

**K.U.L.U. – Women and Development, Denmark  
Questionnaire 2 on organisations' work and experience**

**Systematising of the screening regarding experiences/information on Indigenous Peoples, Gender and Natural Resource Management.**

**II. Second Questionnaire**

This systematising is divided in 3 parts: quantitative information, documentation of experiences and qualitative information.

**Quantitative information**

Trying to reach again those women's organisations with specific knowledge in the areas of IP, gender and NRM, 25 organisations and research institutions have received the second questionnaire, including those answering the first questionnaire, although only 4 have responded to it. It is important to notice, that not all women organisations work specifically around the issue of environment/Natural Resource Management but in many cases is one of their many tasks or areas of work and it is also worth to mention, that when reminded again to collaborate, they explicitly referred to the work load/ bad timing faced by those on charge or with knowledge within the organisations, underlying that it was not due to lack of interest.

The responders/base organisations are divided according to regions as follows:

Asia: India, China, and Nepal  
Europe: The Netherlands

The responders contribute mostly with their specific localised knowledge, and therefore should be seen as a particular input. There is also a variety and hence different degree of experiences, from very far or less experienced in integrating gender in the work with IP and NRM.

**Documentation of experiences**

The Questionnaire 2 specifically asked for documentation of the mentioned experiences with indigenous peoples, gender and natural resource management. References to documentation include those from the first questionnaire and are therefore presented together.

Almost all of Questionnaire 2 answers included articles, reports and other types of documentation. Some of them were forwarded by e-mail to KULU, or their availability on the Internet was indicated. Several publications/books were mentioned, but copies have not been sent to KULU and for that reason could not be screened. However, the titles suggest that they are related to NRM and/or they mention gender or women's perspective. There are also articles and video material referred to be available in Hindu or Chinese, but no titles or copies have been forwarded to KULU yet, therefore, these are not included in the following list below.

The documents relate to some extent to IP, gender/women and NRM. They are physical accessible at the Danish Institute for International Studies (DIIS's Library), and/or on the Internet and on IGNARM's project's web site: [www.cdr.dk/genderres](http://www.cdr.dk/genderres)

**Websites of organisations answering 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Questionnaire:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Link</b>
Caribbean Association for Feminist Research and Action (CAFRA)	<a href="http://www.cafra.org">http://www.cafra.org</a>
Down to Earth - International	<a href="http://www.gn.apc.org/dte">www.gn.apc.org/dte</a>

Campaign for Ecological Justice in Indonesia English and Bahasa	
Gender and Environment – The World Conservation Union IUCN	<a href="http://www.generoyambiente.org/EN/entrada.phtml">http://www.generoyambiente.org/EN/entrada.phtml</a>
International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development ICIMOD	<a href="http://www.icimod.org.np./index.htm">http://www.icimod.org.np./index.htm</a>
Organización Indígena de Antioquia (Colombia)	<a href="http://www.etniasdecolombia.org/organizaciones/oia/index_oia.htm">http://www.etniasdecolombia.org/organizaciones/oia/index_oia.htm</a> <a href="http://www.oia.com.co">www.oia.com.co</a>
The International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE)	<a href="http://www.icipe.org/">http://www.icipe.org/</a>
The Netherlands Committee for IUCN (NC-IUCN) - Tropical Rainforest Programme	<a href="http://www.iucn.nl/">http://www.iucn.nl/</a>
The Socioeconomic and Gender Analysis (SEAGA) web site of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations FAO	<a href="http://www.fao.org/sd/seaga/index_en.htm">http://www.fao.org/sd/seaga/index_en.htm</a> <a href="http://www.fao.org">http://www.fao.org</a>

### Articles/Articles in Encyclopedias:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Link</b>
P. Howard-Borjas with W. Cuijpers. 2002. 'Gender and the management and conservation of plant biodiversity,' in H.W. Doelle & E. DaSilva (eds), <i>Biotechnology</i> , in <i>Encyclopedia of Life Support Systems (EOLSS)</i> , Oxford, UK	
'Articles and Studies' Website of Gender and Environment – the World Conservation Union IUCN on different issues such as agriculture, agrobiodiversity, agroforestry, aquaculture, biodiversity, biotechnology, climate change, coastal marine zones, conceptual, culture, desert and arid zones, economy, energy, environment, environmental education, fisheries, forestry, genetic resources, governance, HIV/AIDS	<a href="http://www.generoyambiente.org/EN/secciones/seccion_25.html">http://www.generoyambiente.org/EN/secciones/seccion_25.html</a>
John W. Forje (2001) Mapping New Futures for Gender Participation Towards Sustainable Development: Lessons from Africa, in <i>Futures Research Quarterly</i> , Spring 2001, vol. 17, No. 1, pp49-60	

