

**REPUBLIC OF RWANDA**



# **GENDER AND AGRICULTURE**

**GENDER MONITORING OFFICE  
MARCH | 2017**

# GENDER AND AGRICULTURE

Produced with the  
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## INTRODUCTION

The Government of Rwanda has made strong political commitment to accelerating the promotion of gender equality. The elaboration of the agriculture gender strategy and its implementation demonstrates such commitment and the will to mainstream gender in all programs and strategic interventions within the Agriculture sector.

The Agriculture sector remains a priority sector as a backbone of the Rwandan Economy, employing 67.6% of population with women representing 79.1% (EICV 4, 2013/14). Figures clearly highlight the enormous contribution of women as key producers for both their families, market and the country in general.

The present compilation is guided by key selected indicators to measure the progress made by the Government of Rwanda in promoting gender accountability within the Agriculture Sector. The used information is sourced from national different surveys and administrative data from line Ministries and Agencies. It considers data of different periods of time to build an initial baseline on selected indicators.

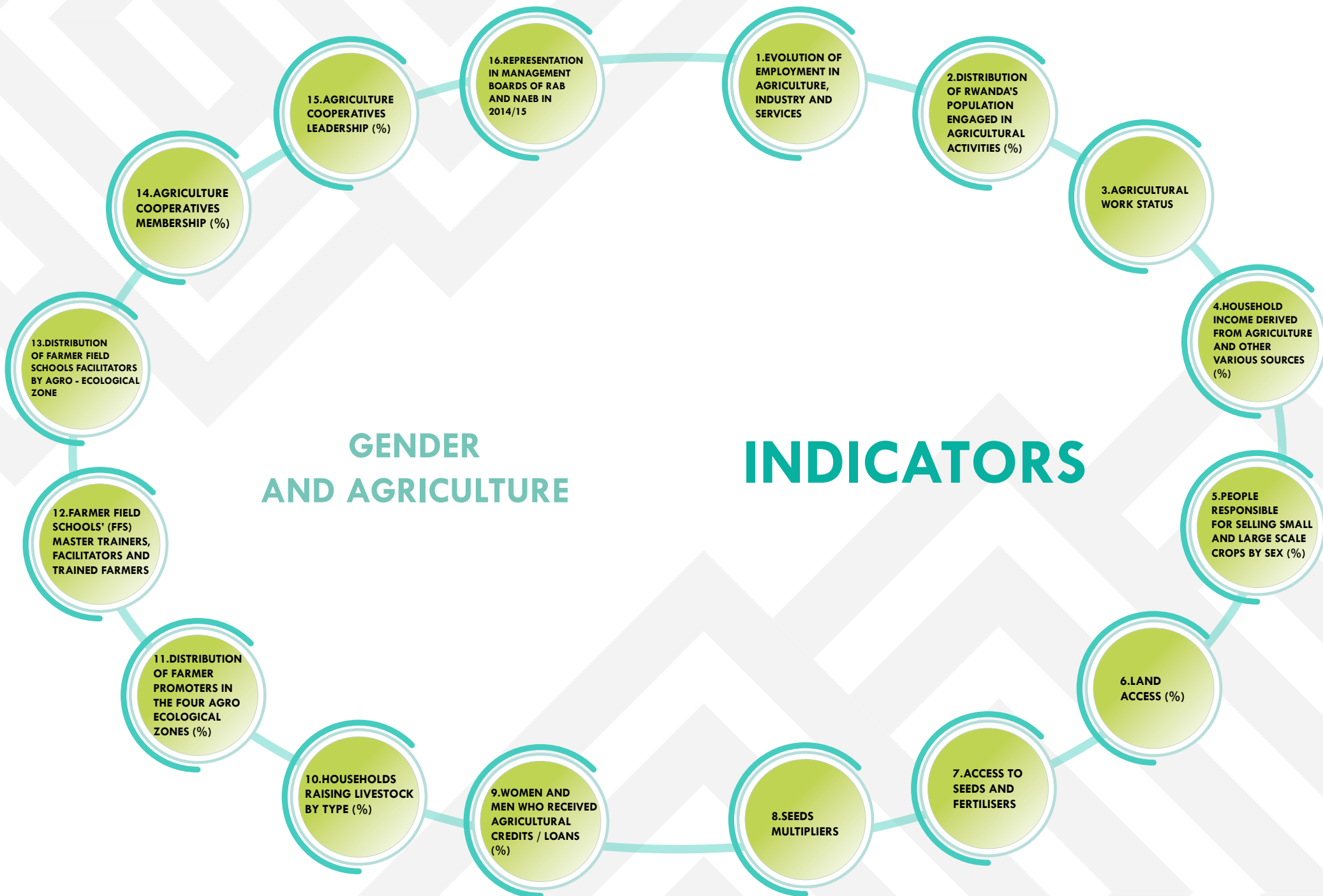
This booklet is an important tool highlighting registered key achievements and also indicates persisting gaps to inform policy makers and other stakeholders on critical future programming and intervention.

