

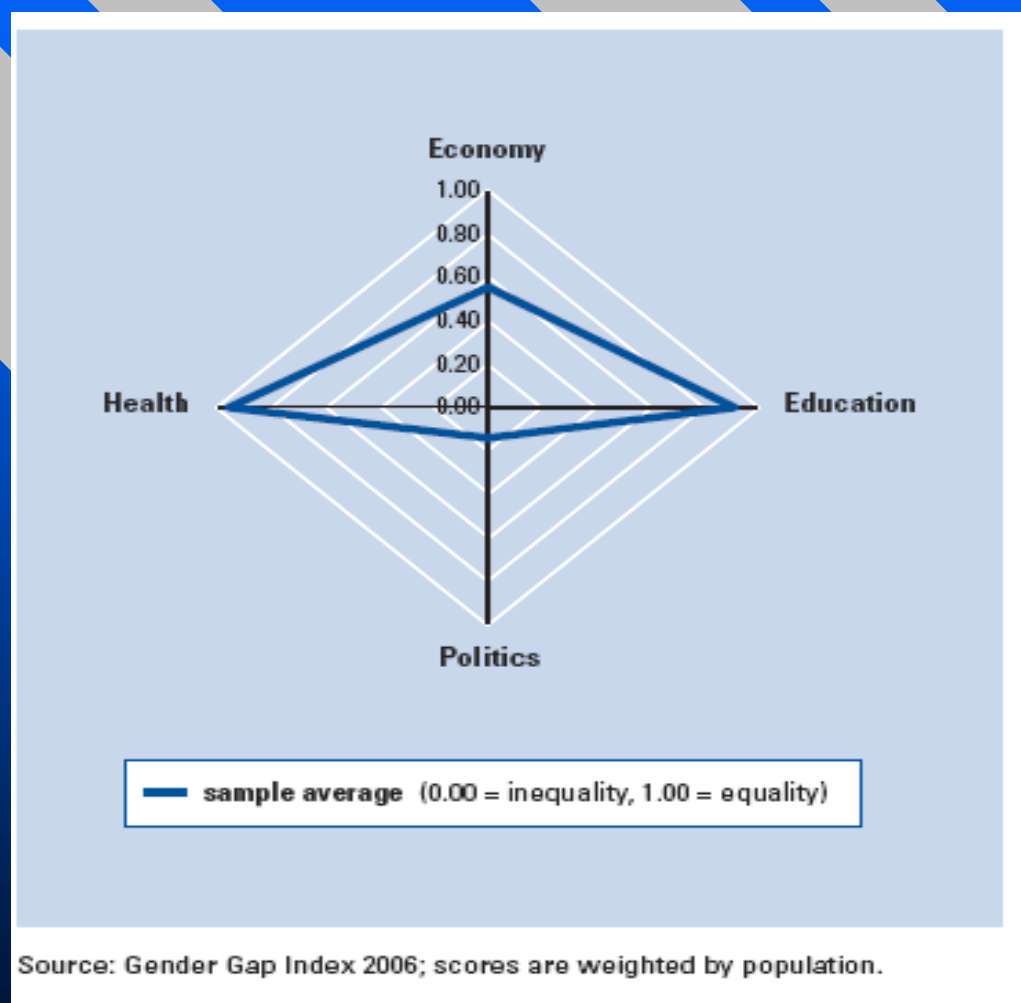
# **GLOBAL CHALLENGES**

## **Improved Economic Status of Women**

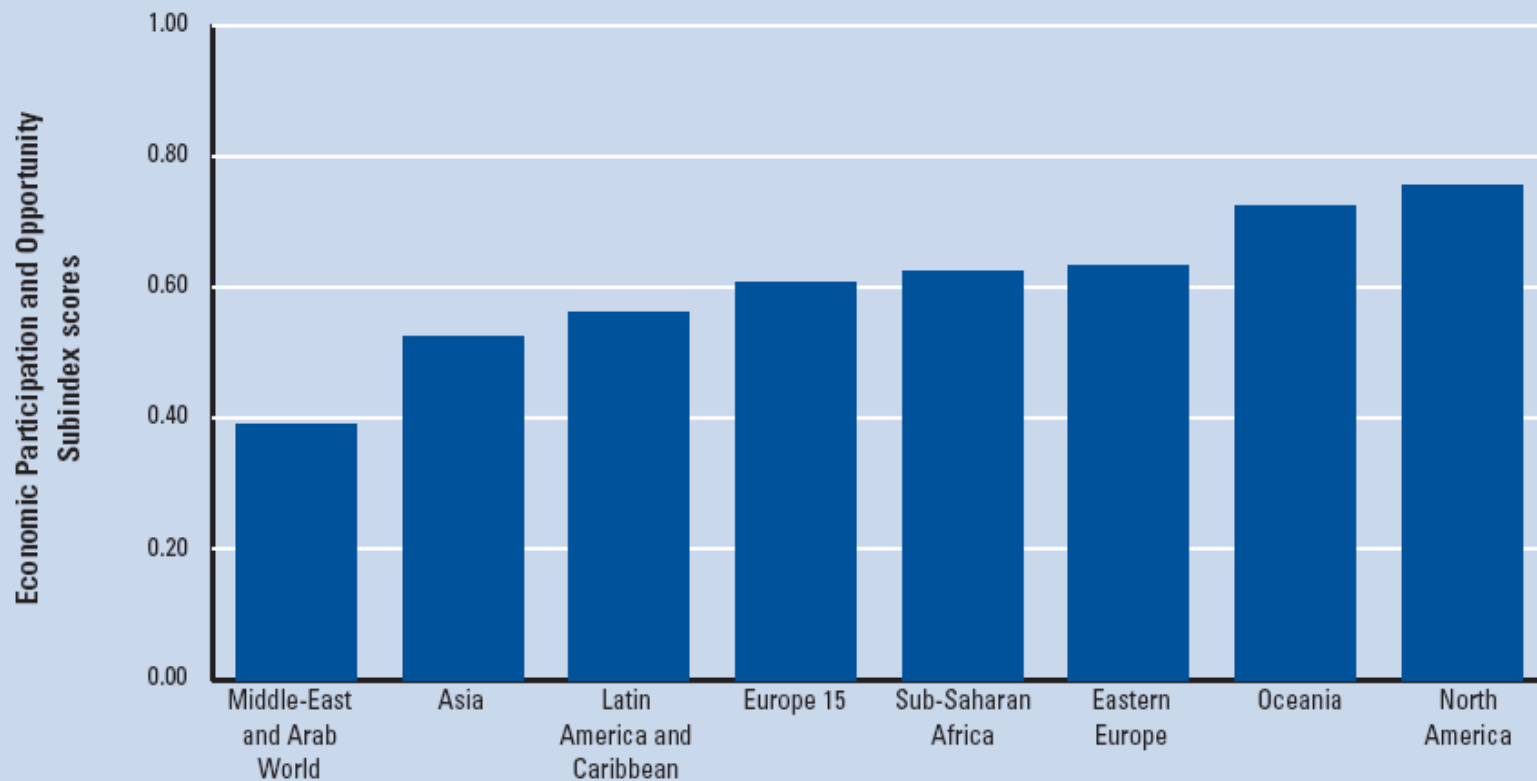
**Sun-Hee (Sunny) Lee**  
**AusAID** (*Australia*)

# Gender Gaps – Global Trends

(Source: WEF, the Global Gender Gap Report 2006)



# Regional Performance on Economic Participation and Opportunities (WEF 2006)



# Effective Interventions for Improving Economic Status of Women

- Enabling environment – supporting policy, legal, regulatory frameworks to make markets work for women
- Supporting infrastructure that will
  - Increase access to markets
  - increase access to health and education services
  - reduce girls' and women's time burden
- Eliminate gender equality in employment and earnings

