



# Gender Network News

*The bi-monthly newsletter of Gender Network*

ADB

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## *Inside Pages*

### A. Upcoming Events

1. Seminar on Gender Issues in Post-Conflict Reconstruction, 12 November 2002, ADB HQ
2. Seminar on Gender, Macroeconomics and Trade: New Directions for Policy, 13 November 2002, ADB HQ
3. Gender and Water Discussed at ADB Water Week, 9-13 December 2002, ADB HQ

### B. GAD Activities in ADB

1. JFPR for Mindanao Poor Women Vendors Ready for Signing
2. TA Approved for Sustainable Employment for Women in Cambodia
3. Update on TA 3831-VIE: Gender Mainstreaming for Agriculture and Rural Development
4. Update on RETA 6007: Enhancing Gender Statistics
5. Staff's participation in gender conferences/meetings in November-December

### C. Resources

1. Useful websites on GAD

### D. Any Other Business

1. Upcoming Viet-Nam Country Briefing Paper on Women
2. Gender-related articles in the ADB Review

*The bi-monthly newsletter is meant to facilitate the exchange of information across the ADB on gender and development (GAD) activities and resources both within and outside the ADB. For any inputs/feedback/questions, kindly send them to Sonomi Tanaka, RSPR (direct 5339; e-mail: stanaka@adb.org) Zarah Zafra, RSPR (local 6995; e-mail: zmzafra@adb.org).*

*From: Gender Network Secretariat*

## *Contents*

### A. Upcoming Events

**Seminar on Gender Issues in Post-Conflict Reconstruction, 12 November 2002, 2:00-4:00 pm, ADB HQ (OER Briefing Theatre)**

The seminar will be organized by ADB's External Forum on Gender (EFG) in collaboration with the Regional and Sustainable Development Department (RSDD) as part of the 3rd EFG Session. It will introduce to ADB staff the range of gender issues that can arise in the various stages of post-conflict reconstruction and address questions such as: how can women's voices be integrated in peace negotiations and institution-building in post-conflict settings and in the resource allocation in post-conflict projects; how can human rights and security issues be integrated in transitional justice and development process. The following members of ADB's EFG will be the speakers for the seminar: Christine Chinkin (Professor, International Law, London School of Economics and Political Science, UK), Savitri Goonesekere (Senior Professor of Law and Vice Chancellor, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka), Patricia Licuanan (President, Miriam College, Philippines), Khunying Supatra Masdit (President, Center for Asia Pacific Women in Politics, Thailand) and H.E. Mu Sochua (Minister, Women's Veteran's Affairs, Cambodia).

**Seminar on Gender, Macroeconomics and Trade: New Directions for Policy, 13 November, 2:00-4:00 pm, ADB HQ (OER Briefing Theatre)**

The seminar will be organized by the EFG in collaboration with RSDD and the Economics and Research Department (ERD) as part of the 3rd EFG Session. It will discuss some of the recent literature on gender, economic growth and trade in South and East Asia. Speakers and topics for the seminar are (i) Stephanie Seguino (Associate Professor, University of Vermont, Department of Economics, U.S.) *Achieving Gender Equity in Asia under Conditions of Economic Openness: What are the Options;* (ii) Caren Grown (Director, Poverty Reduction

and Economic Growth, International Center for Research on Women, Washington DC) on *Trade and Macroeconomic Policy: The Role of Gender*; (iii) Jayati Ghosh (Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi) on *Women's Employment in Export Industries in Asia: The Real Trends*; and (iv) Eugenia McGill (Gender and Development Consultant, ADB) on *Gender Assessments of Trade and Investment Agreements*.

### **Gender and Water Discussed at ADB Water Week, 9-13 December 2002, ADB HQ**

The first ADB Water Week will be held on 9-13 December 2002 at ADB's Headquarters (Auditorium Zones C & D). The objective is to stimulate knowledge development in the water sector and promote dialogue with development partners on important water sector issues. Gender and water, as one of the cross-cutting issues, will be featured in one of the thematic seminars titled 'Fostering Stakeholder Participation', tentatively scheduled at 8:30 - 12:00 on Wednesday, 11 December. Two case studies that highlight women's participation, community-driven water management, and partnership with NGOs will be presented for discussion. All interested staff and outside participants are welcome. The detail will soon be featured on the ADB's water website: <http://adb.org/Water/default.asp>

## **B. GAD Activities in ADB**

### **JFPR for Mindanao Poor Women Vendors Ready for Signing**

On 7 August 2002, ADB approved grant assistance in the Philippines that will improve working conditions in the markets of Mindanao in the southern Philippines. The project, targeting 8 public markets in Mindanao, will benefit at least 1,600 poor women vendors and their family. The grant assistance, which will be implemented over a 3-year period, titled *Social Protection for Poor Women Vendors in Mindanao Cities* will pilot a sustainable program to help poor women vendors overcome the demands and constraints of performing multiple roles. The project will also support local government organizations or cooperatives in organizing the women into an association. The project will be financed from ADB's Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction (JFPR), financed by the Government of Japan. The project now awaits a signing ceremony.

