

Concept Note

The Impacts of Community Driven Development Interventions on Women's Empowerment

Revised draft, March 30th, 2015

1. This proposed Learning Product will review existing evidence of the impacts of community driven development (CDD) on women's empowerment. It will analyze findings of World Bank Group-supported interventions in countries that have shown commitment to the community driven development approach (that is, have implemented more than one isolated project). It will also draw from the findings of several IEG Project Performance Assessment Reports (PPARs) and one IEG impact evaluation.
2. This analysis has several interesting dimensions. It focuses on an issue – the gender-specific impacts of CDDs, especially on empowerment – that has not received due attention in evaluation. The approach is innovative, in that it derives evidence from what are traditional accountability products and methods – such as PPARs and portfolio reviews – to generate knowledge and learning. From the methodological point of view, it faces the challenge of documenting impacts that are partially 'unintended', that is, may not be included among the main goals of the project, even when they are mentioned as motivations for this type of interventions.
3. This learning product is relevant for and will feed into a number of other IEG products, including the Development of the Rural Non-Farm Economy evaluation, the learning product on maximizing development product in IDA (in preparation to the IDA18 replenishment), the RAP 2015 (with gender equality as a special theme) and the work on shared prosperity among others.

Background and Context

4. The World Bank defines community-driven development as “an approach to local development that gives control over planning decisions and investment resources to community groups (including local governments).”¹ The approach has been widely

¹ CDD core course material: http://siteresources.worldbank.org/EXTCDD/Resources/430160-1361480685593/9058621-1366731546330/Session1_IntroductionCDD.pdf. This definition corresponds to the one

used at the World Bank and elsewhere and tested in different contexts, including fragility and conflict. CDD interventions are based on the principle that community involvement in identifying needs and priorities, making decisions about projects, and managing investment funds produces better development outcomes than more centralized, top-down approaches. The ‘bottom-up approach’ to poverty reduction that CDD projects embed has been promoted on the ground that it makes development more inclusive and responsive to the real needs of the poor, because it has the potential to empower poor people, improve governance, build social capital, and strengthen communities’ collective action.

5. According to a literature review of CDD undertaken for the last OED evaluation of the effectiveness of World Bank support for this type of interventions (OED, 2005) the Bank categorizes CDD approaches in a three-fold typology (see table 1), which encompasses both community participation efforts and participatory governance/ social accountability initiatives.²

Table 1. Type of CDD Interventions

Type	1. Community control		2. Local governments	3. Enabling environment
Definition	Community groups make decisions on planning implementation and O&M <u>and</u> directly manage investment funds	Community groups make decisions on planning implementation and O&M <u>but do not</u> directly manage investment funds	Democratically elected local governments make decisions on planning, implementation, O&M, in partnership with different community groups	Policy and institutional reforms oriented toward increased control of decisions and resources by community groups.

Source: IEG 2005.

Note: O&M = Operation and maintenance.

6. The first typology of projects (“community control”) is the one that more closely corresponds to the notion of community participation. Communities are enabled to make planning, implementation, operation, and maintenance decisions about specific sub-projects, and may also be assigned direct management of the investment funds. The second typology of projects (“local governments” or participatory governance) includes those projects that promote collaboration between communities and local government in making development decisions. Finally, “enabling environment”-type of projects aim to promote policy and institutional reforms that facilitate both community participation and participatory governance.

provided in the PRSP Sourcebook: “Community-driven development (CDD) gives control of decisions and resources to community groups.” (World Bank, 2003, p. 3).

² This typology has been recognized by and taught in the World Bank CDD core course for several years.

