

Addressing gender inequalities in Ethiopia's agricultural sector to reduce poverty

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Presentation outline

- Introduction
- Conceptual framework
- Gender equalities and inequalities
- Addressing the gaps

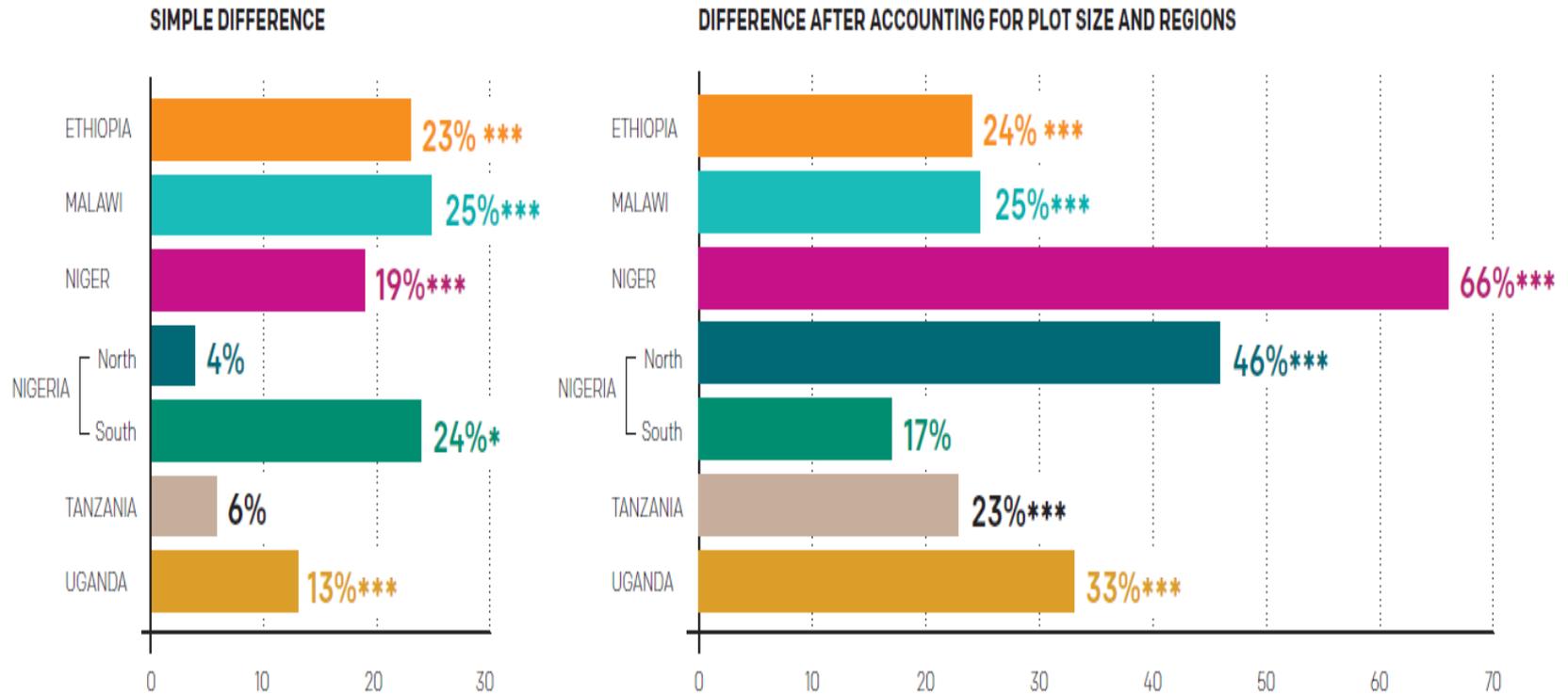
Introduction

- Potential of agriculture to spur growth, reduce poverty and transform livelihoods.
- The sector is underperforming in many rural areas in part due to the constraints which affect the productivity of women.
- Equal access to productive resources as men could increase yields on women's farms by 20–30% (FAO 2011)

Introduction...

