

Mara van den Bold

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Poverty, Health, and Nutrition Division
International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
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EDUCATION

- 2016 – present **Clark University, *Ph.D. Candidate***, *Graduate School of Geography*, expected 2021.
Advisor: Dr. James McCarthy.
- 2007 – 08 **London School of Economics & Political Science (LSE), *MSc., Anthropology and Development***, 2008. Thesis title: *Globalization and its Discontents: Place-making in the Niger Delta: The Ogoni Movement*. Advisor: Dr. Andrew Fischer.
- 2002 – 06 **Union College, *B.A., Anthropology & Latin American Studies (cum laude)***, 2006.
Thesis title: *Guatemala: Reconsidering Land and Development*. Received the *Albert C. Ingham Prize*. Advisor: Dr. Derek Pardue.
Studies abroad/away: Spain (June 2003), Jamaica (Dec 2003), Vietnam (Fall 2004), Washington D.C. (Spring 2006).

SKILLS

Languages: English (fluent) | Dutch (fluent) | Spanish (intermediate) | French (intermediate) | Portuguese (beginner)
Software: STATA | SPSS | NVivo | ArcGIS | QGIS | R | TerrSet

AWARDS, GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS

- 2019 American Philosophical Society, *Lewis and Clark Fund for Exploration and Field Research*
2019 Fulbright U.S. Student Program (Open Study/Research Award), *Alternate Candidate*
2019 Edna Bailey Sussman Foundation, *Sussman Fund Graduate Scholarship*
2019 American Geographical Society, *AGS Council Fellowship*
2018 Clark University, *Graduate Student Council Conference Travel Award*
2018 George Perkins Marsh Institute, (Clark University), *Albert, Norma, and Howard Geller '77 Endowed Research Award*
2018 Graduate School of Geography (Clark University), *Pruser Dissertation Enhancement Award*
2017 NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP), *Honorable Mention*
2016 Graduate School of Geography (Clark University), *Atwood Fund Graduate Research Enhancement Award*
2006 Union College, *Albert C. Ingham Prize* for the most outstanding piece of scholarly work in the Social Sciences
2004 Union College (Department of Political Science), *Seward Scholarship* for summer research on urbanization in South Asia
2003–06 Union College, *Dean's List*

EMPLOYMENT

- 2012–
present **[INTERNATIONAL FOOD POLICY RESEARCH INSTITUTE \(IFPRI\)](#)**, Washington D.C.
(full time at 37.5hrs/week until August 2016, after which half-time at 18.5hrs/week)
2015–
present *Senior Research Analyst*, Poverty, Health and Nutrition Division
Outposted: Burkina Faso, Senegal; January – March 2016
2012–15 *Research Analyst*, Poverty, Health and Nutrition Division, Washington D.C.

Overall responsibilities:

- ♦ Oversee data collection and analysis processes for various research projects, as well as coordinate research projects across various countries in West Africa. Develop survey instruments for data collection; clean and analyze quantitative and qualitative data.
 - ♦ (Field) work travel: Colombia, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Ethiopia, India, Côte d'Ivoire, Rwanda, Senegal, Sri Lanka.
- ♦ Write papers for publication on nutrition, agriculture, land tenure, and gender in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia; present papers at international conferences.

Project-specific responsibilities:

- ♦ **Stories of Challenge (2019–2021)**. Funded by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) Research Program [Agriculture for Nutrition and Health](#), this is a new research initiative that seeks to better understand drivers of political attention to multiple malnutrition burdens, and to foster learning across contexts on approaches for addressing obesogenic environments and developing effective policy and programmatic responses.
- ♦ **Transform Nutrition – West Africa (2017–21)**. Research program focused on improving and supporting policy and program decisions and actions to accelerate reductions in maternal and child undernutrition in West Africa. Focus countries: Burkina Faso, Ghana, Nigeria, Senegal.
 - Coordinate three year mixed-methods [Stories of Change](#) initiative examining nutrition-relevant change in Burkina Faso, Ghana, Nigeria, and Senegal.
 - Conduct secondary data analysis of multiple nutrition burdens using hotspot analysis; write papers for publication.
- ♦ **Leveraging Agriculture for Nutrition in South Asia (2012–18)**. Research program focused on examining nutrition-sensitive agriculture in South Asia.
 - Oversaw qualitative data collection and analysis of stakeholder perceptions on agriculture-nutrition linkages in South Asia in India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh; published papers on findings in [Food and Nutrition Bulletin](#) and in [Food Security](#).
- ♦ **Transform Nutrition (2012–17)**. Research program aimed at improving nutrition-relevant evidence to accelerate undernutrition reduction in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia.
 - Carried out literature review of women's empowerment and nutrition and published [IFPRI Discussion paper](#) on findings
 - Conducted in-depth interviews in Odisha, India, as part of the [Stories of Change](#) initiative, a two year (2015-16) mixed methods study focused on capturing nutrition-relevant change in six countries in sub-Saharan Africa (Ethiopia, Zambia, Senegal), and South Asia (India, Bangladesh, Nepal); synthesized cross-country Stories of change findings; coauthored and published papers on these findings in the [IFPRI Discussion paper](#) series and in a [Special Issue of Global Food Security](#); co-edited the Special Issue.
- ♦ **Partnerships and Opportunities for Strengthening and Harmonizing Actions on Nutrition in India (2014–15)**. Research initiative to support policy and program decisions to accelerate maternal and child undernutrition in India.
 - Carried out qualitative data analysis in NVivo on intersectoral convergence for delivering maternal and child nutrition and health interventions in Odisha, India. Findings published in [BMC Public Health](#) and in [the FASEB Journal](#).
- ♦ **Enhanced-Homestead Food Production Program (EHFP) (2010–12)**. IFPRI evaluation of an integrated agriculture-nutrition pilot project implemented by Helen Keller International (HKI) in Fada N'Gourma, Burkina Faso.
 - Supported EHFP process evaluation by designing field instruments and supporting enumerator training and qualitative data collection in Fada N'Gourma, Burkina Faso.
 - Analyzed qualitative process evaluation data using SPSS.
 - Published papers on findings in the [IFPRI Discussion Paper](#) series and in the [Journal of Development Studies](#).
- ♦ **Creating Homestead Agriculture for Nutrition and Gender Equity (CHANGE) (2013–16)**. IFPRI evaluation of an integrated agriculture-nutrition program implemented by HKI in Burkina Faso and Tanzania.

- Supported CHANGE process evaluation and endline survey implementation by designing survey instruments and supporting enumerator training in Fada N’Gourma, Burkina Faso.
- Analyzed quantitative endline module data in STATA.
- Coauthored reports on process evaluation and endline for submission to HKI.
- ♦ **Land ownership and gender in Africa (2013).** Research to explore levels/relative inequalities in land rights between women and men in African countries. Findings published as an [IFPRI Discussion Paper](#) and in [Agricultural Economics](#).

2008–11 [WATERAID](#), London UK

2009–11 *Program Officer*, International Programs.

- ♦ Managed WaterAid’s Pan-Africa portfolio of work by coordinating WaterAid engagement at high-level conferences in Africa, developing partnerships with African governments and institutions, ensuring synergy between continental, regional, and national-level program/policy work, and budget management.
 - ♦ (Field) work travel: Ethiopia, Liberia, Rwanda, Senegal, Uganda, South Africa.
- ♦ Led consultation and development of WaterAid’s strategic framework on Disaster Reduction and its strategic framework on Hygiene.
- ♦ Ensured timely submission of team plans and reports; managed consultants/interns; managed external and internal communications on work above.

Key achievements

- ♦ Coordinated strategic engagement of up to 90 civil society organizations at high-level international conferences: AfricaSan3 (Rwanda 2011), African Union Summit on Child and Maternal Health (Uganda 2010), 3rd Africa Water Week (Ethiopia 2010), 2nd Africa Water Week (South Africa 2009).
- ♦ Wrote speeches on water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) for the President of Liberia Ms. Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, the First Lady of Uganda. Uganda’s Minister of Water and Environment, and Uganda’s Deputy Ambassador to Kenya.
- ♦ Developed/managed partnerships with African sector stakeholders e.g. African Union, African Ministers Council on Water (AMCOW), New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD), Office of President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf of Liberia (Goodwill Ambassador for WASH in Africa), African Civil Society Network for Water and Sanitation (ANEW).

2008–09 *Regional Program Assistant*, West and Southern Africa, London UK

- ♦ Developed team reports, plans, and budgets
- ♦ Managed program-related communication between UK and Africa country offices
- ♦ Supported organization of workshops and meetings in both regions

2006–07 [SCHERTLER & ONORATO, LLP](#), Washington, D.C.

Legal Assistant

- ♦ Translated Spanish-English attorney-client communication (DC prisons); legal research

2006 [COUNCIL ON HEMISPHERIC AFFAIRS \(COHA\)](#), Washington, D.C.

