



Autumn colour of *Acer ginnala*. Photo courtesy of D. Ceplis.

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

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

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

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

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## Opportunities and Coming Events

### 1. Advancing gender-responsive climate action at COP29

<https://odi.org/en/events/for-a-gender-just-transition-advancing-gender-responsive-climate-action-at-cop29/>

Please note that this is a hybrid event on **Monday 4th November** with the in-person session taking place in Brussels from 16:00 - 17:30 CET (15:00 - 16:30 GMT).

This year at COP29, world leaders and those leading negotiations will undertake a comprehensive review of the implementation of the Enhanced Lima Work Programme on Gender and its Gender Action Plan. This will be a critical opportunity for decision-makers to take their commitments to gender-responsive climate action seriously and enable a just and equitable transition.

This ODI Europe – UN Women event will focus on some of the key priorities and challenges found at the nexus between gender and climate, issues that are high on the agenda at COP29. We will discuss how gender equality and inclusiveness in climate action can be better reflected in the next round of national determined contributions (NDCs). The discussion will be an opportunity to strategize on how to ensure a renewed and decisive commitment to a more inclusive and gender-responsive climate action at COP29.

Bringing together representatives from EU institutions, international organisations, experts from the field, think tanks and civil society, this event will serve as a forward-looking exercise to reflect on the present and future of gender-responsive climate action and to spell out a set of priorities on how to make progress with the agreed commitments.

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## 2. Pathways to Gender Equality Conference

<https://icn-rcc.ca/programs/spur-change/conferences/2024-smo-conference-pathways-to-gender-equality/>

The Pathways to Gender Equality conference aims to advance gender equality and empowerment by showcasing the impactful work of small and medium organizations (SMOs) in international cooperation. The conference will also gather insights from these organizations on the support needed for future capacity-building programs. This initiative aligns with the core Action area of Global Affairs Canada’s Feminist International Assistance Policy (FIAP), Gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, and the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a cross-cutting theme. **November 6 to 8, Ottawa.**

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## 3. Conversation: International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women

<https://www.mcic.ca/get-involved/upcoming-events/event/161>

Join us for a special virtual event hosted by Tusome Books, a Winnipeg-based online bookstore that champions underrepresented voices and intentional reading. In recognition of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, this event will feature Toufah author Toufah Jallow, recognized for her pivotal role in inspiring Africa's #MeToo movement and advocating for women's rights. Her book has also been featured in the MCIC annual booklist, highlighting its significant impact. Toufah will be in conversation with journalist Kim Pittaway.

**Monday, November 25th, 2024, at 7:00 PM EST. Online, via Zoom**

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### This Month’s News

#### 1. Women Turning the Table on Food Loss and Waste in Kenya

<https://www.iisd.org/articles/success-story/women-turning-table-food-loss-waste-kenya>

Women leaders from across Kenya, with support from IISD, are making strides toward tackling the issue—from influencing the development of a new post-harvest management strategy to spearheading food redistribution efforts among retailers. Their efforts highlight the power of partnerships in creating viable solutions.

After 2 years of working on its new Post-Harvest Management Strategy for Food Loss and Waste Reduction, the Kenya Government is expected to release it to the public in October. The strategy seeks to build partnerships across supply chains to address recurring issues that have led to food loss and waste, as well as maximize the value of investment by ensuring resources are used effectively and sustainably.

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#### 2. Kenya’s Mung Bean Legislation Debate Underscores Farmers’ Vulnerability

<https://www.ipsnews.net/2024/10/kenyas-mung-bean-legislation-debate-underscores-farmers-vulnerability/>

While Kenya’s Mung Bean Bill, aiming to regulate the lucrative mung bean industry, has moved to mediation, farmers are battling the fallout from the widespread distribution of counterfeit fertilizers that have jeopardized their crop yields and livelihoods.

