



● RESOURCE

Gender and Water

|

Author(s)

[van Koppen, Barbara](#)

Description / Abstract

This chapter of the Oxford Handbook of Water Politics and Policy “lifts the roof of the household” across the irrigation and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) sub-sectors in agrarian low- and middle-income settings. Focusing on age-old intersections between gender, class, and agrarian technology, the chapter explores how colonial conquest was served by the ideology of the male breadwinner– female housewife as a divide-and-rule process to vest control over people, land, and water. After independence, the same ideology enabled top-down services in both sub-sectors and also marginalized women. This is contrasted with implications of global policy commitments to gender-equal households for the water sector. In particular, evidence of the multiple-use water services (MUS) approach is examined. This inclusive, people-driven water services approach meets both women’s and men’s multiple domestic and productive needs. Overcoming the same administrative silos in human rights frameworks, a gender-equal human right to water for livelihoods is proposed.

Publication year

2017

Publisher

[Oxford University](#)

Keywords

[Water Politics](#) [Water Policy](#) [Household](#) [Right to Water](#)

Thematic Tagging

[Gender](#)

Language English

[View resource](#)

Related IWRM Tools



Tool

Gender and Water Policies

A1.04

Source URL: <https://iwrmaactionhub.org/resource/gender-and-water>