

Librería
Bonilla y Asociados
desde 1950



Título: Gender And Development. Set 4 Vol

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Precio: \$17938.00

Editorial:

Año: 2008

Tema:

Edición: 1ª

Sinopsis

ISBN: 9780415422727

It is increasingly apparent that the growing challenges facing development scholars, policy-makers, and practitioners in the twenty-first century require a more sophisticated understanding of the importance of gender than has hitherto been the case. At a time when the forces of globalization are transforming economies and peoples, women throughout the world are still marginalized both economically and politically. In particular, new rulings by the World Trade Organization threaten the exports of many developing countries and jobs often those held by women are being lost. Such changes are also significantly affecting men and masculinities as gender roles and relations are transformed. Furthermore, global warming is threatening environments and natural resources, such as forests and water, and creating specific but different problems for both men and women in developing countries.

Edited and introduced by a leading researcher and activist, this four-volume Major Work in the Routledge Critical Concepts in Development series brings together both cutting-edge and canonical research about gender and development which will enable development scholars, policy-makers, and workers to understand and address such challenges more effectively. Moreover, work on gender and development continues to be very wide-ranging, and increasingly draws on scholarship and insights from across the social sciences and beyond. Much of this literature remains inaccessible, or is highly specialized and compartmentalized, so that it is ever more difficult to gain an informed and comprehensive overview of the current and historical issues and debates. The sheer scale of the growth in research output in gender and development and the breadth of the field make this collection especially timely and meets the demand for a wide-ranging, multidisciplinary perspective on this fascinating and important subject.