



CGIAR

CGIAR SYSTEM
ANNUAL PERFORMANCE
REPORT 2018

**INTEGRATING GENDER AND EQUITY INTO
CGIAR RESEARCH FOR DEVELOPMENT**

III. INTEGRATING GENDER AND EQUITY INTO CGIAR RESEARCH

Gender

Gender was more strongly integrated into the research agendas of the CRPs during 2018. A4NH in particular made substantial advances regarding its gender research and activities, with their Gender Equity and Empowerment (GEE) unit publishing the [Reach Benefit Empower \(RBE\)](#) framework and launching the pilot version of the project-level Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index ([Pro-WEAI](#)). Pro-WEAI is a survey-based index for measuring empowerment, agency and inclusion of women in the agriculture sector.

Capacity building workshops and technical support provided by the [WEAI Resource Center](#) keep the attention on the critical role gender has in agricultural research and increase the volume and quality of evidence. In response to recommendations from a 2017 review, A4NH commissioned a set of studies on equity in agriculture, nutrition and health in 2018, with results from these studies expected to help shape their overall equity research strategy (A4NH, 2018).

WLE is transitioning from women-inclusive to gender transformational approaches – where the focus will increasingly be on enabling structural changes to unequal gender relations and addressing institutional and systemic barriers to change at scale (WLE, 2018). This is because gender equality interventions often result in reinforcing women's burdens, rather than resolving them. An important lesson is that research on gender will not translate into transformational change if key institutional actors and implementers are not motivated, or incentivized, to change (WLE, 2018).

CCAFS research found that a lack of gender-disaggregated data constrains prioritization and

vulnerability studies (CCAFS, 2018). Research in Tanzania and Uganda found that while gender is increasingly being mainstreamed into climate change-related policy, there are often resource and knowledge constraints when it comes to implementation. However, collaboration with policymakers can produce positive results (CCAFS, 2018).

The PIM hosted flagship-level CGIAR collaborative platform for gender research supported a second set of collaborative studies on the [feminization of agriculture](#), with co-investment from PIM, CCAFS, FTA, LIVESTOCK, MAIZE, RTB, WHEAT and WLE in 2018 (PIM, 2018). RTB leads the [Gender and Breeding Initiative](#), which created new tools for the design of gender-responsive product profiles linked to the stage-gates proposed by EiB to leverage gender considerations. This resulted in 2018 with the publication of three working papers on gender and social targeting in plant breeding; a framework to capture and respond to demand through breeding; and case studies on gender in breeding (RTB, 2018).

CGIAR research in 2018 demonstrated that substantial negative social, environmental and economic impacts can result from a failure to pay attention to [gender inequalities](#). As gender considerations become more integrated across the work of the CRPs, the workload of gender specialists is increasing. In November 2018, CGIAR's Funders endorsed the SMB's proposal for an elevated 'Gender Equality in Food Systems Research Platform'. The design of the new platform will take place in 2019 and will commence in 2020.

Gender research impacts investments and approaches to irrigation infrastructure management in Tajikistan

WLE 2018 annual report

USAID reoriented its investment based on a WLE/International Water Management Institute (IWMI) [evaluation of an irrigation training program in Tajikistan](#) which found that only male farmers were targeted for training. This risked irrigation performance, as women are increasingly taking over irrigation infrastructure management due to male out-migration.

Source: WLE, AR 2018.

USAID adopted the recommendation to train female farmers in order to sustain the irrigation systems and improve home garden productivity. The recommendations informed USAID's [Feed the Future's global learning agenda](#).

The GENNOVATE program releases research findings and tools

WHEAT 2018 annual report

In 2018, the CIMMYT-led gender 11-CRP [GENNOVATE](#) program came to a close, with the release of a [special issue](#) in the *Journal for Agriculture, Gender and Food Security* and [17 tools or guidance notes](#) that non-gender specialist researchers within and outside CGIAR are using. Though proper tracking of the use of tools remains to be established, there is evidence, for example, of [gender awareness and gender-sensitive approaches spreading into Ethiopian agricultural research, extension and policy](#).

