Advances towards a more equal distribution of labour, care, power and well-being have been made in the past, but gender justice has proven more elusive and equality gains can be lost very quickly. Indeed, Covid-19 has shone a stark light on multiple and intersecting inequalities across societies. Culture determines gendered power relations found at the centre of institutions and policies, political and social life, and these shape gender outcomes that are unjust.

Work in the Gender Justice and Development Programme aims to contribute to understanding and addressing the economic, social, cultural and political barriers to the kinds of transformations—in individuals and institutions—necessary not only for equality and empowerment, but for justice and for leaving no one behind through fair treatment for all people, regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and sex characteristics (SOGIESC). The Gender Justice and Development Programme focuses on understanding, analysing and engaging with processes of policy change around the themes of gender, technologies and digital economies; feminist perspectives on climate change; and anti-genderism and global governance.
UNRISD’s independent research on the social dimensions of today’s pressing development issues provides our stakeholders with empirical evidence, objective analysis and innovative insights. Our research focuses on the intersections between the social, environmental and economic pillars of the sustainable development agenda while daring to address the politics of policy change. We put equity, justice and rights for all at the heart of development.

UNRISD has researched and analysed the social dimensions of inclusive, sustainable development for nearly six decades, building unique and powerful assets.

Track record of raising visibility within the United Nations of neglected issues, through transdisciplinary collaboration.

Unique position within the United Nations leveraged with research and academic networks in global North and South; an interface on social development issues.

Substantial body of evidence and original analysis on the relationship between social, economic, environmental and political dimensions of development; innovative policy recommendations.

Global networks of policy makers, academics, advocates and practitioners; a reputation as a powerful, respected convener.

Reputation for strengthening the capacity of researchers in the global South through an approach of co-creation and mutual learning.

Research credibility, thought leadership and extensive networks generating significant, long-term transformative impacts.

Innovative communications, ensuring our work is informed by, and informs, those who are driving social change.

Our work over the next five years, centred on overcoming inequalities and building a new eco-social contract for the 21st century, will support advocacy and action for inclusive, equitable and sustainable societies.

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