GENDER AND PARTICIPATION IN AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

LESSONS FROM SENEGAL

Women in Development Service
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

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GENDER AND PARTICIPATION
IN AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

LESSONS FROM SENEGAL
FOREWORD

This case study examines the lessons drawn from a project in Senegal which used the participatory approach to design and implement a land development and management plan. The project title was "Village reafforestation in the north-west groundnut basin" (GCP/SEN/029/NET).

This case study is part of a series of working documents prepared for the workshop on "Gender and Participation in Agricultural Development Planning" to be held in Rome in December 1997. This workshop will bring together national officials from various countries in which FAO has supported institutions and rural communities to develop participatory planning designed to meet the needs and priorities of men and women, as well as those of national structures. The objectives of the workshop are:

- compare and exchange experiences aimed at reinforcing capacities in the use of participatory and open approaches to gender issues in agricultural planning;
- on the basis of these exchanges, draw up a framework or model for participatory planning in agricultural development concerned with gender equality;
- share this field experience with the competent technical divisions of FAO and examine the possibility of interaction with complementary FAO programmes, such as the Special Programme for Food Security (SPFS) and the Socio-Economic and Gender Analysis (SEAGA) Programme.

It is hoped that this case study will be of interest to all those who, in the framework of programmes and projects, are looking for ways to involve women, enhance their experiences and meet their priorities in the agricultural development planning process.
### ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACSDGI</td>
<td>Associative and Cooperative Support for Grassroots Development Initiatives (Sahel/Norway/ILO Programme)</td>
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<td>AGCN</td>
<td>African Gender and Creativity Network</td>
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<td>AIEDP</td>
<td>African Institute for Economic Development and Planning</td>
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<td>APRM</td>
<td>Accelerated Participatory Research Method</td>
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<td>ATLNL</td>
<td>Association for Training and Literacy in National Languages</td>
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<td>CCSIC</td>
<td>Canadian Centre for International Studies and Cooperation</td>
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<td>CIDA</td>
<td>Canadian International Development Agency</td>
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<td>CODESRIA</td>
<td>Council for the Development of Economic and Social Research in Africa</td>
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<td>FAO</td>
<td>Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations</td>
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<td>GAD</td>
<td>Gender and Development</td>
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<td>IDRC</td>
<td>International Development Research Centre (Canada)</td>
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<td>IED</td>
<td>Institute for Economic Development</td>
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<td>ILO</td>
<td>International Labour Office</td>
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<td>LDMP</td>
<td>Land Development and Management Plan</td>
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<td>LIV</td>
<td>League of Italian Volunteers</td>
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<td>MRDW</td>
<td>Ministry of Rural Development and Water</td>
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<td>MRP/EDF</td>
<td>Micro-Realization Project/European Development Fund</td>
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<td>MWCF</td>
<td>Ministry for Women, Children and the Family</td>
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<td>NGO</td>
<td>Non-Governmental Organization</td>
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<td>NGOCDS</td>
<td>NGO Council for Development Support</td>
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<td>NPAP</td>
<td>National Programme for Agricultural Popularization</td>
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<td>NWAP</td>
<td>National Women's Action Plan</td>
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<td>PREVINOBA</td>
<td>North-West Groundnut Basin Village Reafforestation Project</td>
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<td>PROVOBIL</td>
<td>Village Afforestation Project in Louga and Mbacke</td>
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<td>RSGFSA</td>
<td>Research and Support Group for Farmer Self-Advancement</td>
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<td>SAGA</td>
<td>Social and Gender Analysis</td>
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<td>SDR/WSC</td>
<td>Soil Defence and Restoration/Water and Soil Conservation</td>
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<td>SEAGA</td>
<td>Socio-Economic and Gender Analysis</td>
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<td>SFAP</td>
<td>Senegalese Forestry Action Plan</td>
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<td>SMC</td>
<td>Senegalese Mutual Credit</td>
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<td>SNADF</td>
<td>Senegalese National Agricultural Development Fund</td>
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<td>SPFS</td>
<td>Special Programme on Food Security</td>
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<td>SPWAG</td>
<td>Support Project for Women's Advancement Groups</td>
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<td>UNDP</td>
<td>United Nations Development Programme</td>
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<td>UNIFEM</td>
<td>United Nations Women's Development Fund</td>
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<td>VDC</td>
<td>Village Development Committee</td>
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<td>VLM</td>
<td>Village Land Management</td>
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<td>WAG</td>
<td>Women's Advancement Group</td>
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<td>WFHSCD</td>
<td>Water, Forest, Hunting and Soil Conservation Division</td>
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<td>WVI</td>
<td>World Vision International</td>
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1 US$ = 625 CFA (August 1997)
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SUMMARY

The study of the "North-West Groundnut Basin Village Reafforestation (PREVINOBA)" project demonstrates that implementation of a participatory approach helps create the right conditions for planning that is grassroots-based and takes into account gender-related issues.

The project strategy does not refer explicitly to adoption of an approach that is open to gender issues and the use of corresponding tools. However, the socio-demographic reality of the area covered by the project has had a certain effect on the content and implementation of the land development and management plan. In fact, the most numerous and most stable project representatives are women, and this has opened up the dynamics of the project to the issue of gender.

Over the last ten years, through partnership with PREVINOBA, women have acquired and/or reinforced substantial advantages: income diversification, technical, management and literacy training, improvements in domestic working conditions, information about and sensitization to development issues, improved negotiating capacity, participation in decision-making and the choice of action, etc.

Participatory approach tools, particularly those developed by the Research and Support Group for Farmer Self-Advancement (RSGFSA) ¹, the use of rural radio ² and, above all, application of the Accelerated Participatory Research Method (APRM) ³, have progressively given women a voice and the means for participating fully in development planning, taking into account the priorities they themselves consider important.

However, it seems that some of the tools developed and widely used in an approach and analysis that takes into consideration male-female stakes meet with an unfavourable reception. In fact, in the rural context, socio-cultural and religious values are still very significant and are sometimes out of line with the hypotheses sustained by gender analysis tools.

Nevertheless, in terms of agricultural planning, information and education on the concept of gender, gender analysis and tools that take into account men-women specificities remain essential for the project team. The same is true for the partners and even more so for the institutions and others involved in agricultural and rural development. It is only through a perfect understanding of what is at stake in the gender approach that the lessons, already important in themselves, can be capitalized on and systematized in development planning exercises.

¹ see Annex 1, technical data on RSGFSA
² see Annex 1, technical data on rural radio
³ see Annex 1, technical data on APRM
I. INTRODUCTION

Over a number of years, there has been a change in the way governments, donors and development partners view the rural world. The current tendency is to recognize not only the limits of physical potential but also the diverse needs of populations and to place the emphasis on the role these latter play in the exploitation and management of their land resources.

The participatory approach, a tool that permits the active and responsible participation of populations, grew out of recognition of the failure of intervention strategies advocated in the past as well as the relatively recent willingness of governments to integrate the "people's participation" dimension in rural development policies. It supports activities designed to encourage the decentralization of technical services, efforts to end State involvement and the privatization of production and management activities, including the exploitation of forest and natural resources.

