

ISSUE No. 3

Welcome to this six monthly newsletter designed to keep the stakeholders working in the area of gender and women empowerment informed about the work of UN's Participating Organizations within the Joint Programme on Gender Equality and Women Empowerment (JP GEWE) in Kenya. This edition gives an overview of some key events under the programme's five outputs - Gender Mainstreaming, Gender Based Violence, Gender and Governance, Economic Empowerment, and UN Coordination and 'Delivering as One'.

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UN and Partners Jointly Plan to Achieve Gender Equality in 2013



The Secretariat for the Joint Programme on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (JP GEWE) organized a five-day retreat in Naivasha for all the partners from 8th to 12th October 2012. The participants included 24 gender focal points from 11 of the United Nations agencies participating in the JP GEWE and 38 partners from Government of Kenya, civil society organizations and the private sector.

The retreat was timed strategically to ensure that the Annual Work Plan 2013 for the joint programme was drafted before most of the participating UN organizations developed their individual agency plans. The key results and activities that were identified in the joint work plan 2013 will feed into individual agency work plans to enhance programme effectiveness and reduce duplication of efforts. The participants were encouraged to plan strategically based on the comparative advantage of their agencies and identify three to four key results where they will provide joint support in 2013 and create quick wins for the JP GEWE in Kenya.

The discussions also covered the synergy between UNDAF and the MTP-II process; streamlining the focus areas;

recognizing strengths and weaknesses of the programme; and ways to improve result-based reporting standards. Key representatives from government, civil society and the private sector provided substantive inputs during the sessions that guided the review and planning process of the Annual Work Plan (AWP) for 2013.

Commissioner Osoro highlighted the gender inequality in Kenya and mentioned that women comprised 50.3% of the population, yet their representation in parliament currently stands at a mere 9.8%. She further elaborated that if the 2/3rd rule is not met in the 2013 general elections, the Kenyan government would face fiscal challenges.

Commissioner Jacqueline Mogeni highlighted the importance of analyzing specific gender needs in the fiscal and administrative devolution process. Sex-disaggregated data collection and analysis were underscored as key priorities for evidence-based gender programming and policy development. Eunice Nolanga, Gender Mainstreaming Advisor also highlighted this as one of the key recommendations from the CEDAW committee.

Later on the participants were divided into groups as per the five thematic areas in JP GEWE to review the achievements from annual results in 2012 and identified activities to draft the Annual Work Plan (AWP) for 2013. The group also set some ground rules of engagement for the next year for each output to improve the working relationship within UN agencies and with their implementing partners.



"We need to change the belief that the lives of women and girls are of less value or that young children - whether male or female, are unaffected by physical or emotional abuse. This seems like a difficult task, but IT IS possible"

*- Mr. Aeneas Chuma,
UNiTE Kenya Launch*

Kenyans, UNiTE to End Gender-based Violence! If Not You, Who? If Not Now, When?



"We have to UNiTE as Kenyans regardless of gender or ethnic divide and jointly promote zero tolerance towards gender based violence" - Hon. Dr. Naomi Shaban, Minister for Gender, Children and Social Development during her keynote address at the launch.

On 15 November 2012, the Africa UNiTE Campaign's Kenya Chapter was officially launched in Nairobi through a cheerful banner signing ceremony. The conference hall was packed with more than 300 people against a colourful backdrop of the UNiTE campaign's colours of white, blue and orange. The facilitators at the event and Nameless along with the entertainers from Kenya One kept the audience captivated and engaged in the process on both days. The campaign's slogan was widely repeated and praised to get the message across.

In his remarks, Hon. Eugene Wamalwa - Minister for Justice, National Cohesion and Constitutional Affairs commented, "There are ongoing police, judicial and electoral reforms among many others in the country but we should also work on our attitudes at the national level to bring about change".

