



INITIATIVE ON
Gender Equality



CGIAR Initiative on Gender Equality

ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT 2022



CGIAR Technical Reporting 2022

CGIAR Technical Reporting has been developed in alignment with the [CGIAR Technical Reporting Arrangement](#).

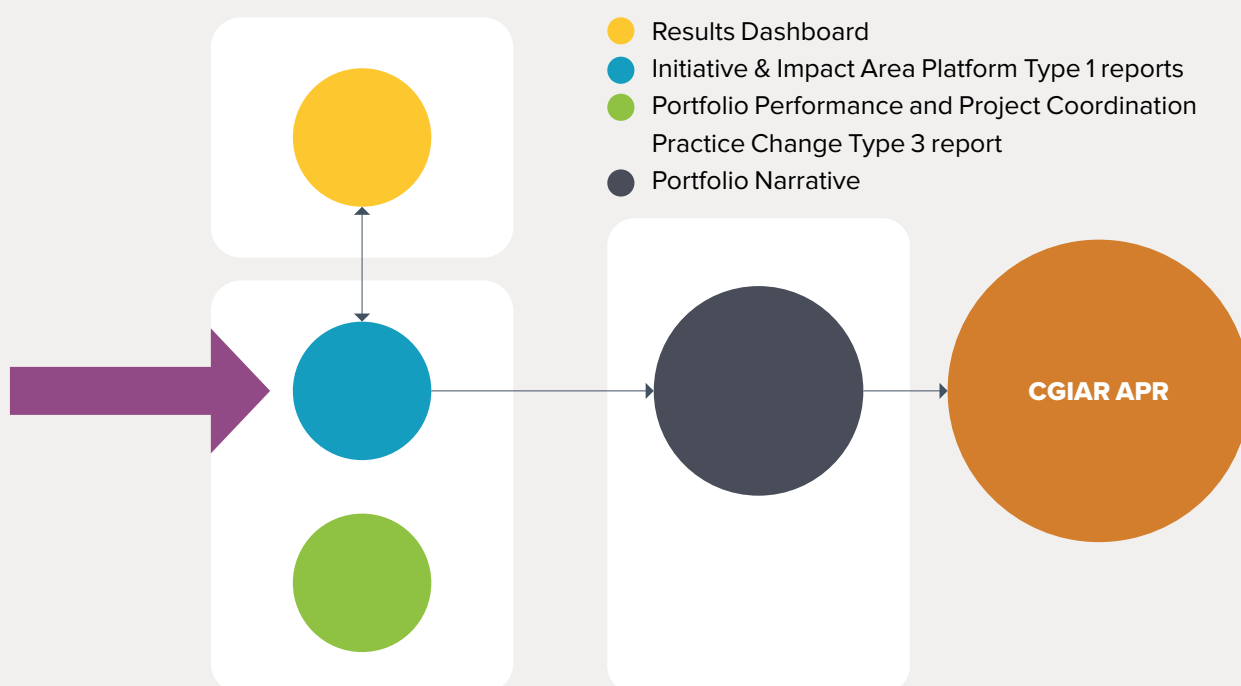
This Initiative report is a Type 1 report and constitutes part of the broader CGIAR Technical Report. Each CGIAR Initiative submits an annual Type 1 report, which provides assurance on Initiative-level progress towards End of Initiative outcomes.

The CGIAR Technical Report comprises:

- Type 1 Initiative and Impact Area Platform reports, with quality assured results reported by Initiatives and Platforms available on the CGIAR Results Dashboard.

- The Type 3 Portfolio Performance and Project Coordination Practice Change report, which focuses on internal practice change.
- The Portfolio Narrative, which draws on the Type 1 and Type 3 reports, and the CGIAR Results Dashboard, to provide a broader view on portfolio coherence, including results, partnerships, country and regional engagement, and synergies among the portfolio's constituent parts.

The CGIAR Technical Report constitutes a key component of the CGIAR Annual Performance Report (APR).



US\$	2022	2023	2024
Proposal Budget from initial submission	US\$6,787,880	US\$8,803,029	US\$12,409,091
Approved 2022 Budget	US\$5,823,510		

2022 Disbursement Target based on Approved FinPlan

Section 1 Fact sheet

Initiative name	Harnessing Gender and Social Equality for Resilience in Agrifood Systems
Initiative short name	Gender Equality
Action Area	Systems Transformation
Geographic scope	<p>Regions targeted in the proposal: Eastern Africa, Middle Africa, Southern Africa, Southern Asia, Western Africa</p> <p>Countries targeted in the proposal: Bangladesh, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Nigeria, The Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, United Republic of Tanzania</p> <p>Regions with results reported in 2022: Eastern Africa, Middle Africa, Northern Africa, Southern Africa, Southern Asia, South-Eastern Asia, Western Africa</p> <p>Countries with results reported in 2022: Bangladesh, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Malawi, Mali, Nigeria, The Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, United Republic of Tanzania</p>
Start date	April. 1, 2022
End date	March. 31, 2025
Initiative Lead	Nicoline de Haan – n.dehaan@cgiar.org
Initiative Deputy	Daniel Gilligan – d.gilligan@cgiar.org
Measurable three-year End of Initiative outcomes (EOI-Os)	<p>EOI-O 1: Partners target normative constraints using gender-transformative approaches</p> <p>By 2025, national agencies, CSOs, and CGIAR Initiatives in at least two LMICs target normative constraints that limit capacities of women food-system actors to build economic resilience to climate change challenges using GTAs.</p>
	<p>EOI-O 2: Learning labs bundle climate-smart technologies</p> <p>Learning labs nested in other CGIAR Initiatives and downstream partners (such as WorldVeg, AGRA, FAO, IFAD, and NARES) in two LMICs together with HER+ identify and model diverse scenarios for bundling climate-smart technologies to empower women to be partners and drivers of climate change solutions.</p>
	<p>EOI-O 3: Social-protection programs use Gender Equality Initiative evidence</p> <p>Stakeholders involved in social protection programs — including governments, INGOs, UN agencies, and donors — across at least three LMICs use HER+ evidence to understand how social protection systems can be better leveraged to boost rural women’s climate resilience and reduce gender inequality.</p>
	<p>EOI-O 4: Partners use Gender Equality Initiative learning to improve social innovations, organizational strategies, and national policies</p> <p>Governments, NGOs, CSOs, and/or private-sector actors in at least three LMICs use HER+ learning and guidance to better understand how social innovations and organizational strategies, as well as government and private-sector policies, can effectively increase the voice and agency of women in AFS governance, and their resilience to climate change (2022–2024).</p>

OECD DAC Climate marker adaptation score*	Score 1: Significant: The activity contributes in a significant way to any of the three CGIAR climate-related strategy objectives — namely, climate mitigation, climate adaptation, and climate policy, even though it is not the principal focus of the activity.
OECD DAC Climate marker mitigation score*	Score 1: Significant: The activity contributes in a significant way to any of the three CGIAR climate-related strategy objectives — namely, climate mitigation, climate adaptation, and climate policy, even though it is not the principal focus of the activity.
OECD DAC Gender equity marker score*	Score 2: Principal: Gender equality is the main objective of the Initiative/project and is fundamental in its design and expected results. The Initiative/project would not have been undertaken without this gender equality objective.
Website link	https://www.cgiar.org/initiative/26-her-harnessing-equality-for-resilience-in-the-agrifood-system/
<p>*The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Development Assistance Committee (DAC) markers refer to the OECD DAC Rio Markers for Climate and the gender equality policy marker. For climate adaptation and mitigation, scores are: 0 = Not targeted; 1 = Significant; and 2 = Principal. The CGIAR GENDER Impact Platform has adapted the OECD gender marker, splitting the 1 score into 1A and 1B. For gender equality, scores are: 0 = Not targeted; 1A = Gender accommodative/aware; 1B = Gender responsive; and 2 = Principal. These scores are derived from Initiative proposals, and refer to the score given to the Initiative overall based on their proposal.</p>	



Section 2 Initiative progress on science and towards End of Initiative outcomes



Overall summary of progress against the theory of change

The CGIAR Initiative on Gender Equality had a strong start in April 2022, with work initiated on boosting women’s empowerment and resilience to climate change. Though a new Initiative for CGIAR, a team came together from nine CGIAR Centers (the Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT, CIP, ICARDA, IFPRI, IITA, ILRI, IRRI, IWMI and WorldFish)¹ and collaborated on researching and identifying leverage points to provide tools, methods, and evidence for CGIAR’s stakeholders on social, technological, economic, and governance approaches.

