

Capacity Partnership Workshop *on*
**Gender-Responsive Agricultural
Policy and Data Systems**

22-23 June, 2026 | Bhubaneswar, Odisha



CONCEPT NOTE

1. Background and Context

Agriculture employs nearly half of Odisha's workforce, with women constituting an increasingly significant share. A recent Odisha economic survey (2025) highlighted 14 new/ongoing state-led initiatives focusing on women-led development like Subhadra Yojana for cash transfer, Mission Shakti, incentive for women entrepreneurs, 5% capital subsidy under food processing policy etc. As of 2023, Odisha had 85 schemes exclusively for women and 420 other schemes with at least 30% allocation for women. Odisha's total gender budget of 2022-23 stood at 44.7% of the state's total expenditure. Despite their expanding roles as cultivators, laborers, risk managers, and value chain participants, women farmers remain under-recognized, under-compensated, and underserved in agricultural policy and programming.

Despite the state's avowed commitment to women-led development reflected in the targeted schemes outlined above, agriculture policies largely remain gender-neutral in design, resulting in limited participation and benefit capture by women small-scale producers (SSPs). Critical data gaps—particularly the absence of gender-disaggregated data on land ownership, credit access, productivity, market participation, and decision-making—continue to constrain evidence-based policy reform.

The Gender Responsive Cell (GRC), led by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), aims to address these systemic gaps by institutionalizing gender-responsive planning, monitoring, and evaluation mechanisms within the Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Empowerment (DAFE). The GRC will address existing gaps by embedding gender inclusion into upstream as well as downstream functions—including planning, budgeting, program design, and performance review—ensuring that gender is not treated as an add-on but as a core operational principle. It will draw learning from the ongoing work under IFPRI's Gender, Climate and Nutrition Integration Initiative (GCAN), currently under implementation in the state. The GRC also complements Odisha's broader ambition to establish a Center for Women-Led Development (CWLD) under the State Institute for Women and Children, positioning the GRC as a sector-specific pilot for wider reforms.

2. Objectives of the Inception Workshop

The workshop aims to:

- Enable participants to distinguish between gender-sensitive, gender-responsive, and gender-transformative approaches.
- Strengthen the capacity of participants to analyze agricultural schemes in Odisha from a gender lens.
- Introduce the concept of gender budgeting and examine evidence on its effectiveness in improving outcomes.

- Enhance understanding of women's economic participation, particularly in unincorporated enterprises.
- Build practical skills in interpreting and analyzing gender-disaggregated data, including the Annual Survey of Unincorporated Sector Enterprises (ASUSE).
- Facilitate knowledge exchange between policymakers, practitioners, and researchers on integrating gender into agricultural systems.

3. Proposed Structure

The workshop is structured over two days, combining conceptual sessions, policy discussions, and hands-on training:

I. Foundational Session: Gender Concepts and Agricultural Context

This session will introduce participants to key gender concepts and frameworks, including the distinction between gender-responsive and gender-transformative approaches. It will also explore how gender dynamics shape agricultural roles, access to resources, and outcomes.

II. Policy and Program Lens: Agricultural Schemes and Gender Analysis

This segment will provide an overview of major agricultural schemes in Odisha and guide participants on how to analyze these schemes through a gender lens. Participants will be introduced to practical frameworks and tools to assess participation, access, and benefits across schemes.

III. Evidence Session: Gender Budgeting and Outcomes

This session will introduce gender budgeting as a policy tool and present evidence on its effectiveness in improving development outcomes. It will also encourage discussion on how budgeting processes can better reflect gender priorities.

IV. Economic Participation and Data Systems

The second day will focus on women's economic roles, particularly in unincorporated enterprises. Participants will be introduced to gender-disaggregated datasets such as ASUSE and will engage in hands-on exercises to analyze data and derive policy-relevant insights.

V. Closing and Way Forward

The workshop will conclude with reflections from participants, key takeaways, and identification of potential next steps for integrating learning into departmental processes.

4. Proposed Participants

Senior officials from the following departments are expected to participate in the workshop, who are directly engaged in the development and implementation of departmental policies:

- Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Empowerment (DA&FE)

- Fisheries and Animal Resources Development Department (FARD)
- Department of Women and Child Development (DWCD)
- Department of Mission Shakti (DoMS)
- Central Institute for Women in Agriculture (ICAR)

5. Duration of the workshop

Two days (June 22-23, 2026)

6. Expected Outcomes

- Enhanced understanding among participating officials of key gender concepts and their implications for agricultural policy, program design, and rural development outcomes.
- Improved institutional capacity to apply gender-responsive and gender-transformative approaches in the planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of agricultural and allied sector schemes.
- Strengthened ability of participants to analyze agricultural programs and budgets through a gender lens, including identification of gaps in women's access, participation, and benefit capture.
- Increased awareness and practical skills in the use and interpretation of gender-disaggregated datasets, including ASUSE, to support evidence-based policymaking and program planning.

