

Why equal access and inheritance of land in SSA are important from an economic, social, and political standpoint?

➤ **Economic and Social standpoints:**

❖ **Highlights:** in SSA, women in agric are majority, 60% labour share, but land ownership is still an issue; little or no inheritance rights in most SSA (Customary practices ≠ State laws).

❖ But research evidence & policy concerns are advising us to check some of these customs in SSA.

- Based on our paper, allowing women/female household heads without access to land ownership to gain such access is **food poverty alleviating** and hence **food security** enhancing.
 - results conform with the theoretical positions of FAO (2011) and SDGs-5a for DCs (SSA involved), and GESP (2009) for CMR.
 - This will permit us to effectively **fight hunger** which has been on an increase the SSA region since 2014 (UN, 2019).

- It will **empower women (training & capacity building)** and facilitate **access to credit services** (it serves as collateral), hence more potential to **hold savings** and develop social networks.
 - Remember women have a greater potential to make a family better-off (WB, 2007); most of their money is spent on food & children's need.
 - And access to land also implies access to other natural resources, like forest (Sida) .
 - So, improving their access to land ownership for productive use will empower them to support the family, educate the children and consequently the society.
 - Importantly, our paper underlines that the tussle (**man = woman**, in land ownership) is not pro-food poverty, but just allowing more women without access to gain access is the key.
- Enable them move from **subsistence to commercial** farmers.
- Evidence also posits that women's land rights **reduce domestic violence**.

➤ Political Standpoint

❖ **Highlight:** Women's equal rights to land and property is a fundamental HR.

- According to OHCHR, improving on women's land rights is key to **democracy, peace, justice**.

- Because it is a **social asset** that is important for cultural identity, political power and participation in decision making.

- For example, female farmers in politics: Audrey Denney, Emily Best etc