



Fresh snow on Mountain Ash/Rowan [Sorbus aucuparia] berries.  
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](mailto:dinah.ceplis@gmail.com) to compile and re-distribute once a month.

Dinah Ceplis, P.Ag. (Ret.), FGHIH, FAIC, (Volunteer Editor)

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## Opportunities and Coming Events

### 1. Digital Agriculture Career Panel

<https://www.aitc.mb.ca/about-us/media/digital-agriculture-career-panel>

This online event from Ag in the Classroom will provide students the opportunity to learn more about the exciting technology careers available in the agriculture sector from those who are currently working in Digital Agriculture (STEM-related field). Four panelists will answer questions in real-time or in advance. **Date: Tuesday, November 3**

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### 2. Women in Ag Entrepreneurship

<https://wekh.ca/event-directory/>

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/women-in-ag-entrepreneurship-tickets-124431547107>

Women Entrepreneurship Knowledge Hub (WEKH) invites you to participate in a free 90-minute virtual event on **Nov. 4th** focused on women in ag entrepreneurship in the prairie provinces.

The driving force for this event came from the publication of a report by the Saskatchewan regional WEKH hub at the Hill and Levene Schools of Business at the University of Regina, in collaboration with the central WEKH hub at Ryerson University. The findings from this report highlight the many challenges women entrepreneurs in Saskatchewan face in agriculture, stemming from structural issues of power and inequality and, in particular, the continued construction of ag as a male dominated industry. The report also revealed a number of opportunities and outlined several recommendations to continue the advancement of women in ag entrepreneurship.

We look forward to sharing the findings and recommendations contained in this report that is both meaningful and impactful, so we can create a plan of action that has the potential to disrupt this space and open up more opportunities for women entrepreneurs in the ag industry across Canada.

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### 3. Introduction to Gender Equality and Testing

[https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_0OH1nqQfQx-HMi4z9royfA](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_0OH1nqQfQx-HMi4z9royfA)

This webinar provides a general introduction to gender equality and explains why it is important to consider gender in your development work and testing approach. The learning is intended for all SMOs and any other organizations who may need an enhancing or a refresher (in some cases) on what gender equality means, and how to think through the business case for gender integration. **Nov 10, 2020.**

The session will cover:

- Key gender terms and definitions
- The importance of incorporating gender equality into your development work more broadly, and the testing environment
- A FIT case study example to highlight best practices for gender integration.

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### 4. Virtual Advancing Women in Ag Conference

<https://www.advancingwomenconference.ca/2020virtual/>

Registration is now open for the virtual Advancing Women in Ag Conference on **November 24 and 25, 2020.** You get two days of virtual presentations from over 35 speakers and the chance to connect with other women in ag during the conference.

- Connect with like-minded women passionate about agriculture and food.
- Grow from informative, inspiring and motivating discussions with influential leaders.
- Learn the tools and techniques that will empower you to live to your full potential.

Speakers include Dr. Erin Armstrong with the Barley Council of Canada, three ag media journalists (Lisa Guenther, Editor of Canadian Cattlemen, Laura Rance, Vice President of Content at Glacier FarmMedia, and Karen Briere, Reporter at The Western Producer), and Dr. Sylvain Charlebois from Dalhousie University.

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### 5. Spur Change's new National Training on Results-Based Management

<http://icn-rcc.ca/spurchase/>

Spur Change is working with the MEAL and RBM experts at Baastel and the Montreal-based creative e-learning experts at Octo D, to design an engaging and innovative approach to teaching the basic and more advanced components of Results-Based Management. Using gamification and storytelling to facilitate learning, we will be offering a free two-level course tailored to SMOs' needs **starting in late November.** Available to Small and Medium Organization [SMOs] in Canada.

