

GEM Digest of the Month for June 2011



Traditional basket hand woven by a woman's group member at Magaka from grasses growing in the Lake Victoria region of Tanzania. *Photo courtesy of Dinah Ceplis.*

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

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Calendar

June 05, World Environment Day <http://www.unep.org/wed/>

June 08, World Oceans Day

June 17, World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought

<http://www.unccd.int/publicinfo/june17/2010/menu.php?newch=l6>. *Enhancing soils anywhere enhances life everywhere.*

Coming Up...

July 02, International Day of Cooperatives

July 17, AIC 2011 annual general meeting

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

August 09, Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples

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Opportunities

1. PhD Fellowships for Sub-Saharan African Scientists – 2011

<http://hub.africabiosciences.org/news/announcing-phd-fellowships-for-sub-saharan-african-scientists-2011.html>

The International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) with funding support from the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) is offering four 3-year PhD level scholarships to researchers from the sub-Saharan African (SSA) countries (excluding Kenyan citizens). Female candidates are encouraged to apply.

The closing date for application is **8th June 2011**.

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2. Online discussion: Linking Gender, Poverty, and Environment to Promote Sustainable Development

<http://genderinevaluation.ning.com/>

The Independent Evaluation Group (IEG) would like to invite you to participate in an online discussion titled Linking Gender, Poverty, and Environment to Promote Sustainable Development, which will run from **May 2 through June 14, 2011**. The discussion will be held in three phases and each phase will focus on a particular topic outlined below.

- Phase I. Understanding the Dynamics of the Gender-Poverty-Environment Links: will establish a common frame of reference for discussing gender-poverty –environment links.
- Phase II. Promoting a Positive Spiral: will examine potential applications of the study findings and online discussion insights to address issues emerging from consultations for the forthcoming World Bank Environment Strategy.
- Phase III. Developing Tools for Positive Gender Equality-Poverty Reduction-Environment Sustainability Links: will critique and enhance draft tools to guide decision-makers in sustainable development sectors.

Your participation in this discussion will be acknowledged in the final report Linking Gender, Poverty, and Environment to Promote Sustainable Development.

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3. E-Debate: Why Integrate the Analysis of Social Relations into Agricultural Policy?

http://www.future-agricultures.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=7579:e-debate-why-integrate-the-analysis-of-social-relations-into-agricultural-policy&catid=1563&Itemid=1029

Dates: 30 May - 12 June 2011

Over the last four decades there has been much emphasis on women and gender in African agriculture and agricultural policy. There has also been plenty of talk about the importance of integrating social relations analysis into policy to achieve equitable, broad-based development in Africa. However, in large part this has not yet happened. **Why?**

In a recent FAC paper, Christine Okali, the moderator of this e-debate, argued that a social relations approach leads to more ambiguous interpretations of and expectations around social and technical change. This presents a challenge to research, development and policy actors given that policy narratives need to reign in complexity in order to provide clear guides for decision-making. Nevertheless, unless insights from the analysis of social relations begin to inform policy processes, and are integrated into policy recommendations, the dual goal of agricultural growth and equity will remain unachievable.

There is urgent need for an exchange of ideas and information to address how to make social relations analysis more accessible to and accepted by policy makers. For this reason FAC is inviting you to debate some key issues around the ways forward for achieving this.

Objective: The purpose of this debate is to explore the implications of different insights from and approaches to social analysis for agricultural policy formulation. This is a necessary step in future research planning, especially for the identification of information needs, but also for the translation of research results for policy making at different levels.

Comments should be short, provocative and challenging. Comments should be submitted on the online forum which will be available from 30 May.

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4. 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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5. UNESCO-L'OREAL International Fellowships Programme for Young Women in Life Sciences (2012)

http://portal.unesco.org/en/ev.php-URL_ID=44170&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

The UNESCO-L'Oréal International Fellowships are designed to identify and reward fifteen deserving, committed and talented young women scientists, from all over the world, active in the field of life sciences. With a view to ensuring that a balanced geographical representation is made, a maximum of three young women, from each of the five geo-cultural regions of the world, will be awarded fellowships.

