

# Women participation in innovation and IP

CDIP Training  
Bhutan

October 2025

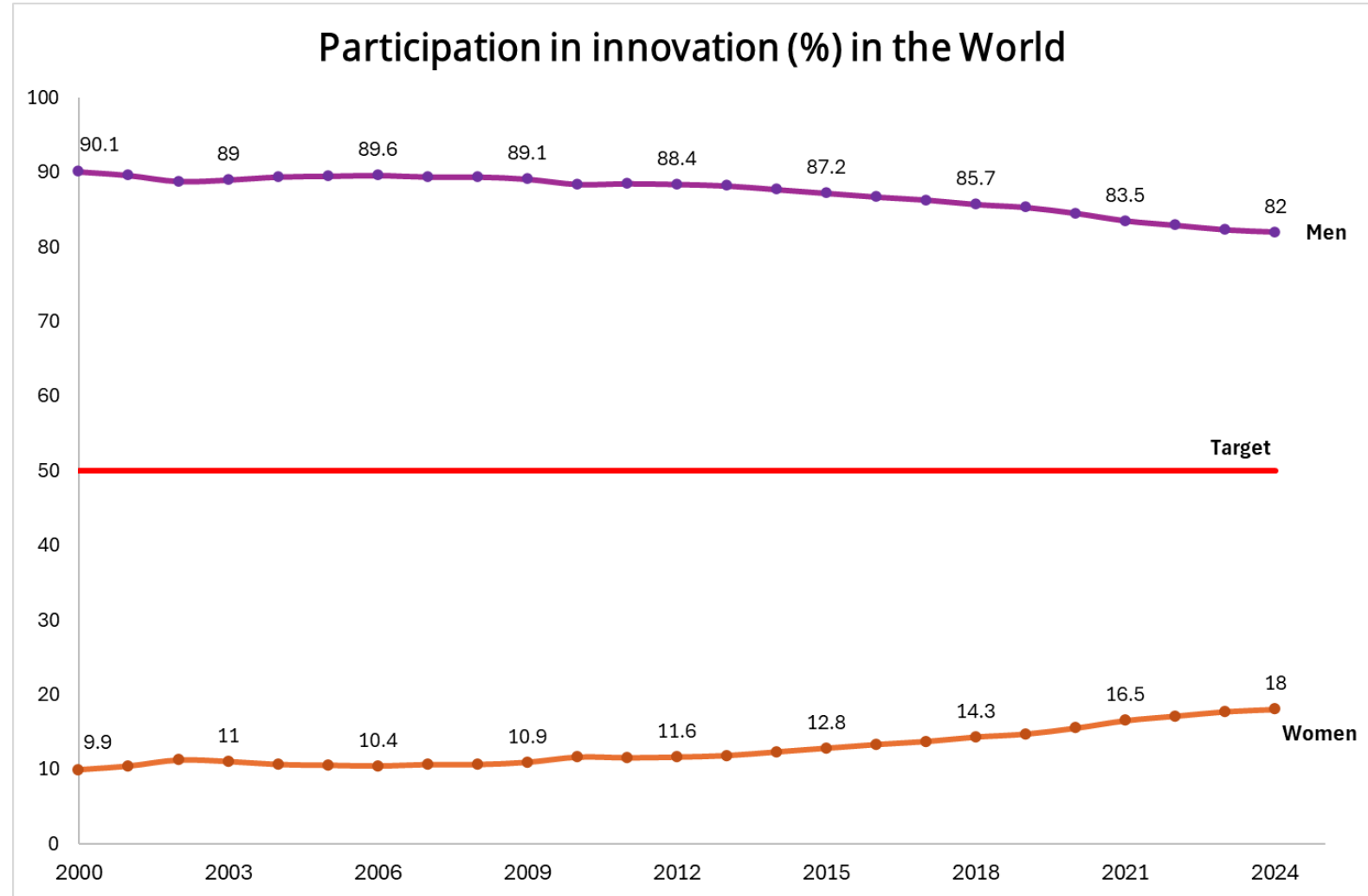


# This module:

- 1. Women's participation in IP and innovation**
2. Gender indicators for policy
3. How to obtain sex-disaggregated data

# Why are we interested in women's participation?

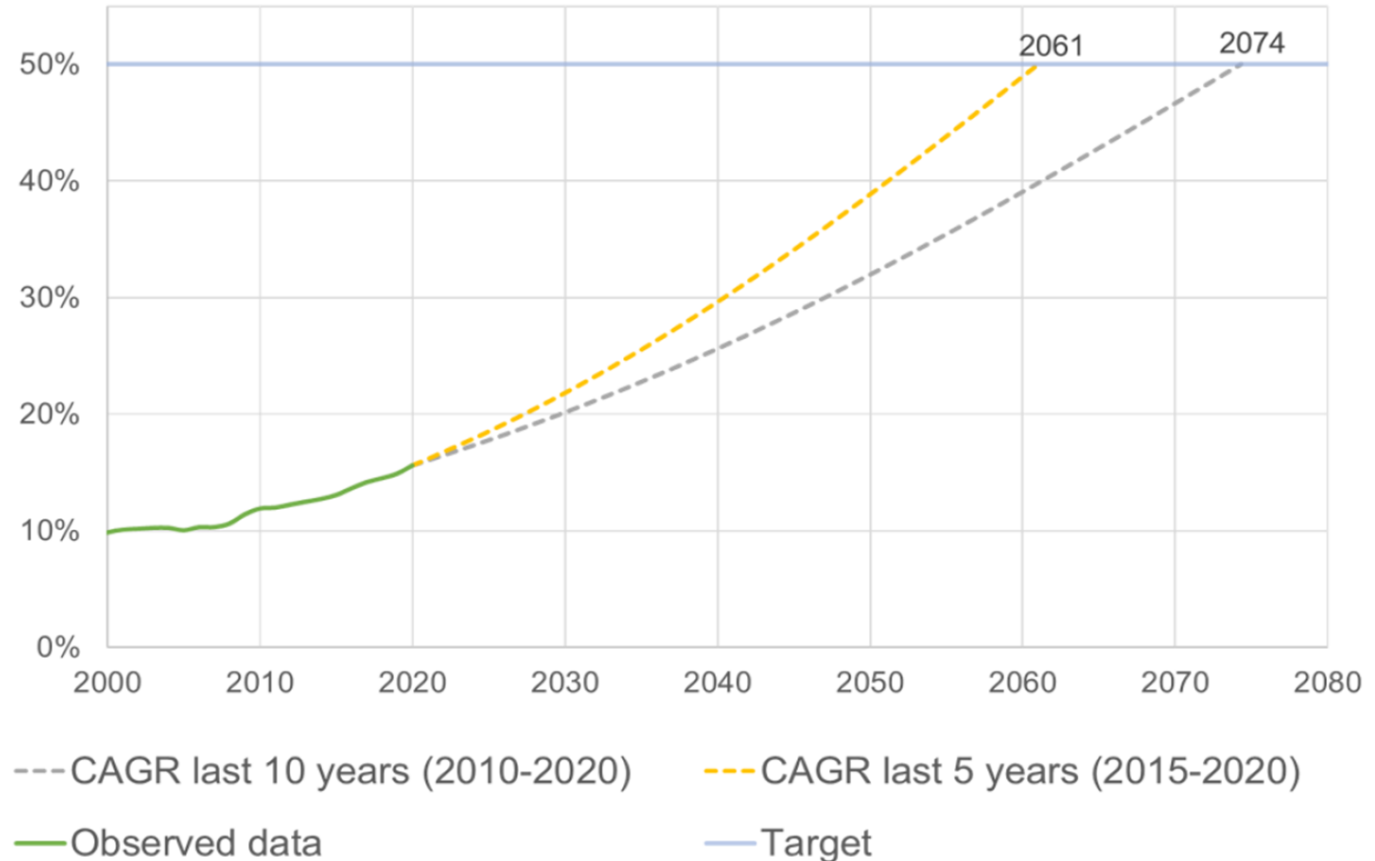
- Over the past 25 years, women's participation has been increasing but at a slow pace



# Why are we interested in women's participation?

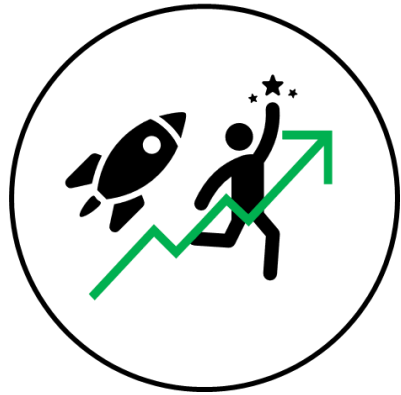
Forecast of the year of gender parity in patenting worldwide

- At the current pace, we should reach the target by 2060 (WIPO estimates)

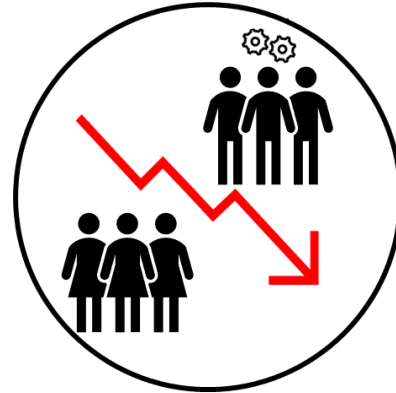


Notes: data reflects observed and estimated women inventor rates; CAGR = Cumulative Average Growth Rate.

# Women's low participation is a growth issue



- › Innovation and creativity are the engines of **economic growth**.



