

# Is Conservation Agriculture 'female friendly'?

Learnings from the Eastern Gangetic Plains of South Asia

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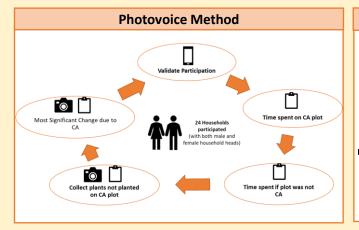
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#### Context

The agronomic impacts of CASI are well documented, yet farmers' perceptions of changing weed management practices and implications on household roles and responsibilities and agency exchange remains underexplored

#### **Purpose**

- Apply a gendered lens to understand if CA weed management practices create additional burden for females
- Understand how additional time and money obtained through Implementing a CA system is utilised



### **Study Locations**



### For Maize:

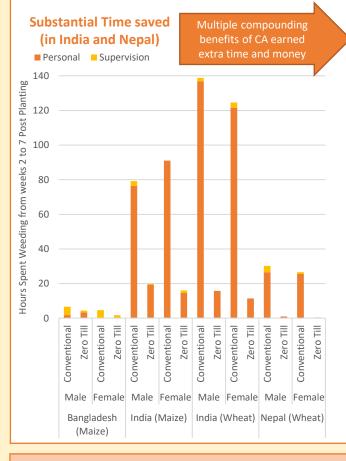
Pirgunj, Birgunj (Bangladesh) Dinhata (West Bengal, India)

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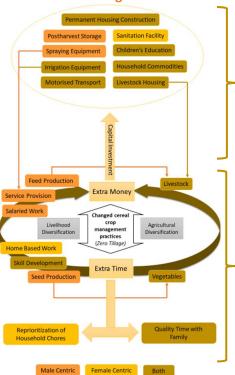
## For Wheat:

Ghughumari (West Bengal, India) Bhokraha (Sunsari, Nepal)

#### Findings: CA does not reinforce or deepen existing inequalities and has multiple secondary benefits!



Diversity in utilization of financial and time savings for livelihood and investment strategies









#### **Conclusions**

- Household investments link to livelihood satisfaction highlighting overall wealth creation
- Income opportunities for men extend beyond the household domain
- Women tend to engage in home-based work that allows for simultaneous management of household chores
- Future extension efforts focus on weed management and herbicide use
- Benefits of ZT, and more broadly cereal system intensification may be broader than originally envisaged and highlight the importance of exploring direct and indirect benefits with users

