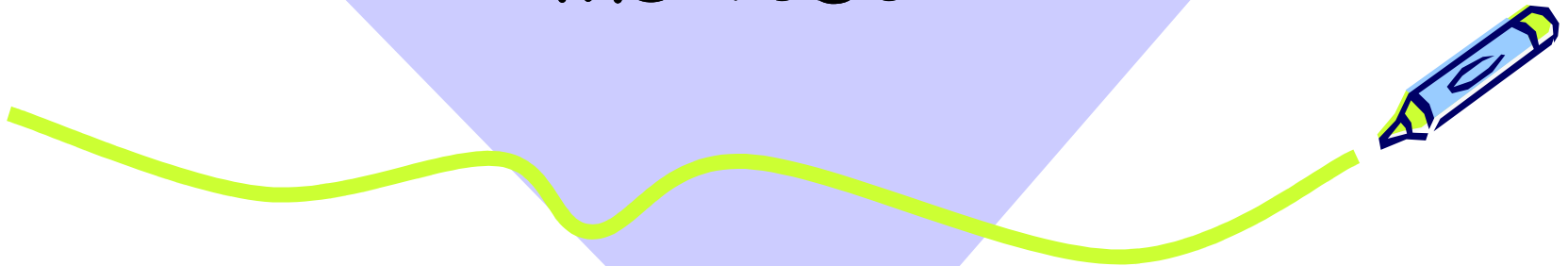


Gender & accountability failures

MS TCDC

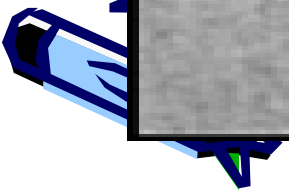


Gender

- Gender refers to the **roles and responsibilities** of men and women that are **created** in our families, our societies and our cultures.
- It includes the **expectations** held about the characteristics, ability and likely behaviors of both women and men.
- Gender roles and expectations are **learned**. They can **change** over time and they vary within and between

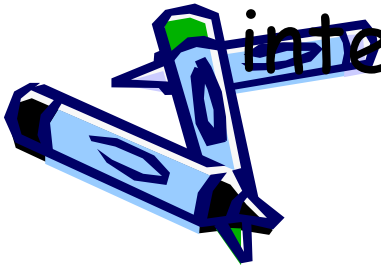
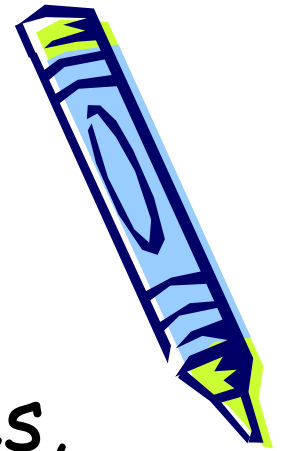


SEX IS WHAT YOU'RE BORN WITH,
GENDER IS WHAT YOU'RE GIVEN



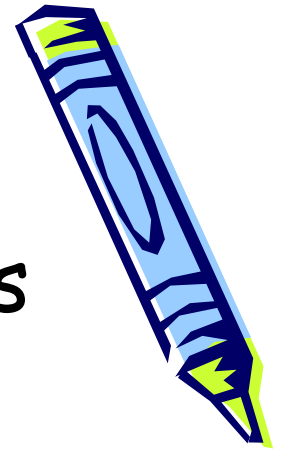
Social institutions

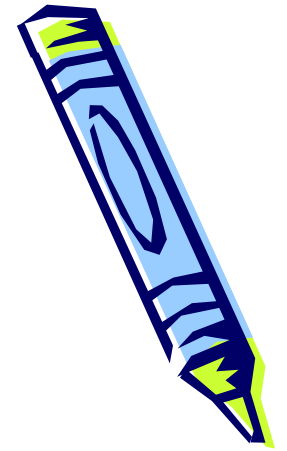
- **Rules** - How do things get done?
- **Activities** - What are the activities, who will do them, who will benefit?
- **Resources** - Who gets resources to do the activities? Who gets the benefits from the use of resources?
- **People** - Who is in? Who is out?
- **Power** - Who decides? Whose interests are served?



Unequal Social relations

- unequal access to resources, claims and responsibilities;
- influence the kinds of claims we can make;
- shape the rights we can actually enjoy;
- shape the control we have over our own lives;
- shape the control we have over the lives of others.



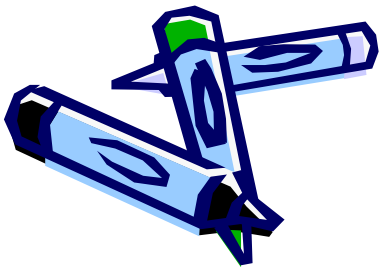
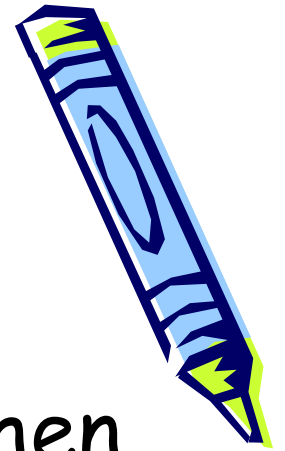


What is an accountability failure?



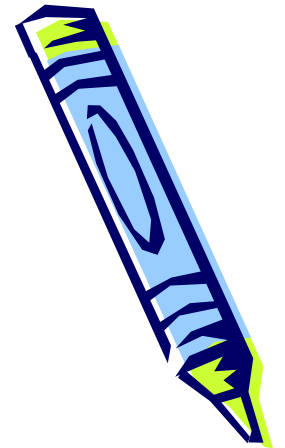
When does it occur...

- An accountability failure occurs when the **accountability** systems that determine access to resources and power in politics, public services, justice systems, and international aid and security institutions cease to function to the expected standard.



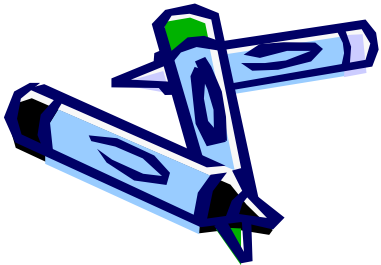
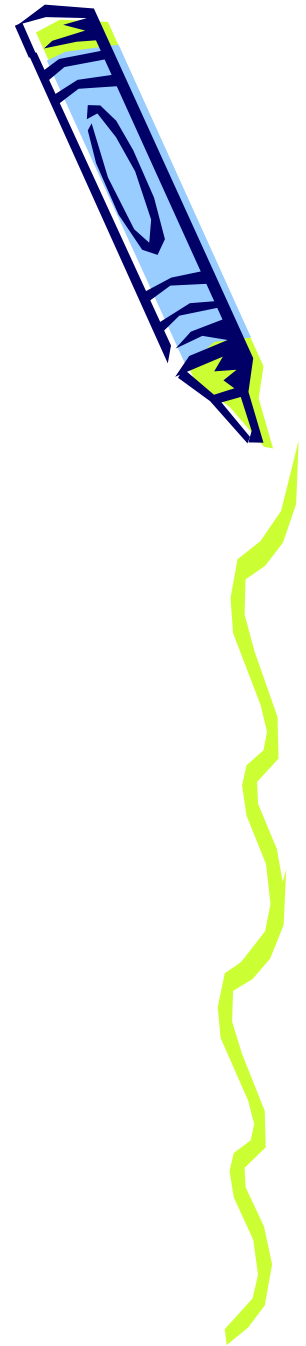
Symptoms/examples of accountability failure

- Corruption
- Weak states; rigged elections
- Huge poverty margins between rich and poor
- High illiteracy rates among certain populations
- Dysfunctional legal systems
- Continuous stunted development in spite of huge financial and social capital investments.
- Gender based violence

