



# GLOBAL EVENT

JOHANNESBURG SOUTH AFRICA



Theme 3: Keeping science relevant and  
future-focused

**GENDER AND FORESIGHT FOR  
AGRICULTURAL INNOVATION IN  
DEVELOPMENT**

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# Objectives

- Agree Collective Actions on Gender & Foresight in Ag. for inclusion in GCARD3 Outcome Statement to:
  - Develop/scale-out concepts, methods & capacities to integrate gender in grass-root foresight
  - Develop research & innovation capacities & actions at all levels to ensure gender equity & women's empowerment to meet future needs
- Set up Working Group with agreed modalities & committed members, to pilot the above, disseminate good practices/lessons for policy, R&D, investment

# Why is gender critical in foresight in agri-food systems?

- Women represent 43% of global ag. labor force
- Feminization of ag. in many countries: implications for labor, innovation/mechanization, decisionmaking
- Structural gender inequalities in access to land/resources, information, finance, markets, services, voice, so:
  - Huge costs in terms of women's lost production & incomes, food & nutrition security
  - Travesty of human rights & justice

# Addressing gender in foresight: conceptual issues

- Gender does NOT = Women
- Gender refers to social roles & identities of men & women. Gender relations refer to social & power relations between them
- Gender roles/relations are culture/context-specific and can & do change
- Need to disaggregate categories of “men” “women” by socio-economic status, occupation, ethnicity, marital status, age, migrant status, religion etc.
- Need look at intra-household gender roles/relations (not simply compare male- & female-headed households)

# Addressing gender in foresight: methodological issues

- Include rural men & women in foresight: also *experts*
- Use quantitative & qualitative methods, & culturally appropriate ways to ensure women's voice
- Consider different perceptions, values, preferences, priorities, attitudes to risk: men often prioritize production/income, women welfare
- Address changing social norms underlying gender inequalities and female empowerment/disempowerment
- Consider ethical issue of 'outsiders' facilitating foresight

# Promising developments in gender & foresight

- Conceptually & methodologically easier to integrate gender in systems approaches – identifying conflicts, synergies, trade-offs
- Promising foresight exercises & guidelines/tools addressing gender – much more needed




# Working Group on Gender & Foresight within Gender in Agriculture Partnership (GAP)

Run thro' multi-stakeholder GAP, linked to Global Foresight Hub (both GFAR-facilitated) with **objectives** to:

- Convince stakeholders/decision-makers of need to address gender in foresight
- Develop, test, disseminate key concepts, methods, tools
- Build/encourage partners to build capacity in these
- Carry out multi-site/multi-context gender-sensitive foresight studies at community/landscape level to inform policy, research priorities, investment



# Working Group: Questions to YOU

- Would you like to join the WG?
  - What specific experience would you bring to the WG? What would you like to learn?
  - What specific issues would you like the WG to address, with/for whom, and what purpose?
  - What specific activities would you like the WG to do, where, with which stakeholders/partners (building on other work?)?
  - How would you disseminate good practices/lessons?
  - Is funding available?
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