Gender Monitoring Office is indebted to all partners who greatly contributed to this process, and recognizes the technical support of UN Women and contribution of ONE UN and the Embassy of Sweden in Rwanda for providing resources that enabled the development of this booklet.



## GENDER AND AGRICULTURE

# INDICATORS



## RWANDA POLICIES, STRATEGIES AND LAWS ON GENDER AND AGRICULTURE

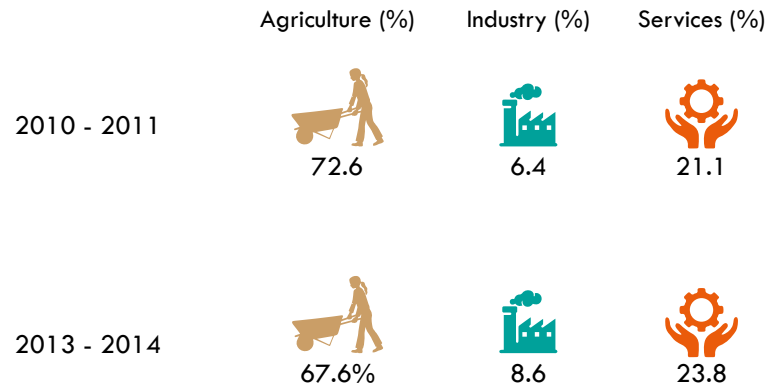
The Government of Rwanda has expressed its continued commitment to promote gender equality through enactment of laws, development of policies and strategies, as well as ratification and domestication of international commitments that promote gender equality in agriculture sector. The realized gender achievements in the sector were as a result of the following key frameworks:

- Rwanda Vision 2020: The Vision established the modernisation of agriculture and animal husbandry as one of its pillars supporting the aspirations of building a diversified, integrated, competitive and dynamic economy.
- Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy (EDPRS II, 2013 -2018): Focuses on increased productivity of agriculture that engages the vast majority of the population and ensures sustainable poverty reduction for both men and women.
- Strategic Plan for the Transformation of Agriculture (PSTA3): The plan provides that intensification and commercialisation of Rwandan agricultural sector will be essential to reduce poverty and drive growth. Additionally strategies to address key gender issues within the sector were outlined by the plan.
- The Agriculture Gender Strategy (2010): Guides the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources (MINAGRI), its agencies and partners to effectively mainstream gender in their programs and interventions.
- National ICTRAg Strategy (2016-2022): The strategy envisages to achieve agricultural productivity through the use of ICT. The inclusion of ICT initiatives for women is one of its guiding principles.

- Organic Law N° 12/2013/OL of 12/09/2013 on State Finances and Property: Enforces accountability on financing for gender equality and provides for mandatory gender responsive planning and reporting through Gender Budget Statements.
- Law Governing Matrimonial Regimes, Donations and Successions (2016): Provides for equal rights and responsibilities over the management of familial properties and also allows both boys and girls to inherit their parent properties.
- Law Governing Land in Rwanda (2013): Guarantees equal rights on land access, ownership and utilization for both male and female.

# GENDER AND AGRICULTURE

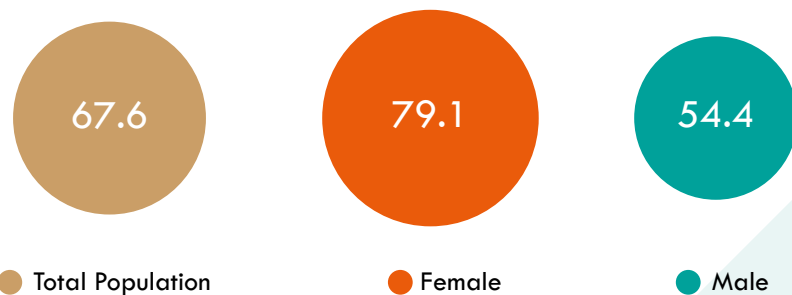
## 1. Evolution of Employment in Agriculture, Industry and Services



Source: EICV4, 2013/14

Agriculture sector provides most of the employment opportunities for men and women.

