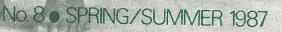
INSTRAW DEVELOPMENT

Communication for Development When the Technology Changes...

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Cover photo: Women communicating in the streets of Quito, Ecuador (UN/K. Muldoon)

Women and Developmental Change

If the slim advances made by women in developing countries during the last decade are to be consolidated and carried ahead, some things will have to change in the way development is conceived. This issue of INSTRAW News explores some recent trends in the theory and praxis of development and their consequences for women in the developing world.

A recent study of INSTRAW -now a book published by Oxford University Press- examines those slim advances in the context of the world economy (pages 3-4).

From a report in progress on women and technology comes a sweeping view of how the transfer of technology has affected women in developing countries, their roles, status, employment and quality of life (pages 6-7).

Exciting possibilities lie with the new communication technologies; the time to explore them is right now. Historically, when the technology has changed, women have been the last to know... and have paid a high price for this margination. Women's lives and skills and jobs can be devalued by technology —or enhanced. It all depends on how it is applied and who controls it.

Let's talk facts. A small compact disc (CD) can hold up to 220,000 pages of text, yet it measures less than 5 inches in diameter (about the size of a small pocket book), resists travel and humidity. With just a CD, a computer and a printer, women in any far-flung location could have a whole library at their fingertips (page 10).

Mind-boggling? Yes. Just think what it means in terms of easy access to information, of reducing the gap between the centres and the periphery of our unequal global village. But how does one relate these technical advances to the women pounding coffee or sowing rice with rudimentary tools and backbreaking labour?

Another gap to be filled urgently: adequate data on women. Why is it that the best data on women concern their fertility? Why are women's reproductive activities so thoroughly tallied, described and elucidated, while their productive activities still remain in a grey area largely invisible to statistics and to planning? Another report examines the deficiencies and the wealth of data on women in developing countries (pages 12-14).

The efforts of the UN Decade for Women produced an efficient yet hitherto undervalued and underused tool to ensure the women's dimension is not lost or overlooked. The guidelines and checklists for women in development can aid planners and activists to do just that (supplement).

As the women's dimension is brought in, the theory and praxis of development are transformed. There is, inevitably, some resistance to change. But there is also a growing conscience world-wide of the high costs of inertia and complacency. And yes, we are living in a time of crisis, but each crisis also brings a chance to advance social change. \square

Women in the World Economy

Towards innovative development policies

In the web of international economic relations, what role do women play? How are women faring in the world-wide crisis? A newly published book* -an INSTRAW study prepared by Susan Joekes as synthesis of several studies previously commissioned- analyzes the impact that current long-term trends in the world economy are having on women in developing countries. The last chapter presents a number of policy recommendations based on research findings. An excerpt follows.

The present international economic climate is fundamentally inimical to development. Employment prospects have deteriorated drastically since 1980. Real interest rates are unprecedentedly high; the flow of external finance for development investment has almost dried up; and prices of commodities have either fluctuated widely or fallen in a sustained way. Instability and uncertainty are the order of the day for the majority of countries.

There is a great inequity in the allocation of world economic resources. Several areas of wastage are particularly evident. (...) Concerted and harmonized international action is urgently needed to solve the chronic external debt burden of many developing countries. This is a common responsibility of the international community and one that cannot be resolved by approaching individual countries' difficulties piecemeal with short term palliatives. Only with comprehensive reform and renegotiation of the international financial system can capital be diverted from destabilising speculative activity and



The Director of INSTRAW, Dunja Pastizzi-Ferencic, presents the study Women in the World Economy to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Javier Pérez de Cuellar (April 1987).

made available for investment purposes.

Women as workers

Women themselves can be said to represent a major underutilised resource on the world scale. For a host of cultural, social and economic reasons -self-perpetuating unless action is taken to break the cycle- restrictions are placed on the disposition and rewards of women's labour, depressing female productivity. Female labour remains for the most part underproductive, undereducated and underpaid.

Improvement in women's economic position is directly relevant to the international dimension. In the first place, increases in women's participation in the modern sector are associated with greater competitiveness in international markets, as the experience of many developing countries has shown. Measures are needed here to facilitate women's economic participation through education and social facilities. Relying on poverty and economic necessity to force more women into employment, at the cost of increases in their total work burden, will not be effective.

Gains and losses

A conclusion of this study has been that over the past twenty years or so the expansion of the international economy has contributed to a rise in the level of gainful employment for women in developing countries, and influenced the sectoral composition of women's job in favour of industry. Since industrial wages are generally

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higher than agricultural or service sector wages, increased international trade has helped to raise women's earnings relative to men's in some occupations.

In that broad sense, international exchanges have been favourable to women's economic position. Women have gained most in terms of net employment creation in countries that have developed as successful exporters of manufactures. But is does not follow that "export promotion" of manufactured goods as normally narrowly defined is the answer for policy, given the current state of the world economy. If, as in the present, world trade remains almost stagnant, increased supplies will merely cut into the shares of pre-existing exporters.

Furthermore, in the two product areas where developing country manufactures are concentrated (textiles and electronics), there are protectionist barriers in rich importing countries on the one hand and technological changes undermining the comparative advantage of developing countries on the other. These factors diminish' the export prospects of developing countries.

We have shown that the international dimension is relevant to women across all sectors, even in many activities apparently remote from international markets. What is required accordingly are wide ranging policies to consolidate women's position where advances have already been made, to reverse the harmful effects of international influences and to attack conditions which perpetuate women's inferior position to men once they are in paid employment.

Those predicted changes for the worse for women lie largely in the

future. But there have been plenty of damaging effects already for women brought by international factors.

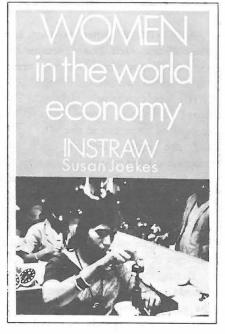
Prime among these is the economic devastation wrought in many developing countries outside East Asia, caught in the debt trap and suffering falls in output and personal incomes in the worst general recession for fifty years. There are indications that women have been particularly hard hit by these events in both their capacities as paid workers and as managers of household resources.

The gender dimension

In the meanwhile, "adjustment programmes" designed to lift countries out of economic crisis must take the gender dimension into account and trace their impact on women. Women's employment situation requires separate consideration because the stereotyped picture that women only provide extra income to families already supported by a male breadwinner is now far from universally valid.

A high and probably increasing proportion —recently about one quarter— of all households in developing countries are headed by women. Millions of children are thus dependent on women's incomes for a better life. Furthermore, there is increasing evidence that in low-income families, children's health and nutrition benefit more from women's than from men's earnings.

It is particularly important to take steps to consolidate women's position where international factors have already brought about some improvement. Present trends suggest that reversals may well otherwise set in.



Measures to improve women's position are often seen as threatening to other interests. Even when this is not immediately the case, as when measures to improve women's productivity in self-employment benefit consumers as much as the woman operator herself, or when, in aggregate, increases in women's productivity and incomes are of general benefit, the fact remains that such improvements seem likely to increase women's bargaining position.

Whether locally, nationally or internationally, enhancement of political as well as economic bargaining power is the ultimate objective as well as the most effective instrument for reform. Not women alone, but men, children and society as a whole stand to benefit from the change. \Box

Women in the World Economy, Oxford University Press, New York, 1987, 161 pages, English.

INSTRAW Board Meets in Santo Domingo

From 2-6 February 1987, the Board of Trustees held its Seventh Session at the Institute's headquarters in Santo Domingo, the Dominican Republic.

As INSTRAW grows, expands, and consolidates, each Board session becomes a forum where the most pressing issues of women in development (WID) are extensively debated. The Board members, eleven women of recognized expertise in the WID field, and the eight ex-officio members contribute their valuable experience to the discussions. This year, the discussion resolutely faced the future, assessing the situation of women in development worldwide and devising the strategies that will enable the Institute to better assist them.

During the 5-day meeting, the Board held extensive discussions on the nine documents prepared for the session. The agenda covered the following items: implementation of the 1986 work programme; analysis of the information programme; co-opera-



Agreement with the Dominican Goverment

A significant event took place during the Board's session. On 4 February 1987, the Government of the Dominican Republic and the United Nations signed a Basic Agreement, extending indefinitely the existing arrangement between the host country and INSTRAW. tion between the Regional Commissions and INSTRAW; long-term perspectives for INSTRAW's programme; network building, correspondents and focal points; and other matters.

After examining the Progress Report of the Director, the Board expressed satisfaction at the impressive quantity of work achieved by the Institute during 1986, particularly in the programmes on improved statistics and indicators on women in development. The results of the expert group meeting on measurement of women's income and production in the informal sector (Santo Domingo, October 1986) received special attention.

The Board strongly supported the new and innovative training methodologies applied by the Institute in 1986, as in the multimedia training modules on Women, water supply and sanitation, jointly produced by INSTRAW/ ILO Turin Centre. The Board also examined the newly designed programmes of INSTRAW: technology and women's participation in development, and the results of the global survey on women in development (WID) studies undertaken in 1986. When discussing the expansion of the communication, documentation and information programme, the Board inter alia approved the increased use of new communication technologies for a wider outreach of INSTRAW to women world-wide.

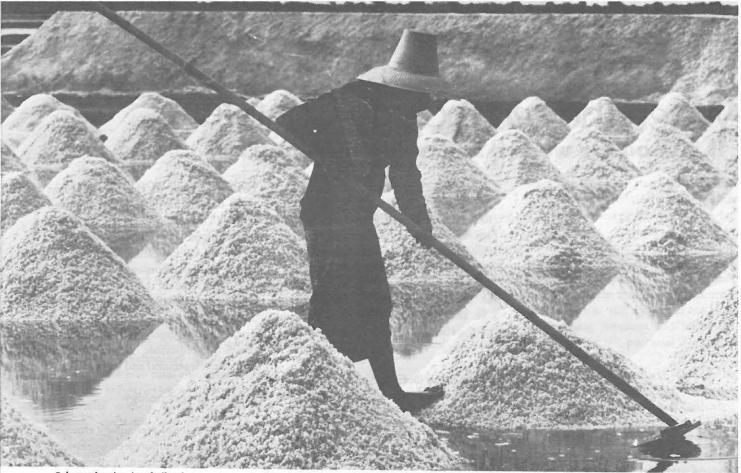
The Seventh Session had special relevance because the Board endorsed the outline of INSTRAW's mediumterm plan (1990/95), which will be compatible with the United Nations system-wide medium-term plan on women in development. The Board noted that several priority areas of this plan are already being implemented in INSTRAW's work programme, and stressed that the Institute should monitor closely new WID research and training trends related to policy design.

One important agenda item concerned co-operation between INSTRAW and the five UN Regional Commisions. For INSTRAW's purposes, the Commissions are the best possible vehicles for strengthening programmes on WID issues world-wide. The Board supported increased co-operation and improved comunication flows between INSTRAW and the Commissions.

Three new focal points for co-operation with INSTRAW at the national level were approved by the Board.

The following Board Members attended: Inés Alberdi (Spain), Daniela Colombo (Italy), Fabiola Cuvi Ortiz (Ecuador), Ingrid Eide (Norway), Elena Atanassova Lagadinova (Bulgaria), Zhor Lazrak (Morocco), Achie Sudiarti Luhulima (Indonesia), Lin Shangzhen (China), Siga Seye (Senegal) and Berta Torrijos de Arosemena (Panama). Ms. Luhulima was elected President, Ms. Cuvi Ortiz, Vice-President, and Ms. Lagadinova, Rapporteur.

Ex-officio Members of the Board included a representative of the Secretary-General, Mercedes Pulido de Briceño; representatives of the five Regional Commissions, Diaroumeye Fatoumata Agnes (ECA); John Kelly (ECE); Sonia Cuales (ECLAC); Rosa Linda Miranda (ESCAP); Amina Adams (ESCWA); a representative of the host country, Jacqueline Malagon, and the Director of the Institute, Dunja Pastizzi-Ferencic.□



Salt production in Thailand

UN/O. Monsen

ECOSOC Considers Report of INSTRAW Board

During its first regular session of 1987, the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC) considered the report of the Seventh Session of INSTRAW's Board of Trustees.

In a resolution, co-sponsored by 35 Member States*, ECOSOC expressed its satisfaction at the significance

and scope of the work accomplished by the Institute during 1986, particularly in the areas of statistics and indicators, women in the informal sector of the economy, and innovative training methodologies for women in development. With a view to the implementation of the Nairobi-Forward Looking Strategies and the medium-term plan on women and development, the resolution recommends the elaboration of special methodologies promoting broad-based approaches for programmes and projects on women and development, and for the evaluation of their effects.

The resolution also calls for greater co-operation between the Institute and the Regional Commissions, in the form of joint activities according to regional needs and on the basis of equitable cost-sharing. Finally, the resolution renews an appeal to Governments, intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations and other potential donors to contribute to the United Nations Trust Fund for INSTRAW.

^{*} Countries sponsoring the resolution: Argentina, Austria, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Indonesia, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Nigeria, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, Senegal, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zaire.

When the Technology Changes ... Is it good for women in developing countries?

Over the last ten years, new technologies and scientific innovations have been transplanted to developing countries on a wide scale. Modernizations introduced run the gamut from improved agricultural handtools, tractors, fertilizers and irrigation schemes to modern industrial plants built at the instigation of huge transnational corporations and, more recently, microelectronic technology and automation.

What has been the impact of these developments on women? Has the quality of their lives improved and their burden of drudge labour decreased, freeing them for more economically and personally rewarding occupations, or have they become further marginalized, impoverished and deprived? Over the years, these questions have received conflicting answers.

The once-held concept of the technology transfer as a possibly. undesirable external imposition upon developing countries has now been largely set aside as new technologies have, within an increasingly interconnected world economy, become not only unavoidable, but also a vital'key to enhancing the standard of living of the world's most deprived populations. In isolated cases, the introduction of technology has already laid the groundwork for radical improvements in sub-standard working and living conditions. Yet in spite of its incipient benefits and enormous potential, technology has in many cases led to the economic and social stagnation or even retrogression of masses of underprivileged women.

