

Women as Mapmakers: Gender and Empowerment in Participatory Mapping

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OIRED at Virginia Tech manages over \$46 million in collaborative research projects in over 30 countries.

Primarily agriculture and natural resource management

➔ gender-sensitive approach

identify gender-based
constraints and
opportunities



One tool is participatory mapping

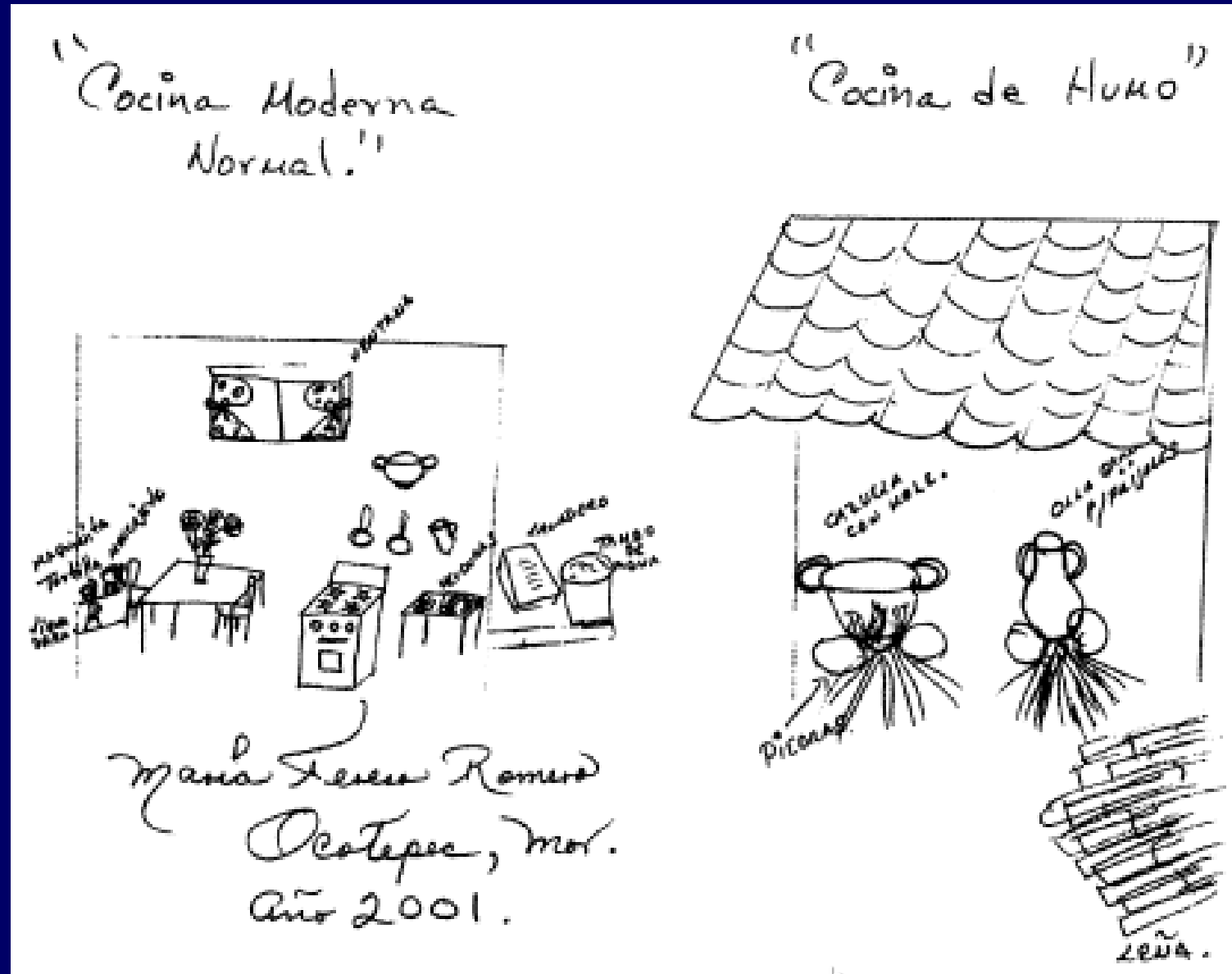
Counter-mapping and power vis a vis the State

Claiming territory in the Amazon: GPS technology in the hands of indigenous peoples



