

# UNCCD and the issue of gender

## (biblio list of references)

### **UNCCD publications**

- 1) 2018, Gender Action Plan <<http://library.unccd.int/Details/fullCatalogue/993>>
- 2) 2017, Turning the tide: The gender factor in achieving the Land Degradation Neutrality <http://library.unccd.int/Details/fullCatalogue/815>
- 3) 2018, Towards a Gender-Responsive Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification <<http://www.unwomen.org/-/media/headquarters/attachments/sections/library/publications/2018/towards-a-gender-responsive-implementation-of-un-convention-to-combat-desertification-en.pdf?la=en&vs=3803>>
- 4) 2013, UNCCD Advocacy policy framework on gender <<http://www.unccd.int/Lists/SiteDocumentLibrary/Publications/gender%20flyer%20web.pdf>>
- 5) 2013, UNCCD Thematic factsheet series: Gender and desertification No.4 <<http://www.unccd.int/Lists/SiteDocumentLibrary/Publications/Desertificationandgender.pdf>>
- 6) 2013, UNCCD Advocacy Policy Framework on Gender <<http://www.unccd.int/Lists/SiteDocumentLibrary/Publications/gender%20flyer%20web.pdf>>
- 7) 2013, GENDER DAY - DRYLANDS WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT / Wednesday, 25 September 2013/COP 11 flyer <[http://www.unccd.int/Lists/SiteDocumentLibrary/COP/COP\\_11/Gender\\_Day/Flyer\\_Gender.pdf](http://www.unccd.int/Lists/SiteDocumentLibrary/COP/COP_11/Gender_Day/Flyer_Gender.pdf)>
- 8) 2011, UNCCD Official Documents/ ICCD/CRIC(10)/20/ Draft advocacy policy framework on gender

English version < <http://www.unccd.int/Lists/OfficialDocuments/cric10/20eng.pdf>>

Other language versions: <[http://www.unccd.int/en/about-the-convention/official-documents/Pages/SymbolDetail.aspx?k=ICCD/CRIC\(10\)/20&ctx=CRIC\(10\)](http://www.unccd.int/en/about-the-convention/official-documents/Pages/SymbolDetail.aspx?k=ICCD/CRIC(10)/20&ctx=CRIC(10))>

- 9) 2007, Women pastoralists: Preserving traditional knowledge, facing modern challenges

English

<<http://www.unccd.int/Lists/SiteDocumentLibrary/Publications/Pastoralist%20Women%20eng.pdf>>

French:

<<http://www.unccd.int/Lists/SiteDocumentLibrary/Publications/Pastoralist%20Women%20fre.pdf>>

- 10) 2006, Women of the earth- Nurturing the future

<<http://www.unccd.int/Lists/SiteDocumentLibrary/Publications/women-booklet-eng.pdf>>

- 11) Opinions ( [https://www.unccd.int/news-events?f\[0\]=news\\_type:messages](https://www.unccd.int/news-events?f[0]=news_type:messages))  
Smart tech will only work for women when the fundamentals for its uptake are in place. Opinion by **Ibrahim Thiaw** *Under-Secretary General of the United Nations and Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification*. (IPS <http://www.ipsnews.net/2019/03/smart-tech-will-work-women-fundamentals-uptake-place/>)

### **Publications with other agencies**

- 1) 2012, A gender policy framework for UNCCD (IUCN) <[http://www.gender-climate.org/Content/Docs/Publications/20\\_iucn\\_genderpolicyframeworkforunccd.pdf](http://www.gender-climate.org/Content/Docs/Publications/20_iucn_genderpolicyframeworkforunccd.pdf)>
- 2) 2012, The Rio Conventions: Action on gender  
<[http://www.unccd.int/Lists/SiteDocumentLibrary/Publications/rio\\_20\\_gender\\_brochure.pdf](http://www.unccd.int/Lists/SiteDocumentLibrary/Publications/rio_20_gender_brochure.pdf)>
- 3) 2010, Gender and desertification: Expanding roles for women to restore dryland areas (IFAD) <[http://www.ifad.org/pub/gender/desert/gender\\_desert.pdf](http://www.ifad.org/pub/gender/desert/gender_desert.pdf)>
- 4) 2010, Gender and Desertification: Making ends meet in drylands (IFAD)  
<[http://www.ifad.org/pub/gender/desert/gender\\_desert\\_leaf.pdf](http://www.ifad.org/pub/gender/desert/gender_desert_leaf.pdf)>

!!!!!!! More publications you will find in [our online catalogue](#)

### **From UNCCD webpage /section on Gender**

- 1) UNCCD mandate on gender <<http://www.unccd.int/en/programmes/Thematic-Priorities/gender/Pages/UNCCDMandateOnGender.aspx>>
- 2) Harmonizing gender in the three Rio Conventions

<<http://www.unccd.int/en/programmes/Thematic-Priorities/gender/Pages/harmonizing-gender.aspx>>

- 3) Women's unequal access to productive assets exacerbates land degradation

<<http://www.unccd.int/en/programmes/Thematic-Priorities/gender/Pages/Access-to-productive-assets.aspx>>

- 4) Cultural breakdown overburdens women

<<http://www.unccd.int/en/programmes/Thematic-Priorities/gender/Pages/cultural-breakdown.aspx>>

- 5) Mainstreaming gender in drylands

<<http://www.unccd.int/en/programmes/Thematic-Priorities/gender/Pages/mainstreaming-gender.aspx>>

**More results** on gender and land, gender analysis, gender and climate etc, please have a look at our [Library online catalogue](#) and [our Library Highlights](#) or [Knowledge hub section](#).

## **From the library historical archives**

UNDP - UNSO Office to Combat Desertification and Drought/ October 1997,

- 1) Guidelines for conducting a working session to introduce the concept of gender. Strengthening the role of women in the implementation of the convention to combat desertification/UNDP -UNSO Office to Combat Desertification and Drought/Tuboly, Edit and Penny, Robert
- 2) Strategy document October 1997
- 3) Plan of Action for Year 1/ Strengthening the role of women in the implementation of the convention to combat desertification. Linkages between local level activities and the National, Sub regional, Regional levels of implementation of the CCD
- 4) A gender analysis of decision-making in the global bodies of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification/ **Wagaki Mwangi** / Econews /Nairobi (Some thoughts on the role of women in the decision-making processes of the global bodies of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification.

## **MORE:**

- 1) The **latest statistics on land and gender** you may wish to use from here( Making sense of land, statistics and gender)

<http://www.fao.org/3/a-bc244e.pdf>

[http://www.fao.org/gender-landrights-database/data-map/statistics/en/?sta\\_id=1168](http://www.fao.org/gender-landrights-database/data-map/statistics/en/?sta_id=1168)

*For instance, in Zimbabwe, 36% of all women and 36% of all men own land either solely or jointly with another family member. However, only 11% of women compared to 22% of men are sole landowners suggesting that when women own land they are more likely to share the ownership rights with another family member rather than being the sole holders of those rights.*

<http://www.fao.org/3/a-i5488e.pdf>

<http://www.fao.org/3/a-i4862e.pdf>

## **2) Gender Inequalities in Ownership and Control of Land in Africa: Myths versus Reality ( IFPRI)**

It is clear that statements such as “less than 2 percent of the world’s land is owned by women” or “women own approximately 15 percent of agricultural landholdings in Africa” are gross oversimplifications and are not substantiated by any of the available data. Yet, across countries, the pattern that women own less land than men, regardless of how ownership is conceptualized, is remarkably consistent. Further, in many cases, the gender gaps are quite large.

The various analyses presented in this paper provide new insights into the gendered patterns of landownership. Our best estimates from a review of 16 large-scale microstudies indicate that women are 29 disadvantaged relative to men in nearly all measures of landownership and bundles of rights; however, the gender gap varies widely. These statistics are typically more equitable for management indicators, or for land with use or access rights only; they are less equitable for indicators based on reported or documented ownership. An eight-country analysis from the FAO’s Gender and Land

Rights Database shows that women account for an average of 24 percent of agricultural landholders (although this ranges from 3.1 percent in Mali to 50.5 percent in Cape Verde). Data from 10 DHS surveys show that as a country-level average, 39 percent of women own land individually, and 12 percent of women own land jointly, in contrast to 48 and 31 percent of men, respectively. Analysis of LSMS-ISA from six countries shows that of the total land area owned or accessed by households, women solely own (documented and undocumented) a high of 31 percent in Malawi, followed by Uganda (16 percent), Tanzania (15 percent), Niger (8 percent), and Nigeria (less than 1 percent). Comparatively, men solely own, on average, 99 times as much land area as women in Nigeria, and between 1.1 to 6.9 times as much land area as land solely owned by women in the other countries. These findings, as well as the analysis process, point to the following conclusions and recommendations for improving research and policy on women's landownership in Africa

Source: Gender Inequalities in Ownership and Control of Land in Africa: Myths versus Reality ( IFPRI)  
<http://ebrary.ifpri.org/utils/getfile/collection/p15738coll2/id/127957/filename/128168.pdf>

### **3) Top 10 reads on gender and land tenure**

#### *What are we actually talking about when we refer to women's land rights?*

In the lead up to the Global Landscapes Forum event, [This land is our land: Perspectives on land access and restoration](#), Thrive asked the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) to share ten essential articles for gaining an understanding of the key issues in gender and land tenure.

### **4) 70% of world's hungry are women, says UN expert on right to food**

GENEVA (8 March 2016) – “Women account for 70 per cent of the world's hungry, and are disproportionately affected by malnutrition, yet they are responsible for more than half of global food production,” said the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the right to food, Hilal Elver.

“Faced with discrimination on multiple levels, women's right to access food is affected at all stages of life. Indeed women in many countries receive less food than their male partners, as a result of their lower social status,” said Ms. Elver launching her latest report\* to the UN Human Rights Council. “Social segregation based on gender, when combined with other forms of discrimination grounded on religion, race, ethnicity, class and caste, disadvantage women even further,” added the expert.

“Despite their critical contribution to world food and agricultural production, women face difficulties in maintaining household incomes due to increased competition with imported agricultural goods, reduced prices, and declining commodity prices in international market, as well as in engaging in market activities when cultural norms make it socially unacceptable for them to interact with men. Migrant women workers with precarious immigration status and indigenous women are particularly vulnerable,” said the Special Rapporteur.

“Closing the gender gap in agriculture requires the development of gender-sensitive policies. Ensuring land rights, reinforcing the rights of girls and women to education and

social protection and increasing women's participation in decision-making in a meaningful manner are critical", stressed the independent expert.

Page 4. ( from the report)

6. *Although women produce and provide food they are often the last ones to access food for themselves. Women tend to remain invisible in decision-making processes and women are rarely an individual rights-holders, rather than a community members, mothers, farmers or care givers. Indeed, gender gaps are observed in access to all productive resources, such as land, seeds, fertilizers, pest control measures and mechanical tools, credit and extension services. According to the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO), "...inequalities between men and women in their access to productive resources, services and opportunities are one of the causes of underperformance in the agriculture sector, and contribute to deficiencies in food and nutrition security, economic growth and overall development."*<sup>7</sup>

7. *Improving this situation for women would lead to important advantages for society as a whole. It is estimated that closing the gender gap in agricultural yields would increase agricultural output in developing countries by between 2.5 and 4 percent. This in turn, could reduce the number of undernourished people in the world in the order of 12–17 percent, or as much as 150 million people.*

(\*) Check the Special Rapporteur's full report: <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/G15/293/26/PDF/G1529326.pdf?OpenElement>

See more at:

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=17169&LangID=E#sthash.tj6Bw8It.dpuf>

## **5) Gender and Access to Land (some successful projects and examples)**

<https://www.giz.de/expertise/downloads/3. Gender and Access to Land.pdf>

- 6) Women and land management ( infographic WOCAN)  
<http://www.wocan.org/news/infographic-women-land-management-developed-wocan-recoftc>

Women continue to be disadvantaged of their insecure access to and limited property rights over forests, trees and land: ONLY 10,7% of women in Asia own land on average.

- 7) Quick Guide to What and How: increasing women's access to land (Sida)  
<https://www.oecd.org/dac/gender-development/47566053.pdf>

- 8) Turkey's plan to help farmers adapt to climate change? Ask a tablet.  
At a time when technology is becoming critical to manage the growing threats of desertification, land degradation and drought. In Turkey, for instance, farmers can get information on when to plant in real time, using an application installed on a mobile phone.  
<https://www.reuters.com/article/turkey-climatechange-technology/turkeys-plan-to-help-farmers-adapt-to-climate-change-ask-a-tablet-idUSL8N12P08R20151026>

- 9) Theis, Sophie et al. (2018): What happens after technology adoption? Gendered aspects of small-scale irrigation technologies in Ethiopia, Ghana and Tanzania. Agricultural and Human Values, <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10460-018-9862-8>
- 10) Ashby, Jacqueline et al ( n.d.) Investing in Women as Drivers of Agricultural Growth, p.3, [http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTARD/Resources/webexecutivesummaryARD\\_GiA\\_InvstInWomen\\_8Pg\\_web.pdf](http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTARD/Resources/webexecutivesummaryARD_GiA_InvstInWomen_8Pg_web.pdf)
- 11) FAO/IFPRI (2014): Gender specific approaches, rural institutions, and technological innovations, p. 13 et seq, p. 41.
- 12) Huyer, Sophia, 2016: Closing the Gender Gap in Agriculture, Gender, Technology and Development 20(2) 105–116, p. 108.
- 13) Huyer, Sophia, 2016: Closing the Gender Gap in Agriculture, Gender, Technology and Development 20(2) 105–116, p. 108.
- 14) Chapoto, Antony et al. (2011): Widows' Land Security in the Era of HIV/AIDS: Panel Survey Evidence from Zambia," Economic Development and Cultural Change 59, no. 3 511-547, <https://www.journals.uchicago.edu/doi/pdfplus/10.1086/658346>
- 15) Coughenour Betancourt Amy (2018): The Green Revolution reboot: Women's land rights, <https://www.devex.com/news/opinion-the-green-revolution-reboot-women-s-land-rights-93003>
- 16) UN WOMEN, Facts & Figures, <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/in-focus/commission-on-the-status-of-women-2012/facts-and-figures>.
- 17) Ali, D.A. et al (2011): Environmental and Gender Impacts of Land Tenure Regularization in Africa: Pilot Evidence from Rwanda. 28 pp. Sanjak, Jolyne (2018): Women's Land Rights Can Help Grow Food Security, <https://www.landesa.org/womens-land-rights-can-help-grow-food-security-blog/>.
- 18) FAO (2011): Closing the gender gap in agriculture, <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/52011/icode/>

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