

Focus Group Questions for Students

Total time: 1.5 hours

Date: _____

Place: _____

Facilitator/interviewer information:

Name: _____ Gender: ___ Male ___ Female

Obtained verbal consent from participant:

___ Yes ___ No (*DO NOT CONTINUE WITHOUT VERBAL CONSENT FROM THE PARTICIPANTS*)

Group information (indicate the number of individuals for each category):

Code (identifier): _____

Age: ___ 18-20; ___ 20-24; ___ 25-29; ___ 30+

Gender: ___ Male ___ Female

Institution Name: _____

Programs or departments represented: _____

Introductions and explain how interview will proceed.

1. Do men and women have equal opportunity in the agriculture sector in your country? Why or why not?
2. Do you think men and women are treated equally in your institution? Why or why not?
3. From your personal experience, do you think agriculture as a field of study and as a paid profession is considered to be for men only in your country? If so, please explain and provide examples from your experience.
4. Why did you enter an educational institution to prepare you for the profession of agriculture and what are your goals?
5. Do you aspire to working directly in the field, the lab, the nursery, an office, a store, or other places? Why or why not?

6. Are any of these places easier for women professionals to work in? Why or why not?
7. Are there problems that keep women from working in remote, rural locations? If so, what are they? Are there any unspoken rules, beliefs, behaviors, or cultural and institutional obstacles that prevent women from working in remote, rural locations?
8. How do family responsibilities or work in the home affect men's and women's completing their education in your institution? Is this different for men and women?
9. Does your institution provide mechanisms (ways) to help men and women students who have family responsibilities? If so, can you provide an example?
10. Is gender addressed in any of your agricultural courses? If so, in which courses?
11. If gender is not addressed in any of your agricultural courses, do you think it should be? How would you suggest the curricula be changed?
12. Have you heard people say bad or insulting things to you or about you because you are a man/woman in your institution and/or when looking for a job in the agricultural sector? If so, please explain.
13. What obstacles or problems have you experienced on your way to achieving your goals as an agricultural professional? Would these have been different if you were the opposite sex?
14. Are there problems that stop women (but not men) from studying agriculture at the university or institute? If so, what are they?
15. What do you think are the biggest difficulties/challenges women and girls face in your country's agricultural education system and agricultural professions?

16. What strategies do you suggest could be used to solve or overcome these problems and increase the number of female students and professionals in agriculture? How can we fix the problems you talked about?

17. Where/what do you think are the greatest opportunities for women and girls in your country's agricultural education system and agricultural professions? Where are the job opportunities for women?

18. Is there anything else you would like to say about the topic of gender in agricultural training and education?

Interviewer notes/reflections/recommendations: