GENDER EQUALITY in food systems
Achieving gender equality in food systems will help revitalize rural economies, increase food security and boost economic growth to reduce poverty.

One of today’s biggest challenges is that millions of women remain mostly excluded from agricultural development through no fault of their own. They are unable to participate in the urgently needed transformation of food systems, essential to sustainably defeat hunger and produce enough, and good enough, food under the ongoing climate crisis.

Women have a right to the same opportunities and the same benefits from agriculture, natural resources and food production as men.

What’s more, only when both women and men are able to contribute to food systems equally can they successfully nourish families, communities and entire nations, today and in the future. Breaking down the structural barriers that hold women back is essential to support farmers in developing countries to weather the impacts of climate change.

That’s why the CGIAR GENDER Platform aims to create a ‘new normal’ — a world in which greater gender equality drives more equitable, sustainable, productive and climate-resilient food systems.
What is GENDER?

Generating Evidence and New Directions for Equitable Results (GENDER) is CGIAR’s new Platform designed to put gender equality at the forefront of global agricultural research for development. It draws on CGIAR’s entire research portfolio:

GENDER builds alliances with change makers in government, academia, national agricultural research extension systems and non-governmental organizations, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa, the Americas and Asia. We work closely with decision-makers and partners to ensure that solutions, technologies and evidence are put into use and make a difference to people’s lives.

The Platform builds on a wealth of research and learning generated by the previous CGIAR Gender Network, the Collaborative Platform for Gender Research and others, and it will support the ongoing gender work conducted in CGIAR.

New evidence, new directions

GENDER aims to transform the way research is done to kick-start a process of genuine change toward greater gender equality and better lives for smallholder farmers everywhere. Our research agenda is driven by the needs expressed by women and men in developing countries, by global and regional development agendas and by fellow scientists.
Moving forward together

In addition to the CGIAR Centers, Research Programs and Platforms, which are core members of the Platform, GENDER also serves external partners. This group includes national agricultural research and extension systems, university partners, non-governmental organizations, multilateral and private sector institutions as well as governments with whom CGIAR collaborates.

GENDER seeks to support leaders and decision-makers to develop new research and development perspectives, evidence and collective action for eliminating gender inequalities in food systems. We aim to change organizational cultures and enhance capacities for achieving gender outcomes within CGIAR and its partner institutions, making equality a core principle in priority setting, research and day-to-day activities.

Want to join us?

Get in touch or learn more on gender.cgiar.org

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Acknowledgments

GENDER is hosted by the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) and is grateful for the support of CGIAR Trust Fund Contributors.

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March 2020

Cover photo: Hugh Rutherford/CIP