

# GENDER & DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

Newsletter November 2011



Women of the Flower Hmong hill tribe sell cooked rice at a local market in Can Cau, Viet Nam.  
UN Photo/Kibae Park

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*If you are a member of the Gender and Development Network and would like to publicise an event or send us an update on your work, we will gladly include it in the newsletter. If you are not yet a GADN member and would like to become one please download the application form on our website or contact the GADN Coordinator for more information.*

## **1. GADN News**

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### **ActionAid is the new host for the Gender and Development Network!**

The Gender and Development Network is now housed by ActionAid. Our new address is:  
Gender and Development Network  
c/o ActionAid  
33-39 Bowling Green Lane  
London  
EC1R 0BJ

Our direct line is 0203 122 0609. Please note Lauren (GADN Coordinator) works part time; typically Mondays, Thursdays and Friday afternoons.

### **Where do we stand? How can the development community navigate current pressures to deliver development for women?**

On the 3 November, GADN and the DSA held a joint meeting to bring together members of the GADN and DSA to look at the issues facing development at a time of multiple changes, especially around the issues of women and girls, and to explore how well different players –academics, researchers, consultants and development agency staff – were responding to the pressures and opportunities these changes provide. The meeting had three broad aims, to:

- look critically at dominant approaches to gender equality and women's rights in the current aid environment
- better understand how these approaches fit – or clash – with realities for women on the ground and what impacts they are having on the practice of women's organisations in the global south
- share frustrations, pressures and constraints to working on gender and reflect on how to pursue a more critical approach in our work on gender, to respond to the concerns of women's rights NGOs and to work more effectively in partnership with them.

For a full report of the meeting and copies of the presentations, please visit the **GADN website**. Please note the report includes some of the points raised at the meeting and does not necessarily represent the views of the organisers.

### **Girl Hub Review**

In early November, GADN members were invited to contribute to a review of the **Girl Hub** (a joint venture between DFID and the Nike Foundation) conducted by the Independent Commission for Aid Impact (ICAI), an independent body responsible for the scrutiny of UK aid. ICAI are examining how the partnership between the Nike Foundation and DFID was conceived, how it has delivered to date and how it plans to deliver in the future its stated aim of gender-based development. GADN members were invited to a meeting in order for ICAI to obtain the views of UK-based gender NGOs about the aims, activities and outcomes of the Girl Hub.

GADN members welcomed this opportunity to input into the review and ICAI fed back that they found the meeting very useful and were very pleased with the level of interest. ICAI will ensure that its recommendations lead to change by providing evidence-based feedback into Government decision-making, and GADN members hope the evidence they provided will form a strong basis for these recommendations.

## **Beyond Gender Mainstreaming**

GADN is running a major Learning Project on Beyond Gender Mainstreaming, in partnership with the **Gender and Development journal**. It runs from November 2011 to November 2012, and involves a conceptual discussion about experience and successes of different approaches to integrating gender and women's rights into development and humanitarian work. We aim to distil best practice and innovation, and answer some hard questions!

The term 'gender mainstreaming' (GM) spread like wildfire in the wake of the 1995 UN Conference on Women at Beijing, and has been embraced by development institutions, governments and NGOs of all political hues. What has happened to GM since? This Learning Project will chart the different ways in which GM has been attempted, identify the barriers and challenges, and celebrate the successes. GM has a poor image among many in the international women's movement. Is this deserved? Many argue that the ideals of gender equality and women's rights have been distorted in the process of integration of gender issues into the pre-existing mandates, ideologies and procedures of development organisations. Is transformatory gender mainstreaming possible? Does it exist already, and if so, what are the factors which have led to success?

The Learning Project began with a 48-hour Discussion on 16-17 November 2011 involving 50 invited participants 'meeting' on Eldis Communities. We're now throwing the doors open to all, via the **Eldis website**, to read the debates and post comments of their own. The discussion will feed into and inform later stages of our Learning Project, which will ultimately result in a Special Issue of Gender & Development to be published in November 2012.

## **Launch of the World Development Report 2012**

On 23 November, The World Bank and Chatham House hosted the UK launch of The World Development Report 2012: Gender Equality and Development. Rachel Moussié, Women's Rights Advisor, ActionAid International and Chair of GADN's Economic Empowerment Working Group, was part of the panel for a discussion on recommendations for fast-tracking progress. On behalf of GADN, Rachel raised the following points:

The WDR is a good first step and lays out some of the big issues, but the report falls short of taking the questions raised to their logical conclusion.

