

Overview of Activities
2004-2005

Gender, Women and Health
in Headquarters and Regional Offices



**World Health
Organization**

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Abbreviations

WHO Departments

VIP	Department of Violence and Injury Prevention
MPS	Making Pregnancy Safer
HAC	Health Action in Crises
RHR	Reproductive Health and Research
PRP	Planning, Resource Coordination, and Performance Monitoring
CDS	Communicable Diseases
TFI	Tobacco Free Initiative
SDL	Staff Development and Learning
WKC	WHO Kobe Center

UN Agencies

CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
INGWE	Interagency Network on Women and Gender Equality
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNCSW	United Nations Commission on the Status of Women
UNICRI	United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute
UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund

NGO's

AMSOPT	Association Malienne pour le Suivi et l'Orientations des Pratiques Traditionnelles
APU	African Parliamentary Union
IAC	Inter-African Committee on Traditional Practices
MWIA	Medical Women's International Association

Other institutions

AU	African Union
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
COE	Council of Europe
PRB	Population Reference Bureau

Other acronyms

AoW	Area of Work
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MoHs	Ministries of Health

Overview of Activities 2004-2005 Gender, Women and Health

1. Introduction

This report provides an overview of major activities implemented by the Department of Gender, Women and Health (GWH) in WHO Headquarters and the Gender Units and Focal points in WHO Regional Offices during the 2004-2005 biennium. It complements the formal WHO Programme Budget Performance assessment report which reports on broad achievements according to organization wide-expected results as defined in the Programme Budget 2004-5.

Area of Work (AoW): Women's health*

Goal

Improving the health of women of all ages and to contribute to the achievement of health equity.

Objective

To support Member States in the development of policies, strategies and interventions that effectively address high-priority and neglected health issues of women throughout the life span, and in the creation of a body of evidence on the impact of gender on health and of tools, norms and standards to improve gender responsiveness of health interventions and promote gender equity in health.

Strategic Approaches

Enhancement of knowledge of neglected subjects important to the health and well-being of women and of ways in which gender affects different aspects of women's and men's health; development, testing and dissemination of tools, guidelines, norms and standards with the aim of strengthening policy and health-sector response to selected issues; collaboration and consultation with other technical departments, regional and country offices and other partners to ensure consistency in work on gender and health and on the health of women.

Expected Results

- Standards, training modules, information tools and guidelines on specific women's health issues updated or produced and used to support regions and countries in the formulation and implementation of policies and programmes and in monitoring progress.
- Evidence-based reviews and collection of new data on the impact of gender on health and on specific women's health issues carried out by WHO, with information so generated disseminated and applied in advocacy and policy.
- Tools and guidelines developed and processes in place to facilitate incorporation of gender considerations in the technical work of WHO.
- New initiatives incorporating gender perspectives in technical programmes undertaken, with results and analyses documented and disseminated.

* Programme Budget 2004-2005

The main purpose of the report is to illustrate WHO's work related to gender equality, women's health and gender mainstreaming. It covers a range and variety and magnitude of GWH's "cross cutting" activities, both visible and the invisible – including support to other WHO departments. It seeks to inform WHO managers and staff at headquarters and ROs but will also be useful for other stakeholders interested in WHO's work on gender and women's health.

2. Background

During the 2004-2005 Biennium, the GWH department was housed in the Family and Community Health (FCH) cluster and financed under the AoW "Women's Health" of the WHO Programme Budget (see box in page 1).

During 2004 the focus evolved from women's health to a broader approach on gender and health. To reflect this evolution, the department's name was changed from the *Department of Gender and Women's Health* to the *Department of Gender, Women and Health*.

The AoW text in the Programme Budget 2006-7 was subsequently changed to Gender, Women and Health with a goal: "To contribute to the achievement of health equity by promoting equality between women and men, and girls and boys through access to and use of quality health services."

In 2004, the GWH department expanded in size, partly due to specified funding for work on gender and HIV/AIDS work and on sexual violence. Consultations, staff retreats and meetings and video conferences with regional gender focal points helped to refine the department's new vision, mission and priority activities.

Organizational changes during the biennium included the designation of a new director and introduction of a working structure with two teams: *Integrating Gender in Public Health* and *Gender, Violence and HIV/AIDS*.

3. Core GWH activities

This chapter provides an overview of core projects, research, and publications developed by GWH as part of the work plan for the 2004-2005 biennium.

■ Development of a Gender Strategy for WHO

Two consultancy reviews of WHO's attempts to integrate gender perspectives in the work of the organization were carried out in 2004 and 2005. They highlighted that the gender dimensions of health issues are not yet systematically reflected in the mainstream of WHO's work. Although many departments within the organization agree that gender is an important determinant of health, they were unsure both of the added value of integrating gender into their work and how to do it effectively. The reviews found that gender is still treated as a discipline and a vertical programme rather than an approach to be integrated across activities in the whole organization.

