



SALTO YOUTH Good Practices Newsletter

Women and gender issues

Institutions

- **United Nations and the CEDAW**

The United Nations' commitment to the advancement of women began with the signing of the United Nations Charter in San Francisco in 1945. Its preamble declared faith "... in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small...". The **Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women** (CEDAW), adopted in 1979 by the UN General Assembly, is often described as an **international bill of rights for women**. Consisting of a preamble and 30 articles, it defines what constitutes discrimination against women and sets up an agenda for national action to end such discrimination. The Convention defines discrimination against women as "...any distinction, exclusion or restriction made on the basis of sex which has the effect or purpose of impairing or nullifying the recognition, enjoyment or exercise by women, irrespective of their marital status, on a basis of equality of men and women, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural, civil or any other field."

Full text available in different languages: www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/

- **World Health Organisation - Department of Gender, Women and Health (GWH)**

GWH brings attention to the ways in which **biological and social differences** between women and men affect health and the steps needed to achieve health equity. The main focus of GWH is to promote the inclusion of gender perspectives in the work of the WHO by collaborating with other departments and regional and country offices. It aims to increase knowledge of gender issues by conducting selected research, training and advocacy on how socio-cultural factors and discrimination affect health. www.who.int/gender/en/

- **"Wired for women's rights" – Maghreb**

Global Rights conducts **women's rights advocacy programming** through partnerships with local groups in Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia and Yemen. In Algeria, Tunisia, and Morocco, Global Rights promote the use of creative legal and advocacy strategies by women's rights lawyers, support a legal rights education program for women, and strengthen the ability of people to confront the rising tide of religious extremism.

www.globalrights.org/site/PageServer?pagename=www_mid_mideast

- **Council of Europe**

The Council of Europe seeks to combat any interference with women's liberty and dignity (for example violence against women, trafficking in human beings for purpose of sexual exploitation), to eliminate discrimination based on sex and to promote a balanced representation of women and men in political and public life. www.coe.int/T/E/Human_Rights/Equality/

Reports / Publications

- **Report: Gender & sport**

This document published in 2005 by "Direction du développement et de la coopération" (DDC) Switzerland proposed an **interesting approach on women role in sport**.

Genre & sport http://162.23.39.120/dezaweb/ressources/resource_fr_63847.pdf (FR)

Gender & sport http://162.23.39.120/dezaweb/ressources/resource_en_63847.pdf (EN)

Genero & deporte http://162.23.39.120/dezaweb/ressources/resource_es_63847.pdf (SP)

- **Gender Tipsheets (OCDE website)**

These Tipsheets are rapid but serious reference tools for both gender experts and others working in development. They have been developed to **provide essential information on how and why gender equality is a crucial dimension in all development activities**. www.oecd.org/document/34/0,2340,fr_2649_34541_1896290_1_1_1_1,00.html

- **Toolkit: « Mainstreaming Gender Equality in EC Development Cooperation »**

This toolkit developed by **Europe-Aid** consists of four parts: a handbook on concepts and methods for mainstreaming gender equality; EC priority areas for development cooperation: aspects for gender analysis; glossary of gender and development terms and gender machineries, sources of information, contacts and networks. Although its primary audience is EC staff working in development cooperation, the toolkit will also be helpful to national partners (governmental and non-governmental) as well as other donors and development practitioners. http://europa.eu.int/comm/europeaid/projects/gender/toolkit_en.htm

- **Report: Gender and Armed Conflict**

« *Armed conflict negatively affects women and men and results in gender-specific disadvantages, particularly for women that are not always recognised or addressed by the mainstream, gender-blind understandings of conflict and reconstruction. Gender inequality reflects power imbalances in social structures that exist in pre-conflict periods and are exacerbated by armed conflict and its aftermath. The acceptance of gender stereotypes is one of the main reasons that such gender blindness persists* ». Since 1992, Bridge supports **gender advocacy and mainstreaming efforts** by bridging the gaps between theory, policy and practice. Many other resources, articles and information are accessible online.

www.bridge.ids.ac.uk/reports/CEP-Conflict-Report.pdf

- **Article : Women and disabilities – crossed analysis - (French version only)**

One does not consider « disabilities » same manner, according to whether one is a woman or a man. People perceptions and its impact are also different, what implies a particular support. The question of **women with disabilities** is directly related to their place in society and all forms of recognition. A place which will not evolve without a change in approaches and behaviours.

www.handicap-international.org/le-handicap-dans-le-monde/dossiers/femme-et-handicap/index.html?cHash=a5efd95a3f

- **Website: WeAVE**

WeAVE is a European women's **and gender studies network for students, postgraduate students, PhDs, post-doc researchers, and junior teachers**. The main the aim is to network, to get gender and women's studies students talking, communicating, and sharing many different forms of feminist knowledge. The website provides such a platform, containing as it does a forum with discussion rooms, as well as a chat facility for registered members. There is also a search facility on the site which allows members to search for others who may be involved or interested in similar research areas. Registration is now available on the homepage of the WeAVE website. www.weave-network.eu

- **Publications: Centre for Development and Population Activities**

(CEDPA) is an internationally recognized non-profit organisation that improves the lives of women and girls in developing countries. Its approach is to work hand-in-hand with women leaders, local partners, and national and international organizations to **give women the tools they need to improve their lives, families and communities**.

www.cedpa.org/section/publications

- **Publications: Council of Europe (for sale)**

Citizenship matters: the participation of young women and minorities in Euro-Med youth projects (2006). This report presents a training seminar on participation of women and minorities in Euro-Med youth projects. These themes are crucial to Euro-Med relations, not least because they are often a cause for misunderstanding or for the projection and expression of phobias and prejudice. http://book.coe.int/EN/ficheouvrage.php?PAGEID=36&lang=EN&produit_aliasid=2091

Violence against young women in Europe (2002). This seminar brought together youth leaders, project workers and other professionals and volunteers concerned with the main objectives: to share experiences and approaches in dealing with violence against young women accross Europe, to identify educational and social strategies to address the issue at European level and to highlight the need to combat these persisting violations of human dignity though legal and educational means. http://book.coe.int/EN/ficheouvrage.php?PAGEID=36&lang=EN&produit_aliasid=1755

- **Training seminar: "Place and role of Women in Euro-Med"** (Spain; 18 - 26 November 2006)

The seminar aims at shortening the gap between the situations de jure and de facto of women in the Euro-Mediterranean context, by providing a clear knowledge on the governmental undertakings, both on an international level (CEDAW, Beijing Platform for Action) and on a more Euro-Mediterranean concerned level (Barcelona Declaration) at sharing realities and breaking stereotypes. Moreover, this seminar will provide frames for exchanging best practices in the every-day striving for actual gender equality and contribute to the effective transfer of experiences between EU member countries and Meda countries, with specific attention to similarities (and taken-for-granted differences) in the socio-economical, religious and cultural background of these two areas. It will offer participants useful information and contacts for future Euro-Med projects in order have a concrete outcome at the end of the training (a report to be used as a tool). Another objective is to contribute and to strengthen the capacity and leadership of participants in the women issues in the Euro-Mediterranean level on an intercultural level. (Deadline closed) www.salto-youth.net/tceurom edwomen/