The objective of our study is to investigate the relationship between household features and women's empowerment, and to establish priority areas for policy recommendations and further studies.

**Introduction**

- Women produce up to 85% of the locally consumed food in Africa. However, due to their lack of access to resources they are less productive than men.
- One of the barriers to accessing resources is the lack of women empowerment.
- Decision-making is the key aspect of empowerment, and in this context, empowerment is defined through the ability to make decisions about production and the allocation of household resources.
- Studies have often looked only at women headed households, but it is essential to study also women within male headed households.

**Hypothesis and Objective**

- Our hypothesis is that certain household features are correlated with women empowerment, and that by supporting these areas, both equality and productivity can be improved.
- The objective of our study is to identify what these features or patterns are in order to establish priority areas for policy recommendation and further study.

**Data**

- A comprehensive household survey in December 2012 – January 2013 in eight districts of Uganda.
- Approximately 1430 small scale farm households took part.
- Information on household composition, production, marketing and sales, credit, income and household wellbeing.

**Methodological approach**

- Our approach is based on the Women Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI) (IFPRI and OPHI 2012).
- The questionnaire included an individual section which both the man and the woman in the household completed. This section covered their input into decisions regarding farm management and the use of income from given activity.
- A continuous variable is created and regression analysis is used to identify association between high input into decision-making and different household.

**Household Demographics**

- 81% of household (HH) heads and 93% of spouses had crop production as their main activity.
- 18% of HHs were female headed.
- Average HH size: 6.4 members.
- Average age of HH head: 45 years.
- Average educational level of HH head and spouse: 4.7 years (range: between 0 and 16 years).
- No significant difference between the educational levels of spouses.
- The main crops produced were maize, beans, cassava, cooking banana, all grown by both men and women.
- Women more often grew beans and sweet potatoes, while men grew over 50% of the coffee.

**Results and Further Studies**

The differences between men and women in their decisions on production and use of income are statistically significant, according to Pearson's chi and Kruskal-Wallis test. The biggest difference was found regarding decisions on the use of income from cash crop production. However, the data shows the situation is complex, without a clearcut distinction between male and female activites.

To get a deeper understanding of this, the patterns and characteristics of households where women are empowered and how this relates to both productivity and income levels of the household needs to be studied further.