



Snowdrop flower bulbs (Galanthus) in bloom. Photo courtesy of D. Ceplis.

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

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

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

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## Opportunities and Coming Events

### 1. International Women's Day

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

**March 8.** Collective action and shared ownership for driving gender parity is what makes International Women's Day impactful. Gloria Steinem, world-renowned feminist, journalist and activist once explained "The story of women's struggle for equality belongs to no single feminist nor to any one organization but to the collective efforts of all who care about human rights." Make International Women's Day your day and do what you can to truly make a positive difference for women.

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### 2. Learning Opportunity | Innovative Solutions in Education Delivery to Empower Women and Girls

<https://www.fit-fit.ca/news/44/fit-ngo-csw-67-forum-panel-innovative-solutions-in-education-delivery>

**March 9, 2023 09:00 AM in Eastern Time (US and Canada).** Join FIT's panel discussion to learn about innovative solutions to educational challenges in The Gambia and Burkina Faso.

During this session, Canadian organizations and their partners in the Global South will share the innovations they are testing, and how technology is used to: empower women teachers through professional learning communities; and create safer learning environments for girls and reduce the practice of Sexually Transmitted Grades (STGs).

Both testing projects aim to affect policy and show how a multi-pronged approach advances gender equality in educational settings. A Q&A on innovating through technology will be incorporated into the discussion.

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### 3. Accelerating Systemic Change: The Case for Gender Equality Leadership for Sustainable Recovery

<https://unglobalcompact.ca/accelerating-systemic-change-the-case-for-gender-equality-leadership-for-sustainable-recovery/>

UN Global Compact Network Canada received funding from Women and Gender Equality Canada through the Feminist Response and Recovery Fund to execute a project designed to increase women’s participation and opportunities in the labour market while addressing discriminatory legislation, policies, and/or practices that prevent women from fully participating in the social, political, and economic life in Canada.

As part of the “Accelerating Systemic Change: The Case for Gender Equality Leadership for Sustainable Recovery” project, funded by Women and Gender Equality Canada, we are developing case studies featuring organizations with gender-responsive policies, practices, and/ or initiatives. If your organization would like to be considered for a case study, please reach out to our Project Manager.

- Phase I: Challenges and solutions consultations with stakeholders (January – September 2022)
- **Phase II: Development of company case studies (July 2022 – September 2023)**
- **Phase III: Target Gender Equality round two (March 2022 – March 2023)**
- Phase IIII: Launch and promotion of project deliverables (October 2023 – March 2024)

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### 4. Venture Capital Investment & Financing - Controlling the Conversation.

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/vc-investment-financing-question-answer-controlling-the-conversation-tickets-487320527817>

Blog <https://mwaf.ca/women-face-more-barriers-than-men-in-accessing-venture-capital/>

**Monday March 27, 7-8 pm CST:** AgCHAT with Dr. Ellen Farrel (Saint Mary’s University). Overview: The expression of unconscious bias by men and women venture capitalists significantly contributes to the gender gap because investors ask women different questions than they ask men during a typical investor Q&A session.

When raising funding you may realize the pitch gets you in the door, but it is the question-and-answer session where the funding decisions are made. The Q&A may also happen to be your worst nightmare. Investors want to invest in founders who demonstrate business-building skills and leadership qualities. You can control the conversation by deliberately redirecting obstacle-type questions into leadership-type answers.

Dr. Ellen Farrell has studied the best science in the world to bring you revealing insights on how to control the conversation and win respect and investment at the same time. Ellen is a professor at the Sobey School of Business at Saint Mary’s University specializing in venture capital and entrepreneurship. Her current work focuses on the gender gap in Canada’s venture capital funding.

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### 5. Scholarships from Canadian Agri-Business Education Foundation

<https://www.cabef.org/scholarships/>

CABEF awards seven \$2,500 scholarships annually to full-time students enrolling or currently in an agricultural related program at a Canadian university, college or apprenticeship institution. Apply before **April 30<sup>th</sup>**. Students from across Canada are invited to apply.

