Why women’s economic empowerment?

“Gender equality is good in and of itself, and it is smart economics. But the first one of these alone never seems to convince anyone.”

—Caroline Anstey, Managing Director, World Bank

“Women are the most underutilized economic asset in the world’s economy.”

—Angel Gurria, Secretary-General, OECD
What is women’s economic empowerment?

A woman is economically empowered when she has both the: A) ability to succeed and advance economically; and B) the power to make and act on economic decisions.
What are some common WEE approaches?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. Combination of 2, 3 or 5</th>
<th>2. Gender Mainstreaming or 3. Women Targeted</th>
<th>4. Gender Aware</th>
<th>5. Do No Harm</th>
<th>6. No Focus on Gender</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Results chains articulate expected positive and negative impacts of project on WEE.</td>
<td>Results chains articulate expected positive impacts of project WEE.</td>
<td>Articulates a limited approach to WEE and disaggregates results statements and indicators by sex.</td>
<td>Understands the drivers of WEE and its potential negative effects.</td>
<td>Does not articulate any approach to WEE.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhances positive impacts on WEE as defined by the project and minimizes risks of harm.</td>
<td>Enhances positive impacts on WEE as defined by the project. May still risk negative effects on women.</td>
<td>Risks potentially causing harm to women given a limited understanding.</td>
<td>Minimizes risk of causing harm by monitoring unintended adverse effects of project on women.</td>
<td>Risks failing to meet development objectives and potentially causing harm to women.</td>
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Gender-responsive market research

ALCP and M4C follow the M4P guidelines to market research, and integrated gender-responsive research questions at all levels including:

• **Core market systems** – examined gender roles and responsibilities in each sub-sector

• **Supporting functions** - examined gender-based access and control over resources and services

• **Rules** – gender friend policies, social/community acceptance of women in various jobs and women’s decision making abilities and time-use.
WEE, Strategic Framework & Results Chains

**Impact**
- Reducing poverty and enhancing empowerment

**Outcome**
- Enhancing women’s access to opportunities (access) and their capacity to respond to opportunities (agency) either as entrepreneurs, workers or consumers as the pathway through which poverty is reduced and empowerment is enhanced.

**Output**
- Stimulating sustainable change at a systems level that is gender-responsive and relevant to women.

**Activity**
- Changing market systems through interventions that are gender-responsive.
Developing WEE indicators of change

• 1 or 2 indicators at household-level, in addition to the DCED Standard universal indicators
• Mix of access to resources & agency
• Lots of strong qualitative indicators
• Unit of analysis: enterprise, household or individual level
• Disaggregate indicators by sex, age, or employment status?
• What change is positive and negative?
• Select only those indicators of WEE that are both programme relevant and reasonably straightforward to measure
Household-level PSD-WEE indicator categories

- Access to income
- Decision-making regarding income, productive assets, investments, and expenditures
- Division of labor, time, responsibilities
- Freedom/restriction of mobility
- Changes in domestic violence and household conflict/tension
- Gender norms, and men’s and women’s attitudes toward gender roles
- Women’s and men’s sense of self-worth or confidence
Measuring changes in WEE

- Find innovative ways to integrate WEE into commonly used PSD research tools
- Establish a process for collecting information and highlight where WEE fits in
- Understand good gender-responsive research practices
- Collect reliable household-level data on WEE
Systemic Change

Household-level changes as types of systemic change, or only results of systemic changes?
Programme Costs

What are the potential additional costs of integrating women’s economic empowerment into a results measurement system?
Managing a gender-responsive system for results measurement

• Establish good MRM practices that adequately address gender and WEE.

• Ensure processes are gender-sensitive.
  • Promote diversity - hire women
  • Training
  • Gender focal point – not just a gender expert
  • Gender-sensitive terms of references
Thank You!

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