



*Wild Canada geese on a November afternoon in Manitoba.  
Courtesy of C. Murray.*

The Gender Equality Mainstreaming (GEM) Working Group of the Agricultural Institute of Canada (AIC) gathers information and articles on an ongoing basis on gender equality mainstreaming within agriculture, scientific research, rural development, climate change and organizational development. Information is shared with members, partners, scientific societies and member organizations. The views and opinions presented are not necessarily representative of AIC.

If you have information to share, please send it to [dinah.ceplis@gmail.com](mailto:dinah.ceplis@gmail.com) to compile and re-distribute once a month. Back issues of the GEM Digest are available at <http://www.aic.ca/gender/resources.cfm>.

Dinah Ceplis, P.Ag. (Ret.), FGHIH, FAIC  
GEM Committee Member (Volunteer)

+++++

## Opportunities and Upcoming Events

1. The Global Change Leaders Program.....2

## This Month's News

1. Women Find a Green Midas Touch .....2
2. Gender in Effective Grain Storage for Sustainable Livelihoods of African Farmers .....3
3. Protecting Tanzania's Farmers from Weather Extremes.....3
4. November 2013 GenderCC newsletter.....3
5. Driving Home the Link Between Gender and Climate Change .....3
6. Gender: Mid-COP19 Update .....4

## Reports, Publications and Resources

1. Reference Tool: Gender Equality and The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.....5
2. Case Studies: Exposing Gender Gaps in Financing Climate Change Mitigation – and Proposing Solutions.....5
3. Report: Women's Participation in UN Climate Negotiations.....6

|   |   |
|---|---|
| 4. Report: Why women farmers are left out of the programs. Lessons learned. Evaluation of Norway's bilateral agricultural support to food security..... | 6 |
| 5. Brief: Addressing Gender in Climate-Smart Smallholder Agriculture.....   | 6 |
| 6. Database: Gender and Land Rights.....  | 7 |
| 7. Video: Gender and Assets.....  | 7 |
| 8. Factsheet: Linking Data to Actions: connections between IPCC AR5 data, gender differentiated data and climate change 8                               |   |
| 9. Case Studies: Exposing Gender Gaps in Financing Climate Change Mitigation.....   | 8 |

[Go to top.](#) ++++++

## Opportunities and Upcoming Events

### 1. The Global Change Leaders Program

<http://coady.stfx.ca/themes/women/gcl/>

The Global Change Leaders Program at Coady International Institute, St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, Nova Scotia, Canada aims to build the leadership capacities of women from developing countries who work in themes of community development related to agriculture, environment, health, education, rights of girls and women, and other subject areas. The program provides successful candidates with a seven-week intensive course in Canada followed by mentoring opportunities in their home countries. The application deadline is **17 January 2014**.

[Go to top.](#) ++++++

## This Month's News

### 1. Women Find a Green Midas Touch

<http://www.ipsnews.net/2013/11/women-find-a-green-midas-touch/>

**DHAKA, Nov 5 2013 (IPS)** - On a hot and humid day in northwestern Bangladesh, Anisa Begum sits with a group of 25 homemakers, explaining how to use natural fertilisers to increase grain yield.

The 47-year-old mother of two tells them if men can grow crops and make money, so can women. She is a leader of the Common Interest Group (CIG) that brings together women who want to take up farming in this South Asian nation.

Begum has got hands-on training from the local agriculture office on how to maximise crop yield from natural fertilisers. She and nine other successful women farmers last year visited Vietnam, a country known for its efficient grain harvest.

This year she has trained a dozen or so fellow CIG members in the Pairabond area of Rangpur, 255 km from the Bangladeshi capital Dhaka, and says an increasing number of women have been showing interest in new and improved farm practices.

The CIGs, formed with the help of local agriculture offices, are part of a programme to enhance farm productivity for food security in Bangladesh – the National Agriculture Technology Project (NATP).

*Refer to the link for the complete article.*

[Go to top.](#) ++++++

## 2. Gender in Effective Grain Storage for Sustainable Livelihoods of African Farmers

<http://www.blog4dev.ch/afs-phm2013/2013/10/31/gender-in-effective-grain-storage-for-sustainable-livelihoods-of-african-farmers-egsp-ii/>

A subgroup of the SDC Agriculture and Food Security Network hosted a three-day workshop on postharvest loss management. A representative of CIMMYT presented the plans of the gender-focused component of their Effective Grain Storage for Sustainable Livelihoods project.

