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SDC-Gender Equality Network

SDC GENDER EQUALITY NETWORK NEWSLETTER

No. 3, November 2015



Gender & Financing for Sustainable Development

EDITORIAL

Dear readers,

In my last editorial, I drew your attention to the major events we had ahead on the global agenda – now, less than four months later, the international community adopted the new frameworks that should guide us for the next 15 years: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda for Financing Sustainable Development. Gender equality is firmly integrated in these new foundation documents; the year 2015 seems to be a success. Yet, we have another global event ahead of us, the climate summit taking place in Paris in December (the so called COP21), where the international community can prove its commitment to gender equality, once more. What is at stake now – we are all aware of it – is translating these commitments into concrete practice and action. The guiding question for next year will be: What does the new global agenda mean for our work, on a global and on a country level? In this issue of the Gender Newsletter, we make a first start by discussing gender equality in the financing for sustainable development framework. In her focus article, Zohra Khan from UN Women presents *The Addis Ababa Action Plan for Transformative Financing for Gender Equality* which was endorsed by a number of Member States, including Switzerland. In a public event at SDC, we discussed what these commitments mean for Switzerland, both in its development work and domestically. And finally, in the e-discussion on gender & taxation that we conducted jointly with the Local Governance and Decentralization Net (LDGN) we had a fruitful exchange exploring the relevance and practice of gender in taxation in our operational work. We will continue the debate and I invite you all to join us on this journey!

Now, last but not least, I would like to present you a new colleague: Sarah Koch just finished the diplomatic concours and joined us in August to reinforce the gender team. A warm welcome!



Ursula Keller, Senior Gender Policy Advisor SDC

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Financing for gender equality and women's empowerment: What have we achieved in Addis Ababa?

Lakshmi Puri and Zohra Khan, UN Women

The Third International Conference on Financing for Development (FFD), and its outcome, the [Addis Ababa Action Agenda](#) (AAAA), is the first in a series of ground-breaking agreements to set and resource a transformative, universal agenda for sustainable development and international development cooperation to 2030. Together with the just agreed package of the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#) it aspires to deliver, as never before, for poverty eradication and prosperity, the realization of human rights for all and sustainability of the planet.

The AAAA is imbued with a strong commitment to making gender equality and women's empowerment (GEWE) a reality. It does so in the course of mapping out the financial policy dimensions of international and national development for the next fifteen years that would support the realization of sustainable development, in line with the 2030 Agenda, which recognizes the AAAA as an «integral part of the Agenda 2030» and that the AAAA «supports, complements and helps contextualize the Agenda's means of implementation targets».

Many development experts and civil society organizations have assessed the AAAA as falling short of the level and depth of commitment and ambition required on key aspects of the global framework for financing sustainable development to 2030, particularly in regard to new and additional sources of financing, official development assistance (ODA) and international public finance and also in terms of the transformation and reform of the international financial and economic architecture. There is also a critiquing of 'multi-stakeholderism' - of too much being left to the multi-lateral financial institutions and private sector to resource and not enough emphasis on the State's role as duty bearer. Women's organizations contend that the AAAA fails to address systemic issues and create the conditions to respect, protect and fulfill women's human rights (for a gender analysis of the AAAA see also the article of Gendernet member Esther May under News from the Gender Focal Point & Head Quarter).

However, despite this, from the perspective of setting a «global framework for financing sustainable development to 2030», the AAAA is a crucial benchmarking global compact that unequivocally prioritizes GEWE and women's human rights both for its intrinsic value and for its vital role in sustainable development. The AAAA includes several references to GEWE with dedicated paragraphs, especially paragraph 6, which serve as lynchpins for actioning gender equality commitments in all areas. It further recognizes that achieving GEWE and the realization of women's human rights are essential for inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development and therefore the importance of prioritizing investment in this area. It constitutes overarching commitments for GEWE, including:

- **The need for gender mainstreaming**, through targeted actions and investments and in the formulation and implementation of all financial, economic, environmental and social policies.
- **Commitment to promote GEWE**, through sound policies, enforceable legislation and transformative actions at all levels i.e. global, regional, national and local.
- **Recommitment to ensure women's equal rights, access and opportunities for participation and leadership in the economy**, which is a vital achievement in this outcome document as the financial sector has been particularly gender unbalanced and has at time been a vehicle of perpetuating gender based discrimination.
- **Commitment to eliminate gender-based violence and discrimination**, which implies a commitment to prioritize the financing and resourcing of efforts to prevent VAW, and provide multi-sectoral services to victims and survivors of violence and to dedicate resources for the implementation of related legislation.

