

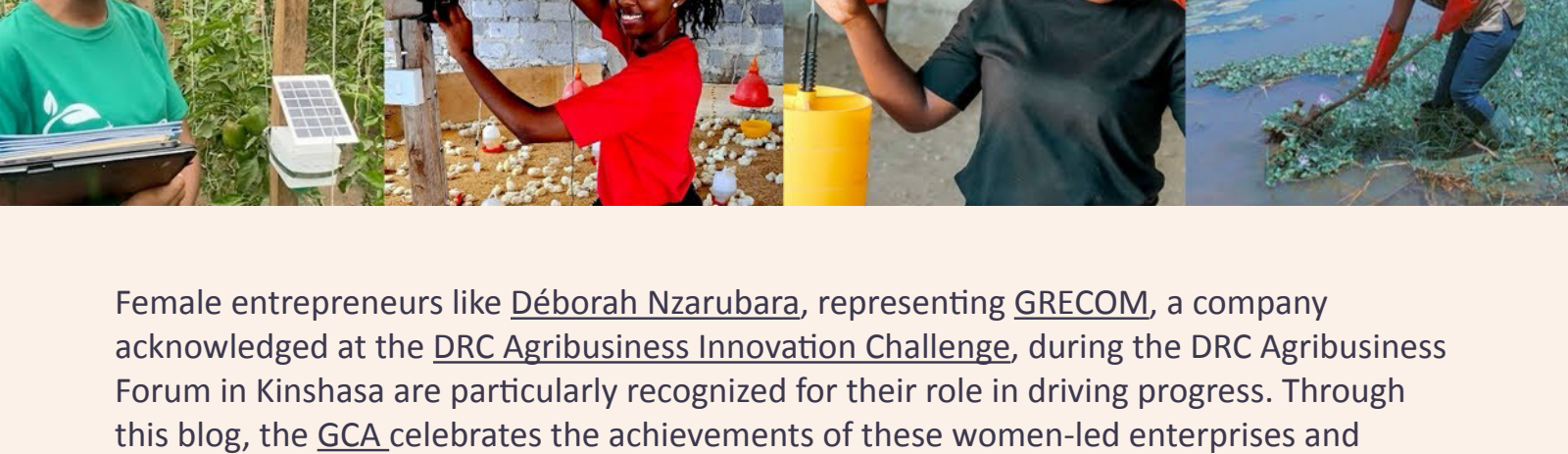
GLOBAL INDEX INSURANCE FACILITY

Bridging the Gender Gap: GIIF's Efforts to Empower Women Through Agriculture Insurance

When women in agriculture and agribusiness have access to the right resources, entire communities thrive. Across the globe, women farmers and women entrepreneurs in the agribusiness sector share a deep desire to uplift their families and enhance their livelihoods. They aspire for opportunities that can transform their dreams into reality, a key one among others being access to essential financial services like agricultural insurance. As we celebrate Women's Month, we explore a collection of articles and stories of women who have directly benefited from GIIF's programs, showcasing their remarkable journeys toward financial empowerment and productivity. Join us in exploring these inspiring accounts that reinforce the critical role women play in the importance of investing in women and its ripple effect in the advancement of agriculture in the broader economy.

