



WATER GOVERNANCE, TRAINING AND GENDER IN AGRICULTURE: A NEW EVIDENCE BASE

CHAT TRANSCRIPT

MAY 24, 2018

PRESENTERS

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MODERATOR

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April Thompson - Agrilinks: Greetings to our early joiners! The webinar will begin in one hour, 9:30 EST. We'll switch to opening polls at the top of the hour.

Ganapati Powdyel: Hi how long will it take to start the webner from now?

Glenda Paiz: Thanks

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Ganapati, it will be about 40 minutes.

Ganapati Powdyel: Thank you Thompson

Godswill Egbe: Hi everyone, I am Godswill joining from Nigeria

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Hello, Godswill, welcome!

Godswill Egbe: Many thanks

Ganapati Powdyel: Nice meeting people from all over the world. Hope we will have an enriching session.

April Thompson - Agrilinks: It is indeed and I think we have a great presentation in store! Are you tuning in from India by chance?

Ganapati Powdyel: I am joining from Bhutan.

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Wonderful! I don't know much about Bhutan other than it looks beautiful and is supposed to be one of the world's happiest places! What organization are you with?

April Thompson - Agrilinks: To all just joining, welcome to today's Agrilinks webinar, being transmitted live from the Reagan Building here in Washington, DC! Please take a moment to answer the polls and introduce yourself here in the chat box. The event will begin at 9:30 EST.

Ganapati Powdyel: Thank you very much. I am a student pursuing Masters in Development Practice in Royal University of Bhutan.

John Russell (Eco Food Systems): Hi all. John Russell here, joining from Bangkok.

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Welcome, John!

April Thompson - Agrilinks: We appreciate those joining from Asia especially given the time difference...

Patricia Orlowitz: Patricia from USAID Office of Afghanistan and Pakistan Affairs

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Wonderful, Patricia, welcome!

April Thompson - Agrilinks: I do see a number of new names here -- any first-time joiners?

Annet Mulema: Annet, working for the International Livestock Research Institute in Ethiopia as a gender specialist

Tenzin Dorji: Thank you very much for the i

Ganapati Powdyel : I am joining for the 1st time

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Welcome, Annet!

Michelle Teepell: Hi, I am a first-time joiner. Michelle, International Development graduate student from Humber College in Toronto, Canada

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Great, Michelle, welcome! How did you hear about this event?

Frank van Schoubroeck: Hello everyone - my name is Frank van Schoubroeck - my company is called FarmTreeServices.com. New to Agrilinks! I have a job on water harvesting in east Africa soon; calculating economic benefits / gender. So very interested in the topic!

Bishnu Maya Rai: I am joining for first time.

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Fantastic, Frank! Interesting work. Welcome, Bishnu - it's great to have all these new "faces"!

Godswill Egbe: Godswill , I work as a Project Manager for cotton-Textile & Shea processing for BUA Group Nigeria

Frank van Schoubroeck: Greetings from a summerish Netherlands

April Thompson - Agrilinks: It's a summerish day here in DC also, Frank!

Mindu Wangzom: Hello every one

Jigme Yeshe: I am Jigme from Bhutan pursuing B.Sc. Sustainable Development and its my first time in such session

Michelle Teepell: April, I follow International Water Management Institute on LinkedIn and saw a post about it there.

Tenzin Dorji: Thank you very much. i haven' t joined such session before and i m very new to such session and hoping to learn something new and interesting.

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Hello, Jigme! I'm curious that we have a number of joiners from Bhutan! How did you all learn about this event?

April Thompson - Agrilinks: And that's great, Michelle -- we don't typically market our events on LinkedIn so good to know that is reaching folks!

Bishnu Maya Rai: we came know about it from our lecture.

Frank van Schoubroeck: your newsletter did the job for me

Frank van Schoubroeck: Is Bhutan summerisH I used to wrk there in the 1990s

Tandin Gyem: Hello every one, I am joining in this session for the first time.

