



New landscapes of water equality and inclusion

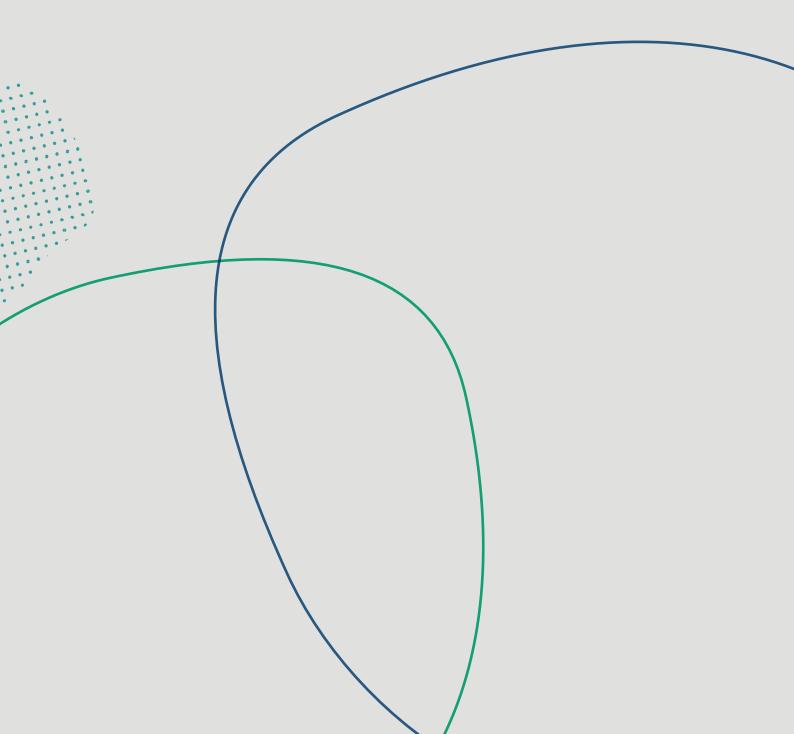
IWMI Gender and Inclusion Strategy 2020-2023



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Front cover photograph: A female smallholder farmer setting up a solar-powered pump to irrigate her home garden in Danghesta village, Dangila district, Amhara region, Ethiopia (<i>photo</i> : Mulugeta Ayene/WLE).

New landscapes of water equality and inclusion

IWMI Gender and Inclusion Strategy 2020-2023



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Overview

The Gender and Inclusion Strategy 2020-2023 of the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) supports implementation of the IWMI Strategy 2019-2023¹. This is done by ensuring that gender equality and inclusion are central to the Institute's three Strategic Programs – water, food and ecosystems; water, climate change and resilience; and water, growth and inclusion – and to its fourth crosscutting program pillar on digital innovations.

IWMI's mission is to provide water solutions for sustainable, climate-resilient development. This responds to international policy concerns about global systems changing in ways that heighten the vulnerability of millions of poor people, impact on species diversity, and ultimately, risk future achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)².

IWMI's past research on gender and water, over many decades, in Asia, Africa and the Middle East shows that real progress cannot be achieved if water investments, innovations and interventions do not respond to the complexities of inequality and exclusion, including the rapid nature of food, water, climate and social system transformations.

This Strategy builds on this work portfolio, including incorporating the following key learning points:

1. Inequality and gender intersections shape development outcomes: Unequal rights, responsibilities, resources and opportunities between genders³ are crosscut by disparities in age, disability, ethnicity, religion, caste and class. These result in disparities in power, privilege, asset ownership, the burden of risks, and the distribution of opportunities for different groups of women, men and other gender identities. The impacts of these intersectional inequalities on food, water and income security are often acute, but, more broadly, affect the achievement of global social and economic well-being, especially

under conditions of climate uncertainty.
Ignoring these intersections renders the
most marginalized largely invisible, and risks
missing the overall SDG goal of 'leaving no
one behind'.