In 2022, we implemented work at global, regional, and country levels. Our work cut across Eastern Africa, Middle Africa, Northern Africa, Southern Africa, Southern Asia, South-Eastern

Through improved production practices and breeds promoted by World Vision Ethiopia through the SPIR program, Metebe received training on poultry management, constructed a low-cost pen and purchased 12 improved breed chickens; she has begun earning a steady income from the egg sales, as well as consuming more eggs within her household. Photo credit: Aklilu Kassaye/World Vision Ethiopia

Asia, and Western Africa. Results were generated in the five focus countries of Ethiopia, Mali, Nigeria, Bangladesh, and India. We also began collaborations with partners in Malawi, Egypt, Tanzania, and The Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.

The Gender Equality Initiative is uniquely placed within the CGIAR Initiatives because it is the only one dedicated to gender research. In 2022, we built the foundation for leading the way to find out how to stem the growing gender inequalities as a result of climate change — providing new conceptual framings, research results, insights, and solutions.

¹ These respectively stand for Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT; International Potato Center; International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas; International Food Policy Research Institute; International Institute of Tropical Agriculture; International Livestock Research Institute; International Rice Research Institute; International Water Management Institute; WorldFish.

Our theory of change (TOC) is based on research to reduce formal and informal barriers to equitable food systems, while enhancing the individual capacities, as well as ensuring the systems support the ability of women to thrive and contribute to vibrant communities. It is this understanding, which requires a consolidated approach at different levels, that is unique.

With this conceptual framing in mind, 2022 was dedicated to initiating work in each of the four Work Packages of the Initiative. Because this Initiative wants to move the science into action, we also focused on setting up research on solutions. From the perspective of policies and governance systems, 2022 was dedicated to understanding how we can increase the voice and agency of women in decision-making and in developing solutions to climate change (Work Package 4). Recognizing that there are formal barriers for individual women often meant ensuring women could have access to resources and build their assets, as was done through research on making social protection more gender sensitive and effective (Work Package 3). Regarding informal systems, looking at how they can hold back the ability to grow and be empowered meant initiating innovative work within CGIAR on how to build sociotechnical innovation bundles (STIBs) that will empower women in the face of climate change (Work Package 2). Lastly, we started research on how gendered social norms limit empowerment and economic resilience in the context of climate change (Work Package 1).

Progress on science is on track across all four Work Packages. In Work Package 1, work began on an evidence synthesis on restrictive social norms within food systems, and on developing a set of tools for qualitatively assessing norms in three value chains (cassava, chicken, and fish) which may limit women's ability to benefit from them. This is feeding into the Initiative's development of an index of multi-dimensional social norms in agrifood systems (AFS). This is important for future work across value chains and understanding how

to ensure women benefit from food-systems transformations. In Work Package 1 we also worked on developing guidelines with a range of partners about how to measure gender-transformative change when testing gender-transformative approaches (GTAs) in agriculture and other domains. This is timely work, as more implementors embrace GTAs; being able to measure the change is a fundamental precondition to understanding it.

Because a core area of work for CGIAR is developing innovations, in Work Package 2 we concentrated on identifying, designing, and promoting the uptake of context-specific, climate-smart **STIBs to support women and youth empowerment**. Research on the link between STIBs, empowerment, and resilience is new, and most studies have focused on production and productivity. This required a review of literature and evidence on STIBs, and the development of a TOC on the pathways that result in empowerment or resilience building through the use of STIBs. To support that, a protocol for generating an evidence gap map on the impacts of STIBs on women's empowerment and resilience was developed. Using the resilience and empowerment indicators developed for this output, we identified 85 socioeconomic **datasets and tools** related to bundling relevant sociotechnical innovations in different contexts. We are also excited about the research that was started in four 'living' labs to understand the way STIBs are combined and how they can lead to empowerment.

Under Work Package 3, we worked on building a collaborative, multi-disciplinary approach to investigate which social-protection strategies and programs can support rural women in responding to climate change. This included progress on a conceptual framework and a strategic evidence review to identify promising program design features and high-priority evidence gaps. Work is underway on three quantitative case studies (in Ethiopia, Bangladesh, and Mali) on gendered impacts of social-protection programs in the context of climate change. Preliminary results show that

A woman works to prevent the inevitable ravages of flooding that arrive every year in Bangladesh. Flood prevention through careful land management practices can save agricultural crops and prevent famine.

Photo credit: International Food Policy Research Institute/2010

social-protection programs can help protect well-being and support climate responses for extremely poor women and their households following extreme weather events. Through Work Package 1, lessons on GTAs were shared across the Initiative, leading to development of guidance on how GTAs can be incorporated into social protection.

Because ensuring increased decision-making is a core solution to climate change, Work Package 4 investigated how to strengthen women's voice and agency in climate-related agrifood-systems governance at the community level. In 2022, our study in India highlighted **how climate change can adversely affect women's voice and agency, and how women's representation can mitigate these effects**. We have done the preparatory work for four randomized controlled trials of programming and policy approaches for increasing women's voice and agency — to be done in Nigeria, India, and Malawi. This will provide an informative basis for future projects on women's voice and agency. We also launched a conceptual framework for measuring women's empowerment in agrifood-systems governance (WEAGov). Strategic evidence reviews on public and private-sector policies supporting women's resilience to climate change informed an additional evidence map. Finally, we analyzed the gender-responsiveness of **private-sector voluntary sustainability systems** in the agrifood sector and engaged with **International Social and Environmental Accreditation and Labelling (ISEAL)** Alliance members and their network to help them **adopt governance approaches that increase women's agency**.

