

West African Papers

# Integrating Gender Analysis into Food & Nutrition Security Early Warning Systems in West Africa

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## **INTEGRATING GENDER ANALYSIS INTO FOOD & NUTRITION SECURITY EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS IN WEST AFRICA**

This paper has been prepared by  
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## WEST AFRICAN PAPERS

The *West African Papers* explore African socio-economic, political and security dynamics from a regional and multidisciplinary perspective. They seek to stimulate discussion and gather information to better anticipate the changes that will shape future policies. The series is designed for a wide audience of specialists, development practitioners, decision makers and the informed public. Papers are available in English and/or French, and summaries are available in both languages. Initiated by the Sahel and West Africa Club (SWAC) to highlight and promote West African issues, the work presented is prepared by its Secretariat, Members and partners, other OECD departments, related international organisations, associated experts and researchers.

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## **Abstract**

Integrating gender dimensions into early warning systems is critical to supporting equitable crisis prevention and response. This paper investigates the extent to which food and nutrition security early warning systems (FNS EWS) in the Sahel and West Africa are gender-responsive and highlights existing gaps at national and regional levels. Progress has been made by key partners and stakeholders towards strengthening the gender analysis of FNS EWS. However, these efforts have not led to a unified reconfiguration of joint FNS EWS mechanisms to be more gender-responsive. More concerted efforts are required to assess and track the gender dimensions of FNS EWS to inform more equitable emergency prevention and response. This paper provides timely policy directions to support stakeholders' efforts in strengthening the gender-responsiveness of early warning systems in the Sahel and West Africa.

Key words: early warning systems, food security, gender analysis, gender responsiveness, sex- and age-disaggregated data

JEL classification: H120, J160, R580, Q180

## **About the author**

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### **The Sahel and West Africa Club**

The Sahel and West Africa Club (SWAC) is an independent, international platform. Its Secretariat is hosted at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Its mission is to promote regional policies that will improve the economic and social well-being of people in the Sahel and West Africa. Its objectives are to improve the regional governance of food and nutrition security and improve the understanding of ongoing transformations in the region and their policy implications through regional, spatial and forward-looking analyses. SWAC Members and partners are Austria, Belgium, Canada, CILSS, the ECOWAS Commission, the European Commission, France, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland, the UEMOA Commission and the United States. SWAC has memorandums of understanding with the NEPAD Agency and the University of Florida (Sahel Research Group).

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# List of acronyms

ACF	Action Contre la Faim (Action Against Hunger)
CH	Cadre harmonisé (Harmonised Framework)
CILSS	Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EMPRES	Emergency Prevention System for Transboundary Animal and Plant Pests and Diseases
EWEA	FAO Global Early Warning Early Action report
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations
FEWS NET	Famine Early Warning Systems Network
FNS EWS	food and nutrition security early warning system
GBV	gender-based violence
GIEWS	Global Information and Early Warning System on Food and Agriculture
HH	Household
IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee
ICT	information and communications technology
IFPRI	International Food Policy Research Institute
IPC	Integrated Food Security Phase Classification
MWG	multidisciplinary working groups

OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PREGEC	Dispositif de Prévention et de Gestion des Crises Alimentaires (Regional System for the Prevention and Management of Food Crises)
RPCA	Réseau de Prévention des Crises Alimentaires (Food Crisis Prevention Network)
REOWA	(FAO) Regional Resilience, Emergency and Rehabilitation Office for West Africa/Sahel
SADD	sex and age disaggregated data
SEAGA	socio-economic and gender analysis
SWAC	Sahel and West Africa Club
UEMOA	Union Économique et Monétaire de l'Afrique de l'Ouest (West African Economic and Monetary Union)
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VAM	(WFP) Vulnerability and Analysis Mapping unit
WEAI	Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index
WEMI	(WFP) Women's Empowerment in Markets Index
WFP	World Food Programme



# Executive summary

Early warning systems (EWS) are critical to preventing and responding to food crises. Since women and men experience food and nutrition insecurity differently, integrating gender dimensions in EWS are paramount to supporting equitable crisis prevention and response. Gathering and analysing gender-specific information can ensure better preparedness and more accurate and measurable responses and preventive mechanisms.

This paper investigates the extent to which EWS in the Sahel and West Africa are gender-responsive. It provides an overview of a wide-range of existing policies, tools and frameworks that support gender analysis in food and nutrition security and highlights the gaps and limitations of current EWS. The paper also points to the critical importance of sex- and age-disaggregated data (SADD) as a core component of any gender analysis.

In the Sahel and West Africa, the Regional System for the Prevention and Management of Food Crises (PREGEC) applies a unified approach to EWS, articulated through a common framework, the *Cadre harmonisé* (CH). The PREGEC brings together food and nutrition security experts for technical consultations to assess and validate the results of the food and nutrition situation, enabling the early identification of areas and populations at risk of food and nutrition insecurity. Despite a growing body of evidence showing the close correlation between gender inequality and food insecurity, the CH does not provide guidance on gender analysis or on the data required to conduct such analysis. While stakeholders have made efforts to develop frameworks, tools and accountability systems to promote gender-responsive EWS in the region, progress has been slow. This paper therefore provides timely policy directions to enhance stakeholders' efforts towards strengthening the gender-responsiveness of EWS in the Sahel and West Africa.

## Key messages

The following are key ways in which stakeholders can approach the challenges of integrating gender into FNS EWS.

### 1. Strengthen capacity on gender analysis

Despite some awareness among stakeholders of the importance of gender to food and nutrition security vulnerability, consultations with the Food Crisis Prevention Network (RPCA) member representatives reveal that greater awareness and training are required. Technical staff need to have a thorough and practical understanding of the ways in which gender impacts the food

and nutrition security of an individual and their household. They also need to understand how to integrate a gender-responsive monitoring framework into the PREGEC.

## 2. Pool resources and mainstream gender analysis through the PREGEC

The PREGEC originated from a spirit of pooling resources and information to strengthen partner and government monitoring of food and nutrition security in vulnerable communities. Some stakeholders have already developed strong gender analytical tools in other areas of monitoring and assessments, but they have not yet led to a shared and unified approach within the RPCA. In order to capitalise on these efforts, stakeholders should pool resources and use them to inform the update to the CH ensuring widespread and standardised adoption. This update should include guidance on gender analysis and SADD in order to help ensure more gender-responsive EWS.

## 3. Ensure policy cohesion and accountability

Most PREGEC stakeholders have a gender policy providing them with a framework for achieving goals associated with the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5 to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. Such policies should articulate and map out commitments to standardise gender analysis in EWS. However, despite the fact that these stakeholders provide EWS support to countries in the region, most of their gender policies lack any reference to EWS. Policy accountability as well as cohesion with food and nutrition monitoring frameworks is essential to ensure continuous improvements to the gender-responsiveness of EWS.

