

Women's Voice, Agency and Participation

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Jeni Klugman
Director, Gender and Development
World Bank m



Outline

- Where do we stand?
- Evidence, constraints & opportunities
- Moving the agenda forward
- Timeline



Where do we stand?

World Development Report 2012: Gender and Development

Progress over the past 30 years

- Gender gaps in primary schools have closed in many countries, globally more women are at university than men
- Women are living longer than men
- Over half a billion women joined the work force

These matter intrinsically.

Evidence also shows that closing gender gaps speeds up social and economic development.

Persistent inequalities, including

- No region is on track to meet MDG5, to cut maternal mortality by 3/4
- Nearly 4 million missing women, annually
- 1.2 billion women worldwide have experienced IPV or non-partner sexual violence
- 15 million 10-14 year old girls married over the last decade
- Less than 25% of parliamentarians in all regions are female and share is expanding very slowly.



Adding value

1. Deepen WDR2012 evidence base

- National and cross-country analyses of unexploited data
- Extracting lessons from systematic evaluations
- Selected case studies

2. Deliver policy relevant conclusions

- Key lessons about what works, what does not, and promising directions

3. Inform WBG and partners' operations and modalities

- Explore options to better integrate into Bank analysis, dialogue, operations and monitoring
- Identify how WBG can support other development partners in areas of strategic advantage

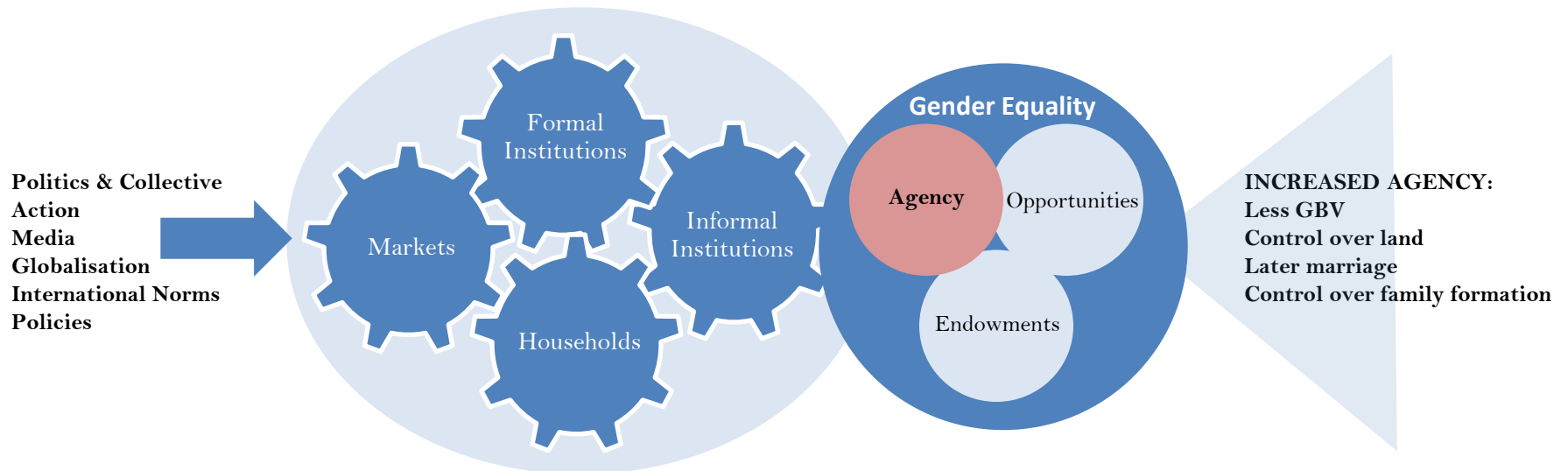
Concepts of agency

Capability approach

- the ability to pursue goals that one values and has reason to value (Sen 1990); an agent is “someone who acts and brings about change” (Sen 1999).

WDR2012

- the ability to use endowments to take advantage of opportunities to achieve desired outcomes



Focus across 'expressions' of agency...

