



TRADE
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EAST AFRICA

Growing Prosperity Through Trade

Nexus between unpaid care work , GBV and women's participation in Cross Border Trade(CBT)

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Growing Prosperity through Trade



TMEA's interventions are organised around two broad themes:

Reducing Barriers to Trade



Improved capacity and efficiency of Transport Infrastructure (Roads, Ports, OSBPs).



Improved and harmonised Standards and SPS; and reduced NTBs.



Effective trade systems and procedures (i.e. ICT4T).



Improved trade regulatory environment

Improved Business Competitiveness



Improve Export Capability



Women in Trade, Climate Change and Social Safeguards.



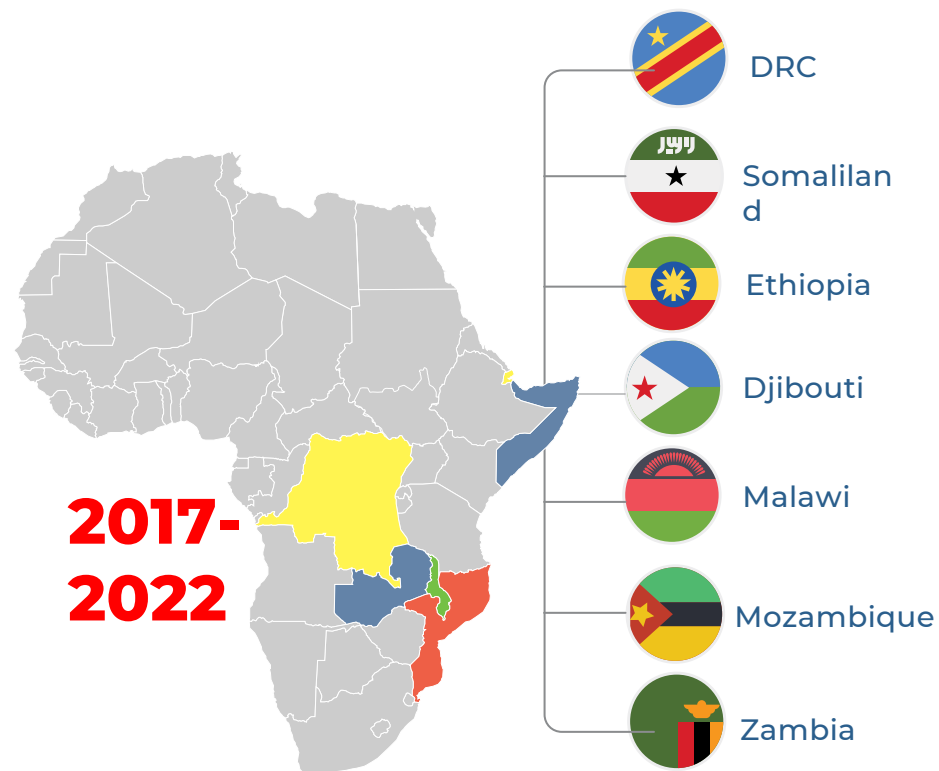
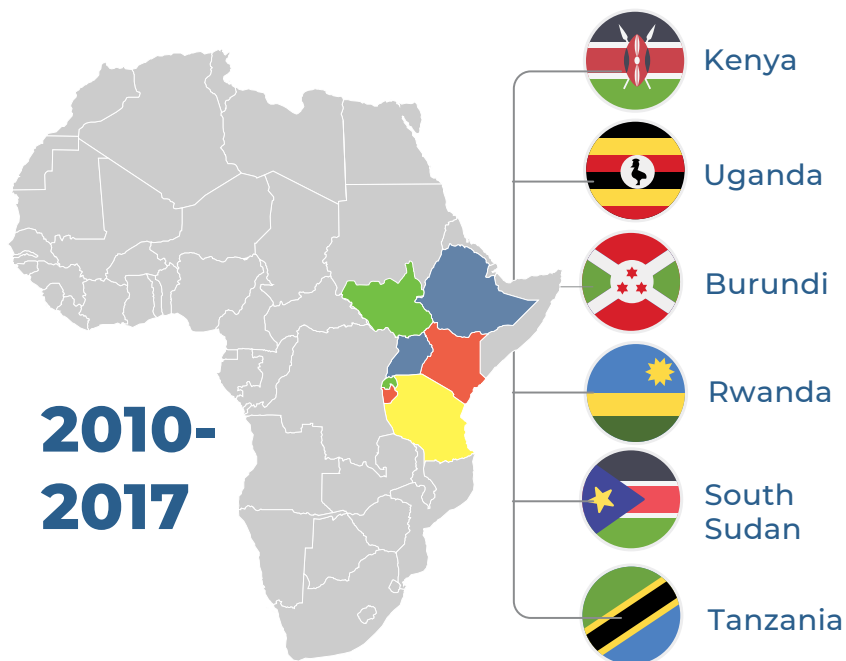
Advocacy and Public-Private Dialogue.

Partnerships for Success:

We build partnerships for success with the following: National Governments, Regional Intergovernmental Organisations (East Africa Community, COMESA, IGAD, AfDB), Private Sector and Civil Society Organisations, UNCTAD, WTO, Africa Union.



FOOTPRINT



About the study

- To investigate the interlinkage between unpaid care work and Gender Based Violence and its implications for women's participation in cross border trade in Eastern Africa
- Coverage-3 border points of Isebania/Sirare, Goma/Gisenyi, and Elegu/Nimule
- Methodology- Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) (24 groups) of traders, Key Informant Interviews (30) and survey of WCBTs - 1392.
- Period: July to September 2022

Profile of Women Cross Border Trader

- Age: 36% between 26-35 years; 33% 36-45 years
- Status: 73% married
- Education: 49% primary level ,32 % secondary
- Household: average of 6 dependants
- Trade: 31% fruit and Veg; 18% grain 14% textile
- Legal status- largely informal 27% registered
- Work 6 days a week- 6-11 hours trading activity
- 60% have a say in decision making on expenditure

Roles and Time Spent

Care for children (3-18 years)	3
Care for babies/infants	2.9
Cleaning and Cooking	3
Nursing ailing family members	3
Collecting water	1

Average of 3 hours daily spent on care work

Care responsibilities transcend all age groups, income levels and trading sectors

Time spent on unpaid care not correspondent to number of children



Impact /Opportunity Cost

- **Limited trading activity**- trade within proximity of their HH
- $\geq 70\%$ are unable to explore/trade across borders
- Care work translates to approx. **30% loss** in trading time
- The more time women stay away from home trading \uparrow **GBV** (even worse with overnight stay)
- Husbands demand their capital and so they can't scale their business or repay loans- increased **debt burden**
- Women face high **stress** balancing their trading and care responsibility
- Women unable to get help- lack resources, fear of cheating spouse and culture "***own your burden***"

Dimensions of GBV

- 40% have experienced some form of harassment in past year- 20% sexual ; over 70% verbal abuse
- 45% experience harassment in market place/course of trade
- Over 60% experience harassment from their spouse
- 60% report to authorities- police or elders but 83% report no action taken
- Reduced incidences of GBV where women have an employee (s) in business

Patterns of GBV are similar
irrespective of nature of trade

Recommendations

- Improvement of market infrastructure- sanitation/care facilities
- Sensitisation on rights and financial literacy programs
- Time savings solutions for cooking + child care facilities
- Digital skills- reduce mobility by use of technology
- Effective GBV redress mechanisms
- Improve /harmonise border clearance procedures





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Thank you Merci Gracias
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