Applicants will be assessed on a combination of their leadership attributes and written or video response to the question: "Choose one UN Sustainable Development goal and highlight three ways your future career in agriculture and food will contribute to it."

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## 6. 2023 Canadian Evaluation Society conference

<https://c2023en.evaluationcanada.ca/home>

The Société québécoise d'évaluation de programme will be hosting the next annual conference of the Canadian Evaluation Society which will take place from **June 19 to 21, 2023 at the Hilton Hotel in Quebec City**. The conference will be preceded by professional development workshops on June 17 and 18 and followed by international sharing sessions on June 22.

How do we make use of the innovation and lessons learned from the experience of the Canadian and international evaluation community in order to benefit local interventions? This is the driving question behind the 2023 Canadian Evaluation Society conference which will provide an opportunity to reflect on the state of the evaluation practice through the theme "Evaluation in a Changing World". The theme is broken down into four sub-themes.

- Sub-theme 1: In the face of transformations, how should evaluation evolve?
- Sub-theme 2: What is the contribution of evaluation in dealing with the complexity of change?
- Sub-theme 3: How to respond to change by taking advantage of the plurality of evaluation practices?
- Sub-theme 4: How to address the challenges facing professionalization?

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## 7. STEM [science, technology, engineering and mathematics] Streams

<https://scwist.ca/programs/stemstreams/>

STEM Streams is a free pre-employment & skills development training program that supports women\* interested in STEM careers. [\*STEM Streams welcomes women – cisgender & transgender – as well as genderqueer people who are comfortable in spaces that focus on & are driven by the experiences of women.]

As a participant, you will have access to eight virtual full-day courses centred around boosting your employment skills and preparedness for STEM jobs and then 1-on-1 career support to obtain career opportunities once the courses are completed. In addition, you will also have access to support services, a SCWIST membership, networking opportunities and more throughout your STEM Streams journey.

This program is for women\* who are racialized, Indigenous, 2SLGBTQ+, living with disabilities and/or had a prolonged detachment from the labour force. If you identify as being a part of one or more of these groups and you want to build your skillset for a STEM career, register today. Enrolment is open to Canadian Residents & Permanent Residents of Canada. **We accept participants on a rolling basis.**

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## 8. Engaging and Advancing Women in Agriculture

[https://levelthefieldinag.ca/en\\_CA/](https://levelthefieldinag.ca/en_CA/)

<https://www.producer.com/farmliving/project-addresses-gender-barriers-in-agriculture>

The Canadian Federation of Agriculture recently launched Engaging and Advancing Women in Agriculture. The project leverages work done earlier by the Prince Edward Island Federation of Agriculture and Karolyn Godfrey of Winding Path Inc.

Farmers of all genders working together in the greater agricultural community will bring us to a future where we are utilizing a wider range of our community resources to provide the food necessary to feed Canadians across the country.

**Contact them if you have a story to share.**

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## **9. Enhancing Government Capacity to Empower Farmer Groups in Dominica**

<https://www.catalystplus.org/our-impact/impact-stories/enhancing-government-capacity-to-empower-farmer-groups-in-dominica/>

When the pandemic disrupted agricultural activities around the world, many farmer groups in Dominica struggled to engage and offer value to their members. Through the CCEDM program, the Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture, and National Food Security gained the knowledge and tools to enhance farmer group dynamics and governance, strengthening agricultural networks that are building more resilient food systems.

These networks are especially important for women producers who are often at a greater disadvantage. Working collectively, women farmers are better able to advocate for their needs and overcome barriers of access to markets, resources and credit.

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## **This Month's News**

### **1. The Prime Minister announces changes in the senior ranks of the Public Service of Canada**

<https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2023/02/10/prime-minister-announces-changes-senior-ranks-public-service>

Stefanie Beck, currently Associate Deputy Minister of National Defence, becomes Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, effective February 20, 2023.

