



Gender actions in the Network of Excellence "Global MONitoring for Security and Stability (GMOSS)"

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With contributions from

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European Workshop on Gender Mainstreaming • Marseilles • March 29-30, 2007



Presentation Plan



- **Context of GMOSS**
- **Gender Action Plan (GAP) in GMOSS**
Context, actions and contributions in GAP
- **Proceedings of the GMOSS "Gender and Security Conference"**
(> report : N. Stephenne, C. Burnley and M. Agüera-Cabo, European Commission, DG JRC, IPSC, Ispra, Italy, EUR 22519)
- **Artistic Exhibition**
(Vinciane Lacroix, Ecole Royale Militaire, Chaire d'Electricite, Brussels, Belgium)

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GMOSS Context



- **GMES (Global Monitoring of Environment and Security)** is an initiative set up jointly by the **European Union** and the **European Space Agency**.
- **Global Monitoring for Security and Stability (NoE)**
 - Background: Threat of civil society by:
 - Conflicts, Terrorism
 - Destruction of Resources and Infrastructure
 - Disasters
 - Objectives: Analysis of the potential of Remote Sensing Data
 - Threat analysis (early warning indicators, scenario analysis)
 - Monitoring of infrastructure, damage borders, migration
 - Benchmarking of data analysis and visualisation concepts/techniques
 - Networking of the European community (research, industry, conflict analysis) concerned with civil security aspects by:
 - Joint research and training activities
 - Joint use of resources and infrastructure
 - Exchange of expertise and staff

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1. Gender Action Plan (GAP)

How to address gender within an EC Network of Excellence?

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Context of the "GAP" in GMOSS



- ▶ **Male "over-representation"** (31/105 = 30% but only 1/14 = 7% in the executive committee)



- ▶ **Wrong perception about gender = female**

Women are not "by nature" gender specialists but they have been assigned to set the GAP (GMOSS 18 month review report)

- ▶ However a NoE such as GMOSS could be an excellent platform for a series of gender mainstreaming mechanisms
 - to support women scientists working within the network,
 - to forge links with networks of women scientists outside GMOSS
 - to reach out to potential women scientists in the next generation : "attract girls"
 -
- ▶ **GMOSS GAP objectives** related to the 3 objectives of the contractual requirement in all EC research programs:
 1. Attempt to better use and monitor women human resources ▶ **Exhibition**
 2. Analyze and address gender research content ▶ **Proceedings**
 3. Support research to better understand the gender itself gender dimensions in security



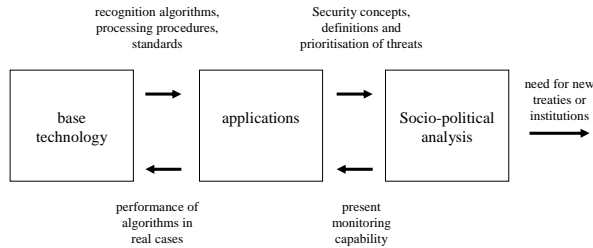
2. GMOSS "Gender and Security Conference"

Is it possible to build a gendered spatial security research tool?



• **GMOSS information flow (Between Work Packages)**

Discussions between socio-political partners studying policy demands and threats scenarios and EO technologists addressing technical issues.



• **Within the 2° and 3° EC objectives, and by a discussion between scientists, the goal is the assessment of**

- Gender dimensions in security research
- Potential building of technological tools using spatial information and Earth Observation (EO) data



• **Organizing a workshop**

- bringing together two communities of scientists (work flow idea):



- Building together a new gendered spatial security research

• **Workshop preparation and agenda (4 progressive questions) :**

- what can be a general but gendered definition of security?
- what are the gender dimensions in security?
- how do we measure the gender dimension in security?
- what is geospatial translation of these measures?





workshop on

GENDER and SECURITY

March 8th, 2006
Lago Maggiore, Italy



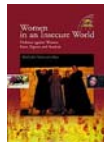
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Joint Research Centre

The GMOSS Network of Excellence, the JRC Women and Science network of the European Commission's Directorate General for Research, and the JRC Unit Support to External Security (SES)

Bringing together the perspectives of political and sociological scientists (M. Turshen, W. Giles, S. Jacobs and R. Jacobson), United Nations agencies (UNESCO, UNIFEM,...) and international bodies (Oxfam, Commonwealth Secretariat, DCAF) in the analysis of gender issues affecting Security, and the DG Research for the dimension of gender equality in science.

