

GENDER & DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

Newsletter January 2011



UN Photo/Eric Kanalstein

Afghanistan Swears in New Parliamentarians

Women parliamentarians of the Afghan Lower House (Wolesi Jirga or “House of the People”) arrive at their inauguration ceremony in Kabul, Afghanistan’s second parliamentary inauguration since 2001. Women make up 69 of the 249 candidates elected to Afghan parliament on 18 September 2010.

26 January 2011

CONTENTS:

- 1. GADN News**
- 2. GADN Members’ Update**
- 3. DFID/EU/UN**
- 4. Gender and Development News**
- 5. Publications**
- 6. Campaigns/Call for papers**
- 7. Events and Conferences**
- 8. Job Openings**
- 9. Podcasts/Videocasts**

*****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

GADN meets with Lynne Featherstone MP, International Violence Against Women Champion

At the end of January, GADN met with Lynne Featherstone MP and colleagues from the Home Office, Foreign Office and DFID to talk about her new role as International Violence Against Women Champion. The GADN Violence Against Women working group put together a coordinated brief for the Minister which draws on a range of examples of their work and the work of their partners which have made a real difference to the lives of women around the world. The group looks forward to working with the Minister over the coming months as she identifies her priorities and areas to focus on.

GADN comments on HMG's action plan for tackling violence against women and girls for 2010-15

In October, GADN was asked to comment on HMG's strategy for tackling violence against women and girls for 2010-15. Following this, in January GADN welcomed the invitation from DFID to comment on their initial draft of the Action Plan, which contains more substantive narratives articulating desired outcomes, and outputs and activities. GADN looks forward to working with DFID on the development of the final plan.

GADN responds to consultation on DFID's Business Plan

The Network welcomed the opportunity to respond to the information strategy section of DFID's Business Plan. GADN has been pleased to see DFID's ongoing support of and commitment to women's rights. The priority given in the Business Plan to improving maternal health, and the inclusion of the related outcome measure, are very encouraging. More broadly, we have warmly welcomed DFID's focus on promoting gender equality as a departmental priority, and GADN commended DFID on its strong commitment to empowering women and girls in the Business Plan.

GADN called for the inclusion in the Plan of impact indicators, beyond maternal health, to support their commitments, which include increasing the number of girls completing secondary and primary education; promoting economic empowerment of women and girls through jobs and access to financial services; and piloting new approaches to eliminating violence against women and girls. GADN suggested two impact indicators for meeting their commitments to ending VAWG and promoting women's economic empowerment. GADN also called for all data across the Business Plan to be gender disaggregated.

GADN Members Meeting – Save the Date

Please save **Thursday 7 April** for a GADN Members Meeting on **Women's Rights in the Current International Aid Environment: Challenges and Opportunities**.

If you are a member of GADN interested in joining the GADN Aid Effectiveness Working Group, please email Lauren (GADN Coordinator) on gadnetwork@oneworldaction.org.

2. GADN Members' Update

- **CARE** is looking for a **Head of Advocacy**, a **Campaigns Volunteer** and a **Parliamentary Volunteer**. The closing date for Head of Advocacy closing date is **13 February**, and the volunteer posts **8 February**. Please click on the positions for more information.
- Back in November a roundtable was convened at **WaterAid**, co-hosted by the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) and Sanitation and Hygiene Applied Research for Equity (SHARE), to discuss lessons learnt and areas for further research and collaboration on approaches for menstrual hygiene management.

This briefing note is intended to raise awareness and promote discussion around the neglected issues of menstrual hygiene management - which has far-reaching implications for health, education and gender in developing countries.

