

**The Association for the Development
and Enhancement of Women (ADEW)**

Annual Report

2006

The Year of Partnerships

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Chair's Message

Partnership for development

This year marks our 19th years as an NGO! It seems scarcely believable how far we have come along and excelled. Twenty years ago we were just a group of young men and women, breaking through the depths of the squatter areas in our field research. Since the beginning, we have believed that real change and progress in our country will never be achieved by ignoring the reality of thousands of marginalized citizens in slums. We took our first steps towards civil action in 1985 and were officially recognized in 1987.

From the heart of Masr El Qadima, Manshiet Nasser, Zeinhom Hills, and El Basateen, we were introduced to hundreds of families, all of whom no matter how bad the circumstances they were experiencing, expressed a love for Egypt that was embedded and constant in their hearts. We maintained strong relations with many of the families throughout our field research, in particular the women and female heads of households.

Our first step was to research and analyze the problems facing marginalized female heads of households. Afterwards, we empowered her economically through the micro credit program, then through other programs including literacy, legal assistance, and health awareness. ADEW has continued the work with female heads of households and we have discovered that in order to promote Egyptian women, we must additionally work on advancing their families and surrounding society. Therefore we have reached a new phase and announced that “Yes Egyptian Women are full citizens too”, they have the rights as well as duties that are endowed through citizenship. Egyptian women are also partners with their husbands and sons, and today “we are all partners in development”. This was ADEW’s slogan in 2006, so let’s introduce you to the most important phases that ADEW has worked through in 2006: the year of partnerships.

Political Participation

Since 2006 was the year of partnerships for ADEW, we held public advocacy plans for the inclusion of women in Egyptian political life through a workshop entitled “Women’s political participation in municipal administration”. The workshop was held in January in partnership with the Egyptian society for economic and social rights, and under the auspices of Her Excellency Aisha Abdel Hadi, the Minister of Manpower. Honor was bestowed in the attendance of representatives from the various parties, members of the Shura Council, Engineer Diab Abu Libdeh, Chairman of the Regional Associations, and the renowned writer, Mrs. Amina Shafiq. The workshop culminated in several recommendations, including a means to find and allow for the representation of women in local councils, allowing the right of accountability to citizens in the questioning of members of local councils and the implementation of decentralized decision-making.

Partnership through shared responsibility

In March 2006, ADEW implemented an event entitled “Homeless Women” which is considered one of the most important events in 2006. The event was chaired by Dr. Hilal El Din, professor of political science, and attended by a number of members of the People’s Assembly and Shura Council, the National Council for Women, writers, and public figures. The aim of the conference was to inform public opinion on this large scale problem and the subsequent issue of women who have no shelter. The conference tackled a community problem facing a large number of women who have suddenly found themselves homeless. It highlighted the problem that Egyptian law links a woman’s right to the matrimonial home and custody, meaning it is considered that the role of women in the founding of the marital home and the family is a marginal one. The conference called for women’s rights to housing regardless of whether they have child custody or not, to allocate 10% of the State’s housing and the Mubarak housing project to these women and finally, to include a provision of a motherhood pension through insurance companies.

Partnership through the involvement of our children for our country

It was a year of partnerships at all levels. Our work in 2006 was to expand the scope of our services to involve youth of both genders in the development process through the youth lending program. The idea began to take shape at ADEW through the submission of a proposal to provide loans for a number of youths and subsequent agreement by the Social Fund for Development in the establishment and implementation of this program. The program targets youth and the owners of small and medium sized projects in order to lend assistance by improving their standard of living which then reflects on their families as a whole. Thus, the dream of youth became a reality. The work on this project began in July 2006 and has witnessed great success during its first six months. The percentage of repayment for all the loans (245 loans) reached 100% from the start of the project to the present date. In addition to the success we received as an NGO, we have also seen changes in the lives of these young people. Their ambition has crossed the barriers of despair by initiating projects through hard work.

Partnership through the dissemination of a culture of volunteerism

ADEW believes in the important role played by the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood in raising awareness from the perspective of child rights. A partnership was formed by ADEW and NCCM where a team of volunteers from ADEW participated in a campaign entitled “Think Once and Twice” under the Socio Informational Initiative for Development run by the NCCM. The activities under this initiative are monitored by the UNDP.

ADEW believes in the concept of volunteerism and the dissemination of its culture and that each person is able to give a part of their time to society. ADEW’s team, through this initiative and belief consisted of ten young volunteers of both genders from various programs (Girls’ Dreams, Arab Women Speak out, and Health programs). The participation of these young people for the third consecutive year has won the confidence of the NCCM through the achievements of ADEW’s team.

Partnership and the responsibility of ADEW

ADEW itself is a model of partnership. We are all partners at ADEW. Each program is conducted through teamwork and by sharing in the planning and implementation. The team is

keen to create new ideas for development that stem from the communities in the squatter areas and lead to a solving of their problems.

The above has only been an overview of the events that have taken place in 2006, and now at the end of the year, we consider carefully our achievements. Our journey in 2006 was serious yet enjoyable. Now after reviewing the most important events of the year, I am happy to leave you with the annual report, with a promise of completing the path together next year to proceed to our 20th year of civil work.

Dr. Iman Bibars

Chairperson of the Association for the Development and Enhancement of Women

ADEW in brief

ADEW is a private non-governmental organization (NGO), which works directly with Female Heads of Households and their families, and lately with young people as well, in the poorest areas of Cairo, Qalyubia and Gharbia governorates. ADEW works for developing the status of women on the national and local level.

ADEW was first registered as a non-governmental organization with the Egyptian Ministry of Social Affairs in 1987 under registration number 3528, then was re-registered in 2002 under the same number in compliance with the requirements of the new NGOs law 84/2002

History of ADEW

ADEW was the first feminist Egyptian NGO to deal specifically with the issue of Female Heads of Households (FHH) in the poorest slum areas. ADEW was founded in 1987 by a group of young professionals who have raised public awareness on the issue of FHH through field research in the poorest areas of Masr El-Qadima and Manshiet Naser. This was the first time that female headships were recognized among society, and the FHH in the poor slum areas in particular, who are considered to be the most marginalized in society.

ADEW today

- ADEW is a leading feminist development association working in Egypt for more than 20 years.
- ADEW was first established and started working in a one-room office in Manshiet Nasser, providing FHH with loans and issuing ID cards for them, ADEW's offices have expanded to reach Gharbia and Qalyubia governorates.
- ADEW today has 16 offices in five areas with a staff of more than 250 members; most of whom are youth within the field or administrative office.
- ADEW's programs now vary and provide many different services in addition to the Micro-Credit Program and the Legal Program. The Education Sector in ADEW includes three programs: the Literacy Program, Girls' Dreams Program and Arab Women Speak out Program. ADEW has also expanded its activities to give the chance to every member

of the Egyptian family to benefit from its programs which include: the Health Program, Legal Assistance and Awareness Program, Political Participation Support Program, Community Mobilization Program, Domestic Violence Program, Youth Loans Program and Advocacy Program.

- ADEW concentrates on working on the level of the decision makers as well as working directly with FHH and the marginalized communities in order to help lobby for women's needs and rights. In its advocacy campaigns, ADEW uses mass-media and conducts seminars and conferences in order to lobby for the different problems faced by marginalized communities.

ADEW's field work in squatter areas

ADEW has been working for 20 years in the poorest communities in Cairo and its suburbs. ADEW's activities spread from Manshiet Naser to Misr El-Qadima, Dar El-Salam, Gamaleya, Ezbet Arab El-Walda in Helwan, in addition to its offices in Qalyubia and Gharbia governorates.

Our message

ADEW aims at empowering women who head their households and their families economically by providing them with loans for small business development. We also aim to empower them legally, socially and culturally and raise their awareness of their national rights and duties. ADEW also aims at creating a link between the different government offices by acting as mediators between women and various governmental and private agencies. ADEW delivers women's voice to the national consciousness to help decision makers recognize the problems faced by women. At the same time, ADEW works on networking with other feminist NGOs to unify efforts and projects.

ADEW's target group

ADEW was the first NGO to identify FHH as a target group

She is a woman without support

She is a female head of household

We have all heard the statement: "a woman without support".

Women headships have become a well known phenomenon today. More and more women are the sole breadwinners of their household and do not have any support from male relatives. She is viewed by society as a victim, depriving her of her simplest right to declare that she is a brave and responsible woman who is the headship of her family.

Who is a female head of household?

