



# Gender responsive methods and pathways for empowerment in the IFAD-EU NUS Project

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# In partnership with:



RESEARCH PROGRAM ON  
**Climate Change,  
Agriculture and  
Food Security**



RESEARCH  
PROGRAM ON  
**Agriculture for  
Nutrition  
and Health**

Led by IFPRI

# Project aims to empower women (and men)

- The objective of the Project is to strengthen the capacities of women and men farmers and other value chain actors to manage risks associated with climate change, poor nutrition status and economic dis-empowerment.
- The Programme will help develop methodology to analyze diversification options in a systematic and integrated way, linking equitable value chain development with climate change adaptation and gender-sensitive food security and nutrition considerations.
- Thanks to the Programme interventions... women and men farmers and other value-chain actors will be able to identify diverse, stress-tolerant, adapted crops with market potential. Greater participation of poor local and indigenous women and men's farmer groups in income generation activities, supported by better skills in cultivation, value addition and marketing, and accompanied by activities designed to raise demand for nutritious products from traditional crops, will contribute to enhanced nutrition, income and empowerment.

**Exploring potential to  
pilot new gender-  
responsive survey  
tools in the Project**



# The pro-WEIA

The Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI) aims to increase understanding of the connections between women's empowerment, food security, and agricultural development.

The index measures the roles and extent of women's engagement in the agriculture sector, with attention to five domains:

- Production (input in productive decisions, autonomy in production)
- Resources (ownership of assets, purchase, sale or transfer of assets, access to and decisions on credit)
- Income (control over and use of income)
- Leadership (group membership, speaking in public)
- Time (workload, leisure time)

# The 5Capitals-G Method

The 5Capitals-G method helps understand the poverty impacts of value chain development, involving three key stages:

- Context Analysis
- Enterprise (business) Assessment
- Household Assessment

The five capitals fall in five domains:

- Financial resources, e.g. cash and credit
- Physical resources, e.g. machines, cars, and electricity
- Natural resources, e.g. land, trees, and water,
- Human resources, e.g. knowledge and skills
- Social resources, e.g. relationships with family, friends, NGOs.

When people have a larger number and range of livelihood assets, they are better equipped to make ends meet, to face challenges, and lead fulfilling lives. Different members of the community (e.g. younger or older, richer or poorer, etc.) and especially men and women tend to differ in their endowment and access to these resources.

**Project pathways for  
empowering women  
and baseline results  
on gender roles**



# Literature research on gender roles in Mali

Households are often polygamous. Different ranks of wives can have different levels of power. Members closer to the household head are often in advantage for land access.

Often men and women have their own private plots in addition to communal plots that they can use for their own commercial interest. Women and men keep their own income.

Women often have more time commitment to work communal fields (growing staple crops) and also have responsibilities for cooking and child care. Men tend to have more time to work their private plots (where they can produce cash crops).

- Men and women have distinct responsibilities to provide different resources for the family (e.g. men provide staple crop and women provide the “sauce” involving vegetables and pulses).
- Great variation between communities and ethnic groups (hard to generalize).

