

Women's Economic Empowerment and COVID-19: Results from PMA

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Introduction

- Economically empowering women is essential to
 - Realize women's rights, and
 - Achieve broader development goals such as economic growth, poverty reduction, improved health, increased education, and better welfare.
- What is the impact of a *shock* on women's economic empowerment?
 - COVID-19: by mid-August there were more than one million confirmed cases in Africa and more than 23,000 deaths.
 - In the early stages of the pandemic, several African countries imposed travel bans, mobility restrictions, limitations on public gatherings, and other measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
 - Severe economic impact of COVID-19 on households: 75% or more households lost at least partial income.

PMA Study Design

PMA Panel Surveys: Timeline																			
	2019		2020				2021				2022								
Country	QTR 4	QTR 1	QTR 2	QTR 3	QTR 4	QTR 1	QTR 2	QTR 3	QTR 4	QTR 1	QTR 2	QTR 3	QTR 4						
DR Congo	P1		FQ		P2		SDP		P3				SDP						
Nigeria	P1		FQ		P2		CEI		P3				CEI						
Kenya	P1		FQ		P2		CEI		P3				CEI						
Burkina Faso	P1		FQ		P2		CEI		P3				CEI						
India		----->	----->	P1		SDP		P2		SDP			P3						
Cote d'Ivoire		----->	----->	P1		SDP		P2		SDP			P3						
Uganda		----->	----->	P1		CEI		P2		CEI			P3						
Niger		----->	----->	P1		CEI		P2		CEI			P3						
	P1	Phase 1	SDP	SDP+CEI	P2	Phase 2	SDP	SDP+CEI	P3	Phase 3	SDP	SDP+CEI							
			CEI	CEI follow-up			CEI	CEI follow-up			CEI	CEI follow-up							

Note: Changes due to COVID-19 shown in red.

PMA COVID-19 Study Design

■ PMA COVID-19 design

- Phone numbers collected for participating women in baseline core survey
- Interviewers conduct COVID-19 interviews via phone, enter information on smart phones via ODK
- Target samples: women providing phone numbers in Kenya (nationally-representative), Burkina Faso (nationally-representative), DRC (Kinshasa), and Nigeria (Kano, Lagos)
- Can link baseline core survey (socioeconomic characteristics, family planning characteristics, etc...) with COVID-19 information

■ PMA COVID-19 survey measures

- Collected information on: awareness of COVID-19, media exposure, risk perception, knowledge, behavior change, socioeconomic impact, impact on family planning, contraceptive use, fertility intentions.

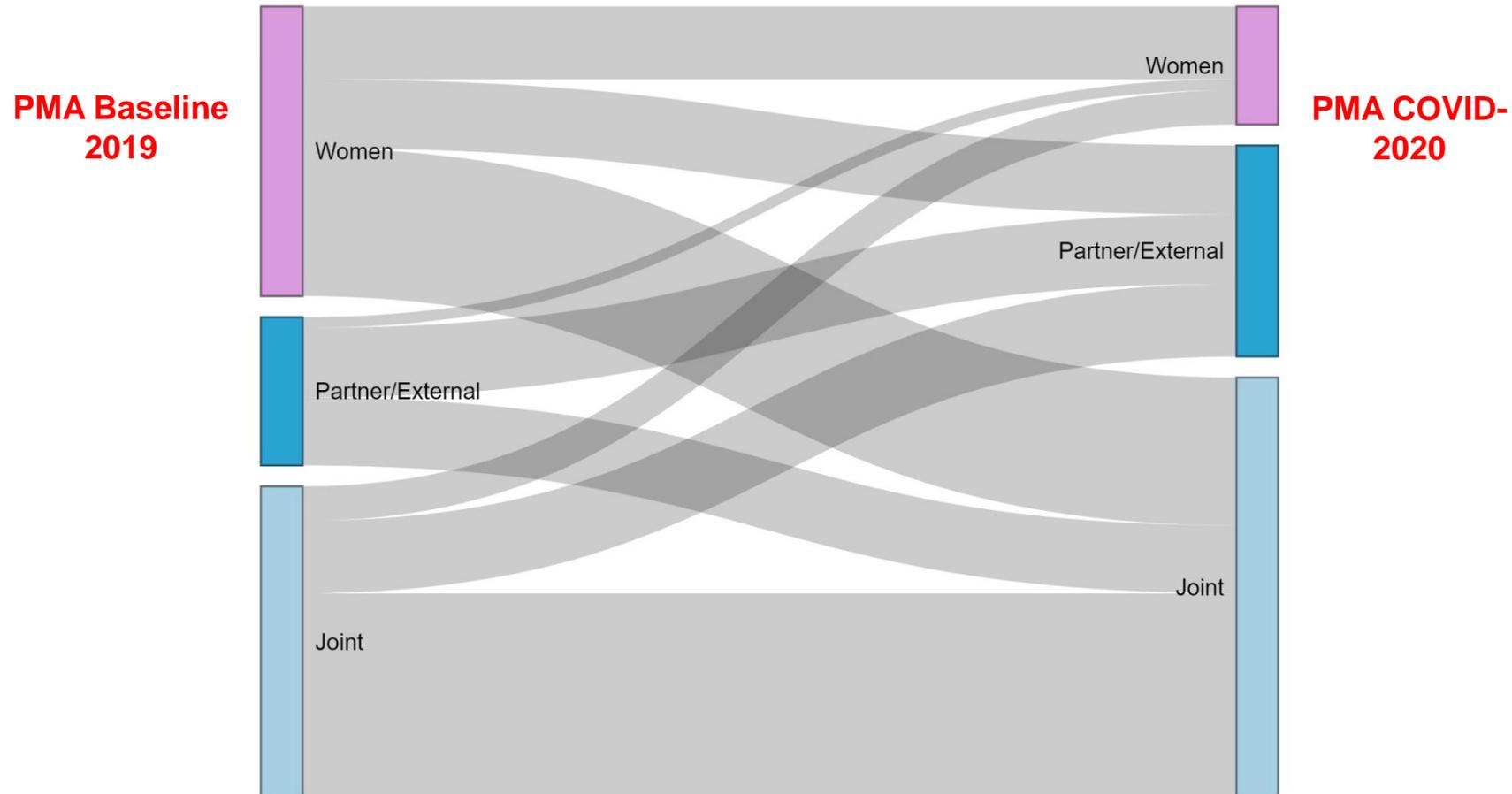
■ Response rates

- 93.9% in Kenya, 75.2% in Burkina Faso, 74.7% in Kinshasa, 90.7% in Kano, and 81.7% in Lagos.

Methods and Measures

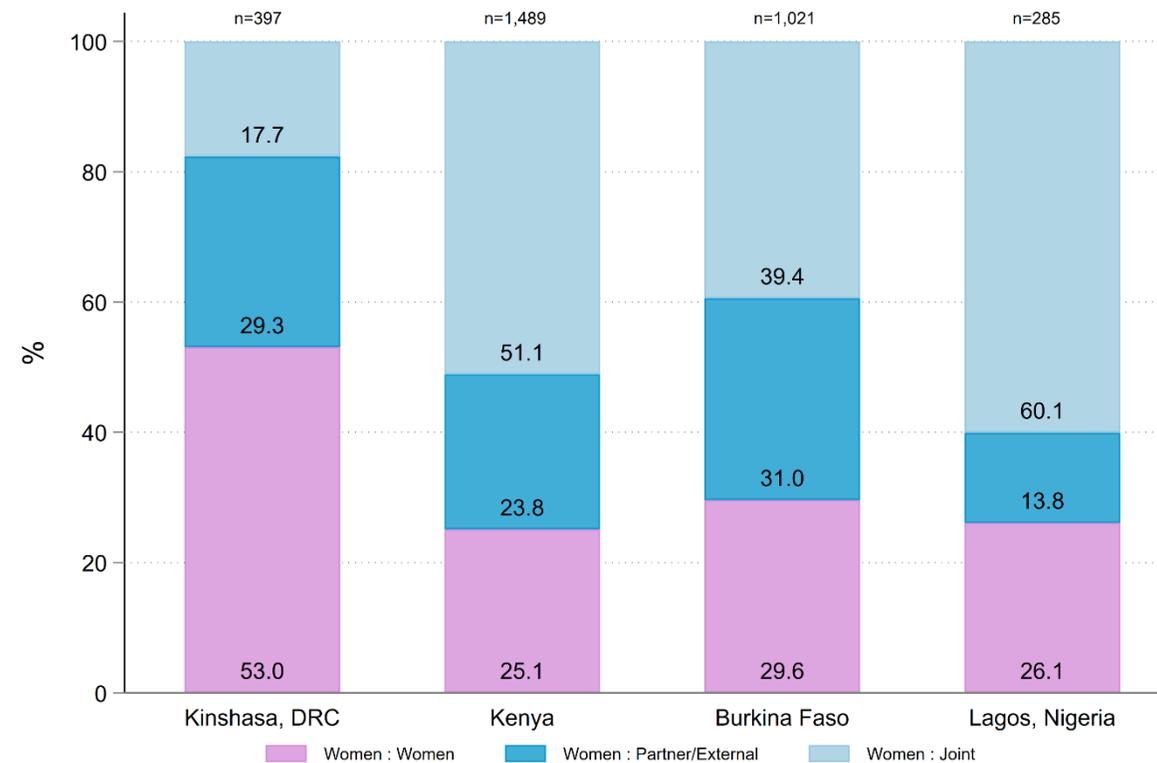
- Measure: asked to married/partnered women
 - “Who usually makes decisions about making household purchases for daily needs: you, your husband/partner, you and your husband/partner jointly, or someone else?”
 - Measured in PMA baseline survey and COVID-19 follow up phone survey
- Methods:
 - Two Outcomes: Change in Household Decision-Making between Baseline and Follow-Up.
 - **Outcome 1:** (1) t0: Women → t1: Women; (2) t0: Women → t1: Partner/External; (3) t0: Women → t1: Jointly.
 - **Outcome 2:** (1) t0: Women/Jointly → t1: Women/Jointly; (2) t0: Women/Jointly → t1: Partner/External.
 - Characteristics associated with change in Outcome 1 and Outcome 2
 - Multinomial logistic regression
 - Independent variables: modern contraceptive use, parity, age, education, # household members, wealth tertile, worked in past seven days, household economic impact of COVID-19

