IMMINENT MEGATRENDS AFFECTING CGIAR GENDER EQUALITY, YOUTH, AND SOCIAL INCLUSION

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Since the launch of CGIAR’s 2030 Research and Innovation Strategy in 2021, the world has experienced an increasing array and level of global shocks.

- What megatrend dynamics have changed since the CGIAR Strategy was prepared?
- How and if these megatrends affect the CGIAR Strategy and associated collective global targets?

→ Focus on Gender Equality, Youth, and Social Inclusion
Rapidly Changing Global Landscape

COVID-19 pandemic

War in Ukraine

New knowledge

Science, Technology, and Innovation

+ Reflect on the last few weeks...
Nine key megatrends affect CGIAR research and innovation portfolio
Nine interconnected anthropogenic Megatrends
Selected illustrations on the disproportionate impact of the confluence of these megatrends on women and youth

Demographic trends
- Population growth, population aging, migration, and urbanization, employment options

Changing consumption patterns
- Food price index increased by 50%, dietary transition, diet related disease

Market concentration in the ag sector
- Increased concentration input and processing, scale of production

Climate change
- Exceeded 1.5 deg C increase much sooner than expected

Environmental degradation
- Increasing natural resource scarcity, land degradation, and biodiversity loss

Shifting global health challenges
- Global poverty increased due to COVID, some related to consumption changes

Geopolitical instability
- 70% of food-insecure live in conflict zones

Inequalities
- Largest rise in income inequality in 3 decades

Technology and innovation
- 50% gender gap in digital tech
To support System Council’s deliberations on the 2025–2027 portfolio, we asked:

✓ what megatrend dynamics have changed since the CGIAR Strategy was prepared (2019–21)?

✓ how and if these megatrends affect the CGIAR Strategy through its Five Impact Areas and associated collective global targets?

→ Here we focus on the CGIAR Gender Equality, Youth, and Social Inclusion Impact Area, and associated two collective global targets:
  (i) Close the gender gap
  (ii) Offer rewarding opportunities for youth

Literature review

→ How do the 9 identified megatrends create research and innovation opportunities targeting Gender, Youth and Social Inclusion?
Gender Equality, Youth, and Social Inclusion Impact Area

- Globally, **36 percent of working women** are employed by agrifood systems.
- Women account for 43 percent of the total agrifood system labor force in low- and middle-income countries.
  - **Working conditions** for men and women, and **returns** for their participation, are often not equal.
- More than 1 billion of the world’s 1.2 billion youth (age 15 to 24 years) live in low- and middle-income countries.
  - Many youth face **limited employment opportunities** and **substandard working conditions**.
- CGIAR recognizes that achieving **more resilient, equitable, and sustainable agrifood systems** requires gender equality, youth empowerment, and socioeconomic inclusion.
  - CGIAR committed to** closing the gender gap and enhancing opportunities** for youth in food, land, and water systems.
### Emerging implications

- **multidimensional and addressing portfolio processes, components, and gaps**

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| **1** | Call for more in-depth and continuous **megatrend analyses** (through a user-friendly megatrend framework that incorporates **foresight and trade-off analyses**)
| **2** | Address the absence of CGIAR’s **global collective target(s) on social inclusion** (the third element of this Impact Area)
| **3** | Improve **in-depth contextual understanding** of agrifood systems as a component of broader, multifunctional, and diverse landscapes (focus on vulnerable groups)
| **4** | Investigate the **drivers of deep-rooted and widespread inequalities** (removing barriers that prevent women/youth from taking up interventions)
| **5** | **Engage youth** in the design, development, implementation of work packages that specifically target the key challenges they are facing within agrifood systems
| **6** | Scale up **technologies and innovations** (especially in regions with fastest growing youth population)
| **7** | Ensure that CGIAR and partners possess adequate capacities and resources to integrate **digital AR4D**
Next steps

Discuss findings and emerging implications with stakeholders (SC19, 2023 Science Forum)

Release a report addressing the five CGIAR Impact Areas (expected by Q4 2023)

Diffuse the recommendations for the CGIAR portfolio (process & content) to targeted stakeholders

Incorporate the implications into tools and rubrics used in ISDC moderated proposal reviews
Thank you