



GREAT

2021 GENDER- RESPONSIVE CROP BREEDING COURSE

MARCH 8-22, 2021 | ONLINE



GREAT

GENDER-RESPONSIVE
RESEARCHERS
EQUIPPED FOR
AGRICULTURAL
TRANSFORMATION

The GREAT Vision

As co-Principal Investigators of the Gender-responsive Researchers Equipped for Agricultural Transformation (GREAT) project, we warmly welcome you to join us in our efforts to elevate gender-responsiveness in the agricultural research community.

We have a GREAT vision:

“To equip researchers to create more inclusive and effective agricultural systems by addressing the priorities of both women and men in sub-Saharan Africa.”

The GREAT vision is based on a premise that agricultural research projects are often designed with little consideration of how the research outputs, technologies and interventions will impact both men and women. Researchers are increasingly expected to design projects that deliver equitable outcomes, yet there is only limited or inappropriate gender training out there for agricultural researchers. Considering gender in research requires thinking differently, and not just applying tools. GREAT will not only teach participants how to use tools, but also how to change the way they look at their research, to be able to identify relevant gender research questions, or potential points of negative or positive impact for women and men, and how to address these.

What we strive for is changing researchers and research systems. If GREAT can change the agricultural research paradigm so that gender is the lens through which all projects are conceptualized

About Gender-responsive Researchers Equipped for Agricultural Transformation (GREAT)

GREAT equips researchers to create more inclusive and effective agricultural systems by addressing the priorities of both women and men in sub-Saharan Africa.

GREAT delivers courses to agricultural researchers from sub-Saharan Africa in the theory and practice of gender-responsive research, seeking to increase opportunities for equitable participation and the sharing of benefits from agricultural research and improve the outcomes for smallholder women farmers, entrepreneurs, and farmer organizations. By building and engaging communities of researchers equipped with the skills, knowledge, and support systems to develop and implement gender-responsive projects, GREAT will advance gender-responsiveness as the norm and standard for agricultural research.

GREAT is a 5-year collaboration between Cornell University in Ithaca, New York and Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda, that started in 2016. Funding support is from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

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and implemented, research outputs will be more appropriate to the needs of both women and men farmers, and more widely adopted. Women will gain greater visibility and voice in agricultural research design and implementation.

All of this would culminate in increased benefits from agricultural research for men, women and children together.

The challenge in developing truly applied gender training courses for agricultural researchers bound GREAT proponents together, building a community of passionate supporters. We are indebted to the many visionary voices that have contributed intellectual input into the development of GREAT, and thank everyone who has generously devoted time, thoughts and resources to the GREAT vision.

Rhetoric around gender-responsive research is not new, but action and evidence is what is lacking. With GREAT intervention, we hope that the usual process of paying lip-service to gender without linking it to concrete commitments of time, budgets and personnel will change. Change is our greatest challenge. We hope you will join us as agents of change to implement this new vision of agricultural research to intelligently design research projects that maximize impact for all.

Thank you for joining the GREAT vision!

Hale Ann Tufan

Margaret Mangheni

FIND OUT MORE

GREAT publishes quarterly newsletters, and sends email announcements about new courses. To receive these sign up for our email list at:

tinyurl.com/great-updates

The latest information about all things GREAT is available online at the GREAT website:

greatagriculture.org

Learn more about the transformative power of our GREAT custom courses:

tinyurl.com/great-custom

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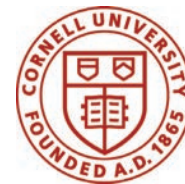
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Design: Wences Almazan (www.walmazan.com) / Devon Jenkins (Cornell University)



GET IN TOUCH

GREAT is a collaboration between Makerere University and Cornell University. For general questions please email us at contact@greatagriculture.org. To discuss a custom course for your institution or project, please email Dr. Margaret Mangheni (Makerere) at mnmangheni@gmail.com.

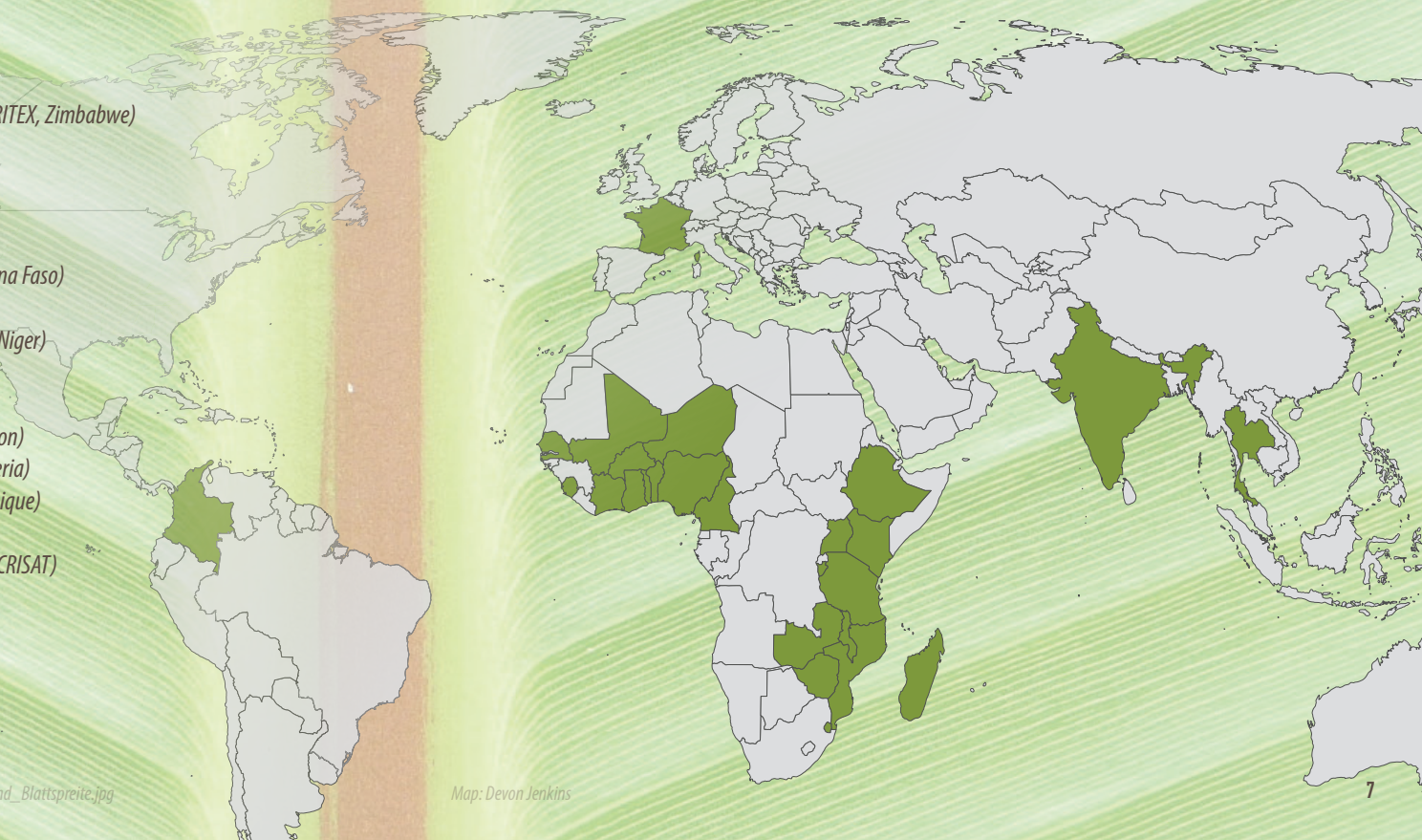
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**Since the first GREAT course in 2016,
we've trained 272 researchers from 47
institutions and 26 countries.**

