



# GEM Digest of the Month for September 1, 2014

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August 2014 moon and hay bales in southwest Manitoba. Photo courtesy of C. Murray.

The Gender Equality Mainstreaming (GEM) Working Group of the Agricultural Institute of Canada (AIC) gathers information and articles on an ongoing basis on gender equality mainstreaming within agriculture, scientific research, rural development, climate change, organizational development and international development. Information is shared with members, partners, scientific societies and member organizations. The views and opinions presented are not necessarily representative of AIC.

If you have information to share, please send it to [dinah.ceplis@gmail.com](mailto:dinah.ceplis@gmail.com) to compile and re-distribute once a month. Back issues of the GEM Digest are available at <http://www.aic.ca/gender/resources.cfm>.

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GEM Committee Member (Volunteer)

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## Opportunities and Upcoming Events

### 1. International Development Research Centre (IDRC) -- Canadian Partnerships Small Grants 2014-2015

<http://www.idrc.ca/EN/Funding/Competitions/Pages/CompetitionDetails.aspx?CompetitionID=83>

Canada's IDRC invites organizations incorporated and headquartered in Canada to submit applications for its 2014-2015 small grants for innovative research and knowledge sharing. The applying organization must have one Canadian partner organization and may have other partners from Canada and/or from one or more developing countries. Grants are up to CA\$60 thousand for research, and up to CA\$15 thousand for events and small dissemination activities. The application deadline is **23 September 2014**.

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### 2. International Development Research Centre (IDRC) -- Bentley Cropping Systems Fellowship

<http://www.idrc.ca/EN/Funding/Competitions/Pages/CompetitionDetails.aspx?CompetitionID=82>

Canada's IDRC offers this fellowship every two years to a Canadian, permanent resident of Canada, or citizen of a developing country to undertake applied on-farm research with cooperating farmers in one or more developing countries. Applications are invited from graduate students with university degrees in agriculture, forestry, or biology. The value of the award is up to CA\$30 thousand. The application deadline is **01 October 2014**.

The Fellowship provides funding for field research aimed at increasing the yield of food crops, improving farmers' livelihoods, and enhancing soil fertility. In particular, the research should evaluate and/or promote the use of fertility-enhancing plants — such as leguminous forages, shrubs, cover crops, and grain legumes — on small farms.

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### 3. Borlaug Global Rust Initiative (BGRI) -- Award for Women in Wheat Research

<http://www.globalrust.org/awards/award-wit>

The BGRI offers the Jeanie Borlaug Laube award for the professional development of women working on wheat research during the early stages of their careers. The award is intended to help cover costs associated with attending the BGRI workshop and a training program at CIMMYT in Obregon, Mexico. The application deadline is **01 October 2014**.

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### 4. Jeanie Borlaug Laube Women in *Triticum* (WIT) Mentor Award

<http://www.globalrust.org/awards/award-wit-mentor>

This award recognizes mentors of both genders who have proven to be excellent mentors of women working in *triticum* and its nearest relatives. Recipients of the WIT Mentor award will receive a cash honorarium of \$3,000 USD as well as the honor of organizing a session at the subsequent year's BGRI technical workshop. The application deadline is **01 October 2014**.

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### 5. Vacancy: Gender Research Associate Scientist

<http://cipotato.org/about-cip/jobs/open-positions/gender-research-associate-scientist-ref-14-43-grasirshq/#sthash.zdmVCBkJ.dpuf>

The International Potato Center (CIP) seeks an experienced social scientist, knowledgeable in the analysis of gender in agricultural development contexts, to coordinate implementation of the Gender Strategy of the CGIAR Research Program on Roots, Tubers and Bananas for Food Security and Income (RTB).

The position will be based in Lima (Peru) and involve work in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Screening of applications will begin on **August 25st** and will continue until the post is filled.

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### 6. Vacancy: Senior Gender Specialist, CGIAR Program on Dryland Systems

<https://apps.icarda.org/iea/>

ICARDA is recruiting a Senior Gender Specialist for immediate availability. This position will lead the gender research at ICARDA (International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas) and in particular the gender component of the Dryland Systems CGIAR Research Program (CRP). The International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) is an international autonomous, non-profit, research organization temporarily based in Beirut, Lebanon supported by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR).

Closing date is **September 4, 2014**.

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## 7. Vacancy: Gender Program Coordinator, CGIAR Program on Dryland Systems

[https://genderfoodpolicy.files.wordpress.com/2014/08/gender-program-coordinator-crp-ds\\_1.pdf](https://genderfoodpolicy.files.wordpress.com/2014/08/gender-program-coordinator-crp-ds_1.pdf)

The CGIAR Research Program on Dryland Systems (DS) is seeking a Gender Program Coordinator to be based in Amman, Jordan, at ICARDA (International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas).

Deadline is **August 22, 2014**.

