

Gender! Where? Rethinking geographical scale and gender in SDIP.

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Sustainable Development Investment Portfolio (SDIP) at CSIRO

- SDIP aims to improve the integrated water management of **water, energy and food** in three major Himalayan river basins
- CSIRO designs **cutting edge water models** to predict changing water flows in these water insecure regions.
- A key priority for SDIP is to **improve the livelihoods of women and girls** in these regions.





Women in Development (WID) criticised how women were painted as 'passive' (water carriers, mothers), and did not see the benefits of development. Focused on increasing female economic participation.



Gender and Development (GAD) developed from critiques of WID and looked at women's relative material deprivation compared to men. Focused on a social transformation of the spaces women occupy and work in.



UN Beijing Declaration

- Mainstreaming presented as a ***mechanism***, as well as a theory.
- About “*mainstreaming a gender perspective in all policies and programs*”
- Analyses the role of gender in **the institutions implementing projects**, not just gender in the projects themselves.

women and men must participate fully and equally in the formulation of macroeconomic and social policies and strategies for the eradication of poverty. The eradication of poverty cannot be accomplished through anti-poverty programmes alone but will require democratic participation and changes in economic structures in order to ensure access for all women to resources, opportunities and public services. Poverty has various manifestations, including lack of income and productive resources sufficient to ensure a sustainable livelihood; hunger and malnutrition; ill health; limited or lack of access to education and other basic services; increasing morbidity and mortality from illness; homelessness and inadequate housing; unsafe environments; and social discrimination and exclusion. It is also characterized by lack of participation in decision-making and in civil, social and cultural life. It occurs in all countries - as mass poverty in many developing countries and as pockets of poverty amidst wealth in developed countries. Poverty may be caused by an economic recession that results in loss of livelihood or by disaster or conflict. There is also the poverty of low-wage workers and the utter destitution of people who fall outside family support systems, social institutions and safety nets.

48. In the past decade the number of women living in poverty has increased disproportionately to the number of men, particularly in the developing countries. The feminization of poverty has also recently become a significant problem in the countries with economies in transition as a short-term consequence of the process of political, economic and social transformation. In addition to economic factors, the rigidity of socially ascribed gender roles and women's limited access to power, education, training and productive resources as well as other emerging factors that may lead to insecurity for families are also responsible. **The failure to adequately mainstream a gender perspective in all economic analysis and planning and to address the structural causes of poverty is also a contributing factor.**

49. Women contribute to the economy and to combating poverty through both remunerated and unremunerated work at home, in the community and in the workplace. The empowerment of women is a critical factor in the eradication of poverty.

50. While poverty affects households as a whole, because of the gender division of labour and responsibilities for household welfare, women bear a disproportionate burden, attempting to manage household consumption and production under conditions of increasing scarcity. Poverty is particularly acute for women living in rural households.

51. Women's poverty is directly related to the absence of economic opportunities and autonomy, lack of access to economic resources, including credit, land ownership and inheritance, lack of access to education and support services and their minimal participation in the decision-making process. Poverty can also force women into situations in which they are vulnerable to sexual exploitation.

52. In too many countries, social welfare systems do not take sufficient account of the specific conditions of women living in poverty, and there is a tendency to scale back the services provided by such systems. The risk of falling into poverty is greater for women than for men, particularly in old age, where social security systems are based on the principle of continuous remunerated employment. In some cases, women do not fulfil this requirement because of interruptions in their work, due to the unbalanced distribution of remunerated and unremunerated work. Moreover, older women also face greater

Difficulties with gender mainstreaming

Seen as good policy practice instead of being informed by values or theory as to why gender matters (generic policy)

Implementation is bureaucratic – ‘checkbox’ approach

Inadequate funding for gender dimensions

Language of gender mainstreaming can become hollow

Women are the ones who “do” gender – all the work falls to them.

