

**WIEGO General Assembly  
22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2006, Durban**

**Preparation for Programme Discussions**

Dear WIEGO Member,

As you know, we are busy getting ready for the WIEGO General Assembly in Durban next week! WIEGO envisions this General Assembly – the first with formal Members – as an important opportunity to engage with you – our new Members – on our structure, programmes, and plans.

WIEGO has five programmes: Global Markets, Urban Policies, Social Protection, Organisation and Representation, and Statistics. We will be holding Discussion Groups for each of these five programmes on Saturday afternoon of the General Assembly, and we ask you to prepare for these by a) thinking about the questions that we list below; and b) reading the Programme webpage on the WIEGO website: [www.wiego.org](http://www.wiego.org).

**Individual Members and Institutional Members not coming to Durban:**

Since you will not be able to come to Durban, we would welcome your thoughts in writing on any (or all) of the five WIEGO programmes or WIEGO in general.

**Delegates from Member-based Organizations:**

1. We know that time is short, but we ask that you to try and hold a meeting with other key leaders and decision-makers in your organizations before you leave for Durban, so that your delegation comes well-prepared to engage with WIEGO on the priorities, ideas, and needs of your organization.
2. On Saturday afternoon, during the first round of discussion groups, you will attend what we are calling a Delegates Meeting to give you a change to comment on WIEGO overall as well as the specific programmes.
3. During the second round of discussion groups, each delegate will be able to participate in one programme Discussion Group.
4. If you want to make an input on more than one programme, you could spread your delegates between the Programme Discussion Groups during round two.

**Individual Members :**

You will be able to participate in two Programme Discussion Groups – one during each round of discussion groups on Saturday afternoon. Please consider which two Programme Discussion Groups you would like to participate in and prepare for both by a) considering your answers to the relevant questions below and b) reading the webpage for both of the programmes you have selected. If you would like to respond in writing to the questions for any of the Programmes, please do so – as we would welcome as much feed-back as possible.

### **Questions from WIEGO's Global Markets Programme**

1. What are you or your organization doing in relation to the areas covered by the Global Markets Programme?
2. What opportunities do you see for collaboration between what you or your organization are doing and the WIEGO Global Markets Programme?
3. What do you or your organization see as the priority areas for organizing, research, or policies in relationship to gender, trade and informality?

### **Questions from WIEGO's Organisation and Representation Programme**

1. To what extent are informal workers organized in your country and into what kinds of organizations? How and where are informal workers represented in negotiating and policy forums?
2. What are the key challenges and opportunities for building and strengthening the organization and representation of informal workers?
3. What support and information would you most like to receive from WIEGO to help build and develop your organization and to extend international networking? For those of you who are not from MBOs of informal workers, what information would you like to receive from WIEGO regarding informal worker organizations more generally?

### **Questions from WIEGO's Social Protection Programme**

1. Are there interesting developments in extending social protection to informal workers in your country or region?
2. What are the key challenges to getting improved social protection for informal workers?
3. What support and information would you most like to receive from WIEGO in the field of social protection?

### **Questions from WIEGO's Statistics Programme**

1. Are there initiatives relating to statistics on informal employment in your country or organization that WIEGO should be aware of?
2. What statistical information would be relevant to you in your work?

## **Questions from WIEGO's Urban Policies Programme**

1. Are there new developments in your country or region where informal workers are being included in urban planning, and being represented in local government?
2. What support and information would you most like to receive from WIEGO in the field of urban policies and urban planning?

Thanks so much for taking the time to help us prepare for the Programme Discussion Groups at the WIEGO General Assembly. We look forward to getting your feed-back on WIEGO's programmes and plans.

Best regards,

WIEGO Programme Staff

WIEGO's Programme Directors:

Global Markets – Elaine Jones

Urban Policies – Sharit Bhowmik

Social Protection – Elaine Jones

Organization and Representation – Chris Bonner

Statistics – Joann Vanek

WIEGO's Research Coordinators:

Global Markets – Sarah Gammage

Statistics – James Heintz