(3mo) *Research Associate*

- ♦ Analyzed U.S.-Latin America policy relations, e.g. trade and agricultural policy
- ♦ Wrote press releases and articles for publication in U.S. and Latin American media

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Apr 2019 *Social and Behavioral Research–Basic/refresher*, CITI program (online)

Aug 2018 *Rural Transformations in the 21st Century* PhD course, Center for Development and the Environment (SUM), University of Oslo. Course lecturers: Dr. Marc Edelman, Dr. Amita

Baviskar, Dr. Tor Benjaminsen, Dr. Kenneth Bo Nielsen
Aug 2013 *Net-Map Certification Training, Washington D.C.*
Feb 2013 *STATA Web course, StataCorp LP (online)*
Nov 2012 *NVivo training workshop, QSR International, Washington D.C.*
Jul 2012 *Transforming Nutrition Thinking, Policy, and Actions, Institute of Development Studies (IDS), Brighton UK*
Jun 2012 *Living Standards Measurement Survey/Sampling, World Bank, Washington D.C.*
Nov 2011 *Emergency Water & Environmental Sanitation, Cranfield University, Cranfield, UK*
Mar 2011 *Ground & Surface Water Hydrology, Cranfield University, Cranfield, UK*
Jan 2011 *Facilitation training, Building Partnerships for Development, London, UK*

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

2017 – 2018 Graduate Admissions Committee – Graduate School of Geography, Clark University
2017 – 2018 Geography Graduate Student Representative, Graduate Student Association, Clark University
2016 – 2017 Social Committee – Graduate School of Geography, Clark University
2016 – 2017 Prospective Students Committee – Graduate School of Geography, Clark University

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

American Association of Geographers (AAG)

PUBLICATIONS

Edited Journal Issues

Gillespie, S., Bhavani, BV, Dangour, A., Poole, N., **van den Bold, M.** (2019). [Leveraging Agriculture for Nutrition in South Asia](#). *Food Policy (Special Issue) 82*: 1-82.

Gillespie, S., **van den Bold, M.**, Nisbett, N., Menon, P. (Eds.). (2017). [Stories of Change in Nutrition](#). *Global Food Security (Special Issue) 13*: 1-88.

Peer-reviewed journal articles

Gillespie, S., Poole, N., **van den Bold, M.**, Bhavani, R.V., Dangour, A., Shetty, P. (2019). [Leveraging agriculture for nutrition in South Asia: What do we know, and what have we learned?](#) *Food Policy (Special Issue) 82*: 2-11.

Gillespie, S., **van den Bold, M.**, Hodge, J. (2019). [Nutrition and the governance of agri-food systems in South Asia: a systematic review](#). *Food Policy (Special Issue) 82*: 12-26.

Gillespie, S., Hoddinott, J., Nisbett, N., Arifeen, S., **van den Bold, M.** (2018). [Evidence to Action: Highlights from Transform Nutrition Research \(2012 – 2017\)](#). *Food and Nutrition Bulletin 39*(3): 335-360. DOI: 10.1177/0379572118788155.

Gillespie, S., **van den Bold, M.** 2017. [Stories of Change in Nutrition: an overview](#). In Gillespie, S., **van den Bold, M.**, Nisbett, N., and Menon, P. (Eds.) *Stories of Change in Nutrition, Global Food Security (Special Issue) 13*: 1-11. DOI: 10.1016/j.gfs.2017.02.004.

Kohli, N., Avula, R., **van den Bold, M.**, Becker, E., Nisbett, N., Haddad, L., Menon, P. 2017. [What will it take to accelerate improvements in nutrition outcomes in Odisha? Learning from the past to prioritize the future](#). In Gillespie, S., **van den Bold, M.**, Nisbett, N., and Menon, P. (Eds.) *Stories of Change in Nutrition, Global Food Security (Special Issue) 13*: 38-48. DOI: 10.1016/j.gfs.2017.04.002.

Nisbett, N., **van den Bold, M.**, Gillespie, S., Menon, P., and the Stories of Change Study Team. 2017. [Community-level perceptions of nutrition's drivers of change: evidence from South Asia and sub-Saharan](#)

[Africa](#). In Gillespie, S., **van den Bold, M.**, Nisbett, N., and Menon, P. (Eds.) Stories of Change in Nutrition, *Global Food Security (Special Issue) 13*: 74-82. DOI: 10.1016/j.gfs.2017.01.006.

