

Women's Economic and Nutritional Empowerment

A case study of Gergera Watershed project, Tigray Region, Ethiopia

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Agriculture, Nutrition and Health Academy Week

Background

► Overall Project

‘Developing an Innovation and Learning Platform for Enhanced Economic Opportunities and Resilience in Gergera Watershed: An Action Research Programme’

► 1st Round

Women’s economic empowerment in the agricultural value chain: Gergera Watershed Project (2019)

► 2nd Round

Women’s Economic and Nutritional Empowerment: Gergera Watershed Project (2020)



Methodology



5DE Abbreviated
Women's Empowerment
in Agriculture Index
(AWEAI)



Women's Empowerment
in Nutrition Index (WENI)



Household Diet Diversity
Score



Women's Diet Diversity
Score



Food Consumption Score



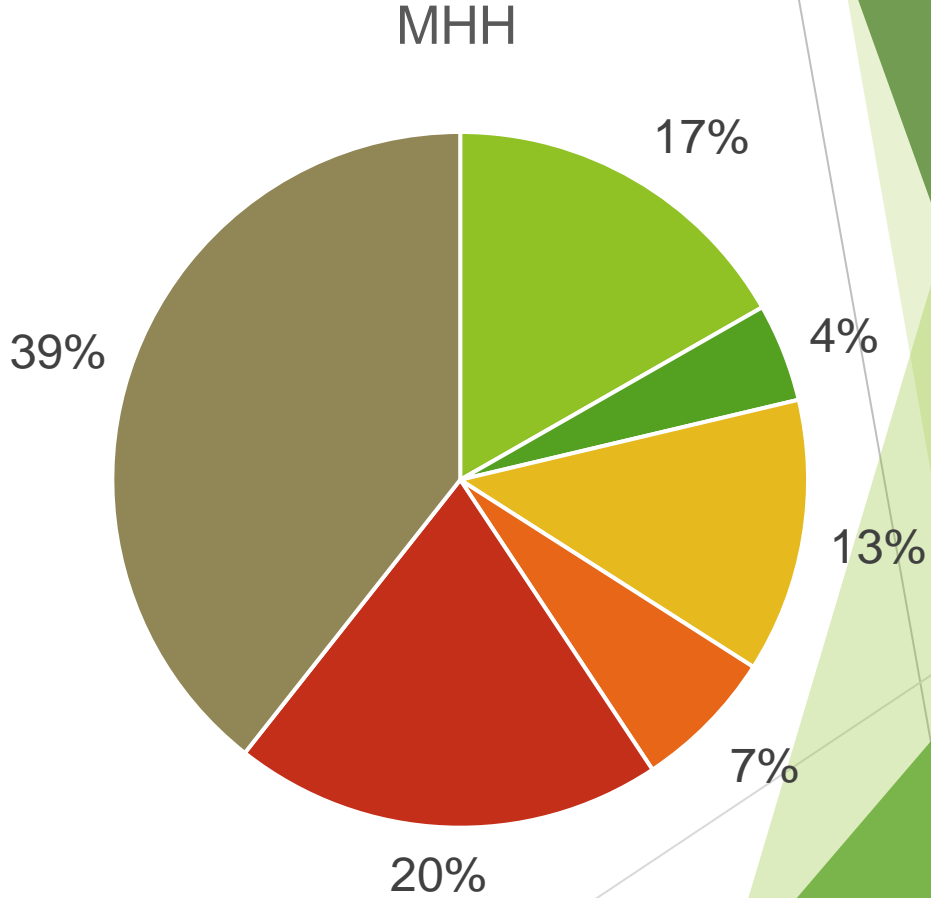
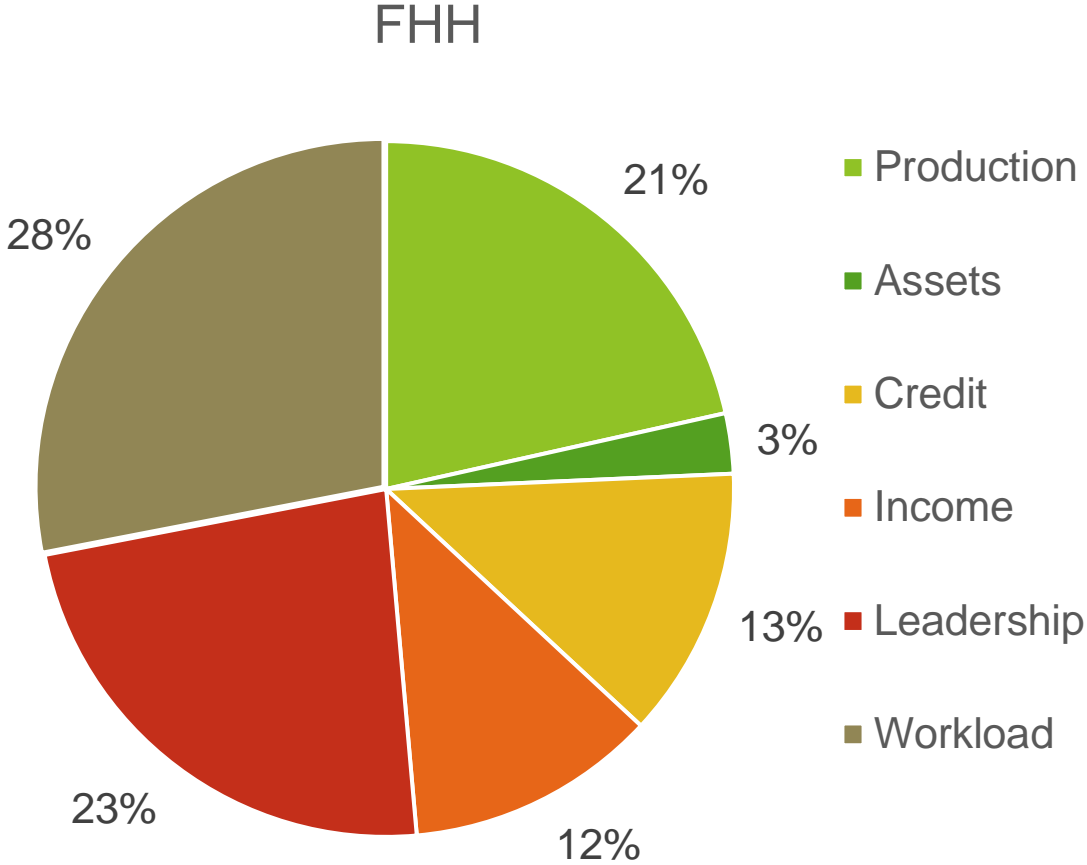
Anthropometric
Health Indicators