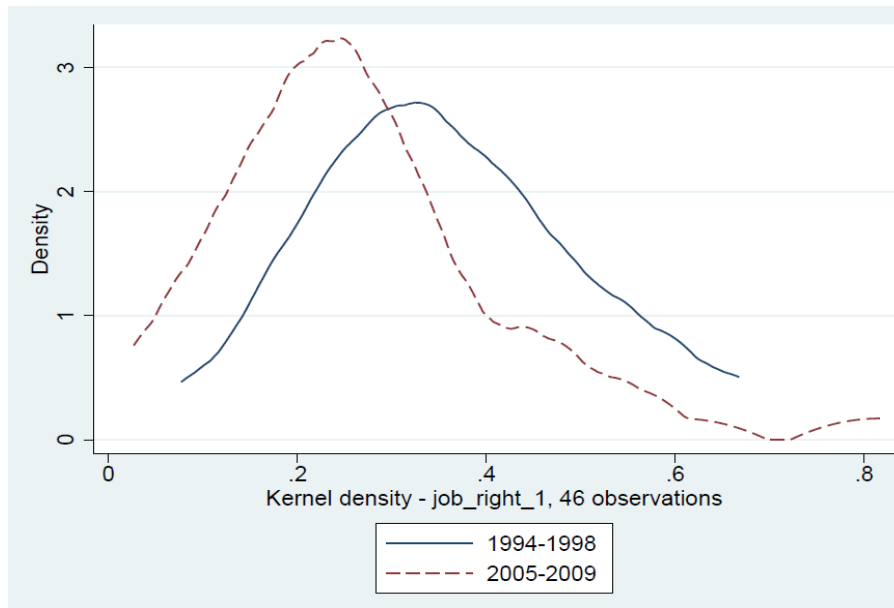
- Freedom from the **risk of violence** (GBV)
- Control over **land and property**
- Freedom of **movement** for work and migration
- Decision making over **family formation**
- **Voice and choice** (politics, collective action and household influence)

Ongoing analytical work

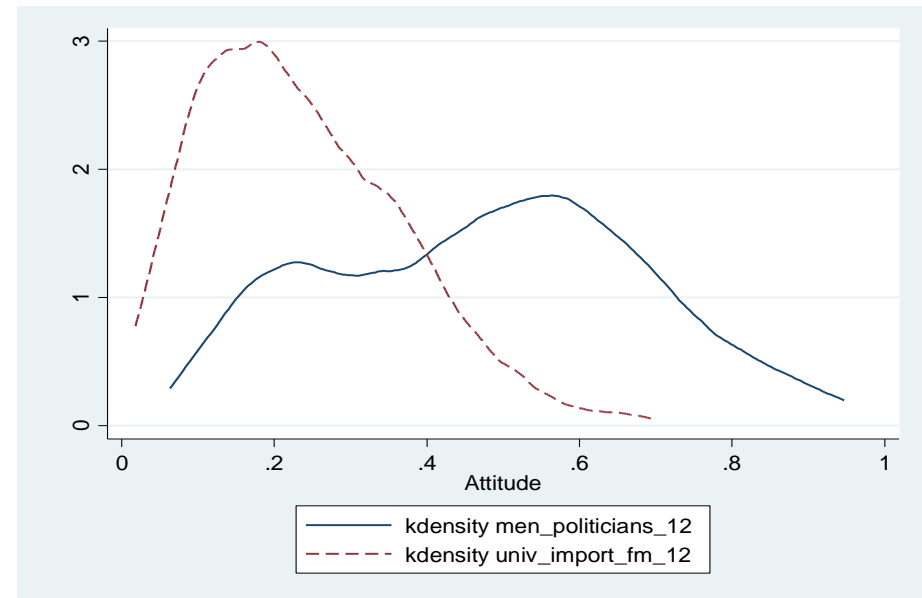
1. Male and female perceptions of gender equality and links to outcomes
 - *World Values Survey for 95+ countries, Gallup World Poll for 130+ countries*
2. 'Overlapping disadvantage' and agency-related deprivations
 - *Demographic Health Survey data for 50+ countries*
3. Inequality and outcomes among boys and girls
 - *Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys and Young Lives for 20+ countries*

