

## Women in Development (OP-761), GP-114-3, August 1987

Places much emphasis of expanding the participation of women in the economy and in training and educational programs – insure women are beneficiaries of Bank sponsored activities (not textual summary), and in gathering information to properly understand the role of women and the mechanisms to improve women participation in benefits (setting the record right)

**Activities to be supported include :** c) the strengthening of intermediary credit institutions and associations such as formal or informal savings cooperatives where women are predominantly involved; the use of active outreach and promotion efforts to inform women of the availability of credit programs; and

**The Bank also supports the following activities :**

- a) the institutional strengthening of associative-type economic organizations for production and marketing and other women's groups whose activities are relevant to Bank-financed projects;
- b) community promotion; and
- c) the training of female beneficiaries and technical personnel in the planning, organization, distribution and operation of services, particularly in areas where women's contribution is crucial and where the impact on women is judged to be significant

**Project analysis:** 4. Within the overall analysis of a project, make more frequent use of consultants and/or Bank missions to help gather more information and/or assist borrowers in integrating pertinent issues into project design and preparation. Such issues are:

- a) identification of any constraints--legal or otherwise--which could inhibit achievement of project goals;
- b) compatibility of projects with sociocultural factors affecting the participation of women;
- c) consideration of the needs of women as perceived by them (through surveys, studies local consultations) in relation to project objectives, location and potential benefits;
- d) promotion of their active participation and organizational skills within project activities; and
- e) use of appropriate methods for transferring technology and skills.

**Ex-post Evaluation:** The ex-post evaluation should identify factors that contributed to or detracted from the participation of women in the project and the achievement of overall project goals, hence providing valuable lessons for improving the effectiveness of future operations. For this purpose, it is necessary to be able to rely on adequate baseline information and disaggregated data collected on an ex-ante basis, and to establish criteria to measure and evaluate effects within the framework of existing methodologies. The guidelines and criteria for ex-post evaluation of projects in all key sectors previously identified should be revised to reflect the main issues outlined within this policy and the eventual improvements in qualitative and quantitative project evaluation methodologies resulting from the Bank's experiences.