Gillespie, S., **van den Bold, M.** 2017. [Agriculture, food systems and nutrition: making the connection](#). *Global Challenges 1600002*. DOI: 10.1002/gch2.201600002.

Kim, S., Avula, R., Ved, R., Kohli, N., Singh, K., **van den Bold, M.**, Kadiyala, S., Menon, P. 2017. [Understanding the role of intersectoral convergence in the delivery of essential maternal and child nutrition interventions in Odisha, India: a qualitative study](#). *BMC Public Health 17*:161. DOI: 10.1186/s12889-017-4088-z.

van den Bold, M., Pedehombga, A., Ouedraogo, M., Quisumbing, A., Olney, D. 2015. [Can integrated agriculture-nutrition programs change gender norms on land and asset ownership?](#) *Journal of Development Studies 51*(9): 1155-1174. DOI: 10.1080/00220388.2015.1036036.

van den Bold, M., Kohli, N., Gillespie, S., Zuberi, S., Rajeesh, S., Chakraborty, B. 2015. [Is There an Enabling Environment for Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture in South Asia? Stakeholder perspectives from India, Bangladesh, and Pakistan](#). *Food and Nutrition Bulletin 36*(2): 231-247. DOI: 10.1177/0379572115587494.

Gillespie, S., **van den Bold, M.**, Hodge, J., Herforth, A. 2015. [Leveraging Agriculture for Nutrition in South Asia and East Africa: Examining the enabling environment through stakeholder perceptions](#). *Food Security 7*(3): 463-477. DOI: 10.1007/s12571-015-0449-6.

Doss, C., Kovarik, C., Peterman, A., Quisumbing, A., **van den Bold, M.** 2015. [Gender inequalities in ownership and control of land in Africa: Myth and reality](#). *Agricultural Economics 46*(3): 403-434. DOI: 10.1111/agec.12171.

Quisumbing, A. R., Rubin, D., Manfre, C., Waithanji, E., **van den Bold, M.**, Olney, D., Johnson, N. Meinzen-Dick, R. 2015. [Gender, assets, and market-oriented agriculture: learning from high-value crop and livestock projects in Africa and Asia](#). *Agriculture and Human Values 32*(4): 705-725. DOI: 10.1007/s10460-015-9587-x.

Avula, R., Kim, S., Kohli, N., Chakrabarti, S., Tyagi, P., Singh, K., **van den Bold, M.**, Kadiyala, S., Menon, P. 2015. [At-scale delivery of Essential Nutrition Interventions \(ENIs\) in India is limited by variable gaps in policy, design, implementation and demand](#). *The FASEB Journal 29*(1), Supplement 898.32.

Discussion papers

Gillespie, S., **van den Bold, M.** 2015. [Stories of Change in Nutrition – A Tool Pool](#). IFPRI Discussion Paper No. 01494. Washington, D.C.: International Food Policy Research Institute.

Quisumbing, A. R., Rubin, D., Manfre, C., Waithanji, E., **van den Bold, M.**, Olney, D., Meinzen-Dick, R. 2014. [Closing the Gender Asset Gap. Learning from value chain development in Africa and Asia](#). *IFPRI Discussion Paper 01321*. Washington, D.C.: International Food Policy Research Institute.

Doss, C., Kovarik, C., Peterman, A., Quisumbing, A., **van den Bold, M.** 2013. [Gender inequalities in ownership and control of land in Africa: Myth and reality](#). *IFPRI Discussion Paper 1302*. Washington, D.C.: International Food Policy Research Institute.

van den Bold, M., Pedehombga, A., Ouedraogo, M., Quisumbing, A., Olney, D. 2013. [Can integrated agriculture-nutrition programs change gender norms on land and asset ownership?](#) *IFPRI Discussion Paper 1315*. Washington, D.C.: International Food Policy Research Institute.

van den Bold, M., Quisumbing, A., and Gillespie, S. 2013. [Women's Empowerment and Nutrition: An Evidence Review](#). *IFPRI Discussion Paper 1294*. Washington, D.C.: International Food Policy Research Institute.

Book chapters

Menon, P., Kohli, N., **van den Bold, M.**, Becker, E., Nisbett, N., Haddad, L., and R. Avula. 2016. Chapter 17: 25 Years of Scaling Up: Nutrition and Health Interventions in Odisha, India in *Nourishing Millions. Stories of Change in Nutrition*. Washington, D.C.: International Food Policy Research Institute.

