

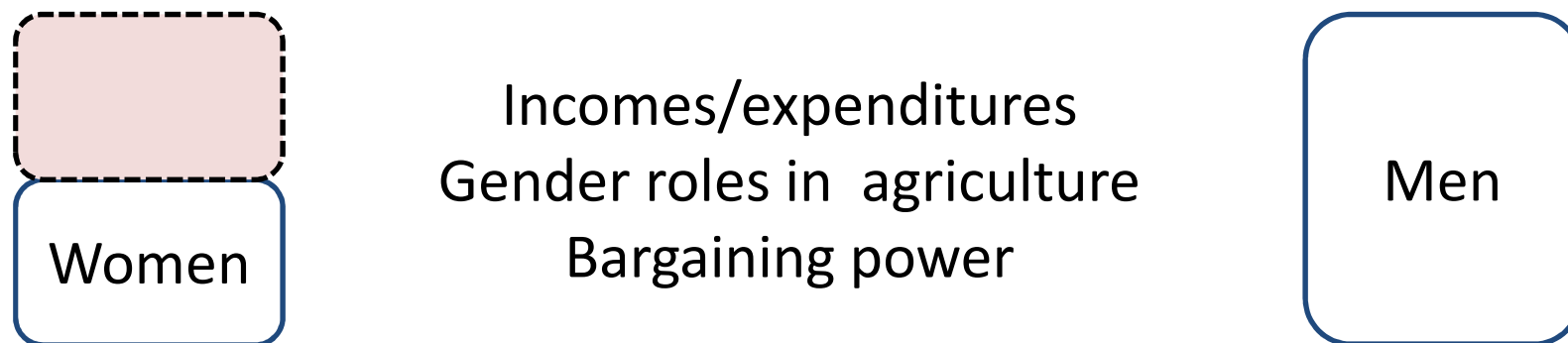
Understanding gender relations: a case study in South Kilifi, Kenya



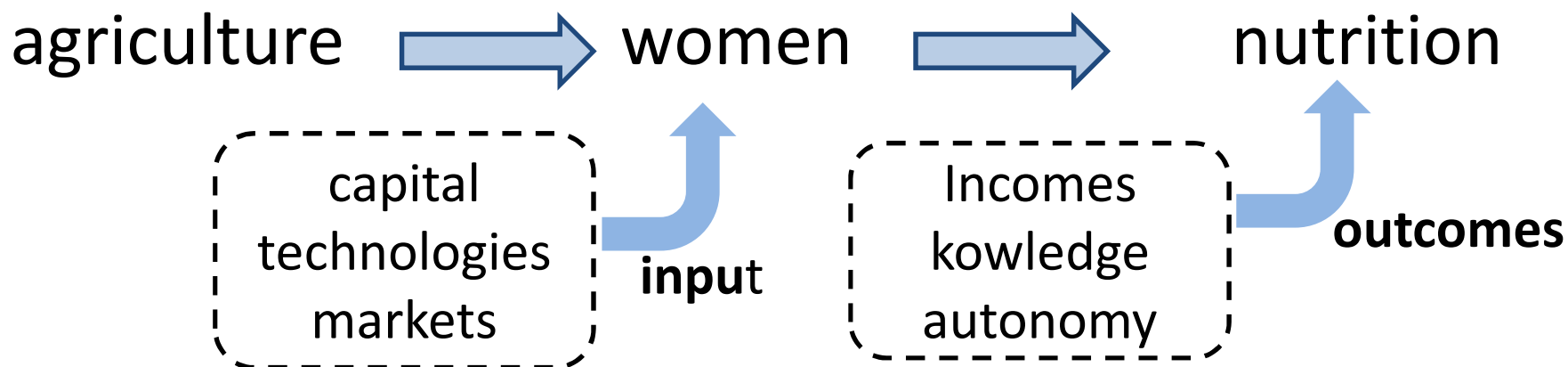
Nozomi Kawarazuka
School of International Development
University of East Anglia, U.K