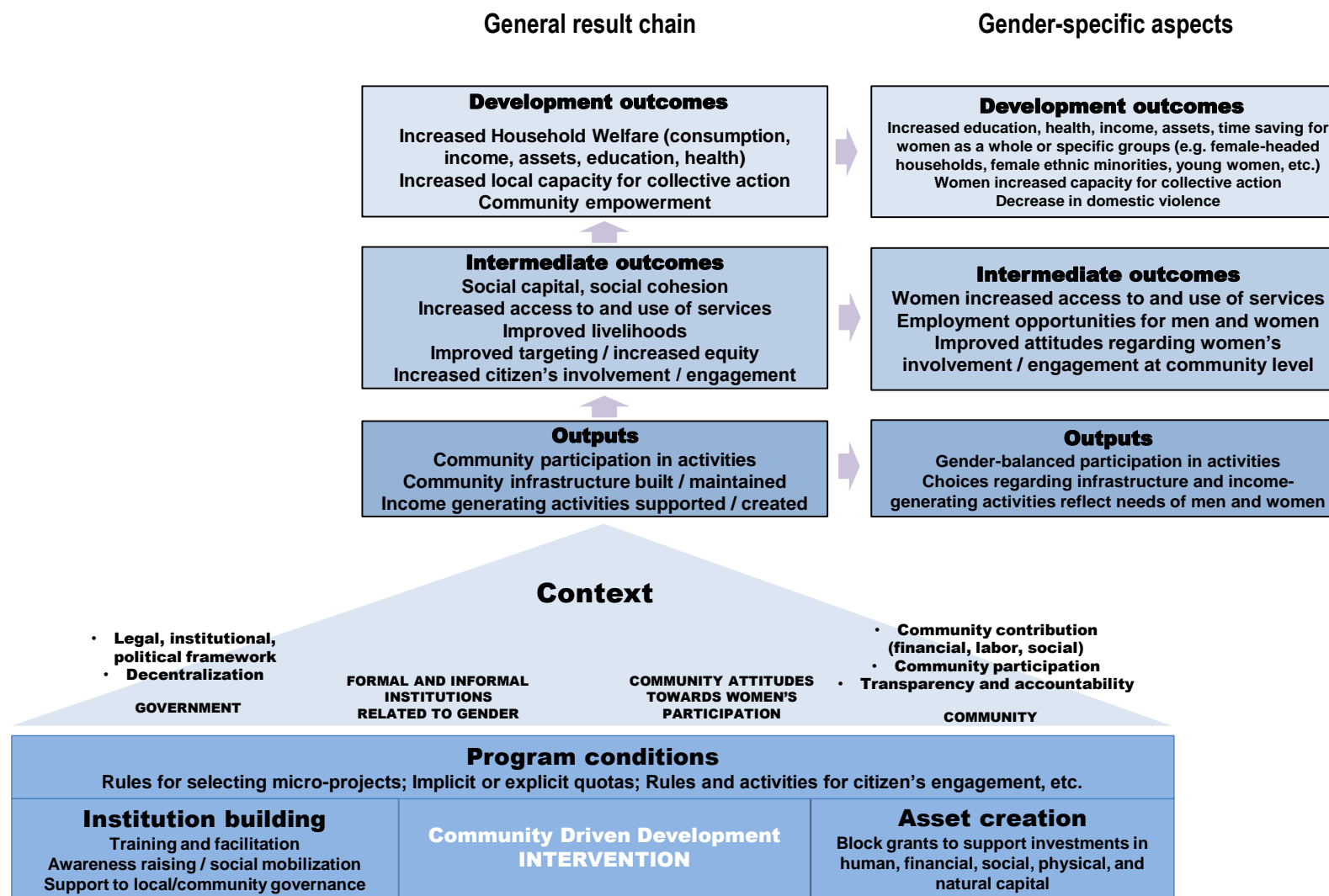
7. In general, CDD projects aim to decrease poverty and improve the well-being of the targeted population (see the CDD result framework summarized in Figure 1). Although different interventions may emphasize different objectives and dimensions of well-being, typically CDDs aim to support income and consumption (through enhancing livelihoods), access to services and local public goods (with the goal of improving education, health, etc.), local governance, and “empowerment” of local communities, in particular of excluded groups (such as the poor, minorities, and women) (“development outcomes” in “general result chain”).³ To achieve these goals, CDDs support training and facilitation activities aimed to strengthen the community organization and its decision-making and managerial abilities (“institution building”), as well as to support assets creation through block grants provided to the communities (“asset creation”). Program conditions are meant to ensure greater inclusion and citizens’ engagement.

8. The project activities aim to strengthen community participation, decision-making, and control of resources, in order to enable communities to build assets and infrastructure and support income generating activities (“outputs” in “general result chain”). This in turns should lead to increased social capital, social cohesion, and greater citizens’ engagement, alongside increased access to and use of services and improved livelihoods (“intermediate outcomes”) – preconditions for improved development outcomes. The priorities, design, and achievement of each specific CDD intervention are influenced by the formal and informal institutions and the characteristics and response of the community in a given context (“context”).

9. Empowerment is embedded in the whole approach and at all stages of the CDD result chain (“Targeted community-driven approaches devolve control and decisionmaking to poor women and men, which empowers them immediately and directly” (World Bank, 2003, p. 308).) It is not only a final objective but it is also functional to achieving the other project’s objectives – to increase income and access to services (Jorgenson, 2005). The definition of empowerment adopted by the World Bank Group CDD framework is aligned with the definition provided in World Bank (2002): “Empowerment is the expansion of assets and capabilities of poor people to participate in, negotiate with, influence, control, and hold accountable institutions that affect their lives” (p. 14).

