Cover Note:
GENDER Platform Transition Plan

Purpose

This document responds to the System Management Board’s request that the proponents of the ‘GENDER’ recommended proposal, lay out the steps for a wider set of activities to be incorporated into that proposal, so as to include all Centers and the most strategic elements from the ‘ENGAGE’ proposal. Those steps are addressed in the following materials that are annexed:

i. An updated Cover Letter from the Director General of the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) as the lead center for the GENDER Platform proposal; and

ii. A GENDER Platform Transition Plan that provides the timeline and implementation plan on leadership recruitment, strategic engagement to create one inclusive platform for the whole CGIAR and developing a collective gender science and capacity development agenda, with Modules’ content and leadership to be defined in the first quarter of 2020.

Action Requested

The System Council is invited to review the document as one element in the package of materials provided as the recommendation of the System Management Board for a Gender Equality in Food System Research Platform.

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Prepared by: Proposal proponents for the GENDER Platform with the International Livestock Research Institute as Lead Center.
ILRI Ref: DG/Let/366/2019

29 October 2019

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Mr. Elwyn Grainger-Jones
Executive Director
CGIAR System Organization
Email: egraingerjones@cgiar.org

Dear Elwyn,

Ref: Transition plan for establishment of the new GENDER Platform

The consortium of centres (ILRI, IRRI, ICARDA, CIP, CIMMYT, ICRISAT, IITA and Africa Rice) that developed the GENDER proposal are very pleased that the System Management Board has recommended the GENDER proposal to the System Council. We were particularly gratified by this comment from the reviewers: ‘The proposed platform has potential to be a global leader in gender equality research with some far-reaching transformative impacts, especially because the platform has framed its task around providing solutions linked to the pressures of climate change and transformation of food systems’.

We wish to reiterate some of the main elements of our proposal:

• The Platform will be inclusive and serve all of CGIAR. Although the Platform will be hosted by ILRI, the management of the Platform will be under the control of a management committee representing all CGIAR centres;
• It will be managed in an open and transparent manner;
• It will support and encourage high-quality research; and
• It will be committed to making CGIAR the go-to place for gender research in agriculture and food systems and, by leveraging the CGIAR centres and programs and through providing research to policymakers and development partners, to empower women, and men, in food systems everywhere.

On behalf of the consortium, we are pleased to submit to you, for consideration by the System Council at its 9th meeting of the CGIAR Systems Council, a transition plan for establishment of the new Platform. There are three main aspects to the plan:

1. Establishing interim management arrangements, while staff are recruited and permanent governance and management structures are established;
2. Ensuring continuity in the transition from the existing gender platform under the CGIAR Research Program on Policies, Institutions and Markets; and incorporating elements of the other proposal (ENGAGE) into the Platform; we have indicated some areas where the two proposals dovetail closely;
3. Developing a new research agenda on gender in agriculture for the Platform.
We have identified the transition plan’s key elements, processes and timelines, as outlined in the attached document, but given the short time available, some details still need to be worked out.

We have had and are having very constructive discussions with the management of the existing platform and the writers of the ENGAGE proposal, and we expect the remaining details of the transition plan to be finalized in the next few weeks.

We look forward to working across centres, with programs, partners and investors, and to using the Platform to drive gender research within and beyond CGIAR to a new level and contribute to bringing about transformative change in the lives of millions of women around the world.

Yours sincerely,

Jimmy Smith
Director General, ILRI

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Encls.
GENDER Platform Transition Plan

Preamble

Contingent on approval during the 9th meeting of the CGIAR Systems Council, we propose the following transition plan for moving from the current CGIAR gender platform under the CGIAR Research Program on Policies, Institutions and Markets (PIM) to a stand-alone full-fledged CGIAR platform focused on gender equality in food systems research. The new Platform, named GENDER (Generating Evidence and New Directions for Equitable Results), will catalyse targeted gender research within CGIAR and foster institutional change to generate evidence to inform and facilitate a much-needed transformation towards equitable, sustainable, productive and climate-resilient food systems.

Subsequent to the advice and guidance provided by the CGIAR System Management Board, discussions have already taken place between the leadership of the ILRI-hosted GENDER proposal, the leaders of the ENGAGE proposal and the present management team of the PIM-led platform. The GENDER Platform team has also reached out to each of the centres that participated in the ENGAGE proposal led by IFPRI, to identify strategic elements from the ENGAGE proposal to integrate into the GENDER Platform. The core team will also meet with African Women in Agricultural Research and Development (AWARD) during the first week of November to discuss the details of collaboration.

From the initial assessment and discussions, it is clear that strong synergies exist between the GENDER and ENGAGE proposals, with overlapping and complementary elements. The GENDER Platform can benefit from including elements from the ENGAGE proposal that can add value to the implementation of future gender research within CGIAR. The transition plan will therefore include activities to ensure the integration of the best elements of ENGAGE into the design of the GENDER Platform.

The transition plan focuses on providing an action plan on leadership, an engagement plan to create one platform for the whole CGIAR and developing a new gender science agenda for CGIAR.

For the transition period, two key milestones have already been identified, which will allow for the development of an inclusive Platform and a gender research agenda for the Platform:

- A gender research coordinators meeting (tentatively 14-15 January 2020, in Rome): The aim of this meeting is to convene all the gender research coordinators from across CGIAR to discuss the future of their Platform and its research agenda. This is in recognition that the GENDER Platform is dependent on their work. Issues to be discussed include research priorities and innovation, mechanisms of optimal engagement (including new ways of working with national agricultural research systems and other stakeholders, such as grassroots organizations) as well as governance and aspirations. A first round of investment options will be identified in the meeting, building upon the experience to date on competitive grants. An independent facilitator, Peter Ballantyne, has been identified and discussions are ongoing on how best to create a common vision across CGIAR. This meeting will also be accompanied by outreach to the Rome-based UN agencies, the CGIAR System Management Office and other key partners.

- A gender scientific expert roundtable (tentatively March 2020): This broader consultation with experts in the field of gender, food systems and climate change will renew the gender research agenda and identify key areas of research and engagement for gender within CGIAR. Discussions will build on the themes identified in the gender researchers meeting in January. This will be a seminal roundtable, as it will result in setting the research agenda for the GENDER Platform for the next five years.
Leadership

Crucial steps in the transition will be to recruit the GENDER Platform director and science manager as well as setting up the first management committee as soon as possible. This will be done after approval of the Platform has been received from the CGIAR System Council meeting in November. Specific steps to undertake include:

- The job description for the Platform director has been drafted (drawing on the ENGAGE proposal) and is in Annex 1. The position will be publicly advertised. To ensure a good pool of candidates, the use of a recruitment company will be considered. It is anticipated that the new hire will be on-board by April 2020.

- A selection panel will be established, with ILRI as the chair and comprising representatives from the CGIAR gender researchers, SMO and key partners.

- The terms of reference for the science leader/manager, communications, program manager/M&E and administrative support will be drafted by mid-November and advertised.

Until the appointment of the Platform director, Nicoline de Haan, the leader of gender research at ILRI, will be the interim Platform director. An interim management committee will be set up.

- The interim management committee will include the interim director of the Platform and four other gender centre research coordinators – two from the centres that were part of the GENDER consortium (IRRI and CIP) and two from the ENGAGE consortium (TBC) – under the chairpersonship of the DDG of ILRI. This committee will be in place by 21st November 2019.

- An interim communications specialist will be appointed for two days a week until a full-time appointment is made and will be responsible for migrating communications from the current PIM-led platform to the new GENDER Platform. They will also be responsible for developing a communication implementation plan for the first year and initiating the rebranding of the Platform.

- Interim program administrative support will be hired for two days a week until a full-time program manager is appointed, and they will be responsible for supporting the management committee and the implementation team with the launch of the Platform.

Management transition from the existing PIM-led gender platform:

- The start date of the new GENDER Platform will be 1st January 2020. A soft launch of the GENDER Platform is planned for March 2020, when the EU Gender Summit is scheduled to be held in Nairobi on the theme ‘gender in agriculture’. A tentative agreement has been reached to showcase CGIAR’s research at this event, and discussions on options for combining it with a soft launch of the GENDER Platform are ongoing with the event’s advisory committee.

- Discussions have already started with PIM management and with the present platform management on budget and outstanding obligations. This is detailed in Annex 2, with input provided by the PIM director, Frank Place.

- As part of good and inclusive governance, the GENDER Platform will have a charter. The charter will be drafted and discussed at the planned gender research coordinators meeting in January 2020. It will be based on the principles laid out in the GENDER proposal and will be reviewed and ratified the members by the end of March 2020.

Moving from a proposal to a Platform for the entire CGIAR

Although the GENDER Platform has been proposed by a consortium of eight CGIAR centres, it has been designed to be comprehensive and inclusive of all CGIAR centres and partners. In the transition phase,
engagement with all centres and partners will be intensified, both to solidify partnerships and to develop a broadly relevant research agenda:

1) Ongoing conversations with the ENGAGE proposal development team have already identified some elements of the ENGAGE proposal that can be incorporated into the GENDER Platform (see Annex 3). We will also ensure that the crucial elements of gender research from the previous platform and from PIM, such as the Women’s Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI) as well as best practices on science quality review, will be strong components in both our Evidence and Methods modules.

2) The meeting of gender research coordinators planned for January 2020 will facilitate translating the proposal into an implementation plan for the Platform, including by integrating inputs from ENGAGE, by identifying gaps in both proposals and new opportunities, and by defining modalities of collaboration (including defining how the modules will undertake their work and how they will be managed).

3) Proactive discussions with donors will be continued. ILRI management has already reached out to the gender experts of several funders, and the interim director and management committee members will follow up with meetings to understand their aspirations and expectations for the GENDER Platform.

4) Engagement with partners will continue during the transition period to not lose momentum. The interim director and management committee will reach out to present partners and identify future ones. We will specifically identify national agricultural research systems (NARS), civil society organizations, and grassroots organizations to work with us in this phase, and we will reach out to partners already identified, such as Stockholm Environment Institute, Makerere University, MenEngage, CARE, AWARD, ISEAL Alliance and Self-Employed Women’s Association (SEWA).

5) Engagement with other CGIAR platforms, i.e. EiB, Big Data and the emerging Excellence in Agronomy platform, will allow us to explore synergies, areas and modalities of collaboration as well as to develop specific plans. This will build on the ongoing engagement on gender and breeding with EiB but will look to amplify it further for wider benefits.

A comprehensive but brief report on progress on establishing the GENDER Platform will be prepared for the CGIAR System Management Board by February 2020. It will include a draft implementation plan for the first two years of the GENDER Platform.

Gender research agenda development and integration of assets

A new research agenda is vital for the GENDER Platform to fulfill its ambitions. The gender research coordinator meeting planned for January 2020 and the expert roundtable planned for March 2020 are two important steps towards developing this research agenda. It is hoped that these will lead to a new portfolio of investments in gender research for CGIAR. To ensure quality of research during the transition period, work will be done to integrate best practices coming out of the past competitive grants and by engaging with gender experts both within and outside CGIAR to review the quality of the outputs (for legacy work) and (future) proposals. Once the science manager/leader is, on-board, it will be their task to ensure the quality of work by working with a pool of renowned gender experts who can work on a consultancy basis. This will also allow for the infusion of new ideas, theories and methods into the work of CGIAR.

Simultaneously, the new GENDER Platform is committed to capitalizing on the achievements of the existing PIM-led gender platform and to ensure continuity in the transition. It will continue to support various activities under the PIM-led platform, such as:

- Completing the competitive research grants already implemented (Seed Systems and Feminization of Agriculture) and communicating the results and outputs for influence and uptake. It will explore ways to support the newly initiated Value Chain grants.

- Refreshing the gender communities of practice, where there is a need and a demand for them, such as on gender and breeding; gender, agriculture and climate change; and water and gender. It will also include an assessment of what has worked well or not for such communities of practice and their value add, and it will adapt facilitation mechanisms as needed.
- Continuing the annual gender platform conferences, paired with a CGIAR host one year and in collaboration with a non-CGIAR host the next.

- Continuing and expanding regular webinars for discussing ongoing research.

- Launching the CGIAR-wide landmark publication (underway) on the role of agricultural research in empowering women and developing associated communication for wider dissemination.

- Building on existing conversations with the Big Data Platform on appropriate metadata for all gender-related datasets; integrating gender into questionnaires; and identifying innovative uses of big data for gender analysis.

Budget

Pending clarification of the funding envelope provided by the CGIAR System Council, a budget will be developed by the end of January 2020. We would like to discuss the possibility of pre-financing certain activities and costs before the first of the year in order to speed up the transition in the first quarter. The GENDER Platform will be given space and hosted on the ILRI campus, and it will be costed as a regular ILRI research program or CGIAR hosted organization.

