



Women in Informal Employment  
Globalizing and Organizing



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# WIEGO

Women in Informal Employment:  
Globalizing and Organizing

## Annual Report

*April 2012 – March 2013*

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## ***Letter from the Chair of the Board and the International Coordinator***

Dear WIEGO Members, Partners and Funders,

In April 1997, 10 activists, researchers and development professionals from five countries came together over a shared concern about informal employment. We convened a planning workshop at the Rockefeller Foundation Conference and Study Centre in Bellagio, Italy. There, we agreed that mainstream policymakers did not understand or value the contribution of informal workers to national economies and, therefore, informal workers did not receive the resources and support they deserved. Out of those discussions in Bellagio, WIEGO was born.

Our ambitious goals involved bringing attention to the contributions made by the working poor, especially women. We wanted to advocate for their visibility in official statistics and establish through effective research and constructive engagement a more favourable policy environment at all levels. We also wanted to help informal workers step out of the shadows and find their voice through collective engagement.

Most of the features that define WIEGO today were part of the original plan. However, none of us could have envisioned how our initiative would transform into a global action-research-policy network—one that continues to grow and evolve just as the informal economy does.

Fifteen years on, in June 2012, some of the founders of WIEGO met again in Bellagio. At this Strategic Review and Planning workshop, we were joined by other members of the WIEGO Board and Team who have embraced WIEGO's mission with the same passion that sparked its creation. Other experts and activists in the field also brought their knowledge and commitment to Bellagio.



*The 10 founders of WIEGO in Bellagio and their affiliations in 1997: **Ela Bhatt** (SEWA), **Marilyn Carr** (UNIFEM), **Renana Jhabvala** (SEWA), **Grace Bediako** (United Nations Statistical Division), **Jane Tate** (HomeNet), **Marty Chen** (Harvard University), **Maxine Olson** (UNIFEM), **Jacques Charmes** (L'Institut Francais pour le Developpement en Cooperation), **S.Y. Sethuraman** (ILO), **William "Biff" Steel** (World Bank).*

This annual report opens with a detailed account of the discussions held and progress made during and after this strategic meeting.

WIEGO's 15 year journey has been one of steady progress. What's been achieved owes much to the dedication of researchers and activists like those involved with WIEGO. However, even more credit must go to the determination of the workers themselves, who continue to organize and mobilize. As this report details, informal workers are increasingly demanding their rights as workers and as citizens.

For example in Latin America, waste pickers have won recognition and compensation for their crucial environmental services. In Asia, home-based workers' organizations are building capacity and shining a spotlight on the conditions of these workers' lives and their place in global value chains. In Africa, street vendors are influencing policy frameworks that have a direct bearing on their livelihoods. In Europe and the United States, as all around the world, domestic worker organizations are gaining strength, networking and demanding the rights guaranteed in the Domestic Workers' Convention.

These achievements and many more are highlighted in this annual report.

As founding members of WIEGO, we are both proud of what has been accomplished over the past 15 years. However, those employed in the informal economy—and most especially women—remain among the poorest and most invisible of all workers. There is still a long journey ahead.

The next 15 years have not yet been written, but we believe that we are on the right path and that, while the journey may at times be difficult, it will continue to be rewarding.



*Renana Jhabvala*

Renana Jhabvala  
Chair  
WIEGO Ltd. Board



*Marty Chen*

Marty Chen  
International Coordinator  
WIEGO Network

September 2013

## WIEGO's MISSION

WIEGO believes all workers should have equal economic opportunities and rights and be able to determine the conditions of their work and lives. WIEGO works to improve the status of the working poor, especially women, in the informal economy through increased organization and representation; improved statistics and research; more inclusive policy processes; and more equitable trade, labour, urban planning, and social protection policies.

*Front Cover Photo: Waste pickers in Bogota, Colombia have made strides in their fight for inclusion and recognition over the past year. Details are contained in this report. Photo: J. D. M. Mulford*

# Celebrating WIEGO's 15 Years & Planning Its Future

## Strategic Review and Planning Workshop

In April 1997, 10 specialists on the informal economy—practitioners, scholars, statisticians, and policymakers—met in Bellagio, Italy to plan a collaborative project that would promote greater understanding and appreciation of women workers in the informal economy. They named the project “Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing,” and WIEGO was born.

The 15th anniversary of WIEGO's inception presented an opportunity to reflect on past achievements and envision our future. In June 2012, WIEGO held a Strategic Review & Planning Workshop in Bellagio. Members of the WIEGO Board and Team, as well as seven external advisors, discussed big picture trends in the informal economy, including the driving forces, organizing strategies, sector-specific scenarios, and policy responses. A growing interest in the informal economy among new constituencies and the linkages between the formal and informal economies were examined. The participants also considered the impact on our work of related conceptual frameworks identified by workshop participants—power, the solidarity economy, the formal-informal divide, and risk, uncertainty and crises. Ultimately, discussion centred on WIEGO's niche and how our work could be of the greatest value. A full report from the Strategic Review & Planning Workshop is published on WIEGO's website.

Our strategic planning built on this successful workshop. In October 2012, the WIEGO Team gathered for its annual retreat in Boston, USA. The Team took an in-depth look at programmes and projects and explored new pathways for achieving our goals. At this meeting, the WIEGO Team refined our theory of change (see inside back cover of this report for WIEGO's Model of Change) and our policy stances; restructured approaches around capacity building and focal cities initiatives; and reinvigorated the ways in which we support sectors of workers.

At its meeting in February/March 2013 in Manchester, UK, WIEGO's Board approved the new five-year Strategic Plan—and added key suggestions. These included clearly defining our niche and value added, consolidating and disseminating WIEGO's outputs and perspective, and prioritizing future activities.

The complete Strategic Plan will build on WIEGO's strengths to date, push new frontiers in WIEGO's core programmes and functions, and facilitate greater cross-programmatic intersections. Most importantly, the plans will enable WIEGO to better support informal workers and their organizations.



*A strategic planning session was held in Bellagio, Italy as WIEGO marked 15 years of focusing on the informal economy. From left to right: Marty Chen, Renana Jhabvala, Françoise Carré, Debra Davis and Chris Bonner. Photo: S. Trevino*

## Monitoring the State of the Informal Economy

The first round of field research of a three-year, 10-city Informal Economy Monitoring Study (IEMS) was completed in 2012. Focused on urban home-based workers, street vendors, and waste pickers, the study is part of the Inclusive Cities project and builds on the global economic crisis studies that Inclusive Cities partners did in 2009 and 2010. IEMS is exploring what drives change in cities, how informal workers respond to changes—both individually and through their organizations—and what institutions help or hinder their responses.

Led by Research Director Imraan Valodia, supported by Research Officers Mike Rogan and Zoe Horn and by Sally Roever (WIEGO Street Vendor Specialist), and guided by a WIEGO Technical Advisory Committee chaired by Marty Chen (WIEGO International Coordinator), the IEMS was launched in April 2012 with a research training workshop held in Durban. Forty researchers and 10 membership-based organization (MBO) coordinators from the 10 selected cities participated.

The first round of data collection—including both focus group discussions and a survey—took place from June–October 2012. In November, a data analysis workshop for researchers took place outside Durban. The workshop was designed to develop capacity to analyze and link the qualitative and quantitative findings and ensure a common approach to analysis across the cities. The 46 participants jointly analyzed the data captured from both participatory focus group discussions and through a survey questionnaire. Caroline Moser, an independent researcher and Professor Emeritus at the University of Manchester, is special advisor to the project. She and her colleagues Angélica Acosta and Irene Vance brought their extensive experience in participatory methods to facilitate the training on methods of qualitative data collection and analysis.

During 2013, 10 city reports, three sector reports, and a global synthesis report will be finalized and disseminated. These are expected to raise the profile of the informal economy and inform local, national, and international policy debates. A second round of research is planned for 2014.

## Expanding WIEGO's Publications

The WIEGO Research Team, led by Urban Policies Director Caroline Skinner, launched the WIEGO Publication Series in July 2012. The series has three components. **Working Papers** feature research that makes either an empirical or theoretical contribution to existing knowledge about the informal economy. Particular attention is paid to policy-relevant research. Five types of **WIEGO Briefs**—Organizing, Policy, Statistical, Technical and Budget—provide user-friendly documentation for those involved in advocacy, policy and research on the informal economy. Legal Briefs are being added in 2013. The **Workers' Lives** Series offers in-depth profiles of individual workers and how they experience first-hand the impact of policies, economic forces and organizing initiatives.

In addition to new papers—most in English but an increasing number in Spanish and Portuguese—the series features select publications produced by WIEGO since 2008. A complete list of the WIEGO Publication Series (to April 2013) can be found at the end of this report.

### The 10 IEMS Cities

Accra, Ghana

Ahmedabad, India

Bangkok, Thailand

Belo Horizonte, Brazil

Bogotá, Colombia

Durban, South Africa

Lahore, Pakistan

Lima, Peru

Nakuru, Kenya

Pune, India

# Examining Law & Informality

## The Law & Informality Project

This multi-country project has developed a knowledge base of how laws and regulations—or their absence—affect informal workers, negatively or positively, in different sectors of the informal economy. Labour legislation, environmental laws, municipal laws, sector-specific laws (e.g. agriculture, fisheries), right-to-information laws and property laws were identified as areas with significant impact. One important objective of the project was to build the capacity of informal worker leaders, especially women, to understand and engage in advocacy and negotiation for legal change. After pilots in India and Colombia, the project rolled out in Ghana, Peru and Thailand between 2010 and 2013.

### Ghana

The project partner was the Ghana Trades Union Congress (GTUC). Group discussions were held with domestic workers, *kayayeis* (women headloaders), and street vendors to identify the legal issues and demands for each sector, while a review of court rulings revealed the dominant judicial attitudes towards informal workers. Accomplishments include:

- Following consultation with the workers, the GTUC and the expert group critiqued the draft Regulation on Domestic Workers and suggested amendments to the National Taskforce on Domestic Workers, which had been established by Government.
- Meetings were held with the Accra Municipal Authority (AMA) on protection of basic rights of street vendors. The legal experts identified a need to amend the AMA by-law on street vending to designate specific streets for specific days for street vending. As a result of the project, the GTUC became interested in organizing new groups of informal workers, particularly the *kayayeis* and domestic workers.

### Peru

The project partner was ISCOD (Instituto Sindical de Cooperación al Desarrollo, a Spanish trade union cooperation agency that works with informal workers). Consultations were undertaken with domestic workers, market porters, street vendors, and waste pickers. The project team then focused on capacity building for worker leaders from different sectors and organizations. Accomplishments include:

- Training modules for workers were developed; courses on organizational skills and on the laws affecting particular groups ran weekly. Creative material was also produced and disseminated, along with a background paper on Law and the Informal Economy in Peru. A compilation of laws for each sector was made available in Spanish on a dedicated website. CUT-Peru (Central Unitaria de Trabajadores, a union experienced in working with informal workers) invited ISCOD to participate in discussions around a Draft Bill of Self Employed Workers, developed by the Ministry of Labor. ISCOD provided technical advice in developing a counter proposal. If this proposal comes to fruition, self-employed workers will be able to access rights that currently elude them and to become part of integrated social protection systems.

### Thailand

The project partner is HomeNet Thailand, and the focus is on legal empowerment of both home-based workers and domestic workers. Research done on contract farmers will also open a new area for work. Significant accomplishments include:

- HomeNet Thailand had successfully campaigned (with support from WIEGO in past projects) for the Homeworkers Protection Act, which entitles homeworkers to minimum wage, occupational health and safety

For more detail on the information in this report and to access publications, presentations, videos and other resources, visit [www.wiego.org](http://www.wiego.org).

protection, and other fundamental labour rights. To understand obstacles to implementing these protections, the law project examined instances where homeworkers had attempted to access their rights. It also supported HomeNet Thailand's efforts to pressure government offices to enforce the Act. Research on the Act and its implementation was completed and a set of case studies produced.

- A concerted effort was made to inform homemaker leaders and homeworkers about their rights through workshops with lawyers and government officials, posters, newsletters and other documents.
- Local and national-level consultations with domestic workers kept them updated on the ILO Convention on Domestic Work and helped spur action to protect migrant domestic workers in the country. During the course of the project, the Thai Domestic Workers Network was formed; this helped persuade the government to pass a Ministerial Regulation for Domestic Workers in 2012.

In May 2012, a workshop in India brought together project teams, WIEGO team members and a representative of the International Development Research Council (IDRC), which provided funding, to share insights and lessons learned. As the multi-year project was due to wrap up in early 2013, funds were made available for an extension and plans were already underway to make Law & Informality a permanent WIEGO programme. Organization & Representation Programme Director Chris Bonner has been working with Roopa Madhav and Kamala Sankaran (joint project coordinators), and with WIEGO Team members, to develop the strategy plan for the law programme, which will have its own director.

