NEWS

New Work from Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI)

The Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI) is a tool developed by IFPRI, Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI), and USAID's Feed the Future. The Index provides the first standardized and comprehensive tool to directly measure women's empowerment and inclusion in the agricultural sector. Multiple versions of the tool have been released since the original WEAI was launched in 2012, and IFPRI recently released two new discussion papers on the latest developments to the WEAI.

"Development of the project-level Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (pro-WEAI)" discusses how the project-level Index can help development practitioners identify key areas of women's disempowerment, design targeted strategies to address these areas, and monitor project outcomes in relation to changes in women's empowerment. The paper also explicates pro-WEAI's twelve empowerment indicators and gender parity index and describes how the Index was developed.
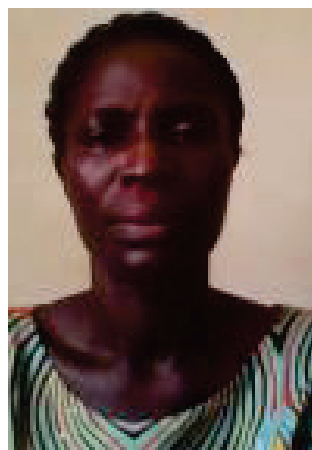
"Women's empowerment in agriculture: Lessons from qualitative research" synthesizes qualitative research and quantitative surveys from eight agricultural development projects; this research was used to develop the project-level Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (pro-WEAI). Six of these projects were conducted in Africa, specifically Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, Mali, Tanzania, and Kenya. Through the qualitative work, researchers aimed to identify different cultural meanings of "empowerment," validate the domains and indicators of the quantitative index, provide greater understanding of the context of each project and of strategies for facilitating empowerment, and test a methodology for integrating cultural perspectives of empowerment with standardized external measures to encourage comparability of empowerment across contexts.

The Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index has been the subject of an AGRODEP training course and is included in the Resources section of the AGRODEP website.
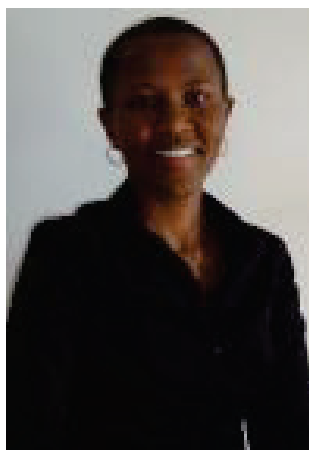
Happy New Year from AGRODEP

The AGRODEP Management Team would like to wish all of our members and partners a happy and healthy New Year! We look forward to continued partnership and learning in 2019.
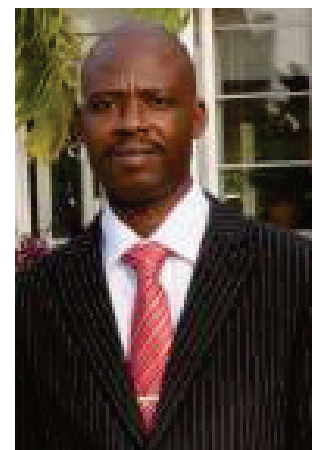
FEATURED MEMBERS

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