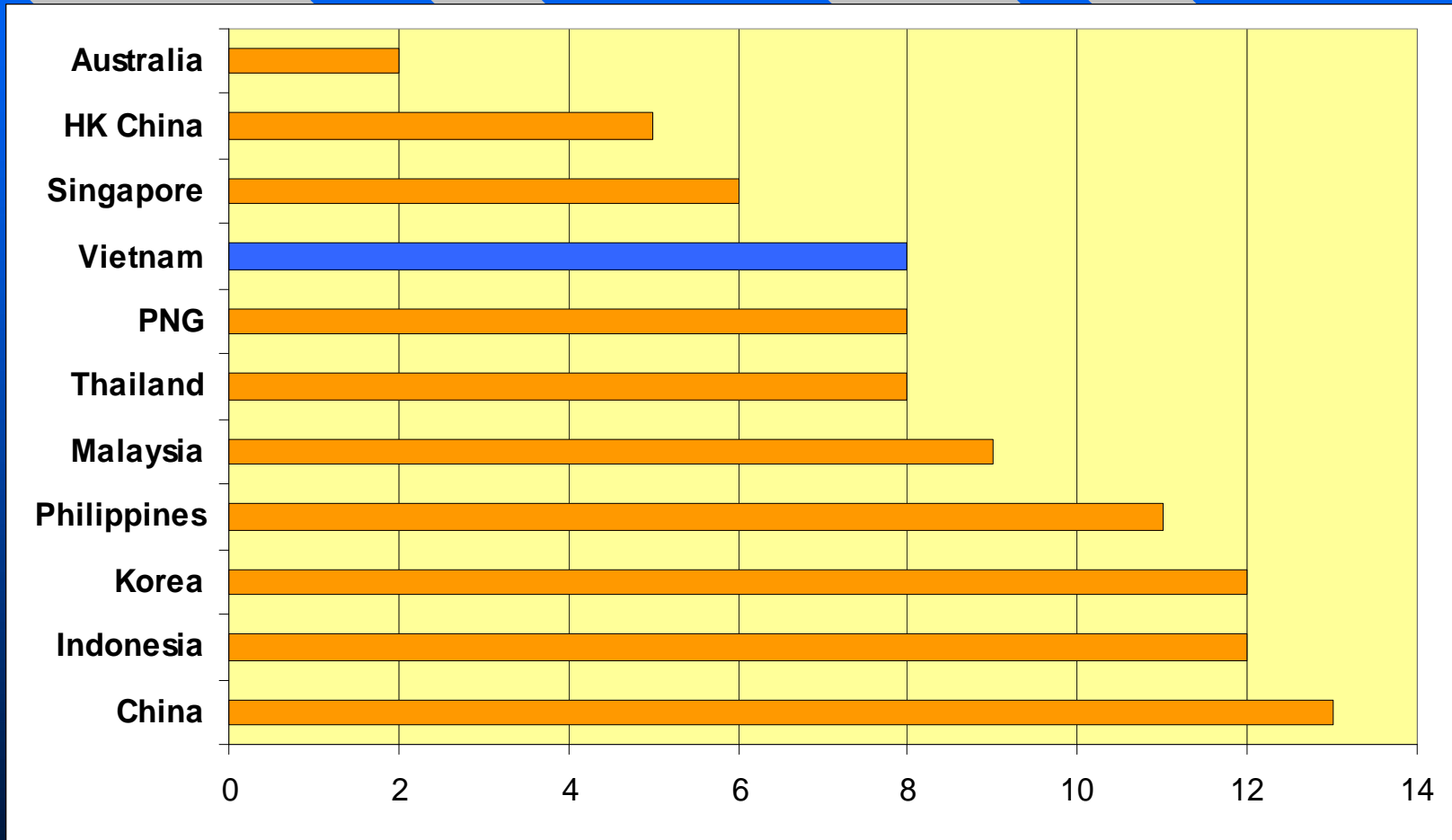
# Enabling Policy Environment

## Example: Vietnam Enterprise Law

- SMEs generate approximately a quarter of GDP
- SMEs – significant source of employment
- Enterprise law in 2000
  - Non-discretionary registration of private firms and significantly reduced the bureaucratic obstacles to establishing a small business.
  - State Enterprise Law 2003 – to assure that state-owned enterprises (SOEs) fall within the scope of the Unified Enterprise Law. SOEs to transform themselves to fall under the purview of the law and can no longer enjoy special privileges.