## Exposure Dialogue Programme Focused on Law & Informality

With Namrata Bali of SEWA Academy and two human rights lawyers at Harvard University, Marty Chen, the International Coordinator of WIEGO, planned and raised funds for a series of Exposure Dialogue Programmes on Law & Informality. These events will engage human rights judges, legal advocates, and activists around issues relating to informal employment, informal settlements and informal citizenship. The first Exposure Dialogue, held in Ahmedabad, India in February 2013, saw judges, lawyers, and activists from Colombia, Ghana, India, Peru, and South Africa—as well as legal experts from other countries—spend two days and nights with a street vendor or waste picker host. Participants then completed personal and technical reflections and held a policy dialogue with legal experts from India.

*An Exposure Dialogue in Ahmedabad, India gave judges, lawyers, legal experts and activists an immersion in the lives and work of informal workers like this street vendor. Photo: M. Chen*



*...Women need not come together against anyone, women needed to come together for themselves. By forming a union or a bond – the poor, self-employed women affirmed their economic status, and thus generated their visibility and voice.*

SEWA's founder, Ela Bhatt, recalling the formation of SEWA at a celebratory dinner on December 11, 2012

*Ravi Kanbur (left) chaired a panel discussion as part of a joint WIEGO-SEWA presentation in New Delhi in December 2012. Panellists included (from left to right) Namrata Bali, Imraan Valodia, Leelaben Patni, Jeemol Unni, Marty Chen, and Bimal Jalan. Photo: L. Vryenhoek*

## Legal Briefs

The Urban Policies Programme has launched a Legal Briefs series. Kamala Sankaran and Roopa Madhav have converted their findings from the Law & Informality pilot in India into the first brief in this series. Megan Corrarino, a Yale Law School graduate who advised on the Law & Informality project, drafted a working paper on how a lack of regulations deepen the social and economic marginalization for street vendors. She has also examined how to use the right to information as a legal strategy for informal workers, which international and regional legal instruments provide sources of rights, and how to craft a legal strategy. The new series will be published in 2013 alongside the Budget, Organizing, Policy, Statistical and Technical Briefs in the WIEGO Publication Series on our website.

Also, three analyses of precedent-setting legal cases that helped secure livelihoods have been completed. The first documents the public civil suit against the city of São Paulo concerning the elimination of vending zones. The second involves Warwick Junction in Durban, where street traders successfully opposed a mall development that threatened the livelihoods of nearly 8,000 street traders. The final case explores how waste pickers in Bogota won the right to tender for waste contracts.

## Commemorating SEWA's 40 Years

In 1972, the Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA) was born as a labour union in Ahmedabad with around 600 headloaders, street vendors and home-based stitchers. As it turned 40 years old in 2012, SEWA had more than 1.4 million dues-paying members across many occupations in nine states of India. Responding to the needs of its members, SEWA has developed a joint strategy of trade union rights-based struggles and developmental services and interventions. This has given rise to a wide range of member-based sister organizations—over 100 of which are co-operatives—providing finance, training, capacity-building, research, health care, child care, and housing services.

Throughout 2012, SEWA held celebratory events to mark its four decades of achievement. WIEGO was proud to co-present the last of these on December 12 in New Delhi, where the two events detailed below took place.

## The Power of Statistics

SEWA and WIEGO co-organized a workshop "The Power of Statistics." The event showcased the joint efforts of SEWA, the WIEGO Network and the International Expert Group on Informal Sector Statistics (known as "the Delhi Group") to make women and men in the informal economy visible in national statistics as a first step towards integration into the mainstream economy. In 2002, WIEGO partnered with the International Labour Organization (ILO) to produce *Women and Men in the Informal Economy: A Statistical Picture*. This publication provided the first statistical picture, using available national data, of the informal economy worldwide. An updated report, authored by Joann Vanek, Martha Chen, Ralf Hussmanns, James Heintz, and

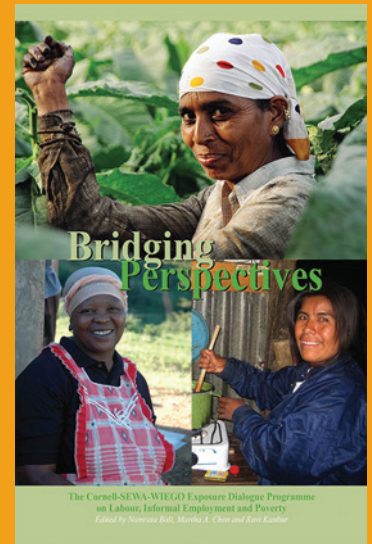




Françoise Carré, is to be published by ILO. The main findings from this updated publication, as well as the important milestones in the past many years, were featured in WIEGO's presentation "Measuring Informal Employment Worldwide" at the December 12 workshop.

## Bridging Perspectives

*Bridging Perspectives: The Cornell-SEWA-WIEGO Exposure Dialogue Programme on Labour, Informal Employment and Poverty* was launched on December 12, 2012 in New Delhi. The book offers rich detail on a unique Exposure Dialogue Programme that tested economic theory against the reality of informal employment. A decade ago, a group of economists began to explore, with SEWA and WIEGO, whether it was possible to bridge the perspectives of mainstream economists, more heterodox economists and other social scientists, and ground-level activists on economic policy and methods. Between 2004 and 2011, the group undertook five Exposure Dialogues. Participants lived and worked for two days and nights with people who made their livelihoods in the informal economy. The EDPs took place in Ahmedabad, India (2004 and 2008); Durban, South Africa (2007 and 2011); and Oaxaca, Mexico (2009). Technical dialogues followed each exposure. Afterward, members of the group further examined their experiences through written reflections, both personal and technical. *Bridging Perspectives* brings together the personal and technical reflections of participants, published by SEWA Academy with support from WIEGO. A second launch of *Bridging Perspectives* took place in February 2013 in South Africa.



*Bridging Perspectives* offers rich detail on the daily lives and struggles of informal workers in India, Mexico and South Africa and examines a unique programme that tested economic theory and policy against reality.

## Exploring Informal Occupational Health & Safety

WIEGO's OHS project is operating in Brazil, Ghana, India, Peru and Tanzania. Recent activities include:

- A Health Policy Dialogue in Accra, Ghana identified ways to help *kayayei* (headload porters, most of whom are marginalized migrants) gain access to health services, especially the Ghanaian National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS). A subsequent NHIS registration drive registered more than 1,100 *kayayei*; a tracking study will be done of impacts. Accra has been identified as a focal city for WIEGO, and OHS is integral to the work there.
- In Lima, Peru, also a focal city for WIEGO, the OHS project's team—Anita Luján and her colleagues from the Consorcio por la Salud, Ambiente y Desarrollo (ECOSAD)—and WIEGO's Latin American Regional Advisor, Carmen Roca, hosted Occupational Health & Safety for Informal Workers in September 2012. Representatives of groups of market porters (*estibadores*) newspaper vendors (*canellitas*) and waste pickers (*recicladores*) spoke on the health challenges for workers in their sectors. The event signalled the start of more targeted multi-stakeholder workshops, platforms for dialogues and seminars aimed at policymakers.



*A Health Policy Dialogue in Accra was instrumental in facilitating marginalized workers' access to health services, including the Ghanaian National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS). Photo: D. Anshah*

Embroidery workers found that their experience of back pain was reduced through ergonomically improved equipment developed as part of the OHS partnership between WIEGO and SEWA.  
Photo: L. Vryenhoek



- In India, where WIEGO's OHS partners are the waste pickers' union KKP KP and SEWA, work has concentrated on the design of ergonomically-appropriate equipment for informal workers. SEWA's studies on the use of the new tools show improvements. For example, waste pickers using the new carts could carry an extra bag of refuse worth about 20-25 rupees in earnings. One woman reported saving 400 rupees in medical expenses after using the SEWA equipment. Sugarcane cutters reported that they were able to work faster with the newly designed cutters. And though kite and garment workers were not universally pleased with their redesigned equipment, many reported increased productivity.
- Breakthroughs in Brazil saw the adoption of the first National Workers' Health Policy, which regards informal workers as legal workers, and the requirement that type of employment (formal or informal) must be registered in health information systems. In Salvador City, Vilma Santana and her colleagues at the Federal University of Bahia's Institute of Public Health hosted a national symposium called "Primary Health Care and the Workers' Health – Possibilities and Challenges for Informal Workers' Safety and Health Care." Feedback sessions were also held with domestic workers, street vendors and waste pickers.
- Vicky Kanyoka of the International Union of Food and Allied Workers (IUF) reported that OHS issues have featured prominently in recent tripartite debates held in Tanzania on the ratification of the ILO Domestic Workers' Convention (C189). In particular it has prompted discussions about how the Occupational Safety and Health Authority (OSHA) could work more closely with the Labour Inspectorate.
- Though South Africa was not one of the initial countries chosen for OHS work, WIEGO has increasingly partnered with Asiye eTafuleni (AeT), an organization involved with street/market vending in Durban. A logical framework analysis workshop led to the development of the Safer, Healthier Warwick project. An initial survey was conducted on the use of First Aid kits. WIEGO and AeT have also begun collaborating with the University of KwaZulu-Natal to explore working on the health issues of *mielie* (corn-on-the-cob) cooks in Warwick Junction.

An Expert Meeting on Occupational Health & Safety (OHS) for Informal Workers, held in Durban in November 2012, brought together representatives from the International Commission on Occupational Health; African Centre for Cities, University of Cape Town; Asiye eTafuleni; Federal University of Bahia, Brazil; KKP KP; SEWA; University of KwaZulu-Natal; USAID; and WIEGO. This small but significant gathering of top thinkers in OHS and public health explored how to move towards an approach to OHS that includes informal workers and their workplaces.

WIEGO's OHS Project has begun disseminating the research done over the past three years. This includes publication of reports on OHS and domestic workers in Tanzania and Brazil, a Peru focus group report translated into English, a paper on the working conditions of seaweed farmers in Zanzibar, and various publications on OHS and informal workers in Ghana. All are intended to promote OHS for informal workers at local, national, and international levels. The Social Protection Programme is planning how to integrate OHS into other WIEGO programme work when the OHS project ends in June 2014. High on the agenda is integration of OHS for informal workers into university curricula.

News and publications are available at [www.wiego.org/ohs](http://www.wiego.org/ohs).

## Securing Economic Rights for Informal Women Workers

WIEGO's new global project, "Securing Economic Rights for Informal Women Workers" is supported by a Funding Leadership and Opportunities for Women (FLOW) grant from the Government of the Netherlands. The multifaceted project seeks to strengthen the organizing and leadership capacity of women working in informal employment in more than 50 countries, helping them gain economic self-reliance and increasing their participation in politics, governance and management.

Implemented with WIEGO's partner networks and organizations, it has six distinct elements:

1. Economic and Employment Rights, Advancing Domestic Workers' Leadership
2. Developing Leadership and Business Skills for Informal Women Workers in Fair Trade
3. Strengthening Voice and Leadership of Informal Women Workers Around Social Policy Issues (Peru)
4. Strengthening the Movement of Home-Based Workers
5. Women's Leadership Assembly 2014
6. Strengthening the Global Movement of Street and Market Vendors

This work builds on the previous Women's Economic Empowerment project, also funded by the Government of the Netherlands under its MDG3 fund. It is coordinated by Global Projects Manager Sofia Trevino. For more information, visit [www.wiego.org/wee](http://www.wiego.org/wee).

## Connecting with Co-operatives

WIEGO participated in an "Expo" of exhibitions, workshops and plenary events hosted by the International Co-operative Alliance (ICA) in October 2012. Members of WIEGO's Global Trade, Organization & Representation and Operations Teams joined representatives from four co-operatives: Co-operativa Recicla Ourinhos of Brazil; Kenya's Machakos Co-operative Union; the Health Co-operative of the Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA) of India (representing SEWA's many co-operatives); and SWaCH from Pune, India.

The delegation hosted a booth to showcase the work of all these organizations. In a workshop, the informal worker representatives presented on experiences within their co-operatives. WIEGO and the Co-operative College located in Manchester organized a seminar at which the college revealed initial findings from research commissioned by WIEGO. Simel Esim, the Chief of the Cooperative Branch at the International Labour Organization (ILO) and a WIEGO member, presented on the ILO perspective.

