



"This photo is a drawing of a child from India, an 8th grade elementary student. It was in response to a comment from his dad that his mom didn't do anything all day. He decided to draw what was a normal day for his mom. It went viral and now it's the cover of a gender report by Indian government." (El Semanal por Ivan Weissman, El Mostrador 07.03.2021) <https://www.elmostrador.cl/el-semanal/2021/03/08/el-fin-del-patriarcado-es-lento-pero-tambien-se-esta-viviendo-en-el-mercado-financiero/>

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.

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

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Opportunities and Coming Events

1. Call for Expressions of Interest: The Gender in STEM Research Initiative - Advancing gender analysis and women’s leadership in STEM fields

<https://idrc.ca/en/funding/call-expressions-interest-gender-stem-research-initiative-advancing-gender-analysis-and>

This call for expressions of interest is open to public universities from low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) in Africa, Asia, or Latin America/Caribbean that have demonstrated expertise in research on gender issues in STEM fields.

The Gender in STEM Research Initiative will fund research that helps promote women’s leadership in science — notably in natural sciences, engineering, and maths — and the integration of gender analysis in these fields. The research will identify innovative approaches that increase the capacity of universities and other higher-education institutions to be more inclusive of women and gender analysis in STEM.

Deadline for Submission Extended to May 10, 2021

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2. A climate-smart African future driven by science and innovation in agriculture

https://ccafs.cgiar.org/events/AICCRA_Launch_Event

Accelerating the Impact of CGIAR Climate Research for Africa (AICCRA) is a new initiative that will enhance access to climate information services and validated climate-smart agriculture technologies in Africa.

It is supported by a grant from the International Development Association (IDA) of the World Bank to enhance research and capacity-building activities by the CGIAR and its partners.

Farmers and livestock keepers will be able to better anticipate climate-related events and take preventative actions with better access to climate advisories linked to information about effective response measures. This can help safeguard productive activities and avoid catastrophic losses.

Join us at the launch event on **17 May** that will introduce AICCRA's objectives, implementation plan and expected impact.

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3. Human-Centered Design Course

<https://fit-fit.ca/wp-content/uploads/FIT-Training-English-FINAL.pdf>

Join us for this highly participatory short course of 4 weeks part time that will introduce you to the key concepts of Human-Centered Design (HCD) as you work to solve a key challenge in your organization. Human-centered design (HCD) is a leading innovation and problem-solving methodology that puts people at the center of the design process. It develops solutions by integrating the human perspective in all steps of the problem-solving process. Whether your organization is seeking to maximize the impact potential of a new initiative or optimize an existing offering, applying an HCD approach helps provide the deep, actionable insights and creative pathways needed to center your ideas in the lived reality of your communities of focus and ensure that those ideas are capable of achieving transformational change. **Apply before May 18th**. Limited spots available.

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4. 2021 Call for concept notes: Development Impact Window—Canadian Small and Medium Organizations for Impact and Innovation

https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/funding-financement/open_calls-appels_ouverts.aspx

Planned launch of call: June 2021

As part of its Small and Medium Organizations (SMOs) for Impact and Innovation initiative's Development Impact Window, Global Affairs Canada will launch its third call for concept notes in June 2021. Eligible organizations are SMOs whose international assistance work aligns with Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy and have not been selected to receive funding from the 2017 and 2019 SMO call under the Development Impact Window of this initiative.

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5. Understanding the Experience of Farm Women: A Proposed Research Project

<https://fmc-gac.com/agwomen/>

<https://fmc-gac.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/2021-Research-Proposal-Understanding-the-Experience-of-Farm-Women.pdf>

CentricEngine Inc. in partnership with Farm Management Canada, is undertaking an important and timely research project that will serve as a benchmark, a guide and a view into the future and opportunities of a critical, underrepresented segment of Canada's farming population: farm women. Our goal is to gain a better understanding so that we can create a path forward to meet the unique current and future needs of this target group.

In order to undertake the proposed research project, public and private sector support is required. Qualitative research phase will commence in spring of 2021 with final results published in spring of 2022.

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6. Training in Agribusiness: Develop Your Own Business Plan

<https://www.mwaf.ca/training>

<https://wecm.ca/training-events/>

Starting a business is appeals to many women. The first step crucial to success is developing a business plan. MWAF partnered with Farm Credit Canada, Manitoba Agriculture and Resource Development, The Women's Enterprise Centre of Manitoba and World Trade Centre Winnipeg (WTC Winnipeg) to offer a series of workshops where you'll build your own business plan.

