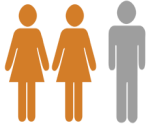


# Women Livestock Keepers - Making Progress

## THE ISSUE

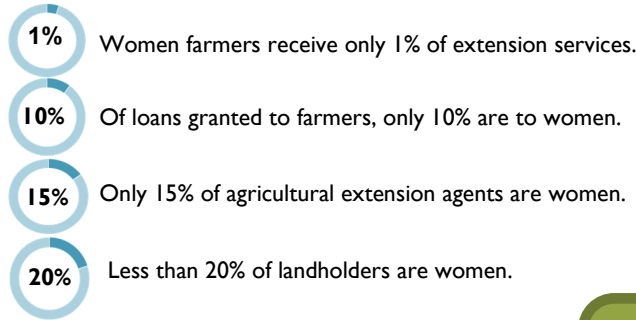


**Two-thirds** of poor livestock keepers are **women**.<sup>1</sup>

Women often have less access to markets than men, **reducing** their access and control over **income** generated from livestock.<sup>2</sup>



Women often have **less access and control over resources** needed for productive livestock value chains than men do.<sup>1</sup> Across developing countries, on average:



Rural women bear heavy triple burden of **reproductive** (child bearing, rearing and housework), **productive** (including livestock management), and **community** related work.<sup>2</sup>

Cultural and social norms may **limit** women from having **decision-making power** over assets and income.<sup>1</sup>

## THE IMPORTANCE OF EMPOWERING WOMEN

If women farmers had **more equitable** access to resources, crop **yields** could increase by up to **30%** per household and **agricultural output** could increase by **2.5 to 4%**.<sup>3</sup> ...

When women have control over income and assets, **child nutrition, health, and education** are **improved**.<sup>3</sup>



Female vs. male share of income expenditure on their families:



Women are responsible for preparing food for the household; empowering them to make decisions can result in **increased consumption** of more **nutritious foods**, especially animal-source foods.<sup>1</sup>



... these increases could **reduce** the number of **hungry people** in the world by **100-150 million**.<sup>3</sup>



## THE WAY FORWARD

### ASK THE RIGHT QUESTIONS<sup>4</sup>

- Who does what, where, when and why in livestock value chains?
- Who has access and control of resources needed for production and marketing?
- Who benefits from livestock products sold?
- What constraints do women farmers face in realizing a fair share of benefits, including income, from livestock production?
- How is consumption of animal source food products distributed among household members?
- Who in the household makes decisions about the use of income and about nutrition?

### PROVIDE APPROPRIATE INTERVENTIONS<sup>4</sup>

- Improve women's access to technology. Help them obtain information about prices. Connect them with buyers and other marketing groups.
- Increase women's access to affordable loans and help them to align cash flow with expenditure needs.
- Reduce drudgery to minimize time spent on domestic tasks and increase the number of women generating income for the household or provide some leisure time.
- Provide child care options so facilitate women's ability to participate in training opportunities and in labor markets.

Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Livestock Systems

[www.livestocklab.ifas.ufl.edu](http://www.livestocklab.ifas.ufl.edu)

Sources: 1. FAO, 2011a | 2. ILRI, 2010 | 3. FAO, 2011b | 4. Colverson, 2017

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