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REPORT OF A TRAINING WORKSHOP – WOMEN, WATER AND NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

AN INITIATIVE OF THE
WOMEN, GENDER AND WATER PROJECT

CENTRE FOR GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES
THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES
ST. AUGUSTINE

MARCH 11TH 2005
THE CONFERENCE ROOM, DEPARTMENT OF LIFE SCIENCES
FACULTY OF SCIENCE AND AGRICULTURE
THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES
ST. AUGUSTINE

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1.0 PREAMBLE

The Women, Gender and Water project emerged out of the experience of the research project on **the Nariva Swamp: A Gendered Case Study**, which was carried out between 1998 and 2000. This project was coordinated by Dr Grace Sirju-Charran and Professor Rhoda Reddock. Work on the new project was initiated through work done on women and communities in Trinidad and Tobago by Dr. Jill Schneiderman of Vassar College, New York, and Professor Rhoda Reddock of the University of the West Indies (UWI), St Augustine. One of the outcomes of that research was a published paper, "Women, Water and Community in Trinidad and Tobago" (Natural Resources Forum, Volume 28, 2004).

The Women, Water and Gender project is being co-ordinated by Dr. Dawn Phillip and Dr. Fredericka Deare. This workshop was one of the first major activities arising out of the project and is intended to be one of the first of many opportunities for training and sharing of knowledge within the field of women, water and gender studies. The project intends to seek greater participation and the broadening of the workshop's focus, to include not only freshwater management, but also that of natural resources.

This training workshop sought to provide participants with tools of gender analysis and aid their application to research on Water and Natural Resource Use and Management. It was aimed towards those with an interest in water, natural resources management and gender studies and was open to all staff and graduate students of UWI, as well as members of the public involved in Water Resources Management.

Special guest presenters included Dr. Jill Schneiderman, Associate Professor of Geology and Dean of the Faculty, Vassar College, New York and Dr. Lester Forde, Water Resources Consultant and Member of the Gender and Water Alliance.

Aims & Objectives

2.0 WORKSHOP SESSIONS

2.1 Session 1 – The Importance of Gender for Water Resource Management by Dr. Lester Forde

Dr. Lester Forde holds a PhD in Civil and Environmental Engineering and was on the steering committee of the Gender and Water Alliance. He has previously worked for the Water and Sewerage Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (WASA) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). At present, he is the CEO of his own company, Forde Engineering, which is based in Trinidad and Tobago.

The Importance of Gender for Water Resource Management

Both women and men should have equal voice in the management of water and the participatory level of women in water management needs to be broadened in order for it become more successful.

Studies have shown that women must be more involved in any deliberation and decisions in water management, mainly because women are most affected. Women and girls spend a great deal of their time collecting water in some countries and they have to walk several kilometres each day to fulfil their water needs.

At present, there are 3-5 million children in developing countries who die annually from water related diseases. This is truly staggering because this would amount to the equivalent of a tsunami and a half (in reference to the November 2004 tsunami disaster in the Indian Ocean).

Little thought is often paid to sanitation and disposal of used water is usually left as an after thought in the minds of decision-makers. With respect to sanitation, in developing countries this plays a significant role in the development and education of women. In schools conditions are not sanitary and when girls are menstruating they do not have adequate water to clean themselves. Many girls are forced to either drop out of school at the onset of puberty or stay away from school while they are menstruating. There are also poor bathroom facilities or none at all, so girls have no privacy which is very unsafe. For women and girls this is a never-ending problem with no real solution and has persisted from generation to generation.

The greatest use of water is one that is the least efficient. Agriculture can use up to 80% of the world's potable water annually and the efficiency of use by crops and plants is a meagre 10%; the rest returns to waterways contaminated by pesticides.

The best and most successful water projects have been ones in which women were directly involved. Self-help projects in communities have been initiated by women because they are usually the most affected. Women are the ones who have to wake up and go and get water at 2 am. Walking long distances at night for water is made even more difficult as they often have to

traverse inhospitable terrain. Women are the ones who carry water on their heads to their homes, while men are usually the ones who carry water by trucks, particularly evident in Trinidad and Tobago. It is only through the involvement of women that many water projects have been successful.