For instance the report acknowledges women's unpaid care work and highlights the impact this has on women's access to basic services and employment. It emphasises women's control over land as a source of not only income, but status, and more importantly a right. Most importantly the report acknowledges that there are "sticky" issues that no amount of GDP growth will necessarily solve. These 'sticky' issues include female mortality and access to economic opportunities - issues that the women's rights movement are fighting for. The term 'sticky' does not do justice to the importance of these issues. The two sticky issues are absolutely fundamental to gender equality, and they suggest that fairly significant reform is needed.

Many of the limitations of the report stem from the fact that it does not reflect on the costs to women and girls of certain economic policies, and how these depend on and further reinforce gender inequality. For instance women are paid lower wages than men to work in export oriented manufacturing. This plays on women's roles as secondary breadwinners and gender stereotypes. The question then is whether export promotion policies require that women earn less than men and are less likely to unionise. Similarly, the Bank's analysis of the financial crisis ignores the

differential impact this has on women and girls as they take on more unpaid care work when services and goods become unaffordable.

Yet another example is around control over natural resources. Women's land ownership is a key recommendation of the report, yet the increased competition for water, land, forests and seeds women will find it even more difficult to access natural resources. The Bank does not sufficiently refer to this reality and the challenges this then poses for women's land ownership - a key recommendation of the report. A more holistic approach that considers women's land rights, sustainable agriculture and reviews the impact of current agricultural policies on women is needed.

If we don't follow up on these critical questions we will not come much closer to achieving gender equality. Indeed the threats of climate change, food crises and the financial crisis may make gender equality more difficult to achieve.

Rachel's comments in the Guardian in September can be seen [here](#).

### **From Afghanistan to Zimbabwe: Lessons on Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls**

On Thursday 24 November, GADN held an event in Parliament to mark the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women (on 25 November) and discuss tackling violence against women and girls. The panel speakers included Lynne Featherstone MP (Champion on International Violence Against Women), Rt. Hon Alan Duncan MP (Minister of State for International Development), Netsai Mushonga (Director of the Women's Coalition of Zimbabwe) and Selay Ghaffar (Executive Director, Humanitarian Assistance for Women and Children in Afghanistan).

We heard about some of DFID's work on VAWG and participants were given the opportunity to ask the Minister questions. Selay Ghaffar and Netsai Mushonga spoke about the challenges women face in Afghanistan and Zimbabwe and some of the work their organisations are doing to eliminate VAWG. Selay noted that over 75% of women in Afghanistan had experienced domestic violence in a country that has faced three decades of conflict. Netsai noted that the mainstream media often portrayed women only as victims, but when women are actors in peacebuilding instead of just seen as victims of violence, this is a strong step in the struggle to end violence against women. Netsai spoke about the need for security sector reform in Zimbabwe, with the sector (including police stations and the judiciary) needing to be much more gender sensitive, whilst Selay similarly spoke about the need for a strengthening of the judiciary sector in Afghanistan in order to eliminate the high levels of VAWG, including domestic violence. The discussion highlighted the need for women to be part of peacebuilding and reconciliation efforts in conflict areas in order to prevent and address the high levels of violence against women associated with conflict. The need for education and empowerment of women, security and justice reform, and women's political participation were some of the key instruments identified in tackling violence against women and girls. Netsai Mushonga touched on the 50:50 campaign in Zimbabwe, re-launched in August 2011 which aims to bring to the attention of the public and political parties, the need to increase women in public office. It advocates for the use of legal quotas to legislate 'at least' 50% participation of women in decision making structures and other strategies to achieve this goal. Learn more about the 50:50 campaign [here](#).

In her first year as Champion on International Violence Against Women, Lynne Featherstone MP has been working on building consensus across the government and increasing awareness of the

importance of tackling VAWG. She has been trying to influence all Ministers that are travelling to raise the issue wherever they go. On her visits to India and Nepal, she has been asking questions and has been reminding people at the highest level about the commitments they have made and instruments they have ratified. Her focus in the coming months will be on domestic violence and women's political participation.

