

**GENDER PERSPECTIVES  
FOR EARTH SUMMIT 2002  
– ENERGY, TRANSPORT, INFORMATION  
FOR DECISION-MAKING**

Report on the  
International Conference

at Jagdschloss Glienicke, Berlin, Germany  
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Jointly hosted by  
the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear  
Safety (BMU) and the Heinrich Boell Foundation

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#### About the host organisations

*BMU*: The Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, is one of the ministries responsible for the German government's activities relating to the UN Commission on Sustainable Development and the preparations for the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002. Address: Alexanderplatz 6, Berlin. Minister: Mr. Juergen Trittin. Website: <http://www.bmu.de>.

*Heinrich Boell Foundation (HBF)*: The Heinrich Boell Foundation, which is associated with the German Green Party, is a legally autonomous and intellectually open political foundation. Its foremost task is political education in Germany and abroad with the aim of promoting informed democratic opinion, socio-political commitment and mutual understanding. In addition, the Heinrich Boell Foundation supports artistic and cultural as well as scholarly projects, and co-operation in the development field. Board: Ralf Fuecks, Dr. Claudia Neu-suess, Petra Streit. Address: Rosenthaler Str. 40/41, 10178 Berlin. <http://www.boell.de>.

#### The co-ordinating organisation

*UNED Forum* is a unique multi-stakeholder network and forum on sustainable development which has promoted outcomes from the first Earth Summit in 1992 and is now working on preparations for Earth Summit 2002, through facilitating the involvement of major groups and stakeholders in the policy work of the United Nations and other inter-governmental institutions in the area of sustainable development, and in particular in the work of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development, the UN Environment Programme and the UN Development Programme. 3, Whitehall Court, London SW1A 2EL. UK. Chair: Mr. Derek Osborn. <http://www.unedforum.org> and [www.earthsummit2002.org](http://www.earthsummit2002.org)

Conference Co-Chairs: Ms. Barbara Schaefer, BMU, Dr. Minu Hemmati, UNED Forum & Co-chair, CSD NGO Women's Caucus

Moderator: Ms. Heike Leitschuh-Fecht, environmental/economic journalist; moderator/ facilitator

Rapporteur: Ms. Vanya Walker-Leigh, economist and journalist, Nature Trust Malta

Conference organising team: Ms. Jasmin Enayati, Project Assistant, UNED Forum; Ms. Kerstin Kippenhan, Rio+10 team, HBF; Ms. Angela Gehring, BMU

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## SUMMARY FOR DECISION-MAKERS

The conference was held as one of the first steps in the preparatory process for the World Summit on Sustainable Development, 2002 (subsequently identified in this report as ‘the 2002 Summit’) decided by the 55th UN General Assembly, 2000. It focused on three key issues on the agenda of the 9th meeting of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development, (CSD-9) to be held in April 2001, as well as on women’s participation, strategies and activities towards and at the 2002 Summit. (Annex I)

Organised by BMU, HBF, and UNED Forum the meeting was attended by 35 participants from countries of the North, (including 20 from the host country, Germany) and 15 from the countries of the South, of 12 different nationalities. Experts present were from academic institutions, government, NGOs as well as from professional sectors. (Annex II)

Opening statements were made by Gila Altman, Parliamentary State Secretary from the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety; Dr Uschi Eid, Parliamentary State Secretary from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Co-operation and Development; and Dr. Renate Augstein, Deputy Director-General, Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth. (Statements are summarised in the conference proceedings below, executive summary of the conference. Full texts can be accessed via the weblink given in Annex III.)

Five background papers were submitted to the conference (full texts of the papers can be downloaded from: <http://www.earthsummit2002.org/workshop>; short summaries are given in Annex IV):

- 1) Gender and Energy the North, by Ulrike Roehr
- 2) Gender and Energy in the South, by Hesphina Rukato
- 3) Gender and Transport in Developed Countries, by Kerry Hamilton
- 4) Gender and Transport in Less Developed Countries, by Deike Peters
- 5) Women and Information for Participation and Decision Making in Sustainable Development in Developing Countries, by Thais Corral and Pamela Ransom

Participants divided into three workshops on gender and energy, gender and transport and gender and information for decision making, to discuss the papers and develop recommendations on priorities and strategies; these were presented in a co-chairs’ summary at the final plenary session of the conference on 12<sup>th</sup> January (the text of the co-chairs summary was finalised after the conference on the basis of e-mail comments of participants). A plenary discussion was held on the various issues concerning the CSD and 2002 Summit process, which focused on how to ensure the full participation of both men and women and the balanced reflection of their respective concerns throughout the preparatory process for the 2002 Summit itself (*the recommendations are recapitulated below*).

The common concern of these recommendations was how to overcome the present relatively inadequate level of gender mainstreaming in on-going policies and programmes, so as to fulfil commitments assumed by all UN member states under Chapter 24 of Agenda 21 as well as in over a hundred references pertaining to women in the whole of Agenda 21, in several sections of the Beijing Platform for Action and other international agreements emerging from the cycle of UN Conferences, CEDAW, etc. within the three sectors to be discussed at CSD-9 – energy, transport, and as well in information for decision-making.



## CONFERENCE RECOMMENDATIONS

Many issues were raised during the conference, which adopted the following recommendations previously developed by three workshops:

### A. Gender and Energy

- 1) analyse missing gender analysis in NGOs/campaigns on energy and develop strategies to promote them
- 2) develop a North-South critique of the energy industry and develop guidelines from a gender perspective for investment policies in the energy sector
- 3) develop a gender analysis of all international energy-related processes and develop a gender analysis for the Climate Change Convention process, G8 and world energy reports. Immediate steps are to
  - organise a Women and Climate Change Forum at COP-6 (resumed) and at subsequent COPs
  - organise a workshop on women and energy politics during the NGO forum parallel to G8, Genoa, July 2001
- 4) obtain commitments from shareholders of all Multilateral Development Banks to ensure gender mainstreaming in all energy policies, programmes and projects so as to achieve sustainable energy development
- 5) ensure that all energy-related research include a gender and sustainable development analysis through gender-balanced teams. Examples of research would include:
  - test assumptions on gender differences towards energy needs, use, planning and policy
  - cultural differences towards energy issues from a gender perspective
  - How can behavioural changes in energy use be achieved, differentiated between sexes?
  - critique current energy production and consumption models from a sustainable development and gender perspective
  - analyse impact of energy-related projects on women/local community control over their land/water resources
  - analyse effectiveness of renewable energy policies/projects in the South
- 6) organise an international tribunal at the 2002 Summit providing testimonies from victims of large energy projects and showcasing successful gender and sustainable development projects
- 7) develop advocacy tools to link poverty, energy and gender
- 8) Request resources for national and regional processes to implement the above recommendations

## B. Gender and Transport

- 1) Environment and sustainability issues as well as gender perspectives need be fully integrated into all transport related policy-making in all departments at all levels on a regular and pro-active basis.
- 2) The definition and understanding of mobility need to be revised aiming to reflect women's lives and responsibilities – i.e. diverse patterns of a multitude of tasks and related trips such as transporting loads for sale; accompanying children and elderly, etc. – and enable authorities to design appropriate transport systems.
- 3) In general, measures are necessary which reduce transport burdens and transport expenditures of women and men while creating equitable access and ensuring women's increased opportunities and participation.
- 4) All transport system development must be informed by the lived experience of women; governments should integrate experts on gender-sensitive transport system planning and decision-making in their planning structures.
- 5) Gender Impact Assessments (GIAs) should be integrated into EIAs which would contribute to creating Sustainability Impact Assessments. Sustainability Audits should include Gender Audits addressing the androcentric perspectives reflected in current policies (prioritising men's lives and needs) and Caring Economy Audits.
- 6) Gender budget analyses are an important tool of engendering macro-economic analysis; they should be conducted to provide information about how much women- & men-power, institutional and financial resources, and research funding goes into furthering women's vs. men's interests regarding transport.
- 7) Investigate changes in transport infrastructure for all countries with a gender perspective.
- 8) Governments should introduce participatory, inclusive transport planning methodologies in order to be able to incorporate the social / gender divide of transport and travel needs.
- 9) Governments should commit to guarantee sustainable, gender-sensitive transport systems. If privatisation is an option, governments have to define appropriate conditions.
- 10) Governments, donor agencies and International Financial Institutions (GEF, World Bank, UNDP) should support:
  - research on women's strategies to cope with transport needs, incl. e-commerce / virtual shopping; community taxis; etc
  - infra-structure for non-motorised transport and pedestrians
  - initiatives providing more bicycles for women, especially in developing countries
  - sustainable, local, small-scale transport development
- 11) Governments and relevant agencies should conduct improved transport surveys, including gender relevant research and gender sensitive methodologies, including

gender sensitive interviewing; analysing daily realities of female transport users, women's latent demands and their willingness to pay for better transport; documenting transport sharing models at local levels; gender sensitive stakeholder consultation.

- 12) Governments, relevant agencies and research institutions should provide statistics on gender differentiated mobility, including data differentiated by length of trip rather than number of trips; by reasons to travel (men have more choice than women); car drivers vs. passengers; accounting for journeys on foot which are women's; accounting for typical times of travel (rush hours, i.e. men's travel, vs. non-rush hours, i.e. school run); providing figures on health issues, e.g. transport poverty (being marooned in rural areas links with increased use of anti-depressants).
- 13) Governments and donor agencies should support networks addressing working on gender and sustainable to develop concrete strategies towards integrating sustainable, gender-equitable development into transport systems development, particularly as part of the preparations for the Summit in 2002.
- 14) NGOs and women's organisations should
  - Create a formalised dialogue amongst gender & environment researchers, women's organisations and transport NGOs
  - Create a West/East European network on gender & transport issues, (e.g. as a component of the global NGO transport network of the CSD NGO Transport Caucus.)

## C. Gender and Information for Decision-Making

### 1. Science and information for decision-making

1.1 Due to the global digital divide there are significant knowledge gaps, particularly between North and South and between women and men. The UNDP Human Development Report 1999, for example, is outlining strategies designed to bridge these gaps. Governments and donor agencies should support projects related to the se strategies;

1.2 Gender expertise needs to be integrated into research; scientific advisory bodies and environmental impact assessments (EIAs); for example:

- Women and women's NGOs must participate in the development of social-environmental information systems;
- Social monitoring must be integrated into environmental monitoring; institutions involved in designing environmental monitoring should collaborate with social scientists and gender experts to further such integration;

1.3 The dominating world-view is comparably science-based and technology-oriented. While this paradigm provides an important tool in order to understand envi-

ronmental, economic and social inter-linkages, it was felt that this needs to be complemented by the 'human factor'.

## 2. Linking information to people and politics

2.1 Equal access by women to information technology and its application in interactive decision-making for sustainable development need to be ensured;

2.2 Public interest groups need to be empowered by funding and capacity building to serve as intermediaries of relevant information on gender and sustainable development policies.

## 3. Developing indicators and indicator systems

3.1 Gender disaggregated data need to be generated on all levels;

3.2 A gender perspective should be integrated into all indicators within the CSD indicator system, where appropriate;

3.3 The CSD indicator system needs to take into account the research done by UNIFEM and other relevant organisations;

- To achieve the above, the CSD should, in consultation with the Women's caucus, conduct a gender review of the current CSD set of indicators and produce a revised version. This should build on existing analysis (see workshop background paper) and existing gender sensitive indicators designed for various areas of sustainable development;

3.4 Apart from gender sensitive indicators with regard to issues such as freshwater, human settlements, etc., key issues that need to be integrated into sustainability indicator systems are:

- proportion and participation of women in decision-making bodies related to sustainable development;
- the gender division of labour (including paid and unpaid work);
- budget allocation to gender related issues in the field of sustainable development;
- women's health and the environment;

3.5 A side event should be held at CSD-9 on gender aspects of sustainable development indicators.

## CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

### Opening Session

*Dr. Claudia Neusuess, member of the HBF Executive Board* opened the conference by thanking the organisers for their work in bringing it about and stating that she was responsible for Foundation activities relating to the North-South dialogue and to gender democracy. The purpose of this conference was to identify both knowledge and knowledge gaps relating to gender aspects of energy, transport and decision-making, and produce concrete recommendations for action by both policy-makers and stakeholders. Other discussions would focus on the forthcoming 2002 Summit. The outcome of the conference would be published in a conference report, and also be the subject of a side event organised during the CSD-9 inter-session meeting in March 2001. They would be fed into the German government, UN and many other organisations and interested stakeholder bodies. This was the second event organised by HBF on gender and the environment, following a meeting in September 2000 to stimulate debate in Germany on the Beijing +5 results. This process served both to bring in a gender perspective on a range of topics, and to learn from the South, not just hold a dialogue.

*Ms. Gila Altmann, Parliamentary State Secretary, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety*, stated that the connection between women's issues and ecological questions was an important political and social issue. Women's skills in resource and community management were well-known; in both North and South a key demand of the sustainability debate was the need for increased women's involvement in social and political decision-making.

In this as in many other respects, there were still considerable gaps between Agenda 21 goals and their respective implementation. The complexity of the relationships between environmental objectives and gender made the situation even more difficult, since a thorough understanding of many related issues was lacking, and certainly one reason for slow implementation. This conference was a first attempt to close some of the knowledge gaps about the gender-environment links as well as was the first gender-focused international meeting to take place as part of the 2002 Summit preparations. However, more far-reaching goals were also before the meeting, since despite the Agenda 21 commitments, subsequent specific negotiations had to date often resulted in relatively unsubstantial decisions - mainly general calls for increased women's participation or consideration of their interests, rather than specific projects or action plans.

Disappointing results of the Beijing follow-up process also revealed the minimal progress achieved on women and environmental issues. For example, the final Beijing +5 document failed to mention environmental refugees, (the majority of whom were women) the impact of natural disasters on women, and the increasingly dominant role of

women in agriculture in many developing countries due to male out-migration. Other problems facing women included long distances to markets, water sources, and social services reducing their employment as well as educational opportunities for girls. However, women should not be seen as the victims of environmental development; instead men should be given a chance to profit from women's experience, based on both known and new models to connect paid jobs with family work.

The success or failure of the 2002 Summit would depend on specific action-oriented decisions which could be implemented in practice, and which would address problems particularly affecting women relating not only to transport and health, but to economic justice, training, education and democracy. The German government hoped to implement visions generated by the conference as concrete projects with UN partners within the 2002 Summit context.

*Dr. Uschi Eid, Parliamentary Secretary, German Ministry for Economic Co-operation,* stated that women must start early preparations for the 2002 Summit; inter- and intra-generational as well as inter-gender equity were fundamental to meeting the challenge of sustainable development.

Women were particularly hit by environmental degradation, while environmental changes frequently involved the erosion of women's rights and opportunities of women as well as reduced access to water, firewood, food and secure working conditions. Poverty reduction and the protection of the environment and natural resources must be pursued together as part of a "win-win" strategy. Women offered much untapped potential, yet their influence on political decision-making remained minimal, their needs, interests and skills and experience being largely ignored.

The principle of gender mainstreaming and equality adopted under the Beijing Platform, and reaffirmed at Beijing+5 must be applied in all policy areas. Women's great potential for sustainable resource management made them important partners for development co-operation in environmental matters; the Federal Ministry for Economic Co-operation and Development was trying to incorporate the gender perspective into development projects. However, increased energy efficiency industry often led to job losses, with a special impact on women, who constitute a large proportion of unskilled and semi-skilled workers – there was need to offer them alternative income sources.

There were several conclusions for further development co-operation: a) programmes related to environment must be based on gender analyses, to include the household distribution of tasks and resources b) the most important socio-economic aims should be to secure equal rights for men and women to use and own water, land and forests, to reduce the work loads and achieve resource use efficiency c) solutions suitable to local conditions could only be found with full people's participation, including an active role for women d) donors and governments should specially support projects incorporating

gender-specific poverty reduction and equality measures e) training and incentives should target women's increased role in the energy and transport sector.

The 2002 Summit was a valuable opportunity to map out a more sustainable development path for the Earth, in which gender-specific aspects had to be taken into account; women had to be part in the decision-making processes worldwide. This political will must now be translated into concrete political action.

