

RESOURCE GUIDE

Mainstreaming Gender in Water Management





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Foreword

Throughout the developing world, the water and gender scenario is all too familiar: women labour to provide water for household needs while men make decisions about water resources management and development at both local and national levels. We believe projects, programmes and policies that address gender inequalities will enhance both water resources management and human development opportunities for both men and women.

In many cases the analysis of gender perspectives in relation to water resources must be context-specific. Productive versus domestic use of water, women's and men's access to and control over water, and land, credit and extension services are examples of issues that need to be addressed. The now abundant literature about gender relations in water management has been inventoried for easy access by all users. In the process, many valuable resources have been identified and compiled. But gaps in information have also emerged, showing the need for further research in this sector.

The initial UNDP Resource Guide for Mainstreaming Gender in Water Management was launched during the 3rd World Water Forum in Kyoto in 2003. The feedback received since then has shaped this second, totally revised version introduced in March 2006 during the 4th World Water Forum in Mexico. This once again edited edition of August 2006 is available in four languages: English, French, Spanish and Arabic. Most sections of the latter three versions are translations from English, but some are original texts specific to the language region. Such an approach gives scope for much wider distribution and utilization of the Resource Guide.

This edition of the Resource Guide divides the resources among thirteen water sub-sectors, to facilitate access for specific purposes and water uses. Introductions to the sectors describe current debates and gender issues. References, resources (including manuals and guidelines), case studies and relevant websites are all grouped by sub-sector. The Gender and Water Alliance writers of this document tried to keep in mind easy reading and clear categorization throughout the writing process. Nevertheless, readers are advised to browse through the whole Resource Guide when in search of useful and interesting documents.

With this Resource Guide, UNDP, GWA, IRC, Cap-Net and GWP seek to assist water professionals, politicians, gender specialists and others in their efforts to provide improved access to water for poor women, children and men all over the world. We welcome users' assistance in the form of comments, additions, case studies and other feedback for future editions and for the regular updating of the website version of the Resource Guide at www.genderandwater.org/

Olav Kjørven Director Energy and Environment Group Bureau for Development Policy United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Ethne Davey Chairperson Steering Committee Gender and Water Alliance (GWA)

Acknowledgements

We are very pleased with the outcome of the excellent collaboration on this edited second edition of the Resource Guide for Mainstreaming Gender in Water Management of August 2006. This new edition has been greatly expanded and improved. It includes sub-sector overviews, additional resources and case studies, all of that in four languages, and some of the resources in five languages. Most of the texts are translated from English, some from Spanish and French.

Many people, women and men, and organisations have made significant contributions to the completion of this work, and we are indebted to all those who worked so hard to achieve it. We thank all those who strengthened the new contents by giving feedback and suggestions for improvements when invited to do so via the various e-mail listservs and web sites. The Gender and Water Alliance is honoured to have been entrusted to update the Resource Guide by the organisations providing the necessary finance: The Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

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Serious attempts have been made to acknowledge all authors of case studies which were selected to be included in full in the Resource Guide. If sometimes this has not been adequate, we request authors to notify GWA so that we can make corrections in the website and in the next version.

We thank the partner organisations in this endeavor for their valuable contributions: UNDP, IRC, Cap-Net and GWP. IRC has taken on herself the technical process of producing the web pages and CD-Rom, without which all the writing would not have been accessible. Cap-Net gave useful advice and took care of reproduction.

The Resource Guide will be updated regularly and is available in the GWA website www.genderandwater.org as well as via links in the partners' websites. All comments and additions are welcome.

Joke Muylwijk Executive Director Gender and Water Alliance

Acronyms and Abbreviations

CapNet Capacity Building for Integrated Water Resources Management

CBOs Community-Based Organisations

FAO Food and Agriculture Organisation

GRBIs Gender-Responsive Budget Initiatives

GWA Gender and Water Alliance

GWP Global Water Partnership

IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre

IUCN The World Conservation Union

IWRM Integrated Water Resources Management

MDGs Millennium Development Goals

NGOs Non-Governmental Organisations

O&M Operations and Maintenance

UNEP United Nations Environment Programme

UNICEF United Nations Children's Fund

UNDP United Nations Development Programme

WATSAN Water and Sanitation

WSSD World Summit on Sustainable Development

Chapter 1 Introduction to the Guide

1.1. What is this Resource Guide?

This is the second edition of the Resource Guide on Mainstreaming Gender in Water Management of August 2006, which was first published by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in 2003. The Guide is a reference document to assist water and gender practitioners and professionals as well as persons responsible for gender mainstreaming, and anybody else who is interested in the water sector. It is a compilation of newer resources – documents, papers, books, case studies, tools and toolkits - on gender mainstreaming in Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM). It is meant to support action and further reading and research. New sector overviews have been added, particularly those relating to current issues and debates. Url-links as valid by mid 2006 are included. However they tend to keep changing, and we suggest you try and find new links before enquiring with the publishers.

1.2. Why was it developed?

The Guide was developed in response to an identified need for information on gender mainstreaming in IWRM. While considerable information exits, it is dispersed among different institutions and organizations, making it difficult to know where to get specific resources for particular aspects of gender mainstreaming in the water sectors. This Guide supports the efforts of those trying to mainstream gender in their programmes and projects and those seeking to improve their knowledge and skills in gender and IWRM.

1.3. What are its objectives?

The resource guide is meant to:

- Facilitate access to available literature and resources regarding gender and IWRM;
- Improve the sustainability and effectiveness of water-related activities through incorporation of gender equality and diversity or social equity analysis;
- Improve understanding and awareness of gender concepts through an easy reference to existing materials, cases, and tools; and
- Improve approaches to the planning, implementation, management and monitoring of IWRM.

1.4. How was it developed?

The development of the Resource Guide has been an interactive process involving consultants, water practitioners, gender specialists and programme officers working in

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