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7. The Prosperity Project

<https://canadianprosperityproject.ca/>

The Prosperity Project is a new not-for-profit that was conceived by a diverse and inspirational group of 60+ female leaders across the country to mitigate the effects of COVID-19 on women and girls in Canada. To tackle the barrier of limited access to role models/mentors for women, The Rosie Initiative, presented by Ontario Power Generation, is launching The Rosie Mentoring Program. This program focuses on fostering, empowering and progressing relationships between Mentors and Protégées within STEM and Skilled Trades.

As part of this Initiative, the Rosie Resource Portal is where you will find online resources for women in STEM, skilled trades, and leadership. We are currently accepting applications for Mentors and Protégées within STEM and skilled trades areas. For more information, please visit <https://portal.canadianprosperityproject.ca/mentoring-program/>

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This Month's News

1. Minister Bibeau and MP Duguid discuss childcare with women in agriculture from Manitoba

<https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/minister-bibeau-and-mp-duguid-highlight-child-care-investments-in-budget-2021-883651019.html>

The Honourable Marie-Claude Bibeau, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, and Terry Duguid, Member of Parliament for Winnipeg South, hosted a panel discussion with women in agriculture across Manitoba to discuss their experiences in the sector and highlight Budget 2021 measures to support women, including the historic investment for Early Learning and Child Care across Canada.

Women in Canada's agricultural sector contribute daily to farming and food establishments across Canada, while raising the next generation of Canadian producers. Budget 2021 proposes new investments totaling up to \$30 billion over the next five years in early learning and childcare. Combined with previous investments, a minimum of \$9.2 billion per year ongoing will

be invested in childcare, starting in 2025-26. These investments will help support women, including those in agriculture, and reduce the demands placed upon them in the care economy.

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2. Gender Equality Forum Update

<http://sdg.iisd.org/news/gender-equality-forum-opens-with-call-to-deliberately-break-barriers/>

The Gender Equality Forum held its opening meeting, launching a three-month process to develop concrete action plans to advance gender equality by 2030. The Forum is expected to culminate with pledges of major financial investments and commitments for laws and policies to protect women’s rights.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres spoke via video message to call for five steps to advance gender equality, which he said is “for all”:

- Protect women’s equal rights and repeal discriminatory laws;
- Ensure equal representation through special measures and quotas;
- Advance women’s economic inclusion through equal pay and investments in the care economy and social protection;
- Immediately enact emergency response plans to address violence against women and girls; and
- Give space for intergenerational transition and to the young people who are advocating for a more just and equal world.

The Forum’s culmination will take place in Paris, France from 30 June-2 July 2021.

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3. Policy Brief Describes New Mindset Needed to Accelerate Gender Equality

<http://sdg.iisd.org/news/policy-brief-describes-new-mindset-needed-to-accelerate-gender-equality/>

A policy brief published by the International Institute for Sustainable Development offers a “formula” for accelerating implementation of the 2030 Agenda – enabling women’s participation and decision-making at all levels and increasing women’s access to and control over natural resources.

As an example of how “gender-just solutions make economic sense,” the author reports that women’s lagging participation in employment and entrepreneurship is estimated to cost the world approximately 15% of its GDP. Investing in gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls is a path to implementing SDG 5 and contributes simultaneously to the eradication of poverty, climate mitigation and adaptation, biodiversity protection, and sustainable economic growth.

De Paula outlines the “new mindset” needed to accelerate gender equality, calling on decision-makers, donors, and communities to:

- Ensure women’s access to and control over land and productive resources;
- Support NGOs, social enterprises, and networks that foster gender equality in the context of environmental conservation, climate action, and health promotion;
- Fund women-led organizations that work towards achieving the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs;
- Ensure that environmental policies are gender-responsive and tailored to allow women’s voices and agency in environmental and sustainable development decision-making and action at all levels; and
- Improve the quality of gender-specific data, recognizing the range of gender-based differences during the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure response efforts reach girls and women in the eventual economic recovery.

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4. The hidden stories of Palestinian Women

<https://views-voices.oxfam.org.uk/2021/03/agricultural-sheroes-the-hidden-stories-of-palestinian-women/>

The agriculture sector in the Occupied Palestinian Territory is debilitated by multifaceted structural challenges. However, within the sector itself, women face another layer of challenges arising from the gender roles and responsibilities that are strongly defined by social norms.

The level of engagement of men and women vary in different aspects of the value chain. For example, there is limited women’s participation in the input supply. Women’s participation in the agriculture sector is highly concentrated at the early stages of the value chain such as labouring on the land, which is characterised by low pay and limited decision making.

