Why GESI matters and how does SDC define GESI and perceive it? (Stephanie)

(Slide with SDGs and Wheel)

SDC is guided by agenda 2030:

- Poverty reduction as core mandate for SDC: Poverty reduction agenda 2030 with LNOB as a guiding principle
- GESI specifically anchored in Goal 1 & 10 & 5

SDC Conceptual approach: Drivers of exclusion and poverty

- We need to consider multidimensional poverty, but it is not enough. We also need to consider that exclusion and poverty is determined by a set of sometimes intersecting factors. The more intersections the stronger the exclusion!
- A key factor is sex and gender that occurs everywhere and needs to be considered for all our interventions
- Important to consider are not only the determinants of exclusion but also the underlying roots causes and effects of exclusion (exclusion from what).
 - → **Roots causes:** Exclusion and discrimination is basically due to unequal power relations, entrenched social & cultural norms, beliefs and gender stereotypes
 - → **Effects:** Those affected are usually excluded from accessing services, resources, markets, and spaces or intervention/(participation and decision making processes). These
- Zooming into the exclusion factor of gender, the same understanding applies:
 - → Gender equality is key to poverty reduction because the majority of the poor are women and because women are important development actors (evident link to poverty and LNOB agenda)
 - → **SDC uses a social definition** for gender, which highlights the understanding of gender relations (as opposed to sex and biological characteristics). These are defined by social & cultural norms, power relations and the interaction with other social attributions (e.g. class, ethnicity, age) Intersectionality!
 - → To understand existing gender inequalities it uses four lenses, looking at:
 - the division of labor/roles & responsibilities that defines the position and scope of action for men and women/girls and boys;
 - the access to and also control over services/resources,
 - o the participation in decision making,
 - and it assesse the specific needs and priorities of men and women/girls and boys.
 - o These issues are equally relevant for gender equality as for social inclusion

What are our ambitions and approaches for GESI mainstreaming (Corinne)

Systematic approach for transformative change (slide PCM cycle)

....Systematic integration along the PCM

- Context specific Analysis: Who (determining factors) why (power relations, social & cultural norms, policies and laws), from what (effects) and by whom (as part of the actors analysis). → be aware of intersectionality: gender always intersects with other factors (wheel can help to guide reflection!)
- **Design:** based on the analysis we can identify key problems and opportunities and set our priorities (we have to choose, focus):
 - → Besides gender, what other factors of exclusion do we target? (What other excluded goups we want to address, Be specific, and be realistic) (example Nepal)
 - → What change do we want to achieve in this regard and what is our underlying theory of change?
 - → Do we need a specific SI and/or gender principle project for that or we chose a solid mainstreaming approach in given projects?
 - → What key *strategic* interventions are required to realise our ambitions?
 - → And finally, we need to allocate sufficient budget and adequate human resources (also in terms of SI/gender expertise).

. Monitoring, Evaluation and reporting

- → Precondition is to define indicators that ensure that we measure GESI relevant change.
- → Please consider good mix of quant. & qual. Indicators, and the due reflection of intersectionality (defined in the disaggregation units) Display slide factsheet on ARI und TRI explaining the aspect of disaggregation unit. All new ARI/TRI fact sheets require this.
- → Establish respective baselines
- → Integrate in the overall monitoring system (e.g. annual targets, methods of data collecting etc.)
- → Reporting: not only listing data, but providing analysis of data, in view of the change we want, or regarding unexpected results, challenges and lessons. Again reference to fact sheet that can be supportive

....Thereby SDC follows a systemic approach: at the level of persons, family, community, institutions, policy)

....and our ambition is transformative change: Scope and depths of interventions, to push for more equal opportunities, to strengthen the position of discriminated persons as actors in a given field, to enable more meaningful participation, to promote GESI responsive policies and budgets, to trigger change of behavior and power relations and finally, to promote more equal benefits that leads to inclusive and sustainable development. (→again, context matters, transformative can have different meanings according to a specific context).