



Muwaviwa Women's Association organized a hands-on evaluation of energy efficient cooking stoves at Ukiriguru, Tanzania, March 2013. Photo courtesy of D. 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 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>.

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Opportunities and Upcoming Events

1. Call for Submissions: Global Water and Gender Conference

<http://global-water-conference.com/>

The Water Research Commission of South Africa, in collaboration with the Department of Water Affairs, AMCOW and Women for Water Partnership (WfWP) has taken the initiative to organise a global conference on gender in water, which is scheduled for 19 - 21 February 2014 **in East London, South Africa.**

The African Ministers Council on Water (AMCOW), recognizing the significant issues pertaining to water and gender in the continent, have developed a gender and water strategy. This strategy has seven key themes:

1. Formulating and implementing gender in water policy
2. Mobilizing strategic human and financial resources
3. Implementing project interventions through economic empowerment and other gendered approaches
4. Undertaking, sharing and implementing strategic research and operational knowledge
5. Mainstreaming gender through human and institutional capacity development
6. Mechanisms to promote cooperation and coordination for mainstreaming gender in the water sector
7. Monitoring and evaluation systems to support gender equality in the water sector

We call for proposals for both paper presentations and other submissions and formats of engagement from researchers, policymakers, activists and practitioners who work in the arena of gender and water infrastructure, access, use, governance and management. With this spread we want to reflect the diverse roles that are played by community members and leaders, civil society, policy makers and practitioners in the intersect between gender, class, race and water. Participants should submit Abstracts and proposals in English by **15 September 2013.**

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2. Call for Articles on Women's Entrepreneurship and Innovation

<http://www.egfar.org/newsletters/tell-others-about-value-your-work-through-gfar-and-new-agriculturist-women-entrepreneu-0>

The Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR) is seeking many new ways to spread the value of agricultural research and innovation of all kinds and how they are helping to address development challenges. GFAR has established a collaboration with New Agriculturist, a widely read and well recognized online journal, to help share your stories about how agricultural knowledge and innovation are helping to address major development challenges and make a real difference in the lives of the poor.

GFAR is contributing 3 articles in each edition. These articles will be displayed on the front page of New Agriculturist.

The topic for the next edition is "Women Entrepreneurship and Innovation" and GFAR is seeking stories and projects from around the world on the theme, whether at local, national, regional or international scale.

We are specifically looking for articles on innovation and women's entrepreneurship that are analyzing what has needed to change or be overcome in order for women to successfully develop small and medium sized enterprises, or in changing policies that enable them to do so.

We welcome your contributed articles, which must be received by the **09 September 2013**.

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3. Schlumberger Foundation -- Funding for Women in PhD and Post-Doctoral Studies 2014-2015

<http://www.facultyforthefuture.net/content/grant-application-process>

Schlumberger Foundation's "Faculty of the Future" supports women in developing and emerging economies to pursue PhD and post-doctoral studies at the international level. Grants are in the physical sciences, engineering, and related fields -- including past grants in subjects such as ecology and environment. The application period for submissions is **09 September 2013 through 15 November 2013**.

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This Month's News

1. Feeding the World: Why we must do more than just increase yields

<http://www.iied.org/feeding-world-why-we-must-do-more-just-increase-yields>

A new paper published by the journal Science argues that to ensure sustainable food supplies for the Earth's growing population, policymakers must focus on more than just food production.

The paper urges a rethink of the increasingly popular policy goal of "sustainable intensification", which aims to produce more food per unit area in ways that exert less pressure on the environment.

While this is important, say the authors, it is too simple a definition, and it ignores other radical changes that are also required to tackle waste, improve governance and resilience, and reduce the resource-intensity of consumption.

“Sustainable intensification — as policymakers currently understand it— does not guarantee food security,” says co-author Dr Camilla Toulmin, director of the International Institute for Environment and Development. “We need a new and more sophisticated definition; one that is clearer about what sustainable intensification can and cannot achieve, about how and where it should be implemented, and about how it will interact with other important areas of food policy.

The authors identify five areas of policymaking that national or international efforts to pursue sustainable intensification will affect: biodiversity and land-use; animal welfare; human nutrition; rural economies; and sustainable development.

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2. Council of Canadian Academies Releases its 2013/13 Annual Report

http://www.scienceadvice.ca/en/publications/corporate.aspx?utm_source=Annual+Report+general+email&utm_campaign=Annual+Report+announcement&utm_medium=email

The core business of the Council of Canadian Academies is to provide authoritative, unbiased, evidence-based assessments. In fiscal year 2012/13, we completed and publicly released four assessment reports:

- *Informing Research Choices: Indicators and Judgment;*
- *The State of Science and Technology in Canada, 2012;*
- ***Strengthening Canada's Research Capacity: The Gender Dimension;*** and
- *Water and Agriculture in Canada: Towards Sustainable Management of Water Resources.*

The Council also released one workshop report, *40 Priority Research Questions for Ocean Science in Canada*. These authoritative reports have already had an important impact within their respective communities, and are providing the evidence required to inform policy directions and decisions.