The evolution of the water pump has greatly impacted upon women. It was first made and designed by men for men. But women were the ones who accessed water the most, and they were the ones who would have to fix the pump when repairs were required. The pumps were then redesigned and made lighter so that women could use them easily and would be able to fix them once repairs were necessary. This was a major engineering improvement. Since then, all pumps have been designed with women in mind, as they were the ones who would use them the most and they would be the ones who managed water usage in communities. As such, engineers need to be sensitised that gender has to be taken into consideration when they produce designs which will be utilized by both genders.

Management of water at the household level is carried out by women. Research has shown that many projects become more successful when the entire community is involved and at the helm of the actual physical work is usually women.

In the developing world, countries not only face problems in terms of quantity of water but also quality. The former colonies of Britain, India and Egypt are some of the most consumptive in water usage for their agricultural sectors. The Nile begins in Uganda and Ethiopia yet a great deal of its water is utilised and managed, at best, quite poorly at times by Egypt.

Gravity systems were used as water distribution systems, from the Romans to Trinidadians but, as time passed, the scale of these systems grew with technological advancements.

There is an increasing need to have international organisations regulate the use of monetary resources, as big governments would successfully compete against developing countries for resources to promote projects in their countries, while the developing countries would have greater needs.

Water is a finite resource and it must be conserved. There must be a greater emphasis on water conservation and the regulation of its use. It is even more important to countries such as ours because we are small developing islands, and we face even greater challenges than other countries. We are also more susceptible to climate changes and as such we should be at the forefront of conservation efforts and putting plans in place to deal with climatic changes in the future.

Rainwater harvesting should be considered as an alternative to using freshwater resources. In the past in Trinidad was a common practise to collect rainwater for use. This technique is largely used in some developing countries like India for irrigation, mining and aquaculture. It will open the door for many to participate in small scale farming, without putting additional strain on resources.

The Millennium Development Goals should be re-focussed to increase the number of people who have access to potable, safe water for consumption.

Wastewater reuse and water recycling should be considered as options to ease the demands on diminishing water resources. In Maloney, the wastewater treatment system south of the housing development is in disrepair, but nonetheless it is still being used for urban agriculture irrigation. These are problems that must be addressed.

There are small conservation efforts each of us can make, which collectively can serve to make a great impact. These vary from turning off the tap when you brush your teeth, to soaping all your dishes before you wash, to using front-loading washing machines which use water more efficiently.

Privatisation, which is actually public-private partnerships, will become significant for women in the future as they are entrepreneurs in developing countries, and as water vendors, would stand to make a significant amount of money.

In Barbados, water conservation efforts are encouraged by tax incentives where you receive a rebate on your taxes if you install solar heaters.

As the field of engineering is opening up to women there will be technological advancements that put women in the picture in a manner that they have not been before.

The water crises that we face are happening right now. We must do our part and manage this resource so that they will fare better in the world in the future. The time for action is now.

Discussion

Dr. Fredericka Deare, Senior Consultant, Kairi Consultants Limited commented that water problems in southeast Tobago persist because of the strain on the resources due to the development of guest houses and hotels. Indoor pit latrines which still persist contribute to the contamination of water supplies.

Dr. Lester Forde responded by elaborating that the role of water in toilets is only for transport, which compounds the problems of wastewater by creating additional problems in terms of nutrient enrichment and decreased biological oxygen demand. Pit latrines may not be as problematic because the faecal matter becomes desiccated, and can even be reused as a fertilizer.

Mr. Wayne Joseph, Manager of Operations at Water and Sewerage Authority, commented that in Tobago water usage stands at 12 million gallons per day and yet there is still a deficit of 3 million gallons daily and in order to fulfil this need, contracts have been awarded to drill wells. Southwest Tobago is devoid of wastewater treatment facilities and to treat all of the water, it will cost approximately TT $400 million to do so, funding which the government does not have. WASA has commissioned a facility to treat 20-24 million gallons of wastewater per day. This plant is at the Beetham and represents one of the largest of its kind in the region. It has met and surpassed all environmental international standards.

WASA is taking into consideration the idea of metering to deal with the massive water consumptions of large scale industries, so that they can pay based on how much they consume. This would help assist WASA in recovering some of the money lost in the day to day operations as the cost of water does not reflect the cost of production. In public-private partnerships, it would be good to see more women involved as this would help make the projects more successful like the self-help projects, 90% of which are managed by women.

WASA has been focussed on engineering, but there is still a need to reach out to communities and get them involved to solve some of the problems this country faces with water management.

Close

Session 1 was brought to a close by Dr. Fredericka Deare.

2.2 Session 2 – An Introduction to Gender Analysis by Professor Rhoda Reddock

Professor Rhoda Reddock holds a PhD. in Gender Studies and is currently Head of the Centre for Gender and Development Studies at the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, a semi-autonomous organisation which she helped to establish. She was involved in the research which gave rise to the Women, Gender and Water Committee and is a lecturer in Gender Studies at the UWI.

An Introduction to Gender Analysis

In the 1970s, the second wave of feminism emerged and out of this grew a large body of scholars who developed research and theorising relating to masculinities and femininities. In this context the term 'Gender' took on a new meaning. The term, 'Gender' was used to facilitate an analytical and conceptual distinction between biological experience of being male or female and the social, cultural and ideological experience of masculinity and femininity. The scholars who introduced this concept argued that we were born with certain physiological features, but it is society that shapes how we really experience them and become men and women.

Sex, seen as biological is supposed to be unchangeable and gender is seen as social and subject to change. But at times, things are not so clear cut, because today, sex can be changed and gender identity does not always conform to biological sex.

A strict definition of gender as defined by Eudine Barriteau (1998)

is a complex system of social and personal relations through which women and men are socially constructed and maintained through which they gain access to, or are allocated status, power and material resources within society. These social constructed identities are reflected in the behaviour, attitudes and power relations between men and women and are reflected in the notions of femininity and masculinity.

Usually the first question you are asked when a child is born is: "Is it a boy or a girl?" Not, "Is it healthy?" or "How big is it?" This happens because unless we assign a gender to a baby we have no other basis on which to relate to it. It is upsetting to us when we cannot distinguish what gender someone is as gender ambiguity is difficult to deal with. Gender identity however is one pf the most important identity formations that takes place in a child's mind growing up. Gender identity is only determined in children through the interactions they have with others, so that certain forms of behaviour are learnt to be associated with certain sexes.

We eventually learn that the values which are associated with masculinity and femininity are not equal. Masculinity is more highly valued in most societies. In some societies, distinctions are quite few or minor, while in some they are quite vast and this affects economic and social life as well as interactions with the natural environment.

New feminist scholars working in the field of biology have shown that physiology and biology are also impacted upon by society. Sex is not as unchangeable as we thought in the past as there have been new inventions, new ways to interface with the body and even new interactions between humans and their own bodies. Feminist biologists argue that society and nature constantly interact with each other and constantly impact on each other and thus there is need for a biosocial understanding of gender.

Gender analysis is a methodology that has emerged out of the understanding that phenomenon may affect men and women in different ways. 'Gender analysis' can be defined as:

A systematic attempt to recognise and understand the differential impact which a given variable, factor or decision may have on different groups of women and men. It takes into consideration how gender-based inequity may be further affected by issues of race/ethnicity, class, geographical location and age among others.

Gender analysis is an important tool as it points to the ways in which certain policies, strategies and decisions may impact negatively on certain groups and/or perpetuate already existing inequities. Equal treatment does not necessarily mean equality.

The gendered division of labour refers to the tasks and responsibilities of women and men based on social values, norms and morals of a particular society. These then dictate which activities are socially acceptable to be performed. This division of labour has historically not been equitable, as the tasks assigned to women have often been of a lower value to those of men. This allocation is not fixed and varies from society to society and over time. Certain aspects however have been very consistent across cultural norms although taking different forms.

Labour and technology use are often gendered in society. People follow these gendered aspects up until the point when there are some significant changes. In some fields of work, when a majority of women enter that field its status declines. In some cases, this is prevented by limiting the number of women in a particular field. Thus, more men leave that field to seek other fields to get the status that they feel they deserve. One can suggest that academic work is gendered feminine so males are now seeking other ways to be valorised.

Gender relations refer to the ways in which women and men interact within certain contexts of gender hierarchy and gendered structures. This can take place in the private/personal sphere, the public sphere and in the social/economic/political contexts.

Gendered spaces refers to the fact that in any given community or within the domestic environment there are spaces/ places which are defined as "male" or "female". Some of these are longstanding definitions. These spaces maintain their gendered character and sanctions and rewards which are administered by adhering to or challenging the boundaries of these spaces and the activities which occur there. Example, in Trinidad, a 'rum shop' is a male gendered space and the women who go there would acquire certain names or will be looked at in a particular manner.