The definition of “farmer” particularly from the perspectives of the agriculture market actors has highlighted that some organisations define “farmer” as the one who owns and manages the farm or land. This narrow definition eliminates many female workers within the agriculture sector from being considered farmers.

The case studies make these stories visible: sharing women’s valuable contributions to the agriculture sector at the farm, factory, and entrepreneurial levels.

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5. Why a water crisis in Cameroon is disproportionately affecting women

<https://www.devex.com/news/why-a-water-crisis-in-cameroon-is-disproportionately-affecting-women-99561>

In the Mayo Tsanaga River Basin area in Cameroon’s Far North region, teeth-whitening agents are often in high demand to mitigate the impacts of dental fluorosis. More than 500,000 people there are exposed to this disorder, which can cause irreversible damage to teeth — ranging from permanent discoloration to skeletal deformation.

Climate change is making dental fluorosis more common. Rising atmospheric temperatures are making water scarcer, increasing both water mineral concentration and the community’s reliance on run-down groundwater systems.

Women play a central role in the collection, management, and supply of water in the area, and they are more severely impacted by the societal effects of this disorder than men. Women and girls with dental fluorosis are often discriminated against, less likely to find long-term partners, and considered “dirty” by some men, according to Global Water Partnership Cameroon.

Launched in Cameroon in February, the Water Climate Development Program-Gender, or WACDEP-G, is looking to combat this issue. Started in April 2020, the wider WACDEP-G initiative now covers five African countries — Benin, Cameroon, Tunisia, Uganda, and Zambia — each with a basin vulnerable to climate change. Lessons drawn from these pilot countries will help expand the program to another 13 African nations.

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6. The Invisible Women in Energy: Biomass Producers Who Deserve More Recognition

<http://www.ipsnews.net/2021/04/invisible-women-energy-biomass-producers-deserve-recognition/>

Many assume women’s role is largely limited to consuming energy (e.g., at home, at work, or for leisure), not supplying it. And therein lies an overlooked reality: millions of women worldwide are producers of biomass, a form of bioenergy.

About 2.5 billion people globally rely for cooking on the traditional use of solid biomass, notably fuelwood, charcoal and dung. This figure includes 680 million people in India and 800 million throughout Sub-Saharan Africa.

To address this issue of negative health impacts on notably the women who cook and the burdens of collecting firewood, the United Nations has adopted as one of its Sustainable Development Goals the replacement of traditional biomass use

with clean cooking technologies. Several actions can help to make these women producers more visible in the energy discourse.

- First, recognizing the role they play in energy supply can help to shift the notion and perception of dependency: women actively participate in the production, not just the use, of household energy.
- Second, there is a paucity of data regarding these women producers – a situation that reflects the lack of attention they receive and also contributes to their lack of visibility.
- Third, it is important to acknowledge and properly value this work in producing household bioenergy, and to report it in energy workforce statistics. When a company produces electricity for its own use, it is called a “self-producer.”
- Fourth, in developing programs and initiatives to shift households from traditional biomass use to clean cooking technologies, it is important not only to consider the effect on women as consumers, but also address the impact on women as energy producers to ensure that their needs are being met.

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7. Helping Youth Agribusiness Keep Pace with Fast Growing Africa

<http://www.ipsnews.net/2021/04/helping-youth-agribusiness-keep-pace-fast-growing-africa/>

From small towns to big cities, sub-Saharan Africa has the fastest urban growth rate in the world. The continent’s population is expected to double by 2050 with the youth representing 60% of the overall population.

The response to youth unemployment does not lie only in the creation of employment—they are also potential employers and entrepreneurs. As a result, growth needs to be promoted in sectors that can create viable youth-friendly opportunities. Agriculture is, among others, one of those sectors owing to its capacity to improve economic growth, food security, and income through farming. Value-chain and value addition activities open a window of opportunities for various layers of the population in a manner that is inclusive and applicable to all. Yet, agriculture is key to responding to Africa’s growing population needs.

Youth do not want to practice agriculture the way their fathers and mothers did, but rather in a modern way, with an appropriate image that speaks to their aspirations as natives of the digital age.

Engaging youth successfully to increase agricultural productivity will also mean engaging them in decision-making processes. Effective integration and inclusion of young women and men in Africa’s agricultural renaissance, through well-designed public investments in agriculture and continued progress on policy reforms will definitely play a significant role in the continent’s economic growth agenda. This includes land policy reforms that enable young people to access land.

