GENDER GLOBAL THEME: gender equity, knowledge, and capacity building

global program

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The gender global project has supported gender teams in all the IPM CRSP regions, funded students, and carried out workshops and research. Changes in Latin America and the Caribbean have shifted the focus to Honduras. In West Africa, the project is making significant progress in analyzing data on gender relations and pest management collected in Ghana and Mali. Uganda is the focus country in East Africa, where student progress on gender and IPM in coffee production is advancing; in addition, activities have begun in Tanzania with the naming of a country point person for gender. The project activities in South Asia include two students’ progress in Bangladesh and women’s participation in trainings and field visits in India.

Visits were made by the PI to East Africa to meet the Kenya coordinator and regional coordinator in Uganda to plan further research and to the Philippines to meet with the collaborators. In LAC, data gathered during a gender workshop in Intibucá produced initial findings on men’s and women’s participation in agricultural activities, access to resources, and technological adoptions. In West Africa, initial analysis of survey data collected in Ghana was completed. Additionally, survey data was collected in Mali and analysis is underway. The gender coordinator for East Africa is currently analyzing data and writing paper manuscripts from baseline survey data collected on hot pepper in Uganda. In Southeast Asia, plans for research on gender relations and pest management in Indonesia have been developed and will be carried out in the second half of this fiscal year. The research instruments from West Africa (focus groups, household visits, and surveys) were disseminated to other gender teams in South Asia and Southeast Asia to support research activities in those regions. Additionally, the project worked closely with the Impact Assessment Global Theme to analyze survey data collected in Ghana.
The following are some of the strategies implemented by both FHIA and Universidad el Valle and partners:

1. During rapid gender assessments in both countries (Guatemala and Honduras), information was collected on interests regarding agricultural training and research as well as certain constraints affecting the acceptance of some of the IPM practices promoted by the program.

2. Virginia Tech (Jeff Alwang) conducted research for the creation of a technique to identify “women’s crops,” with an application to Honduras.

3. FHIA conducted research into organic bio-fumigation and cover crops, both of which were of interest to women according to the rapid assessment.

4. Another strategy for increasing women’s participation was to conduct training sessions on topics of interest to women, such as management and safe use of pesticides on the farm and pest management at home. These training sessions were held at suitable times for the women (after consulting them), and they were also allowed to bring their children to increase potential for participation.

**Honduras**

Analysis of data from Rapid Gender Assessment or ongoing research - potato

Women are involved in 32% of the agricultural activities related to potatoes, and men, in 68%. The main activities in which women are involved are those related to aspersion irrigation, preparation of the land, sowing, weed control, harvesting, and the marketing of smaller amounts.

Honduras’ main potato producing area reports a total of 2,255 potato farmers, of which 807.29 (35.8%) are women and 1,447.71 (64.2%) are men. It is expected that the creation of a complete IPM package for this crop will also increase production for the women as long as the information generated in the research is correctly disseminated.

One of the practices promoted by IPM CRSP (FHIA through ACCESO) is bed raising. This practice is used by at least 50% of women, and it facilitates harvesting and improves yields. It could provide an impact in terms of reducing the effort made by women (and the family in general) when it comes to harvesting.

**Research projects**

Two research projects are in progress in Honduras that will make gender data in rural areas (which currently does not exist) available and visible:

1. Analysis of women's participation in the productive chain of potato and tomato in the departments of La Paz and Intibucá, Honduras.

2. Needs analysis of IPM technology for crops managed directly by women in the departments of La Paz and Intibucá, Honduras.

**Gender workshop findings**

A gender workshop was conducted in Intibucá, Honduras, to research the use, access, and control of the resources, productive and reproductive activities, technological adoptions, practical needs, and strategic interests of the producers of the area. Key findings include:

- Women are involved in 32% of the agricultural activities on the area, and men, in 68%. The main activities in which women are involved are those related to sprinkling irri-gation (watering), soil preparation, planting, weed control, harvesting, and marketing small amounts of the production at home.

- Most of the women of the area under study have access to land but have limited access to special-ized technical assistance. The main areas in which they have access and control are fruit trees, minor animal species, and, in general, the agricultural production that can be marketed at home, such as beans and corn, but in small amounts.

- The main IPM technologies adopted are Paratrioza control and bed row rising, with 50% and 43% respectively of the total interviewed.
The reason why women have adopted some technologies is because they have access to technical assistance. These technologies save work time, improve the quality of the product, and increase the yield.

Future plans include establishing a link between research institutions (FHIA) and extension (ACCESS) and targeting the needs and strategic interests of the female producers in IPM through workshops with farmers.

