



# Gender Inclusion in Productive Investments

What we can learn from the Western Balkans project experience

Presenter: Alexandra Horst

# World Bank support to productive grants in Western Balkans for EU pre-accession

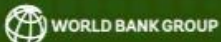


## Gender Inclusion in Productive Investments in the Western Balkans



An assessment supported by UFGE

June 2020



World Bank supports Western Balkan agriculture and forestry sectors development to **build capacity for implementation of EU Instrument of Pre-Accession Assistance for Rural Development (IPARD)**

In **Montenegro, Kosovo and Albania** this translated into providing **“IPARD-like” productive grants** to beneficiaries, gradually introducing the IPARD requirements through a **learning-by-doing approach**

Focus of Montenegro and Kosovo projects on **increasing competitiveness in agriculture and food production**; Montenegro also environmentally **sustainable livestock management**; Albania **sustainable land and forest management** practices

All applied **IPARD criteria to encourage women applicants**



# Gender inequalities remain in the Western Balkans and agricultural sectors



Facilitating progress towards gender equality has been a key component of the EU accession agenda in the Western Balkans

However, gender inequalities remain socially accepted and rural women often experience:

- **insufficient access to technical knowledge** on agriculture
- **informal employment**, unpaid work in family farming and in household activities
- **limited ownership of land** due to inheritance practices





# A key constraint to gender inclusion is lack of data on women's role in agriculture



Official statistics and labor market studies do **not account for contribution of rural women to farming**, especially in small family farms that are often considered informal

**Sectoral strategies see rural women's role in processing** and in the non-farm economy, not as producers

Projects in Albania, Kosovo and Montenegro made efforts to collect large-scale survey data, including from women farmers

Key sources for study were **databases on productive grant rounds** (n>3,000 approved grants) and **project surveys** (11%-37% females) (Annex)



# Cross-country comparisons to assess gender-inclusiveness of productive grants



Study objectives:

1. **Analyze potential effects of grant eligibility and selection criteria** on female versus male grant applicants
2. **Identify areas of improvement for a more gender-inclusive design** and administration of productive grant programs in the Western Balkans and beyond
3. **Provide lessons to address common gender information gaps in project survey instruments and analyses** on women's engagement in agriculture



# Potential effects of grant eligibility and selection criteria on female applicants

To encourage female grant applications, women are awarded 2-5 percentage points (KARDP, MIDAS); 25 percentage points for female headed associations (ESP)

**Grant criteria can disadvantage female applicants,**  
offsetting bonus points:

- Eligibility criteria that demand proof of land ownership, minimum sizes of land and livestock numbers
- Selection criteria that award extra points for
  - higher education levels
  - membership in producer associations
  - contracts with a buyer
  - employment creation
  - larger expansions
  - greater distance to market





# Potential effects of grant eligibility and selection criteria on female applicants

**Table 7: Potential Effects of Grant Selection Criteria and Preconditions on Female Applicants (KARDP 2012-18)**

Grant selection criteria preconditions, eligibility, and scoring		Fruit tree orchards	Green houses	Milking stables	Berry orchards	Meat production	Egg production	Grape vines
1	Minimum production area or livestock numbers	Negative	Negative	Negative	Negative	Negative	Negative	Negative
2	Reward for larger expansion	Negative	Negative	-	-	-	-	Negative
3	Contractual relations for sale of produce	Negative	Negative	Negative	Negative	Negative	Negative	Negative
4	Education level	Negative	Negative	Negative	Negative	Negative	Negative	Negative
5	Employment creation	Negative	Negative	Negative	Negative	Negative	Negative	Negative
6	Cooperative or producer association membership (until 2017)	Negative	Negative	Negative	Negative	Negative	Negative	Negative
7	Land ownership until 2017	Negative	Negative	Negative	Negative	Negative	Negative	Negative
7	Land ownership after 2017	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
8	Female applicant bonus	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive

# Improvements for gender-inclusive design & administration of productive grant programs



Women sought grants related to greenhouses, fruit trees, berries; men applied for fruit trees, dairy, greenhouses and vineyards

In line with some tasks being **“typically female”, “typically male” or “shared” farm activities**, but with joint goal of livelihoods

Regardless who applies for productive grant, implementation and success depend on both typically female” and “typically male” labor

