



ACHIEVING FOOD SECURITY (SDG2) THROUGH RURAL WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

Agnes Mirembe, ARUWE
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Agriculture –77% of workers are women

Farming in Uganda is still dominated by smallholder farmers (food and cash crops, horticulture, fishing and livestock farming)

- 25.3 percent of the country's GDP (2012/13).
- 72 percent of the total labor force (formal and informal)
- 77 percent of whom are women
- 63 percent are youth, mostly residing in the rural areas.



SDG 2 – gender dimensions*

- Women are more likely to report food insecurity than men
- Sub Saharan region: highest prevalence of food insecurity
- +50% of the female population is food insecure
- In Uganda, 65.8% women are food insecure
- Poor rural women depend on common pool of natural resources and are gravely affected by their depletion



Gender Barriers

- Women less access and control over **productive resources, land**
- Sexual and gender-based **violence**
- Limited **decision making** in household, community and nationally
- Fewer **agro-inputs, extension services** (training, advice)
- Less access to **financial services, education, information**
- **Childcare responsibilities** (less time and mobility)
- Distance from **markets and roads**: transport their harvest, more easily obtain labor or non-labor inputs



ARUWE – Action for Rural Women’s Empowerment

Our Vision is “A world in which women and youth realize their full social, economic and civic potential”.

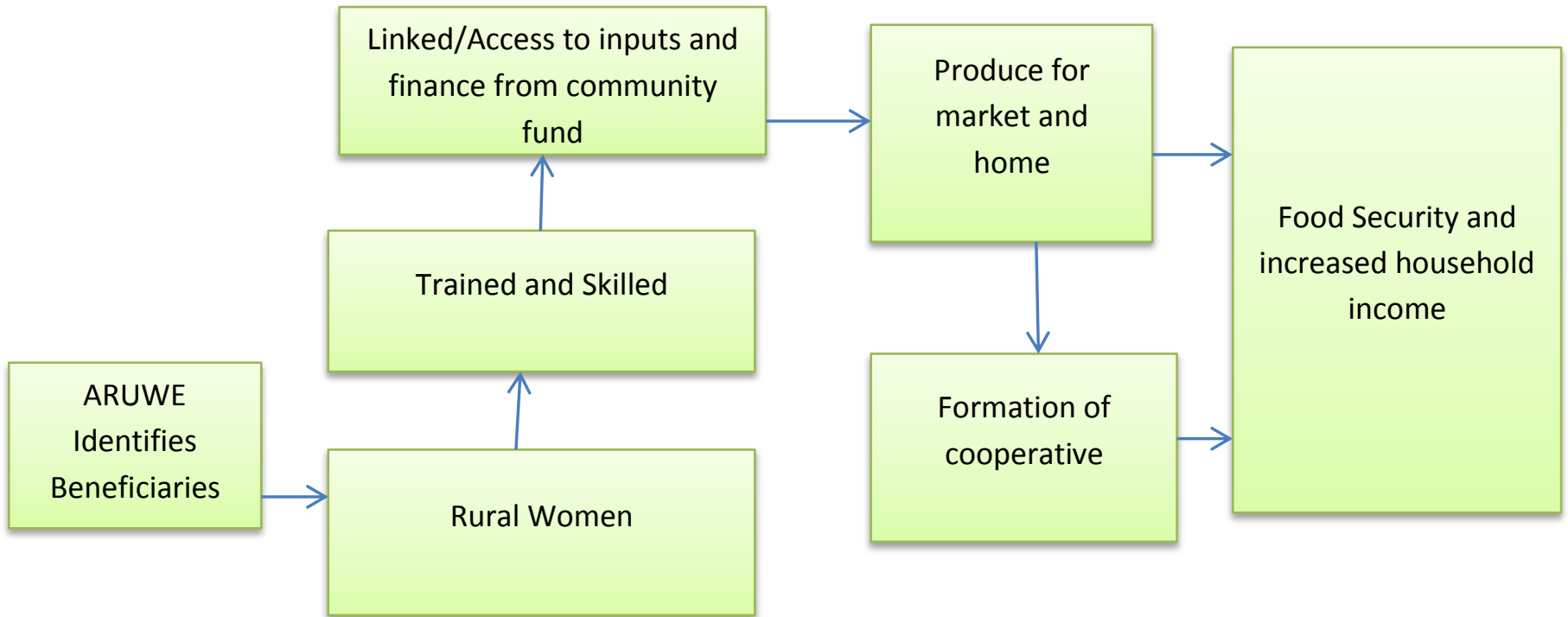
Key figures: 8 districts, 3,000 women beneficiaries, 11 women trainers, 1 micro-credit organisation