## 2. Distribution of Rwanda's Population Engaged in Agricultural Activities (%)

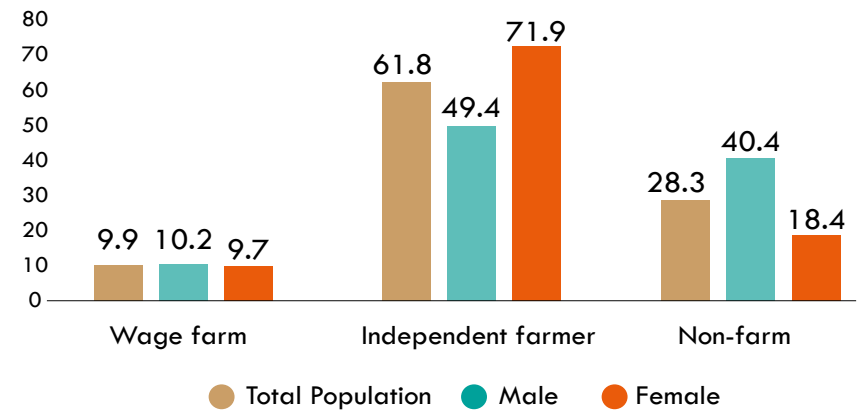


Source: EICV4, 2013/14

Female are more involved in agriculture compared to male, and most of them are in subsistence agriculture.

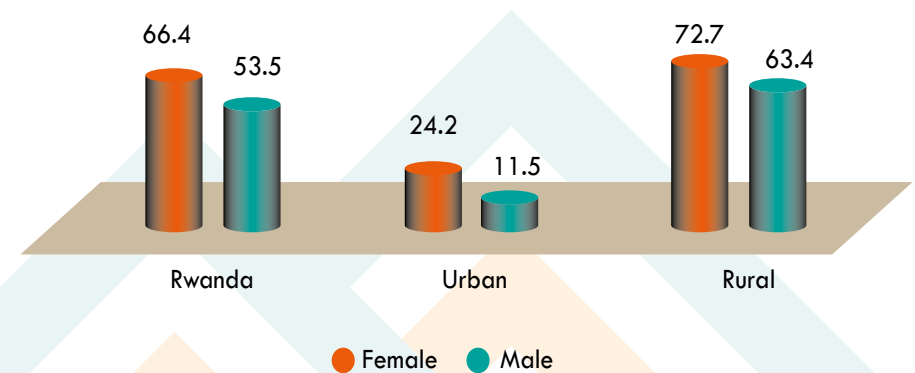
## 3. Agricultural Work Status

### i. Agriculture Work Status by Category (%)



Source: 4<sup>th</sup> Rwanda Population and Housing Census, 2012

### ii. Self-Employed in Agriculture (%)



Source: 4<sup>th</sup> Rwanda Population and Housing Census, 2012

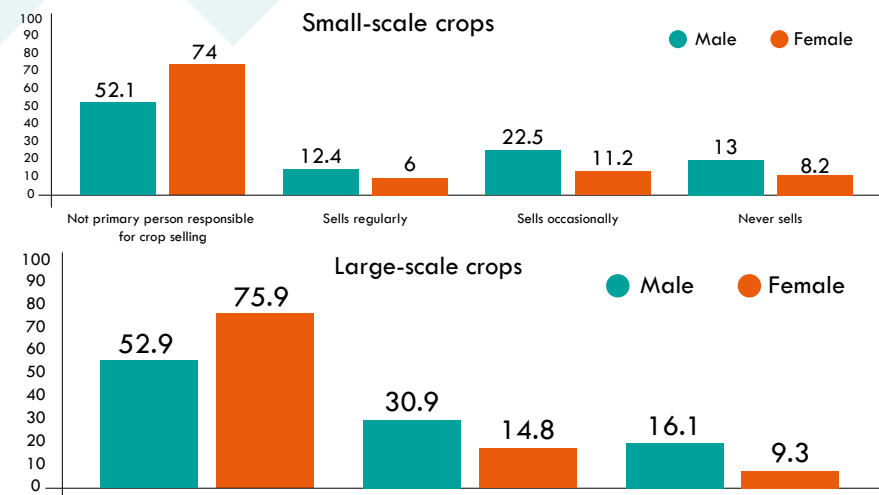
#### 4. Household Income Derived from Agriculture and Other Various Sources (%)

