



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Inequalities with focus on gender dimension

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Rural Gender Inequalities

Rural women are key in producing, processing and trading food and agricultural products

However, they face constraints in accessing productive resources, services, markets, assets and opportunities

- Significant gender gaps in food insecurity
- Rural women are more likely than men to hold low-wage, part-time, seasonal employment
- Significantly disadvantaged relative to men with regard to their rights to land
- Financial inclusion -- the gender gap has remained unchanged since 2011.
- Time poverty – Rural women's multiple roles (productive, reproductive and community management)

**The prevalence
of Food
Insecurity is
higher among
women than
men**

Evidence from the State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2020 (SOFI 2020):

- Nearly 690 million people in the world are still hungry, underscoring the immense challenge of achieving the Zero Hunger target by 2030.
- COVID-19 pandemic, and the economic recession triggered, an additional 83 million to 132 million people may go hungry this year.
- In every continent, the prevalence of food insecurity rate is slightly higher among women than men.
- Significant differences between men and women in almost all years for Africa and Latin America.
- The gender gap in accessing food increased from 2018 to 2019.

Gender inequalities in Rural Employment

Women comprise over 37 percent of the world's rural agricultural employment, a figure which rises to 48 percent for low-income countries

- A higher proportion of women are in informal employment compared to men
- More likely to be segregated in less secure forms of employment, e.g. part-time, seasonal and/or low-paying jobs in the informal economy.
- In SSA and South Asia, as much as 79% of women's total employment is in vulnerable employment, typically in agriculture
- Constitute a significant proportion of contributing family workers, often unpaid.
- National statistics do not capture time women spend on caregiving, subsistence agriculture, processing and preparation of food for home consumption, and cleaning

Women's Land Rights

Land is often the most important household asset for supporting agricultural production and FSN

- Regardless of type of indicator used, women are significantly disadvantaged relative to men
- All dimensions of land rights: ownership, management, transfer and economic rights.
- Globally, less than 15 percent of all landholders are women.
- The proportion of women who are landowners ranges from 12% in Peru to slightly over 50% in Ecuador and Malawi.
- Women reported owners are less likely than men to have a legal document proving ownership of their plots or have their names on the land ownership document.

Effects of COVID-19 and its containment measures on Rural Women and Men

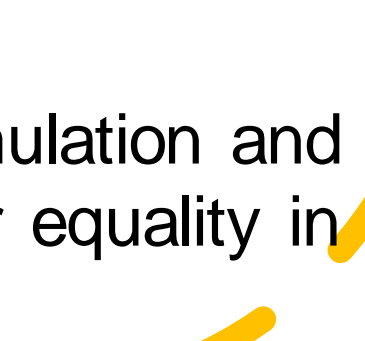
Rural women are more vulnerable than men to the socio-economic effects due to gender inequalities

- **Livelihoods:** 55% of the women reported that income loss was one of the biggest impacts, compared with only 34% of men.
- Women are more likely to work in the informal sector that COVID-19 is hitting the hardest, and have less access to unemployment benefits.
- **Food security:** 41% of women and 30% of men reported lack of food was a key impact on their lives, reflecting deeply entrenched gender inequalities
- **Heavy work burden** with school closures and caring for those infected and affected. In Lebanon, women reported spending 83% of their time in housework and care work, compared to 14% for men.

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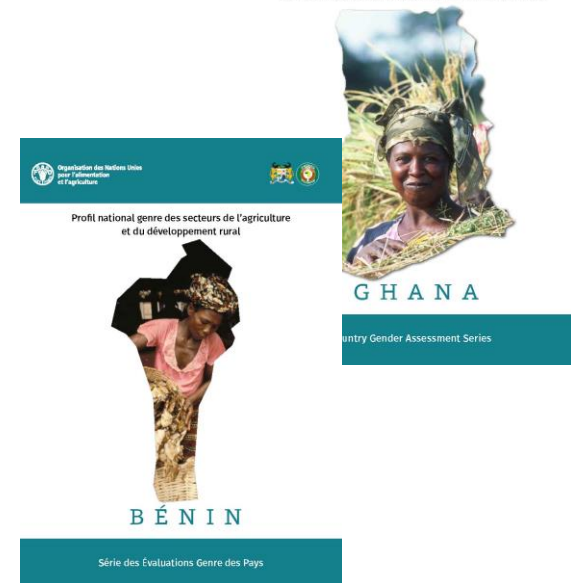
Availability of gender statistics

Key challenge

- High-quality, sex-disaggregated data especially on women's role agriculture, women's employment, empowerment and welfare is rarely collected in household and agricultural surveys
 - What is needed is reliable, sex-disaggregated data on men and women's role in agriculture which will be crucial for highlighting disparities between women and men.
 - This helps to improve policy formulation and monitor progress towards gender equality in agriculture and FSN
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Country Gender Assessments

- Information on the role and situation of women and men in agriculture and the rural economy.
- Assessment of the gender inequalities (gaps) in access to critical productive resources, assets, services and opportunities.
- Examination of the causes of gender inequalities and the impact on the economic and social development of rural areas, the management of natural resources and on food security and nutrition.
- Progress achieved in advancing gender equality and rural women's empowerment in food security and nutrition, agriculture and the rural livelihoods.
- Data and recommendations and guidance for improving policy and programming. –*About 50 countries*



