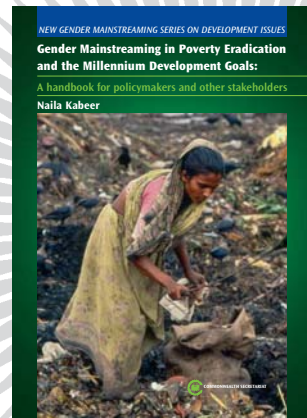


NEW

# Gender Mainstreaming in Poverty Eradication and the Millennium Development Goals

*a handbook for policy makers and other  
stakeholders*



“A gender perspective means recognising that women stand at the crossroads between production and reproduction, between economic activity and the care of human beings, and therefore between economic growth and human development. They are workers in both spheres – those most responsible and therefore with most at stake, those who suffer most when the two spheres meet at cross-purposes, and those most sensitive to the need for better integration between the two.”

*Gita Sen*

In September 2000, at the United Nations Millennium Summit, 189 governments pledged collective responsibility for halving world poverty by 2015. The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) include an explicit commitment to gender equality.

In this book, Naila Kabeer brings together a set of arguments, findings and lessons from the development literature and the field of poverty eradication, which demonstrate that gender inequality is a critical factor in poverty and must be incorporated into poverty eradication strategies.

Examining the relationship between gender equality and economic growth, the author concludes that, although there does appear to be a trade-off between gender inequality and economic growth in the short term in some economies, policies aimed at achieving gender equality are essential for long-term, sustainable and equitable development. The book illustrates the transformatory potential of increasing women’s access to education and literacy; to paid work, particularly waged employment; and to political representation.

## **The author**

Naila Kabeer is a social economist and Professorial Fellow at the Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, United Kingdom.

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