



Forest with field in late winter. Photo courtesy of D. Ceplis.

The Gender Equality Mainstreaming (GEM) Digest provides a compilation of information and articles gathered on an ongoing basis on gender equality mainstreaming within agriculture, scientific research, rural development, climate change, organizational development and international development. Information is shared with members, colleagues, scientific societies and diverse organizations.

The views and opinions presented are not necessarily representative of the editor.

If you have information to share, please send it to dinah.ceplis@gmail.com to compile and re-distribute once a month.

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Opportunities and Coming Events

1. Summer internship for Indigenous peoples in Genomics Canada (SING Canada)

<http://indigenousts.com/sing-canada/sing-canada-2019/>

This year’s Summer internship for Indigenous peoples in Genomics Canada (SING Canada) will take place from 14 July – 20 July 2019 at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, AB on Treaty 6 and Métis territory. SING Canada is a week-long, all expenses paid Indigenous science, technology, and society (Indigenous STS) training program that holds Indigenous knowledge and sovereignty, community expertise, and ethical relationships as paramount in what we do. A multi-disciplinary team of faculty members, including renown Indigenous Studies scholar, Dr. Kim TallBear, will lead participants in investigating the interdependence of human and non-human animal health related to chronic wasting disease (CWD). Deadline to apply is **March 30**.

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2. Program Officer, Communications & Public Engagement Specialist

[http://mcic.ca/pdf/MCIC Job Description 10 - Communications Public Engagement Specialist - FINAL-1.pdf](http://mcic.ca/pdf/MCIC_Job_Description_10_-_Communications_Public_Engagement_Specialist_-_FINAL-1.pdf)

MCIC, on behalf of the Inter-Council Network, is launching an innovation initiative named FIT - Fund for Innovation and Transformation/le Fonds pour l’innovation et la transformation, to test innovative solutions to development challenges. Its purpose is to advance the effective use of and learn from innovative solutions that will improve the lives, equality and empowerment of women and girls, their families and communities in the Global South. ICN is seeking a qualified bilingual individual to join this exciting new initiative in the role of Communications & Public Engagement Specialist. **Apply now!**

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3. Call for panel proposals for the 11th Canadian Science Policy Conference (CSPC 2019)

<https://www.sciencepolicy.ca/> and <https://sciencepolicy.ca/panel-submission-form-cspc-2019>

The call for panel proposals for the 11th Canadian Science Policy Conference (CSPC 2019) will remain open an extra 10 days! The submission deadline has been extended to **April 15, 2019**. Proposals can be in a variety of presentation formats that relate to any of the five conference themes.

- i. Science and Policy
- ii. Science and Society
- iii. Science, Innovation and Economic Development
- iv. Science, International Affairs and Security
- v. Science and the Next Generation

View the ranking criteria and submit your proposal. CSPC 2019 will be held in **Ottawa, Ontario, November 13–15, 2019**, at the Westin Hotel. The conference will bring together scientists, entrepreneurs, policy-makers, politicians, journalists, students and many others from across the country to discuss, exchange ideas, and mobilize knowledge regarding the present and future of Canadian science, technology, and innovation policy.

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4. Global HERizon’s Call for Applications for rural young women

<https://globalherizons.ca/for-applicants/>

We believe in the power of women to change the world, and provide young women from rural Canada with the opportunity to receive a modest financial contribution to their academic or career ambitions (maximum \$5000 CAD), along with expert mentorship support to help build bridges between local and global impact.

With your great idea in hand, to qualify for this opportunity:

- You are a Canadian woman (in terms of gender: cis or female-identifying; in terms of status: citizen or permanent resident).
- You are 27 years of age or less as of December 31, 2019.
- You have grown up in rural Canada (required). ‘Rural’ in this case is broadly defined to mean a community of approximately 5000 people or less.
- You have a demonstrated commitment to creating positive social change in your community or the world through volunteer work, research or other social engagement.
- You are willing to engage actively in the mentorship relationship, provide regular updates on your work to Global HERizons, and are committed to ‘pay it forward’ by engaging and inspiring other young women to engage globally.

Deadline to apply is April 30, 2019.

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5. Webinar: Local solutions to strengthen women’s voices in land governance

<https://www.iied.org/webinar-local-solutions-strengthen-womens-voices-land-governance>

The webinar on **30 April 2019** will discuss experiences of developing locally-negotiated solutions to strengthen women’s voices in land governance. For the past two-and-a-half years IIED has been working with local partners in Ghana, Tanzania and Senegal to strengthen women’s voices in land governance. In this webinar, we will distil lessons from implementing locally-negotiated solutions to increase women’s participation in local level decision-making processes on land in each of these countries.

