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ASSESSING THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN AGROECOLOGY

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26 September 2023

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GENDER AND AGROECOLOGY

- Integrating a gender perspective improves agricultural productivity by addressing needs and closing gaps between men and women
- Addressing pervasive gender inequality will generate multiple food security and poverty alleviation benefits

- Agroecology can
  - Empower rural women by boosting autonomy through knowledge, collective action and commercialization
  - Enhance women's autonomy at the household and community levels

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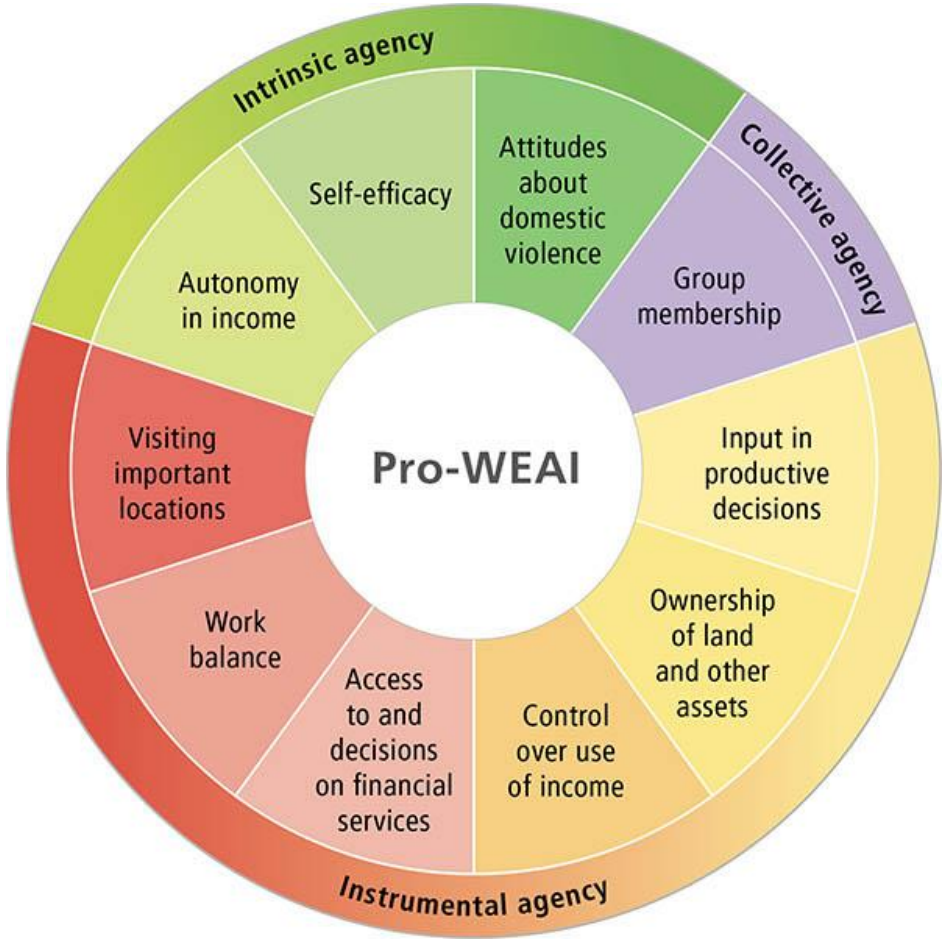
AGROECOLOGY: PATHWAYS TO EMPOWER WOMEN

- **Intrinsic agency**:
  - **New income streams, e.g. new opportunities for trade**
- **Collective agency**:
  - **Collective action and community based decision making**
  - **Enhance producers' organizations and their access to rural institutions and agricultural services**
- **Instrumental agency**:
  - **Recognizing women's roles and knowledge in managing natural resources and agricultural production**
  - **Decreased time-burdens and increased resilience by access to labour-saving and climate-smart technologies**



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MEASURING THE BENEFITS OF AGROECOLOGY

