



Working Group on Socio-Economic Transformation

Successful international examples of socio-economic transformation from a gender perspective

Organized by the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung and the Economic Policy Research Network (EPRN)

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- Registered offices in Bonn and Eschborn
- 2019 business volume of EUR 3.1 billion
- 22,000 employees, almost 70 per cent of whom are national staff
- Work in around 120 countries
- Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development is the overarching framework for international cooperation
- GIZ Rwanda: cca 200 staff
 - ✓ Training and sustainable growth for decent jobs
 - ✓ Peaceful and inclusive societies
 - ✓ Responsibility for planet (climate & energy)
 - ✓ Digitalization and digital economy



Socio-economic transformation: post-COVID-19 recovery



What objectives should be pursued when rebuilding the economy?

What hurdles are there to overcome?

What role should institutions play?

How to tackle the two most pressing issues: climate change and inequality?

Green investments to create jobs and promote socio-economic transformation (1/3)

Rwanda is highly vulnerable to climate change as it is strongly reliant on rain-fed agriculture both for rural livelihoods and for exports of mainly tea and coffee.

Rwanda's priority adaptation actions identified in its Green Growth and Climate Resilient Strategy:

1. In infrastructure

- Integration of climate information in urban infrastructure planning and design
- Establishment of early warning system for disaster response plans
- Relocate households from high risk zones
- Application of climate adapted material and technologies
- Regular maintenance and upgrading of road and drainage infrastructures



Green investments to create jobs and promote socio-economic transformation (2/3)

2. In health

- Increased vector control, increased sanitation
- Improving health care services and accessibility to health care services
- Monitoring of foodborne and waterborne diseases
- Increased childcare services
- Improved nutrition services



Green investments to create jobs and promote socio-economic transformation (3/3)

3. In agriculture

- Broadcast weather forecasts and sowing date recommendations
- Conservation agriculture, inter- or multi-cropping
- Breed new climate smart and nutrient efficient varieties using molecular markers
- Breed and disseminate varieties more resistant to pests and diseases
- Develop new strategies for disease vector control and prevention
- Expand on appropriate irrigation and rain water harvesting technologies
- Incentivize rainwater harvesting and expand investment in water harvesting at settlement and community levels



Making the post-COVID-19 society more inclusive



Drivers of inequality:

- Sharp drop in hours worked worldwide
- Loss of labor income
- Lockdowns have affected low-skilled jobs most
- Structural changes: digitalization

Policies for a greener, smarter and more inclusive recovery

Will there not be a temptation to return to old patterns?

Is there enough money in the state's coffers to finance green investments?

ANSWER:

- Strong institutions
- Technical know-how
- Political will



Greater gender equality boosts economic growth and leads to better development and social outcomes



More women working means

- More growth and stability
 - Higher consumption of goods and services
 - More taxes to finance social and development spending
- Greater diversity that fosters new ideas
- Broader economic development (higher levels of school enrollment for girls)



Ratio of female to male labor force participation rate (%)

Source: World Bank, World Development Indicators

	2000	2019
Low income	78	79
Middle income	66	63
High income	72	78
Rwanda	97	101

Drivers of higher female labor force participation:

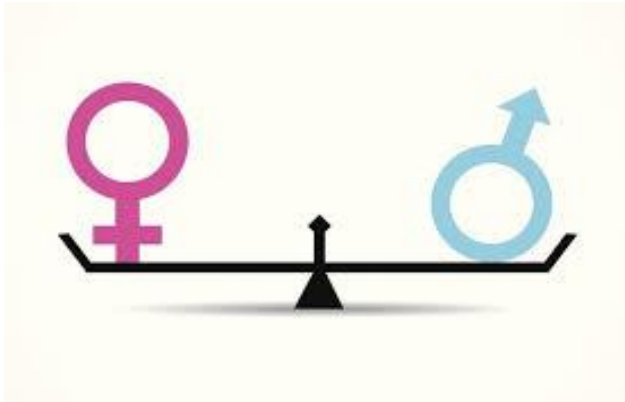
- labor market policies
- structural transformation
- gains in educational attainment
- shifts in social norms

Rwanda – Economic opportunities

% of female / male employment

	2000		2019	
	M	F	M	F
Employment in agriculture	83	94	53	72
Employment in industry	4	1	15	3
Employment in services	13	6	32	26
	100	100	100	100

Challenges in closing the gender gap



- Gender wage gaps are high
- Women more likely than men to work in the informal sector
- Legal restrictions persist
- No protection of labor laws
- No benefits such as pensions or health insurance

What can countries do to reduce poverty and inequality

Advanced economies:

- * Subsidizing the cost of child care
- * Extending paid parental leave
- * Changing the unit of taxation of the personal income tax from household to individuals

Low-income countries

- * Closing gender gaps in education
- * Investing in infrastructure for safe water
- * Cash transfers to low income working women
- * Combating gender bias social norms



Seats held by women in national parliament (%)

Source: World Bank, World Development Indicators

	2000	2019
Low income	12	22
Middle income	12	23
High income	18	29
Rwanda	26	61

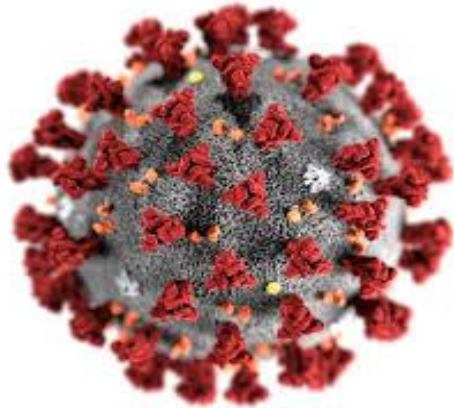


Adolescent fertility rate (births per 1000 women ages 15-19)

Source: World Bank, World Development Indicators

	2000	2019
Low income	128	96
Middle income	54	40
High income	24	13
Rwanda	49	26

Why has COVID-19 pandemics disproportionately effected women and their economic status?



- Social sectors (services industries, retail, tourism) in which women are more likely than men to work are hit hardest
- Teleworking is not an option for many women
- Women tend to do more unpaid household work than men, about 2.7 hours more in average
- After shutdown measures have been lifted, women are slower to return to full employment
- Young girls are forced to drop out of school and work to supplement household income.

Measures to limit the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on women

- * Extending income support to the vulnerable
- * Preserving employment linkages
- * Providing incentives to balance work and family care responsibilities
- * Improving access to health care and family planning
- * Expanding support for small businesses and the self-employed
- * Eliminate legal barriers against women's economic empowerment



THANK YOU!