6. Women Deliver 2019 Conference

<https://wd2019.org/>

With 177 countries already represented, 15 plenaries focused on the elements of power, 112 concurrent sessions to deep dive into issues, 169 side events, and brand-new elements like digital posters and skills-building workshops, WD2019 is shaping up to be the largest and most diverse Women Deliver Conference to date. **June 3 to 6, 2019 in Vancouver, Canada.**

This Month's News

1. First Female Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food in Canada

<http://www.agr.gc.ca/eng/about-us/minister/?id=1369864009036>

<https://www.sherbrookerecord.com/bibeau-first-woman-named-canadian-minister-of-agriculture-and-agri-food/>

Marie-Claude Bibeau, Member of Parliament for Compton-Stanstead, was sworn in on March 1 as the new federal Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food. The first woman to ever hold this role, Bibeau will be working hard in the next few weeks to become familiar with Canada's agricultural issues.

In her former role as Minister of International Development, she helped refocus Canada's international assistance on helping the poorest and most vulnerable people and on supporting fragile states. In June 2017, after several months of consultations, Minister Bibeau launched Canada's new Feminist International Assistance Policy. This innovative new vision will make Canada a leader in the fight against poverty by prioritizing gender equality in the country's international assistance programming.

Supported by this new policy, Minister Bibeau advocated for actions and initiatives that empower women and girls, and she defended their rights. As well, she was at the heart of Canada's strategy for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development objectives both at home and around the world.

2. First Female President of Canadian Federation of Agriculture

<https://www.agcanada.com/daily/cfa-elects-new-chief>

The Canadian Federation of Agriculture has elected its first-ever female president in a changing of the guard at its latest annual meeting.

Mary Robinson, past-president of the Prince Edward Island Federation of Agriculture, was elected president Wednesday at the CFA's AGM in Ottawa. She replaces Ron Bonnett, the organization's president since 2010.

3. Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Peoples, Technoscience, and Environment

<https://www.universityaffairs.ca/features/feature-article/kim-tallbear-speaks-truth-to-power/>

Dr. Kim TallBear, a professor in the faculty of native studies at the University of Alberta, says she leverages her privilege – her tenure; her seniority as holder of the Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Peoples, Technoscience, and Environment; and the respect she holds in her field – to turn the dial on the public conversation about science and Indigeneity.

She leads the Indigenous Science, Technology, and Society (Indigenous STS) Research and Training Program. Indigenous STS is an international hub dedicated to advancing Indigenous self-determination and self-governance through Indigenous scientific literacy and techno-scientific projects. It has connected Indigenous scholars around the world who are effectively working to change how science is done. It's an effort that challenges the assumption that science comes from, and is practiced in, a neutral space by examining how Eurocentric and colonialist thinking shape mainstream understanding – to the exclusion of Indigenous ways of knowing and being.

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4. COG Board Member Re-Elected to International Organic Inspectors Association (IOIA) as Vice-Chair

<https://www.ioia.net/>

Organic inspectors from 6 countries met in Huatulco, Mexico February 27th to March 3rd, 2019 to tour organic coffee production, study fraud detection, be briefed on the new Mexican Organic Standards, attend the International Organic Inspectors Association Annual General Meeting and elect 2 new board members.

Canadian Organic Growers board member, past national president and organic inspector, Janine Gibson from Steinbach Manitoba, was the second board member ever to be re-elected to the international board, after she served originally as the Executive Secretary from 1995 to 2002.

The International Organic Inspectors Association was founded in 1991 by a group of Canadian and US inspectors seeking to establish consistency and quality in organic inspection training and practice, and have collaborated with many supportive organizations, including Canadian Organic Growers, for many years.

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5. New OECD DAC chair vows to promote gender equality

<https://www.devex.com/news/new-oecd-dac-chair-vows-to-promote-gender-equality-94441>

LONDON — The new chair of the OECD's Development Assistance Committee, Susanna Moorehead, has vowed to make gender equality a major focus under her watch and revealed plans for a new recommendation around ending sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment in the aid sector.

"I was shocked, and frankly ashamed, to learn that only 4 percent of ODA goes specifically on gender equality and that 63 percent has no gender equality objective," Moorehead said, adding that, "I think people probably assume that half of the [aid] money goes on women and girls, but it doesn't."

But Moorehead doubts whether a report or gender targets are necessarily the best answer. "I think it's much more about advocacy, political lobbying at high levels, and reminding ourselves that this [gender equality] is potentially a success story," she said.