Perceptions of agency and gender issues and change over time

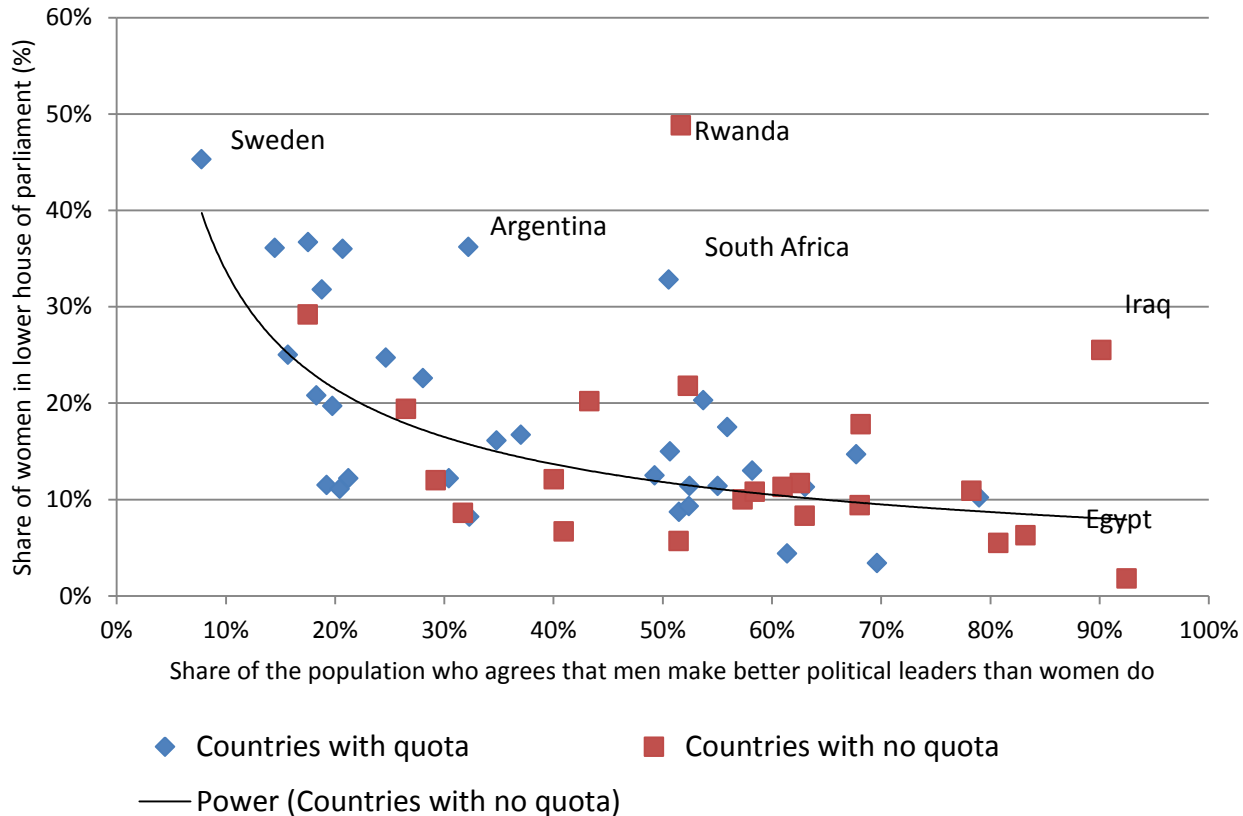
Shift in attitudes toward women's right to a job among 46 countries