### Policy Briefing:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Link</b>
P. Howard. 2002. 'Women in the plant world: the significance of women and gender bias for biodiversity conservation.' Briefing produced for the IUCN, Ministry of the Environment of Finland, and the Council of Women World Leaders "Meeting of Women World Leaders on the Environment", Helsinki, 7-8 March 2002	<a href="http://www.generoyambiente.org/ES/secciones/subseccion_23_25.html">http://www.generoyambiente.org/ES/secciones/subseccion_23_25.html</a>
Gender policies (links to different gender policies) Spanish and English	<a href="http://www.generoyambiente.org/ES/secciones/subseccion_21_14.html">http://www.generoyambiente.org/ES/secciones/subseccion_21_14.html</a>
La ineludible corriente: Políticas de equidad de género en el sector ambiental mesoamericano	<a href="http://www.generoyambiente.org/ES/publicaciones_uicn/ineludible/ineludible.htm">http://www.generoyambiente.org/ES/publicaciones_uicn/ineludible/ineludible.htm</a>

**Newsletter:**

Name	Link
P. Howard. 2001. "Women in local plant genetic resource management and conservation." <i>Upward Fieldnotes</i> , 10(1 & 2): June-December	<a href="http://www.eseap.cipotato.org/upward/Newsletter/U_fieldnotes-V10.pdf">http://www.eseap.cipotato.org/upward/Newsletter/U_fieldnotes-V10.pdf</a>
P. Howard-Borjas. 1999. "Some implications of gender relations for plant genetic resources management." <i>Biotechnology and Development Monitor</i> . 37:2-5.	<a href="http://www.biotech-monitor.nl/3702.htm">http://www.biotech-monitor.nl/3702.htm</a>
Down to Earth (DTE )IFIs Update No 32, May 2003 <i>Civil society withdraws from Asia-Pacific Extractive Industry Review Workshop</i>	<a href="http://dte.gn.apc.org/Au32.htm">http://dte.gn.apc.org/Au32.htm</a>
Down to Earth IFIs Update No. 6, July 2000 <i>World Bank Forestry Review Heavily Criticised</i>	<a href="http://dte.gn.apc.org/Au6.htm">http://dte.gn.apc.org/Au6.htm</a> 2002
<i>Forests, People and Rights, Down to Earth Special Report: June 2002</i> Part III: Community forest management, the way forward	<a href="http://dte.gn.apc.org/srf3.htm">http://dte.gn.apc.org/srf3.htm</a>
DTE IFIs Update No. 37, April 2004 on The Mumbai Forest Initiative and Peoples World Water Forum	<a href="http://dte.gn.apc.org/Au37.htm">http://dte.gn.apc.org/Au37.htm</a>
Down to Earth Special Issue, October 1999 on Indigenous women	<a href="http://dte.gn.apc.org/Slwom.htm">http://dte.gn.apc.org/Slwom.htm</a>
<i>Gender Dimensions of Biodiversity Management: Cases from Bhutan and Nepal</i> by <b>Jeannette Gurung</b> and <i>Community-focussed Approaches in Biodiversity Conservation</i> by <b>Egbert Pelinck</b> in ICIMOD's Newsletter Nr. 31 Biodiversity Management in the Hindu Kush-Himalayas – Autumn 1998	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development ICIMOD <a href="http://www.icimod.org.np/publications/newsletter/News30/gender.htm#Newsletter%2030">http://www.icimod.org.np/publications/newsletter/News30/gender.htm#Newsletter%2030</a>
Gender and Mountain Development ICIMOD's Newsletter Nr. 29 – Winter 1997 with <i>introduction, what is gender, WID and GAD, GAD dictionary, the status of mountain women, mainstreaming gender, her story, association of professional women in land use related sectors, GAD related web sites, publications, and institutions, Shree Bhuvaneshwary Mahila Ashram: a profile</i>	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development ICIMOD <a href="http://www.icimod.org.np/publications/newsletter/News29/news29.htm">http://www.icimod.org.np/publications/newsletter/News29/news29.htm</a>

**Paper presentation:**

Name	Link
1. <i>Trends and Challenges Faced by Indigenous Mountain Women of Nepal</i> , Baguio City Philippines, March 4-8, 2004. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Indigenous Women's	

Conference – by Lucky Sherpa	
2. <i>Discrimination against the Indigenous Women of Nepal</i> - Chiang Mei Thailand, January 12-14, 2004 A Consultation Workshop on Trends and Challenges of Indigenous Peoples of Asia - by Lucky Sherpa	
3. Challenges and Opportunities of Mountain Women in Nepal – By Lucky Sherpa	
4. <i>Role of Indigenous Women in Natural Resource Management</i> by Lucky Sherpa	
5. <i>Situation Analysis of Indigenous Women of Nepal</i> by Lucky Sherpa	

**Booklet/leaflet:**

P. Howard. 2003. <i>The major importance of 'minor' resources: women and plant biodiversity</i> , IIED Gatekeeper Series, Sussex, UK: IIED.	
The Socioeconomic and Gender Analysis (SEAGA)'s web site of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	<a href="http://www.fao.org/sd/seaga/downloads/En/Leafleten.pdf">http://www.fao.org/sd/seaga/downloads/En/Leafleten.pdf</a>

**Gender strategy/others strategies:**

English: <i>Gender Planning for Participatory and Collaborative Natural Resource Management</i> (unsuccessful link, but available in Dutch): <i>Gender-planning t.b.v. participatorisch en gezamenlijk beheer van natuurlijke hulpbronnen</i>	Caribbean Association for Feminist Research and Action (CAFRA). <a href="http://www.cafra.org/Dutch_CAFRA/Media/19991112.htm">http://www.cafra.org/Dutch_CAFRA/Media/19991112.htm</a>
Affirmative action to bring needy groups into the mainstream (dwellers, women and the youth) See under: <i>Closing the gender and age gap in agri-income</i>	The International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE) <a href="http://www.icipe.org/pdf/paths/drylands.pdf">http://www.icipe.org/pdf/paths/drylands.pdf</a>
Dutch: <i>Gender, natuurbescherming en het Nederlands Comité voor IUCN</i>	The Netherlands Committee for IUCN (NC-IUCN) - Tropical Rainforest Programme <a href="http://www.nciucn.nl/nederlands/organisatie/fsmisnie+.htm">http://www.nciucn.nl/nederlands/organisatie/fsmisnie+.htm</a>

**Handbooks:**

Field Level Handbook (SEAGA publication)	<a href="http://www.fao.org/sd/seaga/downloads/En/FieldEn.pdf">http://www.fao.org/sd/seaga/downloads/En/FieldEn.pdf</a>
Intermediate Level Handbook (SEAGA publication)	<a href="http://www.fao.org/sd/seaga/downloads/En/Intermediateen.pdf">http://www.fao.org/sd/seaga/downloads/En/Intermediateen.pdf</a>
Macro level Handbook	<a href="http://www.fao.org/sd/seaga/downloads/En/Macroen.pdf">http://www.fao.org/sd/seaga/downloads/En/Macroen.pdf</a>

**Guides/Manuals:**

Irrigation (SEAGA publication)	<a href="http://www.fao.org/sd/seaga/downloads/En/IrrigationEn.pdf">http://www.fao.org/sd/seaga/downloads/En/IrrigationEn.pdf</a>
Project Cycle (SEAGA publication)	<a href="http://www.fao.org/sd/seaga/downloads/En/projecten.pdf">http://www.fao.org/sd/seaga/downloads/En/projecten.pdf</a>
Micro Finance (SEAGA publication)	<a href="http://www.fao.org/sd/seaga/downloads/En/Microfinancien.pdf">http://www.fao.org/sd/seaga/downloads/En/Microfinancien.pdf</a>
Gender-Disaggregated Data for Agriculture and Rural Development (SEAGA publication)	<a href="http://www.fao.org/sd/seaga/downloads/En/GDDEn.pdf">http://www.fao.org/sd/seaga/downloads/En/GDDEn.pdf</a>
Socio-economic and Gender Analysis in Emergency Operations (SEAGA publication)	<a href="http://www.fao.org/sd/seaga/downloads/En/passporten.pdf">http://www.fao.org/sd/seaga/downloads/En/passporten.pdf</a>

<p><i>About Fishermen, fisherwomen, oceans and tides. A gender perspective in Marine-Coastal Zones</i> IUCN Publication (unfortunately the link is not well functioning, therefore the incomplete reference)</p>	<p><a href="http://www.generoyambiente.org/ES/publicaciones_uicn/marino/marinos.htm">http://www.generoyambiente.org/ES/publicaciones_uicn/marino/marinos.htm</a></p>
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**Books:**