- Gender equality is central to more effective and equitable systems of resource governance: Gender inequalities shape rights to, and use of water, land and other natural resources. They also shape how decisions are made, for example, on labor roles and responsibilities in collecting and managing water, who participates and how in decisionmaking, and how benefits are shared along water and other natural resource value chains. Moreover, these inequalities in who has power to participate in and make decisions over resource allocation and management can also determine the winners and losers under conditions of climate change - including during more frequentlyexperienced extreme weather events such as droughts and floods. In addition, who benefits or loses as a consequence of mobility and migration in reaction to major systemic transformation is shaped by gendered disparities. In sum, gender inequalities are a central factor in governing how resilient people are to change, how able they are to react to change, and how impacts, both negative and positive, are felt across different social and political contexts.
- 3. Gender equality and inclusion are key to sustainable and equitable systems-level solutions: The preceding two learning areas point to the need for a rethink on how to tackle change at a more systemic level including building more evidentially equal institutions at all levels. As a research-fordevelopment (R4D) organization, this means bringing together our understanding of systems through combining biophysical and environmental sciences with socioeconomic

Overview 3

¹ IWMI Strategy 2019-2023 - https://www.iwmi.org/about/iwmi-strategy-2019-2023

² Key policy documents to which these program areas respond include the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Paris Agreement, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

³ including women, men, transgender and intersex people (UN Women).

and political-legal analyses, while ensuring that we fully understand the intersections between systems and how these shape the institutional environment with which and in which we work. This will inform better actions towards achieving more transformative solutions, as well as supporting solutions that more fully incorporate public participation and collaboration (e.g., citizen science and local community participation), thereby increasing the agency of those often least able to tackle their own inequalities.

4. A Gender Transformative Approach (GTA) informs this Strategy. Guided by this approach, we aim to reverse gender inequalities by identifying, disrupting and reversing intersections that sustain and sometimes exacerbate systemic inequalities in societies and economies at different scales. While continuing to address the "symptoms" of gender inequalities by enhancing women's individual or collective agency in decision-making in water, food, climate and growth interventions, we will increasingly also tackle "root or systemic causes" of intersectional inequalities (CGIAR Research Program on Aquatic Agricultural Systems 2012). This will entail addressing 'nested social and power relations ... behaviors, norms and structures that underlie social inequalities' (ibid.) in relation to food and water system interactions in smallholder agriculture, climate change resilience, migration and economic policy arenas, and in digital innovations for social transformation.

What will we do? Taking forward a transdisciplinary, multi-systems approach, we will focus, in particular, on strengthening how we understand and respond to gender and inclusion within rapidly changing food system transformations, climate resilience strategies and practices, economic growth policy, and new forms of digital economies under the emerging Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR). Our work in these areas will focus on the following three pillars:

- robust, granular and scalar data to key stakeholders in ways that also offer actionable approaches to tackling systemic barriers to gender equality and inclusion. This involves identifying and mapping critical gender and inclusion knowledge gaps through research and engagement with grassroots stakeholders, policy makers and practitioners, and ultimately supporting more collaborative understanding of key data bottlenecks and biases that lead to persistent inequalities.
- 2. Fixing systems: We will lead by example and facilitate capacity strengthening and change processes, leading to more gender-equal and inclusive institutions. Using transdisciplinary methods, and incorporating innovative tools and methods, we will better analyze and interpret patterns of change at different levels, and identify the most appropriate R4D interventions to support more inclusive water institutions and governance systems in rapidly-changing global contexts.
- innovate with policy brokers and gender champions to mobilize transformative water investments, innovations and interventions.

 Working with key strategic partners in global knowledge and policy communities, we will champion gender equality and inclusion, influencing both water policy and practice, and legislative processes. This will include catalyzing investment approaches and supporting innovations that deliver more inclusive and water-secure solutions across the whole community of water users.

In taking forward these three pillars, our work will align with the One CGIAR goals, including strengthening and amplifying our impact through championing water, gender equality and inclusion under the CGIAR Generating Evidence and New Directions for Equitable Results (GENDER) Platform⁴. This implies working towards the platform goal to 'achieve a new normal: a world

⁴ CGIAR Gender Platform - https://www.cgiar.org/research/program-platform/cgiar-gender-platform/

in which gender equality drives a transformation towards equitable, sustainable, productive and climate-resilient food systems'.

IWMI will also focus on strengthening the ways in which we work, by further investing in

equality, diversity and inclusion across our own organizational structure, and ensuring that we track and measure our organizational progress, reflecting closely the newly-adopted *Framework* and Action Plan for Gender, Diversity and Inclusion in CGIAR's Workplaces (2020).

A Strategic Reflection

Building on Our Learning

At a global level, there has been important progress in tackling inequalities, but much remains to be done, and there is no longer room for complacency. Over many decades, IWMI's research has demonstrated that focusing on women is both necessary and important, but also insufficient to capture – let alone reverse – deeprooted inequalities in diverse contexts.

