



Vittoria Pinca

Nationality: Italian **Date of birth:** 12/11/1979 **Gender:** Female

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ABOUT MYSELF

You don't change the world simply by looking at it, you change it through the way you choose to live in it

WORK EXPERIENCE

Consultant - Economist

International Fund for Agricultural Development [14/5/2021 – Current]

City: Rome | Country: Italy

- Support IFAD Impact Assessment activities (liaise with project countries, participate in scoping missions, draft impact assessment plans, prepare and clean data);
- Provide inputs to Operations (OSCs – Project CNs, DRM, COSOP, Corporate Strategies). Support the Director and the division in addressing corporate requests coordinating and providing inputs and comments;
- Support the identification of a strategy to increase capacity development;
- Contribute to the establishment of contacts with public and private universities with the main aim of incorporating impact assessments and data use within their curricula.
- Conduct research and produce evidence on agroecology and neglected and underutilized species.

Gender Specialist

IISUMOD (International Institute for Sustainable Mountain Development) [14/11/2017 – Current]

City: Rome | Country: Italy

- Coordinate the Association's programs and activities for Nepal and ensure the gender dimension is well mainstreamed into them;
- Provide technical advice on gender equality and women's empowerment, gender and nutrition-sensitive agriculture at governmental level;
- Assess the impact of project interventions on target groups; review the status of gender mainstreaming, gender equality, women's empowerment and participation in the projects. Review the performance of projects with respect to promoting the inclusion of women and reducing gender inequalities;
- Conduct ex-ante appraisals and feasibility studies on the cultivation of olive and other Neglected and Underutilised Species (NUS) in Nepal to understand their role in the development of remote rural mountain areas;
- Support partners with the development of knowledge products through contribution to occasional papers, journal articles, seminars and workshops and electronic media;
- Establish partnerships at project level with technical organisations such as the UN agencies, other associations and NGOs, and provincial governments;
- Identify opportunities to promote new strategies and initiatives;
- Mobilise resources through concept notes writing, partnerships and outreach activities;
- Oversee the annual budget and preparation of work plans;

Administrative assistant

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) - Office of the Secretary (SEC) [31/12/2020 – 10/5/2021]

City: Rome | Country: Italy

Accountable for operational support and clerical services to assist in the smooth running of the office. The accountabilities/key results expected are:

- Operational Support
- Secretarial Support
- Managerial Functions

Tasks include the following activities;

ERP data entry and reporting activities as originator;
Preparing contracts for external translators, editors and proof-readers;
Making travel arrangements;
Preparing periodic reports, extracting information and preparing statistical tables on request
Maintaining correspondence logs for incoming and outgoing correspondence;
Distributing incoming correspondence, reports and other materials;
Uploading content to inter/intra-net websites.
Typing and/or formatting a variety of material in draft or final form including correspondence, reports, official documents, charts and graphs;
Drafting routine correspondence;
Preparing briefing materials for official trips or meetings as requested.

Business Partner Assistant

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) - Human Resources Division (HRD) [21/7/2019 – 30/12/2020]

City: Rome | **Country:** Italy

Provide operational and logistical support to the Business Partner Unit Team. More specifically:

- Assist HR Officers in coordinating the recruitment of a number of ongoing fixed-term vacant positions by organising all phases of the process from the pre-screening assessments to interview sessions to the Appointment Board Meetings; prepare background materials to be shared with all concerned parties at each step of the process; participate in interviews as observer in charge of taking notes and drafting the summary recruitment report.
- Provide support to the administration of consultants by reviewing their eligibility and ensuring the submission of their contracts is in line with HR policy.
- Assist in handling travel related matters such as preparation of Travel Requests, Travel Authorizations, VISA and security clearance formalities, travel expense claims and mission files.

