

policy on women
machinery for the
securing sectoral

OVERVIEW OF TRENDS IN ACHIEVING GENDER EQUALITY ADVANCEMENT

Since the Government of St. Lucia approved a national p
and a five-year Plan of Action in 1991, the government in
advancement of women has been working towards s

the implementation of the policy. There is still much work
to be done in supporting and strengthening the national machinery to be
more proactive in coordinating and strengthening sectoral involvement in

for its implementation. However, four areas of priority were selected for
action by the national machinery viz.,

- Women and Poverty
- Women and Health
- Violence against Women
- Women in power and decision-making

There has been no major breakthrough in any of the areas identified.
However, there has been heightened awareness in these areas, and that has
served to place certain gender issues on the public agenda.
Efforts have been concentrated on

The establishment of community forums, local points to represent the needs, concerns and interest of women in their respective communities; eradicating violence against women and girls through -

Mass media campaign (community discussions, radio/TV talks, production of pamphlets and bumper stickers).

Training programmes in counseling for community leaders

Formation of support groups for victims and perpetrators

- Allocation of funds in the national budget, for the establishment of a shelter for abused women and children,

Between 1995-1998, some noticeable changes have occurred in the situation of women and girls that have not been included in the priority areas selected.

This follows a regional trend where more females participate in the education system but there has been no scientific explanation for this phenomenon. At the tertiary level, the majority of persons enrolled in seeking to advance their studies are women.

Women are also taking part in continuing education classes include working women who enrol in adult literacy classes.

Employment figures show an increase in the number of males employed.

There has been an increase in female employment, particularly in the areas of agriculture, manufacturing, unskilled work and professionals. However,

in 1997 there was a narrowing of the male/female gap at the middle management level.

The decrease in female employment could be attributed to the closure of some garment and electronic factories on the island. Also the banana situation as this relates to the WTO ruling on Windward Island bananas has had a significant impact on rural women and the economy in general.

In the media, more women have entered the profession, and there has also been an increase of female managers.

In terms of institutional mechanisms set up for the advancement of women, no formal inter-ministerial collaboration presently exists to integrate gender perspectives in general policies relating to all spheres of society.

In the context of Human Rights, educational materials (pamphlets) have been produced and disseminated under awareness sensitization programmes organized --- on radio and television to heighten awareness on issues pertaining to women's rights. . .

Women have benefited from projects such as the Rural Enterprise Development Programme and the St. Lucia Rural Enterprise Project. Women and youth have been identified as target groups for focus in a poverty alleviation drive. The NWM has conducted training in marketable skills for women and young girls. These women have not been able to fully use these skills for generating an income because of the difficulty in accessing start up capital and the conditions attached.

Following the 'Re-Shaping conference' (1995 to 1997), there was much media focus, enthusiasm and discussion on gender issues.

was renamed "Gender Relations" to reflect the focus on gender and development.

inclusion of a course entitled "Gender" in the associate degree in Management at "College" the island's lone tertiary institution, the course can be made available to staff of the department of Gender Relations ourselves.

development is to Management for students pursuing the Sir Arthur Lewis Community institution. It is hoped that upon request other departments at the college, St. Lucia, have served as resource persons for the course.

PART 2

Financial and Institutional Management

2. Budget allocations and Gender Relations as well as the availability of funds. There was a

\$356,670 in 1999/2000.

3 (c) Four areas of priority have been identified from the Platform of Action

namely: Women and Poverty, Women and Health, Violence against Women in power and Decision-making. No specific structures have put in place to institutionalise follow-up to an implementation Platform for Action.

(b) No special arrangements exist to coordinate the various follow-up to global conferences. Generally these efforts are incorporated in the work of individual Ministries/Departments where they coincide with national priorities.

(c) Generally NGOs involvement and participation are limited

from the NWM. However, some NGOs for example, the Women's Arm of the CTA, Teachers Union, have developed programmes based on the goals of the Platform.

PART 3

widely disseminated to women's groups/organizations and the public at large.

similar mass media campaigns against violence have been organized.

ing has been secured for Training programmes targeted at the Police, Community leaders, Community Health Aides, etc. to respond to the needs of victims. The project also entails the facilitation of Community support groups for victims and perpetrators.

