

Value Chain Analysis: Gender and Market Participation in Livestock Markets

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Introduction

Women play a vital role in livestock value chains. Studies in Kenya and Tanzania show that women own fewer livestock than men (Njuki et al. forthcoming). In spite of this, women have been known to participate in livestock product markets and control livestock products even when they do not own the livestock (Waters-Bayer, 1985). Their participation in markets has however not been well studied due to a lack of gender analysis of livestock value chains. The study reported here uses a gender and value chain analysis framework to analyze men and women's preference for and participation in livestock markets.

Methodology

- Men only, women only and mixed focus group discussions were held in five districts in Tanzania and four districts in Kenya.
- Household interviews were conducted in male and female headed households. In male headed households, both male adults and female adults were interviewed. A participatory gender and value chain mapping was done during the focus group discussions.
- Data collected included market preferences, livestock products sold, who sold and to what markets they sold to.

Livestock Product Preferences

- In Tanzania, men preferred eggs and milk more than women, and women preferred only manure more than men (Fig 1).
- In Kenya, men preferred only cow milk more than women. Women preferred goat milk, traditional chicken eggs and honey more than men (Fig 2).

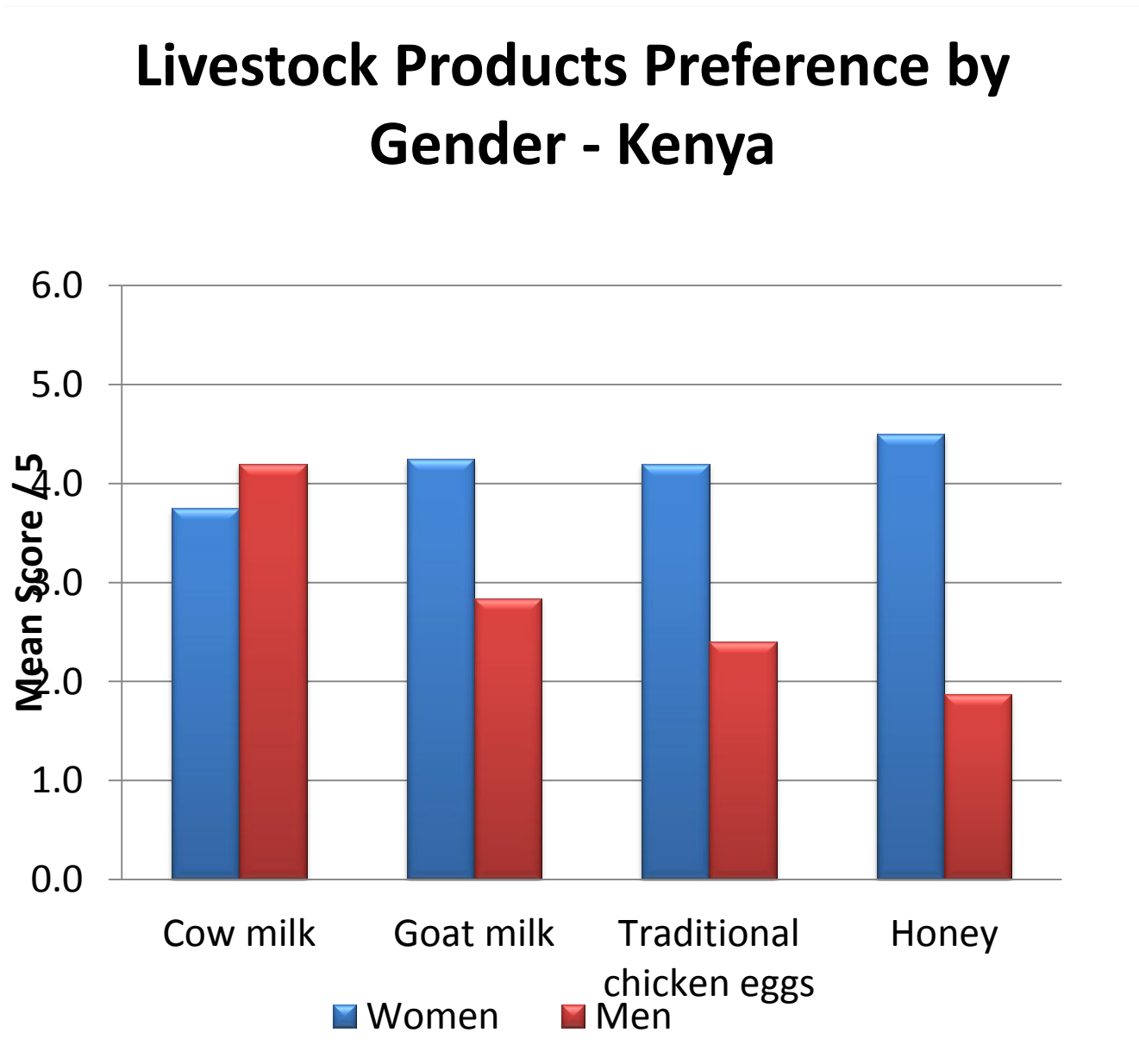


Figure 2: Preference of livestock products by women and men (Kenya)

- FGD participants drew value chain maps of how the milk they produced got to the end consumer.
- The main milk market was at the farm gate to farmers and traders.
- The traders, all men, then sold milk to other markets at profits ranging between 40 and 220% (Fig 3).
- Women said that they could not become milk traders themselves because traders were robbed and mugged regularly.

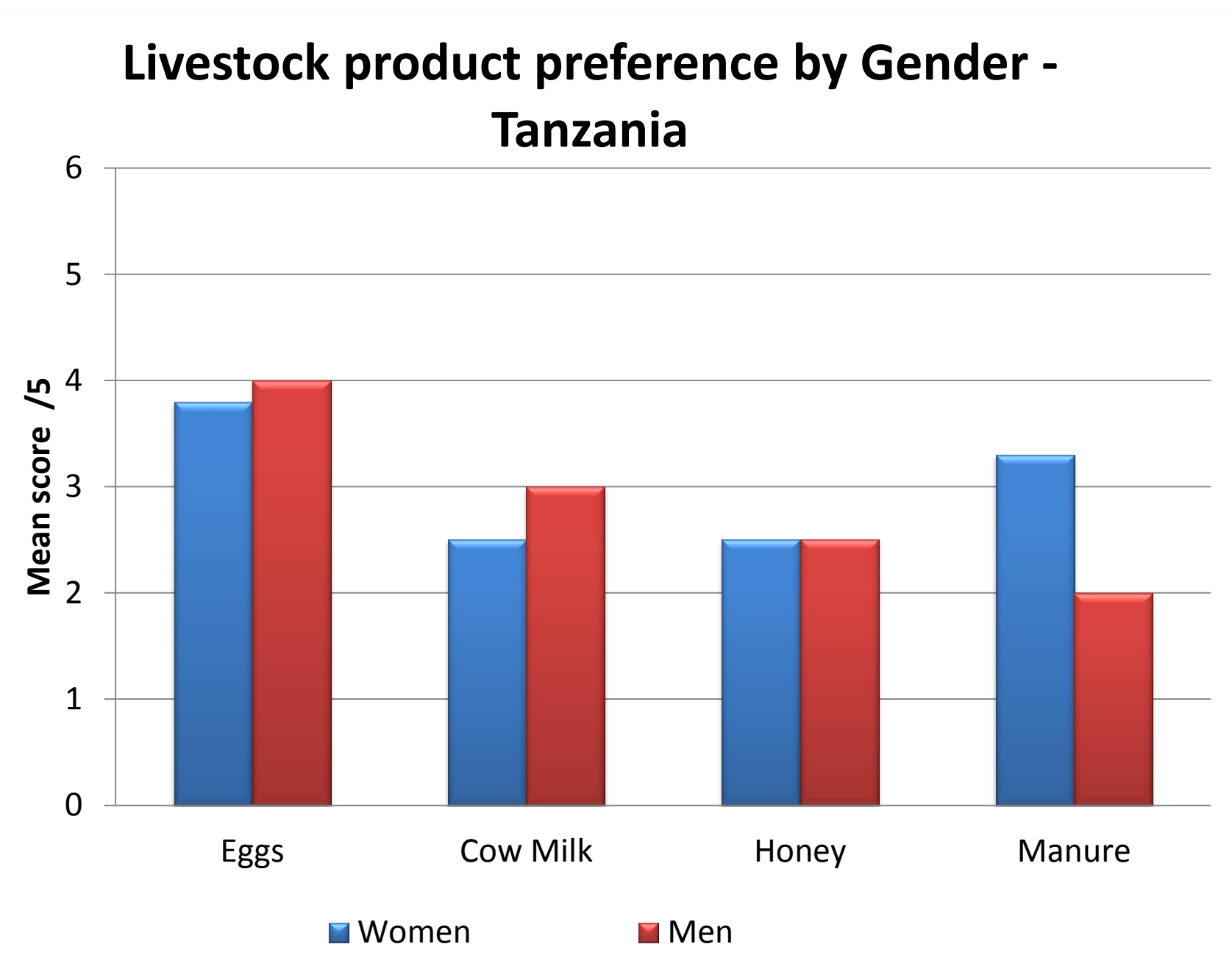


Figure 1: Preference of livestock products by women and men (Tanzania)

- The cow-milk and egg markets were emerging in Tanzania whereas in Kenya, the cow-milk market is well established.
- This might explain the interest in these products by men.