WIEGO's goal at the ICA Expo was to convey that co-operatives are an important vehicle for informal workers to improve their livelihoods, and that organizing allows for collective voice in the fight for recognition, political and economic power, social protection, gender equality and decent work. During the Expo, it was evident that the concept of informal workers as workers is not generally part of the co-operative movement's discourse, so this event was crucial to raising awareness.

### *What has changed in my own life?*

*Working with Recicla Ourinhos has completely changed my life. When we lived at the landfill site, we were completely excluded from society. Today we are looked upon with pride by the general population, and people stop us to pass on words of support and appreciation for the work that we do.*

*I have had opportunities that I would never in my life have imagined: to have personal conversations with two presidents of Brazil. And most importantly, I have succeeded in building a better life for my family. All this has been worth the struggle.*

Matilde Ramos Da Silva, Ourinhos Recyclers' Co-operative, speaking at the ICA Expo in October 2012

## Including Informality in Mainstream Academic Curricula

Understanding informality will be crucial to future generations of urban planners and policymakers. WIEGO has long been working to institutionalize curricula on the urban informal economy in mainstream academic institutions. A toolkit created by Caroline Skinner and posted on the Association of African Planning Schools (AAPS) website in 2011 has been downloaded over 600 times.

Other developments in our curriculum work include:

- WIEGO's Waste Specialist Sonia Dias devised a syllabus "Waste, State and Development – Mainstreaming Gender and Participation" for a graduate course at the Federal University of Minas Gerais in Brazil. Sonia also formed a study group at the request of students interested in exploring informal work and urbanization.
- WIEGO's waste picker team is collaborating with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Department of Urban Studies and Planning. Global Waste Picker Coordinator Lucia Fernandez advised on the development of a course about Waste Management in Developing Countries. In 2012 she helped enhance course modules to tackle significant issues such as e-waste, marginalized populations, gender, climate change, privatization, incineration and decentralization of waste management. WIEGO team members gave lectures as part of the course and Inclusive Cities partner organizations Chintan (Bharati Chaturvedi), SWaCH (Lakshmi Narayan), and GAIA (Monica Wilson) were featured speakers. Several WIEGO publications are included in the bibliography.
- Marty Chen teaches a course on the informal economy at the Harvard Kennedy School each year. She also developed a course on the informal economy for the India Institute for Human Settlements (IIHS) programme for working professionals in urban development. The course informed teaching on urban poverty in IIHS. With the introduction by the IIHS of two courses on development, poverty and employment in the 2013-14 academic year, course materials will likely be used even more extensively.
- In December 2012, WIEGO delivered a workshop on Planning and Informality in Durban, South Africa that included a visit to Warwick Junction, a transport hub and vibrant marketplace where worker activism supported by Asiye eTafuleni, an active WIEGO partner, has led to beneficial urban planning. Discussions considered how planning curricula can incorporate training about infrastructure designs that enable livelihoods.

# Supporting Workers' Networks & Organizations

## Domestic Workers

### International Development

In June 2012, domestic workers celebrated the first anniversary of the adoption of the ILO Convention 189 on Domestic Workers and Decent Work and associated recommendations. Events of celebration and advocacy were held worldwide, including a successful side event at the International Labour Conference in Geneva. A month earlier, Uruguay had become the first country in the world to ratify C189. A concerted push was also made by local organizations, supported by the International Domestic Workers' Network (IDWN), to have it ratified in the Philippines. By March 2013, seven countries had ratified the ILO convention through their legislative processes (all soon completed the official ILO ratification process): Uruguay, Philippines, Mauritius, Nicaragua, Italy, Bolivia and Paraguay.

In partnership with the International Union of Food and Allied Workers (IUF), WIEGO provides ongoing support to the IDWN as it coordinates events with local organizers and undertakes solidarity actions to help its members' efforts to see C189 ratified around the globe.

The IDWN is building and formalizing its democratic structures by recruiting MBOs. By the end of 2012, 22 organizations had become affiliates of the IDWN. Together, they represented over 123,000 members. A founding congress of IDWN will be held in Uruguay in October 2013. The Funding Leadership and Opportunities for Women (FLOW) grant that WIEGO and our partners secured will provide financial support for this.

Communication was enhanced with the launch of the IDWN website ([www.idwn.info](http://www.idwn.info)) and distribution of a newsletter, published in September 2012, and monthly e-newsletters to keep over 6,000 subscribers up to date. WIEGO played a role in supporting the development of new resources – including the video “C189: Conventional Wisdom”—as well as providing financial and consulting support to IDWN International Coordinator Elizabeth Tang.

### Regional Developments

Regional and national conferences and workshops in Asia strengthened alliances and produced positive results and concrete actions for follow up.

- Progress is ongoing in Asian countries. In India, at least 10 domestic worker organizations began the process of transforming themselves into sustainable trade unions to which domestic workers will pay membership dues. In China and Indonesia, national workshops gathered leaders to learn and strategize. And in Phnom Penh, a two-day conference heralded the launch of the Cambodia Domestic Workers' Network.
- WIEGO's European Regional Advisor, Karin Pape, is working with unions in Europe that are organizing domestic workers. In February 2013 she facilitated a workshop in Ireland for a domestic worker group. In the UK, the IDWN has joined forces with domestic worker organizations and a supportive NGO to campaign against proposed changes to visa rules that will harm migrant domestic workers.

*Through the International Domestic Workers' Network, domestic workers from around the globe are networking and building capacity to fight for their rights. Photo: S. Trevino*



- The African Regional Conference of Domestic Workers, held in Cape Town in December 2012, was followed by a workshop with the domestic workers' unions to discuss the development, launch and activities of the IDWN Africa Regional Network. WIEGO's Director of Organization & Representation Chris Bonner facilitated the workshop. (The Africa Domestic Workers Network was officially launched in Cape Town in June 2013.)
- In Latin America the IUF-IDWN, together with project partner CONLACTRAHO (Latin American and Caribbean Confederation of Domestic Workers) carried out a three-day workshop for domestic workers in Lima, Peru on capacity building. WIEGO's Latin America Advisor, Carmen Roca, gave a two-day training session on policy influence and helped to plan coordinated activities in countries involved in the Securing Economic Rights project.

Domestic workers still face many challenges, including the lack of a basic right to organize under the law in many countries. In some countries they are not considered "workers" so are not allowed to form or join trade unions. Sustainability of the IDWN and of national/regional networks is crucial and systematic training for leaders is required.

### Improving Legal Protection for Domestic Workers

Throughout the year, domestic workers campaigned to pressure governments to adopt or enforce laws that protect the rights of domestic workers. Domestic worker laws were passed in the Philippines and Thailand. In Singapore, domestic workers won the right to time off for rest, and in Malaysia and Taiwan, overtime pay for working on a day off was achieved. Concrete plans and programmes to achieve legal protection were also developed by organizations in Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Taiwan. In India the campaign for a state-level law in Maharashtra and an enforcement mechanism is underway. In Bangladesh, the Domestic Workers' Protection and Welfare Policy was pursued. In Africa and Latin America, the focus is more on enforcement of existing laws. For example, in Tanzania, gaps between current labour laws and the requirements of C189 relating to domestic workers' rights have been tabled for discussion with a tripartite committee on domestic work, and action is expected within a year.

### Home-Based Workers

To learn more about the situation of home-based workers and whether they are/ are not organized in regions outside of Asia, WIEGO supported research and mapping in Latin America and Africa as well as organizing and networking in South-East Europe. Laura Morillo, a research consultant, made field visits to Argentina, Brazil, Nicaragua, and Peru to identify where there are home-based workers' organizations and support groups, and learn more about them and how they are organized. A comprehensive report was prepared; follow-up is being planned. WIEGO has also commissioned Cooperation for Fair Trade in Africa (COFTA) to undertake mapping of home-based workers in Kenya and Egypt.

Networking continues among organizations of home-based workers in countries in the Balkan region, and WIEGO is supporting capacity building workshops with organizations in the network. The first was held in Petrich,

*Supply-chain mapping with home-based workers in Pakistan has been undertaken. Photo courtesy of HomeNet South Asia*



Bulgaria with participants from Albania, Bulgaria, Macedonia, Montenegro, and Serbia. In March 2013 the way forward for the newly registered HomeNet Eastern Europe was discussed at a regional conference in Sofia, Bulgaria. WIEGO will continue to support capacity building and networking for organizations in the region through the Securing Economic Rights project.

HomeNet South Asia (HNSA) undertook an exercise to re-envision its work. WIEGO is developing a capacity-building programme with HNSA that will include work on strategic planning and sustainability through the Inclusive Cities project, as well as capacity building with affiliates, and exchange visits through the Securing Economic Rights for Informal Women Workers project. Other elements of support for HNSA include supply chain research through the Global Trade Programme and work on statistics with the Statistics Programme.

As part of the Inclusive Cities project, HNSA conducted several studies of urban home-based workers, looking at key issues relating to city policies and practices facing this group of informal workers. The detailed studies fill a significant gap in what was previously known about low-income urban home-based workers in most of the countries (Bangladesh, Cambodia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines and Thailand). Shalini Sinha, WIEGO's Home-Based Worker Sector Specialist, is developing a Policy Brief outlining some of the key findings of this research.

Coming out of an April 2012 supply chain mapping workshop held in partnership with HomeNet South Asia and HomeNet Pakistan in Lahore, the Pakistan Institute of Labour Education and Research (PILER) was commissioned to do supply chain mapping with home-based workers in that country. Additional research in coming years will examine how urban policies and practices affect home-based workers.

## Street Vendors

### StreetNet Turns 10

In November 2012, WIEGO's long-time ally StreetNet International, an alliance of organizations of informal vendors and hawkers, marked its 10th anniversary with the inauguration of International Street Vendors Day. To be celebrated each November 14th, the day will highlight the contribution of street and market vendors to national development and draw attention to issues of concern, stimulate the development of national alliances, and encourage cities to adopt and implement street vendor friendly urban policies.

WIEGO's involvement with StreetNet has included work on the Social Protection Floor (see Social Protection Programme) and providing support to StreetNet's World Class Cities for All (WCCA) campaign. WCCA advocates for planning processes that include poor communities and constituencies in decision-making on issues that affect them, and fights against the evictions and relocations of street and market vendors associated with mega-events. WIEGO is helping to monitor the impact of mega-events on street/market vendors and other informal workers (see publications by Duminy; Robbins; and Wintour), including through a wiki set up by Sector Specialist Sally Roever. StreetNet is also the lead partner in the component of the



*In the Democratic Republic of Congo, street vendors marched to mark the first annual International Street Vendors Day. Photo: Y. Merveille*

Securing Economic Rights for Informal Women Workers project that focuses on street and market vendors.

In March 2013, WIEGO hosted an international workshop on fund-raising for StreetNet International's affiliated organizations in Santiago, Chile. The workshop followed StreetNet's 4th triennial International Congress, attended by 93 delegates from 40 countries who represent 567,106 members.

### Good Practice Documentation

WIEGO documents good policy and organizational practice that has secured livelihoods for street vendors or contributed to policy and academic debates relevant to street vendors. This research, often published in WIEGO Working Papers and Briefs, has real-world impact. Recent examples are:

- Researchers from a human rights centre in São Paulo, Brazil used *How to Plan a Street Trader Census* (Technical Brief [Urban Policies] #2) "to make [our] own surveys more professional," to document when and where street vendors were working and to track human rights violations perpetrated by military police against them. When the Mayor of São Paulo banned street vending in May 2012, the researchers teamed with the Public Defender of the State of São Paulo to launch a public civil suit defending the vendors. The documentation they had accumulated on street trading in São Paulo helped win the suit; vendors were allowed to return back to work, saving several thousand livelihoods. WIEGO has completed an analysis documenting the legal suit.
- In early 2013, a draft Licensing of Business bill in South Africa threatened to impose requirements impossible for informal traders to fulfil. At the request of StreetNet International, WIEGO compiled a detailed response, including best practices of licensing regimes worldwide that enable traders to maintain their livelihoods and let authorities better regulate small-scale enterprises. An alliance of South African traders' organizations used this research to propose improvements. The ministry cited the traders' arguments in agreeing to redraft the bill.
- Urban Policies Director Caroline Skinner has been engaging with the South African Local Government Association about their street vendor policy. She has also advised Cape Town's spatial planning department in their work on street traders.

*Ashaben, a member of SEWA, trades cooking utensils and vessels for used clothing from more affluent families. After washing and mending the clothes, she sells them to a Delhi market. Photo: L. Vryenhoek*



### Accra Street Traders Make Their Concerns Heard by Municipal Officials

A policy dialogue was held in Accra, Ghana between informal street traders and municipal officials in March 2013. Facilitated by WIEGO, the "Ensuring Optimal Involvement of the Urban Informal Sector in National Economic Development" dialogue succeeded in bringing the traders' concerns to the attention of authorities and sparking opportunities to engage further. The dialogue was chaired by Dr. Akua Britwum, a member of the WIEGO Reference Group for Accra and Senior Research Fellow, University of Cape Coast.

