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Measuring gender outcomes in social protection programmes: Why is it important? How best to do it?

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socialprotection.org presents:

Measuring gender outcomes in social protection programmes: Why is it important? How best to do it?

Speakers:

Elena Bardasi – Senior Economist, The World Bank

Tara Cookson – Director of Ladysmith/Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada postdoctoral research fellow

Susana Martinez-Restrepo – Director of Research and Development, CoreWoman

Moderator:

Maja Gavrilovic – Social Protection Specialist, FAO

Submit your questions to the panellists

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#SPorgWebinar







Panellist

Elena Bardasi – Senior Economist, The World Bank

Elena Bardasi is a Senior Economist with a background in labor, poverty, and gender. She has been working at the World Bank since 2003 and in IEG since 2012, where she is currently leading the Citizen Engagement Evaluation. She was also the team leader of two major learning reports on the Impacts of Community Driven Development Interventions on Women's Empowerment and Social Safety Nets and Gender, and of the thematic chapter on gender in the 2015 Results and Performance Report of the World Bank Group. As IEG thematic coordinator for gender, she has been instrumental in facilitating the integration of gender in project and thematic evaluations. She coauthored the IEG guidelines Integrating Gender into IEG Evaluation Work.

Prior to her current position, Elena was part of the Gender Unit of the World Bank Poverty Reduction and Economic Management network. Elena has published widely on female entrepreneurship, female employment and gender issues in formal and informal labor markets, wage differentials, occupational segregation, and time use. Elena earned her Ph.D. in Economics from the European University Institute.



Panellist

Dr. Tara Cookson – Director of Ladysmith/Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada postdoctoral research fellow

Dr. Tara Cookson is Co-founder and Director of Ladysmith, a feminist venture that helps international development organizations collect, analyze, and take action on gender data. Tara earned her PhD from the University of Cambridge as a Gates Cambridge Scholar, and she is currently a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Postdoctoral Research Fellow. Her book, *Unjust Conditions: Women's Work and the Hidden Cost of Cash Transfer Programs*, analyzes women's experiences of participating in the world's most widely implemented anti-poverty programs. It is forthcoming in May with University of California Press.



Panellist

Susana Martinez-Restrepo – Director of Research and Development, CoreWoman

Susana holds a Ph.D. in Economics of Education from Columbia University in the city of New York and brings more than ten years of applied research, teaching and program development experience to the table. Her expertise deals with education and labor market policies, gender equality and women's empowerment. She has wide experience working and consulting for governments, foundations and international organizations. Her passion for gender equality reflects her experience working in developing countries where she has seen firsthand how cultural norms and lack of education and job opportunities create important gender gaps, particularly for low-income women.

Her most recent book "Measuring Women's Economic Empowerment: Critical Lessons from South America" conceptualizes and brings critical empirical evidence from Colombia, Peru and Uruguay. The book is available for free with the support of the IDRC of Canada.

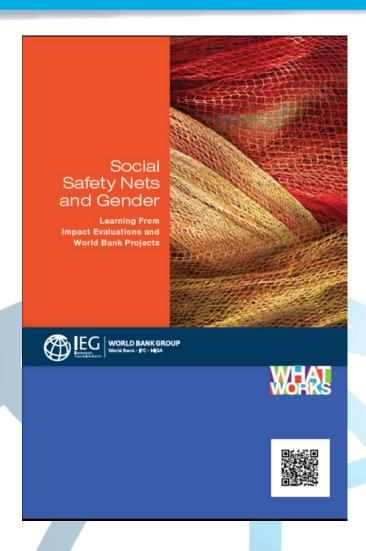


Moderator

Maja Gavrilovic – Social Protection Specialist, FAO

Maja is a Social Protection Specialist working with the FAO's Social Protection and Gender Teams. In this position, she acts as a focal point for the technical and capacity development work on gender-sensitive social protection programming and is currently leading a development of the technical guides on how to integrate gender into design of cash transfers and public works schemes. Prior to this role, in FAO, her research focus was on the policy and operational synergies between agriculture and social protection. Before joining FAO, she has carried out a qualitative research and policy work for various donors, including UNICEF, DFID, UN Women on social protection, maternal and child health, and child protection. From 2013-14, she supported the Government of The Gambia to develop its first national social protection policy 2015-2025, and implementation plan. Her latest publication is entitled *'Strengthening coherence between agriculture and social protection to combat rural poverty and hunger in Africa: framework for analysis and action'* (FAO, 2016).