The AAAA speaks to the need for creating an equitable global economic system that leaves no country and person behind and recognizes that women, constituting half the world's population, are still left out of participation and leadership in the economy. Throughout the FfD process, UN-Women has advocated to build and promote **Transformative Financing for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment**. This concept is based on the premise that the progress on achieving GEWE has been held back by chronic and significant underinvestment in programmes to eliminate discrimination against women and girls and foster greater gender equality. Transformative financing therefore implies significantly increased, prioritized and sustained investment in GEWE commitments in scale, scope and quality, from all sources at all levels, and both gender mainstreamed and targeted in key sectors. The specific areas requiring Transformative Financing are Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5 and other gender sensitive SDG targets, in conjunction with the existing GEWE commitments.

The call for Transformative Financing for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, gathered strong support climaxing in Addis Ababa during the launch of the [Addis Ababa Action Plan on Transformative Financing for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment](#) which calls on all actors to implement transformative policy and financing actions to accelerate implementation of existing commitments in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, and to meet new commitments in the context of the 2030 Agenda. With a focus on progressive taxation; costing and resourcing gender action plans; investing in social infrastructure and basic services; supporting an enabling environment for women's economic empowerment; building national statistical capacity for data, amongst others, the Action Plan is key to fully realizing the vision set out in the AAAA that states «we will ensure gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment». UN Women will support Member State efforts to ensure that this ambitious vision is buttressed with transformative financing for gender equality and women's empowerment.

Lakshmi Puri is Assistant Secretary General and Deputy Executive Director, UN Women

Zohra Khan is Governance and National Planning Policy Advisor, UN Women

This full version of this article can be seen on the [Gender Shareweb](#).

BRIDGE BRIEFING ON GENDER AND FINANCING FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Macroeconomic policies are often thought of, mistakenly, as gender neutral. But they matter a great deal for gender equality; all over the world, women and men tend to have different economic roles and responsibilities, as well as different access to productive resources. The BRIDGE team, based at the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), produced a briefing on the gender dimensions of both the design and implementation of economic policies with the aim of identifying approaches that are likely to advance equality between different groups of women and men. Firstly, the briefing looks at taxation and expenditure policies, explaining why these are not to be regarded as gender neutral and asking what tax and expenditure mixes are more likely to reduce inequalities. Secondly, it considers gender inclusive public finance management (PFM) and implementation, considering how PFM reforms could integrate lessons from gender responsive budgeting (GRB) initiatives. The briefing also makes suggestions on dealing with gendered barriers within tax administration systems, and discusses the importance of including a range of actors in the processes of finance reforms, in order to strengthen efforts to make both policies and systems more gender equitable, and ultimately, gender transformative. It concludes with a series of recommendations, divided into those around policies, systems, evidence and actors.

BRIDGE: [The gender dimensions of expenditure and revenue policy and systems](#) (April 2015)

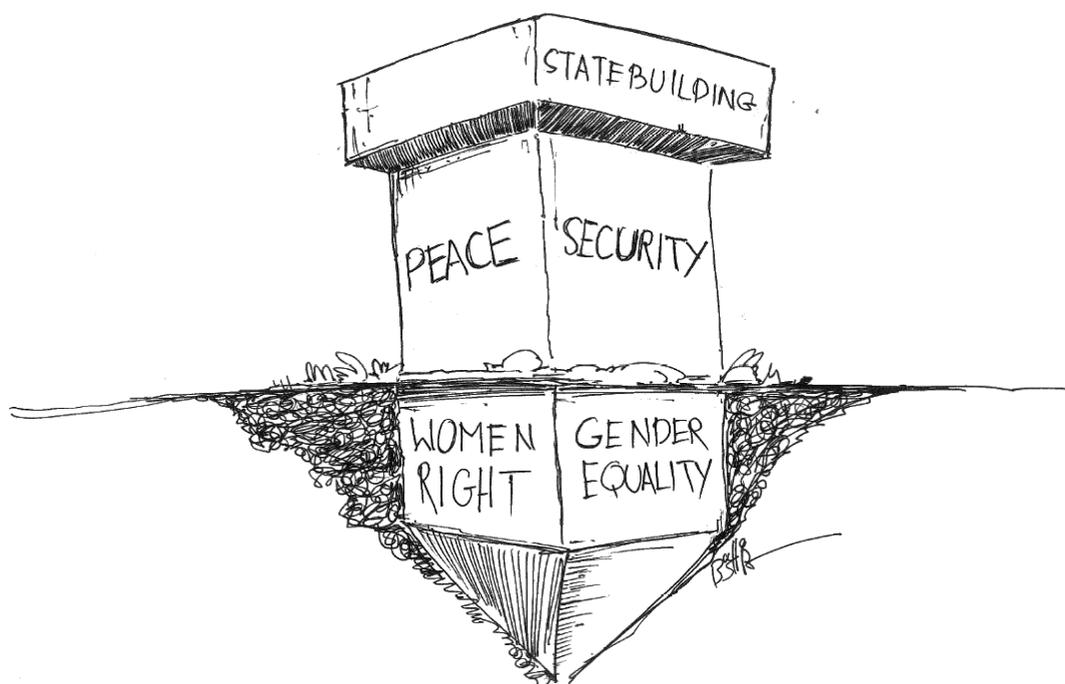
CONTACT: Jenny Birchall, BRIDGE, J.Birchall@ids.ac.uk

NEWS FROM THE GENDER FOCAL POINT & HEAD QUARTER

International conference on 15 years UN Security Council Resolution 1325

The international conference co-organized by SDC and the human security division on 9 September 2015 was a great success. Didier Burkhalter, Head of the FDFA, highlighted in his welcome address that achieving lasting peace, requires coherent approaches which combine peace and security policy with humanitarian actions, long-term state building and development strategies and gender equality. The UNSCR 1325 must be a core element in all interventions. With its focus on long-term engagement in fragile states, the SDC has a key role to play in implementing the third phase of the Swiss National Action Plan 1325. For SDC, the conference was an opportunity to show the specific contributions and the added value development actors can bring for the global implementation of the Resolution. A conference outcome document was produced and can be downloaded [here](#). For a critical review of the Resolution by various Swiss organizations, we recommend the KOFF Newsletter on Women, Peace and Security, which also features an article on the role of 1325 for SDC (see Publications & Links).

More information: Ursula Keller, SDC Head Quarter, Senior Gender Policy Advisor, ursula.keller@eda.admin.ch (if not otherwise mentioned, more information from Ursula Keller)



Graphic from the FDFA-conference on UNSCR 1325 by Bashar Ahmed

Debates around Gender & Financing

With the adoption of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda for Financing Sustainable Development in July 2015 the topic on gender-responsive budgeting and financing is currently high on the agenda: Against this backdrop, we are exploring on different levels what this means for our development practice. The latest e-Discussion on Gender & Taxation which was held jointly with the Decentralization and Local Governance Network aimed to better understand the complex dynamics in these areas and to contribute to the information base of the network members. A major finding is that tax policy has differential impacts on women and men in practice through both explicit and implicit gender biases. More results you can find in the final report [here](#). Further, at the SDC Traverse on *Gender & Financing for Sustainable Development – after Addis Ababa: What is the role of Switzerland?* we discussed with international and Swiss stakeholders what a gender-responsive approach to public finances means for SDC in its development work and for the Swiss domestic context. More information on the Traverse together with a Briefing Note you will find [here](#).