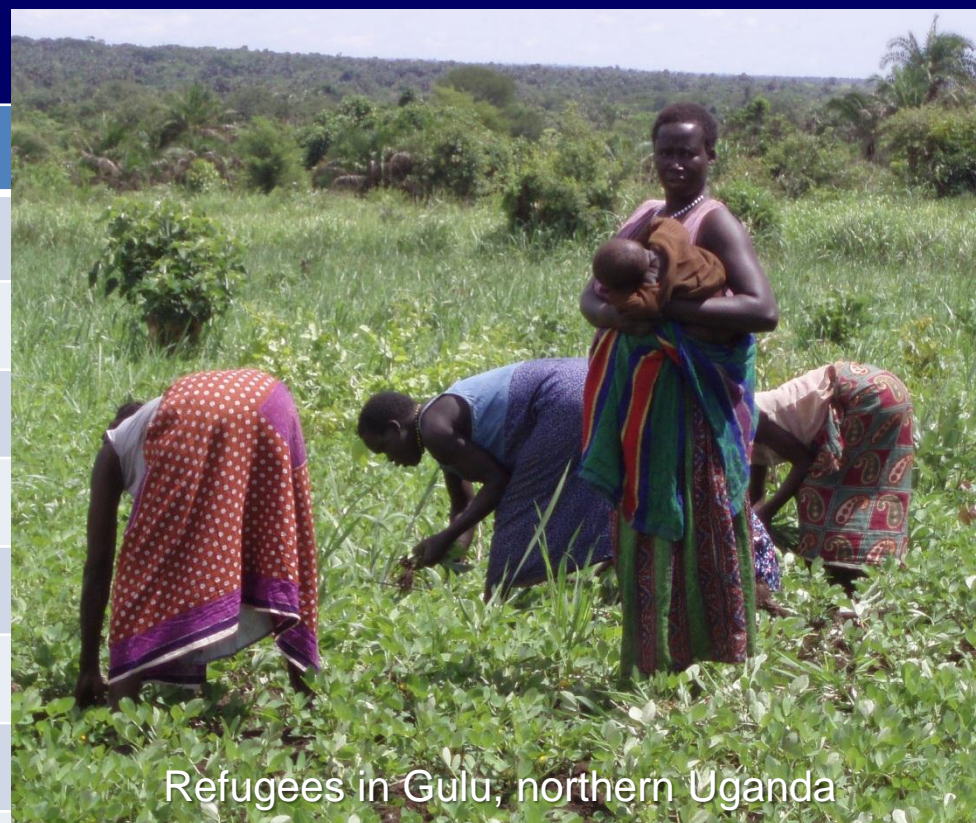
the Amazon Conservation team <http://www.amazonteam.org/>

Women putting “kitchenspace” on the map



Context of gender inequality

Netherlands	1
United States	37
Mexico	68
Philippines	78
Ecuador	86
Indonesia	100
Uganda	109
Kenya	117
India	122
Mali	135
Afghanistan	134



UNDP's Gender Inequality Index: based on reproductive health, empowerment and labor indicators <http://hdr.undp.org/en/statistics/gii/>

Gender-based constraints

...factors which prevent men and women from accessing resources and opportunities, including:

- Beliefs and values
- cultural practices
- access to assets
- may be codified in formal laws as well as customary or institutional structures.



Kamuli, Uganda

Gender-based opportunities

... are structural and institutional factors that facilitate access for men and women to all types of resources and opportunities



Research for development

“This house is made of peanuts.”

Participatory research methods, including mapping, help engage rural women in developing countries whose perspectives and experiences are often left out, even when issues at stake directly affect them.



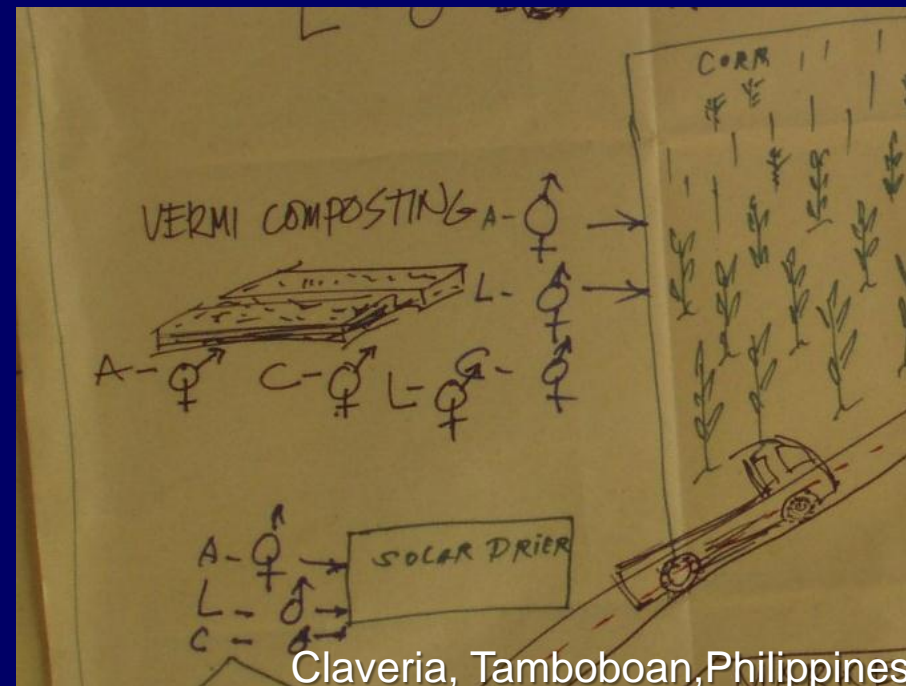
Kamuli, Uganda

But, is participatory map-making **empowering** for women in poor rural settings in the developing world?

