

Annex 2.

**Implementation of the Programme of Action of the Least Developed Countries 2001-2005
By UNIFEM/Asia and Pacific Section**

No	Goals and targets ¹	Adopted policies and undertaken measures	Comments ²
Commitment 1. Fostering a people-centred policy framework			
	<p>1. Increased use of gender analysis by governments in the prioritization of resources and development of economic policies.</p> <p>2. Participation of government as well as civil society in the development and formulation process.</p> <p>3. Promoting a comprehensive and integrated information base, including through strengthening of national statistical systems.</p>	<p>Engendering Planning Processes</p> <p>Engendered Cambodia MDG report and established gender-sensitive indicators to track progress on RH and HIV/AIDS, VAW (2003)</p> <p>Engendering PRSPs in Laos, Timor Leste, and Cambodia (2004)</p> <p>Engendering Cambodia's National Strategic Development Plan, including commitments to assess the impact of trade reform on women and the poor. (2005)</p> <p>Gender Budgeting</p> <p>Gender budgeting in Nepal</p>	

¹ See the list of goals and targets in annex 2

² Please, include in this column the following information: development changes resulted from the adopted policies and measures, obstacles and constraints, further actions to be taken, emerging challenges and issues, lessons learned and good practices.

		<p>High level political negotiations with UNIFEM resulted in women being recognized as autonomous rights holders as well as recognition of affirmative action for women in the Finance Minister's 2005 Budget Speech</p> <p>Gender Budget initiative in Cambodia (working with Ministries of Women's Affairs, Planning, Finance, Economy and Agriculture and Forestry. (2004)</p> <p>Statistics and Census</p> <p>Engendering Nepal Census (2001)</p> <p>First-ever baseline study of gender disparities in Bhutan conducted. (2002)</p> <p>Country level workshop in Cambodia to engender National Statistical Systems (2003)</p> <p>Networks</p> <p>Network of South Asian Women Entrepreneurs formed. (2002)</p> <p>Engendering the census by developing women-specific quantitative baseline data and complementary household-based data in Maldives.</p>	
<p>Commitment 2. Good governance at national, regional and international levels</p>			

<p>Increasing effectiveness of governments in implementing global agendas that promote gender equality and women's human rights.</p> <p>Promoting effective representation and participation of women in all spheres of decision-making,</p>	<p><u>Regional Level</u></p> <p><u>SAARC member countries signed the Convention on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Women and Children for Prostitution (2002)</u></p> <p>CEDAW and Human Rights</p> <p>Technical Assistance to Samoa's Ministry of Women Affairs for the preparation of CEDAW report; TA to Ministry of Youth, Women, Sports & Recreation to facilitate government and NGO collaboration for the development of CEDAW implementation plan (2002)</p> <p>UNIFEM utilizes capacity building strategies to enhance capacities of government vis-à-vis CEDAW, gender budgets, sex-disaggregated data and HIV/AIDS to promote women's human rights; to enhance the capacities of NGOs and women's networks and organizations, judges, and survivors of VAW.</p> <p>Bangladesh, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Nepal among the SAARC countries whose Ministries of Women's Affairs participated in a peer learning process, facilitated by UNIFEM, on emerging vulnerabilities and CEDAW reporting.</p> <p>Presented a landmark initiative to the National Assembly harmonizing penal provisions with all the legal instruments in CEDAW in the Bhutan Penal Code 2004.</p> <p>UNIFEM serving in advisory capacity to Afghan Ministry of Women Affairs. Through technical assistance, MOWA provided inputs to the Afghan National Development Strategy, the MDG Report, and formulated a National Plan</p>	<p>Lack of clarity by state parties, NGOs and international agencies on what the standards of human rights are and how to achieve them; a dearth of expertise, methodologies, and capacities to apply the human rights standards; and the existence of structural barriers continue to hamper CEDAW implementation.</p> <p>In general, women are unaware of their human rights and how to pursue legal or judicial remedies.</p> <p>To empower women, esp. at grassroots level, there is a need to translate the Convention into local languages.</p> <p>Traditional cultural barriers persist which impede women's political participation – women roles as</p>
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	<p>including the political process at all levels;</p> <p>Engendering constitutions</p>	<p>for Women based on the Beijing Platform for Action (2005)</p> <p>Women's Political Participation and Leadership</p> <p>Partnerships with parliamentarians have been strengthened with respect to work on HIV/AIDS, gender budgets and responsive governance</p> <p>Building capacity of South Asian women parliamentarians through South Asia Committee for the Political Empowerment of Women. (2003)</p> <p>In 2005 Afghan elections, out of 582 female candidates, women won 68 seats in the Lower House (25% of the total) and 119 seats in thirty-four provincial councils</p> <p>UNIFEM continued to provide support to Cambodia's and Laos' fledgling women's constituency with efforts to increase community awareness of the importance of women's participation in politics. Increase in the number of elected women in Laos and similarly in Cambodia's commune elections. Voter education efforts in Cambodia (2004)</p> <p>Formed new NGO focused exclusively on women in politics in Timor Leste (2003)</p> <p>Working with Pacific Island Forum Leaders to address low participation of women in all levels of decision-making processes and structures. (2004)</p> <p>Engendered the drafting of the Solomon Islands Constitution (2004) and Afghanistan</p>	<p>caregivers valued more than their community and decision-making roles.</p> <p>Women parliamentarians possess little understanding of gender issues to effectively represent women's concerns and interests vis-à-vis other national machinery; particularly on substantive issues like women's rights, gender-based violence, HIV/AIDS, and social protection.</p> <p>There is a lack of follow through post-elections of developing/supporting elected women into transformative leaders</p> <p>Women's political participation in the Pacific is rated lowest in the world.</p> <p>In Afghanistan, building the capacity of women and organizing them around a common agenda that respects women's rights and gender equality irrespective of political affiliation and ethnic background represents a great challenge. The present composition of parliament – with 70% of members drawn from former Jihadi factions (extremely conservative) – presents a major setback for the initiatives that support women's human rights and gender equality.</p>
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	<p>Strengthening national women's machinery and other government agencies/branches</p>	<p>Supporting and strengthening National Councils of Women in Solomon Islands and Vanuatu (2004)</p> <p>TA support to Vanuatu Department of Women's Affairs – conduct of leadership training workshop (2002)</p> <p>Strengthened partnerships with Ministry of Women's and Veteran's Affairs in Cambodia</p> <p>Supported establishment of National Commission for the Advancement of Women in Laos as the national machinery for women. (2003)</p> <p>Training of judges in Nepal – as part of equality education programme (2004).</p>	
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Commitment 3. Building human and institutional capacities