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6. Recipients of the Research Consortium's Inaugural Research Grants

<https://consortium.resourceequity.org/opportunity/announcing-the-recipients-of-the-inaugural-research-grants/>

Applicants submitted proposals that asked new questions of existing data sets, on the topic of the effectiveness of land and resource tenure interventions to improve the lives of women.

1. Working Title: "Mobilizing change for women and vulnerable groups within collective tenure regimes"

Abstract: This research will contribute to the analysis of gender differentiated results of ongoing forest tenure reform processes in Peru, Uganda, and Indonesia, providing lessons and identification of implementation practices and action

resources that mobilize change, in order to improve women’s and vulnerable groups’ access to land and resources under collective tenure regimes.

2. Working Title: “Do certificates of customary ownership as currently issued/delivered translate into more secure land rights for women and men involved?”

Abstract: This research is a case study from Nwoya district in Uganda, using quantitative data from beneficiary and non-beneficiary households to assess whether and how current processes for issuing customary ownership certificates are working to achieve more secure land rights for women and men.

3. Working Title: “Challenges facing Ethiopian women in realizing their land rights during second level land certification”

Abstract: LIFT is a program that is systematically issuing land certificates to people in Ethiopia. The purpose of this research is to synthesize the LIFT program’s knowledge and experience of land certification in Ethiopia and to answer the question: how have these practices positively or negatively advanced the land use rights of women and vulnerable groups in Ethiopia?

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7. How to create a broader, fairer and smarter education system

<https://www.jisc.ac.uk/blog/how-to-create-a-broader-fairer-and-smarter-education-system-08-mar-2019>

Girls and people from disadvantaged backgrounds are currently less likely to choose subjects that develop the skills needed for digital and data science careers.

“People say that the lack of role models deters women from studying and working in technology - but, while role models are powerful, I think it's more than that. We need to build women’s technical skills, creative skills, social and emotional skills to enable them to really thrive in the workplace. It’s also about confidence. A lot of girls, even though they outperform boys in school, don't go on to study or work in technical fields, because they are not confident. We have to bridge that gap.”

“Another important area is around opportunity; how can we change hiring practices so that employers are aware of their unconscious bias, and are recruiting people not based on their name or gender or ethnic or racial background but based on their skills and capabilities?”

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8. Be Applied - Fair Recruitment Platform

<https://www.beapplied.com/features>

We’re a fair recruitment platform built off the back of research, from insights born out of someone’s desire to find out what works. Here are some ways in which their blind recruitment platform helps with fairer hiring practices.

- Spot and remove any gendered language from your job descriptions and questions.
- Anonymise applications and share them across independent reviewers to remove bias.
- Craft open and inclusive job descriptions.
- See real time data on the diversity performance of your roles, including the pipeline.
- Measure the impact your questions have on diversity.

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9. Developing Agriprenuers to Save Nigeria’s Youth from Crime

<http://www.ipsnews.net/2019/02/developing-agriprenuers-save-nigerias-youth-crime/>

Nigeria, a net food importer, has the double challenge of providing enough food and jobs for its bulging population, especially the youth. It spends 22 billion dollars in food imports, almost 60 percent of Africa's 35 billion dollar annual food import bill, according to the African Development Bank.

The country is Africa's largest producer and consumer of rice. However, it also one of the largest importers of the cereal in the world buying about two million tonnes annually to offset local consumption of five million tonnes against a production of three million tonnes. The West African nation also has over 80 million hectares of good fertile soil to grow any kind of crop.

Afere had a solution: get the youth to start farming and to make agriculture a profitable and appetising career prospect for young people aged 15-24. This demographic makes up about 26 percent of 20.9 million unemployed Nigerians.

Springboard uses social media to raise awareness about opportunities in agriculture. It has over 5,000 followers on its Facebook page, which it uses to create a market and to supply produce to vendors and customers. This is how it brings together farmers and consumers. The social enterprise is currently developing a farmer's helpline that will give farmers access to agricultural information via a toll-free number in four of Nigeria's major languages.

Springboard has sought to stop young people emigrating from rural areas to urban centres in search of jobs, which are hard to get, Afere said. Through the social enterprise, youth and women work across the agriculture value chain in production, processing, value addition, storage, distribution and marketing. They are trained in agriculture production and management and given inputs to kick start their own farming enterprises.

One Nigerian technology hub is helping groom and support entrepreneurs tackle development challenges across Africa, but specifically in Nigeria. To date, Wenvovation Hub has supported over 300 startup teams and more than 6,000 youths running startups valued up to 2.5 million dollars through its network across Nigeria.

The digitalisation of agriculture offers young entrepreneurs the opportunity to create disruptive business models that accelerate modernisation of the sector, says Michael Hailu, Director of the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA) a joint international institution of the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States and the European Union based in the Netherlands.

