



Response to the Crisis

Engendering Donor Responses

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WEE at Sida

The economic empowerment of women is a matter of human rights and social justice.

Women's *economic* empowerment relates to the enhancement of women's capacity for strategic choice and agency in the sphere of the economy *and* to the possibilities this opens up for change in other spheres of their lives.



Conducive factors to work on WEE & the financial crisis

- Government bill 2009: increase WEE in portfolio
- Minister for dev. Coop promotes WEE
- Director General has written articles in the newspaper on the financial crisis and impact on gender equality in partner countries



Sida's response

- Focus on long-term cooperation countries in Africa
- Address the hidden costs of the crisis
- Gender team part of the Sida financial crisis group



Engendering Sida's response

- Generating knowledge on WEE and issues around the crisis:
 - Background papers on WEE – concept, WEE in post-conflict, others forthcoming 2009/2010 (Gender and Trade, WEE & the financial crisis)
 - Seminars
 - Member of working group on financial crisis at Sida



Using the crisis to strengthen Sida's work on WEE: "The What?"

- Building women's human capital and capabilities;
- Redistributing reproductive responsibilities
- Equalising property rights, including land, housing and associated resources; and
- Mainstreaming gender equality into the financial system- women's participation as economic actors.



Using the crisis to strengthen work on WEE-How?

- **Pilot countries:** mainstreaming WEE into existing portfolios including gender responsive budgeting
- Data and Knowledge on WEE- baseline in partner countries
- Develop tools for policy dialogue around WEE
- Increase support for WEE in global portfolio (i.e. WIEGO)
- Identifying how to engage men around WEE and all our gender equality work
- Engaging civil society (service delivery and advocacy)