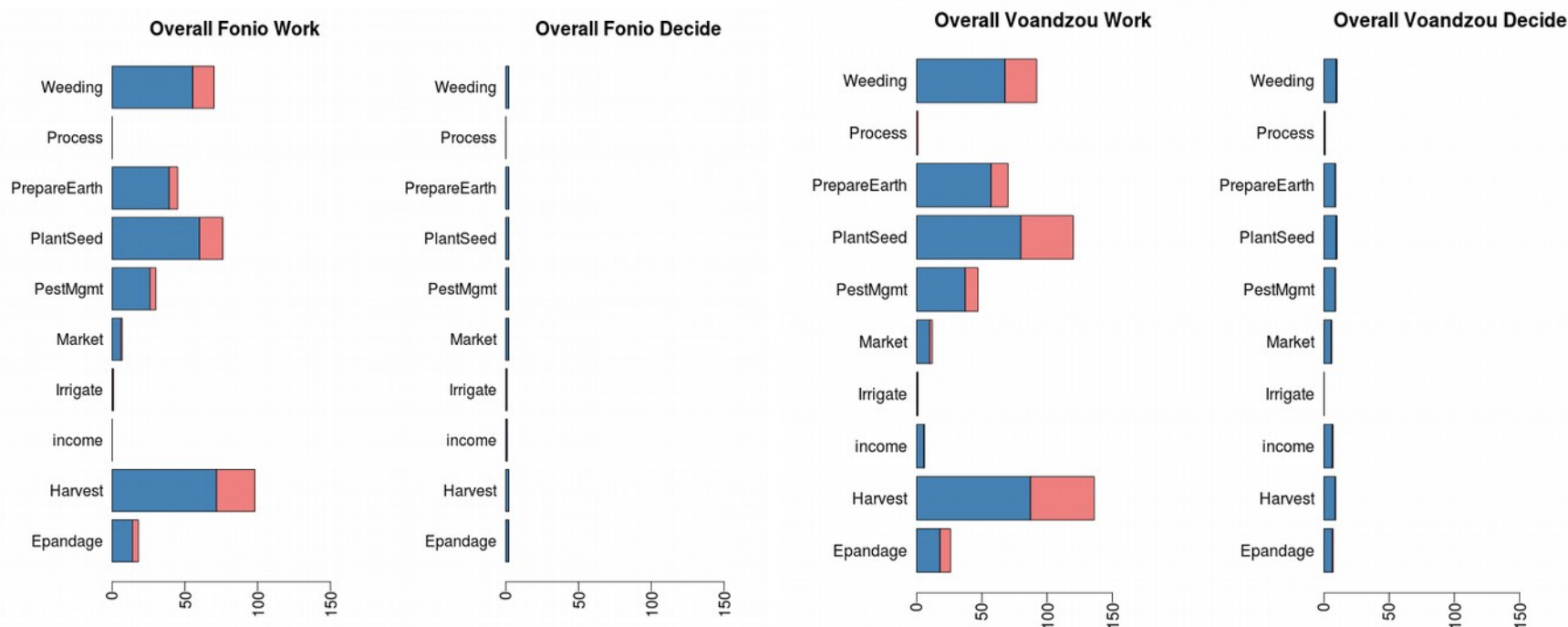




# Fonio and Voandzou: Women's crops?

Our gender strategy: *fonio and bambara groundnut are often managed by women*. By enhancing value and marketing of these crops, we can contribute to raising the income that comes under women's control.

Depends on women producing the crop on their own private plots or on women purchasing grain and processing it (adding value) for sale. Note that we didn't assess land ownership and production by gender (private vs. communal).



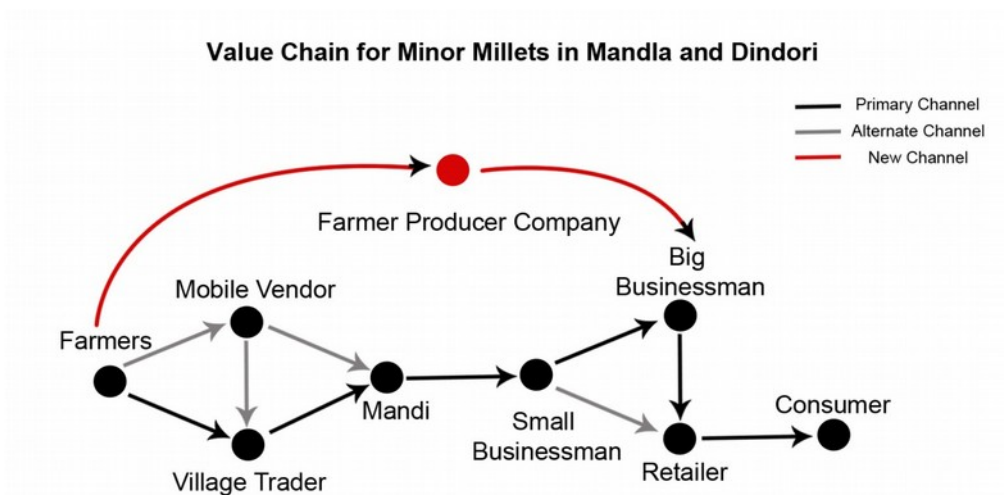
# Women's farmer producer companies

A new opportunity for income earning has opened up to women via profit sharing from the farmer producer companies. The shareholders in the farmer producer company are members of self help groups in the region, who are primarily women.