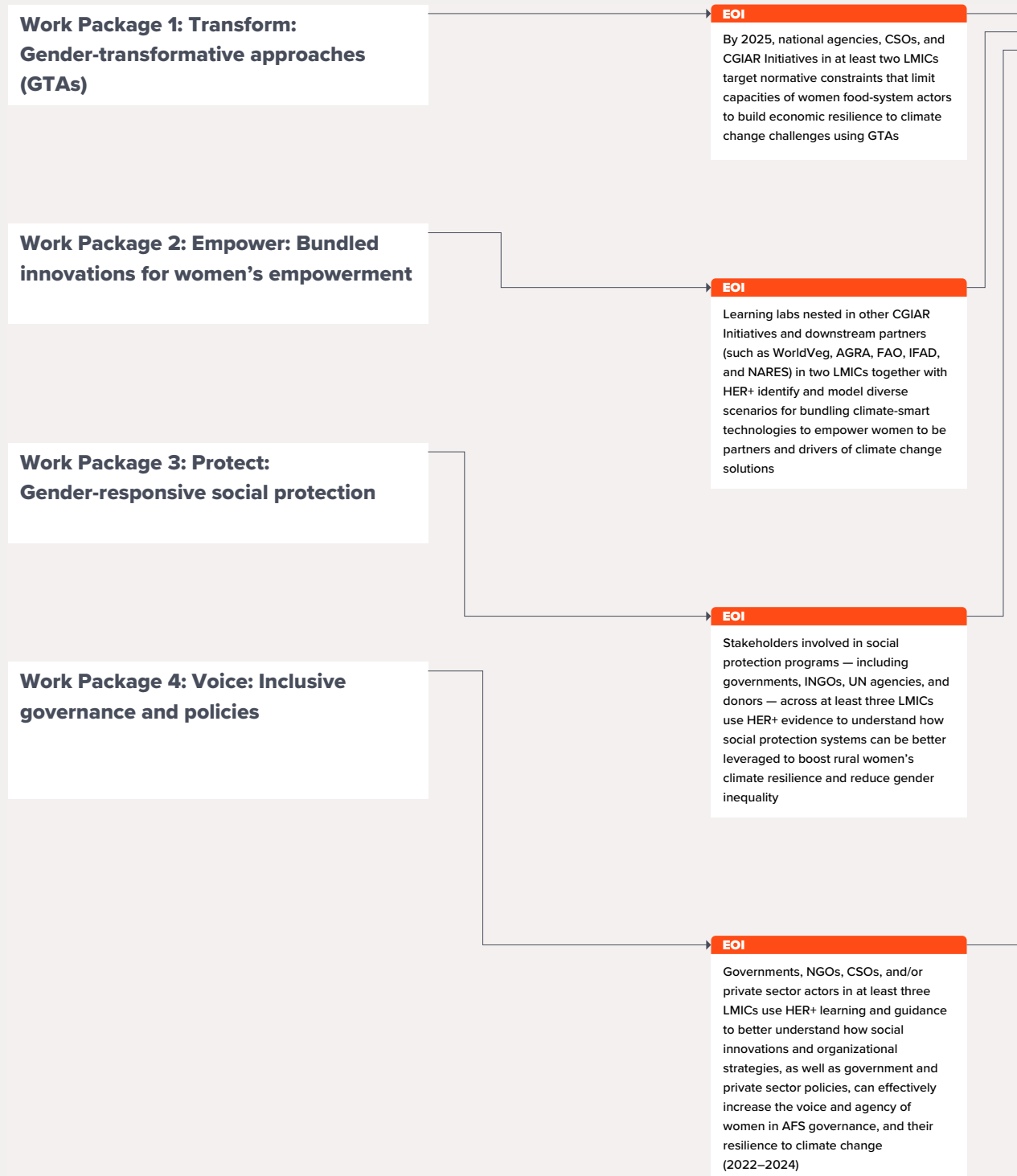


To engage partners and challenge the Initiative to remain relevant, we convened a **high-level dialogue** in October 2022 in Nairobi, Kenya, to deliberate about solutions for gender equality and climate resilience in Africa. Participants included Gender Equality Initiative leadership and researchers, representatives from government, international non-governmental organization (NGOs), the United Nations (UN), donors, and other CGIAR researchers. Key messages included:






- The need to gather data to provide evidence on gender dimensions of exposure to climate events, and adaptation and mitigation strategies.
- The importance of focusing on gender equality during periods of economic and social transition.
- The importance of women's voice and agency wherever decisions are made.
- The role of large-scale programs in supporting women's ability to respond to climate change.
- How evidence must shape priorities for financing for climate resilience.

Initiative-level theory of change diagram

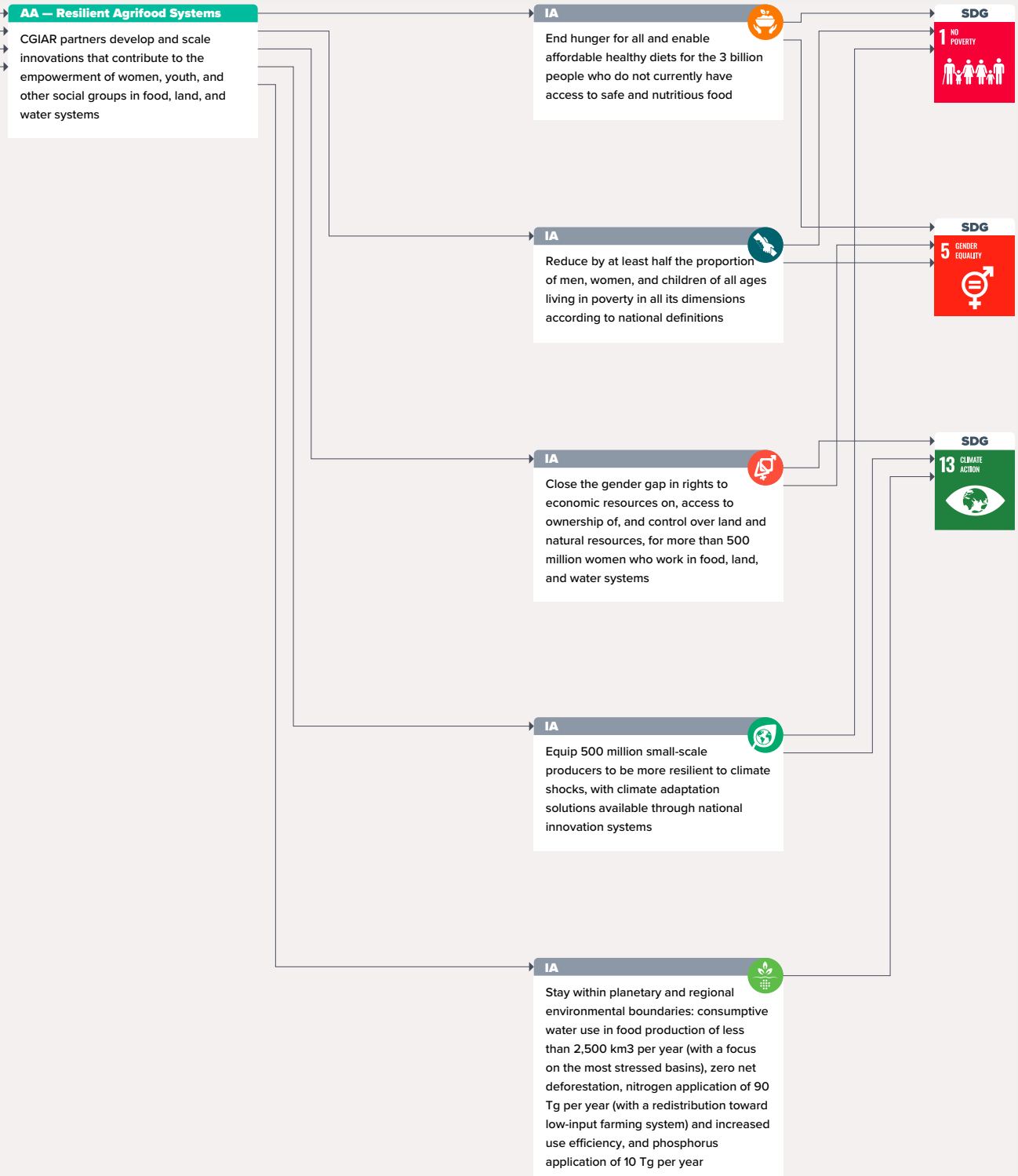
This is a simple, linear, and static representation of a complex, non-linear, and dynamic reality. Feedback loops and connections between this Initiative and other Initiatives' theories of change are excluded for clarity.



EOI — End of Initiative outcome
 AA — Action Area
 IA — Impact Area
 SDG — Sustainable Development Goal

-  Nutrition, Health, and Food Security
-  Poverty Reduction, Livelihoods, and Jobs
-  Gender Equality, Youth, and Social Inclusion
-  Climate Adaptation and Mitigation
-  Environmental Health and Biodiversity

Teams from CGIAR's three Action Areas — System Transformation, Resilient Agrifood Systems and Genetic Innovation — worked to develop an improved set of Action Area outcomes in October 2022. Since this was near the end of the reporting cycle for 2022, it was decided not to update the theories of change based on these new Action Area outcomes. The exception to this is Genetic Innovation — for this Action Area, as the new outcomes had already been widely discussed among the relevant Initiatives, and with its advisory group of funders and other stakeholders, the decision was made to update their outcomes in time for the 2022 reporting cycle.