The impact of technological development upon women and the contribution of women to that development have, until quite recently, largely been ignored by researchers, statisticians and planners.

INSTRAW has carried out several indepth studies incorporating the material on women and technological change accumulated over this period. The research has revealed some remarkably convergent trends, notwithstanding predictable variations along geopolitical, sectoral and class lines.

Transfer of technology

The transfer of technology emerged during an era of unforeseen world-wide economic deterioration. Expectations that the transfer would automatically benefit men and women alike, directly or by indirect repercussion, were dashed by two lengthy recessions, widespread waste of resources on armed conflict, unprecedented rates of population growth and migration, and serious environmental degradation.

Against that backdrop, the gap between developing and industrialized countries has widened rather than narrowed, as confirmed by the Nairobi World Conference marking the end of the UN Decade for Women. Existing inequalities have been exacerbated Women's participation in technological innovations, modern sector employment, training and education have been hampered, while the number of female-headed households has been steadily rising. As long as this trend persists, women will continue to constitute a disadvantaged group for whom specific redress measures will be required. Substantial progress has been made over the Decade in terms of equality legislation and awareness of

Can women put technology to work for a better future? Can it belp achieve a sustainable development —one that will bave relatively less negative consequences for women: loss of jobs, increased workload, lowered status, less power over their own lives? There are ways of barnessing the power of the new technologies to benefit women and improve life itself. There may be such a thing as womenfriendly bigh tech —but it will take a lot to do it. women's economic and social contributions, but the feminization of poverty and illiteracy will continue unabated until good intentions are replaced by affirmative action.

Unequal access to technology

At the close of the Decade, still few women in developing countries have been reached by or have participated in modern technology. Modernization introduced into rural communities and cottage industries has not been oriented towards women. Rarely have women been consulted on the choice of technology or instructed in its use. As automation has transformed industrial production, women have not been equally included into training and retraining programmes. They have consequently been laid off or relegated to the assembly line. Why do women continue to have so little access to the means and benefits of modern technology?

To begin with, women occupy a subordinate place in society owing to the economic invisibility of their work, although in real terms they generally shoulder a larger work burden than men. Their numerous responsibilities prevent them from attending training courses and entering the wage labour market. Family planning and childcare facilities are still severely lacking.

Secondly, women have consistently lower education and training levels owing to traditional attitudes and the sexual stereotyping of curricula. This discrimination is even wider when it comes to scientific and technological knowledge. As a result, the majority of employed women occupy unskilled jobs, precisely the ones made redundant by mechanization.

Thirdly, women are often barred from obtaining the credit necessary to invest in modern technology owing to their lack of collateral. In some cases, their wages are paid directly to the male members of the household; tradition often prevents them from owning land. Women also lack experience in accounting and financial management.

Fourthly, women are rarely organized. Their participation in unions is discouraged by management and male members. They have little control over the choice and application of new technologies owing to their persistent absence from policy and decisionmaking bodies at all levels.

Women's unequal access to technology is one of the root causes of their economic and social stagnation. This needs to be reversed, not only for their own benefit, but also as a prerequisite to the recovery of developing nations' economies. As governments begin to realize the potential national economic benefits of including women as active participants in development, and conversely the productivity costs of excluding women, they will begin to channel increasing resources towards women's integration on an equal footing with men. The question is whether or not that awareness will come about soon enough to prevent the establishment of irreversible patterns as the age of technology dawns for the developing world.

A new approach

The projections made by the Nairobi World Conference were far

from optimistic: women's employment, income, education and health levels are expected to continue to lag unless drastic measures are urgently taken. The situation will become increasingly serious as the number of female-headed households continues to rise. Despite this bleak assessment, measures can still be taken to belie discouraging forecasts and fulfill the vast beneficial potential of new technologies.

In particular, efforts should be made to ensure a more equitable economic order, a more balanced distribution of global resources and a more even development of the rural and urban sectors. Technical transfer programmes should take into account specific regional and local characteristics to avoid disrupting intricate and longstanding economic and social balances. Technology programmes should be extended to include childcare, transportation, retraining and credit components.

More income-generating activities should be created to lift women's economic and social status, and women should be actively encouraged to join in scientific and technical education and training.

The policy changes implied by these goals may seem like a tall order, but raising the awareness of governmental planners and business concerns to the actual gains in productivity which stand to ensue from the enhancement of women's position in the economy, particularly in technological development, should promote a reversal of attitudes leading to the incorporation of the major lessons of the Decade in global policy and planning for development. \Box While in the developed countries one of the main problems is how to cope with information overload, in developing countries the problem is how to get any information.

While in the developed countries the different means of communication are increasingly converging on a common digital language and through integrated networks are transforming the schools, libraries, banks, businesses, postal systems, phone companies and stock exchange into a single, multipurpose electronic "information grid" providing access to an ever increasing assess. Unlike investments in new fertilizers, for example, where a certain input can yield a measurable increase in output, communications do not lend themselves to such measurements. The benefits of information obtained through telecommunications and mass-mediated communication (though with the increased blurring of boundaries between the two the distinction seems no longer appropriate) are hard to quantify. For example, ^{1e} child spacing is improved after a mass-mediated health campaign, society benefits; or if a woman subsistence



Can they be put to work for development?

amount of information, in the developing countries there is often not a single telephone available for thousands of people in hundreds of miles.

Therefore, the first step towards the effective use of communication technologies for development is to establish the so-called "missing link" or, more generally, all infrastructure necessary to provide and support access to information. In general, developing countries have so far assigned a relatively low priority to communications. Greater emphasis was put on the cost of communication technology and less on the role of communication for developing human resources.

The impact of communications on people and society is not easy to

farmer increases her crops through radio messages, her family and society both benefit.

While most development efforts have concentrated on education using mass media, the newer small-scale technologies have not been so widely used. For example, computer-assisted learning is only beginning to make its way into developing countries, videocassettes are not yet massively in use for training, although their mobility greatly helps trainers. There are few examples of use of low-power or community television for development although it would allow broadcasting inexpensive and locally relevant programmes. Computers and development data bases are starting to be priorities on the agenda of universities and decision-makers. Slowly, telecommunications infrastructures are weaving their way onto the agenda of planners.

All this emphasis on newer technologies does not mean that older technologies like radio are to be put aside. Quite the opposite, not even the potentials of radio have yet been fully explored. Studies carried out in India rural women and 30% of urban women claim never to have listened to radio.

Few evaluations of the effectiveness of communications/development projects have been done. Some suggest success in ushering change, others, reinforcement of changes already on the way. But not too many projects have been successful. What is the problem?

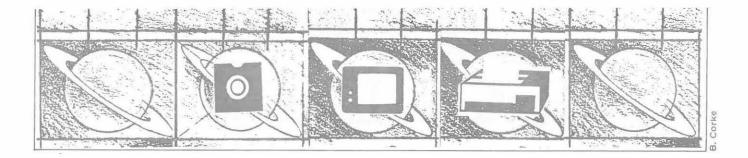
Notwithstanding important problems in planning, implementation, financing, technical problems, lack of infrastructure and the like, the problem is not so much the video-cassette recorder but the video-cassette, not so much the personal computer but the floppy or compact disc, not the film, not the radio or television but the programmes. In other words, the problem is not so much the acquisition or installation of hardware (radios can be handed out, portable battery-powered computers exist), but how to create comprehensible, useful, adequate and relevant software. How to create training materials and development information to secure growth with equity and popular participation.

Communication can only be effective if it is a complement to other development efforts. A vaccination campaign can only be effective if there are vaccines at the local health center. A training course to teach women new crafts skills can only be useful if there is a market for the goods produced.

If development means giving control over their lives to the millions of people who are now deprived of any influence, deprived of the ability to be effective, deprived by lack of food, money, education and other constraints, that is, if development means moving towards a participatory society, then communications could provide education and give voice to those people who do not now have a voice.

The potential of the new communication technologies is enormous, the range of applications and uses, stunning. Now that this is all technologically possible, how are we going to cope with all the information exponentially increased during the next decade? Since our planet is increasingly independent, how are we going to share information and narrow the gap between developed and developing countries?

Excerpts from a keynote address delivered by Dunja Pastizzi-Ferencic at the Symposium on Publications of Electronic Publishing in International Development Cross-Cultural Implications of Electronic Information Training, organized by the New York University Institute for Cultural Training and the Society for International Development, New York Chapter, New York, November, 1986.



Women, technology and development

The same rice mill that in one developing country will spare women countless hours of drudgery, in another will deprive women of a means of livelihood.

This shows that the same technology, applied in different contexts with different divisions of labour, can have widely diverging, even opposite, impacts.

Throughout history, women have always been affected by technology, positively or negatively. The difference now is that -perhaps for the first time in history— women have something to say about it. Through better education for a large number of women, their massive entrance into the formal labour market, and alertness to the findings of women-oriented research, women have today the possibility of not being left irremediably behind in the race for the new technologies.

Take the development field, for example. The general invisibility of women in society (in statistics and the economy, in history, in the realms of politics and power), also affects what is written about women. A sizable amount of women in development research is scattered around the globe. It is difficult to find this material, expensive to get it. New technologies such as the compact disc can help preserve, organize and share this fugitive literature. This is but one example of how the communications technologies can be put to work for development. INSTRAW is willing to explore these and other possibilities. This time, women cannot be left behind.

ON LINE: women's issues in the UN

With a personal computer and an ordinary telephone line, you can now call up on the screen the latest news on women inside the UN system: meetings, publications, films, noteworthy events, general information on UN agencies dealing with women, and so on.

This service is one of several provided by the Electronic Information Network (DEIN), a pilot project of the UN Division for Economic and Social Information. Since 1986, DEIN is the gateway to current UN news and background information via computer. It offers easy, decentralized access to an electronic data base focusing mainly on issues of economic and social development. The information is updated regularly and can be searched by keywords, viewed on the screen, printed out or stored on a disk.

Through DEIN, users can get full-text access to all UN press releases issued daily in New York, to the five-days-a-week NEWSLINE on economic and social news, and to the weekly news roundup UN NEWS DIGEST. DEIN also provides electronic mailboxes; through them, users can communicate with each other at very little cost. A special feature of the system is the bulletin board on women's issues, operational since December 1986. Several focal points on women in the UN system, including INSTRAW, have already joined and are feeding their information regularly. Because DEIN is open to users outside the UN system, no matter where you are, the news of the UN system concerning women can now be at your fingertips.

For more information, please contact the DEIN manager, Andreas Eckert, or Susan Markham, at DESI/ DPI, Room S-1061, United Nations, N.Y., N.Y. 10017, USA.□

Portable Libraries

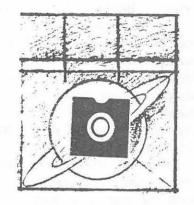
A complete specialized technical reference library can now be stored in a small compact disc, travel everywhere and resist humidity. What are the implications for development activities?

Effective planning and implementation of development projects often requires quick, convenient access to up-to-date information, demographic, economic, engineering, scientific and the like. To meet this need, international agencies, foundations and research institutes have established comprehensive technical reference libraries. Much of this information is in electronic format; most of it is located in the developed countries.

A new technology can reduce or eliminate the need to travel —sometimes long and expensive distances— to a specialized library. It is now possible to produce multiple copies of the electronic information contained in a compact disc; the disc can go anywhere in the field. It is a portable library.

The new technology, based on compact discs, reduces the need for printed paper books and is completely independent of satellite and telephone links. On a single metal disc only 12 centimeters (or 5 inches) in diameter, 220,000 pages of information (or 500 average-size books) can be stored. The resilient disc is resistant to humidity, dust, fungus and mold, practically indestructible with normal handling, and can be cleaned with soap and water. It is read using a properly equipped but inexpensive personal computer; the text can afterwards be printed or transferred to magnetic media. Discs may be reproduced in quantity at low per-unit prices.

Transportable libraries can be placed at different locations and be used by local and in-field development planners



and loan officers, for example, who need information at their fingertips. Or a particular set/disk could be distributed to organizations and individuals world-wide. Or it can travel with the itinerant expert.

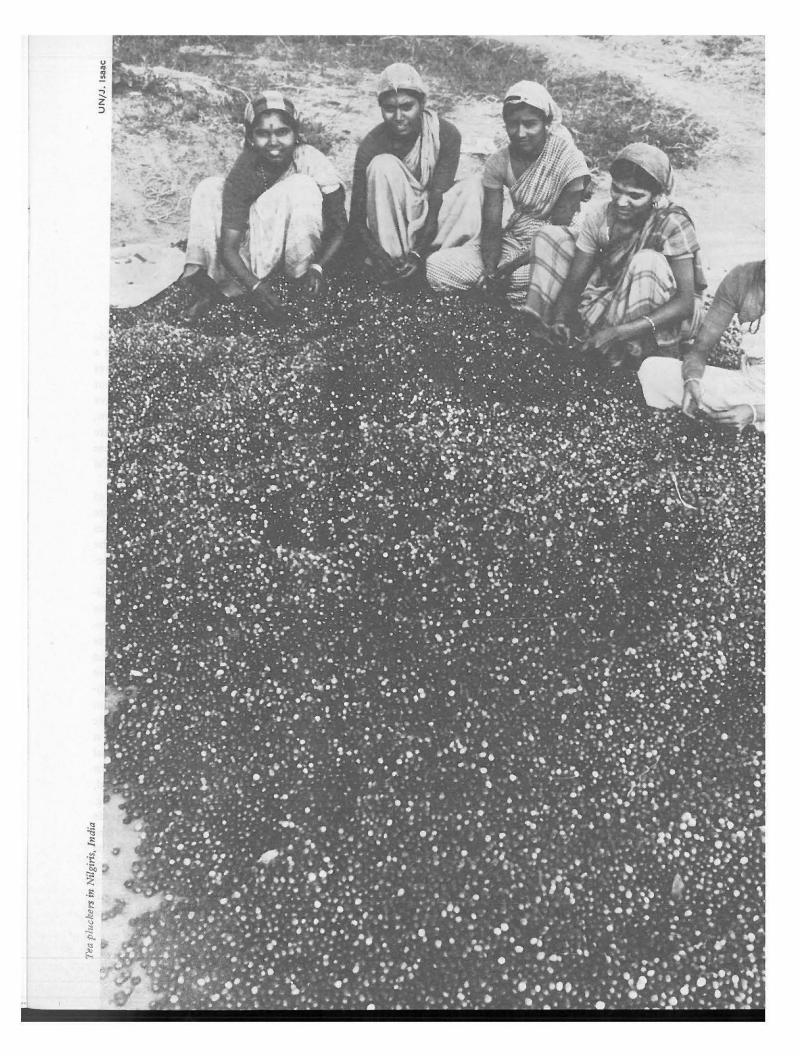
Because of far-flung geographical location, hundreds of key development personnel are effectively excluded from using the existing wealth of knowledge on a regular basis. Travel is expensive in terms of money, productivity and delays. Responsible professionals will think twice about taking precious time to consult a distant library.

