

April 1, 2022

GEM Digest of the Month

Published monthly since December 2009



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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Source: *Organic Without Boundaries. Year of Organics 2022.*
<https://www.organicwithoutboundaries.bio/2022/03/07/thank-a-woman-farmer/>

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Opportunities and Coming Events

1. Science for Ukraine

<https://scienceforukraine.eu/about.html>

#ScienceForUkraine is a community group of volunteer students and research scientists from academic institutions in Europe and around the world. On this website you will find a wide range of paid academic positions for scientists (PhD student or above), academic transfer opportunities for graduate and undergraduate students, as well as temporary housing.

Our mission is to collect and disseminate information about support opportunities at the university, national, and international level for graduate students and researchers directly affiliated to an academic institution in Ukraine.

We are collecting offers directed specifically to scholars fleeing Ukraine. We do not include general calls or programmes where everyone else can apply.

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2. New project explores impacts of biodiversity loss on women and girls

<https://www.iied.org/new-project-explores-impacts-biodiversity-loss-women-girls>

International Institute for Environment & Development IIED is undertaking a review of the impacts of biodiversity loss on women and girls and has launched a survey to capture views on these impacts, the policy gaps and barriers to participation in decision making.

The project invites women's representatives, participants from women's networks and organisations, activists, researchers and policymakers to fill in a survey to identify the key impacts of biodiversity loss on women and girls; policy and implementation gaps; and barriers to inclusion of women and girls in biodiversity and environmental leadership and decision making.

The final report will be ready at the end of **March 2022**. Participation in the survey is ongoing, and we are still seeking views from interested participants.

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3. Together for Learning Summit and Campaign Canada

<https://www.international.gc.ca/campaign-campagne/together-learning-ensemble-apprentissage/summit-sommet.aspx>

On **March 30 and 31, 2022**, Canada will host the *Together for Learning Summit: Engaging Displaced Youth to Transform Education*. The Summit, part of the Together for Learning campaign, will offer a unique opportunity to learn from the educational experiences of displaced youth and to engage with them as problem solvers and decision makers. The Summit aims to set an agenda for the future to make sure that refugee, other forcibly displaced and host community children and youths have access to the quality education and lifelong learning opportunities they need and deserve.

Minister Sajjan launched the #TogetherforLearning Summit and described its 3 themes: inclusive and quality education, gender equality and technology and innovation.

You are welcome to participate during the public sessions by registering to the summit.

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4. "Ins and Outs" of Transition to Science Jobs Outside Academia

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/chat-with-us-ins-and-outs-of-transition-to-science-jobs-outside-academia-tickets-253835738527>

The Society for Canadian Women in Science and Technology - Quebec (SCWIST - Quebec) will feature the experiences and perspectives of two inspiring speakers with diverse backgrounds who work in science.

Join us for a live chat on **Thursday March 31st, at 6:00 pm EST (Montreal time)** with professionals in the field of biomedical sciences that successfully bypassed this hesitation and are offering to give you the most helpful tips and tricks on how to transition smoothly and confidently to jobs in biomedical sciences outside academia.

Various topics will be discussed, such as: what are the different types of positions, what to expect at the job, dynamics of the pharmaceutical industries, do's and don'ts in the application/interview process, etc.

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5. Horticulture Technician Pre-Apprenticeship Training Program for Women

<https://skillsforchange.org/women/womenhorticulture/>

The Horticulture Technician Pre-Apprenticeship Training Program for Women prepares women who have a keen interest in the skilled trades for employment in the landscape sector. Typical jobs in this industry include landscape construction, grounds and golf course maintenance, parks operations and gardens care. We'll be launching the program on **April 1**.

The program is full-time, offers intensive training and prepares women who have a keen interest in the Skilled Trades for employment in the landscape sector. Skills for Change is a Toronto-based organization.

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6. Community-Led Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (CoLMEAL)

<https://salanga.org/measure-impact/colmeal/>

Join us for a free webinar on **April 7th at 9am EST** on "Is your organization ready for Community-Led Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (CoLMEAL)? If you have been wondering how to assess your organization's

readiness to adopt ColMEAL or how to create a roadmap for integrating it into your programming, then this webinar is for you!

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7. Three Minute Thesis (3MT) competition at U of Manitoba

<https://news.umanitoba.ca/introducing-the-2022-3mt-finalists/>

Representing a wide array of some of the most inspiring and engaging research being conducted by graduate students at UM, the 3MT Final will take place on **April 7**. Students, staff, faculty and the wider community are encouraged to watch the competition online. A panel of judges will decide first, second and third place, while the online audience will vote for People’s Choice.

3MT is an annual competition where challengers have just three minutes to present their research and its importance in plain language, using only a single slide to illustrate their topic. The competitors are judged on comprehension, engagement, ease of communication all while providing an understanding of the background and significance of their research. Some of the contestants include:

- Chitra Sivakumar – Biosystems Engineering, Thesis: Non-destructive analysis of pulse flours.
- Kaitlynn Weisgerber – Biological Sciences, Thesis: Investigating spontaneous autopolyploidy in wild and hatchery lake sturgeon.

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8. Science Careers at Fisheries & Oceans Canada

<https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/about-notre-sujet/publications/infographics-infographies/all-science-tous-eng.html>

At Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), we protect and manage Canada’s oceans, fisheries, including aquaculture all while supporting a diverse participation in fisheries. As a Public Service employer, we understand the importance and meaningful impact of diversity, employment equity and inclusion and we are working diligently to build a workforce that truly represents the population we serve.

Deadline to submit application is **April 13, 2022**.

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9. Women in Food & Agriculture Survey 2022

<https://www.research.net/r/BTX79BH>

Women in Food and Agriculture is back with our industry-wide survey to gather real-world insights into the professional landscape for women in food and ag. What could your organisation do better? How can your business increase the percentage of women in senior leadership? How can your company ensure that men and women are promoted equally?

We're calling on women and men in the sector to take part in our survey to help us to identify opportunities for greater inclusivity and allow you to understand how your business strategies compare against others.

The WFA survey is open to all genders across the global food supply chain. It will **close mid April** and the results will be published in an **industry-wide report in June**.

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10. Solar Water Pump Awareness Raising - Webinar

https://clasp.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_UPSygTdkReSflrZzYRk87w

Between September to December 2021, Efficiency for Access ran an in-person consumer awareness-raising campaign in Machakos county, Kenya, to raise awareness around and stimulate demand for high-quality solar water pumps. Following the campaign closure and in line with the ongoing #EfficiencyforAgTech social media campaign, Efficiency for Access will host a webinar at **2 – 3.30 pm GMT, Wednesday 20 April** to share the lessons learned and impacts from the SWP campaign. The live Q&A style webinar will feature two experts from CLASP and our Efficiency for Access Donor Coalition member, Water and Energy for Food, as well as a smallholder farmer from Kenya who has used solar irrigation to grow her farm's output significantly. Register for the event.

