

#### **Executive Board**

143<sup>rd</sup> Session Rome, 11–12 December 2024

# Accelerating IFAD's work on gender equality and women's empowerment to achieve rural transformation

Document: EB 2024/143/R.16

Agenda: 4

Date: 19 November 2024

Distribution: Public
Original: English
FOR: REVIEW

**Action:** The Executive Board is invited to review the contents of this document.

#### **Technical questions:**

#### **Juan Carlos Mendoza**

Director

Environment, Climate, Gender and Social Inclusion Inclusion

e-mail: juancarlos.mendoza@ifad.org

#### Loise Maina

Lead Technical Specialist – Gender and Social Inclusion
Environment, Climate, Gender and Social Inclu

Environment, Climate, Gender and Social Inclusion Division

e-mail: lo.maina@ifad.org

## Accelerating IFAD's work on gender equality and women's empowerment to achieve rural transformation

#### I. Introduction

- 1. The world is off track to achieve the gender equality targets set under Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5, making it imperative to accelerate and intensify efforts on gender equality and women's empowerment (GEWE). Progress on SDG 5 has stalled, and in some areas has been reversed, threatening the attainment of all other SDGs. Women account for more than half of those living in extreme poverty. Globally, their labour force participation stands at 47 per cent, much lower than men's (73 per cent). This affects both economic growth and societal progress to address climate change, food and financial crises, and growing fragility. Gender disparities in land and resource rights, leadership, employment and unpaid care work, as well as violence against women and girls, persist. Harmful practices such as child marriage and female genital mutilation threaten the future of rural girls. Worldwide, one in five young women is married before age 18.3
- 2. Member States and other stakeholders are emphasizing the need to address negative GEWE trends. Closing gender gaps in farm productivity and wages within agrifood systems could boost the global domestic product by 1 per cent, representing nearly US\$1 trillion, and decrease global food insecurity levels, leading to 45 million more people being food secure. The adoption in 2023 of the Committee on Food Security Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women's and Girls' Empowerment in the Context of Food Security and Nutrition represents a crucial commitment to dismantle discriminatory barriers hindering progress towards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The forthcoming 69th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW 69), marking the thirtieth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women and adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (Beijing+30), will provide a reflection point to regain traction, scale up commitments and catalyse adequate GEWE investments.
- 3. IFAD is a leader in GEWE, leveraging its unique mandate and deep-rooted experience in working with rural communities to drive transformative change. Promoting GEWE in agriculture and rural development is a priority and a distinctive feature of IFAD's identity. Through innovative partnerships and financing mechanisms, IFAD continues to shape global discourse and action on GEWE. IFAD is a top performer<sup>5</sup> in the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-SWAP), consistently exceeding the requirements in most of the 17 performance indicators.
- 4. The recent thematic evaluation on GEWE conducted by the Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD and the forthcoming update of IFAD's gender policy<sup>6</sup> present an opportunity to strengthen IFAD's performance. This reflects ambitions under the Thirteenth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources (IFAD13) to step up engagement in GEWE, including through actions linking GEWE to its three priority areas: (i) fragile contexts; (ii) climate change and biodiversity; and (iii) private sector investment.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), 2024 Social Development Report.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> DESA, 2024 Financing for Sustainable Development Report.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The 11 biggest hurdles for women's equality by 2030 | UN Women.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), 2023 Status of women in agrifood systems report.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The UN-SWAP is a system-wide accountability framework designed to track progress towards GEWE across all United Nations entities.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> The revised gender policy will be submitted to the Executive Board in December 2025.

5. This discussion paper is intended to initiate a strategic dialogue between IFAD Management and Member States on how to accelerate IFAD's support for GEWE. Building on IFAD's long-standing experience in this regard, the paper presents IFAD's approach, challenges and a roadmap for future action. These will be critical in informing the Fund's updated gender policy and action plan.

