



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

# Developing gender-sensitive dairy value chains

---

Second international meeting on "Milk, vector of development"  
Session 4 - Social and nutritional aspects of milk and dairy products

Rabat, Morocco, 10-12 may 2017

Alejandra Safa

Social Policies and Rural Institutions  
Division



# Why it is important to address gender in dairy value chains?

- Gender equality is an essential dimension of value chain **sustainability**
- Gender equality contributes to:
  - ✔ value chain efficiency
  - ✔ economic growth
  - ✔ distribution of benefits and costs among actors



# Key Facts – women in agriculture

---

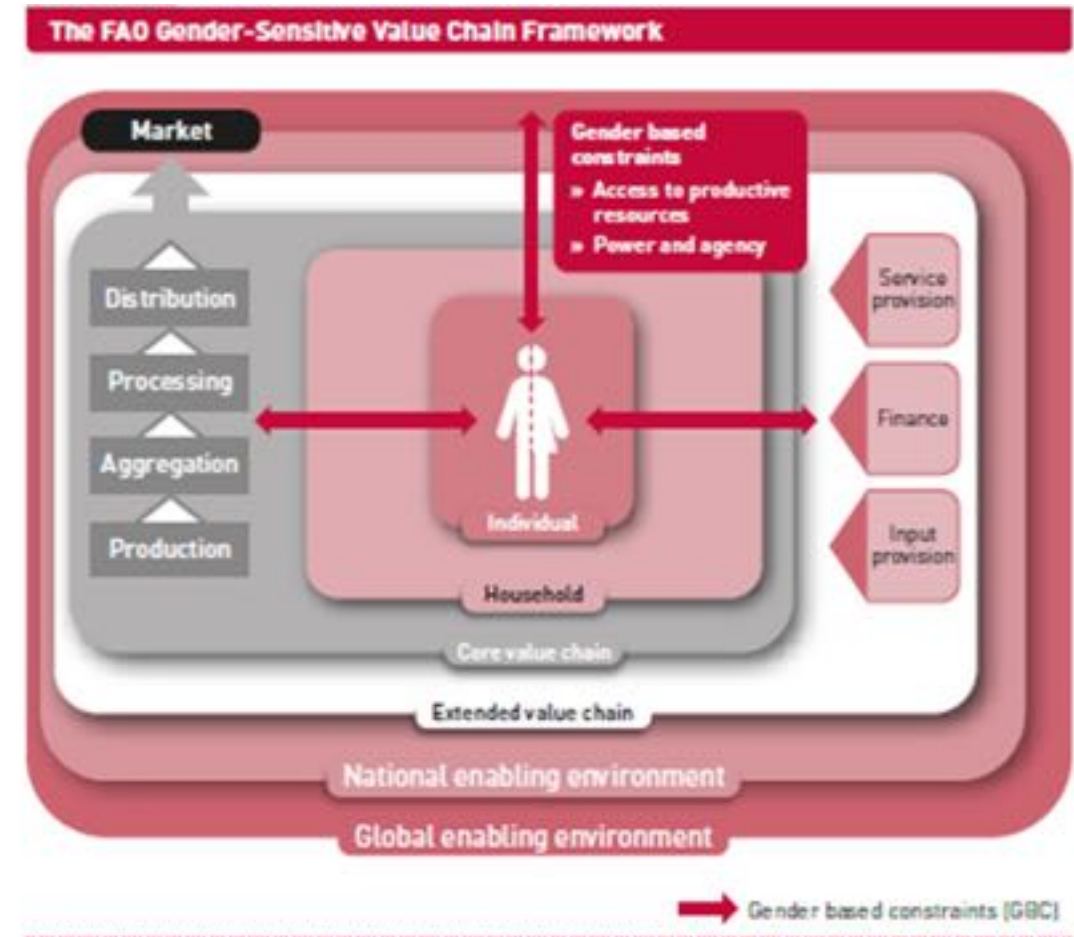
- Women make up **43 percent** of the global agricultural labour force, ranging from 20 percent in Latin America to 50 percent or more in some parts of Africa and Asia, and their participation in agriculture is increasing (FAO SOFA, 2011).
- They play an important role in the dairy sector contributing to daily food security and income generation of rural households.
- Yet, women often have less access than men to productive resources and employment opportunities (FAO, 2011).
- In dairy value chains, women's involvement decreases at the more lucrative activities, such as the processing and retail nodes.

# FAO's Gender and Value Chains Guiding Framework

Provides strategic and practical guidance for integration of gender equality in projects and programmes

Includes analysis at individual and household level

Key to selecting appropriate upgrading activities to improve VC performance



# Gender-based constraints

---

Access to productive resources



Agency and power



## Some examples:

---

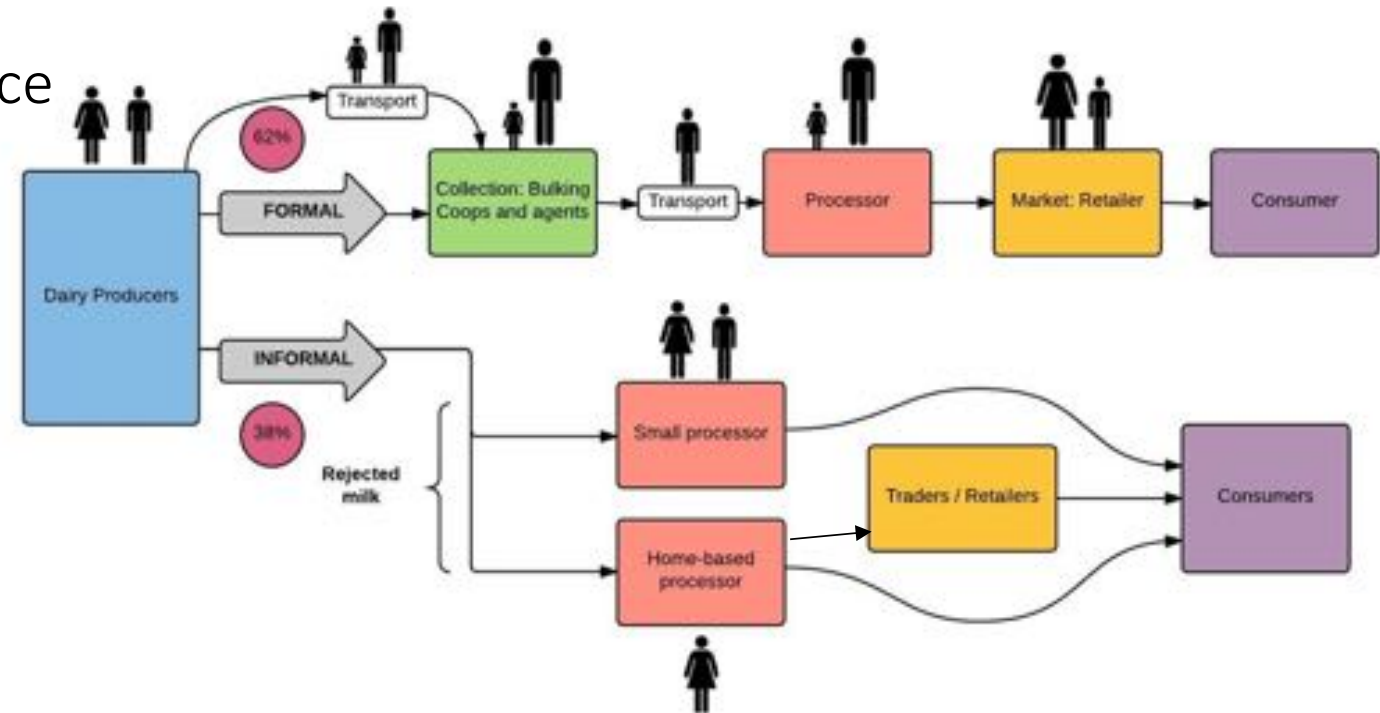
- In Afghanistan, women involved in FAO's programmes on dairy value chain benefited from increased regular cash income and social capital, and reduced drudgery. Women
- In Kenya, Rwanda and Ethiopia, FAO provides technical assistance and capacity development (at community and institutional level) to selected food value chains and women-led enterprises.
- Other programmes on dairy have been implemented in Panama, Yemen and Lebanon.

