



IAMANEH Schweiz | Suisse

Gesundheit für Frauen und Kinder
Santé pour femmes et enfants

The call for engaging men and boys:

Addressing sexual and gender-based violence from the men's side

Maja Loncarevic, IAMANEH Switzerland, May 2018



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Bosnia-Herzegovina, 10 years after the war Traumatized women; angry, but helpless men





Why this topic for IAMANEH?

- Claim for engaging men and boys in development work in order to achieve sustainable results and improve impact (GBV-interventions) coming from the field
- 2 positions: neglect of men's needs and growing vulnerability of masculinity \Leftrightarrow danger of losing attention and resources for women's issues
- Interest for theory as well as lessons learned in the field
- Identification of key areas of concern

Overall goal remains gender equality and reduction of GBV!

But:

Men need to have an active stand for changing gender roles and against violence



Theoretical frame: Shift in gender concepts in development

- “Technical Cooperation”: men as main addressors of development aid
- 1970’s and 1980’s: unprecedented focus on women (UN decade for Women) – WID
- 1980’: emergence of empowerment approach (increased participation of women in political and economic life)
- 1980’s – 1990’s: conceptual shift from Women in Devt (WID) to Gender and Devt (GAD), including men and boys as well as idea of “gender mainstreaming”
- 1990’s onward: Engaging Men and Boys and gender-transformative approaches as new concepts in gender work



Why work with men?

- Empowerment of women has significant impact on men and their social positions and livelihoods. This threatens male self-conceptions and can produce counter-reactions in terms of opposition as well as attempts for greater control and domination over women.
- In the globalized and conflict-torn world, men and women are both exposed to various forms of exclusion, subordination and disempowerment. Men have been identified as gatekeepers for women's empowerment, but at the same time changes in male roles and positions in society show their own manifold marginalization and vulnerabilities.
- A high percentage of violent men have been exposed to different forms of violence during their childhood. This bears a high risk of developing violent behaviors in adulthood.

Entry points for «new» gender-equality approaches



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Engaging men and boys as indispensable factor for successful gender equality work and reduction of GBV

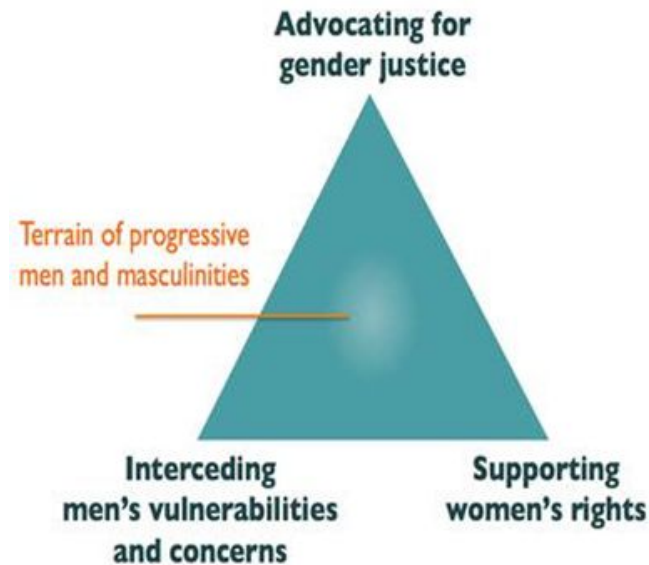
Empowerment as elementary starting point for durable changes in gender relations

Gender-transformative action as inevitable measure for a more equal distribution of power in gender relations