GREAT participants have come from both national and international research institutions, including:

- AfricaRice
- Agronomy Research Institute (Zimbabwe)
- Bindura University of Science Education (Zimbabwe)
- Bioversity International
- Busitema University (Uganda)
- Centre de coopération internationale en recherche agronomique pour le développement (CIRAD, France)
- Centre National de Recherche Agronomique (CNRA, Côte d'Ivoire)
- Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR, Ghana)
- Crop Breeding Institute (CBI, Zimbabwe)
- Université Dan Dicko Dankoulodo de Maradi (UDDM, Niger)
- Department of Agricultural Research Services (DARS, Malawi)
- Department of Agricultural Technical and Extension Services (AGRITEX, Zimbabwe)
- Department of Research and Specialist Services (Zimbabwe)
- Ethiopian Institute for Agricultural Research (EIAR)
- Federal University of Agriculture Abeokuta, Ogun State (Nigeria)
- Institut d'Economie Rurale (IER, Mali)
- Institut de l'Environnement et Recherches Agricoles (INERA, Burkina Faso)
- Institut des Sciences Agronomiques du Burundi (ISABU, Burundi)
- Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique du Niger (INRAN, Niger)
- Institut Sénégalais de Recherches Agricoles (ISRA, Senegal)
- Institut Togolais de Recherche Agronomique (ITRA, Togo)
- Institute of Agricultural Research for Development (IRAD, Cameroon)
- Institute for Agricultural Research, Ahmadu Bello University (Nigeria)
- Instituto de Investigação Agrária de Moçambique (IIAM, Mozambique)
- International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)
- International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)
- International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA)
- International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)
- International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)
- International Potato Center (CIP)

- Kenyan Agricultural and Livestock Research Institute (KALRO)
- Lake Chad Research Institute (LCRI, Nigeria)
- Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (Malawi)
- Makerere Regional Centre for Crop Improvement (MaRCCI, Uganda)
- Makerere University (Uganda)
- Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Agricultural Research and Specialists Services (MoA-DARSS, Eswatini)
- Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (MALF, Tanzania)
- Mulungushi University (Zambia)
- National Agricultural Research Organization (NARO, Uganda)
- Sierra Leone Agricultural Research Institute (SLARI)
- SOJAGNON-NGO
- Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI)
- Uganda Christian University
- Université d'Abomey-Calavi (Benin)
- West Africa Center for Crop Improvement (WACCI, Ghana)
- World Vegetable Center
- Zambia Agriculture Research Institute (ZARI)



“At the beginning when I joined the course I was a bit skeptical, because I assumed I would be getting only theoretical knowledge. ‘Why are women in Sub-Saharan Africa not being addressed in our project activities?’ Developing the technology is one side of the story, but in our project we’d also involved women’s participation; was it enough? Does it have an impact?”

“Through this training I was able to gain knowledge about how to consider the gender aspect in every stage of the project.”

— Negussie Zenna

GREAT Fellow, Cereal Grains Cohort Course
Rice Breeder, AfricaRice, Madagascar

Intensive, Applied, Transformative.

The GREAT Project is centered around a unique course design.

GREAT courses are not like other gender trainings. We go far beyond gender sensitization, equipping researchers from diverse backgrounds with the skills to design and deliver research projects that result in better adoption, and more equitable and impactful results for the communities they serve.

What is the GREAT Approach?

GREAT courses are designed to make it easier for researchers to incorporate gender into their projects. We demystify gender, and provide social and biophysical scientists the theory, knowledge, tools and analytical approaches they need to bring gender into their research programs in a more grounded, realistic manner. Participants walk away better equipped to work together to increase adoption rates, and deliver equitable results that benefit men, women and children, across different crop value chains.



Theory and Knowledge. GREAT courses are grounded in applied gender theory. Participants learn how to use this knowledge to frame their research appropriately, and put it to work for the communities they serve.



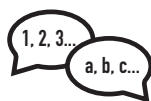
Research Tools. GREAT courses cover mixed methods research, helping researchers select, design and use tools in a holistic, integrated fashion, that will help them learn the needs, desires and constraints of different value chain actors.



Analysis and Implementation. GREAT courses cover quantitative and qualitative data analysis methods, helping research teams unpack key themes and learnings from their field work, and translate these into research that delivers more equitable and effective results.



Whole Cycle Approach. GREAT courses examine gender through each step of the research cycle, from start to finish, helping researchers both better compete for grant funding, and seamlessly integrate gender into their research, from proposal to publication.



Interdisciplinarity. GREAT doesn't aim to turn biophysical scientists into gender experts, or social scientists into crop breeders. Instead, it equips social and biophysical scientists with the skills and perspective to work better together towards common goals.

GREAT's unique approach to gender training allows researchers of different backgrounds to work fluidly together, to design, carry out and deliver research projects as integrated teams. This enables more effective project management and development of more inclusive and effective technologies, which leads to **better adoption and enhanced outcomes** for farmers, value chain actors and consumers – including women, men and children.



“The training has enriched my understanding of the practice of gender inclusion. It is not merely having women and men participating, it is considering the interaction between the two outside of the project, and identifying potential opportunities that we can use to achieve the goals of the project.”

—Aman Bonaventure Omondi
GREAT Fellow, RTB Cohort Course
Epidemiologist, IITA, Burundi

See what's new in 2021.

For our fifth cohort course, we're giving greater training to social scientists.

GREAT's focus on mixed methods research puts more emphasis on the role of social scientists, and we're building on this by redesigning our course to give three additional days of training, just for social scientists. This in-depth, methodological instruction will enable them to better design, execute, analyze and write up their field data.

Participatory Cowpea Breeding in Benin

Project / Donor:

Participatory evaluation of cowpea varieties for productivity, nutritional quality and adaptations to major biotic and abiotic constraints in Benin / Islamic Development Bank

Project Description:

The project objective is to improve livelihoods of smallholder farmers through selection of improved cowpea varieties resistant to aphid and striga in Benin. The expected outputs are the selection of at least five resistant improved cowpea varieties to aphid and striga; at least two most adaptable and stable cowpea varieties in Beninese conditions are selected among the germplasm.



Agbahoungba Symphorien, from Benin, is a plant breeder in the Laboratory of Applied Ecology, University of Abomey-Calavi (Benin). For the past five years Symphorien has been involved in the participatory selection of cowpea and groundnut varieties resistant to biotic and abiotic stress in Benin. In addition, he is a lecturer at the University of Abomey-Calavi, where he teaches courses in plant breeding, population genetics, forest genetics, biometrics and field experimentation. He obtained his PhD in Plant Breeding and Biotechnology from Makerere University (Uganda) in 2018. He has no prior gender training.



Calixte Aïtchi, Calixte Aïtchi, from Benin, is a social scientist in the Laboratory of Applied Ecology, University of Abomey-Calavi (Benin). He is involved in many research projects, and currently works on the project "Participatory evaluation of cowpea varieties for productivity, nutritional quality and adaptations to major biotic and abiotic constraints in Benin," where his role consists of testing the organoleptic quality of selected cowpea varieties with farmers and consumers. Calixte has a Master's in Economics and Sociology of Rural Development from the University of Abomey-Calavi. He has no prior gender training.

