Advancing Methodology on Measuring Asset Ownership from a Gender Perspective





Seminar on the UN Methodological Guidelines on the Production of Statistics on Asset Ownership from a Gender Perspective Santiago, Chile, 7 – 9 August 2018

Outline



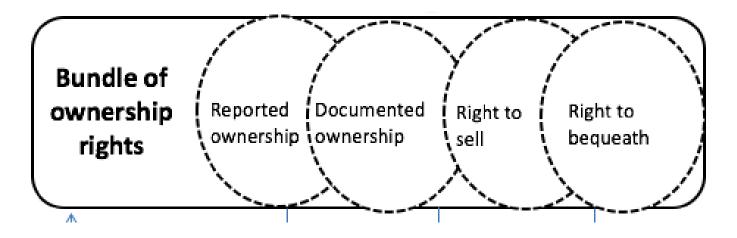
In this session, each of the terms and concepts will be covered in detail



What is asset ownership?



Asset ownership is conceptualized as bundle of ownership rights mediated by the legal framework and the social norms governing the individual's rights to property



There may be certain ownership rights to individuals hold due to the tenure systems governing property rights in a given country

Why a bundle of ownership rights?



Align with the concept of legal ownership employed in the SNA (2008)

Yet, legal ownership alone is not sufficient for understanding the complexity of individual rights to assets from a gender perspective for two reasons:

- 1) in many countries, the prevalence of ownership documents remains low.
- 2) even when ownership documents exist, the rights may not all be vested in one individual.

Reported ownership



Do you own this dwelling?

YES,
ALONE1>>DB4
YES, JOINTLY WITH SOMEONE
ELSE2
NO, SOMEONE ELSE IS THE
OWNER 3 >>next
module
REFUSES TO
RESPOND97>>next
module



Documented ownership



DB4.	DB5.
Is there an ownership document for the dwelling?	Are you listed as an owner on the ownership document for the dwelling?
YES, A TITLE DEED1 YES, A CERTIFICATE OF CUSTOMARY OWNERSHIP2 YES, A CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY3 YES, A WILL4 YES, A SALES AGREEMENT5 YES, OTHER (SPECIFY)96 NO6>>DB8	YES, ALONE1>>DB8 YES, JOINTLY WITH SOMEONE ELSE2 NO3>>DB8 REFUSES TO RESPOND97>>DB8 DON'T KNOW98>>DB8

Measures existence of document an individual can use to claim tenure rights in law over asset by having his/her name being listed as owner/rights holder on document

Type of document and rights will vary by country but should be enforceable by law

Applicable only for some assets and in some countries

National law versus customary law

Alienation rights over assets



Right to sell

DB8.

Do you have the right to sell this dwelling?

YES, ALONE......1>>DB10
YES, JOINTLY WITH SOMEONE
ELSE.....2
NO, SOMEONE ELSE HAS THIS
RIGHT......3>>DB10
NO, IT CANNOT BE SOLD...4>>DB10

Measures ability of individuals to permanently transfer asset for cash or in-kind benefits

Right to bequeath

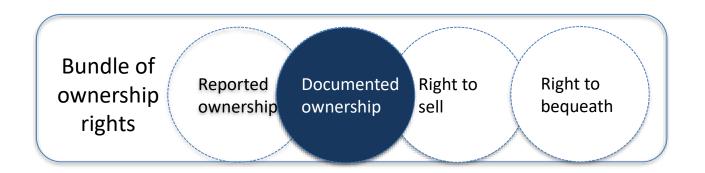
DB10. Do you have the right to bequeath this dwelling? YES, ALONE.......1>>DB12 YES, JOINTLY WITH SOMEONE ELSE.....2 NO, SOMEONE ELSE HAS THIS RIGHT......3 NO, IT CANNOT BE BEQUEATHED...4>>DB12

Measures ability of individuals to give asset by oral or written will to another person after his/her death

Why bundle of ownership rights?



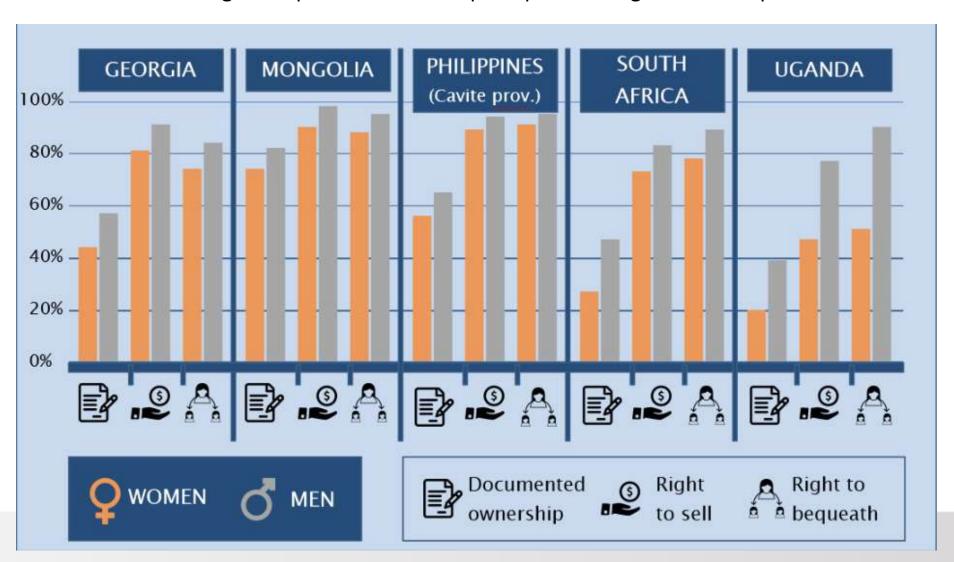
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Why a bundle of ownership rights?



Percentage of reported owners of principal dwelling who also report:



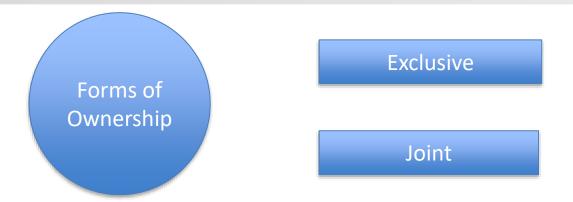
Summary: defining asset ownership



- Globally: comparable definition of asset ownership that is:
 - Locally relevant
 - Applicable across a range of financial and physical assets
- Nationally:
 - Develop a thorough understanding of the national context
 - Define ownership as the strongest bundle of rights or the full bundle of ownership rights

Forms of ownership

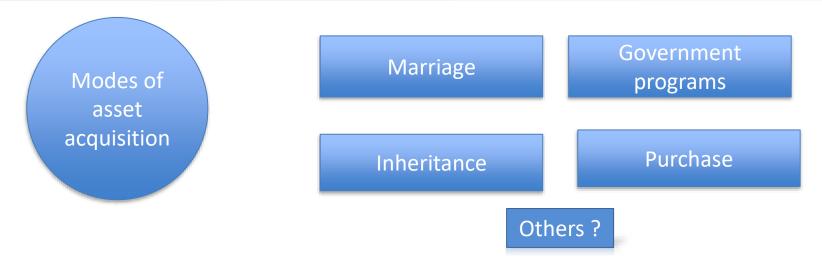




- Rights and benefits associated with asset ownership may differ depending on whether the asset is owned jointly or exclusively
- Countries should develop an understanding of the laws regarding property ownership within marriage (marital regimes)

Acquisition of assets



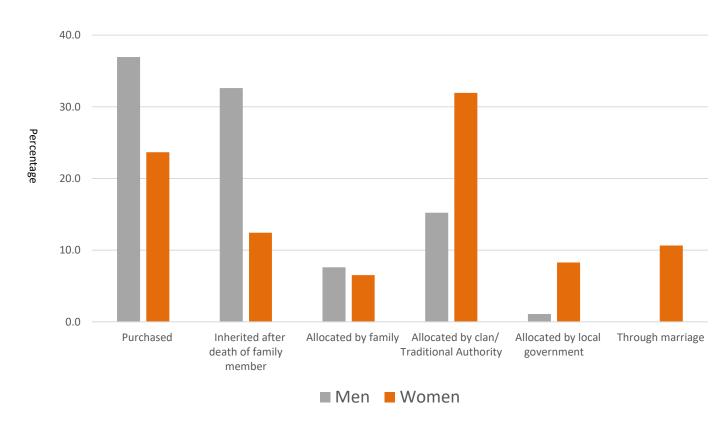


- To develop policy and programme that promote women and men's accumulation of assets, data is needed to understand how men and women acquire assets and whether their modes of acquisition differ
- Countries are encouraged to customize their list of modes of acquisition according to their specific context

Acquisition of assets: example



Main methods of acquisition of agricultural land, by sex, South Africa (KwaZulu-natal province), 2016



Source: EDGE pilot surveys

Note: for illustration purpose only, data are not comparable across countries

Key points



- Asset ownership should be conceptualized as a bundle of ownership rights
- It is important measuring the form of ownership whether exclusive or joint
- Collecting data on modes of acquisition helps to understand how men and women acquire their assets