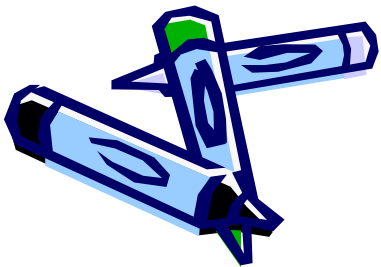
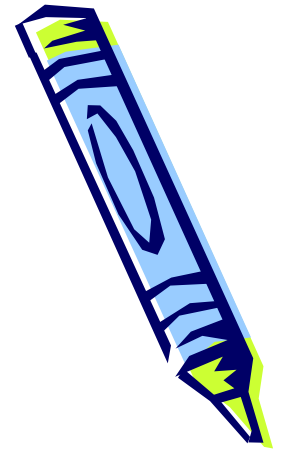


Accountability failures occur at different levels of governance

- ✓ the household or family;
- ✓ the community e.g. the clan, the workplace, and associations or political parties;
- ✓ local government;
- ✓ national government; and
- ✓ International level.



What do we understand by
gender & accountability failures?



Accountability

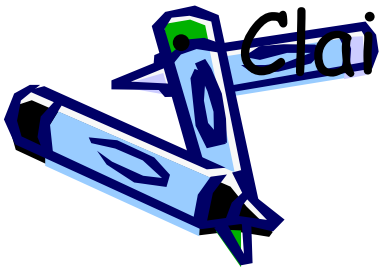
- Accountability is a relationship of **power**, between the one obliged to account for his/her actions and to face sanction, and the one entitled to demand answers or impose sanctions.
- Social relations allocate power & privilege unequally in most societies across the world



Gender accountability failure is...

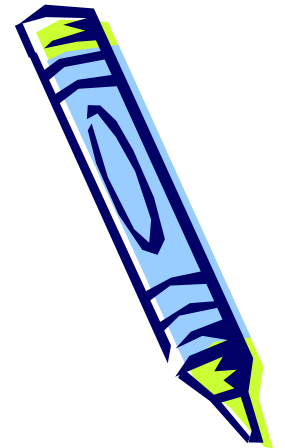
- The ineffectiveness of women's **participation** in terms of their ability to :
- articulate **gender** needs and interests, and the impact of this on actual resource allocation processes and decision making.

Claim for their rights



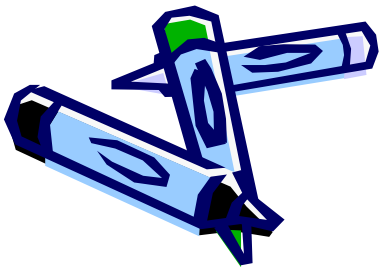
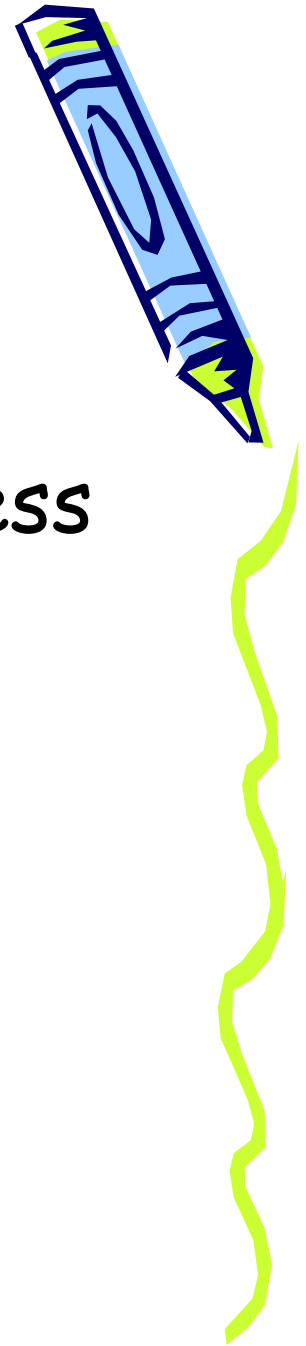
Gender gaps

- Gender division of labor limits women's participation;
- Restriction to associational life and activities beyond family and kinship;
- Men's control over women's decision undermining 'voice' and consent.



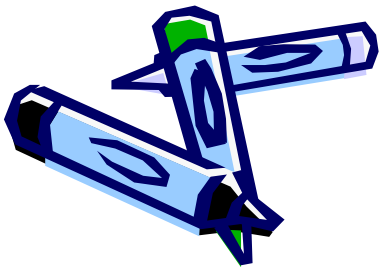
Accountability failure

- The mismanagement, diversion and pilfering of money for women's development because women are less powerful to voice concerns
- The demand for sexual favours in return for receiving public goods.



