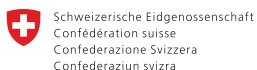


THE GENDER PERSPECTIVE IN AQUAFUND



In the framework of the **AquaFund**



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Embassy of Switzerland in Peru

International Cooperation - SDC
Regional Hub Lima

PEPSICO
FOUNDATION



Federal Ministry
Republic of Austria
Finance



Spanish
Cooperation



THE GENDER PERSPECTIVE IN AQUAFUND

Author:

Cristina Lopez Mayer

Editors:

Celia Bedoya
Kleber Machado
Leticia Ortega Oropeza

General Coordinator:

Sharon M. Alvarez Huitron

Communications Coordinator:

Maria Augusta Olmedo

Editorial and Proofreading Coordinator:

Elisa Sicouret Lynch

Graphic Designer:

Francisco Cabrera Baez

Photography:

Inter-American Development
Bank
Envato

This document has been financed through the AquaFund Multi-Donor Fund, a fund of the Inter-American Development Bank for water and sanitation supported by the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID, by its Spanish acronym), the Austrian Ministry of Finance, the Swiss Cooperation through the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (COSUDE), and the PepsiCo Foundation.

<http://www.iadb.org/>

Copyright © 2025 Inter-American Development Bank ("IDB"). This work is subject to a Creative Commons license CC BY 3.0 IGO (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/igo/legalcode>). The terms and conditions indicated in the URL link must be met and the respective recognition must be granted to the IDB.

Further to section 8 of the above license, any mediation relating to disputes arising under such license shall be conducted in accordance with the WIPO Mediation Rules. Any dispute related to the use of the works of the IDB that cannot be settled amicably shall be submitted to arbitration pursuant to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) rules. The use of the IDB's name for any purpose other than for attribution, and the use of IDB's logo shall be subject to a separate written license agreement between the IDB and the user and is not authorized as part of this license.

Note that the URL link includes terms and conditions that are an integral part of this license.

The opinions expressed in this work are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Inter-American Development Bank, its Board of Directors, or the countries they represent.



In the framework of the **AquaFund**

 Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Embassy of Switzerland in Peru
International Cooperation - SDC
Regional Hub Lima

PEPSICO
FOUNDATION

 Federal Ministry
Republic of Austria
Finance

 Spanish
Cooperation

 IDB

PRÓLOGO

En nombre de la Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo (AECID), es un honor presentar este informe del Fondo AquaFund sobre la necesaria incorporación de la perspectiva de género en proyectos de agua. Un objetivo compartido con el resto de los contribuyentes del Fondo Multidonante AquaFund, que aúna esfuerzos para integrar este enfoque de género en aquellas intervenciones relacionadas con el acceso y la gestión del agua y saneamiento. De manera individual, la Cooperación Española promueve la igualdad de género y las políticas feministas en todas sus iniciativas de cooperación, un enfoque que supone la transversalización de género en cada uno de sus aspectos: desde la planificación y ejecución, a la gestión del conocimiento y la posterior evaluación de programas.

El agua y el saneamiento son recursos esenciales para la vida y el desarrollo sostenible. Sin embargo, su acceso y gestión no siempre son equitativos. Las mujeres y las niñas, en muchas regiones del mundo, son las principales responsables de la recolección y el manejo del agua, lo que afecta directamente su salud, educación y oportunidades económicas. Por ello, es crucial que los proyectos de agua no solo se enfoquen en la infraestructura, la tecnología y la gobernanza, sino también en las dinámicas sociales y de género que influyen en su éxito y sostenibilidad.

Para ello, es imprescindible trabajar desde diversos ámbitos a la vez. En primer lugar, ha de focalizarse en la atención diferenciada de mujeres y hombres, con énfasis en las necesidades específicas de cada género, tanto en agua como en el saneamiento y la higiene. Con respecto a las necesidades específicas de las mujeres, un aspecto especialmente importante es cuando hablamos de salud menstrual, la cual tiene numerosas implicaciones en el ámbito escolar y una relación directa con la asistencia de las niñas y las adolescentes a clase. En segundo término, deben promoverse las condiciones adecuadas para hacer efectiva la participación social y política de las mujeres en las decisiones sobre la gestión del agua y sus posibles soluciones. Por otro lado, es necesario impulsar su capacitación técnica y administrativa, así como de gestión y operación de los sistemas, para contribuir a su profesionalización en trabajos tradicionalmente masculinos. Finalmente, ha de atenderse también la importancia que el agua y el saneamiento tienen a la hora de poner en marcha desarrollos productivos: pequeños negocios que necesitan del buen funcionamiento de estos servicios y que puedan ayudar a que las mujeres logren una autonomía financiera y laboral.

Este informe destaca cómo la incorporación de una perspectiva de género en los proyectos puede transformar comunidades enteras. Al empoderar a las mujeres y garantizar su participación efectiva en los espacios de toma de decisiones, no solo se mejora la eficiencia y efectividad de los proyectos, sino que también se promueve la

equidad y la justicia social. Las experiencias documentadas en este informe demuestran que, cuando las mujeres tienen voz y voto en la gestión del agua, no solo ejercen sus derechos, sino que los resultados son más sostenibles y beneficiosos para toda la comunidad.

AquaFund ha sido instrumental para financiar proyectos innovadores que abordan los desafíos del agua desde una perspectiva de género. Este informe recoge algunas de las mejores prácticas y lecciones aprendidas de estos proyectos, y ofrece valiosas recomendaciones para futuros esfuerzos. Esperamos que este documento sirva como una guía para otros actores, gobiernos y organizaciones que buscan integrar la igualdad de género en sus programas de agua.

Desde la AECID, nuestra colaboración con el Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo (BID) y nuestra contribución al Fondo AquaFund en este ámbito son una muestra más de nuestro compromiso con la promoción de un desarrollo inclusivo y equitativo. Creemos firmemente que la igualdad de género no es solo un objetivo en sí mismo, sino también un medio para alcanzar otros Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible (ODS), como la erradicación de la pobreza, la mejora de la salud y la educación, y la protección del medio ambiente. Del mismo modo, avanzar en el ODS 6 –agua y saneamiento para todas las personas– tiene un impacto sustancial en el avance hacia la plena igualdad de género.

En conclusión, queremos reforzar nuestro compromiso con la igualdad de género en el sector del agua, el saneamiento y la higiene. También extendemos nuestro reconocimiento a todas las comunidades, organizaciones y personas que han contribuido a los proyectos documentados en este informe. Su dedicación y esfuerzo son una fuente de inspiración y un recordatorio de que, juntos, juntas, podemos construir un mundo más justo y sostenible.

Invitamos a quienes se asomen a estas páginas a reflexionar sobre las ideas y recomendaciones presentadas en este informe y a que sumemos conjuntamente en la promoción de la igualdad de género en todos los aspectos del desarrollo. Solo a través de un enfoque inclusivo y equitativo podremos garantizar que nadie se quede atrás en nuestra búsqueda de un futuro mejor para todas las personas.

Laura Oroz Ulibarri

Directora de Cooperación con América Latina y el Caribe

Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo (AECID)

PREFACE

On behalf of the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID, by its Spanish acronym), it is an honor to present this AquaFund report about the relevant incorporation of the gender perspective into water projects. An objective shared with the rest of the donors to the AquaFund, a multi-donor Fund, which joins efforts to integrate a gender approach in the interventions related to access and management of water and sanitation. Individually, the Spanish Cooperation promotes gender equality and feminist policies in all its initiatives, an approach that involves gender mainstreaming in each of its aspects: from planning and execution to knowledge management, and the subsequent evaluation of programs.

Water and sanitation are essential resources to procure life and a sustainable development. However, its access and management are not always equitable. In many regions of the world, women and girls are primarily responsible for collecting and managing water, which directly affects their health, education and economic opportunities. It is therefore crucial that water projects are not only focused on infrastructure, technology and governance, but also on the social and gender dynamics that influence water access and management success and sustainability.

To achieve water access and management success and sustainability, it is essential to collaborate from different scopes at the same time. First, it is important to focus on a differentiated attention of women and men, emphasizing the specific needs of each gender in water, sanitation and hygiene. With respect to the specific needs of women, an essential aspect is menstrual hygiene, which has numerous implications in the school environment and a direct relation to school attendance and/or attrition of girls and women in adolescence. Second, adequate conditions must be promoted for the effective social and political participation of women in water management decision making and solutions. On the other hand, it is necessary to promote their technical and administrative training, as well as management and operation of the systems, contributing to their professionalization in jobs traditionally held by men. Finally, we must acknowledge the importance of water and sanitation for productive economies: small and medium businesses (SMEs) that need proper functioning of these services where women can also achieve financial and labor autonomy.