*Ms. Renate Augstein, Deputy Director-General, Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth*, conveyed the best wishes to the conference of the German Minister for Women's Affairs, Dr. Christine Bergmann. The Ministry had expertise on gender perspectives, yet despite the emergence of gender mainstreaming on the international agenda some years ago, the concept was rather new in Germany insofar as practical political measures were concerned. While the goal of gender mainstreaming was to achieve gender equality, the concept was to transform general policy processes, so that gender perspectives came to be incorporated in all policies at all levels and at all stages, by all actors normally involved in policy-making.

Political activities must take into account the differences in the lives of women and men, often involving different constraints, opportunities and goals, since ignoring them could not promote gender equality. Gender mainstreaming was endorsed by the Fourth World Women's Conference in Beijing in 1995 and became a formal legally binding commitment for EU states, with the entry into force of the Amsterdam Treaty on 1<sup>st</sup> of May 1999. In the case of Germany, the 1994 constitutional reform the German Basic Law was supplemented by an additional clause stating that "the State promotes the implementation of *de facto* equal rights for women and men and works towards the elimination of existing disadvantages".

On 23<sup>rd</sup> June 1999 the German government decided that the equality of women and men would become an underlying guiding principle of its policies, and that within the context of the Amsterdam Treaty the goal should be achieved by means of gender mainstreaming. In consequence, a high-level inter-ministerial steering committee was established and initiated its activities last year on the promotion of increased gender equality under the guidance of the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth; work had started to develop criteria to make general policies gender-sensitive; every ministry was tasked with identifying special activities to implement gender mainstreaming within its specific area of competence.

In addition, the Rules of Procedure of the Federal Ministries were clarified so that gender perspectives be observed in all their political, normative and administrative measures, while all Federal officials would now undergo training in gender mainstreaming. In 2001, each ministry would initiate at least one project involving gender mainstreaming to gain experience. Efforts to implement the gender mainstreaming concept on the Länder level had also taken place, as for example the decisions of the governments of

Lower Saxony and Saxony Anhalt to introduce gender mainstreaming into their political activities.

Mainstreaming involved a complementary, dual approach - both horizontal, across the board and specific action for women where appropriate. This was in contrast to the previous approach of special units or ministries reacting to discrimination of women by organising specific projects for women – though this would still be necessary. The application of gender mainstreaming revealed that general policies were never gender neutral. Specific affirmative action policies and gender mainstreaming were therefore two different, equally essential strategies to reach the same goal, which could not substitute each other.

### Session on Gender and Sustainable Development in the Rio Process – Defining the Issues

*Ms. Anneliese Looß, German Federal Environmental Agency*, delivered a statement on “Gender & Environment / Sustainable Development: Defining the Issues.” After commenting on recent developments in Germany, including a new project on Gender and Sustainability within the Federal Environmental Agency, she said that overall public and political acknowledgement of the links between gender and environment still did not exist, even less so the idea that sustainable development was not achievable without the realisation of gender equity, even though this concept was clearly stated in Agenda 21, Chapter 24, the Beijing Platform of Action, and other agreements pertaining to women and/or sustainable development issues. Reasons included different views of sustainability, especially the relation between ecological, economic and social aspects as well as the gender-unequal access to power and decision-making in most of today’s societies.

The organising role and participation of the German Federal Environment Ministry in the present conference, due also to continual lobbying by a still small number of specialised activists, was a considerable step towards official recognition of both the existing gender differences in approaches towards environmental policy and sustainability, and the need for a gender focus in order to achieve the latter. A gender perspective was now essential, no longer casting women in the victim’s role, but based on a proactive definition by women of their goals and perspectives.

Problems faced when dealing with sustainable development issues included how to understand and define economic growth, modernisation and development in relation to sustainability; how to achieve a holistic view of ecological, economic and social aspects of sustainability; how to obtain a societal consensus on the goals to be achieved to realise sustainability; how to achieve inter-, intragenerational and intergender equity; how to mediate between conflicting interests and pressures to maintain present power

relations; what were appropriate indicators for collective and individual behaviour adjustments.

The issue of women and gender with respect to sustainable development raised another series of problems. Did we wish to work towards sustainability, a concept with different meanings in North and South, as well for women of different social levels, or rather “Sustainable Livelihood”? Was gender mainstreaming a concept enabling us to relate to our view of sustainability in the same way as Agenda 21, Chapter 24 or the Beijing Platform for Action? What concepts to develop about gender equity, gender roles and division of labour within a sustainable society? Could we manage to have a common vision of sustainability among ourselves?

Regarding strategies to achieve defined goals, was gender impact analysis an appropriate tool? What indicators should be proposed? Should a women's global conference be held prior to the 2002 Summit and what should our contribution be? What should be written in the national report for Earth Summit 2002 about women and sustainability, women and environment? Should we work towards an article in the 2002 Summit document on women and sustainability, an article which could not so easily be denied by the decision-makers, e.g. in the Northern countries?

In closing, she warned that we must move away from the present situation where men and women expect women to clean up what was polluted and damaged largely as a result of male decision-making and behaviour patterns.

*Dr. Minu Hemmati, UNED Forum*, made a presentation on “the Rio Process – CSD and Earth Summit 2002 – an NGO / Women’s Caucus Perspective” and outlined the preparatory process for the 2002 Summit.

At local and national levels, national consultation processes on priority issues would take place during April 2001, and national assessments would be produced to review Agenda 21 as well as the Programme for Further Implementation of Agenda 21 (Rio+5 / Earth Summit II, 1997). A series of regional preparatory committees would start functioning at regional level from the summer of 2001, and be preceded by regional stakeholder dialogues.

At the global level, four preparatory committees (PrepComms) would be held as part of the work of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development – April/May 2001, January 2002 and March or April 2002 at the United Nations in New York and in Indonesia in May 2002. Global ‘thematic roundtables’ would also be organised during the second part of 2001.

Discussions on a possibly small set of priority issues for the Summit in 2002 were underway at this point - at national, regional and international levels. Among the issues

being mentioned increasingly often were freshwater, energy, forests, biodiversity, access to information (e.g. possible extensions of the ECE Aarhus Convention), poverty and environment, globalisation and trade, finance, HIV/AIDS, gender equity, sustainable production and consumption, institutional mechanisms.

The preparatory process should provide inclusive, democratic, transparent, and gender-balanced mechanisms of participation, build on work done elsewhere and appropriate information, lead to concrete, and where suitable, country-specific decisions and deliver new and additional resources. It should also enable the ratification of the Kyoto Protocol, the Biosafety Protocol and the Convention on Straddling and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (only 3 more ratifications needed for entry into force).

The preparatory process was also related to other UN processes: the Conference on Finance for Development (March 2002), on Least Developing Countries (May 2001), on work related to conventions launched at UNCED, on follow-up to global conferences on population (Cairo), women (Beijing), Habitat (Istanbul), and food (Rome) as well as to the forthcoming international conference on Freshwater in Bonn (December 2001).

Stakeholder involvement would be at various levels: within the CSD stakeholder dialogues, during regional and international PrepComms, in global thematic roundtables, other 2002 Summit related initiatives, satellite events, host country events in South Africa as well as during the Summit itself.

Women's involvement was via both the CSD Women's Caucus, women being one of the nine 'Major Groups' of the CSD, through individual women members of other Major Groups as well as in thematic NGO caucuses. The Caucus now had 458 members of the list serve, based in 66 countries, and had recently started a formal registration process. The caucus had been active in outreach, facilitation and co-ordination, in running a list serve, maintaining a website, liaising with other groups, the UN and governments, lobbying on women's issues, producing position papers, statements and reports. Favourable lobbying opportunities for Major Groups (in terms of getting issues onto the agenda) occurred both at the CSD intersectional meetings since this body drew up draft decisions for the CSD itself, as well as at the multi-stakeholder dialogues. At the CSD itself, lobbying was focused on commenting on the evolving draft texts for decision, on the basis of submitting suggestions and line-by-line amendments.

Proposed activities for the caucus were to strengthen it as a global network, publish its work, appoint regional and issue focal points, network around the 2002 Summit process, facilitate, build capacity. The caucus should ensure that appropriate information was both made available and was gender-sensitive, update the Women's Action Agenda for a Healthy Planet, work on Women and Local Agenda 21, promote gender mainstreaming of issues, play an active role in multi-stakeholder dialogues and processes, and encourage projects in the host country and the region which had a gender component.