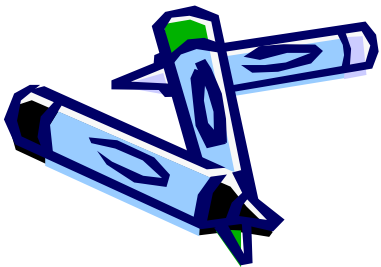
Accountability failure

- Patriarchal biases in defining what women are entitled to at the level of implementation of rights results into lack of access to justice systems, ownership of property, girls education etc



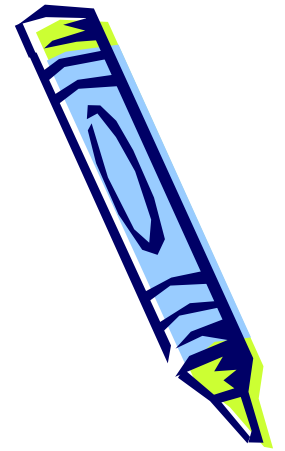
Accountability failure

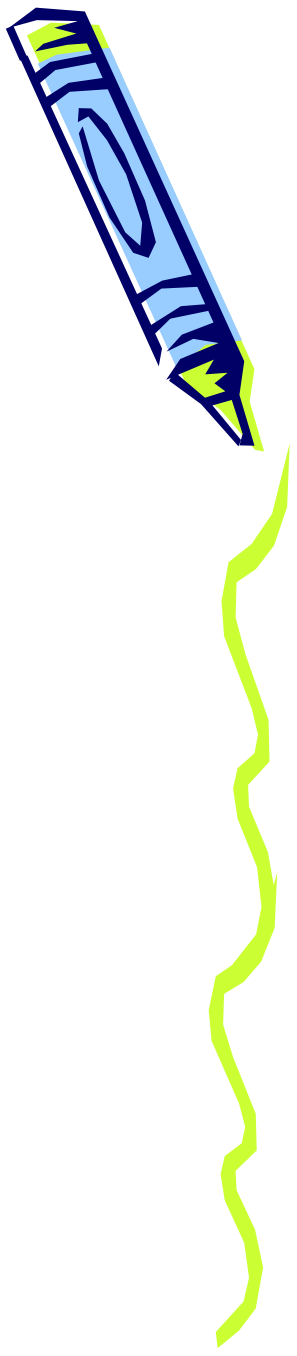
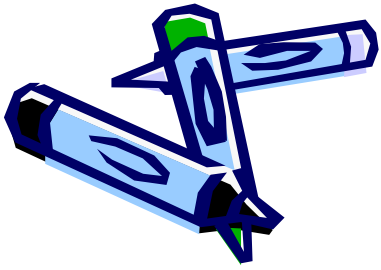
- Where public officials do not see themselves as objects of accountability and do not recognize social groups eg women as agents to whom they are answerable



