

PROJECT PROPOSAL

Joint EC/UNIFEM Project

Building Capacity
and
Improving Accountability for Gender Equality
in
Development, Peace and Security

1. DESCRIPTION

1.1. Title

Building capacity and improving accountability for Gender Equality in Development, Peace and Security.

1.2. Location

The initiative uses regional and national approaches. It will involve a national component with focused activities in 12 countries (four countries in Africa, two in Asia, one in the Pacific, two in Latin-Central America and one each in the Caribbean, CEE and CIS). Countries will be chosen based on the processes and criteria described in section 1.7.1. Additionally, knowledge and documentation generated through the focused activities in 12 countries will be used to inform partners (including EC delegations, national partners and multi-lateral partners) in other countries through numerous opportunities and mechanisms (e.g. the project website, presentations at regional and global meetings, etc.) .

1.3. Cost of the action and amount requested from the European Commission

Amount requested from Contracting Authority: € 2, 500, 000

UNIFEM contribution: €2,157,872.5

ITC/ILO contribution: €67, 410

Total eligible cost of the action	Amount requested from the European Commission	% of total eligible cost of action
€ 4,725,281	€ 2,500,000	% 52,90

1.4. Summary

Duration of the action	30 months
Objectives of the action	<p>Overall objective(s) To ensure that gender equality and women's human rights are fully incorporated into national development processes and in cooperation programmes supported by the European Commission.</p> <p>Specific Objectives 1. EC-supported programming processes and project implementation in 12 countries incorporate stronger commitments to gender equality – including in aid effectiveness mechanisms such as National Development Strategies (NDSs), Poverty Reduction Strategies (PRSs), -- in line with CEDAW, the Beijing PFA (BPFA), and the</p>

	<p>MDGs.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. EC-supported programmes (including Sector Wide Programmes and Budget Support) in 12 countries incorporate stronger commitments to gender equality. 3. National and regional action on mainstreaming Security Council Resolution 1325 into conflict prevention and peace-building initiatives is enhanced in four post-conflict or conflict-prone countries and relevant sectors are supported through EC cooperation. 4. Multi-stakeholder groups from at least eight countries able to secure greater commitment to gender equality at the High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (Ghana HLF 2008).
<p>Partner(s)</p>	<p>The European Commission and its delegations in partner countries, UNIFEM and ITC/ILO are the 3 primary partners in charge of this programme.</p> <p>At country level, partnerships are with Government line ministries (including Ministries of Finance, Planning and sectoral ministries), national machineries for women and women’s NGOs and networks, other gender equality and human rights experts and representatives from civil society, as well as bilateral and multilateral donors including UN Country Teams (UNCTs).</p> <p>UNIFEM will build on its strong partnerships with national, regional and international NGO networks and inter-governmental organizations, including (as an indicative list):</p> <p><i>Regional Inter-governmental Organizations</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Inter-Governmental Authority for Development (IGAD) □ African Union (AU) □ Southern African Development Community (SADC) □ Economic Commission for West Africa (ECOWAS) □ CARICOM □ South Pacific Commission (SPC) □ UN regional economic commissions in Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Africa, Asia-Pacific and Europe <p><i>Women’s networks</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ AWEAPON (Africa) □ FEMNET (Africa) □ Women in Law and Development (WILDAF, Africa)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Femlink Pacific ❑ Fiji women's rights movement ❑ Women's action for change Pacific ❑ International Women's Rights Action Watch, Asia/Pacific ❑ Gender and Trade Network ❑ DAWN ❑ Network of East West Women (CEE/CIS) ❑ WIDE (Europe) ❑ FLACSO (Latin America) ❑ REPEM (Latin America) ❑ CLADEM (Latin America) ❑ Inter-Agency Network on Women Peace and Security
<p>Target group(s)¹</p>	<p>Taking on board the importance of shared responsibility for achieving gender equality, this programme is aimed at involving both men and women as key actors in and constituencies for activities envisioned. The programme targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Decision-makers and staff in Ministries, Departments, Commissions and Committees in EC partner countries including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ National Women's Machineries ○ Ministries of Finance ○ Ministries of Planning ○ Line ministries responsible for coordinating sector policy support programmes including EC funding ➤ Parliaments ➤ Judiciaries and law enforcement ➤ Police and military staff ➤ Women's rights experts and other human rights advocates ➤ Women's conflict-prevention, peace networks and Civil Societies' Organizations ➤ Regional and National NGOs and Networks in EC partner countries ➤ Bilateral and multilateral donors, other members of UN Country Teams including gender theme groups ➤ Actors in conflict mediation and recovery processes, including assessment missions ➤ Member states ➤ Media
<p>Final beneficiaries²</p>	<p>The final beneficiaries of this initiative are women and men living in poverty in EU partner countries as defined by the EU Consensus on Development, particularly those who are subject to gender-based discrimination in the enjoyment of</p>

¹ "Target groups" are the groups/entities who will be directly positively affected by the project at the Project Purpose level

² "Final beneficiaries" are those who will benefit from the project in the long term at the level of the society or sector at large

	<p>their fundamental human rights, such as the right to economic security, access to natural assets, decent work, education, health care, personal security, freedom from violence, democratic participation and representation, and freedom of expression.</p>
<p>Estimated results</p>	<p>As noted above, the ultimate beneficiaries are women and men living in poverty and/or recovering from conflict in EU partner countries. Their rights, options and opportunities will be enhanced through more effective implementation of the gender equality dimensions of the MDGs, the commitments made under the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the obligations under CEDAW, and implementation of UN SC1325.</p> <p>The long-term impact of this programme is that the components of the MDGs related to gender equality and women’s empowerment will be achieved and there will be stronger implementation of SC1325. Thus, the project will contribute to a reduction in poverty and associated deficits – e.g., maternal mortality, inequities in educational attainment, increasing proportions of HIV+ people who are young women, etc.. – as well as greater protection and promotion of women’s rights in post-conflict reconstruction.</p> <p>As far as the key target groups (see section 1.6.3.) the expected impact is that there will be both enhanced demand and supply for better aligning commitments to achieve gender equality with the aid effectiveness agenda, whether in so-called stable countries or in situations of conflict prevention or peace building. Key mainstream national actors – including government decision-makers and staff in line ministries, parliamentarians, judiciary and law enforcement – will increase their demands for inclusion of support for gender equality in the assistance provided by the EC and other donors. Gender equality advocates and women’s rights networks will be more adept at the kind of policy dialogue that will secure greater attention to gender equality, but will also be called upon more frequently by mainstream actors to provide their expertise in national development planning, in conflict prevention strategies and in peace building activities. Bilateral and multilateral actors will be more adept at recognizing opportunities to align and support national priorities for gender equality with mainstream national development processes.</p>
<p>Main activities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of target countries ; • Mapping donor processes (SWAs, PRSs, etc.) in countries where projects will be executed prior to