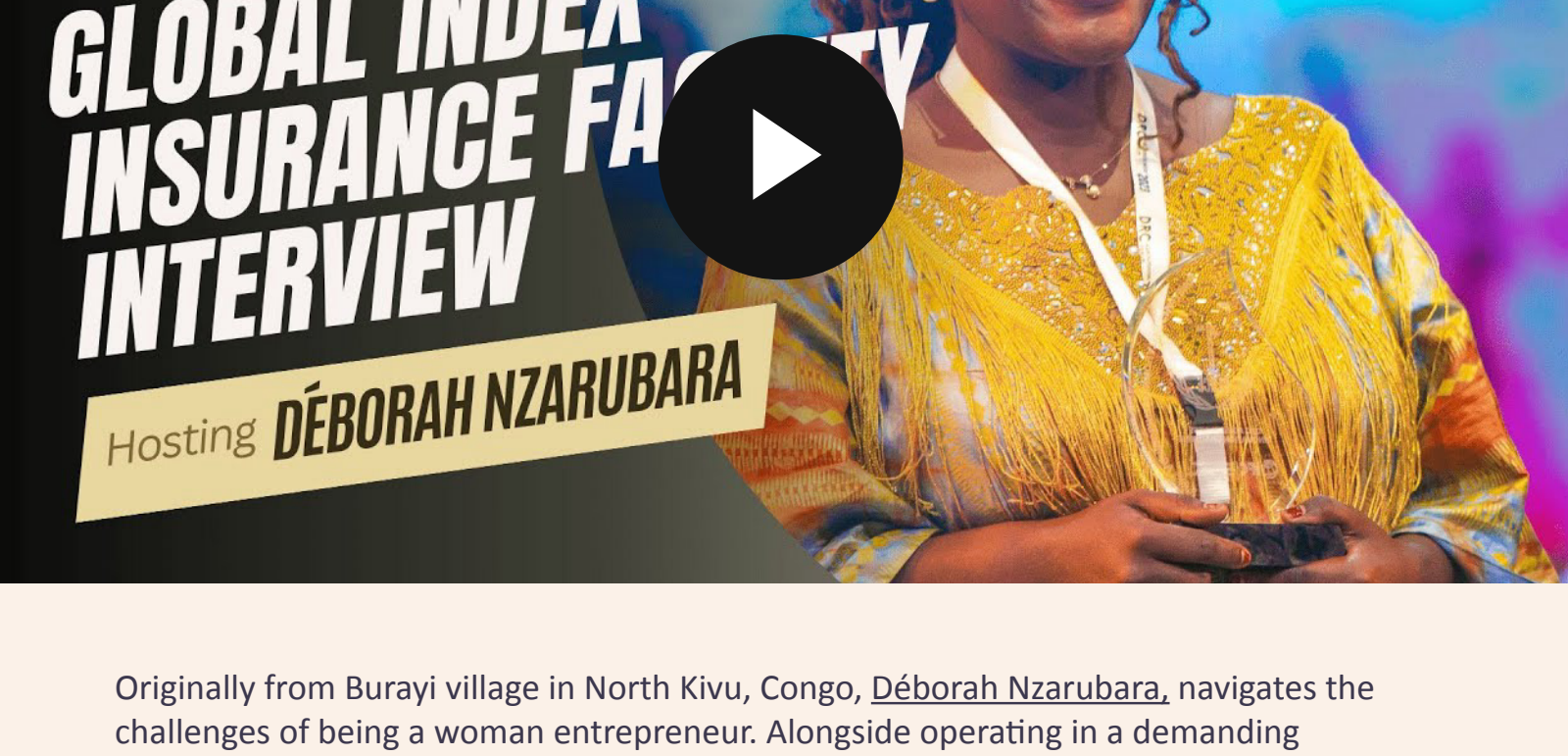
1. Investing in Women: Eight Women-led Businesses Pioneering Climate Adaptation Innovation in Africa

The impacts of climate change present distinct challenges for women, climate-induced migration often leaves women with increased agricultural and familial responsibilities. However, women are also significant agents of change, leveraging their unique experiences to develop effective climate adaptation solutions. The winners of the [2023 African Youth Adaptation Solutions Challenge](#) exemplify this, pioneering innovative technologies to address climate challenges across Africa. Organized by the [African Development Bank](#) and the [Global Center on Adaptation](#), supported by the [Africa Climate Change Fund](#), the YouthADAPT Challenge aims to bridge the gender gap in entrepreneurship by empowering female-led enterprises with funding and support. This initiative not only accelerates progress but also highlights the importance of investing in women for global advancement.