Participant Team | Côte d'Ivoire

Productivity bean breeding in Côte d'Ivoire

Project / Donor:

West and Central
Africa Bean Research Network
(WECABREN) / The Pan-Africa Bean
Research Alliance (PABRA)

Project Description:

The project is in line with the main thrust of agricultural development, i.e., the diversification of agricultural production through the promotion of the common bean. Expected results include: high-yielding bean varieties of good nutritional quality are offered to producers; the bean production, marketing and consumption value chain is established; and promotion of gender across the corridors is effective.



Coulibaly Noupé Diakaria is currently employed by the Centre National de Recherche Agronomique (CNRA), based at the Vegetable Crops Station in the center of Côte d'Ivoire. For the past six years Noupé has been involved in vegetable and legume agronomy and breeding. His work focuses on fertilization and the selection of high performance and high yield varieties. His role is to improve crop production. Noupé obtained his PhD in Agronomy and Physiology from Nangui Abrogoua University, Côte d'Ivoire, in 2018. He has no prior gender training.



Quevin Pabo Oula, from Côte d'Ivoire, is currently a trainee at the National Agronomic Research Center (CNRA), where he works on several development projects. His work focuses largely on evaluating the economic performance of vegetable farms in Côte d'Ivoire. He is currently working toward a PhD in agro economy at Alassane Ouattara University, Côte d'Ivoire. He has no prior gender training.



Sidoine Brice Essis, from Côte d'Ivoire, is currently employed by the National Agronomic Research Center (CNRA) and assigned to the Food Crops Research Station based in Bouaké, in the center of the country. Essis has been involved for 7 years in the fight against diseases and pests of Root and Tuber Plants (cassava, yam and sweet potato) and vegetable and protein crops (tomato, eggplant, okra, banana, soybeans, etc.) and training of producers. He works in partnership with national, regional and international scientists. Essis obtained his doctorate in biology and plant protection option phytopathology from the University Nangui Abrogoua in 2017.

Participant Team | Eswatini

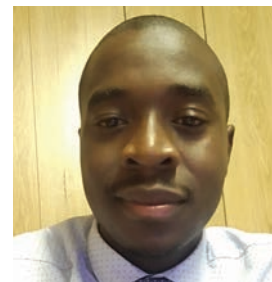
Cowpea mutation breeding for drought tolerance in Eswatini

Project / Donor:

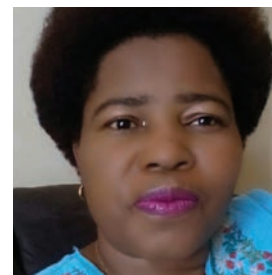
**International Atomic Energy Agency
(IAEA)**

Project Description:

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Kwazi A. K. Mkhonta, from Eswatini, is currently employed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Agricultural Research and Specialists Services (MoA-DARSS) at the Lowveld Experiment Station a dry and hot Lubombo region of Eswatini. He has been for the past 6 years involved in maize, sorghum, beans and cowpeas breeding partnership with national scientists and national academia institutions. His work focuses mainly on drought tolerance. His main goal is to improve farmers livelihoods and the value chain actors in keeping the country nutritionally and food secure. He has a BSc in Agronomy obtained in 2013 from the University of Eswatini.



Lungile Mhlanga, from Eswatini, is currently employed by the Malkerns Research Station. Lungile has for the past 11 years been involved in the socio-economic research that is in partnership with the other national scientists. Her work focuses mainly on the interventions that are being developed by the other plant related researchers in terms of adoption by farmers, cost-effectiveness and consumer trait preferences to ensure that even resource poor farmers farm not only for consumption but for business to enhance their profit share. She has a degree in agric. economics from university of Eswatini. She has a limited gender training background.

Aflatoxin resistant maize breeding for Ghana

Project / Donor:

Breeding aflatoxin (*A. flavus*) resistant maize for improved nutrition and health in Ghana / The United States Agency for International Development (USAID), National Academy of Sciences

Project Description:

The primary objective of this project is to develop high yielding aflatoxin resistant maize hybrids for improved nutrition and health in Ghana. It is expected that at least one high yielding aflatoxin resistant maize variety(ies) will be identified which will be registered and released for cultivation and use by Ghanaian maize farmers and consumers in general.



Lydia Brobbey, is currently employed by CSIR-Crops Research Institute, Kumasi, Ghana. Since her employment as a Technical Officer, she has risen through the ranks to a position of Principal Technologist. Lydia has for several years has been involved in maize work as a social scientist, working to extend improved technologies to farmers. Her work focuses largely on multi-stakeholder formation of farmers to improve their livelihoods and educate them on the need to adopt maize varieties. Lydia obtained her master's degree in sociology at Kwame Nkrumah University, Ghana.



Allen Oppong, is currently employed by CSIR-Crops Research Institute, Kumasi, Ghana. Allen has worked in this institute for several years now, first as Assistant Research Scientist, and has passed through the ranks to his current position as a Senior Research Scientist. Over the years he has worked as a plant virologist, and collaborated with several breeders to develop disease-resistant, high-yielding crop varieties. Since 2014, he has worked as a maize breeder and plant virologist. Currently, he and his colleagues are developing high-yielding aflatoxin-resistant maize.

Participant Team | Ghana

Ghana CSIR-CRI Bean Team

Project / Donor:

West and Central African Bean
Research Network / Pan African
Bean Research Alliance (PABRA)

Project Description:

The project objectives are to develop high yielding bean varieties and facilitate access and consumption of these higher iron beans through seed production and exchange among member countries.



Patricia Pinamang Acheampong

is a Senior Research Scientist with the Ghana's CSIR-Crops Research Institute. She has worked as both a lead agricultural economist, and as a member of research teams in both international and local funded research works. Her research professional interest is agricultural development and production economics. She is specifically interested in structural change, from subsistence agriculture to commercial agriculture for livelihood development of smallholder farmers. She obtained her PhD in Agricultural Economics from Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Ghana, in 2015. She has no prior gender training.



Kwadwo Adofo, from Ghana, is currently employed by CSIR-Crops Research Institute and based in Kumasi. He has over the past seventeen years been involved in sweetpotato breeding in partnership with national, regional and international scientists and other stakeholders. His work over these years has focused on consumer and industrial preferred traits with the goal of enhancing the nutritional and income status of farmer households and other stakeholders in the commodity value chain for improved livelihoods. Kwadwo received his PhD in Plant Breeding from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Ghana, in 2018. He has no prior training in gender

Participant Team | Kenya

TELA Maize Breeding for Kenya

Project / Donor:

TELA Maize Project,
Stress Tolerant Maize for Africa
(STMA) / The Bill & Melinda Gates
Foundation (BMGF), The United
States Agency for International
Development (USAID), The Howard G.
Buffett Foundation, The Government
of Kenya

Project Description:

The TELA Maize Project is a public-private partnership that is working towards initiating commercialization of transgenic, drought-tolerant and insect-protected maize varieties to enhance food security in Sub-Saharan Africa. The TELA Maize Project is a public-private partnership that is working towards initiating commercialization of transgenic drought-tolerant and insect-protected maize varieties.