Transformative Financing for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Looking back at the last two international conferences for financing for development in Monterrey and Doha, it is obvious that huge steps have been taken in the Addis Outcome document to advance gender equality and women's empowerment. A Gender Analysis of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA) revealed that the gender perspective is anchored in all chapters of the AAAA except for the chapter on sovereign debt restructuring. Beside stand-alone key paragraphs, there is also a good transversal reflection of the gender dimension of finance issues. The negotiations were far from smooth, but like-minded states achieved strong language on gender equality in strategically important places and can be proud of this jointly achieved success. In addition to the AAAA, the Addis conference also created the Addis Ababa Action Plan on Transformative Financing for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, the so-called Addis Gender Action Plan, which will be a crucial guide in the implementation. Early on in the long outcome document of 134 paragraphs the centrality of gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment for the AAAA is highlighted in paragraphs 1 and 6. Transformative financing for gender equality and women's empowerment is an underlining key gender equality message. These clear commitments adopted by member states are reinforced and interweaved into the rest of the text: In domestic resources mobilization, gender responsive budgeting and addressing domestic and international private business and finance as well as commitment to equal rights and opportunities for women and girls in political and economic decision-making and resource allocation, and urging private sector to contribute to gender equality and women's empowerment, among others.

While the tough negotiations showed that the implementation will not be easy for any actor, the overall outcome is truly a step forward to achieve gender equality.

More information: Esther May, Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the United Nations, New York, Post-2015 Coordinator, esther.may@eda.admin.ch

Humanitarian Aid Engagements in Gender-Based Violence (GBV)

Globally, one in three women will experience sexual or physical violence in her lifetime. These risks are even higher in crisis-affected settings, due, for example to the breakdown in family and social support structures, risks associated with accessing basic needs (using the latrine, collecting water and firewood) or the lack of privacy in camps for displaced people. Humanitarian Aid is therefore intensifying its response in gender-based violence in emergencies and stepping up its engagements in policy and in operational work. For example, SDC Humanitarian Aid Division has been supporting the new *Inter Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Guidelines for Integrating Gender-based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Action*, launched in September 2015 (see Publications, Events & Links). The guidelines are an essential and practical, field-tested tool that recognize GBV risks and provide step-by-step guidance for humanitarian actors on the necessary actions for GBV prevention across all sectors. For Switzerland, the guidelines are relevant for project design in specific sectors and in our cooperation and policy dialog with humanitarian partners implementing the guidelines (UN agencies, INGOs, etc.).

Furthermore, Humanitarian Aid is a partner of the [Call to Action on Protecting Girls and Women in Emergencies](#), a United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID) initiative. In October 2015, a [Road Map for the implementation](#) was launched. It outlines concrete steps over the next five years to build this change into the policies, systems, and mechanisms used to respond to emergencies. Switzerland is closely following the Call to Action, has signed it and made several pledges for action.

More information: Sascha Müller, SDC Head Quarter, Gender Focal Point Humanitarian Aid Division, sascha.mueller@eda.admin.ch

Side Event on Gender and Climate Change at the COP21 in Paris

Together with the OECD/DAC-Gendernet, Switzerland will organize a side event on the margin of this year's climate conference (COP21) in Paris, on 3 December 2015. Under the title «From global commitments to local solutions: Integrating gender equality in climate change action», the side event will bring together representatives from governments, development partners, and civil society to identify concrete priorities for accelerating the implementation of international commitments on gender equality and climate change. The SDC Global Programme on Climate Change [PACC](#) will be presented during the

side event. During the COP21, one day will be dedicated to Gender entirely (8 December 2015). You can read more about the Climate Conference and Gender [here](#).

Priorities of the Gendernet in 2016

Our highlight for 2016 will be the Gender F2F in Switzerland which we will organize together with the Conflict and Human Rights Network in Switzerland. We are looking forward to seeing all of you there! In terms of *thematic priorities*, we will follow the priorities defined in the [gender strategic lines](#) and continue our co-operations with other SDC networks: In view of the joint F2F, gender & fragility will remain a key issue. Further, we will continue to work on gender and public finance management with the Decentralization and Local Governance Network. Joint activities on land governance are planned with the Agriculture and Food Security Network. The SGBV Capitalization Process will be finalized with a workshop in Sarajevo and the final report to be launched at the F2F. *On an institutional level*, a major priority is the development of new capacity building and training activities for the Gendernet and other SDC staff. In addition, we will systematize our internal monitoring and quality assurance systems, with a particular focus on Gender in new Cooperation Strategies and in Annual Reports, this also in view of the new message 2017-2020 where gender equality features as a strategic objective. *On a policy level*, it will be crucial to follow-up on the recently adopted 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to see, together with all of you, how we can put the new sustainable development goals into action, especially goal number 5 on gender equality. We will also develop further our new shareweb towards a more interactive platform and continue publishing our Newsletter in March, June and November 2016. We will inform you about more detailed activities end of the year.