Promoting appropriate legislation [efforts] for greater social integration and social inclusion, paying special attention to minorities and other vulnerable groups.

Legislative and Policy Initiatives

Bill on Property Rights (Nepal) passed ensuring equal rights of women, including widows, to property. (2002)

Domestic Violence Bills in Cambodia and Laos passed (2002)

With the Nepal Association of Foreign Employment Agencies, drafted a code of conduct that brings all recruiting agencies into a legal framework. (2005)

Removal of the discriminatory provision of obtaining approval from guardian/husbands for women as a pre-requisite for passports in Nepal. (2005)

UNIFEM contributed to redrafting of the new foreign employment bill with a rights-based perspective. (2005)

Domestic Violence bill in Sri Lanka passed and draft prepared in Nepal (2005)

Revival of Human Trafficking Control Bill in Nepal. Nepal gov't taking the lead on trafficking issue (2005)

Drafting support to New Foreign Employment Bill and Regulation in Nepal (2005)

Implementation Decree for Law on Protection and Development of Women of Laos (2005)

		<p>HIV/AIDS</p> <p>[Note: The bulk of HIV/AIDS programming in South Asia sub-region is in India.]</p> <p>UNIFEM is a member of the UN Global Working Group on HIV in the context of trafficking in Nepal. (2005)</p> <p>Engendering National AIDS plan in Cambodia (2004)</p> <p>First positive women's network established in Cambodia and gained access to national policy dialogues (2004)</p> <p>Raising awareness of the gender dimensions of HIV/AIDS with Mekong Leaders Coalition that includes representatives from women's national machinery from Cambodia and Laos. (2004)</p> <p>Violence Against Women</p> <p>UNIFEM facilitated participatory drafting process of DVB, facilitated consultation and public hearing processes b/w government and ERAW network. Supplied a local jurist in Cambodia to work with Ministry to prepare for the defense of a newly drafted bill on domestic violence</p> <p>Engaging faith-based organizations: working with local imams and community leaders to combat violence against women and trafficking in Bangladesh. Similarly in Nepal, UNIFEM is partnering with World Hindu Federation to review Sanatan Dharma. (2005)</p> <p>ERAW networks in Cambodia and Lao strengthened (2003)</p> <p>Supported men's network in Cambodia to launch public education and awareness raising of VAW in relation to</p>	
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		<p>HIV/AIDS</p> <p>TA on Regional Programme for the Elimination of Violence Against Women in Pacific region (2003)</p> <p>UNIFEM chairing South Asia Coordination Group on Action Against Violence. (2005)</p> <p>Trafficking of Women and Girls</p> <p>Partnered with national research institutes to conduct mapping and situational analyses study on trafficking of women and children. Results will inform design of Regional Anti-trafficking Program (2002)</p> <p>Ratification of the SAARC Convention on Trafficking</p> <p>Partnerships with police in Sri Lanka and National Judicial Academy in Nepal resulted in advancing women's rights perspectives within their anti-trafficking curriculum and developing indicators for measuring sensitivities of police personnel and adherence to rights standards.</p> <p>Laws related to trafficking reviewed in four countries of regional programme in order to identify gender discriminatory provisions. Review assesses the manner in which criminal justice system responds to the issues and gaps in implementation</p>	
Commitment 4. Building productive capacities to make globalization work for LDCs			
	<p>Articulating policies and measures to foster an enabling environment to facilitate economic opportunities and utilization of</p>	<p>Migrant Women Workers</p> <p>Migrant women issues and needs successfully incorporated in Nepal's Tenth National Development Plan</p>	<p>2002 East and Southeast Asia</p> <p>Plans to implement regional programme on Gender, globalization and markets were scaled back due to lack of substantive funds</p>

	<p>technology to enhance innovation capacity</p>	<p>Working with Department of Labor in Nepal to promote a rights-based approach and to establish a computerized database system to collect sex-disaggregated data on aspects of migrant workers. Using data to influence and shape gender-responsive policies and programmes. (2004)</p> <p>Government of Nepal drafted a policy on migration with TA from UNIFEM. (2004)</p> <p>UNIFEM's advocacy and lobbying brought recognition of migrant women workers' financial contribution towards poverty alleviation. TA provided to Code of conduct prepared by Nepal Association of Foreign Employment Agencies was endorsed. (2005)</p> <p>Establishment of returnee migrant women workers organizations to address rights and safe migration in Nepal (2005)</p> <p>Migration mapping studies initiated in Cambodia and Laos (2005)</p> <p>HomeNets</p> <p>Formation of loose and informal networks in Nepal and Sri Lanka. National databases on home-based workers are available (2002)</p> <p>Registration of Home-Based Workers Association in Bangladesh as a trade union. (2003)</p> <p>Capacity-building of home-based workers in Bangladesh and Sri Lanka on marketing, networking and leadership development and to produce value added and market friendly products (tailoring, carpet weaving and bag making). Supported participation of select network members to World Social Forum. Used media to educate</p>	<p>Challenges re: diffusion of ICTs – the enormous gap b/w IT literate women and non-IT literate women who are non-English speakers; lack of IT facilities and other needed support services, especially in less urban areas</p>
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		and raise awareness about the contributions of female home based workers and the fact that they do not enjoy rights or social security benefits. (2004)	
Commitment 5. Enhancing the role of trade in development			
	Strengthening efforts to integrate trade policies into national development policies towards poverty eradication	<p>2004 South Asia: Knowledge Products “Trade, Globalization, and Gender: Evidence from South Asia by UNIFEM and UNCTAD</p> <p>Research studies on the impact of trade agreements and globalization on women workers in Bangladesh, Nepal, and Sri Lanka launched.</p> <p>Pacific Agreement on Closer Economic Relations (PACER) and Pacific Island Countries Trade Agreement concluded b/w EU and Pacific Island Countries (2004)</p> <p>Two studies launched in Cambodia to examine impact of trade reform on women in Cambodia’s garment sector and on gender dimensions of the informal economy</p>	These agreements fail to consider women’s rights or gender equality issues. UNIFEM providing training to government on social impact assessments of these trading agreements.
Commitment 6. Reducing vulnerability and protecting the environment			
	Peace processes and poverty-reduction centred reconstruction approaches and programs reflect gender equality commitments	<p>Incorporated UNIFEM strategy as Gender Chapter of Transition Plan for Afghanistan and Preliminary Needs Assessment. More than 15 UN agencies participated in Roundtable on Afghan Women Leadership (2002)</p> <p>Engendering Sri Lanka peace process and post-conflict transition programming – highlighted the need for human rights and accountability</p>	

		<p>UNIFEM successfully advocated for the inclusion of women's voices, concerns, and priorities in Sri Lanka Development Forum (post-Tsunami recovery processes) (2005)</p> <p>In post-Tsunami Sri Lanka, UNIFEM advocated for a review of the allocation of state lands in favor of women, especially to protect women survivors of Tsunami.</p> <p>Provided support to women in East Timor as they transitioned from conflict to independence. Ensured that Constitution recognizes and includes provisions for women's human rights and needs – such as equality between the sexes and includes Women's Charter of Rights.</p> <p>UNIFEM facilitated a research study on Samurdhi – Sri Lanka's largest anti-poverty scheme – to analyze its impact on poor women. The findings mobilized provincial women counselors to demand inclusion and their involvement in the formulation, implementation and monitoring of the scheme</p> <p>Consultations held in Solomon Islands and Vanuatu re: engendering peace processes (2002)</p>	
Commitment 7. Mobilizing financial resources			
		No available data	

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