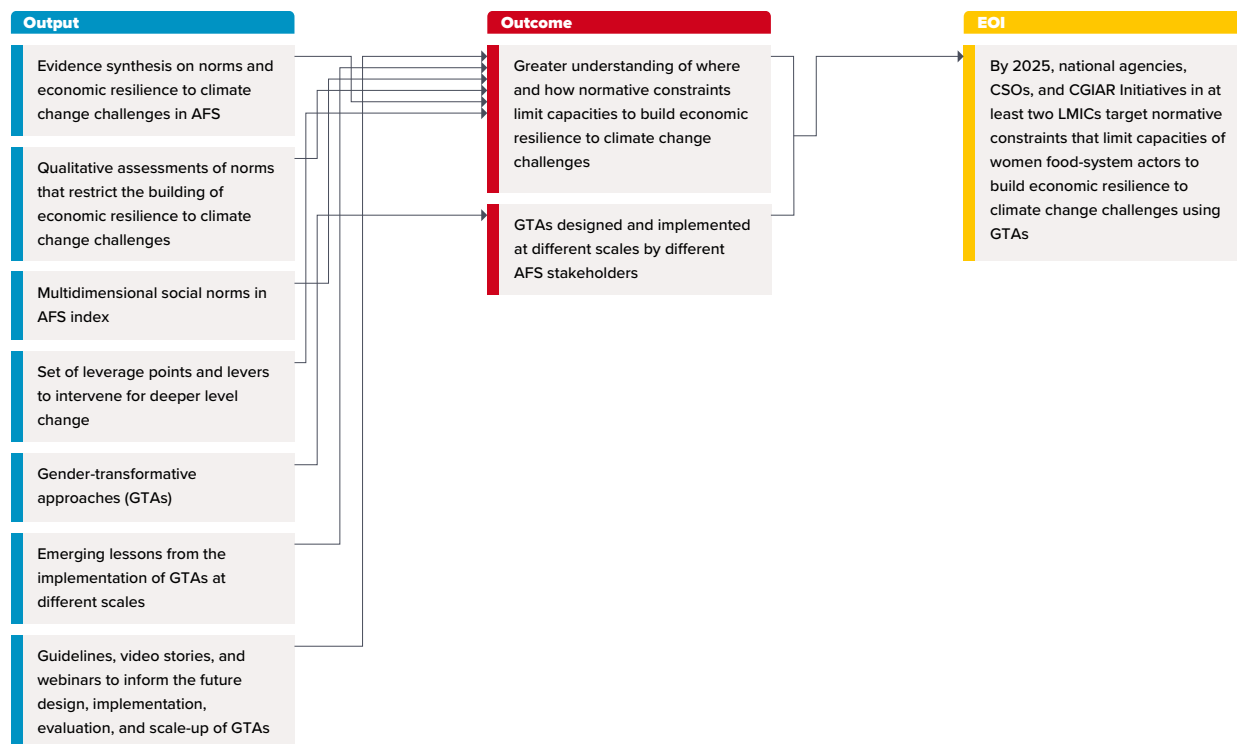
Progress by End of Initiative outcome

<p>EOI-O 1</p>	<p>In Nigeria, 18 stakeholder groups from national agencies, civil society organizations, the private sector, farmer associations, and academic institutions have gained a better understanding of normative constraints in the cassava, chicken, and fish value chains. In Tanzania, the same types of stakeholders will be targeted for capacity strengthening in 2023. This is a foundational step toward identifying leverage points and levers to intervene in the local AFS to address normative constraints, and to design and pilot GTAs in the two countries.</p>
<p>EOI-O 2</p>	<p>The International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), Center for Evaluation and Development (C4ED), WorldVeg, and ICAR-Indian Veterinary Research Institute (ICAR-IVRI) have partnered with us to identify and model diverse scenarios for bundling climate-smart technologies to empower women to be partners and drivers of climate change solutions. WorldVeg has committed to piloting our learning labs in its onion and vegetable value chain projects in India and Ethiopia, respectively. The ICAR-IVRI has committed to piloting the learning lab in its livestock technologies project. Lastly, two CGIAR Initiatives — Livestock and Climate, and Low-Emission Food Systems — have committed to embedding the learning lab in their Kenya sites.</p>
<p>EOI-O 3</p>	<p>Global stakeholders, including the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office; Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO); the International Labour Organization (ILO); the World Bank; UN Women; United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF); Climate Outreach; the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre; and others, came together to share information on research and programmatic innovations for the intersection of social protection, gender, and climate during a roundtable convened by our Initiative. In addition, World Vision International (WVI) in Ethiopia collaborated with us on formative research to inform the design of its new intervention that will be implemented in 2023 to promote women’s participation in sustainable land-management strategies, building on Ethiopia’s national social-protection program. Moreover, 19 World Food Programme (WFP) program heads from the Western Africa and Middle Africa regions gained a better understanding of evidence and opportunities to align climate action and social protection with a gender lens, as gathered by our research. Their regional gender adviser has expressed interest in learning more about the research findings in the future.</p>
<p>EOI-O 4</p>	<p>Thirty-eight stakeholders worked with us to inform the design of a WEAGov assessment framework. Three NGOs (ActionAid Nigeria, Agricultural Policy Research Network (APRNet) in Nigeria, and Professional Assistance for Development Action (PRADAN) in India), two research institutes (University of Malawi and the Institute of Public Opinion and Research (IPOR) in Malawi), and one alliance (ISEAL Alliance) committed to joint learning with CGIAR and gaining a better understanding of connections between agrifood system programming/policies and women’s voice, agency, and resilience. ActionAid Nigeria will pilot co-designed training of women. APRNet will pilot WEAGov in Nigeria. PRADAN wants evidence to increase women’s influence over the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act 2005 program. ISEAL is engaging with its members to promote gender-responsive voluntary sustainability systems.</p>

Section 3 Work Package-specific progress

Work Package 1:

Transform: Gender-transformative approaches (GTAs)



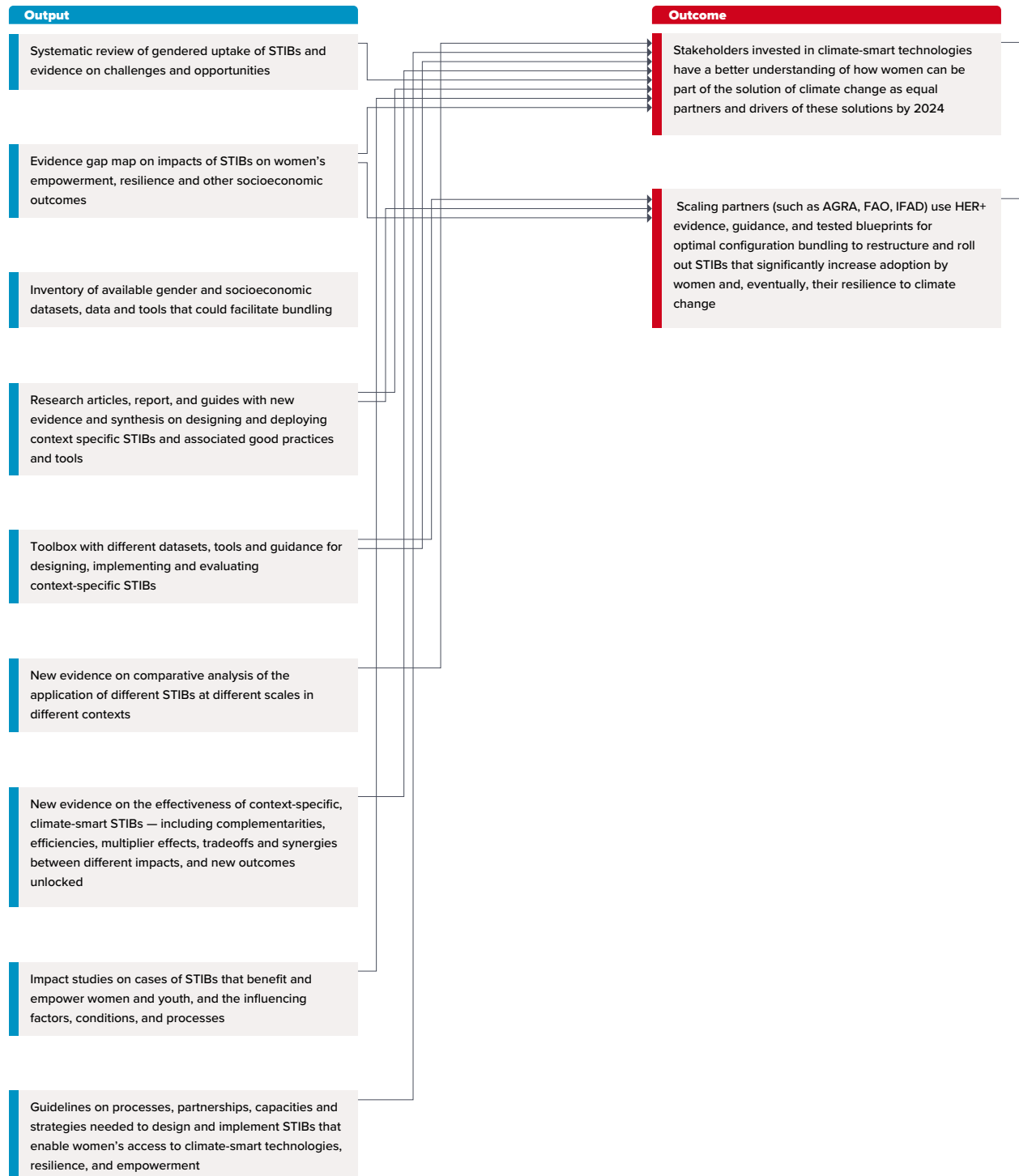
Work Package 1 progress against the theory of change

In 2022, the Gender Equality Initiative implemented research activities toward identifying normative constraints to building women’s economic resilience to climate change challenges in AFS. We developed a protocol and annotated bibliographies, and analyzed **GENNOVATE** data for an **evidence synthesis** on norms and economic resilience. We also developed tools to **qualitatively assess norms** in Nigeria and Tanzania, and completed the assessment of three value chains (cassava, chicken, and fish) in Nigeria. These major value chains are important for smallholder livelihood security — and the gender dynamics within each are slightly different, which makes them useful for testing different gender-transformative tools and

approaches. Initial lessons from the assessment suggest that a wide range of norms constrain women’s participation in and the benefits they derive from these value chains, which also influence their capacities to deal with climate change challenges. In partnership with **FHI 360** and **KIT Royal Tropical Institute**, we drafted a conceptual framework and conducted stakeholder interviews to understand what the index for multi-dimensional social norms in AFS will focus on. Lastly, we developed **guidelines on how to measure gender-transformative change** for validation when testing GTAs and generating lessons for impact at scale. This was done in partnership with the UN Rome-based Agencies’ Joint Programme on Gender-Transformative Approaches for Food Security, Improved Nutrition and Sustainable Agriculture (**JP GTA**) and the **GENDER Impact Platform**.