Representatives from four associations made presentations. For months before the dialogue, WIEGO's Coordinator in Accra, Dorcas Ansah, helped teach the traders to succinctly and strategically state their demands to officials. The dialogue highlighted the need for better communication channels between officials and market/street traders. To kick start such engagement, one municipality invited the traders to an upcoming budget hearing.



## Waste Pickers

During the latter half of 2012 and in early 2013, waste pickers in several countries scored major victories in their fights for recognition, improved earnings and integration into solid waste management systems.

**In Brazil**, the Minas Gerais Chapter of the waste pickers' movement (Movimento Nacional dos Catadores de Materiais Recicláveis – MNCR) won their long fight to receive compensation for the urban services they provide. A law now authorizes the use of public funds to compensate waste pickers (*catadores*) of the State of Minas Gerais who are members of co-operatives for their environmental contributions. Each co-operative will receive quarterly payments based on the quantity and kind of recyclables collected and sold, and will distribute the funds to members. The first payments were received in December 2012. In the coming years the policy will be monitored to assess whether it contributes to a fairer recycling chain.

**In Colombia**, WIEGO's new Waste Picker Coordinator for Latin America, Federico Parra, gave considerable support to help the *recicladores* implement a 2011 Constitutional Court decision giving waste pickers the right to tender for contracts. After a long struggle, Asociación de Recicladores de Bogotá (ARB) has been included in the city's waste management programme. In March 2013, the Mayor's Office in Bogotá launched a payment system for waste pickers in exchange for their services collecting and transporting recyclable materials. Per ton payments will now almost match those paid to private operators. Initially, 790 waste pickers and their families saw their normal earnings—traditionally based solely on what they could sell the recyclables for—double or even triple. About 4,000 (of Bogotá's 14,000) waste pickers are registered for the payment programme.

**In India**, KKPKP, a waste pickers' union, held a sit-in from March 20-26, 2013 outside the municipal office of Pimpri-Chinchwad city to protest incomplete payment of wages and other irregularities. About 150 waste pickers occupied a busy sidewalk. For months, KKPKP had complained to municipal authorities that waste workers were being paid less than the required minimum wage by the waste collection contractor BVG Kshitij. The protest concluded after Municipal Commissioner Shrikar Pardeshi examined the evidence—documents KKPKP collected using the Right to Information Act—and instructed a labour welfare officer to provide a written resolution. According to KKPKP's Lakshmi Narayan, the resolution means waste pickers should be paid almost 30,000,000 rupees in back pay. Ultimately, she said, it was "a very useful solidarity building process." In 2012, SWaCH—a cooperative of waste pickers born out of KKPKP—found private contractors in some parts of Pimpri-Chinchwad were getting better terms than those agreed to with SWaCH. SWaCH pulled out of the contract (all affected waste pickers have since been employed) and mounted a legal challenge. Because of SWaCH's work in nearby Pune city, the Pune Municipal Corporation now employs about 2,300 SWaCH members for door-to-door collection in that city.

*"There are no borders  
for those who fight."*

The slogan as waste pickers around the world marked Global Waste Pickers' Day on March 1, 2013.

*Prior to the Global Strategic Workshop, KKPKP's affiliated co-operative, SWaCH, hosted waste picker groups and activists on field visits to see different parts of Pune's decentralized, zero-waste management system. Biogas, composting (shown here), door-to-door collection and sorting sites were part of the tour.  
Photo: L. Vryenhoek*



## Global Strategizing

A Global Strategic Workshop in April 2012 in Pune, India brought 80 waste picker representatives from 22 countries together to discuss integration into solid waste management systems and the threats they face in their cities. Waste pickers found common ground and determined the greatest threats across all continents are privatization of access to waste and government corruption. The need to rely on middlemen, declining prices, and a lack of adequate equipment and space to do the work were also identified as major challenges. Participants addressed ways to move forward collectively. A detailed report and many city-specific presentations are available at <http://globalrec.org>. KKKPKP hosted the event and co-organized it with WIEGO and the Inclusive Cities project on behalf of the Global Alliance of Waste Pickers.

Based on discussions at the Strategic Workshop, the WIEGO Waste Picker Team re-developed its strategies and agreed the global programme should concentrate on information exchange and sharing, while regional programmes should support organizational and livelihood development.

## Regional Activities

- In **Africa**, mapping activities were done in Angola, Benin, Cameroon, Madagascar and Mali by consultant Kapita Tuwizana. A capacity-building workshop was held in the Democratic Republic of Congo, while training on mapping was provided for the Federation of Informal Workers in Nigeria (FIWON). In Kenya a programme to build local groups and a national network, supported by WIEGO, is continuing. New support projects were devised on organizing at landfills: in South Africa, with the South African Association of Waste Pickers/groundWork; and in Ghana, through the efforts of WIEGO Focal Cities Coordinator, Dorcas Ansah.

- In **Asia**, India continues to be the most active country with many groups of waste pickers, most formed with the help of NGOs. The Alliance of Indian Wastepickers and local organizations gained strength and increased influence with municipal officials. An Urban Local Bodies Consultation brought 17 local urban bodies to meet in Pune in April 2012 where 500 waste pickers also came to a national convention held under a subgrantee programme with WIEGO. Resolutions were made to advocate for pensions and against child labour.
- WIEGO Waste Picker Coordinator for Africa, Melanie Samson, represented WIEGO at a workshop of Transwaste in Budapest, where WIEGO aimed to gain information on waste pickers in **Eastern Europe** and explore the possibility of setting up a small project to investigate their situation and organizations. This project will go ahead in 2013.

## External Relations & Representation

- In November 2012, WIEGO participated in ExpoCatadores in São Paulo, Brazil. This third National & International Gathering of Waste Pickers brought together 1,500 waste pickers from Brazil and from Africa, India and Latin America, as well as visitors and government leaders. In partnership with MNCR and with funding by the Avina Foundation, WIEGO facilitated the attendance of African and Indian delegates of waste picker organizations to ExpoCatadores through the efforts of WIEGO's Travel and Logistics Manager, Justina Pena Pan. Lucia Fernandez spoke at the main plenary on the opening day about the global alliance for inclusive recycling, the global threats that undermine waste picker livelihoods, and the ongoing struggles around the world.

*At Expocatadores in Brazil, waste pickers like Peter Abolem Wilson, a member of the Nakuru Waste Pickers Association in Kenya, came together to exchange ideas. Photo: D. de Brito*



- WIEGO Global Waste Picker Coordinator, Lucia Fernandez, participated in the Inter-American Development Bank meeting on informal recycling in Washington in June 2012. She also took part in a meeting around inclusive recycling and zero waste strategies, hosted by Coke and MIT, in Boston, and a Solar Cities meeting in New York.
- Lakshmi Narayan of the KKPKP waste picker union in India participated in a workshop on behalf of WIEGO on extended producer responsibility (EPR) in Berlin in November 2012. EPR is becoming an important issue for waste pickers to engage with, and WIEGO is planning to develop an approach or stance on how to engage with EPR to support waste pickers in their struggle.

## Gender & Waste in Latin America

A project begun in February 2012 is addressing gender inequality in waste picking activities, extending to the inequality women waste pickers face at home, at work, and as leaders within their representative organizations. A partnership between WIEGO, the Women's Research Center (NEPEM) housed at the Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG), MNCR and RedLacre, the project will ultimately increase the efficiency of waste management while encouraging mutual respect between men and women. WIEGO Waste Picker Specialist Sonia Dias is facilitating work in Brazil, in the Minas Gerais area in particular, on gender and waste pickers and has held meetings with women waste pickers and produced (with students from MIT) a review of relevant literature. A two-year plan has been developed, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has agreed to fund the project. Workshops throughout Minas Gerais will open discussions on gender issues and work towards developing a strategic plan to address them, and a "tool kit" will be developed for women waste pickers. The tool kit will be disseminated broadly within Brazil and later, with assistance from WIEGO's partners, across Latin America.

## WIEGO's Core Programmes

### Organization & Representation

#### Director: Christine Bonner

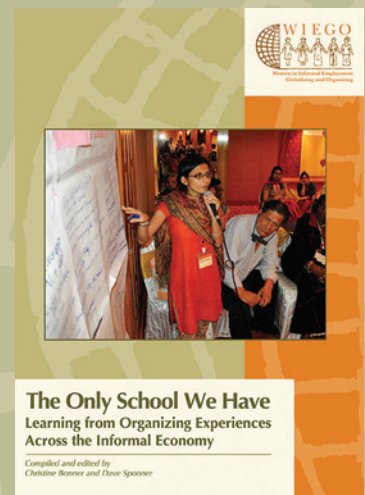
The programme facilitates the core objective of WIEGO to promote and support sector-specific networks of informal workers at the local, national, regional, and international levels (see Supporting Workers' Networks & Organizations section).

#### Resources for Organizing

Chris Bonner and Global Projects Director Rhonda Douglas helped plan and facilitate *Influencing Cities*, a workshop held in Thailand in February 2013. A tool-kit on influencing cities and negotiations is planned using materials from the workshop.

#### Collaboration with the Solidarity Center

WIEGO and the AFL-CIO's Solidarity Center in the USA collaborated on research that looked at organizing in the informal economy. Two projects were done. Simeen Mahmud of the BRAC University led a situational analysis of home-based, sub-contracted garment workers in Bangladesh. The research report is being developed into a WIEGO Working Paper. Also, Debbie Budlender in South Africa led research into collective bargaining in the informal economy. A team of researchers analyzed the Georgian Transport Workers Union, the National Petty Traders Union of Liberia (vendors); co-operatives in Minas Gerais, Brazil (waste pickers); SEWA in India (home-based *bidi* workers); and the Domestic Workers Union of Uruguay (Sindicato Único de Trabajadoras Domésticas – SUDT). Five case studies were produced, as well as an overview report. These will be published on WIEGO's website.



*Publication of The Only School We Have: Learning from Experiences across the Informal Economy, a handbook for organizers available in English and Spanish, was met with enthusiasm. "The information there is wonderful. This handbook will definitely help us to organise," said Elijah Mutemeri, Zimbabwe Congress of Trades Unions.*

## Statistics

### Director: Joann Vanek

The Statistics Programme seeks to develop statistics on informal employment and the informal sector and their contribution to GDP as an integral part of official labour force and other economic statistics through methodological work, technical support, participation in international committees and task forces, and advocacy. It also prepares statistics and analyses in formats that are readily accessible to researchers, policymakers and advocates.

### International Collaboration

Joann Vanek and Research Coordinator Françoise Carré, along with other members of the WIEGO Team, collaborate with international agencies on issues relating to statistics and informal employment.

- WIEGO promoted the collection and tabulation of data on informal sector and informal employment in national surveys by providing technical advice to countries, to ad hoc groups, and to regional and international organizations.
- As a member of the UNECE (United Nations Economic Commission for Europe) Quality of Employment Expert Group, WIEGO assisted with developing the agenda and materials for the November 2012 meeting. An outcome of the meeting was a proposal to include the measurement of informal employment in the uses of the Quality of Employment Framework. Review and preparation of specific indicators are underway to implement this proposal. This work is important in WIEGO's efforts to apply the concept of informal employment to developed countries.
- Françoise Carré presented findings from the forthcoming publication *Women and Men in the Informal Economy 2012: A Statistical Picture* at a US Academy of Management symposium on the informal economy.

### Manual to Assist in Measuring Informality

The manual *Measuring Informality: A Statistical Manual on the Informal Sector and Informal Employment* was published in 2013. The manual was prepared in cooperation with the International Expert Group on Informal Sector Statistics (the Delhi Group) and WIEGO and received funding from the Government of India. Joann Vanek was involved in all stages of the manual's preparation. It will assist countries to include the informal sector and informal employment in their labour

statistics, providing practical guidance on the technical issues involved with the development and administration of surveys used to collect relevant information, as well as the compilation, tabulation and dissemination of the resulting data.

### Statistical Profiles of the Urban Informal Economy

This work profiles the size and contribution of urban informal work, both country-wide and in specific cities, as well as establishing, as far as possible, estimates of home-based workers, street traders and waste pickers. The research also provides methodological guidance. These profiles are published as WIEGO Working Papers and WIEGO Statistical Briefs.

*Making women and men in the informal economy visible in national statistics is an important step towards integrating them into mainstream economic thinking and plans.*  
Photo: L. Vryenhoek



## Expert Consultation within WIEGO

The Statistics Programme contributes substantive expertise to WIEGO publications, projects, web pages and other materials. This included advising on the development of the Informal Economy Monitoring Study to ensure the statistics and analyses produced by the project meet WIEGO's high standards. It has also given technical advice to the Inclusive Cities project in the development of statistics on informal employment in urban areas and in specific cities, and on categories of informal workers (e.g. home-based workers, street vendors and waste pickers).

## Global Trade

### Director: Elaine Jones

The Global Trade Programme is leading the Securing Economic Rights for Informal Women Workers element "Developing Leadership and Business Skills for Informal Women Workers in Fair Trade," which involves women workers and their organizations in Ghana, Kenya, and Uganda. A series of trainings are planned from country-level to fair trade groups and individual members, then to grassroots groups. In December 2012, an inception workshop in Uganda brought together representatives of Gumutindo Coffee Cooperative (Uganda), KEFAT (Kenya Federation for Alternative Trade), NAWOU (National Association of Women's Organisations in Uganda) and UGAFAT (Ugandan Federation for Alternative Trade). Participants reviewed participatory methodologies and honed the project design.

### Fair Trade

When partners in WIEGO's Women Organizing for Fair Trade project participated at the World Fair Trade Organization (WFTO) conference in 2011, they created the impetus to develop a gender strategy for WFTO. Elaine Jones chaired the Working Group and, with WIEGO partners on the past and present women's economic empowerment projects, crafted the strategy and redrafted Fair Trade Principle 6 (on gender discrimination). The strategy was approved at the biennial conference in May 2013, and WFTO now has a draft gender strategy for the first time.

WIEGO was invited to submit a chapter based on the WIEGO publication *Trading Our Way Up* for a Handbook on Gender and Development edited by Janet Momsen, a research associate at Oxford University. Consultant Sally Smith authored the chapter.

### Ethical Trade

- WIEGO is involved in an Ethical Trading Initiative (ETI) food and farming project with a specific focus on the horticultural sector in Peru. In March 2013, Elaine Jones participated in an ETI Food and Farming tripartite delegation to Peru to visit farms, interview workers, and take part in an event hosted by ILO (with participation by Carmen Roca and Peru partner PLADES). Through its involvement in work with the Peruvian Horticulture supply chain, WIEGO, together with the IUF, has played a key role in arguing for a programme to improve working conditions for thousands of workers in the industry, most of whom are



Members of the Gumutindo cooperative in Uganda sort coffee beans. Photo: C. Wills

informal workers in formal firms on farms and in packhouses. This Global Trade initiative is being coordinated with WIEGO's ongoing Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) project in Peru.

- Global Trade has commissioned Man-Kwun Chan, a fair trade and ethical trade specialist, to investigate contract labour in the garment industry and prepare a "Global Status Report" based on what is known about contract labour in the industry and what possible areas for further research should be explored.

### **Conference Participation**

- In April 2012, Elaine Jones and WIEGO European Regional Advisor Karin Pape co-facilitated a panel at the Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID) Conference in Turkey. Representatives from three WIEGO partners—the IDWN (Myrtle Witbooi), SABALA in India (Mallamma Yalawar), and StreetNet International (Vilma Arevalo)—took part, and WIEGO Secretariat Manager Julia Martin provided support to our exhibition booth. Following the AWID Conference, Elaine presented on WIEGO and on "Women in the Informal Economy" at a workshop sponsored by the Multilateral Development Banks focusing on Gender and Employment.
- In June 2012, Elaine spoke at the Women for Women International Conference "Beyond the Arab Uprisings: Creating Economic Opportunities for Women," giving practical examples of success for women employees and entrepreneurs.

### **Social Protection**

#### **Director: Francie Lund**

- James Heintz, professor at the University of Massachusetts/Amherst, and Francie finalized a paper on social policy and the changing structure of employment as part of a collaboration between WIEGO and United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD).
- Francie Lund gave the keynote presentation and served as adviser to the European Commission's evaluation of the response to its first round of funding for Social Protection and the Informal Economy. She also gave a seminar at the International Social Studies Institute in The Hague, Netherlands.
- Francie Lund was appointed to the External Expert Panel for assessing UNICEF research. She has also designed an international initiative, for which funding is being sought, that will work to establish child care services as a central component of social protection.

#### **Global Social Protection Floor**

The ILO's adoption of, and the global international campaign towards, a global social protection floor is a significant breakthrough in extending social protection to all. The Social Protection Programme is examining the implications of this, and also of the international campaign for universal health coverage, for informal workers. Francie Lund has been working with StreetNet International in developing a booklet for advocacy around the global social floor: while essentially supportive of the idea of the floor, the booklet will also identify specific needs and demands of informal workers in the area of social protection. She previously helped StreetNet develop the Platform it took to the International Labour Conference in 2012. WIEGO European Regional Advisor Karin Pape was part of the StreetNet delegation at the event. WIEGO was also involved in two workshops in October 2012 regarding social protection and the global social floor in the southern African region, both supported by Frederich Ebert Stiftung. Francie presented at the workshop on gender and social protection with the Southern African Development Community (SADC); Karin presented at the workshop held with Southern African Trade Union Coordinating Council (SATUCC).

## The Voice Project in Latin America

The “Strengthening the Voice of the Working Poor in Social Policy Decisions in Latin America” project, funded by the UK Department for International Development (DFID), was implemented in Peru and Mexico under the leadership of Carmen Roca, WIEGO Latin America Regional Advisor. The Voice project, which concluded with the close of the 2012-13 financial year, aimed to make social policy more responsive to the needs of the working poor, in part by fostering dialogue between policymakers, government officials and informal workers.

In Peru, government officials met with leaders of informal groups to discuss the workers’ situations and needs. The meeting, chaired by WIEGO, led to opportunities to pilot daycare and old-age support programmes in prioritized districts of Lima, and to openings to create future programmes through bilateral co-operation. Events surrounding the relocation of the Lima Wholesale Market interrupted government involvement as protests turned violent, but after access to new space resolved the impasse, the channels for communication re-opened.

In September 2012, WIEGO implemented the first Exposure Dialogue Programme (EDP) in Peru. Participants—primarily government officials, and joined by Francie Lund—spent two days living with and working alongside market porters, street/market vendors, newspaper vendors, and waste pickers. The host workers belong to informal worker organizations involved with WIEGO on the Voice project since its inception.

In Mexico City, a capacity building programme rolled out. Domestic workers, market vendors, newspaper vendors, shoe shiners, and street vendors participated in face-to-face and online training sessions through the Institute for Economic Research of the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM). The five-month programme included modules focused on the contributions of informal workers to the economy, social protection, and advocacy and surveillance on social policy.



*A newspaper vendor hawks her papers in Lima, Peru. Photo: A. Luján*

## Urban Policies

### Director: Caroline Skinner

The Urban Policies Programme is responsible for coordination and dissemination of research findings, data analysis, and good practice documentation. The Sector Specialists—Shalini Sinha for home-based workers, Sally Roever for street vendors, and Sonia Dias for waste pickers—have all written or worked with researchers on presentations, papers and policy briefs that document good urban practices. Many of these are included in the WIEGO Publication Series, which Caroline Skinner manages.

### Networking and Policy Engagement

Team members have been extensively involved in policy discussions and forums:

- In March 2012, Caroline Skinner delivered the keynote address at the Cape Town Mayor’s Informal Trade Summit, where trader organizations were among the 300 attendees. Following heated discussion, the council committed to developing a new informal economy policy and new bylaws. Caroline also presented to Durban’s Municipal Institute for Learning (MILE) on insights gained from Durban’s experience of inclusive planning for the informal economy. On the international front, Caroline presented lessons learned from Warwick Junction in Durban, South Africa to the India, Brazil, South Africa Human Settlements Group/Cities Alliance in July 2012.

## WIEGO's Network

As of March 2013, WIEGO had 169 members—32 Institutional Members and 137 Individual Members in 40 countries. WIEGO continued to implement a proactive membership strategy, inviting national affiliates of StreetNet International and the regional network of waste pickers in Latin America to become Institutional Members. After its founding congress in 2013, the International Domestic Workers Network (IDWN) and its national affiliates will be invited to join.

- Sonia Dias is a resource person in Belo Horizonte, Brazil with the Municipal Waste and Citizenship Forum, which convenes organizations from civil society and public and private sectors to discuss how waste management can secure informal waste pickers' incomes and improve their working conditions. She also participates in an Observatory of Public Policies in Solid Waste, formed in 2012 after waste picker representatives said they were over-researched with no direct benefits and demanded the creation of a space for discussion of studies produced about waste picking.
- In India, Shalini Sinha has been contributing to the National Alliance for Social Security, which represents over two million informal workers, to develop their research efforts around social security for India's informal sector. Shalini also participates in a national level workshop and dialogue on social security for women in India, organized in partnership with the Heinrich Böll Foundation, UN Women, ILO and others.

### World Urban Forum

In September, WIEGO's Urban Policies and Inclusive Cities teams used the UN-Habitat World Urban Forum 6 (WUF6) in Naples as an opportunity to reach an international audience with a strong core message: integrating informal workers into urban planning can improve cities for everyone. The delegation included representatives from the Self-Employed Women's Association in India, the New York Street Vendor Project, a waste picker co-operative in São Paulo, Asiye eTafuleni of Durban, and the Mayor of Katihar, India.

For WUF6, WIEGO developed a suite of materials, including an interactive USB resource targeted toward built environment professionals and policymakers. An Inclusive Cities booth proved to be a vibrant locale at which the team discussed the benefits of inclusive urban planning, disseminated good practice case studies, and met municipal officials, planners, and other interested delegates. WIEGO hosted a networking event profiling sector trends at which worker leaders reflected on their organizations and life experiences. An Inclusive Cities event profiled the work of project partners and specific cases of urban planning inclusive of informal workers. Both events were well attended. Following a steering committee meeting of UN-Habitat's flagship World Urban Campaign, WIEGO committed to becoming a lead partner.

### Collaboration with the *Global Urbanist*

WIEGO collaborated on an Urban Livelihoods Series from October to December 2012 with the *Global Urbanist*, an online publication with ties to the London School of Economics. WIEGO authors contributed:

- Skinner, Caroline, *It's Time to Welcome the Informal Workforce to the Urban Policy Table*
- Alfes, Laura, *Health and Sanitation is an Economic Right as Well – Just Ask Ghanaian Food Sellers*
- Roever, Sally, *How Street Vendors and Urban Planners Can Work Together*
- Dias, Sonia, *Not to be Taken for Granted: What Informal Waste Pickers Offer the Urban Economy*
- Sinha, Shalini, *Neither Seen nor Heard: South Asia's Millions of Home-Based Workers*



## Global Projects

### Advisor: Rhonda Douglas

The Inclusive Cities (IC) project is now in its fourth year. From 2009-2012, WIEGO supported the Inclusive Cities partners to develop a theory of change for the project, as well as a common statement of purpose and a set of broad indicators by sector. These were developed with the input of worker leaders and organizers from all IC partners. WIEGO has also supported partners to conduct a mid-term review of the project, available on the Inclusive Cities website.

In 2012-13, WIEGO led the development of plans for the final project evaluation. This includes creating detailed case studies highlighting areas where the project has had impact at the city level, as well as a quantitative overview of outputs and outcomes. Partners will also participate in a survey on some of the key collaborative aspects of the project. A special section of the website will be developed as a hub containing related project materials for case studies. These will be archived for sharing among the project partners and other interested parties.

The Informal Economy Monitoring Study (IEMS) is also part of the Inclusive Cities project.

### Supporting Sustainability

As one of our deliverables under the Inclusive Cities project, WIEGO is supporting the development of sustainability plans for each of the main IC grantees. For practical purposes, the partners in this process are: HomeNet South Asia, six SEWA units, and two WIEGO sub-grantees (KKPKP /SWaCH and Asiye eTafuleni).

The IC partners have agreed to the following definition of “sustainability” to guide this work:

*Sustainability is not just about money – it involves people, plans and money, and links strongly to the ongoing development of democratic membership-based organizations. Critical to sustainability is the ability of an organization to access resources of all kinds, which requires good leadership, strong planning, project and organizational management skills, as well as strong admin/finance functions. Groups also need training and to build confidence in dealing with donors: e.g. reporting, transparency, collaborative approaches, pushing back on unreasonable expectations. It was also acknowledged that the sustainability of a network is inextricably linked to the sustainability of its members.*

IC partners completed a self-assessment questionnaire and in 2012-13, WIEGO worked directly with each partner to develop a sustainability plan. In the process, WIEGO produced resources for use by informal workers’ organizations, including a range of workshop modules on various aspects of fund-raising, organizational development, and project planning and management. These can be tailored to the needs and level (i.e. from basic to advanced) of each group. A Sustainability Strategy Series based on this content will be published that can be used in conjunction with the workshop modules or as a stand-alone resource.

