

Economic inclusion and empowerment: pro-poorest growth and WEE for the poorest women and girls

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Chronically poor people, agriculture, growth and inclusion: Themes

- Agricultural markets, poverty reduction and pro-poorest growth
- Developmental state and the big picture
- Informal sector: links to agriculture and rural households
- Formal sector employment: demographic timebomb and labour absorption, increased reserve price of labour
- Women's economic empowerment, economic inclusion and empowerment



Agricultural markets, poverty reduction and pro-poorest growth

- Characteristics of chronically poor people: asset and income poor over a long period, intersecting inequalities, low capabilities, adversely incorporated
- Poorly integrated into fragmented markets
 - widespread benefits of boosting inclusion and market functioning
 - productivity, economic growth, increased foreign exchange earnings, improved hh well-being, poverty reduction, lower U5 stunting and wasting, gender equity outcomes
- Price takers
- Bottom of value chains
- Often juggling survival enterprises, part-time, seasonal, marginal and fragmented landholdings (contribution to economy often underestimated)
- When specialised, this may be because of risks and barriers to entry to higher value enterprises (high marginal returns to removing barriers possible)



Developmental state and the big picture

- Role of the developmental state?
- Progress associated with effective leadership, shared vision, policy coherence, strong policy message and objectives but decentralised responsibility and space for localisation and innovation
- Investments to enable market functioning, remove barriers/impediments
 - Infrastructure (hard and soft, ranging from roads and cool chain to ICTs)
 - Rule of law (contracts, dispute resolution, anti-corruption)
 - Institutional development (markets, norms and rules of the game)
- Long term vision & strategic investments, industrial strategy
 - Not 1970s version!
 - Long term vision and investment strategy to develop capabilities and technical know-how to increase competitive advantage and comparative advantage and 'move the country up the value chain'



Rural economy, agriculture and rural households

- Fragmented markets, remoteness, ineffective demand
- Non-farm rural economy
- Survival enterprises & coping strategies
- Demographic timebomb
 - Labour absorption
 - Increased reserve price of labour
- Industrial strategy
- Investment
- Backwards and forwards linkages
- Global value chains – inputs, outputs and labour markets



Women's economic empowerment, economic inclusion and empowerment

- Comprehensive package
 - Enabling policies
 - Specific and carefully targeted interventions
 - Build individual assets and capabilities
 - Develop agency and political voice
- Multi-level focus
 - Individual, household, community, society
 - Building power and agency in individuals
 - Changing norms and institutions (in households, communities, through regulation of labour and credit markets)
 - Constitutional and legal reform
- Land, education, decent work



How does a chronic poverty lens improve analysis?

- Identifying and understanding the needs of severely poor people, who are poor over a long period – holistic, multi-sectoral, dynamic, targeted
- Intersecting inequalities
 - gender, poverty, ethnicity, religion, remoteness, disability, marginalised/ discriminated against
- Chronically poor people
 - poorly engaged to fragmented markets
 - income poor
 - low asset holdings
 - limited capabilities (including education, health)
 - poorly represented by political parties, social movements
- Untargeted interventions often have poor traction with/ exclude chronically poor people
- Tailored interventions are needed