

Newsletter April 2011



Timor Leste. UN Photo/Martine Perre

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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

Women's Rights in the Current International Aid Environment: Challenges and Opportunities

On Thursday 7 April, Rosalind Eyben drew on her research (**Pathways of Women's Empowerment**) for GADN's afternoon seminar on Women's Rights in the Current International Aid Environment. Rosalind's presentation was partly based on a number of consultancies for the **OECD Development Assistance Committee** and partly based on her own opinions. Earlier this year Rosalind wrote a piece for **Contestations**, where she concluded with a call to action: "Don't just leave this to monitoring and evaluation experts to worry about. It requires a massive push back from women's rights activists to make the space for social transformation that donor action risks shrinking." During the seminar Rosalind explored the reality of the environment in which we are collectively working and trying to promote women's rights, a reality which is not going to go away. As part of this Rosalind looked at the opportunities and challenges this reality presents, and asked: How should we respond?

Save the date: Monday 4 July – Beyond Women and Girls' Vulnerability: a debate on gender, climate change and disaster risk reduction

Join us at **IDS in Brighton** on **Monday 4 July** for the launch of publications on gender, climate change and DRR by **IDS, Plan UK** and **Oxfam** as we discuss alternatives to casting women and girls as always vulnerable to the effects of climate change and disasters. Alternatively, do global systems relating to climate change and disaster risk reduction serve the people who are the frontline of climate change – do they remedy or transform power? We are pleased to announce that the key note speakers will be **Lorena Aguilar, Ulrike Röhr** and **Irene Dankelman**. More information will be available soon.

Reminder: GADN is creating a database of case studies of both programme and advocacy projects on women's rights – please contribute with your examples!

As part of our strategy for 2011 the network has agreed to try to link our work more closely with partner organisations in the Global South. Many of our member organisations have a wealth of information on the work of their partners and GADN would like to provide a central resource of examples of programmes and advocacy campaigns on women's rights that have been undertaken by Southern CSOs. These will be available to our members, and through them their partner organisations, as well as to the broader public. Our aim is for this resource to provide an insight into the voices and priorities of these CSOs, as well as providing examples of good practice to facilitate learning.

The aim of the project is to:

- **Enable organisations working on women's rights to share their experiences and learn from one another.**
- **Enable GADN to root our own work better in Southern partners' experience.**

Case studies will be organised:

By programme or advocacy work

By region

By organisation

Please e-mail your case study examples to Charlie at gadnvol@oneworldaction.org

Reminder: Your plans wanted for your work on women's rights and gender equality

As the new financial year has just started, many organisations will be producing their plans for their work on women's rights and gender equality for the coming year. In order for GADN to keep up to date with the work members are doing and to identify opportunities for collaboration between members, GADN is asking members to share these plans. Please send them in to Lauren at gadnetwork@oneworldaction.org

Updates from GADN Working Groups

Violence Against Women and Girls

In February, the VAWG working group provided Lynne Featherstone, Ministerial Champion on International Violence against Women, with a briefing on recommended priority areas of focus for the Minister, namely Sexual Violence in Conflict as a Security Issue, and Violence against Women and Political Participation. In April, the working group followed up this briefing with recommended country visits for Lynne Featherstone in line with these priority issues. On Sexual Violence in Conflict as a Security Issue, GADN recommended visiting the DRC, Ivory Coast or Liberia, and on Violence against Women and Political Participation, visits to Afghanistan, Egypt, Liberia or Zimbabwe were recommended. The group outlined the importance of the Minister meeting with women's organisations and women's rights activists in the places she visits. The group assured the Minister that whichever countries she decides to visit, members of the network will be happy to facilitate meetings with relevant partners in those countries.

Gender Mainstreaming

Helen Derbyshire, an independent Gender and Social Development Consultant who has worked extensively with DFID, will be presenting at the next meeting on Wednesday 1 June. If you are a member of GADN and would like to get involved in this group and attend this meeting, please email gadnetwork@oneworldaction.org

Aid effectiveness

GADN's Aid Effectiveness working group will be meeting for the first time since the re-launch on Thursday 26 May. To find out more or if you would like to become a member of this working group, please email gadnetwork@oneworldaction.org

Economic Empowerment

GADN has recently launched a working group on economic empowerment. If you would be interested in joining, please email gadnetwork@oneworldaction.org

2. GADN Members' Update

- **CAWN** is delighted to invite you to a special meeting with **Guatemalan human rights defender, Claudia Samayoa** in collaboration with the **Amnesty International Central America team** on, Wednesday 11th May at 6:30pm at CAWN's office (One World Action), Bradley Close, 74-77 White Lion Street, London, N1 9PF

Claudia Samayoa is the director of *Unidad de Protección a Defensoras y Defensores de Derechos Humanos* (UDEFEQUA), Unit for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders -- Guatemala, an NGO that monitors attacks against human rights defenders in Guatemala, provides legal support, and campaigns against the impunity that exists in the country. Claudia will be talking about **UDEFEQUA's projects** and the challenges in **defending human rights and women's human rights in Guatemala**. Spaces are limited, please RSVP to campaigns@cawn.org to reserve yours.

