



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

Evidence on gender-based inequalities and their importance for sustainable and inclusive agri-food systems

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“Agroecology for Women's Economic Empowerment and Strengthening their Autonomy”



Sex-disaggregated and gender data analysis

Why is it important?

Advocate for inclusive and sustainable policies and programmes

Formulate evidence-informed policies and programmes for addressing the sustainability of agrifood systems:

- can use data to make informed decisions and propose solutions

Monitor and evaluate the progress and identify gaps

- towards **Sustainable Development Goals**



Sex-disaggregated data provides a richer understanding of men's and women's engagement in agriculture and food systems

- Often the reference to farm 'holder' implies full management, ownership, control and responsibility for decision-making over agricultural production on a household farm
 - Reinforces: men as household and farm heads
- Yet, for many small family farms decision-making over agricultural production is not just made by one person, it is more complex
- Multiple household members may manage various tasks and be responsible for various activities, with the distinct implications for agrifood policies, programmes and local solutions





FAO: Country Gender Assessments

CGAs provide systematic analysis on the gender dimensions of the agriculture and rural sector.

Aim to support the formulation and implementation of gender-responsive policies, strategies and projects at country level in line with national development priorities and FAO's mandate.

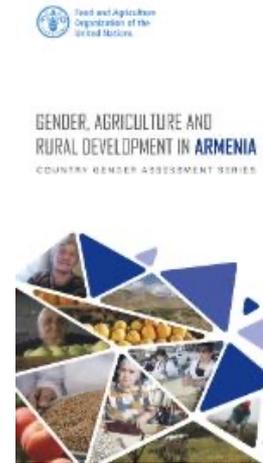
A resource for policymakers and practitioners researchers and analysts, civil society actors, and other partners.

[Armenia \(2017\)](#)

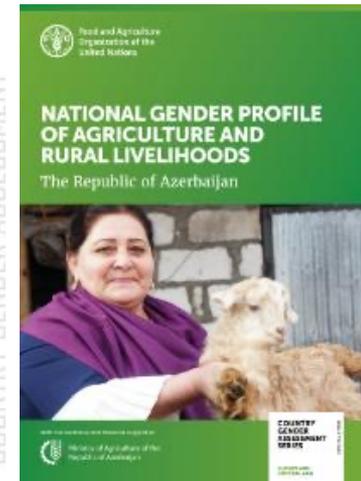
[Azerbaijan \(2022\)](#)

[Georgia \(2018\)](#): an update is in progress (2023)

[Türkiye \(2016\)](#)



COUNTRY GENDER ASSESSMENT



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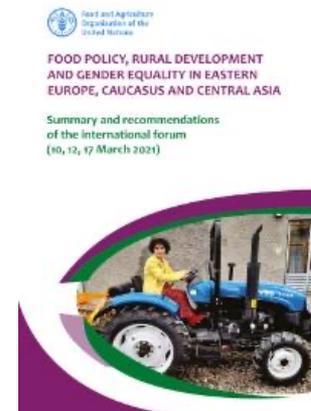
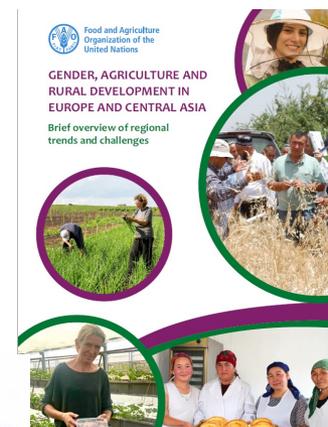


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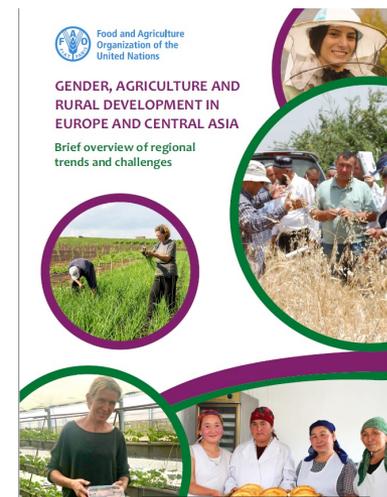
Recent FAO regional thematic publications

- In coming weeks: **Gender, agriculture and rural development in Europe and Central Asia: Brief overview of regional trends and challenges**
- [Improving social protection for rural populations in Europe and Central Asia: priorities for FAO](#)
- [Food policy, rural development and gender equality in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia: Summary and recommendations of the International Forum \(2022\)](#)



Regional gender gaps: data and evidence

- Contributions of rural women to agricultural production, as household members and farmers, remain largely **invisible**.
- Rural women, and farmers in particular, **have limited access to resources that are critical for agricultural production**. Precise analysis of gender gaps in access to inputs is needed so that interventions can be designed to remove persistent barriers.
- Rural women have **very limited opportunities for economic empowerment**, in on- or off-farm work, leaving them dependent on male family members or vulnerable to poverty.
- **The evidence base and gender statistics relevant to agriculture and rural development must be strengthened.**



The data informs inclusive and gender-responsive policies

- **Consider how gender intersects with age-specifics, locality, abilities and other factors.**
- **Situating diverse rural women's knowledge and needs:** rural advisory services and extension services provide opportunities for women's learning and knowledge exchange.
- **Prioritizing women's interests and needs:** value chain development, climate-smart agriculture, social protection measures.
- **Recognizing and empowering women-led grassroots initiatives** in community development, education and public policies (e.g. community and school gardens).



Takeaways

- Despite the expanding scope and demand for better data, **critical gender data gaps continue to exist**. The lack of data makes it difficult to monitor the progress on gender equality and rural women's empowerment in agriculture and rural livelihoods, thus develop inclusive agrifood systems.
- Having sex-disaggregated, gender-relevant data and statistics means **that policies can identify what works best for both rural women and men, girls and boys**.

Examples: access to services and assets, time-use data, adoption of innovation, responses to shocks

Gender equality is key for sustainable and inclusive food systems





Thank you

Contact

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