Also, WIEGO enhanced a fundraising wiki to include all available materials, links to additional resources and information on funders. Notifications are sent out weekly to all Inclusive Cities partners (including affiliates) advising them on potential funding and partnership opportunities.

*An artisan sells her wares in a market in Chiang Rai, Thailand.  
Photo: M. Chen*



## Carbon Finance Feasibility Study

In 2013, WIEGO contracted consultant Ernest Achtell to look into the feasibility of waste picker organizations accessing carbon finance. This involved desk research into both the Clean Development Mechanism and voluntary markets: key informant interviews were held with carbon finance specialists and waste picker organizations. WIEGO has produced a background document for internal use and a Technical Brief, as well as a short summary of these publications targeted at waste picker organizations. These materials outline technical issues and processes and the pros and cons of waste picker organizations pursuing income from the sale of carbon credits.

## Influencing the International Community

WIEGO's International Coordinator, Marty Chen, Lecturer in Public Policy at the Harvard Kennedy School (USA), and many WIEGO team members added their particular knowledge and expertise to discussions and debates around the world.

### Engagement with the US State Department

Marty Chen and WIEGO Board Chair Renana Jhabvala served on the Labor Working Group, which was part of then US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's Strategic Dialogue with Civil Society. In 2012, the group engaged in discussions regarding the global jobs crisis, youth unemployment, and informal employment. In June 2012, Marty was invited to be a civil society advisor on the US Delegation to the Rio +20 Summit. In July 2012, Marty was invited by the US State Department to lead a session on the informal economy for a Labor Officers course. For a conference in Washington, co-organized by the US State Department and Gallup on "Evidence and Impact: Closing the Gender Data Gap," Statistics Director Joann Vanek and Marty provided input on "the power of statistics" to the person preparing Hillary Clinton's speech.

### Contributing to the *World Development Report 2013 on Jobs*

WIEGO was commissioned to produce a set of cases studies with a synthesis report on representative voice and economic rights of informal workers for the World Development Report (WDR) 2013, which focused on the topic "Jobs." Marty Chen was also commissioned to undertake a peer review of the draft WDR 2013, and to speak on the closing panel of a conference on the WDR 2013 entitled "Labor and Development" at Columbia University in October 2012. The case studies written by WIEGO team members and partners and featured in brief in the WDR 2013 include:

- Self-Employed Women's Association of India, including its role in helping to build and strengthen organizations of informal workers around the world (Marty Chen)
- National Policy and Law for Street Vendors in India (Arbind Singh)
- Legal Cases for Street and Market Vendors in Durban, South Africa (Mahendra Chetty and Caroline Skinner)
- Constitutional Court Judgments for Waste Pickers in Bogotá, Colombia (Lucia Fernandez and Federico Parra)
- Campaign for an International Convention on Decent Work for Domestic Workers (Chris Bonner and Karin Pape)

The synthesis report containing these papers—*Urban Informal Workers: Representative Voice & Economic Rights*—is available on WIEGO's and the World Bank's websites.

### European Development Days Conference Panel

The European Commission and WIEGO co-hosted a high-level panel on "The Perspective of the Working Poor in the Informal Economy" at the European

Development Days conference in Brussels in October 2012. Academics, practitioners and policymakers discussed which policies are needed to create inclusive growth for the working poor in the informal economy. Panellists included Marty Chen (International Coordinator, WIEGO); Renana Jhabvala (National Coordinator, SEWA and Chair, WIEGO Board); Federico Parra (Latin America Waste Picker Coordinator, WIEGO); Tony Addison (Deputy Director, UN WIDER). Heidi Hautala, Minister for International Development, Finland, provided a policy response. Kristian Schmidt, Director, Human Development Department, Directorate General for Development and Cooperation – EuropeAid, of the European Commission, was the moderator.

## Rio +20 + The People’s Summit

WIEGO and its allies participated in Rio +20—the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development—and at the concurrent People’s Summit in June 2012. As world leaders gathered to discuss sustainable development and the future of our planet, an alternative People’s Summit drew thousands of social activists from across the world to voice their issues and offer sustainable solutions. Hundreds of waste pickers attended to champion policies that are beneficial environmentally and socially. Street vendors protested against the global trend toward eviction of informal street vendors and the impact of mega-events on their ability to work. WIEGO provided logistical, communication and other support.

At the Rio +20 Summit, WIEGO’s Sector Specialist for Waste Pickers, Sonia Dias, presented in a panel discussion on gender issues and the workplace, and earlier contributed a chapter for a UNDP book launched at the conference. At the People’s Summit, Lucia Fernandez, Global Coordinator for Waste Pickers, took part in an Analysis of the Global Situation for Waste Pickers, and in a presentation against waste incineration and privatization. Also, International Coordinator Marty Chen was a civil society advisor on the US delegation to the conference. On the final day of Rio +20, US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton called for “an inclusive economy” that recognizes the needs of workers in the informal economy.

## Governance, Management & Team

### Board Composition

WIEGO’s Board of Directors is comprised of representatives from WIEGO’s three constituencies—membership-based organizations of informal workers; researchers; and development professionals—and other persons needed to carry out the functions of the Board. The current Board was established at the WIEGO General Assembly in 2010.

### Board, Management Committee, and Finance Committee

The WIEGO Board met by teleconference on July 30 and November 6, 2012, and in person from February 28–March 1, 2013. In July the Board approved the Annual Financial Statements and the Audit Findings Report from the year ending March 2012. This was the first time our auditors had applied the more stringent tests that come with WIEGO’s status as a registered charity, and although the audit turned up a few minor areas for improvement, we received an unqualified opinion. Also, the Board accepted the Finance Committee’s recommendation that an account be opened with a second financial institution to hold a portion of WIEGO’s long-term funds, enhancing WIEGO’s financial security and allowing some funds to earn a better rate of interest. The Finance and Management Committees also considered an updated risk register, following an assessment by the Operations Team of the



*Activists from around the globe gathered in a park space near downtown Rio for the People’s Summit. Waste pickers and other informal workers championed their environmental contributions.  
Photo: D. de Brito*

## Directors

**Renana Jhabvala** (Chair),  
Self-Employed Women's  
Association, India

**Kofi Asamoah**,  
Ghana Trades Union  
Congress, Ghana

**Barbro Budin**,  
International Union of Food,  
Agricultural, Hotel, Restaurant,  
Catering, Tobacco and Allied  
Workers' Associations, Switzerland

**Debra Davis** (Treasurer),  
Independent Consultant, UK

**Clarisse Gnahoui**,  
StreetNet International, Benin

**Ravi Kanbur**,  
Cornell University, USA

**Lin Lim**,  
Independent Consultant, Malaysia

**William Steel**,  
University of Ghana, Ghana

**Jeemol Unni**,  
Institute of Rural Management,  
Anand, India

**Carmen Vildoso**,  
Lima Municipal Authority, Peru

organizational risks faced by WIEGO. One important step taken over the past three years to reduce our operating risks has been to build up the level of reserves held by WIEGO, which are now near an optimal level.

At its February /March 2013 meeting, in addition to responding to and approving WIEGO's five-year Strategic Plan, the Board formulated a detailed succession plan for the senior positions that will become vacant in the next few years.

## Sub-Committee on Human Resources

As an advocate for decent and fair work, WIEGO endeavours to ensure it treats its own team members—whether staff or contracted consultants—with respect and fairness. This year, the Management Committee established a sub-committee on Human Resources which began actively examining our practices and policies to ensure they meet legal and ethical standards. Feedback and concerns are regularly solicited from all team members.

## WIEGO's Team

Federico Parra joined the team as the Waste Picker Coordinator for Latin America. Federico is based in Colombia, and his knowledge and connections have already proven invaluable in WIEGO's work with the waste pickers of Bogotá.

After a period of dramatic growth in the size of its team, WIEGO's team stabilized this year with 35 members—the majority of whom do not work full-time for WIEGO. Four team members work at WIEGO'S Secretariat in Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA, and five work in the WIEGO Office in Manchester, UK. The Communications Team has a hub in Ottawa, Canada. Other team members are located around the globe. The flexibility to engage diverse skills, expertise and perspectives helps ensure WIEGO has the capacity to meet the challenges of its work.

## Communication & Dissemination

### Online Dissemination

In addition to managing editing, design and production of numerous publications, WIEGO's Communications Team maintains both the WIEGO ([www.wiego.org](http://www.wiego.org)) and Inclusive Cities ([www.inclusivecities.org](http://www.inclusivecities.org)) websites. The sites are important for disseminating the research, statistics and best practice cases. Both Facebook and Twitter are used to drive more users to our research and materials on the website. WIEGO Publications are largely disseminated via the website (downloads are free) and in print at international events and conferences. From April 2012 through March 2013, there was a combined total of 16,221 downloads of papers and briefs in the WIEGO Publication Series from the WIEGO and Inclusive Cities websites.

WIEGO Web Manager Patricia Carney oversaw significant improvements to the functionality of [wiego.org](http://wiego.org) over the past year. The WIEGO website includes more than 3,000 publications, news stories (gathered regularly from sources around the globe) and other resources on the informal economy. In April 2012, the WIEGO website was highly praised as a rich resource of research, thinking, and data by several participants (researchers and doctoral students) at a University of California Los Angeles meeting for a cross-national research project on informal worker organizing. A background paper for this project cited WIEGO publications extensively.

The Inclusive Cities website is an online knowledge hub in the three languages of Inclusive Cities partners: English (<http://www.inclusivecities.org/index.html>), Spanish (<http://www.inclusivecities.org/es/index.html>) and Portuguese (<http://www.inclusivecities.org/pt/index.html>). The website was redesigned in 2012. Communications Officer Brenda Leifso and Communications Manager Demetria

Tsoutouras worked to make the site more appealing and easier to navigate. Through search engine optimization (SEO) and leveraging social media tools, we have attracted more visitors to this online knowledge hub. Unique visitors grew to over 90,000 for the year—a 70 per cent increase over the same period in the previous year. To help unify partner news and content, an Inclusive Cities Blog ([www.inclusivecities.org/blog](http://www.inclusivecities.org/blog)) was integrated and became much more active. It features stories around events and our partners about once a week and gets high numbers of traffic—between 6-8,000 visits a month.

### Global Monitoring System

WIEGO team members continue tracking global news coverage on the informal economy, highlighting “bright spots” (policy or organizational practice that led, or could lead, to inclusion of informal workers) and “hot spots” (places of concern where informal workers are being harassed and/or excluded) in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese. Links are posted on the Inclusive Cities and WIEGO websites and circulated to a broad audience including our partners, while the most significant developments are pushed through social media. WIEGO is systematically analyzing this, alongside other information, to assess trends over time.

### Social Media

WIEGO has been developing a targeted following via Twitter and Facebook. These social media channels allow us to share information, stories and our partners’ news through these social media channels:

- Twitter – <http://twitter.com/wiegoglobal>
- Facebook – <http://www.facebook.com/wiegoglobal>

WIEGO also manages social media tools for the Inclusive Cities project:

- Twitter: <http://twitter.com/InclusiveCities>
- Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/InclusiveCitiesProject>

Combined, the Twitter feeds reach more than 2,600 followers, many of whom are involved in urban planning, architecture, urban issues, and environmentalism. More than 30,000 people follow either or both of the Facebook pages.

### Translation and Interpretation

The Communications Team arranges translation services (in Spanish, English, Portuguese and French) for hundreds of publications and presentations. Translation and/or interpretation services included these partner materials and events:

- Informal Economy Monitoring Study training workshop
- KKPKP, “We, SWaCH” video
- Global Strategic Workshop for Waste Pickers in Pune (April 2012), and the CONLACTRAHO Congress in Mexico (May 2012)
- WIEGO Board teleconference in March and the Bellagio workshop in June 2012



*A Thai woman cooks sausages in this kitchen and sells them on the street.  
Photo: D. Tsoutouras*

# Financial Report: Year Ended 31 March 2013

## Financial Summary

The financial strategy for the year was developed to build on previous years' plans designed to ensure the sustainability and future viability of WIEGO. The strategy also took into account the deliberations of the internal strategic review which analyzed the impact of activities in relation to resources expended. Moreover, the strategy recognized that as specific grants come to an end or finish within the coming 18 months, expenditure and activities must be carefully monitored to ensure maximum benefit and minimal disruption for beneficiaries and partners as projects and programmes reach completion. During the year, the total incoming resources were \$10,197,075 compared to \$7,036,007 in the previous fiscal year. Total resources expended were \$7,427,083 – an increase of \$1,189,345 over the previous year. The difference between incoming resources and expenditure was due to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation funding amounts attributable to 2013/2014 and 2014/2015 in the current year.