The launch event was preceded by a high level national conference on gender-based violence. Dr Alexander Ilyin - Acting Representative of United Nations Population Fund, Ms. Winnie Lichuma – Chairperson of National Gender and Equality Commission and Ms. Jennet Kem – Africa UNiTE's Campaign Manager were the keynote speakers on the first day. The conference gathered a diverse range of stakeholders from the government, civil society, donors, UN agencies and media to discuss, learn and agree on ways of jointly preventing and responding to the vice, specifically during



the pre/post-electoral period. The participants came together to identify high-impact initiatives to end gender-based violence based on examples from successful practices within Kenya and the wider region. They also shared heartrending incidents of violence against women, girls and entire families in the daily lives of Kenyans as well as specific cases of electoral based violence. The on-going plight of internally displaced persons (IDPs) was specifically mentioned at the event.

Speaking at the launch Mr. Aeneas Chuma, the UN Resident Coordinator stressed on the creation of response initiatives for survivors of violence, "Provision of quality health care services; judicial support and access to justice; a security system that operates and supports victims of violence; and healthcare workers who are sensitive to the physical, emotional and forensic needs of victims of violence, are paramount to rebuilding the dignity of those who have been violated".

The UNiTE Kenya Chapter is the country's response to the Africa UNiTE campaign – to harmonize efforts towards the prevention of and response to all forms of violence against women, men, girls, and boys in the country. It provides a joint platform for a wide range of stakeholders – the government, civil society organizations, private sector, media and the entire UN system in Kenya and aims to bring together the strength of each of these stakeholders under one umbrella to increase the impact of interventions.

Increased Access for Women Entrepreneurs to Formal Markets

UNIDO partnered with GS1 (Non-Profit Global Association) and Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) to provide a series of trainings from July-November 2012 to 353 women entrepreneurs and increase their access to formal markets. Four trainings were conducted in each of the seven regions selected for national representation - Central, Eastern, Rift Valley, Western, Nyanza, Coast and Nairobi.

ILO and UNODC supported UNIDO in identifying women's groups in the target regions as part of the UN's Joint Programme on Gender Equality and Women Empowerment. One of the groups recommended by UNODC consisted solely of women with HIV and Aids. ILO and UNODC have wider access and partnerships with women's groups at the grass-root level. The two agencies have been working on initiatives like the rehabilitation of women with substance abuse problems and solar water kiosks to enhance income-generating opportunities and access to clean drinking water for women. This project provided an opportunity for the three agencies to combine their resources to train the same groups of women and enhance their income generating capacity.

The trainings covered the areas of standardization, legalization of enterprises, barcodes and business registration as well as tax compliance. They were designed to guide

women entrepreneurs on how to acquire bar codes for their products and develop their capacity to acquire the KEBS standardization within their businesses. These women were also facing challenges in expanding from community-based organizations to profit-making and registered enterprises for the retail market.

The national average of women in Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSEs) in Kenya is 49% compared to 51% of men and this percentage contributes around 20% to Kenya's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Under this scenario, there is a pressing need for women to acquire the market skills to improve their businesses. Women are generally isolated on the social front and lack formal training, work experience, and access to marketing information and facilities compared to men entrepreneurs.

95% of the participants had limited or no knowledge about the subject before the training was conducted. Limited awareness on company registration, source and relevance of barcodes, lack of funds for appropriate product packaging and registration of barcodes as well as market accessibility due to product quality were identified as some of the key issues faced by the women entrepreneurs.

The participants requested UNIDO to do longer follow-up trainings for the selected groups and



help the entrepreneurs in acquiring the skills to make their businesses profitable and access the retail market. UNIDO is currently monitoring the progress these women have made as a result of the trainings. Micro Africa has indicated an interest in providing better microfinance packages to these women's groups during a stakeholders' workshop on women's economic empowerment in Nairobi in October 2012.



"Despite the challenges, Kenya has demonstrated progressive steps in securing gender equality policies, laws and programme interventions, with more women taking up leadership and decision making positions in the political and development spheres, especially in the last five years" - Acting Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Development at the launch.