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Welcome, Tandin!

Bishnu Maya Rai: we are here to learn something new from this session.

Sonam Jamtsho: Respected all...

Leki Dendup: hello

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Well I hope you come away with something new. We also like to learn from our online participants, who often have a lot of relevant experience on the topic, so feel free to make comments in the chat box throughout the presentation.

Yonten Jamtsho: hello everyone

Ugyen Rangdrol: hi I am Ugyen from Bhutan

Sonam Jamtsho: i am also new to such forum and i wish to learn sth from this session...

Tshering Bidha: hello everyone

Jigme Yeshe: We have module Sustainable infrastructure Development which basically involves studying about development in rural and urban areas. I found this session very relevant and hope to learn something new.

Tenzin Dorji: Thank you sir.

April Thompson - Agrilinks: You will also use the chat box to pose any questions for the presenters, and can do so at any time - I will be keeping track of them and my colleague reading out a selection for each presenter. We can't guarantee everyone's questions will get answered in the live session but if there a number unanswered we will address them afterwards in a written Q&A on Agrilinks.

April Thompson - Agrilinks: You're welcome Tenzin, although I am a madam rather than a sir :)

Jigme Yeshe: Thank you

Tenzin Dorji: sorry madame...

Tshering Bidha: i am also joining this type of conference for the first time.

geeta maya rai: hi

Adam Ahmed - Agrilinks: Welcome everyone.

Yonten Jamtsho: i am Yonten Jamtsho from Bhutan. I am glad to meet you all and hope to learn new things

Israel Ojile: thank you, I am Ojile Israel, CEO Anchor & Bolt Professional Services Limited, a consulting firm in Abuja, Nigeria, Sub Sahara Africa

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Welcome, Yonten and Tshering!

April Thompson - Agrilinks: And Israel as well. I have fond memories of Abuja...

Israel Ojile: I am delighted to be in the House, hoping to learn something new

April Thompson - Agrilinks: No problem Tenzin - American names can be challenging!

Israel Ojile: Sure, that is good, thanks

Falihery Rabetaliana: Welcome everyone, I am Faly from Madagascar, working for Land O'Lakes on food security Project

Asyl Undeland: Hi everybody! I am Asyl Undeland, joining from the World bank water practice. I am consultant on gender mainstreaming

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Welcome Falihery and Asyl! Will look forward to hearing your thoughts on the presentations today.

Sonam Pelzom: Good evening everyone I am from Bhutan joining for the first time. I expect this session will be more interesting and acquire new knowledge.

Israel Ojile: It is afternoon in Nigeria, past 2

Falihery Rabetaliana: Thank you April

Elon Gilbert: Good morning from the Jocko Valley Montana

Issaka Mamane Ali: hello, we have internet problem. Its only now that I'm able to connect

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Welcome, Elon! Early riser :)

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Welcome, Issaka, I'm glad you were able to connect - you haven't missed anything as we will get underway in 5 mins or so

Zahraa Saleh: Good after noon from the Middle East

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Welcome Zahraa! What country are you dialing in from, and organization?

Sonam Pelzom: ohh! In Bhutan it's evening

Zahraa Saleh: Lebanon, Mercy Corps.

Rinzin Lhamo: Hello everyone, I am Rinzin Lhamo from Bhutan ..I am joining this online session for the first time...hope to grasp interesting things from this session...

April Thompson - Agrilinks: We have the entire span of time zones covered here amongst you!

Chris Seremet: HELLO!

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Ahlan wa sahlam, Zahraa! (Did I say that right?)

Zahraa Saleh: Yes! Shukran!

F.U.T.U.R.E. Foundation: Good morning from North America- I am Emir and Executive Director of Organic Market Farm Business Incubator.

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Afwan :)

Tshering Dema: Good evening from Bhutan! My pleasure to join in this informative session...