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11. Fostering Advocates for Gender and Mining Governance in 133 Nations

<https://www.igfmining.org/impactstory/fostering-advocates-gender-mining-governance/>

Gender inequality persists in much of the global mining sector. As with previous generations, women today are often excluded from decision making, underrepresented in the workforce, and face discrimination on mine sites and in affected communities.

To build the necessary awareness and skills to advance gender quality, the IGF and partners launched a free Gender and Mining Governance massive online open course (MOOC). The course offered in 2020 received feedback on improvement.

In 2022, the partners launched a **self-paced version of the course**, allowing participants to progress through the modules on their own schedule. <https://www.learningfornature.org/en/courses/gender-and-mining-governance-2022/>. The course will cover the following topics:

- Module 1: Introduction to Gender and Mining Governance
- Module 2: Women's participation in decision-making in the mining sector
- Module 3: Gender-based violence in the mining sector
- Module 4: Investment in gender in mining governance

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12. Advancing Women in Ag Conferences 2022 – West and East

<https://www.advancingwomenconference.ca/2022west/>

Let's re-new relationships and gather with other women who are passionate about ag and learn skills and tools to use in 2022 and beyond at **AWCWEST 2022** being held on **June 21 & 22, 2022 at the Hyatt Regency Calgary!** And stay tuned for news of **AWC EAST 2022** being held at the Sheraton Fallsview on **November 21 & 22, 2022.**

- Hear expert speakers that will motivate and inspire.
- Learn new skills and tools to help you excel and grow
- Meet leaders in the industry and hear their story
- Meet new entrepreneurs and hear their innovations
- Manage your well-being and build resiliency
- Meet, connect, network and support other women passionate about agriculture and food.

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This Month's News

1. An online movement to help Ukrainian researchers

<https://www.theverge.com/2022/3/17/22979250/ukraine-scientists-international-resources-war>

Members of the international scientific community have also found it hard to look away from the conflict or ignore the plight of their colleagues. In recent weeks, this desire to help has resulted in an earnest and extensive online movement made up of individuals, groups of volunteers, and institutions, which are using the internet and social media to offer Ukrainian scientists and students affected by war all the support they can: jobs, a place to continue their studies, a new home.

Unfortunately, while the scientific community's offers of help from around the world are appreciated by Ukrainian scientists, many will not be able to take advantage of them. Those who remain in the country are dealing with unimaginable destruction and horror. Even the scientists who want to leave sometimes can't get to the border or aren't allowed to cross it. Others have taken up arms to help the Ukrainian military or are volunteering in their cities to deliver clothing, food, and medicine.

After the war, scientists in Ukraine will continue to do research. Yet, many young scientists will leave the country to work in the European Union, the US, and elsewhere, a prospect that is very sad.

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2. Step up academia, parents still need support

<https://500womenscientists.medium.com/step-up-academia-parents-still-need-support-e77d9934e407>

In February, SciMom Journeys penned a piece imploring academia to step up, and academic institutions to still do better to protect caregivers, now and into the future. Here's an extract:

"Women in science have experienced career disruptions that will take years, or even decades, to undo. In academia, where women and marginalized identities remain underrepresented due to systematic barriers on the long road to tenure-track positions that frequently conflict with desires for family building, it seems progress towards equity is quickly unraveling. Data has shown that pandemic setbacks have disproportionately fallen on women and early career researchers in academia, with other studies forecasting that the nature of these setbacks implies that these disparities may persist for years."

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3. Les Scientifines Supports Girls in STEM

<https://scientifines.com/en/>

With more than 30 years of experience in popular science, Les Scientifines' mission is to promote science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) to girls aged 8 to 17 from underprivileged urban areas to enable the development of various competencies, thus countering school drop-out and poverty among women.

To date, Les Scientifines remains the only organization in the Greater Montreal region to offer activities free of charge to girls aged 8 to 17 that promote staying in school, exploring an interest in STEM and the development of transversal skills.

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4. Hackergal Supports Girls in Technology

<https://hackergal.org/>

At Hackergal we know that technology would not be the same without the invaluable contributions of women. That's why we know it's time to change the face of computer science and pave the way for a technology industry that is diverse and inclusive of underrepresented groups across Canada!

It's an alarming fact that women represent just 23% of STEM workers, a number that has increased by only 2% in 30 years. Hackergal is addressing this challenge, one girl at a time.

Hackergal exposes girls to computer science in a supportive learning environment that builds their confidence and inspires them to pursue a career in technology. We partner with schools and organizations across the country, providing educators, facilitators and parents with the tools and resources they need to expose girls to coding education in their schools, communities, and at home.

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5. Women in Science

<https://idrc.ca/en/research-in-action/women-science>

The under-representation of women persists in fields traditionally dominated by men, and despite many and varied efforts to eradicate it, the “glass ceiling” for women in science is among the hardest to break. Today, women represent 30% of the world’s researchers and just 12% of members of national science academies, with even smaller proportions in lower-income countries.

Research Highlights:

The Education and Science program is committed to supporting the production of evidence that can help advance the inclusion and leadership of women in stronger and more equitable science systems in the Global South. This includes:

- improving the representation and participation of women scientists
- advancing gender analysis and considerations in STEM fields including AI
- understanding and breaking down barriers faced by women and other marginalized groups in science

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6. What technology will we be celebrating 5 years from now?

<https://womenintechworld.com/>

Women in Tech World reflects on the progress that has been made for gender equity within the tech industry. What do you see? When you look back five years ago, have things gotten better or worse for you? Have things gotten better or worse for women in tech? We see in recent research studies that the pandemic has set women back and hit women hard when it comes to pay and promotions, in particular working moms, women in senior management, and Black women and Latinas.

In 2017, we drove across the country to understand the state of Canadian women in tech with the hope that five years later we would see evidence of real progress. And while there have been lots of articles, awards and announcements about support (mostly mentorship), how much have things really changed for women in tech in the workplace?

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7. Women Leading on Climate

<http://womenleadingonclimate.org/>

<https://www.climateandnature.com/>

Climate and Nature Solutions works with governments, not-for profits, academia, and the private sector to scale practical climate and nature-based solutions. These include:

- Empowering half the population through *Women Leading on Climate*. Women and girls are leading the climate revolution and we need to amplify their voices and support them.
- Supporting the protection of 30% of the world's nature in partnership with Indigenous Peoples
- Accelerating as fast as possible the move from coal to clean energy through innovative financing and a just transition for workers and communities
- Supporting clean tech companies to help scale solutions

- Advancing work on a global price on carbon, border carbon adjustments and effective international carbon markets

Women Leading on Climate is supporting changemakers around the world and elevating the voices of incredible leaders working on climate. See what they had to say at COP26.

The Honourable Catherine McKenna is a Canadian lawyer and former politician who served as a cabinet minister from 2015 to 2021. She also co-founded the charitable organization Level Justice in addition to Climate and Nature Solutions and Women Leading on Climate.

