

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 household 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.