

Gender and HIV/AIDS



IGWG

Finding the Missing Gender Issues in a Project Plan

Stage Of Project	Questions To Be Asked	Answers from Example of An HIV/AIDS Information Project
Situation Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What gender concerns put males and females in a different problem situation? • Are gender gaps part of the problem? • Is gender discrimination part of the problem? 	Project evaluation findings reveal that information dissemination on HIV/AIDS is much better for males than for females (i.e., there is a gender gap in project coverage).
Shortcoming in Previous Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is there a policy on gender issues in HIV/AIDS prevention and control? • Is there a gender policy on education or information dissemination? 	Until now, HIV/AIDS information was based on the principle that information should reach “all adolescents and adults” with no gender parity requirement. By contrast, gender policy in the education sector is concerned with requiring gender parity in school enrollments.
Guiding Policy Principles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the policy environment conducive to addressing gender problems? • Is there any need to establish a new policy principle or goal so that the gender problems are recognized? 	The National AIDS Council has now recognized the principle that AIDS information “should reach females and males equally.” This principle is consistent with the overall national policy environment on gender issues.
Policy Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is there a clear policy goal to ensure that the policy of gender equality is followed? 	No. The policy is not followed by an explicit goal stating that the proportion of males to females should be the same in the target group, in group coverage, and in program planning committees.
Project Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do the project goals follow the policy principles on gender equality? • Do the project goals recognize relevant gender issues and address the gender issue recognized as part of the problem? 	No. The overall project goal states that all government institutions will be used to disseminate AIDS prevention information. This overlooks the fact that a smaller proportion of females than males are employed or use these institutions.
Intervention Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the type of project intervention take into account all gender issues, including the original problem situation? 	No. There was a need to consider alternative intervention strategies, using community groups, religious groups, and NGO participation, to reach a sufficient number of females.
Project Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Given the intervention strategy, are the project objectives appropriate? 	No. The main objective is to disseminate information using schools where gender gaps are large. Other institutions have been overlooked.
Project Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Given the project objectives, are the activities appropriate? 	No. The implementation activities show no interest in the AIDS curriculum addressing gender issues in AIDS prevention and control.

Adapted from A Transformation Process: Gender Training for Top-Level Management of HIV/AIDS Prevention, published by the AIDSCAP Women's Initiative, 1997.