It would be a clear advantage for developmental activities if key personnel were able to access the core reference library on a moment's notice. If one such library were accessible in every Member State of the United Nations, would not the quality, productivity and on-time performance of international development projects be measurably improved?

After a disc master is completed, the required number of copies would be manufactured, then distributed by mail to the field. Selected users or libraries would receive identical copies of the disc, each containing the equivalent of as many as 100,000 or more pages of development information. Yet there would be no paper involved. No need to store hundres of heavy books. No need for great rows of shelves because even several million pages will fit nicely in a briefcase. There will be no need for communications lines connecting to a central computer, because this technology is completely self-contained and self-sufficient.

Data retrieval is simple and requires no special training in computer use. Because public libraries could be major users of such systems, the data retrieval programmes accompanying each disc are designed with non-computing people in mind. Help and instructions for the operations of the system are available right on the disc.

"When a technology is sufficiently advanced, it will seem indistinguishable from magic." This humorous definition of technological perfection fits the new technology nicely: its capabilities are impressive, though certainly not magic. A large library outreach could be accomplished reliably, inexpensively, and without extensive training programmes. However, careful consideration must be given to the content and the uses of this new technology in development.



DATA: what we know about women

Lamentations over the lackof data on women have become so commonplace that it is necessary to re-evaluate what is already available from the census and households surveys. However inadequate, the existing pool of data should be exploited for what it can yield, as explains the INSTRAW working paper Improving Statistics and Indicators on Women using Household Surveys, prepared by Helen Ware. The first chapter of this report provides an overview of the deficiencies and the wealth of data on women in developing countries*.

Areas of acute deficiencies

ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES. The growing number of detailed critiques of the available census and survey data on women show a remarkably high level of agreement on where the problems are to be found: in the data on economic activities of women. It would appear that no one is prepared to defend the ways in which these data are currently collected; almost everyone who has written on the quality of data on women has made suggestions to improve the measurement of women's economic activities.

Criticisms of data on economic activities cross the whole spectrum of types of public data. Thus, while Boserup (1970) and De Souza (1980) focused on the inadequacies of census data, Rogers (1980) concentrated on rapidly gathered data used in the field by development agencies, and Buchwald and Palmer (1978), and the United Nations/INSTRAW expert groupe (1984) reviewed the whole range of survey and census data.

HOUSEHOLD DATA. Secondly, it is the data on women as heads of households that are most commonly deemed inadequate. Closely related are the data on households and families and women's place within them. A basic difficulty occurs here because, while the head of the household (however defined) must be of one sex or the other, households as units do not have a sex. Yet in much data on households it is not possible to distinguish the resources of the individual women and men who make up the household.

There is a clear two-way link here between the deficiencies in the data and sexual inequities in the implementation of policy. Households are described by the characteristics of the household head, who is defined as or assumed to be male; resources are then allocated \cdot on this basis. Thus, for example, a farming household is a household where the (male) head is a farmer, regardless of the farming work done by the woman.

The difficulty of securing meaningful data about economic relationships within households has important consequences for the study of female poverty. According to one approach, poor women essentially come from two groups: women who live alone or are the principal support of their own households, and women members of poor households where all members are judged to be living in poverty.

This broad approach has the great disadvantage of ignoring individual

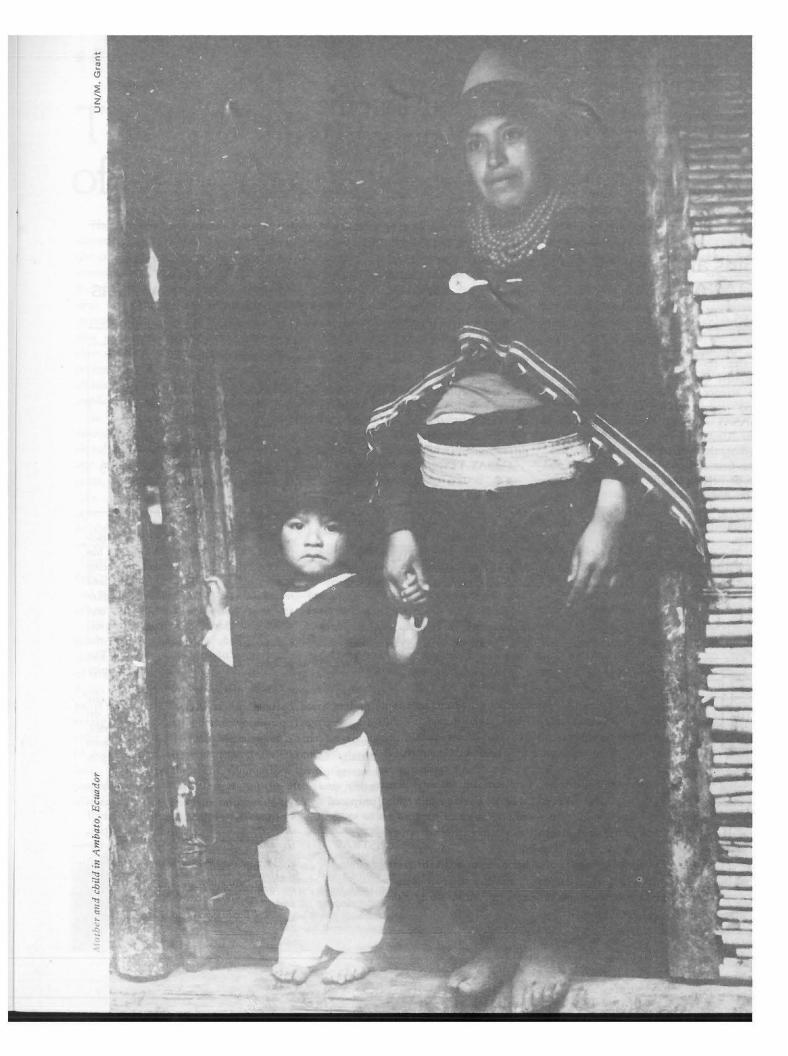
poor women living in households above the poverty line. To give but a couple of instances, there are wives who are beaten black and blue but cannot leave home because they have no financial resources of their own; there are adult daughters who are obliged to accept marriages because they have had no training that would allow them to be self-reliant.

Apart from any consideration of the personal misery involved, there are very important development issues tied up with a knowledge of the allocation of resources within households.

Expenditure patterns may be different depending on who controls the household's resources. The small number of studies carried out to date suggest that female control of the money from cash cropping is more commonly associated with expenditures on children and their education and on domestic improvements, while male control is more likely to result in conspicuous consumption of personal consumer goods such as watches or transistor radios, which are not shared, and on tobacco, alcohol and gambling. Indeed, to turn the question upside down, it may well be more important to know what proportion of the household's income is spent on alcohol consumed by the males and their friends than to have an attitudinal response to a question on the control of the household income.

RELATED TRAINING MATERIAL AND CHARTS ON PAGE 39.

Improving Statistics and Indicators on Women using Household Surveys, working paper prepared by Helen Ware, Santo Domingo, 1986, 143 pp., English.



National Income and Women's Work

Girls and science and technology (GASAT)

Ann Arbor, 24-29 July 1987

Women and men engaged in research, teaching and administration to improve the access of girls and women to science and technology education and careers will meet at the fourth GASAT international forum, held at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, the United States. GASAT 4 is the first of these international forums to be held in the Western hemisphere. The number of participants has been increased to 150 to allow greater attendance from the developing countries.

The theme, A Celebration of Diversity, covers the diversity brought

GASAT



to science and technology advancement by women; the diversity of cultures and their science and technology issues, as represented by the participants; and the diversity of barriers to the full participation of women in science education and careers in different cultures.

GASAT 4 expects to provide:

• A better understanding of the barriers to women's education and participation in scientific and technological fields in a wide variety of countries and cultures;

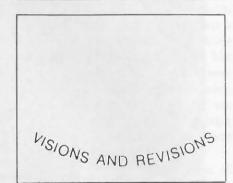
• A summary of tested strategies and interventions that can and do help to change or surmount those barriers;

• A network of resources, including personnel and materials from around the world to assist and reinforce the work of contactor participants and their colleagues at home; and

organization of an international association of science equity researchers and educators.

GASAT originated in 1979, when a group of concerned researchers in Northern Europe met informally to discuss their work on the access of girls and women to scientific and technological careers. They proposed a regular international forum to explore the relationship between gender and science. At GASAT 4, INSTRAW is presenting a paper based on the findings of its report on women and technology, examining the issue from the perspective of women in developing countries. \Box

Women's worlds: visions and revisions Dublin, 6-10 July 1987



The third International Interdisciplinary Congress on Women, has chosen this year an all-embracing theme, Women's Worlds: visions and revisions, as a forum for interdisciplinary and cross-cultural papers and symposia addressing both theoretical and applied questions about the experiences of women worldwide. The Spices will be held at Trinity College, University of Dublin.

INSTRAW's presentations cover the impact of technological changes on women in the developing countries, and the discrimination against women found in definitions of terminology in academic disciplines.

The Congress, held every three years, aims to bring together scholars and practitioners from a wide range of disciplines and areas of expertise, to share and explore issues of importance to women. By taking part in it, INSTRAW shall focus the attention on women in the developing countries and seek support for the Institute's activities in the developing world. □

The Importance of Being Accurate

Half of her work has to do with statistics, half with demography, and the common ground between them is women. For demographer Mercedes Barredo Concepción, statistics are of vital importance to women. "To improve women's status in society, you need first to get data, measure their access to education, their participation in political and economic affairs, in the labour force, and the implications for fertility," she says.

In November 1986, Dr. Concepción co-ordinated for INSTRAW the National training workshop on statistics and indicators on women in development, held in Islamabad, Pakistan. "An eye-opening experience," she says. "The people from participating NGOs, mainly universities and women's groups, were so enthusiastic. They claimed they gained a lot from the experience, realizing the importance and the problems of data, the different sources and their limitations."

Dr. Concepción adds that the informal sector became a dominant theme, as was the insufficient coverage of women's activities in the household. Again and again, she says, the participants argued that the concepts currently applied are useless to elicit a clear picture of women's contribution to economic production at the household level. The participants also pointed out the lack of consciousness of the mainly male interviewers and pressed the statistical office to engage more women interviewers.

Dr. Concepción recommends increased efforts at improving WID statistics and indicators in South East Asia. "The main problems in collecting data on women here," she says "are consequence of cultural norms, though the problems vary from country to country." For example, in the Philippines, it is sometimes difficult to find male respondents. In other countries, the practice of secluding women makes it difficult for interviewers to reach them. Information is given by intermediaries on behalf of these women, and can thus be sex-biased or inaccurate.

Among the main problems in collecting data on WID, Dr. Concepción notes first the concepts and terminology used. "Regardless of the use of the English or local languages, certain terms are unwittingly, unconsciously sex-biased," says Dr. Concepción. Certain occupations, for example, are thought to be only male: the farmer is assumed to be a man, while the women toiling in the fields might be called the farmer's wife.

The household head, explains Dr. Concepción, is also generally thought to be a male. Even if a widowed mother owns the family home, the son will figure as the household head. "Of course, if a woman isn't a wage earner, she'll never figure as the household



Dean of the Population Institute at the University of the Philippines, member of the Council of the United Nations University, Dr. Mercedes Barredo Concepción is also the scientific co-ordinator for INSTRAW's programmes on statistics in Asia. *INSTRAW News* interviewed Dr. Concepción while she was in Santo Domingo on behalf of the World Health Organization's Task Force on Behavioural and Social Determinants of Fertility Regulation. head," adds the demographer. "The use of these terms perpetuates discriminatory practices."

A second problem is that the measurement itself of women's activities, particularly in the rural areas, remains difficult. The demarcation of a woman's duties as a wife and as a worker, between her household responsibilities and her economic production is not at all clear cut. "A woman may not be aware of her economic contribution, for example, raising chickens for sale," says Dr. Concepción. "We have to probe for that." She goes on to explain graphically how a Philippino woman may work without counting it. "While she's cleaning the yard, she will dispose of the dried leaves with a bonfire underneath the mango. This will make the tree flower, and eventually she'll get her mangoes and perhaps sell some in the market. But she won't count it as work."

A third problems is that coverage in Asia is deficient in getting access to women and knowing what they actually do. "Even when you use a representative sample of women, access to them will differ with each culture," says Dr. Concepción. "Data can be inaccurate when you don't get a direct respondent."

Originally trained in chemistry, Dr. Concepción delved first into biostatistics, and then went to do demographic field surveys and field studies on vital registration. From then on, she says, "it was a natural progress to work with women."