<p>Rodríguez Villalobos, Guiselle <i>Diversity makes the difference: actions to guarantee gender equity in the application of the Convention on Biological Diversity</i> / by Guiselle Rodríguez Villalobos, Francisco Azofeifa Cascante, Montserrat Blanco Lobo. - San José, C.R. : Editorial Absoluto, 2004. 119 p. IUCN Publication</p>	<p><a href="http://www.generoyambiente.org/ES/publicaciones_uicn/biodiversity/modulebiodiversity.htm">http://www.generoyambiente.org/ES/publicaciones_uicn/biodiversity/modulebiodiversity.htm</a></p>
<p>Towards Equity Series (IUCN Publications)</p>	<p><a href="http://www.generoyambiente.org/ES/publicaciones_uicn/equidadi/equidadi.htm">http://www.generoyambiente.org/ES/publicaciones_uicn/equidadi/equidadi.htm</a></p>
<p>Aguilar, Lorena <i>In search of the lost gender : equity in protected areas</i> / Lorena Aguilar, Itzá Castañeda, Hilda Salazar. -- 1a. ed. -- San José, C.R. : UICN : Absoluto, 2002. 224 p. IUCN Publication</p>	<p><a href="http://www.generoyambiente.org/ES/publicaciones_uicn/moduloapi/moduloapi.htm">http://www.generoyambiente.org/ES/publicaciones_uicn/moduloapi/moduloapi.htm</a></p>
<p><i>Genero y manejo de recursos naturales</i>, 1995 IUCN Publication (unfortunately the link is not well functioning, therefore the incomplete reference)</p>	<p><a href="http://www.generoyambiente.org/ES/publicaciones_uicn/generomrn/gmrn.htm">http://www.generoyambiente.org/ES/publicaciones_uicn/generomrn/gmrn.htm</a></p>

**Books: (Available at the DIIS library)**

<p>P. Howard (ed.). 2003. <i>Women and Plants. Gender Relations in Biodiversity Management and Conservation</i>. London and New York: Zed Press and St. Martin's Press</p>
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**Qualitative Information**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Questionnaire included four qualitative questions. Consequently, the systematising of the questionnaire answers will follow this pattern.

<p><b>Question 1.</b> <i>What are the constraints/problems in applying a women's perspective or a gender perspective in the work with IP and NRM both within IP communities/organisations, within your organisation's field staff and management staff as well as within governmental sectors?</i></p>
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<p>a) <i>Within IP communities/organisations:</i> <u>Summary:</u> <i>The traditions and practices of the IP; Intensive exploitation of NR in recent years, through the state or private sectors sponsored by local state; The aggressive move of the central state in protecting NR; IP communities not questioning (powerless) the state; NR primarily controlled by male heads of households and villages committee; Weak position of women to challenge patriarchal structure in determining the distribution or redistribution of NR; Participation of women in NR management faces constraints by husbands, family and family in law; Participation if further limited in NR by work migration of male (husbands) due to increase burden of work in agriculture; Scepticisms of men (prejudices) on capabilities of women in NR; As major constraints, influence of male dominated patriarchal norms and values, Hindu traditions and culture and poor</i></p>
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*representation of women among IP organisations; Lack of awareness about importance of gender differences; lack of women's representation in some cultures*

- The traditions and practices of the IP, which prevent them to accumulate private wealth and resources for the future. As their practices have emerged out of the abundant natural resources around them the theories and practices of conservation brought in by the external developmental agents are not understood and resisted. Though they realize the fact that the natural resources around them are dwindling day by day and their environment is at stake and they are the worst victims of the current situation the resistance for change still exists. This can be attributed to their culture of non-accumulating wealth or resources. (India)
  - Under the socialist ownership, the natural resources belong to the state and the collective, IP only have the management and access to natural resources. Intensive exploitation of natural resources in recent years through the discussion of government-led ecology tourism project and to advocate for the right to be informed among indigenous women in the community. They were becoming hesitated and worried if they had to press the government for more information.
  - Natural resources are primarily controlled by male heads of households and village committees. Women are in a weak position to challenge such patriarchal structure in determining the distribution or redistribution of natural resources, i.e. the right to lands and other non-crop lands.
  - In organizing indigenous women to participate in the management of experimental fields, their participation are constrained by the husbands, parents-in-law, usually through the excuses of family duties in household chores and agricultural works.
  - In many cases when their husbands became migrant workers, all the family state or private sectors sponsored by local state have further infringed the rights of IP in claiming the rights to own and access natural resources.
  - On the other hand, the aggressive move of the central government in protecting environment again is continuously infringing the rights of IP in owning and accessing natural resources in their habitat, while the 'ecological development' of natural resources is usually transferred to state agencies or entrepreneurs sponsored by the state.
  - In facing these powerful state agencies, the IP communities usually feel powerless to question the state. We once attempted to initiate a discussion of government-led ecology tourism project and to advocate for the right to be informed among indigenous women in the community. They were becoming hesitated and worried if they had to press the government for more information.
- and [continue from migrant workers] agricultural burdens fell on the shoulders of indigenous women. Participation is further limited.
- Men in the IP communities are usually sceptical towards our projects, which emphasized women participation. They usually suggested to us that women are less educated and not smart enough. It would be more effective to provide projects to men than women. (China)
- Major Constraints:**
- Influence of male Dominated Patriarchal Norms and Values
  - Influence of Hindu tradition and culture.
  - Indigenous women are poorly represented on the Indigenous Peoples Organizations. (Nepal)
  - Lack of awareness about importance of gender differences; lack of women's representation in some cultures (The Netherlands)