- **CAWN** is pleased to announce the recent launch of their **Toolkit for Intersecting Violences: Putting Intersectional Analysis into Practice** as a companion to the Intersecting Violences report which was published in October 2010.

The toolkit showcases examples of women's organisations in Latin America and the U.K. that are practically implementing intersectionality in their work on Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG). As a resource it gives continuity to the campaign process and political impact to a new perspective for the creation of public policy with a holistic and inclusive focus in order to eradicate poverty and VAWG in Latin America.

This toolkit is available from **CAWN's website** and as a CD-ROM, please contact campaigns@cawn.org for your free copy.

The Spanish version of the toolkit will be released shortly.

- **ActionAid** is recruiting:

1) A **Policy Adviser** to support ActionAid's work by undertaking rigorous policy analysis, research and advocacy on aid, economic justice and development finance issues, looking both at aid and at how developing countries can exit from aid. The Policy Adviser will be involved in public debate, communicating our work through writing, media, social networks and public speaking. Deadline for application submission is **Monday 16th May 2011**.

2) **Policy Adviser (maternity cover)** to support ActionAid's strategic objectives by looking into how the private sector affects people living in poverty. The role will involve undertaking rigorous policy analysis and research, and propose directions for our advocacy work on business and human rights, identifying instances where the private sector could and does play a positive role in development, highlighting where engagement advocacy could be an effective approach to achieving change. It will also identify instances of corporate abuse by UK and other companies and areas where the private sector poses a significant barrier to our achieving strategic objectives. Deadline for application submission is **Tuesday 24th May 2011**.

3) **Director of Fundraising** to lead the Fundraising function setting the strategic direction and agenda for Fundraising in the UK as well as ensuring it drives delivery of our objectives. The Director will have overall responsibility for providing inspirational leadership to a team of 70 staff across a variety of fundraising areas including Philanthropy and Partnerships, Programme Funding, Supporter Marketing, Supporter Care and Major Gifts. This will involve developing campaigns, delivering effective systems to manage donor relations, ensuring value for money and setting best practice fundraising standards. Deadline for application submission is **Sunday 15th May 2011**.

Please visit the ActionAid **website** for further details on all positions.

- **Updates on UN Women from VSO** – Please find below a list of background papers to UN Women's strategic plan which was presented to the Executive Board on 20th April. The plan will go online shortly for NGOs to comment/feedback.

Regional and national plans for UN Women will begin around August/September, so you may want to advise your partners that this will be the timing for them to get in touch with their UN Women offices if they want to participate in those planning processes.

Summary of UN Women's Field Capacity Assessment - Minimum Requirements for UN Women's Country Level Presence

**Partner Consultations on UN Women's First Strategic Plan (2011-2013) April, 2011
Speed Briefing: Debate on UN Women – 10th March 2011**

- **WILPF** have produced a report on **“Women, Disarmament, Non-Proliferation and Arms Control”**. This report is from the annual International Women's Day seminar on disarmament which focused on the new General Assembly resolution A/RES/64/69. The report contains information about the seminar, the outcome, recommendations for governments and civil society, and the statement made in the Conference on Disarmament on International Women's Day.
- Development Consultant **Elsa Dawson** has written a paper on **CSO Gender and Diversity Capacity** (produced by INTRAC) which provides an overview of current thinking about capacity building of CSOs with regard to gender and diversity equality, as part of the overall effort to raise levels of effectiveness of development and humanitarian interventions. The paper explores practice to date and identifies key areas for further exploration based on the author’s experience of over 20 years working on the issue, particularly with the UK development sector. Please click the following **link** to download the full publication.

WIDE News

New WIDE Publication - “The Other Financial Crisis: Poor Women, Small Credits, Big Businesses” by Christa Wichterich.