Social justice framework as a broader political agenda



Triple Accountability



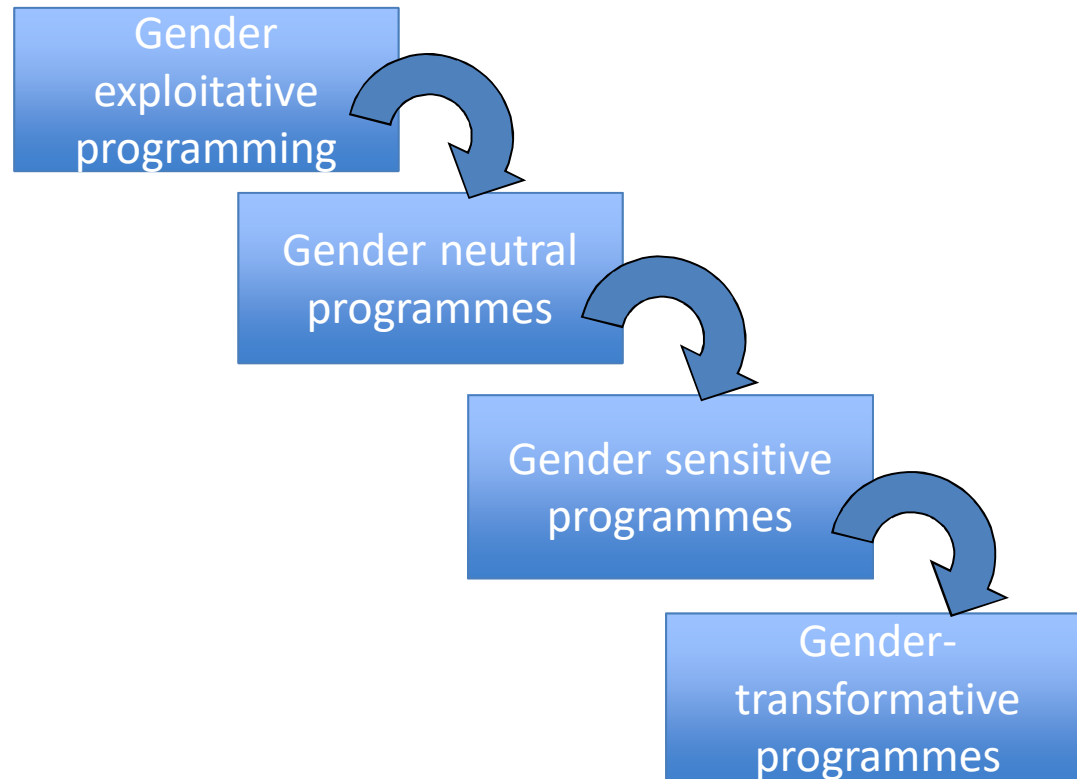
Triple-Advocacy Concept by
Theunert, 2015

Men as:

- Supporters of women's rights movements and issues (allies)
- Spokesmen for the vulnerabilities and concerns of boys, men and fathers in pursuit of gender equality
- Partners in a larger alliance evolving for social justice and equality for all genders



