



PODER LEGISLATIVO  
*Cámara de Senadores*



# Land Tenure & Gender: Promoting Equity & Climate Resilience through Landownership

Accelerating Progress on Agenda 2030:  
Good Practices for Parliamentary Action



WiFi:

parlamericas

Password:

congreso

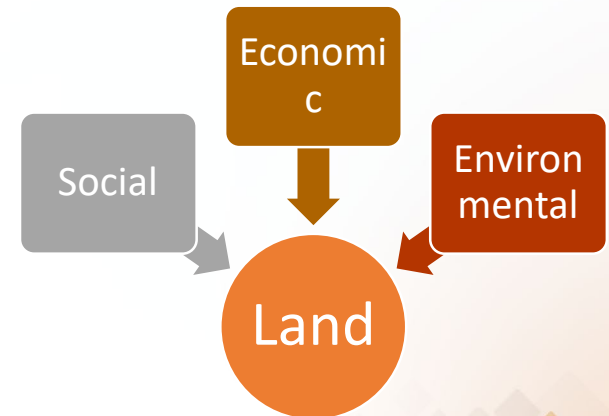
#ParlAmericasSDG

#ParlAmericas2019

# SDG Target 5A: Why?

*Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as **access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property**, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws*

- Land represents economic and social assets, with ownership rights having broad development impacts
- Women's access to land and other forms of ownership, is inextricably linked with fundamental rights such as food security, health, access to water, decent work and a safe home.
- To avert the feminization of poverty
- Rural Caribbean women play an integral role in primary agricultural production



# Female ownership of agricultural lands

*Globally, less than 15 percent of all landholders are women. - FAO, 2019*

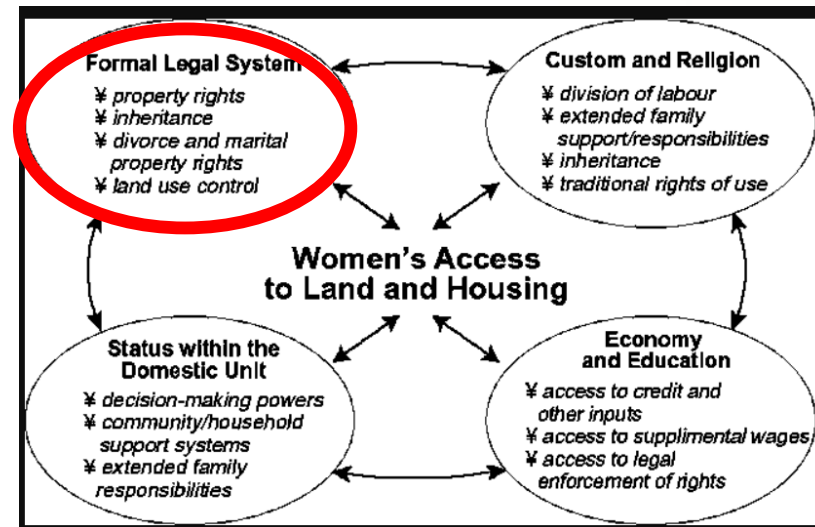
Country	Female holders
Dominican Republic	10%
Belize	8%
Ecuador	25%
Grenada	29%
Guatemala	7.8%
Jamaica	30.2%
Nicaragua	23%
Puerto Rico	8.9%
St. Kitts & Nevis	28%
St. Lucia	30%
Uruguay	19%
Haiti	25%



