



Global Gender and Economic Policy Management Initiative  
**Annual Report 2011**

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# Introduction

In 2010, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) collaborated with leading regional and international experts to develop the Global Gender and Economic Policy Management Initiative (GEPMI). GEPMI is a breakthrough programme whose overarching objective is to contribute to achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by making economic policies and poverty reduction strategies equitably deliver to women and men, girls and boys.

GEPMI has three interlinked components:

1. The three-week Short Course on Gender-Responsive Economic Policy Management (the Short Course) provides middle- and senior-level government policy makers, parliamentary staff and civil society organizations with hand-on skills, enabling them to address critical gender issues in all aspects of economic planning and management. The Short Course's 12 modules address gender issues in economic development in areas such as economic analysis, poverty reduction, statistics, employment, unpaid care work, macroeconomics, trade, taxation and gender-responsive budgeting.
2. GEPMI-tailored country-level advisory services and capacity-building workshops respond to countries' specific development planning needs. These services are delivered by a team of UNDP regional experts whose quality is assured through regular training and continuous knowledge-sharing.
3. The Master's of Arts in Gender-Aware Economics (MAGAE)—the first of its kind in the world—responds to the long-term objective of generating a new cadre of economists capable of integrating gender as a variable into economic analysis and recognizing it as a key determinant of economic policy management.

GEPMI is being implemented in Africa (GEPMI-Africa) and, as of October 2011, the Asia and Pacific region (GEPMI-AP). Preparations to launch GEPMI-Arab States are underway.

This GEPMI annual report provides information on programme implementation, highlighting achievements and planned future actions.



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# Implementation of GEPMI

## GEPMI-Africa

The UNDP Regional Bureau for Africa's high commitment and financial support were essential to implementing GEPMI-Africa. To roll out the programme, the Bureau and the UNDP Gender Team developed strategic partnerships with two regional institutions: the United Nations African Institute for Economic Development (UN-IDEP), a regional institution based in Senegal that trains public officials in economic policy management, and with Makerere University in Uganda. A strategic partnership has also been developed with UN Women, whose financial contributions were essential to preparing trainers for the courses and delivering the Short Course.

## Development of Short Course Materials

Following a participatory approach, GEPMI collaborated with leading regional and international gender and economic policy experts to develop Short Course

materials. The materials span 12 modules that address key gender issues in all aspects of economic policy-making and management processes. Before finalizing the Short Course's materials, a validation workshop was organized to present the modules for review by African policy makers, academia, research and development institutions and regional economic commissions.

## Building a Pool of Regional Experts to Work with UNDP to Deliver GEPMI-Africa Services

In 2010 and 2011, a 'training of trainers' workshop was organized in order to build a pool of English- and French-speaking regional experts on gender-responsive economic policy management. Once trained, the experts supported UNDP in delivering country-tailored capacity development and advisory services. Between 2010 and 2011, 24 economists, statisticians and gender experts from 15 African countries were trained.

For more information on the GEPMI Three-Week Short Course on Gender Responsive Economic Policy Management, please visit: <https://undp.unteamworks.org/node/27480>





### **Delivery of the Short Course on Gender Responsive Economic Policy Management**

UN-IDEP has been delivering the Short Course since 2010. UN-IDEP was selected to host and deliver the Short Course based on the Institute's 40 years of experience in building the capacities of policy makers and stakeholders in economic development and planning in Africa and, as an independent and bilingual pan-African training institute, its extensive experience in providing economic planning and development advice directly to African governments.

In October and November 2010 at UN-IDEP, two Short Courses were organized (one in English and one in French). The Short Courses trained 47 middle- and senior-level policy makers from 31 countries to integrate gender into economic policy management. Participants' feedback from a survey conducted following the first policy makers' intake was positive and confirmed that the Short Course equipped participants with the knowledge and tools to analyse and effectively incorporate gender dimensions into economic policy planning, implementation and management processes (see Annex 2). Additionally, participants committed to using the knowledge and tools in their

day-to-day work, in particular to train their colleagues on gender and economic policy management.

To expand the pool of experts, two more training of trainers workshops were organized in June 2011. Twenty-three regional experts from 13 countries were trained. In late 2011, UN-IDEP hosted the second intakes of the Short Course (one conducted in English; one in French). Fifty-nine middle- and senior-level policy makers from 33 countries were trained.

