

Does Gender Matter? What Does Research Tell Us?



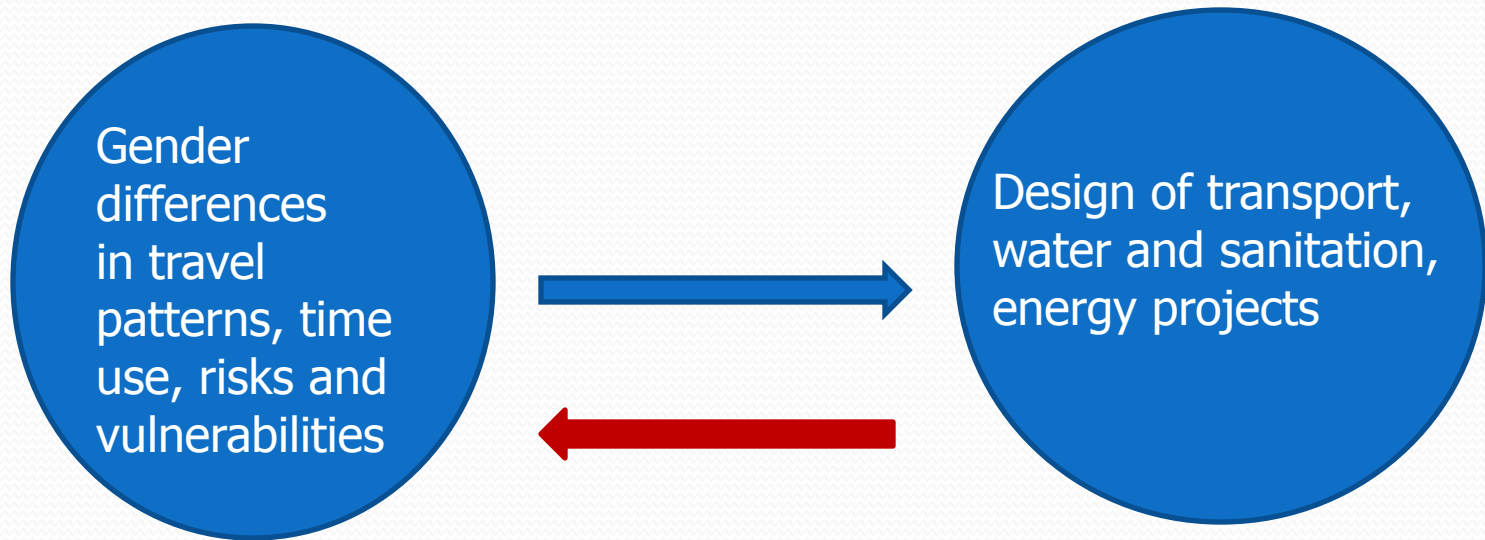
Nistha Sinha

The World Bank

1. What is “gender”?

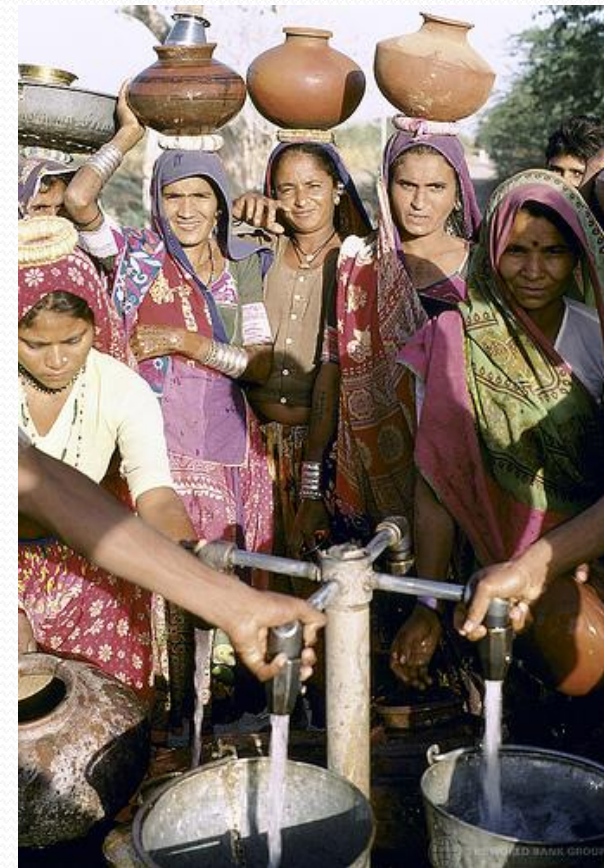
- Socially constructed roles for men and women demarcating
 - Responsibilities
 - Economic and social activities
 - Access to resources and decision-making power

2. Links



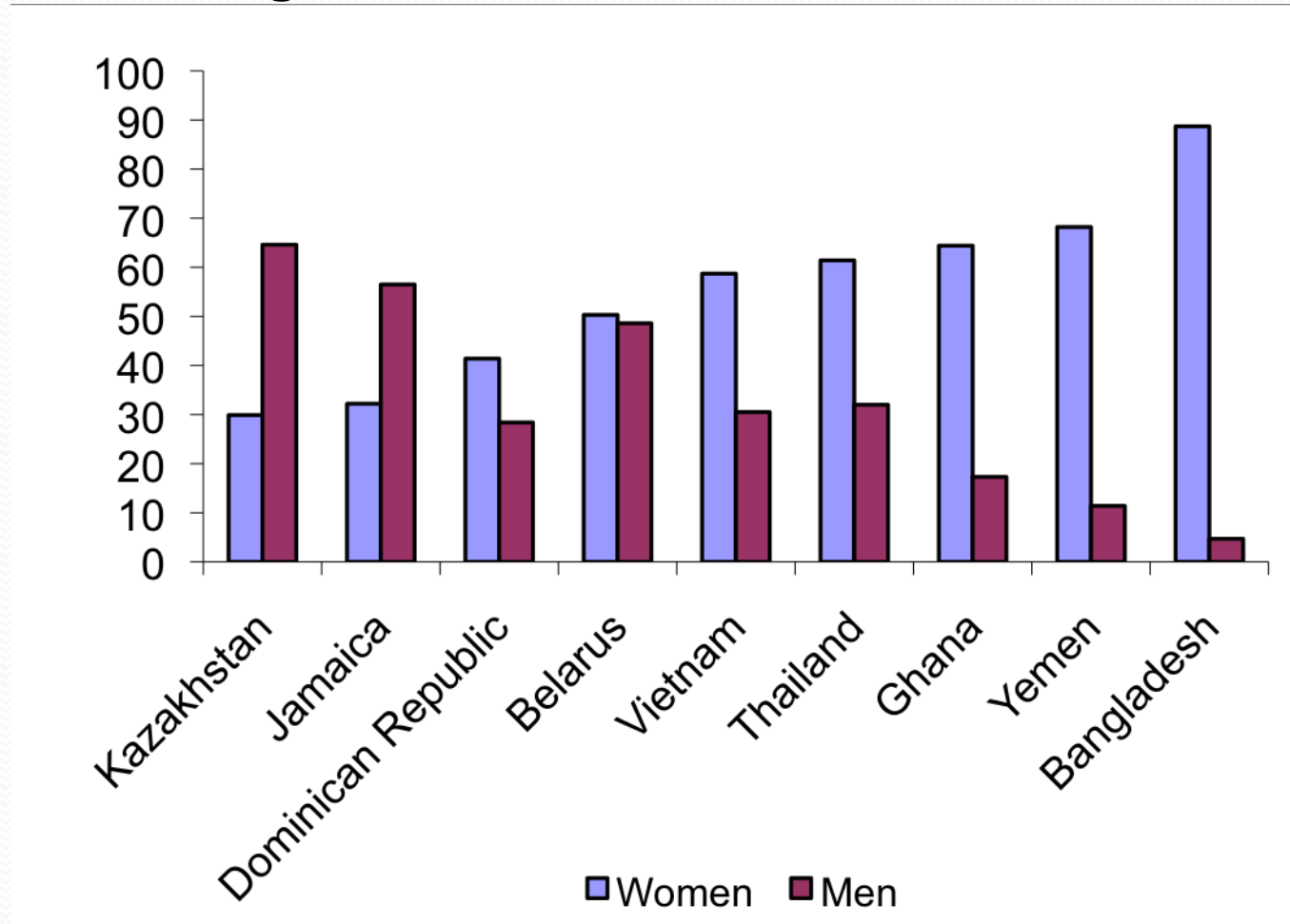
3. Gender differences that matter for infrastructure

