



# GADNET Nyhetsbrev

## GLÖM INTE!

- Note New Email contact address:

Gender And Development Network

MAY 2008

WWW.GLOBALSTUDIES.GU.SE

## WIDE / UNIFEM Consultation on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

*Maria Malmström* attended a meeting between WIDE and UNIFEM on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2008 entitled "WIDE / UNIFEM Consultation on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment: Challenges and opportunities ahead in the new European aid environment".

### INNEHÅLL

WIDE/  
UNIFEM

Landmines

Gender  
budgeting

CEDAW

information

Maria reports that the aim of the meeting was for civil societies, the European Commission, the European Parliament, United Nation's agencies and EU Member States' missions to exchange analyses and recommendations from a gender equality perspective in relation to the September 2008 Accra High Level Forum and the November 2008 Doha Review International Conference of the Monterrey Consensus. The consultation included plenary sessions for discussions on the new aid environment could contribute to make progress towards gender equality and the eradication of poverty. The initial debate was about "Challenges and opportunities for advancing the gender equality agenda in the aid architecture: the role of the EU". *Carmen de la Cruz* (WIDE) and *Sagipa Jusaeva* (UNIFEM) gave inspiring presentations. *Tamas Varnai* (EC, DG Development) and *Iman Mandour* (Femnet) were discussants.

### The Paris Declaration

The alarming neglect of gender in the Paris Declaration was at the fore of many presentations. The participants emphasised that good governance principles that imply gender awareness and competence are fundamental to advance the gender equality in the aid architecture as well as the capacity of EU to implement gender equality in relation to the Paris Declaration. Gender indicators must be part of all strategy papers and the accountability mechanism, which is far too weak, must be strengthened.



In the presentations, the dilemma with budgeted support was discussed. On the one hand, unconditioned funding is part of the ownership principle. On the other, conditioned funding may be a powerful tool for NGOs in the South, especially in advocating for human rights and press their governments to respect these.

## WIDE/UNIFEM Consultation (Contd.)

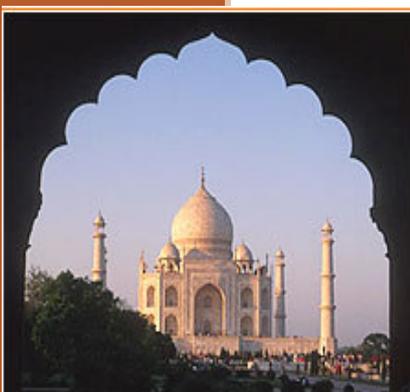


Within EU, the problems in dealing with gender equality in the aid architecture seem to be about a lack of knowledge, an overburden of work and the need of commitment from higher hierarchy. EU has so far used elements from an earlier UNIFEM conference promoting gender in the Paris Declaration, and gender indicators are now used in the sectors of health and education. Yet, there is still a lot to do, a need to involve NGOs much more and to strengthen the ownership of various levels and not only on a government level.

*Key messages* were that aid effectiveness must place gender equality and awareness at the very core. The role of EU should imply models, capacities, analysis, ensure ownership, policy coherence, and alignment policies with gender commitments, harmonization and accountability.

### The Case Studies session

The Case Studies session was about “Bringing gender equality into the centre of development processes: what role can EU cooperation play?”. *Zohra Khan* (OneWorld Action) presented “Gender Responsive Budgets: a case study from Mozambique, Tanzania, Uganda and South Africa”. Kahn underscored that gender budget analysis increases accountability and aid effectiveness, but underlined that it is only one among many strategies for gender equality. Gender sensitive budgets are used as instruments to promote gender equality in new aid modalities. All her examples pointed at strong commitments, but weak implementation. She talked about the problems with donor states and receiving states negotiating without inviting the civil society in the discussions. The key principles for gender budgeting is according to Kahn political will, partnership, mutual accountability, skills, capacity and evidence based decision making. The discussant *Thera A.J.M. Van Osch* (EC Gender Helpdesk) agreed that implementation is difficult and emphasised the need of defining economic indicators connected to projects.



*Anastasia Divinskaya* (UNIFEM Project Office in Kyrgyzstan) presented “Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment in the CIS region: challenges and opportunities in the new aid environment – the case of Kyrgyzstan”. Divinskaya highlighted problems such as corruption, the huge gender gaps within wage levels and employment opportunities and lack of political will and competence.

## WIDE/UNIFEM Consultation (Contd.)

The discussant Angela Langenkamp (German Ministry for Economic Development and Cooperation (BMZ)) underlined the need for different stakeholders to work together, the need to be more constructive, demystify the Paris Declaration, and instead address issues such as violence against women which seriously hamper development.

### **Workshop 1, “EU commitments towards gender equality and women’s empowerment in the new European aid framework: review of the EC’s April 2008 Communications package (Roadmap to Accra and Doha)”.**

Maria attended the break out group 1: “AE, Roadmap to Accra” with the facilitator *Laura Turquet* (ActionAid International) and the moderator *Bénédicte Allaert* (WIDE). We discussed how to identify allies, and how to map different countries within EU into “name and shame” countries, how to keep the agenda political, how to engendered the Paris Declaration, how to include all stakeholders in order to gain mutual accountability and the importance to work together with people in the South since Brussels lacks information and there is a need of mutual understanding.

