



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

## Annex 8

# Gender Assessment and Action Plan

---

*For the GCF-FAO Project “Adapting Philippine Agriculture to Climate Change”*

MAY 2022

## Contents

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS .....	5
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY .....	7
Gender Parity in the Philippines .....	7
Women in Agriculture.....	8
Women and Climate Change in Agriculture .....	9
Women and Adapting Agriculture to Changing Climate.....	9
PART I: GENDER ASSESSMENT .....	11
1. INTRODUCTION.....	11
1.1 Project Introduction from Gender Perspective .....	11
1.2 Objective of the Assessment.....	12
1.2.1 Rationale.....	12
1.2.2 Objective .....	13
2. METHODOLOGY.....	13
3. LEGAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND SPIRITUAL FRAMEWORK .....	14
3.1 Protection of Women and Gender Equality.....	14
3.2 Agriculture, Climate Change and Indigenous Peoples Policies on Gender .....	18
3.2.1 Gender and Agriculture Policy .....	18
3.2.2 Gender and Livestock Policy .....	18
3.2.3 Gender and Climate Change Policy .....	19
3.2.4 Gender and Indigenous Peoples Policy.....	20
3.2.5 Mechanism for Gender Mainstreaming .....	21
3.3 Agriculture, Climate Information and Indigenous Peoples Services on Gender.....	22
3.3.1 Gender and Agriculture Extension Services .....	22
3.3.2 Gender and Climate Information Services.....	23
3.3.3 Gender and Indigenous Peoples Protection .....	23
4. GENDER IN RURAL PHILIPPINES .....	24
4.1 Basic Statistics .....	24
4.1.1 Gender Parity .....	24
4.1.2 Population .....	26
4.1.3 Literacy and Education .....	27
4.1.4 Poverty and Wealth.....	29
4.1.5 Marriage .....	29
4.1.6 Religion .....	31
4.2 Labor Division, Decision Making and Autonomy .....	32
4.2.1 Crops .....	32
4.2.2 Livestock.....	33

4.2.3 Household and care Work .....	34
4.2.4 Supplementary Income .....	34
4.2.5 Decision Making and Autonomy.....	35
<b>4.3 Agricultural Resources and Services: Access and Ownership .....</b>	<b>37</b>
4.3.1 Land, House and Livestock .....	37
4.3.2 Agriculture Extension Services .....	38
4.3.3 Climate Information Services.....	39
4.3.4 Agricultural Credit .....	40
4.3.5 Agricultural Insurance .....	41
4.3.5 Mobile Phone and the Internet .....	42
4.3.7 Other Sources of Information.....	43
4.3.8 Access to Markets .....	45
<b>4.4 Water and Sanitation .....</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>4.5 Health.....</b>	<b>47</b>
4.5.1 General Health .....	47
4.5.2 Reproductive Health.....	48
<b>4.6 Coping with Negative Shocks .....</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>4.7 Indigenous Women in Agriculture .....</b>	<b>52</b>
4.7.1 Indigenous Food Production Systems and Forest Management .....	52
4.7.2 Agta Women.....	53
4.7.3 Women in Cordillera Autonomous Region .....	57
4.7.4 Women in Mindanao.....	60
<b>4.8 Youth and Agriculture .....</b>	<b>61</b>
<b>4.9 Women's Knowledge .....</b>	<b>62</b>
<b>5. SOCIAL PARTICIPATION OF RURAL FILIPINO WOMEN.....</b>	<b>64</b>
5.1 Rural Women's Voice in Politics.....	64
5.2 Farmer Organizations.....	65
<b>6. RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR FEMALE FARMERS FACING CLIMATE CHANGE .....</b>	<b>66</b>
<b>7. PRINCIPLES OF PROJECT FORMULATION AND IMPLEMENTATION .....</b>	<b>68</b>
7.1 Guiding FAO and GCF Policies and Frameworks .....	68
7.2 Principles of Project Formulation.....	69
7.1.1 Female Farmers as Agents of Change.....	69
7.1.2 Higher Equality in Strategic Decision Making .....	70
7.1.3 Working with Nature: observations and adjustments .....	71
7.1.4 Indigenous Peoples as Guardians of Climate Resilient Agriculture.....	71
7.1.5 Self-Reliance as Climate Change Resilience: ownership, sustainability and collectivity .....	72
7.1.6 Social Media for Rapid Communication .....	72
<b>7.2 Principles of Project Implementation .....</b>	<b>73</b>

7.2.1 Provision of Ecosystem, Health and Livelihood Services .....	73
7.2.2 Sharing the Driver's Seat with Farmers .....	73
7.2.3 Women, Indigenous Peoples and Youth as Strategic Decision Makers .....	75
7.2.4 Respecting the Indigenous Peoples: rights to knowledge and self determination .....	76
7.2.5 Building on the Strengths of Women, Indigenous Peoples and Youth .....	76
7.2.6 Preventing increased risks of SEAH and GBV.....	76
<b>8. FIELD CONSULTATION: PARTNERS AND QUESTIONS .....</b>	<b>78</b>
<b>8.1 Consultation Partners .....</b>	<b>78</b>
<b>8.2 Consultation Questions.....</b>	<b>82</b>
8.2.1. Core Consultation Questions for Institutions .....	82
8.2.2 Core Consultation Questions for Female Farmers.....	82
<b>PART II: GENDER ACTION PLAN .....</b>	<b>83</b>
<b>1. INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>83</b>
<b>2. GENDER ACTION PLAN .....</b>	<b>88</b>

## ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AFA	Asian Farmers' Association for Sustainable Rural Development
ARMM	Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
ASA	Association for Social Advancement
ASEAN	Association of South East Asian Nations
BBC	British Broadcasting Corporation
BSDL	Banco Santiago de Libon
CAR	Cordillera Autonomous Region
CARD	Center for Agriculture and Rural Development
CARL	Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law
CC	Climate Change
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
CIS	Climate Information System
CRA	Climate Resilient Agriculture
DA	Department of Agriculture, Republic of Philippines
DAR	Department of Agrarian Reform, Republic of Philippines
DSWD	Department of Social Welfare and Development, Republic of Philippines
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FFS	Farmer Field School
GAD	Gender and Development
GBV	Gender based violence
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GRM	Grievance and Redress Mechanism
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
IPM	integrated Pest Management
IPRA	Indigenous Peoples' Rights Act of 1997
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
LGU	Local Government Unit
MAFC	Municipal Agricultural and Fisheries Council
MARO	Municipal Agrarian Reform Officer
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NCIP	National Commission on Indigenous Peoples
NFSCC	National Framework Strategy on Climate Change
O&M	Operation and Maintenance
PAGASA	Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration
PCW	Philippine Commission on Women
PhiDHRRRA	Philippine Development of Human Resources in Rural Asia
PMO	Project Management Office
RAFC	Regional Agricultural and Fisheries Council
RIC	Rural Improvement Club
RSBSA	Registry System for Basic Sectors in Agriculture
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SEAH	Sexual Exploitation, Sexual Abuse, and Sexual Harassment
SOCCSKSARGEN	Administrative region consisting of four provinces (South Cotabato, Cotabato, Sultan Kudarat and Sarangani). The acronym reflects these provinces and one of its cities (General Santos).
TBD	To be determined
TWG	Technical Working Group
UMA Pilipinas	Unyon ng mga Manggagawa sa Agrikultura

UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
USD	United States Dollar
WASH	Water, sanitation and hygiene
WHO	World Health Organization

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Gender Parity in the Philippines

1 The Philippines has been classified as one of the top ten countries in the world in terms of making considerable strides in advancing gender equality, including gender parity and wage equality in recent years. Its laws and policies aspire to attain gender equality. Literacy rates are high at over 96% for both women and men. With respect to education, net enrolment and cohort survival rates are higher for women than for men. The positions of legislators, senior officials and managers are equally divided between women and men. Proportionately more women have access to the internet than men. On the other hand, government policies on agriculture and livestock, which affect the livelihoods of the rural people, have not shown great interest in gender. Climate change policies pay a fair amount of attention to social inclusion issues, but without practical guidance on addressing the concerns. Gender mainstreaming in development has been overseen by the Philippine Commission of Women, but the efficacy of the efforts is yet to be analyzed.

2 Country rankings are dependent on a small set of officially and widely available national statistics, which are not well suited to measuring the lives of the underprivileged whose existence may be entirely informal. What they highlight is the parity at each social stratum, in particular the upper crust, which may be higher than the overall equality in the society. The same problems affect the gender parity on political empowerment. Net income and wealth equalities are quite high, suggesting a bigger inequality among women than between women and men of the same socioeconomic circumstances.

3 The role and status of women differ greatly among the indigenous peoples in the Philippines: from the egalitarian Agta, slightly more gender differentiated peoples throughout Cordillera plus some in Mindanao, to substantially gender unequal tribes in Mindanao. In terms of gender parity, the non-indigenous Filipinos in the rural areas today could be said roughly on par with the people in Cordillera, who used to assign traditional and prestigious roles to women.

4 The Philippine women overall participate well in decision making at the household level, where they have equal or nearly equal decision-making power as men.<sup>1</sup> The norm is to pool the incomes and decide on the spending jointly, non-indigenous households in the rural areas and indigenous households in Cordillera alike. When there is disagreement about spending that cannot be resolved, it is the husband's opinion that prevails, according to the farmers who were interviewed for project formulation. Household work and caregiving are entirely on the women's shoulders, and the women are the sole decision makers when it comes to day-to-day matters.

5 Although the Philippines has made substantial progress towards gender equality, including closing gaps in economic participation,<sup>2</sup> challenges for obtaining gender equality include: constrictive laws and socio-cultural norms related to marriage, policies restricting reproductive rights, and gender-based violence. Formal divorce is not permitted, except for Muslims, and the system penalizes Christian women more than Christian men because of social stigma. The country is the 12<sup>th</sup> highest in the world in absolute number of child brides. The population growth was high at 1.4 % in 2019, likely because of poor access to reproductive information. Early childbearing is more pronounced in the rural than in urban areas. Slightly less than a third of births among teenage mothers were reported as

---

<sup>1</sup> E.g. Maligalig, R., Demont, M., Umberger, W.J., Peralta, A. 2019. Off-farm employment increases women's empowerment: Evidence from rice farms in the Philippines. *Journal of Rural Studies*, 71: 62-72; Verzosa F, Cabriole MA, Thant PS, Phn B, Itliong K, Myae C, Thong C, Urdelas FG, Naun YW, Moe MZ, Tola C, Barbon WJ, Monville-Oro E, Gonsalves J. 2021. Pathways to Women's Empowerment in the Promotion of Climate Smart Agriculture in the Philippines, Myanmar, and Cambodia. Wageningen, the Netherlands: CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS), p. 54.

<sup>2</sup> World Economic Forum (WEF). 2021. Global Gender Gap Report. Geneva, Switzerland. Available online: <https://www.weforum.org/reports/global-gender-gap-report-2021/>

unplanned. More than one in ten Philippine women considered it just that their husbands hit or beat them if they neglected the children. Acceptance of violence was higher in the rural areas and decreased with wealth. Sixteen percent of the poorest women thought it just that their husbands resorted to violence when the women neglected their children.

6 The Philippine government spends somewhat less than what the World Health Organization (WHO) recommends as the proportion of GDP for public health. The incidences of tuberculosis and hepatitis B are as high as in the neighboring island countries with much lower GDP per capita, as are rates of maternal mortality (114 per 100,000 live births) and of mortality from unsafe water, sanitation and health practices (4.2 per 100,000), although Philippine women are well educated and in charge of family health issues.

7 Women have somewhat higher access to all forms of mass media, including the internet. Every female farmer in the rural area has a mobile phone, which is 2G or of later standards. Each rural family has at least one 3G phone, and the poor engage nearly twice as much as the better-off in social interaction using the internet. Television was the major source of entertainment, and the radio for the news. The source of news may be shifting to the internet, as many farmers interviewed referred to Facebook for the latest information on natural disasters. The problem with the internet is its affordability, lack of information on reproductive health that women would find most useful, and lack of telecommunication coverage of any kind in the remote areas.

### Women in Agriculture

8 The official statistics imply that the managing responsibilities in agriculture lie with men, while more women are engaged in farming than men. For non-indigenous households in the rural areas and indigenous households in Cordillera, the division of agricultural work is not very strict, although any task involving machines and physically demanding work are carried out by men. Women in these communities are considered more adept than men at negotiating and managing finances and are given corresponding responsibilities. It is also women who principally participate in trainings, although in more patriarchal societies in Mindanao men are the ones who participate. Women are generally more open to new ideas than men; men need to be convinced of the utility of the new knowledge so that the joint decisions reflect the information. Women have good technical knowledge of the crops and animals that they take care of, irrespective of participation in trainings. Female farmers are active in both female-only and mixed farmer organizations and have been given the positions of president, treasurer and the like.

9 Indigenous varieties and breeds are endowed with characteristics that make them hardy under the local climate, even with climate change. They also do well, or even better, without synthetic inputs. It is the indigenous peoples who have considerable knowledge on indigenous plants and animals. Women tend to have vast knowledge of plants because of their role as cooks, gatherers, gardeners, herbalists, plant breeders and seed custodians: functions all performed by rural women in the Philippines. Women are recognized worldwide as better caregivers to animals, except for when taking large animals to the pastures. In the Philippines, indigenous women's knowledge in farming is also strongly associated with traditional rice varieties and farming systems. The status of elder female farmers in Cordillera has declined with the introduction of non-traditional rice varieties and accompanying change in practices, which eroded the role of women as seed selectors. Where there is enough construction work for men, agriculture has become mostly work of women. Overall the indigenous food production is in decline, although attachment to traditional rice and organic farming are still fairly strong among the people in Cordillera Administrative Region.

10 The young are competent in digital technology, the skills that are considered indispensable in agriculture for efficient communication and cash income generation, but the parents discourage them from taking up agriculture as they consider the livelihood synonymous with poverty. On the other



hand, slightly less than one-third of the country's population is composed of youth and their unemployment rate is several times higher than that for the total population of working age. The rate for female youth is much higher than that for male youth. Similarly to indigenous peoples, the society is not investing enough in youth, in particular female indigenous peoples and female youth, while they have the knowledge and skills that complement those of the mainstream society. The latest pandemic has raised awareness among the indigenous peoples and youth on the importance of agriculture and indigenous food production systems.

### Women and Climate Change in Agriculture

11 The female and male farmers interviewed by the project formulation mission team have noticed that: seasonal rainfall patterns have become irregular and extreme; average ambient and water temperatures are higher; water is in short supply, except during typhoons; and floods and landslides are now more frequent. They observed: higher mortality and lower quality of crops; higher number of familiar pests; emergence of new pests; impossibility of fallow in some areas because of change in rainfall patterns; need for shades for the animals; and higher animal mortality from disease. Indigenous ways of life require great skills in foreseeing the changes in natural conditions, which will be useful if applicable to climate change. Climate perception may well differ between women and men in details. As coping strategies, the farmers listed: application of increased amounts of pesticides and fertilizers; planting of coconut trees as windbreakers and for shade; early planting of rice if drought is expected; vegetable cultivation for food security; and collection of solid waste to prevent clogging of irrigation canals.

12 Other on-farm coping strategies in the Philippines include: planting of root crops and others around the homestead; foraging of root crops and other indigenous food items; animal raising in the backyard; and vegetable cultivation on the upper bund portion of the rice field. These are mainly tasks considered women's, perhaps except for fruit gathering by Agta men. Craft making by both non-indigenous and indigenous women provided supplementary income. Some indigenous farmers in Cordillera engage in reforestation of watershed and riverine areas as well as synchronized rice planting as part of integrated pest management.

13 Due to the custom of registering family land under a man's name, women are at a great disadvantage when it comes to taking out formal credit or insurance, whose importance is expected to grow considerably as the effects of climate change is increasingly felt. Moreover, the husband's signature or co-signature is usually demanded for financial transactions, which makes female-headed households, already one of the poorest in the rural areas, even more vulnerable.

14 Microfinance institutions are flourishing in the Philippines, but little analysis is available on the accessibility of women to credit and insurance. The social protection system and the subsidies on fertilizer and seeds can be used to encourage adoption of climate change adaptation strategies, but their targeting of and effects on women are unknown. The most preferred coping strategy in the times of economic difficulties was borrowing money from the so-called 5-6s, the village money lenders who charge 20% interest. Some farmers consulted made use of microfinance schemes, which only required participating in an interview, submitting a photo and purchasing an insurance.

### Women and Adapting Agriculture to Changing Climate

15 Women are on average better educated and more open to changes than men. Indigenous women have the knowledge and skills that would form the foundation of climate resilient agriculture, while young women possess digital skills that allow efficient communication of agrometeorological and commercial information necessary for integrating climate resilient agriculture in livelihoods. Although women participate in various decision making processes, the ultimate decisions are made by men, especially the strategic ones which would include adoption of new agricultural methods.

16 The Gender Action Plan (GAP) for the proposed project is based on the project formulation principles of: female farmer as agents of change; higher parity in strategic decision making; working with nature; indigenous peoples as guardians of climate resilient agriculture; self-reliance as climate change resilience; and social media for rapid communication. The GAP also rests on the project implementation principles of: provision of ecosystem, health and livelihood services; sharing the driver's seat with farmers; women as strategic decision makers; cultural awareness raising among the indigenous peoples; and building on the strengths of women, indigenous peoples and youth. The Plan touches upon indigenous peoples and youth, while maintaining the primary focus on women.

## PART I: GENDER ASSESSMENT

### 1. INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Project Introduction from Gender Perspective

1 Climate change is estimated to put at risk the sectors that are responsible for 85% of the Gross National Product of the Philippines.<sup>3</sup> Agriculture is the source of employment and main livelihood for 25%<sup>4</sup> and 35%<sup>5</sup> of the labor force, respectively, but agriculture, fishery, and forestry composed about 10% of the national economy in 2020.<sup>6</sup> Although the average income of agricultural households is unknown, the mean income from non-agricultural sources and activities was about 6 times higher than that from agricultural ones in 2003.<sup>7</sup> These statistics together suggest that rural women and men engaged in agriculture are vulnerable and that they are unlikely to withstand the vagaries of climate change without active actions to adapt to climate change.

2 The proposed project aims at creating an environment that enables rural female and male farmers to thrive under the changing climate. To that end, the project will improve their access to climate information and climate resilient agriculture (CRA) services – such as seeds, water and credit –to reinforce their capacity to develop enterprises and adopt climate resilient and low emission practices, to generate cash income and new livelihoods. The capacities of the government at the national, regional and local levels will be strengthened to deliver services needed by the farmers adapting to climate change while transforming the Philippine agriculture towards resilient and low emission development pathways.

3 While gender-based division of labor among tasks for animals exists to varying degrees in the Philippines, the importance of contribution of female farmers is incontestable in that all crops or animals are taken care of by both women and men. They constitute two groups engaged in different facets of agriculture that together make the whole; experiences and perspectives of both need to be taken into account when we consider agriculture. Although the Philippines has consistently ranked as one of the top ten countries in the world on gender equality, female farmers are not registered as farmers by themselves under the Registry System for Basic Sectors in Agriculture, but only mentioned together with their husbands who are farmers.

4 In areas where local off-farm opportunities for cash income are readily available, the agriculture itself has fallen on the shoulders of women, except for men as occasional helpers for physically demanding work.<sup>8</sup> The proportion of female-headed households has been steadily increasing in the past decades, reaching one-fifth of all households in 2013.<sup>9</sup> As in most parts of the

---

<sup>3</sup> Climate Change Commission, undated. *National Climate Change Action Plan, 2011-2028*. Manila: Climate Change Commission.

<sup>4</sup> Philippine Statistics Authority, 2018. *Selected Statistics on Agriculture 2018*. Quezon City, the Philippines: Philippine Statistics Authority.

<sup>5</sup> *National Climate Change Action Plan, 2011-28*.

<sup>6</sup> Bureau of Trade and Industrial Policy Research, 2019. *Philippine National Accounts, 2015-2018 (Q4)*. <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1YkyApK5laUvGx0Rm0DGYuPATABl2pCf/view> (accessed May 2019).

<sup>7</sup> National Statistics Office, 2017. *Philippines – Family income and Expenditure Survey 2003*. ILO Microdata Repository. <https://www.ilo.org/surveydata/index.php/catalog/265/datafile/F2/?limit=100&offset=700> (accessed March 2019).

<sup>8</sup> Farmer Consultations in Bicol and Cordillera 28 January-6 February 2019.

<sup>9</sup> CEIC, undated. Philippines PH: Female Headed Households. 1993-2013. <https://www.ceicdata.com/en/philippines/population-and-urbanization-statistics/ph-female-headed-households> (accessed March 2019).

world, the poorest of the poor are more likely to be female headed,<sup>10</sup> and agriculture has traditionally been associated with higher poverty rates than other sectors.<sup>11</sup>

5 Women on average are more literate than men in the Philippines;<sup>12</sup> they have as much basic skills as men or more to cope with the changing world. The main obstacles for women remain the system that is centered around men and pays scant attention to the strengths and constraints of women which are different from men's. The same obstacles are in place for indigenous peoples and youth, two other attributes that disadvantage an individual and may overlap with gender. The Gender Assessment and Action Plan of the proposed project, while focusing on women, touches upon these two groups.

## 1.2 Objective of the Assessment

### 1.2.1 Rationale

6 Agricultural operators – persons who take the technical and administrative responsibility of managing the holdings – were overwhelmingly male in 2009.<sup>13</sup> Approximately 3.2 million female who were not agricultural operators engaged in agricultural activities, more than 1.1 million male who were not agricultural operators and did the same.<sup>14</sup> In households with agricultural operators engaged in farming activities, three in every five members were women.<sup>15</sup> These statistics imply that, officially at least, the managing responsibilities in agriculture lie with men, while more women were engaged in farming than men.

7 Climate change as a negative shock impacts the vulnerable members of the society, which include women, proportionately more than others. It has been estimated that women and children are 14 times more likely to die during a disaster,<sup>16</sup> whose frequency and intensity are increasing due to climate change. At the same time, inclusion of these members in projects and policies is known to improve their outcomes.

8 The assessment examines the situation of rural female farmers with respect to climate change to find the most effective ways to reduce the vulnerability of the weak members of the society and also to maximize the benefits of the interventions.

9 The Philippines has ratified international agreements and goals related to the gender, most notably the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.<sup>17</sup> In 2009, the government further signed a framework of rights for women based directly on international laws known as the Magna Carta of Women. The country is formally committed to achieving gender equality in all facets of life.

---

<sup>10</sup> Miralao, V. A., 1992. "Female Headed Households in the Philippines." *Philippine Sociological Review*. Vol 40, No. 1-4, 46-56.

<http://116.50.242.171/PSSC/index.php/psr01/article/view/801> (accessed March 2019).

<sup>11</sup> Reyes, C. M. et al., 2012. *Poverty and Agriculture in the Philippines: Trends in Income Poverty and Distribution*. Makati City, Philippines: Philippine Institute for Development Studies.

<sup>12</sup> Basic literacy is near universal for women and men, and functional literacy slightly higher for women than men, both about 90% (Philippine Statistics Authority, 2015. 2013 FLEMMS, *Functional Literacy, Education and Mass Media Survey, Final Report*. Manila: Philippine Statistics Authority).

<sup>13</sup> Philippine Statistics Authority, 2009. "Women in Agriculture." <https://psa.gov.ph/content/women-agriculture> (accessed March 2019).

<sup>14</sup> *National Climate Change Action Plan, 2011-28*.

<sup>15</sup> "Women in Agriculture."

<sup>16</sup> UN Women, 2018. *Turning Promises into Action: Gender Equality in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*. New York: UN Women.

<sup>17</sup> UN, 2019. "Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women." United Nations Treaty Collection. [https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg\\_no=IV-8&chapter=4&clang=\\_en](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-8&chapter=4&clang=_en) (accessed March 2019).

10 The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) recognizes that gender equality is key to its mandate to achieve food security for all. As evidenced by *FAO Policy on Gender Equality*<sup>18</sup> and *Regional Gender Strategy for Asia and the Pacific*,<sup>19</sup> the Organization further sees rural women as agents of change whose engagement is indispensable to meet any of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Philippines has adopted the Goals.

11 Indigenous peoples and the youth also represent important disadvantaged groups, half of which are women. While many of the hurdles that women face are common, others are distinct enough for each group to warrant separate examination and support; indigenous food production systems provide the foundation for climate resilient agriculture and the technology savviness of the youth can help agriculture to benefit from digital information and connections.

### 1.2.2 Objective

12 The Gender Assessment for the Green Climate Fund (GCF) project, “Adapting Philippine Agriculture to Climate Change,” studies the socioeconomic conditions of women and men targeted by the proposed project to shed light on gender-specific constraints and needs for a strategic approach to the integration of gender dimensions into the project. The Assessment also briefly examines the indigenous peoples and the youth in light of agriculture for the same. The strategy is summarized as the Gender Action Plan.

13 The underlying theory of change is: the project will recognize the strengths, constraints and needs of the women so that their potential as agents of change will be realized for achieving the best outcomes possible under the proposed project. It will necessarily entail changes in access to and distribution of resources and decision-making power between women and men in the targeted communities. The same applies to indigenous peoples and the youth, as their capacities complementary to others’ have not been fully taken advantage of in agriculture.

## 2. METHODOLOGY

14 The Gender Assessment focuses on the situation of rural women in the regions targeted by the proposed project: Cordillera Administrative Region, Region II (Cagayan Valley), Region V (Bicol), Region X (Northern Mindanao), and Region XII (SOCCSKSARGEN).

15 Consultations were the primary means to determine the key issues pertaining to the lives of female farmers in the rural areas (Section 8.2 lists the core questions asked). A total of 574 farmers in the target regions were consulted, of which 317 were women. Women’s views on agriculture related issues were collected through consultations exclusively for women, including the organizers. Institutional meetings were held at national and regional levels. At the national level, nine institutions and organizations were consulted, and at the regional level, the mission team had meetings with nine. The issues thus identified were assessed in detail with the aid of literature search, whose results are summarized in this document. The detailed analysis elucidated risks and opportunities for female farmers facing climate change and contributed to project formulation.

16 To the best extent possible, the assessment is based on official statistics and published research results pertaining to the target regions and field consultations conducted in those regions. Where relevant information could not be found, it relies on that of the rural areas or the whole nation.

---

<sup>18</sup> Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, 2013. *FAO Policy on Gender Equality: Attaining Food Security Goals in Agriculture and Rural Development*. Rome: FAO.

<sup>19</sup> Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, FAO, 2017. *Regional Gender Strategy and Action Plan for Asia and the Pacific 2017-2019*. Bangkok: FAO.

Where no such information is available, the assessment may refer to the general consensus among the professionals in the field or anecdotes.

### 3. LEGAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND SPIRITUAL FRAMEWORK

#### 3.1 Protection of Women and Gender Equality

17 The Philippines has ratified the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and Convention on the Rights of the Child, which assert the rights of women and girls that are equal to men's and boys'.<sup>20</sup> The UN Resolution on Child, Early and Forced Marriage was adopted in 2014 with the broad-based, cross-regional co-sponsorship of 116 countries,<sup>21</sup> including the Philippines.<sup>22</sup> The countries agreed, in collaboration with the international organizations and civil society, to: enact, enforce and uphold laws and policies to end the practice; develop and implement holistic, comprehensive and coordinated responses and strategies in cooperation with stakeholders, including civil society; promote and protect the human rights of all women and girls, including their right to education; and have control over and decide freely and responsibly on matters related to their sexuality.<sup>23</sup> The Convention on the Rights of the Child, ratified by the Philippines, sets a minimum age of marriage of 18, and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, also ratified by the country, obligates the signatory states to ensure free and full consent to marriage.

18 In 2013, the ASEAN Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women and Violence against Children was made by the ASEAN member countries, which includes the Philippines, to reaffirm the goals and commitments of the organization to eliminate violence against women and monitor their progress, as in the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women in the ASEAN Region from 2004.<sup>24</sup> The country has also committed itself to the Sustainable Development Goals whose Goal 5 is to end all forms of discrimination against women and girls, including early marriage.<sup>25</sup>

19 By tradition, the Philippines is a matriarchal and egalitarian society, which is reflected in legislations that aim at closing gender gaps.<sup>26</sup> At the same time, the legacy of three centuries of

---

<sup>20</sup> "Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women."

UN, 2019. "International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights." United Nations Treaty Collection. [https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg\\_no=IV-3&chapter=4&clang=\\_en](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-3&chapter=4&clang=_en) (accessed March 2019).

UN, 2019. "Convention on the Rights of the Child." United Nations Treaty Collection. [https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg\\_no=IV-11&chapter=4&lang=en](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=IV-11&chapter=4&lang=en) (accessed March 2019).

<sup>21</sup> Girls Not Brides, 2014. "Girls Not Brides statement on UN General Assembly resolution on child, early and forced marriage – November 2014." <https://www.girlsnotbrides.org/girls-brides-statement-un-general-assembly-resolution-child-early-forced-marriage/> (accessed March 2019).

<sup>22</sup> Girls Not Brides, undated. "Philippines." <https://www.girlsnotbrides.org/child-marriage/philippines/> (accessed March 2019).

<sup>23</sup> "Girls Not Brides statement on UN General Assembly resolution on child, early and forced marriage – November 2014."

<sup>24</sup> ASEAN, undated. "The Declaration on the Elimination Of Violence Against Women And Elimination Of Violence Against Children in ASEAN."

[https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Women/WG/ASEANdeclarationVaW\\_violenceagainstchildren.pdf](https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Women/WG/ASEANdeclarationVaW_violenceagainstchildren.pdf) (accessed March 2019).

<sup>25</sup> "Philippines."

<sup>26</sup> McKinsey Global Institute, 2018. *The Power of Parity: Advancing Women's Equality in Asia and Pacific, Focus: the Philippines*.

<https://www.mckinsey.com/~media/McKinsey/Featured%20Insights/Asia%20Pacific/The%20Power%20of%20Parity%20Advancing%20womens%20equality%20in%20the%20Philippines/The-Power-of-Parity-Advancing-womens-equality-in-the-Philippines.ashx> (accessed March 2019).

Spanish rule, in the form of patriarchy and strong influence of the Roman Catholic Church, continues in the family, civil and penal laws.<sup>27</sup> Under the Spanish regime, only adult males were obligated to labor for 40 days per year, performing colonial public works. Both women and men were required to work in the colonial plantations, but only men were paid and women were mobilized as the unpaid family members of the male workers. The Catholic Church portrayed the Virgin Mary as the mother figure and female symbol for the Philippine women to aspire to for the purpose of constructing the holy patriarchal family that served the Spanish government.<sup>28</sup>

20 The 1987 Constitution of the Philippines, Article 2, Section 14 asserts that “[t]he State recognizes the role of women in nation-building, and shall ensure the fundamental equality before the law of women and men.”<sup>29</sup> The ratification of CEDAW has led to a legislation for gender equality known as Republic Act 9710, the Magna Carta of Women,<sup>30</sup> which seeks to eliminate discrimination against women by recognizing, protecting, fulfilling and promoting the rights of Filipino women in all spheres of society and to institutionalize gender concerns in the development process of the country.<sup>31</sup> It consolidated and strengthened the existing laws and policies on women under one legislation.<sup>32</sup> Other legislations for protection of women and gender equality include the ones in Table 1 below.

**Table 1: Legislations for Protection of Women and Gender Equality**

Legislation Number	Title	Description
Republic Act 7192	Women in Development and Nation Building Act of 1992	Promotes the integration of women as full and equal partners of men in development and nation building and for other purposes. <sup>33</sup>
Republic Act 7610	Special Protection of Children Against Child Abuse, Exploitation and Discrimination Act	Provides for stronger deterrence and special protection against child abuse, exploitation and discrimination, providing penalties for its violation and for other purposes. <sup>34</sup>
Republic Act 7877	Anti-Sexual Harassment Act of 1995	Declares sexual harassment unlawful in the employment, education or training environment, and for other purposes. <sup>35</sup>
Republic Act 8353	Anti-Rape Law of 1997	Expands the definition of the crime of rape, reclassifying the same as a crime against persons, amending for the

<sup>27</sup> Austria, C. S. R., 2004. “The Church, the State and Women's Bodies in the Context of Religious Fundamentalism in the Philippines.” *Reproductive Health Matters*. Vol. 12, No. 24, 96-103.

<sup>28</sup> Kemitraan Bagi Pembaruan Tata Pemerintahan, 2014. *Patriarchal Barriers to Women's Political Participation in South-East Asia: Lessons from the Philippines, Cambodia, Malaysia, Indonesia, and Timor-Leste on Patriarchy and the Rise of Women's Participation in State Politics*. Jakarta: Kemitraan Bagi Pembaruan Tata Pemerintahan.

<sup>29</sup> Government of the Philippines, 2019. “The Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines.” Official Gazette. <https://www.officialgazette.gov.ph/constitutions/1987-constitution/#article-ii> (accessed March 2019).

<sup>30</sup> FAO, 2018. *Country Gender Assessment of Agriculture and the Rural Sector in the Philippines*. Manila; Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

<sup>31</sup> ILO, 2014. “The Magna Carta of Women (Republic Act No. 9710).” [http://ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex4.detail?p\\_lang=en&p\\_isn=82044&p\\_count=97611](http://ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex4.detail?p_lang=en&p_isn=82044&p_count=97611) (accessed March 2019).

Philippine Commission on Women, 2009. “International Commitments.” <https://pcw.gov.ph/international-commitments> (accessed March 2019).

<sup>32</sup> Civil Service Commission, 2014. “Magna Carta of Women (R.A. 9710).” <http://www.csc.gov.ph/2014-02-21-08-16-56/2014-02-21-08-19-19/magna-carta-of-women-r-a-9710.html> (accessed March 2019).

<sup>33</sup> Philippine Commission on Women, 2009. “Republic Act 7192: Women in Development and Nation Building Act.” <https://www.pcw.gov.ph/law/republic-act-7192> (accessed March 2019).

<sup>34</sup> Philippine Commission on Women, 2009. “Republic Act 7610: Special Protection of Children Against Abuse, Exploitation and Discrimination Act.” <https://www.pcw.gov.ph/law/republic-act-7610> (accessed March 2019).

<sup>35</sup> Philippine Commission on Women, 2009. “Republic Act 7877: Anti-Sexual Harassment Act of 1995.” <https://pcw.gov.ph/law/republic-act-7877> (accessed March 2019).

		purpose act no. 3815, as amended, otherwise known as the revised penal code, and for the purposes. <sup>36</sup>
Republic Act 8505	Rape Victim Assistance and Protection Act of 1998	Provides assistance and protection for rape victims, establishing for the purpose a rape crisis center in every province and city, authorizing the appropriation of funds therefor, and for other purposes. <sup>37</sup>
Republic Act 9208	Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2003	Institutes policies to eliminate trafficking in persons especially women and children, establishing the necessary institutional mechanisms for the protection and support of trafficked persons, providing penalties for its violations, and for other purposes); <sup>38</sup>
Republic Act 9262	Anti-Violence against Women and their Children Act of 2004	Provides for the protection of women and children against violence by defining violence and providing penalties including imprisonment and fines. It also provides for the issuing and modalities of protection orders. Battered Woman Syndrome is recognized as a defense, in addition to self-defense as set out in the Penal Code. The Act also provides that perpetrators are to receive counselling for anger management and if necessary are to be submitted to psychiatric treatment or confinement. <sup>39</sup>
Republic Act 9710	The Magna Carta of Women	Seeks to eliminate discrimination against women by recognizing, protecting, fulfilling and promoting the rights of Philippine women in all spheres of society. <sup>40</sup>
Republic Act 10354	Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health Act of 2012	Guarantees universal and free access to nearly all modern contraceptives for all citizens, including impoverished communities, at government health centers. The law also mandates reproductive health education in government schools and recognizes a woman's right to post-abortion care as part of the right to reproductive healthcare. <sup>41</sup>
Executive Order No. 209	Family Code of the Philippines	Regulates marriage, legal separation, rights and legal obligations between husband and wife, property relations between husband and wife, the family, paternity and filiations, among others. <sup>42</sup>

Source: The Philippine Commission for Women, the International Labour Organization, and Center for Reproductive Rights.

21 Most norms and standards of the government are in agreement with adolescents' human rights to contraceptive information and services as recommended by the World Health Organization.<sup>43</sup> Not all of its recommendations are followed, however, reflecting the strong influence of religious

<sup>36</sup> Philippine Commission on Women, 2009. "Republic Act 8353: Anti-Rape Law of 1997."

<https://www.pcw.gov.ph/law/republic-act-8353> (accessed March 2019).

<sup>37</sup> Philippine Commission on Women, 2009. "Republic Act 8505: Rape Victim Assistance and Protection Act of 1998."