## II. Evolution of IFAD's approach to GEWE

- 6. IFAD has increasingly prioritized GEWE as a key cornerstone of its interventions. The focus on GEWE has increased, particularly since 2009 when IFAD committed to accelerate its efforts around the third Millennium Development Goal on GEWE. Since then, IFAD has been at the forefront of empowering women as agents of change, giving voice to the poorest, most marginalized women and fostering their access to resources and markets.
- 7. **Strategy.** The gender policy and action plan guide IFAD's GEWE work. In 2012 the IFAD Policy on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment formalized three strategic objectives guiding IFAD's efforts to close gender gaps in rural societies: (i) promote economic empowerment; (ii) increase rural women's decision-making power and representation; and (iii) achieve an equitable workload balance. The Mainstreaming Gender-transformative Approaches at IFAD Action Plan 2019–2025 introduced gender-transformative approaches (GTAs)<sup>7</sup> to guide the design of context-specific GEWE interventions. Following the adoption of the action plan, IFAD defined GTA descriptors, introduced a gender marker and developed and implemented a project-specific women's empowerment indicator.<sup>8</sup>
- 8. **Portfolio.** Since IFAD10, the relevance of GEWE in-country engagement and the programme of loans and grants (PoLG) has grown progressively. In accordance with the guidance from Member States, IFAD continues to ensure that GEWE is mainstreamed in 100 per cent of country strategies and IFAD-funded projects. IFAD has increased its commitment to develop projects that have gender-transformative outcomes to 35 per cent of new designs under IFAD12 and IFAD13. Annex I presents a summary of GEWE in the IFAD portfolio.
- 9. **Methodologies.** Since 2009, IFAD has played a key role in promoting GTAs that include the use of household methodologies (HHMs). These approaches, such as the Gender Action Learning Systems, Cerrando Brecha, gender dialogue sessions, Business Action Learning for Innovation and others, tackle the underlying causes that hinder women's empowerment. HHMs have resulted in more joint decision-making, equitable workloads, reduction of gender-based violence and improved economic opportunities. Notable gender-transformative outcomes were identified in building resilience in fragile countries as well as in interventions that enhanced women's voices in rural organizations and promoted access to land. Through a combination of grants and loans, IFAD has contributed to building national capacities to implement and scale up HHMS.

<sup>7</sup> A gender-transformative approach examines, challenges and transforms the underlying causes of inequalities. (FAO, IFAD and the World Food Programme, 2022. <u>Guidelines for measuring gender transformative change in the context of food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture</u>).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> This indicator leverages international best practice by focusing on the methodology used for the project-level women's empowerment in the agriculture index developed by the International Food Policy Research Institute.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Methodologies that enable family members to work together to improve relationships and decision-making and achieve more equitable workloads.

EB 2024/143/R.16

#### Tackling inequality and increasing incomes in the Plurinational State of Bolivia through GEWE

In the Plurinational State of Bolivia, the Integral Strengthening Programme for the Camelid Value Chain in the Bolivian High Plateau (<u>Pro-Camélidos</u>) has put gender equality at the heart of efforts to strengthen value chains and reduce poverty among llama and alpaca farmers. The project has trained communities to challenge beliefs, norms and behaviours that discriminate against women – and driven real change. Women like Roberta Rivera Mollo are now at the forefront of efforts to produce and sell artisanal delicacies like *charque* [llama jerky]. She now manufactures up to 100 kg each month and is hoping to export overseas.