Income sources	Male-headed Households	Female-headed Households	De facto female-headed	All Rwanda
<b>Agriculture</b>	<b>44.2</b>	<b>49.8</b>	<b>43.2</b>	<b>45.7</b>
Wages	27.2	19.3	32.0	25.3
Business income	11.8	7.8	8.5	10.5
Public transfers	2.9	4.0	2.8	3.2
Private transfers	6.0	9.3	5.7	6.9
Rents	7.9	9.7	7.8	8.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: 4<sup>th</sup> Rwanda Population and Housing Census, 2012

Women receive more income from agricultural activities compared to other sources of income.

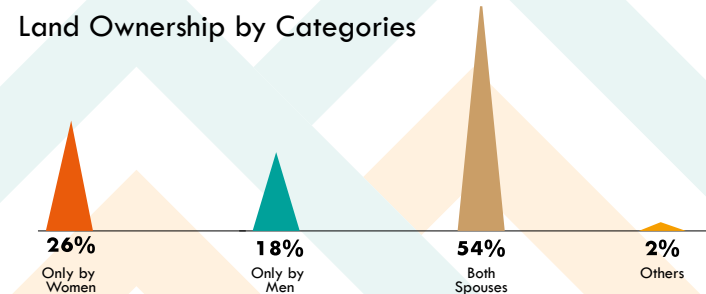
#### 5. People Responsible for Selling Small and Large Scale Crops by Sex (%)



Source: 4<sup>th</sup> Rwanda Population and Housing Census, 2012

Gender inequalities are persistent in selling of agricultural produce where males remain the responsible persons to sell agricultural produce both for small-scale and large-scale crops.

#### 6. Land Access (%)



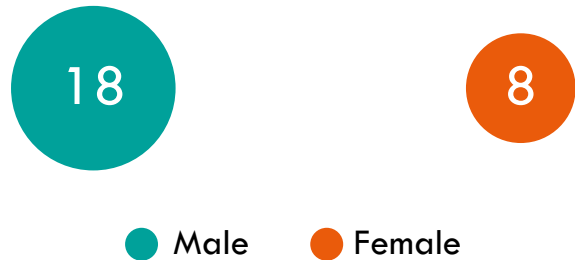
Source: EICV4 2013/14

Women's access to land tremendously contributed to their control over productive resources and access to loans using land as collaterals.

## 7. Access to Seeds and Fertilisers

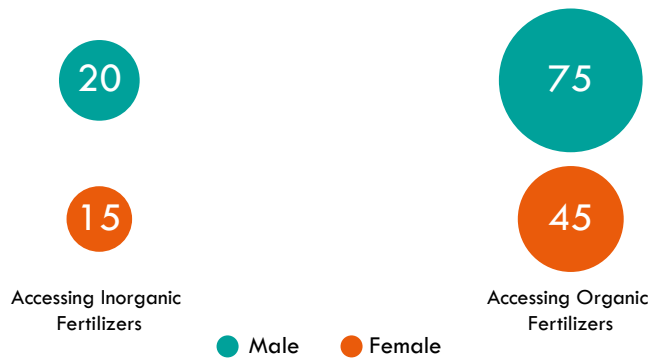
The access to and use of improved seeds and inorganic fertilizers is one of the factors contributing to the increase of agricultural products in Rwanda.