In Senegal, the management of natural and forest resources is a driving element in land management because of the primary nature of the needs of rural populations and the exploitation of resources destined for agricultural, breeding or wood production use.

Complementary to the land approach, the participatory approach applied to the management of natural resources should be considered a tool that encourages an entire population to take effective control of land development activities. However, the participatory approach is not an end in itself but a methodological scheme that contributes to socio-economic development planning. It aims to modify the perception of everybody's role and to propose the sharing of responsibilities among different partners.

In this way a well-led participatory approach helps to identify all development actors, increase their standing and recognize their importance, even those who may have been "forgotten" from at the moment of project or programme design. PREVINOBA, firmly driven by a participatory strategy for concerted land management programming, is the example of a project open to gender issues, even though not necessarily "foreseen". Thanks to participatory approach tools, the identification of actors has shown that, contrary to widely held beliefs, rural forestry and land management is not just "men's business".

This case study aims to analyze the course of the project which, through adoption of a participatory approach and application of its tools, has obtained important results in rural planning, taking into account the priorities of men and women. These results, though not covering the whole range of concerns of gender analysis tools, can however inspire other experiences in comparable situations and help fine-tune gender analysis itself through the recognition of specific socio-cultural realities.

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4 In general terms, "land" refers to the space exploited, managed and controlled by one or more rural communities for agricultural production, breeding or wood production, or for meeting their needs.
II. OVERVIEW OF SENEGAL

Trends in the agricultural sector

Senegal is a coastal country in the Sudanese-Saharan zone, with a surface area of 197,000 sq.kms. In 1995, the population was estimated at 8,347,000, with women accounting for 52%. The national economy is dominated by the agricultural sector (agriculture, breeding, forest exploitation, fishing) which occupies more than 60% of the population. Weak modernization of the agricultural sector as well as uncertain climatic conditions have led to a fall in productivity accompanied by strong pressure on natural resources.

Economic difficulties have subjected the country to structural adjustment policies aimed at stimulating growth, primarily through improvement of the agro-ecological environment. This is why current national policy in economic and social development places the emphasis on sustainable use of resources. Planning exercises based on this policy agree on a participatory process in which the strategies developed and methods used favour the involvement of all actors. In this context, the forest sector in particular has played a leading role. Since 1990, the Water, Forest, Hunting and Soil Conservation Division (WFHSCD) has drawn on 15 years of previous experience in land projects. Strengthened by the results of this reflection, it has introduced innovations at the institutional level and has favoured the emergence of conditions conducive to the application of the participatory approach. Active and real participation of the entirety of actors in the rural development planning process is today unanimous.

Policies for the advancement of women

Women occupy a dominant position among agricultural development actors. They constitute 75% of the rural population. Besides their reproductive functions, women account for 81% of agricultural activities, with their average working day lasting from 12 to 15 hours. There does exist, however, a social consensus through which men help women in those tasks that call for a certain level of physical force.

Over the last two decades, significant advances have been noted in policies and programmes concerned with female advancement. Multilateral and bilateral partners and NGOs have joined these efforts and this has led to an improvement in the status of women and has increased their opportunities for economic and social advancement. To illustrate this dynamic, the following should be noted:

- the adoption of a family code in 1972, providing a favourable juridical framework for the defence of women's interests;
- the creation of a ministerial department in 1978, responsible for female advancement;
- the adoption of the first plan of action in favour of women in 1982;
- subsequent support for initiatives to set up and structure women's associations and groups;
- the introduction of facilities to lighten household chores.

The National Women's Action Plan (NWAP), 1997-2001, stresses the central role of women in sustainable development and the importance of their contribution is recognized in speeches; but, in reality, their work is still undervalued and under-quantified.

From IWD to GAD

In the 1970s, Senegal opted for the integration of women in development (IWD) approach which is still perceptible today. In the mid-1980s, the country embarked on a process of reflection and study
to highlight the results and limits of IWD. As a result, it incorporated the Gender and Development (GAD) approach in its strategies and methods. Currently, all development partners as well as national institutions have integrated gender issues into their analyses.

This is why various ministries recognize gender as the strategic axis of intervention in their policy orientations. Besides NWAP, drawn up under the aegis of the Ministry for Women, Children and the Family (MWCF), one can cite the strategic policy documents of the Ministry of Literacy and the Promotion of National Languages, the Ministry of Public Health and Social Action, and the Ministry of Technical Education and Professional Training.

One of MWCF's projects is concerned with promoting the physical and moral integrity of women, favouring their access to decision-making levels and setting up a legislative framework conducive to the establishment of egalitarian gender relationships. This project, known as "Promoting the Rights and Strengthening the Power of Senegalese Women", is financed by CIDA and supported by CCSIC. It is being implemented through "Siggil Jigéen" 5, a network of local women's organizations. It started in 1993 and a phase of consolidation was completed in August 1997. The project is expected to run for 5 years at a total cost of 1.5 billion CFA.

Donors have set up an informal network, "Women and Development". Dutch cooperation is particularly active and supports numerous information and gender training initiatives. Similarly, the United Nations system, specifically UNDP, UNIFEM and ILO, have contributed to noticeable progress in information in this field. Likewise, the European Union's intervention strategy for the management of natural resources explicitly includes gender issues in the analysis of programme cycles. One can also cite a number of institutions aware of the "Gender and Development" problematic: NGOCDS, the British Council, CCSIC, the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, AIEDP, CCSIC, Oxfam/UK, etc. The Social and Gender Analysis (SAGA) programme of the Institute for Economic Development/World Bank also merits note.

This social analysis and gender training programme is based on national programmes for agricultural popularization (NPAPs), financed by the World Bank over the last 20 years in different African countries. The SAGA programme has highlighted the contradictions and differences that exist between the contents of popularization kits and the expectations and needs of producers, in particular of female producers. This is why SAGA training programmes aim to match the social and production realities of men and women producers to the contents, methods and tools of popularization. A training workshop for trainers from Burkina Faso, Guinea, Mauritania and Senegal was organized in May 1966 in Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso). Testing of the educational material in situ is currently under way and is expected to conclude at the end of 1997.

Basic and applied research is also interested in the "Gender" issue. Since 1993, researchers and other development actors from several West African countries have come together in a network known as the African Gender and Creativity Network (AGCN) 6. Consideration is being given to the "tropicalization" of certain concepts of the gender approach where implementation poses problems due to their cultural weight and significance. Some network members (Ivoiriennes and Burkinabé) have produced case studies on the issue and Dutch cooperation has been sought for their publication.

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5 Siggil Jigéen: literally "hold high the heads of women or honour women"; network of associations active in the field of women's advancement, particularly in urban milieux.

6 The activities of the network started in 1993, with members from Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Niger and Senegal. The constituent assembly met in October 1996 in Niger. Membership of the network is individual and voluntary, Senegal has around 100 members.
Gender and natural resource management planning

In the context of the Gender/Sustainable Development/Natural Resource Management interface, within which the PREVINOBA intervention - the subject of this case study - is situated, it is worth mentioning an initiative of WFHSCD, supported by the Dutch embassy in Dakar and the FAO office in Senegal.

A workshop bringing together some 30 participants (land officers, planning teams, decision-makers, development partners) was organized in March 1995. In-depth reflection on the concept and tools related to the gender issue, analysis of the activities of two forestry projects in the light of the gender problematic and group work sessions permitted the formulation of the first elements of an action plan to use and integrate gender analysis in the sustainable management of natural resources.

