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Best Practice in Gender


Objectives: The Study assessed women's constraints, priorities and needs with respect to agricultural extension.

Impact on the ground: Katrine Saito, Daphne Spurling and their team's work made visible the gender biases in conventional agricultural extension activities and organization. Their perspective has been continuously and repeatedly confirmed by African women farmers, through the African Platform for Action and through the Beijing Declaration.

Lessons learned: Extension activities and messages should be based on diagnosis which includes gender differences in activities, resources, opportunities and benefits.

- Women have less time than men, and certain periods of day are dedicated to specific activities. Extension activities must match the time and place specified by women.
- The extension needs of men and women differ. Women need direct extension on the crops and livestock they grow or have responsibility for.
- A priority of extension services should be facilitating women's access to labor-saving technology.
- Male extension workers should be taught how to approach women producers in a culturally acceptable manner.
- The number and status of female extension staff should be increased.
For more information on the STD rapid assessment study, contact Wendy Roseberry, AFTHR. World Bank Staff: more examples of **Best Practice** can be found on the [AIDS Home Page](http://africa.hiv/). To access this page, click on Netscape. Under "location" type "http://afr" to get to the Africa Region Home Page. Then click on Best Practice and select AIDS.