

# Assessing Canada's Women's Empowerment Programs in Africa

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**Abstract:** The project explores the impact a Canadian liberal government may have had on women's rights, feminist ideology and gender-based economic empowerment in Ghana after decades of conservative rule. It closely examines the Feminist Foreign Assistance Policy (FIAP) in relation to Global Affairs' Innovation for Women's Economic Empowerment in Ghana (IWEEG) and if its \$30 million funding has materially benefitted women on the ground in a bid to provide recommendations to Global Affairs and other stakeholders.

**Research Question:** To what extent did the Canadian Feminist Foreign Assistance Policy contribute to positive economic impacts in the lives of Ghanaian women?

## Methodology

Virtual correspondence (Emails etc)

Case Studies

Literature Reviews

## Systemic Barriers to Research

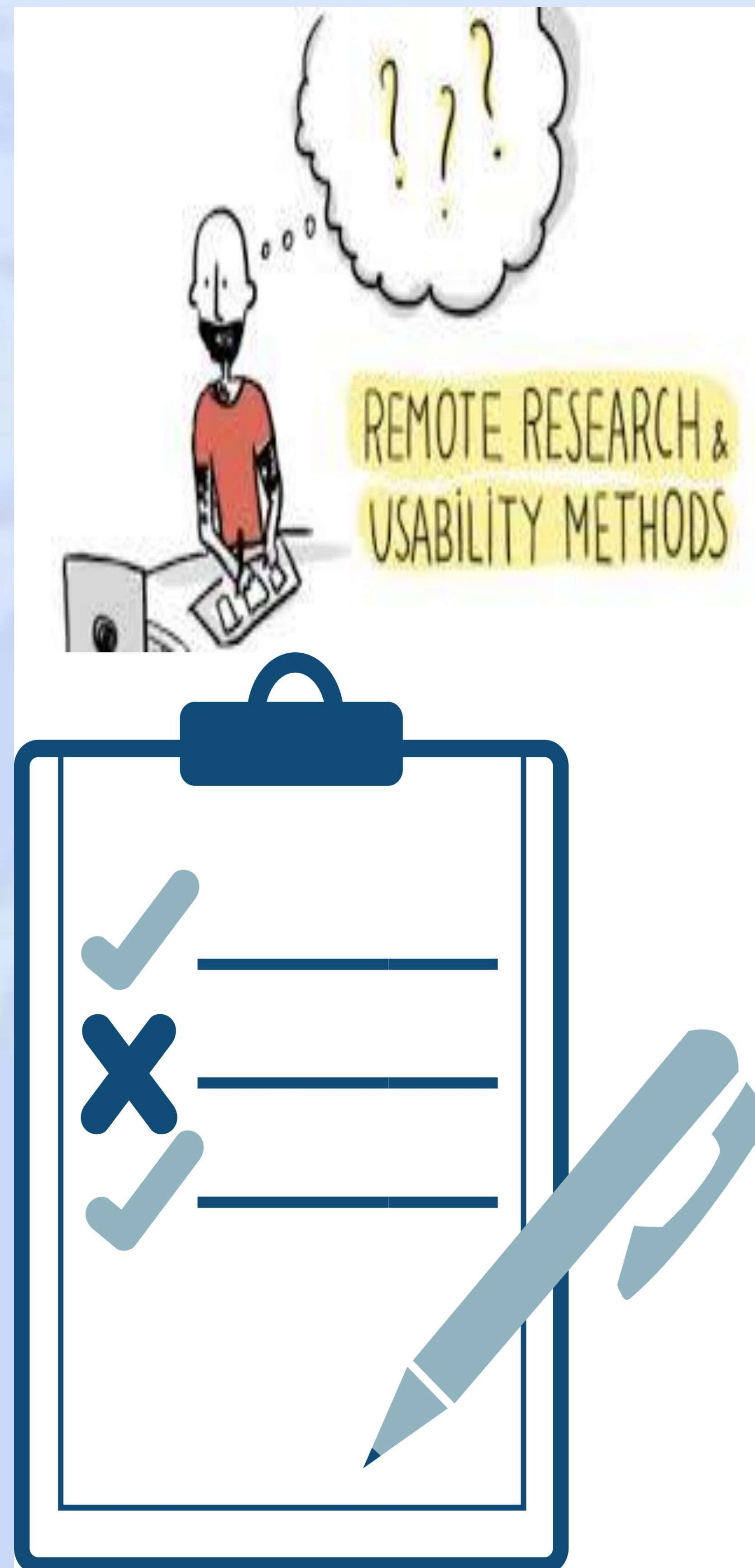
-Emphasised the divide between Global North and Global South because of remote research

-Less communal->More individualistic

-Unable to communicate with subjects in their comfort zone/ Reduced ability to alleviate distrust of Global North scholars

## Historical Literature

Figure 2: Disbursements by Global Affairs Canada Branches (millions)



## Key Players in the Global North and South

ALINEA (formerly Agriteam)

PLAN

OXFAM

WUSC

-Racial Hierarchy present. Non-white folk usually concentrated at the bottom

Black Women in Global South lagging in an unstarted race→

Racialised feminisation of poverty

## Findings

Systemic Discrimination

Canadian political interests are antithetical to FIAP

-Resource extraction practices that have the most disastrous effects on women and girls

-Women less likely to engage in economic empowerment if day to day activities are affected

## Recommendations

\*Approach from an African Feminist lens

-Re-examine Canadian political interests to reduce environmental damage

-Hire more African women in the corporate hierarchy in the Global North as well