ADEW was the first NGO to define a female-headed household (FHH) as one in which a woman is the primary economic contributor to the family, (not depending on any other male family member whether her father, or one in which a woman represents her family legally and socially within the community). Accordingly, a FFH can exist under a variety of circumstances such as:

- A FHH could be a widow, a divorcee, or a married but deserted woman. FHHs also include wives of sick or disabled husbands, whom subsequently have to carry out their inactive husband's duties and work in their place to be able to satisfy the family's needs. FHHs may also be women who are married to unemployed men, wives of alcohol or drug addicts, or wives of men who toil for daily wages (urzuqi).
- A FHH could be a woman who has never married, and or also may be additionally burdened by having to work due to losing her parents or other family members. FHHs may be any women who have to contribute more to the family income because they live with continuous expenses not incurred as part of their daily needs (e.g. medical bills, hiring of temporary labor). Because of the large number of cases in which women are FHHs, the single-head of household phenomenon has widely spread in society. The fact that 70% of the single-head of household families are supported by women, while only 30% are supported by men (widower, divorced, unmarried), raises our awareness of this phenomenon as a serious problem that is widely spreading.

ADEW was the first NGO that identified the Female Head of Household phenomenon in the 1980's. ADEW was also the first NGO to define the FHH term according to the real existence of these women in society.

The National Council for Women's Statistics for the year 2003 show that 23% of the families in Egypt are financially supported by women, while the percentage rises up to 57% in the slum areas. ADEW classified FHHs as follows:

- Second Wives
- Wives of men who toil for daily wages (urzuqi)
- Wives of unemployed men
- Unmarried.
- Wives of alcohol or drug addicts.
- Wives of prisoners.
- Wives married to sick or disabled husbands
- Women who have to contribute more to the family income than men.
- Widows
- Divorced women
- Deserted women

ADEW started in Manshiet Naser where 57% of the families are financially supported by women.

Manshiet Naser

Manshiet Naser is a squatter community on the outskirts of the city that sprung up in the 1960s. The population has grown to more than 500,000 inhabitants making Manshiet Naser one of the largest and most populated slum communities in Cairo. This officially tallied number of 500,000, in actuality is known to have exceeded one million in total inhabitants. A large section of the area does not have access to running water, sewage systems or electricity. Most of the roads in Manshiet Naser are unpaved and too narrow for normal vehicle traffic. The severe slopes and uneven changes in elevation mean that large sections of the District (above 85 meters) do not have access to basic services such as running water and sewage systems. Even at lower levels, potable water is limited and a majority of people rely on pit latrines and old septic tanks and obtain their electricity through illegal taps. The area was once used as a landfill site, so the lower quarry levels are filled with centuries of garbage, resulting in poor foundation conditions vulnerable to leaking sewer and water systems. Health problems arising from the faulty sewage system, as well as from poor nutrition, inadequate vaccinations, and the toxic fumes produced by the burning of waste in the garbage collectors' area are common.

Masr Al-Qadimah

Abul – Seoud and Al – Madabegh Quarter

The Quarter of Abul-Seoud and Al-Madabegh is located in the eastern part of Masr Al-Qadimah district, and the quarter includes three slum areas: Ezbet Abu Qarn, Al-Madabegh and Akshaak Abul-Seoud. The problems of Ezbet abu Qarn area are: the loads of garbage everywhere; the unpaved and unlighted roads; lacking access to sewage systems; bullies and lacking security services; lacking access to drinking water; the district officials' frequent threatening of area removal; burning garbage; drugs and alcohol spread in the society; lacking electricity counters; over-crowdedness and the tiny spaced houses. The problems of Al-Madabegh area are: the loads of garbage, especially the tanning residuals; the unpaved and unlighted roads; ruin of the sewage system; bullies and lacking security services; the district officials' frequent threatening of removing the area; burning garbage; spread of drugs and alcohol use; and over-crowdedness. The problems of Akshaak Abul Seoud area are the unlighted roads; the district officials' frequent threatening of area removal; and drugs.

Continuous suffering

The FHH's problem begins from childhood as girls from low-income families are often pressured to leave school to help with household chores, raise their siblings, or work. Their access to public space is restricted because their families fear for their safety and reputation. These girls often

marry at an early age. It is not a coincidence, therefore, that in adulthood poor women tend to be less educated, less skilled and earn less than men. Dr. Iman Bibars presented the problems of FHHs in her book "Victims and Heroines", which is considered one of the most important academic studies on FHHs in Egypt. Some of the problems that FHHs suffer from are:

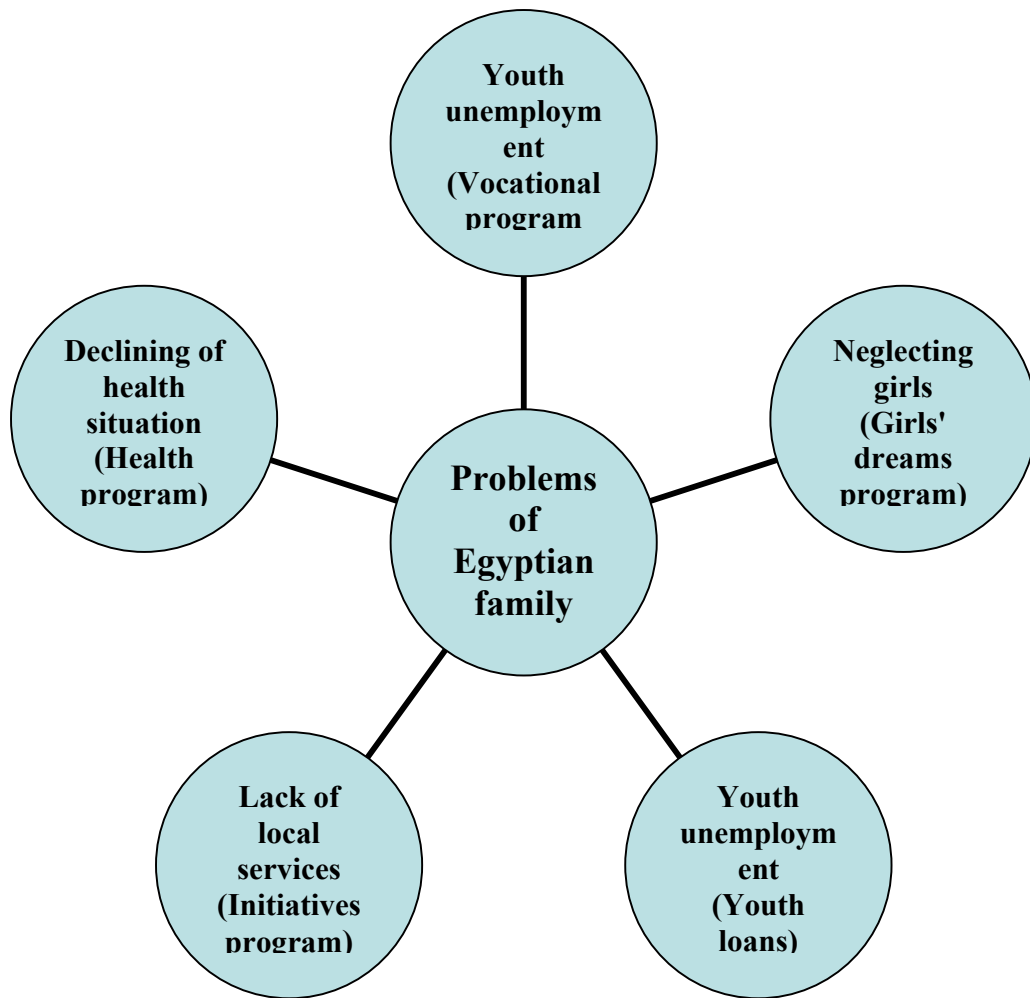
- The low perception of society and family.
- Lacking official documentation such as ID cards, and problems of dealing with legal cases.
- Lacking (or difficulty to reach out to) financial aids and services
- The dual-role as mothers and breadwinners for themselves and their families, which results in making their role of rearing children even harder.
- Lack of legal awareness, which places them at risk of negative legal consequences.

Families are the core of society

From all the problems stated above, ADEW spotted and analyzed what a FHH needs in order to start a better life, and from which ADEW established all its programs in order to enable women facing these problems. ADEW expanded its services in order to empower the whole family because ADEW believes that the whole family is the core of society. ADEW now is looking towards expanding its goals and making its services available to all Egyptian family members, where women play a prominent and praised role.

ADEW's targeted groups of beneficiaries are the marginalized inhabitants of the slum areas, whose voices do not reach the decision-makers. ADEW spots the problems of those people in the field, as ADEW's staff are always in direct contact with the inhabitants of these areas.





The Micro-credit program

The first micro-credit program in Egypt

- The income of 50% of FHH is less than LE 150 per month
- The average income among 20% of these FHH is between LE 150 and LE 200 monthly
- The income of 5% of FHH is between LE 200 and LE 400 monthly
- One fourth of FHH do not have a fixed income to support their families.

*statistics gathered through ADEW's field work

The results of our field research between 1985-1987, showed that there were no lending programs that considered the conditions of female heads of households and, or, that were able to reach women who did not have identity cards or a guarantor. From here, ADEW designed and established a micro credit program incorporating a methodology of group lending – which is known to Egyptians as "Gamiaya". The program provides loans to self forming groups of five women, thereby freeing them from the need of collateral or a guarantor. They only need to sign a receipt that is legally and individually binding. The program activities began in 1987, which represent the first group lending program in Egypt.

