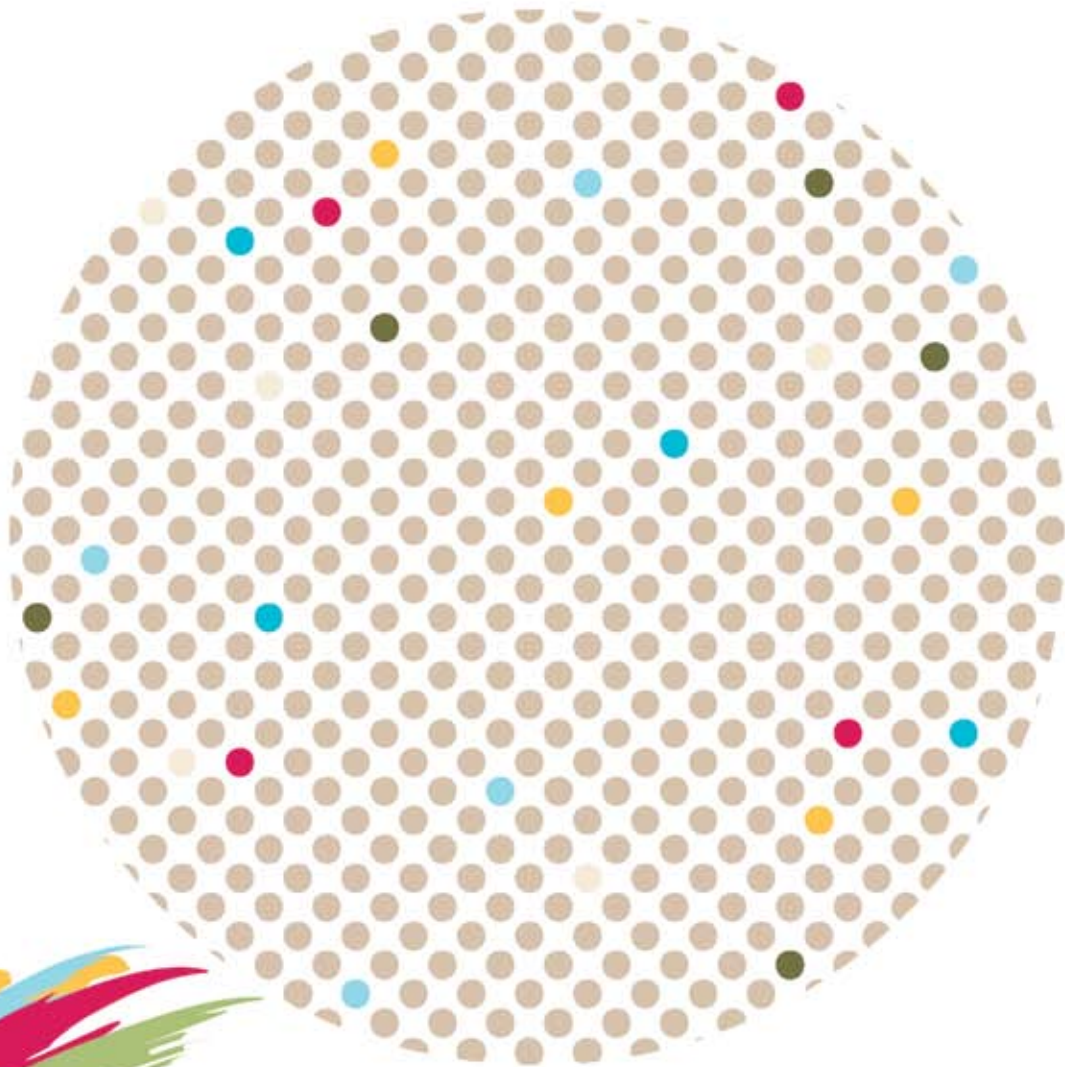


Women in Cities International  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
2009 - 2010



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## WOMEN IN CITIES INTERNATIONAL

Women in Cities International (WICI) is a non-profit network organization, based in Montreal, Canada, that focuses on gender equality and the participation of women and girls in urban development. WICI is dedicated to the identification, study, and dissemination of good practices, tools and intervention models. With its partners, WICI facilitates knowledge and experience-sharing on the improvement of women's and girls' safety and status in cities and communities. WICI specializes in the organization of networking events, the administration of training events, the advancement of technical expertise, and the production of research in order to achieve its goals.