As a consequence, GWH started the preparations for a strategy for integrating gender analyses and actions into the work of WHO. It aims to raise the profile of gender issues in public health, and has involved consultation with senior managers. GWH also submitted a progress report, EB 116/13 "Incorporating a gender perspective into the mainstream of WHO's policies and programmes" to the Executive Board (EB),

in May 2005. Following the wide ranging interventions by 16 Member States, the EB requested the Secretariat to prepare an organization-wide strategy to be submitted to the EB in January 2007, to be forwarded to the WHA in May 2007.

The strategy development process began in July 2005 with a series of consultations with key WHO staff both in headquarters and in the Regional Offices. Work on the strategy will continue until October 2006 in preparation for its submission to the EB January 2007.

■ **Report on the WHO Multi-country Study on Women's Health and Domestic Violence against Women: Initial results on prevalence, health outcomes and women's responses**

The first report of the WHO Multi-country Study on Women's Health and Domestic Violence against Women was published in November 2005. The report presents results based on interviews with over 24,000 women in 10 countries: Bangladesh, Brazil, Ethiopia, Japan, Namibia, Peru, Samoa, Serbia and Montenegro, Thailand and the United Republic of Tanzania. The Study was implemented by GWH in collaboration with the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), PATH: A catalyst for global health, and women's organizations and research institutions in the participating countries. Findings document the prevalence of physical and sexual violence by an intimate partner and its association with women's physical, mental and sexual and reproductive health. Data also included prevalence of non-partner violence, sexual abuse in childhood and forced first sexual experience. It also addresses women's responses to such violence: Who do they talk to? Where do they seek support? Which services do they use? The report concludes with 15 recommendations to strengthen national commitment and action on violence against women, promote primary prevention, strengthen the response from the health, education and legal sectors and support research and collaboration across sectors and disciplines.

A series of launch events and activities were organized at WHO headquarters and at other locations during the week of 25 November coinciding with the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women. Highlights included:

Geneva:

- Official global launch of report in Geneva featuring a Press Briefing at the UN Palais hosted by WHO's Director-General, LEE Jong-wook.
- Roundtable discussion for WHO staff organized by GWH and VIP.
- Presentation for diplomatic missions hosted by the Netherlands mission to the UN.

London, co-sponsored by the LSHTM:

- Press briefing chaired by Mary Robinson at the Foreign Press Association.

Stockholm:

- Press briefing organized by the Swedish International Development Agency with the Minister of Development Cooperation.

Country events:

- Bangkok, Thailand, hosted by WHO headquarters country and RO for South-East Asia.
- Events in Brazil, Namibia, Peru and Serbia/Montenegro. Bangladesh and the United Republic of Tanzania planned for next year.

Media coverage of the launch and publication was extensive. According to WHO Media Office estimates, domestic violence and/or mention of the study received the second-most extensive coverage of all WHO issues for 2005.

■ **Development of a series of information bulletins on HIV/AIDS and violence against women: Critical Intersections**

Violence and the fear of violence are emerging important risk factors contributing to the vulnerability to HIV infection for women. The extent to which individuals who are HIV-infected, particularly women, are vulnerable to violence is also an issue of concern. A growing number of studies have documented the high prevalence of intimate partner violence and sexual violence against women worldwide. This violence can contribute to women's increased risk of HIV infection both directly through forced sex and indirectly by constraining women's ability to negotiate sex and condom use. It was with these issues in mind that GWH produced, in collaboration with the Global Coalition on Women and AIDS in UNAIDS, the Information Bulletin Series including three publications: Intimate Partner Violence, Violence Against Women in Conflict Settings and Violence Against Commercial Sex Workers.

■ **Capacity building; development of tools and courses**

Addressing gender norms and inequalities as social determinants of health requires changing the way an organization works and functions. The beginnings of such change begin with raised awareness and skills building about the ways in which gender norms shape decisions and life circumstances that directly and indirectly affect health and illness. Over the 2004-2005 biennium, GWH has been developing and implementing various capacity building activities and tools to enable such changes in practice to occur; all to be launched in 2006/2007 such as:

- A Gender Mainstreaming Manual Tool: a modular approach aimed at public health workers and other professionals in international, national or community based institutions.
- A Gender and Health Directory, using existing partnership networks and ROs, to facilitate access to gender and health experts across the world.
- See also under General Management below for collaborative work with PRP and SDL.

■ **Reviewing evidence of the role of men and boys in gender equality**

In 2005, GWH began developing a line of work on the role of men and boys in promoting gender equality in health. Specific work carried out included development of:

- a review of literature; and providing an inventory of the work currently being undertaken globally in working with men on health by different actors; and
- a review of the evidence of impact of different interventions with men.
- an information package on men, gender and health; and
- a review paper on fatherhood and health in the EURO region.

■ **Hosting of the partnership Sexual Violence Research Initiative (SVRI)**

The Sexual Violence Research Initiative (SVRI) was hosted by GWH throughout 2004-2005 with technical support provided by GWH and financial support by the Global Forum for Health Research. The objective of the SVRI is to promote and disseminate action-oriented research to reduce and respond to sexual violence through: identifying gaps; building capacity; supporting research; raising awareness; and building partnerships. A coordinating group of experts provides overall guidance for the SVRI. Highlights of activities included:

- Development of official SVRI website and list serve.
- Hosting panels at Global Forum for Health Research conferences. (2004 and 2005)
- Dissemination of request for proposals to support research proposal development on sexual violence.
- Call for bids for hosting SVRI for 2006-2007. (2005). The Medical Research Council in Pretoria, South Africa is now the new SVRI host.