³ Specific CDD projects may have different objectives. Figure 1 represents a very broad framework.

Figure 1. CDD Result Framework



Source: IEG.

10. Because they are designed to directly involve communities and better respond to the needs of the poor and groups more easily excluded by traditional interventions, CDD projects have the potential to enhance women's participation in local decision-making. They can build social capital, and support social and even economic empowerment. As the World Bank Group invests a large part of its portfolio in these projects, CDD projects offer a great potential to advance the gender equality agenda. Furthermore, as most CDD are rural, they can drive change where women tend to be more marginalized and gaps more acute. Investing in rural women was indeed identified as one of the priority areas for "global action" in the World Development Report 2012 on Gender Equality (World Bank 2011a, Table 9.1).

11. Yet limited evidence exists on the female empowerment impacts of CDDs. A recent World Bank Policy Research report, while not looking at gender specifically and systematically, found that local ("induced") participation was mostly driven by wealthier, more educated, male participants, with higher social status and more political connections (Mansuri and Rao 2013). Similarly, a review of CDD impact evaluation evidence (Wong 2012) indicates that active engagement of women in CDD projects is not systematic. Annex I summarizes the gender relevant results found by the impact evaluations reviewed by Wong (2012), as they have been reported in that summary report. In general, this review found that there is very limited evidence on the impact of CDD projects on social capital (in the community as a whole) and that, when it exists, this evidence is mixed at best.

12. Livelihood needs and strategies of men and women differ because of different gender roles and responsibilities, and gender disparities in access to resources at both the household and community level. CDD interventions that ignore these differences may not be effective in empowering women, which would limit or undermine their overall effectiveness. By contrast, CDD interventions that pay particular attention to gender impacts have the potential to achieve better results on the ground and become a vehicle of "women's empowerment," as the experiences of East and South Asia seem to suggest.

13. It has been suggested that CDD projects can effectively enhance empowerment and inclusion only if they explicitly take into account gender-specific needs, constraints, and opportunities and are designed in such a way to ensure equal participation of men and women in deciding about community priorities, implementing projects, managing funds, and monitoring and evaluating community projects (Kuehnast 2003). Some earlier evaluations of social funds indicate that "a demand-driven approach is not automatically a gender-sensitive approach" (Bigio 1997, p. 119) and that "experience also shows that community based development does not automatically include marginalized groups, the poor, women or ethnic minorities unless their participation is

specifically highlighted as a goal, both at the agency and community levels” (Narayan 1995). These evaluations call for greater effort to move the gender agenda forward in community based development projects: “Social funds have not come to grips with gender issues. Some serious work is needed in understanding the gender dimensions of demand-oriented institutions such as social funds. Women are often marginalized in communities” (Bigio ed. 1997, p. 140).

14. A similar message comes from the Gender in Agriculture Sourcebook (The World Bank, IFAD, and FAO 2009) – untargeted CDD projects often bypass women and the poor. Moreover, more female participation in CDD project does not necessarily translate into active participation and equal benefits for women. The report also highlights the limited availability of evidence on CDD’s impacts for rural women and calls for an increased attention to gender in the M&E of these types of projects to ensure the intended impact on inclusive poverty reduction (The World Bank, IFAD, and FAO 2009, p. 55). A recent cursory review of the evidence on gender and community driven development (Browne 2014) reaches very similar conclusions – only the explicit integration of a gender strategy in CDD, aimed at generating women’s participation in community meetings and activities, can produce positive results for women.

15. The increased awareness that gender integration in CDDs is crucial to ensure that projects achieve the intended poverty reduction and empowerment goals has progressively generated a more explicit definition of gender-specific activities, outputs, and outcomes and more guidance for systematically tracking gender results. The right-hand side of Figure 1 makes explicit the main gender elements of CDDs. It also incorporates the recommendation of a recent World Bank toolkit for gender integration in CDDs (World Bank 2011b).

16. The result chain highlights the gender-specific aspects of CDD interventions and shows that these projects have the potential to empower women in the economic, social and political domain, as intermediate or final outcomes. By increasing access to livelihood opportunities, jobs, and income, CDDs can increase women’s *economic empowerment*, if the choices regarding infrastructure, assets, and income generating activities reflect the needs of both men and women. Women’s increased ability to access social services and participation in community decisions can enhance their confidence and autonomy and positively impact social relationships and gender norms (*social empowerment*). Finally, as women are included in decision-making processes CDDs can enhance women’s *political empowerment* – that is, impact voice, accountability, and political participation within the community and at various levels of government.

17. Economic, social, and political empowerment are dimensions that CDDs aim to positively impact for the community as a whole – for its male and female members.

