

WIEGO

Women in Informal Employment:
Globalizing and Organizing



Annual Report
January 08 – March 09



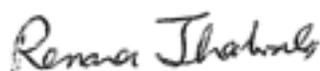
Letter from Chair of Board

Dear WIEGO Members, Partners, and Funders,

2008 was an important and exciting year for WIEGO, with the issues of waste collectors and domestic workers taking centre stage internationally for the first time. A new domestic workers network was formed by a WIEGO member, the International Federation of Food and Allied Workers (IUF), and the international conference on waste collectors co-organized by WIEGO brought together waste collectors' organisations from 34 countries. The highlight of 2008 was the launch of the global project Inclusive Cities for the Urban Working Poor with partners around the world.

It was also an important year for WIEGO Ltd. Board which was established in mid-2007 when WIEGO registered as a not-for-profit company (limited) in the UK. The board includes representatives of member-based organizations, researchers and policy makers and our financial integrity and transparency is insured by the presence of our highly qualified and professional treasurer. The WIEGO UK office is situated in Manchester and at our first board meeting, we were warmly welcomed by the City of Manchester which has a proud tradition of labour, co-operative and suffragette movements.

On behalf of the WIEGO Ltd. Board, I would like to thank WIEGO's funders: the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (through its MDG3 fund), the Ford Foundation, the International Development Research Centre, Oxfam Novib, and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency for their financial support and substantive cooperation which are essential to the success of the WIEGO network. I would especially like to thank the team of dedicated and experienced professionals working for WIEGO; and last but not most important I would like to thank the millions of women in the informal economy, whose courage, wisdom and enthusiasm has been an inspiration to us all.



Renana Jhabvala
Chair
WIEGO Ltd. Board
November 2009

Letter from International Coordinator

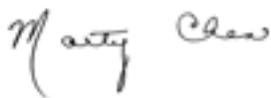
Dear WIEGO Family and Friends,

2008 was an especially busy and productive year for WIEGO during which we experienced a significant expansion of our activities and staff around the world.

It was also a year in which those we are concerned about – the working poor in the informal economy – were severely buffeted by forces beyond their control. The food-fuel crisis in the first half of the year and the financial-economic crisis in the second half had particularly harsh consequences on many of the working poor. At the same time, many of the *urban* working poor saw their livelihoods undermined by fast-changing cities: around the world, as cities seek to modernize and compete for “world class” status, the livelihoods of the working poor are ignored or deliberately excluded from city planning, services, and regulations.

One of the highlights of the year was the launch of a new global project called Inclusive Cities for the Urban Working Poor designed to help organizations of urban poor workers – home-based workers, street vendors, and waste pickers – address these exclusionary trends and fight for their right to livelihood. In order to secure their livelihoods, what do the urban working poor need or want from the cities in which they work? Home-based workers, who produce goods for export and domestic markets and provide services from their home, need basic services and infrastructure – water, electricity, and sanitation – to make their homes (which are also their workplaces) more productive. Street vendors, who sell low-cost goods, need space in key downtown locations from which to vend without fear of harassment, bribes, or evictions. Waste pickers, who collect and sort waste for recycling, need to be included in the tendering system for solid waste management. Our partners in this exciting and promising new initiative include six member-based organizations of informal workers and two technical support organizations.

On behalf of WIEGO, I welcome our new partners in the Inclusive Cities project and express our best wishes for a fruitful collaboration in support of the working poor, especially women, in the informal economy. It is also my pleasure to welcome our 12 new staff members located in Brazil, Canada, South Africa, and the USA.



Marty Chen
International Coordinator
WIEGO
November 2009

WIEGO MISSION

WIEGO believes that all workers should have equal economic opportunities and rights and be able to determine the conditions of their work and lives.

WIEGO works to improve the status of the working poor, especially women, in the informal economy through increased organization and representation; improved statistics and research; more inclusive policy processes; and more equitable trade, labour, urban planning, and social protection policies.

*Highlights: January 08-March 09**

WIEGO SEEKS TO BUILD THE VOICE, VISIBILITY, AND VALIDITY OF THE WORKING POOR, ESPECIALLY WOMEN, IN THE INFORMAL ECONOMY. FOUR HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2008 ILLUSTRATE HOW WIEGO GOES ABOUT DOING THIS.

INCREASING VOICE: BY BUILDING NETWORKS OF ORGANIZATIONS OF INFORMAL WORKERS

First International/Third Latin American Conference of Waste Pickers

The first international conference and third Latin America conference of waste pickers, entitled “Waste Pickers Without Frontiers” took place in Bogotá, Colombia in March 2008. WIEGO was instrumental in organizing the international steering committee, which planned and managed the conference. Around 250 people from 34 countries attended the conference, including representatives from member-based organizations (MBOs) of waste pickers; staff of supportive NGOs, international agencies, and foundations; individual researchers; and government officials.

On the first day of the conference, the Colombian National Day of the Waste Picker, 350 or so local waste pickers from Bogotá attended as well. The key outcomes of the event are an expanded and consolidated Latin America Network of Waste Pickers and a commitment to on- going global interchanges and to developing national and regional networks of waste picker organizations around the world. For more details on the networking of waste pickers around the world, see Organization and Representation Programme below. For more details and photos of the conference, see www.recicladores.net. For the conference report in English, Portuguese, and Spanish, see www.wiego.org

* In the past, WIEGO annual reports have been prepared on a calendar year basis. However, the majority of the income and expenditure of the organisation is now being accounted for by WIEGO Limited, a UK registered company with a fiscal year end of 31 March. Therefore, this year’s annual report covers the fifteen month period from January 08 to March 09 thereby bringing this report into line with WIEGO Limited’s fiscal year.

Cover Photos: Leslie Tuttle

Photo: Asociación de Recicladores de Bogotá (ARB)



WIEGO GOALS

WIEGO seeks to increase the Voice, Visibility, and Validity of the working poor, especially women, in the informal economy:

- Increased **Voice** - through building and strengthening organizations of informal workers, networking and linking such organizations, and helping them gain representation in the policy-making and rule-setting bodies that affect their work and lives.
- Increased **Visibility** - by sponsoring and undertaking research, convening and participating in research conferences, and helping to develop and improve official labour force and other economic statistics on the informal economy
- Increased **Validity** – by promoting mainstream recognition of the working poor in the informal economy as legitimate economic agents who contribute to the economy and are, thereby, legitimate targets of economic and social policies; and by promoting their incorporation into policy-making and rule-setting processes.

Domestic Worker Network Project

In November 2006, the first international meeting of domestic worker organizations was held in the Netherlands. At that meeting, it was decided to explore the possibility of forming an international network. In 2007, an Interim Management Committee was constituted and charged with helping to build an international network of domestic worker organizations under the umbrella of the International Federation of food, agriculture, hotel and catering and tobacco workers' unions (the IUF). Chris Bonner (Director, WIEGO Organization and Representation Programme) and Karin Pape (WIEGO Regional Advisor for Europe) were selected as members of that Interim Management Committee and have worked closely with the IUF to raise funds for and provide technical support to the emerging network. In March 2008, the Governing Body of the International Labour Organization (ILO) agreed to add a standard-setting discussion on Decent Work for Domestic Workers to its agenda for the 2010 International Labour Conference (ILC), with a view to adopting a relevant instrument (convention/recommendation) at the 2011 ILC. Since then, the Interim Management Committee whose mandate was to build a network of domestic worker organizations also began to mobilize a campaign around the possible convention and to work closely with the ILO in preparing for the standard-setting discussion on domestic workers at the 2010 ILC. In 2008, a Steering Committee comprised of representatives of domestic worker organizations from around the world was established to build and govern the network.