■ **Engaging in advocacy and communication**

Increased attention was placed on improving internal and external advocacy and communications including the dissemination of information and materials.

- Presentation materials were updated and redesigned.
- The GWH website was updated and an electronic publications order form was created in order to improve the public's ability to access specific topics, receive updates on major events, request publications and provide feedback. It received over two million "hits", which corresponds to more than 300,000 visitors downloading files and information.
- A CD-Rom of all GWH publications was made available during key WHO events.
- Numerous collaborative activities, meeting and events were also organized including International Women's Day observations.

4. Collaborative Technical Work Implemented in 2004–2005

In addition to conducting the own specific activities, the department also serves as an in-house resource within WHO by supporting departments and regions in conducting a gender analysis of their technical work and designing gender-sensitive responses.

This chapter provides a listing of specific GWH activities implemented together with key WHO/AoW, departments and Regional Offices. The GWH "cross-cutting" function of this area of work is illustrated by the fact that GWH, in addition to implementing its workplan (visible work) is working with other WHO units, often on a ad hoc basis, on request (invisible work).

The description of the technical work is therefore divided into three categories:

1. **Reports and Publications**, work led by GWH.
2. **Collaborative Work** requested by other departments or clusters.
3. **Meetings Organized and/or Attended** by GWH staff.

External Relations and Governing Bodies

Reports and Publications

- Written submissions and institutional reports on gender mainstreaming to various UN committees and monitoring bodies, e.g. Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), the Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW), the Committee on the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). (2004-2005)
- WHO Annotated Bibliography, 1999-2005, as part of WHO's submission for the ten year review of the Beijing Conference at the UN Commission of the Status of Women. (2005)

Collaborative Work

- WHO participation and presentations at the UNCSW. (2004-2005) and the IANGWE.
- Renewal of relations with five international NGOs in official relations, including planning meetings during the WHA 2005 and revision of work plans for submission to the EB in 2006.
- Participated in the Strategic Planning meeting of the MWIA (NGO in official relations with GWH) to strengthen collaboration and concretize related plans.

General Management

Collaborative Work

- Input on Operational Planning Training Curricula and testing of Gender and Operational Planning Support Packages, with PRP. (2005)

- Development of gender analysis presentation/kit for the operational planning exercise, with PRP. (2005)
- Development of interactive CD-Rom for staff development in collaboration with SDL. (2005)
- Presentation and provision of material to WHO Staff Induction Course, with SDL. (2005)
- Support to the Health Leadership fellowships Service. Development of country gender profiles and teaching sessions. (2005)

Meetings Organized and/or Attended

- Organization of Seminar on Gender and Health for International Women's Day. (2005)
- Participation in the Task Force for the development of the Global Programme of Work (GPW). (2005)

Health Action in Crises

Reports and Publications

- Publication of updated Gender and Disasters information sheet for the Tsunami crisis. (2005)

Collaborative Work

- Publication of Gender Guidelines for Disaster Assessment. (2005)
- Joint funding proposal on Health Sector Response to Women's Health in Emergencies. (2004)
- Guidelines for Clinical Management of Rape in Emergency Situations with UNFPA, UNHCR and ICRC. (2005)

Communicable Diseases

Collaborative Work

- Review of paper on A Gender Approach to Surveillance. (2004)
- Development of guidelines for Taking Gender into Account in Outbreaks of Epidemic-prone Infectious Diseases. (2005)

Evidence and Information for Policy

Collaborative Work

- In depth comments on ELSI Genetic Testing and Screening report. (2004)
- Development of guidelines for Gender and Health Research. (2005)
- Input on the 2005 World Health Report. (2004 and 2005)
- Input on metadata sheets to be included in the Community Health Index (CHI). (2005)
- Contribution to Health Data with a Human Face: Counting women in national and international health statistics. (2005)
- Presentation on the topic Gender Dynamics of Nursing. (2005)
- Research and presentation on a technical paper on gender and home-based care. (2004-2005)

Meetings Organized and/or Attended

- Support to the Knowledge Network on Women and Gender Equality within the Commission on the Social Determinants of Health (CSDH), including scoping paper and participation at meetings in Cairo and New Dehli. (2005)

- Participation in Working Group Meeting on high-level policy meeting for World Health Report. (2004-2005)
- Organization of panel on Gender and Health Research at Ministerial Summit on Health Research in Mexico. (2004)

Family and Community Health

Collaborative Work

- Participation in FCH work health and human rights activities. (2004-2005)
- Revision and finalization of CEDAW manual for WHO staff. (2004-2005)
- Review and input on Clinical Management of Survivors of Rape. (2004)
- Review and input on Guidelines on Sexual and Reproductive Health of Women with HIV (draft). (2005)
- Updating WHO Ethical Recommendations for Interviewing Trafficked Women. (2005)