Depends on income from profit sharing coming under their control

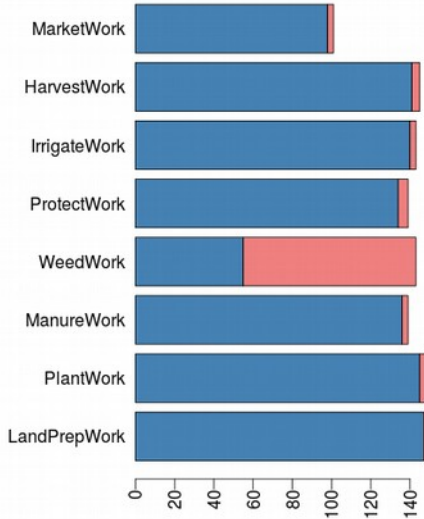
Income from the production and sale of millet to the farmer producer company would likely come under the man's control.

Women often sell millets for cash in times of distress. There is a risk that developing the millets as commercial crops could undermine this strategy and use of millets by women.

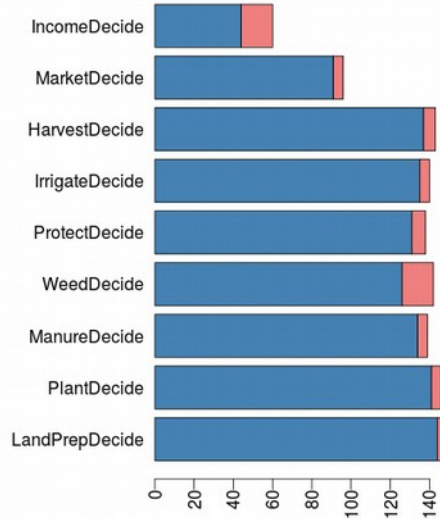


# Gender roles for kodo and kutki

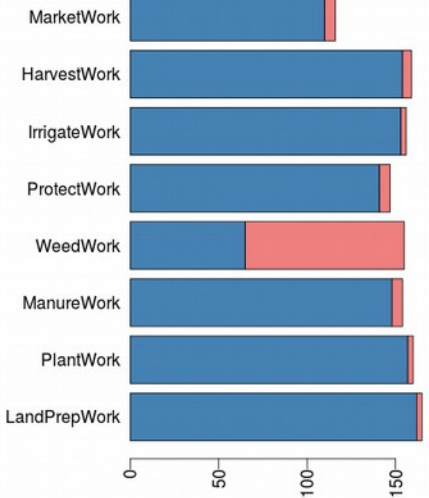
Overall Kodo Work



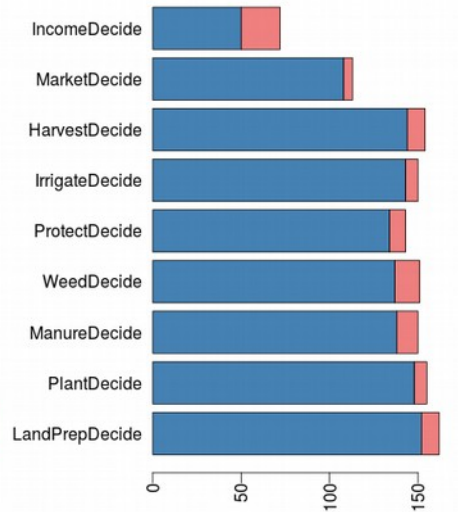
Overall Kodo Decide



Overall Kutki Work



Overall Kutki Decide



# Labour-saving technology

Processing for millets (and fonio) is very labour intensive.

In a context where women spend a lot of time processing foods, introducing labour-saving technologies (e.g. mills) can be empowering for women by freeing their time.