- Agriculture one of the major sectors in GTP II
- Women and youth empowerment, participation and equity one of the GTP II pillar strategies

Productivity



Note: The symbols */**/** denote statistical significance at the 10%, 5% and 1% levels respectively.

Source: World Bank 2014

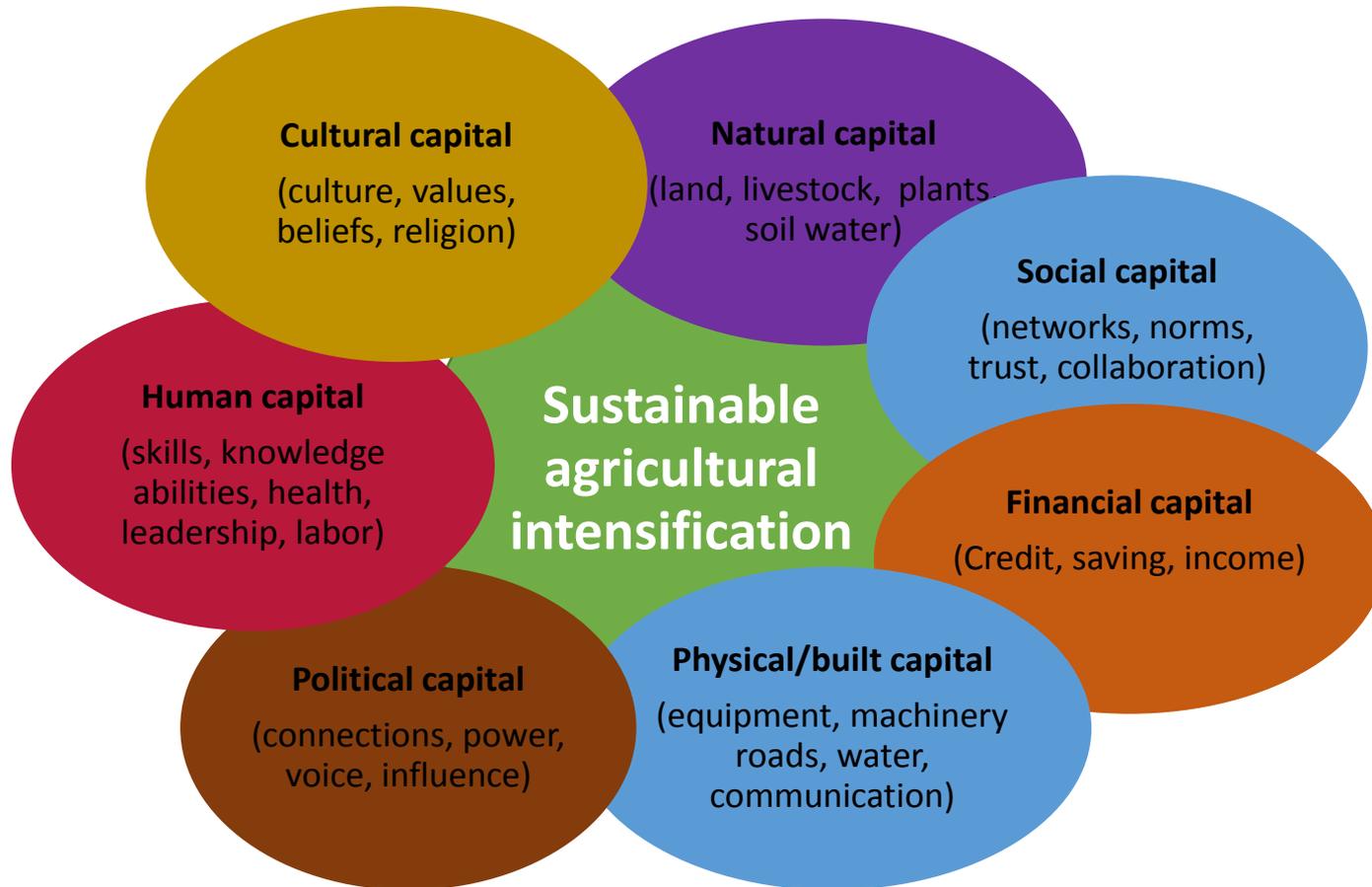
Productivity

- Effort to reduce the gender gap can be enhanced by a better understanding of which factors matter and how they matter in different contexts.

