



Gender and Labour in the Global South

Video Transcript

How women participate in the labour market

NARRATOR: For a few decades now, more and more women have been participating in the labour market. This in itself is good news. Having a higher percentage of women in the labour market can generally be seen as a sign that this market is developing in a sustainable way. But how integrated are women actually? What kind of work do they do? What are the reasons for the inequalities that still persist - and how can they be remedied?

CHRISTINE BIGLER: Considering the major role that the labour market plays in achieving the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, this course aims to analyse and discuss labour market issues in the Global South, both from a gender perspective as well as on three different levels: a micro, a meso and a macro level.

This course offers an introduction to the concept of a gendered labour market. The course intends to foster the dialogue between different stakeholders, such as policy makers, researchers, students and people from non-governmental organisations. Together we will critically reflect on the world of work to identify the existing gender gaps. We will also examine the challenges to be faced in order to achieve an inclusive, sustainable and decent labour market for both women and men.

BOUNSENG KHAMMOUNTY: Interaction and knowledge sharing among different actors is central to debates around sustainability. Taking into account the added value of storytelling, this course will focus on the personal stories of women workers located in Nepal, Laos and Rwanda. This will allow us to address the issues from a local perspective and to analyse them on a regional and global level.

CHRISTINE BIGLER: Although women's participation in the labour market has increased in the recent decades, gender discrimination in access to decent work persists. Based on testimonies from women workers from different parts of the world, we will seek to show how they are integrated into the labour market. The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly impacted the entire globe and has particularly affected the labour market worldwide. Therefore, the central questions that will accompany us throughout this course are: "Does the COVID-19 pandemic affect women and men differently in the workplace? If so, why?"



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BOUNSENG KHAMMOUNTY: From Laos, welcome to our course! I am delighted that you are starting this journey with us!

SONY KC: Namaste! My name is Dr Sony KC. I would like to welcome you to Kathmandu, Nepal.

CHRISTINE BIGLER: Also from Switzerland, a warm welcome!

SONY KC: I am sure we will get to share and add to our knowledge in this course.

BOUNSENG KHAMMOUNTY: Let us know in the comment section what comes to mind when you think about our central questions!

CHRISTINE BIGLER: We look forward to your contributions and discussions!