UN Women's USAWA ni Haki programme under the governance pillar developed a training manual and database to prepare women aspirants for the 2013 general elections. UN Women launched the two vital instruments on 30th October 2012 at the Nairobi Safari Club. Government officials, civil society, representatives from donor and UN agencies, the media and women aspirants representing 18 counties attended the event. The reason for developing the training manual and database, and their use was explained in detail by the consultants amidst anecdotes/feedback from the county participants.

Women aspirants provided with valuable tools to vie for political elections in 2013!

While speaking at the event, Ms. Zebib Kavuma said that she was impressed with the energy, perseverance and commitment of the women aspirants. She also underscored the importance of women vying for all available seats instead of aiming for only the women's seats.

The training manual was developed in collaboration with the Centre for Multiparty Democracy (CMD) and is meant to assist and encourage women candidates to compete for the various political positions. Trainers can use this guide alongside other voter education providers to build the capacity of women candidates; whereas, researchers and scholars interested in women leadership can also utilize the data in their research. The manual outlines the institutions, positions and criteria to access both elective and appointive positions. It also includes a checklist for the candidates' campaign and a brief on the various laws governing the electoral process.

The database contains the names, photos and profiles of more than 70 candidates who have already registered through the website. It will provide the actual number of women candidates at all elective positions nationally and help the trainers to address their specific capacity development needs. The general public and the candidates can access the database and other information about the women political aspirants at www.womenaspirants.org

Caroline Agwanda - An inspiration for women aspirants

Ms. Caroline Awuor Agwanda is a soft-spoken aspirant from Kisumu County. She provides inspiration for women all over Kenya by overcoming her physical disability and financial challenges to compete for the 2013 elections; however, she denotes all her success to UN Women's support and encouragement.

In January 2011, UN Women's partner organization, United Disabled Persons of Kenya under the Gender and Governance programme trained women with disabilities as facilitators under its Civic Education Programme. Caroline was one of these women and her role has been to share the knowledge with 122 other women from different constituencies.

Her political campaign also focuses on changing negative attitudes towards people with disabilities within the community. Her efforts have been extremely successful as the men in the community are also requesting for her to speak at public events. She has gained the support and respect of her constituency and is affectionately called Mheshimiwa Agwanda, which means 'the Honourable One'.

UN – GoK Workshop on Gender in Statistics

UN Agencies under the JP GEWE organized a workshop on 'Gender in Statistics' in Mombasa from 12-17th November 2012 in collaboration with the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) and the government's Monitoring and Evaluation Department (MED). The aim was to enhance the knowledge and capacity of statisticians and Monitoring & Evaluation officers from various government ministries and departments in Kenya to integrate the gender dimension in their work. 32 officers from the ministries and departments of Education, Internal Security and Home Affairs, Higher Education, Science and Technology, Kenya Police, Kenya Prisons, Gender, Trade, Labour, KNBS, Medical Services, and Public Health and Sanitation attended the workshop. A team of experts - Mr. Kennedy Monyoncho (KNBS), Mr. Milton Obote Joshua (Collaborative Center on Gender and Development), Ms. Lucy Gaiithi (KNBS), Ms. Stella Maranga (UN Women) and Ms. Rosemary Kongani (KNBS) facilitated the workshop.

While speaking at the occasion, Mr. Zack Mwangi – KNBS regretted the gender gaps in policy formulation in Kenya; however, he thanked the UN for its financial and technical support for this training and encouraged the participants to use the knowledge within their respective areas of work.

In the last few decades, Kenya has come a long



way in promoting gender equality; the 2012 Constitution is a case in point. However, sex-disaggregated data collection, its analysis, dissemination and use is essential to implement the principles of equality outlined in the Constitution, laws, policies, programmes and plans in Kenya. The collection of gender specific information will help the government to analyse where and how gender equality is being achieved and its benefit within society. In addition, the collection and recording of timely and gender sensitive statistics is not possible without the presence of highly trained personnel.

