



GREATER ACCESS to TRADE EXPANSION (GATE)

Promoting Gender in USAID Trade-related Economic Growth Activities

Implemented by Development & Training Services, Inc. (dTS)

Duration: September 30, 2004 – 2009

Funding: \$6.1 million

USAID and dTS are committed to helping developing countries benefit from global trade, implement trade reforms, and seize new opportunities. Funded by USAID's Office of Women in Development (WID), the GATE project supports USAID missions to integrate the needs of the poor, and particularly poor women, into their trade and economic growth activities.

International trade can be a powerful force for economic growth and poverty reduction. The global economy provides opportunities for individuals to start new businesses, launch innovative ventures, and develop niche markets. However, the impacts of globalization are complex and multi-faceted, with the poor often in a weak position to take advantage of the opportunities offered by economic growth and trade. Persistent gender inequalities including limited access to and control over productive resources, insufficient market knowledge, lack of skills and access to technology as well as other constraints that limit employment options and participation in decision making all serve to seriously constrain one's ability to effectively participate in and benefit from economic development. Women, in particular, are among those most disadvantaged.

Providing an enabling environment for women to more fully participate in the global economy will benefit women, companies, industries, and societies at large. Designing programs that assist women in overcoming impediments to participation will enable women to become more productive and contribute more to their country's overall economic growth. On a micro-economic level, when women have extra income, they channel their earnings into meeting their children's needs—better food, improved health care, and more schooling—creating a virtuous cycle for the next generation. Equally important, designing programs that address the needs and priorities of both women and men will better enable USAID to design appropriate policy and program interventions aimed at achieving economic growth and poverty reduction objectives.

A five year project, working in Albania, Bangladesh, the Dominican Republic, Kenya, Nigeria, Peru, and South Africa, GATE activities enhance existing USAID trade and economic growth activities by helping missions to address gender considerations in their programming and implementation efforts. Building on a gender assessment, GATE works with a Mission to design a Country Action Plan using GATE resources to develop innovative and pragmatic policies and programs that expand areas of opportunity and reduce adverse effects for poor women and men.

GATE project activities include:

- Value chain analyses to document where men and women are located within the chain, the terms and conditions of work for men and women in each stage of the chain, the outcomes of employment and exchange, and provide policy recommendations on how to move women to higher links within the chain.
- Analyses of the impact of trade agreements, looking at how trade liberalization and integration has affected the poor, and recommend ways in which trade and economic integration can be harnessed to distribute gains more evenly throughout the society and achieve pro-poor economic growth.
- Studies on the Ready-Made Garment industry to explore the ongoing restructuring and changes that are taking place within the sector, and to analyze the impact of the Multi-Fiber Agreement (MFA) phase out in terms of prices, profit, jobs, work culture, market structure, product diversification, work informalization, adjustments at the enterprise level, and changes in policies.
- A micro and small business (MSE) research study focusing on the gender constraints and opportunities to improving market access through the use of information and communication technology (ICT) in the Peruvian handicraft and agribusiness sectors.
- A gender and trade handbook to assist stakeholders in understanding gender issues within the economic growth and trade portfolio, that includes the design of gender-sensitive programs and policy interventions, and develops qualitative and quantitative indicators to measure the success of the interventions.

By helping to incorporate gender concerns into program activities, the project will enable poor women and men to more fully participate in and benefit from global economic opportunities, thereby improving their own lives, their families' lives, their communities, and their countries.

ABOUT THE PROJECT TEAM

Peter Davis, Project Director

(M.A., Economics, Kansas University; B.A., Economics, Franklin & Marshall College)

Peter is the Project Director and manages GATE's programs in South Africa and Nigeria. He is a macroeconomist and seasoned manager with 36 years of professional experience, including 24 years with USAID. Peter specializes in strategic planning and program development that is inclusive and innovative. He has designed crosscutting technical assistance programs and proposals in economic policy and trade, agriculture, and industry. Peter has served 18 years abroad in Viet Nam, Cambodia, Laos, Honduras, Pakistan, the Philippines, and Egypt.

Marceline White, Deputy Director

(M.P.I.A., University of Pittsburgh; B.J., University of Missouri-Columbia)

Marceline is the Deputy Director and manages GATE's program in Bangladesh. She is a policy specialist in the field of gender and trade, and has been at the forefront of the movement to integrate gender considerations into U.S. trade and investment policies. Her expertise in gender and development, international human rights and political systems enables her to bring a holistic perspective to the question of how women in poverty can best benefit from the opportunities presented by global trade. Marceline has analyzed the economic and legal effects of trade on those living in poverty, particularly poor women, and advocated for worldwide gender analysis with others throughout Latin America, the Caribbean, and Asia.

Sarah Gammage, Trade Economist

(Ph.D., Development Studies, Institute for Social Studies; M.Sc. and B.Sc., Economics, London School of Economics and Political Science)

Sarah is an economist specializing in trade and gender issues. She has thirteen years experience in trade, labor, globalization, and economic development, with an emphasis on evaluating the implications of trade and globalization on the economic and social needs of women and men at all levels. She created an analytic tool for trade agreements that makes gender a central consideration within trade liberalization and globalization. She has worked primarily in Central and Latin America, and Asia.

Cristina Manfre, Program Manager

(M.Sc., Development Management, London School of Economics and Political Science; B.A., French and Spanish, Goucher College)

Cristina manages GATE's programs in the Dominican Republic, Peru, and Kenya. She previously managed USAID/IDB programs in Latin American and the Caribbean. She has experience identifying and maintaining international partnerships, analyzing proposals for programmatic and financial support, providing ongoing monitoring and support for field programs, and managing logistical arrangements. Cristina has conducted research in the areas of HIV/AIDS, youth employment, women in the maquila industry, and labor rights.

Kara Nichols Barrett, Senior Project Associate

(B.A., International Studies, Taylor University)

Kara manages GATE's program in Albania and provides overall project administrative, contractual and financial support. She has conducted research activities focused on economic and trade issues, organized events, and handled public inquiries. Kara also undertook a qualitative research project on father-daughter relationships in Egypt.

Development & Training Services, Inc. (dTS)

Through consistent and thoughtful promotion of equality, dTS provides strategic consulting services that increase women's and men's access to opportunity. Drawing from intrinsic experiences, professional capability, lessons learned, and known best practices, dTS is helping build a world where women and men from all walks of life are both empowered to choose and realize their future.