

# Fortifying the foundations for gender in AR4D

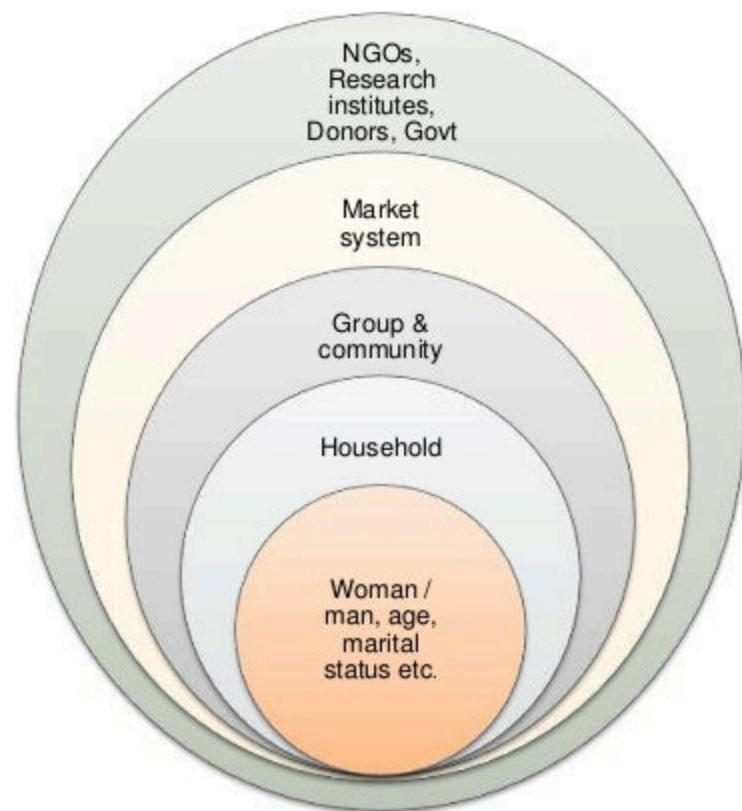
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# The stickiness of gender inequality remains a key challenge for Ag.Dev.

- How can we improve AR4D models to better understand, design for and engage with agricultural and technological change as *social processes* that are shaped by local actors and the contexts in which they occur?



# Gender Integration continuum

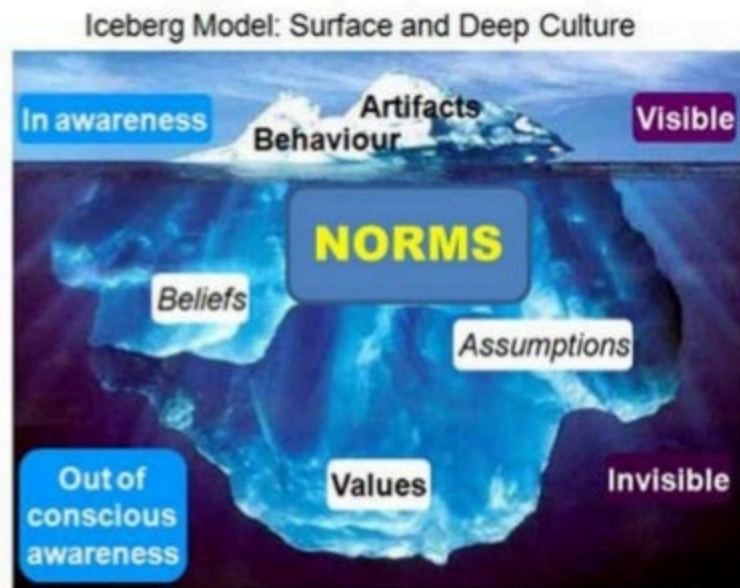


\* Norms encompass attitudes and practices.

† A system consists of a set of interacting structures, practices, and relations.

# Gender transformative R&D models

- Seek to improve understanding of and advance systemic change in gender-based power relations, structures and discriminatory practices in households and communities, or wider institutions, that underpin gender differences, (CGIAR-IEA, 2017).
- Go beyond considering the symptoms of gender inequality, and address the social norms, attitudes, behaviors and social systems that underlie them. (AAS 2012, 3)



<http://www.rotary-utrecht-international.nl/iceberg-model/>

# Characteristics of GTAs

- Development of a deep **understanding of people in their context** and the way social inequalities affect different groups' choices and outcomes;
- Engagement with both **women and men**, as both have a role and stake in gender transformative change;
- Commitment to **address unequal power relations and to challenge oppressive norms, behaviors, and structures**;
- Commitment to foster **iterative cycles of critical reflection and action** among **all** participants;
- Engagement with **different actors across scales** in response to power relations and norms underlying gender inequality.