*b) Within field and management staff:*

Summary: For one organisation working specifically with a gender/women perspective seems to be no problem; Difficulties in adopting adequate mobilizational and organizational techniques when organising women, taken into account their households and agricultural production tasks; Communication with target groups; Lack of gender sensitiveness; Lack of adequate capacity building training; Male dominance in organizational structure of IP communities; Funding unavailability; Lack of awareness about importance of gender differences; lack of women's representation in some cultures

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No Problem</li> <li>▪ In confronting those constraints of women participation, field and management staff found it difficult to adopt which kind of mobilizational and organizational technique to help indigenous women to organize according to their constraints in household and agricultural production.</li> <li>▪ Under the harsh realities that women confronted in IP communities, field and management staff found it difficult to find an entry point and a convincing and practical strategy to facilitate women to</li> <li>▪ Lack of knowledge about gender differences and their significance; lack of knowledge about traditional and</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ query the 'take-for-granted-ness' of controlling power in natural resources in the household and in the community. As the next step, inviting men to participate in such a reflection of gender relations will be a further challenge.</li> <li>▪ Lack of gender sensitiveness</li> <li>▪ Lack of adequate capacity building training.</li> <li>▪ Male dominance in the organizational structure of IP communities.</li> <li>▪ Funding unavailability</li> </ul> |
|   | <p>indigenous cultures and bias against these; male bias</p>  |

*c) within Governmental Sectors:*

Summary: Time arrangement; Contact, attitude and relationship; Discrimination in land contract system, as rational follows household unit and male household; IP communities committees are primarily occupied by men, so is technical and service personnel; Natural preservation projects take male officials as forest keepers; Promotion of agricultural commercialisation from central to local government, creating illusion of profits. Loss and debts drove IP families to intensify the gender division of labor in household; Exclusive powers structures of government ignore participation of IP; Patriarchal laws and codes imposed by the state; Limited budget allocations for the development of High land areas; Lack of knowledge about gender differences and their significance; lack of knowledge about traditional and indigenous cultures and bias against these; male bias

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Time arrangement</li> <li>▪ Contact</li> <li>▪ Attitude of the government machinery</li> <li>▪ Relationship</li> <li>▪ Women are primarily discriminated in the land contract system as land is rationed through the household unit and the male household. Men primarily occupy the village committees in IP communities. Men also occupy technical and service personnel in the townships.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The rise of natural preservation projects in recent years also takes male officials as forest keepers. The strict enforcing of forest preservation regulations has inflicted conflicts with women's tasks in collecting firewood, reclaiming fields for vegetables and cash crops.</li> <li>▪ The promotion of agricultural commercialization from the central government to the local government has lured or forced peasants in IP communities to change their plantation to 'profitable' or 'mandatory' products. The</li> </ul> |
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- illusions of profits for both peasants and governments usually take them to the ground to face the harsh reality of market crash. Peasants suffered a lot from huge loss and debts. The debts and loss further drove IP families to intensify the gender division of labor in household production.
- Most of the Key positions of the Constitutional Body are dominated by Bahun-Chhetris. (India)
- Exclusive power structures of Gov't ignore the participation of Indigenous Peoples.
- Patriarchal laws and codes imposed by the state.
- Limited budget allocations for the development of High land areas.
- Lack of knowledge about gender differences and their significance; lack of knowledge about traditional and indigenous cultures and bias against these; male bias

**Question 2.** *What are the positive and negative lessons learned of your experience with IP, gender and NRM in terms of:*

Comment

Positive: Understand their knowledge, traditions and cultural practices **from their perspective** before making any plans of interventions. Include as many IPs as possible from the specific ethnic groups in the teams at all levels.

Negative: Never try to convince them that they should take part in developmental programs, as the IPs are vulnerable. If you do it their self-esteem is hurt and they will never cooperate. Do the reverse to boost their self-esteem and convince them to help others with their magnanimity.

a) Organisational strategy and approach? (Are the definition of organisational strategies and approaches useful for promoting gender or women's aspects at the practical level in project/programme activities related to IP and NRM? In which way and why?)