Current understandings on gender and nutrition

Focusing on gender characteristics

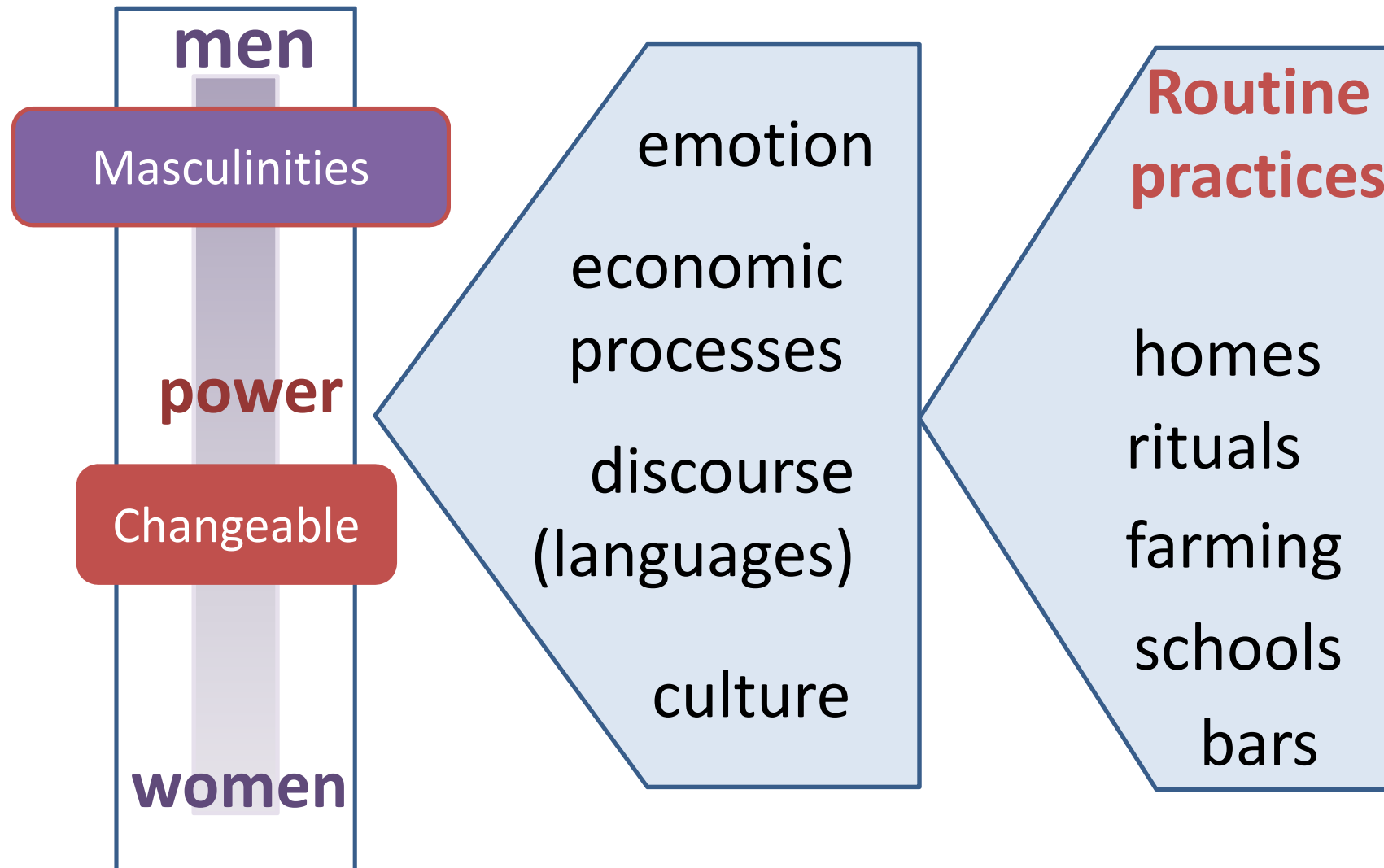


Expected Pathways



Looking at gender relations

Connell (2009)



