

# Promoting a gender-sensitive approach to eradicate corruption in the Forestry Sector

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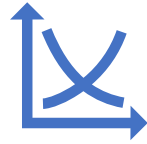
## Aims and Objectives of Study

1. To review the literature and establish whether there is link between gender and corruption in the forestry sector
2. Propose recommendations for policymakers & practitioners





Few studies on gender and corruption in the forestry sector, making it difficult to establish a clear link. However....



Substantial literature on gender and corruption



Substantial literature on gender and forestry



Significant literature on corruption in the forestry sector



.... Therefore we can draw some inferences, generate a hypothesis, recommendations and questions for further research.

# Overview of the Literature

Approach / methodology  
Non-systematic review of academic journals, books, reports and policy documents

# Gender and corruption – key issues



## **Economics/ Political Science**

Increased female participation in public office co-relates with better control of corruption.

Women excluded from power due to sexism.



## **Psychology**

Women are more risk averse, more likely to co-operate less likely to cheat.



## **Gender & Development Studies**

Women disproportionately suffer effects of forestry corruption due to low status in society and care-giving role.

Women main victims of sexual corruption.



## **Anthropology**

No significant gender differences in public officials' likelihood of demanding bribes (Ghana).

# GENDER AND FOREST USE

Forestry anti-corruption measures should be gender-sensitive because forest usage differs by gender and forest degradation has a more negative impact for women.

## SUBSISTENCE

Edible plants & fruits

Medicinal plants

Fodder

Firewood

Bushmeat trade



TREE NURSERIES

CHARCOAL MAKING

LOGGING

ARTISANAL MINING

WOOD PROCESSING

Corruption in the forestry sector contributes to forest degradation, with substantial effects for the planet and for women's lives. While gender differences in forest usage vary from country to country, women and men's use of forest products depends on the level of commercialisation – women usually collect products for subsistence use, and men collect products with commercial value. Some activities like charcoal making involve both women and men.

To address corruption effectively, both women and men should be involved in forestry governance.



## COMMERCIAL

Hunting

Fishing

Chainsaw milling

Mining

Logging

Women and men's use of forest products often depends on the level of commercialization- women use forests for subsistence and men for commercial purposes

# Corruption in the forestry sector

## Manifestations

- Illegal logging, enabled by bribery
- Fraud and theft in forest conservation schemes such as REDD+
- Elite capture of forestry projects
- (S)extortion of forest communities

Mostly male culprits, but some activities e.g. charcoal burning involve both men and women

## Indirect impact through deforestation

- Decreased access to timber and non-timber forest products
- Longer journeys and more time to collect firewood
- Soil erosion- food insecurity, contaminated water sources
- Loss of tax revenues from illegal timber trade

Disproportionately affects women

# Gender and Forest Governance

## **Community Forest Management**

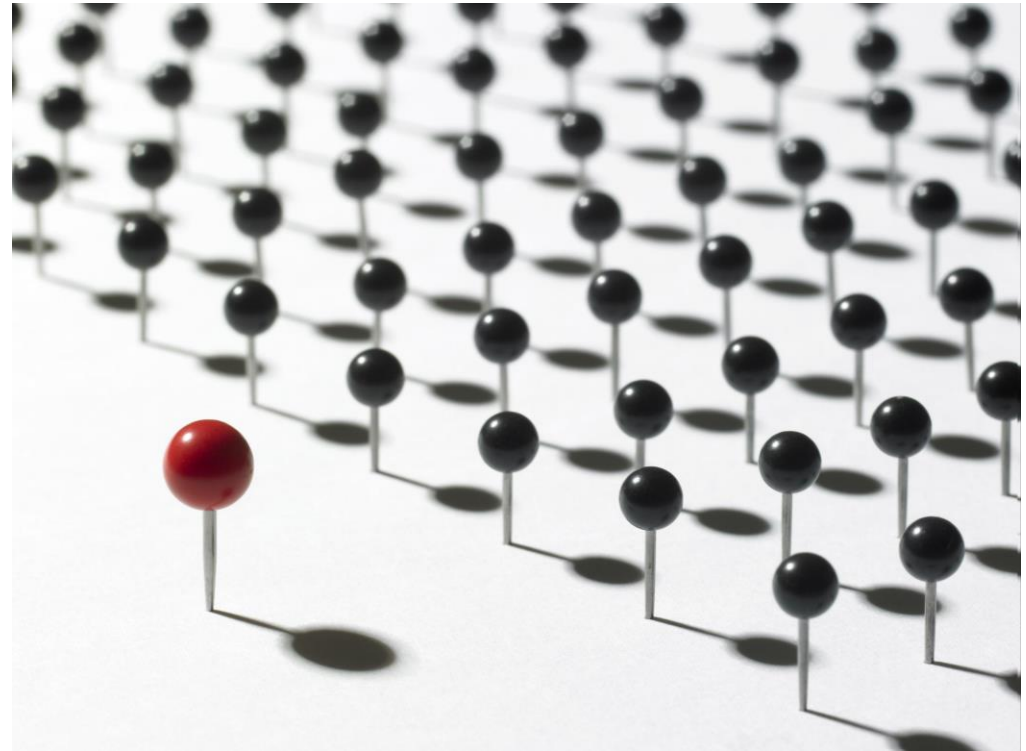
- Forest officers are mostly male
- Women excluded from decision-making
- Women's inclusion nominal or tokenistic

## **Community-Based Adaptation Strategies (REDD+)**

- Often disregard gender considerations but efforts being made to improve

## **EU (FLEGT) European Union Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) initiative**

- Research on women's participation in the forestry supply chain and how they can be more involved





# Summary

## Linking gender, forestry and corruption

### The bad news...

- Elite capture and exclusion of women and minorities in decision-making
- Illegal activity both men and women (to varying degrees)
- Corruption has greater detrimental effects on women due to their care-giving roles
- Women (s)extorted by forest guards and rangers
- Anti-corruption initiatives may threaten the livelihoods of communities, especially women.

### The good news

- *Involving women improves forests* – Research from India and Nepal
- Women's environmental movement, e.g. Wangari Mathai's green belt movement, Chipko 'embrace the tree' movement from India.
- Women taking the lead in the fight against corruption e.g. SPAK Indonesia.
- On-going attempts to strengthen the role of women in forestry decision-making (REDD+ and FLEGT) and improve their opportunities for employment and income generation in the sector.

*Promoting a gender-sensitive approach would reduce corruption in the forestry sector*

## **Recommendations for KPK and other government agencies**

- **Ensure gender parity in forestry governance**
- **Collaboration with gender agency, training and sensitization**
- **Open, inclusive and gender-disaggregated forestry data**
- **Gender-sensitive Complaints Mechanisms**
- **Gender-focused planning & budgeting**



# Recommendations for NGOs and private sector players

## **Private sector players**

Cooperate/ participate the Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) Voluntary Partnership Agreements (VPA) and denounce illegal logging

- Corporate compliance and codes of conduct should be gender sensitive
- Employ more women along the forestry supply chain & promote women-owned businesses

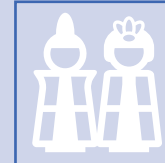
## **NGOs: Corruption & deforestation are feminist causes**

- Women's environmental NGOs - step-up the fight against corruption
- Women's anti-corruption NGOs e.g. SPAK - continue to draw attention to forestry corruption
- Advocate for women's participation in forest management and governance
- Initiate gender-balanced and gender-aware social accountability activities

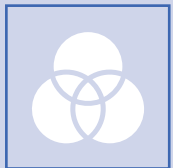
# Questions for further research



How are men and women involved in corrupt and illegal activities along the forestry supply chain (a) in the informal sector (c) in the private sector (b) in the public sector?



What are the effects of forestry corruption on men and women?



What is the relationship between gender in environmental-decision-making and control of corruption (regression analysis)



Under what conditions does increasing the number of women in community forest management and decision-making lead to reductions in illegal logging & deforestation?

Thank you!

