2E. Engage and Empower rural communities to be the drivers of social-economic development through water

OTS 2E4: **Wednesday 23 March, 13h30-15h, salle 6**

**THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN IRRIGATION MANAGEMENT**

Ordinary Thematic Session number 4, from the Group 2E:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Media-friendly session Title/ Titre de la session adaptée aux médias *</th>
<th>The role of women in irrigation management</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Media-friendly session summary (3-5 sentences)/Résumé de la session adapté aux médias (3-5 phrases) *</td>
<td>The overall objective is to empower smallholder farmers through a better involvement of women group within irrigation systems and water management. The session will document the challenges facing rural producers and women arena in terms of access and control of irrigation water for the sustainability of agricultural activities and market gardening.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Keywords to describe the session’s main elements (5 keywords max.)/Mots-clés pour décrire les principaux éléments de la session (5 mots-clés maximum) *</td>
<td>Irrigation, Productive water, Gender agenda, Saving waters, Food/Energy/Health nexus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Description of the session (250 words max.). It should include objectives and expected outcomes and/or questions that the session intends to answer/ Description de la session (250 mots maximum). Elle doit inclure les objectifs et les résultats attendus et/ou les questions auxquelles la session se propose répondre. *</td>
<td>Women are the most affected by water stains and the lack of accessibility of irrigation solutions adapted to small farms. This session will document the challenges facing rural producers and women arena in terms of access and control of irrigation water for the maintenance and sustainability of agricultural activities for market gardening. Peri-urban agriculture ensures that cities are supplied with fresh market garden products. However, despite its importance, it is endangered due to lack of control over productive waters and the difficulty to access to the urban market and to the efficient irrigation technologies. Then many market gardeners abandon their fields in favor of real estate developers and agribusinesses with large means. But it seems that both irrigation technologies and women involvement could improve the economic model of peri-urban agriculture. Through examples, the expected outcomes will identify and share the constraints linked to the control of productive water by market gardeners in rural peri-urban areas thank to the irrigation practices. Strong consensus on the need to take charge of the identified constraints will be reached by the actors of the sector. Ways to solve the problems will be identified and the levels of responsibilities of the women will be located.</td>
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2E. Engage and Empower rural communities to be the drivers of social-economic development through water

| Name of session coordinators/Nom des coordinateurs de session * | Laure Tall (IPAR, Sénégal)  
Pauline Ndiaye (ENDA-Pronat, Sénégal)  
Didier Orange (IRD, France) |
|---|---|
| e-mail * | laure.tall@ipar.sn  
pomahen@yahoo.fr  
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| Organization name and type/Nom et type d'organisation * | IPAR (Initiative Prospective Agricole et Rurale), Francophone research institute, Sénégal  
ENDA-Pronat, NGO Sénégal  
IRD (French National research institute for sustainable development), French public research institution |
| Country/Pays * | IPAR: West Africa  
ENDA-Pronat: Sénégal  
IRD: France, applied in tropical zones |
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SIF: Laura Le Floch lefloch@secours-islamique.org  
Women for Water: Lesha Witmer advocacy-sc@womenforwater.org |
| Duration of the session (max. duration allowed is 90 minutes)/Durée de la session (la durée maximale autorisée est de 90 minutes) * | 90 mn |
| Draft session schedule (expected times for presentations, panel) | Welcome and introduction [10’]  
6 introductions of 5 mn based on examples [30’] |
**2E. Engage and Empower rural communities to be the drivers of social-economic development through water**

| discussions, etc. | - Discussion Panel on questions raised in the assembly [45’]  
| - Key messages and Conclusion [5’] |

