



From Promoting Gender Equality
To Empowering Women:
Role of e-Government in Asia and the Pacific

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Contents

- o Introduction
- o Measuring the Readiness
 - o The Concept
 - o Analytical Framework
 - o Data Collection
- o Country Profile and Analysis
 - o Country Profiles
 - o Key Findings
- o Toolkit Development
 - o Country Grouping
 - o Action Plan Development

Introduction

1. Background
2. Objectives

Introduction (1)

- ◉ Background
 - ◉ Adoption of ICT in public sector has become a priority: contributes to the inclusion of marginalized groups in the public sector
 - ◉ Beijing Declaration and MDG emphasize gender-perspective in public sector; the emergence of e-government may open a new perspective on women's participation
 - ◉ However, concerns also exist; fear of less participation due to inequality in access to / availability of ICT-enabled info/services for women, and the lack of gender-disaggregated data on ICT use
- Organization of Research Team
 - Sookmyung Women's University supported by United Nations Project Office on Governance (2011-2012)

Introduction (2)

⊙ Research Objectives

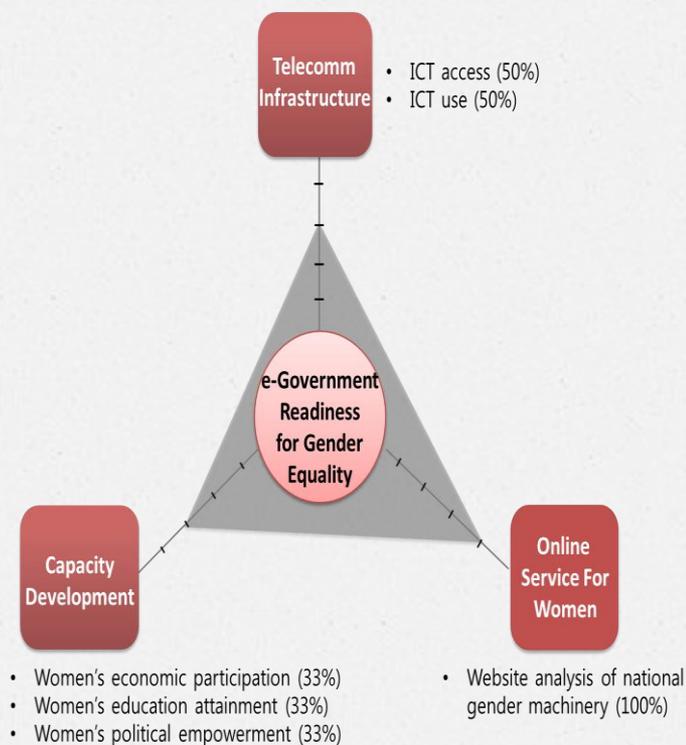
- Analyze the degree to which the e-government development and provisions in Asia and the Pacific countries contribute to promote gender equality
- Provide a toolkit to assess national e-government readiness for gender equality and women's empowerment
- Provide a foundation for further data collection / research at a global level to include more gender-sensitive approach in e-government development and assessment

Methodologies

1. The Concept
2. Selection of Countries
3. Data Collection Methodology

The Concept

- o The uptake and adoption of e-Government initiatives can be assured with a multi-faceted assessment surrounding
 - o Supply side: the provision of e-Government infrastructure and services from the government
 - o Demand side: the capacity of women
- o Research adapts the methodology of the United Nation e-Government Development Index (EGDI) as the main analysis framework
- o The analytical framework comprises three key pillars including
 - o *Telecommunication Infrastructure*
 - o *Capacity Development*, and
 - o *Online Service for Women*,



Dimensions	Factors	Source	Measurements	Weight
Telecom Infrastructure	ICT Access	ITU: IDI	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fixed-telephone lines per 100 inhabitants 2. Mobile-cellular telephone subscriptions per 100 inhabitants 3. International Internet bandwidth (bit/s) per Internet user 4. Percentage of households with a computer 5. Percentage of households with Internet access 	50%
	ICT Use	ITU: IDI	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Percentage of individuals using the Internet 2. Fixed (wired)-broadband Internet subscriptions per 100 inhabitants 3. Active mobile-broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants 	50%
Capacity Development	Women's Economic Participation	WEF: GGGI	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ratio: Female labour force participation over male value, 2. Wage equality between women and men for similar work (converted to female-over-male ratio) 3. Ratio: Estimated female earned income over male value 4. Ratio: Female legislators, senior officials, managers over male value 5. Ratio: Female professional/technical workers over male value 	33%
	Women's Education attainment	WEF: GGGI	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ratio: Female literacy rate over male value 2. Ratio: Female net primary level enrolment over male value 3. Ratio: Female net secondary level enrolment over male value 4. Ratio: Female gross tertiary level enrolment over male value 	33%
	Women's Political empowerment	WEF: GGGI	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ratio: Women with seats in parliament over male value 2. Ratio: Women at ministerial level over male value 3. Ratio: Number of years of a female head of state or government (last 50 years) over male value 	33%
Online Service for Women	e-Gov for Women Functionality	National Gender Machinery Web Measurement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Information dissemination and outreach 2. Access and usability 3. Service delivery capability 4. Citizen participation and interconnectedness 	100%

Selection of Countries

- o 11 countries including:
 - o Phase 1 in 2011: Bangladesh, Indonesia, Rep of Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Viet Nam (6 countries)
 - o Phase 2 in 2012: China, Fiji, India, Mongolia, Timor-Leste (5 countries)

Geographical Sub-grouping of Asia and the Pacific (WB)	Other Selected Groupings (UN Statistics Division)*	Income Group (WB, 2011)	Human Development Index (UNDP, 2011)	Population Size (WB, 2011)
East Asia and Pacific - People's Republic of China - Fiji - Indonesia - Republic of Korea - Malaysia - Mongolia - Philippines - Timor-Leste - Viet Nam (9 out of 24)	Least Developed - Bangladesh - Timor-Leste (2)	Low - Bangladesh (1)	Low - Bangladesh - Timor-Leste (2)	Over 1 billion - People's Republic of China - India (2)
	Landlocked Developing - Mongolia (1)	Lower-middle - Fiji - India - Indonesia - Mongolia - Philippines - Timor-Leste - Viet Nam (7)	Medium - People's Republic of China - Fiji - India - Indonesia - Mongolia - Philippines - Viet Nam (7)	100million – 1 billion - Bangladesh - Indonesia (2)
South Asia - Bangladesh - India (2 out of 8)	Small Island Developing - Fiji - Timor-Leste (2)	Upper-middle - People's Republic of China - Malaysia (2)	High - Malaysia (1)	10 – 100 million - Republic of Korea - Malaysia - Philippines - Viet Nam (4)
		High - Republic of Korea (1)	Very High - Republic of Korea (1)	Less than 10 million - Fiji - Mongolia - Timor-Leste (3)

Data Collection Methodologies

- o 1. Data drawn from international indicators
 - o ITU: ICT Development Index (2012)
 - o World Economic Forum: Global Gender Gap Index (2012)
- o 2. Web measurement analysis
 - o The functionality of a national gender machinery website has been evaluated and scored according to the following four aspects: 1) information dissemination and outreach, 2) access and usability, 3) service delivery capability, and 4) citizen participation and interconnectedness
- o 3. Online expert survey
 - o The perception of policy effectiveness and institutional readiness was measured according to topics including: goals and perceived effectiveness of e-Government policies; e-Government's stated impact on gender equality; visual or conceptual obstacles to women's use of e-Government services; gender policy priorities and; activities promoted by websites of national gender machinery.
 - o 242 responses from 11 countries
 - o Country minimum response size threshold

Key Findings

1. Country Profiles
2. Defining the scope of e-Government objectives for gender inclusion
3. Online service delivery for women
4. Integration and coordination
5. Toolkit grouping

