



## THE WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT INDEX

### Introduction

Overcoming gender inequality is absolutely critical to achieving the end of hunger. As such, women's empowerment is an essential component of all of The Hunger Project's programs. Gender equality is one of the organization's 10 principles, and empowering women as key change agents is one of the three pillars upon which all our global strategies stand.

With a need to assess impact in this area and address a gap in standard measurement approaches, The Hunger Project built the custom Women's Empowerment Index (WEI) and launched it publicly two years ago. Since then, The Hunger Project has integrated WEI results to improve our programs, strengthened its research on the index, and been recognized by many organizations as a thought leader in gender metrics.

### What is WEI?

The Women's Empowerment Index (WEI) is a composite index designed to measure progress in the multidimensional aspects of women's empowerment. It considers empowerment to be a factor of both women's achievements as well as

gender parity with men. As a Monitoring and Evaluation tool, WEI allows for comprehensive benchmarking of program progress for empowering women and helps The Hunger Project strategically design and implement programs that empower women in its focus regions.



# TWO YEARS OF WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT INDEX

## WEI BY THE NUMBERS

20,000 HOUSEHOLDS SURVEYED

111 PROGRAM SITES

9 COUNTRIES

## THOUGHT LEADER IN GENDER METRICS

THP approached by more than

40

nonprofit, public sector, and private sector parties interested in WEI

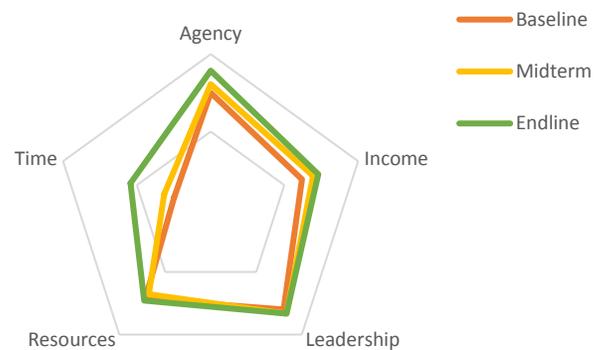
## TARGETED PROGRAM ANALYSIS

EASILY COMPARE DATA ACROSS LOCATIONS. TIME. DOMAIN

Average WEI Score, by Country



WEI OVER TIME (AFRICA)



### Learning from the WEI: A Case Study on Time

Initial analysis of the WEI showed consistently low scores in the time domain, so The Hunger Project conducted research to better understand this result and offer programmatic recommendations. The research showed that low time scores were due to tradition, inconsistent trainings, indicator design, environment and geography.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Improve training through incorporation of domestic chore-sharing sessions and inclusion of men in Women's Empowerment Program
2. Leverage partnerships and resources for time-saving technologies (e.g., improved cook stoves, biogas, or piped water to households)
3. Research to better measure the complexity of time

## WHAT'S NEXT FOR WEI

1. Launch "WEI Toolkit" to guide practitioners in implementing the WEI
2. Advocate for standardized gender metrics
3. Update measurement of time domain
4. Continue data collection and program learning cycle