Consultant

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) [30/11/2016 – 29/8/2017]

City: Rome | **Country:** Italy

Under close collaboration with the Strategic Programme Leader (FAO-SP3), the Officer in charge of the Strategy and Knowledge Department and Director of the Research and Impact Assessment Division (IFAD-SKD-RIA) I took on board all logistical issues and arrangements related to the organisation and reporting of the Expert Consultation: Focusing Agricultural and Rural Development Research and Investment on Achieving SDGs 1 and 2 (EC). Specific duties include:

1. Coordination: ensure effective and qualitative coordination among the three organizing agencies (FAO, IFAD, CGIAR-ISPC);
2. Participants' Management: Oversee the invitation and registration process and coordinate air travel and transportation arrangements of participants;
3. Conference Venue arrangements: Identify suitable service providers, as needed, and liaise with these service providers regarding rooming, banqueting, IT equipment and support and other related arrangements;
4. Communication: in liaison with Communication Officer, arrange publication of three media articles in relevant media;
5. Conference materials: produce meeting documents (i.e. concept note, agenda) and information materials; prepare background documents and elaborate a report (about 40 pages) summarizing the main discussions and conclusions of each of the sessions of the EC.

Consultant

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) - ESA [11/2/2016 – 30/3/2016]

City: Rome | **Country:** Italy

Prepare a literature review to support the preparation of SOFA 2016 (Climate change, agriculture and food security) on two topics: 1) gender and climate change response amongst smallholder agricultural producers and 2) water management under climate change in smallholder agriculture. The research questions addressed by the review are the following:

- 1) Gender and Climate change response amongst smallholders:
 - a. Does gender play a significant role in vulnerability to climate risks amongst smallholders?
 - i. Is there evidence that women are more vulnerable to climate change risks?
 - ii. Are women producers more vulnerable than male producers? Is there a difference between sectors (e.g. crops, livestock, fishery, forestry) in terms of gender-driven vulnerability?

- b. Do we need different climate change response strategies for women in smallholder agriculture:
- i. What are key ways of enhancing resilience amongst women smallholder producers? How different are they from strategies to increase resilience amongst men? (e.g. Insurance, climate information services, improving resilience of ecosystems, is there a difference in the benefits to men vs. women?)
- c. Is there any information about the costs of effectively including gender issues in climate change response strategies for smallholder agricultural producers? In particular, how does gender influence adoption of improved carbon and nitrogen management in smallholder production systems?
- 2) Water management under climate change in smallholder systems (focus on irrigation)
- a. What are specific challenges to irrigation in smallholder systems that climate change poses?
- b. What are adaptation responses in irrigated agriculture for smallholders?
- c. To what extent can irrigation overcome the vulnerabilities of smallholder producers to projected changes in rainfall and temperature patterns in dryland systems. The focus here is on socioeconomic, institutional constraints, not on the resource constraints.

Consultant

ISMEA (Istituto di Servizi per il Mercato Agricolo Alimentare) [31/10/2013 – 29/1/2015]

City: Rome | Country: Italy

Participation to "Videofarmers", an initiative promoted by the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forestry Policies under the National Rural Network program, Youth Working Group. Aim of the project is to spread best practices through an easily accessible language creating a "mini-portal" dedicated to quality documentaries, films and documentaries focused on rural development policies, in particular to the rural youth. 'Videofarmers' is thus a collection of good practices of young farmers who have benefited from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD). Main role in this position is to advise on the development of the main selection criteria which were designed based on a methodology developed through a rigorous evaluation system that takes into account a series of elements that contribute to defining a case as good practice in rural development: from macro-categories, such as the overall performance of the youth-run farm, its innovative capacity and impact on the territorial attractiveness, to key aspects, such as the environmental awareness, the protection and valorisation of the human resources employed and the degree of innovation at organizational, commercial and communication levels. My contribution to this project resulted in increased visibility of youth entrepreneurship and work in agriculture.

Gender Specialist

Smileagain Foundation [4/4/2005 – 30/5/2013]

City: Rome | Country: Italy

Smileagain is a Foundation with three branch offices: Lahore, Rome, and Udine. I managed the Rome's office but undertook missions to the field office on a regular basis.