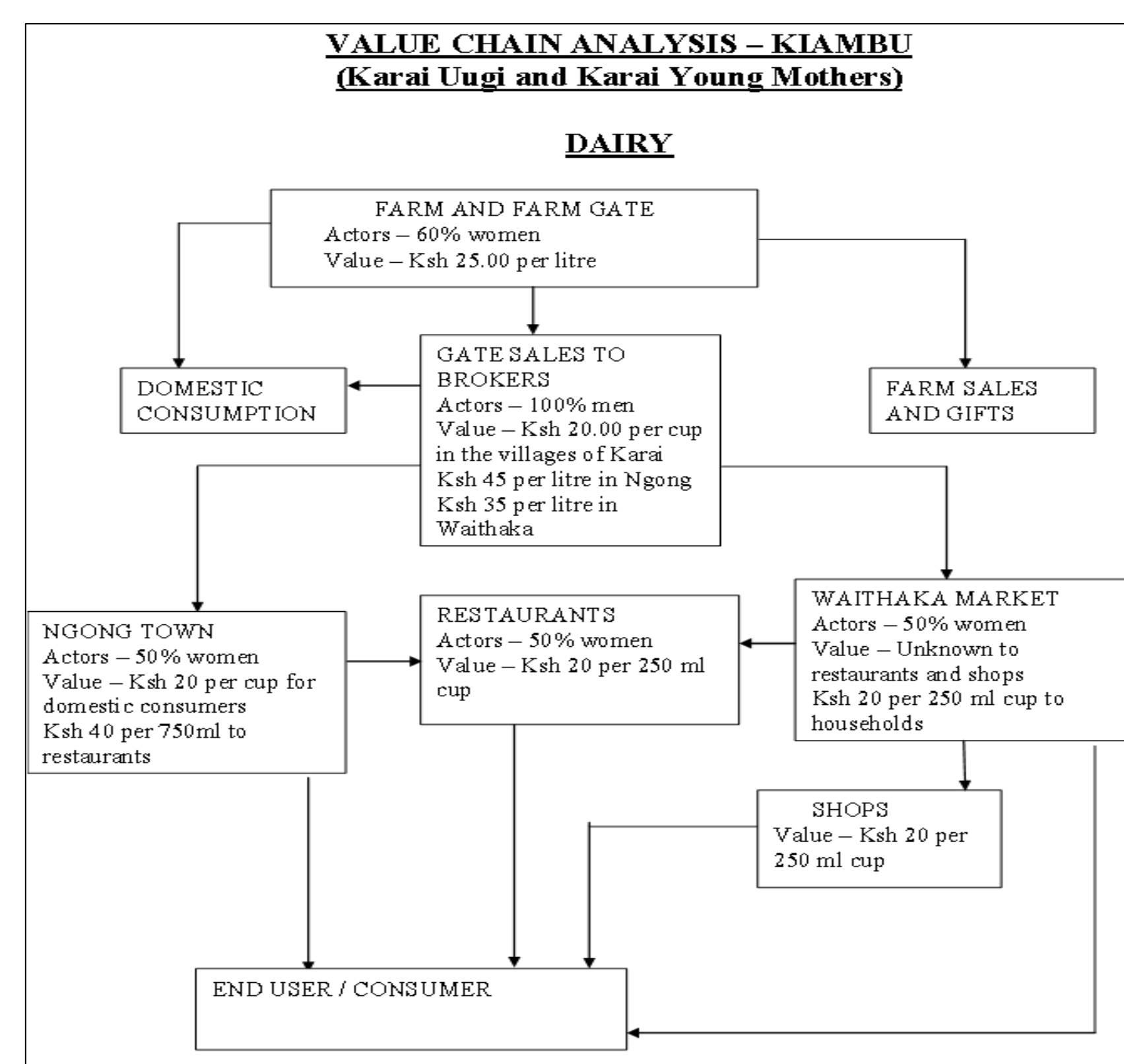


Figure 3: Gendered Value chain map drawn by a women's FGD

Research Question

What types of livestock and livestock product markets do women have more access to, which provide limited barriers to women's participation and that provide women more flexibility and control while ensuring sustainable incomes?



Figure 1: Women take care of livestock irrespective of whether they own them

Conclusion

Gender-blind market development and commercialization of livestock production results in loss of control over commodities and incomes by women to men, while increasing women's work load.

Discussion

- Livestock value chain participation (Fig 4, 5) and preferences of livestock species, products, and their markets are gendered (Fig 1,2) in the two countries.
- For example, women mainly sell at the farm gate (60%), to other farmers, neighbours and traders (Fig 4).
- Traders (100% men), make profits ranging between 40% and 220% from moving milk to various consumption / sale points (Fig 3).
- Product and market preferences appear to represent the ability to control the product and the income accrued from its sale. Although milk and milk income has been traditionally controlled by women, it seems to be getting into the control of men.
- In joint sales, women and men market milk in markets used by men.
- The take over of products that were traditionally under women's control once the production becomes commercialized has been documented in other livestock and crop value chain studies.
- Selling jointly, to men's preferred markets, seems to be the conduit for men's take over of control of products and incomes from women.

Men and Women's Participation in cow-milk markets

- Men and women in Tanzania and Kenya sold cow milk independently as individuals and jointly. The dairy market is more established in Kenya than in Tanzania as is shown by the many market options.
- When women and men sold milk jointly, they tended to sell more in markets dominated by men.
- Women in Kenya sold most (about 80%) of their milk at the farm gate to farmers (63.2%) and traders (19.1%). In Tanzania, women sold all their milk at the farm gate. Women appear to prefer the farm gate as their main milk market.
- Men used the farm gate to farmers and traders in Tanzania and Kenya and in Kenya they also delivered to traders and the collection center.
- In Kenya, 83% of jointly sold milk was sold at the farm gate (50%) to traders and 33% delivered to traders. In Tanzania, all milk sold jointly was sold to traders at the farm gate.

