**Module -2**

**Women’s Empowerment in Coffee farming**

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| Session-1  | Women’s Empowerment  |
| Session-2 | Women’s right and responsibilities  |
| Session-3 | Access to land, credit and market opportunities  |
| Session-4 | Building confidence and leadership skills  |

Introduction

Women and coffee farming raise close attention in agriculture and development debates. History shows that women profoundly contribute to producing good quality coffee. However, their involvement has not fully brought positive development for themselves and their families. As a major coffee producer, women in Ulubelu, Lampung experience that condition. Women face market uncertainty, lack access to knowledge, lack power to make decisions, face unsupportive policies, and experience low participation in organizations to gain capacity building on coffee value chain. Although women deal with the difficult situation, there are some figures that encourage collective reflection of women to address the coffee farming problem. (Jurnal Ilmu Sosial dan Ilmu Politik

Volume 22, Issue 3, March 2019). Women produce high quality coffee but are still seen as invisible producers (Oxfam, 2013). They do not receive the wages and deal with challenges to support the family farming business as well as domestic obligations (Akter et al., 2017).

A quick guide on empowerment, key factor that contribute in women’s empowerment.

**Training material required**:

* Coloured cards
* Flip charts
* Markers

**Session’s duration:**

2 hours

**Session-1**

**Women’s Empowerment**

Before discussing the women’s empowerment, we have to be clear on what empowerment means, and how it can be achieved. What is empowerment? *Empowerment means people having power and control over their lives. People get the support they need that is right for them. Empowerment means that people are equal citizens. Thay are requested and confident in their communities. You can’t empower someone else or make someone empowered.*

Women comprise 36 percent of the world’s agricultural employment, with a particularly significant role in agrifood systems in regions like sub-Saharan Africa and southern Asia (FAO, 2023). Despite their essential contributions to food and nutrition security as well as agricultural and rural development, rural women and girls continue to face pervasive barriers and discrimination, with unequal access to productive resources, services, decent employment, and markets. The root cause of gender inequalities lies in discriminatory social norms, attitudes, and beliefs, as well as rigid gender roles that affect how women and men behave, their opportunities and aspirations (FAO, 2023).

Women’s empowerment has five components:

1. Women’s sense of self-worth
2. Their right to have and determine choices.
3. Their right to have access to opportunities and resources
4. Their right to have power to control their own lives, both within and outside the home
5. And their ability to influence the direction of social and their ability to influence the direction of social change to create a more just social and economic order.

In this context, education, training, awareness raising, building self-confidence, expansion of choice, increased access to and control over resources, and actions to transform the structure and institutions that reinforce and perpetuate gender discrimination and inequality are important tools for empowerment women and girls to claim their rights.

Women’s empowerment is the process of supporting the advancement and enhancement of women’s power and agency to expand their ability to control their lives. It implies empowering and enabling men and women to participate more effectively in agrifood systems, which also translates into improving the well-being of their children and future generations (FAO, 2023). Achieving gender equality and empowering rural women, men, girls, and boys will not only improve nutrition, health, and education outcomes but will also bring both immediate and long-term economic and social benefits for families, communities, and nations at large. It encompasses dimensions such as resources and services, agency, and power.

**Session-2**

**Women’s Rights and Responsibilities**

**Session-3**

**Access to land, credit and market opportunities**

Gender in Agriculture reveals that women lack access to agricultural inputs, training, information and marketing services. Furthermore, the Women’s Empowerment in Agriculture Index shows that women lack access to various agricultural groups and are poorly represented across a range of civic, government and business groups. The Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) declared that eliminating this gender gap in agriculture would increase production in developing countries by 2.5 to four percent. In Indonesia, approximately 49 percent of agricultural households comprise of women farmers according to the 2018 Agriculture Census. These women are involved in almost all agricultural processes and vital functions, yet they still often lack recognition. Their agricultural work is perceived as secondary to their domestic responsibilities and to men’s involvement in agriculture.

it is evident that women who are in need of information, still do not have adequate access to it and are unable to further develop their potential. Building the capacity of women and increasing their access would benefit farmers, the private sector, and the government as women’s involvement in agriculture provides a considerable contribution. This would also boost women’s confidence, broaden their knowledge and raise their voices within the family and the community.

**Access to credit** – Credit is a limited resource for both male and female farmers. However, since women often do not possess collateral in the form of physical assets, they have more difficulty accessing the finance they need to buy inputs and invest in their farms. These specific challenges have a strong impact on women farmers’ income.

**Group work**

To discuss the issues of access to market, credit etc. And do mapping of credit institution, communities groups around.

**Session-4**

**Building confidence and leadership skills**

By ensuring that women are visible as coffee farmers and are able to build their agronomy skills, confidence, and voice in decisions about the farm and household finances, they can be supported to increase their income and access to resources. When women are economically empowered, the benefits extend beyond their own households. Studies have shown that women are more likely to reinvest their income into their families, prioritizing health, nutrition, and education.

This reinvestment leads to improved living standards for their families and fosters long-term community development. For example, closing the gender gap in agriculture could increase yields on farms by 20-30%, leading to significant economic growth in coffee-producing regions.The coffee industry has made strides toward gender equality, but significant challenges remain. Gender disparities are still prevalent, particularly in leadership roles and decision-making positions, which are predominantly held by men.

What are leadership?

A process of social influence in which one person can enlist the aid and support of others in the accomplishment of a common task.

And equip them with leadership skills such as:

1. Promoting women’s leadership within cooperatives and producer organizations and community level can help to ensure that all member farmers and workers have their voices and perspectives represented.
2. Through creating spaces for women in coffee-farming communities to explore their own power and influence, their preferred leadership styles, and strategies for leading to empower others.
3. Increasing leadership’s awareness of the benefits of women’s inclusion in their businesses can lead to the adoption of business practices which support dignified opportunities for women as workers, members, and leaders beyond solely the production aspects of the value chain.
4. To raise their voices collectively these changes across the value chain can support women’s livelihoods.
5. When women have income and decision-making power, they can transform their communities and dismantle the barriers that limit their opportunities.