



Invisible and Excluded – Risk to Informal Wives and Partners from Land Tenure Formalization and Titling Campaigns

Live Webinar
Wednesday, March 16, 2022

Presenters:

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Overview

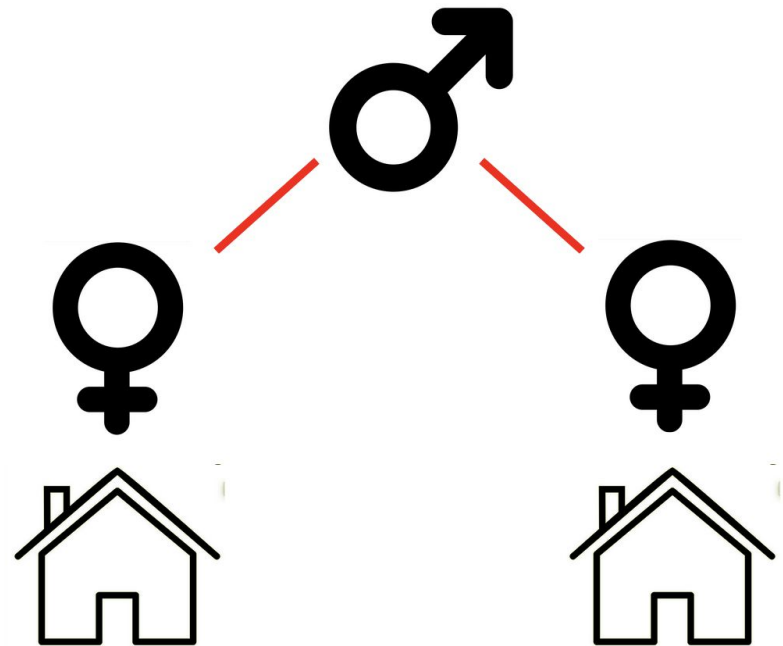
- Why this issue matters
- Risks and potential magnitude
- 6 dimensions
- Panel discussion

Who may be getting left out?

Women in Informal Unions



Women in Parallel Households



What rights?

- “Private”
- Permanent
- Transferable
- Valuable



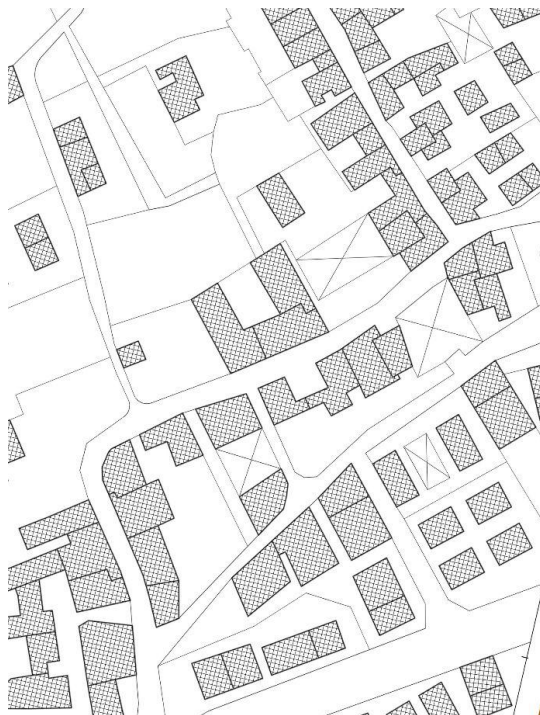
Source: GLA Colombia

What is at stake for women? For shared development goals?



