



*Better lives through livestock*

# Women Empowerment in Livestock Index (WELI) an overview

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*Policies, institutions and livelihoods*

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# Why women's empowerment in livestock development?

# Livestock key for women's empowerment...

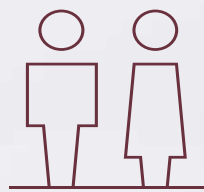
- → Women are the majority of poor livestock keepers (FAO 2011)
- → Livestock and products as source of income (Randolph 2007)
- → Livestock more easily controlled by women than other assets (Galiè et al 2015)
- → Livestock as a mobile bank (Njuki and Sanginga 2013)

Empowerment as a means **...and vice-versa**

Empowerment as an end

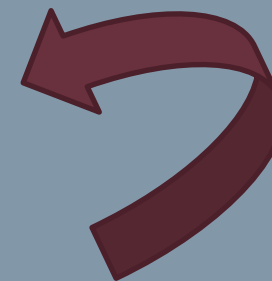
- → Livestock-specific **interventions** affect women's empowerment





GENDER

Women's empowerment  
for livestock



Livestock for  
women's empowerment





However....

Women have limited control  
over livestock resources (Kristjanson 2014)

Commercialization: women lose  
control over livestock products  
(Tavener et al 2019)

Livestock entrenched in long-  
standing gender norms (Price et al 2018)



**Gender-responsive  
livestock development for  
women's empowerment**



# Why measure the empowerment of Women in Livestock?

# Measuring the empowerment of Women in Livestock ...

- Study how livestock-specific **interventions** affect women's empowerment
- Characterize women's empowerment through livestock specific activities (rather than livestock keeping overall)
- Consider differences in **roles/activities** between livestock species
- Identify **sources of disempowerment** facing the women participating in livestock production

WEAI **requires adaptation** in settings  
where livestock farming is the **dominant** form of livelihood

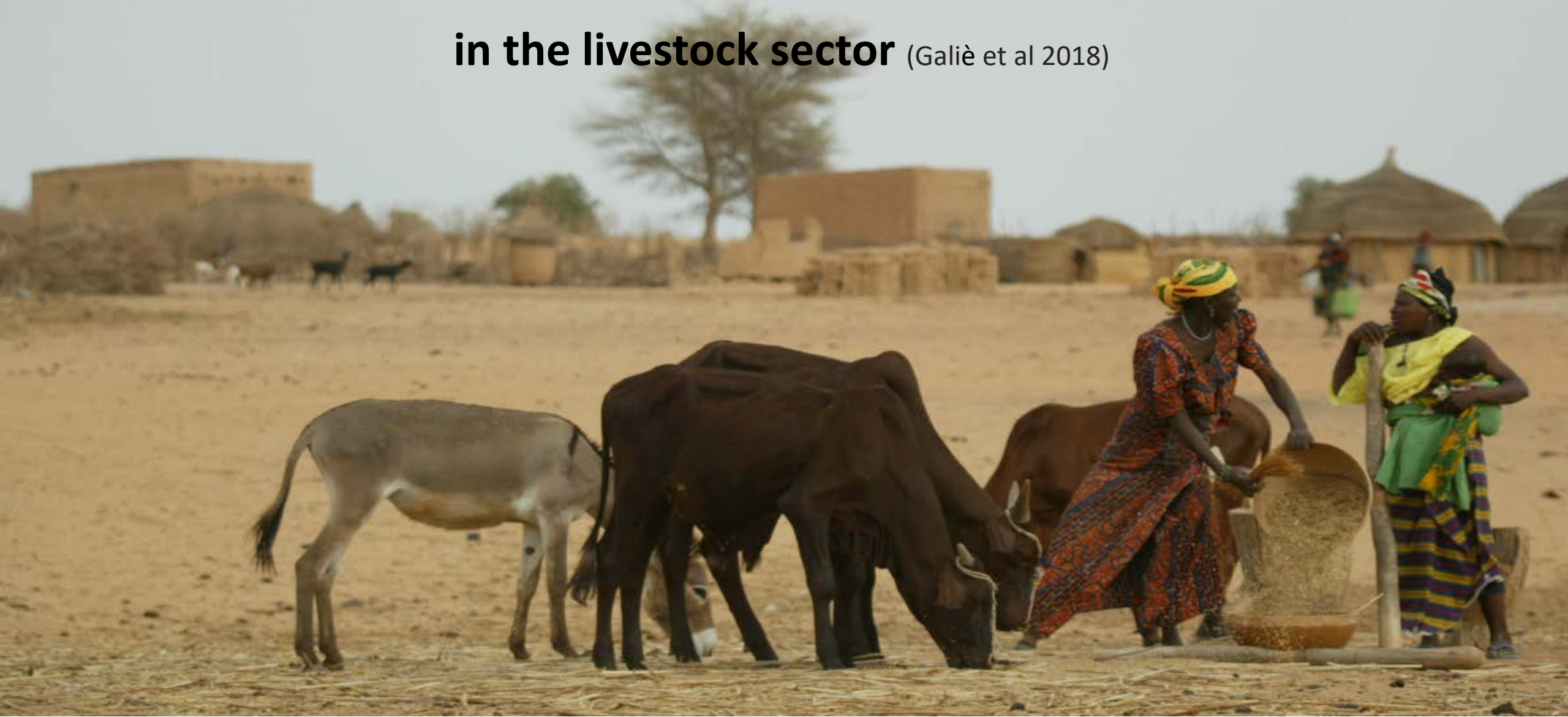
Women's Empowerment  
in Livestock Index (WELI)





