



Gender Dimensions of Cross-border Trade in Tajikistan



WORLD BANK GROUP

UNECE Workshop on Gender and Trade Statistics
Mariyam Raziyeva
Geneva, May 9, 2023


Presentation Outline

- 1 Overview of WBG Trade and Gender Studies
- 2 Study Design
- 3 Study Findings
- 4 Recommendations

Overview



Gender equality is central to achieving the World Bank Group's twin goals of ending extreme poverty and increasing shared prosperity



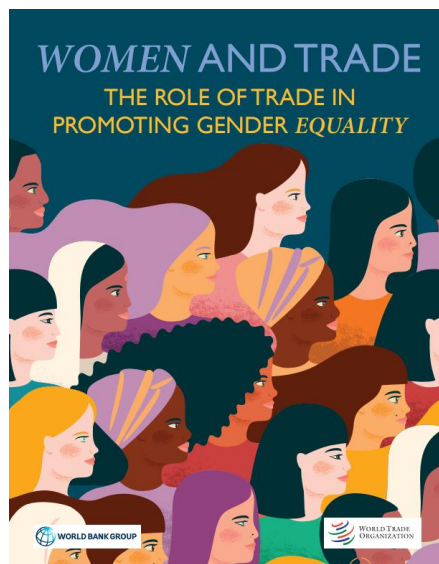
Contributing to that end, trade is an engine of growth that creates better jobs, reduces poverty, and increases economic opportunity



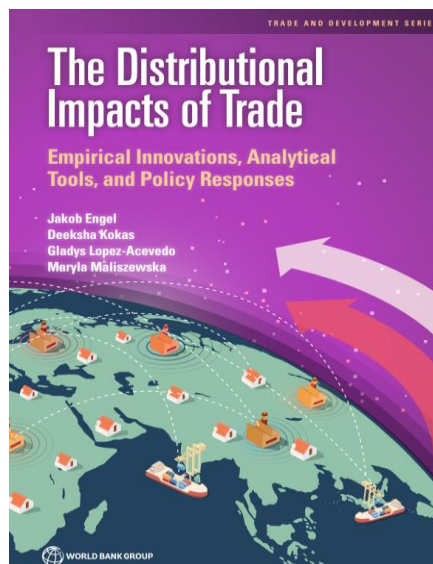
Ensuring that women can equally participate in trade is important as trade can improve economic outcomes for women



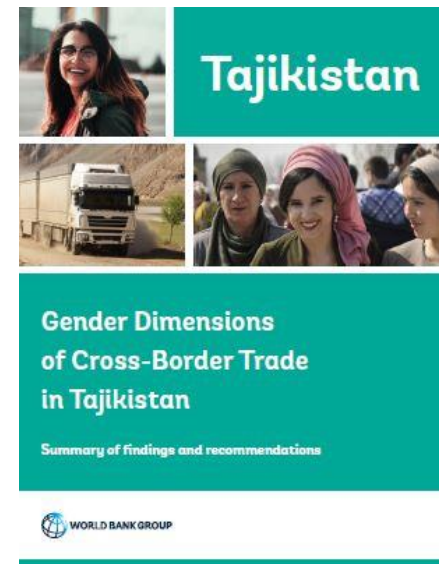
SNAPSHOT OF RECENT WBG TRADE AND GENDER WORK



The joint WBG-WTO flagship report shed light on the linkages between trade and trade policy and gender equality.



This research helped advance the understanding of how trade shocks affect consumers and workers through new data and tools.



This series of studies looks at gender-specific challenges to cross-border trade and recommends trade facilitation measures to address those challenges.

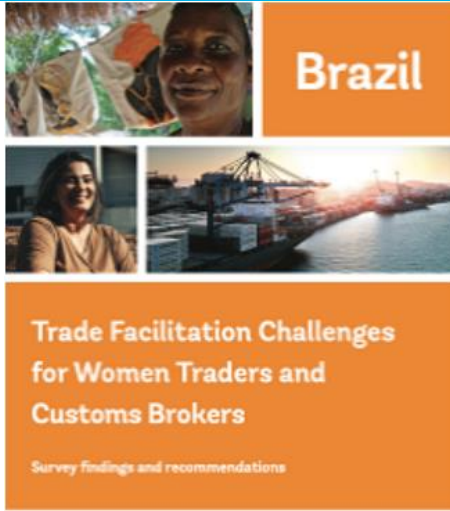
WHY UNDERTAKE THE TRADE FACILITATION AND GENDER STUDY?

