

Women's Leadership

The UN Decade of Family Farming recognizes the gender gap that limits rural women's ability to reach their full potential and inhibits their access to and utilization of available opportunities and resources, key to achieving the SDGs of the 2030 AGENDA by addressing family farming from a holistic perspective.



Membership of agricultural organisations, rural women's organisations, cooperative associations, community-based organisations and local administrative systems can improve women farmers' access to a range of services and markets, can strengthen their bargaining power, facilitate their access to natural and technical resources, and improve their access to information and knowledge.



Furthermore, these organisations allow the creation of work and support networks, increasing confidence and self-esteem, the development of leadership skills and participation in decision-making processes at different levels.



In developing regions, almost **75%** of women work in the informal economy.



Women farmers play a "triple role", productive, caring and social, resulting in a heavy workload that limits their political participation.



Rural women's daily working hours are usually 2 hours or more longer than men's.

Less than **15%** of women farmers own land.

In many countries, women's plots tend to be smaller than those of men.

According to estimates, women account for about **40%** of agricultural employment.



Farming organisations, cooperatives, and outgrower schemes are often controlled and managed by men.



The main barriers to women's participation in family farming are the entrenched socio-cultural norms, lack of time due to their "triple role", and less access to assets, services and resources such as agricultural advisory services.

Global agricultural production could increase by up to **30%**

when women have the same opportunities and access to resources as men.



Ensuring women's land rights is essential to achieving gender justice and global gender equality goals and requires a combination of measures, such as reforming laws that favour equal opportunities to acquire rights to land, promoting the adaptation of policies, as well as social attitudes and behaviours.