**West Africa**

**Ghana**

The IPM CRSP team in Ghana has taken efforts to ensure that women are included as participants in the transfer of technology packages. In each location, five farmers have been selected to participate in IPM work with tomatoes. Each group is comprised of two women and three men farmers, including one young male. Of 111 farmers growing tomato, 37 are women. The IPM CRSP team has also started working with cabbage in a new site (Asiwa). Women are not currently involved in field trials, but about 50% of the 50 farmers trained on IPM activities at this site are women.

The survey on gender relations and pest management among tomato farmers, developed in conjunction with the Impact Assessment global theme, was implemented in the seven IPM CRSP sites in Ghana. Gender theme graduate student Laura Zséleczky analyzed the qualitative data collected during her research in July and August and the quantitative survey data recently collected by CSIR-CRI.

**Mali**

A survey on knowledge and practices of vegetable production and pesticide use was conducted in the area of Ouéléssékou, Mali in three villages: Dialakoroba, Freintoumou, and Dafara. The survey was conducted in order to broaden the IPM CRSP program in other villages in the area of OHVN, the host country partner institution. The survey involved 120 households total, 40 per village, making a total of 60 women and 60 men. The women and men surveyed were tomato growers. Mah Koné Diallo participated in the data analysis of the survey during her time at Virginia Tech. Work in Mali has been stopped since the coup in March.

**East Africa**

**Uganda**

A RGA was conducted in Sironko and Manafwa districts, Uganda, aimed at identifying gender based constraints and opportunities in IPM control of the coffee stem borer. The key barriers to women’s participation it identified included heavy workload, long distance to IPM demo sites, cultural restriction on mobility, and participation in leadership; further, women have less access and control over coffee benefits compared to men, which acts as a disincentive to women’s engagement in IPM (tab. 1). It is recommended that the project organizes more demo sites to reduce the distance farmers have to travel, carries out more gender sensitization for men and women, and carries out specific gender and leadership training for women farmers as part of the IPM farmer field schools’ curriculum. In addition, the project should broaden the communication channels beyond group training to include women-friendly channels such as placement of posters in places frequented by women.

Capacity building: Empowering teams to integrate gender

A presentation on gender issues in coffee production was made, targeting farmers participating in the coffee IPM farmer groups in Sironko district, Uganda. The purpose of this presentation was to sensitize farmers about gender issues at the household level that influence women’s participation in coffee production and their implications on household welfare.

A presentation at the RP annual planning meeting was made on the women participation checklist. The purpose of the presentation was to (a) get feedback/comments from scientists on the checklist and (b) sensitize scientists about barriers to women’s participation in project activities and the importance of systematic monitoring and targeting of women.

Rapid Gender Assessment in Sironko and Manafwa districts, Uganda

Groups met once a month for one hour. Training sessions for each group are conducted at a demonstration garden belonging to one member or at the local church/school. Various subject specialists carry out the training depending on the topics to be covered in that month as per the calendar. IPM CRSP support is limited to provision of knowledge and skills on general coffee management and all the necessary training materials during the sessions. The training covers topics such as land preparation, planting, pest and disease control, post-harvest processing, and marketing.

For each of the groups, the local government extension worker under the NAADS provides IPM CRSP information. The role of the extension worker
is to take charge of the on-station demonstration site for coffee IPM packages and to train farmers in coffee management practices. They serve as a link between the IPM research team and the groups. Data was collected through review of related literature, key informant interviews, and an individual survey. The thirteen key interviewers comprised six farmers, four extension workers, and three research scientists involved in the IPM CRSP activities at the site. Data was collected through a review of related literature, key informant interviews, and an individual survey. The survey had a total sample of 150 with equal numbers of males and females.

Tasks related to the IPM components that are specific to women and men

The tasks involved include pest and disease scouting, mixing pesticides, fetching water for mixing pesticides, spraying, stem smoothening, stem wrapping, getting the materials for stem smoothening and wrapping (i.e., banana fibers and polythene), and pruning. Men take a lead on all these tasks except fetching water to mix pesticides. However, for the vast majority of the tasks, women play a significant supportive role with both men and women participating equally.

Current or potential gendered impacts of this IPM component

The IPM practices, though effective in controlling the pest, are time-consuming. They are likely to add further workload burdens to women, leading them to withdraw their time with other tasks, such as cultivation of food crops. This can have negative implications on household food security and women’s welfare unless the increased returns from coffee are both big enough to compensate for the reduction in women’s production and are equitably used to cater for household needs. In order to guard against these potential negative impacts, it is important that gender sensitization is an integral part of the IPM farmer field school curriculum.