Community Capitals Framework

- ‘Capital’ is any type of resource which can be invested in to create new resources
- The stock and flow of capitals influence access to resources and benefits
- Interaction between the capitals spurs the momentum to adopt new technologies and improve livelihoods
- A holistic rather than reductionist perspective to identify actions to reduce gender inequalities

Community Capitals Framework...



Approach

- Systematic literature review (1999-2014)
- Validation of literature
 - ‘Africa Research in Sustainable Intensification for the Next Generation project’ sites
 - Basona worena (Amhara region), Lemo (SNNP region), Endamehonei (Tigray) and Baale Sinana (Oromia region); 2 kebeles per woreda
 - 16 separate FGDs with men and women

Where does gender equality and inequality exist in the Ethiopian Agricultural sector?

Natural Capital

Natural capital

- The stock of assets available in a particular location - farmland, biodiversity of plants and animals, water, soil and climate.
- Ethiopia's diverse agro-ecological environment
- The state owns all land, with user rights allocated by local peasant associations

Gendered Land ownership in Ethiopia

| Authors (year published) | Year data collected | Sample size | Type of land surveyed | Indicator | women | Men | Joint | Other | Data source |
|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|---|-------------------------|-------|-------|---------------------|---|
| Rafasa et al. (2012) | 2011 | 7,530 households, 31,450 plots | Agricultural | % of plots owned/managed by women/men | 23 | 54 | 23 | NR | CSA |
| Holden and Tefera (2008) | 2007 | 608 households | Any land | % of men and women land owners or managers | 37.5 before land reform | NR | NA | NA | Norwegian University of Life Sciences |
| | | | | | 38.1 after land reform | NR | NA | NA | |
| Deininger et al. (2007) | 2006 | 2,300 households | Any land | % of plots owned (certificates held) | 11.12 | 35.68 | 51.68 | 1.52 (I don't know) | Ethiopian Economic Association/ World Bank |
| Teklu (2005) | Amhara (2004) | 1,978 landholdings | Any land | % of plots owned (privately registered land held) | 28.9 | 32.5 | 38.6 | NR | Amhara Region Natural Resource and Land Administration Bureau |

Source: Doss et al. 2013

Land ownership across different countries

| Country (year) | Household | | Women | | | men | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| | Sample size HHs | % of HH owning any agric. land | Sample size women | Own any land (sole or joint) | Own any land (sole only) | Sample size men | Own any land (sole or joint) | Own any land (sole only) |
| Burundi (2010) | 8,589 | 86 | 9,372 | 54 | 11 | 4,280 | 64 | 50 |
| Ethiopia (2011) | 16,693 | 73 | 16,503 | 50 | 12 | 14,107 | 54 | 28 |
| Lesotho (2009) | 9,385 | 53 | 7,624 | 38 | 7 | 3,317 | 34 | 9 |
| Malawi (2010) | 24,818 | 80 | 15,399 | 48 | 23 | NA | NA | NA |
| Rwanda (2010) | 12,540 | 81 | 13,666 | 54 | 13 | 6,328 | 55 | 25 |
| Senegal (2010–2011) | 7,902 | 47 | 15,688 | 11 | 5 | 4,929 | 28 | 22 |
| Tanzania (2010) | 9,592 | 77 | 10,137 | 30 | 8 | NA | NA | NA |
| Uganda (2011) | 9,029 | 72 | 8,667 | 39 | 14 | 2,292 | 60 | 46 |

Land...