Women's safety is a priority issue for WICI. This is because the violence and insecurity women and girls feel everyday is a major barrier to achieving gender equality. Violence and insecurity reduce women's mobility and restrict their ability to freely exercise full citizenship. This is a direct violation of women's rights, as established by the 1979 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). WICI believes that women's meaningful participation in urban development is a core requirement in the solution to this issue. Women's experiences of violence and insecurity can only be addressed when the different needs of women and men are considered in all areas of urban management.

WICI was established in 2002 after the need for its presence was recognized at the First International Seminar on Women's Safety, held in Montreal, Canada. WICI's Board of Directors is composed of scholars and practitioners who have been internationally recognized for their outstanding contributions to gender equality. WICI has over 300 Canadian and international members.

Women in Cities International's main objectives are:

- To develop an international exchange network on (a) women's participation in urban development and on (b) the consideration of gender in municipal governments;
- To facilitate the sharing of expertise, training, and good practices;
- To encourage exchange between different actors (women's groups, nongovernmental organizations, cities and municipalities, academic institutions, private sector institutions, the media, international governments, etc.);
- To promote exchange between local authorities on issues of gender equality and women's and girls' participation in urban development;
- To advise local governments, national and international bodies working in the fields of gender equality and urban development.

## A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT



This has been a terrific year for Women in Cities International – a year of growth and exciting projects and also a year for taking stock and reflecting on past history and future directions. We have held many discussions and taken many decisions about governance and, as a result, we are evolving into a more structured organization – without losing the flexibility, nimbleness and innovation that has characterized our approach to date. Moreover, we have been doing all this while continuing to work on initiatives across Canada and across the globe; we have also been busy planning and organizing the *Third International Conference on Women's Safety: Building Inclusive Cities*.

This year we are working to complete our cross-Canada project, *Creating Safer Communities for Marginalized Women and for Everyone*, funded by Status of Women Canada, which focuses on the adaptation of the safety audit methodology to use by specific communities of women. The project has brought together the knowledge of elderly women in Gatineau, women with disabilities in Montreal, immigrant women in Peel and Aboriginal women in Regina. Two of our exciting international projects – the *Gender Inclusive Cities Programme*, implemented in Dar es Salaam, Delhi, Petrozavodsk and Rosario to create safe and inclusive communities (funded by the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women), and the *Action Research Project on Women's Rights and Access to Water and Sanitation in Asian Cities* implemented by Jagori in Delhi linking women's security to access to basic water and sanitation services (funded by the Canadian International Development Research Centre (IDRC) are continuing to develop positively and teaching us more and more about how to create safe and inclusive communities for women and for everyone.

Women and Cities International is now more seriously considering its internal governance structure. We are continuing to think about how best to structure the organization for the kind of future development that we want to have. It's very exciting for all of us to see how WICI has grown and also to create a more effective and responsive organization.

As we continue to look forward to a bright future, we are all especially excited to see our partners, allies and friends in Delhi for the *Third International Conference on Women's Safety*. Memories of the past two conferences in Montreal and Bogota (for those who were lucky enough to attend) have everyone anticipating another groundbreaking conference in Delhi, with the warm welcome from our partner, Jagori.

In closing, I would like to thank the wonderful staff of Women in Cities International – one of the great pleasures of being on the WICI Board of Directors is to recognize the professionalism, the creativity and the sheer energy of the WICI team. I extend many thanks to these women and also to all of the board members who bring their expertise, energy and love of the organization to our discussions and to our collective efforts to create a world of safe and inclusive communities for women and for everyone.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carole Anderson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

## IN FOCUS: WOMEN IN CITIES INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

### SUPPORTING GLOBAL CHANGE TO CREATE SAFER CITIES



Women in Cities International is working in collaboration with key partners to expand safe cities for women programming across the globe.

