



Gender inequalities in access to and benefits derived from natural fisheries in The Barotse Floodplain, Western Province, Zambia

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Presentation

- Introduction
- Literature Review
- The Social Relations Approach
- Methods: SGA & FVC
- Map
- Key Findings
- Discussion
- GTA

Introduction

- Contribute to development planning, policy and practice using a gender analysis framework on qualitative data collected from the Barotse Floodplain, Western Province, Zambia.
- GTA to enhance women's access to & benefits derived from the natural fisheries, improve gender relations and ensure better and more sustainable development outcomes.

Barotse Floodplain, Western Province of Zambia

- Multiple demographic, socioeconomic and climatic challenges and vulnerabilities
- Variety of livelihood opportunities: flood – provide fish & aquatic plants; water subside – fertile ground to cultivate crops
- Cattle, forest products, fish trade, piecework

Literature Review

Women & men in the Barotse Floodplain

- Men – fishers; Women – support in pre & post-harvest activities, perform unpaid tasks
- Traditional gender roles of women & men limit women's access to & benefits derived from natural fisheries.
- 99.3% HH consume fish
- Limited number of research conducted on the region's fisheries, even lower number on women's involvement in fisheries

Research Questions

- What are the underlying causes preventing women from accessing natural fisheries
- How does inaccessibility to natural fisheries impacts women's livelihoods?

Social Relations Approach

- Gender analysis frameworks use different categories and terms to understand the gender sphere.
- Harvard Analytical Framework – gender roles analysis method
- Moser Framework – developed to aid integration of gender in all types of intervention via triple role tool (productive, reproductive and community work)
- For comprehensive understanding of gender inequalities - focusing on social institutions where these inequalities are produced
- Naila Kabeer's (1994) Social Relations Approach – provides a lens to clearly view how inequalities stem from social institutions

Methods

Social and Gender Analysis

- Qualitative data for SGA was collected from women and men in the 10 AAS communities located in four districts (Kalabo, Lukulu, Mongu, Senanga) in the BFP
- FGDs on separate group of women and men on gender norms and change
- 22 focus group discussion notes were collected and analyzed for this study.