	<p>national consultations;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• National consultations on mainstreaming gender equality perspectives in national development planning and cooperation;• Capacity- and partnership-development plans finalized for each of the 12 countries;.• Development and monitoring of indicators on the impact of gender equality on aid effectiveness including through the use of gender responsive budgeting;• Design and launch of on-line learning tools for mainstreaming gender equality perspectives in national development planning and cooperation;• Development of resource materials to support capacity building activities;• Planning, organizing and implementation of activities in preparation for, during and in follow up to the Ghana HLF 2008;• A communication and information-sharing strategy;• Analysis and internal reports and discussion papers designed for the European Commission focusing on gender equality in aid effectiveness and on implementing Security Council Resolution 1325 in EC Policy, Instruments, Budget and Programme;• Following the Ghana HLF, a final evaluation will begin 6 months before the project ends and be completed by Month 33;• Document experiences for use beyond Ghana.
--	---

1.5. Objectives

Overall Objective

To ensure that gender equality and women's human rights are fully incorporated into national development processes and in cooperation programmes supported by the European Commission.

Specific Objectives

1. EC-supported programming processes and their revisions (e.g. through the so-called mid-term reviews) in 12 countries incorporate stronger commitments to gender equality – including in aid effectiveness mechanisms such as National Development Strategies (NDSs), Poverty Reduction Strategies (PRSs) -- in line with CEDAW, the Beijing PFA (BPFA), and the MDGs.
2. To have tools for EC-supported programmes (including Sector Wide Programmes and Budget Support) in 12 countries incorporate stronger commitments to gender equality.
3. National and regional action enhanced on mainstreaming Security Council Resolution 1325 into conflict prevention and peace-building initiatives in four countries and relevant sectors supported through EC cooperation.
4. Multi-stakeholder groups from at least eight countries able to secure greater commitment to gender equality at the High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (Ghana HLF 2008).

Strategies

The current document focuses on the first phase of a two-phased programme focusing on building capacity and accountability for mainstreaming gender equality in:

- *the aid effectiveness agenda* through alignment of aid effectiveness with nations' commitments to CEDAW, the BPFA, and the MDGs;
- *coordination mechanisms related to conflict prevention and peace building* (e.g., multi-donor trust funds, Consolidated Appeals (CAPs), integrated needs assessments, etc.) through stepping up implementation and accountability for Security Council Resolution 1325.

The first phase will end after the Ghana HLF 2008. The second phase will build on gains and gaps identified in Phase I to continue to strengthen implementation and accountability.

UNIFEM has used a number of proven strategies in similar efforts to build sustainable commitment and capacity to support gender equality including:

- *Brokering/facilitating partnerships* to create multi-stakeholder technical teams that reach consensus on policy priorities, implementation strategies and accountability mechanisms. These involve gender equality advocates in government (e.g., national machineries, gender focal points networks), advocacy and grass-roots women's networks and organizations, government policy makers, and multilateral and bilateral organizations.

- *Building capacity and lowering transaction costs* for multi-stakeholder coalitions to develop and implement regional and national gender monitoring mechanisms based on harmonized indicators that encompass obligations and commitments under the MDGs, CEDAW, BPFA, UNSC1325, and other relevant commitments and obligations, using the tools of gender-responsive budgeting.
- *Documenting and disseminating proven practices* for enhancing performance and accountability for gender equality, including through encouraging intra- and inter- regional support and lessons sharing amongst networks of partners.
- *Building an evidence-base* that supports advocacy and action on implementing commitments to gender equality at national and regional levels, including in post-conflict countries.

The project will focus activities in 12 pilot countries with the objective of ‘rolling up’ results to propose models, resource materials, and partnerships that have broader relevance, use, and impact at regional and global levels. As such, the 12 experiences of mainstreaming gender equality into aid effectiveness processes will become the basis for advocating for stronger attention to gender equality at the Ghana High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, but also in other venues in which UNIFEM, the EC, the ILO and other project partners take part. As a catalytic organization, UNIFEM has used this approach in many initiatives, most recently in a five-country (Cambodia, Kyrgyzstan, Kenya, Morocco and Peru) pilot on mainstreaming gender equality into MDG processes that UNIFEM executed for UNDP and which generated replicable models and lessons relevant to generating stronger attention to gender equality in MDG reporting and advocacy strategies.

ITC/ILO will contribute to the project objectives by putting at the disposal of project partners and stakeholders its practical approach to capacity development for gender mainstreaming, consisting in actions integrating production of tools, individual capacity building and development of organisational learning strategies.

This will entail:

- *Support to the design of capacity development plans* that build on needs identified by national stakeholders. This will include: design of capacity development modules on gender equality and aid effectiveness and – within the context of aid effectiveness – on such topics as gender-responsive budgeting, mainstreaming SC1325 into conflict prevention strategies and other topics; as necessary, training of trainers for these modules. The capacity development modules will include a combination of on-line and workshop-based trainings.
- *Creating and maintaining a structured virtual resource base (web “repository”)* gathering on-line learning, training materials, information on project activities, selected good practices, gender information briefs, sector-specific tip-sheets and checklists, promotional and awareness raising materials

- *Facilitating post-training services to project participants through electronic communities of practice, newsletters and information bulletins, and other mechanisms* in line with needs identified through the regional consultations and national-level workshops.

1.6 Justification

1.6.1 Relevance of proposed actions to the objectives of the programme

The 10-year review of the Beijing Platform for Action (New York, 2005) affirmed that commitments to gender equality were not matched by concerted or consistent implementation. In particular, commitments to gender equality -- including the BPFA, CEDAW and UN Security Council Resolution 1325 -- have not been matched by financial support by national government budgets or through official development assistance. This project is designed to address this gap.

Recent years have seen a considerable reshaping of the structures and financing of development cooperation and support for peace and security initiatives; efforts to promote gender equality take place in the context of this changing aid architecture. The Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, adopted in March 2005, reflects the changing nature of aid as increasingly driven by partnership between donor and recipient countries, and ownership of the development process by the recipients of aid. These shifts have raised important questions about implementation and the accountability of all development actors. At the national and international policy levels, they pose new challenges and present new opportunities for reaching internationally-agreed development objectives, such as the Millennium Development Goals.