Results: Household Decision-Making Dynamics and COVID-19 in Kenya



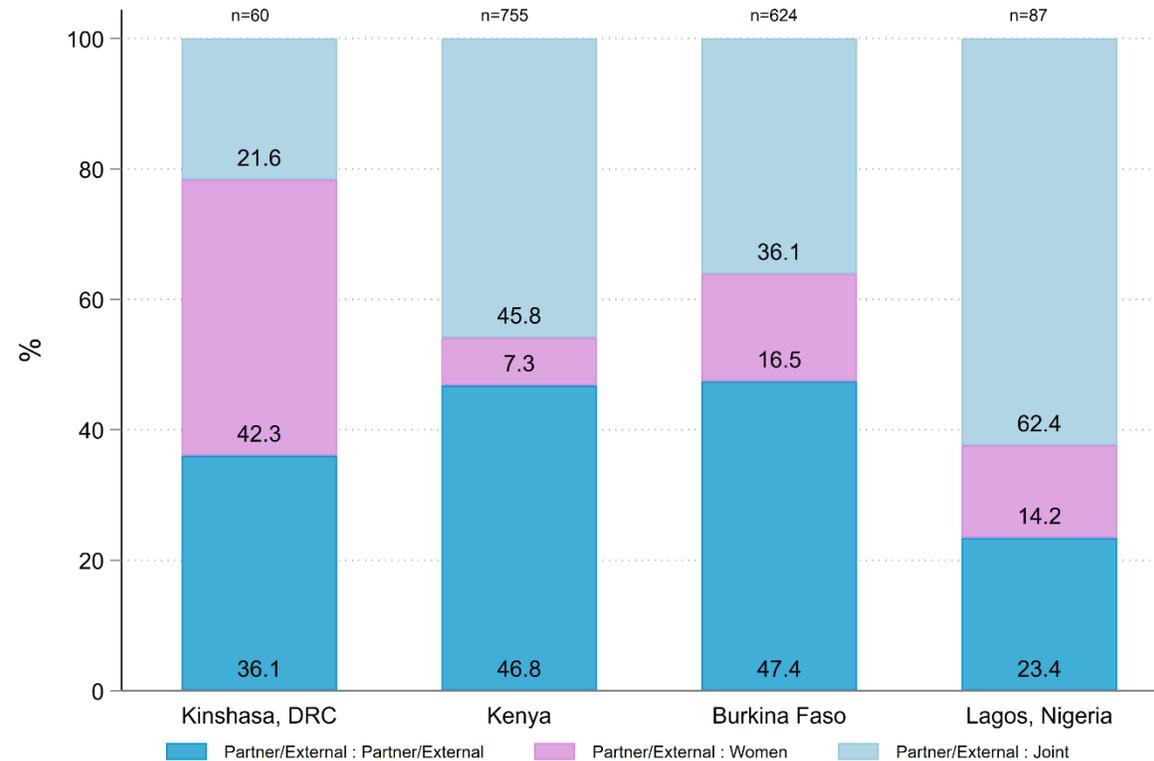
Results: Household Decision-Making Dynamics and COVID-19

- % change in decision-making of household purchases for daily needs between baseline and COVID-19 follow-up when main decisions at baseline were made **by women**



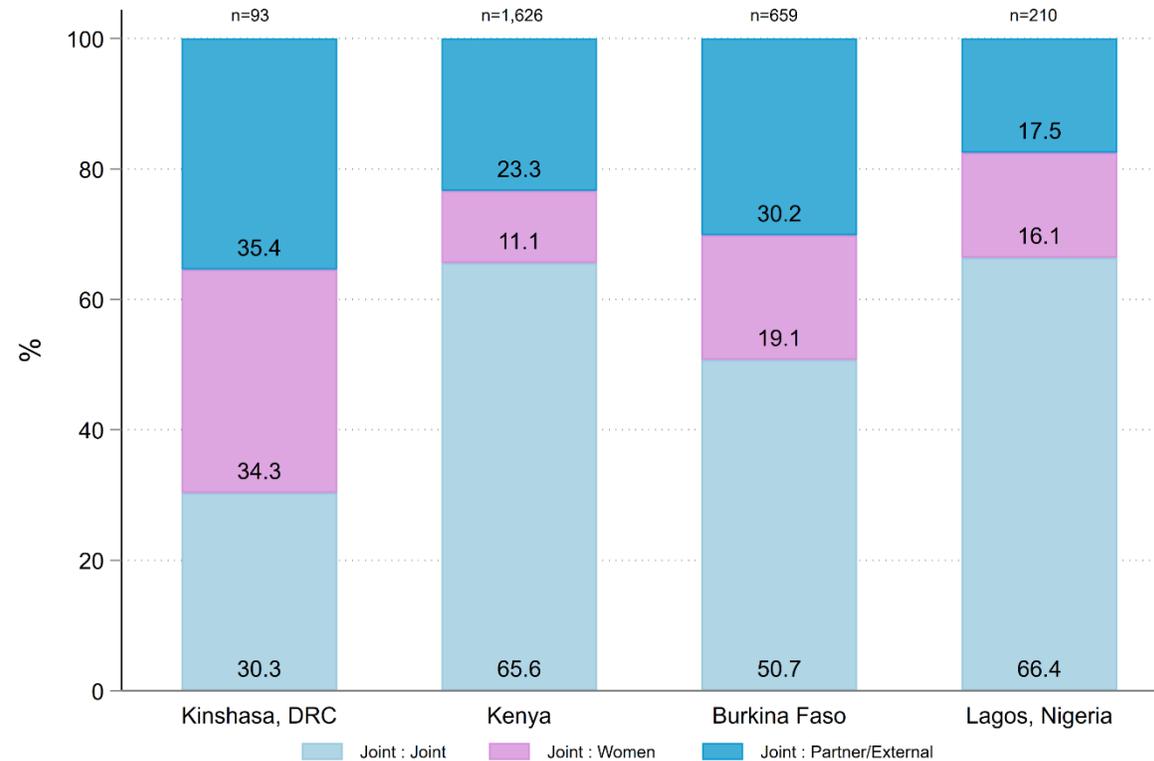
Results: Household Decision-Making Dynamics and COVID-19

- % change in decision-making of household purchases for daily needs between baseline and COVID-19 follow-up when main decisions at baseline were made **externally (by husband/partner, or other)**



