

SOCIAL AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Gender, Poverty, Opportunity: The Role of Women in Development

Organized by Lauren Harrison & Tonu Basu

11:50 AM - 1:10 PM Malkin Penthouse Littauer

The importance of 'gender analysis' in the practice of international development has become increasingly apparent in program design and implementation. "Gender, Poverty, Opportunity: The Role of Women in Development" will ask why this analysis is becoming a crucial element of international development. The panel will address macro challenges and opportunities in this field, and will ask how to ensure that development projects are undertaken with an understanding of gender roles. Panelists will also grapple with questions like (1) How can international organizations contend with governments who do not share the same gender-related goals? and (2) how can grassroots organizations advocate for, and also mainstream, a gender focus in domestic development policies? The panel will also highlight new positions from academic scholarship on gender and development.



Jishnu Das

Jishnu Das is a Senior Economist for Development Research Group at the World Bank, and a Visiting Scholar at the Center for Policy Research, New Delhi. He has a Ph.D. in Economics from Harvard University. Jishnu has worked on the delivery of essential services, particularly health and education. His work on religious education in Pakistan received the George Bereday Award. To help coordinate relief in the aftermath of the earthquake in Pakistan, he co-founded www.risepak.com, which received the Stockholm Challenge Award (2006). He was a team member of the World Development Report 2012 on Gender Equality and Development.



Carla Koppell

Carla Koppell is the Senior Coordinator for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment at USAID, and a Senior Advisor to the USAID Administrator. Carla served as director of the Institute for Inclusive Security and the DC office of Hunt Alternatives Fund. She was a senior advisor and interim director of the Conflict Prevention Project at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, where she authored "Preventing the Next Wave of Conflict: Understanding Non-Traditional Threats to Global Stability." Carla served as deputy assistant secretary for international affairs of the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. She has an MPP from the Harvard Kennedy School, and a B.A. from Cornell University.



Brenda Gael McSweeney

Brenda Gael McSweeney served with the UN for thirty years, with leadership positions in Burkina Faso, Jamaica, the Bahamas, Turks and Caicos, Cayman and Bermuda. She was the Executive Director of the UNV program, with oversight of 4,000 UNV specialists from over 130 countries. Brenda was UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative until mid-2003 in India. She teaches Gender and International Development at Boston University. Brenda is the initiator and Co-Coordinator of the UNESCO/ UNITWIN project. She serves on the Advisory Board of the Global Network of UNESCO Chairs on Gender.



Stephenie Foster - Moderator

Stephenie Foster is an international consultant with over 25 years of experience on issues including gender advocacy, PPPs, and political strategy. She has worked with the NDI, Vital Voices, and the U.S. Department of State, amongst others. Stephenie has authored manuals on women's advocacy, Women in the UN and Michelle Obama. Stephenie was Chief of Staff to two U.S. Senators, held senior positions at Legacy and Planned Parenthood, and was appointed by President Clinton as General Counsel for the U.S. General Services Administration. She is currently a Professor at the American University.