The processes that underpin enhanced coordination in aid allocation -- whether in development cooperation or in peace and security initiatives -- offer similar opportunities and challenges for ensuring progress on gender equality. Each relies on a range of new coordination mechanisms -- promoted and supported by the European Commission -- that include (among others) general budget support, basket funds, Sector Wide Approaches (SWAPs) and Poverty Reduction Strategies (PRSs), multi-donor trust funds, integrated missions and needs assessments, and Consolidated Appeals (CAPs). Too often gender equality is absent from or marginal in these. This project presents a set of strategies and actions that will strengthen the European Commission's ability to advance gender equality in this move toward greater coordination. It will assist the EC to create workable models for ensuring that greater coordination amongst donors and ownership by national governments also prioritize and support continuing progress toward gender equality and women's empowerment.

Over the past few years, the European Commission embarked on a number of initiatives to meet its political commitment. The Programme of Action to Mainstream Gender Equality in EC Development Cooperation (2001-2006) aimed at mainstreaming gender equality issues at all levels and in all sectors of EU-funded development cooperation, through support to partner countries, enhanced political dialogue and internal capacity building on gender equality and gender

mainstreaming. Regulation 806/2004 provides the legal basis for earmarking of Gender Budget Lines, towards the achievement of MDG3 in a cross-sectoral way, that is, as a "catalyst fund" in support of gender equality initiatives, which creates a resource base of tools, methodologies, pilot experiences for replication and/or integration in mainstream policies, programmes and projects.

The project presented to the European Commission for consideration is directly aimed at building on what has already been achieved and contributing to the coherence, harmonization and alignment of donor programmes and activities. It is in line with the principles of the Paris Declaration, which calls for rationalizing donor activities and scaling up aid toward the levels required to achieve development goals in all development contexts, including fragile states. In fragile states, the Declaration calls for special attention to the harmonization of donor activities, especially in the absence of strong government leadership. Building on the principles of aid effectiveness in development assistance strategies, as well as in conflict prevention and peace-building efforts can hasten the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals, especially Goals 1, 3, and 8.

This initiative builds on the comparative advantage, and expertise of both ITC/ILO and UNIFEM, building on each organizations' experience in poverty reduction, gender equality and women's human rights, and supporting the development policy and objectives of their key partner, the European Union, as outlined in the EU document "Consensus on Development".

UNIFEM

UNIFEM's thirty years of experience as the United Nations operational organization mandated to promote gender equality and women's human rights within the UN system and at country level will be brought to bear in this programme. UNIFEM's expertise in building country-level capacity in tools of accountability -- gender responsive budgeting, CEDAW monitoring and better use of sex-disaggregated data as a basis for gender-responsive policy formulation -- will be a critical contribution towards delivering on the EC's commitments to gender equality. UNIFEM's focus on four thematic areas -- reducing feminized poverty, ending violence against women, reducing the prevalence of HIV/AIDS amongst women and girls, and building gender equality in democratic governance -- will enhance its strategic engagement in supporting stronger action to secure and protect women's human rights.

UNIFEM's presence on the ground through its network of sub-regional and country project offices (including 15 sub-regional offices and approximately 20 project offices) in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, the Arab States, Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States, and Latin America and the Caribbean will enable a strong, country-based interface with all stakeholders, including decision-makers in line ministries, members of parliament, the media, trade unions, women's organizations and networks, as well as EC delegations. This will facilitate UNIFEM's ability to provide technical support required by key actors whose responsibilities have increased and changed as a result of new mechanisms for aid delivery.

Since the Fourth World Conference on Women (1995), UNIFEM has supported more than 50 countries to devise, strengthen and/or launch national plans of action for gender equality, has built national-level capacity to translate CEDAW into domestic laws and policies in every region, and – since 2001 -- has supported gender-responsive budget initiatives in more than 30 countries. Since the passage of UNSC 1325, UNIFEM has implemented programmes in more than 20 post-conflict countries supporting women's organizations to participate in peace negotiations, community reconciliation and conflict prevention; advocating for better responses from the international humanitarian and peace-keeping community to sexual and gender-based violence; and supporting legal and constitutional reform and gender justice in post-conflict contexts. Throughout these experiences, UNIFEM has played a key role in offering its technical expertise to integrated needs assessment teams; multi-donor trust funds, CAPs, and other coordination initiatives.

The EC and UNIFEM have been working closely together to facilitate dialogue on the new aid modalities among gender equality advocates, policy makers in partner countries and the donor community. The EC/UNIFEM consultation on "Owning Development: Promoting Gender Equality in New Aid Modalities and Partnerships", held in Brussels in November 2005 and the EC support to UNIFEM gender budgeting initiatives have brought about promising new approaches to assessing the gender implications of aid effectiveness. UNIFEM expanded this work through a regional consultation for Africa held in Burundi in July 2006. The Burundi meeting led to the creation of an expert group on the new aid modalities which is now assisting UNIFEM to develop monitoring mechanisms. IGAD is replicating the Burundi consultation in November 2006 as is Ghana for the Anglophone West Africa region.

ITC/ILO

In line with the ILO guiding principle for technical cooperation, the International Training Centre of the ILO provides services which focus on the development of human resources and the strengthening of organizational capacity in pursuit of the ILO's four strategic objectives: (1) fundamental principles and rights at work; (2) employment and income opportunities for women and men; (3) social protection for all; (4) tripartism and social dialogue.

With the aim of creating a critical mass of gender-aware people who are involved in policy formulation and project planning, the ITC/ILO Gender Coordination Unit integrates gender equality issues into all the Centre's training in two ways. Firstly, by bringing gender issues into the mainstream of the Centre's programmes, a network of gender focal points has been set up across the Centre to increase the visibility of gender issues and the number of women participants. Secondly, by running online and residential courses on specific gender issues.

In order to reinforce the capacity of EC staff and their immediate development partners to mainstream gender equality issues in all development operations: from up-stream policy dialogue with recipient countries, down to aid delivery and project implementation, the ITC/ILO and the EC jointly undertook the project

“Methodological support (Manual) and Training on Gender Mainstreaming” (2004-2006). It was the first truly systematic effort to bridge the gap between policy and practice, more specifically at the concrete, operational level.

In less than three years, the ITC/ILO/EC Gender Help Desk, developed a “EC Gender Toolkit”, designed a tailor-made curriculum, developed training and information materials, developed a dedicated on-line learning platform and trained approximately 1100 people among EC staff, representatives of partners countries, NGOs, other donors, in Brussels and in EU Delegations in 25 countries in Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean, Asia and neighbouring European countries.

