

She's legenDAIRY!

Fintech for Women Dairy
Farmers - Key Facts and
Contours for Intervention



Big Hard Facts



Largest milk producer in the world.

Contributes to 23% of global milk supply, with the largest cattle inventory in the world.



DID YOU KNOW?

Indian dairy farmers gain 60% of the consumer rupee on average, far ahead of Australia and the EU

Clocking 6% CAGR on a \$154B industry

Growing at 3X of the global average

Why so important

The dairy Industry employs 80 MILLION HOUSEHOLDS in India.

Farm households may earn up to a THIRD of their income from dairy!

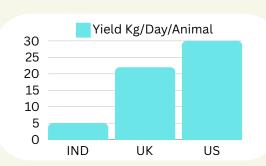
India's dairy output exceeded the COMBINED value of cereals, pulses, oilseeds and sugarcane in 2021!

But all is not well...

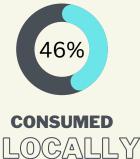
Concerns emerge when we dig deeper

95% of smallholder dairy households, with less than 2 ha. land and less than 5 animals

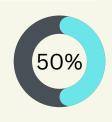




Diverse, Mostly Informal Value Chains







VIA UNORGANISED WENDORS

FROM JUST 5 STATES

predatory procurement oractices *

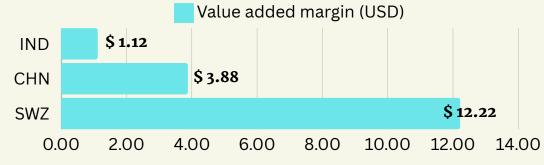
In developed countries, organized channels capture 90% of surplus production

weak cooperative marketing linkages in low-yield states

> * 60% of marketable surplus * in unorganized channels

Low Value Addition & Poor Returns

Unprocessed milk: A low value added margin product, makes up 75% of the total sales volume!



Skimming HER share!

The DISTRESSING **INVISIBILITY of** Women's Work in Dairy **Production**

Women Dairy Farmers Are...



NON-ECONOMIC **AGENTS**

Women's labour is seen as a natural extension of domestic duties

no direct compensation

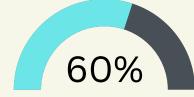
own no/few assets, and cattle deeds are registered to male members

Male counterparts control dairy revenue and cash flow

111

70%

of the total dairy workforce



of the total labour time in dairy

LOCKED IN A CYCLE OF UNPAID LABOUR AND FINANCIAL **DEPENDENCE**

Lacking equal access to household resources, public goods, information, and markets

Lacking autonomy in household and production decisions

Earnings exclusion diminishes their ability to save and access credit



opportunities for income augmentation

> business development

financial well-being



Meet Neetu

Profile of a Woman Dairy Farmer

30 yo, married, studied till primary school.

1L annual family income, from dairy and agri

4 MEMBER HOUSEHOLD

Wakes up at 4 works 8-10 Hrs

CLEANS THE SHED,
WASHES AND GROOMS
HER CATTLE, FETCHES
FODDER, MILKS AND
CARES FOR THE
ANIMALS.



Neetu's family owns 3 water buffaloes.
Caring for the herd is an extension of
Neetu's household responsibilities. Her
husband retains payments from
the sale of milk. She does not receive 'inhand payment' for her labour.

Neetu does not own a personal smartphone and is not very comfortable using the internet.

How to design a relevant financial solution for Neetu?

Build the right fintech skillsets

Fundamentals of

Fintech Product

Creation

Gender-Intentional

digital-first

low-cost scalability

data driven

provide context-specific, tailored financial solutions

inclusion focus

ecosystem building orientation

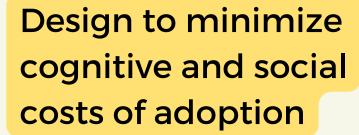


pro-women value chain development



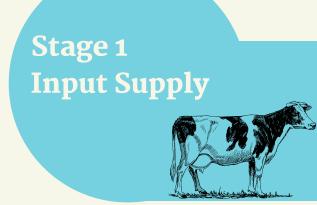
Build gender intentionality

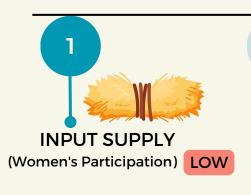
By enfolding insights about the woman dairy farmer into each stage from product ideation to service delivery



Design to empower

BOOST WOMEN'S POWER IN DECISION-MAKING TO THE CORE OF PRODUCT IDEATION





STAKEHOLDERS

Animal Breeders, Feed Suppliers, Veterinary Services, Dairy Farmers.