- Yes, - Deliberate planned attempt to create gender awareness & to introduce and increase women's participation, in every phase of planning and implementation and process. Secondly with understanding the situation strategy planning is necessary to involve women and gender perspective so that unnecessary tension could be lessened or avoided. And it should be in line with the organisation's strategy and approach.
- We undertook a participatory action research through training indigenous women activists as oral story collectors and organizers. We attempted to enhance their ability in defining the problems and actions among women in the IP community.
- As a follow up of oral story collection project, we set up night schools in nine villages which became an umbrella organization in recruiting activists and developing various programmes according to the needs pronounced by indigenous women participated in the night schools.
- In the programme of experimental fields, we encouraged INDIGENOUS women to form small groups in developing collective capacity in problem solving and mutual support.
- Through developing activists and small group in various projects under the night school, we attempt to involve more INDIGENOUS women to participate in identifying needs, devising solution and decision-making.
- In Nepal there are currently 48 indigenous peoples organizations formally organized, and more are still to be organized. But from the large to the smallest indigenous peoples organization, indigenous women are poorly represented. There is not a single

peoples organization where an indigenous women leads. This is one of the major negative impact or hurdles the indigenous women have to face since indigenous men are influenced by Hindu male dominated values, culture and practices. Therefore, indigenous peoples organizations are mainly of men and do not provide enough space to raise the issues of indigenous women. Indigenous women issues do not get priority. Therefore there is a need of gender sensitised organizational strategy among the IP organizations to uplift the sub-juncted position of indigenous women. This will definitely help to promote the practical program related to IP or NRM.

- The importance of Indigenous women's role in natural resource management and conservation has long been recognized in Nepal. Nepalese Indigenous

women's contribution for making the environment sustainable is significant. They play a crucial role in environmental management as farmers, as stockbrokers and as suppliers of fuel and water and they interact most closely with the natural resources. However, integration of technological approach to manage and conserve those resources is equally important and for this it is necessary to create awareness among Indigenous women and educate them regarding the new approaches for better sustainability of natural resources. Besides, Indigenous women should be empowered, if they are to participate fully.

Certainly.

b) Project/programme guidelines, methodology, techniques and tools? (Are they useful? Why? How? Please specify your experience and enclose copies if possible)

- Yes – Otherwise it would be overlooked for example – Unless our govt. deliberately make rule of women’s reservation in Panchayat there was hardly any women’s representation in the Panchayat. Women were never allowed to sit in Panchayat. In the villagers also in the NRM Committee we are to make rule of 50% of reservation of women. Otherwise it would remain men’s domain as before. First we make women’s committee empower them through training and providing information, made them capable of sitting with men raising questions then make the common NRM committee with 50% seats of women. In our organisations executive committeemen represent 33% seats.
- We have adopted oral story collection as a participatory action research to involve indigenous women as oral story collectors and organizers.
- Before the collection of oral stories, we trained activists from each village and discussed with them the kinds of issues troubled them most in their villages. After identifying the issues, we worked with them to achieve a deeper understanding of the issues through recognizing the need to get into the impact of the problems on individuals and families. Through these exercises in identifying the problem, we can involve the local INDIGENOUS women to develop a checklist of questions into a closer empathetic/ sympathetic understanding of those issues and individuals in their village.
- Such involvement can enhance the participation of INDIGENOUS women in defining problems in their community and stimulate their initiative in facing these challenges. The initiatives, however, can easily be frustrated by the scope and seriousness of problems beyond their abilities and ours to help.
- Most of the Programmes that were implemented before have failed to address the basic needs of Indigenous Mountain Women. Programmes were implemented only on Paper and seminar but the needy users groups have always

been marginalized and have never get the access. Since there is a lack of disaggregated data of Indigenous women of Nepal there has been very little study conducted on Indigenous Mountain Women of Nepal. Difficult physical infrastructure in Mountain region of Nepal made the development agency to neglect the importance of the programs. Most of the key positions of govt controlled by dominant groups from low land areas, gives less priority to implement the programs and projects in Mountain regions of Nepal.

- Free Prior and Informed Consent needs to be applied in our programmes and policies designed for the sustainable

natural resource management in Mountain regions of Nepal.

The Experience with setting-up the SEAGA (Socio-economic and Gender Analysis Training programme) of the FAO (see [http://www.fao.org/sd/seaga/index\\_en.htm](http://www.fao.org/sd/seaga/index_en.htm)). There are many problems and potentials. I was, however, gender trainer at the FAO for five years, and gender training can be very effective but not if only gender training is implemented without concrete tools and a clear organisational mandate as well as resources to carry out the mandate.

