Collective for Research and Training on Development Action (CRTD-A)
Independent Resource and Information Services (IRIS)

Development e -Brief
March 5, 2004

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Development e-Brief is a new fortnightly e-newsletter brought to you by CRTD-A and IRIS. **Development e-Brief** is a compilation of important links, information and e-resources related to social development and gender equality. It focuses on ICT as a key tool for learning, exchange and communication. **Development e-brief** uses various sources of information namely the web, incoming reports and communications published and grey literature. These include the Development Gateway, AWID, ELDIS Reporter, IDNews, INSTRAW News, ESCWA newsletter etc.

Each of the sub-headings of **Development e-Brief** is bookmarked for easy reference.

For the moment, Development e-Brief will be released in English but will be made available in Arabic in the near future. Your comments, views and suggestions will be greatly welcomed. We would be grateful if you could take a moment to reply to the brief reader's questionnaire enclosed as an **attachment** with this newsletter.

So from all of us, we hope that you will truly ENJOY and find it USEFUL!

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EVENTS

1. **ICT:**

   - **E-consultation: "ICT's for the advancement of rural women's empowerment: strategies, platforms, tools and training.** 11-24 04. Email; jenny@apcwomen.org.

2. **YOUTH:**

   - **International Seminar on Micro Credit for Youth-**Iran, Shiraz, 6-9 March 2004. www.developmentgateway.org//microfinance/dg-contribute/item-detail?item_id=382724&version_id=232566&from=alert

3. **GENDER:**

   - **Call for Papers**: "Micro lending Articles needed for international Development Journal: Women for Women, a non-profit humanitarian org needs submissions pertaining to economic and social issues from various viewpoints" coser@womenforwomen.org

- **Urgent Action Alert**: Protect Iraqi Women's Rights in Family Laws **27 January 2004:** www.albab.com/arab/countries/iraq/council2003.htm

- **Call For Submissions '**Country – Specific and/or Regional Case Studies Exploring the Gendered Impact of the Current Wave of Globalization Health**. Deadline: 29 Feb 04.** www.crwh.org.

- **E-consultation:** "ICTs for the advancement of rural women's empowerment: strategies, platforms, tools and training. 11-24 04. Email; jenny@apcwomen.org.

NEWS

1. ICT:

- **Development Gateway portal** sees dramatic growth in 2003-growing nearly 250% in 2003. www.developmentgateway.org

- **Portal to increase focus on MDGs.** www.developmentgateway.org

- **Development Gateway emphasizes partnerships**; www.developmentgateway.org/ict

2. YOUTH:

- **Young Roma Leaders Plan for the Future**: Roma delegates presented their perspectives in two planned initiatives, the Decade of Roma Inclusion 2005-2015 and the Roma Education Fund. www.developmentgateway.org//poverty/dg-contribute/item-detail?item_id=380283&version_id=230957&from=alert

3. GENDER:

- **WLP and SIGI/Jordan convene Middle East/North Africa Inst for Women's Leadership in Jordan.**

- **Women refugees in Zimbabwe and Lebanon** work to improve quality of life in camps through MACMAG GLIP in Lebanon.

- **Iraqi and Palestinian Women take on key leadership roles**: Zahira Kamal was appointed Minister of Women's Affairs in Palestine and Rend Rahim Francke was appointed Iraq's ambassador to the US.

- **Position Vacancy at IDRC**, Cairo Office for Program Officer in Peace building and Gender. www.developmentgateway.org//gender/dg-contribute/item-detail?item_id=380450&version_id=231064&from=alert

- **ESCWA provides Technical Assistance to Egypt's National Council for Women**. ESCWA organized a capacity building workshop in Gender disaggregated statistics in Cairo (ESCWA WEEKLY NEWS 09/02/04)

4. **TRADE/ECONOMICS/MICROFINANCE:**

- **World bank Establishes Trust Fund for World's Poorest Countries Initiative** www.worldbank.org/licus/

- **ESCWA promotes exchange of goods among Lebanon, Jordan, and Syria.** ESCWA presented an economic feasibility study of the exchange of goods across the seaports and lands of the three countries. (ESCWA WEEKLY NEWS 02/02/04)

5. **NGOs:**

- **The US begs for UN backing in Iraq**. www.fpif.org/commentary/2004/0402un.html

- **Libyan Disarmament a positive step, but threat of proliferation remains**. www.fpif.org/commentary/2004/0401libya.html

REPORTS & BOOKS

1. **ICT:**

- **Global Information Technology Report 2003-2004.** www.developmentgateway.org//ict/dg-contribute/item-detail?item_id=381582&version_id=231766&from=alert

- **Creating Demand: An Analytical Framework for rapid promotion strategies of ICT enabled services**. www.developmentgateway.org//ict/dg-contribute/item-detail?

