

Gender, Entrepreneurship, and Competitiveness in Africa

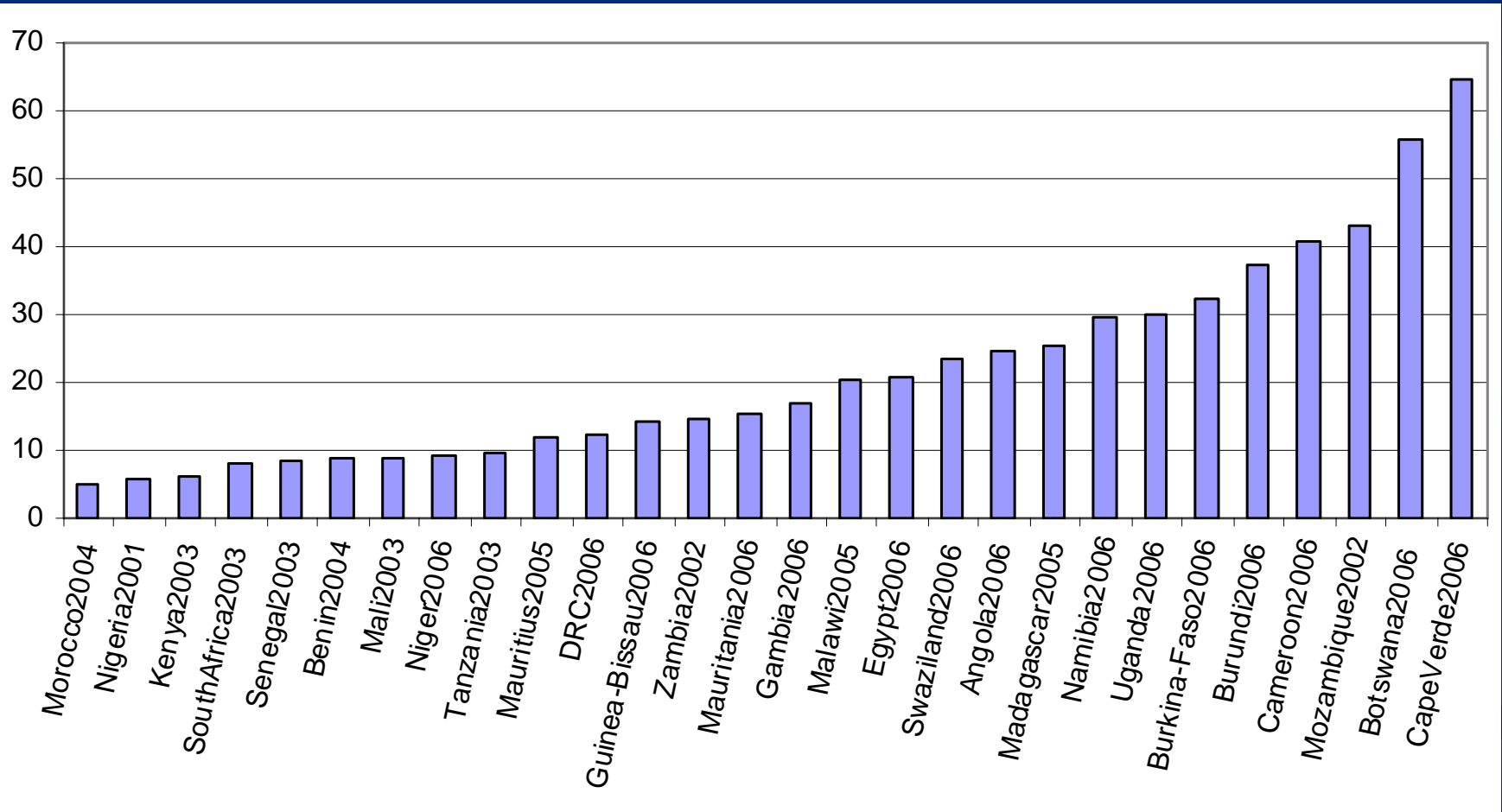
(Chapter 1.4 of the Africa Competitiveness Report)

