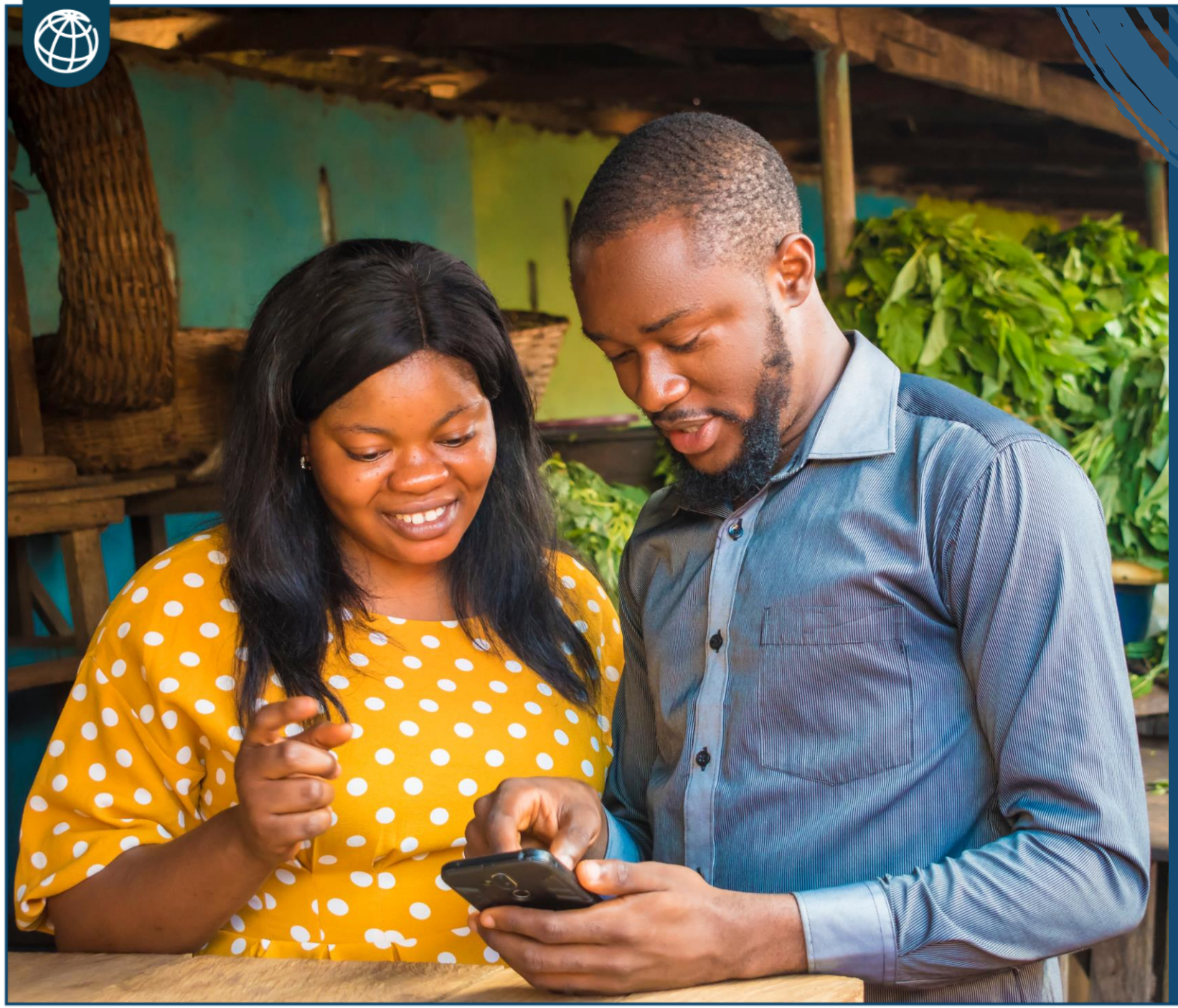

WORLD BANK GROUP

IDA IN FOCUS

How #IDA Works for Gender Equality

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It’s time to do more to unleash women’s potential in IDA countries

Why?