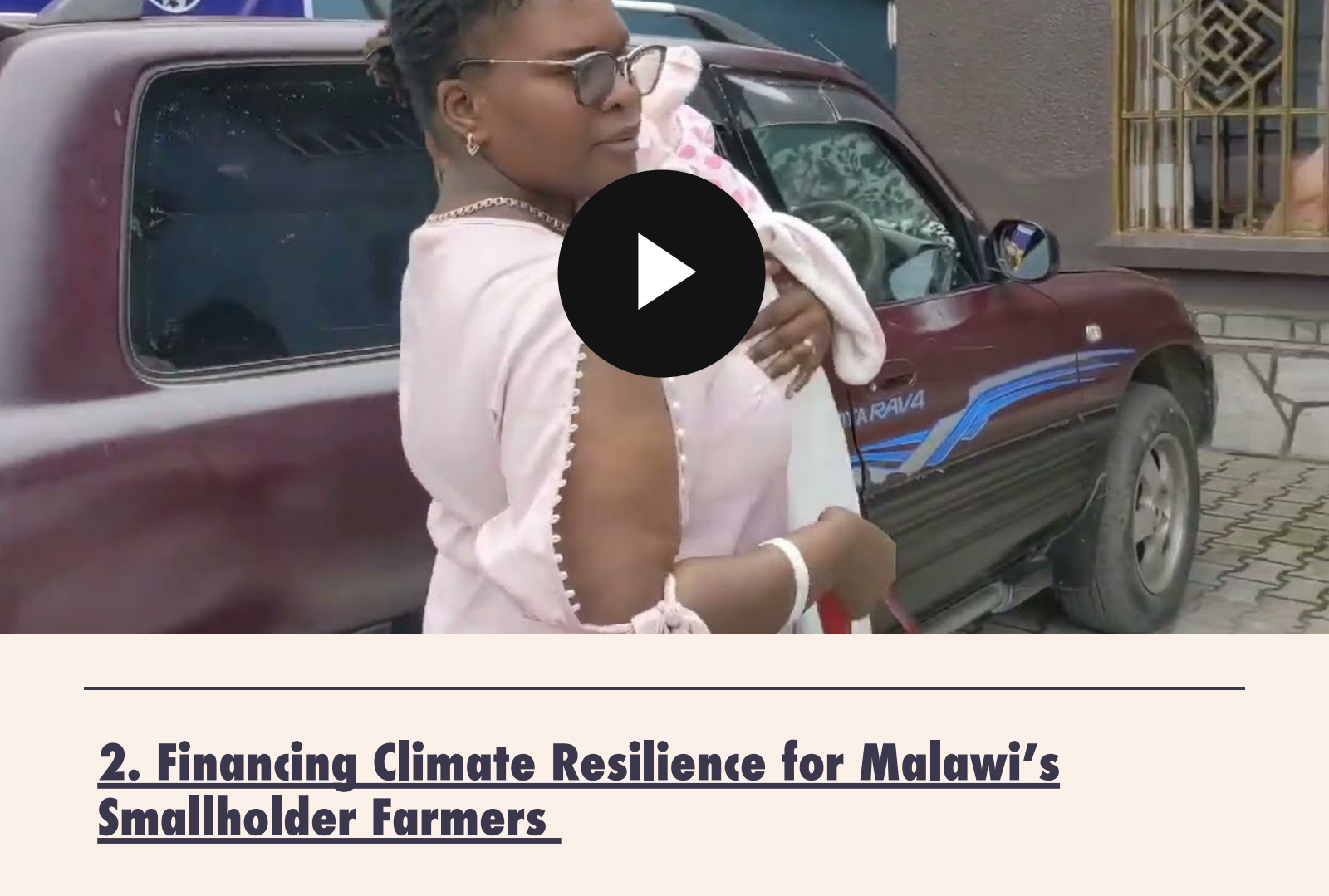
These eight women-led businesses are pioneering climate adaptation innovation in Africa

Female entrepreneurs like [Déborah Nzarubara](#), representing [GRECOM](#), a company acknowledged at the [DRC Agribusiness Innovation Challenge](#), during the DRC Agribusiness Forum in Kinshasa are particularly recognized for their role in driving progress. Through this blog, the [GCA](#) celebrates the achievements of these women-led enterprises and explore how this type of initiatives are empowering them to make a meaningful impact in climate adaptation efforts across Africa. This recent achievement highlights GRECOM's significant journey from GIIF's previous recognition to this prestigious global accolade. [Read the full article here.](#)