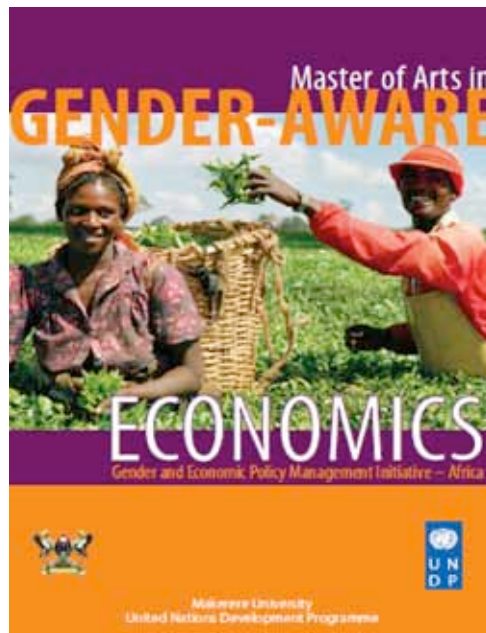
### **Delivery of GEPMI Country-Tailored Capacity Building and Advisory Services**

The success of the Short Course resulted in increased demand by UNDP county offices and their government counterparts for GEPMI country-tailored capacity building and advisory services. UNDP responded to these requests by identifying entry points and building its advisory services into countries' economic policy frameworks and MDG action plans.

Drawing on its regional pool of experts, UNDP provided technical assistance and advisory services to Belize, Namibia, Rwanda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Belize is the first country in the Latin America and Caribbean region to benefit from GEPMI advisory services.

## The Pan-African Master's Course in Gender-Aware Economics

Makerere University was selected to host and deliver the Pan-African Master's Course in Gender-aware Economics (MAGAE) based on several factors: the University's Department of Women and Gender Studies has strong capacities in teaching, research, outreach, networking and advocacy on gender and development issues in Africa; its Faculty of Economics Management has successfully managed two pan-African collaborative masters courses in economic policy management; the University has strong links with Uganda's Economic Policy Research Centre; its capacity to independently sustain the Short Course (particularly after UNDP support ends) and Uganda's open and participatory policy environment. A similar selection process will be undertaken in 2012 to identify the most suitable university to deliver the Master's Course of Arts programme for Francophone African countries.



For more information on the GEPMI Master's of Arts in Gender-Aware Economics, please visit: <https://undp.unteamworks.org/node/27480>

The first year of the Makerere Master's programme ran from October 2010 to September 2011, training 37 students in gender-aware economics. Among the students, 19 were sponsored by UNDP and eight were self-sponsored. The second cohort of the Short Course began in December 2011, with the enrolment of 17 students (eight females and nine males) from seven African countries.

## GEPMI-Africa Annual Review Meeting

The first GEPMI-Africa annual review and planning meeting took place on 9 November in Dakar, Senegal. The meeting brought together implementing partners from Makerere University, UN-IDEP, UNDP and UN Women. The meeting noted that all components of GEPMI had been successfully implemented. Both UN-IDEP and Makerere University shared plans to institutionalize and continue GEPMI after UNDP shifts its focus from implementation to support. Adopting a 2012 plan and budget for GEPMI-Africa, the partners underscored the urgent need to mobilize additional resources for the next two years.

A high-level partnership event was held on 10 November with the aim of attracting more partners in order to expand and sustain implementation of GEPMI in Africa. The event, organized under the auspices of the Senegalese Ministry of Economic Planning and the Ministry of Gender, was attended by representatives of UN agencies, donor governments, non-governmental organizations and academia. African policy makers who benefited from the 2010 three-week GEPMI Short Course shared their experiences and the positive impacts the Short Course is having on their work.





To implement the GEPMI in the Asia and Pacific region and in Arab States, UNDP has partnered with the Korean Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion and the University of Bahrain.

## GEPMI-Arab States

The Gender Team and UNDP Bahrain have established a partnership to launch and implement GEPMI in the Arab States. Closely collaborating, the organizations will enter into an agreement with the University of Bahrain to roll out GEPMI-Arab States with the three main GEPMI components (the Policy Makers' Short Course, the tailored country-level capacity building and policy advisory services, and the Master's of Arts in Gender Aware Economics).

In November 2011, the UNDP Gender Team undertook a scoping mission in Bahrain to identify partner institutions with regional coverage and the capacity to implement the programme. The UNDP Gender Team Director and UNDP Bahrain Deputy Resident Representative held consultations with University of Bahrain senior management, representatives from the Ministries of Finance, Economic Development Board, Parliament, the ministries of Human Rights and Social Development and Education, Supreme Council for Women the Bahrain Development Bank. The University of Bahrain committed to host and fund GEPMI-Arab States

## GEPMI-Asia and Pacific

### Development of Course Materials

UNDP and its implementation partners developed new course materials adapted to the wide diversity of the Asia and Pacific region and plan to develop new modules on Gender, Environment and Climate Change. In October 2011, the Korean Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion (MOGEF) and the UNDP Gender Team jointly launched GEPMI-AP. Following the launch, a regional training of trainers was held, at which 21 economists, statisticians, socio-economists and gender experts from 15 Asia and Pacific countries were trained on gender and economic policy management

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