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## 8. Vacancy: Social Scientist Specializing in Gender for CIMMYT

[https://genderfoodpolicy.files.wordpress.com/2014/08/engsocial\\_scientist\\_cimmyt-21.pdf](https://genderfoodpolicy.files.wordpress.com/2014/08/engsocial_scientist_cimmyt-21.pdf)

The International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT), in partnership with the Centre for International Migration and Development (CIM) is seeking a Social Scientist who specializes in gender for its consortium based in El Batán, Texcoco, Mexico. No deadline posted.

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## 9. Employment Opportunities: Public Policy Advisor and Senior Policy Advisor

[http://foodgrainsbank.ca/news/2831/employment\\_opportunity\\_public\\_policy\\_advisor\\_3\\_year\\_term.aspx](http://foodgrainsbank.ca/news/2831/employment_opportunity_public_policy_advisor_3_year_term.aspx)

The Canadian Foodgrains Bank has two positions available – one in Winnipeg, one in Ottawa.

**Senior Policy Advisor (Permanent)** – You will research and interpret issues, and advocate for changes in public policies necessary to end hunger in developing countries. As the ideal candidate, you bring a good understanding of public policy processes, knowledge of food assistance, economics, agriculture markets, or food security, strong analytic thinking skills, and excellent written and verbal communication skills. Success in this role will require diplomacy and strong networking skills. Application deadline is Sunday, **September 14, 2014**.

**Public Policy Advisor (3 year term)** – You will be responsible for establishing an Ottawa presence for the Foodgrains Bank, taking responsibility for networking, and facilitating meetings and influence opportunities for Foodgrains Bank staff and volunteers. As the ideal candidate, you bring proven networking skills, a good understanding of public policy process and knowledge of agricultural development, critical thinking skills, and the ability to work independently to contribute to the goals of a team. Application deadline is Sunday, **September 14, 2014**.

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## This Month's News

### 1. FAO and Thomson Reuters Foundation to launch online food security information service

<http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/238490/icode/>

**9 July 2014, Rome** – The Thomson Reuters Foundation, the corporate charity of the world’s biggest news and information providers, is teaming up with the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to improve global information and awareness on hunger and food-related issues including food production, food security, food waste, agriculture, land use, and malnutrition.

*A new online platform on hunger and nutrition*

The agreement foresees the creation of a new section on trust.org, the Thomson Reuters Foundation portal, entirely dedicated to delivering news content on hunger and food issues to be launched next fall. Stories will be produced and sourced by the Thomson Reuters Foundation and made available for free usage worldwide in order to spread information on food security as widely as possible.

Topics to be covered will include food production, food security and safety, food waste, agriculture and land use, under nutrition and malnutrition, and food affordability among others.

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## **2. Adaptation Gaps Mean African Farmers Fork Out More Money for Reduced Harvests**

<http://www.ipsnews.net/2014/08/adaptation-gaps-mean-african-farmers-fork-out-more-money-for-reduced-harvests/>

Climate change adaptation means that it is critical for small scale subsistence farmers to invest in farm inputs such as water tanks, watering pumps, fertilisers, insecticides and improved seeds.

According to a United Nations’ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report, Africa faces “very high” risks to crop production as a result of global warming.

Last year’s Adaptation Gap study published by the U.N. Environment Programme (UNEP) warned that Africa could face an annual adaptation bill of 35 to 50 billion dollars by 2050.

But Africa lags behind as far as adaptation projects to support vulnerable groups are concerned.

Investment in climate change adaptation can help ensure that the impacts of climate change — including a projected 20 to 50 percent decline in water availability — do not reverse decades of development progress in Africa, according to the UNEP.

***Refer to the link for the full article.***

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## **3. New Record Set for AWARD Fellowship Applications**

<http://us2.campaign-archive1.com/?u=90b9e0b7ae3a29d3aba309bce&id=07c18e8942>

A record number of African women agricultural scientists applied for an AWARD Fellowship this year, indicating that the demand for research and leadership capacity building continues across the continent, with almost 16 applications received for every available fellowship.

A total of 1,109 women from 11 eligible countries applied for the 70 available AWARD Fellowships this year—the highest number to date. Since the program began in 2008, 4,261 agricultural scientists representing some 500 institutions have

applied for 460 available fellowships. This year's winners will be selected by the AWARD Steering Committee in November and publicly announced in late December.

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## 4. Let's talk incentives: Toilets, girls, and violence

[http://blogs.adb.org/blog/let-s-talk-incentives-toilets-girls-and-violence?utm\\_source=Newsletter July August 2014&utm\\_campaign=Wasrag+Aug.2014&utm\\_medium=email](http://blogs.adb.org/blog/let-s-talk-incentives-toilets-girls-and-violence?utm_source=Newsletter_July_August_2014&utm_campaign=Wasrag+Aug.2014&utm_medium=email)

Access to household toilets is often seen as just a water and sanitation issue or a public health concern. But the recent murders of two young Indian girls have highlighted another aspect—women's safety and security. As reported in the media, the two teenage girls went into the fields by their village in Uttar Pradesh in search of a discreet place to relieve themselves and never returned. Instead, the girls were found raped and hanged from a mango tree on the outskirts of the village. The case has aroused public outrage and intense media scrutiny. It has also highlighted the importance of accessible toilets in protecting girls and women from the increased risk of sexual harassment, abuse, and violence.