“India is in the midst of a financial crisis that shows striking similarities to the US subprime crisis, both in its origins and the rescue strategies used. Just as the cheap mortgage granted to low-income households in the USA, the microcredits given to poor women in rural areas worked out as financialisation of everyday life and integration of the women into the global financial market with its return-based logic. This jeopardised the social processes and the very objectives at the heart of the initial non-profit microfinance model. The growth of this sector led to an over-supply of microcredits in villages and in turn to the over-indebtedness of women, the collapse of repayments and a capital shortage of the microfinance institutions. What seems at first sight to be a specifically Indian crisis results in fact from the market rationale of growth, overheating, and crisis.” (Wichterich 2: 2011)

Please click the following **link** to download the full publication.

- **WIDE calls for proposals for the AWID Forum 2012 - Transforming economic power to advance women’s rights and justice**

The AWID Forum 2012 will be held on **19-22 April 2012 in Istanbul, Turkey**. The 2012 AWID Forum aims to explore how economic power is impacting on women and the planet, and to facilitate connections among the very diverse groups working on these issues from both human rights and justice approaches to contribute to stronger, more effective strategies to advance women's rights and justice.

You have an opportunity to contribute to shaping the conversation and the strategies at the 2012 AWID Forum by submitting a proposal to organise a session.

AWID has selected 10 themes which reflect some of the core dimensions and manifestations of economic power. They are also crucial areas in which economic power impacts on and intersects with a diverse range of women's rights issues. Since the themes are interrelated, you will have the option, when submitting your session proposal, to indicate the "primary theme" to which your session proposal relates and whether your session is closely linked to a second theme as well. More detailed instructions regarding organization of a session can be found in the call. **Deadline for submission of proposals: 27 May.** Please see the **2012 Forum Website** and the respective **call for proposals** for more information (available in English, Spanish, French and Turkish) or contact Laura Paulus on laura@wide-network.org

3. DFID/EU/UN

- **US Secretary of State and Executive Director of UN Women Discuss Women's Leadership Roles in Emerging Democracies**
UN Women, 7 April 2011
- **UN Women Executive Director Michelle Bachelet Visits Panama**
UN Women, 15 April 2011
- **Open Letter To The UN Under-Secretary-General For UN Women: "Addressing The Needs Of Women With Disabilities In UN Women"**
WUNRN, 27 April 2011
- **World Pulse Delivers Letters To Michelle Bachelet Of UN Women**
World Pulse, 19 April 2011
- **Fifty-Fifth Session Of The Commission On The Status Of Women: Statement Of Indigenous Women "Together, United For Our Rights"**
FIMI-IWIF, 27 April 2011
- **UN Women Strategic Plan 2011 - 2013**
UN Women, 20 April 2011
- **Elements of UN Women Strategic Plan 2011 - 2013**
UN Women, 19 April 2011
- **Summary of UN Women's Field Capacity Assessment - Minimum Requirements for UN Women's Country Level Presence**
UN Women, April 2011
- **Partner Consultations on UN Women's First Strategic Plan (2011-2013) April, 2011**
UN Women, April 2011
- **Speed Briefing: Debate on UN Women – 10 March 2011**
UN Women, April 2011

4. Development News

- **Global: UN Chief Urges Men to Champion the Cause for Gender Equality**
UN News Centre, May 7 2011
- **Yemen: Yemen's Women Out From the Shadows**
The Guardian, May 7 2011
- **Global: Can Microcredit Reclaim Its Visionary Mission?**
IPS News, May 6 2011
- **Global: Analysis – Doubts Over Role of Cash Transfers in Women's Empowerment**
IRIN News, May 6 2011
- **Africa: Efforts to Boost Women's Status Show Results**
allAfrica.com, May 5 2011
- **UK: Global FRC Wants Annual Gender Policies Published**
GFS News, May 5 2011
- **Gambia: Health Journalists Trained on Gender Issues, Human Rights and HIV/AIDS**
Today Newspaper, May 5 2011
- **Taiwan: East Asia May Get Its First Woman President**
IPS News, May 3 2011
- **UK: Women in Politics: Progressive Decline**
The Guardian, May 2 2011
- **Nigeria: And the Women Lost Too**
The Sun News On-Line, May 1 2011
- **Bangladesh: Women Defy Islamic Clergy**
IPS News, April 28 2011
- **Asia: Lack of Jobs for Women Cost Asia Billions Yearly - Report**
Reuters, April 28 2011
- **Sudan: North Darfur Water Project Helps Protect Women from Sexual Violence**
IRIN News, April 27 2011

