



# Strengthening evidence of gender outcomes in WASH: A review of methodologies for gender evaluation

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Background

Approach

**Results**

Conclusions



Objectives



1

Explore the methodologies and domains of inquiry for **broad gender-development studies**

2

Examine the relevance of these for strengthening the evidence of **WASH-Gender**



# Gender Equality in International Development

Background ● ● ● ●

practical changes

strategic changes



Moser 1989

Diverse

subjective

contextual

political;

philosophical

religious

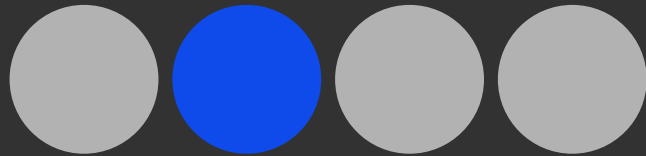
complex

messy

→ reflexivity and positionality

→ embedded responsibility

# APPROACH



# Systematic Literature Reviews

Approach ●●●●

1 **Broad** gender-development

2 **WASH**-gender-development

## Search Locations

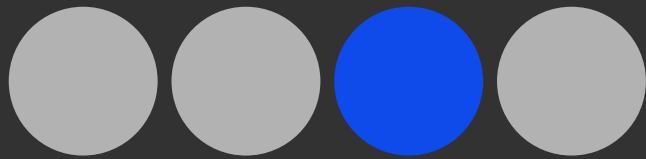
- *Scopus*
- ProQuest
- Web of Science

## Search Focus

- 2008-2018
- English
- Journals Articles

# RESULTS

# BROAD GENDER- DEVELOPMENT





- 1 Research Paradigms
- 2 Domains of Inquiry

# Research Paradigms

Results ●●●●

## Evidence Types

Pragmatic

Postpositivist

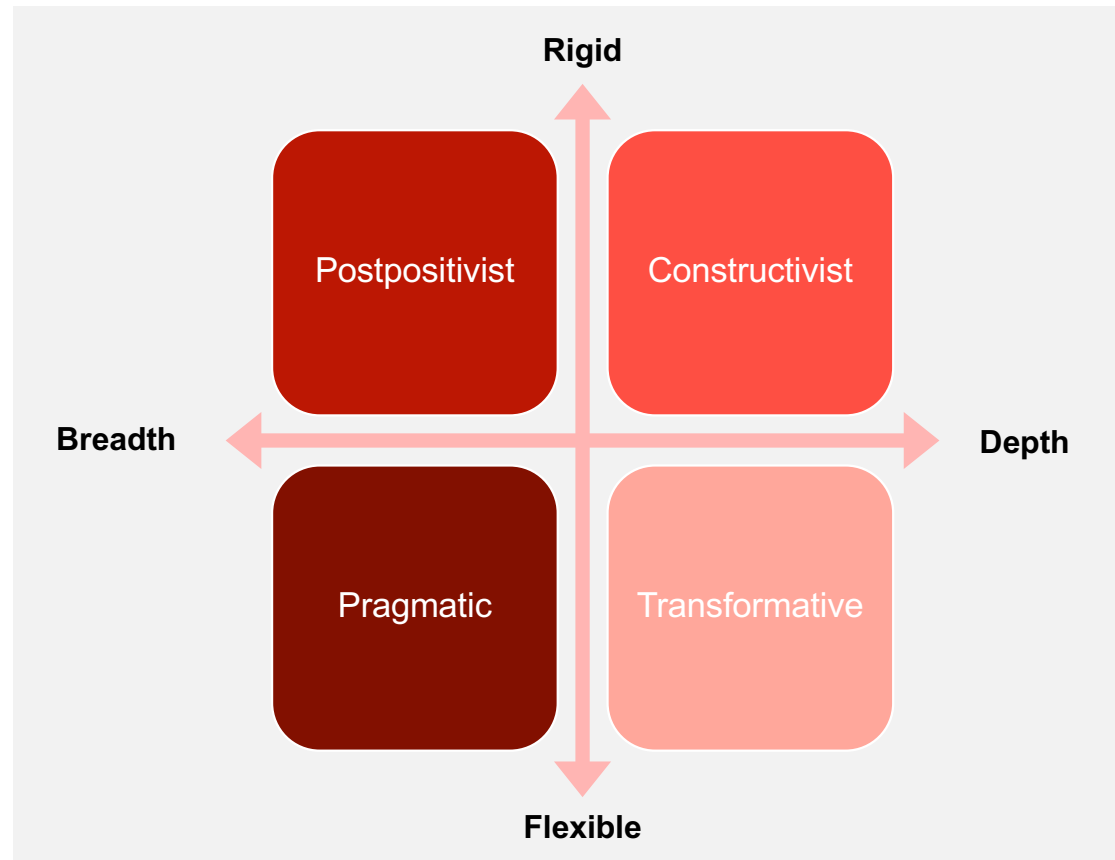
Constructivist

Transformative

# Research Paradigms

Results ●●●●

Our positionality



# Research Paradigms

Results ●●●●

How are changes in gender equality being investigated?