## 2. GADN Members' Update

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- **Womankind Worldwide** are looking for an experienced **Interim Executive Director** to cover the period from the end of February while they recruit a permanent Director. The period of appointment will be for 3 – 6 months. If you share their beliefs, are creative, have strategic vision and excellent management skills they would like to hear from you. For more information and to apply please download an **application pack** or email **recruitment@womankind.org.uk**. Womankind welcomes all applicants and values diversity. They are committed to being an equal opportunities employer.
- **Save the Children**'s position paper for the Fourth High Level Forum on Aid effectiveness "Healthier Returns" is available to read online [here](#). The report provides recommendations on how to address challenges of the current economic climate of fiscal austerity, which is creating a focus on short-term results that threaten to damage the quality of health aid. The report charts the extent to which the core principles of effective aid have been implemented, outlines attempts at reform, highlights successful global and national initiatives, and identifies persistent problems.
- **BRIDGE** has published their **Gender and Climate Change Cutting Edge Pack**. Climate change is increasingly being recognised as a global crisis, but responses to it have so far been overly focused on scientific and economic solutions. How then do we move towards more people-centre, gender-aware climate change policies and processes? How do we respond to the different needs of women and men, while also challenging the gender inequalities that mean women are more likely to lose out than men in the face of climate change? The new **BRIDGE** Cutting Edge Pack on Gender and Climate Change sets out why it is vital to address the gender dimensions of climate change. It maps pathways for making climate change responses more gender aware and - potentially - transformative. It includes inspiring examples of innovations and good practice at local, national and global levels. The Pack is available in printed format and can be downloaded [here](#).
- **UKAN** - The final text of the Busan Outcome Document has now been released. The Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation can also be downloaded [here](#). Civil Society's reaction to the document can read by clicking [here](#) and for further details of the Forum - including daily news summaries - please see the official HLF4 [website](#)
- **ActionAid** has published a policy briefing, titled **Bonn and Beyond: negotiating the future of women's rights in Afghanistan**, read it [here](#).
- **Womankind Worldwide** has launched its '**Women's Rights Advocacy Toolkit**' to support women's organisations and activists to advocate for change. At **Womankind** they believe that the denial of women's rights and the extent of inequality between women and men is one of the greatest injustices the world faces. They believe that advocacy, alongside

programme work, is vital to bring about the change that is needed. **Womankind** has worked with their partner organisations in Afghanistan, Bolivia, Ghana, Nepal, Peru, South Africa and Zimbabwe to produce this guide to help plan and implement advocacy and campaigns on women's rights. *"The toolkit provides helpful information and case studies to help you define your goal and objectives, identify your targets and allies, build support for your campaign within your organisation, decide on your tactics, and measure your success!"* **Womankind** are thankful to UKAid for funding this project.

You can download the chapters [here](#) and please do email **Womankind** with any further questions or feedback.

- **NEWS FROM WIDE**

#### **WIDE written Statement sent for CSW 2012**

You can request a copy of the WIDE statement for CSW 2012 by emailing **Jess Summers**. The drafting of the statement was an initiative of WIDE Austria and some members of the WIDE gave their input.

### **3. DFID/EU/UN**

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- **Getting to Zero Requires Zero Gender Discrimination and Violence – Time to Zero in on Women and Girls**  
UN Women, November 30 2011
- **Women and Gender Equality in the Aid Effectiveness Agenda**  
UN Women, November 30 2011
- **The OECD/DAC Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness**  
UN Women, November 28 2011
- **The Role of Women in Democratic Transition**  
UN Women, November 23 2011
- **Addressing Violence against Women and Girls in Europe**  
UN Women, November 23 2011
- **Raising our Voices to End Violence against Women**  
UN Women, November 23 2011
- **Youth Leadership in Preventing and Ending Violence against Women and Girls**  
UN Women, November 23 2011
- **Government Equalities Office (GEO) Strengthening Women's Voices survey**  
DFID, 2011
- **Ending violence against women and girls: action plan progress review**  
DFID, November 24 2011
- **Andrew Mitchell: Putting women at the heart of development**  
DFID, November 25 2011
- **Roma Women Turning the Tide of Violence and Discrimination**  
UN Women, November 22 2011
- **A Comprehensive Policy Agenda to End Violence Against Women**  
UN Women, November 22 2011
- **Guatemala: Young Mayan Women Shape the Future**  
UN Women, November 21 2011

