

Country Quota Profile

A. Country wise quota profile

1. Status of quotas in each country

Proposal for quota 30% for women in party's list in each level was rejected by the United Nations and the National Council

2. Form of quotas

Election law quota regulation in national parliament

3. Positions of Major Political Parties on Quotas

Fretilin, as one of major party in Timor Leste, agrees on quotas. After the election, Fretilin turn out to be a party that gives the biggest women representation in the parliament.

4. What's in the pipeline / Immediate areas for advocacy

- a) women's rights and the principle of gender equality has to be guaranteed by the constitution
- b) cohesive and representative network of women's organization
- c) improving the level of education for women

5. Who's pushing it?

- a) Timor Lorosae's Women's Political Caucus
- b) East Timor Women Network (REDE)
- c) Catholic Institute for International Relations (CIIR)

6. Major Achievements/ Best Practices

- a) Women obtained 26% of the seats in the recently elected Constituent Assembly.
- b) At the village elections in May 2005, 90 women were elected as Councilors, an average of three women per village
- c) 2 out of 11 Timor Leste's minister are women
- d) The Existence of the Office of Promotion for Equality (OPE)

7. What to avoid

- a) women were represented in party lists but not on the top of the list
- b)
- c)

8. What helps/ what hinders the effective working of quotas

Hindrances

- a) there is a severe lack of understanding of the objective of the election among rural women
- b) most parties have not prioritized the needs of women in their program
- c) rejection from the International Organization

Enabling factors

- a) The Office for the Promotion of Equality has a Program for Enhancing Rural Women's Leadership and Participation in Nation Building in Timor Leste, supported by International Organizations, which has been successful to promote the participation of women leaders in national or local level
- b) strong NGOs lobby such as Catholic Institute for International Relations (CIIR)
- c) women have energetically organized to address these issues through organizations.