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COMMISSION STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT

2013 Report on the Implementation of the the EU Plan of Action on

Gender Equality and Women Empowerment

in Development 2010--2015

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1. Introduction

This is the third report on the implementation of the EU Action Plan on Gender Equality and Women Empowerment in Development (GEWE) (2010-2015), henceforth referred to as the “GAP”.

Adopted by the Council in 2010, the GAP contains 9 objectives, 37 actions and 53 indicators which the European Commission services, EU Member States, the European External Action Services (EEAS) and EU Delegations are committed to implement and to report upon annually according to the deadlines agreed for each indicator.

The indicators mainly reflect the GAP’s key focus, namely to strengthen the capacities of Member States and the EU institutions in their role, as partners in development, of supporting developing countries' efforts to improve the situation of women, with regard to equality, rights and empowerment. Some of the indicators deal with the more development- and foreign policy-oriented objectives of the GAP. The nature of the indicators varies as some are quantitative, making it possible to use benchmarks and to measure numerical progress; whilst others are qualitative, making the assessment of progress more challenging.

The “ 2012 Report on the implementation of EU Plan of Action on Gender Equality and Women Empowerment in Development 2010-2015” (SWG (2012)410 final), published in November 2012, covered the actions taken to implement the GAP from mid-2011 until mid-2012. Several achievements were highlighted along with some important challenges.

This third report covers the period from July 2012 to June 2013 and deals in particular with the implementation of the indicators to be achieved in this period.

Overall, the general impression which emerges from this year’s reporting exercise is that whilst progress is on-going, it is extremely slow and may need to be accelerated.

With the exception of some isolated cases, reports are usually sufficiently detailed and provide examples which illustrate the multitude of initiatives taken. Again this year, due to space constraints, these best practices will be shared with the concerned people in a separate document.

Seventy-nine EU Delegations submitted their report for this period which is a decrease from the 93 Delegations reporting for the previous period. Of these 79 EU Delegations, 64 reported both in 2012 and in 2013; 21 reported in 2012 but did not report in 2013; and 12 started reporting this year for the first time. One explanation for the non-reporting by the 21 Delegations who reported in 2012 could be that the time needed to launch and/or implement initiatives is often longer than the reporting period, meaning that EU Delegations do not necessarily have news to report on every year, despite the fact that they continue to be active

in the field. Even Delegations with the most modest resources or in the most difficult situations are implementing this Action Plan: 12 EU Delegations reported this year for the first time.

With respect to timeliness in reporting it should be noted that despite the fact that the deadline was advanced, most of the EU Delegations sent their report on time, which compares favourably to the fifty per cent of Delegations submitting their reports on time last year.

The situation is not so positive for Member States' reporting: only 16 submitted their report and the majority of them submitted it late. A decision will be taken with regard to establishing a common procedure to be followed for the submission of the report, in order to avoid delays or missing contributions.

The following paragraphs summarize the main achievements and main challenges reflected in this report.

Achievements in the period 2012-2013:

- New lead donors have been appointed in countries where no EU coordination was reported in previous years; amongst them 10 represent an EU Member State.
- The number of sectors using sex-disaggregated indicators has considerably increased this year, from 5 to 18. This shows that awareness is increasing amongst the staff of Delegations as to the need to mainstream gender across all sectors and at all levels.
- Almost all the reporting Delegations maintain regular dialogue with civil society even though the relationship is rarely formalised.
- Gender Country Profiles have already been elaborated in 12 EU Delegations and are planned in 13 others. The Gender Country Profiles are baseline documents intended to help in the identification and development of programmes and projects by providing an accurate and precise picture of the state of play of gender equality in the country.
- Delegations create synergies among EU-funded initiatives and programmes to optimise the available resources and promote a coherent approach.
- Despite the general decrease in gender equality-focused bilateral aid, 7 countries listed in the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) chart have increased their support to GEWE and some of them (Germany, Italy and Belgium) significantly. In addition, GEWE-focused aid has slightly increased (+4%) for all countries inside the global bilateral aid envelope, meaning that the percentage of gender-focused aid heightened in a context of decreased global bilateral aid given by countries, resulting from better gender mainstreaming.
- The EU and several Member States remain highly committed to including GEWE in global negotiations, from the Busan High-Level Partnership on Aid Effectiveness to the Joint Action Plan on Gender, to Rio+20 and the post-2015 Agenda discussions. In the latter, the EU and Member States are pushing for the inclusion of gender equality at issue.

- EU and numerous EU Member States provide substantial support in terms of capacity building, training and mentoring through civilian Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) missions

Despite progress on many fronts many challenges remain to be tackled amongst them:

- The effectiveness of the gender working groups is still too dependent upon the good will of participants. In general, the groups' sustainability is not guaranteed as they are not well-institutionalized.
- Gender equality is becoming a more routine and well-established issue for political dialogue in many countries but there are still some countries where the topic is never raised with local authorities. It is not clear whether this is due to the perceived extreme sensitivity of the issue or for lack of knowledge/interest.
- The use and coherence of the gender screening checklists should be more rigorously checked in the Quality Support Group (QSG) mechanism. The assessment of programmes and project fiches in relation to gender equality issues should also be more rigorous.
- It appears that the Result Oriented Monitoring reports often miss the opportunity to really assess the gender-sensitivity of the projects. There is an “admitted” neglect of gender issues due to a lack of training and awareness amongst the monitors.
- Despite still being very far from the target, the EU's effort toward the achievement of 75% of projects scoring at least G-1 according to the OECD G-marker is evident. According to the 2013 OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) statistics, in 2011, 20% of the new proposals (general budget support excluded) scored G-1 or G-2. Although this figure represents an improvement compared to the 14% registered last year, this score remains very low according to the initial objective which indicates a need for stronger and more sustained support to Delegations.

2. Report on the 2012-2013 indicators

2.1. EU Delegations

Indicator 1.3.1 - An EU donor is appointed as gender lead donor in each partner country for the period 2010-2015 and 3 Member States are associated in joint work on gender (2010 – 15)

The number of lead donors is steadily increasing, but the effectiveness of the working groups is still too dependent on the good will of participants rather than the groups being fully institutionalized.

Seventeen new lead donors have been appointed in countries where no coordination was reported in previous years, increasing the number to 53. Among the 17 new lead donors, 10 are EU Member States. The effectiveness of these working groups varies, sometimes because of the high turn-over of the persons in charge, but when they are working, they prove to be useful. This is the case in **South Africa**, for instance, where EU lead donors prepared the meetings of the Gender-Based Violence Donors Group co-chaired by UNICEF and the National Department for Women, Children and People with Disabilities. Gender is also addressed in other donor coordinating mechanisms including those on health. In Palestine, it was agreed to review the EU local strategy on GEWE with the objective of addressing two specific issues: women's economic empowerment and gender-based violence. A new revised Gender Sector Fiche (2013-2014) was endorsed by EU Member States in July 2013. Italy, as EU lead donor, will also chair the broader Gender Coordination Group (GCG), just created by informal consultations. The group will be formalized and will meet every two months.

Where donors are few (often in island nations or middle-income countries where development partners are phasing out), a coordination mechanism is considered superfluous. In other countries, the group remains informal but can still achieve results. That is the case in **Bosnia and Herzegovina** where the EU Delegation and the Member States drafted and adopted a joint report on the implementation of the Local Strategy on Violence against Women covering the period 2010-2012. In **Tunisia**, the EU gender group already foreseen in 2012 is still pending.

Indicator 3.2.1 - By 2013, 50% of agendas for local political dialogue with partner countries shall include gender equality as a topic (2010- 13)

Gender equality is becoming a more established issue for political dialogue in many countries. Sensitization is needed where this is not yet the case.

Thirty-six (36) out of the 79 reporting Delegations place gender equality regularly on the agenda for political dialogue. For some of them, it is systematic as in **Afghanistan (together with Denmark, Italy, Lithuania, Netherlands and Sweden), Colombia, Eritrea, Morocco, Palestine (together with Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Italy, Netherlands, Sweden-annually - and UK) and Senegal**. In **Eritrea**, "women's rights are retained as a priority of the EU's country human rights strategy: political dialogue and co-operation are indicated as the two tools to promote this priority. This implies a commitment to include women's rights and

gender issues in the regular formal and informal political dialogue with the authorities”. Sometimes the issue is addressed in human rights dialogues or through policy dialogues. As stated by the EU Delegation in **Somalia**, the democratisation processes are providing entry points for strong EU advocacy for women’s participation at all levels of the decision-making processes. Although it is a legal obligation of the Cotonou Agreement, there are some countries (10) where political dialogues are not taking place. Spain has recently launched the Master Plan for Spanish Cooperation for the period 2013-2016 that considers gender mainstreaming as a priority, highlighting specifically the strengthening of the partner countries with gender policies.

Political dialogue on Human Rights in South Africa

The first EU-South Africa structured dialogue on human rights took place on 27 May 2013, co-chaired by Jerry Matjila, Director-General of the Department of International Relations and Cooperation, and Stavros Lambrinidis, EU Special Representative for Human Rights (EUSR). Gender issues figured prominently on the agenda ,in particular Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and the recently established Council on GBV; Sexual Offences Courts; the draft Traditional Courts Bill; the draft Gender Equality and Women Empowerment Bill; gender budgeting; gender identity (Lesbian, Gay, Transgender, Bisexual and Intersex people); and violence based on sexual orientation. The EUSR expressed the EU’s keen interest in working with South Africa in fighting GBV, through further dialogue and exchange of expertise. An EU initiative on GBV was launched on 12 February to prepare the meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women in New York. Finland, France (annually), Spain and Sweden already have a political dialogue with the Republic of South Africa on gender equality.

Indicator 3.2.2 - Starting 2011, EU Head of Missions (HoMs) shall prepare an annual report on development of political dialogue with corresponding partner country authorities on gender issues (2011 – 2015)

Reporting on gender in political dialogues is done through different reporting formats, most commonly the Human Rights Country Strategies which should be formally endorsed as the appropriate reporting modality.

Six Delegations include gender in their reports on political dialogue (**Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Mauritius, Peru, Senegal, Uruguay**), whilst 30 out the 79 reporting Delegations consider the Human Rights Country Strategy as the official report on gender equality and women’s rights. As this indicator was defined before the creation of the Human Rights Country Strategies obligation, a formal decision is required to the effect that these strategies are the correct medium for reporting on gender equality and women’s rights.

Indicator 3.4.1 - By 2013 at least 80% of all annual reviews include a gender analysis

Only 31 Delegations included a gender analysis in their annual reviews, a figure which is far below the target of 80%. The reviews are included either in the Joint Annual Report, in the

European Neighbourhood Policy Progress Reports, in the Human Rights report, in Mid-Term reviews, evaluations of cooperation, sectorial reviews etc. Seventeen Delegations amongst those reporting do not produce any gender analysis in any annual review. Amongst these 8 reports have not held any annual review. However, **Angola, Armenia, Fiji, Nicaragua and South Africa** committed themselves to including gender analysis in the next annual reviews.

In **Cambodia**, 90% of annual reports of programmes and projects implemented by Germany include assessment of gender aspects. Following Swedish policy that all projects/programmes supported by Sweden must include a gender equality assessment and actions to promote gender equality, annual reviews normally include a follow-up on gender equality indicators. Gender is mainstreamed in UK Department for International Development's (DFID) programmes and in all reviews and evaluations of those programmes. It is also mainstreamed in the UK Embassy's support to civil society.

Ghana: an effective working group.

Annual reviews with the Government of Ghana are conducted in the context of the Multi-Donor Budget Support Mechanism within the context of various sector working groups. The Gender Sector Working Group sets a target for the year and the annual review includes an analysis of the gender target. The target for this year is "A new National Gender Equality Policy drafted and validated". The target has been met because the draft National Gender Policy is in place and two regional validation workshops have been held. The final validation workshop has been put on hold due to the need to capture the gender issues relevant to social protection and social welfare which are now part of the new ministry's mandate.

