Analysis of the WIEGO Organization and Representation Data-base (WORD)

Report prepared for WIEGO

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1.   Introduction

1.1.   WORD Data-base: Background and Objectives

Organizations that organize informal workers are growing in number and scope, particularly in developing countries, but also increasingly in the industrialized countries of the north. These organizations take many different forms such as unions, associations, cooperatives, self-help groups, networks, and operate locally, nationally and internationally. Information on these organizations tends to be scattered. This was particularly so when in 2004 WIEGO embarked on a project to identify membership-based organizations (MBO) of informal workers and to collect and systematize information on them. This resulted in the WIEGO Organization and Representation Data-base known as WORD, which is housed on the WIEGO web site at www.wiegodatabase.org.

The WORD was originally an internal data-base, but over the years has gone through a number of transformations to make it more accessible, interactive and user friendly. In 2010 the WORD in its current form was launched. Its key objectives are:

- To consolidate and record existing knowledge of membership-based organizations that organize informal workers;
- To collect and record new information and developments on a regular basis;
- To make information easily accessible to worker organizations, and to relevant institutions, researchers and individuals;
- To provide a tool to facilitate networking and information sharing amongst MBOs of informal workers and with their allies.

The WORD makes no claim to be comprehensive, up to date or fully accurate. Its information sources are many: from contacts made at meetings, workshops and conferences; other data-bases, for example that of StreetNet International; and increasingly information from web sites. Where possible, information is verified with contact persons. Verification exercises were carried out in 2005/6 and 2010 through questionnaires sent to every organization on the data-base. It is intended that this be a regular feature of the data-base development. In addition, the Front Page of the WORD encourages a collective approach to maintaining and extending knowledge of informal workers' organizations and notes, "We hope that organizations and individuals concerned with improving the situation of informal workers will help us develop this resource collectively."

1.2 Data-base Analysis Project: Objectives, Methodology and Limitations

Objectives
The objective of this project is to see what information can be obtained through an analysis of the entries in the WORD data-base which can further our knowledge of MBOs.

Method
The information on the data-based was downloaded into Excel format as the WORD itself has a limited search and sort function and does not itself have the capacity for detailed analysis. All existing entries on the database were included, as 1 November 2011, where possible they were verified, updated and new entries were added. Errors in entry formats on the data-base meant that corrections had to be made on the Excel sheets (and later on the WORD itself) before the analysis could be carried out.

The analysis focuses only on certain aspects or fields in the WORD, namely the occupation of the organization members, the country/region of operation, the type of organization and its area of scope and whether or not it is a women's or a mixed gender organization. Other information on the data-base is patchy and does not readily lend itself to analysis, such as that on membership numbers, affiliations,

organizational objectives and strategies etc. (For an overview of the WORD fields and abbreviations used see Appendix One and for information on numbers of organizations per country see Appendix Two). Other detailed information is available on request. The analysis does not attempt to corroborate its findings with any other analysis of informal worker organizing patterns, rather it is restricted to interpreting the information lodged within the database itself.

Limitations

Certain limitations affect the quality of the analysis and should be acknowledged. These include the following:

(a) **Representivity:** The database is not representative of informal workers organizations and focuses mostly – but not exclusively- on the occupational groups and regions where WIEGO is most active. This report can thus not claim to be a complete or definitive overview of informal workers' organizations. The WORD is indicative rather than definitive

(b) **Validity:** The age and validity of some entries are not confirmed . Attempts were made to follow up with some organizations but many entries remain uncertain. The information entered on the database is at a specific time and although entries are updated, updates do not necessarily include changes to all fields.

(c) **Incomplete information:** in key areas for some organizations.

(d) **Data capture:**
   i. Duplication of organizations because of entries in more than one language, incorrect names or use of acronyms. Where possible duplications have been removed
   ii. It is not always possible to ascertain whether the organization is single sector or multi-sector, especially in the case of trade unions which organize both formal and informal workers
   iii. Entries are inconsistent with respect to scope e.g. level of organizations
   iv. The entries are also unbalanced in that it is not always possible to ascertain whether all the affiliates of federations are included
   v. Numbers of organizations will not always be consistent and add up to the totals of entries since many organizations are multi sector and work in several sectors.

(e) **Classification (fields) of Information**
   A broad system of classification is used for the different fields in the data-base and therefore the analysis is not very nuanced. This includes occupational groups, regions and organization type and scope. The classification of organization type is particularly problematic. It lacks precision because of inadequate information about the nature of many of the organizations and their scope; because of differing naming conventions; legal and tactical reasons for giving the organization a particular name, e.g. a cooperative may be technically named association to avoid legal or bureaucratic obstacles.

   Bearing this in mind the categories used for organizational type/scope in the analyses are those recorded in the data-base. However, to assist in the analysis we inserted a basic division not contained in the WORD itself:
   Primary organizations- we use this term to describe single organizations with a form of unitary structure which could operate at various levels e.g. local, state, province or national. These are trade unions of formal and informal workers or of informal workers only, associations, cooperatives, self-help groups etc.
   Federations- we use to describe organizations made up of other organizations. These can be cooperative federations, trade union federations of informal and formal workers and those of informal workers only. Normally a federation implies a permanent, formal and structured organization, although each member retains its own autonomy and identity. In our case we include all alliances, networks and movements as well as associations composed of other organizations which may or may not be looser forms of federated structures. Often these latter terms are used

interchangeably. For more details of the categories used see Appendix One. Note that a small number of NGOs are also included although not strictly MBOs and are generally those that play a significant networking role.

Despite these reservations there were sufficient robust enough entries to make a relevant analysis of patterns emerging from the different sectors and regions and countries. A significant point is that WORD entries, despite its sometimes less than complete information, are usually amongst the first to appear in any internet search for informal worker organizations thus reflecting the appropriateness and accessibility of the WORD database methodology of entry.

1.3. Report structure

Section 2 below provides a global overview and gives a picture of the regional distribution of organizations, distribution of occupational groups and the types of organization and scope, primary and federated. Section 3 provides an analysis by occupational group/ sector of the main groups represented on the data-base. For each group there is an analysis of regional distribution, type of organization and then an analysis of type of organization and regional distribution. Section 4 draws out key findings and Section 5 recommendations.

2. Analysis: Global Overview

2.1 Regional Distribution of Organizations on the WORD

Globally 655 entries were considered in the analysis. These organizations were distributed in each of the regions as follows: Africa 189, Asia/Pacific 222, Caribbean 5, Europe 46, Latin America 173, Middle East 1 and North America 19.

The database thus reflects greater knowledge of organizations by WIEGO in the Asia Pacific , Latin American and African regions. However this should be considered in the context of WIEGO's work and focus. What it clearly indicates is that WIEGO has limited information on organizations in Europe and especially those in Eastern parts of Europe, and virtually none on the Middle East. Although not reflected as a separate region there is little information on North African countries as well. The representation in these regions obviously does not express the number of active organizations, rather the difficulty of obtaining information in these regions or lack of activity by WIEGO.

Chart 1: Regional Distribution of Organizations
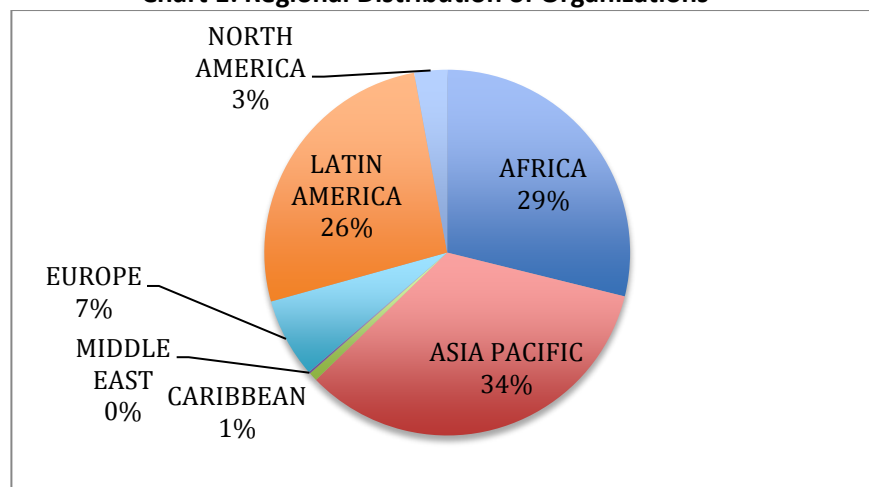
2.2. Occupational Distribution of Organizations on the WORD