<https://www.pcw.gov.ph/law/republic-act-8505> (accessed March 2019).

<sup>38</sup> Philippine Commission on Women, 2009. "Republic Act 9208: Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2003."

<https://www.pcw.gov.ph/law/republic-act-9208> (accessed March 2019).

<sup>39</sup> ILO, 2014. "Anti-Violence Against Women and Their Children Act of 2004 (Republic Act No. 9262)."

[https://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex4.detail?p\\_lang=&p\\_isn=72734&p\\_classification=01.04](https://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex4.detail?p_lang=&p_isn=72734&p_classification=01.04) (accessed March 2019).

<sup>40</sup> "The Magna Carta of Women (Republic Act No. 9710)."

<sup>41</sup> Center for Reproductive Rights, 2014. "Philippine Supreme Court Upholds Historic Reproductive Health Law."

<https://reproductiverights.org/press-room/Philippine-Supreme-Court-Upholds-Historic-Reproductive-Health-Law> (accessed March 2019).

<sup>42</sup> ILO, 2014. "The Family Code (Executive Order No. 209)."

[https://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex4.detail?p\\_lang=&p\\_isn=71398&p\\_classification=01.03](https://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex4.detail?p_lang=&p_isn=71398&p_classification=01.03) (accessed March 2019).

<sup>43</sup> Melgar, J. L. D. et al., 2018. "Assessment of country policies affecting reproductive health for adolescents in the Philippines." *Reproductive Health*. Vol. 15, No. 205.

<https://reproductive-health-journal.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12978-018-0638-9#Sec1> (accessed March 2019).



beliefs.<sup>44</sup> The lack of budget, capacities and political will are said to be major barriers in increasing access to reproductive health care and improving maternal mortality.<sup>45</sup>

22 In 2000, the city of Manila issued an executive order, which declared that the city would take an “affirmative stand on pro-life issues.”<sup>46</sup> The UN Committee on Elimination of Discrimination against Women conducted an inquiry, in response to a joint written submission from non-governmental organizations in 2008, on alleged human rights violations resulting from the enforcement of this order.<sup>47</sup> In the report published in 2015, the Committee stated that the order resulted in a systematic denial of affordable access to modern methods of contraception and related information and services.<sup>48</sup> It led to unplanned pregnancies, unsafe abortions, unnecessary and preventable maternal deaths and increased exposure of women to HIV/AIDS.<sup>49</sup> The Committee observed that the lives and health of women were put at risk, in particular disadvantaged groups of women: poor women, adolescent girls, as well as women in abusive relationships.<sup>50</sup> The Committee concluded that the Philippine government was accountable for grave and systematic violations of women’s rights under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.<sup>51</sup> The Committee recommended to have the executive order and another related one revoked, decriminalize abortion, and sensitize government representatives towards eliminating ideological barriers that limit women’s rights.<sup>52</sup> These recommendations do not appear to have been implemented.

23 The Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health Act of 2012 stipulates that reproductive health rights do not include abortion or access to abortifacients,<sup>53</sup> but guarantees universal and free access to nearly all modern contraceptives.<sup>54</sup> According to the law, government agencies are to provide modern family planning services, including free contraceptives and prenatal care to all women and families.<sup>55</sup> It also mandates sex education in schools and provision of reproductive health services by companies to their employees.<sup>56</sup> The act took more than 13 years before it was passed by the Congress and signed into law, due to staunch opposition by the church.<sup>57</sup> The act was challenged in 2013 before the Supreme Court, delaying its full implementation.<sup>58</sup> A year later the bill was declared “not unconstitutional,” but some provisions were removed; a clause that allowed minors to access reproductive health services without the written consent of a guardian and penal measures for government officials who did not implement the law.<sup>59</sup>

---

<sup>44</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>45</sup> World Bank, 2014. *Republic of the Philippines Gender and Development Mainstreaming Country Gender Assessment 2012, Philippines*. Washington, D.C.: World Bank.

<sup>46</sup> Social Protection and Human Rights, 2015. “Women’s sexual and reproductive rights in the Philippines.” <https://socialprotection-humanrights.org/legaldep/womens-sexual-and-reproductive-rights-in-the-philippines/> (accessed March 2019).

<sup>47</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>48</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>49</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>50</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>51</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>52</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>53</sup> Philippines Commission of Women, undated. “Republic Act 10354: The Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health Act of 2012.” <https://www.pcw.gov.ph/law/republic-act-10354> (accessed March 2019).

<sup>54</sup> “Women’s sexual and reproductive rights in the Philippines.”

<sup>55</sup> Almendral, A., 2017. “Duterte’s Free Birth-Control Order Is Latest Skirmish With Catholic Church.” *The New York Times*. 27 January 2017.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/01/27/world/asia/philippines-free-contraception-duterte.html> (accessed March 2019).

<sup>56</sup> “Duterte’s Free Birth-Control Order Is Latest Skirmish With Catholic Church.”

<sup>57</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>58</sup> Lloyd, C., 2018. “Whatever Happened To The Philippines’ Reproductive Health Law?” *Globe*.

<https://southeastasiaglobe.com/whatever-happend-to-the-philippines-reproductive-health-law/> (accessed March 2019).

<sup>59</sup> *ibid.*

24 In 2015, a further temporary restraining order was issued by the Supreme Court and prevented the Food and Drug Administration of the Philippines (FDA) from procuring, distributing or issuing new certificates of product registration on more than 50 different contraceptives.<sup>60</sup> The order was launched after the FDA registered a contraceptive implant, which critics falsely argued could be used to induce abortion.<sup>61</sup> After the FDA announced that 51 contraceptives are non-abortifacients, the Health Department could resume distribution of family planning supplies to regional health offices.<sup>62</sup> It was reported that 18% of women in the country expressed unmet needs for family planning in 2016.<sup>63</sup> In 2018, the Philippine president, Rodrigo Duterte, signed an executive order for the full and immediate enforcement of the law.<sup>64</sup> The order was announced as an antipoverty measure, with an official calling it “pro-life, pro-women, pro-children and pro-economic development.”<sup>65</sup> The act is still not yet in full effect, however, and no sexual education curriculum has been implemented countrywide.<sup>66</sup>

## 3.2 Agriculture, Climate Change and Indigenous Peoples Policies on Gender

### 3.2.1 Gender and Agriculture Policy

25 The main objectives of agricultural policies in the Philippines are food security and poverty alleviation achieved through a stable supply of food at affordable prices<sup>67</sup> as well as protection of the domestic industry.<sup>68</sup> The excessive protection for import-competing commodities is said to have negatively affected the welfare of rural landless and urban poor households,<sup>69</sup> very likely the female-headed households the most, while it has been instrumental in protecting the smallholders, for example, rice growers. It is doubtful that the resource allocation has been the most efficient.

26 The policies do not address the issues of female farmers explicitly, and by setting aside the issue of gender differentiation in agriculture, have unintentionally affected female farmers. For example, the government assistance in the early 2000s targeted high-value crops, such as carrots, asparagus, broccoli, green onions, garden peas, lettuce, radish and cauliflower, whereas women traditionally cultivated corn, potatoes, garlic, onion and cabbage.<sup>70</sup> The government’s focus on non-traditional agricultural exports resulted in less irrigation water available for rice in the Cordillera Autonomous Region,<sup>71</sup> and consequently eroded the culture built around rice cultivation in which women play an important role. Women are not registered under the Registry System for Basic Sectors in Agriculture (RSBSA), but are mentioned after the husband’s name who is the official farmer; women’s contribution to agriculture is not officially recognized as on par to that of men’s.

### 3.2.2 Gender and Livestock Policy

---

<sup>60</sup> “Whatever Happened To The Philippines’ Reproductive Health Law?”

<sup>61</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>62</sup> KFF, 2017. “Philippines Health Department Resumes Contraceptive Distribution Following Agency Ruling, Lifting Of Supreme Court Restraining Order.” 16 November 2017.

<https://www.kff.org/news-summary/philippines-health-department-resumes-contraceptive-distribution-following-fda-ruling-lifting-of-supreme-court-restraining-order/> (accessed March 2019).

<sup>63</sup> *The Power of Parity: Advancing Women’s Equality in Asia and Pacific, Focus: the Philippines.*

<sup>64</sup> “Duterte’s Free Birth-Control Order Is Latest Skirmish With Catholic Church.”

<sup>65</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>66</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>67</sup> OECD, 2017. *Agricultural Policies in the Philippines*. Paris: OCED Publishing.

<sup>68</sup> David, C. C. *et al.*, 2007. *Distortions to Agricultural Incentives in the Philippines*. Agricultural Distortions Working Paper 28. Washington, D. C.: World Bank.

<sup>69</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>70</sup> Garcia, Z. *et al.*, 2006. “Impact of international agricultural trade and gender equity: selected country case studies.” In *Agriculture, trade negotiations and gender*. Rome: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

<sup>71</sup> *ibid.*

27 Poultry recorded 78% growth between 1990 and 2016, making it the fastest growing animal sector in the country. Chicken and ducks are not only valuable for their meat, but also for their eggs. It is the women who take care of the small animals,<sup>72</sup> including poultry, but no policy or analysis refers to the role of women in the sub-sector, as is the case with crop agriculture. The number of goats increased steadily from 1990 to 2010, after which it posted a decline and stabilized at the 2006 level.<sup>73</sup> It was nicknamed the sunrise industry for its potential,<sup>74</sup> but no reference has been made to women who are the caretakers.<sup>75</sup>

### 3.2.3 Gender and Climate Change Policy

28 Being a relatively new policy topic, the latest advancements on gender in the country have been integrated in various legislations and policies on climate change; the poor, women and children are identified as groups who need special attention.

29 The Climate Change Act of 2009<sup>76</sup> and its Amendment 2012<sup>77</sup> recognize women and children in the rural areas as the most vulnerable to “potential dangerous consequences of climate change and global warming such as increasing temperatures, rising seas, changing landscapes, increasing frequency or severity of droughts, fire, floods and storms, climate-related illnesses and diseases, damage to ecosystems, biodiversity loss that affect the country’s environment, culture, and economy.” They see the necessity of gender mainstreaming and identification of differential impacts of climate change on women, men and children.

30 The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Law of 2010<sup>78</sup> defines vulnerable and marginalized groups as “those that face higher exposure to disaster risk and poverty including, but not limited to, women, children, elderly, differently-abled people, and ethnic minorities” and stipulates representation of the groups in Barangay Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Committees. It also declares that it shall be the policy of the state “to develop and strengthen the capacities of vulnerable and marginalized groups to mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from the effects of disasters.” This law has been praised for taking a global lead in empowering the local governments in climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction as well as for its proactiveness.<sup>79</sup>

31 The National Framework Strategy on Climate Change (NFSCC) adopted in 2010 states that climate change “[a]daptation measures shall be based on equity, in accordance with common but differentiated responsibility; special attention must be given to ensure equal and equitable protection

---

<sup>72</sup> *ibid.*

Farmer Consultations in Bicol and Cordillera 28 January-6 February 2019.

<sup>73</sup> Domingo, S. N. and Olaguera, M.D.C., 2017. *Review of High-Value Agriculture in the Philippines with Comprehensive Subsectoral Focus: Livestock Industries*. Quezon City, Philippines: Philippine Institute for Development Studies.

<sup>74</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>75</sup> *ibid.*

Parungao, A. R. M., 2017. “ITIK PINAS: Development, promotion and utilization in building rural enterprises.” DOST-PCAARRD, Republic of the Philippines.

<http://www.pcaarrd.dost.gov.ph/home/portal/index.php/quick-information-dispatch/2970-itik-pinas-development-promotion-and-utilization-in-building-rural-enterprises> (accessed March 2019).

<sup>76</sup> Republic of the Philippines, Congress of the Philippines, undated. “Climate Change Act of 2009 (Republic Act 9729).” <https://www.ifrc.org/Docs/idrl/735EN.pdf> (accessed May 2019).

<sup>77</sup> Republic of the Philippines, Congress of the Philippines, 2012. “Republic Act No. 10174.” <http://extwprlegs1.fao.org/docs/pdf/phi160804.pdf> (accessed May 2019).

<sup>78</sup> Republic of the Philippines, Congress of the Philippines, 2009. “Republic Act No. 10121.” [https://www.lawphil.net/statutes/repacts/ra2010/ra\\_10121\\_2010.html](https://www.lawphil.net/statutes/repacts/ra2010/ra_10121_2010.html) (accessed May 2019).

<sup>79</sup> Smith, T., 2012. “Is the Philippines’ climate law the best in the world?” Climate Home News.

<https://www.climatechangenews.com/2012/05/05/is-the-philippines-climate-law-the-best-in-the-world/> (accessed May 2019).

of the poor, women, children and other vulnerable and disadvantaged sectors.”<sup>80</sup> The National Climate Change Action Plan 2011-2028,<sup>81</sup> borne out of the Framework, enlarges the definition of vulnerable groups and sets the objective of its National Strategic Priority on the Human Security Agenda as reduction of “risks of men and women and other vulnerable groups (children, elderly and persons with disability, etc.) from climate and disasters.” The Plan defines gender mainstreaming as: “ensuring that the concerns and experiences of women and men are an integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes so that women and men benefit equally and inequality is not perpetuated.” It further clarifies that “the term ‘gender’ refers to socially ascribed roles, responsibilities and opportunities associated with women and men, as well as the hidden power structures that govern relationships between them. Gender is ‘a term used to emphasize that sex inequality is not caused by the anatomic and physiological differences that characterize men and women, but rather by the unequal and inequitable treatment socially accorded to them.’ “

32 During a session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women in 2011, the Philippines initiated a resolution entitled, “Mainstreaming Gender Equality and Promoting Empowerment of Women in Climate Policies and Strategies,” which highlighted the need to ensure women’s full and equal participation in environmental decision-making at all levels.<sup>82</sup> It was adopted by the commission’s member states.<sup>83</sup>

### 3.2.4 Gender and Indigenous Peoples Policy

33 The indigenous peoples in the Philippines are officially recognized by the Philippine Constitution as well as by the landmark Indigenous Peoples’ Rights Act of 1997 (IPRA).<sup>84</sup> The act further recognizes the traditional rights of indigenous peoples over their ancestral lands through the issuance of Certificates of Ancestral Domain Titles.<sup>85</sup> The rights of Indigenous Cultural Communities to define their development priorities through their own Ancestral Domain Sustainable Development and Protection Plan is also recognized, in relation to managing and utilizing the natural resources within their traditional lands.<sup>86</sup>

34 The act is cognizant of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights including the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and International Human Rights Law and asserts that “the [s]tate shall guarantee the fundamental human rights and freedoms as enshrined in the Constitution and relevant international instruments are guaranteed also to indigenous women” and that “[t]owards this end, no provision in this Act shall be interpreted so as to result in the diminution of rights and privileges already recognized and accorded to women under existing laws of general application.” With respect to basic services, the act states that “[p]articular attention shall be paid to the rights and special needs of indigenous women, elderly, youth, children and differently-abled persons.”<sup>87</sup>

---

<sup>80</sup> *National Climate Change Action Plan, 2011-2028.*

<sup>81</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>82</sup> Philippine Commission on Women, 2009. “Climate Change.” <https://www.pcw.gov.ph/focus-areas/environment/climate-change> (accessed May 2019).

<sup>83</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>84</sup> Cariño, J. K., 2012. *Country Technical Notes on Indigenous Peoples’ Issues: Republic of the Philippines*. Rome: IFAD.

<sup>85</sup> De Vera, D. E., 2007. “Indigenous Peoples in the Philippines: A Country Case Study.” Presented at the RNIP Regional Assembly, Hanoi, Vietnam, 20-26 August 2007. [http://www.iapad.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/devera\\_ip\\_phl.pdf](http://www.iapad.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/devera_ip_phl.pdf) (accessed May 2019).

<sup>86</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>87</sup> Government of Philippines, undated. “Republic Act No. 8371.” <http://extwprlegs1.fao.org/docs/pdf/phi13930.pdf> (accessed May 2019).

35 The act recognizes the indigenous concept of ownership for ancestral domains (which includes lands, inland waters, coastal areas and other natural resources associated with the space)<sup>88</sup> and ancestral lands. The act further details that “[t]he indigenous concept of ownership generally holds that ancestral domains are the ICC’s/IP’s<sup>89</sup> private but community property which belongs to all generations and therefore cannot be sold, disposed or destroyed. It likewise covers sustainable traditional resource rights.”<sup>90</sup>

36 Although the Climate Change Act of 2009 and its Amendment 2012 do not mention indigenous peoples, the Intended Nationally Determined Contributions of the Philippines (2015) indicates that the country pursues “institutional reforms factoring sustainable and responsible use of natural resources, respect for, protection, promotion, and fulfilment, as well as, the full enjoyment of human rights by all, including the indigenous peoples and local communities, gender equality and the full and equal participation of women, intergenerational equity, biodiversity conservation, food and water security.”<sup>91</sup>

### 3.2.5 Mechanism for Gender Mainstreaming

37 Republic Act 9710, the Magna Carta of Women, makes a direct reference to the country’s governance system by legislating gender mainstreaming as a strategy for the government departments, including their attached agencies, offices, bureaus, state universities and colleges, government-owned and controlled corporations, local government units, and other government instrumentalities.<sup>92</sup> Specifically it urges these institutions to eliminate gender inequality in their systems, structures, policies, programs and processes and to base planning and budgeting on sustainability, gender responsiveness and performance.<sup>93</sup>

38 The Magna Carta also designates the Philippine Commission on Women (PCW) as the primary policy-making and coordinating body of the women and gender equality concerns under the Office of the President. It is the institution to monitor and oversee the implementation of the Carta with the authority to demand any government agency and instrumentality to report on the subject. To that end, the commission developed a Gender and Development (GAD) approach to provide Philippine government agencies and donors with a common set of analytical concepts and tools for integrating gender concerns into development programs and projects.<sup>94</sup> The GAD guidelines require the definition of a gender policy, the approval of a plan of action with a clear budget allocation and the establishment of accountability and monitoring mechanisms.<sup>95</sup> Specifically, the government agencies and national government instrumentalities are required to annually formulate a GAD plan and budget and GAD accomplishment report, but compliance appears sporadic and the quality of submitted documents variable. The PCW has also issued guidelines for elaborating a GAD Agenda, which includes a gender assessment, to serve as a strategic document for GAD plans and budgets.<sup>96</sup> Various legislations on

---

<sup>88</sup> Philippines Commission of Women, 2009. “Republic Act No. 8371.” <https://www.pcw.gov.ph/law/republic-act-8371> (accessed May 2019).

<sup>89</sup> Indigenous Cultural Communities/Indigenous Peoples

<sup>90</sup> Philippines Commission of Women, 2009. “Republic Act No. 8371.”

<sup>91</sup> Republic of the Philippines, 2015. “Intended Nationally Determined Contributions: Communicated to the UNFCCC on October 2015.”

<https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/submissions/INDC/Published%20Documents/Philippines/1/Philippines%20-%20Final%20INDC%20submission.pdf> (accessed May 2019).

<sup>92</sup> Philippine Commission on Women, 2010. *Republic Act No. 9710, the Magna Carta of Women: Implementing Rules and Regulations*. Manila: Philippine Commission on Women.

<sup>93</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>94</sup> Philippine Commission on Women, 2007. *Harmonized Gender and Development Guidelines for Project Development, Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation*. Manila: NEDA, PCW and ODA-GAD.

<sup>95</sup> *Country Gender Assessment of Agriculture and the Rural Sector in the Philippines*.

<sup>96</sup> Philippine Commission on Women, 2018. “Revised Guidelines for the Preparation of the Gender and Development (GAD) Agenda.” Memorandum Circular, No. 2018-04.

climate change listed above recognize the importance of gender mainstreaming, although its implementation has not been detailed.

### 3.3 Agriculture, Climate Information and Indigenous Peoples Services on Gender

#### 3.3.1 Gender and Agriculture Extension Services

39 The exact number of persons engaged in agriculture extension services is unavailable because many actors are involved in various manners,<sup>97</sup> but it has been observed that “only in countries such as the Philippines have women field staff been deployed in sufficient numbers and with sufficient resources to become effective agents of change among women farmers.”<sup>98</sup> In a study in 2015 that compared Leyte and Eastern Samar provinces, 65% and 63% of the agriculture extension workers were female, respectively.<sup>99</sup>

40 As of 2006, more than 6 million pesos per year was budgeted for agricultural extension, employing 35,000 to 36,000 people at Local Government Units (LGUs), Department of Agriculture, Department of Agricultural Reform, and Commission on Higher Education.<sup>100</sup> Given that the proportion of farmers among the total population has stayed stable between 2002 and 2012, about one extension worker of some kind could have been working for 130-140 farmers,<sup>101</sup> or one female extension worker for about 30 female farmers.<sup>102</sup> The regional differences appear to be large, as ratios of one extension worker to over 100 or nearly 250 have been claimed in some municipalities in Camarines Norte.<sup>103</sup> None of the study widely available examines the content of extension work or its gender responsiveness.

41 Female farmers invariably reported that it was women who attend the trainings, as they are more associated with house chores and daily community obligations than with field work.<sup>104</sup> In Southeast Asia, female farmers are generally much more active and receptive to new information, and in case the wife attends the training or meeting, the information obtained is shared with the husband.<sup>105</sup> Nonetheless, the presence of male farmers in trainings and meetings is considered necessary to make the extension services more effective, since the male farmers decide what changes to be introduced to the work that they are responsible for.<sup>106</sup> In Northern Mindanao, men were

---

[https://www.pcw.gov.ph/sites/default/files/documents/laws/PCW\\_MC\\_2018-04\\_Revised\\_Guidelines\\_for\\_the\\_Preparation\\_of\\_the\\_Gender\\_and\\_Development\\_\(GAD\)\\_Agenda.pdf](https://www.pcw.gov.ph/sites/default/files/documents/laws/PCW_MC_2018-04_Revised_Guidelines_for_the_Preparation_of_the_Gender_and_Development_(GAD)_Agenda.pdf) (accessed May 2019).

<sup>97</sup> Sharma, V. P. (ed.), 2006. *Enhancement of Extension Systems in Agriculture*. Report of the APO Seminar on Enhancement of Extension Systems in Agriculture held in Pakistan, 15-20 December 2003. Tokyo: Asian Productivity Organization.

<sup>98</sup> Jiggins, J., Samanta, R. K. and Olawoye, J. E., 1997. “Chapter 9 - Improving women farmers' access to extension services.” In *Improving agricultural extension: A reference manual*, Swanson, B. E., Bentz, R. P. and Sofranko, A. J. (eds). Rome: FAO.

<sup>99</sup> Cidro, D. A., 2015. *Perceptions of Agricultural Extension Workers (AEWs) on the Performance and Impacts of Decentralized Agricultural Extension: The Case of Eastern Samar and Leyte Provinces, Philippines*. Ph.D. Thesis. University of Guelph. [https://atrium.lib.uoguelph.ca/xmlui/bitstream/handle/10214/8712/Cidro\\_Dario\\_201412\\_PhD.pdf?sequence=3&isAllowed=y](https://atrium.lib.uoguelph.ca/xmlui/bitstream/handle/10214/8712/Cidro_Dario_201412_PhD.pdf?sequence=3&isAllowed=y) (accessed May 2019).

<sup>100</sup> *Enhancement of Extension Systems in Agriculture*.

<sup>101</sup> *ibid*.

<sup>102</sup> The proportion of women among farmers was 11% and 16% in 2002 and 2012, respectively (Philippine Statistics Authority, 2009. “Women in Agriculture.” <https://psa.gov.ph/content/women-agriculture> and Philippines Statistics Authority, 2012. Census of Agriculture and Fisheries: Agriculture 2012. Quezon City, Philippines: Philippines Statistics Authority). The proportions of female extension workers in Leyte and Eastern Samar provinces in 2015 were used.

(from Cidro, D. A., 2015. *Perceptions of Agricultural Extension Workers (AEWs) on the Performance and Impacts of Decentralized Agricultural Extension: The Case of Eastern Samar and Leyte Provinces, Philippines*. Ph.D. Thesis. University of Guelph.)

<sup>103</sup> Farmer Consultations in Cagayan Valley (15-22 November), Bicol and Cordillera (28 January-6 February 2019).

<sup>104</sup> *ibid*.

Aker, S. et al. 2017. “Women’s empowerment and gender equity in agriculture: A different perspective from Southeast Asia.” *Food Policy*. Vol. 69, 270-279.

<sup>105</sup> “Women’s empowerment and gender equity in agriculture: A different perspective from Southeast Asia.”

<sup>106</sup> Institutional Consultations in Bicol and Cordillera (28 January-6 February 2019).



reluctant to let their wives attend trainings, citing the great amount of work the women had at home.<sup>107</sup>

42 The agriculture extension services provided by the government used to consist of "the diffusion, among the people, of useful and practical information on agriculture, soil conservation, livestock, fisheries, forest conservation, public lands and natural resources laws, home economics and rural life, in order to encourage their application through field demonstrations, lectures and conferences, publications and other means on imparting information,"<sup>108</sup> and extension workers were graduates of agricultural college with adequate practical experience and training in actual crop, tree, poultry and livestock farming.<sup>109</sup> Since the devolution of the Bureau of Agricultural Extension into LGU Extension Service in the early 1990s, agricultural extension has become highly political; increasingly, the agricultural extension worker may not be hired because of professional and technical qualifications but on political affiliation or loyalty.<sup>110</sup>

### 3.3.2 Gender and Climate Information Services

43 The gender differences in the perception of and coping strategies for climate change are slowly gaining attention. For example, a study on three groups – Native Americans, non-native ranchers and farmers – in Nevada reported that women ranchers and farmers demonstrated greater concern and more scientifically accurate knowledge about climate change than men.<sup>111</sup> A study in rural Nepal found that women were relatively more perceptive of climate change and risks than men, but the association between gender and higher perception was weaker than that between geography and perception.<sup>112</sup> It also noted that sudden changes in climate were noticed by all adults, irrespective of gender, age and economic status.<sup>113</sup> The differences in information interpretation or immediate action have not yet been investigated, and no country appears to have integrated such consideration in generation and diffusion of weather and climate information.

### 3.3.3 Gender and Indigenous Peoples Protection

44 One of the main challenges faced by the indigenous peoples is development and commercial activities by outside entities, such as mining and logging, which gravely affect their lands. Some laws are applied in ways counter to the Indigenous Peoples' Rights Act, most notably, Republic Act 7942, Philippine Mining Act of 1995.<sup>114</sup> The Mining Act provided numerous incentives to prospective

---

<sup>107</sup> Parks, M. N. *et al.*, 2013. "Gender and conservation agriculture: constraints and opportunities in the Philippines." *GeoJournal*. Vol. 78, No. 6.

[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/267152239\\_Gender\\_and\\_conservation\\_Agriculture\\_constraints\\_and\\_opportunities\\_in\\_the\\_Philippines](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/267152239_Gender_and_conservation_Agriculture_constraints_and_opportunities_in_the_Philippines) (accessed May 2019).

<sup>108</sup> Section 2 of Republic Act 680, An Act Creating a Bureau of Agricultural Extension, Defining Its Powers, Duties and Functions and Providing Appropriations Therefor.

<sup>109</sup> Section 123 of Republic Act 3944, An Act to Ordain the Agricultural Land Reform Code and to Institute Land Reforms in the Philippines, Including the Abolition of Tenancy and the Channeling of Capital into Industry, Provide for the Necessary Implementing Agencies, Appropriate Funds Therefor and for Other Purposes

<sup>110</sup> *Enhancement of Extension Systems in Agriculture*.

Farmer Consultations in Bicol and Cordillera (28 January-6 February 2019).

<sup>111</sup> Smith, Jr., W. J. *et al.*, 2014. "Climate change perception, observation and policy support in rural Nevada: A comparative analysis of Native Americans, non-native ranchers and farmers and mainstream America." *Environmental Science & Policy*. Vol. 42, 101-122.

<sup>112</sup> Pandey, R., 2017. "Gender Dimensions of Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation Responses: A Study of Kaligandaki Basin, Nepal." Presented at Martin Chautari Seminar, Kathmandu, Nepal, 19 November 2017.

[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/321183437\\_Gender\\_Dimensions\\_of\\_Climate\\_Change\\_Impacts\\_and\\_Adaptation\\_Responses\\_A\\_Study\\_of\\_Kaligandaki\\_Basin\\_Nepal](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/321183437_Gender_Dimensions_of_Climate_Change_Impacts_and_Adaptation_Responses_A_Study_of_Kaligandaki_Basin_Nepal) (accessed May 2019).

<sup>113</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>114</sup> World Organisation Against Torture, 2007. "List of Issues arising from the Initial-Fourth Periodic Report of the Philippines to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights."

[http://www.omct.org/files/2007/11/4411/philippines\\_omct\\_list\\_of\\_issues\\_to\\_cescr.pdf](http://www.omct.org/files/2007/11/4411/philippines_omct_list_of_issues_to_cescr.pdf) (accessed May 2019).

companies – political rights, full ownership of land, and tax holidays – and the number of foreign mining companies increased by four-fold between 1994 and 1996.<sup>115</sup> Most of the areas with minerals and other natural resources coincide with indigenous peoples' lands.<sup>116</sup> In January 2004, the Philippine Supreme Court nullified provisions of the act which allowed foreign mining firms to operate in the country, but reversed its ruling in December of the same year.<sup>117</sup>

45 The tensions between indigenous and commercial interests have frequently resulted in a social conflict, sometimes violent. Indigenous children are at risk of becoming involved in armed conflict as soldiers, due to poverty and social exclusion. Under armed conflicts, indigenous women and girls become more vulnerable to physical and sexual abuse.<sup>118</sup> Violent acts have been on the rise in Mindanao, in particular, owing to centralization of power, increasing number of Christian settlers in a predominantly Muslim region, and logging and mining activities.<sup>119</sup> In earlier instances of human rights violations against women and children in comparable situations in the Philippines, it was reported that rape and sexual harassment took place and that some girls were forced to serve as 'comfort women.'<sup>120</sup> In 2008, two indigenous girls in the rural areas of Mindanao, aged 13 and 14 years, were gang raped on their way to school and subsequently had to accept a payment by soldiers in exchange for their word that they would not lodge a formal complaint.<sup>121</sup>

46 Special Protection of Children against Abuse, Exploitation and Discrimination Act of 1992, Republic Act 7610, punishes the recruitment of children, facilitates agreements with armed groups to enhance the protection of children affected by armed conflict and established a monitoring, reporting and response system for grave child rights violations in situations of armed conflict.<sup>122</sup> The government has also begun to review the act for preventing prosecution of children for having been recruited or used in hostilities. Gaps in implementation of the act has been observed.<sup>123</sup>

## 4. GENDER IN RURAL PHILIPPINES

### 4.1 Basic Statistics

#### 4.1.1 Gender Parity

47 The World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap Report for 2021 ranked the Philippines the 17th best among 156 countries, and the second best in Asia and the Pacific in terms of gender parity, measured by economic participation and opportunity, educational attainment, health and survival and

---

<sup>115</sup> Schmitt, P., undated. "The Philippine Mining Act of 1995." Environment and Society Portal. <http://www.environmentandsociety.org/tools/keywords/philippine-mining-act-1995> (accessed May 2019).

<sup>116</sup> "The Philippine Mining Act of 1995." "List of Issues arising from the Initial-Fourth Periodic Report of the Philippines to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights."

<sup>117</sup> Ciencia, Jr., A. N., 2006. "The Philippine Supreme Court and the Mining Act Ruling Reversal." East-West Center Working Papers, International Graduate Student Conference Series, No. 29.

<https://www.eastwestcenter.org/system/tdf/private/IGSCwp029.pdf?file=1&type=node&id=32190> (accessed May 2019).

<sup>118</sup> "List of Issues arising from the Initial-Fourth Periodic Report of the Philippines to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights."

<sup>119</sup> UNICEF, 2013. Breaking the Silence on Violence against Indigenous Girls, Adolescents and Young Women: A call to action based on an overview of existing evidence from Africa, Asia Pacific and Latin America. New York: UNICEF, UNWomen, UNFPA, ILO and OSRSG/VAC.

<sup>120</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>121</sup> Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development, 2008. Defending the Rights of Indigenous Women in Asia Pacific: Towards an Inclusive and Violence-free Future. Chiangmai, Thailand: APWLD.

<sup>122</sup> UNICEF, 2013. Breaking the Silence on Violence against Indigenous Girls, Adolescents and Young Women: A call to action based on an overview of existing evidence from Africa, Asia Pacific and Latin America. New York: UNICEF, UNWomen, UNFPA, ILO and OSRSG/VAC.

<sup>123</sup> *ibid.*



political empowerment.<sup>124</sup> For economic and political leadership, it was one of the 18 countries around the world that closed the gap in managerial roles by at least 80%.<sup>125</sup> The country also had high scores related to educational attainment (ranked 39<sup>th</sup> with a score of 0.999), and health and security (ranked 34<sup>th</sup> with a score of 0.979).<sup>126</sup> However, it ranked lower in political empowerment (33<sup>rd</sup> with a score of 0.362).<sup>127</sup>

48 McKinsey Global Institute painted a similar picture in 2018 when evaluated by: participation in professional and technical jobs; and appointment to leadership positions. Women were better represented than men in professional and technical jobs with a female-to-male ratio of 1.42, a result most likely stemming from high levels of educational attainment among women and the broadly egalitarian nature of the society.<sup>128</sup> It was also the near best in the region on perceived wage gap for comparable work,<sup>129</sup> but not as gender-blind in representation in high-paying jobs. About 67% of all professionals were women in the Philippines, but earned 8.5% less on average than their male counterparts.<sup>130</sup> In the case of technicians and associate professionals, women accounted for 51% of total employment, but earned 11.3% less than men.<sup>131</sup>

49 Among the 17 administrative regions of the Philippines, the gender equalities on various indicators are comparable: labor-force participation rate, professional and technical jobs, leadership positions, unmet need for family planning, maternal mortality per 100,000 live births, sex ratio at birth, violence against women.<sup>132</sup> On literacy rates and educational attainment, gender parity exists in all of the administrative regions.<sup>133</sup> Gender inequality in terms of labor-force participation rate was high throughout the country and it was extremely high for Autonomous Regions of Muslim Mindanao,<sup>134</sup> but professional and technical jobs tended to be given more to women in all regions.<sup>135</sup> Regional difference was the widest in leadership positions, with Central Luzon and Caraga scoring high inequality and others almost equally divided between medium and low inequality.<sup>136</sup> McKinsey Global Institute concluded that unmet need for family planning among women was mostly medium level in different regions, maternal mortality mostly high, and violence against women mostly medium level.<sup>137</sup> Sex ratio at birth was within natural range for all regions, indicating that sex-selective abortion or female infanticide was negligible.<sup>138</sup>

50 The commonly measured gender parity picks up the upper socioeconomic stratum of the society, which is more articulate, better documented, and more easily measurable. Educated women enjoy higher representation and the possibility of equal pay in professional and technical fields, but women from the lower socioeconomic groups are said to face considerable gender gaps and much less opportunity.<sup>139</sup> The women accounted for 34% of Gross Domestic Product and 40% of labor force in 2016,<sup>140</sup> suggesting that many women were engaged in low-paying or low productivity work. The

---

<sup>124</sup> World Economic Forum (WEF). 2021. Global Gender Gap Report. Geneva, Switzerland. Available online: <https://www.weforum.org/reports/global-gender-gap-report-2021/>

<sup>125</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>126</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>127</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>128</sup> *The Power of Parity: Advancing Women's Equality in Asia and Pacific, Focus: the Philippines.*

<sup>129</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>130</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>131</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>132</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>133</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>134</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>135</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>136</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>137</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>138</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>139</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>140</sup> *ibid.*

National Demographic and Health Survey in 2013 indicated that most married and employed women aged 15-49 earned cash, either cash only (82%) or cash and in-kind (5%), but 12% received no payment for their work in the past 12 months.<sup>141</sup> Net income and wealth equalities in the Philippines are both low, ranking respectively 51<sup>st</sup> and 64<sup>th</sup>, among 79 countries around the world according to the World Economic Forum.<sup>142</sup> Given that income inequality is largely explained by the urban-rural divide<sup>143</sup> and that the agriculture sector is associated with poverty,<sup>144</sup> the difference between the educated women in the urban areas and the female farmers in the rural areas is likely to be as large as net income and wealth inequalities, while gender parity is achieved in the well documented upper social stratum. McKinsey Global Institute estimated in 2018 that gender parity, if achieved in the Philippines, could add 7% to GDP or USD 40 billion annually by 2025.<sup>145</sup>

#### 4.1.2 Population

51 The population of the Philippines was 108.1 million in 2019,<sup>146</sup> of which 49.8% was women.<sup>147</sup> The population growth rate had been steadily declining from 3.35% in 1960, but continued to be as high as 1.36% in 2019.<sup>148</sup> The country as a whole is aging with the proportion of people aged 0-14 declining from nearly half in the early 1960s to less than one-third of the total population in 2019,<sup>149</sup> and proportion of persons aged 65 and above climbing from about 3% to over 5%.<sup>150</sup> Still most of the population is young and the country has the largest generation of young people in its history, with 30 million people between the ages of 10 and 24 accounting for 28% of the total population.<sup>151</sup> The median age was 23.4 years in 2010 (for males 22.9 years and for females 23.9 years)<sup>152</sup> and was estimated 25.7 years in 2020.<sup>153</sup> In 2019, the percentages of population aged 20-24 and 25-29 were

<sup>141</sup> Castro, L. V., 2014. "Measuring Women's Empowerment and Women's Autonomy in the Philippines." Paper presented at the High-Level Panel: Use of data for monitoring effectiveness of gender equality and women's empowerment policies and programmes at the 5th Global Forum on Gender Statistics, Mexico, 4-5 November 2014.