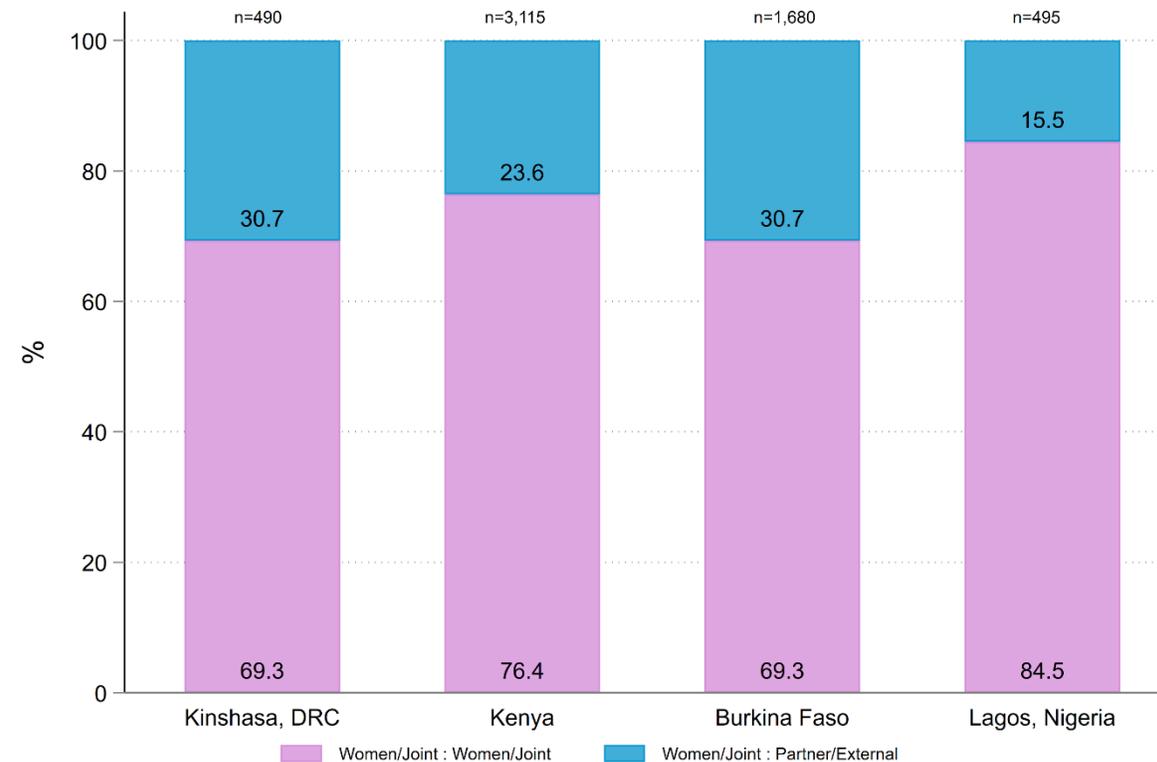
Results: Household Decision-Making Dynamics and COVID-19

- % change in decision-making of household purchases for daily needs between baseline and COVID-19 follow-up when main decisions at baseline were made **jointly (woman and husband/partner)**



Results: Household Decision-Making Dynamics and COVID-19

- % change in decision-making of household purchases for daily needs between baseline and COVID-19 follow-up when main decisions at baseline were made **jointly and by woman combined**



Results: Household Decision-Making Dynamics and COVID-19

Characteristics associated with women's lost of power in household decision making processes in DRC, Kenya, Nigeria, and Burkina Faso [Multinomial logistic regression]

	Kinshasa, DRC		Kenya		Burkina Faso		Nigeria, Lagos	
	Partner /External	Joint	Partner /External	Joint	Partner /External	Joint	Partner /External	Joint
Using modern method	1.70*	0.76	1.02	1.24	0.9	1.23	0.42*	1.16
Parity								
No children (ref)	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
Parity = 1, 1	1.14	2.49	2.37	0.76	0.89	0.38	1.61	0.45
Parity = 2, 2-3	1.63	1.85	1.44	0.53	2.06	1.57	3.19	0.72
Parity = 3, 4+	1.15	2.30	0.71	0.46	1.95	1.50	3.55	0.38
Age								
15-24 (ref)	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
25-34	0.38*	1.01	0.32***	0.42**	0.23***	0.41*	0.00***	0.00***
35-49	0.44	1.33	0.16***	0.34***	0.12***	0.23***	0.00***	0.00***
Education								
None/primary (ref)	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
Secondary	2.83	1.13	1.10	1.66***	1.02	0.65	1.83	1.16
Tertiary+	1.34	1.41	0.70	1.44	0.45	1.47	2.35	1.47
Number of household members								
0-3 (ref)	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
4-6	0.63	1.02	1.79**	1.54**	1.87	1.15	1.72	2.19
7+	0.40*	0.80	2.15**	1.47	2.36*	1.32	3.43	3.00
Worked in past seven days								
No work (ref)	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
Worked for cash	0.38***	0.61	0.91	0.84	1.93*	1.26	0.88	0.51
Worked for cash/in-kind	0.50	1.43	1.23	0.87	0.77	1.38	0.24	0.31
Wealth tertile								
Lowest tertile (ref)	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
Middle tertile	1.46	0.74	1.21	1.12	1.37	0.82	0.65	1.41
Highest tertile	1.09	0.74	0.76	0.84	1.79	1.12	2.34	1.12
Household income loss during COVID restrictions								
No income loss	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
Complete/partial income loss	7.71***	0.75	0.69	0.61	1.26	3.12***	2.01	2.33
N=	395	395	1,486	1,486	994	994	279	279

Reported results: relative risk ratios (ref. Women : Women); *** p<0.01, ** p<0.05, * p<0.10.