Safe cities for women concepts and programming guidance are proving to be relevant and necessary in diverse communities, from Cairo, Egypt to Quito, Ecuador. It is essential that the expertise developed to date on the topic of safe cities for women and girls be transferred to new hands across the globe. Through this process, our body of knowledge can be adapted, expanded, improved and evaluated in order to

create an increasingly solid base for change on an international scale.

This year, WICI is working with the International Centre for Research on Women (ICRW) and the Women and Habitat Network of Latin America to provide technical assistance for the UNIFEM (Part of UN Women) *Global Programme Safe Cities Free of Violence against Women and Girls*.

The objective of the *Global Programme* is to deliver the first proven approach on how to prevent and reduce violence against women and girls in public spaces (through rigorous evaluation), and to provide a model that can be scaled up in many contexts—furthering women’s empowerment and gender equality, while enhancing the quality of city life for all.

In order to improve the effectiveness and sustainability of the *Global Programme*, WICI has consulted with its partners in order to generate recommendations and input towards a programme design which responds effectively to the varied needs of women on the ground, living in vastly different social and economic contexts.

To ensure that the materials generated by the *Global Programme* reflect the experience and expertise of our organization and its network, WICI is also currently coordinating the development of a programme curriculum on creating safe cities for women and girls, to be used when establishing best practices and starting points for action in participating cities.

WICI is also continuously integrating new information on the creation of safer cities for women into this programme through the updating and periodic revision of the Safer Cities component of the *UNIFEM Virtual Knowledge Centre to End Violence Against Women and Girls* located at <http://www.endvawnow.org>.

**Funded by:** UNIFEM (Part of UN Women)



## **CREATING NEW OPPORTUNITIES TO MAKE CITIES SAFER FOR WOMEN**

In the fall of 2009, Women in Cities International, in collaboration with Jagori, began the organization of the *Third International Conference on Women's Safety: Building Inclusive Cities* to be held in New Delhi, India.

It is an opportune time to hold this conference as it will occur two thirds of the way to the 2015 deadline set for reaching the Millennium Development Goals. The conference is also set to take place in November 2010 around the International Day for the Elimination of All Forms of Violence against Women.

Building on the successes and the work accomplished during the two previous international conferences on women's safety (Montreal, 2002 and Bogota, 2004), this conference will address the needs of the millions of women and girls around the world who lack safety in their communities, and, more specifically, in urban areas. Violence against women and women's lack of safety prevents women and girls from obtaining full citizenship, access and rights to their cities. The main objective of the conference is to consolidate discussions around safe and inclusive cities for women and girls, as well as to initiate and facilitate exchange among various partners involved in women's safety.

The *Third International Conference on Women's Safety* will be an occasion to bring together diverse actors in the field so that they may gain new experience, tools and knowledge through a series of activities, panel sessions and workshops. The conference will bring together 150 - 200 representatives from different sectors involved in enhancing women's safety and equality, including representatives from women's groups, elected representatives and civil servants at the municipal level, associations of municipalities, researchers, crime prevention organizations, regional and national governments, community organizations, grassroots groups, and international agencies.

The preliminary phases of planning on the conference have been established. Coordination and preparation this year included the formation of an advisory committee, fundraising, the writing of the concept note and the development of the conference logo.

**Partners and Funders:** The Huairou Commission  
Women and Habitat Network of Latin America  
UNIFEM (part of UN Women)  
UN-HABITAT  
Department for International Development (DFID)  
Government of Canada – International Development Research Centre (IDRC)  
Interchurch Organization for Development Cooperation (ICCO)  
Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst – EED

## MAINSTREAMING GENDER IN SAFER CITIES WORK IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

Beginning in February 2010, Women in Cities International contracted with an expert research team at the University of Melbourne to develop a gender-mainstreamed online safer cities resource toolkit, including training modules. The research team is led by Associate Professor Carolyn Whitzman, with Dr. Crystal Legacy as Project Manager and Dr. Jennie Day as co-researcher.