Candidates must already be engaged in pursuing research at the doctoral or post-doctoral level in one or allied fields of life sciences including **biology, biochemistry, biotechnology, agriculture, medicine, pharmacy and physiology. Projects involving animal models (i.e. experimentation using vertebrate laboratory animals) are rejected, and proposals in the area of cosmetics research are NOT encouraged; preference is given to non cosmetic research.** Special attention will be given to candidatures from the Least Developed Countries (LDCs).

Deadline for applications is June 30, 2011.

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6. Social Media and Oxfam Canada: food justice, women's rights, and climate change

<http://www.oxfam.ca/what-you-can-do/volunteer-oxfam/join-online-street-team/e-street-team-sign-form>

Oxfam Canada is about to launch GROW, a three-year campaign on food justice, women's rights, and climate change. GROW is about more than just getting enough food to people who need it. It's about changing the systems that deny women access to food, resources, and rights. It is also about empowering them to be the champions of their own lives and livelihoods.

Part of making these changes involves having a conversation with Canadians about the personal and political decisions they make about food. This campaign will rely heavily on a team of tweeters, bloggers, and myth busters across the country. Does that sound like you? With a few clicks on the form, you can let Oxfam know exactly how you'd like to help.

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7. Women in House for McGill U students

<http://www.mcgill.ca/politicalscience/women/>

Women in House has a mandate to promote women's representation in government by giving female McGill University students the opportunity to gain an inside look into the daily schedules of female politicians in the Canadian federal government.

Applications from both McGill undergraduate and graduate students are welcome. However, since it is a program that focuses on the role of women in politics, Women in House is only open to women. Preference will also be given to Canadian applicants. In addition, Women in House is open to women with diverse experiences and fields of study.

In an e-mail message, the 2010-2011 coordinator wrote: *While it will be up to the new coordinators when the [next] program will take place, it is pretty safe to predict that it will take place sometime in the first 3 weeks of November [2011]. Over the summer, the MP list will be updated and letters drafted, but a date will not be set until September when the program coordinators are back at McGill for the academic year.*

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8. 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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9. Employment: Technoserve Senior Gender Specialist

<http://www.technoserve.org/resources/jobs/>

TechnoServe Nigeria is currently pursuing funding from a large European institutional donor to design and implement a six-year market development program, which will create enhanced employment opportunities for the poor in Northern Nigeria.

The program will be based on the ***Making Markets Work for the Poor (M4P) methodology*** and will increase employment and improve productivity in selected agricultural market systems in Northern Nigeria. This will be accomplished by improving market access for poor producers, increasing economic activity and trade, creating jobs and raising the incomes of poor people, particularly women and adolescent girls, and those from excluded and vulnerable groups in rural Northern Nigeria.

The program will provide intensive support to a range of market functions and value chains in selected sectors, support entrepreneurship development and enterprise innovation, stimulate private sector provision of services and promote innovative and inclusive business models with the potential to reach a large number of low-income people. As it is expected that at least 50% of the beneficiaries of the program will be women, the successful development and implementation of the gender dimension will constitute a major objective of the program.

See the link for more details.

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10. Employment: WorldFish Center Senior Gender Specialist

<http://www.worldfishcenter.org/wfcms/HQ/article.aspx?ID=1163>

The poor who depend upon aquatic agricultural ecosystems live highly gendered lives. They face strong gender disparities in control of assets and decision-making and in the opportunities open to them. The WorldFish Center is committed to understanding these disparities and working with CGIAR, NGO and Government partners to help overcome them. To strengthen our work in this area WorldFish is recruiting a ***senior scientist*** to lead our gender team and develop staff capacity. Applications will be accepted until appointment. Review of applications will start **18 April 2011**. This is a global position based at WorldFish Headquarters in Penang, Malaysia.

See the link for more details.

