

GEM Digest of the Month for July 2011



Yellow warbler (*Dendroica petechia*) bird's nest in riparian zone in Manitoba. Photo courtesy of Cindy 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 me at dinah.ceplis@gmail.com and I will compile it to re-distribute once a month. Back issues are available at <http://www.aic.ca/gender/resources.cfm>.

Regards,
Dinah Ceplis, GEM Committee Member

Calendar

July 02, International Day of Cooperatives

July 17, AIC 2011 annual general meeting

<http://archive.constantcontact.com/fs076/1101807863158/archive/1105027512613.html>

Coming Up...

August 09, Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples

Opportunities

1. Call for participation: Gender Mapping of Africa
2. Women's Postdoctoral Research Fellowships
3. Postgraduate Training Fellowships for Women Scientists in LDC
4. Conference: Women's Worlds
5. Conference: CIVICUS World Assembly on Development Effectiveness

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2. Event: Launch of the Winnipeg Chapter for the National Committee for UN Women Canada

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21. **Case studies: Gender and Climate Change in Southern Africa**
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Opportunities

1. Call for participation: Gender Mapping of Africa

The survey can be accessed IN ENGLISH at: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MRKR6RN>

Pour une version FRANCAISE: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ZTTJ27T>

The International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) are issuing a second call for participation for a survey to gather information for a “gendered map” of agriculture in Sub-Saharan Africa in order to better understand how to target water management and other agricultural interventions to women and men farmers.

This survey is an important tool for gathering the invaluable knowledge of gender and farming system experts and pooling this information in a centralized public resource. Documentation of gendered farming system knowledge online with the help of GIS tools can reach new audiences across the globe in a way that traditional publications have not; and we hope that this database will influence bilateral and multilateral program funding and CGIAR research.

If you consider yourself knowledgeable about a farming system in a country, state or district in Sub-Saharan Africa, we encourage you to fill out this 20-minute survey. Even if you cannot answer all the questions in the survey, we encourage you to fill in as much of the survey as you possibly can.

For survey participants who are interested to learn more about these topics, we are pleased to send a copy of the book “Household Decisions, Gender and Development: A Synthesis of Recent Research.” .

Please share this survey link with your colleagues.

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2. Women’s Postdoctoral Research Fellowships

<http://www.worldagroforestry.org/careers/women%E2%80%99s-postdoctoral-research-fellowships>

The World Agroforestry Centre is committed in developing a diverse and strong pool of research scientists, both for strengthening its own institute and for the increasing needs of the developing world. In an effort to further the balance of Gender Diversity among the scientists, the World Agroforestry Centre is announcing the second round of the Women’s Postdoctoral Research Fellowship Programme.

Women postgraduates are expected to hold a Doctoral degree in a field related to agriculture, agroforestry, biodiversity, biometrics, capacity building, climate change, ecology, economics, environmental policy, forestry, genetic resources, geography, hydrology, impact assessment, institutional strengthening, land degradation, marketing, natural products, natural resource management, or sociology.

Whilst candidates will not be excluded on the basis of age or nationality, a preference will be given to applicants below the age of forty five years and those from developing and/or investor countries.

Applications will be considered until 31st July 2011.

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3. Postgraduate Training Fellowships for Women Scientists in LDC

Postgraduate Training Fellowships for Women Scientists from Sub-Saharan Africa and Least Developed Countries (LDC) at Centres of Excellence in the South

<http://www.owsdw.org/>

With funds provided by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), the Organization for Women in Science for the Developing World (OWSDW) has instituted a fellowship programme for female students from Sub-Saharan Africa and Least Developed Countries (LDCs), who wish to pursue postgraduate training leading to a Ph.D., at centres of excellence in the South (developing countries), outside their own country.

The general purpose of the scheme is to contribute to the emergence of a new generation of women leaders in science and technology, and to promote their effective participation in the scientific and technological development of their countries.

Deadline for applications: 31 July of each year.

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4. Conference: Women's Worlds

<http://www.womensworlds.ca/>

July 3 to 7, 2011, Gatineau-Ottawa, Canada

WW 2011 is an opportunity for feminists and allies from around the globe to discuss globalization as it relates to women, strengthen connections, and collaborate on approaches to advancing women's rights, women's empowerment, and gender equality.