[Go to top.](#) ++++++

## 3. Protecting Tanzania’s Farmers from Weather Extremes

<http://www.ipsnews.net/2013/11/protecting-tanzanias-farmers-from-weather-extremes/>

**MOROGORO, Tanzania, Nov 14 2013 (IPS)** - When Habiba Msoga from Kiroka village, in Tanzania’s Morogoro Region, first began applying a method of rice cultivation that was different from what her fellow farmers traditionally used, they laughed at her.

But now three years later, as she falls asleep each night in her newly built brick home that will soon have electricity, she could not be happier.

“When I started some people were laughing at me because they thought it was impossible to grow rice without flooding the field. But I have proved them wrong. My harvests now are just too much,” the 37-year-old mother of three told IPS.

*Refer to the link for the full article.*

[Go to top.](#) ++++++

## 4. November 2013 GenderCC newsletter

<http://www.gendercc.net/>

Welcome to the November 2013 GenderCC newsletter, which aims to keep the gender and climate change community up-to-date on our activities and provide the latest news from the gender and climate change community as a whole.

This edition of the GenderCC newsletter will focus on the events which took place at COP19 from the 11th – 22nd of November in Warsaw, which some have described as “the Gender COP” due to the considerable attention given to gender issues. Is this title warranted? Read more to find out.

We are also happy to inform you that GenderCC has joined the Global Gender and Climate Alliance (GGCA), after a year of productive collaboration! We look forward to continuing to work together on gender and climate change issues in the future.

[Go to top.](#) ++++++

## 5. Driving Home the Link Between Gender and Climate Change

<http://www.ipsnews.net/2013/11/driving-home-the-link-between-gender-and-climate-change/>

**WARSAW, Nov 18 2013 (IPS)** - Tuesday was Gender Day at the COP19 climate summit in Warsaw, and many of the events that took place in the National Stadium focused on the topic of gender and its relation with climate change, and tried to shed a light on problems that require action from policy-makers.

The day opened with the launch of the Environmental Gender Index (EGI), a project of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Lorena Aguilar, IUCN senior gender adviser, explained it to IPS. "The EGI is the first index of its kind, bringing together measurements of gender and environmental governance; 72 countries have been rated for six different variables, with each one of its indicators," Aguilar said at the COP19 United Nations Climate Change Conference running Nov. 11-22 in the Polish capital.

The 72 countries were ranked according to their performance in livelihood, gender rights and participation, governance, gender education and assets, ecosystem and country-reported activities. Each of the variables contains a set of indicators to better define their scope.

***Refer to the link for the full article.***

[Go to top.](#) ++++++

## **6. Gender: Mid-COP19 Update**

<http://campaign.r20.constantcontact.com/render?ca=4dc74466-fc61-45a3-86c6-ef8cb8437d71&c=2ff94980-43a8-11e3-90a9-d4ae527557ea&ch=315975c0-43a8-11e3-91e8-d4ae527557ea>

Over the course of the first week of the UNFCCC COP19, key issues for WEDO were actively addressed and negotiated under the Conference of Parties (COP), the Meeting of Parties (CMP), the Ad hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action (ADP), and not least, the 39th sessions of the subsidiary bodies on implementation and scientific and technological advice (SBI and SBSTA). The SBs that opened on Monday, November 11th, and closed on Saturday, November 16th, covered many of WEDO's priority issues listed for COP19, which WEDO monitored closely, including adaptation (NAPs, the Adaptation Fund, the Adaptation Committee), loss and damage, mitigation (REDD+, the CDM), agriculture, capacity building, Article 6, and gender and climate change.

### ***Strengthening women's leadership and effective participation through capacity building and strong networks***

For gender advocates, the gender and climate change agenda item was one of the main focus areas during the week. After 2 open meetings and 2 other informal, closed meetings, delegates were able to agree on draft conclusions, which urge Parties to have ongoing discussions on gender and climate change as well as to discuss in future meetings how to enhance the gender and climate change agenda. Throughout week 1, gender and climate change was given an unprecedented space in the UNFCCC, one that gender advocates have aspired to for several years. The Women and Gender Constituency intervened at the closing of SBI, encouraging Parties to continue progress on gender and climate change and to inspire progress in the overall negotiations.

The gender and climate change item will, hopefully, have impacts on the many other moving pieces and thematic areas of the climate change negotiations, as many of those items are based on agreed gender-sensitive decisions.

### ***Ensuring gender sensitive loss and damage outcomes***

However, other items on the agendas did not go as smoothly. The discussion on Loss and Damage has been forwarded to COP19 for further discussion. Polarized views on whether or not to establish an international mechanism (developed countries do not want one but developing countries do) have kept negotiations stagnant on this issue, the most contentious one at COP19. Week 2 of COP19 will likely have many discussions on an agreement to have an international mechanism on loss and damage.

### ***Integrating a gender-sensitive approach and policies into decisions on agriculture and climate change***

The agriculture discussions at COP19 did not result in conclusions or a decision. Instead, further discussions will be held to better understand how Parties should approach the agriculture sector in the UNFCCC. The WEDO team attended several side events on agriculture to understand the various approaches that Parties, UN agencies and civil society are suggesting for working on agriculture in climate change. As key stakeholders in agriculture, women should be participating in and a part of these discussions both nationally and internationally. However, the approach so far has been primarily scientific with little on social aspects of the issue. In further discussions the WEDO team will continue to advocate that social issues, including gender equality, be brought onto the agriculture agenda.

[Go to top.](#) ++++++

## **Reports, Publications and Resources**

### **1. Reference Tool: Gender Equality and The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change**

<http://issuu.com/wedoworldwide/docs/united-nations-web>

WEDO in partnership with the Global Gender and Climate Alliance and the UNFCCC Secretariat, has compiled the gender-responsive language from all agreements in the history of the UNFCCC, Gender Equality and The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change: A Compilation of Decision Text. This reference tool, for policy-makers and practitioners, compiles these women's rights and gender equality provisions.

[Go to top.](#) ++++++

### **2. Case Studies: Exposing Gender Gaps in Financing Climate Change Mitigation – and Proposing Solutions**

<http://issuu.com/wedoworldwide/docs/financial-mitigation-factsheet>

The relevance of gender issues is not well understood by many practitioners involved in climate change mitigation investments and financing mechanisms. Prevailing approaches to reducing emissions have prioritized scientific and technological measures, often at the expense of social and behavioral considerations. Most of the mitigation projects and funds so far have supported large-scale energy infrastructure and industrial efficiency programs, which are often viewed as mitigation projects with little connection to gender equality or other social issues. The three case studies presented here demonstrate some lessons and provide important examples for decision-makers as new efforts are made to integrate gender considerations into public and private climate mitigation projects and financing.

[Go to top.](#) ++++++

### 3. Report: Women's Participation in UN Climate Negotiations

<http://issuu.com/wedoworldwide/docs/womenunfcccparticipation2008-2012fi>

This new reports looks in depth at women's participation in the UNFCCC over the last 5 years. It graphically portrays data on the overall percentage of women on national delegations, as Heads of Delegations and on UNFCCC boards and bodies. The report also looks at participation by region, country, and negotiating blocks.

[Go to top.](#) ++++++

### 4. Report: Why women farmers are left out of the programs. Lessons learned. Evaluation of Norway's bilateral agricultural support to food security

Available online at: <http://www.eldis.org/cf/rdr/?doc=66383>

Norway's Bilateral Agricultural Support to Food Security 2005-2011 was reviewed in 2012-2013. This *Lessons Learned* document was prepared as a continuation of that review. Its purpose is to identify lessons learned regarding women's rights and gender issues in the projects/programme reviewed, in order to achieve more gender equality in Norwegian-funded agricultural programmes.

A total of 25 projects/programmes were reviewed under the global evaluation, twenty country-level projects and five regional/global programmes. A list of the 19 country-level programmes that were reviewed can be found in Annex 1.

The review was based on the case study reports prepared for each project as part of the global evaluation. As the gender dimension was only partly included in the Terms of Reference (TOR) for the global evaluation, some additional documentation, mainly project proposals, was also reviewed.