[https://unstats.un.org/unsd/gender/Mexico\\_Nov2014/HighLevelPanel%20Philippines%20paper.pdf](https://unstats.un.org/unsd/gender/Mexico_Nov2014/HighLevelPanel%20Philippines%20paper.pdf) (accessed 9 May 2019).

<sup>142</sup> World Economic Forum, 2017. The Inclusive Growth and Development Report 2017Country Profile: Philippines.

[http://reports.weforum.org/inclusive-growth-and-development-report-2017/scorecard/?doing\\_wp\\_cron=1557659592.3493809700012207031250#economy=PHL](http://reports.weforum.org/inclusive-growth-and-development-report-2017/scorecard/?doing_wp_cron=1557659592.3493809700012207031250#economy=PHL) (accessed May 2019).

<sup>143</sup> Chua, K. K. et al., 2015. "Urban-rural income and wage gaps in the Philippines: measurement error, unequal endowments, or factor market failure?" *Philippine Review of Economics*. Vol. 52, No. 2, 1-21.

<sup>144</sup> *Poverty and Agriculture in the Philippines: Trends in Income Poverty and Distribution*.

<sup>145</sup> *The Power of Parity: Advancing Women's Equality in Asia and Pacific, Focus: the Philippines*.

<sup>146</sup> World Bank, 2019. "Population, total – Philippines."

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.POP.TOTL?locations=PH> (accessed January 2021).

<sup>147</sup> World Bank, 2019. "Population, female (% of total population) – Philippines."

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.POP.TOTL.FE.ZS?locations=PH> (accessed January 2021).

<sup>148</sup> World Bank, 2019. "Population growth (annual %) – Philippines."

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.POP.GROW?locations=PH> (accessed January 2021).

<sup>149</sup> World Bank, 2019. "Population ages 0-14 (% of total population) – Philippines."

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.POP.0014.TO.ZS?locations=PH> (accessed January 2021).

<sup>150</sup> World Bank, 2019. "Population ages 65 and above (% of total population) – Philippines."

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.POP.65UP.TO.ZS?locations=PH> (accessed January 2021).

<sup>151</sup> UNFPA Philippines, undated. "Young People."

<https://philippines.unfpa.org/en/node/15309> (accessed January 2021).

<sup>152</sup> Philippine Statistics Authority, 2012. "The Age and Sex Structure of the Philippine Population: (Facts from the 2010 Census)."

<https://psa.gov.ph/content/age-and-sex-structure-philippine-population-facts-2010-census> (accessed May 2019).

<sup>153</sup> Worldometer, undated. "Philippines Population."

<https://www.worldometers.info/world-population/philippines-population/>

9.3%<sup>154</sup> and 8.6%<sup>155</sup> of the total population, respectively. Republic Act 8044, Youth in Nation Building Act, defines youth as persons of age 15 to 30.<sup>156</sup>

52 Rural population was estimated at 55.9 million in 2017,<sup>157</sup> or slightly over half of the national population, with a growth rate of 1.15%.<sup>158</sup> The populations in 2015 and population growth rates in 2010-2015 in the five targeted regions are shown in Table 2.

**Table 2: Population Related Statistics in Target Regions**

Region	Population (2015)	Population Growth Rate (2010-2015)	Female (% of population)	Female aged 15-39 (% of female population)	Male aged 15-39 (% of male population)
Cordillera Administrative Region	1.72 million	1.21%	48.9	42.5	43.4
II- Cagayan Valley	3.45 million	1.27%	49.0	40.4	41.4
V - Bicol	5.80 million	1.29%	49	37.5	38.8
X – Northern Mindanao	4.69 million	1.68%	49	40.3	41.1
XII - SOCCSKSARGEN	4.55 million	1.94%	49	35.6	35.6

Source: Based on Philippine Statistics Authority (2018)

#### 4.1.3 Literacy and Education

53 The basic literacy rates among Filipino women and men aged 15 and above were 96.8% and 96.0%, respectively, in 2013.<sup>159</sup> The functional literacy rate among the population of age 10 to 64 nationwide was 90.3%.<sup>160</sup> The rate among females was higher than among males, 92.0% and 88.7%, respectively.<sup>161</sup> Female functional literacy rate is consistently 3 percentage points above that of male in each region targeted by the proposed project, sometimes close to 7 percentage points as in Bicol (Table 3).

<sup>154</sup> World Bank, 2019. "Population ages 20-24, female (% of female population) – Philippines" <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.POP.2024.FE.5Y?locations=PH> (accessed January 2021).

World Bank, 2019. "Population ages 20-24, male (% of male population) – Philippines" <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.POP.2024.MA.5Y?locations=PH> (accessed January 2021).

<sup>155</sup> World Bank, 2019. "Population ages 25-29, female (% of female population) - Philippines." <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.POP.2529.FE.5Y?locations=PH> (accessed January 2021).

World Bank, 2019. "Population ages 25-29, male (% of male population) - Philippines." <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.POP.2529.MA.5Y?locations=PH> (accessed January 2021).

<sup>156</sup> Republic of the Philippines, 1994. Republic Act No. 8044.

[https://www.youthpolicy.org/wp-content/uploads/library/1994\\_Youth\\_in\\_Nation\\_Building\\_Act\\_Philippines.pdf](https://www.youthpolicy.org/wp-content/uploads/library/1994_Youth_in_Nation_Building_Act_Philippines.pdf) (accessed January 2021).

<sup>157</sup> World Bank, 2019. "Rural Population - Philippines." <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.RUR.TOTL?locations=PH> (accessed May 2019).

<sup>158</sup> World Bank, 2019. "Rural population growth (annual %) – Philippines." <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.RUR.TOTL.ZG?locations=PH> (accessed May 2019).

<sup>159</sup> World Bank, 2019. "Literacy rate, adult female (% of females ages 15 and above) – Philippines." <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SE.ADT.LITR.FE.ZS?locations=PH> (accessed May 2019).

World Bank, 2019. "Literacy rate, adult male (% of males ages 15 and above) – Philippines." <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SE.ADT.LITR.MA.ZS?locations=PH> (accessed May 2019).

<sup>160</sup> 2013 FLEMMS, Functional Literacy, Education and Mass Media Survey, Final Report.

<sup>161</sup> *ibid.*

**Table 3: Functional Literacy Rates in Target Regions  
(persons aged 10-64 in 2013)**

Region	Functional Literacy Rate		
	Total	Female (%)	Male (%)
Cordillera Administrative Region	91.2	92.9	89.7
II- Cagayan Valley	97.2	98.0	96.4
V - Bicol	87.1	90.5	83.9
X – Northern Mindanao	94.0	95.5	92.6
XII - SOCCSKSARGEN	82.5	84.0	81.0

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority (2018)

54 For all income groups around the nation, out-of-school rates were lower for girls than for boys, excepting age groups 3-5 and 20-24.<sup>162</sup> Among the female persons aged 6 to 24 years, the reasons for not attending school were: marriage or family matters (37%), finished schooling, or finished post secondary or college (19%), employment or looking for work (19%), and high cost of education or financial concerns (12%).<sup>163</sup> For men aged 6-24 years, the reasons were: employment or looking for work (30%), lack of personal interest (25%), high cost of education or financial concerns (18%), and marriage or family matters (13%). Drop-out rates at all levels of education were higher than the regional norm, especially at the primary level, around 2015.<sup>164</sup>

55 The net enrolment rates for primary and secondary schools were higher for female in both primary and secondary schools in the early 2010s (Table 4). The gender gap widens for secondary school net enrolment rate: from female leading male by about 1-2 percentage points in primary schools to female enrolling roughly 10 percentage points more in secondary schools in all regions. Cohort survival rates show larger regional variety, but again, female survival rates are 6-9 percentage points higher than for male in primary school, which becomes 7-14 percentage points in secondary schools.

**Table 4: Net Enrolment and Cohort Survival Rates for Primary and Secondary Schools**

Region	Net Enrolment Rate						Cohort Survival Rate (2013-2014)					
	Primary School (2015)			Secondary School (2012)			Primary School			Secondary School		
	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male
Cordillera Administrative Region	92.18	93.00	91.36	71.32	76.51	66.34	83.75	86.30	81.49	84.50	91.50	77.78
II- Cagayan Valley	96.31	97.19	95.49	70.21	75.01	65.72	89.24	92.49	86.34	84.60	88.21	81.07
V - Bicol	91.09	91.45	90.75	69.51	76.06	63.45	86.41	89.80	83.40	79.12	85.18	73.25
X – Northern Mindanao	89.68	90.16	89.22	59.53	65.01	54.28	74.41	79.66	69.82	74.00	77.98	69.97
XII - SOCCSKSARGEN	87.72	88.78	86.72	59.00	64.39	53.82	74.91	79.66	70.66	77.15	82.01	72.22

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority (2018)

56 While the accessibility to schools has improved in recent years, the quality is said to be declining.<sup>165</sup> Close to 80% of the country's primary and secondary public schools lacked internet

<sup>162</sup> Philippine Statistics Authority, 2018. *APIS 2017 Annual Poverty Indicators Survey, Final Report*. Manila: Philippines Statistics Authority.

<sup>163</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>164</sup> Anonymous, undated. "Case Study on Youth Issues: Philippines."

<https://sdghelpdesk.unescap.org/sites/default/files/2018-08/Youth%20Issues%20-%20Philippines.pdf> (accessed February 2021).

<sup>165</sup> Khidhir, S., 2018. "Improving education in the Philippines." *The ASEAN Post*. 24 November 2018.

connectivity in 2016.<sup>166</sup> Less than 40% of the applicants for teaching positions passed the licensure exams in various fields in 2016, and less than 50% of the faculty members at higher education institutions have at least a master's degree.<sup>167</sup>

#### 4.1.4 Poverty and Wealth

57 The poverty incidence among women was 22.5% for the entire country, 20.6% for Cordillera Autonomous Region (CAR), 16.2% for Cagayan, 36.5% for Bicol, 27.8% for SOCCSKARGEN, and 36.7% for Northern Mindanao regions in 2015.<sup>168</sup> The rate for the nation as a whole was 21.0% in 2018.<sup>169</sup> Poverty among the farmers are wider spread, except for Cagayan among the targeted regions: 34.3% (nation); 28.1% (CAR); 8.8% (Cagayan); 34.9% (Bicol); 54.0% (Northern Mindanao); and 45.7% (SOCCSKARGEN).<sup>170</sup> The number of female-headed households has consistently been increasing: 14% in 1993, 16.6% in 2008 and 18.9% in 2013.<sup>171</sup> The potential contributing factors were: stronger participation of female in labor force; marital disruptions; and migration of males for overseas work.<sup>172</sup> At higher-income levels, female-headed households fared better in economic terms while it was the opposite for low-income levels.<sup>173</sup> Over 3% of households of all income groups experienced hunger during the past three months before the Annual Poverty Indicators Survey was conducted in 2017.<sup>174</sup> The rate was close to 7% for the bottom 30%.<sup>175</sup> Data segregated by region or gender is not available.

58 The Philippines has a large wealth gap as measured by wealth Gini index in 2018.<sup>176</sup> Credit Suisse's report on global wealth categorizes the Philippines as having a wealth per adult of USD 5,000-25,000.<sup>177</sup> Considering the poverty rate, this also implies a large wealth gap in the country.

#### 4.1.5 Marriage

59 The Articles 14, 19, 124, 211 and 225 of the Family Code are partial to the husband's opinions and thoughts on communal property, conjugal partnership, parental authority and legal guardianship, and considered to perpetuate the unequal status of spouses.<sup>178</sup> For the Muslims, Presidential Decree

---

<https://theaseanpost.com/article/improving-education-philippines>(accessed May 2019).

<sup>166</sup> World Wide Web Foundation, 2017. *Women's Rights Online: Report Card, Philippines*.

<https://www.fma.ph/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/PH-Digital-Gender-Report-Card.pdf> (accessed May 2019).

<sup>167</sup> San Buenaventura, P. A. R., 2019. "Education Equality in the Philippines." Presented at the International Workshop on Data Disaggregation for the Sustainable Development Goals, 30 January 2019.

[https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/files/meetings/sdg-inter-workshop-jan-2019/Session%2011.b.3\\_Philippines\\_Education%20Equality%20AssessmentFINAL4.pdf](https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/files/meetings/sdg-inter-workshop-jan-2019/Session%2011.b.3_Philippines_Education%20Equality%20AssessmentFINAL4.pdf) (accessed May 2019).

<sup>168</sup> Philippine Statistics Authority, 2017. "Farmers, Fishermen and Children consistently posted the highest poverty incidence among basic sectors – PSA."

<https://psa.gov.ph/content/farmers-fishermen-and-children-consistently-posted-highest-poverty-incidence-among-basic> (accessed May 2019).

<sup>169</sup> Philippine Statistics Authority, 2019. "Proportion of Poor Filipinos registered at 21.0 percent in the First Semester of 2018."

<https://psa.gov.ph/poverty-press-releases/nid/138411> (accessed May 2019).

<sup>170</sup> "Farmers, Fishermen and Children consistently posted the highest poverty incidence among basic sectors – PSA."

<sup>171</sup> CEIC, undated. Philippines PH: Female Headed Households. 1993-2013.

<https://www.ceicdata.com/en/philippines/population-and-urbanization-statistics/ph-female-headed-households> (accessed May 2019).

<sup>172</sup> "Female Headed Households in the Philippines."

<sup>173</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>174</sup> *APIS 2017 Annual Poverty Indicators Survey, Final Report*

<sup>175</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>176</sup> Ventura, L., 2018. "Wealth Distribution and Income Inequality by Country 2018." Global Finance. 26 November 2018.

<https://www.gfmag.com/global-data/economic-data/wealth-distribution-income-inequality> (accessed May 2019).

<sup>177</sup> Credit Suisse Research Institute, 2018. *Global Wealth Report 2018*. Zurich: Credit Suisse.

<sup>178</sup> Philippine Commission on Women, undated. "Ensuring Women's Equal Rights in Marriage and Family Relations: Amending Articles 14, 19, 124, 211 and 225 of the Family Code of the Philippines." Women's Priority Legislative Agenda for the 17<sup>th</sup> Congress. Policy Brief, No.6.

1083, Code of Muslim Personal Laws of the Philippines, applies instead, prohibiting the wives from managing communal property or personal business without the husband's consent,<sup>179</sup> although the husbands are not bound by such restrictions.<sup>180</sup> At the same time, each Muslim spouse is allowed to own and administer exclusive property, and a Muslim woman does not lose ownership and administration of her property after marriage.<sup>181</sup> The rights and obligations with respect to conjugal partnership are the same for the wife and husband, except for responsibilities related to the household and the conditions for the number of spouses, divorce and remarriage.<sup>182</sup> For care and custody of the children, the Muslim code gives privilege to mothers, maternal grandmothers, sisters and aunts, but it is the fathers, paternal grandfathers, brothers and uncles who are appointed as guardians of marriage of children.<sup>183</sup> While the country does not have legal provisions for divorce, the Family Code allows legal separation without the right to remarry as well as annulment of marriage.<sup>184</sup> The Muslims may divorce in accordance with the Code of Muslim Personal Laws.

60 Fifteen percent of Filipino girls were married before the age of 18 and 2% before 15 in 2017.<sup>185</sup> The rates may be low among the Asian countries,<sup>186</sup> but they make the country the 12<sup>th</sup> highest in the world in absolute number of child brides at 726,000.<sup>187</sup> The girls and women in the regions of Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, MIMAROPA and SOCCSKARGEN tended to marry earlier.<sup>188</sup> As the Philippines is the only country in the world that does not allow divorce, young women are made even more vulnerable by marriage at a very early age.<sup>189</sup> The trafficking of women and girls is common from rural regions of Visayas and Mindanao to urban cities or tourist destinations, where there is a high demand for commercial sex. Forced marriages have been reported, and the country's popular mail-order bride industry puts girls at risk of forced marriage.<sup>190</sup>

61 The UN Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons reported, based on her fact-finding mission in the Philippines in 2012, that people were trafficked to work as forced laborers in factories and on farms or as domestic helpers in relation to a range of criminal activities and that girls were especially at risk of being trafficked, into the sex industry and for forced marriage.<sup>191</sup> She asserted that the sexual exploitation of girls remained "extremely common, socially and culturally tolerated in the country."<sup>192</sup> The Philippines ranked the 30<sup>th</sup> highest among 167 countries in 2018 in terms of slavery prevalence.<sup>193</sup>

62 The Philippine government was also urged by the CEDAW Committee in 2016 to eliminate the root causes of child and forced marriage, including poverty, conflict and insecurity, as well as vulnerability to natural disasters. It also raised concerns on the gaps between the provisions of Republic Act 9710, the Magna Carta on Women, and those of the Code of Muslim Personal Laws and

---

<https://pcw.gov.ph/sites/default/files/documents/laws/wpla/2016/October/webmaster/PCW%20WPLA%20Policy%20Brief%206%20Family%20Code%20Provisions.pdf> (accessed November 2019).

<sup>179</sup> Presidential Decree, No. 1083. [http://www.uniset.ca/phil/phil\\_musl\\_civ\\_code.pdf](http://www.uniset.ca/phil/phil_musl_civ_code.pdf) (accessed May 2019).

<sup>180</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>181</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>182</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>183</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>184</sup> Philippine Commission on Women, 2019. "Adopting Divorce in the Family Code." Policy Brief No. 12 <https://www.pcw.gov.ph/wpla-17th-congress/adopting-divorce-family-code> (accessed November 2019).

<sup>185</sup> "Philippines."

<sup>186</sup> *The Power of Parity: Advancing Women's Equality in Asia and Pacific, Focus: the Philippines.*

<sup>187</sup> "Philippines."

<sup>188</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>189</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>190</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>191</sup> Agence-France Presse, 2012. UN envoy warns on human trafficking in Philippines." *Inquirer.net*. 9 November 2012. <https://globalnation.inquirer.net/55726/un-envoy-warns-on-human-trafficking-in-philippines> (accessed May 2019).

<sup>192</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>193</sup> Mideroo Foundation, 2018. Global Slavery Index, 2018, Country Data, Philippines. <https://www.globalslaveryindex.org/2018/data/country-data/philippines/> (accessed May 2019).

customary laws applicable to indigenous communities, which drive harmful practices such as child and forced marriage. The United Nations Human Rights Committee recommended in 2017 that the government revise the minimum age of marriage for girls in the Code of Muslim Personal Laws.<sup>194</sup> The most common reasons for the breakdown of marriage in the Philippines are: infidelity or extramarital sexual relations or affairs by the husband (in some cases by the wife); violence inflicted by the husband on the wife or the children; or sexual abuse inflicted by the husband (in some cases by the wife) on children or other close relations.<sup>195</sup> The social stigma from failure to keep a marriage is stronger on the women, and hence the lack of legal provisions for divorce burdens women more than men.<sup>196</sup>

#### 4.1.6 Religion

63 Starting in the early 16th century, the Spanish missionaries promoted Christian ideas of premarital virginity and wifely fidelity in a society where unmarried girls were usually free to engage in sex, and where extra-marital liaisons were condoned and at times encouraged, at least among the non-elite.<sup>197</sup> The missionaries were intrigued and yet repelled by the male penis adornment, which they attributed to the 'carnal lustfulness' of women and used to justify their proselytization activities in the Philippines.<sup>198</sup>

64 The missionaries made great efforts to undermine the elderly women who were priestess, possessed ritual objects and presided over animist ceremonies, because such women were related to witchcraft and devil in the minds of the missionaries.<sup>199</sup> The priestess also acted as midwives.<sup>200</sup> Many of them were transgender women who were assigned male at birth, but identified – and were socially accepted – as female.<sup>201</sup> The transgender priestesses seem to have existed in kingdoms influenced by Hinduism, which recognizes a third gender, but not in Northern Luzon, the mountainous areas of Mindanao or among Agtas.<sup>202</sup> The Spanish sought substitution of local rituals and symbols with Christian equivalents as a means to degrade the position of the priestess.<sup>203</sup> Young boys were recruited to locate sacred items and then urinate on them or perform other acts of desecration.<sup>204</sup> Men dressed as women who acted as ritual specialists were attacked as well.<sup>205</sup> The Catholicism molded the population into a binary sex and gender framework.<sup>206</sup>

65 The influence of the Roman Catholic Church remains in contemporary family, civil and penal laws, most prominently in marriage and reproductive health, as discussed above.<sup>207</sup> Filipinos are generally accepting of non-heterosexual people, but same-sex marriage is considered unconstitutional<sup>208</sup> and the church opposes anti-discrimination policies and occasionally seeks to

---

<sup>194</sup> "Philippines."

<sup>195</sup> "Adopting Divorce in the Family Code."

<sup>196</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>197</sup> Andaya, B. W., 2002. "Carolyn Brewer, Holy Confrontation: Religion, Gender and Sexuality in the Philippines, 1521-1685." *Intersections: Gender, History and Culture in the Asian Context*. Issue 8. [http://intersections.anu.edu.au/issue8/andaya\\_review.html](http://intersections.anu.edu.au/issue8/andaya_review.html) (accessed May 2019).

<sup>198</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>199</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>200</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>201</sup> Clark, J., 2017. "Let's Discuss Transgender People in the Pre-Colonial Philippines." The Aswang Project. <https://www.aswangproject.com/lets-discuss-transgender-pre-colonial-philippines/> (accessed May 2019).

<sup>202</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>203</sup> "Carolyn Brewer, Holy Confrontation: Religion, Gender and Sexuality in the Philippines, 1521-1685."

<sup>204</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>205</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>206</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>207</sup> "The Church, the State and Women's Bodies in the Context of Religious Fundamentalism in the Philippines."

<sup>208</sup> ABS CBN News, 2018. "Supreme Court ends oral arguments on same-sex marriage plea." 26 June 2018.

<https://news.abs-cbn.com/news/06/26/18/supreme-court-ends-oral-arguments-on-same-sex-marriage-plea> (accessed May 2019).



influence public policy away from anti-discrimination.<sup>209</sup> Today how the religion is affecting gender inequality is not widely discussed or studied, only sporadically with respect to sexual and reproductive rights.

66 Presidential Decree 1083, Code of Muslim Personal Laws of the Philippines, is based on Sharia law,<sup>210</sup> applicable only to Muslims, and is allowed to prevail over the civil legislation of the Philippines.<sup>211</sup> Under the code, the husband may have up to four wives at a time,<sup>212</sup> but the wife is allowed only one husband. The wife cannot acquire any property by gratuitous title without the husband's consent, except from her close relatives,<sup>213</sup> but is allowed to keep her properties as her own and administer them after marriage.<sup>214</sup> The wife may take up any procession, occupation or engage in lawful business, as long as the husband consents and she observes Islamic modesty and virtue.<sup>215</sup> The code does not include such restrictions for the husbands. The rights and obligations with respect to conjugal partnership, care and custody of children, and marriage of children differ between wives and husbands.<sup>216</sup> They are not necessarily disadvantageous to women, but based on the traditional perceptions of women and men. For example, the obligations of Muslim husbands are on the conjugal dwelling and those of Muslim wives are on household affairs.<sup>217</sup> In terms of annulment of marriage, the Family Code only allows legal separation without the right to remarry,<sup>218</sup> but the Code of Muslim Personal Laws has a provision for divorce.

## 4.2 Labor Division, Decision Making and Autonomy

### 4.2.1 Crops

67 Many of the tasks related to crop agriculture are carried out by both women and men. Land preparation, irrigation system reparation and other work that requires physical power as well as any mechanized operation are in most cases taken care of by men. One survey in 1999-2003 indicated that there was no farming activity given exclusively to women, while men were largely responsible for land and seedbed preparation, land leveling, seedling, and irrigation systems.<sup>219</sup> The participation of both groups in the same task does not necessarily mean that their contributions are equal. The survey showed that women's participation was most notable in planting, transplanting, manual weeding, crop establishment and harvesting.<sup>220</sup> The tasks of women as hired hands were pulling and bundling of seedlings, planting and harvesting.<sup>221</sup> Among cultivation of rice, coconuts, corn, sugarcane, bananas, pineapples, and mangoes, women were employed most for corn and sugarcane and least for coconut farming.<sup>222</sup> Another survey around 2008 summarized that women dominated planting and harvesting, but also participated in land-clearing and harrowing.<sup>223</sup> It also noted that women spent longer time in the fields than men and that they were in charge of finance related activities although their labor was unpaid.<sup>224</sup>

---

<sup>209</sup> UNDP and USAID, 2014. *Being LGBT in Asia: The Philippines Country Report*. Bangkok: UNDP.

<sup>210</sup> "Philippines."

<sup>211</sup> Asian Institute of Journalism and Communication, undated. *A Premier on the Code of Muslim Personal Laws of the Philippines*. San Juan City, Philippines; AIJC.

<sup>212</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>213</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>214</sup> Presidential Decree, No. 1083.

<sup>215</sup> *A Premier on the Code of Muslim Personal Laws of the Philippines*.

<sup>216</sup> Presidential Decree, No. 1083.

<sup>217</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>218</sup> "Adopting Divorce in the Family Code."

<sup>219</sup> FAO, undated. "Fact Sheet Philippines: Women in Agriculture, Environment and Rural Production." <http://www.fao.org/3/ae946e/ae946e03.htm> (accessed May 2019).

<sup>220</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>221</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>222</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>223</sup> *National Climate Change Action Plan, 2011-28*.

<sup>224</sup> *ibid.*



68 The consultations on the ground in 2019 showed that almost all tasks were done by both, while following the general pattern above where only one gender was involved.<sup>225</sup> Small variations were observed within the regions.<sup>226</sup> Fertilizer may be applied by men only or by both women and men in Bicol, or by women only in some parts of Ifugao;<sup>227</sup> in view of their farming methods it may be that synthetic fertilizers are applied by men and organic ones by women. One anomaly was in Banaue village of Ifugao region, Cordillera, where the tourism related off-farm activities left the farm work to women, and men participated only in tasks that are strictly for males (such as ploughing and dyke reparation) in addition to processing of crops and deciding when to plant rice.<sup>228</sup> Products were sold by women in all villages consulted, aided by men who undertook the physical aspects of sale, such as carrying heavy sacs and driving the vehicle to trading centers.<sup>229</sup> The participation of children after school or during the weekends is considered normal part of rural life.<sup>230</sup> Some indigenous communities continue to gather food from the forests, especially when there is shortage of cultivated food. The task is mainly given to men in some tribes and to women in others.<sup>231</sup>

#### 4.2.2 Livestock

69 The most common livestock in the Philippines are: water buffalo (*carabão*), cattle, hog, goat, chicken and duck.<sup>232</sup> Other animals mentioned during the field consultations were: turkey, rabbit, tilapia, mud crab and milk fish in Bicol and dogs for meat in Ifugao.<sup>233</sup> According to the farmers consulted, anybody in the household would take care of the animals, although *carabão* and cattle were taken care of exclusively by men in some areas of Bicol for the reason that they could get aggressive and pose danger to the caretaker.<sup>234</sup> Women usually spend 1-2 hours per day in backyard gardening and livestock raising, which provide most of their daily provisions and even for special occasions as in the case of hogs they raise.<sup>235</sup> A survey in Bukidnon province revealed that the involvement of women and children in *carabão* management was overall moderate, but high in feeding, tethering, and cleaning the animals. Children were responsible for bringing their buffalo to the wallowing canal, and overall more active than women.<sup>236</sup>

70 Household gardens are critical for household subsistence, and serve as an important source of food. Studies have found backyard gardens supported households to better withstand shocks related to the pandemic, as it provided a source of food during market disruptions, reduced food costs, and lockdowns, and families could sell excess to neighbours.<sup>237</sup> Such gardens are also considered an important tool for strengthening resilience to climate change, as they can also support households to buffer climate-related shocks, which could otherwise have particularly strong adverse impacts on food security and nutrition. Attention should be paid to ensuring the adoption of sustainable climate-resilient and organic practices within household gardens, including also promoting diverse production systems.

<sup>225</sup> Farmer Consultations in Bicol and Cordillera (28 January-6 February 2019).

<sup>226</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>227</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>228</sup> Farmer Consultations in Bicol and Cordillera (28 January-6 February 2019).

<sup>229</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>230</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>231</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>232</sup> *Selected Statistics on Agriculture 2018.*

<sup>233</sup> Farmer Consultations in Bicol and Cordillera (28 January-6 February 2019).

<sup>234</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>235</sup> "Fact Sheet Philippines: Women in Agriculture, Environment and Rural Production."

<sup>236</sup> Bayola, D. L. and Intong, J.D., 2001. "Participation by women and children in livestock production in Bukidnon province, Southern Philippines." *Australasia Pacific Extension Network*.

<http://www.regional.org.au/au/apen/2001/refereed/BayolaD.htm> (accessed May 2019).

<sup>237</sup> Verzosa F, Cabriole MA, Thant PS, Phen B, Itliong K, Myae C, Thong C, Urdelas FG, Naun YW, Moe MZ, Tola C, Barbon WJ, Monville-Oro E, Gonsalves J. 2021. Pathways to Women's Empowerment in the Promotion of Climate Smart Agriculture in the Philippines, Myanmar, and Cambodia. Wageningen, the Netherlands: CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS).

#### 4.2.3 Household and care Work

71 Unpaid household work – cooking, laundry, cleaning, mending and procuring clothes, and caring for children, the elderly and disabled – is distributed unevenly between girls and boys around the world, and the pattern persists over their lifetime.<sup>238</sup> The total time spent on paid and unpaid work is more for girls of all age groups than boys in the same age groups in all countries, which may affect girls' access to playing, schooling, training, and other public activities,<sup>239</sup> leading to lower social and cognitive development.

72 The women covered by a survey conducted in 2017 in three countries – the Philippines, Uganda and Zimbabwe – spent more time than men on care in any situation, on average 4.5 to 6.5 hours a day on household work as a primary activity and an average of 11 to 12 hours a day in total.<sup>240</sup> Even when hours of 'supervision' are included, women's hours devoted to household work were, on average, 6.5 to 8 hours longer per day than men's.<sup>241</sup> Nine percent of men in the Philippines reported no time spent on any kind of household care the day before the survey, which was lower than 52% in Uganda and 49% in Zimbabwe in a study on the three countries.<sup>242</sup> Around 2016, Filipino women spent 34-75% more time than men on household work.<sup>243</sup> The time wives spent on household work was negatively affected by the husbands' wage, while the wives' wage did not affect husbands' time spent on household work, suggesting that higher household income allows employment for household work, bulk of which is done by wives.

73 In another survey of female rice farmers in Indonesia, Myanmar, the Philippines (Southern Luzon) and Thailand, women reported the difficulty of handling all work assigned to them during planting and harvesting seasons, when they needed to work in the field for 1 to 2 months in groups from early morning until late in the evening in addition to their daily household work.<sup>244</sup> Many female farmers in Southern Luzon described these seasons as exhausting and tiresome, and some prioritized farm work over household work during the peak seasons.<sup>245</sup>

#### 4.2.4 Supplementary Income

74 Cash generating activities off the farm constitute an important element in the farmers' livelihood. The sources of income earned by families in the bottom 30% with respect to earning reflect the weak contribution of family farms to cash income: wage and salary (47%), entrepreneurial activities (25%), and family sustenance activities (4%).<sup>246</sup>

75 Women grow vegetables, raise poultry and small livestock, engage in aquaculture and arboriculture, work as teachers or own small businesses.<sup>247</sup> They may be hired for transplanting in other's fields.<sup>248</sup> Men are usually engaged in construction work,<sup>249</sup> or hunting or fishing.<sup>250</sup>

---

<sup>238</sup> Rost, L, and Koissy-Kpein, S., 2017. *Infrastructure and Equipment for Unpaid Care Work: Household Survey Findings from the Philippines, Uganda and Zimbabwe*. 2017 Household Care Survey Report. Oxford: Oxfam.

<sup>239</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>240</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>241</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>242</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>243</sup> Dacuycuy, C. B., 2016. *Wages, Housework, and Attitudes in the Philippines*. Makati City, Philippines: Philippine Institute for Development Studies.

<sup>244</sup> "Women's empowerment and gender equity in agriculture: A different perspective from Southeast Asia."

<sup>245</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>246</sup> *APIS 2017 Annual Poverty Indicators Survey, Final Report*.

<sup>247</sup> "Women's empowerment and gender equity in agriculture: A different perspective from Southeast Asia."

<sup>248</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>249</sup> Farmer Consultations in Bicol and Cordillera (28 January-6 February 2019).

<sup>250</sup> "Women's empowerment and gender equity in agriculture: A different perspective from Southeast Asia."

Construction jobs are preferred to work as hired hands on the farm, because the wage is higher. In dire cases, they migrate overseas for work.

76 Many female farmers expressed their wish to earn more through off-farm work to meet the household needs,<sup>251</sup> mostly by engaging in what they love to do – such as making preserves and crafts – and selling the products. Their lack of access to marketing knowledge appeared an obstacle in making the transition from hobby to business with customers outside the immediate neighborhood: how to read market trends; find appropriate markets; control quality; present the product in an attractive manner; and utilize the internet for direct sale to consumers.<sup>252</sup>

#### 4.2.5 Decision Making and Autonomy

77 **Overall:** When a family member's earnings are high, she/he has larger autonomy and influence in the finality of household decisions.<sup>253</sup> While wives' headship does not grant them autonomy and finality in decision making, it ensures that they are involved in decision making.<sup>254</sup>

78 **Income:** The National Demographic and Health Survey in 2013 revealed that very few men in the Philippines controlled the incomes earned by their employed wives aged 15-49.<sup>255</sup> In terms of the education level of the wives, more than half of the women were the main decision-makers in case they had no education.<sup>256</sup> The rate constantly decreased as the wives acquired more education.<sup>257</sup>

79 In contrast, less than 10% of men were the main decision-makers on spending of their own earnings, regardless of the relative importance of their incomes compared to their wives'.<sup>258</sup> The incomes are usually pooled as family income,<sup>259</sup> and the spending decisions are made jointly by about half the households for the wives' earnings and by more than 60% for the husbands' earnings.<sup>260</sup> Some women were responsible for deciding on the sale of crops and livestock.<sup>261</sup> In such cases, they kept the earnings.<sup>262</sup>

80 With respect to the type of expenditures, day-to-day decisions on household expenditures (food, clothing, health care, education, etc.) were made by women, while major expenditures were jointly decided with men.<sup>263</sup> In Bicol, the farmers stated that when disagreement between wives and husbands could not be resolved, it was the husbands' opinion that prevailed.<sup>264</sup> The priorities for the expenses were: agricultural inputs, children's education, daily household needs, food and transportation.<sup>265</sup>

---

<sup>251</sup> *ibid.*

Farmer Consultations in Bicol and Cordillera (28 January-6 February 2019).

<sup>252</sup> Farmer Consultations in Bicol and Cordillera (28 January-6 February 2019).

<sup>253</sup> Bayudan, C., 2006. "Wives' Time Allocation and Intrahousehold Power: Evidence from the Philippines." *Applied Economics*. Vol. 38, 789–804.

<sup>254</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>255</sup> "Measuring Women's Empowerment and Women's Autonomy in the Philippines."

<sup>256</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>257</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>258</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>259</sup> "Women's empowerment and gender equity in agriculture: A different perspective from Southeast Asia." Farmer Consultations in Bicol and Cordillera (28 January-6 February 2019).

<sup>260</sup> "Measuring Women's Empowerment and Women's Autonomy in the Philippines."

<sup>261</sup> "Women's empowerment and gender equity in agriculture: A different perspective from Southeast Asia."

<sup>262</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>263</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>264</sup> Farmer Consultations in Bicol and Cordillera (28 January-6 February 2019).