In 2006, the micro credit program remains, implementing activities through the provision of micro credit for women heads of house holds. The program contributes to empowering women socially and economically, whilst giving the opportunity for women with children to begin a small business for their own, generate revenue, meet their needs and the needs of their families, and give them feelings of independence and self-confidence.

While the program activities have begun in Mainsheet Nasser, ADEW's branches have expanded to include El-Qaliubia, El-Gharbia, Misr El-Qadima, Helwan, Dar El-Salaam, and El-Sayeda Zainab.

Aziza's Story

My name is Aziza Amen, a widow for 11 years, my husband died and left me 5 children, two of whom are married and three of whom reside with me. All of them are illiterate. I used to sell butter which I bought from El-Fayoum, but the money which I earned was very little. So when I heard about ADEW, I decided to take a loan with a group of my neighbors. After that I took bigger loans to expand my project. I took a second loan to buy vegetables and groceries to sell. Now two of my children are enrolled in school, and I hope to be able to help them to finish their education.

During 2006 the micro credit program reached 1,212 groups through the different branches including Qalubiya, Gharbia, Masr El-Qadima, Dar El-Salaam and Mainsheet Nasser. The success of our achievements can be measured with the 100% repayment rate of all loans.

In addition to the role played by the micro-credit program to secure a more stable life and a more secure future, the system of collective lending also provides many other benefits such as enhancing the women's communal sense and supporting them in order to break their isolation from society.

Activity	Gharbiya	Qalubiya	Manshiet Nasser	Masr El Qadima
Number of groups	١٦٣	٢٣٢	٢٧٢	٥٤٥
Number of women	٧٢٠	١٠٤٨	١١٨٢	٢٦٠٩
Credit portfolio	LE ٥٢٢,١٠٠.00	LE ٨٧٦,٣٠٠.00	LE ١,١٥٦,٧٠٠.00	LE ٢,١٤٤,٦٠٠.00
Repayment	100%	100%	100%	100%

The Legal Program

ADEW was the first NGO to raise the issue of legal existence of women and the lack of official documentation in 1987

- 70% of women heads of families in the squatter areas do not have any legal documents including identification cards, birth certificates, or even the marriage certificates.*
- Because of the absence of women's legal documents, women are unable to enroll their children in schools, take advantage of social security benefits, or to obtain formal work, in addition to the deprivation of their right to election and filing lawsuits.

* A study conducted by ADEW in 1987 on a random sample of women in Manshiet Nasser.

From the above figures it is clear that marginalized women do not legally exist. In addition to poverty and prevailing ignorance, a woman is dependent on her husband, father, or brother for any official transactions. Only men are responsible for all matters related to family and wife, which has resulted in the lack of women's legal existence. The problem remained hidden until women found themselves suddenly without a man due to divorce, death, or any other reason, and when attempting to receive their legal rights found that they had none. As such, ADEW established the legal program to support women on three levels:

- Assisting women in obtaining their legal documents
- Raising the legal awareness among women
- Filing lawsuits on behalf of women relating to the personal status law

Hanaa's Story

My name is Hanaa. I am 28 years old and was married for ten years until I got divorced 7 months ago. I have a boy and a girl. My husband was reckless and pleasure-seeking. He forced me to work in a scrap metal store and used to beat me severely. Once he was about to kill me if my neighbors hadn't stop him. So I decided to get divorced, and did not ask for my rights in order to get rid of him. I returned back to live with my family. When I tried to ask him for child support, he refused saying that he had no money. As I did not have money to file an alimony case, some people guided me to ADEW where they helped me issue an identification card and to file a lawsuit. I decided also to take a loan in order to start my a project to support my family.

During 2006, ADEW has issued 7295 identification cards through the legal program in the areas of Mainsheet Nasser, Qalubiya, Gharbia, Masr El Qadima and Helwan. The program has also issued 5577 birth certificates in addition to dozens of cases of late registration and pension as well as the issuance of marriage and death certificates.

Activity	Gharbia	Qalubiya	Manshiet Nasser	Masr El Qadima	Helwan
Identification cards	1053	1216	837	3337	852
Birth Certificates	1659	636	661	1778	843
Other services		4 marriage certificates 1 death certificate Finalizing 8 law suits.	39 pension cases 3 late registration finalizing 4 lawsuits	50 pension cases 15 late registration	6 late registration

In the frame of women legal awareness, Masr El Qadima branch has conducted 144 legal awareness seminars with the attendance of 3000 women.

Activity	Gharbia	Qalubiya	Manshiet Nasser	Masr El Qadima	Helwan
Legal awareness seminars	34	20	29	56	5

Number of participants	748	408	658	1176	126
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The program is following up on 68 lawsuits in Gharbia, 11 lawsuits in Helwan, 23 lawsuits in Qalubiya branch, 15 lawsuits in Manshiet Nasser, in addition to finalizing 51 lawsuits in Qalubiya, 48 lawsuits and 45 legal advice in Manshiet Nasser.

Activity	Gharbia	Qalubiya	Manshiet Nasser	Masr El Qadima	Helwan
Lawsuits	68 lawsuits	23 current lawsuits 51 finished lawsuits	15 current lawsuits 48 finished lawsuits 45 legal advice	-	11 lawsuits

Youth Lending program

Bringing and end to unemployment

For Egyptian youth

- Unemployment in Egypt has reached 1.78 million people in the beginning of 2002
- The rate of unemployment has reached 29% in the beginning of 2005
- 99% of the unemployed are youth aged between 15 and 30
- 65% of all crimes in Egypt yearly are committed by the unemployed as well as 90% of rapes and 80% of murders that occur in the family

Unemployment is a time bomb

According to studies and research conducted by ADEW, unemployment is one of the factors that greatly contribute to high rates of crime. Many of the unemployed resort to the use of violence, bullying, or even criminal means such as theft and murder in order to “survive”. Others resort to forms of escape from the bitter reality of the world by using drugs or religious extremism. This is in addition to other problems such as the inability to get married due to the inability of young people to afford the expenses associated with getting married. This inability to afford the marriage expenses has led to secret and unofficial marriages which lead to many social problems. Due to this widening phenomenon, ADEW expanded its well established micro credit program in 2006 to include youth.

Youth Lending program

This program began in collaboration with the Social Fund for Development in July 2006 in response to the desire of female beneficiaries of the micro credit program to take loans for their

children of both genders. The first phase of the project was to train the program staff and to familiarize them with all aspects of the program. The training was conducted over 3 months to enable sufficient time for the staff to comprehend the program in its entirety.

About the project

The idea began to fall into place at ADEW by submitting a proposal in order to provide loans for youth in Manial and Masr El Qadima and to help these youths in starting their small business themselves. The project was divided into different segments where the first bracket begins at LE 2,000, the second at LE 3,000, and the third and final at LE 5,000. The idea behind the different brackets was to provide small steps for youth to enable them to expand their projects later on. If they were successful in their business project, then they were allowed to increase their working capital with the provision of a larger loan.

Unmatched success in only 6 months

A variety of the business projects that have been funded include grocery shops, coffee shops, carpentry shops, blacksmith shops, car repair shops, telecommunications, beauty shops, leather making, garments, detergents, roaster shops, restaurants, accessories, and shops for household items. It is worth mentioning that the Social Fund for Development has commented on the early success of the program as the repayment rate has been 100% from the beginning of the program until the present.

Activity	Achievements
Loan Disbursement	ADEW has disbursed 245 loans for youth of both genders
Amount of disbursement	LE 500,000
Repayment rate	100%

Girls' Dreams in 2006

Dream Once and Twice

For girls

In a research conducted by Dr. Iman Bibars of nearly 480 girls aged between 8 and 18 in Manshiet Nasser, Masr El Qadima, Sayeda Zeinab, and Dar El Salam the question was addressed to these girls as "what are your dreams?". Shockingly there were very few who answered and most did not even understand that girls have dreams.

Through ADEW's outreach in the squatter areas and our direct contact with the residents of those areas, especially of the families of our beneficiaries, we noticed that girls in poor areas are confined to the home, carrying out domestic work and helping their mothers take care of their younger siblings. Many girls are not allowed to go to school like their male siblings, nor are they

allowed to socialize and have friends or play with toys. Some girls for a lack of a better alternative spend their childhood working in arduous jobs such as cleaning houses in order to help contribute to the family income. The Girls' Dreams program was established for these girls, aiming primarily to increase their confidence and self esteem and thus allowing them the opportunity and tools to enable exploration of their capabilities and teaching them how to better manage their lives. ADEW developed the curriculum which includes three main components. The first focuses on life-skills and personal relations, the second pertains to teaching the girls about health and nutrition. The third component focuses on the legal rights of women and children.