### i. Access to Seeds (%)



Source: National Agriculture Survey, 2013

### ii. Access to Fertilizers (%)

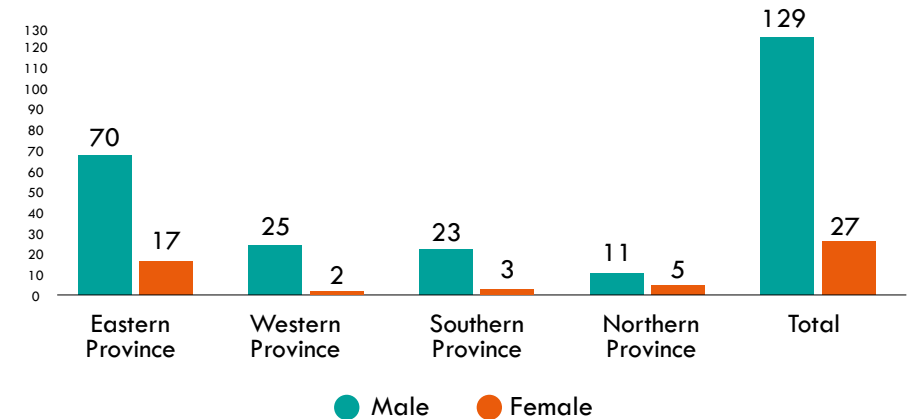


Source: National Agriculture Survey, 2013

Women continue to have limited access to agricultural inputs including fertilizers. The limited land size prevents them from being eligible to the fertilizers' subsidy programme.

## 8. Seeds Multipliers

### i. Number of Individual Seeds Multipliers by Province

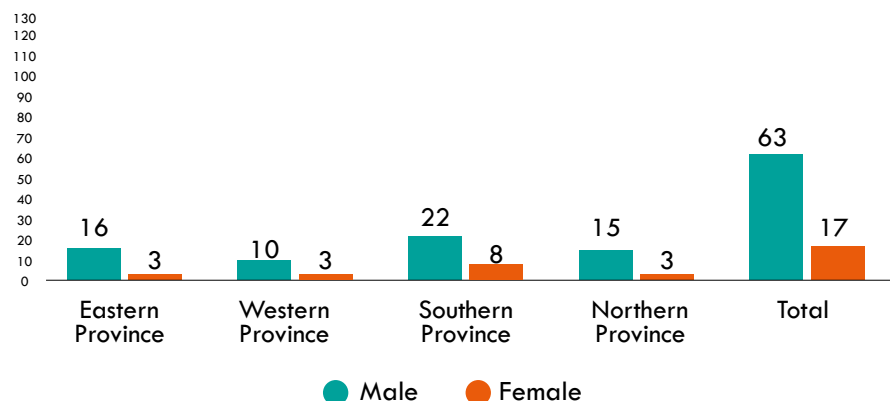


Source: RAB, Administrative Data, 2014

Women are less involved in seeds multiplication due to limited land size, capital and modern agricultural skills.



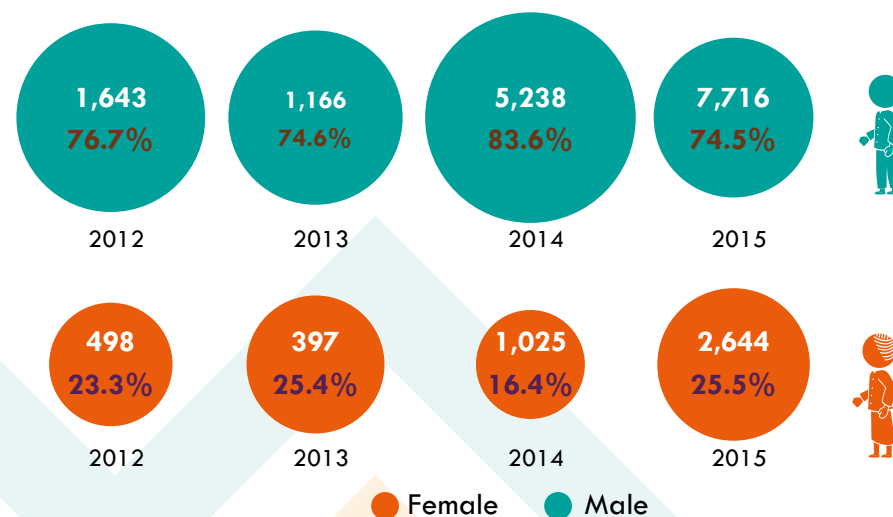
## ii. Number of Seeds Multiplier Cooperatives Headed by Male and Female



Source: RAB, Administrative Data, 2014

Regardless of the point that women are the majority in agriculture sector, when it comes to the number of seeds multipliers the proportion of male farmers outweighs that of female. Furthermore, there are very few women-led seeds multiplier cooperatives in comparison to those headed by men.