Indicator 3.4.3 - Next generation of Country Strategy Papers (CSPs) and National Indicative Programme (NIPs) have a gender country profile and gender is mainstreamed. At least 50% identify gender equality-related specific actions. (2013 – 2015)

Delegations find easy and appropriate solutions to cope with the lack of a clear gender-related picture of the country where they are supposed to mainstream it.

The Gender Country Profiles are baseline documents intended to help in the definition and design of projects, as in Senegal where the elaboration of a Gender Country Profile led to the definition of specific indicators, shared by the EU Member States, which have made it possible to identify and agree upon precise actions in favour of gender equality and women's empowerment.

Gender Country Profiles have already been elaborated in 12 EU Delegations and are planned in 13 others. In some cases, these have been conducted by external consultants, or they have been based on the gender analysis made by either other donors or by the national government itself. This is the case in Rwanda where the Delegation based its gender analysis on the gender country profile developed by Rwanda's National Institute of Statistics. In Papua New Guinea, it will be based on the Gender Country Assessment Report produced by the World Bank in collaboration with the government, civil society and other development partners. In Mauritius, a "gender barometer" has been prepared by an NGO. In Ethiopia, the gender

profile has been prepared by UNWOMEN and financed under the EU/UN programme “Increasing accountability in Financing for Gender Equality” (see box below).

Nineteen (19) Delegations report on mainstreaming of gender issues and 18 more plan to do so. In Lebanon, all surveys foreseen under the 2013 Annual Action Plan will provide sex-disaggregated data in relation to household composition, employment, migration, health and so forth. The information gathered will help in defining future gender-oriented actions in the country. The EU Delegation in Jamaica recognises that gender issues are being mainstreamed more frequently during project preparation, despite difficulties in those fields usually not engendered such as infrastructure. Indeed, despite Delegations’ commitment to gender mainstreaming, its actualization in concrete terms is not always well understood. To support gender mainstreaming in sectors managed by non-gender-aware colleagues, in the Delegation in Ethiopia the governance and civil society section (which deals also with women’s rights and gender equality) is involved systematically in the identification/formulation phase of all the programmes to help define gender -sensitive indicators and targets, as well as to allocate resources for gender equality actions (if needed), throughout the project life cycle, up to the final evaluation of the achievement of gender equality objectives.

Indicator 4.1.3 - By 2015 all financing proposals for sector support programmes include gender-sensitive indicators

Gender equality is increasingly mainstreamed in fields not usually engendered such as infrastructure. This is the result of the effort paid to sensitize colleagues to issues in these fields, through such initiatives as the Headquarters- supported programme implemented by UN Women-International Training Centre International Labour Organisation (ITC ILO), “Financing for Gender Equality”. New mechanisms have to be identified to make sure that the effort continues when such support is no longer available.

Forty (40) EU Delegations reported on this indicator which is foreseen to be achieved in 2015. They declared that they have already included gender -sensitive indicators in: most or all the financial proposals (7), education (10), health (6), water (5), general budget support (5), agriculture (4), justice (4), employment (3), regional development (3), environment (2), rural development (3), governance (2), infrastructure (1), forestry (1), human development (1), security and tourism (1), natural resources (1), youth entrepreneurship (1), public financial reform (1), social protection (1), border management and drug control (1).

As usual, education and health are the most engendered sectors. But there is a considerable improvement compared to 2012 when only 5 sectors were provided with gender-sensitive indicators while in 2013, they are 18. This shows increased awareness in traditionally neglected fields such as infrastructure (**Ethiopia**), natural resource management (**Chad**), public financial reform (**Vietnam**), environment (**Malawi** and **Senegal**). In **Senegal**, for instance, specific support for gender budgeting (i.e. gender-aware allocation of the resources) has been provided to the sector budget support programme for the environment through the project “Financing for Gender Equality” implemented by UN Women and ITC-ILO (see box below). Gender -sensitive indicators have been integrated – whenever relevant – also in two new sector budget support programmes, notably for water and sanitation in rural areas and in urban development.

In other countries, such as **Yemen**, the Delegation declared its inability to including gender-sensitive indicators, because of the lack of sex-disaggregated data (apart from interventions on reproductive health), due to the weakness of the National Statistical Office.

“Financing for Gender Equality” in Honduras

Under the EU-funded UN Women/ITC-ILO programme "Increasing Accountability in Financing for Gender Equality" (FfGE), resource allocation strategies have been identified to ensure the necessary resources for the promotion of gender equality in national budgets as well as the identification and costing of gender priorities in sector budgets. In Honduras, EU's support to this initiative has complemented the efforts carried out through its General Budget Support Programme to the National Development Plan implemented by the Ministry of Planning (SEPLAN), particularly in relation to: i) progress in implementing the Results Based Monitoring System of the National Development Plan and National Planning System; ii) developing a proposal to include a social investment gender indicator in the National Plan; iii) the assessment towards considering the creation of a Gender Unit in SEPLAN.

The following results have been achieved: i) a joint partnership with the Labour Ministry to align the Sectorial Plan with the Second National Gender Equality Plan, specifically to promote women's access to employment; ii) a joint partnership with the Social Development Ministry to support a capacity- building training cycle on strategic planning with a gender approach and Gender Responsive Budgeting; iii) capacity strengthening of the Finance Ministry's Gender Unit and the National Women's Institute to institutionalize the Social Investment Index on Gender.

Chad: a gender-sensitive water and sanitation programme

Following the gender analysis launched in February 2012 in the frame of the 10th EDF water and sanitation project, the gender perspective is being integrated in every step of the project's implementation, i.e. women are recruited among the project staff; women are equally involved in the decision - making process about location of the drinkable water sources, about the price of water supply etc. A “gender team” has been created in the Ministry in charge of water and sanitation; gender training is being provided to several stakeholders involved in the programme implementation (for instance to the Cellules de Conseil et d'Appui à la Gestion (CCAG) and finally meetings with men and children are organised to open discussion about water and sanitation priorities.

Indicator 4.3.1 - By 2013 all development projects are screened for their gender-sensitivity (Quality Assurance Mechanisms)

Thematic quality support is important. Improvement is needed on the understanding and use of available tools and mechanisms for gender mainstreaming, especially training.

Forty-eight (48) Delegations report using the Gender Screening Checklist for assessing the gender -sensitivity of their projects. As this tool is compulsory, all Delegations are supposed to use it and not simply to mention it in the reporting. However, as stated by the Delegation in **Bangladesh**, the rigor of this tool must be improved, not only by its stricter application, but also by including specific indicators. The Headquarters Quality Support Group mechanism should also adopt a more rigorous approach when assessing project/programme fiches in relation to gender equality issues. Adequate "sensitization" on this approach is also needed. Gender equality must be thoroughly integrated and analysed at the phase of identification and formulation. Terms of Reference should reflect this accordingly in order to move the use of the Checklist beyond a 'ticking the box' exercise. The **Somalia** Delegation confirms this saying that despite the fact that all programmes and projects complete the Gender Equality Screening Checklist at the design stage, the subsequent implementation lacks proper attention to gender equality and women's empowerment. It was for this reason that the Delegation in Somalia launched a gender audit in May 2013 which is intended to inform the updating of the Country Gender Profile. The Delegation in **Moldova** remarks that the serious lack of human resources in Delegations is making it very difficult to screen all development projects for their gender-sensitivity, as well as to offer gender mainstreaming training for project managers.

Delegations refer to the importance of "engendering" Calls for Proposal guidelines noting that if gender is included from the outset, projects are more likely to take it on board. The assessment of the gender-sensitivity of the proposed projects is done in 14 out of the reporting Delegations, while 8 Delegations also refer to the identification of sex-disaggregated indicators and 11 report evaluating the projects for their gender-sensitivity. In **China**, gender-disaggregated data and information are systematically requested for regular reporting of bilateral projects. Three delegations have organized trainings or workshops on the issue which has led to a better consideration of gender, as in **Nicaragua** or **Peru**, where three workshops have been organized. In **Palestine**, following the staff training on gender mainstreaming organised by Delegation in October 2011, gender equality concerns are taken more into account in the actions, both under bilateral cooperation and under the thematic programmes targeting civil society organisations, notably under the local calls for Non- State Actors programmes and EIDHR. During the reporting period, measures have been taken to engender the Delegation's support to the Rule of Law sector, which is one of the EU focal sectors in Palestine.

In **Bangladesh**, the Danish Embassy has a screening mechanism to ensure gender- sensitivity in any new project and programme to be supported. In Danish cooperation, it is mandatory to submit a Gender Equality Rolling Plan (GERP) along with the new sector and thematic programme to identify and provide a reference guide to gender equality issues and specify how gender equality has been addressed in a specific programme.

The quality assurance system for the Swedish Development Cooperation contributions makes mandatory, before the approval of any contribution, the assessment of each proposed intervention for its gender equality aspects. The quality of the gender analysis made by the respective officer in the Appraisal of Intervention is discussed in the Quality Assurance Committee and recommendations are provided before a decision on financing is taken. Each contribution is also assessed – during the implementation of the intervention – on the basis of its relevance to the gender equality objective (markers).

Under Austrian Cooperation all projects and programmes are screened and subject to a gender appraisal which is provided by the gender desk at Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC) Headquarters. In addition, project progress reports are reviewed and commented upon with

regard to adequacy of gender mainstreaming, whilst project evaluations should include gender - related data.

Integrating gender in a forestry programme in Morocco

Women's empowerment is one of the indirect results expected from an EU-funded programme on forestry in Morocco. The issue of gender equality is taken into account in activities such as i) the realisation of studies and evaluations related to areas where women play an important role (e.g. collection of firewood and energy production); ii) the update and review of the forestry policy, also covering firewood/energy aspects, and ensuring the involvement of the civil society; iii) pilot actions aiming at reducing the use of firewood, which should have an important impact on women's workload; iv) grants to Non-State Actors for forest and protected areas management, including socio-economic inclusion opportunities for women; v) the reinforcement of consultative mechanisms at central, regional and local level so as to improve the governance of the forestry sector, which shall also ensure women's involvement.

Indicator 4.3.2 - By 2013 until 2015 the Result Monitoring Reports provide information on the gender sensitiveness of implementation and make recommendations to improve gender performance. (2013-2015)

Results Oriented Monitoring (ROM) is compulsory for all programmes and projects receiving an EU contribution above EUR 1 million, but only 26 Delegations received ROM reports which included information on the gender- sensitivity of the projects analysed, despite the fact that the ROM report template includes gender equality among the fields to be monitored. It seems that only those Delegations which briefed ROM experts on gender issues before their field mission received a report including gender analysis. Nevertheless, among them, only 3 Delegations report having received recommendations for improving gender - sensitivity in the programme's implementation. Even when ROM reports provide information on gender equality, as for **Conakry** where 100% of the projects were monitored in 2013, the information is rarely useful as it does not necessarily include concrete recommendations for improving the gender mainstreaming. Finally, confusion about the meaning of gender mainstreaming emerges again when 7 Delegations declare that ROM reports shall include gender criteria only when the analysed project focuses on gender issues, while others complain about the lack of training on gender for the monitoring experts, evidently not aware of the available EU online course¹. In **Kirghizstan**, the experts considered that the time at their disposal to conduct the mission and to provide the report was not sufficient to conduct a gender-specific analysis.

A study has been launched for ROM in the Eastern Partnership countries and Russia to analyse how and how much gender equality has been considered by ROM experts. Results will be available by the end of 2013.

¹ www.romgendercourse.eu

Example of a gender -sensitive ROM report in South Sudan

The ROM report for the “**Community Security and Arms Control programme (CSAC)**,” implemented by the EU Delegation in Juba, stated that the programme design has given appropriate emphasis to gender issues, which remain a significant and enduring challenge in South Sudan, particularly through the inclusion of women in key aspects of the project implementation, sensitisation campaigns and local leadership initiatives.