The EC can now count on a rich set of tailor-made tools, adapted to the cycle of its development operations, a core group of competent and active staff in Headquarters and in the field, a critical mass of sensitized officials, training materials and curricula, an online learning facility that can easily be shared with other development partners. Gender is included as one of the quality criteria that new programmes and initiatives must meet in order to receive financing, and gender-sensitive indicators are gradually being introduced in the monitoring system. Upcoming country cooperation strategy must include a gender impact assessment.

As efforts continue to achieve the Millennium Development Goals under the agreed principles and new aid modalities of the Paris Declaration, the time is now critical to facilitate a concrete dialogue and enable effective, rights-based action between policy makers, gender equality advocates and the donor community on how to make equal opportunity and equal participation of women and men a reality on the ground, through increased ownership, coherence and coordination, thus maximize the impact of aid .

SC Resolution 1325 marks an important step in recognizing that conflict and peace building have gender dimensions, as women and men have different roles and needs as soldiers, ex-combatants, victims and survivors of conflict and key actors in peace building. Through focused programmes and mainstreaming, the international community has an important role in addressing the impact of violent conflict on women and in promoting women's active participation in conflict prevention and peace building at all levels.

1.6.2 Identification of perceived needs and constraints in the target country/ies in particular in regions concerned

The strategy of this programme directly addresses the fact that in both countries enjoying relative peace as well as in those in situations of conflict prevention or in peace-building, real progress in achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), reducing poverty, and ensuring respect for human rights can only be achieved through women's empowerment and gender-responsive policies and programmes.

In each of the regions in which this project will take place (Africa, Asia-Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean and CEE/CIS), the majority of countries have

ratified CEDAW, have agreed to achieve the MDGs, and to further the Beijing Platform for Action. Progress on moving forward on these commitments varies from region to region and – within regions – from country to country. If the commitments in the MDGs are taken as benchmarks, for instance:

- Women's share of seats in Parliaments has steadily increased in most regions in which this project will take place (except for East Asia), although they only hold 16% of seats worldwide.
- Women now hold over 35% of paid jobs in Latin America and the Caribbean, East and Southeast Asia, and sub-Saharan Africa, but less than 20% in South Asia. In every region, however, women are less likely than men to hold paid or regular jobs and are more likely to hold jobs in the informal, unprotected sectors.
- Most countries have made good progress in increasing the proportion of girls in primary schools, but serious concerns remain about progress in South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa.

At the same time that country-level progress is mixed in terms of concrete gains toward gender equality, the enabling or policy environment has improved considerably. More than 150 countries – including most countries in the regions in which this project will take place -- now have national plans of action for gender equality and more than 80 have laws or policies to prevent violence against women. Yet, it is the implementation of and investment in these and other national level commitments that are lacking.

To ensure that national development plans, EC programming documents, and programmes adequately take these national priorities for gender equality into account in the context of the new aid architecture and proliferating coordination mechanisms, national (state and non-state) actors in partner countries must have enhanced access to gender expertise, including in gender-responsive budgeting, the localization and tracking of indicators that bring normative frameworks such as CEDAW, the Beijing PFA and the commitment to MDGs together, as well as lobbying and advocacy skills. This is true, as well, in conflict prevention and peace-building situations, where accountability to ensure women's needs and concerns must be reflected through stronger implementation of SC 1325.

1.6.3 Target groups

Taking on board the importance of shared responsibility for achieving gender equality, this programme is aimed at involving both men and women as key actors in and constituencies for activities envisioned. The programme targets:

- Decision-makers and staff in Ministries, Departments, Commissions and Committees in EC partner countries including:
 - National Women's Machineries
 - Ministries of Finance
 - Ministries of Planning
 - Line ministries responsible for coordinating sector policy support programmes including EC funding
- Parliaments
- Judiciaries and law enforcement

- Police and military staff
- Women's rights experts and other human rights advocates
- Women's conflict-prevention, peace networks and Civil Societies' Organizations
- Regional and National NGOs and Networks in EC partner countries
- Bilateral and multilateral donors, other members of UN Country Teams
- Actors in conflict mediation and recovery processes, including assessment missions
- UNCTs and Gender Theme Groups
- EU Member States
- Media

Final beneficiaries

The final beneficiaries of this initiative are women and men living in poverty in EU partner countries as defined by the EU Consensus on Development, particularly those who are subject to gender-based discrimination in the enjoyment of their fundamental human rights, such as the right to economic security, access to natural assets, decent work, education, health care, personal security, freedom from violence, democratic participation and representation, cultural independence.

1.6.4 Reasons for the selection of the target group(s) and identification of their needs and constraints

Programming and allocation of development assistance places increased responsibility on a number of key actors, such as national administrations and non-state actors of development partner countries.

In this context, actions are needed:

- at policy and decision making levels, in order to guarantee coherence and sustainability of individual actions, and open the dialogue between rights-holders and duty-bearers
- at operational level, in order to ensure that systematic gender analysis is undertaken and that gender-sensitive information and actions are included in accountability processes (from planning to evaluation)

The project aims to meet the needs identified at different levels and among the various actors involved in development cooperation at country-level, through a multidimensional strategy integrating:

- capacity building of national partners including women's machineries, line ministries and other stakeholders to engender national development processes and budget allocations aligned with globally agreed commitments ;
- collaborative development and implementation of regional/sub-regional gender monitoring mechanisms based on harmonized indicators that encompass obligations and commitments under the MDGs, CEDAW, the Beijing Platform for Action (BPFA) and other relevant commitments and obligations;

- broadened, informed and effective participation of civil society, bilateral and multilateral donors, UNCTs and other stakeholders in the above processes ;
- intra- and inter- regional support and lessons sharing through the development of networks of partners and use of new technologies.

1.7 Detailed description of activities

The activities described below will strengthen implementation of the Beijing PFA, CEDAW, the MDGs and Security Council Resolution 1325 and the European Consensus for Development. They will involve both politically stable countries and conflict-prone or post-conflict countries in which conflict prevention and peace-building activities are taking place, prioritizing those countries in which use of coordination mechanisms are proliferating.

1.7.1 Identification of target countries

UNIFEM, the EC and ITC/ILO will select 12 countries based on agreed criteria. In these countries UNIFEM and ITC/ILO will provide intensive capacity building and support to national stakeholders and development partners to strengthen the gender equality and women's rights components in national development plans and their implementation. The twelve countries will include four countries in Africa, two in Asia, one in the Pacific, two in Latin-Central America and one each in the Caribbean, CEE and CIS. Of the 12 countries, at least four will be countries in situations of conflict prevention or peace-building. Criteria for selecting countries will include:

- a) Willingness/interest of national partners and EC delegations for intensive capacity-development related to mainstreaming gender equality into national development strategies and EC supported programmes;
- b) Countries in which there is significant use of aid effectiveness instruments (general budget support, SWAPs and PRSs, multi-donor trust funds, etc.) and opportunities for mainstreaming gender equality and women's rights into these are notable;
- c) Countries in which there is an existing national machinery for women, capable women's rights organizations and networks, and a national plan of action for gender equality or in which there is interest in formulating or strengthening these plans.