Work Package 2:

Empower: Bundled innovations for women’s empowerment



She is one of the 12 women in Adami Tulu, Ethiopia, who got a loan from the local micro-financing institution thanks to the facilitation of an NGO, which provided a guarantee. She convinced her husband to give her a piece of their land which she is now using to produce onion seed.

Photo credit: Gizaw Denboba



EOI

Learning labs nested in other CGIAR Initiatives and downstream partners (such as WorldVeg, AGRA, FAO, IFAD, and NARES) in two LMICs together with HER+ identify and model diverse scenarios for bundling climate-smart technologies to empower women to be partners and drivers of climate change solutions

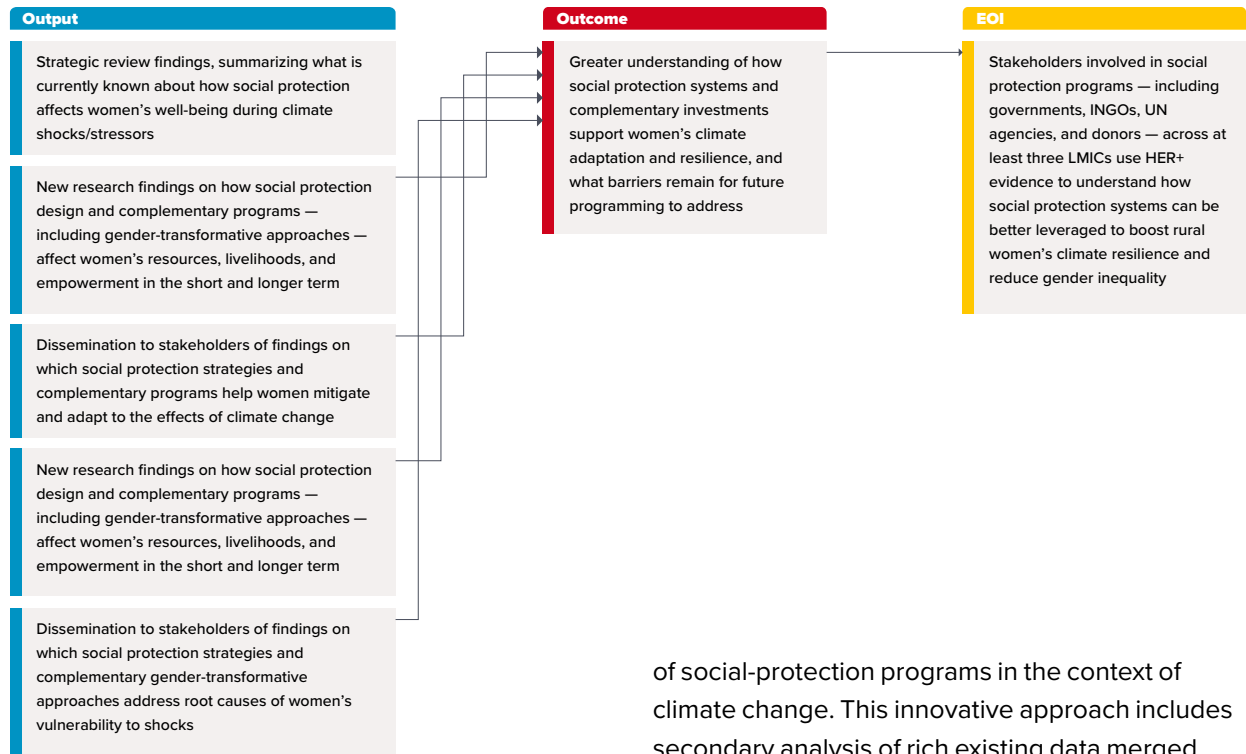
Work Package 2 progress against the theory of change

In 2022, the Gender Equality Initiative laid a foundation for action research to generate evidence on what combinations of social, economic, and technical data and tools are effective and necessary to identify, design, and promote uptake of context-specific, climate-smart **STIBs to empower women and youth**. Integral to action research is understanding **what research, development, and policy partnerships and processes are effective to operationalize the impact pathways of climate-smart STIBs** that benefit and empower women and youth. With the International Institute for Environment and Development, we developed an **evaluation methodology** to review the STIBs and a list of resilience and empowerment indicators to guide the iterative literature review. With the Center for Evaluation and Development, we also developed a TOC, identified studies, and designed a protocol for generating an evidence gap map about the impacts of STIBs on women's empowerment and resilience.

Using the **resilience and empowerment indicators** developed for this output, we identified 85 socioeconomic **datasets and tools** that provide information about different bundles used in different regional and thematic contexts. This information will be made publicly accessible on a dashboard and map, and will be part of a toolkit for guiding development of STIBs. Lastly, we established partnerships with WorldVeg in India and Ethiopia, the ICAR-Indian Veterinary Research Institute, and two CGIAR Initiatives — **Livestock and Climate** and Low-Emission Food Systems — to **design and deploy STIBs in different contexts**, and to **use them as learning labs** which would become sites for action research to test the effectiveness of processes to bundle and deploy STIBs.

Work Package 3:

Protect: Gender-responsive social protection



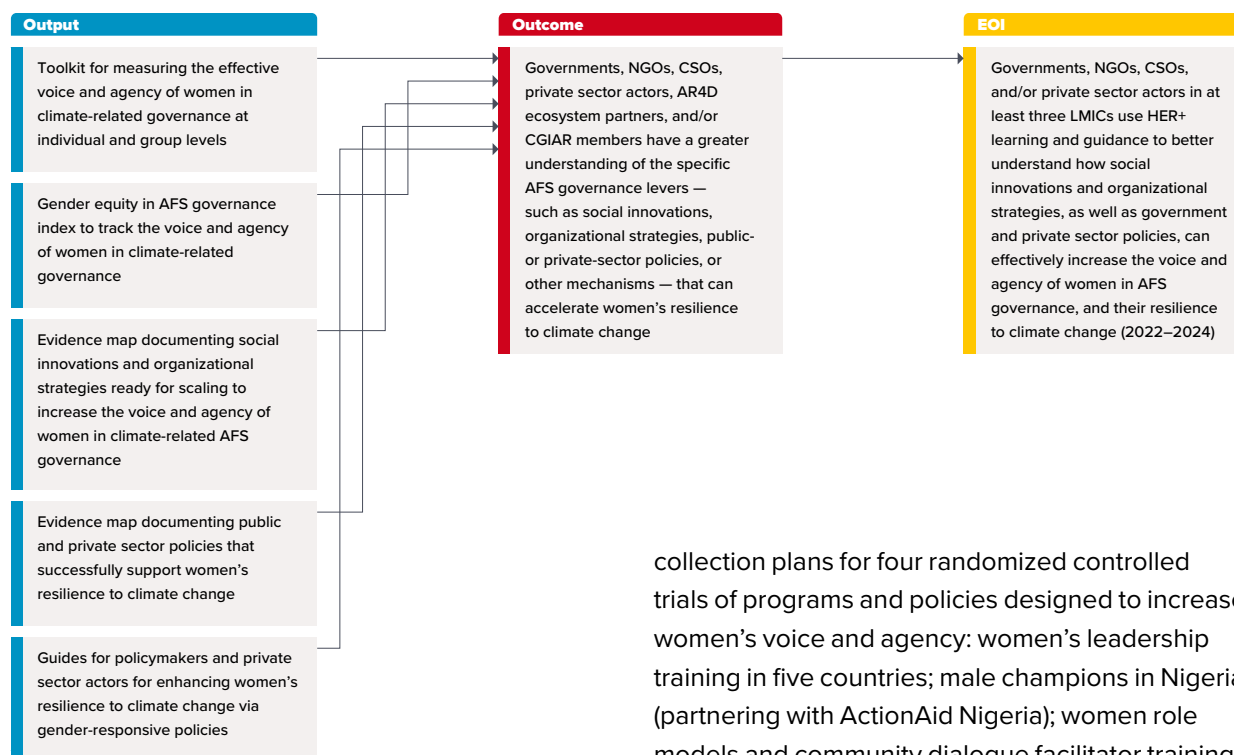
Work Package 3 progress against the theory of change

