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66th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women

VIRTUAL SIDE EVENT

Measuring What Matters: 10 Years of the Women’s Empowerment in Agriculture Index, why has it mattered, and what’s next?

THURSDAY, 24 MARCH 2022

9:00 – 10:30 (New York) 14:00 – 15:30 (Rome)

Women are key to agricultural transformation around the world, but various obstacles and economic constraints limit their contributions to their households and communities. The Women’s Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI) is an innovative tool that seeks to identify such obstacles, and may be used to track gender equality and measure empowerment, agency, and women’s inclusion in the agricultural sector. This tool also measures women’s empowerment relative to men within their households.

The WEAI was launched in 2012 at the 56th UN Commission on the Status of Women. Over 230 organizations have used it across 58 countries to track progress toward women’s empowerment and gender equality in

agriculture. Ten years since its launch, diverse partners, including governments, have taken the lead in collecting data on women’s empowerment using WEAI-based metrics.

This side event will provide an opportunity to discuss country experiences in using the WEAI and reflect on its impact on measuring and tracking gender equity and equality. The discussion will also identify policy-relevant and actionable WEAI-based insights that countries and partners would like to see for the Women’s Empowerment Metric for National Statistical Systems (WEMNS) and present a vision for the next ten years of WEAI. The event will be in English, with French and Spanish interpretation available.

REGISTRATION

TIME NY	TIME ROME	SPEAKER
9:00	14:00	Introduction — Jemimah Njuki, Chief, Women’s Economic Empowerment, UN Women
9:10	14:10	Samantha Power, Administrator, USAID
9:15	14:15	Máximo Torero Cullen, Chief Economist, FAO
9:20	14:20	Agnes Quisumbing, Senior Research Fellow, IFPRI
9:30	14:30	Video statements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Randy Ali, Deputy Mission Director, USAID-Bangladesh Akhter Ahmed, Country Representative, IFPRI-Bangladesh Md. Zahidul Hassan, Managing Director, Data Analysis and Technical Assistance (DATA)
		Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury, Speaker of Bangladesh’s Parliament
9:40	14:40	Enock Chikava, Interim Director, Agricultural Development Team, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
9:45	14:45	Panel: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lizzie Chikoti, Acting Commissioner, National Statistical Office of Malawi Paulina Addy, Director, Women in Agricultural Development, Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Ghana John Ulimwengu, Senior Research Fellow, IFPRI Athur Mabiso, Senior Technical Specialist, IFAD Dr. Pranati Mohanraj, Deputy Director, Gender, Youth and Livelihoods, Food and Water Systems, CARE USA
10:10	15:10	Q&A
10:25	15:25	Closing remarks — The moderator and speakers from USAID, IFPRI and IFAD

Moderator: Jemimah Njuki, Chief, Women’s Economic Empowerment, UN Women