

## Information Round-up November 2009



Image from [http://www.flickr.com/photos/hidden\\_vice/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/hidden_vice/)

### CONTENTS:

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1. GADN News
2. Members' Updates
3. UK/EU/UN
4. Development News
5. Publications
6. Campaigns/Call for papers
7. Events and Conferences
8. Job Openings

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## 1. GADN News

**\*\*\*Did you know that the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence was launched on the 25 November 2009 which is also the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women – this Newsletter contains a special focus on VAW as part of the UK GADN’s contribution to the 16 days of activism. \*\*\***

- **The NEW UK Gender and Development Network is launched**

After a lot of hard work the new UK GADN website has been launched. As we know so many of you use websites to get updates and information we have launched it as soon as possible – so please bear with us whilst we load up our resources back onto it along with all of our new resources! Please feel free to have a look around and let us know if there is anything you feel needs adding or more information you would like to see. Our new website can be found here: [www.gadnetwork.org.uk](http://www.gadnetwork.org.uk)

- **The UK GADN and Tearfund host meeting: Having Faith!**

On 12 November 2009 Tearfund hosted GADN members at its Teddington offices to discuss the challenges and opportunities of working with faith based development organisations on gender and women’s rights. The speakers grappled with the questions of:

- How do you overcome the problems that arise when religious text or scripture is used to justify gender injustice
- What are the challenges and opportunities of engaging with FBOs on gender and development and what are the first steps to doing so?

Speakers included:

- Revd Rachel Carnegie, Archbishop of Canterbury's Secretary for International Development
- Peter Grant - International Director, Tearfund
- Amanda Marshall - Programme Advice and Support, Tearfund
- Nida Kirmani - Researcher for the Religions & Development Programme and Islamic Relief
- Tanya Haque - Gender Advisor, CAFOD
- Rachel Aston - Head of Social Policy, Mother’s Union
- Jeffery Jonkers - Secure Livelihood Programme, Christian Aid

- **UK GADN published in the Independent urging UK Government to act to end violence against women and girls worldwide!**

“On Monday 23 2009 Yasmin Alibhai-Brown wrote ‘The truth is that all nations would prefer it if women went back indoors again’. The sad reality is that ‘indoors’ is exactly where many women around the world are least safe.

Violence against women and girls is one of the most widespread abuses of human rights affecting 1 in 3 women globally. It is not only a major cause of death and disability, but it is also a leading factor in global poverty. Violence prevents women and girls from escaping poverty by limiting their choices and ability to access education, earn money, or participate in political and public life. Physical and sexual violence is routinely used in many countries to intimidate and control women and girls as well as their families and communities, both in conflict and in ‘peaceful’ societies.

Yet violence perpetrated against women and girls continues to be invisible and unacknowledged as a pressing global issue. The international community’s silence means that this global scandal goes unchallenged.

Today is the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, which launches the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence globally. Ending violence against women worldwide requires leadership from committed governments like the UK's. As a signatory of all the relevant international conventions and fresh from publishing its first violence against women strategy just last night, the time is ripe for the British government to put violence against women and girls at the heart of its international agenda – by making it a foreign policy priority.

**Signed:**

Jessica Woodroffe, UK Gender and Development Network  
Claire Melamed, ActionAid UK  
Marie Staunton, Plan UK  
Southall Black Sisters  
Janet Veitch, End Violence Against Women  
Sue Turrell, Womankind Worldwide  
Graham Bennett, One World Action  
Geoffrey Dennis, CARE International UK  
Peter Grant, Tearfund  
Vivienne Hayes, Women's Resource Centre  
Poonam Joshi, Amnesty International UK

Link to letter [here](#).

• **UK GAD Network meets with human rights award winners!**

GADN to meet with the International Service Human Rights Awards Winners for Human Rights Defenders of the Rights of Women and Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare on Tuesday 8 December 2009. Now in their seventh year, the Human Rights Awards recognise the achievements of organisations and individuals around the world who work at a grassroots level to promote human rights and change the things that cause people to be excluded, impoverished or disempowered.