"We are able to feed ourselves and our families, and we're not only looking to men for our income." Roberta Rivera Mollo

- 10. Global engagement. The Fund has played a catalytic role in bringing GTAs from the margins to the centre of rural and agricultural development discourse. IFAD participates in and co-leads important global policy processes, such as the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, the Organisation for Economic Co- operation and Development Development Assistance Committee (OECD-DAC) Gender Network, the development of the Committee on World Food Security Voluntary Guidelines and the Generation Equality Feminist Action for Climate Justice Action Plan.
- 11. **Partnerships.** Strategic partnerships with the other United Nations Rome-based agencies (RBAs) and other partners have been pivotal to leverage additional funds, expand impactful initiatives and engage in policy. The Joint Programme on Gender Transformative Approaches for Food Security and Nutrition (JP GTA) and the Joint Programme on Accelerating Progress Towards Rural Women's Economic Empowerment (JP RWEE) have played an important role in generating evidence and building capacity to implement GTAs. The partnership with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for the implementation of the Gender Transformative Mechanism in the context of climate adaptation is contributing to scale up GTAs in the context of climate interventions. An IFAD-funded grant implemented by the Center for International Forestry Research and three other CGIAR centres is deepening impact on women's land tenure. Annex III summarizes the GEWE partnerships context.
- 12. **Workforce.** IFAD has made substantive progress towards gender balance and diversity in the workforce. Driven by an action plan to improve gender parity 2022–2026, IFAD aims to improve its commitment to gender parity in its workforce. The percentage of women in IFAD's workforce reached a significant 56.8 per cent in 2023, above gender parity. At senior level, the percentage of women at grades P-5 and above increased from 26 per cent in 2017 to 37.5 per cent in 2022, and to 46.3 per cent in 2023. Strong motivation to engage on GEWE by IFAD's workforce is a key driving force of the Fund's catalytic role on gender equality.<sup>10</sup>
- 13. **Cross-cutting issues and climate.** Since the adoption of the 2012 policy, IFAD's policies, strategies, action plans and procedures have evolved. In the last decade the Fund has incorporated GEWE considerations into areas such as its Social, Environmental and Climate Assessment Procedures (SECAP), technical areas of work such as rural finance (Inclusive Rural Finance Policy), nutrition (Nutrition Action Plan 2019–2025) and engagement with the private sector (Framework for IFAD non-Sovereign Private Sector Operations). With respect to climate risks, project development and the SECAP procedures recognize that women and girls are disproportionately affected by climate change, and require investments targeted to their adaptation needs. Furthermore, the SECAP adopted in 2021 specified new requirements for borrowers, recipients and partners to prevent and address gender-based violence, including sexual harassment, exploitation and abuse.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> As part of the wider United Nations system, IFAD is being invited to report on gender parity in its governing bodies. Currently, the Chair and two Vice-Chairs of the Governing Council, the Chair of the Executive Board, and the Chairs of the Audit Committee and Evaluation Committee are men. In the case of List Convenors and Co-Convenors, five are men and one is a woman.

- Annex II summarizes the reach of GEWE issues within IFAD's strategic and operational documents.
- 14. **Fragility.** Women and young people are more vulnerable and therefore more exposed to the consequences of fragility. Recognizing this, IFAD's updated approach to engagement in fragile situations puts the needs of women at the centre of its principles of engagement. To operationalize this approach, the fragility diagnostics that inform IFAD engagement in fragile contexts consider the needs of women and girls as the first step in designing responses that meet their needs and increase their resilience.
- 15. **Private sector engagement.** GEWE is at the centre of non-sovereign operations and the new private sector strategy. The eight non-sovereign operations approved in 2024 have an expected 494,500 direct beneficiaries, with a particular emphasis on empowering women (53 per cent) through focused interventions aimed at the needs of female rural entrepreneurs. The upcoming private sector strategy will emphasize IFAD's approach of investing in functioning ecosystems for local private sector development in rural areas and food systems, with a focus on young and women entrepreneurs.