# Legal Framework

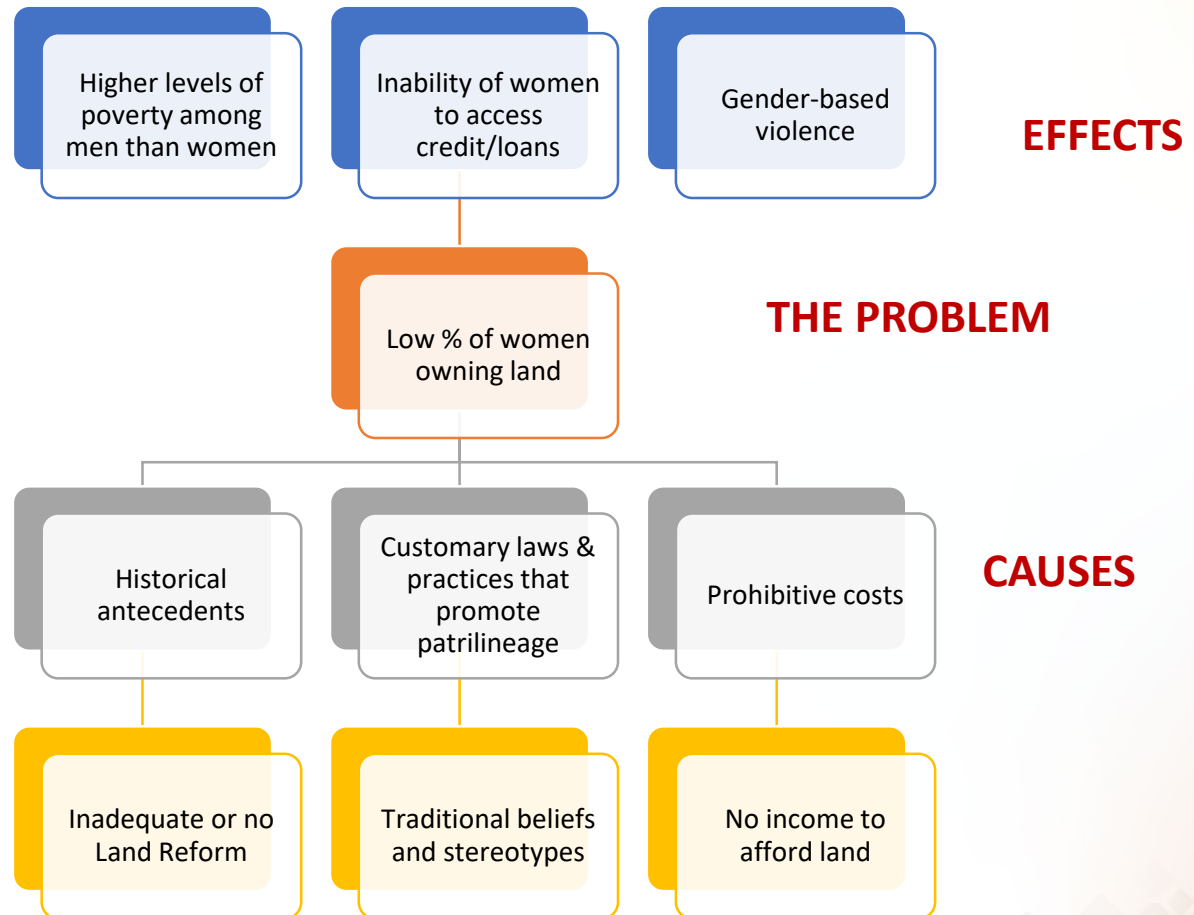
*Of 161 countries surveyed, only 37 had specific laws granting equal rights for men and women to own, use and control land*  
- CSW, 2018

- In **Chile** the husband administers joint property but also any private property of his wife unless she acquired it using financial means independent of his.
- Under customary law, daughters and sons are equally entitled to inherit family land, yet few women own land legally in **Jamaica**. Women most often access land through their spouse, partner, or family; they may also rent land
- Women are prevented from enjoying legal rights to land and are insecure in their access due to patriarchal customs and attitudes in **Guatemala**.
- 90 percent of female heads of farm households in **Guyana** have no title to their land and are therefore unable to access credit to expand or improve their farming activities.
- In **St. Lucia** through the “Turning Dead Capital into live Capital” saw women gaining title to their land which they were then able to utilize to secure bank loans





