

DISCUSSION PAPER

INVESTING IN GENDER-EQUAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



No. 14, July 2016

ISHA RAY

FOR THE WORLD SURVEY ON THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT 2014

The UN Women discussion paper series is a new initiative led by the Research and Data section. The series features research commissioned as background papers for publications by leading researchers from different national and regional contexts. Each paper benefits from an anonymous external peer review process before being published in this series.

This paper has been produced for the UN Women flagship report *the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development 2014: Gender Equality and Sustainable Development* by Isha Ray, Associate Professor, Energy and Resources Group and Co-Director, Berkeley Water Center, University of California Berkeley.

This paper is a revised version of a chapter on *Transformative Investments for Gender-Equal Sustainable Development*, in Melissa Leach (ed) *Gender Equality and Sustainable Development*. 2015. Earthscan (Routledge): London and New York.

© 2016 UN Women. All rights reserved.

ISBN: 978-1-63214-050-0

The views expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the views of UN Women, the United Nations or any of its affiliated organizations.

Produced by the Research and Data Section
Editor: Christina Johnson
Design: dammsavage studio

DISCUSSION PAPER

INVESTING IN GENDER-EQUAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



No. 14, July 2016

ISHA RAY

FOR THE WORLD SURVEY ON THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT 2014



TABLE OF CONTENTS

SUMMARY/RÉSUMÉ/RESUMEN	i
------------------------	---

1. INTRODUCTION	1
-----------------	---

2. ASSESSING INVESTMENTS FOR GENDER EQUALITY	4
--	---

3. CATEGORIES OF INVESTMENT FOR GENDER-EQUAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	7
--	---

3.1 Water	8
-----------	---

3.2 Sanitation	10
----------------	----

3.3 Cookstoves	12
----------------	----

3.4 Electricity	14
-----------------	----

4. TRANSFORMATIVE ALLIANCES FOR TRANSFORMATIVE INVESTMENTS	16
--	----

5. CONCLUSION	19
---------------	----

REFERENCES	21
------------	----

SUMMARY

This Discussion Paper develops an agenda for investing in sustainable development, with particular emphasis on local priorities, poverty alleviation and gender equality. Sustainable development can take many different pathways, even within the dominant ‘three-pillar’ paradigm (economy-environment-society) of sustainability. Following Sen (1985, 1999) and Nussbaum (2000), I adopt a capabilities-enhancement view of development and argue that any sustainable development pathway must include an explicit commitment to gender equality in both its conceptualization and implementation. To this end, I highlight four ‘mundane’ sectors in which investments at scale could be potentially transformative and should therefore be substantially increased: domestic water, safe sanitation, clean(er)-burning cookstoves, and domestic electricity services. These basic services are still thin for the lowest income quintiles in low-income countries, and there is overwhelming evidence that their absence disproportionately affects women and girls. Inadequate access to these services prevents the realization of

human rights for all, of gender equality and of environmental integrity.

I draw on the vast literature on access to basic services for the poor to argue that universal and gender-equal access cannot be guaranteed primarily by voluntary mechanisms (i.e., through market forces or through the non-governmental sector). Universal access needs low-cost innovations, certainly, but it also needs a renewal of the civic contract between the state and its citizens. It needs strong public action for the protection of citizens and their environmental resources. As we begin the post-2015 era, I argue that promoting public action towards gender-equal development should become a priority for the sustainable development agenda. I conclude with some thoughts on the relationship between capabilities and the bodies they inhabit. Gender-equal sustainable development cannot be treated as a disembodied concept: an explicit recognition of the biological and the social body is necessary when setting targets and indicators towards water, sanitation and energy services goals.

RÉSUMÉ

Ce document de réflexion présente un programme d’investissement dans le développement durable en mettant l’accent sur les priorités locales, la réduction de la pauvreté et l’égalité des sexes. Le développement durable peut emprunter de nombreuses voies, y compris dans le cadre du paradigme prédominant de la durabilité à « trois piliers » (économie, environnement, société). À l’instar de Sen (1985, 1999) et de Nussbaum (2000), j’adopte la vision d’un développement reposant sur le renforcement des capacités, et j’avance que toute mesure de développement durable doit inclure un engagement explicite en faveur de l’égalité des sexes, à la fois en termes de conceptualisation et de mise en

œuvre. Dans cette optique, je mets en exergue quatre secteurs « ordinaires » dans lesquels des investissements d’envergure pourraient induire des changements transformateurs et devraient par conséquent être sensiblement augmentés : eau domestique, assainissement sûr, réchauds écologiques et services d’électricité domestique. Ces services de base sont toujours réduits pour les quintiles aux plus faibles revenus des pays à faibles revenus, et il est bien établi que leur absence affecte de manière disproportionnée les femmes et les filles. L’accès inadéquat à ces services entrave la réalisation des droits de l’homme pour tous, de l’égalité des sexes et de l’intégrité environnementale.

