

# Gender Transformative Approaches:

Integration of gender transformative approaches for equitable and resilient livelihoods in Southern Africa



## Working Group Focus:

- Examining how integrating gender transformative approaches (GTAs) into development programmes builds household, community, and ecosystem resilience.
- Evaluating and redistributing power, addressing inequalities perpetuated by social norms, societal dynamics, and institutional control.

The Gender Transformative Approaches working group explored how integrating GTAs into development programmes enhances resilience among small-scale farmers in Southern Africa. Through collaborative research, narrative analysis, and community engagement, they identified pathways linking GTAs to resilience outcomes and formulated key policy recommendations. Their work emphasized the importance of addressing structural barriers and harmful gender norms to achieve equitable and resilient livelihoods. By sharing their findings through various outputs, they provided practical insights and recommendations for integrating GTAs into resilience-building efforts.



## **Engagement Process:**

- Collaborative Research: The group included researchers, advocates, and practitioners who used a gender equality framework to examine resilience and the role of gender transformation in resilience building.
- Narrative and Thematic Analysis: Synthesized narratives of male and female farmers from Malawi to illustrate the impact of integrating GTAs on fostering equitable and resilient livelihoods.
- Community Engagement: Engaged with smallscale farmers to gather insights and document the practical applications of GTAs in resilience-building efforts.
- Strategic Dissemination: Shared findings through policy brief, practice brief, and case studies to provide practical insights and recommendations for policymakers and practitioners.
- Funder and Policy Engagement: Emphasized the need for integrating GTAs into policies and programs through partnerships, resource allocation, gender indicators, and comprehensive integration into governance and development.

## **Key Recommendations**



## **Integration into Policies and Programs:**

To effectively mainstream GTAs, policymakers should incorporate Gender Transformative principles into existing policies and programs.



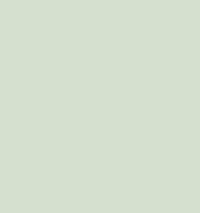
## Integration into Governance and Development:

Policymakers must recognize that GTAs are not standalone initiatives but should permeate all aspects



# **Integration into Disaster Risk Reduction and**

of governance and development.



## **Climate Adaptation Strategies:**

Given gendered vulnerabilities in Southern Africa and the demonstrated link between gender equality and resilience, policymakers in the region should prioritize the integration of GTAs into disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation strategies.



#### **Resource Allocation for Gender Transformative Initiatives:**

Allocating adequate financial and human resources to Gender Transformative initiatives is essential.



#### **Incorporation of Gender Transformative Indicators:**

Monitoring and evaluation processes should incorporate Gender Transformative indicators to track progress effectively.



## Fostering Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships:

Promoting effective partnerships among governments, civil society, and the private sector is crucial for successfully integrating and implementing GTAs for sustainable impact.



## Regional Collaboration and Scaling Up:

Across the region, policy makers should focus on integrating GTAs into national development plans, promoting gender-sensitive indicators, allocating budgets accordingly, and actively engaging stakeholders.



# Key Insights:

- Gender Differences in Resilience: Recognized significant gender differences in resilience capacities and preferences for addressing global challenges like climate change and biodiversity loss.
- Impact of GTAs: Demonstrated that integrating GTAs into development programmes can foster equitable and resilient livelihoods by addressing structural barriers and harmful gender norms.
- Pathways to Resilience: Identified pathways linking GTAs to resilience outcomes, enhancing understanding of how gender transformative activities contribute to resilience-building amidst shocks and stressors.
- Policy Recommendations: Formulated key policy recommendations to move beyond genderinclusive approaches and address structural barriers to ensure the full participation and contribution of all genders in building resilient capacities.
- Holistic Integration: Highlighted the importance of a holistic approach that considers gender at every level of planning and implementation, fostering partnerships, allocating adequate resources, incorporating gender indicators, and ensuring systematic integration into governance and development.
- Regional Collaboration: Emphasized the role of regional collaboration and scaling up GTAs to contribute significantly to gender equality, resilience, and sustainable development.
- **Community Perspectives:** Stressed the importance of incorporating community perspectives to validate and fortify the implementation of GTAs, driving and sustaining transformative resilience.



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## **Key Outputs:**

Policy Brief: Advancing equitable and resilient livelihoods in Southern Africa through Integrating Gender Transformative Approaches

**Practice Brief:** Integration of gender transformative approach for equitable and resilient livelihoods in Southern Africa

Case Study: Integration of gender transformative approach for equitable and resilient livelihoods - WinWin project in Burundi

Case Study: Integration of gender transformative approach for equitable and resilient livelihoods - Pathways Program



More on the Gender **Transformative Approaches** working group:

