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Strengthening the collection and analysis of sex disaggregated data on land ownership in the agricultural censuses

Chiara Brunelli, Adriana Neciu

Statistics Division

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Outline

- Background and Rationale
- Objectives of the Methodological Work
- Main Findings of the Agricultural Censuses Review
- Recommendations for Agricultural Censuses

Background

Women face a surprisingly consistent **gender gap** in terms of access to productive assets, inputs and services.

Such unequal access **hinders women's productivity** and reduces their contributions to the agriculture sector and to the achievement of broader economic and social development goals.

Source: FAO, 2011, the State of Food and Agriculture

Background

Sex-Disaggregated Data (SDD) on access to productive resources are crucial to document the gender gap in agriculture

Data on **land ownership/management** are of primary importance:

- proposed for the Post-2015 Development Agenda
- included in the Minimum Set of Gender Indicators approved by the UN Stat. Commission.

❖ Definitions and data collection tools **require harmonization**

Objectives

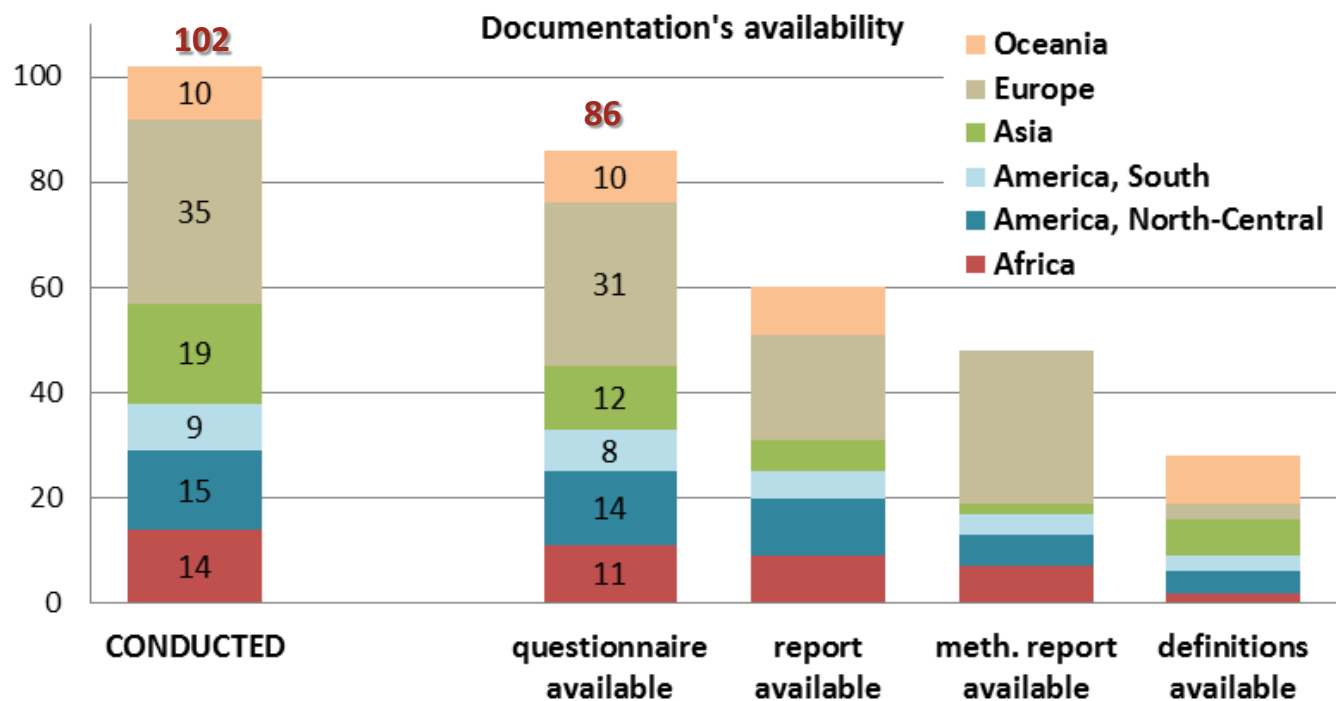
- **Review** methods adopted in the **World Census of Agriculture** (WCA) 2010 round to: i) collect sex-disaggregated data on land ownership/management; ii) operationalize the sub-holder concept
- **Review** approaches adopted by **other survey programmes**
- **Propose guidelines** for gathering sex disaggregated data on land ownership/management, with particular focus on Agricultural Censuses (AC) and Surveys

WCA 2010 Review



102 Agricultural Censuses conducted so far, **42** planned

Since Agricultural Censuses is a large scale operation, some countries have yet to release reports/documentation



WCA 2010 Review

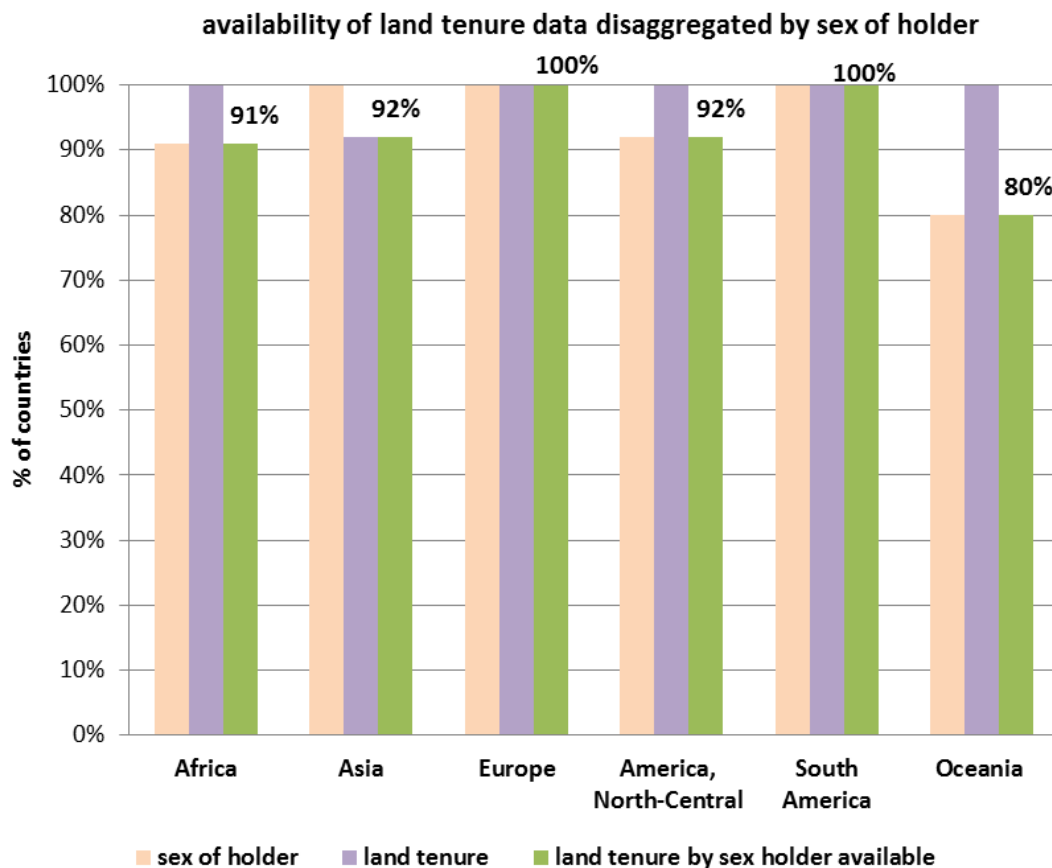


- Focused on the Agricultural Censuses whose **questionnaires** are available to FAO (86 out of 102, 84%)
- Used **land tenure** as proxy of land ownership
- Assessed how the **sub-holder** concept has been used/operationalized by countries in the WCA 2010 round
- Considered **various levels** of data collection
(holding, individual and parcel/plot level)

WCA 2010 Review

At the holding level, land ownership data disaggregated by sex of the holder are available for nearly all the censuses studied, regardless of geographical region.

❖ Yet, holding data alone can't disclose women's role in land management and ownership

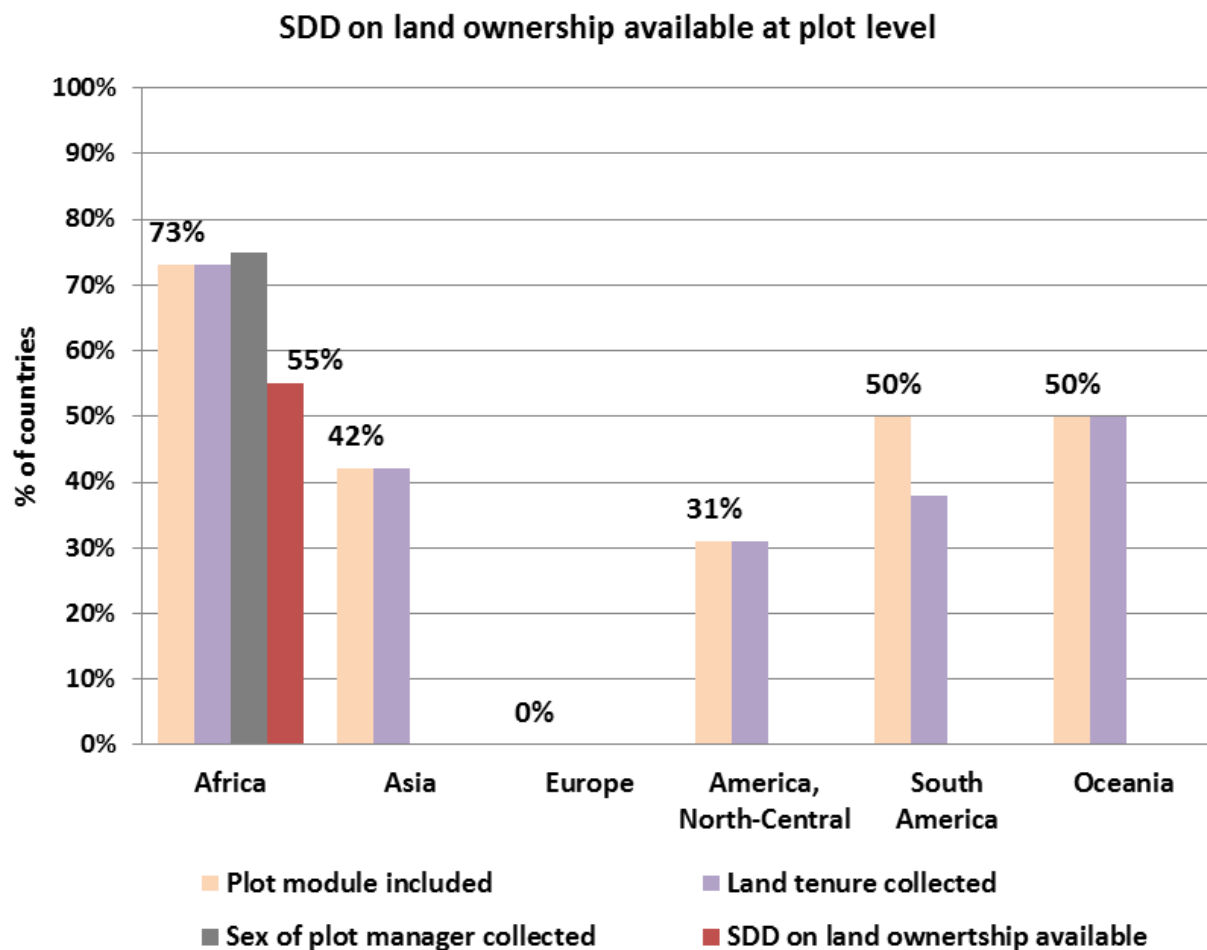


WCA 2010 Review



At **parcel level**, availability of sex-disaggregated on land ownership drops sharply and concentrates only in Africa

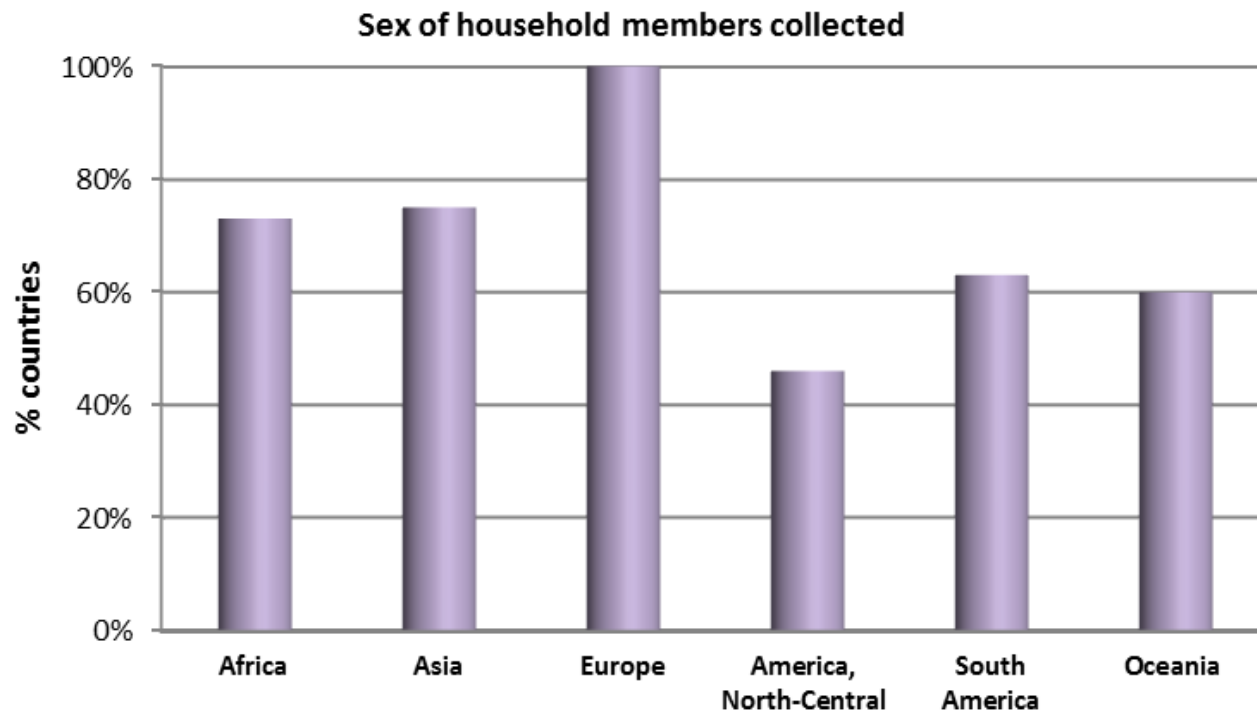
Why?
Rare inclusion of **sex** of the parcel manager, due to complexity of collecting information on parcels



WCA 2010 Review



The sex disaggregated information most commonly collected in the censuses is the sex of household members, usually gathered in the **demographic and social characteristics** part of the questionnaire (Theme 07, WCA 2010)



WCA 2010 Review

- The experience of WCA 2010 shows that the identification of **sub-holdings**, sub-holders and their sex was difficult to implement due to **ambiguous definition** of the concepts proposed in the *Management of the Holding* theme (Theme 12, WCA 2010).
- In the very few countries where the sub-holder concept was used as such (ie., direct questions) **results were difficult to interpret**
- In several countries, especially in Africa, sub-holder became equal to 'plot/parcel manager'

