

THE POWER OF GENDER EQUALITY FOR FOOD SECURITY

TO END HUNGER AND ENSURE FOOD SECURITY FOR ALL PERSONS, GENDER EQUALITY MUST BE A PRIORITY.



1 BILLION

women and girls globally **do not have access to adequate nutrition and healthy diets.**

OVER ONE THIRD

of women and girls aged 15 to 49 years are **anaemic**, which leads to **impaired health, lower productivity, and reduced earning potential.**

...yet gender equality is still not sufficiently prioritized in food security investments and programmes.

TO POWER PROGRESS AND CLOSE THE GENDER GAP, FOOD SECURITY PROGRAMMES, POLICIES, AND INVESTMENTS MUST*:



PROMOTE WOMEN'S FINANCIAL INDEPENDENCE AND DECISION-MAKING

In Tajikistan, only 22% of surveyed women had **income they could use without permission**, including to purchase food, compared to 53% of men.



SUPPORT WOMEN'S FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT

In Bangladesh, only 23% of surveyed women could **go to markets or shops without permission**, compared to 83% of men.



ADVANCE SEXUAL & REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS (SRHR)

In Nigeria, only 48% of surveyed women could **decide for themselves on the use of any methods to prevent pregnancy or sexually transmitted diseases**, compared to 58% of men – choices that are critical to making informed health and nutrition decisions for themselves and their families.



RECOGNIZE AND REDISTRIBUTE THE BURDEN OF UNPAID CARE AND DOMESTIC WORK

In Myanmar, 30% of surveyed women could not **access education or training opportunities that help support long-term food security**, due to competing responsibilities related to unpaid domestic work, compared to 15% of men.

* Based on preliminary findings of the **Gender Equality for Food Security (GE4FS) measure**, developed by the World Food Programme (WFP), in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and Gallup Inc., to explore the relationship between food security and gender equality as experienced by individuals.

OUR ADVOCACY ASKS:

- Invest in gender equality and the health and rights of women and girls in all food security interventions, including those in humanitarian settings.
- Strengthen cross-sector collaboration to address all barriers to women's and girls' food security and meet their holistic needs, including their financial independence and self-sufficiency, freedom from violence, sexual and reproductive health and rights, and decision-making power.
- Create economic policies that recognize, redistribute, and financially support women's unpaid work.
- Ensure that all women have the tools to fully participate in the economy through increased access to comprehensive and equitable financial services, including credit, loans, savings, and insurance.
- Meaningfully engage women and girls from diverse backgrounds in the design, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of food security and nutrition interventions as context experts.
- Provide sustainable and long-term funding for food assistance programmes in all contexts to tackle systemic gender inequalities that take time to change.

ABOUT US:

The World Food Programme

Assisting 91.4 million people in around 83 countries each year, the World Food Programme (WFP) is one of the world's leading humanitarian organizations, delivering food assistance in emergencies. WFP also works with communities in development contexts to achieve food security, improve nutrition and build resilience.

www1.wfp.org

Women Deliver

A global advocate for gender equality and the health and rights of girls and women. Our humanitarian advocacy elevates the voices of women, and the organizations they lead, to help ensure they have a seat at the decision-making table. We also support humanitarian organizations like the World Food Programme to strengthen their advocacy for girls and women in emergencies, and apply a gender lens to their work.

www.womendeliver.org/humanitarian



World Food
Programme



#HUMANITARIAN4HER