Rapid Gender Analysis of vegetable production in Moc Chau, Son La

CARE International in Vietnam
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Research questions

- Men and women’s perceptions of vegetable production
  - Is there any difference between their point of views?

- Gender roles in vegetable production
  - In the family, who is doing what in vegetable production? Does introduction of vegetable production influence the workload sharing between males and females in the family?

- Household expenditures
  - How does a family generally spend money? Who will be in charge of additional money from vegetable production?
Tools

- FGD with men and women groups separately in both Muong and H’Mong groups.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Hang Trung I village (Muong ethnic)</th>
<th>Bo Nhang II village (H’Mong ethnic)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female FGD</td>
<td>10 participants</td>
<td>8 participants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male FGD</td>
<td>10 participants</td>
<td>5 participants</td>
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</tbody>
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- Tools:
  - Gender balance tree
  - Group discussion on changes and aspirations.
H’Mong group
Muong group
Men and women’s perceptions on vegetable production

- Both men and women perceived vegetable production good opportunity to improve their income and to make changes in their production practice
  - Daily income
  - Husbands’ involvement in the production
  - Satisfaction from working together more

- Both men and women in H’Mong and Muong group value vegetable production and want to expand the production
Changes in gender roles

- Vegetable production increases production time of both men and women, but does not make much change in gender roles and gender relation
  - Division of labor is still based on perceptions of men’s work and women’s work
  - There is difference between Muong and H’Mong group regarding to decision making in vegetable production

“*Husband knows everything, he is the head of the family, so he make decisions*”
  - H’Mong’s female group

“We need to discuss about the loan and need to get his agreement to expand the production area; otherwise, we cannot continue”
  - Muong’s female group
What does gender mean to vegetable production?

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Cost management:</th>
<th>Crop choice:</th>
<th>Crop quality and yield:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cost implications of overuse or underuse of inputs (seeds, fertilisers, pesticides, etc.) due to women not getting to participate directly in technical trainings</td>
<td>Crop decision may be made by men, but still based on whether family labour, esp. women, are technically ready and can afford time</td>
<td>Women’s burden of housework make it difficult for them to fully dedicate time and attentiveness to the production</td>
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Insights from women’s practical experiences get lost when they are not involved in the discussions.
RECOMMENDATIONS

► For the Project on-going activities
  ✓ Equip women with technical knowledge by designing technical trainings in a way that is accessible for women: timing, location, language, materials
  ✓ Make sure that women are consulted for crop decisions to be in line with market trends and bring profits to farmers.

► Supplementary activities to facilitate gender transformation for better production outcomes
  ✓ Community event: encourage people to think differently on gender role and capacity and contribution of women in production