Shift in attitudes toward women as political leaders among 31 countries



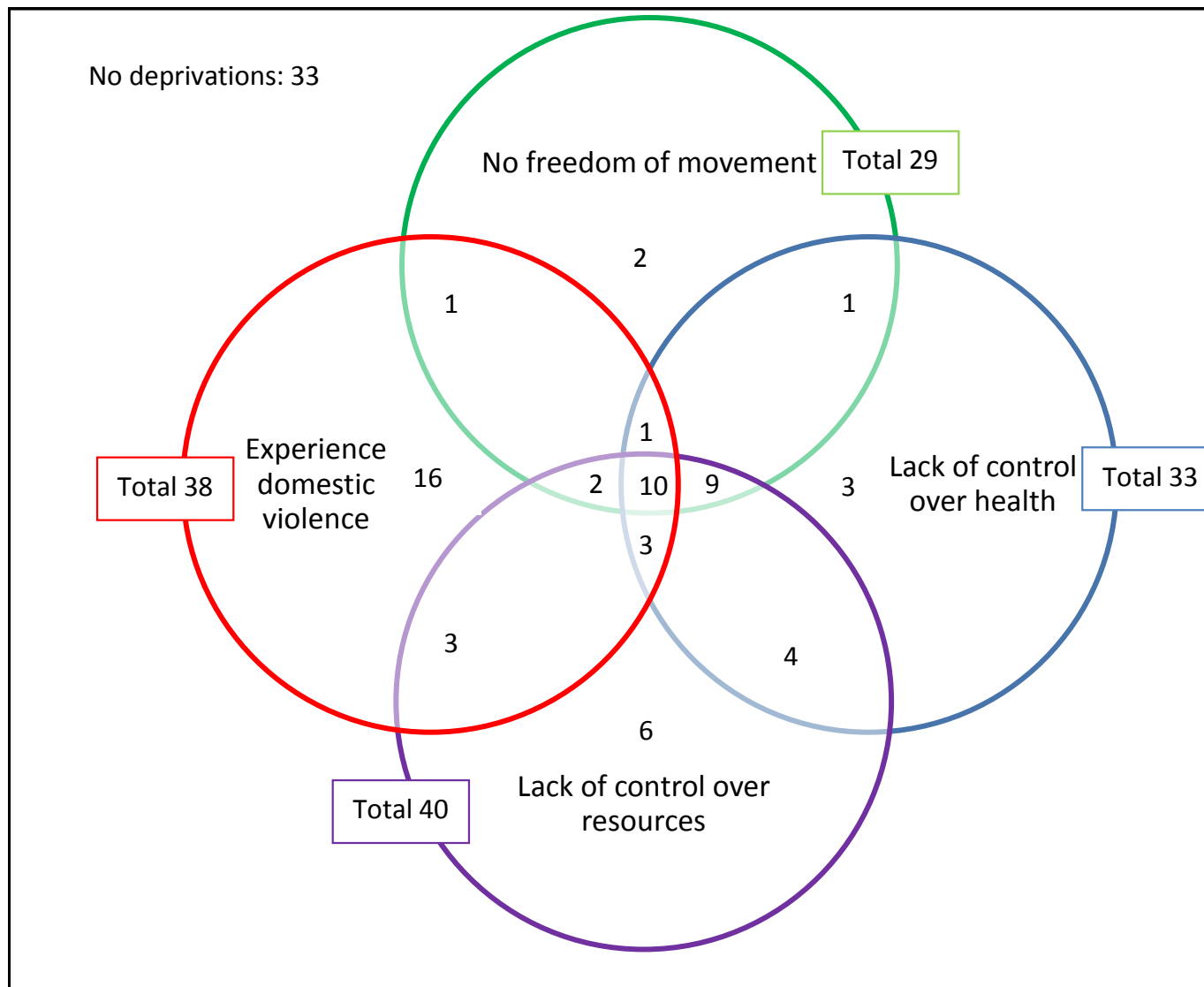
Linking attitudes to outcomes



Belief in female political leaders and the share of women in parliament is correlated....

As are attitudes toward women in the labour market and in tertiary education, and related outcomes.

Many women experience overlapping deprivations in agency



Evidence, constraints and opportunities

Freedom from violence

Proposed value added

Human rights issue and a development issue – major costs to individuals and economies

- Review and advance knowledge of costs and consequences of GBV

Norms and attitudes powerful transmitters of GBV

- Case studies, including connections between political mobilization and programmatic responses to GBV in India

Strong laws are critical but insufficient on their own

- Evaluating international conventions, national laws, and implementation issues

Evidence of what works is biased towards developed countries

- State of the evidence review of interventions to prevent GBV

Interventions need to engage men and boys early

- Analytical work to understand roles of men and boys as perpetrators, victims, and change agents

Partners

- UN Women; ODI (case studies on GBV); GWU Global Women's Institute; Oxfam India; Promundo; ICRW; National University of Ireland (and expanding!)

Freedom from violence: emerging findings

GBV imposes significant costs on families and economies: New evidence from Tanzania:

- Women who are severely physically or sexually abused by a partner earn between \$11.55 and \$13.50 less weekly than never abused women with similar characteristics - a major difference in a country where the average weekly income of women is \$14.00
- Cost of partner violence due to productivity loss translates to roughly 1.4% of GDP.

Some countries struggle with hostile attitudes that endorse GBV

- In DRC, India and Rwanda, majority of men think women should tolerate violence to keep family together.
- More than 80% men in the DRC and India think VAW laws are too harsh and make it too easy to charge men.
- YET, the data also provide hopeful indications that younger men are less likely to perpetrate violence against a partner.

Systematic review of reviews of evidence on the effects of GBV prevention interventions finds most evidence coming from wealthy nations

- More than 80% of the evidence on what works and what doesn't to prevent GBV comes from developed countries (that comprise 6% of the world's population).

