

# **Start-up Workshop and Roundtable Discussions on the G-CAN Initiative: Gender-responsive and Climate-resilient Agriculture for Nutrition**

*October 13, 2016, Hyatt Place, 2121 M St NW*

## **Summary Report**

**Purpose:** The workshop kicked off the Gender-Responsive and Climate-Resilient Agriculture for Nutrition project (G-CAN). G-CAN aims to address research gaps on the linkages, synergies and tradeoffs among Climate Change, climate responsive agricultural practices and cross cutting issues, such as gender and nutrition, and support USAID and their implementing partners as they integrate these domains into programming activities. The project goal is to enhance the effectiveness and sustainability of investments in Feed the Future focus countries to increase resilience to climate change, promote gender equity and improve nutritional status (the Agenda can be found as Appendix 1).

### **Objectives**

- Identify the needs of USAID/missions to integrate climate responsive agriculture, gender and nutrition
- Discuss existing conceptual frameworks and contribute to the drafting of a framework that helps practitioners and researchers identify the links among climate responsive agriculture, gender and nutrition
- Review relevant research results to address programmatic needs and prioritize what further work needs to be done to assist USAID missions

### **Agenda Recap**

Alternative Conceptual Frameworks	This session presented existing related frameworks, include: resilience, agriculture-nutrition, gender and climate change, and climate change and nutrition. Workshop participants provided initial feedback on their experiences, expectations and preferences for an integrated framework.
Working Groups on Conceptual Frameworks	Working groups discussed an integrated conceptual framework, offering various perspectives and adding relevant components and linkages.
Bringing the Pieces Together: Reviews of the State of Knowledge	Presentations on the state of knowledge on climate change, climate smart agriculture, climate change and nutrition linkages, gender and climate-resilient agriculture and spatial analyses
Views from the Implementers: World Cafe	Eight projects under Feed the Future presented their work and attendees asked questions to derive key insights and identify gaps, questions and additional framework components to provide operational input on the integration of these domains into the framework. Project representatives shared major findings with the plenary.

USAID Perspectives on Integrating Climate Change, Gender and Nutrition: Town Hall	This town hall session provided a space to learn how USAID and its Missions have integrated these domains into their projects. This provided an additional space for attendees to provide feedback on challenges to implementing additional domains in their work and share their preferences for receiving research findings to incorporate into their work.
Implications for G-CAN and Next Steps	In addition to explaining next steps for G-CAN, attendees reported back to the group the frameworks they had worked on in the morning and key themes that captured the day's discussions.

## Key Findings

Input from the workshop is being analyzed and synthesized for the development of the G-CAN Integrated Framework. The following suggestions and challenges were gleaned from attendees during the 1-day workshop:

- A visual representation of key points where gender, climate-resilience and nutrition should be considered in the life cycle of an intervention can inform integration of these elements as sustainable outcomes are sought (see Appendix 2).
- USAID seeks to “sustainably reduce global hunger, malnutrition, and poverty” as outlined in the [U.S. Government Global Food Security Strategy FY 2017-2021](#). The key outcomes (“Inclusive and sustainable agricultural-led economic growth, strengthened resilience among people and systems, and a well-nourished population, especially among women and children.”) should be incorporated in the framework.
- A **dynamic** framework indicating causal links and feedback loops can be used in conceptualizing, planning, monitoring and learning from projects as changes occur (whether changes be from climate change, project implementation, government policy, etc.).
- A useful framework is broad enough to accommodate **heterogeneity within a system**, allowing for multiple units of analysis, from households and groups to state and national government agencies, and acknowledges gradation in levels of vulnerability within each unit.
- Projects are humanistic in nature and require consideration of outcomes, impacts, and trade-offs for various stakeholders (including beneficiaries, communities, the environment, etc.) as interventions seek to influence sustained **behavior change**.

## Key considerations for each domain

- Gender – time use, money and energy
- Nutrition - a ‘newish’ element for agricultural projects; health simultaneously influences and is influenced by food security and food safety, emphasized by various adaptation and mitigation strategies
- Climate Resilience: Climate smart agriculture is an approach, not just a set of practices
- Climate change - both short term shocks and long term stressors need to be considered when planning appropriate interventions
- Big Data- packaging existing data sets into maps can provide insights into context, planning, implementation, evaluation and learning with proper analysis and interpreting

- Need to address responses and interventions at different scales, from individual to intrahousehold to district, province, national and international levels

### Key considerations from World Café sessions

	World Café projects	Presenters
1.	Food for Peace projects	Joan Whelan, Food for Peace
2.	INGENAES	Dee Rubin and Cristina Manfre, Cultural Practice
3.	PROFIT+ (Zambia)	David Miller, Senior Climate Change Advisor, ACDI/VOCA
4.	Senegal value chain projects: <a href="#">Naatal Mbay</a> and <a href="#">Yaajeende</a>	Sarah Durso, NCBA
5.	IFDC – Ghana	Latha Nagarajan, IFDC
6.	GEMS Malawi	Arianne Neigh / CADMUS
7.	Africa Rising	Carlo Azzarri, IFPRI; Jerry Glover, USAID

- Importance to use group-based approaches and build on existing structures
- Challenge to work in areas of conflict and fragile states
- Integrated teams help address silo thinking
- One year start-up phase supports adjustments and empowers local technical staff
- How can messaging on nutrition be coordinated across the various entities and agencies working in this space?
- Incomplete information on gendered preferences for CSA approaches
- How and by whom are climate risks best communicated?
- Labor and nutrition implications of CSA practices not fully known
- Youth and climate linkages are not fully understood

Additional input on the framework can be shared with IFPRI by emailing: [e.bryan@cgiar.org](mailto:e.bryan@cgiar.org)