One [GENNOVATE article](#) published in 2018 based on 25 case studies investigated young rural women's and men's occupational aspirations and trajectories in India, Mali,

Source: WHEAT, AR 2018.

Malawi, Morocco, Mexico, Nigeria and the Philippines. The findings of this study demonstrate that opening pathways for young women in agriculture will require addressing the intersecting inequalities they face on the basis of age and gender. Transformation is required, as current gender norms render the contributions of young women to agriculture and other productive activities invisible.

One of the approaches adopted is the use of community videos to generate intergenerational discussion and the opportunity to influence policymakers. A guide for gender responsive participatory videos was published and used with communities in Uganda and Vietnam.

An index for women's empowerment in livestock LIVESTOCK 2018 annual report

In 2018, a team of scientists at the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), a partner of LIVESTOCK, in collaboration with Emory University, developed the Women's Empowerment in Livestock Index (WELI), a new index to assess the empowerment of women in production systems in which livestock are important.

The WELI was tested in two countries and is gaining ground as a way for projects to

Source: LIVESTOCK, AR 2018

understand how livestock is empowering women. The pilot findings of WELI were published in *Social Indicators Research* in 2018. This article focuses on six dimensions of empowerment, including women's decisions about agricultural production; decisions related to nutrition; access to and control over resources; control and use of income; access to and control of opportunities; and workload and control over their own time.

Uptake of the gender-transformative approach beyond CGIAR FISH 2018 annual report

The uptake of the gender-transformative approach, which was pioneered in CGIAR, progressed during 2018. The European Commission is drawing on approaches that measure gender-transformative change; the CGIAR Gender Research and Integrated Training

Source: FISH, AR 2018.

(GRIT) program incorporated FISH insights and case examples in a bespoke module, supported by FISH staff; and the Zambian NGO Caritas incorporated the FISH gender-transformative model into their microcredit program.

Youth and other Aspects of Equity: "Leaving No-one Behind"

Youth moved up the agenda of CRPs during 2018. Following the lead of IITA and its programs of "agripreneurs", multiple CRPs enhanced their analysis and planning to incorporate youth and other aspects of equity into their research and pathways to impact.

Current work includes research, policy guidance and capacity development, often in the form of education opportunities. New research to define entry points and activities for youth covered such topics as employment opportunities and choices, livelihood impacts and migration behavior.

Both gender-disaggregated data and age-disaggregated data are rare in agriculture – a problem that CGIAR is actively trying to resolve. The BIG DATA reported that its repository, GARDIAN, provides access to a total of 1,399

publications which address youth issues, but only three CGIAR datasets. To promote the inclusion of youth-related standards in data uploaded to CGIAR repositories, the Platform integrated youth-related indicators in 2018 into the 100Q initiative to ensure that future CGIAR surveys adequately address youth and social inclusion in data that are collected (BIG DATA, 2018).

Research demonstrates that "youth" are not a homogenous group and that young people can face a variety of challenges according to culture and context. CRPs and Platforms recognize that intersectionality and links across youth, gender and other forms of social differentiation must be considered. FTA published a manual on intersectionality in 2018, and an FTA webinar on intersectionality hosted by the the PIM flagship-level CGIAR collaborative platform for gender research in 2018 was recorded

and is available as a companion to the manual. The webinar had the highest number of

listeners among Platform-hosted webinars in 2018 (FTA, 2018).

MAIZE-Asia Youth Innovators Awards launched MAIZE 2018 annual report

In 2018 the first [MAIZE-Asia Youth Innovators Awards](#), a MAIZE initiative in collaboration with the Young Professionals for Agricultural Development (YPARD) Asia, was held, which aimed to promote youth participation in maize-based agri-food systems. The awards recognized the contributions of young women and men implementing innovations in Asian

maize-based agri-food systems, including research for development, seed systems, agribusiness, and sustainable intensification. With the annual awards program, MAIZE aims to identify young innovators who can inspire other young people to become involved in maize-based agri-food systems.