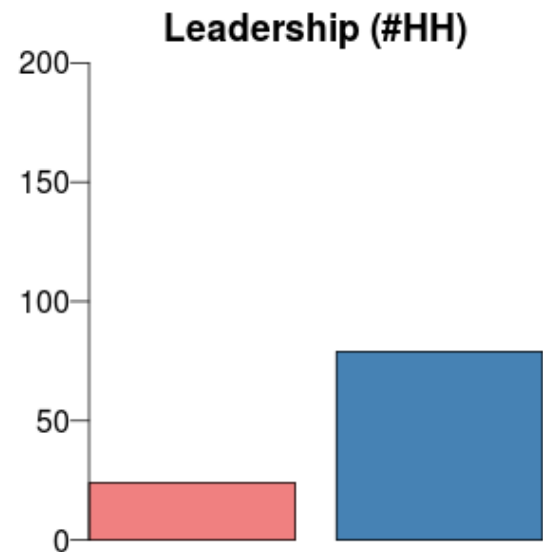
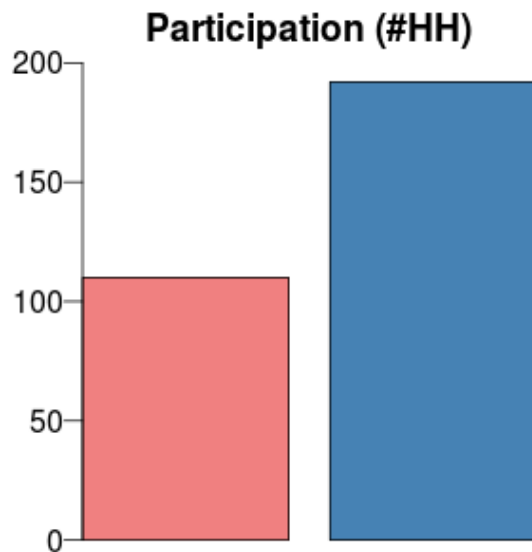
In Madhya Pradesh, labour intensive processing has been a primary factor discouraging consumption of millets. Women have largely opted to save their time by not eating millets. In this case, the labour saving technology may not be so powerful for empowerment. It can, however, encourage reintroduction of these nutritious crops that have been abandoned.



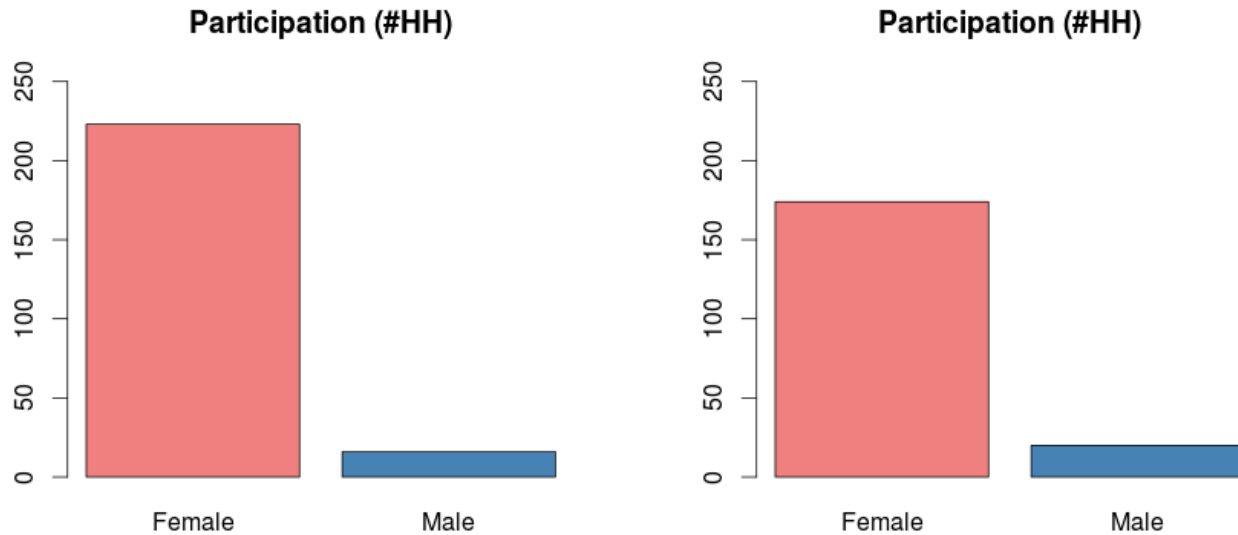
# Gendered Access to Institutions

By strengthening collective action via consolidation of crop processing groups and providing a range of capacity strengthening initiatives, the Project can increase women's decision-making and leadership in the community, as well as their social capital

