SRJS and gender webinar – June 2018 – 1st session

[Recorded June 26, 2018]

Speakers:

- **Cate Owren**, Senior Gender Programme Manager at IUCN
- **Noy Panorel**, Executive Director at Partnership for Rural and Technical Services (PARTS), Inc. in the Philippines
- **Maria Benita Clamonte**, Lobby and Advocacy Director at PARTS, Inc. in the Philippines
- **Mabel Agba**, Project coordinator at The Development Institute in Ghana

**Key takeaways from Cate’s presentation**

(Starting at 4 minutes 25 seconds)

- From the beginning, SRJS has aimed to embed gender as a key and guiding principle in its programming. Activities need to ensure that they recognize gender issues and do not exacerbate inequalities.
- SRJS promotes gender-responsive action by identifying gender gaps and then taking steps to improve them: do no harm, and then do better.
- Gender inequality is among the most persistent forms of discrimination around the world and is a significant barrier to economic, social, and sustainable development.
- Women and men bring different needs, priorities, and knowledge to developing sustainable solutions. As we have seen, bringing gender capacities, perspectives, and expertise into projects is making a difference in SRJS.
- Gender equality benefits everybody: it is an accelerator and an amplifier for sustainable development and conservation.

**Key takeaways from Noy and Maria’s presentation**

(Starting at 17 minutes and 5 seconds)

- PARTS started by conducting a gender analysis in small-scale mining to understand the local gender issues and gaps. It was found that:
  - Women’s sense of ownership and access to basic services was lacking;
  - At the household level, women expressed concerns of “double burden” by straddling productive and reproductive roles, which limits their access to employment, livelihood opportunities, and decision-making roles; and
  - In small-scale mining, there were concerns of women and men’s safety in mining processes, water pollution damaging marine habitats, and a lack of livelihood alternatives for both women and men.
- Challenges:
  - There is a need to identify a gender focal point in PARTS
  - Sustaining women’s participation is difficult because of their double burden and other barriers that limit participation.
  - Political interference and sectoral representation for women is still a major issue.
- Next steps:
  - Employ community-based resource management approach to address resource equity issues (e.g. water and fishery resources, forest resources)
o Seek greater participation and involvement in watershed and biodiversity restoration and protection activities
o Enhance women’s capacity through writeshops to develop self-esteem and confidence among women
o Strengthen organizational leadership and financial management
o Engage with cooperatives for micro-livelihood financing
o Foster networks for livelihood support and access of basic services

Main takeaways from Mabel’s presentation
(Starting at 28 minutes and 23 seconds)

- The DI started by conducting a gender analysis and identified many gender gaps that needed to be addressed, including the need to build organizational gender capacity through a training and workshop.
- Capacity building workshop and training:
  o Facilitated by a local gender expert, the training looked at how SRJS implementing partners can best mainstream gender in programmes and policies to better reflect gender as a cross-cutting consideration.
  o The training also focused on how gender integration in organizational, national, and international policies and commitments can be translated to action on-the-ground and understood by civil society.
  o The training used a collaborative problem-based approach to understand the issues and see how people are addressing the issues in order to train participants and create more gender advocates across the landscape.
  o Through the training, it was realized that gender has to do with people’s mindsets and that management must buy into gender mainstreaming or it is difficult to implement.
  o At the end of the workshop, many of the organizations committed to developing an institutional gender policy and identified gender focal points.
- Next steps:
  o Enhance the capacity of women in resources governance
  o Develop initiatives to build economic empowerment of women
  o Support groups to develop gender action plans and policies
  o Develop a gender policy for DI
  o Organize a political café of water resources management with a key aspect on gender dynamics
  o Monitor and facilitate implementation of the national gender policy and UNFCCC Gender Action Plan
- Lessons and takeaways
  o Gender mainstreaming requires conscious effort that goes beyond equal participation.
  o Important to know that we have the opportunity to push forward on gender equality and influence top-level decision-making, but it takes time.
  o Do not try to do it alone, identify opportunities and gender champions within the organization to work together.
  o Celebrate positive outcomes no matter how small.