



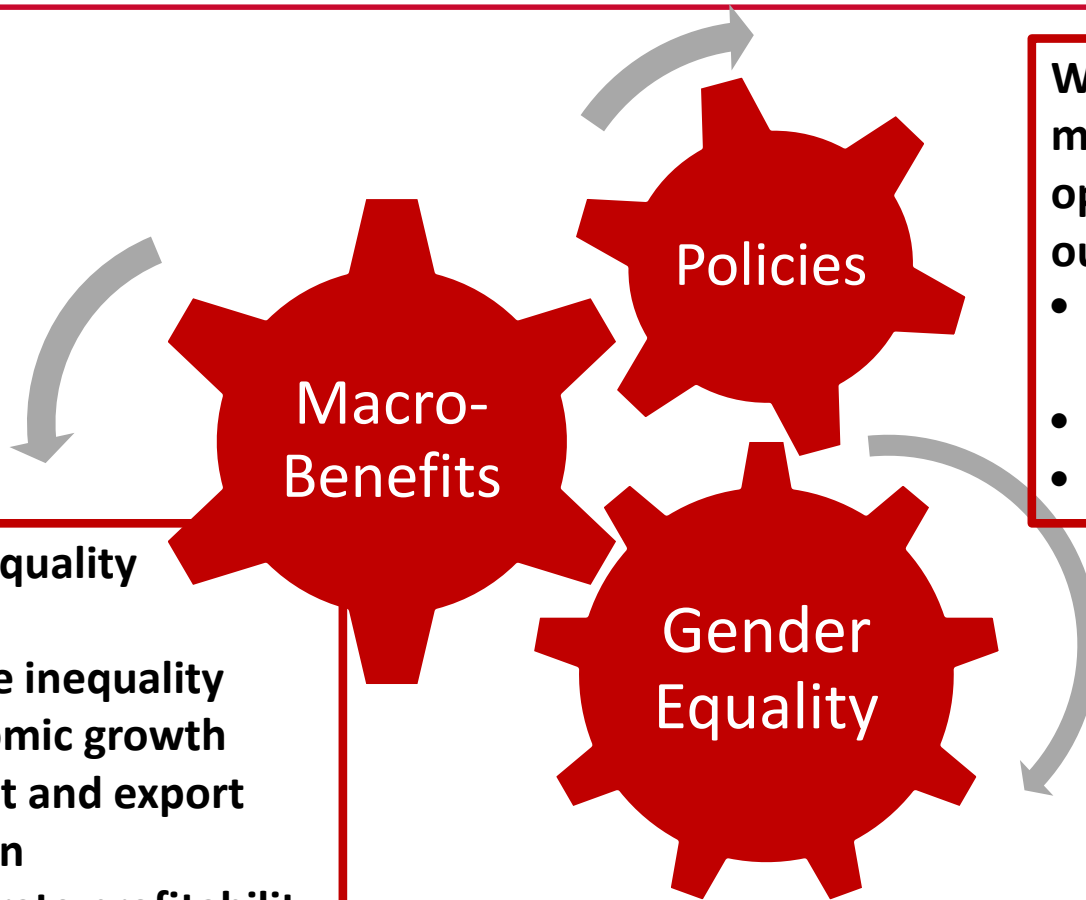
# Gender Equality and the Macroeconomy *The Case of Rwanda*

International Monetary Fund  
May 2017

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# Gender equality is closely linked to macroeconomic outcomes.



**Which policies lead to more gender equal opportunities and outcomes, such as in**

- Employment and labor force participation?
- Education?
- Financial Inclusion?

