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Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy

Centre for Agriculture and Biosciences International (CABI)

Member Countries Regional Consultation: Americas and Caribbean

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Why a Feminist IAP?

- A Focus on Gender Equality and Women Empowerment is the most effective way to reduce poverty and build a more inclusive, peaceful and prosperous world
- Canada as a feminist donor and leader in promoting the empowerment of women and girls around the world
- **SDG 5** is the entry point for and will drive progress in all other SDGs
- No less than **95 percent of Canada's bilateral international development assistance** will target or integrate gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls



FIAP Six Action Areas

1. **Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and Girls**
(Core action area)
2. **Human Dignity** – access to health care, SRHR, nutrition, education, and timely humanitarian assistance
3. **Growth that Works for Everyone** – increase women's access to and control over economic opportunities, resources and services
4. **Environment and Climate Action** – adaptation and mitigation in response to climate change
5. **Inclusive Governance** human rights, rule of law, and building stronger institutions, **women's political participation**
6. **Peace and Security** we will support greater participation of *women in peacebuilding* and post-conflict reconstruction efforts

There are entry points for **agriculture** and **food systems** in EACH of these!

Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and Girls

- The **core** action area of the FIAP
- addressing sexual and gender-based violence (**SGBV**), including harmful practices such as FGM/C and CEFM
- supporting **organizations and actions-initiatives** that advance women's rights
- improving **institutional capacity** (public and Private); and
- helping to build a strong base of **evidence** to support gender equality and women empowerment actions

“Canada has chosen to focus on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls as the most effective way to challenge poverty and inequality.” – 2017, Canada’s Feminist International Assistance Policy



Environment and Climate Action

- Women's leadership and decision making in:
 - climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts
 - resilience-building
 - sustainable natural resource management.
- Including gender equality in climate policy and programming
- Addressing barriers to women's greater access to, control over and benefit from climate action, business opportunities in renewable energy and resource management



Gender Equality must be considered in all adaptation approaches and capacity building activities – Articles 7.5 and 11.2 of the Paris Accord developed at UNFCCC COP 21

Growth that Works for Everyone

- Increasing economic leadership for women at all levels
- Increasing economic opportunities and resilience for rural women
- Greater inclusion and empowerment, especially with financial and business services
- Women's economic rights, capacity and skills
- Unpaid work and disproportionate burden of care



Achieving gender equality around the world could increase global GDP by \$12 trillion in a single decade. – 2015, The McKinsey Global Institute

Inclusive Governance

- Women's leadership and decision making in governance and public sector management at all levels
- Eliminate all forms of discrimination against women and girls
- Improved access to justice for women and girls
- Ensure public services respond better to the needs and potential of women and girls

Human Dignity

- Health, water and sanitation, Nutrition, Education, and Humanitarian Action
- Strong focus on sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), including addressing SGBV and other harmful practices

Peace and Security

- Participation of women in conflict-prevention efforts
- Advance women's rights in post-conflict
- Prevent and respond to sexual violence in conflict zones

When it comes to food distribution during humanitarian crises, it has been shown that giving women and girls priority access to food helps to deliver better nutrition and reduce the incidence of hunger. – 2015, UN WOMEN

Implication on how we work ...

- Identify opportunities with high potential for reach, benefit and empower ... in Agriculture and Food Systems
- Identify women groups: who they are? what they do? Their skills? Skill gaps? Organizational capacity? Access and control? Leadership and decision making roles?
- Set clear baselines and target results for women ...
- **Do the right thing to ensure sustainable – climate resilient and inclusive Agriculture-led growth ...**
- **... Do it right by putting women and girls at the centre of your preoccupations.**





Thank you!