*c) Training and capacity building? (Are gender training and capacity building of staff, counterparts, IP organisations, governments etc. useful? In what way and why? Please specify your experience.):*

- Yes – Otherwise common attenuate and common perspective would not be build we did it in our working strategies.
- We have little experience to tell about gender training and NRM.
- Lack of education and technical knowledge on proper use of resources has made Indigenous women more marginalized and economically dependent upon men. Therefore indigenous women leaders need to be involved in decision-making process for natural resource management and conservation.
- Therefore In order to uplift the situation of indigenous women, leadership training and capacity building of staff, counterparts, IP organizations, government could be very useful.
- Empower indigenous women to exercise our life skills, in health, education and decision-making and to play important roles in our families, communities and the indigenous people's movement.
- Carry out gender sensitivity programmes within indigenous communities and organizations.
- Strengthen Indigenous women's participation in all aspects of leadership and governance. Special meetings, leadership training as well as other training courses and exposure programmes should be organized.
- The role and perception of women should not follow stereotypes and women who are qualified and experienced should be selected as leaders.
- Exposure visit should be provided for the indigenous women to gain the experience from others.
- Indigenous women will be encouraged to take up decision-making positions, after gaining the necessary confidence.
- There is a need of capacity building training for indigenous women groups.

**Question 3.** *According to your experience what are the characteristics and roles of IP men and women in the management and ownership of natural resources, that projects/programmes should respect and/or take into account?*

*a) Gender characteristics and roles in management of NR. (Do indigenous men and women relate*

*differently to natural resources? How? Why? What are the consequences? Do indigenous men and women have different roles towards the management of natural resources? How? Why? What are the consequences?):*

- Women consider forest as their “Mayke”(Parents house). Men have the right and access to property other than natural resources. Where as women don’t have any such right they fully depend on forest. It gives them income, freedom and amusement. As women don’t have other resources they fully depend on natural resources.
- In our project sites, indigenous women are more related to natural resources in securing subsistence, such as firewood, vegetable field , and feeds for family animals. Men tend to strive for resources in developing commercialized agriculture for cash income, such as commercial logging, fruit and herbal plantation.
- Before the national natural preservation was in place, trees and herbal plants had been exploited seriously by local government and entrepreneurs from outside with men as primary labourers or collectors.
- The strict enforcement of the natural preservation regulation has not seriously affected the access of indigenous women to resources of domestic consumption, but significantly affected the access of indigenous men in obtaining cash income. Even though men and women recognized the need to protect their environment, they both condemned that natural preservation regulation made their living miserable. As a result, men and youngsters left their families to search for jobs elsewhere, so that they can earn cash to meet with inadequate food production, education and medical expenses of those left behind.
- Nepal is very rich in-terms of natural resources and bio-diversity. The forest resource has made a significant contribution to economic and social development of the country. In Nepal 81.13 per cent energy is being supplied by fuel wood for consumption- that is from forest sector (ICIMOD, 1999). Forest are indispensable as a life support system of Indigenous women in the hills and mountain regions, where agriculture, livestock and vegetation influence the ecology of the area and the lives of the local population. In those regions, households are estimated to have consumed about 3,198 kg. of wood per annum for cooking. Indigenous Women are the main collectors of fuel wood and fodder for daily consumption in rural areas. Since the condition of forest has been deteriorating over past few decades, there is an increase in time spent for fuelwood collection. In rural areas, Indigenous women have much knowledge about forest resources such as fuelwood, fodder and medicinal herbs because women are the main collectors of these products. They have an indigenous knowledge about forest resources and its efficient use. Indigenous Women exploit several different forests and numerous areas within the forests. They travel from low hills to high forests as far as six hours walk above their village. During spring and autumn Indigenous women go to the lower forests, visiting higher forests in the winter, not only to collect firewood, fodder, food and herbs- which are almost solely a women's responsibility, but also to cut nigalo, the bamboo group, for men in the village to work with. Thus, rural indigenous women have the knowledge of identification of species, knew species name, its uses, geographic location, reasonability and availability and conservation of the natural resources. Indigenous Peoples and natural resources cannot be separated. . For indigenous peoples preserving, protecting and conserving are important for their survival. Indigenous women are the protectors and conservers of natural resources therefore rich natural resources are found in the area of indigenous peoples.

- Indigenous women have historically, and continue, to play a fundamental role in the conservation, protection and the sustainable use of the forests, biological diversity and the maintenance of ecosystems. Our elders and our sciences foretold of the severe impacts of the exploitation and destruction of biodiversity.
- Problems of Indigenous women regarding natural resources management
- Indigenous Women's contribution to natural resource management is neglected.
- Indigenous Women have no control over land and other resources.
- Indigenous women are not involved in decision-making process for natural resource management and conservation.
- Indigenous women lack education and technical knowledge on proper use of resources
- Indigenous women are less benefited from natural resources from an economic perspective, since men control marketing of production.
- Reference to the book on Women and Plants by Dr. Patricia Howarts. Especially the introductory chapter for a conceptual framework.