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11. Conference: Gender and Climate Change: Women, Research and Action

15-16 September 2011, Prato (Italy): International Conference Gender and Climate Change: Women, Research and Action

<http://www.med.monash.edu.au/glass/conference-2011/>

Gender and Climate Change is an international conference that will seek to bring together the latest research in key areas of gender and climate change, to highlight impacts of climate change on women, and to draw together a body of knowledge for input into the 2011 United Nations Framework Convention (COP 17) and the Earth Summit 2012.

The Conference Organisers - Gender Leadership and Social Sustainability (GLASS) Research Unit at Monash University, Australia, in collaboration with Worldwide Universities Network, Gender and Climate Change Research Group - aim to bring

together researchers, advocates, and policy makers, to form a coherent picture of the differential impacts of climate change and to convey that knowledge in formats that assist in policy development. The 2011 conference will highlight links to global poverty, sustainability, policy, and change.

The complex couplings between human and natural systems that must be understood to respond to climate change, demands a robustly multi- and interdisciplinary approach to research. Furthermore, attention to the differential gendered impacts and opportunities of climate change requires a deeply intersectional approach in which the relevance of factors such as class and race are considered alongside gender. For this reason, the theme of this conference, recognizes the importance of engaging experts from multiple disciplines and engaging local and indigenous knowledge to address critical gender and climate change issues. Strong partnerships among researchers, policy-makers, and community stakeholders are essential for identifying and implementing promising, sustainable solutions that are relevant to the people who are most affected.

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12. Conference on Climate Change & Social Issues

13-15 December 2011, Sri Lanka: International Conference on Climate Change & Social Issues

http://www.esc-toulouse.fr/m_articles.asp?id=1081

Climate change is a serious global challenge to sustainable development, social justice, human rights and equity. There is a need to develop a common understanding of the linkages between equality and climate change, using a common language for all stakeholder groups. The climate change forum would benefit from coordinated collaboration across sectors and institutions, increased capacity and commitment amongst policy makers, international organisations, global business, civil society and minority communities without excluding any groups.

The theme of this conference highlights social issues of climate change, such as the impacts on communities including equity/ethical issues and gender inequality. This conference offers a forum that stimulates empirical discussions from multi-sectoral stakeholder groups. Such an initiative would enable us to share practical knowledge/experience, exchange ideas, develop collaborations, and set up working groups in order to take actions for climate change mitigation & adaptation. This conference will bring together inter-disciplinary researchers and practitioners to meet, discuss and debate the global impacts of climate change.

Key topics:

- * Climate change & social impacts
- * **Climate change & gender issues**
- * Climate change & disadvantaged groups
- * Climate change & ethics
- * Climate change mitigation & adaptation

The conference will feature plenary lectures, and short presentations. One-page abstracts can be submitted **by 31 May 2011**.

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13. Conference Announcement: Canadian Coalition of Women in Engineering, Science, Trades and Technology (CCWESTT)

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

The Canadian Coalition of Women in Engineering, Science, Trades and Technology (CCWESTT) is giving 11 months notice about its 2012 conference which is being held in Halifax, Nova Scotia from **May 5 to 5, 2012**. A Policy Forum will be held on the afternoon of May 3, 2012 to discuss the role of Federal, Provincial and Territorial policies on the participation of women in science, engineering, trades and technology.

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14. Event - The Role of Gender in Mitigation Efforts

25 June 2011, Cape Town (South Africa): CIF Lunch Event - The Role of Gender in Mitigation Efforts

http://www.climateinvestmentfunds.org/cif/partnership_forum_2011_home

The 2011 Climate Investment Funds (CIF) Partnership Forum will take place on June 24th – 25th in Cape Town, South Africa. The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the IUCN (on behalf of the Global Gender and Climate Alliance-GGCA) will be hosting a lunch event (13h30 – 14h30). The event will raise awareness and support the critically important role of women within climate change mitigation efforts by:

- (i) Presenting and discussing possible entry points for gender and mitigation
- (ii) Showcasing relevant case studies from the field with a focus on implementation at a national level
- (iii) Linking the above with current and future CIF initiatives / projects with the aim of leveraging further benefit from the involvement of women in combating climate change.

