CGIAR Gender and Breeding Initiative

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What do we want to achieve?

Contribute to the development of varieties, strains and breeds that respond to the different needs and challenges of resource poor men and women and increase the adoption of breeding products that contribute to poverty reduction and improved equity.
Who we are?

• **Diversity and experience of highly specialized people:** 11 CGIAR Centers working on different breeding and gender initiatives across regions and crops

• **Horizontal structure:** topics are prioritized by the community of practice

• **Neutral broker:** promote changes without conflicts of interest

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Creation of new vigorous hybrid ideas

Social Scientists

41 People

Breeders

Gender Experts
Why GBI?

Gender experts lack knowledge of breeding and breeders lack gender expertise.

Despite good intentions since the 1980s, putting the two together productively hasn’t happened.

In 2 years, GBI demonstrates that an active forum for co-development by breeders and social scientists can make practical progress.

Supported by GBI’s methods, tools and practices, GBI members are integrating gender into a wide array of breeding initiatives.
Poverty reduction and improved equity

Greater adoption of improved varieties reduces poverty

Well targeted product profiles consider gender

Overlooking traits important to women

Aggravate household food insecurity and poverty

What GBI is working on
How do we address the topic in practice? (The Decision Checklist)

New Tools: G+ Customer Profile  G+ Product Profile
**G+ Product Profile**: assign concrete weights to gender-related constraints and trait preferences in a target customer segment, so these can be considered in trait prioritization.
### Template Scoring Matrix for “Do No Harm”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Part one: “Gender Gap”</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Lacks information</th>
<th>Commentary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Increases drudgery</td>
<td>-2</td>
<td>-1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Displaces women’s activities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Depends on input with unequal access</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Decreases control of benefits</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part two: Trait preferences</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>Blank</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>!!!</th>
<th>Commentary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5   Do women in the target customer segment value the trait NEGATIVELY?</td>
<td>Majority</td>
<td>Blank</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>!!!</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6   Do men in the target customer segment value the trait positively (opinion conflicts with that of women)?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Future direction

1. Evidence
2. Advocacy
3. Complete G+ Toolkit
4. Capacity Strengthening
Change in the making

- **Social Scientists** generate robust evidence on how gender influences trait preferences and document changes in gender equity.

- **Communication specialists**: develop advocacy strategy with “pain points” to influence donors and ensure attention to gender in breeding programs.

- **Breeding programs** adopt G+ tools: give social scientists equal voice in decision making and accountability.

- **Seed systems** adopt G+ tools: target dissemination efforts to ensure equitable access by women and men to new varieties.

- **Universities** adopt gender training curricula in ag programs.
Join us – find out more!

www.rtb.cgiar.org/gender-breeding-initiative
Roundtable
How can gender integration in plant breeding adapt knowledge and approaches from other disciplines?
How can we make priority setting for breeding programs gender responsive?

How can we link “big data” and “little data” to develop customer segments?
What is lost opportunity of limited # of traits being prioritized in selection?