

# Gender Integration in the World Bank Group Infrastructure Portfolio

*Mainstreaming Gender Equality in  
Infrastructure Projects*

*Asia Pacific Regional Meeting*

*10-11 November 2008, Manila*

*Moderated Panel: Where do we Stand Now?*

*Taking Stock of Institutional Experience*

**Nilufar Ahmad**

**Social Development**

**World Bank**

The views expressed in this paper are the views of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), or its Board of Governors, or the governments they represent. ADB does not guarantee the accuracy of the data included in this paper and accepts no responsibility for any consequence of their use. The countries listed in this paper do not imply any view on ADB's part as to sovereignty or independent status or necessarily conform to ADB's terminology.





## WBG Gender Policy

- **Gender advisor in 1970s, BP in 1994, OP 1999, Gender Strategy 2002**
- **Gender Action Plan (GAP) FY07-FY11)**
  - **Objective:** accelerate implementation of MDG 3 (promote gender equality and empower women) by increasing women's economic opportunities through enhanced access to product, labor, land and financial markets.
  - **Budget commitment: \$36.7 million (providing seed funds)**
  - **Activities:** (a) gender integration in operations and AAA; (b) pilot results-based initiatives; ©research, impact evaluation and statistics; and (d) communications
- **President Zoellick's 2008 World Bank Group 6 Commitments on Gender Equality**



## Objectives of the Gender Review of Portfolio

- Establish a baseline (FY06) for monitoring progress of Gender Action Plan (GAP)
- Assess status of gender integration, trends, internal and external influences
- Document and disseminate good practices
- Document challenges, and effective strategies to address them
- Identify opportunities for task teams to operationalize the Gender Action Plan in pipeline activities



## Gender in Sustainable Development Network (SDN) Strategies

- **2008 Sustainable Infrastructure Action Plan (SIAP)** adopts the triple bottom line (social, economic and environmental) and specific commitments for gender integration and performance monitoring.
  
- **Recognition of women's role in planning and decision making, gender based needs, actions for reducing gender disparity in:**
  - Social Development Strategy(2005) and 2008 Action Plan Update
  - Transport Business Plan(2008),
  - Water Strategy(2004)
  - Urban Development Strategy(2003)
  - ICT strategy (2001)



# Infrastructure Portfolio Review Methodology

Reviewed 1024 investment projects from FY95-07, 483 completed (47%) and 541 active.

- **Step 1: Gender Word search on investment project documents (design and completion), strategy, studies:**
  - Key gender word (female, male, women, men, girls, boys, gender).
  
- **Step 2: Search for 6 gender elements**  
**Data constraint: limited data on gender elements in these documents**
  1. Gender analysis
  2. Consultation with women as well as men
  3. Gender equity in Project Development Objectives
  4. Components/action for reducing gender disparity
  5. Gender-informed monitoring and evaluation
  6. Budget allocated for gender activities
  
- **Step 3: In depth analysis of 45 projects with at least 3 elements**  
All project documents reviewed, interviewed TTLs and task teams



## Gender in WBG Portfolio

- **90% of health and education projects FY04-05 integrated gender (Gender Action Plan 2006).**
- **Nearly 50% of the ARD projects integrated gender in FY05 (Gender and Rural Development Thematic Group Portfolio Review 2005)**
- **21 % of the infrastructure projects integrated gender in FY05 (Gender review of Infrastructure Portfolio, SDV, 2008).**



## Good Practice Findings : Increased Development Effectiveness through Gender Responsive Actions

- **Women's participation in design and decision making in water users' associations (WUAs) or Rural Electrification cooperatives improves governance, management, cost recovery and production** (Morocco, Karnataka, Kerala, Nepal Rural WSS and Bangladesh Rural Electrification)
- **Women's participation increases effectiveness, quality and sustainability of infrastructure rehabilitation and maintenance; high economic rate of return (31%); improved work environment**, as less violence and drinking in project sites (Peru Rural Roads Project)
- **Women's participation enhanced the benefits of mining for the poorest segments and promoted the sustainability of the project** (PNG Mining Sector Strengthening). Private sector accepted and using Bank's gender guidelines