Murenga Mwimali, from Kenya, is currently employed by the Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization. He has for 15 years' experience in maize breeding, biotechnology and biosafety, project management working with various national, regional, international and private institutions. He is passionate about breeding, product development and climate smart agriculture, and continues to contribute towards improved quality seed and products, and research for the well-being, food security, and improvement of livelihoods of women, men and the youth in SSA. Murenga received a PhD in Plant Breeding from the University of Kwa Zulu Natal, South Africa, in 2014.



Lilian Khamayo Mambiri, currently employed by the Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization, has 12 years of experience in maize breeding, information and knowledge management. She is involved in various maize breeding projects, and her focus is on empowering smallholder women and youth farmers in participating and benefitting equally from agrifood value chains, contributing to improved food security, nutrition and livelihoods. Her areas of interest are maize breeding, seed systems, and climate smart agriculture. Currently she is pursuing an MSc degree in Agricultural Information and Communication Management at the University of Nairobi, Kenya.

Dry Beans for Bruchid Resistance Malawi

Project / Donor:

**Genetic Improvement of Dry Beans
for Bruchid Resistance for Southern
Africa / United States Agency for
International Development (USAID)**

Project Description:

The Genetic Improvement of Dry Beans for Bruchid Resistance for Southern Africa Project objective is to develop and release weevil-resistant common bean varieties with good agronomic performance in seed market classes preferred in Malawi, Mozambique and Zambia. The project expects to develop highly nutritious and weevil resistant common bean varieties for food, nutrition and income security.



Hilda Janet Kabuli, is a Chief Research Statistician with knowledge on research design, data collection techniques and analysis as well as presentation of scientific results. She holds a Master of Science degree in Statistics from the University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. She currently works for the Department of Agricultural Research Services (DARS) in the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development as a Chief Research Statistician, a position she's held since 2003. She is also a Gender Focal Point Officer in her department.



Virginia Chisale, is from Malawi, and works with the Ministry of Agriculture in the Department of Agricultural Research Services as a bean breeder. Her work mainly focuses on identifying and developing bean varieties that meet the demand of a producer, processor and a consumer. She has worked a lot with the bean farming communities in Malawi, especially on participatory variety selection, capacity building on improved bean technologies, variety dissemination and seed production. She attended a GREAT sensitization course in 2020.

Dry Beans for Bruchid Resistance Malawi

Project / Donor:

**Genetic Improvement of Dry Beans
for Bruchid Resistance for Southern
Africa / United States Agency for
International Development (USAID)**

Project Description:

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Grace Timanyechi Munthali, Grace Timanyechi Munthali is a social scientist currently working at a National Agricultural Research Institute in Malawi and based at Chitedze Research Station. Tima has 11 years experience in agricultural research and works closely with bean, maize and other breeders. Broadly, her work revolves around impact evaluation (adoption, profitability, consumer assessment), youth employment and value chain analysis. Ms Munthali has a Master of Science in Agricultural Economics obtained from University of Pretoria in 2014. She has no prior training in gender.



Annie Matumba, from Malawi, works as a Research Officer in the bean breeding section under the Department of Agricultural Research Services, where she has been employed since 2004. Annie has a Master's of Agronomy (breeding) obtained from the Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources. Her work focusses on developing and evaluating new bean genotypes which also involves interacting with bean farmers to identify areas that need more research. She has never attended a gender training course.

IER Potatoes Mali

Project / Donor:

Scaling up small-scale irrigation technologies for improving food security in Sub-Saharan Africa / The OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID) and The International Center of Bio-saline Agricultural (ICBA)

Project Description:

The objective of this research is to contribute to improving the food security and income of Mali farmers through the cultivation of high yielding potato varieties. Expected outputs/outcomes include: existing potato varieties in Mali are identified; women and men farmers are trained in good potato production, processing, and preservation techniques; and women and men perceptions on both potato.



Kane Abdoulaye Mamary, from Mali, is currently working at the National Institute of Rural Economics (IER) and based at the Agricultural Regional Research Center of Sotuba (CRRRA-Sotuba). KANE has been involved in seed production system and natural resources management in partnership with national, regional and international scientists since 2006. His work was focused on crops yield increase; his goal is to improve household income for women and child nutrition and food security in Western Africa, mostly in Mali. Dr KANE graduated his PhD in Agricultural economics and crops yield management under irrigation from Egerton University, Kenya, in 2018.



Safiatou Sangare, from Mali, is currently employed by the Institut of Rural Economy (IER), based at the Sotuba Research Center. For the past 20 years Safiatou has been involved in sorghum, maize breeding and seed systems through Mali's national agricultural research institute, IER, in partnership with national, regional, and international scientists. Her work focuses on varietal improvement for a better life, where women's preference are taken into consideration. She acquired a PhD in Plant Breeding from the West Africa Centre for Crop Improvement (WACCI), University of Ghana, in 2016. She has not participated in any prior gender training.

Participant Team | Mozambique

Bruchid bean Mozambique

Project / Donor:

Genetic Improvement of Dry Beans for Bruchid Resistance for Southern Africa / United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

Project Description:

The Genetic Improvement of Dry Beans for Bruchid Resistance for Southern Africa Project objective is to develop and release weevil-resistant common bean varieties with good agronomic performance in seed market classes preferred in Malawi, Mozambique and Zambia. The project expects to develop highly nutritious and weevil resistant common bean for food, nutrition and income security.



Maria Quinhentos, from Mozambique, is a socioeconomist researcher at the Agricultural Research Institute of Mozambique (IIAM), based at Sussundenga research station. She received her Masters of Science in Rural Sociology from Penn State University, USA. Maria has over 15 years of experience working with rural households and communities across Mozambique, in collaboration with CGIARS in the region. Her recent research focuses on social networks in adoption of technologies, gender equity in agriculture, and value chain analysis. She participated in two gender trainings, including one by ARC on effective skills and gender analysis tools for gender integration.



Hercidio Tandane, Hercidio Tandane, from Mozambique, works at the Agricultural Research Institute of Mozambique (IIAM) and is based at South Zonal Center, having joined the institute in November 2009. He is currently working in the Department of Economics and Sociology, and deals with socio-economic aspects regarding the adoption and impact of agricultural technologies. He obtained his Master degree in Agricultural Economics from Punjab Agricultural University.



Celestina Nhagupana Jochua Xerinda, from Mozambique, is currently employed by the Agriculture Research Institute of Mozambique (IIAM) and based at Chokwe Research Station, Gaza since 1998. She obtained her MS in Plant Pathology in the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 2004 and PhD in Plant Breeding at the Pennsylvania State University, USA. She is working in the National Grain Legume Program where she is involved in the development of bean germplasm adapted to different abiotic and biotic stresses and recently released 3 phosphorus efficient bean varieties that are being used by local farmers. Her work focuses in traits preferred by farmers and women.

Participant Team | Mozambique / Uganda

Resilient sweetpotato breeding for Africa

Project / Donor:

Sweetpotato Genetic Advances
and Innovative Seed Systems
(SweetGAINS) / The Bill & Melinda
Gates Foundation (BMGF)

Project Description:

The project objective is to improve breeding operations and methodologies as well as ensuring integration between breeding outputs and early generation seed availability by 2022. The expected outcomes are improved access to improved varieties, enhanced seed delivery systems through streamlined gender responsive, and well managed sweetpotato breeding programs in Africa.