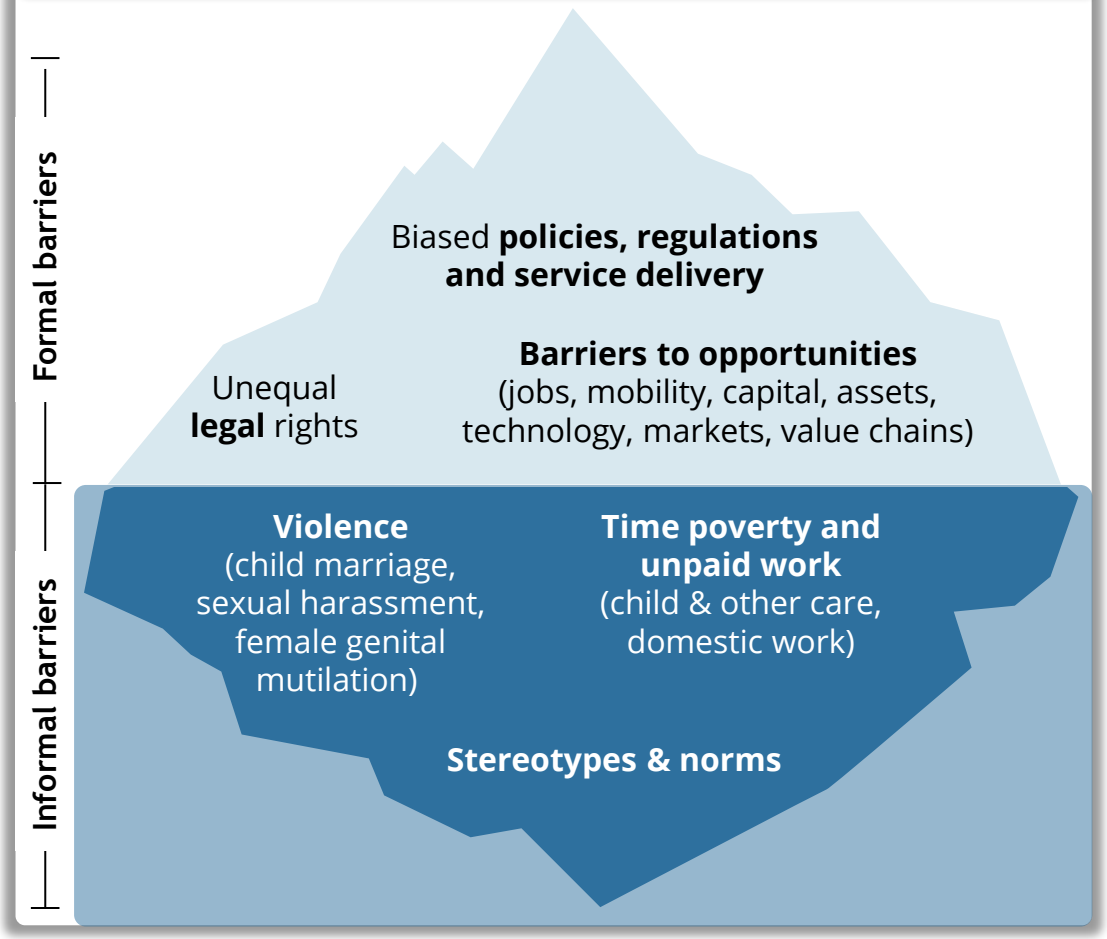
- We cannot end poverty on a livable planet with half the population excluded from opportunity
- When women thrive, countries and communities thrive:
  - **Long-run income per capita would be 20% higher if women were employed at the same rate as men**
  - **Women’s safety and opportunities-- access to jobs, finance, childcare, technology, land, and markets-- boost productivity**
- Women’s leadership improves outcomes, including food security, natural resource management, community resilience & services; children’s health, education and future incomes; profitability in the private sector

Why do we need to do more?