# The Women's Empowerment in Livestock Index (WELI)

A standardized measure to assess the empowerment of women  
in the livestock sector (Galiè et al 2018)





# What is WELI?

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- Women's Empowerment in Livestock Index (WELI) is a **standardized measure** to assess the empowerment of women in the livestock sector
- Developed by livestock and gender experts from ILRI and Emory University in 2014/2015
- Pilot tested in Tanzania, 2015
- Aligned to pro-WEAI, 2019



# Construction of the Index

## *Pilot version of Pro-WEAI*

*Intrinsic Agency*

Autonomy in Income

Self-efficacy

Attitudes about IPV against women

Respect among household members

*Instrumental Agency*

Input in household decisions about production and income

Ownership of land and other assets

Access to and decisions on financial services

Control over use of income

Work balance

*Collective Agency*

Visiting important locations

Group membership

Membership in influential groups

Update scenarios/options pertaining to livestock

Additional Scenarios pertaining to livestock

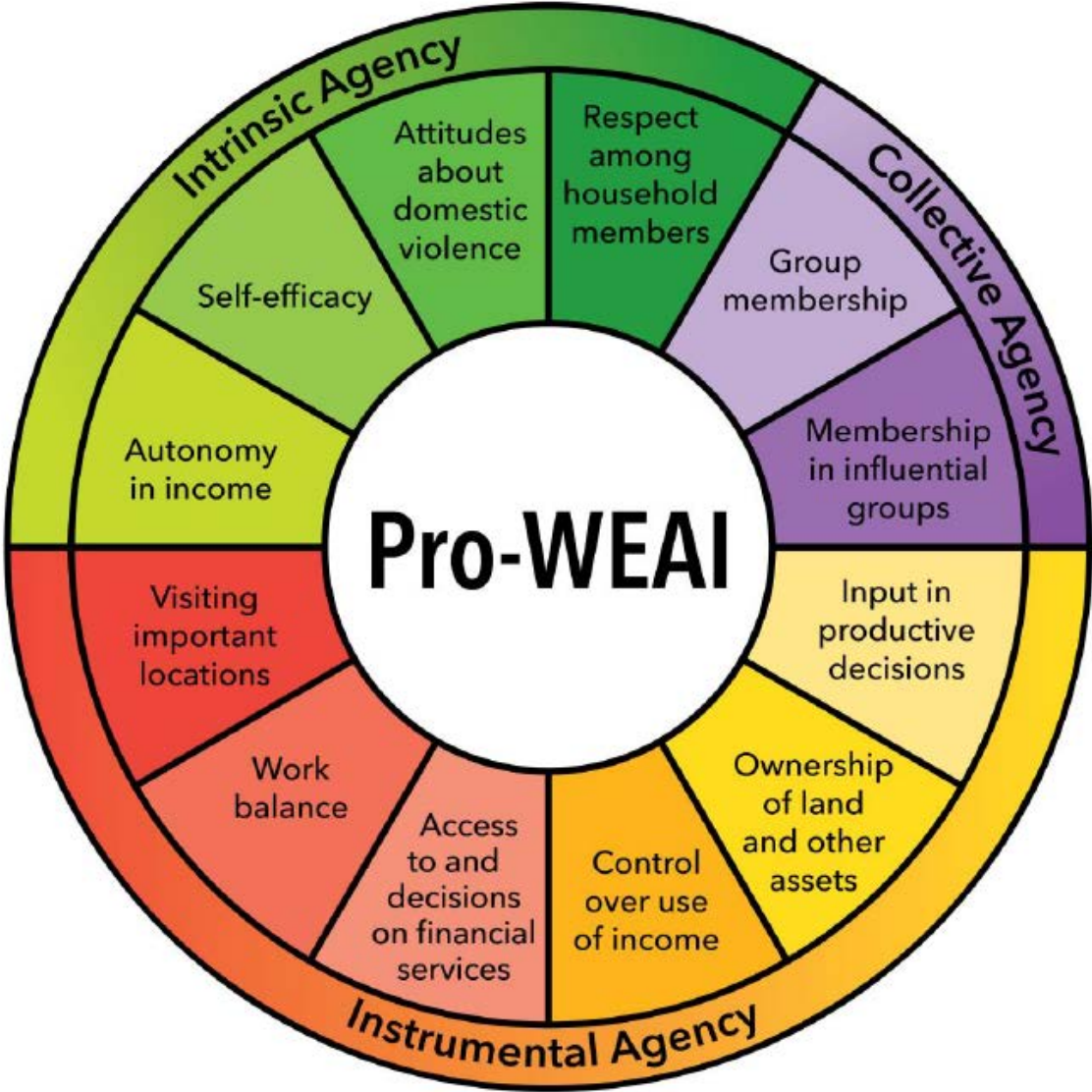
Input in household decisions with a Livestock focus (NEW)