NEW MEMBER OF THE GENDER TEAM: SARAH MARIA KOCH



Dear readers and colleagues, it is a great pleasure to introduce myself to all of you. Since August 2015, I am supporting the SDC Gender Focal Point, Ursula Keller, at SDC HO. I have recently concluded my training year at the Embassy of Switzerland in Bangkok and this is my first position at the FDFA as a diplomatic employee. Before joining the FDFA, I worked with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in Vienna. I am a trained mediator and have a master's degree in clinical and social psychology and sign language interpreting. I bring practical experience in the field of children and women counselling. I am looking forward to working with all of you to strengthen gender equality within SDC and beyond, and I hope to meet most of you in person at some point during my years at SDC. With warm regards from Berne!

CONTACT: Sarah Maria Koch, Head Quarter, sarah.koch@eda.admin.ch

This will be a new rubric of the Genderletter – members of the Gendernet introducing themselves. Next edition, we will hear more from Sascha Müller at the Humanitarian Aid.

NEWS FROM THE COOPERATION OFFICES

Ukraine

SCO Ukraine Gender Award

Supporting the further promotion of gender equality and its creative integration as a transversal topic into the program as well as encouraging partners to develop and perform specific gender responsive initiatives, the Swiss Cooperation Office (SCO) Ukraine launched a **Gender Award** to acknowledge the best performing initiatives in addressing gender inequalities and empowering women and men in the particular fields of projects interventions. In September 2015 the SCO awarded the most innovative and successful practices contributing to positive social changes. Three projects received the Gender Award: the Energy Efficiency, the Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production Centre and the IOM project Prevention of Human Trafficking through Community Mobilization.

More information: [Gender Award](#), SDC Cooperation Office Ukraine, ludmyla.nestrylay@eda.admin.ch



Petra Widmer, Deputy Head of the COOF Ukraine, hands over one of the Gender Awards to Galyna Yakubovych, Deputy Mayor of Vinnytsia. The Transparent Office of Vinnytsia City Council got the Gender Award for building the children's room 'Smile', where children are looked after by social workers when parents go for consultations (SDC Ukraine).

Southern Africa

Gender Analysis reports on Grain Post-Harvest Management Practices

The Regional Office Southern Africa finalised four Gender Analysis Reports on Grain Post-harvest Management Practices based on studies that were conducted in Kenya, Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe in 2014. These analyses investigate the gender dimensions of grain post-harvest management within and beyond the household. They show that post-harvest activities and related technologies are not gender neutral - there are many differences that exist between women's and men's experiences, needs and preferences regarding post-harvest activities and solutions. Therefore, not appropriately taking into account gender dimensions in post-harvest projects cannot not only jeopardise the adoption and utilisation of proposed technologies but also limit the extent of their expected development impacts. In order to assist grain post-harvest projects to implement gender responsive post-harvest technology research, development and/or deployment, a Gender Strategy for Grain Post-Harvest Management in African Smallholder Farming Systems was compiled.

More information: [Shared documents on Shareweb](#), SDC Regional Office Southern Africa, stephanie-christine.aubin@eda.admin.ch

Kyrgyzstan

Gender Scoping Study and Gender Action Plan 2016 - 2017

A gender scoping study has been conducted in the framework of the SDC-funded project "Small and medium-sized enterprise development in Alai and Chon-Alai districts of southern Kyrgyzstan". Information for this study was gathered through focus groups discussion, in-depth interviews and observations in the villages when researchers lived in observed families for several days. The results of the Gender Study will be presented to relevant stakeholders, while the intervention strategy will be adjusted in accordance with the findings.

In accordance with the SDC Gender Policy and SECO Gender Equality Guidance, and in line with the recommendations elaborated during the Mid-Term Review 2015, the Embassy of Switzerland in the Kyrgyz Republic has developed a Gender Action Plan for 2016-2017 to reaffirm its commitment to promoting gender equality and to translate it into action. The Action Plan includes three areas: gender in the corporate policy; gender mainstreaming in the Regional Cooperation Strategy, domains and projects; and, gender-specific programming.