Supporting countries to report on SDG Indicators on women's land rights

Indicator 5.a.1: Statistical Indicator

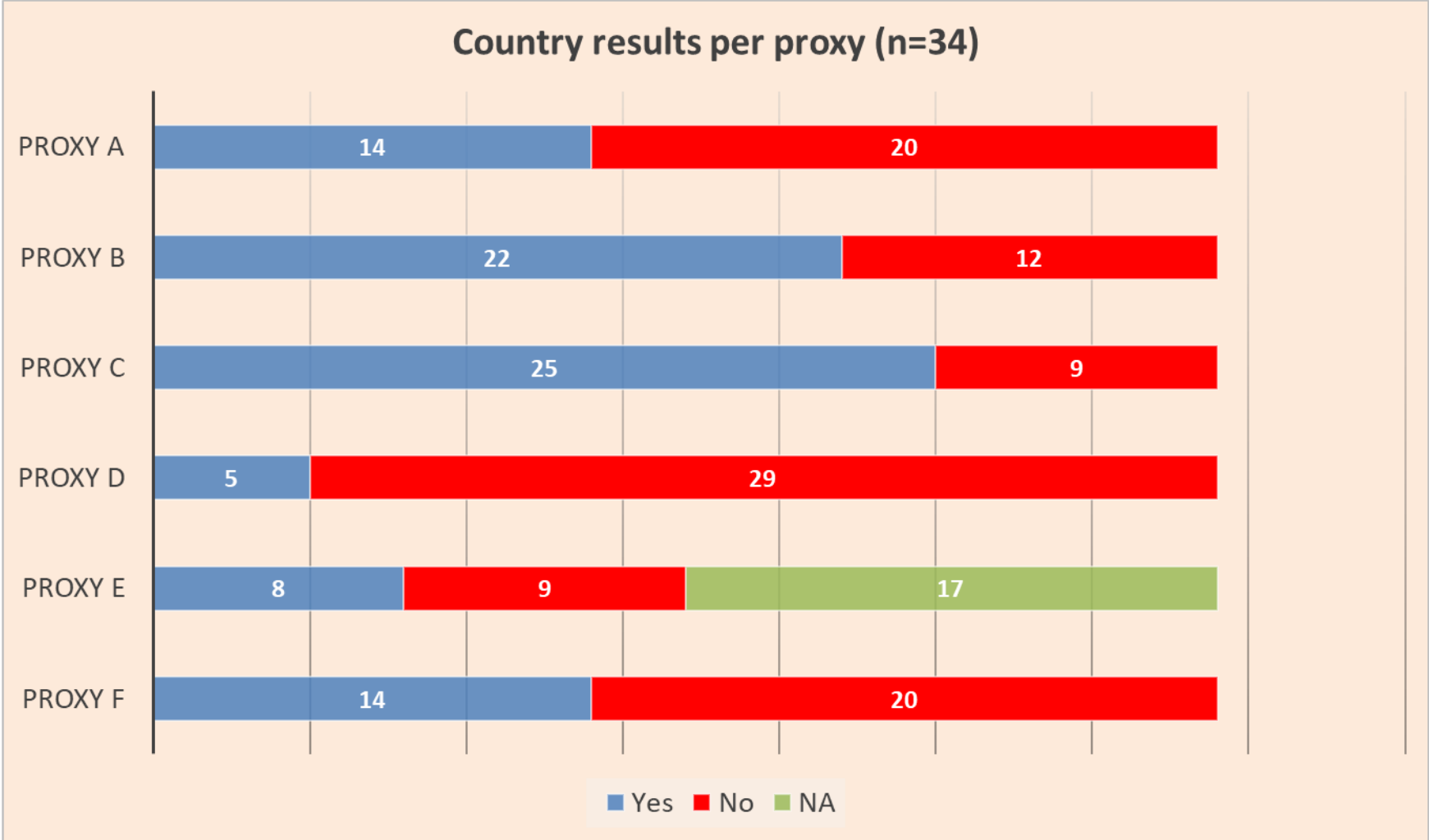
- (a) *Proportion of total agricultural population with **ownership** or **secure rights** over **agricultural** land, by sex;*
- *and (b) share of women among **owners** or **rights bearers** of **agricultural** land, type of tenure.*

Indicator 5.a.2: Legal Indicator

- *Percentage of countries where the **legal framework** (including **customary law**) guarantees women's equal rights to land **ownership and/or control**.*

As Custodian Agency FAO has developed methodology, is providing support to countries, strengthen national capacities to collect the data, providing a quality check of the data, and preparing global report

Monitoring Progress towards the achievement of SDGs



- A. Joint registration of land
- B. spousal consent requirement
- C. Women’s and girls’ equal inheritance rights
- D. Allocation of financial resources
- E. The legal and policy framework explicitly protect the land rights of women (Customary Land Tenure)
- F. Quotas for women’s participation in land institutions



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Thank you