The Mung Bean Bill is a response to the crop’s rising prominence in Kenya. Known locally as “Ndengu,” mung beans have gained traction due to their drought-resistant nature and high demand in both local and international markets. This legislation seeks to create a framework for stabilizing prices, standardizing quality, and ensuring fair trade practices. However, many farmers fear the bill will add to existing bureaucratic hurdles without addressing core issues such as the recent fertilizer scandal.

The scandal’s impact has been widespread, with the Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS) reporting that counterfeit fertilizers accounted for nearly 20 percent of agricultural inputs this season. This affected various crops, including mung beans, maize, and vegetables, devastating small-scale farmers who are now caught in a cycle of debt and uncertainty.

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### **3. Improving Communities and Women’s Lives with Solar Mills in Nigeria**

<https://www.clasp.ngo/updates/improving-communities/>

Coupled with their impact on gender equity and empowerment, solar mills can boost the income and quality of life of smallholder farmers by lowering operating costs, increasing farm productivity, and enhancing food security.

Farm Warehouse is an agricultural technology distributor that offers portable, solar-powered mills to smallholder farmers in Nigeria. Through the support of CLASP’s Productive Use Financing Facility – an innovative financing program that delivers support to companies through capacity-building grants, subsidies, and business support – Farm Warehouse has been able to deliver life-changing technologies into the hands of those who need them.

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### **4. Emerging Leaders Transforming Girls’ Futures Across East Africa**

<https://womendeliver.org/emerging-leaders-for-change-east-africa-cohort/>

Recently launched: the first cohort of Women Deliver’s Emerging Leaders for Change Program, shifting power to 30 young advocates ages 15 to 29 with customized resources, platforms, connections, and training to drive gender equality in their communities. The East Africa Cohort runs from October 2024 to September 2026.

The Program provides context-specific, tailored, and peer-to-peer support in areas such as SRHR, climate justice, and countering anti-rights movements.

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### **5. Action for Rural Women’s Empowerment**

<https://stephenlewisfoundation.org/grassroots/fall-2024/>

Since 2021, SLF partner Action for Rural Women’s Empowerment (ARUWE) in Uganda has been prioritizing climate change adaptation and resilience in response to increasingly unpredictable cycles of rain and drought threatening communities affected by HIV. In response to cascading crises, ARUWE is implementing best practices in communities to support environmental protection and sustainability, including making charcoal with organic alternatives to wood, water and soil management, and using energy-saving stoves and solar panels.

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## 6. What is gender apartheid – and can anything be done to stop it?

<https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2024/oct/09/what-is-gender-apartheid-activists-international-law-women-girls-rights-afghanistan-iran>

Over the past three years, the world has watched in horror as women and girls in Afghanistan have had their rights and freedoms systematically stripped away. In the face of inaction by the international community, a campaign for the conditions being imposed on Afghan and Iranian women to be made a crime under international law as gender apartheid was launched last year. What does the term mean, and will it make a difference?

Some human rights activists are also arguing that the term gender apartheid should also be applied to what is happening to women in Iran. They argue that Iran’s new “hijab and chastity” bill imposes harsh penalties, including prison sentences of up to 10 years, on women who do not conform to a mandated dress code and head covering in public.

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## 7. In Zimbabwe’s Rural Areas, Bicycles Keep Girls in School

<https://www.ipsnews.net/2024/10/in-zimbabwes-rural-areas-bicycles-keep-girls-in-school/>

More than 62,248 students in Zimbabwe have been given bicycles since 2009 by a United States-based charity, World Bicycle Relief. About 70% of these are girls. Insufficient schools force many to walk up to 20 kilometres to get to the nearest school. Girls face a myriad of challenges as they pursue their education in rural Zimbabwe.

A young girl, as part of the tradition, is expected to do house chores—cooking for the family and cleaning the house. This takes most of her time and she cannot afford to lose more time when walking long distances to school. Attacks from hyenas are also a threat to these girls in rural areas surrounded by game reserves. Some girls drop out of school while some got married early because of long distances to school. Child marriages have devastating effects on girls, including dropping out of school and early pregnancies. Child rights activists say education is a haven for girls.