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### **2. New board chairperson and governors for International Development Research Centre**

<https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/06/minister-sajjan-announces-appointment-of-new-board-chairperson-and-governors-for-international-development-research-centre.html>

<https://www.idrc.ca/en/board-governors>

Dr. Dorothy Nyambi was recently appointed as chairperson of the International Development Research Centre's (IDRC's) Board of Governors. A medical doctor by training, Dr. Nyambi comes to IDRC with significant leadership experience in the international development sector. She is the president and CEO of Mennonite Economic Development Associates and was the executive vice president of the African Institute for Mathematical Sciences. She has worked for the World Health Organization and the United States Agency for International Development, among other partner organizations of Canada. Dr. Nyambi is a noted champion of women's rights and an advocate for the power of entrepreneurship to alleviate poverty.

IDRC's Board of Governors also welcomes the appointments of Akwasi Aidoo, Purnima Mane, Nurjehan Mawani and Gilles Rivard to the board. Bessma Momani was appointed earlier this spring.

### 3. First-ever women elected to Grain Farmers of Ontario board

<https://farmtario.com/news/first-ever-women-elected-to-grain-farmers-of-ontario-board/>

Two grain farmers have become the first women elected to the Grain Farmers of Ontario (GFO) board of directors, one of the only provincial commodity organizations that has never had female representation at the board level.

Julie Maw of Courtright will represent barley, corn, oat, soybean and wheat farmers in Lambton county (GFO District 3) and Angela Zilke of Embro will represent Waterloo and Oxford counties (GFO District 7). They were elected during annual district meetings held the week of Jan. 16 and officially became directors Feb. 2.

### 4. Global call to action for Mothers in STEMM

<https://www.mothersinscience.com/action-plan-funding-agencies>

We have partnered with Mothers In Science and 16 other organizations across the world to call on our leaders for immediate action to promote inclusion of caregivers and increase retention of women in STEMM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics and medicine) careers. The unique action plan outlines policy recommendations to close the gender gap in research funding and eradicate systemic inequities suffered by mothers in science

### 5. A growing number of female farm operators in Canada help put food on our tables

<https://www.statcan.gc.ca/o1/en/plus/2967-growing-number-female-farm-operators-canada-help-put-food-our-tables>

*A steady increase in the number and the proportion of female farm operators:* Data from the 2021 Census of Agriculture show that the number of female farm operators increased for the first time since 1991. In 2021, there were 79,795 female farm operators in Canada, up from 77,970 in 2016, an increase of 2.3% (+1,825). Furthermore, 30.4% of Canada’s farm operators were female, up from 28.7% in 2016.

*Female farm operators aged 55 and older:* Did you know that the increase in the number of female farm operators mainly occurred in the older age group? From 2016 to 2021, the number of female farm operators in Canada aged 55 and older rose by 7,245 (+17.7%).

*Where are female farm operators located?* As in 2016, Ontario had the most female farm operators, totalling 20,895 in 2021 (26.2% of the national total).

*Sheep and goats:* In 2021, 41.1% of operators working on farms classified as sheep and goat farms were female, up from 39.7% in 2016.

*Hours of work off the farm:* In 2020, 38,610 female farm operators reported working off their farm in Canada, up 10.2% (+3,570) from 2015.

### 6. Women-run farms rethink California agriculture

<https://www.theguardian.com/news/2023/feb/15/california-women-led-farms-food-equity>

The face of agriculture in the US has been changing over the past few years, with more and more women at the centre of production on farms. Female farmers represent an increasing share of Golden State cultivators – and grow a wider variety

of ‘specialty crops’ than done in traditional monoculture. Women in California today represent 37% of all the producers in the state, according to the most recent USDA Census of Agriculture – which only began tracking these numbers in 2017.

Leslie Wiser is one of these women who have entered the agricultural world, who started working on creating her mixed Asian vegetable farm in 2018. She notes that while regenerative, smart farming takes a lot of time and costs a lot of money, it is worth it. She has rejected the traditional monoculture that is expected in farming, instead growing “specialty crops” and vegetables that reflect her heritage and teach her children where their food comes from.