1.7.2 National consultations

National consultations on gender and aid effectiveness will be organized by UNIFEM in each of the 12 countries. Participants will include representatives of government, national women's machineries, NGOs, EC delegations and bilateral and multilateral organizations, including representatives of UN Country Teams.

The main objective of these national consultations will be to: build the basis for partnerships and agreements to strengthen gender equality in national development plans and budgets; identify and agree on plans to address capacity needs of both rights-holders and duty bearers; identify key stakeholders to

participate in a process of identifying and monitoring nationally-relevant indicators for assessing the impact of aid effectiveness on gender equality. The development of indicators will rely on the tools provided by gender-responsive budgeting, among others. Each national consultation will generate a report including an action plan to guide technical and policy support activities to be provided over the life of the project.

Once all have been held, a synthesis report will be prepared on the national consultations and circulated to all participants, as well as more widely to contribute to growing interest and awareness about the impact of aid effectiveness on gender equality.

1.7.3 Capacity- and partnership-development plans finalized for each of the 12 countries

Capacity- and partnership-development plans will be tailored to the needs and opportunities in each of the 12 countries. For instance, if a country is in the process of assessing its PRSP with a view toward feeding into the development of the next one – and if this is viewed in the national consultation as a key opportunity – then this will be highlighted. Likewise, if in another country a Joint Assistance Strategy is being implemented, capacities to track and assess its impact on gender equality may be the key opportunity.

While specific activities cannot be pre-determined, they will likely include a selection of capacity development opportunities in the following areas:

- Gender-responsive budgeting (GRB) (e.g., training government, non-governmental and bi-lateral/multi-lateral partners to institutionalize GRB in national or sector budgets to better track allocations and expenditures for gender equality, including in relation to SWAPs, PRSPs, MDGs, and other mechanisms).
- Devising Gender Monitoring Mechanisms that bring together indicators for CEDAW, the BPFA, MDGs and SC1325 to facilitate their inclusion in national planning frameworks and to reduce transaction costs for governments in managing their responsibilities to implement these global commitments. Capacity-building in this case could involve multi-stakeholder groups who come together to build knowledge and awareness of the ways in which these global commitments can be integrated into their respective areas of interest and expertise.
- Aligning national laws and policies with CEDAW, which would target, in particular, training in how to address and change gender discriminatory provisions of existing laws and policies. Capacity-building would target such groups as gender equality networks, judiciaries and ministries of justice, law enforcement and others.
- Strengthening institutional mechanisms to advance gender equality, which could involve establishing and/or building capacities of national machineries for women, gender focal point networks, and women's rights networks to engage more effectively in policy dialogue related to aid effectiveness, conflict prevention and peace building. This activity could also include the strengthening of the capacities of local media to follow up and to monitor gender issues and policies nationally.

Capacity-building activities will be oriented toward strengthening partnerships between institutions that advocate for action on gender equality (such as Ministries of Gender Equality and women's networks) and mainstream institutions that are key to delivering for men and women, such as line ministries, justice systems, law enforcement, and others.

The activities identified for each country will utilize a mix of methods, including in-country capacity-building strategies, backed up by on-line learning tools, electronic communities of practice, and other support.

1.7.4 Development and monitoring of indicators on the impact of gender equality on aid effectiveness

Another area to emerge from the national consultations will be the development of a multi-stakeholder group to validate, revise and test monitoring indicators to track how aid effectiveness furthers or impedes gender equality. The project will contract with local partners to test and monitor agreed indicators in each of the 12 pilot countries on a continuous, as well as to compile information on progress in preparation for the Ghana High Level Forum, and also to feed into the finalization of a report with guidelines for developing monitoring indicators for gender equality and aid effectiveness toward the end of the project.

1.7.5. Design and launch of on-line learning tools

A project website, on-line help desk/resource centre and at least four thematic on-line discussion forums will be designed, launched and maintained throughout the project.

- The website will be updated regularly with reports from national consultations and resource materials produced by the project, as well as featuring materials from other initiatives related to gender equality and aid effectiveness. It will become a pre-eminent resource on gender equality and aid effectiveness.
- The on-line help desk will feature: a) 2 – 3 specific on-line courses (based on capacity-development modules tested in-country), which could include courses on gender-responsive budgeting, mainstreaming SC1325 in conflict prevention and peace building activities, and other areas; b) ongoing ad-hoc responses to questions about gender equality and aid effectiveness for EC delegations, and other relevant actors such as national authorities in partner countries.
- The on-line discussion forums will be designed to pick up on common areas of work or challenges being confronted in the 12 pilot countries, but will involve participants beyond those involved in the pilot countries in the discussions.

1.7.6 Development of resource materials to support capacity building activities

Resource materials will be developed in two phases. An initial set of resource materials (thematic (fact) sheets, guidelines, etc.) will be developed in months 7 and 8 to use with project partners in the pilot countries. Based on use and feedback, these will be revised, improved and finalized during months 12 through 24 to incorporate good practice, project experiences and lessons learned. The

finalized resource materials will be disseminated amongst a wide audience in all regions and countries in which the EC provides support and in which UNIFEM and ITC/ILO work, as well as amongst key donor and multilateral organizations. A comprehensive strategy on the use of these tools for capacity-building and a dynamic mechanism for their dissemination shall be designed and put in place.

Amongst resource materials to be produced by the project are: a) an assessment of the challenges and opportunities of mainstreaming gender equality and strengthening women's rights in the roll out of aid effectiveness. This will be a key resource for advocacy during the Ghana HLF in 2008; b) guidelines to develop monitoring indicators to assess the impact of aid effectiveness on gender equality; c) training module and resource book on mainstreaming gender in SWAPs and budget support; d) brochure of "good practices", e) thematic material on women and peace building, including information on UNSCR 1325, f) guidelines for civil society organisations on how to advance national gender equality agendas, including the submission of 'shadow reports' on the relevant international convention; g) guidelines on how to monitor the gender sensitivity of the country-specific EC response strategies in the Mid-term reviews.