Discussion and Next Steps

■ Discussion

- Profound impact of shock of COVID-19 on household decision-making about purchases for daily needs.
- Shifting from women alone deciding to joint decision and external decision.
- Teens/young adults most affected, other measures differ by context

■ Next steps- PMA COVID-19

- Additional measure of women's EE: "Are you more economically reliant on your husband/partner now than before the Coronavirus (COVID-19) restrictions began?"
- Stratified analysis: separate multinomial regressions by (1) baseline wealth quintile, and (2) COVID-19 economic impact
- Community-level measures: community levels of economic development, financial literacy/resources, women's employment/work

Discussion and Next Steps

- PMA Core Survey Measures: two domains
 - Work/occupation/resources (economic advancement):
 - Employment, earnings, savings, land ownership, financial literacy/resources.
 - Family economic agency (power and agency): women's influence in family economic decisions.
 - Makes decisions about large purchases for HH, medical treatment for self, buying clothes for self, spending own earnings, spending husband's earnings; husband's earnings compared to own
- Next steps- PMA longitudinal analysis
 - Contraceptive use: is economic empowerment associated with use of modern contraception? If so, does modern use facilitate WEE, does WEE facilitate modern use, or both? Use data from PMA contraceptive calendar.
 - Longitudinal analysis: which women (1) become economically empowered over time and (2) lose empowerment over time; what are the factors that predict these changes?

