



# Mechanization for empowerment of rural women.

Bhutan Chapter

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# Introduction

Rural women -active role in small-scale agriculture(43%)

disproportionate work burden -time poverty.

- Productive
- Reproductive
- social spheres

restricts women's well-being and their engagement in activities of value, including remunerative activities

labour-saving technologies & related services -freeing up time and improve their quality of life



# Barriers Women farmer Face

## in adopting and accessing agriculture mechanization



01

Lack of customized machines and equipment for women

piloted with male farmers

Lack of pre-consultation  
not scale appropriate

02

Limited access to finance

- unaffordable
- availed by men.
- Limited ownership of land.

03

Restrictive social norms

- gender gaps

04

Little monitoring of the impacts of technology

05

Inadequate institutional support .

Based on [FAO \(2015\)](#) report, and presentation made during the [regional consultation meet](#)



# Agriculture in Bhutan



## mountainous country



### Agriculture Status

- **66 %** -rural areas agriculture
- **Subsistence agriculture**
- average landholding 3.4 acres
- 58.8 % of women work in agriculture
- almost 70% of the land owned by women

### Farm Mechanization

- Steep terrain
- small land holding
- Gender friendly- default
- Mechanization level: **24.14%**
- **> 84% post harvest mechanization**
- No commodity is fully mechanized.

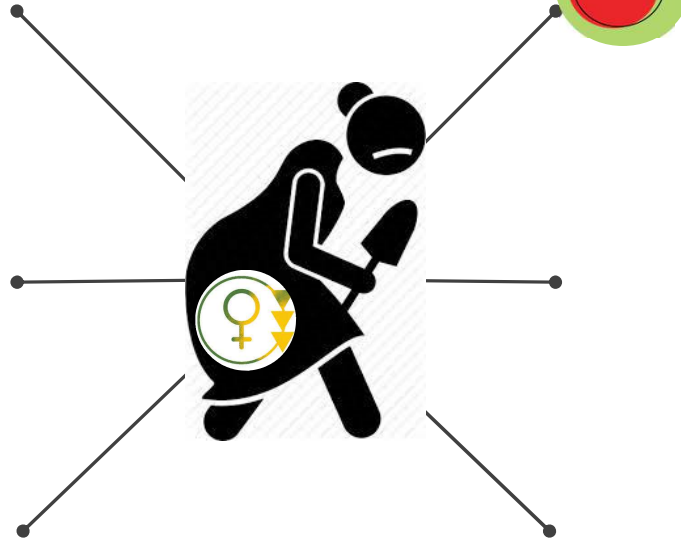
### Migration and remittances

- **48.7%** - migrated to urban city. Unattractive agriculture
- 51% are male
- Men - Employment, education
- Women- family move, education and marriage
- labor shortages
- Impact- women

# Key Challenges of Bhutanese Women Farmers

## Migration & labor shortages

- low and stagnant returns, low productivity, and damage to crops by wild animals
- labour shortages - rural areas
- 53% HH farm labor shortage (GNHC ,2019)
- impact women



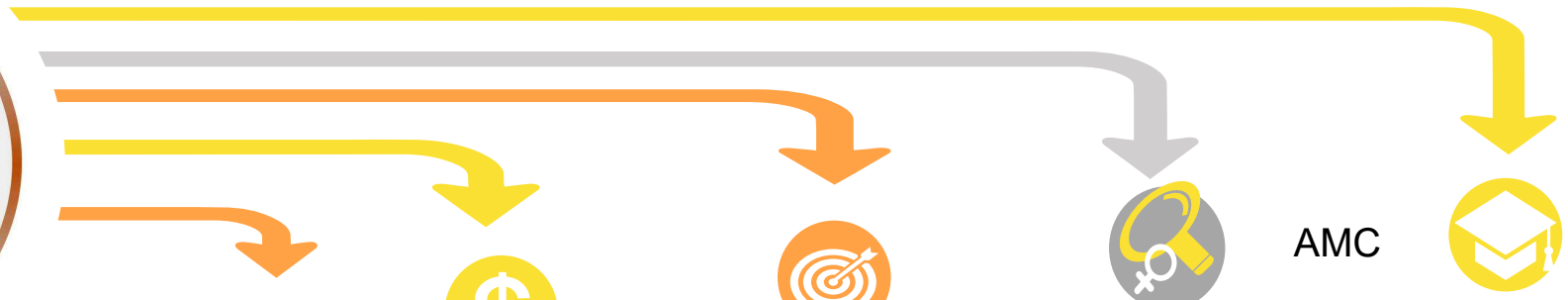
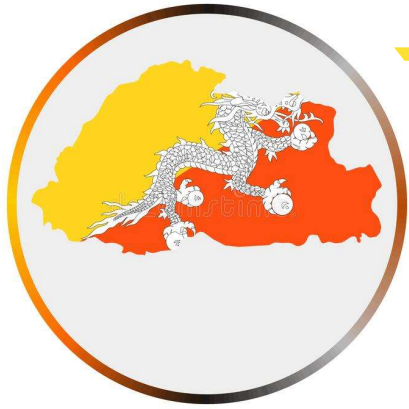
## Less Access to Productive Resources

- Low productivity
- limited technology adoption
- limited access to finance,
- poor market access.

vulnerable livelihoods and high drudgery for women farmers.



# Government Policies and Strategies to promote mechanization among women farmers



**Land development**  
land development (CMU, NSSC)



**Access to credit services.**  
Low interest credit



**Access to minimum wages**  
Subsidized hiring services by SOE on grant machines



**Gender friendly & safe technologies**

- R & D are focused on gender friendly technologies
- Certificated of compliance

AMC



**Free training**

- Incentive of Minimum daily allowances, free accommodations
- Awareness and hands on training a site





Land preparation









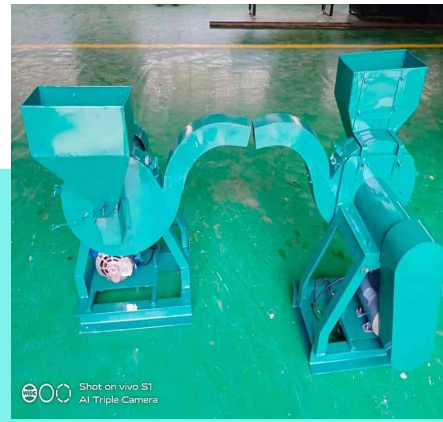


Transplanting And weeding





# Harvesting And post harvest machinery





# Thank You