- Trade facilitation measures may appear gender neutral in their design, but implementation of these measures often affects men and women differently.
- There is a global lack of data on how trade facilitation interventions impact traders by gender at the firm level, specifically:
 - What trade facilitation-related obstacles do traders face?
 - Are they different for women-led and men-led firms?



This lack of gender-specific data may reinforce biases against women in policy making. Gender-disaggregated data is fundamental to assess how different policies and actions impact women and men differently

SURVEYS UNDERTAKEN TILL DATE



Brazil

Trade Facilitation Challenges for Women Traders and Customs Brokers

Survey findings and recommendations

WORLD BANK GROUP

The cover for the Brazil survey features a collage of images: a woman smiling, a map of Brazil, a woman in a professional setting, and a port with a ship.



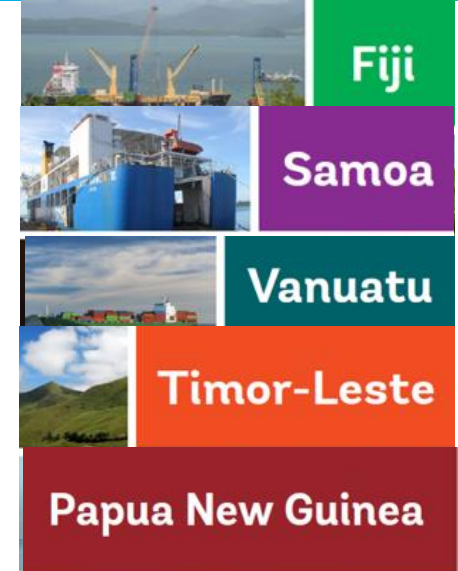
The Philippines

Trade Facilitation Challenges for Women Traders and Customs Brokers

Survey findings and recommendations

WORLD BANK GROUP

The cover for the Philippines survey features a collage of images: a port with a ship, a woman in a traditional hat, and a group of people in a meeting.



Fiji

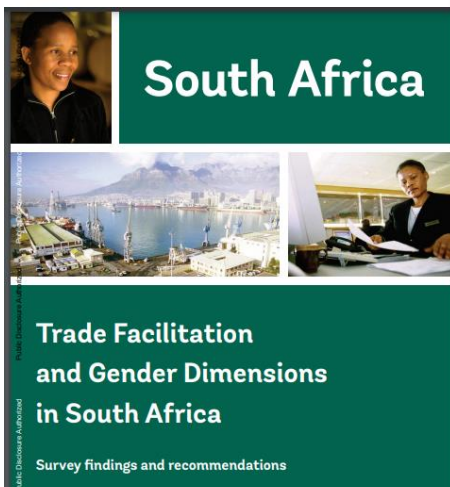
Samoa

Vanuatu

Timor-Leste

Papua New Guinea

This block contains five separate survey covers for Fiji, Samoa, Vanuatu, Timor-Leste, and Papua New Guinea, each with its own title and imagery.



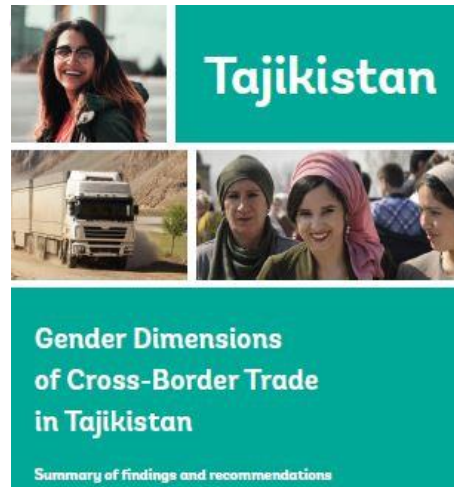
South Africa

Trade Facilitation and Gender Dimensions in South Africa

Survey findings and recommendations

WORLD BANK GROUP

The cover for the South Africa survey features a collage of images: a woman smiling, a port with a ship, and a man in a suit at a desk.