# How to implement the framework

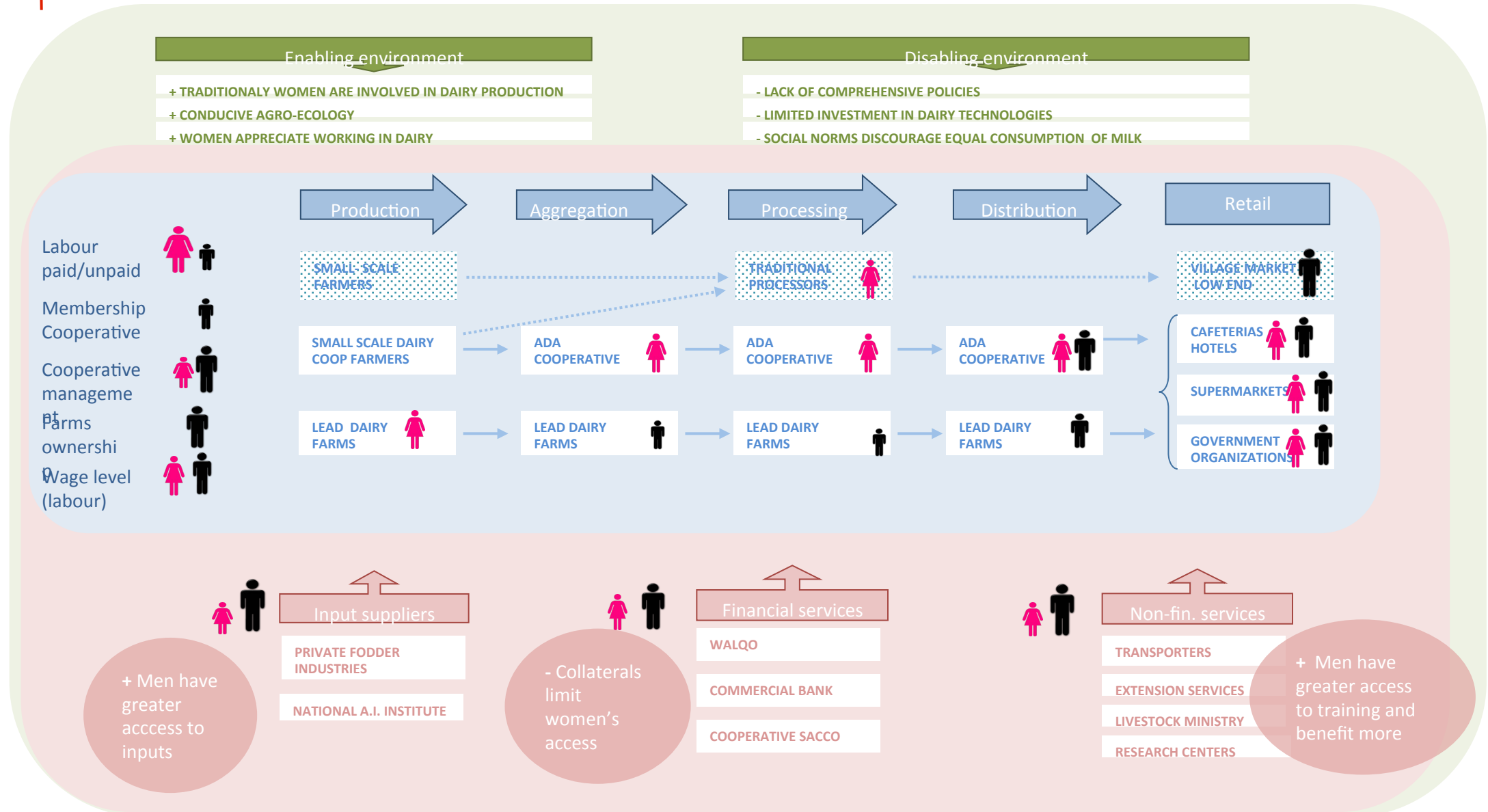
A first step towards implementation: a gender-sensitive analysis of the value chain:

- Map women's work along the chain to make it visible
- Identify gender-based constraints at all levels to analyze:
  - their underlying causes
  - their impact on VC performance
- Identify gender sensitive solutions

Gender-sensitive map of the dairy VC in Ethiopia based on FAO's assessment



# Gender-sensitive map of the dairy value chain in East Shewa zone - Ethiopia





# Gender-based constraints dairy value chain Kenya

<b>Micro level</b>	Individuals Households Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Disproportionate <b>work-load</b> between women and men</li><li>▪ Women's limited <b>ownership</b> and <b>control</b> over dairy assets (cattle)</li><li>▪ Women's limited access to <b>knowledge</b> and <b>information</b></li><li>▪ Women's limited access to <b>capital</b></li><li>▪ Women's limited <b>entrepreneurial attitude</b></li></ul>
<b>Meso level</b>	Institutions and Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Women's limited representation in <b>leadership and management</b> positions in key value chain governance structures</li><li>▪ <b>Community norms</b> fostering inequalities</li></ul>
<b>Macro level</b>	National policies and plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Gender insensitive <b>institutional environment</b></li><li>▪ Gender insensitive <b>dairy development programs</b></li><li>▪ Limited <b>expertise and tools</b> for gender inclusive value chain development</li></ul>

