



## What unleashes innovations in the Legumes and Cereals farming Systems in the drylands: A gendered perspective

Jummai Yila<sup>1\*</sup>; Esther Njuguna<sup>1</sup>; Dina Najjar<sup>2</sup>; Millicent Liani<sup>1</sup>; Avishek Bose<sup>1</sup>; Almamy Sylla<sup>1</sup>; Eliyas Gohannes<sup>3</sup>; Patti Petesch<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>ICRISAT; <sup>2</sup>ICARDA; <sup>3</sup>Private Consultant, Ethiopia; <sup>4</sup>GENNOVATE Expert Advisor and CIMMYT Associate Researcher.  
*Corresponding author email: J.O.Yila@cgiar.org*

Agricultural and natural resource management innovations have often been introduced, promoted and adopted among local communities / farmers. However, how the innovation process is perceived by men and women, the relationships involved, the distribution of benefits and the differing capacities of women and men to take advantage of the new opportunities in agriculture are not always carefully thought-out. This study examined both community and individual men and women's

experiences with agricultural innovations and practices and how these interactions support or hinder the achievement of agricultural innovations across various contexts. By providing robust empirical evidence on the relationship between gender norms, agency and agricultural innovation, the study revealed that socio-cultural structures and household dynamics chiefly shapes how individuals negotiate for space, freedom, resources and the capacities needed to innovate.