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10. From Elevator Operator to Entomologist

<https://siarchives.si.edu/blog/sophie-lutterlough>

In the mid-twentieth century, it was not easy for African American women to secure scientific jobs at the Smithsonian but occasionally persistence paid off. Sophie Lutterlough was the first woman elevator operator at Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History. Lutterlough would study the museum's exhibits on her lunch break—back then, there wasn't an information desk, and visitors would ask her about what was on display.

She got to know the staff and asked the insect curator if there was work for her in his department. Lutterlough starting sorting and preparing insects in 1957.

Two years later, she became a research assistant to curator Ralph Crabill. Lutterlough restored and classified insects, reading entomology books and taking college courses to learn more. With Dr. Crabill, she discovered about 40 type specimens (which define a species) mixed into the general collection.

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11. Scaling Her Voice on Air

<https://farmradio.org/scaling-her-voice-on-air/>

OTTAWA, Ontario – Farm Radio International (FRI) is excited to start a new five-year project that will bring interactive radio services to more than 7 million farmers, with a focus on serving women farmers and challenge inequalities between women

and men. Thanks to funding from Global Affairs Canada, we will work with radio partners in Burkina Faso, Ghana, Mali and Senegal.

Africa's small-scale farmers, particularly women, produce food for their families and communities, yet they are among the most vulnerable to malnutrition and poverty. Agriculture can be a driver of food security, employment, women's empowerment and economic development as well as improved nutrition. But many farmers have limited access to good information, technology and services, about these topics, and women especially often have even less access to — or influence over — these.

This project will build on the successes and lessons learned from Her Voice on Air, which delivered high-quality interactive radio programming to farmers in Ethiopia, Malawi, Tanzania and Uganda and provided space to talk and reflect on air about gender inequalities. Through this project, FRI worked closely with 134 women's groups to amplify the voices of women through these radio programs, building their capacity at using information and communication technologies and training broadcasters on gender.

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12. Gender Quotas Help Women Parliamentarians to Rise in Numbers

<http://www.ipsnews.net/2019/03/gender-quotas-help-women-parliamentarians-rise-numbers/>

UNITED NATIONS, Mar 12 2019 (IPS) - When the Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU), based in Switzerland, released its annual report on the representation of women legislators worldwide, four of the top five countries were from the developing world.

Rwanda led the way with 61.3 percent of the seats held by women in its lower or single house of parliament followed by Cuba (53.2 percent), Bolivia (53.1 percent) and Mexico (48.2 percent). The fifth place was held by Sweden (47.3 percent), the only Western industrialized country among the top five. The next five countries in descending order were Grenada, Namibia, Costa Rica, Nicaragua and South Africa, completing the top 10, with the world's largest number of women parliamentarians.

Despite advances in gender representation in legislative bodies, the track record of women in the executive branches of government — as heads of state or heads of government — remains low.

Speaking to reporters on March 8, the President of the UN General Assembly, María Fernanda Espinosa said currently only 5% of all Prime Ministers worldwide are female and not more than 5% of Presidents in the world are women.

IPU President and Mexican MP, Gabriela Cuevas Barron said, "More women in parliament mean better, stronger and more representative democracies that work for all the people."

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13. Women in the UN climate negotiations: Are we tipping the balance?

<https://www.ied.org/women-un-climate-negotiations-are-we-tipping-balance>

What's the balance between women and men like in the forum responsible for deciding how the world tackles climate change? The UN climate negotiations have been running for 21 years — convening at least two sessions across the world per year. Since 2012, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) has tracked the numbers of men and women participating in these negotiations.

We will encourage countries to send an even number of women and men to our training workshops, and to attend the climate negotiations. To support this, we have begun issuing workshop certificates, describing the knowledge and skills acquired — these help to make the case for a place on the UNFCCC delegation.

We will also seek to better understand *how* the men and women we train engage in the process of international climate decision making. We'll track who follows which issue: do women negotiate on gender issues, while men follow finance discussions? And by broadening a mentoring programme that pairs junior LDC negotiators with senior members of the Group, we are working to best support those representing the most vulnerable.

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14. The Bolivian diet: Women's voices and choices

<https://www.iied.org/bolivian-diet-womens-voices-choices>

A photo exhibition profiling 10 women from La Paz illustrates a food system that has the potential to embrace the country's traditional crops and agricultural biodiversity – but instead is increasingly dominated by highly processed fast food. The women featured in the photos talked about their understanding of traditional methods of food production and cooking, and the changes they have seen in Bolivian diets.