Maps: sex vs. gender



Kamuli, Uganda

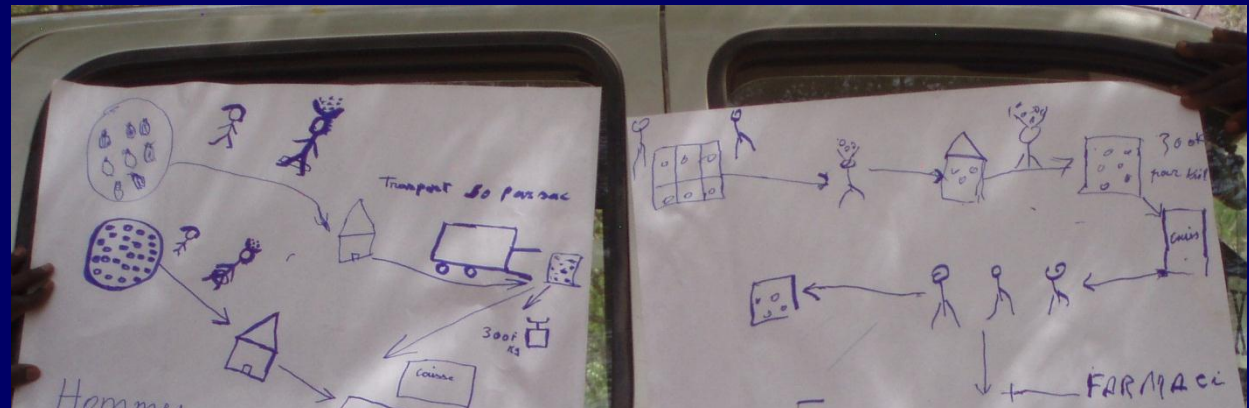


Claveria, Tamboboan, Philippines

Mapping gender

Women mapping

Men and women
mapping gender



SDD & Gender analysis of sex-dissagregated data

Dogon country, Mali

Men or women-only mapping of professions , domains, or roles occupied primarily by one gender

- Sex trade industry in Madagascar – women with few employment opportunities supporting their families (Kruse et al. 2003)
- Male-dominated occupations and domains
 - Hunting among indigenous communities in Panama (Smith 2003)
- Latino farmworkers map in North Carolina map workplace for pesticide exposure (Cravey et al. 2000)
- Exposure to asbestos among former foundry workers in Canada (Keith and Brody 2004)

Complementary gendered knowledge

- Different perceptions of land-cover in forest reserve in Zimbabwe (Mapedza et al. 2003)
- Hunter-gatherers in Kenya: men speak of game, beehives and soil types; women of medicinal uses of plants (Rambaldi et al. 2007)

Participatory Research

Critical first step in participatory process involves collaboration with men and women farmers to identify practices, problems and priorities.



Women in Tiraque, Bolivia identifying community priorities.

Designing a study for improved livestock management



Mali

Interactions among scientists, public and private extension, farmers, policymakers, and other stakeholders

In participatory research , researchers act as facilitators of discussion and mutual learning rather than extractors of knowledge



The generation, analysis and ownership of knowledge in participation opens the door for creativity and inclusion of marginalized groups.

(Chambers 1994)

Kamuli, Uganda

Participatory research is different from conventional research with shared authority among researchers and participants

(Cornwall & Jewkes 1995)

Information is controlled and defined by scientists and local people themselves (Goebel 1998)






PR includes a variety of methods

- Focus groups
- Mapping
- Activity charts
- Interviews

Problème pratique : Technique de soustraction (avec ...)

Profil d'activités 14/3/10
Fandougou
Cité 2010
Mali

Productives				Lieu
<u>Non-Payées</u>				
- Dani	X	X	XX	FORO
- Tubabu nogo donni	X	X	XX	Foro
- Fini Kon	X		X	Foro
- Jo Suuru		X		gende
- Jita			X	



- Walking transects
- Scoring matrices
- Well-being ranking
- Modeling

(Chambers 1994; Chambers 2006)

Providing space for women's participation

- Separate groups for women and men
- Cultural sensitivity
- Collective discussion and presentation
- Helps with literacy issues



Punchak, Bogor, Indonesia



Mayuge, Uganda

Of the visualization methods used in PR, participatory mapping (PM) is the most widely used, having “spread like a pandemic with many variants and applications.”