The manifestations of what empowerment is about (the empowerment indicators) may differ along gender lines, however. Moreover, project design may need to include specific elements and activities to ensure equal participation and inclusion of women and men (the studies cited above indicate that project design *should* explicitly target women to empower them effectively). Yet, if the goal of empowering women is not achieved, one may question whether the *community* (as a whole) was effectively empowered.

18. CDDs do not all include each individual element highlighted in Figure 1. Some focus more on building assets and infrastructure, other emphasize community empowerment more. At the same time, CDDs can have unintended impacts, that is, they can impact dimensions that were not explicitly addressed in the design and result chain. For example, with respect to empowerment, CDDs interventions aim to empower communities and increase local capacity for collective action. However, higher empowerment as a group and within the community could lead to higher gender equality within the household. An interesting question is whether women whose voice and agency increase at the community level – in relation to the activities implemented by the project – get also more empowered at the individual and household level, even if the project did not plan to directly impact these dimensions.

Purpose and Objectives

19. The purpose of this learning product is to analyze the gender impacts of CDD interventions, with a specific focus on empowerment outcomes – manifestation of decision-making and participation, at the individual, household, and community level. Drivers and manifestations of decision-making and participation, as created or enhanced by the CDD approach (such as access to services, new livelihood opportunities, capacity building and modalities of engagement and participation) will also be analyzed.⁴ The central evaluation questions will be “Do CDD interventions result in economic, social, and/or political empowerment of women, as well as men’s? What are the conditions (including contextual elements) and the design elements that enhance or hamper these impacts?”

20. More specific questions guiding the analysis are:

- a. *Design*. Do CDD interventions deliberately aim to enhance women’s empowerment and achieve greater gender equality as one of their main

⁴ To select indicators of empowerment (in particular for the purpose of collecting new data) the team will refer to the recent literature that proposed and piloted a number of indicators comparable across countries, with special attention to the rural context (Alkire and Ibrahim 2007; Alkire and others 2013).

objectives? If so, which dimensions of gender equality do they focus on and what elements do they incorporate in their design to achieve this goal?

- b. *M&E*. Which indicators do CDD projects use to measure empowerment or social capital? And, women's empowerment in particular?
- c. *Efficacy*. What are the impacts of CDD interventions on women's empowerment? Does participation of women in community decision-making processes increase as a result of CDD projects? What about household decision-making? What about alternative measures of empowerment? Does a higher participation of women result in different choices regarding community projects? Are CDD interventions that deliberately aim to improve women's empowerment more effective in doing so than those that do not target women explicitly? Is there evidence of increased efficacy over time with respect to empowering women?

Methodology

21. Three main exercises will be undertaken to answer the evaluation questions. First, a critical *review of the literature* will provide the conceptual framework to organize the main messages emerging from the empirical analysis. The critical review of the literature will appraise three main strands of literature – the literature on CDD, with a specific focus on the mechanisms enhancing participation, inclusion, social capital, and empowerment; the literature on gender in CDD, including also the findings of evaluations that document specific gender impacts of CDD projects; and the literature on empowerment to help define the meaning and dimensions of empowerment that are supported through these projects and those that could be impacted (including impacts that are unintended). The review of the literature will also analyze results achieved by successful CDD projects that were not supported by the World Bank.

22. The second exercise carried out in for this report will be an *in-depth review of gender dimensions in CDD/rural livelihood projects supported by the World Bank (IBRD and IDA) and* approved between FY03 and FY11. The sample unit will be a country where at least two consecutive projects have been supported by the Bank. The aim is to document any evolution over time of the notion of and approach to gender integration into CDD interventions. Including only projects approved no later than FY11 ensures that currently open projects have become effective and have been undergoing implementation for at least two years. The team expects that about 20-25

countries will be included in the portfolio review.⁵ Only one CDD program will be selected for each country (if more than one exist) but the whole sequence of projects will be part of the analysis. For larger countries – such as India – more than one project may be selected, using the same criteria of focusing on established projects.

23. Projects objectives, components, outcomes indicators, and reported results will be analyzed using available information from project documents to assess the level of gender integration, the approaches adopted, and the type of indicators used to measure and monitor results. Task team leaders will be contacted to provide additional information (including beneficiary assessments, impact evaluations, and other evidence on outcomes) as needed to supplement the review of project documents. CASs and CAS evaluations will be analyzed to situate the CDD in the broader country strategy. ESW and other relevant analytical work will be used to analyze contextual elements (such as specific gender issues in the country or region, type of livelihood, level of government decentralization, and so on). The design of currently active projects will be compared to the design of closed projects to assess whether the approach to address gender issues has changed over time.