Source: MAIZE, AR 2018.

Assessing youth in fish agri-food systems FISH 2018 annual report

Research led by IWMI in 2018 focused on assessing the role of youth in fish agri-food systems in eight FISH focal countries: Egypt, Nigeria, Tanzania, Zambia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Myanmar and the Solomon Islands.

Research provided an understanding of current youth engagement, a framework for analyzing youth inclusion, and identified potential interventions for more youth-inclusive aquaculture and small-scale fisheries. Findings from the eight countries indicate that while engagement in aquaculture and small-scale fisheries is not a first choice for many young people, those looking to engage, or remain engaged, face a number of challenges: gerontocracy; access to land, finances, inputs and other resources; influence in decision-making processes; and limited knowledge and know-how.

In some cases, aquaculture and small-scale fisheries are associated with hard physical

labor, low pay and low social status. Yet opportunities do exist, and hold promise for young people. The fast-growing aquaculture sector in particular is creating employment and entrepreneurship opportunities in fish value chains. Integration of information and communications technologies in aquaculture and small-scale fishery value chains might also provide opportunities to enhance youth participation.

Research findings are being integrated into a brief on youth in fish agri-food systems and a FISH youth strategy due for release in 2019. In addition, actions are being integrated into new youth-focused interventions in the 10-country aquaculture component of the [Technologies for African Agriculture Transformation](#) initiative and youth-oriented capacity development initiative on [aquaculture vocational and entrepreneurship training](#) in Zambia.

Source: FISH, AR 2018.

Engaging youth digital innovators BIG DATA 2018 annual report

BIG DATA created a [Youth in Data](#) initiative, and engaged a group of young digital innovators from Africa and provided them with training on social media and journalistic data reporting. A group of 12 of these digital innovators (half from

Source: BIG DATA, AR 2018.

CGIAR institutions and half from other youth groups in Kenya and Nigeria) then participated in the [Annual Big Data in Agriculture Convention](#) in 2018.

Social protection and marginalized communities PIM 2018 annual report

In 2018, PIM [research](#) on social protection for agriculture and resilience included studies on the impact of social protection programs in ten countries (Bangladesh, China, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Mali, Pakistan, Peru, Uganda and Yemen) on a variety of outcomes, including poverty, income and assets, nutrition, resilience, gender, education, agricultural investment and labor supply.

Work with FTA in Uganda, [Peru](#) and Indonesia highlighted in a set of briefs the need to [address social differentiation in reforms recognizing collective rights in forestlands](#), and the relevance of [disaggregating results to analyze how formalization processes influence changes in rights for vulnerable groups](#).

Source: PIM, AR 2018.

Additionally, PIM findings were used to modify the design of social protection programs in Bangladesh (the [Vulnerable Group Development Program](#) and the [Improved Maternity and Lactating Mothers Allowance Program](#)), [Egypt](#) (the “Takaful and Karama” program), and [Mali](#) (“Programme de Filets Sociaux du Mali Jigisémèjiri”).

Responding to increasing demand from Funders and the development community, PIM included a new area of work on helping poor people to improve their resilience in fragile settings. This research generated policy-relevant insights on humanitarian aid responses in Mali, on the national cash transfer program in Yemen, and on the economic activities of the forcibly displaced Rohingya populations in Bangladesh.



A young farmer fetching water in front of fields of diverse crops in Bihar, India. Photo: C. Zanzanini/Bioversity International



CGIAR is a global research partnership for a food-secure future. CGIAR science is dedicated to reducing poverty, enhancing food and nutrition security, and improving natural resources and ecosystem services. Its research is carried out by 15 CGIAR Research Centers in close collaboration with hundreds of partners, including national and regional research institutes, civil society organizations, academia, development organizations and the private sector.

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