- Prepare, submit, implement, coordinate and monitor projects and programmes aimed at helping victims of acid and burn violence from South Asia to integrate back into society. Acid and burn violence is a form of gender-based violence (GBV) that reflects and perpetuates the inequality of women in society. It cuts across cultural and religious barriers and impedes on women's rights to fully participate in society. It has the effect of denying women basic human rights to economic & social well being, political participation, personal fulfilment and self worth;
- Gather surveys to understand the socio-economic condition of women living in remote villages and the dramatic effects of domestic violence on their lives;
- Develop a strategy to empower survivors, especially women and children, through an integrated approach using a replicable holistic (bio-psycho- social) model and the engagement of national and international stakeholders;
- Organise field missions and coordinate the team of doctors for the medical and psychological support of the victims;
- Develop appropriate advocacy strategies and approaches;
- Organize fund raising and awareness events aimed at sensitizing the public opinion on such issue and encouraging local governments to take action against acid and other forms of GBV;
- Establish partnerships with other NPOs, NGOs and public institutions;
- Field Missions to Pakistan and Nepal.

Project Research Assistant

CRA-CMA (Research unit for Climatology and Meteorology applied to Agriculture) [29/2/2012 – 29/4/2012]

City: Rome | Country: Italy

Research activities within the project "Agrosценari" - Climate change impacts on crop systems and adaptation measures. Duties include:

- Analysis and processing of socio-geo-economic data and indicators to assess environmental and agricultural sustainability.

Project Research Assistant

University of Basilicata ' Department of Crop System, Forestry and Environmental Sciences [2/1/2011 – 30/1/2012]

City: Potenza | **Country:** Italy

Research activities within the EU-funded LEDDRA Project (Land and Ecosystem Degradation and Desertification: Assessing the Fit of Responses) - Work Package 3 - 'Land and ecosystem degradation - desertification in forests/shrubland'. Specifically: preparation of project deliverable: Basilicata study site: summary and description of the most relevant policies (strategies/legislation) at national (Italy) and local/regional (Basilicata) level addressing directly or indirectly LEDD-issues.

Project Technical Support Officer - Gender Team

CIHEAM-Bari (Centre International de Hautes Etudes Agronomiques Méditerranéennes) [3/6/2007 – 14/7/2011]

City: Bari | **Country:** Italy

Assist the project manager in carrying out the activities of the EU-funded GEWAMED Project - Mainstreaming Gender Dimensions Into Water Resources Development and Management in the Mediterranean Region. Duties include:

- Contribute to assessing the results of the M-E process;
- Develop gender indicators;
- Prepare and edit quarterly newsletters and workshop proceedings for publication;
- Collect data, conduct and prepare analysis by country of the gender and water situation in the Mediterranean Region;
- Collect data and review the knowledge-base at country level;
- Produce and edit the annual activity report and the reports of the meetings of the Consultation and Advisory Gender Committee;
- Maintain the project website;
- Organize and participate in the project workshops (Cyprus, March 2007; Tunisia, May 2008; Jordan, March 2010; Brussels, July 2011);
- Rapporteur and AAR facilitator

Technical Support Officer - Gender Team

Mipaaf - ONILFA (National Observatory for Female Enterprise and Labour in Agriculture) [30/4/2007 – 30/10/2008]

City: Rome | **Country:** Italy

- Represent ONILFA within the GEWAMED Project;
- Promote women's work and entrepreneurship in agriculture, giving voice to their needs and access to information on funding opportunities organising annual prize-giving ceremonies to award creative rural women entrepreneurs that contribute to Italian agriculture and improve the quality of life in rural areas creating jobs. Winners discuss their achievements and challenges related to running a farm.
- Organise conferences to disseminate knowledge and share experiences on women's condition in rural areas.
- Gather surveys concerning women's role in the development of rural areas.
- Conduct desk research on rural development policies and programmes in favour of women for publication;
- Compile project proposals.
- Organise and participate in national and international food exhibitions (Fiera del Levante, Bari, Sept 2007; Israfood, Tel Aviv, Nov 2007).

Project Research Assistant - Gender Team

Tuscia University - Department of Human Sciences [31/8/2006 – 30/10/2008]

City: Viterbo | **Country:** Italy

Assist the project coordinator in carrying out the research activities of the COFIN Project "Right to security, right to empowerment: the new perspective of Arab-Islamic women as protagonists of intercultural-interethnic relations and as peace weavers".