Yam Bdr Gurung: hello everyone

MAXWELL AMEDI: Maxwell Amedi, Ghana, Food Security Manager

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Welcome, Emir - where in North America are you located?

Chris Seremet: I work for CRS as a Water Resources and Sanitation Technical Advisor, working between WASH, ag, and the environment.

RAMESH DESHPANDE: Ramesh Deshpande.

Gilbert Kamiyala (SEG MEL Specialist, USAID/MALAWI): I am from Malawi, USAID/Malawi MEL Specialist in the Sustainable Economic Growth Office

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Hellow Ramesh, Tshering, Yam, Chris, Maxwell, Gilbert!

Navruz Nekbakhtshoev 2: Navruz Nekbakhtshoev: St. Olaf College

David Kahler: Greetings, all: I'm joining from Pittaburgh, PA. I do research in South Africa and Tanzania on water resources (mostly measurement) with Duquesne University.

Gilbert Kamiyala (SEG MEL Specialist, USAID/MALAWI): Hello April

Chris Seremet: This by far the best intro to a webinar I have ever heard!

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Great, glad you can join us David and Navruz.

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Yes, Chris, always nice to have the breakfast buffet narrated remotely :)

Abubakar Dubow: Motherland somalia is a national NGO based in Somalia, we are protection/GBV concern organization, we need to promote women in leadership and governance in somalia.

Anna Brenes: Good Morning from Minneapolis/St. Paul

RAHUL CHATTERJEE: Hi, I am Rahul joining from Lucknow, India

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Welcome Abubakar, Rahul and Anna!

Jim Harper: Jim in Florida, with Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Livestock Systems

Jennifer King: Good morning from MEDA in Waterloo.

Rebecca Gianotti: Hi, everyone. Joining from Chicago. I work for the Global Water Institute at Ohio State University. I'm country director for our Tanzania activities, where we have a program implementing sustainable water and agriculture in rural villages.

Adam Ahmed - Agrilinks: Hi Rebecca. Go Buckeyes!

Rebecca Gianotti: Ha! :D

Abelardo Rodriguez: Good morning, I have worked in West Asia and North Africa. I am interested in water governance.

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Hi Jim, Jennifer, Abelardo and Rebecca!

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Great to hear from everyone already involved in water governance. Tajikistan is a very specific context so will be interested to hear how the research squares with your experiences in other locales.

RAMESH DESHPANDE 2: Ramesh Deshpande, Washington DC, Working for India Agriculture Group

Amarachi Emeziem: Hi everyone, Amarachi from Cornell University

Zachary Baquet: Good Day or Evening All! Zachary Baquet with USAID/BFS in DC.

April Thompson - Agrilinks: By the way, you can download the presentation from the file downloads at the bottom left, as well as the baseline and midterm evaluations.

Jim Yazman: Jim Yazman, BFS

Rashid Sesay: Good day everyone - Rashid Sesay, heifer International

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Great to see you here Zachary and Jim!

April Thompson - Agrilinks: If you would like to see the presentation full screen, click on the box with the four arrows at the top of the box entitled Today's Presentation

Israel Ojile: kk, thanks

Barakat Mahmoud: Hello: Barakat Mahmoud, BFS

Lazare Nzeyimana: Lazare here, hello

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Sabah al Kher Barakat!

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Welcome Lazare!

Lazare Nzeyimana: Thanks

Karma Samten Wangda: Karma Samten Wangda from Bhutan, B.Sc Sustainable Development, College of Natural Resources, Bhutan. Great presentations so far, ready to learn more.

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Welcome Karma - everyone, a reminder you can type in any comments or questions here for the presenters.

Tenzin Dorji: I am Tenzin Dorji from college of Natural Resources, i m very glad to attain the seminar.

Rebecca Gianotti: question: do these findings match with other evaluations in other locales? How much of the results are Tajikistan-specific and how much are generalizable?