Recently, Dr. Concepción visited INSTRAW to start preparations for the next statistical seminar (Colombo, October 1987), co-organized with the Centre for Women's Research (CENWOR), INSTRAW's focal point in Sri Lanka.

Dr. Concepción sees a great need for this type of seminars in certain developing countries. "To help women find their rightful place in society," she says, "data has to be accurate; otherwise the results will be misleading. Happily, there is a deeper concern these days about accurate measurement."

African Women in the Informal Sector

Although it is estimated that women comprise the majority of those engaged in the informal sector in many African countries, African Governments, as well as international organizations and their agencies, lack precise information on the role of women and their situation within this sector. Where government policies for informal sector development exist, women and absent from special mention in them.

While largely absent from official accounts, the general situation of women within the informal sector is clear. Women's work in the informal sector in Africa is generally less profitable, less capitalized, less likely to be assisted by technology and smaller in scale than that of men. The vast majority of women in the informal sector are to be found in the tertiary sector consisting of trade and services, where earnings are lower relative to manufacturing, for example. Women dominate informal sector activities in Africa as dressmaking, tailoring, weaving, catering and food processing, and most frequently, petty trading.

Without assistance from governments or development agencies, they generate incomes for themselves and their families and provide goods and services in poor urban and rural areas, where the majority of Africa's population is found.

Women in this sector have special needs that are not brought out by overall sector planning. They experience sex-based discrimination, especially in gaining access to land and credit. Traditional cultural and social attitudes, and often educational systems as well, prevent them from gaining access to education leading to formal sector employment or acquisition of skills useful in the informal sector. Cultural factors also inhibit their mobility and the exchange of information vital to successful operation of small businesses by women.

Family responsibilities also constrain women's choice of occupations in the informal sector, but more importantly limit the time and energy available for enterprise development. Women bear the multiple duties of reproduction and nurturing as well as their economic activities. The majority of women in the informal sector in Africa are heads of households, bringing up children single-handedly. Faced with the poor conditions in which they live and work, their productivity and quality of outputs are limited.

Street vendor in Djenné, Mali

By virtue of their informal nature, and since a large proportion of participants in this sector are poor and illiterate, such activities are generally carried out under imperfect market conditions. Persons in this sector generally lack direct access to credit and other resources, to know-how, to skills/training, to markets and to infrastructure. They frequently operate under substandard, unhygienic conditions.

Given the conditions under which they work, any attempt to ameliorate their situation must be multi-faceted. Interventions to improve their situation need to range from changing the policy environment to augmenting their productivity through training, investment, improved technologies and improved institutional framework.

For this reason several international bodies and agencies have decided to work together to improve the situation of women in the informal sector. The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the Organisation for African Unity (OAU), the International Labour Organisation (ILO), the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) in collaboration with the United Nations Statistical Office (UNSO) propose to pool their experiences and expertise to mount a co-ordinated approach to the problem.

Project design has been discussed at several Inter-Agency meetings (Addis Ababa, December 1986; New York, January 1987; Addis Ababa, April 1987). Because of the multi-sectoral approach of this project, an Inter-Agency Steering Committee comprised of ECA, ILO, INSTRAW, OAU, UNDP, UNIFEM and UNSO will meet yearly to assure effective co-ordination.

Income-Generating Projects

During the 1980s, and after many unsuccessful attempts to "integrate women to development", international organizations, development agencies and governmental and non-governmental institutions have taken steps to analyze the strategies implemented, their frequent failures, and limited social repercussions. (...).

Income-generating projects have been at the heart of this discussion, because they were seen as the panacea of Third World women, especially in Africa and Asia. At the end of the 1970s, income-generating projects carried out in Latin America, particularly in rural areas, diversified their activities, though retaining an investment volume lower than in other developing countries.

However, many assessments reveal that in most cases projects for women are completely marginal to the broad programmes and policies geared towards men: often, women are seen solely as an accessory or complement to health, environmental or nutritional education programmes. Seldom do projects see women as social and economic individuals, with a right to perform remunerated activities, or acknowledge how much income women have always generated, guaranteeing their own and their families' reproduction.

Other problems associated with income-generating projects bear directly on the financing organizations and agencies, as well as on the role of intermediate institutions, public and private, vis-a-vis women and/or women's organizations.

These problems usually stem from the conception -frequently unilateralof projects; from the light-heartedness with which production guidelines are imposed; from the ways, -at times compulsive- used to lead women into productive or management practices unrelated to their culture; from the weaknesses of the technical and promotional support; or from the disregard of the special social condition of women and the need for participative methodologies.

The lack of diagnosis, and of feasibility and marketing studies is also frequent in projects; in other cases, there is little motivation to prompt new patterns of consumption to maximize the effects of the new income.

Given many of these activities —whether in the past or now— have been developed without the full participation and the consent of organizations and community leaders, or keeping a very technocratic scheme without an integral analysis of the local society, many groups in Latin America tend to reject productive projects, openly criticizing them or interfering in their establishment. For many, income-generating projects demobilize people, and institutions that promote these projects stir criticism and distrust.

On the other hand, many of the educational or consciousness-raising actions are seen as useless, since they do not bring immediate or tangible benefits, and are considered a loss of time or an ideological diversion in light of the poverty in the rural environment.

To open a dialogue that will help break excluding positions and contribute to the development of standard projects based on inter-institutional collaboration, promoting self-management perspectives based on the specificity of women, (...) is then, the central issue of this Consultative Meeting. \Box

^{*} Excerpt from the introduction to a project proposal by the Economic Commission for Africa. The integrated project, Improving African Women's Role in Informal Sector Production and Management, is a joint effort of several UN agencies. INSTRAW is responsible for the statistics elements and the component on training in the development and use of appropriate tools to define and measure women's contribution to the informal sector. This, in turn, will strengthen the data base of the project.

^{*} Statement by the *Centro de Investigación para la Acción Femenina (CIPAF)* on occasion of its consultative meeting, jointly sponsored by UNICEF, on Realities and Perspectives of Income-Generating Projects for Rural Women in the Dominican Republic (Santo Domingo, January 1987).

Women Farmers Feeding the world with little help



Rural workers, men or women, salaried or self-employed, form the largest labour group in the world —as well as the poorest, neediest and least organized. In many countries, they account for more than half of the economically active population. A large percentage are women; they are also the most disadvantaged.

Though the conventional image of a farmer may be a man, between 60 to 80 per cent of agricultural workers in Africa and Asia, and up to 40 per cent in Latin America are women. Women are actually the majority of the world's food producers.

Despite these impressive numbers, until recently women farmers seemed to be an intangible reality. According to an ILO economist, Mr. Dharam Ghai, "not enough was known about the working and the living conditions of rural women. Only in the last eight to ten years have we begun to understand their situation." At that time, the UN Decade for Women sparked the interest on research on rural women. The resulting picture is drastically changing the way rural projects are lesigned.

The findings of a decade of research show, first, that rural women are grossly overworked. "They may work anything from 12 to 15 hours a day, and a good deal of this work, inside and outside the home, is not remunerated," says Mr. Ghai, who heads the Rural Employment Policies Branch (REPB) at the ILO. Research has also brough out to light that women engage in a wider range of activities than was generally realized.

According to research, the sexual division of labour, which appeared to be more or less fixed, turned out to be flexible and changing. Often these conventional patterns yield to economic pressure, as is happening in Africa. There, women have traditionally engaged in subsistence production and men took over the cash crops. Butnow, because of male migration to the cities, this pattern is changing in many regions. Male migration is also affecting work patterns in some parts of Asia where women would market the produce but now they are also growing it. The added responsibilities may bring in a little more income but they also lengthen an already extended workday.

Research has also shown that women are overworked, underpàid, and that their contribution to the economy is grossly under-reflected in the official statistics. "We also found," explains Mr. Ghai, "that women have not benefited at all or very inadequately from a whole range of development programmes and from the provision of economic and social services to the rural population, such as credit, extension, training and so."

Why was this so? First, he says, in most countries the image of farmers and rural workers is still that of males: the men engage in productive activities while the women stay at home, though research has now challenged this conventional wisdom. Secondly, bureaucrats and rural development workers in the field are men, and therefore they tend to direct these services to male groups; thirdly, women lack power, they are generally not well organized, and often they see their own role in the household as subsidiary even though it is economically crucial.

There is, however, he adds, a growing realization that women must be treated as a central figure in the

DHARAM GHAI, who is the Chief of the Rural Employment Policies Branch at the Employment and Development Departament (ILO), was interviewed while visiting INSTRAW for consultations on employment policies for women. He outlined the main themes of research on rural women at the ILO: participation in the labour force; women's domestic and nondomestic work; the sexual division of labour; agrarian reform; impact on rural workers; the work patterns of femaleheaded households; home-based production; women and rural energy; employment and income-generating projects, and plantation and migrant workers. process of rural development. "This means that rural development and agricultural policies will have to be reoriented to reach the real farmers - rural women," adds Mr. Ghai. This will have implications in terms of organization, delivery of credit programmes, extension services, inputs and technology into agriculture.

With a relatively small budget and limited human resources, the REPB has developed many projects for rural women, mainly in Asia and Africa. "We need to rethink the kind of policies and strategies needed for women to have access to resources and improve their lives," says Mr. Ghai. "Research is just an instrument to realize these objectives. It must be followed by action programmes." Usually these begin at the village level, with the poorest households. An outside activist will help start the discussion among women themselves to identify their problems and possible solutions.

These may range from getting organized to demand the national minimum wage to eliminating middlemen and their fat profits. Other projects help women get organized in co-operatives to purchase tools and raw materials on credit.

"Our purpose in all these cases is replicability," explains Mr. Ghai. "One doesn't solve the problem by creating projects in isolation. It is most important that the government policies, projects and programmes take into account the findings of these pilot schemes. Otherwise, the number of people you can reach directly through these projects is very limited indeed."

He has been with the REPB for nine years now, and has witnessed the emergence of women in the development debate. "It is still a very slow and gradual change, but inevitable," he says. "The logic is on the side of treating women as central figures in the development process."

Connecting Women to Water and Sanitation ==

It took so many years of research and activism to establish the direct connection of women to water and sanitation.

Women tended to be considered only as end-users, the last in the line of receivers; seldom as decision-makers, agriculturists, hydrologists or other skilled personnel who could have a positive influence in the type of systems and services they most need.

Now we are witnessing a major change. Halfway through the United Nations International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade (IDWSSD, 1981-1990), women have become legitimate actors and agents. Finally, involving women ceased to be an empty phrase and became an urgent need.

INSTRAW has consistently brought the women's dimension into the IDWSSD. Now, INSTRAW is contributing a novel method to strengthen this link: a multimedia prototype training package of modules on *Women*, *Water Supply and Sanitation*.

Raising awareness, guiding discovery

The package synthesizes five years of INSTRAW's research and training activities to make women more and more visible at the level where water and sanitation schemes are planned and designed. As a joint production of INSTRAW and the International Labour Organization (ILO) Training Centre in Turin, Italy, the modules combine the expertise of the two institutions, bringing in the women's dimension with proven training techniques.

The methodology used, based on principles of non-formal and participatory education, strikes a balance between structured learning and guided yet independent discovery combined with acquisition of skills.

The first part is designed to assist the trainer in conducting seminars for development officials and planners from, for example, ministries of education, health or planning, or from inter-governmental and non-governmental organisations.

The second part guides the trainer through a seminar addressed to leaders of women's organisations working at the community, national, regional and international levels. It helps women understand all the phases of planning and implementation of watersupply and sanitation projects and programmes.

Each modular unit is self-contained so that it can be used separately for particular training needs. This feature allows the training package great flexibility and adaptability to any training audience or situation.

How does it work?

The sessions require trained facilitators, able to show the interconnection between women, water and sanitation, and present the technical aspects of water resources management.

Each modular unit has five components:

1. Description of the objectives of the package and the main characteristics of the audience.

2. Written text to prepare the lesson/presentation. Additional readings help those users without access to reference bibliographies. Glossary and a detailed bibliography.

3. Tools for feedback control in each modular unit. Key-issue checklist to discuss the major points presented in the unit. Comes with an evaluation form.

4. Trainer/facilitator's guide includes generalized lesson plan, instructions and aids to organize and conduct a training session. Lists the hardware, documents and audiovisual aids required.

5. Overhead projector transparencies, sound-slides and videos. Can be used separately for very short sensitization sessions.

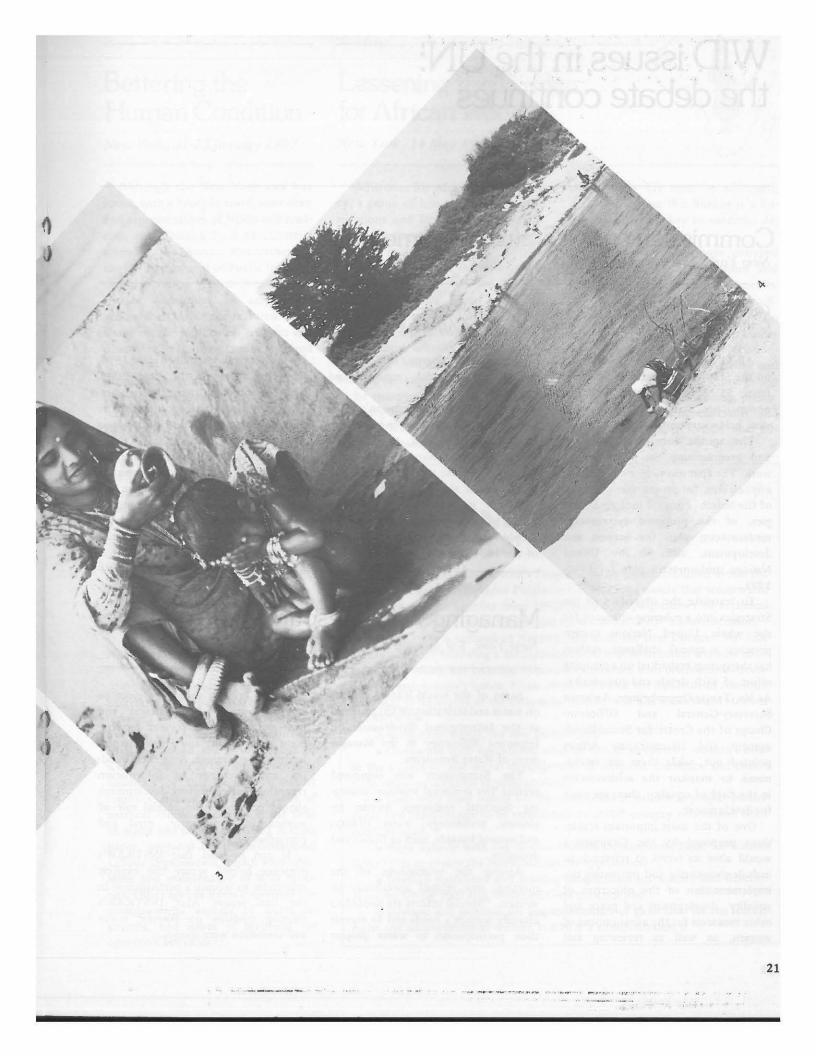
This pioneering project intends to provide a framework for future training programmes. It was presented for the first time at the regional meeting on *Socio-economic Aspects of Water Resources Management in Africa* (Addis Ababa, 1986).