Actions:

- 1) promote ownership and control of natural resources especially for women
- 2) technologies, entrepreneurship and access to financial services
- 3) Empower women to engage in policy advocacy and good governance to establish favourable economic policies for women and girls to thrive



Rural Women Farmers program

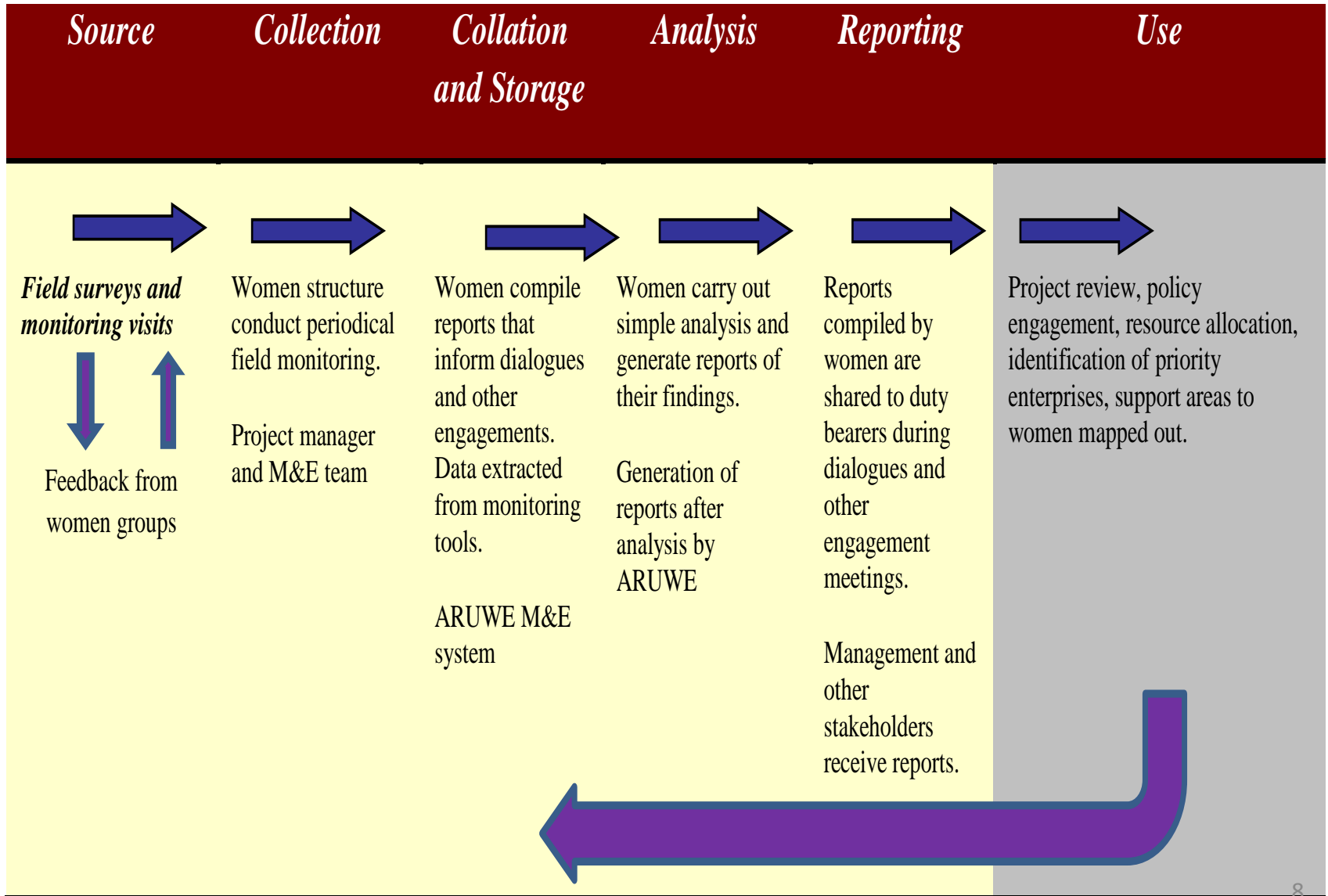


Monitoring, data collection, reporting

- Participatory monitoring, data collection and reporting
- Rural woman leaders have skills to monitor groups members
- Collect gender-responsive data
- Analysis and formulate policy recommendations
- Presentation and dialogue with policy makers



Data flow, Monitoring and Reporting



Kotilda (age 57, 6 dependent children)



- *“I have benefited so much from agriculture loan scheme as well as the trainings in savings mobilization and credit management.*
- *I was supported with a loan of Ugx175, 000 which I used to purchase maize seeds and pay for labour.*
- *I planted 5 acres of maize from which I harvested 56 bags (5,600 Kgs).*
- *I earned Uganda Shillings 4,240,000 after sale.*
- *Because of this increase in income, I am able to take the children back to school with a paid up bank slip.*
- *I have also got money that is going to help me complete my house.*
- *I purchased a book in which I record all my transactions.*
- *ARUWE taught me basic literacy and financial skills: planning, costing and pricing and record management”.*

Benefits of belonging to a group

“Through collective actions such as;

- procurement of farm inputs,*
- group loan guaranteeing,*
- marketing of our produce,*
- self-help group savings,*
- leadership and advocacy for our property and land rights,*

we have achieved what we could not do as individual women.”

Elected into district land boards

“ Through the groups, we have developed our leadership capacity.

Some of us were bold enough to vie for community leadership positions.