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## 8. Recognising and protecting family farming in Guinea: a successful advocacy journey

<https://www.iied.org/recognising-protecting-family-farming-guinea-successful-advocacy-journey>

Guinea recently adopted the country’s first agricultural policy law, which now needs to be implemented. This follows four years of consultation and advocacy, during which Guinean civil society has actively engaged with the government in the drafting of that law. Aïssata Yattara and Macky Bah reflect on how the law’s inclusion of grassroots’ and national stakeholders’ key concerns represents a decisive step towards protecting and promoting family farms, and tackling land grabbing in the country.

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## 9. ‘We empower ourselves’: the women cleaning up Bolivia’s Lake Uru Uru

<https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2024/sep/18/bolivia-lake-uru-uru-indigenous-women-clean-water-mining-urban-pollution-totora-reeds>

At one point in its history, Lake Uru Uru in the Bolivian highlands supported the local community and was a sanctuary for wildlife. Residents used the lake sustainably for fishing, farming and irrigation, but it has since been completely destroyed by urban waste and mining pollution. Fed up with the ever-increasing pollution, local indigenous women formed the Uru Uru Team in 2019 to reverse some of the damage. They used totora reeds, an aquatic plant *Schoenoplectus californicus*, a

bulrush that can grow to six metres and is known to be very effective at absorbing heavy metals and contaminants, to clean the water.

Slowly, wildlife – including flamingos and other bird species – have begun to return to the water. The team’s aim is to plant 4,000 totora a year and completely clean up the lake, to bring back the birds and allow the community to grow vegetables again. “We have to empower ourselves because nothing will happen if we are just passive and wait for a solution to come from elsewhere,” one of the team members, Tatiana Blanco, says.

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## 10. What is a forest? Environmentalists question India’s definition

<https://www.context.news/nature/what-is-a-forest-environmentalists-question-indias-definition>

A tribunal in India is looking at conflicting data over the size of the country’s tree cover in a dispute over what counts as a forest

- India claims steady growth of forests
- Change in definition may be behind rise
- UN carbon market will allow nations to earn from forests

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## 11. Climate negotiations have a gender inequality problem

<https://www.devex.com/news/climate-negotiations-have-a-gender-inequality-problem-108397>

Women are still underrepresented at climate negotiations despite the fact that they are disproportionately affected by climate change. Studies also show that their participation in local and national level discussions tends to lead to more action.

Since the first United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties in 1995, only five women have been appointed as COP presidents. In 2022, women made up less than 34% of the country negotiating teams at the COP summit in Egypt. And this lack of representation has been a discussion point at many COPs — without much change.

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## 12. Fixing food security isn't enough. Nutrition security needs solving, too

<https://www.devex.com/news/fixing-food-security-isn-t-enough-nutrition-security-needs-solving-too-108403>

This year’s United Nations General Assembly and the many dozens of events alongside it have placed a big emphasis on hunger and food insecurity, both of which are worsening worldwide in the face of climate change.

But lately, there’s a growing recognition that investing in food security alone is not enough. Governments, philanthropies, and even the private sector must be thinking about nutrition security, too, according to Cary Fowler, the U.S. special envoy for global food security.

He said it was important that the world is producing not just enough food, but enough nutritious food, to prevent problems such as stunting, wasting, and micronutrient deficiencies which can affect cognitive development.

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## 13. **USAID-Gates initiative moves ahead with closing gender digital divide**

<https://www.devex.com/news/usaid-gates-initiative-moves-ahead-with-closing-gender-digital-divide-108362>

An initiative to close the gender digital divide announced last year by United States Vice President Kamala Harris is gaining steam at this year’s U.N. General Assembly.

The Women in the Digital Economy Fund, or WiDEF, a \$60 million initiative funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development and the Gates Foundation, announced two new partners to its roster: the India-based Reliance Foundation and the UPS Foundation. It also unveiled the 20 semifinalists that made the cut for WiDEF’s first funding round — 85% of which are women-led. It’s an elite cohort. The call for proposals was flooded with over 1,350 applications from 98 countries.