The purpose of the project is to contribute to the prevention of violence and insecurity, and thereby improve life conditions, in communities of the Asia-Pacific region. Crime, violence and associated insecurity are serious threats to the stability and social capital of cities in the region and worldwide. These problems have major society-level impacts on economic, political, environmental, and social development. They also have major individual-level impacts on families and communities.

Research for this toolkit is tailored to the specific needs of cities in the region, using a series of inputs such as a capacity-building needs assessment survey, administered by CITYNET; a workshop to be held at the *Regional Workshop on Safety for the Urban Poor in Asia and the Pacific* in Metro Manila, Philippines; the revision of a *Safer Cities Toolkit* developed for African communities; and 20 local case studies.

The toolkit will be launched at the *Third International Conference on Women's Safety* in Delhi November 2010, and will appear on-line through the UN-Habitat Safer Cities website in the near future.

**Funded by:** UN-HABITAT Safer Cities Unit (with the assistance of UNESCAP and CITYNET)

## LEADING INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION ON GENDER INCLUSIVE CITIES

Women in Cities International embarked on its second year of coordinating the innovative *Gender Inclusive Cities Programme*, with partners working on the ground in cities on four different continents.

Around the world, women continue to be excluded from urban life due to their gender. Gender is a key factor that influences women's access to everything from healthcare to education to political participation. In particular, the constant threat of gender-based violence in the form of sexual harassment or sexual assault negatively affects the everyday lives of women and girls. Often, other factors, such as age, economic status or ability interact with gender to create even higher levels of exclusion. Given this reality, programmes that aim to increase gender inclusion must account for the multiple factors that cause exclusion in women's lives. Urban solutions for gender inclusion and the elimination of violence against women hinge upon the acknowledgement of the contextual understandings and experiences of a multiplicity of women and girls in every city.

*Gender is a key factor that influences women's access to everything from healthcare to education to political participation. In particular, the constant threat of gender-based violence in the form of sexual harassment or sexual assault negatively affects the everyday lives of women and girls.*

The *Gender Inclusive Cities Programme* is a three-year initiative that is coordinated by WICI and implemented by the Information Centre of the Independent Women's Forum (ICIWF) in Petrozavodsk, Russia; the International Centre for Network and Information on Crime – Tanzania (ICNIC-T) in Dar es Salaam; Jagori in Delhi, India; and the Exchange and Services Centre, Southern Cone, Argentina - Coordinator of the Latin America Women and Habitat Network (CISCSA) in Rosario, Argentina. The goal of the *Gender Inclusive Cities Programme* is to enhance women's inclusion and "right to the city". In order to achieve this goal, the programme focuses on three aims:

- To identify and map the "geography" of public gender exclusion and its interaction with other marginalised identities such as race, religion, and economic status
- To identify the activities, tools and public policies that act as enablers of or barriers to greater gender inclusion and equality
- To identify and pilot good practices related to gender inclusion.

WICI has worked on a daily basis with its implementing partners and a monitoring and evaluation expert to develop a set of tools for the collection of information on levels of women's safety and inclusion in Dar es Salaam, Delhi, Petrozavodsk and Rosario. The co-development and use of these tools by the entire programme team has ensured that they are relevant, adaptable and responsive to the complex realities that women face in different parts of the world.

In the upcoming year, WICI and the programme team will share their tools and information with local, national and international audiences in order to encourage similar work and collaboration in other cities. Moreover, this baseline research will be used in to inform the design of interventions in each city which target the key factors that cause gender exclusion and dangerous situations for women.

**Funded by:**      **The United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women (UNTF)**



Photo source: ICNIC-T

## EXPLORING THE LINKS BETWEEN GENDER AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES



Women in Cities International is working in collaboration with Jagori to engage with women in two resettlement areas of urban Delhi to assess their access to and the quality of water and sanitation (WATSAN) services.

The growth and development of modern cities has increasingly become associated with stories of dispossession and lack of rights and basic services for poor citizens. For innumerable poor women in urban communities around the world, affordable and accessible sanitary facilities are a distant reality. This situation is a violation of women's human rights to basic services and

a life of dignity, safety and security. In Delhi, the forced relocation of poor women to the city's periphery has created new resettlement areas where temporary land tenure is ambiguous at best. Limited access to WATSAN services in these communities is a grave issue that requires immediate attention.

