



GENDER  
Platform

# GENDER Platform Methods Module

# WEAI-Nutrition Learning Grants

Research grants to integrate women's empowerment  
and nutrition methods and tools in CGIAR research

Informational Webinar

February 26, 2021

# Methods Module Overview

- Co-led by **Hazel Malapit** and **Elizabeth Bryan**
- Extended gender team at IFPRI:
  - **Katrina Kosec**
  - **Simone Faas**
  - **Ruth Meinzen-Dick**
  - **Ara Go**
  - **Agnes Quisumbing**
  - **Janet Hodur**
  - **Simrin Makhija**

# Methods Module

## Work Package 1: Synthesize and Share

### Working Groups (WGs)

- Establish consultative process—starting with virtual workshop
- Form WGs on priority research topics
- Identify critical gaps
- Recommend standards-toolkit on research ethics
- Curate quality methods/tools for Resource Hub

## Work Package 2: Innovate and Learn

### Innovative Methods Research

- Criteria, selection process presented at virtual workshop
- **Innovation Grants** Call announced Jan 2021 - 4 grants @ \$250K
- **WEAI-Nutrition Learning Grants** Call announced Feb 2021 – 4 grants @ \$100K
- Innovative methods/tools produced added to Resource Hub

## Work Package 1: Synthesize and Share

### Communities of Practice (CoP)

- WGs transition to CoPs
- Periodic workshops
- Contribute to webinars, blogs, comms products

2020

2021 – 2022



# Methods Module WEAI-Nutrition Learning Grants

# Objectives

The WEAI-Nutrition Learning Grants are designed to:

- Scale the use of **Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI) indicators** across CGIAR Centers and the wider research ecosystem
- Measure and enhance the agency and decision-making power of women and girls in agriculture for **improved nutrition and health**

Funding and technical support will be provided to help researchers to:

- **Integrate gender, women's empowerment, and nutrition** more effectively into One CGIAR and partners' investment portfolios
- **Build a community of practice** among the users of these WEAI and nutrition methods and tools.



**Technical support** includes workshops and one-on-one consultation sessions with subject matter experts on the following issues:

- Developing a **project-specific theory of change** linking agriculture to nutrition using the gendered pathways framework
- Defining and prioritizing **research questions** that address the key knowledge gaps
- Identifying **appropriate study design, indicators, methods and tools** to address the proposed research questions
- Training on the **use and implementation of mixed-methods WEAI and nutrition tools**
- Guidance on **standardized methodologies for data analysis that would allow for broader comparisons**



# Examples of WEAI and nutrition methods/tools

- **Suite of WEAI tools**

- WEAI and Abbreviated WEAI (A-WEAI)
- Project-level WEAI (pro-WEAI) qualitative protocols
- Pro-WEAI core survey questionnaire
- Pro-WEAI Health and Nutrition add on module
- Pro-WEAI for Market Inclusion add on module

- **Nutrition**

- Dietary assessment (e.g., women's dietary diversity indicators, child dietary diversity, or other dietary methods to assess dietary quality)
- Infant and young child feeding indicators
- Anthropometric measurement to assess underweight or overweight/obesity
- Measurement of maternal and/or child anemia (Hb and other biomarkers)



# What we are looking for

Projects that incorporate at least one of the following research components:

- A **diagnostic** study that will collect and analyze data on women's empowerment and individual-level nutrition outcomes
- An **experimental or quasi-experimental** study designed to assess impacts of interventions on women's empowerment and individual-level nutrition outcomes
- A **validation** study designed to test methods and tools that enable the measurement of women's empowerment in decisions related to nutrition using mixed methods





# What we are looking for (cont'd)

Projects that seek to address at least one of the following key knowledge gaps:

- **Impacts of agricultural programs on both women's empowerment and nutrition**
- How **engaging men and boys** in development projects can shift the allocation of food, financial resources, and time burdens in more gender-equitable ways
- **Unintended consequences** of development interventions on women's own nutrition, health, and empowerment e.g. increased work burdens (and changes in energy and nutrient needs), backlash from men
- Empowerment and nutrition impacts of development interventions on **multiple household members, including adolescent girls and boys**



# Overview

- Up to **4 research grants of USD 100,000 in top-up funding**
- The maximum duration of **15 months** with an estimated start date of 1 July 2021 and an estimated completion date of 30 September 2022
- Funds will be allocated in 2021 and 2022 through GENDER Platform Program Participant Agreements (PPAs) with the respective Centers.
- CGIAR Centers (*except IFPRI, CIFOR\*, ICRAF\*, ICRISAT\**) are eligible to **lead** applications. All Centers are eligible to partner in multiple applications.
- Only one successful proposal per lead Center will be selected for funding.

\* Centers departing One CGIAR (including CIFOR, ICRAF, and ICRISAT) are **not eligible to lead** applications but are **eligible to participate as partners**.



# Eligibility

- Led by **CGIAR Center** (*except IFPRI, CIFOR, ICRAF, and ICRISAT*)
- Presence of an **existing or soon-to-be started project** willing to incorporate a **diagnostic, experimental/quasi-experimental or validation** study on women's empowerment and nutrition.
- Demonstrate potential to influence and build capacity to integrate WEAI-based instruments and nutrition methods and tools in One CGIAR Initiatives and other CGIAR-led research activities after the grant is completed.
- Demonstrate strong and equitable partnerships, across the CGIAR and especially with national agricultural research systems (NARS) and other low- and middle-income country partners.
- Demonstrate relevance to at least one of the key knowledge gaps in the nutrition field specified in the Call for Applications.



# Evaluation Criteria

- Integration of WEAI and Nutrition
  - Scientific excellence
  - Collaboration
  - Research uptake, capacity strengthening & pathways to impact
  - Study feasibility and value for money
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- ✓ Each criterion is equally important.
  - ✓ A score between 1 (not competitive) and 5 (outstanding)
  - ✓ Scores high overall and well balanced across criteria



# Selection Process

## Single-stage competitive process

- Single blind peer-review process
  - Peer reviewers identified based on subject matter expertise by the Methods Team
  - Only reviewers with no known conflicts of interest will be assigned
- GENDER Methods Experts Panel assesses proposals + the peer review reports
- Review meeting to select proposals for award
  - Panel will aim for portfolio balance across coverage of topics, regions/contexts, and quantitative/qualitative approaches



# Timelines

Milestones	Dates
Call announced	9 February 2021
Informational webinar	26 February 2021
WEAI and nutrition training workshop (open to all)	March 2021 (date TBD)
<b>Submission of proposals</b>	<b>6 April 2021</b>
Notification of awards	24 May 2021
In-depth WEAI and nutrition training workshop (open to awardees) – <i>TBD based on needs</i>	June 2021 (date TBD)
Grants start	1 July 2021
<p>➤ Proposals should be submitted to <b>GenderPlatform@cgiar.org</b> with a copy to <b>Grecia Tibayrenc (G.tibayrenc@cgiar.org)</b> by <b>11:59 PM Eastern Time on the due dates</b>. Late submissions will not be accepted.</p>	



Q&A

Thank you!