WiDEF also released a report detailing the state of women’s digital inclusion — and in many ways, it’s in a sorry state, with 244 million more men than women using the internet in 2023. And in low-income countries, just one-fifth of women have access to the internet compared with one-third of men.

“The gender digital divide is even more pervasive in rural communities,” the report states. “It reflects existing societal gender disparities that, when not addressed comprehensively, will continue to harm women and girls and restrict women’s rights to development, thriving livelihoods, and economic participation sustained by a growing digital economy.”

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## 14. **Will the World Bank's new gender strategy be able to bridge the gap?**

<https://www.devex.com/news/will-the-world-bank-s-new-gender-strategy-be-able-to-bridge-the-gap-108600>

The World Bank Group released its new Gender Strategy 2024-2030 earlier this year with three key aims: ending gender-based violence, expanding economic opportunities, and engaging more women as leaders.

But how will the bank achieve these lofty aims? Devex Senior Reporter Adva Saldinger sits down with the bank’s global director for gender, Hana Brix, for our latest podcast to learn about how this new plan will be implemented and what exactly is changing.

The World Bank has a new corporate scorecard. This is the set of indicators the bank uses to evaluate its programs — which Banga has pared down from 150 to 22. But as they dig deeper into the scorecard’s details, bank watchers are beginning to wonder if the simplification process has come with some trade-offs. For example, on gender, the scorecard makes some troubling assumptions. Where gender-disaggregated data isn’t available, the bank is basing its calculations on the assumption that 50% of programs will support women, despite plenty of research to show that women are harder to reach, says Mary Borrowman, a policy fellow at the Center for Global Development.

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## 15. **Undercover as a farm worker in Germany**

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2024/sep/18/undercover-germany-farm-worker-shop-vegetables>

The Czech journalist Saša Uhlová went undercover to experience life as a migrant worker in Europe. She did shifts that never seemed to end, chopping vegetables on a German farm.

The organic farm shop is a paradise for wealthy Germans. Behind the scenes, we pick and chop vegetables until we’re on the point of collapse. The food industry in Europe would probably collapse without migrant labour. I had searched for jobs on a Polish website because Poles go in huge numbers to Germany for work.

The contract I sign on about day three probably corresponds to the German labour code. But I receive two work report sheets. On one I write down the actual hours worked and on the other, the official sheet, I sign those that are recorded: a

maximum of 10 hours of work a day, six days a week. I'd already heard about double reporting, but here they present it to me as a matter of course.

But the reality of being surrounded by people who voluntarily spend 14 hours a day at work, and are grateful for those hours, is a different matter.

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## 16. One in eight girls and women raped or sexually assaulted before age 18, UNICEF says

<https://www.reuters.com/world/one-eight-girls-women-raped-or-sexually-assaulted-before-age-18-unicef-says-2024-10-10/>

More than 370 million girls and women alive today, or one in every eight worldwide, experienced rape or sexual assault before the age of 18, the United Nations children's agency said on Wednesday.

The number rises to 650 million, or one in five, when taking into account "non-contact" forms of sexual violence, such as online or verbal abuse, UNICEF reported, in what it called the first global survey of the problem.

- Report finds around 1 in 11 boys and men also victims
- Most childhood sexual violence occurs in adolescence, ages 14-17

UNICEF said its findings highlight the urgent need for intensified global action, including by strengthening laws and helping children recognize and report sexual violence.

UNICEF said sexual violence cuts across geographical, cultural, and economic boundaries, but Sub-Saharan Africa has the highest number of victims, with 79 million girls and women, or 22 per cent affected. Eastern and South-Eastern Asia follow with 75 million, or 8 percent.

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## 17. Kyiv's botanical garden staring at disaster as Russia targets Ukraine's energy sector

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2024/sep/15/kyivs-botanical-garden-staring-at-disaster-as-russia-targets-ukraines-energy-sector>

The Mykola Hryshko national botanical garden in Kyiv was founded in 1935. It is Ukraine's biggest garden and one of the largest in Europe. It is home to about 13,000 species of trees, flowers and other plants from around the world. The 52-hectare (130 acres) site has scientific departments and two laboratories.