Aim to transform  
gender relations

Recognize &  
address gender  
realities

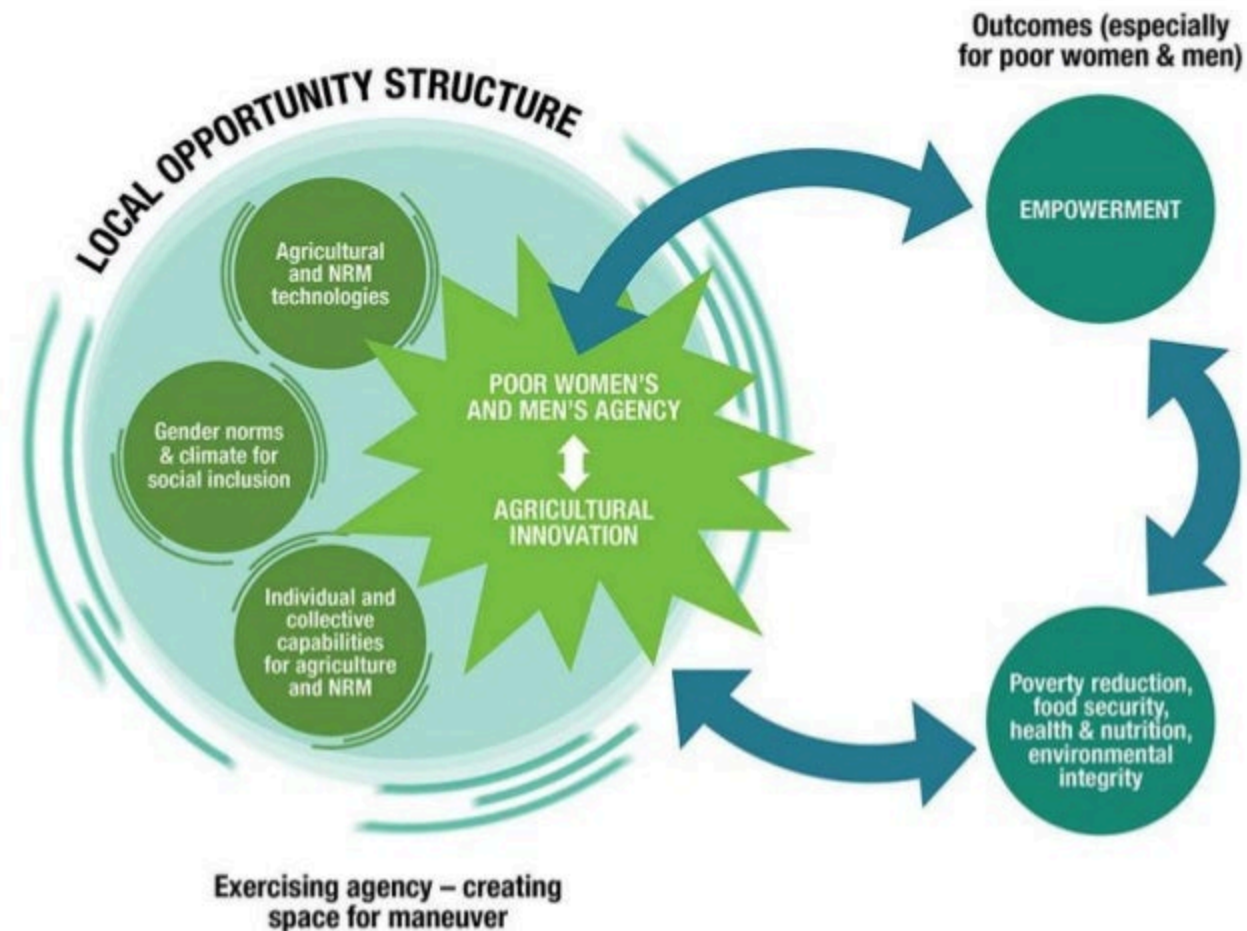
Ignore gender realities

# GENNOVATE



- How **gender norms and agency** interact to advance or impede processes of **innovation** and technology adoption in agriculture and resource management across different contexts.
- **Broad collaboration across CGIAR**
- **Qualitative comparative methodology** enables identification of broad cross-case patterns that remain contextually grounded in local realities
- **137 community case studies** in 26 countries and >7,000 women and men of different age- and socio-econ groups

