



April 2026

Welcome to the GCAN newsletter where we share recent highlights from the project. Please visit the [website](#) and follow us on [LinkedIn](#) for updates.

## GCAN Highlights



Pictures from capacity needs assessment study validation workshops in Nigeria, Ethiopia and Kenya

## Validation of the capacity needs assessment on the integration of gender, nutrition, and climate change

In 2025, [GCAN partners](#) in [Ethiopia](#), [Kenya](#), Senegal and Nigeria conducted a capacity needs assessment on the extent to which gender, nutrition, and climate

change are integrated in organizational processes and across the policy landscape. The assessment drew on an online survey and key informant interviews to understand the capacity priorities of institutions involved in designing, implementing, and monitoring gender-responsive and nutrition-sensitive climate change actions. Drawing on inputs from over 136 stakeholders across the four countries, the assessment identified critical gaps in human resources, cross-sectoral coordination, data systems, and financing, alongside existing policy frameworks and technical expertise that can be built upon. These findings were further refined through highly participatory validation workshops in the four countries, where stakeholders from government, academia, civil society, and development partners engaged in discussions and prioritization exercises to ensure the results reflect on-the-ground realities. Across all the workshops, there was strong consensus on the need for strengthening coordination mechanisms, investing in institutional and human capacities, and developing practical tools for implementation. The validated findings now provide a strong foundation for implementing targeted capacity strengthening plans and advancing more effective, inclusive, and scalable interventions that promote climate resilience, gender equality, and nutrition.



Mapping their village in Keonjhar, Odisha, helped residents explore varied climate impacts.  
Photo Credit: WASSAN

## [How Rural Women in Odisha, India, Are Navigating Climate Change](#)

In September and October 2025, the [Watershed Support Services and Activities Network](#) (WASSAN), a GCAN partner in Odisha, India, conducted a series of Participatory Rural Appraisals (PRAs) with around 150 women across four districts: Koraput, Kendrapara, Keonjhar, and Bargarh. Through group exercises and discussions, participants explored how climate change and variability are affecting food

security, nutrition, and livelihoods for women and communities.

[Read the blog](#)

### **[Gender Responsiveness Through Land Rights: Institutionalizing the Gender Responsive Cell \(GRC\): Framework and Roadmap in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India](#)**

On 13 February 2026, the Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Empowerment (DA&FE), Government of Odisha, in collaboration with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and with support from the Gates Foundation, convened the *Inception Workshop on Institutionalizing the Gender Responsive Cell (GRC): Framework and Roadmap* in Bhubaneswar. The workshop highlighted several issues ranging from women farmers' vulnerability during climate change, lack of measurement tools, absence of gender disaggregated data and issues of intersectionality in policy design. The issue of land rights of women farmers emerged as one of the cross-cutting issues across all discussions.

[Read more](#)



Group picture from ECF-ADSU MoU Signing

### **[Driving Evidence-Based Climate Action: ECF and Adamawa State University Formalize Partnership](#)**

On 22 January 2026, The [Environmental Care Foundation \(ECF\)](#), a GCAN partner in Adamawa State, Nigeria, and [Adamawa State University \(ADSU\)](#) formalized a strategic partnership through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding at the ADSU Yola Liaison Office. The meeting brought together representatives from ECF, ADSU, and the media, marking an important step toward strengthening collaboration between academia and development practitioners in support of GCAN objectives.

[Read more](#)



Prof. Musa Tukur Yakasai, Vice Chancellor, ADUSTECH, Wudil awarding the scholarship

## [Advancing Climate Change, Gender, and Nutrition Research Through Scholarships in Nigeria](#)

The [Aliko Dangote University of Science and Technology \(ADUSTECH\)](#), Wudil, a GCAN partner in Kano State, Nigeria, invited applications from staff and students to pursue research in alignment with GCAN objectives and to enhance capacity and foster multidisciplinary research collaborations. Three students (1 PhD and 2 MSc) were selected following a rigorous process of screening and were awarded scholarships to address key issues related to climate change, crop resilience, and farmer adaptation in their research.