The Social Safety Nets and Gender IEG report

Learning from impact evaluations and World Bank projects

Elena Bardasi March 22, 2018

Outline

- 1. The Social Safety Nets and Gender report
- 2. Methodological considerations
- 3. Findings
- 4. Institutional buy-in



1. The SSNs and Gender report: Aim

Analyze to what extent SSN interventions impact gender equality and achieve results for both men and women, boys and girls

- <u>Design</u>: Is gender equality an objective? Which dimensions?
 Which assumptions? Which outcome indicators? Context?
- Efficacy. What are the differential impacts of SSN interventions on men and women, boys and girls, and on households?
 Positive, negative? Which dimensions? Heterogeneous? Are there trade-off with the objective of reducing poverty?
- <u>Efficiency</u>. What are the costs involved in addressing (or not) gender equality and what are the benefits?



1. The SSNs and Gender report: Components

- Systematic review of 145 impact evaluations (in 128 individual studies)
- Portfolio review (desk-based) of 112 World Bank supported investment project

Interventions: Conditional cash transfers; Unconditional cash transfers; non-contributory pensions; in-kind (food) transfers; public works programs

(vouchers and subsidies not included)



2. Methodological considerations

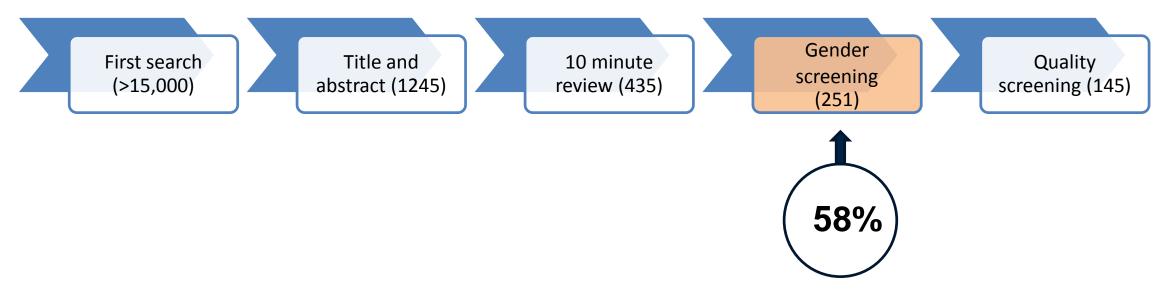
- Goal of the intervention/Intended impacts
- Gender integration
- Unintended impacts
- Targeting of women occurs in different ways:
 - Explicit (sometimes with quotas)
 - "Functional" targeting
 - The type of intervention may benefit women disproportionately
 - → SSN programs are not gender-neutral



2. METHODOLOGY

Selection of IE

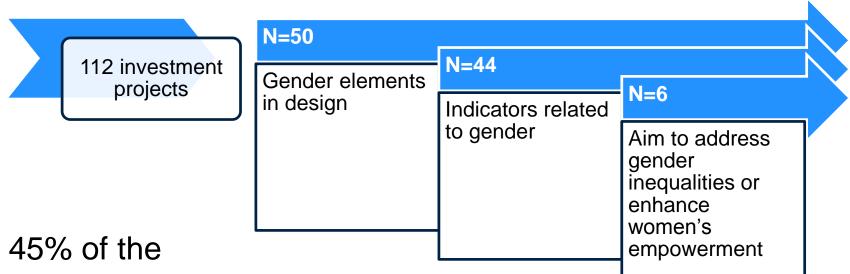
Gender impacts analyzed in 58% of the impact evaluations of SSN interventions





