



Opportunity for undertaking a PhD study: Gender inclusion in climate change adaptation policies and implications for adoption of climate smart agricultural practices in Uganda and Tanzania

Rationale

Studies have shown that successful climate change adaptation needs a supportive policy environment. Public policies are instrumental in raising awareness, building adequate capacities and helping to activate capacities for action, resolving conflicts of interest, reducing external effects that are triggered or reinforced by climate change, and ensuring that public infrastructure withstands future climate impacts. However, it is also widely acknowledged that policies which do not clearly consider gender issues tend to have unintended negative consequences for women and other marginalized groups. Regarding adoption of climate smart technologies and practices, and impacts on food security, the need for gender inclusion and supportive mechanisms becomes apparent. Therefore, this study will evaluate the current status of gender in climate change related policies in Uganda and Tanzania and provide recommendations for how to include gender in climate change adaptation strategies

Objectives of this study

The CGIAR research program on climate change agriculture and food security (CCAFS) has funded an IITA-led project “Influencing and linking policies and institutions from national to local level for the development and adoption of climate-resilient food systems”. The project is jointly implemented by a consortium of CGIAR centres (IITA, CIAT, ICRAF, Bioversity, and ILRI) in partnership with NARO, Makerere University, government ministries/departments, national climate change units, civil society organizations and other private sector agencies in Uganda and Tanzania.

The overall objective of the study is to assess to what extent gender aspects have been included in climate change related policies, to identify gaps, and to determine how eventual gender gaps impact on climate change adaptation. One major outcome of this study is to generate actionable recommendations that can be implemented by policy actors to enable gender responsive climate change adaptation in Uganda and Tanzania. Specific objectives of the study will include (i) to review the state of gender sensitivity and inclusion in current policies in Uganda and Tanzania, (ii) to analyze how gender affects the adoption of climate smart agriculture practices and impacts on food security, specifically for Uganda and Tanzania, (iii) to identify whether and how policies address gender-related vulnerabilities and capacities to deal with the impact of current and future climate change in Uganda and Tanzania, (iv) to develop, and share with relevant actors, recommendations for improved gender sensitivity and inclusion in selected national policies or implementation strategies.

The key tools/skills the student will therefore develop and use include: literature and policy document reviews; interviews and survey techniques across scales; quantitative and qualitative analysis of primary data collected; writing of research publications.

Role and duration

We are looking for a well-qualified and highly motivated individual to undertake his/her PhD studies enrolled at the University of Wageningen. Over the 4 years, starting July 2014 or as soon as possible thereafter, the PhD student will be based in Uganda, but he/she will spend three periods of several

months each at Wageningen University (the Netherlands) for proposal development, training courses, and scientific writing. Field and survey data will be collected in Uganda and Tanzania in cooperation with the project partners and hosted by IITA. The doctoral thesis will be produced as a series of manuscripts (journal articles) published in English, framed by overarching introductory and conclusion/synthesis chapters.

Benefits

The successful candidate will receive a monthly stipend commensurate with the rates at WUR for the period they are at the university and an IITA rate for the time they will be in Uganda. On top, the operational funding for the project will be provided, including among other things travel costs for the stays at Wageningen.

Requirements

The successful candidate will hold a master's degree in a social sciences discipline relevant to the project, such as (rural) sociology, development studies or policy analysis. Fluency in written and oral English and a proven ability to write to academic standards are indispensable. Candidates will benefit from a strong background in gender, agronomy or climate smart agriculture. In addition, relevant practical experiences will also be welcomed. The candidate will also submit a brief concept note/proposal including a brief methodology section that shows the candidate's ideas on how the study objectives could be achieved.

Submission of applications

Applications should provide a cover letter and curriculum vitae – including a list of publications and names and addresses (including telephone and email) of three referees who are knowledgeable about the candidate's professional qualifications – should be sent to both info.cpt@wur.nl and IITA-TrainingUnit@cgiar.org, and copied to j.anyango@cgiar.org. All documents should be submitted as one pdf file, named "genderphd_<your surname_ your first name>". Use "CCAFS FP4-EA Gender PhD Position" as the subject line of your email and your cover letter.

For further questions please contact margit.vanwessel@wur.nl.

Applications close on 10-07-2014.