CGIAR Technical Reporting 2023

Section 1: Fact sheet and budget

Section 2: Progress against the theory of change and four key functions

Section 3: Module progress

Section 4: Key results

Section 5: Adaptive management

Section 6: Key result story

The CGIAR Technical Report comprises:

• Type 1 Initiative, Impact Platform, and Science Group Project reports, with quality assured results reported by Initiatives, Platforms and SGPs available on the CGIAR Results Dashboard.

• The Type 3 Portfolio Performance and Project Coordination Practice Change report, which focuses on internal practice change.

• The Portfolio Narrative, which draws on the Type 1 and Type 3 reports, and the CGIAR Results Dashboard, to provide a broader view on Portfolio coherence, including results, partnerships, country and regional engagement, and synergies among the Portfolio's constituent parts.

The CGIAR Annual Report is a comprehensive overview of CGIAR's collective achievements, impact and strategic outlook, which draws significantly from the Technical Report products above. For 2023, the Annual Report and Technical Report will be presented online as an integrated product.
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2023 was the GENDER Impact Platform's third full year of operation and we achieved significant results, building on the previous years' groundwork. An IAES evaluation report (September 2023) confirms, “An enormous volume of evidence on gender and women's empowerment in agrifood systems has been synthesized and/or generated, alliances have been built, gender-specific methods and tools have been refined and made widely available, and gender research and its researchers have been supported.”

We engaged in global policy dialogues putting equality at the forefront of agricultural research for development. International policy makers such as the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the Committee on World Food Security, and the Government of India are increasingly looking to the GENDER Impact Platform for expertise and evidence to inform their work. The Platform also influenced research practices. For example, by end of 2023, 251 organizations in 61 countries had used the Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI) in their research and development projects.

Nearly 700 researchers, practitioners, government representatives, and global policy makers from 52 countries attended the 2023 CGIAR Gender Conference to challenge and expand their thinking on gender. The Platform also worked with governments, NGO practitioners, funders and UN agencies in high-level forums such as COP28, fostering thought leadership on gender research in agrifood systems and gender-responsive agricultural innovation.

In addition, we started building partnerships and laid a foundation to advance the “youth in agrifood systems” agenda in CGIAR. The Platform and partners published 36 peer-reviewed working papers and journal articles, and we awarded 6 grants to CGIAR Centers and Initiatives to explore new areas of work and build new knowledge. We facilitated 13 capacity-strengthening events and supported young and mid-career researchers to participate in global and regional conferences. The Platform assisted gender researchers to participate in courses on cutting-edge topics on gender in agrifood systems and added to our curated repertoire of courses on gender in agrifood systems.

Our three modules — Evidence, Methods and Alliances — made significant progress in 2023. The Evidence Module focused on building an evidence base to inform investments that can make climate-smart agriculture work for women. It also expanded the evidence base on economic empowerment of women through engagement in agribusinesses and entrepreneurship. The Methods Module shared the latest knowledge on tools and methods for gender research in agrifood systems and provided technical assistance to scale up the WEAI. The Alliances Module built coalitions and partnerships for impact, invested in capacity strengthening of CGIAR gender researchers, and raised the importance of a critical issue — gender-based violence (GBV) — on the CGIAR agenda.

In 2024, we are going to consolidate work on existing themes, advocate for increased uptake of evidence and methods, prioritize and finalize our stakeholder analysis and engagement strategy, re-energize the gender research community in CGIAR, finalize the development of the CGIAR youth portfolio, and provide gender expertise to CGIAR in new overall Portfolio development.

APPROVED BUDGET

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Budget ($M)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>10.70M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2023</td>
<td>8.18M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2024</td>
<td>Estimated</td>
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</table>

1 This amount includes carry-over and commitments.
2 This amount is an estimation of the 2024 annual budget allocation, as of the end of March 2024.

Winnie Cherono decants a supply of fresh milk at her shop near Eldoret, Kenya. Credit: Kabir Dhanji
Impact Platform-level theory of change diagram

- **Primary Outcome 1**
  - Improved evidence is used to inform strategic investments and scalable, gender-international innovations and approaches to enable greater gender equality and inclusion in food systems by CGIAR governments, regional bodies, donors and multilateral agencies by 2028.

- **Resilient Agrifood Systems**
  - CGIAR funding agencies and national governments use research evidence in the development of strategies, policies, and investments to drive sustainable transformation of food, land, and water systems to meet multiple CGIAR impact area targets.