[Go to top.](#) ++++++

### 5. Brief: Addressing Gender in Climate-Smart Smallholder Agriculture

<http://www.worldagroforestry.org/downloads/publications/PDFs/PB13013.PDF>

This brief focuses on the constraints that women face to more equitable participation in smallholder carbon and climate smart initiatives. It highlights the important role that a flexible learning approach plays in advancing equity goals, and offers recommendations for concrete actions that can empower both women and men.

Key Messages:

- Enhanced incomes, access to credit and more fuel wood are significant driving factors behind changes in agricultural practices (e.g. tree planting) for both male and female farmers. These livelihood benefits, particularly short and long-term sources of income, can build and enhance the productive assets to which men and women have access.
- Men's and women's participation and benefits from projects aiming for more sustainable agricultural practices are heavily influenced by social norms and intra-household decision-making and bargaining.
- Both men and women value the non-cash benefits of the project, including improved intra-household communication and new household roles and responsibilities for women.

- To make progress towards a gender equity goal, attention must be given to the interrelated issues of agency, structure, and relations that define the interactions between men and women.
- Providing new spaces for men and women to come together and engage in decision-making can open up opportunities for collaboration and cooperation.
- An iterative and learning project or program approach can produce gains in gender equity and improve outcomes.
- Switching from an emphasis on carbon finance to a climate smart smallholder agriculture model is likely to enhance the benefits accruing to women in particular.

[Go to top](#). ++++++

## 6. Database: Gender and Land Rights

<http://www.fao.org/gender/landrights/en/>

<http://landwise.landesia.org/>

In collaboration with the FAO Gender and Land Rights Database, Landesa Center for Women's Land Rights (LCWLR) has added approximately 150 new laws, articles and useful resources covering 26 countries around the world.

Disparities on land access are one of the major causes for social and gender inequalities in rural areas. Gender differentiated rights to land have implications on rural food security and nutrition as well as on the wellbeing of rural families and individuals. Learn more about the different factors that relate to gender inequalities embedded in land rights. You can choose a full country report, a topic selection, or a comparative report. In the Gender and Land Rights Database you will find country-level information **on the following categories:**

- FAO Country Profiles
- National legal Framework
- International Treaties and Conventions
- Soft Law Instruments
- Customary Law
- Land tenure and related institutions
- Civil Society Organizations
- Selected Land related Statistics

[Go to top](#). ++++++

## 7. Video: Gender and Assets

<http://gaap.ifpri.info/>

The CGIAR's Research Program on Agriculture for Nutrition and Health (A4NH) just released a short video interview with Agnes Quisumbing, one of the Gender, Agriculture and Assets Project (GAAP) PIs and the Senior Gender Advisor to A4NH. In the video, Agnes explains the important linkages between gender and assets and how their relationship can affect people's

ability to engage in and benefit from interventions. She showcases two of the GAAP portfolio projects: The Harvest Plus Reaching End Users Project and the Helen Keller International Enhanced Homestead Food Production Program.

[Go to top.](#) ++++++

## **8. Factsheet: Linking Data to Actions: connections between IPCC AR5 data, gender differentiated data and climate change**

<http://www.wedo.org/library/factsheet-linking-data-and-actions-connections-between-ipcc-ar5-data-gender-differentiated-data-and-climate-change-actions>

Women and men are integral to international and national decision making on climate change policy, as well as to community and national leadership on climate change mitigation and adaptation actions. This factsheet highlights links between the data presented in the recent IPCC AR5 report on climate change, gender data and some actions proposed by countries to mitigate or adapt to climate change. The actions take into account gender differentiated needs, preferences and roles and contribute to promoting women's rights and transforming gender relations.

[Go to top.](#) ++++++

## **9. Case Studies: Exposing Gender Gaps in Financing Climate Change Mitigation**

<http://www.wedo.org/news/exposing-gender-gaps-in-financing-climate-change-mitigation>

*Warsaw, Poland* - What are the gender gaps in climate change mitigation? This is the question the Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO), the Global Gender and Climate Alliance (GGCA) and the International Network on Gender and Sustainable Energy (ENERGIA) answer in their new publication: Exposing Gender Gaps in Financing Climate Change Mitigation - and Proposing Solutions and in a summary factsheet.

[Go to top.](#) ++++++