[Read more](#)

## [National Workshop Strengthens Policy Dialogue on Gender, Climate Change, and Nutrition in Nigeria](#)

Stakeholders from across Nigeria came together to explore how gender and nutrition can strengthen climate action—unlocking new partnerships and policy pathways. [ECF](#) and [ADUSTECH](#), under the GCAN initiative, convened a National Workshop on 6 December 2025, in Abuja, Nigeria. The workshop brought together representatives from federal ministries, academia, and civil society to advance the integration of gender equality, women's empowerment, and nutrition into climate change and agricultural policies.

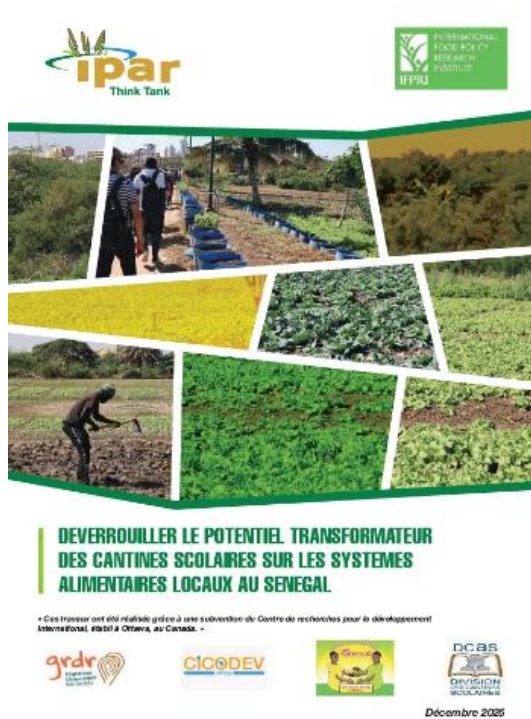
[Read more](#)

## [National Conference Advances Dialogue on Women's Empowerment, Climate, and Nutrition in Ethiopia](#)

The [Forum for Social Studies \(FSS\)](#) organized a [national conference](#) on March 17, 2026, under the theme "Women's Empowerment for a Sustainable Future" as part of the GCAN Initiative. The event brought together stakeholders from government offices, civil society organizations, universities, and the media.

[Read more](#)

## New Publications



### Unlocking the transformative potential of school canteens for local food systems in Senegal (French)

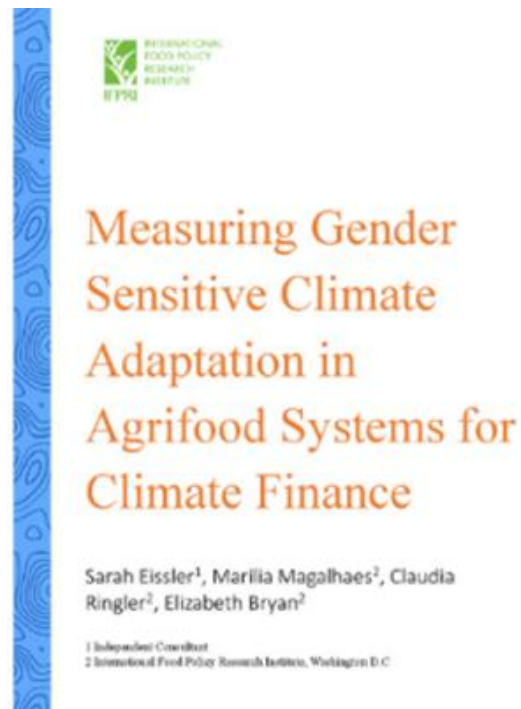
This brief, co-developed by [Initiative Prospective Agricole et Rurale \(IPAR\)](#), a GCAN partner in Senegal, and [International Food Policy Research Institute \(IFPRI\)](#) and produced following the African Food Systems Forum (AFSF 2025), summarizes the outcomes of the panel and offers strategic recommendations to contribute to ongoing discussions and solution-building emerging from AFSF 2025.

