

Country Gender Profile

*All data as on December 2005

A. Human Development Indicators : Progress on the MDGs

Target Number/ Indicator Number	Series name	Data for Year 2005 or whichever is latest
3/6	Education enrolment ratio, net, primary level, both sexes (UNESCO)	85 (2003)
3/6	Education enrolment ratio, net, primary level, girls (UNESCO)	84 (2003)
3/6	Education enrolment ratio, net, primary level, boys (UNESCO)	87 (2003)
3/8	Literacy rates, aged 15-24, both sexes, per cent (UNESCO)	98.1
3/8	Literacy rates, aged 15-24, women, per cent (UNESCO)	97.9
3/8	Literacy rates, aged 15-24, men, per cent (UNESCO)	98.2
5/14	Infant mortality rate (0-1 year) per 1,000 live births (UNICEF estimates)	18 (2004)
6/16	Maternal mortality ratio per 100,000 live births (WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA)	13.3 (2004)
HDI Rank		GDI Rank
73		57
		GEM Rank
		63

B. Women in Decision making roles - Gender disaggregated data

1) Legislature

	% of women	No. of women	Total No.
National (no elected parliament after coup on 19 September 2006)			
National Legislative Assembly (2007)	<u>8.68</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>242</u>
Constitution Drafting Assembly (2007)	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>100</u>
State (Provincial)			<u>n.a.</u>
Local Bodies(data maybe aggregated or indicative)	<u>6.69</u>	<u>9,424</u>	<u>140,803 (3 main types of local bodies year 2003-2005)</u>

2) Executive

a) Government – Ministerial Positions

	% of women	No. of women	Total No.	Comment
National(2007)	<u>6.9</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>29</u>	
State (Provincial)				<u>n.a.</u>
Local Bodies	<u>4.95</u>	<u>389</u>	<u>7,855</u>	<u>3 main types of local bodies</u>

b) Top Bureaucracy

	% of women	No. of women	Total No.	Comment
National	<u>20.16</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>496</u>	<u>Year 2004</u>
State (Provincial)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>Provincial</u>

				<u>governor</u>
3) Judiciary				
	No. of women		Total No.	Comments
Supreme Court	<u>14</u>		<u>173</u>	<u>Year 2003</u>
High Courts	<u>91</u>		<u>469</u>	<u>Year 2003</u>
4) Political Parties				
	% of women		No. of women	Total No.
Membership of men and women	<u>data not available</u>			<u>24 million</u>
Women in executive committees or equivalent decision making bodies in the party	<u>8.44</u>		<u>20</u>	<u>237 (of only 4 major parties)</u>
5) Trade Union				
		% of women		No. of women
Women in the governing bodies of major National Trade Unions		<u>Data not available</u>		
Industry wise (as available in respective countries)		Industry		Male (%)
		State enterprises' unions (2003)		<u>88</u>
		Private sector's unions (2003)		<u>33.39</u>
Initiatives for gender equality in the trade unions				
a) Section on women's affairs in some trade unions				
b) Capacity building for female trade unionists				
c)				
d)				
6) Private and public corporate business	<u>(data not available)</u>			
		Male (%)		Female (%)
Top /middle management				
Women entrepreneurs				
7) Academic World				
	% of women		No. of women	Total No.
Top and middle academic positions (executive positions in state universities)	<u>24.24</u>		<u>48</u>	<u>198 (year 2001)</u>
C) Women in the workforce – Gender Disaggregated Data				
Formal Sector		Sector		Male (%)
		<u>Agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing</u>		<u>20.22</u>
		<u>Manufacturing</u>		<u>8.15</u>
		<u>Commerce</u>		<u>7.89</u>
		<u>Services</u>		<u>10.68</u>

	<u>Others</u>	<u>10.54</u>	<u>2.35</u>
	<u>Total</u>	<u>55.86</u>	<u>44.14</u>
Informal Sector	% of women	No. of women	Total No.
	<u>46.78</u>	<u>10,542,500</u>	<u>22,536,500</u>
	Women wage employment in non-agricultural sector as percentage of total non-agricultural employees (ILO)		<u>44% (year 2004)</u>

D) Policy framework for gender equality

UN/ International Conventions ratified

- a) CEDAW in 1985
- b) Beijing Platform of Action in 1994
- c) MDGs in 2000
- d)

National policies/ plans for gender equality/mainstreaming

The country has formulated its national economic and social development plan for every 5 year and one section of this plan is concerning women's development.