Meetings Organized and/or Attended

- Lectures during course on Research on Sexual Health organized by Geneva Foundation for Medical Education and Research, and the Fonds Universitaire Maurice Chalumeaur, and RHR (2004 and 2005)

HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria

Publications and Reports

- Publication of WHO/UNAIDS Policy Statement on Ensuring Equitable Access to Antiretroviral Treatment for Women. (2004)
- Publication of Information Bulletin 1: Violence against Women and HIV/AIDS. (2004)
- Publication of Information Bulletin 2: Intimate Partner Violence and HIV/AIDS. (2004)
- Development of Information Bulletin 3: Commercial Sex Workers and HIV/AIDS Prevention. (2005)
- Development of guidelines on Integrating Gender in HIV/AIDS Programming. (2004-2005)
- Publication of Gender and Health Research: Tuberculosis. (2004)

Collaborative Work

- Development of proposal for on-line gender and HIV/AIDS course for WHO staff. (2005)
- Co-convenor of working Group on Violence against Women and HIV/AIDS linked with the Global Coalition on Women and AIDS. (2004-2005)
- Collaboration and organization of activities for World AIDS Day. (2004)
- Technical support to the NGO International Community of Women living with HIV (ICW) and on a proposal to map HIV-positive women's groups in three African countries. (2005)
- Review of paper on Gender and Tuberculosis: Cross-site analysis and implications of a multi-country study in Bangladesh, Colombia, India and Malawi. (2004)
- Technical support to the Roll Back Malaria Partnership to build capacity in gender analysis in malaria with key members of the Global Network on Gender and Malaria, and the production of an information sheet on Gender and Malaria.

Meetings Organized and/or Attended

- Co-organized meeting on Post-exposure Prophylaxis in the Context of Sexual Assault (with HIV). (2005)
- Panel at Commission on Human Rights on Deadly intersections: Violence against

women and HIV/AIDS with Centre for Women's Global Leadership (CWGL) and Amnesty International. (2005)

- Presentation during UNAIDS Monitoring and Evaluation Reference Group (MERG) meeting on Challenges around measuring violence against women in session on issues around monitoring stigma. (2005)

Health Technology and Pharmaceuticals

Collaborative Work

- Review of draft journal article on Gender and Medicines. (2004)
- Development of information sheet on Gender and Medicines. (2005)

Noncommunicable Diseases (including VIP)

Publications and Reports

- Publication of Gender and Health Research: Mental Health. (2004)
- Publication of Gender and Health Research: Lung cancer. (2004)
- Publication of information sheet: Gender and Alcohol Use. (2005)
- Discussion paper on Gender Equality and Health Promotion for the Global Conference on Health Promotion, Bangkok (2005)

Collaborative Work

- Production of summary report on Women, Ageing and Health. (2005)
- Development of draft policy and programme recommendations for Gender-responsive Tobacco Control. (2005)
- Input on WHO information series on School Health: Providing a Gender Perspective to HIV/AIDS School Health Information. (2004)
- Collaboration on Women, Ageing and Health: A Gender Perspective. Including input on WHO/UNFPA Report on Women, Gender and Ageing.(2005)
- Collaboration with the UN Division for the Advancement of Women on the Secretary-General's Study on Violence against Women. (2004)
- Technical input on various publications related to violence against women produced by VIP. (2004-2005)
- Development of Guidelines for Medico-legal Care for Victims of Sexual Violence. Field testing in several countries with VIP. (2004)

Meetings Organized and/or Attended

- Participation in and contribution to planning of TFI/GWH consultation on Gender and Tobacco Control in Canada. (2005)
- Participation in session on Gender and Health Promotion for the Global Conference on Health Promotion in Thailand. (2005)
- Participation in expert panels, workshops and seminars on violence against women, with USAID and the World Bank. (2004-2005)
- GWH participation, along with presentations and training sessions on measurement issues around domestic violence in workshops on Gender Statistics and Capacity Building (workshop in Geneva 2004, organized by UNECE, workshop for Central-Asian Region in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan 2004, organized by World Bank Institute (WBI).
- Presentation in session with VIP to US congressional delegation on methodology and results of WHO Multi-country Study on Women's Health and Domestic Violence. (2005)

Sustainable Development and Healthy Environments

Publications and Reports

- Publication of information sheet Gender, Work and Health. (2004)
- Publication of occasional paper on Gender, Work and Health. (2005)
- Publication on report on Violence Against Women and the MDGs. (2005)

Collaborative Work

- Review of the WHO's Health and the Millennium Development Goals Report. (2005)
- Review and input on booklet Integrating Gender into Health and Human Rights. (2004)

5. GWH work with WHO Regional Offices

The budget for the AoW for the 2004-2005 Biennium was shared between headquarters and designated Gender Focal Points in each RO: AFRO, PAHO/AMRO, EURO, EMRO, SEARO and WPRO.