**More gender equality means**

- lower income inequality
- higher economic growth
- higher output and export diversification
- higher corporate profitability



# Several pillars help advance gender equality in Rwanda:



# Political will and leadership, and supporting institutions:



- ***Vision 2020***  
Gender as cross-cutting issue in all development strategies
- ***Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy, 2013-2018***  
Gender equality as prerequisite to achieve equitable and sustainable development
- ***7 Year Government Programme 2010-2017***  
Government states priorities to be achieved in various sectors
- ***A dedicated gender “machinery”:***  
Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion, Gender Monitoring Office, National Women Council, Forum for Women Parliamentarians

# Enabling Legal Framework:



● **2009: Equal opportunities & pay/prohibit sexual harassment at work place**

● **2013: Equal rights on land access, ownership & utilization**

● **2016: Maternity Leave Benefits Scheme**

# Proactive Public Policy and Home-Grown Policies:

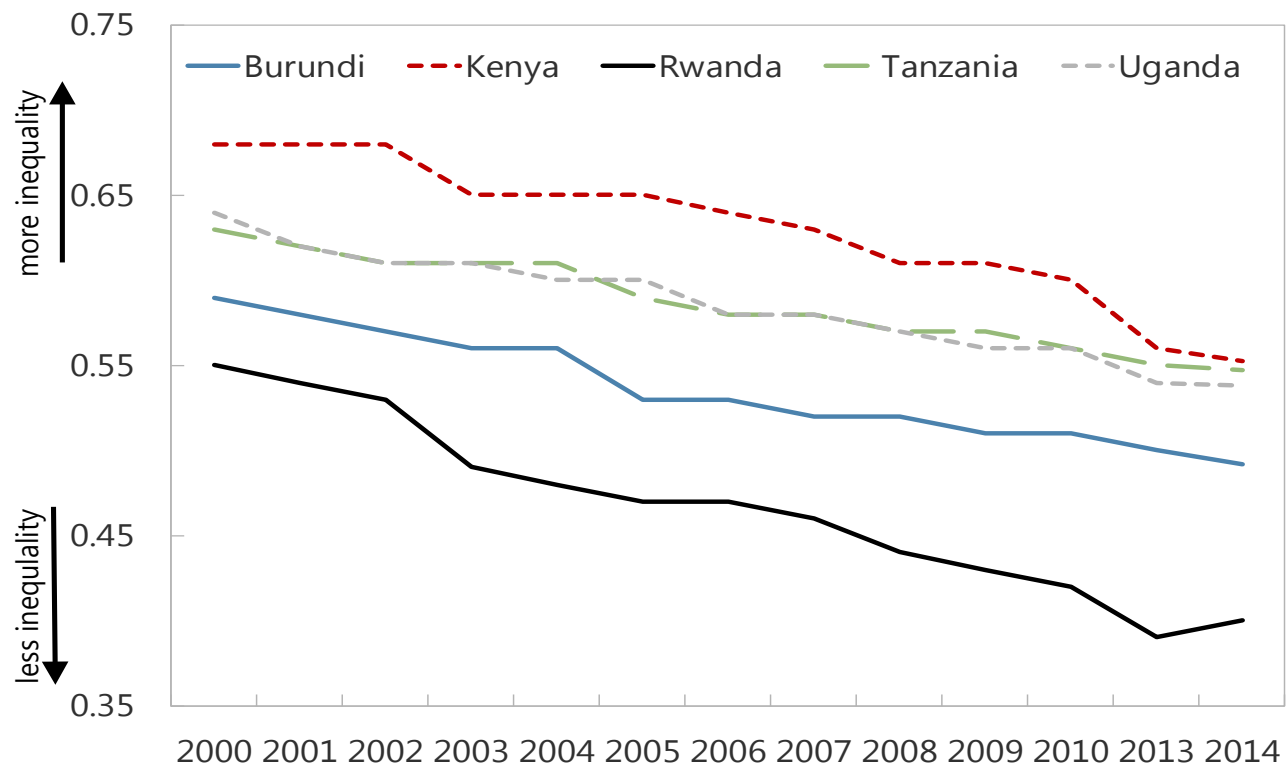


- ***Gender-responsive budgeting***  
every ministry responsible for ensuring that women's needs are integrated into its areas of responsibility and budget request
- ***Education policy***  
progressive elimination of gender disparities in education & training & in management structures
- ***Health policy***  
Health workers and vegetable kitchen gardens, community kitchen to demonstrate preparation of a balanced diet, the Shisha Kibondo program...
- ***National policy against gender-based violence***  
e.g. ISANGE program: One-stop center to provide 24-hour response to victims/survivors of GBV; umbrella Rwanda Men's Resource Centre