Expect to learn:

- Why RMB matters
- The key aspects of results chains, logic models/theory of change
- How to build an effective results framework and M&E framework
- How to take a Participatory Approach to RBM
- How to integrate gender equality at each phase

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## 6. 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence

<https://16dayscampaign.org/>

Join the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence. This is an opportunity to unite with partners around the world and reflect on what we can each do in our own communities and in our own lives to eliminate the disproportionate violence faced by women, girls and LGBTQ2S individuals. **November 25 to December 10.**

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## 7. Act Together for Inclusion Fund (ACTIF)

<http://www.dignityinitiative.ca/act-together-for-inclusion-fund/>

Canada launched the Act Together for Inclusion Fund (ACTIF), managed by Equitas in partnership with Dignity Network Canada. This initiative shows government and Canadian civil society's commitment to recognizing, promoting and ensuring the rights of LGBTQ2I people around the world. ACTIF was created specifically for this purpose: to support projects designed by Canadian civil society organizations that aim to address these important LGBTQ2I issues in the Global South.

The Fund will disburse over \$10M over the span of 7 years and will support a range of activities to meet the needs of local populations, such as capacity building, advocacy, mobilization and awareness raising activities, amongst other activities.

It is expected that the **first call for proposals to be made before the end of 2020**, once the governance structures have been put in place and the team has been hired.

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## This Month's News

### 1. Gender data: How expensive is it really?

<https://www.devex.com/news/gender-data-how-expensive-is-it-really-98193>

The salaries of two professional athletes could close the gender data financing gap in low-income countries, says Shaida Badiie, managing director of Open Data Watch.

It's something she says to grab attention and illustrate an idea shared by many experts active in the gender data space: There are multiple reasons for the gender data gaps that existed long before COVID-19 — but financing shouldn't be one of them.

As the pandemic continues, calls grow louder for sex-disaggregated data to guide policy and address impacts of a health crisis that could force an additional 96 million people into extreme poverty by 2021, 47 million of whom are women and girls.

But the surveys, censuses, and administrative systems included in a core gender data system have many other applications, making it challenging to break down the exact cost of just gender data. The bigger question is not necessarily just one of funding, but rather the improved availability, reliability, and use of data.

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## 2. Bending the Curve Towards Gender Equality: A Q&A About the Power of Gender Data

<https://deliverforgood.org/bending-the-curve-towards-gender-equality-a-qa-about-the-power-of-gender-data-with-papa-seck-chief-statistician-of-un-women/>

In a special Deliver for Good hosted conversation in advance of this year's virtual United Nations World Data Forum, Alison Holder, Director of Equal Measures 2030 and Deliver for Good Advisory Group partner, speaks with Papa Seck, Chief Statistician of UN Women, about why decision-makers need to get serious about capturing gender data that recognize intersecting inequalities.

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## 3. Experts call for 'deeper data' on women's realities at UN World Data Forum

<https://www.devex.com/news/experts-call-for-deeper-data-on-women-s-realities-at-un-world-data-forum-98368>

CANBERRA — Just 28% of the science and engineering workforce globally are female, while 20% of ICT professionals are female. This is according to the seventh edition of The World's Women, which provides a snapshot of the latest data on gender equality worldwide.

As part of World Statistics Day on Oct. 20, the report was launched at the 2020 U.N. World Data Forum, providing a snapshot of the latest data on gender equality worldwide.

Provided for the first time in an interactive format, the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs is enabling users to engage with this latest gender data geographically to go beyond global insights to regional stories. The data shows where progress has been achieved since the sixth edition in 2015.

Data2X is among the organizations continuing to push for greater investment to better understand the gaps that exist for women and girls, with a recent initiative showing how investment in gender data can link to objectives supporting women. This focus is on the objectives of six action coalitions supporting the Generation Equality Forum.

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## 4. The Nobel Prizes Awarded to Women 2020

<https://www.nobelprize.org/prizes/chemistry/2020/summary/>

<https://www.nobelprize.org/prizes/lists/nobel-prize-awarded-women/>

The Nobel Prize in **Chemistry** 2020 was awarded jointly to Emmanuelle Charpentier and Jennifer A. Doudna "for the development of a method for genome editing." Emmanuelle Charpentier and Jennifer A. Doudna have discovered one of gene technology's sharpest tools: the CRISPR/Cas9 genetic scissors. Using these, researchers can change the DNA of animals, plants and microorganisms with extremely high precision. This technology has had a revolutionary impact on the life sciences, is contributing to new cancer therapies and may make the dream of curing inherited diseases come true.