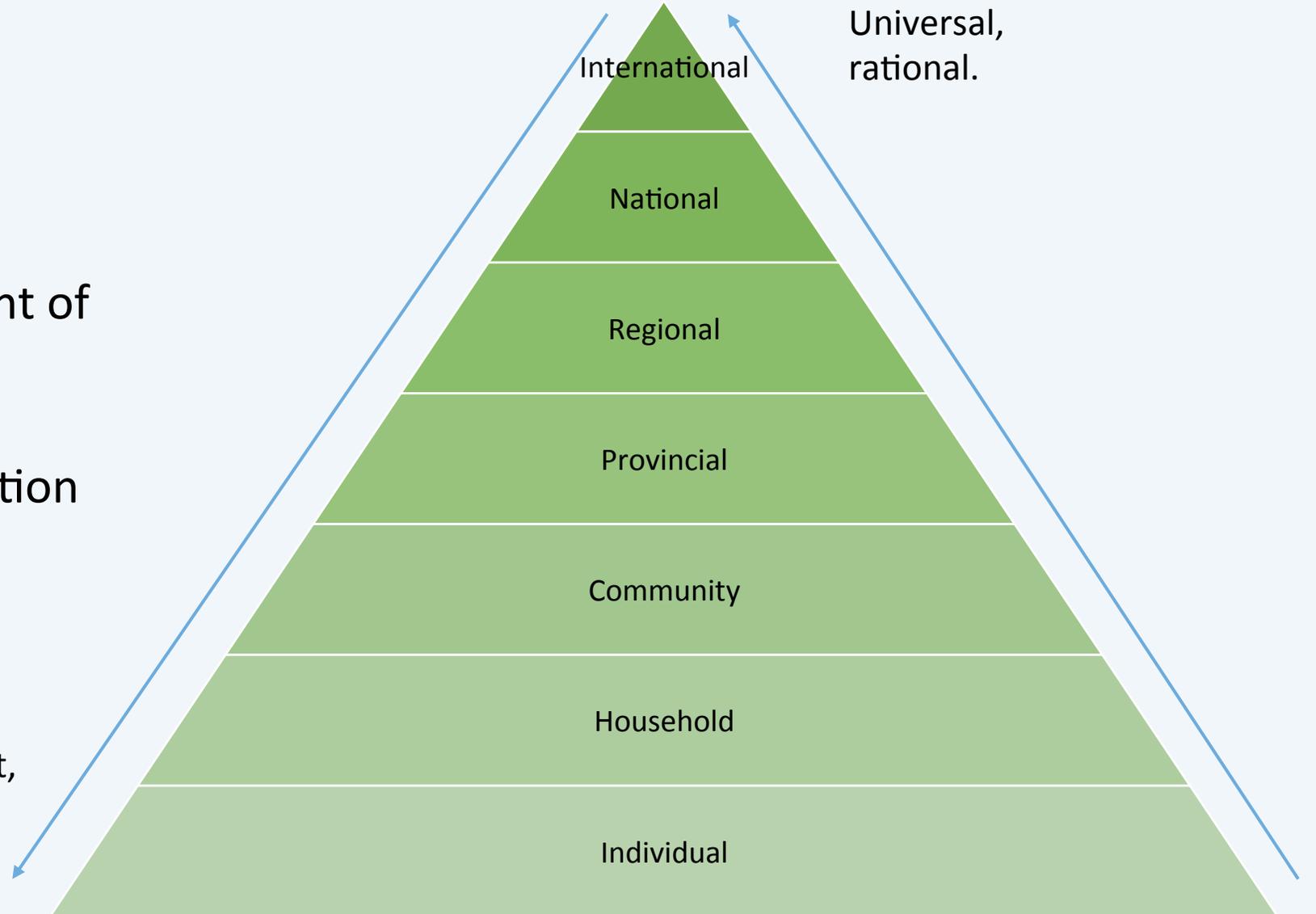
Essential and Hierarchical Scales

Scales are often seen as:

Essential: Unchangeable, unmovable, exist independent of human society;

Hierarchical: Ordered in relation to each other

Local,
contingent,
particular.



Universal,
rational.

Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) Gender Research

- Significant gender transformation over the last two years.
 - Values driven, tailored policy with clearly defined terminology;
 - Detailed plan on how to engage and work with partners on gender concerns;
 - Strong leadership around gender.
- Can improve on thinking of how men are engaged in the process of gender transformation

Source: ACIAR Gender Equity Policy and Strategy, accessed 9/02/18, available at: <http://aciarc.gov.au/page/aciarc-gender-equity-policy-and-strategy-2017-2021>

ACIAR Gender Equity Policy and Strategy 2017 – 2021



ACIAR'S Gender Equity Policy and Strategy 2017 – 2021 takes a long-term, principles-based approach to gender equity that is applicable to the commissioning and management of research, corporate management and outreach and capacity building. This policy will support ACIAR's gender equity goal over the 10 Year Strategic Vision (2018-2028).

Gender equity and women's empowerment will be comprehensively integrated into the research portfolio. Developing an understanding of gender and power relations is integral to the production of relevant, robust research. ACIAR will work with commissioned organisations and partners to influence and effect change in order to ensure that research is undertaken in a manner that advances gender equity and empowers women.

Gender theory of change

- Why is gender equality important for this project, beyond efficiency?
- What are our key principles behind gender?
- Do people feel responsible for speaking up about gender?

