



*Financing Gender Equality and Women  
Empowerment in Conflict and Post Conflict  
Countries: The Sudan Case*

Nyaradzai Gumbonzvanda

Norway, September 2007



# Presentation Outline

The Sudan Context

Process: Peace Negotiations to Financing Development

Multiple Funding Windows

Analysis of MDTF

Recommendations

*Progress for women, progress for all*



# Context

- **One country, multiple realities for women**
- **3 fragile peace agreements, continued humanitarian crisis (Darfur)**
- **Limited space for democratic governance and citizen participation especially for women**
- **Interim constitutions (national, Southern Sudan and State level) with some commitments to women's rights**
- **Country with worst socio economic indicators ie maternal mortality, 90% illiteracy in the south, access to water, infrastructure etc**
- **Fragmented women' movement, fragile and with limited capacities and skills for gender advocacy**



# From Peace Agreements to Financing Recovery and Reconstruction

- Guided by SC Res.1325 and BPFA. Sudan has not ratified CEDAW nor the Africa Protocol on Women's Rights
- Protracted peace negotiations for north south conflict barely included women as delegates. Culminated in the 9<sup>th</sup> of January 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement with generic reference to rights commitment a few specifics on gender equality.
- Darfur peace negotiation (Abuja series) included women in 7<sup>th</sup> round, Darfur Peace Agreement has substantive at least 30 article on women's empowerment, equality and rights. However the agreement is fragile and talks are resuming.

*Progress for women, progress for all*



# Cont.

- o Post Conflict Needs Assessment of Sudan (JAM 2003-2005) defined the reconstruction priorities. UNIFEM involved in supporting gender mainstreaming. Gender included in analysis and NOT in costing.
- o Oslo Donor's Conference on Sudan, April 2005 was the space for resource mobilisation and confirmation of Financing Modalities.
- o Gender Symposium across political and regional divide enabled Sudanese women to develop their priorities and recommendations for reconstruction and Development for prioritisation in funding.
- o Sudanese women and gender expert/advocates were NOT involved in the dialogues and negotiation of the actual financing modalities and financing tools for reconstruction and development

*Progress for women, progress for all*



# Equality, Rights and Empowerment

- Protection of women and their rights
- Participation in decision making spaces and defining the reconstruction agenda
- Capacity strengthening for gender advocacy, planning, budgeting, M& E
- Socio and economic empowerment through literacy/skills, income, employment
- Sectoral gender actions for empowerment and rights

*Successful Initiatives  
Progress for women, progress for all*



# Multiple Financing Sources

- National Resources (Budgets, Oil Revenues etc)
- **Multi Donor Trust Funds – for recovery and reconstruction – WB managed**
- Humanitarian Funding: Common Humanitarian Fund and other sources – UN managed/facilitated
- Peace keeping, peace negotiations related funds (UN Mission in Sudan, AU Mission in Sudan, Mediation)

*This funding is guided either by the wealth sharing aspects in the peace agreements; the UN or AU Security Council decisions and recommendations, or agreements reached with bilateral and multilateral donors (ie MDTFs)*

*Progress for women, progress for all*



# Multi-Donor Trust Funds – WB Managed

MDTFs objective: ensure coordinated, flexible and swift donor responses for financing priorities areas identified in the JAM

Governance structure include steering committee led by government, a secretariat led by World Bank, and Sudan Consortium.

The access process and tools, is complex, government centred and with strict fiduciary rules.

Absence of special facility (window/DOOR) for civil society and especially women's organisations.

The National Machinery for Gender Equality is not a full and active member of the governance and monitoring structures.

*Progress for women, progress for all*





# Challenges for GE Financing in MDTFs

- **Guiding principles for financing do not include GE and Women Empowerment**
- **Governance, Management and Monitoring structure does not include accountability to GE nor meaningful participation of women and gender advocates**
- **Absence of gender targets and performance indicators in monitoring quality implementation**
- **Access rules and tools are too complicated for nurturing a fragile women's movement and civil society**
- **Increasing frustration and disillusionment by women activist and gender advocates on absence of recognition of women's role in reconstruction and recovery**

# Recommendations

- Advocacy and technical policy advise on integrating gender equality, rights and empowerment principles, tools and monitoring in MDTF for Sudan (Sudan Consortium meeting, Nov 2007).
- Establish special financing windows for gender equality and women and civil society within the existing MDTFs
- In-depth study to define approaches and methodologies to gender equality and women empowerment financing in fragile states
- Take opportunity of CSW, Peace Building Commission/Fund, Monterrey process and Paris Declaration to deepen investment for gender equality in fragile states from multiple stakeholder perspective
- Strengthen a critical skills base of gender advocates on financing in gender equality, protection and empowerment in fragile and post conflict situations.

*Build on the Norway/ SIDA/UNIFEM Partners in Sudan for evolving global methodologies for financing gender equality in post conflict countries.*

United Nations Development Fund for Women



THANK YOU

*Progress for women, progress for all*