Gendered spaces can be created or can emerge depending on ideology. When organising communities, there are certain spaces which women can enter and certain spaces in which men can enter. There quite often are very few female gendered spaces outside of the home or religious places. Even the streets are considered a male gendered space and this is seen by the reaction of men to women in such places.

Equity and equality are important in increasing a woman's access to and control over resources. Equality refers to the right of women and men to have the same opportunities for achievement of important goals in society e.g. education, employment, income. However, the concept of equity is not based on numerical equivalencies. It acknowledges that all human beings have the right to an enabling environment in which to develop to their fullest potential. Women gain prestige by entering men's fields, while the same does not apply to men who enter predominantly female fields. As women expand their options and move to wherever they can move to, men are reduced in the spaces where they feel comfortable. For women to have equal opportunity to achieve their goals their special needs have to be taken into consideration, for example, child care and maternity leave.

Gender sensitivity refers to the awareness and understanding of the many and varied ways in which gender ideologies are considered. A gender sensitive planner, scientist etc, must make policies and recommendations which reflect sensitivity to the effect which varying factors may have.

This is something that we should bear in mind when undertaking research now and in the future.

Close

Session 2 was closed by Dr. Fredericka Deare and Dr. Dawn Phillip.

2.3 Session 3 – Doing Gender and Science by Professor Jill Schneiderman

Professor Jill Schneiderman is a Feminist Geologist and a Fulbright Scholar who undertook the research which launched the Women, Water and Gender Committee. She is currently a Professor of Geology and Associate Dean of the Faculty at Vassar College, New York, and significant contributor to the work of the Women, Water and Gender project.

Doing Gender and Science

Science at times tends to limit women, by telling us what we can, or cannot do. Science reflects perspectives and concerns during the period of the time during which research is undertaken. Science and gender analysis can be used to take justice and equality between the two sexes into consideration.

At the 12th Session of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development, the issue of gender proved itself to be common to all the nations there across culture, socioeconomics, race and religion.

The entry points for analysis of sustainable development and gender arise when there is an understanding that men and women have different needs and priorities in societies. Part of the feminist approach to water resource management must tackle:

i. The government because in countries like Trinidad oil, petroleum and natural gas are given priority over many other needs; and
ii. The empowerment of communities to manage their own water supplies and resources.

In 1903, the Water Riots erupted and at the forefront of these protests were mostly women and the poor as they were the ones who were most affected.

When you consider the kind of country Trinidad is, and the way resources are partitioned, management is very important. Consider that in Trinidad and Tobago, 95% of the population live on the island of Trinidad, most of which is accumulated along the east west corridor at the base of the extensive Northern Range. There are basically two seasons, wet and dry, and the fundamental nature of the hydrological cycle is an important reality for the country's citizens. Most of the rain falls where there are low population densities and water becomes scarce in urban areas, compared to the rest of the country, as they persist in the areas of the island which receive the least amount of rainfall. Thus, there is a vital need for proper strategic planning.

The sources of potable water vary in the country. 69% of the surface water is available through reservoirs and river intakes and 31% is available through groundwater. Therefore, with time, there will become a greater reliance on surface water for consumption.

When you consider Trinidad and Tobago with Costa Rica, which according to the United Nations (UN) Human Development Report (2002) are both very similar countries, only 86% of the population has access to safe water supplies. Water supplies are intermittent and it becomes even more so in communities that are impoverished.

If we look at Trinidad from a geological perspective, we can consider that the first well was drilled for oil in Trinidad in 1857 and by 2002, British Petroleum (BpTT) announced that were drilling in one of the world's largest oil reserves. Natural gas, which is extracted from the earth's crust and refined, contains contaminants and dilutants and the process of refining and extracting requires large quantities of water. At the point in history, Trinidad is now making the transition from a primarily oil producing to a natural gas refining nation. Over 65% of the natural gas produced in Trinidad is used in the United States alone.

Patricia Samaroo and Fazeela Mohammed of Barrackpore have shown that these protests against the way resources are used, which began abroad in 1903, are being continued here to this day. They have also demonstrated that women are willing to be at the helm of self-help groups and challenge the government and even allow themselves to work alongside them to improve their communities.

