support**
 - ✓ **Subsidy**
 - ✓ **Promotion**
 - ✓ **Protection**
- **Identification of sectors having strong gender presence.**

Female Entrepreneurs

- **Nigeria: 41% (highest)**
- **The Philippines: 18%**
- **Thailand: 17%**
- **China: 12%**
- **India: 6%**
- **Japan: 3%**

(Source: <http://noceilings.org/entrepreneurs/>)

Employment

- **Bangladesh: Garment (80% of total)**
- **China: Textiles, leather, processed food etc.**
- **India: Textiles, tobacco, processed food, software etc.**
- **Indonesia: Agriculture and forestry, manufacturing, wholesale and retail etc.**
- **Iran: Education and healthcare.**
- **Kazakhstan: Healthcare and education.**
- **Mongolia: Education, healthcare wholesale and retail etc.**
- **Pakistan: Agriculture, manufacturing and personal services.**

Foreign Trade Policies

- **India:**
 - Incentives for industries which provides better facilities to women employees
 - Promote and protect sectors
- **Pakistan:**
 - The objectives - to facilitate women entrepreneur's access to regional markets in selected sectors through gender responsive policy frameworks and strengthening institutions.
 - Development of a Women Entrepreneurs Network for Easing Trade (WE-NET).

Engendering Trade Policy

- **Defensive:**
 - Can we keep the gender sensitive products/sectors out of commitments for liberalisation in WTO and RTAs?
- **Offensive:**
 - How to ensure that on those products/sectors get market access in other countries?
- **TP – how to engender? Positive discrimination?**
- **Is it necessary to keep all the gender sensitive sectors out of liberalisation or where have a comparative advantage one can liberalise?**

Challenges

- General acceptance by Government that there should be a positive discrimination on the basis of gender (Social issue)
- Lack of consistent & validated data – industry wise (unit level data) as well as ownership wise – census/sample survey.
- Identification of sectors that are dominated by women employees.
- Identify the Gender Products (as per HS nomenclature for goods and WTO classification of Services sectors/sub-sectors)
 - Items of defensive interest (Sensitive products)
 - Items of offensive interest (Potential export products)
- Prioritisation
- Consultations
- Make trade policy accordingly.

Classification

- **Women Entrepreneurs.**
- **Units – women employment is high (what percentage to be prescribed?).**
- **Sectors – that have high percentage of women employment (research and survey to identify the sectors).**
- **Should they all be treated at par or should there be different treatment for providing support/incentives?**

Issues for future.....

- **How to define an Entrepreneur?**
 - Proprietorship – Single women or Joint
 - Partnership – how much percentage share
 - Private Limited Company
 - Public Limited Company
 - Educational qualification
- **Are they to be treated at par with such sectors where the women employment is high?**
- **Can there be a separate category of factory/unit - wise - women workforce (percentage basis – say such factories where atleast 50% women are employed)?**
- **What kind of benefits to be given?**

Some Readings.....

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THANK YOU