In addition to the above component, the curriculum includes providing girls with skills that can be future income generating activities such as bead work, singing, painting, handicrafts, and embroidery. The program also assists these girls in being issued legal documents such as birth certificates and identification cards since the majority lack legal existence. In 2006, 180 girls have graduated from the program and 140 are currently enrolled.

Naglaa's story – the 5th youngest of eight children

My name is Naglaa, I'm 16 years old . I'm the fifth youngest and I live in Manshiet Nasser. My whole life I have felt that I'm not a real person but more like a chair or a table. For as long as I can remember, I have been sweeping and cleaning because my father took me out of school and said that school isn't for girls. One day a nice girl came and asked me my name and she took me to the Girls' Dreams classes. I told them that I wanted to go back to school. During the classes they let us watch a movie about the dreams of girls. My father watched this movie with us and when it was finished he said that I could go to a literacy class. Afterwards, he let me go on a trip that was organized by the Girls' Dreams program. It was the first time that I had ever been somewhere other than the street I lived in. We went to a park and I was allowed to play with the other girls. No one told me to stop playing because it was improper for a girl to run and play. I forgot to mention that I love to draw and paint which I was in the program. Whenever I go anywhere I take my sketch pad and colors and draw the trees and the birds.

The Girls' Dreams program has proven successful in helping young girls express themselves in various ways such as through poetry, theatrical presentations with parents and leaders of the community as their audience and art. The following activities have been implemented through the Girls' Dreams program in 2006:

- Puppet show
- Making of teddy bears and dolls
- Making cards out of organic materials, coloring, drawing on cloth, and drawing animals.
- Embroidery and beadwork
- Training on pattern making and sewing

The program also works to provide young women with information and education about different life skills organized by the age of the girls. The importance of these lessons is to compensate for their deprivation of attending formal schooling and the lack of any reliable

source of information. The issues included in the curriculum of the Girls' Dreams program during 2006 have comprised the following:

- Personal hygiene, nutrition, vitamins and minerals, body and hair care products
- The difference between modesty and sham, friendship, the stages of adolescence, domestic violence
- Circumcision, virginity tests, early marriage, customary marriage, divorce, separation, the significance of signature.

In addition to the above topics, the Girls' Dreams program also includes:

- A constant link between the activities and the lessons. The plays and songs that are performed are prepared by the girls who express their opinions and feelings about important issues such as early marriage, FGM, and domestic violence.
- A monthly birthday party for the girls with a birthday during each month with other women in the community
- Awareness on self confidence and the ability to make decisions about their future such as refusing to get married at an early age.
- Improving communication skills among each other and with their parents and family members.
- Teaching them how to play an active role within their communities.

Being aware of the important role played by the girls' parents in the success of the objectives of the program and in providing a better life for the girls, a periodic session is held for the parents by the program facilitators. The session discusses the challenges that girls face in attempt to clarify the understanding of sensitive issues such as female genital mutilation and early marriage. ADEW was able to break through the prejudices of the parents and to win their confidence. This led to a better relationship between the girls and their parents and between the parents and the program facilitators. This understanding has helped ADEW to achieve its program objectives and to ensure the continuation of the program.

Activity	Gharbiya	Qalubiya	Manshiet Nasser	Masr El Qadima	Helwan
Number of classes	5 classes	9 classes	6 classes	4 classes	2 classes
Number of girls	76 girls	110 girls	110 girls	40 girls	40 girls
Trips	3 trips	5 trips	3 trips	3 trips	2 trips
Birthday parties	36 parties	45 parties	27 parties	16 parties	6 parties

Literacy

The group learning experience

For women

- women represent two thirds of the illiteracy rate in the Arab World
- the annual rate of decline in illiteracy in the Arab World is only 1% annually

United Nations Development reports have proven an exponential relationship between female illiteracy and infant mortality

ADEW believes that education is the basic pillar of activating the role of women in the development process, where illiteracy is one of the factors that hinder the advancement of women, particularly among the underprivileged communities, which prefers male education to that of women since women are perceived to be solely created for marriage and motherhood. As such, ADEW has established the literacy program upon request from beneficiaries who have benefited from other programs of ADEW.

Life skills and curriculum development in 2006

In 2006, ADEW started applying the Caritas curriculum within the literacy classes, which uses a different approach from the government curriculum. The Caritas curriculum uses lessons focused on life skills, which is one of the unique ways to attract the attendance of women in the program. The life skills include teaching women how to make nutritional goods such as jams, pickled olives, and cold cuts. These have helped women to better manage their household income in the time of the constant escalating prices of groceries. The classes also include lessons on beading and embroidery which can be possible income-generating projects for women.

ADEW is dedicated to providing all possible means to encourage students in completing their education, therefore, through this program ADEW has obtained approval from the Governor Adly Hussein to exempt the children of any woman attending literacy classes from paying school fees. Hundreds of students have benefited from this approval.

What also makes the program unique in encouraging women to enroll in the program and to remain enrolled is the following:

- Communication between the program facilitators and the literacy teachers to enable the field staff to visit the women who have been absent from the classes and to encourage them to attend more frequently.
- Supplying the classes with sufficient stationary and supplies
- Providing a link between the lessons and the field trips to encourage learning

- Encouraging a collective learning experience by providing a comfortable and safe atmosphere where women can discuss their problems and challenges. There is also an opportunity for women to receive other services from ADEW.

Activity	Gharbiya	Qalubiya	Manshiet Nasser	Helwan	Masr El Qadima
Applicants to the exam	135 women	292 women	166 women		152 women
Graduates	118 women	257 women	144 women		129 women
Prizes	185 prizes	190 prizes	232 prizes	81 prizes	179 prizes
Life skills lessons	The life skills curriculum has been implemented through teaching women how to make jams, pickles, cold cuts and the use of medicinal plants and herbs				
Stationary and supplies	The supplies have been distributed on a periodic basis as needed by each class				
Trips	10 trips have been conducted including a trip to Fayed, Alexandria, and Fayoum				

Arab Women Speak Out in 2006

Talk, negotiate, and take decisions

For women

Sorya's story – the oldest of seven daughters

I am 19 years old and have been divorced for 5 years. I have a daughter who is 6 years old and I got married when I was 12 years old. A lawyer came and gave my father LE 10,000 to marry me and my father approved so I got married. I am the oldest of 7 daughters and my father wanted to get rid of me and my sisters. When I got married we moved to Alexandria and after a few months my husband disappeared and I didn't know where I could find him. The classes I attended at ADEW taught me a lot of things like how to express myself and that I have a right to choose the person I marry so that my family doesn't try to sell into marriage again.

This program aims to help women in poor communities to express themselves. 2006 saw many successes in the Arab Women Speak Out program and we are starting to reap the fruits of the efforts from previous months. There have been a number of graduation ceremonies of classes in the different branches including Manshiet Nasser, Masr el Qadima, and plans are underway for the continuation of these classes. There have been a diverse set of topics tackled in 2006 by the program facilitators covering many topics of interest to women which include the following:

- Self confidence
- Sex and gender roles in society
- Participation

- Health
- Decision-making
- Negotiation

ADEW applies the same philosophy applied in the literacy program to provide life skills that help attract and retain women in the classes, as well as assisting them in increasing their income.

Activity	Masr El Qadima	Manshiet Nasser	Gharbiya
Number of classes	22 classes	22 classes	20 classes
Number of women	395 women	440 women	432 women
Trips	6 trips have been conducted to Fayed, Fayoum, and El Qanater el Khareya		
Life Skills	40 classes for soap-making, 7 classes on electrical repair, 13 food safety classes, and one sewing class		

Domestic Violence program

The first women’s shelter in Egypt

For women

- 35% of married Egyptian women have been beaten by their husbands at least once since marriage and pregnancy does not protect women from such abuse.*
- 69.1 % of the wives are beaten for refusing to have intimate relations with their husbands*
- 69.1 % of women are beaten because their husbands did not like their wives tone of voice in disagreements*
- 97% of married women in Egypt aged between 15 and 49 years of age have suffered from female genital mutilation**
- In a study by ADEW in 2001, 96% of a total of 444 women interviewed in Manshiet Nasser have been physically and sexually abused.

*A, UNICEF 2000

**WHO study 1996

Through ADEW’s extensive field work over the past 20 years, we have heard and listened to the stories of women who have experienced violence in their homes. We know the extent of the consequences faced by women when they seek assistance, and the resulting sense of helplessness because of unavailable alternatives in the face of this violence. The domestic violence program was in direct response to the request of women. The “House of Eve” shelter is the first of its kind in Egypt.

The House of Eve

The program aims to solve the problems faced by the Egyptian family through providing assistance to women who are subjected to any form of domestic violence. The program provides comprehensive support to enable women and children to return to a more peaceful life. In 2006, ADEW trained a team of program staff on receiving and welcoming women who will be residing in the shelter and the logistics of daily running the shelter. The maintenance of the shelter has been conducted to ensure safety and comfort of the residence and the program is currently setting up a domestic violence hotline.