- **Geneic Innovation**
  - Government ministries, public and non-governmental organizations, small and medium enterprises, and civil society entities provide support to enable larger-scale benefits across CGIAR's five impact areas to reach farmers.

- **Systems Transformation**
  - CGIAR partners develop and scale innovations that contribute to the empowerment of women, youth, and other social groups in food, land and water systems.

- **Primary Outcome 2**
  - Forward-looking, dynamic and iterative gender tools, methods and other resources are used to improve the quality of global gender research and gender integrated interventions by CGIAR, NARES, universities and NGOs in food systems by 2025.

- **Primary Outcome 3**
  - Gender integration is prioritised and practised throughout AR4D by CGIAR, national governments, NARES, NGOs, donors and other partners by 2030.

- **Module 1**
  - Evidence

- **Module 2**
  - Methods

- **Module 3**
  - Alliances

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**PO Primary Outcome**

**AA Action Area**

**IA Impact Area**

**SDG Sustainable Development Goal**

**Note:** A summary of key functions progress ratings is provided in Section 3.
The FAO global report on Status of Women in Agrifood Systems in Nairobi, Kenya. The report was informed by CGIAR GENDER Impact Platform research through a series of working papers that address key themes important for gender and social equality, and women’s empowerment in agriculture and food systems. The Platform has contributed to several early drafts. This engagement influenced not only global policy processes but also research practices. Ongoing cooperation between the Platform and FAO on gender equality and women’s empowerment in fisheries and aquaculture has informed CGIAR’s work on the World Aquatic Livelihoods Index (WALI) and the Empowerment in Fisheries and Aquaculture Index (WEFI) had been used in the 67th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women, 51st Session of the Committee on World Food Security, and various universities.

Summary of progress by key function

**KEY FUNCTION 1: FOSTER GLOBAL CRITICAL THINKING**

The Platform facilitated strategic engagement with governments, NGO practitioners, funders and UN agencies, and presented evidence on gender-related issues at high-level forums such as the 31st Annual SWAFS Nairobi launch: FAO held a launch event of the report on the Status of Women in Agrifood Systems in Nairobi, Kenya. The report was informed by CGIAR GENDER Impact Platform research through a series of working papers that address key themes important for gender and social equality, and women’s empowerment in agriculture and food systems. Credit: N. Ronoh

**KEY FUNCTION 2: DEVELOP CGIAR AND PARTNER CAPACITY**

We awarded grants to 24 CGIAR Initiatives, through Centers, to strengthen their capacity for gender research. Through these grants, almost 50 gender-related results were delivered in 2023, and around 20 more will be completed in 2024. The representatives emphasized the importance of CGIAR gender research in informing future directions for advancing women-led development and equality. The largest global network of gender researchers in agrifood systems was established, catalyzing scientific exchanges among researchers and practitioners.

**KEY FUNCTION 3: ADVISE PORTFOLIO-LEVEL MANAGEMENT/STRATEGY**

We continued to generate results in 2023. We engaged in global policy processes in strategically selected high-level global and regional forums. We awarded grants to 24 CGIAR Initiatives, through Centers, to strengthen their capacity for gender research. Through these grants, almost 50 gender-related results were delivered in 2023, and around 20 more will be completed in 2024. The Platform facilitated strategic engagement with governments, NGO practitioners, funders and UN agencies, and presented evidence on gender-related issues at high-level forums such as the 31st Annual SWAFS Nairobi launch: FAO held a launch event of the report on the Status of Women in Agrifood Systems in Nairobi, Kenya. The report was informed by CGIAR GENDER Impact Platform research through a series of working papers that address key themes important for gender and social equality, and women’s empowerment in agriculture and food systems. Credit: N. Ronoh

**KEY FUNCTION 4: AMPLIFY EXTERNAL PROFILE AND PATHWAYS TO IMPACT**

The Platform contributed to several early drafts. This engagement influenced not only global policy processes but also research practices. Ongoing cooperation between the Platform and FAO on gender equality and women’s empowerment in fisheries and aquaculture has informed CGIAR’s work on the World Aquatic Livelihoods Index (WALI) and the Empowerment in Fisheries and Aquaculture Index (WEFI) had been used in the 67th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women, 51st Session of the Committee on World Food Security, and various universities.

