TRADE AND GENDER
A FRAMEWORK OF ANALYSIS

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WTO IG Trade and Gender
Three economic roles of women through which to apply a gender lens

- **Trade policies**
  - Such as: Transparency, Trade facilitation, tariffs, Non-tariff measures, Export promotion, PTAs, Stakeholder consultations

- **Domestic policies**
  - Such as: Tax, Labor Market, Parental leave, Availability of childcare, Education, Competition, Tech / Digital, Ease of doing business

### Roles
- **Workers**
  - Employment opportunities
  - Pay
  - Work/life balance

- **Consumers**
  - Prices
  - Product variety

- **Entrepreneurs**
  - Wider access to markets
  - Access to financing
  - Access to digital
  - Gov’t Procurement rules
  - Work/Life balance
Trade policies affect women and men differently

- Women work in different sectors than men and earn less
- Market access through trade policies and agreements impact women and men differently
- Lower prices through trade especially aids vulnerable groups

➤ Measure gender-differentiated impacts of trade policies and agreements!
Trade policies that support SMEs support women-owned firms

- Trade facilitating measures, in particular automation
- Greater transparency in regulation
- Lowering barriers to trade, especially in services
- Supporting an environment conducive to lower costs of internet access and logistics
Digitalisation can be an equalizer … but there are gender gaps

Fewer women in STEM, especially in OECD countries

Share of women in ICT studies

More women in trade means:

**Trade**
- Is more diverse
- Can respond to diverse markets
- Includes more productive firms

**Women**
- Expand their businesses
- Work in sectors and firms with higher wages
- Work in more productive firms

**Economies**
- Decrease inequality
- Increase economic growth
- Make better use of their labour force
OECD Trade and Gender Reviews (1)

- Measure impacts of trade and trade policies on women’s employment, wages and other job characteristics
- Measure price impacts of trade on consumers, esp. most vulnerable
- Ascertain indicators of trade facilitation and regulatory transparency
- Assess barriers to women’s participation in trade (access to credit and resources; networks; lack of time)
OECD Trade and Gender Reviews (2)

- Active engagement with stakeholders
  - incorporates gender perspectives
  - identifies promising paths for gender-responsive outcomes
  - highlights potential unintended negative effects
- Representation of women in trade policy development
- Whole of government approach = policy coherence
Some multi-lateral and plurilateral initiatives

- BA Declaration and follow up
- Including gender-specific provisions and gender chapters in RTAs
- Gender has become a higher priority in plurilateral groups such as APEC and G7
- Global Trade and Gender Arrangement (GTAGA)
  - 3 Trade Ministers discuss: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_J7TiIPfnEo