Promoting Women’s Economic Empowerment
PrOpCom’s Experience in Nigeria

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Can the M4P framework address women’s economic empowerment more effectively?

1. Targeting core markets where poor women work.

2. Understanding the relationship between women’s economic and social empowerment.
PrOpCom was active in the Kano rice value chain

In Kano, 99% of parboilers are women
What is parboiling?

- Hydrothermal treatment of rice paddy
- Improves milling efficiency & nutritional value
- 87% of rice purchased in urban Nigerian markets is parboiled
The parboiling market system

**CORE RICE PARBOILING MARKET**

**RULES**
- Import tariffs
- Quality standards

**SUPPORTING FUNCTIONS**
- Technology
- Market relationships
- Knowledge
- Finance
- Attitudes about women

Intervention focus
Give them some credit!
Agricultural Loans for Nigeria’s Women

Click below on YouTube link to view video
Contrasting the Kano and Adamawa interventions:
Large socio-cultural differences
How much additional net income did the women earn?

**Change in annual profit**

- **Kano Parboilers**: £256
- **Adamawa Parboilers**: £1,861

**% change**

- **Kano Parboilers**: 163%
- **Adamawa Parboilers**: 67%
How much did they reinvest?

Note: Assets include livestock, land, farm equipment, poultry, and savings
Other inputs include parboiling equipment, firewood
What were the associated social changes?

- Decision making over discretionary purchases
- Status in household and/or community
- Change in professional roles & responsibilities

- Final decision making authority
- Change in household roles & responsibilities
Give them some credit!
Greater Income, Greater Influence for Nigeria’s Rural Women

Click below on YouTube link to view video
Lessons learned

1. In Nigeria, money can buy you love (or at least some R-E-S-P-E-C-T).

2. “Women don’t go [to the market]. Men go, so why bother myself?”

3. “No matter how bad your own thing is, it’s better than the good thing that is not yours.”
Questions for discussion

1. How can M4P programmes employ a ‘gender lens’ in their diagnosis of which markets to enter?

2. Should M4P programmes target markets in which women face fewer or greater social barriers to their entry?

3. How can M4P programmes include monitoring frameworks to report on indicators of women’s social empowerment?

- Decision making
- Increase in assets
- Roles & responsibilities

Poverty reduction

Gender lens

- Poverty reduction potential
- Pro-poor access or growth potential
- M4P intervention potential
Backup
Women’s participation in decision-making on farm activities

- Final decision maker: 4%
- Opinion considered: 12%
- Consulted only: 15%
- No participation: 69%

What were the associated social changes?

Increased spending by female farmers trained by Notore to properly use fertilizer

- Livestock: 46%
- Food stocks: 55%
- Education for children: 78%