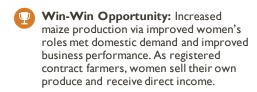
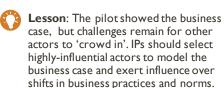
## OPPORTUNITIES TO PROGRESS WOMEN'S ROLES | Commercial Maize

In 2014, ÉLAN RDC partnered with commercial farm Mbeko Shamba in Haut-Katanga to pilot an out-grower scheme that targeted women. This **gender-responsive contract farming model** demonstrated promising results in improving the roles of women AND maize production.

WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT CONSTRAINTS			MARKET CONSTRAINTS	INTERVENTION	RESULTS	ROLE CHANGES*
INIPUTS		Land tenure severely limited; land registered to men	Existing business practices underutilized female talent,	Use of concession land	Mbeko Shamba scaled this successful pilot to more female farmers the next maize season	Improved Conditions
		Labor-intensive tasks; no access to mechanized tools		Preparing ground using a tractor	Reduced burden on women's heavy manual labor and time	
	0	Less control over productive resource spending		Access to quality inputs	Equal access as men to quality seed	
PRODU	¥	Domestic responsibilities limit availability for ag work	missing out on productivity gains and improved supply	Access to labor saving technologies	<ul> <li>Women provided an untapped talent pool with equal or greater productivity and quality</li> </ul>	Improved Conditions
CTION		Community perceptions of lower productivity levels	chain reliability due to <b>farmers side</b>	Access to extension services	Ongoing regular training for women	Access to Capacity Development
MARKETING SALES		Viewed as "helpers" not farmers	selling, which translates into commercial losses.	Contract farming agreements with commercial farms	<ul> <li>Women had lower levels of side-selling</li> <li>Greater income security &amp; influence over it for women</li> <li>Greater respect for women</li> </ul>	Labor Recognized & Rewarded  Improved
1					involved in this program	Status

## **ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS**







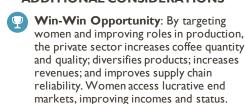
Caution: ÉLAN RDC found that "Men recognize women's skills in commercial agriculture and are accepting of their involvement as contract farmers, but men also fear women's genuine financial independence, with the potential for violent reprisals." To mitigate GBV risks, social norms also need to change.

## OPPORTUNITIES TO PROGRESS WOMEN'S ROLES | Coffee Sector

In 2014, ÉLAN RDC partnered with coffee cooperative Muungano and NGO TWIN to pilot sales to ethical trade markets from female producers. Proven successful, at least two other neighboring cooperatives adopted the business model.

WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT CONSTRAINTS			MARKET CONSTRAINTS	INTERVENTION	RESULTS	ROLE CHANGES*
PRODUCTION / POST HARVEST / PROCESSING		Not registered as cooperative members; land in husbands' name	Commercial	<ul> <li>Engaging men and women in shifting gender dynamics</li> </ul>	• 55% of men granted plots to their wives, registered in their names	Improved Status
	Ġ	Rarely recruited in 'lead farmer' role'; absent in coop leadership	performance of the coffee	<ul><li>Leadership training</li><li>Cultivating confidence</li></ul>	• 2 of 7 coop board positions, and 30% of coop leadership, are women	New Positions
		Viewed as "helpers", limited access to extension	cooperative is  constrained by  quality issues	Demonstration plots and training	<ul><li>Increase in cherry quality</li><li>Women seen as genuine, productive farmers</li></ul>	Access to Capacity Development
	(注	Poor working conditions; no safety equipment	and low-value contracts, with limited knowledge	<ul> <li>Access to labor saving technologies</li> <li>Safety training (e.g. applying pesticides)</li> </ul>	Less time needed for labor-intensive tasks	Improved Conditions
MARKETING/ SALES	•	Concentrated in low value-capture roles	of how to secure contracts in high- value export markets.	Traceability to female farmers	<ul> <li>70% of female coop members involved in trading</li> <li>Increase in and control over women's incomes</li> </ul>	Labor Recognized
	\$	Not involved in marketing		Marketing women-only produced coffee	Muungano successfully sold women- produced coffee at a premium	& Rewarded

## **ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS**



**Lesson**: (1) The pilot showed the business case but requires up-front investment. Without donor support, cooperatives may not have the \$\$ or risk appetite to pilot/adopt the model. (2) Their target segment (high-end, ethical trade for women-only produced coffee) has limited absorptive capacity – so need to test, expand market channels.