ROM experts found out that practical and strategic gender interests have been comprehensively aligned within the strategy and implementation of CSAC, for instance:

a) The initial community consultations included male, female and young stakeholders and were disaggregated to include and prioritise the needs of each of these groups. This was an exemplary gender-differentiated beneficiary analysis which should be widely distributed and serve as an example of best practice to be replicated in future initiatives and other country contexts.

b) This gender-sensitive approach is likely to lead to significantly enhanced project impact. Because of the identification of women's security priorities through the community consultation process, the project has enhanced broader awareness of the specific needs identified amongst a wide range of stakeholders. In addressing these issues, it is highly likely to enhance women's security environment in the target regions, thus enhancing project impact.

c) In addition, this inclusive methodological approach has set an excellent example for government partners and will, hopefully, enhance the gender-sensitivity of subsequent projects and strategies in which these stakeholders are engaged. Furthermore, through its conflict-sensitive development initiatives, the project has legitimised women's contributions to participatory development and empowered them to engage with broader political and economic narratives of development.

Indicator 4.4.1 - By 2013 at least 75% of all new proposals score G-2 (gender as a principle objective), or G-1 (gender as a significant objective). (2010-2013)

Despite being still very far from the target, the EUD effort towards the 75% is evident. According to the 2013 OECD DAC statistics, in 2011 20% of the new proposals (general budget support excluded) scored G-1 or G-2. If this figure represents an improvement compared to the 14% registered the previous year, this score remains very low according to the initial objective. The figures given by the Delegations below represent their self-reporting which is submitted to quality control by the Commission. This applies the markers' definition quite strictly: the fact that women are beneficiaries does not in and of itself guarantee that gender has been mainstreamed. To score G-1 or G-2, the programmes must contain specific measures to promote gender equality or be definitely aiming at gender equality.

Nine (9) of the 45 Delegations reporting on this indicator declare achievement of the 75% of new proposals scoring G-1 or G-2, while 25 others report that projects scoring G1 or G2 comprise between 10% and 65% of the new proposals. It emerges quite clearly that the areas where the highest number of projects score at least G-1 are financed through thematic budget lines, especially the European Initiative for Democracy and Human Rights and the Non -State Actors/Local Authorities programmes. If this trend is to be encouraged, Delegations have to keep in mind that projects in all areas must take gender into consideration. In addition, several Delegations still feel the need to be trained on the use of

the G-Marker.

A higher number of Delegations made the effort of calculating the percentage of projects concerned. **Afghanistan:** 45%; **Albania:**33%; **Azerbaijan:** 10% G-1; **Bangladesh:** 56% G-1 and 6% G-2; **Brazil:** 57% of all budget lines, 71 % for Non -State Actors and Local Authorities and 0 for bilateral; **Burkina Faso:** ~13%; **Democratic Republic of Congo:** 27% G1 or G2; **El Salvador:** 75%; **Guatemala:** 44%; **Guinea Bissau:** 50%; **Guinea Conakry:** 40%; **Lebanon:**100% G-1 and 1 G-2; **Liberia:**75%; **Morocco:** 75%; **Mozambique:** 50% G-2 and 75% G-1; **Nepal:** 33% at least G-1; **Papua New Guinea:** 67% at least G-1; **Peru:** 100% at least G-1; **South Africa:** 68.75% at least G-1; South Sudan: an average of 90% score at least G-1 in Education, Health and Democratisation; **Uruguay:** 50% G-1 and 25% G-2; **Zambia:** 60% at least G-1.

Indicator 5.1.1 - By 2013 Gender is regularly on the agenda in the EU annual dialogues (gender policy forum) with civil society in each country

Civil society involvement is paramount in order to change the power relationships between women and men which lie at the origin of gender inequality. Delegations lead the dialogue and propose new mechanisms.

Seventy-three (73) out of 79 reporting Delegations maintain regular dialogue with the civil society even if – as they state - it is rarely formalised. In most of the cases, this dialogue happens through the consultation of civil society organisations to get their input for the programming or for the future Calls for Proposals. Some Delegations like **Guatemala** organise an “Annual Human Rights Defenders Forum that includes special sessions for women human rights defenders and promotes the participation of both men and women in the event. In November 2012, one of the main topics discussed was the access to justice for victims of sexual violence during armed conflict. A series of general and specific trainings on gender concepts, integration of gender into the project cycle and the logical framework have been provided to 24 civil society organisations. In **Honduras**, a human rights expert has been hired which has increased the regularity of the meetings with NGOs working on gender. In **Madagascar**, the EU Delegation holds monthly meetings with NGOs funded through the thematic lines European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) or Non-States Actors/Local Authorities (NSA/LA). These meetings allow the exchange of information and a monthly discussion about a specific topic.

In **Pakistan**, for the programming of 2014-2020 development cooperation, the Delegation held a dedicated consultation with civil society to gather views on which sectors to address and through what means. Thirty-seven (37) representatives of whom 10 were women attended from throughout Pakistan. Interestingly, it was the consultation with the private sector which yielded the deepest discussion of the need for gender equality and empowerment of women, suggesting that NSAs should not be disproportionately credited with contributing to change in this area.

In **Benin**, Belgium has elaborated a guide on how to integrate gender in food security projects for the Belgian Non-State Actors working in Benin. France organised two events for the International Women’s Day: a public debate and several local fora. The conference, supported by the EU Delegation, several Member States and the Swiss cooperation, focused on the role of women as actors in social change. It aimed at discussing the legal framework for women’s protection against domestic violence. At the local level, four ‘citizens fora’ were organised – together with the Benin Women Lawyers Association - to raise public awareness about the new law to prevent and stop violence against women; to gather local opinion leaders, representatives and citizens to discuss domestic violence, and finally to present information

on the legal avenues by which victims could seek redress against gender-based violence. Almost one thousand people were involved in these fora.

Indicator 5.2.1 - By 2013, an annual report on gender equality dialogue is included in joint annual reports on development cooperation. (2010-2013)

Harmonisation is needed as well as a better comprehension of the available tools.

There needs to be more clarity as to whether a Joint Annual Report is a requirement or not. Whilst the majority of Delegations report not having to send a joint annual report anymore, many others request instructions and a template to fill. The Delegation in **Bangladesh** suggests adapting the External Assistance Management Report (EAMR) online tool (either the mid-year or the end-year report). A few proposals that could be explored are: a) Inserting a specific section in the EAMR report, where task managers can report on the developments of the gender equality dialogue from horizontal and project-specific perspectives; b) Designing a template to report on the developments of the gender equality dialogue, to be included among the mandatory annexes to the EAMR report.

Indicator 7.2.1 - The EU-supported interventions in all thematic programmes on Food Security, Education, Health and Climate Change include gender - sensitive indicators. (2010 – 15)

Indicators are the most obvious tool for gender mainstreaming but difficulties have been experienced in their use. Better support has to be provided to colleagues in Delegations to use them at their best in the different sectors.

Delegations report having defined gender-sensitive indicators in their projects: 17 have done so in food security, 17 in health, 16 in education and 8 in climate change programmes. Many Delegations do not report on this, or report not giving any gender-sensitive indicators. Defining proper indicators is a means to keep gender as an objective throughout the duration of the project. Indicators ensure that progress on gender equality will be strictly monitored and not just “taken into account”. Answers reveal the persistence of the misunderstanding about what promoting gender equality means.

Honduras: Gender- sensitive indicators for food security

The Food Security Support Program in Honduras – PASAH carried out from 2007 until 2013 with an EU Contribution of EUR 16 million - included these gender-sensitive indicators: i) Inclusion of a variable tranche indicator related to gender in the program's first phase of implementation: % of food insecurity beneficiaries attended by the National Food Security Strategy through its prioritized programs. The National Women's Institute (NWI) contributed to the achievement of this indicator by ensuring women's involvement in productive initiatives and by collaborating with the gender units of the Ministry of Agriculture and the National Agrarian Institute. Three hundred and thirty (330) women benefited from these actions; ii) Inclusion of a variable tranche indicator related to gender in the phasing out of the programme: 17 Municipal Women's Offices were technically strengthened to ensure gender mainstreaming in

Municipal Development Plans oriented to proper prioritization and registration of beneficiary women through the National Food Security Strategy initiatives.

The NWI allocated resources in its Annual Investment Plan and Annual Work Plan for 2012, to ensure gender mainstreaming in the Municipal Development Plans of 20 Municipal Women's Offices. A survey carried out during the final evaluation of the program, revealed that the gender -specific activities addressed by the programme were the ones which collected the most favourable opinions among all the beneficiaries (not only women). The Delegation concludes that ownership by the central and local governments of concepts and methods for mainstreaming gender equality in food security national programs and projects has certainly increased.

Indicator 8.2-8.3.1 - The thematic programmes and instruments (European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights, Investing in People etc.) will support Non-State Actors to implement the EU Guidelines on Violence against Women and Girls and Combating All Forms of Discrimination against them. (2010 – 15)

Delegations create synergies among EU funding initiatives and programmes to optimise the available resources and promote a coherent approach.

Thirty (30) Delegations report providing support to Non-State Actors in the implementation of the “EU Guidelines on Violence against Women” through the Calls for Proposals, referring to these Guidelines in the call specifications.

Bosnia and Herzegovina, El Salvador, and Mauritius included a reference to the Guidelines in their local strategy for gender equality; **China, Eritrea, and the Philippines** organised training to inform the civil society organisations about the EU Guidelines while **Albania and Peru** organised sessions to train awarded NGOs on gender issues in general and on the guidelines in particular. Finally, 17 out of the reporting Delegations support Non- State Actors in the implementation of the guidelines through projects focusing on violence against women.

In Afghanistan, **Italy** has been supporting the setting up of Units for combating violence against women in Herat and Kabul, and has funded NGO projects aiming at raising awareness among the population in rural areas on women’s rights. Italy is also planning to fund a pilot project to create a referral system for victims of violence in the province of Herat.

In Burkina Faso, a gender common fund has been created – where different donors contribute among which are **Austria and Denmark** (with DKK 4 million) **and Germany**. The fund supports civil society organisations working on the fight against violence against women, and it is a good example of coordination for gender equality.

Albania: Women’s rights

In July 2012, the EU Delegation carried out consultations with civil society organisations and other stakeholders for the preparation of the last Call for Proposals under EIDHR Country-based Support Scheme (2012-2013 allocations). The Delegation, assisted by an expert, organised these consultations in five cities across the country (i.e.

Tirana, Shkodra, Kukes, Vlora and Korça). More than 100 civil society and community-based organisations were involved, including a significant number of organisations devoted to the protection and promotion of women's rights. Recommendations and comments raised during these consultations were duly taken into account in the preparation of the Guidelines for Applicants of the above-mentioned call for proposals. As a result of the consultations, a number of relevant and well prepared applications were submitted, which confirms the effectiveness of the consultations held.

Indicator 9.1.1 - By 2013 at least 60% of EU Delegations in fragile, conflict or post-conflict countries develop a strategy to implement the EU Comprehensive approach from the perspective of the sectors they are involved in and development co-operation.

Only 3 Delegations report having developed a strategy to implement the EU Comprehensive approach: **Colombia, Guatemala** and **Nepal**. For 7 Delegations, there is no strategy as such but projects exist which are aligned with the implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325.

Guatemala:

The EU Delegation takes part in the Swedish Embassy's initiative to create a special group of donors and other key actors dedicated to the implementation of UNSC Resolutions 1325 and 1820 (among other topics). UN Women also forms part of this group, which was launched in January 2013.

The support for gender equality through the EIDHR continues through financing for three projects related to fighting violence and increasing accountability for gender crimes committed during the internal armed conflict in Guatemala. The EU observed the Genocide Trial against High Ranking Former Military Officials during the first semester in 2013 and gave support to victims (witnesses) for security measures through the special fund for Human Rights Defenders.

Indicator 9.2.1 - Continuous EU support for capacity-building on SCR 1325 and 1820 in fragile states increases annually. This level of support will be annually monitored and reported on.

At the end of 2012 the cross-regional programme “*Women Connect across Conflicts: Building Accountability for Implementation of UNSCR 1325, 1820, 1888, 1889*” was concluded. EU funded the project aimed at enhancing the capacity of women’s human rights activists and gender equality advocates to effectively and meaningfully engage, influence, and mobilize for dialogues on security and peace issues at various levels nationally and regionally in the South Asia (**Afghanistan and Pakistan**), the Southern Caucasus (**Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia**) and the Central Asia / Fergana Valley (**Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan**).