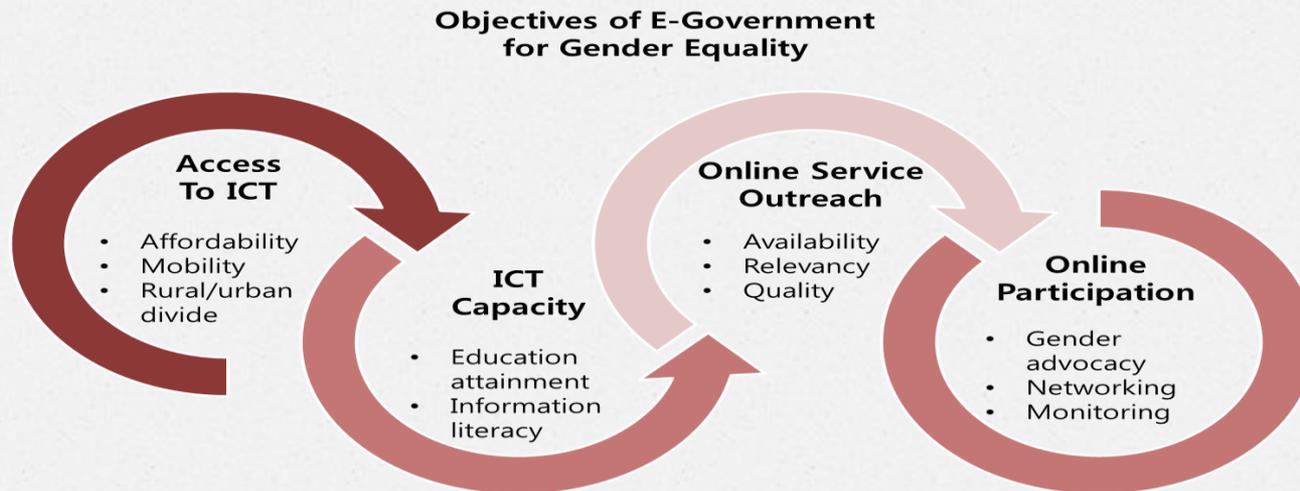
Country Profiles

- o According to the level of advancement in three pillar, development phases of e-Government for women can be categorized into the following four conceptual phases.
 - o **Phase 1: Emerging** entails the usage of ICT to expand access to government information which is of importance to women.
 - o **Phase 2: Enhanced** pertains to enhancing the involvement of women and women groups in the process of government activities.
 - o **Phase 3: Transactional** includes gender programmes that are specially tailored to online delivery are provided, allowing for a complete sense of online transaction.
 - o **Phase 4: Connected** alludes to the stage where government has gone through the full transformation process and all the citizen services are made available online through a single virtual counter 24/7.

Country	Online Service Level	e-Government Interactions			
		G2G	G2B	G2C	G2E
Bangladesh	Emerging			0	0
People's Republic of China	Enhanced	0		0	0
Fiji	Emerging			0	
India	Transactional		0	0	0
Indonesia	Enhanced		0	0	0
Malaysia	Transactional	0		0	0
Mongolia	Enhanced			0	0
The Philippines	Enhanced		0	0	0
Republic of Korea	Connected	0	0	0	0
Timor-Leste	Emerging			0	0
Viet Nam	Enhanced			0	

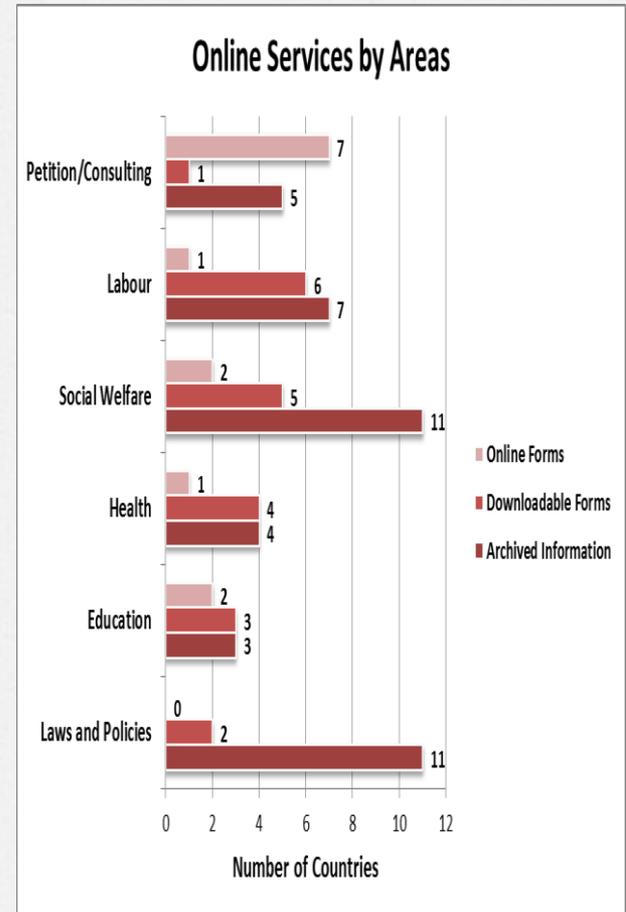
Defining the objectives for Gender Inclusion