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3. Gender-responsive Innovations for Agricultural Productivity

http://www.awardfellowships.org/news-and-events/award-news/823-gender-responsive-innovations-for-agricultural-productivity-vicki-wilde.html?utm_source=AWARD+News&utm_campaign=17ff6cf658-AWARD+Newsletter+August+2013+31+2013&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_150b9a228f-17ff6cf658-294785765

Vicki Wilde, AWARD Director, presented a speech on Gender-responsive Innovations for Agricultural Productivity at the 6th African Agriculture Science Week, July 19, 2013, Accra, Ghana.

To support gender-responsive innovation like this, I believe that at least four key components are urgently needed.

- We need to look closely at the strategic priorities for African agricultural research. Are the crops, fish, animals, and agricultural processes that are managed mostly by women included? Are women's priorities included in the new *Science Agenda for Agriculture in Africa*?
- A second key to gender-responsive innovation is research focused on reducing women's labour and drudgery.
- A third key to gender-responsive agriculture is innovation to reduce postharvest losses.
- A fourth key to gender-responsive innovations is including the special needs of men and boys.

In other words, we need technological innovations, as well as social innovations. That innovation begins with each one of us.

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4. Foreign Policy by Melinda Gates: Bridging the Gender Gap

http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2013/07/17/bridging_the_gender_gap_women_data_development?page=0,0&wp_login_redirect=0

In a recent article on Foreign Policy's website, Melinda Gates, co-chair of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, digs into the issue of how the lives of women and girls around the world can be improved through the collection of data.

She points to the UN panel's recommendation for the new set of MDGs that will be begin in 2015, which says that data on every goal and target should be broken out by a variety of indicators, including gender. This will allow governments and development agencies to find out what groups are being left out and left behind, and to effectively redesign their programs to include these groups. This will have an enormous impact on the lives of women and girls in developing countries, and through them the lives of many others. However, the ability to collect and disaggregate such data is not yet a reality in many countries; investments in a "data revolution" will be necessary.

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5. Winners of the 3rd Africa-wide science competitions for women and young professionals in science

http://knowledge.cta.int/en/content/view/full/18353?utm_source=K4DNewsletterEN&utm_medium=Link&utm_campaign=K4D_EN_JuneJuly2013

The finals of the CTA/FARA/IFS/ANAFA/RUFORUM/NPCA/AGRA 3rd Africa-wide Women and Young Professionals in Science Competitions: Feeding 1 billion in Africa in a changing World was held in Accra from 15–16 July 2013 as a side event of the 6th Africa Agriculture Science Week. It attracted about 100 participants each day. The award and prize ceremony for the top 5 finalists in each category was held during the main FARA General Assembly. By recognizing and rewarding Africa's women scientists and young professionals; CTA, FARA, IFS and partners demonstrate that they value their scientific contributions in addressing the challenges that Africa faces as well as the partners' shared commitment to supporting and promoting their efforts. The research focus of the first-place winners in each category; wheat and food safety, were ratified by the FARA GA as priority issues for FARA and its constituents for the next three years.

Women in Science

1st Dr Nafiisa Sobratee, Mauritius - 'Valorisation of poultry litter to compost: an assessment of the pathogen reduction potential'

2nd Dr Florence Beatrice Lubwama Kiyimba, Uganda - 'Labour saving tools for women: The forage chopper for smallholder dairy farmers in Uganda'

3rd Dr Ijeoma Chinyere Akaogu, Nigeria - 'Agronomic performance of extra-early maize hybrids under stress and non-stress environments in Nigeria'

4th Dr Loule Clementine, Dabire Binso, Burkina Faso - 'Sécurité alimentaire en Afrique : une technique innovante efficace de conservation du niébé (Food security in Africa: an innovative technique for cowpea storage)'

5th Dr Fredah Karambu Rimberia, Kenya - 'Improvement of papaya productivity for commercial application'

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6. September 2013 GenderCC newsletter

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

GenderCC newsletter 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. See the current issue of the GenderCC newsletter with the following contents:

News from GenderCC

- Global Learning Platform – the Developments so Far
- Updates from GenderCC Project Partners
- GenderCC United Nations Environment Programme Accreditation
- Social Networking