Control over land and property

Proposed value added

- Assess potentially transformative impacts of land
- Explore reforms and incentives that boost women's access and control (titling and beyond) in urban and rural settings
- Identify promising approaches to tackle discriminatory norms
- Guidance on indicators and data (what *ought* to be collected)
- New push within Bank to collect and collate project level data on female land ownership

Approach

1. Background papers on land – rural and urban – including review of experience of interventions
2. Empirical analysis on patterns of ownership and linkages to other wellbeing outcomes

Freedom of movement, migration and work

Proposed value added

- Explore determinants of freedom of movement – highlighting regional and country differences – and key barriers
- Identify promising directions to enable local mobility

Approach

1. Stock-taking to understand better extent to which WB operations have addressed these issues
2. Country case study on constraints to local mobility using new data from Afghanistan
3. Empirical analysis of patterns, correlates and impact of inability to move freely

Decision making over family formation

Proposed value added

- Identify promising interventions to improve RH outcomes (agency, service delivery, accountability)
- Review of evidence on sexual and reproductive health (RH) services as entry point for GBV prevention
- Explore key drivers for addressing child marriage: policy and legal frameworks; norm change; mitigate impact on girls already married

Approach

1. Background papers:
 - Closing the gap between knowledge & action
 - Review of operations & policies to build agency via RH channels
2. Case studies in Niger and Chad
3. Empirical analysis of constraints to exercising voice at household level

Partners - Women Deliver

Voice and choice

Proposed value added

- Advance knowledge of benefits of increasing women's voice – for themselves, their families and communities
- Review implications for Bank operations
- Identify appropriate indicators for operational use

Approach

1. Background papers:
 - National and local level participation of women
 - Collective action
2. Links to social accountability and Community Driven Development
3. Case study: India, link between women's political participation and GBV
4. Policy implications for the WBG, including:
 - Resourcing, training and monitoring state and other institutions responsible for implementing reforms

Partners – WBG Social Development Network; NDI; ODI

Moving the agenda forward

Laws and legal institutions

Laws and legal institutions play **critical role in expanding agency**:

Citizenship; family law; property regimes; inheritance; gender based violence prevention and victim support; reproductive health; affirmative action

Progress on many fronts	Sticky areas persist
Since 1960, 50% of the discriminatory laws have been removed across 100 countries	90% of countries still have at least 1 discriminatory law on the books
149 countries call for equal protection under the law	Complex web of overlapping customary, religious & statutory systems further exacerbate existing discrimination
125 countries have criminalized domestic violence	Weak implementation & enforcement

Identifying promising tools and policy approaches, three areas of focus, grounded in human rights approach:

1. Constitutional and legal reform
2. Addressing the interaction of customary and religious legal systems with formal legal systems
3. Implementation and enforcement

Cross-cutting issues: Indicators and monitoring

- Paucity of gender-relevant data on agency (e.g., on decision-making, intra-household allocation of resources, GBV surveillance, local participation)

Build on recent progress:

- UN Inter-agency and Expert Group identified 52 core gender indicators, several relating to voice
- UN guidance on collecting statistics on GBV

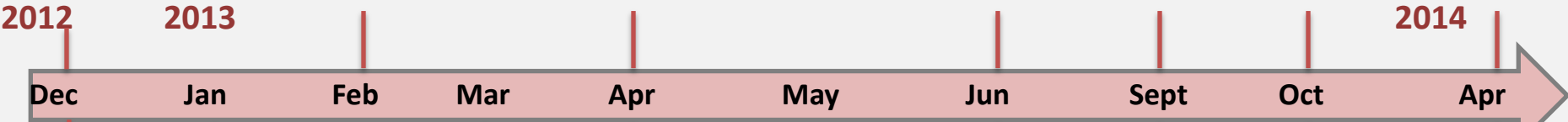
The report will:

- Take stock of data sources on agency, ongoing efforts and key gaps
- Recommend typology of indicators on voice and agency and associated determinants for country monitoring and Bank operations

Expected timeline and selected milestones

WBG & other key dates

WBG Law, Justice and Development Week



Advisory Council Meeting, Stockholm

Conference on Gender and Land, Utrecht

UN CSW Consultation and GBV costing side events

1st meeting of Technical Advisory Group

Advisory Council Meeting

WBG Annual Land Conference consultation

Women Deliver Conference consultation

WBG Exiting Fragility Conference Consultation

GENDERNET OECD/DAC consultation

South Asia region-wide event on violence, Nepal

1st Online consultation via AlertNet

2nd meeting of Technical Advisory Group

HDCA Nicaragua consultation

Clinton Global Initiative consultation

HDRO Consultation

Joint Symposium with GWU on GBV

LAUNCH REPORT

VAP report – key dates

Report consultations are in GREEN

Questions for Discussion

- Critical knowledge gaps?
- Value-added?
- Interesting case studies or evidence?

FIND OUT MORE AT:

www.worldbank.org/gender/agency