Aim of the research was to understand to what extent environmental conditions, women's role, peace and security are interrelated.

Main duty was:

- Liaise with women's cooperative groups in the Middle East and some areas of Central Asia and North Africa to examine through specific surveys the condition of women and the socio-economic obstacles hindering their participation in the labour market and decision-making.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Mother tongue(s): Italian

Other language(s):

English

LISTENING C2 READING C2 WRITING C2
SPOKEN PRODUCTION C2 SPOKEN INTERACTION C2

Spanish

LISTENING C2 READING C2 WRITING C2
SPOKEN PRODUCTION C2 SPOKEN INTERACTION C2

French

LISTENING B1 READING A2 WRITING A2
SPOKEN PRODUCTION A2 SPOKEN INTERACTION A2

Levels: A1 and A2: Basic user - B1 and B2: Independent user - C1 and C2: Proficient user

DIGITAL SKILLS

Microsoft Word / Microsoft Excel / Power Point / Outlook / Oracle PeopleSoft / R Software / Stata

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

PhD in Agricultural Economics

Università degli Studi della Tuscia - Department of Agricultural and Forestry Sciences (DAFNE) [31/10/2020 – Current]

City: Viterbo | **Country:** Italy | **Field(s) of study:** Agricultural Economics

Develop a case study on the role of Neglected and Underutilized Species (NUS) in building the resilience of poor remote communities in Karnali (Nepal), and West Africa region (Niger and Burkina Faso). Specifically, conduct an ex-ante economic analysis to understand the economic potential of NUS. This research is fully aligned with priorities of DeSIRA, particularly in addressing biodiversity/genetic resources and crop varieties in drylands and areas with high climate impact.

My research project aims at understanding how local farming systems (households) could be more resilient to shocks (economic, environmental, social, political) promoting the valorisation of local agro-biodiversity and developing innovative, inclusive value chains and income generation activities in the target areas through the production and commercialization of stress-tolerant NUS. It intends to study the local system, analyse potential solutions and assess the profitability of such options from an economic, environmental and social point of view.

Field activities include:

1. Identification of representative and real household groups;
2. Analysis of the identified households at production, nutrition, and income level;
3. Situation analysis: gender analysis of workloads, access and control over resources and benefits, power relations at decision-making level, food and nutrition security, and resilience to climate change;
4. Identification and analysis of promising NUS based on their nutritional value (nutrient, vitamins and minerals composition), production practices (local availability/seasonality, productivity, handling/processing), ecological features (agroecology, climate tolerance), socio-economic aspects (access to market/income generation/market potential, consumption, cultural acceptance);
5. Economic analysis of NUS production, uses and properties;

Methods:

1. Qualitative approach (RRA, FGDs, HH surveys);
2. Quantitative approach (analysis of stat data);
3. Farming system analysis (crop budget, farm budget);
4. HH methodology;
5. Vulnerability and resilience analysis;
6. Adapted and multiple value chain approach (demand-driven);
7. Stochastic cost-benefit analysis

Master in Human Development and Food Security

Roma Tre University - Department of Economics [31/8/2020 – 11/7/2021]

City: Rome | **Country:** Italy

MA in Foreign Languages emphasis on Political and Economic Geography, Environmental Politics

Università degli Studi della Tuscia - Department of Human Sciences [30/9/2001 – 10/5/2006]

PUBLICATIONS

[2016]

Water management in smallholder agriculture under climate change. Background Paper This paper explores the current literature that is relevant to understanding the main challenges faced by smallholders' water management systems due to climate change and increasing climate variability. To address this, the paper is comprised of five main sections structured according to the following topics:

- Impacts of climate change on agricultural irrigation;
- Adaptation to climate change in water management; and
- Main challenges to adaptation strategies dealing with uncertainties.