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Great question, Rebecca - thanks. I'd be curious to hear anecdotally from our online participants if the findings jibe with what they have seen in their contexts.

Rebecca Gianotti: I'd also like to know if "longer" training translates to differences in subject or intensity of training. e.g. does longer training allow for coverage of more subjects? more detailed explanations and coverage of financial / asset management?

Rebecca Gianotti: i.e. is the implication that longer = better?

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Also a good question - that will be covered in more depth by the next presenter. But my understanding is that it was more repetition of the same material rather than greater depth.

Zachary Baquet: @Rebecca MCC's first impact evaluations in LAC, they found similar results around long term training <https://assets.mcc.gov/content/uploads/2017/05/issuebrief-2012002119501-ag-impact-evals.pdf>

Rebecca Gianotti:or is there something else at play?

Rebecca Gianotti: thanks Zachary and April!

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Check out Soumya's blog on this question of length of training: <https://www.agrilinks.org/post/new-community-organizations-need-longer-training-perform-effectively>

Zachary Baquet: "For example, findings indicate that a longer period of mentoring seems to generate more sustained behavior change."

Rebecca Gianotti: Thank you, that's really helpful.

Chris Seremet: Thanks for these links.

Rebecca Gianotti: I wonder if a shorter period of intense training with a long period of follow-up / check-ins would be as effective as longer training. I.e. if the mentoring could take a form that's equally effective but easier to conduct?

Abelardo Rodriguez: I am curious to know, How are WUA farmers linked to the markets? Do you provide training in entrepreneurial skills? how high do your farmers go in the value chains? Do they sell to other provinces or even exports to neighboring countries?

Chris Seremet: Right. What is that balance?

Jennifer King: Can you elaborate on the gender dynamics at play here as well, i.e. women's participation in WUA's, kitchen gardens perceived as women's gardens therefore less importance, etc.

John Smith: The 19% iincrease is compared to how much before?

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Jennifer - this is a great question and will be addressed more in the subsequent presentation, so hold that thought for now!

Krista Jacobs: Would there need to be any differences in the membership fees between kitchen gardens and private farms based on land area, water needs, or income generation?

John Smith: ok, thx

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Thanks for all the great questions, keep them coming?

Rebecca Gianotti: Cant hear

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Yes, they are working on it!

Rebecca Gianotti: thanks!

Israel Ojile: The question again pls

Asyl Undeland: Did state directions on growing cotton (quotas of land to be allocated for cotton) effected choices of irrigation schemes?

Gilbert Kamiyala (SEG MEI Specialist, USAID/MALAWI): What kind of approaches and technologies need to be invested towards kitchen gardens (commonly run by women as given in the presentation) for efficient use of water resources as well as cost-effectiveness. Somebody has raised already put across a question on fee rgimes that are varied between the two categories of water users.

Navruz Nekbakhtshoev 2: only 5 percent of tha arable land nationwide small farms, the rest in collective peasant farm

Stephen Mink: "Longer is better" isn't yet a very operational recommendation. Does the team's data allow doing a cost-benefit analysis, e.g. measurement of additional benefits from the costs of additional training length?

Elon Gilbert: Related to Abelardo's Q, was the training in any way linked to efforts to strenghten specific value chains via promotion of improve practices and broader participation in those VC's?

Nargiza Ludgate 2: Did WUA receive other support from USAID besides training? Funds for irrigation and drainage rehabilitation (including building control structes, etc.)

April Thompson - Agrilinks: All great questions, everyone, thanks!

Brian Kiger: In addition to Nargiza's Question above: Are there other benefits associated with the duration of trainings? coordination of WUA meetings, funding a place, time to meet? travel resources to meetings funded via the USAID approach? additional benefits?

Anna Brenes: Is there a trust issue btw female run farms and WUAs that are primarily run by men? Could that be a reason for low participation in WUAs?

