



CSW56



**Commission on the
Status of Women**

27 February - 9 March 2012

Rural women
Empowerment
Poverty reduction
Rural development

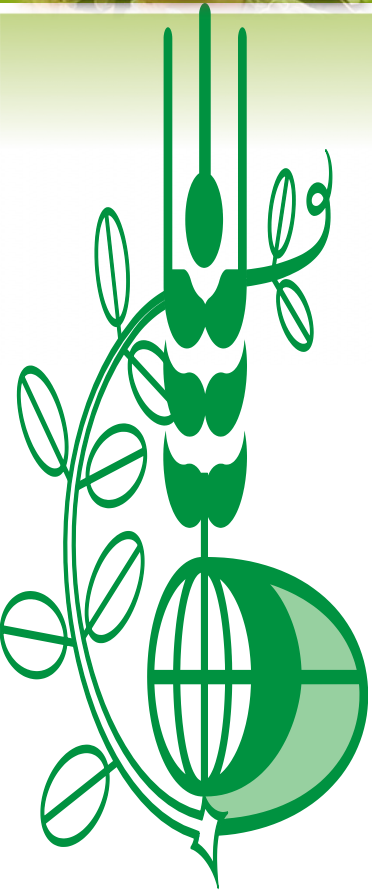
**Report of the Expert Group Meeting
Enabling rural women's economic
empowerment: institutions, opportunities
and participation
Accra, Ghana, 20-23 September 2011**

THE PARTICIPANTS OF THE EGM, ACCRA, SEPT 2011
UN WOMEN in cooperation with , FAO, IFAD and WFP



MALIKA ABDELALI-MARTINI

**Socio-Economist, Community and Gender Analysis Specialist,
International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)**



ICARDA

THIS REPORT PRESENTS THE FINDINGS OF THE EGM ACCRA, SEPT 2011. IT IS BASED ON THE PAPERS PRESENTED AT THE MEETING AND THE ENSUING DISCUSSIONS. RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED BY THE MEETING





INTRODUCTION

- ◎ The impact of **economic policy choices** on gender equality
- ◎ The impact of the **financial and food price crises** on gender equality
- ◎ Rural women in **agricultural and non-farm work**: Farmers, producers, workers and entrepreneurs
- ◎ Rural women's **access to and control over land**
- ◎ Rural women's **access to research and technology**
- ◎ Effective national and local **institutions**
- ◎ Enabling **legal and policy environment**



ICARDA



RECOMMENDATIONS



ECONOMIC POLICIES, GROWTH AND EQUALITY



ICARDA

- ③ Ensure that **economic policies** fully prioritize **decent work and employment generation**
- ③ Facilitate an **institutional and policy environment** that promotes decent work for rural women
- ③ **Increase investments in infrastructure**
- ③ **Policies** and programmes that support rural women's, farmers' and producers' org.
- ③ Promote rural and **indigenous women's knowledge**



ECONOMIC POLICIES, GROWTH AND EQUALITY CONT'D



- ③ Develop and implement **policies, programmes** and **incentives** to enable rural women's active and effective engagement in the global **value chain**
- ③ **Tax systems**
- ③ Develop and adopt measures that **offset the negative impact** of global and regional **trade agreements**



EQUAL ACCESS TO AND CONTROL OF LAND AND OTHER RURAL PRODUCTIVE RESOURCES



- ① Ensure that **national laws and policies guarantee women's right to land**, and laws and policies on land are implemented
- ① Support the development and implementation of **gender-sensitive land and property laws**
- ① Promote changes in **customary law**
- ① Ensure that the option of **joint titles** is provided during land reform and records updates

EQUAL ACCESS TO AND CONTROL OF LAND AND OTHER RURAL PRODUCTIVE RESOURCES CONT'D



- ③ Take measures to require the **consent of each spouse for the sale of land, or its use as collateral**
- ③ **Registration of land** for collective use: include the names of all ♀ and ♂ members users
- ③ **Institute and enforce policies** that limit the quantity of national land that foreign countries and corporations can buy. Hold Governments accountable for “**land grabbing**”
- ③ Protect the **rights of rural women** affected by land expropriation



EQUAL ACCESS TO AND CONTROL OF LAND AND OTHER RURAL PRODUCTIVE RESOURCES CONT'D



- ⦿ Ensure that changes in **land administration** or changes in **land tenure systems** do not cause **environmental damage**, negative impact on household food and nutrition security
- ⦿ Prepare **resettlement plans**
- ⦿ Enable small-holder farmers and agricultural workers, in particular women, to become more productive, competitive and profitable **through strengthening provision of, and linkages to, affordable and labour-saving technologies, inputs, services and access to capacity development, and enhance their market access** by identifying and addressing gender specific constraints
- ⦿ Recognize and support **women as actors in climate change adaptation and mitigation**



PROVISION OF AND ENTITLEMENT TO SERVICES

- ⊙ Necessary space and infrastructure rural **women's access to information, education and training**
- ⊙ Mechanisms that **empower rural producers' and women's organizations**
- ⊙ Promote **South-South exchange** and use of knowledge, technologies,
- ⊙ Ensure that **access to essential services** for poor rural communities is free from cost recovery and user fees
- ⊙ Increase rural women's **access to financial services**
- ⊙ Support **community-managed financial services**
- ⊙ Invest in **off-farm care services** for children, elderly and persons with disabilities
- ⊙ Recognize and invest in community **health insurance**



