

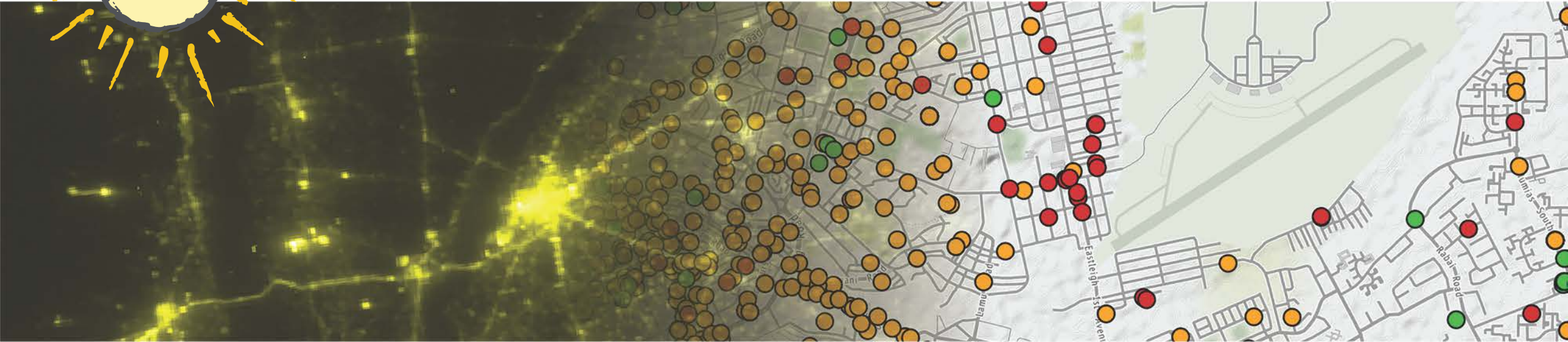


IE CONNECT FOR IMPACT

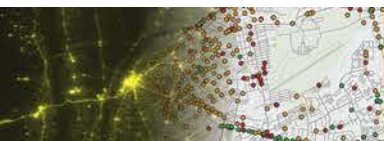
Transforming the Growth Potential
of Transport Investments

Women's Empowerment

Rural Roads Investments in Nicaragua



SDG 5: Gender equality and women's empowerment



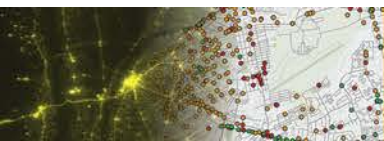
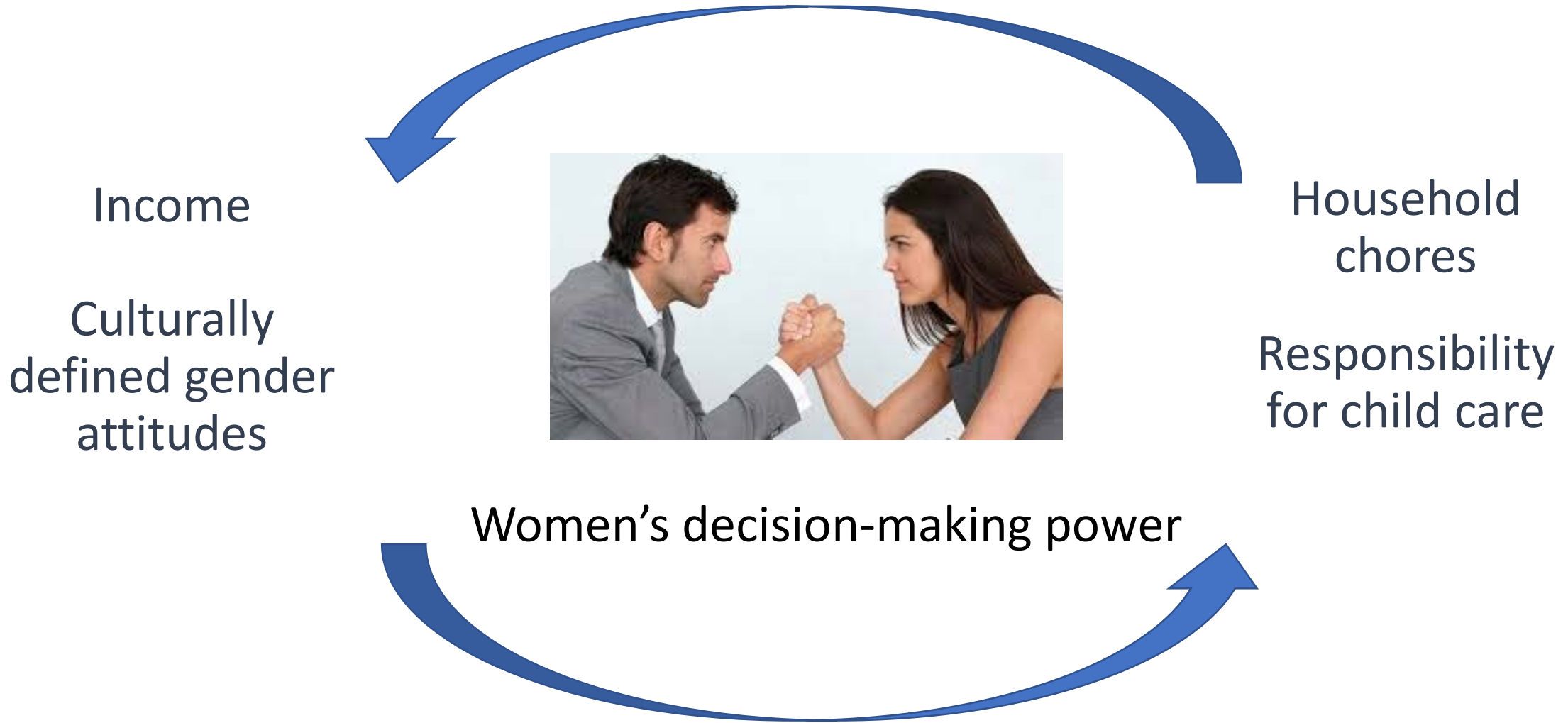
One key source of inequality