Critical reviews of irrigation design, infrastructure, management, access and outcomes in the 1990s revealed the gendered nature of access to, use of and decision-making within irrigation systems and services (van Koppen and Mahmud 1995; Zwarteveen and Neupane 1996; Zwarteveen 1997; Meinzen-Dick and Zwarteveen 1998), as well as the legal pluralities in claiming rights to

water (van Koppen and Mahmud 1995). This work illustrated that, while the technical and financial aspects of service delivery are important, water use, access, management and decision-making are directly impacted by gender-power relations, which are both entrenched, as well as contextual and evolving (Clement 2013; Sugden 2014; Balasubramanya 2019).

Our outputs from this and subsequent periods included important tools and approaches to assess, plan for and ensure gender and inclusion in irrigation – such as the Gender Performance Indicator for Irrigation (van Koppen 2002) and the Gender in Irrigation Learning and Improvement Tool (GILIT) (Lefore et al. 2017). At the same time, our work has helped shine a light on the structurally-embedded nature of inequalities and systemic barriers to change.

Entry barriers



Structural barriers



Systemic harriers

- Unequal assets, capabilities, lack of agency
- Socially-defined roles, identities, responsibilities and opportunities
- Complex inequalities through intersections, including gender and age, class, race, ethnicity, religion, caste, disability, etc.
- Masculinities across institutions (households, community, local to global markets, state and civil society entities)
- Cultures of privilege, hierarchy and exclusion at scale, and lack of tools to assess and act on dimensions of power
- Climate challenges, agroecological specificities and markets that do not consider the needs and realities of the most marginalized
- Knowledge, technology and economies that assume homogeneity, or ignore or further inequalities
- Distance, disconnect, language, skill sets and other exclusion barriers that disable individual and/or collective initiatives to transformative change

Figure 1. Barriers to gender equality and inclusion.

A Strategic Reflection

This increasingly discernible "knot of inequalities" can only be untied when we know where to start, and we know such processes of transformative change will take time. Figure 1 illustrates, conceptually, how these barriers are co-related, and how non-physical and physical system interactions often work to reinforce inequalities, whether deliberately or inadvertently.

Our work in more recent years has highlighted key starting points in effecting change, moving from how inequalities are constructed to exploring how to tackle these structures of inequality across a range of water systems and management processes. Notable examples are described below:

Visibility is key: At a more generic level, our research has contributed to rendering visible what are often invisible gender inequalities in water access, use, ownership and control. This process of 'revealing' can shift water policy discourse from 'management' to 'governance' of water, enabling official and nongovernmental practitioners to achieve more gender-responsive water governance through understanding the impacts of inequality on wider social development. Without visibility, structures of inequality can willingly or inadvertently be allowed to persist. Revealing their presence is a powerful tool in tackling them.

One water, multiple-use water services (MUS): Water is a complex resource, used across multiple domains and with a variety of impacts by social groups. IWMI's research in Sri Lanka first demonstrated the mismatch between interlinked domestic and productive water needs of rural communities and sectorally planned, designed and delivered irrigation systems and services (Bakker et al. 1999). This work helped guide a growing body of researchers, practitioners and policy makers to develop and implement Multiple-use water Services (MUS). Now an established policy intervention and strategy for water resources planning in different countries, MUS has been identified as crucial to addressing interlinked domestic and productive water needs of poor, marginalized rural communities (van Koppen and Hussain 2007; van Koppen et al. 2009; van Koppen and Smits 2010; Renault et al. 2013; van Koppen 2017). Water may come

from a single source, but it is used in multiple daily activities, all of which invariably contribute to income, health, education and other social development outcomes.

Collective action works: A key challenge is how to tackle gender inequalities at scale in situations of widespread poverty and marginality. Research on poverty hot spots in South Asia, including the Eastern Gangetic Plains (EGP) of India and Nepal, shows how multidimensional disparities (often nested within one another) can deeply affect food and water security. How should institutions respond to these competing priorities and complexities? One option has been to build solutions through agricultural collectives of women. In establishing these collectives, farmers can pay closer attention to disparities of caste, ethnicity and religion, and work towards more collective solutions to, for example, accessing technologies and inputs that improve dry-season farming. This can enable key income-generating opportunities in the context of out-migration of men and the wider 'feminization' of agriculture. A systemic body of research on these issues in the EGP has informed the setting up of genderinclusive agricultural collectives (Sugden 2009, 2013; Sugden et al. 2017; Bunting et al. 2016; Leder et al. 2019) and led to the development of the Migration, Agriculture and Resilience: Initiative for Sustainability (MARIS) network, which links water management to migration and rural transformations.