Je m'appuie sur la vaste littérature existante en ce qui concerne l'accès aux services de base pour les pauvres pour souligner que l'accès universel et égalitaire homme-femme ne peut être garanti principalement par des mécanismes volontaires (p.ex. par les forces du marché ou du secteur non gouvernemental). Il est incontestable que l'accès universel nécessite des innovations aux coûts modestes, mais il faut aussi renouveler le contrat civique entre l'État et ses citoyens. Une action publique forte est nécessaire aux fins de la protection des citoyens et de leurs ressources environnementales. Alors que

nous entamons la période de l'après 2015, j'affirme que la promotion d'une action publique en matière de développement de l'égalité des sexes devrait devenir une priorité du programme de développement durable. Je conclus par quelques réflexions sur la relation entre les institutions et leurs capacités. Le développement durable de l'égalité des sexes ne peut être traité comme un concept désincarné : il est nécessaire que l'organe biologique et social soit explicitement reconnu lors de la définition des objectifs et des indicateurs relatifs à l'eau, et les services d'énergie.

RESUMEN

Este documento de debate plantea una agenda para invertir en el desarrollo sostenible, haciendo especial hincapié en las prioridades locales, la mitigación de la pobreza y la igualdad de género. Para avanzar hacia el desarrollo sostenible es posible utilizar diversas vías, incluso dentro del paradigma dominante de los "tres pilares" de la sostenibilidad (economía, medio ambiente y sociedad). Al igual que Sen (1985, 1999) y Nussbaum (2000), he adoptado una visión del desarrollo orientada a la mejora de las capacidades, y sostengo que toda vía hacia el desarrollo sostenible debe incluir un compromiso explícito con la igualdad de género tanto en su conceptualización como en su implementación. En este sentido, destaco cuatro sectores "cotidianos" en que las inversiones a escala podrían ofrecer un potencial transformador, por lo que se deberían incrementar sustancialmente: el agua para uso doméstico, el saneamiento seguro, las cocinas de combustión (más) limpia y los servicios eléctricos para el hogar. La cobertura de estos servicios básicos sigue siendo escasa en los quintiles de ingresos más bajos de los países de ingresos bajos, y hay pruebas abrumadoras de que la ausencia de estos servicios afecta desproporcionadamente a las mujeres y las niñas. El acceso insuficiente a estos servicios impide hacer realidad los derechos humanos

para todas las personas, la igualdad de género y la integridad ambiental.

Me baso en la extensa bibliografía sobre el acceso de las personas pobres a los servicios básicos para argumentar que el acceso universal y con igualdad de género no puede garantizarse primordialmente mediante mecanismos voluntarios (es decir, a través de las fuerzas del mercado o del sector no gubernamental). El acceso universal requiere innovaciones de bajo costo, sin duda, pero exige también una renovación del contrato cívico entre el Estado y la ciudadanía. Requiere una acción pública decidida que propicie la protección de la ciudadanía y los recursos ambientales. En este momento en que encaramos la era posterior a 2015, sostengo que promover la acción pública en favor de un desarrollo con igualdad de género debería ser una prioridad en la agenda para el desarrollo sostenible. Concluyo con algunas reflexiones acerca de la relación entre las capacidades y los cuerpos que habitan. El desarrollo sostenible con igualdad de género no puede tratarse como un concepto abstracto: es preciso un reconocimiento explícito del cuerpo biológico y el social al establecer metas e indicadores para los objetivos de los servicios de agua, saneamiento y energía.

1.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT WITH GENDER EQUALITY

'Sustainable development' was a disarmingly gender-neutral concept from its very inception. The Brundtland Report¹, stating that sustainable development was development that met the needs of the current generation while not jeopardizing the needs of future generations, established the standard definition of the term. The Report cemented the 'three-pillar' approach, in which sustainability has environmental, economic and social components. Because it had little to say on the tensions and trade-offs among these three dimensions, the Report provided no guidance on social or regional priorities for sustainability, on the difficulties of deciding which development initiatives were or were not sustainable or on what was to be sustained and for whom.²

The global overtones of the Brundtland Report are fully reflected in the current concept of 'planetary boundaries'³ as a framework for sustainable development. The boundaries approach has recently been extended to argue that economy and society should, and can, be nested within planetary stabilization (i.e., the 'environment' pillar) rather than thought of as overlapping but distinct components.⁴ These new frameworks rightly place the crisis of climate change front and centre, but they remain high-level; they cannot address how various dimensions of sustainability are to be prioritized in implementation. As a result, everyone is for sustainable development and for decarbonizing the global

with respect to different criteria, such as poverty alleviation, environmental integrity or distribution of risks. Some economically attractive pathways to development may be unsustainable from the perspective of resource use relative to availability or of greenhouse gas emissions. Some ecologically sustainable pathways may be highly inequitable with respect to the alignment of risks, costs and benefits. Sustainable development, then, calls for making choices from a range of desirable objectives. Specific investments in, for example, energy, health or transportation are economic, political and environmental choices along development pathways: no investment is the

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/云报告?reportId=5_22082