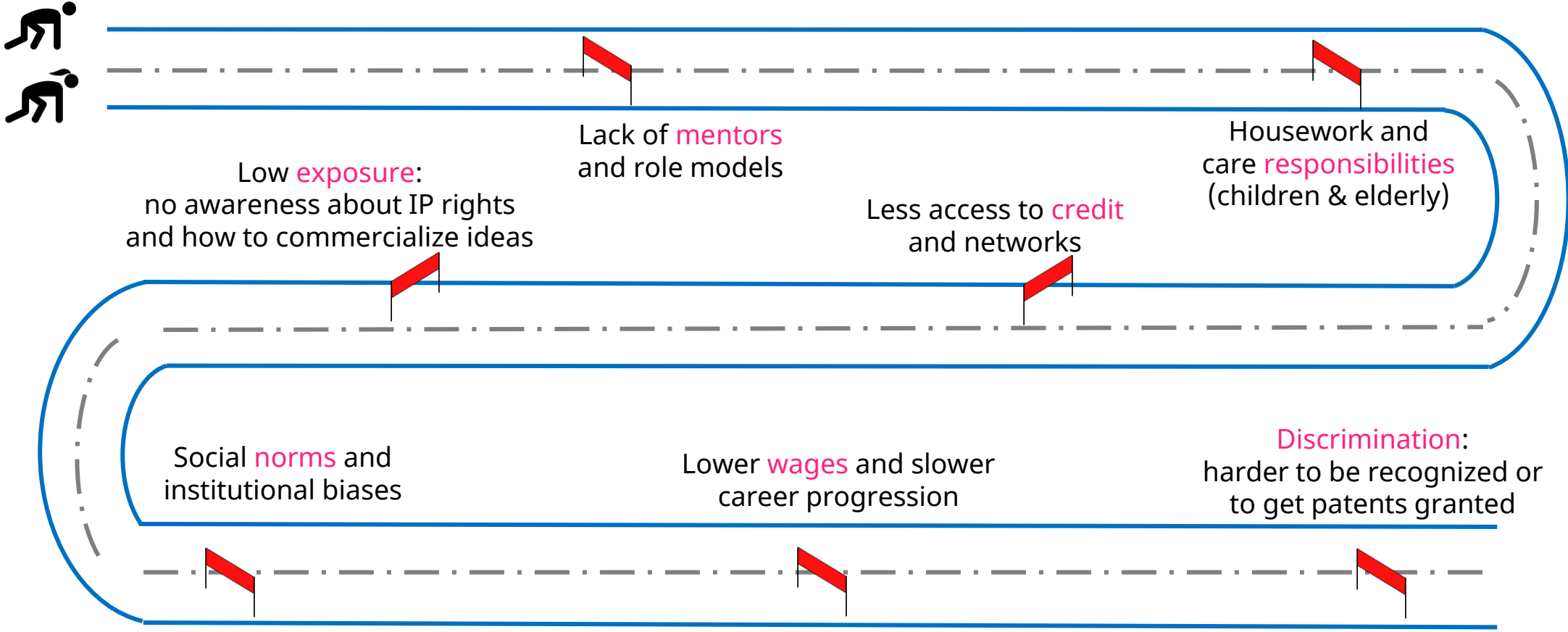
- › Women represent 50% of the world population.
- › If they do not participate in innovation, we are **under-using growth potential**.



- › **Ideas are becoming harder to find.**  
If we under-use growth potential :
  - › We lose innovation opportunities
  - › We reduce quality and quantity of ideas
  - › We leave market segments unexplored
- › Since the 1970s we missed out on thousands of inventions and trillions of USD.

# Why are women participating less in innovation and creativity?

> Research shows that **men and women have the same abilities**, however women face additional challenges:

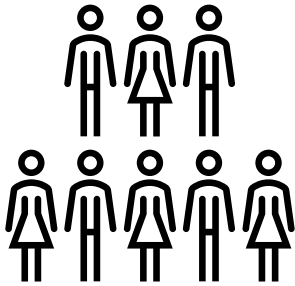


# How do we know this?

## And what can we do to address women's participation?

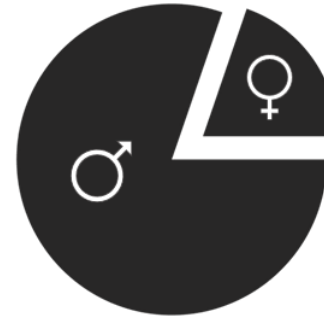
- › Sex-disaggregated data

- › Nr of women designers
- › Nr of men designers



- › Gender indicators

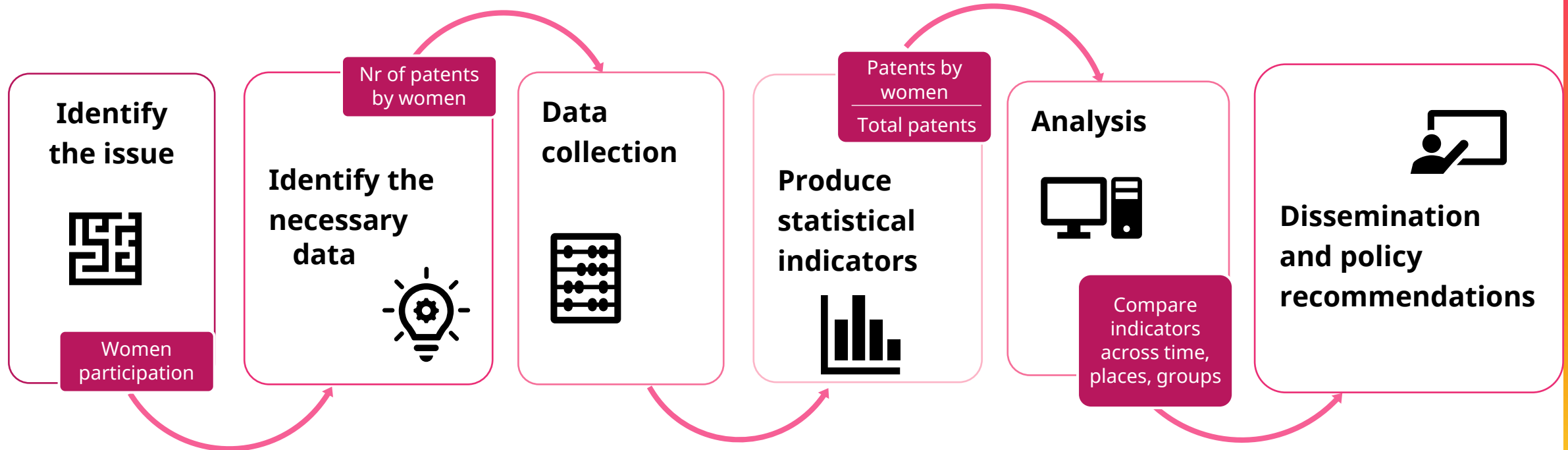
- › Out of all the designs, % of those by women



- › They allow to:

- › **Quantify an issue**
- › **Identify barriers and trampolines**
- › **Conduct policy evaluations and recommendation**

# Steps from no data to policy



# Let's brainstorm

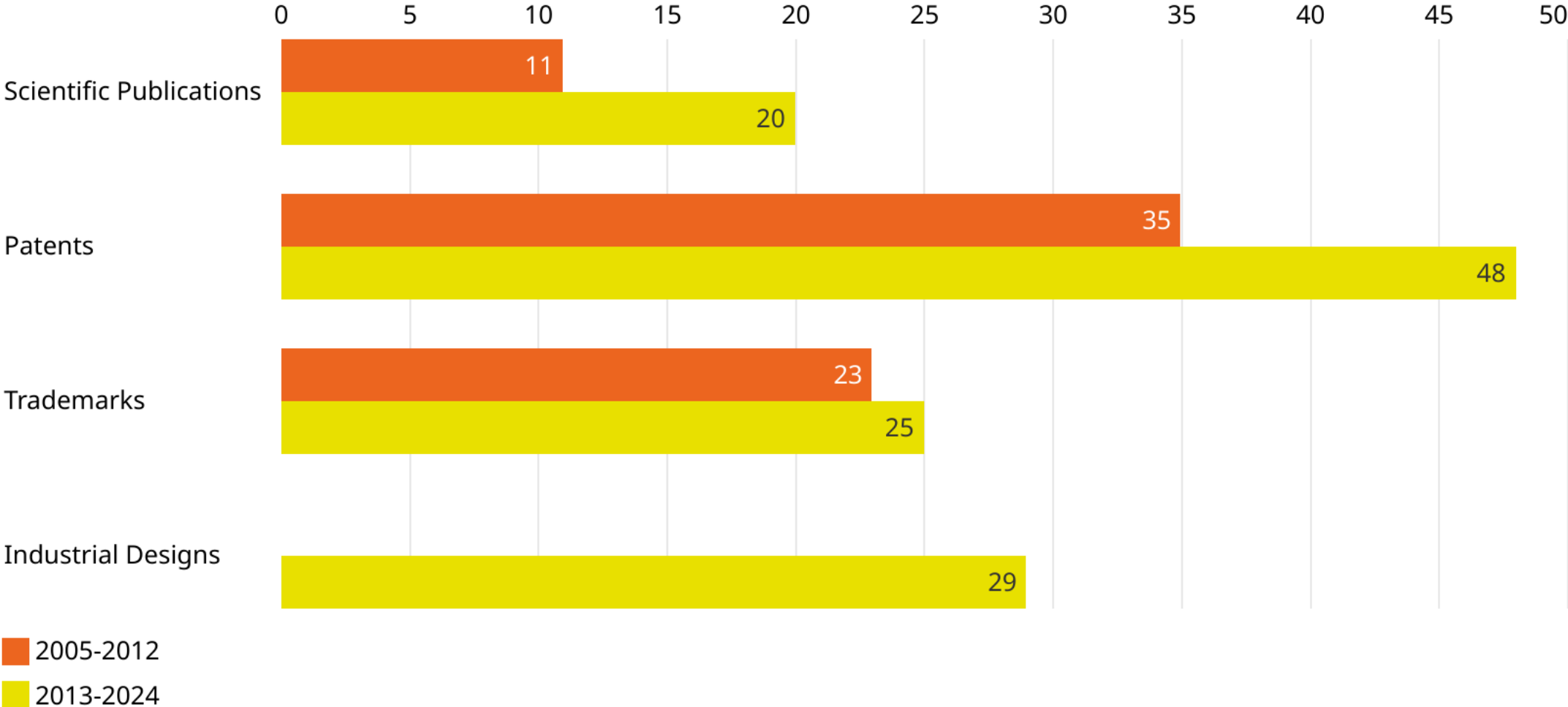
+ *How should Bhutan address women's participation in IP and innovation?*

# Let's brainstorm

- + *How should Bhutan address women's participation in IP and innovation?*
- Does Bhutan have to address women's participation or does it have parity already?
- And if so, should interventions target all the **sectors and industries**?
- And **which women** need to be targeted?
- And **how long** will it take before gender parity is reached?
- And **why** are women less present?
- And **which strategies** are more successful?