A significant proportion of GWH staff time was dedicated to reviewing documents, guidelines and other technical documentation produced by the ROs. Key collaborative work implemented by GWH with the ROs is detailed below. Highlights of specific work implemented at the regional level are provided in the next chapter.

Collaborative Work

- Organization of regional consultations to provide input into WHO Gender Strategy. (2005)
- Participation in and preparation of Gender and Health brief for Saudi Arabia Country Cooperation Strategy (CCS) – with EMRO. (2005)
- Development of draft gender and health country profiles for use by regional /country offices. (2005)
- Development of assessment tools for country work on integrating gender into national and sub-national planning processes in collaboration with EMRO and WKC. (2005)
- Comments provided on country-level EU proposal. (2005)

Meetings Organized and/or Attended

- Organization and hosting of Regional Advisors Meeting. (2004)
- Hosted visit and presentation from WHO gender focal point, WKC. (2005)
- Hosted visits and presentations from gender focal points from AMRO and EURO. (2005)
- GWH technical back-up to AFRO to the Annual Reproductive Health Task Force in order to integrate a gender perspective in the Road Map for maternal and newborn mortality and morbidity, with MPS. (2004 and 2005)

6. 2004-2005 Highlights – Regional Offices

The following reports are provided by the gender focal points in the WHO Regional Offices. The financing of most of the activities are under the Programme Budget AoW 2004-5 called "Women's health". For further information please refer to list of ROs in page 15.

WHO Regional Office for Africa (AFRO) Gender and Women's Health

Building Evidence Base

- Assessment of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) carried out in four countries.
- Support to HAC Study with national researchers from five countries on women's accessibility to health care services using and testing a draft assessment tool.
- Through Regional and Country Offices, GWH gave assistance to planning of study on domestic violence of women and children in Equatorial Guinea.

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

- Multidisciplinary collaborating groups on FGM established in 10 countries.
- Prevention and management of FGM integrated into nursing and midwifery curricula in six countries.
- Participation in WHO Multicentre Research on "Obstetric Sequelae of Female Genital Mutilation" involving six countries.
- Seven countries analyzed and the outcomes shared of 10 community-based best practice interventions aiming at FGM abandonment.

Developing Tools

- In collaboration with WKC, 40 gender-sensitive leading indicators to measure gender women's health were identified to be field-tested in the United Republic of Tanzania. (2005-2006)

Technical Assistance

- Five country workplans on integrating gender concerns into health policies and programmes.
- In Uganda, support to the Ministry of Health: A Plan of Action and National Health Sector Gender Team (HSGT), stakeholders' meeting, and first Gender and Health newsletter.
- A joint workplan WHO and six AU Regional Economic Communities, reinforcing partnerships and promoting synergy.
- 18 countries support to develop their national women's health profiles. From these countries a "Regional Women's Health Profile in Africa" will be compiled.
- Support to an UNICRI International Violence against Women study in Mozambique; implementation of questionnaire and training for interviewers.
- Advocacy for FGM elimination and other harmful traditional practices was consolidated between WHO/AFRO and UNICEF/WCARO; UNFPA/African Division and the IAC.
- In 2004, February 6 was declared International Day of Zero Tolerance of FGM.
- Advocacy for the EU and the APU.

Publications and Reports

- Production of documents: "Management of Sexual and Gender-based Violence"; "FGM Training Materials"; "Assessment and Planning tools for Women's Health"; "Regional Plan of Action to Accelerate the Elimination of FGM in Africa"; "Human Rights for Sexual and Reproductive Health"; and "Women's access to Health Services in Crisis Situations: A comprehensive assessment tool".
- Production of 18 Women's Health National Reports.
- Brochure on FGM elimination; article in African Health Monitor; Uganda Gender and Health newsletter; Zimbabwe Gender newsletter, AMSOPT /Mali gender and FGM reports.

Meetings Attended and/or Organized

- 12 meetings in collaboration with key partners and other WHO related programmes.

WHO Regional Office for the Americas (AMRO/PAHO) Gender, Ethnicity and Health Unit (GH)

Selected highlights

- Government Bodies approval of PAHO's Gender Equality Policy.(2005)
- GH took on added responsibility of mainstreaming ethnicity, and the unit name changed to Gender, Ethnicity and Health. (2004)

Building Evidence Base

- Regional and national indicators and profiles on gender, health and development.
- Research on male knowledge, attitudes and practices on reproductive health in 6 countries.
- Observatory of Gender Equity in Health Policy set up in Chile.
- Regional observatory of gender-based violence and health established.
- Research protocol on violence, pregnancy and maternal/child health.
- National policy briefs.

Developing Tools

- Conceptual framework to analyze sexual and reproductive health and health sector reform.
- Guidelines to evaluate gender equity in health policies.
- Indicator guidebook for the selection and use of gender sensitive indicators in health.
- Training modules for integrating a gender perspective into health statistics, tested in six countries.
- Model of legislation and policies for domestic sexual violence integrated into the violence care model in Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and El Salvador.
- Gender-based Violence Model of Care replicated in Chile and Mexico.
- First virtual course on domestic and sexual violence in Latin America and the Caribbean validated in 18 countries.
- Protocol for medico-legal care of sexual violence victims.