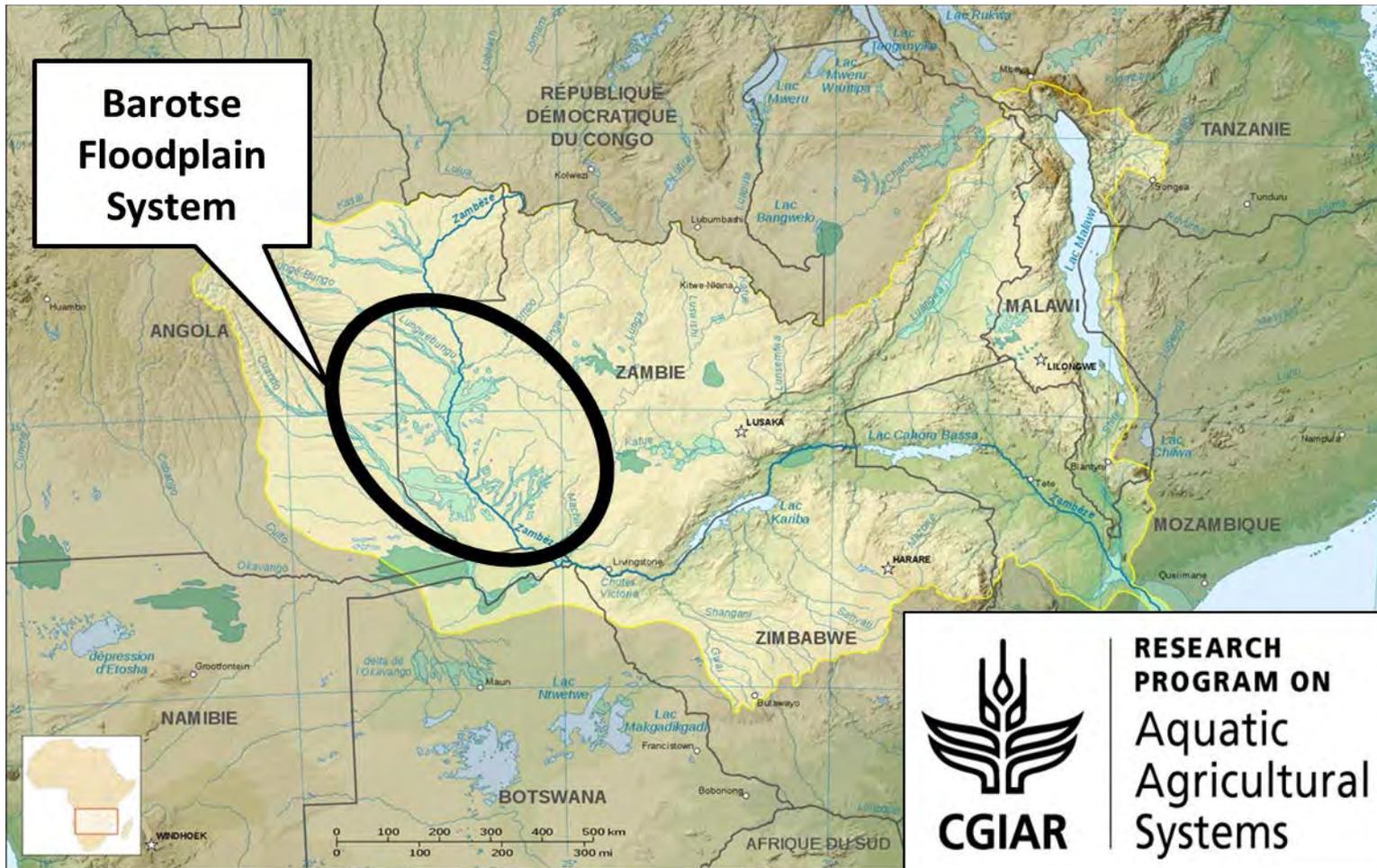
Fish Value Chain Analysis

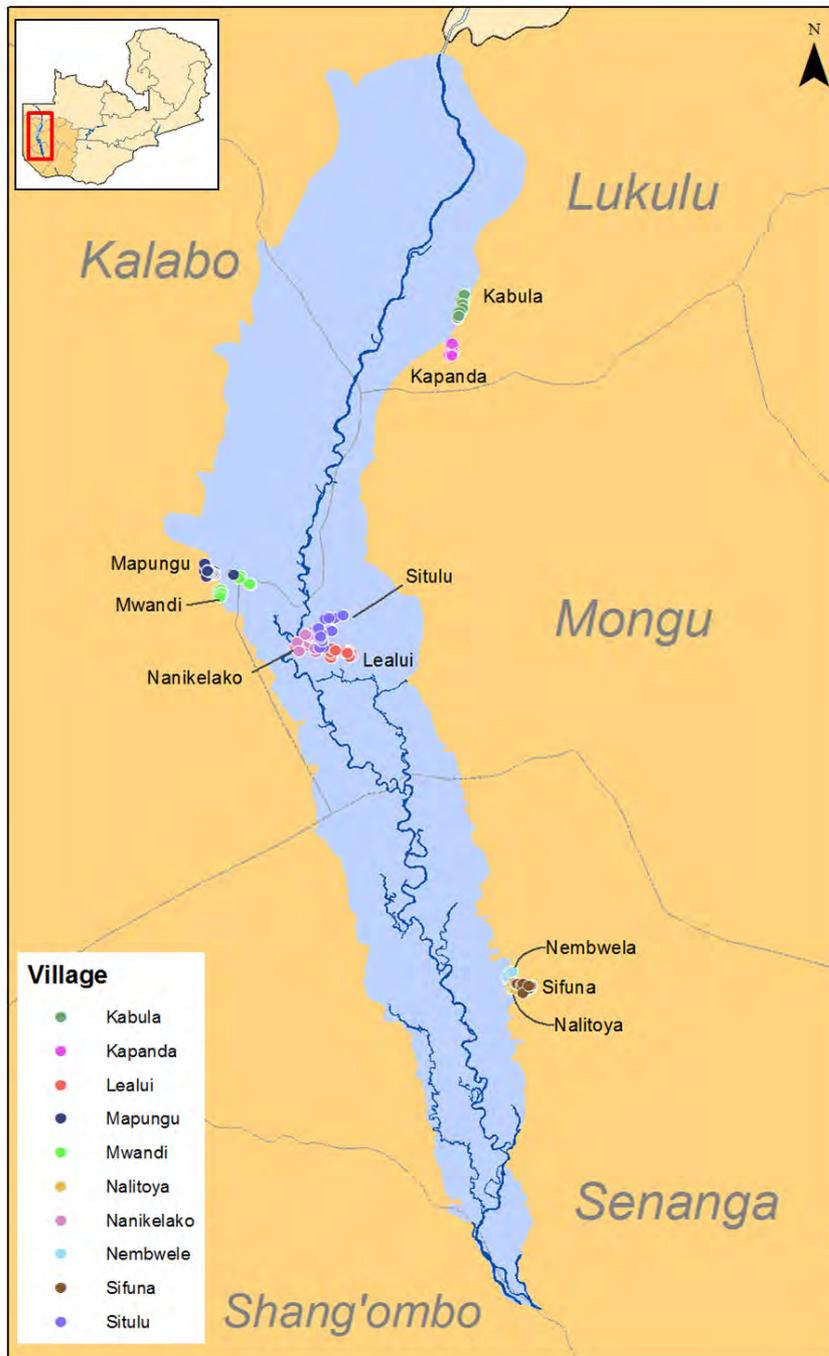
- Qualitative data for FVCA was collected from fishers, traders and processors in 5 fishing camps located in four districts (Kalabo, Lukulu, Mongu and Senanga) within the BFP
- FGDs on separate group of women and men on 1) gender roles (activity clock) and on decision making and access to resources.
- 20 focus group discussion notes