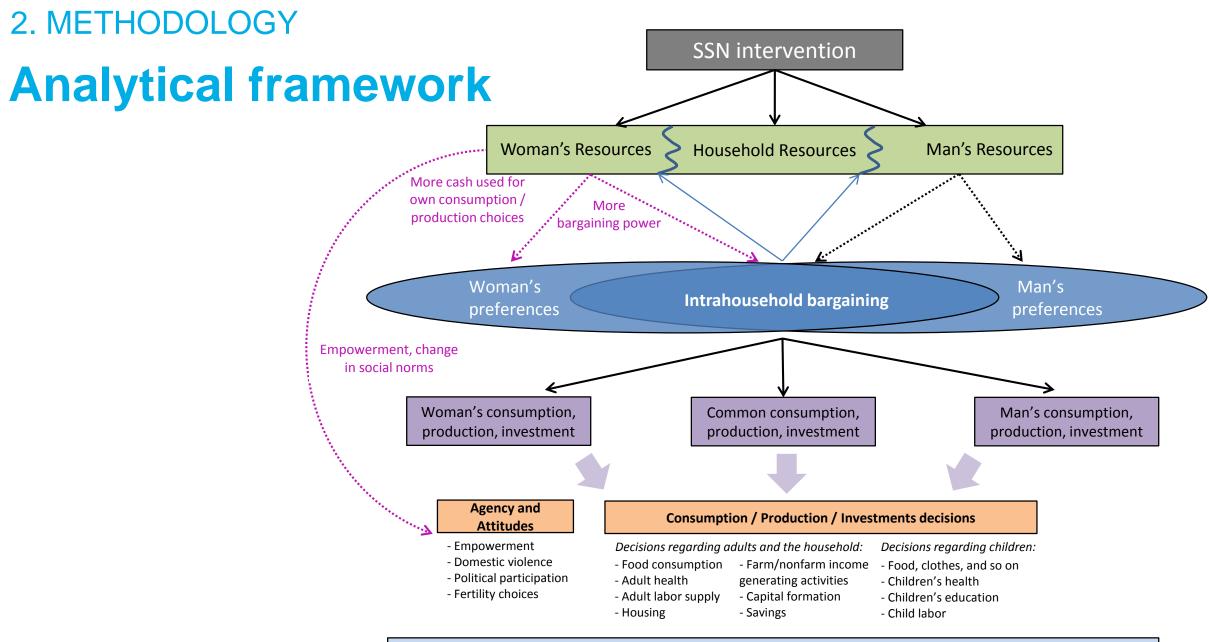
2. METHODOLOGY

Selection of projects



Gender elements in 45% of the design of SSNs interventions, 39% of results frameworks







Context (such as laws and regulations, social norms, political economy)

2. METHODOLOGY

Definition of the outcomes of interest

Gender-disaggregated and female-specific outcomes

Household-level outcomes

Endowments (Control of Resources)