Additional options pertaining to livestock

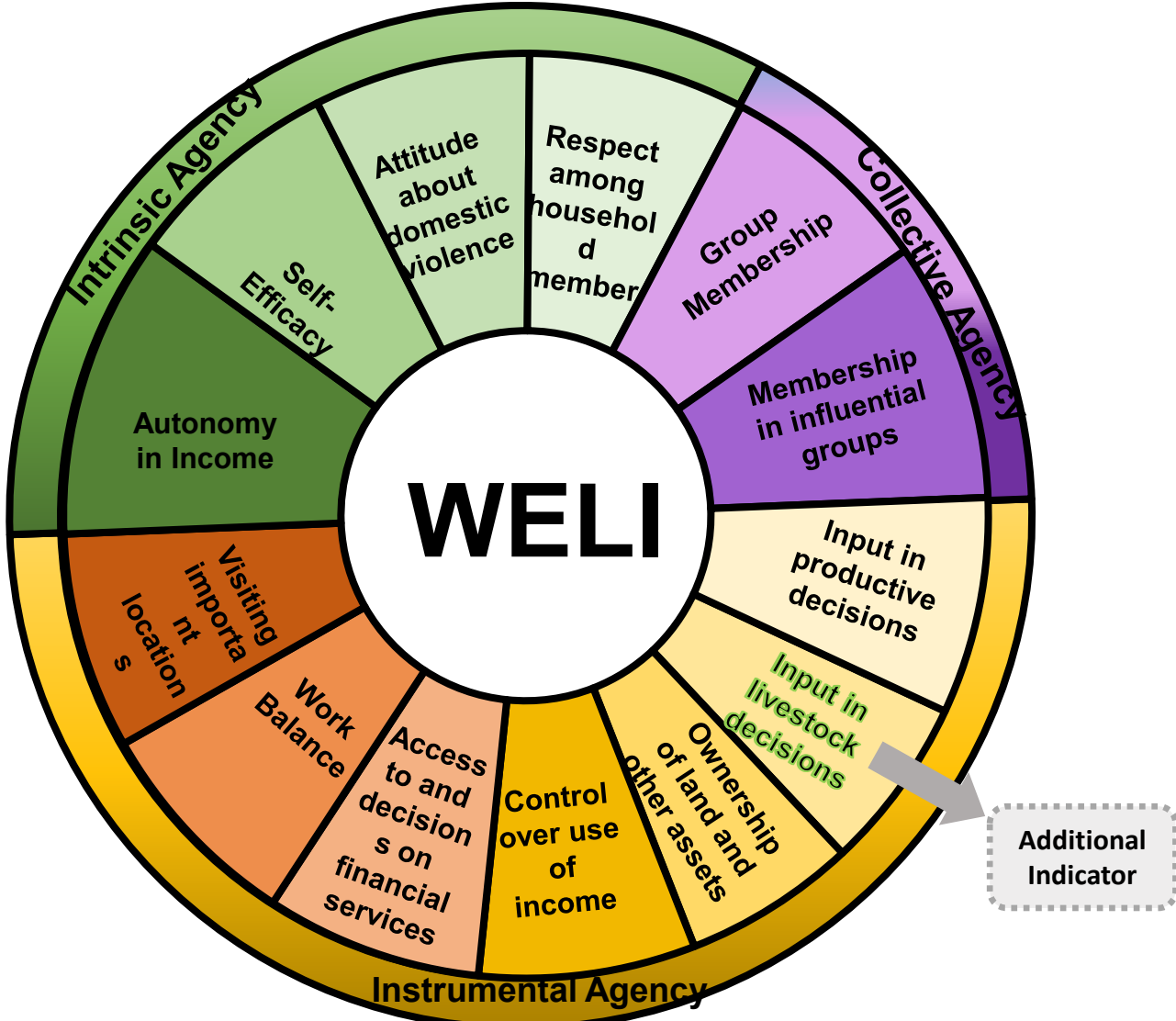
**WELI**

*Note:  
Livestock-focused components (in similar pro-WEAI) sections removed to avoid overlaps*