Benefits or constraints associated with this IPM component

Men and women experience different benefits and constraints associated with this IPM component. Men have greater access to and control over the main benefits, which include access to scientific knowledge on pest and agronomic management and cash from increased coffee production. Knowledge of IPM practices was defined as farmers’ ability to recognize and name coffee stem borer (CSB) pest, identify its symptoms, list the IPM tactics for CSB control being promoted, and provide any harmful effects from using pesticides. It also includes farmers rating of their level of awareness, knowledge and utilization of IPM tactics.

More male coffee farmer group members had the ability to recognize and name the CSB pest and had observed it in either their coffee field or the neighbor’s. The men could correctly identify the symptoms of the pest and could recommend and had used pesticides such as ambush as method of choice for control of CSB. Though both male and female were aware of the itching of the body by ambush as its danger, they were not sure of having experienced such among their household members. They however suggested wearing protective gear as the remedy although they could not afford it.

The wives of male members of IPM groups had less knowledge and contact with IPM CRSP demos and extension staff compared to male and female group members. It is apparent that IPM information was not effectively trickling from the men to their spouses, yet the latter was involved in coffee management activities at household level. With regard to cash benefits from coffee, men had more access and control.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key informants</th>
<th>Survey</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>There are cases of women not being allowed by their husbands to join mixed sex groups for fear of them being taken by other men. Men also fear that women may not be able to carry out their home chores effectively if they join such groups.</td>
<td>Heavy workload which leaves no time to participate in group trainings, and yet group trainings are the only means of dissemination used by the IPM CRSP project.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women are increasingly more involved in cash generating enterprises in addition to their traditional roles of food production and household chores. Their time is therefore spread over a wider range of agricultural and other activities, leaving little time for participation in IPM groups.</td>
<td>Women’s movements are restricted to mainly markets and water points within the district, which limits access to information and therefore openness to new ideas like IPM.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The timing of the meetings (9am to 10am for Sironko, and 2-3pm for Manafwa) is not favorable for the women because it conflicts with their domestic roles.</td>
<td>There is a cultural perception of women as subordinate to men. This could partly explain why women barely hold any leadership positions in IPM groups, contribute less in terms of ideas in meetings, and when they get to contribute to group discussions, their ideas are often not acted on.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tasks related to the IPM components that are specific to women and men</td>
<td>Despite the heavy involvement in coffee production, women have limited access and control over the proceeds/benefits from coffee.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The tasks involved include pest and disease scouting, mixing pesticides, fetching water for mixing pesticides, spraying, stem smoothening, stem wrapping, getting the materials for stem smoothening and wrapping (i.e., banana fibers and polythene), and pruning. Men take a lead on all these tasks except fetching water to mix pesticides. However, for the vast majority of the tasks, women play a significant supportive role with both men and women participating equally.</td>
<td>Location of the demonstration sites does not favor women. In both districts group membership spanned three sub-counties on average. The mean distance from homes to the demonstration sites was 17 km.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The wives of male members of IPM groups had less knowledge and contact with IPM CRSP demos and extension staff compared to male and female group members. It is apparent that IPM information was not effectively trickling from the men to their spouses, yet the latter was involved in coffee management activities at household level. With regard to cash benefits from coffee, men had more access and control.</td>
<td>Lower education levels of women compared to men. Many cannot read both English and the local language.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women have less access to extension services compared to men.</td>
<td>Women have less access to extension services compared to men.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Table 2. Benefits derived from coffee production

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Do you obtain any benefits from the coffee enterprise?</th>
<th>Female group non participant</th>
<th>Male group participant</th>
<th>Female group participant</th>
<th>total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>137</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If yes, what is the main benefit?</th>
<th>Income for household expenses</th>
<th>school fees payment</th>
<th>bought a plot/land, livestock, or a property</th>
<th>made contacts with other friends or made exchange visits</th>
<th>obtained inputs</th>
<th>farming skills</th>
<th>hired a plot or land</th>
<th>total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Who has open access to the money from coffee?</th>
<th>Man only</th>
<th>Woman only</th>
<th>Both man and woman equally</th>
<th>total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Time is a constraint on the side of women who also have a lot of other activities. Stem smoothing was perceived to be labor intensive, as it involves bending for a long time, which is uncomfortable for the elderly and women. For stem wrapping, termites destroy the bananas wrappings, making it not cost effective in terms of the labor. Distance to the demo site constrains farmer, and especially women’s, participation, as women have multiple roles, cultural restrictions on mobility, and less access and control over means of transport.

