

WHAT ARE THE BEST TARGETS TO IMPROVE LIVES OF WOMEN?

Improve access to sexual and reproductive health for all women which would return \$120 for every dollar spent (\$14 of direct benefits to women, and up to \$40 of indirect benefits to women via increased income per capita).

Improve women's access to economic opportunities which would return \$7 for every dollar spent.

Increase the number of years of education attained by women which would return \$5 for every dollar spent.

LEGAL/POLITICAL TARGETS WITH BENEFITS LIKELY TO BE LARGE

Ensure equal rights of women to own and inherit property, sign a contract, register a business and open a bank account.

Increase women's political representation.

"However, even if remarkable progress has been made, there is still a long way to go."

Improving The Lives Of Women Is A Worthy Goal – But Where Do We Start?

Irma Clots-Figueras, Associate Professor, Department of Economics at the Universidad Carlos III de Madrid University has compared social, environmental and economic benefits and costs to identify the best targets.

This work was then peer-reviewed in alternative perspective papers by Joyce P. Jacobsen, Professor of Economics at Wesleyan University, and by Elissa Braunstein, Associate Professor, Department of Economics at Colorado State University. Additionally, NGOs, UN agencies and stakeholders such as UN Women, ACDI/VOCA and Nordic Consulting Group Sweden present viewpoint papers concerning Clots-Figueras' analysis.

Ultimately, an expert panel consisting of Nobel Laureate economists will weigh up the economic, social and environmental benefits and costs of all targets discussed for the post-2015 development agenda to form recommendations.

ABOUT POST-2015 CONSENSUS: In a world of limited resources, we can't do everything, but how should we prioritize? The Copenhagen Consensus Center provides information on which targets will do the most social good relative to their costs. The final decision on choosing goals will definitely rest on a number of factors, not just economics – but knowing the costs and benefits provides an important piece of information. Together, with the input of renowned experts from the UN, NGO and private sectors, our 62 teams of economists produce research papers to establish the most effective targets within the 19 core issue areas.