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This Month's Articles:

1. Women in the 2011 Canadian Election Campaign

http://equalvoice.ca/speaks_article.cfm?id=449

The 2011 Canadian election saw 406 women candidates out of a total 1587 people running (25.6%); this represents the highest proportion yet in Canadian federal elections. Equal Voice reports the following number of women candidates for each of the main parties:

- New Democratic Party: 125/308 - 40.6%
- Green: 98/304 - 32.2%
- Bloc Quebecois: 24/75 - 32.0%
- Liberal: 92/308 - 29.9%
- Conservative: 67/307 - 21.8%

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2. Women in the 2011 Canadian Election Results

http://enr.elections.ca/National_e.aspx

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/voters-send-a-record-76-women-to-parliament-most-of-them-ndp/article2009244/>

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/canadavotes2011/story/2011/05/03/cv-election-women.html#>

Canadian voters sent a record 76 women (out of 308) to its national Parliament in May 2011. 61.4% of registered voters cast their ballots.

In the 2008 election, 69 women were elected. One resigned in 2010, bringing the number down to 68 female MPs when the election was called in March 2011.

For the first time in Canada's history, and exactly 90 years since the first female Member of Parliament strode into the green chamber, women make up a quarter of the 308 seats in the House of Commons.

Political Party	Number of female candidates	Number of women elected as Members of Parliament	Percentage of women elected as a proportion of the number of candidates for each party	Number of elected Members of Parliament (overall)	Percentage of women elected as a proportion of the elected Members of Parliament for each political party	Percentage of women elected from each party as a proportion of the elected Members of Parliament overall
New Democratic Party:	125/308	40	32%	102	39%	13%
Conservative:	67/307	28	42%	167	17%	9%
Liberal:	92/308	6	6.5%	34	17%	3%
Green:	98/304	1	1%	1	100%	.3%
Bloc Quebecois:	24/75	1	4%	4	25%	.3%
Total	406	76		308		25%

Canada now ranks in the top 40 countries for its female representation in Parliament.

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3. Open Forum for CSO Development Effectiveness - Regional Consultation Reports on Gender

<http://www.cso-effectiveness.org/open-forum-regional-consultation,444.html>

Open Forum thematic consultations on Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and Gender have now been successfully concluded, and findings will inform the final Global Report on Gender, currently in preparation.

Open Forum extends gratitude to partners ALOP (Latin America), APWLD (Asia and the Pacific), KARAT (Eastern Europe) and Women for Change (Africa), for hosting activities around **Istanbul Principle 2 - Embody gender equality and equity while promoting women and girls' rights** – in their respective regions.

The Global Report on Gender will inform the International Framework for CSO Development Effectiveness, which will be endorsed at the second **Global Assembly of the Open Forum in June 2011** (in Siem Riep, Cambodia) and carried forward to the 4th High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Busan, South Korea in December 2011 and serve to facilitate CSO work also beyond this important international event.

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4. Felice, the Catalyst Information Centre Catalogue

<http://69.63.217.27/C90002Staff/OPAC/index.asp>

Welcome to Felice, the Catalyst Information Centre Catalogue, which is the premier reference for abstracts, citations, and, where available, links to full text on issues related to women and work. It contains more than 7,000 records from the Catalyst Information Center and is updated frequently with new resources obtained from reputable publications around the world. Felice was funded by a generous grant from The E. L. Wiegand Foundation. Felice cannot display full text for some articles in accordance with copyright laws. You may find these items through a variety of sources, including your local public library and the original journal or newspaper.

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5. Strengthening USAID's Gender Programming and Organizational Structure

<http://www.usaid.gov/press/releases/2011/ps110426.html>

The Economic Growth, Agriculture, and Trade's (EGAT) Women in Development Office is being transformed into a new **Office of Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment**, focused on building partnerships that can deliver results. This office will also give greater support to female entrepreneurship, scale up initiatives designed to enhance women's ownership of key assets like land and housing, and work to reduce gender gaps in access to new technology and infrastructure. Carla Koppell is the new Senior Coordinator for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Office.