The *Action Research Project Women's Rights and Access to Water and Sanitation in Asian Cities* is being implemented by Jagori with the support of WICI. This project uses safety as an entry point for addressing the gender service gap in WATSAN. In order to collect information about women's experiences and to engage women in community development, the women's safety audit methodology was adapted to address gendered access to essential services in low-income communities. The adapted women's safety audit tool was then tested successfully in the Delhi context.

Other complementary research methodologies, such as community consultations, in-depth interviews, and focus group discussions, have also been used to gain further knowledge about women's experiences in resettlement areas. Local women have been and continue to be actively involved in all phases of project design and implementation. They have shared their stories and provided concrete examples that clearly highlight the intersection between poverty, lack of tenure, access to essential services and the safety of women and girls. They have also explained how their lives and livelihoods and those of their families continue to be negatively affected by non-gendered service provision and exclusion from local decision-making processes.

By encouraging the active involvement of local women in resettlement areas, WICI and Jagori are working to ensure that their needs and demands are considered within a human rights framework by state agencies and service providers.

**Funded by:** International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Government of Canada



## ENGAGING A DIVERSITY OF WOMEN TO MAKE CITIES SAFER

Women in Cities International is partnering with women who face multiple levels of discrimination and who are typically excluded from decision-making processes in order to make their cities safer.

While there are continued and growing efforts to make cities safer for women and girls, there are some groups of women who have remained, for the most part, outside of this work and who continue to face insecurity due to their gender and identity. WICI is working with some of these women to adapt safety tools and approaches to their reality, so that they may participate actively in building cities that are safer and more inclusive of all women.

This year, WICI continued to work with four dynamic groups of women in Canada on the project *Creating Safer Communities for Marginalized Women and for Everyone*: Aboriginal women (Women of the Dawn Counseling Centre, Regina, Saskatchewan); elderly women (Centre des aînés de Gatineau, Québec); immigrant and visible minority women (Catholic Crosscultural Services, Peel, Ontario); and women with disabilities (Action des femmes handicapées (Montréal), Montréal, Québec). Each group has strengthened partnerships with key local decision-makers and their municipality in order to work together to improve local women's safety and sense of safety.

The women's safety audit methodology (adapted by and for each group of women) has been used to guide this process. Adapted safety audits have been successfully completed in all project cities and this accomplishment has greatly advanced the potential of the methodology to be used by a variety of women in Canada and around the world.

WICI has supported the success of this project by providing ongoing training, guidance, and technical assistance to each participating group. WICI has also organized a number of peer learning exchanges between the groups in order to promote peer learning and a growing community of practice among women with a variety of experiences and ways of knowing.



Funded by: Status of Women Canada

## **PARTICIPATING IN RESEARCH TO BUILD THE CAPACITY OF FEMINIST ORGANIZATIONS**

Women in Cities International is one of two organizations that are the focus of *Learning Through Difference: Multiscalar Forms of Feminist Organizing*, a three-year programme of action research, funded by Canada's Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council.

Gender is a major factor which is often an obstacle for women who wish to engage in the political life of their cities, both in Canada and elsewhere. However, gender is not the only problematic factor – various markers of identity such as income, class, 'race', sexual orientation, immigration status and/or ability can also affect women and cause them to be regarded as 'other' by privileged and powerful actors in mainstream organizations. Thus, minority women often face multiple challenges when trying to positively participate in public life in their cities.

The goal of this research programme is to draw generalizable lessons (both theoretical and strategic) on how to engage minority women in urban-based community politics. The other organization involved in this research is City for All Women Initiative (CAWI), a member of the WICI network, whose focus is on inclusive governance and diverse women's community engagement in the City of Ottawa. Two of the research investigators – Dr. Caroline Andrew (School on Governance, University of Ottawa) and Dr. Fran Klodawsky (Geography and Environmental Studies, Carleton University) - are long-standing members of both WICI and CAWI and the third investigator, whose particular expertise is in feminist and reflexive methodology – Janet Siltanen (Sociology, Carleton University), has not previously been involved with either organization. The combined expertise of these researchers means that they are able to draw on and effectively implement a host of feminist research methodologies from multiple perspectives.