To achieve this, a global co-ordinated but richly diversified strategy was needed, based on transparency, taking of responsibilities, internal and external accountability and adequate funding.

Ways must be found to make gender a hot political issue and for serious attention to be paid to it - for as the UN Secretary-General, Kofi Annan (March 1999) had stated “after all, women are not the feel-good factors of international policy”.

## WORKSHOP I

### Gender Perspectives on Energy

The authors of the two background papers on energy, Hespina Rukato and Ulrike Roehr made brief presentations.<sup>1</sup>

Introducing her paper, Hespina Rukato said that projects merely designed to meet electrification growth could and would not contribute to poverty alleviation. Energy projects and policies were gender-blind, but recently a South African energy and gender network had been set up of which she was the acting co-ordinator, and others were being formed in the region. ENERGIA-Africa would be making input into the 2002 Summit.

Programmes and policies needed to be designed to facilitate integrated and sustainable development in rural areas, and employment creation in rural areas. Rural energy poverty continued to have a gender bias and current rural electrification programmes only reached a few households, and did not meet cooking fuel needs. In her country, women, in particular black women, were poorly represented in the energy sector, and virtually absent from management positions. Numerous research gaps remained in the field of women and energy.

Commenting on her paper Ulrike Roehr said that in the North, the most noticeable aspect was the neglect of gender issues: there had hardly been any research on the gender aspects of sustainable energy production and consumption, nor had there been any gender mainstreaming in policy design and implementation. Most recent data on women and nuclear power was from the 1980s. Women were under-represented in the energy sector the largest and most powerful sector of industry, comprising barely 6% of the workforce and less than 1% of management. Hardly any of the few women working in energy addressed gender issues.

However, in recent years a few women's energy projects had emerged, as well as EU-funded projects to support women in energy utilities; these were reasons to hope that gender aspects were slowly making their way into the energy sector...even though the above projects only focused on women's participation, and did not address the issues of gender mainstreaming.

She warned against the recent strong lobbying by the nuclear industry in the Climate Change negotiations and at the Commission on Sustainable Development, a trend which must be countered by women's and other civil society organisations.

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<sup>1</sup> Gender and Energy in the South: A perspective from South Africa. By Hespina Rukato, Minerals and Energy Policy Centre, South Africa. Gender and Energy in the North. By Ulrike Roehr, Life e.V. FrauenUmweltNetz, Frankfurt, Germany. (*Authors' summaries/abstracts and weblink for full texts are given in Annex IV*).

The following points were amongst the many made by participants:

- On-going plans for deep drilling in the Baltic Sea could release large quantities of methane, with possibly severe impacts.
- Key issues needed to be presented to governments, and projects developed to showcase as a way of intervening in the policy process.
- There was need to talk with both men and women at all levels about gender and energy issues.
- On-going plans for deep drilling in the Baltic Sea could release large quantities of methane, with possibly severe impacts.
- Energy policy expressed in market price terms reflected present income structures, while ecotaxes tended to favour certain groups. Gender aspects were linked to income levels, and therefore an issue for income policy.
- Financial constraints held back the increased involvement of women in small-scale solar energy development.
- In Africa, foreign funding agencies had put forward energy solutions for women. However, solar cookers were not suited to women's cooking schedules. Moreover, surveys had shown that women wanted access to grid electricity, rather than biomass based systems, but energy solutions were not developed at grassroots level.
- Major energy decisions were to be taken in 2001 outside the UN CSD framework, viz. within the climate change negotiations and by the G8 at its July meeting on the basis of the recommendations of the report of its Task Force on Renewable Energy ([www.renewabletaskforce.org](http://www.renewabletaskforce.org)).
- The All-India Women's Conference is an active member of IRNET, the Indian Renewable Energy Network. In India, photovoltaic arrays providing 4-5 lighting points were being acquired by low-income families, thanks to small loans. Women were being trained in biogas use and insulation. Pellets were also being manufactured from garbage, for use as cooking fuel.
- Gender issues and women's special energy needs and concerns were hardly mentioned in major annual energy reports such as IEA's World Energy Assessment and the World Energy Council's Statements.

The participants in the workshop adopted the following recommendations:

- 1) analyse missing gender analysis in NGOs/campaigns on energy and develop strategies to promote them
- 2) develop a North-South critique of the energy industry and develop guidelines from a gender perspective for investment policies in the energy sector
- 3) develop a gender analysis of all international energy-related processes and develop a gender analysis for the Climate Change Convention process, G8 and world energy reports. Immediate steps are to;

- organise a Women and Climate Change Forum at COP-6 (resumed) and at subsequent COPs
  - organise a workshop on women and energy politics during the NGO forum parallel to G8, Genoa, July 2001
- 4) obtain commitments from shareholders of all Multilateral Development Banks to ensure gender mainstreaming in all energy policies, programmes and projects so as to achieve sustainable energy development
  - 5) ensure that all energy-related research include a gender and sustainable development analysis through gender-balanced teams. Examples of research would include:
    - test assumptions on gender differences towards energy needs, use, planning and policy
    - cultural differences towards energy issues from a gender perspective
    - How can behavioural changes in energy use be achieved, differentiated between sexes?
    - critique current energy production and consumption models from a sustainable development and gender perspective
    - analyse impact of energy-related projects on women/local community control over their land/water resources
    - analyse effectiveness of renewable energy policies/projects in the South
  - 6) organise an international tribunal at the 2002 Summit providing testimonies from victims of large energy projects and showcasing successful gender and sustainable development projects
  - 7) develop advocacy tools to link poverty, energy and gender
  - 8) request resources for national and regional processes to implement the above recommendations

## WORKSHOP II

### Gender and Transport

The authors of the two background papers on transport, Deike Peters and Kerry Hamilton, made brief presentations.<sup>1</sup>

Introducing her paper, Deike Peters highlighted that women's aspects had been ignored throughout transport systems in developing countries, despite growing recognition over the last ten years of gender differences in travel and activity patterns. Several multilateral and donor agencies had issued research, manuals and other materials about gender and transport, albeit with limited distribution and impact, an exception being the material issued by the World Bank's recently established Gender and Transport Thematic Group. However, in 1997, only 4% of WB transport projects had a gender component. Women continued to struggle with systems designed to meet men's needs only.

Presenting her paper Kerry Hamilton stated that examples from Sweden, UK and USA highlighted widespread inequality of transport access for women in the developed world, and its potential for ameliorating or exacerbating some structural disadvantages associated with women's roles. Transport options, or lack of them, were a determining factor in shaping women's actual employment opportunities. In recent years however there was an increasing trend towards gender disaggregation of transport statistics, though improvements were still needed. Androcentric assumptions still distorted perceptions of women's travel, whilst also excluding travel of less than 1 mile, trips mainly made by women and children.

Meike Spitzner, Wuppertal Institute, made a brief input at the beginning of the discussions, focusing on the need to re-think current definitions of mobility and highlighting that equity and environmental protection were congruent. Gender equity did not mean creating the same mobility conditions for women as existed for men, nor did global equity mean closing the gaps between developing and developed countries by increasing mobility in the South through introducing 'traditional', developed country systems. She gave a concrete example: the rate of car ownership in developed countries was increasing faster than population growth in developing countries.

Therefore, developed countries' transport systems needed to be addressed as well, together with the increasing need for travel and the pressure for motorization which women all over the world were exposed to. Increased need to travel was due to androcentric de-integration (and de-contextualisation) of all caring economy dimensions –

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<sup>1</sup> Gender and Transport in Less Developed Countries: A Background Paper in Preparation for CSD-9 by Deike Peters Co-Co-ordinator, UN CSD Caucus on Sustainable Transport. Gender and Transport in Developed Countries by Kerry Hamilton, University of East London, UK. (*Authors' summaries/abstracts are given in Annex IV, as well as weblinks for full texts.*)

resulting in unsustainable political, economic and planning organization of societal relationships to time and space.