Technical Assistance

- Collaborative initiative with WHO to develop sexual violence protocol in Nicaragua.
- Technical exchanges conducted between El Salvador and Trinidad and Tobago; CDC and Belize; Guatemala and Costa Rica; Costa Rica and Nicaragua; in surveillance, advocacy, health reform, obstetric care and early detection of gender-based violence.
- Virtual Health Library launched in Nicaragua, Honduras and Guatemala.
- Coordination with UN Agencies and inter- American organizations, the regional campaign on gender-based violence.
- Users and producers of information (internal and external) of four countries sensitized for integrating gender approach in health analysis.
- Technical assistance to Health Policy and Systems Unit to incorporate gender criteria into official PAHO's tools to analyze and monitor health sector reforms.
- Collaboration with Risk Assessment and Management Unit to strengthen domestic violence surveillance in Bolivia and Central American countries.
- Collaborative initiative with HIV/AIDS Unit to develop the project on HIV/AIDS and sexual violence.

Publications and Reports

- Gender Equity and Health in the Americas.
- Second biennial statistical brochure, Gender, Health and Development in the Americas, Basic Indicators. (2005)
- For 20 million Women: Advances and Challenges in Achieving Gender Equity in Health during the period 1998-2004 in Central America.

- National gender and health statistical brochures in Peru, Costa Rica, and Belize.
- National profiles on gender and health in Chile and Costa Rica.
- Publication of two books on gender equity, sexual and reproductive health, and health policy
- Publication of two chapters in two books on the subject of gender as a determinant of health inequality.
- Publication of ten policy briefs and documents.
- Five fact sheets on relevant gender and health issues.
- Two websites (Gender, Ethnicity and Health, and Gender Equity in Health Sector Reform) and two list services (GenSalud, and Gender-based Violence in the Americas).

Meetings Attended and/or Organized

- Presentation at UN-IPPF meeting on Sex in the Hemisphere, in the framework of Sexual and Reproductive Health and MDGs.
- Two virtual forums organized with over 150 active participants in each from MoHs, women's groups, academia, NGOs and international organizations.
- Organization of regional meeting to develop and agree a proposal for observatory of national policies on gender-based violence and health.
- Organization of regional meeting on unpaid health care in households, in collaboration with UNIFEM and the ECLAC.
- Organization of two regional workshops on gender equity in health sector reform.
- Co-organization with UNFPA and the World Bank Institute of the regional training programme on Sexual and Reproductive Rights, Gender Equity and Health Sector Reform.
- Organization of regional workshop on men and reproductive health.
- Organization of regional workshop on protocol of sexual violence.
- Organization of 17 national workshops on gender equity priority issues: gender equity in health policies, gender equity in health sector reforms, gender-based violence, gender and health statistics.

WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean (EMRO) Women, Health and Development Unit (WHD)

Building Evidence Base

- Development of studies on gender and access and utilization of health care in Yemen and Pakistan.
- Creation of a Gender Unit in the Ministry of Public Health, Afghanistan.
Iran initiated a list-serve for gender and health.

Developing Tools

- Development of tool on gender differentials in access to and utilization of health care systems with WKC and GWH.
- Development and uploading of WHD-EMRO intranet site. (2004).
- Development and uploading of WHD-EMRO internet website. (2005)

Technical Assistance

- Assistance provided to countries for sustained efforts to eliminate FGM or discriminatory and harmful practices against women.
- Participation and voice of women increased at the ground level through the community.
- Based Initiatives programmes through a variety of projects in the area of women, health and development; vocational training to the community level, health and literacy training,

and emphasizing the role of mothers in poverty reduction, including their role in future health and productivity of youth.

Publications and Reports

- Global WHO Gender Policy (2002) adapted to EMRO.
- Seven GWH gender and health information sheets adapted for the EMRO Region.

Meetings Attended and/or Organized

- Regional consultation on gender in health issues in the sociocultural context of the EMRO Region in December 2004.
- Consultation to integrate regional perspectives into the Global Gender Strategy in September 2005.
- WHO-EMRO workshop on integrating gender into the Results Based Management Framework training with PRP and GWH from headquarters in December 2005.
- Presented at human rights meeting, poverty reduction meeting, community-based initiatives meeting, urban youth meeting, Iraq roundtable, African women meeting, FGM meeting, tobacco meeting.

WHO Regional Office for Europe (EURO) Gender Mainstreaming Programme (GEM)

Building Evidence Base

- Case studies on gender and HIV in Kyrgyzstan, Estonia and the Russian Federation.
- Case studies on integration of gender in health policies in seven countries.

Developing Tools

- Protocol to address violence during pregnancy in the Republic of Moldova.
- Draft tool kit on how to address gender in health policies.