Chart 2: Occupational Group Distribution of Organizations by Percentage (%)
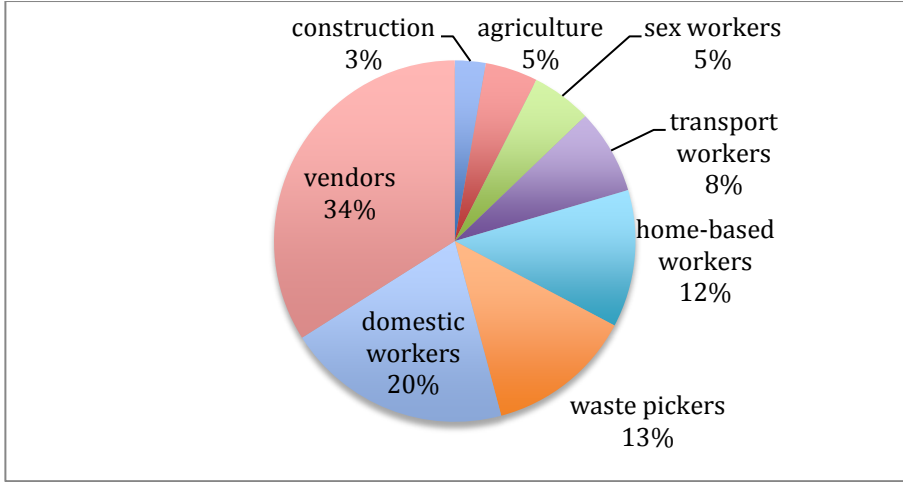
Globally 34 organizations operated in the agricultural sector, 20 in the construction sector, 146 were in the domestic workers sector, 89 organizations were found among home-based workers and organizations of/supporting sex workers totaled 39. Transport worker organizations were 55. By far the most represented group within the database were vendors with 246 organizations followed by domestic workers at 146. There were 95 organizations of waste pickers and 73 organization were classified as other. Though this appears high in relation to other discrete categories, this reflects the multi-organizational characteristic of many of the organizations within the database. For example many entries are listed as " other informal". These additional occupational groups, often within multi-sector organizations brings the total records in the analysis to 796.

Chart 3: Occupational Group Distribution by number
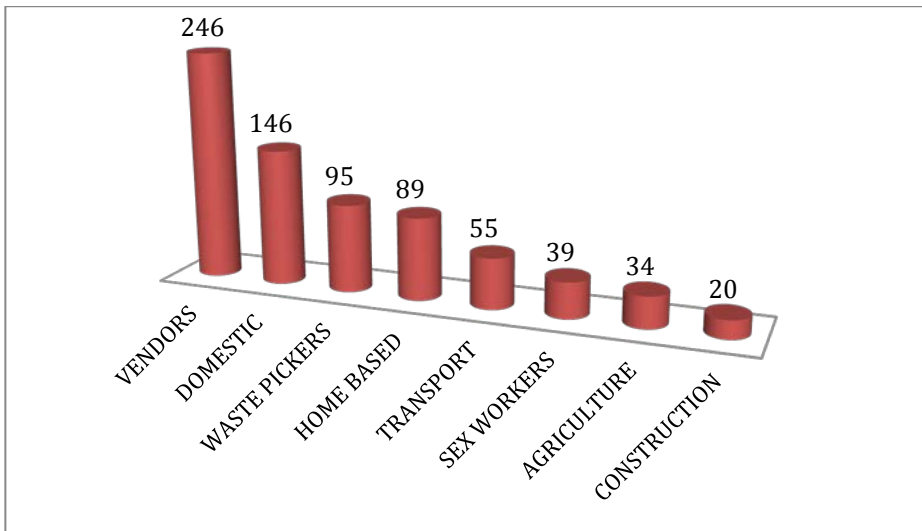
2.3.   Type and scope[1] of Organizations on the WORD

Here we look firstly at the type of organization and scope of primary organizations on the WORD and then at federated organizations.

Chart 4 below shows that a majority of primary organizations operated locally. Co-operatives were almost exclusively locally based. Associations were also local with some organizations operating at a national or state level. Trade Unions, both those that organize informal workers only and those that organize both formal and informal workers, were more likely to operate on a national basis.

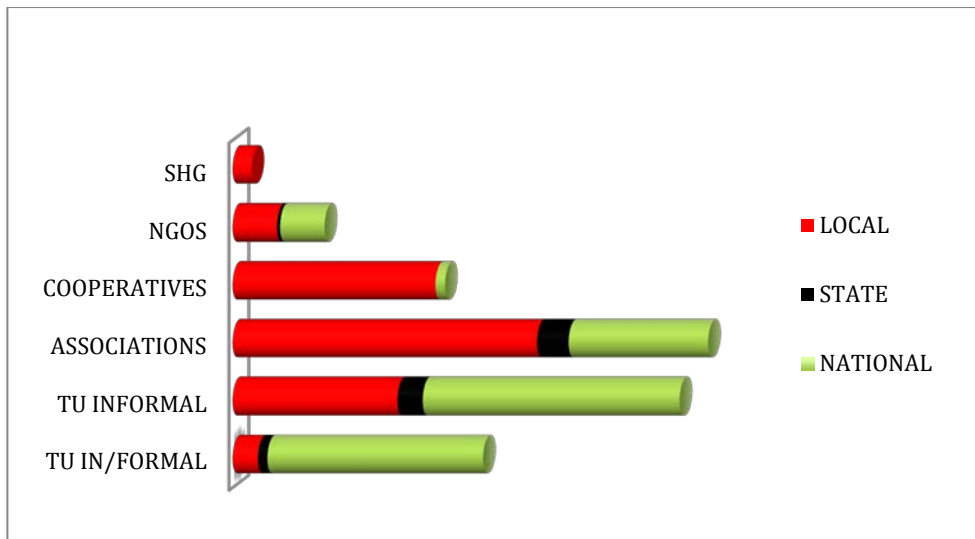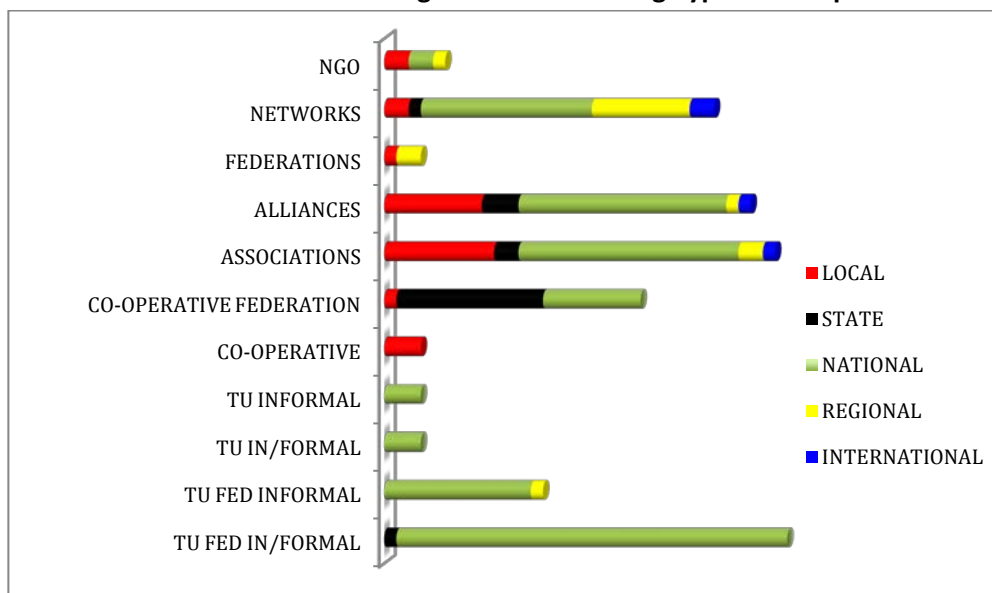**Chart 4: Primary Organizations Showing Type and Scope**

Chart 5: Federated Organizations Showing Type and Scope

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[1] Scope includes regional (international within a region) and international (global), national, state(including province, county, country region), local (local area through to city). TU in/formal means trade union with both formal and informal workers as members.

Chart 5 shows that trade unions constituted a large number of federated organizations particularly on a national basis. Cooperative are federating at national level, and within countries according to province/country region in Latin America, especially in Colombia. Alliances, associations and networks are most common globally and regionally.

3. Analysis: Occupational Groups

3.1. Vendors' Organizations

3.1.1 Regional Distribution
There are 246 vendor organizations on the database. These are distributed geographically as follows. Africa dominates this sector at 119, followed by Latin America, 68, Asia/Pacific, 47, Europe, 8, and North America and the Caribbean with 2 each.