- **Cambodia: Reclaiming Life after Acid Attacks**  
UN Women, November 18 2011
- **Young People at the Forefront of the Fight for Equality and against Gender Violence in Ecuador**  
UN Women, November 18 2011
- **Advance Women's Rights, Change the World**  
UN Women, November 18 2011
- **Delivering as One for Women**  
UN Women, November 18 2011
- **Women Leaders in Economics and Politics**  
UN Women, November 17 2011
- **Empowering the Women of Uruguay through Gender-Sensitive Budgeting**  
UN Women, November 11 2011
- **UN Women Partners with One Day on Earth; Captures Gender Issues on Camera**  
UN Women, November 11 2011
- **UNWTO and UN Women commit further to an ongoing collaboration**  
UN Women, November 4 2011
- **Women in Science in the Pursuit of Excellence**  
UN Women, November 4 2011
- **Extending Social Protection is Key to Ensuring a Globalization that is Fairer and more Inclusive**  
UN Women, November 2 2011

## 4. Development News

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- **Women key to development**  
The Korea Herald, November 2011
- **Policy Updates**  
Bond, November 2011
- **UK committed to working with Afghan government and civil society to improve the rights of women**  
FCO, November 2011
- **Gauging the temperature of the new Global Partnership: Take Two**  
CCCI-CCIC, December 2011
- **Autumn Statement**  
HM Treasury 2011
- **Global: Busan Skirts Gender Equality**  
IPS News, December 1 2011
- **Global: For Big Financial Institutions, Profit Trumps Women's Rights**  
IPS News, November 30 2011
- **UK: UK Pledges £35m For Family Planning For Poor Countries**  
Guardian, November 29 2011
- **South America: Lessons From The Andes On Budgeting To Close The Gender Gap**  
IPS News, November 29 2011
- **UK: Workers Given Green Light to Pursue Equal Pay Claims**  
Guardian, November 29 2011
- **Middle East: Arab Women Seek A Place in the Spring**  
IPS News, November 27 2011

- **South Korea: The Aid From Women No One Counts**  
IPS News, November 27 2011
- **Egypt: Why Discourage Women From Reporting on the Tahrir Square Protests?**  
Guardian, November 25 2011
- **Italy: Italy's Women Look to More Equal Future After Fall of Berlusconi**  
Guardian, November 25 2011
- **UK: The Rubber Gloves Are On: Marchers to Fight for Women's Rights Amid Cuts**  
Guardian, November 18 2011
- **Malaysia: Malaysia Highlights Women's Important Role At Cambodia Meeting**  
Bernama, November 17 2011
- **Tanzania: Gender Inequality 'A Big Challenge'**  
The Citizen, November 16 2011
- **Africa: Women Leaders Meet to Map Out Gender Equality in Public Sector**  
allAfrica.com, November 15 2011

## 5. Publications & Resources

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- **Cutting Edge Pack on Gender and Climate Change**  
BRIDGE, November 2011
- **Women and the city: Examining the gender impact of violence and urbanisation**  
Action Aid, November 2011
- **Bonn and Beyond: Negotiating the future of women's rights in Afghanistan**  
Action Aid, December 2011
- **World Bank's gender WDR: too little, too late?**  
Bretton Woods Project, November 2011
- **Women's rights advocacy toolkit**  
Womankind Worldwide, November 2011
- **Healthier Returns: making aid for healthcare more effective**  
Save the Children, November 2011
- **Report of the International Policy Symposium on Population Dynamics and Climate Change**  
PSN, November 2011
- **Population Dynamics and Climate Change Fact Sheet**  
PSN, November 2011
- **Summary Report of the International Policy Symposium on Population Dynamics and Climate Change**  
PSN, November 2011

## 6. Campaigns/Calls for Papers

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### Independent Commission for Aid Impact: Engage with their work

ICAI has agreed that the terms of reference for ICAI studies will be published on the Commission's **website**, so that interested parties can inform ICAI final reports and recommendations. Once the terms of reference for each report have been drawn up, interested parties may then submit views on the programme or area of the aid budget under review based on the published terms of reference. These submissions will be used to inform the final report and recommendations. If you would like to submit views to ICAI please **email** them. ICAI ask that your views should be presented as concisely as possible and submissions should be no longer than 2,000 words long. Your submission must include the name and contact details of the person or organisation.