The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences has decided to award the Nobel Prize in **Physics** 2020 with one half to Roger Penrose "for the discovery that black hole formation is a robust prediction of the general theory of relativity" and the other half jointly to Reinhard Genzel and Andrea Ghez "for the discovery of a supermassive compact object at the centre of our galaxy".

The Nobel Prize and Prize in Economic Sciences have been awarded to women 57 times between 1901 and 2020. Only one woman, Marie Curie, has been honoured twice, with the 1903 Nobel Prize in Physics and the 1911 Nobel Prize in Chemistry. This means that 56 women in total have been awarded the Nobel Prize between 1901 and 2020.

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## 5. 25 years after Beijing, what's changed on gender equality?

<https://www.devex.com/news/25-years-after-beijing-what-s-changed-on-gender-equality-not-enough-experts-say-98248>

The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action established a blueprint for gender equality. The pandemic now threatens to undo progress, and worsen other shaky trends, experts say.

More than 100 countries recommitted to the Beijing Platform for Action during a high-level U.N. meeting in early October marking the 25th anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women. In 1995, tens of thousands of women from 189 countries met in Beijing to agree upon an action platform that has become a widely recognized blueprint for gender equality policy and programming work.

Since then, there have been various, significant gains for women and girls. More than two-thirds of countries have achieved gender parity in primary schools. Deaths during and after pregnancy dropped nearly 40% from 2000 to 2017, and more women have been elected to parliament and gained leadership positions in government and business.

But U.N. Secretary-General António Guterres released a review of the Beijing declaration's implementation at the high-level meeting on Oct. 2, showing that initial commitments have not been matched by action, investments, or accountability.

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## 6. Digna, the Canadian Centre of Expertise on the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)

<https://www.digna.ca/about-us/>

Digna announces a new website. Our goal is to help Canadian international development and humanitarian organizations improve their ability to PSEA, including towards their program participants -particularly women and girls. We aim to increase awareness of, access to, and use of gender-responsive policies and good practices to PSEA.

We encourage and want to support organizations of the sector to commit to PSEA, including through the CCIC Leaders' Pledge on Preventing and Addressing Sexual Misconduct, adherence to international guidelines and ongoing efforts to adopt good practices that inform policies, procedures and partnerships.

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## 7. CRIAW's Statement Regarding Speech from the Throne

<https://www.criaw-icref.ca/en/news/statement-regarding-speech-from-the-throne-92>

October 14, 2020. The Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women (CRIAW-ICREF) wishes to acknowledge the important announcements that address women's inequality in Canada in the 2020 Speech from the Throne.

Women have been disproportionately impacted by the economic downturn caused by this pandemic. Although these issues are not new, these underlying experiences of inequality have been exacerbated during COVID-19. Low wages and increased precarious employment in women-majority fields like the care sector, the retail and service sector, and the not-for-profit sector—have a significant impact on women generally, but a particularly disproportionate impact on immigrant women, racialized women, single mothers, Indigenous women, women with disabilities, and senior women—women facing multiple intersecting inequalities.

We are encouraged to hear about the commitments to build a system for high-quality childcare and early learning and share the optimism and analysis of Child Care Now. We are also very encouraged to hear that there is a new commitment to address women’s economic inequality through the creation of a taskforce on Women in the Economy. A thorough and intersectional plan is crucial for the advancement of all women in Canada post COVID-19.

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## **8. Alberta combine crew ruled by women**

<https://www.producer.com/2020/10/alta-combine-crew-ruled-by-women/>

At C.G. Paulgaard Farms, the women run the combines during harvest. When they do, things tend to run fairly smoothly on the 15,000-acre crop and livestock operation, according to Joanne Paulgaard, who runs the operation along with her husband, Rod, children Kyle and Shelby and Rod’s mother, Norma. An operation their size requires a crew of 15 to 18 people, depending on the season, but it is the five women on the team who get the most time on the combines. The family farm is near Hayter, Alta., between Provost, Alta., and Macklin, Sask. It has about nine year-round employees and hires additional people for the busier times. Quality, not gender, drives their hiring process.