Following this workshop, WFHSCD, through the "Support for Senegal's Rural Forestry Development Programme" project (GCP/SEN/037/NET - FAO/Netherlands Cooperation), called for a study in August 1996 to better define:

- the direct and indirect benefits women obtain from their partnership with forestry projects;
- the real capacity for women's participation in project implementation.

The results of this study should be used to the benefit of planning exercises in the forest sector and, together with resource allocation, including human resources, at the level of six of the country's eco-geographic zones.
III. OUTLINE OF PREVINOBA

The government of Senegal launched the "Village reaafforestation in the north-west groundnut basin" project (PREVINOBA) in 1986. The project is supervised by the Ministry of Rural Development and Water (MRDW) and comes under the responsibility of WFHSCD. It receives financial support from the Kingdom of the Netherlands and technical support from FAO. It aims to find solutions to the serious ecological imbalance in the area of the groundnut basin, the country's most favourable zone for the principal cash crop.

Deforestation, abandonment of the practice of land fallowing and repeated rainfall deficit have led to serious wind and water erosion followed by a fall of at least 50% in yields. At the same time, the population has faced a shortage of fire- and utility wood, and a precarious water supply due to the drying up of numerous wells during the dry season.

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The project intervention area, concentrated in the north-west groundnut basin, covers the departments of Tivaouane and Thiès, with a population of 658,862 inhabitants (291,672 in Tivaouane and 367,190 in Thiès). Average population density is 82 inhabitants per sq.km. The population of Tivaouane is mainly Wolof, Muslim and strongly influenced by the religious character of the area which is the main centre of Senegal's Tidjania brotherhood. The population of Thiès is Sérère and Christian.

The seasonal rural exodus has become general practice over the last 20 or so years. Men leave their villages at the end of the farming season and only return for family or important religious occasions. As a result, women are the stable representatives of the project. It should also be noted that the land belongs to men. However, women have easy access to exploit it for their own needs, though at modest levels.

PREVINOBA is now in its third phase. The aim of the first phase (1986-1989) was to better re-establish the importance of trees in the maintenance of ecological equilibrium by:

- improving and maintaining soil fertility;
- integrating trees into the agrarian system;
- improving forest product supplies.

From the outset, the project opted for an effective strategy of popular involvement. Thus its objectives called for:

- the design and implementation of a programme to increase the awareness, mobilization and education of populations;
- a contribution to the planning of a rural area exploited in a rational and integrated manner (agricultural, pastoral and forestry speculation);
- a contribution to the institutional reinforcement of the forestry service and the training of officers.
The participatory dynamic of dialogue and exchange with the population, as well as the results obtained during the first phase, highlighted the fact that the concerns of people in terms of forestry go beyond the simple framework of rural forestry. The second phase of the project (1989-1995) provided the opportunity to situate the question of reintroducing trees into the agricultural system within the larger framework of land management. As a result, PREVINOB put the emphasis on drawing up a land development and management plan (LDMP) whose programme activities reconcile people's interests, policy orientations in the sector, restoration and conservation of the environment, and improved production with the concept of sustainable development.

PREVINOB has reinforced its strategy of partnership by turning more and more to participatory methods and tools. Within an increasingly favourable institutional context, WFHSCD moved toward ever wider use of the participatory approach. In fact, the important experience of PREVINOB in this field has stimulated national reflection and decision-making in this sense.

The current phase (1995-1999) puts the emphasis on consolidating the lessons learnt, extending activities in the department of Thiès and setting up a working system of follow-up analysis. It also aims at a balanced opening up of the project for eventual take-over by farmers' organizations, governmental structures and NGOs.
IV. IMPLEMENTATION OF PREVINOBÁ

Methodology

Based on the institution of a technical services/population dialogue and the concept of participation and partnership, the participatory approach is the driving force behind PREVINOBÁ. Its main objective is to involve people closely in the design and implementation of all development activities in their local context and territory.

The participatory approach involves a series of stages, characteristic of a dynamic process (see table below). To follow these different phases/stages, various methods and tools are used: analysis/diagnosis (APRM), educational (RSGFSA) and communication (radio, slide-language, image boxes, etc.). This leads to the establishment of dialogue and the creation of popular involvement. For example, educational series designed by RSGFSA, such as "Living in a Green Environment", have stimulated men and women villagers to analyze their situation, identify their priorities and decide which actions to undertake. As a result, they mobilize their resources and know-how to realize what they want and to achieve their objectives.

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<tr>
<th>PHASES</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Programming</td>
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<td>Programme realization and management</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Programme follow-up analysis</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Self-advancement</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Thematic training</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Evaluation of current activities</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Follow-up analysis</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Return to programming phase</td>
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### Components, objectives and results by phase

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<th>Phases</th>
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<th>Results</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Programming actions at rural level  &lt;br&gt;• Knowledge of partners  &lt;br&gt;• Knowledge of environment and situations  &lt;br&gt;• Information exchange  &lt;br&gt;• Analysis, diagnosis  &lt;br&gt;• Definition of situations of reference  &lt;br&gt;• Awareness building, consciousness-raising  &lt;br&gt;• Identification of problems  &lt;br&gt;• Search for solutions, development of local know-how  &lt;br&gt;• Creation of partnership</td>
<td>Programming of grassroots activities by populations</td>
<td>Willingness of different partners to act and definition of responsibilities</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Programme realization and management  &lt;br&gt;• Organization of taking over programmed activities  &lt;br&gt;• Research, improvement through thematic training activities and self-analysis of current actions</td>
<td>Realization, management of programme</td>
<td>Concerted involvement and decision-making</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Follow-up evaluation process  &lt;br&gt;• Global evaluation of results, process, participation and joint commitment</td>
<td>Follow-up, joint evaluation of actions with contributors</td>
<td>Rigour, correspondence to situation of reference</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Local self-advancement and self-development  &lt;br&gt;• Return to programming phase and different stages (including awareness building)</td>
<td>Progressive acquisition and control of tools for local self-development</td>
<td>Solidarity and continuity of the involvement of all partners</td>
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### Main results

**Land development and management plans**

PREVINOBA has drawn up 20 land development and management plans (LDMP), of which 15 have been translated into the national language for more appropriate use by populations. In each village with a development plan, a village development committee (VDC) has been set up. The people make these LDMPs their own and from the outset they are responsible for their implementation with the participation of their different partners, including PREVINOBA.

APRM was used for the analysis/diagnosis and knowledge of the environment and land in which populations develop. Consciousness-raising of the various environmental stakes in play was carried out, calling for numerous exchange sessions between technical services and local populations. Identification of problems and the search for solutions were based on precise knowledge of the land, its potential, traditional resource management practices, etc. The role of technical officers was important for helping reflection and developing strategies, experience and know-how. The programming of actions that followed from these stages of reflection was characterized by the definition of objectives and expected results, organization of activities in time and space, the choice of those in charge and practical intervention measures, the means to mobilize, training and the necessary technical support.