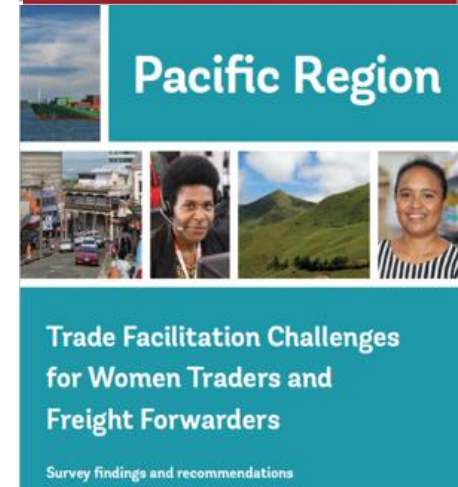
Tajikistan

Gender Dimensions of Cross-Border Trade in Tajikistan

Summary of findings and recommendations

WORLD BANK GROUP

The cover for the Tajikistan survey features a collage of images: a woman smiling, a truck, and a group of women.



Pacific Region

Trade Facilitation Challenges for Women Traders and Freight Forwarders

Survey findings and recommendations

WORLD BANK GROUP

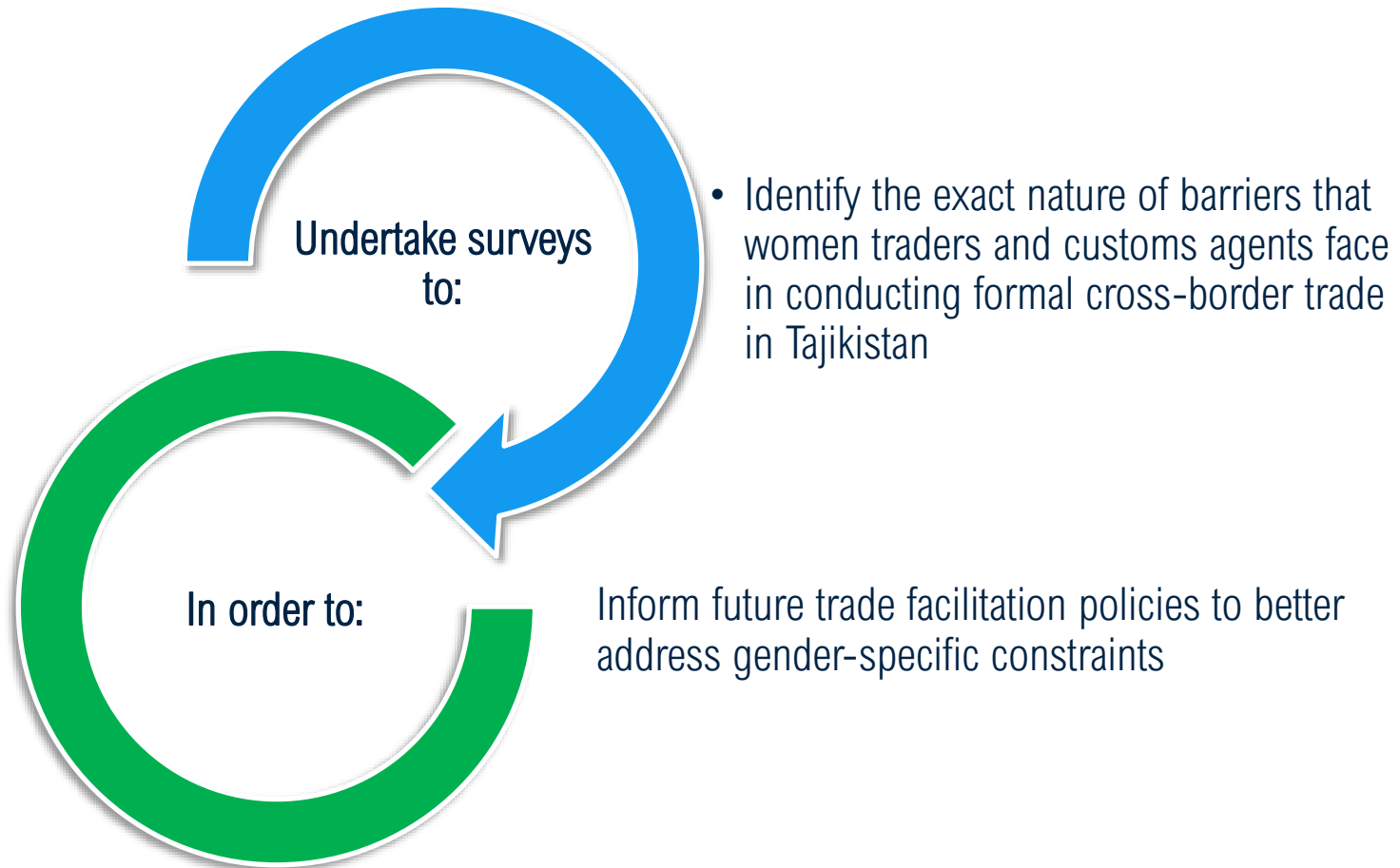
The cover for the Pacific Region survey features a collage of images: a port with a ship, a woman in a call center, a woman in a field, and a woman smiling.

