



and

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Philippine Center for  
Economic Development

present a seminar on

## The Abbreviated Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (A-WEAI)

by

**Hazel Malapit, PhD**

**9 December 2016, Friday**

4:00-5:00 p.m. – Room 303

### **Abstract:**

The Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI) is the first comprehensive and standardized survey-based measure to directly capture women's empowerment and inclusion in the agricultural sector. The WEAI was originally designed as a monitoring and evaluation tool for the US government's Feed the Future (FTF) initiative, which operates in 19 geographically and culturally diverse focus countries. As the FTF baseline surveys were rolled out in 2012 and 2013, concerns expressed by users of the WEAI with respect to length and difficulty in administering some portions of the questionnaire, led to the creation of an abbreviated version of the WEAI, or the A-WEAI.

This paper summarizes efforts to develop the Abbreviated Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (A-WEAI), an alternative to the WEAI survey instrument that is shorter and more streamlined but that still accurately reflects the content and coverage of the original index. Cognitive testing and piloting of different modules, particularly those that were difficult to administer in the field helped to inform the revised WEAI questionnaire. Using pilot data from Bangladesh and Uganda collected in 2011 and 2014 we assess the performance of the A-WEAI as a proxy for the original version of the Women's Empowerment in Agricultural Index (WEAI). Our findings suggest that although the A-WEAI is not a perfect proxy for the original WEAI, it is a good option for users who would like to collect information on women's empowerment using a potentially shorter, more streamlined instrument.

### **About the speaker:**

Hazel Malapit is a Research Coordinator at the Poverty, Health and Nutrition Division at the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). She coordinates research, training and technical assistance on the implementation of the Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index, manages and coordinates the integration of gender into the research of the CGIAR Research Program on Agriculture for Nutrition and Health, and conducts research on gender, women's empowerment, agriculture, health and nutrition issues. Before joining IFPRI, she conducted research on gender and development economics at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor and the World Bank. She received her PhD in Economics from American University. She is contributing to the GREAT sessions on Quantitative Data Collection Methods and Survey Practice.



**Free and open to the public**

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