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15. Tobacco Industry Targets Women in Asia

<http://www.ipsnews.net/2019/03/tobacco-industry-targets-women-asia/>

The Southeast Asia Tobacco Control Alliance (SEATCA) puts the spotlight on the tobacco industry's marketing tactics targeting women and girls especially in Asia to market its deadly products. While smoking prevalence among females remains relatively low in Asia, smoking rates among adolescent girls in the Philippines, Malaysia, and Thailand however are higher than the rate among adult women respectively (9.1% vs 5.8%; 2.4% vs 1.4%; 5.2% vs 1.7%). Despite governments' efforts to protect public health, tobacco use remains at epidemic proportions.

This is no coincidence. The tobacco industry needs "replacement" customers to maintain and increase its profits, and women and girls are an important market segment which represent the largest product-marketing opportunity the tobacco industry exploits.

Internal tobacco industry documents reveal that the tobacco industry has been notoriously targeting women and girls through their ads and novel products that promote social desirability, independence, sophistication, glamor, romance, and fun.

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16. Global study: Half of men think they're expected to do too much in the fight for gender equality

<https://www.ipsos.com/en-us/news-polls/International-Womens-Day>

Washington, D.C., March 4, 2019 — The new Ipsos survey across 27 countries, conducted in collaboration with the Global Institute for Women's Leadership at King's College London and International Women's Day, finds the majority of men agree that women won't achieve gender equality without their support – but half believe they are expected to do too much to support women's equality.

Globally, two-thirds (65%) believe that women won't achieve equality in their country unless men take actions to support women's rights too. A quarter (25%) disagree.

However, people are split on whether too much is being expected of men to help the fight for equality. Overall, 43% agree that men are being expected to do too much to support women's equality in their country (46% disagree), including half of all men.

Most (52% globally, and half of Americans) acknowledge that there are still more advantages in being a man in today's society, and there are signs that the push for gender equality has not gone far enough.

In another sign that attitudes are changing, achieving gender equality is an issue that is personally important for two-thirds (65%) globally, and for 63% of Americans.

Globally, sexual harassment is seen as the most important issue facing women and girls (30%), followed closely by sexual violence (27%).

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Reports, Publications, Resources

1. Gender and Environment Statistics: Unlocking information for action and measuring the SDGs

https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/Gender_Environment_Statistics.pdf

Read the new report from the UN Environment Programme and the International Union for Conservation of Nature. "This report seeks to provide a framework to measure the nexus between gender and the environment. It proposes 18 gender-environment indicators for inclusion in the wider set of gender indicators, across the focal areas of right to land, natural resources and biodiversity; access to food, energy, water and sanitation; climate change, sustainable production and consumption, and health; and women in environmental decision making at all levels." It also presents the results of the research in three partner countries and provides recommendations, ideas and challenges in closing data gaps for UN expert groups as well as national research groups.

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2. Child poverty, disasters and climate change: Investigating relationships and implications over the life course of children

<https://www.odi.org/publications/11281-child-poverty-disasters-and-climate-change-investigating-relationships-and-implications-over-life>

This study examines the relationship between natural hazard-related disasters and child and adolescent poverty in India and Kenya. It explores these connections through a lifecycle approach focusing on the incidence of child poverty and longer-term poverty dynamics and wellbeing. The analysis combines a range of different datasets around household and child poverty, disasters and local climatology, brought together for the first time.

Climate change and natural hazards can reverse years of development gains, and can affect children and adolescents in different ways, both directly – through injury or the impact on household poverty or individual deprivation – and indirectly, through the effects on services and systems central to their wellbeing and longer-term development.

Poverty eradication policies and programming must be risk-informed to tackle chronic poverty, stop impoverishment, sustain poverty escapes and build adaptive capacities to support children's development outcomes despite environmental shocks and stresses.

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3. Differentiations in Women's Land Tenure Experiences: Implications for Women's Land Access and Tenure Security in Sub-Saharan Africa

<https://landwise.resourceequity.org/records/3049-differentiations-in-women-s-land-tenure-experiences-implications-for-women-s-land>

Abstract:

Most literature on land tenure in sub-Saharan Africa has presented women as a homogenous group. This study uses evidence from Ghana, Nigeria, and Zimbabwe to show that women have differentiated problems, needs, and statuses in their quest for land access and tenure security. It illustrates how women-to-women differences influence women's access to land. By investigating differentiations in women's land tenure in the three countries, the study identifies multiple and somewhat interlinked ways in which differentiations exist in women's land tenure. It achieved some key outcomes. The findings include a matrix of factors that differentiate women's land access and tenure security, a visualisation of women's differentiation in land tenure showing possible modes for actions, and an adaptable approach for operationalising women's differentiation in land tenure policies (among others). Using these as evidence, it argues that women are a highly differentiated gender group, and the only thing homogenous in the three cases is that women are heterogeneous in their land tenure experiences. It concludes that an emphasis on how the differentiation among women allows for significant insight to emerge into how they experience tenure access differently is essential in improving the tenure security of women. Finally, it makes policy recommendations.