Funding has already been secured to establish a shelter for abused women and children.

Women and poverty

National consultations were held in several communities to identify the needs of women in poverty stricken areas. Training programmes to develop mothers in these areas with marketable skills were conducted for young unemployed mothers in these areas.

“ung that will stem significantly

benefit women.

Women and Health

Workshops on Health/Sexuality were conducted by community groups to address the problem of teenage pregnancy and HIV/AIDS. The participant included women of all age groups, and some men also who benefited from the sessions.

Education materials have also been developed on STDs, including a booklet on "Sexual Offences and the Law" to familiarize women on issues which impact directly on their health and measures which can be taken for their protection.

7 & 8. (See Annex)

9. The Vision for the advancement of women and gender equality for the new millennium.

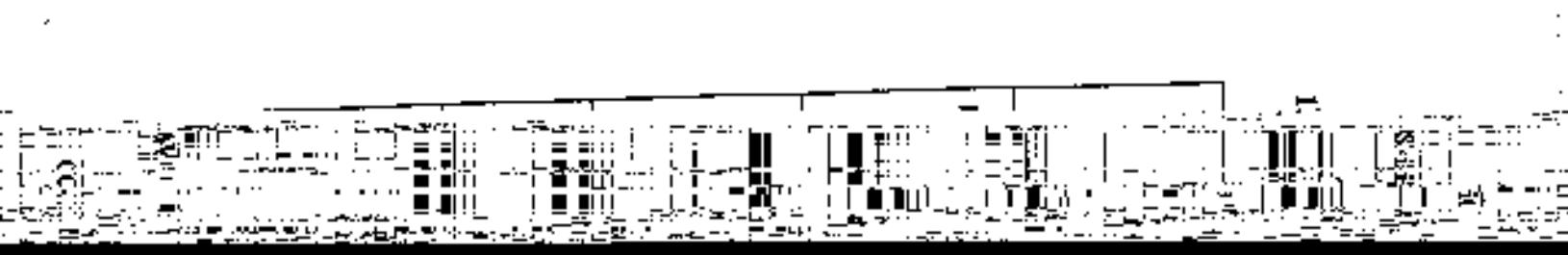
The institutionalization of a gender and development framework for policy formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation in the public and private sectors.

This could be facilitated through the establishment of the Gender Management System and a national machinery comprising both government and NGO representatives for monitoring and evaluation purposes.

Achievement of gender equity and equality with men and women enjoying equal benefits of development. Institutional mechanisms/support structures

established to facilitate the advancement of women towards attaining their

full potential. |||



| 2. Education and Training | | 3. City Targets and Performance | |
|---------------------------|---|---------------------------------|---|
| Critical Areas of Concern | Examples of programmes implemented concerning the achievement of the action plan strategies | Measures Ad. Ad. | Examples of successes and countermeasures learned |
| 2.1 | 2.1.1 Data Not Available * No target was set for this indicator. * Not available | Measures Ad. Ad. | Examples of successes and countermeasures learned |
| 2.2.3 | 2.2.2 N/A * Last 1 time Roser told | Measures Ad. Ad. | Examples of successes and countermeasures learned |



MONTEZUMA

Examples of programs written in implementable imperative languages:

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1

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

—510—

10

10

105

Production of material(s). Log
and Human Rights of Women
Awareness/Sensitization activities
to mark 20th Anniversary year of
Human Rights.

Outcome

Conclusions

Examples of obstacles encountered/lessons learned

Pr
Participation
in
initiatives

revision of training for specific
groups.

ISSUE OF WOMEN

Concern

HUMAN RIGHTS

examples of successful projects
grammes and projects
sector of the critical areas
team of the Beijing Platform
indicate any large scale
strategies not said
newcomers

No legal literacy program

IV. NON

ON LAND THE

Areas of Concern

Continued to further development
of environmental initiatives

Examples of obstacles

encountered have been learned
from the following:
- successful projects
- areas of
- Platform for
and
targets and
related

10.17

MEDIA

Expansion of the
program (Rwanda)
implementation
of the
Action Plan
strategic
accuracy

(es)

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10.17

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