The final version of both documents have not yet been approved and will be shared in the next newsletter.

More information: Embassy of Switzerland in the Krygyz Republic, Elena Zakirova, elena.zakirova@eda.admin.ch

Moldova

Migration and development

The SDC has been part of a consortium of partners co-financing the NEXUS Project whose goal is to foster links between migration and development at local level in the Republic of Moldova through development of capacities and collaboration among public, private and civil society sector stakeholders. The project created four local NEXUS Centres providing integrated services to migrants and their families. [Vera Craciun](#), 41, is a Moldovan woman who returned home after twelve years of working abroad and opened a floral shop in her town with support from NEXUS. Currently about 370 000 Moldovans (11% of the population) work abroad as long-term labour migrants, with 59% intending to return permanently to Moldova. The SDC will continue financing the NEXUS Project's next phase 2015-2018. The story was translated into 23 languages and published on europa.eu portal.

More information: [Information about the NEXUS Project](#), SDC Cooperation Office Moldova, natalia.cernat@eda.admin.ch

Mongolia

Gender Analysis in Pastoral Herding Households in Mongolia

A gender analysis of nomadic herder households was conducted among 301 households living in different parts of Mongolia by the SDC-Green Gold project. Men's and women's productive and reproductive activities, decision-making powers, participation in community activities and the role of children were examined. Among some striking gender gaps, the assessment found out that women have an average daily workload of 11.1 hours, while men have only 9.2 hours. However, when it comes to decision making power about major purchases and household assets, women have less to say in comparison to men. Household properties are largely registered under the husbands' name only. Women often find it difficult to participate in community activities given the lack of opportunities to delegate household tasks. This is compounded by a lack of driving skills, the long distances, and the prevalence of social norms that do not encourage their involvement in social activities outside the household. The analysis confirmed that the school drop-out rate is gender-biased, with a higher percentage of boys prematurely leaving school than girls. The presence of a child (son or daughter) makes an important contribution to reducing the parents' workload. The analysis identified a discrepancy in regard to the vision for the future. Boys and girls are reluctant to pursue the herding lifestyle and would prefer to continue their studies whereas parents would prefer that their children or at least one boy would take up the herd in the future. The study confirmed that there is a presence of domestic violence especially linked to economic deprivation and the consumption of alcohol.

More information: [Shared documents on Shareweb](#), SDC Cooperation Office Mongolia, daniel.valenghi@eda.admin.ch

PUBLICATIONS & LINKS



Gender & Financing Sustainable Development

There are different documents that are relevant in the context of Gender & Financing Sustainable Development:

United Nations: [Addis Ababa Action Agenda](#) (July 2015)

United Nations: [Addis Ababa Action Plan for Transformative Financing for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment](#)

United Nations: [Third International Conference on Financing for Development](#) (July 2015)

BRIDGE: [Gender dimensions of expenditure and revenue policy and systems](#) (April 2015)

OECD-DAC: [From commitment to action](#) (March 2015)

Gender & Development Network: [Making Financing for Development Work for Gender Equality](#) (June 2015)

Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation: [Blog on Gender and Financing](#) (Oct 2015)



Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development

On the 25th of September 2015 more than 150 heads of states from all over the world adopted the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development. With SDG 5 the new agenda contains a stand-alone goal on achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls and it demands the transversal integration of gender issues in

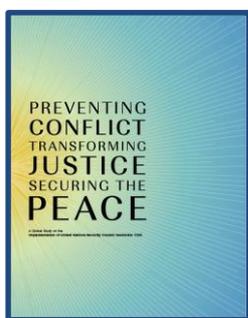
the other goals. Different documents and reports are worth reading (and watching):

United Nations: [Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#) (Sept 2015)

United Nations: [The Millennium Development Goals Report 2015](#) (July 2015)

UN Women: [Video on SDG 5](#)

Post-2015 Women's Coalition: [Response to the Outcome Document](#) (September 2015)