The following countries dominated the sector in their regions:
- In Africa, Ghana, Kenya, South Africa and Zambia had largest number of vendor organizations
- In Asia/ Pacific India had the largest number of vendors organizations
- In Latin America Peru had the most number of venders organizations

Chart 6: Regional Distribution of Vendors' Organizations on WORD
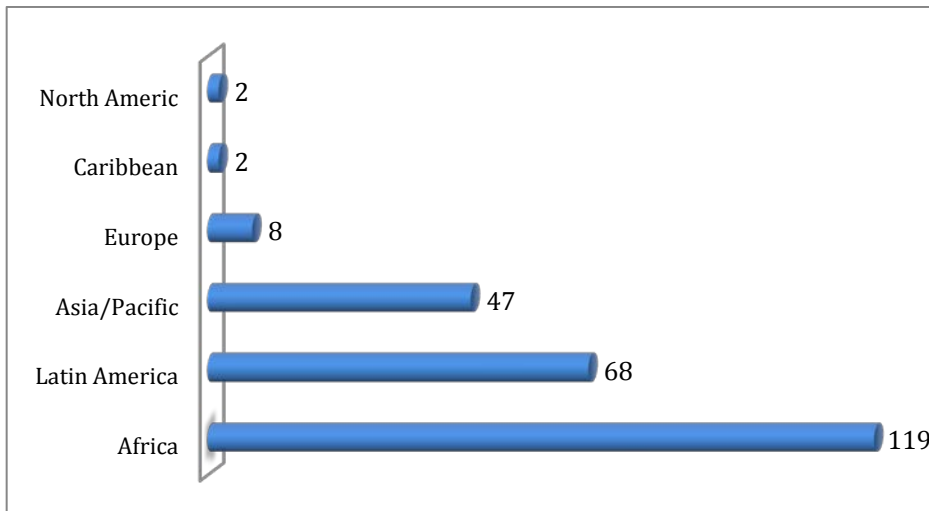
3.1.2. Type and Scope of Organization
Table 1 below shows that the majority of primary organizations operated locally. Co-operatives were almost exclusively locally based. Associations were also local with some organizations operating at a national or state level.Trade Unions both those that organize informal workers only and those that organize both formal and informal workers were more likely to operate on a national basis.

Table 1: GLOBAL DISTRIBUTION OF VENDORS ORGANIZATIONS BY TYPE AND SCOPE						
TYPE	N0	LOCAL	STATE/PROVINCIAL	NATIONAL	REGIONAL INTERNATIONAL	GLOBAL INTERNATIONAL
Co-operatives	6	0	0	0	0	0
Associations	111	72	8	28	2	0
Trade Union Federations of informal workers only	7	0	0	7	0	0
Trade Union Federations of informal and formal workers	20	0	1	19	0	0
Trade Unions of informal workers	52	19	0	33	0	0
Trade Unions of informal and formal workers	11	0	0	11	0	0
Federations	3	1	0	0	1	0
Networks	4	0	0	3	1	0
Alliances	25	8	2	13	0	1
NGOs	7	1	1	4	1	0

There were more primary organizations of vendors (67%) than federations (33%). Most vendor organizations were exclusively for vendors (70%) with only (30%) being multi –sector organizations. 13.5 % of vendors' organizations were women's only organizations. Trade Union organizations are prominent in this sector. Trade Unions collectively accounted for 36% of all organizations organizing vendors. 79% of trade unions are organized on a national basis. Associations tended to be local rather than national and are the most common form accounting for 45% of all vendor organizations, and 71% of all vendor organizations operating at local level. The Red SEICAP in Central America is a sub-regional network of mainly vendors, and StreetNet International is the international organization of MBOs of vendors and has its Head Office in South Africa.

3.1.3 Type of Organization by Region

Chart 7 shows that local associations predominate in the three major regions, Africa, Asia and Latin America. Trade unions and trade union federations constitute a high proportion in Africa (31%), with 62% of these trade unions being for informal workers only. 36 % of organizations in Asia/Pacific were trade Unions and of these 71% were for informal workers only. 41% of all vendor organizations in Latin America were trade unions and of these 79% were for informal workers only. European vendor organizations are not well represented on WORD but all the vendor organizations in Europe were within mixed trade unions of both informal and formal workers.

Chart 7: Regional Break Down Of Vendors' Organizations By Type[2]

3.2. Domestic Workers' Organizations

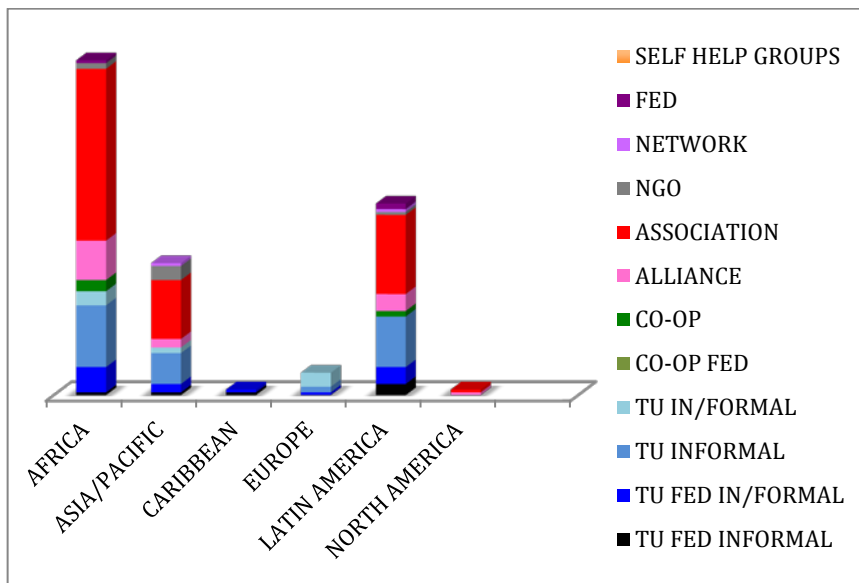### 3.2.1. Regional Distribution

There are 146 domestic worker organizations on the database. These are distributed geographically as follows with Asia/Pacific dominating this sector at 62, followed by Latin America with 29, Europe and Africa each with 20, North America, 12 and Caribbean, 3.
Hong Kong had the most domestic workers organization in the Asia/Pacific region, and China mainland has 4 domestic workers organizations. Relatively low numbers of domestic workers organizations (20) are recorded in 16 African countries.

Chart 8: Regional Distribution of Domestic Workers' Organizations

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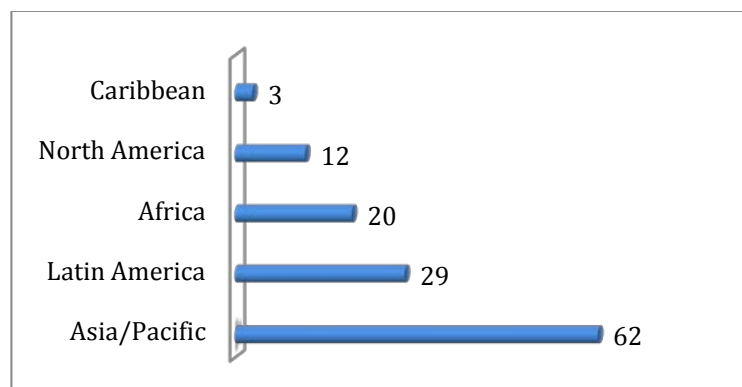
[2] Table showing type of organization and scope in each region is available on request.

3.2.2. Type and Scope of Domestic Workers' Organizations

Table 2: GLOBAL DISTRIBUTION OF DOMESTIC WORKERS ORGANIZATIONS BY TYPE AND SCOPE						
TYPE	N0	LOCAL	STATE/PROVINCIAL	NATIONAL	REGIONAL INTERNATIONAL	GLOBAL INTERNATIONAL
Co-operatives	3	2	0	1	0	0
Associations	29	16	3	9	0	0
Trade Union Federations of informal workers only (DWs)	4	0	0	4	0	0
Trade Union federations with both informal and formal workers	14	0	1	13	0	0
Trade Unions of informal workers (DWs) only	56	19	3	34	0	0
Trade Unions of informal (DWs) and formal workers	22	2	1	19	0	0
Federations	1	0	0	0	1	0
Networks	4	1	0	1	1	1
Alliances	6	0	1	4	1	0
NGOs	6	4	0	1	1	0

The majority of domestic worker organizations were for domestic workers only (74%) with only 26% being multi- sectoral. Where domestic workers were part of a multi-sector organization they were most often found in unions of hotel, catering workers – often affiliated to the IUF.

The majority of domestic worker organizations were primary (77%) rather than federations (23%), with 20% of domestic workers organizations women's only organizations, although it is likely that many others have virtually no male members.