Participants from UNESCO, UNIFEM, SwissPeace, Commonwealth Secretariat, OXFAM etc...

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1° question: gendered definition



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• Large literature body on security concepts

Realist definition of State security



Post cold war definition of Human security

“state protection by military means of borders, territory and citizens”

“Global well-being, universal human rights recognised and protected by the State and multiscale organisations”

• The gendered definition of security

- ▶ Nothing in realist definition
- ▶ Human security definition focus on individuals. Only this approach allows studying differences among people, which includes gender differences

In GMOSS,

- Use of a broad and unclear definition
- Lack of agreement among WP

This paper provide a state of the art in security concepts

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2° question: gender dimensions (I)



• In conflict :

- ≠ situations because of the patriarchal structure of the society

Women status :
care, welfare and survival role,
sexual object often linked to
devaluated femininity

Male status:
Power and societal representation
often linked to aggressive
masculinity

- Sexual violence, humiliation, rape, unwanted pregnancy, forced prostitution
- Higher level of casualties among women and children (civilians) than soldiers
- ≠ visions of war and peace :
 - Less, but not inexistent, perpetration of violence by women
 - Important in the after-conflict reconstruction because of the survival role, peace-keeping involvement
- Evolving roles
 - During and after conflict : new opportunities, new roles
 - Progressive evolution though male involvement in female family roles (first in developed countries)



2° question: gender dimensions (II)



• In Natural disasters : less linked to social roles in society

The impact of disasters is it neutral?

- ≠ position in space, localization
 - Tsunami example (Oxfam, 2005) : lower casualties among men because they are fishermen and were on the sea, while women and children were on the beach
- ≠ role in the society define some restriction on mobility or levels of accessibility to rescue offices or to resources
 - Accessibility gendered studies (Brown 2003, Kwan 2005)

In conflict and disasters, gender ≠ in term of societal power and accessibility. These dimensions are spatial, localized and must be integrated in geospatial tools



- **Workshop preparation and agenda (4 progressive questions) :**
 - what can be a general but gendered definition of security?
 - what are the gender dimensions in security?
 - how do we measure the gender dimension in security?
 - what is geospatial translation of these measures?

- **Lack of extensive reliable data**
 - on war causalities
 - and particularly of gender disaggregated data (i.e. number of widows after natural or human-induced disasters)

Investment in qualitative and quantitative localized survey

- **Complexity of quantitative and spatial translation of gender dimensions**
 - Cannot be reduced to one variable (gender inequalities or head of household)
 - Need an integration of qualitative gender research in quantitative spatial models

Communication between socio- political scientists and spatial analysts

Then ... THE GAP in communication



• These questions create a “GAP” in communication

Socio-political scientists specialized in gender studies



Technological scientists specialized in EO

- Dramatic decreasing of GMOSS male audience (while only 30% women in GMOSS)
- 2 last questions not addressed by socio-political scientists. They even argued against the general quantitative approach

• Reasons of miscommunication:

	Geospatial analysis approach	Gender studies approach
Goal	Models to support security policy making: •focus on control and prediction	Gender dimension to security •focus on justice (equity, vulnerability and representation)
Epistemological reference	Natural and Applied Sciences (modern science) •universalism and generalization •research/study hyper-separation (neutrality, and objectivity) •models of reality (simplification and commensurability)	Humanities •complexity, historical and socio-cultural contextual variations •integration of subjectivity •incommensurability
Methodological approach	Positivism	Influence of the postmodernist paradigm
Data uses	Quantitative methods (modeling, quantitative datasets and satellite images)	Mainly qualitative (oral methods, participant observation and text analysis) Eventually quantitative data (problems of availability)

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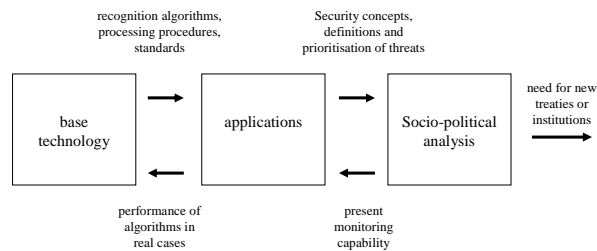
Outputs for GMOSS



