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.

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?

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