Reflections from the national perspective - Malawi

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Measuring women’s empowerment: towards a women’s empowerment metric for national statistical systems
Background

• Time use survey questions from Welfare Monitoring Survey and Integrated household surveys have shown that girls and women make up at least 50% of the agricultural labour force

• Girls and women have also been shown to not have a significant or any say at all on how the agricultural produce is used or how any benefits from the agricultural produce is shared

• Girls and women have been shown to own less land, and also to have less access to land unless through their husband or a male relative
Background

• Survey questions have collected data to:
  • provide an estimate of the number of households/individuals currently involved in agriculture and their socio-demographic characteristics, disaggregated by sex
  • provide information on the involvement of all households members in agricultural work, both for the household and outside the household, disaggregated by sex
  • look at the economic situation and access to land for agricultural workers, disaggregated by sex
  • estimate the time spent on agricultural work, disaggregated by sex
Women’s empowerment in agriculture

• Survey questions have attempted to:
  • establish if girls and women are limited to working in one area or sector of the agricultural industry
  • provide an understanding of the intra-household power dynamics in regards to girls and women's role in agricultural work
  • estimate the capacity for girls and women to have decision-making roles in agricultural work and in the use of agricultural profits
  • establish hardships in agricultural work that are specific or increased for girls and women, such as lower wages
  • investigate the land ownership structure and how it impacts girls and women
Findings from previous surveys

• Previous research established that girls and women were more likely to be in an informal working arrangement or in a non-paid family member role

• The majority of subsistence food producers are women in the age group 45 - 54
Findings from previous research

- WORK ARRANGEMENTS
- LIVING CONDITION AND HOUSEHOLD POWER STRUCTURE
- ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS
Findings from previous surveys: women welfare

- **Women large work burdens:** double burden, both participating in agricultural work and all the household chores

- Survey questions to track the **improvement** of girls and women's welfare in agricultural work at consistent intervals and increased opportunities to seek better work conditions or non-agricultural employment
Sources of data collection:

• Censuses
• Household-based surveys
  • Independent stand-alone survey
  • Module attached to existing survey
• Establishment-based surveys
• Administrative records
  • Single dataset
  • Multiple datasets
Thank You.