1.7.7. Planning, organizing and implementation of activities in preparation for, during and in follow up to the Ghana HLF 2008 in close collaboration with national partners and EC delegations. The objective of these activities is to enable partners to document and disseminate gains and gaps for gender equality in the context of new aid modalities, and to effectively discuss emerging opportunities and challenges. The project will prepare and ensure the participation in the Ghana HLF of a core multi-stakeholder group from at least 8 of the 12 countries who have gained experience and knowledge on mainstreaming gender equality in aid effectiveness mechanisms. Their presence at the HLF will be designed to influence its outcomes, particularly toward securing a commitment to incorporate actions and indicators to ensure that aid effectiveness supports progress towards gender equality.

In this regard, the programme will link with other efforts to monitor accountability on gender commitments such as the OECD-DAC GenderNet's effort to track the OECD Gender Marker and the Association of Women's Rights in Development (AWID) initiative on "Where's the Money for Women's Organizing."

1.7.8. A communications and information-sharing strategy will be developed and implemented to maximize the use and effectiveness of outputs by different groups of partners, whether aid recipients, donors, or other development partners. The setting up of an interactive website and coordination of communities of practice will constitute key components of the strategy. Additionally, information materials produced for and as follow-up to the regional consultations will be widely disseminated to ensure a growing and better informed constituency for mainstreaming gender equality into new aid modalities and securing greater implementation of SC1325 in conflict prevention and peace building activities. Information, lessons learned, indicators for tracking progress on gender equality in the context of aid effectiveness, technical briefs, reports and updates will be developed and posted online as per the communications

strategy above, so as to be accessible to by different groups of partners, including inasmuch as possible within budgetary constraints, relevant languages.

1.7.9 Analysis and internal reports and discussion papers designed for the European Commission focusing on gender equality in aid effectiveness and on implementing Security Council Resolution 1325 in EC Policy, Instruments, Budget and Programme: Experiences and lessons learned from this phase of the programme will be prepared and presented as an internal report with recommendations to the European Commission in order to serve as a tool for internal discussion and policy-setting. These will be launched at an end-of-project consultation to be held in Brussels and bringing together key decision-makers of the EC with selected project partners from a selection of the 12 countries.

1.7.10 A final evaluation will begin 6 months before the project ends and be completed by Month 33 generating key lessons upon which to build future actions. The evaluation results will also be shared at the end-of-project consultation in Brussels.

1.8 Methodology

1.8.1 Methods of implementation and reasons for the proposed methodology

The proposed methods are based on the understanding that the changing aid architecture offers new opportunities and challenges for addressing gender inequalities. Greater coordination could support increased resources and more harmonized approaches to supporting national priorities for gender equality; at the same time, there is also the threat that treating gender as a cross-cutting issue could lead to policy evaporation and a reduction in support for gender equality.

As such, the methods of implementation will build on tested approaches that both UNFEM and ITC/ILO have utilized for building capacity and commitment at the country level.

These include:

- *Consultation as a prerequisite for relevant agenda-setting and work planning* – National consultations are key to the outputs and outcomes of the project, as they will provide opportunities for multi-stakeholder groups to articulate priorities and devise common strategies for achieving them. The consultations will help the project to avoid a ‘cookie-cutter’ approach and use, instead, an ‘on-demand’ approach that tailors support to maximize specific opportunities.
- *Leveraging widespread gender equality expertise at national levels in EC partner countries* – Development partners, including the EC can benefit significantly from stronger linkages with existing gender expertise at national and regional levels where these do not already exist.

- *Building consensus on mechanisms to enhance accountability for gender equality* – The work proposed by this project on devising indicators to measure the extent to which aid effectiveness is furthering or impeding gender equality and on implementation of SC1325 will involve capacity building on GRB, gender audits and other tools are contributions to enhancing accountability. Numerous evaluations of bilateral and multilateral assistance have identified accountability for gender equality as a ‘missing link’ and this programme has the opportunity to significantly scale this up within the largest provider of development assistance.
- *Stimulating joint and action learning processes to deepen engagement with gender equality and women’s rights* - Consistent with the Paris agenda, this initiative aims to enhance coherence and collaboration by proposing joint assessment missions and other collective actions, with leadership and participation by the EC, and relevant multilateral, bilateral, and national partners. It also stimulates action learning by relying on multi-stakeholder groups to work through challenges and derive shared solutions.

1.8.2 Prolongation of previous action

The project will build on the outcomes of the international UNIFEM-EC conference on “Owning Development: Promoting Gender Equality in New Aid Modalities and Partnerships”. During the consultation it was concluded that the EC’s efforts in spearheading new aid modalities and UNIFEM’s capacity to reach out to gender equality constituencies worldwide formed the basis of a partnership that could greatly enhance the potential to use the aid effectiveness agenda to step up progress on gender equality at the country level. UNIFEM’s expertise in building country-level capacity in tools of accountability -- gender responsive budgeting, CEDAW monitoring and better use of sex-disaggregated data as a basis for gender-responsive policy formulation -- were highlighted as critical to enhance the gender responsiveness of EC programmes to strengthen capacity to implement gender equality policies by national administrations.

The project will also build on the ITC/ILO – EC collaboration under the 2004-2006 joint project “Methodological support (Manual) and Training on Gender Mainstreaming”, which was a first phase in a strategy for capacity development and the first truly systematic effort to bridge the gap between policy and practice, more specifically at the concrete, operational level. In this context, the current proposal would also benefit greatly from training tools on gender mainstreaming that were developed by ITC/ILO particularly the “Toolkit on mainstreaming gender in EC Development Cooperation”.

1.8.3 Where the action is part of a larger programme, explain how it fits with this programme

UNIFEM is undertaking extensive work to accompany the aid effectiveness agenda with tools for planning and programming (PRSPs and National Development Programmes), and is introducing instruments conducive to these such as gender responsive budgeting, monitoring of CEDAW and Security Council Resolution 1325, and development of indicators for assessing progress.

ITC/ILO is working to enhance the capacity of governments, employers' organizations, workers' organizations and other social and economic actors to play an effective role in the economic and social development of their countries and regions. On-going comprehensive training programmes provide methodology, analysis and tools for integrating gender equality issues into all aspects of work, as well as to integrate gender and employment promotion into sustainable anti-poverty policies.

1.8.4 Procedure for follow-up and internal/external evaluation

The current document focuses on the first phase of a two-phased programme focusing on building capacity and accountability for mainstreaming gender equality in the aid effectiveness agenda and stepping up implementation and accountability for Security Council Resolution 1325. The first phase will conclude with the Ghana HLF 2008. The second phase will build on gains and gaps identified in Phase I to continue to strengthen implementation and accountability. Programme progress will be tracked through results-based reporting and monitoring according to indicators of success agreed to between UNIFEM, ITC/ILO and the EC. It is proposed that a mid-term programme review by the EC, UNIFEM and ITC/ILO be organized in Brussels to assess progress towards the results specified in the logical framework and make any adjustments, if necessary.