This report highlights the relevance of incorporating a gender perspective into projects which has the capacity to transform entire communities. By empowering women and ensuring their effective participation in decision making, not only are the efficiency and effectiveness of projects improved, but equity and social justice are also promoted. The experiences documented in this report demonstrate that when women have a say in water management, they not only exercise their rights, but also benefit the entire community with more sustainable results.

AquaFund has been instrumental in financing innovative projects that address water challenges from a gender perspective. This report compiles some of the best practices and lessons learned from water and sanitation projects with a gender approach, offering valuable recommendations for future efforts. We hope that this document will serve as a guide for other actors, governments and organizations seeking to integrate gender equality into their own water programs.

At the Spanish Cooperation, AECID, our collaboration with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and our contribution to the AquaFund in this area are further proof of our commitment to promoting inclusive and equitable development. We firmly believe that gender equality is not only a goal in and by itself, but also a means to achieve other Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), such as eradicating poverty, improving health and education, and protecting the environment. Similarly, advancing SDG 6 – water and sanitation for all people – has a substantial impact on progressing towards a full gender equality.

In conclusion, we aim at reinforcing our commitment to gender equality in the water, sanitation and hygiene sector. We also extend our appreciation to all the communities, organizations and individuals who have contributed to the projects documented in this report. Their dedication and effort are a source of inspiration and a reminder that, together, we can build a more equitable and sustainable world.

We invite all readers of this report to reflect upon the ideas and recommendations presented here and to join us in promoting gender equality in all aspects of development. Only through an inclusive and equitable approach can we ensure that no one is left behind in our quest for a better future for all people.

Laura Oroz Ulibarri

Director of Cooperation with Latin America and the Caribbean

The Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation
(AECID, by its Spanish acronym)

1 WATER & SANITATION, AND THE GENDER PERSPECTIVE



The AquaFund is the principal non-reimbursable fund of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) to implement water and sanitation investment operations, strengthen water institutions, and generate knowledge.

In 2019, the IDB's Water and Sanitation Division (INE/WSA) approved and updated a Gender Strategy for the division and its work. This strategy approaches gender as a cross-cutting issue in the design and execution of projects in four priorities: equal opportunities, behavioral change, governance, and productive local development. Specifically, the role of the AquaFund is key to fulfilling these four priority lines to include relevant gender-related activities in loan operations, special initiatives, and tools and studies financed through Technical Cooperations (TCs). In the future, AquaFund aims to enhance gender activities, monitoring, and associated indicators to feed the update of the Gender Strategy¹.

An internal report from the IDB's Water and Sanitation Division² indicates that it is well known that gender norms, which are present in all societies, affect the way women and girls interact with water and sanitation services, in comparison to boys and men. For example, when access to water is limited, wom-

Gender Strategy Priorities

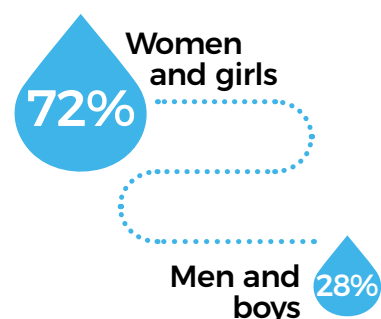
- 1 Equal opportunities
- 2 Behavioral change
- 3 Governance
- 4 Productive local development

¹ Water and Sanitation Division (INE/WSA) and the Grants and Co-Financing Management Unit (ORP/GCM), 2022, AquaFund and Gender. Water and Sanitation Initiative AquaFund (MAF). 2022 Annual Report. Inter-American Development Bank. P. 12. The gender strategy has been updated in 2023, and a future report will analyze how the AquaFund feeds this update in the coming years.

² Ortega, L. (2023). *Participación de las mujeres en cargos de decisión en el sector Agua y Saneamiento*. Unpublished.

en and girls are assigned to be in charge of bringing water for family consumption and to fulfill tasks at home. In fact, this responsibility falls 72 percent on women and girls in contrast with only 28 percent for men and boys³. Women and girls use water for domestic activities and home-caring for vulnerable family members, as well as taking care of small cattle and agricultural production. Given their active use of water, women tend to be truly knowledgeable about current water sources, their quality and reliability, and any restrictions on their use⁴. On the other hand, men use water for productive activities. Although women supply almost half of all agricultural labor in low-and middle-income countries, their agricultural productivity is on average 20 percent to 30 percent lower than male farmers. Therefore, agricultural activities supervised by men often take priority over those conducted by women⁵.

Who is responsible for bringing water home when access to this resource is limited?



19.04%

is the average of women presence in water, electricity and gas companies in Latin America and the Caribbean, according to ILO (International Labor Organization).

Despite the key role that women play as users and managers of water, they are rarely present in decision-making bodies. Indeed, worldwide women's participation in utilities is 17.7 percent, being present in 22.8 percent of engineering positions and 23.3 percent in management positions⁶. According to [ILO \(International Labor Organization\) data](#), in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) the presence of women in water, electricity and gas companies varies from 7.69 percent in Suriname to 32.62 percent in the Dominican Republic, with an average for the region equal to 19.04 percent, which is slightly higher than the global average but still very low. Women's underrepresent-

³ Monje, Andrea; Nuñez, Anamaria y Subiza, Dolores (2016). *¿Tiene género el agua? Infografía*. Washington D. C.: Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo, BID.

⁴ WB.2002. Water, Sanitation, and Gender Equality.

⁵ WB.2016. Toolkit for Mainstreaming Gender in Water Operations.

⁶ Banco Mundial (2020). *Las mujeres en las empresas públicas de agua derriban barreras*. Washington D. C.: Autor.



There is a need to integrate women in the planning, decision making and governance of water and sanitation services. They should be considered not only as beneficiaries and users, but also as active players in decision-making bodies, such as water committees, and water and sanitation operators, as well as workers in infrastructure projects.

tation is similar in community organizations in charge of local management of Water and Sanitation (W&S) services, in which women are underrepresented in decision-making positions. For example, in Mexico and Central America participation varies from 1 percent to 26 percent in secretary or treasurer positions in water community-based entities, while in Peru, women occupy 28.6 percent of water board positions, but are present only in 7 percent of decision-making positions⁷.

Therefore, working in the water and sanitation sectors means understanding these gender roles and relations, and taking them into account in the design and execution of projects. [Sector studies](#) have shown that the

equal involvement of men and women is positively correlated with improved sustainability of water supplies, as well as improved transparency and governance in management. This shows the need of integrating women in the planning, decision making and governance of water and sanitation services. In other words, women should be considered not only as beneficiaries and users, but also as active players in decision-making bodies, such as water committees, and water and sanitation operators, as well as workers in infrastructure projects. In fact, the impact of these gender interventions can go beyond water and sanitation, as they can translate into additional time for education or paid work for women and girls, reduced domestic gender-based violence, and empowered women in communities.

This report compiles a sample of the projects and Technical Cooperations that have been funded by AquaFund, organized according to the thematic areas of action of the Bank's Water and Sanitation Division. The percentage of strategic alignment with gender of operations in the 2018-2021 period⁸ is also reviewed, and the steps to follow are concluded to continue deepening gender actions and strategies in operations promoted by AquaFund.

⁷ CEPAL (2022). *Brechas, desafíos y oportunidades en materia de agua y género en América Latina y el Caribe. Recursos naturales y desarrollo. Serie No. 211*.

⁸ The 2018/2021 period is analyzed as it corresponds to a capitalization period of the Fund. The report also includes an update for 2022, although in the future a follow-up gender analysis will be done for the period 2021/2024 and based on the gender strategy update of 2023.

2 THE GENDER FRAMEWORK FOR WATER AND SANITATION PROJECTS AT THE IDB

IDB's GENDER ACTION PLAN

The Inter-American Development Bank's [Gender Action Plan for Operations \(GAP\)](#) is one of its main instruments for translating institutional commitments to gender equality and empowerment into action. While the GAP 2020-2021 maintains the objectives and areas of action of the GAP 2017-2019, it also addresses challenges identified during the previous GAP period, plus new necessities, such as supporting women from diverse populations who are disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

100%
of the IDB's project pipeline was screened at the beginning and middle of each year to identify potential for gender mainstreaming in operations.

Table 1 IDB's Gender Lines of Action

Specific Gender Lines of Action

2020-2021

- 1 Women's **economic opportunities** and productivity.
- 2 Women's **human capital** development.
- 3 **Violence** against women and girls.
- 4 Sexual and **reproductive health**.
- 5 **Gendered adaptation** of public services.
- 6 Institutional capacity to address **gender equality**.
- 7 Women's **leadership** and participation.
- 8 Gender-specific responses to **the COVID-19 pandemic** and economic recovery.
- 9 Masculinities and the **inclusion of boys and men**.