n=126

Transformative  
4%

Postpositivist  
41%

Pragmatic  
24%

Constructivist  
20%

Public Health  
Psychology  
Economics

Education  
Management  
Development

Anthropology  
Sociology  
Psychology

Feminism  
Gender Studies  
Development

# Domains of Inquiry

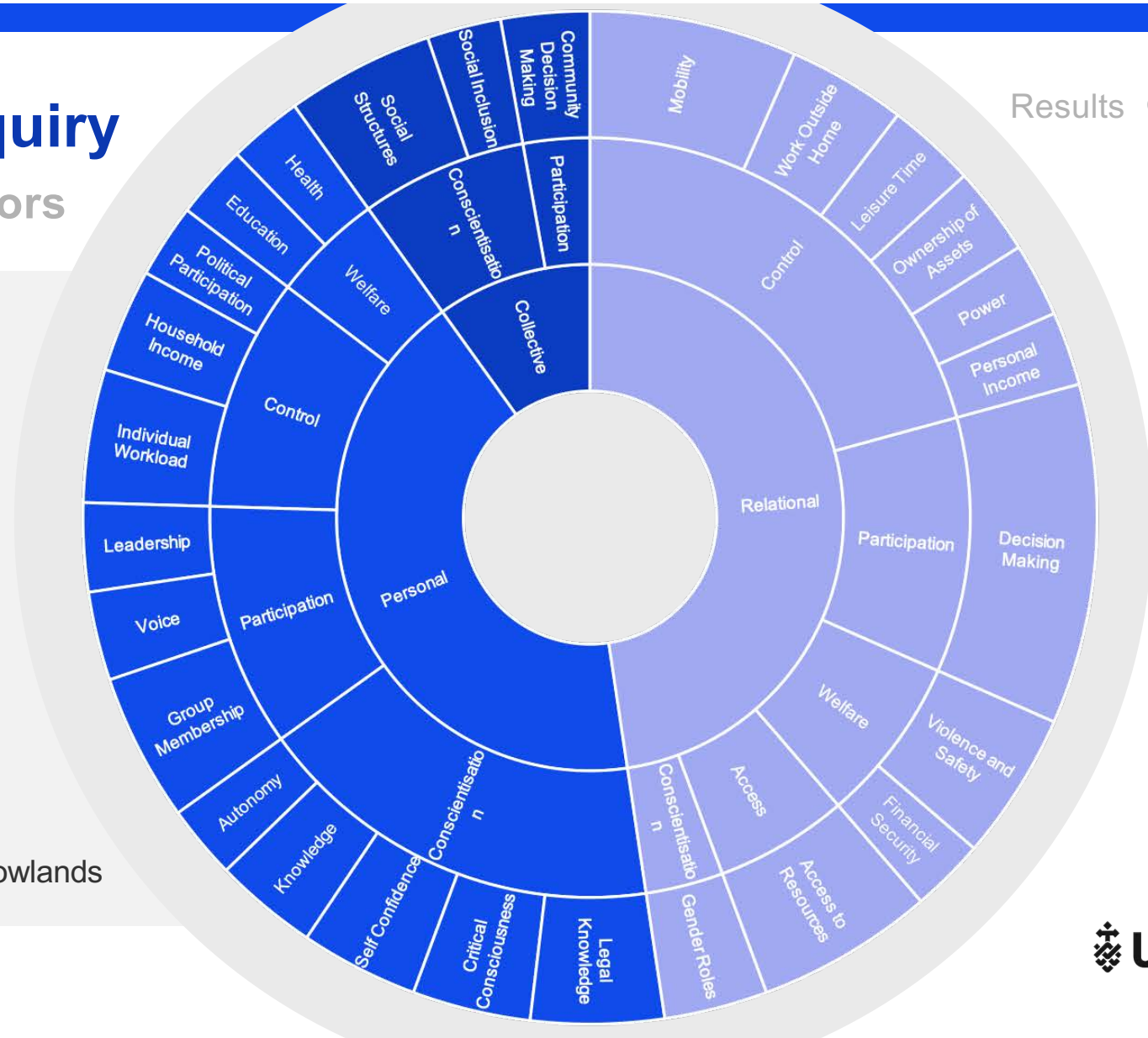
## Themes and Indicators

Results ●●●●●

Personal  
Relational  
Collective

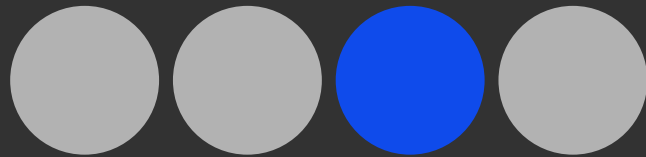
↑  
Control  
Participation  
Conscientisation  
Access  
Welfare