24. The third exercise consists in summarizing evidence from IEG Project Performance Assessment Reports (PPARs) of CDDs, carried out during FY15 and FY16. Two PPARs that have been recently completed and generated relevant information on involvement of and impacts on women are the PPAR for the Nigeria Second National Fadama Development Project and the PPAR of the Gemi Dirya Project in Sri Lanka. Four ongoing PPARs will also generate new and useful evidence for this learning product – the PPAR of the Andhra Pradesh District Poverty Initiatives Project (APDPIP) and the Andhra Pradesh Rural Poverty Production Project (APRPRP); the PPAR of the Indonesia Third Urban Poverty Project; the PPAR of the Lao PDR Poverty Reduction Fund project; and the PPAR of the Nepal Poverty Alleviation Fund.

25. Most of these projects, more or less explicitly, aimed to reach out to women and enhance their participation in community activities and in the identification and management of sub-projects. Often, they aimed to fund investment in micro-infrastructure that meets women’s needs or enhance women’s livelihoods. The projects’ M&E frameworks include variables that are meant to capture several dimensions of participation and empowerment (see Box 1 for additional details on the projects evaluated in PPARs, particularly on their gender dimensions). The ICR of the Lao PDR PRF notes, “Qualitative assessments suggest that while women participated in

⁵ The CDD Community of Practice shared with the team a list of long-run CDD programs in 25 countries identified by the front office and through consultations with task team leaders, which will be used as a starting point for selection (see Annex 2).

meetings, and the needs/ views of women are reflected in the sub-project investments, their role in decision-making may be minimal in practice and empowerment of women does not appear to have been extended beyond the boundaries of the project” (World Bank 2012, p. 19). The PPARs assessed (or will assess) achievements of the projects with respect to women’s increased participation and access to services – as per their explicit design and motivations. Wherever possible, the ongoing PPARs will also investigate other empowerment dimensions that may be impacted as opportunities and voice increase. To the extent possible, the PPARs will aim to collect evidence also on those empowerment dimensions that “extend beyond the boundaries of the project.”

Box 1. Assessing Empowerment Outcomes in Project Performance Assessment Reports

The **Andhra Pradesh District Poverty Initiatives Project (APDPIP)** aimed to improve opportunities for the rural poor to meet priority social and economic needs in the six poorest Districts of Andhra Pradesh, through the creation of self-managed grass-roots institutions (Common Interest Groups and Self-Help Groups), enhanced capacity of established local institutions (Gram Sabha/Panchayats and the government of Andhra Pradesh line departments) to address the needs of the poor, support to investment in sub-projects proposed by grass-roots institutions, and increased access to education for girls. Investments were a means to support social capital and women’s involvement in group formation, financial literacy and training, and networking activities, in order to leverage their collective voice to meet economic needs. The creation of self-help groups had, according to many observers and the evidence collected by IEG, a transformational impact of women’s participation in their village communities.

The **Andhra Pradesh Rural Poverty Reduction Project** aimed to expand the geographical coverage of the APDPIP and sharpened the focus on the poorer community members and on the livelihoods of the rural poor. This project entirely focused on supporting women self-help groups, as a mean to socially engage otherwise disempowered members of the community. Emerging IEG findings indicate that — in line with what had been documented in other evaluations —self-help groups gave women the opportunity to participate in meetings and increase their voice in demanding more and better services for them and their children. Moreover, there were also positive impacts on household outcomes, such as increased demand for equality between husband and wife and increased ability of women to negotiate more respectful treatment in the household. The project also determined an increase in political participation of women in elected local governments. By the end of the second phase, evidence is emerging that social empowerment is leading to (at least modest) economic gains.

The **Nigeria Fadama II Project*** aimed to increase the incomes of Fadama users (farmers, pastoralists, fishers, hunters, gatherers, and service providers) in a sustainable way and to empower communities to take charge of their own development agenda. While the gender element was not prominently reflected in the explicit objectives of the project, the aim was to encourage the formation of marginalized groups, including women and widows. The IEG evaluation indicates that “Fadama increased female participation in local economic development planning but evidence suggests that women and other members of vulnerable and marginalized groups were often not able to afford or obtain their needed assets” (IEG 2014, p. xiv).

The objective of the **Sri Lanka Community Development and Livelihoods Improvement Project*** (commonly referred to as the Gemi Diriya project) was to target poor communities in the Uva and Southern provinces and improve their livelihood and quality of life by enabling them to build accountable and self-governing local institutions and to manage sustainable investments. The project aimed to increase women’s participation in decision making by increasing their representation in management positions. IEG evaluation found that the project was indeed effective in targeting and including women. Evidence collected by IEG indicates that women constituted the majority of the Savings and Credit scheme membership; Focus Group Discussions confirmed that women assumed key leadership roles in the organizations (IEG 2015, p. xiii).