## 9. Women and Men who Received Agricultural Credits / Loans (%)



Source: BNR, Financial Stability Directorate, Administrative Data, 2016

Although the majority of Rwandans, especially women, are employed in the agriculture sector, their access to credits/loans remain limited. In addition, figures above highlight that the big share of credits/loans disbursed in agriculture is spread among men farmers.

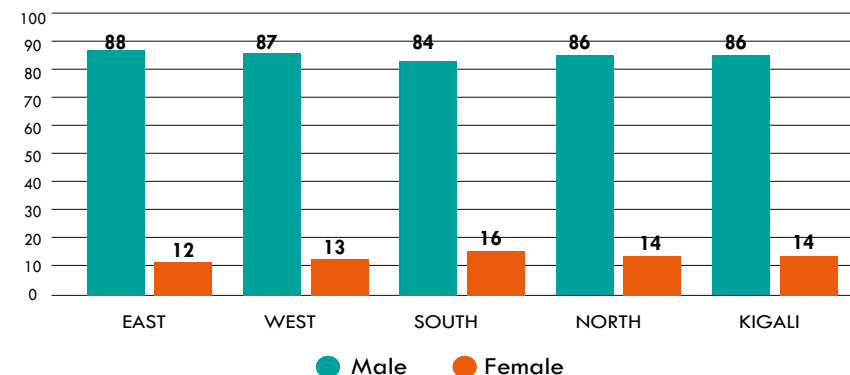
## 10. Households Raising Livestock by Type (%)

Type of livestock	Sex of Household Head		All Rwandans
	Male	Female	
Cattle	51	40	47
Sheep	17	14	16
Goats	52	54	53
Pigs	26	21	24
Rabbits	23	22	23
Chickens	48	41	46
Other livestock	9	8	9
Total livestock	70	65	68.2

Source: 4<sup>th</sup> Rwanda Population and Housing Census, 2012

Ownership of livestock by women is relatively high countrywide even though it is still low compared to that of men. This is recorded as an achievement since in many decades before women never used to own assets like livestock and land.

## 11. Distribution of Farmer Promoters in the Four Agro - Ecological Zones (%)



Source: RAB, Administrative Data, 2014

## 12. Farmer Field Schools' (FFS) Master Trainers, Facilitators and Trained Farmers

	FFS Master Trainers			FFS Facilitators			Trained Farmers		
	TOTAL	M	F	TOTAL	M	F	TOTAL	M	F
Number	44	25	19	2,547	1,671	876	96,856	50,365	46,491
Percentage	100	57	43.1	100	66	34.4	100	52	48

M Male F Female

Source: RAB, Administrative Data, 2014

Womens heavy workload including households chores combined with their limited mobility, household power relations and competing reproductive work are among the key factors that hinder women's effective participation in agricultural programs such as extention services and trainings

### 13. Distribution of Farmer Field Schools Facilitators by Agro - Ecological Zone

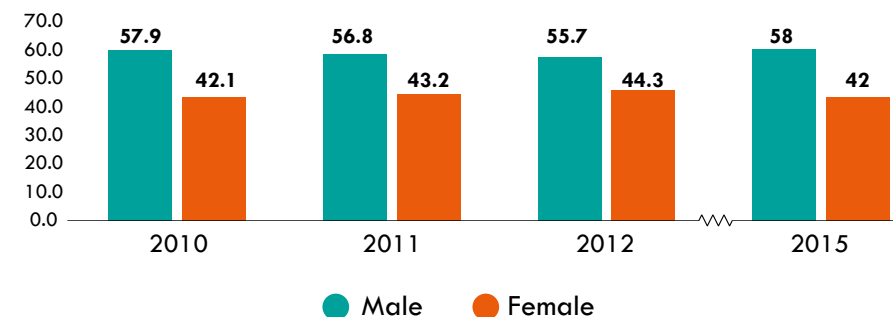
CROP/	SOUTH		NORTH		WEST		EAST	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Wheat	30	14	30	19	34	16	-	-
Potato	73	35	77	46	56	37	-	-
Cassava	102	25	40	16	56	21	71	23
Tamarillo (lbinyomoro)	1	1	59	25	72	15	-	-
Maracuja	6	3	17	4	13	1	-	-
Maize	13	7	13	4	14	8	7	27
Rice	23	12	2	1	13	5	18	35
Banana	113	21	212	28	60	19	120	64
Soybean	44	23	10	7	12	3	22	48
Tomato	6	3	2	2	8	3	3	18
Vegetables	-	-	24	25	-	-	-	-
Livestock	19	11	17	12	24	3	30	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>430</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>503</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>229</b>
<b>Percentage</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>46</b>