- **Tools for Development: Using Information and Communications Technology to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals**. www.developmentgateway.org//ict/dg-contribute/item-detail?item_id=381737&version_id=231862&from=alert

- **KIT: ICTs and development**. www.developmentgateway.org//ict/dg-contribute//ict/dg-contribute/itemdetail?item_id=382352&version_id=232334from=alert

- **Discussion Note on ICT for sustainable Development**. This is a note on various targets for development and the role ICT can play in meeting those objectives. www.developmentgateway.org//ict/dg-contribute/item-detail?item_id=382597&version_id=232493&from=alert

- **Information & Communication Technologies and Development**. This book produced for WSIS has chapters written by a number of authors from the World Bank. www.developmentgateway.org//ict/dg-contribute/item-detail?item_id=382604&version_id=232497&from=alert

- **DG Highlights and Special Features on ICT for Development**. Highlights and special features prepared since 2002 by DG ICT for development team on various hot issues related to using ICT in development. www.developmentgateway.org/node/133831/sdm/docview?docid=358401

- **VSAT case Studies (Nigeria and Algeria)**. This report presents case studies of Nigeria and Algeria on very small aperture terminals (VSAT, a low cost, rapidly deployable technology for internet connection). www.developmentgateway.org//ict/dg-contribute/item-detail?item_id=383534&version_id=233075&from=alert

- **ICT and Microfinance**. January 2004 issue of i4D: This issue includes 1) Microfinance and new technologies, by Jacques Attali, 2) Information Technology for Microfinance: Opportunities and challenges in India…
  www.developmentgateway.org//ict/dg-contribute/item-detail?item_id=383661&version_id=233155&from=alert

- **Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs) as of January 2003**. The report scans 21 national priorities for poverty reduction and sector priorities to analyze how ICT is discussed.
  www.developmentgateway.org//ict/dg-contribute/item-detail?item_id=383779&version_id=233232&from=alert

- **Digital Opportunity in the Developing World**: USAID example.
  www.developmentgateway.org//ict/dg-contribute/item-detail?item_id=383899&version_id=233296&from=alert

- **Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) for Sustainable livelihoods:** Preliminary Study April – Nov 1999. Case studies of small entrepreneurs in rural communities.
  www.developmentgateway.org//ict/dg-contribute/item-detail?item_id=383905&version_id=233300&from=alert

- **Factors Affecting Internet Development: An Asian Survey**. This study examined the relationship between internet development and various social, economic and political factors that are hypothesized to affect Internet growth.
  www.developmentgateway.org//ict/dg-contribute/item-detail?item_id=384419&version_id233640&from=alert

- **A Champion in our Midst: Lessons Learned from Impacts of NGOs Use of the Internet.** Abstract**:** "Research investigating the use of Email and the World Wide Web in the South has focused solely on the users of the technology ignoring those without connectivity.." www.developmentgateway.org//ict/dg-contribute/item-detail?item_id=384477&version_id=233671&from=alert

- **Hi-Tech:-ICT as an Economic Enabler.**
  www.developmentgateway.org//ict/dg-contribute/item-detail?item_id=384681&version_id=233821&from=alert

- **Choosing Open Source: A decision making guide for civil society organizations.** This document is intended to help unlock the potential of open source software for civil society. www.developmentgateway.org//ngo/dg-contribute/item-detail?item_id=382783&version_id=232604&from=alert

2. **GENDER**

- **Training Kit for Women**: This kit contains instructions on how to use the internet. www.amarc.org/wol/

- **Gender and Citizenship** a cutting edge pack from BRIDGE. A concise, practical resource for policy makers: www.ids.ac.uk/bridge/
- **WLP has collaboratively (with Arab reps included) produced a training handbook for women.**

- **Is Climate Change a Gender Issue?** A look at the gendered issue of climate. Inuit people of Canada as an example.

- **Transforming the Mainstream: Gender in UNDP.** This publication sets out clear issues in gender mainstreaming, learning from the efforts of UNDP and its partners.

