

# Unlocking the Hidden Power: Study of Women's Role in Irrigated Agriculture in the Lower Vaksh River Basin

In the mesmerizing lands of the Lower Vaksh River Basin, a hidden power lies unnoticed. The women, who have long been the backbone of society, play a significant role in irrigated agriculture. In this study, we dive deep into exploring their exceptional contributions, challenges they face, and the empowerment they bring to the agricultural sector.

## Understanding the Lower Vaksh River Basin

The Lower Vaksh River Basin, situated amidst the sprawling landscapes of [location], is known for its fertile soil and abundant water resources, making it an ideal region for agricultural practices. The local economy heavily relies on irrigated agriculture, which provides livelihoods for numerous households.

## Historical Context of Women in Agriculture

Throughout history, women have played a crucial but often overlooked role in agricultural activities. In the Lower Vaksh River Basin, women have been actively engaged in farming, harvesting, and post-harvest activities for centuries. Their expertise in managing water resources and sustainable farming practices has been passed down through generations.

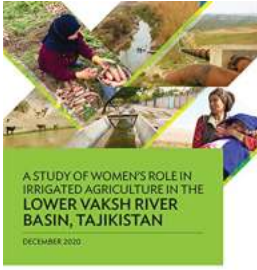
### **A Study of Women’s Role in Irrigated Agriculture in the Lower Vaksh River Basin, Tajikistan**

by Asian Development Bank (Kindle Edition)

 4.5 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 15117 KB



Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 119 pages



## **Key Contributions of Women in Irrigated Agriculture**

Studies have shown that women in the Lower Vaksh River Basin significantly contribute to irrigated agriculture. They actively participate in tasks such as land preparation, seed selection, planting, weeding, and crop protection. Their precise knowledge of crop cycles, pest control, and irrigation management ensures optimum yields and sustainability of the agricultural system.

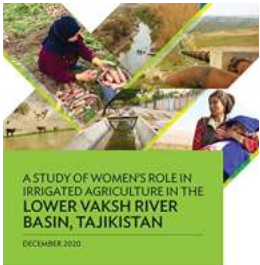
## **Challenges Faced by Women in Irrigated Agriculture**

Despite their significant contributions, women in the lower basin face various challenges in their agricultural pursuits. Limited access to resources like land, credit, and modern technologies pose barriers to their productivity and efficiency. Sociocultural norms and gender inequalities further restrict their agency and decision-making power within the agricultural sector.

## **Empowering Women in Irrigated Agriculture**

Recognizing the importance of women's participation, various initiatives have been implemented to empower them in irrigated agriculture. Promoting gender equality, providing training and education, improving access to resources, and creating support networks are integral steps towards unlocking the full potential of women farmers in the Lower Vaksh River Basin.

The study of women's role in irrigated agriculture in the Lower Vaksh River Basin offers valuable insights into the hidden power that drives agricultural production. By acknowledging and empowering women, we not only enhance agricultural productivity but also foster inclusive and sustainable development in the region.



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This study is conducted under the Asian Development Bank (ADB) project for Strengthening Gender-Inclusive Growth in Central and West Asia. It aims to establish a better understanding of women’s roles in irrigated agriculture and water management in Tajikistan. The findings will inform the ADB grant-financed project to modernize irrigation and drainage systems in the Lower Vaksh River Basin. The study examined women’s roles and gender gaps in land operation and farming, labor arrangements in agriculture and water management, and feminization of agriculture. It reinforces the need for gender inclusiveness in planning and designing irrigation and drainage projects, ensuring benefits for all.



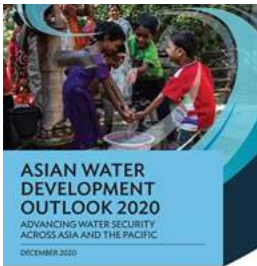
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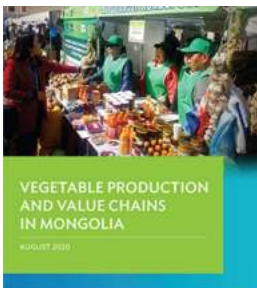
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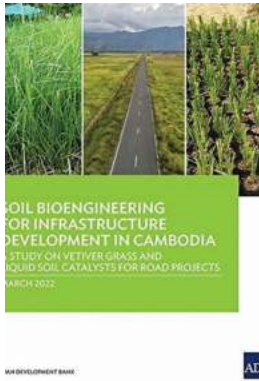
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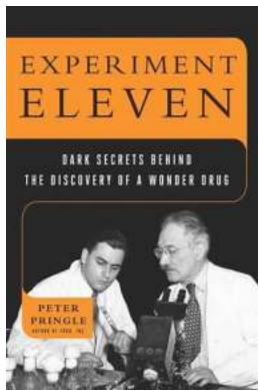
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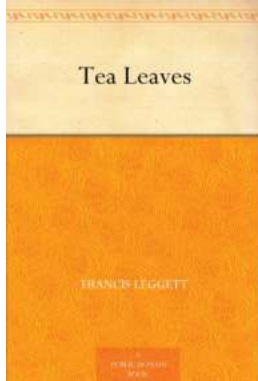
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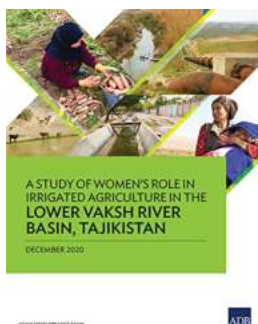
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