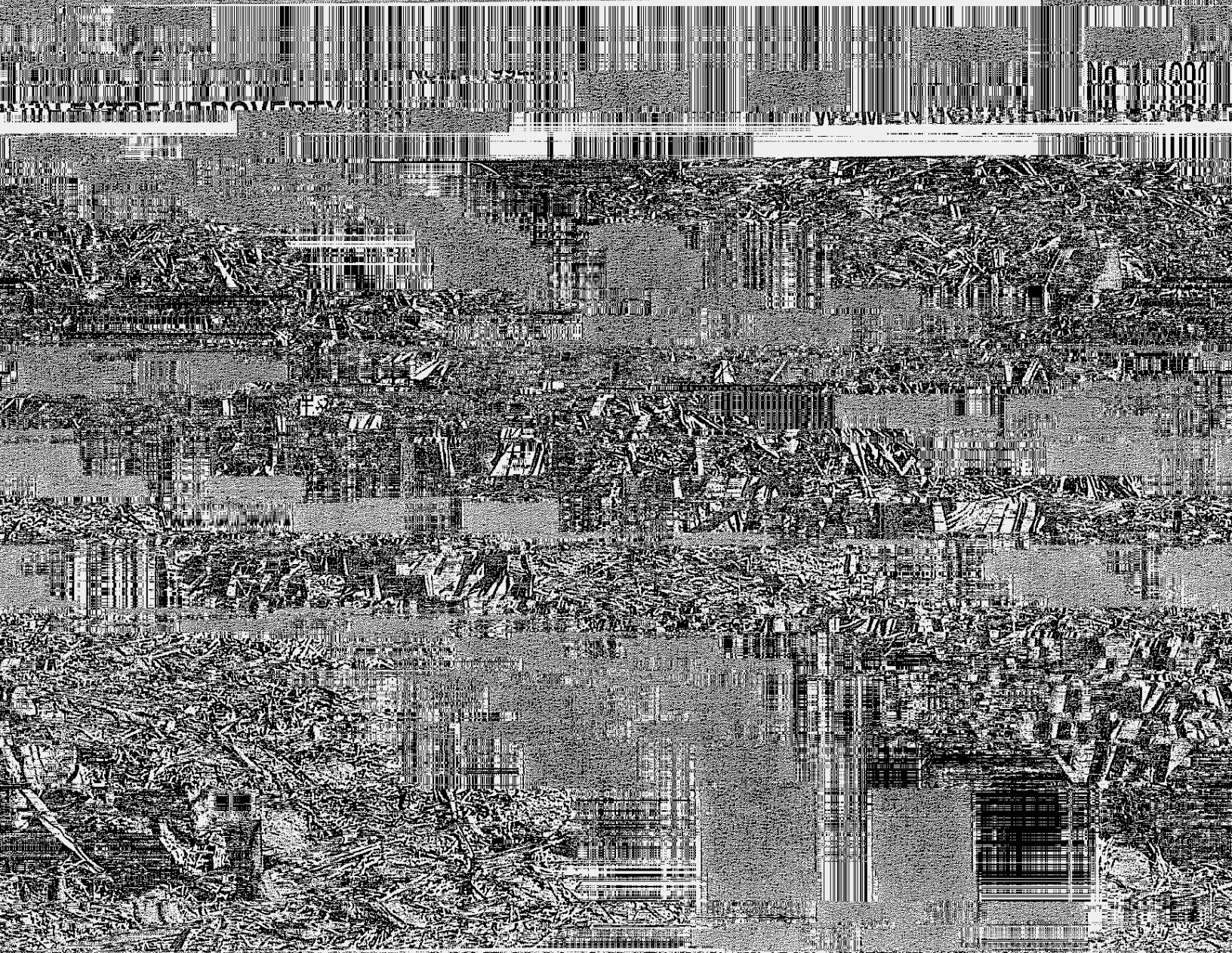




Published to promote the goals
of the national development strategy
for the Advancement of Women