### **TA Approved for Sustainable Employment for Women in Cambodia**

On 24 October 2002, ADB approved a TA in Cambo

dia that will contribute to the economic empowerment of disadvantaged women in the rural areas by strengthening the capacity of the Ministry of Women's and Veterans' Affairs (MOWVA) and the six other line ministries at the provincial, district and commune levels. The 18-months long TA titled *Sustainable Employment Promotion for Poor Women* will develop strategic framework in support of economic empowerment of women, and various tools for entrepreneurship training, market research and labor market information. This is the third ADB TA to assist MO-WVA and will start in November 2002. The TA is financed by the Poverty Reduction Cooperation Fund by the UK Department for International Development (DFID).

### **Update on TA 3831-VIE: Gender Mainstreaming for Agriculture and Rural Development**

The TA was approved in 1 February 2002. Under the TA, a series of stakeholder analyses is being carried out for the development of the gender strategy for agriculture and rural development, including structured interviews, focus group discussions and participatory workshops. Participatory stakeholder workshops are held in four provinces, namely: Kon Tum, Quang Binh, Tien Giang and Thai Binh. The initial assessment in the Thai Binh province revealed that agriculture has increasingly been "feminized" in this province as male household members leave home for urban centers to augment supplementary income. Thus women are saddled with agricultural tasks throughout the year bearing heavy burden. Both men and women interviewed expressed that they understand the difficulties the other gender faces. However the awareness of concepts such as gender mainstreaming, gender equity, and the difference between "gender" and "sex" is fairly limited. The findings of the stakeholder analyses in all provinces and the central level will be presented at the TA midterm review meeting in early December 2002 in Hanoi.



*Participatory Consultation for TA 3831: VIE*

## Update on RETA 6007: Enhancing Gender Statistics

The RETA, approved on 26 November 2001, is assisting 11 DMCs to (i) generate and analyze social statistics at the sub-national levels and with gender breakdowns from the census of population and (ii) explore other sources of these statistics for the years between the census years. The TA covers South Asia (Bangladesh, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka), and the Mekong Region (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam). Each DMC has already identified key statistics that require gender disaggregation and the data collection has started. The duration of the RETA is 12 months. For more information on RETA 6007, visit [http://www.adb.org/Statistics/reta\\_6007.asp](http://www.adb.org/Statistics/reta_6007.asp).

## Staff's participation in gender conferences/meetings in October-December 2002

S. Lateef, RSPR, participated in the *Informal Consultation on Strategies for Gender Equality* on 6-9 November 2002 in Oslo, Norway. The event was organized by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The purpose of the consultation was to exchange views on the effectiveness of gender mainstreaming as a strategy for the achievement of gender equality in the work of international organizations and discuss future strategies. Potential future strategies were also discussed.

M. Sultana, SASS, participated in the *Knowledge Sharing Workshop on Gender Equality and Local Governance*, 26-27 September 2002, in Quebec, Canada organized by the International Center for Municipal Development (ICMD) of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM). The theme of the workshop was access to power by women and the effective use of power by local governments to deliver services. M. Sultana presented a paper in the plenary session titled "Gender and Governance Issues in Local Government: the ADB Experience." Some of the major recommendations of the workshop includes (i) strengthening the role of female councilors in municipal decision-making, (ii) gender analysis in municipal planning, (iii) gender-based budget system in local governance, (iv) gender disaggregated monitoring system for municipality, (v) networking among women counselors, researcher, parliamentarian, women's organizations to make municipal services responsive to women's needs, etc. Her participation to the event was financed by the Social Development, Gender, and Social Protection Committee.

S. Tanaka, RSPR, participated in the Asia Europe Meeting (ASEM) Seminar on *Promoting Gender Equality*

to Combat Trafficking in Women and Children, 7-9 October 2002, in Bangkok, organized by the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs in collaboration with UN ESCAP and UNIFEM Bangkok Regional Office. This was the first anti-trafficking meeting that focused the gender dimensions of human trafficking in Asia. Ms. Tanaka will also attend *The Human Rights Challenge of Globalization in Asia-Pacific-US: The Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children*, 13-15 November 2002, Honolulu, organized by the Globalization Research Center at University of Hawaii at Manoa. She will organize a workshop and present the practical tools for 'anti-trafficking mainstreaming' developed under RETA 5948 Combating Trafficking of Women and Children in South Asia (visit <http://adb.org/Gender/reta5948.asp>). The RETA is also financing the participation of a few representatives of Bangladesh, India and Nepal to the conference. Ms. Tanaka's participation is being supported by the Social Development, Gender, and Social Protection Committee.