If you would be interested in joining the GAD Network in conversation with:

- **The Extractivist Women's Secretariat**
- **Instituto PAPAI.**

Then please let us know ASAP.

The Extractivist Women's Secretariat were founded in 1995 as part of the National Council of Rubber Tappers, the Secretariat works to defend the rights and interests of women working in the extractivist reserves of the Amazon forest. The Instituto PAPAI are pioneers, seeking to challenge the machismo of Brazilian society by promoting public policy that aims to abolish gender inequality. They are the first NGO in Latin America to work with men and boys from the perspective of gender.

• **UK GADN will be responding to the Liberal Democrat consultation on International Development.**

If you would be interested in contributing or are submitting evidence yourself please contact [gadnetwork@oneworldaction.org](mailto:gadnetwork@oneworldaction.org). The consultation paper is attached to this email.

• **UK GADN Steering Group Meet to discuss Strategic Plan and Manifesto**

The UK Gender and Development Network met this morning to discuss the on going strategy of the UK Gender and Development Network including the vision, mission and aims as well as some of its key work areas for the coming years. They also discussed the GADN's briefings for Andrew Mitchell MP following our meeting with him and the UK GADN's work over the 16 days of activism.

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## 2. Members' Updates

- **CAWN – Speak out against woman-killing in Mexico and Central America**

25th November is the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, and the beginning of the annual 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence. To mark it, the Central America Women's Network (CAWN) and the Honduran Women's Studies Centre (CEMH) are holding three events condemning the rising violence against women and girls in the region and worldwide and calling for an end to this violence:

- 26 Nov, 7.30pm: Film screening, followed by Q&A "Killer's Paradise: Women Victims of Violence in Guatemala". Bolivar Hall, London, W1T.
- 27 Nov, 3-6pm: Seminar "Extreme forms of Violence against Women: Femicide in Mexico and Central America". Woburn House Conference Centre, London, WC1. Three women activists and expert witnesses from Mexico, Guatemala and Honduras will speak of the human rights violations and horrors of violence against women in Mexico and Central America and the failure of the region's governments to prosecute them.

- **Care UK and GAPS Event, Ending Violence Against Women – Fulfilling UN Commitments**

Care and GAPS are holding a meeting in Parliament on Tuesday 01 December at 5pm entitled 'Ending Violence against women – fulfilling UN Commitments'. The event is being chaired by Anne Milton MP and is being organised by the APG on Women, Peace and Security, CARE International UK and IRC. Speakers include Ms. Binda Pandey, an MP from Nepal who is the chair of the Fundamental rights Committee and activists from the South. For more information contact [apg-wps@gaps-uk.org](mailto:apg-wps@gaps-uk.org)

- **CAFOD Participate in 16 days of activism – highlight GBV and its impact on local communities and individuals!**

This is the first year that CAFOD has participated in the 16 Days but it is not the beginning of our work on GBV so we intend to showcase the work that our partners have been doing over the preceding years. We plan to highlight gender based violence and its impact on local communities and individuals.

This will be done through the CAFOD website with stories, case studies, poem, reflections and prayers from the three continents we work in, Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa and Asia. For the 16 Days of Activism CAFOD is supporting a church based partner in South Africa, SOFIA - Sisters Of Faith In Action, to work with the existing Church structures to create space for Christian women to articulate and elevate their voices so that they are able to demand their rights, practice their responsibilities and challenge traditional notions of leadership within Society. SOFIA will write blogs on their activities which will feature on the website throughout the 16 Days of Activism.

### **Our member's vacancies:**

- Tearfund - Programme Director
- Women for Women International UK - Major Gifts Officer
- Child Hope - Head of Partnerships and Programmes

### 3. UK/EU/UN

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- **Liberal Democrats are consulting on their international development policy paper**

The Liberal Democrats are in the process of consulting on a policy paper on International Development. They have formed an expert group headed by Dr David Hall-Matthews from the University of Leeds, who are leading the production of this paper. The consultation paper is attached to this email – please send submissions, comments etc to David Hall-Matthews at [dnjhm@hotmail.com](mailto:dnjhm@hotmail.com). Or if you would be interested in contributing to a **Gender and Development Network** response please let us know.