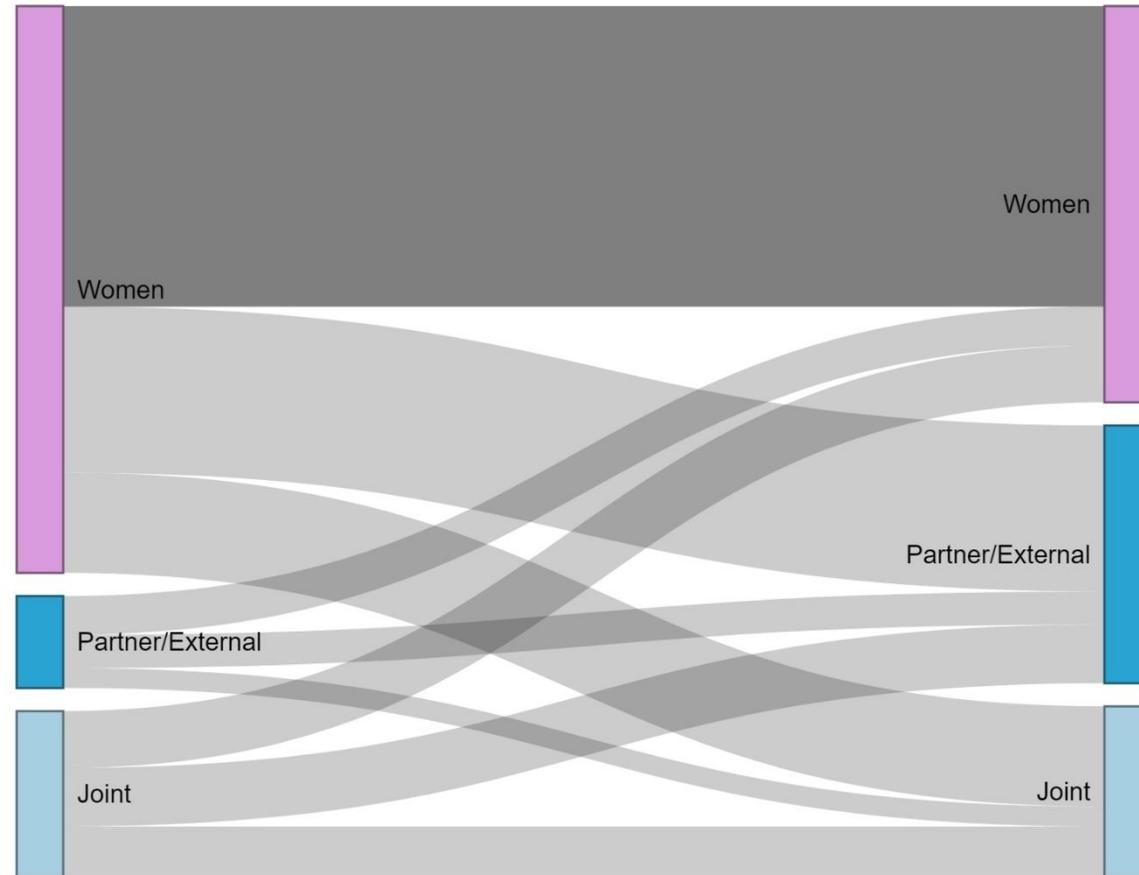
Appendix

Table 1: Descriptive Statistics, total sample

	Dem. Rep. Congo		Kenya		Burkina Faso		Nigeria, Lagos	
	%	Obs.	%	Obs.	%	Obs.	%	Obs.
Female Household Head								
No	92.3	1188	86.1	5150	95.0	3345	90.6	867
Yes	7.7	98	13.9	832	5.0	177	9.4	90
Parity								
0	43.4	559	26.7	1598	28.1	988	34.6	331
1	14.2	182	17.9	1073	14.9	526	11.1	106
2-3	23.1	297	29.5	1766	24.2	851	34.0	325
4+	19.3	248	25.8	1545	32.8	1155	20.3	194
Age Group								
15-24	43.5	560	41.0	2452	45.3	1595	27.8	266
25-34	28.5	366	31.5	1882	28.9	1017	33.3	319
35-49	28.0	360	27.6	1648	25.8	910	38.9	372
Education								
None/Primary	8.7	112	52.8	3161	77.6	2732	11.4	109
Post-Primary/Secondary	72.3	930	35.6	2128	20.7	729	51.6	493
Tertiary/College	19.0	244	11.6	693	1.7	59	37.0	354
No. Household Members								
1-3	12.2	158	23.5	1404	17.1	601	22.5	216
4-6	45.2	581	50.3	3011	31.8	1119	64.5	617
7+	42.6	547	26.2	1567	51.2	1802	13.0	125
Wealth Tertiles								
Lowest	28.8	370	39.4	2359	60.8	2141	35.3	338
Middle	33.8	434	31.4	1877	25.4	894	32.2	308
Highest	37.4	481	29.2	1747	13.8	487	32.5	311
Work Status								
Unemployed	47.2	607	42.1	2519	45.6	1607	17.8	171
Cash	45.5	584	37.8	2259	33.4	1175	74.7	715
Cash/In-kind/Not paid	7.3	94	20.1	1202	21.0	739	7.5	72

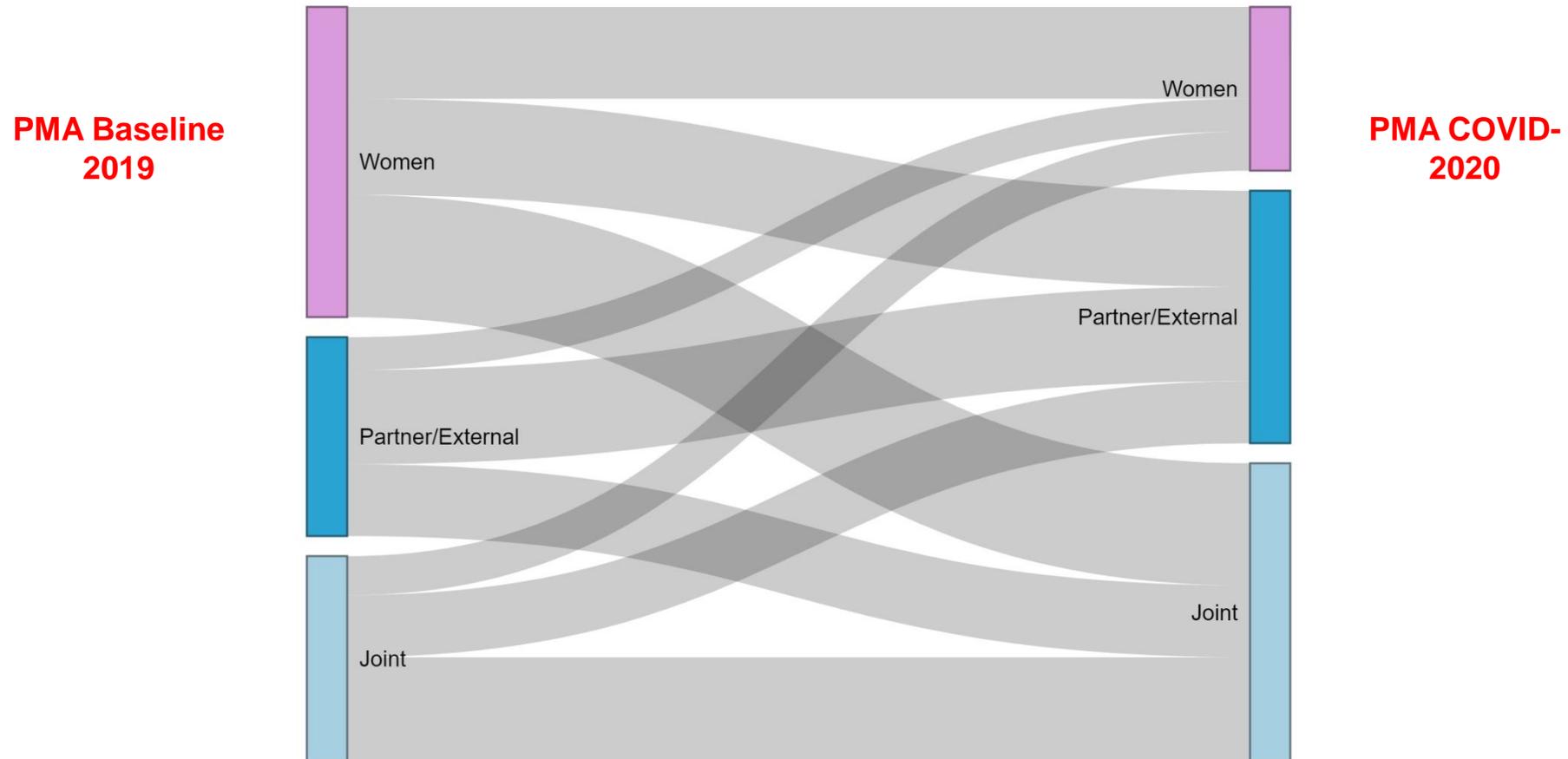
Appendix, Household Decision-Making Dynamics and COVID-19 in Kinshasa, DRC