## III.Key challenges and lessons

- 16. GEWE impact is more evident in countries with strong capacity and buy-in from governments and in projects with well-designed gender-transformative strategies. IFAD interventions achieve better outcomes when they support local communities and national governments in long-term capacity-building and planning, incorporating a blend of lending and non-lending support.
- 17. Policy engagement on GEWE is a critical element to support systemic change but requires more attention. Country strategic opportunities programmes and project design reports are not currently leveraged for policy engagement on GEWE. Gender-transformative projects have been shown to contribute to normative and behavioural change at individual, household and community levels, but have not achieved the desired policy level changes.
- 18. The results management framework on GEWE is based mainly on outreach numbers disaggregated by sex and gender ratings across the programme cycle, rather than on GEWE-related outcomes. Reporting on actual benefits and empowerment outcomes has been limited and unsystematic, which has generated limited evidence of GEWE results. The focus on gender replenishment targets has also fueled a culture of compliance, taking away from the focus on outcomes.
- 19. Progressive increases in human and financial resources are needed to deliver on an increasingly ambitious agenda. Despite growth in resources allocated to gender over the years, there is a need for a continued increase in dedicated resources to ensure that the growing demands across the PoLG are adequately addressed.

## IV. The road ahead: potential priorities for future work

- 20. Strategy enhancement. Revising IFAD's gender policy and action plan is crucial to accelerating progress on GEWE within IFAD's portfolio and prioritizing key action areas. This revision will help align IFAD's efforts with the evolving global challenges and opportunities and ensure that its approach remains relevant, impactful and forward-looking. By enhancing its strategic framework, IFAD aims to reinforce efficiency, strengthen accountability and provide clearer guidance for scaling GTAs, driving sustainable and long-lasting outcomes.
- 21. **Areas of work.** Focus on enhancing activities on interrelated GEWE areas that are particularly impactful, including the care economy, rural women's entrepreneurship and digital technologies. The care economy is a vital yet often undervalued component of women's work. Recognizing, reducing and redistributing the burden of care work on women will ensure a more equitable division of labour and unlock

women's time for productive activities. IFAD will invest more in women's entrepreneurship by providing tailored financial services and business development services; and fostering networks and partnerships among women-led enterprises. IFAD will leverage digital technologies to drive rural finance and promote decent iobs by addressing persistent gender biases and gaps in rural labour markets, in partnership with the private sector.

- **Addressing intersectionality.** Scaling up successfully tested GTAs<sup>11</sup> that address the critical interplay of gender and poverty along with the drivers of inequalities. These include those stemming from the intersectional axis of age, ethnicity and disability; climate-related vulnerabilities, fragility and remoteness; and discriminatory norms and legislation hampering women's land rights, as well as their participation and leadership in rural institutions that mediate access to resources and climate smart technologies.
- 23. Internal capabilities. Driving systematic mainstreaming of GEWE in IFAD interventions and strengthening capacities through key initiatives that will include: (i) revision of the gender marker system and the criteria used to assess the quality of project designs on GEWE; (ii) capacity-building, knowledge sharing, South-South and Triangular Cooperation initiatives and toolkits to guide decision makers, implementing partners and IFAD staff; (iii) strengthening of gender-sensitive monitoring and evaluation (M&E); and (iv) targeting technical backstopping to gender-transformative projects across the project cycle.
- 24. Making the case. Developing a context-specific business case for GEWE investments. GEWE results are better in countries with strong capacity and buy-in from governments and in projects with well-designed GTAs. 12 Emerging evidence demonstrates that countries with higher gender equality often experience higher growth. There is a need to build the business case on the economic value of these investments and to develop a systematic approach to identify the potential return on investments in GEWE.
- Policy dialogue. Improving policy engagement on GEWE to support systemic change. Gender-transformative projects have been shown to contribute to changes at individual, household and community levels, but these are not sufficient. Projects must identify strategies to drive policy changes. This points to the need for clear guidance and training on policy engagement. The Gender Transformative Mechanism programme funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation is engaging in evidence-based policy dialogue on gender and climate. Lessons and guidance will be developed based on outcomes and results. IFAD is also organizing learning routes and exchanges among projects to disseminate good practices on policy engagement and scaling of GEWE.
- **Extending partnerships.** Strengthening strategic partnerships to enhance IFAD's 26. role as a catalyst for change in advancing GEWE at both national and global levels. IFAD will deepen collaboration with key global players, including RBAs, civil society organizations and rural institutions. It will also leverage global commitments including the 2026 International Year of the Woman Farmer, the 2025 financing for development process, the United Nations Food Systems Summit Stocktaking Moment+4, Beijing+30 Review, CSW 69 and COP30. Through these processes and partnerships, IFAD will increasingly catalyse supplementary funds to expand its work, including with the private sector, and to develop innovative mechanisms such as a gender-transformative facility to provide demand-driven in-country technical support for scaling of GTAs.