The aim of the village development committees, authentic organizational teams, was to facilitate implementation and follow-up of the various activities.
Training and literacy
The implementation phase of LDMP often calls for the provision of training in themes which had been decided at the time of programming by the entire village community concerned. The training themes developed are tied to solutions identified by the people and support the realization of actions. Training thus aims to provide a complement to the technical knowledge necessary and to facilitate implementation of LDMPs. The training material used is diversified: giant writing pads, slides, film stills, brochures, popularization dossiers, etc.

During the first phase of the project, training in agro-forestry techniques was followed by 170 women and 286 men. During the second phase, training was given in activities related to tree nurseries, planting, assisted natural regeneration, windbreaks, soil defence and restoration, and the conservation of water and soils (SDR/WSC). This training covered both men and women, though available information does not indicate figures for either category.

Specific training was carried out with women in relation to the activities they wished to undertake. At the end of 1996, 1980 women had been trained in market gardening, 2382 in repair and construction of better ovens, 2224 in soap and cosmetic production, and 87 in the management of millet mills. Training was effected in the villages to avoid possible difficulties posed by travelling elsewhere.

Application of knowledge acquired in the course of the training cycles was immediate and led to very positive results. For example, there were clear signs of women's desire for better ovens. Despite the scarcity of clay, 8000 were introduced to family plots: 7000 were built by women, the other 1000 in metal or ceramic were purchased. For market gardening, a dry season activity practised in the nurseries, 65 villages put up an initial investment of 1 million CFA in 1994 and obtained revenue of 11.5 million CFA, even though part of the production was for self-consumption.

Functional literacy was introduced in 1993, in cooperation with a multitude of associations and partners: the Association for Training and Literacy in National Languages (ATLNL), World Vision International (WVI), the Support Project for Women's Advancement Groups (SPWAG), the Micro-Realization Project/European Development Fund (MRP/EDF), etc. In this manner, 26 literacy classes were opened bringing together 1115 listeners, of whom 90% were women. Literacy training turned out to be extremely useful in finding an accessible language for controlling the proposed new techniques in agricultural, forestry or craftwork production. In the same way, literacy training helped facilitate understanding and access to the mechanisms and principles of management and accountancy.

Micro-realizations
During the course of LDMP programming, a programme of accompanying measures was decided by the population. Its aim is to resolve certain essential needs such as water supply, or to develop income-generating activities such as the production of forest and fruit plants, poultry farming, cattle raising, etc. The activities of the accompanying programme can take the form of selective support or of micro-realizations \(^8\). Very often, the project cannot financially support these activities because they lie outside the mandate of intervention, nor can the population assume the entire financial costs \(^9\).

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\(^8\) see Annex 1, technical data on micro-realizations.

\(^9\) The participation of beneficiaries in the financing of a micro-realization is in the order of 20 to 25%.
PREVINOBA has invested in the creation of micro-realizations. It has supported the population in an action feasibility study, the search for finance and the training of beneficiaries in income management. It has stimulated a partnership dynamic between different contributors in the region, numerous NGOs in particular. In this sense, the following is worthy of note: the introduction of 5 millet mills with the support of the Dutch embassy, 10 literacy classes with the help of ATLNL, 69 bore-holes and 5 wells equipped with wind pumps with the participation of WVI and League of Italian Volunteers (LIV), development of a sheep-raising operation for 13 persons with support from MRP/EDF. At the same time, mention should also be made of the installation of oil presses from which 10 women's advancement groups (WAG) have benefited, and the diffusion of horse-drawn carts for transporting agricultural inputs and harvests for 3 WAGs.

The results of these micro-realizations are outstanding. For example, for cattle raising, where women's involvement is important, in a cycle of 4 months the benefits are of the order of 50,000 CFA per head of cattle.

PREVINOBA has also reached an agreement with Senegalese Mutual Credit (SMC), which has opened a savings-credit line to finance women's retail businesses. 15 WAGs have received 3,650,000 CFA. Monthly repayments have exceeded the terms envisaged by SMC and the savings of 8 of these groups rose to 191,020 CFA in 2 months. PREVINOBA and SMC are currently studying ways to access credit for the setting up of centres for the purchase of basic commodities to satisfy supply needs, provides management training to ensure that WAGs can repay loans, guarantee paying off equipment such as millet mills and handle their savings accounts opened at the national SMC office.
V. LESSONS FROM THE PREVINOBA EXPERIENCE

The PREVINOBA gateway

From the outset, PREVINOBA chose to intervene at village level. In Senegal, the village represents a well-structured and hierarchical social entity. In most cases, particularly in the department of Tivaouane, authority is exercised by the village and religious chiefs. Decisions concerning the village are taken after hearing the opinion of the village notables. Women are traditionally absent from the negotiating process, though the eldest are consulted before decisions are taken.

With the backing of the village authorities and, de facto, with acceptance of established rules of control and social regulation, PREVINOBA has begun building a partnership with village organizations and women's advancement groups.

To begin with, the project faced a paradox: one of the essential conditions for setting up a forestry project is the availability of land but the project officers were not able to count on this factor in an independent fashion. The period was that of the seasonal exodus of men, and women - the most numerous and most stable component in the project zone - traditionally only have access to land, and therefore to its management, through men.

Taking women into account as the principal representatives of the project appeared obvious. However, the project, oriented from the start toward rural forestry, opened up on the development of activities gradually responding to the needs of women as the project advanced (improved ovens to reduce the fatigue of wood collection, accessibility of water, millet mills, oil presses, improvement of family alimentation, etc.). In fact, it was necessary to recognize women's capacity to access and control production factors and to respond to their concerns.

The logic of the system of exploitation does not render them independent as regards land management nor do their major activities come under the domain of production in the "classic" sense of the term. Nevertheless, their participation was crucial for the project.

Women became indispensable actors in the design and setting up of LDMPs. The absence of the village men during the greater part of the year was incorporated as a factor inherent to the zone, though this did not negatively affect the realization of activities nor the programming of LDMPs. The village community took charge of the modalities of project intervention, modelling this on the basis of its social dynamic.

As a result, the planning and organization of activities took account of the tasks and responsibilities pertaining to men and women as regards reafforestation, the field of project intervention. Men were given responsibility, most often at an individual level, for assisted natural regeneration, rural improvement and the use of quickset hedging to demarcate agricultural exploitation. On the other hand, women were brought together in groups for reafforestation and cultivation of land obtained as a collectivity: they were also involved in orchards (planting fruit trees), groves (shrubs) and shade plantations in family plots. For other activities, such as the installation of windbreaks, both men and women were involved. Common reafforestation activities are most often an answer to environmental problems (for example, the proximity of phosphate quarries) whose negative impact affects the entire population.

PREVINOBA did not express women's participation in development in an explicit manner but the context forced gender issues to be taken into account. However, creating women's associations was more a question of adopting an integrative approach than a recognition of equality between men.
and women. Difficulties encountered by women were recognized (difficulty of access to land, unequal sharing of benefits, overloaded work schedule, limited financial resources, etc.). Solutions to these obstacles were sought: income improvement, access to credit, collective exploitation of land, diversification of activities, etc. Still, a second thought was given to the concept of reafforestation activities. Thus, at the level of plant production, it was recommended combining fruit plants (preferred by women) and forest plants (held to interest men more).