n=52 – 62 themes  
Frameworks from Longwe and Rowlands



# RESULTS

# GENDER-WASH





# Domains of Inquiry

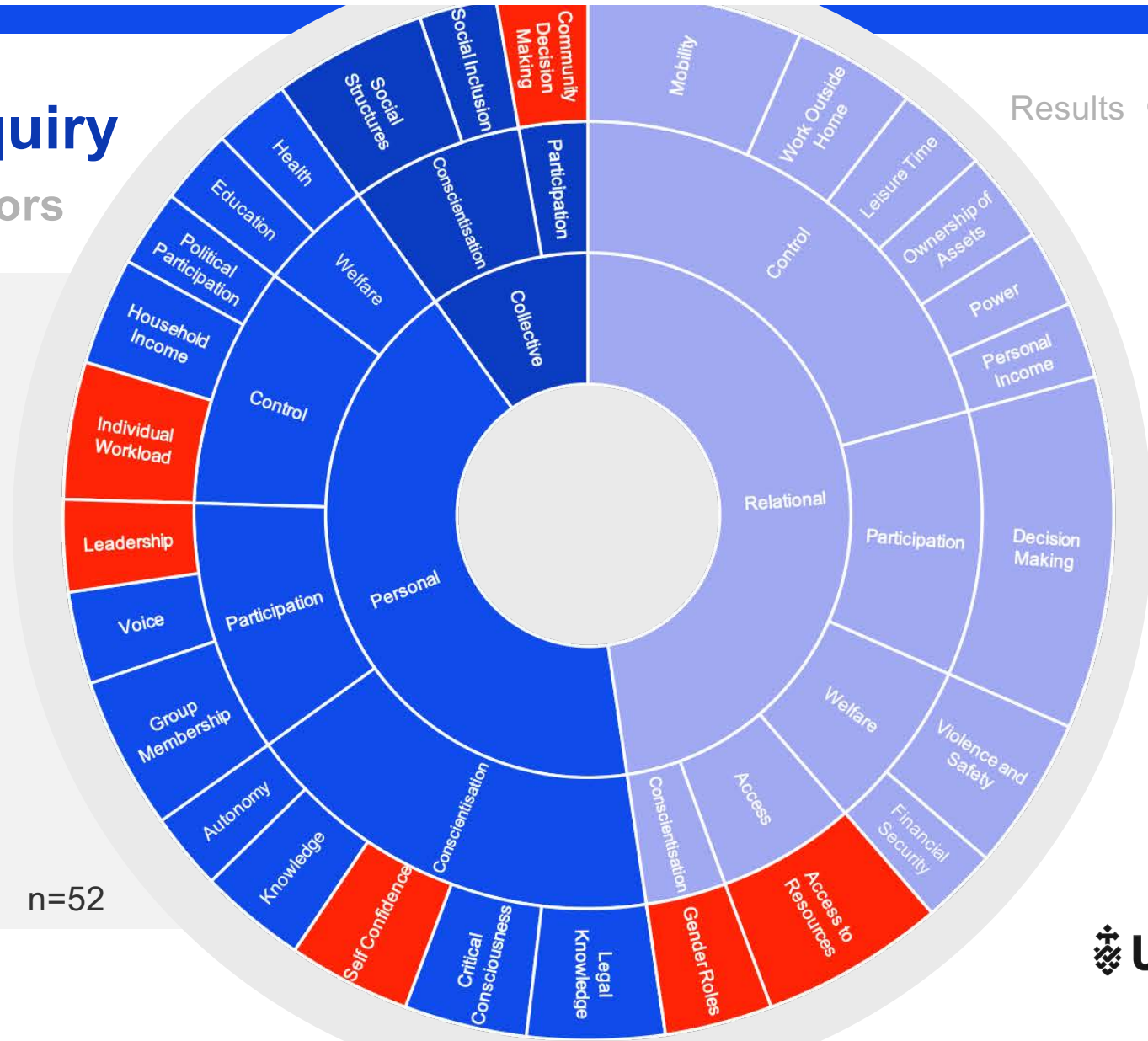
## Themes and Indicators

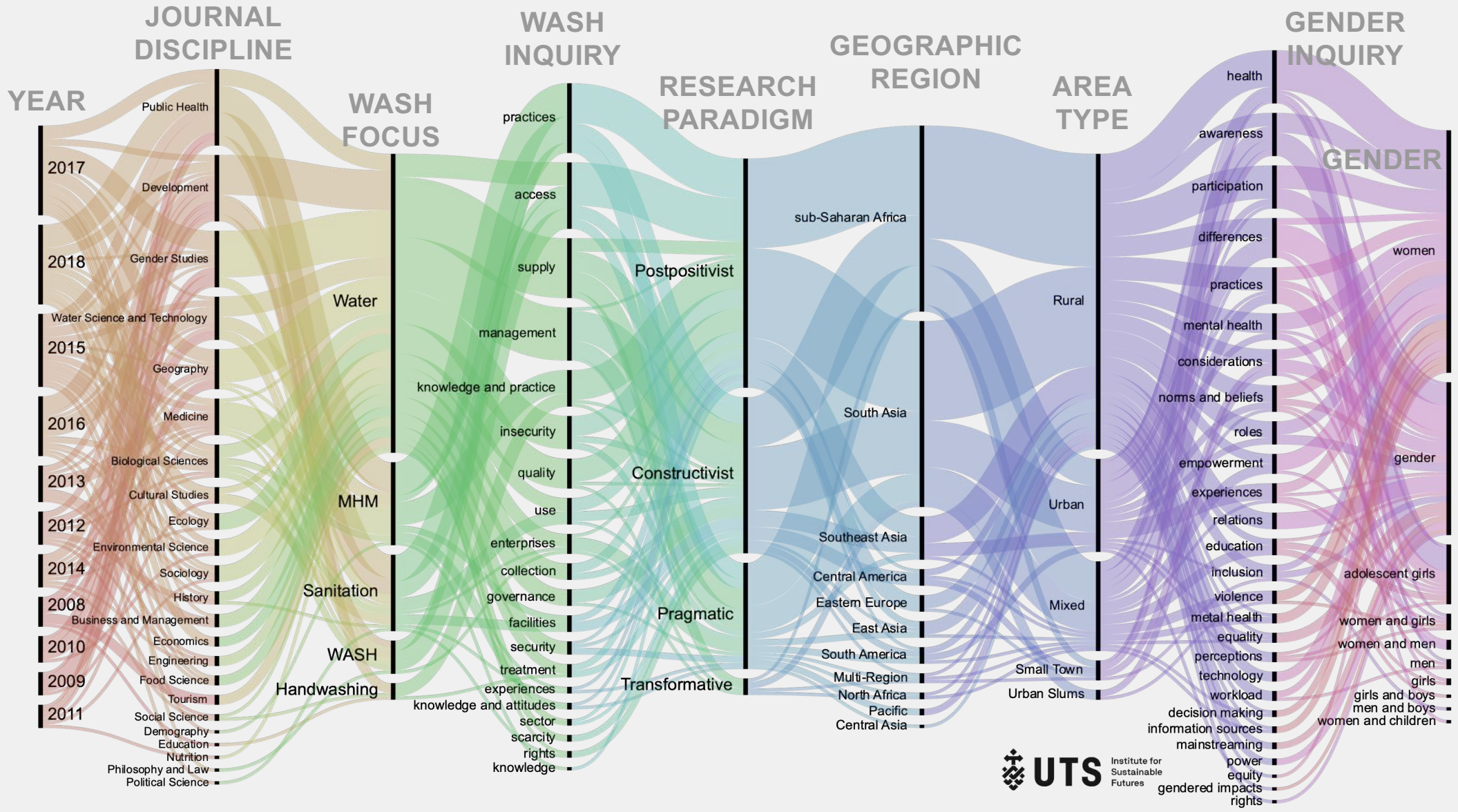
Results ●●●●

Personal  
Relational  
