

AGROECOLOGY & GENDER EQUALITY

SNAPSHOT



- Women make up 43% of the global agricultural labor force (FAO)
- Globally, less than 15% of all landholders are women (FAO)
- Only 2% of the organizations governing the food systems in low and middle countries are led by women (UN Women)
- 1 in 4 women and girls are expected to be moderately or severely food insecure by 2030 ([UN Women](#))

Integrating a **gender-transformative approach** in policies to promote agroecology can increase **equality between women and men** and realize the full potential of women to achieve **food security**, **overcome rural poverty**, and **combat biodiversity loss** - [FAO](#)



AGROECOLOGY BENEFITS FOR GENDER EQUALITY



Women have better access to seed varieties and organic fertilizers which has been found to support better **BIODIVERSITY** conservation.



By having access to nutritious ingredients, women, who often are care-takers and food-preparers, improve dietary diversity, **NUTRITION**, and overall well-being for all, while preserving culinary traditions.



By refraining from using synthetic pesticides and fertilizers, **agroecology** protects women's **HEALTH**, in particular **reproductive** health (e.g. no endocrine disruptors).

Valuing the rights of women as **LAND** owners can contribute to a more effective and equitable **GOVERNANCE**.



By processing food, developing entrepreneurship activities and participating to local agroecological **MARKETS**, women benefit from **FINANCIAL GAINS** and independence.

Agroecology recognizes women as farmers in their own right (not only as helpers) and encourages their valuable and legitimate contribution and **KNOWLEDGE** in farmer-to-farmer exchanges on equal footing.

Agroecology fosters women's **PARTICIPATION** in decision-making.