Summary of the transition timeline

- Recruitment for key leadership positions (November 2019-April 2020)
  - Advertise for positions: director, science manager, program manager, communications specialist, administrative support by 19 November 2019
  - Set up selection panel for different positions, prioritizing the director and science manager positions, by the end of November 2019
  - Director, science leader, administrator and communications specialist - anticipated to be hired by April 2020

- Interim management committee composition agreed, set up and first meeting held by the end of November 2019

- Branding agreements for outputs in place by end of November 2019

- Website migrated from KIT to ILRI by end of January 2020

- Gender research coordinators meeting in Rome on 14-15 January 2020 (but engaging with the gender researchers before that meeting)

- Interaction with Rome-based agencies and key partners on 17 January 2020

- Monthly calls with gender research coordinators initiated in January 2020

- Draft budget prepared for 2020 by the end of January 2020

- Update on Platform progress delivered to the CGIAR System Management Board by the end of February 2020

- Soft launch of new GENDER Platform during the EU Gender Summit in Nairobi on International Women’s Day, 8 March 2020

- First management committee (post-interim) composition agreed and first meeting held by March 2020
- GENDER Platform charter drafted, agreed and signed by centres by March 2020

- Expert roundtable to renew gender research agenda in the CGIAR as part of the new vision of CGIAR in March 2020

- Annual GENDER Platform conference in October 2020
Annex 1: ToR for GENDER Platform Director

TITLE: Director, GENDER Platform

LOCATION: Nairobi

Job summary:

The International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) seeks a visionary, dynamic, and creative Director for the CGIAR GENDER Platform. The Platform, hosted by ILRI in Nairobi, brings together CGIAR centres and numerous partners from around the world in a collaborative effort to make CGIAR the thought leader for gender in agricultural research for development (AR4D) and support the transformation of agriculture and food systems to be equitable, sustainable and climate resilient. The GENDER Platform aims to (1) generate high-quality research-based evidence to influence the broader AR4D ecosystem to integrate gender and achieve gender-equal outcomes (2) create an enabling environment in which gender equality is embraced as a core principle in priority setting, research and communication within CGIAR and its partners, and (3) facilitate the capacity development of CGIAR and its partners to carry out gender-integrated and gender-strategic research that is transformative and strengthens global, regional and national food systems. The Platform builds on and expands the work of CGIAR’s current gender platform.

This position is based at ILRI headquarters located in Nairobi.

Essential duties:

- Inspire and engage the gender researchers within CGIAR and beyond to develop and nurture a Platform that is inclusive and contributes to excellence in gender research in the CGIAR, ensuring transparency and accountability in Platform functioning.
- Provide intellectual and management leadership for the Platform, ensuring that all components are coherent, function well and meet their milestones.
- Set strategic research priorities for the Platform, with the guidance of the advisory committee and working closely with the Platform science leader, management committee, the module leaders, CGIAR science leaders, and other CGIAR platforms.
- Lead the process of organizational change in CGIAR and its key partners to integrate gender equality as a core principle, working closely with the gender research coordinators in each centre, centre management, CGIAR science leaders and CGIAR Systems Management office.
- Identify and establish key research, development and policy partnerships and alliances, including with donors, governments, regional and sub-regional bodies.
- Design and lead periodic critical reflections to facilitate adaptive management of the Platform to remain relevant and effective.
- Mobilize resources for the Platform from established and new funding partners.
- Oversee coordination of work plans, budgets, reporting, quality assurance, monitoring and evaluation among participating centres and strategic partners.
- Supervise Platform staff.
- Lead broader communication for the Platform, including by providing guidance to the development and implementation of Platform communication and capacity development strategies.
- Represent the Platform externally and within the CGIAR system and contribute to system-level functions.

Required qualifications:

- PhD in a relevant discipline, such as gender studies, sociology, anthropology, agricultural economics, economics, political science, or other social sciences
- At least 12 years of relevant experience, including research management experience, in an international, multidisciplinary, and multicultural environment
- Internationally recognized expertise in gender in agriculture and food systems research
- Strong leadership and management skills
- Experience from within CGIAR would be an advantage
- Ability to connect evidence from research to development and policy and to get those options into development and policy dialogues
- Exposure to Africa, Asia and/or Latin America
- Demonstrated experience in managing people, partnerships and coalition building
- Proven fundraising record
- Proven expertise in leading collaborative and cross-cutting research
- Familiarity with the current state of knowledge, policy, and practice across the Platform’s research agenda
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Developing country nationals are encouraged to apply
- Fluency in English, with proficiency in other international languages preferred
### Annex 2: Transition of assets from PIM-led platform, received from the PIM platform director with additional comments from GENDER on implications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Budget issues</th>
<th>Implication for transition to the new GENDER Platform</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gender Dynamics in Seed Systems Small Grants</td>
<td>5 grantees awarded first in 2017; special issue is due out and other products will be wrapping up (e.g. briefs). These are mapped to different CRPs as well as the platform. ILRI, ICRISAT, CIP, IFPRI, IRRI, KIT are involved.</td>
<td>These were co-funded with other CRPs. No fund requirements foreseen from the new Platform.</td>
<td>The GENDER Platform will curate products from this work and make them available in its resource centre.</td>
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<td>Feminization of Agriculture Small Grants</td>
<td>9 subgrants were awarded in 2018, 6 covered by PIM W1-2 funds and 3 covered by IDRC. The IDRC grants did not start officially until 1 July 2019. The work plan extends through 2020 when first outputs are expected. CIAT, CIMMYT, ILRI, IFPRI, IWMI, Bioversity International, ICRAF, CIP, CIFOR are involved.</td>
<td>These were also co-funded by other CRPs. The PIM-led gender platform has funds to complete the studies. There are additional funds for a workshop in funds for KIT to document lessons learnt/syntheses. No additional funds will be required from the GENDER Platform.</td>
<td>To ensure stewarding of this work in the GENDER Platform, the science leader will attend the 2020 feminization of agriculture workshop. This will provide an opportunity for the science leader to engage more deeply with CGIAR gender researchers as well as to ensure proper curation of work and dissemination through the GENDER Platform.</td>
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<td>Gender/Big Data study on the use of mobile phone data to measure women’s empowerment</td>
<td>This is a study to test whether mobile phone data could link to any of the domains of the WEAI and, if so, be useful to monitor empowerment over large areas. Most outputs are due in 2019, but the final report in 2020. KIT, CIAT, IFPRI are involved.</td>
<td>Co-funded by Big Data. No additional funds required.</td>
<td>While the study will be completed by the time the GENDER Platform starts operating, results of this work may be interesting to follow up on. The GENDER Platform will also continue engaging with the Big Data Platform as outlined in the proposal.</td>
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<td>Gender and breeding CoP</td>
<td>RTB and WorldFish are leading this effort. Their aim is to produce several publications that are in the works, on framework, case studies and synthesis. These will come out in 2020 (with acknowledgement of other CRPs).</td>
<td>The 2019 W1-2 funds are sufficient to support the delivery of the outputs. The CoP may have other requests for the new Platform in 2020 and beyond.</td>
<td>The GENDER Platform envisages continued engagement with the Gender and breeding CoP and to make it more inclusive.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gender and water CoP</td>
<td>This is led by IWMI and the funds are being used for synthesis, with a major activity being a workshop in December 2019. Outputs are planned for 2020, a workshop report, policy brief and article on inclusive sustainable intensification.</td>
<td>The 2019 W1-2 funds are sufficient to support the delivery of the outputs. The CoP may have other requests for the Platform in 2020 and beyond.</td>
<td>The GENDER Platform envisages continued engagement with the Gender and Water CoP.</td>
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<td>Gender and Big Data CoP</td>
<td>This is an investment through the PIM-led Platform contract with KIT to improve the attention to gender in consideration of Big Data.</td>
<td>This investment is strictly for 2019.</td>
<td>The GENDER Platform will discuss with the Big Data Platform on new modes of engagement and on other work packages.</td>
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<td>Gender and Agriculture Book/Report</td>
<td>Draft chapters have been submitted and reviewed internally. Revised chapters are due soon and will then be sent for external review. The resulting third versions will be made available in digital form, either late 2019 or early 2020. The team has plans to continue evolving the chapters into a more academic publication in 2020. Every single centre is involved in this.</td>
<td>Funds are sufficient for the first digital output. In theory, authors are committed to the academic publication, but it may be that some 2020 funds may be needed to provide opportunities for researchers to engage.</td>
<td>As part of the transition discussion, the GENDER Platform team will continue to engage the PIM team to ensure proper completion and curation of this work. Where additional resources are required from the GENDER Platform, co-branding of products will be negotiated.</td>
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<td>Gender dynamics in Value Chains Small Grants</td>
<td>Selected proposals were from CIFOR, CIAT, WorldFish, CIP, IFPRI. These would be carrying through all of 2020 and would have some final outputs in 2021, though such details are not yet available.</td>
<td>These are also co-funded by other CRPs. but the platform pledge was for USD 120,000 each or USD 720,000 in total. The teams have provided schedules of when activities would need to be launched, and the priority for the first funds available would be to make sure those early activities can take place (or we lose a season/year). There is still uncertainty whether/how much PIM can contribute to these. Information on this will be sent to the PIs and Platform in a couple of weeks, after the next PIM management committee meeting.</td>
<td>Discussions are ongoing with PIM to understand how many additional resources will be needed from the GENDER Platform to complete this work. The GENDER Platform science leader will be involved to ensure proper curation in the resource centre, to ensure the quality of work produced and dissemination of products.</td>
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Annex 3: Initial list of strategic elements to be integrated into the GENDER Platform from the ENGAGE proposal