Women like Wiser are increasingly the face of farming in California, and nationally as well. Experts say the growing presence of women in agriculture is having an impact on how the industry operates, especially in the face of generational challenges like pandemics and climate change, with research showing that women-led businesses are more likely to take a community-minded approach to how they operate and fill in gaps during crises.

The Golden State is expected to overtake Germany as the world’s fourth-largest economy this year, but not all of this wealth is being shared equally. In this series, the Guardian and the Fuller Project look at the lives of women, especially women of color, who help drive the economy of the US’s second-most racially diverse state but don’t get their fair share of the pie.

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## **7. OWSD Early Career Fellows Announced**

<https://owsd.net/news/news-events/owsd-early-career-fellows-announced>

The Organization for Women in Science for the Developing World (OWSD) is an international organization founded in 1987 and based at the offices of The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS), in Trieste, Italy. It is a programme unit of UNESCO.

OWSD is pleased to announce the 25 women who have been granted the 2022 Early Career Fellowship. These scientists will receive up to USD 50,000 to lead research projects and establish research groups at their home institutions to maintain an international standard of research and attract scholars from all over the world to collaborate. Funding for the fellowships is generously provided by Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC). In addition, the Aspen Institute Italia is this year funding for the first time one Early Career fellowship, marking the first step of a collaboration that will build the bridge for future opportunities to support women in science from the developing world.

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## **8. African Women in Agricultural Research and Development Newsletter**

<https://mailchi.mp/b8ad242bcfe4/award-in-2021-year-in-review-1790464>

The Year in Review newsletter features updates on Fellowships, country chapters, institutional collaborations, and strategic planning for 2023 to 2027 plan.

This includes the Gender Researchers’ Leadership and Mentoring Program, a partnership with the CGIAR GENDER Platform. It saw 17 gender researchers from Africa and Asia kickstart their mentorship journey in October 2022. The program aims to develop effective and confident gender research leaders who promote gender-equitable and sustainable agricultural development.

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## **9. Sierra Leone’s Gender Law Boosts Women’s Participation in Politics, Business**

<https://www.ipsnews.net/2023/02/sierra-leones-gender-law-boosts-womens-participation-in-politics-business/>

Sierra Leone’s new gender equality law will benefit women with political aspirations – as well as stimulate development, say analysts. The signing of the Gender Equality and Women Empowerment (GEWE Act 2022) guarantees at least 30 percent of female participation in Parliament and at least 30 percent of all diplomatic appointments to be filled by women.

The law stipulates that not less than 30 percent of all positions in Local Councils should be reserved for women, same with 30 percent of all jobs in the civil service and at least 30 percent of jobs in private institutions with 25 and more employees. It also extends maternal leave extended from 12 weeks to 14 weeks.

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## **10. Menstrual kit distribution to promote sexual and reproductive health to female farmers and girls**

<https://www.oxfam.ca/news-and-stories/stories/>

Oxfam concluded its celebration of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence last December 10, 2022, and made way for a global movement.

In the last 16 Days of Activism campaign, the FAIR for ALL project team in Indonesia initiated the production of Menstrual Kit as a campaign tool to increase awareness of the importance of sexual & reproductive health, particularly among female farmers and girls in rural areas. The Menstrual Kit was made from sustainable and eco-friendly materials produced by local tailors in West and East Nusa Tenggara villages in Indonesia.