INCREASING VISIBILITY: BY IMPROVING MEASUREMENT OF INFORMAL EMPLOYMENT

Statistics Workshop on “Measuring Informal Employment in Developed Countries”

In late October 2008, Joann Vanek (Director, WIEGO Statistics Programme), Françoise Carré, and James Heintz (WIEGO Research Coordinators) organized a conference on “Measuring Informality in Developed Countries” at the Harvard Kennedy School. This workshop brought together 23 experts from eight OECD countries – national statisticians, data analysts, and representatives of international organizations – to explore possibilities and challenges involved in capturing in official statistics the varied forms of informal and/or non-standard employment – short-term, temporary, contracted, and others – across developed countries. The purpose of the workshop was to start a process aimed at the eventual use in both developed and developing countries of a common statistical framework for measuring informal employment. An outcome related to the workshop is a review of the International Classification of Status in Employment (ICSE) by the ILO Department of Statistics in order to make recommendations for modifications so that the ICSE better reflects contemporary realities and economic and social concerns. This follows the discussion of the topic at the International Conference of Labour Statisticians (held in Geneva in late November-early December 2009) which included coordinated interventions by WIEGO and a national statistician attending the workshop. The

workshop was an important first step towards a wider project on the measurement of informal employment in developed countries: see Statistics Programme below. The main conference paper, written by Françoise Carré and James Heintz, is available on the WIEGO website; as are the papers prepared for the meeting: http://www.wiego.org/program_areas/statistics/Stats_Nov_2008_Mtg.php

INCREASING VALIDITY: BY STRENGTHENING THE ADVOCACY CAPACITY OF ORGANIZATIONS OF INFORMAL WORKERS AND PROMOTING THEIR REPRESENTATION IN POLICY-MAKING PROCESSES

“Inclusive Cities for the Urban Working Poor” Global Project

In April 2008, WIEGO was invited by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to develop a proposal for a global project to address urban poverty by increasing the capacity and voice of organizations of the urban working poor. WIEGO was invited to do so because of the focus of our work on this issue and our direct links with member-based organizations (MBOs) of urban informal workers: having co-organized with MBOs an international policy dialogue called “World Class Cities’ and the Urban Informal Economy: Inclusive Planning for the Working Poor” in Durban, South Africa in April 2006 and the First International/Third Latin American Conference of waste pickers in Bogota, Columbia in March 2008. Because of these working relationships, WIEGO was able to move quickly and effectively in response to this invitation. In consultation with our MBO members and partners, WIEGO developed the concept note for a global project designed to increase the “voice” in urban planning of the working poor, especially women, in three urban informal occupations: home-based workers, street vendors, and waste pickers. By late October, we had secured funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for six MBOs of informal workers, two technical support NGOs, and WIEGO.

The Inclusive Cities for the Urban Working Poor project aims to increase the voice of the urban working poor in urban planning and policy processes by building the organizing, policy analysis, and advocacy capacity of member-based organizations of the working poor in the urban informal economy. By increasing the capacity of these grassroots organizations of the working poor in these areas, the project will help ensure that urban informal workers are can make themselves heard within urban planning and policy-making processes.

This project is based on the shared belief that reducing urban poverty requires reversing the current exclusionary trend of many modernizing cities today. This will require a fundamental rethinking and reshaping of urban plans, regulations, and policies to incorporate a focus on livelihoods and the working poor. The fact is that the informal economy is a large and growing component of the economy of towns and cities around the world, particularly in developing countries. The challenge is to promote inclusive

cities that embrace the informal economy as a vibrant and key component of the urban economy and as part of the solution to reducing urban poverty and violence.

As envisioned by the global project partners, inclusive cities would support home-based production through basic infrastructure and appropriate zoning regulations; allow street vendors and hawkers to operate alongside small kiosks and shops as well as large retail shops and malls; and incorporate waste pickers into modern solid waste management systems. This will require an inclusive, rather than exclusive, approach to urban infrastructure and services; urban spatial planning and zoning; urban regulations and laws; and urban policies. This, in turn, will require inclusive urban planning processes in which representatives of the working poor have a voice.

The global partners in the Inclusive Cities project include six member-based organizations of the urban working poor and three technical support organizations committed to improving the situation of the urban working poor, as follows:

1. Member-Based Organizations of the Urban Working Poor

- HomeNet South and South-East Asia – regional federations of national alliances of membership-based organizations of home-based producers
- Kagad Kach Patra Kashtakari Panchayat (KKPKP, India) – a trade union of waste pickers in Pune, India
- Latin America Network of Recyclers/Waste Pickers – a regional network of national alliances of membership-based organizations of waste pickers
- Self-Employed Women’s Association (SEWA, India) – a national trade union of over one million working poor women in nine states of India
- StreetNet International – an international alliance of membership-based organizations of street vendors and hawkers

2. Technical Support Organizations

- Asiye eTtafuleni - an NGO established in 2008 to provide technical support to street vendors in the Warwick Junction precinct of Durban/eThekweni municipality, South Africa
- Avina Foundation – a Swiss foundation established in 1994 to promote the sustainable development of Latin America which has supported the Latin American Network of Recyclers/Waste Pickers and its affiliates
- WIEGO – a global action-research-policy network established in 1997 to improve the status of the working poor, especially women, in the informal economy

Key Activities: January 08-March 09

FIVE CORE PROGRAMMES

GLOBAL TRADE

Elaine Jones, Director of our Global Trade Programme, has worked with the ethical and fair trade movements for many years. Based in Brighton, UK, Elaine represents WIEGO on two working groups – Homeworkers and Purchasing Practices – of the UK Ethical Trading Initiative (ETI). In late 2008, she was nominated to the ETI Board of Directors as a representative of the NGO Caucus.

Ethical Trading Initiative Project

Through the Working Group on Purchasing Practices, Elaine Jones was contracted to work with an ETI corporate member to monitor one of its factories in Turkey over a year to understand the relationship between purchasing practices and labour conditions and examine where improvements can be made. The report will be shared with the ETI Working Group on Purchasing Practices and with “Ethical Champions” at the retailer’s headquarters in the UK in 2009.

Case Studies on Fair Trade for Producer Groups

In late 2008, WIEGO secured funding and finalized plans for a set of eight case studies on fair trade for producer groups in Cambodia, India, Kenya, Nepal, Nicaragua, Tanzania, and Uganda, with one other country in Latin America to be confirmed. The purpose of the case studies is to examine collective forms of organization around fair trade with a view to improving fair trade policies and practices. The case studies will look at different forms of organizing producer groups and different strategies for accessing markets on fair terms. Carol Wills, a UK-based consultant who earlier worked with Oxfam International’s trade team, has been contracted to work with Elaine Jones on the case studies.

Global Value Chain Trainers’ Handbook

In late 2008, WIEGO also secured funding and finalized plans for preparing a manual on global value chains to be used as a training tool for organizers working with home-based workers subcontracted to such chains. Celia Mather, a UK-based consultant who specializes on labour issues, has been contracted to work on the manual with Elaine Jones in consultation with organizations of home-based workers.

SOCIAL PROTECTION

Francie Lund, the Director of our Social Protection Programme, is based in Durban, South Africa where she is a Senior Research Associate at the School of Development Studies at the University of KwaZulu Natal. A social policy expert, Francie was asked

by the ANC Government in 1995 to head the Lund Committee of Enquiry into Child and Family Support. In 2008, a book by Francie on the work of that committee was published: *Changing Social Policy: The Child Support Grant in South Africa*. Cape Town: HSRC Press. The book is freely downloadable from the HSRC Press website: www.hsrcpress.ac.za

Livingston Call for Action

'The Livingstone Call for Action' is an Africa-wide initiative to get commitments to social spending back on the political agenda against the background of increasing poverty and rising food prices spearheaded by the African Union, managed by HelpAge International, and funded by DFID. Francie Lund was asked to prepare a policy brief on social protection and the informal economy for the North Africa regional meeting of this initiative held in Cairo in May 2008, contributed to the draft framework document, and attended the experts advisory group meeting prior to the first meeting Ministers of Social Development in Africa in Namibia, in October 2008. For the WIEGO concept note prepared by Francie Lund is available on our website: www.wiego.org/program_areas/social_protect

During the second half of 2008, WIEGO received funding for and started one large new project on workers health and safety, developed a collaborative proposal with UNRISD for a study on social protection and the informal economy, and developed a proposal for a Latin American project on voice, social protection, and informal workers, as follows.