In **Georgia**, the EU Delegation followed very closely the implementation of this action, participating actively in the relevant events and discussions. Good working relations were

established with the Gender Equality Council of Georgia, the National Security Council, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, and the Ministry of Defence as well as with relevant actors in Georgian civil society. The programme provided valuable support to the national implementation of the National Action Plan 1325 by supporting initiatives aimed at mainstreaming of gender into the Security Sector Reform and the elaboration of the package of recommendations on the national referral mechanisms for the survivors/victims of sexual violence during conflict.

In Kyrgyzstan, in February 2013, the Government adopted a National Action Plan for the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325. In April 2013, through the Instrument for Stability programme, a Call for Proposals has been launched. The support to the UNSCR 1325 was included among the main objectives of the call. The reasoning behind this specific focus is that many reports on the June 2010 violence in Kyrgyzstan highlighted the issue of violence against women and came to the conclusion that more women suffered from violence than was officially reported.

2.2 Commission

Indicator 1.2.2 - The Annual Report on the EU's Development and External Assistance informs on gender equality in development and its data are disaggregated by sex where possible and relevant.

Gender equality is addressed in the Annual Report on EU's Development and External Assistance as a topic in itself and as a cross-cutting issue. Some data provided are disaggregated by sex. This is the case in education, employment and political participation.

Indicator 1.4.1 - In 2011, a medium-term strategy of cooperation with the African Union on gender quality and women's empowerment is established.

The third Africa -EU Summit decided in November 2010 to intensify cooperation in the area of gender equality and women's empowerment, which are key pillars of the Africa-EU partnership on peace and security and democratic governance.

In April 2013, the African Union Commission (AUC) presented its Third Strategic Plan (2014-2017) to guide the interventions and programs of the AUC in the medium-term. Among the activities, gender equality and women's empowerment are presented both as specific goals and as cross-cutting issues.

In the framework of the "African Union Support Programme", the EU supports directly the "AUC Women, Gender and Development Directorate" in the implementation of their work plan (17,61% of the AUC 2013 programme budget approved) and meetings have been carried out to strengthen the gender perspective in current cooperation, inclusively in the Peace and Security dimension.

In a long-term perspective (Pan African Programming), a study is being commissioned by the EU to identify and formulate actions that will allow the EU and the AU to comprehensively support Pan-African initiatives in the areas of governance, human rights and gender equality, with a special emphasis in strengthening organs of the African Governance Architecture. Among other areas of work, the study will seek to identify possible actions where EU support could be provided to those AU organs responsible for Women's Rights, for instance to allow for effective partnerships between AU organs and civil society organisations to promote gender at regional and continental level; to advance in the fight against female genital mutilation; or to identify joint actions that could be undertaken with the AU in the field of Women, Peace and Security. The study is ongoing and results are foreseen by the beginning of 2014.

Indicator 1.4.2 - During 2011 and 2012, cooperation is strengthened and concrete synergies are made with policies and programmes of organisations in other regions in Latin America, Africa and Asia.

In October 2012, the EU launched a new joint regional programme for the South Mediterranean Region. The programme – co-funded by UN Women - aims at supporting national and regional stakeholders to empower women economically and politically in the follow-up of the Arab Spring.

The so-called ‘Spring Forward for Women’ programme will support initiatives by national and regional institutions and civil society organisations to ensure women's active engagement in decision-making, to empower women economically and to enhance regional knowledge and experience-sharing on women's political and economic rights.

The programme will respond to the support needed at the regional and country level. It will build on local initiatives with the recognition that sustainable change must be locally-owned and led. The work at regional level will focus on several priorities: capacity-building; increasing the participation of women in electoral processes, and strengthening local and national governments to have effective services towards poverty alleviation and advocacy. Targeting all Southern Mediterranean countries, the programme will complement actions focused on improving access to economic opportunities for marginalized women in a number of priority countries that are undergoing transition and reforms, such as Tunisia. ‘Spring Forward for Women’ is financed through a contribution of EUR 7 million from the European Neighborhood Partnership Instrument (ENPI) and of EUR 1.2 million from the UN Women core budget.

In 2013, external experts were tasked to draft Gender Profiles for the 6 Eastern Partnership countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine). The profiles highlight key facts and figures on gender equality, provide inputs on gender-related challenges in key sectors of cooperation, and an assessment of relevant national statistical capacities. The profiles will inform future cooperation policy dialogue, in particular with regard to gender mainstreaming in the new bilateral and regional programming documents as well in the design of future actions. Indeed, over the period 2014-2020, the Eastern Partnership will be covered under the new European Neighborhood Instrument (ENI) and it is envisaged that “proper integration of cross-cutting issues, in particular gender and environment/climate change” will be ensured; and “the main efforts should be to mainstream these within wider interventions”.

In 2013, the analysis of the current contribution of Result Oriented Monitoring in terms of better gender mainstreaming for projects managed by Delegations in the Eastern Partnership countries and Russia was also launched. The study will highlight areas for improvement, including gender expertise of monitors. The study's recommendations will be used in the coming years.

In January 2013, during the VII EU-Latin America and Caribbean Summit / I EU-CELAC Summit held in Santiago de Chile, a “EU-CELAC Action Plan 2013-2015” has been adopted which identifies instruments and activities that should lead to concrete results guaranteeing ownership and capacity building in eight different areas one of which is “gender”.

In this area, the main objective is to prioritise the gender equality issue in the context of bi-regional relations and underscore the political will in both regions to guarantee gender equality and the protection, exercise and promotion of women’s rights, including i) Political participation of women; ii) Elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls, including sexual violence; and iii) Economic empowerment of women and their participation in the world of work and in all decision-making processes.

The expected results of the cooperation are: the establishment of an intergovernmental bi-regional working group aimed at defining shared objectives on the above-mentioned topics; the organisation of a bi-regional seminar for the exchange of experiences on gender-based violence, to share best practices and the most effective measures to prevent and combat it; the promotion of concrete measures for the investigation of gender-based killing; the organisation of a bi-regional seminar on "Economic empowerment of women and participation in the world of work", for exchanging experiences and best practices in the field of education and training in information and communication technology; exchange of information, on a voluntary basis, regarding the state of art on gender policies, including equality and empowerment of women by countries; the organisation of a bi-regional seminar with State representatives, which may include experts and women’s organizations, to exchange experiences on the achievements of peace, conflict resolution and participation of women in those processes, including the implementation of relevant resolutions of the UN General Assembly in this regard, as well as Resolution 1325 (Women, Peace and Security).

Finally, political dialogue will be pursued with the aim of identifying the agreed language to be used in common positions in international fora, especially for resolutions to be negotiated at the UN General Assembly and the Commission on the Status of Women.

At the EU-Pacific Island Forum (PIF) Ministerial meeting in June 2012, it was agreed that EU and PIF should enhance their cooperation on gender equality and women’s empowerment. The budget available is unfortunately quite limited, from current regional programme but a more substantial amount could come from EDF 11th.

A crucial role in the gender equality domain is played by civil society organisations. In countries like Fiji, the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights is funding grants in the areas of women’s leadership, women, peace and security and access to reproductive health rights through key women's organisations active on gender. In Samoa, under the Civil Society Support Programme (jointly funded with Australian Aid) women's groups have been strongly supported by receiving grants for economic activities to help to empower them by providing their own incomes and thus some independence.

The EU Multiannual Indicative Programme for regional cooperation with Asia 2011-13 provides for closer cooperation with the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN)

on human rights. To formulate the activities in this area, a Joint Programme Design Team (JPDT) has been established and has met three times in 2012-2013.

In order to enhance relations with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) visited EU headquarters in Brussels upon invitation from EEAS, in February 2013. This was financed under the existing READI instrument with ASEAN. The ACWC delegation comprised 2 members (one for women and one for children's rights) from each of the 10 ASEAN Member States. The purpose of the visit was to expose the ACWC to EU views, approaches and institutions and to engage in dialogue in the area of the rights of women and children.

ACWC has a human rights protection mandate and is entitled to consult civil society. Within a short time-frame, ACWC has established good contacts with civil society as well as with UN bodies, including UNWOMEN. This is linked to the commitment of all ASEAN Member States under the Committee on Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the Child Rights Convention to the perception of women's and children's rights as being a non-contentious issue.

ACWC has developed a five-year work plan (2012-2016) in which the following thematic areas are covered: violence against women; rights of children; trafficking of women and children; women and children with disabilities; women and children living with and affected by HIV and AIDS; social impact of climate change and women economic rights.

Other priorities of ACWC involve the promotion of consultation and dialogue with stakeholders at national and regional levels; public awareness- raising on the work and role of ACWC; and undertaking studies and research to identify best practices on the promotion and protection of women and children across the region.

Indicator 2b1.1 - By 2013 gender training is part of the training for EEAS staff.

In 2010 minimum training standards for the pre-deployment training on gender of all personnel taking part in CSDP missions were developed and endorsed (doc. 17209/10). Training is a Member State responsibility, but the EU is supporting the Member States by developing a training module based on the minimum standards (to be finalized by the end of 2013).

Gender and human rights are routinely included in the foundation courses on CSDP, and gender (and human rights) is also included as a topic in the first EU senior mission leaders course to be held in October 2013.

Indicator 2a.1.2 - By 2011, the efficiency of the current EU funding instruments in addressing GEWE is assessed in time for considering how to include GEWE priorities in external instruments in the new financial framework.

The Commission launched an evaluation of the EU support to gender equality and women empowerment in its development cooperation for the period 2007-13. A first part will respond to the indicator 6.4 of this Action Plan, and aims at providing the EU's policy-makers and services with a valuable aid for improving strategies and tools for integration of gender across policies, sectors and aid delivery methods (notably Budget Support). The second part will

include all other key issues required to evaluate to what extent the EU assistance (policy, strategies, and programmes/projects) has been relevant, efficient and effective in supporting sustainable impacts on GEWE processes in partner countries.

In addition to the activities managed at central level, 11 partner countries and 3 Member States will be targeted. Results will be available in 2014. In addition, a gender evaluation of Results Oriented Monitoring reports has been launched for the Neighborhood South and East regions (see indicator 1.4.2).

Indicator 2b.2.1 - In 2013 gender perspectives are mainstreamed in the existing methodological training programmes (Project Cycle Management, new aid modalities, etc.) for EU staff.

As stated in 2012, gender has been mainstreamed in some core EU trainings (budget support, policy dialogue, domestic revenue mobilisation and PCM). In addition, modules have been provided on gender mainstreaming in general; gender and anti-corruption; gender, democratization and justice. More modules are being finalised, namely gender in rural development and food security; gender in private sector development; gender and energy; gender, climate change and natural resource management.

Indicator 2b.4.1 - In 2012 a core set of online gender training modules is available for EU development staff.

Online courses have been provided again this year: “Basic tools and strategies for gender mainstreaming in EU development cooperation” and “Gender mainstreaming through the project approach” have been available both in 2012 and 2013.

Indicator 2b.5.1 - In 2012, specific gender equality trainings are available on Train4DEV (now Learn4DEV).

This target was not reached last year, but it is now under implementation. Because of technical reasons, the Commission will host its gender trainings on the EuropeAid specific website for capacity building, Capacity4dev (<http://capacity4dev.ec.europa.eu/>) - but a link will be created in the Learn4dev platform (<http://www.learn4dev.net/>) to make them accessible.

Indicator 2b.6.1 - In 2015, gender has been mainstreamed in all trainings offered by Train4DEV.

The European Commission is developing a Gender Equality Score Card for gender mainstreaming in core-trainings. It is a checklist for course designers and trainers to make the gender dimension explicit in the course design. It can be used to establish a base-line on the gender dimension of current core-trainings and it is a practical tool for awareness- raising as to the gender blindness of existing core-trainings. If made compulsory, it will help to mainstream gender in all trainings. A gender certification of all the trainings offered by Train4dev is under discussion.

Indicator 3.1.1 - By 2011 guidance notes are sent regularly to EU HoMs providing information on all relevant gender equality issues and challenges.

In addition to the guidance notes already provided to Gender Focal Persons, specific guidance notes for Head of Missions are still under development.