Data Analysis

- Nvivo 10
- Directed content analysis

Barotse Floodplain, Western Province, Zambia





Key Findings

Household/Family

- Decision making within a household
 - Men: decisions over where and when to fish as well as the use of suitable gears to use.
 - Women: decisions especially on fishing, whether to or not and how much to sell or consume or to trade.
- Income
 - controlled by men
 - women received small portion to manage HH
 - men use most of the income for personal consumption

Community

- Women & men have different roles & responsibilities in FVC
 - Men: fishers; Women: traders
 - Paddling canoe requires ‘strength’: women can’t do
 - Men fish using nets in deep waters; women fish using basket in canals & smaller streams
 - Boys & girls taught to take over the responsibilities according to their sex

Market

- Women: restricted mobility as they need to seek permission from husbands/parents
 - can't fish in deep waters & be as mobile as men to trade fish in other villages/distant markets
 - can be attacked/robbed on the way to the market
 - engage in less remunerative income generating activities, closer to their home: farming, piecework, collecting wild fruits & forest products, brewing beer etc.

State

- Control over natural resources in BFP – BRE which is represented by village headmen who are mostly men.

Discussion

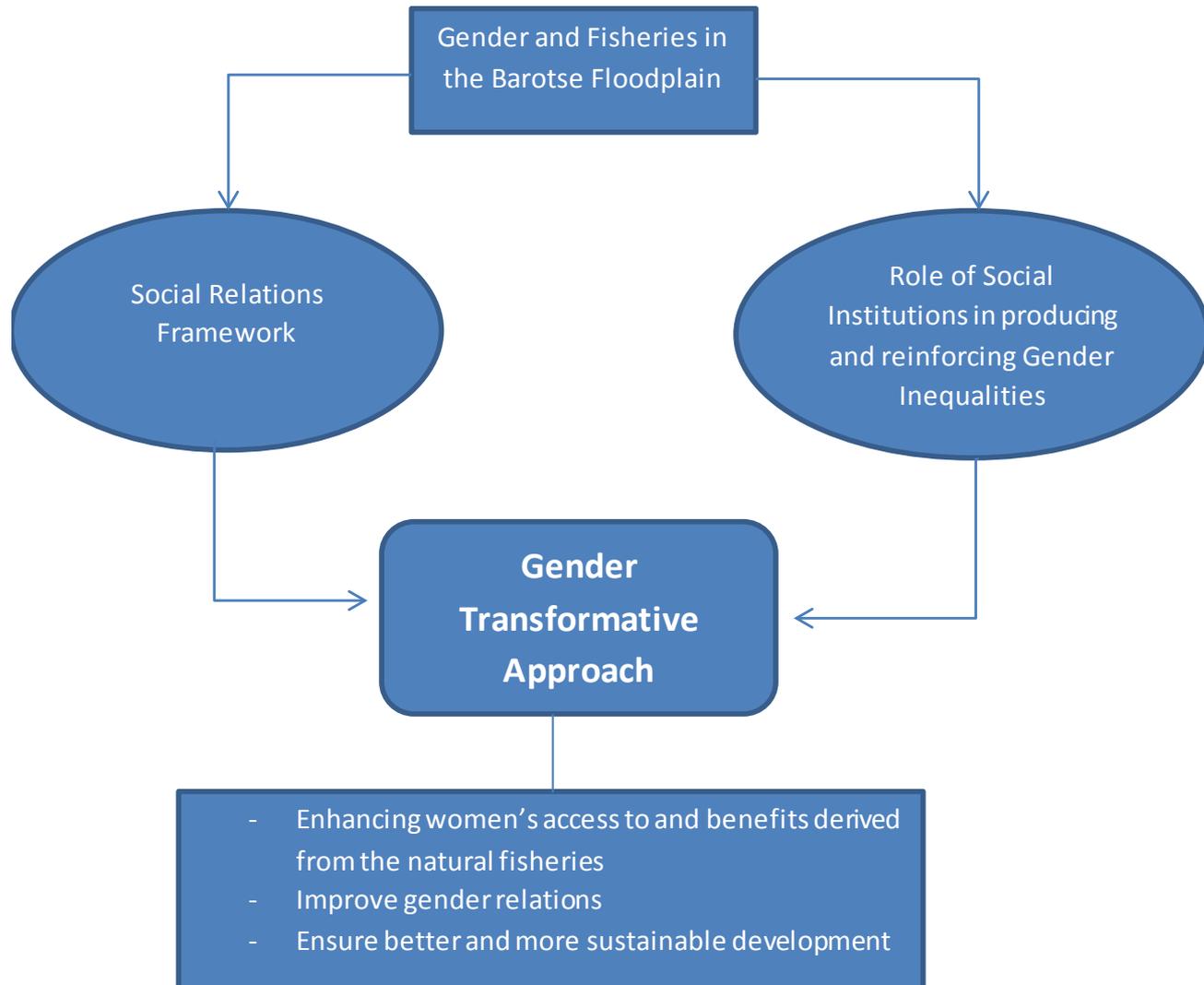
- Gender inequalities impinges on women especially more on the old & poor
- Limits women from benefitting from the resources
- Social institutions further reinforce these inequalities
- Only by looking into these institutions, social inequalities produced can be addressed (Kabeer, 1994)
- Changes in one of the institution affect the others (Kabeer, 1994)

Gender Transformative Approach

The key characteristics of a gender transformative approach as compared to other gender integration approach (Kantor, 2013):

- GTA seeks to understand people within their context and the way social inequalities intersect to affect their choices and outcomes.
- Provides space for women and men for an iterative process of critical learning, reflection, questioning and action.
- It engages both women and men as transformative change stems from shared vision between women and men.
- Engages with different actors across scales to redress the underlying gender norms and power relations that enables social inequalities.

Conceptual Framework



Gender Transformative Approach

- Will be worked out with different actors across different scales in the Barotse Floodplain
- Adopting GTA requires investment in strengthening gender capacities & skills & fostering a new gender-aware way of viewing the world among DOF staff, their partners and women & men in the communities
- Once they buy-in the GTA, gender capacity building efforts can be carried out with min. hindrance
- Gender needs to be integrated into all of DOF's programmatic activities
- They must be able to monitor and evaluate the change process over time

Thank you!

A glimpse of the Barotse Floodplain and its people



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