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Title of Entry	: CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR INTEGRATING WOMEN INTO RICE VALUE CHAINS IN UGANDA
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**Abstract** : Women are involved in all aspects of the rice value chain – land preparation, planting, weeding, post-harvest handling processing, and marketing. However, benefits from the rice value chain tend to be a lot more skewed towards men than women. This is because they are not well integrated into the chain. Using the gender in value chains scrutineering approach, the study analyzes the gender-based constraints that prevent women from Doho Irrigation rice scheme in Butaleja district from being fully integrated in the rice value chain and the opportunities by which they can benefit more from their efforts. Given the complexity of women's empowerment and gendered inequalities in the rice value chain, both qualitative and quantitative methodologies were adopted as a means of triangulation. The root causes of gender inequality in the study area is the 'Banyole' tradition that a women's place is at home. This scenario limits the networks available to women in terms of learning, marketing, and other services that could boost their role and profile within the rice value to at least the same extent as their male counterparts. The tradition that land ownership is a male domain also prevents women from fully being integrated or fully benefiting from the rice value chain. Eighty-four percent of the plots in the irrigation scheme are male owned. A few women own plots. Those who do not, rent from those who own the plots. This is also a challenge as most women do not have access to appropriate and affordable lines of credit to hire farm land. In addition, the long distances between trading centres where most agro-input businesses, milling establishments, and rice markets are located, and farmers' homes also limit women's participation at these levels in the value chain. Formation of women groups to improve access to finance for women rice farmers, coupled with capacity building in areas of rice agronomy, post-harvest handling and financial literacy, are some of the opportunities for better integrating them in the rice value chain.

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