Indicator 4.1.2 - By 2012 EU guidelines on gender-equality indicators and sex-disaggregated indicators are provided to all Delegations and Embassies and monitored regularly.

A guidance note on sector and cross-cutting indicators to support Delegations with the preparation of Multi-Annual Indicative Programming (MIPs) documents has been prepared. It aims to support this process by providing a menu of options of key indicators for Delegations to draw from as they are developing their MIPs. The indicators listed in each sector note are aligned to EU's priorities as set out in the Agenda for Change and other key policy documents.

As far as gender equality is concerned, it recommends that – to the extent possible - selected indicators should be disaggregated by sex and/ by vulnerable or marginalized groups. In addition, it stresses that the EU is committed to ensure that 75% of its aid contributes to GEWE. Achieving this objective requires that when a gender analysis indicates that women will not benefit automatically from a given development activity, specific activities and appropriate indicators need to be put in place to ensure that women benefit equally and equitably from project and programme activities and to make it possible to measure progress in this regard.

The indicators included in the MIPs will be used as basis for the results monitoring process which is being developed for EuropeAid activities. This should ensure an appropriate monitoring of the gender equality indicators too.

Indicator 4.3.1 - By 2013 all development projects are screened against their gender sensitiveness (quality assurance mechanisms).

The use of the Gender Equality Screening Checklist is compulsory at identification and formulation stages for all programmes and projects proposed for funding, but – as Delegations reported - often it is not used in a proper and coherent way. The current reduced workforce makes it impossible to check all programmes and projects for their gender-sensitivity. On the other hand, the Commission ensures the review of the OECD gender marker use in all funded programmes and projects in order to ensure coherence.

During the last meeting with the Member States' Gender Experts group, held in Brussels in April 2013, OECD experts were invited to explain the modus operandi of the Gender Marker. Since the most challenging issue for the Commission and Member States is the objective that, by 2013, 75% of their aid should have gender equality as principal or significant objective, an extensive discussion was devoted to various aspects of this challenge, including an effort to understand the “gauge” used to measure progress. OECD experts' explanations left the participants with the impression that a significant degree of subjectivity is involved in the application of the Gender Marker. This poses a problem in terms of comparability across Member States and the Commission.

Indicator 6.3.1 - By 2013 information on EU expenditure on gender equality is provided in the Annual Report on the EU's Development and External Assistance.

This indicator has not been implemented yet. Nevertheless, the evaluation of the gender mainstreaming which is on-going with respect to development cooperation activities supported by the Commission from 2007 to 2013 includes an inventory of the activities promoted. It will be possible to identify, at least for the countries involved in the evaluation the expenditure specifically dedicated to gender equality.

Indicator 6.4.1 - By 2013, a mid-term evaluation is undertaken on EU gender mainstreaming in development cooperation.

A global evaluation on gender mainstreaming in EU cooperation is on-going. It will be undertaken in 11 countries and 3 Member States have accepted to have their cooperation assessed too. The evaluation of the GAP will be done in the framework of this wider scope (see Indicator 2a.1.2).

Indicator 7.1.1 - The EU positions on MDGs and Aid Effectiveness have a strong focus on GEWE.

While continuing to strive towards the achievement of the MDGs, the Commission is working to prepare an EU common position on the post-2015 agenda on GEWE.

In its Communication "A decent life for all - Ending poverty and giving the world a sustainable future" (COM 2013/92), published in February 2013², the Commission highlighted the role that women must play in the new post-2015 overarching framework so as to unlock "the drive for sustainable development" and the need to remove all forms of barriers to equal participation. It stated that the framework should put "particular emphasis on moving towards a rights-based approach to development, on reducing inequalities, as well as on the promotion and protection of women's and girls' rights and gender equality".

Indicator 7.1.2 - Continue partnering with the UN and the OECD/DAC on advancing gender equality and women's empowerment in the MDGs and aid effectiveness agenda.

The Memorandum of Understanding signed with UN Women is being implemented through several programmes which are on-going or under negotiation with UN Women, for instance in Nigeria where the EU Delegation and UN Women are preparing a 10 million euro project on the promotion of women's engagement in peace and security in the northern Nigeria. More activities are foreseen in Mexico, Albania, and Sri Lanka on different aspects of violence against women, while a specific programme on economic and political empowerment is on-going in the South Mediterranean region (see indicator 1.4.2. above).

A jointly managed programme has been signed with UNICEF on birth registration, which should strengthen children's- both boys' and girls'- rights at birth and therefore throughout their lifetimes.

² http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/documents/2013-02-22_communication_a_decent_life_for_all_post_2015_en.pdf

Indicator 7.4.1 - By 2012 guidelines are adopted and used at country level for policy dialogue on maternal mortality and universal access to reproductive health as part of the planned overall guidelines for policy dialogue on national health strategies.

The Commission policy on providing specific sector and subsector guidelines changed in 2013 leading to a decision to produce a single Guideline for all sector programming. These programming guidelines are being adopted and guidance on priorities and indicators for maternal and sexual and reproductive health are provided as part of the health sector-specific information (see Indicator 4.1.2).

Indicator 9.2.1 - Continuous EU support for capacity- building on SCR 1325 and 1820 in fragile states increases annually. This level of support will be annually monitored and reported on. (2010 – 15)

The second EU report on the indicators that measure the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and related resolutions, demonstrates the continued commitment and hard work of the EU towards the issue of women, peace and security in third countries. During the reporting period, the EU was active through regular dialogue and action by its delegations in more than 70 countries across the world. The support for women, peace and security includes financing and implementing programmes against gender-based violence, working with both governments and civil society organisations.

Africa and the Middle East are the areas where EU support was most evident. EU delegations continued to work with local and regional networks such as the West African Network for Peace -building (WANEP). In 2012, the EU and the African Union, in the framework of the Human Rights Dialogue, agreed to organise a seminar on the issue of women, peace and security with the aim of fostering increased cooperation on this issue. In the context of the Arab Spring, a UN Women-led project to support women's organisations to push for gender-sensitive reform represented a key component of an Instrument for Stability crisis response measure adopted for Tunisia to ensure a gender - sensitive democratic transition and to promote a culture of equality. An international conference on 'Women and Democratic Transitions in Arab Countries' was part of the project.

The involvement and support of civil society groups is a cornerstone of much of the EU's work on women, peace and security. For example, the EU Delegation in **Bolivia** created an advisory group of key stakeholders to inform their political dialogue on violence against women and girls, a major security concern for Bolivia's women. The EU continued to deploy specific gender advisors and focal points in Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) civilian missions and military operations, putting into practice its commitments. Out of the 16 CSDP missions and operations, 13 have either a gender advisor or focal point and several operations have personnel devoted to training and/or mentoring on gender. It is still unusual for the issue of women, peace and security to be included in the EU Special Representatives (EUSRs) reports, but the EUSR for **Afghanistan** has continued to emphasize the significance of women's participation in peace negotiations and the need to implement UNSCR 1325 in his work, providing support to the issue of women in Afghanistan's peace process.

The second report also accounts for the EU focus on mediation and enhancing women's participation in peace processes. In view of the absence of female mediators in international peace processes, the EU supports the UN Department of Political Affairs' Mediation Unit to

strengthen mediation efforts led by the UN. The goal of these efforts is to support greater and more effective participation by women at all levels of peace-making and other conflict resolution activities including the identification and preparation of women mediators. The next report is due in 2015.

Finally, the 4th High Level Forum (HLF) on Aid Effectiveness (Busan, 2011) and its main outcome - New Deal - concerns building inclusive partnerships and relates thus to the role of women in fragile states. The EU's common position at the Busan 4th HLF included more elements on the EU's current thinking concerning the participation and contribution of women and women's organizations in achieving equitable and effective development; along with measures to promote gender equality. It was also recommended that public financial management mechanisms and expenditure tracking systems be made gender -responsive and that data disaggregated by sex are collected and used. The EU, together with other 13 EU Member States, has officially endorsed the New Deal for engagement in fragile states and is currently piloting it in the Central African Republic, with France, and in Somalia.

2.3 Member States

Indicator 2a.1.3 - By 2010, Member States identify and exchange information on financial resources for GEWE and GAP, both for bilateral and multilateral instruments

In the absence of a specific EU tool to measure Member States' financial resources for GEWE and GAP, it has been agreed that the reporting to the OECD DAC on the basis of the Gender Equality Marker provides the best available common benchmark for exchanging information about commitments. Caution should be exercised when comparing figures since multilateral aid, general budget support, debt relief and emergencies are excluded and the application by donors of the Gender Marker varies. However the figures give an indication of the extent to which Member States address gender equality through their development aid. In addition, considering the degree of subjectivity which seems to be applied in the use of G-marker (see Indicator 4.3.1.), it seems worthwhile to discuss whether common guidance and training should be organised to ensure unified reporting and thus accurate figures. Additionally, possible solutions to address the absence of figures for multilateral aid, debt relief, emergencies and general budget support benefitting women should be discussed.

Aid in support of Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, 2010-2011 average (2010 USD million)

(Aid in Support of GEWE – Donor Charts - March 2013 - Statistics based on DAC Members' reporting on the Gender Equality Policy Marker 2010-2011)

Country	Principal	Significant	Sub-total Gender Equality Focused	as % of aid screened	Not targeted	Total aid- screened	Not screened	Sector allocable, total	Support to women's equality organisations and institutions
	a	b	c = a + b	c / e	d	e = c + d	e		included in (a)
Australia	245	1629	1875	59	1328	3203	391	3594	6
Austria	11	51	62	16	325	387	2	389	2
Belgium	63	554	617	57	461	1078	94	1172	5
Canada	1080	485	1566	62	947	2513	171	2684	5
Denmark	77	649	725	56	569	1295	0	1295	19
EU institutions	163	1665	1828	17	8984	10812	28	10840	69
Finland	21	406	426	55	354	780	0	780	7
France	3	1963	1966	34	3869	5834	351	6185	0
Germany	216	3998	4213	47	4661	8874	1289	10163	23
Greece	0	86	86	68	40	126	0	126	0
Ireland	11	172	183	46	214	396	0	396	10
Italy	29	88	117	31	259	377	138	515	9
Japan	125	1576	1701	14	10036	11737	1840	13578	4
Korea	18	75	94	6	1485	1579	0	1579	1
Luxembourg	9	44	53	39	84	137	47	184	0
Netherlands	258	436	694	18	3246	3940	0	3940	65
New Zealand	8	129	136	50	135	271	0	271	0
Norway	204	537	742	29	1793	2535	0	2535	71
Portugal	2	40	42	24	136	179	13	192	0

Spain	202	575	777	30	1841	2617	81	2699	104
Sweden	283	1123	1406	82	301	1707	25	1732	30
Switzerland	28	237	265	24	826	1090	0	1090	4
United Kingdom	133	810	944	46	1092	2036	1312	3348	13
United States (1)	8
Total DAC members	3190	17328	20517	32	42987	63504	5783	69287	457

(1): The United States has implemented an improved data collection system for the gender equality marker; data for 2011 will be available in the coming months (no data available for 2010).

Ref: Aid in Support of Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment - Donor Charts- March 2013 – available in

<http://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/Aid%20in%20support%20ENG%20for%20web%20March%202013.pdf>

Comparison	Amount of bilateral Aid gender equality focused (mill. USD)			In % of bilateral Aid		
	2010	2011	Difference	2010	2011	Difference
Country						
Austria	68	56	-12	17	15	-2
Belgium	554	681	+127	52	62	+10
Denmark	746	704	-42	57	55	-2
Finland	416	437	+21	54	55	+1
France	1950	1981	+31	30	39	+9
Germany	3910	4516	+606	45	50	+5
Greece	97	75	-22	66	71	+5
Ireland	229	136	-93	57	35	-22
Italy	35	199	+164	10	49	+39
Luxembourg	73	33	-40	43	32	-11
Netherlands	737	652	-85	14	24	+10
Portugal	30	55	+25	15	36	+21
Spain	1151	402	-749	32	24	-8
Sweden	1672	1140	-532	86	78	-8
United Kingdom	931	956	+25	39	57	+18
TOTAL / average	12599	12023	-576	41	45	4

A comparison between 2010 and 2011 figures shows that the global amount of money dedicated by the 15 countries reported in the chart to gender equality- focused bilateral aid decreased (- EUR 576 million). However, 7 countries increased their amount and some drastically (Germany, Italy and Belgium). On the other hand, the global percentage of countries' GEWE aid within the general bilateral aid has slightly increased (+4%), meaning that the percentage of gender- focused aid heightened in a context of decreased global bilateral aid given by countries, resulting from better gender mainstreaming.