The success of a productive grant program can be **improved when female farm members receive services regardless** whether the application was in their name

**Table 1: Farm Tasks Carried Out by Females, Males, or Both**

FEMALE Tasks	MALE Tasks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Greenhouse vegetable production:</li><li>• Preparing seedlings, fertilizing, weeding, disease detection, spraying, harvesting, sorting, packaging</li><li>• Value addition: vegetables, fruit, honey</li><li>• Milk processing</li><li>• Operating drip irrigation in greenhouses</li><li>• Weeding, harvesting of field crops</li><li>• Selling processed goods at trade fairs/from home</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Communications with irrigation company</li><li>• Paying irrigation fee</li><li>• Field irrigation, pipe and pump installation</li><li>• Field crop production (mechanized)</li><li>• Marketing of produce</li><li>• Purchase inputs</li><li>• Hiring and operating of machinery</li><li>• Hiring of seasonal workers (men for field preparation, women for harvest)</li></ul>
SHARED Tasks	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Choice of vegetable varieties</li><li>• Soil preparation (manual)</li><li>• Livestock care, including milking</li><li>• Field vegetable and crop production (manual processes like weeding, harvest)</li></ul>	

Source: Interviews with family farms in Kosovo and Albania (World Bank, 2018a, 2018b)



# Improvements for gender-inclusive design & administration of productive grant programs



Some recommended actions include:

- **Specify goals for female participation** in grant applications
- Design grant eligibility and selection criteria that target **women as producers**, including of high value commodities
- Address **women as partners and co-implementors of grant measures** together with their husband, even if grant application was in his name
- Make agricultural support **services available to women**



# Improvements for gender-inclusive design & administration of productive grant programs



Gender Inclusion in Productive Investments in the Western Balkans: Summary of Recommended Actions	
World Bank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Highlight women as producers in project documents, and in sectoral and country strategies</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Include improved gender indicators and targets in projects with grant components according to the 'reach, benefit, empower' classification</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Share good practice gender sensitive survey instruments and training on questionnaire design, gender-disaggregated data entry and analysis with local partners</li> </ul>
Ministries of Agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Include gender-related objectives in project and grant documents and follow through with appropriate data collection</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Determine grant eligibility criteria, selection criteria and preconditions with a prior assessment of their potential effect on gender in mind</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revisit the information collected on grant applicants by the responsible parties to see if additional information is needed and conduct analysis of applicant characteristics and grant impact to better target and tailor project interventions</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Utilize grant supervision requirements to systematically monitor female grant recipients</li> </ul>

Implementing Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Measure the impact of productive grants on female and male applicants, with the effect, by collecting baseline data from grant applicants, with the control and treatment being the grant recipients</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carry-out more in-depth gender analysis to understand the roles of women in farming by commodity and separated by tasks and season</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve gender targeted information campaigns and outreach events, clarify eligibility criteria; continue the business plan assistance for female farmers and create solutions for the common bottlenecks such as access to markets</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Determine the most gender effective project interventions to complement existing ones, such as assistance in establishing and strengthening women's producer organizations, access of female farmers to information</li> </ul>
Survey teams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Train local project partners in improved targeting and engagement</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interview women and men separately</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Classify female respondents into a meaningful typology and present findings accordingly</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apply a meaningful farm classification by types of commodities and activities by commodities and season for a detailed analysis of female labor input and decision-making</li> </ul>

# Addressing gender information gaps in project survey data and instruments



To increase visibility of women's contributions to farming and the rural economy:



- Train survey teams on **gender sensitive interview techniques** (Annex)
- Carry **out in-depth gender analyses** to present intra-household farm responsibilities by gender and commodity
- Classify farms using size, market orientation, commodities and **specify roles women play** to help data analysis and interpretation
- **Apply a typology of female household members** based on their role on the farm