## C. Resources

### Useful websites on GAD

*The World Bank (WB) Gender in Transition.* The report highlights the differences between men and women in the 27 transition countries of Europe and Central Asia (ECA). The burden of the economic transformation has fallen in markedly different ways on men and women, with divergent trends emerging in the sub-regions, the report finds. (<http://web.worldbank.org/website/external/news0,,contentMDK:20068393~menuPK:34463~piPK:34424~theSitePK:4607,00.html>)

*UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) Gender and Development Discussion.* Discussion list run by the Gender, Research and Training (GREAT) unit of the School of Development Studies at the University of East Anglia, UK, aims to bridge divides between gender and development researchers, practitioners and individuals at dispersed locations. Much of the discussion is relevant to gender, agriculture and rural development.

(<http://www.dev-zone.org/cgi-bin/links2/jump.cgi?ID=4124>)

*United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) - Women and Management in Higher Education: A Good Practice Handbook.* The Beijing Platform of Action listed priority areas where further action was vital to ensure the personal empowerment of women so that they could make their full contribution to social development. Women in decision-making posts in all sectors was amongst these pri

orities. In higher education, this problem needs urgent attention as very few women are national policy-makers or institutional leaders. As this sector undergoes rapid and far-reaching changes, the contribution of well-qualified women is not only logical but also a matter of social and professional justice.

The handbook contains a wide range of experience, including the results of UNESCO's Special Project on Women, Higher Education and Development. This focuses on seven UNESCO Chairs and university networks to support women graduates in fields related to socio-economic and cultural development. This publication will certainly be useful to many stakeholders in higher education.  
(<http://www.unesco.org/education/pdf.singh.pdf>)

*United States Agency for International Development (USAID): WID Office Gender, Information Technology, and Developing Countries: An Analytical Study*, Hafkin, Nancy and Taggart, Nancy, 2001. This study analyses the current situation of gender and information technology in developing countries.  
([http://www.genie.ids.ac.uk/static/hafkin\\_gender.htm](http://www.genie.ids.ac.uk/static/hafkin_gender.htm))

*International Labour Office (ILO) Gender Promotion Programme e.quality@work: An information Base on Equal Employment Opportunities for Women and Men*, ILO, 2001. An ILO database on equal employment opportunities for women and men.  
([http://www.genie.ids.ac.uk/static/ilo\\_equality.htm](http://www.genie.ids.ac.uk/static/ilo_equality.htm))

*Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) Gender Equality and Peace Building: An Operational Framework*, Woroniuk, Beth, 2001. A tool to provide guidance to organizations working on conflict management.  
([http://www.genie.ids.ac.uk/static/woroniuk\\_gender.htm](http://www.genie.ids.ac.uk/static/woroniuk_gender.htm))

*Winston Churchill Memorial Trust of Australia Institutionalising Gender Equality Commitments in Development Organisations and Programs*, Hunt, Juliet, 2001. Report on successful strategies for advancing gender equality commitments by selected donor agencies.  
([http://www.genie.ids.ac.uk/static/winston\\_donor.htm](http://www.genie.ids.ac.uk/static/winston_donor.htm))

*United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) Gender Sensitive Budget Initiatives for Latin American and the Caribbean: A Tool for Improving Accountability and Achieving Effective Policy Implementation*, Esim, Simel, 2000. This report reviews the experiences, tools, and resources available for creating bud-

gets that promote gender equity.  
([http://www.genie.ids.ac.uk/static/esim\\_budgets.htm](http://www.genie.ids.ac.uk/static/esim_budgets.htm))

*International Women's Tribune Centre (IWTC)* find news articles on conflict and women (IWTC Women's Globalnet articles nos. 211 and 212) at <http://www.iwtc.org>.

**Donor Grants.** DFID's Gender and Development (GAD) provides small projects fund. This fund supports projects that specifically target gender issues. These projects focus on gender and development are intended to either add a gender dimension to an existing Higher Education links activity. These GAD projects can also be used to supplement existing main link activities, for example the wider dissemination of outputs that illustrate some gender dimension of a project.  
(<http://www.britishcouncil.org/education/helinks/gender.htm>)

## D. Any Other Business

### Upcoming **Viet Nam Country Briefing Paper on Women**

The Viet Nam Country Briefing Paper is scheduled for publication in early 2003.

### Gender-related articles in the **ADB Review**

The September-October 2002 issue of ADB Review features two gender-related articles by Omana Nair, External Relations Officer: *Fighting Trafficking: Ending the Agony* and *Urban Development: Taking Charge*. With poverty fueling the human trafficking industry an estimated 1 million-2 million people are trafficked annually; the first article highlights the effort of ADB and its partners in working towards empowering those most at risk. The second article features a component in the Karnataka Urban Development Project in which women in slum areas are assisted in establishing self-help groups for improved basic services and for livelihood enhancement.

The November-December 2002 issue will also include three ADB good practices on GAD.

For the previous issues of ADB Review, go to ([http://adb.org/Documents/Periodicals/ADB\\_Review/](http://adb.org/Documents/Periodicals/ADB_Review/))

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