Management and inclusion are reinforcing: In rapidly-evolving social and political contexts in Central Asia in the post-Soviet era, IWMI's work in Tajikistan has demonstrated how the efficiency and functionality of large-scale irrigation depends on gender-equitable management⁵ (Balasubramanya 2019). This has led to irrigation management and agricultural extension that target and support women, and in turn, helped to increase incomes, and improve women's bargaining and negotiating capabilities.

Overcoming resistance: In spite of growing volumes of guidelines and tool kits enabling more effective planning, design, implementation and monitoring of gender-responsive irrigation

⁵ By the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) - Why women are key for water management in Tajikistan (https://farmingfirst.org/2018/07/why-women-are-key-for-water-management-in-tajikistan/).

management and technologies, structures and cultures still serve to resist greater gender equality. On the one hand, IWMI-led research in four countries shows that 'standardized measures' of women's empowerment tend to differ significantly according to complex experiences of food security and agency by women in diverse local contexts (Clement et al. 2019). On the other hand, there are enduring gender biases across the water sector that help the concentration of power in particular groups. The fact that water management organizations in most countries consist largely of men is an outcome of these deep-rooted social inequalities and biases, as well as a key reason why water infrastructure and technology has not enabled more genderequitable 'patterns of water work and divisions of water rights and responsibilities' (Zwarteveen 2008, 111). Our work in this area continues⁶.

Risk mitigation should be gender responsive: As the world becomes potentially more vulnerable to climate change and other risks, genderresponsive and socially-inclusive risk mitigation tools and approaches will become increasingly important to enhance climate-resilient responses, including responses targeting the most marginalized households and communities. This includes scaling up approaches to risk mitigation through measures that are more adaptable and actionable for the private sector, for example, in countries such as Bangladesh that are highly vulnerable to climate risks. In South Asia, climate change exacerbates water, food and growth challenges, affecting approximately 27 million people annually and causing economic losses of over USD 1 billion. IWMI's recent research (Aheeyar et al. 2019) shows how 'risk transfer mechanisms', such as weather index insurance, may reinforce rather than reduce gender inequality (Aheeyar et al. 2019). This work now informs a more systematic approach to address social exclusion in market-based flood insurance by a leading market agency in Bangladesh, Green Delta Insurance Company Limited, which aims to target insurance to marginalized farmers and sharecroppers.

Looking to New Horizons

At present, most development institutions rely on traditional social and economic analyses of gender inequality and exclusion. The strengths of such analyses are evident, but there are also limitations (World Bank 2020). Capturing data on complex water, food and climate processes requires detailed primary research and analysis. In rapidly-evolving situations, this may mean significant time lags between data collection, the generation of research results, and their interpretation and application. An ability to capture, interpret and act upon data on rapidly-evolving mobility, social interaction and economic issues at scale is a growing need.

Context-specific data combined with smarter, more data-rich environments can help us understand new factors impacting development outcomes, including, but not limited to, those presented by the rapidly-evolving digital economy. We need to understand these new knowledge environments to both enable clearer analysis of emerging trends, correlations and patterns of change across larger geographies, as well as to detect and avoid potential researcher and data biases. The latter, in particular, is a high risk factor in furthering exclusions and inequalities (O'Neil 2016). Tools to assess behaviors and attitudes, and thereby ways to drive change at scale can help address the complexities of inequality and exclusion in this new digital age.

For IWMI, in practice, this means we need to work not just on the structures and institutions of inequality that are in a conventional sense 'institutionalized' in organizational rules, norms, laws and procedures, but also on those that are built within 'digital structures' and provide 'new opportunities for making progress', including utilizing these new technologies to unpick structural barriers and biases to gender equality (OECD 2018).

This Strategy will need to combine these new challenge areas with research on existing structural

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⁶ By the CGIAR Research Program on Water, Land and Ecosystems (WLE) - Why we need to discuss masculinity in the water sector (https://wle.cgiar.org/thrive/2018/06/26/why-we-need-discuss-masculinity-water-sector); and Participatory gender training for community groups (https://wle.cgiar.org/solutions/participatory-gender-training-community-groups).

conditions that reproduce inequalities, picking up on research that identifies the need to go beyond specific sectoral interventions alone (Clement et al. 2019), and avoid over-privileging the malefemale binary over other issues of poverty and marginalization. For instance, our research in Nepal shows that inequalities by gender are deeply crosscut by class and caste. This combining of research with structural reform in Nepal is key to achieving the kind of change we seek.