With a grant from the Italian government, all the materials will be field tested in selected African countries (Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and Sudan) on representative samples of the intended audience and in typical training situations. Afterwards, the package will be translated and adapted for use at regional, national and community levels.

All this is to connect women and water directly, so that pure and clean water becomes like the fresh air which everyone has the right to breathe for a healthy life. \Box

INSTRAW is part of the Steering Committee for Co-operative action in implementing the objectives the IDWSSD, and a member of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Women and the IDWSSD. For more information on the training modules, please write to INSTRAW, c/o WSS Desk Officer, P.O. Box 21747, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, telex 326-4280 WRA SD.





WID issues in the UN: the debate continues

Commission on the Status of Women New York, 12-16 January 1987

Courtesy of the Branch for the Advancement of Women, Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, Vienna

All 32 members of the Commission on the Status of Women and observers from 51 Member States and one non-member State attended this session, held exceptionally in New York.

The agenda focused on planning and programming the Commission's work. The first meeting examined the implications, for programme planning, of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies, of the proposed system-wide medium-term plan for women and development, and of the United Nations medium-term plan for 1990-1995.

To translate the objectives of the Strategies into a coherent approach for the whole United Nations system presents a special challange; seldom has the system embarked on a planning effort of such depth and complexity. As Ms. Tamar Oppenheimer, Assistant Secretary-General and Officer-in-Charge of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs pointed out, while there are mechanisms to monitor the achievements in the field of equality, there are none for development.

One of the most important resolutions proposed by the Commission would alter its terms of reference to include monitoring and promoting the implementation of the objectives of equality, development and peace and other measures for the advancement of women, as well as reviewing and appraising the progress made at the national, subregional, regional and global levels.

Concerning the Commission's work programme for the next five sessions, it was recommended to ECOSOC that the Commission should meet annually until the year 2000; that the 1990 session should be longer, with high-level participation of Member States, and that two world conferences should be held, one during the decade of the 1990 s, at a date to be decided by the General Assembly before 1990, and the other in the year 2000. The decision of enlarging the membership to reflect more accurately the present geographical distribution was postponed until 1988.

Another resolution recommended to ECOSOC dealt with the improvement of the status of women in the United Nations, as there was considerable concern that the situation could get worse as a result of the financial crisis and the recruitment freeze. \Box

Managing Water Resources

New York, 5-9 January 1987

Some of the world leading experts on water and sanitation (WSS) gathered at the Interregional Symposium on Improved Efficiency in the Management of Water Resources.

The Symposium was organized around five technical sessions: managing financial resources; human resources; technology; water quality; and natural hazards, such as floods and droughts.

Among the conclusions of the meeting, one related specifically to women: "Special efforts are needed to identify women's needs and to recruit their participation in water project activities. Priority should be given to training women in technical and managerial skills for project development, operation and maintenance, health and education. Awareness building and exchange of information regarding water projects development should centre on the crucial role of women in community, rural and peri-urban areas."

It can be said that INSTRAW's presence helped secure the explicit references to women's participation in the final report. Also, INSTRAW's training modules on *Women*, water and sanitation were shown.□

Bettering the Human Condition

New York, 21-23 January 1987

Although the New York area was struck with a heavy blizzard, more than 860 representatives of NGOs and academic communities f n 42 countries attended the Annual Conference of the UN Department of Public Information for NGOs. Titled Bettering the Human Condition: an agenda for action, the Conference featured workshops on the subthemes: refugees and disaster relief; hunger, famine and food security; housing, shelter and the homeless; narcotics abuse and control, and human rights. At the plenary session on shelter, the Director of INSTRAW, Dunja Pastizzi-Ferencic, made the connection between women, housing and development. She pointed out the three major difficulties for women seeking shelter: restricted access to credit, lack of information on settlement programmes, and inadequate levels of education and training.

More on Water Resources

New York, 6-15 April 1987

At its eight session, the ACC Inter-Secretariat Group for Water Resources reviewed several reports. One, prepared by the Economic Commission for Africa, assessed the development of water resources in the drough-stricken countries of that region. A second report examined the development of national human resources in the field of water and sanitation (WSS). A third paper, prepared by the International Labour Organisation, dealth with operation and maintenance of WSS facilities. 'Other agenda items concerned the environmental aspects of water resources, and issues of technical cooperation activities.

Lessening the Burden for African Women

New York, 14 May 1987

Advocates for African Food Security, a group of non-governmental organizations and UN development agencies, including INSTRAW, organized a consultation/workshop to consider how to alleviate the heavy workload of African women.

The New-York based Advocates Task Force has singled out women for special attention because the continent's food security depends upon improving their productivity. Yet, before we can expect the African woman to be more productive by engaging in income-generation projects, vegetable gardens, literacy, health education or cooperative projects, the awesome toil of her daily life must be addressed. Indeed, lessening this burden is a humane and logical key to succesful development.

The morning workshops analyzed the competing interests, issues and underlying obstacles in the community context. In the afternoon, the workshops examined how NGOs can and do implement policies and programmes that recognize the intrinsic relationship between women's productive and reproductive lives. The consultation was designed for practitioners, policymakers, development educators and program officers of NGOs and UN agencies.□

EQUAL BENEFITS FOR WOMEN

A new Division for Women's Programmes has been established within the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), to ensure that women and men derive equal benefits from UNDP-supported programmes of technical co-operation, and to ensure a larger role for women in UNDP's administration.

Ingrid Eide, a national of Norway, will head the new Division. Ms. Eide comes to UNDP following a distinguished career in Government and education in Norway which has included extensive experience with international development and women's issues. From 1968 until now she has been an Assistant Professor of Sociology at the University of Oslo. She was also a Board Member of INSTRAW.

Among other things, the new Division will:

• Co-operate with operational units of UNDP to identify women's roles in the economic and social development of recipient countries, and ensure these roles are reflected in programming;

• Liase with focal points for the promotion of women as project participants and beneficiaries to be established in UNDP country offices and headquarters units;

• Work closely with the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) to ensure the harmonization of approaches;

• Develop guidelines and training programmes on women and development for UNDP staff and interested Governments; and

• Develop and monitor the implementation of guidelines for the recruitment and advancement of women in UNDP's administration. \Box

World Bank Funds for Women

The World Bank plans to double its lending for population, health and nutrition activities as part of a sixpronged programme to improve the lot of women in the developing world, Bank President Barber Conable said at the Safe Motherhood Conference this February in Nairobi, Kenya.

Mr. Conable also said the Bank plans to help establish a Safe Motherhood Fund under the management of the World Health Organization, contributing \$1 million towards the proposed \$5 million three-year budget.

"We believe that throughs the joint

efforts of the developing countries, the Bank, other donors, non-governmental organizations and private groups, we can reduce by half the number of women who die in pregnancy or childbirth by the year 2000", Mr. Conable said. Presently, there are about 500,000 deaths a year. He added: "We who work in development cannot advance far if we leave women significantly behind. Their potential is great. Our efforts on their behalf have been uncertain. Frequently, we have not even consulted them in development planning". \Box

More Top Jobs for Women at the UN

In March, two women were made Under-Secretaries-General in the UN. Margaret Anstee will head the UN office in Geneva, and Thérèse Paquet-Sevigny will direct the Department of Public Information in New York.

Ms. Anstee was formerly Assistant-Secretary-General in the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development and has recently taken on the special assignment of overseeing the implementation of the recommendations of the Group of 18.



Ms. Sevigny has been involved in journalism, teaching, marketing research, public communications management and advertising. At the time of her appointment to the UN, she was Vice-President for communications at the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. Before, she was President of a private communications and advertising company in Montreal.

In late April, Nafis Sadik was appointed Excecutive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities. Dr. Sadik, who holds a degree in Medicine from Dow Medical College in Karachi, directed since 1966 the Planning and Training Division of the Pakistan Central Family Planning Council. She joined UNFPA in 1971.

Only one other woman has achieved before the high-ranking position of Under-Secretary-General: Lucille Mair, former Secretary-General of the 1980 Copenhagen Women's Conference, was USG for two years.□

CAREER AND FAMILY AT THE UN

Do present conditions of service at the UN allow women and men to combine their family roles with their working life?

This question is addressed in the second report of the Steering Committe for the Improvement of the Status of Women in the Secretariat, which is headed by Mercedes Pulido de Briceño. The report examines the many ways in which women's personal lives and their professional roles interact, be it through their conditions of service or through the manner in which their grievances are solved.

The report asks some pointed questions: Does the organizational climate at the UN favour the integration of family life and work? Are women, as the main caretakers of children, hampered in their career advancement? What personal sacrifices must they make for a career within the system?

In the Professional category, says the report, only 48 per cent, or less than half of women are currently married, compared with 85 per cent of the men in this category. Marital status, by itself, is no clear indicator of family responsibilities. Some of the women who are currently unmarried nevertheless have families to take care of.

Yet it would appear that working for the United Nations has meant for women a choice between career and family life, says the report. Men have normally not had to make this choice, since, in most cases, their families provide a support system. This problem is endemic to all organizations requiring a high level of geographical mobility, be they other international organizations, foreign services or multinational corporations.

The report also deals with parental leave, child care, flexibility in working arrangements, employment of spouses, geographical mobility, grievance redress, sexual harassment and gender discrimination. \Box

World Food Council on page 30

News from the Regions

Given the world-wide importance of WID issues and the amount of WID information flowing from all parts of the world, INSTRAW News is starting a new department, with news provided by the United Nations Regional Commissions. The five Regional Commissions focus on the social and economic concerns of Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Western Asia, Europe and Latin America. They are set up as subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC), the 54-member organ that co-ordinates the economic and social work of the system.

ECA Economic Commission for Africa

A year of activities for the advancement of African women was reviewed at the Eigth Meeting of the African Regional Co-ordinating Committee (ARCC) for the Integration of Women in Development, from 10-11 April 1987 in Addis Ababa.

ECA has established Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCS) for the West, Central, Eastern, Southern and Northern subregions. Representatives from each MULPOC outlined the WID activities undertaken during 1986. Many efforts were directed to women's role in agriculture and national food security systems, and to ensure women's concerns and presence in national plans and programmes. Training, access to credit, appropriate food technologies and collection of data were also high on the agenda of MULPOCS.

The Progress Report of the ATRCW covered the period between April 1986 and 1987, including women's activities carried out in Gisenyi, Lusaka, Yaounde and Niamey MULPOCS. It was noted that ATRCW has actively participated in national planning and programming exercises with particular emphasis on Portuguese-speaking countries.

The meeting also reviewed the studies undertaken by ECA in Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Kenya and Rwanda, to assess the measures taken by Governments to implement the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. The Convention has been so far ratified by 87 countries worldwide, 21 of them African.

According to the report, implementing the Convention could be a main factor to change the status of women in Africa. Several problems were identified: the shortage of human and financial resources due to the crisis; difficult harmonization with national legislation and religious texts; translations into local languages, and female illiteracy, and others. The study makes recommendations to Governments, NGOs and individuals to ensure that civil codes on persons and property guarantee the rights and obligations of people without any distinction as to their sex. \Box

ECE

Economic Commission for Europe

The Conference of European Statisticians is convening an informal meeting on *Statistics and Indicators on the Role and Situation of Women* (Geneva, 18-20 May 1987).

The meeting considered the following topics: national experiences in using time-use surveys to derive information relating to the condition and situation of women; methods of measuring women's contribution to household income, and experiments in estimating the monetary value of housework, domestic chores and other home-based activities; estimates of women's underemployment; and proposals for further work by the Conference.

ECLAC

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

The subregional headquarters of ECLAC in Trinidad and Tobago is the only UN office in the subregion with a special unit for the integration of women in development.

A major project carried out analytical studies (Trinidad and Tobago, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent and The Grenadines) with consecutive national workshops (St. Lucia and St. Vincent and The Grenadines). The studies determined what proportion of the resources provided for social services in the national budget was allocated to the female population, and assessed the degree of equity in the distribution of such resources.

Another subregional project focusses on the geographical movement of women traders in the region -a major force in the informal economy- and assists in the formulation of action programmes to benefit them.

There is serious concern in the region with the effects that structural adjustment measures may have on Caribbean women. ECLAC will contribute to a forthcoming conference of Caribbean economists planned by the international research group DAWN (Development Alternatives for Women in a New Era) in the subregion.

As a result of the successful ECLAC/ILPES/INSTRAW course-workshop on Women, Planning and Development (Santiago, 1986), ECLAC/ILPES are designing a similar course programme for the Caribbean member states.