### **Workshop 2, “Making the aid effectiveness agenda gender responsive: implications of the Paris Declaration and what are the implications for EU development co-operation?”**

Maria attended the break out group 1: “Ownership and CSOs participation” with the facilitator and moderator *Iman Mandour* (FEMNET). The importance of a dialogue between the civil societies and parliaments was discussed, as was the problems that ownership is interpreted as government and the need to change this to include all stakeholders, conditionality may undermine ownership and that governments already are committed through human right declaration, the importance to say no, the power tool of media and the need to translate language/capacity building.

### **Plenary sessions**

The plenary sessions ended with a conclusion that there is a need for an action plan which brings into play the September 2008 Accra High Level Forum.



## International Campaign to Ban landmines

This network of more than 1400 NGOs from more than 90 countries is currently (19-31 May) holding international conference on cluster munitions in Dublin, Ireland.

Here is a gist of what has happened so far:



Up to the 22 May the conference centered on presentations by states, clarifying their position with respect to landmines. They also started negotiations towards how victims can be assisted as well as issues of stockpiles and clearance of existing landmines. Equally important is that states have begun to realign themselves around on new proposals on either an amendment of Article 2© or its deletions.

One NGO reports that "Ambassador MacKay introduced a discussion paper, building on and strengthening the cumulative criteria required for the exclusion of certain weapons as contained in Norway's proposal from yesterday. Most importantly the discussion paper introduces an effects-based approach to link the technical criteria to the actual effects of cluster munitions. The paper adds a requirement that a munition must have less than 10 submunitions".

"Argentina introduced a proposal to delete Article 2(c), co-sponsored by Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Lebanon, Mexico, Palau, and Uruguay. 12 states—Austria, Benin, Ghana, Guinea, Honduras, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mauritania, Morocco, Nigeria, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia—endorsed the proposal, bringing the total to 21 States calling for the deletion of the article. The CMC fully supported the proposal and appreciated the work of Ambassador Mackay to ensure an effects-based approach and a prohibition on cluster munitions as an entire category of weapons with no exclusions for weapons that have the effects of cluster munitions".

And so the debate around the two proposals tabled at the conference continues .

**For details about the conference go to:**

[http://www.icbl.org/campaign/calendar/dublin\\_conference\\_on\\_cluster\\_munitions](http://www.icbl.org/campaign/calendar/dublin_conference_on_cluster_munitions)



**For the UN Convention On Prohibitions Or Restrictions On the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Excessively Injurious Or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, go to:**

<http://www.mineaction.org/docs/I20 .asp#p1>

## Internal GADNET/GADIP Information

### Guest Researchers at CGGS

Drs Elaine Salo and Sofie Oldfields are guest researchers at the Centre for Global Gender Studies for a few weeks. Drs Salo and Oldfield are researchers at the University of Cape Town, who are part of the cooperation team preparing for the Joint conference with GADNET/African Gender Institute,. As you know the conference is due in Cape Town in February 2009.

During their stay beginning from 18 May, duo will together with the GADNET Cape Town Conference committee begin the work of vetting the abstracts for the conference. So far 30 abstracts have been received by both the teams.

In addition, Dr Salo will present a paper at the School of Global Studies. On the 30 May she will present the paper titled: **Coconuts don't live in townships - femininities and the gendered imaginings of urban space in Cape Town**. If you are interested join us at Annedal-seminariet in room 325 at 13:00 – 15:00.

### Information from Women In Development Europe (WIDE)

This is a headstart information about WIDE's major conference for 2008. Plans for the conferecne are still in the making., but the theme of the conference is: **Feminist Vision For a Just Europe**, and will be held at the Hague. The conference will hold in October of this year .

If you are interested in attending you might need to get proactive because attendance at these WIDE conferences are very sought after. Keep checking their homepage:

<http://wide.gloobal.net/>

We will of course keep you updated as soon as we know more.

# Important UN Information

## **CEDAW: 41th Session of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women**

**Event Type:** Conference, Meeting or Symposium

**Date:** 30.06.08 – 18.07.08

**Location:** United Nations, New York – UN Headquarters

The UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women will in this examine reports from many countries including, Finland, Iceland, Lithuania, Nigeria, Slovakia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Yemen.

For details go to: <http://www.unifem.org/>

## **UN Gender Budgeting**

In March 2008, the UN produced its brochure on gender budgeting. The document was produced by UNIFEM's Gender Budget Programme and it is now available on its homepage:

<http://www.gender-budgets.org/content/view/506/153/>



**GÖTEBORGS  
UNIVERSITET**

Centrum för Globala Genusstudier  
Besöksadress Seminariegatan 1  
Box 700, 405 30  
Göteborg

Tel: 031-786 4311/5963

Fax: 031-786 4933

E-mail: [gadnet@globalstudies.gu.se](mailto:gadnet@globalstudies.gu.se)

**Ann Schlyter**

[Ann.schlyter@globalstudies.gu.se](mailto:Ann.schlyter@globalstudies.gu.se)

**Hauwa Mahdi**

[hauwa.mahdi@globalstudies.gu.se](mailto:hauwa.mahdi@globalstudies.gu.se)

**Lisen Dellenborg**

[Lisen.dellenborg@globalstudies.gu.se](mailto:Lisen.dellenborg@globalstudies.gu.se)

**Maria Malmström**

[Maria.malmstrom@globalstudies.gu.se](mailto:Maria.malmstrom@globalstudies.gu.se)

---

[www.globalstudies.gu.se](http://www.globalstudies.gu.se)

---

---

**Internetadress till databasen:**

[http://130.241.126.12/fmi/iwp/res/iwp\\_auth.html?sid=01F89DA7ECB112B111DBC13B](http://130.241.126.12/fmi/iwp/res/iwp_auth.html?sid=01F89DA7ECB112B111DBC13B)

---