How communities and organizations interact to strengthen adaptive capacity and food security in the face of climate change



RESEARCH PROGRAM ON Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security



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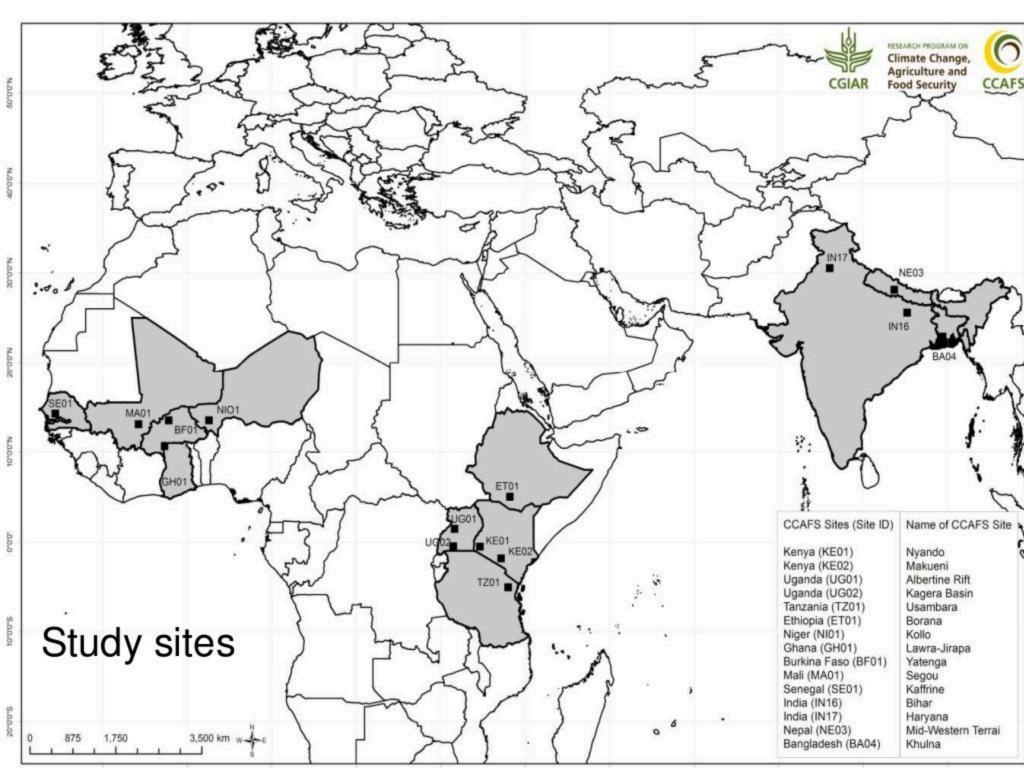




Introduction



- Co-authors: Laura Cramer, Wiebke Foerch, lanetta Mutie, and Philip Thornton
- Data from CCAFS village and organizational baselines in West Africa, East Africa, and South Asia
- All data available: https://dataverse.harvard.edu/dataverse/CCAFSbaseline



Purpose and research questions



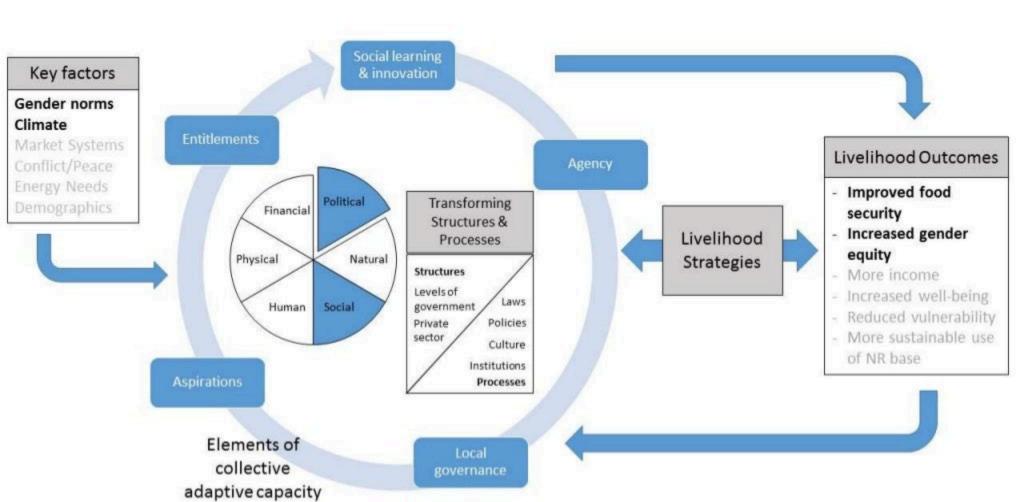
- Purpose: how do men and women value organizations working in their communities, especially on food security?
- ... to better inform policy and programming
- Research questions:
 - 1. Which levels and what types of organizations operate within the community, and what is their value as perceived by men and women?
 - 2. How are the components of food security addressed by these organizations perceived differently by men and women, and what are the community-identified gaps within the organizational portfolios?
 - 3. What are the key disconnects between organizational priorities and the activities valued by men and women?

