Private Sector Working Group

Recommendations

What can we do as Private Sector?

• Adopt a very explicit gender strategy at the outset both internally and externally
• Find innovative ways to circumvent gender-based constraints to participation (e.g. financing mechanisms that do not require land as collateral)
• Willingness to adapt business models and plans to be more inclusive and gender-sensitive by engaging with different stakeholders
What can we do as Private Sector?

- Develop products and services that take women’s needs and constraints into account
- Provide facilities and promote measures to support women’s participation (e.g. crèche, flexible working hours)
- Reaching out to partners who can support us to engage more women
- Increasing women’s participation at the contracting level as front line people

What do we ask of others?

Researchers:
- Change research questions to highlight critical issues that can be useful for the private sector
- Simplify research findings to make them usable

Government:
- Create incentives and grant funding such as credit guarantee schemes
- Facilitate multi-stakeholder interaction through the creation of specific business clusters
- Make extension services more responsive to private sector’s business needs
- Consider the private sector as a partner in developing policies and plans
What do we ask of others?

Government:
• Create a conducive legal environment for the enforcement of contracts
• Ensure women’s representation in Producers Organizations (quotas, regulations)

Civil Society/NGOs/POs:
• Play an intermediary role between communities/producers and investors and government bodies at different levels
• Support communities’ (women and men) capacity development

Multi-Stakeholder Conference on Agricultural Investment, Gender and Land, 5-7 March 2014