

# GENDER, CLIMATE AND AGRICULTURE

- integrating gender in climate change projects



FAO's Climate, Energy and Tenure Division



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

[www.fao.org/climatechange](http://www.fao.org/climatechange)

# Why gender and climate change

Climate change DOES NOT affect everyone in the same way: women in rural areas experience the effects of climate change more acutely due to gender inequalities and structural disadvantages.

## Adaptation to climate change

- Who has access to natural resources, extension services, credits?
- Disasters often hit women harder: need for gender sensitive Disaster Risk Reduction

## Mitigation of climate change

- Households with low income are likely to generate lower emissions but also have a lower mitigation capacity

There is an international consensus that gender-specific differences in adaptation and mitigation capacity must be incorporated in the design and implementation of change response strategies.



Photo: I. Velez, FAO



# Gender differences do matter

The differences between women and men prevail in access to financial and productive resources, decision making, markets and services, land and water, and knowledge and technology. According to FAO, with equal access to resources and services, women could increase the yields of their farms by as much as 20 – 30%. This would boost the total agricultural output in developing countries by 2.5 – 4%. The additional yield could feed an additional 100 – 150 million people.



Climate change is an additional challenge to food security. To date there has been little focus on how men and women reduce and manage risks and adapt to challenges brought about by climate change. Also the policies and practices designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions need to be gender-sensitive.





### FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Women are granted fewer and smaller loans than men



### PRODUCTIVE RESOURCES

Women make up **43%** of the agriculture workforce in developing countries



### ACCESS TO DECISION-MAKING FORAS

Women hold **14%** of management positions in the agricultural sector



### KNOWLEDGE AND TECHNOLOGY

**2/3** of the world's illiterate adults are women

Women in forestry, fishing and agriculture receive just **7%** of total agriculture investment



### LAND & WATER

In developing countries **10%-20%** of all land holders are women

If women had equal access to productive resources as men, they could increase yields on their farms by as much as **20% - 30%**

At the UN Climate Change Summits between 2000-2010, only **30%** of registered country delegates were women

One study showed that women's education contributes to **43%** reduction in child malnutrition



### SERVICES & MARKET

Agriculture extension services are accessible to only **5%** of women that make up the agriculture workforce in developing countries

Farms managed by female-headed households are between half to **2/3** the size of farms run by male-headed households

## EQUAL ACCESS TO RESOURCES AND POWER

for



Energy services in West Africa have:  
- reduced women's daily work by **2-4** hours  
- increased women's incomes  
- improved education and school enrolment

### FOOD SECURITY

in the face of

### CLIMATE CHANGE

AVAILABILITY | STABILITY | UTILIZATION | ACCESS

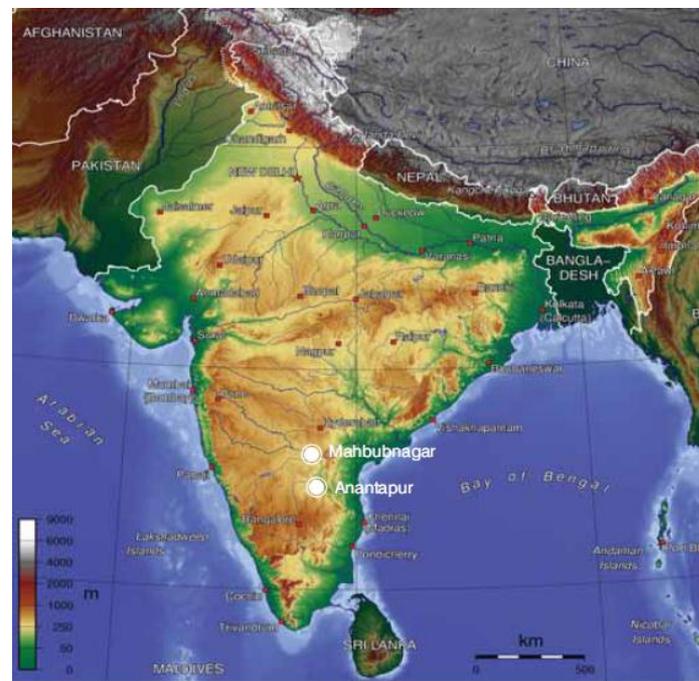
ADAPTATION | MITIGATION

# Evidence from a FAO Case Study in India

**Hypothesis:** Men and women, due to socially-constructed gender roles, are vulnerable to climate change in different ways and have diverse methods of coping to ensure food security.