Reports, briefs, and short articles

Kohli, N., **van den Bold, M.**, Becker, E., Avula, R., Nisbett, N., Haddad, L., and Menon, P. 2016. [Odisha, India country brief. Stories of Change in Nutrition](#). Brighton, UK: Transform Nutrition.

Abu-Jawdeh, M., Becquey, E., Birba, O., Golan, J., Le Port, A., Olney, D., Rawat, R., **van den Bold, M.** 2015. Helen Keller International's Creating Homestead Agriculture for Nutrition and Gender Equity (CHANGE) program in Tanzania. Baseline report. Washington, D.C.: International Food Policy Research Institute.

Becquey, E., Birba, O., Golan, J., Le Port, A., Olney, D., Rawat, R., **van den Bold, M.** 2015. Helen Keller International's Creating Homestead Agriculture for Nutrition and Gender Equity (CHANGE) program in Burkina Faso. Baseline report. Washington, D.C.: International Food Policy Research Institute.

Olney, D., Behrman, J., Iruhiriye, E., **van den Bold, M.**, Pedehombga, A. 2014. Helen Keller International's Homestead Food Production Program in Burkina Faso: Results from an Operations Research Study. Washington, D.C.: International Food Policy Research Institute.

van den Bold, M. 2014. [Women's empowerment and nutrition: what does the evidence tell us?](#) Transform Nutrition research brief, Issue 02.

van den Bold, M., Pedehombga A, Ouedraogo M, Quisumbing A, Olney D. 2013. An Integrated Agriculture-Nutrition Program in Burkina Faso Can Change Gender Norms on Land and Asset Ownership. In [Gender, Agriculture, and Assets: Learning from Eight Agricultural Development Interventions in Africa and South Asia](#), edited by A. Quisumbing, R. Meinzen-Dick, J. Njuki, and N. Johnson. Washington, D.C.: International Food Policy Research Institute.

van den Bold, M., Uwejamomere, T., Vandermeer, K. 2010. Raising visibility and voices of the urban poor. Civil Society's engagement in urban water and sanitation reform – experiences from WaterAid Country Programs. London, UK: WaterAid.

van den Bold, M. 2012. [Hygiene Framework](#). London, UK: WaterAid.

van den Bold, M. 2006. [René Prével: Haiti May Get One Last Chance in Spite of Washington's Best Efforts](#). Washington, D.C.: Council on Hemispheric Affairs.

van den Bold, M. 2006. Free Trade and Land. *Washington Report on the Hemisphere* 26.07: 4-5.

Reviewer duties

Advances in Nutrition (2018)

Journal of Development Studies (2017)

PRESENTATIONS

2019 *American Association of Geographers (AAG) Annual Meeting*. Presentation title: Greening energy: the Politics of Wind and Solar in Senegal. Washington, D.C.

2014 *Leverhulme Centre for Integrative Agriculture and Health (LCIRAH) – 4th Annual LCIRAH Conference*. Agriculture and Nutrition in South Asia: Politics, Policies, Institutions, Incentives. Birbeck College, London, UK.

- 2014 *World Bank Land and Poverty Conference*. Presentation title: Can Integrated Agriculture-Nutrition Programs Change Gender Norms on Land and Asset Ownership? Evidence from Burkina Faso. World Bank, Washington, D.C.
- 2014 *University of South Dakota – Honors Colloquium*. Invited presentation: Can Integrated Agriculture-Nutrition Programs Change Gender Norms on Land and Asset Ownership? Evidence from Burkina Faso. Washington, D.C.
- 2013 *Maternal Nutrition in Emergencies – Technical Round Table. European Community Humanitarian Office (ECHO), Brussels*. Invited presentation: Women’s Empowerment and Nutrition: Evidence of impact from (select) nutrition-sensitive interventions on women’s empowerment and nutrition outcomes. Brussels, Belgium.
- 2013 *CORE Group Fall meeting: Social Accountability, Health Equity, and Empowerment*. Invited presentation: Can Integrated Agriculture-Nutrition Programs Change Gender Norms on Assets and Ownership? Evidence from Burkina Faso. Washington, D.C.
- 2013 *Gender Capacity Building workshop – Roots, Tubers, and Bananas (RTB) Consortium Research Program*. Invited presentation: Gender, Agriculture, and Nutrition. Methods and Tools for Incorporating a Gender-Nutrition Lens into Agricultural Research. International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT), Cali, Colombia.

Last updated May 19, 2019