Elsewhere, our work on the legal structures inhibiting reforms in sub-Saharan Africa shows that in Malawi, Kenya, South Africa, Uganda and Zimbabwe, inequalities persist because policy reforms are embedded in colonially-established statutory laws – in short, in regional histories that reach far into the present. Key recommendations include reversing historical wrongs by acknowledging and ensuring traditional, customary rights to water alongside colonially-

established statutory privileges (van Koppen et al. 2019). In short, tackling the challenges of history through better understanding of the present, and changing the future based on this understanding.

Above all, our approaches will need to be heavily invested in partnerships and collaborations, both of which are essential to facilitating transformational change, especially in complex (and contested) social and political contexts. In Myanmar, we are embarking on just such a process. On a new project (2019-2021) supported by the CGIAR Research Program on Water, Land, Ecosystems (WLE), IWMI researchers work with the Gulf of Mottama (GoM) project to provide evidence with which to tackle root causes of gender inequality and exclusion in wetland management. The GoM project is funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and involves a range of local, national and international partners in Myanmar.

A Theory of Change and Program of Action

What We Should Be Doing

Looking broadly at R4D interventions beyond water systems alone and beyond IWMI, we distill our theory of change in Figure 2.



Inputs

- Research staff and funded projects across IWMI's three Strategic Programs and fourth crosscutting program pillar on digital innovations
- Effective communications and innovative partnerships



Actions

- New research outputs bridge knowledge gaps
- Strengthened capacity and organizational change help fix structural and systemic inequalities
- New innovations help catalyze transformation in investments and intervention
- A suite of policy engagements and practical solutions target gender equality and inclusion informing IWMI's Strategic Programs on water and food, climate and growth



Results

- More inclusive food, climate and growth, and digital innovation policies and practices achieved in IWMI's target geographies
- Structural patterns of inequality disrupted and new ways of tracking and evaluating impacts established
- Global partnerships on gender and inclusion tackle water security at scale more coherently and effectively

Figure 2. Theory of change in IWMI's Gender and Inclusion Strategy.

The three pillars of this Strategy to enable achievement of our results are outlined below.

Bridging Knowledge Gaps

We will deliver **robust**, **granular** and **scalar data** to key stakeholders in ways that also offer actionable approaches to tackling systemic barriers to gender inequality and exclusion.

This involves identifying and mapping critical gender and inclusion knowledge gaps through research and engagement with grassroots stakeholders, policy makers and practitioners, and ultimately supporting more collaborative understanding of key data bottlenecks and biases that lead to persistent inequalities.

Data and evidence on gender inequality do not easily translate into solutions for change. One of the biggest challenges in addressing gender inequality is the mismatch between research – which tends to focus on 'how we got here', i.e., how inequality by gender is entrenched, complex and persisting – and the development agenda or 'how to get out of here' (Okali 2012).

What we want to achieve: We want to tackle knowledge gaps and deliver gender data that enable key development partners and stakeholders to shape future water investments, innovations and interventions, including ways of building in smarter monitoring of changes in environments of inequality. The aim is to enable faster feedback on progress and, therefore, greater capacity for adaptive management of change within rapidly-evolving economies and societies, including those with high vulnerability to economic, social and environmental shocks.

Fixing Systems

We will lead by example and facilitate capacity strengthening and organizational change processes, supporting more gender-equal and inclusive institutions.

The business of mainstreaming gender has not resulted in inclusive institutions. There is now an emerging consensus that the route to fixing gender equality is through fixing systems, including institutions (WEF 2020). However, the question remains – how to achieve this? Across the board, official, nongovernmental, private sector and even community water institutions continue to demonstrate structures and cultures of male overrepresentation, unequal hierarchies, masculine norms and disciplinary silos. Gender equality and inclusion trainings, tool kits and, more recently, narratives on economic returns to addressing gender inequality have not enabled sufficient change in the nature of systems.

