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What's new in KARAT ?

European Development Days 2010

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT
MONDAY, 6 DECEMBER 2010
AUDITORIUM 300
Square-Brussels Meeting Centre
From 10:05 to 14:00
Register at www.eudevdays.eu
before 22 November 2010

- 1** **Women at the Center: Gender Equality and Local Development.**
How local governments advance gender equality and women's rights, by the UN Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) and the UN Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) - part of UN Women | 10:05 - 10:30
- 2** **Decent Work and Women's Rights.**
How can we work together and within different sectors to ensure that women's labour around the world is decent? by SOLIDAR, One World Action and ARCI | 10:35 - 10:45
- 3** **Development Cooperation in New EU Member States.**
Towards an EU-wide gender responsive development cooperation, by One World Action and the KARAT coalition | 10:50 - 11:00

Organized by: **arci**, **ONE WORLD ACTION**, **UNCDF**, **Karat**, **solidar**, **UNIFEM**
Hosted by: **eudevdays.eu**

The 5th edition of the European Development Days (EDD) took place in Brussels on 6 and 7 December. Organized by the European Commission and the Belgian Presidency of the Council of the European Union, EDD is the leading European forum where the questions and issues about international development cooperation are debated. KARAT Coalition, together with One World Action, Arci, UN CDF, Solidar and UN Women, took part in the panels focused on gender equality in development cooperation. Thanks to our participation in EDD we have a possibility to underline the importance of gender issues during this high-level European meeting, among various actors such as representatives of governments, CSOs, Global South partners, European and international officials. During the EDD KARAT Coalition was represented by Secretariat staff and members from EU New Members States (Bulgaria, Romania, Slovakia).

The next edition of the EDD will take place in Poland, 14-18 December 2011.

More information about EDD 2010 on: <http://www.eudevdays.eu>

Final Event of the Project “Through Their Eyes, Through Ours” in Brussels

The project “Through Their Eyes, Through Ours” financed by European Commission which is coming to an end in February 2011 had its final event in Brussels on the 17th of November. Our partner organization WIDE was the host of the official ceremony. During the evening, the exhibition “Through Their Eyes” has been presented to a Belgian audience, and additional international audiences. One of the guests for this evening was Olga Ciskariszwili-Soselia, the second prize winner of the photo



competition.

Apart from the exhibition, the audience could see also other final products of the projects, such as tools from data gathering tours included in the educational pack “Her Story - Women and Development”. This includes: the movie “Her Story” by Paulina Jędrzejewska and the toolkit “Gender Mainstreaming in Development Cooperation” by Mila O’Sullivan and others.

The exhibition will be available for visitors in Brussels in Mundo B (26 rue d’Edimbourg) till the end of December.

If you are interested in the products of the project “Through Their Eyes...” please contact Ewa at: ewa.pintera@karat.org.pl

Training of Trainers - Application of CEDAW

Training of Trainers regarding the application of the Convention on Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women was held in Warsaw, Poland, on 17-23 November. The event was organized by KARAT Coalition and International Women’s Rights Action Watch Asia-Pacific and was addressed to female trainers from Azerbaijan,

Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. It aimed at strengthening the ability of individuals and organisations to understand and apply principles of the CEDAW Convention in their national, sub-regional and regional context. The seven-day program of the meeting allowed the participants to sharpen their understanding of CEDAW as well as of the structural and institutional aspects of discrimination and inequality. Thanks to this event, the pool of resource people, based in the CEE/CIS countries and prepared to conduct workshops on the CEDAW Convention at local, national and regional levels, was significantly enhanced.

More information about the meeting: aleksandra.solik@karat.org.pl

KARAT Coalition joined Zagranica Group



As a consequence of widening the Gender and Development Program, KARAT Coalition has joined the Zagranica Group. Zagranica Group is the Polish association of non-governmental organizations working abroad in cooperation with (and for the benefit of) foreign partners and the national platform of CONCORD. We would like to promote gender equality in development issues in Poland, especially due to the lack of women's organizations interests in this area. Our presence in the Zagranica Group gives us an

opportunity to take an active part in monitoring of development assistance in Poland, to influence the current development policy as well as the national and international debate on development cooperation, and also to create new standards in global education in Poland.

More information about Zagranica Group: www.zagranica.org.pl. If you wish to know more about our involvement in this area please contact Marta at: marta.gontarska@karat.org.pl

Workshop on Women's Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Claiming Women's Economic, Social and Cultural Rights was the title of the workshop organized by IWRAW Asia-Pacific and ESCR-Net on 3-6 December 2010 in Penang, Malaysia. The workshop brought together practitioners on women's economic, social and cultural rights (ESCR) and those interested in applying the international human rights mechanisms to claim these rights. It aimed at creating a forum for discussing the opportunities and obstacles that are related to using these mechanisms. The meeting was attended by Aleksandra Solik from KARAT's Secretariat and it provided us with the opportunity to develop new contacts, strengthen the partnership relations and gain inspiration for future activities.

For more information please write to Aleksandra at: aleksandra.solik@karat.org.pl

Members' News

Gender Project for Bulgaria Foundation (Bulgaria): Stanimira Hadjimitova in the Calendar "Women Inspiring Europe 2011"!

The unveiling of the Women Inspiring Europe 2011 calendar took place on 3rd December, in Brussels. The calendar was created by the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE). In the calendar, 12 women from different origins, backgrounds and ages share a common principle: the efforts to break through the invisible "walls" that women still face in Europe today. One of those 12 women is Stanimira Hadjimitova from the Gender Project for Bulgaria Foundation, which is a KARAT Member organization.

Congratulations!!!

Political Club of Women 50/50 (Moldova): Election Monitoring From a Gender Perspective

The Political Club of Women 50/50 in Moldova is involved in the initiative ProGen Alliance - Election 2010 which has just presented the preliminary results of the 2010 Election monitoring from a gender perspective.

The member organizations of the ProGen Alliance - Elections 2010 aim at bringing into the public's attention, in particular, in the attention of the political parties, the importance of the principle of gender equality and gender issues.

The elections took place on the 28th of November, and the result is a Parliament with 19 women out of 101 MP's.

For more information please write to Olga at: office@club50.md



"Sana Sezim" (Kazakhstan) - Say NO to AIDS

On the 1st of December 2010, on the day of the International Day of AIDS, staff and volunteers of NGO "Sana Sezim" organized an action "Say NO to AIDS". One thousand leaflets and red ribbons - the symbol of the fight against AIDS and HIV, in memory of those who have died – were distributed in the streets, at shops, university and schools in the city of Shymkent.

To know more, please write to Vera at: ngosanasezim@rambler.ru

World

CEDAW Committee: 100 Ratifications of the Optional Protocol to CEDAW

The Optional Protocol to CEDAW has now achieved 100 ratifications, with Cambodia as the most recent State Party. By ratifying the Optional Protocol, 100 States have given to women in their countries the necessary tools to hold their governments accountable for alleged violations of their rights, and to have access to remedies if the Committee concludes that their rights have indeed been violated.

It is a big success of the women's movements. However, we must remember that women continue to face obstacles to access justice, such as the lack of access to legal aid, the women's legal literacy and the lack of awareness of their rights and capacity to effectively claim them.

To know more, check the fact sheet "[How to submit individual complaints under the Optional Protocol to CEDAW](#)"

Poland : Parliament passes Gender Quota Bill

The Polish Parliament has approved a bill which aims at promoting greater gender equality in the country's political life. According to the new legislation, at least 35 percent of all candidates on the lists of all parties running for seats in the 460-seat lower house must be women. The rule will not apply to elections to the 100-seat upper house, the Senate.

The idea was launched by the Polish Women's Congress which has prepared the project of the parity (50%) bill and has collected more than 100,000 signatures of citizens supporting it. Unfortunately, the original project has been significantly changed by the members of the Parliament.

Now women account for some 20 percent of deputies in the lower house and for only 8 percent of senators. The next parliamentary elections are scheduled for autumn in 2011.

Resources

KARAT: Educational Pack “Her Story - Women and Development”

Educational Pack “Her Story - Women in Development” has been just issued by KARAT Coalition. The pack contains the scenario of a workshop on “Women and Development” that can be used by trainers and teachers during development education classes. The scenario is based on the movie “Her Story” by Paulina Jędrzejewska. In the pack you can find also the toolkit “Gender Mainstreaming in Development Cooperation” by Mila O’Sullivan, the exhibition on CDs, photos.

The Pack has been financed by the European Commission and Oak Foundation. It is available in English and Polish. For more information please contact Ewa at: ewa.pintera@karat.org.pl

OSCE Report: Combating Trafficking as Modern-Day Slavery

The report “Combating Trafficking as Modern-Day Slavery: A Matter of Rights, Freedoms and Security” illustrates the current reality of human trafficking and its multiple forms. It also describes progress, policies and actions of the OSCE in 2010, and recommends a strategic approach for future work.

The report is available [here](#)

UN: Fact Sheet “Women, Gender Equality and Climate Change”

Climate change is a sustainable development challenge, with broad impacts not only on the environment but also on economic and social development. The effects of climate change will vary among regions, and between different generations, income groups and occupations as well as between women and men. The threats of climate change are not gender-neutral. It is therefore extremely important to apply a gender analysis to all actions on climate change, so that women’s and men’s specific needs and priorities are identified and addressed.

The fact sheet is available [here](#)

UNDP: Gender Inequality Index (GII)

UNDP introduces a new measure of gender inequalities, built on the same framework as the Human Development Index - to better expose differences in the distribution of achievements between women and men.

[More information](#)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

KARAT Secretariat would like to sincerely thank the following for their contributions to the News (forwarding information and providing us with 'original' information): Gender Project for Bulgaria Foundation (Bulgaria), Political Club of Women 50/50 (Moldova)“Sana Sezim” (Kazakhstan), IWRAW Asia-Pacific, OSCE, WUNRN.

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