Education

Health

Physical Assets

Financial Assets

Economic Opportunities

Employment

Self-employment and Entrepreneurship

Wages and Profits

Voice and Agency

Fertility

Decision Making

Participation in Representative Bodies

Domestic Violence

Poverty Outcomes

Income

Consumption and Expenditure



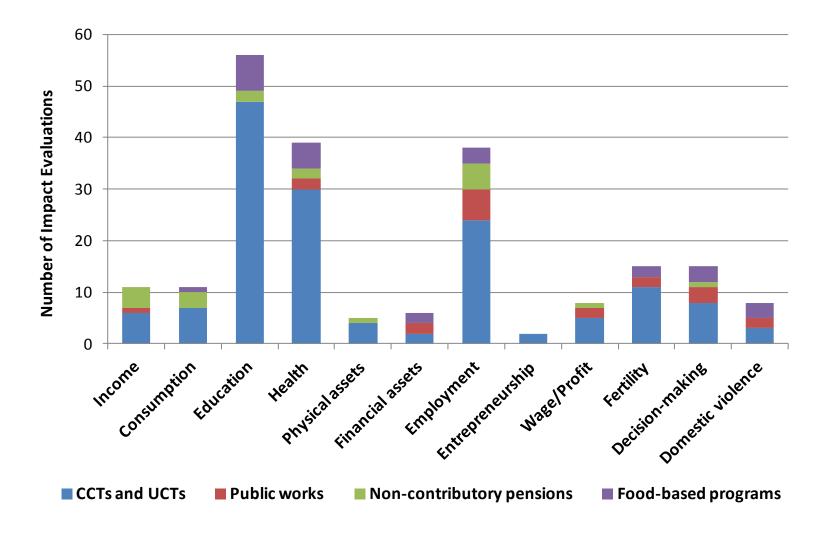
3. Findings

- a. Rich and increasing evidence from IE on gender impacts.
 Importance of unintended outcomes
- b. Evidence not evenly distributed across outcomes and intervention
- c. Discrepancy between prevalence of SSNs and available evidence
- d. Limited evidence of impacts over the long period
- e. Some outcomes harder to measure than others (e.g. empowerment)
- f. Limited integration of gender in SSNs WB projects
- g. Narrower set of indicators in projects M&E than in IE. More focus on compliance and take-up
- h. Limited use of sex-disaggregated indicators. Limited reporting



3. FINDINGS

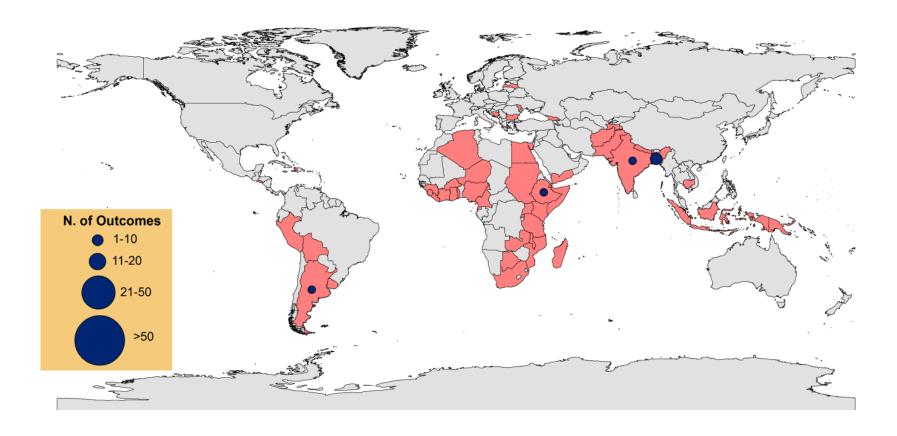
b. Uneven distribution of IE across interventions and outcomes





3. FINDINGS

c. Discrepancy between prevalence of SSNs and evidence

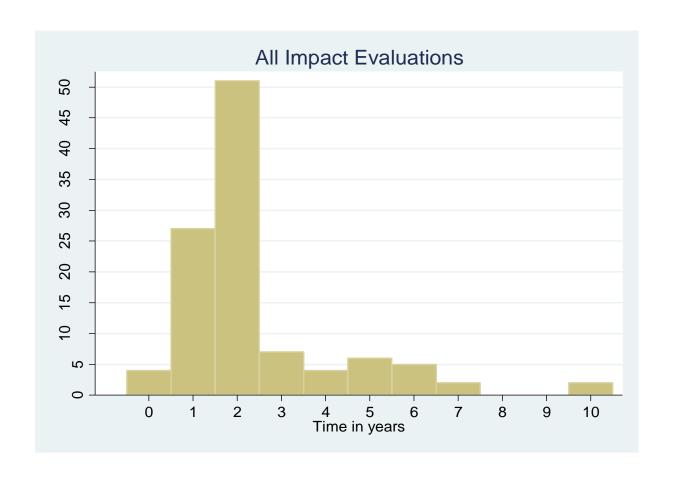


Public works programs worldwide and evidence from impact evaluations (2014)



3. FINDINGS

d. Most IE measure impacts after one or two years





3. Findings

- a. Rich and increasing evidence from IE on gender impacts.
 Importance of unintended outcomes
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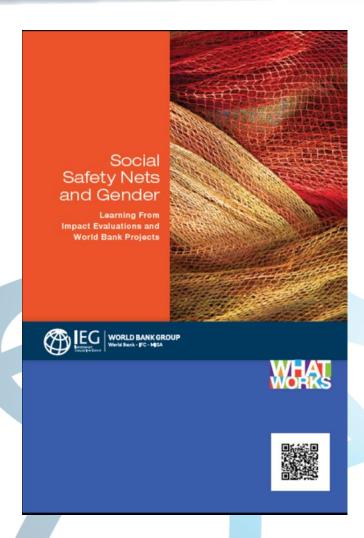


3. Institutional buy-in

- "Mainstreaming" in the World Bank Group:
 - The new gender strategy is stressing the importance of addressing gaps
 - Requirement in place to identify gaps, take action, measure
- Support to WB staff
 - The Gender Labs
 - Focal points, tools
- Lessons from the report
 - Importance of theory of change
 - Think of unintended impacts
 - IE, but also M&E







Read more at:

https://ieg.worldbankgroup.org/evaluations/social-safety-nets-and-gender-learning-impact-evaluations-and-world-bank-projects

Thank you!

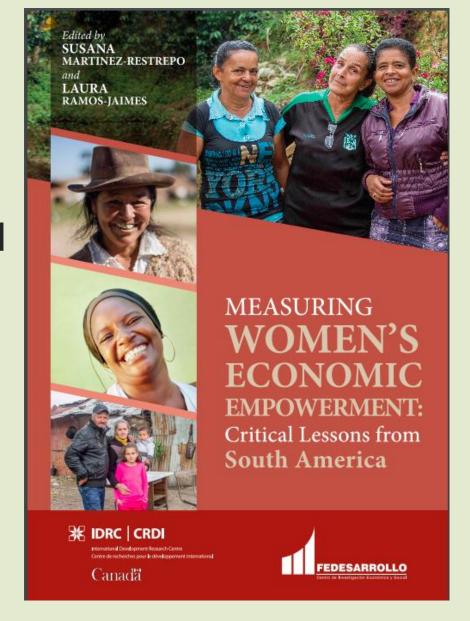
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Measuring women's Economic Empowerment: Lessons from South America

Co-Editors Susana Martinez-Restrepo, PhD.
Researcher at Fedesarrollo and
Co-founder of CoreWoman

Laura Ramos-Jaimes
Researcher at Fedesarrollo



MOTIVATION



Qualitative evaluation of Red Unidos in Colombia, 2013

Siloé, Cali, Valle del Cauca (Urban)



Angostura, Antioquia (Rural)

Five big ideas about measurement from the Book...

IDEA 1. Empowerment is a process



Material, human and institutional resources over which women have access, control.

Entails negotiations and decision making. It is the process of defining one's goals and acting upon them.

Constitute outcomes that have transformational implications for the gender inequality and structure of the specific context.

Source. Authors' elaboration based on Kabeer (1999)

IDEA 2. We must conceptualize Women's **Economic Empowerment** (WEE) according to was is empowering in a given context. In our case, South American Countries.



DECISION MAKING: WHICH DECISIONS REALLY EMPOWER WOMEN ECONOMICALLY?

- Differences in the interpretation of what "Making a decision" means.
- Key to differentiate between strategic and second-order decisions in the process of women's economic empowerment.
- Joint decision making could also reflect not a lack of empowerment but rather a woman's cooperation with her husband.



Decision making can be characterized as cooperative as long as it does not oppose women's preferences.

Table 6

Business-Related Decision Making Within Married Households at Baseline, Reported by Women Entrepreneurs About Themselves and Their Partners

	Expresses opinion	Decides and acts	Makes no decision	Number observed
Woman Entrepreneur				431
Investment in equipment	7.4%	89.6%	3.0%	
Location remodeling	7.4%	89.3%	3.2%	
Add new products	6.7%	90.7%	2.6%	
Loan applications	8.4%	80.0%	11.6%	
Branding	7.2%	87.7%	5.1%	
Picking providers	7.0%	91.2%	1.9%	
Personnel selection	6.5%	90.3%	3.2%	
Women's Perceptions of Their Partners				431
Investments in equipment	24.1%	32.0%	43.9%	
Location remodeling	22.7%	27.1%	50.1%	
Add new products	24.6%	25.8%	49.7%	
Loan applications	22.0%	30.9%	47.1%	
Branding	22.3%	28.1%	49.7%	
Picking providers	20.6%	25.8%	53.6%	
Personnel selection	20.4%	26.7%	52.9%	

Table 9

Distribution of Household Chores Within the Household at Baseline, Reported by Women

Entrepreneurs About Themselves and Their Partner

	Generally	Generally and Occasionally	Obs
Woman Entrepreneur			431
Washing and ironing	47.3%	75.9%	
Food preparation	50.6%	80.7%	
House minor repairs	14.8%	31.1%	
Family care	72.2%	88.4%	
Care of sick members	47.1%	62.2%	
House cleaning	49.4%	74.9%	
Women's Perceptions of Their Part	ners		431
Washing and ironing	9.0%	40.4%	
Food preparation	7.0%	37.8%	
House minor repairs	55.5%	71.2%	
Family care	36.4%	64.7%	
Care of sick members	15.8%	41.8%	
House cleaning	17.6%	45.7%	



Table 9

Distribution of Household Chores Within the Household at Baseline, Reported by Women

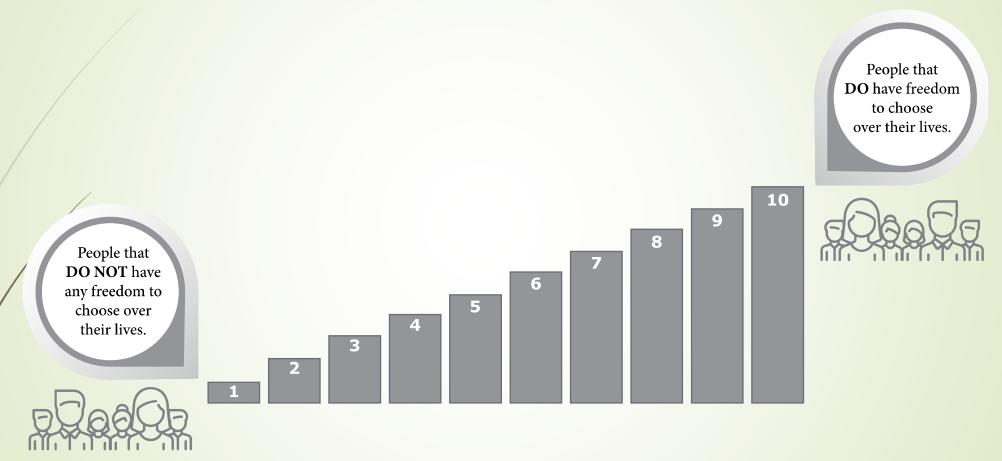
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IDEA 3. Integrating subjective dimensions of WEE is critical, but it requires to apply abstract concepts to real-life scenarios, which needs more pilots, extra survey training, new ways of asking, and using mixed methods.

Figure 4

The Decision-Making Staircase. Template Used in Questionnaire for Assessing Women's Perceived Freedom to Choose



Source. Authors' elaboration.

