

Regional challenges for mainstreaming gender aspects into the transport sector in Asia

Presented at the IFRTD Asia Pacific Regional Meeting
9-11 September 2009, Hotel Shanker, Kathmandu

by

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Key gender issues in transport sector in Asia

- Gender differences in
 - Purpose of travel and travel pattern
 - Mobility (outside home, outside village)
 - Time use/ time poverty
 - Access to services (market, health, education)



Key gender issues in transport sector in Asia

- Access to mode of transportation
 - Women tend to use public transportation more than men
 - Men tend to use motorized vehicles more than women.
 - Do transportation services serve the routes that women require?
 - Affordability
- Safety issues



Key gender issues in transport sector in Asia

- Migration
- Resettlement issues/ land ownership/ land use
- Social network / information
- Employment in transport sector (construction of roads, transport providers)



Key gender issues in transport sector in Asia

- Gender considerations for IMTs (design, purchasing IMT, etc)
- Space
 - How people perceive space
 - How people negotiate for legitimacy and entitlement



The problem: from perspective of transport engineers

- If infrastructure is provided, transport services would follow, and people would be able to access goods and services
 - Focus on efficient and cost-effective construction
- Realization that mobility and accessibility is more complex
 - Roads are not enough

The problem: from perspective of gender and development studies

- Less recognition on the role transport plays in providing resources to meet women's needs.
- Not much attention being paid on how increased mobility can address improvement of women's status and empowerment.

Gender mainstreaming in transportation development policies

- Assumption of improvement in mobility and positive outcomes
 - “Experience shows that accessibility is essential to rural development, employment and income-generation opportunities.” (ADB website)

Gender mainstreaming in transportation development policies

- Gender issues lumped and obscured as “negative effects”
 - Gender analysis during feasibility studies
 - PNG; Timor Leste
 - Preventing negative impacts from road development
 - HIV/AIDS; Human trafficking

Different approaches/ different concepts

- Efficiency vs equality
- Building up on assumptions and deconstructing assumptions
- Mainstream perspective and perspectives of the marginalized
- Different meaning for the same word
 - Accessibility
 - Case study

Merit of inter-disciplinary approach

- Better analysis of mobility
 - Measuring and deconstructing “mobility”
 - Linking physical flow to social relations
- Stronger claim/ evidence
 - Linking anecdotal evidence to overall picture
- Larger impact on planning

Possible approach for mainstreaming gender in transport sector

- Collection of gender disaggregated data and gender statistics in transport sector
- Gender analysis
- Gender indicators in transport sector
- Component for promoting gender equality
 - Labor-based rural road construction



Possible approach for mainstreaming gender in transport sector

- Earmarked support for gender equality/ gender mainstreaming and involvement of gender experts
- Gender training
- Collaboration with NGOs and women's ministries

Recommended project components to enhance gender equality/ gender mainstreaming

- Highway sector
 - a) Support to link women and men to market
 - b) Affordable means of transportation
 - c) Women's participation in designing of highway development



Recommended project components to enhance gender equality/ gender mainstreaming

- Rural roads sector
 - a) Labor-based construction of roads
 - b) Creating business opportunities for women
 - c) Time savings for water fetching and fuelwood collection
 - d) Security for women and girls
 - e) Women's participation in road design/planning

Recommended project components to enhance gender equality/ gender mainstreaming

- Urban transport sector
 - a) Women's need for public transportation
 - b) Concerns for security
 - c) Urban transport development to improve access to social services