Strategies of the Plan for the year 2007-2011 are:

- a) Promote attitude on human dignity and gender equality through educational system and media
- b) Increase women's participation in politics and decision-making: capacity building, affirmative action
- c) Improve health and reproductive rights: health education and services
- d) Security in life and body: reduce violence, improve related laws and services
- e) Improve economic participation: access to and control over resources such as education, information, finances, social security
- f) Improve mechanisms and related laws for the advancement of women: capacity building, gender budgeting, equality bill, anti-domestic violence bill, reproductive rights bill, gender quotas

E) Institutional Mechanisms

Role and functioning of statutory bodies:

In 1989, the status of the National Commission on Women's Affairs has been upgraded from a temporary working group to be a permanent national office, as a result of women's advocacy.

Currently, this mechanism is a department in the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, the Office of Women's Affairs and Family Development. Its duties are to:

- provide information and recommendations for making policies on gender equality, women's protection, and family development
- improve knowledge and understanding of all concerned organisations on gender mainstreaming
- Monitor the implementation of projects on gender equality
- promote gender equality and family development

Parliamentary Committees:

- Senate Standing Committee on Women, Youth, and Elderly Affairs
- House Standing Committee on Women, Youth, and Elderly Affairs

Their main duty is to study the situation, the Bill, and the implementation of policies or laws concerning these groups.

<p>Other: To promote gender mainstreaming, a gender focal point has been established and chief of gender equality officer (CGEO) has been appointed in every governmental department to work on gender mainstreaming.</p>	
<p>F) Legal Equality</p>	
<p>Landmark legislation for gender equality in the last 25 years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) In 1997, the new Constitution was drafted. Women actively participated in the drafting process and successfully advocated in integrating some clauses on gender equality in some articles. b) In 2003, the Constitutional Court ruled that article 12 of the Name Act enforcing married women to change family name as of their husbands was unconstitutional because it was against article 30 of the Constitution c) Village and Urban Fund Act 2004 stipulated that committee members of these funds shall be consisted of similar number of men and women d) 	
<p>Discriminatory laws/ policies/practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) inequality in some articles of the civil code concerning engagement, divorce b) Foreigners married to Thai women are not entitled to gain Thai nationality by claiming reason of marriage while those married to Thai men are c) title of name: different for single and married women while not for men d) criminal code concerning rape: not protect the rights of a wife, a boy/man e) girls are not allowed to study in cadet academy 	
<p>G) Affirmative Action Measures</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quotas: none for political representation, only one gender quota in committee of village and urban funds • Incentives: - • Other: capacity building has been conducted by some organisations both NGOs and GOs 	
<p>H) Women's Movement in the country</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief history: Women's movement has been a part of development process in the country. The development of education and communication had been key factors for some few educated women in over hundred years ago to voice their opinions in newspaper and magazine on equal opportunity for education and monogamy. During democratic period, women's groups played active role in demanding for better gender equality. Due to political problems, some radical groups were inactive for sometimes and the active ones were on social and cultural promotion. However, this movement was mainly among educated women in urban areas. The movement has been extended to the rural areas after the emergence of NGOs to promote social development from grassroots perspectives in 1970s-1980s and the international pressures such as Women's Decade, and Women's Conferences. Many new women's organisations have been established, supported by NGOs and GOs, and the government had 	

<p>included women development programmes into its national economic and social development plan. Presently, there is at least a women's group organised by GOs in every village, over 80,000 throughout the country, and few hundreds women's NGOs. However, not so many of these have been actively involved in the movement for gender equality.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main issues: violence against women, political representation, women's labour rights, legal equality, reproductive rights • Achievements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More legal equality by amendment of some laws, removal of some reservations in CEDAW, integration of some clauses on gender equality in the constitution - Establishment of the national mechanism for gender equality - Increase public awareness on gender issues - Better participation in development projects - Better benefit for women and children such as increasing maternity leave up to 90 days, nationality for children born in Thailand of foreign fathers with Thai mothers • Links with political parties/ movements for democracy/peace/social justice: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women's Studies Centre, Chiangmai University http://www.soc.cmu.ac.th/~wsc/eindex.htm Association for the Promotion of the Status of Women www.apsw-thailand.org Foundation for Women www.womenthai.org Friends of Women Foundation www.friendsofwomen.net Women's Health Advocacy Foundation www.whaf.or.th 	
<p>I) Issues in the country that need immediate attention for gender justice</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) gender equality in political representation and decision-making because the percentage is still very low and there is no special measure such as quotas b) gender perspectives in policy making c) violence against women d) budget for gender work 	
<p>J) Enabling factors in the country for gender justice</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) strong women's advocacy group b) gender equality stipulated in the Constitution c) increasing gender awareness among general public d) 	
<p>K) Main Challenges/deterrents</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) family burden on women b) lack of resources for women's movement c) some traditional values or biases against women d) 	
<p>L) Comments and regional comparisons</p>	