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Asia-Pacific GEM

Quarterly Newsletter on
Gender and Macroeconomic Issues (GEM) in Asia and the Pacific

CALL FOR PARTICIPATIONS: E-DISCUSSIONS ON EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The Asia-Pacific is rich in minerals, oil and gas. Diverse country perspectives suggest that extractive industries bring significant opportunities and risks. On the one hand they can lead to increased exports and foreign exchange earnings, create a viable base for industrialization, and see policies that diversify away from extractive sectors. On the other hand, they can lead to conflicts around benefit sharing and corruption, exacerbate inequality and exclusion, including through displacement of communities, and undermine environmental sustainability. There are also tradeoffs between short and longer term and costs with different gainers and losers which influence decision-making.

Extractive industries can have impacts on other natural resources such as forests, sometimes with irreversible consequences. While the potential for economic growth, diversification, foreign investment, technology transfer and poverty reduction is tremendous, the potential costs – social, economic and environmental – also need policy attention.

Against this backdrop, UNDP Asia-Pacific Regional Centre has launched an e-discussion on *Advancing Sustainable Development: The Case of Extractive Industries (EI)*. The e-discussion concentrates on the following themes over a 6-week period (6 August-14 September 2012), which will be detailed according to specific questions:

WEEK 1-2: Revenue generation: Planning for Inclusive Growth

WEEK 3-4: Revenue utilization: Prioritizing the current or the future?

WEEK 5-6: Implementation challenges and impact management

Contributions made in e-discussions will be presented in a Regional Report on EI, which will be shared online in late 2012. The contributions are also expected to guide programming and policy work at the country level. We seek your valuable contributions from a gender perspective. To participate in e-discussion, please send an email to [Bryn Gay](mailto:Bryn.Gay@undp.org) by **31 July 2012**.

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NEW RELEASES

[Gender in Value Chains Toolkit](#) is now available from [Agri-ProFocus Learning Network](#). The toolkit provides an overview of material available on gender and value chains. The tools are selected from manuals produced by USAID, SNV, GIZ, ILO and other organizations in the Agri-ProFocus Gender in value chains network. Practitioners working with different actors in agricultural value chains and those who work with organizations that support or influence agricultural value chains such as NGOs, government, and microfinance organizations may benefit from the toolkit.

The Gender Asset Gap Project (see the featured article in the [2012 January issue](#) of *Asia-Pacific GEM*) is making the questionnaires and field survey manuals from India and other countries available online.



[Questionnaires](#) and [Interviewer Field Manual](#) (by Centre for Public Policy of Indian Institute of Management Bangalore and Sigma Research and Consulting) from the 2010-2011 household asset survey in Karnataka, India, are now downloadable. [Lessons from the Field](#) (by Cheryl Doss et al.) documents the experience of implementing the surveys in the field. It is designed to be useful to people designing their own surveys to collect individual level assets data and to those working with the project data sets.



[Contributed, with thanks, by Diana Brandes, APRC]

Data collected in Ecuador, Ghana, and India as well as country and comparative analysis will be available online in near future.

CALL FOR PAPERS

Postgraduate Int'l Conference on Gender Studies, 31 Oct-1 Nov 2012

Women's Development Research Centre (KANITA) of Universiti Sains Malaysia is calling for papers for its Inaugural Postgraduate International Conference on Gender Studies in Penang, Malaysia, 31 October-1 November 2012. The Conference aims to bring together students and young scholars all over the world to share insights and experiences in researching women and gender issues.

The target participants are postgraduate students. However, undergraduate students and scholars who are 25 years old or below are also welcome to submit abstracts to the conference.

The papers may be prepared to fit into the following sub-themes: Conceptualizing gender and feminism(s); Law and policy; Culture and religion; Health; Citizenship, Leadership and governance; Globalization and development; Media; History; Gendered spaces; Inequalities and discrimination; Violence against women; and Research methodologies. Papers with other themes may be proposed and their acceptance will be decided by the Conference Scientific Committee.

The abstract up to 350 words should be submitted to the Committee via email at

picgs2012@gmail.com. The abstract due date is **31 July 2012**. Full papers for accepted abstracts are due on 30 September 2012. For more information on the abstract submission and conference, please visit the [conference website](#).

[Contributed, with thanks, by KANITA]

Addressing Inequalities in the Post-2015 Development Agenda

The 2015 target date for achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) is fast approaching. Already civil society, academics, governments and the UN system are thinking about what the next era of development should look like, while keeping a firm focus on achieving the MDGs.

One of the contributions of the UN System to the post-2015 debate is to catalyze multi-stakeholder country and global thematic consultations over the next several months. Within the UN system, various UN organizations have agreed to co-lead the planning processes for the nine thematic consultations. UN Women and UNICEF co-lead one of the thematic consultations on **Inequalities**. To help frame that debate, individuals, academics and organizational partners are invited to submit theoretical papers, to present

findings from completed research or to present on-going work that raises methodological or conceptual issues. Proposals are also invited that present robust findings from policy and field research that demonstrate sustainable strategies for resolving specific inequalities, including gender inequality, and addressing their root causes. The selected and completed papers will be used to stimulate the online global conversation and made available online as background for a concluding leadership meeting in early 2013. The selected papers will also be published as a compendium and concrete output of the consultation. Papers can be submitted either in English, French or Spanish.

Proposals are invited that focus either on the theme of inequalities in general, including the intersecting nature and relationships between different forms of inequality; or on specific manifestations and forms of inequality, such as those related to: income/wealth; gender; location, disability; ethnic, minority or indigenous status; age; sexual orientation; and others.

Proposals for full papers—250-300 words in length—should be made by email to soshea@unicef.org by **20 July 2012**. Complete paper due is 15 October 2012. For more information, please visit [UN Women](#) (East and S.E. Asia Region).

About Us:

UNDP is the UN's global development network, an organization advocating for change and sharing knowledge, experience and resources worldwide to help people build a better life.

UNDP Regional Centre serves 36 countries in 24 country offices of Asia and the Pacific. A main priority of the Regional Centre is to provide [UNDP Country Offices](#) in the region with easy access to knowledge through high quality advisory services based on global applied research and UNDP lessons learnt. The second priority is to build partnerships and promote regional capacity building initiatives, which allow UNDP, governments and other development partners to identify, create and share knowledge relevant to solving urgent development challenges.

Asia-Pacific GEM, a quarterly newsletter, aims to bring news related to gender and macroeconomic issues in the region to government officials, development agencies, civil society, and academia. **The next newsletter will be released in October 2012.** Please send any relevant news items you would like to share – for example, announcements about upcoming events, calls for papers, conferences, workshops, training programmes, new publications and research papers on gender and macroeconomics, and association news – to [Yumiko Yamamoto](#) at UNDP Asia-Pacific Regional Centre by **September 30, 2012**. The newsletter will be distributed electronically and posted on the UNDP Asia-Pacific Regional Centre website.

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Inclusive Growth and Poverty Reduction
Practice

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