Leveling the Field: Closing the Gender Gap in African Agriculture

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Gender & Development
Community of Practice/Gender
CCSA Event



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Partners













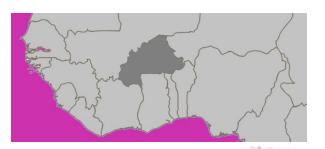




Photo credit: UC Davis





Image source: UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) http://www.fao.org/sofa/gender/en/





LEVELLING THE FIELD

IMPROVING OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN FARMERS IN AFRICA































Photo credits: LSMS-ISA



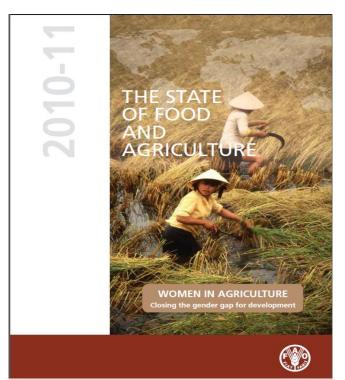




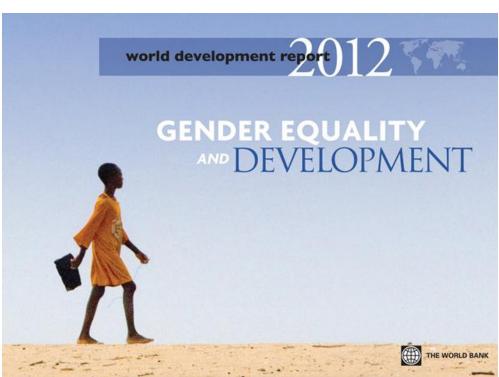




Is equalizing access enough?



"If women had the same access to proceed the course resources as men, they could increase yields..."



"In agriculture, gender differences most always disappear..."



Gaps in returns also matter

1 kg of fertilizer (quantity)

Yield from 1 kg of fertilizer (returns)

Male farmer



after harvesting









Female farmer



after harvesting



























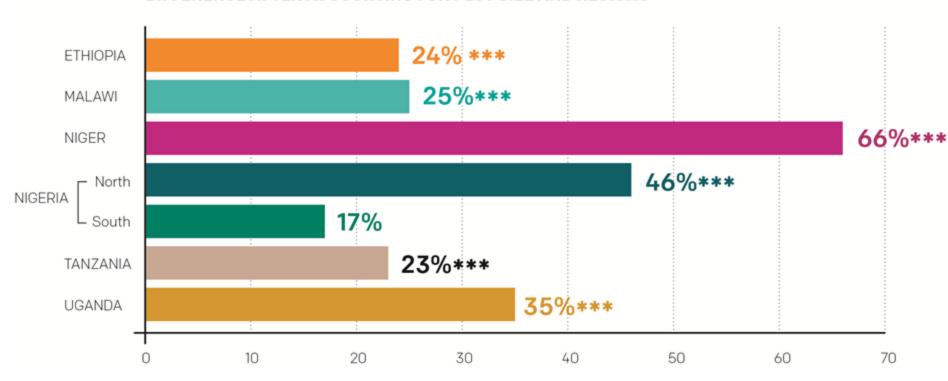


What are the facts?



How much less do women produce per hectare?

DIFFERENCE AFTER ACCOUNTING FOR PLOT SIZE AND REGIONS



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





Quantities (82% of the gap)



Household male labor



Highvalue export crops



Farm implements



Inorganic fertilizer

Returns (18% of the gap)







Inorganic fertilizer



Child dependency ratio

Source: T. Kilic, A. Palacios-Lopez & M. Goldstein. 2013. "Caught in a Productivity Trap: A Distributional Perspective on Gender Differences in Malawian Agriculture." World Bank Policy Research Working Paper #6381.





Quantities (43% of the gap)



Household labor



Land tenancy

Returns (57% of the gap)



Women's time on ag activities



Ag extension services



Land tenancy



Fertilizer

Source: A. Aguilar, E. Carranza, M. Goldstein, T. Kilic, & G. Oseni. 2014. "Decomposition of Gender Differentials in Agricultural Productivity in Ethiopia." World Bank Policy Research Working Paper #6764.



What's driving Africa's gender gap?





WEALTH

How do we level the field?



Key Driver		Policy Priority	STATE OF EVIDENCE
LAND	D	1. Strengthen women's land rights.	PROMISING
LABOR	Lub.	2. Improve women's access to hired labor.	EMERGING
	6-0	3. Enhance women's use of tools & equipment that reduce the amount of labor they require on the farm.	EMERGING
	İ X İ	4. Provide community-based child-care centers.	EMERGING
NON- LABOR INPUTS		5. Encourage women farmers to use more, & higher-quality, fertilizer.	PROMISING
		6. Increase women's use of improved seeds.	EMERGING





Offer financing for farm labor



Photo credit: Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation



Provide community child care centers

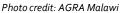






Certify small bags of quality fertilizer

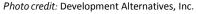






Register women's land rights







Broader lessons for policy and programs

- Look for complementarities in programming
- Partner with the private sector
- Recognize when to stop a program
- Channel interventions through women's farming groups to deepen impact
- Cash might be enough for some farmers



A joint collaboration of the World Bank (Gender Innovation Lab; DEC/LSMS-Integrated Surveys on Agriculture; and Agriculture Global Practice) and the ONE Campaign



LEVELLING THE FIELD

It's not just the right thing to do. It's the smart thing to do.