The Caribbean Documentation Centre of ECLAC's Subregional Headquarters operates a region-wide automated information system. Since 1983 the system includes a significant bibliographical data base on women.□

ESCAP

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Recent research activities include a collection of five regional studies on WID issues, from employment to political participation; an analysis of the achievements of the UN Decade for Women in the region, based on Member Government's responses to a questionnaire; country-case studies of women and the tourism industry; women and consumerism; and a region-wide study examining the participation of women in national economies. Training activities included a series of workshops on policy and planning for rural women in dairy farming, sericulture, paddy production, and income-generating activities in fishing communities.

Among other WID training activities, a three-week management training scheme for mid-career and mid-level executives from government and nongovernment sectors dealt with techniques to train women in development administration.

A women's information network system called WINS is being set up to gather, analyze and disseminate information, ideas, technologies and statistics related to women. As a preliminary step, ESCAP is collecting basic information and materials, and would appreciate contributions. For information about WINS, please write to: Social Development Division, Edward Van Roy, Chief, ESCAP, United Nations Building, Rajadamnern Avenue, Bangkok 10200, Thailand. \Box

ESCWA

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

The planned Directory of Arab professional women, scheduled for December 1987, will identify women capable of undertaking assignments and projects in developing countries, thus contributing to South-South technical co-operation.

Based on the field study of two villages, an evaluation of the training programmes for rural extension workers in Egypt will assess the validity and applicability of their content to the needs of rural women.

A major concern is women's participation in the informal sector. An assessment of women's employment will help evaluate the size, scope and nature of female activities in this sector of the economy.

Given the daily hours women in the rural areas of the region spend gathering fuel, ESCWA is examining the possibilities of new and renewable sources of energy. A study on the feasibility of introducing biogas technology in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen has been completed.

The publication Studies on Arab Women in Development, now in its fourteenth issue, regularly covers WID issues in Arabic.□

Areas where the data on women are relatively good

In contrast to the bleak picture presented above, there are areas where the data on women in developing countries are relatively good, although no expert ever feels that the data in her or his particular area are as abundant or as high in quality as would be desirable. Nevertheless, some topic areas are much better covered than others, and one should be wary of decrying data which are really of reasonable quality and coverage. A stage has almost been reached where the non-expert, hearing all the laments as to the inadequacy of the available data on women, might think that there are no usable data available. This is certainly not the case.

FERTILITY. This is a unique area where the data on women are undoubtedly better than the data on men. (Indeed there are very few specific studies of male fertility behaviour). Increasing attention is now being given to the possibilities of using the data on women gathered in the innumerable fertility studies to illuminate other aspects of women's lives. An example is Anker's 1983 analysis of World Fertility Survey data on female labour force participation. The study strongly suggests that the intensive questionnaire design and interviewer training efforts of the World Fertility Survey did result in superior fertility and labour force data.

Anyone who is interested in maximizing the use of the data already available on the situation of women should certainly investigate the range of existing fertility surveys. To take but one example, Mason (1984) has reviewed the interrelationships between the status of women, fertility and mortality. The numerous studies she cites could also be used for the light they shed on women's position, taking the demographic data as information about the situation of women.

An unusual example of fertility data used as an indication of women's situation is Harrington's (1983) study of Nigerian women focusing on nutritional stress and economic responsibility. Using pregnancy and lactation data to construct an index of "physical and nutritional stress", the study forcefully argues that to ignore the reproductive burdens upon women in most developing countries is to gravely misrepresent their situation, especially where reproductive and economic burdens are combined.

EDUCATION. A number of writers have lamented the quality of the available data on women's education (Buchwald and Palmer, 1978; United Nations, 1984). However, these complaints are generally concerned with data on out-of-school education or in-depth questions such as the differences in content between the education of females and that of males.

As early as 1970, of the 83 countries in the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development Data Bank, 83 per cent had data on the proportion of females amongst those enrolled in primary school, 61 per cent on higher education enrolment per 1,000 population 20-29 by sex, and 60 per cent on combined primary and secondary education enrolment as a percentage of population 5-19 by sex (Von Buchwald and Palmer, 1978).

There are also some wide-ranging international studies which use national education data —usually drawn from censuses— to examine the situation of women (Boulding et al., 1976; Morris, 1979; Sivard, 1985). Indeed, in constructing the physical quality of life index (PQLI) for 74 countries, Morris (1979) chose to rely upon literacy and mortality measures because of their widespread availability.

Obviously, just because educational data of reasonable quality are widely available for both sexes is no reason why it should not be collected in household surveys —rather it should offer encouragement that such data are not difficult to obtain.

Education has the advantage of being an individual characteristic that makes it possible to distinguish between members within households. Where other measures fail, education can also serve as proxy for income earning capacity. Thus, although a man with secondary education and a woman with no formal education may share a common standard of living while they are married to each other, the wife is clearly in a much more vulnerable position should they separate.

Data already available (most probably from the census) on sex differentials in education can be very useful in planning surveys, it can indicate where other sex differentials are likely to be found.

MORTALITY. In developing countries, the quality of data on mortality often leaves much to be desired. Yet, because of its demographic importance, a great deal of attention has been given to the estimation techniques (Shryock and Siegal, 1975). Also, in contrast to many other topics, a high proportion of those who have studied the subject have been especially interested in sex differentials (Retherford 1975).

When, contrary to the biological norm, female mortality exceeds male mortality, the data (especially on female mortality) are likely to be most defective. Thus, findings of excess male mortality at low levels of life expectancy in cultures where a special value is placed upon sons as opposed to daughters should always be carefully reviewed.

In general, data which show higher female than male mortality in childhood are likely to be of relative quality. The finding of higher male mortality in the first year of life is usually a genuine reflection of the masculine biological disadvantage. It may also be a consequence of a culturally determined greater likelihood of forgetting dead children if they are female (or rembering dead children as having been male irrespective of their actual sex). There can be no more telling

ENVIL DEAS TOUTSIDE THE UN SYSTEM

or ignore their existence altogether -this is why it is always important to look at the recorded sex ratio of children ever born as well as of the adult population (though the latter may need adjustment for migration).

Some forms of female mortality are especially likely to be missing from the records. This is especially true of deaths associated with childbirth and abortion. Where such data are available they provide an especially valuable indication of the situation of women.

Redressing the imbalance

In many contexts it is true that until now general policies and projects have done more (however unwittingly) to disadvantage women than special projects for women have been able to deliver in the way of advantages. Incorrect assumptions about women's roles and situation have often been at the base of damaging general policies where women's concerns have simply been ignored.

Good data can play a major role in redressing this imbalance but only if they are readily available, timely, and presented in a form readily understood by planners and policy makers, who, understandably, may have no special interest or expertise in this area.

In the longer term, it is to be hoped that all data collection systems will acknowledge the importance both of collecting data separately for each sex and of adapting their methodologies to more fully reflect the situation and concerns of women. \Box

Correction

INSTRAW regrets the inaccuracy in citing UNESCO as the source for the statistical chart appearing on pages 2-4 of INSTRAW News No. 7. The chart was computed from UNESCO data.

New York, 23-27 February 1987

When the United Nations Statistical Commission held its 24th session early this year, INSTRAW's contribution focused on two agenda items.

Concerning the System of National Accounts (SNA), INSTRAW's statement reflected the views of the expert group meeting (Santo Domingo, October 1986; please see INSTRAW News No. 7, pages 8-10). The statement was received positively, and a number of delegations spoke in favour of estimating informal, non-remunerated activites. within the household, using, as was recommended in the meeting, valuations consistent with those used in the SNA. Several representatives supported a proposal to prepare production accounts for the household sector, and stressed the need to bring macro -and micro- household statistics closer.

Concerning social statistics and indicators, the Commission welcomed the recommendations of the expert group meeting as concrete proposals to improve statistics for assessing women's remunerated and unremunerated contribution to development. The Commission also noted with approval the view of the expert group that the SNA definition of economic activity should not be revised to include value-added by home-makers, but that these activities should be covered in separate supplementate, estimates.

The Symmiston emphasized the importMOtAEN Sotting Closely with countries particularly defeating countries, in the neveloption and implementation of improved statistical methodology to take full account of women's work. Finally, the Commission expressed its support for the collaborative work of INSTRAW, the Statistical Office and the Regional Commissions in the development of statistics and indictors on the situation of women.□

About a hundred users and producers of statistics on women in Nigeria attended a workshop (Lagos, August 1986) co-sponsored by INSTRAW and the Federal Ministry of Social Development, Youth and Sports. In her opening statement, Victoria Okobi, INSTRAW Board member and an active organizer of the event, summarized the need for these workshops:

"Despite all the efforts and achievements at the international and national level in improving the quality, availability and analysis of data, there is still a need for more intensive research, not only to examine the levels of genderbased differentials, but also to explain why the differentials exist or, in some* cases, persist. (...)

"These seminars provide the opportunity for users to learn about the processes involved in data collection. Producers are introduced to the different dimensions of women's issues. It is with this objective that the present workshop has been organized".

Women and socio-economic development Belgrade, 21-23 April 1987

The Conference for Social Activities of Yugoslav Women, in co-operation with the Yugoslav Commision for UNESCO, organized its XII International Seminar.

The basic topic was Women and Socio-economic Development, with two subtopics: women and rural development, and women and technologic development.

The contributions and report of the seminar will be published in a thematic

volume of the journal Facts and Tendencies.

INSTRAW sent a written contribution by its Director, centered on Women in the International Economy: existing research and future priorities. Consultant Borjana Bulajic represented the Institute, and former Board member Vida Tomsic presented the INSTRAW study Women in the World Economy. \Box

Women, health and development San José, 23-28 May 1987

Some six hundred women's health activists, researchers, and practitioners from all over the world gathered in Costa Rica for the Fifth International Women and Health Meeting. This was the first time the meeting was held in a developing country.

The conference focused on five main themes: population policies and reproductive rights; community health; environmental health hazards, drugs, and the health care system.

The Feminist Centre for Information and Action (Centro Feminista de Información y Acción, CEFEMINA) co-ordinated the event, sponsored by eleven national and international women's organizations: Perú Mujer, Centro Ecuatoriano para la Promoción y Acción de la Mujer, Women's Global Network on Reproductive Rights, International Baby Food Action Network, Health Action International, SOSHIREN Tokyo, Isis WICCE, Dispensaire des Femmes, the Boston Women's Health Book Collective, ISIS International and the Latin American and Caribbean Health Network.

In the workshops on housing, INSTRAW highlighted the connection between women, shelter, clean water, sanitation, health and development.

ITALY SUPPORTS WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT

The new law on co-operation with developing countries approved by the Italian Parliament in February 1987 states that "development co-operation should aim at improving women's conditions and at supporting the advancement of women."

An Advisory Committee will be formed with "an adequate representation of female personalities with a solid experience in the fields of development co-operation and of women in developing countries."

The law states that within the Direction General for Development Co-operation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, an office be established to study and formulate proposals for the promotion of the role of women in developing countries. \Box

NGOs seek shelter for the homeless Nairobi, 1-4 April 1987



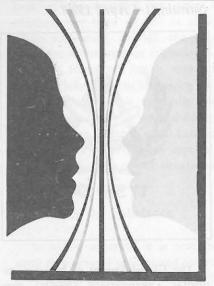
The Global Forum of Non-governmental Organisations (NGOs) concerned with shelter for the homeless examined the progress made in the ten years since the United Nations adopted 64 recommendations for national action on homelessness and urban growth, and considered new measures to be taken.

Recommendations for future action drew on a global report by the Habitat International Council on over 200 case studies where local communities have been enabled to improve their own living conditions with appropriate help from government and other agencies. The Forum prepared recommendations to be presented the following week to the UN Commission on Human Settlements (UNCHS) at its 10th Session commencing on 6 April 1987.

Structured around three main themes, the Forum examined the importance of human settlements for economic development, health, the position of women, etc.; what NGOs do, or could do, in this area; and the role of public agencies, from supply to support policies.

Other questions discussed were: how can NGOs intensify and improve their activities in this field; how should they relate with base groups, with national and local public agencies, and with international organizations; and policies to be pursued in crucial areas such as land, finances, building materials, and the role of women.□

Development with the women's dimension Rome, 28 April 1987



PER UNO SVILUPPO A DIMENSIONE DONNA

AIDOS (Italian Association of Women for Development) organized a symposium called *Women: meeting in the world*, to review current theories and practices in international development. Daniela Colombo, INSTRAW Board Member and founder of AIDOS, spoke on Italian development co-operation. Bianca M. Pomerani reviewed project methodology. Marina Vaccari described INSTRAW's activities in research and training. Other speakers dealt with issues confronting African women.

Since 1981 AIDOS is active raising awareness of the general public and lobbying the Italian government to include women in its co-operative efforts. AIDOS is INSTRAW's focal point in Italy.

Executive and professional women

The recently established National Association of Executive and Professional Women (ANMEPRO) in the Dominican Republic aims to seek equality of opportunities and status for women in the economic, political and social spheres. ANMEPRO is affiliated with the International Federation of Business and Professional Women, which has consultive status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. INSTRAW and ANMEPRO have been invited to the International Congress of the Federation (August 1987, The Hague).□

Women and development in Cuba

WID issues were examined in two meetings. In February, the Federation of Cuban Women held a workshop on Women and Development in the context of the Fifth Conference of Social Sciences at the University of Havana. In mid-April, a seminar was held 'to Identify/Prepare Technical Co-operation Projects Fostering Women Integration in Development. \Box

Coalition for women in development Washington, 19 May, 1987

At the meeting of the Coalition for Women in International Development, the following issues were reviewed: views of the general public in the United States concerning the Third World, as seen through a public opinion inquiry; the possibilities of using compact discs to store development information; activities of UNIFEM and INSTRAW, and creation of the U.S. Council for INSTRAW, the latter presented by Dr. Irene Tinker.