The Platform fostered thought leadership on gender research in agrifood systems in the community of academics, activists, policy makers and practitioners. These opportunities strengthened individual and CGIAR-wide capacity to offer high-quality and evidence-based advice on gender-related issues. At COP28, we co-organized an event on new areas of work on B dziewczynka, and were featured in Frontiers news and were the most trending paper in Food Science and Technology in 2021.
At the 2023 Global Forum on Agricultural Research and Innovation (GFARI), FAO, ICRISAT and ABC developed the Resource Hub, which remained at the center of the Platform’s research support system. It offers access to publications and datasets on gender, climate change, and agriculture to inform strategic investments and scale-up.
Module 2: Methods Module

Output

3.1.1. Communities of practice to promote dialogues on knowledge about agricultural development and collaboration on methods for food systems.

3.1.2. Approaches and processes facilitating gender theory development.

3.1.3. Innovative approaches on methods and standards for gender inclusive and strategic research.

3.1.4. Good practices in standard setting procedures for CGIAR gender equality in food systems research.

3.1.5. A suite of resources on how to integrate gender in AR4D.

Primary Outcome 2

Share the latest knowledge on tools and methods (EnGendering Data Blog, resources hub) their learnings through (a) a Regional, (b) through the (c) mentoring.

Community of Practice to promote dialogues on knowledge about agricultural development and collaboration on methods for food systems.

3.2. Social and biophysical researchers can original thinking and reflexivity to develop, use and adopt gender methods and standards and other gender resources to better engage gender in AD4R.

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Module 3: Alliances Module

Output

3.1.6. Strategic alliances developed for impact.

3.1.7. National capacity development for researchers and partners operating at different levels and scales to foster institutional culture change.

3.1.8. Support and mentoring programs for early career researchers to conduct rigorous gender research.

3.1.9. Institutional assessment of the prioritization of gender in AD4R and plans to strengthen gender focus in CGIAR centers and partners.

Primary Outcome 3

Gender integration is prioritized and practiced throughout AR4D (CGIAR, technical governments, NARES, NGOs, donors and other partners).

EnGendering Data Blog - researchers shared the latest knowledge on tools and methods (EnGendering Data Blog, resources hub) their learnings through (a) a Regional, (b) through the (c) mentoring.

Community of Practice to promote dialogues on knowledge about agricultural development and collaboration on methods for food systems.

To boost gender research capacity in CGIAR, three initiatives (i) gender training platform, (ii) gender in AR4D, (iii) gender in AR4D, to research grants (CGSpace) tools and other gender resources to better engage gender in AR4D.

CGSpace is a new hub focused on current and emerging gender tools, methods and other resources to better engage gender in AR4D.

Gender training platform identifies practical resources and coalitions and partnerships for strengthening the capacity of CGIAR gender researchers, through (a) workshops, (b) training, (c) mentoring and (d) capacity development projects.

CGSpace is a new hub focused on current and emerging gender tools, methods and other resources to better engage gender in AR4D.

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# Module Progress Rating Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module</th>
<th>Progress Rating &amp; Rationale</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td><strong>Progress rating</strong>&lt;br&gt;Annual progress aligns with the 2023 Plan of Results and Budget. We have gained and sustained the momentum in promoting CGIAR gender research and getting it on many stakeholders' agendas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td><strong>Progress rating</strong>&lt;br&gt;Annual progress aligns with the 2023 Plan of Results and Budget. New methods and tools for gender research in agrifood systems were developed and piloted and published on the growing GENDER Resource Hub.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td><strong>Progress rating</strong>&lt;br&gt;Annual progress fully aligns with the 2023 Plan of Results and Budget. We established a global network of stakeholders in gender research agrifood systems and strengthened collaborations with existing partners.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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## Key Results

### Overview of Reported Results

#### Results for 2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outputs</th>
<th>Outcomes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge products</td>
<td>Other outcome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other outputs</td>
<td>Policy change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capacity sharing for development</td>
<td>Innovation use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Innovation development</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### Cumulative Results for 2022 and 2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outputs</th>
<th>Outcomes</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Innovation development</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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## Definitions

- **On track**
- **Delayed**
- **Off track**

Data extracted from the CGIAR Results Dashboard on 29 March 2024.
Results by contributing partner

- Cornell University
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
- Makerere University
- World Food Programme
- Royal Tropical Institute
- International Fund for Agricultural Development
- Western University
- Campbell Collaboration
- Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (Ghana)
- International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh
- Michigan State University
- Lincoln University
- National Root Crops Research Institute
- University of Greenwich
- CARE
- George Mason University
- Indian Council of Agricultural Research
- Institut d’Économie Rurale (Mali)
- Kasetsart University of Science and Technology
- Michigan State University
- National Agricultural Research Organisation (Uganda)
- Participatory Ecological Land Use Management (Kenya)
- U.S. Agency for International Development
- Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia / National University of Malaysia
- University of Arizona