Trade Unions dominate in this sector. The number of Trade Unions for domestic workers only is 41%. Trade Unions dominate even in Africa where the number of domestic worker organizations is relatively low (20). Associations of domestic workers are also common but cooperatives are not significant in this sector. 40% of all domestic workers organizations had national coverage. Of these 81% were trade unions and trade union federations (both mixed and domestic workers only).

The International Domestic Workers' Network (IDWN) is the only international organization of domestic workers organizations. The Asia Migrant Domestic Workers' Alliance (ADWA) and the Asian Domestic Workers Network (ADWN) operate regionally within Asian countries and CONLACTRAHO operates regionally in Latin America.

3.2.3 Type of Organization by Region

Chart 9: Regional Break Down Of Domestic Workers' Organizations By Type
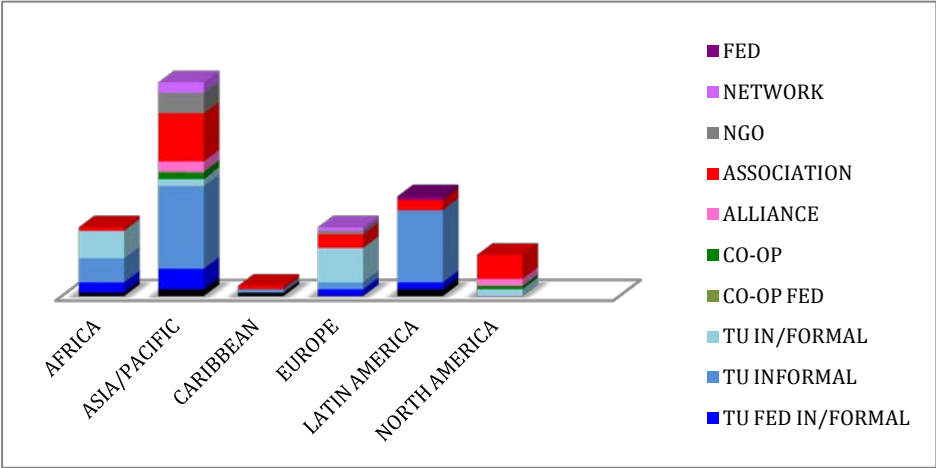
Trade Union organizations predominated in the three major regions with the majority of these being unions for domestic workers only. In Africa 95% of organizations are trade unions of which 42% were for domestic workers only. In Asia Pacific 55% of organizations were trade unions of which 76% were for domestic workers only and in Latin America 86% were trade unions. In Asia Pacific 23% of organizations are associations, making this the second biggest group.

3.3. Waste Pickers' Organizations

3.3.1. Regional Distribution
There are 95 Waste Picker organizations on the database. These are distributed globally as follows: Latin America 58, Asia/Pacific 22, Africa 14, Caribbean 1.

Chart 10: Regional Distribution of Waste Pickers' Organizations
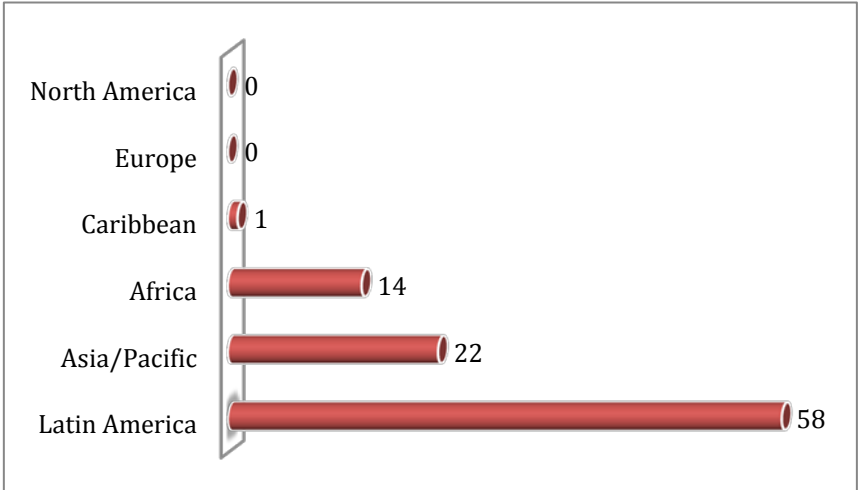
Waste pickers' organizations in Latin America dominated the sector on the data-base. Most of the waste pickers' organizations recorded were found in Brazil. In Asia/Pacific region very few organizations are recorded outside of India.

3.3.2 Type and Scope of Organization

60% of waste pickers' organizations on the data-base were primary organizations and 40% were in federations. 87% of waster pickers' organizations were single sector organizations and 13% of organizations with waste picker members were multi-sectoral organization. 11% of waste pickers' organizations were women's only organizations and were found in either Asia/ Pacific or Latin America. Cooperatives and cooperative federations dominated this sector making up 60% of all organizations. Trade unions were not a common form of organization with only 6 trades unions of waste pickers and 2 mixed sector unions. Most organizations were local, particularly among cooperatives although over 30 national federated structures are recorded, a third of which are federations of cooperatives. There is only one regional organization: the Latin American Waste Pickers Network (LAWPN).

Table 3: GLOBAL DISTRIBUTION OF WASTE PICKER ORGANIZATIONS BY TYPE AND SCOPE						
TYPE	N0	LOCAL	STATE/PROVINCIAL	NATIONAL	REGIONAL INTERNATIONAL	GLOBAL INTERNATIONAL
Co-operative Federations	21	1	11	10	0	0
Co-operatives	36	36	00	0	0	0
Associations	10	4	1	5	0	0
Trade Union Federations of informal workers only	2	1	0	1	0	0
Trade Union Federations of informal and formal workers	1	0	0	1	0	0
Trade Unions of informal workers only	6	3	0	3	0	0
Trade Unions of informal and formal workers	2	0	0	2	0	0
Federations	0	0	0	0	0	0
Networks	4	0	0	3	1	0
Alliances	4	0	0	4	0	0
NGOs	9	7	0	1	1	0

3.3.3 Type of Organization by Region

60 % of all waste pickers' organizations on WORD were found in Latin America. Of these 62%

were co-operatives or co-operative federations. In Africa there are a small number of organizations, with 20% of waste pickers' organizations in trade unions. 67% of these were informal workers only. Co-operatives also constituted 20% of organizations in this region. 40% of waste pickers in Africa were in associations. Asia has the second largest number of organizations, with NGOs (presumably having waste picker groups) being relatively common.

Chart 11: Regional Break Down Of Waste Pickers' Organizations by Type
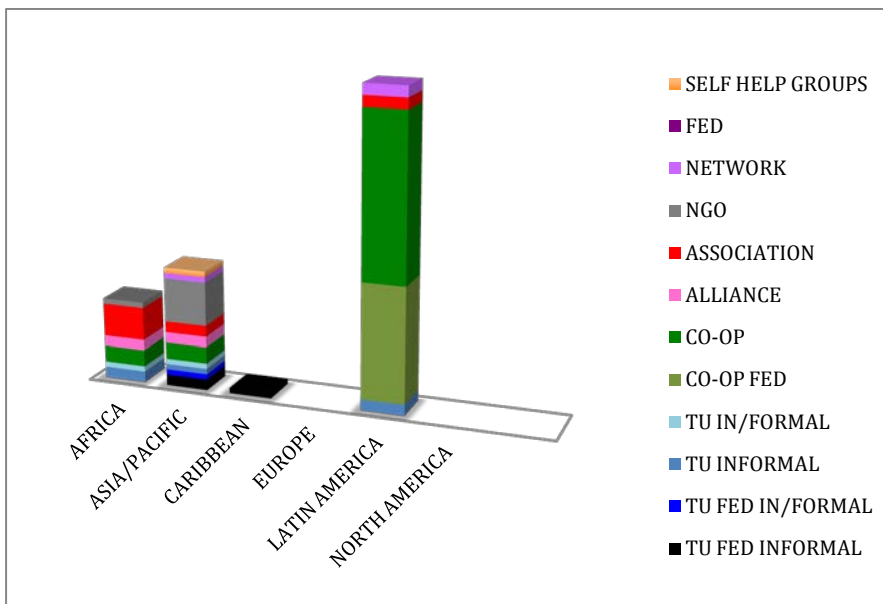
3.3.   Home-based Workers' Organizations

3.4.1   Regional Distribution

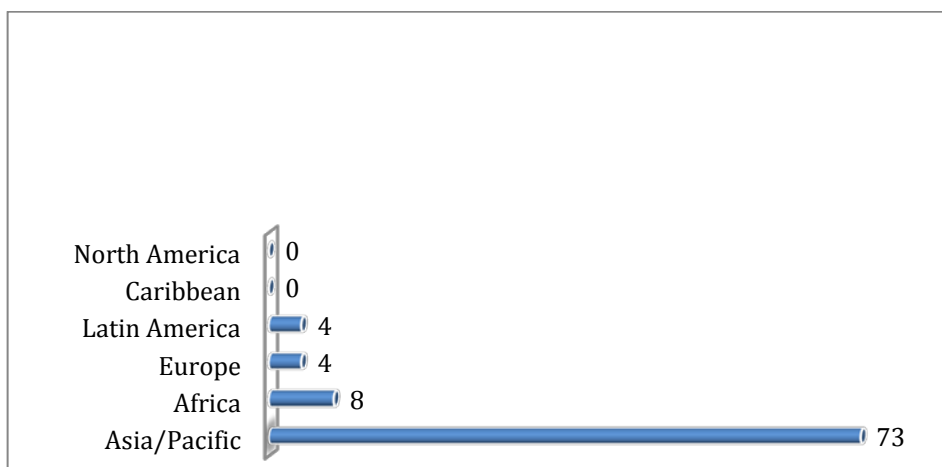There are 89 home-based workers on the on the database. They were distributed regionally as follows Asia/Pacific 73, Africa 8, Europe 4, and Latin America 4.

