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?