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## **9. What Does Building Back Better Look Like for African Women Engaged in Smallholder Agriculture and Food Businesses?**

<http://www.ipsnews.net/2020/10/building-back-better-look-like-african-women-engaged-smallholder-agriculture-food-businesses/>

NAIROBI, Oct 9 2020 (IPS) - “We need to build back better.” This has been the rallying call on the COVID-19 response by UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres to leaders and communities around the world. It has been echoed in conference rooms and in the numerous Zoom meetings organized to discuss the pandemic. It will be especially important to apply the idea to women working in the agriculture and food sector.

So, how do we “build back better” for women in the food sectors? Initiatives must include two broad strategies to succeed; increased access to social protection, appropriate seeds, markets and finance; and enhanced and amplified leadership of women. This is how it can be achieved.

First, governments can increase access to markets for women smallholder farmers by providing short term access to markets through procuring Covid19 food relief and school meal supplies.

Second, allocation of inputs must target women who are the majority smallholder farmers in the continent. Most governments are allocating funds for inputs, through digital voucher systems.

Third, target cash transfers directly to women as a social safety net. Cash transfers targeted at women have potential to help them rebuild their businesses, secure their food security and that of their households.

Fourth, support women entrepreneurs, traders and processors engaged in the food business.

And finally, women who are in smallholder agriculture and agribusiness must be part of building back better. In the political space, countries with female leadership have been very successful in dealing with the pandemic. This leadership has however not cascaded to other sectors. The participation and influence of women is needed in the design, implementation and monitoring of policies and programs for building back better in the sector. Building back better must be defined by those most affected by the pandemic.

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## 10. Low-cost Technology can Have Life-changing Impacts for Rural Women

<http://www.ipsnews.net/2020/10/low-cost-technology-can-life-changing-impacts-rural-women/>

UNITED NATIONS, Oct 19 2020 (IPS) - Access to technology which is relatively inexpensive to deploy can have a life-changing impact for rural women, social scientist Valentina Rotondi told IPS. Rotondi shared her insight during a presentation of her research titled “Digital rural gender divide in Latin America and the Caribbean” to mark International Day of Rural Women on Thursday, Oct. 15.

Rotondi further cited research that found access to mobile phones can improve women’s financial resilience, which in turn improves their outcomes. She shared the findings of their study that support this analysis:

- Women living in rural areas are the least “connected” group.
- The digital gender divide, which hampers women’s ability to access information and communication technologies, was narrowing in Latin America and the Caribbean until a few years ago.
- In 17 of the 23 countries analysed, women are less likely than men to report owning a mobile phone.
- Countries that report a narrow digital gender gap also have lower gender gaps in vulnerable employment, youth unemployment and labor-force participation.

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## 11. When the price of water is sexual assault

<https://www.devex.com/news/when-the-price-of-water-is-sexual-assault-98307>

In many households that lack access to safe, readily available water at home, the responsibility of visiting the nearest clean water facility often falls to women and girls. But experts warn that leaves them vulnerable to harassment, sexual assault, or abuse.

Women may feel pressured to flirt or “play along” with utility workers out of fear of having their connection cut off, according to a report by the Water Governance Facility. Coercive sex is also common. It also noted that most survivors do not report the abuse and that there was little support available for them.

While the issue may be well-known among residents and community members, there is much lower awareness of it among professionals working on water, according to the network officer and gender focal point at the Water Integrity Network.

Advocates are pushing for sextortion to be criminalized, arguing that without a legal framework to address the issue, women are unable to file a complaint and perpetrators cannot be held to account. As well as a form of sexual exploitation, many advocates believe it should be classed as corruption. However, it is not included in the United Nations Convention against Corruption.

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## 12. Bringing attention to what works for women’s land rights

<https://www.iied.org/bringing-attention-what-works-for-womens-land-rights>

The new IIED blog series 'What works for women’s land rights' focuses on gender and land tenure and aims to change the paradigm around what works and what doesn’t work to safeguard women’s land rights.