Godwill Makunde started his career as a common bean breeder in the Department of Research and Specialist Services in Zimbabwe, his native country. His research was in the genetic improvement of the drought tolerance and nutritional-quality. Currently, Godwill is a sweetpotato breeder with the International Potato Center (CIP) in Mozambique. His research focus is on drought tolerance, nutritional quality and adaption to major TPEs in Southern Africa with national agriculture research partners in eight countries. Godwill provides capacity building to all the partners. He is in the initial phases of learning gender sensitive breeding.

Participant Team | Niger

Breeding for improved sesame cultivars in Niger

Project / Donor:

Sesame improvement for shattering resistance in semi-arid conditions of Niger / The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

Project Description:

This project aims to improve the incomes of rural households and contribute to food security by developing and promoting improved sesame varieties that meet the demand for farmers, consumers and producers in Niger. Expected outputs/outcomes include: farmers' preferred sesame cultivars traits are identified; improved sesame varieties are available; and capacity building of the research team enhanced.



Seyni Boureima is an agronomist, with a Master's degree in Plant Biology, and a PhD in Applied Biological Sciences from Ghent University in Belgium. After his PhD and a postdoctoral position at ICRISAT-Patancheru (India), Seyni was recruited as a permanent staff at the Faculty of Agronomy and Environmental Sciences, Dan Dicko Dankoulodo University of Maradi, Niger. Since July 2016 he has led the Department of Crop Production, and engaged in giving lectures in agronomy, crop improvement, research and supervising students. His current research focus on sesame breeding for shattering resistance and abiotic stress tolerance. He has no prior gender training.



Lawali Sitou, from Niger, is a Research Lecturer in the Department of Rural Sociology and Economy, and Dean of the Faculty of Agronomy and Environmental Sciences at Dan Dicko Dankoulodo University of Maradi, Niger. After obtaining his PhD at the University of Liège in Belgium, his research work has focused on land issues, the study of vulnerability, the transfer of agricultural technologies, and environmental management by putting the emphasis on participatory and multidisciplinary approaches in Niger.

Participant Team | Nigeria

Pearl Millet Bio-fortification of Existing Millet Cultivars in Northeastern Nigeria in Addressing the Nutritional Problems of Vitamin A Deficiency in Women and Children

Project / Donor:

Accelerated Varietal Improvement and seed Delivery of Legumes and Cereals in Africa (AVISA) / The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF)

Project Description:

This project intends to carry out the fortification of pearl millet and disseminate to farmers to improve nutrition of poor resource farm families. Germplasm of 110 *dauro* pearl millet with yellow endosperm that were collected by LCRI across Northern Nigeria in 2011 will be used for this purpose. The evaluation and selection of the varieties will be conducted together with farmers (men and women), seed companies, retailers and all actors involved in the value chain to promote the acceptance and adoption of these new varieties.



Maryam Abba Dawud, from Maiduguri in the Northeastern region of Nigeria, works with the Lake Chad Research Institute (LCRI) as a research scientist. Maryam was the recipient of a scholarship from the World Bank-financed West Africa Agricultural Productivity Programme (WAAPP) for her PhD at the West Africa Centre for Crop Improvement, the University of Ghana, which she completed in 2018. During her studies she worked on developing pearl millet varieties that are resistant to the noxious parasitic weed *Striga hermonthica* via conventional and molecular breeding.



Jidda Umar is a researcher with the Lake Chad Research Institute (LCRI), Maiduguri, Borno State, Nigeria. He is an Agricultural Economist, and holds an MSc degree in Agricultural Economics, with a PhD in view. His areas of interest include Agricultural Marketing and Productivity. He has been involved in many projects, and believes that any meaningful development must recognize the plight and contribution of women, thus skills in gender analysis are necessary, hence his motivation for receiving gender training.

Participant Team | Nigeria

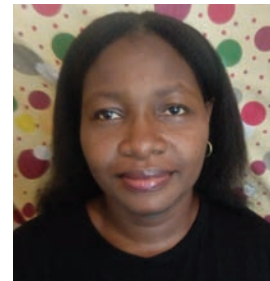
Tropical Soy Bean TGx Nigeria

Project / Donor:

Tropical Soybean TGx / Federal University of Agriculture Abeokuta, Nigeria

Project Description:

The primary objective of the study is to transfer new improved soybean seeds to the rural farming households in the study area for adoption for planting. It has been recorded that this new breed grows faster and yields more bean seeds when properly managed. Therefore the adoption of this new soybean will increase their production which in turn will translate to increased income.



Esther Toluwatope Tolorunju, from Nigeria, is currently employed by the Federal University of Agriculture Abeokuta, Ogun State, Nigeria. For the past few years Esther has been involved in Consumer and Development Studies. Her work is with a keen interest in rural farming households, their livelihoods, and their welfare outcomes, with focus on alleviating poverty and food insecurity. Esther obtained her PhD in Agricultural Economics and Farm Management from the Federal University of Agriculture Abeokuta in 2017, where she is currently a lecturer.



Sobowale Olusegun, from Nigeria, is currently employed by the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (Nigeria), where he obtained his Bachelor of Agriculture in Plant Breeding and Seed Technology. He has been involved in soybean breeding in partnership with national and international scientists, and his work focuses largely on consumer trait preferences, with a goal to improve livelihoods for women farmers in Nigeria as a way to improve family health and well being. He has no prior gender training.



Chioma Adekunle is a Lecturer in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Farm Management of the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta, Nigeria. Chioma is an agricultural development economist with research interest in food, gender and welfare economics issues for over 7 years. She is a Co - Researcher in Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB) multidisciplinary institution-based research projects such as Field Cultivation of Iodized - Enriched Tomato as an Alternative to Iodized Salt in a Hypertensive Society. She has no prior gender training.

Participant Team | Togo

Late Leaf Spot (LLS) resistant groundnut breeding in Togo

Project / Donor:

Enhancing the genetic potential of peanut production in West Africa
/ The United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

Project Description:

The project aims to improve groundnut production through: the identification of farmers preferences; and the evaluation of and release of groundnut promising lines. The expected outputs are: farmers' production constraints and varietal preferences known; released varieties are widely adopted in most groundnut producing area; and, groundnut production increase in Togo.



Being in love with plant science from secondary school, **Banla Essohouna Modom** decided to study crop production when he joined the University of Lomé (Togo) in 2002. After obtaining his bachelor's degree, he did an Master's degree in Agricultural Resources, while working as an assistant plant breeder at the national agricultural research institute (ITRA). He was motivated to further his research career and went on to obtain his PhD in genetics and plant breeding at the University of Ghana, Legon, in 2018. Currently, he is pursuing his passion as a groundnut breeder and legume program leader at ITRA. He has no prior gender training.



Komi Yanakoum Koubi, from Togo, is currently employed by the National Institute for Agricultural Research (ITRA), where for the past six years he has been in charge of socioeconomic studies at ITRA. His work focuses mainly on the dissemination of new agricultural technologies, especially new varieties of legumes (groundnut, soybean and cowpea) and his objective is to improve the livelihoods the farmers and actors in the value chain in Togo in order to improve the health and well-being of families. Komi obtained his Master's degree in Agricultural Economics from the University of Lomé (Togo) in 2017. He has no prior training in gender issues.