On the positive side, Austria, through the Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC), systematically and consistently applies the OECD DAC Gender Marker to its bilateral programmatic aid. All programmes and projects (besides those of general budget support) are screened by the Gender Desk according to the OECD DAC guidelines on GEWE. In its bilateral commitments, Belgium has no specific budget and thematic allocation for gender, but, with the exception of environment and climate change, gender is mainstreamed in development cooperation activities, as provided for under the new development cooperation law, through the use of the Gender Marker. Marker 1 is recommended for new programmes and projects; Marker 2 is included in country- by-country programming. It is now planned to undertake gender budgeting. Referring to multilateral commitments, Belgium earmarked contributions to many UN agencies with a strong track record in gender mainstreaming, including UN Women (EUR 10 million expected core funding 2013-2015).

France has launched a new regional program FSP (Social Priority Fund) of EUR 1.3 M on “Gender and Social Cohesion” (Morocco, Tunisia and Egypt) for a duration of 3 years, related to the implementation of GEWE. It is articulated around 4 components: capacity-building and access to employment in partnership with NGOs ; advocacy for equality between men and women to support UN Women’s Strategic Plan ; research on socio-economic and population issues; communication and advocacy for GEWE.

In addition to its financial contribution to UN Women Fund for Gender Equality and the Umbrella Facility for Gender Equality of World Bank., Germany reported having addressed gender equality in its multilateral aid. Ireland is completing an annual monitoring report on gender equality for year 2012. The country increased its contribution to EUR 8.7 million for women's equality organizations and institutions in 2012, with an amount of EUR 1.5 million for UN Women in 2012 and 2013. Italy mainly participates in the GAP implementation in Palestinian Territories and Senegal (EUR 10 million in 2013). Netherlands reported a EUR 53 M budget allocated in 2013 to GEWE aid, both at bilateral and multilateral levels.

As in 2012, Spain plans its funding for GEWE based upon the aims of the GAP and expressed through its Gender and Development Strategy and its III Master Plan for the Spanish Cooperation 2009-2012 and IV Master Plan 2013-2016. Activities are implemented mainly through bilateral programmes and projects. AECID is a donor to UN Women. Spain exchanges information with the other Member States in the coordination mechanisms available for that purpose (e.g. GENDERNET and UN fora). The Spanish Cooperation annual reports include a specific section on gender and sexual and reproductive health in which the main progress/improvements and setbacks are assessed and where both CRS and gender markers are quantitatively and qualitatively analysed.

Support to girls and women is still at the heart of UK's DFID international development programmes, but data cannot be disaggregated. An upcoming report ‘Two Years On’ a report on the bilateral results achieved against the Strategic Vision for Girls and Women in 2012-2013 will be published and shared with the Commission. In 2012-2013, the UK allocated EUR 13.6 million to a new partnership with the World Bank for a "gender innovation lab" on girls and women's economic empowerment in Sub-Saharan Africa; EUR 41 million to support efforts to end Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting (FGM/C) in Africa and beyond; EUR 0.5 million for a 3 year Leadership for Change Programme for girls and women; and EUR 4.4 million to UNFPA for contraceptive supplies. Bilaterally, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) Human Rights and Democracy fund focused on 1 year projects addressing the structural causes of violence and discrimination against women.

Indicator 2b.6 - In 2015, gender has been mainstreamed in all trainings offered by Train4dev (now Learn4dev)

This indicator is supposed to be fulfilled by 2015 by the Commission. Nevertheless, as a positive point, some countries have been hosting training offered by Train4Dev (now called Learn4dev). In April 2013, Austria organised a two-day meeting for Gender Experts of Learn4dev with participation of civil society, in order to exchange best practice examples and challenges concerning mainstreaming among donor institutions; and to develop the Learn4dev gender certificate mechanism to ensure gender mainstreaming of all training offered by Learn4dev. Also as part of the Learn4Dev group, Germany's Programme Promoting Gender Equality and Women's Rights chaired the Learn4Dev Gender Expert Group from January 2011-June 2012. In the first half of 2012 the Gender Expert Group carried out a study examining how to mainstream gender in the Learn4Dev network using quality standards. The results of the study were presented at the Learn4Dev Annual Meeting in June 2012 and the proposal has been taken up by the Core Group of Learn4Dev.

Indicator 4.2.1 - By 2015 all EU guidelines for policy dialogue and sector/macro review include gender equality specific question.

This objective is well on its way to being realized in five countries, especially regarding inclusion of gender in policy dialogue on development cooperation.

In Austria, the OECD/DAC GENDERNET issues brief on political and policy dialogue is finalized and forwarded internally for more systematic integration of gender equality specific questions into policy dialogue. Gender equality is also included in new aid modalities, with a focus on political dialogue. In many countries the Austrian Development Cooperation mainstreams gender issues in its sectoral support.

In Belgium, gender equality is integral to all the programming phases. As a result, according to Belgium's technical cooperation agency, 71% of the 2012 bilateral programs and projects are gender mainstreamed at the formulation stage.

France reported that a new GEWE strategy is being implemented in order to strengthen the GAP in the bilateral and multilateral dialogue. A Gender Equality Road Map has been developed and will be implemented both on the central level, through bilateral cooperation or multilateral and European Levels.

Gender equality issues are systematically enshrined in the ToRs for evaluations of Ireland's country programmes in Africa.

In Germany, gender equality remains continuously addressed in sector dialogue, through sector-specific gender operations manuals and appointment of gender focal points. This focus is also mainstreamed in the bilateral political dialogue, notably in the guidelines prepared for the strategic positioning of German Development Cooperation in the partner countries.

In Spain, the support for women's rights and gender equality is both one of the eight main orientations and a priority development goal of the III and IV Master Plan of the Spanish

Cooperation (2009-2012 and 2013-2016). In bilateral actions, the Plan of Action on Gender and Development of AECID (adopted in 2011) addresses gender mainstreaming as a key issue and focuses on 5 thematic strategic lines (women's social and political participation, combating Gender-Based Violence; sexual and reproductive rights, women and peace building; women's economic empowerment and labour rights).

4.3.1 - By 2013 all development projects are screened for their gender -sensitivity (quality assurance mechanisms)

Nearly all projects are systematically and compulsorily screened for their gender sensitivity in a number of countries (Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, France, Ireland, Lithuania, Malta, Netherlands, Germany, Spain), whether in Calls for Proposal, through PCM, in Terms of Reference, through internal quality assurance mechanisms, contractors' briefings, monitoring and evaluation or formal assessments. However, as Belgium underlined, actual implementation of bilateral projects in line with the written gender-sensitivity guidelines is another more complicated step.

France stated that many projects are gender -oriented, such as the Social Priority Fund (FSP), the Social Fund for Development (FSD) and thematic programmes such as "Development and Migration", "Democratic Governance" or "Education and Health".

In the Germany strategy paper "Human Rights in German Development Policy", it is mentioned that a guidance note was published to consider human rights standards and principles, including gender equality, in the planning of new projects and programmes. Highlighting the Spanish case, a Plan of Action on Gender and Development has been developed in order to mainstream gender in projects and programmes in implementation since 2011 through 3 main instruments (Guidelines on GEWE for Strategic Association Frameworks, Operational Programming of AECID for each partner country; Call for Proposals Manual on mainstreaming gender). The Netherlands reported that currently 50% of its projects are screened for their gender sensitivity.

4.3.2 - By 2013 until 2015 the Result Monitoring Reports provide information on the gender-sensitiveness of implementation and make recommendations to improve gender performance

The Result Monitoring Reports, now known as the Results Oriented Monitoring (ROM) is an EU Commission tool based on short, focused on-site assessments by independent experts of projects and programs which are appraised, using a highly-structured and rigorous methodology, against the criteria of relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, potential impact and likely sustainability. Some EU Member States have developed the same approaches for the purpose of project monitoring which is expected to result in generation and sharing of best practice examples.

Belgium launches periodic evaluations and tracks progress towards achievement of the gender objectives and indicators in order to make course corrections. In parallel, a Gender Budget Scan is used to monitor and assess progress regarding the initial aims and objectives in place during the project or programme design.

France's GEWE strategy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will be assessed annually by an ad hoc committee. In Germany, all programmes are evaluated with regard to the implementation of their gender -sensitivity in a “gender review”. Mid-term Reviews as well as final reports regularly provide insight on progress concerning the relevant gender-related indicators and, if applicable, recommendations to improve the gender performance are provided. Ireland commissions each year a monitoring report on gender equality in order to provide details of results achieved or challenges to progress on gender equality objectives. In Spain, the IV Master Plan of the Spanish Cooperation 2013-2016 includes eight guidelines for managing for results. The fifth is focusing on promoting women rights and gender equality. The part of the Master Plan on Managing for Result of Development Framework 2013-2016 also includes results and Gender indicators. The 2-year Evaluation Plan of the Spanish Cooperation includes a gender component which is under definition. Finally, the Gender Unit of AECID regularly updates a Gender Note which includes the main lines of action, the budget for its gender cooperation for development policy as well as a region -based report on on-going gender development cooperation activities.

Indicator 4.4 - By 2013 at least 75% of all new proposals score G-2 (gender as a principle objective), or G-1 (gender as a significant objective) (2010-2013)

This objective, launched in 2010, is expected to be achieved in 2013. Thus, the current report on year 2012 is a relevant milestone indicating whether or not countries are moving towards full respect of the criteria within a year. The last available OECD figures on the percentage of Member States bilateral aid focused on gender equality from 2011, showed a decrease in the global amount of aid given by Member States but an increase in the percentage of this amount which is gender equality focused (cf. table under indicator 2a.1.3).

Austria reports that its performance in this indicator is 63% for 2012 compared to 66% in 2011. Without providing precise figures, the Czech Republic indicates that many of its projects and programs score G-1 and G-2 in the field of education, health, population policies, government and civil society. The Netherlands mentions that its progress is low on this indicator, but is gradually improving through measures for more rigorous application of the G-marker. Spain also reports being on target, as the different actors of the Spanish Cooperation register the information of the marker. Germany regrets that the Gender Marker does not include funding for GEWE through multilateral channels in which the country is actively engaged.

Indicator 5.1.1 - By 2013 Gender is regularly on the agenda in the EU annual dialogues (gender policy forum) with civil society in each country

More countries provided information under this indicator, as compared to 2012, even if, as was underlined by the **United Kingdom**, this information should be reported better by the European Union Delegations. In a list of specific countries, **Austria** is closely engaging with civil society in regard to gender projects, as is true also in Albania with 30% of projects dedicated to GEWE; Bhutan and Kosovo provide support to the network of local women's rights organizations; **Uganda, Palestine, Belgium and Czech Republic** are also engaging to some extent with civil society on women's issues. In **France**, projects conducted by the civil society in cooperation and development include the GEWE. A training plan is under construction to sensitize partners' NGOs. Embassies in the field are involved in dialogue on governmental level and with civil society. **Italy** continues its strategic approach on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment through the systematic inclusion of the views and experiences of women from both state institutions and civil society of partner countries in order to enhance local level opportunities for advancing women's economic and political empowerment. **Latvia** indicates supporting initiatives for the promotion of women's rights in various Human Rights fora, and NSAs' participation, capacity-building and advocacy on GEWE. In **Malta**, the national platform of non-governmental development organizations has a specific working group on GEWE. **Spain** has organized, inter alia, seminars and awareness-raising sessions on women's rights and gender equality with the support of or dedicated to the civil society.

Good practices: the Irish consortium on GBV, a good link with civil society

Ireland engages with civil society in advancing its shared gender equality objectives both at head office and at field level. For example, Irish Aid is an active member of the Irish Consortium on Gender- Based Violence along with the Defence Forces and 14 Irish humanitarian, development and human rights NGOs. The Consortium works to build the capacity of members to develop and implement GBV programming.

