

in Asia, for example, may not easily translate into policy level alternatives applicable elsewhere.

While Country Development Policy Frameworks (CDPF) are helpful in bridging the generic gap, they often fall back on generalities when it comes to the application of the WID policy.

*** The Emphasis on Results Based Management (RBM)**

While this approach is a welcome addition to the demonstration of accountability of specific foreign policy initiatives, RBM has two characteristics which make it a difficult tool to use in assessing WID activities. First, it tends to rely on quantifiable indicators, and second it assumes that project results will emerge within a short time frame. Thus RBM does not correspond well with WID which often strives to achieve qualitative changes often emerging in the medium to long term.

Given this context, the participants identified 9 points around which a modified Canadian foreign Policy orientation to gender could be developed:

- (1) The WID concept is outmoded, a 1970s orientation which came to focus on women as a tool in advancing a country's development, especially its economic progress. An alternative approach, "Development for Women," was rejected because it implied women were clients of the development process rather than contributors. Participants recommended that the gender aspects of Canadian Foreign Policy be modified to emphasize Participatory Development.
- (2) The type of economic progress coming to characterize more and more of Asia is having negative consequences for women, even as they derive economic benefits. An alternative version of Canada's gender policy must address the increase in job insecurity and the parallel shrinkage of the social safety nets which in many developing countries have a direct and negative impact on the lives of women and their children.
- (3) Economically developing countries are seeing the emergence into the public consciousness of a number of long-ignored "social pathologies" having significant consequences for women and children. For the most part, these countries lack the policies, programs and appropriately trained personnel to address these issues. The gender aspects of Canadian foreign policy should be expanded to include an emphasis on family and domestic issues exacerbated by economic development including, divorce, desertion, abandonment and family violence.
- (4) Attempts to achieve gender equality are often frustrated by local social, cultural and/or religious barriers. The gender equality/WID emphases in Canadian foreign policy need to be recast to recognize the vast diversity of situations within which