



**– International Fund for Agricultural Development –
– Identifying and sharing innovation in Western and Central Africa –**

– The gender dimension in planning –

I. Context

1. Name of the innovation

Incorporating the gender dimension into the planning and budgetary programmes of the Ministry of Rural Development and Agriculture (pilot experiment)

2. Country – Region

Senegal

3. Organization

- United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM),
Dakar

4. Who is the innovator?

Ministry of Rural Development and Agriculture in partnership with UNIFEM

5. Actors involved

- Government of Senegal
- Members of Parliament
- Civil society: grass-roots professional producers' (both men's and women's) organizations

6. Starting date

2006

7. Type of innovation

Policy-related

II. Key concepts: participation-involvement-partnership

8. Summary

This is a pilot experiment based on a partnership between UNIFEM and the Government of Senegal with the aim of establishing mechanisms to incorporate gender sensitivity into the Ministry of Agriculture's programmes and budgets. The innovation starts by assessing the ministry's policies and programmes in order to identify the level of gender integration and make recommendations for better incorporation of the gender dimension by designing appropriate tools, an exercise entailing the following steps:

- Boosting of the capacities of ministry staff through ongoing support and advice with regard to gender sensitive budgeting in each stage of planning and budgeting:
 - Support for formulation of a medium-term sector expenditure framework to ensure a good incorporation of gender into its objectives;
 - Formulation of certain gender-sensitive strategic objectives and programme indicators during a medium-term sector expenditure framework workshop;
- Support for a review of the National Agricultural Development Programme;
- Review of programmes and budget programmes in a gender-sensitive perspective;
- Formulation of future medium-term sector expenditure frameworks.

9. What problems does this innovation seek to solve?

- The strong trend towards the feminization of poverty in rural areas and the unequal access of men and women to resources, resulting from a failure to take the gender dimension into account in agricultural-sector policies and programmes
- Under-exploitation of the huge potential of the main actors in the agricultural sector
- Unequal distribution of the sector's resources between men and women, which is contrary to the Government of Senegal's undertakings with regard to gender equality
- Sectoral ministries' staff's lack of expertise regarding the implementation of programmes and projects that incorporate equal opportunity principles for men and women farmers as regards access to inputs, processing and integration into the commercial market.

10. Factors for successful replication

- Commitment of actors and partners
- Political will of policy-makers
- Budget reforms under way

11. Target group(s)

- The poor
- Women

12. Difficulties encountered

- Making gender integration a priority for actors (both men and women) when formulating and implementing policies and programmes
- Lack of gender-differentiated data and a causal analysis to help in piloting policies and plans
- Poor capacities of the ministry's staff with regard to incorporating gender sensitivity into the planning and budgeting process

13. Financial aspects

- UNIFEM/Government of Senegal partnership

III. Technical aspects

14. The most important dimension is connected with UNIFEM's resource people and field staff of the Ministries of Finance and Agriculture.

IV. Further information

15. Key contacts

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16. Internet link

17. Key documents

Document of the Ministry of Rural Development and Agriculture on medium-term sector expenditure frameworks: contact the officer in charge, Gabriel Bassène, e-mail gabybassene@yahoo.fr