The UN agencies were requested by the Government of Kenya to support capacity building efforts for the collection, analysis and use of sex-disaggregated data for an informed policy formulation and planning process. Recognizing the crucial need of such information, UN Women, UNESCO and UNFPA through the

JP GEWE have put together their resources, partnerships and technical sectoral expertise to initiate this project. Mr. Kennedy Monyoncho - KNBS conducted a research under the project on the type of data usually collected by the participating ministries and the extent of gender specific tools used by them. The findings showed that the tools being used were not designed to capture sex-disaggregated data.

Best practices were shared with the group on collection of sex-disaggregated data and application of gender statistics within policy development. During the sessions, analysis of sex-disaggregated data was identified as interpreting figures and there is a capacity gap in understanding the reason why the data collected is not sufficiently analyzed to inform policies and programmes. As a way forward, the representatives from each ministry/line department broke out into groups to identify their ministry's specific needs and developed action plans with monitoring indicators based on the training. The action plans form the basis upon which the UN will jointly extend its support to the government to enhance sex-disaggregated data collection and analysis in 2013.

GENDER FACTS:

- ❖ Data from 40 ministries indicates that on 30 May 2011, women comprise only 38.2% of the total workforce compared to 61.8 of men.
- ❖ There is only 1 female provincial commissioner compared to 7 males and only 10.9% female district commissioners against 89.1% of males.
- ❖ Out of 40 diplomatic postings, there are only 11 female ambassadors or high commissioners.
- ❖ 12% of Kenyan women/girls aged 15-49 had their first sexual intercourse forced against their will.
- ❖ One in every three women will be physically and/or sexually abused during their lifetime. 55 to 95% of women have never sought help.
- ❖ National Female Genital Mutilation prevalence rate in Kenya is at 27%, with 97% of it in the North Eastern region.
- ❖ Out of the 653 survivors of the post-election violence (2007-08) in Nairobi Women's Hospital's Gender Recovery Unit, 85% were women and 15% were men.
- ❖ Women form 50.3% of the population, yet only 9.9% are represented in parliament.
- ❖ The national average of women in Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) in Kenya is 49% compared to 51% of men and slightly higher at 55.8% in rural areas.
- ❖ Men account for 70% of wage employment in Kenya and women for only 30%.

About the JP Secretariat.....

.....Who we are & what we

Janneke van der Graaff-Kukler

Joint Programme Coordinator

- Heads the Secretariat and the overall coordination of the JP GEWE.
- Facilitates joint programming on GEWE and gender mainstreaming within UN common programming processes.
- Supports the government and civil society partners to engage effectively with the UN and supports capacity building efforts of national stakeholders.

Sini-Maria Heikkila

Monitoring & Evaluation and Compliance Analyst

- Develops and implements an M&E plan for the joint programme.
- Supports the UN agencies in the preparation and compilation of narrative and financial reports.
- Prepares reviews and evaluations as well as financial and programmatic analysis for guidance.

Ayesha Durrani

Communication & Information Management Analyst

- Develops/implements internal and external communication strategy/plan and an information management system for the programme.
- Provides communication support to the joint programme partners.
- Produces and disseminates PR and promotional communication material to the internal and external partners.

For more information, please contact:

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FOR GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT, "DELIVERING AS ONE" IN KENYA MEANS:

♀ Supporting the *national gender machinery to integrate gender into policy, planning and budgeting*
♂ Prevention and elimination of *Gender Based Violence* ♀ *Gender and elections, peace building & conflict mitigation and reform processes* ♂ *Women's Economic Empowerment* ♀ *Enhancing UN Coordination and Aid Effectiveness for GEWE* ♂



PHOTO GALLERY

UNiTE Kenya Chapter Launch: 14-15 Nov 2012



UN Participating Organizations at JP GEWE Retreat



Women Aspirants' Manual and Database Launch: 30 Oct 2012

