

VU Research Portal

The Role of Social Capital in Entrepreneurship and Development

Seferiadis, A.

2016

document version

Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

[Link to publication in VU Research Portal](#)

citation for published version (APA)

Seferiadis, A. (2016). *The Role of Social Capital in Entrepreneurship and Development: Poor Women in Rural Bangladesh*.

General rights

Copyright and moral rights for the publications made accessible in the public portal are retained by the authors and/or other copyright owners and it is a condition of accessing publications that users recognise and abide by the legal requirements associated with these rights.

- Users may download and print one copy of any publication from the public portal for the purpose of private study or research.
- You may not further distribute the material or use it for any profit-making activity or commercial gain
- You may freely distribute the URL identifying the publication in the public portal ?

Take down policy

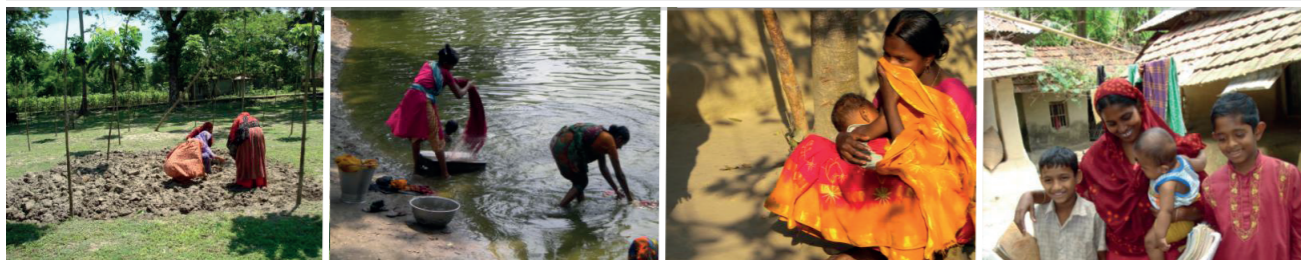
If you believe that this document breaches copyright please contact us providing details, and we will remove access to the work immediately and investigate your claim.

E-mail address:

vuresearchportal.ub@vu.nl

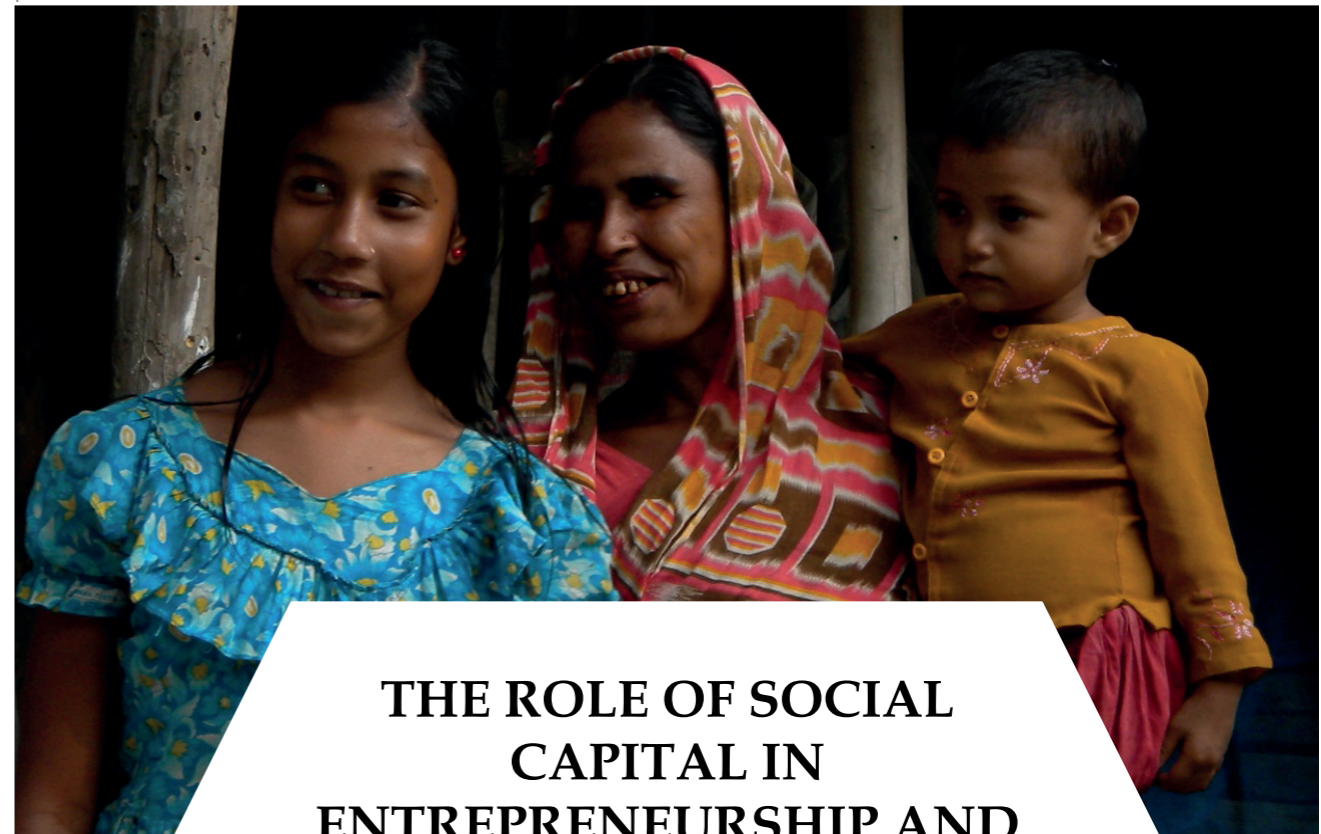
Recognizing that development cannot continue to rely only on charities but also that business are to become socially minded, social entrepreneurship represents one promising economical arrangement enabling to sustainably stimulate development. In particular social entrepreneurs playing the role of change agents in resource-constrained settings represent one solution at the micro-level to overcome the poverty trap. In addition, the value that reside in our social fabric has been increasingly prioritized with the concept of social capital over the last two decades by academics and development practitioners. The World Bank even qualified social capital as the 'missing link' in development. Indeed, social capital is associated with a plethora of benefits: improved well-being and health (even lower mortality rates), enhanced access to capitals including human capital and economic capital (it even reduces the probability to be poor).

This thesis analyses how social capital can be strengthened to stimulate poor women social entrepreneurship in the resource-constrained context of rural Bangladesh. It studies a research-action project over seven years. This work shows how through learning cycles an NGO developed strategies to strengthen poor women's social capital and how this stimulated their development through a social entrepreneurship approach. This thesis highlights not only the relevance of development initiatives which are inscribed in long-time frames and aim first and foremost to do no harm, and instead navigate through barriers, but also that women engaged into a development trajectory which both promoted greater autonomy and greater embeddedness within the social fabric.



The role of social capital in entrepreneurship and development.

Anastasia Seferiadis



THE ROLE OF SOCIAL CAPITAL IN ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT

Poor women in rural Bangladesh



Anastasia A. Seferiadis