

First Announcement



# GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE



13-15 March 2012  
NASC Complex, New Delhi, India

## Organizers

**Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)**  
**Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI)**  
with support from GFAR under Gender in Agriculture Partnership

## Co-Sponsors



Canada



Website: <http://www.gcwa.in>

## PREAMBLE

Women farmers represent more than a quarter of the world's population. Women comprise, on an average, 43 per cent of the agricultural work force in developing countries, ranging from 20 per cent in Latin America to 50 per cent in Eastern Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa. Yet, women have less access than men to agriculture related assets, inputs and services. For example, only five per cent of current agricultural extension efforts and resources are directed to women and they invariably earn far lower wages than men for equivalent work. Had they enjoyed the same access to productive resources as men, women could boost yield by 20-30 per cent; raising the overall agricultural output in developing countries by two and a half to four per cent. This gain in production could lessen the number of hungry people in the world by 12-17 per cent, besides increasing women's income (FAO, 2011). Not surprisingly, the neglect of women farmers has increasingly become an important subject for consideration of policy makers.

As farmers, agricultural workers and entrepreneurs, women form the backbone of agricultural rural economy in the developing regions, and yet, together with children, they remain one of the most vulnerable groups. With far less access to education and technology,

a host of other socioeconomic factors have had an adverse impact on the lives of women farmers in recent years. These include the accelerated pace of globalization, the associated policy and institutional changes including economic liberalization and commercialization of agriculture, rapid pace of population growth and urbanization. At the same time, in many parts of the world, agriculture is facing major structural changes including decline in farm size, emergence of a rental land market, contract farming, etc. In addition, the rural-urban migration, mechanization of agriculture, growing pressure on land, water, agro-biodiversity and firewood and the growing incidence of natural disasters associated with climate change have had dramatic adverse effects on the lives of women in agriculture. Moreover, the constraints that women face in agriculture vary across regions and countries, depending on the socio-cultural and agroecological contexts. Despite many policy reforms both at the macro and micro level, gender issues have not received the attention they deserve. Hence, the current situation has to urgently change.

Today, there is a growing realization and commitment of the global community to achieve more sustainable and broad-based agricultural growth by addressing gender related issues in agriculture



through national, regional and global initiatives and partnerships. There is also greater convergence of initiatives undertaken by international institutions such as FAO, GFAR, CGIAR, regional fora and many National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS). The GCARD Road Map too has called for a radical reorientation of the agricultural research agenda to overcome the existing gaps and to face the emerging challenges of sustainable development and livelihood of resource poor small holder farmers, especially the women farmers. Urgent efforts are, therefore, needed to overcome the gender gap by empowering women in agriculture.

It is, therefore, timely to undertake a stock taking exercise in a holistic manner by drawing on the existing evidence of the impact of policies, institutions and programs to empower farm women and to learn lessons for the future so as to ensure higher economic growth in agriculture sector. With changes sweeping agriculture and other sectors, gender issues have become more important and dynamic. Therefore, it has become necessary for the scientists, policy makers, development professionals and the civil society organizations to understand the issues in national, regional and global context and share their knowledge and experiences to design more focused action for

enhancing and harnessing the capability of women who are an important human resource for agriculture in the developing countries.

Against this backdrop, a Global Conference on Women in Agriculture (GCWA) is being organized with participation of researchers, policy makers, women farmers and other stakeholders from different regions of the world.

### **GOAL**

#### **Empowering Women for Inclusive Growth in Agriculture**

### **OBJECTIVES**

- To discuss and deliberate the prevailing and emerging gender issues in agriculture and food systems and the lessons learned for future sustainable development,
- To take stock of evidence on experiences in enhancing role of women in agriculture,
- To understand the mechanisms and approaches adopted by the international organizations, regional fora, countries and civil society for empowering women and addressing gender issues in agriculture, and
- To collate lessons on strategies for strengthening gender research in agriculture to make technology generation and dissemination,





agricultural planning and policy making gender sensitive and disseminate them through an edited book and develop a Framework for Action.

### **CONFERENCE THEMES**

1. Assessing Women's Empowerment in Agriculture
2. Agricultural Innovations for Reducing Drudgery
3. Linking Women to Markets
4. Role of Women in Household Food and Nutritional Security
5. Access to Assets, Resources and Knowledge: Policies and Services
6. Impact and Responses to Climate Change Related Risks and Uncertainties

In addition, there will be Working Group discussions to have a Framework for Action on Engendering Agricultural Research, Education and Extension.

### **EXPECTED OUTCOMES**

- New knowledge and experiences shared from cross-country programs as well as inter-regional/global successes concerning the role of women in agriculture
- Strategies developed for addressing gender issues in agriculture at the local, national, regional and global level
- Technological and institutional innovations to better meet the needs of farm women

- Gaps and needs for research, education and extension in issues related to women's role in agriculture identified
- A Framework for Action developed to integrate and empower women for inclusive growth and development through agriculture
- An enduring global partnership program on gender in agriculture established

### **VENUE AND DATES**

The Global Conference will be held at the National Agricultural Science Centre (NASC) Complex, Dev Prakash Shastri Marg, near Todapur, Pusa Campus, New Delhi - 110012, India; **13-15 March 2012.**

### **PARTICIPANTS**

The participants will include researchers, academicians, gender experts, representatives of UN organizations, CGIAR Centers, officials from Ministries of Agriculture, Rural Development, Women and Child Development, Science and Technology, Human Resource Development, Ministers of Governments and Chief Executive Officers of business corporate houses, NGOs and farm women innovators. About 300 participants are expected to attend the Conference.

### **LANGUAGE**

The official language of the Conference will be English.



## CALL FOR PAPERS

The Conference will have (i) Invited papers for oral presentation and (ii) Contributory papers for poster presentation.

### (i) Invited papers for oral presentation

Invited papers will be a full length paper comprising title, author, address (organization, place, e-mail), abstract, keywords, introduction, materials and methods, results and discussion, conclusion and references. The text of the paper should be in English in the following format:

- MS Word document
- Abstract: 250 words
- Total pages: Not exceeding 12 pages including figures, tables and photographs
- Line spacing: 1.5
- Font: Times New Roman
- Title: 14 point bold capital
- Author's name (designation, organization and place): 10 point italic
- Main headings: 12-point bold capital
- Running text: 12 point normal

### (ii) Contributory papers for poster presentation

The participants are encouraged to contribute papers in the form of extended summary relevant to themes of the Conference. An abstract of the extended summary will have to be submitted in advance which will be

evaluated by a Committee of Experts and the selected ones will be included in the poster presentation. The contributory paper will be in the form of extended summary comprising title, author(s), address (organization, place, e-mail), abstract, keywords, methodology and major findings. The text of the extended summary should be in English in the following format:

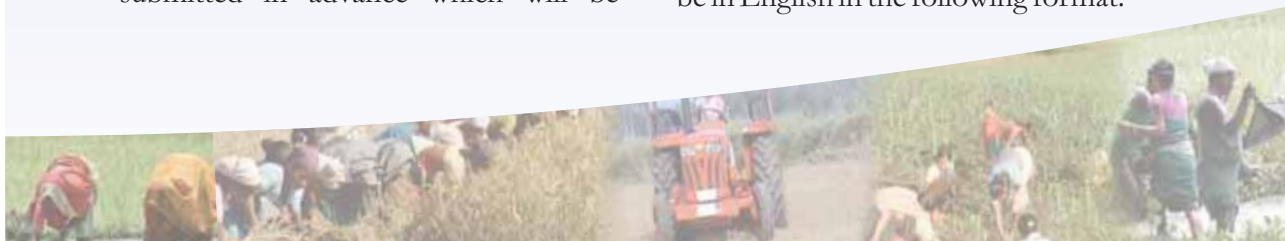
- Theme (to be specified)
- MS Word document
- Abstract: 250 words
- Extended summary: Not exceeding 1000 words
- Line spacing: 1.5
- Font: Times New Roman
- Title: 14 point bold capital
- Author's name (designation, organization and place): 10 point italic
- Main headings: 12 point bold capital
- Running text: 12 point normal

## MODE OF SUBMISSION

Papers/abstracts should be sent **online** at <http://www.gcwa.in> or by **email** at : [gcwa2012@gmail.com](mailto:gcwa2012@gmail.com) ; [gcwa2012@rediffmail.com](mailto:gcwa2012@rediffmail.com) **with a copy to:** [nrcwa@nic.in](mailto:nrcwa@nic.in)

## POSTER PRESENTATION

Poster will comprise title, author, address (organization, place, e-mail), introduction, materials and methods, results and discussion, conclusion and references. The text of the poster should be in English in the following format:



- Poster size : 60 cm (width) x 80 cm (height)
- Poster title: Font size: 40- 45 point Capital
- Author(s) and address(organization, place and e-mail): below the title (font size:18- 20 point)
- Sub-heading: Font size: 28-30 point Capital
- Running text: Font size: 22-25 point
- Use diagrams, graphs, figures and photographs

### REGISTRATION

The participants are requested to register in advance either by submitting the duly filled in registration form (attached) online or by sending it through e-mail to the Organizing Secretary on or before the last date (January 31, 2012). The registration fee should be paid in the form of a demand draft drawn in favor of **Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS)** payable at **New Delhi 110012, India**. **The demand draft should be sent at the address given below:**

**Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS), Avenue-II, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Pusa Campus New Delhi 110012, India.**

Local Participants may also pay registration fee online as suggested

below for international participants. The international participants are requested to remit the registration fee **online** in TAAS account for which the details are given below:

Telegraphic Transfer (TT), Wire Transfer and Credit Card (CC)

**Syndicate Bank, Pusa Campus, New Delhi 110012, India**

**TAAS Savings Bank A/c No:** 90292010085467 (Payable at New Delhi)

**Swift Code:** SYNB0009029

### REGISTRATION FEE

	By due date	After due date
International participants.....	USD 300	USD 350
Indian participants.....	INR 3000	INR 4000
Indian student participants .....	INR 1500	INR 2000

### ACCOMMODATION

The accommodation for delegates will be arranged in the guest houses of ICAR institutes in Pusa Campus. For information on accommodation in private hotels, please refer **website: <http://www.gcwa.in>**. For international participants, bulk booking will be done in private hotels. The accommodation charges have to be borne by the participants. The international participants may contact the Indian Embassy in their respective countries for





obtaining Visa. The participants are requested to confirm their participation by sending travel plan in advance to the Organizing Secretary of the Conference.

### **IMPORTANT DATES**

**January 31, 2012** Submission of registration form and abstract of contributory papers

**February 15, 2012** Payment of registration fee

**February 15, 2012** Submission of manuscript of invited full length paper/ extended summary of contributory paper

**February 25, 2012** Submission of information regarding travel and accommodation

### **MAILING ADDRESS**

#### **Dr (Ms) Krishna Srinath**

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### **ADVISORY COUNCIL**

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Minister of Agriculture and Food Processing Industries, Government of India

##### **M. S. Swaminathan**

Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha, New Delhi, India

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