(Chambers 2006)

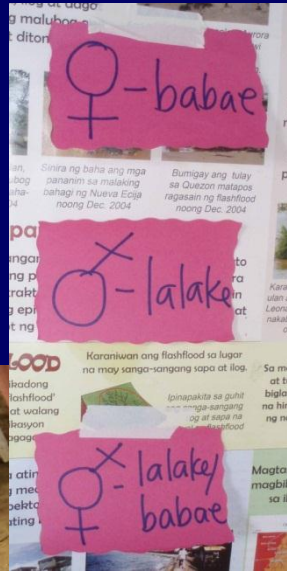


Photo Credit: Corbett 2009

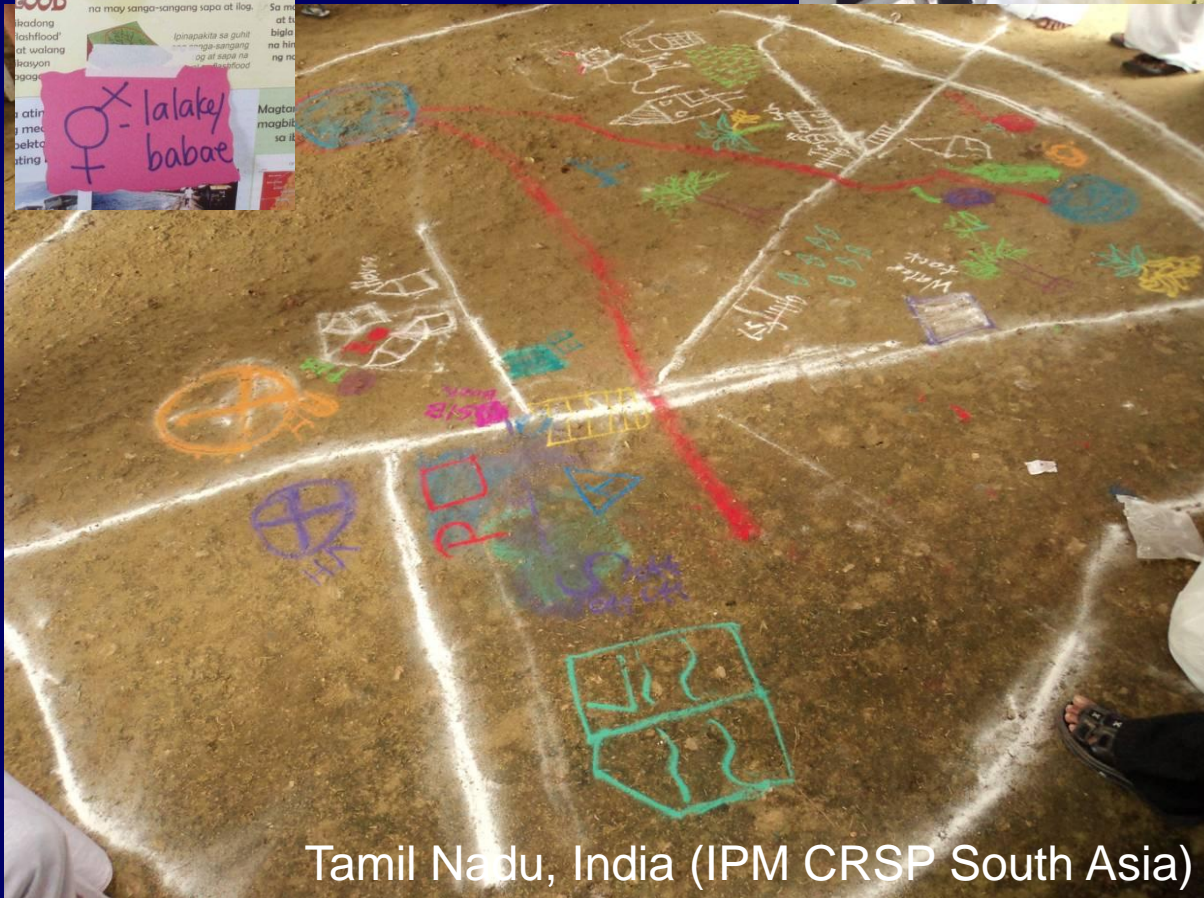
- “While map-making has been a tool of the powerful, today it is becoming a tool of empowerment.”

(Herlihy & Knapp 2003)

Visual tactics...