It is worth noting that the shelter has hosted 10 women since the beginning of December 2006. Of these women, 4 have reconciled with their families and have returned home, while 2 women are hesitant to receive psychological counseling. Currently residing in the shelter are 5 women and 10 children who are attending schools. The women are learning how to best deal with their children, about their legal rights, in addition to raising their awareness of domestic violence. Women in the shelter also have available to them the remaining programs at ADEW as well as program for children who have either suffered or have witnessed domestic violence.

The Listening program

The Listening program activities started in 2006 through the psychological counseling component, which has reached counseling for 40 women. There has also been 43 focus group sessions for women to measure their awareness about the different forms of violence and to measure their acceptance of a women's shelter.

Location	Number of awareness sessions held
Manshiet Nasser	17
Masr El Qadima	11
Helwan	6
Gharbiya	10
Qalubiya	3
Total	47

Soubheya's story – my son will be demoralized

My name is Soubheya and I'm 30 years old. I got married 14 years ago and lived with my husband for only 2 months and I had a son with him who is now 12. My mother-in-law used to beat me all the time and I reported her to the police many times. My husband divorced me and I filed for alimony. The judge granted me LE 30 per month from 1996. I only received LE 200 until now. When my son got older his father took him away from me through the ruling of the mayor, and after 16 days his uncle returned him to me and told me to raise him myself. I moved in with my mother in Auda. The problem is that my brother also lives with my mother and keeps kicking my son out of the house. I had to look for him and bring him back. My brother beats my son because he doesn't want him to live with us. I don't know what to do or where my son and I could live in peace.

The Health program

Healthy Egyptians, both men and women

For women and Egyptian families

The percentage of pregnant women receiving prenatal care in the urban provinces is 54.5%, the mortal mortality rate is 88.9 per 100,000 live births, while the infant mortality rate is 36.6 per 1000 live births.

2001/2002 UNDP development health report on Egypt

ADEW believes that the degree of women's contribution to development is dependent on their health. Women who are in good health are in a better position to make decisions regarding their lives in general and about health and reproductive rights in particular. ADEW began the health program through the delivery of health services for more than 10 years through a medical doctor visiting patients and by providing medicine at the expense of the state. The program expanded to include health awareness sessions and has been a full fledged program starting 2005 through the partnership of both the public and private sectors. The program includes not just women, but also their spouses and children and stems from the belief that the Egyptian family will not develop until its health condition is improved.

In September 2006, ADEW expanded the program to include Manshiet Nasser in the scope of services as well as the area of Masr El Qadima, by providing free medical examinations to 1944 cases. This was made possible through partnership with the Ministry of Health thus enabling ADEW to refer patients to the Amr Ibn El As medical center.

Location	Beneficiaries provided with medical examinations and convoys	Beneficiaries provided with free medicine	Beneficiaries provided medication at the expense of the state	Cases of asthma referred
Masr El Qadima	1789	217	28	28
Manshiet Nasser	155	67	-	-

As also witnessed in 2006, ADEW was able to provide more services in the Health program due to its cooperation with El Maghrabi Group, which has proven to be one of our most important partners in the delivery of health services to beneficiaries.

Location	Eye glasses provided	Patients referred to the Maghrabi eye center for eye surgery
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Masr El Qadima	165	366
Manshiet Nasser	12	19

In order to achieve the greatest benefit, the program offers health education through seminars, campaigns, and medical convoys. The medical convoys act to ensure access to the largest possible sector of the population in the underprivileged areas who are rarely concerned with their health and would prefer to use the expenses they would pay for medical care towards other household expenses. During 2006, ADEW held 19 health education sessions focusing on reproductive health, female genital mutilation, the dangers of early marriage, a comprehensive health education program on the improvement of health through proper diet, early detection of breast cancer, the discovery of disabilities in children, and menopause; all of which have made the health program one of the most essential programs provided by ADEW as it serves the beneficiaries directly.

Location	Number of sessions	Number of attendees
Masr El Qadima	14	952
Manshiet Nasser	5	246

Medical convoys tackle bird flu

Immediately following the emergence and spread of avian influenza in February 2006, ADEW provided the necessary information to educate beneficiaries about the dangers of the disease, modes of transmission, and how to prevent transmission. ADEW also organized medical convoys with funding from Vodafone and SEGAS in the areas of Kiosks Abou Soued, Sayeda Zeinab, Manial, Manshiet Nasser, Masr El Qadima, Dar El Sallam, Qalubiya, and Gharbiya. 100 facilitators of the health program visited women to raise their awareness of bird flu. Publications were distributed as well as gloves, plastic bottled, and bleach. ADEW was privileged to have their inauguration of this campaign attended by Salah Ramadan, the head of Masr El Qadima and the director of the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Social Solidarity in Masr El Qadima.

Also in 2006, ADEW organized many medical convoys through collaboration with the Ministry of Health in various areas in Masr El Qadima.

Medical convoy	Number of patients served
Asthma and chest disorders	579
Children with malnutrition	289
Orthopedic care	280
Children	160
Dermatology	227
Gynecology and family planning	111
Ears and nasal infection	125
Ophthalmology	150
General medicine	232
Surgery	15

Local Development program

Development begins with initiatives

For a better community

- **In a recent study by the National Planning Institute in 2005, there are 1109 squatter areas in 20 governorates with a population of 17.7 million. Of the 1109 squatter areas, 76 have a land area of 22 km and are inhabited by over 2 million people in Greater Cairo alone.**
- **Despite the considerable efforts made by the government in the provision of school buildings, especially after the earthquake of 1992, the percentage of schools that are unsafe for children is 23.8%**

ADEW established the Local Development program and initiative in order to provide a continuous search for solutions to the problems faced by the community, which we have seen first hand through our constant presence in the field and our knowledge of the true quality of these problems. ADEW has discovered through the Health program for example that most of the diseases suffered by low-income women are a result of environmental pollution and the lack of sufficient awareness to the seriousness of pollution on health.

This led ADEW to incorporate a community mobilization program **in 2001** to provide environmental education seminars on a regular basis, as well as deep understanding of the problems faced by the community and intervention to improve the environmental conditions in squatter areas. The first activity was to select and train leaders in the community including men, women, and youth in every street of each squatter area. The next activity was to form committees of these trained leaders to find solutions for the problems of their communities and identify any new problems that arose. This has led to an increased sense of community and the unification of efforts directed towards one goal of solving the problem at hand.

In 2006 the program expanded the scope of its activities by deepening the search for problems experienced by these communities. This was conducted through a pilot program which undertook several projects including the development of the Ghamrawi market, raising the capacity of the Amr Ibn El As medical center, raising the educational level of schools in Masr El Qadima, and painting houses in the area of Khartet Abou Soued.

Development of the Ghamrawi project

The Ghamrawi market is unorganized, with continuing problems between the vendors and the inhabitants of the area. Women requested the help of ADEW in developing the market. The working plan began by creating a board of directors for the market who were elected by the vendors. Awareness was raised in the importance of maintaining the market, in strengthening the sense of individual responsibility for its maintenance, and resolving of problems with the inhabitants of the area.

Through donations from ADEW’s board of directors, the implementation of the project began with the construction of a railing around the market which housed more than 60 stands composed of iron columns sheltered by a small covering. The stands were covered with accumulated garbage, paper, cardboard and broken plastic leading to the spread of harmful insects, reptiles, and the possibility of illhealth to the vendors.

The following has been accomplished:

Activity	Achievements
Primary water pipes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Removal of the old taps 2. Installation of underground pipes, re-routing old pipes, and installation of a main tap 3. Building a wall and leveling old walls to the same size 4. the installation of 6 internal taps 5. Laying mosaic floor tiles
Iron installation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Removal of old iron to be replaced 2. Removing, fixing, and replacing covering for 50 vendors
Ongoing work includes garbage removal, trimming of trees, and fixing wooden terraces	

Achievements on the capacity building for the Amr Ibn El As Medical Center

Activity	Achievements
Paint	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Painting of all offices inside the center • Painting of all entry ways and corridors in the building • Painting of all clinics and examination rooms inside the building
Electricity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation of all electrical outposts inside the offices, examination rooms, and meeting rooms
Medical Equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchasing of a fully integrated dental equipment (filling, cleaning, caps) • Purchasing of a set of devices including stethoscopes, pressure monitor, auto cleft, and sterilization equipment
Plumbing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The entire main plumbing network was replaced in the entire building

Project on Raising Educational Capacities in Masr el Qadima

At the beginning of 2006, ADEW has been able to expand our services to include the development of schools after it was clear through our work in the field that the need for infrastructure in schools located in Masr el Qadima needed to be further developed as well as to provide playgrounds and labs. As such, ADEW with collaboration with the Ministry of Planning, the Department of Education, the Educational Administration, the Educational Buildings Authority, and schools were involved in the project “Raising the efficiency of the educational process in Masr el Qadima”.