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5. Conference: CIVICUS World Assembly on Development Effectiveness

<http://civicassembly.org/>

10-12 September 2011, Montreal, Canada

The CIVICUS World Assembly is a key global gathering for civil society to meet with government, donors and the business community to discuss and find solutions to building a more just world. Under the theme "Civil Society and Global Decision-Making: Doing It Better," this year's World Assembly is exploring four key issues via four tracks:

1. climate justice,
2. development effectiveness,
3. connecting people through technology and
4. civil society and democratic space.

Through plenary sessions, special activities, workshops, learning exchanges and social events, the World Assembly will explore these themes to strengthen our ability to act together for a more just world.

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This Month's Articles:

1. Update: Women in University Research

<http://www.scienceadvice.ca/en/assessments/in-progress/women-researchers.aspx>

The Canadian Minister of Industry has asked the Council of Canadian Academies to examine which factors influence the career trajectory and statistical profile of women researchers in Canadian universities.

Progress Report:

The Expert Panel on Women in University Research, chaired by Dr. Lorna Marsden, held its second meeting on May 16-17, 2011 in Toronto. Evidence gathering and literature reviews are currently underway, with the Expert Panel reconvening for their third in-person meeting at the beginning of August 2011 in Montreal.

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2. Event: Launch of the Winnipeg Chapter for the National Committee for UN Women Canada

<http://winnipegchapter.unwomencanada.org/>

The Winnipeg chapter of the National Committee for UN Women was launched on May 9, 2011.

Madam Justice Deborah McCawley' presented a speech on *Why UN Women*; it is available at http://winnipegchapter.unwomencanada.org/why_un_women.pdf.

Almas Jiwani, President of National Committee for UN Women – Canada spoke about UN Women, its purpose and plans; it is available at http://winnipegchapter.unwomencanada.org/Jiwani_speech.pdf.

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3. News: *Untapped Potential: European Foundation Funding for Women and Girls*

<http://www.mamacash.org/uploads/File/she%20has%20news/publicaties/European%20Giving%20Women%20and%20Girls%20highlights.pdf>

25 May 2011- An estimated 37 percent of surveyed European foundations made grants or operated programmes intended to benefit women and girls in 2009, according to a report released today by Mama Cash and the Foundation Center, at the European Foundation Centre's Annual General Assembly in Portugal.

Untapped Potential: European Foundation Funding for Women and Girls indicates that the median percentage of total grant monies allocated by foundations in support of women and girls was **4.8 percent**, based on 2009 grants data from sampled foundations. Yet, substantially higher numbers of European foundations (90 percent) expressed interest in at least one issue related to women and girls.

Moving forward:

- **Opportunities to expand foundation support for women and girls exist.**

- **Opportunities to deepen foundation support for women and girls exist.**

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4. News: Lonely for Women Who Succeed

<http://ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=55933>

KARACHI, June 6, 2011 (IPS) - As you climb the ladder at the workplace, from the mid-management level to the senior leadership positions, you find fewer and fewer women. Little wonder then that Naz Khan - chief finance officer at Engro Fertilizers, a subsidiary of one of Pakistan's largest conglomerates, Engro Corporation - says it gets lonely at the top.

"There are many more men up there who enjoy a certain camaraderie and buddy-ship of which you are not a part, and which is a disadvantage," says Khan, talking of the informal "old boy" networks that men get into so effortlessly.

"I and my husband don't drink and we do stand out as two sore thumbs at parties thrown regularly by my senior management," says thirty-something ZM (not willing to divulge her name), who works in an investment bank. Soon, she fears, she will stop getting invited altogether. She considers these after-work informal socials "absolutely necessary" for career advancement, and her inability to blend in a "disadvantage."

For far too long, it was assumed even in the developed world that as greater numbers of women moved up to become middle managers, they would make it to the top in time, and create a gender balance at corporate boards.