Chart 12: Regional Distribution of Home-based Workers' Organizations

3.4.2 Type and Scope of Organization

Table 4: DISTRIBUTION OF HOME-BASED WORKERS ORGANIZATIONS BY TYPE AND SCOPE						
TYPE	N0	LOCAL	STATE/PROVINCIAL	NATIONAL	REGIONAL INTERNATIONAL	GLOBAL INTERNATIONAL
Co-operative Federations	0	0	0	0	0	0
Co-operatives	24	23	0	1	0	0
Associations	10	5	0	5	0	0
Trade Union Federations of informal workers only	2	0	2	1	0	0
Trade Union Federations of informal and formal workers	1	0	0	1	0	0
Trade Unions of informal workers only	20	5	0	15	0	0
Trade Unions of informal and formal workers	6	0	0	6	0	0
Self Help Groups	5	5	0	0	0	0
Federations	0	0	0	0	0	0
Networks	14	2	0	10	2	0
Alliances	1	0	0	1	0	0
NGOs	4	2	0	1	1	0

73% of home-based worker organizations were primary organizations and 27% were in federations. 70% of home-based worker organizations were single sector organizations and 30% were in multi- sector organizations. 33% of home-based organizations were women's only organizations. 34% of the organizations in this sector were cooperatives, 77% of which operated locally. The majority are recorded as savings and credit cooperatives.   33 % of the organizations were trade unions of which 79% operated at a national level. Self-help groups found in this sector often related to home-based workers operating communal savings schemes. Regional international organizations are HomeNet South Asia and HomeNet South East Asia.

Chart 12: Regional Breakdown of Home-Based Workers' Organizations by Type
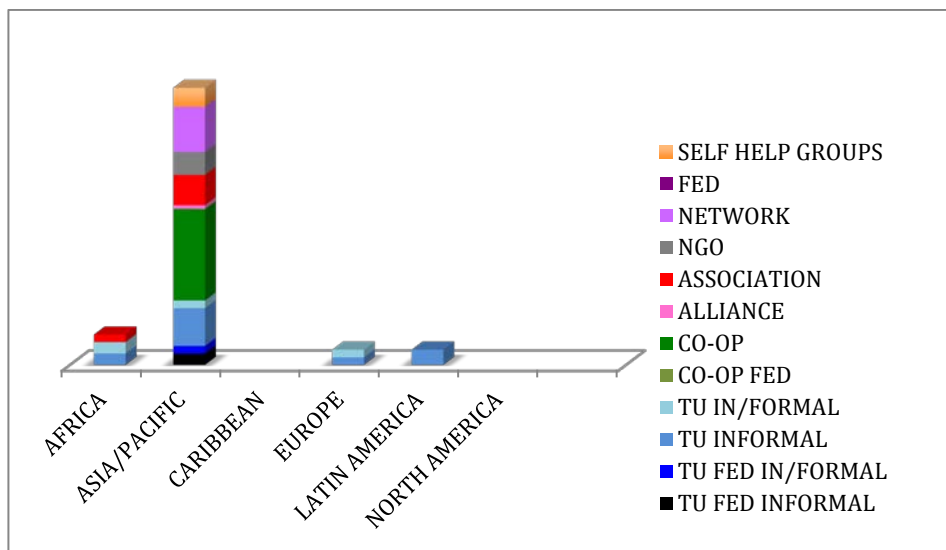
82% of all home-based organizations were found in the Asia/Pacific Region. Within this region Nepal accounted for over half of the home-based workers' entries on the data-base. Cooperatives were the single largest organization type, being 27% in Asia/Pacific Region. Trade unions constituted 23% of all organizations in this region. Networks constituted 16% of home- based worker organizations in the Asia/Pacific region. Africa had few home- based worker organizations, but of these 75% were Unions, 50% being informal economy worker only organizations. Similarly Latin America had few home-based worker organizations on the database all of which were trade unions for informal economy workers.

3.5 Transport Workers' Organizations

3.5.1 Regional Distribution

Transport workers' organizations made up 55 of the data- base entries. These were distributed regionally as follows: Africa 25, Asia/Pacific 18, Europe 4, Latin America 6 and North America 2. The Transport sector includes a wide range of transport occupations, for example drivers of motor cycle taxis, rickshaw taxis, trucks. Organizations were spread quite evenly through countries in the African region with no one country being dominant. This does not include North African countries which are not represented.   Nepal had the most transport worker organizations in Asia/Pacific.

Chart 13: Regional Distribution of Transport Workers' Organizations on WORD
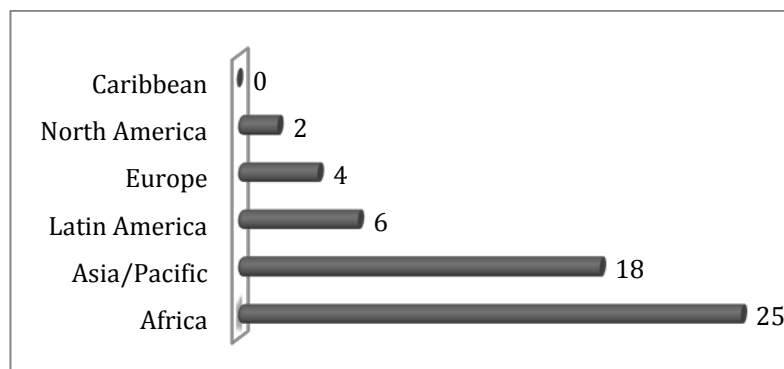
3.5.2. Type and Scope of Organization

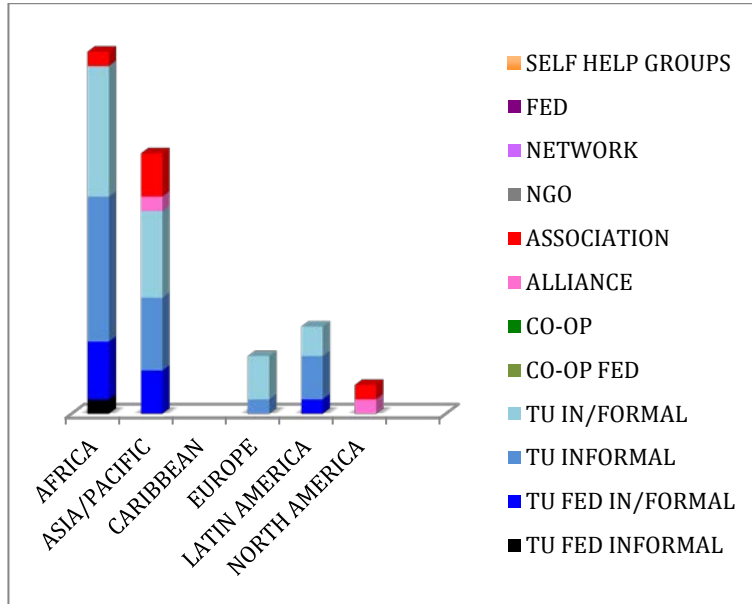| Table 5: DISTRIBUTION OF TRANSPORT WORKERS ORGANIZATIONS BY TYPE AND SCOPE						
TYPE	N0	LOCAL	STATE/PROVINCIAL	NATIONAL	REGIONAL INTERNATIONAL	GLOBAL INTERNATIONAL
Co-operative Federations	0	0	0	0	0	0
Co-operatives	0	0	0	0	0	0
Associations	4	0	0	4	0	0
Trade Union Federations of informal workers only	1	0	0	1	0	0
Trade Union Federations of informal and formal workers	8	0	0	8	0	0
Trade Unions of informal workers only	20	5	1	14	0	0
Trade Unions of informal and formal workers	20	1	0	19	0	0
Federations	0	0	0	0	0	0
Networks	0	0	0	0	0	0
Alliances	2	0	0	2	0	0
NGOs	0	0	0	0	0	0

63% of transport workers' organizations were primary organizations and 27% were federations. 56% of transport sector organizations were single sector organizations and 44% of organizations organizing transport workers were multi- sector organizations, primarily formal transport unions organizing informal workers. There were no women's only organizations in this sector on the data-base. Trade Unions dominated this sector with 89% of organizations being trade unions, 43% of which were exclusively for informal workers. There are no regional or international alliances/networks or federations of informal transport workers. It is noted from the WORD that many of the unions are affiliated to the International Transport Workers Federation (ITF).