<sup>11</sup> Examples include the use of HHMs tools to reach and benefit the poorest women, the adoption of the agroecological logbook to strengthen and value women's role in the care economy and the development of women-led enterprises that provide environmental services to their communities.

12 Confirmed by the corporate-level evaluation on gender (2023).

27. Measurement. Establishing sound metrics to track progress towards IFAD's GEWE goals to ensure accountability and promote learning. This requires an update of the criteria used to assess the quality of project designs on GEWE and to develop a robust monitoring and reporting system to capture GEWE results at all levels. Projects will be supported to develop clear pathways, tailored interventions and well disaggregated outcome-level indicators for activities contributing to GEWE. IFAD will also develop a sound methodology to track more subtle normative and behavioural change processes.

#### V. Conclusions

- 28. In the last decade, IFAD has systematically developed its expertise as a leader in GEWE investments and developed a comprehensive operational framework for driving gender-transformative programming, which has become a core component of its mandate and strategic agenda for inclusive rural transformation.<sup>13</sup>
- 29. Under IFAD12 and IFAD13, IFAD has renewed the commitment to intensify interventions focused on gender-transformative approaches and advance its role as a catalyst for change on GEWE. The review of the gender policy and operational instruments for GEWE will help to catalyse increased investments in building national capacity, testing innovative methodologies and demonstrating the results of GTAs as effective strategies for long-term rural transformation and sustainable development.

## VI. Questions for discussion

- 30. This discussion is meant to contribute to a shared understanding of IFAD's role in promoting GEWE and gender-transformative rural development. Members are invited to reflect on the following guiding questions:
  - What key priorities regarding gender equality and women's empowerment are Member States prioritizing that should inform and be reflected in IFAD's revised policy?
  - What specific mechanisms and operational instruments can be strengthened or introduced to deepen impact and ensure that transformative results are scaled up?
  - What additional partnerships should IFAD pursue to further expand the impact of its gender-related interventions?

6

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> A Strategic Vision for IFAD 2016–2025: Enabling inclusive and sustainable rural transformation.

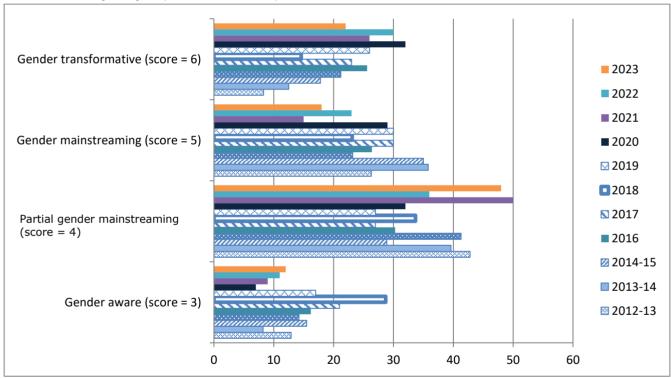
Annex I EB 2024/143/R.16

## Overview of GEWE in IFAD's project portfolio

1. IFAD is doing relatively well on its programmatic GEWE performance commitments. Under IFAD12 (2022–2024), it committed to ensuring that 35 per cent of its projects qualified as gender transformative at design, with 60 per cent of projects rated 5+ and 90 per cent rated 4+ on gender equality at completion. These commitments have been reaffirmed for IFAD13 (2025–2027).

