



Addressing Gender Mainstreaming Role in Agricultural Extension Services for Rural Poverty Reduction in Balochistan, Pakistan

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Abstract—Present study was carried out so as to determine the gender role in agricultural extension services for rural poverty reduction in Balochistan. A descriptive survey method was carried by using the simple random sampling technique. Target populations were consisted 150 female farmers. Cronbach's alpha coefficients were 0.841 to 0.816 that shows the inner consistency of questionnaire was reliable. The data was analysis in SPSS. Results revealed that more than half 51% of respondents were belonged to age group 31 to 45%. More than 56% of the respondents were who recorded illiterate. Majority 78% of the respondents were perceived agricultural activities were source of revenue in rural areas. Vast majority 94% of respondents were of the view that they did not receive any extension services form the crop growing department at all. Majority 77% of the respondents were married. Most female farmers were perceived that the public EFS did perform the agricultural extension activities at the farm level. Enormously significant variances have been detected group-wise perceptions of female cultivators at 0.01 alpha levels on 3 out of the 7 categories of hurdles gender equality in agriculture extension. Following recommendations were put forwarded. Lack of female EFS's and females participation in agricultural were the major bottlenecks in decision-making process. Therefore, in this regard, female EFS should be recruited by the government of Balochistan at different agricultural extension hierarchical levels so as reduced the gender gap. Gender equality and empowerment of female rural famers were the part and parcel segments for sustainable rural development. Therefore, in this connection, government of Balochistan should be developed female village-based training institute at Union Council (UC) level so that accomplish goals of gender equality in agriculture sectors and secure livelihoods and the economic resources of female rural farmers.

Keywords — agricultural extension services, Balochistan, gender, rural, poverty