

Open agriculture data and its potential to contribute to better development outcomes for Women in Africa

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The Context



- Women make up a significant part of the agricultural labour force in Sub-Saharan Africa at 54.7% and face more constraints than men across value chains
- Targeted investments in women farmers and policies that close this gender gap in African agriculture could yield enormous benefits for women and their families, communities and countries.
- Closing the gender gap has potential to increase food security and improve livelihoods for Africa's growing population



The Policy Context

- The Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) is the framework through which the goal of transforming agriculture in Africa is pursued.
- The CAADP Results Framework is an important instrument to guide planning and investments, and to measure, track and report progress on the agreed priorities. Key to this is creating and sustaining a competitive and equitably-oriented agricultural sectors
- Downstream, agricultural policy in many African countries, has not distinguished between men and women farmers and their different needs





Challenges facing women across agricultural value chains in Africa





What are the solutions?



- Institutional Transformation including Land Policy and Regulatory Framework, Fiscal Spending on Agriculture, Farm-level Institutional Efficiency and Evidence Based Gender Sensitive Policy Practice and implementation
- Access to Productive Resources
- Investment in Hard and Soft Infrastructure
- Development of high-value opportunities in agricultural value chains
- Increased Access to Technology and Mechanised Methods



Our Proposition

- Challenges affecting women in Agricultural value chains across Africa are interconnected across different issues and sectors
- To address these challenges we have to generate data and evidence at the nexus of multiple interconnected issues to inform effective and sustainable responses





What does this look like?





Benefits of Open Agriculture Data

- Increased access to accurate, timely information information on improved farm practices such as precision agriculture and predictive farming
- Provide information for evidence informed and better coordinated policy responses and decisions by businesses and policy-makers
- Better tracking of progress and increased awareness of what works and what doesn't
- Encourage cooperation and collaboration to solve longstanding and evolving problems





Opportunities for Strengthening Open Data Adoption & Use



- Strengthening policy environment for open and shared data and for inclusive and sustainable agriculture
- Building capacity in African governments and for farmers to support evidenceinformed decisions
- Strengthening data ecosystems to collect, mange and share adequately disaggregated open and easy to use data on agricultural value and chains and on adjacent sectors
- Ensuring data interoperability across sectors and agencies/ministries
- Using open data champions to sustain momentum on open data
- Activating open data as a tool for collaboration in multi-stakeholder environments
- Develop frameworks and models for benefit sharing across the data value chain, incorporating the rights of the least-favoured



Thank

you!



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