

Abstracts June 19th

Thematic Area 1: Paid Care Work in the formal and informal sector

Paid care work remains women's business: increasingly informalised and shaped by class and origin. Societies need care, and women need cash. However, their rights are at stake. How do institutions try to improve employment conditions? What can we learn from self-organised women workers to develop joint advocacy?

Workshop 1: Transnational Migration and Care Chains

Facilitated by **Sarah Schilliger**, Sociologist, University of Basel, WIDE Switzerland

Migration became increasingly feminized and illegalized. This led to new forms of transnational circular migrant movements. In this workshop we discuss the phenomenon of transnational border crossing activities to supply the wealthier countries with care work from the global periphery. We look at the emergence of gendered "global care chains", indicating that while migrant women take care of children and elderly people elsewhere, they leave behind a gap with regard to their own care responsibilities. We analyze this phenomenon in a comparative perspective and with a special focus on the consequences in origin countries: Who is filling up this gap? What are the political and social implications of this "care drain"? Furthermore, we discuss this process of continuous monetarisation of care work on the global scale from a feminist perspective. Finally, we want to share experiences of (self-)organisation and empowerment initiatives of migrant care workers: What kind of collective action and institutional support can improve their living and working conditions?

Workshop 2: Decent Work and the informal care sector

Facilitated by **Hella Hoppe**, Economist, FEPS, WIDE Switzerland

According to the ILO's Decent Work Agenda, four strategic goals are identified: the creation of decent and productive employment; the promotion of access to social protection systems; the respect for core labour standards; and the strengthening of dialogue between the social partners. These strategies apply both to the formal and informal economies. However, having a look at key publications, decent work still seems to be applied to the formal economy mainly. The goal of this workshop is therefore threefold: First, we want to discuss that women's access to decent work in the formal economy is closely linked to women's role in the informal care economy and in social reproduction in general. Second, we want to discuss how decent work could be applied to the informal care sector. Finally, we wish to outline some key policy recommendations with a view to the plenary session 2 "Political Responses to the Care Crises".

Thematic Area 2: Food Chains and Care

The provision of food, including the production, processing and preparation of food, is one of the most important and time consuming work of the care sector. In many countries -

especially in poor countries - women are highly involved in the production of food, as small farmers or labourers along the food chains. The responsibility of women goes even much further when it comes to the provision of food within households. However, over 70 percent of the hungry and malnourished are women and children.

The recent food crisis has shown a complete failure of the existing food system. Three decades of ongoing privatisation and liberalisation have led to a dangerous dependency on food imports on one hand, on the other hand only a handful of multinational corporations are taking over control along the food chain. The prices for staple food, linked to the world market, are extremely volatile and out of control for local communities and consumers. An export oriented, highly industrialised model of production is exploiting and destroying natural resources as land, water and biodiversity and marginalising small food producers. Losing their lands and their livelihoods, women found themselves unable to provide enough food for their families, even though some of them get little paid jobs in the food industries.

To ensure the Right to Food, it is high time for a paradigm shift in agricultural-, trade and food policies. Civil society organisations - above all the international small farmers movement La Via Campesina - are fighting for this paradigm shift, as described in the concept of food sovereignty.

A feminist analysis and discussion of these issues has to consider not only the macro-economic level - internationally and nationally, but also the power relations between women and men on local and household level. Women's position is weakened by the fact that they rely on resources that are controlled by men to ensure household food security and within the food chain women often hold the most vulnerable positions as unpaid family workers or as temporary employees with little bargaining power to improve their position.

Workshop 1: Linking Food Sovereignty to household nutrition security

Facilitated by Heike Wach and Tina Goethe, WIDE Switzerland

Gender justice and empowerment is the strategy followed by UN agencies and development organisations to touch existing imbalances of power as the base of the gendered division of care provision in securing nutrition. What promises does this approach from below contain? Where are limits? What is the feminist line? Is it possible to be pro-active within the existing gendered market? What are the strategic issues that have to be taken up in order to link gender empowerment with the roots of the existing food crises?

Based on examples of market forces that affect the livelihood of women workers as well as farmers within the food chain, participants will explore and define implications for practice and advocacy from a feminist perspective.