Participant Team | Uganda

Arapai training program

Project / Donor:

Busitema University, Uganda

Project Description:

The objective of this training project is to enable us attain knowledge and skills for developing gender responsive tools that we can use in research and training. This knowledge and skills will help us to understand the dynamism involved in communities we serve and as such develop technologies that meet the needs of stakeholders thus reducing costs incurred by farmers to adopt new technologies



Hellen Kongai Biruma, from Uganda, is currently employed by Busitema University and based at the Arapai Campus in Eastern Uganda. Kongai has over 10 years' experience in agricultural and development research. She is currently supervising undergraduate students assessing the effects of flooding and village savings and loan associations on agricultural production with the aim to inform adaptation and strategic interventions planning. Hellen attained a Doctor of Philosophy in Agriculture and Resource Economics degree from the University of Malawi. She has no prior gender training.



Geoffrey Lubadde, from Uganda, with a PhD in plant breeding, is a lecturer and researcher employed by Busitema University (BU) and based at the Faculty of Agriculture and Animal Sciences campus. Previously he worked for Uganda's National Agricultural Research Organisation conducting research on sorghum and millets. His 13 year research experience led to developing drought-tolerant striga resistant sorghum and millet varieties with resistance to diseases and low tannin. He conducts outreach in rural communities where groups are strengthened for sustainable food availability. He has participated in some gender trainings but has not been exposed to integrating data collection.



Asero Diana, from Uganda, is currently employed by Busitema University and based at the Faculty of Agriculture and Animal Sciences, Arapai Campus. Asero has for the past 7 years been teaching in the Department of Agribusiness and Extension. Her primary research interests are economic modelling, and in her thesis dissertation she carried out a study on assessment of fish marketing in Central Uganda. Her aim is for her research to bridge the gap between modelling and field work approaches. Asero obtained her MSc in Agriculture and Applied Economics. She has no prior gender training.

Participant Team | Uganda

Iron-rich mungbean breeding for East Africa

Project / Donors:

Development and deployment of iron dense mungbean genotypes for nutrition security in the drought prone areas of East Africa (Mung4-Fe) / African Union Commission

Project Description:

The project's main objective is to reduce the malnutrition burden among smallholder farming communities in the drought prone areas of East Africa. The specific objectives are to: characterize current mungbean production systems and prevailing constraints; evaluate advanced mungbean lines for iron content and other nutrients; strengthen mungbean seed production and delivery systems, and develop and promote efficient processing and utilization methods.



Emmanuel Mbeyagala, from Uganda, is a Senior Research Scientist-Legume Breeder for the National Agricultural Research Organization (NARO) and is based at the National Semi-Arid Resources Research Institute (NaSARRI). He is presently the leader for NARO's dry-land legume research program as well as the head of cowpea, mungbean and pigeonpea breeding activities in Uganda. For the past seven years, Emmanuel has been involved in breeding pulses (cowpea, mungbean and pigeonpea) in partnership with various institutions. His work focuses on developing varieties with tolerance / resistance to biotic / abiotic stresses and with acceptable farmer / consumer traits. Emmanuel obtained his PhD in Crop Science from Makerere University, in Uganda.



Hamba Sophia, from Ugandan, is currently employed by the National Agricultural Research Organisation. She graduated in 2018 with a MSc. Agri-Economics from Makerere University, and for the last three years has participated in trait preference studies of cassava. As a socio-economist who closely works with breeders, the training will help her understand how priorities of men and women should be incorporated in breeding programs to improve technology adoption. Her aim is to increase farmers' production through awareness and adoption of NARO technologies. She had basic gender training, using Gender Action Learning System in applied research.

Participant Team | Uganda

Community seed banking in Uganda – Beans and millet

Project / Donor:

Promoting open source seed systems for beans, forage legumes, millet and sorghum for climate change adaptation in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda / Benefit-sharing fund of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

Project Description:

The project's primary objective is to improve adaptation to climate change and enhance food and nutrition security to resource-poor farmers in Uganda. Expected outputs are new varieties generated from the Multilateral System (MLS) and national gene banks, materials tested and disseminated, and Community Seed Banks (CSB), with supporting local seed network established.



Joyce Adokorach, from Uganda, works with the Plant Genetic Resources Centre of the National Agricultural Research Organization (NARO). She has for the past 10 years worked with farmers to establish community seed banks. Joyce's work focuses mainly in conservation and use of plant diversity. Her goal is to improve farmers' access to good quality, diverse seed in order to improve food and nutritional security, and enhance informal seed systems in Uganda. Joyce obtained a Master's degree in Environment and Natural Resources from Makerere University, Uganda. Attending this course will equip her with more tools and information on gender issues.



Ronald Kakeeto, from Uganda, is employed by the National Agricultural Research Organization. He has been actively involved in crop productivity enhancement technology development, working with farmers, communities and several research and development partners for the past 12 years. Currently, Ronald is leading the participatory variety testing of bean and millet accessions from national gene banks for enriching the community seed networks Ronald attained his PhD (Plant breeding) from the University of KwaZulu-Natal in South Africa. Gender training will be very instrumental during participatory variety selection and variety promotion.

Participant Team | Uganda

Stress-Resilient Cowpea for Uganda

Project / Donor:

The Eastern and Southern Africa
Higher Education Centers of
Excellence Project (ACE II) / The
World Bank and the Government of
Uganda

Project Description:

Using the genomic tools to accelerate the development dual purpose cowpea varieties with multiple stress tolerance for improved food and nutritional severity. In Uganda, cowpea is cultivated for seed, vegetable and forage by small holder farmers who are mostly women. The traits of focus include high yield, leaf traits, scab disease, drought and heat tolerance.



Dramadri Isaac Onziga, from Uganda works with the Makerere University regional center for Crop Improvement (MaRCCI) one of the world bank designated African Center of Excellence in Uganda. Isaac has been involved in Cowpea and Common bean breeding activities for food and nutritional food security and training the next generation of plant breeders for the past 4 years in partnership with national, regional and international Scientists. Isaac Obtained his PhD in Plant Breeding, Genetics and Biotechnology from Michigan State University in 2017. He has no prior gender training.



Sarah Akello works with Makerere University Regional Center for Crop Improvement (MaRCCI) as a Program Officer. She is also a Lecturer in the Department of Extension and Innovation Studies at the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences. She received her Ph.D. in Agricultural and Rural Innovations in 2018 from Makerere University, Kampala.

Participant Team | Zambia

Bean Improvement Zambia

Project / Donor:

Improving Bean Production and
Marketing in Africa / Global Affairs
Canada (GAC)

Project Description:

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Arnold Banda, from Zambia, is currently employed by the Zambia Agriculture Research Institute (ZARI) and based at Misamfu Research Centre. Arnold has for the past 3 years been involved in the development and dissemination of improved common bean varieties among smallholder farmers in Northern Zambia. His work mainly focuses on the socio-economic aspects of technology development and adoption among smallholder farmers to contribute to the improvement of their livelihood. Arnold obtained his BSc Degree in Agricultural Economics from the University of Zambia, and is currently pursuing a MSc in Agribusiness. He has no prior training in gender.



Mwiinga Mulube, is a 33 year old Zambian who works for the Zambian Agriculture Research Institute (ZARI) as a bean breeder. He obtained his MSc in Plant Breeding from the University of KwaZulu-Natal in 2018. Since then, he has been working on improving bean yield and disease resistance in Zambia. His main motivation is the challenge of feeding a rapidly increasing human population amidst changes in climate. He is looking forward to this training in gender as it will be his first.