But the park is now staring at disaster. In recent months, Russia has systematically destroyed most of Ukraine's energy infrastructure. Power cuts in the capital and across the country are common, with the situation getting worse. The city authorities have said they will not be able to guarantee supply in the freezing months ahead. Prices for electricity have doubled, as the garden's funding has shrunk.

Money is so tight that employees recently took a pay cut. Last winter, £55,000 in donations kept the garden going, allowing the purchase of 242 tonnes of fuel pellets. Volunteers chopped firewood.

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## 18. AFRipads in Uganda

<https://www.latviesi.com/mediju-jaunumi/pauls-un-sofija-grinvaldi-sanemusi-kanadas-valsts-apbalvojumu-meritorious-service-cross>

<https://www.gg.ca/en/meritorious-service-decorations-civil-division-march-21-2024>



On March 21, 2024, the Governor General of Canada, Her Excellency Mary Simon, awarded the Meritorious Service Cross to Hamilton-born Paul Grinvalds and his wife Sophia Grinvalds.

Paul and Sophia Grinvalds founded AFRIPads in Uganda in 2010. Their innovative, for-profit social enterprise manufactures reusable sanitary pads as a cost-effective menstrual product solution. Begun in a region where the topic of menstrual health was seldom broached, AFRIPads has led the way in removing the stigma, creating much-needed jobs for women, and disrupting a cycle of poverty, lack of education, and poor health and hygiene among millions of women and girls.

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## 19. The collapse of Gaza’s agricultural sector

<https://www.devex.com/news/nothing-is-left-the-collapse-of-gaza-s-agricultural-sector-108482>

October signals the start of Gaza’s olive harvest, a culturally significant season typically filled with celebrations. This year, however, the harvest is all but wiped out as a year of conflict with Israel has ravaged trees; scattered unexploded, explosive weapons across groves; and left farmers without the essential resources they need to grow or harvest their fruits.

In fact, a staggering 86.2% of Gaza’s orchards and trees have been damaged over the past year, according to satellite images from the Food and Agriculture Organization and United Nations Satellite Centre.

The images show that two-thirds of Gaza’s cropland has been damaged, with the proportion as high as 78% in worst-hit northern Gaza. Almost 95% of cattle are dead, and around half of agricultural wells and greenhouses have been damaged during fighting over the past year — in addition to the loss of human life.

The agri-food sector has long been a lifeline in Gaza, providing formal employment to about 13% of the workforce and informal income to over 90% of the population through the food supply chain, according to a study from the World Bank.

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## 20. 69 Years of Development in Gaza Erased by Israel-Hamas War

<https://www.ipsnews.net/2024/10/69-years-development-gaza-erased-israel-hamas-war/>

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) published a new report on October 22, which estimates that the destruction seen during the course of the Israel-Hamas War will set development in the Gaza Strip back by roughly 69 years. The report adds that poverty levels in Gaza are estimated to affect 74.3 percent of the entire population, or over 4.1 million people.

The World Food Programme (WFP) has stressed the urgency of food deliveries as the upcoming winter season is expected to greatly exacerbate critical hunger levels throughout the enclave. In October, WFP announced that none of their food parcels were delivered. According to the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC), the risk of famine in Gaza is estimated to rise dramatically between November 2024 and April 2025 if hostilities and aid blockages continue.

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## 21. Syrian Displaced Children Go Hungry, Stunting Their Growth

<https://www.ipsnews.net/2024/10/syrian-displaced-children-go-hungry-stunting-their-growth/>

Children in northern Syria are suffering from hunger, illness, and malnutrition as a result of poverty, poor living conditions for most families, and the collapse of purchasing power amid the soaring prices of all essential food commodities. Displacement and a lack of job opportunities make this worse.