SESSION PLAN

Organized by	Department of Agriculture & Farmers Empowerment, Government of Odisha
Conducted by	International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
Date	22–23 June, 2026
Timings	Day 1: 10:00 AM – 16:00 PM Day 2: 10:00 AM – 13:30 PM

Day 1	Theme: Gender foundations, policy & budget lens
10:00 – 10:30	Welcome & Setting Context <i>Department of Agriculture & Farmers Empowerment, Government of Odisha & International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)</i>
10:30 – 12:00	Session 1: Gender in Agrifood Systems Dr. Ranjitha Puskar <i>International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)</i>
12:00 – 12:15	Tea Break
12:15 – 13:30	Session 2: Landscape of Agri. Schemes in Odisha- and analyzing Schemes from a Gender Lens <i>International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)</i>
13:30 – 14:30	Lunch Break
14:30 – 16:00	Session 3: Introduction to Gender-Responsive Budgeting (GRB) Dr. Bhabesh Hazarika <i>National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP)</i>
Day 2	Theme: Women's Economic Participation & Data
10:00 – 11:30	Session 4: Measuring outcomes – Gender Disaggregated Data Dr. Pallavi Choudhuri <i>Senior Fellow & Deputy Director, National Data Innovation Centre – National Council of Applied Economic Research (NDIC-NCAER)</i>
11:30 – 11:45	Tea Break
11:45 – 13:15	Session 5: Hands-on Training – Annual Survey of Unincorporated Sector Enterprises (ASUSE) Data <i>International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)</i>
13:15 – 13:30	Closing Session
13:30 Onwards	Lunch

COURSE RESOURCE PERSONS



Dr. Ranjitha Puskur

Dr. Ranjitha Puskur is a socio-economist specializing in agricultural innovation systems and gender. Her research focuses on mobilizing science and knowledge for innovation to achieve pro-women and pro-poor developmental outcomes in Africa, South and Southeast Asia, and the Pacific. She currently leads the CGIAR Impact Platform Evidence Module and the Gender and Livelihoods Research Program at the International Rice Research Institute. Over her 18-year career in CGIAR, she has led the CGIAR Research Program on Aquatic Agricultural Systems and developed the WorldFish gender strategy. She also developed IRRI's Gender Research-for-Development Strategy. She holds a PhD in Agricultural Economics from Indian Agricultural Research Institute.



Dr. Bhabesh Hazarika

Dr. Bhabesh Hazarika is an Economist at the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, New Delhi. He holds a Ph.D. in Economics from Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur and served as Assistant Director with the Sixteenth Finance Commission of India. His work focuses on public finance, fiscal federalism, subnational public finance, and evidence-based policymaking. He has undertaken research and policy advisory projects for national and state government agencies. His contributions include research on the care economy and gender-responsive public finance for EAC-PM and initiatives supported by BMGF and MWCD. He has published in national and international journals and presented at leading academic conferences across Asia, Europe, and North America.



Dr. Pallavi Choudhuri

Dr. Pallavi Choudhuri is a Senior Fellow and Deputy Director (NDIC) at the NCAER. Her work has been published in journals such as World Development and the Journal of Survey Statistics and Methodology (forthcoming). Before joining NCAER, she was a Visiting Professor at Grand Valley State University (Michigan). She received her Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Wyoming.



Dr. Mamata Pradhan

Dr. Mamata Pradhan is a Senior Research Coordinator in the Development Strategies & Governance Unit at the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). Her work spans social science research and multi-stakeholder projects that integrate trade, environment including Gender justice, food and nutrition security. In her gender studies, she emphasizes the need to place gender justice at the center of all the choices in contemporary agriculture. Dr. Pradhan's research also explores urban–rural food systems, nutrition security, and institutional solutions for smallholder agriculture that helps shape evidence-based policy recommendations.



Adnaan Shah

Adnaan Shah is a Research Analyst at International Food Policy Research Institute specializing in econometric analysis, impact evaluation, and behavioral economics. He holds an MSc in Behavioural and Economic Science from University of Warwick and has experience analyzing housing policy impacts, labor market outcomes, and diversity initiatives. He has expertise in data analysis, visualization, and dashboard development using R, Python, and Stata. At IFPRI, he supports data preparation and analysis for the Inclusive Agricultural Transformation dashboard for Odisha, focusing on informal enterprise dynamics and gender representation in agricultural value chains, while also contributing to research on domestic trade connectivity.



Bhumika Mishra

Bhumika Mishra, a Research Analyst at IFPRI based in Bhubaneswar, India holds a master's degree in environmental economics from Madras School of Economics, Chennai. Her current research at IFPRI focuses on women in agri-food systems. She was also engaged in diverse research projects studying horticulture value chain, Micro-small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and agricultural markets. She has experience of working as an intern with organizations like National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), Lucknow and Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), New Delhi.



Archismita Bose

Archismita Bose is a Research Analyst at the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), with research interests in development economics, labor markets, social protection, and gender. She holds an M.A. in Economics from Jawaharlal Nehru University and a B.Sc. (Hons.) in Economics from the University of Calcutta. Prior to joining IFPRI, she worked with the Indian Institute of Management Calcutta and the Indian Institute of Management Bangalore, and contributed to research projects with Indian Institute of Technology Delhi and Ashoka University. Her research on migration, labor markets, and aging workforce issues has been presented at several national and international academic conferences.