WOMEN AND FOOD SECURITY Beijing, 8-11 June

At the 13th Ministerial Session of the World Food Council, Ms. Lin Shangzhen, INSTRAW Board Member, represented the Institute. An excerpt of her speech follow:

"We acknowledge the efforts being made by the World Food Council in mobilising support and seeking to ensure coherence of policy actions of governments and international agencies in the solution of critical world food problems. We are particularly interested in following the Council's work in promoting an effective system of food security and food self-sufficiency, since this determines the status of women in many developing countries.

As governments become increasingly aware of the important role of women in agriculture and food self-sufficiency, practical steps are being taken to incorporate the concerns of women at the design stage of agricultural programmes. Further work, however, is still needed to better integrate rural women into the agricultural development process.

Recognizing the significant contribution of women to agricultural development through their central role as food producers in many regions of the world, INSTRAW has had a long-term commitment to this effort. One major programme area is devoted to the role of women in the agriculture and food security systems in developing countries.

It is essential that programmes and projects in agricultural and rural development be designed in a manner that fully integrates women at all levels of planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. Such programmes must use local resources as far as possible, be adapted to the daily work routines of the women, and be conceived as participatory programmes where women become agents of their own change."

BOOKShelt selected INSTRAW publications

Proceedings of the Interregional Seminar on The Incorporation of Women into Development Planning, INSTRAW, Santo Domingo, 1987, 346 pages, English. United Nations, Sales No. E.87.III.C.1*.

The seminar on the Incorporation of Women into Development Planning was convened by INSTRAW (Santo Domingo, 5-11 December 1983) to examine the problems related to women's participation in and integration into development planning, and to analyze why women's needs are so often neglected in the development planning process.

The proceedings include the report of the seminar, as well as 19 papers presented by participants —national planning officials, experts on development issues, and experts on issues concerning women and development from various regions.

Papers deal with issues such as the need for equitative data; the role of women in voluntary associations; views of ILO, ILPES and UNIDO on the incorporation of women into development planning; and African regional perspective, case studies from India and Yugoslavia; experiences in Kenya, Trinidad and Tobago, Jordan and Peru. This is a sales publication.

Expert Group on measurement of women's income and their participation and production in the informal sector, *INSTRAW, Santo Domingo, 1986, 27 pages, English.*

This report highlights some issues of the current debate on the informal sector. It contains the summary of the expert group meeting held at INSTRAW in 1986. Thirteen internationally renowned statisticians, demographers, economists and social scientists extensively discussed concepts and methods to identify women's income and production in the informal sector, with the aim of devising effective methods to assess its economic value within the framework of the SNA. This was one of the first attempts inside the UN system to quantify female economic activity outside the formal market.

The experts examined definitions of the informal sector, identified sex-biased concepts and tabulations, and reviewed methods to obtain a more accurate coverage. Major discussions centered on the SNA boundaries and system of classification. Finally, the report contains their recommendations and proposals, and a description of areas needing further study.

Proceedings of the Interregional Seminar on Women and the Interregional Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade, INSTRAW, Santo Domingo, 1987, 306 pages, English. United Nations, Sales No. E.87.III.C.2*.

This seminar (Cairo, 12-16 March 1984), convened by INSTRAW, identified problems in various areas related to water supply and sanitation (socioeconomic, health and sanitation, and scientific and technological) and solutions based on the successful experiences of various countries and regions.

Parte One of the proceedings presents the report of the seminar; Part Two, the papers presented by the participants (social scientists, medical doctors, health specialists, engineers and scientists). A list of experts in the field of women and WSS, and a bibliography follow.

The papers deal with issues of women, water and sanitation from Kenya, Tanzania and Burkina Faso to China, India, Sri Lanka and Indonesia, as well as Panama, the Dominican Republic and California. A dozen papers present the situation in Egypt; others reflect the views of donor countries, review current literature on women, water and sanitation, or analyze the role of women in water supply, waste disposal and solid waste management. This is a sales publication.

Training users and producers in compiling statistics and indicators on women in development, UNSO/ECA/ INSTRAW, Santo Domingo, 1986, 144 pages.

Summary of the subregional seminar (Harare, 1985) for users and producers of statistics and indicators of women; contains the syllabus, materials and discussions. It offers a potentially useful model to those who may wish to conduct similar seminars in other countries or regions, with appropriate adaptation to local needs and circumstances.

The organization of the report follows that of the seminar:

•A review of the demand for the uses of and the sources of statistics and indicators of women;

•Presentation, discussion and computation of statistics and indicators of women's participation in the fields of population structure and change, urbanization and migration, household and families, education and literacy, employment and economic activity, health, women's organization, and political activity;

•Discussion of national programmes for the collection and compilation of statistics on women and for their dissemination and use in national policy and planning; and

●Exercises to accompany the review of indicators in specific fields.□

^{*} To obtain this publication please write to United Nations, Sales Department, New York, N.Y. 10017, U.S.A.



Sex inequalities in urban employment in the third world, edited by Richard Anker and Catherine Hein, study prepared for the International Labour Office, 1986, 378 pages, English.

This collection of country studies examines women's employment in the modern non-agricultural sector, the fastest growing sector of the economy as development proceeds.

The introductory chapter describes the main explanations for the disadvantaged position of women workers (neo-classical, labour market segmentation and gender or feminist theories). Other determinants examined are the organization of work in the modern sector along the lines set in the industrialized countries; management attitudes and practices; education; cultural restrictions on women, and the household division of labour.

The country case studies (Cyprus, Ghana, India, Mauritius, Nigeria, Sri Lanka and Peru) investigate the limits to women's employment in the modern sector. Blending macro and micro-level data, the case studies raise issues such as inequality in earnings between male and female workers; differences in recruitment, hiring, firing and promotion practices for men and women; the effect of family responsibilities on career development and worker productivity.

Women's position in the labour market is a major determinant of their overall status in society; thus, the studies go beyond employment statistics to seek the reasons behind genderbased occupational segregation and inequalities. Despite the diversity of cultural and institutional contexts analyzed, the studies show remarkable similarities in the discrimination women face in the labour market, tracing it to the sexual division of labour within the household.

Book Notes

Mujeres Jóvenes en América Latina: Aportes para una Discusión, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), ARCA, Foro Juvenil, Montevideo, 1985, 408 pp.. Spanish.

Young Latin American women (over 37 million aged 15-24) are increasingly living a new autonomy ushered in by the possibility of fertility control, increased education and employment. Yet they are also one of the most vulnerable groups in the region, as the introductory chapter by the Division of Social Development of ECLAC points out. Many of those living in the rural areas or in the squalid urban peripheries come too early into unwanted motherhood, can find only low-pay, low-status jobs as domestic workers, or live in isolation from mainstream society.

This compilation of papers presented at the seminar *Thinking about Young Women: Preliminary Problems* and *Experiences*, (ECLAC, Santiago, Chile, 1984) describes the situation of young Latin American women as a struggle between tradition and change, a space of contradictions and a search for alternatives in the midst of political and social crisis.

The paper on Argentina rethinks young women's participation and exclusion in the social sphere, following their socialization into the ideology of domesticity. In Brazil, a profile is drawn from a study of grassroots youngsters in Sao Paulo who work and study simultaneously. A wide situational analysis of young Colombian women illustrates census data with life stories. The Chilean paper analyzes several research studies on youth, focusing on socialization, early motherhood, education, employment and social participation. The contribution from Mexico reviews existing studies on young women, and a study from Bolivia concentrates on social participation, education, work and reproductive behaviour. Including a cogent interpretative framework in the first chapter, this book is a valuable tool to understand the situation of young women in Latin America.

Del deber ser y el hacer de las mujeres: dos casos de estudio en Argentina (Of women's being and doing: two case studies in Argentina), by Catalina Wainerman, Elizabeth Jelin and Maria del Carmen Feijoo. El Colegio de Mexico, PISPAL, Mexico 1984, 230 pages.

In The World of Ideas and Values: women and work, Catalina Wainerman analyzes texts by five major sources of ideology: the Catholic Church, the laws, social sciences, school textbooks and women's magazines between 1945 and 1955 in Argentina. These were the booming post-war years, the halcyon days of Evita Peron and peronismo, the years when women obtain the vote and at the same time reach an all-times minimum share of the labour force. Rigourously, Wainerman searches the texts for the messages, hidden or obvious, prescribing sex-differentiated roles, attitudes and expectations. In a precise historical setting, she weaves the complex ascension of peronismowith the economical data, then goes on to explain women's productive and reproductive behaviour in these years

in the light of those ideological messages.

Elizabeth Jelin and Maria del Carmen Feijoo take another approach to draw their portrait of contemporary working-class women in Buenos Aires. Tape recorder in hand, during 18 months they follow and tape these women, then transcribe and analyze the material. Their study, called Cross Pressures: work and family in the life of women, charts the life cycles, the answers these women have given to domestic and extra-domestic demands from childhood to adulthood. Born and socialized between 1939 and 1954, that is, slightly beyond the period analyzed by Wainerman, they learned to become women under those sexist messages, and now struggle under completely different socio-economic and cultural conditions.

El Impacto de las Nuevas Tecnologías en la Formación y el Trabajo de las Mujeres, (The Impact of New Technologies on the Training and Work of Women), by Pilar Escario and Inés Alberdi, Instituto de la Mujer, Ministerio de Cultura, Madrid, 1986, 134 pages.

This study attempts to clarify the relationship between recent technological advances and women's employment, education and attitudes in Spain, with two practical aims, first, designing woman-friendly policies on technology and, second, setting a methodological basis for future studies.

The authors point out that the study of technological changes, as they relate to women, lay bare the same problems that have always affected women in the labour market, namely, their vulnerability at the time of lay-offs, and their persistent lack of access to new technology for lack of training.

In banking —one field quick to adopt the new technologies— one major effect has been the subcontracting of data processing to women working from their homes. Also, while some secretarial work becomes highly skilled, other types of clerical work such as data entry, become de-skilled, less valued, and the domain of women.

In industrial production, however, the more an industry adopts the new technologies, the more women are found in its assembly lines, making inroads in jobs traditionally held by men. But the garment industry, for example, chooses not to invest in new technologies and keep using its pool of cheap, unorganized female labour.

In conclusion, the study reports that the main negative effects on employment and equality derive from women's lack of training, starting from the early school years. However, the authors warn, it is also up to the women themselves to place themselves "as active participants in the discussions, decisions and uses of the new technologies".

Les femmes inventeurs existent, par Farag Moussa, Geneva, 1986, 224 pages, French.

In his quest to prove that women are equally capable of technological invention, the author researched, traveled and interviewed world-wide. The results is this series of brief profiles of contemporary women inventors, aged 8 to 81. They come from 26 countries as far away as Nepal, Zaire and Peru.

Their discoveries and inventions range from Nobel prize-winning technology to the gadget: computers designed for autistic children, a new breed of cattle, voice-driven wheelchairs, pesticides, portable rice mills, safe switches, herbal products, semisynthetic antibiotics, toiletries, ultrathin photographs and a knitting machine.

Written in simple language and in journalistic style, this book provides engaging role models for young adults, showing that women can grasp technology, that they can master the complexities of algebra and physics, or construct time-saving devices for daily life.

Study of the Situation of Women in Ethiopia and Social Perspective, Lakew Woldetekle and Hirut Terefe, Institute of Development Research/ UNICEF, Addis Ababa, 1986, 103 pages.

The research for this study on the situation of women in Ethiopia was carried out by the Institute of Development Research (IDR) in Addis Ababa and funded by UNICEF. While highlighting that since time immemorial the domain of Ethiopian women has been the home, with child bearing and rearing as their exclusive concern, the authors show that today new economic and social pressures are changing women's roles. Etiopian women, for example, are coming to the fore as bread winners in their attempt to supplement dwindling family resources.

Woldetekle and Terefe select scenarios which best describe different development settings, such as urban and rural areas with and without development projects. The study assesses the improvements in the economic and social status of women, as well as their living conditions and their opportunities in employment, education and training. Finally, recommendations are made in the areas of marriage, family planning and child care education and training, domestic work, water and fuel policies, and domestic work.

Women in the World, an International Atlas, by Joni Seager and Ann Olson, Simon and Schuster, New York, 1986, 128 pages.

In 40 colour maps, this atlas presents a full and detailed picture of the status of women worldwide. Translating statistics into dazzling visual graphics, data on women becomes more accessible, understandable and appealing.

Each map spread focuses on a central topic, with one or two subtopics. A short text introduces and interrelates the graphics. At the end, notes for each map provide comments, background information and bibliography. Data is arranged along broad lines: marriage, motherhood, work, resources, welfare, authority, body politics, change and statistical politics, going into specific subthemes such as young brides, time budgets, bread and water, military service, rape and channels of change.

As the introduction to this vital reference work says, mapping the world of women reveals patterns usually obscured in statistical tables or in narratives: the similarities and differences, the continuities and contrasts among women around the world. □

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8 DE MARZO : DIA INTERNACIONAL DE LA MUJER

ONU/INSTRAW ONU/PNUD PROMOCION DE LA MILIE PROFAMILIA CEPAT

International Women's Day

March 8

IN NEW YORK

Affirmative Action was the theme of a symposium organized by the Group on Equal Rights for Women in the UN. The moderator of the panel and President of the Group, Ms. Ciceil L. Gross, introduced the speakers saying that "attention today is directed to the lack of equality and to the discrimination that afflicts one particular group of women —those in the UN Secretariat."

The Secretary-General, Mr. Javier Pérez de Cuellar, reviewed the action taken at the UN on behalf of women



(We are) more than half the numbers. (We do) more than half the work, (We are) more than half the poor, (We have) more than half the love. (We have) more than half the dreams.