## 4. Promote gender-balanced community engagement in EWS design and implementation

Engaging women, men and youth equally in the formulation and implementation of EWS is critical to designing inclusive and adapted emergency prevention and response systems. Gender balance should therefore be a requirement within institutions when engaging with communities on EWS. Failing to do so risks putting those excluded from the process at greater risk because their preferences and needs are not considered and they are not equally informed about how to react at the onset of a crisis.

# Introduction

This paper reviews the extent to which early warning systems (EWS) are gender-responsive in the Sahel and West Africa. It contributes to collective efforts to strengthen the gender aspects of the CH, a common framework for food and nutrition security early warning systems (FNS EWS). The paper provides an overview of existing approaches and initiatives that support gender analysis in food and nutrition security, highlights the gaps in current FNS EWS, and identifies opportunities to move towards more gender-responsive FNS EWS in the region. Information is drawn from a desk review of current practices and secondary research conducted on gender analysis in FNS EWS, as well as interviews with key stakeholders operating in the region.

A well-established body of research demonstrates the strong correlation between gender inequality and food and nutrition insecurity. Gender norms and inequality influence how individuals experience and are vulnerable to a crisis. According to the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Gender Handbook, a primary global resource for integrating gender considerations into humanitarian operations, crises affect access to food, livelihoods and the nutrition of women, girls, men and boys in different ways (IASC, 2017). Different gender roles and responsibilities also mean that women, girls, men and boys are likely to offer different contributions to FNS monitoring systems, response planning and implementation.

Women and girls play important and distinct roles in the food economy from their male counterparts. This is especially true in West Africa where women are major stakeholders at every stage of the food system, from production, processing, to distribution and food preparation (Gnisci, 2016). Women's role in off-farm food economy activities, for example, represents between 72% and 88% of all employment in downstream food processing, marketing and services (Allen et al., 2018). Women also significantly contribute to building resilience to climate-related and conflict-related food crises (Gnisci, 2016). Despite these realities, mainstreaming gender analysis in FNS monitoring frameworks has been slow. This is particularly true for EWS, where methodologies and data sources pose challenges to strengthening the gender-responsiveness.

FNS EWS are effective tools for monitoring seasonal changes and population trends. Governments, the United Nations (UN) and International Non-Governmental Organisations (INGO) work together through unified platforms to pool data and conduct inter-institution expert analysis. However, these examples of EWS are widely gender-blind. Guidance and practice reflect a limited

understanding of the importance of gender dimensions of FNS as well as the benefits of adopting gender-responsive FNS EWS. This is despite innovative and promising initiatives from key actors in the region to strengthen gender analysis in their own institutional monitoring frameworks.

### **Early Warning Systems for Monitoring Food and Nutrition Security**

FNS EWS inform food crisis prevention and response planning. Vulnerabilities of a given geographical zone and population to food and nutrition insecurity are analysed across a range of influencing factors and indicators. FNS EWS collect and analyse primary and secondary information to enhance prevention and early response, mainly prior to a food crisis outbreak, and may also be used during and after such crises to mitigate effects and prevent reoccurrence. Promoting dialogue and co-ordination, building a coherent and consensual vision of the food and nutrition situation to feed into decision-making: this has been the heart of the Food Crisis Prevention Network's (RPCA) mission for nearly thirty-five years in the Sahel and West Africa. Created in 1984, the Network is placed under the political leadership of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA). The Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) and the Secretariat of the Sahel and West Africa Club (SWAC/OECD) ensure the smooth running of its activities. CILSS is also responsible for co-ordinating the PREGEC activities within the RPCA. The PREGEC meetings gather food and nutrition security experts and other stakeholders six times a year to determine the national and regional food and nutrition outlook in the region. The RPCA meetings are part of this cycle. Various early warning tools and systems feed into the PREGEC cycle, including multidisciplinary working groups (MWG) initiated by CILSS, early warning bulletins from the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) and the Global Information and Early Warning System on Food and Agriculture (GIEWS) of the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), and special warning bulletins based on joint missions between CILSS, FAO, FEWS NET, the World Food Programme (WFP) and governments (CILSS, 2016).

RPCA members participating in the PREGEC include food and nutrition security experts from Action Contre la Faim (ACF), the French Development Agency (AFD), CILSS, FAO, FEWS NET, global support unit of the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC), the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission (JRC/EC), Oxfam, Save the Children, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) and the WFP (Table 1). These actors follow a common approach to FNS EWS provided through the CH. Technical developments of the CH tools and processes have led to

Figure 1  
The PREGEC Cycle



Source: RPCA

increased similarities and convergence with the IPC. Based on a joint IPC-CH roadmap, the IPC is supporting the CH through country analyses, regional consolidation and quality control.

The CH was developed based on multidisciplinary research conducted by experts from different partner institutions to: (i) identify systems that could provide information for analysing household food and nutrition security vulnerabilities; and (ii) develop a common methodology. The first version of the CH (1.0) was released in 2014 as a common tool for Sahelian and West African countries. It provides a comprehensive analytical framework for national and regional food crisis prevention and management systems. It supports CILSS and ECOWAS countries and their partners to analyse food and nutrition security at the national and administrative levels, including department, county or district levels. CH stakeholders, either in the implementation of the manual or as beneficiaries, can be categorised as: i) national; ii) regional; and iii) international (CILSS, 2016).

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Table 1

Level	Stakeholders	Primary role(s)
<b>National</b>	Policy makers, civil society, professional bodies, national technical services (EWS, FNS, Livestock Market Information System (LMIS), Market Information System (MIS), Permanent Agricultural Survey (PAS), etc.), technical and financial partners and non-state actors (local and international NGOs, farmer organisations, the private sector, etc.), country focal points/representatives.	In-country actors involved in all stages of CH implementation
<b>Regional</b>	CILSS, ECOWAS, UEMOA and international NGOs	Support CH implementation
<b>International</b>	USAID, EU, AFD, FAO, WFP, UNICEF, FEWS NET, IPC/GSU, JRC/EU and international NGOs	Provide leadership on initiatives to prevent and manage food crises through emergency rehabilitation interventions and building resilience among vulnerable populations.

Source: CILSS, 2016

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The CH defines a set of agreed guiding principles to ensure implementation follows a common approach across all stakeholders (CILSS, 2016):

1. Institutional anchoring of the CH
2. Objective analyses
3. Proactive communication of the results of the CH

Despite principles of community engagement, inclusivity, policy cohesion and commitment to identifying the most vulnerable in a population, the CH does not provide guidance on gender analysis or components of diverse vulnerabilities within a community to support FNS EWS processes. While the CH manual does include two references to gender as a potentially influential variable, this is limited exclusively to nutrition assessments. Gender expertise or capacity is also considered, but there is no discussion on why this is valuable. Most importantly, there is no clear guidance on the need for SADD in FNS EWS data records, nor is there any instruction on how to use such data to develop gender statistics and conduct gender analysis of food and nutrition security. An updated version of the CH—CH 2.0—is being planned for release, reflecting new approaches and inputs from various actors and governments. The updated CH provides an opportunity to strengthen the gender responsiveness of FNS EWS in West Africa.