The following points were amongst the many made by participants:

- Should creating gender equity mean to create the same mobility conditions for women as there are for men?
- Should global equity mean closing the gaps between developing and developed countries by increasing mobility in the South through introducing 'traditional', developed country systems?
- Addressing problems of mobility will require not only to ask how to increase access for the under-privileged but how to decrease consumption of the over-privileged, and reduce the need to travel.
- A reintegration of space / time / caring work was needed involving a shift away from the androcentric dominant technological paradigms of development and mobility the 'caring economy' needs to be integrated into economic analysis and policy-making as a core component, not treated as an add-on.
- Women have different (part-time, less paid) and fewer employment options largely due to the household level sexual division of labour affecting their economic position and thus their access to transport.
- A concrete example of gender mainstreaming in government policy-making was a German cabinet decision of June 1999 on “integration of gender aspects” and an internal rule of procedure of July 2000 on “gender mainstreaming”, aiming to ensure regular and active integration of gender aspects into all decision-making.

The participants in the workshop adopted the following recommendations:

- 1) Environment and sustainability issues as well as gender perspectives need be fully integrated into all transport related policy-making in all departments at all levels on a regular and pro-active basis.
- 2) The definition and understanding of mobility need to be revised aiming to reflect women's lives and responsibilities – i.e. diverse patterns of a multitude of tasks and related trips such as transporting loads for sale; accompanying children and elderly, etc. – and enable authorities to design appropriate transport systems.
- 3) In general, measures are necessary which reduce transport burdens and transport expenditures of women and men while creating equitable access and ensuring women's increased opportunities and participation.
- 4) All transport system development must be informed by the lived experience of women; governments should integrate experts on gender-sensitive transport system planning and decision-making in their planning structures.

- 5) Gender Impact Assessments (GIAs) should be integrated into EIAs which would contribute to creating Sustainability Impact Assessments. Sustainability Audits should include Gender Audits addressing the androcentric perspectives reflected in current policies (prioritising men's lives and needs) and Caring Economy Audits.
- 6) Gender budget analyses are an important tool of engendering macro-economic analysis; they should be conducted to provide information about how much women- & men-power, institutional and financial resources, and research funding goes into furthering women's vs. men's interests regarding transport.
- 7) Investigate changes in transport infrastructure for all countries with a gender perspective.
- 8) Governments should introduce participatory, inclusive transport planning methodologies in order to be able to incorporate the social / gender divide of transport and travel needs.
- 9) Governments should commit to guarantee sustainable, gender-sensitive transport systems. If privatisation is an option, governments have to define appropriate conditions.
- 10) Governments, donor agencies and International Financial Institutions (GEF, World Bank, UNDP) should support:
  - research on women's strategies to cope with transport needs, incl. e-commerce / virtual shopping; community taxis; etc
  - infrastructure for non-motorised transport and pedestrians
  - initiatives providing more bicycles for women, especially in developing countries
  - sustainable, local, small-scale transport development.
- 11) Governments and relevant agencies should conduct improved transport surveys, including gender relevant research and gender sensitive methodologies, including gender sensitive interviewing; analysing daily realities of female transport users, women's latent demands and their willingness to pay for better transport; documenting transport sharing models at local levels; gender sensitive stakeholder consultation.
- 12) Governments, relevant agencies and research institutions should provide statistics on gender differentiated mobility, including data differentiated by length of trip rather than number of trips; by reasons to travel (men have more choice than women); car drivers vs. passengers; accounting for journeys on foot which are women's; accounting for typical times of travel (rush hours, i.e. men's travel, vs. non-rush hours, i.e. school run); providing figures on health issues, e.g. transport poverty (being marooned in rural areas links with increased use of anti-depressants).
- 13) Governments and donor agencies should support networks addressing working on gender and sustainable to develop concrete strategies towards integrating sustainable, gender-equitable development into transport systems development, particularly as part of the preparations for the Summit in 2002.

14) NGOs and women's organisations should

- create a formalised dialogue amongst gender & environment researchers, women's organisations and transport NGOs
- create a West/East European network on gender & transport issues, (e.g. as a component of the global NGO transport network of the CSD NGO Transport Caucus.).

## PLENARY DISCUSSION ON INFORMATION FOR DECISION-MAKING AND PARTICIPATION, INCLUDING INDICATORS

One of the co-authors of a background paper, Thais Corral, and of a workshop paper, Dr. Irmgard Schultz, made presentations.

Dr. Irmgard Schultz emphasised the need to reform the linkage between knowledge generation and political decision making. She criticised the Agenda 21 information provisions as being a one-way strategy to bring satellite-based information into "traditional information" while the former was male-expert-based, technology monopolised and excluded all forms of the latter. The question was rather how to 'rebound' satellite based information on "traditional" forms of information. Moreover the 'sputnik view' of the planet was a male scientists' worldview which excluded social dimensions. There was a need to apply new participatory scoping methods, give nations the right to refuse 'being geoscoped', examine gender dimensions and incorporate a kind of 'People's Earth Observation System' into existing Earth Watch systems.

Introducing her paper<sup>1</sup>, Thais Corral stated that thanks to a major mobilisation of women in 1991, culminating in the Global Assembly of Women and the Environment, immediately followed by the World Women's Congress for a Healthy Planet, 120 recommendations relating to women and the entire chapter 23 had been incorporated into Agenda 21, adopted a year later by the UN Conference on Environment and Development in Rio. Whilst a number of developing countries were now increasing availability and dissemination of gender-sensitive statistics as well as mainstreaming gender in policy actions, there remained major challenges in many areas. High rates of female illiteracy (women accounting for 65% of the world's illiterate people) affected both their economic security and potential for a role in civil society. Recent declines in this illiteracy in most regions were balanced by reports of increased female illiteracy in South Asia.

Amongst the many points made by participants in the subsequent discussion were:

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<sup>1</sup> Women and Information for Participation and Decision-Making in Sustainable Development in Developing Countries by Thais Corral and Pamela Ransom; REDEH Brazil / WEDO. (*Author's summary/abstract given in Annex IV with weblink for full text.*) Satellite-based information and political decision-making by Irmgard Schultz, ISOE-Institute for Social Ecological Research, Frankfurt, Germany.

- The present dominant worldview is scientific and patriarchal. How could CSD discussions shift from the scientific to holistic perspectives?
- The major digital divide had implications for women; scientific and technological proposals and policies should incorporate quantitative and qualitative indicators on gender aspects.
- Indicators used in the recent WB/IMF/UN/OECD report “A Better World for All”, a document strongly criticised by NGOs, had assessed progress in the South according to indicators developed in the North, not emerging from either the South or a North-South intergovernmental process.
- Within the UN Development Assistance Framework, UN agencies were developing gender-sensitive indicators on poverty, income, food security and nutrition, mortality, health, employment, livelihood, environment, drug control and housing. Other indicators related to per capita Co2 emissions, biodiversity, protected land areas, GDP/energy ratios, forest land extension, dependence on fuelwood.
- In 1997, the UN CSD adopted a work programme on 134 sustainability indicators, to be tested by 20 countries, including Germany. Following a review meeting in October 2000, the CSD secretariat has produced 59 indicators to be discussed at CSD-9, but work still remained to be done on their gender sensitivity. At least 5 gender-related indicators should be proposed to CSD-9, perhaps drawn up by a dedicated working group.
- Local level data is essential for local political action, but difficult to obtain. Caring activities are still categorised as leisure.
- There was concern amongst developing countries that information could be used against them (e.g. to supply information about natural resource location to interested private companies without their knowledge or consent).
- At least one pilot research programme on gender-sensitive indicators needed within the process.
- More gender-disaggregated environment-related health indicators were needed.

Participants in the workshop adopted the following recommendations:

## 1. Science and information for decision-making:

1.1 Due to the global digital divide there are significant knowledge gaps, particularly between North and South and between women and men. The UNDP Human Development Report 1999, for example, is outlining strategies designed to bridge these gaps. Governments and donor agencies should support projects related to the se strategies;

- 1.2 Gender expertise needs to be integrated into research; scientific advisory bodies and environmental impact assessments (EIAs); for example:
- Women and women's NGOs must participate in the development of social-environmental information systems;
  - Social monitoring must be integrated into environmental monitoring; institutions involved in designing environmental monitoring should collaborate with social scientists and gender experts to further such integration;
- 1.3 The dominating world-view is comparably science-based and technology-oriented. While this paradigm provides an important tool in order to understand environmental, economic and social inter-linkages, it was felt that this needs to be complemented by the 'human factor'.