# Conceptual Framework



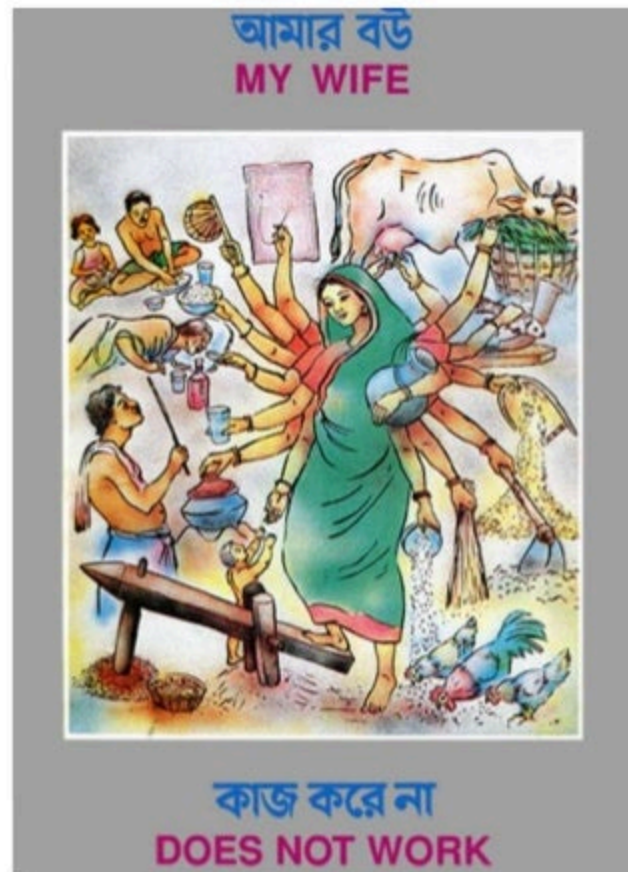
# Selected contributions from GENNOVATE:

- A systematic review of 336 semi-structured interviews finds that **personality, family harmony, and agency are crucial to** women's and men's capacity to overcome resource constraints and participate in their local **agricultural innovation processes** (Badstue et al. 2018).
- A sample of 50 focus group discussions with young women and men shows that norms that portray **agriculture as a masculine endeavor, limit women's** ability to learn about and try out new practices, and restrict their **agricultural opportunities**, also orient their **aspirations** away from agriculture (Elias et al. 2018).
- Concept of **local normative climate** applied to analysis of 24 sub-Saharan cases to reveal the variable ways that some gender norms hold tight while others relax as women and men move through their life cycle and as their local institutions and opportunities evolve. Women and men farmers do not passively adhere to norms, but negotiate, reproduce, and redefine these (Petesch et al. 2018).
- Draws on a sample of 79 cases to present a three-part **community typology** to illuminate the significant contribution of more equitable gender norms to the set of "transforming" cases marked by accelerated and inclusive trajectories of local agricultural innovation and of wider social change and development (Petesch et al. 2018).



# Summing up:

- Normative ideals often differ from practice
- Gender norms do not necessarily move together
- Processes of normative relaxation and change are uneven within and across communities
- Have:
  - Comparative evidence specifically related to the core business of CGIAR
  - Emerging knowledge base re: GTA in Agr./NRM
- Need:
  - CGIAR to commit to Gender Transformative AR4D and engage with norms that maintain inequalities
  - Build understanding of innovations that enable both women and men to draw substantial benefits from AR&D, and in these processes, effectively renegotiate gender norms
  - Adapt research frameworks and methodologies



# AR4D opportunities:

- Shifting mindsets at different levels: Researchers, local govts, market, extension etc.
- Learn from women and men innovators
- Support female-headed households to open space for other women
- Proactively cultivate positive role models (both women and men)
- Collaborate with and strengthen the capacity of local opinion leaders
- Develop and test extension arrangements that are responsive to women's agricultural needs as well as men's
- Strengthen access to key resources (e.g. information, finance, land) that unlock opportunities and decision-making
- Foster dialogue around discriminatory structures across scales
- Build action research partnerships that engage directly with communities
  - Household methodologies
  - Community conversations





**GENNOVATE**

ENABLING GENDER EQUALITY  
IN AGRICULTURAL AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL INNOVATION

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- Women and men study participants
- Research collaborators, local field teams and data coders