ICARDA

LEADERSHIP, DECISION- MAKING AND VOICE



ICARDA

- ⊙ **Awareness** about rights, policies and the gov. roles and duty
- ⊙ Strengthen **gender-responsive accountability mechanisms** to influence policy formulation, implementation, and monitoring at all levels
- ⊙ **Quotas**, to promote rural women's participation in DM processes
- ⊙ Enhance the **economic empowerment** of rural women
- ⊙ **Gender units** established and/or strengthened at senior levels
- ⊙ Free-of-charge access to **personal identification documents**
- ⊙ **Develop the capacity of rural ♀'s, ♂'s** to be more inclusive
- ⊙ **Assist informal rural women's groups**
- ⊙ Promote **knowledge sharing**
- ⊙ Support regional level **dialogues** among rural women farmers' organizations

MONITORING AND EVALUATION



ICARDA

- ① Data collected **disaggregated** by sex, age, and other variables
- ① Promote **time-use surveys** and facilitate their use
- ① **Measurement of ec. Growth /** include the contribution of rural women and men (paid and unpaid)
- ① Data and information widely **disseminated and accessible**
- ① **Develop the capacities** of rural women and their organizations
- ① Provide training in **participatory methods** to scientists and policy-makers at different levels and in different disciplines.

RESOURCES



- ③ Allocate adequate **financial resources** in national budgets for the economic empowerment of rural women
- ③ Ensure **financial support** for rural women's organizations, including for awareness-raising on rural women's rights



ICARDA



UN SYSTEM



- ① **Gender equality and diversity commitments**
- ① **Improve gender statistics and data disaggregated by sex, age and other variables**
 - ① establish **multi-disciplinary teams**
 - ① promote **south-south exchanges**
 - ① strengthen **dialogues between users and producers** of data in different sectors

ICARDA

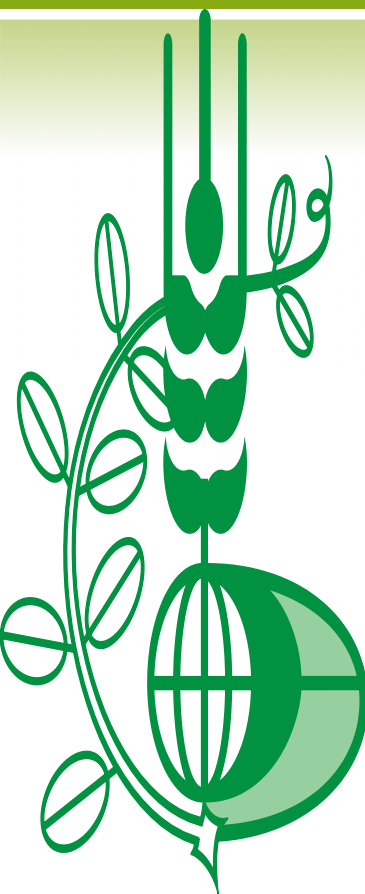
CONCLUDING REMARKS

- ⊙ **Hard work on ♀ remains with you**
- ⊙ **More on partnership between UN agencies and member states**
- ⊙ **Challenges:**
 - ⊙ **Climate change, food security, food price crises**
- ⊙ **Opportunities:**
 - ⊙ **Good governance, increased accountability for ♀, the impact of the Arab Spring on gender relationships**
- ⊙ **Inclusiveness - Green economy - Social capital**
- ⊙ **Strengthening rural organizations**
- ⊙ **Unlock budgets and finance institutions for women**
- ⊙ **Hold your respective governments to their obligation to consider these recommendations.**



ICARDA

Experts and resource persons /Name & Affiliation



ICARDA

Ms. Grace Bediako	Gov. Statistician, Statistical Service, Ghana
Ms. Patricia Biermayr-Jenzano	Visiting Scholar, Georgetown University, USA
Mr. Gilles Cliche	Principal Res., LA Center for Rural Devpt., Chile
Ms. Mildred Crawford	President, Jamaica Network of Rural Women Producers,
Ms. Mirna Cunningham Kain	Chair, UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues; Nicaragua
Ms. Cathy Rozel Farnworth	Gender and Social Devpt. Consultant, Pandia Consulting, UK
Mr. Getaneh Gobezie Workineh	Senior Rural Finance Specialist, ACIDI/VOCA, Ethiopia
Ms. Prema Gopalan	Swayam Shikshan Prayog, India
Ms. Carmen Griffiths	Coordinator, GROOTS, Jamaica
Ms. Alice Kachere	Past Board Chair, Nat. Smallholder Farmers' Ass., Malawi
Ms. Mirlinda Kusari-Purrini	Founder and Ex. Dir., Women's Business Ass., Kosovo,
Ms. Malika Abdelali-Martini	Social Scientist and Proj. Manager, CGIAR-ICARDA, Syria
Ms. Winrose Nyaguthi Mwangi	Grassroots women's organizer, Kenya
Ms. Margaret Odeyk	Board Member, Uganda National Farmers Federation, Uganda
Ms. Christine Okali	International Consultant, University of Sussex, UK
Ms. Rosemary N. Okoh	Professor, Delta State University, Nigeria
Mr. Francis Onyekachi Nwankwo	Member, Sc. Committee, Econ. West Africa States, Nigeria
Ms. Esther Penunia	Secretary General, Asian Farmers' Ass. for Sust. Rural Devpt., Philippines
Ms. Nitya Rao	Senior Lecturer, University of East Anglia, UK
Ms. Eva Rathgeber	Adjunct Prof., Inst. of Women's Studies, Univ. of Ottawa, Canada
Ms. Hannah Sia Senesie	Gender and Youth Offi., Nat. Fed. of Farmers of Sierra Leone
Ms. Zou Xiaoqiao	Member, Com.on the Elim..of Discrim.against Women; China



DOCUMENTATION

This report and all documentation relating to the meeting (see Annexes II and III) are available online at:

<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw/csw56/egm.htm>



ICARDA



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
ATTENTION**