The overall aim of the financial strategy is to ensure that resources are used efficiently to contribute to meeting programme and project targets and to achieving WIEGO's priorities. In furtherance of these objectives, the maximum possible level of resources is channelled directly to programmes to ensure delivery of quality improvements in research, policy advocacy and capacity building, while at the same time maintaining prudent financial management control over the resources of WIEGO as a whole. Budgetary and financial controls are reviewed continuously to reduce the risks of underspending or overspending and to mitigate the effect of a drop in income in any one financial year. This risk is also mitigated by the building of reserves.

The figures for 2013 are extracted from the statutory accounts approved by the directors on 31st July 2013. The full statutory financial accounts, on which the auditors, Crowe Clark Whitehill LLP, gave an unqualified opinion, were delivered to the Registrar of Companies. These extracts may not contain sufficient information to allow a full understanding of the financial affairs of the company. For further information, the full statutory accounts should be consulted together with the Auditors' Report and the Directors' Report.

The auditors have confirmed to the Directors that the 2013 figures extracted from the statutory financial accounts are consistent with the statutory financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2013.

The full annual accounts, together with the Auditors' Report and Directors' Report are available from the Company Secretary at the company's registered office in Manchester UK, and are also posted on the WIEGO website.

## Revenue and Expenditure

The report combines the income received and expenditure incurred both in the USA and the UK. The tables making up this report reflect the overall organization's results. We are very proud of the number of funders continuing to support WIEGO. The major Inclusive Urban Planning for the Working Poor project supported by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, which commenced in 2008, has made significant progress during the year in achieving its objectives and deliverables. Also, the Voice of Informal Workers in Social Policy in Latin America project commenced in 2009, with the support of the UK government Department for International Development (DFID). This project came to a successful conclusion at the end of March 2013.

Further grant income was obtained during 2012/13 from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation under the Inclusive Urban Planning for the Working Poor project. Also this year we were successful in securing a new grant from the Ministry of Foreign

Affairs in The Netherlands, under the Funding Leadership and Opportunities for Women (FLOW) programme.

The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), the Ford Foundation, and the International Development Research Centre have continued to contribute generously to the funding of WIEGO's core programmes and overall network and programme coordination. New funds were also secured from the Rockefeller Foundation, the Solidarity Centre, the International Labour Office, and Avina.

The expenditure charts summarize expenditure on the major projects together with core expenditure on WIEGO's five programme areas, network/programme coordination and governance costs.

### Financial Governance and Fiscal Sponsors

The Finance Committee of the WIEGO Board reviews the budgets and reports of all WIEGO funds and accounts, including those managed by the two fiscal sponsors in the USA and those managed by WIEGO in the UK.

In addition to funds managed by the WIEGO office in the UK, WIEGO has two fiscal sponsors – Harvard University and the Tides Centre – in the USA for funds that cannot be routed via the UK. The WIEGO accounts at Harvard University are audited each year as part of the annual financial audit of Harvard University. Similarly our accounts at the Tides Centre are audited each year as part of the annual financial audit of the Tides Centre.

## Source and Use of Funds

SOURCES OF FUNDS	2013	2012
SOURCES OF FUNDS	US \$000	US \$000
Gates Foundation	7,275	4,554
FLOW	1,208	0
Sida	1,150	1,265
DFID	234	226
IDRC	154	133
Solidarity Centre US	95	68
Rockefeller Foundation	26	66
Avina	17	0
ILO	14	70
Ford Foundation	0	300
World Bank Contract	4	17
MDG3	0	320
Other donors	13	9
<b>TOTAL FUNDING</b>	<b>10,190</b>	<b>7,028</b>

## Supporters

Our thanks to the following organizations, foundations and governments for their generous financial support of WIEGO programmes and projects:

Avina Foundation

Bill & Melinda  
Gates Foundation

Department for International  
Development (DFID),  
UK Government

The Ford Foundation

Funding Leadership and  
Opportunities for Women  
(FLOW), Government of  
the Netherlands

International Development  
Research Centre (IDRC),  
Government of Canada

International Labour  
Organization (ILO)

The Rockefeller Foundation

Solidarity Centre of the  
American Federation of  
Labor–Congress of Industrial  
Organizations (AFL-CIO)

Swedish International  
Development Cooperation  
Agency (Sida)

The World Bank

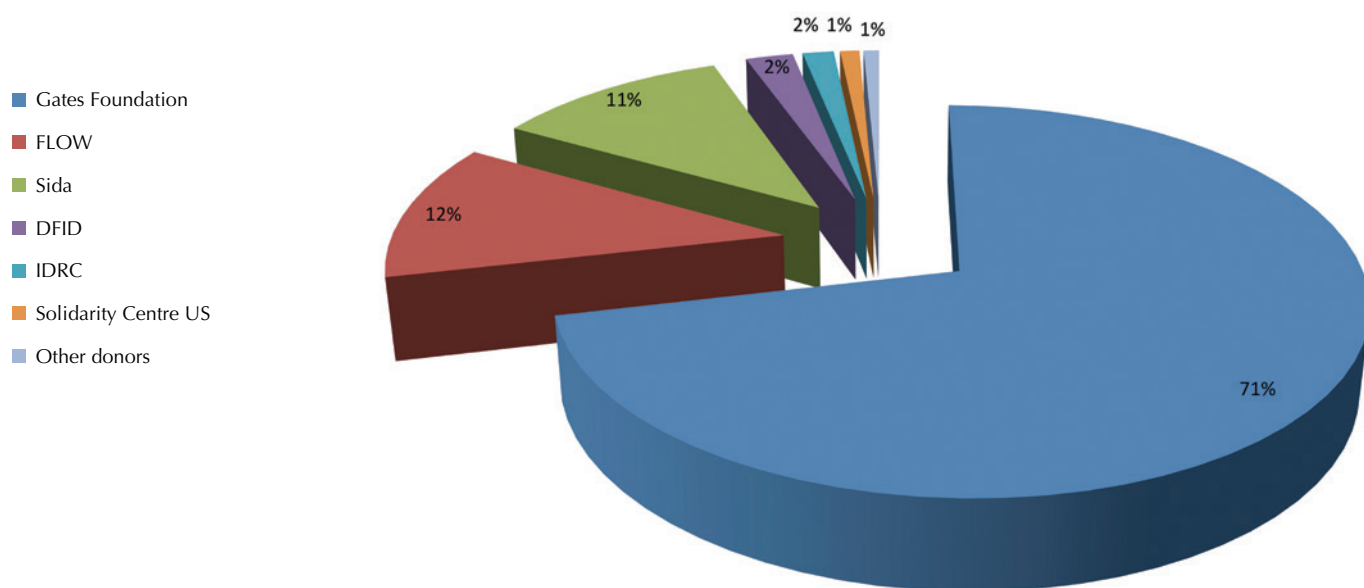
USE OF FUNDS	2013	2012
<b>PROJECTS</b>	US \$000	US \$000
Inclusive Urban Planning for Working Poor	4,756	3,354
Securing Economic Rights for Informal Women Workers	465	0
Strengthening Voice for Informal Workers in Social Policy	237	224
Equality for Working Poor Women	0	566
<b>PROGRAMMES</b>		
Network/ Programme Coordination	710	701
Organization & Representation	441	628
Governance & Evaluation	201	179
Statistics & Research	156	180
Social Protection	151	184
Special Initiatives	111	28
Global Trade	103	88
Urban Policies	96	106
<b>TOTAL USE of FUNDS</b>	<b>7,427</b>	<b>6,238</b>

BALANCE SHEET	2013	2012
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>	US \$000	US \$000
Debtors	843	1,701
Cash at bank	6,870	3,281
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>7,713</b>	<b>4,982</b>
<b>CREDITORS</b>		
Amounts falling due within one year	655	695
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>7,058</b>	<b>4,287</b>
<b>FUNDS</b>		
Restricted Funds	6,514	3,824
Unrestricted Funds	544	463
	<b>7,058</b>	<b>4,287</b>

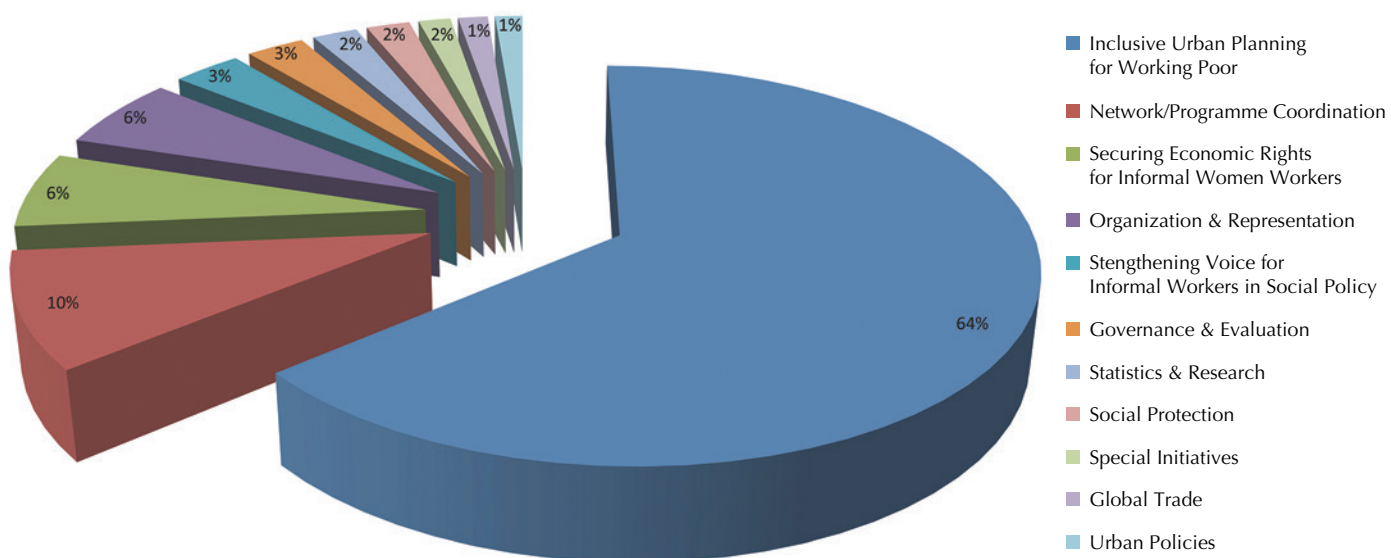
“Source: extract from the statutory accounts”



## Source of Funds for Year 2012/13



## Use of Funds for Year 2012/13



## Publications & Resources

### WIEGO Working Papers

WIEGO Working Papers feature research that makes either an empirical or theoretical contribution to existing knowledge about the informal economy. Particular attention is paid to policy-relevant research. The series includes statistical profiles of informal employment and critical analysis of data collection and classification methods. Methodological issues and innovations, as well as suggestions for future research, are considered. All are peer reviewed by the WIEGO Research Team and/or external experts.

Chen, Martha. 2012. *The Informal Economy: Definitions, Theories and Policies*. WIEGO Working Paper No. 1.

Chen, Martha, Ralf Hussmanns and Joann Vanek. (Forthcoming). *Statistics on the Informal Economy: Definitions, Findings, and Challenges*. WIEGO Working Paper (Statistics) No. 2.

Heintz, James and Imraan Valodia. 2008. *Informality in Africa: A Review*. WIEGO Working Paper No. 3.

Chen, Martha and Donna Doane. 2008. *Informality in South Asia: A Review*. WIEGO Working Paper No. 4.

Skinner, Caroline. 2008. *Street Trade in Africa: A Review*. WIEGO Working Paper (Urban Policies) No. 5.

Wills, Gabrielle. 2009. *South Africa's Informal Economy: A Statistical Profile*. WIEGO Working Paper (Statistics) No. 6.

Chen, Martha and G. Raveendran. 2011. *Urban Employment in India: Recent Trends and Patterns*. WIEGO Working Paper (Statistics) No. 7.

Esquivel, Valeria. 2010. *The Informal Economy in Greater Buenos Aires: A Statistical Profile*. WIEGO Working Paper (Statistics) No. 8.

Herrera, Javier, Mathias Kuépié, Christophe J. Nordman, Xavier Oudin and François Roubaud. 2012. *Informal Sector and Informal Employment: Overview of Data for 11 Cities in 10 Developing Countries*. WIEGO Working Paper (Statistics) No. 9.