- **DFID Host global photography exhibit influential men'**

On Thursday 26th November from 18:00 – 19:30. DFID, 1 Palace Street, SW1E 5HE – DFID would like to encourage as many people to attend as possible. This will be a great networking opportunity to link up policy practitioners NGO's, Diaspora and academics that are interested in/or working on issues relating to **Violence Against Women** and men's perceptions combating these issues.

- **UN: Ban Ki Moon Launched new network of men leaders to combat violence against women**

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon marked the 10th anniversary of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women by launching a Network of Men Leaders, a major new initiative bringing together current and former politicians, activists, religious and community figures to combat the global pandemic.

“These men will add their voices to the growing global chorus for action,” he said, noting that 70 per cent of women experience in their lifetime some form of physical or sexual violence from men, the majority from husbands, intimate partners or someone they know. “We must demand accountability for the violations, and take concrete steps to end impunity,” Mr. Ban said in a separate message marking the Day. “We must listen to and support the survivors.”

He cited positive actions that men are already taking, such as judges whose decisions have paved the way for fighting abuse in the workplace, networks of men who counsel male perpetrators of violence, and national leaders who have publicly committed to leading the movement of men to break the silence.

### 4. Development News

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- **The Gambia: Women's Empowerment in Africa Targeted at UN Backed Conference**

UN News Service, November 17 2009

- **Global: Global Media Monitoring Project Scrutinizes the Representation of Gender in the News**

UNIFEM, November 10 2009

- **UN: Q&A “CEDAW is UNIFEM's Entry Point”. Interview with UNIFEM's Deputy Executive Director**

IPS News, November 9 2009

- **Zimbabwe Ratifies SADC Protocol on Gender and Development**

RozariaTrust, November 14 2009

- **Central America: Gender-Based Violence – the Hidden Face of Insecurity**

IPS News, November 16 2009

- **Zambia: Zambians Urged to Jointly Reduce GBV Cases**

Lusakatimes.com, November 11 2009

- **Kenya: Women Weighed Down By Culture**

IRIN News, November 17 2009

- **Vietnam: Ethnic Minorities Lose Out on Maternal Healthcare**

IRIN News, November 17 2009

- **UK: Gender Pay Gap Narrows - but Women still Earn Far Less**

Guardian.co.uk, November 12 2009

- **South Asia: South Asia Carries Bulk of Maternal and Child Undernutrition says UNICEF**  
UNICEF, November 11 2009
- **South Africa: World Cup to Help Create HIV Awareness**  
IRIN News, November 19 2009
- **Turkey: Transforming Men from Culprits to Allies**  
IPS News, November 16 2009
- **Spain: Second European Forum Against Gender Violence, 19 November 2009**  
Epacvaw November 9 2009
- **Paraguay: Indigenous Women Leaders Buck Discrimination**  
IPS News, November 12 2009
- **North Africa: North African Women at Forefront of Legal Reform**  
Common Ground News Service, November 10 2009
- **Europe: EU Under Pressure to Consider Women for Top Jobs**  
The New York Times, November 16 2009
- **India: First Women's Parliament in India to Enhance Women's Participation in Politics**  
Business Wire India, November 2 2009
- **Nigeria: A Decade of Sharia Law In North Nigeria Breeds Frustration**  
AFP, November 4 2009
- **Uganda: HIV-Positive Women Need Family Planning Services**  
IRIN News, November 20 2009

## 5. Publications & Resources

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- **Oxfam: Women's Leadership and Participation: Case studies on learning for action**
- **Oxfam Climate Change and Gender Justice - Working in Gender & Development Series (November 2009)**
- **Arabic translation of "Claiming Justice, Claiming Rights: A Guidebook on Women Human Rights Defenders"**
- **IANSA Women's Network: "Women peace and security: The role of an Arms Trade Treaty (ATT)"**
- **SOAS: Stamp Out Poverty Report November 2009**
- **AIDS Accountability International (AAI) – 'Scorecard on Women' report country responses to specific needs of women in context of HIV/AIDS November 2009**