In the first instalment, 'Blog series probes principles: what works for women’s land rights?', Sutz describes how IIED has unpicked some core principles that could work in favour of women's control over land, regardless of context specific considerations in terms of governance and gender rights.

Over the coming months, the blogs – featuring voices from across East and West Africa – will explore these principles in more detail.



Next in the series will be Ibrahima Dia, assistant associate at IED Afrique, who will examine the role of women’s groups in Senegal and analyse the pros and cons of women’s access to land through women’s economic groups.

And Isabella Nchimbi, programme officer at TAWLA, will argue that the use of local legislation, such as bylaws, is an effective way to ensure that gender-sensitive national laws are integrated at the local level, with examples from Tanzania.

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### **13. Gender Equality in National Adaptation Plan (NAP) Processes: Assessing vulnerabilities and identifying adaptation options**

Workshop info at <http://napglobalnetwork.org/event/webinar-gender-equality-in-nap-processes/>

Toolkit at <http://napglobalnetwork.org/resource/toolkit-for-gender-responsive-national-adaptation-plans/>

An online workshop was held on Oct. 27. Organized in collaboration with the UNFCCC Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) and Adaptation Committee, this NAP Global Network event will highlight how to use the Toolkit for a Gender-Responsive Process to Formulate and Implement NAPs to ensure gender equality is considered in the assessment of vulnerabilities and identification of adaptation options.

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### **14. Postharvest loss-related research projects**

<https://postharvestinstitute.illinois.edu/adm-cares-2020-21/>

News from the University of Illinois - ADM Institute for the Prevention of Postharvest Loss: Five postharvest loss-related research projects totaling nearly \$158,000 were recently selected for funding through ADM Cares, ADM’s social investment program, which directs funds to organizations that drive meaningful social, economic, and environmental progress around the world. Two of the projects are described below.

### **15. Understanding and educating women farmers on Marketplace Social Sustainability Literacy in the era of climate change**

*Understand and educating women farmers on Marketplace Social Sustainability Literacy in the era of climate change* – The Subsistence Marketplaces Initiative will move in a new direction with social sustainability literacy for women farmers. SMI will work with personnel already in the ground in at least three countries (one each in Latin America, Africa, and Asia) to conduct interviews that inform the final educational product. The final product will also experiment with delivery through Zoom, WhatsApp or audio-only conference calls as local conditions dictate.

### **16. Towards improved storage capacity and practices for small- and medium-sized traders**

*Towards improved storage capacity and practices for small- and medium-sized traders:* Delivering quality soybean in Ghana – The Soybean Innovation Lab (SIL) plans to develop a grain and seed handling training manual, online course and training workshop for soybean traders in northern Ghana. SIL will also conduct a gender assessment to understand how gender affects local storage constraints and practices. SIL will also work with the Innovation Lab for the Reduction of Post-Harvest Losses (PHLIL) to gain information about appropriate storage and moisture measurement solutions for use in the manual, course, and workshop.

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# 17. A German research institute is being accused of sexism over the dress code

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p08tl63t>

A polar research institute in Germany has been accused of sexism after asking scientists and journalists onboard one of its ships to avoid wearing revealing or tight-fitting clothing, such as leggings and crop tops - items primarily worn by women.

Chelsea Harvey was one of the journalists on the mission to the Arctic last September. She says the reason given for the introduction of the dress code was a "safety issue" - apparently there were a lot of men onboard the ship, who had "not seen land for many months".

The Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research who were leading the exhibition said they do not tolerate sexual harassment, misconduct and discrimination. They said the regulations were imposed to ensure people adhered to hygiene and safety standards.