PMA Baseline
2019



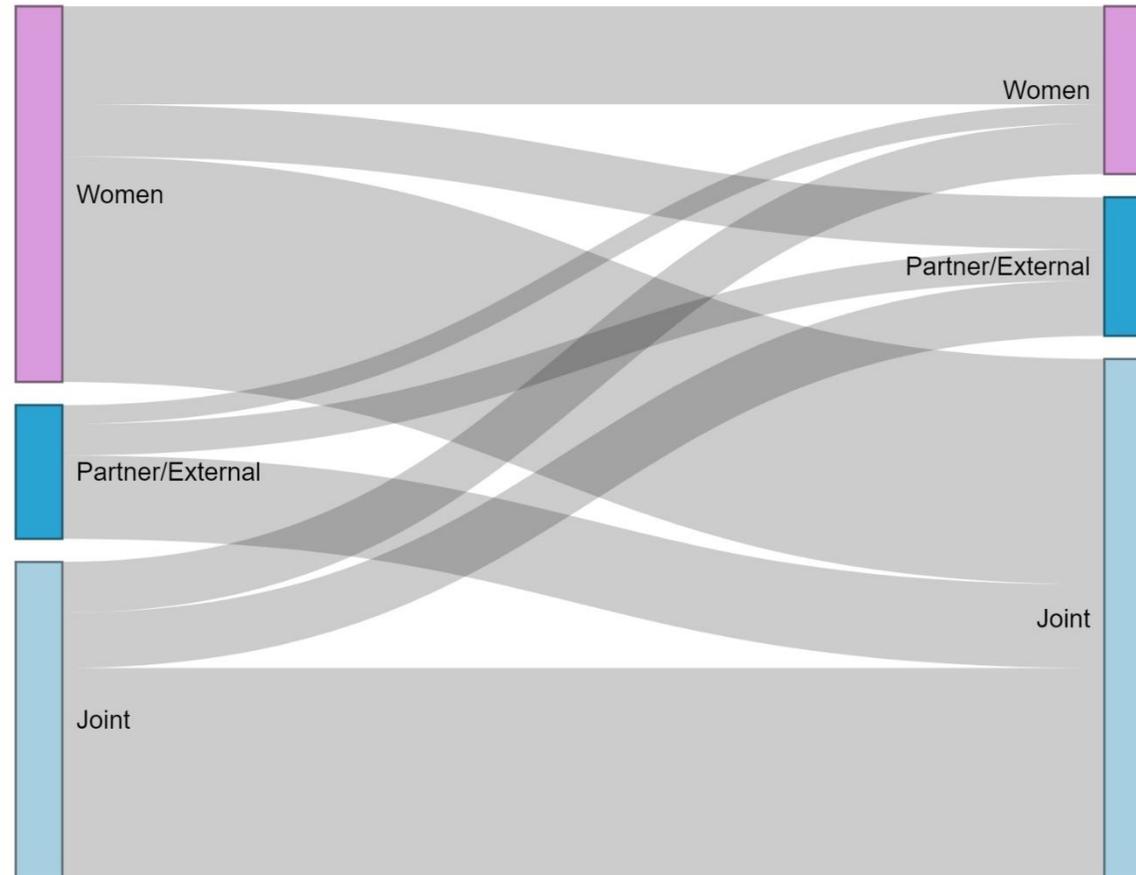
PMA COVID-
2020

Appendix, Household Decision-Making Dynamics and COVID-19 in Burkina Faso



Appendix, Household Decision-Making Dynamics and COVID-19 in Nigeria, Lagos

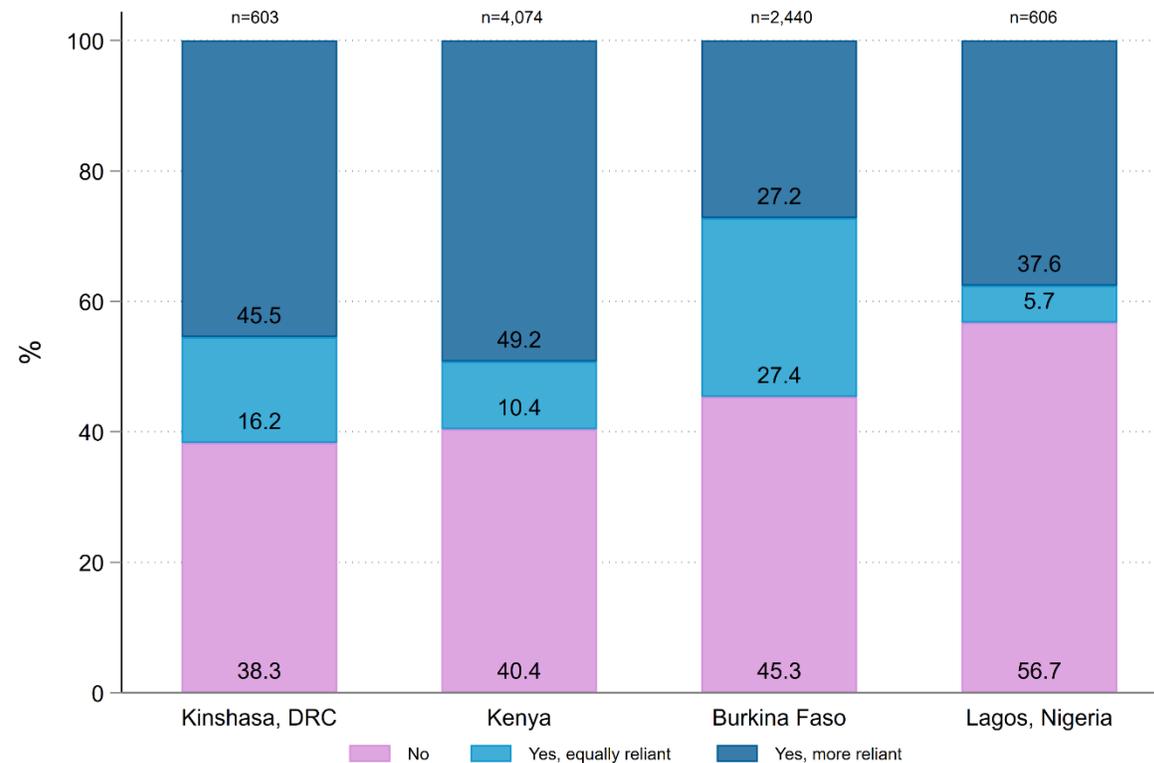
**PMA Baseline
2019**



**PMA COVID-
2020**

Appendix

- Are you more economically reliant on your husband/partner now than before the Coronavirus (COVID-19) restrictions began?