Tamboboan, Philippines



Tamil Nadu, India (IPM CRSP South Asia)

...are particularly useful for research in developing countries since they are accessible activities for individuals regardless of literacy levels (Cornwall & Jewkes 1995; Goebel 1998)

Gendered Mapping and Power

- Mapping of gendered differences in access and use of resources is critical to protecting biodiversity and women's livelihoods.
(Rocheleau, Thomas-Slayter, et al. 1995).
- There is legitimacy in treating “visual imagery and narratives as sources of empirical data”; including gender as a subject of study enriches feminist geographical research in political ecology.
(Rocheleau 1995)



SPRKYMAN

A - [arrow]
C - [arrow]
L - [arrow]

Philippines

IV. Village de Gnagna 17/06/09 Groupe 4

PROFL ACCES et CONTROLE

The map depicts a village layout with various buildings and landmarks. The locations are labeled in French: Habitat (multiple), Place Publique, Séchoir, boeuf, Groupe électrogène, magasin, bois enle, Chauxette, Chaises, brouette, mouspoué, âne, bois Sane, mortier/Pile, Cinetie, Rizier, and Jardin. Symbols for AC (green) and A (red) individuals are placed throughout the map, often with arrows indicating movement or specific locations. For example, AC is present near the public square, the shop, the generator, the chaises, the brouette, the mouspoué, the Cinetie, and the Jardin. A is present near the habitats, the séchoir, the boeuf, the magasin, the bois enle, the Chauxette, the âne, the bois Sane, the mortier/Pile, and the Rizier. A canal is shown on the right side of the map.

Nb ♀ = 30
♀ ag. 12
♀ J. 28
Nb ♂ = 8

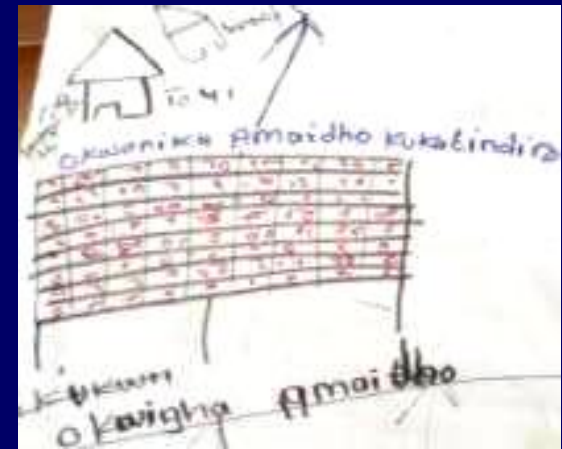
Baguineda, Mali

Mapping the Path of the Peanut

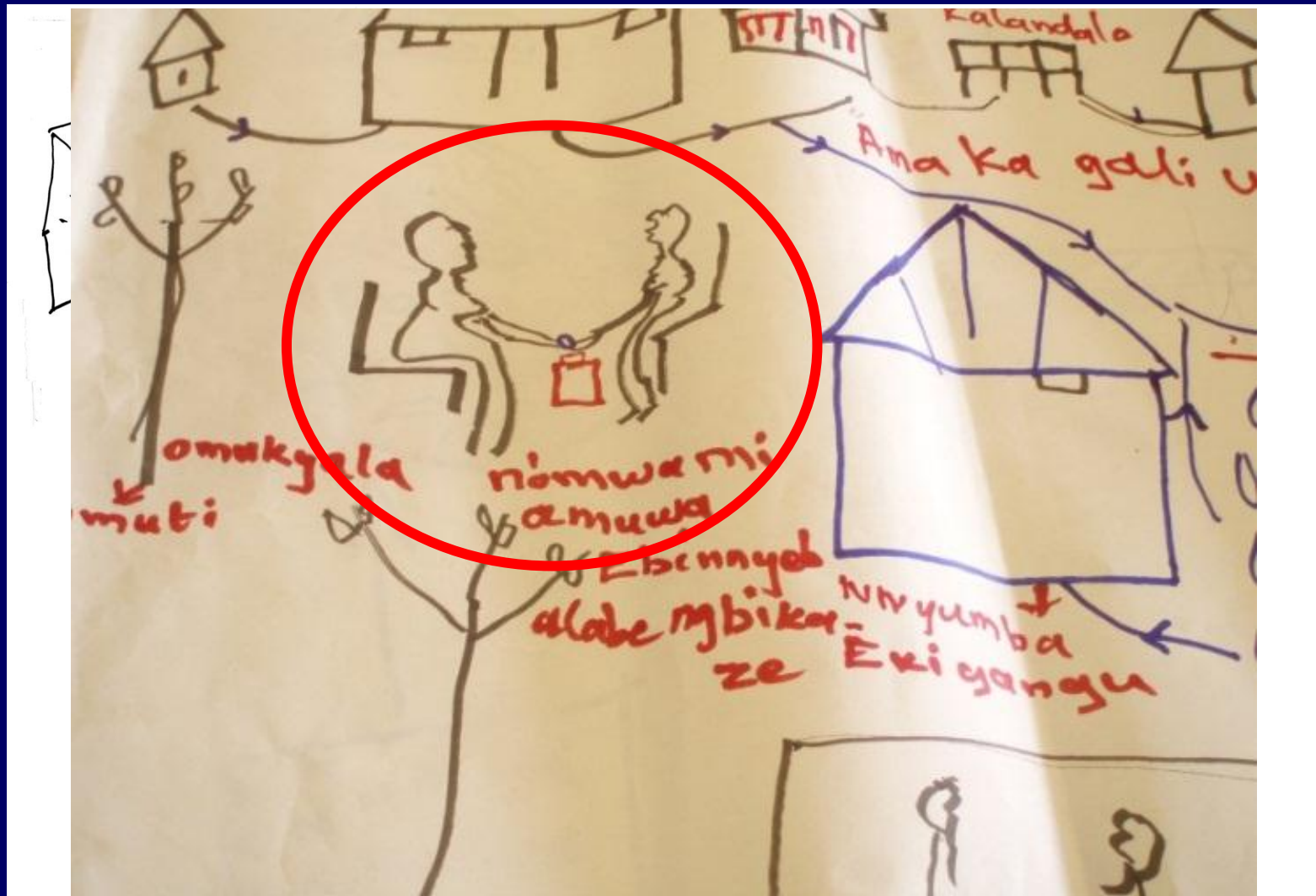
Farmers drew and described maps in groups and individually showing the “path of the peanut”