[Read the full brief](#)

### Measuring Gender Sensitive Climate Adaptation in Agrifood Systems for Climate Finance

This brief draws on a literature review of existing policies and frameworks and key informant interviews with experts in designing gender-informed national-level frameworks conducted by researchers at [IFPRI](#) under the GCAN initiative and the [CGIAR Climate Action Science Program](#). This brief summarizes the need for clear and applicable national-level frameworks to measure gender integration in climate change adaptation strategies and how such guidance could be used to direct climate financing to address gender equality.

[Read the full brief](#)



## The Nature Trail Podcast series

GCAN partner [Inclusive Climate Change Adaptation for a Sustainable Africa \(ICCASA\)](#) contributed to four insightful episodes in the Nature Trail podcast series, spotlighting community-led solutions at the intersection of climate, gender, and food systems in Kenya.

- [The Return of Indigenous Seeds and Murang'a Path to Food Security Through Seed Banks](#)
- [How Empowering Women and Agroecology can Fix Our Food System](#)
- [Nourishing the Community: How Tharaka Nithi's Women and Goats Are Outsmarting Climate Change](#)
- [Transforming Makeni: Gender, Climate and Conservation Agriculture](#)

## Events

On February 3, 2026, [ECF](#) held a Climate Change Sector Working Group (CCSWG) monthly coordination meeting at the Women Development Centre, Adamawa State. Participants included government representatives, non-governmental organizations, academia, and development partners.

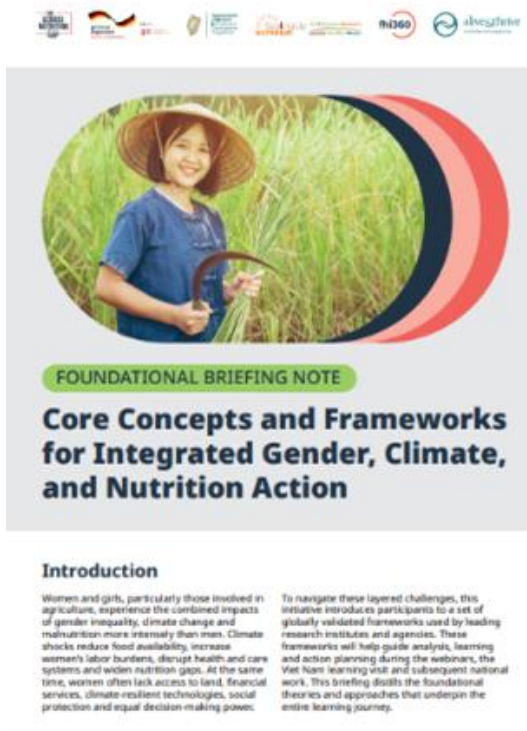
On February 13, 2026, [ICCASA](#) hosted a session on the Gender-Climate-Change-Nutrition nexus at Murang'a County Nutrition Technical Forum (CNTF) Read more in the [LinkedIn](#) Post.

On February 21, 2026, [ADUSTECH](#), through the GCAN-supported multistakeholder forum in Kano, Nigeria, hosted a policy dialogue on Gender, Climate Change, and Nutrition Integration.

On March 17, 2026, [FSS](#) hosted the first GCAN national conference under the theme "Women's Empowerment for a Sustainable Future" in Addis Ababa. Read more in the [LinkedIn](#) Post.

In March 2026, [WASSAN](#) organized two state-level thematic consultations in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, under the GCAN Initiative. The consultations focused on the role of climate-resilient agricultural practices and [natural resource management](#) in advancing climate change adaptation, gender equality, and nutrition security. [Read more](#)

## GCAN Mentions



The GCAN framework was mentioned in the brief [Core Concepts and Frameworks for Integrated Gender, Climate and Nutrition Action](#). The brief was developed as an accompanying piece to a [webinar series](#) on the gender-climate-nutrition nexus, jointly organized by Alive & Thrive/FHI 360, and SUN Civil Society Network.

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This work was undertaken as part of the Gender, Climate Change, and Nutrition Integration Initiative (GCAN), led by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). GCAN works with partners to integrate climate change, gender, and nutrition in policies, programs, and research. Funding for this project is provided by the Gates Foundation. The opinions expressed here belong to the GCAN project team, and do not necessarily reflect those of IFPRI or our donors.

More information on GCAN: <https://gcan.ifpri.info/>

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