

Federal Department of Foreign Affairs FDFA

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC Regional Cooperation

Latin America Division



#### **PUBLIC SEMINAR on**

## **Women's Economic Empowerment**

May 9, 2012 in Bern, Switzerland

Experience and Challenges SDC's Employment and Income Work Faces (with Particular Focus on the Approach Making Markets Work for the Poor/M4P)

The 2012 edition of **SDC's e+i network annual series of seminars on employment and income** will focus on **"women's economic empowerment (WEE)"**. It is a one-day public seminar for development professionals concerned with the promotion of pro-poor economic development in developing countries.

Promoting gender equality and empowering women is one of the greatest challenges of the "Millenium project" and remains a priority for all development partners. Women's economic empowerment and their access to markets and services is central to achieving MDG3 and widely recognised as essential for sustained economic growth and poverty reduction.

Yet, experience shows that many employment and income projects do not pay sufficient attention to the gender-specific systemic constraints faced by poor women and men and struggle to show robust results. The e+i network, together with its partners, has identified it as a timely opportunity to revisit the topic, giving a specific focus on the growing experience on M4P implementation.

The seminar will analyse the topic from different lenses: Emphasis will be put on experience in the field and useful practical guidance to strengthen WEE within M4P programmes, and SDC's employment and income activities in general. In particular it will

- show case experiences from SDC financed projects (Bangladesh, South Caucasus, Honduras) as well as from partners like DfID Nigeria and ILO Cambodia
- present and discuss the work the M4P Hub is undertaking on WEE among others the e+i network will organise an e-debate in March/April, based on previous analytical work
- debate the topic with international and Swiss experts from the academia and the development world.

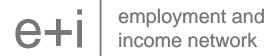
The event will be a **joint effort with SDC's gender network, and with contributions from the M4P Hub** (financed by DfID, SIDA and SDC), ILO and other international and Swiss partners.

This seminar will be followed by an **internal in-depth workshop on May 10 about WEE** (open for SDC, M4P Hub staff and other invited partners only).

To attend, please register until April 20, 2012: Register now

For further information please contact SDC's e+i Focal Point: e-i@deza.admin.ch





Version: April 30, 2012

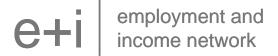
### **PROGRAMME**

# Public Seminar On Women's Economic Empowerment

Kongresshaus Allresto, Effingerstrasse 20, Bern May 9, 2012

#### Morning:

08.30 - 09.00	Getting to know each other over coffee, croissants
09.00	Welcome and Introduction
	Sybille Suter, Head Latin America Division/e+i network, SDC
09.15	"Mehr. Wert." - Gender equality and economic development - a contradiction?
	- Introduction:
	Annemarie Sancar, Focal Point Gender, SDC
	- What are potential added values of a gender equality perspective for M4P initiatives –
	insights from an expert paper:
	Sabin Bieri, Centre for Development and Environment (CDE), University of Bern
09.40	Questions & Answers
09.50	Cases from practice:
	Nigeria: PrOpCom – Examples of women's economic empowerment in a markets systems
	development project (including Q&A)
	Tiffany Urrechaga, Consultant
10.20 – 10.50	Break
10.50	Cambodia: Supporting women's entrepreneurship and changing societal attitudes
	(short video with explanations)
	Joni Simpson, Specialist on Women's Entrepreneurship, ILO
11.05	Panel discussion:
	Gender equality in economic development - gaps between research and practice:
	- Which gaps can be identified?
	- How do we overcome them?
	Susan Joekes, DCED
	Sabin Bieri, CDE
	Sohel Ibn Ali, NPO, Gender Focal Point, SDC Bangladesh
	Tiffany Urrechaga, consultant
	Audience
12.05	- Adverts and organisation of afternoon parallel session
	Presenters of afternoon sessions
12.15 - 13.45	Lunch



Version: April 30, 2012

### **PROGRAMME**

# **Public Seminar on Women's Economic Empowerment**

Kongresshaus Allresto, Effingerstrasse 20, Bern May 9, 2012

#### **Afternoon:**

13.45	Cases from practice:
	<u>Parallel session (1)</u> :
	<b>Bangladesh</b> : Samriddhi – Good practice in Gender Mainstreaming in a rural economic development project – (including Q&A)
	Archana Nath, Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation, Bangladesh
	<b>South Caucasus:</b> A concept for mainstreaming gender at portfolio level (focus rural market development)
	Sophia Svanadze, NPO, Gender Focal Point, SDC South Caucasus
	Parallel session (2):
	Cambodia: Outcomes from a women's entrepreneurship education process Joni Simpson, Specialist on Women's Entrepreneurship, ILO
	<b>Honduras</b> : PymeRural – Women's participation in local systemic market development: achievements and perspectives
	Orlando Mejía, Monitoring Specialist, Swisscontact, Honduras
14.45-15.05	Break

	Orlando Mejia, Monttoring Specialist, Swisscontaet, Horladras	
14.45-15.05	Break	
15.05	Making Markets Work for the Poor and WEE: A meeting of minds	
	Linda Jones, consultant	
15.35	Insights from an e-debate on M4P and WEE	
	Maja Rüegg, Advisor Market Development, Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation	
15.50	Questions & Answers	
16.00	Panel discussion: Towards practical WEE guidelines:	
	Are we on the right track, what's needed, what's missing?	
	Panellists:	
	Linda Jones, consultant	
	Annemarie Sancar, SDC	
	Roger Oakeley, Manager M4P Hub	
	Shahnewaz Karim, Gender Specialist, Katalyst Bangladesh	
	Audience	
16.45 – 17:00	Wrap up, Closing remarks	
	Peter Tschumi, Focal point employment and income, SDC	

Moderator: Riff Fullan, Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation



# Logistics

May 9, 2012	Public Seminar
Congress Center Allresto	Phone + 41 31 381 90 38
Effingerstrasse 20	Fax:+41 31 382 03 50
Bern	info@allresto.ch
More information:	http://www.allresto.ch/anfahrt.html
Registration May 9, 2012	Until April 20, 2012 online - Register now
	www.sdc-employment-income.ch
Hotels in Bern	
Hotel La Pergola	Phone + 41 31 941 43 43
Belpstrasse 43	Fax + 41 31 381 50 54
Bern	info@hotel-lapergola.ch
	www.hotel-lapergola.ch
Hotel National	Phone + 41 31 381 19 88
Hirschengraben 24	Fax + 41 31 381 68 78
Bern	info@nationalbern.ch
Ador	Phone +41 31 388 01 11
Sorell Hotel und Kongresszentrum	Fax + 41 31 388 01 10
Laupenstrasse 15	info@hotelador.ch
Bern	www.hotelador.ch

#### For SDC Gender f2f participants

You may register to this e+i Women's economic events as well.

However, the overall registration for the SDC Gender face-to-face event, along with the logistic support will be provided by SDC's gender Network, contact: Gowtham Durairaj: <a href="mailto:gowtham.durairaj@deza.admin.ch">gowtham.durairaj@deza.admin.ch</a>

#### Note

Accommodation, transport costs are to be paid directly by the participants.