Analytical framework: Sustainable livelihoods + Adaptive capacity



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Ratio of local to total organizations named, by men and by women

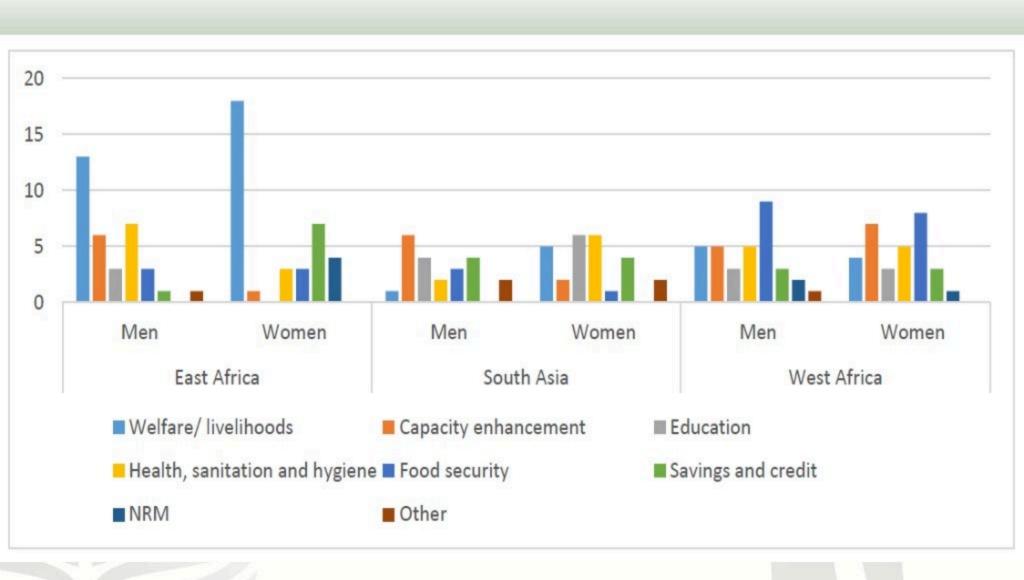




Basin

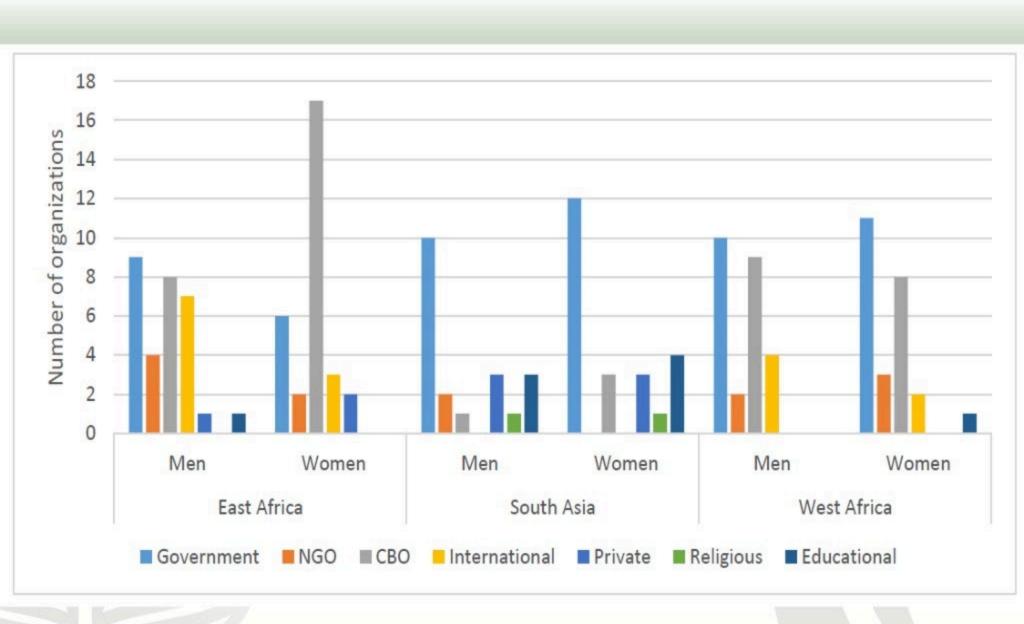
Thematic focus of top 5 organizations





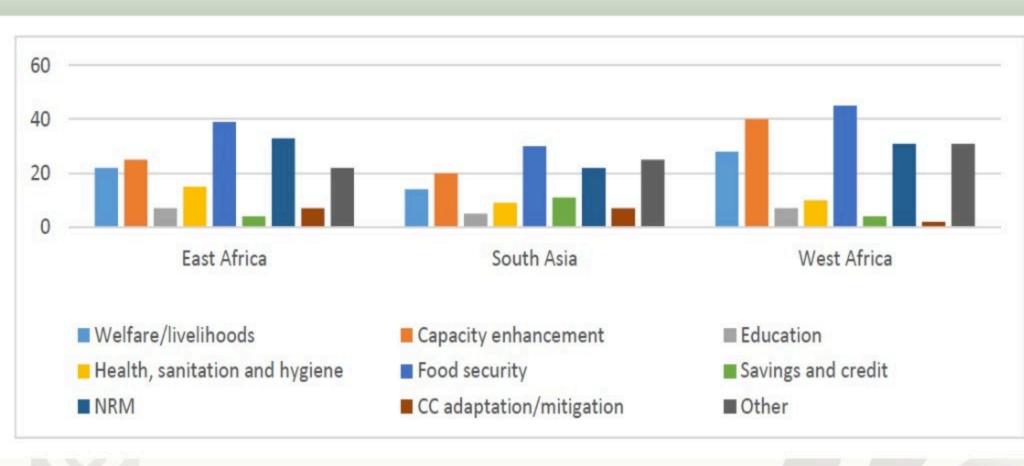
Top 5 organizations by type





Organizations by region and focus





Focus on food security



- Women name more organizations working in food security than men
- Food availability is main focus of food security work
- Gaps identified by participants:
 - Overemphasis on production
 - Too little on storage, access and utilization
 - Not enough capacity strengthening
 - Women not linked to extension services
 - Lack of coordination, weak government services



Community vs. Organizational priorities



Community priorities

- East Africa: welfare and livelihoods (men and women); savings and credit (women)
- South Asia: education and health/sanitation (women)
- West Africa: food security and capacity enhancement (men and women)

Organizational areas of focus

- East Africa: welfare and livelihoods lower emphasis than food security and NRM
- South Asia: food security

 West Africa: food security and capacity enhancement

Organizational priorities





- Little evidence of targeting at local level
- Focus on agricultural production at local level
- Climate change mainstreamed into natural resource management activities in East and West Africa
- Traditional extension services and some support to self-help groups – but no mention of strengthening adaptive capacity

Implications for policies and programming





- More explicit targeting needed
- Greater focus on access and utilization
- Better efforts to coordinate when working in same area
- Adaptive capacity of communities should be an explicit focus
- Work should be organized through existing groups, especially women's groups (but not ignoring men)
- Need to be careful not to place additional burdens on women





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Thank you

Full paper: http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0971852416639771

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