During the past year, the research team has started to identify organizational characteristics that are common to both CAWI and to WICI that appear to contribute to their successful operation. The team is now consulting with individuals who have substantive knowledge of the organizations in order to learn about their reactions to research observations. In the next stage of the programme, the research team will also consult with these individuals about their opinions of the challenges and risks that may confront WICI and CAWI in the future.

**Funded by:** Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC)

*Various markers of identity such as income, class, 'race', sexual orientation, immigration status and/or ability can affect women and cause them to be regarded as 'other' by privileged and powerful actors in mainstream organizations. Thus, minority women often face multiple challenges when trying to positively participate in public life in their cities.*

## WOMEN IN CITIES INTERNATIONAL IN THE PUBLIC EYE

### HELPING OUR PARTNERS GROW

In April 2009, Women in Cities International, as a coordinating council member, provided guidance, strength and insight to the Huairou Commission during a weeklong strategic planning event.

As a member and partner of the Huairou Commission, Women in Cities International proudly supports the coalition's global initiatives to empower grassroots women in the areas of governance, AIDS, disaster, land and housing, and peace building. Working together, Women in Cities International and the Huairou Commission use their complementary perspectives to help ensure that development work includes the various voices and perspectives of women's lived realities, from the ground.



Photo source: Huairou Commission

While participating in the Huairou Commission's strategic planning activities, Women in Cities International contributed to a shared understanding of the coalition's history, offered advice and knowledge about its leadership, and contributed valuable input on future stakeholder involvement. Further, Women in Cities International worked to deepen its relationship and role with this important partner, with the recognition that WICI supports the development of an effective and relevant international exchange network on women's participation in the development of cities and communities.

### WITNESSING MONTRÉAL MAKE HISTORY

Women in Cities International attended the entrenchment of the *Montréal Charter of Rights and Responsibilities* of the Council des Montréalaises and the Montréal Youth Council in June 2009.

The *Montréal Charter* is an important and innovative municipal document that reflects the city's long history of prioritizing women's active and equal participation in urban public life. In particular, WICI was happy to support the *Montréal Charter* because of its commitment to women's safety, as stated in Article 26.b: "To foster the enjoyment by citizens of their right to security, Montréal is committed to: Supporting specific measures aimed at security for women, in partnership with community key players".

## SHARING KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE FOR CHANGE



Women in Cities International, in partnership with the Huairou Commission and UN-HABITAT, held a safety audit training workshop in October 2009 as pre-event for the *Second Metropolis Women International Network Forum, Dynamic Cities Need Women: Visions and Challenges for a Women-Friendly City*, in Seoul, South Korea. At the forum, WICI, the Huairou Commission and UN-HABITAT also launched two publications: *Women's Safety Audits: What Works and Where?* and the *Global Assessment on Women's Safety*.

The city of Seoul has made substantial commitments to increasing women's and girls' access to urban life through their innovative *Women-Friendly Seoul Project*. This project, along with the work of other members of the Metropolis Women International Network, indicates that we are at a key moment in history when city administrations the world over are acknowledging that women's access to urban life is a priority. At the forum, WICI shared knowledge of best practices and tools used to create cities that are safer for women and where women's rights are recognized; promoted its work and that of its network members; and gained knowledge and insight into different approaches for accommodating women's needs in urban communities. In particular, WICI promoted the women's safety audit as an important and adaptable tool that can be used to create safer and more inclusive cities.

Women's safety figured prominently throughout the *Second Metropolis Women International Network Forum*. As such, the women's safety audit training workshop was a popular pre-event that reached with grassroots women, NGO and government representative participants. Discussion about the women's safety audit, its applicability, and its potential adaptability continued throughout other workshops and the tool was ultimately named in the Seoul Declaration as a key strategy for building women-friendly cities.