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The World Bank
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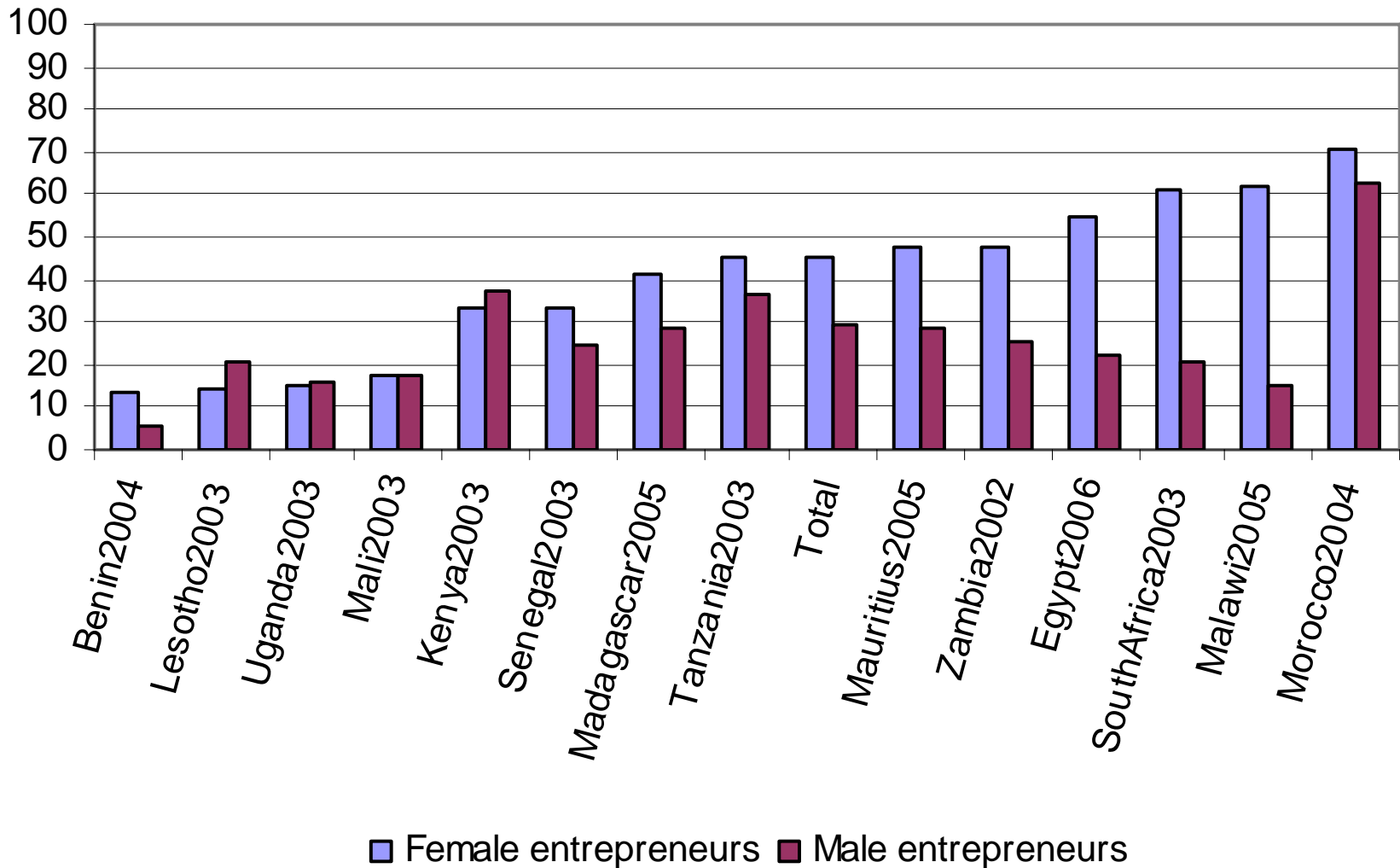
Objectives and Content

- Shed light on the nature of men's and women's enterprises in Africa;
- Assess the extent to which constraints faced by men and women entrepreneurs differ;
- Assess whether IC constraints affect men's and women's enterprises differently.

