What agricultural transition means for women in male-headed households in South Asia: an in-depth exploration of intrahousehold evaluation processes

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Context
- Increased participation of women in agriculture in the Eastern Gangetic Plains due to external drivers
- But decisions regarding agriculture largely taken by men
- Impact of agricultural technologies on gender dynamics and intrahousehold labor allocation complex and challenging
- Focus largely on pre-adoption exploration of why adoption did or did not occur
- Limited understanding of the perspectives of spouses in male headed household post-technology adoption

Methods

Evaluation metrics for technology requirements and benefits

Results

Who is the decision-maker?

Location specific opportunities for women to diversify using extra time to participate in communal groups:
- Agricultural Knowledge Exchange
- Home Based Enterprises
- Reprioritization of Gendered Tasks
- Limited Access to Information Sources
- Cultural Norms

Conclusions

- Use of existing women’s groups to provide opportunities for deeper mechanistic understanding and exposure to become knowledge agents for other women
- Use of ICT tools to engage women in learning opportunities and knowledge exchange to support decision-making
- Target women to participate in opportunities to upskill and engage in home-based livelihood diversification opportunities
- Engage both men and women in critical discussions about gender norms to facilitate redistribution of household tasks

Publication:
Ongoing minor revisions in Gender Technology and Development journal. Contact e.karki@cgiar.org for more information.