Recommendations: Sub-holder

- The **sub-holder concept** should be **retained as analytical tool**, but direct questions should be avoided.
- Identification of sub-holders (for land) and the collection of SDD on land ownership should rather occur introducing specific questions:
 - in the parcel/plot modules (*Land* theme 01, WCA 2010) and/or
 - in the household member roster (*Demographic and Social Characteristics* theme 07, WCA 2010)

Recommendations: Parcel/Plot level data

- Preferred approach. Why?
 - The analysis benefits from other plot-level data
 - Allows for individual and plot level indicators
- Feasible:
 - 30% of the censuses already includes a plot/parcel module
- Key data for sub-holding identification:
 - Identification of the manager
 - Sex of the manager
 - Type of management (joint / sole)
- Key data for land ownership sex-disaggregated analysis:
 - Land Tenure
 - Joint / sole ownership
 - Identification of the owner
 - Sex of the owner

Recommendations: Parcel/Plot level data

No.	Description	Remarks
0101	Location of parcel/plot	
0102	Area of parcel/plot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For cross-tabulations between land size and sex of manager/owner
+	Value of parcel/plot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Required for wealth gap analysis Item could not be suitable for ACs. Alternatively, community data on land value combined with area of the parcel / plot
+	Identification of parcel/plot manager and forms of management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Required for analysis of management and sub-holder identification Approximation of 'ownership' in the weaker sense of the ownership Issue of joint management may be problematic
+	Sex of parcel/plot manager(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic requirement for gender analysis
0103	Land tenure (of parcel/plot)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To identify the ownership Important to distinguish between legal and illegal ownership
+	Identification of parcel/plot owner and forms of ownership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For estimation of ownership in the stronger sense of ownership Issue of joint ownership may be problematic
+	Sex of parcel/plot owner(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic requirement for gender analysis

Recommendations: individual level data

- **Second preferred option. Why?**
 - The analysis benefits from other individual level data but cannot use additional information on the plots
 - Allows only for individual level analysis
- **Very feasible to implement:**
 - 70% of the ACs already includes a household member roster
- **Key data for sub-holding identification:**
 - Whether the individual manages a parcel/plot
 - Sex of the individual
- **Key data for SDD on land ownership:**
 - Land tenure/ownership
 - Identification of the manager
 - Sex of the manager

[illegible]

Recommendations: Individual level data

No.	Description	Remarks
0711	Sex	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If sex and age are not collected with the household register, it is crucial to collect the number of male and female adults in the household. This can be used as denominator to compute the incidence of female landowners out of total women.
0712	Age	
0713	Relationship to HH head	
+	Whether the individual manages a parcel/plot and types of management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitates the analysis of the gender dimension of land management Help identify sub-holders Issue of joint management may be problematic
+	Whether the individual owns a parcel/plot and type of ownership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For estimation of ownership in the stronger sense of ownership Issue of joint ownership may be problematic
+	Whether the individual has control over the disposal of the agricultural products of parcel/plot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Required to capture the third dimension of ownership (ie., control over the assets) Such item could not be suitable for an agricultural census

Possible indicators

- Proportion of women who manage/own land (out of total women)
 - ❖ By type of management / ownership
- Proportion of women who manage/own land (out of the total land managers/owners)
 - ❖ By type of management / ownership
- Proportion of plots managed/owned by women (out of total plots)
- Gender wealth gap (ie., value of land owned by women over the value of land owned by women and men)

Key questions for discussion

1. Are the proposed data items relevant, realistic and comprehensive?
 - **Plot level** approach
 - **Individual level** approach
2. Is it adequate to retain the **“Sub-holder”** concept **as analytical tool** and collect evidence by including management questions either in the parcel/plot module (theme 1) or household roster (theme 7)?



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Thank you

For more information, please contact:

Chiara Brunelli (chiara.brunelli@fao.org)

Adriana Neciu (adriana.neciu@fao.org)