- o Scope of gender objectives for e-Government should include both of the following:
 - o realizing gender equality in online public service outreach in a gender-neutral sense
 - o embracing the potential to use e-Government as a vehicle of women's empowerment in public decision-making process.
- o The objectives could be categorized into four core areas including:



Online Service Delivery for Women

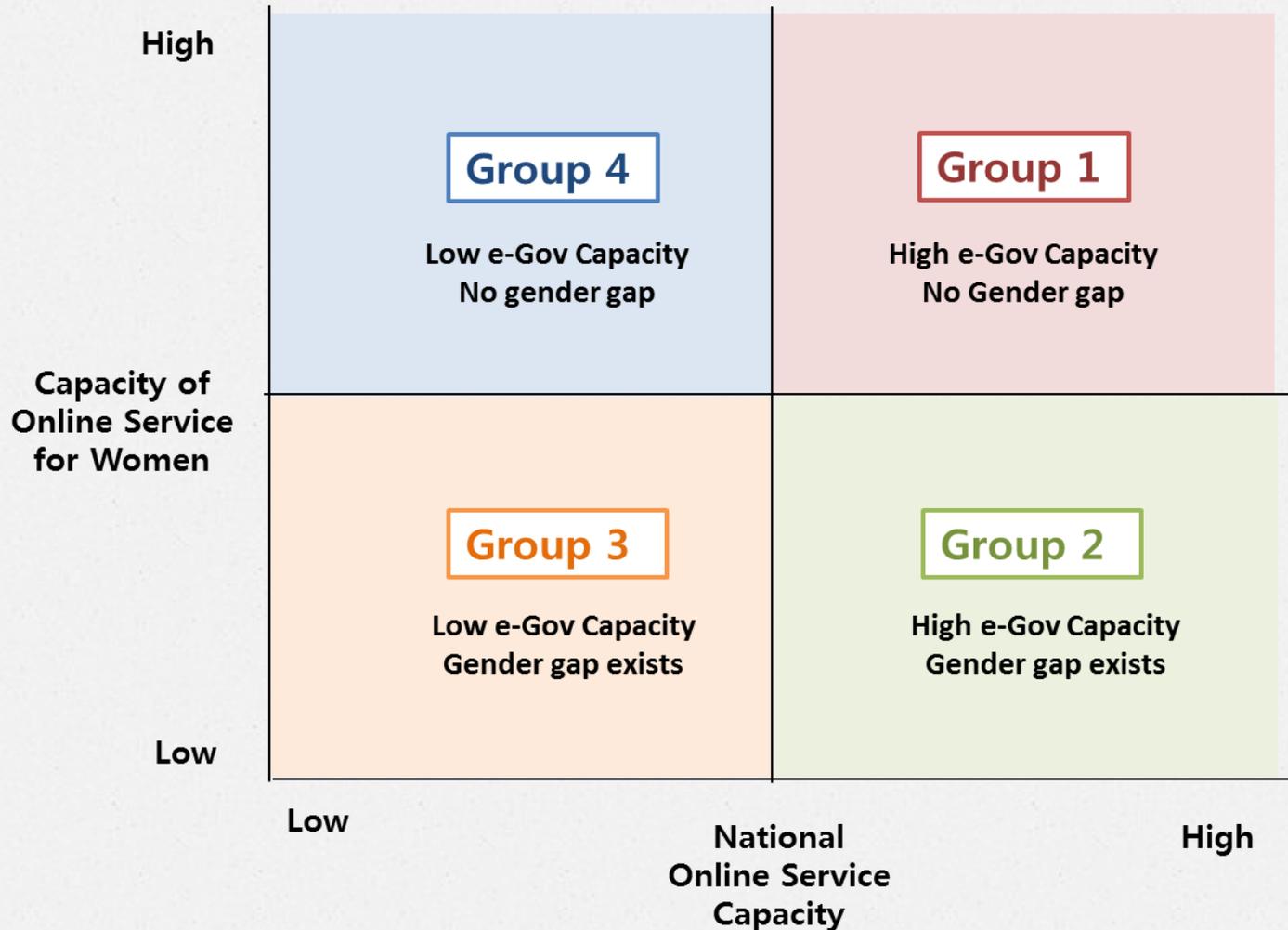
- The service levels of the researched countries strongly correlate with the country's level of telecommunication infrastructure development compared to other factors
 - surmounting the digital divide is one of the prerequisites
- The assessment of the level of service usage and user satisfaction is important
 - how online services are effectively meeting the demands of women
 - i.e. health, education, social welfare
 - more fundamentally, to ensure whether the e-Government environment is conducive in creating such a demand from women.
 - “input” mechanism i.e. interactive online forms becoming more important than simply providing static information