Freedom to choose: the role of abstract and concrete questions in Colombia and Peru

- ■In Peru, 8 minutes on average responding the question.
- In Colombia also challenges interpreting the question.
- Need to replace for concrete questions with real-life scenarios instead of abstract concepts.





IDEA 4. Measurements of WEE must consider subjective dimensions associated with labor decisions, the status of work and the constraints that limit women's choices (child care and transportations constraints, street, and gang violence).

- Childcare
- Transportation constraints: Access, cost, and distance
- Safety: street, and gang violence, child rape by family members
- Negotiating with their husbands impacts women's decision to take a job, particularly when considering formal vs. informal jobs and the cost of childcare

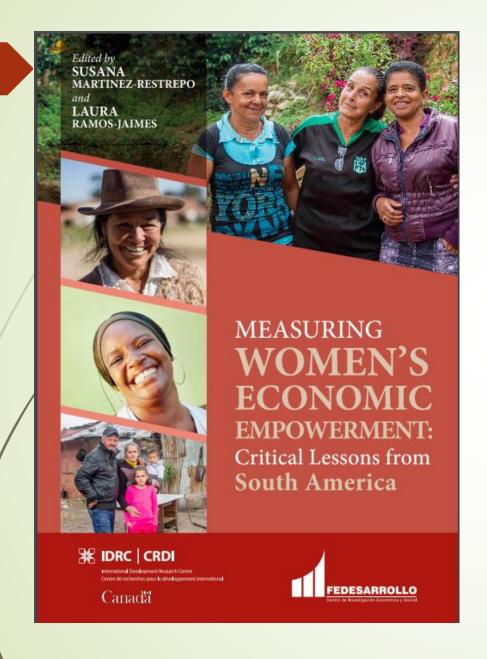
And the quality and status of work

Table 16
Occupational Classification: SES and Occupational Categories of the Participants

Occupational Category	Low Socioeconomic Status (Low SES)	Middle Socioeconomic Status (Middle SES)	High Socioeconomic Status (High SES)
Informal employee	Waiter and cook, cleaner	Hairdresser, cook, technician (agricultural technician, psycholo- gist)	Designer, writer
Formal employee	Cleaner, police officer, Uruguay Trabaja Program; manufactu- ring laborer, security guard, care worker	Scribe, foreign trade worker, librarian, psychologist, accountant, human resources worker, biologist, cook	Architect, lawyer, human resources professional, IT professional, professor
Self-employed	Trade worker, fair worker, sales worker, craft worker, cook	Craft worker, sales worker, hairdresser, sewing worker	Communication professional, designer, pastry chef, coach
Employer	Cleaner	Designer, tourism worker, fair worker, artist, hair salon owner	Actress, management professional, designer, business owner, studio architect, trade worker, real estate agent

IDEA 5. Researchers must talk more about our challenges in the field, share more and be fully aware of how our positionality can bias the way we measure women's economic empowerment.





DOWNLOAD THE BOOK

http://www.repository.fedesarrollo.org.co/bitstream/ handle/11445/3482/LIB_2017_Measuring_2_Ed.pdf?se quence=9&isAllowed=y



Measuring gender outcomes in social protection programmes FAO & IPC-IG Webinar

March 22, 2018 Tara Patricia Cookson, Ladysmith











Methodology: Institutional ethnography

A way of generating knowledge that centres women's experiences and uncovers how they are organized institutionally (see Dorothy Smith).