# Let's brainstorm

## Women participation rate across Bhutan's innovation ecosystems (%)



# Challenges we will address today

- Often, IP data sources do not provide sex-disaggregated information
- How can we obtain sex-disaggregated information for all the team members?
- How can we use this information to measure gender gaps?
  
- Important: **sex-disaggregated data** is different from gender data
- Gender data contains information that allows to identify gender roles

# Next:

1. Women's participation in IP and innovation
- 2. Gender indicators for policy**
3. How to obtain sex-disaggregated data

# Additional resources

- + **WIPO best practices to obtain sex-disaggregated IP data:** <https://www.wipo.int/publications/en/details.jsp?id=4588>
- + **Identifying the gender of PCT inventors:** <https://www.wipo.int/publications/en/details.jsp?id=4125>
- + **World Name Gender Dictionary Toolkit:** <https://www.wipo.int/web/economics/w/blogs/gender-dictionary>
- + **WIPO gender GitHub repository:** [https://github.com/IES-platform/r4r\\_gender/tree/main](https://github.com/IES-platform/r4r_gender/tree/main)
- + **IP and gender indicators review:** <https://www.wipo.int/publications/en/details.jsp?id=4653>
- + **Barriers and solution for women's participation:** <https://www.wipo.int/publications/en/details.jsp?id=4743&plang=EN>
- + **IP and gender indicators, additional measures:** <https://www.wipo.int/web/economics/w/blogs/how-to-create-innovation-gender-indicators-the-chilean-way>
- + **What do we know about gender gaps in innovation?** <https://www.wipo.int/web/economics/w/blogs/gender-by-fields>

Thank you



WIPO  
Innovation  
Gender Gap

# Women participation in innovation and IP

## Gender indicators for policy

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Bhutan

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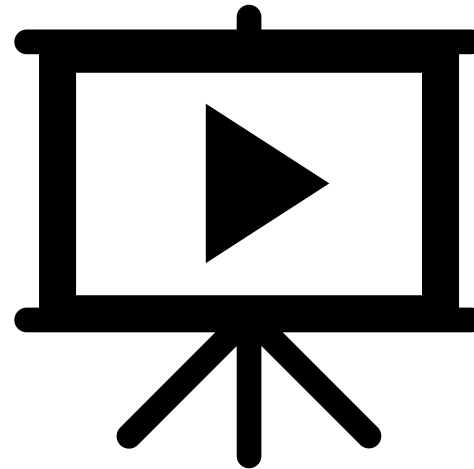


# This module:

1. Women's participation in IP and innovation
- 2. Gender indicators for policy**
3. How to obtain sex-disaggregated data

# Before we continue

Let's hear from global researchers why it is important to learn about women participation in innovation and IP



# What are gender indicators

# Use sex-disaggregated data

- + Once we know the gender of inventors and creators, we can generate statistics that is **meaningful and informative** for policy
  - How do we show gender gaps (and their change) in participation?
  
- + Indicators should be
  - Relevant for policy objectives
  - Based on clear definitions (who is an inventor? Who is a creator?)
  - Simple, transparent and replicable
  - Used to monitor progress (or the lack of) compared to the baseline
  - Comparable to indicators from other institutions or statistical offices

# Know what you are measuring

Who is an inventor? Who is a creator?

There are **trade offs**

- + IP data: Anyone listed on the patent/design/etc. application
  - *Does not capture women who participate in innovation but do not appear on applications*
  
- + Survey data: someone who reports working in R&D/design/creative fields
  - *Self reported*
  
- ***Indicators require clear definition of what is captured by the measures***
  
- *With the same numbers, we can get very different indicators.*
- *It is important to know what you are measuring and what you need to measure*

# For example:

- + Patents data → Name of the inventor → Measure innovation activity
- + Designs data → Name of the creator → Measure creative activity
- + From **trademarks**?
  - + We only know **who applied** for the trademark
  - + We do not know the composition of the team behind the trademark
  - + But trademark are a good proxy for entrepreneurship

## Trade off!!

# WIPO suggested indicators

# Gender indicators from IP data

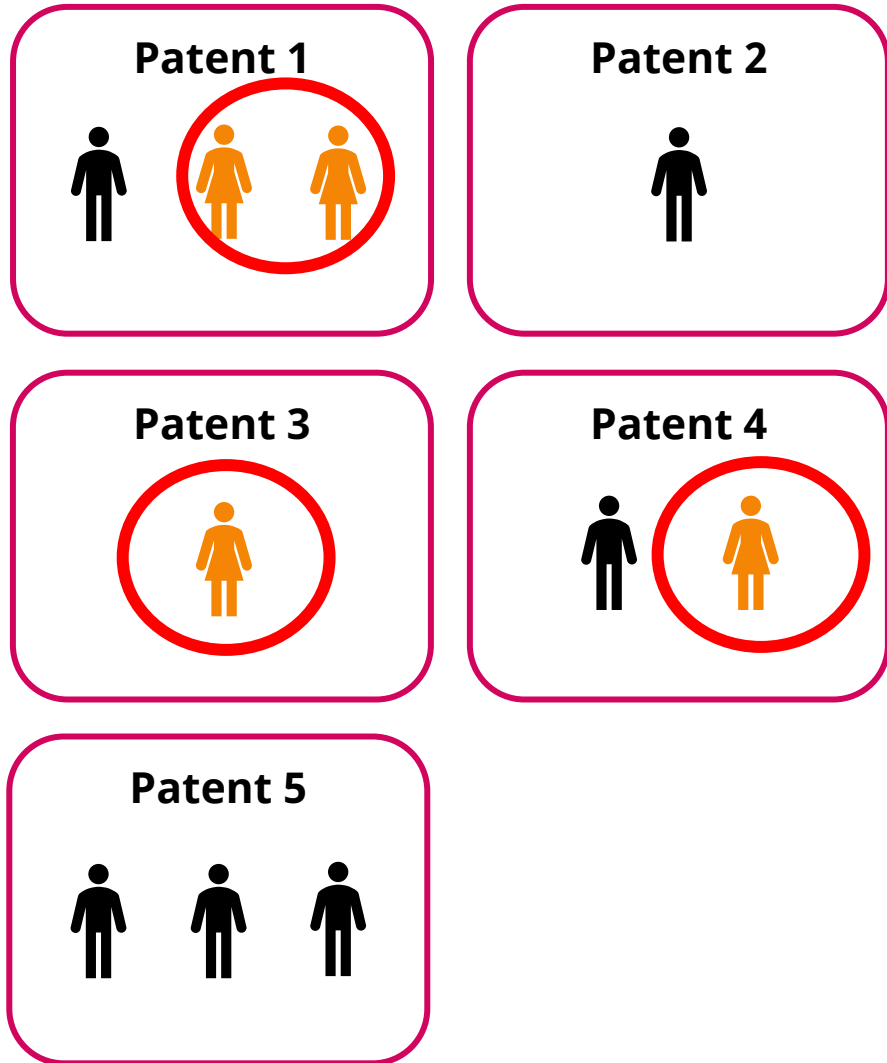
- Proportion of inventors/creators who are women (**WIR**)
- Share of patents with at least one woman (**ATL**)
- Women share of total patenting (**WSP**)
- Share of patents by gender composition of teams (**GCT**)

*Can be computed by IP right,  
country, time, technology class*

## **Challenges** (good to keep in mind but they will not be covered in this training)

- Missing information on inventors/creators' names
  - Data weighting strategies
- Industrial/Technological composition of a country
  - Inclusivity index (Delgado & Murray, 2022)

# Proportion of inventors who are women (**WIR**)

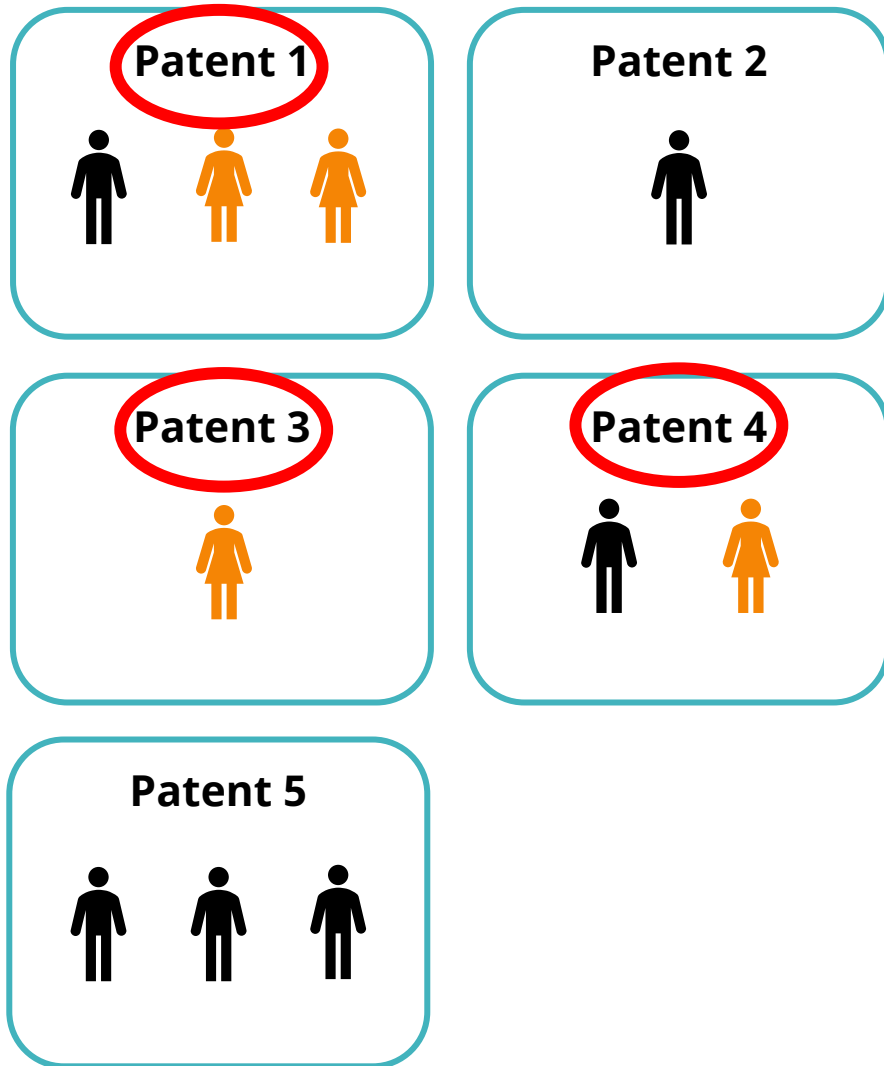


- To obtain the WIR we calculate what percentage of all the inventors are women:

$$\begin{aligned} WIR &= \frac{\text{Nr women inventors}}{\text{Nr total inventors}} \times 100 \\ &= \left(\frac{4}{10}\right) \times 100 = \mathbf{40\%} \end{aligned}$$

*Target = 50%*

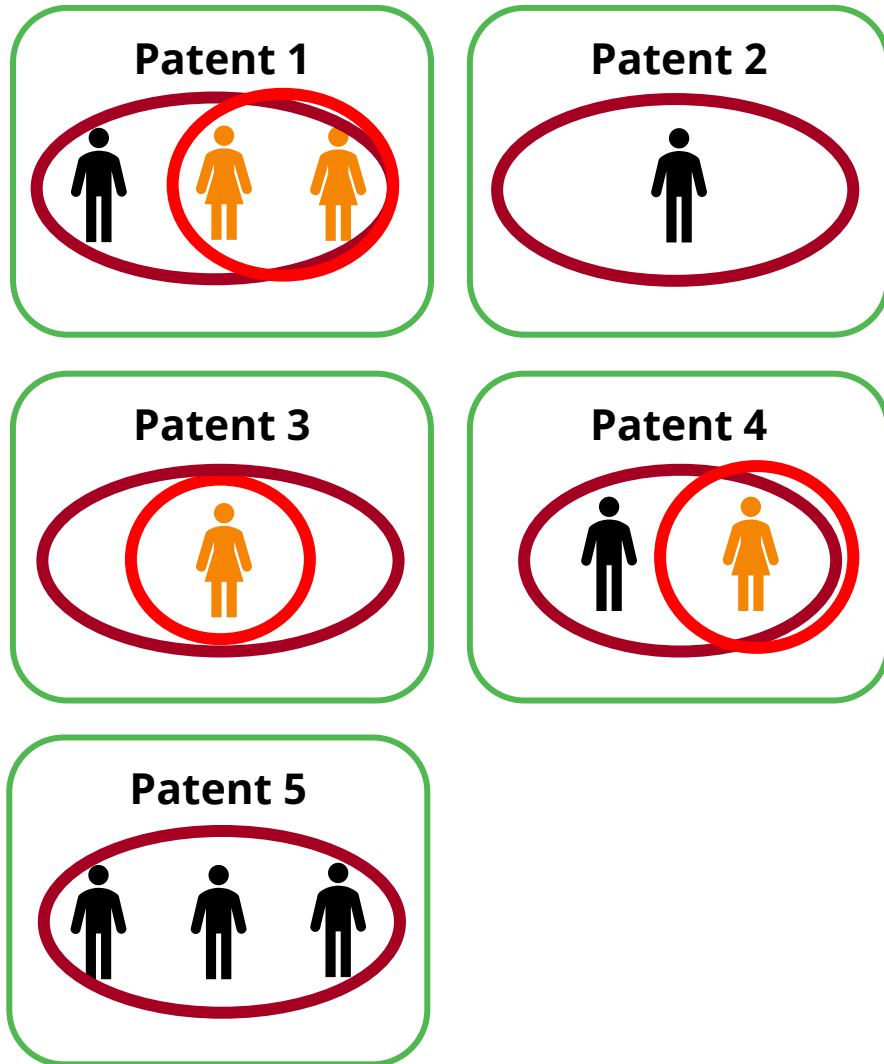
# Share of patents with at least one woman (ATL)



- To obtain the ATL we calculate what percentage of all patents have at least a woman in the team:

$$ATL = \frac{\text{Nr patents with at least one woman inventor}}{\text{Nr total patents}} \times 100$$
$$= \left( \frac{3}{5} \right) \times 100 = \mathbf{60\%}$$

# Women share of total patenting (**WSP**)



- To obtain the WSP we calculate for each patent what percentage of creator is a woman. Then we take the average of this percentage over all the patents

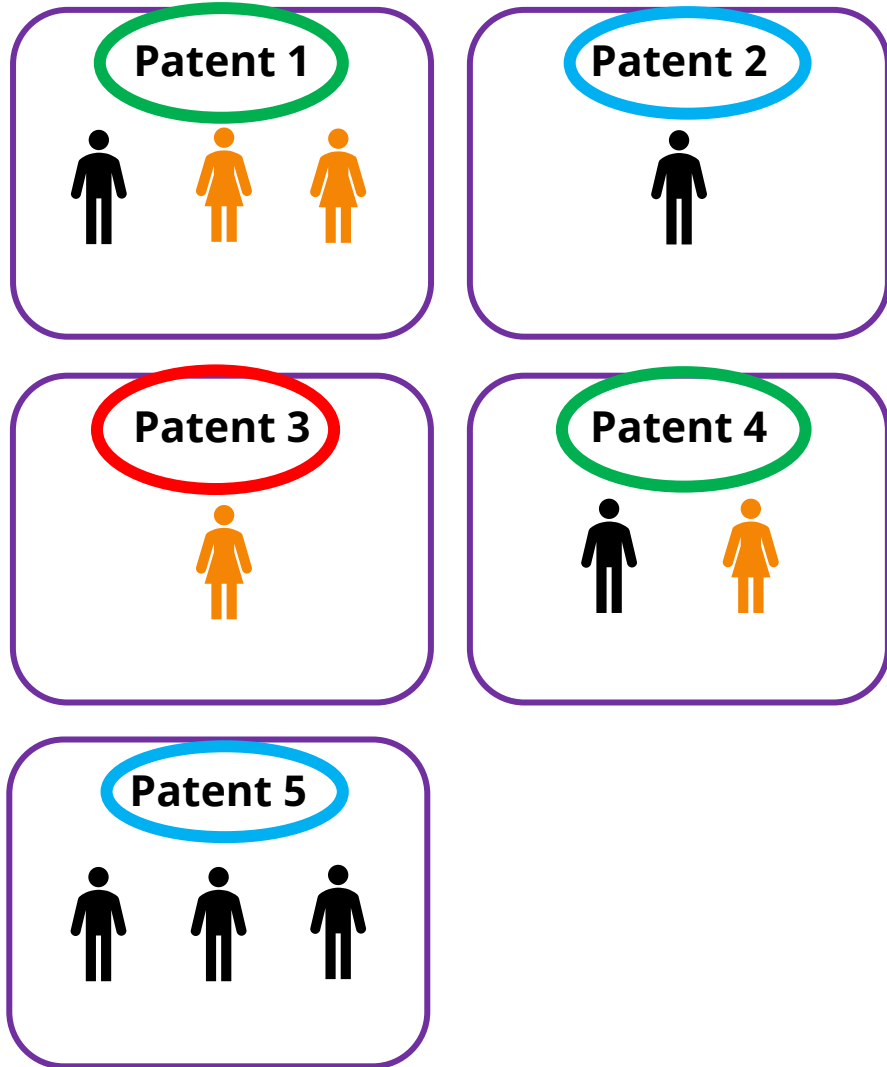
*WSP = % of women per patent*

$$= \left( \frac{\frac{2}{3} + \frac{0}{1} + \frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{0}{3}}{5} \right) \times 100$$

$$= 43.3\%$$

*Target = 50%*

# Share of patents by gender composition of teams (GCT)



- To obtain the share of patents by gender composition of teams, we group the patents based on whether they are: *only men, mixed gender or only women*.
- Then we calculate the percentage of patents by group type.