ADEW’s role in this project included the development of the infrastructure of a number of schools, which included buildings, electricity, windows, gardens, and to create a suitable environment for education. ADEW has also provided recreational activities represented in trips for students.

In recognition to the role ADEW has played in the development process of enhancing the educational process in Masr el Qadima, ADEW has been selected to be a member of the Parent’s Assembly on the board of trustees of the target schools within the educational upgrade project, and after approval from the Ministry of Education and the Cairo Governorate.

Through research conducted by ADEW on the problems of the educational process, we have reached the conclusion that many schools are in need of further development of infrastructure, therefore, ADEW selected the most needy and the most important activities through several meetings with the Director of the Educational Administration, the Director of the Security Ministry, and the Director of the Educational buildings Authority. The project achievements in 2006 include:

Among the activities achieved in the first phase of the project in a number of schools

- Change of electricity grids in the entire building
- Installation of lighting in all classes, buildings, stairs, and entrances
- All classes have been painted, windows repaired, and installation of blackboards
- Installation and repair of all windows and glass
- Repaired network of drainage and plumbing as well as installation of bathrooms, taps, and basins.
- Tiling of a part of the school yard
- Recreational trips for students

Within the development of the educational process, in 2006 Vodafone has initiated a project through the selection of a number of NGOs for the rehabilitation of infrastructure and restoration of schools located in the poorest slums in Egypt. As a leader in the process of upgrading education, ADEW has been selected to reform 15 schools with a start date in 2007. The schools targeted by ADEW are located in Tanta, Qalubiya, and Masr El Qadima.

Supporting Women's Political Participation program

ADEW is first to launch the slogan "Women are Full Citizens"

For women

- **The number of women elected to the People's Assembly in its current session (2000-2005) is 8 members from a total of 454 members. The rate of women's participation in the Egyptian Parliament is less than 2% of the number of seats.**
- **Out of the 5.3 million women who have the right to vote less than one million exercise this right.**

The center for public information

Following ADEW's belief in the principle of gender equality, the right of women to vote and the right of women's representation in the people's assembly, local councils, or the Shura council, ADEW established the Women's Political Participation program in 2004. The program works on two levels: candidates and voters.

Supporting women candidates:

In 2006, the program completed its activity of training female candidates for local elections and trade unions with a view to develop their skills in the following:

- The electoral system, the law, and legal provision and regulations
- Planning, time management, and communication skills
- The technical and financial means required to conduct an effective election campaign
- Presentation skills
- Mobilization of the necessary skills, votes from the public, resources, budgeting, and public speaking

Supporting women's right to vote:

The program not only operates on the level of female candidates, but also works with women at all different socio-economic levels to raise awareness about political rights.

Women's political participation at the local level

January 2006 saw the most significant event on women's political participation with the implementation of the workshop entitled "Local Women's Political Participation". It was held under the auspices of Her Excellency Minister of Manpower, Aisha Abdel Hadi. It was the first of a series of workshops presented by ADEW through a partnership with the Egyptian Society for Economic and Social Rights. The seminar was attended by representatives from the various parties and members of the Shura Council. It was also attended by engineer Diab Abu Libdeh, Chairman of the Regional Association for NGOs and by the renowned writer, Amin Shafiq. The seminar concluded with several recommendations including the following:

- To amend the method of election and the administering of relatives instead of the individual.
- To give the right to citizens to question members of the local councils.
- The decentralization of decision-making and the implementation process
- Finding means to allow for the representation of women in local councils
- Working towards greater transparency in the selection of members of the people's assembly and the local councils.
- To increase the power of the local council through a law which would give it power in the control and follow-up on the work of the people's assembly.
- To allow the participation of grassroots leaders in the preparation of the new law for local councils.
- Distribution of power and responsibility to the local councils through the decentralization of power.

Advocacy activities

ADEW believes that the advancement and development of women is best achieved through the media as it delivers the voices of marginalized groups to decision makers and to the rest of society. For this reason, 2006 held many conferences and seminars that have achieved great impact by getting the public involved in the issues faced by the community, especially women, youth and the Egyptian family.

Conference on women without shelter

In March 2006, ADEW organized and implemented a conference attended by government representatives and the media entitled "Homeless Women". The event was attended by Dr. Ali Eldin Helal, Secretary of Information at the National Democratic Party who was honored by holding the status of chairman of the conference. The event was also attended by Ambassador Nancy Bakir, Deputy Secretary General of the League of Arab States, and Dr. Zeinab Radwan, Member of Parliament, Mona Zulfikar, Lawyer and member of the National Council for Women, Dr. Mona El Hadidy, Dean of the International Academy of Information Sciences 1982-1985, Iqbal Baraka, Editor of Hawa Magazine, Nadia Rashad, writer and artist, and Mona Ragab, renowned writer, in addition to many members of the People's Assembly, Shura Council, National Council for Women, and representatives from civil society.

The conference featured a film on homelessness which was produced by ADEW's media department. The conference included live testimonies of women who shared their stories of injustice and homelessness. The audience was very sympathetic with these women and it was recommended to provide alternative solutions in terms of social, legal, and economic assistance to women who find themselves without shelter.

I got married in the traditional way and had a son, but my life was filled with beatings, insults, and torture. I tolerated all of it so that I could raise my son. In the end my husband kicked me and my son out of the house and I went to my brother. My brother told me that I could stay but my son couldn't. He said he didn't want to raise someone else's son. I begged him to let both of us stay and endured whatever my sister-in-law's insults. I wish I had a place where my son and I could live in peace, but where?

Thoraya Mohamed – Minya Governorate
One of the cases presented at the conference

Recommendations of the conference:

One of the most important outcomes of the conference was the agreement by His Excellency the Minister of Housing to ADEW's requests and recommendations as follows:

- Allocate a pension for women, as work inside the home is work that deserves pay.
- Allocate a portion of housing projects for homeless women
- Allocate government and private sector jobs for women
- Activate the role of "Nasser Social Bank", and the use of "Zakat" money to help homeless women
- Facilitate the procedures of pension allocation and disbursement
- Pass a law that requires the Ministry of Social Solidarity to provide pensions for women.
- Provide attention to the role that the media plays in educating people of the dangers of early marriage and early childbearing and the role of media in the development of solutions to social problems.
- Provide health insurance for women who are unemployed
- Activate laws to punish families for depriving their children of education
- Pass laws prohibiting violence against women as the laws do not punish husbands who beat their wives and have obvious injuries
- Issuance of a law that regulates housing and funds accumulated during the marriage similar to those issued in Morocco and Tunisia.

I got married in 1985 and had five children. My husband didn't work and used to beat me and insult me in front of people. He divorced me and married someone else. I took my kids to my father's house which has only one room. We are 8 people in his house. How can we live in such a small space? I work as a housekeeper so that I can provide for my children. I wish I had a place where my kids and I could live.

Mervat Mohamed – Qalubiya Governorate
One of the cases presented at the conference

Screening of ADEW's films at Cairo's Cultural Palace

ADEW, in cooperation with Cultural Palaces in Egypt, screened 5 documentary films produced by ADEW's media department followed by a discussion by the viewers. These screenings were implemented through 5 Cultural Palaces including, Banha, Kafr El Sheikh, Damansour, Gharbiya, and Cairo. The films highlight the issues of marginalized women in society including homeless women, and the problem of the legal existence of women.

Roundtable on the image of NGOs in the media

Because ADEW believes so strongly in the media as a partner in the development process, the media unit organized a roundtable in June 2006 aimed at creating a common language of dialogue between NGOs and the media in order to help media personnel in their actions to strengthen development efforts. The roundtable discussed the image of NGOs in the media and the research conducted on the reality of the media in the development process. The roundtable was attended by Dr. Iman Bibars, ADEW Chairperson, Dr. Mohamed Tawfik First Undersecretary for the Ministry of Social Solidarity, Dr. Iqbal Samalouti, Chairperson for the Future Women's organization, Mr. Nabil Sadik, Editor of the investigation section of the Sabah El Kheir Magazine, as well as media personnel, governmental representatives, members of parliament and Shura Council, and representatives from NGOs.