Women are less likely than men to own a business in most countries



Women tend to manage a business in partnership (rather than individually)

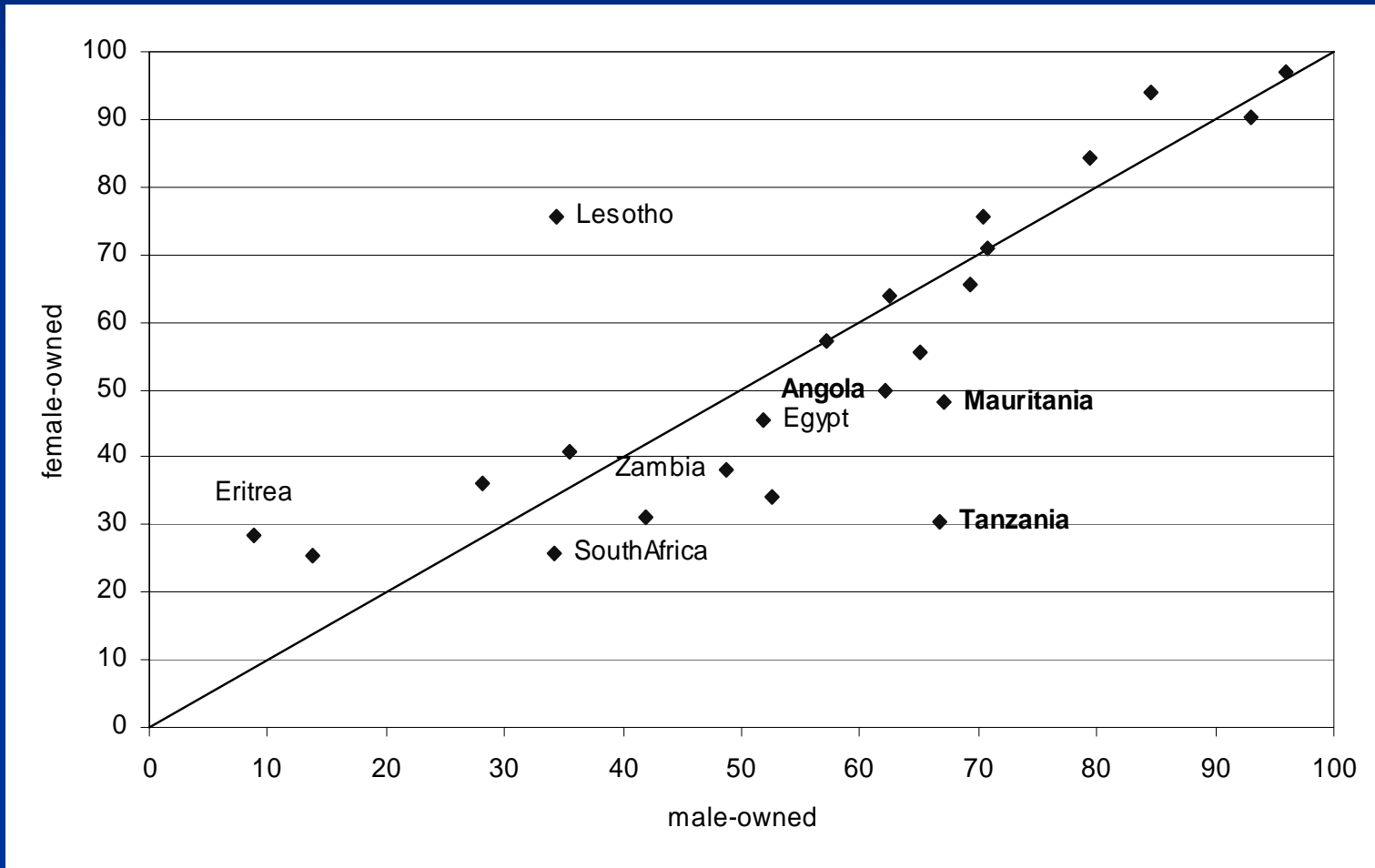


Patterns of female entrepreneurship vary by country

- Women are more easily in the textile sector in some countries, in services in other countries;
- Women's enterprises are as big as men's;
- Women are much more likely to be in family enterprises rather than in individual enterprises.