Abelardo Rodriguez: Could you comment on possible feminization of managerial tasks?

Don Van Atta: The Tajik Law on WUAs used to specify that only "commercial" farms could be WUA members, so households were cut out by design. Has that situation changed?

Rebecca Gianotti: I think many of our questions about the first presentation could be summed up as: how can we as practitioners take these results and turn them into actionable plans?

Rebecca Gianotti: What are the specific activity recommendations and the cost implications of those?

Cheick Mamadou DIARRA: Greetings everyone

Don Van Atta: Sorry. Came late because of a city permitting issue. :) I'm now with UNC Chapel Hill.

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Hi Don!

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Thanks for the question.

Navruz Nekbakhtshoev 2: government insistence on cotton production+ collectivized agriculture= feminization of agriculture

tshering dorji: Greeting everyone. I am tshering dorji from Bhutan. It my first time in this type of forum. And hope to learn new from here.

Navruz Nekbakhtshoev 2: persistence of collectivized agriculture leads to male migration

April Thompson - Agrilinks: And Rebecca - there will be some recommendations offered up, although as always with the caveat Rebecca, there will be some recommendations offered though of course they are dependent on many factors.

Phil Steffen: Comment, from the Nepal "Synthesis of Evidence" report on the feminization of agriculture: Far more women in the work force work in agriculture than men, mainly due to the high outmigration of men whose absence may further empower women through autonomy of production decisions and control over resources. However, few women, particularly those from disadvantaged groups, are visible at higher levels in the value chains, requiring deliberate efforts to ensure their participation. Footnote: Of women in the workforce, 71 percent work in agriculture, compared with 56 percent for men. Yurendra Basnett, et al., Structural Economic transformation in Nepal, page 40, citing Asian Development Bank data (2013).

Rebecca Gianotti: Thanks Paul, that jibes with my experiences in Africa

Godswill Egbe: I am thinking that feminization of more policy making positions in political governance especially on Agriculture and MSMEs can control and mitigate feminization of labour intensive parts of production s in wealth creation of nations.

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Thanks Phil!

Rebecca Gianotti: I am wondering about the definition of "operation", in the sense of women "operating" farms. in Africa it's very common that women will be working the farms even if by law the land title is in a man's name. So I would say that women are operating the farms in most cases

Rebecca Gianotti: *sorry, Phil!

Zachary Baquet: "Tajikistan Land Reform and Farm Restructuring Project Evaluation" also discusses increasing role of women in farming and rural land activism. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/pa00mjp7.pdf

AV Tech: To view the presentation full-screen, click on the four arrows at the top of the powerpoint window

Hamissou Samari: Can lower female participation also stem from cultural beliefs (at least in some parts of the world) that only men should be involved in major decision making events?

Rebecca Gianotti: ^^ what Hamissou said!

Navruz Nekbakhtshoev 2: usufruct

Rinzin Pema Zangmo: Greetings everyone I am from Bhutan pursuing my degrees in BSc. Sustainable Development. Thank you for the presentation.

Asyl Undeland: I thought that there are still collective farms, which are just called differently (associations, cooperative farms and etc)

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Thanks, Hamissou. Certainly an important factor but will see what Soumya has to say on the matter. @Asyl, we can see if that can be clarified as well.

Navruz Nekbakhtshoev 2: based on my analysis of the national land committee data 70 percent of arable land is held in collectivized farms

Rebecca Gianotti: Thanks, Soumya - great clarification.

Hamissou Samari: Thanks Soumya and Rebecca. I agree!

Asyl Undeland: do kitchen gardens are irrigated from the canals or from domestic drinking water sources? Can that be a reason for kitchen gardens be outside of the WUAs? What about Presidential land plots? they are also used for small scale vegetable production

Elon Gilbert: trying to better understand the impact of male migration. Has this perhaps been as focus of a separate study and/or project? Sounds like migration may have major impacts on VC participation (cotton) and more generally on household enterprise mix favoring greater diversification/focus on resilience

Asyl Undeland: I appreciate great discussion on linkages between land ownership, farm legal status, preferred crops and gender equality in WUAs

Hamissou Samari: I joined the meeting late, so apologies if my question is already addressed: have you found any statistically significant association between land security (title possession) and productivity (for either sex)?