It is also proposed to have an independent external evaluation approximately six months before the end of Phase I of this programme, to give sufficient time to determine next steps for Phase II.

1.8.5 Description of the role and participation of the various actors

- UNIFEM will be the Executing Agency for this Programme;

- UNIFEM and ITC/ILO will have a Memorandum of Understanding outlining the responsibilities of UNIFEM as the programme's Executing Agency, and ITC/ILO as a partner, as well as a sub-contract specifying inputs, outputs, activities and budget for ITC/ILO under this programme and based on a mutually agreed planning schedule, such as a log frame.

1.8.6 Team proposed for implementation of the action

Overall Management and Coordination

- A Project Steering Committee composed of representatives of the EC, ITC/ILO and UNIFEM, will provide the main guidelines and orientations for action and ensure close collaboration among all partners involved at decision-making levels. It will provide the main point of contact between UNIFEM, ITC/ILO and the EC. UNIFEM will provide the Secretariat for the Steering Committee. The Committee will meet every six-months, and inter-sessionally as required.

Implementation of the activities

- UNIFEM will hire a project coordinator who will be based in New York, while UNIFEM's sub-regional Offices in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Europe and the CIS, and Latin America and the Caribbean will implement

the programme, drawing on a network of partners and consultants as needed (please refer to budget for details).

- ITC/ILO's team will be a key partner, responsible for the implementation of specific activities and outputs – particularly focused on capacity-building, knowledge management, and on-line support including a programme website -- as outlined in this programme document.

1.9 Duration of activities and Action Plan

Who	Activity n°	Activity	Time Frame
UNIFEM	1	Identify 12 pilot countries	Months 1 – 2
UNIFEM		Map the main mechanisms for coordinated donor support in 12 countries	Months 1-2
UNIFEM	1	Hold national consultations in pilot countries to assess capacity needs, mainstreaming opportunities, and field test indicators for assessing impact of aid effectiveness on gender equality	Months 3 – 7
UNIFEM & ITC/ILO		Evaluation plans designed and agreed	Months 2 – 4
UNIFEM ITC/ILO		Develop detailed capacity- and partnership development plans for each country, based on opportunities to mainstream gender equality in aid effectiveness	Months 4 – 8
UNIFEM		Identify and contract local partners to monitor progress on indicators on gender equality and aid effectiveness.	Month 3 – 10
ITC/ILO		Design and launch website and intranet for project	Months 2 – 4
ITC/ILO		Establish and implement on-line help desk focused on supporting gender equality in aid effectiveness	Months 1 - 24
UNIFEM & ITC/ILO		Develop draft resource materials (in English, French, Spanish and Russian) to support in-country capacity-building activities	Months 7 – 8
UNIFEM &	3	Roll out in-country capacity-	Months 8 – 28

ITC/ILO		building and partnership-building activities	
UNIFEM	4	Provide on-site technical support to stakeholders	Months 8 – 28
UNIFEM & ITC/ILO		Conduct mid-term review to assess progress, gaps and need for capacity development support	Month 15
UNIFEM & ITC/ILO	6	Refine draft resource materials (see above) into specific tools (guidelines, technical resources, tip sheets, etc.) based on project experiences and lessons learned	Months 12 – 24
ITC/ILO		Run 2 to 4 on-line learning courses on gender equality and aid effectiveness, (based on existing “EC-online course”), including the development of one new module on gender budgeting in programme-based aid and one on integrating gender issues in conflict prevention and peace-building activities. One module will be also available as a publication in print and/or electronic format. Additionally, discussion forums may be run as required by other project components (see 1.7.5.)	Months 6 – 27
UNIFEM		Compile preliminary information based on indicators to measure impact of aid effectiveness on gender equality	Month 13 - 14
UNIFEM	8	Identify gender equality advocates and prepare resource materials for the Ghana HLF 2008	Months 15 - 17
UNIFEM	8	Participate in Ghana HLF 2008	Spring 2008
ITC/ILO	9	Launch and sustain communications strategy for project products and knowledge	Months 5 – 27
ITC/ILO	9	Website continuously updated	Months 5 – 27

		and monitored	
UNIFEM	10	Finalize guidelines on using indicators for monitoring progress on gender equality in context of aid effectiveness	Month 24 - 26
UNIFEM	10	Project reports on mainstreaming gender equality in aid effectiveness and on implementing SC1325 in EC Policy Instruments produced	Months 28 – 30
UNIFEM/ITC/ILO		Final evaluation undertaken, completed and validated	Months 30 – 33
UNIFEM		Stakeholder meeting held in Brussels to review project outputs, outcomes, and lessons learned	Month 30

2. EXPECTED RESULTS

2.1 Expected impact on target groups/beneficiaries

As noted previously, the ultimate beneficiaries are women and men living in poverty and/or recovering from conflict in EU partner countries. Their rights, options and opportunities will be enhanced through more effective implementation of the gender equality dimensions of the MDGs, the commitments made under the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the obligations under CEDAW, and implementation of UN SC1325.

The long-term impact of this programme is that the components of the MDGs related to gender equality and women's empowerment will be achieved and there will be stronger implementation of SC1325. Thus, the project will contribute to a reduction in poverty and associated deficits – e.g., maternal mortality, inequities in educational attainment, increasing proportions of HIV+ people who are young women, etc.. – as well as greater protection and promotion of women's rights in post-conflict reconstruction.

As far as the key target groups (see section 1.6.3.) the expected impact is that there will be both enhanced demand and supply for better aligning commitments to achieve gender equality with the aid effectiveness agenda, whether in so-called stable countries or in situations of conflict prevention or peace building. Key mainstream national actors – including government decision-makers and staff in line ministries, parliamentarians, judiciary and law enforcement – will increase their demands for inclusion of support for gender equality in the assistance provided by the EC and other donors. Gender equality advocates and women's rights networks will be more adept at the kind of policy dialogue that will secure greater attention to gender equality, but will also be called upon more frequently by mainstream actors to provide their expertise in national development planning, in conflict prevention strategies and in peace building

activities. Bilateral and multilateral actors will be more adept at recognizing opportunities to align and support national priorities for gender equality with mainstream national development processes.