- Ethiopia has comparatively gender-equitable levels of land ownership
- Gap is much smaller for jointly managed land
- % of women owning any land (sole and joint) is more than double the % of women owning land alone
- The land tenure reform
 - Increased land access and modest decision making power over land by women (Tefera 2013)

Livestock

- Men possess more livestock species than women and the average number of livestock held is greater
- Chickens mostly raised by women
- Female divorcees have more livestock than widowed and married women



Human capital

Human capital

- Includes formal and informal education, health status, and leadership skills, amount and quality of labor available and the ability to command labor.
- It enables individuals to strengthen their understanding, identify promising technologies and practices, and obtain information to mobilize other resources.

Technical information and knowledge

- Ragassa 2012:
 - About 20% of female heads and 30% of male heads had been visited by an extension agent in the past 12 months
 - 46% of male heads and 34% of female heads were visited by DAs in the last five years
- Women have less access to information and knowledge attuned to their needs
- Low women involvement in all stages of research or innovation



Division of labor

- Gender division of roles and responsibilities (small vs heavy tasks)
- Nationwide it is estimated that rural women work between 13-17 hours a day, in many cases more than twice that of men.
- Women farmers have a smaller pool of household labor
- Women have to depend - to a large extent- on male labor and/or rented traction power
- Effect on decisions to adopt labor intensive practices

Health and Nutrition

- Labor burden on women affects their health
- Risk of zoonotic disease transmission
- Undernutrition accounts for 28% of all child mortality (CSA, 2014).
- Micronutrient deficiencies (vitamin A, zinc and iron) are prevalent mostly amongst pregnant women and children under five.

Financial Capital

Financial capital

- Monetary resources available for investment e.g. credit, savings and income
- For monetary resources to become capital, they must be invested to create new resources

Credit

- Importance of credit to investment in agric.
- Agriculture credit requires some form of guarantee of repayment
- Low women's access to credit
- Validation of literature:
 - there is equal opportunity to access credit by men and women
 - Men take more credit compared to women
 - Restriction in terms of the conditions for credit acquisition and objectives

Cultural capital

Cultural capital

- The way people perceive the world around them, how they live their lives, their traditions, values and language.
- Cultural capital helps to determine who is allowed to utilize specific resources within a given community
- Cultural capital helps to determine how creativity, innovation, and influence emerge and are nurtured

Gender stereotypes, norms and values

- A farmer is a 'man'
- Preconditions for ox ownership or 'cultivation capacity' are observed
- Women considered weak farmers
- Women forbidden from using the plow
- Identification of a woman as a head of household



Social Capital

Social capital

- The networks, norms of reciprocity, and mutual trust that exist among and within groups and communities
- Social capital assists individuals and groups to secure access to the resources that they need for developing their livelihoods

Membership to cooperatives and groups

- Membership in cooperatives
 - 20% women membership in cooperatives
 - 18% in management positions
 - Membership of women HH higher than married women
- Membership in informal groups
 - more women participation in *Wobera* and *Idri* groups

Social capital...

- Effect on bonding, bridging and linking social capital



Physical capital

Physical capital

- Includes infrastructure that supports other capitals such as processing equipment, roads, health centers, water systems, and electronic communication
- Reduces the cost of production

Rural Infrastructure

- women serve as 'living infrastructure' carrying out reproductive and productive roles without labor saving technologies.
- Availability of good roads enhances access to markets by both men and women.



Rural infrastructure...

- Mechanization increases labor efficiency and effectiveness
- Irrigation systems
- Limited literature on Infrastructural factors



Political capital

Political capital

- Political capital is based on organizations, connections, voice, power and ability to influence the way resources are distributed.



Decision making/power relations

- In Ethiopia, the household head, regardless of their gender, enjoys almost all decision-making power
- Despite overwhelmingly joint ownership, the right to sell livestock and keep the proceeds is the sole prerogative of the household head.