## 2. Linking information to people and politics

- 2.1 Equal access by women to information technology and its application in interactive decision-making for sustainable development need to be ensured;
- 2.2 Public interest groups need to be empowered by funding and capacity building to serve as intermediaries of relevant information on gender and sustainable development policies.

## 3. Developing indicators and indicator systems

- 3.1 Gender disaggregated data need to be generated on all levels;
- 3.2 A gender perspective should be integrated into all indicators within the CSD indicator system, where appropriate;
- 3.3 The CSD indicator system needs to take into account the research done by UNIFEM and other relevant organisations;
- To achieve the above, the CSD should, in consultation with the Women's caucus, conduct a gender review of the current CSD set of indicators and produce a revised version. This should build on existing analysis (see workshop background paper) and existing gender sensitive indicators designed for various areas of sustainable development.
- 3.4 Apart from gender sensitive indicators with regard to issues such as freshwater, human settlements, etc., key issues that need to be integrated into sustainability indicator systems are:
- proportion and participation of women in decision-making bodies related to sustainable development;
  - the gender division of labour (including paid and unpaid work);
  - budget allocation to gender related issues in the field of sustainable development;

- women's health and the environment.

3.5 A side event should be held at CSD-9 on gender aspects of sustainable development indicators.

## PLENARY DISCUSSION ON THE 2002 SUMMIT PROCESS

Participants reviewed ideas arising from discussions with organisations and individuals prior to and at the Berlin conference, as well as those developed within the CSD Women's Caucus.

These included the need for a global vision incorporating regional perspectives, developing strategies for women's involvement whether within NGOs, governmental processes or pre-the 2002 Summit multi-stakeholder dialogues and within on-going reviews of Agenda 21. Media outreach and host country activities also needed to be developed. The need for the involvement of women parliamentarians in future activities was urged as well as better integration into all UN activities, and organisations such as the Global Environment Facility, where Northern networks were very active.

WEDO's plans, presented by Thais Corral, for a re-launch of the Women's Action Agenda for a Healthy Planet received strong support, and had previously been discussed and supported by the Women's Caucus at its meetings during CSD-8. On WEDO's activities on Local Agenda 21 and women, an activity carried out with ICLEI, she said that these would both be presented to the 2002 Summit, and be continued beyond it.

Options for developing a structured strategy were discussed, so as to cluster the ideas and thereby assign responsibilities. Women's strategies towards the 2002 Summit could be facilitated by a small steering group / facilitating team of experienced organisations, including the CSD NGO Women's Caucus, with a broader forum of all interested groups around the facilitating group to facilitate effective communication and concerted efforts and ensure transparency. Task Forces for certain subject areas should be formed. The meeting agreed to continue discussions via the CSD NGO Women's caucus list serve and at the CSD Intersessional and CSD-9 and CSD-10 meetings on the basis of the following initial task force structure (overlaps included):

### Advocacy task force

- Major focus on the development of concrete, action-oriented recommendations for policy makers
- Women's involvement in government and NGO reporting on implementation of Agenda 21 (Produce alternative reports from women's groups and/or NGOs? Produce comments on governments reports from a women's perspective?)

- Issue task forces, e.g. on priority issues for the 2002 Summit - teams with expertise on issues; tap into existing issue-specific networks
- Major focus on women's poverty and the development of a new economic model within which women would not be marginalised and social and environmental costs would not be externalised
- Women's Action Agenda for a Healthy Planet (initial documents based on existing coalition documents; working with issue specific networks)
- Women's involvement in multi-stakeholder processes towards the 2002 Summit (ensure that women and Indigenous Peoples be included as a distinct group in multi-stakeholder dialogues; create strategic alliances between women and other stakeholder groups)
- Introduce a multi-stakeholder approach to selected areas of women's caucus work; for example, gathering a team of women from different sectors / major groups on a particular issue; produce a women's multi-stakeholder document
- Information & networking within the women's caucus and with other women's groups

#### Parallel event task force

- Women's Action Agenda for a Healthy Planet (initial documents based on existing coalition documents; working with issue specific networks)
- Women & Local Agenda 21 (survey, analysis and developing strategies with ICLEI; hold regional meetings on LA21 & women, e.g. linked with regional PrepComms)
- Information & networking (share information about plans and projects)

#### Host country task force

- Possibly to be created by host country women's networks (discussions underway)
- Ensure that women in the host country & region benefit from the Summit being held in SA (e.g. housing projects)
- Organisations outside South Africa to support women's organisations in SA & the region in their preparations (e.g. show-casing success stories in the host country)
- Lobby Northern governments to support South Africa, other African countries and developing countries in general in their efforts to prepare for the Summit, including women's organisations & NGOs

#### Media & communication task force

- Work towards an effective media strategy to ensure clear communication; ensure understanding of gender issues
- Share media activities and products (including translations)

- Use women's media to provide information & skills training material for women to be effective in the process

#### Resource task force

- Gather and share information about possible funding sources
- Joint fund raising depending on possible joint efforts

Participants agreed that each task force should seek how to learn from previous experiences and successful strategies. Each of the task forces should work to ensure a global approach, networking and transparency and at the same time ensure appropriate reflection of regional specifics.

The pros and cons of holding a separate women's event in South Africa around the Summit and/or focus on working within the NGO activities in South Africa were discussed; participants agreed that this was mainly up to the South African groups to decide, while non-South African groups and networks would stand ready to help upon request.

It was decided that this initial structure should be further developed by WEDO and UNED Forum (which co-co-ordinate the Women's Caucus), and comments were invited. Further strategy developments should include information about who was doing what, to be published via the women's caucus list serve and all conference participants' networks, so as to ensure transparency, generate opportunities for collaboration and mutual support, and allow for input and involvement from interested organisations. Participants also expressed the wish that organisations and networks share information about their on-going and planned activities for Earth Summit 2002, and should, whenever possible, share information about resources they were accessing.

Further discussions on conference follow-up included the call on all participants to disseminate the conference's outcomes (co-chairs' summary and full report) within their networks and to other stakeholder groups such as parliamentarians who were often overlooked.

For CSD-9, the women's caucus should convene joint meetings with the NGO energy caucus, the transport caucus, and the forthcoming caucus on information for decision-making.

Participants of the various issue-focused workshops and discussions should keep in touch and strengthen their links and collaboration, for example, participants in the energy workshop should become part of a worldwide women and energy network. Participants should aim to become active participants in existing NGO networks on these issues to ensure gender mainstreaming of their work.

Funds would be requested from both official UN structures and private foundations, whilst European based organisations should look to European institutions.

# ANNEXES

## ANNEX I

### CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

*January 10, 2001*

14.00 – 16.00 Opening Session

Welcome addresses by:

Ms. Gila Altmann, Parliamentary State Secretary, German Ministry for Environment, Nature Protection and Nuclear Safety

Dr. Uschi Eid, Parliamentary State Secretary, German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development

Ms. Renate Augstein, German Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth

Moderated by Dr. Claudia Neusuess, Heinrich Boell Foundation Executive Board

16.30-18.00 Gender and Sustainable Development in the Rio Process – Defining the Issues

Presentation by Ms. Anneliese Looss, Federal Environment Agency “Gender & Sustainable Development: Defining the Issues“

Presentation by Dr. Minu Hemmati, UNED Forum & CSD Women’s Caucus  
“The Rio Process: CSD & Earth Summit 2002. An NGO / Women’s Caucus Perspective“

Discussion - facilitated by Heike Leitschuh-Fecht

*January 11, 2001*

9.00 – 10.30 Gender Perspectives on Energy and Transport (Parallel Workshops)

Workshop I: Energy

Presentation I by Hespina Rukato (background paper PDF)

Presentation II by Ulrike Roehr (Life eV) (background paper PDF)

Questions of clarification after each presentation

*Facilitated by Heike Leitschuh-Fecht*

Workshop II: Transport

Presentation I by Deike Peters (Institute for City and Regional Planning (ISR), Technical University Berlin / Co-coordinator CSD Transport Caucus) (background paper PDF)

Presentation II by Kerry Hamilton (University of East London) (background paper PDF)