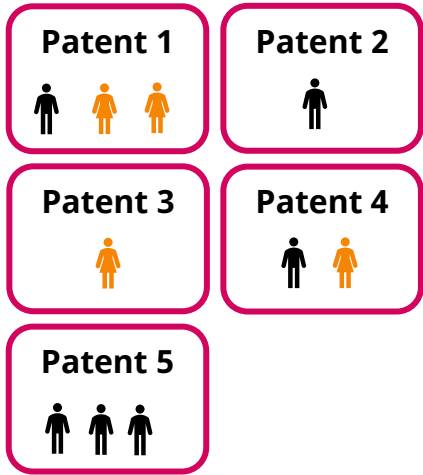
$$\underline{\text{Only men}} = \frac{2}{5} \times 100 = \mathbf{40\%}$$

$$\underline{\text{Mixed gender}} = \frac{2}{5} \times 100 = \mathbf{40\%}$$

$$\underline{\text{Only women}} = \frac{1}{5} \times 100 = \mathbf{20\%}$$

# Compare gender indicators

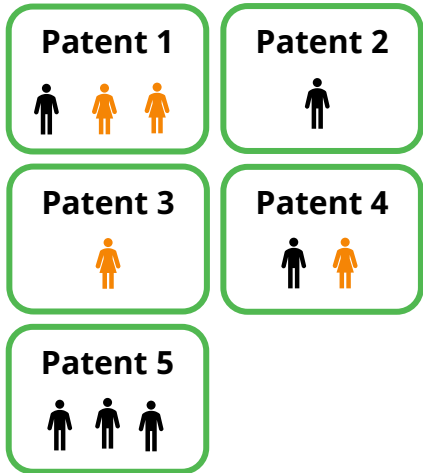
## Proportion of inventors who are women (WIR)



$$WIR = \frac{Nr \text{ women inventors}}{Nr \text{ total inventors}} \times 100$$

$$= \left(\frac{4}{10}\right) \times 100 = \mathbf{40\%}$$

## Women share of total patenting (WSP)

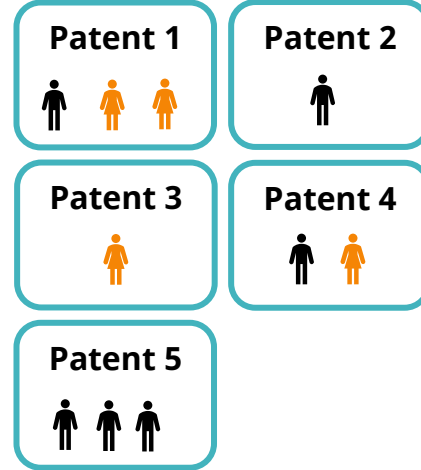


$$WSP = \% \text{ of women per patent}$$

$$= \left(\frac{\frac{2}{3} + \frac{0}{1} + \frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{0}{3}}{5}\right) \times 100$$

$$= \mathbf{43.3\%}$$

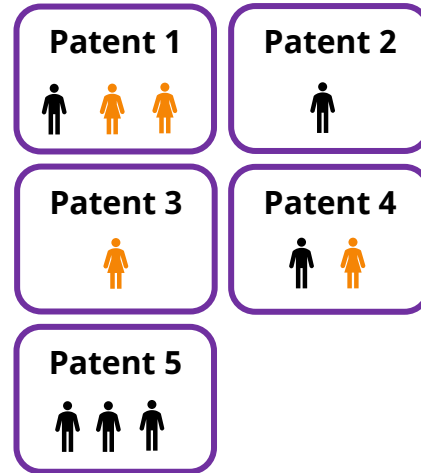
## Share of patents with at least one woman (ATL)



$$ATL = \frac{Nr \text{ patents with at least one woman inventor}}{Nr \text{ total patents}} \times 100$$

$$= \left(\frac{3}{5}\right) \times 100 = \mathbf{60\%}$$

## Share of patents by gender composition of teams (GCT)

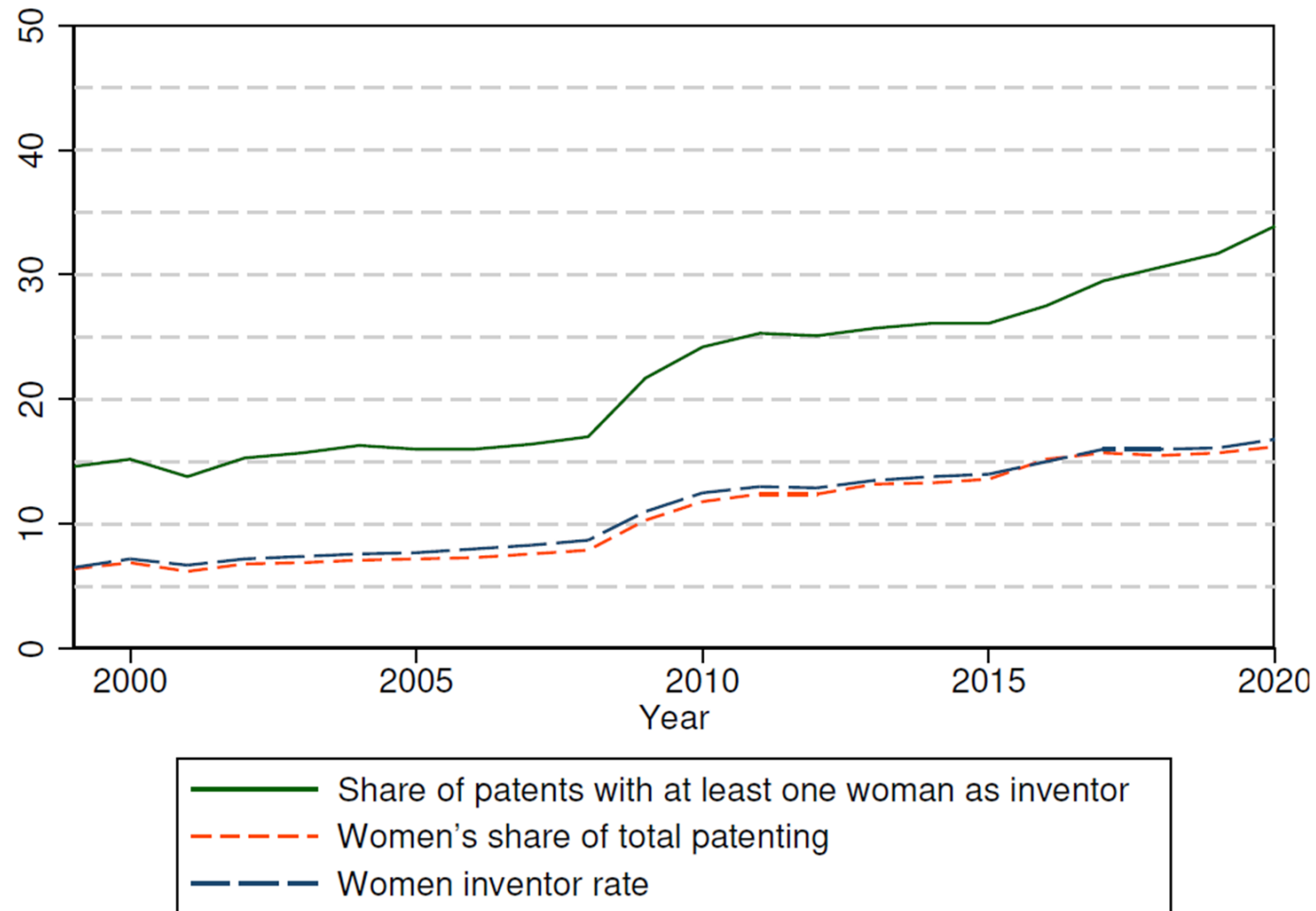


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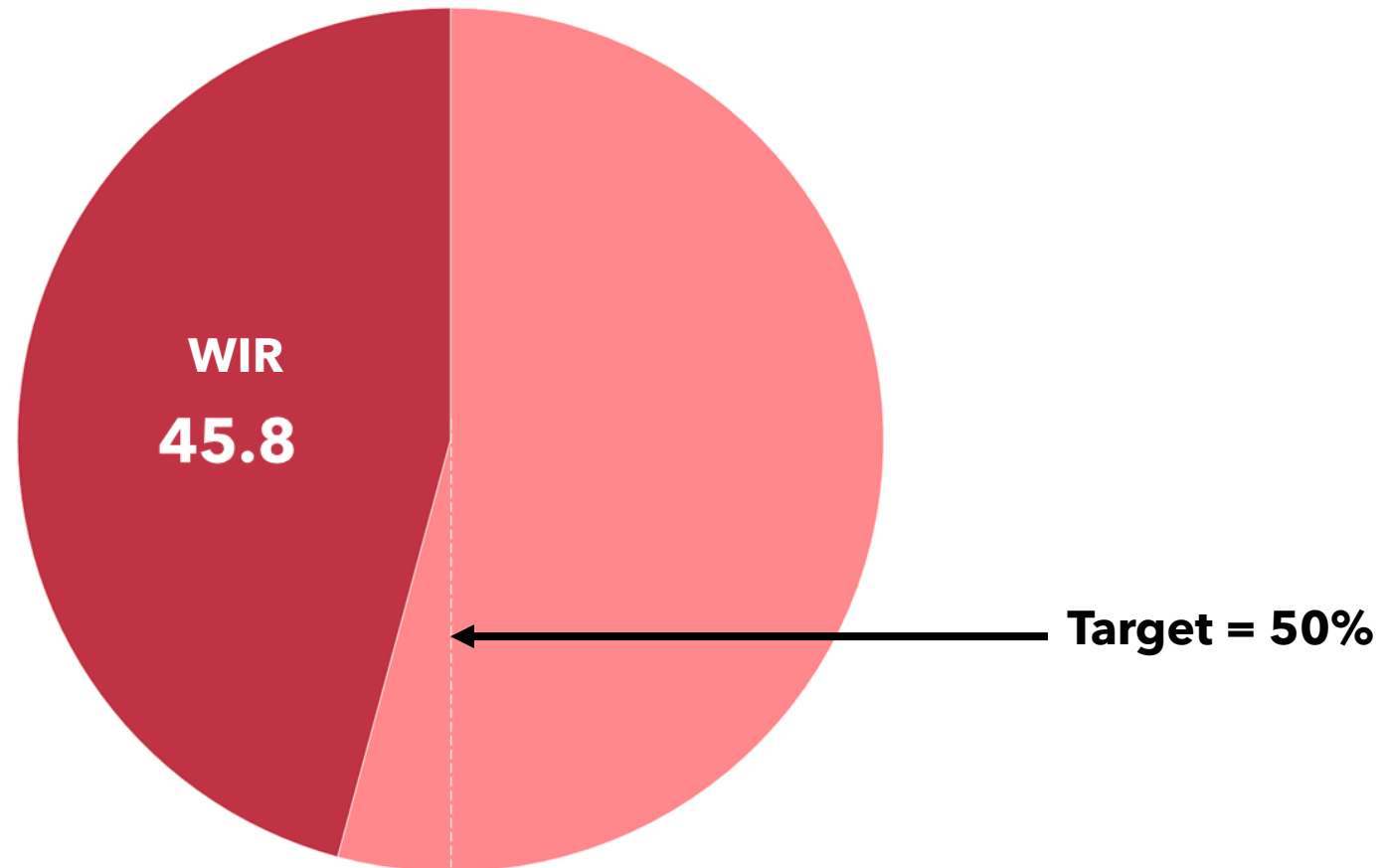
## Three indicators of women contribution to patenting in Asia