| Expected panelists / speakers / moderators / Panélistes / intervenants / modérateurs attendus * | Speakers: |
| - Laure Tall (IPAR, Sénégal: Guinée, Sénégal)  
La transition énergétique pour l’autonomisation économique des femmes à travers la chaine de valeur horticole dans un contexte post-Covid en Guinée et au Sénégal  
- Mamadou Mballo (CICODEV, Sénégal: Sénégal)  
Irrigation for market gardening : the AMOPAR project  
- Pauline Ndiaye (ENDA-Pronat, Sénégal: Sénégal)  
De l’eau et du solaire pour le bien-être et le développement des communautés rurales  
- Jean Comby (ESF, France: Burkina Faso, Bénin, Togo)  
SISAM, solution d’irrigation solaire améliorée  
- Armelle Perrin-Guinot (Veolia, France: Niger)  
The Oasis project, to support the economic integration of women through entrepreneurship  
- Mariet Verhoef-Cohen (WfWP : Kenya)  
Women, Water & Leadership |

| Panelists: |
| - **Moderator:** Laure Tall (IPAR, Sénégal: West Africa), confirmed  
- Mamadou Mballo (CICODEV, Sénégal: Sénégal), confirmed  
- Pauline Ndiaye (ENDA-Pronat, Sénégal: Sénégal), confirmed  
- Jean Comby (ESF, France: West Africa), confirmed  
- Armelle Perrin-Guinot (Veolia, France: Niger), confirmed  
- Mariet Verhoef-Cohen (WfWP: Kenya)  
- Sadio Ba Gning (UGB université, Sénégal), confirmed  
- Djiby Thiam (Univ Cape, SA), confirmed  
- Ehssan Elmeknassi (COSTEA, Maroc), confirmed  
- Souroudé Aboutou Orogou (ONG SADIL, Togo)  
- Virginie Gillet (FAO, Roma), confirmed  
- Lesha Witmer (Women for Water) |

| CGs contributions received that will be included in the session (with a word or two about how they are included)/CGs Contributions reçues qui seront incluses dans la session | N/A |
2E. Engage and Empower rural communities to be the drivers of social-economic development through water

| (avec un mot ou deux sur la façon dont elles sont incluses) | N/A |
| Potential overlaps with other OTS/Possibles chevauchements avec d'autres OTS | |
| Missing stakeholders/Parties prenantes manquantes * | |
| Intended audience and expected minimum and maximum number of participants/ Public visé et nombre minimum et maximum de participants attendus * | 50 people |
| Session Format/Logistics required (e.g. preferred room type, translation, audio, and video facilities, recording, stationery, printed material, special equipment, etc.)/ Format de la session/logistique requise (par exemple, type de salle souhaité, traduction, installations audio et vidéo, enregistrement, papeterie, matériel imprimé, équipement spécial, etc.) * | Translation, audio, and video facilities, recording, stationery, (and printed material if possible) |
| Expected outcomes, impacts, and follow-up linkages with events and initiatives after the Forum/Résultats attendus, impacts, et liens de suivi avec les événements et initiatives après le Forum * | This session will advocate to support the economic integration of women through entrepreneurship and to raise awareness among them, as well as a wider audience of the issues related to water-related activities for sustainable development, natural resource conservation and market gardening.

The key political message will be: Empower smallholder farmers in SSA through the support of women groups into irrigation projects for market gardening, through the following concrete actions:

1. Introduce country level policies, education, structures and funding that promote the widespread up-take and use of adapted technologies that enable women smallholders to sustainably use irrigation technology for the market gardening and increase their year-round yields and incomes.

2. These may include supportive actions and national programmes for women involvement in irrigation management for market gardening. It could be by: Adjusting duties/taxes on relevant water/irrigation technologies; Incorporating training dedicated to women groups on sustainable irrigated farming and water use into agricultural curricular; Widely promoting, with extension and demonstrations, the use of sustainable irrigation and water conservation technologies and practices ; etc.
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<td>3. Advocate for the improvement of global and local water governance in conjunction with structures dealing with food and agriculture issues, through the creation of an intergovernmental structure on Water&amp;Food as part of the UN and approved by Member States to emphasize the role of women groups in irrigation management for market gardening.</td>
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