# Indicators of Empowerment



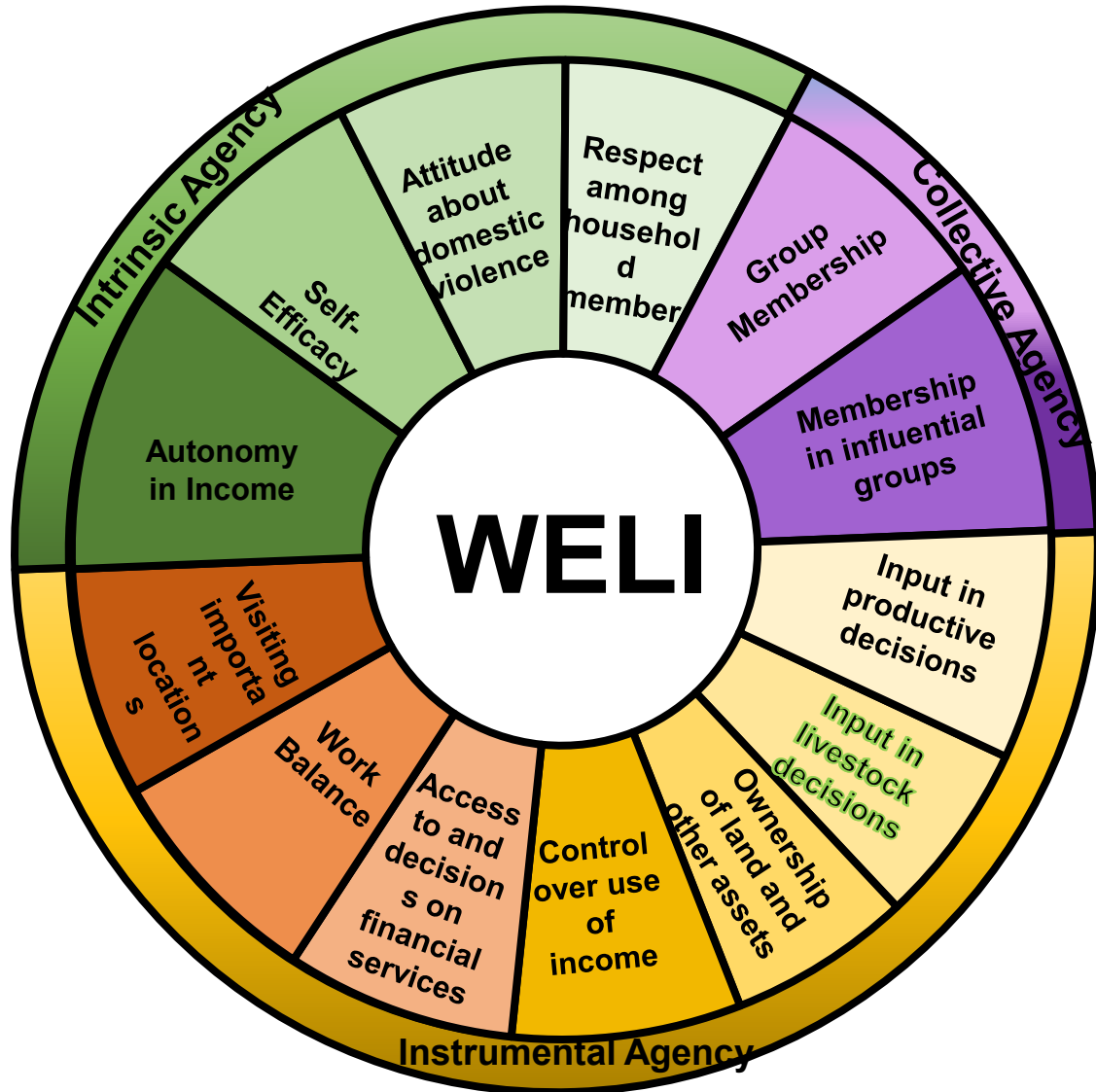
3 Dimensions and 12 Indicators



3 Dimensions and 13 Indicators



# WELI: Index Calculation



Each indicator receives an equal proportion (1/13) of the overall weight



Weighted average score  
**3DE**



**EMPOWERED** if adequate in 75% of indicators

# WELI : composed of two sub-indices

90%

## Three Domains of Empowerment (3DE)

A direct measure of women's empowerment in 3 dimensions

## Women's Empowerment in Livestock Index (WELI)

10%

## Gender Parity Index (GPI)

Women's achievement's relative to the primary male in the households

All range from zero to one;  
higher values = greater empowerment

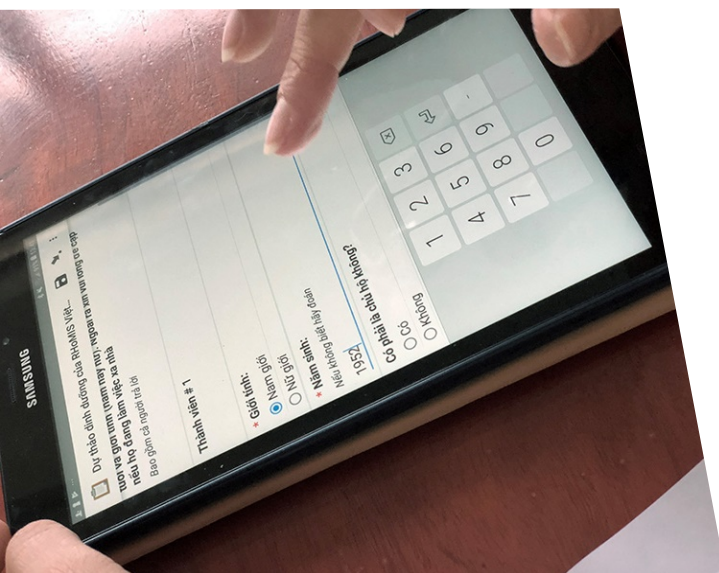
# When and for what purpose to use WELI

## WHEN?

- Useful for households where livestock is main source of livelihood
- Useful for assessing empowerment of interventions with a focus on livestock

## What for?

- To assess contribution of domain/indicators to overall empowerment
- To draw comparisons of women empowerment across species
- To create association of empowerment with income/poverty reduction and food/nutrition security increases
- To assess impacts of gender-focused livestock interventions





# WELI vs Livestock-integrated Pro-WEAI


- **Elaborate list of livestock activities** in WELI's decisions making modules: **24 vs 5**
- WELI integrates **more livestock related scenarios/options** in several modules (autonomy, domestic violence, physical mobility etc.)
- WELI is **fashioned to pick out on** decision making related to the **most important species** for both household's and the women's livelihoods





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