Health Case study

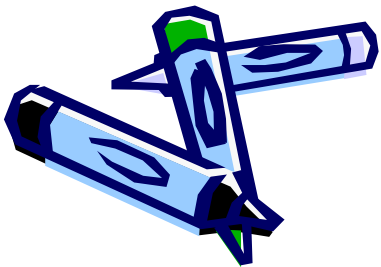
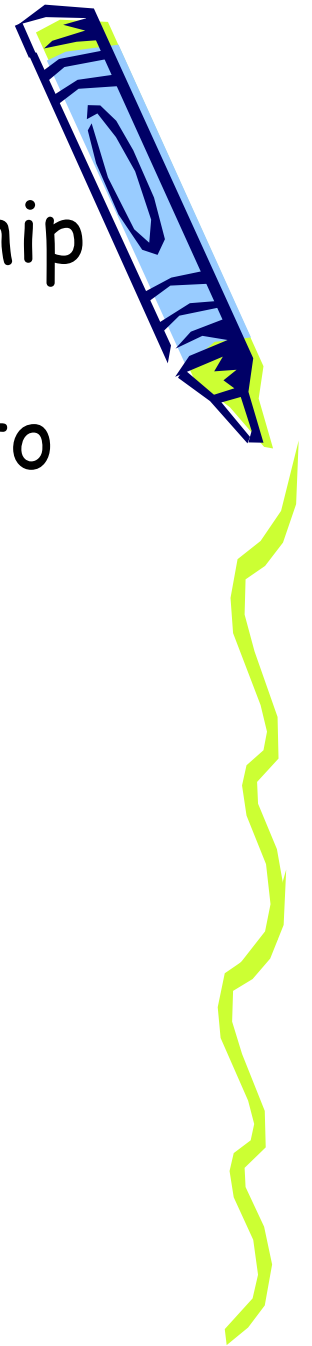
- The reasons for extremely high maternal mortality rates in many countries is that the public health system just does not perform. Health providers in rural areas answer to their bosses in the Ministry of Health against criteria which do not include whether poor women have received good care or whether maternal deaths have been prevented or not.





Accountability

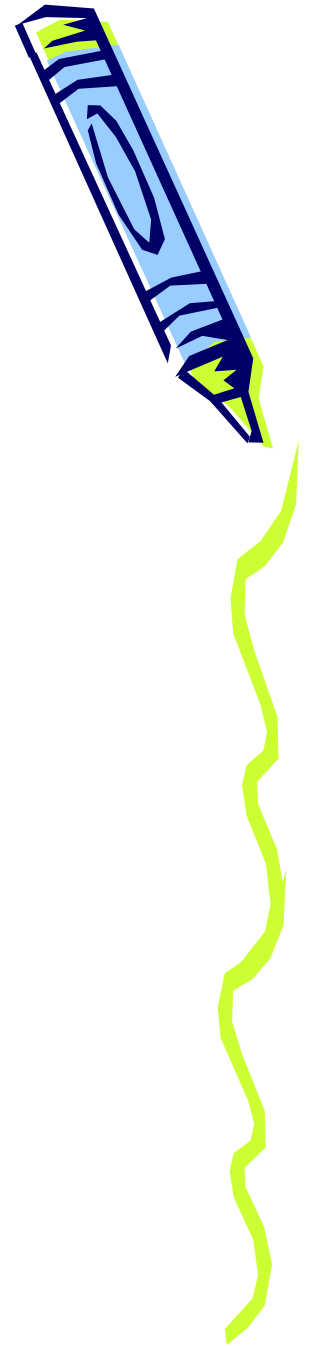
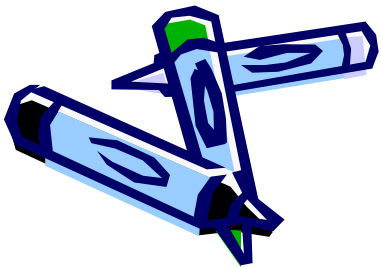
- Since accountability is a relationship of power, citizens must be sufficiently resourced to be able to demand answers and impose sanctions.



Group exercise

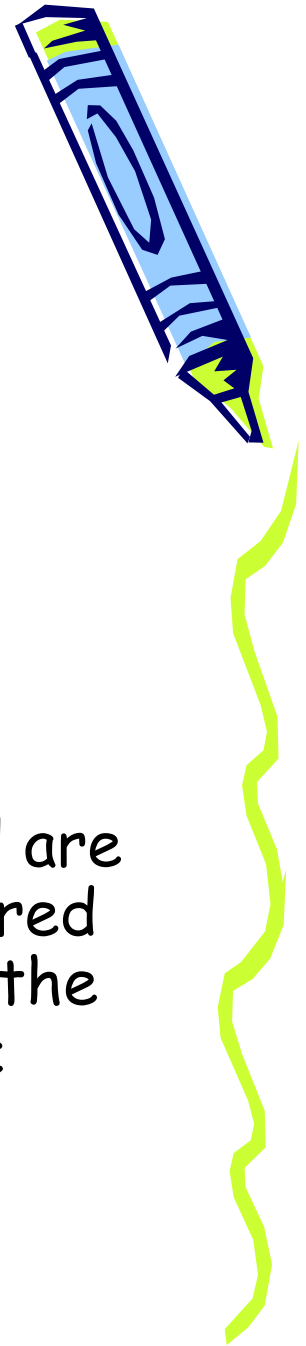
What are gender Constraints in demanding for accountability? in