Stakeholders are increasingly interested in the role social protection can play in building gender-responsive climate resilience, but little research exists. In 2022, the Gender Equality Initiative successfully worked on building a collaborative, multi-disciplinary approach to investigating **how women can access and use social-protection strategies and programs** to respond to climate change. We developed a conceptual framework which will contextualize the ongoing strategic review of existing evidence, **to identify promising program design features and high-priority evidence gaps**. To generate new evidence, we developed a uniform data-collection approach for three quantitative case studies on gendered impacts

of social-protection programs in the context of climate change. This innovative approach includes secondary analysis of rich existing data merged with external climate data to highlight **what role social protection** has played in supporting different household members' well-being, as well as their ability to cope and achieve adaptive responses to climate shocks. We also launched a qualitative study to generate evidence in Bangladesh. With WVI, we completed formative research to design a **new intervention that tests ways to increase women's take-up of sustainable land-management activities** through public works. To investigate **what features of social protection address the root causes of rural women's vulnerability to shocks and support them in their response**, we conducted an analysis comparing social protection with agricultural interventions in terms of their ability to contribute to women farmers' improved decision-making in Malawi. Lastly, we drafted **guidance on how social-protection interventions can incorporate GTAs** to support gender-equitable change.

Work Package 4:

Voice: Inclusive governance and policies







Work Package 4 progress against the theory of change




As climate change becomes more urgent, there is a call to include **women's voices in developing solutions**. In 2022, the Gender Equality Initiative built a strong, multi-center, mixed-methods team to investigate how to **strengthen women's voice and agency in climate-related agrifood-systems governance at the community level**. We completed several studies, including a **strategic global review** that will contribute to an **evidence map on both the barriers women face in exercising their voice and agency, and effective approaches that can support them**. A study from India highlighted **how climate change affects women's voice and agency, and how women's representation mitigates these effects**. We completed study designs and data-

collection plans for four randomized controlled trials of programs and policies designed to increase women's voice and agency: women's leadership training in five countries; male champions in Nigeria (partnering with ActionAid Nigeria); women role models and community dialogue facilitator training in India (partnering with Professional Assistance for Development Action); and increasing women's presence in community deliberations in **Malawi** (partnering with Malawi's Institute of Public Opinion and Research). We also launched a **conceptual framework for measuring women's empowerment in AFS governance**. The tool will be piloted in Nigeria and India, and support governments to examine women's empowerment in AFS policy. We made progress on two strategic reviews for an **evidence map on public and private-sector policies that increase women's climate resilience**. With ISEAL, we analyzed the state of gender-responsive policies of **private-sector** voluntary sustainability systems in the agrifood sector; and engaged with key stakeholders in two **events** to help ISEAL members and their network understand **opportunities for adopting governance approaches that support women's agency**.

Work Package progress rating

WORK PACKAGE	TRAFFIC LIGHT / RATIONALE
1	 <p>The annual progress aligns with the Plan of Results and Budget. Pathways 1 and 2 are planned for the 2022–2023 cycle. Foundational work for outputs 1.1–1.3 was completed in 2022 and outputs will be finalized in Q2/Q3 2023, as per the planned timeline.</p>
2	 <p>The annual progress aligns with the Plan of Results and Budget. Outputs 2.1–2.4 are the foundation for output 2.5 and will be completed in Q1/Q2 2023. This is the basis for generating outputs 2.6–2.9.</p>
3	 <p>The annual progress aligns with the Plan of Results and Budget. Output 3.1 will be completed in Q1/Q2 2023 rather than Q4 2022. This does not impact other outputs. The other outputs will be completed in 2023 as per the initial timeline.</p>
4	 <p>The annual progress aligns with the Plan of Results and Budget. As originally planned, outputs 4.2, 4.3, and 4.4 began in 2022; outputs 4.1 and 4.5 will begin in 2023; and all outputs will be completed in Q1 2025.</p>

KEY

On track	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual progress largely aligns with Plan of Results and Budget and Work Package theory of change • Can include small deviations/issues/ delays/risks that do not jeopardise success of Work Package
Delayed	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual progress slightly falls behind Plan of Results and Budget and Work Package theory of change in key areas • Deviations/issues/delays/risks could jeopardise success of Work Package if not managed appropriately
Off track	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual progress clearly falls behind Plan of Results and Budget and Work Package theory of change in most/all areas • Deviations/issues/delays/risks do jeopardise success of Work Package

Section 4 Initiative key results

This section provides an overview of 2022 results reported by the Gender Equality Initiative. These results align with the CGIAR Results Framework and Gender Equality Initiative’s theory of change. Further information on these results is available through the [CGIAR Results Dashboard](#).

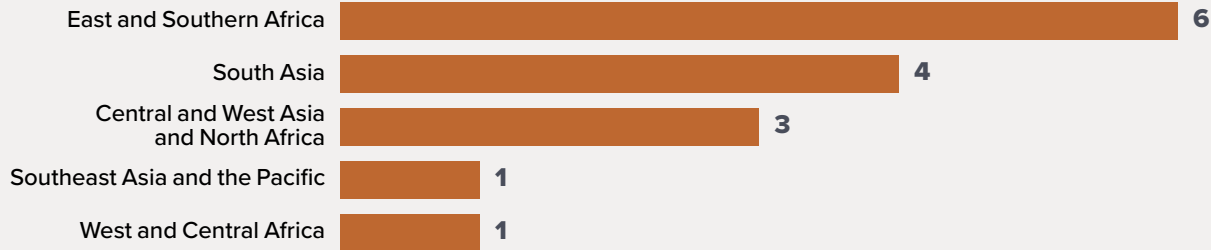
Overview

Results	Outputs				
31	2 Capacity sharing for development	4 Innovation development	19 Knowledge products	6 Other outputs	