But study after study has shown otherwise. According to the 2010 report "Pipeline's Broken Promise" by Catalyst Research, a non-profit organisation, women may constitute 40 percent of the global workforce, yet among Fortune 500 companies, they represent only three percent of chief executive officers and 15 percent of board directors. Fewer than 14 percent of corporate executives in the top publicly traded companies around the world are women.

Read the full article at the link.

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5. Resource: CARE Gender Toolkit

<http://pgdl.care.org/gendertoolkit/default.aspx>

This site came recommended to us by gender consultant Catherine Hill.

There is no one way to analyze gender or women's empowerment. This site presents options. This is no 'how-to' guide, but a discussion on tried successes, struggles and lessons from analyzing gender and power.

To navigate across all phases of an analysis, this site includes:

- New to Gender Analysis? The *Good Practices Framework* offers a helpful framework for approaching gender analysis, outlining key areas of inquiry, questions and related tools.

The CARE Gender Toolkit is organized broadly into three sections:

1. **Preparation before Analysis:** Before selecting tools, any inquiry must be built upon guiding questions, ethical principles, and preparatory planning.
2. **Tools for Analysis:** Tool options for analysis, organized by broad goals for research.

3. **Applying Analysis for Impact:** Using analysis to strengthen CARE's commitment and impact toward gender equity and social justice.

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6. Publication: My Skills, My Money, My Brighter Future on economic strengthening activities for adolescent girls

<http://www.crsprogramquality.org/publications/tag/OVC>

Catholic Relief Services of the USA launched its publication of “My Skills, My Money, My Brighter Future,” two assessment reports of economic strengthening activities for adolescent girls in Zimbabwe and Rwanda, funded by the Nike Foundation. These publications highlight four different economic strengthening activities along with key findings, successes and challenges in meeting the needs of vulnerable adolescent girls.

Highlighted interventions include:

- Vocation and technical training
- Junior farm field and life schools
- Bio-intensive kitchen gardens and small-animal husbandry
- Savings and internal lending communities

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7. Food price hikes, food security, and gender equality: assessing the roles and vulnerability of women in households of Bangladesh and Ethiopia

Food price hikes, food security, and gender equality: assessing the roles and vulnerability of women in households of Bangladesh and Ethiopia

http://publications.oxfam.org.uk/display.asp?k=002J1567&sort=sort_date/d&sf1=cat_class&st1=680&ds=Gender%20%26%20Diversity&m=10&dc=1023

Abstract

The depth and geographical scope of the impacts of the 2007-2008 food price hikes have received wide attention, and calls have been made for urgent actions to minimize the short- and long-term negative effects on vulnerable groups, including women in farming communities. This article, based on research from farming households in Bangladesh and Ethiopia, confirms that it is gender inequality that makes women more vulnerable to the food price hikes, yet they are resourcefully devising ways to cope with scarcity in availability, access and consumption of food.

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8. News: Skyrocketing Food Prices Leave Poor Moms Hungry

http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2011/06/14/world/asia/AP-AS-Food-Crisis-Mothers-Burden.html?_r=2&ref=global-home&pagewanted=all

As world food prices surge to the highest levels ever recorded due to a combination of production constraints and rising demand from expanding middle classes, many poor families teeter on the edge, and it is the mothers who often quietly bear the brunt.

It's difficult to measure the impact of the food crisis on mothers, but even before it began, the U.N. World Food Program said women made up about 60 percent of those going to bed hungry every night worldwide. With cultural practices in some countries dictating that women and girls eat last, many are now making do with even less.

"They are more likely to skip meals and eat less to ensure their children and husbands get most of their meals," said Hassan Zaman, a World Bank economist on poverty reduction and equality.

The Asian Development Bank estimates some 64 million people worldwide have already nose-dived below the poverty line over the past few months due to the food-price crisis.

In Vietnam, Vo Thi Quan's simple dinner cost about 27,000 dong (\$1.32). That's up about 20 percent from a year ago after inflation spiked to double-digit levels in Vietnam, which has one of Asia's fastest growing economies but also an average monthly income that still hovers around \$100 a month.

See the link for the full article.