- Access to public services,
- Economic opportunities,
- Justice system,
- Politics and governance

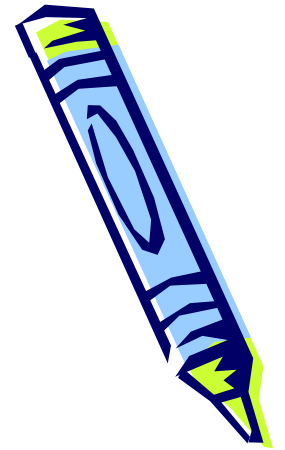


Some key assumptions about gender, governance & accountability...

- Governance is presumed to be gender-neutral.
- Accountability results from demand-side pressures alone.
- Gender relations at family and household level are not mutually dependent spaces in which gendered norms, values and traditions are played out in the public and commercial private domains - public private divide



Consequences of gender accountability failure.



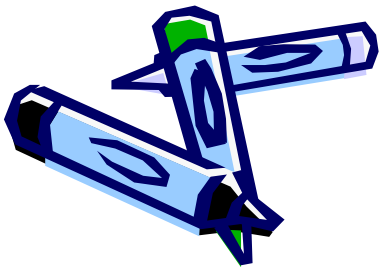
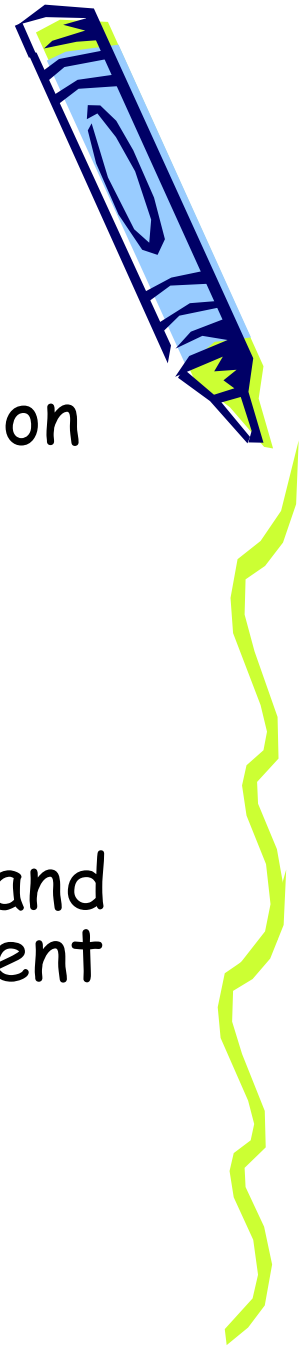
The **Scenario** we see...

1. Women continuing to face barriers to health, to education and agricultural support services.
2. They are denied access because health clinics and schools are often too distant or costly, agricultural services are geared towards male farmers,
3. and government services routinely target employed, literate or propertied men.



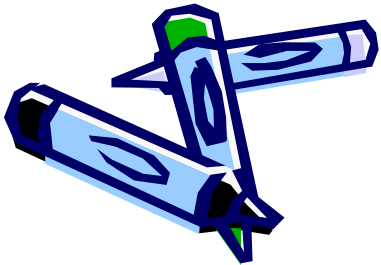
Key areas where there is need to strengthen gender accountability

1. politics and governance (representation & participation),
2. access to public services,
3. economic opportunities,
4. justice,
5. The distribution of **national, regional and international** assistance for development and security.



How do we address gender accountability failure?

- A Gender analysis can provide an entry point for rethinking governance & accountability debates.
- Understanding of the role of institutional rules, norms and practices in determining entitlements is key to understanding gendered experiences and processes of poverty.