- T**he Effects of Fiscal Policies on the Economic Development of Women in the Middle East and North Africa**. This is an IMF Working Paper. www.developmentgateway.org//gender/dg-contribute/item-detail?item_id=382757&version_id=232588&from=alert

- **Women and the Millennium Development Goals**. Special on the Mill dev goals & critique by international women's movements. www.whrnet.org/docs/issue-mdg.html

- **Iraq Governing Council Plans Latest assault on Women's Rights in Iraq**, by Jim Lobe. Iraq's governing council has quietly approved plans to implement Shariaa Law instead of existing women's rights. www.fpif.org/commentary/2004/0402iraqwomen.html

- **Fighting Women's Illiteracy through Poetry, In Yemen**. This National Geographic Article that describes a pilot project. www.developmentgateway.org//culture/dg-contribute/item-detail?item_id=383188&version_id=232863&from=alert

- **Afghan Girls Literacy Takes Flight**. "Parvaz" is the first full colour magazine for Afghan kids. www.developmentgateway.org//culture/dg-contribute/item-detail?item_id=383854&version_id=233269&from=alert

- **World Bank Report: Gender and Development in the Middle East and North Africa.** www.developmentgateway.org//gender/dg-contribute/item-detail?item_id=383212&version_id=232877&from=alert

- **Bulletin on Vital Statistics in the ESCWA Region, Sixth Issue.** The Bulletin provides statistics on registered events. It is written in Arabic and English.

3. TRADE/ECONOMICS/MICROFINANCE:

- **Yemen Economic Update**. Winter 2003. Quarterly report which highlights major economic and policy developments. www.worldbank.org/yemen

4. NGOs:

- **Inside the Institutions: The World Bank and Civil Society**: This article critically discusses the engagement of the World Bank with Civil Soc Orgs. www.brettonwoodsproject.org/article.shtml?cmd%5b126%5d=x-126-27513

- **ELDIS CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility)**. Resource Guide. www.eldis.org/csr/index.htm

5. POVERTY:

- **Forging the Future: Engaging Law students and Young Lawyers in Public Service, Human Rights, and Poverty Alleviation:** An open Society Justice initiative Issues Paper: www.justiceinitiative.org/publications/papers/golub

- **BOOK: HIV/AIDS in the Middle East and North Africa**: provides a framework for multisectoral strategic action to reduce behaviours that risk spreading HIV. www.publications.worldbank.org/ecommerce/catalog/product?item

- **From Donorship to Ownership: Moving Towards PRSP, (Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers), Round Two.** Oxfam publication 2004. This paper argues that PRSPs have been disappointing both in terms of process and content.

WEBSITES

1. <u>ICT:</u>

- **Information Technology Guide**: How to obtain free resources related to computers and the internet: www.bridges.org/toolkit/index.html

2. <u>NGOs:</u>

- **Social Watch**-is a website that allows access to publications by Social Watch National groups these include reports, newsletters, and documents from LEBANON, Italy etc. www.socialwatch.org/en/informeImpreso/publicationesWatchers.htm

- **Development International**- is a non profit org seeking to work through a network of local partners, in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, and the Americas to alleviate poverty. www.developmentgateway.org//ngo/dg-contribute/item-detail?item_id=381613&version_id=231786&from=alert

- **Re-launch of United Nations Volunteers Programme (UNV) Online Volunteering Service.** This connects online volunteers with NGO's. www.onlinevolunteering.org

CRTD: NEWS & EVENTS

1. <u>NEW GENDER COURSE:</u>

- **Macmag-Glip's new course entitled "Gender and Communication"** is now available online" at: www.macmag-glip.org/events&workshop_feb04.htm

2. **THE LEBANON DEVELOPMENT GATEWAY:**

    - **The first public information on the launch of the project**: www.iris-lebanon.org/inner/new.htm

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CRTD: BOOKS & REPORTS

1. **GENDER, CITIZENSHIP, AND NATIONALITY**:

    - **The summary of CRTD's research on Gender, Citizenship, and Nationality** can be accessed on www.macmag-glip.org/women.pdf

2. **"RASSED" 2003 REVIEW:**

    - **CRTD "Rassed" 2003 Review can be found at** www.macmag-glip.org/newsletter-2003a.htm

3. **DAILY STAR ARTICLE:**

    - **CRTD's work on Gender and Citizenship is highlighted in a Daily Star article** dated 08/03/04 entitled: "Mothers in the Arab World Feel like Prisoners in their own home". www.dailystar.com.lb/features/08_03_04_e.asp

4. **DIRECTORY of GENDER RELATED ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTERS AND WEBSITES:**

    - **CRTD's directory of gender related electronic newsletters and websites** can be found at: www.macmag-glip.org/dir.pdf