Technical Assistance

- Technical assistance was provided to countries through EURO programmes: Gender and TB in Kyrgyzstan and Gender and Sexual and Reproductive health in Kazakhstan, Violence in pregnancy in the Republic of Moldova.
- Technical input into major EURO regional strategies and technical documents.
- Participation in regional initiatives such as the Gender and Health Group of the COE.
- Involvement of WHO Collaborating Centre on gender in country work: violence in Moldova, violence survey and technical input into development of case studies on health and policy, and fund raising proposal on gender indicators.
- Network of national focal points on gender and health was established.
- Review of documents and guidelines produced by GWH.
- Process of adapting the global violence survey to the EU.
- Development of project on gender, violence and HIV/AIDS with VIP.

Publications and Reports

- The evidence of health care reforms on gender equity – a review for the WHO Health Evidence Network (HEN).
- Integrating the gender perspective in Irish health policy: a case study supported to develop a tool kit, published by the Women's Health Council of Ireland.

Meetings Attended and/or Organized

- Participation in joint FCH focal point meeting in Cyprus.
- Presentation in a European Public Health Meeting in Zurich and a GTZ initiative in Eschborn, Germany.
- Assisted GWH to drafting a framework for action for Gender and Health and Regional Advisers meetings.
- Participation in several events in the region focused on networking on gender and women's health.

WHO Regional Office for South East Asia (SEARO) Gender and Women's Health Unit

Building Evidence Base

- All countries reported gender-disaggregated data, most integrated monitoring of women's health in their general monitoring.
- Evidence-based reviews and collection of new data on the impact of gender on health and on specific women's health issues carried out by WHO, study has been started in one country.

Developing Tools

- Four countries adapted WHO tools for gender-sensitive health systems strengthening.
- Three countries developed training packages on gender, health and health systems.
- Gender analysis tool adapted and introduced in one country.
- Three countries currently implementing gender training in medical education.
- Four countries implementing policy, plans and training package on gender-based violence.
- One country adapted and implemented specific gender and health systems strengthening tool to programme planners and service managers.
- GWH Regional web site developed to assist with wider dissemination of information and guidance on issues around gender and women's health.

Technical Assistance

- Regional-wide workshops organized to disseminate guidance and tools for gender and health. Nine of the 11 countries have either country work plans or have requested technical support for in-country activities or capacity building in gender and health, especially for addressing gender-based violence.
- Technical support for pilot interventions and policy development in Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal and Sri Lanka aimed at preventing violence against women and improving the physical and mental health of women experiencing violence.
- Technical support to Maldives in the planning of a study on women's health and domestic violence that replicated the WHO methodology.

Meetings Attended and/or Organized

- Two regional workshops held for sharing of information and participated in many others. At country level many workshops were arranged.
- Lecturer and facilitator in a regional workshop in Thailand on gender-based violence: communicating good practice interventions to policy makers, organized by the PRB. (2005).

WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific (WPRO) Women's Health

Building the Evidence Base:

- All country reports in the region and country information profiles have been disaggregated by gender. The malaria case report in Cambodia has been disaggregated by gender and has got information of pregnant women who have malaria.

Publications and Reports

- The publication "Special issues on women's health: Gender-based violence in the Western Pacific region: A hidden epidemic?" has been published. The publication provides the results of country studies on (a) Domestic violence against pregnant women and its impacts on women and children; (b) Suicidal behaviour of women of child-bearing age; and (c) Situational analysis of Medico-legal and Health Services for Victims of Sexual Violence.
- A training manual of gender and rights in reproductive and maternal health has been published.
- The results of Maternal Mortality Survey in Viet Nam were published and distributed.
- Publication and dissemination of the following modules of Integrating Poverty and Gender into Health Programmes: A Sourcebook for Health Professionals: Gender-based Violence, Mental Health and Curricular Integration.
- Several more modules are currently under production and will be rolled out over the next several months. The primary target audience for the Sourcebook is health professionals in Member States.

Meetings Attended and/or Organized

- A workshop on gender and rights in reproductive and maternal health was organized in 2005. 40 participants from 10 countries attended. GWH staff contributed to a national workshop on research and legislation on Violence against Women in Viet Nam. (2005).

7. GWH Staff List, December 2005

Shelly Abdool, Technical Officer
Avni Amin, Technical Officer
Marina Appiah, Secretary
Claudia Garcia-Moreno, Coordinator
Henrica Alexandrina F.M. Jansen, Epidemiologist
Chandrika John, Administrative Assistant
Sonali Elizabeth Johnson, Technical Officer
Adepeju Aderemi Olukoya, Coordinator
Melissa Rendler-Garcia, Technical Officer
Chen Reis, Programme Officer
Lesley Robinson, Secretary
Carla Salas-Rojas, Technical Officer
Ann Audry Sikanda, Secretary
Eva Wallstam, Director

8. Contact Information

Department of Gender, Women and Health (GWH)
WHO/Headquarters

Dr Claudia Garcia Moreno
garciamorenoc@who.int
Dr Adepeju Olukoya
olukoyap@who.int

genderandhealth@who.int
<http://www.who.int/gender/en/>

Gender and Women's Health Unit
WHO Regional Office for Africa
Dr Collette Dehlot
dehlotc@afro.who.int
http://www.afro.who.int/drh/gender_women/index.html