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4. Perceived Tenure (In)Security in the Era of Rural Transformation: Gender-Disaggregated Analysis from Mozambique

<https://landwise.resourceequity.org/records/3051-perceived-tenure-in-security-in-the-era-of-rural-transformation-gender-disaggreg>

This study examines the drivers of tenure insecurity in Mozambique using data from the National Agricultural Survey (TIA) 2014 as well as a follow-up supplemental survey with detailed land tenure gender-disaggregated data from three groups: namely, principal male, principal female, and female spouses. Perceived risk of land loss (collective tenure risk) and perceived risk of a private land dispute (individual tenure risk) are used to measure land tenure insecurity. The empirical findings reveal, overall, collective tenure risks are the real threat to women's tenure security while individual tenure risks (ownership, inheritance, border disputes, etc.) are more of a threat to the tenure security of men. However, a more gender-disaggregated analysis reveals that individual tenure risk is higher among female spouses as compared to male heads within the same household. Moreover, perceived risk of land loss is higher among non-indigenous male heads while female spouses who have no control over family land are more likely to have higher perceived tenure insecurity. Results also show that land-related legal awareness seems to be more significant in dictating the (positively) perceived tenure security of women as compared to their male counterparts. Generally, tenure insecurity for female spouses seem to be associated with the emergence of land markets while relative land scarcity in a given community dictates tenure insecurity of the principal female (female heads). Hence, the empirical findings reinforce the need to complement ongoing efforts to enhance tenure security at the household and community level with gender-tailored/targeted programs that take into account the intra-household dimension of addressing issues of land tenure security.

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5. Women's Empowerment in Agriculture: Key Success Factors from Action-Research in Mozambique

<https://seepnetwork.org/Resource-Post/Womens-Empowerment-in-Agriculture-Key-Success-Factors-from-Action-Research-in-Mozambique>

https://seepnetwork.org/files/galleries/Womens_Empowerment_in_Agriculture_Key_Success_Factors_final.pdf

Partnering organizations Opportunity International and iDE have launched an innovative agricultural action-research project in Mozambique to sustainably deliver agricultural support to women farmers and help them benefit more adequately from commercial agricultural markets. This learning brief presents key success factors from the project to-date.

SUCCESS FACTORS IN WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT IN AGRICULTURAL MARKETS⁵

Success Factor #1: A Flexible Model to Fit Local Economic and Social Context

PEMA's women's empowerment approach fits the local context because the FBA and FaFB model empowers local leaders to adapt principles and tools to their situation. Important adaptations include:

Success Factor # 2: Reaching Women Through both Male and Female Channels

PEMA's marketing and outreach strategy leverages both traditional, male-dominated channels and women-centred channels, which tend to be identified primarily as social purpose organizations. By engaging men as leaders in women's empowerment, PEMA forms part of a growing global movement engaging men in promoting gender equality.⁶ PEMA's dual channel approach leverages the strengths of both networks. Several strategies are working for engaging women through traditional, male-dominated channels, including:

Success Factor #3: Integrate Women's Empowerment Strategy Throughout Capacity Building

PEMA's capacity building approach is multi-faceted and practical, and FaFB is integrated throughout. To introduce FaFB, PEMA contracted women's financial inclusion and business development specialists to translate a published FaFB brochure into Portuguese and facilitate staff and FBA training workshops in the approach. In response to demand for local cases and material in local languages, PEMA also developed and tested videos

capturing FBA and farmer testimonies on FaFB. To strengthen practical application, PEMA staff facilitated participatory cross-gender learning among FBAs. Using this core foundation, specific applications are devised by FBAs and farmer-clients themselves, captured by staff, and integrated into capacity building content. As a result, farmers and FBAs apply FaFB in diverse ways, providing multiple models for other families to use.

"It is important to continue to empower women in the family because they have good ideas and contributions."