Lund, Frances. 2009. *Social Protection, Citizenship and the Employment Relationship*. WIEGO Working Paper (Social Protection) No. 10.

Budlender, Debbie. 2009. *Informal Economy Budget Analysis in Brazil, Pakistan, Peru and Philippines*. WIEGO Working Paper No. 11.

Casanova-Dorotan, Florencia G. 2010. *Informal Economy Budget Analysis in Philippines and Quezon City*. WIEGO Working Paper No. 12.

Aliaga Linares, Lissette. 2010. *Informal Economy Budget Analysis in Peru and Metropolitan Lima*. WIEGO Working Paper No. 13.

Mumtaz, Khawar, Nadia Saleem, Sara Shujat and Junaid Qureshi. 2010. *Informal Economy Budget Analysis in Pakistan and Ravi Town, Lahore*. WIEGO Working Paper No. 14.

Salej, Ana Paula. 2010. *Informal Economy Budget Analysis in Brazil and Belo Horizonte*. WIEGO Working Paper No. 15.

Samson, Melanie. 2010. *Reclaiming Reusable and Recyclable Materials in Africa - A Critical Review of English Language Literature*. WIEGO Working Paper (Urban Policies) No. 16.

Tokman, Victor. 2010. *Domestic Workers in Latin America: Statistics for New Policies*. WIEGO Working Paper (Statistics) No. 17.

Dias, Sonia. 2010. *Gestão de Resíduos Sólidos, Catadores, Participação e Cidadania – Novas Articulações?* (Português; in English: *Solid Waste Management, Waste Pickers, Participation and Citizenship - New Possibilities?*) WIEGO Working Paper (Urban Policies) No. 18.

Sudarshan, Ratna M. and Shalini Sinha. 2011. *Making Home-Based Work Visible: A Review of Evidence from South Asia*. WIEGO Working Paper No. 19.

Lund, Frances and Anna Marriott. 2011. *Occupational Health and Safety and the Poorest*. WIEGO Working Paper No. 20.

Watson, Vanessa. 2011. *Inclusive Urban Planning for the Working Poor: Planning Education Trends and Potential Shift*. WIEGO Working Paper No. 21.

Goulart, Fabiana de Oliveira e Francisco de Paula Antunes Lima. 2012. *Eficiência e Solidariedade nas Associações de Catadores de Materiais Recicláveis* (Português; in English: *Efficiency and Solidarity Among Waste Picker Organizations*). WIEGO Working Paper (Urban Policies) No. 22.

Scheinberg, Anne. 2012. *Informal Sector Integration and High Performance Recycling: Evidence from 20 Cities*. WIEGO Working Paper (Urban Policies) No. 23.

Schamber, Pablo J. 2012. *Proceso de integración de los cartoneros de la Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires. Del reconocimiento a la gestión de Centros Verdes y la recolección selectiva* (Español; in English: *Waste Picker Integration Process of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires. From Recognition to Green Management Centres and Selective Waste Collection*). WIEGO Working Paper (Urban Policies) No. 24.

Fernández, Lucía. 2012. *Paisajes-basura: Dinámicas y Externalidades Territoriales del Reciclaje en Montevideo, Uruguay* (Español; in English: *Waste-scapes: Recycling Dynamics and Spatial Externalities in Montevideo, Uruguay*). WIEGO Working Paper (Urban Policies) No. 25.

Carré, Françoise and James Heintz. 2009 (update 2013). *Toward a Common Framework for Informal Employment across Developed and Developing Countries*. WIEGO Working Paper (Statistics) No. 26.

### WIEGO Briefs

**Policy Briefs** offer information on policies and organizational practices that affect the informal economy. This series supports advocacy processes and disseminates better practices and ideas, contributing to a worker- and livelihood-centered approach to development.

Rusling, Sara. 2010. *Approaches to Basic Service Delivery for the Working Poor: Assessing the Impact of the Parivartan Slum Upgrading Programme in Ahmedabad, India*. WIEGO Policy Brief (Urban Policies) No. 1.

Sinha, Shalini and Sally Roever. 2011. *India's National Policy on Urban Street Vendors*. WIEGO Policy Brief (Urban Policies) No. 2.

Dias, Sonia M. 2011. *Recycling in Belo Horizonte, Brazil – An Overview of Inclusive Programming*. WIEGO Policy Brief (Urban Policies) No. 3. (Also in Spanish.)

—. 2011. *Integrating Informal Workers into Selective Waste Collection: The Case of Belo Horizonte, Brazil*. WIEGO Policy Brief (Urban Policies) No. 4. (Also in Spanish.)

—. 2011. *The Municipal Waste and Citizenship Forum: A Platform for Social Inclusion and Participation*. WIEGO Policy Brief (Urban Policies) No. 5. (Also in Spanish.)

—. 2011. *Overview of the Legal Framework for Inclusion of Informal Recyclers in Solid Waste Management in Brazil*. WIEGO Policy Brief (Urban Policies) No. 6. (Also in Spanish.)

Kumar, Randhir. 2012. *The Regularization of Street Vending in Bhubaneswar, India: A Policy Model*. WIEGO Policy Brief (Urban Policies) No. 7.

Chikarmane, Poornima. 2012. *Integrating Waste Pickers into Municipal Solid Waste Management in Pune, India*. WIEGO Policy Brief (Urban Policies) No. 8.

Alfers, Laura. 2012. *The Ghana National Health Insurance Scheme: Assessing Access by Informal Workers*. WIEGO Policy Brief (Social Protection) No. 9.

Kalpana, Jain. 2012. *India's Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana, Assessing Access for Informal Workers*. WIEGO Policy Brief (Social Protection) No. 10.

Namsomboon, Boonsom. 2012. *Universal Healthcare Scheme in Thailand: Barriers to Access by Informal Workers*. WIEGO Policy Brief (Social Protection) No. 11.

Heintz, James and Shahra Razavi. 2012. *Social Protection Employment: Rebuilding the Connections*. WIEGO Policy Brief (Social Protection) No. 12.

Sinha, Shalini. 2013. *Supporting Women Home-Based Workers: The Approach of the Self-Employed Women's Association in India*. WIEGO Policy Brief (Urban Policies) No. 13.

Obino, Francesco. 2013. *Housing Finance for Poor Working Women: Innovations of the Self-Employed Women's Association in India*. WIEGO Policy Brief (Urban Policies) No. 14.

**Organizing Briefs** contain information on organizing strategies and practices in the informal economy. This series aims to support organizing efforts and disseminate better practices.

Roever, Sally and Lissette A. Linares. 2010. *Street Vendors Organizing: The Case of the Women's Network (Red de Mujeres), Lima, Peru*. WIEGO Organizing Brief No. 1. (Also in Spanish.)

Roever, Sally. 2010. *Organizing Street Vendors: 'Gente de Confiar' Radio Programme, Lima, Peru*. WIEGO Organizing Brief No. 2. (Also in Spanish.)

Theron, Jan. 2010. *Options for Organizing Waste Pickers in South Africa*. WIEGO Organizing Brief No.3.

Benson, K. and N. Vanqa-Mgijima. 2010. *Organizing on the Streets: A Study of Reclaimers in the Streets of Cape Town*. WIEGO Organizing Brief No. 4.

Samson, Melanie. 2010. *Organizing Reclaimers in Tshwane, South Africa: Lessons from Top Down and Bottom Up Experiences*. WIEGO Organizing Brief No. 5.

Allen, C. and E. Jossias. 2011. *Mapping of the Policy Context and Catadores Organizations in Maputo, Mozambique*. WIEGO Organizing Brief No. 6.

**Statistical Briefs** provide summary statistics on informal employment and the informal economy. They include information about methods for the collection, tabulation and analysis of statistics.

Tokman, Victor. 2010. *Statistics on Domestic Workers in Latin America*. WIEGO Statistical Brief No. 1.

Dias, Sonia. 2011. *Statistics on Waste Pickers in Brazil*. WIEGO Statistical Brief No. 2.

Budlender, Debbie. 2011. *Statistics on Informal Employment in South Africa*. WIEGO Statistical Brief No. 3.

—. 2011. *Statistics on Informal Employment in Brazil*. WIEGO Statistical Brief No. 4.

—. 2011. *Statistics on Informal Employment in Kenya*. WIEGO Statistical Brief No. 5.

—. 2011. *Statistics on Informal Employment in Ghana*. WIEGO Statistical Brief No. 6.

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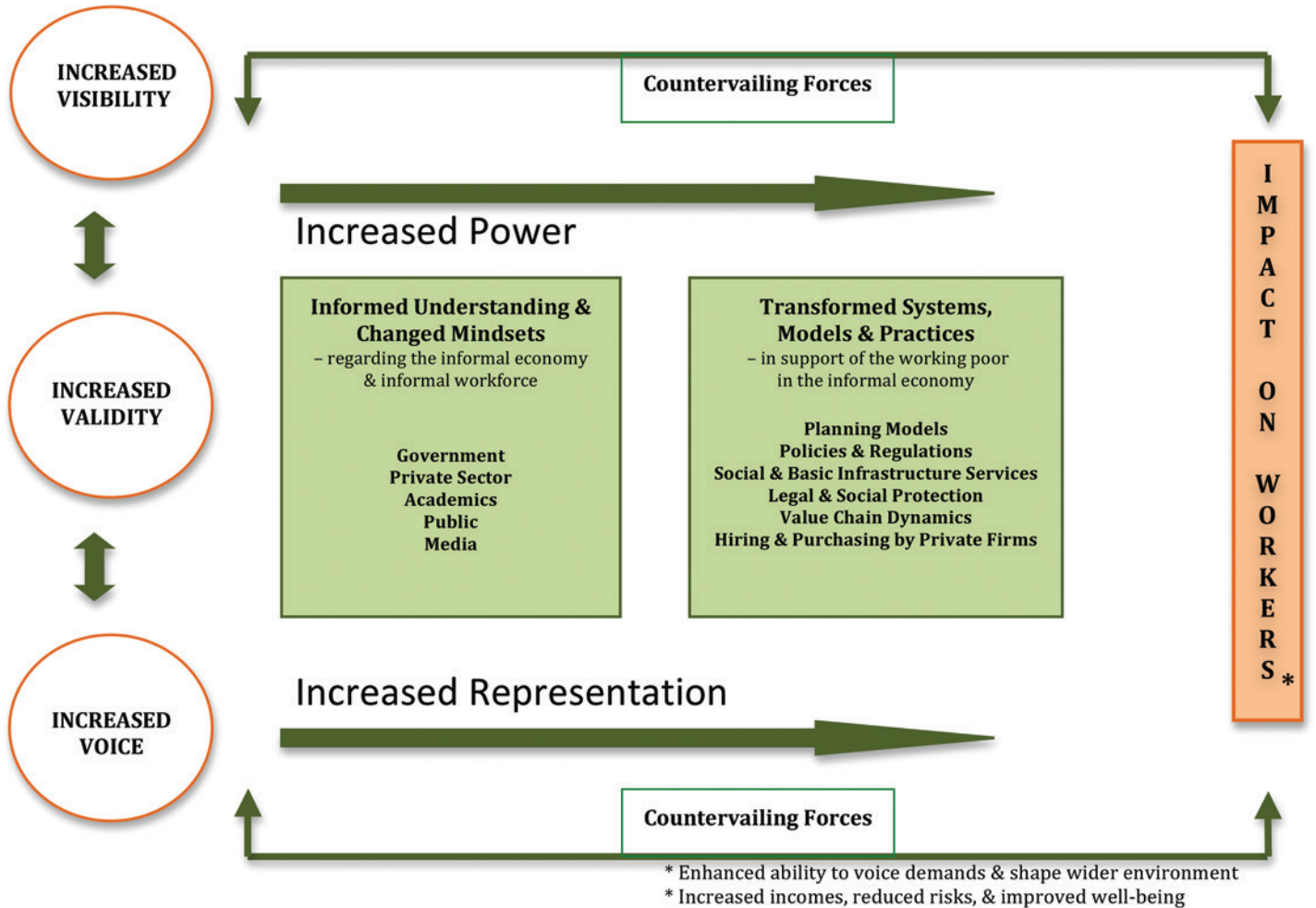
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## WIEGO MODEL OF CHANGE





*At a meeting of the Inclusive Cities partners in Chiang Rai, Thailand in February 2013, the Mayor hosted a welcome dinner. Photo courtesy of Marty Chen.*

# WIEGO

Women in Informal Employment:  
Globalizing and Organizing

## Annual Report

*April 2012 – March 2013*

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