Depends on institution building occurring with the involvement of women, training activities occupying involving women and that the training is useful for imparting “empowering” skills – what would these be?.



# Gendered Access to Institutions



Different picture in India shows success of self help group model.

# Gendered access to information

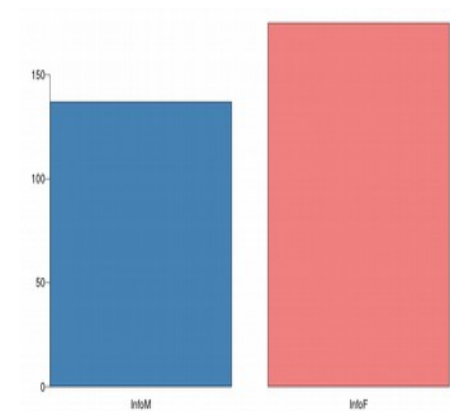
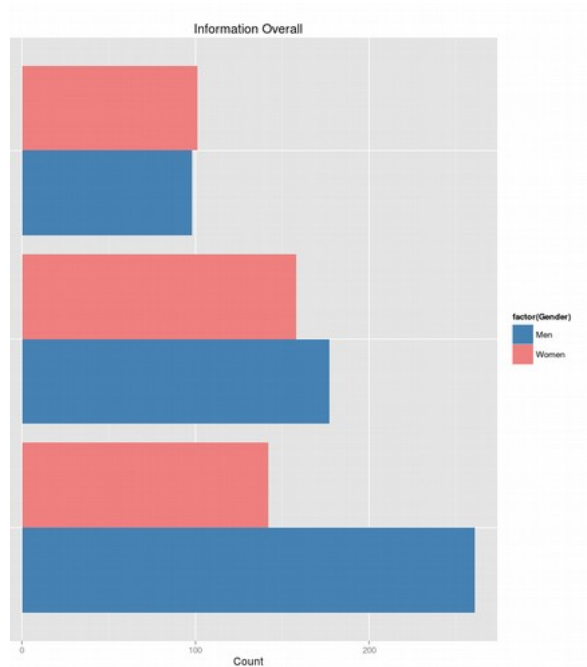
MALI

Information on:

Trad crops in climate adaptation

Climate change

Adaptation to climate change



INDIA

Information on adaptive practices for climate change

# Objectively verifiable 'gendered ' indicators

- Participants **earn 25% more than baseline from traditional crops and products, disaggregated by gender**
- **3-5 improved, stress-tolerant crops per country with market potential identified and used by women and men farmers**
- **500-800 farmers per country, of which at least 40% women, trained in practices for managing risk through agricultural biodiversity**
- **300-500 farmers per country, of which at least 40% women, participating in decision-making fora related to climate change**
- **3000-5000 farmers per country, of which at least 40% women, enabled to access information on climate change for better agriculture management**
- **300-500 farmers per country, of which at least 40% women, from target communities enabled to document stress tolerant crops for their better use**



# Working Groups

- **Be critical about how value chain interventions will be affecting women's empowerment:**
- Is the income from value chain development likely to come in women's control? Are there approaches that would favour this situation?
- Are any of the target crops more likely to favour women's empowerment?
- What are tradeoffs of participation in the value chain?
  
- 1. Identify your impact pathway for empowering women through value chain enhancement of NUS
  
- 2. Identify key activities that would be carried out to support this empowerment
  
- 3. What are needs to document this impact? Do we need to collect additional data on specific indicators?
  
- 4. What is the current teams' capacity for these activities? Is training needed? Are there partners we can reach out to help?



# Thank you

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