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Sustainable development is the focus of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGS) which were agreed by the UN General Assembly in September 2015. This is the first unified, universal agenda which integrates social, economic and environmental objectives for all national governments over the 2016-2030 period. The role of knowledge is recognised as being important to development by many international organisations, national governments, civil society and academia, but the role of knowledge in processes of sustainable development requires more attention. The thesis focuses on how new, promising modes of knowledge production and exchange might be able to support the transformational role of knowledge in sustainable development. After establishing the relevance of these new modes, a longitudinal action research study investigates the role of social capital and local knowledge among rural women living in circumstances of purdah (female seclusion) in rural Bangladesh. The thesis concludes that new modes of knowledge production and exchange can create new local knowledge and local capacities which contribute to self-sustaining, endogenous change, presenting new insights into the nature of sustainability.

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The role of local knowledge in sustainable development

Sarah Cummings

The role of local knowledge in sustainable development programmes:

the need for new modes of knowledge production and exchange

Sarah Cummings

INVITATION

You are cordially invited to attend the public defence of my PhD thesis:

The role of local knowledge in sustainable development programmes:

the need for new modes of knowledge production and exchange



The defence will take place at 9.45am on 23 November 2016 in the Aula of the VU University Amsterdam, De Boelelaan 1105

The defence will be followed by a reception.

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Paranymphs

Leah de Haan
Sacha de Haan