- FAO has established a Tool for Agroecology Performance Evaluation or TAPE
- Has been used in 40 countries and 5,000 farms, adapted for 46 languages
- FAO, IFAD and GEF, as well as selected NGOs, have used it during projects (M&E), at baseline and at endline evaluations
  - Pilots in Cambodia, China, Mexico and Argentina
  - Used at baseline for FAO projects in Ethiopia, Dominica and Guyana; impact evaluation in Mozambique
  - IFAD project design in Lesotho
  - GEF projects at design in Mali, Burkina Faso, Senegal and Yemen
  - NGOs use in Central Asia and Central Africa

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36 INDICES TO MEASURE AGROLOGICAL PRACTICES

DIVERSITY
Crops
Animals
Trees (and other perennials)
Economic activities, products and services
SYNERGIES
Crop-livestock-aquaculture integration
Soil-plants system management
Integration with trees (agroforestry, silvopastoralism…)
Connectivity between elements
EFFICIENCY
Use of external inputs
Management of soil fertility
Management of pests & diseases
Productivity and household's needs
RECYCLING
Recycling of biomass and nutrients
Water saving
Management of seeds and breeds
Renewable energy use and production

RESILIENCE
Stability of income/production + capacity to recover
Existence of social mechanisms to reduce vulnerability
Environmental resilience + capacity to adapt to climate change
Average score of the element of Diversity
CULTURE & FOOD TRADITIONS
Appropriate diet and nutrition awareness
Local or traditional (peasant/indigenous) identity & awareness
Use of local varieties/breeds and traditional knowledge
CO-CREATION & SHARING OF KNOWLEDGE
Social mechanisms for the horizontal creation and transfer
Access to agroecological knowledge and interest of producers
Participation of producers in networks and grassroot org.
HUMAN & SOCIAL VALUES
Women's empowerment
Labour (productive conditions, social inequalities)
Youth empowerment and emigration
Animal welfare [if applicable]
CIRCULAR & SOLIDARITY ECONOMY
Products and services marketed locally (or with fair trade)
Networks of producers, link with consumers, intermediaries
Local food system
RESPONSIBLE GOVERNANCE
Producers' empowerment
Producers' organizations and associations
Participation of producers in governance of land + nat. resources

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MEASURING PERFORMANCE OF AGROECOLOGY

Dimension	#	Core criteria	Proposed method of assessment in survey
Governance	1	**Secure land tenure (mobility for pastoralists)**	Type of tenure over land: property, lease + duration, verbal, not explicit (SDG 1.4.2, 5.a.1 and 2.4.1 sub-indicator 11) Existence and use of pastoral agreements and mobility corridors
Economy	2	**Productivity**	Gross output value per hectare (SDG 2.4.1 sub-indicator 1) Gross output value per person
	3	**Income**	Income from crops +animals +other activities +subsidies –inputs –operating expenses –depreciation –taxes –interests (SDG 2.4.1 sub-indicator 2)
	4	**Added value**	Gross output value –depreciation –expenditures for inputs
Health & nutrition	5	**Exposure to pesticides**	Quantity applied, area, toxicity and existence of risk mitigation equipment and practices
	6	**Dietary diversity**	Minimum Dietary Diversity for Women - FAO & FHI (2016)
Society & Culture	7	**Women's empowerment**	Abbreviated Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index, A-WEAI (IFPRI, 2012)
	8	**Youth employment**	Access to jobs, training, education or migration (SDG 8.6.1)
Environ-ment	9	**Agricultural biodiversity**	Relative importance of crops varieties, livestock breeds, trees and semi-natural environments on farm (SDG 2.4.1 sub-indicator 8.1, 8.6 and 8.7)
	10	**Soil health**	SOCLA method, based on 10 sub-indicators (Nicholls et al., 2004)