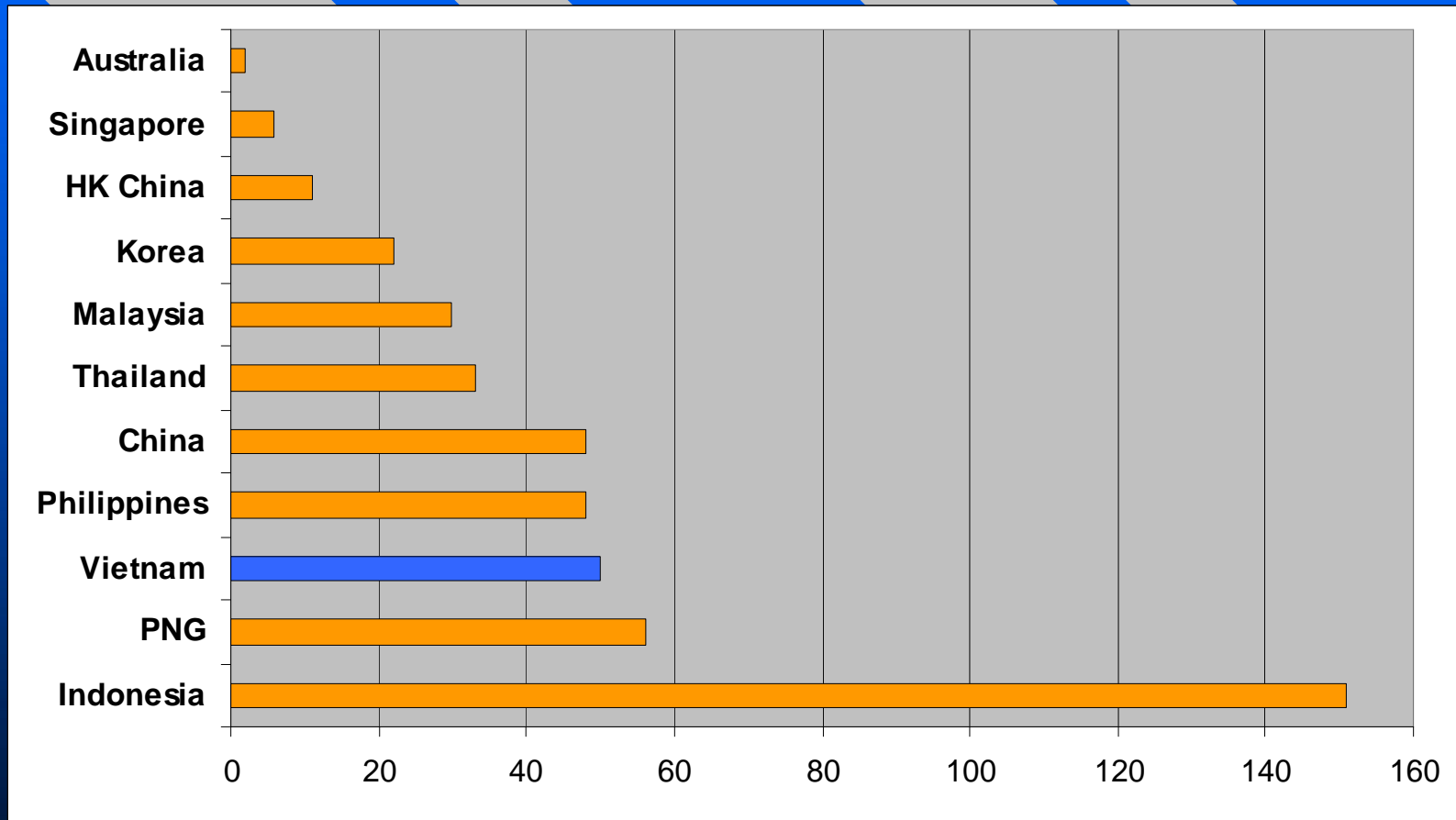
# Doing Business 2006

## Procedures to Start a Business



# Doing Business 2006

## Time to Start a Business (Days)



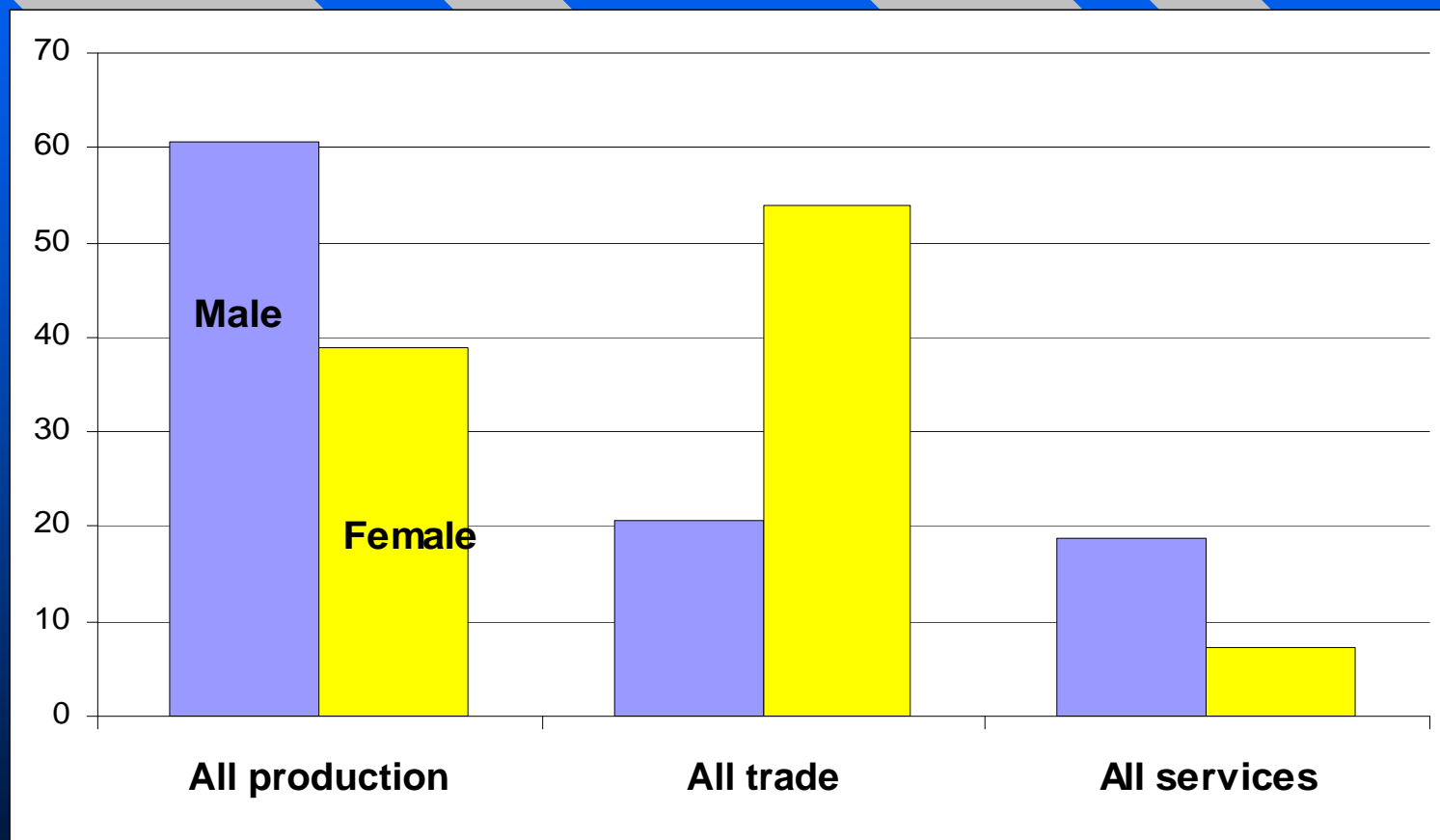
# Impact of Enterprise Law Reform

- By 2003, 70 000 and 80,000 private SMEs
  - at least 1 200 new SMEs per month
- Of these, 70% start ups; 30% from 600 000 unregistered informal HH micro enterprises
  - The number of startups as newly registered SMEs indicates the significant role that the SME sector is now contributing to domestic investment

