



GENDER IN ELECTORAL PROCESSES & SYSTEMS



17.11.04



LEGAL FRAMEWORK

- Constitution
- Law on Political Parties
- Registration law
- Electoral law



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INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

- EMBs
- Parliament
- Government
- Judiciary



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POLITICAL MOBILIZATION & PARTICIPATION

- Political Parties
- NGOs, religious groups etc.
- Media



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Examples: WfP & COSEF

- **WfP:** 40% quota system supported by the MWVA and introduced in the VDCs & CDCs (commune councils) through the SEILA program used as an example to advocate for a percentage of minimum representation of women in the lists of candidates for 2002 Commune Councils Elections in Cambodia. Women's networks mobilised by WfP contribute to the election of 954 councillors out of 11,261 (8%).
- **COSEF:** targets particular issues or problems; combines the various women's action groups into one organization with a general shared theme to fight the “judicial, cultural, political and social marginalization of, and discrimination against, Senegalese women.”



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CHALLENGES

- Inclusiveness
- Lack of democratic culture: need for continuous efforts to strengthen the democratic institutions
- Fear / Elections related tension & violence



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WAYS FORWARD

- Develop tools for practitioners
- Support knowledge development
- Policy advisory support through existing democratic governance programmes
- Strengthen use of ICT e.g. disaggregated data per gender; age & socio-economic categories to quantify women and young voters' participation in the electoral processes
- Support CSOs