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## Reports, Publications, Resources

### 1. Putting Feminist MEAL into Practice

<http://icn-rcc.ca/spurchase/gender-learning-series-2/#:~:text=About%20the%20Workshop,feminist%20approach%20into%20their%20activities.>

Presented in collaboration with Oxfam Canada, Plan Canada and MEDA How to apply feminist principles to monitoring, evaluation, accountability and learning (MEAL) practice? How does the empowerment of women translate to project monitoring? Using feminist approaches to MEAL could increase access to knowledge and consequently, it could be a powerful tool to transform unequal power relations. Organizations can achieve it by developing tools that incorporate feminist principles into their project management. During this webinar, Oxfam-Canada, Plan Canada and MEDA shared concrete tools and resources to help SMOs aiming to adopt a gender-sensitive and feminist lens to their MEAL.

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### 2. Nigeria Youth Entrepreneurship and Women’s Empowerment project

<https://www.meda.org/WAYLearning>

The Nigeria WAY Learning series is a set of materials developed by MEDA to share good practice and learnings from our Youth Entrepreneurship and Women’s Empowerment in Northern Nigeria (Nigeria WAY) project.

Nigeria WAY project focuses on women’s economic empowerment in agro-processing in three food value chains and strengthens community support for women’s socio-economic engagement.

The WAY project collaborates with business women, entrepreneurs, small scale businesses and other market actors in the rice, peanut and soybean value chains to boost business performance, improve their business operating environment, and advocate for the eradication of early and forced girl child marriage.

Key themes include

- Business Women and Agribusiness
- Women Agro-processors & Technology
- Training Materials

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### 3. Architecture for Gender Transformative Programming and Measurement: A Primer

<https://www.communityledtotalsanitation.org/resources/architecture-gender-transformative-programming-and-measurement-primer>

This short ‘primer’ introduces Plan International Canada’s (CNO) architecture for gender transformative programming and measurement. The architecture consists of three useful tools:

#### 1) A rights-based theory of change

Transformative change requires a rights-based approach which recognises that the realisation of rights is the ultimate goal of development programming that leads to the achievement of other development outcomes such as education, health, economic empowerment etc. In order to embed this approach across their programming, CNO use a framework for project design that places the rights of women and girls, and the agency and empowerment required to realize those rights as a central objective in and of itself as well as a pathway for attaining thematic outcomes. To achieve this, they have developed a standardized logic model (LM) stream to be applied to all their projects.

#### 2) A women and girls empowerment index (WGEI)

The WGEI measures changes directly associated with the root causes of gender inequality across five gender equality domains which are built into the Ranking Tool described in point three. These are: roles and responsibilities, resource access and control, participation and decision making, social norms, institutional change.

#### 3) Gender equality scoring

The Scoring Tool assesses and ranks projects based on three specific areas: Project Design. This area examines the architecture of the project, based on the documents submitted at the design phase of development, as well the same design components at subsequent stages of implementation. Gender Equality Analysis Domains. This area assesses in detail the breadth and intensity of the change expected in the five domains used for gender analysis (see table to the right). Resources for gender equality programming. This area looks at how gender equality technical inputs and oversight have been included in the budget and staffing of the project.

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### 4. Gender Progress Markers (GPM)

<https://www.meda.org/jvl/116-jvl-latest-news/1150-gender-progress-markers-implementation-manual-june-2021>

MEDA piloted Gender Progress Markers (GPM) in Jordan to measure women’s economic empowerment. GPM are a set of statements, describing a progression of changed behaviors for a target group of people, that monitor and measure the project’s strategy for women’s economic empowerment. This manual follows a technical brief developed in June 2019 and is meant to be a resource of information and guidance for MEDA and external organizations on:

- How to use gender progress markers (GPM) within a gender strategy.
- How to monitor projects to ensure inclusive programming.
- How to evaluate a project’s progress toward gender and behaviour change.

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### 5. Testing Innovative Solutions with a Gender Lens

<http://icn-rcc.ca/spurchase/gender-learning-series-2/#:~:text=About%20the%20Workshop,feminist%20approach%20into%20their%20activities.>

Integrating gender equality throughout an initiative, from design to evaluation, is essential to fostering sustainable gender equality results. Many organizations, however, lack the resources, time or capacity to effectively mainstream gender in their development work, especially in a dynamic testing environment.

During this presentation, FIT shared some gender tools, approaches and lessons learned from our program to better support SMOs seeking to test innovative solutions that advance gender equality.