Official Launch on May, 23

Study Design

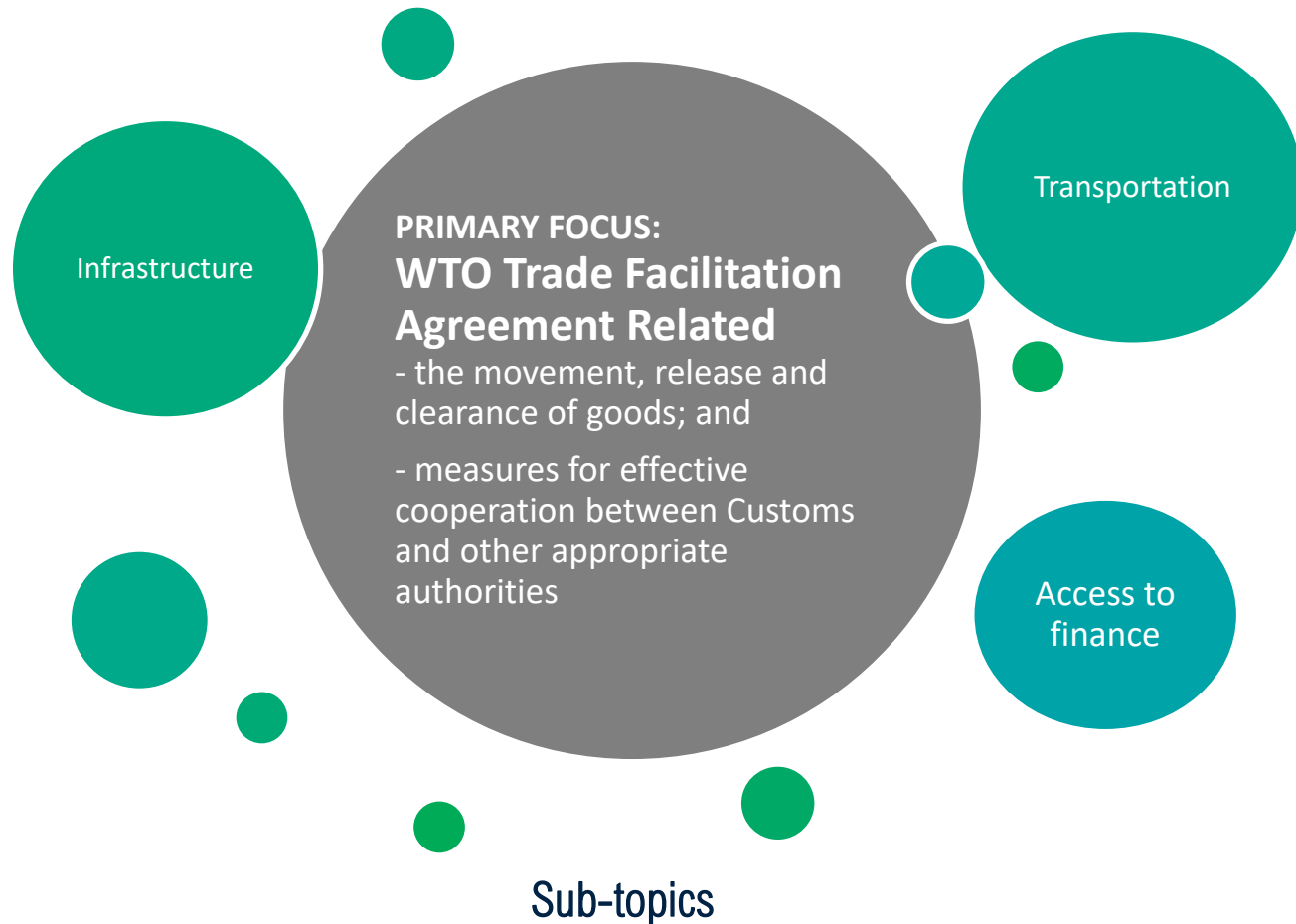


OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY



FOCUS OF THE STUDY

- 2 questionnaires: Trade firms and customs brokers
- 65 questions largely focused on areas related to the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement;
- Developed through a collaborative effort, incl. several WBG units and external experts
- The survey questionnaire was refined after each FGD (focus group discussion)



**Sub-topics are issues that may be touched upon, which are not part of the primary focus.*

METHODOLOGY IN TAJIKISTAN

Quantitative

Telephone survey of
401 trade firms and
31 customs brokers

Simple Random
Sampling
methodology

Qualitative

FGDs with 24 traders

Field visits: 3 BCPs
and Airport

In-depth interviews
with key stakeholders

Study

Findings



SELECT FINDINGS: PROFILE OF FIRMS



A large majority of firms trading across borders are led by men (87 % compared to 13 % women-led firms).

Around 80 % of traders are importers, and the majority of trade firms import goods beyond Central Asia

There are considerably fewer married women-led (78 %) than married men-led firms (98 %).

Fewer women (26 %) than men (31 %) are members of industry/trade associations. The likelihood also correlates with the size of the firm.

Fewer women traders (80 %) work full time (40 or more hours per week) compared to their men counterparts (87 % of men).

SELECT GENDER-SPECIFIC CHALLENGES



More women reported that caretaking responsibilities affect their ability to trade
(12% vs 4%)



A larger share of women traders rely on personal/company savings to finance their business compared to their men counterparts (69 % vs 53 %).
More men traders compared to women traders use official bank loans (26% vs 20%) .

