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
Methods Module

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

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

Communities of Practice (CoP)
- WGs transition to CoPs
- Periodic workshops
- Contribute to webinars, blogs, comms products

Co-led by **Hazel Malapit** and **Elizabeth Bryan**

Extended gender team at IFPRI:
- **Katrina Kosec**
- **Ruth Meinzen-Dick**
- **Agnes Quisumbing**
- **Simone Faas**
- **Ara Go**
- **Janet Hodur**
- **Simrin Makhija**

Work Package 1: Synthesize and Share

Work Package 2: Innovate and Learn

2020

2021 – 2022

https://gender.cgiar.org/
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

✓ 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

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

Thank you!