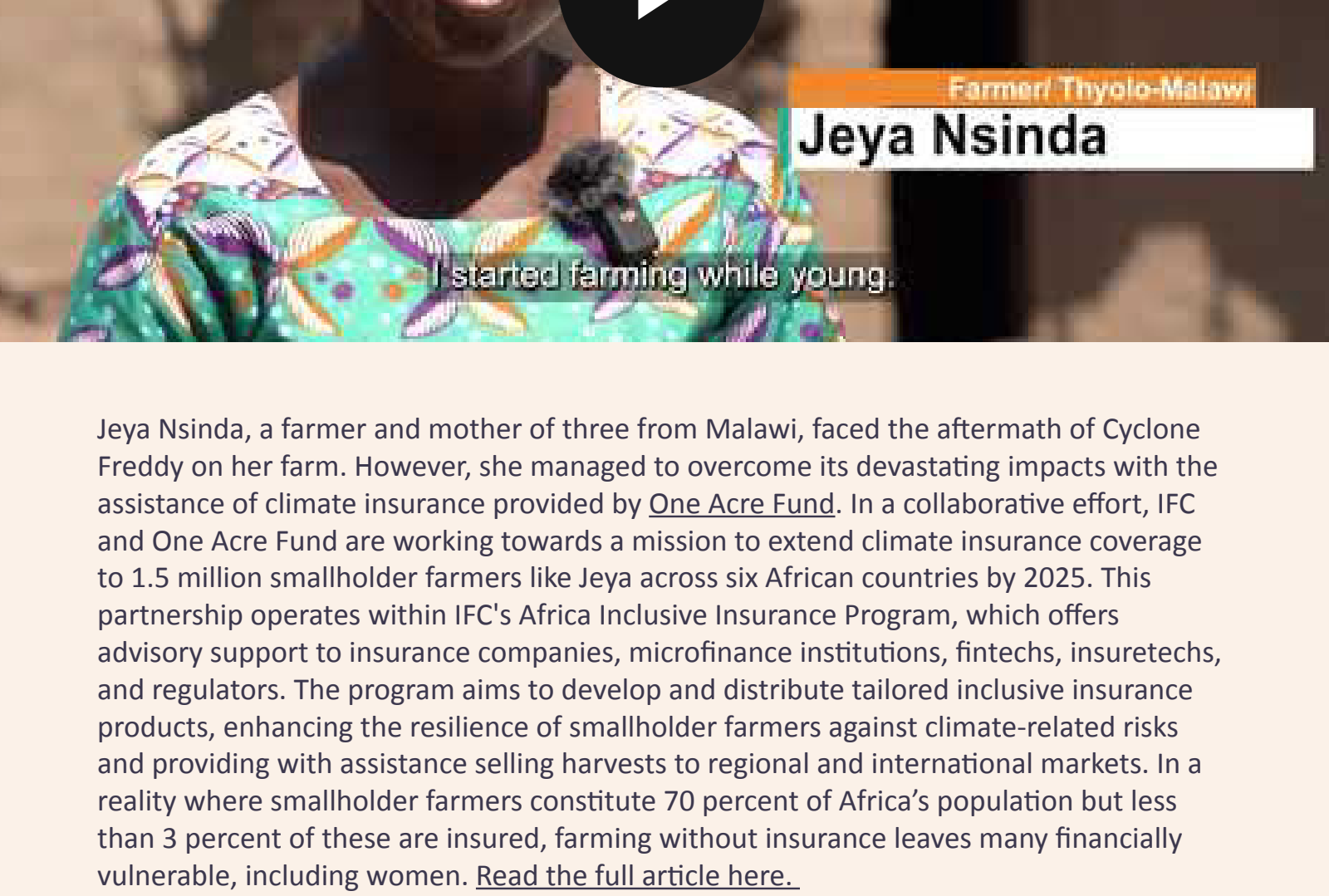


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GLOBAL INDEX INSURANCE FACILITY INTERVIEW
Hosting **DÉBORAH NZARUBARA**