Section 1 is the introduction and section 5 presents the conclusions. Section 2 provides an insight into the main impacts of climate change on the hydrological cycle with a focus on irrigation for smallholder agriculture. It highlights the important correlations between natural and anthropogenic climate change and water shortage with consequences for irrigation water demand and supply. Section 3 focusses on the key ways of enhancing irrigation resilience and it is divided into four sub-sections that give a brief overview of current adaptation options with practical examples of measures observed in different regions. Emphasis is placed on irrigation as adaptation method and on modernization of infrastructures and water management systems stressing on the need of adjusting them to match future climate projections and of developing processes for the assessment and management of climate change risks in water system planning. Main purpose is to enable water managers to tackle long-term climate uncertainty. The section also presents the main challenges and opportunities of adaptation.

In section 4, irrigation as a means of reducing vulnerability to climate risks for smallholder producers is discussed. The focus here is on the socioeconomic and institutional constraints behind the efficient management of irrigation infrastructure and the fundamental role that WUAs would have in the implementation of effective adaptation measures.

[2016]

Gender and climate change amongst smallholder agricultural producers. Background Paper This paper is intended to serve as a background document to the preparation of FAO's State of Food and Agriculture 2016 on climate change, agriculture and food security. Drawing on available literature on gender and climate change, this paper seeks to explore the nexus between gender, climate change and smallholder agriculture by unpacking the interlinkages between gender inequalities and the differential capacity of women and men to adapt to the challenges posed by climate change. To address this, the paper is comprised of 5 main sections structured around the following questions:

- Does gender play a significant role in vulnerability to climate risks amongst smallholders?
- Do we need different climate change response strategies for women in smallholder agriculture?
- Is there any effective approach for integrating gender effects into climate change adaptation strategies for smallholders?

Section 1 is the introduction and section 5 presents the conclusions. Section 2 and sub-sections highlight the important links between gender and climate change, particularly focusing on how women producers are more or less vulnerable than male producers to climate risks and the effect of climate risks on their productive activities in the various agricultural sectors. Section 3 focusses on the key ways of enhancing resilience amongst women smallholders and their difference with strategies for men. In particular, emphasis is placed on current participatory approaches.

Section 4 gives an overview of some of the approaches adopted for effectively integrating the gender dimension into climate strategies for smallholders.

[2008]

[Rural Development Policies and Programmes in Support of Rural Women](#) In recent times the role played by women in rural development has been given an ever increasing attention, culminating in the insertion of specific measures in Agenda 2000. The EU programs for rural development aim at singling out the factors handicapping the full participation of women in the public and economic life at local level and at developing specific initiatives for this category. The Italian State, in agreement with the EU Commission and by means of Structural Funds, in particular the European Social Fund (ESF), plays an important role in reducing inequality among men and women in matters of employment, thus enforcing the so-called mainstreaming.

[2011]

[Land Use Trajectories for the Assessment and Sustainable Management of Land Degradation.](#) Land degradation (LD) implies a reduction in the economic productivity of land and in its capacity of providing ecosystem services. "Syndromes" of LD can then be evaluated in the past, and scenarios developed for the future, informing sustainable land management strategies. Land use and land cover are essential information for interpreting change trajectories associated with LD and deriving prediction rules. Methodological issues and preliminary results of a study conducted in the context of the research project AGROSCENARI are discussed in this paper, investigating the case of the EmiliaRomagna Region in Italy.

[2007]

[Senza Volto: violenza contro le donne in Pakistan e Nepal](#) This thesis is dedicated to examining and denouncing the dramatic condition of women in Pakistan and Nepal that are victims of different forms of gender-based violence (GBV), both at the household and community level. Rape, acid throwing, domestic "accidents", honour killings, human trafficking have atrocious physical and psychological consequences on victims. Indeed, such forms of violence destroy women's self-confidence, beauty and expectations. Their reconstruction is a long and difficult process and the outcome is not always positive.

GBV often stems from cultural beliefs and a male-dominated society, where women are marginalized, especially in remote villages, and do not have any decision-making power and access to health, education, information. Women's empowerment, both social and economic, represents the only way to uplift their condition and make them considered by the members of the community and society at large. To this end, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), fighting for women's rights, play a crucial role.

