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ENGAGING MEN FOR WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT: OVERVIEW OF THE EVIDENCE

Typology of interventions



Support for women's individual economic activities



Support for household consumption/production



Promotion of women's asset ownership



Support for women's individual economic activities

- Inform spouse about opportunities
- Joint participation in business training
- Joint reflection on gender norms and division of household labor

*Mixed results. Risk of reduction in women's autonomy.



Photo credit: CGAP



Support for household consumption/production

Photo credit: World Bank

- Joint participation in extension training
- Joint planning for household production
- Gender dialogue groups



*Positive impact on women's participation in production, men's participation in housework, and household-level economic outcomes. Little impact on women's personal control of income.

Côte d'Ivoire: [Donald et al. 2022](#); Bangladesh: [Quisumbing et al. 2021](#); Ethiopia: [Friedson-Ridenour et al. 2025](#)



Promotion of women's asset ownership



- Formalization of joint property rights
- Information about joint property rights
- Transfer of productive assets

* Worthy of additional experimentation.

Uganda: [Ambler et al. 2026](#);
[Cherchi et al. 2022](#); [Poulin et al. 2025](#)

Key Takeaways

Engaging men is critical for overcoming barriers to women's paid work. The question is... how?

1. Proceed with caution when engaging men in programs designed to support women's independent paid work.
2. Ensure joint access to information and encourage joint planning for household production & consumption. More work needed to identify ways to increase women's control of household income.
3. Seek opportunities to encourage recognition or transfer of property rights to women.