SELECT GENDER-SPECIFIC CHALLENGES

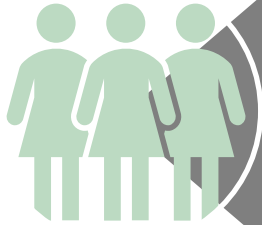


Fewer women-led firms reported that guidance and explanations on penalties and official appeal processes are clear and easy to access across government entities. (34% vs 51%)

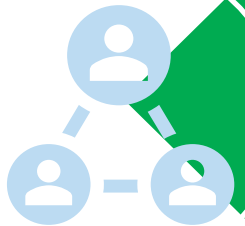


Fewer women traders are consulted regularly or have the opportunity to comment on public consultations regarding changes to official trade processes and procedures (26% vs 42%)

SELECT GENDER-SPECIFIC CHALLENGES



Significantly more women traders are unsatisfied with the amenities provided at the land border posts or airports.



Most trade firms are not familiar with the Authorized Economic Operator program
(88% of women-led and 95% of men-led firms).



Few traders are aware of the NTFC existence
(7% of women-led firms and 14% of men-led firms)

Recommendations



RECOMMENDATIONS



Improving access to official border regulations and procedures



Enhancing formal and regular consultations between the government and the private sector, especially women-led firms



Reviewing and publicizing official grievance procedures in a clear and easy-to-access manner



Improving infrastructure and facility services at border crossings



Recruiting more women staff and improving staff working conditions at Customs and other border agencies and border posts



Strengthening and promoting the system for electronic submission of documents and electronic payments



Strengthening and promoting the National Trade Facilitation Committee

Thank You!

Mariyam Raziyeva mraziyeva@worldbank.org

This work was supported by:



QUALITY
INFRASTRUCTURE
INVESTMENT
PARTNERSHIP



JAPANGOV
THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN