



wocan

Women Organizing for Change in Agriculture & NRM

WOMEN and the 4 Fs (Food, Fuel, Fiber and Forests)

Scoping Dialogue on Food, Fuel, Fiber
and Forests

Challenges women face when trying to exploit the energy and food sources from forests

1. Work burdens of women that allow little time to participate in capacity building activities, and opportunities to voice their concerns and perspectives.





2. Access constrained due to :

- Lack of secure rights and tenure
- Restrictions on forest use, in forests managed for conservation, carbon sequestration

Particular challenge to women of the central African region, who risk sexual violence, mutilation and even murder when collecting fuel wood from nearby forests.



Opportunities and benefits of exploiting the food and energy sources from forests

Exclusion from forest governance mechanisms, capacity building and marketing opportunities due to lack of recognition of roles, responsibilities and rights of women in forest management, and their low levels of education.





Institutional biases within forestry institutions that fail to recognize and legitimate women's contributions to forest management.

-

Opportunities and benefits of exploiting the food and energy sources from forests for women :

- **Fuel efficient cook stoves :**
- reduce firewood consumption
- reduce CO2 emissions
- improve health (and security) of women and their children...
- reduce time spent collecting fuelwood





wocan

Women Organizing for Change in Agriculture & NRM

**Collective
management** by
women's groups and
cooperatives
maximizes social
development and
learning,
opportunities for
income generation
from NTFPs.





wocan

Women Organizing for Change in Agriculture & NRM

Carbon as a new
value chain to
bring income to
women's groups?