Recommendations to improve women’s access to IPM knowledge in this project:

1. IPM coffee groups should be organized to cover a smaller geographical area, so as to shorten the distance farmers need to travel from their homes to the demo sites. Groups can cover a parish as compared to the current coverage of three sub-counties on average.
2. Explore the option of targeting women-only groups where they exist. Where such groups are not available, the project could mobile new groups either for women or couples but with special targeting of women. The female extension worker can be used to reach out to women personally and encourage them to participate.
3. The project should use multiple channels of communication. In addition to the group training, they can add other more women-friendly communication channels, such as posters with simplified messages and pictures pinned up in places women visit often (local clinics that offer antenatal and child health services, markets, places of worship, and water collection points).
4. Conduct more sensitization of both men and women on gender issues and their implications on coffee production and household welfare.
5. Conduct gender and leadership training targeted at women farmers to build their confidence and empower them to take up leadership in the groups and other community initiatives.

**SOUTH ASIA**

**India**

The presence of the gender team in India has increased scientists' awareness of the importance of including women in all activities, including recruiting research fellows and asking the gender team to make presentations in workshops, meetings, and field days. Women’s participation in activities and the key role of women in IPM adoption has been widely recognized; however, there are still challenges in terms of how to include women. Farmers were asked to bring women to IPM meetings; this has been quite successful at the Trichy center, which is working with two villages, specifically onion farmers, with which the gender team also works. Field visits by the gender team have revealed women’s success (in some cases more successful than men’s) growing onion, chili, and tomato.

A case study of women’s participation in IPM and cucumber production found that women are involved in most of the activities related to cucumber production, including IPM practices, and that 74% of the labor for this production is done by women. Hence, cucumber is considered to be a labor-intensive crop particularly for women. Women also recognize symptoms of pest damage, including reduction in yield size, and report these to the farm manager. Women are perceived to be better at activities requiring more attention and patience, such as netting and tying up the vines, weeding, grading, and sorting. IPM programs should recognize the important roles women play in cucumber production and IPM practices and include them in relevant trainings and activities.

Research on IPM components in onion production indicates the gender roles, benefits, and constraints related to these components. Here is a table summarizing the findings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Specific Tasks</th>
<th>Current Impacts</th>
<th>Gendered Impacts</th>
<th>Role and Relations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. IPM Component 1</strong></td>
<td>Pseudomonas and Trichoderma seed treatment</td>
<td>Can be done by both. Men mix biocontrol agent with water in a tank and pour it on the onion bulb. Women mix this and spray the bulb. For soil application, they mix it with farm yard manure, and this is also done by both genders. Both genders are doing these kinds of activities by helping each other.</td>
<td>Women might not find source from where it can be purchased. One man farmer approached TNAU and purchased in bulk, including quantity required for a neighbor’s use. It is difficult for a woman to go for purchasing from a long distance.</td>
<td>Mobility of women is an important reason that could affect women’s adoption</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2. IPM Component 2</strong></td>
<td>Neem cake application</td>
<td>Related to men</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3. IPM Component 3</strong></td>
<td>Selection of healthy seedlings/ bulbs</td>
<td>Women’s labor is involved in this activity</td>
<td>Two-to-three days of women laboring is required to do this job</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Women’s labor is involved in the activities related to the IPM components, and there are differences in tasks specific to women and men. Women may find it difficult to handle large quantities of seed during seed treatment (physical constraints). Women farmers go in a group and help each other to get inputs from Department of Agriculture or from TNAU.

Women may be find it difficult to handle large quantities. Fertilizer application usually done by men.

Women perform better in activities requiring more care and patience.
impacts, and constraints related to these components:

Recommendations to improve gender equity through the IPM CRSP include:

1. Because women provide much of the labor for onion production, women should be given training on IPM practices and components to increase adoption.

2. The majority of household decision-making is done by both men and women. Women are used to taking responsibility for reminding their husbands about important activities and helping resolve problems. Information about IPM has to be imparted to both men and women.

**Bangladesh**

One graduate student in Bangladesh has completed her research. The other graduate student has completed her data collection, and she is beginning the data analysis process and writing the literature review.

**SOUTHEAST ASIA**

**Indonesia, Philippines, and Cambodia**

Increasing participation of and benefits to women

A total of seven farmer groups participated in the training courses and FGD activities conducted. The farmer groups consisted of three farmer groups from Indonesia, one farmer group from the Philippines, and three farmer groups from Cambodia. One of the farmer groups from Indonesia (West Java Province) involved in this year’s program is the same group who was involved with last year’s activities, but this year the IPM gender team only worked with the women farmer members. The other two farmer groups in Indonesia were from the North Sumatra province; one is a male farmer group, and another group is a female farmer group. In the Philippines, the farmer group has male and female farmer members. Mostly, these groups are also involved in other IPM CRSP activities led by the technical team of the IPM CRSP.