# Indicators of gender equality have improved over time, with Rwanda leading its peers.

## Gender Inequality Index (Higher Values = Higher Gender Inequality)

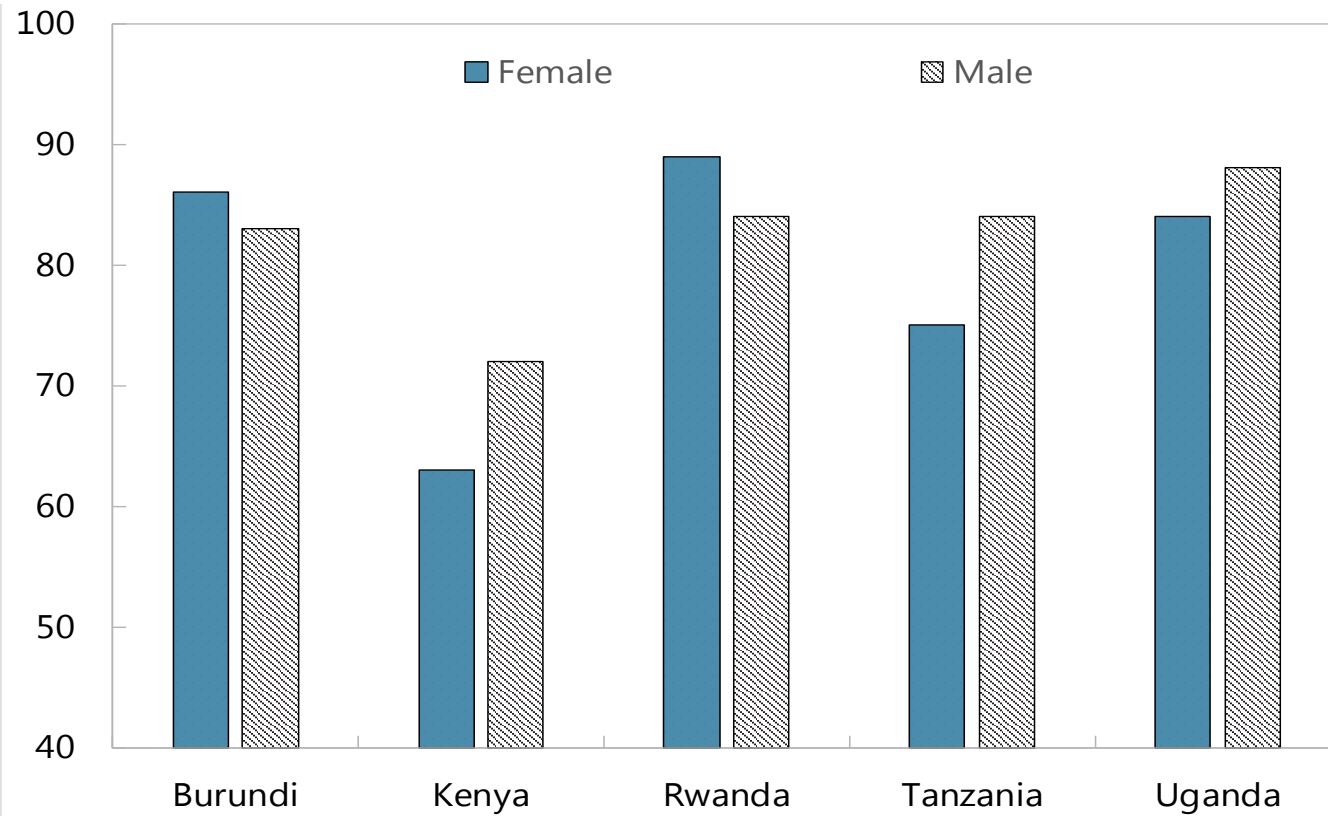


Sources: UNDP, Africa Human Development Report 2016.