What we want to achieve: We aim to lead by example and enable IWMI to become a more inclusive workplace and culture – building more systematic gender-based development into all our projects and programs, and establishing more effective monitoring of progress. In our engagements with partners and stakeholders, we will move from 'supply-led' capacity strengthening to more reflexive learning by doing, including the establishment of more inclusive organizational practices and spaces in all our offices. Working outwards through the new CGIAR GENDER platform, we will further engage with key drivers of change to achieve more uniform inclusivity and diversity across CGIAR and its partner institutions.

Catalyzing Transformation

We will innovate with policy brokers and gender champions to mobilize **transformative water investments**, **innovations** and **interventions**.

The analysis that 'inequality keeps widening, but it is nothing new' (WEF 2020) highlights the need to achieve ambitious equality and inclusion goals in the face of diverse challenges, including reductions in development financing. Despite growing global policy attention, sufficient resources to achieve strategic and sustainable gender equality have never been mobilized. In 2014-2015, it was assessed that only 5% of the screened aid of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) members targeted gender equality as a principal objective (ADB and UN Women 2018), even though the material gains in advancing gender equality could amount to USD 12 trillion being added to global gross domestic product (GDP) (Woetzel et al. 2015).

Similarly, investments in water supply and sanitation, smallholder agriculture, and economic growth targeted at marginalized groups, including women, have been historically inappropriate, and declined even further in recent years (Ray 2016; WEF 2020). In such a context, calling on poor and marginalized women to engage in development by contributing cash, time and labor to poorly designed and financed water infrastructure and other services may, perversely, reinforce gender inequalities.

What we want to achieve: For each of our three Strategic Programs, we will engage with key policy drivers and gender champions, and together with them, inform and mobilize transformative investments, innovations and interventions that tackle food, climate and growth challenges and specific issues related to digital innovation.

A first key step is to explore a range of critical questions under IWMI's three Strategic Programs, as outlined in Figure 3.

FOOD Improve Food Security

Water, Food and Ecosystems

- How well do we understand complex, rapidly-evolving and interlinked water, food and ecosystem inequalities? Are current framings of agricultural and irrigation intensification designed to ensure environmental and social sustainability?
- How can interventions for irrigation intensification ensure that those left furthest behind are not excluded?
- How do current trends of out-migration and gender-inequitable access to assets and resources affect production and intensification targets?
- How can gender and inclusion inform nature-based solutions to tackle future water challenges?



CLIMATE
Adapt to & Mitigate
Climate Change

Water, Climate Change and Resilience

- How do climate-induced changes in water availability, quality and access across water sectors affect gender inequalities?
- How do the impacts of climate-induced extreme weather events affect already-existing inequalities and vulnerabilities?
- What methods and approaches will ensure that technical climate solutions do not compromise gender and inclusion objectives?
- What are the key pathways to challenging and reversing gender inequality and exclusion in climate adaptation, mitigation and resilience initiatives?

Water, Growth and Inclusion



- What determines inclusive growth and what types of interventions will achieve efficient resource use taking into account equality and inclusion?
- Can sustainable intensification be a vehicle of economic growth under conditions of lack of land tenure and landlessness, and lack of access to relevant resources, infrastructure and services?
- Do global measures of inclusion and empowerment reflect complex local realities, including the nature of circular economies? If not, what methods, measures and data will help bridge these gaps and support more inclusive planning?

Figure 3. Critical questions under IWMI's three Strategic Programs.

We will build these questions into our programs as we take this Strategy forward.

How We Should Do It: An Action Plan

Our action plan will be the foundation for the three pillars of this Strategy: (i) bridging knowledge gaps, (ii) fixing systems, and (iii) catalyzing transformation. We will build on the work carried out by IWMI's three Strategic Programs, as well as its fourth crosscutting program pillar on digital innovations.

Action on Data Gaps



Based on framings around the core questions under each Strategic Program in Figure 3, we will identify knowledge gaps and data needs, and

map the processes and R4D approaches that can help to bridge these needs and gaps. This will include adopting contemporary tools and approaches, such as the **Individual Deprivation**Measure, to better map scalar, cross-sectoral and multiple dimensions of gender inequality and exclusion (see OECD 2018), and bridge gender theories and approaches with new innovations and tools (see Collett and Dillon 2019).



By 2022, IWMI will seek to have established new transdisciplinary, cross-regional Gender and Inclusion work, which will help shape and define

new water and gender strategies in different policy and practice constituencies in Asia and Africa. This will be supported by Gender Focal Points and an Action Plan on Gender and Inclusion under each IWMI Strategic Program and its crosscutting program pillar on digital innovations. The gender program will build on IWMI's growing partnerships with policy institutions such as the African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW), the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and others.

