

Integrating Gender Considerations into Climate and Clean Air Projects

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Defining gender



The **socially-constructed** identities, roles and relations associated with being a man or a woman.



Differentiates from biological categories of sex (female, male, or intersex).

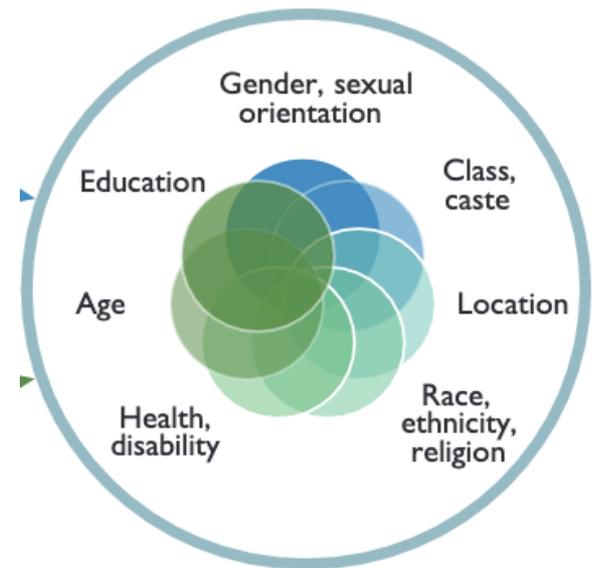
Gender analysis in practice

Intersectionality

- How multiple social identities overlap and intersect with each other and gender to create different forms and degrees of injustices or privileges.

Structural inequalities

- A system of privilege where different categories of people are attributed unequal statuses, roles, rights, and opportunities based on biases in social institutions.
- Occur as a result of imbalanced economic and political power.



Analyzing inequalities and gender in air pollution in the world of work



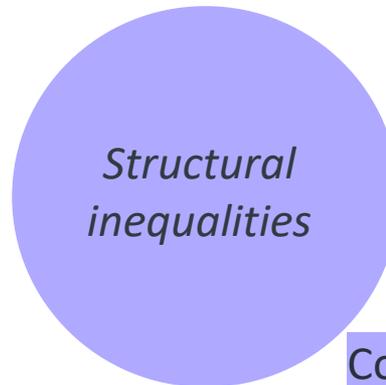
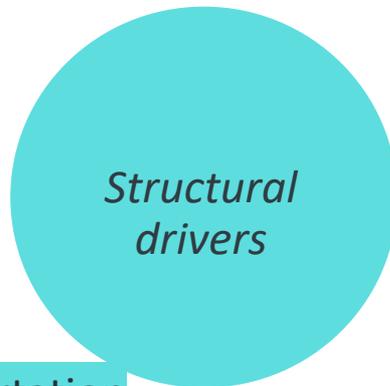
Analyzing inequalities in air pollution

Absence of air pollution regulations

Inadequate housing and segregation of neighborhoods

Expansion of certain industries or sectors:

- Industrial sector
- Agricultural sector
- Vehicular sector



Limited access to healthcare

Urban planning policies

- Limited public transportation

Concentration of certain groups in high-exposure occupations

Economic development trajectories and related policies

- Expansion of polluting industries

Unequal education opportunities

Gendered exposures to air pollution

- The differentiated exposures to air pollution can be the outcomes of the *gendered division of labor and responsibilities*.
- Gendered expectations of work, both within the household and in the workplace, can shape individual exposure to air pollution.



Workers in Vietnam's craft villages

Workers experiencing pre-existing inequalities related to social identities and other socioeconomic and culture factors are more exposed to air pollution as an occupational hazard.

Women tend to be more dependent on craft village work and have limited alternative livelihoods.

They take more time off for health-related reasons which negatively affects their incomes.

Migrant workers tend to have prolonged exposure to air pollution, living next to the production facilities. Since many migrants only work in the craft villages temporarily, they are more willing to accept riskier jobs with higher exposure in exchange for a better income.

<https://www.sei.org/featured/day-life-female-handicraft-worker-viet-nam/>



Grilled food workers in Vientiane

Most grill workers were exposed to smoke from the grill for at least eight hours per day, 6-7 days per week, with the primary fuel being charcoal

Staff have limited access to workplace or social protections, including national health insurance and paid sick leave

Women who have migrated from the provinces are more likely to live-in with the shop owner, and may have to work longer hours with more exposure, including household chores – also raising the possibility of exploitation.

The informal sector is largely unregulated and not supported by formal policy or standards on air quality or appropriate PPE for staff. There are no standards or guidelines, related to cooking methods, heat source, grill type or ventilation.



Analyzing inequalities in air pollution

Urbanisation

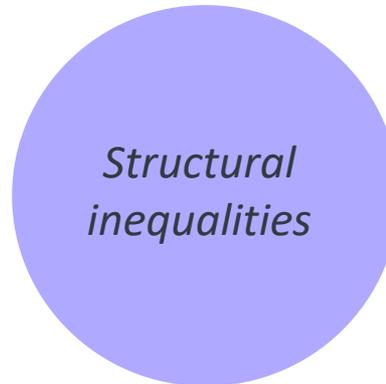
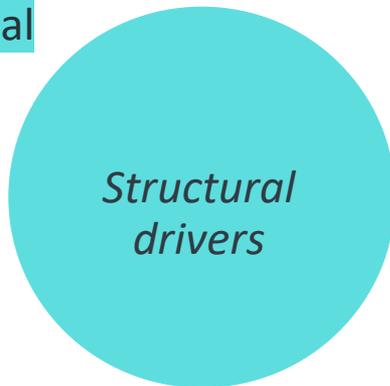
Regulations:

- Limited on occupational health & safety
- Limited on informal employment
- Enforcement lacking

Urbanisation

- Growing demand for cheap food

- Expansion of polluting industries increases ambient exposure



Inadequate investment in safe work space

Limited access to healthcare and awareness of health impacts

Concentration of women and migrants in high-exposure occupations

Unequal caring burden

Thank you