- Progress has been slow, uneven, and sometimes reversed
- Women in IDA countries **still have just 55% of the legal rights of men**
- Women have near equal access to education but fall behind on economic opportunities
- GBV is alarming, spiking in fragility, forced displacement and crises

Unleashing women's potential requires addressing complex and persistent barriers

Complex and persistent barriers limit women's opportunities



Lessons from global experience

Gender equality is unachievable without a **sustained and broad-based** effort involving:

- Changes in **policies and institutions** to address multiple challenges simultaneously
- Changes in **attitudes and social norms**
- **Testing, evaluating and adapting** programs, **scaling** "what works"
- **Government and private sector** ownership & investments

The delivery of the 2016–2023 Gender Strategy benefited from **strong corporate commitments, especially through IDA.**

- IDA policy commitments on gender equality evolved from internal processes to outcomes.
- IDA20 introduced commitments to expand medium- and high-skilled employment opportunities for women, productive economic and digital inclusion, childcare, GBV prevention and response, and to close gender gaps through fiscal policy and budget systems.

How can the WBG make a difference?

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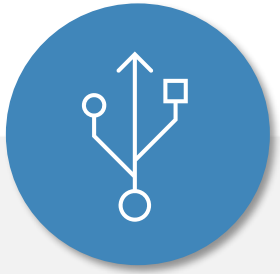
Mobilize concerted action through data, knowledge and advocacy with partners

Assist countries in **institutional and policy reforms**, integrating behavioral change, based on evidence

Replicate and **implement programs at scale**, including through national systems

Facilitate government and private investment for gender equality

The Strategy Commits us to Engage Differently (1/2)



Mobilize concerted action through data, knowledge and advocacy with partners

- **Generate and share global data** (e.g., Women, Business and the Law; Gender Data Portal; Human Capital Index) and promote **data transparency** (e.g., WE Finance Code)
- **Advance knowledge in frontier areas** including testing and evaluating new approaches (e.g., Gender Innovation Labs)
- **Expand partnerships** at global (e.g., UNFPA on SRHR, EU on GBV, We-Fi on entrepreneurship), regional (e.g., WePower, Mashreq Gender Facility, Asian Development Bank) and local levels (e.g., women's organizations, influencers)
- **Use evidence to mobilize action** (e.g., Knowledge Academy)

Assist countries in institutional and policy reforms

- **Strengthen prioritization** of selected gender equality outcomes, starting in "fast-track" countries (including **IDA Countries:** Cabo Verde, Mozambique, Nigeria, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Togo)
- **More systematically support reforms** addressing gender constraints (e.g., through Development Policy Operations, fiscal and sector policy reforms, strengthening national systems)
- **Update analytics** to integrate gender analysis (e.g., in Growth and Jobs CEMs, Public Finance Reviews, Human Capital Reviews)

The Strategy Commits us to Engage Differently (2/2)

Replicate and implement programs at scale

- **Replicate and scale programs** that work, starting with Global Challenge Programs (e.g., digitalization) and Multiphase Programmatic Approaches (e.g., adolescent girls in Africa)
- **Improve results-focus in projects** to address key constraints to gender equality and track outcomes (e.g., WBG Scorecard, WBG Gender Network)
- **Measure and report on progress** including applying WBG Gender Strategy's results framework to IDA countries

Facilitate government and private investment

- **Engage as One World Bank** on gender equality across public and private sector (e.g., coordinated approaches on GBV prevention and women's financial inclusion)
- **Mobilize government and private financing** toward gender equality (e.g., Knowledge Academy, Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability, blended finance, sustainability-linked finance, credit for women–owned MSMEs)

The WBG Gender Strategy 2024-2030 prioritizes key objectives for advancing gender equality

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The strategy has **3 objectives** measured by **6 outcomes:**

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	OUTCOMES
END GENDER BASED VIOLENCE AND ELEVATE HUMAN CAPITAL	1: Progress in ending all forms of gender-based violence 2: Stronger and more resilient human capital
EXPAND AND ENABLE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES	3: More and better jobs, including jobs of the future 4: Greater ownership and use of economic assets 5: Wider access to and use of enabling services
ENGAGE WOMEN AS LEADERS	6: Advances in women's participation in decision-making

We will engage with **greater ambition and differently**.
And we will measure **outcomes.**

We will hold ourselves to account by tracking results

The Strategy's results framework introduces new indicators that emphasize WBG accountability and contributions to outcomes.