The hydrological cycles of countries have to be respected and we all have to deal with the reality of that and face the challenges which will vary from nation to nation. At the same, countries like Trinidad must not bow to the pressure of first world countries like the United States because their resources will be over-exploited.

Discussion

Dr. Lester Forde offered to the group that, it is difficult to compare Costa Rica and Trinidad because the hydrology is vastly different. Countries with well developed wetland systems which are managed would have the tendency to have better attitudes to water management and conservation as greater efforts are often channelled into education and public awareness.

Dr. Grace Sirju-Charran, Head, Department of Life Sciences, UWI suggested that as there is now a higher prevalence in the number of squatter communities which arise, it may be more beneficial to begin moving people around, so that resources are not strained in any one particular area.

Dr. Jill Schneiderman further elaborated that the oil industry is a male gendered space in which priority is given to profit-making. She pondered why some of the money that is gained from the natural gas industry is not used for improvement of the lives of women and communities. According to the Declaration of Human Rights, people have a right to have access to safe water, but this basic right is not being met. The notion of desalination to increase the amount of water available

Ms. Roxanne Lashley, Deputy General Manager, Corporate Communications, WASA indicated that the quality of water supply to communities all over Trinidad and Tobago has increased significantly. WASA has received input from the Energy Committee and the rest of the energy sector concerning the improvement of water supplies. There must be a change in technology if water is to be managed efficiently among the sectors of society which are competing for the same finite resource and at times, the management of resources are not a gender issue but rather that of politics.

2.4 Session 4 – Discussion – Community Activism by Mrs. Rose Rajbansee

Mrs. Rose Rajbansee is the Co-ordinator of the Network Rural Women Producers and has had experience in the past managing water resources in the village of Plum Mitan, in east Trinidad.

Community Activism

In the village of Plum Mitan in 1948, water would flow across the land, from the nearby government lands, yet there was no access to safe water in the homes of villagers. They got together and on the state-owned land nearby, erected a small dam on the upper part of a water intake. Water flowed freely, and the villages had achieved this by working together. In time, the village came to acquire two standpipes and the water was mainly managed by the men, even though use of the standpipes at the time did not require much management. But, the village expanded and by the 1960s, their needs outgrew the water that came to the village from water intake.

As time passed, most people connected standpipes in the yards, yet they remained without water in their houses. The first batch of water lines were just an inch and a quarter thick, but with time, calcium carbonate would build up in the lines and reduce the amount of water that flowed through the standpipes. In the 1960s, the village raised the necessary funds to change the pipes to one with a diameter of six inches. Little by little, the women came to the forefront in dealing with the water issues being faced by village.

Mrs. Rajbansee became on of the women leading water management in the village with the assistance of her female friends. They learnt how to chlorinate the water to make sure it was safe for use. They got advice on how to lay pipelines. This, plus their knowledge in scrubbing the dam, meant that they were able to slowly improve the quality of life in the village. They have been able to work with WASA, as it was they who were able to help them test the water periodically to ensure that it is safe for consumption.

The villagers have also applied to WASA to receive pipe-borne water in their area to supplement that which they get from the water intake as the water is still not enough to supply the needs of the growing village. Most of the villagers are poor and cannot afford to buy water storage tanks, so accessing water remains a difficult task. Getting WASA's assistance in this matter has been tedious and problematic.

The women in the village still continue to manage water-usage from the dam.

Mrs. Rajbansee said, "Men like to be in charge. So I let them feel like they are in charge. Don't fight with the men to be the head. You be the neck, because the neck is what turns the head from side to side. I'm not fighting for the head space. I like the neck space."

In this "compromise" in the management of water means that the men will go and open the dam and lock it up for them, as well as take care of scrubbing the dam. The rest is done by the women.
The water management group is a formal group. It functions as the village council/ community group and with co-operation they manage to keep the community together.

It was through the women's involvement, that the County Council gave the community barrels of water, as well as community storage tanks. Accessing the water from these tanks means that many villagers have to walk a long distance, often carrying the water on their heads. Of course, there would be inequity in the distribution of water because if you are able to walk faster than others, you will be able to make more trips to the tanks and get more water.

However, once communities learn to manage their resources, they will be better able to appreciate their environment.

Discussion

Ken D. Thomas, Student, Environmental Engineering, UWI commented that the Environmental Management Authority is drafting Rules concerning freshwater rivers, and this could affect the way in which communities use water in the future.