# Causes & Effects of Landlessness among Women



# SDG 5 and SDG 13: The Intersection

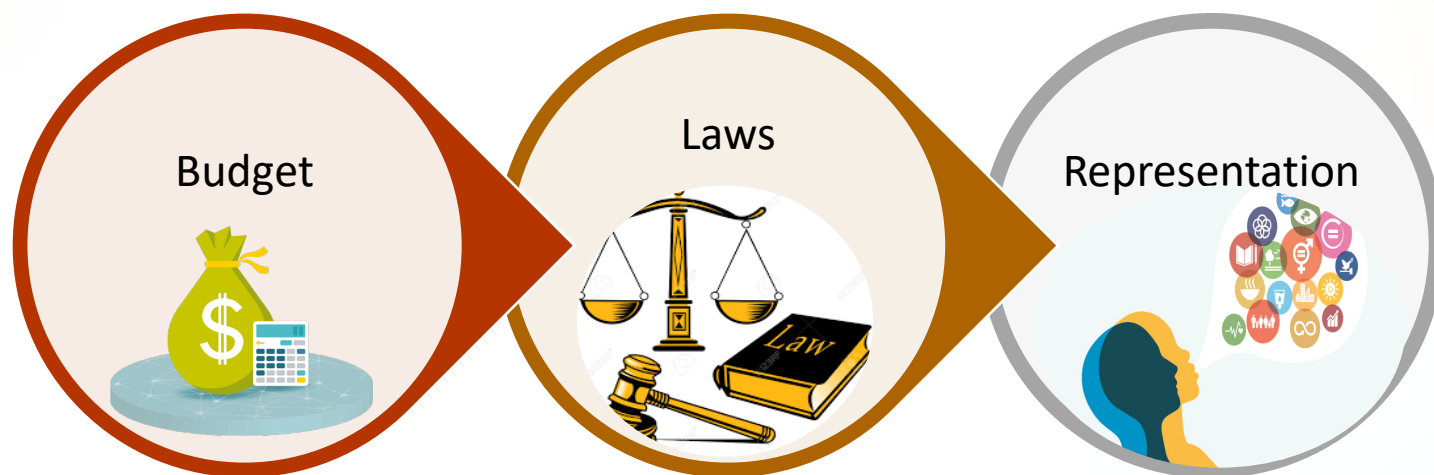
*Women and the environment represent twin dimensions of exploitation that suffer from the current capitalist regime and patriarchal structures of domination therein*

McKinney et.al, 2015

- Approximately 70 percent of the world's poor are **women**-climate change exacerbates poverty
- <70% of agricultural land in the region is held by men- women occupy marginal lands
- Data suggests that countries are doing better on SDG 5 than on SDG 13
- NAPs, NAMAs & NDCs must be gender responsive



# The Role of Parliamentarians

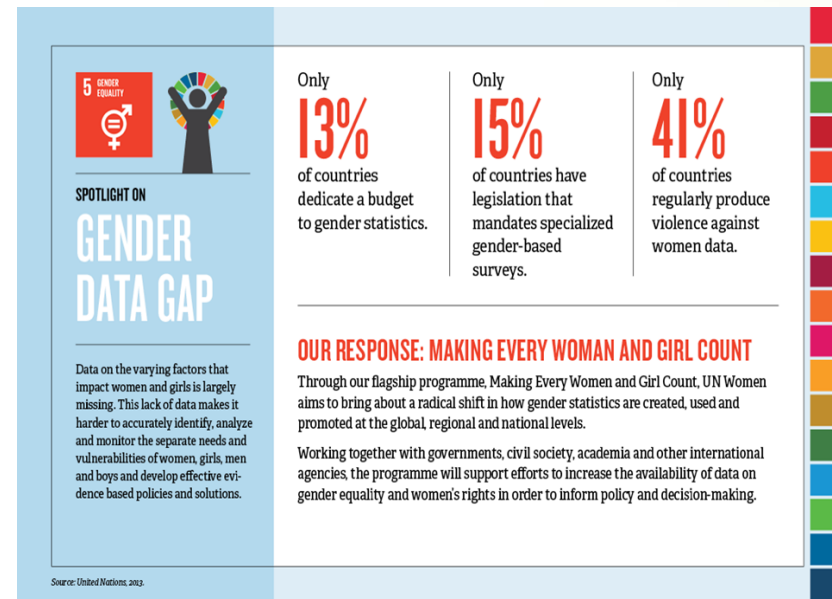


- **Promote gender-sensitive budgeting** to mainstream gender in economic processes and policies
- **Enact laws** that promote equity and justice in land access, and secure land rights for women (and men)
- **Advocate** for the marginalized and vulnerable communities, bring awareness to the issues and address that through legislation

# Recommendations

*...all countries must incorporate a gender equality approach into their public policies, ensure its effective implementation and make it a top political issue-* **FAO, 2017**

- **Data.** Essential sex- disaggregated data is required for effective M&E in the SDG process- *percentage of men & women who own land, distribution of land owned by men & women, land tenure of men & women, employment status, job type, income levels*
- **Policy & Law.** *Spatial justice, comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services, women's land & property rights*
- **Integrated development planning.** Climate change, gender and other goals are linked
- **Gender transformative governance.** Engender systemic change that transforms structures and systems that promote gender inequality





Unless gender equality is extended to land rights and ownership, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development would become an impossible vision