Workshop 2: Trade liberalisation, agriculture and women's livelihoods

Facilitated by Barbara Specht, Advocacy Officer WIDE, Brussels

The workshop aims at highlighting how trade liberalisation is impacting on women's livelihoods and gender inequality, on small-scale farmers, subsistence farmers, women in commercial crop production, high value and specialised agricultural production and social

reproduction. Case studies from different regions will exemplify these trends. Based on the analysis we would like to explore what kind of policy interventions/strategies are needed for the realisation of sustainable and just development, including food sovereignty and adequate right to food as agricultural trade liberalisation as currently promoted by the WTO and in various North-South Free Trade Agreements will not contribute to the realisation of the right to adequate food, to food sovereignty; rather it is undermining (women's) livelihoods and increasing gender disparity.

Thematic Area 3: Body Politics and Care Regimes

"Body Politics" stands for the different types of politics around both concrete and abstract bodies. Each human life is connected to a physical fleshly existence. We experience our bodies, our physicality, our fleshliness, depending on our gender, age, life circumstances, cultural surroundings, historical setting and the social and political space we inhabit and move within. The term 'Body Politics' aims to capture how embodiment is determined by politics underlying gender inequalities in development and also at the same time shapes politics in development.

Some of the body political issues that underlay question of care include the politics around population measurement, what has been called bio politics or the way in modern society there are state and social controls around reproductivity and sexualities. These processes of measuring and defining populations determine gender relations. In relation to care regimes both in Europe and in other parts of the world it is instructive to look at how modern body politics determines women's working conditions, health and social security, way of life and freedoms. For example how is the male bread winner model informed by assumptions about embodiment? The idea that women are physically the ones that give birth and breastfeed led to the assumption that they stay at home and men go out to work. How would a model of gender justice and social inclusion look like if we moved away from that dominant assumption informing our economics and modern care regime? How can we change body politics in order to shift gender relations for example involving men in caring work, in order to remove the assumption that women's bodies determine what work they can do or not do. How do other expressions of body politics around sexuality, gender based violence etc inform our understanding of the care regime and economic and social development? In today's world with a 'feminizing' the global economy, how are different groups of women experiencing body politics - those caught in conflict, those women migrating to care for families across continents, those selling sex, those working exploitative long hours in factories and in homes? What about men and body politics? Issues of masculinity are also a key to changing gender inequalities in development.

Workshop 1: (Re)productive rights

Facilitated by Jivka Marinova, Karart, Bulgaria

Women are at the crossroads of production and reproduction. How does body politics overlap and inform economic and social women's rights and development strategies? How does this overlap make us revalue care as an embodied activity which needs to be revalued economically and socially? How can we bring discussions of body politics closely to social and economic development agendas?

Workshop 2: Sexuality and Development

Facilitated by **Conchita Garcia**, wo=men, The Netherlands

Sexuality is too often left out of discussion in development yet in many ways it defines gender positionings and also how women and men are expected to contribute to the care economy. How does feminism with gender and development industry try to open up discussions on sexuality, how does it transform women's rights advocacy, how does the question of masculinity enter into these discussions on the care domain?

Workshop 3: Masculinités et care (en Français et en Anglais)

Organisation et Animation par **Marcela de la Peña Valdivia**, Le Monde selon les femmes, Belgique, avec **Patrick Govers**, membre de LMSF anthropologue, spécialiste en masculinités et genre

Revendiquer la politisation de la paternité acquiert tout son sens dans le contexte occidental actuel où l'on assiste à une montée en puissance des discours conservateurs (masculinistes) et des approches individuelles (voir psychologisantes) des relations entre les femmes et les hommes. Revendiquer la politisation de la paternité c'est donc avant tout rappeler qu'il est impératif d'articuler la prise de conscience individuelle avec les pratiques collectives si l'on veut changer durablement les inégalités persistantes. Plus précisément, l'atelier questionnera la pérennité du partage inégalitaire du travail de care au sein des familles dans notre société. Comment l'expliquer? Quels sont les facteurs qui freinent l'émergence et le développement de modèles égalitaires? Quelles actions convient-il d'implémenter pour changer ces situations d'inégalités? Nous allons éclairer, échanger et discuter des approches théorétiques et pratiques pour arriver à formuler des utopies.