3.5.3 Type of Organization by Region

 96% of all transport worker organizations in Africa were trade unions, of which 21% were trade unions for informal economy workers. 78% of organizations in Asia/Pacific were trade unions, of which 71% were for informal economy workers. 100% of the organizations in Latin America were trade unions of which 50% were trade unions for informal workers.

Chart 14: Regional Break Down of Transport Workers' Organizations by Type
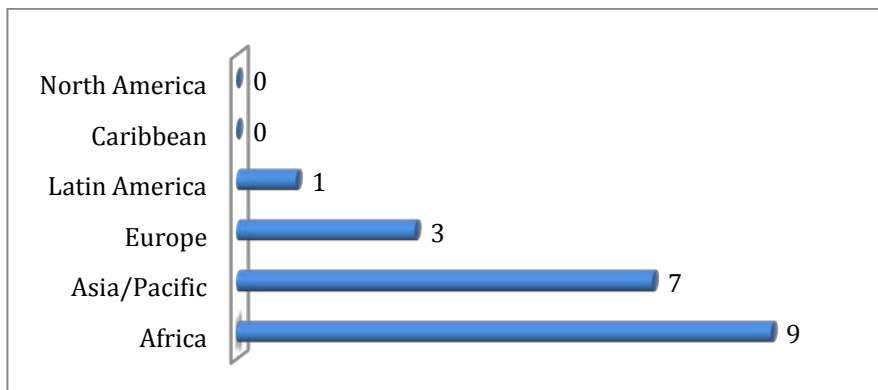

3.6 Construction Workers' Organizations

3.6.1 Regional Distribution

Construction workers' organizations made up 20 of the data-base entries. These were distributed regionally as follows: Africa 9, Asia/Pacific 7, Europe 3, Latin America 1 and North America and Caribbean 0.

Chart 15: Regional Distribution of Construction Workers' Organizations on WORD

### 3.6.2 Type and Scope of Construction Workers' Organizations on WORD

TABLE 6: GLOBAL DISTRIBUTION OF CONSTRUCTION WORKERS ORGANIZATIONS BY TYPE AND SCOPE						
TYPE	N0	LOCAL	STATE/PROVINCIAL	NATIONAL	REGIONAL INTERNATIONAL	GLOBAL INTERNATIONAL
Co-operative Federations	0	0	0	0	0	0
Co-operatives	0	0	0	0	0	0
Associations	3	0	0	3	0	0
Trade Union Federations of informal workers only	1	0	1	0	0	0
Trade Union Federations of informal and formal workers	5	0	1	4	0	0
Trade Unions of informal workers only	2	0	1	1	0	0
Trade Unions of informal and formal workers	7	0	0	7	0	0
Federations	0	0	0	0	0	0
Networks	0	0	0	0	0	0
Alliances	1	0	0	1	0	0
NGOs	0	0	0	0	0	0

Trade unions and trade union federations are the dominant form of organization for construction workers on the data-base, with a majority being of both formal and informal workers (75%). There is one trade union that has only women construction workers amongst its members, SEWA. There are no local organizations of construction workers recorded on the data-base.

3.6.3 Type of Organization by Region

In Africa 67% of construction workers' organizations were trade unions. Of these 83% were mixed unions of both informal and formal workers. In Asia/Pacific 86% of constructions workers' organizations were trade unions. 50% of these were for informal economy workers only. European construction workers' organizations were all trade unions with 66% of these being in mixed unions of informal and formal workers. Latin America's only construction workers' organization was a mixed union of informal and formal workers.

Chart 16: Regional Break Down of Construction Workers' Organizations by Type
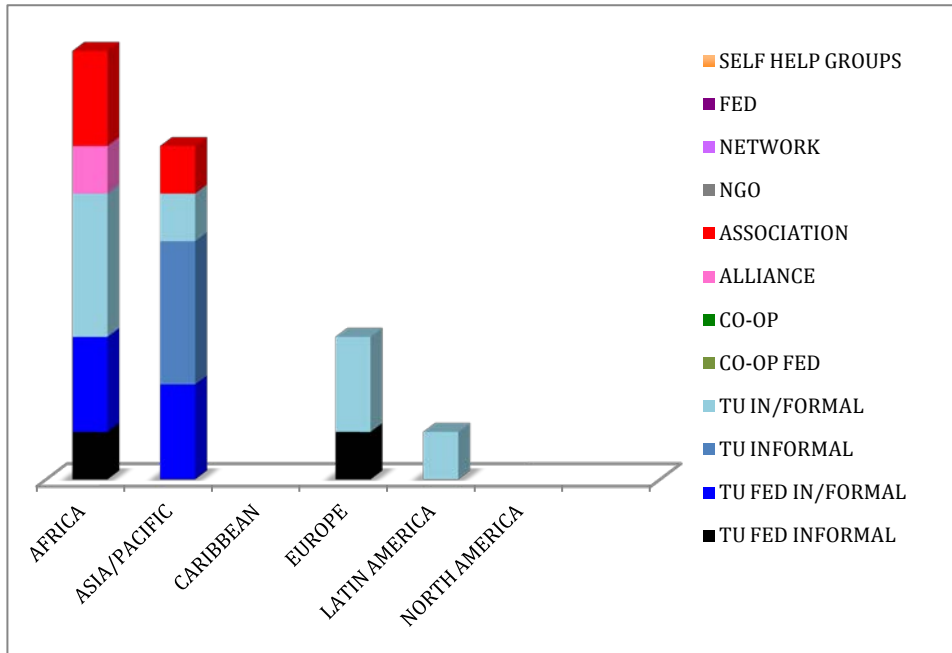
3.7 Agricultural Workers' Organizations

3.7.1. Regional Distribution

The total of agriculture workers' organizations captured on the data-base is 34. "Agricultural workers" covers a range of agricultural/rural workers such as small producers, fisher folk, forest- gatherers. Organizations were distributed regionally as follows: Africa 16, Asia/Pacific 11, Caribbean 0, Europe 1, Latin America 5, and North America 1.

Chart 17: Regional Distribution of Agricultural Workers' Organizations
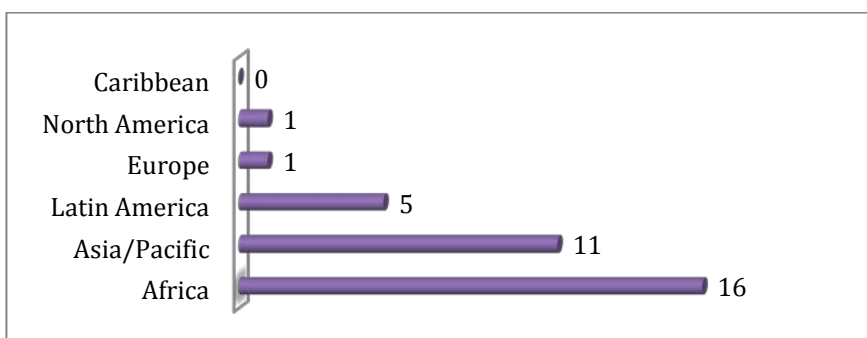
56% of agricultural workers' organizations on the WORD are primary organizations and 44% of agricultural workers' organizations are federated organizations. 62% are multi-sector organizations and the rest are single sector organizations. 32% of organizations are women's only organizations. Trade Unions are prominent with 41% of all organizations being national trade union bodies. The International Alliance World Forum of Fish Harvesters and Fish Workers (WFF) with headquarters in Chile operates internationally.