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8. Female scientists in Occupied Palestinian Territories call for global support

<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-022-00314-0>

We — Palestinian scientists, and members of 500 Women Scientists — wrote in Nature Correspondence to call attention to the continuing plight of women trying to do research in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, including the struggles involved with affording essential equipment, commuting to the lab through multiple checkpoints, and global barriers to publishing research.

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9. Women Lighting the Way in Off-Grid Zimbabwe

<https://www.ipsnews.net/2022/03/international-womens-day-2022women-lighting-way-off-grid-zimbabwe/>

PowerLive Zimbabwe is a woman-led social enterprise which uses mostly women to sell, distribute and install solar energy systems on a pay-as-you-go (PAYG) model to off-grid rural households. Sharon Yeti, the founder and CEO of PowerLive Zimbabwe, says 75 percent of her company’s workers are women, and 85 percent of the 40 sales agents are women. Forty percent of the technicians or installers are women too.

Since its inception, the energy start-up has distributed 4,789 solar homes systems to over 20,000 households in ten of the country’s districts. The project isn’t just focused on solar lights but distributes solar products for productive uses like solar water pumps, fridges, hair clippers and entertainment.

According to a 2019 report from the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), renewable energy employs about 32% of women globally compared to 22% in the energy sector overall.

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10. Nestlé cash transfer scheme could boost farmer income, but will it?

<https://www.devex.com/news/nestle-cash-transfer-scheme-could-boost-farmer-income-but-will-it-102730>

A new initiative from Nestlé intends to use conditional cash transfers to tackle several long-running problems with the cocoa supply chain that threaten both human and planetary health, as well as trace exactly where every batch of cocoa came from.

The company’s “income accelerator program” will compensate farmers in the world’s primary growing regions in West Africa, which produce the company’s cocoa, for avoiding harmful actions such as child labor and deforestation by paying them cash to keep their children in school and protecting the environment around their farms.

Payments are divided between the farmer and their spouse. Darrell High, manager of Nestlé Cocoa Plan, said giving money specifically to women can help ensure that the extra funds are going toward things such as improved nutrition for children.

Experts in cocoa supply chains and sustainability say the program has many positive aspects but warn it alone cannot solve all of the industry's problems and paying a fair price for the commodity remains essential.

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11. Food 4 Farmers Helps Coffee-Farming Families Overcome Seasonal Food Insecurity

<https://foodtank.com/news/2022/03/food-4-farmers-helps-coffee-farming-families-overcome-seasonal-food-insecurity/>

Food 4 Farmers (F4F) is a non-governmental organization collaborating with coffee-growing communities in Latin America. The organization hopes to build thriving local food hubs, diversify family incomes, promote sustainable agricultural practices, and cultivate local leadership.

Since 2011, F4F has established partnerships with 6 local organizations and coffee cooperatives in Colombia, Guatemala, Mexico, and Nicaragua, representing more than 8,000 coffee-farming families.

Co-op partners at CESMACH are beginning the organic certification process for their honey, so they can sell it for higher prices. Beekeeping also requires less land, allowing women and young people, who are often excluded from local job opportunities, to get involved.

Through F4F's partnership with SOPPEXCCA, Nicaraguan women are also cultivating food security for their families. The organic farmers market, Mercadito Orgánico Nutri-Hogar, enables women to supply their families with fresh food from their home gardens, while also receiving a regular income.

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12. Contextualizing challenges to women's inclusion in building climate-resilient agricultural value chains

<https://idrc.ca/en/research-in-action/contextualizing-challenges-womens-inclusion-building-climate-resilient>

In recent years, climate change, regional disruptions and COVID-19-related public health measures have markedly exacerbated challenges to gender equality in African agriculture and food systems. The debate on how best to support women's involvement in these systems is complex and multi-faceted, and the increasing magnitude of such obstacles has only left the conversation more fraught.

Three different IDRC-funded research projects spanning three African regions offer a unique perspective on opportunities, challenges and a way forward for women working in agricultural value chains. These projects were also the focus of an event during last year's African Green Revolution Forum.

- The Cultivate Africa's Future (CultiAF) **precooked beans** project, based in Kenya and Uganda, directly addresses gender inequality in local communities and the value chain.
- Another research project is working to improve food and nutrition security in poor, rural communities in Morocco through the **quinoa** value chain.
- The third project focuses on Burkina Faso's shea supply chains, which bear a long and resilient history spanning 700 years. Currently, there are 10,000 women's organizations trading in **shea** and 94% of households collect shea – of which 60% sell shea nuts or shea butter.

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13. New research supports a gender-equal recovery through low-carbon innovation

<https://www.idrc.ca/en/news/new-research-supports-gender-equal-recovery-through-low-carbon-innovation>

Over the next three years, 12 new research projects supported by IDRC will address the gender barriers that hinder women’s access to economic opportunities, while supporting sustainable climate-resilient recovery. Some of the projects are:

- i. Energy transition for the economic empowerment of women through the horticultural value chain in a post-COVID context in Guinea and Senegal
- ii. Land restoration for post-COVID rural and Indigenous women’s empowerment and poverty reduction in Cameroon
- iii. Prioritizing options for women’s empowerment and resilience in food tree value chains in Malawi
- iv. Reorienting the private sector in African countries to enable climate-smart agricultural solutions to address gender inequalities
- v. Economic empowerment of women through forest solutions in Nepal
- vi. Creating Indigenous women's green jobs under low-carbon COVID-19 response and recovery in the Bolivian quinoa sector
- vii. Gaza food connections – Towards resilient women-led urban agroecological farming initiatives

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14. OPINION: Climate migration is a reality. Let’s focus on solutions for women

<https://news.trust.org/item/20220302165050-76dhv>

As climate change worsens and forces more people to leave their homes, women are likely to feel the heaviest consequences of displacement. Women, when forced from home by the impacts of climate change or conflict, are also often at risk of gender-based violence and various forms of exploitation and abuse in precarious displacement settings, with no access to safety nets, social networks, communities, services and economic opportunities.

The solution lies in two parts. First, we must aim at preventing forced displacement in the first place. When displacement is the only choice, it must be planned and well prepared in a gender-responsive manner and with the contributions of affected women and girls in planning efforts. The second part of the solution is to protect the women unavoidably displaced by climate change.

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15. OPINION: How COP27 can deliver climate justice for rural women

<https://news.trust.org/item/20220306155029-asfnp/>

The UN conference, hosted by Egypt, will also be an opportunity to build on the recognition at COP26 that women and girls both face a disproportionate burden from climate change, and represent unfulfilled potential in adapting to its consequences.

To help guide climate investments, new research has revealed hotspots among 87 low- to middle-income countries where three overlapping risk factors converge: a high likelihood of climate hazards, a high proportion of women in agriculture and a high level of gender inequality.

But governments and partners must also be careful to design climate interventions in ways that avoid unintended consequences and increase the burden on women.