# Project intervention Programme Enabling women to benefit more equally from value chains



Micro level  
Dairy farmers  
Individuals and HH



Meso level –  
Farmer's  
cooperatives  
Service providers

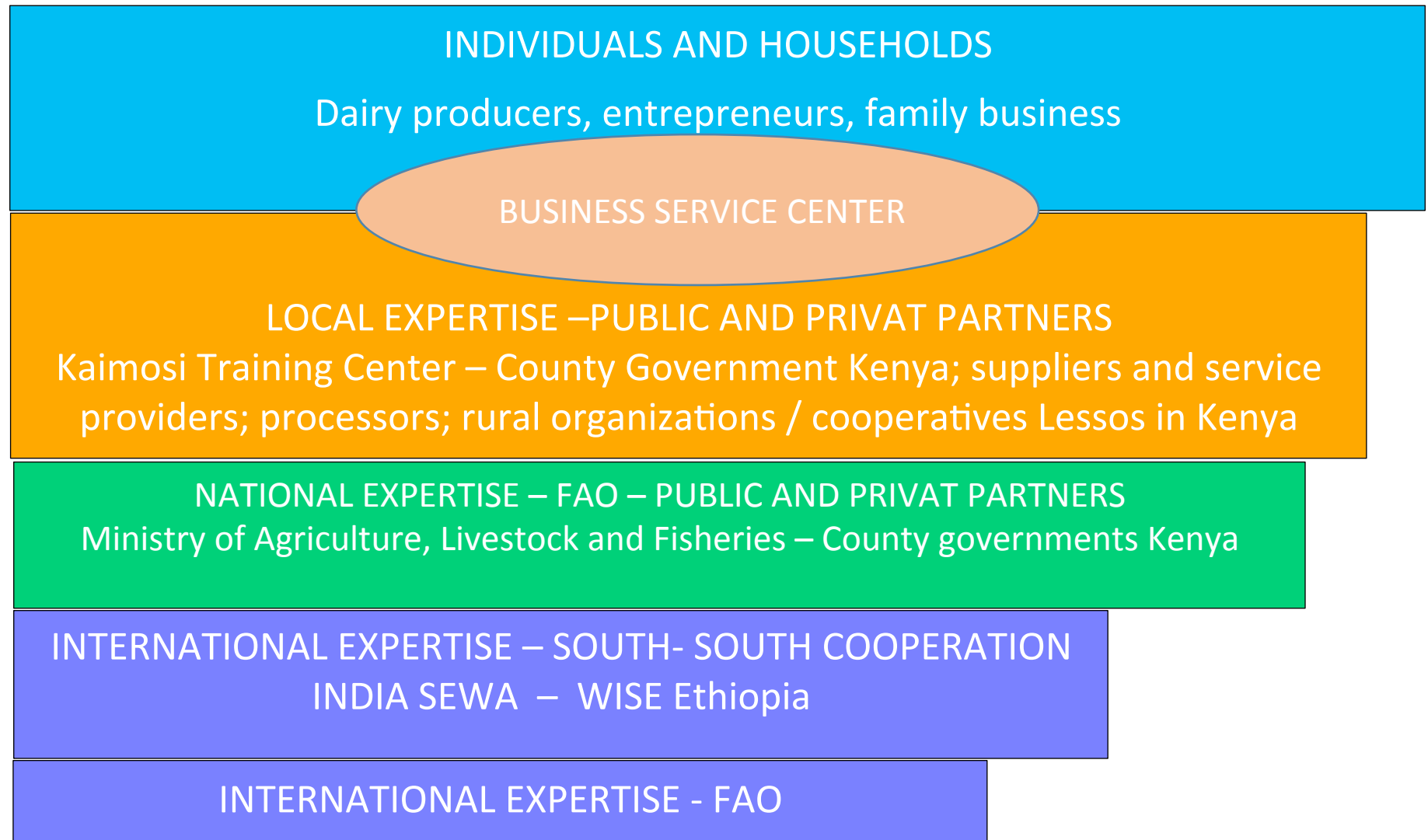


Macro level  
Governments at  
national and local  
level



# Key stakeholders and service providers involved

## KEY STAKEHOLDERS



# Insight into Lessos Business Service Center



# Results so far

---

- Wide interest and participation of involved institutions and supported communities
- Increased production through better feed management and farm organization
- Dairy farmers have been trained and a variety of on and off farm business ideas have emerged! (Fodder as a business, butter and cheese processing, breeding, agro-vets, milk bars, handicraft – non seasonal)
- Community sensitized on more equal division of tasks within the household
- Strengthened links among value chain actors
- Introduction of new technology
- Inputs provided to mainstream gender in Livestock Policy at national and county level

# Some good stories...

**Rose Bett**- Used to keep cows but focused on selling potatoes along the road. She never had time for cows, but after the training she paddocked the farm, dug a bore hole and purchased a water tank. She is now able to get 10 litres of milk per day. Used the income to save at Le PESA (local SACO) and took a loan to pay school fees. She now plans to put up a zero grazing unit.



**Lilian Kirwa** has been participating in trainings. She is now able to increase production from 5 to 8 litres through better feeding management including additional minerals. She now collects fodder even from neighbors. She also started producing and selling cultured milk and selling about 75 Kes/ litre and looks forward to learn packaging.

Enhance gender equality in programmes in the dairy sector can improve incomes and quality of nutrition of poor households, provide employment opportunities and enhance food security while developing the sector.



Thank you!