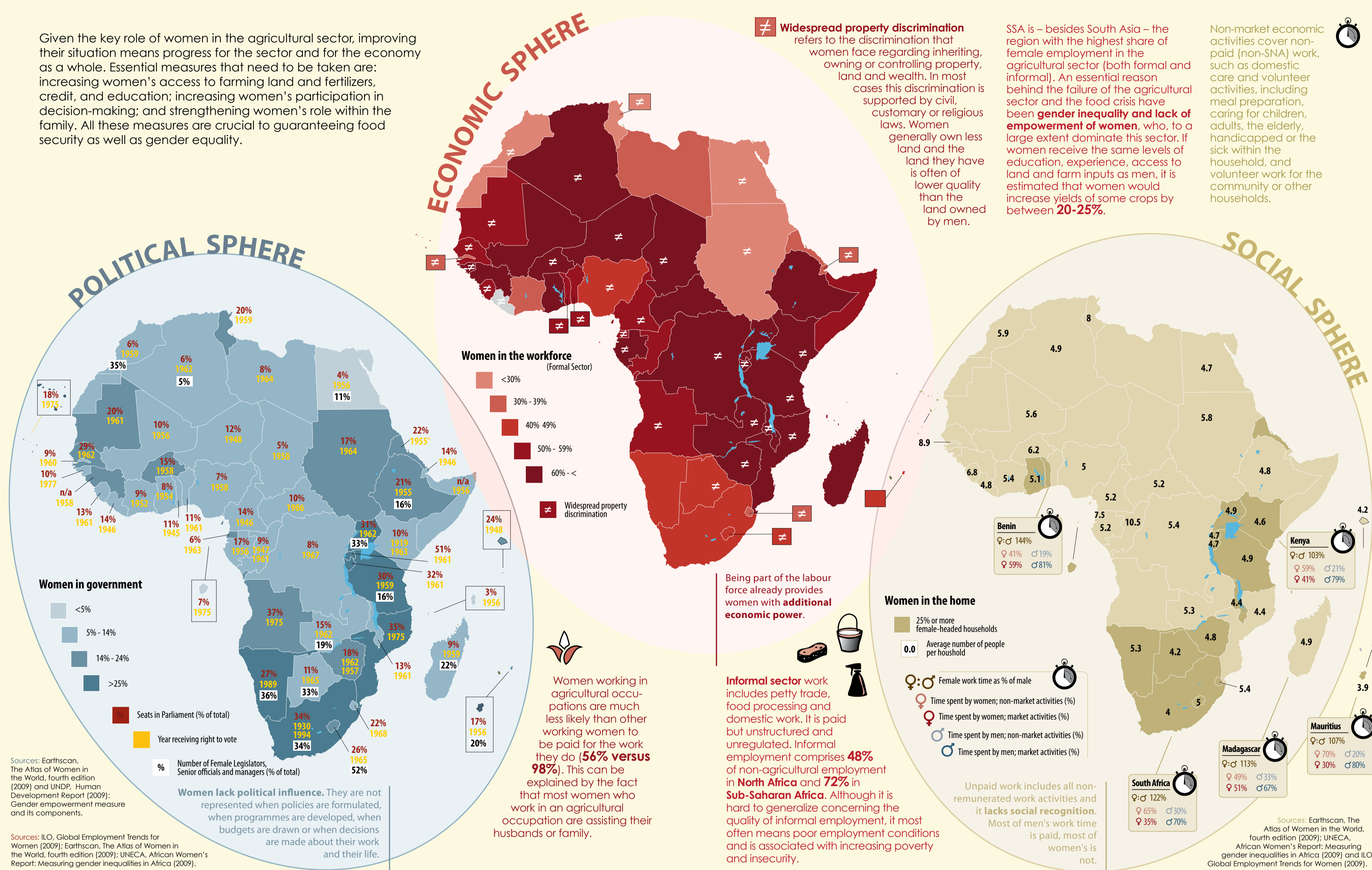


Women's empowerment should be a specific objective for partnerships

Given the key role of women in the agricultural sector, improving their situation means progress for the sector and for the economy as a whole. Essential measures that need to be taken are: increasing women's access to farming land and fertilizers, credit, and education; increasing women's participation in decision-making; and strengthening women's role within the family. All these measures are crucial to guaranteeing food security as well as gender equality.



Achievement of gender equity must be one of the specific objectives around which partnerships are formed, whether with public or private sector investors, donors and international financial institutions. Desired results need to be set and quantified, with regular monitoring and reporting to leaders and through the media.

The Africa Progress Panel calls upon political and business leaders to ensure that goals and targets relating to women's participation and empowerment be systematically included in partnership agreements, regardless of the sector.



Africa Progress Report 2010