63%

of country strategies approved in the 2017-2019 period mainstreamed a focus on gender equality.

The GAP has been monitored since its approval in 2014, which has allowed us to observe an increase in the number of loans with gender mainstreaming. The update to the GAP of 2020 states that among the factors contributing to this growth were increasing the direct support from gender experts during project design, and screening 100 percent of the IDB's project pipeline at the beginning and middle of each year to identify potential for gender mainstreaming in operations. However, it is also highlighted that there is space to strengthen the inclusion of specific indicators, or sex disaggregated indicators, to understand the impact of such interventions on advancing gender issues.

Country strategies are also a key tool for project planning at the IDB Group. In this sense, 63 percent of country strategies approved in the 2017-2019 period mainstreamed a focus on gender equality by including country-specific gender analysis and strategic actions, and at least one gender-related result in the country strategy's results matrix. However, inadequate country-level data and limited country interest on gender issues were identified by IDB staff as the main obstacles to mainstreaming gender in country strategies⁹.

⁹ Idem

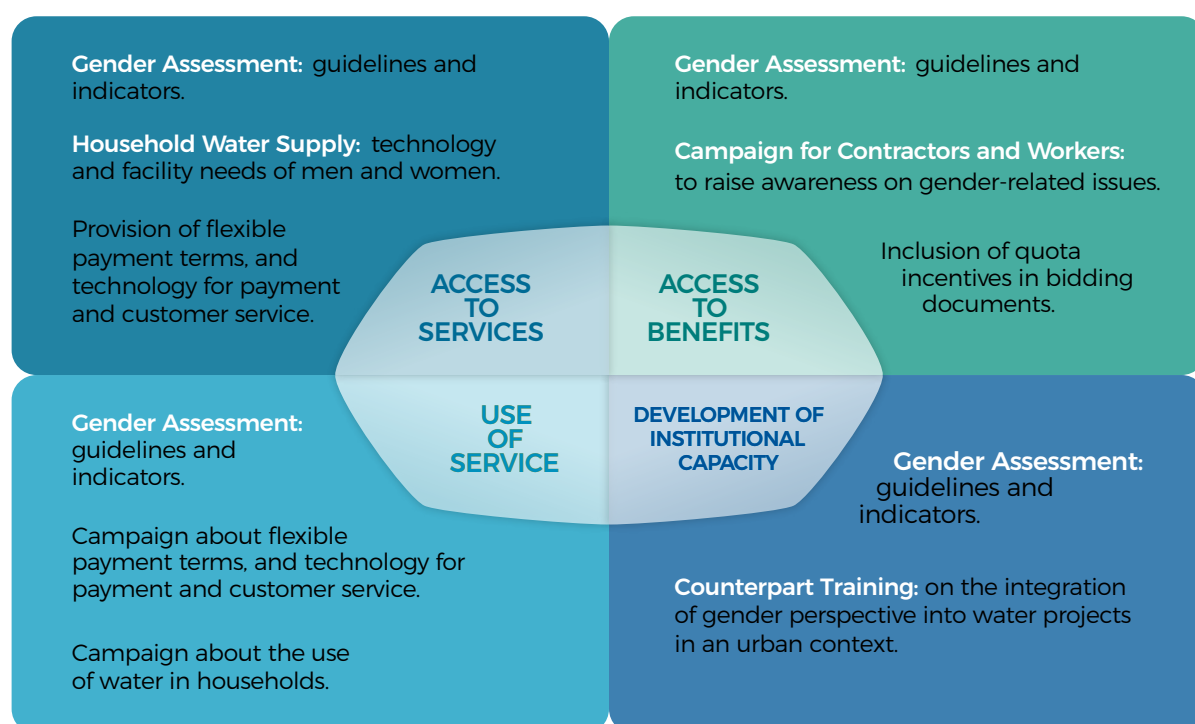
Table 2 Conditions to Consider a Project to be Aligned with Gender Strategic Objectives

Gender Strategic Alignment	
Since 2020, to be considered as a project that supports gender equality, the following three elements are required:	
1	An analysis of the development problem or gap related to gender equality or empowerment.
2	At least one activity/solution that addresses the gender-specific problem(s) or gap(s) identified.
3	At least one indicator in the project results matrix (or policy matrix for PBLs, or policy-based loans) that relates to the gender-specific problem or gap. The indicator may be at any level an output indicator, specific objective indicator, or general objective indicator.

THE GENDER INFRASTRUCTURE TOOL

The IDB has developed an [online guide](#) on how to integrate the gender perspective into the design of a sector operation. It has specific guidelines for Energy, Water and Sanitation, Transport, and Mining, Geothermal and Hydrocarbons. For Water and Sanitation projects, the tool offers the following resources and guidelines (as shown below in Figure 1) in four different areas of project design and implementation.

Figure 1 Resources for the Water and Sanitation Sector in IDB's Infrastructure Tool for Gender Mainstreaming



This tool is public, and it is also used internally at the IDB, specifically at the Water and Sanitation Division when working to integrate gender in loans and TCs.

THE BANK'S WATER AND SANITATION GUIDELINES

Following the GAP thematic lines of action, the Water and Sanitation division (WSA) has developed its own gender guidelines. The document specifies four strategic thematic areas:



1. **Equal Opportunities:**

promote that men and women can take advantage of the opportunities (mainly economic) generated by projects.



3. **Productive Local Development:**

aims at the integration of economic empowerment actions for women and young people into the productive use of water, and the promotion of productive activities around project intervention.



2. **Women's Leadership and Participation (Governance):**

promote active women's participation in the decision-making processes (design, execution, monitoring, and evaluation) in the water and sanitation sector.



4. **Behavior Change:**

promote new habits/ behaviors (hygiene, handwashing, menstrual hygiene, consumption/ savings, etc.) involving different family members.



The role of the AquaFund is key for the fulfillment of these priority lines. In fact, the AquaFund's result framework sets ambitious gender targets for the previous 2018-2021 period, with an expected increase from 16 percent in 2018 to at least 20 percent by 2021 of TCs addressing gender issues. This is the period (2018/2021) analyzed in this report to fit with the third AquaFund capitalization period.

Since June 2022, the Water and Sanitation Division (WSA) has set the challenging target that 50 percent of loans and TCs are aligned and contribute to the Bank's gender strategic objectives. To this end, a gender professional has been hired to work full time with WSA staff with the goal of analyzing the opportunities to mainstream gender in all projects (loans and TCs), and researching available data on gender disparities and roles. This work is also applied to AquaFund's projects to strengthen their gender perspective.

3 ANALYSIS: GENDER IN AQUAFUND PROJECTS (2018-2021)

To have an overview on how AquaFund projects have incorporated a gender perspective, this report analyzes a sample of 40 projects (see Annex). These projects have been selected to ensure representation of the whole portfolio in terms of themes (Water and Sanitation, Sanitation Only, Water Resources and Climate Change, and Solid Waste Management), types of TC (Client Support, Operational Support, Research and Dissemination, Investment Grant), and geographic focus (rural or urban).

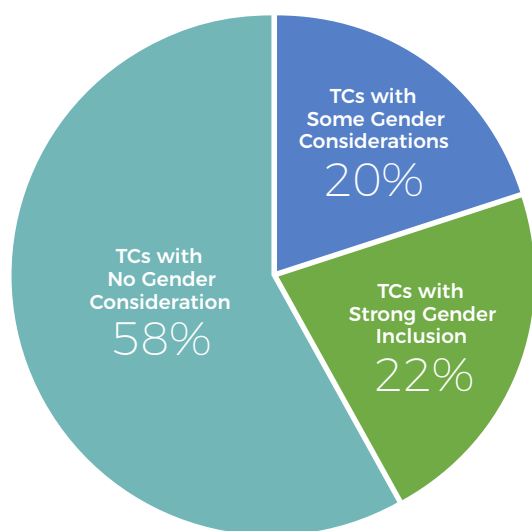
The analysis of the sample, as presented below in Figure 2, showed that more than half of the projects did not include any gender considerations, neither in the design phase (no mention of women, girls, or gender in any formal document), nor in the implementation (products or other results of the project). On the other hand, 22 percent of the projects generated key gender products either by mainstreaming gender in the outputs, or by creating specific gender pieces of work.



100%

of the projects stated to be aligned with the Bank's institutional strategies of social inclusion and equality.

Figure 2 Distribution of TCs in the Sample According to their Gender Perspective



No Gender Consideration: neither TC document, nor products, consider gender.

Some Gender Considerations: TC document or products mention gender, but there are no specific activities or products.