Crisanty Chama, is a Zambian working with Zambia Agriculture Research Institute (ZARI) for more than 20 years. He works with farming systems research team and his work centres on disseminating and testing generated research technologies to the farmers socio-economic setting. The target are resource poor women and male farmers. He obtained his Masters degree at Larestein University, majoring in Gender and Agriculture. Currently he is involved in gender training for both small-scale farmers and agriculture staff.

TAAT Wheat Zimbabwe

Project / Donor:

Technologies for African Agriculture Transformation (TAAT) Zimbabwe
Wheat Compact / African Development Bank (AfDB)

Project Description:

The TAAT programme aims to enhance national wheat production. It employs the valuechain approach to achieve a widespread transformative impact in terms of productivity and farmer capacity, farmers' income, seed systems, climate resilience, job creation, value addition, participation of poor men, women, youths and the disabled; all leading towards attaining higher levels of wheat self-sufficiency.



Freeman Gutsa, is a Principal Socio-Economist in the Department of Research & Specialist Services (DR&SS) based in Harare, Zimbabwe. He has worked under DR&SS for the past 15 years, leading the socioeconomic components of different programmes. Freeman is the focal person for the Innovation Platform outcome of the TAAT wheat program by the AfDB meant to enhance production of wheat. He interfaces with farming men, women and youths of different capabilities and endowments in his daily work and his impact is a function of his understanding of gender dynamics. Freeman holds an MSc in Agriculture and Applied Economics from University of Zimbabwe.



Peter Mavindidze, is currently employed as a Wheat Breeder by the Crop Breeding Institute (CBI), a section in the Crop Research Services Division in the Department of Research and Specialist Services (DR&SS) of Zimbabwe's Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. His work for the past six years has involved cultivar development, evaluation and final release of wheat cultivars. During the same period, he has been involved in technology dissemination working with farmers to validate CBI's research work. The work has been implemented through an innovation platform approach in which gender and youth inclusivity were of paramount importance. Peter is currently is an MSc in Crop Science candidate at the University of Fort Hare in South Africa, and has no previous gender training.

Participant Team | Zimbabwe

Small grain breeding and promotion Zimbabwe (ZAKIS)

Project / Donor:
Zimbabwe Agricultural Knowledge
and Innovation Systems (ZAKIS) /
The European Union

Project Description:

The ZAKIS project has a mandate of strengthening collaboration of three departments: research, extension and education. Small grain breeding and promotion is one initiative adopted to disseminate research findings in a collaborative manner at identified centers of excellence in Zimbabwe. Expected outputs include increased production and productivity of small grains for sustainable food security.



Dorah Mwenye, is currently employed in the Department of Research and Specialist Services in Zimbabwe as a Chief Research Officer – Knowledge Management. Her area of expertise is cross cutting, covering both biophysical and social sciences. She is an agronomist and development practitioner, and has more than 20 years' work experience in agricultural extension and research. Her goal is to make an impact on human livelihoods in various spheres of life. Dorah obtained her DPhil in Development Studies from Chinhoyi University of Technology in Zimbabwe, focusing on climate information services. She has prior training in gender at MSc level.



Jephias Dera, is a Principal Research Officer at the Agronomy Research Institute, under Zimbabwe's Ministry of Lands and Agriculture. Jephias is currently working in the Zimbabwe Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Services (ZAKIS) Project, under the European Union-funded Zimbabwe Agricultural Growth Project (ZAGP). Jephias believes research is vital in contributing to crop productivity under the changing climatic environment. Jephias is trained in scientific communication by the International Foundation for Science (IFS) received his BSc in Crop Production from Midlands State University, Zimbabwe.



Olivia Mukondwa, from Zimbabwe, is currently employed by the under the Department of Research and Specialist Services in the Crop Breeding Institute, stationed at Matopos Research Institute. Olivia for the past sixteen years has been involved in sorghum and millet breeding for the national program. Her work focuses on releasing varieties using a demand-driven approach for food and nutritional security at the household level, working mainly with women. Olivia obtained her Masters Degree in Crop Science (Crop Improvement) from the Midlands State University in 2019. She has no prior's gender training.

Sesame and sorghum breeding for Zimbabwe

Project / Donor:

Community Action Research Programme (CARP+) / The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM)

Project Description:

The project objectives are to: promote the use of rain water harvesting (tied contours) so as to increase the yields and productivity of small grains and legumes; to improve the agronomic, post-harvest and value addition knowledge and skills of farmers; and, to establish value addition centers with communities. The project outputs include: number of farmers trained; value addition centers set; trainings conducted; products produced.



Blessing Masamha, from Zimbabwe, is currently employed by Human Science Research Council (HSRC), Africa Institute of South Africa (AISA), based in Pretoria. For the past nine years Blessing has been actively involved in food system and value chain analysis with a gender lens, through various regional projects in Tanzania, Mozambique and Zimbabwe. His aim is to contribute to food security of marginalized and vulnerable households and reduce poverty, inequality and hunger. Blessing obtained his PhD from the University of Pretoria, South Africa, in 2018. He has no formal gender training.



Ronald Mandumbu, from Zimbabwe, is currently employed by Bindura University of Science Education (BUSE), Zimbabwe. For the past 10 years Ronald has been involved in lecturing crop science courses. His work focuses on both teaching and research on selecting Striga resistant traits in sorghum. Ronald obtained his PhD in Crop Science from the University of Fort Hare, South Africa, in 2017. He has no prior gender training.

PABRA Bean Project Zimbabwe

Project / Donor:

Pan-Africa Bean Research Alliance (PABRA) / Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC)

Project Description:

The project's primary objective is to ensure that farmers are food and nutrition secure by varieties adoption and agronomic practices, involving all gender groups as well as practising farming as a business. It also trains farmers and brings awareness on the importance of involving all gender groups in committees so that everyone benefits when it comes to accessing different services.



Shylet Tsekenedza, from Zimbabwe, is currently employed by the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Resettlement, based at Harare Research Centre. Shylet has for the past 5 years been involved in cowpea and bean breeding in partnership with national, regional and international scientists. Her work focuses largely on bean value chain actors preferences, and her goal is to improve livelihoods for women farmers and farmers and value chain actors in Zimbabwe as a way to improve family health and wellbeing. Shylet obtained her BSc in Crop Science from University of Zimbabwe in 2013 and currently doing an MSc in Plant Breeding.



Nyarai Chisorochengwe, from Zimbabwe, is the holder of an MSc in Development Studies, where her research was focused on community livelihoods and gender mainstreaming. She works as a Knowledge Management Officer in the Office of the Director of Crops Division. Her duties include managing crop data for the Crop Breeding Institute, the Agronomy Institute, and the Lowveld Institute. She is also mandated to synthesize management reports for the department. Above all, she has served as a gender outcome leader for the PABRA bean project team since 2016. In this project she trains farmers on gender inclusivity in production, marketing and consumption. She hopes to get further training on gender inclusivity, and to relay the training to farmers to advance food security.

"[GREAT has] this unique combination of qualitative trainers, quantitative trainers and even the analytical thinking is actually quite unique....dealing with many teams over time, they've gained a competency around contextualizing gender issues that is quite unique that we should tap to as a community in development.

"Work with the GREAT trainers so that they understand your project and then now they can contextualize the training to fit your needs. There is a lot of value."

*—Esther Njuguna-Mungai
GREAT Client, Tropical Legumes III Custom Course
Gender Specialist, ICRISAT, Kenya*

True mainstreaming.

Designed for projects and institutions, our custom courses bring GREAT to you.

