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Conseil international du Café  
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17 – 21 septembre 2018  
Londres (Royaume-Uni)

**Présentation de Mme Luiza Carvalho,  
Directrice régionale d'ONU Femmes pour  
les Amériques et les Caraïbes, lors de la  
cérémonie d'ouverture de la 122<sup>e</sup> session  
du Conseil international du Café,  
le 17 septembre 2018**

#### **Contexte**

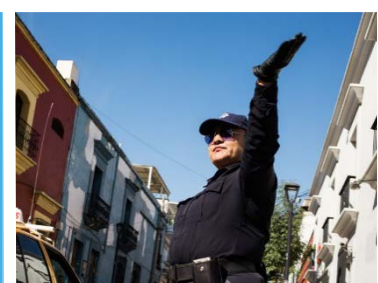
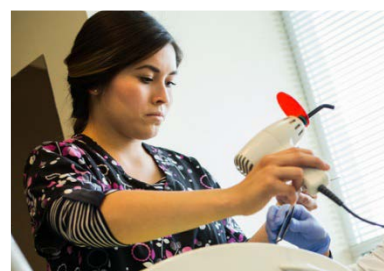
La présentation ci-après a été faite par Mme Luiza Carvalho, Directrice régionale d'ONU Femmes pour les Amériques et les Caraïbes, lors de la cérémonie d'ouverture de la 122<sup>e</sup> session du Conseil international du Café le 17 septembre 2018.



# Women in the Coffee Industry

Luiza Carvalho

*Regional Director, Americas and the Caribbean*



- ❖ The 2030 Agenda sets out a transformative path to tackle global challenges
- ❖ It makes clear that development will only be possible and sustainable if it benefits women and men equally
- ❖ Women's rights will only become a reality if they are part of broader efforts to protect the planet and ensure that all people can live with respect and dignity.



By prioritizing  
**GENDER EQUALITY**  
we will move  
towards more

- **prosperous economies,**
- **peaceful societies,**
- **sustainable planet**



- Approx. 500 million people in the world are dependent on coffee for their livelihood
- Approx. 80% of coffee is produced by cooperatives, where women do much of the work

## HOWEVER

Despite their contribution, women are often excluded from decision making processes, access to resources including land, trade, training, information and leadership opportunities, to name a few.



The sixty-second session of the Commission on the Status of Women took place at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 12 to 23 March 2018.

## Priority theme:

Challenges and opportunities in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of rural women and girls

1. Income security and social protection
2. Food security and nutrition
3. Land and resource security

## Review theme:

- Participation in and access of women to the media and ICT, and their impact on and use as an instrument for the advancement and empowerment of women



# Rural women worldwide



Rural women and girls represent more than a third of the world's population, and 43% of the world's agricultural labour force.

They have a fundamental role in food security: availability of food (production), access to food (distribution) and use of food.

80% of the world's poor and undernourished live in rural areas (FAO 2016).

***If women in the agricultural sector had access to the same productive resources as men, average yields would increase by 20-30%, and hunger would be reduced by 12-17% (FAO 2011)***

Rural women are a very **heterogenous universe** (their participation to agricultural sectors is very important)

- They face multiple forms of **discrimination** that respond to stereotypes, attitudes, beliefs rooted in **traditional values**

- Not only legal but also social, cultural and institutional barriers contribute to discriminate rural women's access to goods and services