- **Rosalind Eyben (IDS)** and **Emily Esplen (One World Action)** have written articles on the new donor agenda and women's rights in the latest issue of **Contestations**. Rosalind concludes 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." Read more **here**.
- On **Wednesday 16 February VSO** will be holding a day of action in Westminster to highlight their **Godmothers campaign** and get MPs showing their support for UN Women. The day will begin with high profile celebrity and political speakers, inspiring films and a video message from the new head of UN Women. Then, after a quick photo-call campaigners will descend on Parliament en-masse to meet with MPs and explain face-to-face why UN Women is important to us. Don't worry if you've never met your MP before, VSO will help make sure you feel properly prepared and know what to do! VSO hope you'll be able to join them for what promises to be a fun-packed day that will help generate real excitement and momentum behind the campaign. You can reserve a place by filling your details in **here**.
- **CAFOD** promotes a holistic response to HIV-related care and mitigation which seeks to improve the quality of life of people living with and affected by HIV. Over the past year CAFOD has been working on two participatory M&E tools that help to identify whether a holistic response is in place and whether this response is improving quality of life.
 1. **The Mapping Tool** has been developed to identify the availability, affordability and accessibility of HIV care and mitigation services that constitute a holistic HIV response
 2. **The Batteries Tool** has been developed for programme clients, both living with and affected by HIV, to enable them to assess their own Quality of Life and look at any changes that may have occurred over time

Both tools can be used individually, but used in conjunction, comparisons can be made between an assessment of services and a client assessment of their own quality of life,

highlighting areas where a programme response may need to change, or good practice examples of where a programme is working well.

- The **NFWI** has been working with **Oxfam** and The Everyone Foundation on a three year educational project focusing on world poverty, climate change and gender inequality. 'Women Reaching Women' aimed to broaden awareness of these issues amongst WI members, their families and communities. On **Tuesday 12 April, NFWI, Oxfam** and The Everyone Foundation will be hosting the '**Women reaching Women Conference 2011**' at **The Commonwealth Club, 25 Northumberland Avenue, London WC2N 5AP from 11am-4pm**. The conference will showcase the work the WI, Oxfam and The Everyone Foundation have been doing over the past three years. Speakers will include Ruth Bond, Chair of NFWI, Barbara Stocking, Chief Executive of Oxfam GB as well as members of the current government. Other contributions will come from an expert panel (including women who lead development efforts across the globe) and other speakers on gender inequality, particularly in relation to the Millennium Development Goals. The conference will also be an opportunity for us to share key lessons from the project on how to engage the wider public on these issues in a way that inspires, informs and empowers. A toolkit of key lessons will be launched, which we hope will offer useful insights on public engagement for organisations working on these issues. Please e-mail s.mason@nfwf.org.uk to confirm your attendance.
- The November 2011 issue of the international journal ***Gender & Development***, (published for **Oxfam GB** by Routledge/Taylor and Francis) will focus on Citizenship. G&D is essential reading for all concerned with gender-fair development. We are currently read in over 90 countries, and our content is published as a journal, both on-line and in print. We also publish our content on our free access **website**. Development and feminist policymakers and practitioners, and academic researchers, are all invited to share insights from research and experience of Citizenship-focused development/humanitarian work in particular country contexts, which has direct relevance to development policy and practice.

This issue focuses on development initiatives and activism focusing on the gender aspects of Citizenship – the relationship between people and the state. Please send a paragraph outlining your proposed idea to csweetman@oxfam.org.uk as soon as possible, and before the commissioning deadline: **21 February 2011**. If we are able to offer space for your contribution, we will write to you by 1 March to say so. Commissioned articles will need to be completed for a deadline of 15 May 2011.

Please note G&D has an editorial policy of publishing in clear, jargon-free English, in order to be of use to the widest possible readership. **G&D particularly welcomes contributions from first-time writers with first-hand experience to share.**

News from WIDE

WIDE Annual Conference 2010 Report Published

Migration and globalisation are key issues for the women's movement as they are having serious impacts on women's lives and rights.

Women from all corners of the globe including many representatives from European migrant women associations came together at the WIDE conference to share and reflect on this open question of migrant women's human rights at risk, compelling participants to rethink, expose and denounce the architecture of policy-making in Europe (and globally), and to explore the links between decisions taken at a global level and the impact they have on the ground.

The conference offered a space for shared thinking, theoretical analysis, empirical knowledge, and to define a roadmap for political action. Participants were asked to think hard, to look into the future and get ready for action. The conference offered some stepping stones and ideas on how to transform policy frameworks, to change mindsets and on how to make the global trade architecture work for the enforcement and protection of the human rights of migrant women.

You can download the report from [here](#).