—Joana, wife of PEMA FBA Araujo

Success Factor #4: Develop Capacity and Pursue Multiple Channels for Financial Services

Conflict-related market disruptions in the area affected formal financial services, but PEMA responded by supporting multiple channels to help FBAs and farmers capitalize their ventures in commercial agriculture. In order to do this, PEMA designated and trained a staff member in financial services. Due to highly active S&L Group movement and low activity of formal financial institutions in the area, more women than men have access to finance among target farmers. Therefore, PEMA facilitates financial services for men and women, with a focus on women's inclusion in channels less commonly open to them. The diverse sources of financing include:

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6. Gender Equality and Ending Extreme Poverty: You Can't Accomplish One Without the Other

<https://seepnetwork.org/Blog-Post/Gender-Equality-and-Ending-Extreme-Poverty-You-Can-t-Accomplish-One-Without-the-Other>

BOMA's two-year, income-led model—REAP, the Rural Entrepreneur Access Project—gives women seed capital to launch a small business, two years of hands-on training and mentoring, membership in BOMA savings groups, mobile phones and access to M-Pesa, Kenya's mobile money system. Profits from each REAP business provide a new and diversified income; personal and business savings help women manage cash flow (for daily needs) and plan for future expenses (such as school fees and medical care) and respond to shocks (such as drought or emergencies). By replacing aid with income and savings, BOMA gives women autonomy—they decide how and when that money will be spent.

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7. Re-conceptualizing Empowerment: Understanding & Measuring Women’s Empowerment

<https://www.ipsos.com/en-us/knowledge/society/understanding-and-measuring-womens-empowerment>

This paper builds on work published in 2018 to apply learnings from research and evaluation in the women’s empowerment field, updating how Ipsos conceptualizes and measures women’s empowerment, and emphasizing the cultural and structural norms that must be challenged to achieve it.

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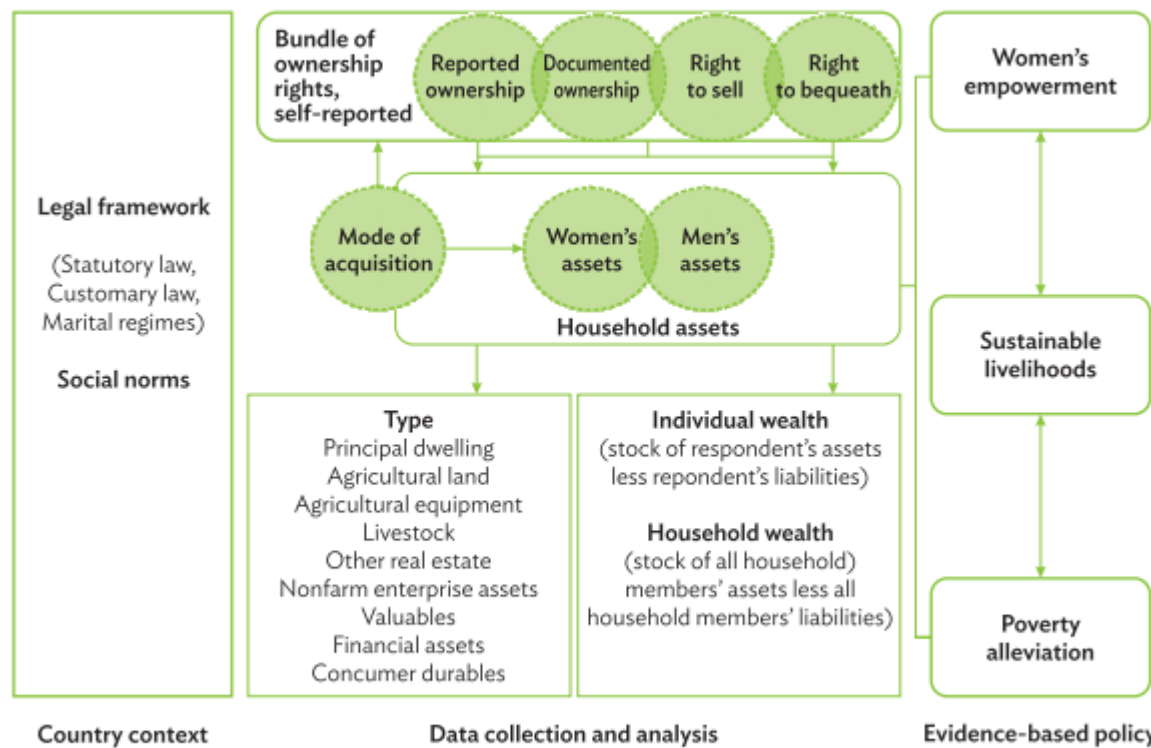
8. Women’s Asset Ownership: Evidence from Georgia; Mongolia; and Cavite, Philippines

<https://www.adb.org/publications/womens-asset-ownership-georgia-mongolia-philippines>

This publication provides insights to help develop methodological guidelines on collecting sex-disaggregated data about asset ownership.