Way women are expected to spend their time:

At all level of incomes, women do the majority of housework and care and, correspondingly, spend less time in market work (Duflo, 2012)



Household decisions



Improved Rural Roads

Before



After



Reduced travel time and costs...

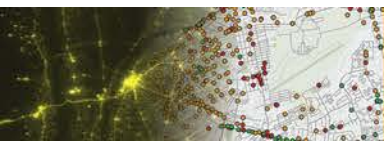
- **TO** production and other facilities
- **TO** labor markets
- **FROM** economic centers

What does this have to do with SDG 5?

Literature discusses effects on ...

- women's income generation opportunities
- social gender norms

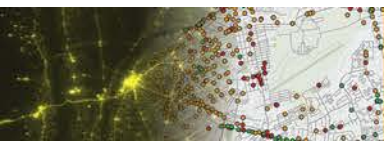
(Khandker et al., 2009; Mu and van de Walle, 2011; Tacoli and Satterthwaite, 2013)



1. Change in income generation opportunities



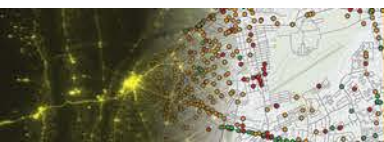
a. Connect women to input and output markets



1. Change in income generation opportunities



b. Connect women to labor markets



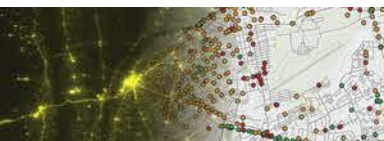
1. Change in income generation opportunities



bad road conditions
vs.
good road conditions



c. Stimulate a more diversified local economy



2. Change in culturally defined gender attributes



Exposure to urban views on the role of women in everyday live

What about *Women's Empowerment*?

Own Income

Favorable
Gender
Attitudes



Changes in time use

Improved decision-making
power

What about *Women's Empowerment*?

Own Income

Favorable
Gender
Attitudes



Improved decision-making
power and control over
household resources

Consumption of female-
oriented durables

Investments in women's...

- education
- health
- businesses

Respectful behavior of
family members...

- fertility
- well-being

Filling the evidence gap

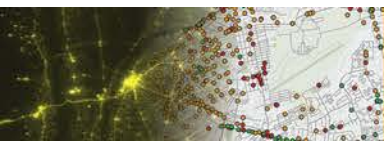
Nice theory of change

Yet, rigorous evidence mostly missing

Possible entry points for complementary interventions

Much work ahead of us!

Thank you!



References

Duflo, E. (2012). Women Empowerment and Economic Development. *Journal of Economic Literature*, 50(4): 1051-1079.

Khandker, S. R., Bakht, Z., & Koolwal, G. B. (2009). The Poverty Impact of Rural Roads: Evidence from Bangladesh. *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, 57(4), 685–722. <https://doi.org/10.1086/598765>

Mu, R., & Walle, D. van de. (2011). Rural Roads and Local Market Development in Vietnam. *The Journal of Development Studies*, 47(5), 709–734. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00220381003599436>

Tacoli, C., & Satterthwaite, D. (2013). Gender and urban change. *Environment and Urbanization*, 25(1), 3–8