Strengthening Our Systems Understandings



By 2021, a 'Gender Research at IWMI Tracker' will set in place a Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) system that allows reporting on gender

outcomes and impacts as a crosscutting objective under each IWMI Strategic Program, reporting

to the CGIAR Strategy and Results Framework (2016-2030). Each project entered into IWMI's internal systems will be assigned a Gender and Inclusion code outlining the type of intervention, its duration, geographical location, variety of outputs and the level of partnership involved. IWMI Strategic Programs will assign gender focal points.



By 2023, gender outputs and outcomes from the above initiatives and from other ongoing gender research under IWMI's Strategic Programs will be

reviewed and collated into a new policy-relevant report on 'Transforming Food, Climate and Growth Systems to Achieve Gender Equality and Inclusion'. This will form the basis for a series of meetings convened with partners in the same year.

Working Closely with Others on a Shared Agenda



IWMI will prioritize work with the CGIAR GENDER Platform, including developing specific research activities on systems thinking, and untying gender and

inclusion inequalities. A key early focus will be structural governance systems of transforming water management in federal systems, building on IWMI's work in India, Nepal, Ethiopia and elsewhere.



IWMI will strengthen its alliances with networks working on water, poverty, growth, equity and sustainability, including focusing specifically on the

intersections between water management, water supply and circular economy issues across urban, peri-urban and rural environments. IWMI's timeline for actions to achieve change is outlined in Figure 4.

Strategic cross-IWMI Strategic Program and cross-regional gender project

 Big picture, transdisciplinary program on gender equality and inclusion demonstrates groundbreaking new research, builds gender capacity of stakeholders and enables higher-level policy impact

2020 2022 2023

A gender and inclusion plan of action is produced for each IWMI Strategic Program taking into account thematic and regional priorities

Gender focal points established in each IWMI Strategic Program and its crosscutting program pillar on Digital innovations to help connect regional teams (West Africa, Southern Africa, East Africa, South Asia, Southeast Asia, Central Asia, Middle East and North Africa) on gender and inclusion priorities IWMI's gender and inclusion research contributes strategically to new water policy and R4D interventions tackling gender inequalities

- IWMI organizes and leads a series of international meetings on gender and water
- IWMI's Gender and Inclusion Strategy steers policy directions in food, climate and growth interventions across a range of institutional environments

Figure 4. Timeline of actions to achieve change.

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Glossary

4IR: Fourth Industrial Revolution

Citizen science: the practice of public participation and collaboration in scientific research to increase scientific knowledge

Disparity: a lack of equality or similarity, especially in a way that is not fair

Equality: every individual has an equal opportunity to make the most of their lives and talents, with a focus on 'sameness' in outcomes

Equity: based on the idea of moral equality, and the principle that people should be treated as equals, with a focus on processes and the fairness of distribution

Gender responsive: the particular needs, priorities and realities of men and women are recognized and adequately addressed in design and application, so that both men and women can equally benefit

Inclusion: the process of improving the ability, opportunity and dignity of those disadvantaged to take part in society

Individual deprivation measure: a new, gender-sensitive and multidimensional measure of poverty. It has been developed to assess deprivation at the individual level and overcome the limitations of current approaches which measure poverty at the household level

Intersectionality/intersectional: the interconnected nature of social categorizations such as race, class and gender as they apply to a given individual or group, regarded as creating overlapping and interdependent systems of discrimination or disadvantage

Masculinity: the social roles, behaviors and meanings prescribed for men

R4D: Research for Development

Transdisciplinary: a research strategy that crosses many disciplinary boundaries to create a holistic approach

Gender transformative approach: a way to address the foundations of gender inequity and unequal power relations, with a focus on transforming gender relations to be more equitable



The International Water Management Institute (IWMI) is an international, research-for-development organization that works with governments, civil society and the private sector to solve water problems in developing countries and scale up solutions. Through partnership, IWMI combines research on the sustainable use of water and land resources, knowledge services and products with capacity strengthening, dialogue and policy analysis to support implementation of water management solutions for agriculture, ecosystems, climate change and inclusive economic growth. Headquartered in Colombo, Sri Lanka, IWMI is a CGIAR Research Center and leads the CGIAR Research Program on Water, Land and Ecosystems (WLE). www.iwmi.org



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