Source: UN Sustainable Development Goals

Slipping through the GAPS of land project campaigns in Latin America



RISE of informal marriage in Latin America

Table 1: Percentage cohabitants among women aged 30-34 who are in unions/marriages with men

Country	Percentage informal spouses	Trend
Argentina	48	↑ 37%^
Brazil	44	↑ 47%^
Chile	18*	↑ 4%^
Colombia	57*	↑ 38%^
Costa Rica	38	↑ 25%^
Dominican Republic	76	↑ 15%†
Ecuador	50	NA
Guatemala	33*	NA
Honduras	50*	NA
Jamaica	52*	NA
Mexico	28	↑ 14%^
Nicaragua	49	↑ 13%^
Peru	56	↑ 34%^

* 2000 Census

^ since 1970

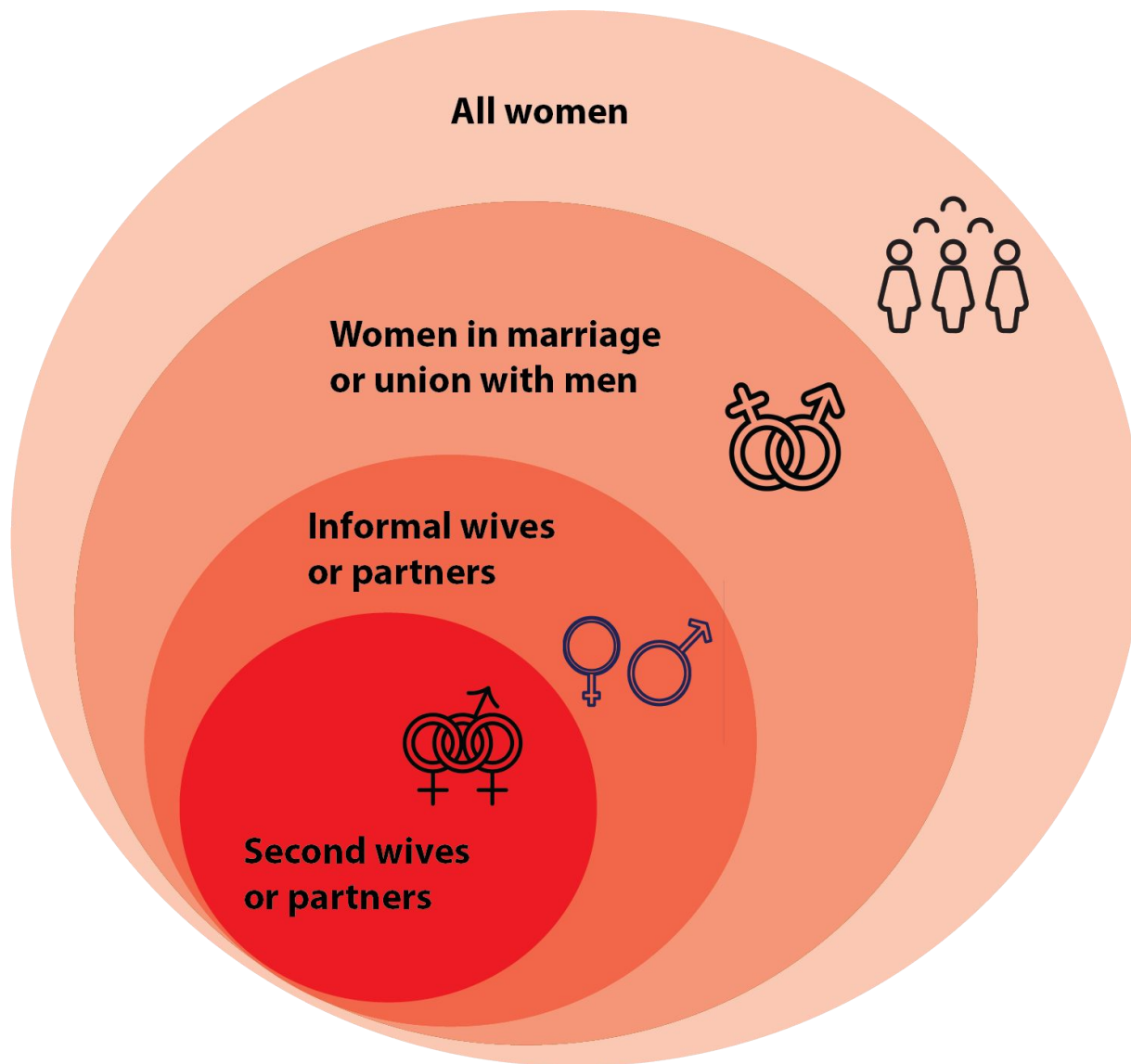
† since 1980

Source: Esteve et al., 2016

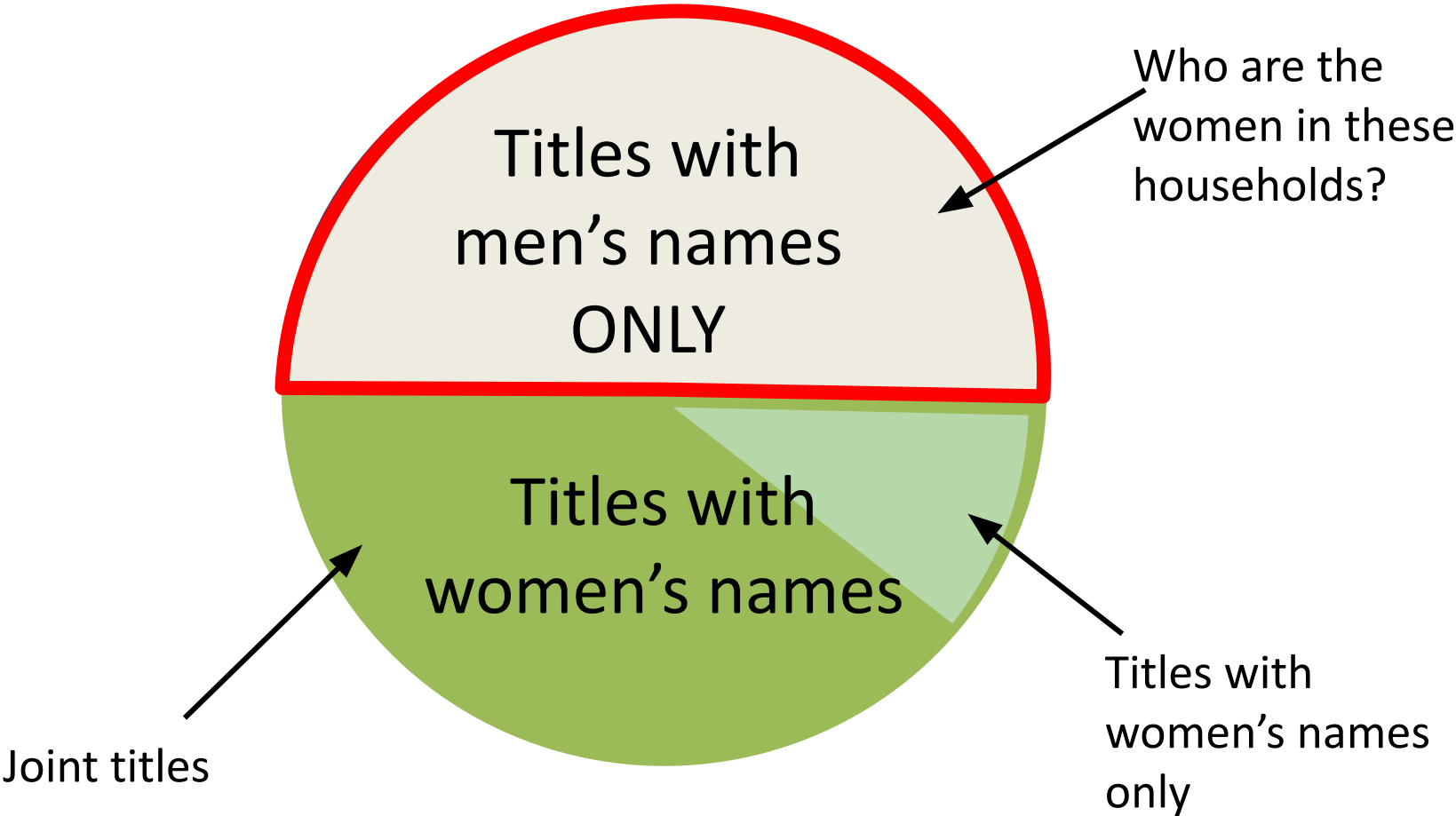
Potential higher risk in POST CONFLICT settings