Sample n=405 (MHH n=298) (FHH n=107)

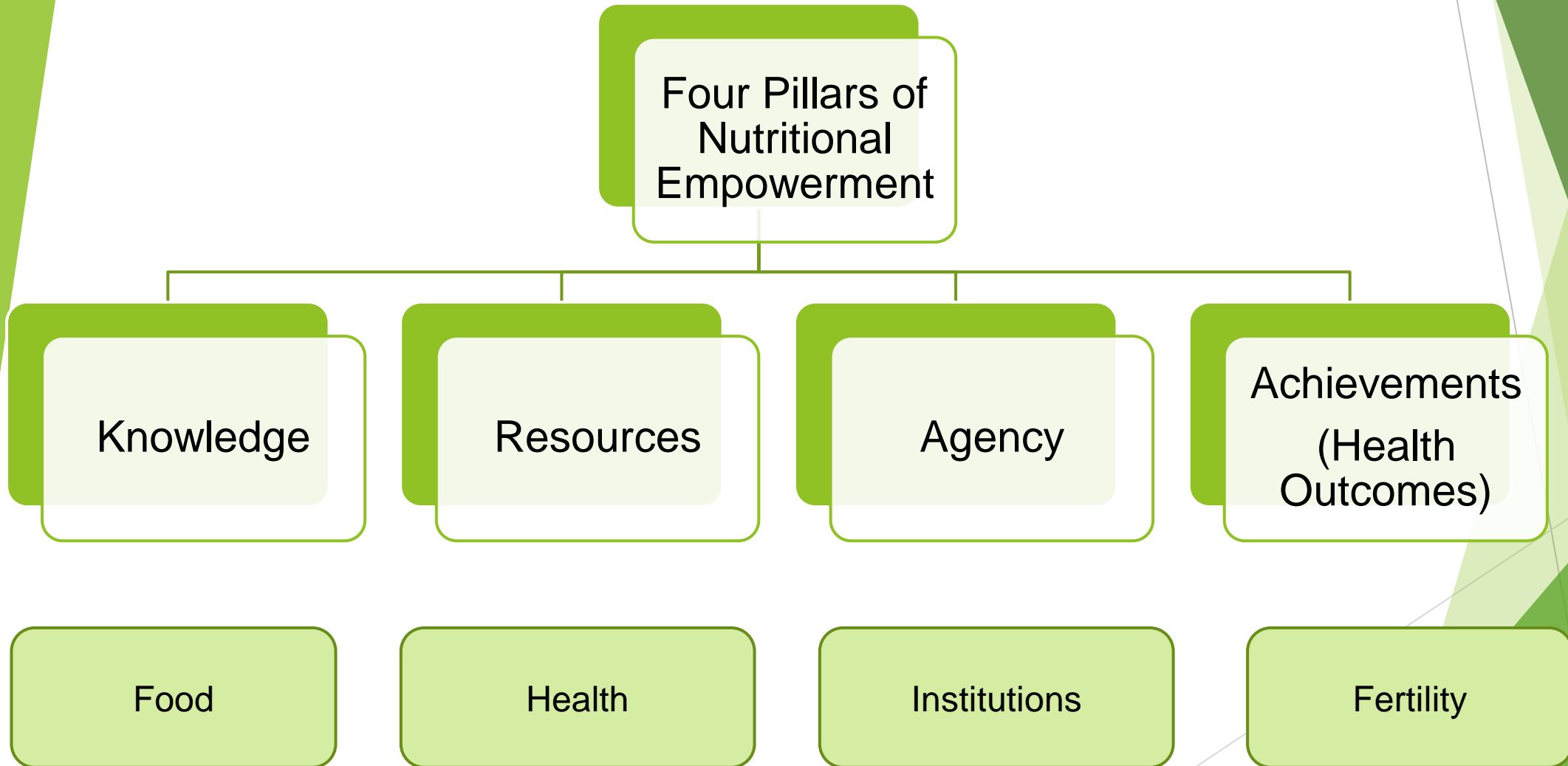
A-WEAI 5DE Scores

Indicator	FHH	MHH	Total
5DE Score	0.5	0.59	0.56
Disempowerment score (1-5DE)	0.5	0.41	0.44
Number of Observations	107	298	405
% of Women Achieving Empowerment (1-H)	43.0%	52.7%	50.1%
% of Women Not Achieving Empowerment (H)	57.0%	47.3%	49.9%
Mean 5DE score for not yet empowered women (1-A)	0.5	0.48	0.49
Mean disempowerment score for not yet empowered women (A)	0.5	0.52	0.51

Main Contributors to Disempowerment FHH vs MHH



Women's Empowerment in Nutrition Index WENI



Results of the WENI

7 Domains

63.7% of women are nutritionally empowered.

10 Domains

71.9% of women of reproductive age were nutritionally empowered.