As per agreement made during the 2011 IPM CRSP Annual Workshop in Los Baños, the Philippines, the SE Asia IPM Gender Team agreed to conduct capacity building activities on general gender issues as well as part of the research activities. For example, the FGD activities were targeted to support research, but in these FGDs, there was a part to talk with farmers about gender issues in agriculture life.

From the activities above, a total of 191 people participated in all the gender-related activities. Women’s participation was 68.06% (130 women and 61 men).

The results of these gender activities are:

- Gender mainstreaming program activities are implemented as part of IPM CRSP technical activities through a specific gender session embedded in the technical IPM CRSP training activities.
- The gender mainstreaming program is targeting not only farmers but also IPM trainers and coordinators.
- Men and women farmers who were involved in the research-related activities increased their gender perspective, especially in understanding men’s and women’s roles in domestic work, reproductive work, and social work. Also, among them they increased their understanding of gender roles in the home garden and kitchen space.
- Men and women share knowledge regarding pest identification as both claimed to be working together in managing their respective vegetable farms.
There were some constraints that inhibited female participation in IPM CRSP activities, though strategies were employed to address these challenges. In North Sumatra, men and women farmers have equal roles in supporting their agricultural activities. But in the culture only men farmers are invited to meetings. To address this, the team conducted separate FGDs with men and women farmers. At the end of these activities, the men's and women's groups came together, and the team facilitated a larger group discussion. The mixed group discussion provided an opportunity for men and women farmers to make several clarifications, especially concerning their roles in the home garden and kitchen space.

In West Java, men and women farmers are often separated. Mostly men farmers are responsible for agricultural activities at the field level, and women farmers are responsible for the home garden activities. There is great potential for women farmers to earn some income from their activities in the home garden, but they do not have enough knowledge to manage their home garden farming and marketing. There is a need for specific training on IPM techniques and other aspects related to economic management to support women farmers' efforts to increase their earning from their home garden activities. Compared to the men's group, the women's group had a lack of education, lower skill level of cultivating vegetables, and lack of information on marketing and trainings. There is a need to increase female farmers' knowledge through several trainings at the field level.

Empowering teams to integrate gender

In Indonesia, a gender FGD was conducted to discuss gender knowledge of IPM farmers, identify gender issues in kitchen space and the field, and conduct gender mapping by men's and women's groups. The FGDs were conducted in Batulayang and Doulu villages of Karo district of North Sumatra province and included 14 men and 15 women participants. The farmers involved in these FGDs are citrus farmers working with the IPM CRSP. The FGDs were conducted over two days for each group. The men's FGD was conducted on November 14 and 15, 2011, while the women's FGD was conducted on November 20 and 27. A workshop to present the results of both FGDs was conducted on December 2, 2012, and included 27 women and men farmers. Men and women farmers shared the results and talked openly about several gender-related issues in their day-to-day life, including agricultural activities. At the end of the workshop, participants agreed that communication is a critical aspect to increase gender equality in agricultural activities.

In the Philippines, a FGD was conducted in October 2011 as a follow-up activity to a training seminar held in March 2011 on pest identification and IPM strategies. This FGD was intended to identify farmers' knowledge applied on their own fields. A second FGD was conducted in October 2011 with six women and three men participants. When asked about their understanding of IPM, participants expressed the following: good crop standing, control plant diseases by applying "Biogrow," and avoid chemical use. It was observed that men's and women's knowledge regarding pest identification is equally shared, as both claimed to be working together in managing their respective vegetable farms.

In Cambodia, a gender workshop for IPM trainers included 25 women and 6 men participants. The objective of the workshop was to understand men's and women's roles in agriculture, learn about gender mainstreaming in IPM CRSP, and establish the gender group to support the production of Trichoderma. The workshop resulted in increased gender understanding among IPM trainers to support IPM practices at the field level. This workshop is expected to increase the gender awareness of Ministry staff at all levels and increase decision making of women trainers and farmers in IPM activities.

Producing and disseminating knowledge of gender issues in IPM

Last year, the research focus was on analyzing the results of the Rapid Gender Assessment. This year, it focused on conducting research on gender roles in the home garden and kitchen space. This research was conducted in Indonesia (two provinces: North Sumatra and West Java). The team was able to conduct data collection and screening of the data collected. A total of 100 families (50 families in each village) were selected as respondents for the research. The research aimed to determine the comparison of family ecology concerning gender roles (in domestic, yard, and field activities), money management, insecticide utilization, and protection of children from hazardous goods.