



# Resilience through agricultural water management: GENDER MATTERS



## Context

Most studies in gender and irrigation are focused on communal level. Little is done **at household level** despite expansion of individual pumps.

Understanding the intra-household gender dynamics of uses and benefits of adopting the technologies is key to achieving equitable access to water as well as resilience.

Table 1: Summary of the opportunities and challenges related to each of the water lifting technologies respectively towards the control. ++, + and - represent a high, medium and low effect (modified after Schmitter et al., 2016).

	Labour saving	Yield	Water productivity	Profit	Multi-purpose use
Control	0	0	0	0	0
Rope and washer	0	0	0/+	-/0	+
Solar	++	+	-/0/+	++	++
Motorized pump & drip	-/+	++	++	-/+	-



CGIAR research on gender in irrigation is changing investments and improving access, resilience and productivity in Ethiopia and around the globe

## Outcomes:

Resulted in change to next phase of Ethiopia project design:

- technology type, crop type, location of technology
- access and control over resources and income

## Global gender/irrigation outcomes:

USAID Tajikistan investment changed based on IWMI/WLE evaluation. GILIT/REACH tools used to improve schemes in India, Cambodia, Bangladesh

## Based on findings:

Tech has benefits but women and men not always equal **understand women's constraints**

Priorities differ women prefer tech that saves labor, multiple purpose/seasons, near home, garden suitable (e.g. solar pumps); **match technology trade-offs and aims**

Women lack equal access to finance: **microfinance can increase ssi adoption**

## Future steps

### Improving irrigation through evidence on:

- How working with women's groups create a more equitable approach to small scale irrigation development.
- If 'citizen science' is feasible and effective approach for improving women's 'voice' in small-scale irrigation (outside of schemes).
- If trainings on gender equality (e.g. shared decision-making) have a positive impact on access to and benefits from small scale irrigation investments to support goals on equitable access to water and resilience?

## Contact

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