With capacity building to create a critical mass, GREAT custom courses allow your organization or project to train larger groups of researchers in a cost-effective manner, helping effective gender-responsive research become the norm, not the exception. We'll work with you to design the course that fits your needs.

Find out what GREAT can bring to your institution or project

Is your institution or project ready to make effective gender-responsive research the norm? GREAT custom courses are a cost-effective approach to providing high quality, applied gender training to larger groups of researchers.

This investment in researcher capacity can provide short- and long-term returns through **enhanced collaboration** between social and biophysical researchers, **increased grant competitiveness** through more informed project planning and budgeting, more **successful varietal adoption** through greater understanding of what all community members' needs, and **better outcomes** for men, women and children.

GREAT custom courses have key elements of the GREAT cohort course, i.e., they target scientists conducting ongoing research into which they will immediately apply the gender skills they have acquired; a mix of social scientists and biophysical scientists; and, they are split into two phases:

Phase 1: Five to six days of face-to-face or online training in applied gender theory, mixed methods data collection and analysis plans, and communications

Phase 2: Two months of application of skills acquired in participants' on-going research projects with online virtual trainer support/mentoring

"My mindset prior to this training was that it will be either impossible or too difficult to relate specific breeding programs or activities to desired societal goals, considering different market segments and agro-ecologies. However, the GREAT course has generated impressive results by converging social scientists, breeders and gender specialists to discuss and understand a common language. With the rigorous training we had this week, I have a better understanding of the need to integrate gender into our breeding activities from pre-breeding to variety release stages. This will really help me come up with different crop varieties that will satisfy different market segments and increase the adoption rate of the future varieties. This kind of workshop is going to transform African plant breeding programmes and make Africa more food secure."

– Umar Mohammad Lawan
GREAT Fellow, Tropical Legumes III Custom Course
Plant Breeder, Ahmadu Bello University, Nigeria

GREAT Offerings | Custom Courses



Photo: Devon Jenkins

The GREAT Community of Practice

Welcome to the family.

The GREAT CoP connects you to an international network of agricultural researchers.

Making gender-responsive research the norm takes more than just training researchers, it takes changing research and cultural norms within respective fields. Through the GREAT CoP our Fellows are able to draw on the group's expertise, share resources, provide peer review, and collaborate on proposals.

A community dedicated to creating more impactful research

With a growing network of fellows, trainers, and practitioners across sub-Saharan Africa and beyond, the Community of Practice (CoP) is the true spirit of GREAT, connecting the GREAT family across disciplines, roles, institutions and national borders. Through the CoP GREAT fellows collaborate on project proposals, peer review articles, and share resources and job opportunities. Beyond this, the CoP brings the transformative power of the GREAT course into institutions across Africa, laying the groundwork for institutional change.

“ That ‘no one is an island’ is a common African adage, with the implication that nobody can achieve anything by working on their own. Multi-disciplinary research is key to achieving the GREAT vision of enabling researchers to undertake more inclusive research projects in order to create effective agricultural systems that address the priorities of men and women throughout Africa. ”

*— Bernice Waweru
GREAT Fellow, Cereal Grains Cohort Course
Molecular Breeder, KALRO, Kenya*



The GREAT Community of Practice

The GREAT Community of Practice Advisory Board

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Freelance Consultant, Germany

Diversity is our strength.

GREAT brings together experts from a wide array of disciplinary backgrounds and professional experience.

Having such a rich diversity of knowledge, skills and experiences together on one team allows us to offer GREAT course participants a truly unique training, and provide top-notch mentoring and support during the field research portion of the GREAT program.

The GREAT External Project Advisory Committee

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GREAT receives monitoring, learning and evaluation support from Aline Impact, Ltd.

ONLINE Resources

Providing access to curated resources for gender-responsive agricultural research



Staying Connected:

The GREAT Quarterly Newsletter

Four times per year GREAT sends out an email newsletter to hundreds of recipients around Sub-Saharan Africa and globally, with updates from the project, spotlights on upcoming events and important resources, and the latest blog entries. If you'd like to stay in the know, and be aware of what's new in the gender and agricultural research world, sign up to get the newsletter delivered to your inbox, too!

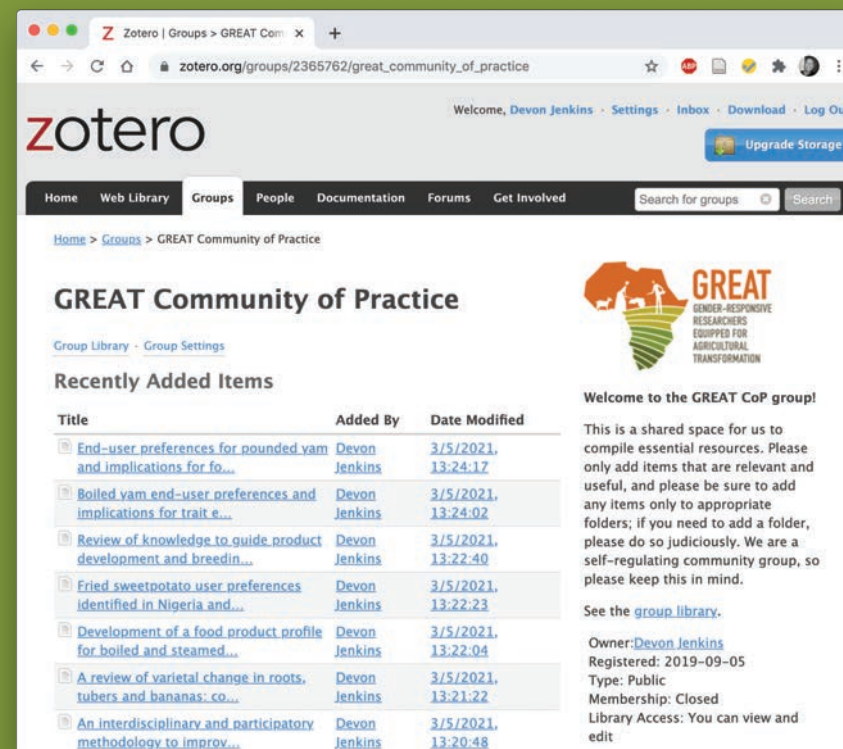
See previous newsletters: <https://www.greatagriculture.org/content/news>
To sign up visit: tinyurl.com/great-updates

Finding Resources:

The GREAT Zotero Group

Complementing the training and mentoring components of the project, GREAT also curates a collection of gender resources for agricultural researchers. This resource is freely available to anyone via the GREAT Zotero Research Group: tinyurl.com/great-zotero

Resources cover gender-responsiveness for agricultural research for a broad range of crops and come from a diverse array of sources, including articles from GREAT trainers and the broader GREAT Community of Practice (CoP), as well as a collection of essential resources for gender-responsive agricultural research.





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“As an entomologist, I would be biased towards: ‘Control the insects, and the problem is solved,’ or, ‘Bring in new material, and the problem is solved.’ But now it’s becoming more and more clear that I have to also withdraw from entomology, enter the household, and imagine that I’m making decisions with them, and then try to respond back to my recommendations, and see which ones of them work and which ones of them don’t work.”

*- Aman Bonaventure Omondi
GREAT Fellow, RTB Cohort Course
Epidemiologist, IITA, Burundi*



GREAT

GENDER-RESPONSIVE
RESEARCHERS
EQUIPPED FOR
AGRICULTURAL
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