### **Gender Considerations for Food and Nutrition Security**

Gender equality and empowerment of women and girls is integral to achieving food and nutrition security. Gender roles are key determinants in how individuals and their households experience and cope with food and nutrition insecurity (IASC, 2017). A gender-responsive FNS EWS supports evidence-based planning tailored to different needs and capacities within an affected population and ensures better targeting to reach the most vulnerable. Research conducted by the gender and development research body of the Institute of Development Studies, BRIDGE, offers a comprehensive overview of the different ways in which gender dynamics can support or undermine food security, and how gender-responsive food security programming can support social justice and equality (BRIDGE, 2014). BRIDGE articulates how gender dynamics influence food availability, access and utilisation by individuals and households, and the different ways in which food insecurity is experienced in an emergency (WFP, 2016b). For example, food insecurity is often linked to the risk of gender-based violence (GBV) (IASC, 2017), which subsequently affects access to food. A sudden shortage of food available in familiar nearby areas may force those responsible for the procurement of food—typically women and girls—to extend their movements beyond community safe zones, thereby isolating them and leaving them vulnerable to GBV. Alternatively, a lack of food and other core resources can provoke

negative coping strategies, including early marriage of young girls, intimate partner violence, and transactional sex, all of which are forms of GBV that disproportionately negatively impact women and girls (IASC, 2017). Similarly, the long-standing causes of malnutrition are intrinsically linked to structural gender inequalities. Women's empowerment through decision making has been shown to have a positive impact on overall household nutrition rates.

### **Gender Considerations for Food and Nutrition Security Early Warning Systems**

Failure to consider gender dynamics in FNS EWS has a ripple effect on programming, whereby the lack of understanding around gender-specific needs leads to gender-blind crisis prevention and response planning. This not only risks inefficient targeting and programme design, but may also exacerbate pre-existing gender disparities in the event of a crisis (OSCE/ODIHR, 2009) and lead to the exclusion of women from preparedness planning, thereby putting them at greater risk if a shock does occur (IASC, 2017). The different needs, challenges and capacities of women, girls, men and boys influence food availability, access, and utilisation as well as how individuals are impacted by a food security crisis. Understanding these contextual and gender dimensions and avoiding gender stereotypes (ACF, 2014) allows for resource-efficient and targeted prevention of food shocks, response interventions and food assistance for the most vulnerable.

Table 2 is an extract from a 2015 working paper from the Overseas Development Institute (ODI) on "Gender and Resilience" and reflects specific linkages between gender, food insecurity, and resilience to climate change and disaster.

The FAO CASH+ project in the Sahel is another example of how SADD and gender analysis contribute to a results-based approach. It reiterates the need for deep gender analysis and gender-related indicators in FNS monitoring systems. The project applies a social protection-based approach (cash transfer and agricultural production support) and specifically targets women and women-headed households. The evidence-based targeting of these groups resulted in increased community resilience through improved coping strategies, nutrition (quality and diversity) and incomes (FAO, 2017d). Integrating gender analysis and SADD into FNS monitoring systems, including EWS, reinforce the importance of considering these factors to support targeted and appropriate crisis prevention and response programming for the most vulnerable.



Table 2  
Examples of linkages between gender, food insecurity and resilience

Consequences	Food insecurity	Disasters: Sudden	Disasters: Slow onset
<b>Impacts</b>	Yield failure  Famine  Fish stocks decrease Food store at risk of extreme events	Floods Landslides Storms	Prolonged droughts destroying yields
<b>Gender aspects</b>	More time and energy needed for food production  Increased work-burden for women, primarily responsible for cooking  Women grow household-oriented crops on often less fertile land	Women, men, girls or boys might suffer from higher mortality rates due to different gender roles and therefore different vulnerabilities and exposure	Women's needs and capacities often neglected  Girls and boys dropping out of school to earn income
<b>Gender coping/ adaptive strategies</b>	Organising rations  Sending children to relatives  Marginalised people migrate  Reliance on relief  Selling livestock  Agroforestry	Reliance on relatives and assistance from NGOs	Marginalised people migrate  Praying/Relying on one's faith

Source: Le Masson, V. et al 2015

Gender analysis in EWS can highlight and track gender-specific challenges, needs, capacities and vulnerabilities, as well as provide information on specific knowledge systems. Social roles in the food and agriculture economy, women's physical and financial access to markets, income-generating potential, type of food products accessible to women versus men, and exposure to GBV are all major variables influencing individual and household resilience to a food crisis (El Rhomri, 2015). Furthermore, the specific knowledge systems of women and men, as well as youth, may inform EWS differently. Gender-balanced community engagement supports more informed and holistic crisis mitigation and response planning. Conversely, when women and girls are not included in community consultations and outreach, opportunities to

incorporate their needs and experiences are limited. When certain groups are marginalised from participating in FNS EWS planning and implementation, these systems are likely to fail to protect them.

PREGEC stakeholders have commenced collective efforts to strengthen the gender-responsiveness in FNS EWS processes, and in particular, to develop an updated version of the CH to ensure EWS are able to respond to different challenges and contexts across diverse populations.

## PREGEC Stakeholder Approaches to More Gender-Responsive FNS EWS

Most PREGEC stakeholder institutions and government bodies acknowledge the importance of gender analysis and SADD in FNS monitoring.<sup>6</sup> Several stakeholders have adopted innovative approaches to accelerate gender analysis capacity-strengthening in recent years. Nonetheless, gaps persist in the wide-scale systematic and sustainable integration of gender analysis into regional and multi-stakeholder FNS EWS. These gaps limit EWS effective support to emergency risk management and equitable crisis prevention and response.

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To understand progress made and persisting gaps, RPCA members are assessed according to three criteria:

1. Anchoring of FNS monitoring and EWS in institutional gender policies (or equivalent).
2. Existence of analytical framework(s), tools and training to support gender analysis in FNS EWS.
3. Development and application of SADD and gender indicators for FNS EWS.

Table 3

PREGEC stakeholders with FNS EWS addressed in gender policies

Institution/ organisation	Existence of a gender policy	FNS addressed in the gender policy	Gender analysis ad- dressed in the gender policy	FNS EWS addressed in the gender policy
ACF	Yes	Yes	Yes	No – though reference is made to gender considerations in emergency preparedness
CILSS	Yes, but not yet ready to be shared; funding being sought to support implementation; 2008 Gender Policy available, but outdated	N/A; Yes, in 2008 Gender Policy	N/A; Yes, in 2008 Gender Policy	N/A; No, in 2008 Gender Policy
FAO	Yes, but not updated since 2013	Yes	Yes	No, but supplemented by other guiding institutional documents addressing gender in FNS EWS
FEWS NET	No, but discussions are taking place to commence development	N/A	N/A	N/A
OCHA	Yes	No, but articulated through aligned IASC Gender Handbook	Yes	No, but articulated to a limited extent through the IASC Gender Handbook
Oxfam	Yes	No, but policy is short, and supplemented by tools and resources on gender analysis	No, but policy is short, and supplemented by tools and resources on FNS	No, but policy is short, and supplemented by studies on gender dimensions in FNS and climate EWS
Save the Children	Yes	Yes, but only nutrition; not food security	Yes	No
UNICEF	Yes, in the form of a global Gender Action Plan	Yes, but only nutrition; not food security	Yes	No
WFP	Yes	Yes	Yes	No, but this is covered, to a limited extent, in the accompanying WFP Gender Toolkit

## Gender Policies & Institutional Anchoring

Institutional gender policy documents provide actors with a vision and linked accountability for how gender analysis should be integrated throughout the programme cycle. The formulation of a gender policy enables an institution to articulate its approach to gender-transformative programming, including how the collection and reporting of SADD and gender analysis will be standardised across operations and programming to support this process.

