

Seminar

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Gender Equality, Poverty Reduction and Inclusive Growth



Borrowers of microfinance in Gaibandha, Bangladesh, 2011

Discussant: Tatsufumi Yamagata (Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University)

Yamagata's Capacity

1. Research on the prospect of the apparel industry in Bangladesh.
2. Chief Evaluator, Policy-level ODA Evaluation Project "Japan's ODA for Empowerment of Women" (2019-2020), Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Yamagata's Notion: Poverty Reduction and Women

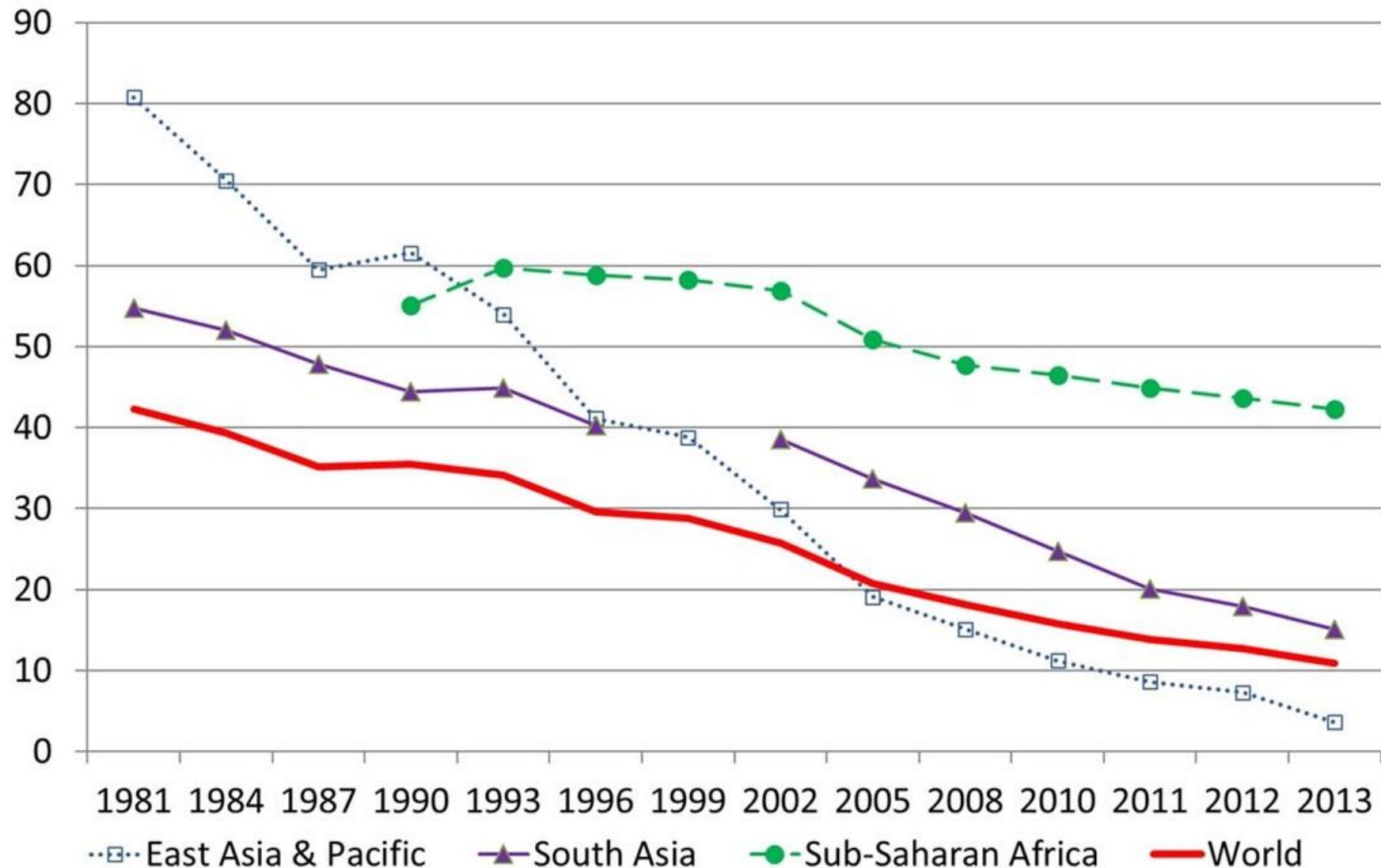
1. There were substantial progresses in poverty reduction.
 2. There still are a variety of underprivileged groups of people, including women
- ▶ WB, *World Development Report 2012: Gender Equality and Development*, took a similar stance.

"Development has closed some gender gaps . . . But other gaps persist".

- Exemplification: Nobel Peace Prize highlighting violence against women
 - Malala Yousafzai (Pakistan, 2014)
 - Nadia Murad (Iraq, 2018)
 - Denis Mukwege (Democratic Republic of Congo, 2018)

Poverty (Head Count) Ratio (%)

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Four Objectives of Gender Strategy of WBG

1. Improving **human endowments** - health, education and social protection
2. Removing constraints for more and better **jobs**
3. Removing barriers to women's ownership and control over **assets** (Enhancement of Women's Economic Livelihood)
4. Enhancing women's **voice and agency** and engaging men and boys

A draft recommendation (in progress): Japan's ODA for Empowerment of Women

- ▶ Creation of Japan's flagship program for women's empowerment
 - Are there any flagship programs of Japan in other areas?
 - *Kaizen* for industrialization; Maternal and Child Health Handbook (母子手帳) for health; One Village One Product (一村一品) for rural development.
- ▶ Historically, Japan made women's empowerment (to a certain extent)
 - (i) Livelihood improvement movement, (ii) One Village One Product [OVOP], (iii) Roadside Station (道の駅)
- ▶ How can we make an effective & replicable flagship **gender** program?