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The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative

GENDER, CLIMATE CHANGE, AND NUTRITION INTEGRATION INITIATIVE (GCAN) NEWSLETTER | August 2019

New GCAN Publications

Aflatoxin Hotspots Change with Climate Change: Discussion Paper and Policy Note

GCAN members Tim Thomas, together with IFPRI's Ricky Robertson and University of Florida's Ken Boote published an IFPRI Discussion paper on "Evaluating risk of aflatoxin field contamination from climate change using new modules inside DSSAT". They introduce new software to estimate potential field concentrations of aflatoxins based on weather, and then apply the software to the question of how projected changes in climate will affect the occurrence of aflatoxins. Aflatoxin concentrations are projected to rise with climate change by all 5 models for Nepal, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nigeria, but only rise for 3 models for Niger and 4 of the 5 models for Burkina Faso.

Read more>

For those interested in a summary version of the paper, a policy note on the same topic, titled: "Evaluating the risk of climate change-induced aflatoxin contamination in groundnuts and maize: Result of modeling analyses in six countries," has been produced.

Read more>

New Journal Article on Linkages across Precipitation, Hunger and Nutrition: Evidence from Ghana and Bangladesh

Former GCAN student paper winner Matthew Cooper from University of Maryland and IIASA published a journal article with Molly Brown, University of Maryland, and GCAN members Carlo Azzarri and Ruth Meinzen-Dick in the journal Population and Environment.

Using Feed-the-Future datasets from Ghana and Bangladesh the authors find an association between precipitation shocks and household hunger in both Ghana and Bangladesh, as well as an association between higher rainfall and worse child nutrition in Ghana.

Read more>

Upcoming GCAN webinars

September 12: Aflatoxins: The Climate, Gender and Nutritional Linkages

In this webinar, panelists from the International Food Policy Research Institute, USAID's Bureau for Food Security, Purdue University and the former chief economist of the World Food Program will discuss how aflatoxins relate to climate change, gender and nutrition. It will specifically address the following questions:

- How might aflatoxin levels change for maize and groundnuts as a result of climate change?
- What are the key nutritional and gendered entry points to address aflatoxins?
- What are ongoing, key USAID interventions to address this challenge?

Registration is free and required.

Read more>

September 17: Linking Climate Change, Gender and Nutrition: Approaches, Highlights and the Way Forward

Addressing gender inequality, improving resilience, and promoting nutrition are all goals, which organizations are asked to "mainstream" throughout their programming. But how do they interact, and how do they influence agricultural growth, poverty alleviation and resilience?

In this webinar, panelists from the International Food Policy Research Institute and USAID's Bureau for Food Security share the approaches that the GCAN project has used to integrate across these three communities, present findings and discuss with the audience how to strengthen and scale up integration at USAID and with partners.

Registration is free and required.

Read more>

Other events of interest to the GCAN readership

The 2019 Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System (ReSAKSS) Annual Conference will take place in Lomé, Togo, on November 11–13. The theme of the conference is "Gender Equality in Rural Africa: From Commitments to Outcomes."

Read more>

Other publications of potential interest to the GCAN readership

Koo, J., J. Thurlow, H. Eldidi, C. Ringler, and A. De Pinto. 2019. Building resilience to climate shocks in Ethiopia. Washington, D.C.: IFPRI.

Beach, R., T.B. Sulser, A. Crimmins et al. 2019. Combining the effects of increased atmospheric carbon dioxide on protein, iron, and zinc availability and projected climate change on global diets: a modelling study. The Lancet Planetary Health 3(7): e307-e317.