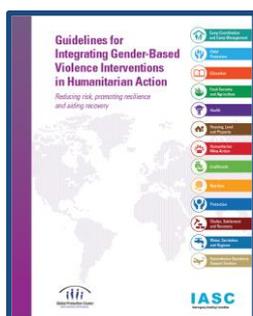
UNSCR 1325

Around the 15th anniversary of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security and the High-Level Review end of October 2015 different reports and newsletter have been published. We suggest the following (see also News from the Gender Focal Point and Head Quarter):

UN Women: [Global Study on the Implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 1325](#) (Oct 2015) (an Executive Summary of the Study in German you can access [here](#))

KOFF Newsletter 141: [Women, Peace and Security](#) (Oct 2015)

Civil Society: [Resources and policy briefs submitted by civil society organisations and research institutes](#)



Gender-based violence guidelines

Sascha Müller from the Headquarter and Ra'eda Nimrat from COOF Jordan suggest the new guidelines for integrating Gender-based Violence (GBV) - interventions in humanitarian action. The guidelines recently published by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) offer an essential and practical, field-tested tool that recognize GBV risks and provide step-by step guidance for humanitarian actors on the necessary actions for GBV prevention across all sectors – resulting in safer and more effective programmes. The guidelines are addressed to non-GBV specialists and focus on GBV prevention in the relevant sectors (WASH, shelter, etc.) rather than on GBV-specific programming.

IASC: [Guidelines for Integrating GBV-Interventions in Humanitarian Actions](#) (2015)



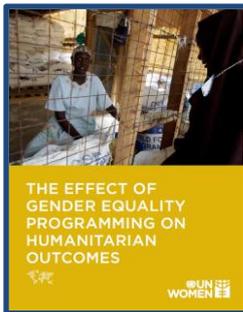
Progress of the World's Women and other UN Women services

UN Women publishes every couple of years the so called progress of the World's Women report. The latest in the series provides the key elements for a far-reaching new policy agenda, with key recommendations on moving towards an economy that truly works for women, for the benefit of all. Ra'eda Nimrat from CCOF Jordan further suggests another UN Women service she came across: a new eLearning platform. The UN Women Training Centre eLearning Campus is a global and innovative online platform for training for gender equality. And last, but not least UN Women has also launched a discussion paper series featuring cutting-edge papers by leading feminist researchers also very worth looking at.

UN Women: [Progress of the World's Women 2015 – 2016. Transforming Economies, Realizing Rights](#) (2015)

UN Women: [Training Centre for gender equality](#)

UN Women: [Discussion Paper Series](#)



Gender equality programming in humanitarian aid

A new study from UN Women suggested by Sascha Müller from HQ shows the positive impacts of gender equality programming for humanitarian outcomes – not only for women and girls, but generally (e.g. health in the household, outcomes in water, sanitation and hygiene etc.). The study shows that gender equality promotes greater effectiveness of humanitarian aid.

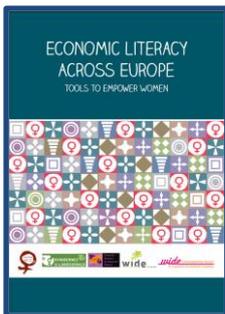
UN Women: [The effect of gender equality programming on humanitarian outcomes](#) (2015)



Girls Report

Isabel Sommer from Plan International suggests the new girls report. The report brings together 14 prominent voices and comprises a powerful collection of essays featuring leading activists, academics, politicians and writers. Interviews were conducted with over 4,000 girls aged 15 to 19 in Ecuador, Nicaragua, Pakistan and Zimbabwe.

Plan International: [The unfinished business of girls rights](#) (2015)



Economic Literacy

Women in Development (WIDE) published a very useful good-practice tool on economic literacy. It contains a variety of methods, training tools, multimedia tools and research approaches and aims to increase the capacity of women in the field of economics.

WIDE: [Economic Literacy across Europe. Tools to empower Women](#) (2015)



Gender and Climate Change

With regard to the upcoming COP21 in Paris, Sarah Koch from HO would like to draw your attention to this BRIDGE Report on Gender and Climate Change which sets out why it is vital to address the gender dimensions of climate change. The Report is from 2011; however, the key gender impacts of climate change that it identifies are still valid. Further, the report gives a good overview of the global and national policy architecture that dominates climate change responses.

BRIDGE: [Gender and Climate Change. Overview Report](#) (2011)