Short Presentation by Meike Spitzner, Wuppertal Institute

Questions of clarification after each presentation

*Facilitated by Jasmin Enayati, UNED Forum*

11.00 – 12.30 Gender Perspectives on Energy and Transport, *continued*

Workshop I: Energy – Discussion

Workshop II: Transport - Discussion

14.00 – 15.00 Plenary Session: Gender Perspectives on Information for Decision-Making and Participation, incl. Indicators

Presentation I by Thais Corral (REDEH, Brazil / WEDO Women's Environment and Development Organization, New York)

Presentation II by Irmgard Schultz (ISOE-Institute for Social Ecological Research, Frankfurt, Germany)

Questions of clarification after each presentation

15.20 – 17.00 Information for Decision-Making and Participation, incl. Indicators, *continued*

19.30 – 22.00 Evening event at the Heinrich Boell Foundation, Welcome address by Dr. Claudia Neusuess, Heinrich Boell Foundation

*January 12, 2001*

9.00 – 10.30 Gender Perspectives on Energy, Transport and Information for Decision-Making and Participation, incl. Indicators (Parallel Workshops, *continued*)

11.00 – 12.30 Gender Perspectives on Earth Summit 2002

Presentation of Workshop reports by rapporteurs; discussion on issues; priorities; strategies – facilitated by questions arising from the workshop, the background papers, the state of preparations for Earth Summit 2002, etc.

*Facilitated by Heike Leitschuh-Fecht*

13.30 – 15.00 Gender Perspectives on Earth Summit 2002, *continued*

Discussion on possible future action; possible partnerships - conclusions

Distribution of Co-Chairs' summary of conference proceedings

15.00 End of Meeting

## ANNEX II

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## ANNEX III

### PLENARY STATEMENTS

Full texts of the following statements can be downloaded from

<http://www.earthsummit2002.org/workshop>

Dr. Uschi Eid, Parliamentary State Secretary, German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development

Ms. Renate Augstein, German Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth

Ms. Anneliese Looß, Federal Environment Agency “ Gender & Sustainable Development: Defining the Issues “

Dr. Minu Hemmati, UNED Forum & CSD Women’s Caucus “The Rio Process: CSD & Earth Summit 2002. An NGO / Women’s Caucus Perspective “

## ANNEX IV

### BACKGROUND PAPERS

Full texts can be downloaded from <http://www.earthsummit2002.org/workshop>

Abstracts/Summaries:

1) Gender and Energy in the North by Ulrike Roehr, Life e.v. FrauenUmweltNetz, Frankfurt, Germany. (*author’s conclusions and recommendations*)

1. The lack of database considerably impedes the identification of gender differences in the energy sector and to develop appropriate concepts and strategies. This is true for all areas:

- for sound and constant data on the share of women in the energy sectors
- for consumer behaviour and differences in energy consumption by men and women (who buys and uses which electric appliances and for whom/how?) and their changes by removal of gender roles.

All actors in the energy sector – enterprises, associations, politics, authorities – should be obliged to ascertain their data in a gender differentiated way and to publish them on an annual basis. A Swedish law from 1994 stipulates all data ascertained referring to persons to be subject to gender differentiated analysis. This could be a model for other countries. Swedish women experienced that with this law gender differences became

noticeable in places they were not suspected before. Based on these data, gender differences can well be addressed and balanced.

2. If women (and men) are expected to act as conscious consumers influencing the production by their buying decisions, they need support. There is a need of binding regulations and instruments to be implemented by industry:

- Efficiency standards including intelligent turn-off-functions (to avoid stand-by) for all electrical appliances would make customer decisions easier and shift responsibility from users to the producers.
- Women should be involved into development and design of products. The establishment of customer-forums could provide an opportunity for this, giving women the possibility to put forward their ideas about function, design and environmental acceptability during product development.
- Instruments and models need to be developed to link the “every day life experience” of women (and men, as far as existent) and expert knowledge.
- Advice and information offers for specific target groups can support women and men in their efforts to develop an energy-saving behaviour. Women do not necessarily have to be addressed as a specific target group, but different situations in life and work have to be taken into account. With such an approach, energy saving in the office and at the workplace could become a target of the saving efforts, too. Investigations on user profiles of energy advice offers, i.e. who uses them why and for which purpose, could help with making consulting and information programmes more effective. Energy utilities, energy agencies and advice offices are as important as marketing experts and educational organisations for such an approach. Developing new methods and new models of awareness raising and information campaigns will also play an important role.
- Financial gains through energy conservation, by means of subsidies when buying energy saving appliances or tariff structures encouraging energy saving (as yet, the price for a unit of energy is higher the less energy is used – this correlation tends to be increasing in the course of the liberalisation of the electricity market) will motivate and support women with low incomes to save energy.
- A fundamental requirement for all energy conservation activities that cause additional workload in terms of unpaid caring work is a more just distribution of this work between female and male members of the households.

3. There is no research on gender issues in the energy sector until now. To remove this shortcoming, research projects should be initiated and funded which aim on the determination of gender aspects in the environmental sector. In particular, research is urgently needed inter alia on:

- the different impacts of Eco/energy taxes on women and men and on women in different situations;
- the impact of subsidies in the energy sector (grants for solar systems and efficient heating systems on one hand and household appliances on the other hand), to check whether they lead to a further reinforcement of gender relations, and to find ways how to avoid this;
- the structural correlation between energy consumption and gender relation;
- the conditions of participation of women in the energy sector respectively the failure of their participation up to now to get conclusions for concepts and methods of participation;
- research projects which are not directed mainly on gender aspects should always be obliged to take into consideration and to deal with gender aspects.

Furthermore, an evaluation of research programmes and results on national and international level is required with regard to the participation of women in these programmes and the consideration of gender aspects, similar to the current evaluation of the Fifth Framework Programme for Research by the European Commission (ISOE 2000, Technology and Gender Group 2000).

4. The implementation of gender-mainstreaming and gender impact assessment in the energy sector requires the development of appropriate instruments for screening the impacts of energy and climate change policies and measures on the situation of women.

Models and concepts of sustainable energy use should be examined during the planning phase with regard to their impacts on gender related division of labour and possible additional strains for women. Today, the ignorance of planners about gender aspects hampers such approaches. Planners and decision-makers need to take notice of improved databases (see point 1) and to learn about the results of research (see point 3). Furthermore, a sensitisation on unequal conditions for the different sexes must be strated for. A method for sensitisation could be gender training, which should be developed on the base of existing gender training's in development policy and which are nowadays practised by some progressive organisations like the Heinrich Boell Foundation. Especially decision-makers within every energy policy and planning related institution and organisation should attend such a training.

A further step into the right direction might be to work out guidelines to simplify, standardise and operationalize policies that take gender aspects into consideration.

5. The extreme under-representation of women in the energy sector requires strong efforts to promote women in all energy-related organisations, institutions, utilities, and trade unions and in vocational training.

Especially in the situation of massive restructuring and rationalisation in the energy industry, programmes and measures supporting women (such as mentoring, internal company training, improvement of prospects of promotion, offers to improve the compatibility of family and profession) should be introduced. Equality-audit schemes should become a regular element of the environmental-auditing system (EMAS).

The same goes for national, regional and local authorities as well as for non-governmental organisations, which should seek to play a leading role. Women-supporting programmes are implemented in the public sector in many countries (more or less successfully); however, further progress is required to improve the representation of women in decision-making bodies, in consultation and informal bodies.

Methodologies and instruments for participation should be reviewed with reference to their applicability and effectiveness to guarantee the involvement of women as active participants in planning and decision-making in the energy sector, and, if necessary, introduced and developed further.

Governmental and non-governmental educational institutions should increasingly engage in motivating girls and young women to choose non-traditional professions (particularly with regard to the energy related technical professions). There are successful practices which should be disseminated and supported (see the following good practices). Women's organisations should put much more emphasis on the issue of "sustainable energy". There is a gap between feminist demands for sustainable development, and the interest in (for women) untypical technical issues which needs to be overcome.

Creation, expansion and financial support for national and international networks and focal point for information dissemination on "gender and energy" should support women professionals in the energy sector as well as the above mentioned measures and recommendations.

These activities should be supported by holding regularly national and international conferences in order to report progress and discuss experiences.