<sup>265</sup> "Women's empowerment and gender equity in agriculture: A different perspective from Southeast Asia."

81 **Assets:** Decisions on the purchase and sale of land, house or major family assets are made jointly by wives and husbands, regardless of the formal asset ownership,<sup>266</sup> but the power to make final decisions appears to rest with men.

82 **Farming:** The vast majority of the persons who take the technical and administrative responsibility of managing agricultural holdings, or agricultural operators, were men in 2009.<sup>267</sup> The agriculture officials on the ground asserted that the farming decisions are made by men, but the discussions with the farmers indicated that the decisions are jointly made by wives and husbands, and only when they cannot agree, men had the final word.<sup>268</sup> Among the Tawali tribe in Ifugao, CAR, it is the first born child who grows up to make the decisions for the family, all the while the title of the head of the family follows a patriarchal system.<sup>269</sup> In Ifugao, it is a woman of prestige in each village who ritually sows the first seeds of the planting season in her seedbed.<sup>270</sup> Afterward she fasts for a day to mark the beginning of the rice planting season.<sup>271</sup>

83 **Health:** Slightly over half of the women currently married and aged 15-49 made decisions on their own health by themselves and about 45% made joint decisions with their husbands on the topic, according to the National Demographic and Health Survey in 2013.<sup>272</sup> Only 3.3% of the women reported that it was the husbands who made the decisions on the women's health.<sup>273</sup> Among four issues surveyed – purchases of daily household needs, visits to the wife's family or relatives, major household purchases, own health care – the health issue had the second most participation of women after purchases of daily household needs.<sup>274</sup>

84 Segregation by age groups showed that the proportion of women who participated in decision making on their health increased with age.<sup>275</sup> Women's cash earning status had little impact on their participation in decision making about women's health.<sup>276</sup> There was virtually no difference between the urban and rural residents.<sup>277</sup> The level of education and wealth had larger, but still small effects.<sup>278</sup>

85 **Violence:** The proportion of women aged 15-49 who were subjected to physical or sexual violence in the last 12 months was 7.1% for the Philippines in 2013.<sup>279</sup> As most countries do not have the relevant statistics, it is not possible to say whether the figure is above or below average,<sup>280</sup> while McKinsey Global Institute concluded that violence against women was mostly at medium level in the country.<sup>281</sup> As of 2016, 17% of Philippine women were subject to physical or sexual violence by their intimate partner in their lifetime.<sup>282</sup>

---

<sup>266</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>267</sup> "Women in Agriculture."

<sup>268</sup> "Women's empowerment and gender equity in agriculture: A different perspective from Southeast Asia." Farmer and Institutional Consultations in Bicol and Cordillera (28 January-6 February 2019).

<sup>269</sup> Farmer Consultations in Bicol and Cordillera (28 January-6 February 2019).

<sup>270</sup> Murphy, K. M., 2017. "A quiet harvest: linkage between ritual, seed selection and the historical use of the finger-bladed knife as a traditional plant breeding tool in Ifugao, Philippines." *Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine*. Vol. 13, No. 3. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5237252/> (accessed May 2019).

<sup>271</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>272</sup> "Measuring Women's Empowerment and Women's Autonomy in the Philippines."

<sup>273</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>274</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>275</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>276</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>277</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>278</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>279</sup> *The Global Gender Gap Report 2018.*

<sup>280</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>281</sup> *The Power of Parity: Advancing Women's Equality in Asia and Pacific, Focus: the Philippines.*

<sup>282</sup> UNWomen, 2016. "Global Database on Violence against Women. Philippines."

<http://evaw-global-database.unwomen.org/fr/countries/asia/philippines> (accessed May 2019).

86 Among the Philippine girls aged 15 to 19 years, about 15% had experienced any physical violence since age 15 and about 8% experienced any physical violence in the 12 month prior to the survey in 2005-2013.<sup>283</sup> In recent years, the Philippines has become a global hub for child pornography online<sup>284</sup> and major destination for global child sex tourism.<sup>285</sup> About 5% of girls aged 15 to 19 years ever experienced forced sexual intercourse or any other forced sexual acts, according to a survey in 2004-2013.<sup>286</sup>

87 The National Demographic and Health Survey in 2008 and 2013 indicate that women's attitude toward violence committed to them did not change much.<sup>287</sup> In 2013, 13% of currently married women aged 15-49 agreed that their husbands are justified in hitting or beating them if the wives burned the food, argued with him, went out without telling him, neglected the children, or refused to have sexual intercourse with him. The largest proportion of women (12% in 2008 and 11% in 2013) considered it just that their husbands hit or beat them if they neglected their children.<sup>288</sup> The lowest proportions were on refusal to have sex with the husband (1.6%) and burning the food (1.8%).<sup>289</sup> There was very little difference among the age groups in thinking that the use of violence was justified for each of the above five cases.<sup>290</sup>

88 Currently married women aged 15-49 and living in the rural areas were more tolerant of gender-based violence than those in the urban areas, more than twice in terms of proportion.<sup>291</sup>

### 4.3 Agricultural Resources and Services: Access and Ownership

#### 4.3.1 Land, House and Livestock

89 Republic Act 6657, the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law (CARL) of 1988, and Republic Act 9710, the Magna Carta of Women together give equal rights to women and men in land ownership and management, regardless of marital status, and women's names should appear as equal co-owner of the land that they cultivate as a family.<sup>292</sup> In many cases, the prevailing perception that men are the primary landowners,<sup>293</sup> lack of awareness of these rights and weak administrative practices have limited women's land ownership.<sup>294</sup> In case of Muslim communities, the Code of Muslim Personal Laws, which supersedes the Civil Code, requires wives to obtain their husband's consent during the course of their marriage on property acquisition and land use.<sup>295</sup> Some farmers assert that if they were to be granted land under the Certificate of Land Ownership Award<sup>296</sup> of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program, they cannot have any source of income other than farming, must have been farming

<sup>283</sup> UNICEF, 2014. *A Statistical Snapshot of Violence against Adolescent Girls*. New York: United Nations Children's Fund.

<sup>284</sup> The Economist, 2018. "Caught in the web: The Philippines is a global hub for child pornography." 4 January 2018. <https://www.economist.com/asia/2018/01/04/the-philippines-is-a-global-hub-for-child-pornography> (accessed May 2019).

<sup>285</sup> ECPAT, 2016. "National Plan of Action, Executive Summary, Philippines." [https://www.ecpat.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/EXSUM\\_A4A\\_EAP\\_PHILIPPINES.pdf](https://www.ecpat.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/EXSUM_A4A_EAP_PHILIPPINES.pdf) (accessed May 2019).

<sup>286</sup> *A Statistical Snapshot of Violence against Adolescent Girls*.

<sup>287</sup> "Measuring Women's Empowerment and Women's Autonomy in the Philippines."

<sup>288</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>289</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>290</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>291</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>292</sup> Asian Farmers' Association, 2019. "Women's Land Rights, Gender-Responsive Policies and the World Bank (Philippines)." <http://asianfarmers.org/womens-land-rights-gender-responsive-policies-and-the-world-bank-philippines/> (accessed May 2019).

<sup>293</sup> "The Philippines: Closing the credit gap for women entrepreneurs." <https://www.whitecase.com/publications/article/philippines-closing-credit-gap-women-entrepreneurs> (accessed May 2019).

<sup>294</sup> "Women's Land Rights, Gender-Responsive Policies and the World Bank (Philippines)."

<sup>295</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>296</sup> "Gender and conservation agriculture: constraints and opportunities in the Philippines."

the land in question for five years or more, and are responsible for all taxes and surveys on the land.<sup>297</sup> These conditions may be difficult for a woman alone to satisfy.<sup>298</sup>

90 Land ownership statistics segregated by age and gender reveal that less than 1% of married women aged 15-19 owned land by themselves and slightly over 1% owned land jointly in 2018.<sup>299</sup> As women aged, the sole and joint ownerships both increased.<sup>300</sup> More married women owned land in the rural areas than in the urban areas, but at the same time, the higher the wealth, the more likely a married woman owned land by herself, suggesting the existence of a class akin to landed gentry.<sup>301</sup> These national statistics do not differentiate non-indigenous women from indigenous women.

91 Despite the lack of ownership among women, decisions are usually made jointly, and those over land utilization, purchase or sale do not appear to be exceptions.<sup>302</sup> It is not known, however, whether the voices of wives and husbands carry equal weight, or who has the final say when agreement is considered impossible. According to Article 96 of the Family Code, the husband's decision prevails in the case of a disagreement between the spouses over the use of marital property.<sup>303</sup> It has also been reported that women's status in the family and in the community improves with conferment of land rights, as the rights open door to agricultural credit, which in turn encourages them to assert themselves when dealing with government officials.<sup>304</sup>

92 As of 2006, 11.2 million people were engaged in agriculture, of which 8.5 million were landless.<sup>305</sup> The tenancy system is based on a 70/30 or 60/40 product-sharing scheme, in favor of the landowner.<sup>306</sup> Only the male farmers are paid, but the entire family mobilized to complete the work,<sup>307</sup> as was the case during the Spanish colonial times.

93 Housing followed the same trend by age groups as with land, progressing from 95.6% of married women aged 15-19 not owning a house to 20.8% of married women aged 45-49 in the same condition.<sup>308</sup> The urban-rural difference was reversed from the land ownership.<sup>309</sup> The higher the wealth, the more a woman was likely to own a house alone, but less jointly,<sup>310</sup> suggesting absentee house owners or female-headed households.

94 Official statistics on livestock ownership is unavailable, but appears to largely follow the pattern of other assets, namely joint management.<sup>311</sup>

#### 4.3.2 Agriculture Extension Services

95 As a result of Republic Act 7160, Local Government Code of 1991, provision of extension services have mainly become the responsibilities of the local government units (LGUs). The extension officers recruited by the LGUs are reported to be mostly political appointees with scant expertise of

---

<sup>297</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>298</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>299</sup> "Measuring Women's Empowerment and Women's Autonomy in the Philippines."

<sup>300</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>301</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>302</sup> "Women's empowerment and gender equity in agriculture: A different perspective from Southeast Asia."

<sup>303</sup> "Ensuring Women's Equal Rights in Marriage and Family Relations: Amending Articles 14, 19, 124, 211 and 225 of the Family Code of the Philippines."

<sup>304</sup> "Women's Land Rights, Gender-Responsive Policies and the World Bank (Philippines)."

<sup>305</sup> "Impact of international agricultural trade and gender equity: selected country case studies."

<sup>306</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>307</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>308</sup> "Measuring Women's Empowerment and Women's Autonomy in the Philippines."

<sup>309</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>310</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>311</sup> Farmer Consultations in Bicol and Cordillera (28 January-6 February 2019).

relevance, contrary to the officers who were transferred to the LGUs from the Department of Agriculture in accordance with the devolution and are diminishing in number as they retire.<sup>312</sup> Many government and non-government entities are involved in extension services, leading to redundancy,<sup>313</sup> if not strategic confusion, but at the same time, the number of officers on the ground is considered insufficient. In some municipalities in Camarines Norte, there are only about six to eight governmental extension workers servicing 1,000-1,500 farmers.<sup>314</sup> The upland farmers seemed left to themselves,<sup>315</sup> most likely because of the difficulty in reaching the areas. The majority of the agriculture extension officers met by the mission team were women.<sup>316</sup>

96 In many regions, it is the women who participate in most agricultural meetings organized by the local extension office.<sup>317</sup> Men prefer to work in the field,<sup>318</sup> considering such meetings part of social activities that women are in charge of for the entire family.<sup>319</sup> It could well be an indication that extension services are not considered important enough to warrant the presence of men, who are the formal faces of the family. The information obtained at such meetings is shared with the husbands,<sup>320</sup> but it is up to the husbands to decide whether to put it in practice.<sup>321</sup> Women are generally more open to new ideas, but men need to be convinced for their application in the field. The local offices of the Department of Agriculture see this gender divide on extension services a problem,<sup>322</sup> as men become increasingly left behind in new developments in agriculture. In Northern Mindanao, the opposite situation appeared to be the norm; men represented their households, because women had a great amount of work to do at home, and consequently women remained untrained.<sup>323</sup>

97 The little information that exists on livestock extension services in the Philippines imply that there are even fewer officers than for agriculture extension workers on crops. Women and children who are engaged in livestock management often obtain necessary knowledge mostly by trial and error as well as from the previous generation in the family.<sup>324</sup>

#### 4.3.3 Climate Information Services

98 Women in general are more educated than men in the Philippines, including the rural areas, and there appears no gender-based obstacle in terms of information acquisition. Agriculture is managed jointly by women and men, and no gender differentiated climate information service exists. According to one survey carried out in Southern Luzon, although almost all women and men reported usefulness of climate information service, women's opinions were much more diverse than men's on how much the information boosted the agricultural production.<sup>325</sup> Other gender differences that may

---

<sup>312</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>313</sup> Ani, P. A. B. and Correa, A. B. D., 2016. "Agricultural Extension Policies in the Philippines: Towards Enhancing the Delivery of Technological Services." FFTC Agricultural Policy Platform. Food and Fertilizer Technology Center for the Asian and Pacific Region.

[http://ap.fttc.agnet.org/ap\\_db.php?id=664&print=1](http://ap.fttc.agnet.org/ap_db.php?id=664&print=1) (accessed May 2019).

<sup>314</sup> Institutional Consultations in Bicol and Cordillera (28 January-6 February 2019).

<sup>315</sup> Farmer Consultations in Bicol and Cordillera (28 January-6 February 2019).

<sup>316</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>317</sup> "Women's empowerment and gender equity in agriculture: A different perspective from Southeast Asia."

Farmer Consultations in Cagayan Valley (15-22 November), Bicol and Cordillera (28 January-6 February 2019).

<sup>318</sup> "Women's empowerment and gender equity in agriculture: A different perspective from Southeast Asia." Farmer Consultations in Bicol and Cordillera (28 January-6 February 2019).

<sup>319</sup> Farmer Consultations in Bicol and Cordillera (28 January-6 February 2019).

<sup>320</sup> "Women's empowerment and gender equity in agriculture: A different perspective from Southeast Asia." Farmer Consultations in Bicol and Cordillera (28 January-6 February 2019).

<sup>321</sup> Farmer Consultations in Bicol and Cordillera (28 January-6 February 2019).

<sup>322</sup> Institutional Consultations in Bicol and Cordillera (28 January-6 February 2019).

<sup>323</sup> "Gender and conservation agriculture: constraints and opportunities in the Philippines."

<sup>324</sup> "Participation by women and children in livestock production in Bukidnon province, Southern Philippines."

<sup>325</sup> Ewbank, R., 2016. "Developing Climate Services in the Philippines." July 2016 Programme Review. Christian Aid.



affect the utility of climate information are: men make the final decision in case of disagreement; and women are engaged in many household chores in addition to those related to crops and livestock, carry out these tasks simultaneously and are often bound to the house for that reason.

#### 4.3.4 Agricultural Credit

99 A variety of subsidized direct credit programmes continues to be offered by different government agencies to smallholders. They are essentially of one kind; the main difference is in the source of funds, which leads to different purposes and the target clientele. These programmes are all implemented through the Land Bank, and cater to the same strata of farmers with almost the same terms and conditions.<sup>326</sup> Only one of the programmes targets women of agricultural households who are engaged in income generating activities.<sup>327</sup>

100 Farmers mostly rely on the so-called 5-6s, who may charge up to 20-25% interest for a 100-day borrowing, for ease of access and speed of obtaining the cash needed.<sup>328</sup> The second most popular were microfinance institutions.<sup>329</sup> Microfinance Council of the Philippines Inc. recognizes that the poorest farmers still do not have access to formal credit and that documentation requirements should be lessened and processes simplified to reach the poorest.<sup>330</sup>

101 Credit is used mostly for agricultural inputs and credit decisions are taken in mutual agreement, but women are more knowledgeable about the needs related to household expenses as well as the tasks that they spend more time for, and men about the needs for the tasks that they engage in.<sup>331</sup> Problems arise when a woman wants to borrow money out of her own volition.<sup>332</sup> Women are not registered under the Registry System for Basic Sectors in Agriculture (RSBSA), and Agriculture Credit Policy Council (ACPC) says only registered farmers can receive loans; husbands need to authorize the wives to borrow.<sup>333</sup> Many banks prefer to have the signature or consent of the husband in financial transactions.<sup>334</sup> Some still demand the co-signature of male partners for financial contracts, although the Women in Development and Nation Building Act promotes women as equal to men, expressly confirming that women have the same capacity to enter into contracts as men.<sup>335</sup> If banks require home or land as collateral, women, the vast majority of whom lack legal title to such assets, are disadvantaged compared to men.<sup>336</sup> Finally, Article 2940 of the Civil Code stipulates that a married woman may guarantee an obligation without the husband's consent, but shall not thereby bind the conjugal partnership, except in cases provided by law.<sup>337</sup> Many indigenous peoples are undocumented, and hence, automatically do not have access to formal credit.<sup>338</sup>

---

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/sites/default/files/2017-11/Developing-Climate-Services-Philippines-report-July2016.pdf> (accessed May 2019).

<sup>326</sup> Geron, P. S. *et al.*, 2016. *Comprehensive Study on Credit Programs to Smallholders*. Makati City, Philippines: Philippine Institute for Development Studies.

<sup>327</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>328</sup> International Center for Tropical Agriculture Workshop in Visayas, 31 May-1 June, 2018.

Farmer Consultations in Bicol and Cordillera (28 January-6 February 2019).

<sup>329</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>330</sup> Cu, R., 2017. "Microfinance in PHL at crossroads." *Business Mirror*. 1 March 2017.

<https://businessmirror.com.ph/2017/03/01/microfinance-in-phl-at-crossroads/> (accessed May 2019).

<sup>331</sup> "Women's empowerment and gender equity in agriculture: A different perspective from Southeast Asia."

<sup>332</sup> "The Philippines: Closing the credit gap for women entrepreneurs."

<sup>333</sup> Farmer Consultations in Bicol and Cordillera (28 January-6 February 2019).

<sup>334</sup> "The Philippines: Closing the credit gap for women entrepreneurs."

<sup>335</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>336</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>337</sup> Chan Robles, Virtual Law Library, 2019. "Philippine Civil Law."

<http://www.chanrobles.com/civilcodeofthephilippinesfulltext.html> (accessed May 2019).

<sup>338</sup> Institutional Consultations in Bicol and Cordillera (28 January-6 February 2019).



#### 4.3.5 Agricultural Insurance

102 The Philippine Crop Insurance Corp. (PCIC) was established in 1978 by Presidential Decree 1467 as an agency under the Department of Agriculture to provide insurance protection to farmers against losses from natural calamities, plant diseases and pest infestations of crops.<sup>339</sup> PCIC offers insurances for rice, corn, livestock, fisheries, non-crop agricultural assets, and more than 50 high-value commercial crops<sup>340</sup> (all crops other than rice and corn, such as abaca, asparagus, banana, bitter melon, cabbage, carrot, cassava, coconut, coffee, commercial trees, cotton, garlic, mango, mung bean, onion, papaya, peanut, pineapple, sugarcane, sweet potato, tobacco, tomato, watermelon, white potato, etc.) and runs a scheme on accident and dismemberment security scheme.<sup>341</sup> The insurances for rice and corn are highly subsidized.<sup>342</sup> The one for high-value commercial crops cover natural disasters (typhoon, flood, drought, earthquake and volcanic eruption), plant disease, pest infestation and accidental fire.<sup>343</sup> The livestock insurance is for cattle, *carabao*, horse, swine, goat, poultry and game fowl, covering death caused by accident, disease, etc.<sup>344</sup> The fisheries insurance provides protection against losses in fish, fishery and aquatic products caused by natural calamities and fortuitous events.<sup>345</sup>

103 Many farmers consider the documentation requirements before and after the event beyond their capacity, and cited as the main reason for not purchasing a PCIC insurance.<sup>346</sup> Some farmers purchase a crop insurance because it is required for taking out loans.<sup>347</sup> A study found that the level of education, farming experience and membership in farmer organization are significant factors in farmers' decision to subscribe to a crop insurance policy.<sup>348</sup>

104 The microfinance institutions recognized the economic fragility of their clients and the need for insurance services that protected them from a deeper descent into poverty in case of calamities.<sup>349</sup> The results were proliferation of informal insurance and financial risks.<sup>350</sup> The establishment of a regulatory framework on microinsurance and a National Strategy for Microinsurance in 2009 diffused the risks, and the microinsurance industry grew;<sup>351</sup> the Insurance Commission counted 30 million people who had been covered by formal risk protection in 2014 and 2015.<sup>352</sup>

105 A study of Bangladeshi farmers showed that women were more reluctant to take out any weather-indexed crop insurance compared to men. The difference could not be explained by gender differences in risk and time preferences or decision-making power, but by lower levels of trust in

---

<sup>339</sup> Funa, D. B., 2018. "Agricultural Insurance in the Philippines." Business Mirror. 9 January 2018.

<https://businessmirror.com.ph/2018/01/09/agricultural-insurance-in-the-philippines/> (accessed May 2019).

<sup>340</sup> Uy, Il, A. S., 2014. "Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation."

[https://www.iges.or.jp/files/research/natural-resource/PDF/20140704/4\\_PCIC\\_Programs\\_Bangi\\_Malaysia\\_final.pdf](https://www.iges.or.jp/files/research/natural-resource/PDF/20140704/4_PCIC_Programs_Bangi_Malaysia_final.pdf) (accessed May 2019).

<sup>341</sup> Decena, F. L. C., 2016. "Agricultural Insurance in the Philippines." FFTC Agricultural Policy Platform. Food and Fertilizer Technology Center for the Asian and Pacific Region.

[http://ap.ffc.agnet.org/ap\\_db.php?id=623](http://ap.ffc.agnet.org/ap_db.php?id=623) (accessed May 2019).

<sup>342</sup> "Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation."

<sup>343</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>344</sup> Decena, F. L. C., 2016. "Agricultural Insurance in the Philippines."

<sup>345</sup> "Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation."

<sup>346</sup> International Center for Tropical Agriculture Workshop in Visayas, 31 May-1 June, 2018.

<sup>347</sup> Reyes, C. M. et al., 2017. *Crop Insurance Program of the PCIC: Integrative Report from the Five Case Regions in the Philippines*. Makati City, Philippines: Philippine Institute for Development Studies.

<sup>348</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>349</sup> Asian Development Bank, 2017. *Assessment of microinsurance as emerging microfinance for the poor: The case of the Philippines*. Mandaluyong City, Philippines: Asian Development Bank.

<sup>350</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>351</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>352</sup> *ibid.*

financial institutions and of financial literacy.<sup>353</sup> None of the discussions on agricultural insurance in the Philippines examines the possible gender gaps, but those emanating from financial literacy is quite unlikely in the Philippines. Since insurance is one type of financial contract, women would face the same obstacles as in the case of credit.

#### 4.3.5 Mobile Phone and the Internet

106 According to the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the Philippines ranked 15<sup>th</sup> among the 34 countries in the Asia and the Pacific with respect to ICT Development Index in 2017, slightly below the world average.<sup>354</sup> A good majority of the households had a mobile phone in 2017 with a larger proportion in the urban areas compared to rural areas: 91% and 78%, respectively.<sup>355</sup> It is reported that virtually the entire country is covered by 2G mobile connection and that over 75% of the population is covered by mobile broadband connection;<sup>356</sup> Philippines is one of the few countries that recorded significant increases in the number of fixed-broadband subscriptions per 100 persons in Asia and the Pacific in 2017.<sup>357</sup>

107 The Inclusive Internet Index of the Economist Intelligence Unit placed the Philippines the 66<sup>th</sup> among the 100 countries worldwide in 2019, based on availability (quality and breadth of available infrastructure required for access and levels of Internet usage), affordability (cost of access relative to income and the level of competition in the internet marketplace), relevance (existence and extent of local language content and relevant content), and readiness (capacity to access the Internet, including skills, cultural acceptance, and supporting policy).<sup>358</sup>

108 A survey carried out in 2019 indicated that, among the Filipinos aged 18 and above, 46% used the internet, while the figure was 30.1% in 2013<sup>359</sup> and 8% in 2006.<sup>360</sup> In the same year, the proportion of internet users in the urban areas was 56%, while it was 38% in the rural areas.<sup>361</sup> Remote areas without any kind of connection still existed.<sup>362</sup>

109 The gender gap in mobile internet use is considerably wider than the mobile ownership gap in all regions in the world.<sup>363</sup> It is a concern, especially for the least developed countries, where one in seven women is using the internet compared with one in five men.<sup>364</sup> As with literacy and education, Philippine women fare better than men in internet usage. All female farmers encountered by the mission team had a mobile phone for themselves, mostly 2G, but some had 3G or later standards.<sup>365</sup> All households had access to the functionalities of the 3G or 4G phone, as at least one member of the family (usually a youth) had a smart phone and a Facebook account.<sup>366</sup> It has been observed in the

---

<sup>353</sup> "Women's empowerment and gender equity in agriculture: A different perspective from Southeast Asia."

<sup>354</sup> International Telecommunication Union, 2017. *Measuring the Information Society Report, Volume 1, 2017*. Geneva: International Telecommunication Union.

<sup>355</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>356</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>357</sup> *Measuring the Information Society Report, Volume 1, 2017*.

<sup>358</sup> The Economist, 2019. "The Inclusive Internet Index 2019: Overall."

<https://theinclusiveinternet.eiu.com/explore/countries/PH/> (accessed June 2019).

<sup>359</sup> 2013 FLEMMS, *Functional Literacy, Education and Mass Media Survey, Final Report*.

<sup>360</sup> Flores, H., 2019. "Women use internet more than men in the Philippines — SWS." Philstar Global. 6 June 2019.

<https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2019/06/06/1924057/women-use-internet-more-men-philippines-sws> (accessed June 2019).

<sup>361</sup> "Women use internet more than men in the Philippines — SWS."

<sup>362</sup> Lim, S., 2019. "Observing a community network in the Philippines through a gendered lens." GenderIT.org. 7 January 2019.

<https://genderit.org/articles/observing-community-network-philippines-through-gendered-lens> (accessed June 2019).

<sup>363</sup> Rowntree, O., 2018. *Connected Women: The Mobile Gender Gap Report 2018*. London: GSM Association.

<sup>364</sup> *Measuring the Information Society Report, Volume 1, 2017*.

<sup>365</sup> Farmer Consultations in Bicol and Cordillera (28 January-6 February 2019).

<sup>366</sup> *ibid.*

rural areas that women are more likely to use cellular connection than men of the same age and economic status, which may be due to their respective work environment: better connectivity at home (for women) than high in the mountains or far in the open sea (for men).<sup>367</sup>

110 The Women's Rights Online Report Card from 2017 by the Foundation for Media Alternatives, a non-profit NGO in the Philippines, paints a more nuanced picture. The country scored 5 out of 10 on women's rights online, which was evaluated on the basis of 14 indicators provided by the World Wide Web Foundation.<sup>368</sup> The indicators belonged to five thematic categories: internet access and women's empowerment; relevant content and services; online safety; affordability; and digital skills and education.<sup>369</sup> The aspects of the internet service weighing down most on the score are: internet access and women's empowerment; and relevant content and services.<sup>370</sup> The low evaluation stems from economic inequality and the government's prudishness when it comes to women's reproductive health and sexual rights.<sup>371</sup>

#### 4.3.7 Other Sources of Information

111 The media in the Philippines is among the oldest and the least restricted in Asia.<sup>372</sup> There are radio programmes on public service which allow listeners to call in to voice their concerns about their neighborhood with the goal to prompt government officials to respond and take action.<sup>373</sup> However, as commercial entities, the media is focused on profits, which leads to intense competition with one another to satisfy the peoples' interest in gossip, violence or scandal and dismissal of what is against the interests that control the media.<sup>374</sup> The content is also highly partisan, as people with interests and means influence mass communication through direct ownership, etc.;<sup>375</sup> most media outlets engage in self-promotion and self-censorship.<sup>376</sup> The People Power Revolution in 1986 – the overthrow by the people of the dictatorial regime of President Ferdinand Marcos –<sup>377</sup> marked a watershed in the coverage.<sup>378</sup> Environmental and women's issues, science and technology, civil society and many other areas that had been largely ignored started to attract more attention in the media.<sup>379</sup> The plight of cultural minorities is one of the topics that is still rarely covered by local<sup>380</sup> or national media, except during disasters and other calamities.<sup>381</sup>

112 The national newspapers are in English and owned by prominent families with powerful connections throughout the society.<sup>382</sup> Their messages are generally conservative.<sup>383</sup> Of the thirty dailies in the Greater Manila, nine broadsheets are published in English and three in Chinese, while seventeen tabloids are in Filipino and two in English; the broadsheets cater to the English-educated

---

<sup>367</sup> "Observing a community network in the Philippines through a gendered lens."

<sup>368</sup> Serafica, R., 2017. "How are women's rights measured online?" Rappler. 10 April 2017.

<https://www.rappler.com/move-ph/166497-digital-gender-report-card-filipino-womens-rights> (accessed June 2019).

<sup>369</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>370</sup> *Women's Rights Online: Report Card, Philippines.*

<sup>371</sup> "How are women's rights measured online?"

<sup>372</sup> Perterra, R., 2012. *New Media, Society & Politics in the Philippines*. Berlin: fesmedia Asia.

<sup>373</sup> Guiguio, R., 2015. "An Overview of the Mass Media Situation in the Philippines." Media Ownership Monitor, Reporters without Borders.

[https://www.mom-rsf.org/uploads/tx\\_ifrogmom/documents/7-167\\_import.pdf](https://www.mom-rsf.org/uploads/tx_ifrogmom/documents/7-167_import.pdf) (accessed June 2019).

<sup>374</sup> "An Overview of the Mass Media Situation in the Philippines."

<sup>375</sup> *New Media, Society & Politics in the Philippines.*

<sup>376</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>377</sup> Government of the Philippines, undated. History of the Philippine Political Protest. Official Gazette <https://www.officialgazette.gov.ph/edsa/the-ph-protest/> (accessed June 2019).

<sup>378</sup> "An Overview of the Mass Media Situation in the Philippines."

<sup>379</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>380</sup> *New Media, Society & Politics in the Philippines.*

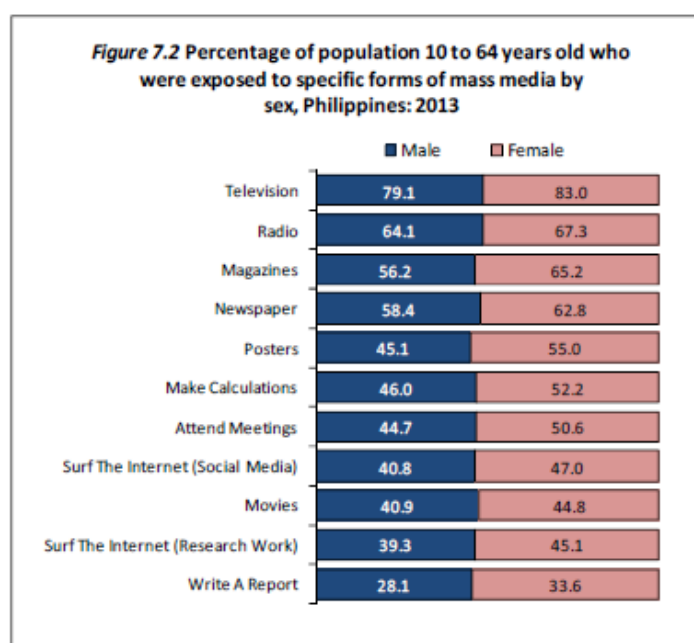
<sup>381</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>382</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>383</sup> *ibid.*

elites and middle class, while the tabloids sell to the less-educated.<sup>384</sup> The total circulation of newspapers is larger than before, but circulation per capita has decreased dramatically between 1998 and 2005.<sup>385</sup>

113 Regional newspapers are in English or the local language and mostly cover local events and personalities.<sup>386</sup> Several popular tabloids are written in Filipino, and hence are more widely accessible, but rarely touch on serious national matters.<sup>387</sup> The print media is highly regarded,<sup>388</sup> but usually available only in provincial capitals and no major leftist periodical is in print.<sup>389</sup> Feuding politicians employ local journalists to attack their opponents, and almost all journalists killed in the Philippines worked for local radio, television or newspapers.<sup>390</sup> In 2018, Philippines was ranked the fifth by the Global Impunity Index, which calculates the number of unsolved journalist murders as a percentage of each country's population.<sup>391</sup> The country currently has 40 unsolved cases.<sup>392</sup>



**Figure 1: Exposure to Mass Media by Gender**

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority (2015).

114 Fair and balanced coverage, including economic, ethnic and regional issues, is said to be missing in the Filipino media, based on lack of professionalism of some journalists, politicization of the media, lack of pluralism, and proliferation of hate speech.<sup>393</sup> These are also the factors leading to attacks against and murder of journalists.<sup>394</sup> The country does not have public broadcasting service, the like of the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), only national broadcasting networks for radio

<sup>384</sup> "An Overview of the Mass Media Situation in the Philippines."

<sup>385</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>386</sup> *New Media, Society & Politics in the Philippines.*

<sup>387</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>388</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>389</sup> "An Overview of the Mass Media Situation in the Philippines."

<sup>390</sup> *New Media, Society & Politics in the Philippines.*

<sup>391</sup> Witchel, E., undated. "Getting Away with Murder." Committee to Protect Journalists.

<https://cpj.org/reports/2018/10/impunity-index-getting-away-with-murder-killed-justice.php> (accessed June 2019).

<sup>392</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>393</sup> "An Overview of the Mass Media Situation in the Philippines."

<sup>394</sup> *ibid.*

and television under the Office of Press Secretary, which has the lowest audience shares in the market.<sup>395</sup> Media is diverse in the Philippines, but of restricted content.<sup>396</sup>

115 The latest Functional Literacy, Education and Mass Media Survey from 2013 indicated that more than 80% of households owned a mobile phone and little under 80% owned a television.<sup>397</sup> The print media is the most influential on a national scale, and the radio plays an important role locally.<sup>398</sup> Radio is likely the most extensive source of information for most of the population.<sup>399</sup> The programmes are generally in the vernacular and on local issues with little coverage of foreign news.<sup>400</sup> The internet may be taking over as the source of latest news, as many farmers interviewed referred to Facebook for information on natural disasters.<sup>401</sup> Television, on the other hand, is the main source of entertainment.<sup>402</sup> Most television programs are in Filipino although regional stations also broadcast in the local languages.<sup>403</sup> For all types of media, women were more exposed than men, the largest gap of 10 percentage points was in posters as an information source<sup>404</sup> (Figure 1). The choice of media did not appear to be dependent on gender.<sup>405</sup>

116 Despite the fact that the oldest local newspaper was established by Ibalays, a tribal minority in the Cordillera region in 1947, only some of the indigenous peoples, who constitute 20% of the population, have access to local newspapers or radio.<sup>406</sup> The majority of them rely on sporadic and often misconceived reports from the national media.<sup>407</sup>

#### 4.3.8 Access to Markets

117 Women in general tend to lack mobility because of their responsibilities related to household chores and caregiving, and hence, have less access to markets than men. Although the Philippine women are bound by the same tasks, women accompany men to the markets and it is the women who engage in negotiations with the buyers,<sup>408</sup> because they are accepted as better in negotiation.<sup>409</sup> Men are relegated to the tasks of driving and carrying the heavy loads, who acknowledged the skills of the women and accepted the division of roles.<sup>410</sup> The situation may be quite different if the merchandise is produced by women alone, involves intensive processing by women, or is not a standard staple or semi-staple food, e.g., crafts and processed agricultural products. No analysis appears to have been carried out on this difference.

### 4.4 Water and Sanitation

118 About 70% of the population had access to basic drinking water in 2015, and the country met the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) on access to safe drinking water.<sup>411</sup> However, it ranked 33<sup>rd</sup>

---

<sup>395</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>396</sup> *New Media, Society & Politics in the Philippines.*

<sup>397</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>398</sup> *New Media, Society & Politics in the Philippines.*

<sup>399</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>400</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>401</sup> Farmer Consultations in Bicol and Cordillera (28 January-6 February 2019).

<sup>402</sup> *New Media, Society & Politics in the Philippines.*

<sup>403</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>404</sup> 2013 FLEMMS, *Functional Literacy, Education and Mass Media Survey, Final Report.*

<sup>405</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>406</sup> *New Media, Society & Politics in the Philippines.*

<sup>407</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>408</sup> International Center for Tropical Agriculture Workshop in Luzon, 24-25 May, 2018.

Farmer Consultations in Bicol and Cordillera (28 January-6 February 2019).