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## **11. How 10,000 women saved India’s rarest stork**

<https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2023/feb/09/assam-hargila-army-women-saved-india-rarest-stork-greater-adjutant>

On a cool December afternoon a group of women dressed in brightly coloured mekhela chadors (Assam’s traditional handwoven clothing) sit in a circle on the grass at the Bhokha Beel wetlands, singing and clapping. Some of the women are wearing papier mâché headdresses shaped like long-necked birds. As they sing, one of them gets to her feet and starts dancing. They are part of the “hargila army”, a group of rural women in the Indian state of Assam who work to protect one of the world’s rarest storks: the greater adjutant (*Leptoptilos dubius*) – or hargila (meaning “bone swallower” in Assamese) as the scavenger bird is known locally. They are celebrating the recent UN Environment Programme’s Champions of the Earth award, conferred on the group’s biologist founder, Dr Purnima Devi Barman.

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## **12. Opinion: Investing in women is a profitable solution to climate change**

<https://www.devex.com/news/opinion-investing-in-women-is-a-profitable-solution-to-climate-change-104841>

As we look back on global progress on climate action in 2022, one thing is clear: the 27th United Nations Climate Change Conference was a disappointment on many fronts, not least when it comes to the voice of women in the climate debate. This glaring failure was reflected in the lack of women delegates at decision-making levels: Only one-third of all delegates were women, while less than 10 women were pictured among the 110 leaders who posed for the official “family photo.”

Gender lens investing, an approach that takes into consideration gender-based factors across the investment process, can create the enabling environment for a just transition to sustainable development by increasing women’s role as active players in the development and implementation of equitable climate mitigation and adaptation actions.



Evidence also shows that in forestry, agriculture, water, and many other sectors, projects are more likely to succeed when a gender-sensitive approach is adopted. In other words, systematic gender-sensitive approaches improve social and environmental outcomes and benefit society as a whole.

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### **13. How drought-resistant livestock can help farmers fight climate change**

<https://www.devex.com/news/how-drought-resistant-livestock-can-help-farmers-fight-climate-change-104911>

The World Poultry Foundation, or WPF, has received \$26 million from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to expand the use of dual-purpose poultry, which are bred for both meat and eggs, in three countries. Typically, most small-scale producers in Africa — who make up 70% of poultry farmers on the continent — raise traditional breeds, which have high mortality rates, lower egg production, and slower growth rates.

But it's a challenge to get the birds to extremely rural areas because chicks require care to transport. WPF is developing a sustainable dual-purpose poultry value chain so producers can have reliable access to them, said Maureen Stickel, director of international program development at the World Poultry Foundation. Because 80% of those who raise chickens in Africa are women, the initiative also focuses on ensuring they are involved throughout the value chain and can generate income.

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### **14. Demand-driven research strengthens gender equality in education**

<https://www.idrc.ca/en/research-in-action/demand-driven-research-strengthens-gender-equality-education>

One KIX-supported project is building evidence to help scale accelerated education programs and education models focused on girls into national policies in Ghana, Nigeria, and Sierra Leone. Research Highlights:

- All KIX applied research projects promote gender equality in their design and implementation, and nearly one-quarter focus specifically on gender equality themes, including gender-transformative pedagogies and gender sensitive schools.
- Nigeria's Ministry of Education is using findings from a KIX-supported project to address the needs of increasing numbers of out-of-school children in the country, the majority of them girls.
- KIX's Europe, Asia and the Pacific Hub ran a course on equitable access to education for representatives from government, civil society and academia to learn from each other and develop country studies, including one from Cambodia that analyzes gender parity in lower-secondary school.

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### **15. Women's prize to launch annual award for women's non-fiction writing**

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2023/feb/08/womens-prize-to-launch-annual-award-for-womens-non-fiction-writing>

The new book prize, the Women's prize for non-fiction, will be awarded annually and will be open to all female writers from across the globe who are published in the UK and writing in English. The winner will receive £30,000 and a statuette. The Women's Prize Trust aims to award the new prize for the first time in 2024 and is now searching for sponsorship.

Research carried out by the trust found that 26.5% of non-fiction reviews in national newspapers was allocated to books by female writers, while 35.5% of books awarded a non-fiction prize over the past 10 years were written by a female writer, across seven UK non-fiction prizes.

The prize will include all narrative non-fiction, from history to memoir, music and nature writing to science, philosophy and biography. Like the Women’s prize for fiction, it will be decided by a panel of five judges.