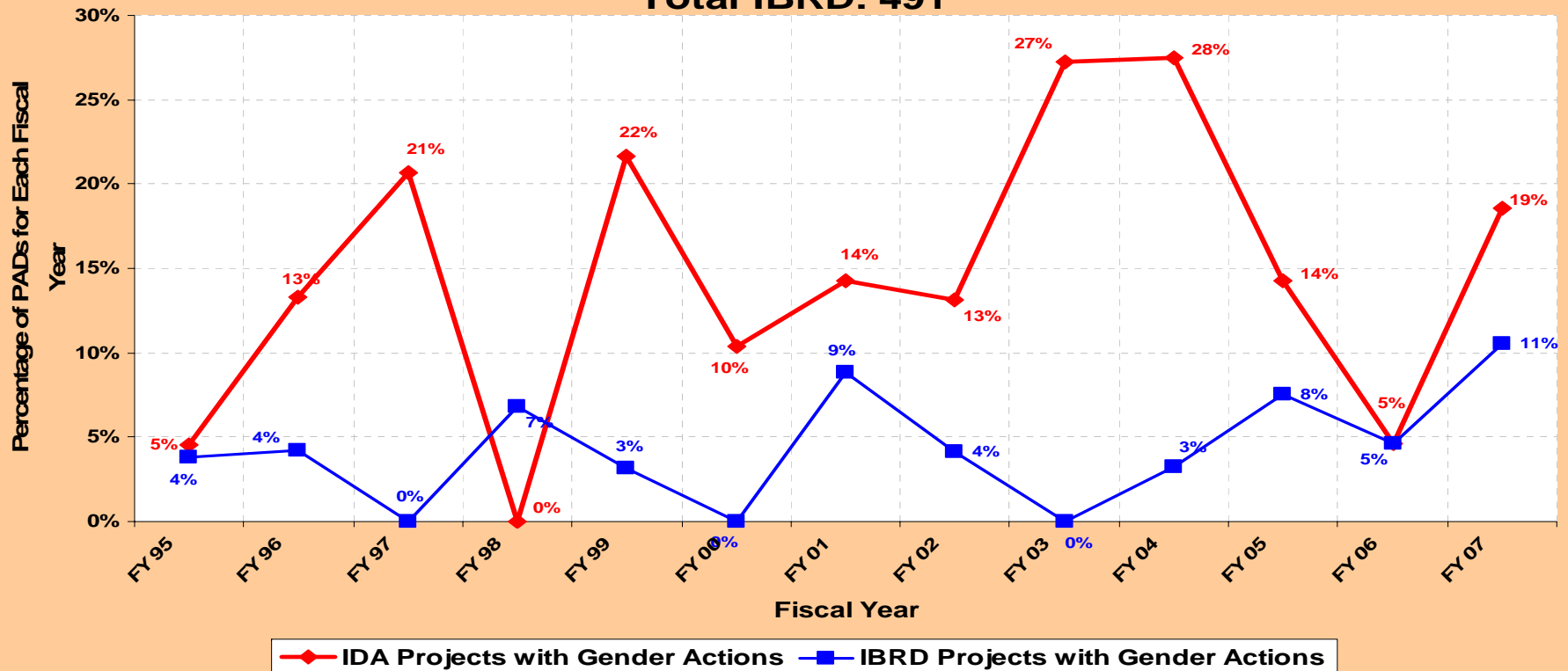
# Project Designs Responded to Gender Policy FY03-04 Gender Strategy and FY07 GAP

**Global, IDA & IBRD Gender Activities**

**Total PADs: 1,024**

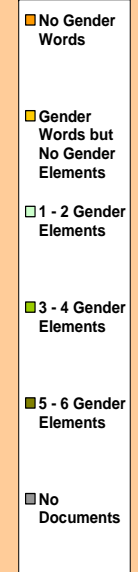
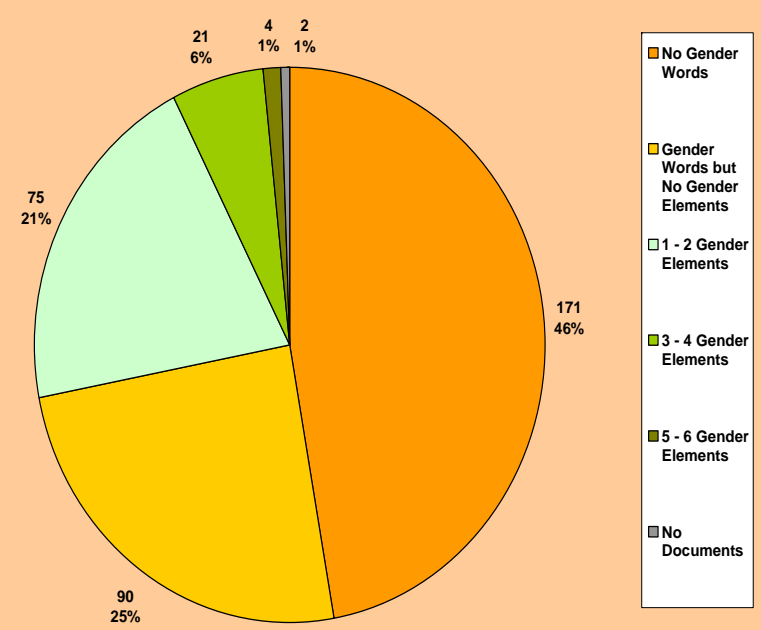
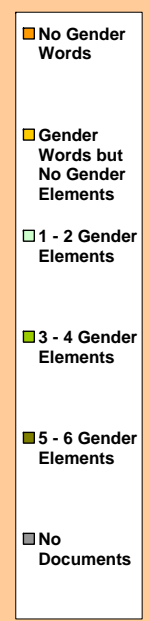
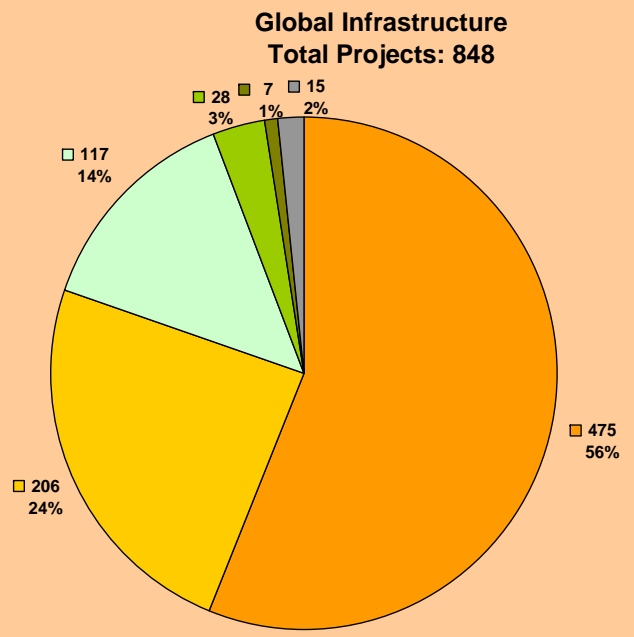
**Total IDA: 459**