This poster, designed by Millaray Quiroga, was jointly produced by INSTRAW, the United Nations Development Programme, Dirección General de Promoción de la Mujer, PROFAMILIA and CEPAE, in Santo Domingo. since March 8, 1986. He found the past year "disappointing," as the recruitment freeze required by the financial crisis made it impossible to increase the number of women in the professional category. "The UN cannot present itself to the world as a principal advocate of women's advancement, nor claim to be a source of advice and inspiration in this area," he said, "if women are not visibly involved in these activities, at high levels of responsibilities."

The Co-ordinator for the Improvement of the Status of Women in the Secretariat, Ms. Mercedes Pulido de Briceño, said that "nothing less than an unwavering communitment to the concept of positive action is a necessity if we wish to proceed beyond the present stage of our efforts to bring about a change of values and a new psychology and improve the status of women."

Other speakers were the Under-Secretary-General for Administration and Management, Mr. Martti Ahtissari and the Assistant-Secretary-General for Human Resources Management, Mr. Kofi Annan.

The Secretary-General was handed a scroll signed by over 2000 staff members and others asking for action now to remedy the discrimination against women in the UN and to reach by 1990 the target of 30 per cent women in the Professional and Higher Categories set by the UN General Assembly.

IN GENEVA

The Group on Equal Rights for Women at the UN Office in Geneva invited Eleanor MacDonald, an eminent international training and careers development consultant, to give a workshop on *Interpersonal Relationships – Responding, not Reacting.* About 150 people from the UN and other international organizations in Geneva took part in a broad-ranging discussion which focused, among other things, on how to solve problems more effectively through better communication.

The new Director-General, Jan Martenson, stressed that the difficulties of all kind inherent in these times further strengthen the need for close, sincere and equal participation and collaboration between men and women, at all levels and in all areas. This, he added, agrees with the ideals promulgated by the UN charter.

At a luncheon debate sponsored by 1-0/0 for Development and the Women's Group, guest speaker Joyce Chikara, Executive Director of Freedom from Hunger, Zimbabwe, spoke about the role of women in the grassroots movements now developing all over Africa to improve local food security. To round the celebration, an art exhibit featured the works of five women artists from the UN, Italy, the Netherlands and Spain. \Box

IN VIENNA

United Nations staff members in Vienna, the third UN headquarters, observed International Women's Day with a call for continued action to promote the advancement of women in the organization.

Women in the International Workplace was the theme of a panel discussion held on 5 March in one of the conference halls of the Vienna International Centre, home to several UN offices and specialized agencies employing some 4,200 staff members. The event was organized by the Viennabased Group on Equal Rights for Women in the United Nations.

Margaret Joan Anstee, newly appointed Under-Secretary-General and Director-General of the UN Office in Vienna, led panellists in a look at the changing situation for women in the United Nations and future prospects for them as the organization moves towards greater efficiency. Other panelists included William Angel, Social Affairs Officer with the Branch for the Advancement of Women, Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, and Diane Stagliano, a training specialist formerly with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).

Discussion groups had previously identified many issues of special relevance to women in the international workplace, such as their involvement in decision-making, the lack and acquisition of negotiating skills, the need for assertiveness, networking, the dynamics of the "old-boy network" and how to get around it, recognizing and dealing with sexist attitudes and promoting the use of non-sexist language. □

AT INSTRAW

With music and people from all over the world, the United Nations family in the Dominican Republic celebrated March 8, International Women's Day, in a significant event organized by INSTRAW. In the vast hall of a seventeenth century warehouse in the heart of Santo Domingo's historic district, the UN Singers performed folkloric songs from all regions of the world. Ms. Rhina Ramirez, a popular Dominican artist, sung ballads about women. The Director of the Institute, Ms. Dunja Pastizzi-Ferencic, welcomed over a hundred guests, who sang and clapped hands along with the performers. Ms. Magda Moyano, Deputy Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Programme briefly described the work of the UN on behalf of women in the Dominican Republic. Ms. Jacqueline Malagon, INSTRAW Ex-Officio Board Member representing the Dominican government, reflected on the recent rupture of traditional attitudes that confined women in the domestic sphere.

On this day, all over the world, women celebrate their contribution to history and culture. This has become a time of global awareness of women's rights, a time when women reinforce their links across national and cultural boundaries. This is also a time for reflection on how far women have come on their journey towards equality, development and peace, and the long way still to travel.

On March 8, INSTRAW celebrates the advancement of women towards the full exercice of their political, legal, economical and social rights. It is now recognized everywhere that this is an irreversible historical process. \Box

A Joyful Message

MUSIC AND FRIENDSHIP AMONG PEOPLES OF THE WORLD

Music is perhaps the earliest and most universal form of communication. Every community has sung its history, its exploits and its daily life, its joys and sorrows. Today, music keeps building bridges among peoples, forging links of understanding and good will.

Early this year, the United Nations Singers visited the Dominican Republic for the first time, carrying their message of friendship among the peoples. From 8-16 March, they sung in several cities, hosted by the Carol Morgan School Music Festival. On March 9 they sang at INSTRAW's celebration for International Women's Day.

The UN Singers, who are all staff members of the UN in New York, have been performing since 1947. This year marks their fortieth anniversary linking the peoples of the world through a universal language, music. On their first concert at the National Theater of Santo Domingo on March 8, the UN singers, led by director John L. Motley, performed 32 folklorical songs from all regions.

One by one, the 37 singers in full typical dress introduce themselves and their attire to the audience. Embroidered caftans, batik shirts, ruffled skirts, flowery silk jackets, colorful patterns and prints and fabrics from all over the world brighten the stage. Then the director steps in, and suddenly the place is alive with rythm and joy as the United Nations Singers roll off with a vibrant welcome song.

The United Nations was established to assure justice and peace, to promote social progress and to encourage transcultural understanding among peoples. In a joyful, powerful way, the UN Singers convey this message wherever they go. \Box

INSTRAW is organizing: meetings, seminars and workshops

Statistics

Two national training workshops for users and producers of statistics on women will take place in October: one in Colombo, Sri Lanka, and the other in Jakarta, Indonesia. Participants will include staff from the national statistical offices, researchers, and representatives of women's groups, who will join in a constructive dialogue to identify the main problems of current data on women.

The 5-day workshop in Sri Lanka is jointly organized with the Centre for Women's Research (CENWOR), a research group and INSTRAW's focal point in the country. The tentative agenda covers the review of sources of data on women's economic activity; the adequacy of data collection instruments for measruging women's economic contribution; the relevance of concepts used in measuring economic activity in the formal and informal sectors; the estimation of women's production and income from available data and tabulations, and, finally, the identification of problem areas, and suggestions to improve the quality of data and the analysis of women's activities in the informal sector. 🗆

Women managers

From 1-5 June, international experts will meet at INSTRAW's headquarters in Santo Domingo to evaluate training modules for women managers and entrepreneurs in industry. These modules, one jointly produced by INSTRAW and UNIDO, in conjuntion with the International Center for Public Enterprise in Lubjlana, help overcome gender-related obstacles in the workplace. (For more information, please see INSTRAW News No. 6, page 12).□

Learning and teaching WID issues

From 8-11 June 1987, in Montreal, Canada, INSTRAW and the Simone de Beauvoir Institute are jointly organizing an interdisciplinary training seminar on Women and Development: Alternative Approaches. The reason for holding this seminar in a develop country is two-fold. First to raise the awareness of the developed countries about the problems faced by women in the developing world in order to seek their support; second, to draw from the actual experience of professionals in WID studies. The results of this experiment in training trainers will be used by INSTRAW in its programme on developing international curricula for institutions teaching WID issues worldwide.

The purpose of this seminar is to provide professors and teachers of WID studies with a conceptual and analytical framework enabling the incorporation of national issues with international dimensions. Canadian development programmers, university students and researchers from women's bureaux and women's organizations in both developed and developing countries are expected to participate.

INSTRAW will jointly sponsor with the International Institute for Labour Studies (ILIS) an international seminar on Training for Women in Development Studies to be held in Geneva in July 1987. Experts from around the world will present papers on the various aspects of WID studies, including curricula formulation, training experiences, and the integration of these studies into other development disciplines. This seminar is part of INSTRAW's on-going programme on the design of WID curricula for use by academic institutions, government bodies, non-governmental and women's organizations. This course will attempt to establish Women in Development as a subject of study in formal and informal education and in training courses around the world. \Box

On water and sanitation

This year, INSTRAW will host the Fifteenth Meeting of the Interagency Steering Committee for Co-operative Action for the United Nations International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade (IDWSSD). From 5-6 November 1987, representatives of the various agencies will meet in Santo Domingo to report on the progress achieved during the past year in implementing the objectives of the IDWSSD, and inform on future activities. \Box

•Women, planning and development

Following the succesful course-workshop co-organized with ILPES in Santiago, Chile, in November 1986, a similar course will take place in Quito, Ecuador, from 16-27 November this year. The event, supported by UNDP, is co-organized by INSTRAW, ILPES and IECAIM, INSTRAW's focal point in Ecuador. Development planners and members of women's organizations will analyze the integration of women in development plans at the national level. \Box

TO AVOID SEX-BIAS

CHECKLIST OF FACTORS OTHER THAN QUESTIONNAIRE DESIGN WHICH INFLUENCE THE QUALITY OF THE DATA ON WOMEN

Survey organization factors

- A. The sex composition of the survey organization team
- B. The sponsorship of the survey (nationally and locally)
- C. The publicity for the survey
- D. Rewards for participation in the survey (tangible and intangible)
- E. Timing of the survey during the agricultural cycle

Interviewer effects

- A. Sex of interviewer
- B. Training of interviewer
- C. Previous experience of interviewer (on other surveys)
- D. Social background of interviewer

Respondent effects

A. Sex of respondent

Please see related article on page 12

- B. Use of proxy respondents
- C. Perception of the purpose of the survey
- D. Sex differences in language facility of respondents (knowledge of lingua franca, technical terms, and so on)

DATA NEEDS AND SOURCES

		Sources	
Data needed on:	Census	Household survey	Other
Women's legal rights	nil	maybe**	Land registers, divorce statistics, criminal statistics, and the like
Women's education	good	good	Educational institutions
Women's health	nil	fair .	Healt institutions, death registra- tion, special demographic surveys
Women in the media	nil*	no	Figures obtained from the media
Women in politics	nil*	grass-roots level	Figures obtained from political institutions
Women's economic activities	poor	good	Unemployment registration, special surveys, and the like
Women's incomes	nil	fair	Income tax data, wage data
Women in the family	some	superficial	Fertility surveys
 Unless the occupational data are do 	etailed enough to	nick them up	and state of the second second second

Unless the occupational data are detailed enough to pick them up.
 For example, by collecting data on land holdings, inheritance patterns.

In-house news

• In January, Senator Agustin J. Brasesco (Argentina) visited the Institute to learn about our activities.

• Also visiting in January was Mafalda Sibille, a member of Accion Ya, INSTRAW's focal point in Costa Rica.

• In February, The League of Dominican Women Voters held in our premises a seminar on *The Many Facets of Women's Leadership*.

• Sujit Singh, former Deputy Director of the Dag Hammarskjold Library in New York, visited INSTRAW to exchange ideas about our actual information system/database and a future computerized Index System Programme.

• From the ILO/Turin Centre came Guido Piva, to do preliminary work on a joint ILO/INSTRAW multi-media training package on *Women and New* and *Renewable Sources of Energy*.

• The use of new communications technologies applied to the WID field was discussed in February, when experts Frederick Rowley, Henrik Edelman and James Anderson, as well as film-maker Bettina Corke, visited the Institute.

• In March, the Advisory Committee for the Prevention of Blindness of the Panamerican Health Organization, met in our premises. INSTRAW's training modules on *Women, water and sanitation* were shown in connection with the prevention of water-borne blindness and other diseases.

• Also in March, Guido Maccari, from the UN Electronic Data Processing and Information Systems Division in New York, assisted INSTRAW in installing a data link via computer with UN Headquarters, and train the staff in its use.

● In May Mr. Hans van Damme, Director of the International Reference Centre for Community Water Supply and Sanitation (IRC) in The Hague, The Netherlands visited INSTRAW to discuss the possibilities of co-operation related to women, water and sanitation.□



Above: Signing the agreement between the Government of the Dominican Republic and the United Nations: from left, Mr. Alexander Borg-Olivier, Ms. Achie S. Lubulina, INSTRAW Board President; Ms. Pastizzi-Ferencic, Director of INSTRAW, and Mr. Donald Reid Cabral, Foreign Minister of the Dominican Republic. Bottom: INSTRAW'S premises.



Friend of Women in Development

The Foreign Minister of the Dominican Republic, Mr. Donald Reid Cabral, attended the opening of the Seventh Session of the Board of Trustees in February 1987. He showed deep interest and sympathy for women in development issues, and keenly discussed major topics of WID research. In a spontaneous, symbolic gesture of appreciation for INSTRAW's work to involve women as agents of development, Mr. Reid Cabral donated one month of his salary to the Institute. The money was used to train the staff in the advanced use of the newly-installed computer system. This, in turn, will increase the Institute's administrative capacities; with the aid of modern electronic technology, more can be accomplished on behalf of women in development.

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United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

INSTRAW



The main purpose of INSTRAW News is to report on the work of the Institute and, in doing this, to record research trends, disseminate training materials, and promote networking on women in development issues at a global level. The editorial policy of INSTRAW is to select events, news and items linked with its programmes and related activities. INSTRAW News is published in English, French and Spanish, with a circulation of 14,500, distributed free of charge to governmental and non-governmental organizations, research centres, women's groups and individuals in over 120 countries. Letters and comments of readers are most welcome. Long letters may be edited for reasons of space. Please address all inquiries and changes of addresses to: INSTRAW, P.O. Box 21747 Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic telephone/facsimile (809) 685-2111 telex (326) 4280 WRA SD. Support Office in New York: Room S-2294 United Nations; N.Y., N.Y. 10017 telephone (212) 754-5684. Articles may be reproduced elsewhere provided the source is quoted as INSTRAW News. INSTRAW, an autonomous body of the United Nations, conducts research, training and information activities to integrate women in development.

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