

SE30: Addressing the unequal burden of climate change: articulating the value for money of investments in climate resilience, gender equality, and nutrition

Organized by: IFAD, the World Bank, and IFPRI, with participation from FCDO, the Agroecology Coalition, the Micronutrient Forum, Gain, and the World March of Women

Summary of the side event

The event was opened by Ms. Terri Sarch, Head of Nutrition, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, UK. This was followed by four presentations, each highlighting different by complementary perspectives on the climate/gender/nutrition nexus:

- Dr. Nicolas Sitko, FAO presented a recent FAO report “The Unjust Climate,” which quantifies the unequal impacts of climate extreme events based on wealth status, gender and age, drawing on data from 24 low- and middle- income countries. The report emphasizes the importance of centring the needs of the most vulnerable people as we address the climate crisis.
- Dr. Carlo Azzarri, IFPRI presented recent research to identify climate-agriculture-and gender inequality hotspots—areas where women’s exposure to climate hazards is particularly high, where agriculture is sensitive to the negative impacts of climate change and gendered, and where gender inequality compounds climate change effects on agriculture. Such analysis can support more effective targeting of scarce resources towards the most at-risk populations and identify priority intervention areas and adapted technologies.
- Pierre Ferrand, FAO, representing the Agroecology Coalition, introduced the Coalition and its work, including summaries of case studies of agro-ecological approaches from the ground in India on biodiverse cropping techniques paired with dissemination of millet recipes and from Niger, Tanzania, Chad, and India on the production and

consumption of climate resilient 'orphan crops' for diverse and nutritious diets.

- Saskia Osendarp, Executive Director of the Micronutrient Forum and Sarah LaHaye, Lead of the Initiative on Climate Action and Nutrition (I-CAN) at GAIN. This presentation provides a synthesis of the emerging evidence for policy-makers to understand the linkages between the climate and nutrition crises, presents the evidence for policy solutions, (*using the ST4N synthesis*) and highlights the need to address these in national climate and nutrition plans (*using I-CAN baseline data*).

In an effort to provide a framework to bring together these diverse perspectives, Emily Wylde, of IFAD, presented the '5Es' of the Value for Money Framework (economy, efficiency, effectiveness, overall cost-effectiveness, and equity) using an example of a new project in Senegal, the Support for Food Sovereignty Programme. This emphasized the potential of analytical tools to translate the evidence into 'making the case' for policy and programme investments in reducing in security/nutrition, climate resilience, and gender equality, to maximize synergies and minimize trade-offs across these three objectives.

Patricia Van de Velde, of the World Bank, then moderated an interactive panel discussion. Souad Mansouri from Tunisia, representing the World March of Women, discussed the importance of creating opportunities for civil society involvement in identifying and implementing solutions to simultaneously increase climate resilience, strengthen women's empowerment, and improve nutritional outcomes. Thanks to the lively participation of the audience, the panel discussion addressed some of the practical aspects of how to tackle these programmatic areas, including how to bring together diverse ministries and ensure the 'nexus' doesn't fall through institutional cracks; how to strengthen data and evidence; and the power of VfM assessments for getting the attention of key decision-makers, particularly Ministries of Finance.

Ms Sarch provided summary remarks, highlighting the importance of continuing all of this work, both building the evidence base and implementing concrete policy and programme responses.