5. Publications & Resources

- **Relaunch of Policy Brief 2011 for the UNGASS High Level Meeting**
ICW, April 2011
- **Hidden Voices: Including Ethnic Minority Women in Policy Making**
OXFAM, April 2011
- **Gender, IFIs, and Food Insecurity**
Gender Justice Women's Rights, April 2011
- **Gender Toolkit For International Finance Watchers**
Gender Action, April 2011
- **Gender, IFIs and Food Insecurity Case Study: Ethiopia**
Gender Action, April 2011
- **'Peacemaking in Asia and the Pacific: Women's participation, perspectives and priorities'**
Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue, April 2011
- **CSO Gender and Diversity Capacity**

- INTRAC, January 2011
- **Launch of CEDAW South Asia Website**
CEDAW, 2011
- **Launch of the IATI Standard support site**
IATI, April 2011
- **Toolkit for Intersecting Violence: Putting Intersectional Analysis into Practice**
CAWN, April 2011

6. Campaigns/Calls for Papers

- **The Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice (IPJ) at the University of San Diego in California is currently accepting applications for its Women PeaceMakers Program (WPM)**

The WPM program is designed for leaders from conflict-affected countries around the world who are transforming conflict and assuring gender-inclusion in post conflict recovery through in human rights advocacy and peace building efforts they lead. These are women whose stories and best practices will be shared internationally; they are women who will have a respite from the frontlines work they do.

Four Women PeaceMakers are selected each year to spend two months in residence at the Institute. They will receive a small stipend while having their unique peacemaking stories documented, through both film and narratives that will be available to inspire others around the world. Women PeaceMakers in residence will have the opportunity to engage with the community through a series of public panels and to meet with other activists and leaders involved in human rights, political action and peacemaking efforts.

Four Peace Writers are selected each year to document the stories of Women PeaceMakers for publication. Writers will interview the Women and engage in extensive research to become familiar with the histories of their conflicts and peacemaking efforts.

Residency dates are **10 September – 5 November 2011 for *Peace Makers*** and **6 September – 23 November 2011 for *Peace Writers***.

Application Deadlines: Women PeaceMaker **1 June 2011** and Peace Writer Application **15 June 2011**

For more information about the program and an application please visit the IPJ **web site** at or contact Jennifer Freeman, Women PeaceMakers Program Officer, at jenfreeman@sandiego.edu

- **The Global Network of Women Peacebuilders (GNWP)** works to share knowledge and information on women and peace and security, and is creating a new page on the GNWP website listing global events relating to UN Security Council Resolutions 1325, 1820 and Women and Peace and Security overall. Therefore GNWP invites you to send in information on up and coming events/meeting/demonstrations that you may be holding, or that you know of in your region relating to women, peace and security.

If you have details to contribute please send the following information to alexstiles80@gmail.com and copy **helena@gnwp.org**

Name of event

Date of event

Venue

Short description of event

Link to for more information

Details on how to sign up for or participate in the event

This is an ongoing initiative, so please do continue to send the GNWP information on events as and when they take place. They will be sending a link to the events page once it is live for all to share and to hopefully provide information on events close to you.

- **The NEPAD/Spanish Fund** has announced its second call for proposals. The Fund will provide grants to projects in sub-Saharan Africa aimed at enhancing the empowerment of women and gender equality. The call for proposals will support initiatives under the following themes: improving women's economic empowerment, civil society strengthening and institutional strengthening.

Information on eligibility and guidelines for applicants is available on the NEPAD Agency **website**.

There is a specific proposal template/format, which must be adhered to when completing the application.

The deadline for submission of proposals is **15th May 2011 at midnight GMT**.

- **Live the Promise: HIV and AIDS Campaign Action Alert**

This week, negotiations have started in New York on a document that will encapsulate the outcome of the 2011 UN Review on AIDS. This review aims to assess progress made in the global HIV response over the last ten years. In particular, governments are analyzing the implementation of commitments made in the UN Declarations in 2001 and 2006. One such commitment promised to deliver universal

access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support by 2010. But this has not yet become a reality.

The new outcome document is expected to be formally adopted by governments at a High-Level Meeting in New York on 8-10 June.

