



Gender in CGIAR's research

Purpose

This document sets out updates from CGIAR's GENDER Impact Platform on three key areas relating to gender in CGIAR's research as a whole.

Action Requested

The System Council is requested to take note of these materials as input into deliberations on gender in CGIAR's research.

<p>Document category: Working document of the System Council. There is no restriction on the circulation of this document</p>
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Overview and updates

1. The GENDER Impact Platform, in its role of convener of gender research in CGIAR, will provide three updates:
 - 1) on the research in the Platform and across CGIAR,
 - 2) on the expanded mandate to support the gender equality, youth and social inclusion impact areas,
 - 3) on the arrangements to ensure the Platform functions effectively and efficiently.

Gender research across CGIAR

2. CGIAR has a talented pool of gender researchers across all centers and initiatives, who do a variety of interesting and innovative work. The role of the Platform on research is to amplify and synthesize this work, build a coherent portfolio of this work, fill evidence gaps, and provide leadership on new areas of research. The Platform supports gender researchers, through a variety of mechanisms (more on this below) to deliver the research and impact.
3. Three highlights have been chosen to illustrate the gender research being done in CGIAR. Results of the research will be presented during the System Council's 19th meeting.
 - 1) **METHODS work: WEAI/Nutrition research**

The Methods Module is set up to identify and validate methods of gender research that allow for uptake and use of by the gender research community. Investments were made through the Platform to link the Women's Empowerment Agricultural Index (WEAI) with nutrition methods and tools. Three different research projects were started with three centers, CIP, WorldFish and the Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT.
 - 2) **EVIDENCE work: Making Climate Smart Agriculture work for Women**

Based on the evidence gap map developed in 2021, it was clear that there is a scarcity of evidence regarding the factors influencing the adoption of CSA by women farmers. Using a variety of research approaches, including a Systematic Review, evidence mapping, and other evidence generation projects and the consequent impacts, key evidence of gaps are identified and being presented in different forums including the gender conference. This was implemented by Platform staff in collaboration with gender researchers across CGIAR.
 - 3) **EVIDENCE and ALLIANCE work: Nurturing women-led agri-businesses**

As a knowledge partner to AGRA, the Evidence Module worked with AGRA to assess how their Value4Her women-to-women supply chain network development (through financial and business networking support) i) contributes to the knowledge transfer and women-to-women market linkages ii) facilitates mentoring support between entrepreneurs to trigger business ambitions, iii) fosters new market opportunities for women entrepreneurs and iv) empowers the women involved? This work was implemented by IRRI.

On the expanded mandate of the Platform and CGIAR

4. Youth and social inclusion have now been included as part of the mandate of the Platform, to support the Impact Area on 'Gender Equality, Youth and Social Inclusion'. Two background papers were commissioned on these topics, which will be used to develop position papers for CGIAR, providing input into areas of work in the future and the new portfolio. The background youth paper can be found [here](#). A review of the youth work in the initiatives has also been done and will be presented to the SC. It is clear from the background paper that there has been limited theoretical research and work on youth. Many of the activities on youth in agriculture have been about developing agri-entrepreneurs, either through start-up schemes or through incubators, demonstrating limited understanding on youth and how best to serve them. The paper also highlights that special attention will need to be given to young girls in agriculture.
5. Impact is also an area of expansion for the Platform. To support the Platform in providing cutting edge approaches to understand how CGIAR can reach SDG 5 and have an impact in gender equality, youth and social inclusion, it is in the process of shortlisting a senior scientist to fill a new impact assessment position.

On the arrangements to ensure gender research in CGIAR is supported and the Platform works effectively and efficiently

6. The GENDER Impact Platform has taken note of the evaluation undertaken last year and has been working to implement the recommendations.
 - 1) The Platform is hiring an impact assessment scientist to support the impact part of the expanded mandate of the platform. It is anticipated that this person will work closely with PPU to understand how we can align the new portfolio to deliver on the impact area.
 - 2) The Platform has initiated a call for CGIAR talent to support the youth portfolio for 50% of their time for 6 months. The person will help develop a way forward on youth in CGIAR.
 - 3) Much work has been done to improve the real-time tracking of activities, including a better reporting system, which is being trialed.
 - 4) The Platform is working with finance to ensure issues of carryover and funding ceilings are clarified to ensure timely implementation of the Platform.
 - 5) We also did a review of all the knowledge products submitted to the CGIAR Results Dashboard with a gender tag. This was used to provide a session to initiatives on how to better tag for this year's reporting.
 - 6) Interim updates on communications:
 - a. 29 science communicators (from CGIAR, partners, NARS, journalists) are being trained via a new course on how to tell better stories about gender-responsive agriculture solutions
 - b. Newsletter subscribers have grown from 1489 to 1609
 - c. GENDER working papers: 7 FAO Status of Women in Agri-Food Systems background papers published this year – and 45 upcoming GENDER working papers planned for this year and next

- d. Resource hub visitors so far this year is ~100,000, which is 75% increase compared to the same period last year

Final remarks

7. The [GENDER conference](#) will be held Oct 9-12, in Delhi. Updates of the conference will also be provided in the session. The conference is a collaboration with ICAR, and we appreciate their support in the run up to the conference.
8. It is anticipated that there will be more than 140 oral presentations, 100 posters, 25 high-level plenary and keynote speakers as well as 60 parallel sessions. 400 people have registered. It will be opened by the Honorable President of India, **Smt. Droupadi Murmu** and the keynote will be given by **Amtibah Kant**, sherpa of the G20 for India.