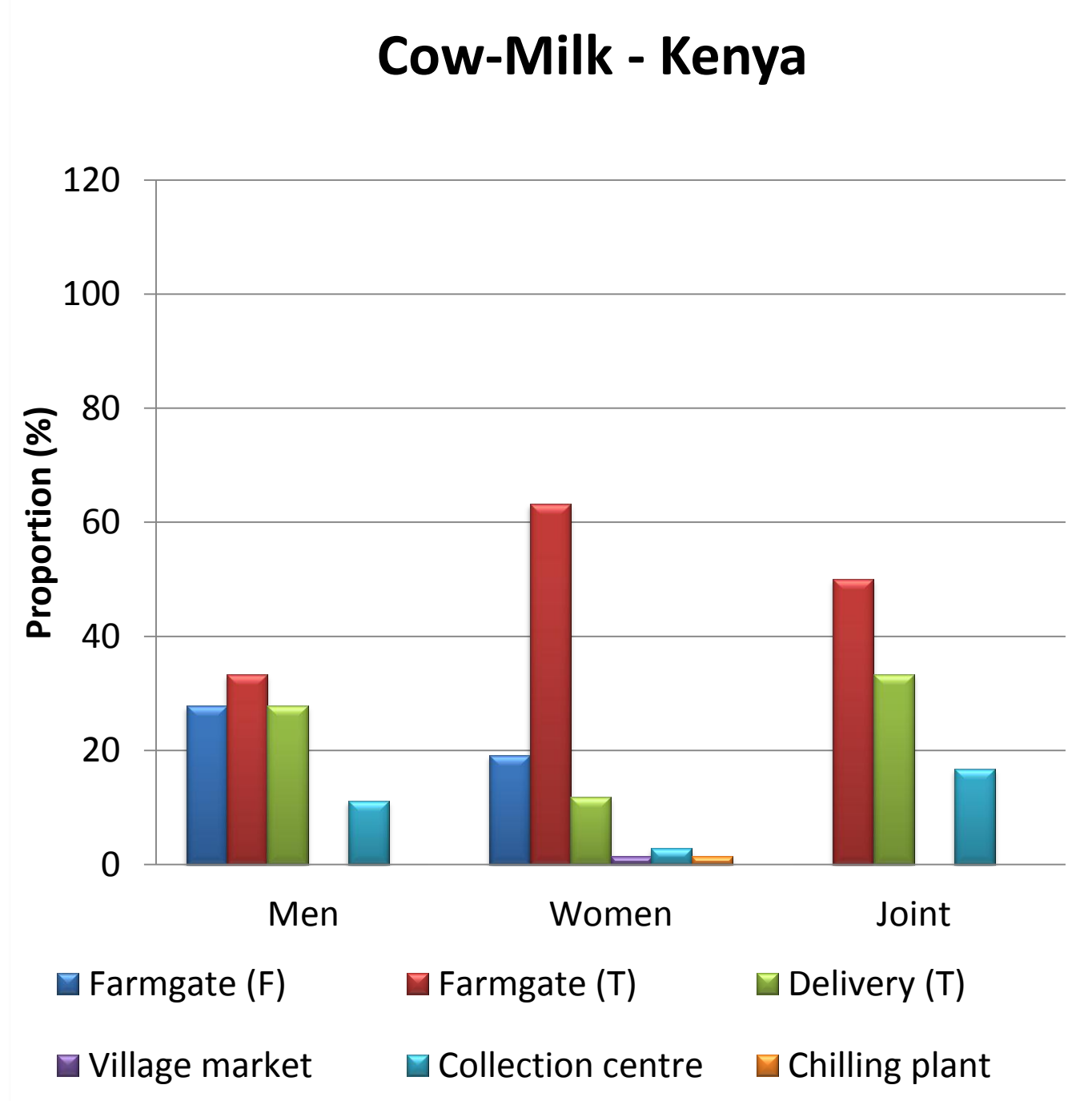


Figure 4: Proportion of cow milk sold by men, women and jointly in Kenya