<sup>409</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>410</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>411</sup> Alikpala, R. B. and Ilagan, C. A., 2018. *Water*. Policy Brief No.7, September 2018. Makati City, Philippines: the Arangkada Philippines Project.

out of 48 countries according to the five aspects on water security advanced by the Asian Development Bank – household water security; economic water security; urban water security; environmental water security; resilience to water-related diseases – which may be due to lack of data.<sup>412</sup> Despite the rich water resources and numerous programs and projects, some areas need additional water sources and universal access to water is yet to be achieved; the sector is fragmented and no apex body exists to oversee and coordinate.<sup>413</sup>

119 Rural water supply has received less attention compared to urban water supply.<sup>414</sup> In 2017, 95% of households used an improved source of drinking water: 98% of urban and 93% of rural households.<sup>415</sup> About four-fifths of Filipino households had water on the premises: 91% of urban and 71% of rural households. Three percent of households traveled 30 minutes or longer to fetch water.<sup>416</sup>

120 The most common source of drinking water was bottled water or a refilling station.<sup>417</sup> Boiling was the most common water treatment method, used by 12% of all households.<sup>418</sup> It was estimated that only 15% of the households made use of an appropriate treating method for their drinking water.<sup>419</sup> No gender segregated data or analysis is available on water supply.

121 The MDG target for access to a basic sanitary toilet facility was met, but among the households around the nation only 4.4% were connected to sewerage systems and 5.9% still had no access to a basic sanitary toilet facility as of 2015.<sup>420</sup> The government announced subsidy for establishing sewerage systems in highly urbanized cities besides Metro Manila, but no service provider has taken it up.<sup>421</sup> Thousands of schools do not have sanitation facilities,<sup>422</sup> which could be discouraging girls from attending school, but that has not shown up as a lower enrolment or graduation rate for girls than for boys. Urban sanitation is considered in worse shape than rural sanitation.<sup>423</sup>

122 Over three-quarters of households used improved toilet facilities, which are non-shared facilities that prevent people from coming into contact with human waste. Shared toilet facilities of acceptable types was used by 20% and 15% of urban and rural households, respectively, in 2017.<sup>424</sup> Five percent of the households did not use any toilet facility.<sup>425</sup> The mortality rate attributed to exposure to unsafe water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services per 100,000 population was 4.2 in 2016, placing the Philippines 15<sup>th</sup> out of 21 countries in the Western Pacific.<sup>426</sup>

123 It has been reported that the improved and equitable delivery of basic infrastructure for water supply, sewerage and sanitation is hindered by: inadequate financing; low technical capacities of small service providers; difficulty in acquisition of right-of-way for sewer lines; lack of available land for water supply and wastewater treatment facilities; and institutional challenges (such as lengthy

---

<sup>412</sup> *Water*.

<sup>413</sup> National Economic and Development Authority, 2017. *Philippine Development Plan 2017-2022*. Pasig City, Philippines: National Economic and Development Authority.

<sup>414</sup> Smets, S., 2015. *Water Supply and Sanitation in the Philippines, Service Delivery Assessment: Turning Finance into Services for the Future*. Washington, D. C.: World Bank.

<sup>415</sup> Philippine Statistics Authority, 2018. *Philippines National Demographic and Health Survey, 2017*. Quezon City, Philippines: Philippine Statistics Authority.

<sup>416</sup> *ibid*.

<sup>417</sup> *Water Supply and Sanitation in the Philippines, Service Delivery Assessment: Turning Finance into Services for the Future*.

<sup>418</sup> *Philippines National Demographic and Health Survey, 2017*.

<sup>419</sup> *ibid*.

<sup>420</sup> *Philippine Development Plan 2017-2022*.

<sup>421</sup> *ibid*.

<sup>422</sup> *ibid*.

<sup>423</sup> *Water Supply and Sanitation in the Philippines, Service Delivery Assessment: Turning Finance into Services for the Future*.

<sup>424</sup> *Philippines National Demographic and Health Survey, 2017*.

<sup>425</sup> *ibid*.

<sup>426</sup> World Health Organization, 2018. *World Health Statistics 2018: Monitoring Health for the SDGs, Sustainable Development Goals*. Geneva: World Health Organization.

processing of water permit applications, and absence of a single, independent and predictable regulatory regime).<sup>427</sup>

## 4.5 Health

### 4.5.1 General Health

124 The latest available statistics indicate that the health of an average person in the Philippines has more in common with that in the countries with lower incomes. The mental health of the population appeared in a much better shape. The suicide mortality rate, 3.2 per 100,000 in 2016, was the lowest in Western Pacific and one of the lowest in the world.<sup>428</sup>

125 Awareness on health or access to health services is low. Sixty-six percent of the population was covered by second-dose immunization of measles-containing vaccine before the nationally recommended age in 2016. The Philippines had the lowest density of physicians and of nursing and midwifery personnel per 1,000 population among the 27 countries in the Western Pacific, using the latest available data from 2007-2016.<sup>429</sup> Natural disasters, which are very likely to increase in the future because of climate change, are already an important factor in health. The Philippines had the third highest average death rate in the world due to natural disasters per 100,000 population in 2012-2016, after Nepal and Saint Vincent and Grenadines.<sup>430</sup>

126 The World Health Organization (WHO) applauded the Philippine public health system for its approach to the primary health care system and the devolution of health services to the local level. However, the availability of health facilities and services differs greatly throughout the country, and local government budgets do not usually prioritize health.<sup>431</sup> Republic Act 7875, National Health Insurance Act of 1995, is in place, but 54% of the total health expenditure was out-of-pocket expenses and only 9% was covered by social health insurance.<sup>432</sup> The WHO benchmark for health expenditure in countries which are in the same league as the Philippines is 5% or more of GDP;<sup>433</sup> the national health expenditure in the country was 4.4% of GDP in 2016.<sup>434</sup>

127 Philippines ranked the 42<sup>nd</sup> highest among 149 countries in gender gap related to health and survival, measured by sex ratio at birth and gender difference in healthy life expectancy.<sup>435</sup> Other statistics, such as child nutrition status and mortality rates, show that girls are slightly better off than boys and that the lack of service affects both equally (Table 5).

**Table 5: Gender Differences in Health**

	Women	Men
Proportion of Obese persons	8.7%	5.0%
Proportion of Underweight Children 0-5 Years Old	21.6%	21.7%
Proportion of Stunted Children 0-5 Years Old	32.5%	34.4%

<sup>427</sup> *Philippine Development Plan 2017-2022*.

<sup>428</sup> *World Health Statistics 2018: Monitoring Health for the SDGs, Sustainable Development Goals*.

<sup>429</sup> *World Health Statistics 2018: Monitoring Health for the SDGs, Sustainable Development Goals*.

<sup>430</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>431</sup> World Bank, 2014. *Republic of the Philippines, Gender and Development Mainstreaming: Country Gender Assessment 2012, Philippines*. Washington, D.C.: World Bank.

<sup>432</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>433</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>434</sup> World Bank, 2019. "Current health expenditure (% of GDP)."

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SH.XPD.CHEX.GD.ZS> (accessed June 2019).

<sup>435</sup> *The Global Gender Gap Report 2018*.



Proportion of Overweight/Obese Children 0-5 Years Old	3.7%	4.0
Percentage of Children 12-23 Months Old Who Received All Basic Vaccinations at Anytime Before the Survey	70.8%	69.2%
Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	14.0	13.0
Postneonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	7.0	8.0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	21.0	21.0
Child Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	6.0	7.0
Under-Five Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	26.0	28.0
Proportion of Population with Disability	3.79%	3.24%
Most Common Type of Disability	Difficulty in seeing, even with eyeglasses	Difficulty in seeing, even with eyeglasses
Age-standardized prevalence of tobacco smoking among persons 15 years and older	7.8%	40.8%
Percentage of household population with health insurance coverage	69.8%	67.0%

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, 2019. "Women and Men Factsheet, 2019." <https://psa.gov.ph/gender-stat/wmf> (accessed June 2019).

128 In the Philippines, rice transplanting is done manually, and consequently women's drudgery is larger than in other countries where broadcasting is dominant. Combine harvesters, drum seeders and mechanical transplanters, which could ease the physical work of women, have not been adopted widely in the country. As a result, women's workload is very high during the peak season, leading to many health problems.<sup>436</sup>

129 Interviews with 251 women farmers from Benguet in the northern Philippines, the most prominent area for commercial vegetable cultivation, around 2010 revealed that most women farmers fell ill once (47.4%) or twice (41.4%) during the previous year due to work.<sup>437</sup> The most common health problem stemming from agricultural work is body pain, with back pain being the most prevalent.<sup>438</sup> Many farmers are also subject to snake or insect bites, cuts from knives or sharp tools, and skin damage due to extended exposure to sunlight. More than two-thirds experienced muscle pain, weakness or fatigue after exposure to pesticides.<sup>439</sup> The application of pesticide is considered much higher than other areas in Benguet, because of commercialized agriculture. The female farmers from the area were not aware of the toxicity of pesticides, but did observe that economic profits were taking precedence over health issues.<sup>440</sup> Since men apply pesticides, not women, it is likely that they suffer more from the negative effects of pesticides. Most women did not seek medical help, but simply took rest or used home remedies.<sup>441</sup>

#### 4.5.2 Reproductive Health

130 In 2019, it is estimated that there are 56.8 million women of reproductive age (15-49) in the Philippines, of which ten million were aged 15-19.<sup>442</sup> The birthrate per 1,000 women was about 30 in

<sup>436</sup> "Women's empowerment and gender equity in agriculture: A different perspective from Southeast Asia."

<sup>437</sup> Lu, J. L, 2010. "Gender Analysis of Women in the Philippine Agriculture and Their Occupational Issues." *Journal of International Women's Studies*. Vol. 11, Issue 4, 73-82.

<sup>438</sup> "Women's empowerment and gender equity in agriculture: A different perspective from Southeast Asia."

<sup>439</sup> Gender Analysis of Women in the Philippine Agriculture and Their Occupational Issues."

<sup>440</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>441</sup> "Women's empowerment and gender equity in agriculture: A different perspective from Southeast Asia."

<sup>442</sup> Philippine Statistics Authority, undated. "Census-based Population Projections in collaboration with the Inter-Agency Working Group on Population Projections." [https://psa.gov.ph/sites/default/files/attachments/hsd/pressrelease/Table4\\_9.pdf](https://psa.gov.ph/sites/default/files/attachments/hsd/pressrelease/Table4_9.pdf) (accessed June 2019).



2017.<sup>443</sup> The rate for adolescent women declined from 74 to 63 in rural areas, but increased from 40 to 52 in urban areas between 2003 and 2013.<sup>444</sup> Women in urban areas and educated women tended to have their first children later.<sup>445</sup>

131 Fifteen percent of adolescent Filipino women aged 15-19 in 2013<sup>446</sup> and 2% of women less than age 15 in 2017 ever had sexual intercourse.<sup>447</sup> Teenager from the poorest households were more than four times likely to enter unions than those in the wealthiest: 17% versus 4%.<sup>448</sup>

132 Nine percent of teenage women aged 15-19 had begun childbearing in 2017.<sup>449</sup> The percentage of women who had begun childbearing was lower in urban than in rural areas for both age groups, 15-19 and 15-24.<sup>450</sup> Teenage childbearing is most common in Davao (18%), Northern Mindanao (15%), and SOCCSKSARGEN (15%).<sup>451</sup>

133 Contraception was used by 37% of married adolescent women in 2013, up from 26% in 2003 and 2008.<sup>452</sup> The methods used were almost equally divided between traditional and modern, while the adolescents relied much more heavily on the traditional methods, whose effectiveness is much lower than the other, compared to other women of reproductive age.<sup>453</sup> The married adolescents had higher unmet needs for contraception than other age groups.<sup>454</sup> Nearly one-third of recent births to women younger than 20 were unplanned.<sup>455</sup>

134 Only 23% of adolescent women could correctly identify a woman's fertile period.<sup>456</sup> The proportion of spontaneous abortions among households engaged in continuous pesticide application was almost seven times higher than integrated pest management (IPM) practicing households. Birth defects was nearly four times higher than among IPM households.<sup>457</sup>

135 The high maternal mortality rate of the country indicates women's and girl's unsatisfactory awareness and access to basic and reproductive health care.<sup>458</sup> It has been reported that the government's practical information on reproductive health exists on the internet, but difficult to find.<sup>459</sup>

## 4.6 Coping with Negative Shocks

136 **Social Protection:** During the past decade, the design and delivery of social protection have improved thanks to the adoption of a social protection strategy and operational framework by the

---

<sup>443</sup> Philippine Statistics Authority, undated. "Vital Statistics."

<https://psa.gov.ph/vital%20statistics> (accessed June 2019).

<sup>444</sup> Guttmacher Institute, 2015. "Sexual and Reproductive Health of Young Women in the Philippines: 2013 Data Update." Factsheet, July 2015.

<https://www.guttmacher.org/fact-sheet/sexual-and-reproductive-health-young-women-philippines-2013-data-update> (accessed June 2019).

<sup>445</sup> *Philippines National Demographic and Health Survey, 2017.*

<sup>446</sup> "Sexual and Reproductive Health of Young Women in the Philippines: 2013 Data Update."

<sup>447</sup> *Philippines National Demographic and Health Survey, 2017.*

<sup>448</sup> "Sexual and Reproductive Health of Young Women in the Philippines: 2013 Data Update."

<sup>449</sup> *Philippines National Demographic and Health Survey, 2017.*

<sup>450</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>451</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>452</sup> "Sexual and Reproductive Health of Young Women in the Philippines: 2013 Data Update."

<sup>453</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>454</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>455</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>456</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>457</sup> "Gender Analysis of Women in the Philippine Agriculture and Their Occupational Issues."

<sup>458</sup> *Republic of the Philippines Gender and Development Mainstreaming Country Gender Assessment 2012, Philippines.*

<sup>459</sup> "How are women's rights measured online?"

National Economic Development Authority.<sup>460</sup> The objectives of the policy respond to the needs of the population, covering short-term difficulties from disasters in consumption and income, among others.<sup>461</sup> The Philippine Development Plan 2017-2022 states that social protection is for building the socioeconomic resilience of the poor and those who recently escaped from poverty.<sup>462</sup> It is with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) that the primary responsibility lies for implementation of the largest social protection transfer program, community-driven development program and disaster relief and recovery.<sup>463</sup>

137 In 2018, the World Bank evaluated that the overall level of effort and institutional development on social protection is high in the Philippines with a coherent architecture around the three typical pillars (social assistance, social insurance and interventions).<sup>464</sup> They also acknowledged the continued problems of fragmentation and duplication of programmes;<sup>465</sup> at one point, 21 agencies were involved in 65 social protection programs and projects. Each social protection program was also inadequately funded and often short-lived.<sup>466</sup> The expenditures on social protection had been increasing in recent years, but at 14.3% of GDP in 2017, it was still quite lower than the world average of 26.7% of GDP for the same year.<sup>467</sup> The social safety net expenditures were dominated by social pension program.<sup>468</sup>

138 The administrative structure that made the DSWD responsible for disaster relief as well as the definition of social assistance programmes allowed the department to integrate disaster relief into the safety net delivery system better than in most countries, according to the same World Bank report.<sup>469</sup> It was exemplified in its rapid use of the national conditional cash transfer programme for the poor to assist families affected by the super-typhoon Haiyan/Yolanda in 2013.<sup>470</sup> The typhoon hit some of the poorest provinces in the country, and affected the main sources of livelihood: agriculture, fisheries, and tourism.<sup>471</sup> In 2012, the average household income in the severely affected provinces was only 75% of the national average, and over 50% of the household income in the affected provinces was largely dependent on agriculture and remittances from overseas.<sup>472</sup> The shortcomings of the Philippine system include: lack of a prescribed response mechanism to known shocks; and an incomplete system of monitoring and evaluation of response to emergencies.<sup>473</sup> The available data does not allow analysis of the effects of the programmes on the most vulnerable groups and the victims of natural disasters.<sup>474</sup>

---

<sup>460</sup> Diokno-Sicat, C. J. and Mariano, A. P., 2018. *A Public Expenditure Review of Social Protection Programs in the Philippines*. Quezon City, Philippines: Philippine Institute for Development Studies.

<sup>461</sup> World Bank, 2018. *Republic of the Philippines. Philippines: Social Protection Review and Assessment*. Washington, D. C.: World Bank.

<sup>462</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>463</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>464</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>465</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>466</sup> *Republic of the Philippines, Gender and Development Mainstreaming: Country Gender Assessment 2012, Philippines*.

<sup>467</sup> World Bank, 2019. "Expense (% of GDP)."

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/GC.XPN.TOTL.GD.ZS> (accessed June 2019).

<sup>468</sup> *A Public Expenditure Review of Social Protection Programs in the Philippines*.

<sup>469</sup> *Republic of the Philippines. Philippines: Social Protection Review and Assessment*.

<sup>470</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>471</sup> Junio, A., 2017. *After the Wrath of Typhoon Haiyan: Unveiling Representation of Vulnerabilities as Beneficiaries of the Emergency Shelter Assistance for Survivors in the Philippines*. Master's Research Paper. International Institute of Social Studies.

<https://pdfs.semanticscholar.org/54f3/a5b4f7e7bb50aa4ccef5d3ed29a79aba24a.pdf> (accessed June 2019).

<sup>472</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>473</sup> *Republic of the Philippines. Philippines: Social Protection Review and Assessment*.

<sup>474</sup> *ibid.*

139 Social protection programmes, including those for sustainable livelihood, can be expanded at a short notice to cover large numbers of additional beneficiaries in response to disasters.<sup>475</sup> Moreover, social care or social services programmes respond immediately to individuals and families in crisis situations, including disasters. They are fairly small scale and operated by many nongovernmental agencies besides the government.<sup>476</sup> The government and nongovernment agencies operate a wide range of other programs that support the poor, or provide direct transfers to households: community-driven development programmes that finance the construction of social infrastructure by communities; housing assistance programmes; and scholarship programmes.<sup>477</sup>

140 **Borrowing Cash:** Farmers encounter economic hardships when the unfavorable natural conditions result in crop damage.<sup>478</sup> They try to overcome the shortage in cash by: selling livestock; borrowing money from the landlords, rural banks, microfinance institutions, traders, relatives and village money lenders; or taking up part-time jobs in teaching, driving, motorcycle renting, food and meat processing or embalming.<sup>479</sup> The rural banks and microfinance institutions named were: Banco Santiago de Libon (BSDL); Center for Agriculture and Rural Development (CARD, a non-governmental organization which lends with weekly amortization); and Association for Social Advancement (ASA, a NGO based in Bangladesh).<sup>480</sup> The interest rate charged by the lenders varied from 2%/month in the case of CARD, 10%/month or 1 sack of rice for borrowing 1,000 pesos in case of traders, to 20%/year ("5-6 scheme") for village money lenders.<sup>481</sup> The farmers reported that CARD loans involved only an interview and a photo submission and that a loan is bundled with an insurance.<sup>482</sup> Others who were present at the meeting did not appear strongly interested in CARD loans.<sup>483</sup> In other meetings, most farmers seemed unaware of such credit arrangements and complained about the onerous paperwork required by formal credit institutions.<sup>484</sup>

141 **On Farm:** Changes in climate were noticed by all farmers that the mission team consulted.<sup>485</sup> The most notable changes were: seasonal and rainfall patterns, which have become irregular and extreme; higher ambient and water temperatures on average; water shortage at the tail ends of irrigation systems; and increased incidences of floods and landslides.<sup>486</sup> They resulted in: higher mortality and lower quality of crops; higher number of familiar pests; emergence of new pests; impossibility of fallow in areas where rain arrives earlier; need for shades for the animals; and higher animal mortality from disease.<sup>487</sup> The farmers reported coping with such situations by: application of increased amounts of pesticides; planting of coconut trees as windbreakers and for shade; early planting of rice if drought is expected; vegetable cultivation for food security; and collection of solid waste to prevent clogging of irrigation canals.<sup>488</sup> Some indigenous female farmers have been in search of organic pesticides.<sup>489</sup>

142 Other on-farm coping strategies include: planting around the homestead of root crops (cassava, sweet potato, taro or *gabi*) and others (mirliton squash or *chayote*, cowpea or *pole sitao*, okra, papaya, jackfruit, banana, lemon, pili nut, Gmelina and coconut); foraging of root crops and other

---

<sup>475</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>476</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>477</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>478</sup> Farmer Consultations in Bicol and Cordillera (28 January-6 February 2019).

<sup>479</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>480</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>481</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>482</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>483</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>484</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>485</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>486</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>487</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>488</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>489</sup> Farmer Consultations in Cordillera (4-6 February 2019).Mission.

indigenous food items; animal raising in the backyard (chicken, pig, duck); vegetable cultivation on the upper bund portion of the rice field (tomato, bitter melon or *ampalaya*, pepper, bok choy or *pechay*, cowpea).<sup>490</sup> In Camarines Sur, craft making by both indigenous and non-indigenous women is widely spread as income supplement activities, using Manila hemp or *abaca* (which can be of export quality), but the pay is low (less than USD2 per day) and the plants are disappearing due to bunch top and mosaic diseases.<sup>491</sup> Similarly, Agta women make brooms from coconut fends, and collect and sell the leaves of *lubi-lubi* (wild fig) as food, while Agta men engage in fishery.<sup>492</sup> Reforestation of watershed and riverine areas as well as synchronized planting of rice for integrated pest management have been adopted in some indigenous villages.<sup>493</sup>

## 4.7 Indigenous Women in Agriculture

143 Approximately 14-17 million indigenous peoples,<sup>494</sup> about 13-17% of the total population, live in the Philippines. The indigenous societies in the Philippines are more than often characterized as patriarchal in a brushstroke<sup>495</sup> and indigenous women treated as one group, but the conditions differ greatly by whether they are of the Australoid race, called the Negritos. The region of residence makes the next largest difference in the role and status of women, but in Mindanao, intra-regional variations are also large.<sup>496</sup> According to the indigenous women in the Philippines, their rights and crucial roles in climate change adaptation and mitigation have not been recognized nor supported.<sup>497</sup>

144 Indigenous knowledge contains an understanding of nature that have been tested by time, proven to be sustainable, and able to contribute to limiting the effects of hazards.<sup>498</sup> Women tend to be the main custodians of indigenous food production systems, as they are the ones who select and store the best seeds and more and more men take up non-agricultural livelihood. Indigenous practices are gaining recognition in the field of disaster risk reduction, but at the same time, it is under constant threat of being eroded, lost or misappropriated.<sup>499</sup> The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed the fact that the indigenous communities are no longer self-sufficient in food, due to diminishing land at their disposal.<sup>500</sup> It has heightened the indigenous communities' interest in their traditional food production systems, as they increasingly recognize its contribution to community resilience.<sup>501</sup>

### 4.7.1 Indigenous Food Production Systems and Forest Management

---

<sup>490</sup> "Progress Report - Consolidated Good Practice Options for Lowland Irrigated Agro-Ecological Zone in Bicol."

<sup>491</sup> Farmer Consultations in Bicol and Cordillera (28 January-6 February 2019).

<sup>492</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>493</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>494</sup> UNDP, 2013. "Fast Facts: Indigenous Peoples in the Philippines." Fast Facts. 24 July 2013.

[http://www.ph.undp.org/content/philippines/en/home/library/democratic\\_governance/FastFacts-IPs.html](http://www.ph.undp.org/content/philippines/en/home/library/democratic_governance/FastFacts-IPs.html) (accessed June 2019).

<sup>495</sup> Lopez, V. M. and Castro, M., 2012. "Philippines, Indigenous Women Farmers of the Blaan Tribe in the Philippines, Women's Knowledge in Traditional Crop Production." In Lopez, V. M. (ed.), *Women's Wisdom: Documentation of Women's Knowledge in Agriculture (Case studies from Philippines, Thailand and Pakistan)*. Penang, Malaysia: Pesticide Action Network Asia and the Pacific.

Wikipedia, 2019. "Subanon People." [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Subanon\\_people](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Subanon_people) (accessed June 2019).

<sup>496</sup> "Philippines, Indigenous Women Farmers of the Blaan Tribe in the Philippines, Women's Knowledge in Traditional Crop Production."

"Subanon People."

<sup>497</sup> REDD-Monitor, 2010. "Global Conference on Indigenous Women, Climate Change and REDD Plus in the Philippines." <https://redd-monitor.org/2010/11/21/global-conference-on-indigenous-women-climate-change-and-redd-plus-in-the-philippines/> (accessed January 2021)

<sup>498</sup> Lambert, S. J. and Scott, J.C., 2019. "International Disaster Risk Reduction Strategies and Indigenous Peoples." *International Indigenous Policy Journal*. Vol. 10, Issue 2.

<sup>499</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>500</sup> Pimentel, G.B. et al., 2020. *The impact of COVID-19 on indigenous communities: Insights from the Indigenous Navigator*. Copenhagen: the International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs and the International Labour Organization.

<sup>501</sup> *ibid.*

145 As is the case for any indigenous peoples in the world, agriculture and forests are tightly woven together and into their socio-cultural lives. The preponderance of watersheds in the uplands accord special importance to the role of indigenous forest management, which is integrated together with agriculture into landscape and natural resources management. Indigenous women's role in agriculture is fairly well covered, but the full picture of their contribution to forest management is not readily available despite their strong involvement in collection of non-timber forest products.

146 The forests in the Philippines were considered communal and governed by communal laws before the arrival of foreign powers, which weakened the system through colonization.<sup>502</sup> In the years following the Second World War, the country turned to its forests to support an industrialization programme.<sup>503</sup> In the 1960s, the timber and forest-product industry became one of the top foreign exchange earners in the country.<sup>504</sup> Most local governments and population did not benefit from the boom, while the national forest cover diminished from over 14 million ha in 1950 to 10.4 million ha in 1969, and further to about 7.4 million ha in 1980.<sup>505</sup>

147 From the late 1970s to the early 1980s, a movement was born among academia and NGOs to halt deforestation, soil erosion and declining productivity of upland agriculture based on community management.<sup>506</sup> As of early 2000s, the government has recognized under the title of community forest not only cultivated uplands, but also grasslands and brushlands, timberlands previously covered by concessions or other leases and indigenous peoples' ancestral domain, in addition to multiple-use and buffer zones of reservations and protected areas.<sup>507</sup> Communities in such forest areas counted more than 24 million Filipinos in the early 2000s, making them major actors in the management of forests, biodiversity and watersheds.<sup>508</sup>

148 Indigenous women's contribution to forest management is largely undocumented. Their participation in forest management is estimated substantial, considering that women are usually the main foragers and that most foragers are not passive harvesters, but actively manage the environment by sowing wild seeds, irrigating grasses, burning vegetation for new plant growth, replanting roots and so on.<sup>509</sup>

#### 4.7.2 Agta Women

149 The Australoid people are the original inhabitants of the archipelago, comprising of some 32 ethnolinguistic groups.<sup>510</sup> They live on seven islands, mainly on Luzon, and the population was estimated at 31,000 at the turn of the century.<sup>511</sup> Among the provinces targeted by the proposed project, they reside in Cagayan, Bicol and Northern Mindanao.<sup>512</sup> They refer to themselves as Agta, Atta, Arta, Alta, Ayta or Ati.<sup>513</sup> The Agta are traditionally nomadic hunter-gatherers,<sup>514</sup> whose main

---

<sup>502</sup> Guiang, E. S. *et al.*, 2001. *Community-Based Forest Management in the Philippines: A Preliminary Assessment*. Quezon City: Ateneo de Manila University.

<sup>503</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>504</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>505</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>506</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>507</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>508</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>509</sup> Bharucha, Z. and Pretty, J., 2010. "The roles and values of wild foods in agricultural systems." *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B*. Vol. 365, 2913–2926.

<sup>510</sup> Steinhauer, H., 2005. "3.3.6 Philippines." In Adelaar, K. A. and Himmelmann, K. (eds.), *The Austronesian Languages of Asia and Madagascar*. New York: Routledge.

<sup>511</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>512</sup> *Country Technical Notes on Indigenous Peoples' Issues: Republic of the Philippines*.

<sup>513</sup> "3.3.6 Philippines."

*Country Technical Notes on Indigenous Peoples' Issues: Republic of the Philippines*.

<sup>514</sup> Cultural Survival, 1984. "Agta Negritos of the Philippines." *Cultural Survival Quarterly Magazine*. September 1984.

<https://www.culturalsurvival.org/publications/cultural-survival-quarterly/agta-negritos-philippines> (accessed June 2019).

hunting targets are wild pig and deer.<sup>515</sup> Both women and men engage in hunting, men usually alone and women in a team with other women or men.<sup>516</sup> Women's preferred hunting method is to drive with dogs and use long knives for killing.<sup>517</sup> Men use bows and arrows, which may harm the dogs.<sup>518</sup> Some women hunt with bows and arrows, typically smaller than those used by men.<sup>519</sup> Women sometimes carry small children on their backs when hunting.<sup>520</sup> They succeed in catching more animals per hunting than all-male groups or solo men, and the groups comprised of both women and men have the highest success rate per hunting trip.<sup>521</sup> In total, women contribute less than men through hunting because they participate in fewer ventures.<sup>522</sup> Agta women do not show innate repugnance for killing and are skilled at finishing the animal off at a close range.<sup>523</sup> Meat used to be exchanged with starch foods from the lowlanders.<sup>524</sup>

150 Fishing is a dry season activity, in which women, youth and adult participate.<sup>525</sup> Women are noted for their skills in spearfishing, both in rough, deep waters and shallow streams.<sup>526</sup> It is the women who mainly collect mollusks from the rivers and the sea.<sup>527</sup> Honey is also collected during the dry season by women and men.<sup>528</sup> While mollusk gathering, a rainy season activity, is usually conducted by women, honey collection is preferred by men.<sup>529</sup> Men gather fruits, and women all the other edible plants.<sup>530</sup> It was noted in the mid 1980s that the people had begun to switch from foraged food to cultivated cereal grains and root crops.<sup>531</sup> Women transport and trade their catch and foraged good:<sup>532</sup> the preferred arrangement of Agta men, as they feel inhibited by the histories of conflict and violence with lowland farmers.<sup>533</sup>

151 No forest management rule of the Agta has been documented, but they sustainably managed the forests for thousands of years by abiding by the simple rule to take only what one immediately needed and to share it widely with others in the community.<sup>534</sup> Their culture guides them to eschew saving or hoarding material goods.<sup>535</sup> Many no longer live by the principle, as they realize that they cannot but integrate into the market economy if they wish to survive.<sup>536</sup>

---

<sup>515</sup> Cultural Survival, 1984. "Agta Forager Women in the Philippines." Cultural Survival Quarterly Magazine. June 1984. <https://www.culturalsurvival.org/publications/cultural-survival-quarterly/agta-forager-women-philippines> (accessed June 2019).

<sup>516</sup> Womack, M., 2003. "Two – The Hunt: Power of Life and Death." In Womack, M., *Sport as Symbol: Images of the athlete in Art, Literature and Song*. Jefferson, North Carolina: McFarland and Company.

<sup>517</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>518</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>519</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>520</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>521</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>522</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>523</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>524</sup> "Agta Negritos of the Philippines."

<sup>525</sup> "Agta Forager Women in the Philippines."

<sup>526</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>527</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>528</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>529</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>530</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>531</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>532</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>533</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>534</sup> Headland, T. N., 1999. "Managing the Natural Resources of the Sierra Madre: What is the Role of the Agta?" In: Bernardo, E. G. and Snelder, D. J., eds. *Co-Managing the Environment: The Natural Resources of the Sierra Madre Mountain Range*. CVPED, Leiden: Leiden University and Isabela State University.

<sup>535</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>536</sup> *ibid.*

152 Early in the 20<sup>th</sup> century and again some 60 years later, the government forcibly tried to settle down the Agta and make them take up agriculture;<sup>537</sup> Both women and men engage in farming at all stages, except for harvesting which is dominated by women.<sup>538</sup> As of the late 1990s, about a quarter of the Agta practiced agriculture; they spent most of their time collecting forest products (wild game, rattan, honey, tree resin, orchids, firewood, etc.) and exchanged them with starchy food and other goods.<sup>539</sup> The Casiguran lowlands of Aurora province, home to one Agta population, were covered mostly by old-growth forests, but the coverage plummeted from 80% before the Second World War to 9% in 1990.<sup>540</sup> Today, the Agta people remain culturally connected to forests and are aware that deforestation is the cause of water shortage that they experience.<sup>541</sup>

153 In Casiguran Valley, the rapidly increasing population of non-Agta people had increased the population density from 1.3 persons/km<sup>2</sup> before the Second World War to 44 persons/km<sup>2</sup> in the mid 1980s.<sup>542</sup> Multinational corporations bulldozed roads through their settlements and hunting and fishing grounds, in addition to destroying forests through logging.<sup>543</sup> The road construction opened up the areas which previously were inaccessible and attracted more extractive activities, for which the Agta were hired as laborers.<sup>544</sup> In the 1970s, they came into contact with diseases, hunting and fishing methods of lowland Filipinos (with firearms, dynamite, pesticides and electric rods), transistor radio, commercial liquor, and commercial rattan buyer: exposure facilitated by a road built by the government.<sup>545</sup> The game population dramatically decreased, as the Agta were pressured by the outsiders to use firearms for hunting, instead of the traditional bow and arrow; in the 1970s the military occasionally took the Agta to remote areas to hunt on their behalf and transported the catch to the capital.<sup>546</sup> The Agta people on the coast were displaced by tourism and infrastructure development.<sup>547</sup> Some of their land was distributed to immigrant families under Marcos government's land distribution programme.<sup>548</sup>

154 Their strategies to live with the nature and its seasonal fluctuations – such as hunting and fishing – were rendered useless as the main means of livelihood by deforestation, population pressure and resource depletion.<sup>549</sup> The majority of Agta people turned into agricultural laborers for lowland farmers or rattan gatherer for commercial buyers. The daily wage for Agta labor in 1983 was the equivalent of 0.72 US cents plus lunch.<sup>550</sup> Agta came to be viewed as impoverished landless squatters on their ancestral lands.<sup>551</sup> As wage-laborers for the lowland farmers, women dominated all tasks except clearing as of mid 1980s.<sup>552</sup> The growing importance of agriculture signifies the increasing role of women in livelihood.<sup>553</sup>

---

<sup>537</sup> "Agta Negritos of the Philippines."

<sup>538</sup> "Agta Forager Women in the Philippines."

<sup>539</sup> "Managing the Natural Resources of the Sierra Madre: What is the Role of the Agta."

<sup>540</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>541</sup> Nevado, N. L., 2014. "Back to the future – why learning from the past can help the future." Fauna and Flora International. <https://www.fauna-flora.org/news/back-to-the-future-why-learning-from-the-past-can-help-the-future> (accessed January 2021).

<sup>542</sup> "Agta Negritos of the Philippines."

<sup>543</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>544</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>545</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>546</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>547</sup> Persoon, G.A. and Minter, T., 2020. "Knowledge and Practice of Indigenous Peoples in the Context of Resource Management in Relation to Climate Change in Southeast Asia." *Sustainability*. Vol. 12, No. 7983.

<sup>548</sup> Headland, T. N. and Headland, J. D., 1997. "Limitation of Human Rights, Land Exclusion, and Tribal Extinction: The Agta Negritos of the Philippines." *Human Organization*. Vol. 56, No. 1, 79-90.

<sup>549</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>550</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>551</sup> "Agta Negritos of the Philippines."

<sup>552</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>553</sup> *ibid.*

155 Liquor, stressful personal interactions, loss of social status, lowered self-image, and diminishing faith in Agta culture – all have taken a toll on the health of Agta women.<sup>554</sup> For those living close to farming communities, the workload has also increased.<sup>555</sup> In the mid 1980s, an Agta woman over age of 45 had given 7.3 live births on average, half of the children were expected to die, and life expectancy at birth was 22 years.<sup>556</sup> The main causes of death among the adults were tuberculosis, pneumonia, homicide, leprosy, alcoholism, and, among women, also complications from childbirth.<sup>557</sup> In the late 1990s, it was reported that Agta women were increasingly taken as common-law wives by non-Agta immigrants, contributing to Agta population decline.<sup>558</sup>

156 The influx of outsiders is exposing the Agta to more diseases and has resulted in environmental degradation, which has led to further health deterioration from consumption of polluted and depleted resources and to erosion of traditional livelihood.<sup>559</sup> The malnutrition levels were already high,<sup>560</sup> and in the mid 2000s approximately 34% of adults and 17% of children were malnourished.<sup>561</sup> Insufficient protein intake and little variety in foraged foods are said to be the cause.<sup>562</sup> Indirectly, but substantially, alcohol contributes to nutritional insecurity and livelihood degradation.<sup>563</sup>

157 Exploitation and social subordination of the Agta by lowlanders were widespread as of mid 1980s.<sup>564</sup> Women were often sexually abused, and men were cheated and scorned.<sup>565</sup> Women were said to never feel safe from molestation unless Agta men were present.<sup>566</sup> While Agta themselves consider women and men are of equal worth and status, most non-Agta do not share the view and consider men the appropriate negotiators and decision makers.<sup>567</sup> During negotiations, men were wine and dined, cheated and sometimes beaten.<sup>568</sup> Women are removed from decision making and their influence continues to erode as interaction with non-Agta continues to increase and as Agta men are bent by non-Agta values.<sup>569</sup>

158 Although the Agta have not fared well in the conditions created by modern society, they have valuable indigenous knowledge for coping with natural hazards, especially typhoons, floods, storm surges and landslides.<sup>570</sup> One example of Agta's deep knowledge of extreme weathers and adaptability is *kurob*, a one-room hut made of indigenous materials. It is built before the onset of typhoons and storm surges and manages to resist very strong winds. The frame of the house is tied together with rattan and *bakbak* (dried bark of abaca) using special skills and without iron nails. *Kurob* withstood the super typhoon Reming, when other houses in the lowland collapsed. They can also predict the arrival of typhoons through natural signs and plant few months prior a root crop, *camote*

---

<sup>554</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>555</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>556</sup> "Agta Negritos of the Philippines."