WIDE Report: 'Enhancing Gender Mainstreaming in EU Policies and Practices in Trade and Development

In this report, WIDE national platforms share their best practices and lessons learned on how to develop, maintain, and improve dialogues with other stakeholders, primarily with EU Member States governments. In 2010, 11 WIDE national platforms were engaged in structural dialogues with 11 national authorities and EU institutions through lobby meetings, multi stakeholder meetings and EC CSO dialogue meetings.

Best practices described in this report are now published [here](#). The activity will continue in 2011.

3. DFID/EU/UN

- **Harriet Harman writes to Andrew Mitchell on funding for women's organisations in Afghanistan**
Labour Campaign for International Development, 19 January 2011
- **New UN Women Head Gives 100-Day Action Plan**
UN News Centre, 24 January 2011
- **Michelle Bachelet to Make Economic, Political and Social Case for Women at the World Economic Forum**
UN Women, 25 January 2011
- **UN Women Celebrates its Creation at African Union Summit**
UN Women, 30 January 2011
- **UN Women Head Unveils Empowerment Agenda**
IPS News, 26 January 2011
- **Choices for women: planned pregnancies, safe births and healthy newborns**
DFID, December 2010
- **Press release on Choices for women: planned pregnancies, safe births and healthy newborns**
DFID, 31 December 2010

4. Development News

- **Nigeria: Women Seek Gender Equality in Politics**
allAfrica.com, February 1 2011
- **Women Left Out in the Cold at Davos**
The Guardian, January 28 2011
- **OPT: Little Recourse for Victims of Gender Based Violence**
IRIN News, January 27 2011
- **Women's Rights are In Danger of Becoming a Wordfest**
The Guardian, January 27 2011
- **UN Women Head Unveils Empowerment Agenda**
IPS, January 26 2011
- **Men oppose to violence against women forms organization**
Women's Net, 25 January 2011
- **The GREAT Women project empowers women in Quezon**
PIA, 22 January 2011
- **GIDD urges enactment of gender-based**
Post Zambia, 20 January 2011
- **UN Agencies to Launch New Report on Gender and Work in Agricultural and Rural Areas**
ILO, January 19 2011-02-01
- **Women in high places: The EU's diplomatic (gender) balancing act**
European Women's Lobby, 18 January 2011
- **DSWD inks pact to end poverty**
Cebu Daily News, 18 January 2011
- **Malawi: Nation is at a Crossroads**
AllAfrica.com, 17 January 2011
- **Militancy Takes On a Female Face**
IPS, 17 January 2011
- **Textile sector largest employment provider to women**
The News International, 16 January 2011
- **Increasing Women's Participation in Climate Change Negotiations**
Daily Observer, 14 January. 2011
- **Women Dream of Independence**
IPS, 13 January 2011
- **Women's Coalition Denounces Exclusion by Security Council**
IPS, 12 January 2011
- **New President's First Steps Fuel Optimism of Women's Movement**
IPS, 12 January 2011
- **Women's Initiation in Zambia: Dancing in Bed**
IPS, 11 January 2011
- **Dalit Women's Aspirations Brought Home Impact of 'Double Discrimination'**
The Guardian, 11 January 2011

5. Publications & Resources

- **Gender and Development Cambodia: A Qualitative Exploration of Gender Norms, Masculinity and Domestic Violence**
November 2010
- **Oxfam: Haiti Progress Report 2010**
January 2010

- See also publications under ‘**GADN Member News**’

6. Campaigns/Calls for Papers

Call for Contributions: Feminism & Psychology Special Issue

Trans(cending) Psychology: Advancing Feminist Scholarship on Gender and Transgender experience

Edited by T. Evan Smith and Megan R. Yost

The field of psychology has been criticised for pathologising transgender identities and experiences rather than viewing trans lives as valid variations of gender identity and expression. Transactivism in the academy includes the development of the relatively new interdisciplinary area of transgender studies; this field examines transgender identities and experiences and interrogates the concepts of sex and gender.

Scholars with interests in the intersection of feminism and psychology are invited to break new ground in understanding the lives of trans-identified people and in psychological theorising of gender through a trans-focused lens. We seek manuscripts addressing the theory, method, and practice of feminist psychology, broadly construed, relating to transgender experience.

