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RESEARCH
PROGRAM ON
Water, Land and
Ecosystems

GENDER AND WATER LIFTING TECHNOLOGIES: Water lifting for irrigation and multiple purposes



Overview

- Purpose of the study
- Background of the study
- Findings of the study. Specifically, focusing on domains of:
Productive and reproductive uses, labor, access to resource, control over resources and decision making and, benefits, including income.
- Most important/interesting aspect of the research for CGIAR gender colleagues

Purpose of study

- To explore the intra-household gender dynamics of uses and benefits of water lifting technologies (rope and washer pump, tractor and drip, solar pumps and diesel pump) that are installed to produce irrigated fodder, vegetables and fruits in the dry season, and to serve multiple purposes.
- To fill a gap – As most studies on gender have focused on communal or public schemes – there is very little on the household level technologies that are rapidly being adopted



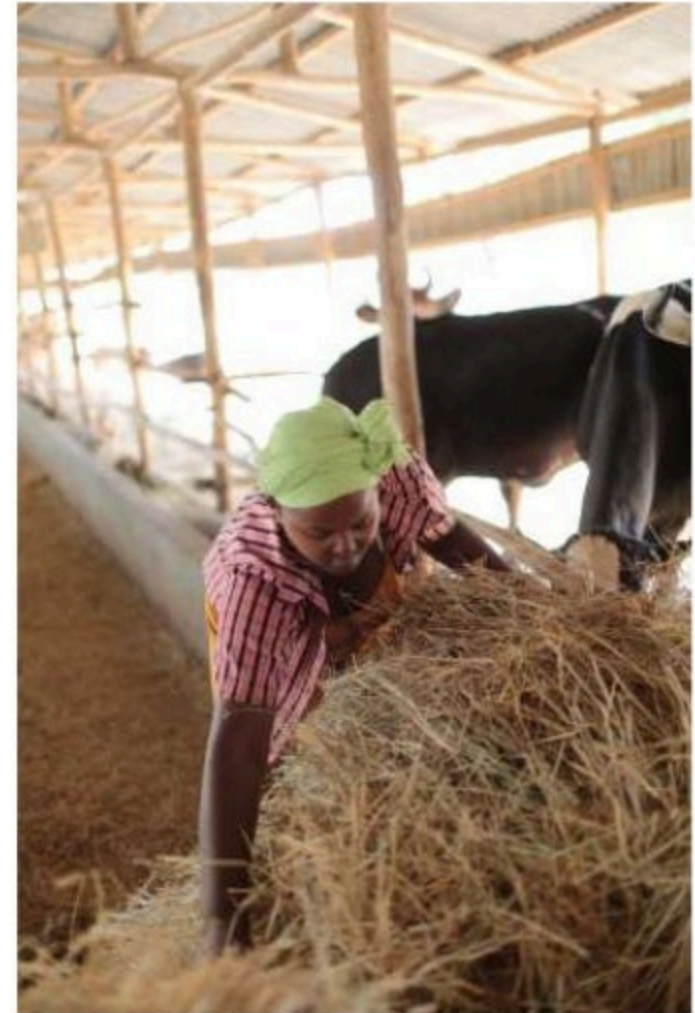
Method and location

- Ethiopia: Bale (Illu Sambitu Kebele) in the Oromia Region, Lemo (Jawe and Upper Gana Kebeles) in the SNNP Region
- Survey of 79 farmers (38 men and 41 women)
- Four types of water lifting technologies

- Study focuses on following domains:
 - Productive and reproductive uses of water lifting technologies,
 - Labor,
 - Access to resource (includes technologies),
 - Control over resources/assets and decision making,
 - Benefits, including income (from the use of the technologies)

Productive and reproductive uses

- Men primarily use water from these technologies for irrigation
- Women and children use the water also for domestic purposes and livestock watering (except diesel pump).
- Men and women perceived using the technologies improved water quality for domestic uses.



Labour

- Technologies ease work both on-farm for irrigation and for domestic and livestock watering roles.
- Locating the technologies near the home enables multiple uses and further reduces the workload for women and children.
- Improvements for workload related to use of water for domestic purposes and to increased work efficiency.
- Motorized pumps (diesel, petrol) may add to workload – related to the location of the technology, effort to move around technology that is not fixed at the household.

Access to resources

- All women and using technologies generally perceive women have lower access to resources, including land, technology, credit, other inputs and information.
- Women had less access to most resources, not only the technologies and credit, but particularly information.
- Women and men both stated that women and youth have significantly less access to information.
- Women perceived women's (their own) access to resources more positively than men saw women's access to resources.

Decision making and control over the technologies

Control over actual use: Who could use the technology? When? For what purpose? Who decides (men, women, joint)?

- Men mostly control the use of the technologies especially for irrigation, though there is a difference in perception regarding the level of control over the technologies.
- In most cases men perceive they have more control over the technology, while women perceive jointly control cover technologies, by spouses.
- Location matters: More joint control was noted for solar and rope and washer, both technologies located near the household with opportunity for domestic use.

Priorities within the household

- Both men and women ranked double cropping the number one benefit from technologies (increased income, food consumption)
- Following that, men and women agreed that livestock watering and domestic uses ranked highly, usually second.
- Social status benefits was already ranked as important, but slightly more for men than women.



Benefits of technology ownership

- Community perceived to benefit - though technologies owned by household.

Benefit within the household is less clear.

- Respondents state equal sharing of benefit within the household.
- Strong indication that men have more control over income from the technologies and control across seasons.
- Women primarily make decisions on use of the income from the technologies only for food and small household purchases. Threshold for income control that makes periodically harvested crops better than single-harvest cash crops.



Key results for sharing with Gender Platform

- Men and women perceive a range of priorities and benefits across household-level irrigation technologies – i.e. there is a difference within the household, alongside labor requirements (costs/burden).
- Women appear to have lower influence in decision-making within the household about technology purchase, use and how to use income. Women are not perceived as technology (asset) owners.
- Women and men do not necessarily benefit equally once a technology is adopted by a household.
- Threshold for women's control over income could inform project design (crop type, location of technology) where women are targeted.

Thank
you



FULL REPORT:

https://cgspace.cgiar.org/bitstream/handle/10568/79989/AR_Ethiopia_gender_water_feb2017.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y