## 2) Gender and Energy in the South: A perspective from South Africa by Hespina Rukato, Minerals and Energy Policy Centre, South Africa (*author's abstract*)

From a production point of view, the participation of women in the energy sector has been largely restricted to forestry and biomass management in rural areas. In the urban setting, poor women have remained victims of the environmental impacts of coal based electricity production that services industry and middle to higher income groups. In many rural areas where large hydro projects and gas pipelines have been or are being developed, indigenous populations have lost the land, and have suffered relocation to make way for energy projects from which they do not benefit. Few women are involved

in the formulation of energy policy, and big energy projects have remained the preserve of men. Both rural and urban women dwellers have very little say and choice over the domestic fuels that they use. In rural areas, such say and choice is determined by woodfuel availability, and to some extent availability of cash to purchase fuels such as paraffin. In urban areas, the most used fuel by low-income earners is paraffin due to high costs of electricity and related housing problems.

High-income earners in both rural and urban areas are the ones that have many energy options available. The fact that they do not opt for environmentally friendly energy sources is not a matter of gender, but rather of class and affordability. Policy interventions have largely been focusing on access to safe, reliable and affordable energy sources. While many governments now recognise the importance of including environmental concerns in their energy policies, a lot still needs to be done at the implementation level. Environmental concerns in energy have historically taken a back seat due to the pressing need to alleviate poverty in both rural areas and urban areas. Current trends in energy provision in many developing countries show that unless funded by external mechanisms, environmentally-friendly energy technologies such as renewables are out of reach of the people that currently need basic access to energy.

From a developing country perspective, and based on current trends and lack of successful gender energy projects, it is clear that energy projects need to be designed with the aim of facilitating integrated and sustainable development in rural areas, and employment creation, particularly in urban areas. If designed entirely for purposes of meeting electrification targets, such projects cannot, and will not contribute towards poverty alleviation. There are currently many funding opportunities available for gender/women environmental-energy projects in developing countries. However, such projects will only succeed if they are linked to raising the incomes of the targeted groups, both in rural and urban areas. Improving access to energy for lighting and cooking alone might alleviate the drudgery of women's domestic chores, but will not alleviate poverty on a sustained basis. While it is accepted that energy is a basic need like water and health, it is now time to start looking at the holistic well being of poor women, of which energy is a critical component.

### 3) Gender and Transport in Developed Countries by Kerry Hamilton, University of East London, UK (*author's conclusions*)

In practice women have few travel options or choices open to them. As a general rule, if car transport is available this will be used, whether as a driver or a passenger, in preference to using public transport. There are very few examples in the available literature of genuine choice over mode of personal travel, and even fewer examples where public transport is used in preference to the car because it is cheaper, quicker or more pleasant.

As part of a recent UK study, women were questioned about their attitudes and experience of transport, in particular about what stopped them from using public transport. Their responses revealed that their predominantly negative experiences of public transport do not appear in most cases to prevent them from using it. There does however appear to be a significant reduction in actual as opposed to desired journeys for social and recreational purposes, particularly in the evening and more so among women with caring responsibilities and those in older age groups. Examples of what may be termed 'imperatives to car use', were evident and these were of two kinds: first, strong concerns about personal security, for example; and second, the need to ensure safe travel to school for one's children. Costs and inconvenience associated with children's journeys to school were also major concerns, but safety was paramount:

Although car ownership and use are on the increase among women, there is still an important market for public transport among women. There are many pressures to get and use a car, but research among women indicates that cars are also perceived to have a range of disadvantages and limitations that other competing modes have either low availability, high costs or low attractiveness for women, and that for the great majority cycling and motorbike cycle use are hardly seen as options at all. For many women, walking is still probably the most viable option for shorter journeys. However, rising rates of crimes against the person does nothing to allay women's concerns about personal security. Additionally, often hazardous pedestrian environments and the encumbered nature of many of women's journeys lessen the attractiveness of walking. There remains a strong need for some form of motorised non-private transport in keeping with transport and sustainability criteria to meet women's travel needs.

In conclusion, the failure to produce transport policies and provision that meet women's needs has exacerbated social exclusion and environmental pollution. Much more research needs to be undertaken to provide a clearer picture of women's lives, their domestic and family responsibilities and their preferred work and leisure patterns, particularly at the local level.

This data could then be employed to promote greater awareness among those responsible for transport provision of the extent of gender inequality and more importantly as material to construct a tool to audit all transport plans. A better transport future for women could then be attained if all policy and plans were audited for gender sensitivity.

4) Gender and Transport in Less Developed Countries: A Background Paper in Preparation for CSD-9 by Deike Peters Co-Coordinator, UN CSD Caucus on Sustainable Transport (*author's summary and conclusions*)

Few developing country research and development projects have adequately accounted for the intersection of gender, transport and mobility. This paper brings together recent evidence from rural and urban transport case studies in less developed countries.

Women's disadvantaged position in transport systems is apparent throughout. However, rather than simply use the studies to confirm general trends, this paper highlights both similarities and differences in women's experiences in order to stress the need for locally adapted gender-sensitive transport strategies. Once this local dimension is brought back in, "giving voice" to women in transport planning and practice does not have to remain a lofty theoretical principle. Crucial, practical advances can be made by improving the quality of household and user surveys and by collecting all data in a sex-de-segregated manner. These efforts should be complemented by comprehensive, locally targeted gender analyses and action plans. Depending on local context, the provision of special transit services to women may be an appropriate intervention, but should not be seen as a permanent solution.

Women's transport needs in less developed countries are hardly sufficiently documented, let alone adequately addressed by transport planners and providers. Especially in urban setting, gender advocates are thus still operating from a relatively small body of research upon which to base their observations and conclusions. Several important first steps have been taken, however. In particular, rationales for action regarding the lack of attention to gender in transportation have been increasingly and convincingly voiced by many international development organisations.

Economistic approaches may dominate in the beginning, but there is now much greater awareness of the social intra-household dynamics that dictate accessibility, control and ownership of means of transport. Targeting women as a special group must therefore still be considered a valid intervention, although not a permanent solution. Hopefully enough additional case studies and pilot projects will result from the new attention women's access and mobility problems have received more recently to further advance our knowledge on this pressing topic. We are still quite far from the ultimate goal of mainstreaming gender concerns into transport planning and practice, and there will have to be much more gender-sensitising and re-learning of common thinking and practice.

The Annex presents a long list of conclusions and recommendations that were presented as the result of a special seminar on Gender and Transport held by the World Bank in April 1999. As noted above, some important steps to address particular issues have been taken, but as a whole the listed shortcomings and urgent tasks remain valid as they stand. Policy-makers have a key role to play in the active mainstreaming of gender issues into all infrastructure sectors, with transport being one of the most important ones.

5) Women and Information for Participation and Decision Making in Sustainable Development in Developing Countries by Thais Corral and Pamela Ransom; REDEH Brazil / WEDO (*Authors' conclusions and recommendations*)

Implementation of communication strategies needs increased funding for women's NGO's and for government policymakers to continue these efforts. New information

and communication technologies should be supported, with increased funding and strategies for access.

1. Formal and informal education needs to make increased efforts to assess progress in integration of gender strategies in environmental educational curricula. Strategies also need to increasingly reach out to young women to guide them towards careers that will increase their chances of moving into important roles as decision-makers in environment and sustainable development.
2. Local Agenda 21 planning processes represent another important structure through which gender sensitive strategies can be implemented. The municipal level offers the opportunity for building stronger alliances among stakeholders and giving better visibility to the needs of women in terms of information for participation in Sustainable Development.
3. Greater efforts also must be made to facilitate transfer of “best practice” between governments and NGO's on effective gender sensitive strategies for information and participation by women.
4. Clear strategies need to be developed to identify environmental risks, building environmental educational programs that equip women with the information and the necessary tools to cope with potential problems. Creative means of regularly engaging community members in identifying real and perceived risks are essential.
5. An interactive approach in developing indicators should be used, and women should be involved in developing indicators for a specific community in terms of sustainable development. Public roundtables may bring together people with a wide range of skills and viewpoints, with individuals encouraged to put aside their individual narrow perspectives and give thought to what types of measures would be needed to determine how sustainable their community will be in the long term, e.g. 50 years.