Recommendations

- Educate media personnel on the activities of civil society
- Allocate a fixed section in newspapers on the activities of NGOs, as previously done by the Nahdet Masr Newspaper which allocated a weekly section on civil society.
- Lobby the media to attract journalists as individuals not as part of corporations to be partners in media and development work.
- Increase networking among NGOs in order to increase the power of civil society and buttress the necessity of forming media and public relations departments in all NGOs.
- Provide training to NGOs on the different forms of media

Conferences and other events held in 2006

Event	Objective	Date	Number of attendees
Session on "Women's Political participation in local elections"	To encourage women to vote in local elections	29/1/06	60
Conference "Homeless Women"	To bring to the attention of decision makers and the community the injustice against older women and the linking of residence to marital status and custody age of children	13/3/2006	150
Roundtable on the image of NGOs in the media	Creating a common language of dialogue between civil society and the media in order to contribute together, and to work in partnership to promote development efforts	18/6/2006	60
Session at Cairo's Cultural Palace	Screening of the "Homeless Women" Documentary	9/8/2006	80
Session at Banha's Cultural Palace	Screening of the "Homeless Women" Documentary	20/8/2006	80
Session at Kafr El Sheikh's Cultural Palace	Screening of the "Homeless Women" Documentary	24/8/2006	35
Session at Damanhour's Cultural Palace	Screening of the "Homeless Women" Documentary	31/8/2006	35

Session at Gharbia's Cultural Palace	Screening of the "Homeless Women" Documentary	13/9/2006	80
ADEW Ramadan Iftar	Invitation of all ADEW's partners, media, and society figures to a Ramadan Iftar	10/10/2006	326
Media Committee "The Strongest Survive"	Press conference on the activities implemented by ADEW's expansion program and an invitation to media personnel to visit the field	12/11/2006	45
Book launching "Stories of Egyptian Women"	Presentation of the book "Stories of Egyptian Women" which exposes the live testimonies of female beneficiaries of ADEW and the definition of public opinion that expresses the problems facing women.	28/11/2006	80

ADEW's publications in 2006

- Women's stories magazine "Homeless Women", March 2006
- Book on "Stories of Egyptian Women", November 2006
- Publication "Our News", December 2006
- "Media Observations", December 2006

Among the important articles published on various issues in 2006

	Headline	Newspaper	Date
1.	"Unemployment"	Ahram Mayo National day	1/28 4/17 10/17
2.	"NGOs and Political Participation"	Gomhorria	2/10
3.	"International Funding and NGOs"	Nahdet Masr	3/26
4.	"Building Capacity to Combat Unemployment"	Gamaheer Akhbar	4/19 5/31
5.	"Transferring Madabeg to Roubeky"	Nahdet Masr	4/22
6.	"Consumer Protection Law"	Gomhorreia	5/7
7.	"NGO Accountability"	Nahdet Masr	5/21
8.	"Image of NGOs Among Media"	Nahdet Masr	7/30
9.	"New Steps on the Road to Reform"	Gamaheer	8/9
10.	"Education in Egypt"	Nahdet Masr Akhbar	10/15 11/3
11.	"What if there was no Immunity"	Ahram	1/2
12.	"NGO Support for Women's Political Participation"	Mayo	2/13
13.	"News of El Wafd"	Gomhorreya	2/24
14.	"Combating Corruption, Whose Role is it"	Akhbar El Youm	2/25

15.	“Until the Political Parties Gain their Lost Role”	Akhbar	2/28
16.	“Funding Political Campaigns”	Mayo	3/1
17.	“Aid Programs, Until When?”	Ahram Economic	4/10
18.	“Family Court”	Akhbar El Youm	4/15
19.	“Human Development Report”	Nahdet Masr	7/5
20.	“NGOs and the Ministry of Solidarity Partnership or Custodianship”	Nahdet Masr	9/16
21.	“Child Labor”	Gomhorreya	9/19
22.	“Are we Really Asleep as said by Friedman”	Nahdet Masr	11/14
23.	“Are All Receivables Bought and Sold”	Gomhorreya	11/19

Among the most important research conducted by ADEW’s Media Unit

- Daily obstacles faced by NGOs
- The role of NGOs in the fight against poverty
- The role of NGOs in political empowerment
- Research on the area of Manshiet Nasser
- Research on the area of Masr El Qadima
- Political participation for women in the Arab World
- The role of civil society organizations in supporting the political participation of women
- The role of ADEW in supporting the political participation of women
- The road to presidential elections
- Partnership between civil society and the private sector for the development of society
- Addiction
- Programs of the various parties in Egypt

Activities of ADEW’s training unit

ADEW believes in the importance of ongoing training in raising the efficiency and skills of the staff in order to achieve a better level of services to beneficiaries. In 2006 ADEW organized many activities that have increased awareness in the past of the field staff and administrators on the issues affecting women, gender, democracy and development, in addition to continuing training on computer applications. ADEW’s training unit is one of the most efficient units providing training on women’s issues and development. The unit also provides training for other NGOs working in the same field in order to activate the role of NGOs in community service.

Among the training conducted in 2006:

- Gender issues and qualitative analysis and planning
- Convention on the rights of children and the activation of the participation of children

- Convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women
- Negotiation skills and problem solving
- Planning and evaluation
- Community research methods and identifying community needs
- Lending systems and micro credit projects
- Communications skills and teamwork
- Proposal writing
- Legal training on the most important laws concerning private associations and personal status law

ADEW's training center is fully equipped to host any training events. The equipment includes the availability of a television, VCR, data show, flip charts, including any other equipment needed.

Training courses conducted in 2006

	Training course	Topics	Number of participants
1.	Youth lending program	Training on the methods of implementation for the youth lending program	7
2.	Training for Community Mobilization staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community participation • Volunteerism • Natural leaders • Local legislation • Local initiatives 	17
3.	Secretarial training on computer applications	Training for all secretaries on different computer applications	10
4.	Focus groups on domestic violence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion about domestic violence and the "House of Eve" shelter 	155
5.	Training on Excel for accounting staff	Training attended by all accounting staff	13
6.	Gender training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definition of gender in society • Methods of analysis for gender 	11
7.	Training on child rights for the think twice team	Children's rights and laws	21
8.	Training on children's rights manual	For the think twice team	11
9.	Photography training for the think	Training included how to use	11

	twice team	a camera and how to take quality pictures	
10.	Training on development goals	The training included development goals from 1960 to 2000 and included advantages and disadvantages	11
11.	Training for bicycle program staff	Training included the objectives of the program and methods of implementation	6
12.	Unified vision training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training for staff on ADEW goals, mandate, and mission • Discussion on gender in society 	All new staff

New projects initiated in 2006

Monitoring and Evaluation unit

Due to the diversity and number of activities, programs, and the expansion of ADEW branches of 16 offices in five different areas, ADEW found that it has become essential to start a database documenting all activities, projects, and programs. This has facilitated the process of finding statistics on the achievements of ADEW in an organized manner. It also allows for periodical follow-up and analysis of ADEW's work to find weaknesses and shortcomings to address. This will help in raising the efficiency of the work and services provided by ADEW in the future.

The idea of establishing the monitoring and evaluation unit is the first phase which is responsible for the technical development of a database on all programs, activities, and management. The second phase is the monitoring, evaluating, and comparing of technical reports in order to reach the desired results. ADEW began the designing of the database during the last quarter of 2006 which has now been completed and includes all the departments and programs of ADEW.

Media Production unit

The idea of a media production unit arose due to ADEW's insistence of presenting women's issues and delivering women's voices to decision makers, media, and public opinion. By creating a unit for the production of short films ADEW is able to reach a bigger number of those interested in women's issues. ADEW has begun producing high quality documentary films that encouraged associations and other institutions to request ADEW's services in producing films. This permits the self financing of the unit and provides ADEW with additional resources.

In 2006, ADEW films have been presented in many theatres affiliated with the General Authority for Cultural Palaces including the short film "Homeless Women" which was

successful in spreading the issues that the community was unaware of such as homeless women and the issues around the legal existence of women.

The media production unit has produced four short films during 2006:

- A film presenting all of ADEW'S programs and their objectives.
- Production of a documentary film for the Future Generation Foundation on youth population and development
- A film on homeless women which was filmed and edited by the production unit and was acclaimed and well-received by the public
- A film about medical convoys which is one of the activities of the Health program

Bicycle project

The project provides bicycles for 650 youth through an installment scheme without interest. The aim is to spread a culture of bicycle use to protect the environment in all areas of Manshiet Nasser and Masr El Qadima. The project will also provide environmental awareness to the residents of these areas and explain the problems and risks of pollution. The financing of this project was through the Global Environment Foundation (GEF). The project started implementation through the purchase of the bicycles.

Cooperation project with the Professional Training Institute of Giza

Within the framework of finding practical solutions to address the problem of unemployment, especially among youth, the youth lending program conducted a research about unemployment and discovered many available jobs. However, it was discovered that youth are not able to access these jobs for the following reasons:

- Absence of knowledge among youth of job vacancies and the unavailability of updated information of vacancies by the Ministry of Manpower
- Young people often lack the skills needed by the current labor market
- Lack of knowledge among vocational workers of training centers
- Lack of means of young people of both genders to receive training in labor market skills such as computer applications and foreign languages.
- Youth who are graduates of vocational institutions do not find appropriate training to develop their skills to best meet the demand of the market; they also do not have the capital to start their own projects.

ADEW therefore started a project to provide vocational training for young people of both genders on different trades and options of employment. This project was in collaboration with the Vocational Training Center in Giza, which is a remarkable step added to the work of ADEW in finding practical solutions for the underprivileged communities in Egypt. The project will start full force in 2007.