# Missing information :

- Taking averages is an option

Women participation rate in Bhutanese patents (2005 - 2024)



# Get indicators from the data

# Indicators by class and time (example, numbers do not reflect actual countries statistics)

Make sure the data is in the right format

name	gender	class	year
dechen	F	14	2016
dema	F	5	2017
karma	M	19	2014
lekey	F	11	2023
ram	M	16	2015
sherab	F	11	2024
dechen	M	10	2024
leki	M	9	2020
wangda	M	12	2024
dorji	M	17	2014
thinley	M	10	2019
penjor	M	11	2023
sonam	M	19	2024

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wangda	M	12	2024
dorji	M	17	2014
thinley	M	10	2019
penjor	M	11	2023
sonam	M	19	2024

M	F	Tot	class	year
0	1	1	14	2016
0	1	1	5	2017
1	0	1	19	2014
1	1	2	11	2023
1	0	1	16	2015
0	1	1	11	2024
1	0	1	10	2024
1	0	1	9	2020
1	0	1	12	2024
1	0	1	17	2014
1	0	1	10	2019
1	0	1	19	2024

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1	0	1	16	2015
0	1	1	11	2024
1	0	1	10	2024
1	0	1	9	2020
1	0	1	12	2024
1	0	1	17	2014
1	0	1	10	2019
1	0	1	19	2024

# Indicators by class and time

Proportion of inventors who are women (**WIR = F/Tot**)

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wangda	M	12	2024
dorji	M	17	2014
thinley	M	10	2019
penjor	M	11	2023
sonam	M	19	2024

M	F	Tot	class	year	WIR
0	1	1	14	2016	4/13 = 31%
0	1	1	5	2017	40%
1	0	1	19	2014	40%
1	1	2	11	2023	40%
1	0	1	16	2015	40%
0	1	1	11	2024	40%
1	0	1	10	2024	40%
1	0	1	9	2020	40%
1	0	1	12	2024	40%
1	0	1	17	2014	40%
1	0	1	10	2019	40%
1	0	1	19	2024	40%

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sonam	M	19	2024

M	F	Tot	class	year	WIR	WIR class
0	1	1	14	2016	40%	100%
0	1	1	5	2017	40%	100%
1	0	1	19	2014	40%	0%
1	1	2	11	2023	40%	2/3 = 67%
1	0	1	16	2015	40%	0%
0	1	1	11	2024	40%	67%
1	0	1	10	2024	40%	0%
1	0	1	9	2020	40%	0%
1	0	1	12	2024	40%	0%
1	0	1	17	2014	40%	0%
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M	F	Tot	class	year	WIR	WIR class	WIR year
0	1	1	14	2016	40%	100%	100%
0	1	1	5	2017	40%	100%	100%
1	0	1	19	2014	40%	0%	0%
1	1	2	11	2023	40%	67%	50%
1	0	1	16	2015	40%	0%	0%
0	1	1	11	2024	40%	67%	1/4 = 25%
1	0	1	10	2024	40%	0%	25%
1	0	1	9	2020	40%	0%	0%
1	0	1	12	2024	40%	0%	25%
1	0	1	17	2014	40%	0%	0%
1	0	1	10	2019	40%	0%	0%
1	0	1	19	2024	40%	0%	25%

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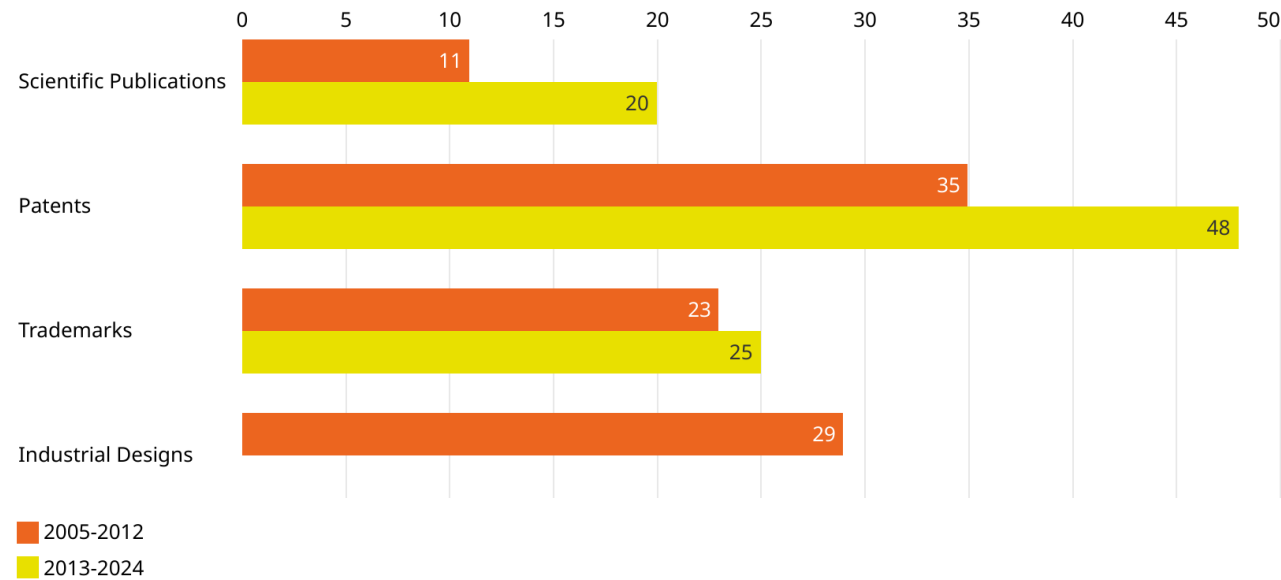
M	F	Tot	class	year	WIR	WIR class	WIR year	WIR class year
0	1	1	14	2016	40%	100%	100%	100%
0	1	1	5	2017	40%	100%	100%	1/1 = 100%
1	0	1	19	2014	40%	0%	0%	0%
1	1	2	11	2023	40%	67%	50%	50%
1	0	1	16	2015	40%	0%	0%	0%
0	1	1	11	2024	40%	67%	25%	100%
1	0	1	10	2024	40%	0%	25%	0%
1	0	1	9	2020	40%	0%	0%	0%
1	0	1	12	2024	40%	0%	25%	0%
1	0	1	17	2014	40%	0%	0%	0%
1	0	1	10	2019	40%	0%	0%	0%
1	0	1	19	2024	40%	0%	25%	0%

# Policy analysis

# Once quantified, tackle the issue

- + Gender indicators allow us to **establish a baseline** to monitor change

**Women participation rate across Bhutan's innovation ecosystems (%)**



- + The next step is to understand what works and what does not, to reach equal representation
- + **How and why indicators change across time, regions, demographic groups, etc.**

# Exit the “descriptive trap”

- + Understand what are the **mechanisms** behind the statistics we observe at baseline
- + **Compare more and less successful stories**
  - Why some IP rights, or technology classes, have different participation rate?
  - Which factors contribute to women’s participation?
  - What entry barriers affect men and women differently (e.g. Access to education, credit, networks; Knowledge)
  - Which factors affect women differently (e.g. motherhood and care responsibilities)

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- + **Compare existing policy interventions**
  - Identify the policy impact (remove confounding factors)
  - Did they obtain the expected **outcome**? Why yes? Why not?

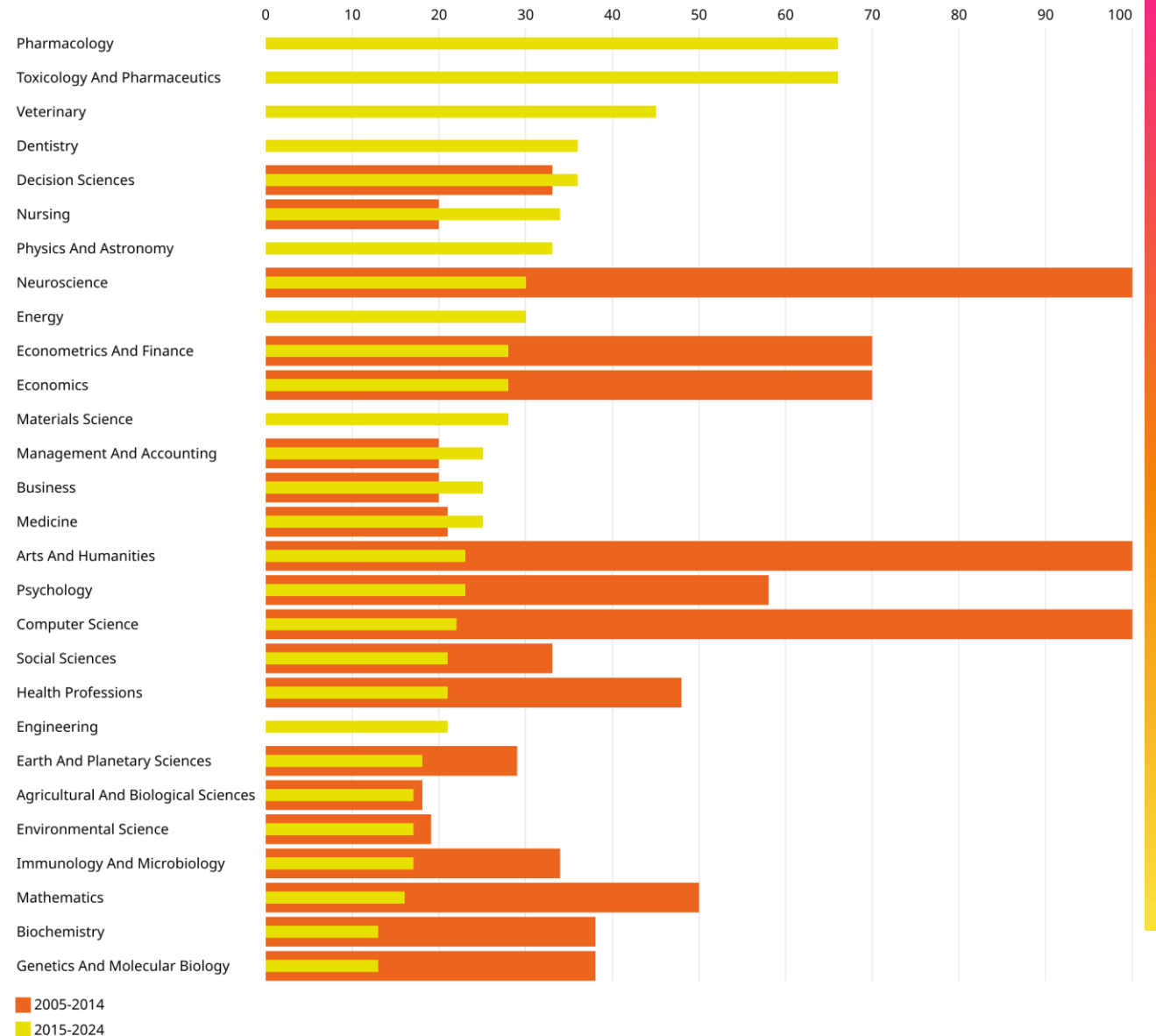
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  - Which factors affect women differently (e.g. motherhood and care responsibilities)
- + **Compare existing policy interventions**
  - Identify the policy impact (remove confounding factors)
  - Did they obtain the expected outcome? Why yes? Why not?
- + **Use insights from existing evaluations to design **new policy** interventions that are**
  - **(Cost) Effective**
  - **Targeted**

