

Grey literature on agriculture and rural development

What is grey literature? It is literature produced by non-commercial publishers, such as public institutions, universities, research institutes and civil society. It contains a lot of useful content, but is often hard to find as it is scattered across different loca-

tions. EIGE has collected grey literature on gender equality and you can access our collection through a simple search interface. EIGE's collection of grey literature is available in several EU languages and documents come from all EU Member States.

The relevance of gender in agriculture

Agriculture is one of the oldest and most widespread activities in the world. However, differences between women and men, be it in employment, pay or decision-making positions, still persist. Agriculture has a crucial role in food production, environmental protection, landscape preservation, rural employment and food security. Mainstreaming gender into this sector is therefore extremely important.



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Grey literature in EIGE's library

EIGE's library hosts one of the largest collections on gender-related literature related to agriculture and rural development. The collection presents **good practices** of current policies throughout Europe as well as **gender indicators** aimed at assessing the socio-economic status of the agricultural and rural population.

Several resources focus on the ways in which the EU has mainstreamed gender into **policy processes** for agriculture and rural development. You will also find **research reports** and **statistical documents** providing data on gender challenges related to agriculture and rural development.

Policies

EIGE's collection gives access to documents relevant to the [common agricultural policy](#). You will also find resources to [help practitioners](#) integrate a gender dimension into agricultural projects and programmes.

The focus on gender equality in agriculture and rural development dates back to Article 14 of the [Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women](#) (CEDAW, 1979), specifically dealing with rural women. At the European level, one of the most important legal documents on gender equality issues in rural areas has been the [Council of Europe Recommendation No 1321](#) (1997) on improving the situation of women in rural society.

Several available resources underline the importance of the collection, analysis and dissemination of sex-disaggregated data. EIGE's library hosts resources on **gender indicators** that countries can use to collect comparable data on the socioeconomic status of the rural and

agricultural population. These data can serve to assess the status of the agricultural and rural population using a gender lens.

Reading list

[Regulation \(EU\) 1305/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on support for rural development by the EAFRD;](#)

['Are EU attempts to gender mainstream realistic? The common agricultural policy \(CAP\) as an example';](#)

[Gender-budget analysis and impact of fiscal policies on the poverty level of the women in agriculture;](#)

[Core gender indicators for assessing the socio-economic status of the agricultural and rural population.](#)

Employment

The increased participation of women in employment is crucial to fulfil the **EU 2020 strategy** goals, and women in agricultural and rural areas can make an important contribution. In addition to paid farm work, women still assume the main share of unpaid responsibilities involved in the running of families and communities.

Reading list

Women in EU agriculture and rural areas: hard work, low profile.

Development of rural areas

Women are crucial for the maintenance, conservation and development of rural areas, contributing to the agricultural workforce as well as the preservation and transmission of traditions. However, women represent the most excluded group compared both to rural men and to their male and female urban counterparts.

The resources in our library present **practices and case studies** on the role of women in rural areas. Several resources provide **policy recommendations** that are expected to transform rural societies and improve the livelihoods of rural women.

Reading list

Personal and social development of women in rural areas of Europe — Note;

Rural Women in Europe;

Bringing agriculture and nutrition together using a gender lens;

Women in non-production roles in agriculture — A literature review of promising practices.

About EIGE

The European Institute for Gender Equality is the EU knowledge centre on gender equality. EIGE supports policymakers and all relevant institutions in their efforts to make equality between women and men a reality for all Europeans and beyond, by providing them with specific expertise and comparable and reliable information on gender equality in Europe. With over 800 000 items, EIGE's Resource and Documentation Centre is a one-stop shop for gender knowledge. Access our collection of policy documents, books, articles, studies, specialised databases and more at www.eige.europa.eu

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