The **Indonesia Third Urban Poverty Project (PNGN/UPP)** aimed to support community organizations able to increase the voice of the poor in public decision making, making local government more responsive to the needs of the poor, and provide funds to community based organizations and local government to provide services to the urban poor. The original design did not particularly focused on ensuring women's participation and empowerment, but based on the results reported at completion this project was successful in ensuring women's representation in community organizations. Moreover, about 46 percent of the members of community groups receiving revolving funds were women (World Bank 2012, p. 18).

The **Lao PDR Poverty Reduction Fund (PRF)** targeted communities in poor districts and, within those communities, the poor, women, and ethnic minorities. The PRF I became effective in 2003 and aimed to fund community infrastructure activities, build local capacity to manage public investment planning and implementation, and strengthen the capacity of local institutions to support participatory decision-making at the village, *kum ban*, and district levels. Supporting women's participation in community meetings, in the planning, decision and implementation process, and in presenting proposals for sub-projects were among the main goals of the project. The project implemented 3,179 sub-projects in 28 poor districts in 7 provinces. PRF I was followed by PRF II, which became effective in October 2011, soon after the closure of PRF I, and will run until 2016. PRF II will retain about 50% of PRF I *kum bans* and will scale up the project to reach approximately 275 *kum bans*.

The **Nepal Poverty Alleviation Fund (PAF)** is a World Bank supported CDD project established in 2004. This project aims to bring excluded communities in the mainstream of development, by including the poor and disadvantaged groups in the development process. Its objective is to improve access to income-generation sub-projects and community infrastructure for the groups that have tended to be excluded by reasons of gender, ethnicity and caste, as well as for the poorest groups in rural communities (the targeted beneficiaries are poor women, Dalits, Janajatis, and vulnerable communities living below the poverty line). PAF II became effective before PAF I closure, maintaining the same Board and Secretariat, which ensured institutional continuity. PAF II expanded the geographic coverage of the project while continuing operating in the initial (PAF I) 25 districts. Since its inception the project has been implemented in 40 districts, reaching over 663,000 households (of which 75 per cent are women and 65 per cent are extreme-poor). To assess the program an impact evaluation was carried in out in 2010. The evaluation results indicated that PAF had a positive and significant impact on household welfare, an increase in consumption expenditure, a significant decline on incidence of food insecurity as well as an increase in school enrollment among 6-15 year olds. However, the effects of PAF on social capital and female empowerment have not been yet identified.

*The PPAR has been already completed.

26. This report will also benefit from the results of an ongoing IEG impact evaluation of a community monitoring project in Burkina Faso.⁶ This IE uses a cluster-randomized controlled design to assess whether community monitoring improves service delivery and quality, and indicators of social cohesion, such as trust, altruism, and risk attitudes. The impact evaluation will provide insight to the attributable, gendered effects of this pilot project that did not include specific gender elements at design, except for the fact that it focuses on services that are considered to be highly valued by women, such as education and health. The same issues explored in the upcoming PPARs will be covered in the endline questionnaire of the Burkina Faso impact evaluation to improve comparability. The Burkina impact evaluation will be complemented by a qualitative

⁶ The Burkina Faso Community Monitoring for Better Health and Education Service Delivery Project aims to increase the quality and quantity of health and education services through empowering, capacitating, and stimulating individuals and communities to demand good governance and through increasing transparency and accountability of service providers.

analysis to explore the channels of the impacts on voice and empowerment and women's role in the formation of social capital.

27. The methodology adopted to gather evidence on female empowerment will be tailored to the project characteristics and build on existing evaluations. In the two PPARs that have yet to be fielded either a census, a poverty map or previous impact evaluation were carried out. This would allow for the identification of a credible counterfactual – communities not reached by the project but comparable to those that were – to address attribution. A short questionnaire will be used to explore outcomes related to empowerment, decision-making, and inclusion, with special attention to document gender differences at the individual, household, and community level. Questionnaires will be administered to both project and non-project communities. Additionally (or as an alternative if a credible counterfactual cannot be constructed), focus groups will be carried out to generate qualitative evidence, which will integrate and explain some of the patterns found using quantitative data.⁷

28. Indicators of empowerment (to be tracked in the desk review and collected among the new evaluation evidence) will be identified based on the recent literature that proposed and piloted a number of indicators comparable across countries, including approaches that paid special attention to the rural context (Alsop and others 2006; World Bank 2002; Alkire and Ibrahim 2007; Alkire and others 2013). The team will also refer to indicators proposed in the toolkit for gender integration in CDD (World Bank 2011b) and to the few existing impact evaluations that have analyzed the impact of CDD interventions on women's empowerment (Beath and others 2013).

Output

29. The final output will be a summary report discussing the findings from the desk review and the review of PPAR evidence.

30. The methodological approach that will be developed to measure impacts on empowerment and decision-making will be summarized in a separate note and will contribute to the work program on Integrating Gender in Evaluation. The aim is to contribute to test and establish a methodology that can be used for other IEG evaluations to improve the assessment and documentation of gender results in Bank operations. The desk review of projects will contribute to the rural employment evaluation, the review prepared for IDA18, the RAP 2015, and potentially other IEG products.

⁷ This methodology will also draw from the focus group discussions tools used by Munoz Boudet and others (2012).

Relevance to World Bank Group Strategy

31. The analysis of the World Bank Group’s contribution to advancing gender equality is integral part of both goals of ending extreme poverty and promoting shared prosperity. Addressing gender inequalities means ensuring that both men and women, boys and girls, are included in the development process, as called for by the shared prosperity goal. Ending extreme poverty will be elusive if gender inequalities that are often the cause and the result of poverty are not addressed.

32. CDD projects represent a large portion of the World Bank portfolio, and one of the main categories of “poverty reduction” interventions. Between fiscal years 2002 and 2011, IBRD/IDA approved 734 projects that adopted a CDD approach either as a whole or in specific components. Total Bank lending towards CDD, directly managed and controlled by communities and local governments, was \$22.5 billion.⁸

Relevance to IEG Strategy

33. The proposed learning product is well aligned with the ongoing effort by IEG to ensure a more systematic integration of gender in its evaluation work. It is going to be one of the “building blocks” of evaluation evidence on gender results towards a broader assessment of the World Bank Group support to the gender mainstreaming agenda.

34. This product is also very well aligned with other work ongoing in IEG. It will exploit synergies with other activities and products under preparation in IEG, such as the rural employment evaluation, the learning evaluation (which will also look at rural livelihood as a case study), the impact evaluation of a social accountability intervention in Burkina Faso, and PPARs assessing the effectiveness of CDD interventions.

35. Finally, this activity will advance the IEG methodological toolkit. It will use a combination of quantitative and qualitative methods to explore issues of inclusion and empowerment, which links it closely to the IEG’s efforts to improve the evaluation of the poverty and shared prosperity goals. It will pilot an approach to carry out lighter and yet rigorous impact evaluation work and will provide an opportunity to test a method to measure not only gender empowerment, but, more broadly, inclusion and empowerment of the poorest segment of the population.

Quality Assurance Process

36. The report will be overseen by Nick York, Acting Director for Public Sector, IEG, and Mark Sundberg, Public Sector Manager. Peer reviewers are Robert Chase, Lead

⁸ <http://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/communitydrivendevelopment/overview#2>

Human Development Economist, GSPDR, and Anis Dani, former Lead Evaluation Officer, IEG. An external reviewer of the final report will also be added.

Audience, Potential Influence, and Dissemination Strategy

37. The Board has already demonstrated great interest in an assessment of gender results “on the ground.” For this reason, a good level of attention is anticipated, especially from the Gender CCSA (which will be the lead champion), and at least three Global Practices – (i) the Agriculture and Social Development Global Practice, (ii) Urban, Rural and Social Development Global Practice, and (iii) Poverty Global Practice.

38. The analysis of gender impacts of CDDs is a topic that, quite surprisingly, has not received much attention in the empirical literature. It is therefore anticipated that researchers and operational staff alike will be interested in learning which types of impacts (decision making, time use, access to services, empowerment) these interventions can produce. The findings can generate insights for design, implementation, and M&E frameworks of CDD interventions.

39. Donors (notably Sweden) and policy makers will be equally interested in learning from World Bank Group results in this area.

40. The findings generated by this analysis will be disseminated to an internal and external audience. Internally, the team will engage with task team leaders according to modalities piloted for the dissemination of the Social Safety Nets and Gender systematic review. Externally, the report will be presented in relevant conferences and dissemination events. IEGPS will work with IEGCS to refine the appropriate dissemination strategy.

IEG Readiness and Value Added

41. IEG has experienced staff with gender and poverty expertise. The Gender in IEG work program also relies on other IEG experts working on gender issues. Skills are therefore not a problem.