# Policy analysis of gender indicators

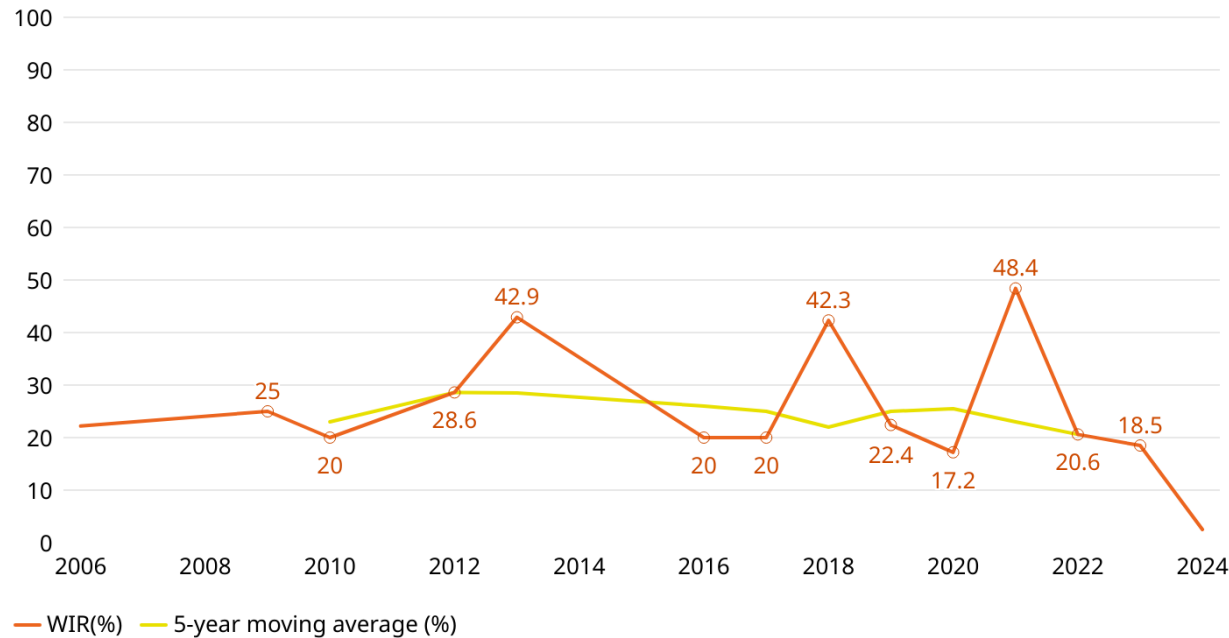
- > In which **sector** do women invent the most?
- > In which **period** did women invent the most in **Neuroscience**?
- > In which sectors women's participation **decreased** the most?
- > Can you think of (any) **factors** that explain these statistics?

Women participation rate in patents, by field

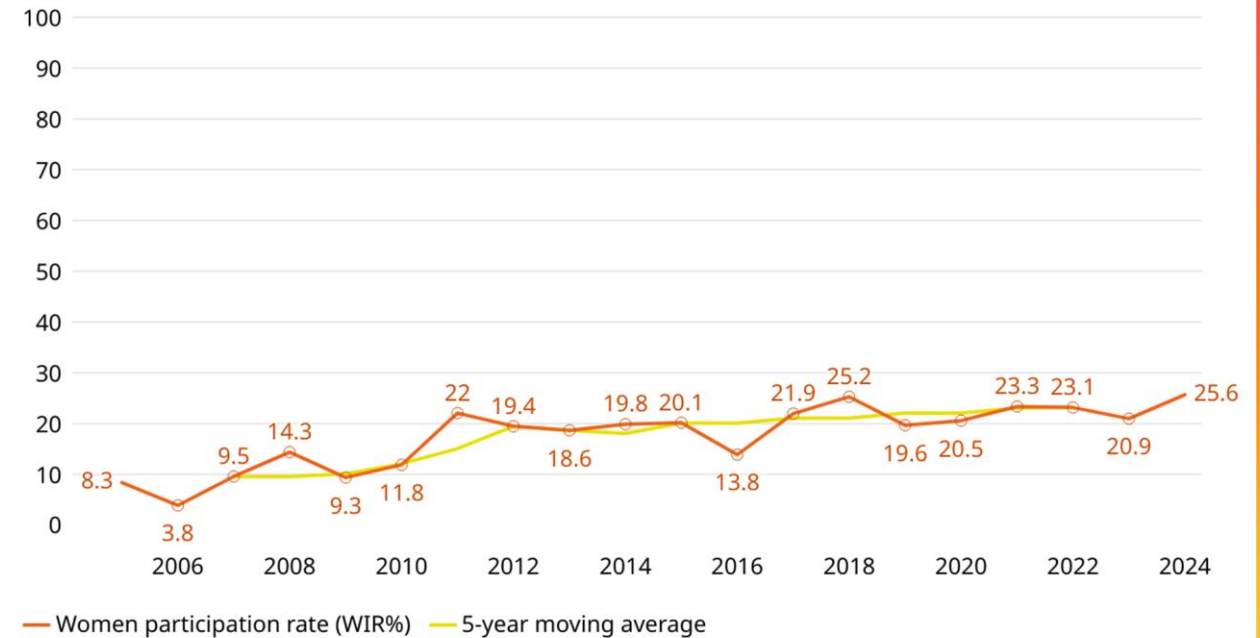


# What can we say about these charts?

## Women participation in trademarks in Bhutan



## Women participation in scientific publications in Bhutan



# Practice

# Practice on Jupyter Lab:

- Open Jupiter Lab
- Go to the folder *CDIP training gender*
- Open the python notebook *2\_gender\_indicators.ipynb*
- Follow the steps to create the tables
  - *training\_WIR.csv*
  - *training\_ATL.csv*
  - *training\_WSP.csv*
  - *training\_GCT.csv*
  - *indicators\_class.csv*
  - *indicators\_country.csv*
  - *indicators\_year.csv*
- **Important:** for this example, the column for creators' names has already been cleaned and standardized.  
*Numbers are made up and do not reflect actual countries statistics*

# Next:

1. Women's participation in IP and innovation
2. Gender indicators for policy
- 3. How to obtain sex-disaggregated data**

# Additional resources

- + **WIPO best practices to obtain sex-disaggregated IP data:** <https://www.wipo.int/publications/en/details.jsp?id=4588>
- + **Identifying the gender of PCT inventors:** <https://www.wipo.int/publications/en/details.jsp?id=4125>
- + **World Name Gender Dictionary Toolkit:** <https://www.wipo.int/web/economics/w/blogs/gender-dictionary>
- + **WIPO gender GitHub repository:** [https://github.com/IES-platform/r4r\\_gender/tree/main](https://github.com/IES-platform/r4r_gender/tree/main)
- + **IP and gender indicators review:** <https://www.wipo.int/publications/en/details.jsp?id=4653>
- + **Barriers and solution for women's participation:** <https://www.wipo.int/publications/en/details.jsp?id=4743&plang=EN>
- + **IP and gender indicators, additional measures:** <https://www.wipo.int/web/economics/w/blogs/how-to-create-innovation-gender-indicators-the-chilean-way>
- + **What do we know about gender gaps in innovation?** <https://www.wipo.int/web/economics/w/blogs/gender-by-fields>

Thank you



WIPO  
Innovation  
Gender Gap

# Women participation in innovation and IP

## Sex-disaggregated data

CDIP Training  
Bhutan

October 2025



# This module:

1. Women's participation in IP and innovation
2. Gender indicators for policy
- 3. How to obtain sex-disaggregated data**

# Sex-disaggregated data allows to:

- + **Quantify the issue**
  - Who is **under-represented**
  - What is the **extent** of women's under-representation
  - What are the **economic losses** from under-representation (human capital, inventions, revenues, etc.)

