



Welcome

Welcome to the second day of the CIAT–PRGA Program workshop on Repositioning Gender-Responsive Participatory Research in Times of Change. We trust that you enjoyed last night’s entertainment and had a refreshing night’s rest.

With the absence of our keynote speaker yesterday, the agenda had to be modified, but we hope to be able to hear from him this morning. It seemed that everybody got thoroughly involved and excited during yesterday’s sessions, especially the last one on the key issues.

As discussed yesterday, the focus is on generating a strategy for gender-responsive participatory research to guide the CGIAR (and others) over the coming years. To that end, we have gathered a few of yesterday’s comments around three of the important questions that the strategy will address—see over.

One issue that raised its head early on was the confusion caused by the use of the abbreviation ‘PRGA.’ It was suggested that this should be avoided as much as possible, and then reserved strictly for the name of the Program (formerly Systemwide, now CIAT).

Best wishes to all for another successful day of discussion, and don’t forget the Piano Bar will be open this evening.

Revised outline agenda

Day 2 – Today (Thursday), June 17, 2010

- Keynote
- Key issues – reporting back to plenary
- Mega-Programs
- Strategic reflection
- Marketplace

Day 3 – Friday, June 18, 2010

- Open space (parallel sessions)
- Presentation and discussion of draft strategy
- Follow-up steps
- Evaluation
- Closing dinner (in Cali)



Strategy and Work Plan Outline (Some feedback from Day 1)

What is the rationale for doing gender-responsive participatory research?

- Participation allows farmers and scientists to learn from each other, identify solutions that are relevant and get each other's perspectives
- Gender-responsive research still critical—we are still dealing with issues of exclusion—they have not gone away and are getting worse, e.g. due to REDD, and other emerging problems, e.g. land grabs for biofuels
- Women have detailed knowledge of natural resources and are conscious of value of biodiversity
- Women play a key role in food production and nutrition improvement
- Participatory research contributes to understanding and influencing behavior change
- 'Participatory' is to hear the voice of the excluded and to generate benefits for them—thus, issues of gender and gender roles
- Scientists have to make changes as drastic as those farmers are making

What is our future vision for gender-responsive participatory research (CG, NARS, NGOs, academia)?

— *pending input*

What are our strategic options (in- and outside of the CG)?

— *pending input*

What have we learned over the past 12 years (opportunities, constraints)?

- Varying vulnerabilities; degrees of

vulnerability (intersectionality—accumulated vulnerabilities); dynamic vulnerabilities

- System governance is important—rules and norms regulating/constraining how things work
- Communities are heterogeneous
- Climate change and participatory research cannot be separated
- Accelerating changes in climate increase vulnerability, which requires increased capacity to respond
- Need to learn from traditional knowledge
- Multiple options required
- Demand for scientist roles in advocacy—capacity to work with (local) social organizations
- Scientists need to combine traditional/indigenous and 'formal' scientific worlds
- Much local innovation in many places

Pathways for success: Who, what to do, with whom, when and where?

- Pooling of expertise from different parts of the world to develop capacity-building
- Political will: Partnership between the CGIAR and local governments. Within the CGIAR itself, how do we deal with it? Policy framework in gender, strategic plan that has gender component and gender budgeting. Budget is important because without budget you cannot conduct the activities
- The practical reality of participation—need to tune in on community-level dynamics in order to improve quality of research; more realistic interventions
- Need to enhance capacity at local level to make choices