

GENDER, CLIMATE CHANGE, AND NUTRITION INTEGRATION INITIATIVE (GCAN) NEWSLETTER | April 2018

Agrilinks Webinar April 25: Overcoming gender barriers to accessing and using climate information services

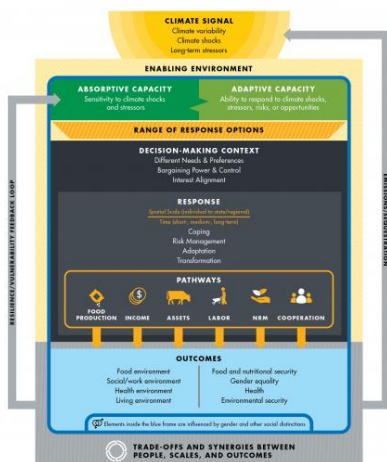
While discussions at the intersection of gender equity/social inclusion and resilience often focus on the vulnerabilities of women, girls, and disadvantaged persons during disasters, these same individuals can also be powerful agents of resilience. Women farmers, however, tend to have less access than men to climate information—a critical resource for informing actions that can increase resilience to the negative impacts of climate change.

An April 25-Agrilinks webinar, with participation by GCAN team member [Elizabeth Bryan](#), shared findings from GCAN and other recent research on the gender and social equity challenges and opportunities in climate information services, specifically:

- **Differences in men's and women's capacity to adapt to climate change and shocks**, highlighted through linkages embedded in the [GCAN framework](#)
- **Gender and social equity trends, challenges, and opportunities in climate information services (CIS) access and use**—supported by a literature review and data collected as part of the CGIAR Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security ([CCAFS](#))—highlighting potential ways forward for climate services to contribute to gender equality in the agricultural sector.
- **Results from a pilot participatory CIS systems mapping methodology in Senegal and Niger**, funded under USAID's Climate Information Services Research Initiative, which is examining the factors that influence CIS uptake, access and use for smallholder farmers. Additional insights were shared from Mercy Corps' BRIGE (Building Resilience through the Integration) program.

[More information](#)

GCAN Framework now available in Spanish



The purpose of the framework is to identify and describe key elements of resilience, while highlighting the linkages with gender and nutrition. The goal of developing this framework is to provide stakeholders from different disciplines and backgrounds with a common point of reference for understanding these complex issues and their interlinkages. The framework can also be used to identify research and evidence gaps, and to highlight entry points for programs and projects that aim to influence outcomes, such as resilience, nutrition, or women's empowerment.

La finalidad de este marco es identificar y describir los principales elementos de resiliencia y, a la vez, destacar su interconexión con el género y la nutrición. El

desarrollo de este marco tiene como objetivo brindar a las partes interesadas de distintas disciplinas y contextos un punto de referencia común para comprender las interacciones

entre estos complejos desafíos. Además, este marco puede ser utilizado para detectar las deficiencias en la investigación y las pruebas empíricas, así como para destacar los puntos de entrada de los programas y proyectos cuya meta es influenciar los resultados, sobre todo en materia de resiliencia, nutrición y empoderamiento de la mujer.

[Available here](#)

Submission on agricultural priorities to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

The 23rd Conference of the Parties (COP 23) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) held in Bonn in 2017 marked a milestone for negotiations on agriculture. Agriculture was finally brought into the negotiations by the [Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture document](#). The Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture instructed the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation to work on issues related to agriculture.

The UNFCCC has sought inputs from countries and observers on how this effort should be shaped, and the CGIAR together with the World Bank has submitted a document [available on the UNFCCC website](#) indicating a series of priorities for the agricultural sector. In addition to the well-established and on-going work on methods and approaches for assessing adaptation, resilience and agricultural technologies and practices, the document proposes to expand work on the socioeconomic and food security dimensions of climate change in the agricultural sector which are essential to sound policy making

Introducing pro-WEAI for measuring women's empowerment in agricultural development projects

The [Gender, Agriculture, and Assets Project, Phase 2 \(GAAP2\)](#), launched the pilot version of the [Project-Level Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index \(pro-WEAI\)](#). Pro-WEAI is a new survey-based index for measuring empowerment, agency, and inclusion of women in the agriculture sector. Developed jointly by the [International Food Policy Research Institute](#)



Photo credit: Farha Khan/IFPRI

[\(IFPRI\)](#), the [Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative \(OPHI\)](#), and thirteen partner projects, the tool helps agricultural developmental projects assess women's empowerment in a project setting, diagnose areas of women's disempowerment, design strategies to address deficiencies, and monitor project outcomes. Pro-WEAI is an adaptation of the [Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index \(WEAI\)](#), originally developed in 2012 by IFPRI, USAID, and OPHI.

Report on countries' progress on integrating gender considerations in NAP processes

A new report by the [NAP Global Network](#) presents an analysis of progress on integrating gender considerations in National Adaptation Plan (NAP) processes, based on a review of

completed NAP documents available on NAP Central as of January 2018, as well as data collected directly from country NAP teams.

While there is no single approach to addressing gender inequality and the linkages to climate change adaptation planning, implementation and monitoring and evaluation (M&E), common challenges include:

- The framing of gender issues, as being primarily about women
- The approach to adaptation, focusing on climate-sensitive sectors and “hard” adaptation options, which can make it difficult to introduce sociocultural issues such as gender
- Institutional barriers, which limit dialogue and collaboration between gender and climate change adaptation actors
- Capacity challenges, for both gender and adaptation actors
- Information gaps, including sex-disaggregated data related to climate impacts and adaptation needs and gender analysis of adaptation options, barriers and opportunities

[More information](#)

Other qualitative analysis of gender integration in climate change adaptation projects in Africa yielded similar findings, such as constraints to gender-responsive project implementation, capacity constraints on gender at ministries and other relevant agencies, insufficient context-specific evidence to draw on, and continued poor collection of sex-disaggregated data, with some projects considering gender early on, but forgetting about it during implementation and, importantly, not following up on actual gendered impacts of activities after implementation.

[More information](#)

Achieving the goals of the Feed-the-Future Program and the [Global Food Security Strategy](#) requires careful consideration of the impact of climate on agricultural production and livelihoods, while at the same time considering other cross-cutting issues that influence agricultural growth, poverty alleviation and resilience, especially gender and nutrition. To address these challenges the Gender, Climate Change and Nutrition Integration Initiative (GCAN) works with USAID headquarters, field missions, and partners to enhance understanding of the linkages between climate, gender, and nutrition for increased resilience, women’s empowerment and improved nutrition.

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