- Their work is **invisible** and mainly **not remunerated**

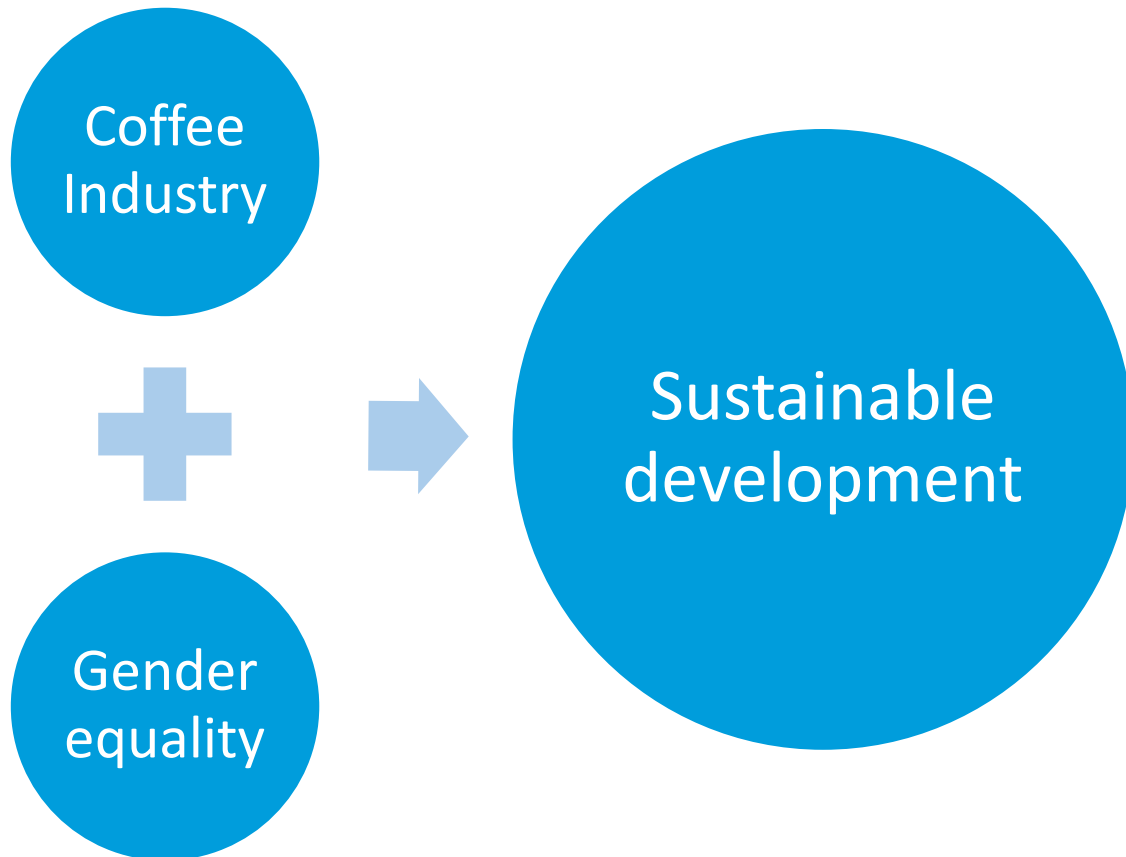


**Recognizing rural women as full and active citizens is the first step towards change**



- ❖ **In France**, women have always played a key role in agriculture. One out of four agricultural worker is a woman, and 24.2% of women own the land, making France one of the countries with the smaller gender gap in land titles. *However*, only in 2011 they achieved the legal right to use and control their land
- ❖ **In Japan**, women represent 55% of agricultural population, and the government is developing programmes to attract and support women in agriculture. *However*, data from 2010 shows that only a small portion of women occupy leadership positions in agricultural cooperatives (16%).
- ❖ **In Turkey**, more than 50% of agricultural workers are women, who suffer from lack of access to clean water, double or triple burden. In addition, almost 35% of women in rural area have not completed primary education. Early marriage and early pregnancies are also particularly high in rural areas.

The coffee industry can be a key partner in achieving sustainable development – ***We can!***




SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS





Coffee is the world's most widely traded tropical product, and it's produced in over 50 developing countries. Among the top ten coffee producer countries there are five Latin American countries: Brazil (first producer worldwide), Colombia (third), Honduras, Guatemala and Peru.

## Women's role in coffee production



Both women and men play a significant role in coffee production:

- **500 million** people throughout the world depend on coffee for their livelihoods
- **25 million** of them are coffee farmers, among which a vast majority are women



### However

Despite their contribution, women remain the greatest under-utilized actor to address challenges and share benefits in the coffee industry.

Female coffee growers and entrepreneurs involved in the entire coffee production process, from the seed to the cup, **play a crucial role in the promotion of sustainable development**, encouraging green and inclusive production and the adoption of sustainable agricultural techniques and more equal forms of trade.

However, **women mostly work in the cultivation and farming phases**, while being significantly under-represented in other areas, including leadership and decision-making position, ownership of land and trade.