Occupational Health and Safety for Informal Workers

WIEGO received funding to work in six countries, over three years, on occupational health and safety (OHS) for informal workers. We will work through WIEGO affiliates and partners, including member-based organisations of home-based workers, street vendors, and waste pickers. Mainstream OHS focuses on formal workplaces, not on where the majority of workers actually work: in their own homes, on the streets, on garbage dumps and landfills, in other public spaces, at construction sites, in pastures, fields, forests, and on waterways. OHS defines occupational health problems very narrowly, and does not take into account the poor working conditions and range of occupational hazards of most informal workers. The project seeks to develop an approach to OHS that better addresses the occupational health and safety hazards faced by informal workers. The work will start in Ghana and Brazil in early 2009. Laura Alferts, a South African who recently received an MPhil in Development Studies from Cambridge University, has been contracted to work with Francie Lund on the project.

Social Protection Concepts, Data, Innovations and Dialogues

Together with Shahra Razavi of the United National Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD), Francie Lund and James Heintz (WIEGO Research Coordinator) finalized the proposal for a collaborative UNRISD-WIEGO project on social protection and the informal economy. In addition to research and policy dialogues, the proposed project will document new innovations in social protection coverage for informal workers and promote measures to improve national data collection on social protection coverage overall. In late 2008, UNRISD and WIEGO began seeking funding for Phase I of the project.

Voice, Social Protection and Informal Workers in Latin America

Carmen Roca (WIEGO Regional Advisor, Latin America), working jointly with Francie Lund, developed a proposal for a project on this theme in three Latin American countries – Colombia, Mexico and Peru: see “Regional Activities: Latin America” below for more details.

In related work, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) commissioned Francie Lund to write a paper for the Poverty Network (POVNET) Task Team of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) on “Informal Employment, Vulnerability and Women’s Empowerment”.

URBAN POLICIES

Caroline Skinner is the new Director of our Urban Policies programme, replacing Sharit Bhowmik who stepped down in early 2008. In this capacity, Caroline will coordinate and provide technical oversight to the research activities of the Inclusive Cities Global Project (described above). Caroline is based at the School of Development Studies at the University of KwaZulu Natal where she is completing a PhD on urban policies and the informal economy. In mid-2009, Caroline will shift to the new African Cities Centre at the University of Cape Town which will provide an important base, with promising opportunities for collaboration, for WIEGO’s Urban Policies Programme and its role in the Inclusive Cities Global Project.

Informal Economy Budget Analysis

In late 2008, WIEGO finalized plans for a research project under the Inclusive Cities project, called “Informal Economy Budget Analysis”, to be coordinated by Debbie Budlender of Community Agency for Social Enquiry (CASE), South Africa. Debbie is a well-known expert on gender budgeting who first tested the informal economy budget analysis tool in South Africa together with Francie Lund, Caroline Skinner, and Imraan Valodia (active WIEGO member and research partner). During 2009, under Debbie’s expert guidance, the Informal Economy Budget Analysis tool will be further tested in Brazil, Ghana, Pakistan, Philippines, and Peru.

In addition to the exciting launch of the Inclusive Cities Global Project, activities under our Urban Policies Programme in 2008 included:

Documentation of Warwick Junction Urban Renewal Project

WIEGO is supporting the documentation of the lessons learned from the Warwick Junction Urban Renewal Project in Durban, South Africa. Despite recent setbacks, including plans to build a mall in the area, this project is one of the better examples globally of integrating street traders into urban plans. Richard Dobson, an architect who worked on the Warwick project for many years, Caroline Skinner, and Jillian Nicholson (a talented editor who has worked with WIEGO on other publications) are producing a book due to be launched in June 2009. As part of this process Dennis Gilbert, an award winning architectural photographer based in London, has been commissioned to photograph the Warwick Junction area and project. His photographs will be a featured part of the book but will also be mounted into a photographic exhibition which will travel to different parts of South Africa and abroad.

Edited Volume on Street Trade in Developing Countries

While he was Director of WIEGO's Urban Policies Programme, Sharit Bhowmik began compiling and editing a volume on street trade in developing countries. He has continued working on this volume after assuming a new position as Dean of the School of Management and Labour Studies at the Tata Institute of Social Studies in Mumbai, India. The volume, to be published by Routledge India in 2009, will include three regional reviews on street trade in Asia, Africa, and Latin America commissioned by WIEGO as well as papers on street trade in selected countries in Asia and Latin America.

ORGANIZATION AND REPRESENTATION

2008 was a particularly busy year for WIEGO's Organization and Representation Programme and its Director, Chris Bonner, based in Johannesburg, South Africa. In addition to successfully coordinating the planning and organization of the First International/Third Latin American Conference of Waste Picker (see Highlights above), she coordinated the following:

Building Networks of Organizations of Informal Workers

Global Networking of Waste-Pickers - The Inclusive Cities project has made it possible to build on the global networking established through the March 2008 conference. WIEGO has contracted a part-time global coordinator, Lucia Fernandez (from Uruguay but based in France), to facilitate the process and a sector specialist from Brazil, Sonia Dias, to advise on research, policy analysis, and advocacy. Various activities have been planned in Latin America, Asia and Africa towards building

organization. There is also a plan for exchange visits, regional meetings and a second international conference in year 5 of the Inclusive Cities project.

International Domestic Worker Network - The Steering Committee and international coordinator were put in place for the network, under a project of the IUF. Chris Bonner and Karin Pape continue to serve as technical advisors to the project. During the second half of 2008, this involved helping set up the website for the project (www.domesticworkersrights.org), developing a leaflet on the network and the ILO Convention process, and obtaining funding for the campaign towards an ILO Convention (2011).

Law and the Informal Economy Project

The purpose of this project is to document and analyze the laws that impinge on different categories of informal workers and the legal struggles and demands of organizations of these workers. The first pilot was undertaken in India. Phase I of the India pilot, which began in late 2007 and focused on domestic workers, fish workers, forest workers, and waste pickers, has been completed by Roopa Madhav (activist lawyer), Kamala Sankaran (professor of law, Delhi University), and Shalini Sinha (activist consultant). The project team identified and interviewed key stakeholders who are organizing or otherwise support the four categories of informal workers in different states of India, collected documents on the legal struggle and legal outcomes from these stakeholders, and held three regional stakeholder consultations. The outputs of Phase I have been placed on a special Law Project web page on the WIEGO site: http://www.wiego.org/informal_economy_law/india/index.html

Phase II of the project will deepen the work of Phase I and also keep information updated. A second pilot was developed in Colombia in late 2008 to be started in early 2009. WIEGO contracted a human rights lawyer from Colombia, Adriana Ruiz Restrepo, who has worked with waste pickers in Bogota and the Commission on Legal Empowerment of the Poor to run the project. To understand the purpose, methodology, and findings of the India pilot and the project overall, Adriana visited India in August 2008.

