

■ EDITORIAL

Is it all about the money?

The problems of political finance apply both to men and women, but women face greater challenges. On International Women's Day, it makes sense to focus on this sensitive issue through a gender lens – how does political finance exclude women from politics, and what can be done to address this?



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By Joan Sawe, Acting Secretary-General

■ FOCUS: INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2014



Graffiti Feminista, Fim do feminino
Photo ©: Ana Clara Marques

Empowering change and actions

Posted: March 5, 2014

2014 is the year to build on the momentum from the Millennium Development Goals and ensure that women's empowerment remains an international priority.

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Towards genuine application of the gender quota in Haiti: the importance of strengthening the capacity of women in political parties

Posted: March 3, 2014

Now that the gender quota is included in the amended Haitian Constitution, what are the best strategies to ensure its effectiveness?

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Latin America: a pioneer in promoting women's political participation

Posted: March 4, 2014

A closer look at the progress and challenges for women politicians in the region.

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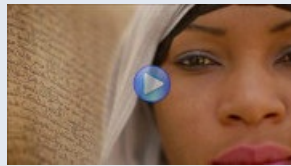
Women and the electoral cycle

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Posted: March 5, 2014

Learn about IDEA resources and tools linking to gender mainstreaming and equality in the election process.

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Morocco and Tanzania: first in assessing local democracy from a gender perspective

Posted: February 28, 2014

In early 2014 organizations in Tanzania and Morocco completed assessments of local democracy from a gender perspective using IDEA's State of Local Democracy (SoLD) assessment framework.

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Women in political leadership - mixed progress, more rigorous actions needed

Posted: March 5, 2014

With women still only constituting 21% of parliamentarians globally, pressure to adopt measures to promote women's access to political leadership continues to gain momentum. New *Atlas of Electoral Gender Quotas* coming up.

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Regional organizations promoting gender equality and mainstreaming

Posted: February 27, 2014

Read up about priorities of regional organizations on gender mainstreaming in the recent publication of the Inter-Regional Dialogue on Democracy secretariat at IDEA.

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Assessing the constitution building process from a gender perspective in Tunisia

Posted: March 3, 2014

Through a series of workshops, IDEA is working with Tunisian women experts to assess the constitution building process from a gender perspective.

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Democracy and diversity: moving from political exclusion to inclusion

Posted: March 3, 2014

New IDEA resources discuss the strategies used by marginalized women and a range of minority groups in moving from political exclusion to inclusion in various decision making bodies.

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Bolivian women's political agenda in the 2014 elections

Posted: March 3, 2014

Women's organizations from all over the country are currently preparing a political agenda for the upcoming elections, October 2014.

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■ OTHER NEWS

Mapping electoral risk in Nigeria

Posted: March 4, 2013

Nigeria is currently using IDEA's Electoral Risk Management Tool (ERM Tool) in preparing for the country's elections in 2015.

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SADC embarks on hectic election year

Posted: March 3, 2013

Five of 14 member countries in the Southern Africa Development Community will hold elections this year.

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■ NEW PUBLICATIONS

Development First, Democracy Later?

The book brings to question the fundamental construction of the aid system and the values that drive it.

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See also IDEA's policy brief **Democracy within international development aid**

Journeys from Exclusion to Inclusion: Marginalized women's successes in overcoming political exclusion

This book identifies factors preventing marginalized women's inclusion in customary and democratic decision-making structures, and describes how women have worked in overcoming barriers to their participation.

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Inclusive Political Participation and Representation: The Role of Regional Organizations

This publication documents and highlights the experiences and innovation of regional organizations in promoting inclusive political participation and representation.

Available in PDF, Epub and Kindle formats.

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Political Parties in Africa through a Gender Lens

This report is based on the findings of a two-year project implemented by International IDEA, aimed at analyzing the commitments of political parties to gender equality in 33 countries in Africa.

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Overcoming Political Exclusion: Strategies for marginalized groups to successfully engage in political decision-making

This publication identifies hurdles preventing marginalized people from taking active part in customary and democratic decision-making.

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State of Local Democracy Assessment Framework

This framework is designed to facilitate a citizen-led and -owned approach to assessing the quality of democracy at the local level.

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