- Surveys document gender differences in travel patterns, time allocation, preferences regarding sanitation
- Women exposed to risks and vulnerabilities – HIV/AIDS, security, resettlement
- Surveys also document women's disadvantage in labor market opportunities, access to credit, land rights



Water Collection and Gender

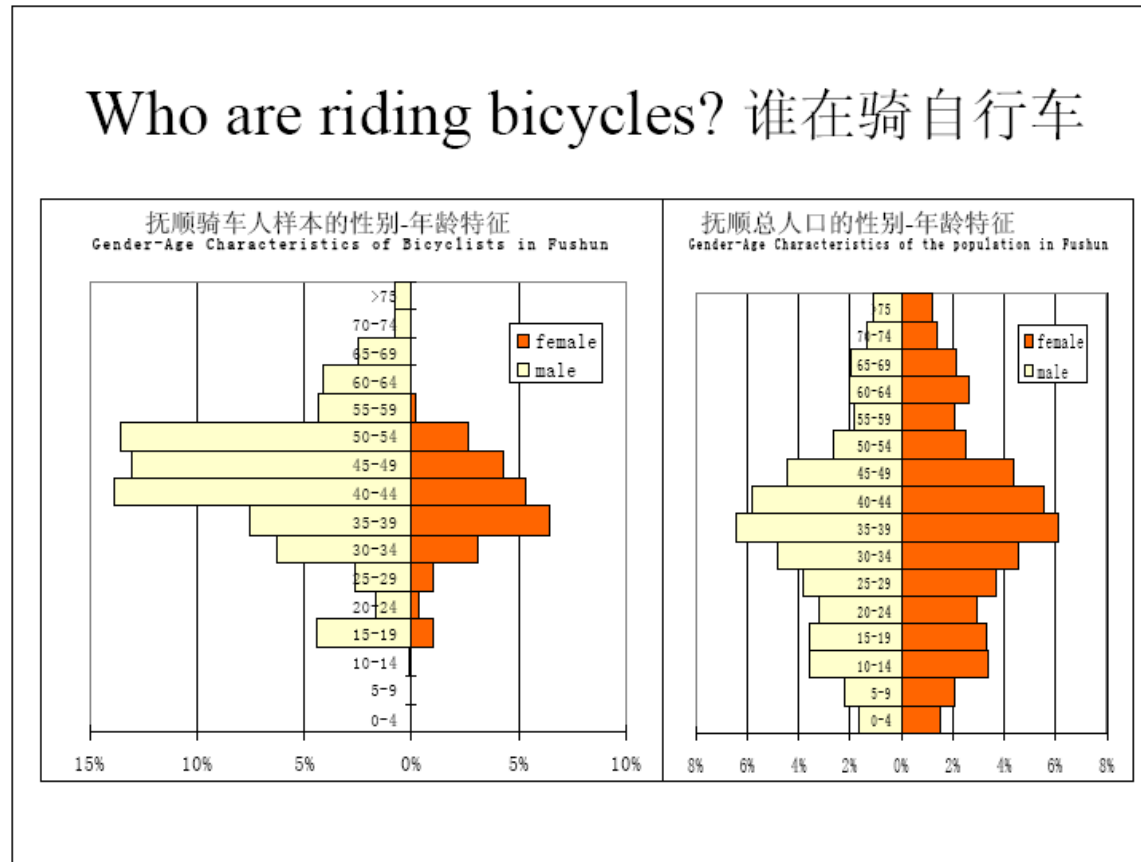
% Households reporting adult women and men as the usual person collecting water



Source: Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey conducted between 2005-2006

Transport and Gender

Who are riding bicycles? 谁在骑自行车



Source: Bicycle Use in Fushun, China, 2005.

