

United Nations Commission on the Status of Women
Fifty-fifth session
New York, 22 February – 4 March 2011

Panel discussion on
“The empowerment of rural women
and their role in poverty and hunger eradication,
development and current challenges”

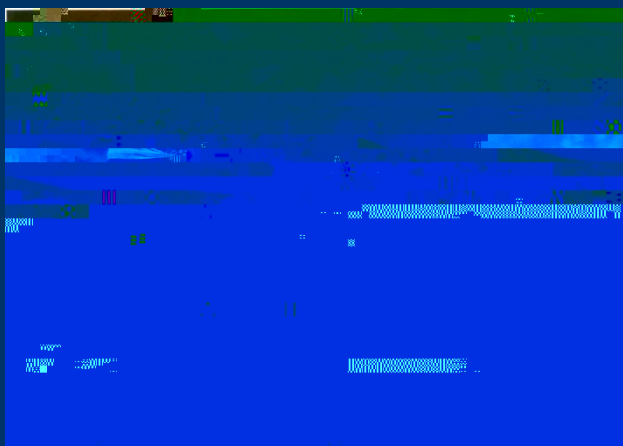
Marzia Fontana
Research Fellow, Institute of Development Studies
University of Sussex

Access to decent work as a pathway to rural women's empowerment

1. Many rural employment forms
2. The market and the non-market strongly interconnected
3. Women's paid employment reduces poverty but does not always lead to emancipation
4. Decent work deficits acute for rural women
5. Need for a mix of integrated and context-

Most important preconditions for achieving decent work for rural women

- › Redistribute and reduce rural women's unpaid work



- › Enhance rural women's capacity to mobilise and act collectively