Gender @ UNFCCC

- Activities Related to the Gender Decision
- Review of our Side Events in Bonn
- Women and Gender Constituency

Activities of the Gender and Climate Change Community

- Paper on Gender & Human Rights Implications of Climate Change
- Women Scientists Organise Conference in Ghana on Climate Change in Africa
- Job Vacancy - Programme Specialist on Environment, Climate Change, Gender

News on Gender and Climate Change

- Congratulating the new Executive Director of UN Women Designate Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka
- Training Women to Train Others
- Climate Change Threatens Africa's Masai
- Women More Concerned About Climate Change

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Reports, Publications and Resources

1. Millennium Development Goals and post-2015 Development Agenda

<http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/about/mdg.shtml>

The eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) – which range from halving extreme poverty to halting the spread of HIV/AIDS and providing universal primary education – have been a milestone in global and national development efforts. The framework has helped to galvanize development efforts and guide global and national development priorities. While three of the eight goals have been achieved prior to the final deadline of 2015, progress has been uneven within and across countries. Thus further efforts and a strong global partnership for development are needed to accelerate progress and reach the goals by 2015.

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2. Modernizing Extension and Advisory Services Case Studies

<http://www.meas-extension.org/>

Modernizing Extension and Advisory Services (MEAS) at the University of Illinois-Urbana is pleased to share with you several extension related case studies:

Ghana - Women Extension Volunteers: An Extension Approach for Female Farmers - by Miriam Hird-Younger, EWB, and Brent Simpson, MSU.

- This case study explores the Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) Ghana’s women extension volunteer (WEV) model. The WEV model is a peer-to-peer extension approach that uses community-based female volunteers to increase agricultural information dissemination in rural northern Ghana.

Uganda - The Mud on Their Legs – Farmer to Farmer Videos - by Jeffery Bentley, Paul Van Mele, and Grace Musimami, Agro-Insight

- Eleven farmer-to-farmer learning videos were developed in Bangladesh and West Africa about growing rice, from seed to post-harvest. These “Rice Advice” videos were then dubbed into five major languages of Uganda (plus English, Swahili and French) and copied onto a DVD. In 2011 some 7,500 copies of the DVD were distributed to organizations in Uganda.

Kenya - Exploring the Promise of ICTs for Women Farmers - by Cristina Manfre, Caitlin Nordehn, Cultural Practice, LLC

- This case study examines the information channels and use of ICTs by men and women farmers around Nakuru and Thika in Kenya. It contributes to a growing body of literature that aims to understand how ICTs can close gender gaps in agriculture and lead to more equitable opportunities for farmers.

India - Delivering Extension Services through Effective and Inclusive Women’s Groups: The Case of SEWA in India - by Chris Gale, Kathleen Collett and Piera Freccero, City and Guilds Centre for Skills Development

- The Self-Employed Women’s Association (SEWA) is a pioneer in delivering training and helping women build social capital and support through cooperatives and other group-based approaches, and running self-help groups to build financial capital for investment. This case study highlights the way in which SEWA has achieved high levels of success in engaging women -- across religions, castes and social classes -- and increased women’s influence in their families and communities to show how the SEWA approach could be replicated by extension and advisory services in other contexts.

All MEAS case studies are available for download.

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3. Practical Tips for conducting gender-responsive data collection

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

1. Establish mixed gender field teams
2. Collect sex disaggregated data
3. Capture other forms of social difference
4. Seek appropriate approvals
5. Schedule activities at convenient times
6. Select appropriate meeting locations
7. Seek privacy
8. Use appropriate language
9. Manage group dynamics
10. Feedback findings to participants

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4. Tips for asking gender-responsive questions

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

Gender analysis examines how women's and men's roles, rights and responsibilities interact and affect the outcomes under study, such as agro ecological and forest resource management processes.

Recognizing that women and men have different roles and responsibilities in small scale family farming and forest enterprises will affect the types of questions you ask to elicit information on the realities of both men and women. To carry out gender analyses, you will need to expand your areas of investigation beyond the visible activities that are often under men's control to bring women's often 'invisible' activities to light.

Doing so means being aware of, and **explicitly** enquiring about issues such as:

Gendered division of labour

1. Multiple roles
2. The reproductive sphere
3. Crop production
4. Seasonality

Gendered livelihoods

5. Informal activities
6. Various sources of income

7. Non-staple crops
8. Non-timber forest products (NTFPs)
9. Non-market activities
10. Animal rearing

Gendered access to and control over resources

11. Informal access to resources
12. Gendered spaces
13. Control over resources

Gendered Decision-making Processes

14. Decision-making within the household
15. Decision-making within the community

Other differentiating factors

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5. Gender Materials at AWARD

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

See the new page on Gender Materials under the *News and Resources* link of the AWARD site.