Gender of water fetcher & perception of drinking water as a development priority in Ghana

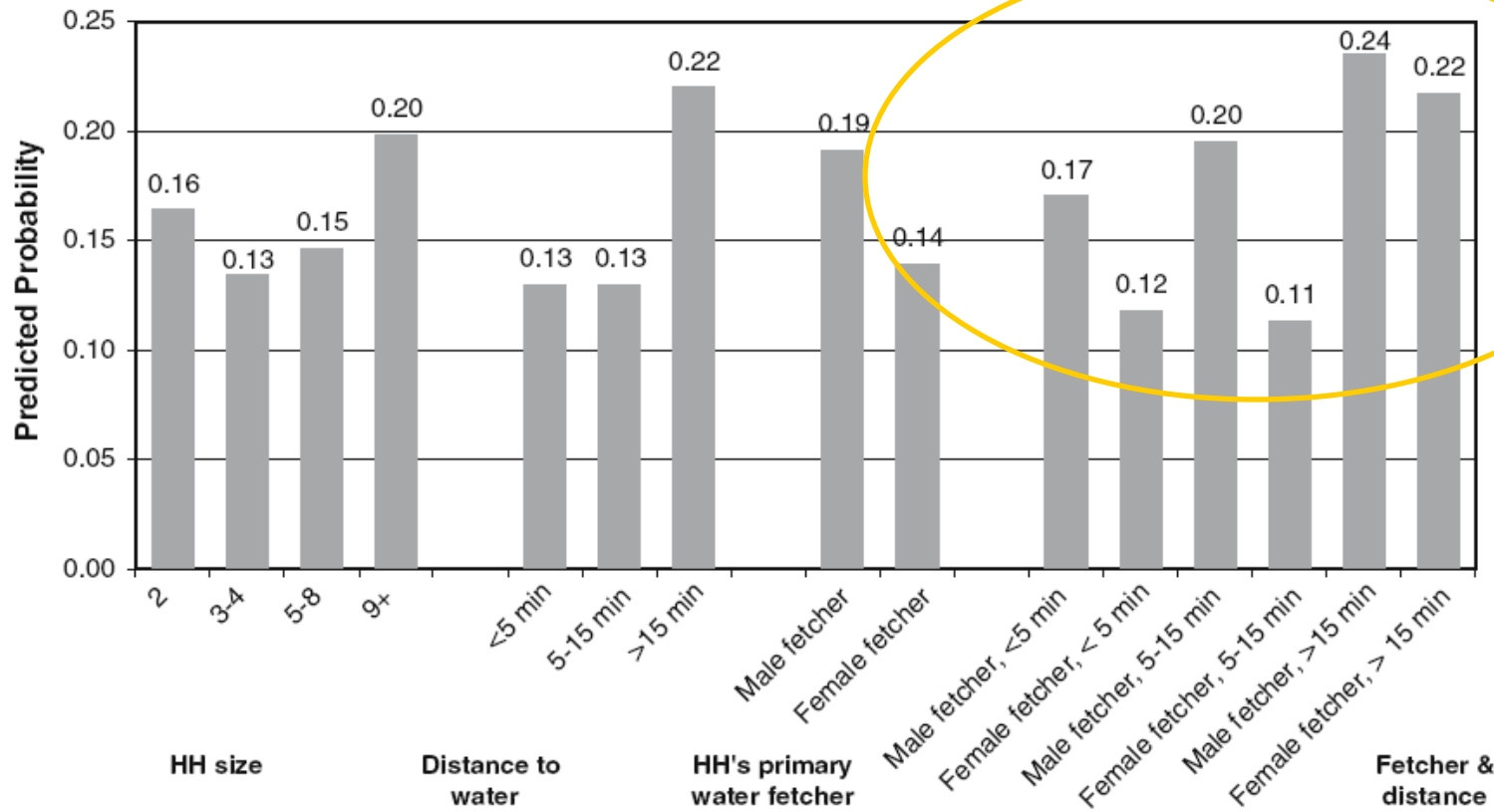
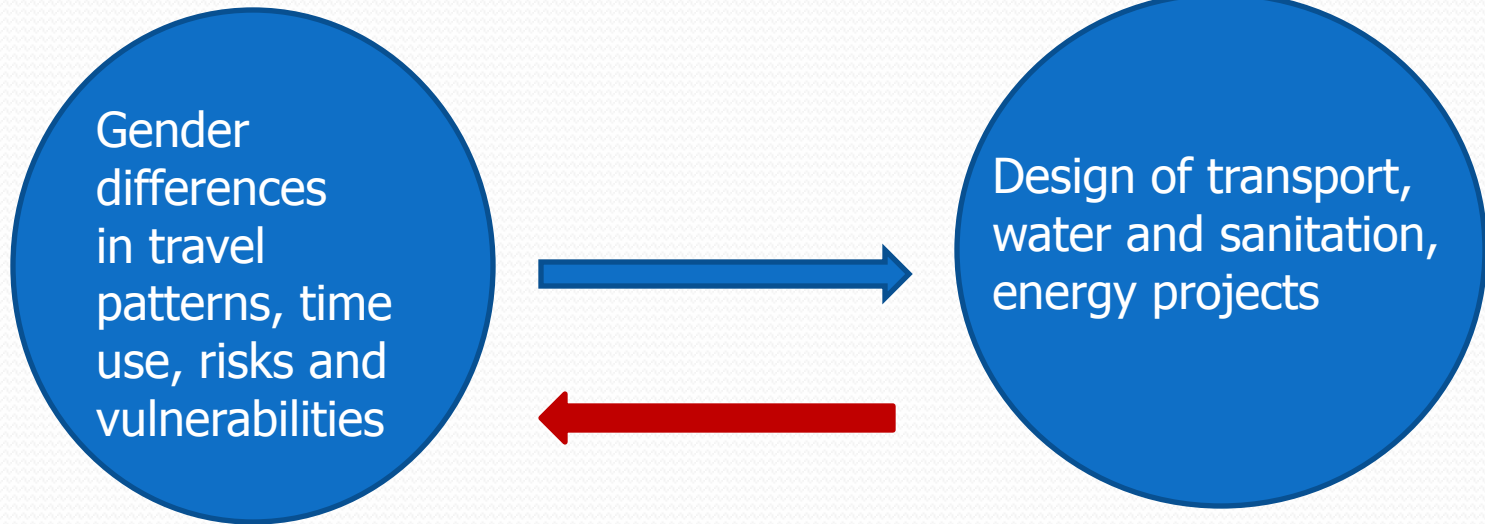