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## **16. The future of wild rice may depend on an unlikely alliance**

<https://thefern.org/2023/02/the-future-of-wild-rice-may-depend-on-an-unlikely-alliance/>

When University of Minnesota researcher Crystal Ng won a grant to study wild rice in Ojibwe waters, tribal members reacted to her with anger. Ng spent a year listening to their concerns and now works closely with Joe Graveen, a tribal wild rice technician.

That moment of revelation sits at the crux of the partnership that Ng and the Ojibwe tribe have been building since the summer of 2018: one that blends Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK)—expertise that Indigenous and local people acquire through direct contact with the environment over many years—with western science, specifically Ng and her colleagues’ expertise in water quality, groundwater flow, sediment transport, and more. Their focus is on the precipitous decline of wild rice in the region, a staple in the tribe’s diet for more than 200 years.

The partnership has not yet revealed why rice is in trouble at Lac du Flambeau.

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## **17. Accelerating Action on Nourishing Foods for Infants and Young Children**

<https://www.usaid.gov/bifad/document/transmittal-memo-bifad-186th-public-meeting>

Last week, the U.S. president-appointed Board for International Food and Agricultural Development submitted its recommendations to USAID on how to improve infant and young child nutrition. In a letter to Power, the seven-member board outlined its five recommendations for how the agency can have “substantial global impact in enabling children to reach their true potential.”

Among the recommendations is a scale-up of small-quantity, lipid-based nutrient supplements, or SQ-LNS. BIFAD calls for accelerating their use, which will help reduce cases of acute malnutrition.

But what happens now? Former USAID Chief Nutritionist Shawn Baker, now with Helen Keller Intl — CEO Kathy Spahn is on the BIFAD board — tells Devex that Power must respond to the recommendations. But there’s no requirement to actually act on them, he says. “I think the follow-up mechanisms are pretty weak. I know that several BIFAD members would like to put a bit more heft into that function,” Baker writes.

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## **18. Scaling climate-smart business models through gender-smart investment in Senegal**

<https://aiccra.cgiar.org/events/journees-de-presentation-du-gender-smart-accelerator-challenge-pitch-days-senegal-gender>

Following an open call in Senegal, 20 entrepreneurs (17 women, 3 men) were selected from 250 applicants to participate in a capacity building program with AICCRA and Women’s Investment Club (WIC) Senegal for small and medium enterprises working to scale climate-smart agriculture and climate information services.

Of the 20, up to five entrepreneurs will now be selected to go through to the next stage of the program and be awarded a ‘derisking’ grant of up to USD 25,000 - based on recent presentations given to an expert panel in Dakar. The entrepreneurs were judged on business development, investment readiness, and the degree to which they address climate-smart

agriculture and climate information services challenges and opportunities. Stay tuned for the announcement of the grant winners, coming soon.

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## 19. Replacing Dirty Stoves in Sub-Saharan Africa Could Save Lives

<https://www.newswise.com/articles/abandoning-wood-cook-stoves-would-be-great-for-africa-if-families-could-afford-it>

According to a study by the KTH Royal Institute of Technology, supported in part by CCA, abandoning biomass-burning cookstoves in Africa would reduce indoor air pollution and deforestation. However, the cost of cleaner technologies remains a barrier for many households.

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## 20. Clean Cooking Alliance February 2023 Newsletter

<https://cleancooking.org/>

Subscribe for monthly updates from the Clean Cooking Alliance (CCA) and partners across the clean cooking ecosystem.

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## Reports, Publications, Resources

### 1. Women’s Leadership, Food Security, Climate Justice & Peace

<https://youtu.be/riJDThPN60w>

Sponsored by the BC Council for International Cooperation, this video records a panel presentation held on Feb. 7, 2023. Three panelists explore women’s lived realities and leadership in the intersecting areas of food security, gender equality, the climate crisis and peace in Peru, Central America and Sub-Saharan Africa. The speakers represented Cuso International, Oxfam South America, and Grandmothers Advocacy Network.