We particularly welcome contributions that address:

- Theorising that considers the relationships among feminist psychology, research methodology, and transgender studies;
- Analyses of sociohistorical contexts, religion, capitalism, colonisation history, heteronormativity, other sociopolitical forces, and other meaningful social identity categories (race, class, sexuality) as they influence trans people's identities and experiences, or as they influence our understandings of trans experiences;
- Implications of trans-spectrum identities and communities for theorizing gender, the gender binary, the social construction of gender, and gender essentialism;
- Ways in which the lived experiences of trans-identified people demonstrate agency and self-definition outside the realm of psycho-medical discourses;
- Feminist alternatives to the "gatekeeper" role that psychologists have traditionally played in trans-related diagnosis and health care;
- Transnational and international perspectives on trans identities and lives, using culturally-specific analyses that consider the sociocultural specificity of gender variant practices (particularly within non-Western contexts);
- Reflections on the ways that feminist psychologists can contribute to social change that will enhance the lives of trans-spectrum people.

We also welcome submissions on other relevant topics. This Special Issue will include a mixture of full-length articles (up to 8,000 words), brief reports (up to 3,000 words), and observations and commentaries (up to 2,000 words).

Submissions are due July 1, 2011, and will be subjected to the typical peer review process.

For informal discussion and to submit your manuscript, email the guest editors at transfempsych@etown.edu.

Campaign: Take a Minute, It Could Change Her Life

As the 100th birthday of International Women's Day approaches, we are launching a campaign to encourage governments to direct more of their international aid budgets to projects which benefit women.

Please take a minute (that's all it is) to watch the **video** and sign the **petition**. The video explains why women get a raw deal in Africa, and what you can do to change this. Make your voice heard - and help to change the lives of millions of Africa's poorest people.

If you've got another minute, please send it on to your friends and contacts and add to your facebook pages and other networks you subscribe to.

7. Events and Conferences

- **Equals on Film, International Women's Day, 8 March 2011**

To celebrate the 100th anniversary of International Women's Day on 8 March 2011, Good Screenings and Bond are working together on a Global Film Festival. Communities around the world are encouraged to screen a film from our Equals on Film programme that highlights key issues facing women today.

Please consider whether this might be a useful resource for your organisation, your partners or your supporters.

To find out more, please visit the **Good Screenings website** or email **bookings@goodscreenings.org**.

- **Whose aid is it anyway? Politicising aid in conflicts and crises, Friday 11 February, 1-2pm, Library, RUSI Building, 61 Whitehall, London SW1A 2ET**

This event launches a new Oxfam International report, "Whose aid is it anyway? Politicising aid in conflicts and crises". Speakers will present the report's key findings, followed by a panel discussion on the uses of aid, humanitarian action and development for military, security and geopolitical objectives.

Oxfam's new report presents a global overview of a growing challenge to both humanitarian action and development: the impact of donors' military, security and geopolitical objectives on the allocation and delivery of international aid. It draws on the experiences of Oxfam's programmes and partners from Yemen and Afghanistan to Kenya and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Please RSVP to Mike Lewis at **mlewis@oxfam.org.uk**

- **Women in Public Life “Empowerment through Inspiration”, 14 and 15 February, Mansion House, London.**

The Arab – British Chamber of Commerce with the support of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and UK Trade and Investment is proud to be holding “Women in Public Life 2011.”

The conference will be attended by leading business women and men from across the Arab World and the UK providing delegates with an opportunity to meet some of the most influential individuals from the two regions.

Senior representatives from both the public and private sectors will address issues concerning the important role of women in the global society. The conference will explore areas of Education, Business and Social Responsibility, Trade and Investment, Social Care and Health, and Empowering Women in Public Life.

To apply to register, please visit <http://www.abcc.org.uk> or contact adam@abcc.org.uk.

- **IPPF – Girls Decide - World Premier of new film series focused on girls’ decisions about sex, pregnancy, HIV, abortion and relationships around the globe - Wednesday 16 February, 5-7pm, 19-21 Great Malborough Street, London, W1F 7HL.**

Screening of a new series of films as part of the IPPF initiative, Girls Decide: stand up for choice on sex and pregnancy. The Girls Decide films share the stories of six girls from around the world in Bangladesh, Argentina, Swaziland, Albania, Syria and Indonesia.

The event will also launch three new publications:

I Decide: Young women’s journeys to seek abortion care.

What do I do if I’m living with HIV?