According to UNICEF estimates, 9 out of 10 children in Syria do not consume minimally acceptable diets, leading to stunting and wasting. As many as 506,530 children under the age of five in Idlib, Syria, and northern rural Aleppo urgently need treatment for acute malnutrition, and nearly 108,000 children suffer from severe wasting. Disease prevalence, a lack of food, and inadequate sanitation services all make the situation worse.

In addition, over 609,900 children under the age of five in Syria suffer from stunting, according to UNICEF estimates. Stunting results from chronic malnutrition and causes irreversible physical and cognitive damage in children. This impacts their ability to learn and their productivity in adulthood.

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## Reports, Publications, Resources

### 1. Climate Change, Food Security and Agricultural Extension in Yemen

<https://journals.brandonu.ca/jrcd/article/view/2371>

#### Abstract

Climate change is challenging the agricultural sector globally and has undermined food security in some countries. Yemen is suffering catastrophic food insecurity attributed to climate change and war. To reduce this food insecurity, agriculture extension workers must facilitate climate-smart agriculture. Of 52 agricultural extension workers who took a climate-smart survey, most (97%) extension workers had observed climatic shifts, including rising temperatures and droughts, with 81% finding climate change a major threat to agriculture. A high percentage of (77%) agricultural extension workers surveyed reported never attending training workshops on climate change issues, receiving their information from different media, including agriculture research centers (72%), subject matter specialists (67%), and social media (60%). Major barriers to climate-smart extension programs that support sustainable food production for food security in Yemen include a lack of training of programs for extension workers concerning climate change issues, low competence regarding climate change adaptation issues, insufficient number of extension workers to serve farmers, and lack of coordination between extension services and agricultural research centers. Adaptation extension work was undertaken at a moderate level by 61% of respondents, with over half (67%) complaining about having few resources for climate change adaptation programming (67%). Further programming and resources are needed for agricultural extension workers to help farmers combat climate change, food security and malnutrition in Yemen.

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### 2. Empowering women in just transitions: Insights from the Low Carbon World programme

<https://odi.org/en/publications/empowering-women-in-just-transitions-insights-from-the-glow-programme/>

The Gender Equality in a Low Carbon World (GLOW) programme is an action research programme, 2021-24, which investigates opportunities for women’s economic empowerment in low-carbon transitions across 12 projects in 17 countries. Its projects target the land use sectors (agriculture, agroforestry and forestry), the blue economy and eco-tourism. Elements of the programme look at the application of biocircular economy principles to reuse organic wastes, reduce emissions and enhance livelihoods. This report summarises learning from GLOW on common challenges and promising solutions for advancing women’s empowerment in the transitions in these sectors.

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### 3. Intersection of gender-based violence & harassment and climate change

<https://pages.devex.com/women-rising.html>

In celebration of the 5th anniversary of the adoption of the International Labour Organization’s Violence and Harassment Convention (C190), Devex and FORGE have launched a new narrative series spotlighting the intersection of gender-based violence and harassment and climate change in the world of work.

The series will explore the essential leadership of women workers, particularly migrant workers and those in the informal economy, as drivers of inclusive and disruptive change. This series highlights their pivotal role in championing ILO C190's adoption and implementation and explores how they continue to address these critical issues by shifting power and influencing policy.

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## **4. Mobilizing Knowledge on Gender, Equity, and Justice in Climate Change Adaptation**

<https://www.iisd.org/publications/report/gender-equity-climate-change-adaptation-ipcc>

The latest report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the Sixth Assessment Report of the IPCC's Working Group II on Impacts, Adaptation, and Vulnerability (WG II report), includes more references to gender, equity, and justice than any previous IPCC report. However, the report is over 3,000 pages long, with references to gender, equity, and justice distributed throughout the document. Additionally, the IPCC reports are written for a technical audience of governments, policy-makers, academics, and those in the scientific community. This can make it difficult for adaptation practitioners and other interested actors to capture the key messages and apply them in their work.

