



# Gender Mainstreaming Policies to Reduce Poverty

**United Nations Development Programme**  
**Regional Centre in Colombo**  
*Serving Asia and the Pacific*

# Gender inequality and consequences for development

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**The Governor of the Fiji Reserve Bank estimated that the economic costs of violence against women amounted to approximately 7% of GDP.**

- **Direct costs borne by the victim and the family**
- **Government expenditure for welfare, law enforcement, health care, counselling, etc.**

**(Asian Development Bank, 2003)**

# Gender inequality and consequences for development

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## HIV/AIDS: Cost of inaction for Asia & the Pacific (2001 estimate)

- **Direct Health Costs (Public/Private):  
Prevention & Care = US\$ 253 million**
- **Indirect Costs by Households:  
Funeral, Transports, Carer (lost income),  
Sufferer (lost income) = US\$ 7,348 million  
→ driving the poor into further poverty**

**ADB/UNAIDS Study Series: Paper IV**

# **Gender inequality and consequences for development**

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**In Fiji, in 1989, within the age group of 19-29 years, females accounted for 25% of HIV-positive cases, however, in 2003, females accounted for more than 40% of HIV-positive cases in this age group.**

**(UNESCAP, 2006)**

# Gender equality and poverty reduction

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- ☐ **Achieving better outcome for women.**
- ☐ **Ensuring women opportunities to develop and utilize their full potential.**
- ☐ **Providing women equitable access to social services, and equal access to and control over economic resources.**
- ☐ **Improving the economic efficiency of resource allocation to protect those who are discriminated, marginalized and disadvantaged, and to direct resources to those in greatest need.**

# **Gender equality and human poverty: Opportunity; Capacity; Security; and Empowerment**

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- Gender equality brings countless advantages for overcoming human poverty.**
- Reduces violence against women.**
- Reduces women's time poverty.**
- Allows balanced distribution of resources within the household.**
- Helps poor women and men manage risks, economic crisis and natural disasters.**

# Gender inequality in the Pacific: Gender Parity in Primary Education



	Ratio of Girls' to Boys' Enrolment	Year	Girls' Completion (%)	Year	Boys' Completion (%)	Year
Fiji Islands	1.00	2001	105.0	2001	101.0	2001
Kiribati	1.02	1998	-		-	
Marshall Islands	0.96	1999	-		-	
Nauru	1.04	1998	102.0	1998	82.0	1998
Niue	0.94	2001	127.0	2001	115.0	2001
Palau	-		90.0	1999	107.0	1999
PNG	0.90	2001	52.0	2001	57.0	2001
Samoa	0.98	2001	93.0	2001	90.0	2001
Tonga	0.98	2001	108.0	2001	107.0	2001
Tuvalu	0.96	1998	101.0	1998	111.0	1998
Vanuatu	0.99	2001	96.0	2001	94.0	2001

UN Statistics Division MDG Indicators Database  
Adopted from "Pursuing Gender Equality", ADB/UNDP/UNESCAP, 2006

# Gender inequality in the Pacific: Women's Representation in Non-Agricultural Wage Employment

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	Women's Share of Non-Agricultural Wage Employment (% of total)	Year
American Samoa	41.3	1990
Cook Islands	39.4	2003
Fiji Islands	35.9	2003
French Polynesia	41.9	2003
PNG	35.4	2003
Solomon Islands	30.8	1990
UN Statistics Division MDG Indicators Database Adopted from "Pursuing Gender Equality", ADB/UNDP/UNESCAP, 2006		



# Gender inequality in the Pacific: Women's Representation in National Parliament



	Women in Parliamentary Seats (% of total)	Year
<b>Fiji Islands</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>2001</b>
<b>Kiribati</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>2003</b>
<b>Marshall Islands</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>2003</b>
<b>Micronesia, Fed. States of</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>2005</b>
<b>Nauru</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>2004</b>
<b>Palau</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>2004</b>
<b>PNG</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>2002</b>
<b>Samoa</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>2001</b>
<b>Solomon Islands</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>2001</b>
<b>Tonga</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>2005</b>
<b>Tuvalu</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>2002</b>
<b>Vanuatu</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>2004</b>

UN Statistics Division MDG Indicators Database  
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# Gender equality and MDGs

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- ☐ **Gender (in)equality is a central issue of development effectiveness.**
- ☐ **Attempting to achieve the MDGs without investing in gender equality would increase costs and reduce chances of success.**
- ☐ **Gender equality matters to all Goals.**
- ☐ **Intricate linkages between Goal 1 and other Goals can be better conceptualized when gender analysis is applied.**

# Gender mainstreaming in poverty reduction policies

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- ☐ **Different social roles and responsibilities of men and women.**
- ☐ **Different needs and constraints of men and women.**
- ☐ **Different impacts of poverty reduction policies on men and women.**
- ☐ **Different levels of involvement of men and women in decision-making processes at household, community, province and national levels.**

# Gender mainstreaming in poverty reduction policies

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- ☐ Policy impacts are disaggregated.
- ☐ Inequality is explicitly addressed.
- ☐ Policy-making and service-delivery institutions are gender-responsive.
- ☐ Targeted measures to improve women's capability are implemented.
- ☐ Women's unpaid contribution to the economy is recognized and reflected.
- ☐ Women's are fully and equally represented and participating in decision-making processes at all levels.

