

The key to sustainable development







Lancet Women and Health Commission



The Lancet Commissions

Women and Health: the key for sustainable development



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Girls' and women's health is in transition and, although some aspects of it have improved substantially in the past few decades, there are still important unmet needs. Population ageing and transformations in the social and mechanis, and one energing epotents of caronic and non-communicable diseases (NCDs). Simultaneously, worldwide priorities in women's health have themselves been changing from a narrow focus on maternal and been cranging troin a marrow nocus on material and child health to the broader framework of sexual and reproductive health and to the encompassing concept of sepresultative neutral and as the emoniposating consequent women's health, which is founded on a life-course approach. This expanded vision incorporates health challenges that affect women beyond their reproductive years and those that they share with men, but with manifestations and results that affect women disproportionally owing to biological, gender, and other social determinants.

biological, gender, and other social determinants.

In the context of dramatic economic, environmental, proceedings for the challenges faced by women social, political, and demographic transitions, the stands fundamental present scope of women's health is the result of a long present scope of women's health i throughout the life course needs an increased focus intognout the nie course needs an increased iocus on health systems, which heavily rely on the many contributions of women to care as members of the continuitions of women to care as memours or me health workforce, in which their numbers are rapidly increasing, and in their traditional roles as primary caregivers at home and in communities,

Women and Health—the focus of this Commission—is a novel concept that refers to the multifaceted pathways through which women and health interact, moving beyond the traditional and exclusive focus on women's health to address the roles of women as both users and providers of aduress the roles of women as both users and provides of health care, and highlighting the potential for synergy between them. We envision a virtuous cycle that builds on the premise that women who are healthy throughout their lives experience gender equality and are enabled, empowered, and valued in their societies, including in their roles as caregivers, are well prepared to achieve their potential and make substantial contributions to their own health and wellbeing, to that of their families and communities, and, ultimately, to sustainable development.

Such thinking needs an interdisciplinary, cross-sectoral perspective to identify women-centred solutions to the unique obstacles that girls and women face as both mers and providers of health care.

In this Commission, we analyse existing and original evidence about the complex relations between women and health. We examine the major economic, environmental, social, political, demographic, and epidemiological transitions happening worldwide, their implications on the mons nappening workiwing, their implications on the health system, and their effects on women and health. The health status of girls and women is analysed using a

life-course approach to show the breadth of women's Leaver 2015 386:1165-210 health beyond the reproductive role. We estimate the Poblided Online financial value of the paid and unpaid health-care-related reputation ageing and transformations in the social determinants of health have increased the coexistence of disease burdens related to reordinative health nutrition that conduct transformation and communities, which are a hidden subsidy to health systems and societies. We conclude that conduct transformation and communities and communities, which are a hidden that conduct transformation and communities. studently to incum systems and societies, we conclude that gender-transformative policies are needed to enable Women and studin beitted that gender-transformative policies are needed to enable Women and studin beitted to the gender transformative policies are needed to enable that gener-transformative posicies are necueu as enature women to integrate their social, biological and Additional Addit occupational roles and innection to their turn capacity, and that healthy, valued, enabled, and empowered women Justice Apple will make substantial contributions to sustainable development (key messages). In view of these issues, we development (sey messages). In view or mere issues, we should homis, managed propose crucial actions for development partners. As use a takes real governments, civil society, advocates, academics, and Goldons 1809, Newsdefold governments. professional associations that are needed to advance the women and health agenda (panel 1).

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D Kearns MS, T Kendall PhD);

- Economic, environmental, social, political, and demographic transitions affect women's economis, or new mirema, suchas, portional, and derinographic barronings are to whealth and their rights and roles in society, leading to a complex epidemiological transition and increased caregiving needs and demands
- To ensure that women's comprehensive health needs are met throughout life, health to ensure that women's comprehensive results needs are that introduption into the systems and societies should simultaneously and effectively address the unfinished reproductive health, nutrition, and infectious disease agendas and the emerging epidemic of chronic and non-communicable diseases
- The response to non-communicable diseases so far is not commensurate with their burden among women, who are especially vulnerable because of biology, gender, and
- Poor women typically receive care from the most disenfranchised members of the room women cypriany receive user manages about the state of inequities among population health system, leading to ill health and perpetuation of inequities among population nearth system, reading to in nearth and perpetuation or inequities arrange groups; for the health of all to be improved, this cycle needs to be broken.
- supply for one nearth or all to be emproved, this types needs to be sources.

