



# FR2.2: Gender assessment of Potato Traits: A G+ Product Profiling application

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# Outline

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Rationale for gender in breeding**
- 3. Methodology**
- 4. Findings**
- 5. Recommendation**
- 6. Conclusion**

# INTRODUCTION

- The Partnership for Seed Technology Transfer in Africa project by USAID FtF and Syngenta Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture
- Aim: Improve farmers access to quality affordable seed for better productivity
- CIP provided gendered expertise
  - a gendered analysis of the table potato Target Product Profile (TPP)
- The TPP had the following traits:
  - Dry matter,
  - Earliness,
  - Yield,
  - Disease and pest resistance
  - Shelf life.

We used the G+ Product Profile query tool for the analysis



# STUDY OBJECTIVES

**To examines the differences between individual and collective/multistakeholder value chain actors' gendered trait assessment**

## **Specific objectives**

- Assess the gender responsiveness of the table potato TPP using the G+ tools
- Contribute to a methodological adaptation of the tools for different contexts.

# Why gender in breeding

- Potato VC actors have varying trait preferences.
- Gender roles influence desired crop traits and varieties.
- Differential access to resources and technologies.
- Low uptake of innovations from breeding, especially by women

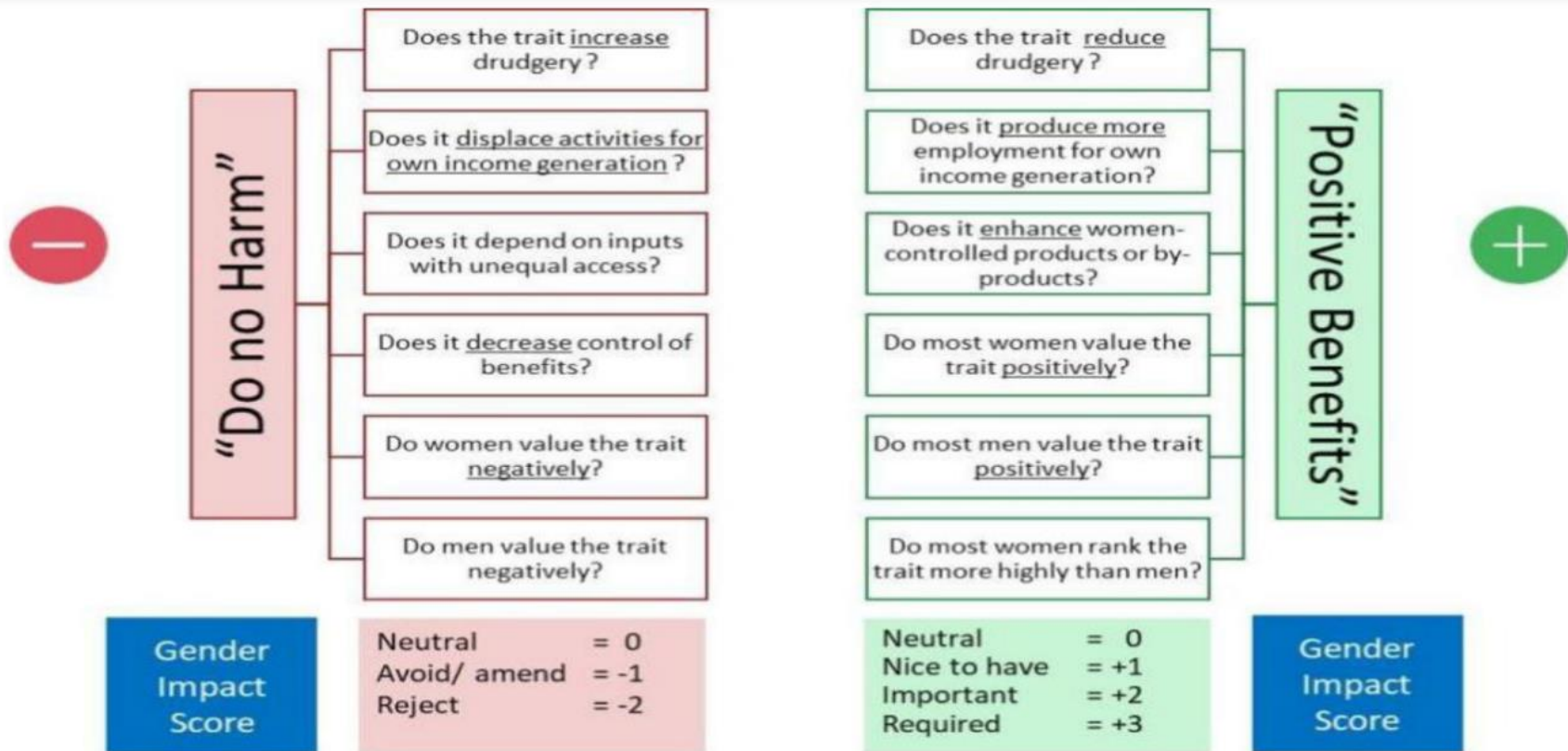


Male and female farmers showing how they select seed potato, Malawi. Credit: N. Mudege

# METHODOLOGY

- **Literature/desk study**
- **Gender assessment CIP social scientists**
- **KII with 13 potato VC actors**
- **Multi-stakeholder workshop (14 Actors)**
  - G+ PP tool programmed in CSPro
  - G+ assessment in thematic groups
  - Building consensus

# THE G+ PRODUCT PROFILE QUERY TOOL



## Product profile with gender impact scores

Client	Target traits	Social Scientists		Individual Interviews		Multistakeholder workshop			
						Groups score		Consensus Scores	
		<i>DNH</i>	<i>PB</i>	<i>DNH</i>	<i>PB</i>	<i>DNH</i>	<i>PB</i>	<i>DNH</i>	<i>PB</i>
Consumer	Dry matter	0	3	0	3	0	3	-1	3
Farmer	Earliness	-1	2	0	3	0	3	0	3
	Tuber yield	-1	2	0	3	0	3	-1	3
	Pest resistance	0	3	0	3	0	3	0	3
	Disease resistance	0	3	0	3	0	3	0	3
Retailer	Shelf life	0	3	0	3	0	3	0	3

**Key: -1 = Amend; 0= neutral ; 1= nice to have 2= important; 3= required**



# FINDINGS

## DRY MATTER

associated with mealiness  
absorb less oil during cooking  
have good nutritional value

High DM associated with small tubers, -  
Longer peeling time

- Longer cooking time
- Heavier tubers, better processing ability, better income
- BUT: displacing women
- Tradeoff with early maturity

**MSP: DO NO HARM score: -1**



# YIELD

- Women farmers & extension:
  - -Increase drudgery
  - Displace women
  - Requires inputs with unequal access
  - Reduced control of benefits by women
- 
- DO NO HARM SCORE: -1



# RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

- **A 'buy in' from breeders at TPP design is crucial**
- **Farmers, processors and seed multipliers help visualize gender inequalities certain traits may perpetuate**
- **Mitigation strategies best done during consensus building**
- **Some traits are still untouchable for breeders e.g. yield**
- **Negotiations to include women preferred traits (quality)**



**The International Potato Center** (known by its Spanish acronym CIP) is a research-for-development organization with a focus on potato, sweetpotato, and Andean roots and tubers. CIP is dedicated to delivering sustainable science-based solutions to the pressing world issues of hunger, poverty, gender equity, climate change and the preservation of our Earth's fragile biodiversity and natural resources.

[www.cipotato.org](http://www.cipotato.org)



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