Research and Documentation

Classifying Organizations of Informal Workers -The purpose of this project is to identify and classify the different forms (both de jure and de facto) that organizations of informal workers take and to understand the strengths and weaknesses of different forms in relation to the strategic needs of different groups of informal workers. In early 2008, Pat Horn (International Coordinator, StreetNet International), with inputs from Chris Bonner and Elaine Jones (Director, WIEGO Global Trade Programme), wrote a paper that looked in some detail at informal workers and their organizations in different sectors. This included identifying key forms of organization in each sector

and different levels of organization. In late 2008, Françoise Carré (WIEGO Research Coordinator) prepared a draft concept paper on this topic which will be discussed by the Advisory Committee of the Organization and Representation Programme in 2009.

Research on Waste Pickers - Melanie Samson, who is doing a PhD on waste pickers in South Africa, was commissioned to do a literature review of what is known about waste pickers in Africa, and produce a booklet on the organizations and struggles of waste pickers around the world as part of the follow-up to the First International/Third Latin American Conference of Waste Pickers.

Data Base on Organizing Informal Workers

Over the past several years, Chris Bonner has developed a data base with information on over 400 organizations around the world that organize informal workers. During 2008, Chris Bonner and Beth Graves (Operations Manager, WIEGO Secretariat) worked with Key Word Associates (in the UK) to develop the data base into a user-friendly and participative web format. Once the new format is finalized and tested, the data base will be available on the WIEGO website. Please see page 24 for more information on database and how to log-in.

Worker Education

An expert on workers' education and founder of Ditsela (a worker education organization) in South Africa, Chris Bonner worked on two worker education initiatives during 2008.

Booklets on "Organizing in the Informal Economy" – In 2007, Chris Bonner completed drafts of a series of six booklets, *Organizing in the Informal Economy: Resource Books for Organisers*, for StreetNet International and the International Coordinating Committee on Organising in the Informal Economy (ICC). During 2008, after receiving feed-back on the booklets from member-based organizations of informal workers, Chris finalized the booklets which will be published by StreetNet and WIEGO in 2009.

STATISTICS

Joann Vanek is the Director of WIEGO's Statistics Programme. Based in New York City, Joann was the head of the Gender Statistics Programme and, later, Social Statistics at the United Nations Statistics Division and founding editor of *The World's Women*.

Project on the Measurement of Informal Employment in Developed Countries

During 2008, WIEGO developed plans for a project on the measurement of informal employment in developed countries. The purpose of the project is to develop a

framework to capture fully and with sufficient precision the range of employment arrangements in developed countries, particularly the growing share of non-standard arrangements – including short term, temporary contracted employment. For developing countries, the relevant categories of informal employment have been specified and now guide data collection, compilation and analysis for an increasing number of countries. However, the concept of informal employment has not yet been applied in most developed countries. To address this need, and help launch the project, a workshop was held at Harvard University in late October 2008 (see Highlights above).

Official Statistics and the WIEGO Mission to Cambodia

The improvement of statistics on informal sector and informal employment was one of the important purposes of a WIEGO mission to Cambodia in March 2008 (see Global Projects and General Activities below). At a seminar on the informal economy in Phnom Penh as part of that mission, Joann Vanek made a keynote presentation on the informal economy in Cambodia (based on statistical data analyzed by James Heintz) and a presentation on improvement of official statistics on informal sector and informal employment worldwide. Meetings were held with government agencies, including the National Institute of Statistics and with groups of informal workers. At the suggestion of the Minister of Women's Affairs, Joann prepared a follow-up note, "Data Needs and Strategies for Policies and Programmes on Employment, Especially Informal Employment, Gender and Poverty in Cambodia".

Photo: Leslie Tuttle



Manual on Surveys of Informal Sector and Informal Employment

Significant progress was made in 2008 towards the completion of a “Manual on Surveys of Informal Sector and Informal Employment” which is being prepared by an international team and edited by Ralf Hussmanns, ILO Statistics Bureau, and Joann Vanek.

Preparations for Update of 2002 ILO Publication

Women and Men in the Informal Economy: A Statistical Picture

During 2008, Joann Vanek, in consultation with Françoise Carré, Marty Chen, James Heintz of WIEGO and Ralf Hussmanns of the ILO, began preparatory work for an update of this widely-cited 2002 ILO publication written by Marty Chen and Joann Vanek. The preparatory work included identification of countries with data and consultants who will be able to prepare data for regional estimates and for other parts of the report, preparation of a tabulation plan, and identification of a consultant for the update of informal employment in developed countries.

Other Statistics Initiatives

Joann Vanek is an active member of various technical advisory committees related to labor force and other economic statistics, including the Steering Committee of the United Nations Development Accounts Project – Interregional Cooperation on the Measurement of Informal Sector and Informal Employment and the Task Force of the ECE/EUROSTAT/ILO Project on Measurement of Quality of Employment.

Photo: Marty Chen



During 2008, Joann Vanek participated in an international seminar on the informal sector in Africa convened by AFRISTAT in Bamako, Mali in October and reviewed a draft chapter on the informal economy for the Update of the System of National Accounts (SNA) 1993 - Volume II. Also during 2008, James Heintz (WIEGO Research Coordinator) went on a technical mission to Serbia and Macedonia to assist national statistical offices in the development of tabulation plans for statistics on informal sector/informal employment under an ECE-ILO project on the analysis of labour force data in Kazakhstan, Macedonia, and Serbia. James prepared a report which analyzes data for Macedonia and Serbia on informal employment and makes recommendations to improve data on the topic in the three countries. The report will be published as a Working Paper of the ILO Statistics Bureau.

Research Coordination

Françoise Carré and James Heintz, the two WIEGO Research Coordinators, work closely with our International Coordinator and Programme Directors on statistics and other research projects. Both are economists based at different branches of the University of Massachusetts, Boston and Amherst respectively. Françoise, an expert on non-standard work and industrial relations in developed countries, provides technical guidance to our research in developed countries and our institutional analyses. James, an expert on economic and employment policies in developing countries, provides technical guidance to our research in developing countries and our data analyses.

During 2008, Françoise Carré and James Heintz worked closely with Joann Vanek on planning the workshop on “Measuring Informal Employment in Developed Countries”, including writing the background concept paper, and preparing for the update of the 2002 ILO statistics book; and with other members of the WIEGO Research team (Marty Chen, Francie Lund, and Joann Vanek) planning an international research conference and network on the informal economy. As described above, James also undertook the technical mission to Serbia and Macedonia to assist the national statistical offices in those countries in the development of tabulation plans for statistics on informal sector and informal employment; and developed the proposal for the UNRISD-WIEGO project on social policy and the informal economy with Francie Lund; and Françoise drafted a paper on different forms and strategies of organizing non-standard workers for the Organization and Representation Programme.

Regional Activities

WIEGO has two Regional Advisors – one for Europe, the other for Latin America – who help WIEGO develop and coordinate activities in their respective regions.

EUROPE REGION

Karin Pape, a German trade unionist with extensive experience in Europe, Eastern Europe, and the former Soviet Union, is our Regional Advisor for Europe based in Geneva, Switzerland. During 2008, Karin’s primary responsibility was technical and political support to the IUF-led effort to strengthen the International Domestic Workers Network and the international campaign for a convention on domestic work, including efforts in Europe to organize domestic workers. Karin also worked closely with trade unions and other stakeholders in Germany to push for German ratification of Convention 177 on home-based work. With the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Karin co-organized a strategic planning meeting on “Organizing in the Informal Economy in Eastern Europe” in Warsaw, Poland in November 2008. Participants include representatives from the Clean Clothes Campaign, Home Workers Worldwide, the Pan-European Council of the International Trade Union Confederation, and StreetNet International.

LATIN AMERICA REGION

Carmen Roca, a Peruvian development specialist who worked for many years with the International Development Research Centre in Canada, is our Regional Advisor for Latin America based in Lima, Peru. Carmen played a critical role in the planning, organizing, and follow-up to the First International/Third Latin American

Photo: Marty Chen



Conference of Waste Pickers, including drafting the report of the conference. To prepare for organizing an Exposure Dialogue in Mexico in early 2009, Carmen took part in a special Exposure Dialogue training in India in December 2008 designed by SEWA to train the global partners in the Inclusive Cities project in the Exposure Dialogue philosophy and methodology. Carmen also provided support to StreetNet International which was planning a leadership training workshop in Lima, Peru, for its affiliate the Federation of Lima Street Vendors (FEDEVAL).

During 2008, working jointly with Francie Lund, Carmen Roca developed a proposal for a project called “Strengthening the Voice of Informal Workers in Social Policy Decisions in Latin America”. It was submitted to a call for proposals by the DFID’s Civil Society Challenge Fund for work in three Latin American countries – Colombia, Mexico and Peru. The grant was approved in 2009. The aim of the project is to make social policy more responsive to the needs of the working poor in the informal economy, given their vulnerability. It seeks policy change by building links between macro policy makers and member-based organizations of informal workers and by underscoring that the vast majority of citizens in their countries living in poverty or extreme poverty are actually working, and as such have special needs to reduce exposure to risks relating to both their lives and their work. It will build capacities among informal workers organizations for advocacy and surveillance over social policy, and will also document promising examples of social protection for informal workers

Global Projects and Special Initiatives

GLOBAL PROJECTS

In 2008, WIEGO invited Rhonda Douglas, who had been contracted as a half-time fundraising consultant in 2007, to join WIEGO full-time as Director of our two new global projects. The first and largest of these is the Inclusive Cities project funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The second of these is the Women’s Economy Empowerment project funded by a special MDG3 fund set up by the Government of the Netherlands. Rhonda Douglas, a professional fund raiser and non-profit manager with extensive development experience with Amnesty, CARE, UNICEF Canada and other organizations, is based in Ottawa, Canada.

Inclusive Cities Global Project

WIEGO will play three key roles in the Inclusive Cities project. Caroline Skinner, Director of our Urban Policies Programme, will generate and oversee relevant research and policy analysis, help build a common framework for advocacy, and coordinate documentation of good practice examples: all of which will be designed to help the member-based organizations of urban informal workers in their on-going negotiations and advocacy with cities around the world. Rhonda Douglas, our Global Projects

Director, will coordinate the two other roles of WIEGO: namely, to help build the organizing and institutional capacity of the member-based organizations; and to coordinate the project overall, including designing and managing a common website for the project and building a common framework for monitoring and evaluation. The first joint activity of the Inclusive Cities project was a planning meeting of the global partners on capacity building hosted by SEWA in India in December 2008, including the special Exposure Dialogue mentioned earlier. In January 2009, WIEGO organized a research planning meeting for the Inclusive Cities project in New Delhi, India. And, in February 2009, the Inclusive Cities partners met in Buenos Aires, Argentina to discuss reporting requirements with staff from the Gates Foundation and to begin planning joint monitoring and evaluation.

Photo: Julian Luckham



Women's Economic Empowerment Project

The Women's Economic Empowerment project, funded by the MDG3 Fund established by the Government of the Netherlands, connects several streams of WIEGO's work related to the economic empowerment of women informal workers.

The project has six main elements, as follows:

- In partnership with the International Union of Food, Agricultural, Hotel, Restaurant, Catering, Tobacco and Allied Workers' Associations (IUF), our Organization and Representation Programme will help build an international movement of domestic workers by focusing on a campaign for an international Convention on Domestic Workers;
- Our Global Trade Programme is conducting a set of eight participatory case studies to analyze, document, and disseminate good practice examples of fair trade for women producers;
- Our Social Protection Programme will work in 6 countries over the next few years to reframe and reshape occupational health and safety measures to match the needs of working poor women in the informal economy;
- WIEGO is supporting HomeNet Thailand to the develop of a federation of informal worker organizations in Thailand by focusing on issues of concern to informal workers, such as social protection, legal status and labour rights;
- WIEGO is supporting Asiye eTafuleni, a new NGO in Durban, South Africa, to provide a second phase of support services to street traders in the Warwick Junction area of Durban/eThekwinini and to disseminate the experience of Warwick Junction to other cities in Africa and beyond;
- At our next Global General Assembly (April 2010), through our support to women-led delegations from our Institutional Members, WIEGO will reinforce our commitment to strengthening female leadership in the growing international movement of the working poor in the informal economy.

The Women's Economic Empowerment project will run until June 30, 2011. After the first year, a website will be developed to share the findings and lessons from the project. Further information will be available on the WIEGO website as it becomes available.

SPECIAL INITIATIVES

Marty Chen, the WIEGO International Coordinator, is based at the Harvard Kennedy School. In addition to providing strategic, substantive, and management oversight to all of WIEGO's work, she coordinates each year a set of special initiatives that do not fit under our core programmes, regional activities, or global projects. In 2008 and early 2009, these included the following:

Exposure Dialogue Programme in India

Beginning in early 2004, WIEGO has jointly organized and participated in a series of Exposures and Dialogues with the Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA) in India and Cornell University. The basic objective of this initiative is to promote a dialogue between mainstream economists from Cornell University, activists from SEWA, and researchers from the WIEGO network around key neo-classical economic assumptions – and neo-liberal economic policies – which “trouble” ground-level activists and researchers working on issues of employment and labor. The hope is to deepen understanding on both sides of certain economic considerations and to avoid the usual stylized debates between radical critics and neo-classical economists.

In March 2008, the Dialogue Group made a return trip to India. The primary purpose of the trip was to have a reunion with their hosts from the first Exposure held in Gujarat State in January 2004. Other events during the return visit included a technical dialogue with SEWA organizers in Ahmedabad City, a field visit to a National Rural Employment Guarantee field site in Gujarat, two policy dialogues in New Delhi (on the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act and the report of the National Commission for Enterprises in the Unorganised Sector), and a book launch in New Delhi. The book, *Membership-Based Organizations of the Poor* edited by Marty Chen, Renana Jhabvala, Ravi Kanbur, and Carol Richards, grew out of a conference in January 2005 that followed the first Exposure Dialogue during which participants recognized that membership-based organizations of the poor (MBOPs) are central to achieving equitable growth and poverty reduction. The personal and technical notes written by the Dialogue Group on the return trip to India are available on the WIEGO website: www.wiego.org/program_areas/general_activities/index.php

The third Exposure and sixth Dialogue in this on-going series was held in Oaxaca, Mexico in March 2009. Carmen Roca, WIEGO Latin America Regional Advisor, and Sofia Trevino, WIEGO Spanish Language Communication Officer, identified local host families and facilitators-translators and planned logistics for a remarkable Exposure Dialogue that featured six host families – tin artisans, indigenous weavers, firework makers, brick maker and tortilla vendor, potters, and bakers – and that focused on a recent book by Santiago Levy, a Mexican economist who is the Vice President for Policy of the IDB. The Exposure Dialogue included a half-day briefing, two days of

exposure visits, a half-day of reflections with the hosts, a one-day technical dialogue, and a half-day policy dialogue (hosted by CEPAL at its headquarters in Mexico City). For the technical and personal reflections and photos from the Exposure Dialogue, see: www.wiego.org/reports/Mexico2009Compendium.pdf

Collaboration with Realizing Rights –Ethical Globalization Initiative

WIEGO has built a collaborative relationship with the Realizing Rights-Ethical Globalization Initiative which was started and is headed by Mary Robinson, former President of Ireland. The purpose of this collaboration is to promote decent work for the working poor in the informal economy. Realizing Rights, WIEGO, and SEWA have jointly developed and co-branded a set of advocacy materials on decent work for the informal economy and on inclusive urban planning for the urban working poor which have been shared with, among others, the group of Elders headed by Nelson Mandela. Mary Robinson and Ela Bhatt (founder of SEWA and founding chair of WIEGO) are among The Elders. These documents are available on the WIEGO website at: <http://wiego.org/publications/wiego.php>. Realizing Rights and WIEGO are also working together, and with a national team, to develop a project on the informal economy in Liberia.

Official Visit to Cambodia

In late 2007, WIEGO network was invited to make an official visit to Cambodia by the Minister of Women's Affairs of the Government of Cambodia, whom Marty Chen met at a conference in New York City. The purpose of the official visit was to exchange information on the informal economy in Cambodia and worldwide and to explore opportunities for collaboration. The visit took place in early April 2008. Headed by Marty Chen, the team included four other WIEGO staff (Rhonda Douglas, Frances Lund, Leslie Tuttle, Joann Vanek) and three WIEGO members from organizations of home-based workers in South East Asia (Donna Doane, Josephine Parilla, Poonsap Tulaphan). The team participated in a one-day seminar on the informal economy co-organized by WIEGO and the Cambodian Ministry of Women's Affairs; and held a series of meetings with government officials and organizations of street vendors and artisans. This exchange began a dialogue that promises to introduce critical support for informal workers in Cambodia.

Conferences and Workshops

Monterrey Tech Conference - Marty Chen and Carmen Roca (Latin America Regional Advisor) were asked by the Harvard Kennedy School and the Tecnológico de Monterrey to help organize a conference on "The Informal Economy in Latin America" in Monterrey, Mexico in May 2008. At the suggestion of Marty and Carmen, the secretary-generals of the national federations of self-employed workers in Mexico and Venezuela and the leader of an association of street vendors in the historic district of Mexico City were invited to speak on the informal economy. Four

women street vendor leaders from Mexico actively participated in the conference where Marty gave the opening keynote presentation entitled “The Informal Economy in Latin America: A Global Perspective”. Bernice Ramirez Lopez, an expert on social protection from the National University of Mexico (UNAM) who participated in a WIEGO-organized dialogue on social protection in Mexico, was also asked to speak at WIEGO’s suggestion. The head of the census in Mexico, who is an active member of WIEGO, offered recent data (2003-2006) on informal employment in Mexico for Marty to present at the conference. This kind of collaboration between activists, grassroots leaders, and policy makers is a hallmark of WIEGO’s work.

Harvard Kennedy School Forum on “Worker Protection in a Globalized Economy: The Role of Government, Business, and Civil Society” - Marty Chen helped organize and moderated this event which was hosted by the Hauser Center for Non-Profit Organizations at Harvard University in collaboration with the Center for Business and Government at the Harvard Kennedy School and the Committee for Human Rights Studies at Harvard University. The panelists - Mary Robinson (former President of Ireland), John Ruggie (government professor at the Harvard Kennedy School) and Richard Freeman (economics professor at Harvard University) - examined the interrelated roles of government, business and civil society in promoting worker protection in a globalized economy.

Commissioned Research

During 2008, WIEGO was commissioned by bi-lateral and multi-lateral agencies to undertake three sets of research:

Review of Informal Enterprises in Africa for the World Bank – William Steel (Member, WIEGO Board) and Marty Chen were asked by the Africa Bureau of the World Bank to lead a review of programs and policies in support of the smallest informal enterprises in Africa. They put together a team of reviewers to review five programme and policy areas: micro-finance, business development services, sub-sector development, commercial law, and economic policies. From the WIEGO network, James Heintz (Research Coordinator) and Imraan Valodia (active WIEGO Member and research collaborator) undertook the review of economic policies. All five studies were presented at a one-day workshop held at the World Bank headquarters in Washington, D.C. in June 2008 and were used to inform the design of a diagnostic methodology for country assessments of the informal economy in Africa.

Regional Reviews on Informality in Africa, Latin America, and South Asia for Swedish International Development Cooperation Agenda (Sida) - Sida asked WIEGO to carry out literature reviews on the informal economy in three regions - Africa, Latin America, and South Asia. James Heintz and Imraan Valodia prepared the Africa review, Victor Tokman (Member, WIEGO Board) prepared the Latin America review, Marty Chen and Donna Doane (active WIEGO member and research partner) prepared

the South Asia review. These reviews, which were used to inform a joint Sida-OECD paper on informality, are available on the WIEGO website: www.wiego.org

Report on “Women’s Employment in Africa” for Danish Foreign Ministry and Africa Commission - In April 2008, Marty Chen was invited to a meeting in Copenhagen on MDG3 with a focus on women’s economic empowerment organized by the Danish Foreign Ministry for the Africa Commission. Later in the year, she was asked to comment on the background documents for a conference on women’s economic empowerment in Africa held in Maputo, Mozambique and to then write a report on “Women’s Employment in Africa” building on the conference proceedings and recommendations. This report is available on the WIEGO website: http://www.wiego.org/publications/Women_Employment_Africa_Chen_Oct_2008.pdf

Communication and Outreach

OUTREACH TO INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS

The WIEGO network is comprised of three constituencies: member-based organizations (MBOs) of informal workers; researchers and statisticians; and professionals in development agencies (inter-governmental, governmental, and non-governmental). Member-based organizations (MBOs) of informal workers as well as trade unions that have organized informal workers, who are active in the WIEGO network, are invited to become Institutional Members of WIEGO. WIEGO is committed to reaching out to our Institutional Members, especially the MBOs of

Photo: Marty Chen



informal workers, to familiarize ourselves with their work (and vice versa) and to determine how WIEGO might support their work.

In the past, we have not been as effective in our outreach to our Institutional Members as we would have liked. In 2008, we took two important decisions to address this shortcoming: to undertake field visits to our Institutional Members on a regular basis and to appoint Dave Spooner, former General Secretary of the International Federation of Workers' Education Associations, as half-time Membership Support Coordinator as well as half-time Operations Manager in our UK office.

In March-May 2008, WIEGO staff from around the world visited affiliates of HomeNet South East Asia in Thailand and Philippines and the Federation of Non-Salaried Workers in Mexico. In each country, our staff met with the members and organizing staff of our Institutional Members and participated in policy dialogues with their allies and partners on issues relating to informal workers, notably global trade, social protection, and urban policies.

WIEGO WEBSITE

In early 2008, the WIEGO Secretariat hired our first web manager, Pat Carney. Since then, in consultation with relevant WIEGO staff, Pat has worked hard to update and expand the WIEGO site. Here are some of the new features introduced in 2008:

Homepage

Our homepage has a new section that highlights:

- 1) the latest news posted about the informal economy from around the world
- 2) recently posted publications
- 3) new photos

<http://www.wiego.org>

Informal Economy in the News

Our news section has a number of recent stories from around the world, highlighting domestic workers, street vendors, and the downturn in the recycling industry:

http://wiego.org/about_ie/ie_news.php

Online Videos

We have also started a collection of online videos highlighting the informal economy:

http://wiego.org/about_ie/ie_video.php

WIEGO Core Programme Sections

New information and extensive updates were made to the Global Trade, Organization and Representation, and Statistics web pages.

Informal Economy: Occupational Groups

New sections on garment workers and domestic workers were added to the web page on Occupational Groups. New Fact Sheets are available in pdf format for:

- Domestic Workers
- Street Vendors
- Waste Pickers
- Home Based Producers

Law Project

A new website within the WIEGO website features the multiple outcomes from the research and consultations carried out in India during the first year of this project:

http://www.wiego.org/informal_economy_law/india/index.html

First International and Third Latin American Conference of Waste-Pickers. Bogota, Colombia, 1-4 March 2008.

A summary of the event and the Report of Conference Proceedings is available in English, Spanish and Portuguese:

<http://wiego.org/news/events/wastepickersBogota-2008.php>

Data Base on Organizing Informal Workers

The WIEGO Organization and Representation Database (WORD) is now live on our website. This online version of WORD has evolved over a number of years through a collaborative effort. In launching the database on our website we hope to encourage your participation in its further development. WORD seeks to be a resource for those working on and with informal workers and to encourage the exchange of information and networking amongst organizations that organize informal workers. Please take some time to explore the database and join us in making it grow and reflect the ever changing landscape of organizing in the informal economy!