Venkataramana Sridhar: Good morning. This is Venkat Sridhar from Virginia Tech. How is the climate information used in the decision making process for how much to irrigate? For example, are there any help provided on drought in advance or water conservation measures or providing crop water demand advisories. Thanks
April Thompson - Agrilinks: Hamissou, hope that helped - I don't think that dimension was a formal eval question however.

Cheick Mamadou DIARRA: Greetings against. This is Cheick Mamadou Diarra from Mali. Why diffusion networks may not be sufficient to train female farmers?

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Apologies that we haven't been able to get to everyone's questions, but hope to address some of them at the conclusion of speakers, and others post-event on Agrilinks.

Hamissou Samari: Thanks April!

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Hi Cheick, merci pour votre question! What do you mean by diffusion networks exactly?

Kuenlay Zangmo: I am from Bhutan.Thank you very much.

Navruz Nekbakhtshoev 2: cotton seed for cooking oil as well

Jim Yazman: Cotton stalks may be useful as a forage (probably loaded with pesticides, though) but more important, cotton seed meal is a valuable feed ingredient for milk production

Navruz Nekbakhtshoev 2: Do farmers who grow more cotton as opposed to food crops continue to get preferential treatment in terms of water access?

Cheick Mamadou DIARRA: Hi April: e.g. social networks

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Got it. As these were new institutions being set up, I think the formal training was pretty important and social networks insufficient to capacitate members given members were really taking on new, unfamiliar roles

Abelardo Rodriguez: Did you find differences in land allocation to different crops between women and men in the WUA?

Rebecca Gianotti: Cheick - I think this was related to the traditional gender norms that Soumya talked about. Men traditionally held the decision-making roles and weren't comfortable with women stepping into those positions. So if men received training but not women, the training wasn't passed from the men to the women.

April Thompson - Agrilinks: These are great questions, everyone, thanks!

Ugyen Yangchen: how is diversification of crop supported by WUA and the extension services provided to diversify crops

Jim Yazman: What are "informal agricultural extension services"? Services provided by input dealers?

Navruz Nekbakhtshoev 2: What is the effect of distance from the market on the crop choice?

Cheick Mamadou DIARRA: Thanks you Rebecca

RAHUL CHATTERJEE: Are all these association analysis adjusted for socio-economic confounders?

Navruz Nekbakhtshoev 2: Does and economy of scale consideration affect crop choice? Cotton does not require careful timing and coordination to be delivered to the market. Perishable crops do.

Jim Yazman: The findings here around WUAs parallel what we've seen in dairy cooperatives in East Africa where milk cooling and marketing is the core service.

Rebecca Gianotti: April - is there a blog post or weblink to the results that Marie-Charlotte just talked about?

Namgyal dawathinley: hello everyone, its my pleasure to be in this important informative discussion and i hope i ll learn new things.

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Thanks for the prompt! See here: <https://www.agrilinks.org/post/traditional-farming-or-high-value-crops-integrated-approach-help-farmers-choose>

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Thanks, Namgyal!

Rebecca Gianotti: Thank you so much!

April Thompson - Agrilinks: The final evaluation itself is still forthcoming, but will have a lot of rich detail to dig into.

Emmanuel Omara Ayen: Hello Team, am glad to be part of these team. Will ensure I attend all Webinars

Issaka Mamane Ali: Very useful and interesting

Anna Brenes: Did this project interact with the WB Cotton Sector Recovery Project? Cotton is a water intensive crop - how does this affect the WUAs if cotton is still the number one crop?

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Thanks, Emmanuel and Issaka!