Through its strategy of participation and self-advancement, PREVINOBA has been behind light upheavals in a certain established order, without disputing the context, which have signified favourable advancement for women:

- land is more easily accessible to women: appropriation or facility to exploit;
- technical training (tree nurseries, plantations, market gardening), training in management and functional literacy are open equally to women;
- women gain significant incomes which are reinvested in the group or used individually;
- social recognition of women thanks to their know-how and their active and concrete participation in the resolution of collective problems: financing classrooms, soil defence and restoration work, purchase of educational material, mosque fittings, contribution to the purchase of hydraulic pumps and millet mills;
- task-sharing within families is directed toward greater assistance between men and women: husband's support in feeding the family during the dry season; participation of women in bearing the costs of repairs to the family oven;
- satisfaction of women's practical needs that they present as problems to resolve is among the activities held important by villages.

None of these changes call into question the village hierarchy. Women do not aspire to equality with men, whether in terms of decision-making or access to or control of incomes. The "village authority/grassroots group" gateway, coupled with bottom-to-top planning, has led to certain advances in relation to the IWD approach. This process does not, however, lead to the emergence of conditions that call into question men-women relations as implied in the GAD approach.

**The participatory approach and tools**

The choice of a participatory approach has led to the use of a number of tools. The following may be noted: village information meetings, programming of activities, evaluation of activities undertaken, animation sessions supported by material from RSGFSA, rural radio and the application tools of the Accelerated Participatory Research Method (APRM) for drawing up land management plans. Support material (educational calendars, posters, stickers, brochures, photo albums, films, etc.) and the methods of communication underlying application of the approach played a major role in creating dialogue and a climate of confidence. The tools of the RSGFSA method and rural radio were the most useful in promoting the process of consciousness-raising.

The combined use of the tools cited above has considerably improved the possibilities for women to express themselves within their communities and has directly influenced the method and content of LDMP planning. At the start of the project intervention, it was largely the men who spoke up, both for themselves and for women. The RSGFSA method, which sets as conditions for implementation the constitution of groups of men and women and the obligation of the animator to listen to advice from all groups, was an important step in freeing up the voice of women in village assemblies. For example, issues as sensitive as population/environment, in a context in which culture and religion determine family choices, were confronted using animation and information tools such as the
Today, the voice of women, alone or in the presence of men, has become an irreversible acquisition. In this context, project officers refer to self-analysis meetings where the women do not hesitate to indicate a man responsible for having failed to honour previous commitments. Rural radio has also contributed to giving weight to the voice of women, all the more so since the stage has moved from the village to national level.

The APRM used in the villages to set up LDMP is the clearest example of the direct link between use of the participatory approach and the creation of conditions for grassroots planning that takes into account gender-related issues. By way of example, one can take the list of priority activities in the integrated village land development and management plan in Ndine, in the rural community of Niakhène.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority activities</th>
<th>Beneficiaries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Improvement of water extraction and conveyance system</td>
<td>Women: as those responsible for water duties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extension of market gardening</td>
<td>Women: improvement of incomes and family nutrition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reafforestation for multiple use and energy savings</td>
<td>Men and women: income support Women: as those responsible for wood duties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cattle-raising</td>
<td>Men and women: increase in incomes Women: increased presence in economic and productive sectors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Re-energization of the social centre</td>
<td>Women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organic enrichment of soils</td>
<td>Men and women (mostly men)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creation of groundnut seed reserves</td>
<td>Men</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction of agricultural varieties resistant to drought and short cycles</td>
<td>Men and women (mostly men)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction of fodder cultures</td>
<td>Men</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Setting up a functional credit system</td>
<td>Men: for agricultural inputs Women: for small trading (NB: women's self-confidence increases)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creation of literacy classes</td>
<td>Women (during the dry season since they remain in the villages)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Installation of:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• millet mills</td>
<td>Women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• millet huskers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• millet threshers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• oil presses</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization of a health point</td>
<td>Men and women (the entire community, with the particular responsibility of women for child health)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This example demonstrates that the application of APRM can contribute to a type of planning that leads as much to natural resource management as to a better distribution of benefits between men and women. In the long-term this can transform unequal relationships into relationships of parity.
For example, in a society in which women do not generally take part in decision-making councils or are rarely consulted, women fulfil management functions and positions in the technical commissions of a VDC, the body that steers and implements PAGTs.

**Capacity improvement**

The improvement of the capacity of men and women after 10 years of PREVINOBA intervention can be seen through:

- technical training;
- management training;
- functional literacy;
- widening of negotiating capacity and exercise of power.

**Technical training**

Training in agro-forestry techniques (setting up and follow-up of tree nurseries, plantations, market gardens, soil defence and restoration) is aimed at both men and women. However, available information does not permit identification of beneficiaries.

Other forms of technical training are aimed specifically either at men or women. Techniques of rural enrichment are open to men, while apprenticeships in the construction of better ovens, the production of soap and cosmetics and the transformation of food products is aimed at women.

The training methods developed aim to meet the needs of implementing LDMP and requests expressed by different publics. Thus women have access to training that affects the production sector as much as domestic life. They can also call on a diversified know-how that is certainly much wider than that of men.

**Management training**

Management training helps meet the need of women's groups to honour their commitments to repay costly equipment such as millet mills or hydraulic pumps. A savings account is opened to ensure that women who receive management training take care to divide income in order to repay loans, pay running costs, cover depreciation, and ensure income for the operator and benefits for the group. It is necessary, however, to stress that it is rare for women to handle management documents. They are always helped by a man (husband, student sons or the "gorou mbotay" of the group).

**Functional literacy**

Through functional literacy, PREVINOBA has contributed to satisfying the basic need of widening the capacity of women. The most interesting application of the literacy programme is represented by the translation into the national language of LDMP, use of which becomes easier for both men and women.

In the context of the decentralization policy adopted by Senegal since 1996, it has been recommended that literacy be compulsory for local councillors. Does this represent a move toward improvement in the representation of women in the management proceedings of local collectivities?

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10 Gorou mbotay: literally man of the group, "he who helps the women every time they face an obstacle."
Women are the most numerous at literacy sessions. But the example of keeping management documents raises a question mark over the capacity (or desire) of women to profit from what they have gained through functional literacy.

**Widening of negotiating capacity and exercise of power**

The development of PREVINOBA has permitted villagers, women in particular, to act as real interlocutors for the numerous contributors involved in the project zone. LDMPs constitute a base for negotiation that allows for interventions to aim at village men and women. Contacts with a multitude of partners, as well as with financing bodies and banks, allow them to acquire new knowledge, to put themselves up against a different logic and, above all, to gain a certain level of self-confidence. This is very important in a self-advancement dynamic, particularly for women. One can cite the example of the president of a group who, after having completed a 6-month revolving credit cycle worth 300,000 CFA, announced the objective of obtaining 1,000,000 CFA. This is all the more remarkable given that the annual income of the head of a family is of the order of 50,000 CFA.

PREVINOBA has encouraged the emergence of women who participate in activities that go beyond the village context (training sessions, congresses, fora, study trips, international meetings) or the project context (a group president is an NPAP farmer-contact for agricultural experimentation). Even if this is the exception, these "novelties" constitute a significant step forward in the social perception of the woman's role and a demonstration for women themselves that certain prejudices can be overcome. The improvement in the knowledge and capacity of women after 10 years of the PREVINOBA presence is a reality and unquestionably promotes the establishment of more egalitarian relationships among different members of the village community.