At country level, **Ireland** also supports NGOs or joint initiatives on gender issues and projects (e.g. the Joint Gender Support Fund in South Africa). Moreover, Ireland is co-chairing donor co-ordination mechanisms on gender equality in Sierra Leone, Uganda, Tanzania and Zambia.

Indicator 7.1.1 - The EU positions on MDGs and Aid Effectiveness have a strong focus on GEWE

As mentioned in 2012, this is a qualitative indicator that does not easily lend itself to measuring progress. Many Member States remain continuously mobilized and engaged in the linking between ongoing global negotiations and GEWE, from the Busan High Level Forum

on Aid Effectiveness in 2011 which resulted in a Joint Action Plan on Gender (cf. GAP report 2012) to Rio+ 20 and the 2015 post-MDGs with the upcoming Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), still under negotiation. In the latter, the Commission along with numerous Member States is strongly advocating for the inclusion of gender equality principles.

The **United Kingdom**, as one of the co-chairs of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC), works on the preparation of the next Partnership's first Summit where it will present the progress report against Busan commitments through achievement indicators, including one linked to gender equality and women's empowerment. DFID's 2012-13 Annual Report presents the work done to improve the lives of girls and women in development aid and continues to provide gender-disaggregated results. As UK is also co-chairing the High Level Panel on Post-2015 Development, the UK works to secure recommendations on gender equality and empowering women and girls in the Post-2015 framework. The Panel's recommendations for a stand-alone goal on gender equality, including tackling difficult issues like violence against women, as well as mainstreaming gender throughout the framework, are a bold first step in the post-2015 development discussions. **Austria** also supports this position, shared by UN Women, through constant advocacy work. **Germany** advocates in the same way for a strong inclusion of gender equality issues within the post-2015 development framework, and participated actively to the 57th UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) and in the OECD-DAC Gendernet. The country also supported the international civil society conference on "Advancing the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda" in Bonn, aiming at providing thematic input for further discussions on goals and indicators, with gender equality being one of the prominent topics. **Ireland** reported that it is in the process of developing a detailed position in relation to the post-2015 development framework. **Spain** supports the GEDEA Network on Gender Equality in Development and Aid Effectiveness with all of actors involved in the Spanish Cooperation.

Italy – Gender Action Plan 2013-2015 and the post 2015 development agenda

The Italian GAP is geared towards addressing as its first objective, gender inequalities in the post-2015 development agenda. It intends to focus not only on the symptoms and manifestations of women's poverty or exclusion (e.g. lack of income, education or health) but, more important, on the structural causes (e.g. discrimination, lack of access to resources, lack of representation). It aims to ensure women's rights to and control over land, property and productive resources and their economic independence, recognizing the care economy and ensuring women's rights to social protection and the equal distribution of paid and unpaid work, and their rights to participation in decision-making. The GAP's second objective is to put an end to violence against women (gender-based violence) to guarantee sexual and reproductive rights, and to push for the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). The final objective is the in-house capacity-building on GEWE in development initiatives.

Indicator 7.1.2 - Continue partnering with the UN and the OECD/DAC on advancing gender equality and women's empowerment in the MDGs and aid effectiveness agenda

Many of the countries reported having a close and continuous partnership with OECD/DAC on GEWE for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women. **Austria** noted that, at the OECD/DAC Gendernet meeting in May 2013, the country was the only OECD country to report on the GPEDC Gender Indicator. The country is in the process of signing a contract with the OECD Development Centre to support the further development of the Social Institutions and Gender Index (<http://genderindex.org/>), a tool to inform the design of effective policies to tackle gender inequality, with a focus on Eastern and Southern Africa. **France** reported that OECD indicators are integrated into the cooperation and development framework, programmes and projects. **Spain, Netherlands, Germany and Ireland** recall their continuous participation in OECD-DAC Gendernet. Moreover, from 2012 to 2013, Ireland co-chaired the DAC Gender Network. Italy points out that, in the second part of 2013, it will go under examination of the "Peer Review" of the OECD/DAC.

Regarding the United Nations, numerous countries also have a regular cooperation with the UN agencies on GEWE, and particularly with UN Women. Austria intends to continue its contribution to the UN Women Regional project to promote gender -responsive policies and budgeting in the South East Europe Region. Belgium stated that it will encourage its missions to have a dialogue with local civil society on the Post 2015 Agenda as a shared-process with the UN-agencies network. France reported on its intensive dialogue on gender equality with the UN, particularly UN Women and UNFPA. A new strategy will be conducted within the Global Fund. As mentioned in indicator 1.5.1, UN Women remains an important strategic partner for Germany, which provides a EUR 2.6 million financial contribution and EUR 2.8 million to the Fund for Gender Equality. More precisely, Germany focused its efforts with UN Women in Pakistan, to integrate gender-specific needs into flood early warning systems (gender mainstreaming in disaster risk management), and in Ecuador, to fight violence against women and girls. Ireland is a member of UN Women Executive Board.

Spain has funded UNIFEM, UN-INSTRAW and UN Women on the aid effectiveness and gender programmes regarding capacity -building activities on GEWE, notably through the 2010-2012 Strategic Association Framework with UNIFEM and UN Women. Spain has also defined a country strategic position on key issues like gender-based violence in the framework of the 2013 UN Commission on the Status of Women. The United Kingdom reported taking every opportunity to influence the outcomes of UN high level meetings and Conferences on gender equality, and girls and women's empowerment; and working within the UN to uphold universal standards and to ensure that the outcome actions in resolutions advance the gender equality agenda. UK provides funding and support to the work of UN mandated Special Representatives/Rapporteurs and the Expert Working Group on Laws and Practices that Discriminate Against Women. The country supports national representation at major UN events, meetings and conferences, including the UN Human Rights Council annual-day on women's rights. The UK is represented at the annual meeting of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) and, with its partners, contributed to

negotiations to secure a successful outcome at this year's session, where governments agreed a declaration affirming their responsibility to end violence against women and girls and to promote and protect women's human rights and fundamental freedoms. UK also leads on implementing the UK National Action Plan (NAP) on UNSCR 1325 Women, Peace and Security, promoting the resolution within international decision-making bodies, lobbying Member States and working for consensus to move the agenda forward. Finally, UK co-hosts, with USAID, the MDG Countdown Event in the margins of the UN General Assembly Meeting on the positive multiplier effect that empowering girls and women, reducing gaps between males and females, and promoting women's leadership in the development agenda have on accelerating progress across all of the MDGs.

Indicator 7.2.1 - The EU supported interventions in all thematic programmes on Food Security, Education, Health and Climate Change include gender-sensitive indicators

Austria has a strong focus on gender mainstreaming in its various thematic development programmes and projects, including in higher education and research (Partnership Programme in Higher Education for Development), tourism, resource management, livelihoods, agriculture and rural development, vocational training and technical skill building, health (sexual and reproductive health and rights, with a focus on pastoralists in Ethiopia), IT and business education, arts and crafts, sanitation and hygiene, water management and climate change. Those projects consider the equity principle at the beneficiary level and use gender-sensitive indicators and, when possible, gender-disaggregated data. The GEWE strategy for 2013-2017 integrates gender-sensitive indicators in all **France's** thematic programmes. In **Germany**, sexual reproductive health and rights, and climate change (addressing empowerment of women in rural development and food security) are thematic priorities for the Development Policy Action Plan on Gender. To give a precise example, a cooperation programme has started with the NGO Integrated Community and Industrial Development Initiative (INCIDIN) in Bangladesh to develop a model which reduces vulnerabilities of children and women in natural disasters.

Ireland commits to ensuring that global hunger programmes (one of the 6 priority areas defined in the new policy for international development) focus on advancing gender equality and empowering smallholder women farmers; to implementing the Irish National Action Plan on UNSCR 1325; to ensuring women are at the centre of climate change responses; to supporting access to quality maternal and reproductive health care services; to addressing gender-based violence; to focusing on girls access to education and to supporting women's role in decision-making. **Latvia** included gender-sensitive indicators in its "Public Health Strategy" 2011-2017, in particular on awareness-raising and information and in the programmes "decreasing morbidity and mortality from non-infectious diseases, decrease the negative impact of risk factors upon health" and "improving the health of mother and child and decrease infant mortality". **Lithuania** continued its commitment made during the fourth meeting of the Cooperation and Development Working group on Gender Equality and Women's Rights (June, 2011, Vilnius), with the creation of a website module "Women in Democracy" with the purpose of serving as a base of best practices, a global online

conference and a point for networking. The conference “Gender, Science and Democracy” was organised in cooperation with the Nordic Council of Ministers (June 21-22), as part of the Programme of Lithuanian coordination of Nordic Baltic Eight (NB8). Lithuania also supported projects in Ukraine and Moldova aiming at strengthening the women’s entrepreneurship and their social involvement, and in Belarus and Ukraine on fostering the young and independent media representative’s awareness on gender equality issues.

With respect to this indicator, the **Netherlands** aims to mainstream GEWE across the focus areas of all development policy (food-security, water, sexual and reproductive health and rights, security and the rule of law), to improve application of the G-Marker and to develop indicators for Result-Based Monitoring. Gender is also a cross-cutting issue for **Spain** in its education, fight against poverty, health and environmental sustainability sectoral strategies. The country has designed gender-sensitive indicators in the Strategic Association Framework (SAF) developed with UN agencies, and has included gender equality issues in sectoral action plans (Rural Development, Education, Health and climate change).

Regarding the situation in the **United Kingdom**, DFID’s Annual Report, released in June 2012, shows an increase in measures with specific impacts for girls and women. DFID has a core set of gender -sensitive indicators to measure the implementation of its Strategic Vision for Girls and Women, covering thematic programmes in health and education as well as issues around economic empowerment and violence against women and girls. UK continues its effort for gender mainstreaming in climate change and food security, despite the fact that no indicators currently exist, though work on this area with international partners is on-going. DFID has also actively supported two gender reviews of the \$6 billion Climate Investment Funds delivered by the 5 multilateral development banks. The Department supports a range of bilateral and multilateral programmes that maximise food security, economic opportunities and poverty reduction for girls and women in agricultural value -chains, as well as enhanced social protection for vulnerable smallholders emphasising the special needs of girls and women. In 2013, DFID led work to include disaggregated indicators on gender in the G8 Food Security Scorecard, included in this year’s G8 Accountability Report. UK has also prioritised a greater focus on women’s economic empowerment in the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition.

Italy and the Istituto Agronomico per l’Oltremare (IAO) research program / Gender

This research project was carried on in three African countries (Burkina Faso, Mozambique and Senegal) and also in Palestine through an initial survey. The programme was designed as a tool for building bridges between researchers and development actors at different levels. Its results will be starting points for mainstreaming gender in the activities related to rural development, food security, climate change and green growth. The theoretical framework of the IAO / Gender programme was an analysis of how key words / concepts such as “land”, “food”, “resources”, “markets”, “value chains” and "association” changed their meanings and

scope in the international development debate and practice. The decision was made to identify and stress more women's potential rather than their shortcomings within a constantly changing global context. This shift allowed for a better conceptualizing of "vulnerability", often attached to women's situation, which seems at odds with the active roles women perform as supporters of whole families and communities, in spite of a lack of legal and political entitlements. Another key issue is the nature of the new actors who are gaining visibility and "voice" within national and transnational networks.

Indicator 8.2-8.3.1 - The thematic programmes and instruments (European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights, Investing in People etc) will support NSAs to implement the EU Guidelines on Violence against Women (VAW) and Girls and Combating All Forms of Discrimination against them

Aside from the EU's specific aid programs (EIDHR, Investing in People), some countries are also supporting civil society organizations and UN agencies for projects dedicated to putting an end to violence against women and girls and to fighting gender-based discrimination. **Austria** is supporting CSOs for projects aiming, inter alia, at addressing domestic violence against children, providing shelters for women, fighting against VAW (Albania, Burkina Faso). **France** reported that a Working Group on Violence against young women published a report in March 2013 on measures to address their needs. The report proposes effective recommendations to be implemented in the field.

