



RESEARCH
PROGRAM ON
Water, Land and
Ecosystems



Water Management for Sustainable Intensification

Achieving equitable outcomes for women and men farmers



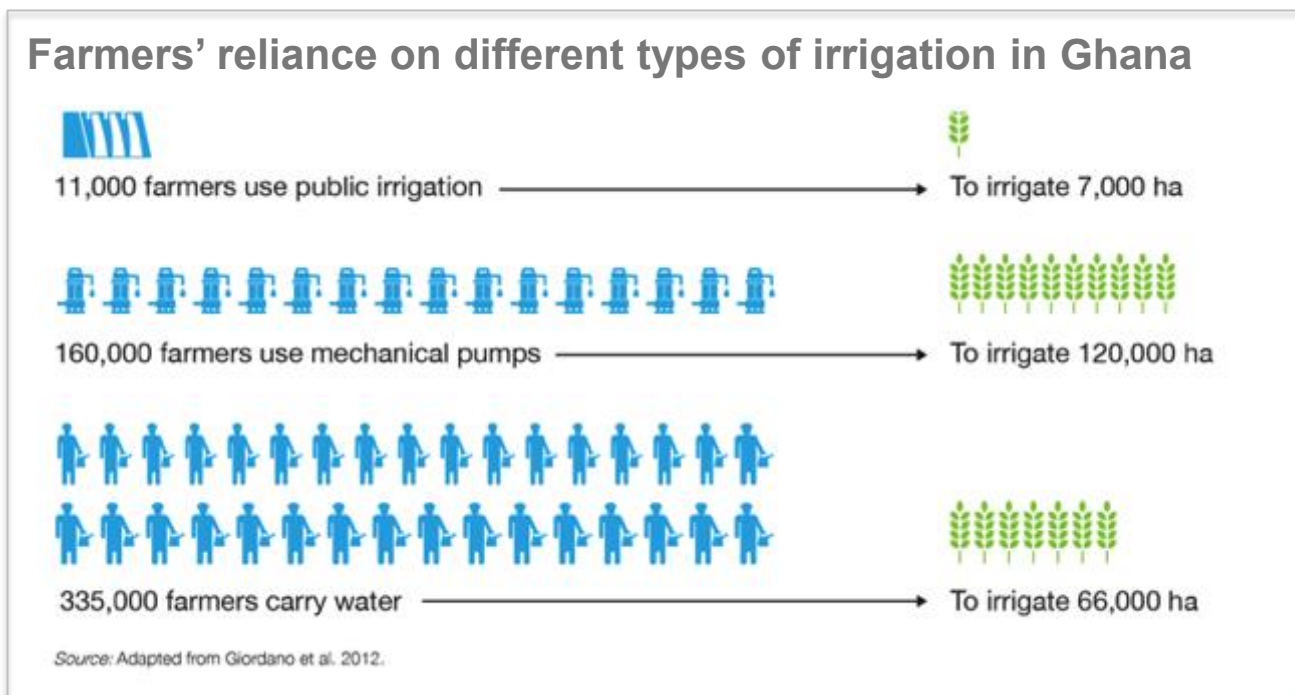
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:



Water management offers opportunities for intensification

Smallholder farmers are increasingly initiating and financing small-scale land and water management technologies themselves, e.g.:

- In India > 50% of the irrigated area watered by smallholder pumps.
- In much of Africa, smallholder AWM reaches more farmers than public irrigation.



Smallholder AWM: Potential to impact millions

AWM Benefits in Sub-Saharan Africa



Small reservoirs could benefit 369 million people and increase net revenues by US\$20 billion per year



Motor pumps could benefit 185 million people and increase net revenues by US\$22 billion per year



Rainwater harvesting could benefit 147 million people and increase net revenues by US\$9 billion per year



Community managed river diversions could benefit 113 million people and increase net revenues by US\$14 billion per year

Livelihood benefits of AWM: Labor saving, income and nutrition, employment

- Irrigating households have higher incomes and improved food security, production diversity, higher dietary diversity
- Irrigation service provision provides income opportunities
- Commercializing home gardens (including with AWM) can empower women
- Targeted technologies and tools can save time and energy
- Women and men both report social status as benefit of irrigation adoption by the household.

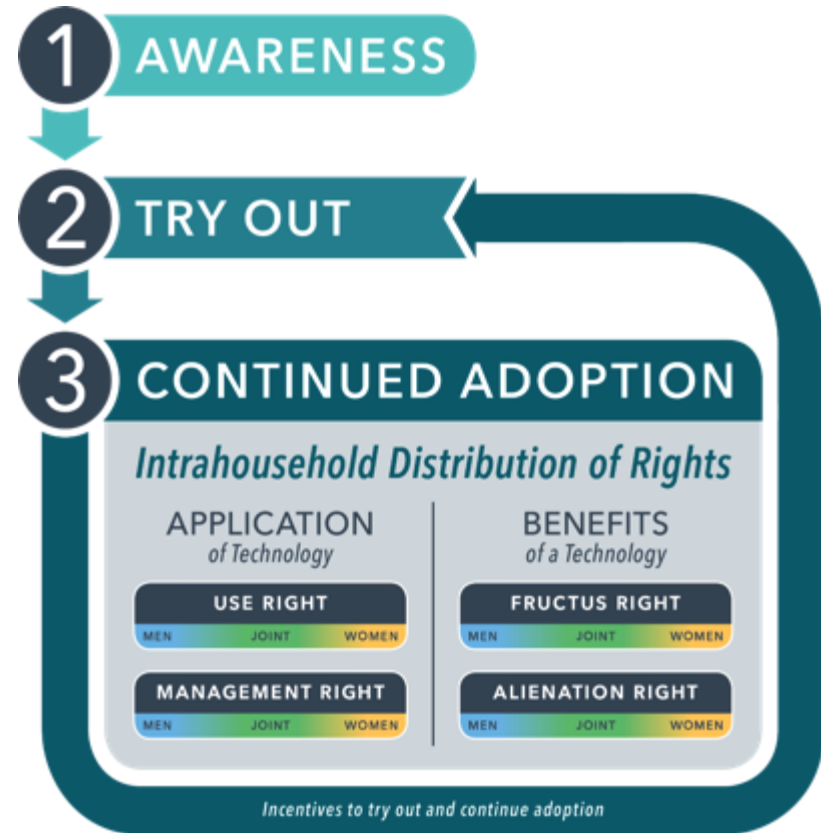


How can we reach more farmers with AWM?

Address unequal rights to use, manage and benefit from technologies and resources within household

Negotiation within the household offers entry points for supporting benefits, empowerment

- Women have more rights to use and manage technologies when have own plots or near household, inputs costs are low, crop water requirement low
- Women have more rights to benefits when on own plots, near household, and with continuously harvested (often neglected) crops
- Women have more ability to exercise rights when they have access to information
- Rights and roles are more negotiable when there is an incentive to change



Invest in approaches that empower women, increase equitability and enhance intensification

- Target and empower women at household, scheme level
- Support women's choices in technology, crops
- Reduce labor intensity of technologies
- Increase women's access to market and production information
- Mobilize groups of women to adopt technology, participate in schemes
- Use facilitation and tools available to increase women's role in decision-making and problem solving





We would like to acknowledge the Innovation Lab for Small Scale Irrigation of Feed the Future for support for most of the research presented here.

For ALWM decision-support tools and business models, see:
<https://wle.cgiar.org/solutions/smallholders>