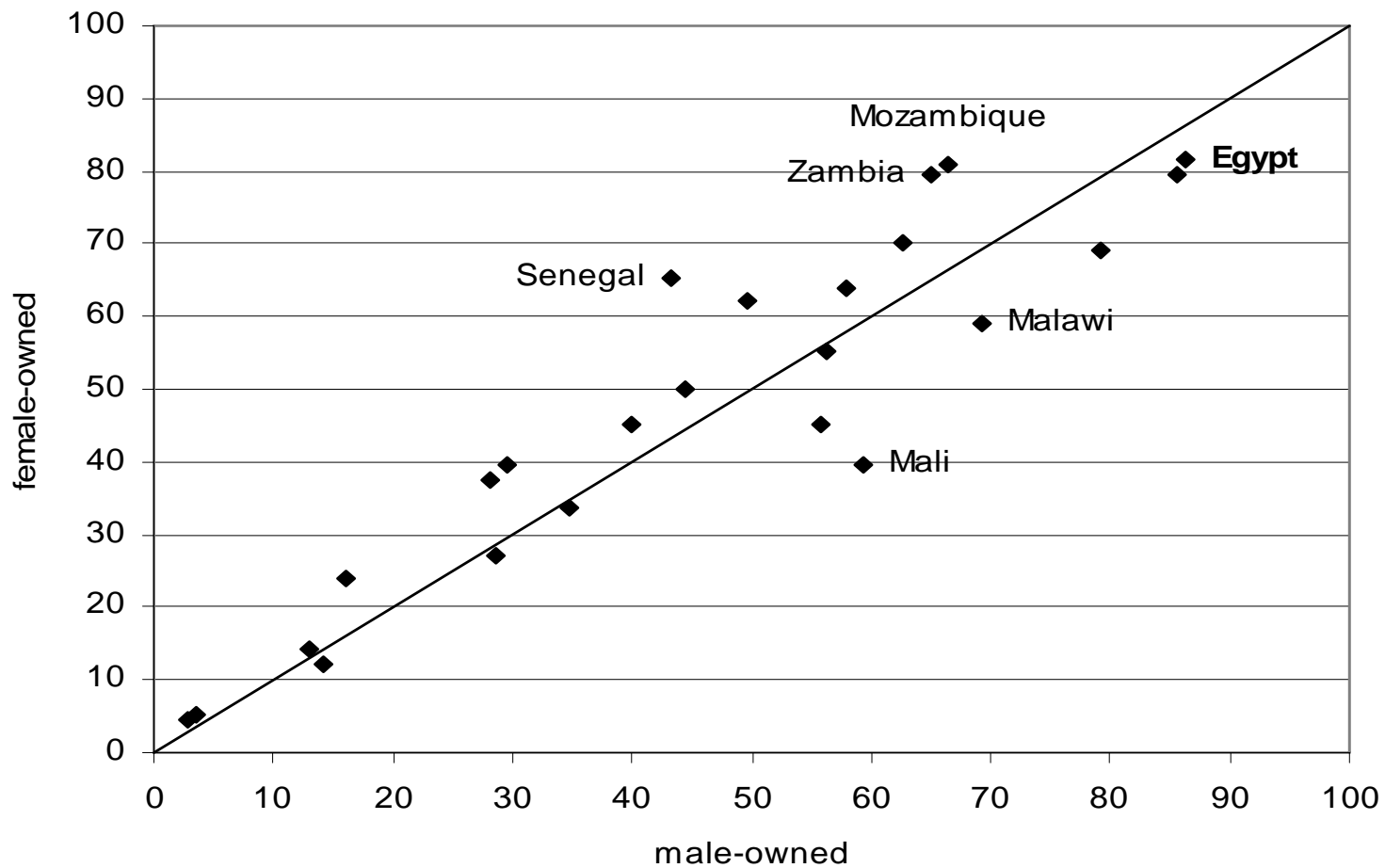
Men and women have similar constraints

- Access to finance -



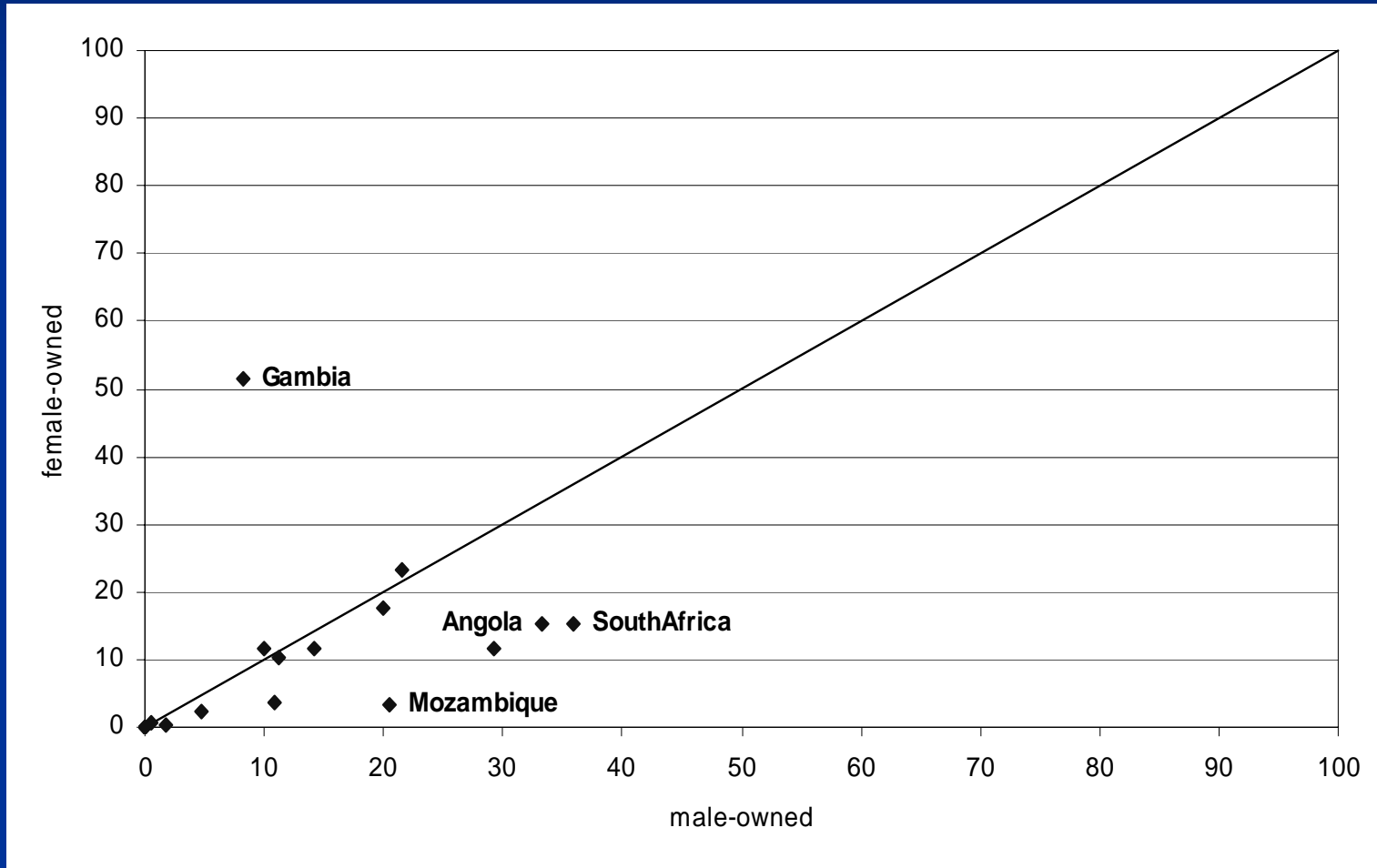
Men and women have similar constraints

- Corruption -