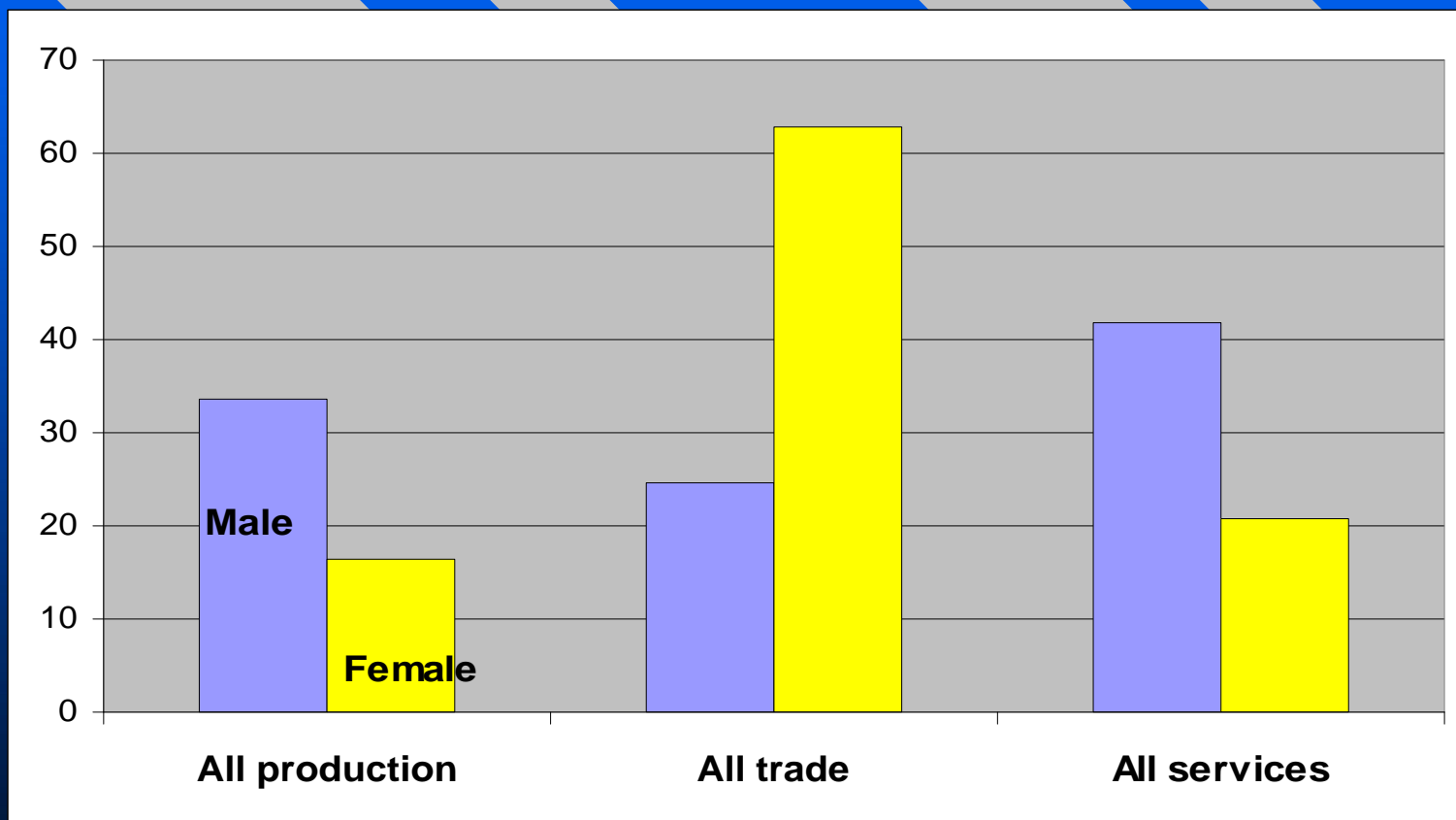
# Gender Dimension

- 54% of non-agricultural enterprises, (inc. micro enterprises and SMEs) operated by women and 46 % were operated by men
- Female-owned enterprises employ relatively more women than men
- Registered female-owned companies have higher profit rates than registered male-owned companies
- Female-owned enterprises have a 9% higher chance of survival than male-owned companies