2.1.1. *Situation of target groups/beneficiaries*

The agreement of the majority of the world's countries to the MDGs has enhanced tracking on progress toward gender equality. The situation is uneven from region to region and with great variations within countries³. In almost every country, however, the intended beneficiaries of this project – women and men living in poverty – are often outside of the debate and dialogue on national priority-setting, policy frameworks and budget allocations, despite rhetorical commitments to enhancing consultative processes and inclusion at the country level.

This project envisions using the knowledge and experience of UNIFEM to ensure that targeted consultation and policy dialogue at regional and national level raise awareness and build capacity for the greater involvement of the voices of poor women in influencing development policy frameworks.

The situation of the target groups vary, depending on the target group and on the country and region. While it is true that Ministries of Women's Affairs, women's rights groups and gender equality experts are often excluded from consultative processes related to aid effectiveness, there are some countries in which they have gained a foothold. Likewise, while Ministries of Finance and Ministries of Planning are often 'gender-blind', UNIFEM has worked with a small but increasing number (in Morocco, Venezuela, India and other countries) that are institutionalizing GRB in their operations and becoming more attuned to the need to support gender equality initiatives in their national development plans. The national consultations are a key mechanism for better assessing the specific situation of target groups in the countries designated for more intensive assistance.

2.1.2. *Technical and management capacities of target groups and/or any partners where applicable*

This initiative has capacity building as one of its main objectives, and in the design of almost every component. In this context, project design, implementation and monitoring mechanisms will be set up according to state-of-the-art professional practice, namely the Quality Criteria of EC PCM Methodology: relevance, effectiveness, good management.

Applied to the project context, this will imply:

- Use of participatory methodologies at all levels (internal collaboration among partners, regional conferences, capacity building activities);
- Awareness of the need to provide tailor-made and context specific methodological and training expertise (Gender Help Desk, curriculum design, technical assistance to stakeholders);

³ *Taking Action: Achieving Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment*, Task Force on Education and Gender Equality, UN Millennium Project 2005.

- Priority given to knowledge sharing and systematisation of activities and results within a commonly shared framework will inform all project activities;
- Awareness and agreement on the partners' accountability over their respective result areas,;
- Result orientation;
- Cost effectiveness, transparency and accountability in use of public funds ;
- Full respect of equal opportunities and decent work principles within and without the project structures, including specific attention to diversity and conciliation issues.

UNIFEM and ITC/ILO will work with national and regional partners who have competencies in the elements noted above.

2.2. Concrete outputs

- Accessible and relevant range of tools and information on mainstreaming gender equality into aid effectiveness is available through on-line resources, help desks, interactive website and communities of practice:
 - A) an assessment of the challenges and opportunities of mainstreaming gender equality and strengthening women's rights in the roll out of aid effectiveness. This will be a key resource for advocacy during the Ghana HLF in 2008;
 - B) guidelines for using multi-stakeholder processes to develop monitoring indicators to assess the impact of aid effectiveness on gender equality;
 - C) training module and resource book on mainstreaming gender in SWAPs and budget support;
 - D) brochure of "good practices";
 - E) thematic materials on women and peace building, including information on UNSCR 1325;
 - F) guidelines for civil society organisations on how to advance national gender agendas, including the submission of 'shadow reports' on the relevant international conventions, ...;
 - G) guidelines on how to monitor the gender sensitiveness of the country-specific EC response strategies in the Mid-term reviews.
- Enhanced demand from government and non-governmental partners (particularly gender equality advocates and women's networks) and EC delegations for action and resources to support gender equality in both programming and implementation generated in 12 countries;
- International, regional, and national multi-stakeholder groups (e.g., working groups, networks, coalitions) created and/or strengthened to advocate for gender-responsive implementation and monitoring of the aid effectiveness agenda;
- Approaches tested and documented in at least four countries for undertaking gender-responsive budgeting for donor coordination mechanisms in conflict or post-conflict countries;

- National partners in at least four countries acquire new capacities to undertake GRB to assess priority areas of support for gender equality and women's human rights;
- Nationally-relevant models of accountability mechanisms and harmonized indicators in place in 12 countries to track progress on gender equality in the aid effectiveness agenda and in the context of implementation of SC1325;
- Multi-stakeholder groups from at least eight countries build common advocacy agenda for mainstreaming gender equality into the HLF on Aid Effectiveness in Ghana (2008).

2.3. Multiplier effects

The thrust of the project is to build capacity of stakeholder to engender long-term development and peace and security processes and budgetary allocations. Capacity-building, training and dissemination have an intrinsic multiplier effect. When information, knowledge and skills are backed-up by sound, practical and easy-to-use tools, and by appropriate methodological inputs (such as training of trainers) a multiplier effect is automatically embedded in the proposed action.

One key output of this project is the indicators to track progress; it is common experience that the most challenging task about indicators is reaching a common agreement and their actual adoption, at which point their sustainability has a high likelihood to be used if well conceptualized and planned. UNIFEM has significant experience worldwide with the development and adoption of sex-disaggregated data and indicators; and in the specific case of this project, the task should be facilitated by the need of partners to bring forward concrete outputs to the Ghana HLF in 2008 and to establish mechanisms to track progress on SC1325. Once adopted, and with mechanisms and systems to support their collection and analysis, the indicators are likely to far outlast the life of this current proposal.

At policy level, the inclusion of activities targeting of the Ghana HLF in 2008 will serve both, as an incentive for all stakeholders, and a critical global forum for influencing policy decision on development assistance policy.

2.4. Sustainability

The commitment and support of policy and decision-makers within the European Commission will be a key factor in the success, sustainability and multiplier effect of this initiative. The analysis of how gender-responsive the EC policy and programming process, from the formulation of EC Country / Regional Strategy Papers, National / Regional Indicative Programmes, their annual and mid-term reviews and their implementation, and back again to EC policy and instruments revision as necessary will be the proof.

2.4.1. Financial aspect

2.4.2. Institutional level

2.4.3. Policy level

Partners in this programme expect to strengthen realization of international obligations and commitments to gender equality and women's rights in the implementation of National Development Plans and Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers through the EC programming process including the formulation of EC Country / Regional Strategy Papers, National / Regional Indicative Programmes, their annual and mid-term reviews and their implementation.

2.5. Logical framework (See Annex C attached)

3 REPORTING

Reporting will take place in accordance with the EC requirements. Reports on project activities will be submitted to the Steering Committee every 6 months. A final report highlighting main results achieved, compared to expected results and tracked against anticipated performance indicators will be submitted at the end of the 3-year period.

4 BUDGET FOR THE ACTION (See attached)

5 EXPECTED SOURCES OF FUNDING (See attached)