

## **Research Plan for Integrating Gender and Social Equity into SI-MFS Initiative Sites**

Katherine Snyder

Author affiliation — Stockholm Environment Institute

Published by — International Institute of Tropical Agriculture

December, 2023

The [Sustainable Intensification of Mixed Farming Systems Initiative](#) aims to provide equitable, transformative pathways for improved livelihoods of actors in mixed farming systems through sustainable intensification within target agroecologies and socio-economic settings.

Through action research and development partnerships, the Initiative will improve smallholder farmers' resilience to weather-induced shocks, provide a more stable income and significant benefits in welfare, and enhance social justice and inclusion for 13 million people by 2030.

Activities will be implemented in six focus countries globally representing diverse mixed farming systems as follows: Ghana (cereal–root crop mixed), Ethiopia (highland mixed), Malawi: (maize mixed), Bangladesh (rice mixed), Nepal (highland mixed), and Lao People's Democratic Republic (upland intensive mixed/ highland extensive mixed).

© 2023



This publication is licensed for use under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International Licence - <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0>.

Unless otherwise noted, you are free to share (copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format), adapt (remix, transform, and build upon the material) for any purpose, even commercially, under the following conditions:

 **ATTRIBUTION.** The work must be attributed, but not in any way that suggests endorsement by the publisher or the author(s).

# Contents

<b>Abbreviations and acronyms.....</b>	<b>iv</b>
<b>Build upon the SIAF conceptual framework.....</b>	<b>1</b>

## Abbreviations and acronyms

<b>CGIAR</b>	Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research
<b>FGD</b>	Focus Group Discussion
<b>IITA</b>	International Institute of Tropical Agriculture
<b>SAI</b>	Sustainable Agriculture Interventions
<b>SIAF</b>	Sustainable Intensification Assessment Framework
<b>SI-MFS</b>	Sustainable Intensification of Mixed Farming Systems Initiative
<b>WP</b>	Work Package

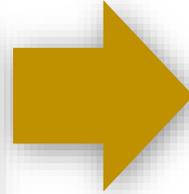
## **Build upon the SIAF conceptual framework**

- Qualitative and participatory research plan
  - Interviews and focus groups with farmers participating in the SI interventions in each country.
  - Participatory tool on farmer decision-making to understand advantages, disadvantages, and costs and benefits of interventions on men, women, youth and other social categories (tool tailored to each country context and designed after interviews and FGDs).
- Quantification through survey of men and women in households

# Sustainable Intensification Assessment Framework: Social as Cross-cutting

Productivity	Economic	Environmental	Human
Who pays the cost of improved productivity and what are those costs?	What are the economic investments of the SAI intervention and who pays for them?	How do the environmental impacts of SAI affect women and men differently?	What are the nutritional or health benefits of SAI and who experiences those benefits?
Who benefits from increased productivity and how	Who benefits financially from SAI?		Does SAI lead to greater food security and who benefits from that security?
	Who provides the labor for SAI?		
<b>SOCIAL</b>	Gender	Age	Poor, etc. →

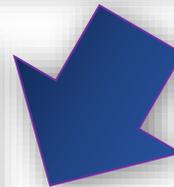
Step 1: Rapid assessment of social and economic context of the farming sites and households. Obtain a picture of gender relations and social differentiation.



Step 2: Qualitative and participatory research that aims at contributing to the SIAF conceptual framework to assess implications of any intervention for women, youth, men and other social categories.



Step 3: Analysis, and write-up.



## Step 2: Qualitative, quantitative and participatory research

- Interviews with men and women members of initiative targeted households

What are the biophysical and socioeconomic opportunities and constraints to specific sustainable intensification interventions for women, men, youth and marginal community members.

*What constrains, discourages or disempowers different farmers from investing in SAI practices?*

- FGD
- Hhold q'aires
- Historical trends in farm production
- Participatory method of farmer(m&f) decision-making and trade-offs.

What are the main factors shaping women's and men's decisions about trying new agricultural practices

- Social
- Economic
- Institutional
- Biophysical (farm)

*What are the key factors that need to be addressed to result in more equitable SAI interventions?*

- Participatory decision-making exercise
- FGD



[cgiar.org/initiative/mixed-farming-systems](http://cgiar.org/initiative/mixed-farming-systems)