The CH process is premised on national government leadership and partnership in line with one of its guiding principles: Institutional Anchoring (CILSS, 2016). Clear guidance, leadership and commitment from participating institutions and government bodies are required in order to successfully integrate a gender analytical framework into the CH.

Each PREGEC stakeholder (ACF, FAO, Oxfam, Save the Children, WFP and UNICEF), has a global gender policy, or equivalent institutional framework, guiding its strategies for gender-transformative programming based on gender analysis. Furthermore, ACF, FAO, Oxfam, Save the Children and WFP policies explicitly provide tools and standards for integrating gender considerations into FNS EWS. FEWS NET and CILSS are currently developing gender policies.<sup>7</sup>

The ACF gender policy, informed by the IASC Gender Handbook, is a strong example of an institutional framework that integrates concrete guidance for applying gender analysis in FNS monitoring, preparedness and effective emergency response. The policy is disseminated across all sectors and is supplemented by a Gender Toolkit on how to conduct gender analysis in FNS EWS and inform humanitarian responses (ACF, 2014).

While a strong gender policy is important, it can only be as effective as its application. It is difficult to assess the extent to which certain aspects of a policy—in this case, gender analysis in FNS EWS—are widely understood and applied.

Even among those institutions where gender-responsive tools and approaches are included in a gender policy, it is not possible to conclude whether gaps persist between what a gender policy requires with regards to gender analysis in FNS EWS, and what is actually implemented. This is evidenced in a paper by Oxfam, a stakeholder with a strong global gender policy, which reported that a lack of SADD and gender analysis prevented the implementation of a sufficiently adapted humanitarian response during the food crisis in Somalia in 2017 (Feeny, 2017). The minimum standards for gender in emergencies using SADD and conducting gender analysis to inform programming were not applied in this case. The FAO has a gender policy that includes guidance on gender-responsive FNS EWS, but it is unclear from partner consultations

the extent to which the policy is widely known among staff in the region, and whether the supplementary gender toolkits are sufficiently used.<sup>8</sup>

### **Analytical Frameworks, Tools & Training**

While a gender policy commits an organisation to setting out gender equality goals and outputs, and holds staff and partners accountable, actors will be unable to achieve outputs without appropriate and wide-reaching capacity-strengthening efforts. A strong and tailored gender analytical framework, supplemented by tools and capacity strengthening, ensures high quality and strategic gender analysis and informs emergency risk prevention and response.

For PREGEC stakeholders with gender policies in place, guidance and frameworks on gender analysis tend to supplement these commitments. In addition, most PREGEC stakeholders are supported by global capacity support platforms. For example, the IASC, the World Bank data bank and the UN Statistics Division, among others, provide tools and guidance on gender analysis in FNS monitoring systems, including EWS but to a lesser extent. The IASC Gender Handbook (IASC, 2017) provides a wide range of tools, mechanisms and approaches to integrate gender analysis into humanitarian action across a range of sectors, including food security and nutrition (IASC, 2017). While the Handbook does not cover EWS specifically, much of the guidance and resources on gender analysis are applicable to EWS and to food security and nutrition interventions.

The FAO and the WFP have launched several relevant joint tools and resources on gender analysis for FNS monitoring. In 2008, they jointly published the “Socio-Economic and Gender Analysis (SEAGA) for Emergency and Rehabilitation Programmes”. The document presents twelve modules on the relevance of gender considerations to inform emergency operations and assist emergency specialists in gender-transformative planning. The SEAGA tool provides information on how to collect SADD data and conduct gender analysis for emergency response monitoring. Recommended indicators include literacy, displacements/migrations, conflict and coping strategies among others (FAO and WFP, 2008). Online interactive training was also launched by the FAO and the WFP to supplement the SEAGA publication and continues to be available to staff and partners.

Building on its global gender policy, the WFP West & Central Africa Regional Bureau developed and rolled out a training package on gender analysis to inform food and nutrition security. The training package was tested by WFP staff from the regional bureau and headquarters, including both gender and vulnerability analysis technical staff. It was also tested at the country level with technical staff in Ghana and Guinea in 2017 and 2018 and is now

being rolled out across the region.<sup>9</sup> The training materials were based on a gender analysis resource package developed at the WFP global level to support the Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (VAM) unit as well as the WFP Gender Toolkit launched in 2017. The Gender Toolkit is aligned with the WFP Gender Policy and includes chapters on ‘Gender Analysis’, ‘Monitoring’, ‘Assessment’, and ‘Food Security and Vulnerability Analysis’.<sup>10</sup> The training package rolled out in East and Central Africa does not cover EWS, and guidance on gender analysis in EWS is very limited in the WFP Gender Analysis Resource Package and the Gender Toolkit.

In 2016, the FAO developed a training guide specifically for FNS EWS on *Gender-responsive Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) in the Agriculture Sector* (FAO, 2016b). The guidelines follow the Sendai Framework (UNISDR, 2015) and draw attention to the different roles of women, girls, men and boys in DRR and resilience-building as well as their different vulnerabilities. The guide provides a toolkit for gender-transformative planning, SADD collection and gender analysis methods. This global resource could be adapted for application beyond DRR, and in countries covered by the PREGEC cycle.

In the WFP-FAO Joint Strategy on Information Systems for FNS, of which EWS are a function, gender analysis is referenced as essential to FNS monitoring, and consideration of gender disparities in food security is noted as a requirement. The information collected by the EWS mentioned in the Joint Strategy, notably the GIEWS and the Emergency Prevention System for Transboundary Animal and Plant Pests and Diseases (EMPRES), are compiled into the FAO Global Early Warning – Early Action (EWEA) report (FAO, n.d.-b; FAO, n.d.-d). The report “translates warnings into anticipatory actions” by analysing updated forecast information and providing early action recommendations for each targeted food-insecure country. While the EWEA reports do not widely reflect the emphasis on gender analysis made in the Joint Strategy, there are positive examples. The June 2017 EWEA report for Nigeria for example, recommends targeting female-headed households owning small ruminants to support vulnerable herders, based on gender considerations in the EWS monitoring (FAO, 2017b).