**Total IBRD: 491**



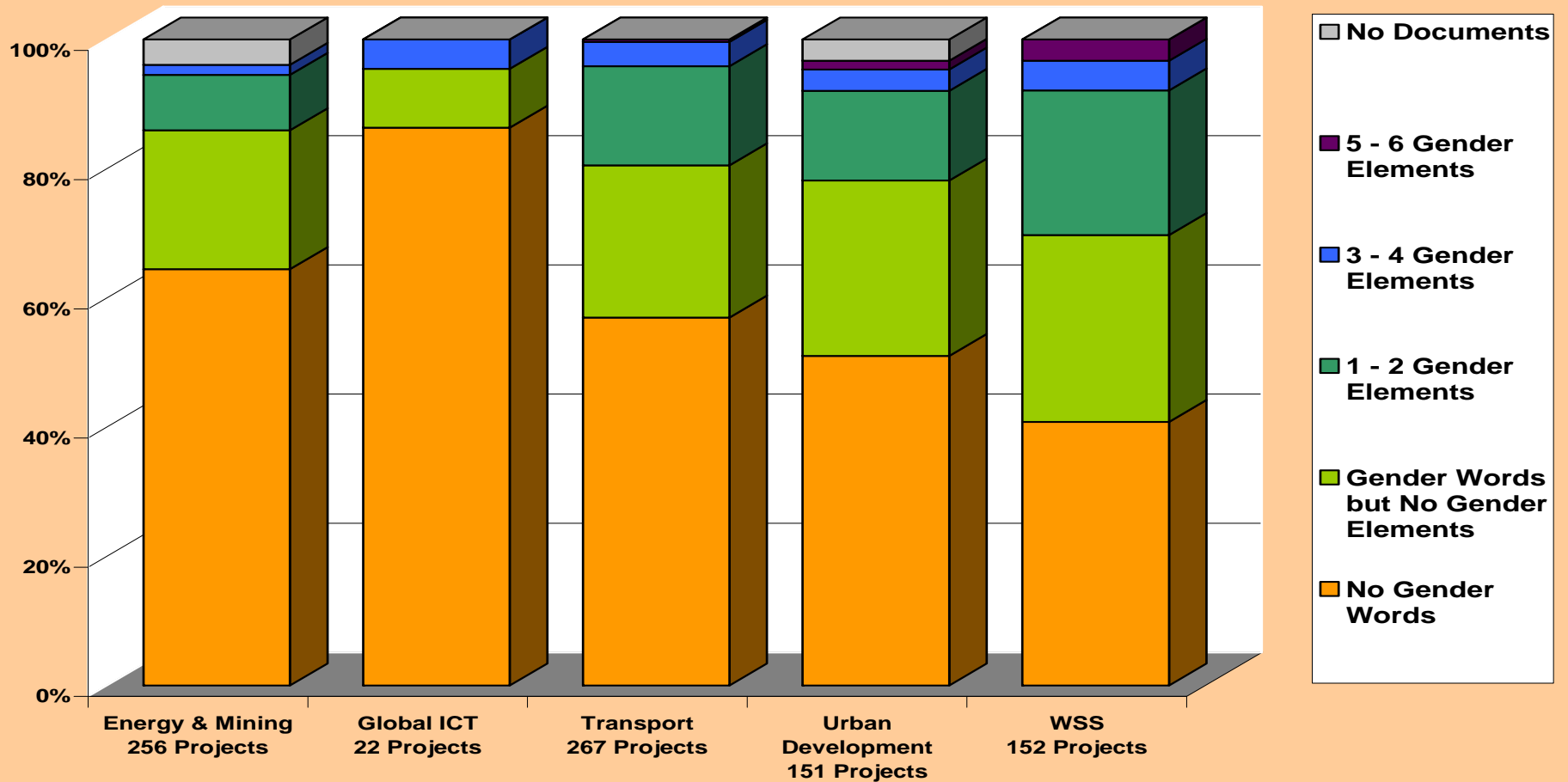


# Gender Integration in Total & IDA PADs FY 95-05. 28% of IDA and 18% of total (IBRD+IDA) projects integrated gender





# Gender Elements by Sector FY 95-05





## Challenges: Feedback from WBG Task Teams

- Limited resources for social and gender analyses of infrastructure
- Task teams are asked to address multiple, competing themes with no extra funding (gender, HIV/AIDS, climate change, governance)
- Gender and Infrastructure expertise constraints
- Time constraints
- Social and gender dimensions of infrastructure are rarely a priority
- Social Development and gender counterparts are rare
- Few incentives for Bank or implementing agency infrastructure staff to integrate gender
- Not all stakeholder are on same understanding or wave length



## GAP Implementation Plan for SDN

### Operational Guidelines and Monitoring

- Integrate gender using existing Bank's operational instruments – **social and environment OPs, social and environment assessments**
- Develop practical gender and infrastructure resources and results indicators

### Learning Agenda and Knowledge Products

- Capacity building sessions with staff and counterparts

### GAP seed funds for Infrastructure projects and studies

- GAP provided \$0.39 million and \$1.66 million in FY07 and FY08-09 respectively for Infrastructure and Agriculture and RD activities

### Social/Gender Dimensions of Climate Change and criteria for climate investments

Thank you

*[NilufarAhmad@worldbank.org](mailto:NilufarAhmad@worldbank.org)*