2000



International Labour Organization
N.Y. 10017
212, 593, 3443
Photo by: [unreadable]
New York, N.Y. 10017
212, 593, 3443

WOMEN

The new approach:
putting poverty from a

Women are major actors
in the fight for survival. When

realization that analysis at the national level and of the official statistics - the gross national

advances have been made, or that anyone at the national or international level cares about their

Despite the obvious results of poverty and the shock effect of seeing children eating

products (GNP) or the gross do-

struggle to survive, but awareness of the real needs of women

out of rubbish bins, or picking through refuse during the census

vealing only a part of the real

and men living in this situation is

of poverty are complex, and vary

The significance of this Economic Crisis, 7/illustrate how themes for each session of the
Commission on the Status of

As

treme poverty. There are millions signed interventions can be. They Women to be held during the
are summarized as follows: period 1992-1996. The theme

The ideas and actions that poverty and its social costs. The

where This analysis of effects that poverty has on the ad- for women to development will

The excerpts below are from the papers presented by the two consultants at the seminar, Diane Elson, Faculty of Economic and Social Studies, University of Manchester, United Kingdom of Great Brit-

especially in rural Africa and the urban slums of Latin America. Female members of a poor household are often worse off than male members be-

such bias if women's poverty is to be effectively alleviated is not systematically addressed." 8/

Elson's aim is to provide a gender-aware analysis of some frameworks for poverty alleviation, advocating an approach that

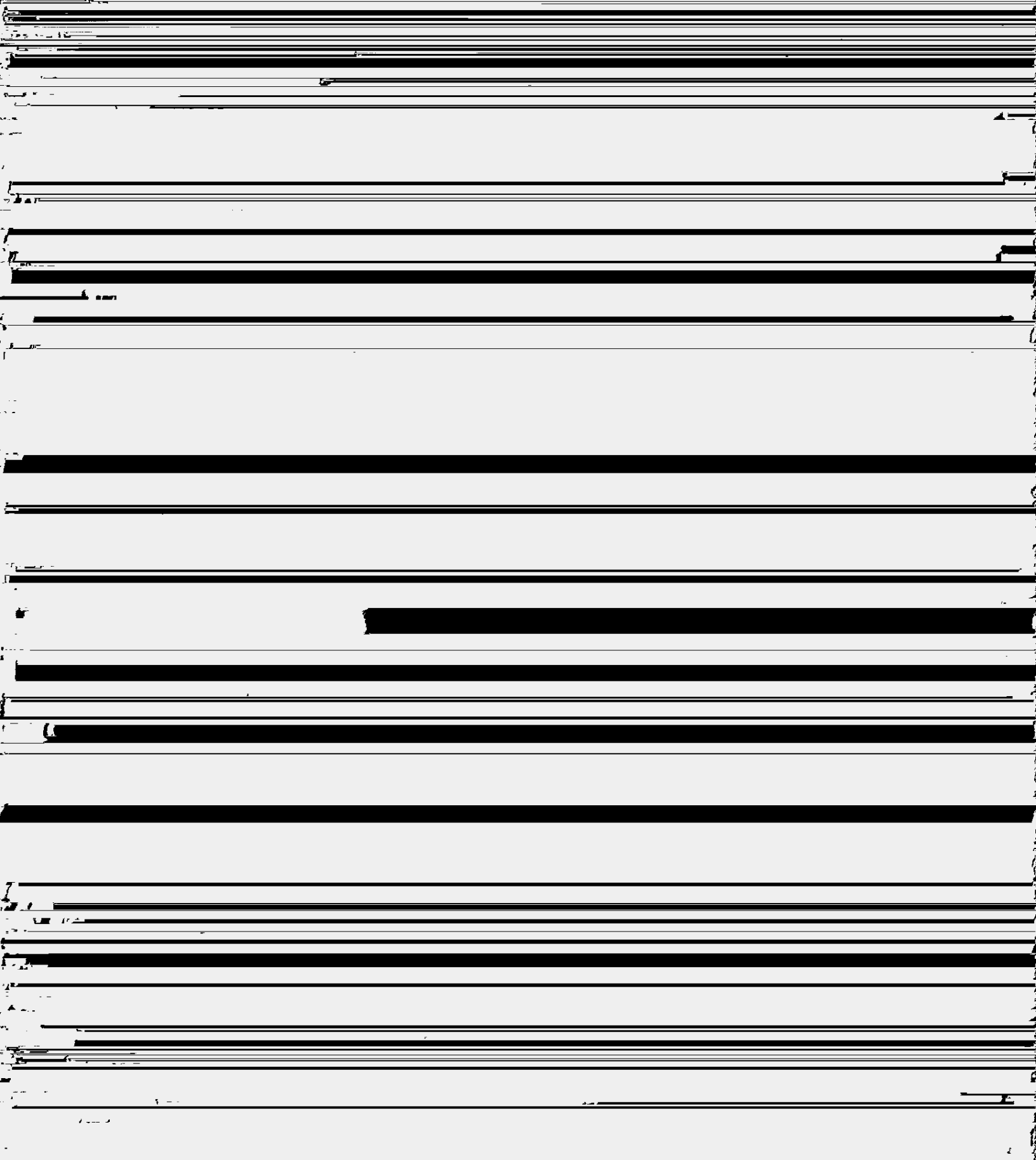
Naila Kabeer, Institute of Development Studies, University