In West Africa, the regional WFP Gender and Markets Initiative (WFP, n.d.-e), houses several innovative tools and useful reports on the gender dimensions of food security. All materials are publicly available in an effort to share knowledge on gender dimensions in food markets and value chains as well as on tools and training for gender analysis in FNS market monitoring (WFP, n.d.-c; WFP, 2016d). The WFP team also designed training modules on gender and market analysis for staff and partners across the region for FNS EWS design and implementation.<sup>11</sup>

The WFP Gender and Markets team is also developing an index to compile data and information on the dimensions of women’s empowerment in food markets and value chains. This builds on the Women’s Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI) framework (IFPRI, 2012), developed by IFPRI and USAID, which considers social and cultural gender norms shaping women’s roles and experiences in agriculture. ILO and IFPRI are also engaged in developing similar approaches looking at sectors beyond agriculture. The main advantage of frameworks such as the WEAI is also their greatest disadvantage: they are both extremely comprehensive and informative but also require intensive capacity and resource inputs to complete surveys. The WFP Gender and Markets team has adapted the simplified WEAI to support several case studies in West Africa, reflecting interesting and resourceful examples of adapting a tool to an institutions’ needs and available resources. . . Such indices as the WEAI provide useful and accessible frameworks by specifying which indicators and statistics should be collected, analysed and reported on to inform gender dynamics. Despite a wide range of resources available to PREGEC stakeholders, they have not been used to inform the PREGEC cycle or the CH manual to support greater gender-responsiveness in FNS EWS.

### **Sex- and Age-Disaggregated Data & Gender Indicators**

Disaggregation of person-related data by sex and age is the minimum first step to ensuring that engagement with any population is equitable, inclusive and targeted. SADD can be collected using quantitative and/or qualitative methods and enable analysis of power dynamics, gender roles and disparities linked to gender and age affecting vulnerabilities (WFP, 2016d). Most PREGEC stakeholders collect SADD, however, it is not always done in a standardised manner; figures may not be sufficiently reported and gender analysis is often not carried out. Furthermore, primary data sources for EWS in West Africa rely largely on national data provided by ministries and statistical departments, where collection and reporting on SADD is relatively limited. This makes it difficult, where data is collected, to ensure it is fed into the PREGEC cycle.

Certain PREGEC stakeholders contribute significantly to SADD and gender indicators.

- The WFP global VAM team collects SADD for household surveys, and in some cases, includes questions to assess gender considerations, for example linked to access and control over productive agricultural resources. This data is typically coded and made available on the WFP VAM website.<sup>12</sup>
- The WFP’s Consolidated Approach to Reporting Indicators of Food Security (CARI) method is used to classify households’ food security and disaggregated heads of household by sex (WFP, 2015), and allows



for calculations including the food consumption score, food expenditure share and livelihood coping strategies. The CARI approach can support therefore compiling SADD and informing gender indicators, however, it does not feed into the CH.

- The FAO collects and reports on SADD and gender indicators relevant to the agricultural sector. It also manages the Gender and Land Rights Database that provides SADD and indicators on agricultural holders, landowners and distribution of agricultural land area and value (FAO, n.d.-c). In West Africa, data is currently available in Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Mali, Nigeria and Senegal.
- The ACF Gender Toolkit provides recommendations and guidance on collecting adequate SADD and ensuring its wide application.

Secondary data to inform SADD is critical, but challenges arise when data sources are not widely known or publically accessible (WFP, 2016c). In response to this gap, WFP West Africa developed a secondary data review in 2016 on gender and market analysis in the region. A key outcome was a list of secondary data sources for gender and market analysis, including a matrix specifying what data and indicators are disaggregated by sex and age (Annex 1). The matrix includes databases on gender in labour markets, education rates and land rights, among others. This demonstrates that SADD is often available, but what is lacking is the initiative to compile and synthesise this data into other systems, for example inter-institutional EWS.

Collecting and reporting on SADD allows for the development of context and response-specific gender indicators. The WFP global guidance on *Gender Standards on Food Security Analysis* (WFP, 2016b) provides a non-exhaustive collection of gender indicators across food availability, access and utilisation derived from SADD and gender statistics. They are intended to provide options from which users can select indicators most relevant to their programmatic interest areas.

The next step after selecting the indicators is determining how they should best be analysed. Building on the lessons learned from Somalia, Oxfam recommends weighting indicators to ensure that those most relevant to women and girls are prioritised (Feeny, 2017). Indices such as the WEAI offer flexible frameworks for weighting indicators differently depending on the objective of the analysis and context-specific nature of concepts such as “empowerment” (IFPRI, 2012).



Table 4

ACF gender policy and toolkit recommendations for SADD collection and dissemination

**ACF core recommendations for ensuring collection and use of SADD**

- Add sex and age-relevant gauges to surveys and monitoring systems.
- Data collection and analysis can be difficult in emergency situations; gender issues can be identified and baselines for indicators can be developed using already existent sources. Review existing literature and data to identify the different roles of males and females, older people, adults, youth and children in key sectoral areas prior to the crises so that when the initial assessment data is available, there is a baseline from which to extrapolate, and it will be easier and clearer to understand which groups have been most impacted. Examples: Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS), CEDAW country reports, Gender Equality Index country data, etc.
- Review previously published key studies and reports on vulnerable groups or particular risks or threats already existing among the affected populations.
- Review the legal and customary frameworks to identify potential areas of gender and age discrimination.
- Ensure that the teams in charge of conducting assessments (assessors and translators) include men and women. Carefully examine the trade-off between having teams which are technically specialised (e.g. agronomists, nutritionists, veterinarians, clinical health officers), and teams that are diverse and therefore can access the different groups within a community.
- Hold separate interviews and focus group discussions with males and females in different age and wealth groups.
- Ensure key female informants are interviewed who often have information on immediate needs of women; including community leaders, midwives, nurses, leading market women, and teachers.
- When a group speaks on behalf of another and makes assumptions about its access to services, triangulate this information with either the involved group or when this is not possible (e.g. for infants) make sure the best informants are identified.
- Ensure SADD is recorded regarding all key informants, individuals, and household composition; this will enable:
  - Assessment of whether there are important segments of the population that have not been reached that may have views needed to inform responses;
  - Assessment of any important differences across sex and age in terms of needs and access to essential and services among the most vulnerable populations.
- Ensure observations are made by team members on effects on infrastructure and impact on civilian populations, noting where access to services is more difficult or blocked for certain segments of the population.
- Ensure that when individuals are registered for distributions, recorded data include their sex and age (or age-group).
- Coherently summarise data, with evidence-based recommendations, and provide these reports to the necessary decision- and policy-makers.

Source: ACF 2014

Table 5

WFP Recommended Gender Indicators for Food Security Analysis

**Gender indicators on food access**

- Average earnings of female-headed household as a percentage of average earnings of male-headed household
- Differences in access to (or control over) productive assets between male and female-headed household
- Participation in local food-agriculture committees, by sex and age
- Household assets and savings in times of duress, by sex of head of household
- Mean number of meals consumed in the last seven days, by women, men, and girls and boys
- Coping Strategies Index, by sex of head of household
- Average education level of children/level achieved of adults, disaggregated by sex
- Percentage share of food expenditure over total household expenditure, by sex of the head of household
- Access to credit/markets, by sex of head of household
- Percentage of household where both men and women are working (contributing to the household income)
- Division of (paid and unpaid) labour among different members of the household and time constraints, by sex and age
  - Include statistics for young girls, as this group tends to be integrally involved in productive and reproductive work, while it tends to be undercounted and undervalued, leading to inadequate interventions (BRIDGE 2014).