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Annex 1 – Gender Results in Projects Reviewed and Documented by Wong (2012)

Project	Gender-relevant Results
Afghanistan National Solidarity Program.	The 2009 midline survey report found that the program increased the engagement of women across a number of dimensions of community life, while also increasing respect for senior women in the village and making men more open to female participation in local governance. NSP also increased the availability of support groups for women and reduced extreme unhappiness among women. With respect to access to medical care and schooling, the program's impacts appear limited to female villagers. Women's access to professional medical services appears modestly improved by NSP, but there is no evidence of an improvement for villagers generally. Some evidence exists that NSP increases girls' school attendance rates. NSP results in increased involvement by women in income-generating activities, but there is no evidence of impacts on asset ownership by women, or on the involvement of women in household decisions.
Afghanistan National Solidarity Program II (NSP2).	The interim evaluation found that the project increased the participation of women in local governance and their awareness of village leadership and local governance services. Women in NSP areas were also found to have increased the occurrence of meetings between female villagers and women from other villages, as well as district governments. But there was no impact on the general extent of socialization between female villagers or the frequency of female villagers leaving their compounds.
Bolivia Social Investment Fund II (SIF).	The evaluation found that the share of women receiving prenatal care and the share of attended births increased significantly.
Honduras Social Investment Fund III (FHIS)	[Based on qualitative work] the project increased the utilization [of local health centers], especially for pregnant women and children due to the closer proximity of the health center and involvement of community members as health volunteers.
Indonesia Urban Poverty Program II.	The evaluation shows that the more educated, affluent, and official-connected are more likely to get elected into the key project community organizations responsible for allocating UPP2 resources. The project credit groups show a similar pattern, although the members are more likely to be female. They are generally more educated, richer, and more likely to be employed than women in the general population.
Senegal National Rural Infrastructure Program (PNIR).	The number of female villagers on the <i>Conseil rural</i> significantly increased the likelihood of a village receiving a completed project. This result suggests that while the elite capture phenomenon may be present, it was tempered either by the "voice" given to women in the CDD decision-making process, or there could have been co-optation. There is no quantitative or qualitative information to further explore the dynamics behind this finding.
Sierra Leone GoBiFo.	There was no indication of spillover of local norms or institutional practices outside the immediate project sphere; for example, women were no more likely to speak up in community meetings held after the project ended.

Source: Based on Wong (2012)

Annex 2 –Relevant CDD Signaled by the CDD Community of Practice

Region	Country	Project
SAR	India	Andhra Pradesh Rural Poverty Reduction Project; Tamil Nadu Empowerment Project
SAR	Sri Lanka	Community Development and Livelihood Improvement “Gemi Diriya” project
SAR	Nepal	Nepal Poverty Alleviation Fund
SAR	Bangladesh	Social Investment Program
SAR	Pakistan	Poverty Alleviation Fund
SAR	Afghanistan	National Solidarity Project
ECA	Kyrgyz Republic	Village Investment Project
ECA	Azerbaijan	Rural Investment Project
EAP	Lao PDR	Poverty Reduction Fund Project
EAP	Philippines	KALAHI-CIDSS
EAP	Indonesia	PNPM Rural
EAP	Myanmar	National Community-Driven Development Project
EAP	Vietnam	Northern Mountain Poverty Reduction
AFR	Tanzania	Tanzania Social Action Fund
AFR	Malawi	Malawi Social Action Fund
AFR	Nigeria	Community and Social Development Project
AFR	Nigeria	FADAMA III
AFR	Rwanda	Rural Sector Support Project Land Husbandry, Water Harvesting and Hillside irrigation Project
AFR	Kenya	West Kenya CDD and Flood Mitigation Project
AFR	Uganda	Northern Uganda Social Action Fund
MNA	Yemen	Social Fund for Development
MNA	Morocco	National Initiative for Human Development (INDH)
LCR	Brazil	Bahia Rural Poverty Reduction Project Bahia State Integrated Project Rural Poverty
LCR	Haiti	Rural Community-Driven Development Project

Timeline

	Jan-15	Feb-15	Mar-15	Apr-15	May-15	Jun-15	Jul-15	Aug-15	Sep-15	Oct-15	Nov-15	Dec-15	Jan-16	Feb-16
Concept note review	Dark Gray											Light Blue		
Revised concept note				Dark Gray								Light Blue		
Methodological note						Dark Gray						Light Blue		
Analysis		Dark Gray	Dark Gray	Dark Gray	Dark Gray	Dark Gray	Dark Gray	Dark Gray	Dark Gray			Light Blue		
Preliminary Draft									Dark Gray			Light Blue		
Review of Draft Report										Dark Gray		Light Blue		
Final Revisions											Dark Gray	Light Blue		
Final report delivered	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Dark Gray		
Dissemination													Dark Gray	Dark Gray