From initial discussions with members of the ENGAGE proposal team, and from reading the ENGAGE proposal, it is clear that the GENDER and ENGAGE dovetail and complement each other. Though more discussions will be needed and are planned, in the limited time available, several strategic elements have already been identified by both sides, which will be capitalized on as the GENDER Platform develops:

- The resource centre: These fit nicely within the GENDER Platform module on methods. Borrowing from the ENGAGE proposal, the methods module will also promote a curated portfolio of state-of-the-art tools, methods, manuals, and datasets to elevate the quality of and capacities for gender research among all CGIAR centres and collaborators, thus generating research visibility, synergies and efficiencies. Just like in the ENGAGE proposal, the resource centre through the engagement of and coordination by the new science manager will encourage all the different centres to contribute to and benefit from the methods available within CGIAR. It will also help the Methods module identify gaps and opportunities as it develops new methods.

- The learning hub of the ENGAGE proposal is well aligned with the strategic aims of the Alliance module. The ‘at cost’ training courses outlined in the ENGAGE proposal for the learning hub are an innovative idea, which will be integrated into the GENDER Platform. Just as envisaged by the ENGAGE proposal, the hub can include open-access training courses, but any in-person training courses or facilitated online courses with fees will be paid for by projects, centres or CRPs. To ensure sustainability of training and increase the reach of the Platform, these courses could also be made available to other stakeholders, such as private sector actors, on a full-cost basis.

- A more comprehensive engagement with AWARD for capacity building and leadership training: An aspect that will be integrated into the GENDER Platform is the opportunity for gender researchers and platform managers to take leadership courses. Courses on policy influencing as well as ability to influence leaders within organisations will be promoted. The GENDER Platform interim management committee has set up a meeting with AWARD in the first week of November 2019 to discuss how to effectively engage with AWARD.

- Use of digital platforms is highlighted in the ENGAGE proposal. Building upon this idea, the GENDER Platform will be expanded to also include how digital tools can contribute towards gender equity and empowerment of women in agriculture and link this to agricultural transformation.

- Under quality of research, the increasing importance of institutional review boards and research compliance with ethical clearance was highlighted in the ENGAGE proposal. This will be integrated into the new GENDER Platform. The Platform will ensure that all gender researchers are trained in institutional review board (IRB) procedures and will require IRB clearance for all research funded through the Platform.

- Both Platform proposals had strong M&E aspects, however, the ENGAGE proposal included mention of an integrated tool, developed for FTA, that helps people think through how gender will be integrated and ways of linking that to the M&E process from the beginning. This will be taken up and discussion between the lead on M&E from the GENDER Platform (IITA) and FTA will be initiated.

- The GENDER Platform appreciates the idea highlighted by the ENGAGE proposal on the need to engage with the private sector to promote integration of gender into corporate sustainability plans and adoption of gender transformative approaches that enhance the equitable distribution of benefits in postharvest processing and market-oriented activities.
Other highlights from ENGAGE:

- Setting aside resources for CGIAR gender researchers to present gender research at high-level events with substantial potential for policy impact, such as the Committee on World Food Security (CFS), UN Commission on the Status of Women, Women Deliver, Global Landscapes Forum, Big Data Platform conference, AGRA annual meetings and European Development days.

- To enlarge the overall pool of resources for gender research across CGIAR, the ENGAGE proposal suggested hiring a consultant to undertake a landscaping analysis to identify non-traditional donors, such as private foundations and other organizations interested in gender equality and women’s empowerment, which may not currently fund agricultural or food systems research. This will be integrated in the GENDER Platform.

- Including in-kind resources into the Platform resource mobilization strategy. Approach countries such as the Nordic countries, Canada, Japan, and other bilateral agencies that have JPO programs or other provisions for supplying experts to CGIAR as well as strong commitments to advancing gender equality.