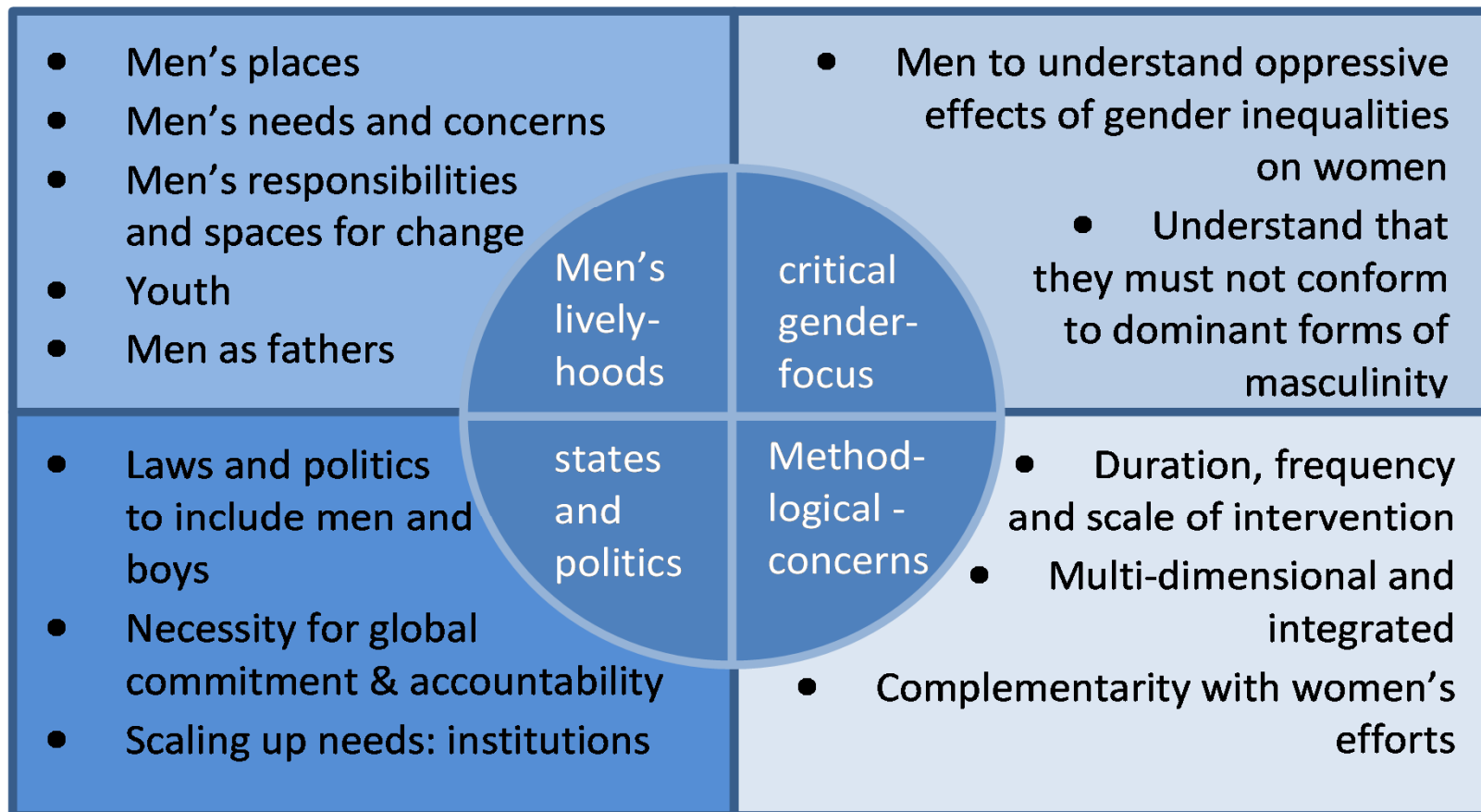
The Gender Programming Continuum



Engagement for gender equality calls for **gender-transformative action** where a **re-definition of gender roles and values** needs to take place and that can't be addressed without a **conscious re-distribution of power** between the sexes and in a broader societal context. (UNFPA 2013)



Engaging Men and Boys for gender equality: Key areas of concern



Ecological Model: working on different levels for transformation



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STRENGTHENING **INDIVIDUAL** KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

CREATING SUPPORTIVE **PEER AND FAMILY** STRUCTURES

STRENGTHENING SOCIAL **INSTITUTIONS** BY EDUCATING HEALTH AND
SOCIAL SERVICE PROVIDERS AND TEACHERS

MOBILIZING **COMMUNITY** MEMBERS

CHANGING **ORGANIZATIONAL** PRACTICES

INFLUENCING **POLICY** AND LEGISLATION AT THE SOCIETAL LEVEL

UNFPA (2010): «Engaging Men and Boys
in Gender Equality and Health: A Global
Toolkit for Action», p. 16



Actual debate around EMB:

- Accountability
- Tackling power, privilege and patriarchy
- Incorporating intersectionality
- Challenge structures and politicize work with men and boys
- Working together («gender-synchronized» approaches)
- Work with faith-based organizations and religious leaders, work with young men and boys
- Question of funding
- Improve follow up, monitoring and evaluation

Training of counselors for perpetrators and setting up of violence counselling services for men, Western Balkan



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Prevention work at schools on gender & violence



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Hommes ambassadeurs, Burkina Faso



Transforming traditional «institutions» for dialogue: Togouna, Penc, arbre à palabre



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Key lessons learned from the field

- Positive impact and visible change on individual and household level: reduced violence, enhanced communication on family level, increased participation in decision-making of women, re-distribution of tasks on household level
- But: still no changed perception of privilege of dominant position of men on society level (longer process)
- Work on level of institutions and authorities confronted with deeply anchored patriarchal norms and values on structural level: need for targeted work with leaders and institutions
- Gender-synchronised action that incorporates mixed and unisex gender-transformative work produces highest effects.



Reflections and processes at organisational level

- Organisational learning and self-reflection for gender-transformative work
- Develop gender-transformative thinking with partner organisations
- Create space for sharing good practice, dealing with insecurities and obstacles, systematization of applied approaches
- Contextual analysis of cultural barriers and opportunities for gender-transformative work
- Re-thinking organisational practice
- Balancing engagement for women and for men



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MEN
TOGETHER WITH RESPECT *move!*

CONFERENCE 7–8 JUNE 2018
ENGAGING MEN AND BOYS IN GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT

Rhypark, Basel

Day 1:

EMB in policy and practice

Day 2:

Work with perpetrators of GBV

Work with male survivors

Speakers:

- Abhijit Das, MenEngage
- Tim Shand, Promundo
- Markus Theunert, maenner.ch
- Marianne Hester, Univ.of Bristol
- Ingun Rangul-Askeland, ATV Norway

www.menmove-conference2018.ch