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6. Because I am a Girl

<http://becauseiamagirl.ca/page.aspx?pid=3816>

The girl issue is real, and it's affecting girls and women around the world – but what is it? Girls in the poorest regions of the world are among the most disadvantaged people on the planet. They are more likely to live in poverty, more likely to be denied access to education, and more likely to be malnourished, simply because they are young and female.

And yet, studies show that when you invest in girls, the whole world benefits. If a girl has enough to eat, a safe environment, and an education, she'll work to raise the standard of living for herself, her family and her community. And in time, she can even strengthen the economy of her entire country.

Learn more about the unique barriers girls face around the world, but also about the incredible power they have to change the future for everyone.

Did you know?

- 70% of the one billion people living in extreme poverty are women and girls.
- Girls are 3x more likely to be malnourished than boys.
- Globally, 66 million girls do not attend primary or secondary school.

There is an urgent need to stand up for the rights of millions of girls. In the poorest regions of the world, girls face double discrimination and unique barriers to survival and development, simply because they are young and female.

But when girls attain their basic human rights, they will:

- Be 6x less likely to be married as children
- Have 2.2 fewer yet healthier children
- Increase their contributions to household income by 18%

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7. From survival to competition: informality in agrifood markets in countries under transition

<http://pubs.iied.org/16533IIED.html>

In the context of rapid urbanisation, resource scarcity, and the need to assure food security and safety, it is necessary to look at the implications of informality in agrifood markets where the majority of people still produce and trade. This case study explores these implications through the lens of a country in transition. Peru is experiencing rapid economic growth and engaging in a formalisation process in a number of sectors. In the agrifood sector, this process can be seen at many points: from production, trade, processing, and retailing; from mechanisms for small-scale farmers to enter demanding modern markets; to the formalisation of Lima's main wholesale market, La Parada. Despite its impressive economic growth, Peru remains among the six most informal economies in the world. Transiting from survival strategies to regulated competition is a highly contested process.

This transition reveals the economic and social schisms that governments face when reforming markets in countries where informality is still deeply rooted in the economy and behaviours and where formalisation, to succeed, has to deal with real inclusion. The study, which forms part of a new body of research at IIED on informality in agrifood trade, aims to share ideas on the implications of formalisation policies, to invite discussion, and to highlight some promising pathways for more in-depth research.

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8. Gender Equality and The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change: A Compilation of Decision Text

<http://www.wedo.org/wp-content/uploads/united-nations-web.pdf>

At the 18th Conference of Parties (COP18) of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), held in Doha, in December 2012, Parties agreed to Decision 23/CP.18:

"Promoting gender balance and improving the participation of women in UNFCCC negotiations and in the representation of Parties in bodies established pursuant to the Convention or the Kyoto Protocol."

As part of this decision, Parties and observers have been asked to submit views, by September 2nd, on ways and means to improve gender balance and in turn, inform more effective and gender-sensitive climate policy. In addition, a workshop will be held in Warsaw, at COP19 in November, which will further explore gender balance, capacity building, and gender-sensitive climate policy.

In preparation for these activities at COP19 in Warsaw, and to support the inputs of all stakeholders, 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, in the latest publication, **Gender Equality and The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change: A Compilation of Decision Text**.

Over the past several years, due to increased outreach, knowledge, capacity building and advocacy on the linkages, there has been an exceptional increase in gender-sensitive decisions coming out of the UNFCCC. With language across all areas of the negotiations, from mitigation and capacity building to technology and finance, the partners involved hope that this text compilation serves as a useful tool, to remind all stakeholders of the strong foundation upon which to continue working towards truly sustainable development.

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9. Operationalizing a gender-sensitive approach in the Green Climate Fund

https://unfccc.int/files/cooperation_and_support/financial_mechanism/standing_committee/application/pdf/final_schalat_ek_burns_gcf_gender-sensitive-approach.doc.pdf

Climate financing approaches will be more effective and provide broader benefits if they address inequalities that increase the vulnerability of women to climate change and adversely affect their ability to contribute to mitigation and adaptation efforts. Women still face unequal access to political power, economic resources, legal rights, land ownership, bank credit, and technical training.

The Green Climate Fund (GCF) can promote gender equality by establishing structures and operating procedures that are careful to include women as well as men in decision-making roles, respond to the particular needs of women for climate-related financing, and enable women's enterprises to benefit from new low-carbon technologies and economic opportunities. The gender-sensitive approach should be added to the list of priority issues in the Board's work plan, addressed in the discussion papers prepared, and integrated into all GCF components.

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