3.7.2 Type and Scope of Agricultural Workers' Organizations on WORD

Table 7: GLOBAL DISTRIBUTION OF AGRICULTURAL WORKERS ORGANIZATIONS BY TYPE AND SCOPE						
TYPE	N0	LOCAL	STATE/PROVINCIAL	NATIONAL	REGIONAL INTERNATIONAL	GLOBAL INTERNATIONAL
Co-operative Federations	0	0	0	0	0	0
Co-operatives	1	0	0	1	0	0
Associations	7	2	0	4	0	1
Trade Union Federations of informal workers only	1	0	0	0	1	0
Trade Union Federations of informal and formal workers	7	0	0	7	0	0
Trade Unions of informal workers only	3	1	0	1	0	0
Trade Unions of informal and formal workers	7	1	0	6	0	0
Federations	0	0	0	0	0	0
Networks	3	0	0	3	0	0
Alliances	3	0	0	3	0	0
NGOs	0	0	0	0	0	0

3.7.3 Type of Organization by Region

Chart 18: Regional Break Down of Agricultural Workers' Organizations by Type
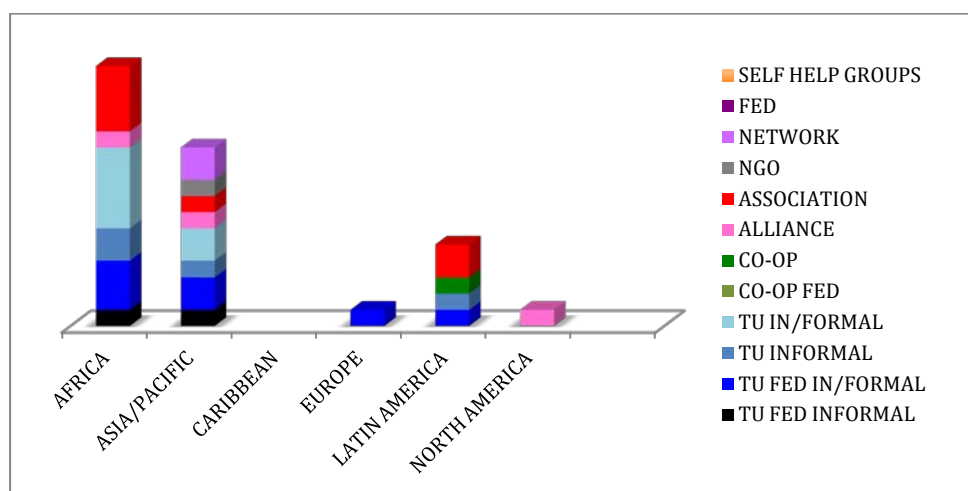
69% of agricultural organizations in Africa were trade unions. 73% of these were mixed trade unions of informal and formal workers. In Asia/ Pacific 55 % of agricultural organizations were Trade Unions. 33% of these were mixed trade unions of informal and formal workers.

Trade Unions and associations were an equal number in Latin America, 40% each. 50% of the trade union component was for informal workers only.

3.8 Sex Workers' Organizations

3.8.1 Regional Distribution

Sex workers organizations made up 39 of the data-base entries. These were distributed regionally as follows Africa 2, Asia/Pacific 12, Europe 9, Latin America 13, North America 2 and Caribbean 1. The majority of sex workers' organizations were found in Europe, Asia/Pacific and Latin America.

Chart 19: Regional Distribution of Sex Workers' Organizations
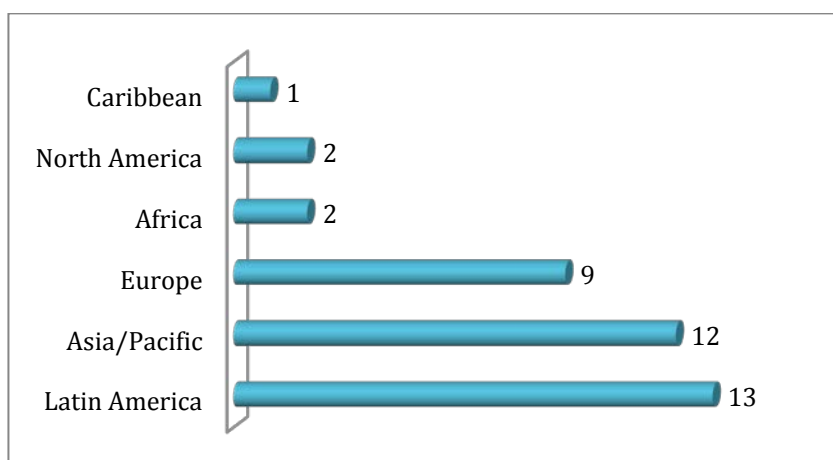
3.8.3 Type and Scope of Sex Workers' Organizations

The majority of sex workers' organizations were primary, 82%, and 18 % were federations. All sex worker organizations were single occupation organizations, although covering different types of sex workers. 15% of sex worker organizations were women's only organizations.

There are three regional and two international networks. 15 (38%) of the organizations were classified as associations, with 11 of these being national organizations. Given the generic nature of this term it is not clear if they are MBOs. It is likely that many are NGOs or hybrid forms. Trade unions make up 13% of the entries.

TYPE	N0	LOCAL	STATE/PROVINCIAL	NATIONAL	REGIONAL INTERNATIONAL	GLOBAL INTERNATIONAL
Table 8 : GLOBAL DISTRIBUTION OF SEX WORKERS ORGANIZATIONS BY TYPE AND SCOPE						
Co-operative Federations	0	0	0	0	0	0
Co-operatives	1	0	0	1	0	0
Associations	15	2	2	11		
Trade Union Federations of informal workers only	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trade Union Federations of informal and formal workers	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trade Unions of informal workers only	5	3	1	1	0	0
Trade Unions of informal and formal workers	2	1	0	1	0	0
Federations	0	0	0	0	0	0
Networks	8	0	0	3	3	2
Alliances	3	1	0	2	0	0
NGOs	5	2	0	3	0	0

3.8.3 Type of Organization by Region

Chart 20: Regional Break Down of Sex Workers' Organizations by Type
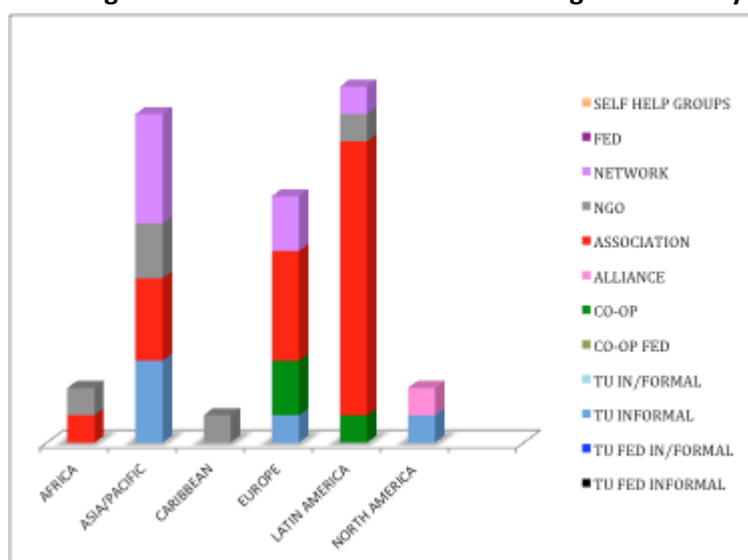
Associations predominate in this sector in most regions. Africa had only two organizations one of which was an alliance and the other an NGO. Most organizations in Asia/ Pacific were networks. Latin America had mostly associations (77%). Trade Unions that did organize sex workers were single sector organizations but were affiliated to mixed unions or union federations.

3.9 Other Organizations

72 organizations were classified as "other". These included those listing "other informal economy workers", "producers", "women workers" and similar descriptions.

21 organizations were classified as others in Africa, 29 in Asia/Pacific, 2 in the Caribbean, 6 in Europe, 12 in Latin America and 2 in North America.

4.   Key Findings

4.1. Gaps
Information on the data-base is primarily from the south and is not reflecting the increasing levels of informalization, and possible increase in organizations organizing informal workers, in the northern industrialized countries. Other important gaps/limited information by occupation and region are:
- Home-based workers in all areas except Asia;
- Waste pickers in all regions except for Latin America and India in Asia;
- Domestic workers in the Middle East and North Africa and to a lesser extent in Europe (especially Central and East European countries) and North America;
- Transport workers in Latin America, North America and Europe;
- Agricultural workers in all regions.

Note that this could be not only because WIEGO does not have the information, but because there is limited organization of informal workers in those regions.

4.2. Trade Unions
The data-base reveals that trade unions of formal workers are organizing informal workers, with 114 mixed formal and informal trade unions reflected on the data-base. The largest numbers were in Africa, followed by Asia.

Informal workers are also organizing into their own unions- either single sector or multi-sector. The information shows the number of trade unions of informal workers to be 92. The occupational group with the highest percentage of workers organized into trade unions is domestic workers. These include domestic workers only unions which are most common (20%), as well as a significant number of formal unions organizing domestic workers mainly in the hospitality sector. Many of these unions are affiliated to the IUF.