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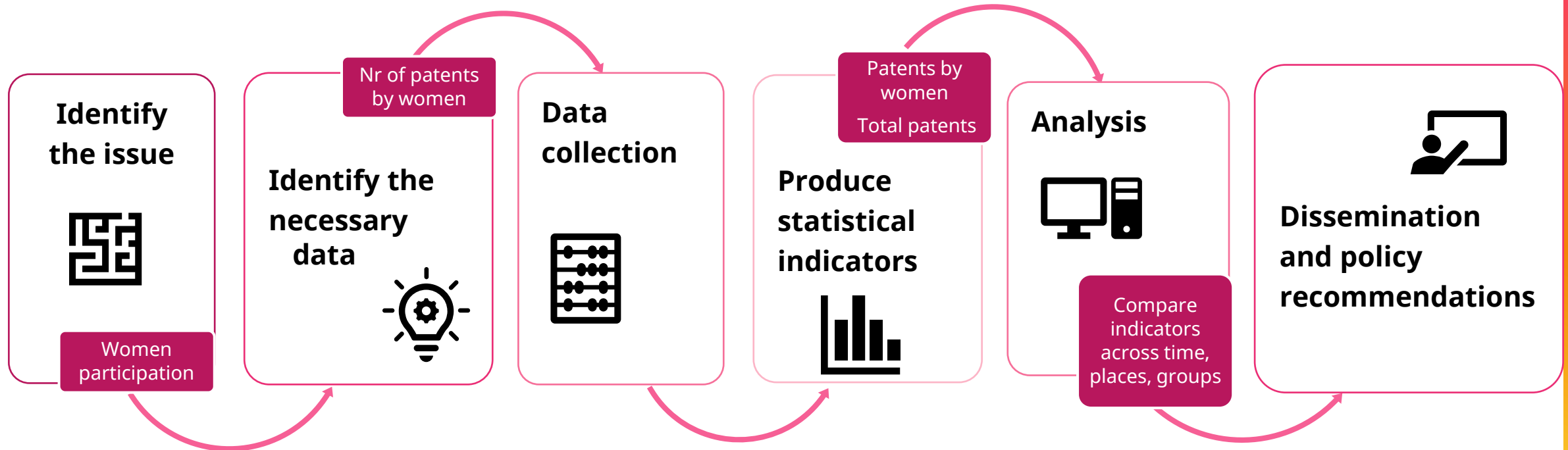
## + Quantify barriers and trampolines

- Which **entry-barriers** affect women and men differently
- Which **mechanisms** drive disparities and lead to women's higher exit rates
- Identify **factors that favor women participation** in innovation ecosystems

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  - Which entry-barriers affect women and men differently
  - Which mechanisms drive disparities and lead to women's higher exit rates
  - Identify factors that favor women participation in innovation ecosystems
- + **Policy evaluations**
  - **Compare** outcomes: what works and what does not and why
  - What is the **impact** of policy interventions targeting gender-equality
  - Can a program be **scalded up**? What are the **benefits**? What are the **costs**?
  - Which **groups** benefit the most from a policy intervention
  - How do patterns **evolve over time** for men and women?

# Steps from no data to policy



# **From no data to sex-disaggregated data**

# Obtaining sex-disaggregated data

Directly from the source

- Self-reported through surveys
- Adding a gender field in IP application forms

→ Advantage: accuracy and diversity

→ Limitation: cost, volume, no past analysis

<b>APPLICANT</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> This person is also inventor	Gender:	<input type="checkbox"/> F	<input type="checkbox"/> M	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
------------------	---	---------	----------------------------	----------------------------	--------------------------------

# Obtaining sex-disaggregated data

Attribute the gender retrospectively

➤ Merge the data with **national individuals' records**

→ Advantage: past analysis, volume

→ Limitation: access, requires identifiers, might not work for foreign individuals

## IP data

Social Security Nr	Name
11111190-1	K. Dorji
99999998-1	Jack Smith
11111192-2	Tshering Yangzom
11111192-2	Tshering Y.
99999998-2	Marie Curie

## National statistics data

Social Security Nr	Name	Gender
11111190-2	Tshering Yangzom	F
11111198-1	Kinley Dorji	M

*Note: sometimes social security number have a special digit to distinguish men and women*

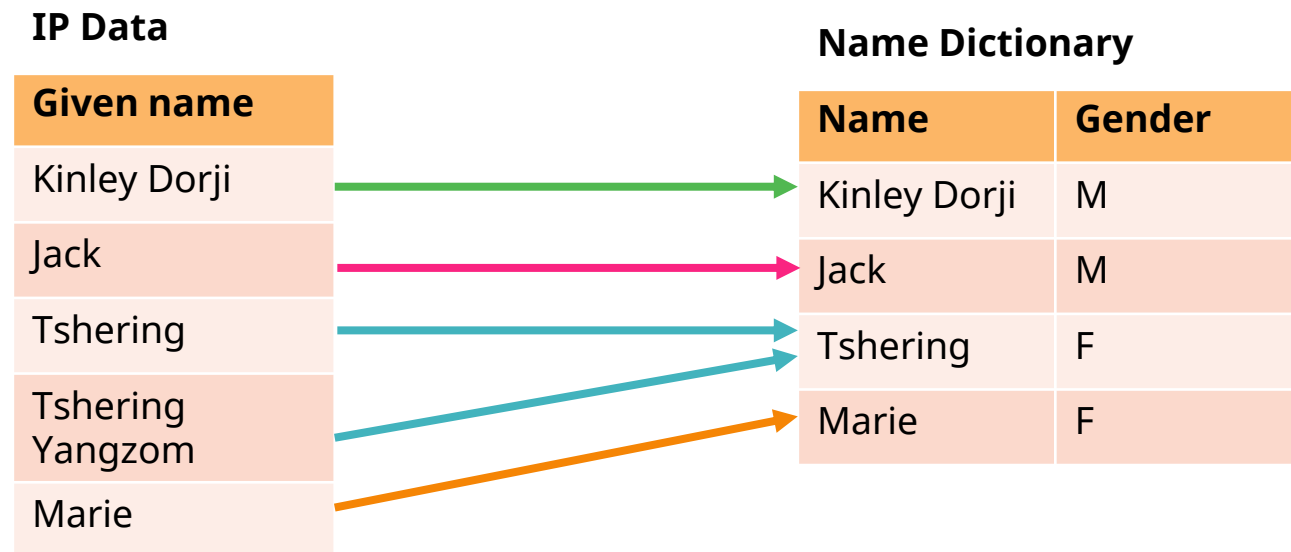
# Obtaining sex-disaggregated data

Attribute the gender retrospectively

➤ Use **algorithms** to match names with their individuals' gender

→ Advantage: past analysis, covers many countries

→ Limitation: name spelling, quality and coverage of the dictionaries





# **WIPO World Name Gender Dictionary (WNGD)**

# WIPO WNGD

*An open-source tool to attribute the gender to innovators and creators based on their names.*

## Main features:

1. Provides combinations of name-country-most frequent gender attributed to that name
2. It propagates name-gender pairs for all countries with the same official languages
3. Global coverage: 26 million names linked to 195 different countries and territories
4. Can be applied to the data retrospectively
5. It requires only two input variables: the **given name** and the **country of origin (ISO-2 country code)**
6. It can be used in STATA (with license) or Python (free access)

# WIPO World Name Gender Dictionary

- Procedure:

1. Extract the given names from IP data

→ Make sure the names are uniform (lowercase, no punctuation, no leading or following space, no family names)

→ If there is more than one inventor or creator per item, split the observation in two (one for each given name)

→ Make sure you are using the 2-ISO country code

2. Apply the dictionary

## Ip data

ID	Original name	name	country	country code
0123	Karma; Dechen	Karma	Bhutan	BT
0123	Karma; Dechen	Dechen	Bhutan	BT
0192	Smith Jack	Jack	Canada	CA
6543	Lekey	Lekey	Bhutan	BT
9876	Yangzom T.	Yangzom	Bhutan	BT
2468	Marie Curie, Avenue du village 7, 12001 Paris	Marie	France	FR



Gender
M
M
M
F
F
F

# Apply the WGND

## ➤ In STATA

```
// set directory
global dir "ENTER YOUR PATH HERE"

// Install genderit
net from "https://raw.githubusercontent.com/IES-platform/r4r_gender/master/genderit/STATA/"
net install genderit

// Install WGND dictionaries
genderit_install_wgnd // WGND 2.0 (default)

// Load the data
import delimited "$dir\practice_wgnd.csv", varnames(1) encoding(UTF-8) clear

// Assign the gender
genderit name country_code, b attribthreshold(.85)
```

## ➤ Outputs summary:

```
. tab gender
```

Most likely gender (>=.85)	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
F	34	42.50	42.50
M	37	46.25	88.75
U	9	11.25	100.00
Total	80	100.00	

```
sum probF probM probU
```

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
probF	80	.4342015	.495606	0	1
probM	80	.4657985	.4988236	0	1
probU	80	0	0	0	0

# Apply the WGND

## ➤ In Python

```
# 1) Obtain the genderit functions
import git
git.Git().clone('https://github.com/ClemSternWIPO/gender_it.git')
import sys
sys.path.append('YOUR DIRECTORY/gender_it')

# 2) Import the function
import gender_it_functions as gf

# 3) Import the required libraries
import pandas as pd
import requests
from io import StringIO
import string
from unicode import unicode
pd.options.mode.chained_assignment = None
import numpy as np
import re as re
import unicodedata as ud

# 4) Set up the data

# Define file paths
my_path = "YOUR DIRECTORY/CDIP training"

# Load the data
my_file = my_path + "/practice_wngd.csv"
df = pd.read_csv(my_file)
df.sample(10)

# 5) Apply gender function
df_gendered = gf.get_gender(df, name_column='name', country_column='country_code', threshold=0.85)
```

## ➤ Outputs summary:

Results distribution is as follows:

	count	Percentage
gender		
F	41	51.25
M	38	47.50
not found	1	1.25

# Practice on Jupyter Lab

# Practice on Jupyter Lab:

- Open Jupyter Lab
- Go to the folder *CDIP training gender*
- Open the python notebook *1\_wngd.ipynb*
- Follow the steps to create the table *practice\_wngd\_gendered.csv*
  
- **Important:** for this example, the column for creators' names has already been cleaned and standardized

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