

HOW DOES MONEY COME INTO OUR COMMUNITY

Money is one essential asset in a family and a community, therefore it is important to help people think about where money is earned and who earns it. There are usually differences between how men and women earn money, especially as women may have limited options for earning money. This activity allows people to map out how money is generated and to consider if there are inequities between men and women. For the researcher, this provides data on gendered patterns of income generation and cash management as well as identifying internal and external financial opportunities and/or barriers.

TIME NEEDED 30 minutes to an hour

RUNNING THE ACTIVITY

This activity can be done as a large group or in male and female specific groups. For small groups:

1. Give each group one large piece of paper. Draw a line down the centre. On one side ask people to list how women earn money, then on the other side how men earn money.
2. Ask people to call out the answers and write these up on a large piece of paper in front of the group.
3. The facilitator can sort the ideas as they are called out, for example:
 - Permanent paid work Casual paid work
 - Making clothes, bags, handicrafts Selling firewood
 - Selling food crops Selling cash crops
1. Small groups can then begin their analysis through group discussion topics, for example:
 - comparing the differences between men's and women's ways of earning money
 - looking at what work is seasonal and how that impacts a family
 - discussing who makes decisions about the money
 - thinking about new ways to earn money and involve the whole family



SPECIAL TIPS

This activity does allow people to learn from each other and see the range of ways families earn money and think about the importance of regular income sources across a year. The facilitator can encourage discussion by asking questions and adding ideas where relevant, but it is important for the group to think through the issues together and discuss the age and gender issues they see. The activity can be concluded by setting up small working groups that will investigate other income generating activities, engage with businesses or work with specific groups such as youth, for example.