## 6. Campaigns/Calls for Papers

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- **Conservative Human Commission request evidence on women human rights defenders**  
Conservative Human Rights Commission (CHRC) is a body established to highlight international human rights concerns, and to inform, advise and develop the party's foreign policy by making human rights a priority. They are seeking evidence on women human rights defenders. Evidence to go to Tony Baldry MP [baldryt@parliament.uk](mailto:baldryt@parliament.uk).
- **Liberal Democrats are consulting on their international development policy paper**  
The Liberal Democrats are in the process of consulting on a policy paper on International Development. They have formed an expert group headed by Dr David Hall-Matthews from the University of Leeds, who are leading the production of this paper. The consultation paper is attached to this email – please

send submissions, comments etc to David Hall-Matthews at [dnjhm@hotmail.com](mailto:dnjhm@hotmail.com). Or if you would be interested in contributing to a **Gender and Development Network** response please let us know.

- **Call to action: the UN Gender Entity!**

Let your Government know that you support GEAR. When the UN Member States start the next round of intergovernmental negotiations on the new UN Women's Agency in February 2010, help us to push them to get into agreement fast. Engage your colleagues and friends / member organisations with the GEAR Campaign. Let others know about the UN gender equality reform and about the European GEAR Campaign website [www.un-gear.eu](http://www.un-gear.eu).

## 7. Events and Conferences

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- **The Conservative Human Rights Commission – Launch of 'The Female Face of Afghanistan – Recommendations to a Future UK Government'**, Jubilee Room, House of Commons, Westminster 3/12/09 18:00
- **Bridging the divide: the CRC and CEDAW in focus**, International Conference – School of Advanced Study, University of London, 3-4/12/09
- **International Alert Film Screening: Pray the Devil Back to Hell**, King's Place, London, 2/12/09 18:30
- **Film screening: Greatest Silence – rape in the DRC followed by panel discussion** Amnesty Human Rights Action Centre, London, 3/12/09

## 8. Job Openings

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- **Baseline Survey Consultancy, UNIFEM, Timor-Leste**  
Closing date: November 26 2009
- **Gender Based Violence Specialist, International Medical Corps, Washington D.C.**
- **Spring 2010 Global Development Policy Internship, Women Thrive Worldwide, Washington D.C.**
- **Chief, Geographical Section – Africa, UNIFEM, New York**  
Closing date: 27 November 2009
- **International Consultant on Women's Economic Empowerment and Entrepreneurship in Central Asia, UNDP, Kyrgyzstan**  
Closing date: November 27 2009
- **Program Manager, Violence Against Women Prevention, Raising Voices, Kampala**  
Closing date: November 30 2009
- **Program Officer, The Firelight Foundation, Santa Cruz, California**  
Closing date: December 6 2009
- **Internships, The International Council on Human Rights Policy, Geneva**  
Closing date: December 11 2009
- **Rural Sociologist (Gender and Development Statistics), FAO, Rome**  
Closing date: December 11 2009
- **Senior Gender Based Violence Coordinator, IRC (International Rescue Committee), Liberia**  
Closing date: December 15 2009
- **Community Services Coordinator, IRC (International Rescue Committee), Chad**  
Closing date: December 15 2009
- **Gender Based Violence Program Manager, IRC (International Rescue Committee), Chad**  
Closing date: December 15 2009

- **Gender Based Violence Information Manager, IRC (International Rescue Committee), Bukavu, South Kivu, DRC**  
Closing date: December 15 2009
- **Executive Director, The International Council on Human Rights Policy, Geneva**  
Closing date: December 18 2009

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 [gadnetwork@oneworldaction.org](mailto:gadnetwork@oneworldaction.org)

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