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9. News: Microfinance Craze Conceals Multiple Problems

<http://ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=55901>

LONDON, June 2, 2011 (IPS) - The microfinance industry is expanding at breakneck pace, with more banks and private equity firms now entering the fray. Yet there is growing unease about the naive assumptions, and evangelical predictions, of its advocates.

Some points from the article:

- One issue is market saturation.
- While microcredit modestly raises rates of business creation, it is not clear that such enterprises grow.
- The poor overwhelmingly desire access to formal jobs, rather than the opportunity to be entrepreneurs.
- Reports of fraudulent microfinance institutions and unwise investments have led to calls for complementary training in financial literacy.
- Some have fundamental concerns regarding the consequences of inevitable defaults, or the personal distress resulting from the fears of default, in large part due to the public shame associated with failure.

Read the full article at the link.

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10. Publication: Communicating Gender for Rural Development

Communicating Gender for Rural Development: Integrating Gender in Communication for Development

http://www.fao.org/gender/gender-home/gender-news/gender-newsdet/en/?dyna_fef%5Buid%5D=73714

The FAO-Dimitra Project, a participatory information and communication initiative whose goal is to improve the visibility of rural men and women, recently launched “*Communicating Gender for Rural Development: Integrating Gender in Communication for Development.*” This handbook is designed for all development practitioners (not only communication/information specialists) and was born out of the observation that all too often, gender is overlooked in the design of communication initiatives for development in rural areas and that rural populations, women particularly, are rarely viewed as primary sources of information. This has an impact on the action of communication with consequences that vary from reduced efficiency to adverse results.

The publication reviews the concepts and approaches of gender and communication and the reasons for including gender in communication for development initiatives in rural areas; it also provides practical guidance on achieving this successfully.

Unlike conventional communication initiatives that often deliver top-down messages to a sometimes passive audience, communication for development initiatives are based on a dialogue process that aims to achieve sustainable changes within a community. They are implemented on the premise that change will take hold only if the community takes ownership. Therefore, this type of initiative promotes a participatory process that involves all the members of the target population from the start and empowers them to shape the project as it unfolds.

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11. Report: Women’s economic empowerment

http://www.oecd.org/document/46/0,3746,en_2649_34541_47489838_1_1_1_1,00.html

<http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/50/60/47561694.pdf> for the Issues paper

Economic empowerment is the capacity of women and men to participate in, contribute to and benefit from growth processes in ways that recognise the value of their contributions, respect their dignity and make it possible to negotiate a fairer distribution of the benefits of growth. Economic empowerment increases women’s access to economic resources and opportunities including jobs, financial services, property and other productive assets, skills development and market information.

Key Messages:

1. Women’s economic empowerment is a prerequisite for sustainable development, pro-poor growth and the achievement of all the Millennium Development Goals. At the same time it is about rights and equitable societies.
2. There is scope for increasing donor investments in women’s economic empowerment.
3. Achieving women’s economic empowerment is not a “quick fix”. It will take sound public policies, a holistic approach and long-term commitment from all development actors.
4. Start with women by integrating gender-specific perspectives at the design stage of policy and programming.
5. More equitable access to assets and services - land, water, technology, innovation and credit, banking and financial services - will strengthen women’s rights, increase agricultural productivity, reduce hunger and promote economic growth.

6. Infrastructure programmes should be designed to maximise poor women’s and men’s access to the benefits of roads, transportation services, telecommunications, energy and water.
7. Women experience barriers in almost every aspect of work. Employment opportunities need to be improved. At the same time women perform the bulk of unpaid care work. This is an area for greater attention by development actors through increased recognition and valuing of the ways in which care work supports thriving economies.
8. Innovative approaches and partnerships are needed to scale up women’s economic empowerment.