Dr. Fredericka Deare indicated that many communities are no longer as close knit as Plum Mitan, with a general lack of volunteering for improvement of the community life.

Ms. Avril Siung-Chang, Environmental Health and Sustainable Development Advisor, Pan American Health Organisation/ World Health Organisation suggested that WASA is a body that is responsible for water management and treatment and not necessarily resource management, hence there may be a visible disconnect between the environmental concerns and water resource management.

Mrs. Rose Rajbansee further elaborated that WASA wanted the Plum Mitan community to pay for the water they were getting from the intake which they were able to maintain without the assistance of the organisation.

There are two other implications for communities that manage their own water:

i. global warming and consequent sea level rise will cause salinisation of fresh water supplies; and
ii. land manipulation on the part of oil and gas companies can cause erosion and sedimentation of freshwater resources thereby degrading the freshwater supply (e.g. construction of tank farms and the laying of pipes).

All that the community has is the voice of the people in order to persuade WASA to assist us. The water levels in the dam are diminishing.

Close

Session 4 was brought to a close by Dr. Fredericka Deare and Dr. Dawn Phillip.

2.5 Session 5 – Case Study – Nariva Swamp

Living with the Nariva Swamp -
Video Produced by the Centre for Gender and Development Studies, UWI

The Nariva Swamp is a highly contested wetland. There are have been many conservation efforts on the part of the government of Trinidad and Tobago, the residents of Nariva and the surrounding villages as well as other private organisations like the Manatee Conservation Trust and the Fishermen and Friends of the Sea (FFOS).

The resources in Nariva reflect gendered spaces with the forest being the domain of the men and the women's domain being generally limited to the home and their family's lives. Any efforts related to conservation usually involve men as they are more closely linked to environmental resources due to the nature of their interactions with the environment.

One of the most important things the community wants is development. There is a lack of basic amenities such as water and telephones.

Discussion

Professor Jill Schneiderman indicated that it appears that Trinidad and Tobago is unaware of what they have, the kind of resources and the variety and diversity of their own ecosystems. Favour is given to oil and natural gas resources while biodiversity lags behind.

Close

Session 5, and the Workshop, was brought to a close by Dr. Fredericka Deare and Dr. Dawn Phillip.

3.0 EVALUATION OF WORKSHOP

3.1 Content and Organisation of Workshop

Overall attendance was good, given the constraints of time and facilities. The attendees came from generally similar backgrounds, with interests mainly in water management, the environment, health and gender. The list of attendees and contact information can be gleaned from Appendix III.

Evaluation forms (see Appendix VI) were filled out by only 52% of the participants, and the results are presented in Table 1 below.

Table 1 – Analysis of Evaluation Forms

	Yes	No	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Accuracy of Programme Content	67%	33%				
Job Applicability	58%	42%				
Time Management			20%	50%	30%	
Organisation of Material			0%	9%	91%	
Knowledge level of Presenters			0%	11%	89%	
Programme length			10%	0%	90%	
Use of Visual Aids			0%	0%	89%	11%
Acoustics of Meeting Space			0%	0%	89%	11%
Quality of Meeting Space			11%	0%	78%	11%
Overall Programme			0%	0%	89%	11%
Willingness to attend a follow-up	100%	0%				

The questions on the evaluation form were quantified in terms of percentages calculated based on the number of people who answered each question as participants chose not to answer certain questions.

60% can be used as the benchmark to judge effectiveness and excellence. Thus, from the table, the accuracy of the programme was generally seen as being excellent; however, there seems to be a lack of applicability to the topic to participants' jobs. As seen in the table, the aspects of the

programme which were well done range from "Organisation of Material" down to "Overall Programme". All of the participants were willing to attend a follow-up. It should be noted however, that this question, also asked on the Registration Form (see Appendix V) and answered by 17 participants, 70% were willing to attend follow-up training, 12% were not, and 18% indicated that it would depend on the forums on which this training is held.

3.2 Recommendations

From the workshop, verbal recommendations made are listed below:

i. Proposals for projects on water resources, civil engineering and management can be sent to the Centre for Gender and Development Studies to determine whether a gender aspect could be included;
ii. Proposals for projects that include gender and science should be written and submitted for funding;
iii. There should have been a greater link between gender and natural management made during the workshop as this was only reflected in Professor Schneiderman's presentation;
iv. There would be a conference in the future during which these issues would be further discussed on a greater scale;
v. There need to be a better understanding of the way forward on these issues of gender, water and management; and,
vi. Projects should examine work done by communities in natural resource management and gender.