Work is also under way through an agreement with the Mubarak Initiative, the Egyptian Federation of Building and Construction, and GTZ to work on two levels:

1. Practical training for high school architectural projects in construction companies on what has been studied theoretically.
2. Training and employing youth on practical skills in the field of construction.

New partnerships for ADEW in 2006

Think Once and Twice project, a landmark for 2006

2006 was a year of innovation and volunteerism for the Girls' Dreams program. The program team participated for the third consecutive year in the campaign entitled "Think Once and Twice" in partnership with the NCCM and UNDP. The project raised awareness in society of human rights and encouraged volunteers of both genders between the ages of 17 and 22. The volunteers worked to deliver information to all segments of society in a clear and easy manner to understand.

The volunteers from the "Think Once and Twice" project in 2006 attended a number of workshops:

- Media messages
- Gender
- Team building skills and volunteerism
- Human rights

The team also visited the field to photograph women, child labor, street children, pan handling, drinking water, and housing security.

"Sail for Development, Sail for Girls"

ADEW took part in the "Sailing the Nile for Development" initiative through the Girls' Dreams program to raise awareness on the millennium development goals. The initiative was in cooperation with the United Nations, the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood, and Youth Association for Population and Development. The initiative included the sailing of eight boats on October 29 on the Nile that stretched from Aswan to Cairo under the slogan of "Sailing the Nile for Development". The boats made stops in eight cities along the Nile to announce one of the eight goals of the project. The project was aimed at raising awareness of the Millennium Development Goals and highlighted the progress made by Egypt in achieving the goals as follows:

- Ending poverty and hunger
- Improving the health of mothers
- Improving the curriculum of primary education
- Combating the AIDS virus and malaria
- The equality between men and women and the empowerment of women
- Decreasing child mortality rate
- Initiating global partnerships for development

- Improving the environment

ADEW held a celebration in the Cairo governorate at the end of the project in December in partnership with NGOs and NCCM. The event included cultural and artistic activities through the Girls' Dreams program and the think twice team. The activities included the following:

- CD of songs prepared by the girls
- Photography exhibition
- Crafts exhibition
- Puppet show
- Workshop for children on puppets

Partnership with Saudi Arabian association “Bedaya”

ADEW has partnered with the Bedaya association to empower Arab women. ADEW is transferring expertise and know-how to Bedaya in order to help the association with the implementation of development projects and services in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

The height of continuing success

Two Arab prizes awarded to ADEW

The best website on women in the Arab World

It was one of the most successful moments experienced by ADEW's staff upon being announced the winners of the United National Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and the Center for Arab Women Training and Research for winning the prize for best web site on women at the level of the Arab world. The competition was held by the Arab Women and Information Technology under the auspices of Dr. Nancy Bakri, Assistant Secretary General of the League of Arab States. This award confirmed the continued success in lobbying for the rights of women and the continuing efforts of ADEW to present women's cases through modern means of communication, research, and systematic studies.

ADEW's website: www.adew.org

The best research paper on development for the Middle East in March 2006

ADEW was also the winner of the prize for the best research paper presented at the Forum for Development for the Middle East in March 2006. The research was entitled “The Role of Civil Society in Supporting Women's Political Participation”.

Success stories

Mohamed Barakat

I joined ADEW as the Manager of the Helwan branch in 2005. When I first joined ADEW I expected to stay for only one year since all of my experience is in different micro credit programs. I have more than 14 years experience in micro credit. At the time I thought that ADEW did not give much importance to the micro credit program. However, as time passed and I gradually understood the organization I realized that there was not much difference between ADEW and many international organizations from a standpoint of the qualifications of the board of directors to the different programs and activities and to the amounts of funds granted stemming from the trust of donor organizations in ADEW.

ADEW also impressed me in terms of work planning and program design in accordance with the actual need of the community members in the target areas. I also discovered that the board of directors do not solely rely on the curriculum vitae's of applicants alone in the hiring process, but more emphasis on their personal qualifications and skills on all levels including managerial, planning, implementation, and working under pressure. As such, the staff that I have worked with at ADEW has been the most qualified and efficient that I have ever seen throughout my whole career.

I personally encourage the policy held by ADEW on constant capacity building of staff and on the investment in enhancing their skills. ADEW also places candidates in positions where they will be of most help. I personally have improved my skills at ADEW through the following:

- Writing funding proposals
- Management and team work
- Preparation and presentation of the lending program in Helwan
- Design, preparation and implementation of lending programs
- Public relations

Through the opportunities given to me at ADEW and in less than two years, I am currently responsible for the following:

- Manager of the Helwan branch and the Drosos fund, one of the largest projects directed to the Helwan area
- Manager of the Social Fund project and Banque Du Caire
- Prepared a manual of policies and procedures for financial credit and models used to providing credit for 300 beneficiaries including men and women and achieving 100% repayment
- Responsible for the representation of ADEW in local and international conferences, such as the Spikes Foundation and Rotary
- Responsible for the implementation and cooperation protocols with many donors in the field of vocational training, such as the German Development Agency (GTZ), Mubarak Initiative, the Industry Modernization Program, and the Vocational Training Center

I was also selected as the employee of the month at ADEW by the board of directors which makes me proud of my work and to be a member of ADEW. This makes me feel secure in my job and adds to my loyalty like all of the employees of ADEW. I expect more hard work and achievements from ADEW in the coming years.

Nashwa Salah

My experience in the area of development began through my eight years at CARE International. I was gradually promoted positions until I became Education Consultant. I joined ADEW in 2004 as the Girls' Dreams program manager, a program developed by Dr. Iman Bibars for adolescent girls.

I undertook the role of developing the program curriculum and methodology. The program expanded with the opening of classes in Manshiet Nasser, Gharbiya, Qalubiya, Masr El Qadima, Helwan. Because ADEW encourages all employees to have confidence in their competence, I was promoted to Manager of the Education Sector which includes three programs; literacy, Arab Women Speak Out, and Girls' Dreams.

I am very proud to be part of ADEW because of their development work and activities in women's rights and also for their work with marginalized groups in poor communities. I am continuously working on improving and enhancing the programs to add to the achievements of ADEW. One of the additions was the life skills component in the literacy program, which has attracted more women to attend classes. There have also been other additions to programs such the "Think Twice" project in cooperation with the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood and UNDP.

One of the most important tasks delegated to me in 2006 was incorporating the Health program under my supervision and management. I have enhanced technical aspects of the program. I am now also working as the Branch Manager for the New Manial office which comprises all the programs in which I am responsible; literacy, Girls' Dreams, Arab Women Speak Out, health, bicycle project, Think Twice project, and the vocational training project.

Funding of ADEW

ADEW pursues a policy of transparency in the announcement of the funding sources. These donors can be found on ADEW's website. ADEW has also taken the lead in holding a campaign of transparency where its sources and budgets are announced in detail at a press conference on February 29, 2003. This is a unique position taken by an Egyptian NGO.

It is worth noting that ADEW has not received any funding from the American government, USAID, nor from any U.S. federal grants because of ADEW's absolute rejection of the American government's position in Iraq and its partisan position regarding the Palestinian issue.

ADEW, similar to other NGOs, receives continuous follow up from the Ministry of Social Solidarity on all activities, projects, records and expenses. According to the law governing NGOs, The Ministry of Social Solidarity has every right to review all materials of the NGO from the past five years.

ADEW is proud to mention that since its inception in 1987 to date, the Ministry of Social Solidarity has never made any observations on any financial improprieties involving ADEW.

ADEW's Donors

- Akef Magrabi
- Arab Gulf Fund for United Nations Development (AGFUND)
- Ashraf El Shafaki
- Australian Embassy
- Barclays Women
- Body Shop Foundation
- British Council
- British Embassy
- Church Development Service (EED)
- Drosos Foundation
- European Commission
- Faith Galetshoge
- Finnish Embassy
- Flora Foundation
- Ford Foundation
- German Embassy
- German Technical Cooperation (GTZ)
- Global Environment Facility – Small Grants Program (GEF)
- Global Fund for Children
- Italian Dept Swap Program (IDSP)
- Japanese Embassy
- National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM)
- Open Society Institute (OSI)
- Paul Herman
- Save the Children
- Sawiris Foundation
- Spanish Cooperation (AECI/CONEMUND)
- Swiss Fund
- United Bank of Switzerland (UBS) – Optimus Foundation
- United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM)
- United Nations Development Program (UNDP)
- Virginia Fund

- Vodafone
- World Bank

ADEW's Organizational Structure

ADEW currently has 228 staff members, both administrative and field staff.

ADEW's offices:

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8 Saad Ibn Aby As Street
Tel: 23644064

Expansion Branch:

1 Saad Ibn Aby As Street
Tel: 25321050

Amr Mosque Branch:

18 Amr Ibn El As Sreet
Tel: 23635787

El Gayara Branch:

38 Taher Ibn El Hussein Street
Tel: 23635786

Manshiet Nasser

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Manshiet Nasser Branch 2
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Manshiet Nasser Branch 3
46 El Sekka El Hadid Street

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