Girls Decide: Healthy choices for sex and pregnancy.

Please contact either Paul Bell at pbell@ippf.org or Katie Chau at kchau@ippf.org for further information.

- **Houses of Parliament Outreach Service: Get Involved Beyond the Vote, Friday 18 February, 10am-3pm, The Attlee Suite, Portcullis House, Houses of Parliament, London SW1A 0AA**

This free workshop is arranged by the Houses of Parliament Outreach Service and the European Parliament Outreach Service in partnership with **NAWO**. The event will focus on how you can get involved and everyone is welcome.

It will cover: the role of Parliament; Select Committees; Legislation; Questions and Debates; and Accessing useful information.

Places are available on a ‘first come first serve’ basis so please contact Ciarán Norris at norrisc@parliament.uk by **Tuesday 15 February** to register.

- **A European Road Map for Equality, Thursday 10 March, 12-2pm, Europe House, 32 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3EU**

European Network meeting featuring key speaker Barbara Helfferich, European Consultant for gender issues and Senior Associate G5, Brussel. Drinks provided but please bring your own lunch. For further details and to register for this free event, please email events@nawo.org.uk.

- **Population Footprints 25-26 May 2011, The Mermaid Conference Centre, London EC4V 3DB**

The symposium will aim to provoke debate on themes often regarded as simply too controversial and difficult to be tackled through rational analysis, with sessions addressing:

- The likely causes and effects of both northern and southern population migration in the 21st century
- The most appropriate public policy responses to projected changes in population dynamics, and common ground for meaningful dialogue
- The most important determinants of population growth and how to prepare for it
- How paradigms of gender and sexual rights should be developed to meet the challenges
- The medium term implications of different global patterns in ageing
- The 'fair' and sustainable level of carbon emission for each person

The themes will be discussed by an impressive list of internationally renowned speakers from universities, NGOs and civil societies, multinational and government agencies. You are invited to register through the **website** as soon as possible.

The deadline for poster submissions is 21 February 2011.

8. Job Openings

- **Project Manager - MIS Implementation / Oxfam Canada / Ottawa, ON, Canada.**
Closing Date: 7 February
- **2011 HIV and AIDS Programme Associate / The Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa (OSISA) / Johannesburg, South Africa.**
Closing Date: 8 February
- **Executive Director / The Alliance for Children's Entitlement to Social Security (ACCESS) / Cape Town, South Africa.**
Closing Date: 11 February 2011
- **Senior adviser, Economic justice/ Christian Aid/ London.**
Closing Date: 11 February 2011
- **Programme Specialist / UN Women / Chisinau, Moldova.**
Closing Date: 11 February 2011
- **Director of Development / The Center for Health and Gender Equity (CHANGE) / Washington, DC, USA.**
Closing Date: 11 February 2011

- **Senior Policy and/or Campaigns Officer/Health Poverty Action/ London. (12 month maternity cover)**
Closing Date: 14 February 2011
- **Coordinator, All Party Parliamentary Group on Business, Human Rights & the Environment**
Closing Date: 14 February 2011
- **2011 Director, Strategic Partnerships, Advocacy, Civil Society, Communications and Resource Mobilization Division / UN Women / New York, NY, USA.**
Closing Date: 15 February 2011
- **Research Coordinator positions (Unpaid) / Femin Ijtihad / Various locations.**
Closing date: 20 February 2011
- **Policy Advisor, Women and Food Justice/ Oxfam Canada/ Ottawa, Ontario**
Closing date: 20 February 2011
- **Monitoring and Evaluation Officer / Women for Women International / Washington, DC, USA.**
Closing Date: 28 February 2011

9. Podcasts/Videocasts

- **Radio 4 appeal: Womankind Worldwide**
Womankind Worldwide, 30 January 2011
- **Sandi Toksvig visits Womankind's partners in Ghana**
Womankind Worldwide, 30 January 2011
- **Press Conference on UN Women's 100-Day Action Plan**
UN Women, 28 January 2011
- **Become a Godmother - Case Study: Bangladesh**
VSO, January 2011
- **Andrew Mitchell and Lesley Abdela discuss UN Women and The Godmothers campaign Woman's Hour.**
BBC Radio 4, December 31 2010

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 **gadnetwork@oneworldaction.org**.

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