

PROGRESS REPORT

FOR UNDP PROJECTS

Project No. & Title:	"00082421" – Gender and Economic Policy Management Initiative—Arab States Year 2014, Quarter 1		
Implementing Partner:	University of Bahrain, Kingdom of Bahrain		
Contact Persons:	Dr. Ali Al Shahab, Vice President, UOB Jehan AlMurbati, Programme Analyst, UNDP Ms. Ameenah AlRasheed, Project Manager		
Project Short Description:	<p>The UNDP and Partners in 2010 launched the global (GEPMI) project, Aisa/Africa/Arab World, the Gender and Economic Policy Management Initiative to equip policy makers to integrate gender perspectives into economic planning, policy and budgeting processes. The project is a flagship capacity development and advisory services programme, with objectives of contributing to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), and making economic policies and poverty reduction strategies more gender equitable and evidence-based. Creates a cadre of policy makers who are able to integrate gender equity in national and sub-national planning and economic policies.</p> <p>There is ample evidence that promoting gender equality, a development goal in its own right, is also an important means to achieving all the other goals. Limited recognition of the synergies between gender equality, economic growth and poverty reduction has led to economic policies and national planning and budgeting frameworks that fail to take into consideration the differentiated needs and responsibilities of poor women and men. While the demand for incorporating gender perspectives into national development frameworks is increasing in all regions of the world, there are insufficient capacity, procedures, tools and methodologies to promote and monitor progress towards these results. To respond to these gaps and the urgency to build capacity in this time of economic crisis, UNDP has developed the capacity development programme the Global Gender and Economic Policy Management Initiative (GEPMI). This Initiative is a direct response to demands from national counterparts to, in a more comprehensive manner, strengthen policy, programming and operational capacities for gender equality in economic planning.</p> <p>GEPMI consists of three major components: (i) a Master's of Arts in Gender-Aware Economics (ii) a policy makers course on Gender-Responsive Economic Policy Management; and (iii) GEPMI tailored country-level policy advisory services</p> <p>At present, the project will focus on the Policy Makers Course which aims at institutionalizing the courses at the University of Bahrain with the objective to produce a critical mass of economic policy makers with the skills that are needed to identify and address gender biases in the economic sectors and to analyse economic policies and budgets from a gender perspective.</p>		
Project Outputs	Activities according to Quarterly Work Plan	Progress Made	Expected completion date
Strengthen National and Regional Capacity to Integrate	Develop Policy-Maker's Short Course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In 2013, 7 modules were developed out of 12. - In Q1 2014 TORs for the 	April - May 2014

Gender into Economic Policy Management (Delivery of Policy Makers Course at UOB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - International Experts (consultants) to revise the developed course modules - Revision and adaptation of 12 modules pre and post validation. 	<p>remaining 5 modules developed and procurement activity to start.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 7 developed modules shared with UOB for their comments 	
	<p>Programme Management & Board</p> <p>The core team established</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Programme Director and team - Equipment - Travel and conferences. - Trained staff <p>Project Board members and of meetings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regional team - The composition of the Project Board - Quarterly meetings 	<p>New core UOB team formed and first Steering Committee Meeting held. Project Manager on board and UOB are making logistical arrangements for her to move to the University.</p>	On-going
Issues:			
Follow up Actions:	Finalizing the TOR and the experts contracting and planning for the validation and translation of the modules		
Attachments:			