Market Actor Partnership Agreement Gender Review Checklist

Purpose:

As part of ACDI/VOCA's approach to private sector engagement within inclusive market systems development, this checklist helps ensure that gender has been accommodated within a proposed partnership. It is to be used towards the end or after co-creation, and before award. It complements the more in-depth Partnership Assessment Tool for Gender Inclusion, which helps guide staff and Market Actors (MAs) in the iterative co-creation process to evaluate the commercial incentive, feasibility, scale, and sustainability of integrating women.

This checklist either confirms appropriate gender integration as part of the proposed work, or it offers a key opportunity for staff to go back and support the MA in identifying and developing appropriate support for gender integration[1].

Guidance note: In general, more "yes" answers suggest that the MA has paid more attention to gender; however, the quality of gender-relevant responses can vary widely, so more "yes" answers may not mean that the MA's gender integration approach is strong.

A MA may mention gender constraints, set gender targets, or include gender-specific activities, but they may not have done so based on evidence or fully understood the gaps being addressed by the proposed approaches.

For example, a MA could mention that it has identified mobility as a contstraint faced by women, but then propose marketplace campaigns that women cannot acess or participate in because mobility constraints prevent them from accessing the market.

The goal of filling out the checklist is not simply to achieve a set of "yes" responses. Rather, it is intended to prompt discussion and reflection on the anticipated partnership agreement about where gender has been considered and in what ways.

It should enable staff and MAs to work closely together to understand gender constraints, how they are relevant to proposed activities, and what activity modifications may be effective in achieving inclusive market development goals, given planned time and budget.

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[1] This checklist was developed by ACDI/VOCA's Feed the Future Bangladesh Rice and Diversified Crops (RDC) Activity for use in their adaptive, umbrella partnership mechanism termed a Market Actor Agreement (MAA).

Please complete this checklist each time you review a draft Partnership Agreement.

Work on the checklist <u>prior to</u> preparation of the final agreement to give Market Actors time to answer questions and provide additional information in their proposal drafts.

For Questions Answered "Yes"
Copy or summarize the relevant information from the Agreement into the "Yes" column of the form.

For Questions Answered "No"
Follow up is required to gather more information about how the Market Actor (MA) plans to consider gender in the project.

Once the checklist has been completed, follow up with the Market Actor by:

1. Reviewing and consolidating the "No" responses

2. Emailing follow-up questions or requests for additional information to the Market Actor

3. Scheduling a call or meeting with the Market Actor to discuss identified gaps, areas of concern, or requests for additional information

4. Working with the Market Actor to address identified gaps

If the Market Actor needs support in identifying how to address gender gaps, contact the Project Gender Advisor for further assistance:

Project Gender Advisor Name:	Project Gender Advisor Email:

1. Does the proposal explain women's constraints in the sector or value chain?

Examples of gender based constraints: gender gaps in women's access to fertilizer, pesticides, inputs, women's lack of access to or control over income, women's limited leadership, or women not being able to participate in activities due to limited mobility or social norms

☐ Yes

If **yes**, summarize below:

☐ No

If **no**, follow up with these questions to MA:

What are the biggest problems or issues that women face in this sector?

What are women's main roles in this sector?

2. Has the proposal set sex-disaggregated targets (targets for both men and women) when it presents targets measuring individuals?

Example: A sex-disaggregated target would be 50 men, 50 women; a non-disaggregated target measuring individuals would be 100 farmers

☐ Yes

If **yes**, summarize below:

☐ No

If **no**, follow up with these questions to MA:

For each area where you have listed targets for a number of farmer or individuals, how many men do you want to reach?

How many women?

How have you arrived at these targets?

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3. Has the proposal outlined the ways in which it will include women in its activities, such as trainings?

☐ Yes

If **yes**, summarize below:

☐ No

If **no**, follow up with these questions to MA:

How do you intend to ensure that women can participate in:

- trainings
- fairs
- any other proposed activities?

4. Has the proposal included the business case (i.e. increased efficiency, greater market capture, additional customers or suppliers, improved public perceptions and reputation) for working with women?

☐ Yes

If **yes**, summarize below:

☐ No

If **no**, follow up with these questions to MA:

What are the ways in which integrating women into your activities will support your business and/or revenues?

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5. Has the proposal listed any possible risks for women in its approach?

☐ Yes

If **yes**, summarize below:

☐ No

If **no**, follow up with these questions to MA:

What are the risks for women associated with this approach? For example, does the approach require women to travel through potentially dangerous areas?

Does the approach increase the potential for gender –based violence in operational areas?

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