b) Gender characteristics and roles in ownership of NR. (Do indigenous men and women have the same access to ownership to natural resources? Please specify how, why and the consequences?):

- No- Natural resources are very important for women. Because they don't have access to other resources. So women should get right over natural resources.
- Under the socialist ownership, the natural resources belong to the state and the collective, IP only have the management and access to natural resources. Intensive exploitation of natural resources in recent years through the state or private sectors sponsored by local state have further infringed the rights of IP in claiming the rights to own and access to natural resources.
- On the other hand, the aggressive move of the central government in protecting environment again is continuously infringing the rights of IP in owning and accessing natural resources in their ecology, while the 'ecological development' of natural resources is usually transferred to state agencies or entrepreneurs sponsored by the state.
- Through the state policy in land contracting and local Miao tradition, the land is allocated to households usually represented by senior male heads. Women do not enjoy their own share of natural resources as individual entitlements of their own. Young unmarried women are pressurized to leave their home earlier through marriage or working elsewhere, so that their land can be used to feed their sister-in-law. Married women are afraid to think of divorce since they have no land to live on after they left their husbands.
- The intensification of exploitation of natural resource and infringement of rights to access natural resources had pushed IP into miserable living conditions. To cope with the immiserization, many families have to sent males and younger generation to work elsewhere. The wives are usually left behind to take care the young ones and the senior members, and to bear the household and production burdens, as well as the economical risks and emotional stress from their separated husbands and children, worrying about their whereabouts and safety.
- Indigenous Women seldom hold ownership and tenure rights to land, trees, water and other natural resources. While women contribute most of the labour for agriculture, they rarely have formal control of land or ownership of animals. Mountain women's lack of control over productive resources means they cannot raise collateral for bank

loans, and hampers efforts to improve or expand their farm activities and earn cash incomes.

- Traditionally, most extension services have been devoted to farmers who own land and who are able to obtain credit and invest it in inputs and technological innovations. Since women often lack access to land or other collateral, extension services bypass women. This marginalizes the role of women in agricultural production systems by emphasizing high-yielding crop varieties to which women have little access. This also undermines the traditional knowledge women possess about agriculture and resource management.
- Indigenous Women are forced to travel greater distances to collect fuel and fodder as a result of diminishing forestry resources and a declining agricultural base. Environmental degradation in

mountain regions also increases the erosion of topsoil, leading to crop failure. The result is growing outmigration, food deficits and incidences of trafficking of Indigenous mountain women into lowland and urban centres.

- Reference to the book on Women and Plants by Dr. Patricia Howarts. The authors discuss this relatively in-depth vis a vis plant biodiversity.

**Question 4.** *According to your experience what is the best way to secure gender/women's perspectives in activities related to IP and NRM? (What advice could you share with us with a view to secure both indigenous men and women's knowledge, relationship to natural resources and involvement in NRM project/programmes?)*

- IP think natural resources are gods' gift they never thought to make it business but thought as care taker. This ideology should be promoted. Land, water, forest or energy should not subject of market. And control by the "powerful" only.
- Among the projects with IP, we have little experience in dealing directly with NRM, we have little to share. Perhaps, as a common ground, the capacity of organizing among indigenous men and women is an important condition for NRM to be effective and to meet their needs
- There is a need of gender sensitisation training among IPO's, government in order to protect gender sensitive policies and measures to empower women as equal partner with men, especially in terms of women's equal access of land, ownership and control over natural resources.
- Lobby and advocacy campaign with the GO's and NGO's to take urgent measure to avert the ongoing environmental and economic degradation in developing countries that generally affects the lives of Indigenous women.
- . Involve Indigenous women in more tree plantation, land consolidation, environmentally favourable farming system, multi-purpose forestation in marginal land, community participation and cash crop production.
- Involve Indigenous women in forest protection, cutting of branches, wildlife conservation, construction of dam and wall, and pasturing of cow and pet animals.
- Provide education on techniques of land and forest conservation, small canal, collection of rainwater, sanitation, fishery, safe use of dispose of pesticides, systematic management of domestic and small scale and cottage industrial waste.
- Provide education on efficient energy use practices, use of improved stove and renewable energy technology.

- Provide formal and informal education to make them aware on importance of conservation of natural resources.
- Set up of environmental information centers in each district, which provide Information, Education and Communication materials on environmental protection as posters, pamphlets and visual aids to schools and related GOs, CBOs, and NGOs for mass awareness.
- Pressurize the govt, to recognize the customary laws of the indigenous peoples for the protection of natural resources, items, and IP skills.
- Lobbying advocating and raising awareness GOVT. INGO's, NGO's and Media.
- Research and Documentation.
  
- Reference to the book on Women and Plants by Dr. Patricia Howarts.