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8. Hundreds of studies confirm: Women hit hardest by COVID-19

<https://www.devex.com/news/hundreds-of-studies-confirm-women-hit-hardest-by-covid-19-99598>

What was already assumed can now be confirmed: Women in low- and middle-income countries paid a disproportionately high price for the pandemic over the past year, according to an analysis of over 400 studies conducted since the pandemic began.

Over the past year, women saw decreased employment, working hours, and wages at higher rates than men. While the reasons for this vary, one of these is that women-owned firms tend to be in “consumer-facing” sectors, such as retail, hospitality, and tourism, which were hit hard by movement restrictions. This has meant increased unpaid care labor at home for women, among other impacts.

The analysis also found that of the multilateral bank projects in the agriculture sector examined, few had a focus on gender, even though women make up a large part of the agriculture sector in lower-income countries.

To improve these inequities, researchers recommended cash-transfers prioritizing women, policies that prioritize investment that reduces and redistribute women’s unpaid care work, the collection of data to better understand the impact of the pandemic on women and girls, and the elevation of women to more leadership roles.

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9. A Tale of Two Vendors: Gender Roles and Entrepreneurship in Chad's Lake Region

<https://seepnetwork.org/Blog-Post/A-Tale-of-Two-Vendors-Gender-Roles-and-Entrepreneurship-in-Chad-s-Lake-Region>

The International Rescue Committee (IRC) spoke with several hundred vendors in Chad’s Lake Region in 2019 and 2020 as part of a USAID-funded research project, *Generating Evidence on the Effect of Cash Relief on Local Markets*. The research focused on the effects of cash and voucher assistance on wholesalers and retailers in local markets, the challenges that vendors face in the aftermath of a crisis, and the types of support that crisis-affected vendors would find most useful to recover, maintain or develop their businesses.

One of the most striking findings coming out of the research in Chad was the disparity between women and men vendors. This was borne out in several ways, but most starkly in terms of business size.

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10. Cooperation Canada reacts to Budget 2021: A missed opportunity for Canada’s global engagement

<https://cooperation.ca/budget-2021-statement/>

The 2021 Budget provides for \$375 million in COVID-19 global response, encapsulated in a \$1.4 billion increase in international assistance, spread over five years.

“Canada is currently contributing far below its global fair share and its international commitments, investing only 30 cents in international assistance for every 100 dollars in gross national income. Despite an increase last year, Canada continues to perform below the average of donors of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Low levels of funding, exacerbated by unpredictable new allocations that follow political trends and media attention instead of the humanitarian needs and development strategies, are threatening the achievement of the government’s own Feminist International Assistance Policy.”

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11. Imagine Canada: Federal budget makes strides for non-profits and charities

<https://imaginecanada.ca/en/360/federal-budget-makes-strides-nonprofits-and-charities>

Toronto, April 19, 2021 - Today’s federal budget laid out a series of measures that will support the nation’s charities, non-profits and social entrepreneurs in what may be an unprecedented show of recognition for our sector by the federal government.

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12. New emergency fund brings relief to struggling women entrepreneurs in Senegal

<https://energy4impact.org/news/getting-back-business-new-emergency-fund-brings-covid-19-lockdown-relief-struggling-women>

Hundreds of women entrepreneurs in Senegal who have suffered devastating loss in business as a result of the pandemic are beginning to regain their livelihoods thanks to a new emergency fund set up by ENERGIA, the International Network on Gender and Sustainable Energy. The fund will provide 69 companies (comprising 594 women entrepreneurs) much needed financial support to restart their stalled activities.

Before the pandemic struck, the women had successful, healthy businesses, using solar technology to increase their productivity and improve the quality and value of their products and services – such as solar-powered irrigation for market gardens, solar presses and driers for food processing, and solar freezers to prolong the shelf-life of food stock. Despite the recent lifting of emergency measures and the resumption of economic activities, many entrepreneurs have been facing overwhelming challenges before they can get their businesses back on track.

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Reports, Publications, Resources

1. Review 2020: Energising the Green Economic Recovery

<https://endev.info/covid-19-enddev-presents-set-of-instruments-for-relief-and-green-economic-recovery/>

Report https://endev.info/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/EnDev_COVID-19_Energising_the_green_Economic_Recovery.pdf

In 2020, progress towards SDG7 and related SDGs were in jeopardy because of the COVID19 pandemic. The COVID-19 implications on the energy access markets were manifold. Markets were in hibernation, prices were increasing, global supply chains were disrupted. On the demand side, households were struggling with reduced incomes which reduced their ability to pay and resulted in a re-prioritisation of spending.