**Gender information**

In the reports and documents that PREVINOBA has been able to produce, information -concerning above all benefits and results - is given in a global manner, making reference to the population in general. This lacuna poses the question of follow-up procedures and mechanisms as well as indicators that have been identified.

However, in its description of forms of participation, PREVINOBA defines collective participation as a temporary or permanent grouping of individuals motivated by the same interest. This definition is illustrated by the example of women's groups that facilitate the exploitation of land areas for reafforestation and the popularization of techniques such as the village/cultural association of cassava groves. Equally, group organization permits an improvement in living conditions and changes in methods of control and social regulation. In fact, membership of a group offers women the opportunity to participate in village assemblies and to influence decision-making.

In one report, PREVINOBA stresses the fact that women's participation is one of the factors of success and an asset for the durability of action. This implies that planning which ignores women will be unable to meet the needs of natural resource management.

Despite improved understanding of the position of women in the project zone, gender information and training remains a clear need for PREVINOBA. A number of activities have been initiated in this context. The person in charge of women's activities participated in a workshop in March 1995 on "Gender/sustainable development/management of natural resources", and a day of information on gender issues organized by the Dutch embassy in Dakar in 1996.
The project is being negotiated with the national trainer of the SAGA/IED programme for the training of officers first and then of different village partners. The aim is to complete the training before starting LDMPs in 1997-1998 so that the tools linked to APRM are more effective for collecting usable data with reference to the concerns of men and women. Planning will be all the more concerned with gender issues, even if the socio-demographic reality of the zone has itself imposed such sensitivity. Correct and in-depth information and training should lead to even more interesting steps forward.

**Links/Interrelationships**

Men-women relations in the PREVINOBAN area are controlled by social rules that the project found in situ and which it did not attempt to influence. Nevertheless, the "novelties" introduced by the project, in a context in which the debate in favour of women is fashionable, have in fact had repercussions on the status of women and their relations with men. At the same time, decision-makers, sometimes on the insistence of development partners, commit themselves more and more to participatory planning that takes account of gender. It would be paradoxical to speak of participation and promotion if all development partners were not recognized as central partners and involved as such.

Through dialogue teams, the formulation of LDMP presupposes calling on all the different actors (forest, agriculture, water, NGO sectors, etc.) active in the PREVINOBAN zone of intervention. The example of teams that dialogue among different services is an interesting illustration of the interest in creating intersectoral links. They promote the coordinated and harmonious action of different actors. They permit exchange of information, facilitate the necessary transparency of activities undertaken in the rural context and avoid the very frequent contradictions of different modes of intervention at grassroots level. Taking consensual planning as their starting point, all partners operate in the same direction. Development aid has long been weakened by the rivalry, double use and waste of resources that have followed. These risks are limited as soon as there exists an awareness of responsibility and enhancement of different skills.

To render planning exercises conducted among services more effective, it would be useful to make increasing use of gender analysis tools so that the different participants become more and more aware of issues related to male-female equality and open to relevant solutions.

**Institutional aspects**

Senegal's forest sector has benefited from an institutional environment favourable to the dynamics of participatory planning in use by PREVINOBAN. The Senegalese Forestry Action Plan (SFAP) adopted in 1993 chose the participatory approach to support the forest development strategy. As a result, the organizational chart of WFHSCD has been modified to include a structure responsible for guiding the application of this approach and for coordinating all subsequent training and communication activities. This national structure has been taken over by regional forestry services and projects.

This trend, begun in 1990, still suffers from weaknesses, particularly at the level of transferring experience gained from the projects to the regional forestry services. Nevertheless, the relationship that can be established between the grassroots and central and regional levels brings with it an interactive dynamic. In fact, PREVINOBAN has significantly sustained reflection at national level in testing, adapting and ratifying the methods and tools of the participatory approach. On the other hand, the project has benefited from the systemization of concepts and tools at central level as well as from the results of the capitalization of results that WFHSCD has been able to effect in terms of rural projects.
At institutional level, the other aspect that can limit the impact of a participatory approach is the degree of conviction and involvement that different technical services (central or local) have in terms of a participatory approach. However, examples such as PREVINOA and the Village Reafforestation Project in Mbacké and Louga (PROVOBIL) have amply demonstrated that application of the participatory approach in land management is a relevant choice for soundly-based planning.
SOME SELECTED LESSONS FROM THE CASE STUDY...

An approach that claims to be participatory does not automatically presuppose that all actors in a given society will be involved. The conception of and way chosen tools are used are determinant for a participatory process.

If a participatory process is carried out properly, it can give rise to the re-identification of partners, reorientation of project activities and reallocation of resources.

Keeping actors involved in a participatory approach presupposes finding solutions to the difficulties they encounter and the supply of answers to their daily concerns.

The development of planning that meets social and economic needs calls for satisfying both national and local needs, and responding to the stakes of all actors in the context of equality.

The implementation of programme planning in the case of land development and management goes hand in hand with the development of training, competent sources and complementary knowledge appropriate to planned activities.

The field of rural forestry extends to land management which implies planning and is not solely the competence of men.

Investment in information and training on the concepts and analytical tools of gender analysis integrated into the accelerated participatory research method is one of the guarantees that interest in the issue of male-female equality will emerge and will be followed by action.

A re-examination of the tools of the GAD approach in the light of socio-cultural realities is necessary for their appropriation by users and compatibility with the context.

Both decision-makers and field officers must understand the reasons for a participatory approach and for male-female equality to recognize their utility, take decisions and act as a result.

The social and economic reality of land is the starting point for highlighting the importance of gender analysis in order to be convinced of its usefulness in developing sustainable activities.

The come-and-go between the land and central services is essential for the ratification of the tools and participatory methods of gender analysis and for obtaining the relevant support.

The self-advancement of local development is a cyclical, repeated and continuous process which is, in the final analysis, in the hands of the beneficiaries themselves.
VI. CONCLUSION

The PREVINOBA case study shows that real development opportunities exist in Senegal thanks to a participatory approach open to gender issues, and sustainable, efficient and egalitarian rural development planning.

Rural forestry might be viewed a priori as a sector in which women do not play a determinant role because of the question of land ownership over which they have few rights. However, today, the field of forestry and natural resources is practically the preserve of women. To hide the importance and role of female actors in the planning and management of land and natural resources can lead in many cases to failure. The study "Impact of Forest projects on Women" notes that in 1995, in 8 projects in which data was broken down by sex, 81% of the beneficiaries were women.

In occupying land and introducing planning mechanisms, women have gained substantial benefits: income diversification, technical, management and literacy training, simplification of household chores, information/awareness-raising on current development issues, advancement of their power. Given the traditional Islamic environment in which they have grown up, these represent a significant step forward. However, in the initial stages, neither the dynamics of the project nor its strategy firmly aimed at participation did not take account of options open to gender issues. Gender analysis was not foreseen.

