About the Trainers

Renu Khanna has a Master’s degree in Business Administration from the Faculty of Management Studies, Delhi University, India. She has over 25 years of experience in Health Care Management and Organisation Development in health organisations. Her work over the last 15 years has focused on women’s health and rights.

She worked for many years in a tribal area of Gujarat to help evolve a community-based women’s health programme. She also collaborated with the Public Health Department of Brihan Mumbai Municipal Corporation to mainstream concepts of Quality Assurance and Gender in the public health system. As a Gender and Health trainer, Renu has been part of a network to develop a short course on Gender and Health and Gendered Research in Health and has conducted several Gender and Health workshops for health professionals including policy makers. She is also involved in policy critique and policy and programme advocacy in India.

Renu is part of national networks like, Medico Friends Circle, Jan Swasthya Abhiyan (People’s Health Movement, and Shodhini. She is a founding member of Sahaj (Society for Health Alternatives) and is based in Baroda, Gujarat in India and is actively involved in women’s health movement. Renu is a member of WABA’s Gender Working Group and has conducted gender training for breastfeeding advocates.

Paul Sinnappan - For the past 10 years, Paul has been involved in conducting gender training for men in the credit unions, cooperatives, micro credit programmes and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in Malaysia as well as in South East Asia. This initiative began with the introduction of gender concerns by the donor agency the Canadian Co-operative Association (CCA). The International Co-operative Association (ICA), the Asian Confederation of Credit Unions (ACCU) and the Asian Women in Co-operative Development Forum (AWCF) are now partners in this process of integrating gender in co-operatives in Asia and Pacific.

The WABA Gender Training workshop is on for the 3rd consecutive year!

When?
16 – 18 October 2006

Where?
Paradise Sandy Beach Resort, Penang, Malaysia

Who are the trainers?
Renu Khanna from India & Paul Sinnappan from Malaysia

Why?
Gendered challenges to breastfeeding arise primarily from the conflicts between what is expected of a woman, the expectation usually arising out of gender norms & myths, (for example that women are carers and nurturers) and the reality of their role as producers and reproducers. This training will tackle these issues!

How?
Reserve your space today! The training is limited to only 25 participants.

Please register before 31 Aug 2006.
Write to waba@streamyx.com!

Focus for 2006 is on men’s involvement!
WABA Gender Training Workshop
16-18 October, 2006
Paradise Sandy Beach Resort, Penang, Malaysia

WABA is pleased to invite you to a three-day Gender Training Workshop!

Goal

The goal of this workshop is to enable participants – men and women - to raise awareness and sensitivity on gender within the breastfeeding network.

Background and Rationale - Why Gender Training?

Working from a gender approach will ensure the long-term objective of enabling a just and equitable society where women and men are equal and respected. Achievement of equality implies changes for both men and women. More equal relationships will need to be based on a redefinition of the rights and responsibilities of women and men in all spheres, including in the family, workplace and society at large.

It is increasingly being recognised that a gender perspective on social issues helps refine action strategies to bring about desired results for social change and gender equity. The Platform for Action resulting from the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing (1995), and the Programme of Action of the International Conference for Population and Development (Cairo 1994) legitimized the concerns of women’s movements world-over that a women’s perspective as well as a gender perspective is essential in social sector policies and programmes.

Applying a gender perspective to breastfeeding programmes will help us analyse how gender identities shape the health and other social conditions of women and men and their possibilities for action for a more gender equal society. It must take into account the different needs of women and men based on their biology, and also the broader socio-economic and cultural context of different groups of people in different regions of the world.

• What does a gender approach mean to a sex specific issue such as breastfeeding?
• Why is it necessary to be gender sensitive in our breastfeeding promotion programmes?

This training will address this and other such questions.

Objectives

• To sensitise participants to concepts of gender and gender mainstreaming
• To equip participants with tools and skills of gender analysis
• To enable participants to develop a gender analysis of breastfeeding
• To enable participants to apply gender concepts and tools, and develop gender sensitive strategies and work plans

Expected Outcomes

Participants will be able to

• Differentiate between sex and gender
• Recall dimensions of gender as a system
• Enumerate/list gender aspects of breastfeeding
• List men’s role and responsibilities in appropriate infant feeding
• Develop gender sensitive strategies and working plans

Contents

• Gender and Sex
• Gender as a System
• Gender Aspects of Breastfeeding
• Gender Analysis Frameworks
• Economic and Political Contexts of Women
• Men’s Involvement, Role and Responsibilities
• (Gender Mainstreaming and Gender Indicators - only if there is time)

Methodology

Participatory training methodologies will be used: Exercises, Games, Group discussions and presentations, role plays, experience sharing by participants, etc.

Organisers

The WABA Gender Working Group and the WABA Secretariat.

Participants and Registration Information

The workshop has a limit of 25 participants. First come first serve basis.

Early Registration (by 31 Aug 2006): USD$ 250
Late Registration (by 30 Sept 2006): USD$ 300
Registration fee includes room sharing & meals. Limited fellowships are available.

For more information

Please write to Sarah Amin or Koh Kah Ling at the WABA Secretariat to indicate interest and for more information by 1st July 2006.
Email: waba@streamyx.com; Fax: 604-657-2655