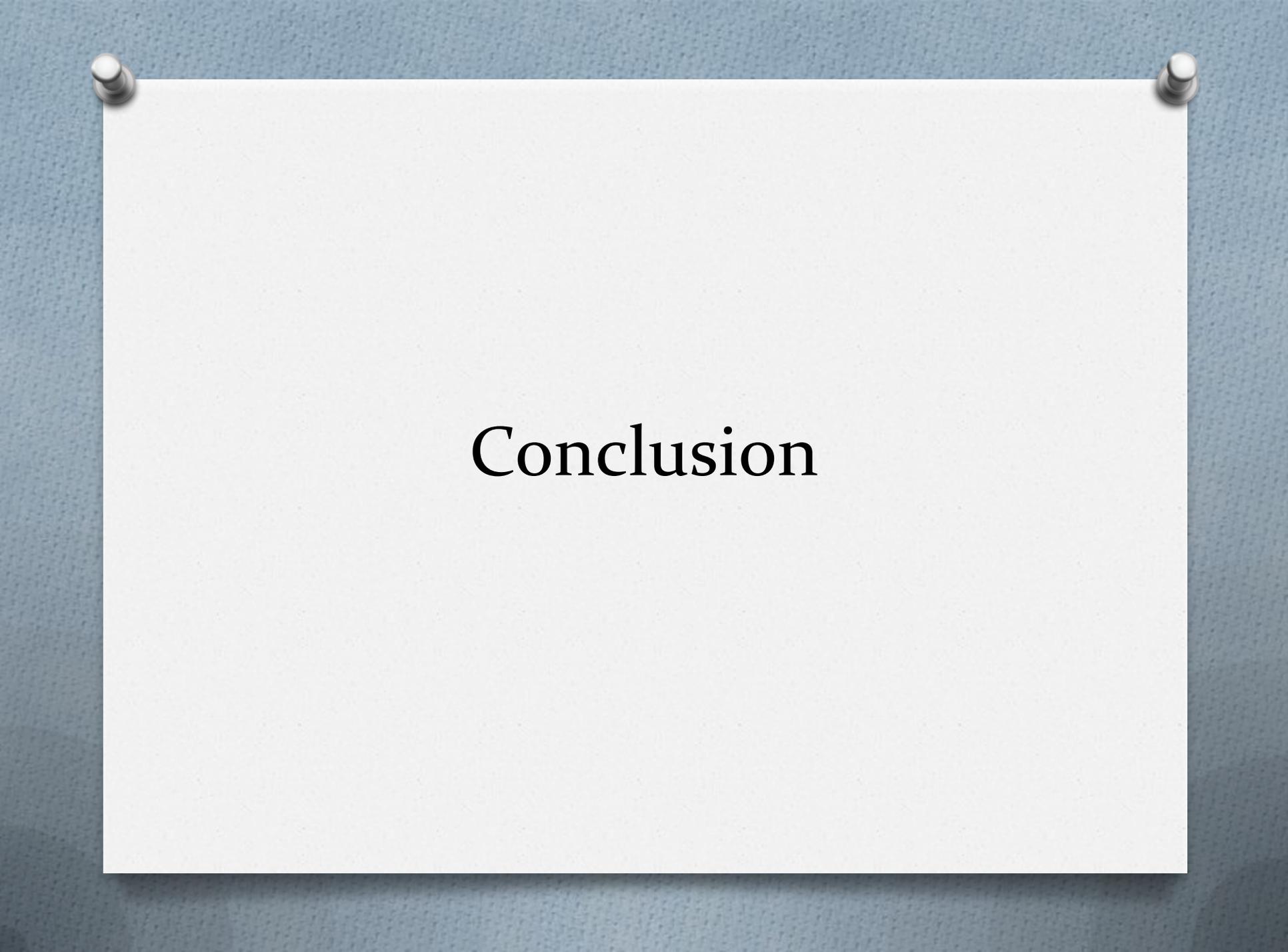


Integration and coordination

- o A significant gap between the gender and e-Government policy
 - o In most of the surveyed countries, respondents stated that gender initiatives have not been fully incorporated in the national ICT and e-Government policies, with risks of isolation and horizontal fragmentation.
- o Gender mainstreaming in e-Government should be ultimately led by an apex organization of national ICT and e-Government development
 - o national gender machinery has to provide sufficient domain knowledge expertise during the process.

