



## In the Spotlight

### **UNIFEM's *Progress of the World's Women 2005: Women, Work, and Poverty* ||**

In September 2004, UNIFEM asked WIEGO to write the 2005 issue of *Progress of the World's Women* - UNIFEM's biennial flagship publication - on the topic of "Women, Work, and Poverty". Officially launched at the United Nations on September 16, 05, to coincide with the Millennium Development Summit, the publication focuses on employment, especially informal employment, as a key pathway to reducing poverty and gender inequality. It begins by looking at the totality of women's work, the linkages among the different types of women's work (paid and unpaid, formal and informal), and how these linkages tend to situate women in the more insecure forms of informal employment. It then provides the latest data on the size and composition of the informal economy in different regions and compares official national data on average earnings and poverty risk across different segments of both the informal and formal workers in several countries. It also looks at the costs and benefits of informal work and provides a strategic framework, with promising examples, for organizing informal workers and promoting decent work for informal workers, especially women.

The publication involved inter-agency collaboration, with financial and technical support to UNIFEM from both UNDP and ILO. It also involved active collaboration between the WIEGO team of authors, a panel of external advisors, and the UNIFEM editorial and publication team. And it involved significant collaboration within the WIEGO network. The authors were:

Marty Chen, Coordinator of WIEGO

Joann Vanek, Director of WIEGO's Statistics programme

Francie Lund, Director of WIEGO's Social Protection programme

James Heintz, Assistant Research Professor at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and newly-appointed Research Coordinator of WIEGO's Statistics programme (see below)

Renana Jhabvala, National Coordinator of SEWA and Member of WIEGO's Steering Committee

Chris Bonner, Director of WIEGO's Organization and Representation programme

The Advisory Team included:

Debbie Budlender, Community Agency for Social Enquiry, Cape Town, South Africa

Diane Elson, University of Essex, UK and The Levy Institute of Bard College, USA

Guadalupe Espinosa, Institute of Social Development, Mexico City, Mexico

Noeleen Heyzer, UNIFEM, New York, USA

Selim Jahan, UNDP, New York, USA

Francesca Perucci, UN Statistics Division, New York, USA

Anne Trebilcock, ILO, Geneva, Switzerland

For the statistical chapter, the authors commissioned new analysis of national data in seven countries to look more closely at a) the segmentation of the labour force, both formal and informal, by employment status and sex and b) at average earnings and risk of poverty for each segment by sex. James Heintz served as the Technical Advisor to the data analysis team, in consultation with Joann Vanek and Marty Chen, and carried out the data analysis for Ghana. The other members of the Data Analysis Team included:

Canada: Sylvia Fuller and Leah F. Vosko, York University, Toronto

Costa Rica: Jesper Venema, ILO Regional Office, Panama City

Egypt: Mona Amer, University of Cairo and Alia El-Mahdi, University of Cairo, Cairo

El Salvador: Edgar Lara Lopez and Reinaldo Chanchan, FUNDE (Fundacion Nacional para el Desarrollo), San Salvador with Sarah Gammage, newly-appointed Research Coordinator of WIEGO's Global Markets programme (see below)

India: Jeemol Unni, ILO consultant, National Commission for Enterprises in the Unorganized Sector, New Delhi

South Africa: Daniela Casale, Colette Muller and Dorrit Posel, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban

Other members of the WIEGO team who assisted with the publication included: Marais Canali, who compiled references, wrote some of the good practice cases, and assisted the authors throughout; Shalini Sinha who worked closely with Renana Jhabvala and Chris Bonner in the writing of Chapter 5 on organizing; Anna Marriott, Cally Ardington, and Kudzai Makomva who carried out background research; and Suzanne Van Hook who managed the contracts for the authors and the data analysts.

Others in the WIEGO network who were consulted on the occupational cases featured in Chapter 4 or the good practice cases featured in Chapters 5 and 6 include: Kofi Asamoah, Stephanie Barrientos, Ela Bhatt, Mirai Chatterjee, Nicole Constable, Dan Gallin, Pat Horn, Elaine Jones, Paula Kantor, Martin Medina, Winnie Mitullah, Carlos Mireles Morales, Pun Ngai, Fred Pieterse, Jennefer Sebstad, and Lynda Yanz.

To read *The Progress of the World's Women 2005* in full, please visit:

[http://www.unifem.org/attachments/products/PoWW2005\\_eng.pdf](http://www.unifem.org/attachments/products/PoWW2005_eng.pdf)

To read an overview of *The Progress of the World's Women 2005*, please visit:

[http://www.unifem.org/attachments/products/PoWW2005\\_overview\\_eng.pdf](http://www.unifem.org/attachments/products/PoWW2005_overview_eng.pdf)

To read a press release regarding *The Progress of the World's Women 2005*, please visit:

[http://www.unifem.org/news\\_events/story\\_detail.php?StoryID=295](http://www.unifem.org/news_events/story_detail.php?StoryID=295)

To see the list of panelists who spoke at the launch of *The Progress of the World's Women 2005*, please visit:

[http://www.unifem.org/news\\_events/event\\_detail.php?EventID=24](http://www.unifem.org/news_events/event_detail.php?EventID=24)

To read the op-ed piece by the Executive Director of UNIFEM in the *International Herald Tribune*, please visit:

[http://www.unifem.org/news\\_events/story\\_detail.php?StoryID=305](http://www.unifem.org/news_events/story_detail.php?StoryID=305)

### **Cornell/SEWA/WIEGO Conference on Membership-Based Organizations of the Poor: Theory, Experience and Policy ||**

*Ahmedabad, India*

January 2005

For the past several years, WIEGO has collaborated with SEWA in India and Ravi Kanbur at Cornell University on a continuing dialogue on how the field of economics views employment/informal employment and the links between employment, growth, and poverty reduction. One of the issues that emerged from this dialogue is the role of membership-based organizations of the poor in achieving equitable growth and poverty reduction. This event, organized by the Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA), Cornell University, and WIEGO, brought together a group of development analysts and activists to discuss the role of membership-based organizations of the poor in achieving equitable growth and poverty reduction. The conference was preceded by an exposure to the lives of individual members of SEWA who are themselves involved in the organizing activities of this membership-based organization of the poor. Participants were asked to record their reflections on this exposure. These reflections were then collected and have been published in a compendium, which is available online. Technical papers were also presented at the conference. These papers are available on the WIEGO website and will be published in a forthcoming academic volume

The Exposure Dialogue Programme Compendium is available at:

<http://www.arts.cornell.edu/poverty/kanbur/EDP05Compendium.pdf>

Papers presented at the conference are available at:  
<http://wiego.org/ahmedabad/>

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## WHAT'S HAPPENING WITHIN THE WIEGO NETWORK

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### WIEGO Global Markets Programme

#### **WIEGO Welcomes Elaine Jones as Director and Sarah Gammage as Research Coordinator**

WIEGO is pleased to welcome Elaine Jones and Sarah Gammage to the WIEGO team. Elaine is the new Director of WIEGO's Global Markets programme replacing Marilyn Carr, who stepped down in late 2004. Elaine is a UK-based independent advisor with in-depth experience in the fields of ethical and fair trade, marketing services and labor standards. Prior to joining WIEGO, Elaine worked with The Body Shop International as Head of Ethical Trade up until May 2003 where she played a key role in developing trading relationships with community-based producer organisations in 27 countries as part of the company's Community Trade Programme. Elaine Jones is an active member of the international Fair Trade movement for more than five years has served as a Board member and Council Trustee of Twin and Twin Trading, the London-based organisation which promotes fair trade coffee, cocoa, fresh fruit and nuts.

Since the scope of the Global Markets Programme has expanded to include three areas of work: marketing services; labour standards research and action; as well as research on trade liberalization, global value chains and informal workers, WIEGO decided that a Research Coordinator was also needed for the programme. Sarah Gammage has accepted this position and will be working from her Washington, D.C. base. Sarah is an affiliated fellow at the Center for Women and Women at Rutgers University as well as a Research Associate at the Economic Policy Institute, where she worked with the Global Policy Network. Most recently, Sarah has been a member of the Data Analysis Team for the *Progress of the World's Women 2005* (see above) and has served as a co-editor with Tony Avigan and L. Josh Bivens on the book, *Good Jobs, Bad Jobs, No Jobs: Labor Markets and Informal Work in Egypt, El Salvador, India, Russia and South Africa* (see below).

Please join us in welcoming Elaine and Sarah.

#### **Chains of Fortune: Best Practices in Linking Local Women Producers and Workers with Global Markets** || book || Edited by Marilyn Carr

*Chains of Fortune* is a volume of good practice cases edited by Marilyn Carr, WIEGO Steering Committee member and former Director of WIEGO's Global Markets programme. It contains six case studies which describe how women have been successfully integrated into global markets. These include: a cocoa cooperative of 45,000 producers in Ghana who are co-owners of a chocolate company in the UK; family-based cooperatives in Samoa which produce organic virgin coconut oil for export; small enterprises in Mozambique which are helping to regenerate the cashew processing and export industry; thousands of wage workers in global value chains which export deciduous fruits from South Africa; ready made garments from Bangladesh; and newly created call centers in India. This book was formally launched by the Commonwealth Secretariat at the Beijing +10 events at the UN in New York in March (please see below). To read the book, please visit:

[http://www.thecommonwealth.org/shared\\_asp\\_files/uploadedfiles/AA249966-F726-46BF-9D57-AADB5CC1B920\\_Chainsfinal.pdf](http://www.thecommonwealth.org/shared_asp_files/uploadedfiles/AA249966-F726-46BF-9D57-AADB5CC1B920_Chainsfinal.pdf)

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## **WIEGO Social Protection Programme**

### **NALEDI/ILO-ACTRAV Conference on Extending Access to Health Care for Informal Economy Workers in Developing Countries**

*Johannesburg, South Africa*

February 2005

In February, Francie Lund and Chris Bonner attended a conference hosted jointly by the National Labour and Economic Development Institute (NALEDI) and the ILO Workers Bureau (ACTRAV). Francie was asked to present at the event. Her presentation, entitled “The Dynamics of the Informal Economy with a Bearing on Organizing for Extending Access to Health Care Provisioning” examined the potential role of trade unions in campaigning for health care reform to benefit workers, especially informal workers. After the event, Chris was asked to serve on a reference committee for the joint project and assist with the creation of a follow up questionnaire.

### **Presentation to Liberty Life South Africa: “Why South African Insurance Institutions Should Extend Their Services to Informal Workers, and Some Models for Doing So”**

*South Africa*

March 2005

As part of their commitment to new dispensation in South Africa, Liberty Life South Africa and other major banks and insurance houses have signed onto the Financial Services Charter. By signing onto this initiative, companies pledge to further measurable black empowerment in ownership and staffing of the industry and to measurably extending their services to the poorest clients, particularly those in rural areas, within the next ten years. Francie Lund was asked to meet with a group of senior managers to discuss the rationale behind extending services to informal workers as well as some models for the extension of these services, such as that of SEWA’s integrated insurance plan. A follow up meeting is planned for late 2005.

### **UNRISD and Centre for Global Gender Studies Joint Conference on Gender and Social Policy**

*Marstrand, Sweden*

May 2005

Francie Lund was asked to serve as a speaker at this event, which was jointly organized by UNRISD and the Centre for Global Gender Studies at Goteborg University. The conference examined regional differences in social provisioning, the impact of labor market structure on social rights, the gendered nature of social reforms, and potential ways to finance and restructure provisioning for wider coverage. The papers presented at the conference, including Francie Lund’s paper ‘Working people and their access to social protection’ will be published in a forthcoming volume edited by Shahra Razavi and Shireen Hassim. For more information, please visit:

<http://www.unrisd.org/unrisd/website/events.nsf/0/0FFD822BE1FC7012C125701500496E46?OpenDocument>

### **“Occupational Health and Safety for the Poorest”**

Francie Lund, Director of WIEGO Social Protection programme, and Anna Marriott, a Masters student in development studies at the University of KwaZulu Natal, were asked by Dfid to write a conceptual paper on occupational health and safety for the poorest. The paper contains case studies of the shipbreaking industry in India, SEWA’s integrated social insurance, and Durban municipality’s health education with street vendors.

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## WIEGO Urban Policies Programme

### WIEGO Welcomes Sharit Bhowmik as Director

We are pleased to welcome Sharit Bhowmik, who joined WIEGO as the new Director of its Urban Policies programme in July 2005. Sharit replaces Winnie Mitullah, who stepped down as Director in late 2004. Sharit is a Professor of Sociology at the University of Mumbai and a founding member of the National Alliance of Street Vendors of India (NASVI). Additionally, Sharit served on the Government of India's National Taskforce on Street Vendors and as a member of the Drafting Committee for the National Policy on Street Vendors. He has also been an active participant, representing WIEGO, in several StreetNet International meetings. Please join us in welcoming Sharit.

### Street Vendors in Asia: A Review || Sharit K. Bhowmik || *Economic and Political Weekly* ||

Last year, Sharit Bhowmik and Winnie Mitullah wrote regional reviews of street vendors in Asia and Africa, respectively. Sharit's review for Asia, which was published in the *Economic and Political Weekly*, examines recent research on street vendors in Asia with the aim of assessing the magnitude and composition of street vending in different countries. Further, it collates information on the extent of unionisation among the vendors and of support of various kinds to vendors by other organisations, such as non-government organisations (NGOs), self-help organisations (SHOs), and advocacy groups.

Available at:

<http://www.epw.org.in/showArticles.php?root=2005&leaf=05&filename=8705&filetype=pdf>

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## WIEGO Statistics Programme

### WIEGO Welcomes James Heintz as Research Coordinator

We are pleased to welcome James Heintz, who joined WIEGO as the new Statistics Programme Research coordinator in July 2005. James will work with Joann Vanek, WIEGO Statistics Programme Director to further the research objectives of WIEGO's Statistics Programme. James is an Assistant Research Professor affiliated with the Political Economy Research Institute (PERI) at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. He has written on a wide range of economic policy issues, including job creation, global labor standards, egalitarian macroeconomic strategies, and investment behavior. He has worked as an international consultant on projects in Ghana and South Africa, sponsored by the International Labor Organization and the United Nations Development Program, that focus on employment-oriented development policy. He was a co-author of and technical advisor to *The Progress of the World's Women 2005: Women, Work and Poverty*. Please join us in welcoming James.

### 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the International Expert Group on Informal Sector Statistics ||

Nadi, Fiji

March 2005

WIEGO has been an active member of the Expert Group on Informal Sector Statistics, referred to as the Delhi Group. The Delhi Group is one of approximately 10 City groups set up by the United Nations Statistical Commission as an international forum to exchange experience in the measurement of particular issues: in this case, document data-collection practices and recommend measures for improving the quality and comparability of informal sector statistics. The most recent meeting of the group was held in Nadi, Fiji in March. Joann Vanek attended as did Ralf Hussmanns of the ILO, who is a member of the WIEGO

Statistics Advisory Committee. WIEGO also paid for Dr. N.S. Sastry, former Director-General of the National Sample Survey Organization of India and member of the WIEGO Statistics Advisor Committee, to participate. Among the topics discussed was the development of a minimum tabulation plan for a set of indicators arising out of surveys on the informal sector/employment and the collaboration of the Delhi Group with the United Nations Statistics Division on the revision of the System of National Accounts. Another topic was the plan for the Delhi Group to assist the ILO with the preparation of a manual on the development of statistics on informal employment. This manual is an essential component to further development of statistics in this area.

### **United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) || *Ongoing***

The MDGs are a major effort of the United Nations system to set development priorities as well as time-bound targets and indicators for measuring progress in implementation. Employment was given only limited consideration in these goals and initially informal employment was not considered at all. Employment is one of the indicators to monitor progress on Goal #3 of the Project - Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women. The specific indicator is the share of women in non-agricultural wage employment. The Project Task Force on this Goal has criticized this indicator, using WIEGO's research to support its views and recommended supplementing the indicator with indicators on gender differences in paid employment (formal and informal) and self employment, as well as subcategories under each of these employment statuses and wages/earnings type. Ralf Hussmanns of the ILO Bureau of Statistics has made a recommendation on the specific formulation of the indicator to the Inter-agency and Expert Meeting (IAEG) on MDG Indicators. (His initial specification of the indicator is also in the final report of the Gender Task Force). In more recent meetings of the IAEG it was decided that given the problem of obtaining the information for a sufficiently large number of countries, the current indicator will not be replaced for now. However the additional indicator, gendered differences in the structure of employment by type, will be recommended as a *background* indicator to be used in international and regional monitoring and the *basic* indicator for monitoring at the national level. This indicator highlights three key aspects of the structure of the labor force, agricultural-nonagricultural, employment status and formal-informal. The country case studies commissioned for the UNIFEM report, *Progress of the World's Women 2005: Women, Work and Poverty* use the basic framework that ILO has proposed. (Joann Vanek has served as a resource person in statistics for the Task Force for Goal #3 of the Millennium Project and for the Inter-agency and Expert Meeting on MDG Indicators.)

*Taking Action: Achieving Gender Equality and Empowering Women*

<http://www.unmillenniumproject.org/documents/Gender-complete.pdf>

### **Data Collection on the Informal Sector || *Ongoing***

Jacques Charmes is currently working on a comprehensive compilation of statistics on the informal sector for the ILO. This compilation also contains an analysis and review of concepts and methods used to ensure better comparability of available statistics.

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## **WIEGO Organization and Representation Programme**

### **Database on Organizations Organizing in the Informal Economy || *Ongoing***

Chris Bonner, the Director of WIEGO's Organization and Representation programme, is actively developing a data base on organizations that are organizing informal workers. The database includes two types of organizations: **membership-based organizations** of workers in the informal economy, such as unions, cooperatives, associations, and other forms of organizations which have workers in the informal economy as their direct members; and **service organizations**, such as nongovernmental organizations, that provide

various kinds of services to workers in the informal economy. The process of data collection has already begun, building on WIEGO's database, as well as those from partner organizations such as StreetNet International, Homenet South Asia and HomeNet Southeast Asia. Please contact WIEGO at [wiego@ksg.harvard.edu](mailto:wiego@ksg.harvard.edu) if you have information on organizations that are organizing informal workers or otherwise provide services to informal workers.

### **Informal Economy and the Law Project** || *In Planning Stage*

Chris Bonner is currently developing a proposal for a project designed to collect and record information on the law and the informal economy, including examining local and national government policies as well as individual collective bargaining agreements that cover those informally employed. Those with information that may be useful are kindly asked to contact WIEGO at [wiego@ksg.harvard.edu](mailto:wiego@ksg.harvard.edu)

### **IFWEA Project on Worker Education for the Informally Employed**

Dave Spooner, WIEGO Organization and Representation Advisory Committee member and IFWEA General Secretary, asked Chris Bonner to provide information and input on a manual developed by IFWEA for the ILO sub-regional office in Bangkok. The manual focuses on organizing workers in the informal economy and is currently being used by trade unionists in Thailand, Mongolia and Cambodia. The manual has already been used in three pilot workshops and is currently being revised.

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## **WIEGO Administration**

### **WIEGO Staff Changes**

We are pleased to announce that MaryBeth Graves has joined the WIEGO Secretariat as a project assistant. Beth has been working at Harvard for the past four years, first with the Council on Women Leaders and most recently with the Joint Programme on Religion and Public Life at the Hauser Center for Nonprofit Organizations. Beth received her bachelors degree in communications from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, where she focused on media studies with an emphasis on gender. In her role as project assistant, Beth will be working with Network Manager Marais Canali and Financial Manager Suzanne Van Hook to assist WIEGO Coordinator Marty Chen and the WIEGO Program Directors.

### **WIEGO Restructuring**

WIEGO has updated its database of more than 1500 individuals from 150 countries who have participated in one or more WIEGO activities or meetings. The updated database has been used to determine who should be invited to become Members and Associates of WIEGO based on criteria set out in the WIEGO Constitution ratified by the WIEGO Steering Committee in February 2003.

### **WIEGO Transition Committee Meeting**

*Ahmedabad, India*

January 2005

WIEGO Steering Committee members Marty Chen, Dan Gallin, Renana Jhabvala, and Biff Steel met in Ahmedabad, India to resolve issues regarding criteria for WIEGO Members and Associates, review the lists of candidates for membership, and discuss the transition to the new membership-based structure. In finalizing the membership criteria, the Committee reviewed the WIEGO constitution and proposed some amendments to it.

### **WIEGO Steering Committee Conference Call**

April 2005

In April, a Steering Committee teleconference was held to discuss the results of the Transition Committee meeting as well as review the list of Members nominated by the Transition Committee.

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## WIEGO Participation in Conferences or Workshops

### **UNIFEM Panel - Decent Work for Women: Pathways to Poverty Reduction and Women's Empowerment**

*New York, USA*

March 2005

As part of the Beijing +10 events at the United Nations, Marty Chen, Francie Lund, and Joann Vanek were asked to speak on a panel organized by UNIFEM called "Decent Work for Women: Pathways to Poverty Reduction and Women's Empowerment". The panel presentations centered on the preliminary findings and recommendations of UNIFEM's (then forthcoming) flagship publication, *The Progress of the World's Women 2005* on the topic of "Women, Work, and Poverty". The panel, which also included Amelita King-Dejardin of the ILO and Selim Jahan of UNDP and was chaired by Noeleen Heyzer, Executive Director of UNIFEM.

### **Commonwealth Secretariat Book Launch ||**

*New York, USA*

March 2005

As part of the Beijing + 10 events, the Commonwealth Secretariat organized a book launch for its most recent publications. Two publications launched at this event were written by WIEGO staff. At the launch, Marty Chen, discussed some of the main messages and key tools presented in *Mainstreaming Informal Employment and Gender in Poverty Reduction: A Handbook for Policymakers*, by Martha Chen, Joann Vanek and Marilyn Carr. The book *Chains of Fortune: Best Practices in Linking Local Women Producers and Workers with Global Markets*, edited by Marilyn Carr, was also launched at this event.

*Mainstreaming Informal Employment and Gender in Poverty Reduction: A Handbook for Policymakers*  
[http://web.idrc.ca/en/ev-66028-201-1-DO\\_TOPIC.html](http://web.idrc.ca/en/ev-66028-201-1-DO_TOPIC.html)

*Chains of Fortune: Best Practices in Linking Local Women Producers and Workers with Global Markets*  
[http://www.thecommonwealth.org/shared\\_asp\\_files/uploadedfiles/AA249966-F726-46BF-9D57-AADB5CC1B920\\_Chainsfinal.pdf](http://www.thecommonwealth.org/shared_asp_files/uploadedfiles/AA249966-F726-46BF-9D57-AADB5CC1B920_Chainsfinal.pdf)

### **UNRISD Launch of the Policy Report on Gender and Development: 10 Years after Beijing.**

*New York, USA*

March 2005

As part of the Beijing + 10 events, Francie Lunch took part in a launch event for UNRISD's Policy Report on Gender and Development: 10 Years After Beijing. Francie was asked to present her paper, "Extending Social Security and Social Protection to Informal Workers". For more information, visit:

[http://www.unrisd.org/80256B3C005BB128/\(httpProjectsForResearchHome-en\)/72A65D864B4041EBC1256E4E00575F52?OpenDocument&category=Background+Papers](http://www.unrisd.org/80256B3C005BB128/(httpProjectsForResearchHome-en)/72A65D864B4041EBC1256E4E00575F52?OpenDocument&category=Background+Papers)

**Economic Policy Institute-Global Policy Network Book Launch of  
Good Jobs, Bad Jobs, No Jobs: Labor Markets and Informal Work in Egypt, El Salvador, India,  
Russia, and South Africa**

*New York, USA*

March 2005

Marty Chen and Joann Vanek served as technical advisors to a research project on workforce development coordinated by the Global Policy Network of the Economic Policy Institute in Washington, D.C. and funded by the Ford Foundation. This project commissioned studies on trends in workforce development, including both the formal and informal workforces, in five countries: Egypt, El Salvador, India, Russia, and South Africa. A volume of the 5 country studies entitled *Good Jobs, Bad Jobs, No Jobs: Labor Markets and Informal Work in Egypt, El Salvador, India, Russia and South Africa*, was edited by Tony Avigan, L. Josh Bivens and Sarah Gammage. Marty and Joann co-wrote the concluding chapter of the book, "Informal Employment: Rethinking Workforce Development". The book was launched in March 2005 at the Ford Foundation in New York. Marty Chen was one of the speakers at the launch.

For more information on the book, including ordering information, please visit:

[http://www.epi.org/content.cfm/books\\_good\\_jobs](http://www.epi.org/content.cfm/books_good_jobs)

To read the concluding chapter by Martha Chen and Joann Vanek as well as the introduction and to view the table of contents, please visit:

[http://www.epinet.org/books/good\\_jobs\\_bad\\_jobs\\_no\\_jobs\\_\(web\).pdf](http://www.epinet.org/books/good_jobs_bad_jobs_no_jobs_(web).pdf)

**Dfid Seminar on "Informal Employment, Poverty Reduction, and the Role of Membership-based  
Organizations of Informal Workers:**

*London, UK*

March 2005

In March 2005, Marty Chen, Renana Jhabvala and James Heintz were invited by the UK Department for International Development (DFID) to give a seminar on "Informal Employment, Poverty Reduction, and the Role of Membership-based Organizations of Informal Workers". The seminar was chaired by Richard Boulter of DFID and participants included DFID staff and, via video-link, Maurizio Bussi, Anjana Chellani, Reiko Tsushima, and Naoko Otake of the ILO's New Delhi Office. After the seminar, Marty, Renana and James participated in a series of technical consultations with Policy Division on Growth and Investment Group and the Operationalizing Pro-Poor Growth Team at the DFID, on labour market and employment issues.

**IDRC Conference on "Unleashing Entrepreneurship: Mobilizing Human, Financial and Social  
Capital"**

*Ottawa, Canada*

April 2005

Marty Chen participated in a conference entitled, "Unleashing Entrepreneurship: Mobilizing Human, Financial and Social Capital", which was hosted by the International Development Research Centre, Canada. In a panel on aspects of an enabling environment for business development, Marty spoke about examples of pro-poor business environments in India and South Africa.

**EGDI Seminar on "Work, Employment and Labour Market Issues on the International Agenda for  
Combating Poverty"**

*Stockholm, Sweden*

April 2005

Marty Chen was asked to participate in a one-day seminar on work, employment and labor market issues on the international agenda for combating poverty that was organized by the Expert Group on Development Issues in the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Marty spoke on a panel focused on the role of employment in eradicating poverty. Other panelists included Hernando de Soto (Institute for Liberty and Democracy), Allan Larsson (former Minister, UN Panel on Youth Employment), and Heba Handoussa (Economic Research Forum for Arab Countries, Iran and Turkey).

### **ETUC Seminar on Organizing Domestic Workers**

*Brussels, Belgium*

April 2005

The European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) in cooperation with the International Restructuring Education Network Europe (IRENE) and the Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants, Brussels (PICUM) organized an event in April called “Out of the Shadows: Organizing Domestic Workers”. The seminar examined strategies for organizing domestic workers, as well as applying existing legal instruments to protect domestic workers. Karin Pape of the Global Labour Institute attended on behalf of WIEGO. A full workshop report should be out soon.

For more information, visit the IRENE and ETUC websites:

<http://www.irene-network.nl/oncoming.htm> and <http://www.etuc.org/a/810>

### **International Fair Trade Association (IFAT) International Conference**

*Quito, Ecuador*

May 2005

On behalf of WIEGO, Jacqui MacDonald attended the International Conference of IFAT, the international network of Fair Trade Organizations. Jacqui is a member of the Global Markets Programme Advisory Committee.

### **Labor and Worklife Programme at Harvard Law School’s Conference on “The End of Global Textile Quotas: Understanding the New Shape of the World Economy”**

*May 2005*

As a follow-up to WIEGO’s March 2004 conference on the garment sector, which included a panel on the end of the Multi-Fibre Agreement, Marty Chen and Ann Weston (North-South Institute) attended this event, which was hosted by the Labor and Worklife Programme at Harvard Law School (formerly the Harvard Trade Union Programme). Panel presentations discussed what has happened in selected countries after the end of the Multi-Fibre Agreement and examined the response of both industry and activists to the phasing out of textile quotas.

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## **Recent Publications by WIEGO Staff**

**Progress of the World’s Women 2005: Women, Work and Poverty** || *book* || Martha Chen, Joann Vanek, Francie Lund and James Heintz with Renana Jhabvala and Chris Bonner || New York: UNIFEM || Available online at:

[http://www.unifem.org/attachments/products/PoWW2005\\_eng.pdf](http://www.unifem.org/attachments/products/PoWW2005_eng.pdf)

**Mainstreaming Informal Employment and Gender in Poverty Reduction** || *book* || Martha Chen, Joann Vanek and Marilyn Carr || London: Commonwealth Secretariat || Available online at:

[http://www.thecommonwealth.org/shared\\_asp\\_files/uploadedfiles/{B73C2B3B-3A94-49AD-BB55-DB2311585F99}\\_mainstreaming%20informal%20employment.pdf](http://www.thecommonwealth.org/shared_asp_files/uploadedfiles/{B73C2B3B-3A94-49AD-BB55-DB2311585F99}_mainstreaming%20informal%20employment.pdf)

**Chains of Fortune: Best Practices in Linking Local Women Producers and Workers with Global Markets** || *book* || Edited by Marilyn Carr || London: Commonwealth Secretariat || Available online at:

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