Originally from Burayi village in North Kivu, Congo, [Déborah Nzarubara](#), navigates the challenges of being a woman entrepreneur. Alongside operating in a demanding environment, she manages her business—a large bee farm spread across six hectares, with 132 modern hives producing five tons of honey per season. Additionally, Déborah is developing the NYUKI TECH app to revolutionize beekeeping by connecting beekeepers with buyers, providing remote hive monitoring, weather updates, and market insights, all while embracing her roles as a new mother. [To read more about the DRC Innovation Challenge and the interview with GRECOM's lead, please click here.](#)



2. Financing Climate Resilience for Malawi's Smallholder Farmers

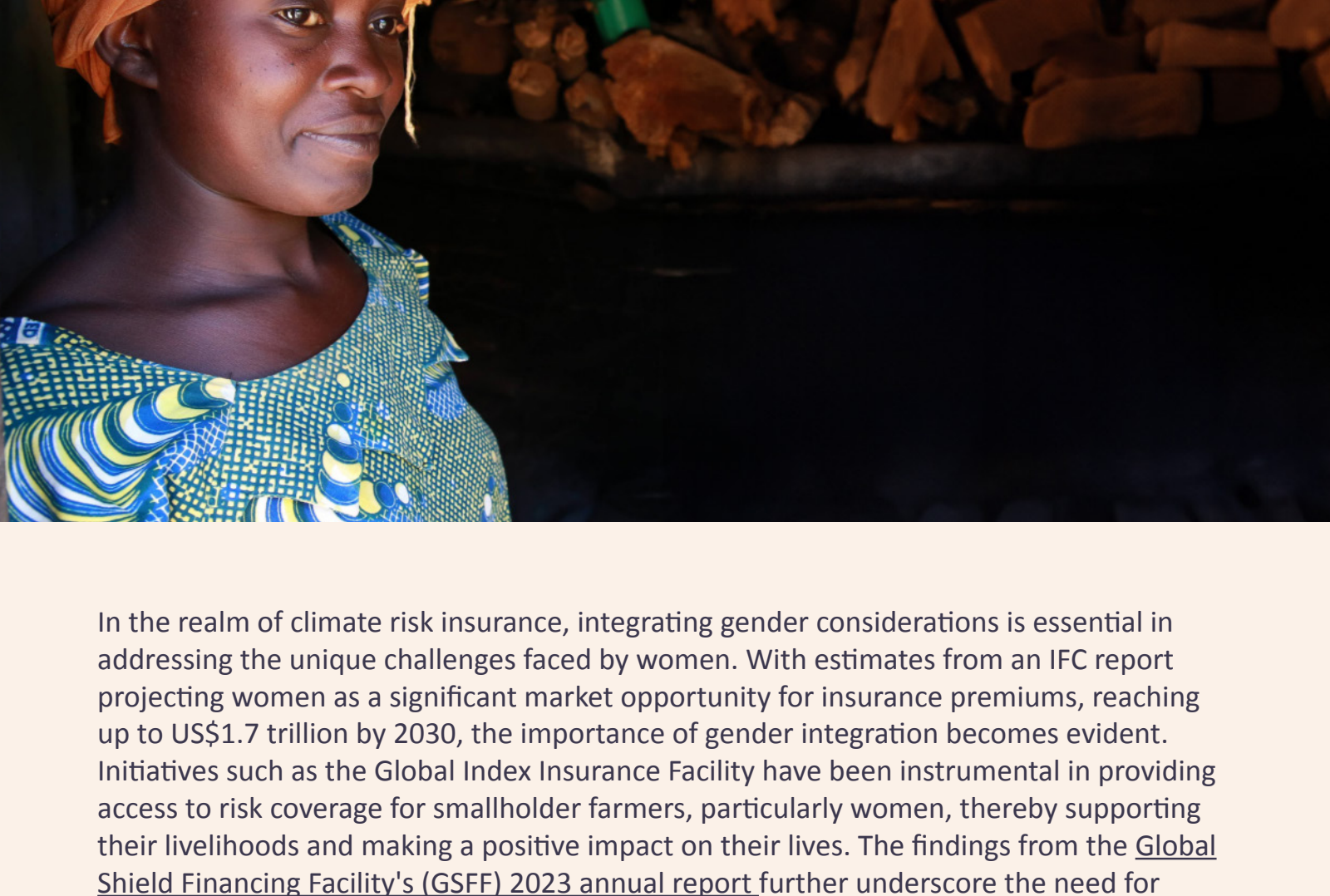


Farmer/ Thyolo-Malawi
Jeya Nsinda

I started farming while young.