The French version only of the presentation is available.

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## 6. The World's Women 2020: Trends and Statistics

<https://worlds-women-2020-data-undesa.hub.arcgis.com/>

What is the state of gender equality in the world? What do data tell us about progress towards the commitments made in the Beijing Platform for Action, which, 25 years after its adoption, remains the most comprehensive road map for advancing women's rights worldwide.

The World's Women 2020 is a collection of 100 stories providing up-to-date assessments of progress towards gender equality in six critical areas.

For example, in the thematic area of Economic Empowerment:

“In certain areas, gender-based occupational segregation reflects the difference between women and men in terms of their paths in education and vocational training, including in the fields of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). High-skilled occupations in ICT, science and engineering were mostly occupied by men and women's representation remained minimal. As of 2019, only one in five ICT professionals were women and they represented only 28% of science and engineering professionals (see figure III).”

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## 7. Portrait of a Market in India Run Solely by Women

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/10/05/travel/india-womens-market-imphal.html>

Every shopkeeper in sight is a woman. Collectively, around 5,000 of them here in the Indian state of Manipur constitute one of the largest markets run solely by women in all of Asia. Around 1580, the monarch established an exclusive trading center for women called Nupi Keithel, or Women's Market, in Imphal, what is now the capital of Manipur.

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## 8. Market Survey on the Evolving Demand for & Impact of Off-Grid Appliances

<https://efficiencyforaccess.org/publications/off-grid-appliance-market-survey-2020>

<https://storage.googleapis.com/e4a-website-assets/CLASP-MarketSurvey-2020.pdf>

Gender & Regional Preferences: Research suggests the use and impact of off-grid appliances may be gendered or region-specific. The 2020 survey explores the relative perceived demand and impact of 25+ appliances across gender and geographic regions. Some Key Takeaways:

- Income-generating productive use appliances demonstrate high impact potential in the agriculture sector; however, there remains a critical gap between theoretical impact and market reality.
- Gender is not a strong influencing factor in the perceived consumer demand for, or impact of, off-grid household appliances and business/productive use appliances. Most respondents did not expect consumer demand or development impact rankings to change on the basis of the end user's gender. However, when they did report a

difference in user preferences for men and women, a stark contrast in development impact potential emerged. Refrigerators and sewing machines emerge as more impactful for women, while hand power tools and mills/grinders are more important to men.

## Top 5 Development Impact Rankings of Household Appliances by Gender



### WOMEN

- 1 LED Room Lighting Appliances
- 2 Refrigeration
- 3 Sewing Machines
- 4 Solar or Electric Water Pumps
- 5 Mobile/Smart Phones



### MEN

- 1 Solar or Electric Water Pumps
- 2 LED Room Lighting Appliances
- 3 Mobile/Smart Phones
- 4 Hand Power Tools
- 5 Micro Mills/Grinders

Source: 2020 edition of the Off-Grid Appliance Market Survey, October 2020. <https://storage.googleapis.com/e4a-website-assets/CLASP-MarketSurvey-2020.pdf>. Pg. 21

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## 9. Gender in Focus newsletter on WEE

<https://policy-practice.oxfam.org.uk/publications>

OXFAM UK Policy and Practice will be shifting our focus to specifically highlight women's economic empowerment (WEE), unpaid care, youth and violence against women and girls. We will continue to spotlight Oxfam's resources on gender-related issues. But this will bring you more in-depth expertise from our country colleagues sharing their WEE work. This change will bring you closer to the knowledge and focus on key gender issues in the new normal.

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## 10. Recording: Spotlight on Rural Women — Key Leaders in Global Resilience

<https://pages.devex.com/recovery-rebuilding-resilience-spotlight-rural-women.html>

Women are major contributors to agriculture and rural economies, and their work and lives are not immune to the effects of the global pandemic. Restrictions on movement, increased caretaking duties, and increased incidences of gender-based violence all reduce livelihood opportunities during this time. Lower income can create secondary effects, as women typically invest in education, health care and business reinforcement.