## PROMOTING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND THE SAFETY OF WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES

The International Centre for the Prevention of Crime (ICPC) held its *15th Annual Colloquium on Crime Prevention* in Montreal in December 2009. The conference focused on the evolution of crime prevention policies and practices in the last 15 years. Topics discussed during the colloquium included: community mobilization, evaluation, human rights and urbanization. Women in Cities International attended this event in order to contribute a gendered perspective to discussions on the state of the art.

The conference brought together over 300 participants from 48 countries, including representatives from municipalities, NGOs, national governments, research institutes, and donor agencies. At the event, WICI chaired a "Buzz Session" on international cooperation.

The project *Creating Safer Communities for Marginalized Women and for Everyone* was presented at the conference by the project leader from the Action des Femmes Handicapées (Montréal) team. The title of the presentation was "Women with Disabilities Working to Build a More Accessible and Safer City".

## EMPHASIZING WOMEN'S SAFETY AT THE COMMISSION FOR THE STATUS ON WOMEN

*Making cities safer is more than just a question of policing; it is an issue that requires a community-wide approach, involving the participation of many stakeholders and a solid foundation of good governance.*

The Huairou Commission, the Seoul Foundation for Women and Family, UN-HABITAT, Women in Cities International, and the Women and Habitat Network of Latin America jointly organized the event *Building Safer Cities for Women and Girls* during the 54th Session on the Commission for the Status on Women (CSW) in March 2010. During CSW, WICI also proudly attended the launch of the *UNIFEM Virtual Knowledge Centre to Eliminate Violence Against Women and Girls*, an online resource centre to which WICI contributes content about the creation of safer cities for women.

Sustainable urbanization requires that cities be developed in ways that are women-friendly and that ensure the safety of women and girls, allowing them to assert their right to the city. Making cities safer is more than just a question of policing; it is an issue that requires a community-wide approach, involving the participation of many stakeholders and a solid foundation of good governance. It requires women to be more involved in city planning and management, and requires committed partnerships with local women's groups.

*Building Safer Cities for Women and Girls* addressed the connection between sustainable urbanization and women's equitable participation in city life. This event brought together the voices of a variety of women, from grassroots activists to municipal policy-makers to United Nations representatives. Participants discussed real examples of successes and challenges in the struggle to increase gender equality at the municipal level.

## PROVIDING EXPERT ADVICE ON THE SAFETY OF GIRLS IN CITIES

Women in Cities International offered expert guidance and information about the safety challenges and opportunities faced by girls in urban areas for a major international report.

For the first time in history, more people are living in urban centres than not. While cities have proven to be sites of opportunity and prosperity for some, they have also failed to provide such opportunities for others, including millions of women and girls. Young women in particular are likely to miss out on opportunities for decent, sustainable paid employment.

WICI participated in a global advisory panel for Plan International's 2010 *Because I am a Girl* report. The topic of the report was on the risks and opportunities for girls in two very different realms: urban spaces and the digital world. Following the panel, WICI was commissioned by Plan International to develop a set of policy recommendations to be included in the report. WICI also worked with UN Habitat's Safer Cities Programme and Gender Unit to develop a working discussion paper on gender and urbanization, with a focus on girls, that was used to inform Plan International's report.

## BREAKING GROUND AT WORLD URBAN FORUM 5



Women in Cities International continues to work to ensure that issues of women's safety, gender equality and the women's participation in the development of cities remains a priority issue at key international events.

In March 2010, WICI played an active role in the fifth *World Urban Forum: The Right to the City - Bridging the Urban Divide (WUF5)* and in the *Gender Equality Action Assembly (GEAA)* in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

In the *GEAA*, WICI shared its working methods and knowledge on women's safety and advancing gender equality.

This presentation brought a fresh perspective on women's participation in public life to the *Urban Planning, Governance and Management* session. It also exposed a new international audience to WICI's approach and that of its network members.

During *WUF5*, WICI and the Huairou Commission organized the *Gender and Women Roundtable* with the UN-HABITAT Gender Unit. The Roundtable engaged a diversity of critical perspectives in an active dialogue that brought gender to the forefront of *WUF5* activities. Roundtable participants included Anna Tibaijuka, Executive Director of UN-HABITAT and Nicela Freire, Minister for Women's Affairs, Brazil.

