



Ensuring Climate-Smart Agriculture is Gender-Smart

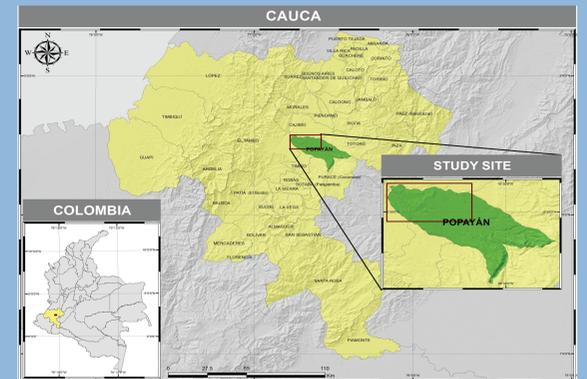
A participatory method for local adaptation planning with a gender focus

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Intro

This methodology is being developed to achieve the outcome that communities in Cauca, Colombia (and later in other sites across Latin America) use scientific and local knowledge to develop and implement local adaptation plans to improve community resilience to climate change in a way that does not increase gender inequalities and over time begins to reduce them. This is a participatory process involving communities, local organizations and CCAFS researchers. CCAFS supports communities with data and reports that are disseminated and discussed during participatory workshops. This process is expected to strengthen the capacity of community members to seek and generate new projects for community development and climate change adaptation.



CCAFS Site in Cauca, Colombia

The CCAFS site in Cauca, Colombia is comprised of 14 communities located in the rural area of Popayan in the south-west of Colombia. The main crops grown are coffee and sugarcane; farmers also often have small livestock and fruit trees on their farms. Soil degradation, soil erosion as well as water quality and shortages are common problems related to burning and deforestation in the area. Furthermore, changes in climate have generated increased droughts and more intense and erratic rainfall with floods, landslides and even further degradation of arable soils (Martinez, 2015).

CCAFS Gender and Baseline Survey



Survey data is being collected, analyzed and synthesized in reports to:

- Identify gender inequalities related to:
 - Perceptions of climate change.
 - Awareness and adoption of CSA practices.
 - Access and use of information.
 - Gender division of labor.
 - Ownership/control of resources.
 - Participation in decision-making processes
- Characterize farming systems.
- Characterize household types.

Participatory Workshops



A series of participatory workshops are being implemented to:

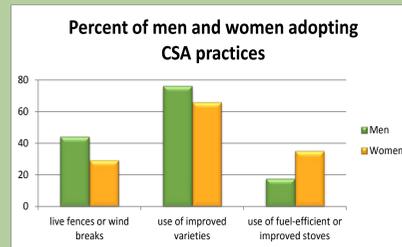
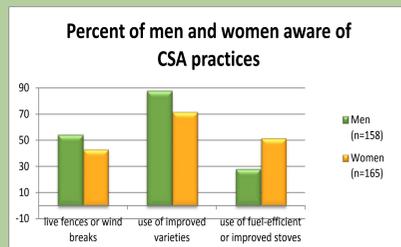
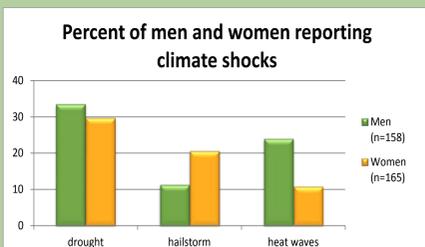
- Present and discuss survey and scientific data as well as local knowledge in order to reach a common understanding regarding climate change and gender; and how they relate to agricultural production in the communities.

- Climatic calendars.
- Agriculture production calendars.
- Exposure assessment.
- Sensitivity rating.
- Rating adaptive capacity.
- Vulnerability assessment.

- Build awareness of gender inequalities in the communities.



Ortega & Paz, 2014



CCAFS DATAVERSE

Local Adaptation Plans with a Gender Focus

This process results in community members selecting a portfolio of adaptation (CSA) practices to implement at the community and/or farm level to improve their resilience to climate change. Throughout the process all men and women within the community are invited to participate and take part in making decisions.

Furthermore, the process is designed so that this selection process considers the implications on gender inequalities related to workloads, opportunities to participate and reap benefits.



Conclusions

The primary output of this process is local adaptation plans that consider gender inequalities. However, the process itself is also an empowering process that gives information and agency (or decision-making power) to the community members. CCAFS and the local organizations are catalysts in the process, providing information and support.

Furthermore, this is an on-going process; it does not stop once adaptation practices are identified. Rather further information is collected, disseminated, discussed and evaluated in order to continuously adapt to climate, socio-economic, and political



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References:

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Martinez D., 2014. Territorios Sostenibles Adaptados al Clima (TeSAC) en América Latina. Copenhagen, Denmark: CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS). To be published CCAFS DATAVERSE <http://thedata.harvard.edu/dvn/dv/CCAFSbaseline>