

PROGRESS REPORT

FOR UNDP PROJECTS

Project No. & Title:	"00082421" – Gender and Economic Policy Management Initiative—Arab States Year 2014, Third quarter		
Implementing Partner:	University of Bahrain, Kingdom of Bahrain		
Contact Persons:	Dr. Waheeb Alnasir, UOB Vice President Jehan AIMurbati, Programme Analyst, UNDP Dr. Aameena AIRasheed, 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>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>For the Bahrain GEPMI project consists of two components: (i) a Master's of Arts in Gender-Aware Economics (ii) a policy makers course on Gender-Responsive Economic Policy Management; and iil) GEPMI tailored country-level policy advisory services</p> <p>At present, the project signed with the University of Bahrain 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 Work Plan	Progress Made	Expected completion date

	<p>The programme manager was hired and requested to attend in Bahrain in September after resigning her post as a coordinator of a gender studies programme. Despite the urging emails to arrive asap at the station, the assigned programme manager made herself ready to take on the task,</p> <p>However, the office at Bahrain delayed the arrival of the PM for three months without full explanation or justification and with no compensation for the almost three month unemployment that the programme manager endured during the hiring process.</p>	<p>No payment were made for the gap of three months in reporting to the duty stations</p>	
	<p>Launching the GEPMI project according to the produced AWP.</p>	<p>Since December 2013 the project manager was not able to resume project activities for the lack of signed AWP.</p>	<p>The GEPMI work will start after the signature of the AWP by the president of the University of Bahrain</p>
<p>Project and generic output</p>	<p>Generic activities in the absence of the signed AWP</p>	<p>Progress made</p>	<p>Expected completion date</p>
	<p>The Programme manager was given many tasks in the absence of the GEPMI programme AWP official approval, including, preparing the Gender strategy for the office, preparing a concept note on human development report on gender in Bahrain</p>	<p>Both reports and concept note were produced</p>	<p>Completed</p>

	<p>The Programme Manager since arrival started with many tasks that includes tasks related to gender performance at the office in Manama. It was obvious that the GEMPI project is facing difficulties since 2011, and unless the AWP is signed the programme manager can not start of the project .</p>	<p>The programme manager familiarized with the tasks and completed all compulsory courses in Atlas</p>	<p>Completed</p>
	<p>Since the arrival of the programme manager in December, the programme manager constantly asked for access the SCW which seems that the office has no official contact with it. The programme manager established own contact meeting a former member at the UNDP office from the SCW to contribute to attempts of including more stakeholders</p>	<p>There is no official contact with one of the strategic partner in the project and the PM realized that the SCW has pulled out of the project.</p>	
	<p>Without the AWP been signed by the University of Bahrain, nor the programme manager neither the office of the UNDP was able to develop or move towards the implementation of the project and the starting of its processes.</p> <p>Hence the PM was assigned various generic tasks that were successfully fulfilled.</p>	<p>It is not clear the reason for not signing the AWP by the University of Bahrain, and the withdrawal of partners from the project, no attempts were made by the administration to re-establish connections. The programme manager suggested round table gathering for CEDAW and the invitation of SCW and concerned entities.</p>	<p>Pending</p>

<p>The workshops were able the UNDP to establish connections with partners and stakeholders at the training level.</p>	<p>One of the generic tasks: The gender training for the UNDP staff including UN agencies, Three successful workshops held for UNDP and partners with the presence of partners from SCW, MOF, BIPA and other organizations in Bahrain.</p>	<p>Three workshops were held on inside the UNDP building and two at Mecure Hotel with the presence of many representative of different organizations, and the U of Bahrain, and the SCW. The workshops were very successful</p>	<p>Completed</p>
	<p>Another generic task: The programme manager trained the local staff who managed afterward to pass the gender training, sexual harassment courses requested by the UNDP system,</p>	<p>Local staff were trained on compulsory course of Atlas were they managed to pass the gender and the sexual harassment courses. Result entered as positive in gender seal</p>	<p>Completed</p>
	<p>The Programme manager prepared curriculum and syllabus for the policy course to be presented and approved after the signing of the AWP</p>	<p>The Curriculum and the syllabus were presented to the board meeting along with another documents.</p>	<p>Completed</p>
	<p>The programme manager incorporated gender perspective to the office communication and</p>	<p>Task performed</p>	<p>Completed</p>
	<p>The programme manager drafted the interviewing and recruitment guidelines</p>	<p>Task performed and the guidelines produced and applauded</p>	<p>Completed</p>
	<p>The programme manager assigned as member of committee compliance and review and conducted one task of recruitment in the office</p>	<p>Tasked performed and hiring at the UNDP HR officer took place.</p>	<p>Completed</p>
<p>Project output</p>	<p>Activities according to work plan (anticipating the work plan signed).</p>	<p>Progress made</p>	<p>Expected Completion date</p>

	<p>TORs and shortlisting of experts producing 5 modules of policy course</p> <p>Validation workshop</p> <p>Finalization of policy course</p> <p>TOTs training of trainers for policy course</p>	<p>TOR and Long listing prepared.</p> <p>Validation workshop concept note prepared</p> <p>Concept note and Manual for TOT made.</p> <p>All pending the signature of the AWP to start on the project policy course.</p>	<p>December-March if the AWP signed</p>
Issues	<p>The practical work on the project plan will start upon the receipt of the Annual Work Plan signed by the President of the University of Bahrain.</p>		
Follow up action	<p>The programme manager prepared meeting's agenda for the project committee to start implementation of the approved and signed AWP.</p>		
Attachments	<p>Project file in hard copy distributed to the committee members</p> <p>Workshops documents and guidelines uploaded on the UNDP gender net.</p>		