M Male F Female

Source: RAB, Administrative Data, 2014

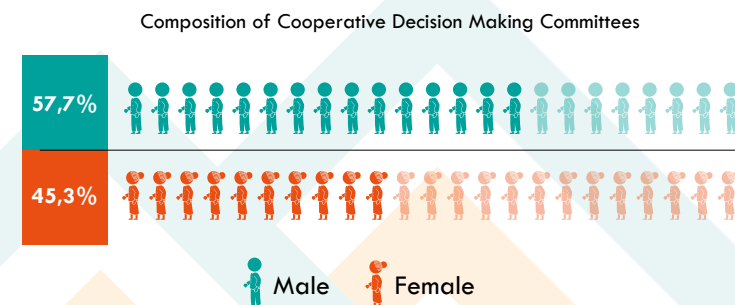
There is a gender disparity in Farmer Field Schools facilitators due to, among others, limited gender responsive mobilisation and mobility that continue to hinder women's participation.

### 14. Agriculture Cooperatives Membership (%)



Source: RCA, Administrative Data, 2016

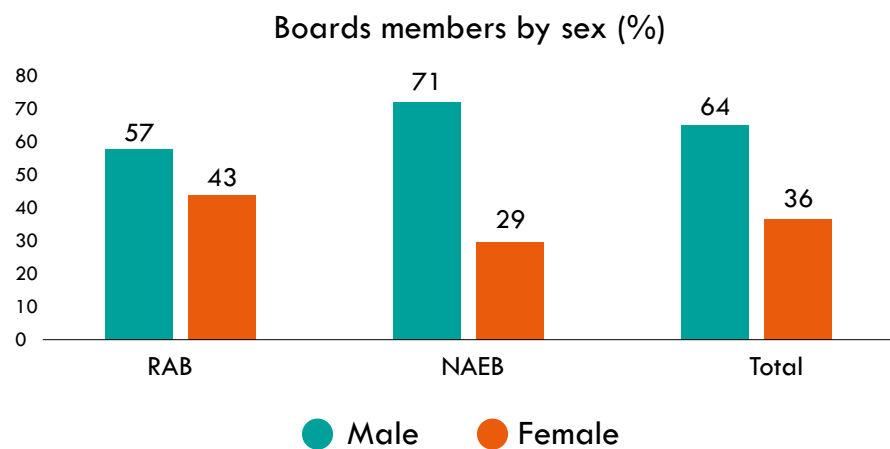
### 15. Agriculture Cooperatives Leadership (%)



Source: RCA, Administrative data, 2013

When it comes to decision, making men are the ones to take high leadership positions including chairpersonship, presidency and other related posts. Women take over subordinate and stereotyped posts such as the vice presidency, secretariat and treasury which have limited advantages in terms of decision making and access to opportunities such as information and trainings.

## 16. Representation in Management Boards of RAB and NAEB in 2014/15 (%)



Source: MINAGRI, Administrative Data, 2015

## KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Initiate strategic measures such as specific programmes/projects aimed at promoting women in agriculture in order to help them gradually shift from subsistence farming to a market oriented agriculture.
2. Strengthen the capacity of women in entrepreneurship skills in agribusiness, seeds multiplication and other arising agriculture opportunities.
3. Establish specific programmes/projects promoting gender in agriculture and climate change adaptation mechanisms that would help women to access climate smart technologies and information, and increase women's access to and control of farm inputs.
4. Devise measures that will support the increase of female Farmer Field School master trainers, facilitators, trained farmers, and adopt effective measures to facilitate women's access to and control of agricultural inputs and loans.
5. Strengthen the capacity and enhance the skills of MINAGRI Senior Management, planners, agronomists, M&E Officers and key actors in the sector to ensure that gender mainstreaming within the sector is well guided.
6. Facilitate development of gender sensitive data collection and analysis tools for agricultural surveys and assessments.
7. Assess women's capacity to embrace the use of advanced agricultural technologies such as irrigation pipes and agricultural machines among others, and advise on appropriate measures to be taken.





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