In PREVINOBA, as in the whole forest sector, clear needs for gender information and training remain unfulfilled if one aims at a systematic application of the GAD approach which will lead to planning more in tune with reality. Nevertheless, given the actual state of the social organization of village communities in Senegal, certain gender analysis tools, which would complete the participatory approach in terms of equality, can only be operationalized with difficulty. By way of example, most rural women do not pose men/women equality or the power of women as objectives. Others do not question, for the time being, the division and type of work according to gender which currently exists.

The outline of the action plan to integrate a GAD approach in the planning and management of natural resources produced after the days of reflection in March 1995 remains valid. This plan should be finalised to permit rapid application. The training initiatives that PREVINOBA has taken constitute the start of implementation.
ANNEXES

Annex 1: Technical Data

THE RSGFSA METHOD

Objectives/functions:
- Establish dialogue with a village community group on a theme concerned with management of forestry resources;
- Increase awareness of the participants on the theme, stimulate the voice of participants to identify and analyze the problem raised;
- Promote the suggestion of solutions and decision-making on activities to undertake and the involvement of different groups in the programming of activities.

Actors: Village communities, training officers (foresters, popularizers, community animators, NGO animators, etc.)

Place in the participatory approach cycle:
- Stage 2: awareness-building and consciousness-raising;
- Stage 3: identification of activities/search for solutions;
- Stage 4: programming.

Impact/community capacity to use the tool: Important potential impact, but implies well-conducted animation. The capacity of the population to use the tool is important, particularly if the figure drawings are realized by a local artist; the training of a community animator is necessary.

Linkages with other tools: Important: the RSGFSA method takes place after information phases and before training and programming phases. It complements the tools used in the course of these phases.

Cost: low

Conditions for implementation:
- Figure drawings adapted to the local context;
- Animators trained in group methodology and animation.

For more information:

Contacts:
- RSGFSA (Research and Support Group for Farmer Self-Advancement) 01 BP 785, Bobo Dioulasso - Burkina Faso
- WECCESS (West African Centre for Economic and Social Studies) 01 BP 305, Bobo Dioulasso - Burkina Faso

Source: "Participatory approach, communication and forest resource management in Sahelian Africa - Balance and perspectives", FAO, Rome, 1995
RURAL RADIO

Objectives/functions:

- Inform/raise awareness on the stakes of forest resource management;
- Gather opinions, expectations and solutions put forward by village communities in the field of forest resource management and make them available to planners and decision-makers;
- Provide village communities with a forum for expression;
- Exchange information, ideas and technical knowledge among villages and regions;
- Gather and disseminate knowledge and traditions in the field of forest resource management.

Actors: Village communities, radio station animators at national, regional and local level, water and forest technicians, village communicators.

Place in the participatory approach cycle: rural radio comes into play before and after the participatory approach cycle and can accompany all stages of the cycle.

Impact/community capacity to use the tool: Very important impact because of the use of local languages, the popularity of radio, the potential interactivity of the tool. The capacity of communities to use the tool is important as regards local and community stations.

Linkages with other tools: Strong: radio comes into play:
- before the different phases of the approach, to inform and raise awareness;
- during each phase, to make known and encourage positive initiatives and activities;
- at the level of follow-up and evaluation, to draw the balance of what has been done, to gather the opinions of the protagonists of activities, to disseminate information on successful initiatives, thus creating an "oil stain" effect in other communities.

Cost: Low for local stations, relatively high for national and regional stations primarily due to the costs of transfer to the field and transmission costs.

Conditions for implementation:
- Need for clear agreements with national, regional or local radio stations;
- Need to train forest officers in radio production techniques to create mixed production and animation teams;
- Need for good coverage by radio stations of the zone concerned and good transmission times for programmes.

For more information:

Reading:
- One Thousand and One Worlds: rural radio manual, FAO
- The Radio Passion, GRET, 21 rue Lafayette, 75010 Paris, France
- Convergences Magazine, CIERRO, BP 385, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso

Source: "Participatory approach, communication and forest resource management in Sahelian Africa - Balance and perspectives", FAO, Rome, 1995
ACCELERATED PARTICIPATORY RESEARCH METHOD (APRM)

Definition:
Participatory method of rapid diagnosis of physical and socio-economic conditions at the rural level and design of an outline of integrated development.

Objective:
Understand potentialities, the state of natural resources and the constraints of the physical and socio-economic environment, as well as people's strategies in terms of natural resource management.

Characteristics:
- Multi-disciplinary, rapid diagnostic tool;
- Easy use, permitting the acquisition of a certain knowledge of rural situations;
- Enhancement of local know-how;
- Useable at different stages of the participatory approach:
  - Stage 1: exploratory research;
  - Stage 3: thematic research;
  - Stage 4: planning;
  - Stage 6: evaluation;
- Visualization on paper of information (territorial map) or action (programming in time and space);
- Fixing a situation of reference.

Main information gathered:
- Characteristics of the physical, human and socio-economic land environment, systems of exploitation and the dynamics of land occupation;
- History of the land, training (training structures, projects in the zone of intervention, etc.), modes of social organization.

Main tools used:
- Animation sessions, individual or group discussions (semi-directive);
- Observation/listening;
- Reading the land on a participatory basis;
- Production of maps, cartographic documents and figure drawings: land maps, transects (morphopaedological units), calendar of agricultural and other activities.

Observations:
Importance of knowing the objective from the outset.

Source: "Participatory approach, communication and forest resource management in Sahelian Africa - Balance and perspectives", FAO, Rome, 1995
MICRO-REALIZATION (MRL)

Definition:
Small rural development operation that involves a limited number of coherent activities and which, through local control, constitutes a means of self-development for populations. It is an operation of reduced dimensions from a geographical point of view in which recurrent responsibilities are light and the time-span of execution relatively short.

Objective:
To satisfy the needs expressed by populations themselves thanks to technology they can control and through which they can guarantee sustainable exploitation.

Characteristics:
- The village which identifies an MRL ensures the design and management in whole or in part. It participates physically and financially in its execution;
- MRLs comprise development operations characterized by:
  - taking into account needs expressed by populations;
  - reduced size in terms of the human, material and financial resources necessary for their realization;
  - unimportant recurrent costs borne by the village community;
  - short implementation time-span;
  - use of technology controllable by beneficiaries;
  - active participation of the population at all stages, including the design phase;
  - total or partial control of the operation by populations as soon as they begin to operate.

Examples:
- Development of ponds, shallows and small irrigated areas (market garden areas);
- Installation of and equipment for market garden wells;
- Development of anti-erosion protection;
- Raising of small ruminants;
- Introduction of grain mills, improved ovens.