In an effort to increase the uptake of gender-responsive and socially inclusive approaches to adaptation, we have systematically reviewed the WG II report and summarized the key messages on gender, equity, and justice. We collaborated with a group of advocates and practitioners to explore how to illustrate and explain these messages in a relevant and accessible way, putting them in the context of their experiences living and working in different parts of Africa.

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## **5. The Child Nutrition Fund**

<https://www.unicef.org/child-health-and-survival/the-child-nutrition-fund>

The Child Nutrition Fund (CNF) is a new financing mechanism designed to accelerate the scale-up of sustainable policies, programmes and supplies to end child wasting. The Child Nutrition Fund is a new, UNICEF-led financing mechanism with big ambitions. It officially began operating last November with a goal to raise \$2 billion by 2030 and to reach 350 million women and children in the 23 countries where the most children under 5 years old experience wasting.

"Before the Child Nutrition Fund, there was no dedicated platform to coordinate efforts to address child malnutrition, to encourage domestic funding, or to support local production of the nutrient-rich foods and food supplements children need most," the Gates Foundation writes in its Goalkeepers report. "The Child Nutrition Fund provides solutions to all three of these problems, in one place."

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## **6. Green Jobs for Rural Youth: Unlocking Renewable Energy's Potential in Agriculture**

<https://efficiencyforaccess.org/publications/green-jobs-for-rural-youth/>

This research highlights the transformative impact of solar-powered farm equipment by providing the first comprehensive analysis of employment trends in India, Kenya, Nigeria, and Uganda, along with actionable recommendations for governments and industry stakeholders.

### Key Findings

- The solar irrigation sector in India and Kenya alone has the potential to create more than 115,000 jobs by 2030, offering higher incomes for graduates from Decentralized Renewable Energy (DRE) courses.

- DRE creates opportunities for farm workers to transition into less physically demanding roles, avoiding long-term job displacement and improving life quality.
- DRE innovations significantly reduce labor-intensive tasks for women. In India, mechanized roti-rolling can save women up to 1,800 labor hours per year.

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## 7. U.S A. Gender, Climate and Energy brief

<https://wedo.org/new-u-s-brief-building-a-feminist-energy-system>

Following the release of the first U.S. brief on Transport, Climate and Energy, WEDO is launching its second on August 28, 2024, authored by Sanjana Paul, on the intersection of gender, climate and energy in the U.S.

The brief puts forward critical gender considerations for energy decision-making practices, accessibility, affordability, health and safety issues, inequities in the gendered employment within the energy sector, and beyond.

An accompanying launch event on August 28 brought together a panel of energy and feminist advocates, organizers and activists approaching the transformation of the energy system in different ways, teaching us about their analysis, ongoing work, and visions for more just energy systems.

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## 8. Analysing the Effectiveness Of Public Meetings for Rural Food Security Communication

<https://journals.brandonu.ca/jrcd/article/view/2422/651>

*Abstract*

This paper examines the effectiveness of public meetings for food security communication, that is, communication about the government’s rural food security enhancement programs and people’s participation in the Irob and Gulomekeda districts of eastern Tigray, Ethiopia. Ethnography was used as the research design, involving semi-structured interviews, focus group discussions, participant observation, and document reviews. The results revealed that development experts and government representatives dominate public meetings and that the deep-rooted socio-economic problems of rural people are not adequately discussed. Although public meetings are conceived as venues to help people collectively discuss their priority concerns and identify solutions, they are criticized for not embracing people’s input in decision-making processes. Although representation is necessary for public meetings, rural food security-related programs in the Irob and Gulomekeda districts do not necessarily embrace public representation. Overall, people in both districts played a nominal role in decision-making domains. This study contributes to our understanding of the effectiveness and limitations of public meetings as a communication approach in rural development in areas with limited access to technology.

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## 9. School feeding and the Sustainable Development Goals: An agenda to combat child hunger, boost education, transform food systems and strengthen equity

<https://odi.org/en/publications/school-feeding-and-the-sustainable-development-goals-an-agenda-to-combat-child-hunger-boost-education-transform-food-systems-and-strengthen-equity>

National school feeding programmes present a public policy with wide-ranging and mutually reinforcing benefits across several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including education, nutrition, and child health. While school feeding

programmes are not a standalone intervention, they also offer a powerful mechanism to reconnect food systems with the goal of strengthening human well-being and planetary sustainability.

