Consultation on Women's Voice, Agency and Participation

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# Outline



- World Development Report 2012
- > Objectives
- ➢ Scope
  - Focus on five expressions
  - Cross-cutting issues
  - Monitoring

## ➤ Timeline

## World Development Report 2012: Gender and Development

#### Progress over the past 30 years

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

#### **BUT** Persistent gender inequalities

- No region is on track to meet MDG5, to cut maternal mortality by 3/4
- Nearly 4 million missing women, annually
- Men's landholdings are almost three times the size of women's
- size of

world development report

GENDER EQUALITY

AND DEVELOPMENT

 Wage gaps of 20% on average, and very low labor force participation in some regions and countries

#### **AND** Least progress in expanding women's voice and agency

- 510 million women will be abused by their partner in their lifetime
- The share of women parliamentarians is still only 1/5

## 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

### →Voice, agency & participation

- Concern is with both processes (intrinsic) and outcomes (instrumental)
- Given operational focus, our interest is in 'expressions' of agency with the most policy and programmatic value

# Adding value

1. Deepen WDR2012 evidence base

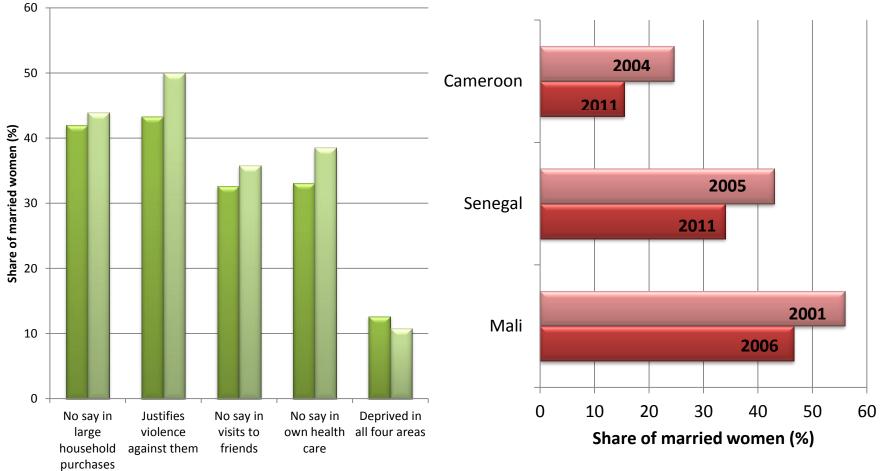
- National and cross-country analyses of unexploited data
- Extracting lessons from systematic evaluations
- Selected case studies
- 2. Deliver policy relevant conclusions
  - Key lessons about what works, what does not, and promising directions
- 3. Inform WBG and partners' operations and modalities
  - 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

# Ongoing analytical work

- 'Overlapping disadvantage' and multiple agency deprivations in Demographic Health Survey data for 50+ countries
- Agency and outcomes among boys and girls (Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys and Young Lives) for 20+ countries.
- 3. Male and female perceptions, and perceptions of women's status, Gallup World Poll for 130+ countries

## Some preliminary snapshots

Large shares of women lack agency in key areas Improvements in share of women deprived in all four areas of agency in most countries...



## Focus: five 'expressions' of agency...

- Freedom from the risk of violence (GBV)
- Access to and control over property (land)
- Freedom of movement (localized)
- Decision-making over family formation (family planning, marriage & divorce, children)
- Ability to have voice in society and influence policy (political and community participation)

## Freedom from violence

#### Proposed value added

- > Insights into GBV as development issue and human rights violation
- Greater understanding of how to cost GBV in developing settings
- Promising policy and programmatic options
- Multi-sectoral toolkit to guide GBV mainstreaming in operations
- Approach building on 2013 Commission on the Status of Women
- 1. Complementary analytical work:
  - State of the evidence review of interventions to prevent and address GBV
  - Review and advance knowledge of costs and consequences of GBV
  - Evaluate international conventions, national laws, and implementation issues
- 2. Case studies, including connections between political mobilization and programmatic responses to GBV in India
- 3. Empirical work on attitudes towards GBV, and on patterns, correlates and effects of GBV exposure

#### Partners

- UN Women; ODI (case studies on GBV); GWU Global Women's Institute; Oxfam India (and expanding!)

## Access to and control over land

#### Proposed value added

- Assess potentially transformative impacts of land
- Explore reforms 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)

#### 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

#### Partners

- Potentially: AGRA, FAO, Global Land Tools Network, Huairou Commission, IFAD, IFPRI, Landesa

20/06/2013

## Freedom of movement

## Proposed value added

- Explore determinants of freedom of movement highlighting regional and country differences – and key barriers
- Promising directions to enable local mobility
- Approach
- 1. Country case study on constraints to local mobility. Afghanistan.
- 2. Empirical analysis of patterns, correlates and impact of inability to move freely

### Partners KNOMAD

## Decision making over family formation

Proposed value added

- Review of evidence on sexual and reproductive health services as entry point for GBV prevention, and of the health costs and consequences of GBV
- Systematic review of benefits of investing in reproductive health for agency
- Identify promising interventions to improve reproductive health outcomes (agency, service delivery, accountability)
- Provide operational guidance on policies and interventions to bolster agency of girls and women with respect to family formation

## Decision making over family formation

#### Approach

- 1. Background papers:
  - a) Closing the deadly gap between what we know and what we do: Investing in women's reproductive health.
  - b) Review of operations and policies to build agency via reproductive health channels
- 2. Case studies:
  - a) Niger qualitative survey re. household decision making
  - b) Chad analysis of previously un-explored data set on women's and men's agency, including linkages with reproductive health and family formation
- 3. Empirical analysis of constraints to household decision-making

Partners - Women Deliver

# Voice in society and Influence policy

Proposed value added

- Advance knowledge of benefits of increasing women's voice for themselves, their families and communities
- Review implications for Bank operations and M&E

Approach

- 1. Background papers by National Democratic Institute on national level participation of women, and on local level participation
- 2. Link to work on social accountability, building on insights from Community Driven Development
- 3. Case studies:
  - 1. India, link between women's political participation and GBV
  - 2. Indonesia, determinants of women's political participation (including why quotas haven't had intended effects)
- 4. Empirical work on levels and trends in decision-making, including at household level.

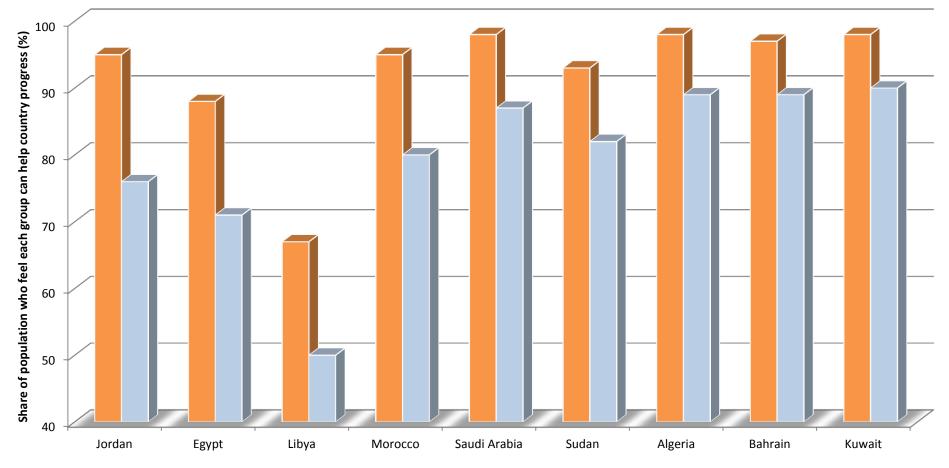
Partners - Social Development Network; World Bank Institute (?) - NDI, ODI, "I Know Politics", Equal Futures Partnership

# Cross-cutting issues: Diagnostics

- Inter-relations between structures, politics and agency
- Interactions of agency with endowments and economic opportunities
  - Overlapping disadvantage (gender, age, health, income poverty, place of residence, ethnicity)
- Importance of social and cultural norms
- Conflict and state fragility

# Preliminary snapshots of the data – pervasive social norms

*In several countries, people feel young men have more to contribute to progress than young women...* 



Young men Young women

# Cross-cutting issues: Institutions and technology

- Legal systems and institutions (government, religious, private sector)
- Collective action (women's movements, civil society)
- Potential of new technologies (social media and ICTs)

# 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)

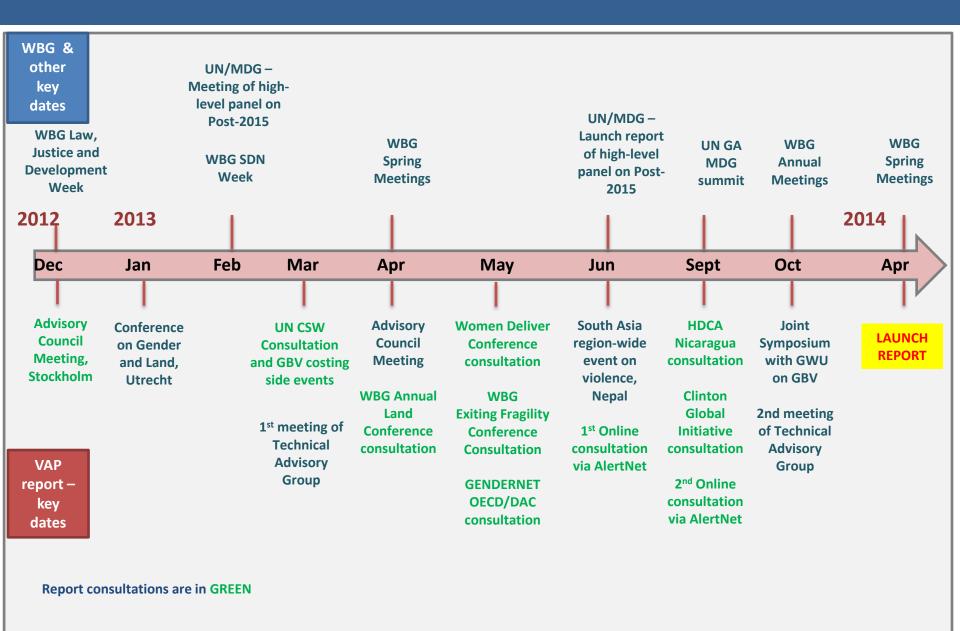
Build on recent progress:

- UN Inter-agency and Expert Group identified 52 core gender indicators, several on 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**



## Questions for Discussion

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

FIND OUT MORE AT: <u>www.worldbank.org/gender/agency</u>