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16. Land rights can break the gender bias in climate action for the good of the planet

<https://odi.org/en/insights/land-rights-can-break-the-gender-bias-in-climate-action-for-the-good-of-the-planet/>

Breaking the Bias is key when it comes to the climate crisis as women are more vulnerable to climate shocks, yet less able to build resilience due to the cultural and legal biases that frustrate their agency over land and resources. Subjective data offers us ways to spot these biases and target ways of breaking them.

The IPCC climate report highlighted three ways in which climate adaptation, gender equality and secure land rights overlap.

- First, the report states with high confidence that gender inequality makes women more vulnerable to climate impacts, especially in terms of crop management.
- Second, insecure land tenure can exacerbate the negative impacts of climate change by forcing women to adopt unsustainable coping mechanisms.
- Third, the report highlights that insecure land tenure not only exacerbates the negative effects of climate change on biodiversity and ecosystem loss, but on gender equality as well.

Perceptions data on the attitudes, opinions and preferences of men and women, such as those gathered by land rights initiative Prindex, can help lift the lid on the gender divide in the home and in communities.

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17. Stand for Her Land campaign

<https://stand4herland.org/about-the-campaign/>

When women control the land they live and work on, they have the power to multiply opportunity for themselves and their families and communities. Land ownership boosts women’s political engagement, increases their influence, and helps them combat climate change.

The Stand for Her Land Campaign is closing the implementation gap for women’s land rights: the gulf between the strong standards in place to protect women’s rights to land, and the realization of those rights in practice, so that millions of women can realize the transformational power of rights to land.

Our community of diverse allies works via a coalition model, linking global and local actors and empowering grassroots women leaders and men who are champions for gender justice to advocate for stronger women’s land rights.

Country coalitions exist in Bangladesh, Tanzania, Colombia, Senegal, and Uganda.

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18. Using Science and Celtic Wisdom to Save Trees (and Souls)

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/02/24/climate/celtic-wisdom-trees-climate.html>

Dr. Diana Beresford-Kroeger’s goal is to combat the climate crisis by fighting for what’s left of the great forests (she says the vast boreal wilderness that stretches across the Northern Hemisphere is as vital as the Amazon) and rebuilding what’s already come down. Trees store carbon dioxide and oxygenate the air, making them “the best and only thing we have right now to fight climate change and do it fast,” she said.

Dr. Beresford-Kroeger has also cultivated an arboreal Noah’s Ark of rare and hardy specimens that can best withstand a warming planet. The native trees she planted on her property in this rural village sequester more carbon and better resist drought, storms and temperature swings, she said, and also produce high quality, protein-rich nuts.

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19. If You Ate Today, Thank a Woman Farmer

<https://www.organicwithoutboundaries.bio/2022/03/07/thank-a-woman-farmer/>

One day isn’t enough to do justice to the incredible work carried out by women in agriculture around the world. This International Women’s Day and beyond, let’s celebrate the women leading the transformation of our food systems.

For International Women’s Day, we asked some of the incredible leaders, farmers, and sustainability advocates in the organic community to share a message that matters to them. Hear from them at the link.

This year, IFOAM – Organics International will turn 50, IFOAM Organics Europe 20, and IFOAM Asia 10. To mark these milestones, we’re dedicating the year 2022 to raising awareness of the benefits of organic agriculture for people and the planet.

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20. Empowering Women in Forest Communities is Key to Achieving Climate Goals and SDGs

<http://sdg.iisd.org/commentary/guest-articles/international-womens-day-empowering-women-in-forest-communities-is-key-to-achieving-climate-goals-and-sdgs>

Story Highlights:

- As we celebrate 2022 International Women’s Day and look towards an in-depth review of SDG 5 (Gender equality) in July, it is time to take concrete action to empower women in forest communities and tap their knowledge to help solve our climate crisis.
- It has been estimated that, globally, 80% of unpaid fuelwood collection is done by women and girls.
- In Colombia, the government and the FAO have been helping to make women’s voices and priorities heard, and women’s participation in community forestry in the country increased from 15% in 2018 to 40% in 2020.

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21. The Do More Agriculture Foundation

<https://www.domore.ag/announcements/megz-reynolds-joins-the-do-more-agriculture-foundation-as-executive-director>

Saskatchewan, March 2022 – The Do More Agriculture Foundation (Do More Ag), national leader, voice and champion for mental health in Canadian agriculture welcomes new Executive Director, Megz Reynolds to the organization.

Reynolds will lead efforts to increase mental health awareness, continue to build community around mental health and support/expand upon the agriculture mental health educational programming offered through the foundation. Reynolds will also work closely with provincial and federal governments to develop and implement AgTalk, a 24/7, agriculture specific mental health support line for all Canadian producers and their families.

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22. Manitoba Farm, Rural & Northern Support Services

<https://supportline.ca/>

Manitoba Farm, Rural & Northern Support Services (MFRNSS) provides telephone and on-line counselling to farmers, rural and northern Manitobans. We also offer public education, a volunteer training program, and a monthly Suicide Bereavement Support group. The MFRNSS houses a Rural Mental Health Resource Centre with books, videos and articles related to rural, northern, indigenous, and agricultural mental health.

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23. Spark+ Africa Fund Raises Over \$40 Million to Invest in Clean and Modern Cooking Solutions in Africa

<https://www.sparkafricafund.com/>

LUXEMBOURG, March 16, 2022 – Today, the Spark+ Africa Fund (“Spark+”) launched in partnership with 12 development finance institutions, foundations, family offices, and pension funds as the world’s first impact fund financing clean and modern cooking solutions in developing markets.

900 million people in sub-Saharan Africa lack clean and modern cooking solutions. Without the electric stoves and piped natural gas prevalent in developed countries, they are forced to spend an estimated \$35 billion annually on unhealthy and polluting open fires, charcoal, and kerosene. According to a World Bank report released in 2020, this generates annual social, environmental, and economic costs of more than \$330 billion in Africa, while the investment required by the private sector to deliver access to modern alternatives would be only \$2.6 billion per year.

To bridge this investment gap, Spark+ will finance pioneering companies that offer life-improving biomass, biogas, ethanol, electric, and LPG-based cooking technologies to low-income consumers. These solutions not only keep families safe and healthy and save them time and money but also have a range of societal benefits including greater gender equality, reduced greenhouse gas emissions and deforestation, and industrial and economic development. Clean cooking is considered to directly impact at least 11 of the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals.

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24. Grantees announced for \$1B gender fund backed by women philanthropists

<https://www.devex.com/news/grantees-announced-for-1b-gender-fund-backed-by-women-philanthropists-102866>

A \$1 billion gender equality fund launched by collaborative philanthropy group Co-Impact has announced its first 15 grantees, Catherine Cheney reports. “Women-led organizations have just been historically under-resourced and under-supported, and so we want to course-correct for that,” says Co-Impact’s Yasmin Madan.

Co-Impact first announced its plan to raise and deploy \$1 billion over 10 years through its new Gender Fund in June. Specifically, the fund aims to increase funding for women-led organizations, which Co-Impact said currently receive only 1% of gender equality funding globally.