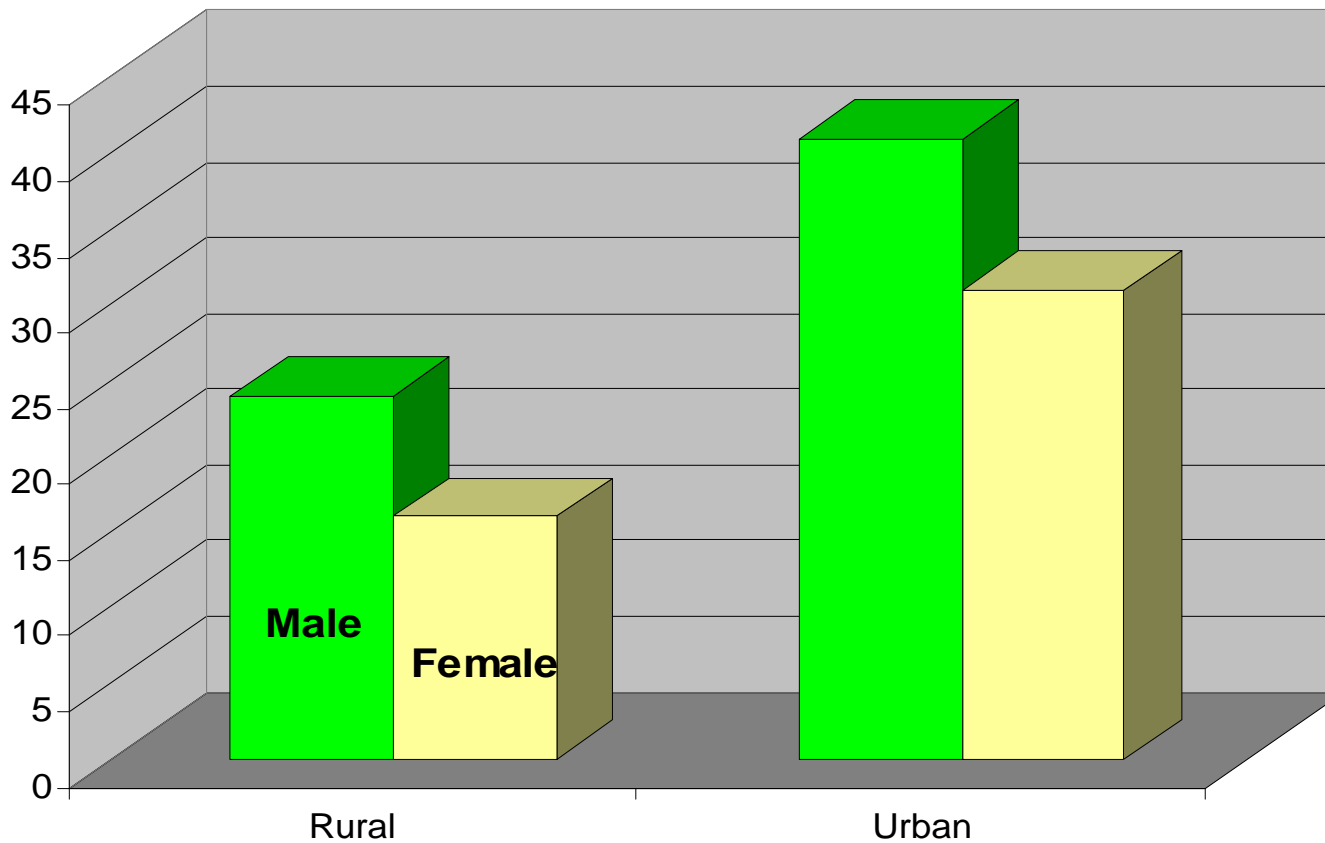
# Types of Non-agricultural Household Enterprises Operated by Men and Women (Rural areas)



# Types of Non-agricultural Household Enterprises Operated by Men and Women (Urban areas)



# SME Owners with Licences – all sectors



# What Did We Learn?

- **National Ownership**
- **Partnership**
- **Gender analysis tools to develop programs and interventions**
  - **Involving women entrepreneurs in identifying barriers and developing interventions to remove them**
- **Gender-disaggregated value chain analyses**

# Australian Aid Program

## Gender Policy's Key Focus Areas:

- Economic status of women
  - Increasing women's access to and control over productive resources
  - Support for women-led enterprises
  - Development of infrastructure-gender implications
- Improving participation of women in decision making
- Violence against women
- Targeted interventions in health and education