



POLICY DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP FOR WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIANS

NDI supports women elected officials to be effective in their governance roles. Often this takes the form of orientation for new parliamentarians, but may also be conducted throughout their term. This training would draw primarily from a variety of modules including: Women and Governance (Gender-Informed Governance); Gender, Women and Politics (Gender Analysis, Gender Mainstreaming); and Advocacy, Research and Negotiation (Policy Platform Development, Research and other presentations as appropriate, including Negotiation and Coalition Building).

It will be important to think through the group dynamics if women members of parliament (MPs) represent diverse or opposing parties. There may need to be some time built in early in the agenda to help break down barriers and focus on common goals. At the same time, there might be times where the MPs meet separately during the workshop with members of their party/coalition to discuss specific policy issues. The approach should be based on what will be possible and useful in the particular context. Outside experts, such as legislators from the region or a relevant context, might also be incorporated to share strategies and lessons with the group.

SAMPLE 2-DAY AGENDA

DAY ONE

- 9:00** **Welcome and Overview**
- 9:30** **Policy Overview**
What is our role as legislators in shaping the policy agenda and drafting legislation? How can we strengthen policy development to be more gender-sensitive and inclusive of citizens' perspectives?
- 10:30** **Break**
- 10:45** **Policy and Government**
Policy provides the direction for the government's day to day operation and administration.
- 11:15** **Policy and Political Parties**

Parties develop party platforms/programs based on a set of policy priorities. These are used to set them apart from other parties and are part of their candidates' campaigns. What is your relationship to your party platform as an elected official?

11:45 Group Exercise

Taking an issue and talking through legislation and roles of the parties, legislative body and government

12:15 Understanding the Present

Steps to think through the current status of an issue – what are the challenges and gaps in our own policies, in the country, in our opponents' policies?

1:00 Lunch

2:00 Research

*Data Collection, Data Evaluation, Putting Data to Work
Using data to set legislative priorities, persuading others to support your position, guiding you in supporting arguments, creating media opportunities, etc.*

3:15 Break

3:30 Panel Discussion: Policy Development in Practice

Experiences from women MPs and policy experts following by questions and answers.

4:45 Wrap up of Day

DAY TWO

9:00 Overview of Day

9:30 Introduction to Gender Analysis

What is gender analysis? How can it be conducted and used in policy development?

10:45 Break

11:00 Group Exercise on Gender Analysis

12:00 Home of Ideas Exercise

*Taking all of the topics covered, small group exercise for policy development planning:
The Cornerstones -- **Our values relevant to the issue.** Who we are?*

*The Frame -- **The policy goals.** What do we want to accomplish?*
*The Rooms -- **The program and policies.** How do we achieve our goals?*
*The Roof -- **The message.** How do we turn policy language into understandable communications that demonstrate our ideas as relevant in people's lives and motivate them to action?*

1:00 Lunch

2:00 Presentations of Home of Ideas, Conclusions, Evaluation