This thematic is a priority for **Germany** in its development cooperation programmes with NSAs through activities focusing on the encouragement of dialogue and cooperation between state and non-state actors; on the improvement of expertise, resources and capabilities (capacity development) and on the development of measures to protect women (and their networks) who actively campaign for their rights. As an example, the establishment and capacity- building of the Egyptian Network of Women's Rights Organization (NWRO) has been supported and, in Latin America, NSAs are funded in order to advocate for rights and needs of indigenous women and girl victims of gender-based violence. Germany contributes to UN Women Fund for Gender Equality and UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women. Gender-based Violence is included in **Ireland's** new policy on international development as a major abuse of human rights with serious impacts on women's health, well-being and livelihoods. The country committed to continue as an active member of the Irish Consortium on GBV.

Italy focuses its fight against GBV and women's discrimination in projects implemented in Senegal (support to the local Ministry of Family in establishing a National Commission against the Gender -Based Violence against women and to the Association of Women Lawyers for the establishment of an information service for women victims of violence); and Afghanistan (through the NGOs Action Aid and Humanitarian Assistance for the Women and Children in Afghanistan (HAWCA) and in an awareness-raising and legal aid project for awareness raising on the Elimination of Violence Against Women Law (2009). For **Spain**, the eradication of

gender-based violence is also a top policy priority and is included in the Gender Action Plan with a budget line on combating gender -based violence, and in the plan against trafficking of human beings for sexual exploitation purposes. Spain also contributes to the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women. The **United Kingdom**, through the Human Rights and Democracy Programme Fund, funds a number of NSA programmes both to address the structural causes of violence against girls and women in accordance with international standards, and to promulgate NSA programmes dealing with corporate responsibility and accountability in business and human rights.

Indicator 9.2 - Continuous EU support for capacity- building on SCR 1325 and 1820 in fragile states increases annually. This level of support will be annually monitored and reported on.

As was the case last year, Member States reported extensively on their work regarding the implementation of the UN Resolution 1325 for the adoption of a gender perspective that includes the special needs of women and girls during [repatriation](#) and [resettlement](#), rehabilitation, [reintegration](#) and post-conflict reconstruction, and Resolution 1820, condemning the use of [sexual violence](#) as a tool of war.

In 2012 **Austria** continued to support a number of projects for capacity building on SCR 1325 (and subsequent resolutions) in fragile states. The Austrian Development Agency supported the Gender Capital for Peace Recovery and Development Plan (PRDP) in Northern Uganda, the Women, Gender and Development Directorate of the African Union Commission; and the empowerment of women in peace -building processes in South Caucasus and the Gender Action Plan in Bosnia and Herzegovina. A tracking system of projects and programmes in cooperation with Austrian and local civil society relating to the implementation of UNSC1325 in the field has been created. **Belgium** reports that its missions in RDC, Occupied Palestinian Territories, Mali and Burundi report on this indicator, referring to EU-level for coordination on the issue. Belgium considers that a high representation of women in any of its funded programmes is essential to reach the objectives of SCR1325 and 1820. Therefore, in Mali, support is provided to bring more women to mediation and negotiation and to support women's organization to be heard in the transition phase, through funding to UN Women activities.

Germany adopted an Action Plan on the Implementation of the Resolution 1325 for the period 2013 - 2016. It also continues the dissemination through development agencies, educational institutions and universities, of the training manual; and the implementation of training of trainers for integrating gender in training modules in the area of peace-building/peace support operations through the GIZ-Programme "Promoting Gender Equality and Women's Rights" and the Centre for International Peace Operations (ZIF). Germany also elaborated a publication dedicated to good practices on "promoting the participation of women in peace negotiations and peace processes". **Ireland's** National Action Plan on UNSCR 1325 was approved in November 2011 and, during 2012, a Monitoring Committee was set up, made up of half Government's representatives and half CSOs. The NAP has provided a framework to guide Ireland's support to peace-building and conflict resolution and

to ensure a strong gender equality focus in this engagement including supporting women’s political empowerment, with a focus on combating Violence Against Women in Sierra Leone and Liberia.

From its side, the **Netherlands** launched its Second National Action Plan 1325 in November 2012, involving over 40 NSAs, 3 government ministries and 4 knowledge institutes (academic and think-tanks). The NAP II focuses on the MENA-region and 6 other countries (Afghanistan, Burundi, DR Congo, South Sudan, Colombia, and Sudan). Together with **Spain**, the Netherlands runs a gender training programme for military and civilian personnel in peace-keeping missions. Spanish cooperation emphasizes the significance of Gender, Peace and Security both through the Gender Strategy and through the Peace Building Strategy (gender mainstreaming). The country approved a specific Plan to guide the implementation of UN Resolution 1325. The Spanish Cooperation Action Plan on Women and Peace Building has been designed to use development policy to fulfil the international remit in resolution 1325. It aims at promoting gender equality and promoting women's participation and empowerment in Spanish Cooperation’s peace -building activities. It also stresses the importance of taking into account sexual violence (1820). Women and Peace -Building is identified as one of the top five strategic priorities of the Spanish Cooperation Agency which supported important bilateral gender and peace-building initiatives in Colombia, Palestine, Afghanistan, East Timor, Peru, Brazil, Ecuador and Philippines.

Lithuania is involved in the field of police training for province female officers within EUPOL Afghanistan, and human rights training linked with gender equality, discrimination, sexual exploitation and abuse issues in Afghanistan, Moldova and Ukraine.

Lithuania and the gender-focus in the Afghanistan PRT

In Afghanistan, the Lithuanian-led Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) included the Female Engagement Team (FET) in its structure, which was in charge of promotion of Human Rights, Gender Equality and Prevention of Violation in Families. The team has developed close relations with the Department of Women’s Affairs, female organizations AOWA (Arise of Women of Afghanistan) and VWO (Voice of Women Organization) and, together with international counterparts, implements women’s empowerment projects. A Gender Focal Point (GFP) in PRT is assigned to advise military commanders on gender issues and coordinate activities with the international partners. Some courses, organized by USAID and the NGO AOWA, were successfully completed for women of local Shura and female members of Provincial council in 2011 and 2012. They introduced the concept of gender and gender roles in society and prospects for the development and role of women in the context of gender mainstreaming. Gender awareness is also integrated in the preparation programme for deployment of military personnel. On the ground PRT monitors the situation of local women in law and justice sector and reports any acts of violence to responsible institutions.

United Kingdom developed a comprehensive approach to women, peace and security through its development cooperation and other external assistance. This agenda is specifically

referenced in the Government's recent Building Stability Overseas Strategy, as well as in the integrated Violence against Women Strategy. UK development assistance also contributes directly to implementing of UNSCR 1325 and 1820, improving women's security, access to justice and political participation, as well as strengthening protection of women in conflict. DFID country offices continue to scale up programming in this area, with targeted programmes in over 20 country offices as well as work to tackle violence against women and girls mainstreamed in other sector programmes. The 2010-2013 National Action Plan (NAP) is currently being reviewed with a view to developing a new NAP from 2014. It provides a framework to ensure that the provisions of UNSCR 1325 are incorporated into the UK Government's work on conflict across defence, diplomatic and development activity. Three main areas are targeted: national action (how UK's institutions will adapt the policy, programmes, training and operations to ensure that Women, Peace and Security is incorporated into their work on conflict); bilateral action (actions being taken on the ground in priority conflict or post-conflict countries, by means of individual country plans delivered by UK embassies and country offices, as in Nepal, Afghanistan and Democratic Republic of Congo) ; multilateral action (UK actions in multilateral and regional organisations such as the UN, EU and NATO to strengthen implementation of UNSC Resolution 1325 at a global level). Finally, every six months the Stabilisation Unit provides a training course on the Women, Peace and Security agenda for all permanent Stabilisation Unit staff and others.

3. Lessons learnt and recommendations

The different levels of attention paid annually to the Gender Action Plan reporting show that there are still large differences among and within EU institutions and Member States – at headquarters and delegation level - regarding the integration of gender equality issues in development cooperation; and that integration of gender issues still largely depends on individual capabilities and commitment.

The involvement of the Gender Contact Person is paramount but would be in vain without the support and direct commitment of senior staff, starting from Heads of Cooperation.

Efforts therefore must continue to strengthen the mainstreaming of gender issues, and to systematize the knowledge-base on which gender equality principles are integrated into cooperation activities, so as to build on existing capacities and not be obliged to “reinvent the wheel” at every personnel reshuffle.

The use of OECD-DAC Gender-marker shall be analysed to identify possible inconsistencies between the EU's and Member States' approach. An agreement on common and unified reporting methodology shall be defined.

Pre-posting training remains a priority tool for staff responsible for specific thematic sectors, but also for senior management. Other gender trainings continue to be relevant, both at general level and specific sector level.

Such training should contribute also to a better use of the compulsory gender screening checklist in the Quality Control Group mechanism; thus strengthening understanding and use of the tool, too often limited to a “ticking the box” exercise. At the same time, the Quality Control Group mechanism should pay more attention to the appropriate integration of gender issues in all projects and programmes having an impact on people, not only those having ‘women’ as specific target.

Clarifications are needed as to whether the reporting on political dialogue should be formalised or not so that all delegations follow the same procedures.

Monitoring tools, like the Results Oriented Monitoring reports, should integrate gender-related indicators. Teams of evaluators should have good knowledge of gender issues or should include gender experts so as to ensure that the gender-related aspects are duly taken into account; and appropriate recommendations are given to ensure that the resulting activities impact equally and equitably upon men and women. The monitors need to be sensitised and trained on gender issues, or their awareness of the topic should be amongst the criteria for selection.

The inclusion of gender analysis in annual reviews remains a challenge showing that there is no “gender reflex” yet in the overall analysis of the country situation.

Annex I – Contributions Received from Member States

In grey: missing contributions

Austria	Romania
Belgium	Slovakia
Bulgaria	Slovenia
Cyprus	Spain
Czech Republic	Sweden
Denmark	United Kingdom
Estonia	
Finland	
France	
Germany	
Greece	
Hungary	
Ireland	
Italy	
Latvia	
Lithuania	
Luxembourg	
Malta	
Netherlands	
Poland	
Portugal	

NB: Croatia was not yet a Member State at the moment of the GAP report closing date (30 June 2013).

Annex II – Received contribution from EU Delegations

In grey: missing contributions

Afghanistan	Chad
Albania	Chile
Algeria	China
Angola	Colombia
Argentina	Comoros
Armenia	Costa Rica
Azerbaijan	Cuba
Bangladesh	Democratic Republic of Congo
Barbados	Djibouti
Belarus	Dominican Republic
Belize	Ecuador
Benin	Egypt
Bhutan	Eritrea
Bolivia	Ethiopia
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Fiji (Delegation of the EU for the Pacific)
Botswana	Gabon
Brazil	Gambia
Burkina Faso	Georgia
Burundi	Ghana
Cambodia	Guatemala
Cameroon	Guinea-Bissau
Cape Verde	Guinea (Conakry)
Central African Republic	Guyana
Haiti	Morocco

Honduras	Mozambique
India	Myanmar
Indonesia	Namibia
Iraq	Nepal
Israel	Nicaragua
Ivory Coast	Niger
Jamaica	Nigeria
Jordan	occupied Palestinian territory
Kazakhstan - Astana	Pakistan
Kenya	Panama
Korea (Republic of)	Papua New Guinea
Kyrgyz Republic	Paraguay
Lao PDR	Peru
Lebanon	Philippines
Lesotho	Republic of Congo
Liberia	Rwanda
Madagascar	Salvador
Malawi	Seychelles
Malaysia	Senegal
Maldives	Sierra Leone
Mali	Solomon Islands
Mauritania	Somalia
Mauritius	South Africa
Mexico	South Sudan
Moldova	Sri Lanka
Sudan	Suriname

Syria	
Swaziland	
Tajikistan	
Tanzania	
Thailand	
Timor-Leste	
Togo	
Trinidad and Tobago	
Tunisia	
Turkey	
Uganda	
Ukraine	
Uruguay	
Vanuatu	
Venezuela	
Vietnam	
Yemen	
Zambia	
Zimbabwe	