Against this background EnDev reacted quickly with the roll-out of a dedicated set of Green Economic Recovery Instruments that were able to A) quickly re-direct existing operations towards immediate COVID responses, and B) channel new funds effectively and rapidly towards the key sector players in need.

See Table 3 for a list of Rapid Response Activities and the countries where they were deployed.

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2. Launch of e-Waste Toolkit for Companies Working in Africa

<https://eepafrica.org/e-waste-toolkit-launch/>

<https://eepafrica.org/knowledge-hub/e-waste-toolkit/>

EEP Africa has partnered with CLASP to produce a set of resources to help companies overcome many of the barriers to e-waste management and recycling in Southern and East Africa.

The off-grid solar (OGS) market is growing rapidly across Africa, bringing life-changing access to modern energy services for people and communities currently living without electricity. Yet OGS products can have negative impacts on human and environmental health if not disposed of properly.

The online toolkit includes downloadable fact sheets covering issues such as battery handling and disposal, recommendations on how to reduce-reuse-recycle, and factors to consider when developing an e-waste management strategy. It also provides links to relevant and up-to-date information on recycling legislation and facilities in Africa, as well as to other policies, models and resources.

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3. The Female Farmer Project

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

Audra Mulkern is the founder of “The Female Farmer Project™”, a documentary project that showcases the rise of women working in agriculture. She gives a voice to the female farmer through in-depth stories, essays, photographs, podcasts, and films. This project has received international recognition and is in permanent exhibition at the USDA in Washington, D.C.

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4. Agriculture is increasing in importance among Kenya’s farmers

Hunger Map at <https://hungermap.wfp.org/>

60 Decibels Dashboard <https://app.60decibels.com/covid-19/agriculture> See the section on Gender. We stratified our sample ex-ante by gender allowing us to understand how male and female farmers may have experienced the pandemic differently. While the experiences of both groups are largely similar, see what we found interesting.

We were wowed by the World Food Programme’s Hunger Map, a near-real-time representation of hunger hotspots throughout the world. These results mirror what we found in our ongoing work to understand the impact of COVID-19 on Kenyan farmers: last month, 63% of farmers said farming was even more important for their livelihood, compared to 34% in July 2020. Similarly, 50% of farmers reported their farm is their household's main source of food compared to 25% in June 2020. This work is being extended thanks to the support of Mercy Corps' AgriFin Accelerator Programme, in partnership with FCDO's Research and Evaluation Directorate under the Strengthening Impact Investing Markets for Agriculture programme.

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5. Gender and the Dynamics of Economics Seminars

<https://cssh.northeastern.edu/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/GenderSeminarDynamics.pdf>

This project reflects an unusual partnership with the Seminar Dynamics Collective, a group of 97 members of the economics community who collected and processed the data used in this study and are considered co-authors.

Abstract

This paper reports the results of the first systematic attempt at quantitatively measuring the seminar culture within economics and testing whether it is gender neutral. We collected data on every interaction between presenters and their audience in hundreds of research seminars and job market talks across most leading economics departments, as well as during summer conferences.

We find that women presenters are treated differently than their male counterparts. Women are asked more questions during a seminar and the questions asked of women presenters are more likely to be patronizing or hostile. These effects are not due to women presenting in different fields, different seminar series, or different topics, as our analysis controls for the institution, seminar series, and JEL codes associated with each presentation. Moreover, it appears that there are important differences by field and that these differences are not uniformly mitigated by more rigid seminar formats. Our findings add to an emerging literature documenting the ways in which women economists are treated differently than men and suggest yet another potential explanation for their under-representation at senior levels within the economics profession.

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6. Accounting for the Gender Profit Gap

<https://www.financialaccess.org/blog/2021/3/2/links-and-resources-faiVlive-accounting-for-the-gender-profit-gap>

On March 2, faiVLive [Financial Access Initiative] held a webinar on Accounting for the Gender Profit Gap, with Nava Ashraf, Morgan Hardy, Rachael Pierotti, and Tatiana Rincón, and moderated by Tim Ogden. The recording and research links are available at the link. Some examples:

- Delecourt, Solène and Odysia Ng, 2021. *Does Gender Matter for Small Business Performance? Experimental Evidence from India*
- Riley, Emma, 2020. *Resisting social pressure in the household using mobile money: Experimental evidence on microenterprise investment in Uganda*
- Guérin, Isabelle, Christophe Jalil Nordman, Elena Reboul, 2021. *The Gender of Debt and Credit: Insights from Rural Tamil Nadu*