**Gender indicators on food utilisation**

- Prevalence of stunted/wasted/underweight children under five years of age, by sex
- Prevalence of non-pregnant adult/reproductive-aged women who are mildly/moderately/severely undernourished or overweight
- Prevalence of iron deficiency anaemia in reproductive-aged women and children under five years of age, by sex
- Disease prevalence, by mean number of episodes, by sex and age group
- Mortality rate, by age and sex
- MUAC, disaggregated by sex of children 12-59 months and/or BMI of reproductive-age women

**Gender indicators on food availability**

- Household production; storage; purchase, by sex of head of household
- Women's and men's ability to own, inherit and practice ownership over land
- Share of women participating in political meetings as the community level
- Differences in access to credit between male and female-headed household
- Percentage of women or men employed in different sectors

**Gender indicators in emergencies**

- Target population distribution, by sex and age group (at individual and/or head of household level)
- Proportion of underweight children among affected children aged 24 to 59 months, by sex
- Share of girls among out-of-school affected children of primary school age
- Number and location of people (women, men, girls and boys) who have experienced S/GBV
  - \*Use the GBVIMS database or other secondary sources
- Most recent % of affected population with poor Food Consumption Score (FCS)/undernourishment by sex of head of household
- Most recent stunting/wasting rate among girls and boys
- Most recent estimate of average household food expenditure share in total expenditures, by sex of head of household
- Coping Strategies Index (CSI), by sex of head of household

Source: WFP 2016b

Table 6

ACF Gender Policy Toolkit sample assessment questions for gender analysis

**Sample nutrition assessment questions**

- What are the differences between younger/older women's and younger/older men's positions/roles and responsibilities with regard to: a) access to health services for treatment of acute malnutrition?; b) influencing exclusive breastfeeding practices?; c) influencing complementary feeding practices?; d) access to/purchase of nutrition foods (fruits, vegetables, etc.)?
- What are intra-household feeding patterns (i.e. food given first to children or husband, etc.)?
- What is the decision-making process in relation to harvest being consumed or sold (for vegetables, grains, meat, fish etc. according to context)?
- Does data on nutritional status disaggregated by sex and age indicate that girls or boys are disproportionately affected? If so, what are the reasons for these differences?
- What are the levels of anaemia amongst women of reproductive age (national data or specific groups depending on programme)?
- What are socio-cultural practices, taboos, and/or cultural beliefs in relation to: a) caring practices; b) pregnant & lactating women's diets; c) use of colostrums; d) exclusive breastfeeding; e) weaning of children after 6 months of exclusive breastfeeding, etc.?
- How may these practices affect women's, girls', boys' and men's' nutritional status differently?
- When boys and men are away from the homestead (i.e. pastoralist, seasonal migration for work, insecurity etc.), how do they organise their daily meals? (Check on cooking themselves, buying or getting someone else to cook, presence of knowledge and skill but lack of practice because it is 'culturally' not accepted, etc.).
- If women are heading households/families (disaggregate by age) are they accessing sufficient and nutritious food (to be defined by context)?
- How do elderly women and men access food and does the food distributed meet their specific needs?

**Sample food security and livelihoods assessment questions**

- How is food prepared and shared within families/households?
- Do women, girls, boys and men have equal access to the local market, to work opportunities, to inputs and services, and to as-sets such as livestock or land?
- Who receives cash or in-kind assistance on behalf of the household? Who decides how to use it?
- Who produces/buys/eats what type of food? Who eats first?
- Are women, girls, men and boys similarly affected by seasonal hunger? Are there differences in how they cope with seasonal hunger?
- Are women responsible for a 'double' or 'triple' day - housework and food preparation, childcare, elderly care, farm or off-farm labour?
- Do women, girls, men and boys exhibit different coping strategies?

Source: ACF 2014

In terms of more comprehensive qualitative analysis and collection of information, the ACF Gender Policy Toolkit offers sector-specific sample questions (Table 6) to inform gender assessments, for nutrition, food security and livelihoods. These questions are helpful to frame and focus gender analysis by PREGEC stakeholders around relevant gender dynamics for FNS EWS.

Discussion at PREGEC meetings on the need for standard SADD and the integration of gender analysis into current frameworks is taking place according to key stakeholders and has initiated a process of updating the CH 1.0 to inform the CH 2.0. According to interviews with lead agencies, the CH 2.0 currently under development will likely recommend specific gender indicators to be included as contributing factors to food security crises. Experts from stakeholder agencies have been engaged in providing technical inputs to CH 2.0 drafts.<sup>13</sup> However, it is important going forward that gender analysis be integrated throughout the CH manual and not after the core substance of the manual has been developed.

Based on consultations with key PREGEC stakeholders, there is wide consensus on the importance of gender in FNS and FNS EWS. This is reflected by the fact that most partners have an institutional gender policy and supplementary resources to support the implementation of policy objectives. Additional gender analytical frameworks and tools have and continue to be developed to meet changing demands for information on gender dimensions. The global push to generate data on gender gaps and inform gender statistics has also been widely successful. A rich pool of secondary data on gender dimensions at local, national, regional and global levels is publicly available. Despite this progress, the current version of the CH (1.0) fails to ensure the relevance and responsiveness of the PREGEC cycle to meet these demands. A unified methodology which builds on the good practices from PREGEC stakeholders and others, combined with strong co-ordination and leadership, is essential to ensure that gender analysis in the updated CH is applied. Furthermore, PREGEC stakeholders and other actors will need to assess how this initiative matches with other competing priorities and resource needs in terms of strengthening FNS EWS.

# Gaps and Limitations of Gender Analysis in FNS EWS

If gender is such a significant factor in determining how individuals and their families experience and cope with food and nutrition insecurity, why is it not a standard consideration in FNS EWS? Gaps in the gender-responsiveness of tools and mechanisms persist, despite evidence that it would not only improve conditions for the most vulnerable, but also render crisis prevention and response more effective. This is due to various limitations. Across PREGEC stakeholders, for example, there is a gap in terms of gender experts and a basic understanding of gender equality concepts. Oxfam acknowledged in 2017 that the lack of gender-responsiveness of their EWS and sex-disaggregation of their data limited the impact of their interventions in Somalia, where gender inequalities are particularly stark (Feeny, 2017). In addition to a lack of understanding, this may also be influencing a lack of interest where the criticality of gender analysis to FNS is not well gauged.

