

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)	75% (2004)
3/6	Education enrolment ratio, net, primary level, girls (UNESCO)	74%
3/6	Education enrolment ratio, net, primary level, boys (UNESCO)	76%
3/8	Literacy rates, aged 15-24, both sexes, per cent (UNESCO)	N.A
3/8	Literacy rates, aged 15-24, women, per cent (UNESCO)	N.A
3/8	Literacy rates, aged 15-24, men, per cent (UNESCO)	N.A
5/14	Infant mortality rate (0-1 year) per 1,000 live births (UNICEF estimates)	45
6/16	Maternal mortality ratio per 100,000 live births (WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA)	660
HDI Rank		GDI Rank
140 (2003)		N.A
GDI Rank		GEM Rank
N.A		N.A

B. Women in Decision making roles - Gender disaggregated data

1) Legislature

	% of women	No. of women	Total No.
National (2005)	26%	24	88
State (Provincial)	N.A	N.A	N.A
Local Bodies(data maybe aggregated or indicative)	N.A	N.A	N.A

2) Executive

a) Government – Ministerial Positions

	% of women	No. of women	Total No.	Comment
National	18%	2	11	Minister of Justice and Finance are women
State (Provincial)	N.A	N.A	N.A	N.A
Local Bodies	N.A	N.A	N.A	N.A

b) Top Bureaucracy

	% of women	No. of women	Total No.	Comment
National (2005)	N.A	3	N.A	2 women were appointed in the Office of the Chief Minister, one for the Promotion of Equality, the

				other for Human Rights, a third was given the position for vice-minister for Internal Administration	
State (Provincial)	N.A	90	N.A	An average of three women per village	
3) Judiciary					
	No. of women		Total No.	Comments	
Supreme Court	5		10	N.A	
High Courts	N.A		N.A	N.A	
4) Political Parties					
	% of women		No. of women	Total No.	
Membership of men and women	N.A		N.A	N.A	
Women in executive committees or equivalent decision making bodies in the party	N.A		N.A	N.A	
5) Trade Union					
		% of women		No. of women	
Women in the governing bodies of major National Trade Unions		N.A		N.A	
Industry wise (as available in respective countries)		Industry		Male (%)	Female (%)
		N.A		N.A	N.A
		N.A		N.A	N.A
Initiatives for gender equality in the trade unions	N.A				
6) Private and public corporate business					
		Male (%)		Female (%)	
Top /middle management		N.A		N.A	
Women entrepreneurs					
N.A					
7) Academic World					
	% of women		No. of women	Total No.	
Top and middle academic positions	N.A		N.A	N.A	
C) Women in the workforce – Gender Disaggregated Data					
Formal Sector		Sector		Male (%)	Female (%)
		N.A		N.A	N.A

	% of women	No. of women	Total No.
	N.A	N.A	N.A
Informal Sector	Women wage employment in non-agricultural sector as percentage of total non-agricultural employees (ILO)		19.0 (1990)
D) Policy framework for gender equality			
UN/ International Conventions ratified			
N.A			
National policies/ plans for gender equality/mainstreaming			
a) Article 159-166 Penal Code about sexual exploitation			
b) Domestic Violence Bill			
c) UU 17/I/3/2005 that mentioned November 3 rd became Timor Leste Women's Day			
E) Institutional Mechanisms			
Role and functioning of statutory bodies			
N.A			
Parliamentary Committees			
N.A			
Other : The Office for Promotion of Equality (OPE) as the main women machinery in the government has been active in developing gender mainstreaming guidelines, establishing gender focal points system and inter-ministerial working group. training key planning officers and gender focal points, and placing gender prioritized ministries			
F) Legal Equality			
Landmark legislation for gender equality in the last 25 years			
a) Women's Charter of Rights in East Timor			
b) Electoral Law in 2003 providing two seats on each village council specifically for women and enabled women to stand for any other positions.			
Discriminatory laws/ policies/practices			
a) the rejection of the proposal of 30% quota for women by the national council			
b) there's still a few political parties that don't have any women representation in the parliament			

G) Affirmative Action Measures	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Affirmative action measures is introduced to guarantee democratic principles of participation and place women in winnable position of party lists, as well as incorporate women’s concern into their party platforms. • Incentives, such as parties being allotted twice as much broadcast time if the additional time was used for women candidates, were offered. • Reinforced by training workshops by the United Nations Transitional Administration’s Gender Unit and UNIFEM, to prepare women to be candidates, with more than 250 potential women candidates participating from every district, and representatives from all major political parties as well as NGOs. 	
H) Women’s Movement in the country	
<p>The First Congress of Women of Timor Loro Sa’e convened in June 2000 by an umbrella mechanism, the East Timorese Women’s Network (REDE), representing women’s organization in East Timor, the first post-conflict gathering of women to discuss the most important issues in the reconstruction of their country. Congress statement highlighted that although there has been a small increase in women participation in the socio-economic and political sphere, women’s absence from decision making continues to result in the absence of a gender perspective. Thus, platform of action that called for mechanism to ensure transparency and accountability in government, a consultative process in constitution building, and the need of resources to be available to empower women in public decision making and at all levels of the government. In March 2001, REDE submitted a proposal to the National Council, requesting the national regulation for the election of the Constitutional Assembly include a quota of at least 30% women in the assembly. But the National Council and the United Nations Department of Political Affairs rejected the proposal, because it contravened the United Nations definition of a ‘free and fair’ election. Despite of the fact that the proposal has been rejected, now women obtained 26% of the seats in the recently elected Constituent Assembly. Among several other successes, the formation of Timor Lorosae’s Women Political Caucus and Women’s Charter of Rights mark an historical milestone in women’s commitment to peace, security and justice.</p>	
I) Issues in the country that need immediate attention for gender justice	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) education for generational change b) women’s trauma of sexual abuse c) poverty eradication d) poor health services especially in rural area where major populations live 	
J) Enabling factors in the country for gender justice	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Gender is a priority area for the government of Timor Leste because The Timor Leste’s National Plan has identified gender equality as one of the main requisite for poverty reduction b) The existence of Program for Enhancing Rural Women’s Leadership and Participation in Nation Building in Timor Leste that conducted by the Office for the Promotion of Equality (OPE) collaborated with Internations Organzations. This program has been proven able to increase rural women participation in public domain. 	

K) Main Challenges/deterrents

- a) Largely patriarchal with rigid definitions of gender roles
- b) Roman Catholic Church that has become the dominating religion
- c) Indonesia's occupation
- d) widespread of poverty, illiteracy and poor health services

L) Comments and regional comparisons

The number of seats that held by women in parliament in Timor Leste is one of the highest not only in the Asia Pacific region, but also globally. This remarkable achievement occurred despite the ultimate rejection the proposal that would have required 30% of each party's political candidates to be women.