From field to:

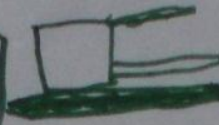
- Plate
- Market
- Field as seed



Signaling key sites of negotiation and allocation of resources



Women's maps: who decides how to spend the money from the market? Kamuli, Uganda



Jemmes de Baro
Échalotte

Kitchenspace-women's
space, gender relations

3rd try

♀ Bōrō

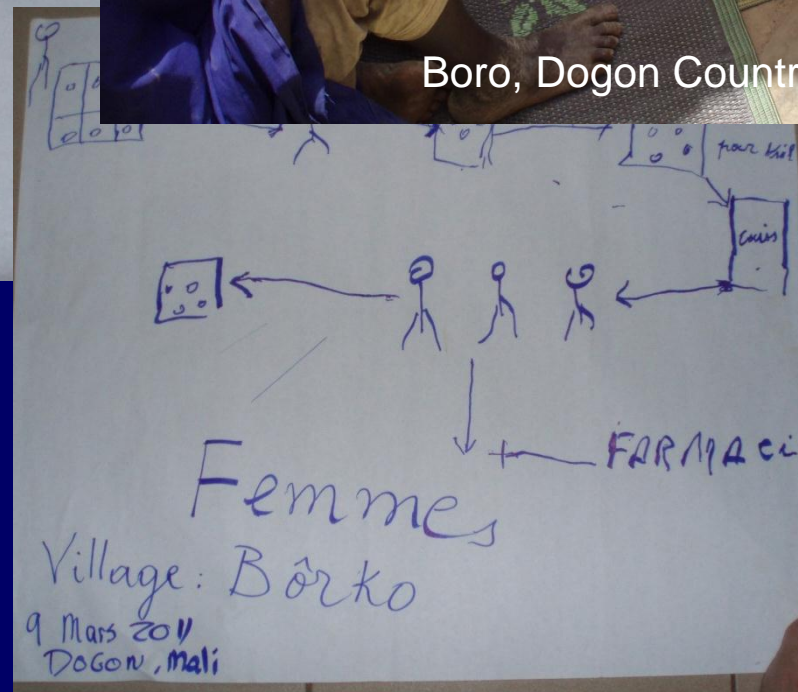
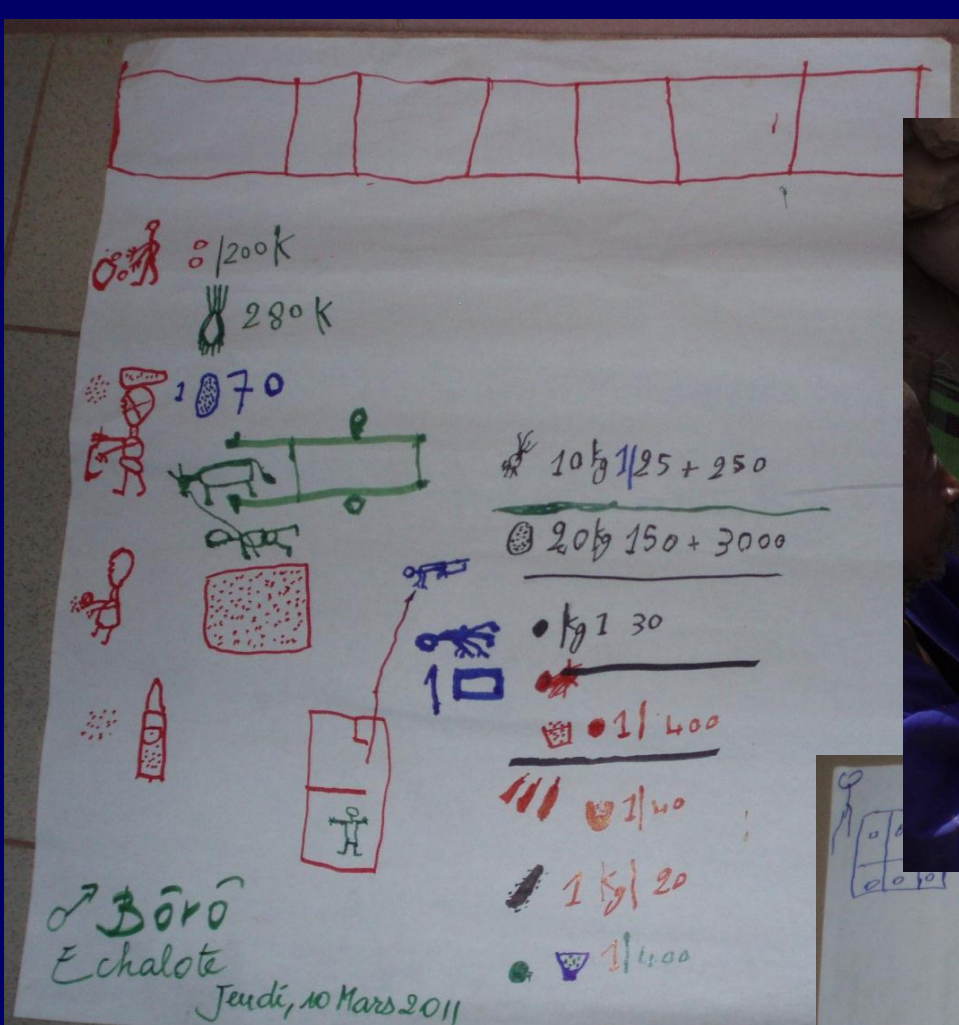
10 - mois

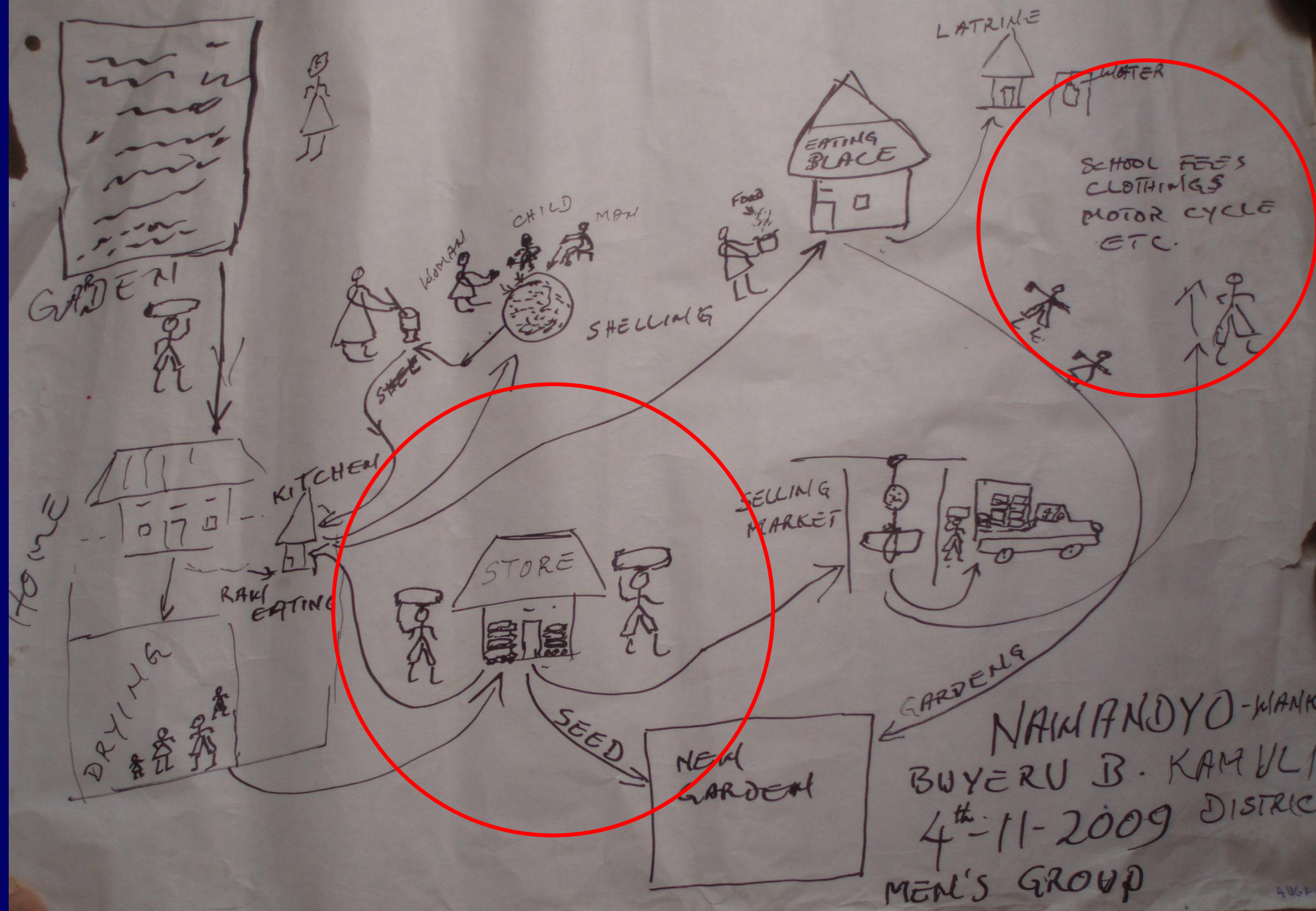
a

Men count the money

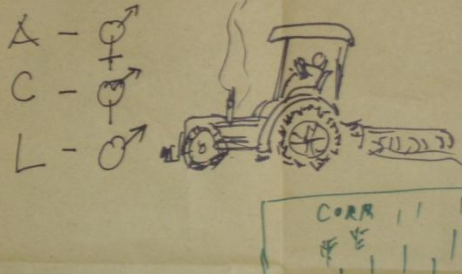
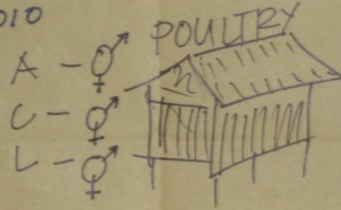


Boro, Dogon Country, Mali





MEN'S GROUP
TAMBOBOAN, CLAVERIA
PHILLIPINES
07-16-2010

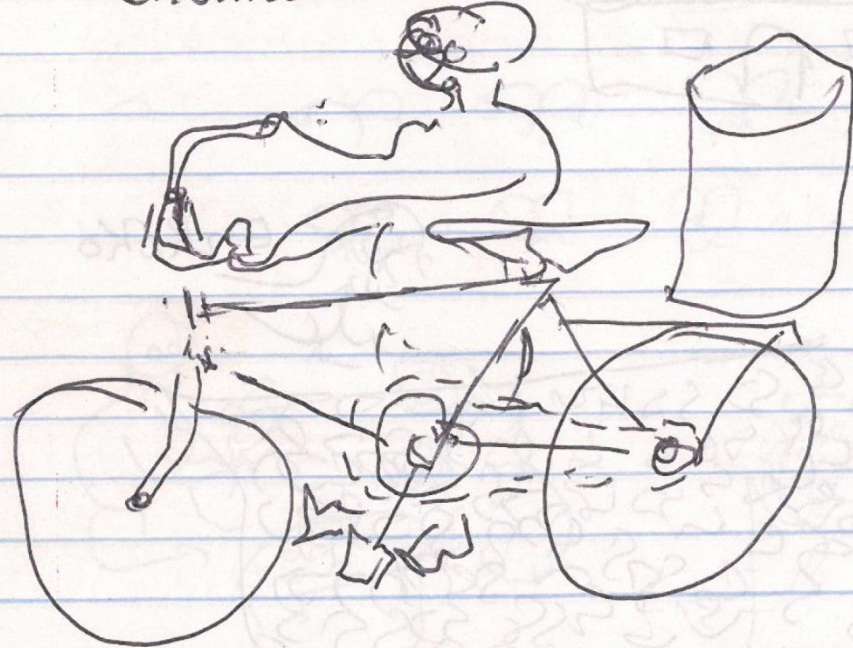


Claveria, Tamboboan, Philippines

Men draw machinery and transportation

23/01/2009

Emigaso gya Maiclh
Tugatunda ne tufunamu
ensimbi zokukozesa Mumaka



atwala Rutunda

Kamuli, Uganda

Men's map of tomato value chain in Goudaka, Dogon Country, Mali





Women's map Goudaka,
Dogon country, Mali

Women sell tomatoes at Sevare and Mopti markets
Goundaka: women's tomatoes, men's baskets and donkey carts

So, is participatory map-making empowering for women in poor rural settings in the developing world?

The process can provide space for:

- Learning, reflection, expression
- Group discussion— women only, collective
- Speaking their truth
- Being co-researchers with universities: considering farmer's knowledge as respectable as researchers
- Teaching the “illiterate” researchers—who cannot read the situation
- Signaling areas of power differences and disagreements
- Signaling bottlenecks in value-chain



- Does not change their circumstances, but changes **them**
- Identifies gender-based constraints and opportunities to improve women's lives.

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