 Amen's contributions in the health-care labour force and their crucial roles in the health women's commonators in the manufacture basis note and part cross rates and communities are drivers of the wealth and health of nations, but are still underappreciated; on the basis of an analysis of 32 countries accounting for 52% of the world's population, we estimated that the financial value of women's contributions in the health system in 2010 was 2-35% of global gross domestic product (GDP) for in the neatin system in 24.2% of GDP for paid work—the equivalent of US\$3.052 trillion
- regent ware and 2-97 year our put pure—the expansion of 1000 2002 timber. Few gender-sensitive policies exist that enable women to integrate their social, biological, and occupational roles, function to their full capacity, and realise their
- Sustainable development needs women's social, economic, and environmental contributions, which will increase when women are healthy, valued, enabled, and Sometimentation, while the interest mental potential in all aspects of their fives, including in their empowered to reach their full potential in all aspects of their fives, including in their roles as providers of health care

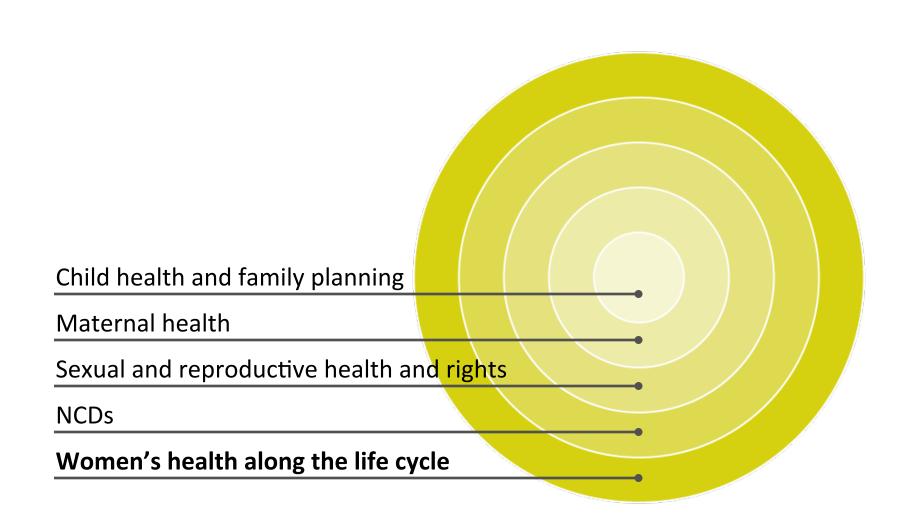
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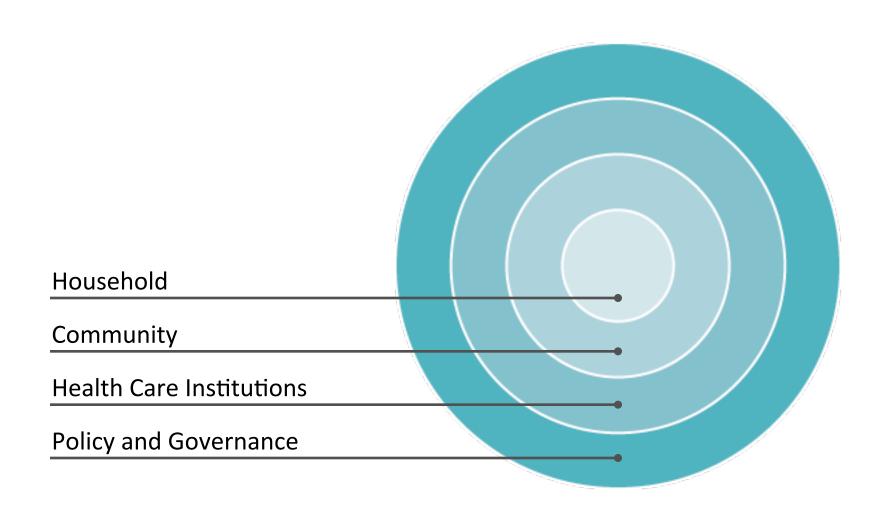