# Addressing gender information gaps in project survey data and instruments



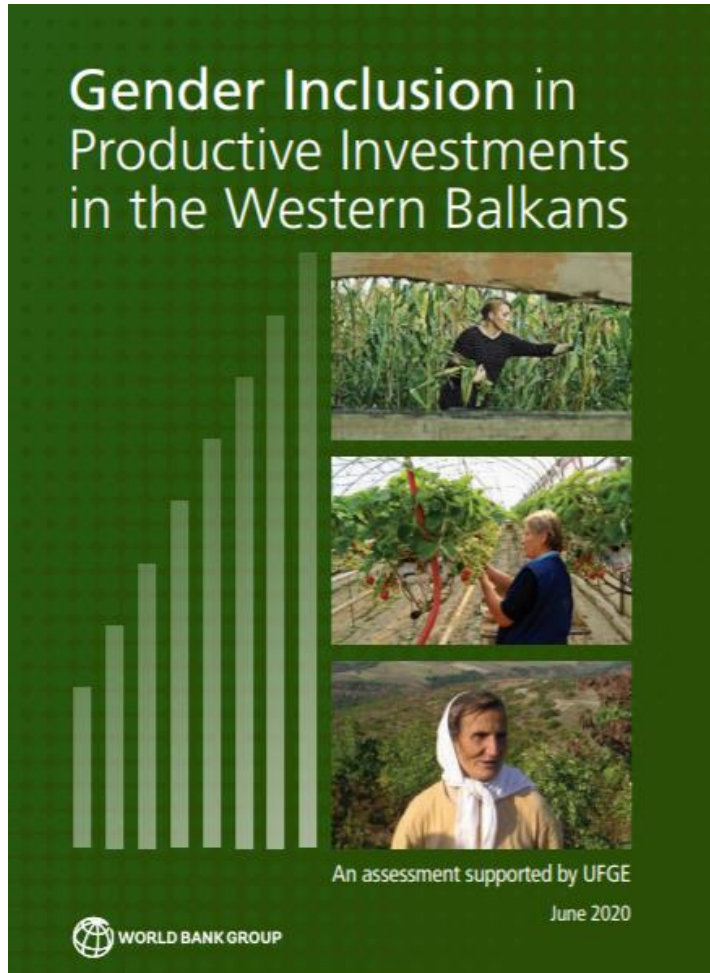
Proposed classification of females based on their role in farming:

- Type 1. **Females *co-managing farms/forests*** and irrigation systems with distinct female, male and joint tasks, responsibilities, and decision-making
- Type 2. **Females *de facto managing farms/forests*** (due to male absence, disability, death, off-farm work/migration); includes female headed farms
- Type 3. **Females *contributing to farm/forests labor*** (family members; hired)
- Type 4. **Female family members *currently not contributing to farm/forest labor***



# Study Resources and Contacts

Full study report available [here](#)



Policy Brief 1 available [here](#)



Policy Brief 2 available [here](#)



## Contacts:



Alexandra Horst



Silvia Mauri



Svetlana Edmeades



Andrea Pape-Christiansen

# Annex

# Projects made efforts to collect large-scale survey data, including from women farmers



Key sources for study were **productive grant databases**:

- Kosovo Agriculture and Rural Development Project (KARDP): 7 grant calls (2012-2018); 13,269 applications; 2,275 approved grants of a total of USD7.2 million
- Montenegro Institutional Development and Agriculture Strengthening Project (MIDAS): 5 grant calls (2010-2014); 1,467 applications; 658 approved grants of a total of USD6.5 million
- Albania Environmental Services Project (ESP): 2 grant calls (2016 and 2018); 285 applications; 157 approved grants of a total of USD5.3 million

and **project surveys** (baseline, midline):

- KARDP: 2 surveys; 1,850 interviewees: 2013: 950 structured interviews (20% females); 2015: 900 structured interviews (11% females)
- MIDAS: 2 surveys; 1,573 interviewees: 2013: 760 structured interviews (15% females); 2015: 813 structured interviews (12% females)
- ESP: 2 surveys; 2,435 interviewees: 2016: 1,235 structured interviews (36% females); 2018: 1,200 structured interviews (37% females)

# Addressing common gender information gaps in project survey data and instruments



## Potential improvements on survey content:

- Present all responses sex-disaggregated
- Categorize female respondents into typology
- Describe farm gender roles
- Analyze male off-farm labor and migration on gender roles
- Design farm typology and use as guide to present responses

## Potential improvements on survey modules:

- Employ female enumerators when interviewing rural women
- Train enumerators in gender targeting and in basic agricultural issues
- Carry out identical separate interviews with females and males
- Train research team in gender-disaggregated analysis/presentation