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25. Opinion: Nutritious school meals are the key for Africa's children

<https://www.devex.com/news/opinion-nutritious-school-meals-are-the-key-for-africa-s-children-102711>

On March 1, the African Union marks the 7th African Day of School Feeding to highlight the essential role that school meal programs can and should be playing in this effort. The African Union Development Agency is also releasing new guidelines for member states on the design and implementation of such programs under the homegrown school feeding model, which links school meals to agricultural development by sourcing foods produced by local farming households.

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26. Faith vs. nutrition: India’s school meals program walks on eggshells

<https://www.devex.com/news/faith-vs-nutrition-india-s-school-meals-program-walks-on-eggshells-102406>

Since 2001, children attending a public or government-aided school till the upper-primary level in India are legally entitled to a daily hot meal. While the aim of the midday meal scheme has been to increase enrollment and reduce child malnutrition, a study by IFPRI showed that if properly implemented, the scheme can have intergenerational nutritional benefits. School meals can contribute to and impact later fertility decisions, future access to health care, and reduce the risk of undernutrition in the next generation.

Dietary norms and exclusion of eggs in school lunches called midday meals have been a source of constant tussle between governments, students, and faith groups. Religious leaders from lactovegetarian communities called for removal of eggs from the meals on grounds that it is insensitive to their religious sentiments.

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27. The tragedy of Afghanistan's malnourished children

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-60466398>

When you travel through Helmand province, destruction caused by war can be seen in almost every area. The scale of it in Sangin town is particularly shocking. There are swathes of land covered with debris and mud, where once homes and shops had stood. These areas are where foreign and Afghan troops encountered some of their fiercest battles and where British soldiers were posted.

Abdul Raziq is from a community that has lived on the frontline for decades. "We are happy there is peace now, but we have no food, no work and no money. Wheat and fuel have become too expensive", he says. "Hundreds of children in my village are malnourished. In every house, you will find two or three. We have nothing to feed their mothers, that's why they're being born like this."

Everywhere we went, we asked what people had eaten that day. Most described sharing a few pieces of dry bread between whole families. Children are the most vulnerable in this crisis of hunger. Afghanistan's youngest generation is being left to die. In many of the areas we visited, malnutrition deaths might not even get recorded or counted. The world might never know the scale of the tragedy unfolding in Afghanistan.

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28. 70% of Afghan households can't meet basic needs

<https://www.devex.com/news/70-of-afghan-households-can-t-meet-basic-needs-world-bank-survey-102849>

A new survey shows that 70% of households in Afghanistan cannot meet their basic needs, a sharp spike from previous data putting that figure at 35% in May. The results, released by the World Bank on March 15 suggest that employment opportunities are limited in urban areas and that earnings have significantly decreased in all regions, contributing to the pressures on households.

"There has been a big increase in adults reducing the amounts that they eat, so children can eat," said Ghazala Mansuri, a World Bank economist, adding that the quality of food was also in decline.

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29. The Cost of War: 23 Million Afghans Suffer Acute Hunger, 95% Don't Eat Enough Food

<https://www.ipsnews.net/2022/03/cost-war-23-million-afghans-suffer-acute-hunger-95-dont-eat-enough-food/>

MADRID, Mar 24 2022 (IPS) - Following 20 long years (2011-2021) of brutal war on Afghanistan by the US-led military coalition, which ended up in delivering the country to the Taliban in August 2021, 23 million Afghans now face severe and acute hunger, economic bankruptcy, healthcare system collapse, unbearable family indebtedness, and devastating humanitarian crisis.

In Afghanistan, a staggering 95 per cent of the population is not eating enough food, with that percentage rising to almost 100 per cent for female-headed households.

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30. Woman who fed thousands in Zimbabwe’s lockdown thinks bigger

<https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2022/mar/14/samantha-murozoki-whats-next-for-the-woman-who-fed-thousands-in-zimbabwe-lockdown>

Immigration lawyer Samantha Murozoki did not plan to be still cooking for her neighbourhood two years after she first gave out leftover sadza porridge to hungry children in her street. Now, even though the number of people struggling to find food each day has eased in line with Zimbabwe’s lockdown measures, which have allowed people to return to work, Murozoki, 34, continues to feed nearly 800 people daily.

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31. Scientific Decoupling from Russia

<https://scholarlykitchen.sspnet.org/2022/03/02/decoupling-from-russia/>

This article addresses the challenges that sanctions pose to scientific openness and global cooperation. It's written from a publisher's point of view.

A new Cold War atmosphere took hold in Europe with shocking suddenness, accompanied by a hope that military conflict does not spread any further. This article discusses this decoupling in the contexts of research collaboration, scientific exchange, and scholarly communication.

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32. ‘It’s a vocation’: the women leading Barcelona’s craft beer revolution

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/mar/13/its-a-vocation-the-women-leading-barcelonas-craft-beer-revolution>

Female brewers in the Catalan capital are finding success in an industry traditionally dominated by men. It was a woman, Judit Cartex, who helped establish Barcelona as Spain’s craft beer capital.

“As a brewer you feel you’re contributing to the common good. It’s not a job, it’s a vocation,” says Covadonga García Pérez, 24, one of many female brewers in this traditionally male world. García Pérez is collaborating with another young woman, Cristina Fernández Romero, 27, who usually works at Espiga, a brewery just outside the city, but has joined her at La Textil on a brewing project.

Fernández Romero says she became interested in brewing during her Erasmus year in the Czech Republic, where she was astonished at the range of different beers.

A hundred miles from Barcelona, Quiònia Pujol has taken things a step further, brewing beer from barley and hops she grows on her farm in the village of Almacelles. She dismisses the concept of a distinctively female brew, a view shared by Cartex, now director of the brewers’ convention InnBrew, who says: “I don’t think women make different or better beer. The difference is men don’t like to admit they don’t know something, but women aren’t afraid to ask, so we learn more.” Cartex is typically forthright when asked about misogyny in the hitherto male milieu of craft beer.

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33. Every voice counts: Addressing inequality in research and development

<https://www.iied.org/every-voice-counts-addressing-inequality-research-development>

To address colonial perspectives and social and environmental injustices in research and development practice, we must be open to learning from and including different backgrounds, contexts and systems, and to recognising both past injustices and the privilege enjoyed by researchers from the global North.

What needs to change?

- Co-producing knowledge
- Transforming consciousness
- Everybody matters, every voice counts

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34. Beans enrich Ugandan households

<https://www.idrc.ca/en/stories/banking-beans-improving-nutrition-and-addressing-gender-inequality-africas-bean-value-chain>

In Kambugu village in Kiboga, Uganda, Jennifer Nakaye and the other farmers in her village have been growing this NAROBAN 1 variety for three years since it was introduced by a pre-cooked-beans project under the Cultivate Africa's Future Fund (CultiAF), a ten-year, CAD35-million partnership between IDRC and the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR). The beans project, led by Uganda's National Agricultural Research Organisation (NARO), the Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization and the Pan-Africa Bean Research Alliance (PABRA), aims to improve nutrition and address gender inequality in the bean value chain and local communities in Kenya and Uganda.