Cultivation  
and farming



Trade

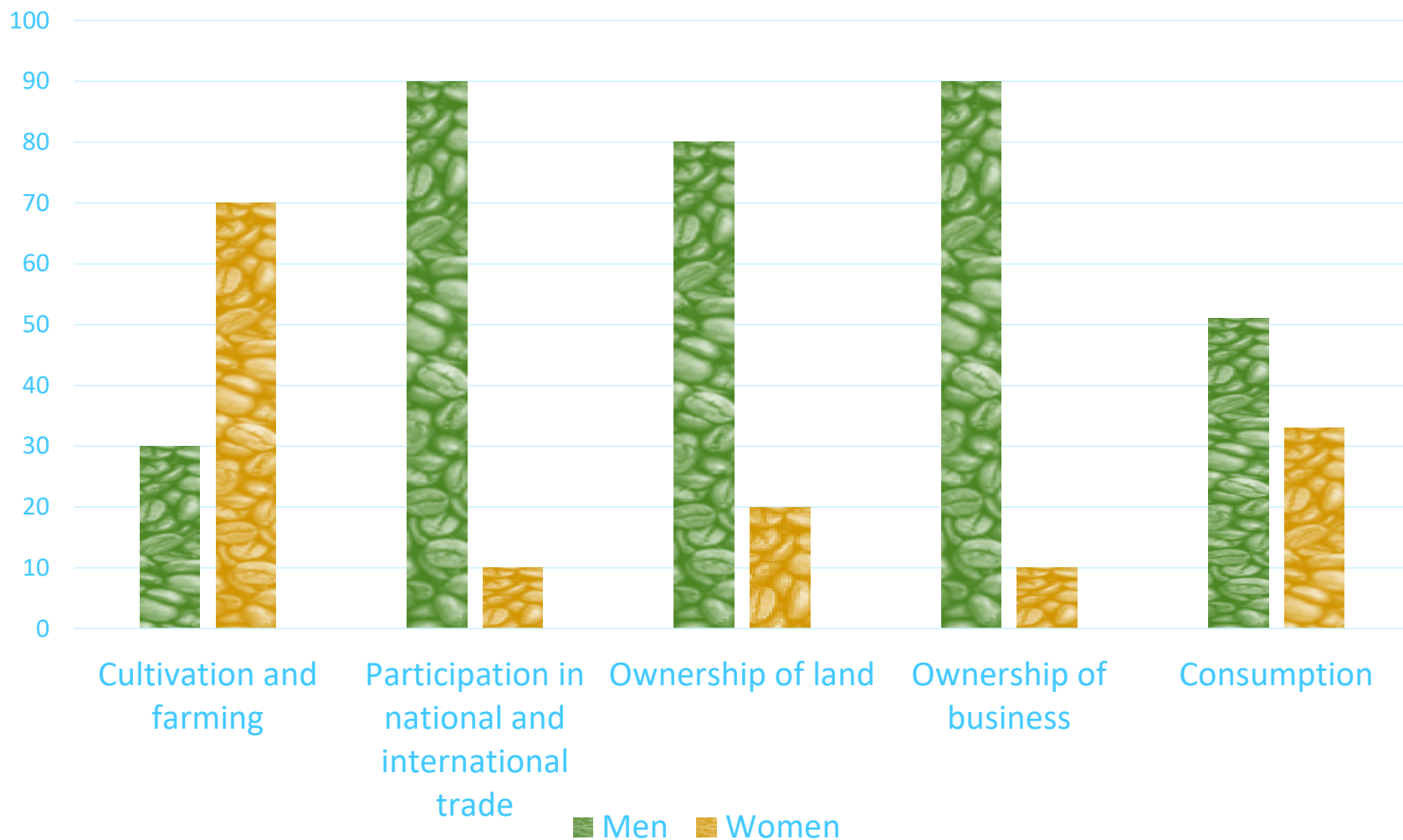


Consumption

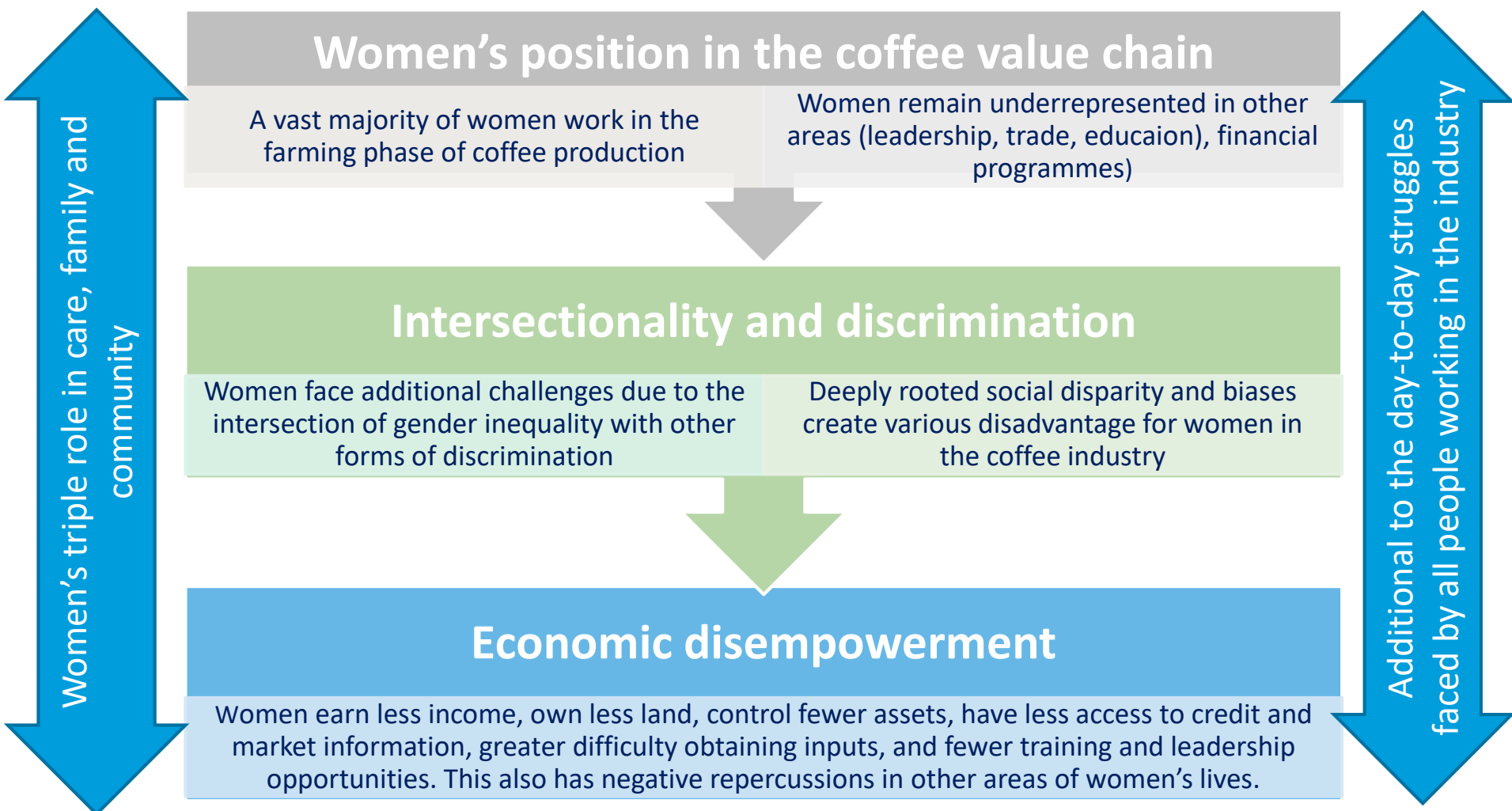




## Percentages of women participating in the labour force in the coffee industry



## Challenges faced by women in the coffee industry include:



These disparities **create inefficiencies** in the coffee value chain because women, who perform fundamental agricultural tasks, are **not accessing the resources needed to maintain or improve their output**

Improve women's ability to respond to challenges

Address deeply rooted discrimination and bias

Improve women's participation in the coffee chain

Creating a more sustainable coffee industry and contribute to gender equality and sustainable development

Minimize the gender gap in agriculture in all its aspects

Adopt a systematic approach to scale up positive efforts to promote gender equality

Place the coffee industry as a model for promoting gender equality

Generate knowledge and disaggregated data, setting targets of success and monitoring progress

Impact the coffee chain from producers to consumers

*Achieve sustainable results for the whole coffee industry*

## EQUALITY IS GOOD BUSINESS

Empowering women is not only right but also smart



11% of  
Annual  
Global GDP



- ❖ Working in partnerships and scaling up each other's potential to achieve progress for women and girls
- ❖ Better coordination across all stakeholders
- ❖ Measurable and visible changes in the coffee industry



- ❖ At UN Women, we achieve results in partnerships
- ❖ We scale up the potential of our partners to achieve progress for all women and girls everywhere around the world.
- ❖ Our joined efforts will be critical to improve livelihood of millions of people as well as creating more resilient communities. This will make a critical contribution to gender equality and sustainable development everywhere





# Thank you!



Credit: Renata Silva/  
Embrapa Rondônia