4.3. Cooperatives
Cooperatives and 'federations' of cooperatives of waste pickers dominate in the waste picker sector, especially in Latin America. There are very few unions.

Home-based workers' organizations show a mix of cooperatives -but information is skewed as most entries are for Nepal- some trade unions, mixtures of NGOs and MBOs as well as a new category of self-help groups. Many of the cooperatives are related to savings and credit and it is not clear if they are also organized around their identities as workers. As the information on home-based workers is primarily from Asia it is not clear that this pattern would be repeated in other regions.

4.4. Women's only organizations

The number of organizations organizing only women forms a small percentage (15%), of the organizations. However, in reality it is likely that in some sectors the organizations are composed almost exclusively of women, although but without formally stating an exclusive membership policy- e.g. domestic workers, home-based workers.

4.5. Occupational Group and Regional Comparison

Table 9: Summary Occupational Groups/Regional Comparisons as Reflected on the WORD

Sector	Highest concentration of organizations	Main organization types	Type/region characteristics
Domestic workers	Asia Africa	Domestic workers unions Mixed sector unions NGOs/hybrid organizations 20% are women's only organizations.	Mixed sector unions are most common in Africa. Unions of migrant workers are most common in Asia. North America has a number of migrant worker associations which are not trade unions.
Home-based workers	Asia	Primary cooperatives Self-help groups Local and national unions Mixed NGO/MBO networks. 33% of organizations are for women only.	Outside of Asia home-based workers are most commonly found in trade unions but the sample is small.
Street/market vendors	Africa	Local and national associations Local and national trade unions of informal workers. 13.5 % are women's organizations	Africa has the largest number of trade unions and trade union federations of vendors and mixed informal economy workers
Waste pickers	Latin America	Cooperatives Cooperative national 'federations', networks. 11% are women's organizations	Trade unions are found in India but have formed cooperatives as well. Latin America has virtually no trade unions.
Transport workers	Africa	National trade unions Local /primary associations No women's organizations recorded.	
Construction workers	Africa Asia	National trade unions Women only construction workers in SEWA, India	

Agricultural workers	Africa Asia	National trade unions 32% are women's organizations	
Sex workers	Latin America Asia/Pacific Europe	National Associations (probably) NGO/ hybrid organizations. 15% are recorded as women's organizations	Associations predominant in Latin America

5. Recommendations
5.1. Technical

5.1.1. Review functions:
- ensure the **search function** is operating correctly and is able to generate a list of organizations with two variables e.g. waste pickers in Latin America, as it is supposed to do;
- make the **general search function** more sensitive and able to accurately generate information not contained in the pull down menus;
- review and correct any fault with the **downloading** of information into Excel. At times the information on WORD does not download accurately into Excel format;
- ensure that people **entering information** on the data-base use the categories and formats exactly as set out in the guidelines. The search function will not pick up entries incorrectly entered.
- make sure the **administrato**r of the data-base checks all entries for accuracy and then accepts the entries. This has to be done on a regular basis otherwise entries do not appear on the data-base.
- prevent **duplication** of entries i.e. before entering a new organization search for the full name and the acronym and if possible in English and as appropriate, Spanish, French, Portuguese.

5.1.2. Improve classification:
- The classification of **the types of organization** needs to be reviewed and perhaps re-worked. This would be a major task as each organization would need to be reconsidered. As a compromise situation it may be useful to assess what new categories should be added to the existing categories.
- Likewise the **occupational groups** listed are limited to a few broad categories but the data-base reflects "**other" o**ccupational groups. WIEGO should consider what additional broad categories should be added in the light of the occupations listed under "other". It would also be useful to retain and perhaps expand on the practice of listing the broad category and follow this with more detailed information e.g. vendors – list the type of vendor and products.
- Many of the WORD fields relating to more qualitative information on organizations, such as objectives, organizing strategies, services, structures etc is incomplete as this is difficult to collect, up- date and is time consuming to enter. It may be more practical to consider collapsing some of fields, for example have one field on activities and one field on structure. More detailed information could be captured through linking to websites and other sources of information which are increasingly available. Note that there is a field for case studies which to date has not been utilized. This could be where the links are captured.
- An extra field that distinguishes primary organizations from federated organizations would be helpful.

5.2. Scope of the WORD

- WIEGO team members should be strongly encouraged to make the WORD part of their thinking in all the work they do. In other words when coming across organizations of informal workers the information should be relayed to the WORD administrators, or for team members that have access to update information directly they should do this and inform the administrator of their entries.

- As noted there is little information on some regions such as the Middle East, North Africa, and very limited information on North America, Caribbean and Europe and a special effort should be made to identify organizations and enter these onto the data- base.

- The entries are somewhat haphazard, of necessity as information is entered as and when it becomes available. This means that it is very uneven. For example WORD lists many small cooperatives in Brazil and in Nepal but none in other countries where we know there are many. WIEGO may need to clarify what types of organization to enter on the data-base. Should it include small primary organizations or only those bigger organizations or those with most significance – and how would this be decided?

Appendix One: Word Overview

Information (fields), categories and abbreviations

Information (field)	Categories and abbreviations used
Name of Organization & acronym	
E-mail address	
Web site	
Address	
City	
Country	
Region	Africa Asia/Pacific Caribbean Europe Latin America Middle East North America
Occupation of members	Agricultural Workers Construction Workers Domestic Workers Home-based Workers Sex Workers Transport Workers Vendors Waste pickers Other
Phone	
Fax	
Primary contact	
Second contact	
Women's (only) Organization	Yes or no
Organization Type	Alliance Association Cooperative Cooperative Federation Federation Network NGO Self-help group Trade Union of only Informal Workers (TU Informal) Trade Union of formal and informal workers (TU In/formal) Trade Union Federation of only Informal Workers (TU Fed Informal) Trade Union Federation of formal and informal workers (TU Fed In/formal)
Organization Scope	International (global) Regional (e.g. Africa) Sub- regional (e.g. East Africa) Province/State (includes county ,country region)

	Local (includes town, city, area)
Work place(s) of members	Street/open Home-based Households Fixed Land/sea Mobile Other
Gender composition	
IE members	
Affiliations	
Organization Structure	
Objectives	
Strategy	
Negotiations and agreements	
Education / training	
Key Services	
Source of Information	
Date of entry	
Date updated	
Links to Case Studies	

Appendix 2: Country Breakdown by Region

AFRICA		ASIA/PACIFIC	
COUNTRY	NO OF ORGANIZATIONS	COUNTRY	NO OF ORGANIZATIONS
Benin	13	Australia	4
Burkino Faso	4	Bangladesh	12
Burundi	2	Cambodia	8
Cameroon	1	China mainland	6
Cape Verde	1	China Hong Kong	19
Chad	1	India	45
Congo	1	Indonesia	14
Cote D'Voire	5	Japan	3
DRC	4	Korea	5
Ghana	18	Laos	1
Guinee Bissau	1	Mongolia	1
Guinee	3	Nepal	63
Kenya	18	Pakistan	10
Lesotho	1	Philippines	15
Liberia	1	Sri Lanka	8

Madagascar	1	Thailand	6
Malawi	4	Turkey	1
Mali	3	Vietnam	1
Mozambique	3		
Namibia	1		
Niger	5		
Nigeria	4		
Rwanda	2		
Senegal	8		
Sierre Leone	1		
South Africa	32		
Swaziland	2		
Tanzania	4		
Togo	5		
Uganda	6		
Zambia	30		
Zimbabwe	4		

CARIBBEAN		EUROPE	
COUNTRY	NO OF ORGANIZATIONS	COUNTRY	NO OF ORGANIZATIONS
Dominican Republic	3	Austria	2
Jamaica	1	Belgium	1
Trinidad & Tobago	1	Bulgaria	3
		Croatia	2
		Denmark	1
		France	2
		Georgia	3
		Germany	4
		Greece	1
		Holland	1
		Ireland	2
		Italy	1
		Krgyzstan	1
		Madeira	1
		Moldova	2

		Netherlands	6
		Romania	1
		Russian Fed	1
		Spain	3
		Switzerland	4
		UK	3

LATIN AMERICA		MIDDLE EAST	
COUNTRY	NO OF ORGANIZATIONS	COUNTRY	NO OF ORGANIZATIONS
Argentina	8	Palestine East Jerusalem	1
Bolivia	8		
Brazil	41		
Chile	10		
Ecuador	5		
El Salvador	3		
Guatemala	7		

Honduras	1		
Mexico	10		
Nicaragua	4		
Panama	1		
Peru	37		
Uruguay	4		
Venezuala	5		

NORTH AMERICA	
COUNTRY	NO OF ORGANIZATIONS
Canada	3
USA	16