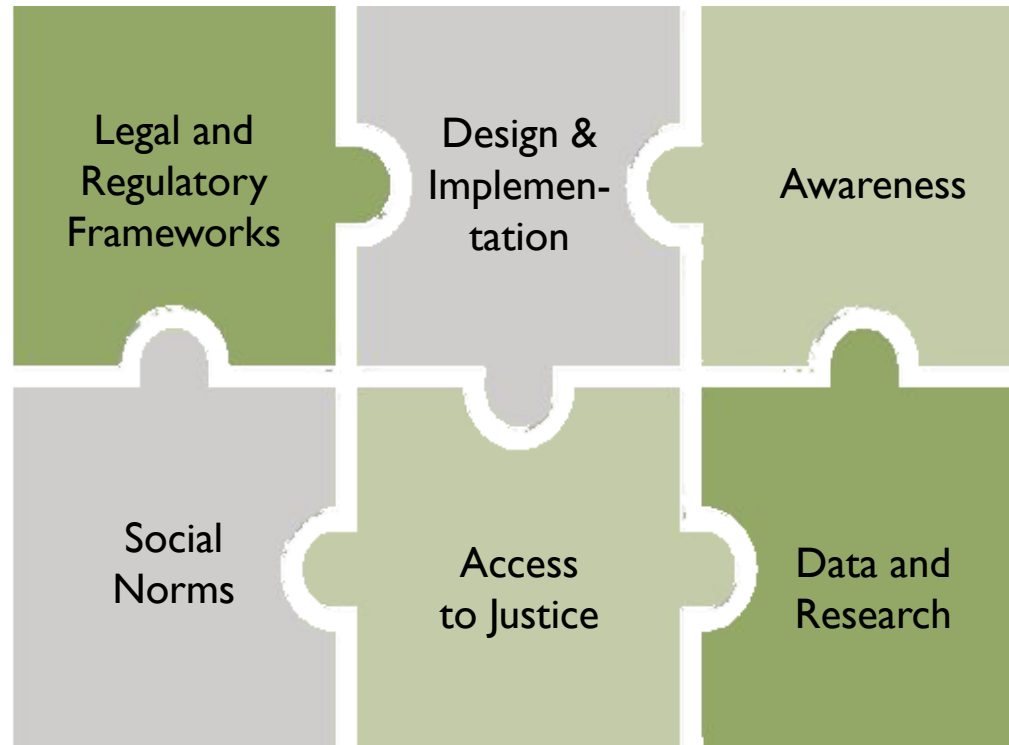
Concentric circles of RISK for women



INVISIBILITY in project metrics



6 Dimensions



Legal and Regulatory Frameworks



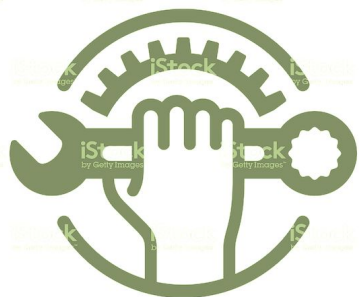
- Include informal spouses
- Ease burden of proof

Land Transactions

Joint titling

Domestic labor
(Economía del cuidado)

Project design & Implementation



- Unknown extent pre-project
- **Pressure for TIME** & resources

Diagnostics

Project Design

Gender

Indicators

Team Capacity

Awareness



- Beyond gender inequality
- Vulnerability of informal spouses

Campaigns

Cultural
appropriateness

Legal literacy

Access to justice



- Challenge of righting a wrong
- Modes of support

Alternative dispute
resolution
**Accessible claims &
info**
Safe channels

Social Norms



- Cultural practices around informal spouses
- Social position of parallel households

Local partnerships
Gender
Champions
Cultural change
Dialogue with ♂ & ♀

Data and Research



- Data on marriage informality
- Who is excluded?

Future research

Methodologies

Linking databases

Data on marriage informality

If you take one thing...

What can we do
to ensure informal wives
are **included** in
land formalization campaigns





Thank you!



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