By analysing women's socio-economic condition in Pakistan and Nepal, the author wants to give voice to all women of the world whose condition is not well known or often disregarded and whose rights are constantly violated. This thesis is also the result of the personal working experience of the author in both countries thanks to the collaboration with two NGOs, Smileagain Onlus and Apeiron. From there, the desire to deeply understand what is behind such violence, its roots and causes, and to highlight the fundamental role of local and international organizations in trying to eliminate gender inequalities and empower women.

[2007]

Testimonianza di Vittoria Pinca, Vicepresidente Smileagain, extract from the book SORRIDIMI ANCORA

[2007]

[Mainstreaming Gender Dimensions in Water Management for Food Security and Food Safety.](#) The objective of this regional workshop was to improve cooperation, dialogue and knowledge among partners and external organizations interested in the subject of food security, food safety and their link to the gender and water issues. The Workshop was organized into 4 main sessions, Sessions 1 and 2 were concerned essentially with Mainstreaming Gender in Food Security and Food Safety. Session 3 was dealing with Gender and Water Indicators and Establishment of National Central Focal Points and Session 4 with the set up of Regional and National web sites. The report offers a good overview of the 4 session and the results attained.

[2023]

[Assessing the economic, social and environmental potential of wild and domesticated olive growing options in a far Western District of Nepal](#) CONTEXT

[Climate change](#) and extreme weather events undermine [smallholder](#) household food and income security in many rural areas of developing countries. Nature-based solutions and the use of climate resilient and nutrient dense

Neglected and Underutilized Species into the local [farming system](#) have been claimed to sustainably help farmers adapt to climate change and to manage risk more effectively.

OBJECTIVE

This paper investigated the potential implementation of three options based on the collective cultivation and management of [olive](#) groves and wild forests for production purposes in a mountain region of Nepal. The analysis was aimed at assessing the potential benefits of such strategy in comparison with the status-quo.

METHODS

The study conducted an *ex-ante* simulation exercise for evaluating three options: 1) 1500 ha of new and restored wild forests; 2) 500 ha of olive groves; and 3) A combination of option 1 and 2. We calculated the financial, economic, social, and environmental costs and benefits of such options using agricultural and economic data collected from representative households identified from a sample of 31 small, 9 medium, and 3 large farm households. To conduct the economic, social and [environmental analysis](#) (ESE), we calculated the Social [Return on Investment](#) and we integrated it into the economic analysis. Then we compared the results to assess which was the most profitable option.

RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS

The results of the analysis showed that all three proposed options are stable with an [Internal Rate of Return](#) always above 27% with values over 100%. The greatest increase in terms of [NPV](#) is observed when shifting from the financial to the ESE analysis in options 1, 2, and 3 (+397.5%, +132.0%, +187.2% respectively) as the benefits increase more than the costs. The results further suggested that the integrated option is the most profitable one also in terms of labour generation. Indeed, we observed a substantial increase in the Return to Labour indicator especially in the ESE analysis (from 1.9 in the financial analysis to 2.8 in the economic analysis to 6.0 in the ESE analysis).

SIGNIFICANCE

This study provides evidence of the potential that similar strategies based on the use of local resources and species, if properly designed, implemented and managed, may have to restore the ecosystem and enhance the livelihoods of local communities. The most innovative element of this study is the proposed ESE analysis, which takes into account the social and environmental dimension besides the economic one.

Link: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0308521X23002469?via%3Dihub>

RECOMMENDATIONS

Name: Benjamin Davis | Strategic Programme Leader - Rural Poverty Reduction Programme (SP3)

Former supervisor

E-mail: benjamin.davis@fao.org

Name: Leslie Lipper | Senior Environment and Climate Change Consultant

Former supervisor when she was Senior Environmental Economist at FAO.

E-mail: leslie.lipper@gmail.com

Name: Richard Aiello | Chief, Business Partner Unit - Human Resources Division (HRD)

Former supervisor

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Name: Juan Antonio Sagardoy | International Water Management Consultant

Former supervisor

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Name: Simone Severini | Associate professor UNITUS

Academic supervisor

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Name: Stefano Valle | Agricultural Economist

Academic supervisor

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Name: **Sara Savastano** | Director, Research and Impact Assessment Division (RIA)

Current supervisor

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