<sup>557</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>558</sup> "Limitation of Human Rights, Land Exclusion, and Tribal Extinction: The Agta Negritos of the Philippines."

<sup>559</sup> "Agta Negritos of the Philippines."

<sup>560</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>561</sup> Crittenden, A. N. and Schnorr, S. L., 2017. "Current views on hunter-gatherer nutrition and the evolution of the human diet." *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*. No. 162, 84-109.

<sup>562</sup> "Agta Negritos of the Philippines."

<sup>563</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>564</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>565</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>566</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>567</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>568</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>569</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>570</sup> Molina, J.G.J. and Neef, A., 2016. "Integration of Indigenous Knowledge into Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) Policies for Sustainable Development: The Case of the Agta in Casiguran, Philippines." In: Uitto, J., and Shaw R., eds. *Sustainable Development and Disaster Risk Reduction. Disaster Risk Reduction (Methods, Approaches and Practices)*. Tokyo: Springer.



(*Ipomoea batatas*), which is high in fiber and nutrition and requires little input.<sup>571</sup> For Agta's, the decision-making and planning processes of the local government in the area of disaster risk reduction and management do not sufficiently value their knowledge and context, often creating more precarious conditions and compromising the sustainability of their livelihoods.<sup>572</sup> Readily available documentations do not indicate the exact role of women in disaster risk reduction and preparation.

#### 4.7.3 Women in Cordillera Autonomous Region

159 The Cordillera Autonomous Region (CAR) consists overwhelmingly of indigenous peoples, 99% of the population, who are not Agta.<sup>573</sup> According to the various statistics, such as functional literacy, net enrolment and cohort survival rates in primary and secondary schools, and poverty incidence, the women in CAR are not any worse off than other regions. On some accounts they fared better in 2017; the median age of women giving birth for the first time was the highest at 25-49 years, the proportion of women age 15-19 who are mothers or currently pregnant was the lowest; neonatal deaths per 1,000 live births were the second lowest; the proportion of women who have ever experienced physical violence since age 15 was the second lowest at 11% (after 5% in Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao).<sup>574</sup>

160 The indigenous peoples in CAR still engage in some foraging, but most of the edible wild plants have been replaced by cultivatable substitutes.<sup>575</sup> The agriculture that they practice has become similar to that of lowlanders, except for their strong preference for traditional rice and organic farming.<sup>576</sup> In Ifugao, a woman of prestige in the village ritually sows the first seeds of the planting season in her seedbed, after which she will confine herself to her house to fast for a day to mark the beginning of the rice planting season.<sup>577</sup> Such rituals are in great decline, and most indigenous farmers encountered by the mission team could not recall any similar practices.<sup>578</sup>

161 Despite the attachment to traditional farming strongly expressed by some indigenous farmers in Cordillera, the adoption of modern agriculture seems to be the trend.<sup>579</sup> They are increasingly influenced by the larger mainstream society, which affects their traditional resource management and puts off kilter the balance between the community's needs and the capacity of their resources to meet the needs.<sup>580</sup> The imbalance is exacerbated by increasing population and demand per person for natural resources, as the available quantity of renewable resources has not kept up with the changes.<sup>581</sup> Although the traditions are in decline, the indigenous peoples have maintained some elements so far.<sup>582</sup> One tribe, *Ikalahan* of Pangasinan Province, is known for embracing entrepreneurship and acquiring information outside their tribal knowledge system on ecological and sustainable agroforestry, but to date others have been less adept at adapting to external changes on their own.<sup>583</sup>

---

<sup>571</sup> Barcia, R., 2015. "Coping with climate change using traditional knowledge,"

<http://environews.ph/climate-change/coping-with-climate-change-using-traditional-knowledge/> (accessed January 2021).

<sup>572</sup> "Integration of Indigenous Knowledge into Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) Policies for Sustainable Development: The Case of the Agta in Casiguran, Philippines."

<sup>573</sup> *Country Technical Notes on Indigenous Peoples' Issues: Republic of the Philippines*.

<sup>574</sup> Philippine Statistics Authority and ICF, 2018. *Key Findings from the Philippines National Demographic and Health Survey 2017*. Quezon City, Philippines, and Rockville, Maryland, USA: PSA and ICF.

<sup>575</sup> Farmer Consultations in Bicol and Cordillera (28 January-6 February 2019).

<sup>576</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>577</sup> "A quiet harvest: linkage between ritual, seed selection and the historical use of the finger-bladed knife as a traditional plant breeding tool in Ifugao, Philippines."

<sup>578</sup> Farmer Consultations in Bicol and Cordillera (28 January-6 February 2019).

<sup>579</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>580</sup> Camacho, L. D. *et al.*, 2012. "Traditional forest conservation knowledge/technologies in the Cordillera, Northern Philippines." *Forest Policy and Economics*. Vol. 22, 3-8.

<sup>581</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>582</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>583</sup> *ibid.*

162 Modern varieties of rice have been adopted by many, which requires synthetic inputs, but allow farmers to participate in the growing tourism industry thanks to their faster maturation. The modern rice cultivars do not require year-round flooding, which has caused proliferation of *Polypheretima elongata*,<sup>584</sup> a large earthworm which weakens the terrace walls by digging tunnels through them.<sup>585</sup> The natural forests in the ridges are the habitats of the striped shrew rat (*Chrotomys whitebeadi*) which feeds on these earthworms and also on golden apple snails,<sup>586</sup> an invasive species that damages rice plants. However, such forests are in decline as are agricultural lands, because the younger generation prefers livelihoods other than agriculture.<sup>587</sup> Ifugao farmers recognize that the adoption of non-traditional and non-organic farming has created negative impacts on soil and water, especially that the use of synthetic fertilizers led to degradation of soil drainage and fertility.<sup>588</sup> The non-traditional agriculture was also recognized as the reason for infestation of earthworms and snails in the rice paddies.<sup>589</sup> The planting material for traditional trees in Ifugao (e.g., *Samanea saman*, *Pterocarpus indicus*, *Lithocarpus* spp. and dipterocarps) are difficult to find, driving the farmers to plant exotic but fast-growing and widely available species (*Swietenia macrophylla* and *Gmelina arborea*). No negative ecological impacts have been identified thus far from the use of exotic species.<sup>590</sup>

163 Indigenous women's knowledge in farming is strongly associated with traditional rice varieties and farming systems in CAR as well as in Mindanao.<sup>591</sup> The critical role of elder female farmers, especially as seed selectors in CAR, has declined with the introduction of non-traditional rice varieties; indigenous rice is harvested with a transverse harvest knife, instead of a sickle for non-traditional rice, whose use requires intensive knowledge of the rice.<sup>592</sup> As the region has opened up to tourism, there is enough construction work for men that typically pays better than farm work; agriculture has become mostly women's task in such cases.<sup>593</sup>

164 The traditional land-use zoning system in Ifugao includes *muyong*, which are private or clan-owned forests and usually predominate mountain peaks and mid-slopes.<sup>594</sup> Each *muyong* is sized one half to three hectares and located upstream of rice fields to provide water and nourishment and to minimize soil erosion.<sup>595</sup> The Ifugao are well aware of the role of the forests as watersheds and their importance in securing stable water supply.<sup>596</sup> The forests are also sources of wood for fuel and house construction, in addition to edible fruits such as the areca nut (*Areca catechu*).<sup>597</sup> The bigger the woodlot, the more respect and recognition a clan of family receives.<sup>598</sup>

---

<sup>584</sup> Charette-Castonguay, A., 2014 Assessment of resilience and adaptability of social-ecological systems: a case study of the Banaue rice terraces. Master Thesis. Christian-Albrechts Universität zu Kiel.

<sup>585</sup> Farmer Consultations in Bicol and Cordillera (28 January-6 February 2019).

<sup>586</sup> Peñafiel, S., undated. "Ifugao Rice Terraces : Agricultural Heritage Systems dynamic conservation and practices." <http://www.fao.org/3/aj006e/aj006e21.pdf> (accessed May 2019).

<sup>587</sup> "Indigenous knowledge and practices for the sustainable management of Ifugao forests in Cordillera, Philippines."

<sup>588</sup> Camacho, L. D. et al., 2016. "Indigenous knowledge and practices for the sustainable management of Ifugao forests in Cordillera, Philippines." *International Journal of Biodiversity Science, Ecosystem Services & Management*. Vol. 12, Issues 1-2, 5-13.

<sup>589</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>590</sup> "Indigenous knowledge and practices for the sustainable management of Ifugao forests in Cordillera, Philippines."

<sup>591</sup> "Philippines, Indigenous Women Farmers of the Balaan Tribe in the Philippines, Women's Knowledge in Traditional Crop Production."

<sup>592</sup> "A quiet harvest: linkage between ritual, seed selection and the historical use of the finger-bladed knife as a traditional plant breeding tool in Ifugao, Philippines."

<sup>593</sup> Farmer Consultations in Bicol and Cordillera (28 January-6 February 2019).

<sup>594</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>595</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>596</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>597</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>598</sup> *ibid.*

165 According to the Ifugao customary laws, gathering of dead branches as fuel wood in *muyong* by non-owners is allowed without a permission from the owner as long as the gatherer participates in cleaning and tending the forest as a form of payment for the wood collected.<sup>599</sup> The laws recognize the crucial service provided by *Ficus* trees to replenish groundwater and forbid harvesting them for timber or fuelwood.<sup>600</sup> Logging of century-old endemic trees, such as dipterocarps, are avoided as much as possible under the belief that the spirits of their ancestors reside in these trees.<sup>601</sup> In the old times, only *narra* (*Pterocarpus indicus*) was allowed to be used for house construction and rice god sculpture.<sup>602</sup> The forest owner decides which tree can be harvested and which person obtains the harvest; the beneficiary in turn must replace it with two saplings and clean a large area of *muyong*.<sup>603</sup>

166 When a child is baptized, the parents plant four seedlings in their *muyong* to give their blessing to the child, which prevents deforestation.<sup>604</sup> The most common reforestation species today are fast-growing non-indigenous species, such as *Swietenia macrophylla* and *Gmelina arborea*. Also preferred are local species, such as *narra* and rain tree (*Samanea saman*), principally for traditional construction and woodcarving.<sup>605</sup> To discourage illegal hunting, trespassing on *muyong* is prohibited.<sup>606</sup> If someone is caught stealing from other's *muyong*, the thief is taken to the tribal elders and will be severely reprimanded.<sup>607</sup>

167 With respect to stand management, Ifugao forest owners engage in weeding to facilitate natural regrowth of trees and cut the trees only as needed – crooked and diseased trees for fuelwood and straight ones for posts and wood carving.<sup>608</sup> As mentioned above, logging of *Ficus* trees is prohibited.<sup>609</sup> Felling direction must be chosen so as not to damage other standing trees and nearby farms.<sup>610</sup> The woodcutter must also shout the name of the tree to chase away the bad spirits and at the same time warn the people in the vicinity of felling.<sup>611</sup>

168 Forest management systems by other tribes in Cordillera are composed of similar practices that aim at sustainable use of forests, emphasizing soil and water conservation and encompassing maintenance of ecosystem as a whole.<sup>612</sup> They are supported by spiritual beliefs and taboos: *lapat* in Abra Province,<sup>613</sup> *apa*, *lakun* and *tadaw* in Mountain Province,<sup>614</sup> and so on. The role of women in forest management could not be found in readily available documents.

169 In general, indigenous ways of life requires great skills to foresee the changes in natural conditions. For example, observations made by the Native Americans match biophysical models remarkably well: 86% for decrease in snow packs, 79% for earlier runoff, and 75% for increased

---

<sup>599</sup> Serrano, R.C. and Cadaweng, E.A., 2005. "The Ifugao *muyong*: sustaining water, culture and life." In: Durst, B. et al. (eds.) *In search of excellence: exemplary forest management in Asia and the Pacific*. Bangkok: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

<sup>600</sup> "Indigenous knowledge and practices for the sustainable management of Ifugao forests in Cordillera, Philippines."

<sup>601</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>602</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>603</sup> "The Ifugao *muyong*: sustaining water, culture and life."

<sup>604</sup> "Indigenous knowledge and practices for the sustainable management of Ifugao forests in Cordillera, Philippines."

<sup>605</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>606</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>607</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>608</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>609</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>610</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>611</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>612</sup> "Traditional forest conservation knowledge/technologies in the Cordillera, Northern Philippines."

<sup>613</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>614</sup> Garcia, M. A. And Naganag, E. M., 2014. "Forest Domain Conservation Management Practices and Beliefs of the Indigenous Peoples of the Cordillera Region, Philippines." *UNP Research Journal*. Vol. XXIII. Jan.-Dec., 124-135.

Dumanghi, M. T., 2010. "The Socio-Economic and Cultural Practices and Beliefs In The Conservation Of The Rice Terraces In Mountain Province." *Mountain Province State Polytechnic College Journal*. Vol. VII.

temperatures.<sup>615</sup> The people that the mission team encountered in Ifugao named only a few indicators for the start of seasons or arrival of extreme weathers.<sup>616</sup>

#### 4.7.4 Women in Mindanao

170 The indigenous peoples in Mindanao organize their livelihood around flooded rice cultivation in the lowlands and swidden farming in the uplands.<sup>617</sup> One of the lowland peoples in Mindanao, B'laan, has a social organization yet different from the above two groups, with strong patriarchal traditions and customs resembling their Muslim neighbors.<sup>618</sup> Women do not have decision-making power in cash expenditure, number of children and wives, marriage partners, among others.<sup>619</sup> For girls, marriage and dowry are considered more important than education.<sup>620</sup> At the same time, a leader of the same tribe was a woman when they recently organized opposition to development projects on their lands.<sup>621</sup> The Subanen people in the uplands of Mindanao do not divide tasks based on gender and have little social stratification.<sup>622</sup> They consider birth of a daughter a blessing, because it allows the father to recover the dowry that he paid for his wife.<sup>623</sup> Marriages are arranged through the parents, who negotiate the dowry.<sup>624</sup> The negotiations can take place before the children reach puberty.<sup>625</sup>

171 Multinational enterprises have coveted Mindanao for their fertile land and mineral resources. Not only indigenous men, but also women have stood up against development projects, only to be ignored by their own village leader or assassinated.<sup>626</sup> Nine out of every ten persons in Mindanao were estimated to be Muslim in 2003,<sup>627</sup> and the island has seen armed conflicts involving Muslim groups which seek independence. Around 2010, the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) government allocated approximately 70% of its budget to personnel salaries, not leaving much for basic services in health, education, and economic development.<sup>628</sup> The provincial government has not been given autonomy in accordance with the Republic Act 6734, the Organic Act for the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, while the public is weary of its relationship with Manila as well as its endemic corruption and cronyism.<sup>629</sup> The governance vacuum thus created has contributed to the lawlessness in Mindanao.<sup>630</sup> It has been reported that armed groups used rape as a tool of war and terrorized the indigenous communities.<sup>631</sup> Since the 1970s, more than 10,000 families of Teduray-

---

<sup>615</sup> "Climate change perception, observation and policy support in rural Nevada: A comparative analysis of Native Americans, non-native ranchers and farmers and mainstream America."

<sup>616</sup> Farmer Consultations in Bicol and Cordillera (28 January-6 February 2019).

<sup>617</sup> "Philippines, Indigenous Women Farmers of the B'laan Tribe in the Philippines, Women's Knowledge in Traditional Crop Production."

<sup>618</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>619</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>620</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>621</sup> Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact, 2014. *Overview of the State of Indigenous Peoples in Asia*. Chiang Mai, Thailand: AIPP.

<sup>622</sup> "Subanon People."

<sup>623</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>624</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>625</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>626</sup> *Overview of the State of Indigenous Peoples in Asia*

<sup>627</sup> Philippine Statistics Authority, 2003. "Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao: Nine in Every Ten Persons were Muslims." <https://psa.gov.ph/content/autonomous-region-muslim-mindanao-nine-every-ten-persons-were-muslims> (accessed June 2019).

<sup>628</sup> Cowden, R., undated. "Mindanao's Security Dilemma: Localized Violence and the Implications for the Peace Process." In Hopmann, P. T. and Zartman, I. W. (eds.), undated. "Mindanao: Understanding Conflict 2011. Conflict Management Program Student Field Trip to Mindanao." Johns Hopkins University School for Advanced International Studies [https://www.sais-jhu.edu/sites/default/files/Mindanao-Report\\_Complete\\_Report%20April%2005\\_0.pdf](https://www.sais-jhu.edu/sites/default/files/Mindanao-Report_Complete_Report%20April%2005_0.pdf) (accessed July 2019).

<sup>629</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>630</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>631</sup> The United Nations Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Issues, 2014. "Thematic Paper on the Elimination and Responses to Violence, Exploitation and Abuse of Indigenous Girls, Adolescents and Young Women."

Lambangian tribe have fled from their homes because of violence;<sup>632</sup> the separationist movement continues to greatly affect the indigenous peoples living in ARMM. Recently the women of the tribe asked to be made part of the peace process and their voices heard.<sup>633</sup> Although the importance of forests to the indigenous peoples in Mindanao is well known,<sup>634</sup> written information on their forest management system and on contribution of women to the practices is not available.

#### 4.8 Youth and Agriculture

172 The country has 30 million people between the ages of 10 and 24, representing 28% of the total population and the largest generation of youth in its history.<sup>635</sup> Although girls and boys have equal and good access to education, girls may be subject to child marriage, unlikely for boys. Girls are further handicapped by insufficient access to reproductive health care. The unemployment rates were around 3-4 times higher for 15-24 year olds than for the total population in 2019, and the gender gap was much bigger for 15-24 year olds than for the total population (Table 6). A high rate of unemployment among the youth means that the next generation is not obtaining sufficient experience and training to become productive workers in the future, which may weaken the economy as the older generation retires. Labor participation rates follow similar trends, posing a considerable obstacle against empowerment of women<sup>636</sup> (Table 7). The rate of civic engagement in the Philippines is high, compared to the other countries in the region, but female youths are 44% less likely to be engaged than male youths and rural youths much less than urban youths.<sup>637</sup>

**Table 6: Unemployment Rates in the Philippines (2019)**

	Unemployment Rate (%)	
	Female	Male
15-24 Year Old	8.2	5.9
Total Population	2.4	2.0

Source: World Bank, 2021. "World Bank Data."<sup>638</sup>

**Table 7: Labor Participation Rates in the Philippines (2019)**

	Labor Participation Rate (%)	
	Female	Male
15-24 Year Old	27.0	45.0
15-64 Year Old	48.1	75.4

[https://www.un.org/en/ga/69/meetings/indigenous/pdf/IASG%20Thematic%20Paper\\_%20Violence%20against%20Girls%20and%20Women%20-%20rev1.pdf](https://www.un.org/en/ga/69/meetings/indigenous/pdf/IASG%20Thematic%20Paper_%20Violence%20against%20Girls%20and%20Women%20-%20rev1.pdf) (accessed July 2019).

<sup>632</sup> Mendoza, F. T., 2018. "Non Moro Indigenous Peoples participation in the peace process and the passage of the Bangsamoro Organic Law and transition period." Canberra, Australia, 2018.

<http://regnet.anu.edu.au/sites/default/files/events/attachments/2018-11/Presentation-%20Froilyn%20Mendoza.pdf> (accessed July 2019).

<sup>633</sup> Philippine News Agency, 2018. "IP women in ARMM seek voice in peace process decision-making." Manila Bulletin. 8 March 2018.

<https://news.mb.com.ph/2018/03/08/ip-women-in-armm-seek-voice-in-peace-process-decision-making/> (accessed July 2019).

<sup>634</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>635</sup> UNFPA Philippines, undated. "Young People."

<https://philippines.unfpa.org/en/node/15309> (accessed January 2021).

<sup>636</sup> "Case Study on Youth Issues: Philippines."

<sup>637</sup> "Case Study on Youth Issues: Philippines."

<sup>638</sup> <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SL.UEM.1524.FE.NE.ZS?locations=PH> (accessed February 2021).

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SL.UEM.1524.MA.NE.ZS?locations=PH> (accessed February 2021).

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SL.UEM.TOTL.FE.ZS?locations=PH> (accessed February 2021).

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SL.UEM.TOTL.MA.ZS?locations=PH> (accessed February 2021).

Source: World Bank, 2021. "World Bank Data."<sup>639</sup>

173 Occupations in the agriculture have been long associated with very low income<sup>640</sup> and high costs from living in rural areas, leading farmers to discourage their children from taking up the family livelihood.<sup>641</sup> The young are pursuing non-agricultural professions, which bring in higher income, whether they stay in the rural areas or migrate to the cities.<sup>642</sup> Consequently, the agricultural sector is aging with an estimated average age of 55-59 years in 2013<sup>643</sup> and 57 in 2019.<sup>644</sup> The Department of Agriculture has urged the youth publicly to take up agriculture and suggested as an entry point helping the older generations with marketing products online.<sup>645</sup> A study engaged high school students in the Philippines to pass on the digital information received on nutrient management to their parents and showed that the students satisfactorily served as information mediators.<sup>646</sup> Possibly stimulated by the COVID-19 pandemic, the awareness that the agriculture sector is important is rising among the young, and the Agriculture Students Association of the Philippines was created in August 2020.<sup>647</sup>

## 4.9 Women's Knowledge

174 Women's knowledge of plants mainly stems from their role as cooks, gatherers, gardeners, herbalists, plant breeders and seed custodians,<sup>648</sup> and these functions are all performed by rural women in the Philippines.

175 Culinary choices and the post-harvest processes that support the dietary preferences are some of the most important drivers for knowledge acquisition on and conservation of plant biodiversity.<sup>649</sup> It is said that about 80% of edible plants are foraged by women in 135 different societies, which are used as everyday food as well as famine food, fodder, mulch, medicine, fuel and materials for crafts and construction.<sup>650</sup> Most foragers actively manage the environment by sowing wild seeds, irrigating grasses, burning vegetation for new plant growth, replanting roots and so on.<sup>651</sup> The differences in responsibilities lead to variations in knowledge between women and men in terms of plant use and forage areas.<sup>652</sup>

---

<sup>639</sup> <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SL.TLF.ACTI.1524.FE.NE.ZS?locations=PH> (accessed February 2021).

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SL.TLF.ACTI.1524.MA.ZS?locations=PH> (accessed February 2021).

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SL.TLF.ACTI.FE.ZS?locations=PH> (accessed February 2021).

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SL.TLF.ACTI.MA.ZS?locations=PH> (accessed February 2021).

<sup>640</sup> *Poverty and Agriculture in the Philippines: Trends in Income Poverty and Distribution*.

<sup>641</sup> Medenilla, V., 2020. "A youth organization calls for students to empower the agriculture sector." *Manila Bulletin*.

<https://mb.com.ph/2020/09/01/a-youth-organization-calls-for-students-to-empower-the-agriculture-sector/> (accessed February 2021).

<sup>642</sup> Cudis, C., 2019. "DA urges youth to take up agriculture." *Philippines News Agency*.

<https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1085918> (accessed February 2019).

<sup>643</sup> Manila Times, 2013. "Aging Filipino farmers to affect food security." *Manila Times*.

<https://www.manilatimes.net/2013/06/22/news/headlines/aging-filipino-farmers-to-affect-food-security/12166/> (accessed February 2021).

<sup>644</sup> "DA urges youth to take up agriculture."

<sup>645</sup> *ibid*.

<sup>646</sup> Manalo, J. A., VI *et al.*, 2019. "Exploring youth engagement in agricultural development: the case of farmers' children in the Philippines as rice crop manager infomediaries." *Journal of Agricultural Education and Extension*. Vol. 25, No. 4, 361-377.

<sup>647</sup> "A youth organization calls for students to empower the agriculture sector."

<sup>648</sup> Howard, P., 2003. *The Major Importance of 'Minor' Resources: Women and Plant Biodiversity*. London: International Institute for Environment and Development.

<sup>649</sup> *ibid*.

<sup>650</sup> *ibid*.

<sup>651</sup> Bharucha, Z. and Pretty, J., 2010. "The roles and values of wild foods in agricultural systems." *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B*. Vol. 365, 2913-2926.

<sup>652</sup> *The Major Importance of 'Minor' Resources: Women and Plant Biodiversity*. London: International Institute for Environment and Development."

176 Perception of soil fertility may differ because of differentiated tasks. In Northern Mindanao, both women and men named the crops that each group was in charge of as the ones that would grow well in good soil.<sup>653</sup> Hence, for men they were large crops, such as maize and trees.<sup>654</sup> For women, they were vegetables, but maize was also included.<sup>655</sup> Maize was associated the most with the worse soil by both women and men.<sup>656</sup> The second most common land use for the worst soil was pastures according to women and house-lot according to men; each group associated the worst soil with the activity for which they spent the least amount of time.<sup>657</sup>

177 It is the women who cultivate plant crops, fruit trees and others around the house and have knowledge associated with gardening.<sup>658</sup> Herbalists and midwives who treats illness using plants are mostly women,<sup>659</sup> and the knowledge of female herbalists has been increasingly recognized as the backbone of the traditional health care.<sup>660</sup> Women ensure that the varieties cultivated meet the culinary, nutritional, processing and storage requirements, as it is their responsibility to cook and store the harvested material.<sup>661</sup> Women also engage in seed preservation and exchange, which endow them with the knowledge that men do not have the opportunities to acquire.<sup>662</sup> Indigenous rice seed storage practices among the B'laan women include: *aknasong* (storing rice seeds with *anahaw* leaves); *lihuh* (storage in a container made from sturdy bark of *dlong* tree which also serves as an insect repellent); *bakog* (storage in a native basket-container for storage of rice before husking and made of indigenous bamboo called *naf*); *tiral* (storage in long bamboo poles); and *saboy* (storage in bottles especially for vegetable seeds).<sup>663</sup>

178 Corn has taken the farmers by storm in many parts of tropical Asia, especially on rainfed farms.<sup>664</sup> The increase in commercial production of corn has been brought about by the growing demand in livestock and its feed at the expense of traditional crops, such as upland rice, *adlai*<sup>665</sup> and coffee.<sup>666</sup> *Adlai*, also known as Job's Tears or Chinese pearl barley, is an alternative staple food to rice and is known among the indigenous communities throughout Asia and serves a source of flour, coffee, tea, wine, beer and vinegar, among other products.<sup>667</sup> Above all, *adlai* grains can be processed and steamed just like rice and served.<sup>668</sup> The grain contains twice as much protein as rice, high in fiber, has antitumor and other medicinal properties<sup>669</sup> that mitigate the symptoms of inflammation, allergies and diabetes.<sup>670</sup> The grain has also proven resilient against extreme weather conditions<sup>671</sup> and continues to be planted for human consumption (grain) and animal feed (both grain and other parts

---

<sup>653</sup> "Gender and conservation agriculture: constraints and opportunities in the Philippines."

<sup>654</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>655</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>656</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>657</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>658</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>659</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>660</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>661</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>662</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>663</sup> "Philippines, Indigenous Women Farmers of the B'laan Tribe in the Philippines, Women's Knowledge in Traditional Crop Production."

<sup>664</sup> Burnette, R., 2012. "Three Cheers for Job's Tears: Asia's Other Indigenous Grain." ECHO Community. ECHO Asia Note, No. 13.

<https://www.echocommunity.org/resources/67c86666-e521-4dae-b0a7-d6952dbb908b> (accessed July 2019).

<sup>665</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>666</sup> Farmer Consultations in Bicol and Cordillera (28 January-6 February 2019).

<sup>667</sup> Business Mirror, 2017. "Mutant adlai as alternative staple food crop for Filipinos." Business Mirror. 14 May 2017.

<https://businessmirror.com.ph/2017/05/14/mutant-adlai-as-alternative-staple-food-crop-for-filipinos/> (accessed July 2019).

<sup>668</sup> Domingo, R. W., 2016. "Developing, promoting 'adlai' as alternative staple food." Inquirer.net. 2 November 2016.

<https://business.inquirer.net/218105/developing-promoting-adlai-as-alternative-staple-food> (accessed July 2019).

<sup>669</sup> "Mutant adlai as alternative staple food crop for Filipinos."

<sup>670</sup> "Developing, promoting 'adlai' as alternative staple food."

<sup>671</sup> *ibid.*

of the plant).<sup>672</sup> The Department of Agriculture has promoted it since 2010 as a staple food under the Food Staples Sufficiency Program and identified several varieties through adaptability trials in various locations in the country.<sup>673</sup> Although no reference to women is made in descriptions of the grain, it is very likely that the women are the primary transmitter of knowledge on this indigenous grain in the communities.

179 Women are recognized around the world as superior caregivers to animals, except for when taking the large-sized ones to the pastures. Women, in comparison with men, are said to be more conscientious, possess higher technical knowledge, better work ethic and more empathy toward the animals.<sup>674</sup> Detailed information is not available on the gender gap with respect to animal care in the Philippines. As noted above, women may be more perceptive than men to climate change, but at present the link remains unclear. In Southern Luzon, almost all women and men surveyed said that climate information service was useful, but women's opinions were much more diverse than men's on how much the information boosted the agricultural production.<sup>675</sup> It is unknown whether this difference in perception could be attributed to that of gender on attention to details or interpretation of disconfirming information.<sup>676</sup>

## 5. SOCIAL PARTICIPATION OF RURAL FILIPINO WOMEN

### 5.1 Rural Women's Voice in Politics

180 On women's political empowerment, the World Economic Forum concluded in 2018 that the Philippines was the 13<sup>th</sup> best country measured by the ratios of females with seats in parliament over male, females at ministerial level over male, number of years with a female head of state over male in the last 50 years.<sup>677</sup> Among the Asian countries, Bangladesh ranked the 5<sup>th</sup>, although it was the 48<sup>th</sup> in overall gender parity ranking.<sup>678</sup> Another report by McKinsey in the same year reached the conclusion that the gender inequality was high.<sup>679</sup> In 2017, the proportion of women among elected political representatives at the national level was 29.5%, while the global average was 23.4% and the Philippines has no legislated quotas for women for the national parliament.<sup>680</sup> The proportion at the provincial and district/municipal levels were 19.9% and 21.4%, respectively.<sup>681</sup>

181 The higher representation at the national level is thought to be attributable to the domination of elites and political dynasties.<sup>682</sup> It is estimated that close to half of the women elected to the 12<sup>th</sup> Congress in 2001 were replacements of the relatives who previously had seats in the House of Representatives.<sup>683</sup> For the 14<sup>th</sup> Congress in 2010, 15% of elected women were identified as wives of

---

<sup>672</sup> "Three Cheers for Job's Tears: Asia's Other Indigenous Grain."

<sup>673</sup> "Developing, promoting 'adlai' as alternative staple food."

<sup>674</sup> Coleman, G., 2004. "9. Personnel Management in Agricultural Systems." In Benson, G. J. and Rollin, B. E. (eds.), *The Well-Being of Farm Animals: Challenges and Solutions*. Oxford: Blackwell Publishing.

<sup>675</sup> "Developing Climate Services in the Philippines."

<sup>676</sup> Riley, E. *et al.*, 2016. "Gender Differences in Sustained Attentional Control Relate to Gender Inequality across Countries." *PLoS One*. Vol. 11, No. 11.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5089545/> (accessed July 2019).

Chung, J. and Monroe, G., 2002. "Gender differences in information processing: An empirical test of the hypothesis-confirming strategy in an audit context." *Accounting and Finance*. Vol. 38, No. 2, 265-279.

<sup>677</sup> *The Global Gender Gap Report 2018*.

<sup>678</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>679</sup> *The Power of Parity: Advancing Women's Equality in Asia and Pacific, Focus: the Philippines*.

<sup>680</sup> Choi, N., 2019. "Women's political pathways in Southeast Asia." *International Feminist Journal of Politics*. Vol. 21. No. 2, 224-248.

<sup>681</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>682</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>683</sup> *ibid.*



the former congressmen who reached their term limits.<sup>684</sup> At the national executive institutions, the proportion of women is 10.2%, while at the provincial and district/municipal levels, slightly over 23% of the positions are occupied by women.<sup>685</sup> These figures indicate that the number of women who actually vote on laws, have the opportunity to propose bills and to speak on behalf of women's interests in the legislative agenda is roughly half of that had gender parity been achieved.<sup>686</sup> Male legislators with an interest in gender parity are considered few and far between.<sup>687</sup>

182 The proportion of females who are committee chairpersons, Senators or House Representatives for the 15th-17th Congress (2010-2016) demonstrates that women are given responsibilities in the areas that are traditionally considered more feminine than others, such as culture and gender.<sup>688</sup> Men are in charge of the committees on public accountability, banks and financial institutions, civil service and government reorganization, ethics and privileges, games and sports, labor and employment, local government, urban planning and housing, ways and means, public works, rules, science and technology, and trade and commerce.<sup>689</sup> No woman has ever headed the departments of agriculture, defense, interior and local government, and public works, which are traditionally male-dominated offices.<sup>690</sup> The share of women among judges was less than 20% in 2000, but increased steadily to 43.8% in 2015, totaling 747 out of 1,699.<sup>691</sup> The chances are small that the plight of female smallholders in the rural areas is well addressed in the legislative and executive branches of the government, perhaps except for lawsuits.

## 5.2 Farmer Organizations

183 Greater gender equality in participation in the operations of producer organizations is said to improve collaboration among members, increase collective benefits and knowledge, decrease the level of conflict and improve the organizational outcomes, all of which lead to better management of natural resources.<sup>692</sup>

184 Republic Act 9520, Philippine Cooperative Code of 2008, stipulates that the Cooperative Development Authority is responsible for the development of cooperatives,<sup>693</sup> and the authority has taken up the Philippine Commission for Women's Gender and Development (GAD) approach in 2013.<sup>694</sup> Gender Equality Resource Center Inc., an NGO, was established by the Asian Women in Cooperative Development Forum in 2013 to promote gender equality in cooperatives and also in development through cooperatives.<sup>695</sup> To ensure the participation of women in all levels of development planning and program implementation, Republic Act 9710, the Magna Carta for Women, requires that at least 40% of membership of all development councils from the regional, provincial, city, municipal, and barangay levels be composed of women.<sup>696</sup>

---

<sup>684</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>685</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>686</sup> David, C. C. *et al.*, 2018. *Sustainable Development Goal 5: How Does the Philippines Fare on Gender Equality?* Quezon City, Philippines: Philippine Institute for Development Studies.

<sup>687</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>688</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>689</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>690</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>691</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>692</sup> Kaaria, S. *et al.*, 2016. "Rural women's participation in producer organizations: An analysis of the barriers that women face and strategies to foster equitable and effective participation." *Journal of Gender, Agriculture and Food Security*. Vol. 1, Issue 2, 148-167.

<sup>693</sup> Republic of the Philippines, Congress of the Philippines, 2009. "Republic Act No. 9520. An Act Amending the Cooperative Code of the Philippines to be Known as the 'Philippine Cooperative Code of 2008'."

[https://lawphil.net/statutes/repacts/ra2009/ra\\_9520\\_2009.html](https://lawphil.net/statutes/repacts/ra2009/ra_9520_2009.html) (accessed July 2019).

<sup>694</sup> *Country Gender Assessment of Agriculture and the Rural Sector in the Philippines*.

<sup>695</sup> Gender Equality Resource Center Inc., undated. "Who We Are."

<https://gerc.ph/index.php/about-us/who-are-we> (accessed July 2019).

<sup>696</sup> Philippine Commission on Women, 2010. "RA 9710. Magna Carta of Women: Implementing Rules and Regulations."

185 Organized by the Department of Agriculture in the 1950s and supported by the local government units (LGUs), the Rural Improvement Clubs (RICs) are non-governmental, barangay-based organizations that seek to raise the self-confidence and living standards of the rural women.<sup>697</sup> Their activities range from agriculture and fishery entrepreneurship, credit provision, pest management, compost making, poultry/livestock/fisheries management to production and processing of fruits, vegetables and seafood.<sup>698</sup> RIC members actively participate in decision-making bodies such as the Regional Agricultural and Fisheries Council (RAFC), the Municipal Agricultural and Fisheries Council (MAFC), cooperatives, bottom-up budgeting and anti-poverty councils.<sup>699</sup>

186 In the Philippines, many female farmers are active members of agricultural and non-agricultural organizations, both female only and mixed.<sup>700</sup> The organizations have clear governance structures, and women have taken up important roles, such as president, vice president and treasurer.<sup>701</sup> The view of the Philippine Commission on Women is that women are still not as well represented as men in agricultural organizations, and the National Coalition of Rural Women (*Pambansang Koalisyon ng Kababaihan sa Kanayunan* or PKKK) – composed of organizations of female small-scale agricultural producers, fishers, indigenous peoples, and formal and informal workers in the rural areas – is in agreement.<sup>702</sup>

## 6. RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR FEMALE FARMERS FACING CLIMATE CHANGE

187 For the most effective implementation of climate resilient agriculture, all engaged in agriculture need to be familiar with the principles and methods, while sharing the risks and benefits. Many female farmers attend the trainings organized by the Department of Agriculture on behalf of the entire household, but their husbands who do not participate as often are the ones who make the final decisions after discussion with their wives. Women's leadership in decision-making is sufficiently common, but it only guarantees meaningful participation in decision making, not finality or autonomy.

188 The landless and/or the poorest are less likely to have the opportunities to attend trainings. They are people amongst the most vulnerable to climate change, and special attention is required to conduct inclusive targeting to engage poor or landless persons to engage in climate-responsive, gender-equitable and socially inclusive climate-resilient agriculture.<sup>703</sup> Such targeting such not only include monitoring within the project's gender-responsive monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework, but also include targeted trainings, the consideration of their differentiated contexts and needs within planning, the implementation of climate-resilient agriculture practices, and regular monitoring to facilitate responsive management practices.

189 Indigenous peoples have vast knowledge of local ecosystems, including indigenous varieties and breeds, which constitute the building blocks of climate resilient agriculture as they are some of

---

Manila, Philippines: Philippine Commission on Women.

<sup>697</sup> Rural Improvement Club, undated. "Description."

<https://sites.google.com/site/ruralimprovementclub3/home/description> (accessed July 2019).

<sup>698</sup> *Country Gender Assessment of Agriculture and the Rural Sector in the Philippines*.

<sup>699</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>700</sup> "Women's empowerment and gender equity in agriculture: A different perspective from Southeast Asia."

<sup>701</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>702</sup> *Country Gender Assessment of Agriculture and the Rural Sector in the Philippines*.

<sup>703</sup> Verzosa F, Cabriole MA, Thant PS, Phen B, Itliong K, Myae C, Thong C, Urdelas FG, Naun YW, Moe MZ, Tola C, Barbon WJ, Monville-Oro E, Gonsalves J. 2021. Pathways to Women's Empowerment in the Promotion of Climate Smart Agriculture in the Philippines, Myanmar, and Cambodia. Wageningen, the Netherlands: CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS). Available online: [https://cgispace.cgiar.org/bitstream/handle/10568/118153/IDRC\\_Gender\\_Report.pdf](https://cgispace.cgiar.org/bitstream/handle/10568/118153/IDRC_Gender_Report.pdf); Quisumbing, A., Pandolfelli, L. 2008. Promising Approaches to Address the Needs of Poor Female Farmers. International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). Available online: <https://core.ac.uk/download/pdf/6289074.pdf>

the most robust types in each locale even under climate change. Hybrid and non-native varieties require application of external inputs, often leading to negative effects on the environment and are unsustainable. Indigenous women have vast knowledge and skills related to indigenous species, most of which are not documented and hence lost as the occasions to make use of them dwindle. The communities appeared unaware of the increased importance of seed banking, usually maintained by women, under climate change. Thus, it is important the project adequately promotes and enhances the use of traditional and indigenous knowledge, which will have important socio-cultural benefits, will strengthen the resilience of local men and women and the agro-ecosystems upon which they depend, and further generate positive biodiversity benefits (e.g. through supporting seedbanks with local varieties).

190 As coping strategies in face of climate change, the Philippine farmers have resorted to: increased application of pesticides; planting of trees as windbreakers and for shade; changes in planting time of rice; intensified use of gardens and bunds of rice fields for vegetable cultivation; and further reliance on craft making by women. Considering the extent of climate change to come, these measures are not sufficient in the long term, and the majority of farmers seemed unaware of what could help them: the ease with which microfinance could be obtained, the usefulness of indigenous species in climate resilience; the Department of Agriculture's programmes for climate change adaptation, such as promotion of *adlai* crop and other indigenous crops as a sustainable source of livelihood.<sup>704</sup>

191 While some indigenous farmers are keen to continue practicing the traditional agriculture, many consider the adoption of modern agriculture inevitable or desirable. The indigenous peoples are not sufficiently aware of the strengths of their own food production systems compared to modern agriculture; the indigenous systems are holistic in approach (agricultural rules are accompanied by socioeconomic ones), resilient to external shocks (the systems are integrated in the ecosystems) and adaptable (the systems have endured for centuries). The awareness of the indigenous peoples need to be raised on the capacity of their systems to adapt to and mitigate climate change. Since the changes that they face (socioeconomic and climate change) originate outside their lives and are occurring at a pace faster than any other change in the past, external and complimentary information is likely to aid in strengthening the indigenous food production systems with respect to coping with these changes.

192 Climate change has already increased the burden on some women through harsher weather in the field and the necessity to replant rice on some occasions. If the climate resilient agriculture that is best fit to the locale entails more work for women than they currently undertake, it would have serious repercussions on the health of the female farmers, because they are also in charge of the bulk of house chores and caregiving.

193 Women around the world pay more attention to health issues, not only of themselves, but also of the entire family. Such interests in health issues can promote nutritional security, which is possible by crop diversification, one of the elements of climate resilient agriculture. It is also the women who have the knowledge of traditional medicine based on herbs. Since the medical system provided by the government is weak, women's herbal knowledge must be encouraged.

Combined with their knowledge of the latest developments in agriculture obtained through their participation in trainings on the topic, and their overall presence as a key player in the agricultural sector, women are strongly qualified as the agents of change toward climate resilient agriculture. In areas where men have largely left agriculture for off-farm employment, women perform most

---

<sup>704</sup> Doquila, G. A., 2018. "Agriculture department promotes use of adlai." SunStar Davao. 24 October 2018. <https://www.sunstar.com.ph/article/1770782> (accessed July 2019).

agricultural tasks; their responsibilities have broadened, but it is not clear whether they have been more empowered to make strategic decisions. If the final say stays with the men, who typically do not directly take part in acquisition of new agricultural knowledge, farmers' resilience building against climate change would be outpaced by climate change. Women are better educated than men throughout the country, but for both women and men, awareness of environmental and socioeconomic issues is not as high as the overall education level suggests. Female farmers in the Philippines have differentiated vulnerabilities and contexts. Indigenous women, and women from low-income or female-headed households face additional systemic barriers (e.g. considering potentially lower access to past trainings, lower literacy rates in Tagalog or English, among others), that need to be effectively considered within project design and implementation through a participatory and inclusive approach. For instance, female-headed households constitute the poorest among the poor and do not have full access to formal credit or insurance, as the financial institutions are likely to ask for consent of a husband. The chances are high that climate change will put the farmers into situations where financial assistance is required, because of failed harvest or adoption of climate resilient farming systems. Social protection is available in case of natural disasters, but they are not structured so as to encourage farmers to build resilience against climate change.

## 7. PRINCIPLES OF PROJECT FORMULATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

### 7.1 Guiding FAO and GCF Policies and Frameworks

194 The following FAO and GCF policies and frameworks specifically guide the above assessment and project Gender Action Plan (refer also to other policies and framework in the Environmental and Social Management Framework in Annex 6). Gender equality and Indigenous People (IP) are co-benefits that the project aims to achieve, in addition to climate change adaptation and mitigation outcomes.

- **FAO Policy on Gender Equality 2020-2030** strives to achieve equality between women and men in sustainable agriculture and rural development for the elimination of hunger and poverty.
- **GCF Updated Gender Policy (2019)** reinforces the responsiveness of GCF to the culturally diverse context of gender equality to better address and account for the links between gender equality and climate change.
- **FAO Protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse (PSAE) N° 2013/27.** The principles of integrity, professionalism, respect for human rights and the dignity of all peoples underpin FAO's commitment to preventing and addressing acts of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA)
- **FAO Policy on the prevention of harassment, sexual harassment and abuse of authority N° 2015/03 (2015)** and **FAO policy on sexual harassment (13 February 2019)** which states Sexual Harassment in all its forms is contrary to the United Nations Charter, the Staff Regulations and Staff Rules of the Organization and the Standards of Conduct for the International Civil Service.
- **GCF Revised Environment and Social Policy and Policy on the Prevention and Protection from Sexual Exploitation, Sexual Abuse, and Sexual Harassment (2021)** sets clear obligations for GCF-project related persons to prevent and respond to SEAH and to refrain from condoning, encouraging, participating in, or engaging in SEAH.
- **FAO Environmental and Social Management Guidelines (2015)** that include general principles and nine environmental and social standards (ESS), with 1) **ESS 8 - Gender equality:** the fight against discrimination, practices; Equal opportunities for men and women to take part and to benefit; 2) **ESS 7 – Decent Work:** Creation of better employment opportunities, particularly for women and young people; Non-discrimination and equal opportunities; Occupational health and safety; Prevention of child labor; Forced labor; Workers' and producers' organizations; and 3) **ESS 9 - Indigenous Peoples and Cultural Heritage:** Identification of indigenous peoples; Rights to land,

territory and natural resources; Reference impact analysis on indigenous peoples; Free, prior and informed consent; Plan for indigenous peoples.

- These ESS are consistent with the objectives of GCF adopted Performance Standards, **PS 1** - Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts; **PS 2** – Labour and Working Conditions; **PS 4** – Community, Health, Safety, and Security; **PS 7** – Indigenous Peoples and PS 8 – Cultural Heritages.

## 7.2 Principles of Project Formulation

### 7.1.1 Female Farmers as Agents of Change

195 Climate resilient agriculture will necessarily be based on agroecology, involving diverse indigenous species and landscape management for ecosystem resilience; it will take cue from indigenous systems, which are based on such principles. Female farmers have extensive knowledge of indigenous plants and farm animals, usually more extensive than that of male farmers. Women often have broader and more accurate interpretation of climate than men. Women possess the knowledge on herbal medicine, which is based on plants that constitute the local ecosystem. They engage in seed selection and storage as well, whose importance will only increase under climate change. Craft making based on indigenous plants is an activity reserved for women and so is collection/cultivation of medicinal plants, which are important in remote areas with little access to modern medical services. The new farming systems built on agroecology will encourage cultivation of such plants, providing additional cash income source for women and their families.

196 The division of agricultural work in the Philippines may not be as clearly gender dependent as in other countries, but the general pattern seen elsewhere also prevails in the country. Flood control tends to be considered men's domain, as it involves construction work, while water fetching, harvesting and storing are prone to fall under women's responsibility. The importance of water has only increased under climate change; despite its untimely availability, its distribution must meet the needs of all crops and animals, not only the high value crops, but also the ones in the backyard taken care of by women.

197 The best climate resilient solutions depend on each ecological context, biotic and abiotic, as well as on socioeconomic context. The strategies to cope with climate change already known in the Philippines include home gardens and backyard vegetable growing and animal raising as well as food foraging, which are women's tasks in the majority of cases. Additional attention can be provided through this project on also further valorizing local food production in home gardens and backyard vegetable growing and animal raising, and foraging to strengthen food security and diversify production to strengthen the resilience of female farmers to extreme climate-related hazards and changing temperatures and precipitation patterns. In times of food shortages, women are often deprioritized and are the last to eat,<sup>705</sup> thus implementation of CRA, including within home gardens, will have positive gender benefits in terms of climate-resilience, but also women's health, nutrition and overall food security. Additional recommendations for empowering women through climate-resilient agriculture include:

- Promoting gender-sensitization and gender awareness for men,<sup>706</sup> especially related to the roles of men and women and to support more equitable distribution of responsibilities to support women to overcome time constraints and other systemic barriers. Where possible,

---

<sup>705</sup> Verzosa F, Cabriole MA, Thant PS, Phen B, Itliong K, Myae C, Thong C, Urdelas FG, Naun YW, Moe MZ, Tola C, Barbon WJ, Monville-Oro E, Gonsalves J. 2021. Pathways to Women's Empowerment in the Promotion of Climate Smart Agriculture in the Philippines, Myanmar, and Cambodia. Wageningen, the Netherlands: CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS).

<sup>706</sup> *Ibid.*

attention should be paid to men in leadership roles to serve as ‘champions’ to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women.

- Ensure CRA-related activities and community meetings are planned considering women’s time constraints.<sup>707</sup> Special attention should be paid to ensure the project and CRA activities to not increase time constraints of women. The GCF Project investment plan needs to closely analyze the gender-differentiated constraints, contexts and priorities, and ensure that it reflects both the needs of men and women, including indigenous men and women, and men and women from marginalized households among other key beneficiaries.
- Increasing access to markets and marketing information<sup>708</sup> to contribute to value addition and the overall strengthening of incomes and livelihoods
- Strengthening women’s knowledge and ensuring adequate access to project funded activities (including considering suitable timing of meetings)<sup>709</sup>
- Ensuring space for women in climate-resilient value chains, where women should be supported to also benefit from more economic opportunities in spaces that are more typically male dominated.<sup>710</sup> Women should be supported as leaders to scale up best practices.

198 Women are suited as agents of change as they have in general great willingness to improve their livelihoods and as their knowledge on elements of agroecology has not been fully integrated in the prevailing farming systems. Special attention is needed to ensure the project engages diverse women, including considering the differentiated needs of landless and poor women to improve their livelihoods through the adoption of climate-resilient agriculture. The project will also conduct gender sensitization of men and women to valorize women’s role in agricultural production, and promote more equitable division of labour (sharing reproductive and care work).

#### 7.1.2 Higher Equality in Strategic Decision Making

199 Non-trivial modifications of farming systems will require willing agents of change who are open to new ideas. For transition to farms with diversified crops based on agroecology, farmers need to be interested in nutrition and possess knowledge of indigenous species. While women fit the bill much better than men, it is the latter who make the final decisions after discussions between women and men. If more men engage themselves in off-farm work, but remain the ultimate decision makers, the efficiency in agriculture is bound to decline. Risks and benefits need to be shared as well for greater ownership and efficacy.

200 No crop production or water management is accomplished by men alone, and food and nutrition management is the responsibility of women; women need decision-making power, not limited to day-to-day household matters, but also on strategic issues. Similar sharing of power is also necessary with other vulnerable groups, such as youth, if the proposed project is to help each community attain its full potential and achieve sustainable development.

201 The chances are very high that climate change will increase the need for credit, which would put female-headed households further at a disadvantage because of customary preference of finance institutions for men as borrowers. The proposed project will engage with selected financial institutions to make credit and insurance accessible to poor farmers, especially female farmers and undocumented indigenous peoples, which will confer them more decision making power. This is particularly relevant, as Verzosa et al. (2021) noted for a case study in the Philippines that *“women are the main borrowers in agricultural households because they have greater access to micro-credit and are under strong pressure to bridge resource gaps. Hence, more women than men fall into chronic*

---

<sup>707</sup> Ibid.

<sup>708</sup> Ibid.

<sup>709</sup> Ibid.

<sup>710</sup> Ibid.



*indebtedness related to climate-induced crop failure*” (p. 18). Thus, supporting women to have more access to finance with better terms and conditions, while also improving production practices to better safeguard farmers against climate change will improve female farmers’ adaptive capacities and overall resilience to climate change.

202 Improvement in strategic decision making power of women will allow easier integration of their advantages into the farming systems: broader observations on weather and climate; intensive knowledge on indigenous plants and animals; interests in food and nutritional security in addition to general health; and cultivation of plants used for craft making. Their comparative strength in communication, financial management and commercial negotiations will also contribute more effectively to the good of the community. In addition, youth empowerment will lead to better use of their capacity in ICT and greater benefits to the communities. Such changes in the roles and social status of vulnerable groups need to be endorsed by the communities concerned, most notably by the community heads/chiefs, to avoid regression.

### 7.1.3 Working with Nature: observations and adjustments

203 Climate change at the current speed is unprecedented in human history; if we are to adopt a farming system that is sustainable, it must be a system that works with nature under climate change, not against. Farmers need to reclaim their capacity to work with nature, which includes their ability to read the weather and climate from natural indicators. Such competence has been in decline for various reasons: modern agriculture is not strongly based on the functionalities of nature; some traditional indicator species have disappeared; and climate is changing at a tremendous speed and has disrupted some of the established relationships between observable phenomena and underlying causes.

204 While PAGASA strengthens its capacity to provide information on weather and climate based on the latest technology and knowledge in climatology, their forecasts can be well complemented by the observations and forecasts by farmers based on the natural indicators. Such complementarity has been noted between indigenous knowledge and western science.<sup>711</sup> Comparison of both types of forecasts and the actual events allows the different parties involved – PAGASA, DA and the farmers – to strengthen their capacities to understand and foresee the evolution of weather and climate. Citizen’s participation in environmental monitoring is cost effective, raises awareness and creates ownership; it is increasingly adopted around the world.

205 Working with nature also means that the technologies for agriculture must be adjusted, including various inputs, to local conditions and changing climate for maximum effectiveness. Since climate change is to alter the ecological conditions progressively, farmers will need to constantly adjust their agriculture, which is most effectively done by close observation and adaptation on the ground with supplementary external information, such as from PAGASA and DA.

### 7.1.4 Indigenous Peoples as Guardians of Climate Resilient Agriculture

206 One of the salient features of climate change is that rainfall has become very uneven and untimely for agriculture. To thrive under such irregularity, flooding must be resisted and delayed, and floodwater stored and properly discharged by means that are nature-based as much as possible. At the same time, farmers need to transform their farming systems into ones that “create” water to cope with drought conditions. Together it means that the systems need to be based on agroecology, which is exemplified by indigenous food production systems. It also points to the ever increasing importance of watershed management for agriculture. Since watersheds do not fall under the jurisdiction of the

---

<sup>711</sup> Health Canada, 2004. *Canadian Handbook on Health Impact Assessment. Volume 1: the Basics*. Ministry of Health, Canada. <http://publications.gc.ca/collections/Collection/H46-2-04-343E.pdf> (accessed November 2019).

main executing entity, the Philippine Department of Agriculture, the proposed project does not include watershed management as an activity and focuses on agriculture in the strict sense of the word. However, the project will consider watershed management of indigenous peoples, which is integrated already in their food production systems, in the framework defined by the Ancestral Domain Sustainable Development and Protection Plan.

207 The indigenous food production systems, including weather and climate forecasting, have endured for centuries and proven their sustainability. Due to the changing environmental and socioeconomic conditions, they may be less successful than before, but the elements that led to sustainability have not been totally abandoned and are contributing to resilience to climate change.<sup>712</sup> Many of the indigenous peoples are unaware of the gaining momentum for indigenous systems and tend to adopt modern agriculture, even in the Cordillera Autonomous Regions where the overwhelming majority are indigenous. Their awareness in the indigenous culture and food production systems needs to be strengthened, as they form the basis for climate resilient agriculture. Possible supplementary actions for strengthening the resilience of indigenous farming systems include: strengthening the capacity of the Department of Agriculture (DA) and its connection with indigenous farmers; increasing the availability of effective inputs (seeds, seedlings, water, weather information and credit); and improving the efficiency and equity of value chains.

#### 7.1.5 Self-Reliance as Climate Change Resilience: ownership, sustainability and collectivity

208 Ownership is paramount in making interventions meaningful and sustainable, and ownership is impossible without strong participation of the end beneficiaries; farmers need a share of the driver's seat, and their strengths, needs and limits should be well reflected in the project.

209 Resilience to climate change is not only a matter of knowing and practicing what is taught as suitable agricultural methods, but also of adjusting and developing the methods to the climate as it continues to evolve. In more general terms, capacity for self-reliance is an element of resilience to any external shock. Seed selection, storage and sharing, usually taken care of by women, are some of the activities that boost such capacity. Independence from outside assistance is also enhanced by: adoption of agroecology which minimally relies on external inputs; cultivation of typhoon and cyclone-proof crops (e.g., root crops) in the backyard and other small areas, which is usually taken care of by women; farmer-to-farmer knowledge sharing; ability to and read the weather and climate on their owns.

210 Many of these activities are infeasible or inefficient if the farmers do not join forces. Once acting together becomes a well-established mode of operation, the farmers will more easily acquire higher economic bargaining power than acting alone, which boosts ownership and sustainability.

#### 7.1.6 Social Media for Rapid Communication

211 The people in the rural Philippines have little access to quality information, including that on government and NGO programmes which may be useful to them. The Filipinos, both rich and poor, utilize the social media often for connecting with family and friends, who relay information on extreme weather events, among others. The proposed project will make use of this already established mode for rapid communication of climate related information, bearing in mind that women have higher

---

<sup>712</sup> Bertzky, B. et al., 2012. *Protected Planet Report 2012: Tracking progress towards global targets for protected areas*. Gland, Switzerland and Cambridge, UK: IUCN and UNEP-WCMC.

Sneed, A., 2019. "What Conservation Efforts Can Learn from Indigenous Communities." *Scientific American*. 29 May 2019. <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/what-conservation-efforts-can-learn-from-indigenous-communities/> (accessed July 2019).



access to the internet than men. Youth will be actively involved in various communication material production, as they are the ones who have the 3G/4G phones in each household.

## 7.2 Principles of Project Implementation

212 Based on the above project formulation principles, the project activities will be implemented as below to enhance the participation of women (and indigenous peoples and youth) in agriculture with decision-making power. The aspects concerning women, indigenous peoples and youth of the project will be monitored according to the indicators in the Gender Action Plan.

### 7.2.1 Provision of Ecosystem, Health and Livelihood Services

213 For viable agricultural systems, farmers need to derive direct, sustainable and immediate benefits from the new system. In other words, a food production system should be an ecosystem, and diversification and landscape transformation should be guided by food and nutritional security, integrated pest management (which reduces the use of pesticides), and livelihood requirements. Women have stronger interests than men in such farm attributes; climate resilient agriculture will necessitate the involvement of women and confer them bigger roles in agriculture.

214 For example, windbreakers should double as food forests, and both subsistence and cash crops must be available throughout the year. It is highly desirable from socioeconomic and biological points of view to diversify further and to integrate crops that are used for craftwork by women. Currently the effects of climate change are dealt with mainly by increased application of synthetic pesticides and fertilizers. Women in general are more concerned than men about health issues and can serve as entry points for promotion of nutritional security and integrated pest management.

215 Agricultural tasks are not strictly segregated by gender, except that work which is physically demanding or involves machinery is usually reserved for men. Landless women earn their living by working for landowners, and the latter's decisions to mechanize would put the poorest out of work. Transformation into farming systems based on agroecology will not entail mechanization as seen in industrial agriculture, but any introduction of machines under the proposed project will ensure not to reduce livelihood options. Rice seed and fertilizer subsidies and other programmes may encourage or discourage adoption of climate resilient agriculture and women empowerment along the process; their effects need to be well examined and conditions reformulated, if necessary.

### 7.2.2 Sharing the Driver's Seat with Farmers

216 Application of agroecological principles results in the most positive socioecological outcomes when restoration of landscapes and diversification of agronomic practices are combined, which points to the necessity of multi-scale and multi-stakeholder approach.<sup>713</sup> Some of the most important actors in this approach are farmers, both female and male, and the proposed project will ensure the largest positive impacts and sustainability of interventions by meaningfully involving the farmers as much and early as possible. Early substantial involvement of farmers will tailor the content of the interventions to the needs of the farmers and create robust ownership.

217 Climate and climate resilient agriculture (CRA) information needed and valued by women and men may vary because of their different roles and concerns at household and community levels. This will be taken into consideration in developing climate information services (CIS) products, CRA training materials and training packages and CRA IEC materials. No crop cultivation and sale are possible

---

<sup>713</sup> Veen, G. F. et al., 2019. "Aboveground-Belowground Interaction Concept in Agriculture: Spatio-Temporal Scales Matter." *Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution*. Vol. 7, Article 300. <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fevo.2019.00300/full> (accessed November 2019).

without women's involvement, and gender parity will be sought in all participating parties: technicians/officials, and farmers. Women-headed households, IP female farmers and farmer organizations/cooperatives led by women and/or with many female members will be prioritized in the identification of target beneficiaries for CRA enterprise training, development and investment planning. The target proportion of women, indigenous peoples and youth among the participants, be it farmers or technicians, will be 10%, 12,5% and 25%, respectively, to reflect the relative population size of each group. In case a sub-activity focuses on one of these groups, the target for the technicians and farmers to be of that group is 100%.

218 Under this project, female and male farmers will participate in meetings that are customarily for government technicians or officials alone, if the subject ultimately concerns the farmers. Such meetings include those on meteorological instrument procurement and high-level inter-departmental review on national agro-meteorological system and its applications. Trainings on basic functionalities, operation and maintenance of agro-meteorological stations and the CIS platforms and Regional and Provincial CIS Centers will be given to female and male farmers alike so that their ownership of the systems and willingness to participate in their maintenance are strengthened.

219 Farmers will also participate in formulation of all products and services whose users are farmers including climate risk-informed financial products, in order to avoid unrealistic expectations on both sides and provide the farmers with what they do need and can use effectively. The engagement of farmers needs to be guided so as to promote understanding between various parties on each other's strengths, as well as their differentiated needs and constraints. This includes understanding women are not a homogeneous group, and thus attention will also be paid to ensure the differentiated needs and contexts of landless women, poor women, and indigenous women are taken into account. Meetings will be held between relevant technicians/officials, the private sectors, banks and farmers preceding development of each product and service, organization of each workshop, conducting each study and review, etc., for which the technicians/officials, private sectors and banks will travel to the field so that they may have the opportunity to speak with many farmers and to see the socioeconomic and ecological conditions that the farmers face. The costs that technicians/officials and farmers will incur from participating in such meetings will be financed by the project: transportation and meals. Project staff, technicians, officials and extension staff will all be trained on gender equality and social inclusion, to ensure that they are aware of the constraints, differentiated perspectives and systemic barriers faced by women, indigenous peoples and other members of the population, as well as best practices for the participatory identification of suitable CRA investments to strengthen their resilience. Special attention will also be paid to ensure promoted investments are appropriate given women's time constraints, and gender-sensitization will be promoted as a cross-cutting element within the project's meetings, trainings and guidelines to raise awareness of women's time constraints and encourage a more equitable redistribution of household tasks and care-related work.

220 All field level trainings will be conducted using the approach of Farmer Field Schools, which builds on the knowledge and strength of adult learners and has proven to improve their capacity beyond the subject in question. In the same vein, interventions on weather/climate comprehension, seed procurement and finance will focus on strengthening of farmers' capacity, particularly what women excel in: weather/climate prediction based on natural indicators; seed selection, storage and exchange; and fund raising and management. For trainings that do not target farmers but others, such as CRA master trainers, CRA enterprise development facilitators and extension workers, on the issues ultimately concerning farmers, pre-training meetings will be organized between farmers and trainers as well as trainees so that all parties have common understanding of the issues to be addressed and how to address them.

221 Farmers and Farmer Organizations will be encouraged to establish networks among themselves, and link with the AMIA Village network, for information sharing (weather/climate and others), agricultural material exchange, fund pooling and other types of mutual aid; women are known to be more proficient than men in establishing networks.

### 7.2.3 Women, Indigenous Peoples and Youth as Strategic Decision Makers

222 The proposed project promotes gender empowerment, social inclusion and higher parity in decision-making power, which will aid effective adoption of climate resilient agriculture, through involving them in the preparatory meetings for each sub-activity discussed above. While Philippine women are on average better educated than men, their voices are not necessarily heard during discussions when men are also present. In order to boost women's point of view and give women an opportunity to articulate their thoughts, a meeting among women only will be organized prior to the preparatory meetings between all farmers and relevant technicians/officials. Female government technicians/officials will also be present in the meetings for female farmers so that connection between like-minded farmers and government technicians/officials may be established. Half of the participants in the plenary meetings will be women. Enhanced gender parity is also expected to reduce gender-based violence, which remains a great concern in the country. Comparable arrangements will be made for indigenous peoples and youth. Farmer field schools for the indigenous peoples will include sessions on the Theater of the Oppressed to empower them as decision makers in the wider Philippine society.

223 As the project is expected to leverage more funds in the near future, the use of household methodology to further enhance gender parity as well as more extensive use of Theater of the Oppressed will be considered at the Inception Workshop of the project. Since an environment that makes use of the full potential of women and other vulnerable groups improves the outcome of the project, the application of household methodology and the Theater of the Oppressed will be organized at the beginning of the project.

224 Most female farmers already get by with less than eight hours of sleep per day. The manual labor for rice cultivation is quite strenuous for women, but the harsher weather brought about by climate change is said to be straining the health of women even further. Hence any additional agricultural task for women in adaptation to climate change must be balanced by reduction in other tasks, such as household chores and caregiving; more equitable sharing of work around the household will be promoted.

225 Improved decision making power of women may well make men feel unsure of their new roles and perceived status. In order to assure them that the changes are good for them and the entire communities, the proposed project will work with the community heads/chiefs and Barangay committees so that they would endorse the enforced decision making power of women and accompanying changes for men as progress for the community. The roles and contributions of female farmers will be duly acknowledged and considered together with those of the male farmers in all trainings so as to aid the acceptance of women as knowledgeable farmers capable of making wise decisions in agriculture.

226 Female farmers who are heads of households are particularly vulnerable financially, since they do not have male family members who may provide the co-signature which is customarily required by many financial organizations for loans. The project will facilitate access to social schemes for female heads of households engaged in agriculture. Since many indigenous persons are undocumented, they do not qualify for existing social protection schemes or loans. The project will facilitate their access to the schemes with emphasis on female indigenous persons who tend to be financially more vulnerable than male indigenous persons in modern society.

#### 7.2.4 Respecting the Indigenous Peoples: rights to knowledge and self determination

227 Any indigenous knowledge systems and practices on agriculture, weather and climate that the proposed project regards as potentially applicable and beneficial outside the community will be sought and transferred to other communities in compliance with the Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Practices (IKSPs) and Customary Laws (CLs) Research and Documentation Guidelines of 2012 of the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP). All activities involving indigenous peoples will ensure their alignment with the Ancestral Domain Sustainable Development and Protection Plan, and Indigenous Cultural Communities and indigenous peoples will be involved through NCIP in all stages of the project within their ancestral domains.

228 The awareness of indigenous peoples on their cultural heritage will be raised through Theater for the Oppressed method. Improved awareness and confidence will help them identify the strengths of the indigenous food production systems, which will be used as a basis for climate resilient agriculture. Women will be of special targets as they are the ones with the knowledge on indigenous plants and seed selection and storing. Strengthening of awareness related to indigenous identity and of women's decision-making power may disorient the farmers with new roles and perceived change in status. The proposed project will work with the community heads/chiefs so that they would endorse the changes as progress for the community.

#### 7.2.5 Building on the Strengths of Women, Indigenous Peoples and Youth

229 Women in general are better than men at forming groups among themselves for information exchange and mutual aid. They can spearhead the efforts for establishing a rapid information dissemination network using social media and a mutual aid system for the villagers. Farmers will also be encouraged to use social media to connect directly with urban customers and reap higher benefits than through middlemen; they will also be trained on organizational development, risk management and finance access.

230 Usually, it is the women who are given the responsibilities to manage the books at household and community organization levels; they should be the first group to be targeted for any kind of finance related activities. Many women engage daily in commercial negotiations as they are considered more capable than men in this aspect; they should be further trained as negotiators at a larger scale.

231 Task segregation in agriculture along the gender lines is minimal in the Philippines. Since it is best that both women and men have good understanding of the tasks that the other gender is engaged in, Farmer Fields Schools (FFSs) will be open to both female and male farmers with the same curricula, which touches upon activities for all groups.

232 The indigenous peoples have strong foundation for climate resilient agriculture based on the indigenous food production systems and culture. They will be trained separately from the non-indigenous farmers so as to focus on the strengths of the indigenous peoples and systems.

233 Youth will be trained on development of ICT products to make use of their interest and capacity in using electronic media, with a focus on mobile phone based technology for technical and financial sustainability.

#### 7.2.6 Preventing increased risks of SEAH and GBV

234 The engagement of women in new activities and their acquisition of new skills may upset the current gender balance and provoke SEAH, or even GBV. The project personnel may wield their new

power that comes with the project to engage in SEAH and GBV. The community gatekeepers may see such development as something that needs to be tolerated in exchange for the opportunities. For prevention of SEAH and GBV, the project trains project-related personnel on the subject and sensitizes and mobilizes village heads/chiefs and Barangay committees for community-driven support measures. FAO's Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) will be strengthened so that SEAH and GBV related grievances are adequately managed in inclusive, survivor-centred and gender-responsive ways. GBV pathways will be established and operationalized to provide timely services and redress to survivors. All these activities will be carried out in collaboration with UNFPA.

235 Affected women and men will be able to file complaints and grievances against the project. FAO and project executing entities (EEs) will inform communities about the GRM through culturally appropriate mechanisms, ensuring information on the mechanisms at all three levels is communicated (i.e. [GCF Independent Redress Mechanism](#),<sup>714</sup> FAO-level redress mechanisms and the project-level GRM). Principles to be followed during the complaint resolution process include: impartiality, respect for human rights, including those pertaining to indigenous peoples, compliance of national norms, and coherence with the norms, equality, transparency, honesty, and mutual respect.

236 Affected women and men can make a complaint or appeal on any and all aspects of sub-activities' design and implementation. A complaint and grievance feedback form, as well as a pamphlet explaining the mechanism, will be developed under the project and distributed to all project communities for their use. Complaints and grievances can be filed orally, or in writing (digitally or via post).

237 Project beneficiaries (including men and women from indigenous groups) will be clearly informed of the complaint and appeal channels (as described above, or as delineated through their FPIC process) in community meetings and via other forms of communication that are convenient to them (including local languages where suitable). Women's organizations and networks in the project area will be informed of the project and GRM, and information on the GRM provided to ensure they are able to serve as key resource persons. Detailed information on the project's GRM is provided in Chapter 5.6 of the ESMF in Annex 6a to the Funding Proposal.

---

<sup>714</sup> For detailed information on GCF's Independent Redress Mechanism, please refer to: <https://irm.greenclimate.fund/>.

## 8. FIELD CONSULTATION: PARTNERS AND QUESTIONS

### 8.1 Consultation Partners

Date	Region	Province	Municipality	Barangay	Type of Stakeholders	Participants	
						Female	Male
May 24-25, 2018	Luzon	International Center for Tropical Agriculture Workshop organized with Benguet State University			Rice farmers	1	6
May 24-25, 2018	Luzon				Cabbage and potato farmers	2	4
May 24-25, 2018	Luzon				Corn farmers	n.a.	n.a.
May 27-28, 2018	Mindanao	International Center for Tropical Agriculture Workshop organized with University of the Philippines Mindanao			Corn farmers	2	2
May 27-28, 2018	Mindanao				Coffee farmers	2	2
May 27-28, 2018	Mindanao				Cacao farmers	4	2
May 31 – June 1, 2018	Visayas	International Center for Tropical Agriculture Workshop organized with Visayas State University			Corn farmers	1	2
May 31 – June 1, 2018	Visayas				Rice farmers	1	4
May 31 – June 1, 2018	Visayas				Coconut farmers	1	2
November 15, 2018	Cagayan Valley	Cagayan	Iguig	Salamague	Corn, rice, vegetable farmers	7	5
November 15, 2018	Cagayan Valley	Cagayan	Iguig	Sta. Barbara	Corn, rice, vegetable farmers	16	3
November 15, 2018	Cagayan Valley	Cagayan	Iguig	San Isidro	Corn, rice, vegetable farmers	8	26
November 15, 2018	Cagayan Valley	Isabela	Ilagan	San Victoria	Farmers from the villages targeted by Strengthening Implementation of Adaptation and Mitigation Initiative in Agriculture (AMIA) programme <sup>715</sup>	14	9
November 16, 2018	Cagayan Valley	Isabela	Benito Soliven	Lucban		45	17
November 20, 2018	SOCCSKSARGEN	North Cotabato	Kidapawan	Masibulig	Mabakal Irrigator's Association members	0	9
November 20, 2018	SOCCSKSARGEN	North Cotabato	Kidapawan	n.a.	Agrarian reform beneficiaries and farmers from Manobo, B'Laan, and Tagakaulo ethnic groups	7	14
November 21, 2018	SOCCSKSARGEN	North Cotabato	Kidapawan	n.a.	Association of Rural Improvement Club of Kidapawan City, Inc.	13	0
November 21, 2018	SOCCSKSARGEN	North Cotabato	Kidapawan	Ilomavis	Coconut Farmers and farmers from Obo Manobo ethnic group	16	5
November 21, 2018	SOCCSKSARGEN	North Cotabato	Matalam	Manupal	Corn farmers	11	6
November 22, 2018	SOCCSKSARGEN	North Cotabato	Matalam	Patadon West	Muslim corn farmers and farmers from Maguindanaon ethnic group	11	73

<sup>715</sup> A project of the Department of Agriculture, in partnership with the Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA) and the University of the Philippines Los Baños Foundation, Inc. (UPLBFI), which started in 2015.

Date	Region	Province	Municipality	Barangay	Type of Stakeholders	Participants	
						Female	Male
November 22, 2018	SOCCSKSARGEN	North Cotabato	Matalam	Patadon	Muslim farmers	2	5
November 22, 2018	SOCCSKSARGEN	North Cotabato	Matalam	Ginatilan	Farmers from Manobo ethnic group	21	4
January 31, 2019	Bicol	Camarines Sur	Ocampo	Gatbo	Gatbo San Francisco Irrigators Association members	11	4
January 31, 2019	Bicol	Camarines Sur	Buhi	Burubusoc	Farmers from Agta-Tabangnon ethnic groups	13	7
January 31, 2019	Bicol	Camarines Sur	Iriga City	Sta. Teresita	Farmers from Oyango ethnic groups in a Tribal Settlement	19	2
January 31, 2019	Bicol	Camarines Sur	Pamplona	Cagbunga	AMIA village farmers	19	2
January 31, 2019	Bicol	Camarines Sur	Pamplona	Veneracion	AMIA village farmers	7	9
February 1, 2019	Bicol	Camarines Norte	Talisay	Itomong	Rural Improvement Club members (female) and other villagers (male)	20	2
February 1, 2019	Bicol	Camarines Norte	Vinzons & Talisay	Sto. Domingo & Sta. Elena	Farmers who bring produce to the Agripinoy Trading Center	8	15
February 1, 2019	Bicol	Camarines Norte	Jose Panganiban	n.a.	Farmers from Agta-Mandini ethnic group	10	8
February 5, 2019	CAR	Ifugao	Hingayon	Anao	Farmers from Hingayon-Tuwali ethnic group	6	3
February 5, 2019	CAR	Ifugao	Banaue	Poblacion	Farmers from Banaue-Tuwali ethnic group	15	5
February 6, 2019	CAR	Kalinga	Tinglayan	n.a.	Farmers from Kalinga ethnic group	2	0
February 6, 2019	CAR	Kalinga	Pasil	n.a.	Farmers from Kalinga ethnic group	3	0
Total Estimate						317	257

*This portion has been redacted in accordance with the GCF Information Disclosure Policy, as the portion is confidential under the disclosure policy of the Accredited Entity*

Date	Location	Institution	
		Name	Description
June 5, 2018	Manila City	Philippine Commission on Women (PCW)	Primary policy-making and coordinating body of the Government of the Philippines on women and gender equality concerns
June 7, 2018	Makati City	United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)	United Nation agency on sexual and reproductive health
November 6, 2018	Quezon City	National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP)	Responsible for protecting the rights of the indigenous peoples of the Philippines
January 29, 2019	Quezon City	Unyon ng mga Manggagawa sa Agrikultura (UMA Pilipinas)	National progressive center of unions, federations, associations and organizations of agricultural workers in the Philippines

Date	Location	Institution	
		Name	Description
January 29, 2019	Quezon City	Philippine Development of Human Resources in Rural Asia (PhilDHRRA)	Network of sixty-five (65) non-government organizations involved in various <b>development</b> activities in <b>rural</b> communities all over the country
January 29, 2019	Quezon City	Pambansang Kilusan ng mga Samahang Magsasaka (PAKISAMA)	National peasant confederation composed of 30 local peasant federations with a combined reach of 100,000 small farmers, fishers and rural women in 28 provinces nationwide
January 29, 2019	Quezon City	Asian Farmers' Association for Sustainable Rural Development (AFA)	Asian alliance of national farmers organizations composed of small scale women and men family farmers, fishers, indigenous peoples, forest users, herders and pastoralists
January 29, 2019	Quezon City	Good Food Community	An enterprise that promotes community shared agriculture by connecting socially aware city-dwellers with small holder farmers in a relocalized food economy
January 29, 2019	Quezon City	National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP)	Responsible for protecting the rights of the indigenous peoples of the Philippines
January 30, 2019	Pili, Camarines Sur	Department of Agriculture, Field Office, Region V	Promotes agricultural development and growth in the region
January 30, 2019	Naga City, Camarines Sur	Regional Agricultural and Fishery Council (RAFC), Region V	Regional forum for consultative and continuing discussions within agriculture and fisheries sectors



Date	Location	Institution	
		Name	Description
January 31, 2019	Daet, Camarines Norte	Office of the Provincial Agriculturist, Camarines Norte, Region V	Frontline of delivery of basic agricultural services
February 4, 2019	Baguio City, Benguet	Department of Agriculture, Regional Field Office, Cordillera Autonomous Region	Promotes agricultural development and growth in the region
February 4, 2019	Baguio City, Benguet	National Commission on Indigenous Peoples, Cordillera Autonomous Region	Responsible for protecting the rights of the indigenous peoples in the region
February 4, 2019	Baguio City, Benguet	Indigenous Peoples' International Centre for Policy Research and Education (Tebtebba)	Indigenous peoples' organization born out of the need for heightened advocacy to have the rights of indigenous peoples respected, protected and fulfilled worldwide
February 5, 2019	Lagawe, Ifugao	Provincial Agriculture, Environmental and Natural Resources Office (PAENRO), Ifugao, Cordillera Autonomous Region	Frontline of delivery of basic agricultural services
February 6, 2019	Tabuk City, Kalinga	Office of the Provincial Agricultural Services (OPAS), Kalinga, Cordillera Autonomous Region	Frontline of delivery of basic agricultural services
February 6, 2019	Tabuk City, Kalinga	Mandiga Community Center	Non-profit that advocates on ancestral domain, sustainable agriculture and alternative health
March 19, 2019	Quezon City	National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP)	Responsible for protecting the rights of the indigenous peoples of the Philippines

## 8.2 Consultation Questions

### 8.2.1. Core Consultation Questions for Institutions

- How are you dealing with climate change in your work?
- What is the most important gender issue in your work with farmers?

### 8.2.2 Core Consultation Questions for Female Farmers

- What are the main crops grown and women's involvement in different stages of crop production?
- What type of animals do you keep?
- Who owns which animals?
- How has the farming situation changed in the past few years?
- Which everyday tasks are performed by men? By women?
- Who sells agricultural and livestock products?
- Who keeps the cash income?
- Who makes the decisions on spending?
- Are you engaged in vegetable cultivation?
- Do you have a mobile phone?

## PART II: GENDER ACTION PLAN

### 1. INTRODUCTION

238 The Gender Assessment above included brief assessments of indigenous peoples and youth, as they represent two other important characteristics of the population that intersect with gender in target regions. Gender gaps exist in these subgroups, but how these attributes interact with each other is not clear, especially given the generally more egalitarian nature of indigenous communities. In view of the importance and complexity of these three characteristics, the Gender Action Plan of the proposed project touches upon indigenous peoples and youth, while maintaining the primary focus on women.

239 The Gender Assessment above included brief assessments of indigenous peoples and youth, as they represent two other important characteristics of the population that intersect with gender in target regions. Gender gaps exist in these subgroups, but how these attributes interact with each other is not clear, especially given the generally more egalitarian nature of indigenous communities. In view of the importance and complexity of these three characteristics, the Gender Action Plan of the proposed project touches upon indigenous peoples and youth, while maintaining the primary focus on women.

240 Mainstreaming of gender, indigenous peoples and youth is seen from two angles: participation in activities; and the content of activities, where activities include events as well as development of events and products. Mainstreaming in terms of participation will be ensured by setting the target proportion of participants from each of the three groups to be roughly equal to the relative population sizes at the national level: 50%, 12.5% and 25% for women, indigenous persons and youths, respectively. Of course in project areas like the Cordillera – the proportion of indigenous people will be much greater, a high majority depending on the local population. Mainstreaming in terms of content will be ensured by requiring the proportion of topics that mainly concern women, indigenous peoples and youths to be the same as the participation ratio defined above. Every training will devote 10% of its time to lecture the importance of mainstreaming. The indigenous food production systems as the foundation of CRA will be also included in the content of various events and products as well as indigenous weather and knowledge systems in order to encourage citizen monitoring in accordance with the Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Practices (IKSPs) and Customary Laws (CLs) Research and Documentation Guidelines of 2012 of the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP). Watershed management, a prominent component of indigenous food production systems, will be incorporated in FFSs for indigenous peoples, as long as it is aligned with the Ancestral Domain Sustainable Development and Protection Plan. The indigenous stakeholders will be involved in all stages of the project in their ancestral domains.

241 Changes in the roles and social status of vulnerable groups need to be embraced by the communities concerned, most notably by the community heads/chiefs. Each FFS will include sensitizing sessions for community gatekeepers on social inclusion, its necessity and benefits. Since half of the persons who participate in any activity will be women farmers/technicians and half of the content of any activity will be for women farmers/technicians, the Gender Action Plan claims half of the total project budget. The relationships among the project formulation and implementation principles, indicators, targets and baselines are as shown below (Table 8). In order to simplify the presentation of Gender Action Plan, each indicator is labelled, to which the Plan refers.

242 The day-to-day implementation of the GAP for the project will be led by the National Gender and Social Inclusion Specialist, who will be recruited by the project. The Specialists will work as part of the

Project Management Office (PMO) and in close collaboration with the Regional Project Offices. The Specialist will also collaborate with the implementing partners/sub-contractors to ensure adequate integration of gender-differentiated needs as well as those of indigenous peoples and youth into the complementary support that the Entities provide for the project. Specifically for gender issues, the Specialist will coordinate with the Philippine Commission on Women to achieve gender empowerment in the country in an effective manner.

**Table 8: Project Formulation/Implementation Principles and Indicators<sup>716</sup>**

Project Formulation Principle	Project Implementation Principle	Indicator, Baseline and Target	Label in the Action Plan
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Female farmers as agents of change</li> <li>- Higher gender parity in strategic decision making and meaningful participation</li> <li>- Working with nature</li> <li>- Indigenous peoples as guardians of CRA</li> <li>- Social media for rapid communication (in case of IT subjects)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sharing the driver's seat with farmers</li> <li>- Women as strategic decision makers</li> <li>- Cultural awareness among the indigenous peoples</li> <li>- Building on the existing strengths of women/indigenous peoples/youth</li> </ul>	<p>Number of pre-event and pre-product-development information exchange meeting between technicians/officials (in case of training, both trainers and trainees) and female/indigenous/youth farmers on climate and agriculture, including agri-food systems.</p> <p><i>Baseline: 0</i>  <i>Target: 1 for each group (female/indigenous/youth) and for each event/product.</i></p>	<i>Pre-event and pre-product-development information exchange</i>
		<p>Proportion of female/indigenous/youth farmers in pre-event and pre-product-development information exchange meeting between the trainer/s, trainees and farmers on climate and agriculture, including indigenous agri-food systems.</p> <p><i>Baseline: 0/0/0%</i>  <i>Target: 50/12.5/25 (60 in case of IT subjects) % of participating farmers.</i></p>	<i>Composition of farmers participating in pre-event and pre-product-development Information exchange</i>
		<p>Proportion of female/indigenous/youth farmers collaborating with technicians for product development.</p> <p><i>Baseline: 0/0/0%</i>  <i>Target: 50/12.5/25 (60 in case of IT subjects) % of participating farmers.</i></p>	<i>Composition of farmers participating in event and product-development</i>
		<p>Proportion of female/indigenous/youth farmers (or farmer groups focusing on female/indigenous/youth farmers) trained, including site visits.</p> <p><i>Baseline: 0/0/0%</i>  <i>Target: 50/12.5/25 (60 in case of IT subjects) % of farmers.</i></p>	<i>Composition of farmers/farmer groups trained</i>
		<p>Proportion of topics that mainly concern female/indigenous/youth farmers are addressed in each event/product or set of events/products.</p> <p><i>Baseline: 0/0/0%</i>  <i>Target: 50/12.5/25% of topics in each event/product or set of events/products.</i></p>	<i>Composition of topics in event/product by target group</i>

<sup>716</sup> Product includes: Technical Working Group, CIS, CRA training, CRA services, reviews, studies, assessments, CIS platform and Regional/Provincial centers, IEC materials/products, agriculture input packages.

		Importance of gender/indigenous/youth mainstreaming in agro-meteorological data management and CRA is touched upon during each training. <i>Target: 10% of training time devoted to what kind of data management and agriculture could improve the lives of women/indigenous/youth and why it is beneficial to the rest of society.</i>	<i>Integration of mainstreaming as a topic into training</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Higher parity in strategic decision making</li> <li>- Working with nature</li> <li>- Indigenous peoples as guardians of CRA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Women as strategic decision makers</li> <li>- Cultural awareness among the indigenous peoples</li> <li>- Building on the strengths of women/indigenous peoples/youth</li> </ul>	Proportion of female/indigenous/youth technicians/officials who participate in each event/product development. <i>Baseline: 0/0/0%</i> <i>Target: 50/12.5/25 (60 in case of IT subjects) % of participating technicians/officials</i>	<i>Composition of technicians/officials participating in event and product-development</i>
		Proportion of female/indigenous/youth technicians/officials trained. <i>Baseline: 0/0/0%</i> <i>Target: 50/12.5/25% of technicians.</i>	<i>Composition of technicians/officials trained</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Working with nature</li> <li>- Indigenous peoples as guardians of CRA</li> <li>- Self-reliance as CC resilience</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provision of ecosystem, health and livelihood services</li> <li>- Sharing the driver's seat with farmers</li> <li>- Women as strategic decision makers</li> <li>- Cultural awareness among the indigenous peoples</li> <li>- Building on the strengths of women/indigenous peoples/youth</li> </ul>	Number of indigenous food production and weather and climate knowledge systems discussed/integrated in each event/product. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 1 per each indigenous group in target area and per event/product.</i>	<i>Integration of indigenous food production, weather/climate knowledge systems</i>
		Number of easily observable agrometeorological indicators, including indigenous peoples', discussed/integrated in each event/product. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 3 or more per each event/product.</i>	<i>Integration of on-the-ground weather/climate knowledge systems</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Female farmers (and youth, lps where applicable) as agents of change</li> <li>- Higher parity in strategic decision making</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sharing the driver's seat with farmers</li> <li>- Women as strategic decision makers</li> </ul>	Number of training session on basic functionalities and operation and maintenance (O&M) of agro-meteorological stations and CIS platform and CIS Regional and Provincial Centers. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 1 for basic functionalities and 1 for O&amp;M per CRA/CRA enterprise development training.</i>	<i>Integration of training on agromet stations and CIS platform/regional and provincial centres for farmers</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Female farmers as agents of change</li> <li>- Higher parity in strategic decision making</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sharing the driver's seat with farmers</li> <li>- Women as strategic decision makers</li> </ul>	Number of awareness raising session of community gatekeepers included in CRA training, FFS/CRA demonstrations, encompassing prevention of SEAH and GBV. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 2 per CRA training and CRA enterprise development learning.</i>	<i>Integration of sensitization of community gatekeepers</i>

	- Building on the strengths of women/indigenous peoples/youth		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Female farmers as agents of change</li> <li>- Higher parity in strategic decision making</li> <li>- Working with nature</li> <li>- Indigenous peoples as guardians of CRA</li> <li>- Self-reliance as CC resilience</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provision of ecosystem, health and livelihood services</li> <li>- Sharing the driver's seat with farmers</li> <li>- Women as strategic decision makers</li> <li>- Cultural awareness among the indigenous peoples</li> <li>- Building on the strengths of women/indigenous peoples/youth</li> </ul>	Number of climate resilient subsistence and cash crops, both to be available throughout the year discussed/integrated in event/product. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 3 or more of each crop at barangay level.</i>	<i>Integration of climate resilient livelihood sustaining crops</i>
		Number of craft crops, medicinal plants and seed banking discussed/integrated in event/product. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 2 at province level.</i>	<i>Integration of women-oriented activities</i>
		Number of typhoon and cyclone-proof and low emission indigenous or traditional crops to be grown in the backyard and other small areas discussed/integrated in event/product. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 4 at province level.</i>	<i>Integration of climate resilient and low emission indigenous/traditional crops</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Working with nature</li> <li>- Indigenous peoples as guardians of CRA</li> <li>- Self-reliance as CC resilience</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provision of ecosystem, health and livelihood services</li> <li>- Sharing the driver's seat with farmers</li> <li>- Cultural awareness among the indigenous peoples</li> </ul>	Number of indigenous agri-food production system, including watershed management, discussed/integrated as the base CRA in event/product for indigenous peoples and as an important reference for non-indigenous peoples. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 1 system per each indigenous group in target area per event/product.</i>	<i>Integration of watershed management for indigenous peoples</i>



## 2. GENDER ACTION PLAN<sup>717</sup>

Gender Action Plan of the project "Adapting Philippine Agriculture to Climate Change - APA"				
Project Expected Results	Indicators and Targets	Timeline	Responsibility	Budget
<b>GCF Outcome level: Reduced emissions and increased resilience</b>				
Core Indicator 2: Direct and indirect beneficiaries reached	Number of direct and indirect beneficiaries.  <b>Direct:</b> Baseline: 0 Target: 250,000 farmers (125,000 women, 31,250 indigenous and 62,500 youths)  <b>Indirect:</b> Baseline: 0 Target: 5 million (2.5 million women, 0.65 million indigenous and 1.25 million youths)	By end of Project Year 7	FAO (as Executing Entity), particularly National M&E Specialist	80% of total project budget
	Number of direct beneficiaries relative to total population.  <b>Direct:</b> Baseline: 0% Target: 1.2% (0.63% women, 0.16% indigenous, 0.31% youth)  <b>Indirect:</b> Baseline: 0% Target: 5% (2.5% women, 0.63% indigenous, 1.25% youth)	By end of Project Year 7	FAO (as Executing Entity), particularly National M&E Specialist	80% of total project budget
Core indicator 1: GHG emissions reduced, avoided or removed/sequestered	GHG emissions reduced, avoided or removed/sequestered Baseline: 0 Target: 1.86 MtCO <sub>2</sub>	In 20 years	FAO (as Executing Entity), particularly National M&E Specialist	20% of total project budget

<sup>717</sup> The number of population in Cordillera Autonomous Region constituted 8.5% of the total population of target regions according to the latest available region-wise statistics (Section 4.1.2). About 99% of Cordillera inhabitants are said to be indigenous (Cariño, 2012). The proportion of indigenous peoples in Northern Mindanao is unknown. Since 10-15% of the total population is believed to be indigenous, the Plan aims for 12.5% of total beneficiaries to be indigenous. Given that 28% of total population is between the age of 10 and 24, 9.3 % aged 20-24 and 8.6% aged 25-29 (Section 4.1.2), the youth population (persons aged 15-30 as defined by the country) is estimated 25%.

Core indicator 4: Hectares of natural resources brought under improved low-emission and/or climate-resilient management practice	<p>Hectares of natural resources brought under improved low-emission and/or climate-resilient management practice.</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Target: 250,000</p>	By end of Project Year 7	FAO (as Executing Entity), particularly National M&E Specialist	
<b>GCF Outcome level: Enabling environment</b>				
Core Indicator 5: Degree to which GCF investments contribute to strengthening institutional and regulatory frameworks for low emission climate-resilient development pathways in a country-driven manner	<p>Number of effective coordination mechanisms established and sustained by government/LGUs with budget and staff</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Target: All of coordination mechanisms established under the project consider female, indigenous and youth farmers as important topics in climate change adaptation.</p>	By end of Project Year 7	FAO (as Executing Entity), particularly National M&E Specialist	Included in project budget
	<p>CRA strategic planning adopted by DA and LGUs</p> <p>Baseline: 0. Target: All CRA Strategic Plans feature information on climate vulnerability, needs and perceptions of women, indigenous peoples and youth farmers.</p>			
	<p>CRA mainstreamed into national and LGU programmes</p> <p>Baseline: 0. Target: All CRA Strategic Plans feature information on climate vulnerability, needs and perceptions of women, indigenous peoples and youth farmers.</p>			
	<p>Support systems for CRA established and sustained by government</p> <p>Baseline: 0. Target: All CRA training programmes, services development and dissemination, IEC materials, mainstreamed policies and programmes and CRA supportive value chains and financial products are inclusive of and address the needs of women, indigenous peoples and youth farmers</p>			
Core Indicator 6: Degree to which GCF investments contribute to technology deployment, dissemination, development or transfer and innovation	<p>Number of males and females use localized CIS and adopt CRA technologies and practices</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Target: 205,000 (50% women, 12.5% indigenous persons and 25% youth)</p>	By end of Project Year 7	FAO (as Executing Entity), particularly National M&E Specialist	Included in project budget

Core indicator 8: Degree to which GCF investments contribute to effective knowledge generation and learning processes, and use of good practices, methodologies and standards	Number of males and females act upon receipt of localized CIS and CRA information				By end of Project Year 7							FAO (as Executing Entity), particularly National M&E Specialist	Included in project budget	
	Baseline: 0 Target: 500,000 (50% women, 12.5% indigenous persons and 25% youth)													
	National CRA Monitoring System established and sustained													
	Baseline: 0 Target: 1 system established and start operational in project 5 target regions													
GAP Expected Outcomes, Activities and Targets													Cost	
Project activity	GAP activity	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Y 1	Y 2	Y 3	Y 4	Y 5	Y 6	Y 7	Responsibility	Exclusive ly dedicated for GAP	Included in Project Activity
Project Component 1: Institutional capacities for CRA services development														
Expected gender outcomes: Component 1 addresses gaps of DA, PAGASA and other institutions, and develops institutional capacities from national to municipality levels for the production, delivery, and utilization of localized CIS and CRA services and feedback systems. Gender activities aim to achieve the following outcomes: Women from diverse social-cultural background (including indigenous women) and women groups (including indigenous women groups) are empowered and capacitated to be part of the enhanced institutional capacities for CIS and CRA services (i.e. being TWG members at national and regional level, contributing to CIS Platform/Regional and Provincial CIS Centres, being Master Trainers and CRA enterprise development facilitators), able to contribute and to and benefit from improved CIS and CRA services, trainings, and Provincial CRA Strategic Planning that are gender inclusive, gender sensitive and gender responsive. This will ensure women's role within their project, while strengthening their capacities on climate change and climate-resilient agriculture, facilitating female entrepreneurship and leadership, improving women's rights and access to information and services, and leveraging gender equality advancements in the Philippines while addressing specific gender issues in the project regions.														
GAP Output 1.1: Women including indigenous women equal participation in capacity building for CIS and CRA services development														
PMC	Assign gender focal points in project coordination and implementation mechanisms	Number of project coordination mechanisms with an assigned gender focal point	0	At least 04 mechanisms (DA Project Management Unit (PMU), PAGASA PMU, Regional Project Implementation Unit (RCO) coordination meetings and Programme Steering Committee (PSC))								National Gender and IP Specialist, NPC, FAO TA, DA and PAGASA focal points	73,410	73,410
PMC	Invitation to Women Groups, including indigenous women groups and Women FOs/cooperatives to participate in the RCO-led project regional	Number of Regional project coordination mechanisms with participation of women's groups/women Fos	0	At least in 03 out of 5 target regions (60%)								National Gender and IP Specialist, NPC	73,410	73,410

	coordination mechanisms																
PMC	Training of trainers/facilitators on GESI	Number of PMU, RCO, DA, PAGASA and FAO TA staff trained on GESI to facilitate project gender interventions	0	At least 11 (01 each from DA, PAGASA and FAO, 01 each from 5 RCOs, NPC, M&E specialist, ESS Specialist)										National Gender and IP Specialist, National ESS Specialist, International ESS Consultant	25,200	25,200	
PMC	Training of project personnel on SEAH and GBV and the FAO GRM to handle such incidents	Number of project personnel trained on SEAH, GBV and project GRM	0	At least 50 (5 PMU staff, 3 each from 5 RCOs, 2 each from DA, PAGASA PMU and FAO TA, 2 each from 9 provincial LGUs, 6 from Service Providers)										National Gender and IP Specialist, National ESS Specialist, International ESS Consultant	30,000	30,000	
PMC	Ensure gender considerations in the review/update of selection criteria of project municipalities, farming HH beneficiaries and professional beneficiaries	Number of sets of selection criteria with due considerations of gender and IP issues	0	03 sets of selection criteria (for municipalities, farming HH, professional beneficiaries)										National Gender and IP Specialist, National ESS Specialist	73,410	73,410	
PMC	Ensure that the TOR, design and development of questionnaire for baseline, mid and end-line surveys integrate inclusion, gender and IP considerations	Number of surveys that capture gender and IP issues and feedback to facilitate improved knowledge management, learning and adaptive project management "03 surveys (baseline, mid- and end-line surveys)"	0	03 surveys (baseline, mid and end-line surveys)										National Gender and IP Specialist, National ESS Specialist, International ESS Consultant	73,410	73,410	
Cross-cutting	Mainstream GESI and integrate gender-sensitization into all training materials and trainings	Percentage of training materials and curricula reviewed by a gender specialist	0	100%										National Gender and IP Specialist	Included within activity budgets	-	

1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.2.2	Identify female professionals to be members of TWG (at national and regional levels), participate in trainings for CIS production and to be trained as CRA Master Trainers and CRA enterprise development facilitators	Number of female master trainers and CRA enterprise development facilitators, who participate in and benefit from capacity building on CIS, CRA and CRA enterprise development	0	a) 100 professional beneficiaries trained on CIS production, 50 female, at least 12 indigenous women  b) 220 Master Trainers/CRA enterprise development facilitators (110 female)									National Gender and IP Specialist, NPC, technical staff and consultants	1,754,416	3,508,832
1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.2.2	Ensure gender and IP considerations in the project capacity assessment tools (Institutional Capacity Index, Core knowledge and skills rating tools, Pre and Post training/workshop surveys, etc.)	Number of project developed capacity assessment tools with gender and IP considerations mainstreamed into the tools	0	At least 03 tools									National Gender and IP Specialist, NPC, technical staff and consultants, FAO staff	877,208	1,754,416
1.2.1	Conduct gender sensitization campaign in each province to valorize women's role in society and promote domestic labour division	Number of awareness raising campaigns on gender sensitization and the promotion of domestic labour division	0	9 (1 per province)									National Gender and IP Specialist, NPC Technical Staff and consultants, FAO staff		
1.2.1	Engage women and women groups including indigenous women in CVRA and preparation of CRA Strategic Plans, the selection of 100 target municipalities and farming HH beneficiaries	Number of provinces with women, women groups participation in CVRA and CRA strategic planning process	0	Participation of at least one women organization in each of the 9 provinces  22,500 beneficiary farmers are women (50% of 45,000 target farmer beneficiaries), including indigenous women and women									National Gender and IP Specialist, NPC, PMU technical staff and consultants, FAO staff, RCO	649,381	1,298,762
<b>GAP Output 1.2: CIS and CRA services and CRA strategic planning are gender inclusive, gender responsive and gender transformative</b>															

1.1.1, 1.1.2	Ensure that CIS products, CRA advisories are gender inclusive and gender responsive	Number of CIS/CRA products and advisories that have information/sections on gender and indigenous knowledge	0	At least 540 climate/agromet advisories (12 monthly advisories from Y3 onward/5 years for each of 9 provinces that will include information and sections on gender and indigenous knowledge)								National Gender and IP Specialist, PMU, RCO, DA, PAGASA, FAO staff	1,486,596	2,973,192
1.2.1	Incorporate gender and IP issues in CVRA and CRA Strategic Planning	Number of CRA Strategic Plans with a section on gender and IP	0	9 Provincial CRA Strategic Plans								National Gender and IP Specialist, PMU, FAO staff, DA and LGUs	162,345	324,690
1.2.2	Ensure gender inclusive and gender transformative and responsive CRA training materials	Number of CRA training packages that incorporate gender and IP issues	0	a) 01 CRA Training of Trainer/Facilitator package b) 01 CRA training package for extension workers, facilitators c) At least 07 specific training modules for prioritized CRA options								National Gender and IP Specialist, PMU, DA, ATI, FAO staff, Service Provider(s)	267,820	535,640
<b>Project Component 2: CRA Enterprise Development</b>  <b>Expected gender outcomes:</b> Component 2 aims to strengthen capacities of farmers to develop CRA enterprises and adopt economically viable and financially sustainable CRA practices to enhance resilience of their households and communities. <u>The expected gender outcome of the Component is</u> increased climate resilience of women, especially indigenous women and women-headed households through 1) gender inclusive, gender sensitive and gender responsive CRA enterprise plans and investments; 2) women and girl -led CRA enterprise development; and 3) targeting poor and vulnerable women and women-headed HH in CRA investment planning for special groups, leveraging social protection.														
<b>GAP Output 2.1: Gender inclusive, gender sensitive and gender responsive CRA enterprise development training, CRA enterprise plans and investments</b>														
2.1.1	Ensure that CRA enterprise development training materials and learning programme are gender inclusive, responsive and gender-transformative	Number of CRA training packages that incorporate gender and IP issues	0	01 CRA enterprise development training package and Farmer Group Learning Score (linked to GAP Output 1.1 activity for Project activities 1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.2.2, 1.2.3 above)								National Gender and IP Specialist, PMU, FAO staff, DA, ATI, RCO, LGUs, Service Provider(s)	1,393,958	1,393,958
2.1.1	Strengthen outreach to women, including women from indigenous	Number of women including indigenous women and young women complete CRA enterprise	0	22,500 (50% of target 45,000 farmer beneficiaries, approx. 2,800 indigenous women)								National Gender and IP Specialist, PMU, DA, PAGASA and FAO staff, Mass	2,787,915	2,787,915

	nationalities and marginalized groups	development learning year										media, Service Provider(s)		
2.1.1	Promote gender sensitive and gender responsive CRA options selection, testing and demonstration	Number of farmer learning groups select and test/demonstrate CRA options that address gender related drivers of climate vulnerability	0	a) 750 (50% of 1500 farmer learning groups)  b) Gender-focused review of the selected CRA options to follow up and assess if there are any unintended impacts on women (e.g. related to time poverty, etc.)								National Gender and IP Specialist, PMU, FAO staff, DA, LGUs	2,787,915	2,787,915
<b>GAP Output 2.2: Women led CRA enterprise development</b>														
2.1.2	Target women/women-led FO capacity building for CRA enterprise development	Number of specific trainings for women including indigenous women and women-led CRA learning groups	0	At least 10 trainings on leadership, rights (to information, land and other resources), use of CIS/CRA services, business development, group marketing, group finance management								National Gender and IP Specialist, NPC and technical staff/consultants, FAO staff and TA team	50,000	394,956
2.1.2	Promote and provide special support for women-led FO/AMIA villages in preparing CRA investment plans and mobilization of resources	Number of women-led CRA enterprises (FO/AMIA villages)  "Women-led" is defined as either women only farmer groups/cooperatives or mix men-women cooperatives, FO/AMIA Village with women holding board and management positions.	0	150 FO/AMIA villages (30% of target 500)  Targeting 30% is ambitious yet realistic because 1) women account for over 50% of cooperative membership and over 50% of the clientele in the Philippines. While women occupy way less than 50% of the co-operative board and management positions, women only co-operatives have produced visionary leaders and successful businesses.  The Philippine Plan for Gender-Responsive									118,487	394,956

				Development (1995-2025) mandated the implementation of gender and development in public and private sector, in accord with the provision of human rights guaranteed by the Constitution. The Cooperative Development Authority mandates all the registered cooperatives to mainstream gender and development.											
2.1.2	Target poor women including indigenous women and women-headed HH - beneficiaries of social protection - in preparing CRA investment plans for special groups	Number of poor and vulnerable women, beneficiaries of social protection programmes, supported to leverage social protection to prepare CRA investments	0	6,750 (50% of the estimated 13,500 poor among the 45,000 target farmer beneficiaries)								National Gender and IP Specialist, International social protection expert, other PMU technical staff/consultants, DA, DSWD, and FAO staff	157, 982	526,608	
2.1.3	Facilitate women group loan application and women saving groups	Number of women-led FO/AMIA Villages that apply for group loan and able to manage group finance	0	75 (50% of women-led FO/AMIA Villages)								National Gender and IP Specialist, NPC, LGUs, ACPC, DA, FAO and DSWD	2,820,490	11,281,960	
Component 3: Enabling Environment for Mainstreaming CRA															
<p><b>Expected gender outcome:</b> Component 3 aims to raise awareness for CRA adoption at scale, beyond the project target municipalities/provinces/regions, which is supported by strengthened capacities of Government agencies and LGUs to mainstream CRA into national and local policies and programmes and monitor CRA implementation, of the private sector to use CIS/CRA services to support CRA value chains and of the banks and financial institutions to strengthen and/or develop climate responsive/CRA supportive financial products. <u>The expected gender outcome is</u> 'Women from diverse social-cultural background (including indigenous women) are capacitated to contribute to and benefit from gender inclusive and gender sensitive CRA IEC materials and campaigns, national and local policies and programmes that have mainstreamed CRA, as well as CRA value chains and supportive financial products that improve women's access to finance and enable sustainable CRA adoption at scale in the Philippines'.</p> <p><b>GAP Output 3.1: Gender inclusive and gender sensitive CRA IEC materials and campaigns and national and local policies and programmes that have mainstreamed CRA</b></p>															



3.1.1 and 3.1.3	Strengthen outreach to women including indigenous women, girls and women organizations to reflect their knowledge and needs on CIS and CRA	Number of women organizations invited/participate in the development of IEC materials, CRA campaigns and National CRA Monitoring System	0	Approximately 20 women's organizations (At least one women's organization for each of 05 CRA IEC products, 15 campaigns (1 national, 5 regional and 9 provincial) and the design/implementation of National CRA Monitoring System)							National Gender and IP Specialist, PMU, FAO staff, RCO, LGUs	1,763,050	3,526,100
3.1.1	Ensure that CRA IEC materials and dissemination channels are gender inclusive and gender sensitive	Number of women, including women farmers, report that they a) act upon CIS and CRA information received and/or b) adopt CRA	0	a) 250,000 women, 31,250 indigenous (12.5%) and 62,500 youths (25%) (50% of project target of 500,000 people reporting that they take some actions as the result of CRA awareness raising)  b) 103,000 women, 12,875 indigenous, 27,750 youth (50% of project target 205,000 farmers adopt CRA as a result of project CRA awareness raising and peer learning)							National Gender and IP Specialist, PMU, DA, PAGASA and FAO staff, Mass media, Service Provider(s), RCO, LGUs, NGOs	248,485	496,970
3.1.2	Ensure that mainstreaming of CRA into national and local policies and programmes consider gender and IP	Number of a) national and b) sub-national policies and programmes that have mainstreamed CRA and included gender considerations	0	a) 3 national policies/programmes (60% of target 5 national policies/programmes)  b) 3 provincial and 30 municipality policies/programmes (50% of target 6 and 60 respectively)							National Gender and IP Specialist, PMU, DA, DENRA, LGUs	1,029,610	2,059,220
<b>GAP Output 3.2: Gender inclusive and gender responsive CRA supportive value chains and financial products</b>													
3.2.1	Engage and capacitate women from the private sectors	Number of female staff from the private sectors participate in project training/workshop	0	At least 50% of each event's total number of participants <sup>718</sup>							National Gender and IP Specialist, NPC, FAO staff, DA staff, RCO	131,004	436,680

<sup>718</sup> Approximately 44% of micro-, small- and medium-enterprises in the agriculture sector in the Philippines are women. Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada. 2018. 2018 Survey of Entrepreneurs and MSMEs in the Philippines. Available online: [https://apfcanada-msme.ca/sites/default/files/2018-10/2018%20Survey%20of%20Entrepreneurs%20and%20MSMEs%20in%20the%20Philippines\\_0.pdf](https://apfcanada-msme.ca/sites/default/files/2018-10/2018%20Survey%20of%20Entrepreneurs%20and%20MSMEs%20in%20the%20Philippines_0.pdf)