WICI, the Women and Habitat Network of Latin America, Espacio Feminista and Rede de Desenvolvimento Humano also organized the networking event *Are Cities Safe and Inclusive for Women?* at *WUF5*. At this event, WICI shared its knowledge on the 'Right to the City' approach and provided context on urbanization and cities. Several Brazilian women took the opportunity to speak about their safety experiences in Rio de Janeiro and in the favela. *Are Cities Safe and Inclusive for Women?* provided an important opportunity for women from around the world to listen, share and have their experiences validated. Led by Brazilian women participants, the session concluded with a spontaneous song and dance.

The increasing recognition of WICI's contribution to the field of women's safety in urban spaces was evident throughout both the *WUF5* and the *GEAA*. For example, Anna Tibaijuka, Executive Director of UN-HABITAT mentioned WICI by name in at least three different speeches, including the opening of the Gender Assembly and the closing ceremony for *WUF5*. She also highlighted WICI's ongoing collaboration with UN-HABITAT, citing the recent joint publications, *Women's Safety Audits: What Works and Where?* and the *Global Assessment on Women's Safety*, completed in collaboration with the Huairou Commission. Both of these documents were widely distributed during the event. WICI was also asked to speak about the importance of women's safety during the *Caribbean Urban Crime Prevention Initiatives* networking event, organized by CARICOM. Finally, WICI also took part in the women's caucus meetings that were organized before the official *WUF5*.

## WOMEN IN CITIES INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS 2009 - 2010

Project	Funding Agency	Duration
Action Research Project on Women's Rights and Access to Water and Sanitation in Asian Cities	International Development Research Centre	2009 - 2011
Creating Safer Communities for Marginalized Women and for Everyone	Status of Women Canada	2007 - 2010
Gender Inclusive Cities Programme	United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women	2008 - 2011
Learning Through Difference: Multi-scalar Forms of Feminist Organizing	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council	2008 - 2011
Technical Assistance for the Global Programme Safe Cities Free of Violence against Women and Girls	UNIFEM (part of UN Women)	2009 - 2011
Third International Conference on Women's Safety: Building Inclusive Cities	UNIFEM (part of UN Women) UN-HABITAT Department for International Development International Development Research Centre Interchurch organization for development cooperation Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst	2009 - 2010
Urban Safety Toolkit for Asia-Pacific	UN-HABITAT Safer Cities Unit (with the assistance of UN-ESCAP and CITYNET)	2010



## **COLLABORATING INSTITUTIONS**

Action des femmes handicapées (Montréal), Montréal, Canada  
Action India, Delhi, India  
Carleton University  
Catholic Crosscultural Services, Peel, Canada  
Centre des aînés de Gatineau, Gatineau, Canada  
CISCSA - Exchange and Services Centre, Southern Cone, Argentina - Coordinator of the Latin America Women and Habitat Network, Cordoba, Argentina  
Huirou Commission, New York, United States of America  
Information Centre of the Independent Women's Forum, Moscow, Russia  
International Centre for the Prevention of Crime, Montréal, Canada  
International Centre for Network and Information on Crime – Tanzania, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania  
International Centre for Research on Women, Washington, United States of America  
Jagori, Delhi, India  
Plan International, Surrey, United Kingdom  
Women of the Dawn, Regina, Canada  
University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Australia  
University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Canada

## **FUNDING PARTNERS**

CITYNET  
Department for International Development (DFID)  
Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst - EED  
Government of Canada – International Development Research Centre  
Government of Canada - Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC)  
Government of Canada – Status of Women Canada  
Interchurch organization for development cooperation (ICCO)  
United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) (Part of UN Women)  
United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)  
United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT)  
United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women (UNTF)



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Sohail Husain	Expert Evaluator, Gender Inclusive Cities: Programme
Prabha Khosla	Lead Consultant, Action Research Project on Women's Rights and Access to Water and Sanitation in Asian Cities
Kalpana Viswanath	Project Director, Gender Inclusive Cities Programme

## INTERNS

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Denise Chan  
Luba Moshcovich

## BOARDS MEMBERS' RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

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