# Female labor force participation in Rwanda is similar to that of men, and to that of the EAC...



## Labor Force Participation (Percent)



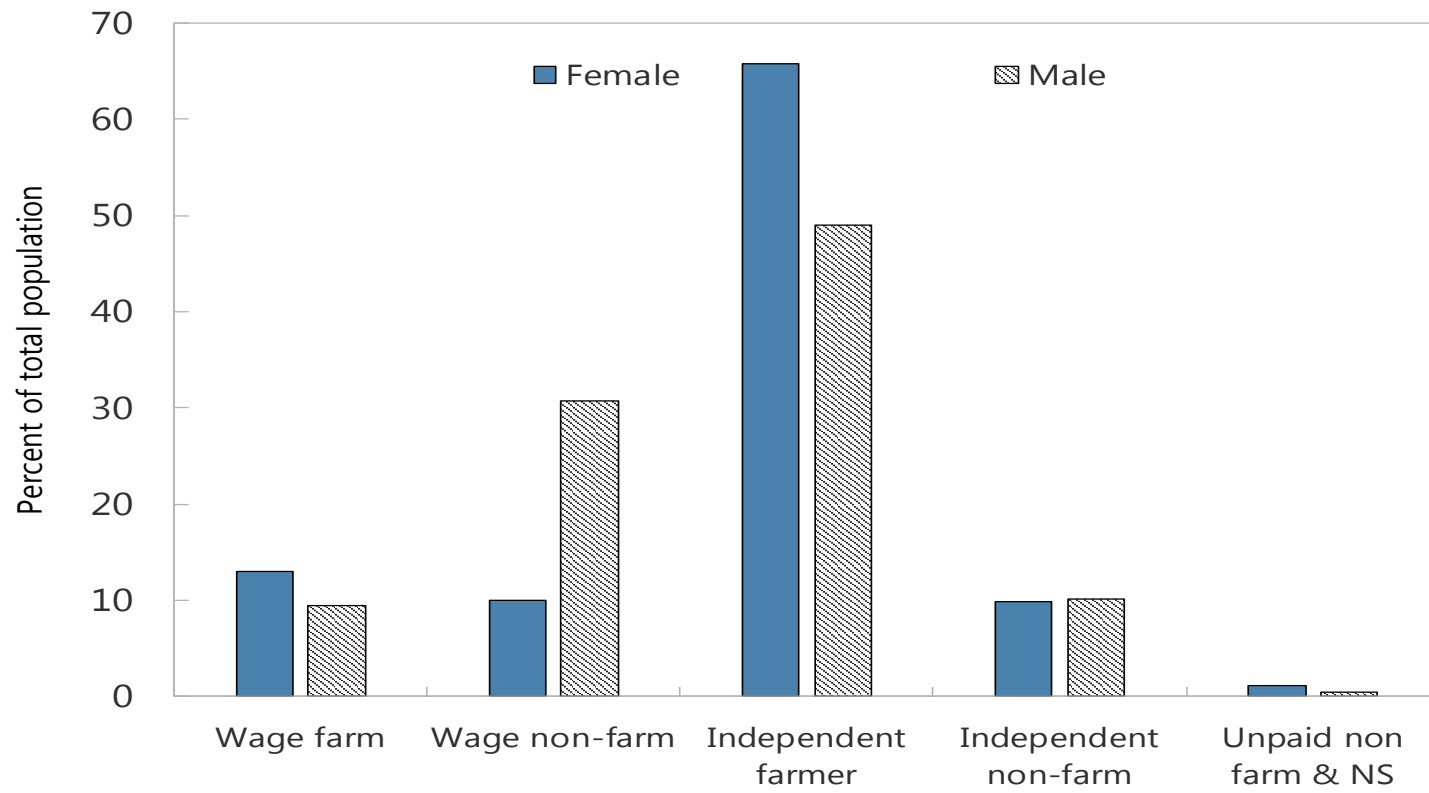
Sources: World Economic Forum, *The Global Gender Report 2016*.