You may access the database here:

http://www.wiego.org/program_areas/org_rep/database/index.php

Governance

BOARD MEETING AND RELATED EVENTS

In January 2009, the WIEGO Ltd. Board met for the first time in Manchester, UK where WIEGO has an office. To mark that occasion, WIEGO organized two public events: a photo exhibit at the Manchester Town Hall, and a panel discussion at the University of Manchester.

Civic Reception and Photo Exhibit at Manchester Town Hall

The Lord Mayor of Manchester hosted a formal Civic Reception at the Manchester Town Hall to mark the opening of WIEGO's Manchester office and to extend the city's welcome to WIEGO Board members and staff. To coincide with the reception, WIEGO organized a photo-exhibit of informal workers at the Town Hall.

Panel Discussion at the University of Manchester

The panel discussion "New Perspectives on Informality" was co-organized with three centres at the University of Manchester: the Brooks World Poverty Institute (BWPI), the Global Urban Research Centre (GURC), and the Institute for Development Policy and Management (IDPM). Chaired by Armando Barrientos of BWPI, the panelists included Stephanie Barrientos of IDPM, Caroline Moser of GURC, Francie Lund and Marty Chen of WIEGO. Tony Addison of BWPI was the discussant.

Photo: MaryBeth Graves



Financial Report: January 08-March 09

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The annual report and summary financial information for WIEGO have previously been prepared on a calendar year basis. However the majority of the income and expenditure of the organisation is now being accounted for by WIEGO Limited, a UK registered company with a fiscal year end of 31 March. Therefore, this year's summary report reflects the fifteen month period from 1 January 2008 to 31 March 2009 thereby bringing this report into line with WIEGO Limited's fiscal year.

The figures for the fifteen month period have not been audited in their totality because they form part of the accounts for more than one accounting period. This summary may not provide a full understanding of the financial affairs of WIEGO. The audited statutory accounts for WIEGO Limited for the years ended 31 March 2008 and 31 March 2009 will become available from the Company Secretary at the company's registered office in Manchester, UK and will be posted on the WIEGO website.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES

The report combines the income received and expenditure incurred both in the US and the UK. To reflect the organization overall, these figures are combined in the tables and charts making up this report. We are very proud of the increasing number of funders supporting WIEGO. A major project, Inclusive Urban Planning for the Working Poor, supported by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation commenced in 2008. In 2009 a further project, Equality for Working Poor Women, commenced funded by the MDG3 Fund of the Dutch government. The Ford Foundation, SIDA and Oxfam-Novib continue to contribute generously to the funding of WIEGO's core programmes and overall network and programme coordination. Additional funding was received from Cornell University, the New York Community Trust and United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE).

The expenditure table and chart show the early stages of expenditure on the two major projects together with core expenditure on WIEGO's five programme areas, governance and evaluation costs, and network and programme coordination.

FINANCIAL GOVERNANCE AND FISCAL SPONSORS

The Finance Committee of the WIEGO Ltd. Board reviews the budgets and reports of all WIEGO funds and accounts, including those managed by the two fiscal sponsors in the USA and those managed by WIEGO Ltd. in the UK. We are delighted that Debra Davis, a highly-qualified and experienced financial professional with nearly 18 years of experience serving clients in international business including over 10 years as a Partner with Deloitte & Touche LLP, agreed in late-2008 to serve as the WIEGO Treasurer and, in that capacity, to serve on the Finance Committee and Board of WIEGO Ltd.

In addition to funds managed by the WIEGO Ltd. office in the UK, WIEGO has two fiscal sponsors in the USA for funds that cannot be routed via the UK: Harvard University and the Tides Center. The WIEGO accounts at Harvard University are audited each year as part of the annual financial audit of Harvard University and our accounts at the Tides Center are audited each year as part of the annual financial audit of the Tides Center.

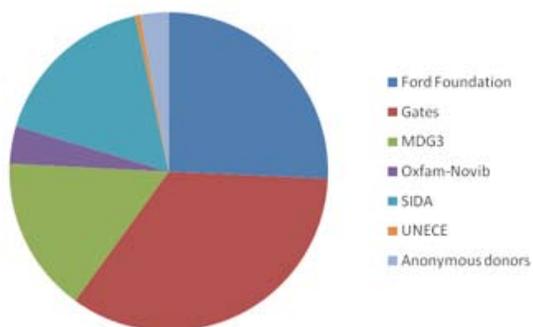
SYSTEM-WIDE AUDITS

Our financial and management systems in the US were reviewed in late 2007 and early 2008 as part of a pre-grant inquiry by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida). Our financial and management systems in both the US and UK were reviewed in July and August 2008 by KPMG as part of a pre-grant inquiry by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. And our financial and management systems in the UK were reviewed in October 2008 as part of a pre-grant inquiry by the Department for International Development (Dfid). All three audits determined that our financial and management systems are sound; and all three organizations subsequently made grants to WIEGO.

INCOME –

15 month period ended 31 March 2009

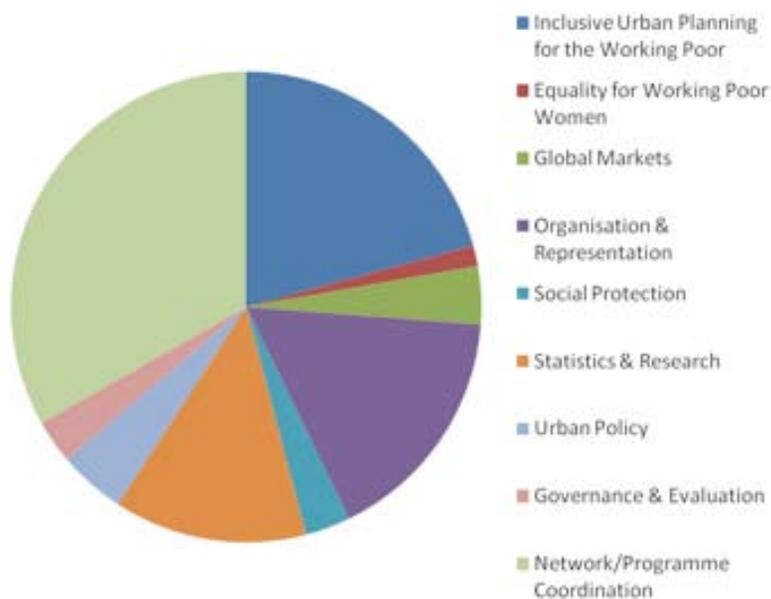
	\$000	%
Ford Foundation	931	25.7
Gates Foundation	1,244	34.3
MDG3	572	15.8
Oxfam-Novib	137	3.8
SIDA	619	17.0
UNECE	17	0.5
Anonymous donors	106	2.9
	<u>3,626</u>	<u>100.0</u>



EXPENDITURE –

15 month period ended 31 March 2009

	\$000	%
Projects		
Inclusive Urban Planning for the Working Poor	481	20.8
Equality for Working Poor Women	33	1.4
Programmes		
Global Markets	92	4.0
Organisation & Representation	384	16.6
Social Protection	72	3.1
Statistics & Research	308	13.3
Urban Policy	106	4.6
Governance & Evaluation	69	3.0
Network/Programme Coordination	768	33.2
	<hr/> 2,313	<hr/> 100.0



WIEGO Board

The WIEGO Ltd. Board is comprised of the following ten members. Those with stars (*) next to their names serve on the Management and/or Finance Committees of the Board.