Every year, on October 15, the UN's family of countries celebrate the social, economic, and political progress made by 1.7 billion women and girls who live in rural areas. Member countries also call attention the ways to prevent, mitigate and eliminate the discrimination, marginalization and violence faced by tens of millions of rural and indigenous women.

Effective development and violence prevention interventions include supporting women's livelihoods in smallholder farming, fishing, livestock-keeping and rural entrepreneurship; enabling greater access to land, credit and other productive resources; strengthening women's representation in producers' organizations and community decision-making bodies and working with rural men to create positive behavior change.

To coincide with the United Nations' International Day of Rural Women, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and Devex hosted a virtual event to elevate the experience of rural women working in the agriculture and food sectors during COVID-19 and to explore effective response methods in this time of crisis.

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## 11. Sustainable diets in the informal economy

<https://pubs.iied.org/16680IIED/>

<https://pubs.iied.org/pdfs/16680IIED.pdf>

Informal food systems contribute to the food and nutrition security of hundreds of millions of people around the world, particularly in the global South. The paper highlights how informal food systems are often unfairly assumed to be inefficient and unsafe, which leads to inappropriate policy and planning for sustainable diets. We argue that a transition to sustainable diets that works for people and planet should build on rather than criminalise or replace functioning informal food systems. We call for greater support for informal economy actors to achieve sustainable diets for all.

“The informal food economy is also an important source of livelihoods for women and youth, who have been excluded from formal employment (WOW, 2019). When agricultural value chains formalise, women’s labour and contributions — particularly in processing — are frequently un- or under-compensated relative to men’s (FAO, IFAD & ILO, 2010). This is also due to the often ‘hidden’ nature of women’s work, especially that which takes place in the home rather than in public spaces. Women are overrepresented in other parts of the informal food economy.

For example, they account for 80% of street food vendors in Harare, Zimbabwe (Roesel and Grace 2015), and up to 70% and 42% of informal cross-border trade in agricultural goods in Liberia and Cameroon respectively (Koroma et al., 2017). Youth also benefit from low barriers to entry into the informal food economy, though based on a recent survey of two Nigerian secondary cities, Resnick et al. (2018) call for nuance; traders between 18 and 24 years of age comprised less than 10% of food traders compared to a third between 25 and 34 years of age.” Page 9.

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## 12. Women and Girls' Status and Empowerment

[https://www.measureevaluation.org/prh/rh\\_indicators/gender/wgse](https://www.measureevaluation.org/prh/rh_indicators/gender/wgse)

Welcome to the programmatic area on women and girls’ status and empowerment within MEASURE Evaluation’s Family Planning and Reproductive Health Indicators Database.

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## 13. Spotlight on Gender in Nationally Determined Contributions

<https://wedo.org/spotlight-on-gender-in-ndcs/>

*"Spotlight on Gender in NDCs: An analysis of Parties' instruments, plans and actions supporting integration of gender equality principles and practices"* aims to outline some of the national structures and systems in place for integrating gender into climate action and serve as a proxy baseline on the potential ability of countries to advance progress on gender-responsive action in addressing the climate crisis in conjunction with the updating and implementation of new Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

For this study of 196 countries, 168 countries provided accessible documentation to assess engagement on gender in NDCs. Of the 168 countries assessed, 56% of countries were found to be engaged in some level of processes to integrate gender or had plans across climate-relevant sectors demonstrating a foundation and platform to launch additional engagement on gender—either actively engaging, or initiating engagement.

The brief highlights examples such as the following:

- Cote d'Ivoire, with UNDP, conducted a study on gender in climate change policies and programs highlighted links on gender and climate change for key stakeholders and identified gaps and challenges with evidence to guide the national strategy.
- Cambodia's Ministry of Women's Affairs took the lead on climate change planning documents such as a Strategic Plan on Gender, Climate Change, Green Growth, and Disaster Risk Management, as well as a Gender and Climate Change Strategic Plan, which are contributions to a multi-ministry effort for climate change planning.
- Uruguay integrated gender through their National Adaptation Plan for Agriculture, considering stakeholder engagement, capacity building, and gender research and analysis to strengthen available data and future monitoring.

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