How have the climate crisis and food insecurity (the former significantly exacerbating the latter) affected gender equality and peace? What progress has been made to address this, and who is leading the change? What forms of solidarity or support can Canada provide? The speakers dive into these questions and more.

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### 2. Inside & Out: Guarding Indigenous Peoples’ Rights in Tanzania

<https://youtu.be/BK69ZFO1WtA>

A webinar titled *Inside & Out: In Defence of Indigenous Land Rights in Tanzania* featured two Tanzanian activists who are working to advance Indigenous Peoples’ rights and priorities. Clamian Kitesho (Executive Director, Nashipay Maasai Initiatives) and Namayani Rapey Edward (Climate Change Coordinator, Pastoral Women’s Council) explored challenges faced by tribal communities in Northern Tanzania, from education, gender injustice, food insecurity and the climate crisis, and how they work to address these issues using divergent, yet complementary approaches. This event is facilitated by Colleen Hanley, (Nashipay Maasai Initiatives Volunteer, Consultant, Facilitator, Interculturalist & Vice Chair and Secretary of BCCIC’s Board of Directors).

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### 3. New Case Study: Identifying Areas with Under-Reporting of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Other Safeguarding Violations - World Vision

<https://www.digna.ca/docs/world-vision-case-study-identifying-areas-with-under-reporting-of-sexual-exploitation-and-abuse-and-other-safeguarding-violations/>

In this case study, you will find the lessons learned of a comprehensive review of SEA reports to World Vision offices globally to address under-reporting. Also provided are recommendations for proactive prevention and detection measures based upon World Vision's experience addressing under-reporting at the field-office level.

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### 4. Update and Closure of Resource Equity

Nearly a decade ago, Resource Equity was founded with the mission of empowering women through advancing their land and resource rights. Over the past ten years, our small but mighty non-profit has helped significantly expand women's access to land and resources in communities round the world. Our time as Resource Equity has produced rich resources, new laws, field-expanding research, and lasting partnerships. As individuals, we'll continue to have impact and to shape approaches, policies, and programs that center the unique needs of women around the world. We're in the process of investigating new homes for the Women's Land Rights Institute and the LandWise legal database, and we'll update you as soon as we have any news. We've accomplished quite a bit, including:

Launched the Women's Land Rights Institute: <https://resourceequity.org/institute/>

Built and maintained the Women's Land Rights Library (aka LandWise): <https://resourceequity.org/research-publications/#elementor-tab-title-2101>

Provided expert gender and land technical assistance to large land, agriculture, and food security projects and advised donors, development banks, INGOs, government, and academics on protecting and promoting women's land rights: <https://resourceequity.org/work-with-us/>

Distilled evidence on the effectiveness of strategies to improve women's land rights, including inheritance reforms, land titling and registration, and formalization of informal settlements on urban lands.

<https://resourceequity.org/record/3170-what-works-for-womens-land-and-property-rights-what-we-know-and-what-we-need-to-know/>

<https://resourceequity.org/record/3175-evidence-brief-do-inheritance-reforms-work-for-women/>

<https://resourceequity.org/record/do-land-rights-formalization-interventions-work-for-women/>

<https://resourceequity.org/record/do-we-know-what-works-for-women-in-urban-land-and-housing/>

Documented promising practices on gender and collectively held lands (6 countries), women on communal lands and resources, gender equity and REDD+ programming and carbon funding (16 countries), and gender, land and extractive investments (3 countries).

<https://resourceequity.org/record/2826-gender-and-collectively-held-land-good-practices-and-lessons-learned-from-six-global-case-studies/>

<https://resourceequity.org/record/3176-on-equal-ground-promising-practices-for-realizing-womens-rights-in-collectively-held-lands/>

<https://resourceequity.org/record/gender-equity-in-land-and-forest-tenure-in-redd-programming/>

<https://resourceequity.org/record/3126-women-land-and-mining-effective-strategies-for-improved-global-practice/>

Supported ground-breaking research through the Women's Land Rights Research Consortium.