Source: "Participatory approach, communication and forest resource management in Sahelian Africa - Balance and perspectives", FAO, Rome, 1995
Annex 2: Geographic location of the Previnoba intervention zone

Republic of Senegal
Ministry of Rural Development and Water
Water, Forest, Hunting and Soil Conservation Division
SUPPORT PROJECT
FOR THE RURAL FORESTRY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
IN SENEGAL FAO: GCP/SEN/037/NET
Map of the PREVINOBA location

LEGEND

Regional capital
Departmental capital
National boundary
Regional boundary
Departmental boundary
District boundary
Water course - River

January 1993
Production: Cellule Aménagement des Terroirs Villageois
et Cartographie CAC PDFR/DEFCCS
## Annex 3: Administrative and demographic information of the Previnoba zone

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Administrative body</th>
<th>Number of rural communities (RC) and communes (CM)</th>
<th>Number of villages</th>
<th>Number of hamlets</th>
<th>Surface (sq.kms)</th>
<th>Number of inhabit.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pambal district</td>
<td>4 RC</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>701</td>
<td>62,352</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Méouane district</td>
<td>3 RC</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>1,015</td>
<td>81,078</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mérina Dakhar district</td>
<td>3 RC</td>
<td>292</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>632</td>
<td>59,163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niakhene district</td>
<td>4 RC</td>
<td>296</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>760</td>
<td>49,853</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban zone</td>
<td>2 CM</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>39,226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Department of Tivaouane</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td>23 RC + 5 CM</td>
<td>1,384</td>
<td>690</td>
<td>4,712</td>
<td>658,862</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Administrative body</th>
<th>Number of rural communities (RC) and communes (CM)</th>
<th>Number of villages</th>
<th>Number of hamlets</th>
<th>Surface (sq.kms)</th>
<th>Number of inhabit.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Notto district</td>
<td>2 RC</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>481</td>
<td>40,160</td>
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<tr>
<td>Keur Moussa district</td>
<td>3RC</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>575</td>
<td>55,675</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thienaba district</td>
<td>4 RC</td>
<td>187</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>548</td>
<td>75,690</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban zone</td>
<td>3 CM</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>195,665</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Department of Thies</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td>23 RC + 5 CM</td>
<td>1,384</td>
<td>690</td>
<td>4,712</td>
<td>658,862</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Women represent 52% of the population of the zone.

In 1988, the Office of Forecasting and Statistics published a list of villages in Senegal's 10 administrative regions. The demographic data for each village and hamlet are broken down by gender. In terms of the project intervention zone, demographic data broken down by gender are available for the 20 villages in which a land development and management plan has been drawn up.

Of the 23 PREVINOBA officers with technical expertise, one is a woman, responsible for coordinating women's activities. Women teachers or supervisors employed in the 23 rural communities covered by the project cooperate, as needed, with the project.

Population: 8,347,000 inhabitants

Percentage of women: 52%

Synthetic index of fertility: 6

Average age women at first marriage: 16.6 years

Contraceptive spread in rural areas: 3.3%

Rate of male illiteracy: 63%

Rate of female illiteracy: 78%

Cultivable surface area in millions of hectares: 28,162

Cultivated surface area: 3.8%

Cultivated food-producing surface area: 40%

Cultivated income-earning surface area: 60%

Number of groups with membership in the National Federation of Women's Advancement Groups: 4,000

Number of members: 500,000

Percentage of women municipal and rural councillors: 9.09%

Percentage of women ministers: 9.3%

Percentage of women MPs: 10%

Percentage of women village chiefs: 0%

Percentage of women mayors: 0%
Annex 5: Examples of participatory tools used

- Venn diagram
- Transect
- Calendar of women's activities and
- Calendar of men's activities on the land in Darou Nguer, rural community of Koul, district of Mérina Dakhar
VENN DIAGRAM

Dahira

Mixed Group

Young women's

Reafforestation committee

Bokk Diom mixed grouping

In Risso

Rural Community

Sub-prefecture

WAG

Drilling Management Committee

EGAM

PREVINOBA

Agricultural Cooperation

FONGS

CERP
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Fallow</th>
<th>Village</th>
<th>Shallow</th>
<th>Sorghum</th>
<th>Shallow</th>
<th>Millet</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mosque</td>
<td>sorghum, cassava, nièbé</td>
<td>groundnuts, nièbé</td>
<td>cassava, groundnuts,</td>
<td>millet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Literacy class</td>
<td>nièbé, sorrel, gombo</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>milllet, groundnuts, nièbé</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetation</td>
<td>Dambal, Acacia albida,</td>
<td>Azadiracta indica,</td>
<td>Parinari macrophylla,</td>
<td>Sterculia setigera,</td>
<td>Sterculia setigera,</td>
<td>Comretum, glustinosum,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Guiera senegalensis, Parkia</td>
<td>Adansonia digitata,</td>
<td>Acacia albida, Lankea acida,</td>
<td>Balanites aegyptiaca,</td>
<td>Acacia albida,</td>
<td>Acacia albida,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>biglobsa, Pilostigma</td>
<td>Prosopis juliflora,</td>
<td>Guiera senegalensis,</td>
<td>Acacia raddiana,</td>
<td>Adansonia digitata,</td>
<td>Ziziphus mauritania,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>toningii</td>
<td>Acacia raddiana,</td>
<td>Acacia raddiana,</td>
<td>Andropogon gayanus</td>
<td>Acacia raddiana,</td>
<td>Guiera senegalensis,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Eucalyptus camal,</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Calotropis procera,</td>
<td>Pilostigma toningii,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Lawsonia inermis</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tamarindus indica,</td>
<td>Adansonia digitata,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Village wood</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sawat</td>
<td>Balanites aegyptiaca</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animals</td>
<td>Cattle</td>
<td>Sheep</td>
<td>Livestock after harvesting</td>
<td>Livestock after harvesting</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sheep</td>
<td>Cattle</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Goats</td>
<td>Goats</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Asses</td>
<td>Poultry</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Deck-dior</td>
<td></td>
<td>Deck-dior</td>
<td>Deck-dior</td>
<td>Deck-dior</td>
<td>Problem of fertility, wind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Unsuitability of agricultural material, Lack of fertilizing species</td>
<td>Unsuitability of agricultural material, Lack of fertilizing species</td>
<td>Unsuitability of agricultural material, Lack of fertilizing species</td>
<td>degradation, wind erosion, parasites (striga, nematodes, insects, locusts)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CALENDAR OF WOMEN'S ACTIVITIES

January (Barakhlu)  - reconstruction of better ovens
- production of soap and cosmetic products
- small trade

February (Koor)  - collection and storing of fuel wood

March (Korri)   - sewing and small trade

April (Diggi)   - sewing and small trade

May (Tabaski)   - village cleaning
- grain husking and seed preparation

June (Tamxarit)  - storing of fuel wood
- seed preparation

July (Diggi)    - reafforestation

August (Gamou)  - weeding and hoeing
- thinning out of millet, harvesting early niebe

September (Raki Gamou) - husking, drying, storing

October (Rakati Gamou)  - harvesting of sorrel and millet, winnowing

November (Mamou Koor) - threshing, winnowing, spice collection
- drying of sorrel

December (Ndye Koor)  - groundnut grinding
- sale of husked grains
- basketwork
- sewing
CALENDAR OF MEN'S ACTIVITIES

J
DOMESTIC CHORES
(Repairs to concessions)

F
MARKETING OF GROUNDNUTS

M
FIELD PREPARATION

A

M

J
SEEDING-FIRST HOEING MILLET AND GROUNDNUTS

J
SECOND HOEING MILLET AND GROUNDNUTS - PLANTING

A
MAINTENANCE OF CULTIVATIONS AND PLANTS

S
HARVESTING OF MILLET

O
HARVESTING OF GROUNDNUTS

N
WINNOWING - THRESHING - HAY COLLECTION
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