What you can do

1. **Organise a meeting with your government in May. Download** the Civil Society Declaration and the EAA's talking points for faith-based representatives. To receive a copy of the zero draft of the outcome document, please email Ruth Foley at rfoley@e-alliance.ch
 2. **Hold a Parallel Prayer Breakfast in June.** On 10 June, EAA members and partners are holding an Interfaith Prayer Breakfast in New York. The event will promote leadership and accountability for the implementation of the new outcome document. In particular, it will bring together leaders from different sectors, including religious leaders, political leaders, business leaders, people living with HIV and representatives of key population groups, with a view to forging new partnerships for strengthened collaboration in the response to HIV. The event will be webcast. Why not consider holding a parallel event in your community? Contact Ruth Foley at rfoley@e-alliance.ch for more information.
- **EWIC invites interested scholars and graduate students to complete the scholars' template for publication on the free online EWIC Scholars Database.**

The **EWIC Scholars' Database** is an invaluable listing of scholars from all over the world and from all disciplines whose work focuses on women, gender, and Islamic cultures. Based on the authors' database for the *Encyclopedia of Women and Islamic Cultures*, this free online publication is a fully searchable directory of connecting scholars, students, policymakers, and activists with each other and with NGOs, governmental agencies, research foundations, publishers, members of the media, and potential employers seeking researchers whose work specifically covers issues on women and gender related to Islamic cultures.

Please visit the EWIC Scholars Database at <http://sjoseph.ucdavis.edu/ewic/template.htm> to contribute a scholar template.

Participation in this free online resource is a great way to network, share recent findings, and connect with potential colleagues.

7. Events and Conferences

- **A policy of empowerment: the politics of gender and technology in international microbicides research, Wednesday 18 May 12.45 – 2 p.m Jerry Morris A (Room G13), Tavistock Place, London WC1H 9SH.**

Guest Speaker: Dr Catherine Montgomery, ESRC Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Sociology Department, University of York

This seminar provides an account of the relations between science, society and technology in the development of the international microbicides research agenda. Vaginal microbicides are pharmaceutical products in development designed to reduce the sexual transmission of HIV in women. They are commonly known as a 'woman-controlled technology' and tool for women's empowerment, and form part of a burgeoning field of clinical research into new biotechnologies for HIV prevention. Using theoretical insights from science and technology studies (STS) and empirical data from key actors involved in the research process, this work sheds light on the global politics of prevention and the strategic use of gender and empowerment discourses to obtain research funding. This seminar explores the social production and perpetuation of socio-scientific discourses of gender and HIV, and discusses the implications of this for new prevention technologies in the context of global product development partnerships.

Admission: Free and open to all with no ticket required. Entry is on a first come, first served basis.

Contact: **Stefanie Ettelt**, email: stefanie.ettelt@lshtm.ac.uk

- **NAWO: "6 Acres of Land" Sunday 22 May 6.30-7.45p.m, Trestle Theatre, Hill End Lane, St Albans, Herts AL4 0JQ.**

A film directed by Fozlur Rashid set in rural Bangladesh about love, deception, land grabbing, villages, politics and more..

For tickets, please e-mail events@nawo.org.uk or contact **Momotaz** on **07775163600**. Prices are **£5 for adults** and **£3 for children** under 18.

- **"My Vision of the World" Tuesday 24 May 7.30 – 9 p.m, Bloomsbury Theatre, London WC1H 0AH.**

Four exciting speakers will debate their 'Vision of the World' by raising these important questions: is climate change the biggest problem, or is it over consumption? Which is the real answer? Should we improve health inequalities, reduce forced migration, tackle the human rights deficit or improve access to family planning?

Come and join this debate with speakers:

- Journalist and author **Yasmin Alibhai- Brown** speaking about the movements of people; migration, trafficking and the injustice of it all.
- Leading UCL academic **Professor Sir Michael Marmot**, who will talk about his concern over growing health inequalities.
- People quake author **Fred Pearce** will argue that western over consumption is the real threat of the 21st century.
- Director-General of the International Planned Parenthood Federation, **Dr Gill Greer**, arguing the importance of family and reproductive health in addressing population challenges.

To register for free, please click [here](#).

8. Job Openings

- **Consultant- Researcher on Gender and Elections/UNDP/New York**
Closing Date: May 13 2011
- **Director of Policy, Advocacy and Campaigns/Plan International/Surrey, UK**
Closing Date: May 27 2011
- **Programme Director – Gender,Sexuality and Identity/Amnesty International/London**
Closing Date: June 1 2011
- **Positions at ActionAid: Policy Adviser, Polciy Adviser (maternity cover) and Director of Fundraising, ActionAid, London, UK.**
Closing Date: variable depending on position.

9. Podcasts/Videocasts

- **Libya: Eman al-Obeidi in-person interview on CNN**
Women living under Muslim Laws, April 2011
- **Mother's Day 2011 - Clessence's Story**
Women for Women International, April 2011
- **Laura Bailey's journey to Ghana and Liberia for Maternal Health**
OXFAM, April 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.

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

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