Research methods

- 8 months of ethnographic fieldwork
- Selected 8 women and 8 men

Observation

Life history

In-depth interviews



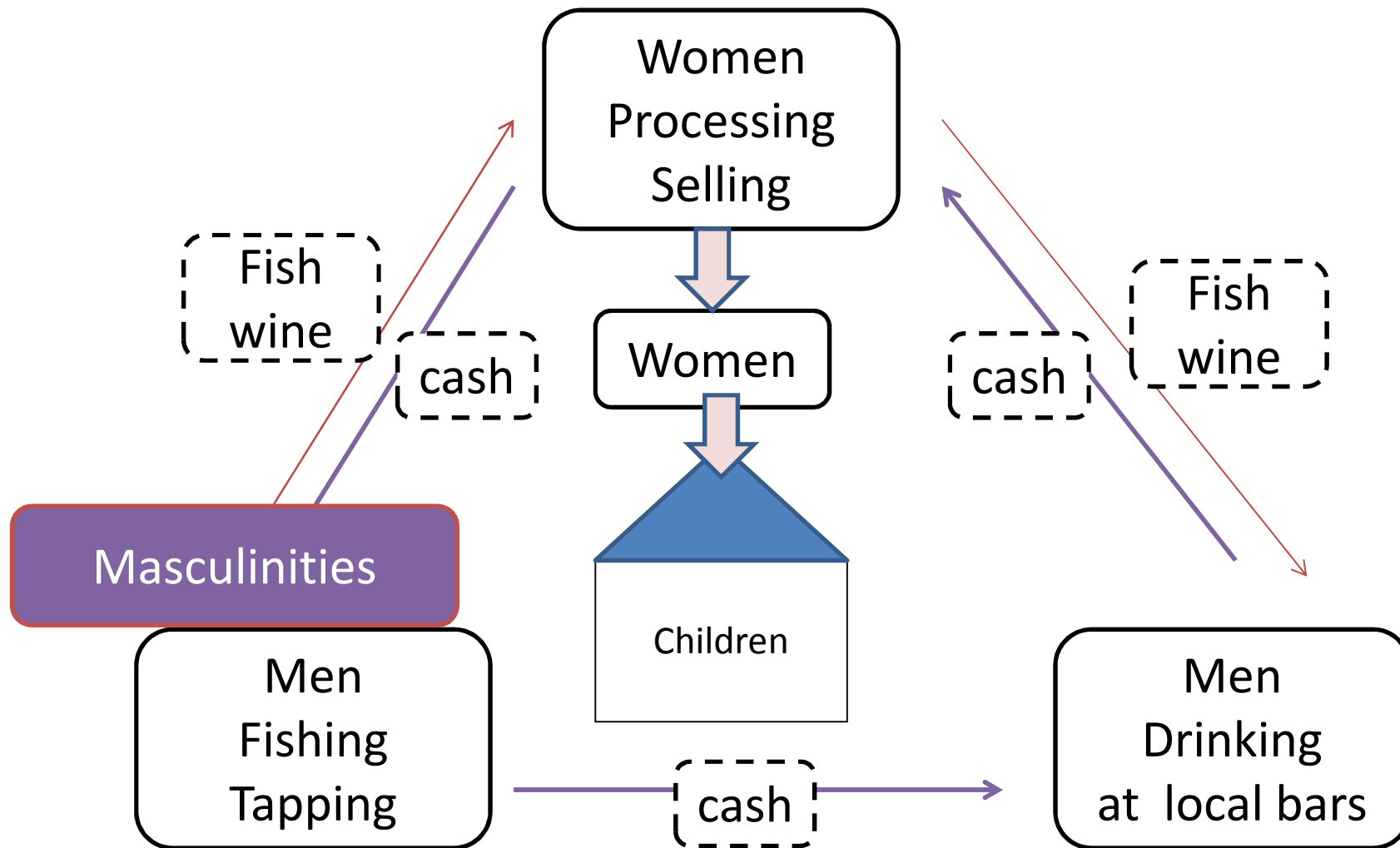
Research context

Palm wine/fisheries for local consumption



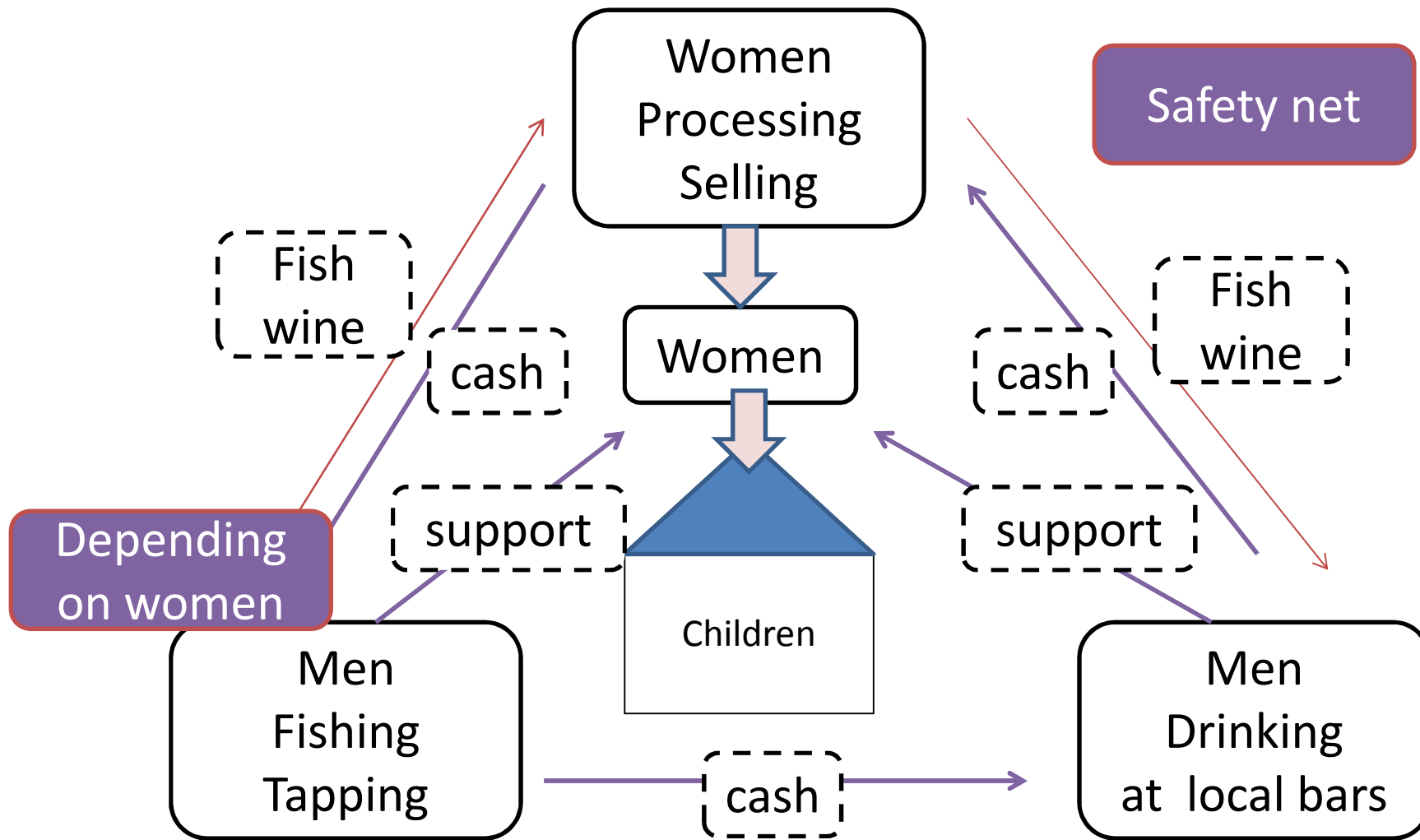
Findings (1)

Gender relations in local agriculture/fisheries



Findings (1)

Gender relations in agriculture/fisheries



Findings (2)

Gender relations in family

- **Women's diverse and dynamic gender positions**

- A widow woman with seven sons

- A divorcee with a wealthy male partner

- A single mother living with her mother and ten siblings

- A young married woman without a son

- **The source of women's bargaining power at home**

- Reproductive roles

- Their capacity to manage housework

- (fetching water, collecting firewood, cooking)

- Seniority

- Cash (not necessarily from economic activities)



Findings (2)

Gender relations in family

- **fatherhood**

Institutional power

(ex. inheritance rules of land, bride wealth)



Cash = masculinities



alternative masculinities :violence, girl friends, drinking

Key messages

- **Gender relations beyond characteristics**

Women are not a homogenous group

What women lack → why they do so

Gendered behaviors influence women's practices

Incorporating men into agriculture and nutrition

- **The role of qualitative studies**

More nuanced understandings

Developing context specific approaches