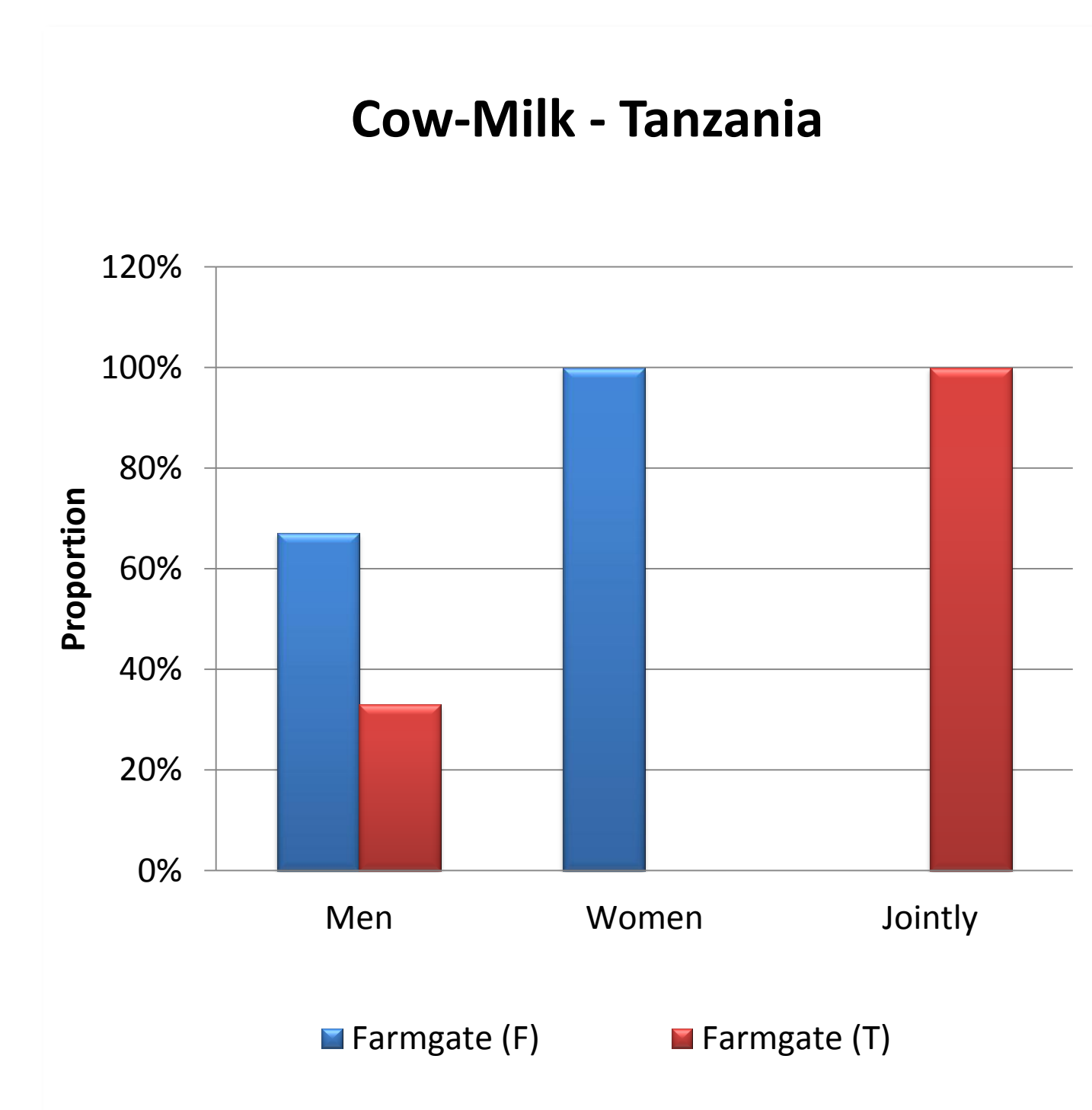


Figure 5: Proportion of cow milk sold by men, women and jointly in Tanzania