USAID reaffirms its commitment to gender equality and to harnessing the power, creativity, and energy of women and girls to deliver meaningful results for the developing world. A Policy Task Team to craft a new policy on gender equality and women's empowerment has been established, the first in nearly 30 years.

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6. Effective Gender Integration Practices in Agriculture

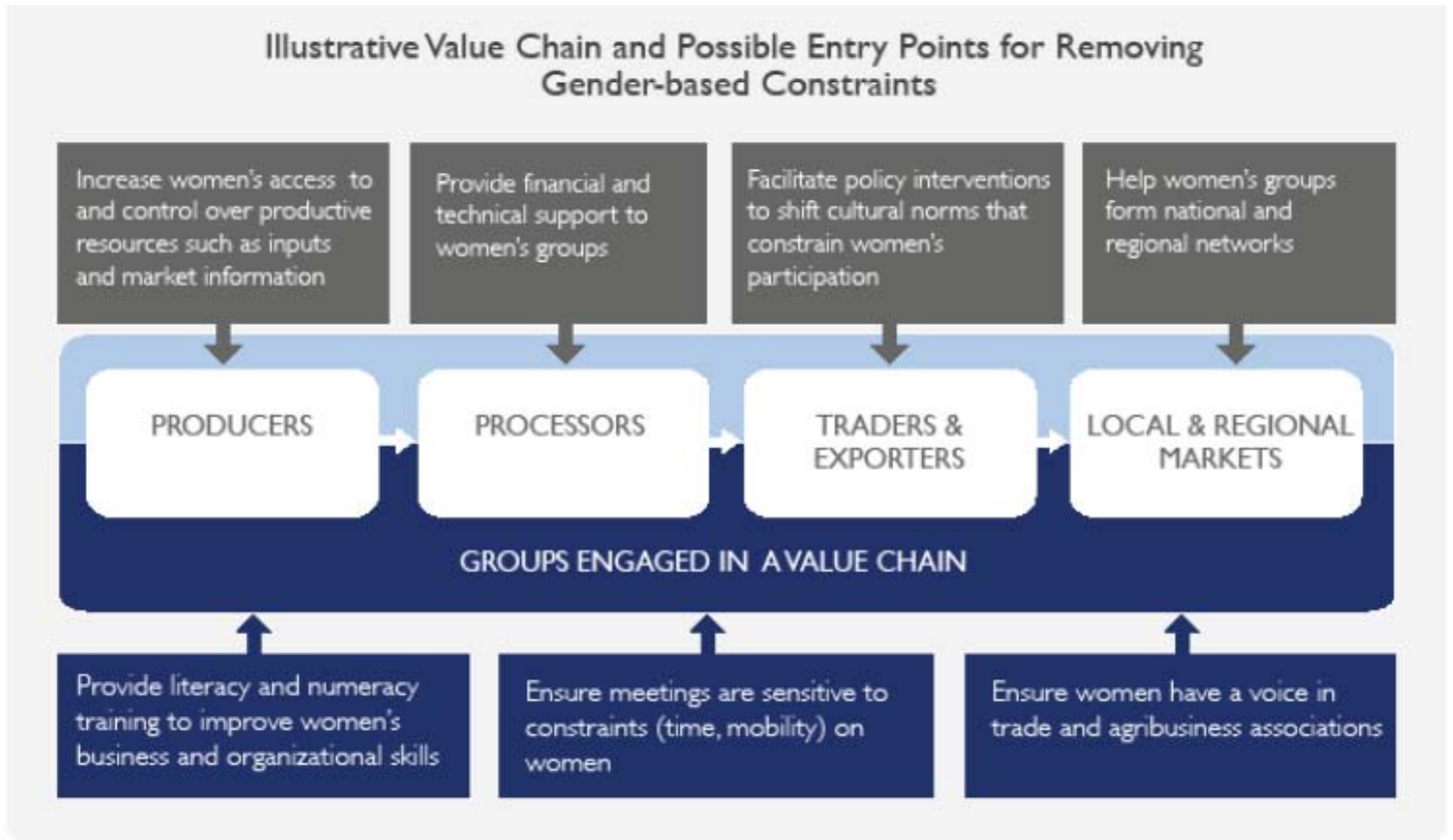
<http://kdid.org/agrilinks/gender-integration-agriculture-complete-technical-brief-series>

The *Effective Gender Integration Practices for Agriculture* seven-part series aims to assist mission staff at USAID in making gender central to the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of successful agriculture programs.