Rebecca Gianotti: Does anyone on here have experience with agricultural extension? I'm working in Tanzania where there is a formal extension service but it's severely understaffed and under-resourced. We're looking into ways to help support farmers in the absence of extension officers, and I'm intrigued by this concept of WUAs playing a similar role. Anyone else have experience with that?

Anna Brenes: It seems the potential to influence policy and water regulation in cotton production could be intergrated with national policy?

April Thompson - Agrilinks: We've got less than 5 minutes here for Q&A -- please do go ahead and fill out the polls as we take the final questions!

Jim Yazman: Excellent point on women's time. Every "sector" wants more women's involvement -- nutrition, education, agriculture. There is only so much time available in a day!

Elon Gilbert: is the nature and importance of migration changing and how might this impact on household enterprises choices (ag and non ag)?

Oxana Arhip: Thank you!

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Interesting question, Rebecca - there are certainly models where the private sector has stepped in to help fill that void. For example where input suppliers can be trained to also provide extension support, or companies upstream help fund services in order to have higher quality crops to source.

Rebecca Gianotti: Agreed. What we see in TZ is that commercial suppliers of inputs have a limited time window in which they're prepared to help out and provide training. And as the first presentation indicated, long-term mentoring is often required, which means some other method is usually needed for long-term training. WUAs are an interesting way to do that.

Rebecca Gianotti: We're piloting a way in TZ to use ICT for that but I'd like to hear about other ideas!

AV Tech:Poll time!

April Thompson - Agrilinks: There is also the lead farmer/demo plot model but of course that takes funds and staff to carry out!

Gilbert Kamiyala (SEG MEI Specialist, USAID/MALAWI): Sorry to leave the discussion at this point. This was nice

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Gilbert, thanks for joining - there will be a recording and transcript so you can get the final word later!

Rebecca Gianotti: Does Agrilinks have a forum where webinar participants and presenters can continue discussing questions that come up during the session?

Oliver Hutton: Any work done to improve land management/irrigation techniques for farmers to reduce water usage

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Check out the upcoming events on Agrilinks - slide on the upper left.

April Thompson - Agrilinks:

We'll be looking at food security policy in June, and have some special events related to that topic!

Jim Harper: Good question Nargiza

Rebecca Gianotti: There's some great discussion happening in the room and in this chat box and it'd be great to see if there's a way to continue that after the webinar ends.

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Also have an interesting event upcoming on index insurance, with some new tools on how to assess the appropriateness of this tool in a given context.

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Rebecca, the room will be open for a bit for discussion, so feel free to engage!

Rebecca Gianotti: Thanks, April. I was thinking more about a way to facilitate discussion among practitioners after the fact. Is there a forum where people can chat long-term?

Abelardo Rodriguez: Thanks

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Thanks for everyone who has completed the polls, do continue to do so if you haven't already. It's useful feedback for us!

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Thanks everyone for the fantastic engagement on this topic today.

Murat Y: Isn't it intuitive and straightforward that longer-term training is better and more effective than the one which is short-term? Your impact findings suggest better farmer participation in WUA governance, better irrigation and membership fees collection compared to non-USAID WUAs, higher crop diversification, which is all good but probably not sufficiently tangible in terms of people's livelihoods. So my question would be - were there any other impacts that are more tangible such as on crop yields, farm incomes, farmers' satisfaction with WUA services between two the types of WUAs - USAID vs non-USAID?

Chris Seremet: Thank you!

Israel Ojile: Thank you

Murat Y: Thanks for the insightful webinar!

Tayan Gurung: Thank you for a very interesting discussion

April Thompson - Agrilinks: Most welcome to you all! Come back next month!

Yam Bdr Gurung: Thank you all the speakers for such insightful presentation and discussion on WUA

Ugyen Yangchen: Thank you all the presenters for very informative presentations

Bishnu maya Acharya: thank you