Geographic coverage

- East and Southern Africa: 30
- West and Central Africa: 21
- South Asia: 18
- Latin America and the Caribbean: 6
- Central and West Asia and North Africa: 4
- Southwest Asia and the Pacific: 2

Data here represents an overview of reported results in 2023. One result can impact multiple countries and can therefore be represented multiple times.
## Adaptive management

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RECOMMENDATION</th>
<th>SUPPORTING RATIONALE</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Consolidate work on the existing themes and increase uptake. In the past four years, the GENDER Impact Platform has gathered a solid evidence base on the most pertinent themes in gender and agrifood systems. We will continue to tackle new themes in 2024 but will also concentrate on a more targeted effort and investment in promoting our existing work to increase its uptake by stakeholders.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Prioritize and finalize stakeholder analysis and engagement and partnership strategy. Linked to the previous point, the Platform will invest in more targeted engagement efforts with strategically selected agrifood system actors at global, regional, and national levels. To enable this, we began a comprehensive analysis of stakeholders in 2023 and will prioritize this task in 2024 to finalize it and inform further engagements.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Re-energize and use the gender-research community in CGIAR. To further strengthen gender research within CGIAR, the Platform needs to revamp its core group of gender researchers, as well as second- (and third-) tier stakeholders within the organization. We will make conscious efforts and investments to re-energize this group and use it to move the gender-research agenda forward in CGIAR.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Strengthen the management and coordination within Modules. The Platform will update the terms of reference of the Module leads to strengthen the coordination and management within the three Modules. The Platform leadership and management team will provide the Module leads with standardized tools on program planning, monitoring, and engagement with the Initiatives and Centers. The Platform will also reinforce the messaging to the gender researchers in the Centers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Redefine the Platform’s theory of change and impact pathways. In 2023, the Platform made investments and significant progress in updating its theory of change and results indicators. In 2024, we will finalize and align this with a new CGIAR Portfolio, informed by the ongoing data collection on results indicators that we began in December 2023. This will also inform any further adjustment of priorities in 2024.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Synthesize and use lessons from past gender research across CGIAR to inform development of a new CGIAR Portfolio. In previous years, the Platform tested different program implementation modalities, including research grants to Centers and Initiatives, to learn what would make CGIAR gender research better and more sustainable. Based on these lessons, in 2024 the Platform will advocate for long-term, reliable and increased funding for gender research in the new CGIAR Portfolio to enable the Centers to hire more gender research scientists.</td>
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![The aftermath of Cyclone Idai, Mozambique, 15-16 March 2019. Credit: Denis Onyodi, IFRC/DRK/Climate Centre](image-url)
The 2023 CGIAR GENDER-ICAR conference convened a global network, received endorsement from Indian policy makers, and charted new directions for G20 countries.

**Key result story**

**GENDER conference charts directions for equality**

The 2023 CGIAR GENDER-ICAR conference convened a global network, received endorsement from Indian policy makers, and charted new directions for G20 countries.

The CGIAR GENDER Impact Platform offered its network of gender researchers a unique opportunity to connect with partners and peers, influence the priorities of one of the world’s largest national agricultural research organizations, and offer recommendations to G20 policy makers. Key stakeholders, including the president of India, the director of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, and India’s G20 Sherpa, acknowledged CGIAR as the go-to resource for recommendations and guidance on research, policies and investments toward more inclusive, equitable and resilient agrifood systems.

The CGIAR GENDER Impact Platform partnered with the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) to convene an international conference "From research to impact: Towards just and resilient agri-food systems" in New Delhi, India from 9-12 October 2023. The conference realized or exceeded their expectations.

A post-conference evaluation survey (n = 162) showed an overwhelmingly positive response, with every respondent saying that the conference realized or exceeded their expectations.

Almost 700 delegates from 52 countries — representing renowned academic and research institutes, national agricultural research and extension organizations in the world and by aligning with India’s G20 Sherpa, acknowledged CGIAR as the go-to resource for recommendations and guidance on research, policies and investments toward more inclusive, equitable and resilient agrifood systems.

**I am elated to know that the CGIAR GENDER Impact Platform is working on putting equality and inclusion at the heart of food systems research by focusing on women, not as the objects of transformation, but as the agents and drivers of transformation.**
Front cover photo

Back cover photo