Promoted our proven model for improving women's land tenure security in customary tenure settings, Starting with Women. <https://resourceequity.org/starting-with-women-toolkit/>

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## 5. Proposed Updates to the School Nutrition Standards in USA

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/proposed-updates-school-nutrition-standards>

The U.S. Department for Agriculture is proposing limiting added sugar and sodium in school meals. The proposed updates were created with one goal in mind: supporting the growth, health, and well-being of kids. By law, USDA is required to develop school nutrition standards that reflect the goals of the most recent edition of the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, which found that most kids are consuming too much sugar, sodium, and saturated fat, and not enough fruits, vegetables, and whole grains. This is leading to a rise in diet-related diseases. Following the science and listening to extensive feedback from all our school meal partners, FNS is proposing gradual updates to the school nutrition standards in a few key areas to give kids the right balance of nutrients for healthy, tasty meals.

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## 6. The women swapping city life for shepherding in the Pyrenees

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/gallery/2023/feb/01/women-swapping-city-life-for-shepherding-in-the-pyrenees-in-pictures>

Photographer Paroma Basu followed three young Spanish women who have left urban careers and retrained through the Escola de Pastors i Pastores de Catalunya, one of a number of herding schools opening around Spain.

- Shepherd Amanda Guzman Mejias, 26, sets off for the day with three dogs and 400 sheep and goats to find grazing pasture.
- Espina Calatayud's day begins with a four-hour hike through the forests so that the goats can fill up on the diverse vegetation – from craggy grasses to fibrous leaves to wild red cherries – and be ready for milking by lunchtime. After milking, she sets off on another four-hour hike, usually returning after dark.
- Aina Lizarza Solana in the barn tending to new mothers and their lambs. Lizarza Solana is assisting another shepherd for a few weeks, working 12- to 14-hour days during peak lambing season. Ewes typically produce two or three lambs after a five-month pregnancy.

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## 7. Canada's farms are adjusting the ways they sell their products to consumers

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/96-325-x/2021001/article/00014-eng.htm>

Canada's farmers have been adjusting the way they sell their goods to the public to adapt to evolving consumer needs, against the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic. Consumer preferences for farm-fresh goods and locally grown produce, coupled with modern technological advances and evolving physical distancing measures during the early stages of the pandemic, posed numerous challenges for Canada's farmers. Data from the 2021 Census of Agriculture show that both the number and the proportion of farms reporting direct sales have increased, compared with the 2016 Census. Furthermore, the predominant methods used by farms to sell products directly to consumers have also changed.

- 1) More farms are relying on direct sales to consumers

- 2) Farms in the most populated census consolidated subdivisions are more likely to use direct sales to reach consumers
- 3) Farms in the least populated census consolidated subdivisions rely on direct deliveries
- 4) Farms turn to direct delivery with physical distancing measures in place
- 5) Farms are modernizing selling practices by embracing e-commerce
- 6) On-site farm stands are the most popular direct sales method
- 7) Farms in smaller revenue classes are more likely to use direct sales to consumers
- 8) Fruit and vegetable farms have the highest rates of direct sales among farm types
- 9) Poultry and egg farms with direct sales are most likely to earn all their revenues from direct sales
- 10) Newfoundland & Labrador has the highest rate of direct sales among the provinces
- 11) Farms reporting organic products are more likely to use direct sales
- 12) Farm operators in the 35 to 54 years age group continue to work on farms that have the highest rate of direct sales
- 13) Farms managed by female operators are more likely than farms managed exclusively by male operators to report direct sales

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## 8. Country Nutrition Profiles

<https://globalnutritionreport.org/resources/nutrition-profiles/>

Explore the latest data on nutrition at global, regional and country level, with interactive charts that let you see what progress your country has made towards the global nutrition targets.

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