



# The Trade and Gender Toolbox

## - Ex-ante Gender Assessment of Trade Policies -

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## What is the Trade and Gender Toolbox?

- It is the first attempt to provide a systematic framework to evaluate the impact of trade reforms on women and gender inequalities **prior** to the implementation of these reforms
- The toolbox allows for answering the following question:

**What would happen to women if a given trade policy were implemented ?**



## Why do we need the Trade and Gender Toolbox?

- Trade liberalization can have either a positive or negative impact on women and gender inequalities.
- This matters both for equity concerns and for long-run growth.
- The gender impact is context-specific and needs to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

**=> The Trade and Gender Toolbox provides the instruments to carry out an ex-ante evaluation of the gender implications of trade reforms.**



## Why do we need the Trade and Gender Toolbox? (cont'd)

*2 scenarios:*

- When a negative gender impact is anticipated, accompanying policies can be adopted to prevent these negative effects from occurring;
- When a positive gender impact is anticipated, accompanying policies can be adopted to support these positive effects.
  - ⇒ The Gender and Trade Toolbox helps design these accompanying measures in an effective manner as well.



## The Components of the Toolbox

➤ The Trade and Gender Toolbox has 4 main components:

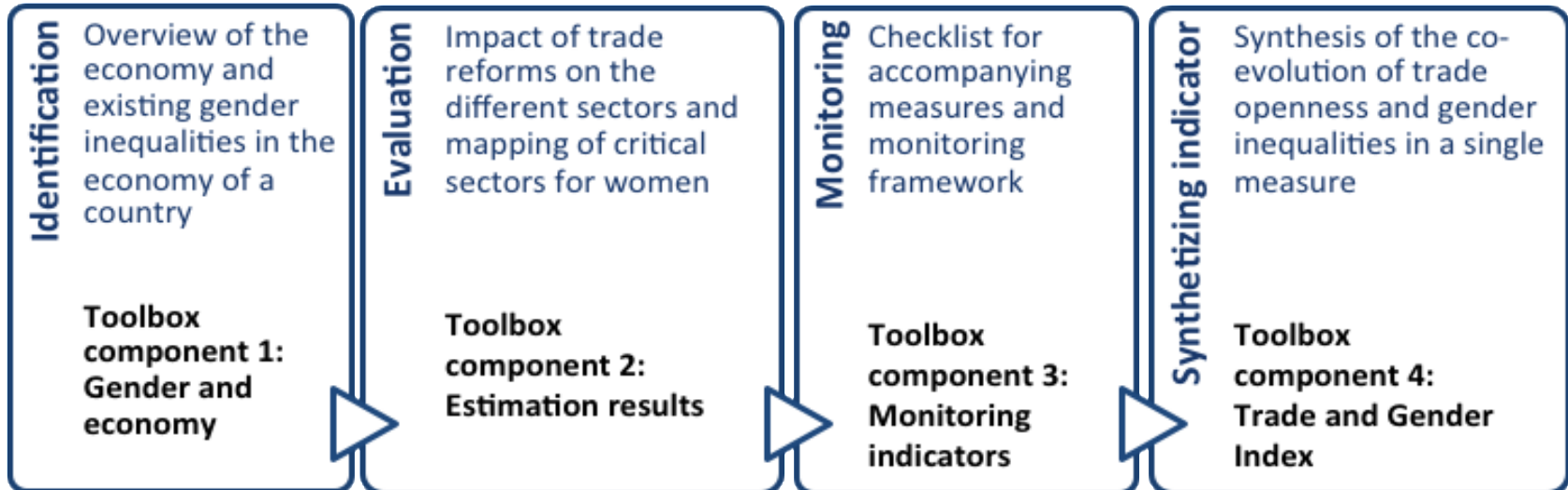
- 1) A **descriptive analysis** of gender inequalities and economic context of the country under consideration.
- 2) A **quantitative analysis** of the expected consequences of the trade reforms on women and gender inequalities in that country.
- 3) A **checklist** for gender-sensitive accompanying measures and **monitoring indicators**.
- 4) A **Trade and Gender Index**: an indicator of the gender employment gap and trade openness in a country:

$$TGI = \frac{\textit{Gender Employment Gap}}{\textit{Trade openness}}$$



## The Components of the Toolbox (cont'd)

=> The Trade and Gender Toolbox follows a stepwise approach:





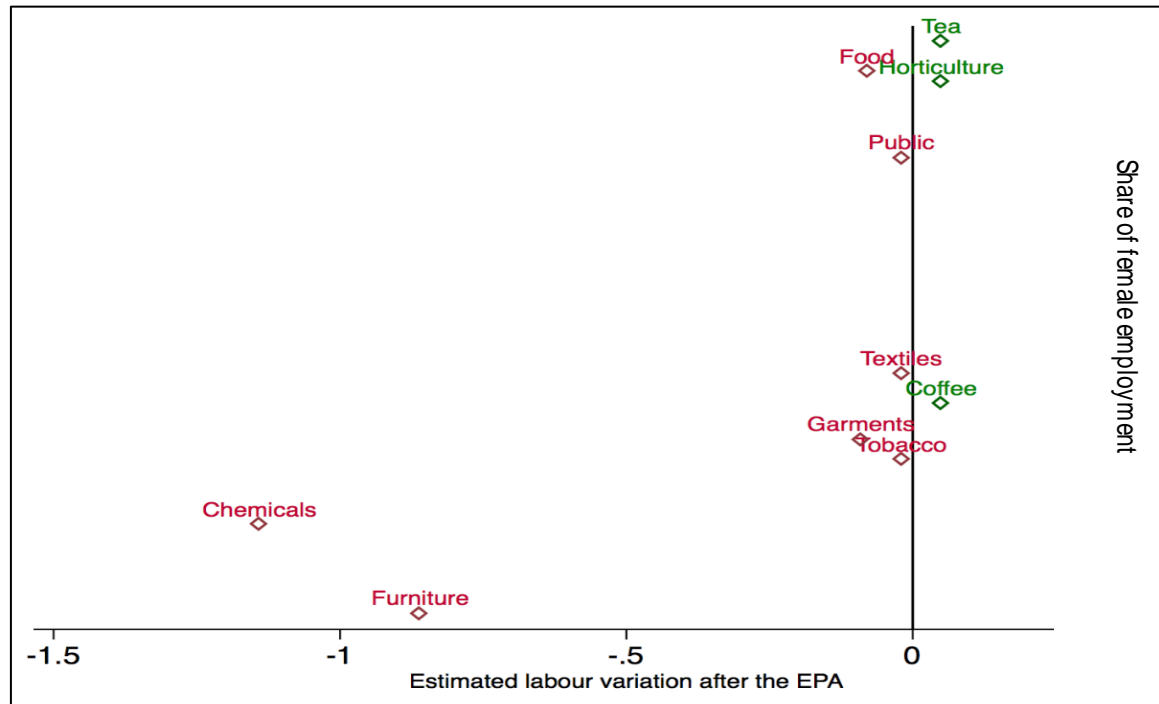
## Case Study: Application to Kenya

The toolbox has been applied to Kenya in the framework of the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) between the East African Community and the European Union, to answer the following question:

**What would happen to Kenyan women if the EPA with the EU were implemented ?**



## 2) A quantitative analysis of the expected consequences of the trade reforms on women and gender inequalities







## Conclusion

- The toolbox is intended for policymakers involved in trade negotiations, including government officials, but also for development practitioners working on gender equality issues.
- This initiative wants to contribute to ensure that trade plays its role as a tool for inclusive development and for the economic empowerment of women, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Addis Ababa Action Agenda.



**Thank you for your attention**

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