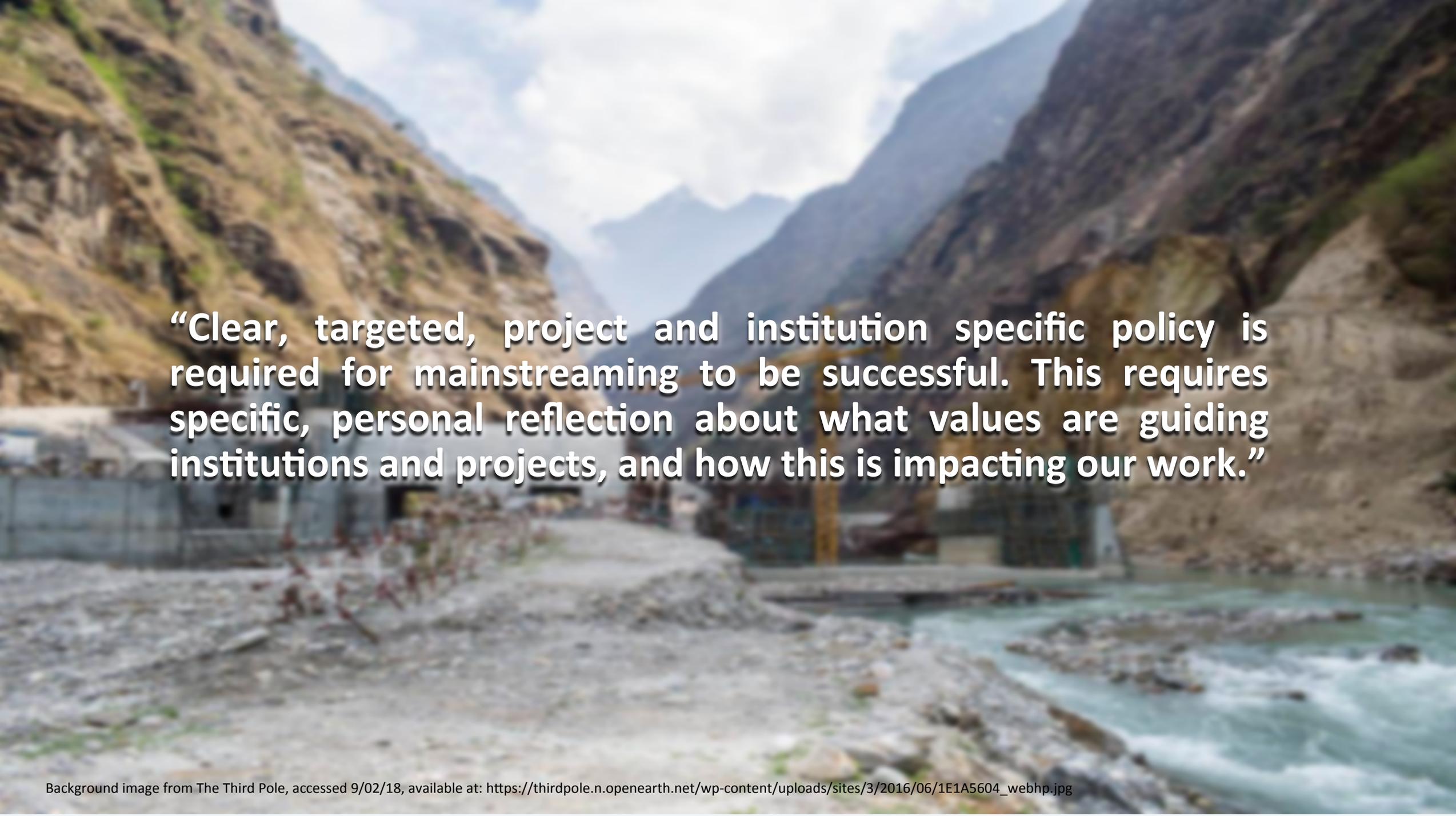


Politics of Scale

- Which actors claim legitimacy over the scales we are using?
- What kind of actor are we in the scale we use?
- Are there any marginalised stakeholders whom we might need to amplify?



Source: CSIRO SDIP Team visit to Pakistan

A scenic view of a mountain valley. In the foreground, a river flows through a rocky bed, surrounded by a wide, gravelly path or road. The river is a milky turquoise color, typical of glacial meltwater. The valley is flanked by steep, rugged mountains with sparse vegetation. In the distance, more mountain peaks are visible under a cloudy sky. The overall atmosphere is one of a high-altitude, mountainous region.

“Clear, targeted, project and institution specific policy is required for mainstreaming to be successful. This requires specific, personal reflection about what values are guiding institutions and projects, and how this is impacting our work.”