Access to her income has been made easier thanks to a mobile app called the MasterCard Farmer Network (MFN). The app, which was set up in November 2018, in partnership with MasterCard, NARO and PABRA, was developed to help women farmers in particular to access their own income directly, as opposed to it going through their husbands first. Women are encouraged to open mobile money accounts or bank accounts in their own names and, through the app, they receive the payment for their grain delivery.

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35. Canada announces funding for projects in West Africa

<https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/03/background---canada-announces-funding-for-projects-in-west-africa.html>

Canada has announced \$83 million in development assistance funding for projects in West Africa. The distribution of the funding includes:

- *Life-saving Public Health and Vaccine Communications at scale in sub-Saharan Africa - \$1.05 million - Farm Radio International.* Farm Radio International (FRI) is implementing a COVID vaccine-related initiative, as part of their Scaling Her Voice on Air project, to provide timely, gender-responsive and interactive programming that dispels myths and misinformation about COVID-19 and vaccines. This initiative is striving to counter misinformation, increase vaccine confidence and foster demand (where vaccines are available). This initiative includes work to tackle obstacles specific to women (such as access to gender-responsive health information) and misinformation (such as the impact of vaccines on fertility). This project will be implemented in several sub-Saharan countries, including Ghana and Senegal.
- *Her Time to Grow - \$8 million - iDE Canada.* This project will improve the lives of rural women working in the agricultural sector. It will support their economic empowerment, expand their market access and help them to be full participants in the economic life of their communities. To achieve these objectives, this project will work to reduce the gender-specific barriers that rural women face in trying to access markets and will strive to address issues that hinder their economic success. This project will provide tools and support to women to protect the health and sustainability of their land, including by supporting smallholder farmers to adopt locally appropriate and

climate-smart agricultural practices, thereby contributing to improved resilience to the impacts of climate change. The project will operate in Ethiopia, Ghana and Zambia.

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36. Project profile — Social economy project of agricultural services for rural women in Tunisia

<https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P010415001>

This project aims to economically empower agri-food processors in Tunisia and equip them with the tools and expertise needed to become more resilient in the face of climate change over 4 years (2022-2026). The project focuses on poverty reduction, the promotion of gender equality and the economic empowerment of women and girls. It seeks to address the lack of training, inaccessibility to financing opportunities, and lack of female leadership within the agricultural and agri-food sectors, as well as the poor integration of gender-based considerations and perspectives in public policy. Project activities include: (1) providing training to improve existing agri-food practices and the management of energy, water and waste; (2) conducting an analysis of policy frameworks, issues and opportunities related to women's management of Mutual Agricultural Service Societies (MASS) which consider the implications of the COVID-19 pandemic and climate change; and (3) increasing MASS's capacities to provide financing opportunities, and product packaging, promotion, negotiation and distribution services to agri-food processors, especially women. The project directly benefits 21,000 people and indirectly affects 144,000 people. Project dates 2022-02-23 to 2026-12-31.

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37. Gates Foundation, Qatar Fund pledge \$200m for climate-adaptive agriculture

<https://gulfnnews.com/business/gates-foundation-qatar-fund-pledge-200m-for-climate-adaptive-agriculture-1.86763481>

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and Qatar Fund for Development (QFFD) have entered into a new strategic partnership that will invest in climate-adaptive agricultural tools and technologies to build resilient food systems and markets across the African continent.

Announced at the 2022 Doha Forum, the partnership 'Nanmo' (growing together) will see the two parties jointly pledge up to \$200 million towards agriculture, climate resilience, and economic development projects to support smallholder farmers on drylands.

These farmers are bearing the brunt of the effects of climate change and this partnership will aim to strengthen economies in sub-Saharan Africa in four key areas: equity as a primary driver of inclusive growth; enterprise as a means of job creation and poverty alleviation; agriculture as a primary source of food, jobs, and income; and access to technologies, financial tools, and emerging best practices as a driver of productivity, nutrition, and climate adaptation.

The partnership will also seek to ensure that women small-scale producers can positively contribute to, and benefit from, decisions about how their communities grow food and create jobs.

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38. Water & Sanitation, a Better Future for Girls & our Planet

<https://www.ipsnews.net/2022/03/water-sanitation-better-future-girls-planet>

DAKAR, Senegal, Mar 24 2022 (IPS) - At the World Water Forum this week (March 21-26), the international community will raise awareness of the 2 billion people worldwide who lack access to clean water and sanitation. Among them are millions of women and girls, who walk hundreds of miles each year to find water for their families and are blocked from education and economic empowerment also due to poor sanitation services.

For years, we've talked about the costs to women and girls if we don't solve water, sanitation and hygiene issues. But what of the costs to our communities if we fail to act? Today the world is facing a triple crisis of the COVID-19 pandemic, climate emergency, and struggling economies – all of which have reversed hard won gains on women's rights.

Twelve years of quality education for women can meet the consequences of this triple crisis head on. Women's empowerment, gender equality, and sustainability strategies go hand-in-hand. And it all starts with that most basic of human needs – water.

Poverty, gender bias and humanitarian crises are some of the more obvious barriers to ensuring that girls stay in school. However, one of the biggest obstacles is lack of access to water, sanitation, and hygiene.

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39. Cooking Show for Adolescents Serves Up Ideas for Healthy Eating and Clean Cooking in Bangladesh

<https://cleancooking.org/news/cooking-show-for-adolescents-serves-up-ideas-for-healthy-eating-and-clean-cooking-in-bangladesh/>

DHAKA, March 17, 2022 – Budding young chefs from across Bangladesh are flexing their cooking skills in Shorno Chef, a partnership between UNICEF, the Ministry of Health, and the Clean Cooking Alliance. The programme, which is projected to reach 6 million viewers, inspires healthy eating habits among adolescents and their families.

The programme also encourages healthier cooking fuels such as electricity or cooking gas instead of firewood. In Bangladesh, exposure to cooking smoke in the home is a health concern, particularly for children and adolescents.

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40. Cash Incentivizes Families in Nepal to Cook with Clean Fuels

<https://cleancooking.org/news/cash-incentivizes-families-in-nepal-to-cook-with-clean-fuels-new-cca-led-study-finds/>

For low-income households around the world, the cost of clean cooking solutions like liquified petroleum gas (LPG), biogas, and electricity remains a significant barrier. In Nepal, for example, where the average person lives on roughly US \$3 per day, switching to a more expensive fuel and stove can be out of reach without innovative financing solutions.

A new pilot study by the Clean Cooking Alliance (CCA) finds that direct cash transfers can incentivize households to not only increase their use of clean cooking solutions, but also to decrease their use of traditional, more polluting stoves and fuels. The study was part of a two-year demonstration project to support the Government of Nepal's objective to establish smoke-free kitchen communities and improve health outcomes through clean cooking.