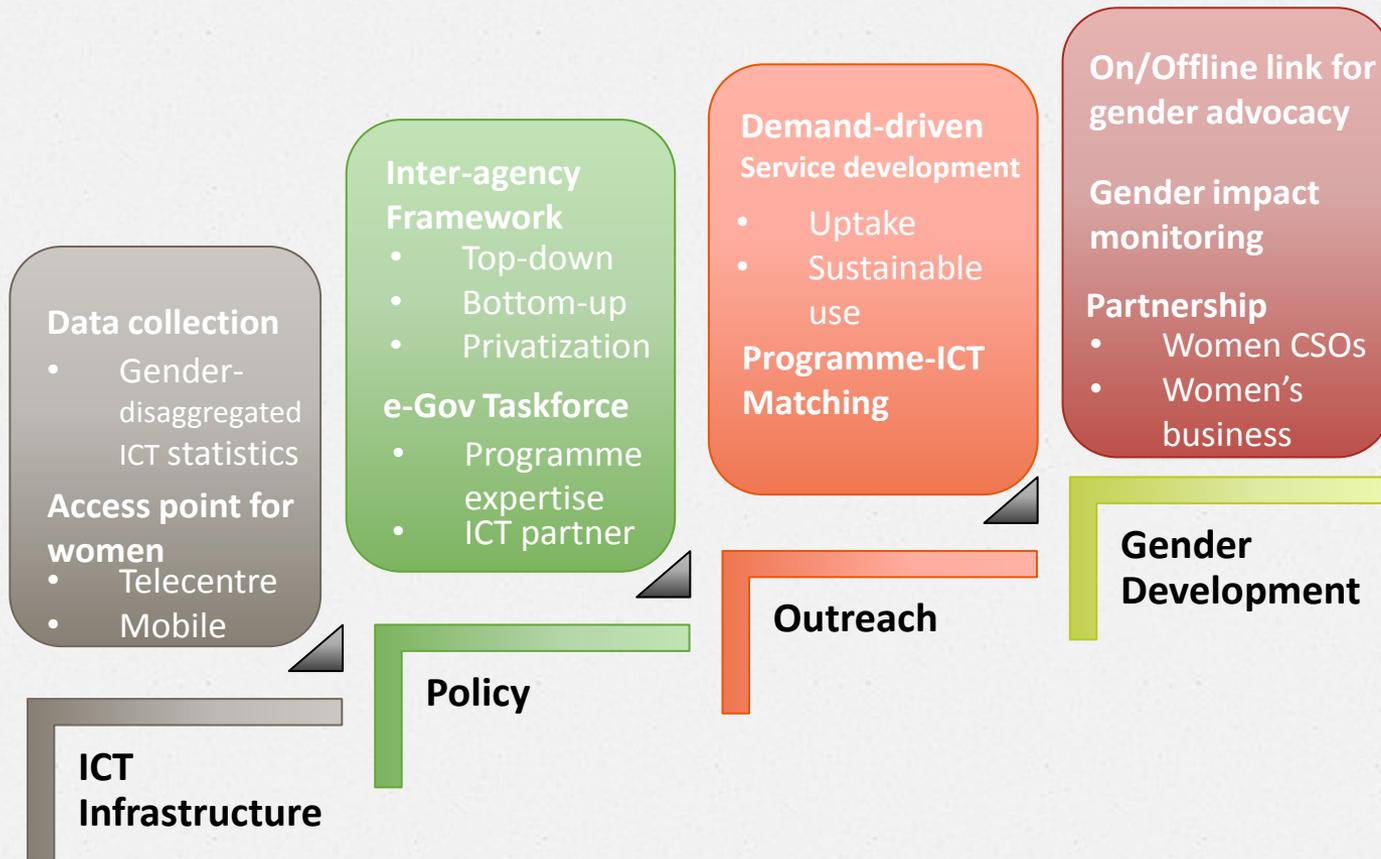
Country Grouping by Online Service Capacity





Conclusion

Looking forward





Thank you.