

Expert Consultation: Measuring Gender Transformative Change in the context of Food Security, Nutrition and Sustainable Agriculture

Concept Note

15-16 June 2022 – 13:00-17:00 (CEST)

Background and rationale


Since 2019, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the World Food Programme (WFP) have been implementing the [Joint Programme on Gender Transformative Approaches for Food Security, Improved Nutrition and Sustainable Agriculture \(JP GTA\)](#), in collaboration with, and through financial support from, the European Union (EU).

The overall objective of the JP GTA is to contribute to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 2 (Zero Hunger) by supporting the United Nations Rome-based Agencies – FAO, IFAD and WFP – and their partners to embed gender transformative approaches (GTAs) in their policy dialogues, programmes, working modalities and institutional culture, and through enhancing their collaboration on zero hunger and gender equality. The JP GTA aims to directly contribute to the realization of the EU Gender Equality Strategies and Gender Actions Plans, both of which inspired its formulation.

In the last decade, GTAs have emerged as an alternative and a complement to more traditional gender aware approaches that have largely focused on addressing the symptoms of gender inequalities without paying sufficient attention to the structural causes generating inequalities. With the goal of achieving sustainable and transformative impacts, GTAs seek to examine, challenge, and transform the underlying causes of gender inequalities. They address gendered power relations and discriminatory norms, attitudes, behaviours, and practices, including policies and laws that create and perpetuate gender discrimination. By doing so, GTAs seek to eradicate systemic forms of gender-based discrimination and to create or strengthen gender relations and social structures/institutions that support gender equality.

To assess the effectiveness of gender transformative interventions on gender equality and food security and nutrition, it is important to develop indicators and means of measurement. Measurements of gender transformative change need to assess changes in gendered power relations, norms, attitudes, behaviours and practices of men and women of different socio-economic backgrounds to assess progress on gender equality and on food security and nutrition and sustainable agriculture.

With the aim of enhancing the capacity of the United Nations Rome-based Agencies (RBAs), CGIAR, and of other research and development partners to monitor and evaluate gender transformative interventions, the JP GTA has partnered with the CGIAR GENDER Platform to develop guidelines for measuring gender transformative change in the context of food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture. As part of these efforts, an Expert Consultation has been organized to learn how leading



gender experts and organizations working with GTAs have conceptualized and measured gender transformative change: what dimensions have been assessed, through which indicators, and through which methods of data collection. The consultation is expected to identify common challenges faced when assessing gender transformative change and to learn from monitoring and evaluation strategies that have proven successful in overcoming them.

Purpose of the Expert Consultation

The overall purpose of the Consultation is to provide a forum for experts to collectively discuss and propose robust, empirically and theoretically grounded indicators for gender transformative change and appropriate means to measure them. Consequently, the Expert Consultation is expected to advance the scientific and empirical debate on the assessment of gender transformative change in the context of food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture.

The immediate objectives of the Expert Consultation are:

- (i) Review and discuss the JP GTA – CGIAR GENDER Platform draft ‘Guidelines for measuring gender transformative change’ with a focus on the examination and identification of indicators of gender transformative change and the means to measure them.
- (ii) To obtain new and critical expert insights on appropriate monitoring and evaluation standards for gender transformative change in the context of food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture based on expert experience of measuring and monitoring gender transformative change.

Expected outcome

The Expert Consultation is expected to contribute to improved standards for measuring gender transformative change in the context of food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture. The findings, discussion points, main take-aways and conclusions reached during the Expert Consultation will be compiled into a short report. The insights gathered during the Expert Consultation will constitute significant inputs into the development of the “Guidelines for measuring (monitoring and evaluation) gender transformative change in the context of food security, nutrition, and sustainable agriculture”, which will include a compendium of sample indicators. The contribution of the experts will be acknowledged in both documents.

Format of the Expert Consultation

The Expert Consultation will take place online over two consecutive (15-16 June 2022) half-days (4 hours each day). The Consultation will be highly participatory and will incentivize interactive and stimulating debates through plenary discussions, breakout groups, and wrap up sessions.

Points of contact

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- Steven Michael Cole - Senior Scientist (Gender Specialist), International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), S.Cole@cgiar.org

List of JP GTA – CGIAR GENDER Platform Technical Working Group on Measuring Gender Transformative Change

- Hajnalka Petrics - Programme Officer (Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment), Global Coordinator of JP GTA
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- Mariola Acosta - Rural Women's Empowerment Consultant, FAO
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- Elena Ganan - Regional Gender Advisor, WFP
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This Expert Consultation is organized in the framework of the Joint Programme on Gender Transformative Approaches for Food Security and Nutrition (JP GTA) in collaboration with and through financial support from the European Union.