Collective

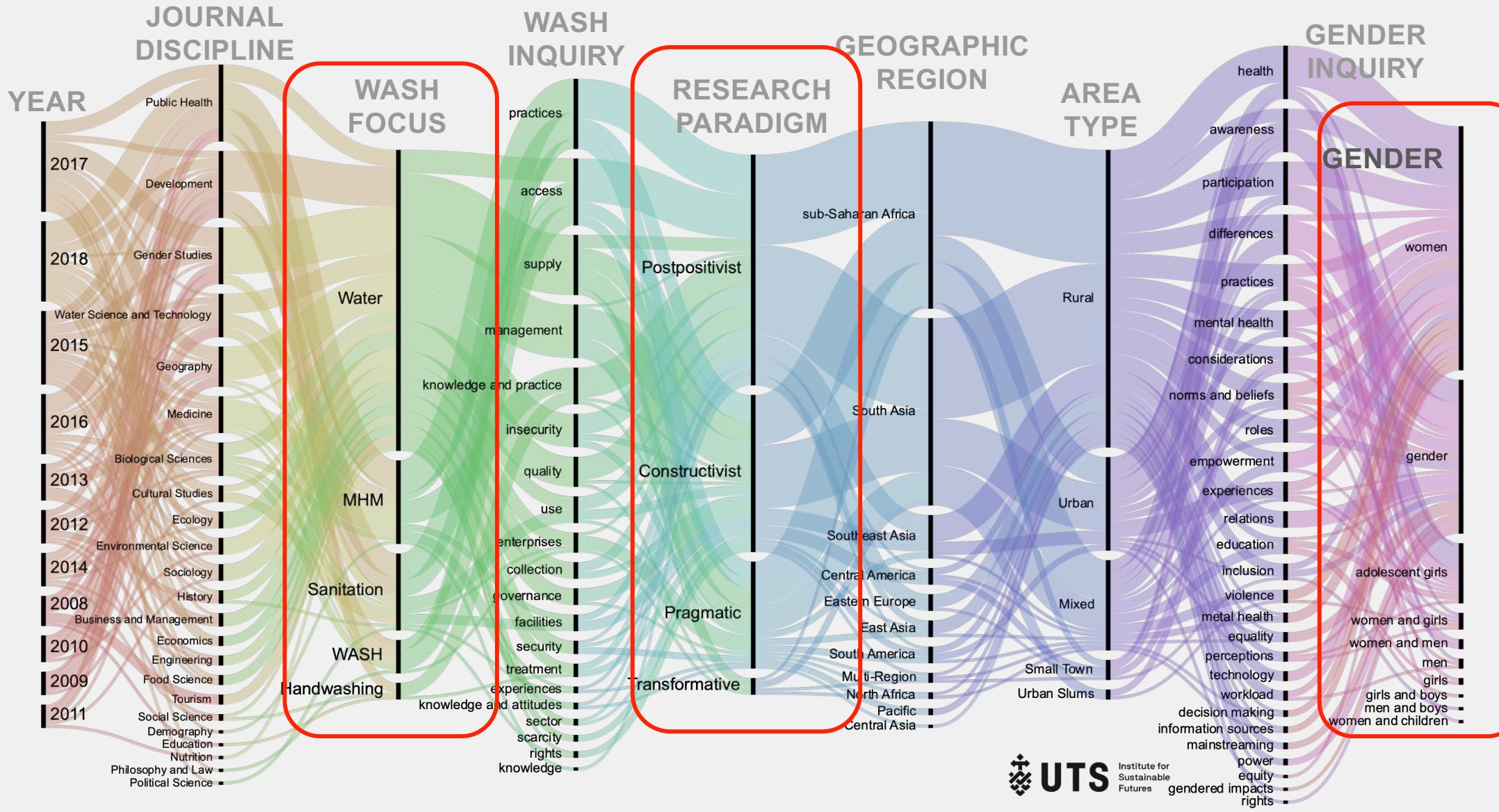
↑  
Control  
Participation  
Conscientisation  
Access  
Welfare