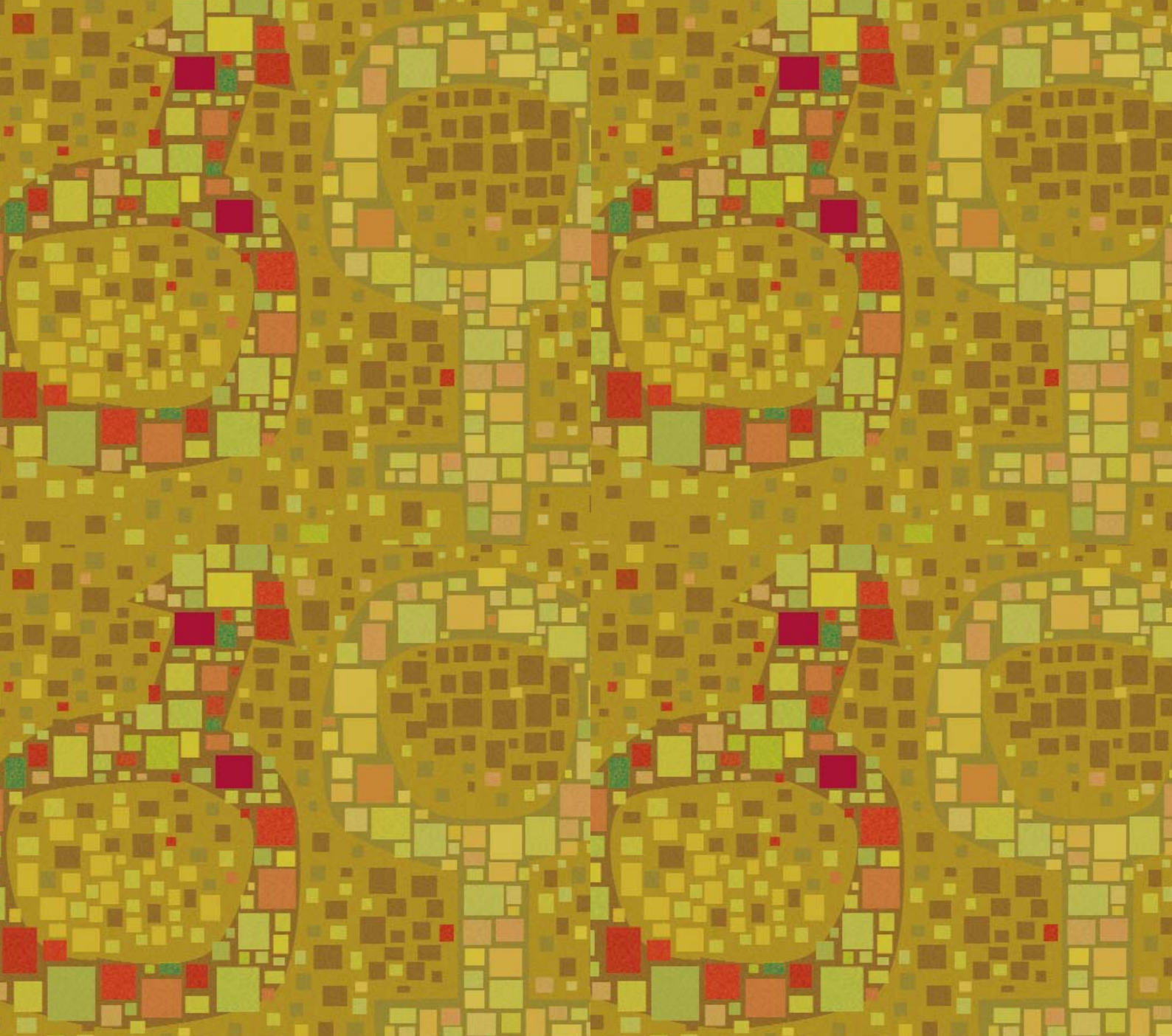
Gender, Ethnicity and Health Unit (GH)
WHO Regional Office for the Americas
Dr Mercedes Juarez
juarezme@paho.org
<http://www.paho.org/english/ad/ge/home.htm>

Gender Mainstreaming and Women's Health
WHO Regional Office for Europe
Ms Isabel Yordi Aguirre
iyo@who.dk
<http://www.euro.who.int/gender>

The Unit of Women, Health and Development
WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean
Ms Joanna Vogel
whd@emro.who.int
<http://www.emro.who.int/whd/>

The Unit of Gender and Women's Health
WHO Regional Office for South East Asia
Dr Neena Raina
rainan@searo.who.int
<http://w3.whosea.org/EN/Section13/Section390.htm>

Women's Health
WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific
Dr Pang Ruyan
rph@wpro.who.int
http://www.wpro.who.int/health_topics/womens_health/



Department of Gender, Women and Health
(GWH)

20, Avenue Appia

1211 Geneva 27

Switzerland

<http://www.who.int/gender/en/>
genderandhealth@who.int