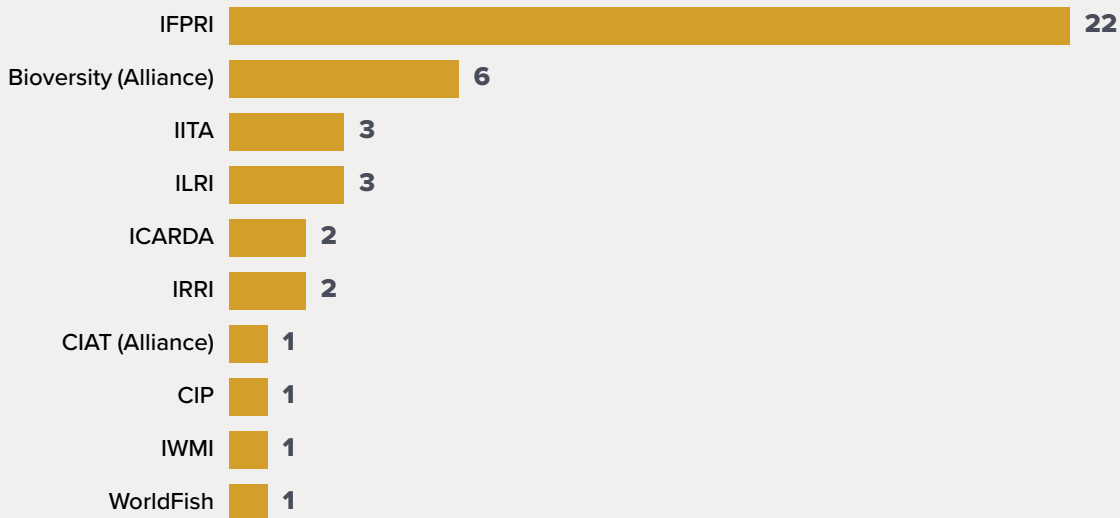
Results by country



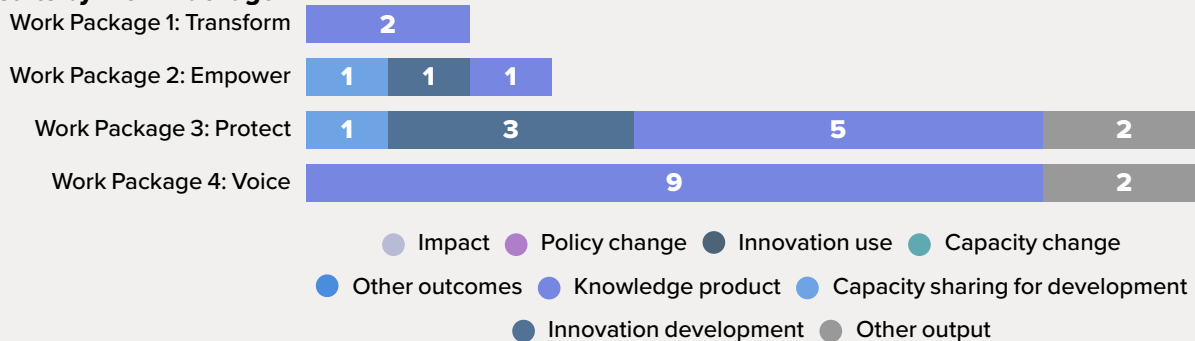
Results by region



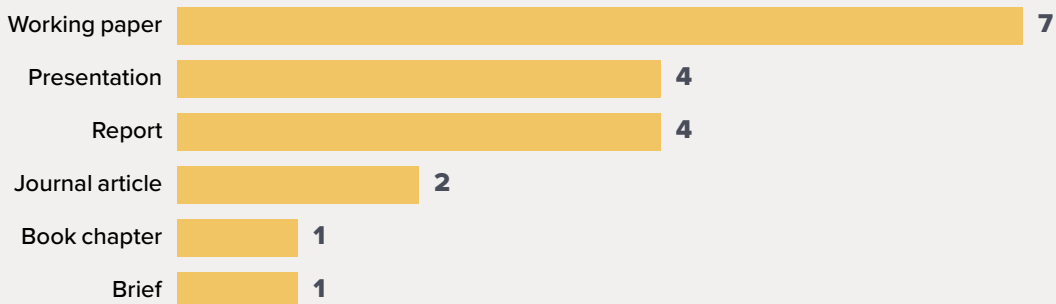
Contributing CGIAR Centers



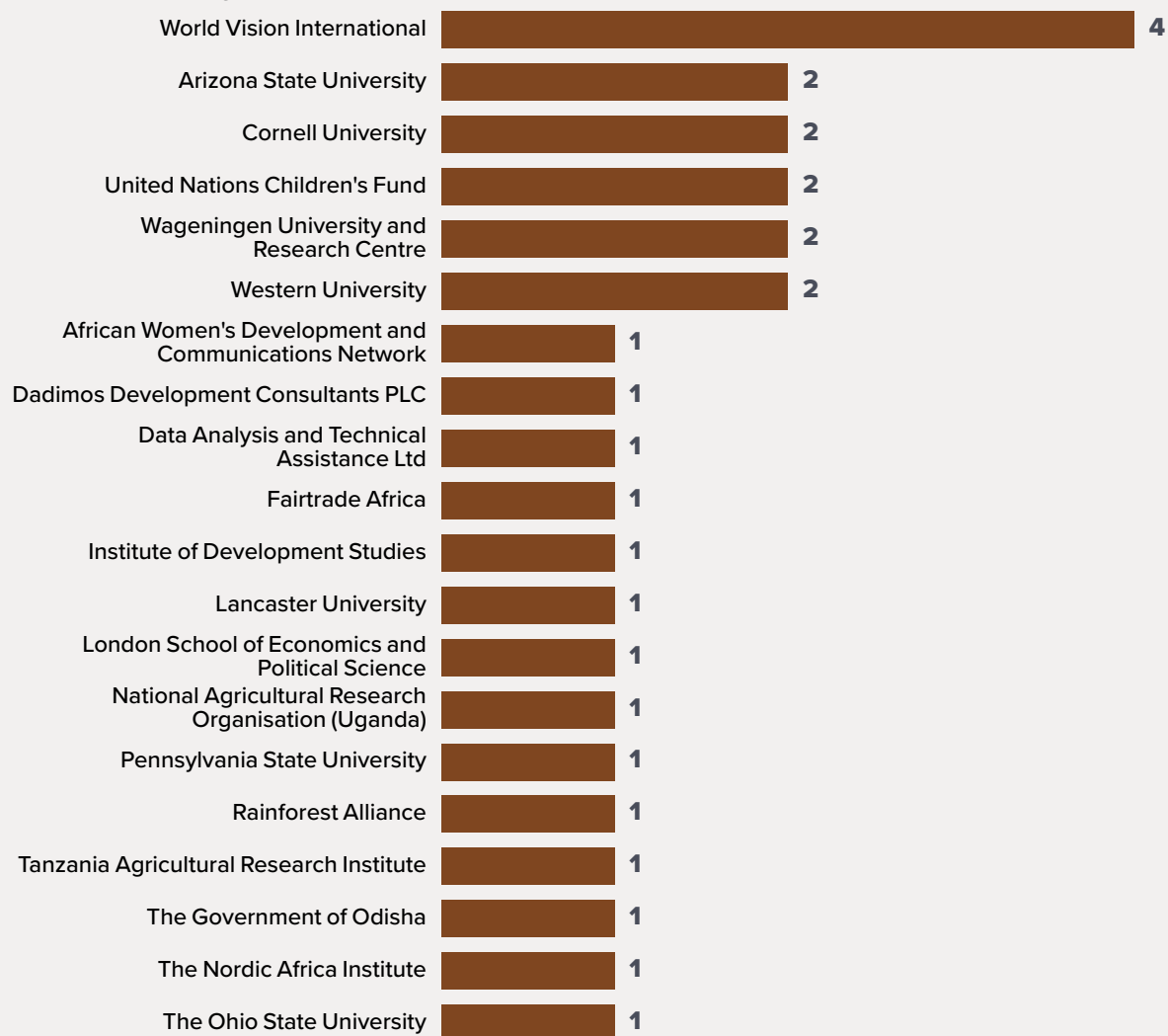
Results by Work Package



Knowledge products by category



Top 20 contributing partners



Section 5 Impact pathway integration – External partners

Partnerships and Gender Equality’s impact pathways

The Gender Equality Initiative is unique as one of the first collaborative, multi-center, independently funded gender-research projects within CGIAR — so we made a conscious decision to work with external partners we had already collaborated with, and to take the opportunity to identify and work with new partners during 2022. Both strategies have been very successful. By the end of the year, we had collaborated with 31 organizations outside CGIAR to deliver our outputs. These ranged from international and national research organizations and universities, NGOs, and local government, to UN agencies. This section illustrates some of the key partnerships.

Since understanding norms is knowledge intensive, the Work Package 1 team on GTAs and norms reached out to a long-standing knowledge partner, KIT Royal Tropical Institute. In addition, it also expanded the partnership to include FHI 360, because they are experts in measuring norms and have country offices in Tanzania and Nigeria. This was important to design and pilot GTAs. To ensure links with policy-level actors, Work Package 1 partnered with the JP GTA partners from the Rome-based Agencies (the FAO, WFP, and the International Fund for Agricultural Development).

Under Work Package 2 on empowerment through STIBs and the four living labs, four new partners were identified for the range of

technologies they develop. These included two other CGIAR Initiatives and two external partners — WorldVeg and ICAR-IVRI.

For Work Package 3, the team continued collaboration with long-standing partners WVI and Dadimos Development Consultants PLC to test a new approach to promoting women’s engagement in sustainable land-management practices, within the Strengthen PSNP5 Institutions and Resilience program in Ethiopia. The Gender Equality Initiative’s team is represented on WVI’s research advisory council (Food Security and Livelihoods). Work Package 3 also expanded its outreach to key stakeholders interested in evidence on the intersection of social protection, gender, and climate, including the WPF, FAO, ILO, the World Bank, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, and UNICEF.

Work Package 4 worked with a long-standing partner, ActionAid Nigeria, to leverage their expertise in civic education and community mobilization — together we developed curricula on community decision-making and their subsequent dissemination. To expand the sphere of influence beyond CGIAR, Work Package 4 also started building a partnership with APRNet in Nigeria (an NGO network with a broad membership of agricultural research policy stakeholders) and with the ISEAL network (who want to better understand how gender is integrated in their members’ sustainability standards for agriculture and food sectors).