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Reports, Publications, Resources

1. Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability

<https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg2/>

The Working Group II contribution to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change IPCC Sixth Assessment Report assesses the impacts of climate change, looking at ecosystems, biodiversity, and human communities at global and regional levels. It also reviews vulnerabilities and the capacities and limits of the natural world and human societies to adapt to climate change.

The IPCC report found that there will be an “increasing adverse impact” on agriculture and crop production in Africa, Australasia, Central and South America, and small islands. Asia, North America, Europe, and the Arctic will see some positive impacts along with the negative.

In the medium to long term, climate change will:

- Put more pressure on “food production and access, especially in vulnerable regions, undermining food security and nutrition.”
- Heighten the “frequency, intensity and severity of droughts, floods and heatwaves.” Along with “continued sea level rise,” this “will increase risks to food security ... in vulnerable regions from moderate to high between 1.5°C and 2°C global warming level.”
- Make food security risks more severe, with a “2°C or higher global warming level ... leading to malnutrition and micro-nutrient deficiencies, concentrated in Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, Central and South America and Small Islands.”
- Weaken “soil health and ecosystem services such as pollination, increase pressure from pests and diseases, and reduce marine animal biomass, undermining food productivity in many regions on land and in the ocean.”

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2. Living income and gender: Why does adopting gender transformative approaches to improve livelihoods in agriculture matter?

<https://www.living-income.com/webinars>

In this webinar of February 2022, we learnt about gender transformative approaches, why they are important and how the public and private sector, civil society organisations and multi-stakeholder initiatives can adopt these approaches to improve the livelihoods of smallholder farmers in coffee, cocoa, and other agricultural supply chains.

Speakers from Oxfam GB, Oxfam Ghana and IDH shared insights, lessons learned and best practice examples from the public and private sectors, and civil society organisations on applying gender transformative approaches to tackle key issues for women and men smallholder farmers. The webinar also explored the challenges to adopting these approaches and further recommendations for how sectors and companies can start to consider and adopt these approaches.

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3. YouTube: Feminist methodologies and approaches for international assistance (Bilingual)

<https://youtu.be/vAdBoQXkMTg>

Feminist methodologies and approaches for international assistance: This 75-minute online event will showcase innovative feminist methodologies and approaches for international assistance policy and programming. A panel of Canadian and international development practitioners will share examples of leading-edge tools and methods for empowering women in a variety of sectors.

Méthodologies et approches féministes en matière d'aide au développement: Cet événement en ligne de 75 minutes présentera des méthodologies et des approches féministes innovantes en matière de politiques et de programmes d'aide internationale. Un panel de praticiens canadiens et internationaux partagera des exemples d'outils développés pour favoriser l'autonomisation des femmes dans une variété de secteurs. L'événement bénéficiera d'une traduction simultanée anglais/français.

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4. How can voluntary sustainability standards contribute to poverty reduction for smallholder farmers?

<https://www.iisd.org/ssi/reviews/standards-and-poverty-reduction/>

SSI Review: Standards and Poverty Reduction examines how voluntary sustainability standards (VSSs) can help reduce poverty for smallholder farmers and provides recommendations to VSS bodies, value chain actors, and governments.

This report presents findings on the examination of 13 widely adopted VSSs and reviews existing evidence—all to better understand how VSSs can improve the three dimensions of poverty reduction: access to resources; opportunities and choice; and power and voice.

Key recommendations for VSS bodies, value chain actors, and governments include:

- Establishing a living income reference or other financial rewards for farmers
- Structure local value chains and coordinate support mechanisms for farmers
- Improving farmers' VSS knowledge and implementation
- Stimulating demand for sustainable products.

Recommendations for VSS bodies include:

- Enhancing support for business and market diversification
- Improving assurance, monitoring, and learning systems
- Systematically including farmers in VSS decision making
- Adopting a gender-equality approach.

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5. Gender & Women's Rights Activity Pack to help #BreakTheBias

<https://www.internationalwomensday.com/Missions/17366/Download-the-IWD-2022-Gender-Women-s-Rights-Activity-Pack-to-help-BreakTheBias>

International Women's Day provides an important opportunity to educate and inspire children and young people about gender equality. The IWD 2022 Gender and Women's Rights Activity Pack is developed by the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts to help forge better understanding about gender, women's equality, and issues that impact the lives of women and girls.

Teachers, parents and caregivers can play a key role in raising awareness about barriers that impact the advancement of women and girls. They can also help educate about challenging stereotypes and bias. Additionally, they can inspire future generations by celebrating role models and highlighting the wide range of women's achievements. They can also reinforce the diversity of women overall.

There are three categories of activities within the Pack:

- Understanding Gender: exploring gender roles and stereotypes
- Women's rights are Human Rights: exploring the concept of rights and why they are important
- Gender & Climate Change: exploring how climate change disproportionately affects women and girls

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6. The World Bank's "Women, Business and the Law 2022" Report

<https://wbl.worldbank.org/en/wbl>

<https://www.devex.com/news/2-4-billion-women-lack-the-same-economic-rights-as-men-world-bank-102756>

The World Bank's "Women, Business and the Law 2022" report paints an unsettling picture of the state of women's rights:

- 2.4 billion women lack the same economic rights as men.
- 95 economies legally allow women to be paid less than men for work of equal value.
- Only 12 countries have full equality in areas of the legal system that were measured.

The annual report keeps tabs on women’s economic life cycles in 190 economies with eight indicators, such as mobility, marriage rights, entrepreneurship, and pensions. One challenge identified is reforms related to women’s rights in marriage and generally in the home.

Since the previous report, a handful of countries introduced or expanded paternity leave, which helps improve women’s participation in the workforce.

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7. Ipsos and the Global Institute for Women’s Leadership at King’s College London

<https://www.ipsos.com/en-uk/inequality-between-women-and-men-doesnt-really-exist-say-one-seven-britons>

The new global research, by Ipsos and the Global Institute for Women’s Leadership at King’s College London, reports findings which are based on a survey of over 20,000 people in 30 countries.

One in seven (15%) Britons think gender inequality doesn’t really exist, with men (19%) more likely than women (11%) to hold this view, according to a major survey conducted ahead of International Women’s Day on 8 March.

A global country average of 55% disagree with the idea that gender inequality doesn’t really exist.

Refer to the survey for details.

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8. Audio: How the war in Ukraine is affecting food prices

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/w3ct1j65>

Food price inflation was already a problem. Could the conflict make things even worse? Ukraine and Russia are both major food exporters. Tamasin Ford looks at how the war in Ukraine is affecting global prices.

Food price inflation was already a major problem in many parts of the world, and there are fears that the conflict will make matters even worse.

David Beasley, Executive Director of the World Food Programme, says millions of people in Ukraine will now be at risk of food insecurity as a result of the conflict, and fears knock-on effects for countries such as Lebanon, Syria and Tunisia, which are major importers of grains from Ukraine.

Ivanna Dorichenko, managing director of consultancy firm TRADAIDE and an expert in international arbitration, says the situation in Ukraine is devastating, and that much of the country’s agricultural infrastructure has been destroyed by the Russian invasion.