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7. Diversity, Equity & Inclusion in Evaluation

<https://evaluationbc.ca/DEI-Commitment>

The British Columbia chapter of the Canadian Evaluation Society (CES), CESBC continues to work toward advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion in the evaluation field. We recently developed a DEI statement showing our commitment to this work. As part of our commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), CESBC recognizes systemic and structural oppression happens, among other ways, through the silencing and ignoring of certain voices. Given the position of evaluators to influence policies, the inclusion of underrepresented communities both in the evaluator community and in evaluations is an important way to recognize and address oppression. CESBC hereby commits to advancing the mandate of supporting evaluators in dismantling systemic and structural oppression through:

- Building an evaluator community that reflects the diversity in our society;
- Creating opportunities to promote the involvement of underrepresented groups as members and in professional development opportunities; and
- Supporting and educating evaluators to integrate diverse voices in evaluation work.

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8. Food Systems Summit Dialogue

<https://ccafs.cgiar.org/events/pledge-now-transform-agricultural-innovation>

YouTube video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gSodJ7u5yPc>

This independent Food Systems Summit Dialogue will enrich the canvas of perspectives on how food systems can be transformed for a climate-smart future. The dialogue will explore opportunities for stakeholders to become an integral part of this campaign, which will see significant announcements and initiatives at both the UN Food Systems Summit and COP26. In addition, the dialogue will pinpoint ways in which both summits can align in their objectives to support the kind of transformation we seek, and how we—as a global community—can act to support this alignment.

There is a growing recognition that business as usual in agricultural innovation will not deliver the SDGs by 2030. Against this backdrop, the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) launched the ‘Transforming Agricultural Innovation for People, Nature and Climate’ campaign as part of its COP26 Presidency.

The campaign—co-chaired by CCAFS—will transform agricultural innovation by building a global coalition of pledges around the three pillars of the ‘Just Rural Transition’: policy, transformation and scale.

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9. SCWIST - Society for Canadian Women in Science and Technology

<https://scwist.ca/>

As we celebrate SCWIST’s 40th Anniversary, we plan to expand many of our programs. Please have a look at our website to see what we are up to: there are many interesting and international events happening- all on zoom. Programs include:

- Ms Infinity/Youth Engagement: Our community-based programs show women and girls that career options in STEM are infinite.
- IWIS: A supportive community for immigrating women in STEM to share experiences, seek advice, and broaden networks.
- Make Possible: Our online platform specializes in skill-sharing and building diverse connections through 360 degree mentoring.
- Make Diversity Possible: We are working with STEM organizations to attract diverse talent and create inclusive workplace cultures where everyone can thrive.

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10. **Webinar Recording: Placing Feminist Economic Justice at the Core of an Equitable Green Future at NGO-CSW 65**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oib8piucnBE>

This session discussed the structural policy and economic governance reforms in the international financial architecture required for the implementation of feminist economic justice. A feminist economy, with its key principles and analytical frameworks, is indispensable for a Global Green New Deal that works on a global level, beyond the boundaries of national politics, and in favor of an internationalist and equitable approach.

While greening the economy has been a political and rhetorical focus of many, this has mostly focused on green financialization efforts which, in the long-term, harm both people and planet, particularly in developing countries.

Putting feminist, and global, economic justice back at the core of the debate, our discussants look at the 1) changes needed in macroeconomics, specifically fiscal and monetary policy, 2) governance reforms required for debt justice and 3) shifts required for feminist tax justice. Ultimately, this session led an open discussion on the paradigm shifts needed to transition to democratic, decarbonized, resilient and reparative systems that work for the global majority.

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11. **Case Study: Agricultural Credit Units Project in Rwanda**

<https://seepnetwork.org/Resource-Post/Case-Study-AFR-s-Agricultural-Credit-Units-Project>

The ACU project was designed to address existing market failures on the supply and demand sides of the agricultural finance market which have resulted in agricultural loans comprising only 6% of outstanding loans in Rwanda. At the time of project inception, existing agricultural credit products were weak and inappropriate to farmers’ needs while financial service providers faced challenges with high non-performing loan rates of agricultural portfolios. To address these market failures in agricultural finance, the ACU project was designed with the purpose of increasing access to financial services for poor rural and urban people (especially women and youth) that engage in agricultural activities and micro, small, and medium agribusiness enterprises (MSMEs).

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