... but women are less likely to be employed in activities that pay wages and more likely to work in agriculture.



## Rwanda: Work Status by Gender, 2014 (Percent)

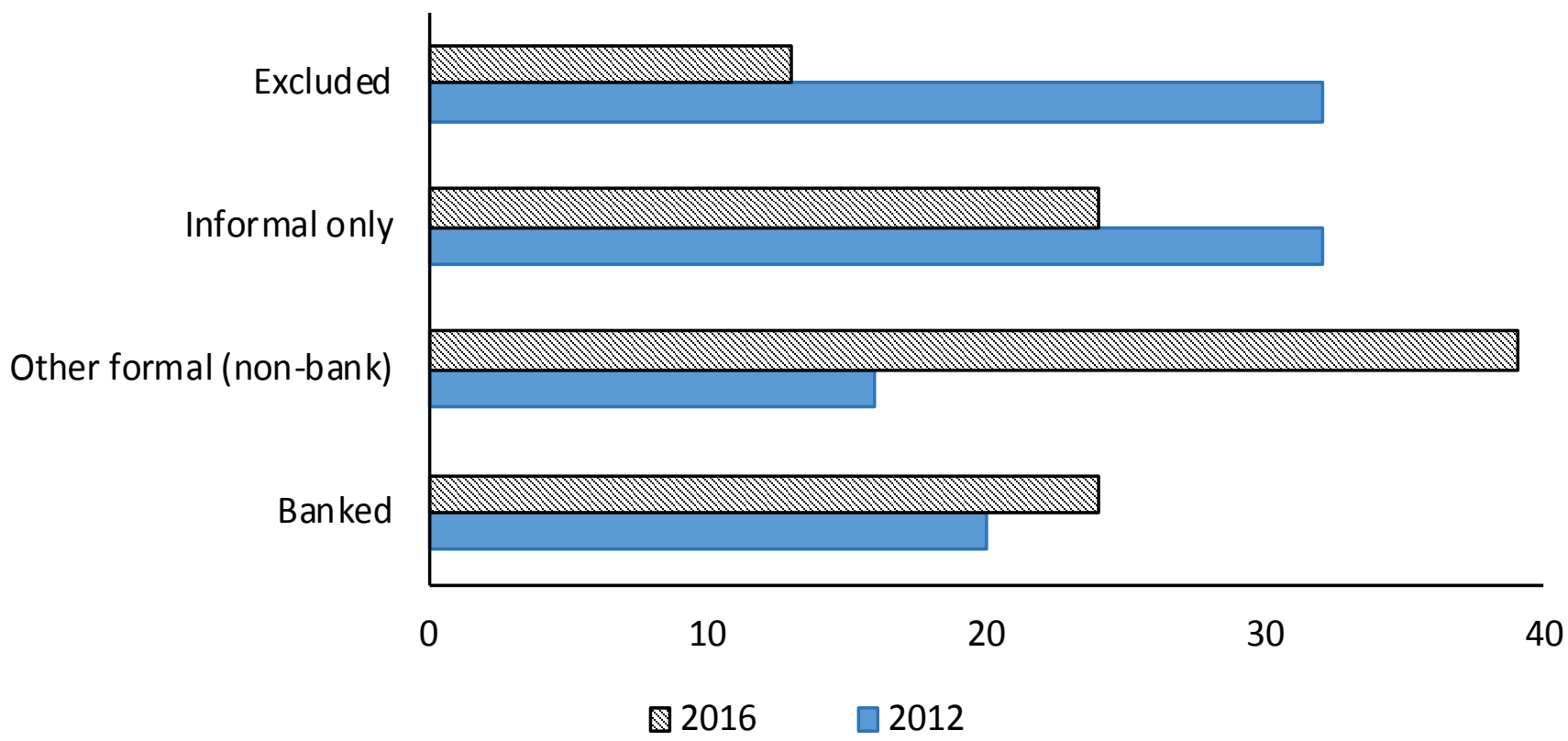


Source: Rwandan Household Survey 2013-14.



