

CGIAR Collaborative Platform for Gender Research / ISSD-Africa 2019-2022

Call for Proposals

Purpose of the call:

We know that mainstream business models for seed production and distribution do not reach the diversity of smallholder farmers; however the implications and dynamics of this are not yet well-understood. Diversity - including age, gender, ethnicity and socio-economic standing – of smallholder farmers has been insufficiently and unsystematically explored in seed sector development. Building on CGIAR research done to-date on gender dynamics in seed systems, and in collaboration with [Integrated Seed System Development-Africa \(ISSD-Africa\)](#), the CGIAR Collaborative Platform for Gender Research is calling for CGIAR research proposals to contribute to address this gap. Specifically, the call for proposal is on: **Gender dynamics in seed systems: gender dimensions of access to high quality, non-hybrid, seed for smallholders in Africa.**

The research question should align with ISSD-Africa's overall action learning question and/or sub-questions on this theme: *What sustainable business models for seed distribution reach the diversity of farmers engaging in smallholder production (including both women and men of different social categories)?*

- *How does commercialisation and specialisation of seed production affect inclusive access?*
- *Do women seed entrepreneurs provide better access to seed for women seed users?*
- *What social dynamics support, or can be harnessed to support, access to quality to seed and sustainability?*
- *What is the interplay between commercial and moral economies in seed production and access to quality seed?*

One project will be selected for funding and participate in ISSD-Africa over 33 months (December 2019-August 31 2022).

Selection criteria:

Proposals of the following nature are eligible:

- analysis and interpretation of appropriate gender data that has already been collected,
- adding additional fieldwork to an ongoing qualitative or quantitative study to strengthen gender analysis,
- developing a new study.

Proposals with the following characteristics are of particular interest for this call:

- Uses new methodological approaches
- Conceptualizes gender relations broadly
- Uses mixed methods
- Goes beyond gender to include intersectionality (age, ethnicity, socio-economics etc.)
- Articulates relevance for CGIAR and the global development community
- Is embedded in ongoing seeds systems research within CGIAR.

The selection will be based on the quality of the proposed research and its potential to contribute to further development of the gender research agenda of CGIAR and ISSD-Africa, and the clarity of the proposal.

- Principal Investigators should be CGIAR staff; non-CGIAR collaborators are welcome.
- A maximum amount of **\$135 000 USD** for a 3-year project will be allocated by ISSD through the Gender Platform.
- **Co-investment** from a Center/CRP or bilateral project should be **at least 1/2 of the total budget**.
- Principal Investigator and one team member are expected to participate in the **ISSD-Africa kick-off meeting** in Nairobi **December 10-12 2019**.
- Principal Investigators are expected to present their project and findings during **ISSD-Africa Community of Practice meetings in 2020 and 2021**.
- Principal Investigators will be expected to attend the **2020 and 2021 conference** of *CGIAR Gender Equality in Food Systems Research Platform* (dates/venue TBD).

All proposals will be reviewed by a panel composed of four internal and external gender and seed systems experts, including from ISSD-Africa and the *CGIAR Collaborative Platform for Gender Research*.

Process and timeline:

- Call for proposals circulated **Friday October 18th 2019**
- **Proposal submission deadline Friday November 15th 2019**
- Decisions on selected proposals communicated by **Friday November 22nd 2019**
- Projects will be carried out over an 33-month period from **December 1 2019 – August 31 2022**.
- Principal Investigator and one team member will attend the ISSD-Africa kick-off meeting **December 10-12** in Nairobi.
- Principal Investigator will attend the **2020 and 2021 conference** of *CGIAR Gender Equality in Food Systems Research Platform* (dates/venue TBD)

What should be included in the proposals:

Proposal should be a **maximum of 3 pages** long.

- Title
- Principal Investigator, core team and partners
- Background (include: whether the research is tied to previous or ongoing studies, the countries where it will be carried out and, the co-investing CRP/Center/bilateral project)
- Justification: how does this research contribute to the theme of the call and to the development of an ISSD-Africa knowledge agenda, particularly in relation to gender?
- Main research questions and methods
- Articulation of how research results will be used wither within or outside of the CGIAR
- Partners

- Budget, including break down of costs and funding: Budgets submitted should include provisional travel and related costs for participation in two annual conferences of the new *CGIAR Gender Equality in Food Systems Research Platform* (dates/venue TBD)
- Research work plan with timeline
- Outputs should include two working papers with ISSD-Africa and one peer-reviewed article.

All proposals must be accompanied by:

- A supporting email from the **Center or CRP Director** demonstrating that co-funding is secured.
- A brief (*maximum 200 words*) statement explaining the extent to which the proposal fits within the ongoing gender research and Gender Strategy of the CGIAR Research Program OR the Center involved. This should be submitted by the **Gender Research Coordinator** of the CGIAR Research Program or the Center gender representative, either with the proposal or directly to the Gender Platform.
- Proposals should be addressed to the Coordinator of CGIAR Collaborative Platform for Gender Research (Rhiannon Pyburn) and submitted **before the close of business (CET)** on **Friday November 15th 2019** to **Andrea Vos**, Assistant to the Coordinator at **GenderPlatform@cgiar.org**.