Strong Gender Inclusion: specific gender products are developed, or gender is clearly mainstreamed in general products.

Nevertheless, not all projects that have included activities or products directed to, or about women and girls and their interaction with the water and sanitation sector, were designed with a gender perspective. In fact, 65 percent of the projects that developed products and activities with a gender perspective did not mention gender, women or girls in the TC document or the results matrix. In other words, during the design phase, gender was only explicitly mentioned in 35 percent of the projects which, during the implementation phase, took into consideration the gender perspective. However, 100 percent of the projects stated to be aligned with the Bank's institutional strategies of social inclusion and equality.

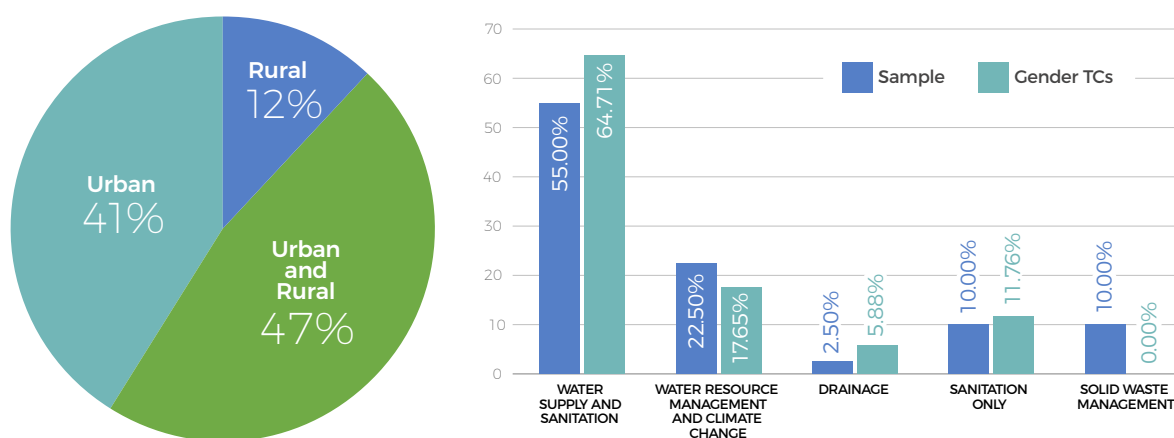


Rural projects represented only **12%** of the total projects with gender considerations but mostly due to the low presence of rural projects.

As shown below in Figure 3, in terms of geographical distribution, most projects which included some or strong gender perspective were urban, or urban and rural. Although 40 percent of rural projects explicitly mentioned gender, or women and girls in the TC document, and developed products with a gender perspective, only 12,5 percent of TCs in the sample were rural projects. Thus, when analyzed together with the other type of TCs, rural projects represented only 12 percent of the total projects with gender considerations but mostly due to the low presence of rural projects.

Regarding the thematic focus, and consistent with the sample distribution, over half of the projects with a gender perspective were in the water and sanitation sector; however, the proportion of drainage projects considering girls and women doubled compared to the sample (5 percent vs 2 percent), while the other thematic focuses were similarly represented.

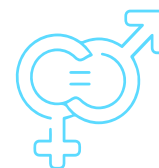
Figure 3 Geographic and Thematic Distribution of TCs with Gender Considerations



EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES AND PRODUCTIVE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

Water and sanitation projects, especially those which involve construction or improvement of infrastructure, can create local jobs. Many times, these projects include capacity building activities to create local knowledge on how to build, maintain, repair, and manage infrastructure. Social norms and gender roles usually entail very few women participating in these types of activities. Thus, including explicit and proactive actions to ensure women's participation in these capacity building and job opportunities is essential. And after the COVID-19 pandemic, which meant mass loss of jobs, more so for women, it is vital to work with a gender perspective to reactivate the economy with equality.

A good example is AquaFund's project Promoting the Sustainable Financial and Operational Recovery post COVID-19 of Water and Sanitation and Solid Waste Operators and Employment



After the COVID-19 pandemic, which meant mass loss of jobs, more so for women, it is vital to work with a gender perspective to reactivate the economy with equality.

For the sustainability of services, it is key to incorporate into projects a focus on quality, asset management and efficiency, factoring in gender equity and diversity, as well as resilience.

Generation in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC)¹⁰. From the design phase, it takes into consideration the lesson learned that for the sustainability of services, it is key to incorporate into projects a focus on quality, asset management and efficiency in the provision of such services factoring in gender equity and diversity, as well as resilience (including climate change). In this sense, Component I, which finances studies for the design of infrastructure projects for sustainable water, sanitation and solid waste, explicitly looks for the development and structuring of a methodology for the identification, monitoring, evaluation and prioritization of investments that maximize the generation of jobs with an emphasis on women and youth. Likewise, Component II finances the design of specialized interventions to reactivate employment in the chain of drinking water, sanitation and solid waste management services, distinguishing experiences as they correspond to the urban and/or rural context, and including measures for the inclusion of people in situations of social risk, gender issues, and people with disabilities.

WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP AND PARTICIPATION



One of the biggest barriers for women empowerment in this sector, as it happens in many others, is their scarce presence in decision-making bodies. If women are present on boards, they do so assuming positions of treasurers, secretaries, and rarely of presidents or vice presidents. Their voices, needs and experiences are not considered equally as those of men. This is harmful for all the community because in many cases women have managed to

¹⁰ RG-T3722 Promoting the Sustainable Financial and Operational Recovery post COVID-19 of Water and Sanitation and Solid Waste Operators and Employment Generation in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC).

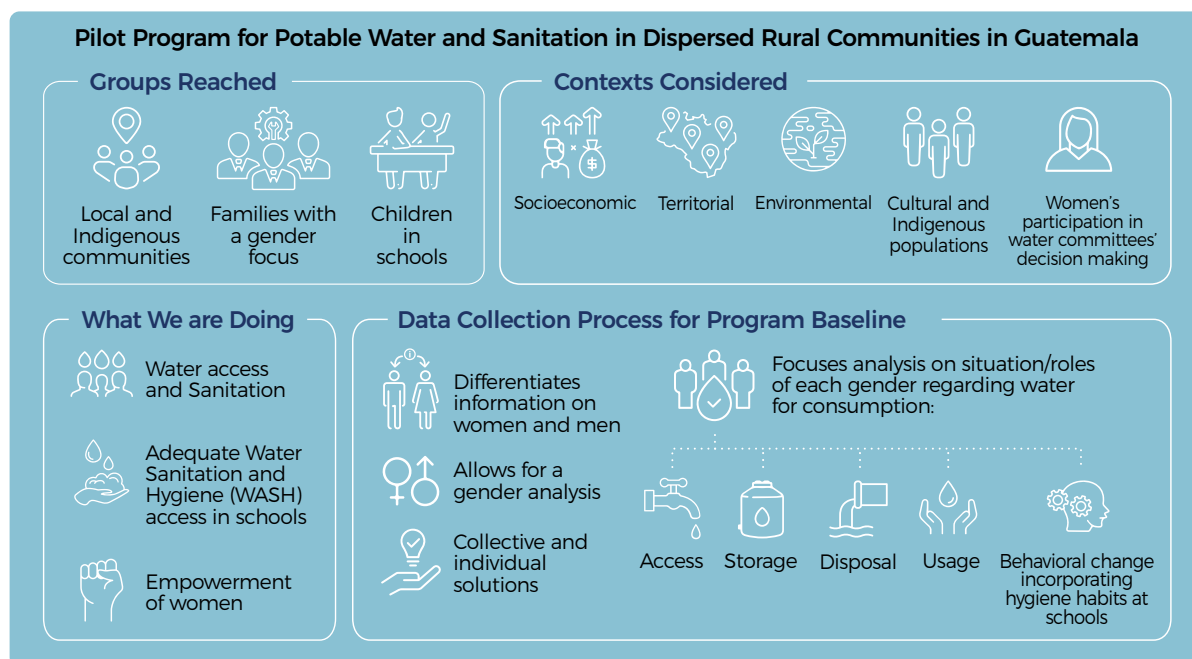
prevail a vision of natural resources as a public good, and they promote a governance that has often achieved preventing conflicts in situations of scarcity of water resources¹¹. Additionally, if the specific needs of women and girls in water and sanitation are not taken into consideration – which is common that none, or very few women are represented in decision-making bodies –, then gender inequalities will not only remain, but could increase.

With good governance, changes can be made at the organizational, regulatory and financial levels that guarantee not only sustainability over time, but also modernization and innovation. Additionally, efforts must be made to prioritize vulnerable populations to reduce gaps in access and quality, including women, people with disabilities, girls, Indigenous people, irregular settlements, among others. Thus, social aspects of water supply and sanitation are of paramount importance, as well as behavior change and gender issues¹².