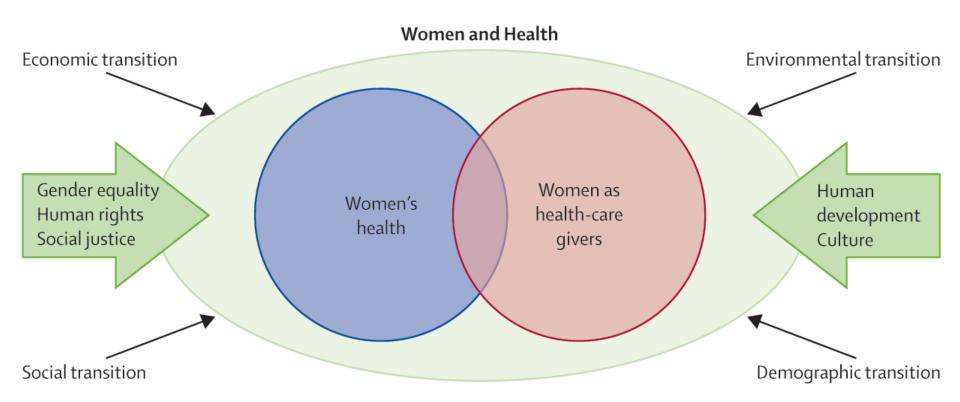
WOMEN'S HEALTH





WOMEN'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO HEALTH CARE

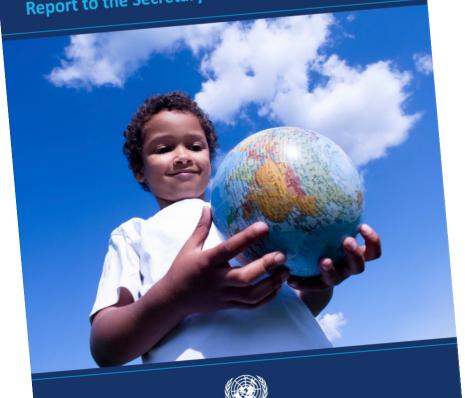




UN SYSTEM TASK TEAM ON THE POST-2015 UN DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

Realizing the Future We Want for All

Report to the Secretary-General



New York, June 2012

Why Now?



THE VIRTUOUS CYCLE



RECOMMENDATIONS



VALUE WOMEN

- Ensure women's universal access to health care that is responsive to gender and the life course
- Recognize women's paid and unpaid contributions as health care providers
- Develop, implement, and enforce genderresponsive policies to support women in their diverse roles and enable them to integrate their social, biological, and occupational contributions.

COMPENSATE WOMEN

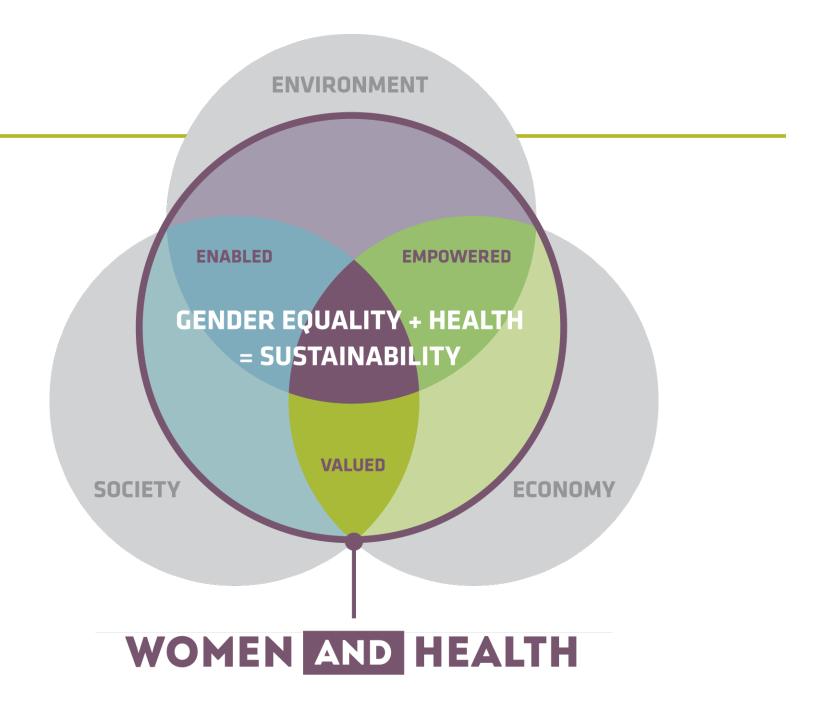
- Estimate the value of women's unpaid contributions to health care and recompense their invisible subsidy
- Ensure that men and women receive equal compensation for equal work in the health sector

COUNT WOMEN

- Ensure that women are accounted for in quantification of health workforce
- Guarantee that sex-disaggregated civil and vital registries and health statistics and survey data are obtained through national systems
- Mandate that research studies enroll women and publish findings disaggregated by sex

BE ACCOUNTABLE TO WOMEN

- Develop and implement an accountability framework and indicators for Women and Health
- Establish independent mechanisms at global and country levels to support, catalyze, and ensure accountability for action on women and health





THANK YOU!