**Study:** Carried out among 300 men and women farmers in six drought-prone villages in Andhra Pradesh.

**Key results:** Men and women experience changes in climate differently. Gender differences are for example reflected in men and women's educational level. Their coping strategies are complementary but different, e.g. women eat less when food is scarce. Men and women rely on institutional support to cope with risks but have different levels of access: women for example do not interact with extension agents.



# Training Guide in collaboration with CCAFS



RESEARCH PROGRAM ON  
Climate Change,  
Agriculture and  
Food Security



## Objective

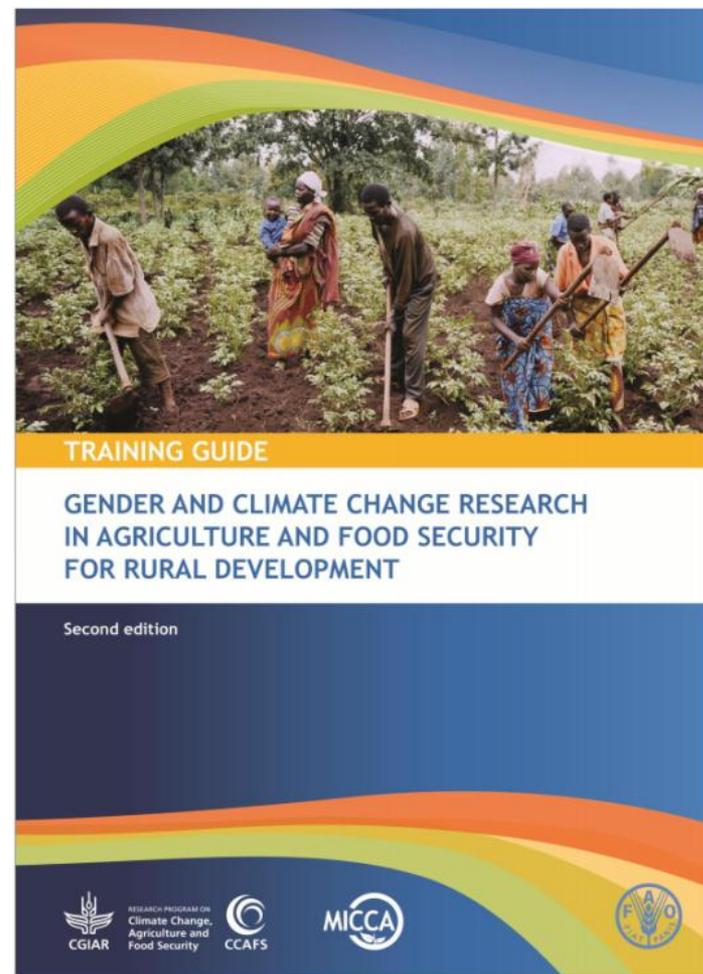
To **identify** good practices, support **research** and **mainstream** gender dimensions into responses to climate change. It addresses the lack of information on how men and women adapt to and mitigate climate change.

## To whom? Target Audience

Development planners and practitioners working with communities and households on climate change

## Why different?

Field tested by CCAFS partners in Bangladesh, Ghana and Uganda. Emphasis on community participation throughout the gender, context, stakeholder and livelihood analyses.



# Training Guide

It is all about understanding the gender differences!

## Toolbox of participatory research tools

- For use in field research and other field work with communities
- Adaptable to different conditions
- Generating disaggregated data

## Step by step guidance to users

- Preparations
- A work plan
- A format for reporting field studies
- Analyzing the data generated by field studies