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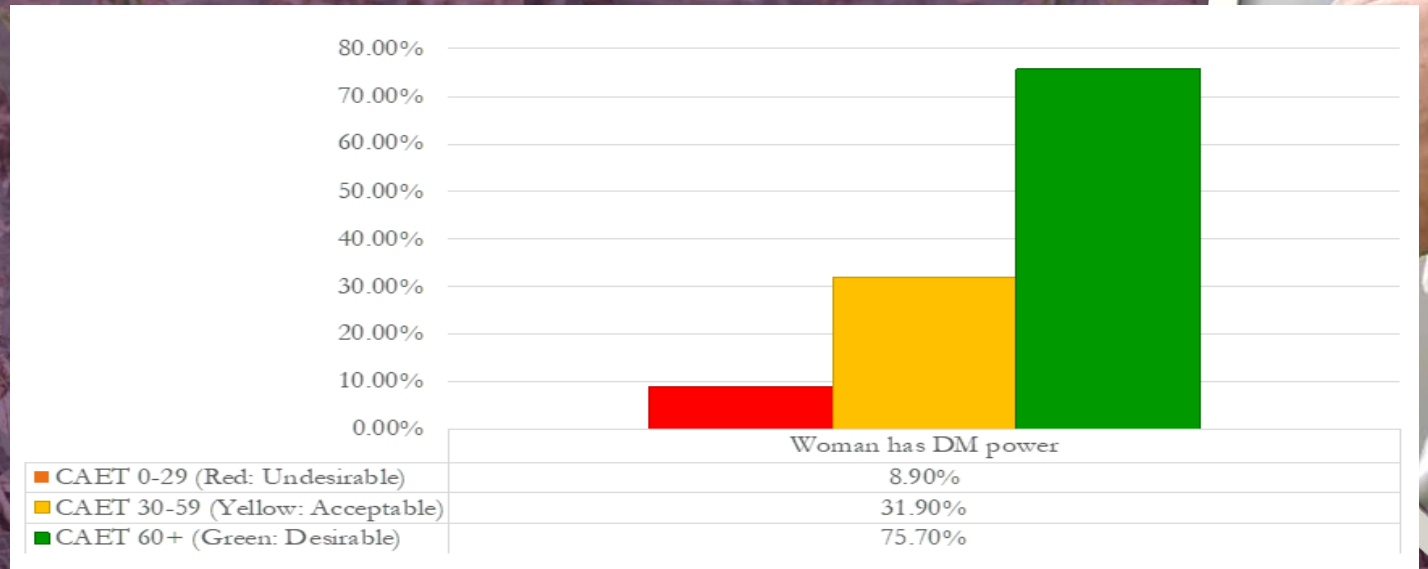
EXAMPLE FINDINGS: ETHIOPIA

Farms that have effectively transitioned to agroecology (scores of 60 and above) have the highest percentage of women with decision-making abilities (75.70%) compared to farms that do not engage in a desirable level agroecological practices (31.90%: Yellow vs 8.90%: Red).



	Woman has DM power
CAET 0-29 (Red: Undesirable)	8.90%
CAET 30-59 (Yellow: Acceptable)	31.90%
CAET 60+ (Green: Desirable)	75.70%

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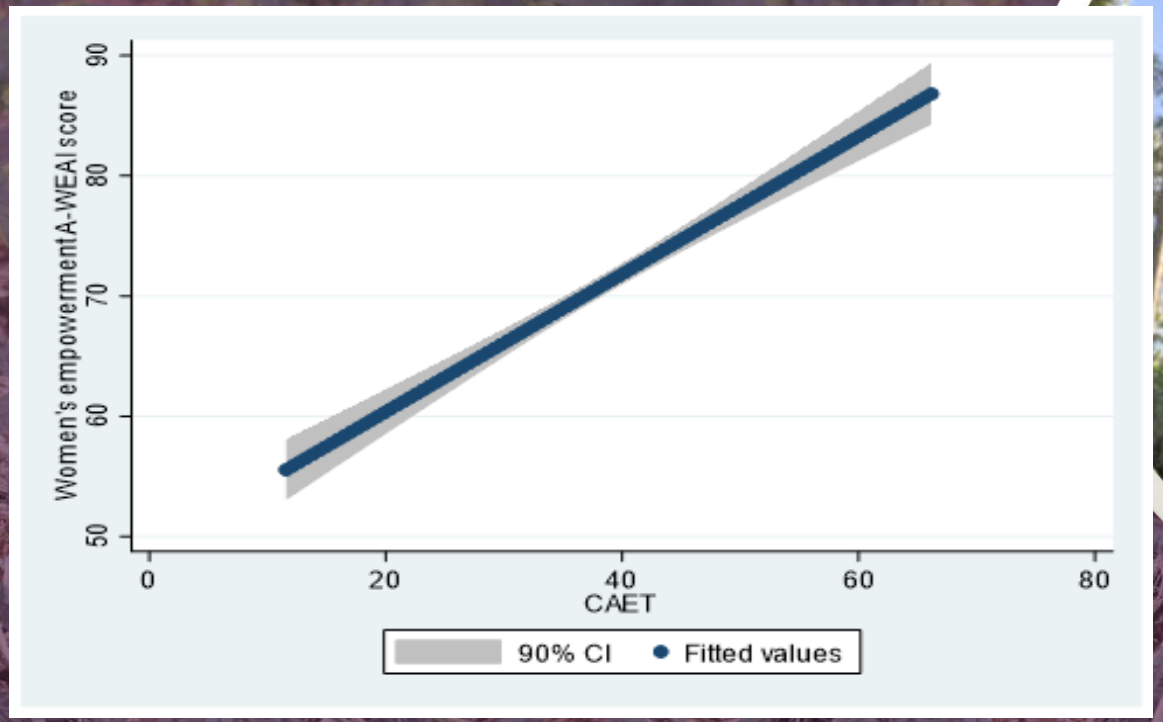
EXAMPLE FINDINGS: ETHIOPIA, cont'd

