



# WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IN THE DAIRY VALUE CHAIN

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# Introduction

In dairy production and marketing, women empowerment is pivotal for sustainable growth. Women play key roles in various stages, from milking to products marketing. Empowering women in this sector involves providing access to resources, training, and technology. By enhancing their skills and knowledge, women can improve milk quality, increase productivity, and explore new market opportunities. Moreover, empowering women in dairy production fosters their economic independence, boosts household incomes, and contributes to gender equality. It also strengthens rural economies, promotes community development, and ensures food security.

#### Market

Link farmers to local, regional and international market that acts as outlets to their dairy products. This will ensure high incomes.



Access to markets

### Building women's organizational and strategic skills

True empowerment starts when women have more income and are valued as decision-makers at the household, producer organization and other community strategic levels. Bringing women together who share the same needs, concerns and experiences into a group help introduce them to the public sphere that for information dissemination and technical support. Additionally, the groups are ideal for developing women's leadership skills and enhancing their negotiation capacities for prices and influence in decision-making bodies.



Building women's organizational and strategic skills

# **Strengthening women-owned enterprises**

Designing situation specific solutions for women and the poor, enable them reach "new, more stable or more profitable markets". This ensures that they can remain competitive in a rapidly changing market environment.



Strengthening women-owned enterprises

# Engaging men in women's economic empowerment and entrepreneurship development

Engaging men at the household, community and policy levels in interventions on women's economic empowerment (WEE) and women's entrepreneurship development (WED) contribute to women empowerment. This could be done through: (a) targeting men as "gatekeepers" to gender equality or as potential agents of change in challenging established gender norms, (b) providing capacity-building activities encouraging men to adopt positive masculinities, (c) inviting men to the trainings targeting women (d) identifying and supporting gender champions, (e) campaigning.



Engaging men in women's economic empowerment and entrepreneurship development