n=52









# Research Paradigms

## Gender and WASH Literature

Results ●●●●

n=153

Transformative  
3%

Postpositivist  
45%

Pragmatic  
21%

Constructivist  
31%

# Implications



# Implications

Implications ●●●●

What does our evidence show?

Most WASH research focuses on **water** for **women** in **rural sub-Saharan Africa** with a **postpositivist** paradigm.

**What are we missing?**

Research **paradigms** invisibly shape research objectives and methodologies.

**Reflexivity is important.**

WASH studies currently use a **narrow range** of themes/indicators.

**Theories of change and existing frameworks are valuable.**



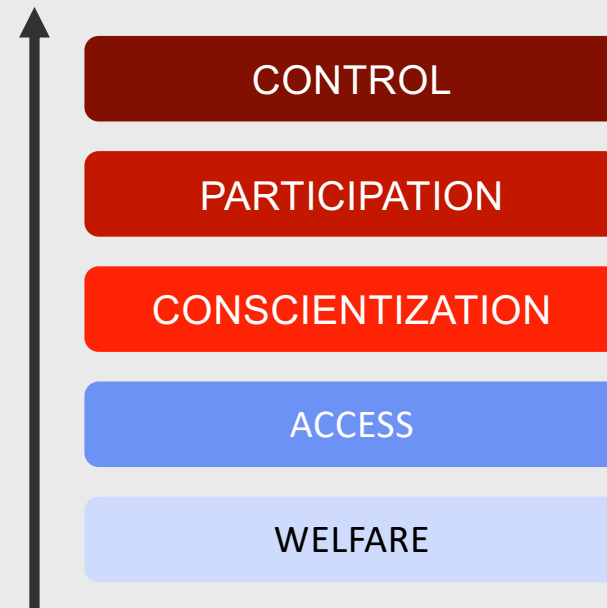
# Moving Forward

Conclusions ●●●●

## Relevant WASH-Gender Types of Change



Moser 1989

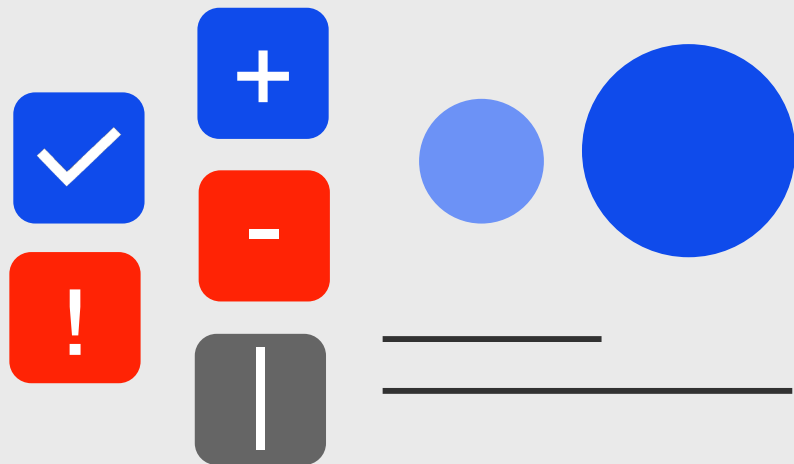


Longwe 1991

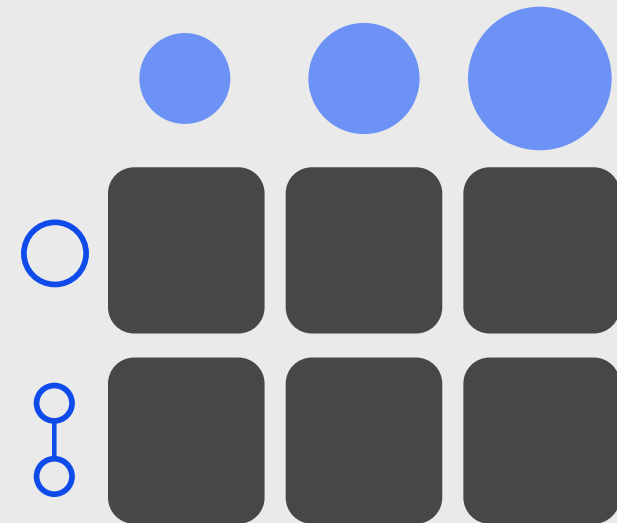
# Moving Forward

Conclusions ●●●●