Jeya Nsinda, a farmer and mother of three from Malawi, faced the aftermath of Cyclone Freddy on her farm. However, she managed to overcome its devastating impacts with the assistance of climate insurance provided by [One Acre Fund](#). In a collaborative effort, IFC and One Acre Fund are working towards a mission to extend climate insurance coverage to 1.5 million smallholder farmers like Jeya across six African countries by 2025. This partnership operates within IFC's Africa Inclusive Insurance Program, which offers advisory support to insurance companies, microfinance institutions, fintechs, insuretechs, and regulators. The program aims to develop and distribute tailored inclusive insurance products, enhancing the resilience of smallholder farmers against climate-related risks and providing with assistance selling harvests to regional and international markets. In a reality where smallholder farmers constitute 70 percent of Africa's population but less than 3 percent of these are insured, farming without insurance leaves many financially vulnerable, including women. [Read the full article here.](#)

3. Empowering Women Amid Climate Risks: The Global Shield Financing Facility's 2023 Annual Report



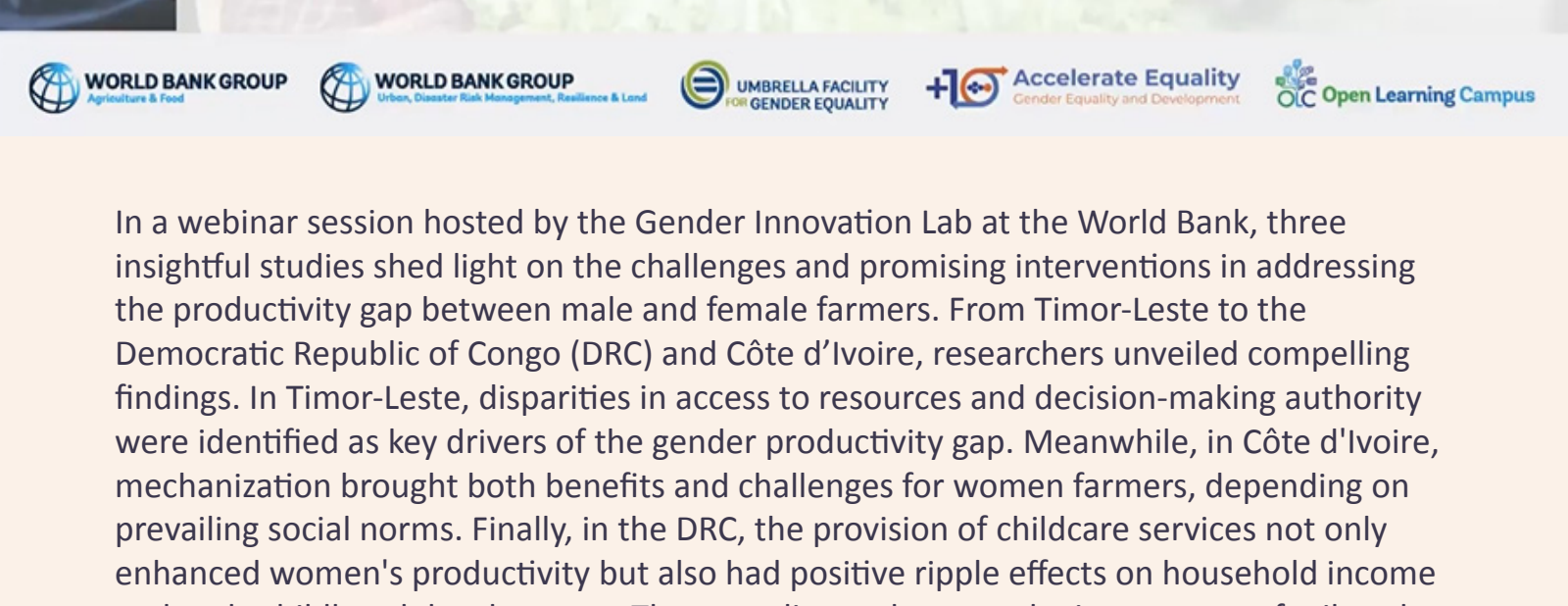
In the realm of climate risk insurance, integrating gender considerations is essential in addressing the unique challenges faced by women. With estimates from an IFC report projecting women as a significant market opportunity for insurance premiums, reaching up to US\$1.7 trillion by 2030, the importance of gender integration becomes evident. Initiatives such as the Global Index Insurance Facility have been instrumental in providing access to risk coverage for smallholder farmers, particularly women, thereby supporting their livelihoods and making a positive impact on their lives. The findings from the [Global Shield Financing Facility's \(GSFF\) 2023 annual report](#) further underscore the need for empowering women in climate risk management, highlighting the disproportionate impact of natural disasters and climate risks on women globally.