Main Contributors to Disempowerment WENI

7 Domains



Health Knowledge 21%



Food Knowledge 20%



Health Agency 17%

10 Domains



Fertility Knowledge 16%

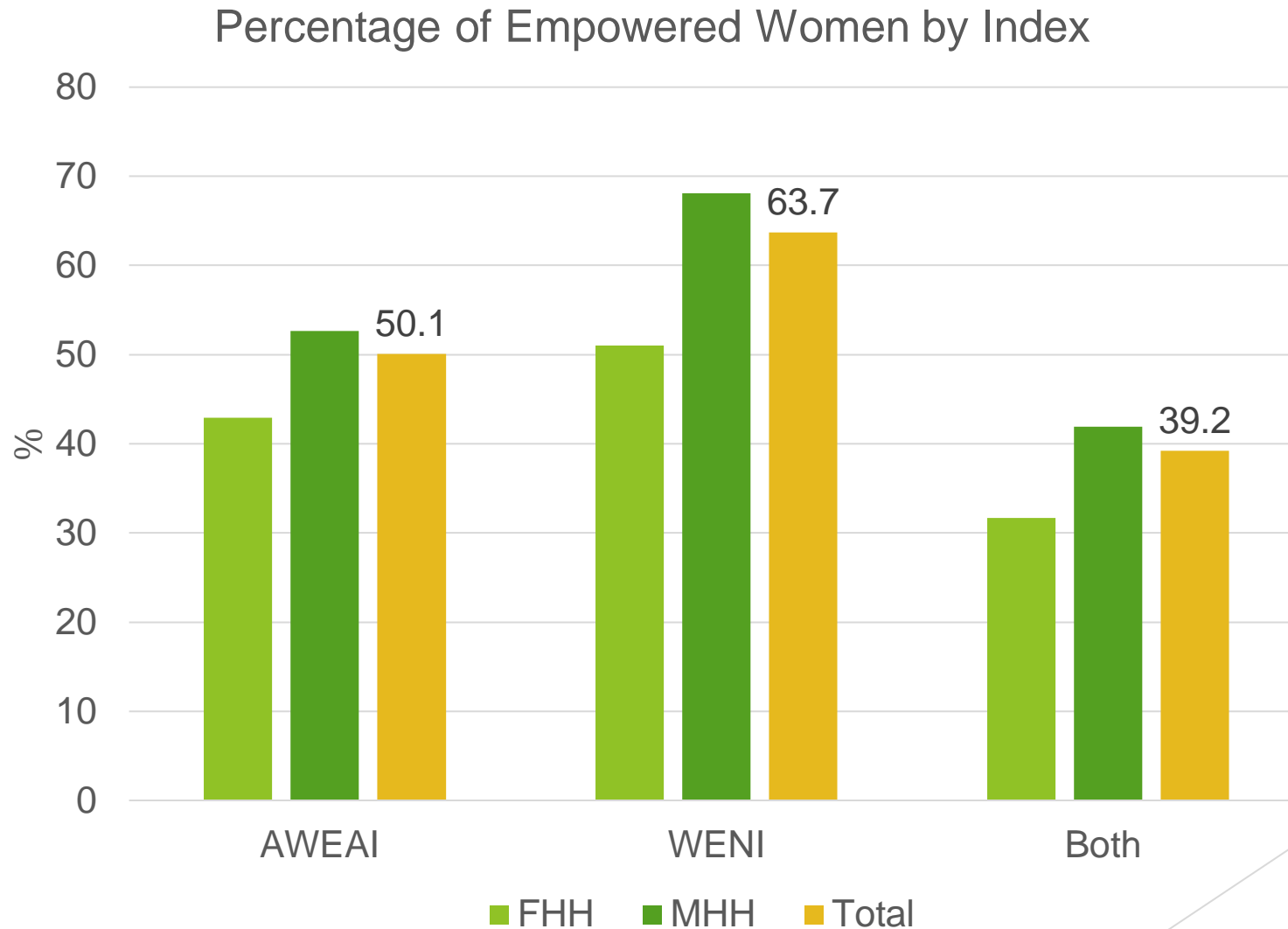


Health Knowledge 14%

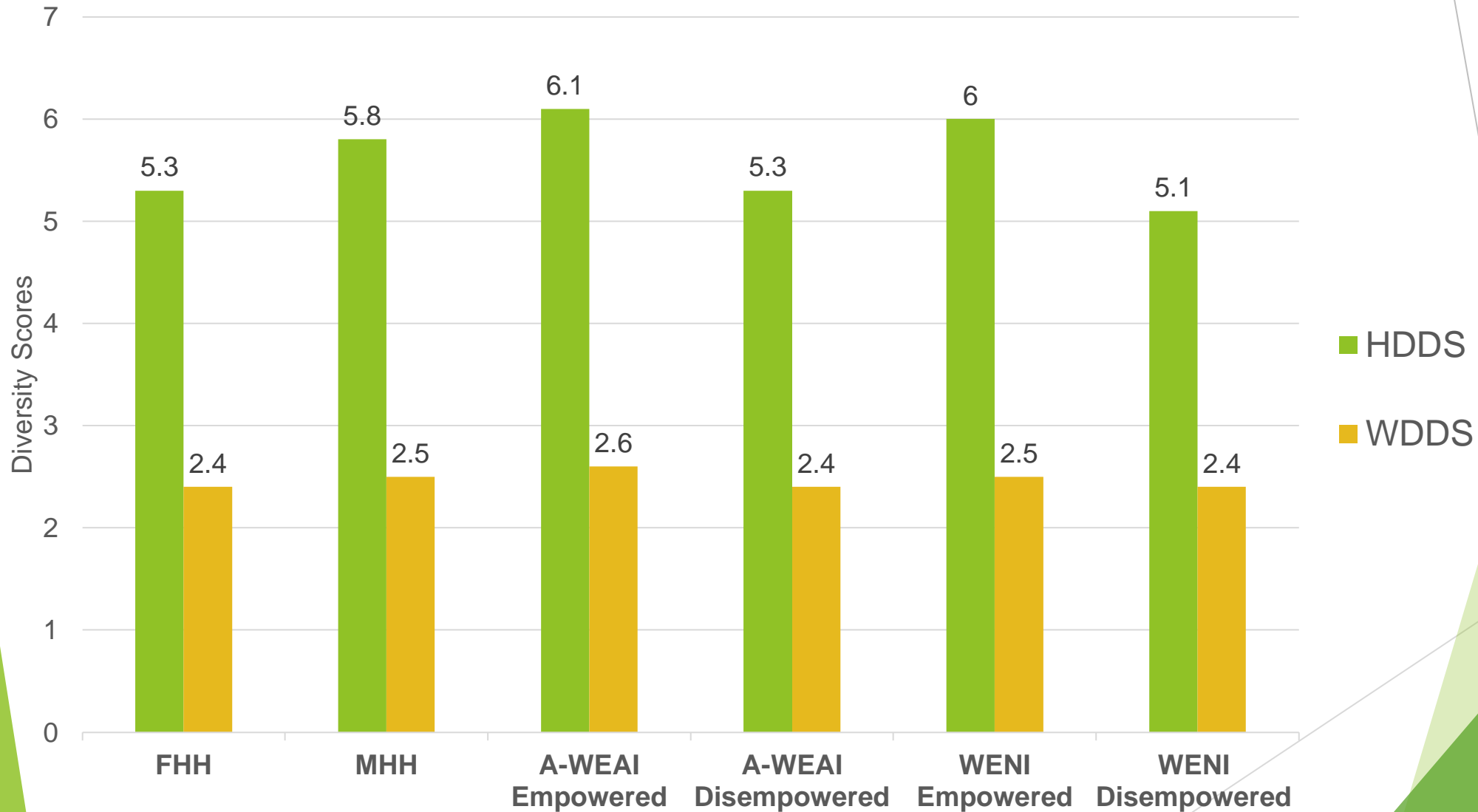


Food Knowledge 14%

Empowerment Status of Each Index



Diversity Scores by HH Gender & Empowerment Status



Nutritional Outcomes

- BMI: 41.9% underweight, 51.5% normal and 3.3% overweight
- BMI is higher in MHH.
- No correlation between mean BMI scores and WENI scores
- Haemoglobin Measurements : prevalence of anaemia among non-pregnant women of reproductive age was 24.3%.
- Severity of anaemia 68.9% mild and 31.1% moderate

Key Messages

41.9% of women are underweight

HDDS correlates with women's empowerment scores, but WDDS remains low across the board. Need for focus on women's nutrition

There needs to be a focus on female headed households; need for increase in access to resources

Nutritional extension work needed to improve diet diversity

Main challenge is access to information and knowledge