Women in governance and trade

Demographics in governance and trade – where are the women?

Top 10 African countries performing well in Women in Governance: Women in Parliament

African countries with women trade Ministers and Ministers 35 years of age and younger

Only 3 of the 54 countries in Africa have female Ministers between the ages of 30 and 35 years

References: Inter-Parliamentarian Union
Women are mostly concentrated in lower paying sectors:

- Agriculture production
- Textiles
- Services sectors (cashiers, bank tellers, domestic work etc.)

Women are concentrated in sectors which are sensitive in trade negotiations

Statistics on female traders in Africa

- 7/10 informal cross border traders in southern Africa are female
- 57.4% women in sub-Saharan Africa are employed in agriculture
- 17.2% are in wholesale & Retail
- 5.6% are in manufacturing
- 70% of businesses in the informal sectors in are by women

New wealth creators on the continent are women

Fully incorporating women into the economy could add US$12 trillion to global GDP by 2025 – realizing gender equality lifts all nations.
The narrative is not only female, it is young

**Trade policy to support young women**

- **Capacity building**
- **Network**
- **Access to capital**

Research to close the gender data gap: *Of the 14 indicators for gender equality, only 3 have sufficient data to track progress.*

Access to financial inclusion and ownership of assets: *4 in 10 women in the developing world, don’t have a bank account.*

Prioritize – **trade facilitation measures & trade in services** (digital financial services (lower transaction fees))

**WTO implementation on women in trade**

Are women in governance advocating for and championing solutions to address gender equality?

1 in two girls in SSA misses school during menstrual cycle

Female Parliamentarians in Namibia are too shy or maybe hesitant to discuss sanitary pads as a basic need for girls in school