

# Agroclimate information systems (ACIS) for women and ethnic minority farmers in Southeast Asia *- lessons learned on gender -*



I understand the agro-  
advise because I made it

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RESEARCH PROGRAM ON  
Climate Change,  
Agriculture and  
Food Security



# Starting point 2014

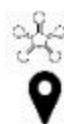


**Disconnected actors** in the climate service value chain (horizontally and vertically)

**One-way (top down) information flow.** No feedback loop from users. Little understanding of various farmers' needs. Gendered needs invisible

**Questionable actionability** of existing climate services

**Baseline survey (1330 households):** gendered needs are context-specific



Development project  
Climate-smart village

2015-2018  
98 villages  
20,000 farmers

# ACIS selected interventions 2015-2018

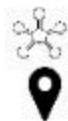


**Production** - seasonal forecasts indicators

**Translation** - *Participatory Scenario Planning* + savings/interest groups- agro-advisory by women and men champion farmers

**Transfer & Use** – dissemination by multiple actors and formats

**Feedback** – evaluation of forecast, advisories and actions in the following scenario planning meeting



Development project  
Climate-smart village

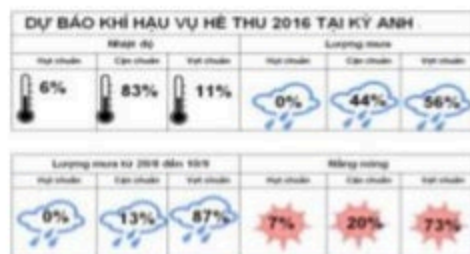
2015-2018  
98 villages  
20,000 farmers

# Do women and men farmers have different preferences?

## Indicators

- **Understandable**
- **Useful**
- **Appropriate**
- **Take time to read**

Men liked  
Women  
disliked



Dự báo khí hậu vụ đông xuân 2016 – 2017 tại Kỳ Anh

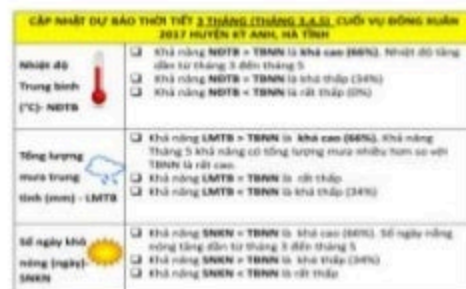
NHẬT ĐỘ			LƯỢNG MƯA		
Hạt chuẩn	Cận Chuẩn	Vượt chuẩn	Hạt chuẩn	Cận Chuẩn	Vượt chuẩn
0%	40%	60%	0%	41%	52%

HẾT HẠI			NĂNG SÁNG		
Hạt chuẩn	Cận Chuẩn	Vượt chuẩn	Hạt chuẩn	Cận Chuẩn	Vượt chuẩn
0%	50%	50%	0%	27%	73%

Men liked

Women  
liked

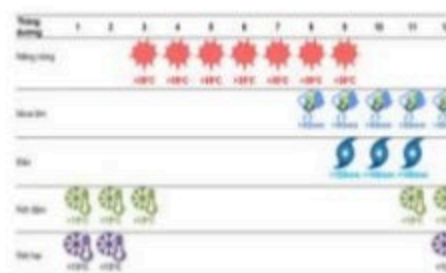


**CẬP NHẬT DỰ BÁO THỜI TIẾT 3 THÁNG (THÁNG 3,4,5) CUỐI VỤ ĐÔNG XUÂN 2017 HUYỆN KỶ ANH, HÀ TĨNH**

Tháng (tháng 3 đến 5)	3	4	5	6	7	
Nhiệt độ (°C)	19	18,2	18,7	21,1	25,1	28,9
Lượng mưa (mm)	230	95	68	68	90	148
Số ngày nắng > 5h (ngày)	3	8	6	6	9	3
Số ngày có hạt mưa (ngày)	6	2	3	6	9	9
Số ngày khô nắng (ngày)	0	8	9	1	3	9

CẬP NHẬT DỰ BÁO THỜI TIẾT 3 THÁNG (THÁNG 3,4,5) CUỐI VỤ ĐÔNG XUÂN 2017 HUYỆN KỶ ANH, HÀ TĨNH

DƯƠNG LỊCH		THÁNG 3	THÁNG 4	THÁNG 5
Nhiệt độ TB (°C)	Dự báo 2017	21,2	25,4	27,9
	Thực đo 2016	19,9	25,5	28,6
TBNN	21,2	24,6	28,2	
	Tổng lượng mưa TB (mm)	Dự báo 2017	65	76
Thực đo 2016		23,7	51,5	89,3
TBNN	62	67	147	
	Số ngày khô nắng (ngày)	Dự báo 2017	3	3-4
TBNN		3	5	8



No. 1  
Women  
and men

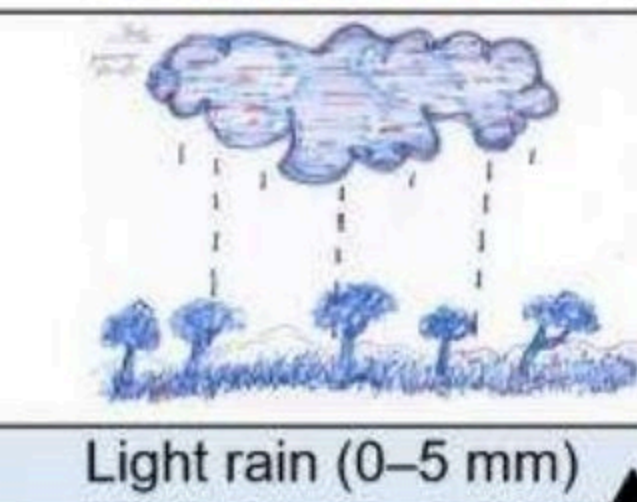


**Info Note**  
Gender differences in Agro-Climate Information Services

Published from ICRD location services in the East and West Block production, Vietnam  
East West Group, My Lai South, Tam Thôn, Thanh Xuân, My Lai North



# Interpreting weather information



*Farmers' icon for light rain*

**Weather icons**  
not universal (cultural,  
gender, literacy)

**Windy** (realtime  
weather maps)  
excellent training tools  
for women and men



# Monitoring



Le et al. 2017 Farmer's Logbook. Washington, DC: The CGIAR Research Program on Gender Transformative Innovations and Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index. <https://hdl.handle.net/10568/90538>

## Simplify self-monitoring tool

- Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index
- Farmer & group logbooks

## Observations gendered tasks

- Opportunities to make new practices gender neutral, e.g. vermiculture, nursery

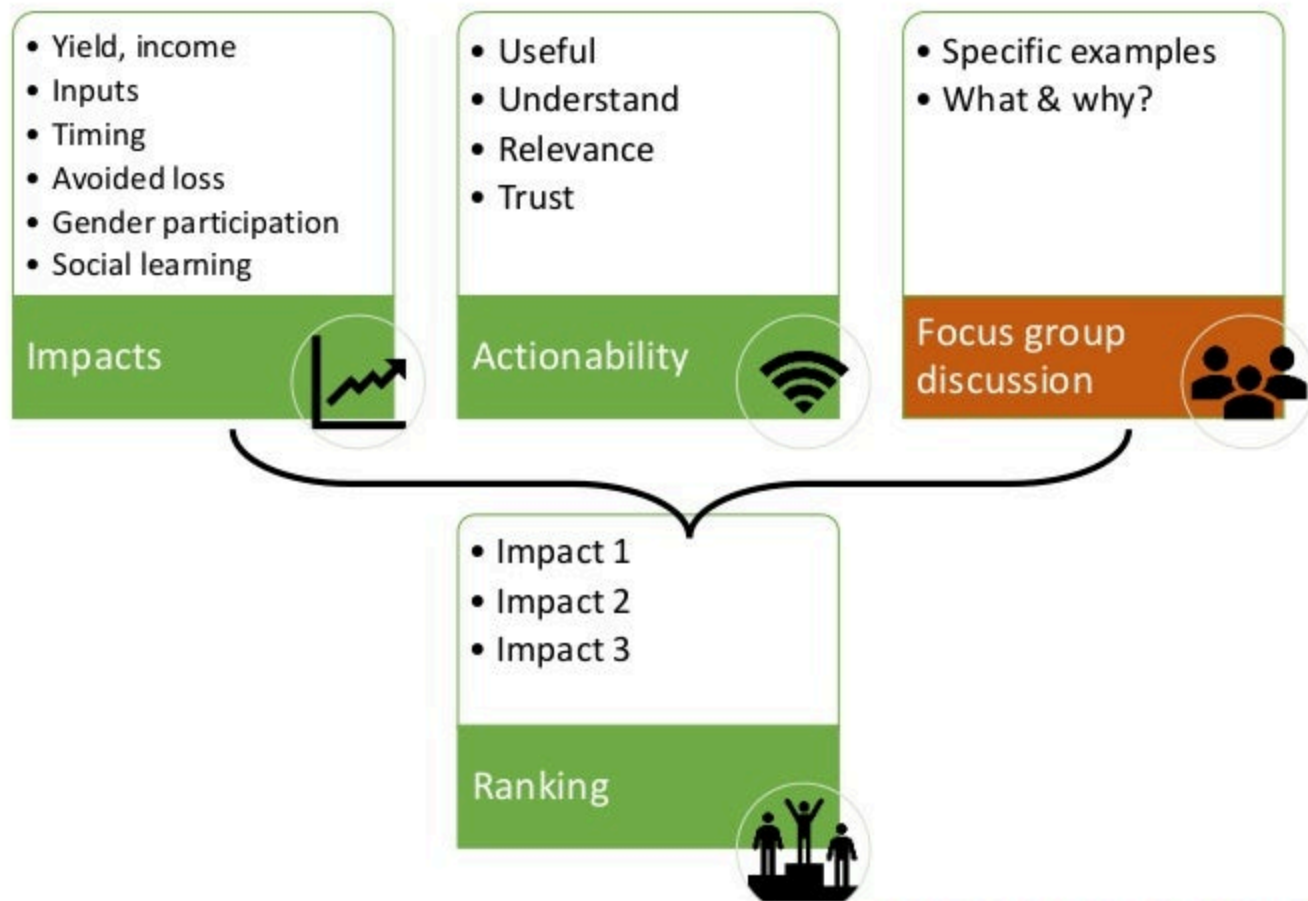
## Gender-awareness activities

- Husband/wife task swaps
- Women have less time to read agro-advisories



Le et al. 2018 Group Logbook. Washington, DC: The CGIAR Research Program on Gender Transformative Innovations and Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index. <https://hdl.handle.net/10568/90539>

# Evaluation tool



Guide for Impact Assessment  
of Agro-Climate Information  
Services

Working Paper No. 202

CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change,  
Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS)

Shaharaj Simelton  
Johanna Sperminigard  
Tapan Phulpur



Working Paper

# Evaluation

## I share more farm decisions with my wife/husband

- 100% of men and 70% of women (Laos)
- 100% of men and women (Vietnam)

## My husband/wife and I work better together

- 85% of men, 83 % of women (Laos)
- 100% of men and women (Vietnam)

## Among top 3 benefits of ACIS

- Women's participation in decision making
- Men's participation in decision making
- Social learning
- Crop selection, resource use     *n=92 Laos, n=84 Vietnam*

*"We have work to do together: same work, same problem. It's our family work"*



*Farmer sharing with neighbours how she makes compost*



# Gendered or mixed groups?

- Women prefer female trainers. Men had no preference
- Women may practice speaking skills with other women. There are also shy men
- In mixed groups, women realized that they could learn tree management from men
- Why 'or'?
- Savings & interest groups : interchangeably both heads of household participate with rotating leader and deputy of different gender



# Communication channels

- If farmers make the advisories and training manuals, they understand
- Offer a diversity of formats and different times
- *The bulletin has pictures so I can understand (illiterate)*
- *The bulletin should be sent via sms to get more frequent and updated information*
- *Should be available for more crops and fruit trees*



# Summary

**A**lliance – from start to scale: farmers - research – development - local government - civil society organisations as partners

**C**o-production - The presence of meteorologists and extension while preparing the agro-advisories increased the mutual understanding and feedback

**I**nclusive - Accumulation and documentation of women's and men's knowledge and observations

**S**trengthening - Making the agro-advisories together meant that women and men dared to share