• State of the art

- on security concepts,
- gendered security definitions and
- gender dimensions in natural and man-made disasters including the spatial component

• Translation of the information flow within GMOSS



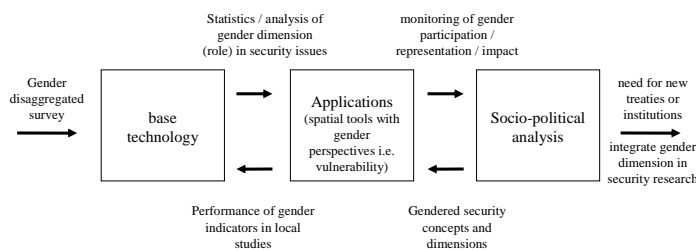
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• **State of the art**

- on security concepts,
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• **Translation of the information flow within GMOSS**



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Perspectives toward a gendered spatial security research tool

- **Changing perception about gender ≠ women. We have to learn from gender specialists, not from women colleagues**
- **Integration of complementary approaches to policy making**
 - Questioning the epistemological basis of technological science
 - Modeling the concepts of the socio-political explanations
- **Proposition of gendered spatial studies of vulnerability**
 - Mapping of gender impacts of man-made and natural disasters at global scale (mortality, socio economic factors) - Spatial localisation of differences in head of household
 - Better understand the link between political status and spatial coping strategies (migration, land use changes,...) among gender at different scales
 - Analyse the gendered accessibility to resources, gendered land use patterns
 - Integrate the spatial analysis in a participative approach, using EO and GIS as tool of communication and tool of common understanding of the reality

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3. Exhibition

How to conciliate private and professional life?

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Aim:

- **Stress that a rich private life can be compliant with excellence at work**
- **Question researchers on how to conciliate both**
- **Suggest a reflection from the visitor on this issue so that women and men can better share their time and understand each other.**

Concept:

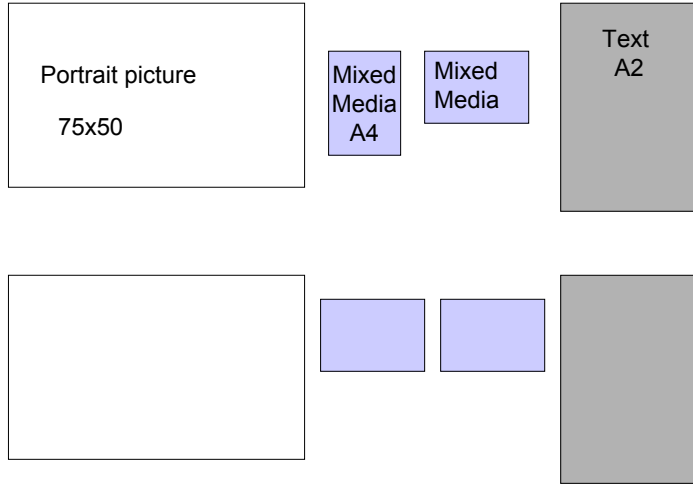
8-9 « portraits » of GMOSS female researchers

1-2 « portraits » of GMOSS male researchers

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One « portrait »



One Portrait Picture



Mixed Media



- Raw material: pictures provided by researchers
- Process them digitally (new frame, blurring, etc.)
- Process them manually (painting, drawing collage, etc.)
- Mounted on MDF

Aim of the mixed media:

- Visual communication
- Not explicit, not exhaustive, but good synthesis
- Provide a common style to the overall serie
- Stimulate the visitors imagination



Example



Provided



Processed



Test image



Processed test image



Processed test image



Text:



Some questions asked to the researchers:

- **What is security?**

Aim: A general question unifying all the GMOSS researchers, positioning him/her in the professional life

- **What is your background? Or ...?**

Aim: learn how this person came to security?
how he/she believes she could help monitoring security?

- **What**

Aim: get some suggestions on what to do to in order to help researchers to conciliate both aspects of the life.

- **Do we need another question?**

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