- Brief 1: Program Design
- Brief 2: Increasing Women's Access to Resources
- Brief 3: Strengthening Women's Participation in Group Activities

- Brief 4: Increasing Women's Access to Financial Services
- Brief 5: Improving Women's Security of Access and Tenure to Land
- Brief 6: Ensuring Research is Relevant for Nutrition and Food Security
- Brief 7: Assessing Gendered Impacts of Programs (not yet available)

For example, from *Brief 3, Strengthening Women's Participation in Group Activities*, the following graphic illustrates areas for possible entry points for removing gender-based constraints in value chains.



GRAPHIC ADAPTED FROM: DEBORAH RUBIN, CRISTINA MANFRE, AND KARA NICHOLS BARRETT. 2009. PROMOTING GENDER-EQUITABLE OPPORTUNITIES IN AGRICULTURAL VALUE CHAINS: A HANDBOOK. PUBLICATION PREPARED UNDER THE GREATER ACCESS TO TRADE EXPANSION (GATE) PROJECT.

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7. Publication: Women and Labour Markets in Asia: Rebalancing for Gender Equality

<http://www.adb.org/documents/reports/women-labor-markets/default.asp>

The crisis response and recovery policies of Asian governments have been shaped by the lessons learned from the Asian financial crisis of the late 1990s. An important lesson emerging from the recent crisis is that the policy goal should not be to return to a "normal" pre-crisis situation but to address fundamental and not just short-term urgencies, and seize the opportunity to rebalance towards a new development trajectory that is job-rich, just, sustainable and inclusive.

The main components of "rebalancing" have been identified as transition from public to private sector-led growth, domestic-led growth of consumption and investments in place of export-led growth, shifts to green jobs and green enterprises and deeper Asian regional integration. The theme of this report is that such rebalancing must, as a matter of both "smart economics" and social justice, also promote gender equality in the labour market. To be successful, rebalancing policies must mainstream gender equality considerations.

From page 8 of the report:

For Asia as a whole, 48.2 per cent of women worked in the agricultural sector in 2009, compared to 38.9 per cent of men (Table 2.4). Agriculture remained the most prominent employer of women in all Asian subregions but Developed Economies in Asia. In the Pacific Islands and South Asia, the concentration of employed women in agriculture was especially heavy. The common patterns observed are that women are the main producers of food while men manage most of the commercial crops; working conditions for female agricultural wage workers tend to be harsher than for their male counterparts; there are very high shares of unremunerated female family workers and increasing casualization of both male and female agricultural labour; and despite the hazardous nature of the work and the high levels of risk, agriculture is often the least well-covered sector as far as national occupational safety and health regulations are concerned.

From page 51 of the report:

The report identifies a set of gender-responsive policies that could help ensure that future development in the region is just, sustainable, inclusive and adequately and equitably provides decent work for all women and men in the region. Such re-balancing policies include

- *gender-focused approach to support women entrepreneurs to establish formal enterprises,*
- *assist women engaged in agriculture to boost rural productivity and incomes,*
- *promote equal opportunities for girls and women to access quality education and training, and*
- *help to reduce the overreliance of developing Asia on the informal sector to absorb its workforce during economic recessions.*

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8. Publication: Do Men and Women Accumulate Assets in Different Ways? Evidence from Rural Bangladesh

Contact Dr. Agnes R. Quisumbing (International Food Policy Research Institute) at a.quisumbing@cgiar.org for more information.