Fig. 4 Predicted probability of drinking water as most important perceived development need
 Source: Hunter (2006)

Links



4. Can addressing gender issues raise development effectiveness of infrastructure projects?

- Improving project effectiveness through women's participation in planning, decision-making, design, management
- Improving education, health and well-being of all, particularly women and girls
- Increasing women's participation economic activities

Women's participation and project effectiveness positively correlated: Evidence from 121 WB supported rural water supply projects

Project outcomes	Overall participation	Women's participation
Project effectiveness	0.70	0.76
Water system effectiveness	0.70	0.76
Quality of project design	0.66	0.72
Quality of project implementation	0.69	0.76
Quality of project O&M	0.60	0.65
Maintenance after one year	0.52	0.58
Reliability of water system	0.53	0.54
Project efficiency	0.51	0.59
Community empowerment	0.82	0.85
<i>Empowerment of women</i>	<i>0.73</i>	<i>0.88</i>
Increased client capacity for WS tasks	0.81	0.79
Health benefits	0.51	0.57

Some impacts

Impacts	Second Peru Rural Roads project*	Bangladesh RRMIMP*	Morocco rural roads	South Africa Rural Electrification
Education	Girls' pri school attendance rate 5.3% ↑; boys' sec. school attendance rate 7% ↑	Girls' sec. school enrollmnt ↑ 20% ; boys' sec. school enrollmnt ↑ 14%	Girls' pri school attendance ↑ from 17% to 54% (a change of 308%) boys' attendance ↑ by 108%	n.a.
Health	Reporting illness and injuries among young children ↓ 8%	n.a.	Women's trips to hospitals ↑ from 1.4 to 2.4 trips/year	n.a.
Participation in economic activities	Women's participation in road maintenance enterprises ↑ from 3.5% to 24%,	↑ women's participation in non-agriculture wage employment	↑ productivity	↑ women's participation by 13.5%
Income, Poverty alleviation	↓ poverty	↓ moderate poverty by 5%	↓ poverty	n.a.
Women's welfare, Social empowerment	↑ participation by women in community decision-making	n.a.	Access to butane gas for cooking which ↑ women's welfare	n.a.

5. Lessons learnt

- More evidence needed linking gender-aware *project inputs*
 - to *project outputs*
 - to *project impacts*
- Learning from research and M&E crucial for gender mainstreaming in infrastructure
 - For example, tailor-made surveys build into more projects to allow rigorous testing of impacts
 - Appropriate methodology is key
 - Before and after & with and without projects
 - Focus groups



Thank you