Submissions must be made by the deadline stated. Submissions made earlier than the deadline, however, will assist ICAI in the development of thinking for each area. Submissions will not be published. ICAI may quote from submissions in reports unless there is an explicit request for information to remain confidential. **Please note, ICAI will not respond to your submission.**

### **UN Trust Fund's 2011 Call for Proposals**

The United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women is accepting applications for its 16th grant cycle (2011) from government authorities, civil society organizations and networks - including non-governmental, women's and community-based organizations and coalitions, and operational research institutions - and UN Country Teams (in partnership with governments and civil society organizations).

The 2011 UN Trust Fund Call invites proposals in the following areas of action:

1. Closing the Gap on the Implementation of National and Local Laws, Policies and Action Plans that Address Violence against Women
2. Addressing Violence against Women in Conflict, Post-conflict and Transitional Settings

Applicants are invited to submit grant proposals for a minimum of US\$100,000 up to a maximum of US\$1 million for a period of two to three years. The application deadline is 19 January 2012.

The complete Call for Proposals detailing criteria, eligibility requirements and application guidelines is available [here](#) or via the UN Women homepage [webpage](#).

### **UNCTAD XIII: Civil society hearings and reminder for accreditation.**

Two hearings with civil society will be organized in Geneva as part of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Committee for UNCTAD XIII. They will provide civil society organizations with opportunities to contribute to the preparatory process and to provide inputs to the pre-conference negotiating text.

Pursuant to a decision taken by member States, the two hearings will take place on Friday, 20 January 2012 and on Wednesday, 7 March 2012 (hearings will last half a day).

Accreditation to UNCTAD XIII and the preparatory hearings:

Please note that only CSOs with observer status and those who will be accredited to UNCTAD XIII will be able to contribute and participate to the preparatory hearings, the Civil Society Forum and the other events at the Conference itself in Doha.

To apply for accreditation to UNCTAD XIII and its preparatory activities, please complete the **questionnaire** and return it with a copy of the requested supporting documentation. The completed application for accreditation should be received no later than 15 January 2012. Please do not hesitate to contact the **CSO Unit** if you need additional information on the accreditation process. Or visit their [website](#), for more information.

You can read the preface to the Report of the Secretary-General to UNCTAD XIII [here](#).

## **7. Events and Conferences**

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*There are no events to announce for the remainder of December.*

## **8. Job Openings**

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- **Women's Protection and Empowerment Coordinator/IRC (International Rescue Committee)/Nairobi**  
Closing Date: December 14 2011
- **Adviser on Gender Issues/OSCE (Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe)/Vienna**  
Closing Date: December 14 2011
- **Programme Specialist (HIV/AIDS)/UN Women/New York**  
Closing Date: December 16 2011
- **Director/European Network on Debt & Development/Brussels**  
Closing Date: January 6 2012
- **Finance Manager (part-time)/European Network on Debt & Development/Brussels**  
Closing Date: January 5 2012
- **Senior Manager, Population, Gender and Development/ICRW (International Centre for Research on Women)/Washington D.C.**  
Closing Date: Open until filled
- **Various positions at European Institute on Gender Equality/Vilnius, Lithuania**  
Closing Date: variable according to position applied for

## **9. Podcasts/Videocasts**

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- **A Threat to Women's Rights in Afghanistan**  
Action Aid, December 2011
- **15 Years of the UN Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women**  
UN Women, November 2011

The Gender and Development Network is a diverse membership network of leading practitioners, academics and consultants working on gender and development issues in the UK. The GAD Network has been active in advocacy and awareness-raising on gender and development issues since its founding in 1985. You can find out more about us on our website [www.gadnetwork.org.uk](http://www.gadnetwork.org.uk).

If you would like to become a member of the GAD Network please download the application form from our website or contact the GAD Network Coordinator at [lauren.donaldson@gadnetwork.org.uk](mailto:lauren.donaldson@gadnetwork.org.uk). Responsibility for the content of these notices belongs to the partner organisations submitting them. While every effort is made to ensure accuracy, the GADN cannot be held responsible for the content of those pages referenced by an external link.

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