2. In accordance with the <u>gender action plan</u>, which operationalizes IFAD's <u>gender policy</u>, IFAD not only tracks the number of projects that are gender mainstreamed or gender transformative at design, but also assesses the "gender sensitivity" of projects with gender-specific objectives, supported by clear budget allocations. The <u>Report on IFAD's Mainstreaming Effectiveness (RIME) 2023</u> indicates that for new projects designed in 2022, 89 per cent of the loan value was rated moderately satisfactory and above (4+) (see figure below), consistent with the previous year's rating. The proportion of the loan value classified as highly satisfactory increased to 30 per cent compared to 26 per cent in the previous period.





- 3. In 2024 (as of September), 14 projects have been validated gender transformative at design out of a total of 25 newly approved projects.
- 4. Recent Operational Results Management System (ORMS) data (as of 7 October) for projects completed during IFAD12 shows that 81 per cent of projects were rated 4+ against a target of 90 per cent, with 44 per cent rated 5+ against a target of 60 per cent. 14

\_

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> In broad terms, a gender rating of 4 (moderately satisfactory) means that two of the gender policy strategic objectives are met. A gender rating of 5 (satisfactory) means that all three strategic objectives of the policy are addressed. A gender rating of 6 (transformative) means that beyond addressing the three strategic objectives, the project has reversed negative social norms and behaviours.

Annex II EB 2024/143/R.16

## **GEWE** in **IFAD** strategic and operational documents

Document	GEWE focus		
Social, Environmental and Climate Assessment Procedures (SECAP) – 2021 update	SECAP guidelines prioritize GEWE by integrating gender considerations into environmental and social impact assessments. The guidelines emphasize the importance of addressing gender disparities in access to resources, decision-making and benefits from development projects.		
IFAD's Policy to Prevent and Respond to Sexual Harassment, Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (2018)	The policy prioritizes GEWE by recognizing the disproportionate impact of these issues on women and marginalized groups. While focusing on creating a safe environment and accountability mechanisms, the policy ensures that prevention and response strategies are gender-sensitive, contributing to broader commitments to GEWE within IFAD as an institution and in its operations.		
Information and Communication Technology for Development (ICT4D) Strategy (2019)	Highlights barriers and opportunities for improving women to access ICT.		
Updated approach to IFAD engagement in fragile situations (2024)	Targeting and inclusion of vulnerable people (women, youth, Indigenous Peoples and persons with disabilities) is a key feature of IFAD's updated approach.  Recognizes that additional emphasis on boosting women's role in building resilience in their households and communities is needed, while at the same time prioritizing investments in the resilience of poor rural women, girls, youth, Indigenous Peoples and persons with disabilities, given their high vulnerability in many types of fragile situations.		
Human Resources Policy	Promotes gender balance in recruitment of professional staff and ensuring an enabling working environment for all.		
IFAD Poverty Targeting Policy 2023	The policy promotes gender-sensitive poverty targeting approaches that unpack the category of "women" to address the specific barriers faced by poor and marginalized women in all their diversities in accessing resources, services and opportunities. By focusing on inclusive and equitable participation, the policy aims to enhance women's economic empowerment and their role in decision-making processes at the household, community and institutional levels.		
IFAD Policy on Engagement with Indigenous Peoples – update (2022)	The policy pays considerable attention to the empowerment of Indigenous women, acknowledging that they face additional and intersecting forms of discrimination compared to their male counterparts. It emphasizes the importance of integrating a gender approach into the Free, Prior and Informed Consent process, ensuring that the unique needs and perspectives of Indigenous women are recognized and addressed. Furthermore, this policy celebrates the achievements and strengths of Indigenous women, highlighting their vital contributions to their communities. In addition, it states that the Participatory Guarantee Systems defined by Organics International will specifically focus on enhancing the economic empowerment of Indigenous women, fostering their involvement in decision-making processes and promoting equitable access to resources.		
IFAD Strategy on Biodiversity (2022–2025)	Strategic direction 1 systematically sets out to explore and exploit synergies between biodiversity and IFAD's mainstreaming themes, in particular gender.		
Inclusive Rural Finance Policy (2021)	The policy highlights different needs of women and sets out a commitment to monitor this in processes.		
IFAD Private Sector Engagement Strategy 2019–2024	Action 1 seeks to develop inclusive value chains with private sector partners by developing partnerships with agribusiness companies to integrate smallholder farmers and rural men and women into global/regional/domestic value chains. It also states IFAD's commitment to conduct selective impact assessments focusing on specific dimensions of private sector collaboration, including on job creation and gender and youth inclusion.		

