

Brief Overview
Side event at CSW 62

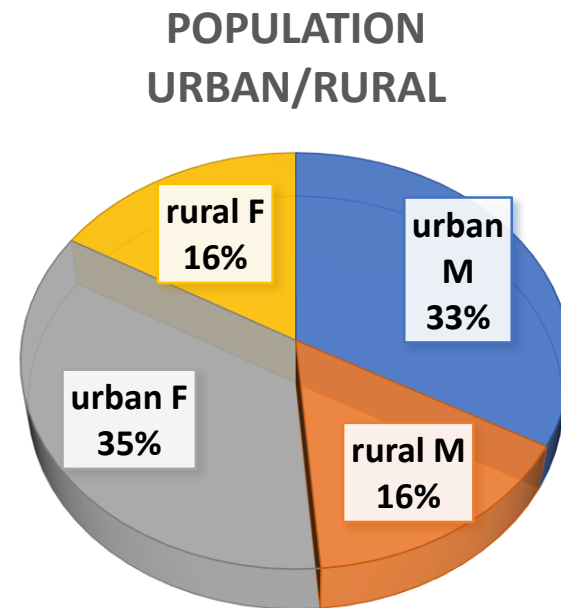
Rural Women and Women in Agriculture in Japan

Yukiko ODA

Vice Convener, Japan Women's Watch (JAWW)

Rural Japan: Aging and depopulation

- Aging
- Fewer younger women
- Women are targeted as core human resources to maintain and build resilient rural communities.



Food Self-Sufficiency and Agriculture

- Food self-sufficiency rate (calorie base) : 39%
- Agriculture, forestry and fisheries:
0.9% of GDP, 3.2% of total employed
- Farm land: family-owned small land holdings
- **Aging** labor force: 66.4% of people employed in agriculture are over 65 years old
- **Female ratio of core farmers: 43%**

Women in Decision-making

- Percentage of women in various decision-making bodies in rural areas remains at only **7 to 8 %**.
- **The Basic Plan for Gender Equality**, national Action Plan, dedicates a chapter to rural women.
- Lack of women's participation in decision-making is not only limited to rural areas.
- Japan **ranks 114 out of 144 countries** in the Global Gender Gap Index (GGGI) of the World Economic Forum.

Policy Measures by the MAFF

- **Training programs** for women on agricultural management
- **Family Management Agreement**
decides the share of paid and unpaid household work, days off and salaries
- **“Nougyo-Joshi Project”**
highlights women in agriculture through networking and collaboration with the business sector



Mainstreaming Rural Women in SDGs

Women in agriculture were highlighted in the **SDGs Action Plan 2018** in the context of the localization of SDGs