KEY ACTIVITIES

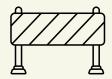
Cattle Purchase, Cattle Breeding, Equipment and Feed Procurement, Cattle Health Management.



GENDER GAP TO SOLVE FOR

Poor say in decision-making on herd size, quality, volume and source of other inputs.





FINANCIAL ACCESS BARRIERS TO SOI UTIONING

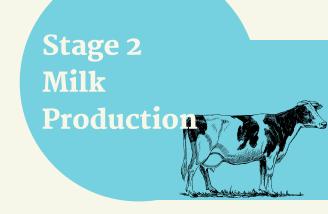
Self-efficacy, social, institutional and eligibility barriers to input credit and insurance.

FINTECH SOLUTION STARTERS

Link input purchases to women owned bank accounts.

Extend input market linkages to women over digital platforms e.g. **mobile- based veterinary subscription services** intentionally designed for women farmers.

Forge partnerships to develop alternative data trails to financially profile and underwrite women based on input procurement choices.





STAKEHOLDERS

Farming households (majority smallholder).



Shed management, Grooming, Grazing, Feeding and Attending to Cattle, Milking, Bio-waste Collection and Disposal.



GENDER GAP TO SOLVE FOR?

Invisibility and under-valuation of the hard physical and emotional labour of work in milk production.





FIN. ACCESS BARRIERS TO SOLUTIONING

Technical, information and agency barriers to improve production efficiencies and claim fair and direct remuneration.

FINTECH SOLUTION STARTERS

Build platforms to digitize day to day operations data for evidence to estimate the true money value of women's work.



Build women-centric FaaS and embedded financial services to open pathways to skilling and specialization and technology adoption for improved production efficiency.



MILK COLLECTION

(Women's Participation) LOW

STAKEHOLDERS

Local vendors, Village Collection Centres, Cooperative Societies, Milk Aggregators, Private Dairies.



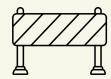
Quality assessment, Pricing and Sale of milk.



GENDER GAP TO SOLVE FOR?

Low participation in choice of marketing channel. No participation in sale of milk.





FIN. ACCESS BARRIERS TO SOLUTIONING

Lack of access to and control over revenues from sale.

FINTECH SOLUTION STARTERS

Link milk payments to women owned bank accounts.

Forge partnerships with women-led dairy collectives and cooperatives to aggregate volumes and enable easier market access.

Build D2C digital market linkage platforms with demand and price information leveraging potential ONDC networks.

Stage 4 Milk Storage, Processing and Value Addition

MILK STORAGE, PROCESSING AND VALUE ADDITION (Women's Participation) LOW

STAKEHOLDERS

Village Collection Centers, Processing Plants Cooperative, Private, Govt.), Cooperative Manufacturing Units.



KEY ACTIVITIES

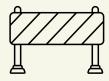
Chilling, Treatment and Packaging of Milk, Preparation of Value Added Dairy Products - Ghee, Butter, Curd, Khoya, Cheese, Confections etc.



Inequitable access to capital resources, public goods, information and markets block the germination of women-led micro-enterprise development.



FIN. ACCESS BARRIERS TO SOLUTIONING



Gender-conditioning, lack of mental models, normative, information, technical barriers and sparse capital available for entrepreneurial forays. Women are socially conditioned to take on 'support functions', and lack motivation and time to organize and grow micro-units.

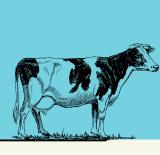
FINTECH SOLUTION STARTERS

Partner with village-level women's collectives to deploy digital platforms for entrepreneurship development, capacity building, financing and working capital to establish women-led business units.

Partner with technology and equipment suppliers to build digital flows of input procurement, promote technology adoption and offer contextualized embedded finance to women dairy micro-entrepreneurs.

Leverage aggregator and potential ONDC networks to field for local marketing, demand discovery and competitive price realization guidance tailored to women.





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Are you a fintech startup building or ideating gender intentional solutions for underserved women?

Talk to us
and be a part of the
journey as we unpack
what it takes to
#buildforher!

Write to us at: insights@ciieindia.org