



GENDER & POWER ANALYSIS

WATER FOR WOMEN is a 5 year, \$110.6 million Australian Government initiative that aims to improve the health, gender equality and wellbeing of Asian and Pacific communities through inclusive, sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) projects. A total of 19 projects managed by civil society organisations in 15 countries are being implemented through this initiative. In Timor-Leste, **WATER FOR WOMEN** is being implemented between July 2018 and December 2022 in Manufahi and Liquica municipalities by Water Aid and CARE International.

WHY IS A GENDER & POWER ANALYSIS IMPORTANT?

Gender inequality means that women and girls in Timor-Leste face greater challenges than men, with less access to services and incomes, greater workloads, more malnutrition and high rates of maternal mortality. Timor-Leste is ranked 132 out of 189 countries on the UNDP Gender Inequality Index.

Because **WATER FOR WOMEN** aims to improve gender equality as well as health and wellbeing through WASH, the Gender and Power Analysis helps to identify the key issues that women and girls face with water, sanitation and hygiene, including their “power” to make decisions. The analysis also makes recommendations about how the WASH sector can close these gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) gaps.

METHODOLOGY

Based on CARE International’s Best Practices Research Framework, the Gender & Power Analysis covered 13 areas of inquiry.

Data was collected through focus group discussions, interviews and services and social network mapping involving a total of 141 respondents, including 54 women and 87 men. Participatory analysis and CARE’s Social Analysis and Action (SAA) tools were used, as well as a secondary data review.

FINDINGS



Household Decision Making: Culturally, men have more power in decision making than women.



Sexual/Gendered Division of Labor: Women and girls bear most of the domestic workload, including fetching water.



Institutional Decision Making: Government institutions have many female staff, but very few are in decision making positions.



Planning Process & Community Engagement: The participation and needs of specific groups of people (eg. women, young girls and boys, people with disability) are not promoted.



Accessibility & Utilisation of WASH Services: WASH facilities are generally not designed to meet the needs of girls or people with disability.



Disability Inclusion: People with disability are not fully involved in WASH decision making.



Violence & Restoration of Justice: Gender based violence is common but women, girls and especially people with disability are discouraged from reporting.



Knowledge Management & Interagency Collaboration: Collaboration between the WASH sector and key gender working groups and associations is lacking.



Stakeholders, Current Services & Programs: 17 groups of key service providers and other gender, disability and WASH stakeholders have been identified.



Existing GESI and WASH Knowledge & Good Practices: WASH knowledge is strong but GESI knowledge is weak.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1 Include GESI Advisor in management and decision making bodies and structures of the project

Gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) expertise is required to guide the activity implementation, the development of GESI sensitive indicators, collection and analysis of GESI disaggregated data, and monitoring and evaluation across the project cycle.

2 Develop training and learning processes on GESI for program staff

Training and learning processes will enable staff to overcome discriminatory cultural norms and values about gender and disability inclusion and support personal transformation for staff to enable them to deliver a gender transformative project.

3 Develop and deliver a multi-level gender transformation and inclusion package

The project will create community level safe discussion spaces and facilitate to conduct multi-level dialogues, engage men and boys, and update the list of WASH stakeholders and available services regularly.

4 Develop a consortium position paper on GESI and WASH to establish strategic inter-linkages between GESI and WASH outcomes

A consortium position paper will establish the correlation among the four results with GESI as a cross cutting (with special consideration on disability inclusion) thematic issue with WASH.

5 Strengthen WASH sector knowledge management and learning system

The project will develop a project learning agenda on WASH, gender equality and social inclusion, analyse sex disaggregated WASH data and build on previous GESI and WASH experience and knowledge.

6 Partnership with rights based organisations and government authorities

Working with multidisciplinary, specialized organisations as well as government authorities will be critical for achieving multiple GESI and WASH outcomes through this integrated project.

7 Strengthen community structures and promote meaningful participation of marginalised groups in decision making

The project will develop a community engagement mechanism, develop and deliver a combined package of CARE's Gender Equity and Diversity training and leadership training, work with existing community structures, clarify women's roles in governance and advocate for their leadership in local government.

8 Develop and implement a Prevention of Violence Against Women strategy

The project will develop a prevention of violence against women strategy, conduct training, establish links with service providers and build capacity of WASH stakeholders to address violence against women.

9 Develop demonstration sites in the communities and demonstrate an inclusive WASH Model

The project will demonstrate gender transformative, nutrition sensitive, inclusive and sustainable WASH by focusing resources and actions at sites in Manufahi and Liquica municipalities.

10 Use multiple approaches of policy advocacy

The project will explore the possibility of forming a policy group with government and non government WASH stakeholders, build and expand partnerships with gender groups, and communicate GESI and WASH policies with communities.