### Box 3.0 Ten gender and climate change research tools

Tool 1. Village resources map

Tool 2. Seasonal calendar

Tool 3. Daily activity clocks

Tool 4. Farming systems diagram

Tool 5. Capacity and vulnerability analysis matrix

Tool 6. Venn diagram

Tool 7. Institutional profiles

Tool 8. Changing farming practices

Tool 9. Seasonal food security calendar

Tool 10. Climate-related risk management practices



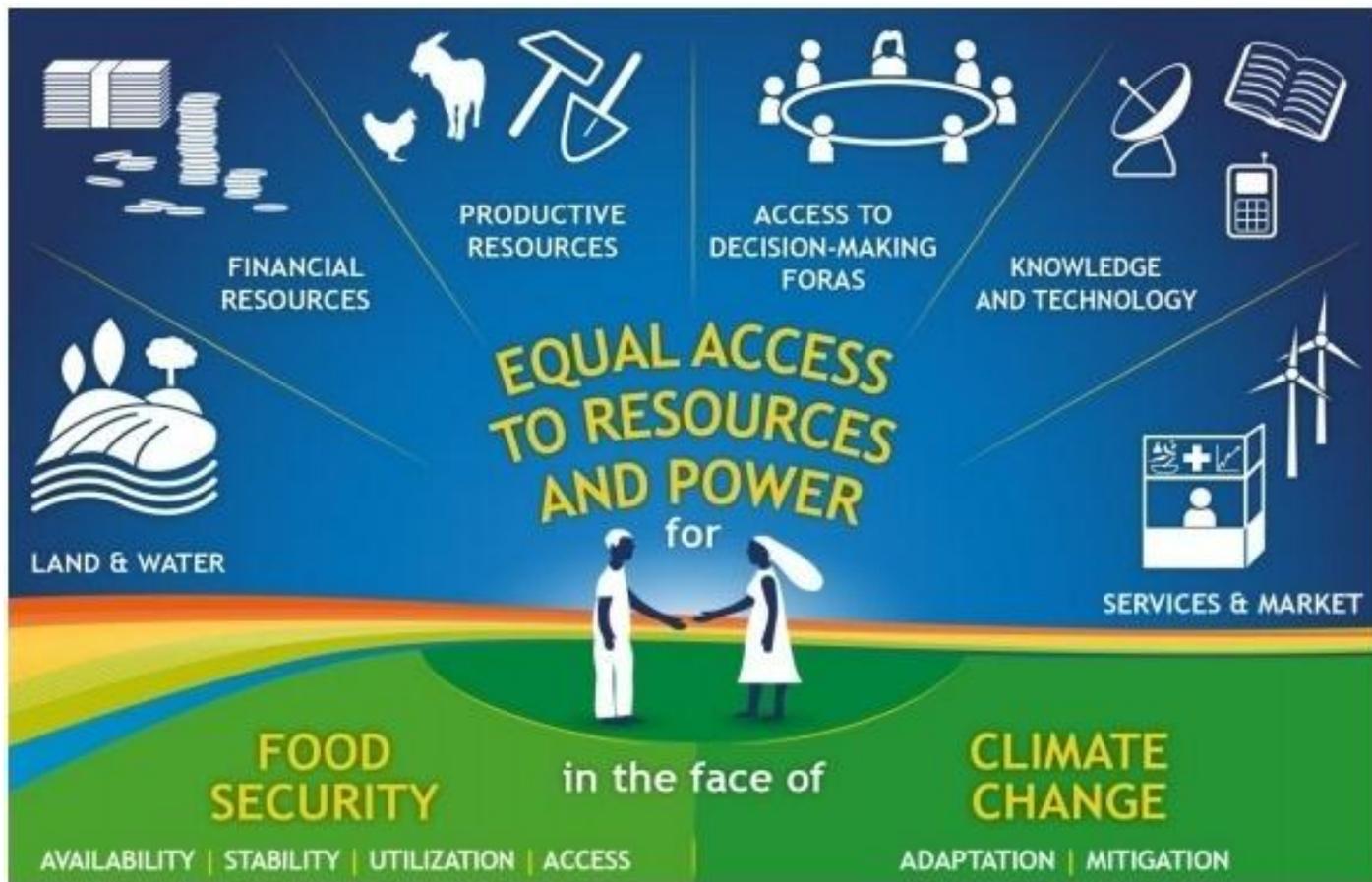
# Key Messages of the Training Guide



Photo: K. Trautmann, CCAFS

- Agriculture and food systems need to become **climate-smart**
- Climate-smart agriculture must be **inclusive** and gender issues must be integrated in policies, institutions and practices
- There's a need for **more knowledge** on how men and women are responding to the changing climate

- Gender differentiation will allow policy makers, practitioners and researchers to see how men and women could gain equitable access to and use information resources that would allow them to make better decisions on how to tackle climate change



Thank you!