# Financial Access by Rwandan women has increased significantly, due to concerted government intervention.

## Rwanda: Access to Financial Services by Women (Percent)

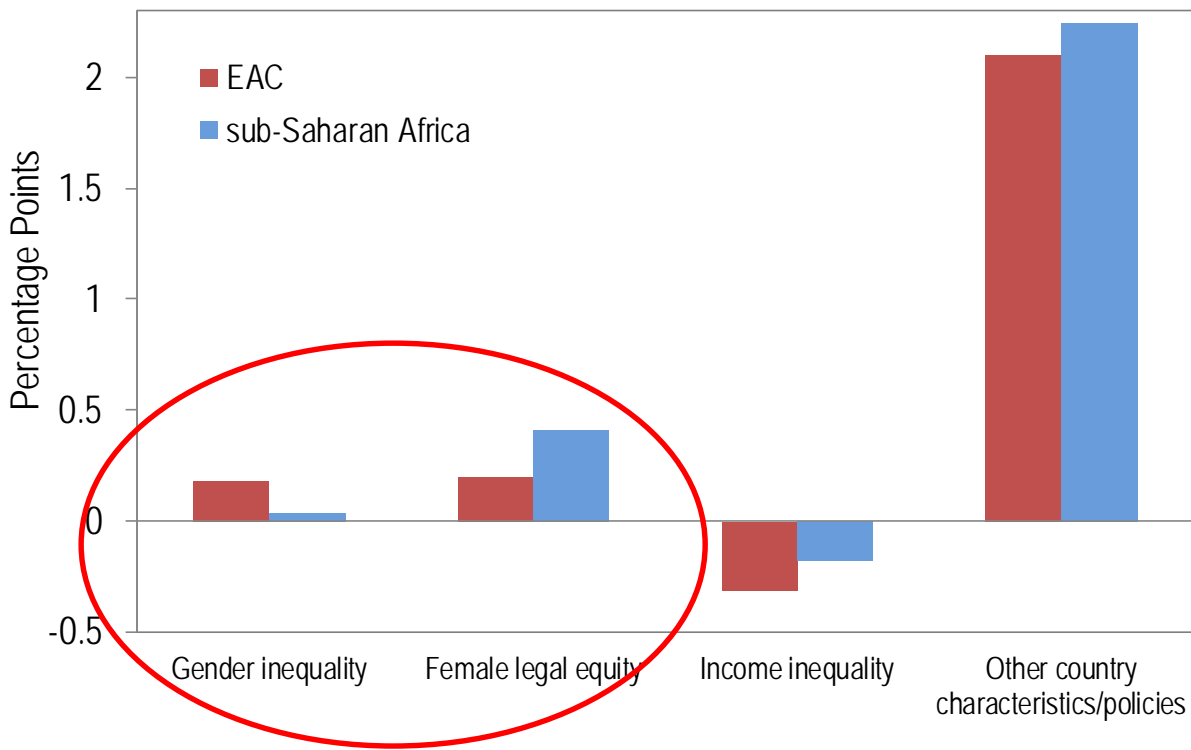


Source: 2016 FinScope Survey



# Higher gender equality has provided a significant boost to Rwanda's growth in the past...

## Rwanda: Explaining the Growth Differential of with Sub-Saharan and the EAC



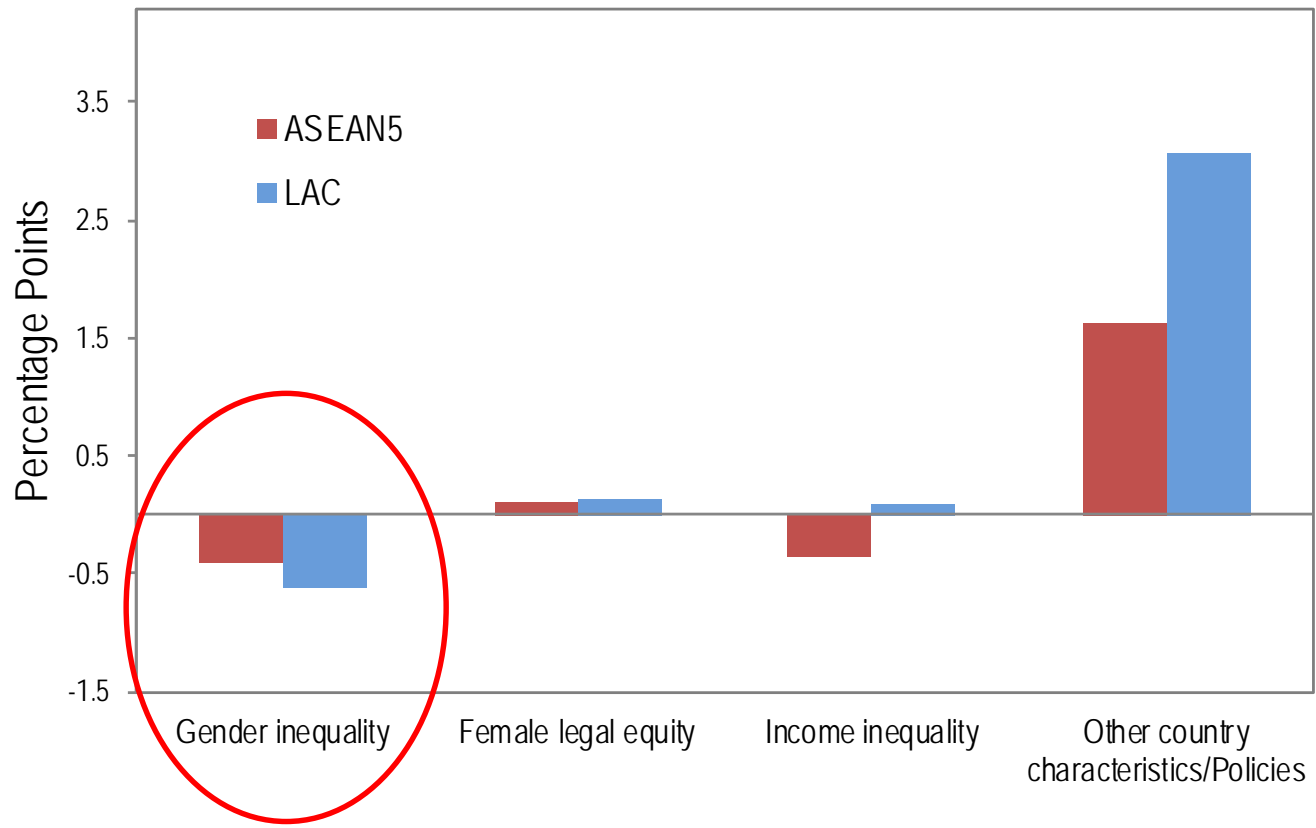
Gender Equality explains 1/2 percentage point of Rwanda's 2.2 percentage points higher growth compared to other countries in sub-Saharan Africa



...and further advancing gender equity could add significantly to growth going forward.



## Rwanda: Drivers of Growth Differential with ASEAN and LAC (Percentage Points)



# Thank you!

*More info at:*

*[http://www.imf.org/  
external/themes/gender/](http://www.imf.org/external/themes/gender/)*