Abstract:

This paper examines asset dynamics for husband-owned, wife-owned, and jointly owned assets, using unique longitudinal survey data from rural Bangladesh. Non-parametric and parametric methods are used to examine the shape of the dynamic asset frontier, the number of equilibria, and whether land and non-land assets stock converge to such equilibria. The paper also investigates the differential impact of negative shocks and positive events on husbands', wives', and jointly-owned assets. Husbands' and wives' asset stocks are drawn down for different kinds of shocks, with husbands' assets being liquidated in response to dowry and wedding expenses, and wives' assets being negatively affected by illness shocks. Factors that affect husbands' and wives' ability to form social and familial networks also affect asset accumulation: wives with more brothers, and who live closer to their natal village, are better able to acquire assets. Put differently, factors that encourage the formation or maintenance of women's social networks also reduce gender asset inequality. The paper concludes by drawing out implications for the design of gender-sensitive social protection mechanisms.

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9. Publication: Effects of Free Trade on Women and Immigrants: CAFTA and the Rural Dominican Republic

[doi:10.1016/j.worlddev.2011.04.010](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.worlddev.2011.04.010)

Abstract:

We construct a disaggregated rural economy wide model with a focus on gender and immigration as well as on the allocation of time to wage work, household production activities, and housework (reproduction). We use this model to simulate the impacts of the Dominican Republic-Central American Free Trade Agreement (DR-CAFTA) on rural incomes and welfare in the Dominican Republic. We find that elimination of agricultural import tariffs hurts both agricultural and non-agricultural households, via adverse factor-market effects, but impacts vary substantially by workers' gender and country of origin. Females and Haitian immigrants tend to fare better than Dominican males, and there are ramifications for both market and non-market activities.

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10. Can Microcredit Reclaim Its Visionary Mission?

<http://ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=55525>

As controversy mounts over the efficacy of microfinance as a global poverty-alleviation effort, the 15th Global Microcredit Summit, scheduled to kick off on Nov. 14, 2011 in Valladolid, Spain, will be forced to answer critical questions about poverty, resources and tactics.

Excerpt: It is now a widely accepted notion, according to Bajaj, that microfinance in pursuit of profit – where local and foreign private equity investors seek huge returns on their initial investments – in fact push women, who constitute the enterprise's primary "market", further into debt and disempowerment.

Refer to the link for the complete article.

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11. Publication: Gender Equality as Smart Economics – A Work in Progress

<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTGENDER/Resources/336003-1280016857362/GAPbooklet.pdf>

Latest from the World Bank's Gender and Development Unit, this publication highlights recent Bank initiatives which seek to promote the economic empowerment of women and gender equality, and to encourage others to do the same.

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12. Report: Empowering women through value chain development in Ethiopia

Empowering women through value chain development: Good practices and lessons from IPMS experiences

<http://mahider.ilri.org/bitstream/10568/3758/1/gender.pdf>

This document reports on Improving Productivity & Market Success (IPMS) experiences of gender mainstreaming to reach women to increase their access to resources, technologies and knowledge which could consequently improve their economic and social status. It presents a number of strategies employed and specific cases thereof to illustrate the outcomes and challenges associated. Findings are based on studies undertaken by the IPMS gender research team and Research and Development Officers in 10 pilot learning *woredas* (PLWs) located in four regions of Ethiopia.

The ten recommendations include:

1. Change mindsets
2. Provide incentives
3. Set high, but realistic gender targets
4. Work with both men and women
5. Take a stepwise and flexible approach to gender issues
6. Tailor training for women
7. Facilitate input and services provision in the value-chain
8. Link women to markets
9. Change self-perceptions
10. Scale out successes by adapting them to particular contexts

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13. Book: Women’s Knowledge - Traditional Medicine and Nature

http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/science-technology/basic-and-engineering-sciences/single-view-basic/news/womens_knowledge_traditional_medicine_and_nature_mauritius_reunion_and_rodrigues/

The book *Women’s Knowledge: Traditional Medicine and Nature* was launched at the UNESCO International Workshop on Bioprocessing, Policy and Practice: Conservation and use of Medicinal plants of the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) of the Indian Ocean and Madagascar (20-22 April, 2011 - Ebène, Mauritius).

The Islands of Reunion, Mauritius and Rodrigues (Indian Ocean) have their own unique medical traditions. These medical traditions have emerged from multiple origins through a process of creolisation, but they are also closely tied to the natural world in which they have adapted and evolved. They thus provide a key to understanding the wider societies, which are engaged in a constant dialectic between tradition and modernity.

Beginning at the end of the seventeenth century, these islands were gradually populated by populations originating from Europe, Madagascar, Africa, India, China, even Polynesia and Australia. The interchange between the medical traditions originating from each of these places has given rise to a common knowledge, transmitted largely by women.

This book brings to our attention the knowledge of medicinal plants and medical practices of these women, with special focus on childbirth. It also considers the place of medicinal knowledge within these evolving societies who are actively confronting the threats and opportunities that globalization poses to local identities.

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14. News: Catherine Bertini Honoured with Borlaug CAST Communication Award

<http://www.cast-science.org/>

The Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST) presented the prestigious 2011 Borlaug CAST Communication Award to Catherine Bertini, a distinguished leader who has communicated the importance of agriculture and science through the many humanitarian programs she has organized in the United States and throughout the world.

Although she gained global recognition for her work with the United Nations, Bertini has been active on many fronts, and she is known for her efforts to improve the lives of needy families. She has taken leadership as a chief administrator, professor, committee chair, speechmaker, and advocate for the role women play in the world food distribution chain. The recipient of numerous awards and honorary degrees, Bertini joins a long list of influential dignitaries who have won a communication award from CAST.

The Borlaug CAST Communication Award, cosponsored by CropLife Foundation, is presented annually for outstanding achievement by a scientist, engineer, technologist, or other professional working in the agricultural, environmental, or food sectors for contributing to the advancement of science in the public policy arena.

See the press release link on the CAST website.

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15. Study: Women Entering the Workforce Expect Less Than Men

http://www.uoguelph.ca/news/2011/05/women_entering.html

Women have lower career expectations than men, and anticipate smaller paycheques and longer waits for promotions, according to a new study involving a University of Guelph researcher.

Comparing career expectations of Canadian university students, Prof. Sean Lyons discovered that women predict their starting salaries to be 14 per cent less than what men forecast. This gap in wage expectations widens over their careers, with women anticipating their earnings to be 18 per cent less than men's after five years on the job.

The study also found women expect to wait close to two months longer than men for their first step up the corporate ladder.

The study, to be published in the journal *Relations Industrielles/Industrial Relations*, involved surveying more than 23,000 Canadian university students about salary and promotion expectations as well as career priorities.

University-educated women earn only 68 per cent of the salaries of equally qualified men, according to a 2008 Canadian Labour Force Survey.

Refer to the link for the full article.

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16. News: Commission on the Status of Women Adopts Resolution on Gender Equality and Climate Change

http://www.gendercc.net/fileadmin/inhalte/Dokumente/CSW_for_Newsletter_01_03_2011.pdf

On the 1st of March, the 55th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) adopted a resolution to mainstream gender equality and promote the empowerment of women in climate change policies and strategies. It is the first resolution (E/CN.6/2011/L.1) by the CSW to address the link between gender equality and climate change.

The Philippines chaired the negotiation and worked with Member States to achieve consensus. In the end, 53 Member States co-sponsored the resolution evidencing broad overall support.

Governments and other relevant actors under the resolution are encouraged to promote women's equal access to education, media and information, communications and technology as well as women's equal participation and training. The resolution calls upon economic, political, and scientific institutions to take into account the impact of environmental degradation and climate change on women, and develop database tools and statistics that are disaggregated by sex and age, and gender sensitive methodologies and policy analysis. The importance of strengthening rural women's access to and control of resources, including land, is highlighted.

Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) are also called upon to continue to incorporate a gender perspective and make efforts to ensure the effective participation of women in the ongoing climate change talks leading to the 17th Conference of Parties to the UNFCCC in Durban, South Africa, this year. Throughout the negotiation process, experts from UN Women provided technical support to Member States on the inter-linkages between gender and climate change

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