The GSFF report emphasizes the urgent need for gender integration in disaster risk financing and insurance (DRFI) policies and regulatory frameworks. It outlines the significant economic benefits that could result from closing the gender gap in the workforce, underlining gender integration as not just a matter of human rights but also a catalyst for sustainable economic development. GIIF's commitment to gender integration is evident through various strategies outlined in response to the GSFF report, including conducting research on women's access to insurance, incorporating gender-sensitive methodologies in disaster preparedness and recovery, and supporting training and empowerment initiatives for women in the insurance sector.

Additionally, the active collaboration with partners such as the [Federation of African National Insurance Companies \(FANAF\)](#) and the [IFC Women's Insurance Program \(WIP\)](#) to promote gender diversity and equality in the insurance industry across Africa is essential. By empowering women in the insurance sector and ensuring the collection of sex-disaggregated data in climate risk and inclusive insurance programs, GIIF aims to provide more tailored and effective insurance solutions for female clients. As efforts to close the gender gap in climate risk management continue, GIIF remains committed to supporting gender-focused initiatives and fostering a more inclusive and equitable landscape in climate risk insurance. [Read full article here.](#)

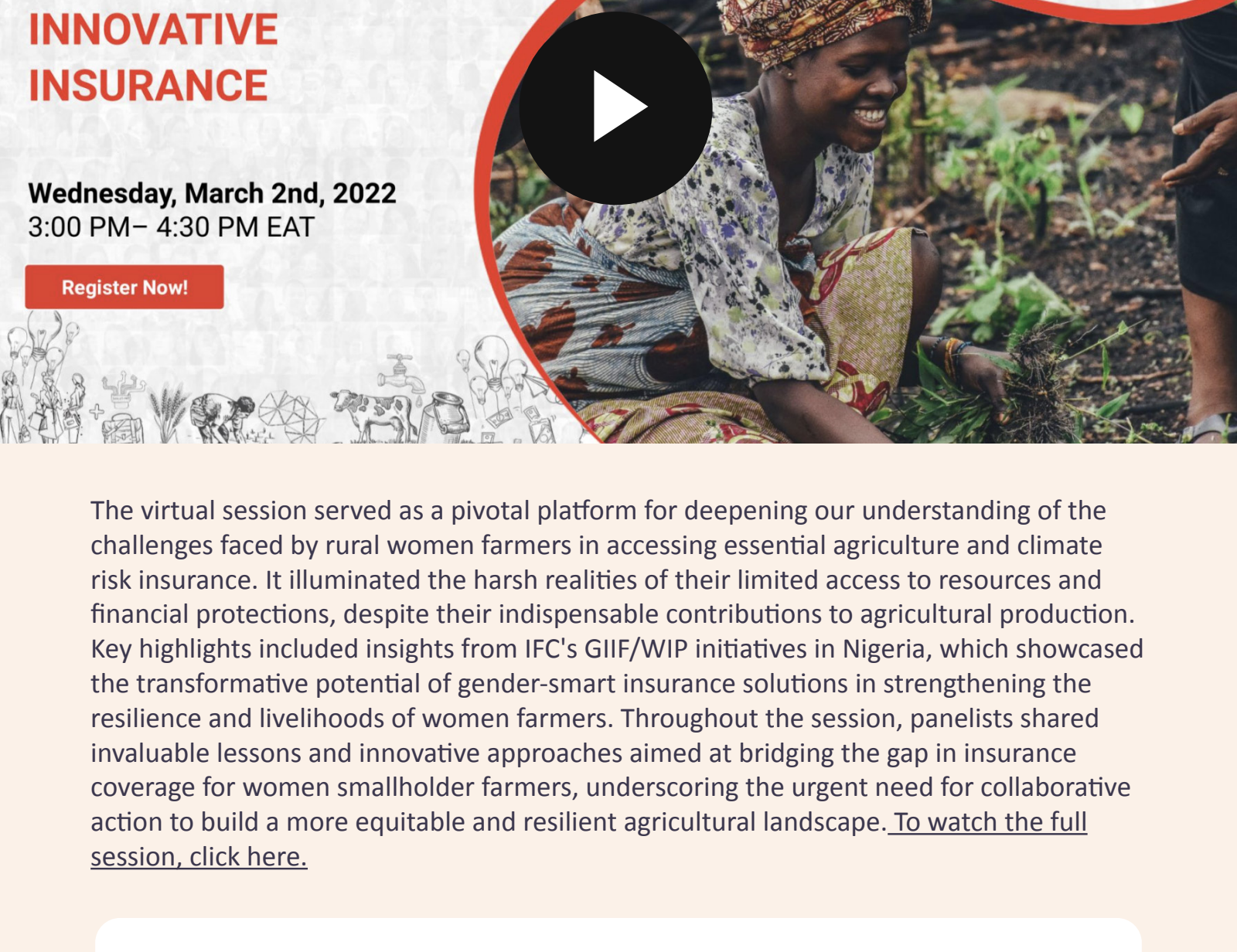
Relevant Events

Let her Grow: Addressing the productivity gap in agriculture—Barriers and promising interventions



In a webinar session hosted by the Gender Innovation Lab at the World Bank, three insightful studies shed light on the challenges and promising interventions in addressing the productivity gap between male and female farmers. From Timor-Leste to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Côte d'Ivoire, researchers unveiled compelling findings. In Timor-Leste, disparities in access to resources and decision-making authority were identified as key drivers of the gender productivity gap. Meanwhile, in Côte d'Ivoire, mechanization brought both benefits and challenges