Annex II EB 2024/143/R.16

IFAD's Disability Inclusion Strategy (2022–2027)	In its principles of engagement, IFAD affirms its commitment to gender equality and strongly emphasizes intersectionality among persons with disabilities.	
Disability Inclusion in IFAD's Operations: A Practitioner's Guide (2024)	Social diversity and gender feature among the key cross-cutting issues that require attention during the disability-responsive poverty and social analysis at project design. The critical role women play as caregivers of family members with disabilities and how to address the complex needs of these women is also highlighted.	
Operational Guidelines on IFAD's engagement in pro-poor value chain development (2020)	The guidelines ensure that gender equality dimensions are systematically integrated into IFAD value chain development interventions.	
IFAD South-South and Triangular Cooperation Strategy 2022–2027	One of its guiding principles is alignment to IFAD's mainstreaming themes (gender, youth, nutrition and climate change).	
IFAD Strategy for Engagement in Small Island Developing States 2022–2027	Gender equality features as a principle of engagement to ensure no one is left behind on the path to rural transformation in small island developing states (SIDS), the adoption of inclusive gender-transformative approaches in all IFAD's interventions in SIDS will be actively pursued.	
Framework for Implementing Transformational Approaches to Mainstreaming Themes: Environment and Climate, Gender, Nutrition and Youth (2019)	This document provides a framework for an integrated and transformational approach to mainstream environment and climate, gender, nutrition and youth in IFAD operations to achieve sustainable food systems transformation and inclusive solutions to rural poverty and food insecurity.	

Annex III EB 2024/143/R.16

## Mapping of existing and potential partnerships

	Status		Focus
Partner	Existing	Potential	
CARE International	х		Social norms, gender-transformative approaches (GTAs) and behavioural changes (within and outside the Joint Programme on Gender Transformative Approaches for Food Security and Nutrition (JP GTA)
CGIAR	х		Gender-responsive innovations in agriculture, scaling up of GTAs, measuring transformative changes
Gender Network of Member States' Representatives		х	Revision of IFAD's gender policy
European Union	х		Gender transformative approaches (JP GTA)
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	х		Gender transformative approaches and economic empowerment (JP GTA and the Joint Programme on Accelerating Progress Towards Rural Women's Economic Empowerment [JP RWEE])
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	х		GTAs in the nexus with climate change (Gender Transformative Mechanism and JP RWEE Rwanda)
Global Environment Facility, Adaptation Fund, Green Climate Fund	х		Scaling up GTAs in the nexus with climate change and climate adaptation
Private sector and private sector foundations		X	Financial inclusion  Women's empowerment in agricultural value chains and market access, productivity enhancement
United Nations Inter- Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality (IANGWE)	х		Coordinated advocacy for gender equality (Beijing +30, International Year of the Woman Farmer, etc.)
UN Women	х		Economic empowerment (JP RWEE), policy and advocacy on GEWE
World Food Programme (WFP)	х		Gender transformative approaches and economic empowerment (JP GTA and JP RWEE)