

World Survey on the Role of Women in Development

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Introduction:

In the intricate landscape of global development, the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development 2024 emerges as a compass, navigating through the complex intersections of gender, poverty, and social protection. This report, provides transformative insights, ventures into the realms of statistical revelations to illuminate the path towards a more equitable future.

Key Findings:

- **Poverty Line Limitations:** Gender-disaggregated quantitative panel data highlights the arbitrary nature of poverty lines, emphasizing the need for a more fluid targeting approach. A marginal shift in poverty lines reveals that nearly half of purportedly 'never poor' households could be classified as experiencing chronic or transient poverty. The revelation of poverty line inadequacies reverberates through the very core of social assistance, demanding a profound rethink of eligibility criteria. The statistical revelation prompts a critical reflection on the existing targeting mechanisms' efficacy and the need for a more adaptive approach.
- **Shocks' Differential Impact:** Amidst the tumultuous waves of crises, a stark reality emerges – women disproportionately bear the brunt. The report demands a paradigm shift towards gender-centric crisis-response measures. Gender-disaggregated data from crisis scenarios, particularly in Tanzania and Bangladesh, underscores the disparate impact of shocks on households led by women.
- **Comprehensive Protection Call:** The International Labour Organization's resounding call for transcending antiquated perceptions of women merely as mothers underscores the transformative potential of social protection in labor markets. Tracking gender-disaggregated social protection coverage exposes persistent data gaps, hindering effective monitoring and necessitating a robust statistical framework.
- **Lifecycle Vulnerabilities:** As the report navigates through vulnerabilities at various life course stages, it underscores the imperative of acknowledging and addressing these intricacies for true transformative impact. The report flags the inadequacy of current data in comprehensively capturing lifecycle vulnerabilities, emphasizing the need for enhanced tracking mechanisms.

Measures to be Taken:

- **Dynamic Poverty Measures:** Embrace flexibility by adapting eligibility criteria dynamically to transcend the limitations of static benchmarks. Shift towards a targeting model that flexibly accommodates households experiencing transient vulnerability due to shocks.
- **Gender-Specific Crisis Measures:** Tailor crisis-response strategies with a deep understanding of nuanced gender dynamics within specific contexts.
- **Transformative Labor Market Inclusivity:** Incentivize formalization to expand the protective umbrella of social assistance to the vast realm of informal workers. A call to action to tackle the pension gap and invest in complementary care services, relieving women of the burdens of unpaid care.

Conclusion

The World Survey 2024, with its intricate revelations, is not just a report but a clarion call for recalibration. It beckons policymakers to embrace dynamic targeting, gender-responsive crisis strategies, and transformative paradigms, steering us towards a future where social protection is not just a shield but a catalyst for global equity.

Read More: <https://www.unwomen.org/sites/default/files/2023-10/world-survey-on-the-role-of-women-in-development-2024-brief-en.pdf>

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