We are also happy that one of us, Ms Ganyana was selected to be the chairperson of Kyankwanzi District Land Board.

We would like to see more of our fellow women join us.”

Stats from Monitoring Report

- 60% of rural women farmers confirmed that they need **market access**
- 80% women **rent** land for farming
- 90% require capacity building to be able to benefit from government policies on agriculture and land

Data can feed into SDG process

Indicator	Uses	Stakeholders	Outreach
Appropriate indicators-set based on the intervention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyse planting, harvesting, processing • Identify (gender) gaps requiring support • Tailor made approaches of addressing food insecurity • Value chain approach • Create market linkages • Support to access government agricultural funds • On-going support and mentorship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District Local Governments • Private Sector • Financial Institutions • Education Institutions • Development Partners (CSOs/NGOs) • Policy Makers, Line Ministries • Markets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dissemination of findings • Sharing reports • Present to policy makers • Media • SDG process

Policy Recommendation from Monitoring

- Policy-makers should consider supporting more women into leadership positions for example on land boards
- Effect the land policy that protects that tenants on the land especially women on 'Mailo' land
- Recommend that at least 70% of rural farmers receive part of government funding from the available opportunities i.e.,
 - subsidies on farm inputs
 - extension support
 - direct financing (increase friendly agricultural credit)

Thank You for you Attention



References:

- ARUWE Monitoring reports rural women program (2016)
- National food security Assessment Report (2017)
- Agricultural Policy (2013)
- National Development Plan (NDP II), 2015/16 – 2019/20
- Uganda's Vision 2040