# Gender equality and pro-poor policies

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- ❑ **By incorporating gender analysis in pro-poor policies:**
  - **Intra-household relations are taken into consideration.**
  - **Contribution of unpaid work, e.g., care work, is accounted for.**
  - **Women's gender-based vulnerability to shocks and risks is safeguarded.**

# Pro-gender equality poverty reduction

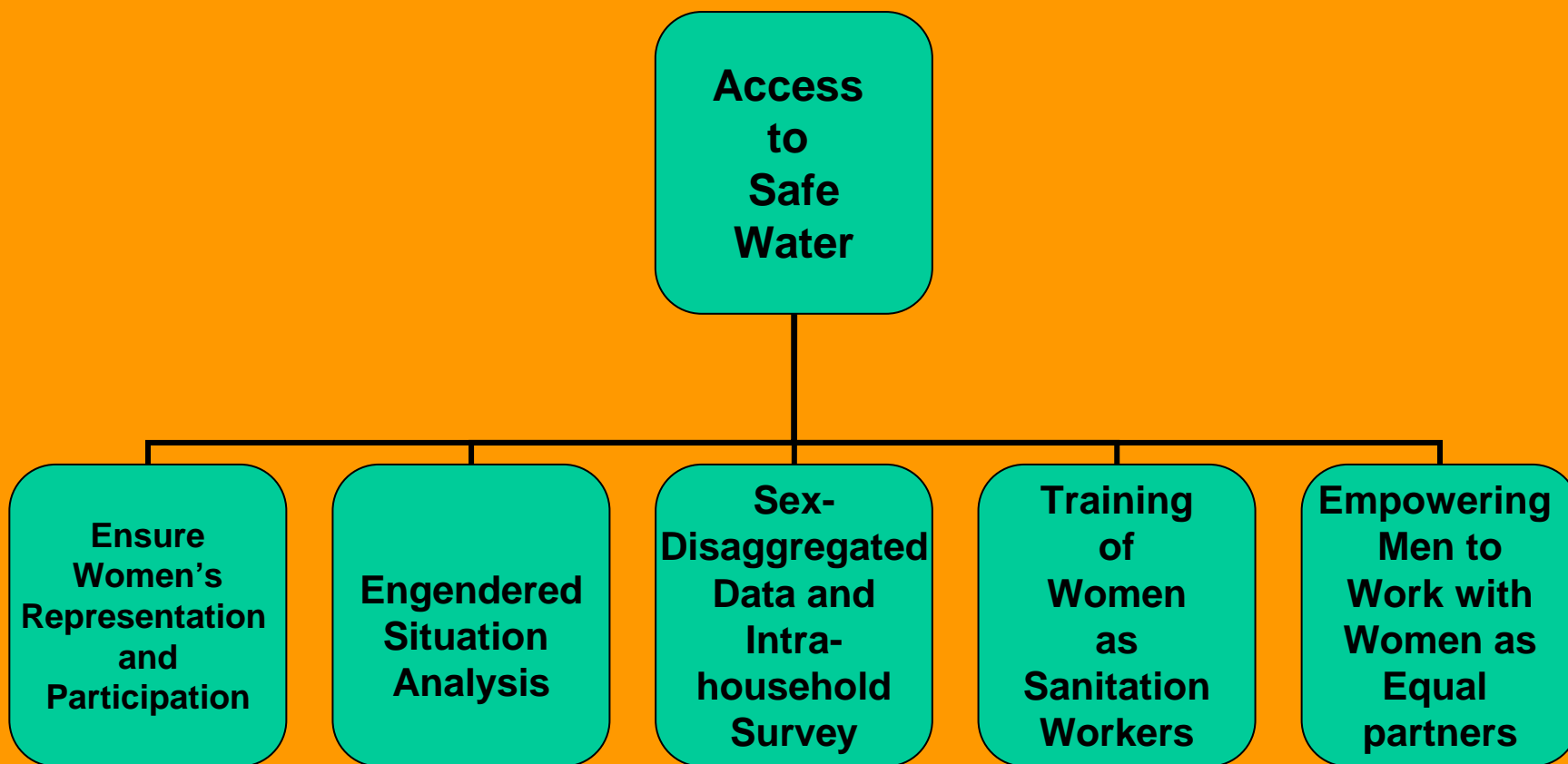
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- ☐ **Policies without committed corresponding financial resources would be empty promises.**
- ☐ **Synergies among sectors can reduce costs and bring about more sustainable results.**
- ☐ **Clear and agreed targets and indicators ensure tracking commitments.**

# Pro-gender equality poverty reduction policies and measures

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**THANK YOU**