Appendix

Table 4: Individual and community factors associated with women's lost of power in household decision making processes in DRC, Kenya, Nigeria, and Burkina Faso [Logistic regression]

VARIABLES	Dem. Rep. Congo		Kenya		Burkina Faso		Nigeria, Lagos	
	Partner /External							
Current use of any modern contraceptive method = 1, Yes	1.375	1.372	0.868	0.875	0.787	0.768	0.807	0.822
	[0.372]	[0.373]	[0.094]	[0.095]	[0.171]	[0.166]	[0.261]	[0.264]
Parity = 1, 1	0.948	0.969	1.542	1.540	0.483	0.533	1.253	1.093
	[0.582]	[0.590]	[0.439]	[0.439]	[0.268]	[0.297]	[0.755]	[0.680]
Parity = 2, 2-3	1.842	1.848	1.368	1.355	0.532	0.553	0.963	0.766
	[1.123]	[1.131]	[0.396]	[0.392]	[0.287]	[0.307]	[0.636]	[0.531]
Parity = 3, 4+	1.551	1.582	0.971	0.950	0.589	0.593	0.772	0.655
	[1.020]	[1.042]	[0.305]	[0.298]	[0.345]	[0.360]	[0.557]	[0.492]
Age categories = 2, 25-34	0.349**	0.354**	0.847	0.854	0.526**	0.583*	1.515	1.258
	[0.154]	[0.154]	[0.143]	[0.144]	[0.160]	[0.177]	[1.588]	[1.353]
Age categories = 3, 35-49	0.345**	0.352**	0.507***	0.517***	0.380***	0.415**	0.554	0.454
	[0.166]	[0.169]	[0.098]	[0.099]	[0.142]	[0.154]	[0.597]	[0.496]
Education = 2, Post-Primary/Secondary	1.894	1.988	0.765**	0.770**	1.313	1.332	0.684	0.744
	[1.004]	[1.064]	[0.094]	[0.094]	[0.356]	[0.356]	[0.335]	[0.355]
Education = 3, Tertiary/College	0.897	0.975	0.536***	0.545***	0.423**	0.455*	0.640	0.752
	[0.564]	[0.620]	[0.095]	[0.097]	[0.182]	[0.198]	[0.335]	[0.390]
Members in the household = 2, 4-6	0.546	0.536	1.141	1.125	1.048	1.035	1.153	1.289
	[0.208]	[0.211]	[0.173]	[0.172]	[0.395]	[0.400]	[0.461]	[0.526]
Members in the household = 3, 7+	0.462*	0.451*	1.281	1.239	1.637	1.598	1.827	2.112
	[0.198]	[0.199]	[0.239]	[0.233]	[0.633]	[0.634]	[1.001]	[1.170]
Work status in last 7-days = 1, Cash	0.628*	0.614*	0.802*	0.801*	1.404	1.199	1.044	0.927
	[0.165]	[0.173]	[0.094]	[0.100]	[0.327]	[0.306]	[0.438]	[0.429]
Work status in last 7-days = 2, Cash/In-kind/Not paid	0.561	0.602	0.886	0.892	0.750	0.671	1.531	1.342
	[0.234]	[0.259]	[0.133]	[0.134]	[0.247]	[0.224]	[1.387]	[1.088]
Wealth Tertile = 2, Middle	1.267	1.419	1.010	1.067	1.143	1.204	0.577	0.728
	[0.412]	[0.491]	[0.131]	[0.142]	[0.278]	[0.302]	[0.228]	[0.288]
Wealth Tertile = 3, Highest	0.911	0.997	1.070	1.223	1.144	1.228	1.039	1.311
	[0.325]	[0.373]	[0.162]	[0.208]	[0.312]	[0.363]	[0.382]	[0.489]
Household income loss = 1, Complete/Partial	1.817	1.776	0.864	0.871	0.782	0.766	1.504	1.448
	[1.252]	[1.259]	[0.177]	[0.180]	[0.189]	[0.189]	[0.897]	[0.892]
Community: Electricity		0.616		0.630*		0.415		0.158**
		[0.334]		[0.154]		[0.245]		[0.116]
Community: Financial literacy		0.727		0.786		2.997**		0.374
		[0.403]		[0.242]		[1.663]		[0.328]
Community: Paid work		1.618		1.154		1.805		0.959
		[1.296]		[0.320]		[1.097]		[0.828]
Constant	0.540	0.750	0.895	1.136	1.206	0.748	0.201	2.901
	[0.542]	[0.814]	[0.343]	[0.531]	[0.991]	[0.753]	[0.249]	[5.188]
Observations	488	488	3,105	3,105	1,629	1,629	487	487

Reported results: odds ratios (ref. Women/Joint : Women/Joint) and robust standard errors in brackets

*** p<0.01, ** p<0.05, * p<0.1