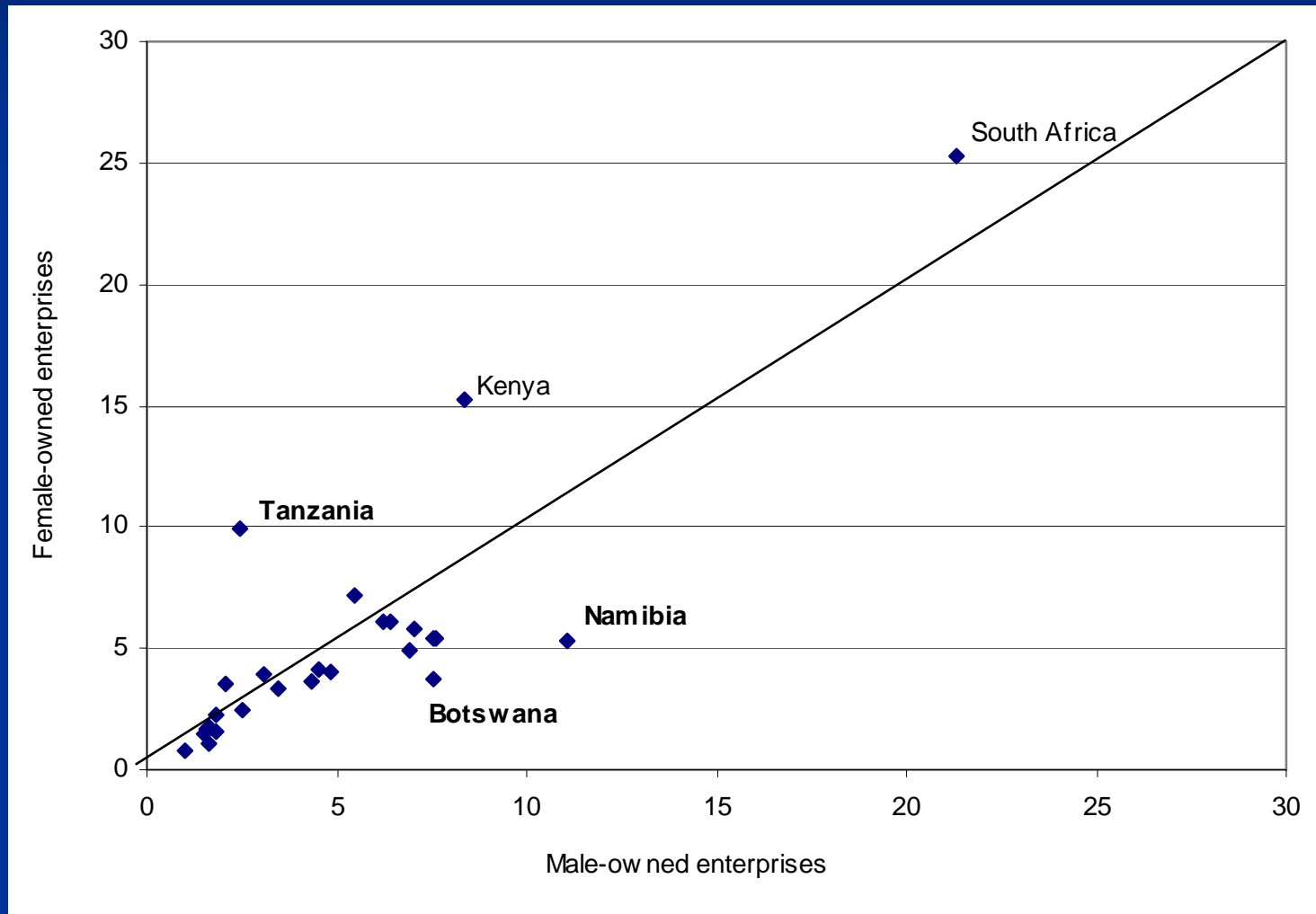


Men and women have similar constraints

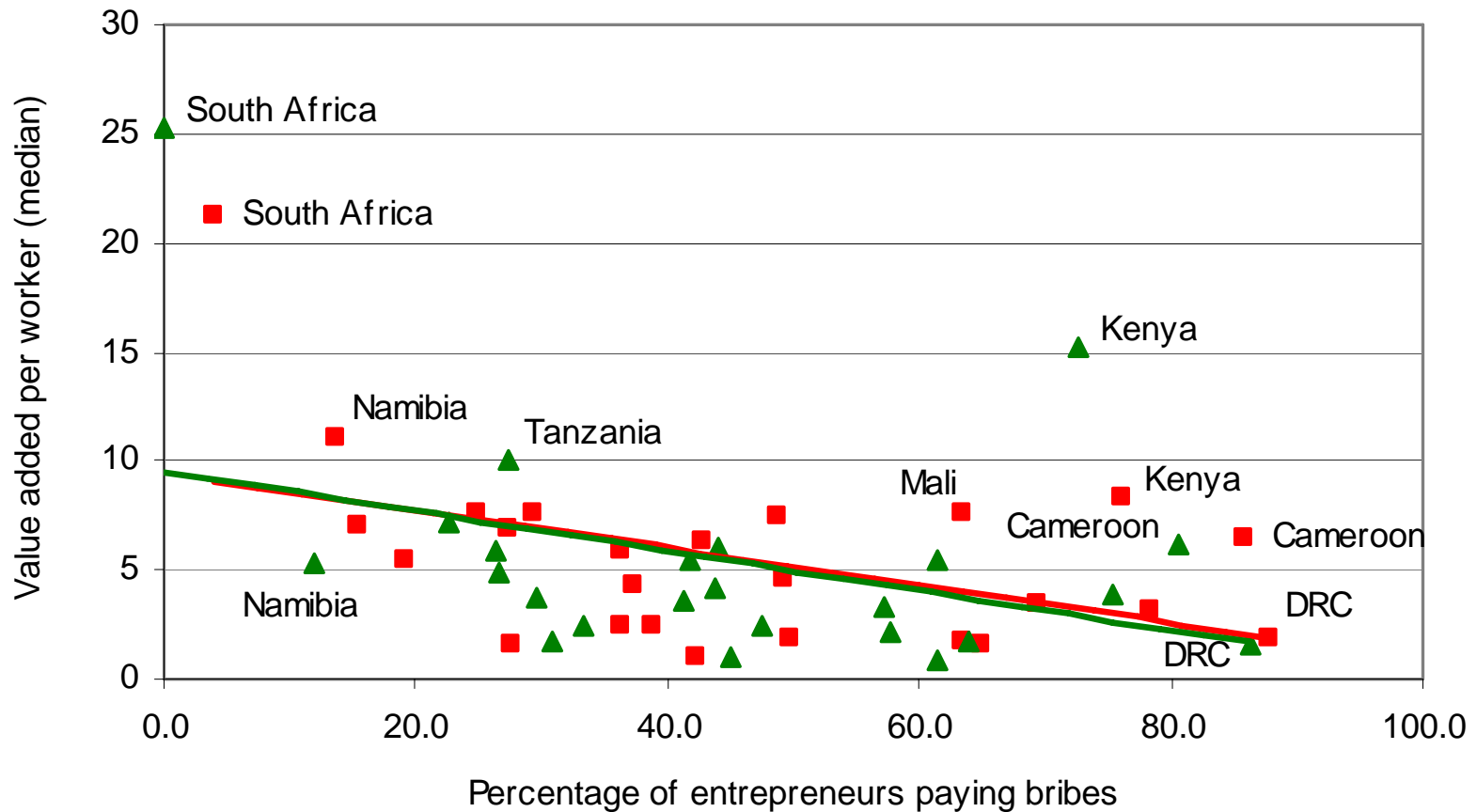
- Labor regulations -



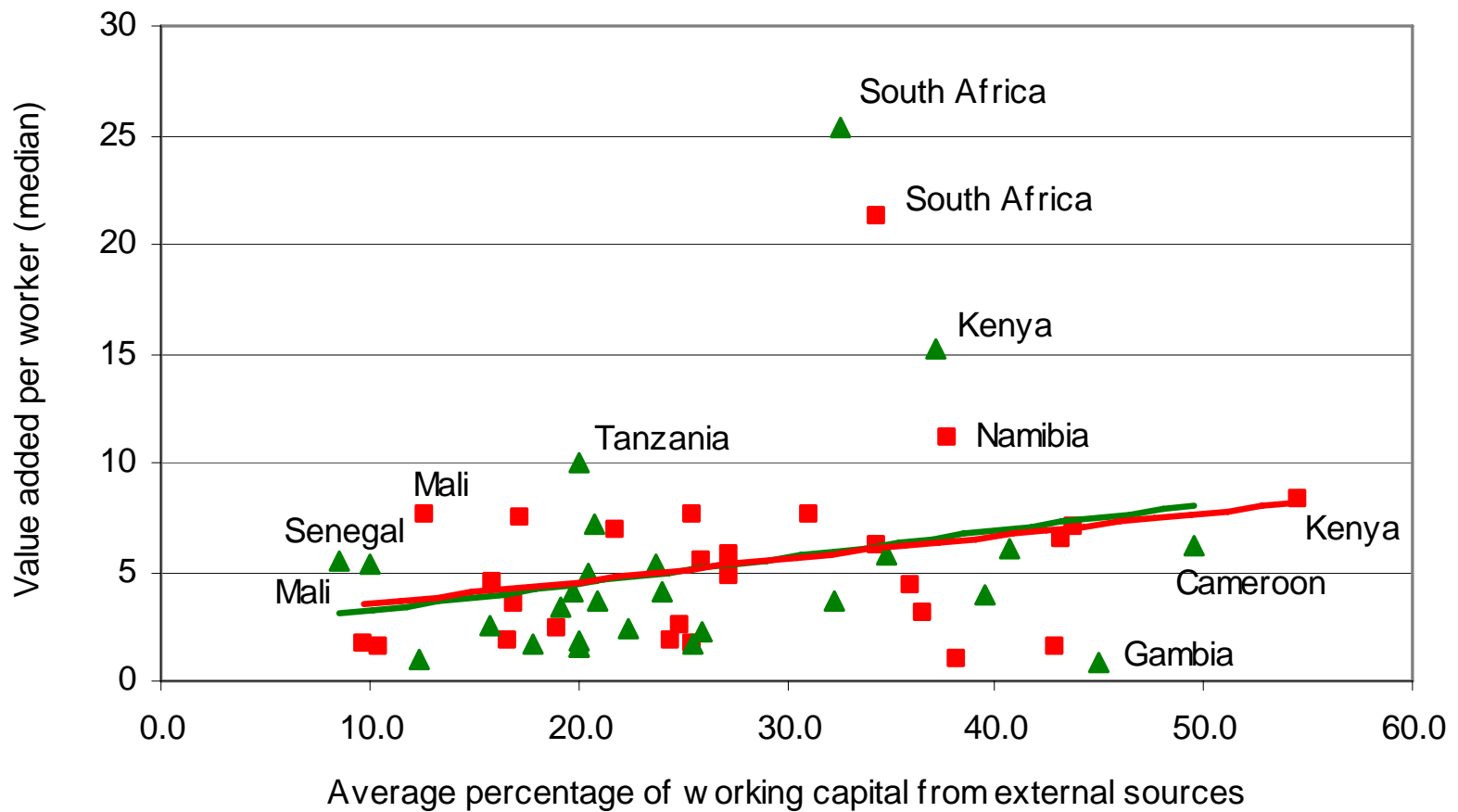
Firm performance of male- and female-owned enterprises is quite similar



Impact of IC constraints on firm's productivity is also similar



Impact of IC constraints on firm's productivity is also similar



Discussion

Little differences between men and women entrepreneurs

What explains this finding?

- There may be important barriers to *entry* into entrepreneurship
 - Women tend to concentrate in the informal sector
 - Legal and regulatory constraints should be addressed
- An important difference is the concentration of women in family and partnership enterprises
- Data limitations - More information needed on the *entrepreneur*