Successful transitions to agroecology are highly correlated with the desirable levels of women's empowerment



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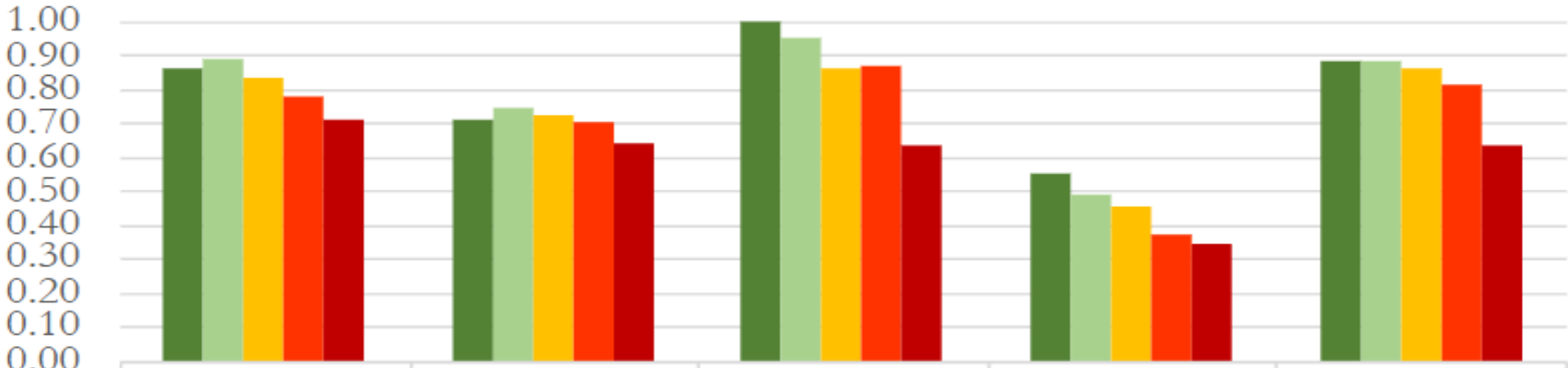
EXAMPLE FINDINGS

Regardless of levels of transition to agroecology, women have the lowest empowerment scores in the indicator of 'leadership in the community' and highest in 'control over income', with little variability in the indicator of 'access to and decisions about resources'. Some negative impacts on time use.



	Productive decisions	Access to and decision-making about resources	Control over income	Leadership in the community	Time use
CAET score 60-70	0.86	0.71	1.00	0.55	0.88
CAET score 50-60	0.89	0.74	0.95	0.49	0.88
CAET Score 40-50	0.83	0.72	0.86	0.45	0.86
CAET score 30-40	0.78	0.70	0.87	0.37	0.81
CAET score <30	0.71	0.64	0.63	0.34	0.63