

#### Paper at the NBDF7 Webinar Rebecca Tayachew

Accelerating transboundary water cooperation through inclusive gender mainstreaming and participatory community engagement



Transboundary water cooperation is crucial for effectively managing shared water resources and addressing the challenges of water scarcity and quality.







### Accelerating transboundary water cooperation through inclusive gender mainstreaming and participatory community engagement





Recognizing the importance of gender equality in water management decisions and actively involving local communities, can foster sustainable and equitable solutions that benefit all stakeholders.





### Accelerating transboundary water cooperation through inclusive gender mainstreaming and participatory community engagement





The two crucial approaches in community development that aim to create equal opportunities for all individuals, regardless of their gender are :-

- Inclusive gender mainstreaming
- participatory community engagement,





### Inclusive gender mainstreaming and participatory community engagement



Gender mainstreaming involves integrating a gender perspective into

• policies

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- Programs
- Decision-making processes.



#### Gender and Sustainable Water Management

In the context of transboundary water cooperation, considering the different needs, roles, and experiences of women and men in water management

Women play a crucial role in water-related activities, including water collection, agriculture, and household management.

perspectives, knowledge, and skills can contribute significantly to the development and implementation of effective water management strategies.









#### Benefits of involving



Their participation ensures that their needs, priorities, and traditional knowledge are considered.



This approach fosters ownership, enhances social cohesion, and promotes sustainability, as communities become active stakeholders in the management of their shared water resources.

Enhanced water resource management and allocation

Improved livelihoods and social equity







# Challenges and barriers to gender mainstreaming and computity markers and provide the second second

### Social, cultural, and institutional barriers

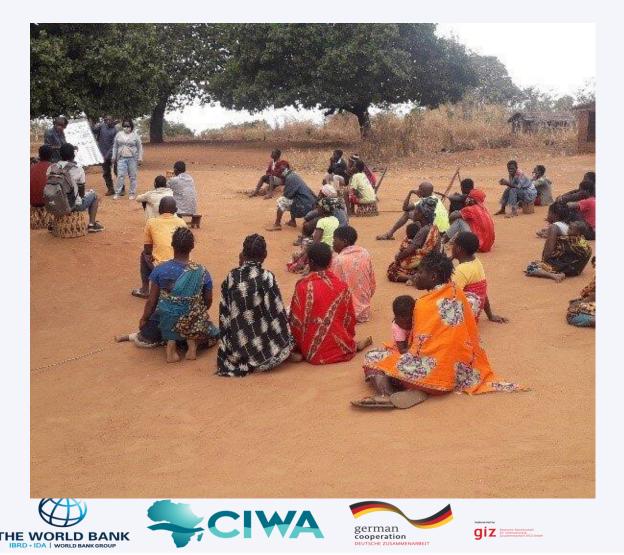
Limit women's participation and decision-making power can hinder progress. Inadequate institutional frameworks, policies, and regulations may also fail to provide an enabling environment for inclusive water management.







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## Lack of awareness and capacity building

Enhancing knowledge, providing training, and raising awareness about these concepts can help overcome resistance and build support for inclusive practices



#### **Recommendation/ Conclusion**





• Developing inclusive policies and frameworks

incorporating gender considerations into water governance structures, national water policies, and legal frameworks. Additionally, it is important to promote gender-responsive budgeting and financing mechanisms to ensure resources are allocated towards gender equality and women's empowerment in water management.



#### **Recommendation/Conclusion**



#### Implementing capacity-building programs for stakeholders

Capacity-building programs can empower decision-makers, water professionals, and local communities with the necessary knowledge and skills to actively participate in transboundary water cooperation. These programs should include training on gender-sensitive approaches, inclusive decision-making processes, and conflict resolution strategies to foster collaboration and sustainable water management.

For policymakers, water managers, and communities to prioritize gender equality and meaningful community engagement in their decision-making processes.