Kofi Asamoah
General Secretary
Ghana Trades Union Congress
Ghana

Jacques Charmes
Director, Département Sociétés et Santé (DSS)
Institut de Recherche pour le Développement
France

Marty Chen (non-voting ex officio member)*
Lecturer in Public Policy, Harvard Kennedy School
International Coordinator, WIEGO Network
USA

Debra Davis (Treasurer)*
Independent Consultant
UK

Dan Gallin*
Director
Global Labour Institute
Switzerland

Patricia Horn*
International Coordinator
StreetNet International
South Africa

Renana Jhabvala (Chair)*
National Coordinator
Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA)
India

William F. Steel*
Adjunct Professor
University of Ghana
Ghana

Victor Tokman
Senior Fellow
Economic Commission of Latin America (CEPAL)
Chile

Jose del Valle Perez
Secretary of International Affairs
Confederación Revolucionaria de Obreros y Campesinos (CROC)
Mexico

WIEGO Staff

During 2008, WIEGO grew dramatically – in terms of funding, activities, and staffing. With increased funding, we were able to expand the scope of our activities and expand our staff capacity: both by hiring new staff and by being able to pay our existing staff to dedicate more time to WIEGO. Some of our staff expansion was in response to having opened an office in the UK in 2007.

As of end 2008, WIEGO had a staff of 23 professionals - 13 working on programme activities, 5 on communications, and 5 on financial, operational, and grant management - based in 8 countries around the world. We should note that only 7 of our staff work full-time for WIEGO: many work half-time or less. In total, WIEGO has the equivalent of 15 full-time staff: 8.7 FTE working on programme activities, 2.5 FTE on communications, and 3.8 FTE on management.

Below is the list of WIEGO staff as of December 2008. Those marked with a star (*) joined WIEGO in 2008.

WIEGO Secretariat – based at Harvard Kennedy School, USA

Marty Chen, International Coordinator

Beth Graves, Operations Manager

Pat Carney, Web Manager*

Szelena Gray, Administrator*

WIEGO UK Office – based in Manchester, UK

Dave Spooner, Operations Manager and Membership Support Coordinator*

Joe Holly, Company Secretary

Susan Cosgrove, Financial Controller*

Marieke LePelley, Administrator*

WIEGO Programme Staff – based in 8 countries around the world

Core Programmes and Regional Activities:

Chris Bonner, Director, Organization and Representation (South Africa)

Elaine Jones, Director, Global Trade (UK)

Frances Lund, Director, Social Protection (South Africa)

Caroline Skinner, Director, Urban Policies (South Africa)*

Joann Vanek, Director, Statistics (USA)

Françoise Carré, Research Coordinator (USA)*

James Heintz, Research Coordinator (USA)

Karin Pape, Regional Advisor – Europe (Switzerland)

Carmen Roca, Regional Advisor – Latin America (Peru)

Inclusive Cities Global Project:

Rhonda Douglas, Global Project Director (Canada)*

Sonia Dias – Waste Picker Specialist (Brazil)*

Nasheman Lightwala – Capacity Building Specialist (Canada)*

Communication Staff: based in Canada and the USA

Sofia Trevino – Spanish Language Communication Officer (Canada)*

Julian Luckham – Graphic Designer and Web Advisor for Inclusive Cities project (Canada)*

Demetria Tsoutouras – Communications Officer for Inclusive Cities project (Canada)*

Leslie Tuttle, Communication Officer (USA)

During the second half of 2008, Suzanne Van Hook – former Financial Manager – left the WIEGO Secretariat to join the Carr Center for Human Rights at the Harvard Kennedy School. Suzanne had worked for the WIEGO Secretariat for more than seven years and, during 2007 and 2008, helped with the establishment of WIEGO Ltd.. We are grateful to Suzanne for the contributions she made to WIEGO.

Publications

Chen, Martha A. 2008. "A Spreading Banyan Tree: the Self-Employed Women's Association, India" in Alison Mathie and Gordon Cunningham, eds. *From Clients to Citizens: Communities Changing the Course of Their Own Development*. Rugby, UK: Intermediate Technology Publications Ltd..

_____. 2008. "Rethinking the Informal Economy: Linkages with Formal Economy and the Formal Regulatory Environment" in Ocampo, Jose Antonio and Jomo K. S., eds. *Towards Full and Decent Employment*. London, UK and New York, USA: Zed Books Limited and Hyderabad, India: Orient Longman Private Limited.

_____. 2008. "Addressing Informality, Reducing Poverty", in *Poverty in Focus, Number 16 - Jobs, Jobs, Jobs – The Policy Challenge*. Brasilia, Brazil: International Poverty Centre.

Chen, Martha A. and Donna Doane. 2008 "Informality in South Asia: A Review" Stockholm, Sweden: Sida. http://www.wiego.org/publications/SIDA_regional_reviews/South-Asia-Review-Chen_2008.pdf

Cornell-SEWA-WIEGO. 2008. "Cornell-SEWA-WIEGO 2008 Dialogue – Ahmedabad and Delhi - Compendium of Personal and Technical Notes". Working Paper 2008-15. Cornell University: Department of Applied Economics and Management: see *2008 Dialogue, Ahmedabad and Delhi: Compendium of Personal and Technical Notes*.

Heintz, James and Imraan Valodia. 2008. "Informality in Africa: A Review" Stockholm, Sweden: Sida. http://www.wiego.org/publications/SIDA_regional_reviews/Informal_Economy_Africa_OECD_Heintz_Valodia_2008.pdf

Kabeer, Naila, James Heintz, and Sarah Cook. 2008. Economic Growth, Social Protection, and 'Real' Labour Markets. IDS Bulletin, Vol. 39, No. 2 (May)

This special issue of the IDS Bulletin contains a selected set of presentations from a workshop co-organized by the IDS, Sussex and WIEGO in October 2007 <http://www.ntd.co.uk/idsbookshop/details.asp?id=1019>. The following articles in the Bulletin were written by WIEGO members, Board members, or staff:

“Introduction” by Naila Kabeer, James Heintz and Sarah Cook

“Economic Growth, Social Protection and ‘Real’ Labour Markets: Linking Theory and Policy” by Sarah Cook, James Heintz and Naila Kabeer

“Revisiting Labour Markets: Implications for Macroeconomics and Social Protection” by James Heintz

“Informality and Social Protection: Theories and Realities” by Martha Chen

“The Challenge of Informality: Perspectives on China’s Changing Labour Market” by Sarah Cook

“Informal Employment, Labour Markets and Social Protection: Some Considerations Based on South African Estimates” by Imraan Valodia

“From the Consensus Reforms to Reforms for Protected and Inclusive Employment” by Victor Tokman

“Social Protection and the Labour Market: Towards a Research Agenda” by Francie Lund

Lund, Frances. 2008. ‘The Informal Economy, Social Protection and Empowerment: Linkages and Good Practices for Poverty Reduction.’ Paper prepared for the DAC/POVNET Task Team of the OECD, presented in Paris, March, 2008. This is in the process of being published by the OECD in a compendium.

_____.2008. “Making Social Policy a Reality for Informal Workers.” WIEGO Policy Brief prepared for the Regional Experts Meeting, *Investing in Social Protection in Africa*, Cairo, and 13-14 May.

Skinner, Caroline. 2008. ‘The Struggle for the Streets: Processes of Exclusion and Inclusion of Street Traders in Durban, South Africa,’ *Development Southern Africa*, Vol. 25 No. 2.

Tokman, Victor E. 2008. “Informality in Latin America: Facts and Opportunities”. Stockholm, Sweden: Sida. http://www.wiego.org/publications/SIDA_regional_reviews/Informality_in_Latin_America_Tokman_2008.pdf



WIEGO

Women in Informal Employment:
Globalizing and Organizing

Annual Report
January 08 – March 09

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