Women’s empowerment in Smallholder Finance
Combining business and social goals

Wednesday July 18, 2018
Mastercard Foundation Rural and Agricultural Finance Learning Lab
Agenda

8:00  Introductions and context setting

8:05  Opportunity - Strengthening Women’s Empowerment Strategy: Integrating the Social and Business Case

8:20  AgDevCo – Gender-Inclusive Outgrower Schemes

8:40  Q&A

8:55  Closing remarks
If women had the same access to resources as men, farm yields could increase 20-30% and reduce hunger 12-17% in developing countries.

Source: CGIAR
Key definitions

**Empowerment**
A woman is economically empowered when she has a) access to resources and b) agency

**Agency**
The ability/power to make autonomous choices and transform those choices into desired outcomes

**Access to resources**
Includes access to physical assets such as land and equipment, as well as services such as training and financial services
• Gender inequality is multidimensional

• Participation of women in economic opportunity doesn’t automatically lead to economic empowerment

• Although women perform majority of farm labor, this doesn’t translate into control of household resources

• A one-size-fits-all to financial inclusion of rural populations is not adequate
STRENGTHENING WOMEN’S EMPOWERMENT STRATEGY

Opportunity International
Key resources

AgDevCo

• Brief: Realizing Your Full Business Potential
• Case study: Gender-Lens Investing: The Case for Empowering Women
• Case study: Successful Models to Empower Women in Outgrower Schemes
• Case study: AgDevCo's work with GADC in Uganda
• Case study: AgDevCo's work with Phata in Malawi
• Guest blog post: Three practical steps agribusinesses can take help close the gender gap
• Video: The Story of Phata

Opportunity International

• Knowledge Hub: www.opportunity.org/knowledge-exchange
• Insights brief: Empowering Women through Agricultural Finance (PEMA Project)
• Insights brief: Tangible Benefits Reported by AgFinance Clients
• Insights brief: Gender Analysis ofAgFinance in Ghana and Mozambique