Political capital...

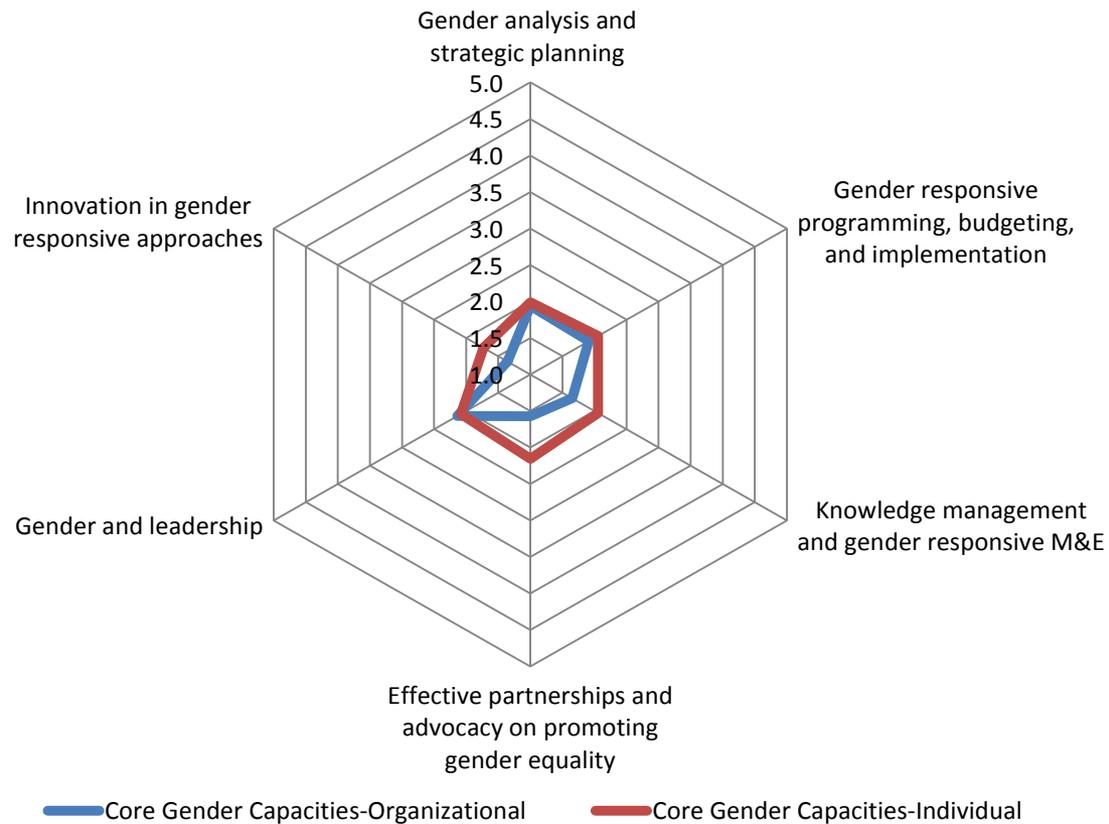
- Women control income generated from dairy products such as milk, butter and cheese.
- Improvement in land related decision making and asset control amongst women not accompanied with control of self-earned income and political participation.

Enabling environment

- Agricultural development a top priority issue of the Ethiopian government (GTP II).
- Gender equity one of the main pillars
- Substantial investment made in road infrastructure and agric. extension services
- Improvement in farmers' access to technologies with potential to narrow the yield gap

Gender capacity

Limited gender capacity of development and research staff



Way forward to address gender gaps

- Enhance gender capacity of staff doing research and development
- Develop and mobilize women and men's social capital
- Disaggregate data beyond household headship - men and women
- Conduct gender analysis to inform policy, research and extension
- Invest in research and education systems capable of integrating information from multiple sectors

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