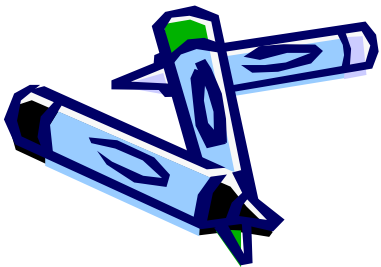
How to cont....

- The apparent **gender** neutrality of governance structures and processes should be questioned at all levels in order to identify constraints women are facing;
- The different forms in which women organise, and varied issues around which they mobilise, particularly at local level, need to be recognised as political processes and institutional spaces created for women's **gender** interests to be articulated, for example in local government;

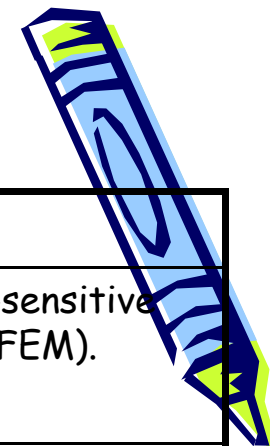


How to cont...

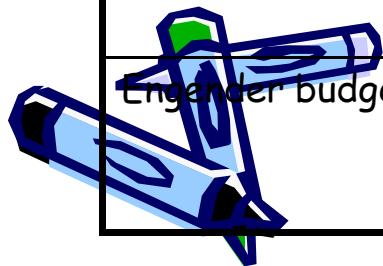
- Incorporating a **gender** perspective into governance analysis and policy should not be restricted to any one domain (e.g. civil society) but should cut across all domains, and make links between them;



Some tools to use

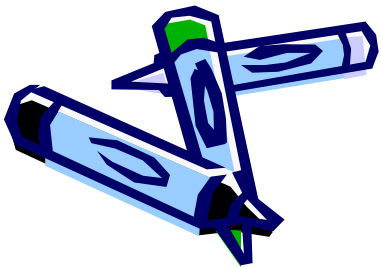
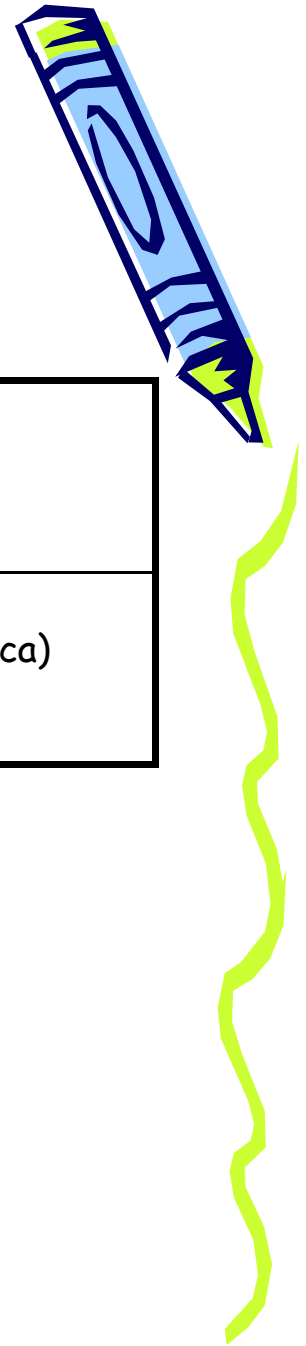


issue	tool
Engendering service delivery & determining the role of governance in service delivery	A user's guide to measuring gender-sensitive basic service Delivery (UNDP/ UNIFEM).
Engendering elections:	Gender checklist for free & fair elections (electoral institute of southern africa)
Engendering governance	a gender analysis of the processes and structures of governance.
Mainstreaming gender equality in local government.	A framework for mainstreaming gender equality in local government (equal opportunities commission UK)
Engender local governance	This Handbook is an overview of the literature and web sites concerning gender and governance processes, underlining strategies and best practices
Engender budgeting	Gender budget training manual - Tanzania, Uganda and South Africa



Tools cont....

Gender-Disaggregated Beneficiary Assessment of Public Service Delivery and Budget Priorities	Tool for gender budget initiative (commonwealth foundation)
Participatory budgeting in africa	A toolkit by network for social accountability (east & southern africa)



Thanks for participating

