



## Newsletter

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Issue # 8 October 2010

## Gender & Migration Virtual Community Newsletter

**Dear Members of the G & M Virtual Community,**

I hope this newsletter finds you all very well and I hope you have had a very productive month, full of personal and professional achievements.

Our community of practice is constantly growing, thanks to all of you and your efforts to share your work around the world. The virtual community now has more than 1030 members in 106 countries, which is fabulous! Please continue participating as an active member of this community, by sharing a current project you (or your colleagues) are working on, news from the field, or information about interesting publications or events related to gender & migration. We want to hear from you!

Wishing you a great month ahead and thanking you for your on-going support!

Kind Regards from the Dominican Republic,

Gabriela Horbaty (current administrator of the Gender & Migration Virtual Community)  
[gmvirtualcommunity@un-instraw.org](mailto:gmvirtualcommunity@un-instraw.org)

## News

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### **High-Level IV Consultation Pre GFMD (Global Forum on Migration and Development)**

A High-Level Consultation Pre-GFMD (Global Forum on Migration and Development) was held on 7-8 September 2010 in Mexico D.F. The Consultation "Promoting and Protecting the Rights of Women Migrant Workers: Partnerships for Migration and Human Development: Shared Prosperity – Shared Responsibility" was attended by governmental, United Nations, international and civil society representatives from over 20 countries in 5 continents, who all reaffirmed the fundamental principles and commitments to gender equality, women's empowerment and women migrants' rights. Participants at the Consultation acknowledged that a large number of migrant women travel to other countries in search of better living conditions for themselves and of families. At the consultation it was recognized that macro-economic and trade policies help to shape the gender, migration and development nexus, and that development partnerships can promote decent employment and security conditions for the poor. Women from developing countries call upon participating States and civil society organizations who will convene at the fourth meeting of the Global Forum on Migration and Development to be held in Puerto Vallarta, to comply with a serious of demands and conditions that will make gender equality and migrant women's rights an integral part of all future GFMD deliberations. The High-Level Consultation was organized by UNIFEM (now part of UN Women) and by the Mexican Government. It is important to highlight that this Consultation was carried out at the request of the Mexican Government, which ensures that the theme will be discussed and analyzed deeply at the Global Forum on Migration and Development.

Declarations resulting from the Consultation can be found in the following link: <http://www.un-instraw.org/grvc/news/consulta-de-alto-nivel-previa-al-fmmd-foro-mundial-sobre-migracion-y-desarrollo>

### **UN-INSTRAW's participation at the IV Social Forum on Migration in Quito, Ecuador (8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> October)**

The World Social Forum on Migration (Foro Social Mundial de las Migraciones), took place in Quito, Ecuador from the 8<sup>th</sup> to the 10<sup>th</sup> October. The Forum had four thematic areas: global crisis and migration flows; human rights and migration; diversity, coexistence and socio cultural changes; new forms of slavery, human exploitation and servitude.

UN-INSTRAW's programme on Gender, Migration and Development organized two activities at the Forum: a) Round Table: "Migrant Women and Domestic Work in Globalization" and b) Workshop: "Migration, Domestic Work and gender violence".

For more information on the event, please visit: <http://www.fsmm2010.ec/principal.php>

### **AWID interviews Charito Basa of the Italy-based Filipino Women's Council**

The work of migrants working in Europe, the Middle East and North America contributes greatly to the economies of both the origin and destination countries. These workers often have to endure harsh working conditions in receiving countries in order to cater for their families' basic needs. Recently, in New York, an important piece of legislation was passed that will enhance the rights of domestic workers – many of whom are migrants. Generally, though, neither legislation nor policies adequately cater for migrant workers or address the gendered dimension of their exploitation.

For deepening and understanding more about this topic, AWID spoke with Charito Basa of the Italy-based Filipino Women's Council about the situation of female migrant workers – most of whom are domestic workers - in Italy. Please find the complete interview with Charito Basa in the following link: <http://www.un-instraw.org/grvc/news/awid-adressing-the-situation-of-migrant-women-workers>

### **Special Homage by Aid for Action: "Not a day goes by without us preparing food and going to the train tracks to hand it out to Migrants"**

The Women of La Patrona constitute a collective that supports Central American migrants when they cross through Mexico. On the international Day for Rural Women, Aid for Action wants to commemorate this group of women.

### **Human Journalism: The Business of Kidnappings in Central America**

"En el Camino", is a project without hurry. Deliberate journalism, where there haven't been any deadlines and that shows itself. The project describes migration from within, by a one-year monitoring of men and women who risk their lives by crossing Central America in order to reach the United States. A hell of 5000 km, full of assaults, kidnappings and rape and the hand of organized crime and corrupt authorities, that which at least 500,000 people experience in a year. Through a Book of photographs, other stories, and a documentary, this project provides a comprehensive view of everyone who is involved in this journey of shattered dreams, full of corruption and abuse, but also of solidarity, such as the one expressed by peasants that take in migrants into their homes or the collective of La Patrona, those famous women that throw food to migrants sitting on the trains, in order to help them cope with the long journey.