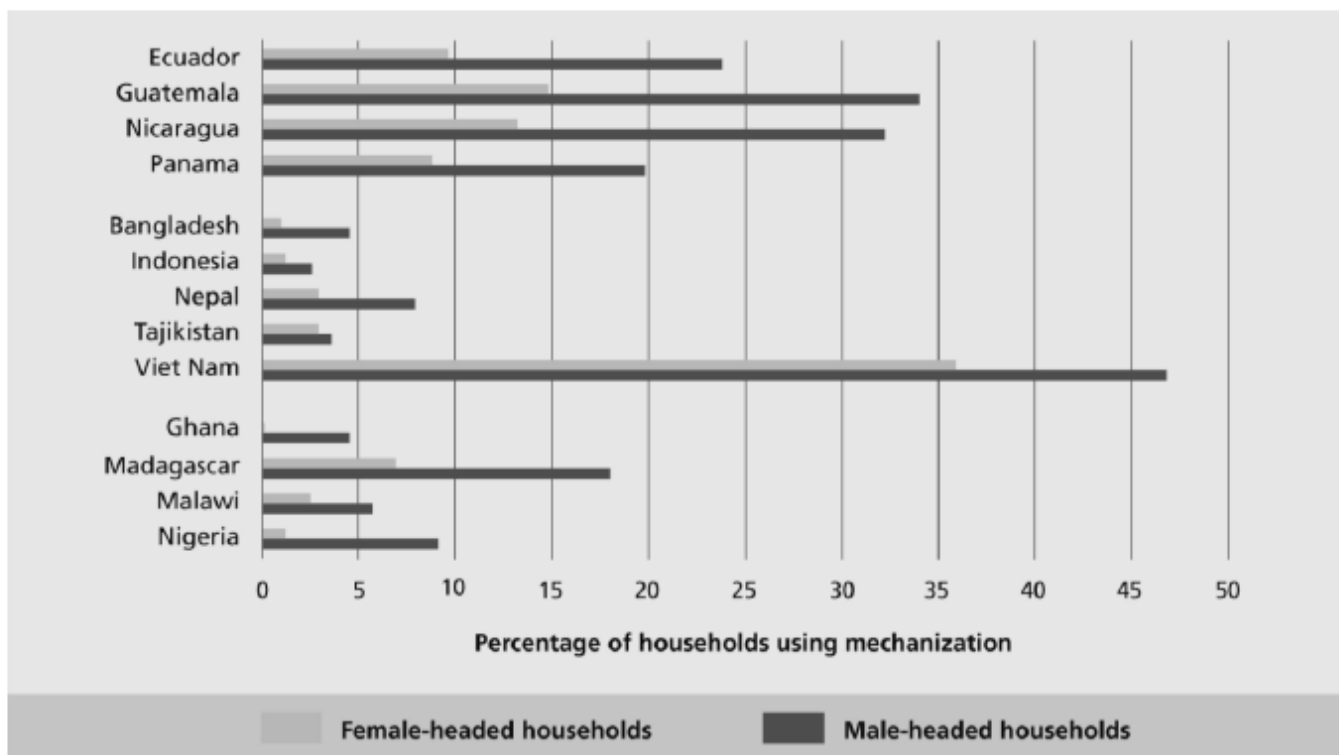
For example:

Access to tools, innovations and agricultural extension services

“Technology can enhance women’s productivity, economic decision-making power and their entrepreneurial opportunities. Technologies such as fuel-efficient stoves or motorised scooters and other time-saving products are particularly important.

Improving women’s access to innovations and extension services would increase agricultural productivity. Yet, across countries and contexts – women have less access than men to agricultural assets, inputs and services. Gender gaps exist for a wide range of agricultural technologies, including machines and tools, improved plant varieties and animal breeds, fertilisers, pest control measures and management techniques. Often technologies and tools have been adapted to men’s tasks or to equipment used by men, whilst women struggle with cultivation and harvesting using handheld tools (World Bank, FAO and IFAD, 2009). See Chart 3 – mechanical equipment use.”

Chart 3. Mechanical equipment used by female- and male-headed households



Source: FAO (2011), The state of food and agriculture, 2010-11: women in agriculture - closing the gender gap for development, FAO, Rome.

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12. Publication: Making CAADP Work for Women Farmers: A review of progress in six countries

<http://www.odi.org.uk/resources/download/5749.pdf>

The Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP) aims to revitalize African farming in order to reduce rural poverty and hunger. This is a massively important undertaking for a continent where a third of the population continue to struggle with chronic malnutrition. But is CAADP getting the right strategies, policies and funding in place to deliver its vision?

This report, based on research into CAADP-aligned plans in six countries [Malawi, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Kenya and Ghana], carried out for ActionAid by Overseas Development Institute and the Future Agricultures Consortium, finds that the initiative is succeeding in generating renewed attention and ambition for agriculture - a sector that was neglected and close to collapse only a few years ago. Much-needed investments and important policy reforms are on the cards.

However, the CAADP plans we reviewed pay little attention to the needs and rights of women farmers, despite the fact that women grow up to 80 percent of the food in Africa. They are largely silent on the problem of climate change. In some cases, they lack a clear poverty focus. These gaps need to be closed: they could reinforce, rather than reducing, rural impoverishment. In addition, money for implementation is woefully inadequate. Both governments and donors need to act quickly to allocate the funds necessary to get the plans off the ground, or the momentum created in the first years of the initiative will never translate into practical gains for Africa's smallholder farmers.

Worryingly, the research into CAADP plans in six countries uncovered systematic policy neglect of women farmers and a failure to define robust climate adaptation strategies, as well as urgent gaps in funding. These shortcomings must be resolved quickly if CAADP is to make a real difference to poverty and hunger.

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13. Publication: Governing Land for Women and Men

Governing Land for Women and Men. Gender and Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Governance of Land and other Natural Resources

<http://www.fao.org/docrep/014/ma811e/ma811e00.pdf>

In this paper, the authors have contextualized and defined gender for the voluntary guidelines (VG), discussed what governance of tenure means from a gender perspective, and identified and analyzed key issues and themes. We have also summarized the recommendations relevant to gender that emerged during the VG consultations in different regions of the world. Our discussion of gender and governance of tenure has focused primarily on equitability in the process of operationalizing relationships between and among women and men with respect to land through both formal institutions and informal arrangements for land administration and management. By drawing on supporting research, consultation and literature review as well as on the outcomes of the VG development process to date, the paper has paved the way to take the VG and the accompanying Gender TG beyond the usual debates on gender and land.

In terms of conclusions for the continuing VG development process, the fundamental message of the present paper is that the VG should aim above all to support and strengthen all the existing international instruments on gender equality and non-discrimination by providing the details of how gender-equitable governance of tenure of land and other natural resources can be assured.

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14. Report: Aid in Support of Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

http://www.oecd.org/document/6/0,3746,en_2649_34447_37461446_1_1_1_1,00.html

<http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/9/34/47335126.pdf> for the report

Published in March 2011, this report from the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and development (OECD) presents statistics on aid from Development Assistance Committee (DAC) members to sectors focused on gender equality and women's empowerment for the period 2008-2009. Information shown includes the gender equality policy marker coverage, the top ten recipients and a sector breakdown of aid focused on gender equality and women's empowerment.

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15. Research: Maize diversity and gender

<http://www.genderanddevelopment.org/display.asp?K=002J1562>

Abstract

In the future, more food will be needed to feed a growing world population. High-yielding crop varieties will play a key role in meeting this challenge. This article draws on research undertaken by the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center in La Frailesca in the southern Mexican state of Chiapas. Both agricultural and social processes influence women's and men's preferences for new or traditional (local) maize varieties. Despite the advantages of high-yielding new varieties, many farmers are continuing to grow local varieties, with women in particular valuing the culinary role played by these varieties.

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16. News: Expanding and diversifying solar-charging business

<http://www.gvepinternational.org/en/business/news/turning-energy-challenges-business-opportunities-rural-tanzania>

Despite recent progress, many regions in Tanzania are still grappling with low access to electricity and the lack of basic infrastructure. In partnership with GVEP and the Developing Energy Enterprises Project (DEEP), Ruth Musenye is overcoming these challenges by expanding and diversifying her solar-charging business.

In 2007, Ruth and her husband Thomas invested in small solar panel systems for phone-charging and lighting. Ruth now charges 25-30 phones a day at the cost of TSH 300 (~US\$ 0.20) each- an increase from 5-10 before she expanded her business –increasing her total monthly sales from phone charging from TSH 72000 (\$48) to TSH 252000 (\$168). Yet Ruth is not the only one to benefit: she has saved her phone-charging customers in Ibongoya village the equivalent of TSH 2000 (\$1.3) they would have spent on transport to travel 12km to Misungwi centre to charge their phones at least twice every week.

Like Ruth and Thomas, other villagers in Ibongoya run small businesses in the central market but due to the lack of electricity, most of these businesses close around sunset, with the absence of lighting posing a serious security challenge. In an attempt to curb the losses to the stallholders' livelihoods, the management committee of the Ibongoya market decided that every business operator must light their premises from dusk to dawn.

Ruth has turned the insecurity in the market into another business opportunity. After obtaining a small loan, she was able to purchase solar lantern units which she has sold on to other businesses while leasing the remaining to the business

community in Ibongoya market. Unlike the traditional kerosene lights, the solar lanterns don't go out. Ruth observed that "every businessman or lady in Ibongoya should light up their businesses from 6.00pm to 6.00am as a measure of security."

Read the full article at the link.

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17. Ashden Awards for Sustainable Energy for 2011

http://www.ashdenawards.org/international_2011

The winners of the 2011 Ashden Awards for sustainable energy for 2011 were announced on June 15. Many of the winners have created products which assist households. International winners include the following companies:

- Abellon CleanEnergy Ltd, Gujarat, India for its crop waste powering industry which produces biomass pellets made from crop residues.
- Aga Khan Planning and Building Service of Pakistan for its innovative programme providing families with access to affordable, energy efficient technologies which warm their homes, heat their water and reduce their consumption of fuel wood.
- Husk Power of Bihar, India has 65 plants which gasify rice husks and other biomass waste to supply electricity.
- Toyola Energy of Ghana has developed an innovative business model which has succeeded in selling 154,000 efficient and affordable charcoal stoves to low-income families, 75 per cent of whom buy the stoves on credit and use savings on charcoal to pay cash back.
- ToughStuff International of UK and Africa is manufacturing and marketing a range of low-cost and robust solar products to off-grid communities across Africa, bringing the benefits of light, mobile phone charging and radio to poor households.

International runners-up are:

- AJDR Cooperative of Rwanda is improving health, cutting carbon and helping street kids and unemployed youth earn an income by making fuel-efficient charcoal-burning stoves from scrap metal, heat retaining insulated baskets and wood burning rocket stoves.
- Nuru East Africa of Rwanda has found a new way to provide affordable lighting in rural areas using LED rechargeable lamps that sell for only US\$5. The lamps replace smoky kerosene lamps in homes and are also used as bicycle lights. Nuru has also developed pedal powered generators to recharge the lamps.
- Ugastove of Uganda is making fuel-efficient charcoal and wood stoves accessible to the poor through a scheme which allows customers to pay back the price of the stove through the cash they save on charcoal.

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18. Publication: Carbon Finance – A Guide for Sustainable Energy Enterprises and NGOs

<http://www.gvepinternational.org/en/business/news/carbon-finance-guide-sustainable-energy-enterprises-and-ngos>

GVEP International, in partnership with the Ashden Awards for Sustainable Energy, has published a guide for energy entrepreneurs who want to link their businesses to carbon finance. The guide, which is part of a series also covering Investment Finance and End-User Finance, aims to provide recommendations on their first steps to assess their businesses' potential and guide them through the complexities of the ever-evolving carbon market.

Topics covered include the key concepts of carbon finance, the application process, balancing the up-front costs of accessing Carbon Finance and future revenue from Carbon Credit sales, investment planning, engagement with investors and potential partners and the common pitfalls faced by entrepreneurs entering the carbon market. Finally, the guide provides a list of online carbon finance resources.

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19. Blog: Putting women at the center of food security

http://blogs.oxfam.ca/blogs/food/lauren_ravon_1

Oxfam Canada has decided to put women front and center in its new GROW campaign. This blog was started on May 31, 2011.

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20. Resource: An End-of-GAP [Gender Action Plan] Technical Symposium

<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/TOPICS/EXTGENDER/0,,contentMDK:22937126~pagePK:210058~piPK:210062~theSitePK:336868,00.html>

On this newly-launched website, you can access video of all sessions, links to the 35+ presentations, related articles and websites, and an overview of this one and a half day symposium that marked the closing of the World Bank's Gender Action Plan (GAP) and sparked discussion on how to scale up women's economic empowerment and gender equality going forward, within the Bank and beyond.

Sessions focused on:

- trade and gender
- entrepreneurship
- access to finance/private sector development
- tools, indicators and data sets that can be used to gender-inform and analyze projects from a gender perspective
- women's labour market participation
- women and agriculture
- infrastructure
- "school to work" programs and youth employment
- safety nets and gender; and
- crises avoidance and response.

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21. Case studies: Gender and Climate Change in Southern Africa

<http://www.boell.org.za/web/cop17-496.html>

Climate change has been on the environmental agenda since the mid-1980s and has risen to become a global priority. It is widely accepted that women and men will be differently affected by climate change and it is in that context that debates regarding identification of gender perspectives and the involvement of women in addressing climate change have arisen.

It is believed that men and women will be faced with different vulnerabilities to climate change impacts due to existing inequalities such as their roles and positions in society, access to resources and power relations that may affect the ability to respond to the effects of climate change. It has therefore become important to understand and highlight the interrelations between climate change and gender so as to design effective climate change policies.

The Heinrich Böll Foundation commissioned four case studies [South Africa, Botswana, Mozambique and Namibia] to examine the interrelations between climate change and gender so as to make a contribution to the creation of information on the gender differentiated impacts of climate change. It is hoped that these studies will contribute to the ongoing discourse on climate change and underline the urgent need to pay closer attention to the role of gender when responding to climate change.

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22. News: Saudi women drivers take the wheel on June 17

<http://english.aljazeera.net/indepth/opinion/2011/06/201161694746333674.html>

A group of Saudi women were now renewing the call that began in 1990, when a group of prominent Saudi women, mainly from academia and conservative Riyadh society, drove their cars. Their rebellious actions were in vain, for the country was on the verge of the first Gulf War, and it was easy to discredit their initiative; all it took back then was to proliferate conspiracy theories - alleging these women were pushing a foreign agenda, trying to Westernise the country and break the unity of the people.

The first campaign ended with the women involved severely punished, with a ban on work and travel that lasted for years. These women subsequently avoided any media attention for the following 20 years, putting a lid on their failed attempt.

Since then, many have eagerly awaited someone to pick up that cast-off torch and finish what was started.

Armed with the knowledge that no legal ban on women driving exists in the country's written laws, Manal Al-Sharif was ready to signal the required societal consent. After all, according to the CEDAW convention signed earlier by the Saudi government, the right to commute was granted right there in article 15, without any reservation.

Later that night, Manal Al-Sharif was arrested again by interior ministry workers. She was then officially charged with inciting public disorder and going against the government by collaborating with foreign media. Both charges, in the absence of a written penal code, were beyond belief.

What price is the government willing to pay to keep Saudi women from reaching the front seat of their cars? How much longer would the wishes of the few extremists continue to confine 52 per cent of the Saudi population? How can we reach decision makers with our demands, when, as women, we are not represented - or even allowed to be?

Refer to the link for the complete article.

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23. News: Gender Indicators for Global Climate Funds Still an Afterthought

<http://ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=56239>

Of the millions of dollars spent on climate change projects in developing countries, little has been allocated in a way that will benefit women. Yet, in Africa, it is women who will be most affected by climate change.

According to United Nations data, about 80 percent of the continent's smallholder farmers are women. While they are responsible for the food security of millions of people, agriculture is one of the sectors hardest hit by climate change.

Refer to the link for the complete article.

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24. Event: FIFA Women's World Cup Soccer 2011

<http://www.fifa.com/womensworldcup/index.html>

<http://ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=56189>

And for the sports fans!

Sixteen countries have sent teams to the women's world cup of soccer being held in Germany from June 26 to July 17, 2011.

Believing that the World Cup has never received the media coverage that it deserved, this time FIFA wants to make sure the event does not go unnoticed. "We have never seen coverage on a scale like this before in women's football. It shows our commitment towards improving the media production of the world's premier women's soccer competition," said Niclas Ericson, Director of FIFA TV.

Refer to the link at IPS News for the complete article.

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