The evaluation forms also gave participants the opportunity to make recommendations. These are listed below:

i. There should have been more presenters/ papers by persons who are in the field of gender and science;
ii. There should have been a greater link between gender and natural resources and not just water;
iii. There should have been greater elaboration on water management;
iv. There must be more information on how to use gender studies to enhance the use of resources and scientific knowledge;
v. There must be greater efforts in public education on the use of WASA's water;
vi. There should have been more men involved;
vii. There should be a conference or forum in which papers/ data would be presented to stakeholders; and,
viii. There is a greater need for education in water management and the rights of consumers.

4.0 CONCLUSION

The workshop overall was well attended and from the evaluation it appears to have been well received. The recommendations made during the sessions and the issues that were brought up will be taken into serious consideration by the members of the Women, Gender and Water Committee as it would assist in clarifying the way forward as it will help shed light on the work that still needs to be done.

5.0 APPENDICES

APPENDIX I – PRESS RELEASE

Women, Water and Natural Resource Management – A Training Workshop

The Centre for Gender and Development Studies at The University of the West Indies (UWI) is holding its first training workshop in the developing field of Water, Gender and Water on Friday March 11th, 2005 from 9:00 am, to 4:00 p.m. at the Conference Room of the Department of Life Sciences.

The Women, Water and Gender project, is being co-ordinated by Dr. Dawn Phillip and Dr. Fredericka Deare. Dr. Jill Schneiderman of Vassar College, New York, Dr. Grace Sirju-Charran and Prof. Rhoda Reddock undertook preliminary work on the project in 2003/4. It is now being expanded to incorporate a wider range of research initiatives.

The training workshop aims to provide participants with tools of gender analysis and their application to research on Water and Natural Resource Use and Management. This workshop, which is geared towards those with an interest in water, natural resources management and gender studies, is open to all staff and graduate students of UWI, as well as members of the public involved in Water Resources Management.

Resource Persons will include Professor Jill Schneiderman, Professor of Geology, Associate Dean of the Faculty, Vassar College, New York and Dr. Lester Forde, Water Resources Consultant and Member of the Gender and Water Alliance.

For further information, please contact 662-2002 ext 3548 or 3573.

APPENDIX II – FLYER FOR WORKSHOP

APPENDIX III – AGENDA FOR WORKSHOP

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AGENDA

Gender, Water and Natural Resource Management - A Training Workshop
March 11th, 2005

9:00 – 9:10 a.m.	Welcome, Introductions and Overview of the day's proceedings – Dr. Dawn Phillip
9:10 – 10:10 a.m.	The Importance of Gender for Water Resources Management – Dr. Lester Forde
10:10 – 10:30 a.m.	*BREAK*
10:30 – 11:30 a.m.	An Introduction to Gender Analysis – Professor Rhoda Reddock
11:30 – 12:15 p.m.	Doing Gender and Science I – Professor Jill Schneiderman
12:15 – 1:00 p.m.	*LUNCH*
1.00 – 1.45 p.m.	Doing Gender and Science II – Dr. Grace Sirju-Charran

1.45 – 2.30 p.m.	Case Study – Nariva Swamp
2:30 – 2:45 p.m.	*BREAK*
2:45 – 3:45 p.m.	Panel Discussion – Community Activists
3:45 – 4.00 p.m.	Close

APPENDIX IV – REGISTRATION FORM

APPENDIX V – EVALUATION FORM

APPENDIX VI – BACKGROUND MATERIAL DISTRIBUTED AT WORKSHOP

APPENDIX VII – PARTICIPANTS

Attendance Sheet

Gender, Water and Natural Resource Management – A Training Workshop

Conference Room, Department of Life Sciences

March 11th, 2005

Name	Organization/ Department/ Faculty	Address	Telephone	Email
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Nicole Khan				

Dawn Phillips

Grace Sirju-Charran.

APPENDIX VIII – LIST OF POSSIBLE RESOURCE PERSONNEL

APPENDIX VIII – NEWSPAPER ARTICLE ABOUT WORKSHOP