Acknowledging this, the Multi-Year Execution Plan of the Pilot Program for Potable Water and Sanitation in Dispersed Rural Communities¹³ in Guatemala includes specific activities to strengthen women's participation. The overall objective of the project is to expand access to water and sanitation services in scattered rural communities in the municipality of Santa Lucia Utatlan through the design and implementation of intervention models that can be replicated in other parts of the country, and to facilitate the development, among others, of public policy guidelines for the provision of drinking water and sanitation services in dispersed rural areas. According to the XII Population Census (2018), the municipality was 53.34 percent women and 46.66 percent men.



Efforts must be made to prioritize vulnerable populations to reduce gaps in access and quality, including women, people with disabilities, girls, Indigenous people, irregular settlements, among others.



¹¹ RG-T3241 Sustainability of Community Water and Sanitation Services in Latin America.

¹² BO-T1367 LATINOSAN Santa Cruz de la Sierra 2022 Organization Support.

¹³ GU-G1009 Pilot Water and Sanitation Program in Scattered Rural Communities in Guatemala.

The executing agency, [Action Against Hunger](#), understood that it was essential to explicitly include activities to guarantee the participation of women in decision making and control of water resources, enabling an enhanced impact in the communities. Not only that, but it worked to “promote gender equality and equity from cultural relevance, taking into account the Mayan K’iche’ people from their worldview, principles and values, cultural identity, and the language they speak in their territory, among other elements that are part of the specific rights of Indigenous peoples.”¹⁴ To this end, the mentioned execution plan includes activities to show female heads of household as beneficiaries of water services within the communities, and involves the Municipal Directorate for Women in the process of establishing mechanisms and strategies to achieve greater involvement and appropriation of women in development processes.

It is necessary to create awareness in the communities, and in the technical team that develops and implements the projects and strategies (public sector). The issue must be approached from its socio-economic, territorial and environmental context. Furthermore, the program’s baseline was prepared collecting differentiated information on women and men, allowing for a gender analysis, specifically on the situation and roles of each gender in relation to the access, storage, use and disposal of water for consumption.



The expected benefits were:



To strengthen women’s capacities and presence in decision making and control over the destination of water resources.



To facilitate household access to drinking water while reducing the workload of women who are mothers, leaving them free time for other activities.



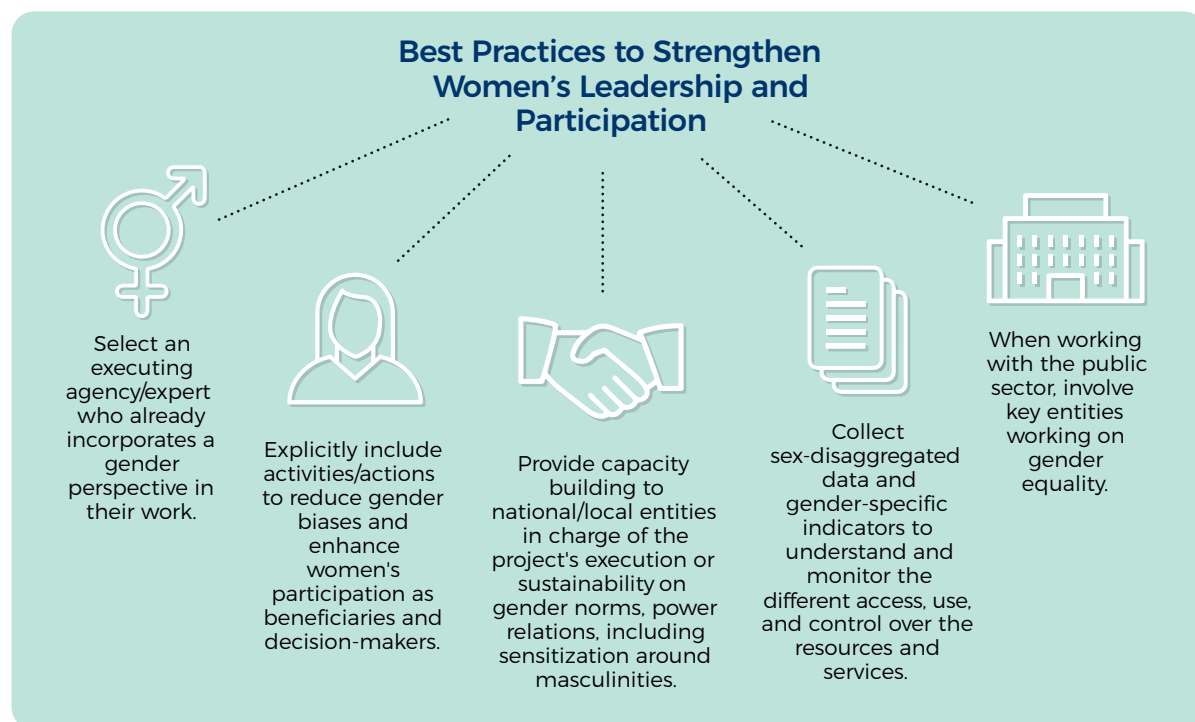
To promote empowerment and affirmative actions in favor of women that contribute to the reduction of gender gaps, as well as their active and purposeful participation in decision-making spaces in the Water and Sanitation committees, and in the implementation of actions aimed at the administration, operation, and maintenance of water and sanitation systems.



To strengthen the performance of projects and increase the chances of sustainability by ensuring the participation of both men and women.

¹⁴ GU-G1009 Annex IV Gender and Cultural Relevance Strategy AAH/IDB Project.

Table 3 Best Practices Gathered from Project GU-G1009



GENDER INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY AND BEHAVIOR CHANGE

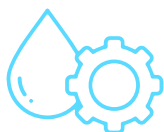
To obtain long-lasting results in gender equality, it is important to change established beliefs and behaviors that impede women from participating in the economy and society in equal terms. Interventions must consider individuals (both men and women), families, communities, as well as institutions.

HONDURAS

For instance, in Tegucigalpa, Honduras¹⁵, AquaFund supported the elaboration of the human resources plan with a gender approach, and the preparation of the Gender Action Plan for the emerging Municipal Potable Water and Sanitation Unit (UMAPS, by its Spanish acronym). Before this intervention, the Municipal Mayor's Office of the Central District and the National Autonomous Service of Aqueducts and Sewers (AMDC and SANAA, respectively, by their Spanish acronyms) had no established tools to work with a gender perspective. This lack of gender perspective resulted in a greater number of engineering, technical and construction personnel positions being held by men. Additionally, the average number of years spent in these positions was 20 years, in the case of men, and only three years in the case of women, highlighting that incorporating women is not enough to strengthen

Before AquaFund's intervention, Honduras' Municipal Mayor's Office of the Central District (AMDC), and the National Autonomous Service of Aqueducts and Sewers (SANAA), had no established tools to work with a gender perspective, resulting in a greater number of engineering, technical and construction personnel positions being held by men.

¹⁵ HO-T1334 Support for the Preparation of the Reform Program for Water and Sanitation Services in Tegucigalpa.



The program for the Integral Development of the Water and Sanitation Operating Organizations II (PRODI II), which seeks to improve the quality of the water service and sanitation by increasing the efficiency of the Operating Organisms of Water participants in Mexico, includes a gender perspective.

their presence in the sector if there are no other changes in the institutions and ecosystem. Thus, the AquaFund also supported the elaboration of a Gender Policy as a central instrument that would guide institutional practices within a framework of gender equality, incorporating the needs of women and men in public management, generation of works, and at the operational level with concrete actions. It was developed as a team effort with the UMAPS, and approved by the Mayor, who was extremely interested in replicating this instrument in other units of the municipality.

Additionally, a Gender Equality Unit was created, in charge of strategic communications – internal and external – and the construction of strategic alliances. The project supported the development of an Action Plan where the actions, goal periods, indicators, means of verification, personnel and financial resources, and responsible parties were defined. The support was complemented with capacity building sessions for the team in charge of implementing the corresponding Gender Action Plan. Thanks to the guidance of this gender policy, the UMAPS was created with women holding between 30-40 percent of the management and legal positions.

Table 4 Structure of the Gender Policy Developed for UMAPS

GENDER POLICY COMPONENTS FOR A WATER AND SANITATION UNIT



MEXICO

Likewise, the program for the Integral Development of the Water and Sanitation Operating Organizations II (PRODI II, by its Spanish acronym)¹⁶, which seeks to improve the quality of the water service and sanitation by increasing the efficiency of the Operating Organisms of Water participants in Mexico, includes a gender perspective. The capacity development activities include training and

¹⁶ ME-T1424 Support for the Execution of the Program for the Integral Development of the Water and Sanitation Operating Organizations II (PRODI II).

support for the implementation of AquaRating, procurement processes, compliance with socio-environmental safeguards and actions that contribute to gender equality and diversity, such as raising awareness of gender, prevention of violence, and the promotion of women in positions of decision.

SURINAME

In Suriname, AquaFund has gone a step further in diversity and inclusion in the water and sanitation sector, going beyond the binary considerations of gender (men and women). When supporting the Suriname Water Company (SWM) Modernization Program and Sanitation Improvement¹⁷, the social analysis included gender dynamics of water usage in the areas of intervention (Paramaribo, Para, Wanika and Saramacca), including the LGBTQ+ population. This includes a qualitative and quantitative analysis of differentiated use of water by men and women; differentiated access to benefits of the operation by men and women; participation of women in decision making about water usage, including in any formal bodies such as Water Boards; and measures to promote participation of women, Indigenous women and LGBTQ+ population in the public consultation. Additionally, the project analyzed the social impacts of the associated loan, including gender issues related to the context in which infrastructure or services would be provided, and any epidemiological information about flow of informal workforce that may be associated with risk of dissemination of sexually transmitted diseases or violence against women.



In Suriname, AquaFund has gone a step further in diversity and inclusion in the water and sanitation sector, going beyond the binary considerations of gender (men and women).

Table 5 Gathered Best Practices from AquaFund's Projects

BEST PRACTICES TO STRENGTHEN GENDER INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY



When strengthening water and sanitation entities (operators), include the development of a Gender Policy and corresponding Gender Action Plan.



Finance capacity building sessions to water and sanitation operators on how gender interacts with access, use of water and sanitation services.



Carry out social analysis of the area prior to interventions, and the potential social impact of such interventions, taking into consideration all genders.

¹⁷ [SU-T1127 Support to the Suriname Water Company \(SWM\) Modernization Program and Sanitation Improvement in Suriname.](#)

MAINSTREAMING GENDER IN THE DESIGN OF PRODUCTS AND SERVICES



Once it is understood how gender interacts with the water and sanitation sectors, the design of any intervention should take these considerations into account. In other words, mainstreaming gender becomes the norm, as it strengthens outputs and outcomes. A clear example is Aqua Fund's project Addressing the Inequalities in Water and Sanitation Services through a Human Rights Approach¹⁸. This TC seeks to decrease the inequality in access to water and sanitation services, and performs research and implements pilot programs with a focus on the most vulnerable, such as the population working in the streets of urban areas, women, the elderly, and the population living with disabilities.

Gender is at the core of the Human Right to Water and Sanitation (HRWS). In this sense, the project financed specific studies on how to mainstream gender, to ensure the criteria of privacy and safety of services included in the HRWS. This project has developed several Knowledge Products (see next section) that highlight the importance and the ways to include a gender perspective in water and sanitation. For instance, it is established that, with respect to sanitation, facilities used by more than one household, or in public places, will require separate facilities for men and women, built in such a way as to guarantee the privacy of users. Bathrooms intended for women and girls must have facilities to meet



Latin American
women between
the ages of

15 - 44

are more likely
than men to die
in disasters.

¹⁸ [RG-T3549 Addressing the Inequalities in Water and Sanitation Services through a Human Rights Approach.](#)

the needs of menstrual hygiene and the disposal of hygienic products according to their culture. It also emphasizes that it is important to consider the disproportionate amount of time women and girls spend collecting water, which in many cases affects their access to other rights, such as education or paid employment.

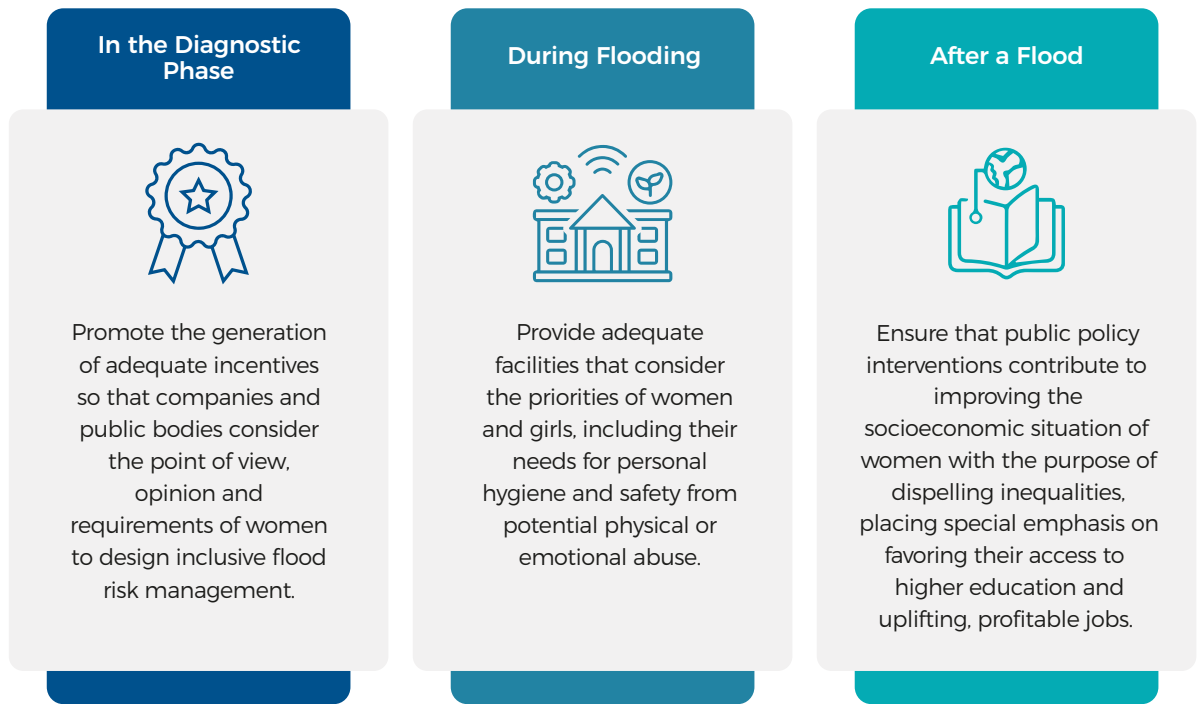
Mainstreaming gender is also relevant in projects that focus on sewer systems. In effect, the Storm Drainage Sector Framework¹⁹, developed with AquaFund's support, acknowledges that In Latin America, the resurgence of extreme events disproportionately overwhelms women who, in addition, between the ages of 15 and 44, are more likely than men to die in disasters.



Table 6 Good Practices Considered in AquaFund's Project RG-T3375

MAINSTREAMING GENDER IN RESPONSE TO HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL EVENTS

To reduce the vulnerability of women to extreme hydrometeorological events, it is necessary to:



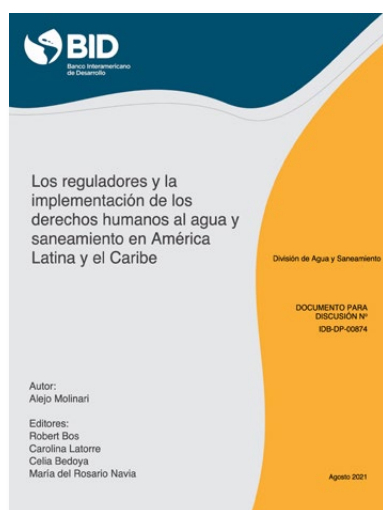
Source: Jordan, et al., 2020:2-3

19 RG-T3375 Urban Water Management and Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.

KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS

Aqua Fund's effort to mainstream gender in water and sanitation projects has generated several Knowledge Products with key messages for the sector.

SANITATION SERVICES



Regulation must ensure safe access to public services considering the specific needs of pregnant women, women with children, and women and girls with disabilities.

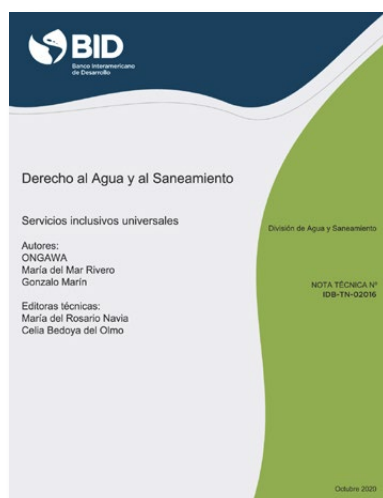
Regulators and the Implementation of the Human Rights to Water and Sanitation in Latin America and the Caribbean²⁰

This [study](#) (2021) concludes that in the Region, there are no specific norms or regulations to attend gender issues related to sanitation services and hygiene. Thus, it shares the criteria to progressively work towards the Human Rights to Water and Sanitation (HRWS). One of them is Physical Accessibility, which is closely related to gender, including matters of acceptability and safety of the services, especially toilets. In this sense, regulation must ensure safe access to public services in community buildings, schools, hospitals, prisons, etc., considering the specific needs of pregnant women, women with children, as well as women and girls with disabilities. The responsibility usually lies in public bodies such as the Ministry of Housing, City and Territory (Colombia), the National Institute of Physical Educational Infrastructure (Mexico), or the Ministry of Social Development (Panama).

Another criterion is Quality and Safety, by which sanitation services should prevent the contact of humans, animals and insects with waste, and enable washing hands and affected body parts, as well as disposing of any personal hygiene products. These norms must explicitly consider the menstrual hygiene needs of girls and women.



20 RG-T3549 Addressing the Inequalities in Water and Sanitation Services through a Human Rights Approach.

ACCESS
TO WATERThe Right to Water and Sanitation²¹

This [report](#) (2020) presents good practices in the Region to work towards the Human Right to Water, to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the Resolution 64/192 of 2010, by which the General Assembly of the United Nations explicitly recognized the human rights to water and sanitation.

In this sense, the regulation in Ecuador states that any water policy must incorporate the gender perspective “in such a way that it establishes concrete measures to meet the needs specific to women in the exercise of the human right to water.”

In El Salvador, the public consultation on the recognition of the human right to water at the municipal level was carried out in 2017, with the key support of feminist organizations such as Suchito-to’s Concertation of Women, the Commission of Environmentalist Women and the Feminist Collective for Local Development.

In Peru, the institutional strategic plan (2018-2020) highlights how women suffer from the lack of quality services more dramatically than men, and how they are excluded from decision-making processes in the sector by assuming this function as a male affair.

In Bolivia, a national program intended for small towns and rural communities develops a gender strategy that seeks to put women – mostly Indigenous women – at the center of interventions and the management of both water and sanitation systems implemented within the framework of the program. This program also has a work modality so-called “gender intensive” that adds specific actions with two objectives: a) to enable that women replicate health and environmental education received in the training; and b) that women participate by getting actively involved in the operation and maintenance of works of the Public Social Water and Sanitation Company (EPSAS, by its Spanish acronym).

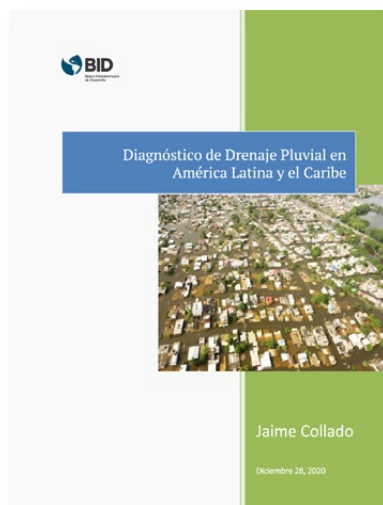
In addition, the program developed a gender notebook to guide the implementation of each project’s activities, ensuring that all are carried out with a gender-sensitive approach. Finally, specific training provided to women about their rights, their roles in society and leadership, among other topics.

Chapter 5 of this document is dedicated to showcasing examples in the Region on how to include a gender perspective in the management of services. For instance, the State Sanitary Works (OSE, by its Spanish acronym), responsible for the supply of drinking water throughout Uruguay and of the sanitation services in the interior of the country, developed policies of positive discrimination and gender equity. Or the case of a rural area of Nicaragua, where women members of community committees received training on management of water and sanitation services, to drive changes in the composition of decision-making boards.



²¹ [RG-T3549 Addressing the Inequalities in Water and Sanitation Services through a Human Rights Approach.](#)

DRAINAGE



The Storm Drainage Sector Framework Document was developed in 2021. It includes affirmative steps to reduce women and girls' vulnerability in the face of extreme hydroclimate events. It also differentiates between women-friendly projects (those that take into consideration women and their empowerment) and gender-sensitive projects (which also include men and other genders).

Diagnosis of Storm Drainage in Latin America and the Caribbean²²

Chapter 2.6 of this document (2020) is dedicated to gender and its relation to floods. It states that men and women differ in their degree of fragility, and that they have different capacities to respond to floods. Due to the historical and social assignment of gender roles and the sexual division of labor (by which mainly women oversee domestic and care responsibilities), women endure different kinds of harm, and have developed other capacities and resources to face natural catastrophes. Thus, social factors such as gender roles and norms must be taken into account in the design and management of drainage projects and infrastructure.

As a result of this diagnosis, the Storm Drainage Sector Framework Document was developed in 2021. It includes the affirmative steps found in Table 6 of the present document, to reduce women and girls' vulnerability in the face of extreme hydroclimate events. It also differentiates between women-friendly projects (those that take into consideration women and their empowerment) and gender-sensitive projects (which also include men and other genders).



²² RG-T3375 Urban Water Management and Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.

4 MOVING FORWARD

AquaFund partners, the Water and Sanitation Division, as well as the whole IDB Group are active in including a gender perspective in their operations to achieve better, fairer, and sustainable results. This has become evident in the present analysis of AquaFund TCs and the projects they support. Additionally, as mentioned before, since early 2022, the division has been working with a gender specialist to support teams to identify opportunities to mainstream gender. As of the time this analysis was written, 33 percent of AquaFund's portfolio²³ for half of 2022 and 2023 (approved and in pipeline) had the potential to be aligned with IDB's gender strategy.

As part of these efforts to strengthen the gender perspective in AquaFund, here are additional recommendations:



■ Follow IDB's Gender Strategic Alignment:

Technical Cooperations should aim at following the three conditions set by IDB to be considered as a project that supports gender equality (see Table 2, p. 11):



■ Explicitly Mention Gender and Women in Project Documents:

When the project, from the design phase, proactively and explicitly incorporates gender, and/or is aware of the different experiences and roles of men and women in the sector, it increases the chances of executing with a gender perspective.

■ Ensure Coherence between Strategic Alignment and Project Activities:

Many projects stated to be aligned with social inclusion and equality strategic themes, but there was no mention of it in the description of the project, nor related products. If there is conviction that the project adds to social inclusion and equality, there should be actions, or products to showcase it.

■ Prioritize Providers who Already Work with a Gender Perspective:

When hiring individuals or entities to execute projects, selecting those who already understand how and why to include a gender perspective in water and sanitation projects will increase the chances of doing so, and in a correct manner. To this end, it is advised to request their experience in gender mainstreaming as part of the request for proposals.

²³ This percentage will likely increase once the analysis is finalized.

■ Create Synergies with other Projects Working on Gender:

The Water and Sanitation Division is including gender in other projects which are not part of AquaFund's portfolio. Understanding the themes and the ways gender is being included in all WSA TCs can strengthen AquaFund's gender inclusion by spotting opportunities for synergies. Operational Support projects can finance gender guidelines for corresponding PBLs (policy-based loans), or loans, so that executing agencies understand the reasons and correct ways to include and carry out the proposed gender actions.

■ Design a Gender-Specific Project to Collect, Disseminate Knowledge, and Strengthen Capacities:

Committing funds just for gender-related activities can facilitate the inclusion of gender in other projects. This TC could finance gender analysis of the sector in different countries, as mentioned in Table 2, which provides essential information for the design and execution of other activities, including gender-specific activities. It could also finance capacity building sessions for public entities, beneficiaries, and even executing agencies. The gender-specific project(s) could also develop Knowledge Products to be used in other projects and loans.

Testimonial Video:



This document has been financed through the AquaFund Multi-Donor Fund, a fund of the Inter-American Development Bank for water and sanitation supported by the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID, by its Spanish acronym), the Austrian Ministry of Finance, the Swiss Cooperation through the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (COSUDE), and the PepsiCo Foundation.

<http://www.iadb.org/>

Copyright © 2025 Inter-American Development Bank ("IDB"). This work is subject to a Creative Commons license CC BY 3.0 IGO (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/igo/legalcode>). The terms and conditions indicated in the URL link must be met and the respective recognition must be granted to the IDB.

Further to section 8 of the above license, any mediation relating to disputes arising under such license shall be conducted in accordance with the WIPO Mediation Rules. Any dispute related to the use of the works of the IDB that cannot be settled amicably shall be submitted to arbitration pursuant to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) rules. The use of the IDB's name for any purpose other than for attribution, and the use of IDB's logo shall be subject to a separate written license agreement between the IDB and the user and is not authorized as part of this license.

Note that the URL link includes terms and conditions that are an integral part of this license.

The opinions expressed in this work are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Inter-American Development Bank, its Board of Directors, or the countries they represent.



In the framework of the AquaFund

 Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Embassy of Switzerland in Peru

International Cooperation - SDC
Regional Hub Lima

PEPSICO
FOUNDATION

 Federal Ministry
Republic of Austria
Finance

 Spanish
Cooperation

 IDB

ANNEX

SAMPLE OF AQUAFUND'S PROJECTS
ANALYZED FOR THIS REPORT

Number	Name	Approval Year	Amount (AQF)	Status: Active/Closed	Type*	Geographic Focus	Thematic Focus
MAF**							
RG-T3241	Sustainability of Community Water and Sanitation Services in Latin America	2018	400,000	Active	CS	Rural	Water Supply and Sanitation
BR-T1351	Strengthening of Capacity Building for Prevention and Water Crisis Management by the State of Sao Paulo	2018	950,000	Active	CS	Urban and Rural	Water Resource Management and Climate Change
EC-T1416	Support to the Preparation of the Program to Improve Water, Sanitation and Drainage in Rural Areas of the Canton of Portoviejo	2019	300,000	Active	OS	Rural	Water Supply and Sanitation
RG-T3549	Addressing the Inequalities in Water and Sanitation Services through a Human Rights Approach	2019	475,500	Active	RD	Rural	Water Supply and Sanitation
RG-T3411	Transparency and Information Management in the Water and Sanitation Sector	2019	300,000	Active	CS	Urban and Rural	Water Resource Management and Climate Change
RG-T3476	Facing the Water Security Challenge: Developing Water Security and Drought Management Plans for LAC Countries	2019	150,000	Active	RD	Urban and Rural	Water Resource Management and Climate Change
RG-T3538	Creation of the Latin American Water and Sanitation Observatory (OLAS)	2019	400,000	Active	CS	Urban and Rural	Water Supply and Sanitation
RG-T3375	Urban Water Management and Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems	2019	300,000	Active	CS	Urban	Drainage
GU-G1009	Pilot Water and Sanitation Program in Scattered Rural Communities in Guatemala	2020	700,000	Active	IGR	Urban and Rural	Water Supply and Sanitation

Number	Name	Approval Year	Amount (AQF)	Status: Active/Closed	Type*	Geographic Focus	Thematic Focus
CO-T1555	Support to the Implementation of the Work Plan of the Water Operator's Partnership – Colombia Platform 2020-2022 (WOP-Colombia)	2020	150,000	Active	CS	Urban	Water Supply and Sanitation
RG-T3722	Promoting the Sustainable Financial and Operational Recovery post COVID-19 of Water and Sanitation and Solid Waste Operators, and Employment Generation in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC)	2020	600,000	Active	CS	Urban and Rural	Water Supply and Sanitation
RG-T3776	Regional Action Plan for Drinking Water, Basic Sanitation, and Solid Waste Management Organization of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty	2020	650,000	Active	RD	Urban and Rural	Water Supply and Sanitation
PE-T1476	Sustainability Analysis for Water and Sanitation Rural Program (PIASAR I), and Support to Preparation of a Water and Sanitation Rural Project Portfolio	2021	500,000	Active	CS	Rural	Water Supply and Sanitation
RG-T3775	Inclusive Circular Economy in the Pacific Alliance	2021	500,000	Active	CS	Urban	Solid Waste Management
OC***							
RG-T3216	Water, Sanitation, and Solid Waste Knowledge Generation, Management and Dissemination	2018	750,000	Active	RD	Urban	Solid Waste Management
RG-T3229	Food Loss and Waste Reduction Program for Latin America and the Caribbean	2018	400,000	Active	CS	Urban	Solid Waste Management
BO-T1319	Support for the Preparation and Implementation of the Integrated Water Management Program in Urban Areas	2018	100,000	Closed	OS	Urban	Water Resource Management and Climate Change
RG-T3195	Eye on Latin America and the Caribbean at World Water Week 2018-2019	2018	300,000	Active	RD	Urban and Rural	Water Resource Management and Climate Change
RG-T3298	IDB-Israel Collaboration: Improving Capacities in Water Resource Technologies	2018	500,000	Active	RD	Urban and Rural	Water Resource Management and Climate Change
SU-T1102	Support to SWM Institutional and Operational Strengthening	2018	500,000	Closed	CS	Urban	Water Resource Management and Climate Change

Number	Name	Approval Year	Amount (AQF)	Status: Active/Closed	Type*	Geographic Focus	Thematic Focus
UR-T1171	Master Plan for the Supply of Drinking Water in the Maldonado Department	2018	300,000	Active	CS	Urban	Water Supply and Sanitation
PN-T1206	Support for the Reform of the Water and Sanitation Sector	2018	500,000	Closed	OS	Urban	Water Supply and Sanitation
HO-T1301	Basic Infrastructure (Potable Water, Sanitation, Energy) in the Bay Islands, in Support of Sustainable Tourism	2018	600,000	Active	OS	Urban	Water Supply and Sanitation
RG-T3244	Update of Sector Strategic Plans for the Achievement of the SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals)	2018	500,000	Active	CS	Urban and Rural	Water Supply and Sanitation
SU-T1127	Support to the Suriname Water Company (SWM) Modernization Program and Sanitation Improvement in Suriname	2019	200,000	Active	OS	Urban	Sanitation Only
DR-T1189	Support for the Preparation of the Santiago Province Urban-Rural Water and Sanitation Integration Project (DR-L1139)	2019	500,000	Active	OS	Urban and Rural	Water Supply and Sanitation
PR-T1268	Support to the Implementation of Reforms, the Institutional Strengthening, and the Formulation of Long-Term Investment Plans for the Water and Sanitation Sector in Paraguay	2019	250,000	Active	OS	Urban and Rural	Water Supply and Sanitation
RG-T3410	Promotion of Innovation in the Water and Sanitation Sector in Latin America and the Caribbean	2019	400,000	Active	RD	Urban and Rural	Water Supply and Sanitation
RG-T3471	Strengthening the Management of the AquaFund and its Partners	2019	450,000	Active	RD	Urban	Water Supply and Sanitation
HO-T1334	Support for the Preparation of the Reform Program for Water and Sanitation Services in Tegucigalpa	2019	350,000	Active	OS	Urban	Water Supply and Sanitation
BL-T1125	Design of Wastewater Treatment Solutions in Coastal Areas	2020	250,000	Active	CS	Urban	Sanitation Only
BO-T1367	LATINOSAN Santa Cruz de la Sierra 2022 Organization Support	2020	200,000	Active	CS	Urban and Rural	Water Supply and Sanitation
ME-T1424	Support for the Execution of the Program for the Integral Development of the Water and Sanitation Operating Organizations II (PRODI II)	2020	500,000	Active	OS	Urban	Water Supply and Sanitation
PN-T1249	Support for Reforms in the Water, Sanitation and Energy Sectors	2020	400,000	Active	OS	Urban and Rural	Water Supply and Sanitation
BR-T1449	Support for the Preparation of the Social and Environmental Program for Manaus and the Interior – PROSAMIN	2020	300,000	Active	CS	Urban	Water Resource Management and Climate Change

Number	Name	Approval Year	Amount (AQF)	Status: Active/Closed	Type*	Geographic Focus	Thematic Focus
BR-T1450	Strengthening the Regulation in the Field of Integrated Water Resources Management Aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals	2020	200,000	Active	CS	Urban	Water Resource Management and Climate Change
RG-T3882	Digitalization of Information and Measurement of the Performance of Solid Waste Management within the Framework of the Circular Economy, the SDGs, and Climate Change	2021	300,000	Active	RD	Urban and Rural	Solid Waste Management
RG-T3982	Support for the Generation of Information on the Performance of Water and Sanitation Operators for OLAS	2021	230,436	Active	RD	Urban and Rural	Water Supply and Sanitation
RG-T3874	Strengthening of the Latin America and the Caribbean Observatory for Water and Sanitation (OLAS), and Launch of the Research and Development Network	2021	400,000	Active	RD	Urban and Rural	Water Supply and Sanitation
BR-T1484	Support for the Development and Implementation of the National Regulation of Basic Sanitation Services of Brazil	2021	600,000	Active	CS	Rural	Sanitation Only

*AquaFund's Technical Cooperation (TC) Projects by Type:

CS: Client Support

OS: Operational Support

RD: Research and Dissemination

IGR: Investment Grant

****Multi-Donor Fund**

*****Ordinary Capital**

In the framework of the **AquaFund**



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Embassy of Switzerland in Peru

International Cooperation - SDC
Regional Hub Lima

PEPSICO
FOUNDATION



Federal Ministry
Republic of Austria
Finance



Spanish
Cooperation



IDB