for women farmers, on prevailing social norms. Finally, in the DRC, the provision of childcare services not only enhanced women's productivity but also had positive ripple effects on household income and early childhood development. These studies underscore the importance of tailored interventions that account for gender dynamics, social norms, and caregiving responsibilities to empower women farmers and foster inclusive agricultural development. To read the main outcomes of the session, [click here.](#)

De-risking Women Farmers through Innovative Insurance



The virtual session served as a pivotal platform for deepening our understanding of the challenges faced by rural women farmers in accessing essential agriculture and climate risk insurance. It illuminated the harsh realities of their limited access to resources and financial protections, despite their indispensable contributions to agricultural production. Key highlights included insights from IFC's GIIF/WIP initiatives in Nigeria, which showcased the transformative potential of gender-smart insurance solutions in strengthening the resilience and livelihoods of women farmers. Throughout the session, panelists shared invaluable lessons and innovative approaches aimed at bridging the gap in insurance coverage for women smallholder farmers, underscoring the urgent need for collaborative action to build a more equitable and resilient agricultural landscape. [To watch the full session, click here.](#)

Our efforts prioritize gender inclusivity, as this is an important component of GIIF activities. As you can see in the stories presented, our goal is to ensure that gender inclusivity remains a cornerstone of our endeavors. Through initiatives like the Global Shield against Climate Risk and the Gender Secretariat, we are dedicated to enhancing product accessibility and exploring innovative distribution channels. Looking ahead, our focus extends to collaborating more with V20 countries and the Global Shield against Climate Risk, amplifying our impact on Pathfinder countries, making a tangible difference in the lives of those we serve." – Fatou Assah, Global Head Advisory Services, Financial Institutions Group, International Finance Corporation (IFC)