Abstract: Since the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals, significant global progress has been achieved in promoting gender equality in education and health. However, progress has not been as remarkable in advancing women’s rights on asset ownership and control, which is critical for securing gender equity in economic participation and opportunity, and delivering on the Sustainable Development Goals. Part of the problem comes from the lack of standards on collecting sex disaggregated data on the topic. The Evidence and Data for Gender Equality (EDGE) initiative aims to develop standardized methods and guidelines for collecting sex-disaggregated data on asset ownership. This paper provides rich inputs to the methodological guidelines being developed by the United Nations and development partners by drawing on the key findings from the pilot surveys conducted in Georgia; Mongolia; and Cavite, Philippines. Furthermore, survey results suggest substantive gender gaps in ownership across different types of assets and countries. These variations confirm the importance of understanding the social norms governing gender roles in society and legislation that can facilitate or impede women’s asset ownership.

Conceptual Framework for Measuring Asset Ownership and Control from a Gender Perspective



Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Statistics Division. 2019. *Guidelines for Producing Statistics on Asset Ownership from a Gender Perspective*. <https://unstats.un.org/edge/methodology/asset/>.

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9. Transforming gender relations in small-scale agriculture

<https://ccafs.cgiar.org/blog/saying-right-thing-and-following-through-transforming-gender-relations-small-scale-agriculture#.XIWZJyhKjIU>

The recent *State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World* report from FAO notes that the prevalence of severe food insecurity is increasing globally and is higher among women than men in Africa, Asia and Latin America. To address this and other gender concerns, many are calling for gender transformative approaches: structural change in social and political life, and in access to and control over assets.

While the current situation is challenging, there are at least two more challenges on the horizon. The first is that gender transformation must be situated within the rapid changes already occurring in rural areas, including the feminization of small-scale agriculture. While feminization of agriculture could possibly open up decision-making arenas for women, Itishree Pattnaik and colleagues in their recent article elegantly suggest that the feminization of agriculture may better be described as the feminization of agrarian distress, with women's growing contribution of labor in agriculture adding to their already heavy work burdens, thus further undermining their well-being.

The second challenge is the larger rural transformation that needs to take place to address global challenges such as poverty. We have argued elsewhere that food systems need to be transformed to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, to build widespread resilience and to put agriculture and food on a low emissions development trajectory. The financial resources needed for such a transformation dwarf what the development community can provide, thus we expect the private sector to play a major role. Small-scale producers could potentially be sidelined, with the greatest threats to

those with fewer resources and power: women, among others. For example, the commercialization of dairy in Kenya has severe negative impacts for women.

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10. State of Practice: Savings Groups and the Role of Government in Sub-Saharan Africa

<https://mangotree.org/Resource/State-of-Practice-Savings-Groups-and-the-Role-of-Government-in-Sub-Saharan-Africa>

This state of practice report identifies and describes 74 government initiatives in the Savings Group sector across 20 countries in Sub-Saharan Africa – related to financial inclusion, social protection, women’s empowerment, and sector regulation and coordination.

The purpose of the report is to support the further development of public policy and programming related to Savings Groups in the region, and to serve as a resource for diverse sector stakeholders – including funders, non-governmental organizations, and financial service providers – to more effectively engage governments in the region around identified priorities and opportunities.

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11. Podcast: Confronting Gender Bias in Agriculture Takes Daily Work

<https://foodtank.com/news/2019/03/confronting-gender-bias-in-agriculture-takes-daily-work-says-maiga-of-coraf/>

On “Food Talk with Dani Nierenberg,” Dr. Mariame Maiga—Regional Gender and Social Development Advisor for the West and Central African Council for Agricultural Research and Development (CORAF)—calls upon policymakers to examine the role gender plays in agricultural and sustainable development. “Unless we bridge the gender gap in the agricultural sector, to facilitate equitable access to agricultural production resources, we will not be able to meet [regional goals for food security],” says Maiga.

“This kind of challenge requires confrontation on a daily basis,” says Maiga. “The countries involved know that they need to deal with gender in any program or process because they need to think about how to address cultural challenges.” According to CORAF, women represent at least 62 percent of the active farming population in Africa. “We say that a minimum of 40 percent of women should benefit from CORAF projects,” says Maiga.

CORAF reaches women with gender-smart and climate-smart technologies that help women with day-to-day labor and long-term business development—these technologies range from yield-boosting resources to fish drying and smoking equipment. “In Burkina Faso, we have a technology for drying mangoes. One woman using the technology is now working with more than 100 women and young people because she developed a business. We have so much material on gender outcomes like this,” says Maiga.

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