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# Rural Women in Australia Develop Health Materials

## Dear Sisters,

We are a rural women's health service based in Victoria, Australia. We provide information, training, books, videos and pamphlets to the women of our region.

We also develop programmes, workshops and training modules. As a result of working with women in many aspects of women's health, we have developed a range of health materials which we want to make available to as many women as possible.

We are a non-profit, non-government organisation funded by the Commonwealth of Australia. We have only women members and work from a feminist philosophy, employing feminist principles; so all our work is grounded in women's experiences.

I enclose a copy of our resource listing for your perusal. I look forward to hearing from you as to how you might be able to assist us in the wider distribution of our materials.

Your sincerely,

Jude Jackson Coordinator, Loddon Campaspe Women's Health Service, Inc. 31 Mackenzie Street Bendigo Victoria 3550 Australia

All interested women's groups or individuals should contact Loddon Campaspe Women's Health Service for the invaluable health materials they have produced. - Editor

### WID in India

### Dear Friends,

Initiatives: Women in Development (IWID) is an organisation which was formed in 1989 with the aim of strengthening NGO efforts at women's development in India. Its main activities include gender training, organisational development from a gender perspective and research and documentation on women's issues.

More recently, we have started networking with women's organisations in Asia so that we can learn from the experiences of other Asian countries. In this regard we would be grateful if you could send us any literature on the activities of your organisation and status of women and women's development efforts in your country.

Please let us know whether you bring out any periodicals/journals in English. As of now IWID does not bring out any periodicals but we bring out our workshop reports/research papers on women and development periodically. With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

Ranjani K. Murthy IWID E2, B Block, 4th Floor Parsn Paradise Apts. 109 G.N. Chetty Road T. Nagar, Madras 600 017 India

It is always good to receive news from women's groups all over the world. Are there any women's groups who would like to share their experiences of women and development in their own country with IWID? - Editor

## MEF Call on All Women's Groups.....

### Dear Sisters,

We saw a short description of your organization in "The Tribune" February 1993 and are writing for more information about Isis International.

The Melanesian Environment Foundation (MEF) is a non government organization working to raise awareness of environmental issues in Papua New Guinea. Our work primarily focuses on the issues of logging, mining and dynamite fishing and is conducted by youth in schools and with people in villages. Over the past year and a half MEF has made a concerted effort to involve and strengthen the women. We have begun to address some basic issues that keep women from the work: violence against women, childcare, health including family planning and feelings of shame, jealousy and fear that greatly shape the women's lives. These issues have not been totally resolved but have been dealt with significantly that the women have now begun to participate in the awareness work on a regular basis rather than office support work only.

In our early stages of planning the women's program we need information from other women's groups like yours that will help to strengthen our understanding of women's relationship to the environment, models to help us develop ways to work with groups of village women and ways to help the men feel less threatened and more supportive. We are interested in receiving your issues and information pack on the



environment and what women are doing to protect it.

We realize we are asking for a lot but please understand that any informational support you can provide us now or in the future will be greatly appreciated.

#### Sincerely,

Joyce David and Gerry Pearson Women's Program, Melanesian Environment Foundation, Inc. P.O. Box 4830 Boroko, NCD Papua New Guinea

We enjoin all our sisters and friends to send information to MEF regarding women and the environment. Good luck to you on your women's program. - Editor

## Ugandan Women Find a Voice in Soroti

#### Dear Editor,

We are a newly formed women's NGO, Soroti Women's Development Association (SWODA) whose main objectives among others is to uplift, empower, promote and improve the status and wellbeing of women and children in Soroti District especially after the civil strife which seriously underplayed whatever chances of development that could have taken place.

We have on several occasions come across some of your publications which we have found to be very useful.

We understand that copies are distributed free to women's groups in countries in the South. We would be very grateful if you could include us on your mailing list and send us at least two copies of your publication. We would particularly like to receive copies of **Women in Action 2 & 3/93** on women and migration.

Looking forward to hearing from you soon. Thank you for a job well done. Very kind regards.

Yours faithfully,

Deborah Ossiya General Secretary, SWODA P.O. Box 6655 Kampala Uganda

Congratulations on your new endeavour. Once again women show a nation that with our collective energy and will-power we can do it for ourselves. - Editor