SCALE
maximizing our reach

People benefitting from greater gender equality, of which:

a) from actions to make progress in ending all forms of GBV
b) from actions to improve sexual and reproductive health
c) from actions that expand and enable economic opportunities
d) from actions to advance women's participation in decision making

AMBITION
aiming for meaningful impact

- Share of CPFs that include a CPF objective that tracks gender equality results
- Share of World Bank operations that focus on gender equality
- Share of World Bank operations that support institutional and policy reforms to advance gender equality

INCLUSION
ensuring all people benefit

Sex-disaggregated data for 15 WBG Scorecard results indicators across a wide range of outcomes

EFFECTIVENESS
tracking project results

Share of World Bank gender-tagged operations that meet gender equality outcomes at project completion as documented in completion reports

IDA21 is the vehicle to implement the Strategy in IDA Countries

AMBITION. IDA21 brings ambition to implement the WBG Gender Strategy in all active IDA countries in a customized way, with emphasis on institutional & policy reforms and programs at scale on key topics such as GBV, sexual and reproductive health, and economic participation.

FINANCING. Strong IDA21 will provide the resources to implement the WBG Gender Strategy in IDA countries for impact at scale.

ACCOUNTABILITY. Indicators from the WBG Gender Strategy's results framework will be reported annually for IDA countries.

IDA support will help identify and address country gender priorities

For each country client, WBG Gender Strategy implementation with IDA support will deliver the most transformative impact in that setting.

Key components of strategic country engagement:

- Updating and integrating **gender analysis** in core diagnostics and country analytics
- Prioritizing **specific gender equality outcomes** in country strategies and mobilizing financing to support it
- Translating gender equality outcomes into **coordinated country programming** as One WBG and with partners

Example: *Mozambique*

Mozambique is **fast-tracking** implementation of the WBG Gender Strategy

- Country strategy includes focus on improving human capital and women's empowerment
- Engagement aligned with country priorities to ensure equal access to primary education, health and reproductive services, and economic opportunities
- New country engagement approach to widen consultations and partnerships, and promote coordinated approaches to gender equality

Eu Sou Capaz, Mozambique, 2023

Example: *Nigeria*

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Nigeria is **fast-tracking** implementation of the WBG Gender Strategy

- A multi-sector program of analytics and capacity building informed dialogue on family planning, compulsory free education for girls through senior secondary school, and women's economic empowerment
- Two flagship projects on priority topics grew from the analytics and dialogue and are getting results.
  - Secondary school enrollment for girls has increased from 0.9 to 1.6 million
  - 460,000 women have received business grants through self-help affinity groups
  - Policy actions have provided support for GBV prevention and response created a structure to coordinate actions across sectors to expand and enable economic opportunities for women

Annex: Resources

- Piecing Together Gender Equality: Gender, Development, and IDA
- *World Bank Group Gender Strategy 2024-2030: Accelerate Gender Equality to End Poverty on a Livable Planet.*
- Summaries of consultations on the WBG Gender Strategy with over 1,000 representatives from CSOs, governments, academia, the private sector, philanthropies, and development partners from more than 100 countries, along with statements, comments, and insights. Gender Innovation Lab Federation Causal Evidence
- Retrospective on Gender-Based Violence Prevention and Response in World Bank Group Operations
- Retrospective on Gender and Development
- Retrospective of IFC's Implementation of the World Bank Group Gender Strategy 2016-2023
- Thematic Policy Notes:
  - Achieving Gender Equity in Health: Key Areas of Focus Under Universal Health Coverage
  - Increasing Gender Equality in Fragile, Conflict, and Violence Settings
  - Closing Gender Gaps in Transport
  - Achieving Gender Equality in Education: Examining Progress and Constraints
  - Addressing Gender-Based Violence to Accelerate Gender Equality
  - Addressing Care to Accelerate Equality
  - Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) Inclusion and Gender Equality
  - Addressing Social and Gender Norms to Promote Gender Equality
  - Leveraging Gender Data to Accelerate Gender Equality
  - Why Land and Property Rights Matter for Gender Equality
  - Accelerating Gender Equality Through Reforming Legal Frameworks
  - Increasing Women's Representation in Business Leadership
  - Closing Gender Gaps in Earnings
  - Increasing Access to Technology for Inclusion
  - Placing Gender Equality at the Center of Climate Action
  - Increasing Female Labor Force Participation
  - What Works in Supporting Women-led Businesses?


Thank you!
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Acknowledgements and Disclaimers