*Refer to the link for the full article.*

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## 5. News About Global Menstrual Hygiene Day

<http://menstrualhygieneday.org/mh-day-in-the-news/>

The first global Menstrual Hygiene Day was held on May 28, 2014. Why is menstrual hygiene a development issue affecting the agricultural community? It is because half the world menstruates for major portions of their lives. Women and girls in many countries miss school and work due to a lack of infrastructure facilities supporting sanitation needs. For example, see this infographic at [http://menstrualhygieneday.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/infographics\\_fin\\_kl.pdf](http://menstrualhygieneday.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/infographics_fin_kl.pdf):

- Education: UNESCO estimates that 1 in 10 African adolescent girls miss school during menses and eventually drop out.
- Economy: Workers miss work each month due to health issues and inadequate sanitary facilities.
- Environment: Used sanitary products require waste management.
- Human Rights: A lack of adequate MHM denies women and girls their right to education, right to health, and right to work in favourable conditions.

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## 6. Schulich Leader Scholarships

[http://www.portageonline.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=38931&Itemid=662#.U\\_zliMnpXcl.facebook](http://www.portageonline.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=38931&Itemid=662#.U_zliMnpXcl.facebook)

<http://schulichleaders.com>

A teenager from the Town of Holland, Manitoba is one of 40 students from across the country receiving a very prestigious scholarship. Kailee Rutherford has been awarded one of the Schulich Leader Scholarships, given to those pursuing study in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

Rutherford plans on studying micro-biology at the University of Manitoba. Her 1st year will begin in the fall. The annual Schulich Awards Program was started 3 years ago and encourages high school graduates to embrace science, technology, engineering or mathematics as a future career. Each scholarship has a value of between \$60,000.00 and \$80,000.00.

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## Reports, Publications and Resources

### 1. Thematic focus: Gender and Climate Change

<http://eldis.org/go/topics/resource-guides/climate-change/gender&clim>

Produced by: Eldis (2014)

This theme focuses on gender equality and the role that both women and men play in responding to climate change. The climate change editor has brought together 100 research documents from a diverse range of international publishers along with links to other gender and climate change related websites and key organisations.

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### 2. Increasing Gender Diversity on Boards: Current Index of Formal Approaches

<http://www.catalyst.org/knowledge/increasing-gender-diversity-boards-current-index-formal-approaches>

Around the globe and across all avenues for change—from legislated quotas to an explosion of advocacy groups championing voluntary measures—efforts calling for actions to increase board diversity are approaching a tipping point. The demand for greater gender equality in the boardroom is higher than ever before, and most directors recognize the value of board diversity.

The maps and tables at the website summarize current approaches to increasing gender diversity on boards, categorized by method and status. **This is not an exhaustive list.** Catalyst encourages others to share their knowledge to expand and update the tables. For corrections or additions, please contact the Catalyst Information Center.

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### 3. Gender, Economic, Social and Ecological Justice for Sustainable Development Declaration for Post 2015

<http://wideplusnetwork.files.wordpress.com/2014/04/feminist-post-2015-declaration.pdf>

With the Millennium Development Goal deadline approaching in 2015, many goals have not yet been met. Signed by over 340 organizations, this document outlines the key factors which these groups have identified will lead to a more sustainable development model.

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## 4. The Council of Canadian Academies Report, *Science Culture: Where Canada Stands*

<http://www.scienceadvice.ca/en/news.aspx?id=135>

This report contains the results of a new public survey that assesses Canadians' science attitudes, engagement, and knowledge. The report reviews data on Canadians' science skills and the current peer-reviewed literature on science culture. It also features an inventory and analysis of the organizations and programs that support and promote science culture in Canada, particularly among youth. This collection of data helps to paint the clearest picture of Canada's science culture and science culture support system in 25 years. The report also examines strategies that can be used to cultivate and sustain a strong science culture for years to come.

The Council was tasked with forming an expert panel to address a number of questions, including:

*What factors (e.g., cultural, economic, age, gender) influence interest in science, particularly among youth?*

The Executive Summary notes the following: Persistent gender disparities with respect to science knowledge, interest, and attitudes also indicate that Canada's science culture is not equally well established across all segments of the population.

(page xxiv of [http://www.scienceadvice.ca/uploads/eng/assessments%20and%20publications%20and%20news%20releases/science-culture/scienceculture\\_execsummen.pdf](http://www.scienceadvice.ca/uploads/eng/assessments%20and%20publications%20and%20news%20releases/science-culture/scienceculture_execsummen.pdf))

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