## Events / Call for papers & proposals:

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[7<sup>th</sup> of November: UN-INSTRAW Global Care Chains Workshop to be held in Albacete, Spain.](#)

[8<sup>th</sup> of November: Deadline for the Call of Application for Research on the social situation of Migrant TLGB \(Transsexual, Transgender, Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual\), in The Netherlands; from a gender and human rights perspective.](#)

[8<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> of November: Global Forum on Migration and Development, in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico](#)

[13<sup>th</sup> of November: Call for Papers-Disciplining Movements: Migration Management and its discontents; Organized by the Institute for Migration Research and Intercultural Studies \(IMIS\), and to be held at the University of Osnabrück in Germany.](#)

[15<sup>th</sup> of November: IOM Workshop-Mobilizing Diaspora Civil Society for International Development: A capacity building workshop for women leaders of Diaspora associations, to be held at Haifa, Israel.](#)

[16<sup>th</sup> of November: African Migration Workshop-The contribution of African Research to Migration Theory"; organized by the International Migration Institute and l'Institute fundamental d'Afrique Noire".](#)

[22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> of November: International Training Center of the ILO-Workshop on fostering the social and professional reintegration of return labor migrants; to be held in Turin, Italy.](#)

[24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> of November: 2010 Gender Symposium: Gender, Migration and Socioeconomic Development in Africa. Organized by the Gender Symposium Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa \(CODESRIA\), to be held at Dakar, Senegal.](#)

[25<sup>th</sup> of November: Call for Papers-"Safe Migration Channels". Organized by the Institute of the Southeast Asian Studies of Singapore.](#)

[7<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> of December: Latin American-UE Dialogue on Migration and Development Programs. Organized by the Spanish International Cooperation Agency \(AECID\) to be held in Antigua, Guatemala.](#)

## Featured Publications

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### **New Human Rights Watch publication**

A new publication by Human Rights Watch that describes how Kuwait women migrant workers become trapped in exploitative and or abusive employment, then face criminal penalties for leaving a job without the employer's permission. Government authorities arrest workers reporting as "absconding" and in most cases deport them from Kuwait-even if they have been abused and seek redress.

### **New WIDE publication: Women's Labor Migration in the context of Globalization**

The new publication from WIDE, entitled "Women's Labor Migration in the Context of Globalization" offers an introduction to important contemporary political analysis on the influence of globalization on women's work, mobility and empowerment. Authors of the report Anja K. Franck and Andrea Spehar highlight how globalization shapes women's labor migration.

### **New Publication of Abriendo Mundos: Mujeres Migrantes Andinas-Contexto, Políticas y Gestión Migratoria**

Andean Migratory flows to Spain haven't been indifferent to the growing feminization that has characterized the global migratory phenomenon of the last decades. Who are these women? What are their socio-demographic characteristics? What is motivating their migration? Are Migration Management policies of destination counties becoming aware of these particularities in the composition of their Migratory flows? Women's organizations and other actors that work with migrant populations do they take into account gender specifications in their proposals and actions? These and other questions constitute the storyline of the Report "Andean Migrant Women-Context, Policies and Migration Management".

## Request

- **Do you want to add your Institution to our [Links section](#)?**

(You need to **log in first**, then follow the green menu on the right side of your browser and click on **“Submit a Link”**).

- **Are you aware of a Gender and Migration conference? Add it to our [events section](#)!**

(You need to **log in first**, then follow the green menu on the right side of your browser and click on **“Submit a New Event”**)

- **Do you want to publish a paper/research report or want to share a ppt.? please, send it to us ([gmvirtualcommunity@un-instraw.org](mailto:gmvirtualcommunity@un-instraw.org)) or submit it to the [library](#), it’s easy!**

(You need to **log in first**, then follow the green menu on the right side of your browser and click on **“Submit to the Library”**. Your document will be announced on the main page of the community under “latest downloads”, so everyone can see it)

**For questions, suggestions and requests regarding the G & M Virtual Community, please contact Gabriela Horbaty ([gmvirtualcommunity@un-instraw.org](mailto:gmvirtualcommunity@un-instraw.org)).**

The [Gender and Migration Virtual Community](#) is a space for those who share an interest in gender and migration to debate and reflect on issues in the field, share information and learn from each other. To find out more please visit

[About the Community](#). To learn more about the members who make up the community please visit [who we are](#). If you're interested in joining us please visit the [Sign Me Up](#) page. [UN-INSTRAW](#) is the leading United Nations Institute devoted to research, training and knowledge management in partnership with governments, the United Nations System, civil society and academia to achieve gender equality and women's empowerment. Since 2004, UN-INSTRAW has been working on the issue of Gender, Migration, Remittances and Development. For more information about the Migration Programme please [click here](#).