Even if gender policies are an important first step for gender mainstreaming, they are not enough to ensure that all team members manage gender-responsive mechanisms for FNS EWS. According to some interviews with CILSS, the FAO, and ministries of agriculture in the region, gender policies are not disseminated, therefore staff may not even know whether a gender policy exists or not.<sup>14</sup> Similarly, where strong gender analysis guidance does exist for FNS EWS, implementation and adoption may not be widespread, leading to missed opportunities in final reporting. For example, and as noted previously, in the WFP-FAO Joint Strategy on Information Systems, emphasis is placed on the importance of gender analysis to FNS monitoring, and in fact, consideration of gender disparities in food security status is required, according to the Strategy. However, very few of the FAO Global Early Warning – Early Action reports include recommendations informed by gender analysis. This implies that despite strong guidance, the FAO EWS do not take full account of the gender requirements outlined in the comparatively gender-responsive WFP-FAO Joint Strategy on Information Systems for FNS.

Financial and human resource limitations may be an explanation for the lack of gender expertise in many institutions—including in those equipped with gender policies and capacity support frameworks and tools—and implies a lack of commitment and leadership to invest in this area. A good example

of this limitation is the CH 1.0, in which the only mention of gender is in relation to nutrition factors for infant and young children and women, with some distinctions between non-pregnant women and pregnant and lactating women (CILSS, 2016). Accordingly, all PREGEC stakeholders mention gender when tackling nutrition. Nutritional information on these groups, particularly in the context of FNS EWS, is critical. However, while tracking the nutritional needs of women and children is important, it is insufficient for assessing and monitoring the gender dimensions of food and nutrition insecurity. Limiting analysis to this level reflects a narrow technical understanding of the gender dimensions and inequalities linked to food and nutrition security. Instead, gender analysis should collect data for women, girls, men and boys across age groups in order to assess patterns and practices that inform crisis prevention and response planning.

Because the PREGEC is a compilation of information and analysis from various sources, it relies heavily on the quality of the data and the comprehensiveness of its sources. Much of this data is obtained from government and national statistics bodies, leading to constraints where the majority of data are not publicly available and therefore not possible to analyse, and when available, are not always disaggregated by sex and age (WFP, 2016c). Similarly, for some PREGEC stakeholders, collecting information on gender issues is a challenge due to issues such as weak enumerator capacity and financial constraints. However, where certain PREGEC stakeholders do collect SADD and report on gender indicators, these data are not considered in the PREGEC cycle and CH to fill SADD and gender indicator gaps in EWS.

There may also be methodological limitations to integrating gender analysis into the PREGEC cycle. Some stakeholders expressed concerns that for geographical zone-based and price-based analysis of FNS included in the CH, SADD and gender analysis may be more challenging, as compared to household survey data. This is also a challenge for other EWS which rely largely on climate and seasonal change, thereby focusing largely on meteorological data. Furthermore, technical and resource capacity gaps play a significant role in improving methodologies. Oxfam has highlighted the challenges faced by the Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit and the IPC in Somalia, for example, to provide SADD. The large number of indicators for which data is collected and the pressure to collect and report on data in a timely manner means that any further disaggregation, including by sex and age, would be challenging. This is largely due to capacity gaps, according to Oxfam, and failing to respond to risks perpetuating gender-blind programming (Feeny, 2017).

Given the close links between gender and food and nutrition security, it is important to monitor and analyse shifting conditions for women and girls. While the current EWS feeding into the PREGEC may not be entirely conducive to integrating SADD and gender indicators, this information can be sourced from elsewhere, and/or through the inclusion of gender experts in the PREGEC process. While there may be capacity requirements to collect and disaggregate data in full, failure to fulfil these requirements risks failing to meet information demands and thereby threatens the relevance of the PREGEC.

Gender guidance and resources extensively cover the importance of and best practices for conducting gender analysis, however, gender-responsive EWS do not receive the same level of attention. This is true not only for the FNS sector, but across all sectors using EWS, and is apparent in Table 4 on PREGEC stakeholder gender policies which reference FNS EWS. This gap limits the extent to which stakeholders can confidently adopt and implement measures to strengthen and standardise gender analysis in EWS.

One glaring reality stands out from the aforementioned gaps and limitations: a lack of co-ordinated action where minimum inputs are already in place. Most PREGEC stakeholders agree with the importance of gender analysis and most have already begun implementing their own gender analysis capacity strengthening initiatives and the necessary support resources, external expertise and primary data, appear to already exist, if only to a limited extent. This points to the central gap that comprehensive guidance on gender analysis in FNS EWS in the CH does not currently exist. The CH 2.0 therefore offers a promising opportunity for outlining gender analytical framework, tools and training for the PREGEC.

# Conclusion

This paper provides an overview of gender-responsive FNS EWS developed by PREGEC stakeholders in West Africa and identifies the numerous innovative initiatives launched by key stakeholders. A growing body of literature highlights the importance of gender in FNS EWS and lessons learned by stakeholders show the high-value impact of gender sensitive tools in FNS EWS.

Integrating gender into FNS EWS imposes numerous challenges, notably in terms of expertise and budget and due to the fact that responses in times of emergency are particularly demanding. Strong commitment from PREGEC stakeholders is required both financially as well as through gender policy cohesion and dissemination. While gaps remain in the PREGEC, EWS and the CH efforts by members towards improvement are visible and underway.

Gender-responsive FNS EWS are critical to food and nutrition security and to the achievement of gender equality more broadly. It is therefore in the interest of all PREGEC stakeholders to consider gender as a critical dimension of FNS EWS formulation, from the collection of SADD to the analysis of larger contributing factors linked to socio-cultural dynamics. Equally, the inclusion of women at all stages of planning and implementation of FNS EWS will improve monitoring and prevention.

Finally, the CH was launched with the intention of responding to identified limitations of the various FNS EWS tools at that time. With the forthcoming update to the CH in the pipeline, this paper should support stakeholders in taking stock of the limitations of the CH 1.0 as well as the opportunities to making the CH 2.0 more gender-responsive, thereby improving the efficiency of FNS EWS more broadly.

## Notes

- 1 Harmonised Framework (translation). The “Cadre harmonisé” provides a framework for countries to assess food and nutrition insecurity on a consensual basis. It allows government and humanitarian actors in the region to take informed decisions to prevent, mitigate, anticipate and respond to food crises.
- 2 The RCPA gathers “Sahelian and West African Countries, bilateral and multilateral co-operation agencies, humanitarian agencies and international NGOs, agricultural professional organisations, civil society and the private sector and regional and international information systems, with ECOWAS, UEMOA and CILSS at the centre.” See OECD. « RCPA - The Food Crisis Prevention Network - About us » [www.oecd.org/site/rpca/aboutus](http://www.oecd.org/site/rpca/aboutus).
- 3 Non-exhaustive list.



- 4 IPC Analysis Portal. IPC & Cadre Harmonise in West Africa and the Sahel.  
[www.ipcinfo.org/ipcinfo-website/where-what/cadre-harmonise-in-west-africa-and-the-sahel/en](http://www.ipcinfo.org/ipcinfo-website/where-what/cadre-harmonise-in-west-africa-and-the-sahel/en).
- 5 Non-exhaustive list.
- 6 Interviews with PREGEC stakeholders.
- 7 Interviews with CILSS and FEWS NET.
- 8 Interview with FAO.
- 9 Burundi, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, and Uganda.
- 10 WFP (2016), "VAM Gender Analysis: Resource package", VAM Resource Center – Gender, World Food Programme (launched in 2016); WFP (2017), "Gender Toolkit", (living resource, development on-going).
- 11 Interview with WFP RBD Office for West and Central Africa Gender and Markets Initiative.
- 12 [vam.wfp.org](http://vam.wfp.org)
- 13 Interviews with WFP and CILSS gender experts working on the second version of the CH manual.
- 14 Interviews with FAO, CILSS and the Ministry of Agriculture of West African countries.

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### Annex 1: Gender and Markets in West Africa: List of secondary data sources with brief description – August 2016 (WFP)

Title	Source/ Org.	Type	Description
<b>Gender &amp; Education</b>	UNESCO Institute for Statistics	Indicator compendium	Key indicators, disaggregated by sex and age, used to monitor gender in education globally.
<b>Gender and Land Rights Database</b>	FAO	Database	The Gender and Land Rights Database (GLRD) was launched by FAO in 2010 to highlight the major political, legal and cultural factors that influence the realization of women's land rights throughout the world. It also serves as a platform to address, discuss and provide information about gender and land issues with the support of 84 Country Profiles, Land Tenure Statistics disaggregated by gender, and a Legislation Assessment Tool for gender-equitable land tenure (LAT).
<b>Gender Statistics</b>	World Bank	Database	The Gender Statistics database provides indicators on key gender topics. Themes included are demographics, education, health, labor force, and political participation. There are also indicators on aspects of empowerment including decision-making power over health, economic activities and intra-household dynamics. This is the most thorough and complete global resource identified on gender dynamics and sex- and age-disaggregated data.
<b>Gender Statistics (EDGE)</b>	UNSD	Indicator Compendium	52 quantitative indicators and 11 qualitative indicators covering national norms and laws on gender equality.
<b>Gender, Institutions and Development Database</b>	OECD	Database	The GID-DB is intended for researchers and policy makers to determine and analyse obstacles to women's economic development. It covers a total of 160 countries and comprises 60 indicators on gender discrimination. The database has been compiled from various sources and combines in a systematic and coherent fashion the current empirical evidence that exists on the socio-economic status of women.
<b>Gender-Based Violence Information Management System</b>	UNFPA/ IRC/ UNHCR/ UNICEF	Information management system	The Gender-Based Violence Information Management System (GBVIMS) is a multi-faceted initiative that enables humanitarian actors responding to incidents of GBV to effectively and safely collect, store, analyse and share data reported by GBV survivors.

<b>Global Health Observatory Data Repository (GHO)</b>	WHO	Health data, sex and age-disaggregated	The GHO data repository provides access to over 1000 indicators on priority health topics including mortality and burden of diseases, the Millennium Development Goals (child nutrition, child health, maternal and reproductive health, immunization, HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, neglected diseases, water and sanitation), non-communicable diseases and risk factors, epidemic-prone diseases, health systems, environmental health, violence and injuries, equity among others. In addition, the GHO provides on-line access to the WHO annual summary of health-related data for its member states: the World Health Statistics 2014.
<b>IFPRI Datasets</b>	IFPRI	Datasets	This is a resource for different datasets providing sex- and age-disaggregated data and gender statistics for a range of countries and regions.
<b>Key Indications of Labour Market (KILM)</b>	ILO	Information system	The Key Indicators of the Labour Market (KILM) is the main ILO resource for labour market information. The first KILM was released in 1999. It has since become a flagship product of the International Labour Office (ILO) and is used on a daily basis by researchers and policy-makers throughout the world. Most data pertaining to labour market participation is disaggregated by sex and in some cases, by age.
<b>U.S. Census International Data Base</b>	United States Census Bureau	Database	This database provides sex-and age-disaggregated population data for most countries and can be used when national statistics do not accommodate disaggregation by sex and age group.
<b>Segregat</b>	ILO	Database	The database on employment by sex and detailed occupational groups (SEGREGAT) contains statistics for over 80 developed and developing countries and for years near to 1970, 1980, 1990 and 2000. The statistics are not always comparable across countries or across points in time, given differences regarding the sources of data collection, worker coverage and national classifications used. However, it may be possible to compare specific and well defined occupational groups, such as teachers, doctors and taxi drivers.
<b>UNECE Statistical Database</b>	UNECE	Database	This database includes a section on gender and population, within which there are various subsections on areas of information such as work and economy, work life balance, migration, and decision-making. The database also offers country overviews.
<b>FAOSTAT</b>	FAO		This includes general statistics on agriculture and food security from FAO.
<b>Agri-Gender Statistics</b>	FAO	Database	The database includes instructions on how to obtain data and how to best analyse it using a gender perspective.

<b>Sahel Online Reporting System (ORS)</b>	OCHA	Database	The ORS is a performance monitoring tool that allows humanitarian partners participating in interagency planning processes to directly report on achievements based on the activities specified during the SRP/HRP. The database has been designed to facilitate information sharing and monitor response of humanitarian interventions.
<b>World's Women 2015</b>	UN Stats	Database	The World's Women 2015 comprises eight chapters covering critical areas of policy concern: population and families, health, education, work, power and decision-making, violence against women, environment, and poverty. In each area, a life-cycle approach is introduced to reveal the experiences of women and men during different periods of life—from childhood and the formative years, through the working and reproductive stages, to older ages.

Source: WFP 2016c

### Annex II—List of consultations

Institution	Contacted (Y/N)	Consulted (Y/N)
<b>Technical partners</b>		
ACF	Y	Y – two staff
CILSS	Y	Y – two staff
FAO	Y	Y – two staff
FEWSNET	Y	Y – three staff
OXFAM	Y	N
Save the Children	Y	N
UNICEF	Y	N
WFP	Y	Y – two staff
<b>Financial partners</b>		
UE/ECHO	Y	Y – one staff
USAID	Y	N
<b>Political leadership</b>		
ECOWAS	Y	N
UEMOA	Y	Y – one staff



# Integrating Gender Analysis into Food & Nutrition Security Early Warning Systems in West Africa

Integrating gender dimensions into early warning systems is critical to supporting equitable crisis prevention and response. This paper investigates the extent to which food and nutrition security early warning systems (FNS EWS) in the Sahel and West Africa are gender-responsive and highlights existing gaps at national and regional levels. Progress has been made by key partners and stakeholders towards strengthening the gender analysis of FNS EWS. However, these efforts have not led to a unified reconfiguration of joint FNS EWS mechanisms to be more gender-responsive. More concerted efforts are required to assess and track the gender dimensions of FNS EWS to inform more equitable emergency prevention and response. This paper provides timely policy directions to support stakeholders' efforts in strengthening the gender-responsiveness of early warning systems in the Sahel and West Africa.

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