## Relevant WASH-Gender Outcome Frameworks



Jabeen 2018



Carrard et al. 2013

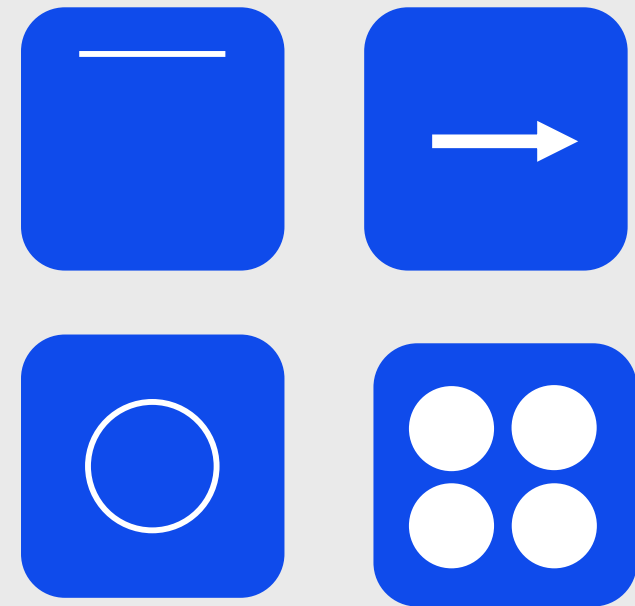
# Moving Forward

## Levels and Types of Power

Conclusions ●●●●



Rowlands 1995



Rowlands 1997

# Key Messages

Implications ●●●●

- Our literature review explored gender equality beyond and within WASH.
- WASH literature does not utilize the full breadth of inquires for gender.
- WASH practitioners and researchers can draw on feminist-development approaches to improve evaluation and evidence.
- Evidence of gendered change is essential for both quality WASH and gender work.
- Over the next two years I will be developing and testing methodologies to strengthen evidence for gendered change – focusing on transformative gender monitoring and evaluation.



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Creating change towards  
sustainable futures

