

# The Gender Inclusion Process in the SSATP Approach

- Consultations between women participants at the SSATP 2004 annual meeting in Addis.
- Recognition of gender as an issue in transport and poverty alleviation investments.
- Women from 13 countries consulted and decided to voice their concerns about gender and transport within the framework of SSATP.
- Endorsement of the gender issue as a challenge to be addressed by SSATP in the context of regional integration thematic group.
- Women and transport workshop sponsored by SSATP and attended by 22 women from the civil society and from the public sector of 13 countries, as the start of the 2005 SSATP annual meeting in Bamako, Mali.
- Consultations among women and formulation of proposals to be suggested for the SSATP 2006 work program.
- Invitation of the workshop participants to take active part in the thematic group discussions and proposals for the preparation of the 2006 work program.
- Participation of women to introduce and strengthen gender issues in various thematic groups

# Key Issues by Thematic Group

## **Transport and Poverty**

- Disregard of gender issues in transport programs and projects.
- Disregard of gender issues in the poverty reduction and transport review process, except for the principles of Steering Committees .
- Under-representation of women in :a) Steering Committees; b) Stakeholders Meetings and c) SSATP Annual Meetings
- Inadequate inclusion of women and gender issues in transport policies and poverty reduction strategies

## **Data and Indicators**

- Absence of gender related data and specific women related indicators, in transport data collection and management.

## **Road Management and Financing**

- Poor representation of women in the management structures of road funds.
- Absence of measures to facilitate women's access to capital to engage in road construction contracts.
- Absence of financial & technical support to women organizations working in trunk roads and rural roads maintenance.
- Disregard of socio-economic impact of women's income generating activities in the financial appraisal of the road design

## **Transport and Regional Integration**

- Poor knowledge of conventions and rules governing transport and regional integration.
- Poor representation of women in the management of transport related observatories in the sub-regional and regional corridors.
- Shortage of projects on HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment along transport corridors, poor inclusion of solutions promoting income generating activities as alternatives to sex workers.
- Disregard of data related to the concerns of women merchants in regional transport and trade facilitation projects.

## **Road Safety**

- Absence of training for women with regard to road and traffic regulation, travel documents and other relevant texts to transport regulations and travel.
- Disregard of gender dimensions in road safety policies.
- Absence of designed rest stop facilities incorporating market spaces along roads.
- Disregard of women concerns in road designs processes and transport services provisions
- Insufficient number of bill boards for safety & first Aid boxes

# The Way Forward

Our participation in various thematic group discussions confirmed and strengthened our findings and solutions suggested by women and transport workshop participants

- Creation of a gender thematic group in SSATP
- Establishment and launching of a women and transport network
- Incorporation of gender related data and specific indicators in collection and management of transport data and indicators.
- Capacity building of women stakeholders in the transport sector.
- Representation of women in SAATP board; Steering Committees and Stakeholders groups meetings of PRTSR.