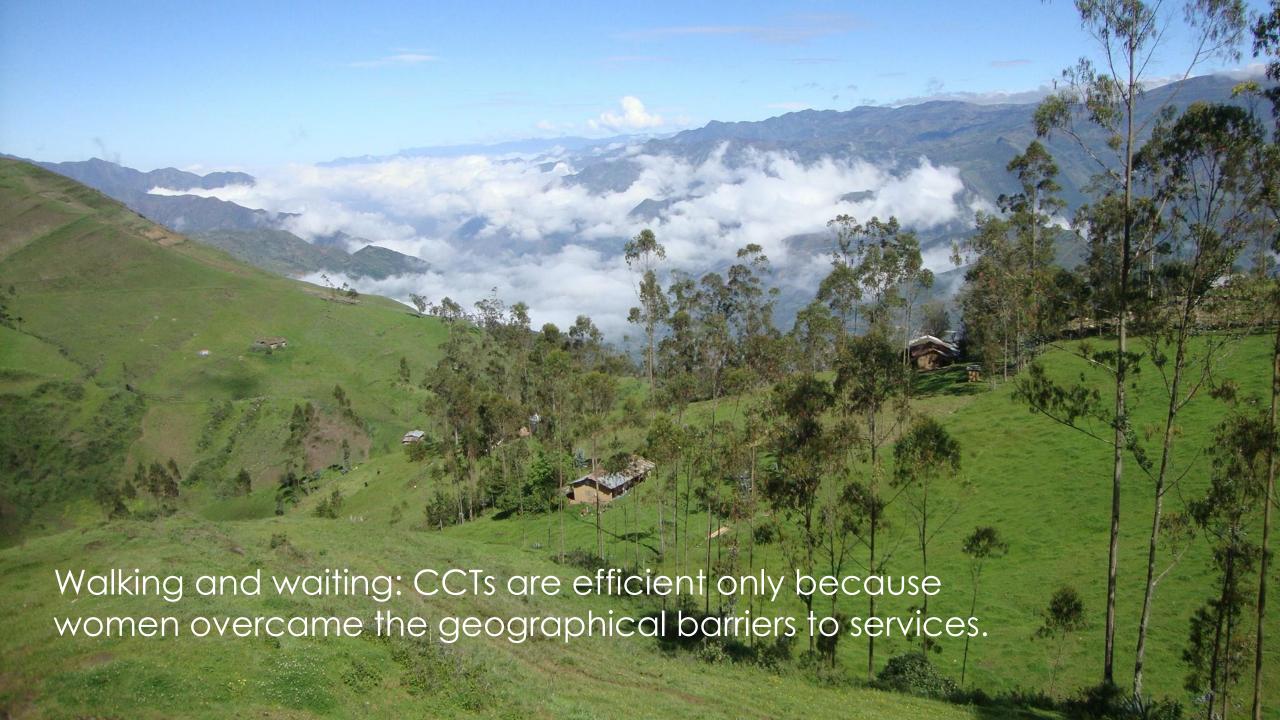






Findings





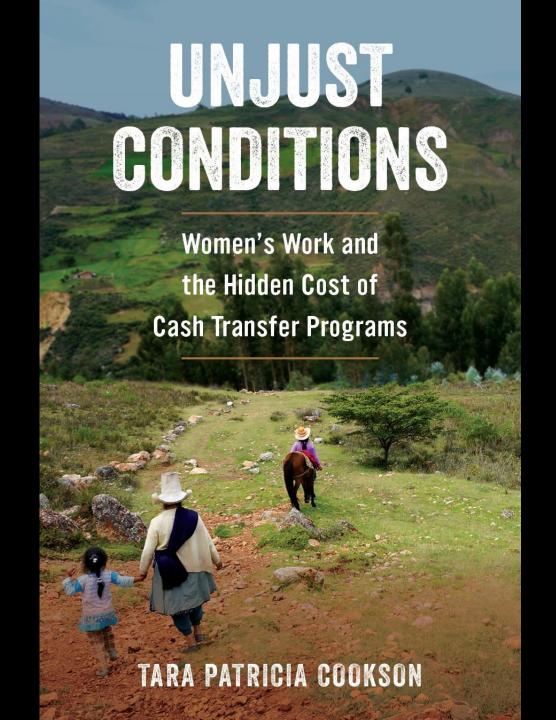




Recommendations



1. When you don't have time to do slow research, make use of existing slow research













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Q&A



Elena Bardasi



Tara Cookson



Susana Martinez-Restrepo

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