differences in the distribution of food and

draws on the concept of public action, as put forward by Dreze

According to Elson, the
Human Development Report of

*"The mixture of markets,
planning, and community self-*



a set of guidelines for public ac-
tion to strengthen the entitlements

policy formulation. The fol-
lowing excerpt is from her con-

*ment in making a living
and building a family*

"The problem make the most cost-of- organisations to assist

with past efforts to assist women in their fa-

fective use of scarce resources by guarding

them in designing ways of meeting their child

'welfarism', the provision of welfare goods

inappropriately designed services, em-

"All of this re-

infrastructure from their local authorities and between means and ends. It cannot be identified exclusively ei-

erty, on the other hand, is defined by the gen-

resisted official attempts to encroach on their customary entitlements through ill informed projects and inequitable laws. Despite all their disadvantages, they contribute the

ther with deprivation itself or with the lack of means to escape deprivation.

"The conventional economic approach has been to focus on the 'means' of

eral standard of living in a given context. It relates to the level of needs considered to constitute an acceptable standard of living in a particular society and is therefore "relative

labour market. Finally, women

work longer hours than

tributed resources. The
assumption of male

"There is a ... effect women in ... attitude that women

*growing awareness
that poverty in general,
and extreme poverty in
particular has a signifi-*

*eral and women in
poverty specifically.
These circumstances
are aggravated when*

*were passive depend-
ants of the State, and
they often embodied
misplaced accusa-*

"Governments and the international community should

"Policies and programmes should be adapted to ensure

labour market, social, political and cultural structures.

formulation, design, implementation and imple

tive agents in shaping the ongoing process

"The recommendations made at

need to take a broader and more *this has been recognized in* *family planning pro-*

realistic view of the impediments *theory, it has only been translated* *grammes to the as-*
to the development of women *into practice to a limited extent* *pects of fertility is not*

and the causes of poverty. *in family planning service deliv-* *enough, instead links*
er. But the government has *between the status of*

autonomy. The objective of re-

-especially girls. In fact,

populations and the

world women, overwhelmingly poor and lacking political clout,

The restrictions that poverty is imposing on progress towards equal rights for women

United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and

In April 1972, at its eighth *characteristic of such families.* *The solution to this type of* *tion to present ap-*
proaches to planning;

clearly devastating effects of the acquired immunodeficiency heeded and implemented at the Economic Cooperation among national level and with urgency, Developing Countries in the sec-

