

# ***The Gender Equality Fund UNIFEM***

***Working together to move forward  
Gender Equality by implementing  
the Paris Declaration***

Nava San Miguel  
Gender adviser DGPOLDE SECI/MAEC

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# 1. Changing context: from 2005 towards GE and AE

\* **International Context:** review of Beijing+10, MDGs+5, PD

\* **National Context:** the Spanish Development system initiates a process of change: gender equality becomes a real priority; COMPLEX mainstreaming to GEWE and PD: from planning to management and evaluation

- Real Institutionalization and creation of a GEDEA network.
- GE budget increased 400% in 4 years.
- Policy coherence for equality and gender ODA predictability; policy commitment to progressively increase the Spanish ODA until 2012.

## 2. Why creating a specific Fund for Women's Empowerment and AE?

1. AE could be both a risk and an opportunity for women's rights and citizenship: as an opportunity we need to work **TOGETHER** in creating **NEW INSTRUMENTS FOR GE and AE**
2. Spain proposes a Multi-donor fund to accelerate progress towards women's empowerment (Fast track gender specific initiative to 2010 and 2015 to achieve formal and real equality )
3. We followed suit of the Danish Torch, and learnt from other new instruments like the GAP, the FTI-Education for all, MDG's Funds, the Global Fund on AIDS

## 3. Why UNIFEM ?

1. Spain is committed to an active, selective and strategic multilateralism in its development policy, and UNIFEM is the most credible Fund and with the highest presence at country level worldwide. Women and organizations trust  
**UNIFEM**
2. It is time to work for a new and empowered gender entity within the new UN architecture, and Spain wants to support UNIFEM and the mandate of other the gender entities (Instraw, DAW, OSAGI), and work jointly with other initiatives (GAP, UNDP, etc.)
3. A need to find the way to build together effective practices in gender issues

## 4. Proposals and opportunities in the context of the financial and food crisis

Crisis can be seen as an opportunity to put in practice the Paris principles for GE:

1. Knowledge exchange from different funds and initiatives to learn together about AE and gender in this UNIFEM FUND.
2. Spain proposes a new Agreement for GE and to work on AE and quality of aid by 2015. It encourages other donors and multilateral agencies, governments and feminist organizations of the civil society to participate.
3. To work in the network to contribute to a better knowledge management and complementarity of donors and organizations to strengthen UNIFEM's FUND