Section 6 Impact pathway integration – CGIAR portfolio linkages

Portfolio linkages and Gender Equality's impact pathways

Regarding the internal collaborations, the Gender Equality Initiative made a very conscious decision to identify a limited number of Initiatives to work with. This was because there was a sense among other Initiatives that by working with Gender Equality Initiative, they would be able to say that they had “covered” doing gender research. This approach allows for the Gender Equality Initiative to be the

gender-strategic research project of the CGIAR. In line with this, the Initiative is collaborating with the GENDER Impact Platform on GTAs. We are also collaborating with the CGIAR Initiative on Livestock and Climate, and the CGIAR Initiative on Low-Emission Food Systems as one of the learning labs under our Work Package 2, to understand how to ensure their STIBs will empower women. For 2023, discussions are ongoing with the CGIAR Initiative on National Policies and Strategies and the new CGIAR Initiative on Fragility, Conflict, and Migration.



Section 7 Adaptive management

RECOMMENDATION	SUPPORTING RATIONALE
Explore meaningful and value-added collaborations with other Initiatives.	2022 was focused on setting the foundation for the Initiative and lifting it off the ground — starting and implementing activities. 2023 is the right time to look into which other Initiatives could add value to our Initiative and vice versa, and build collaborations. Reflecting on this, although there were numerous discussions with other Initiatives during the proposal phase, getting to the stage of shared activities was difficult — in part because of the complexity of budgets, but also because of spreading people’s efforts thinly.
Review the time and effort that different Centers put into working on this Initiative.	Because the Gender Equality Initiative was the only gender-focused one yet, all Centers wanted to contribute to it, and so we sourced the best talent from across CGIAR to work within the Initiative. This, however, meant that in some cases the funding shared with the Centers was limited, reducing the time they could dedicate to the Initiative to insignificant levels. It also made it difficult for Work Package leads to follow up on even ‘priority’ ideas, people, and research. In line with this, currently not all Centers are giving the same priority to this Initiative as other Initiatives; and the priority is not always proportionate to the funds received. This is causing delays in delivery, and we need to find a way to strike a balance.
Analyze the current diversity of the team across the Initiative.	Currently we have a rough analysis per Work Package and mostly about gender statistics. We need a more comprehensive analysis on diversity at the Initiative level.
Consider Budget reallocation within WPs. Conduct another detailed review of the Plan of Results and Budget with all involved Centers by the end of April 2023.	Some activities started later than initially planned. Although they are still considered relevant and are going ahead, the implementation and expenditure timelines need to be adjusted. A thorough review is ongoing; discussions with involved Centers will take place in April 2023, before final decisions are made.
Review and revise outcome-level indicators and targets to make them more specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound (‘SMART’).	Through our assessment of outcome-level indicators and targets, we have noted that some are not specific, realistic, or relevant. This is the right time to revise and improve them.

Section 8 Key result story



Evidence-based program-design decisions can foster women’s participation in sustainable land-management interventions in Ethiopia

HDA Leader, Genete is conducting a counseling visit for 34-year-old mother, Obsse, pictured here with her 7-month-old child. During the discussion, Genete uses stories to identify barriers to help Obsse think through practical ways to practice intended behaviors – in this case the preparation and provision of nutrient rich complementary foods for her child.

Photo credit: Michael Mulford/World Vision Ethiopia

Through a long-standing collaboration with World Vision International (WVI) in Ethiopia, the Gender Equality Initiative is partnering on the second phase of research on a graduation model social-protection program in Ethiopia. The Initiative’s researchers, led by IFPRI, organized a formative study on strategies to improve women’s involvement in sustainable land-management activities that can help mitigate their climate risk. The formative study results will help inform how the implementing and scaling partner, WVI, designs sustainable land-management activities for their future programming.

Effective partnerships between research and implementation teams play a crucial role in developing high-quality research, providing evidence to improve programs for better outcomes.

This is well illustrated through our long-standing collaboration with WVI in Ethiopia, where the Gender Equality Initiative’s researchers have contributed to the evidence base on how multi-sectoral graduation model social-protection programs can reduce poverty, improve livelihoods and well-being, and strengthen women’s and youth empowerment.

The Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP) in Ethiopia is the country’s flagship social safety-net program, providing seasonal food and cash transfers to poor households directly or after the people participate in public works projects. The Strengthen PSNP4 Institutions and Resilience (SPIR) Development Food Security Activity in Ethiopia was a five-year program (2016–2021) led by WVI that supported implementation of the fourth phase of PSNP. In addition, SPIR provided additional multi-sectoral ‘graduation model’ programming focused on improving livelihoods, nutrition outcomes, women’s and youth empowerment, and climate resilience. IFPRI — under the CGIAR Research Program on Policies, Institutions, and Markets — was the lead research partner for SPIR and conducted **the program’s impact evaluation**.

As a follow-on to SPIR, the **SPIR II Resilience Food Security Activity** was officially launched in late 2021 as a five-year program funded through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and led by WVI (see reference 2). This program supports implementation of the fifth phase of the PSNP in the Amhara and Oromia regions, and includes renewed targeting focused on the extreme poor. SPIR II has the same core complementary programming delivered under SPIR, but with many revamped approaches — particularly relating to improving maternal and child nutrition, and improving women’s capacity to mitigate climate-related risks. Based on the successful past collaboration and the strength of the SPIR evaluation, WVI asked the Gender Equality Initiative, through IFPRI, to join SPIR II as a learning partner.

In 2022, the collaboration continued, and Gender Equality Initiative’s researchers provided evidence on how social-protection programs could be designed to increase women’s participation in sustainable land-management practices. The Initiative’s researchers worked with WVI to design and evaluate an intervention to increase women’s participation in these practices, and strengthen their resilience to climate-related shocks. We conducted a formative qualitative study on gender and participation in sustainable land-management practices under SPIR II. The **key findings** included understanding households’ adoption of the practices, barriers to women’s participation, and the potential for scaling up income generation through those activities (see reference 3). For example, the study suggests that fruit-tree cultivation and composting are promising sustainable land-management technologies, but that high labor requirements are an obstacle to women using them.

Going forward, WVI wants to use the evidence the Initiative generated to inform its future programming. These findings will ground the approach taken by WVI, so that they can make

evidence-based decisions and design interventions that maximize the benefits of sustainable land-management public works activities for women (see reference 4). These activities will be administered as part of the SPIR initiative and will be extended initially to over 2,000 households,

with plans for potential future scaling up. It is expected that this new intervention, designed using the findings of our formative study, will lead to sustainable outcomes that will help improve the well-being of Ethiopian communities in the future.

“ This mutually beneficial relationship will serve to generate evidence on gender dimensions of climate-related shocks and evaluate promising gender-sensitive adaptation strategies. The evidence generated through this collaboration will inform the implementation of the SPIR II project and future graduation model social-protection programs in similar contexts. ”

Michael Mulford, Chief of Party of SPIR II, WVI Ethiopia

Acronym list

A list of abbreviations and acronyms used throughout the report can be found here.

GTAs	Gender-transformative approaches
IFPRI	International Food Policy Research Institute
JP GTA	Joint Programme on Gender-Transformative Approaches for Food Security, Improved Nutrition and Sustainable Agriculture
LMIC	Low- and middle-income countries
PSNP	Productive Safety Net Programme
SPIR	Strengthen PSNP4 Institutions and Resilience
STIB	Sociotechnical innovation bundles
TOC	Theory of change
WP	Work Package
WVI	World Vision International

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3. Gilligan, Daniel O.; Leight, Jessica; Tabet, Heleene; and Tefera, M. 2022. *Key findings: Gender and participation in sustainable land management*. Presentation. <https://cgspace.cgiar.org/handle/10568/126901>
4. Key Result 2980: Letter of Support sent from Michael Mulford, Chief of Party of SPIR II, World Vision Ethiopia, to Leadership Team of CGIAR Initiative on Gender Equality

COVER PHOTO: Farmers work together in Khulna, Bangladesh, 2014. Photo credit: Farha Khan/IFPRI

LINKS TO IMPACT AREAS

Primary Impact Area: Gender Equality; Youth and Social Inclusion



Other relevant Impact Area(s): Poverty Reduction, Livelihoods, and Jobs; Climate Adaptation and Mitigation



GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE

Region(s): n/a

Country/ies: Ethiopia

KEY CONTRIBUTORS

Contributing Initiative: Gender Equality

Contributing Center: IFPRI

Contributing external partners:

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