
WATER- ENERGY -GENDER NEXUS

HANADI BADER

WATER GENDER EXPERT
PALESTINE

**Final Regional Policy Workshop on the Water-
Energy Nexus, Beirut, 11-12 December**
ESCWA

OUT LINE

- Gender verses Sex
- Gender importance
- Why gender in water and energy
- Palestine as case
- Gaps
- Recommendations

What is 'gender' about? Basic definitions

Gender

Identifies the social relations between men and women. It refers to the relationship between men and women, boys and girls. It also identifies how these relationships are socially constructed. Gender roles are dynamic and change over time.

This is different from 'sex':

Identifies the biological differences between men and women. For example, women can give birth, and men provide sperm. These sex roles are universal.

WHY IS GENDER IMPORTANT?

Why do we need to think about gender?

- There are socially determined differences between men and women based on learned behaviour, which affect their ability to access and control resources
- Access and control are also determined by other factors such as: class, ethnicity, age, (dis)ability, location, sexuality, nationality etc.

Gender awareness is about recognising that...

- Women and men have different needs based on their different roles
- Structural inequalities exist in every society that disadvantage women on social, political and economic levels.
- Women's needs and rights are often made invisible or ignored
- Men can also be negatively affected because of social expectations of how they should behave and what they should achieve.
- The contributions of both men and women are needed for positive and lasting change

Benefits of a gender focus

- I. The different needs of women, men, girls and boys are met
- II. Equal involvement of women and men has been correlated with improved sustainability of W & E programs
- III. Women are primary users and managers of W& E, so are well placed to contribute to planning, decision making and management
- IV. All in the community can participate and benefit from WASH programs
- V. WE programs can achieve positive outcomes for women, men and relationships generally, increasing equity and creating opportunities for participation

Risks of not making gender a focus

- I. Specific needs of different groups in the community are not met, which prevents realising communal W & E benefits
- II. Poor sustainability is a critical risk in the W & E sector, not making gender a focus increases this risk
- III. Women's perspective and potential role may be missed.
- IV. Benefits may flow to one or more groups but not all, creating inequities and potential conflict
- V. Existing inequalities may be entrenched or made worse

GENDER IN PALESTINE

- Gender relations in the WBG are unique and complex given the political and socioeconomic contexts of the two geographic areas. Despite a long tradition of women's engagement in political life and aspirations to gender equality, a traditionally male-dominated social structure and cultural values prevail.

Population, Labor Force and its Characteristics: The West Bank and Gaza Strip

Population ^{Census 2007.}	3,761,646
Population growth rate between two census (1997/2007)	3.0%
Crude birth rate ²⁰⁰⁶	36.7 births /1000 population
Crude death rate ²⁰⁰⁶	3.9 deaths /1000 population
Infant mortality rate ²⁰⁰⁶	25.3 death /1000 live births
Total fertility rate ²⁰⁰⁶	4.6 children born/woman
Life expectancy at birth ²⁰⁰⁶	Males: 71.7 years Females: 73.2
Illiteracy rate (aged 15+ years) ²⁰⁰⁷	Males: 2.8% Females: 9.5% Both Sexes: 6.1%

Population aged 15 years and over by Labour Force Status : 2007

	Males	Females	ILO standards Both Sexes
Labour Force Participation Rate	67.7%	15.7%	41.9%
Full Employed	68.6%	78.6%	70.5%
Underemployed	9.3%	2.4%	8.0%
Unemployed:	22.1%	19.0%	21.5%
Not in Labour Force	32.3%	84.3%	58.1%

Indicator about Public Life 2006

Percentage of women in parliament	12.9
Percentage of women as Ambassador	7.4
Percentage of women as Judges	11.2
Percentage of women in Labor Union Members	8.4

GENDER & WATER IN PALESTINE

Policies

Strategies
12- 17 GS

Action Plans
15-17

Gender
Auditing
2017

Institutional

Projects:TACAIF

Researches
MS thesis
Papers

Toolkits
(Gender
Mainstreaming in
WASH)

Guidelines
(GM Guidelines in
WS)

CONTUE..

Public Participations

Awareness
Campaigns

Gender
Trainings

NGOs
Participation

ENERGY & GENDER

Governmental status

- Energy Sector in Palestine still ignores the need of including gender in sectoral policies, Plans and programs



Civil Societies interventions

- AYCM- Pal (Rural Women & Climate Change 2016-2017)

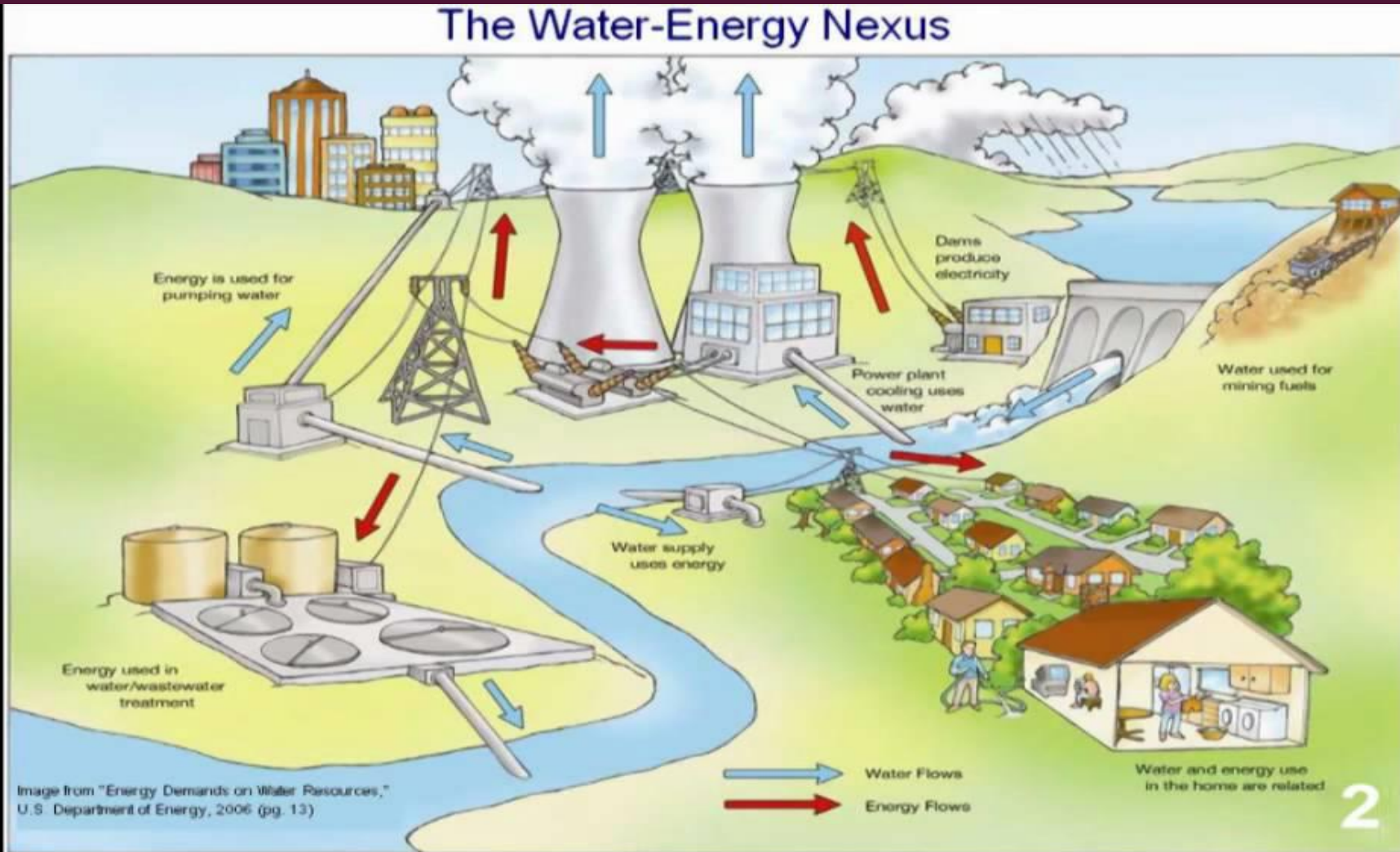


دور المرأة الريفية في التعامل مع قضية تغير المناخ في الأراضي الفلسطينية - المرحلة الثانية فلسطين- 2017

The role of rural women in addressing the climate change issue in the Palestinian territories - Second Phase Palestine-2017



WHY NEXUS



talkinggender



Water as well as energy have never been a 'free good' for the poor, particularly women, who bear a disproportionate burden with respect to their access to and control over water resources and energy technologies .

WATER- ENERGY- GENDER- NEXUS SEED PROJECT : PALESTINE

- Funded by Palestinian-Dutch Academic Cooperation Program on Water
- Aims to bring together different perspectives to understanding and improving the gender dimension of the water-energy-food nexus.

OUT COMES OF NEXUS SEED PROJECT

I. Scientific papers:

- A. **“Gender Empowerment and Wastewater Reuse Pilot Study: Al-Tireh Wastewater Treatment Plant, Ramallah – Palestine”, H. Bader et. Al**
- B. **“The Role of Human Resource Management Strategies in the Development of Working Women’s Behaviours toward the Use of Renewable Energy: A Case from Egypt”, S. Eltahery**
- C. **“Overview on Innovative Ways of gender Empowerment on the Water-Energy-Food Nexus in Morocco”, S. Bouchikhi**

CONTINUE...

- **2. International workshop**
- **3. Consortium formed**
- **4. proposals submission and follow up with researches**

GAPS

Gender inequality is a significant barrier to sustainable development

Lack of situational analysis

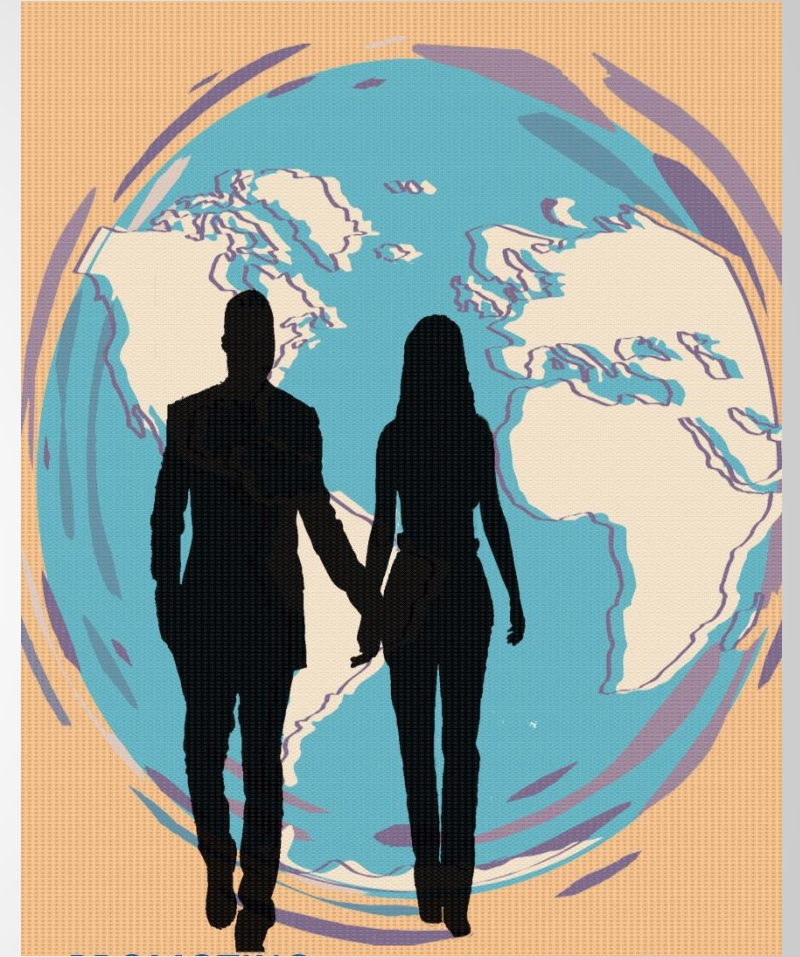
Lack of disaggregated data

No gender analysis

Gender experiences is not documented in an official forms

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Collecting and analyzing sex-disaggregated data
- Strengthening the most vulnerable strata involvement in environmental decision-making
- Institutionalization of gender approach in water and energy sectors
- Gap identification and recognizing of gender practical and strategic needs



To achieve SDGs : shift from equality to harmony