

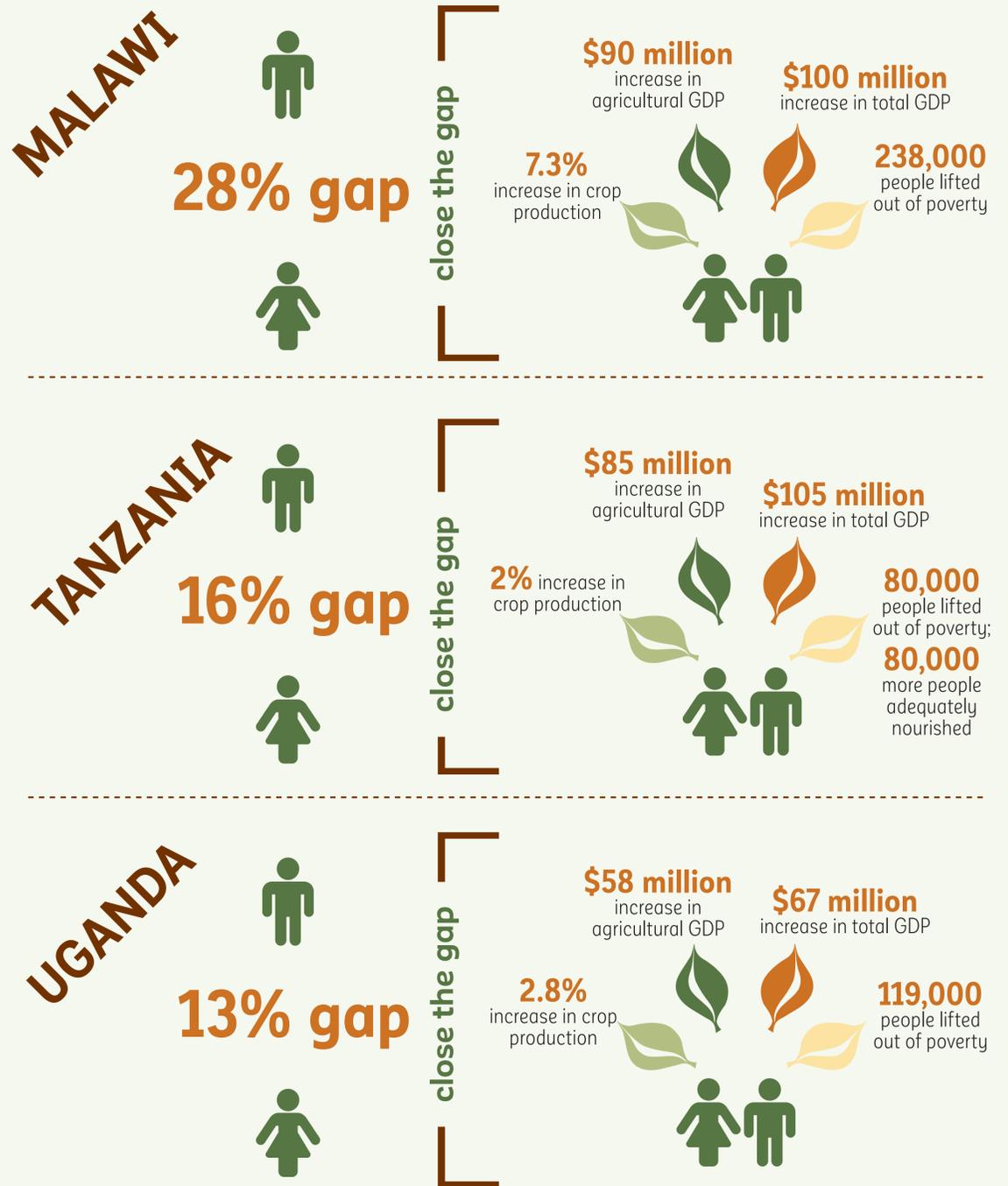
# COST OF THE **GENDER GAP** IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY

**W**omen make up a large proportion of the agricultural labor force in Sub-Saharan Africa, but are **LESS PRODUCTIVE** than male farmers. This gender gap exists because women frequently have **UNEQUAL ACCESS** to key agricultural inputs such as land, labor, knowledge, technologies, fertilizer and improved seeds.

A changing climate makes **CLIMATE-SMART APPROACHES** to agriculture urgent to help close the gender gap and promote women's empowerment, economic development and societal resilience to shocks.

To **CLOSE THE GENDER GAP**, policies should aim to:

- Narrow the gender productivity gap due to lack of **ACCESS TO LABOR**
- Enable women farmers to move into cultivation of **HIGH-VALUE CASH CROPS**
- Improve women farmers' **ACCESS TO AND USE OF NON-LABOR INPUTS** in agricultural production



## THREE LESSONS LEARNED

**1** The gender gap in agricultural productivity is **LARGE**; addressing it could substantially **INCREASE CROP OUTPUT**.



**2** Reducing the gender gap may **REDUCE POVERTY** and **IMPROVE NUTRITION**, as women tend to spend more of their income on children's health and education.



**3** Focusing on women's access to **FARM LABOR** and **TECHNOLOGY** is key, as they are the most costly constraints. Facilitate women's access to agricultural machinery and other production technologies.