Andrey Sizov, head of research firm SovEcon, is an expert on agriculture in the Black Sea region. He says the war in Ukraine is already paralysing exports, with shipping companies refusing to send vessels into areas potentially disrupted by the conflict.

Wandile Sihlobo, chief economist of the Agricultural Business Chamber of South Africa, says the conflict will have an impact on African countries which buy grains from Ukraine, many of which were already struggling with rising food prices.

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9. Feminist Climate Finance Guide

<https://wedo.org/guide-to-strengthening-gender-integration-in-climate-finance-projects/>

WEDO is moving money toward feminist solutions through advocacy and technical work, showcasing both why and how gender equality must be at the heart of effective climate action.

Last November during COP26, WEDO and partners The Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN) and SouthSouthNorth (SSN) launched a new guide to support the implementers of climate projects to better integrate gender equality concepts and practices. WEDO's Tara Daniel presented the key findings from the guide during a webinar, highlighting six key recommendations for climate finance project planners.

The guide's set of recommendations provides a simple framework for thinking about direct and powerful complementary opportunities for advancing gender equality. The recommendations stem from interviews with key stakeholders engaged in project development, design and implementation. They highlight important opportunities within the project cycle for strengthening gender integration, which include:

- Lead with local gender expertise
- Leverage local women's groups and national gender institutions
- Collect the right gender data from the start
- Integrate gender specialists within the team
- Ensure continuity between design and implementation
- Pursue team-wide capacity-building opportunities

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10. Gender pay gaps in the European Union — a statistical analysis

<https://eng.ism.lv/article/society/society/latvia-trails-rest-of-eu-on-gender-pay-gap.a447058/>

<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/3888793/14368632/KS-TC-22-002-EN-N.pdf/4951104b-f01d-0964-717a-be0ea3dfd9e4?t=1646390910287>

The unadjusted gender pay gap shows the difference between the average gross hourly earnings of men and women expressed as a percentage of the average gross hourly earnings of men. This indicator was calculated for enterprises with 10 or more employees.

In 2020, women's gross hourly earnings were on average 13.0% below those of men in the EU. In the space of eight years, between 2012 and 2020, the EU gender pay gap was reduced from 16.4% to 13.0%.

However, the largest differences were observed in Latvia (22.3%), Estonia (21.1%), Austria (18.9%) and Germany (18.3%). At the other end of the scale, the differences were smallest in Luxembourg (0.7%), Romania (2.4%), Slovenia (3.1%), and Italy (4.2%).

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11. Climate Change, Gender Equality, and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR)

https://womensgenderclimate.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/CSW66-SRHR_20220308-English.pdf

https://womensgenderclimate.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/CSW66-SRHR_20220308-French01.pdf

https://womensgenderclimate.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/CSW66-SRHR_20220308-Spanish01.pdf

Factsheet for the 66th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW66)1 by the SRHR & Climate Justice Coalition. Check out the factsheet in English, French, or Spanish.

This factsheet by the SRHR and Climate Justice Coalition outlines key messages and recommendations for advocates and decision-makers ahead of CSW66, including the need to ensure that new language at the intersection of climate change, gender equality, and SRHR is included in the Commission's Agreed Conclusions.

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12. A new video on group marketing of organic farm produce

<https://www.accessagriculture.org/group-marketing-organic-farm-produce>

One new video on group marketing of organic farm produce has been posted on Access Agriculture’s platform. This video is currently available in English and French. It is freely downloadable as video (mp4), audio (mp3), mobile (video format 3gp) as well as a one-page fact sheet with contact details for more information.

Via social media farmers market their organic produce and customers place orders from ½ to 5 kg of organic produce. Customers receive guaranteed healthy, fresh farm produce delivered to their door. By having a fixed client base, farmers have a regular income and get a higher price for their produce.

Let us note that this video belongs to the Business Skills category which is subdivided into 10 subcategories.

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13. Report: Rapid Gender Analysis, Women’s Voices, Needs, and Leadership

<https://www.care.org/news-and-stories/resources/she-told-us-so-again/>

As we approach the second anniversary of the COVID-19 pandemic, CARE is building on investments in listening to women, men, and people from marginalized groups to understand the challenges they face, what they need, and the ways in which they lead through crisis. CARE’s new report *She Told Us So (Again)* represents the voices of more than 22,000 people in 23 countries since September of 2020. Women leaders have proven to be a critical part of COVID-19 response—especially when they get support and opportunities to lead. They are sharing information, preventing COVID-19, and using their resources to support other members of their communities.

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14. Women and the Mine of the Future

<https://www.igfmining.org/women-mine-future/>

Major economic trends are transforming large-scale mining across the globe. These include rapid technological advances, pressure to mine more responsibly from investors and other stakeholders, and rising demand for critical minerals for a low-carbon energy transition. But how will these trends affect women working in the sector and related supply chains? The implications are difficult to understand due to a lack of high-quality, comparable data on women in the mining workforce.

Women and the Mine of the Future is a collaborative project to increase understanding of the status quo for women in mining, so stakeholders can anticipate, assess, and address gendered impacts as mining evolves.

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15. The 2022 SDG Gender Index

<https://populationmatters.org/news/2022/03/one-three-countries-not-making-progress-women-s-rights>

A new report has found that while most countries are making some progress towards gender equality, this is happening much too slowly to meet the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. In addition, a third of countries analysed have made no progress since 2015 or have moved in the wrong direction.

The Index looks at 56 key gender-related indicators across 14 of the 17 SDGs, and 135 countries for which data for both 2015 and 2020 is available, making it possible to track progress. The COVID-19 pandemic caused serious setbacks for women’s and girls’ rights but as it began in 2020, its impacts are not reflected in this report.

On a global level, there's been little progress on gender equality since 2015, with the Index score improving by less than two points to just 67.8 out of a 100 (where 100 denotes full equality). If progress stays this slow, the world will achieve only 71 out of 100 by 2030.

On the positive side, 91 of the 135 countries are moving in the right direction. A fifth made 'fast progress', and about half made 'some progress'. A third of countries sadly made no progress, and of these, 18 countries saw their scores drop, with Venezuela, Afghanistan, Algeria, Belarus, Kuwait and Ecuador the worst affected.

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16. Five Key Elements for a Gender Lens in Trade

<https://www.iisd.org/articles/analysis/five-key-elements-gender-lens-trade>

In June, trade ministers from a large group of WTO members will adopt a declaration on trade, gender equality, and women's economic empowerment. This move confirms that gendered aspects of trade are firmly on the international trade policy agenda. For this to have tangible benefits for women, though, it will be necessary to get the "gender lens" right. Here are five elements that should be considered when defining a gender lens for trade.

Five essential elements for clarifying the gender lens

1. Distinguish between women's economic empowerment and gender equality.
2. Identify women's multiple economic roles.
3. Consider both sides of the trade–gender relationship.
4. Recognize domains in which gender (in)equality plays out.
5. Ensure the gender lens analytical framework is applied at all trade policy stages.

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