However, current school meals coverage is far too limited where it is needed most: low-income countries (LICs) and lower middle-income countries (LMICs).

This report sets out the case for a drive to expand the reach of school feeding programmes in LICs and LMICs by providing two scenarios for this expansion and associated cost estimates for delivery. The report offers a range of options for governments in LICs and LMICs to finance expanded school feeding programmes.

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## **10. Myera Virtual Farm: Linkages to Provincial Manitoba Curriculum**

<https://www.bucares.ca/publications/curriculum-connections>

The Myera Project is a joint collaboration between Myera, Inc., Brandon University Centre for Applied Research and Education in Indigenous, Rural, and Remote Settings (BU CARES) and the Rural Development Institute. The intention of this collaboration is to explore the opportunities to develop culturally-relevant STEM curriculum and education initiatives that may leverage extended reality technologies to promote community development, wellness, and food sovereignty in Indigenous communities. This report seeks to identify recommendations for utilizing extended reality technologies in education.

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## **11. Gender of Person Reference Guide**

<https://www.statcan.gc.ca/en/concepts/dds/gp>

This page brings together information available on gender from multiple sources for a better understanding of the term and to promote standards adoption and interoperability of data.

## **12. Sex at Birth of Person Reference Guide**

<https://www.statcan.gc.ca/en/concepts/dds/sbp>

This page brings together information available on sex at birth from multiple sources for a better understanding of the term and to promote standards adoption and interoperability of data.

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## **13. Humanitarian Coalition Annual Report for 2023**

<https://www.humanitariancoalition.ca/reports-publications>

In 2023, the Humanitarian Coalition responded to more crises than ever before, reaching close to two million people across 28 countries. In this report, you get to see and read all about the work we've done together to provide emergency shelter, medical care, psychosocial support, food, water and hygiene necessities to families and children living through unthinkable hardships.

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## **14. Manitoba Council for International Cooperation Annual Report for 2023/2024**

<https://www.mci.ca/about/annual-report-financial-statements>

Manitobans continue to support the global work of our members and their partners in the Global South. Last year they contributed \$36.2 million to the international work of our members. This year the Government of Manitoba provided \$1.25 million which supported 52 projects in 34 countries.

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## 15. Blueprints of Sustainable Procurement: Your Guide to a Greener Supply

<https://unglobalcompact.ca/knowledge-hub/page.php?id=67>

Welcome to Episode 6 of the SDG in Action Podcast, hosted by Megan Grace Halferty, Sustainability Coordinator of UN Global Compact Network Canada. This episode features Jane Zhang, Co-Founder and Co-CEO of ETCH Sourcing, and Nazifa Rahman, Operations and Sustainability Specialist at ETCH Sourcing. Together, we dive into sustainable procurement and its role in advancing the Sustainable Development Goals, specifically Goal 12: Responsible Consumption And Production and Goal 17: Partnerships For The Goals.

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## 16. Approaches to preventing sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment

English <https://www.fit-fit.ca/resources/291/fit-learning-session-practical-applications-to-pseah>, French <https://youtu.be/DEbYJxAkTrY>, Spanish [https://youtu.be/xk8xJCr\\_0dk](https://youtu.be/xk8xJCr_0dk)

Discover FIT-funded SMOs Waterlution and Change for Children's views on integrating approaches to preventing sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment in short-term trial projects.

Waterlution website: Adolescent Girl Empowerment through Capacity Building and Water Innovation in Northern Mozambique. <https://www.fit-fit.ca/resources/17/waterlution-website-adolescent-girl-empowerment-through-capacity-building-and-water-innovation-in-northern-mozambique>

Change for Children: <https://www.fit-fit.ca/funded-innovations/search/9/change-for-children-association>

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