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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION  
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## PUT A WOMAN

*This non-partisan project has  
as its main components:*

Political Skills Training using the Women's  
Political Campaign Workbook

Promotion of Youth involvement in the  
electoral process

Documentation of Women in Local  
Government 1946 – 2006.



A project of the  
Network of Non-Governmental Organisations  
of Trinidad and Tobago for the  
Advancement of Women

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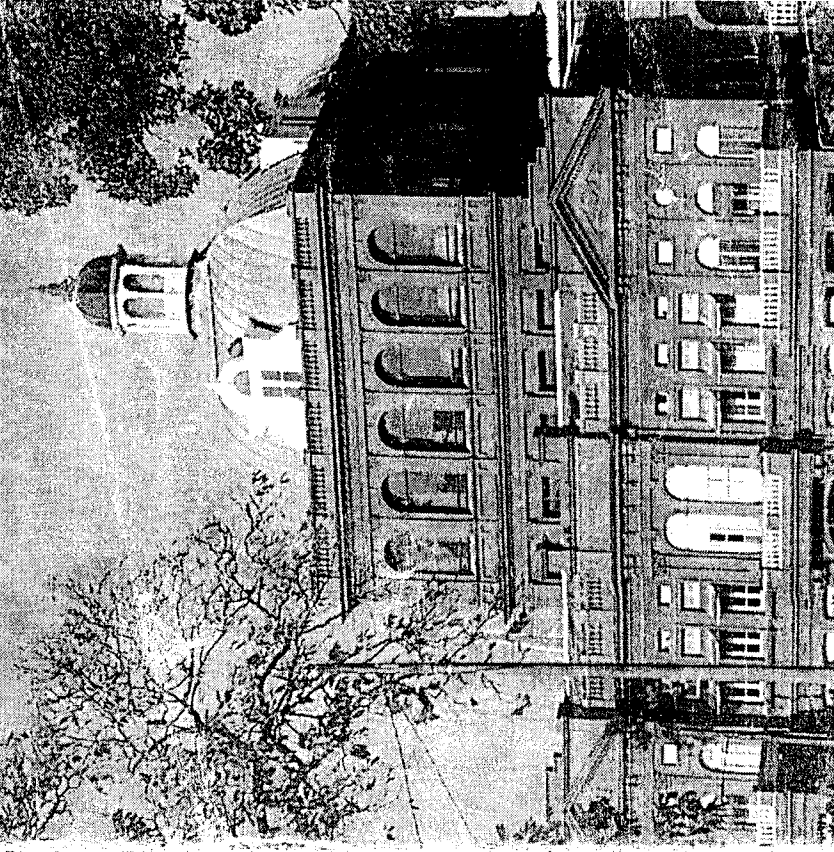
Supported by the UN Democracy Fund.



Network of NGOs of Trinidad and Tobago  
for the Advancement of Women

# Put a Woman

## IN THE HOUSE OF PARLIAMENT



## ABOUT THE NETWORK

The NETWORK is a comprehensive national "umbrella" organisation, acting as advocate and support for all women's organisations in the country and committed to the aims of the UN Convention on Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

Since 1994, in the process of preparation for Beijing, the Network has been engaged, through its women's Political Forum, in a process of reshaping approaches to women's leadership using gender based analysis of political systems and working towards the development of transformative politics.

In 1998 the Network hosted a successful 'Caribbean Meeting on Women in Power' and decision-making and has since been involved in training of women for political office in Grenada, Guyana, Antigua, St Kitts.

## PROJECT GOALS

- ▶ To train women in all parties to understand the role and functioning of local government and parliament and in the skills required to introduce a gender perspective into the decision-making process of government.
- ▶ To provide a critical mass of competent, effective, gender-sensitive committed women politicians to influence decision-making in national political bodies through their direct participation as elected or appointed representatives.
- ▶ To encourage increased participation by young people in the electoral process.
- ▶ To collect, analyse and publish data on women's contribution to local government in Trinidad and Tobago from 1946 to present.
- ▶ To prepare an enabling environment for women's effective participation in the decision-making process at the highest level.

## EXPECTED OUTCOMES

1. Train 500 women in 14 regions in political skills.
2. 50% of candidates running and 30% winning will be women.
3. A Women's Political Participation Development Fund will be created and shared among all women candidates participating.
4. 30% of government and opposition senators and aldermen will be women.
5. 50% increase in youth voter turnout.
6. Publication of campaign materials including stories based on women's participation in local government.
7. Re-vitalising of the Women's Political Platform and creation of a non-partisan Women's Political Caucus.
8. Greater awareness of the Global 50/50 campaign and campaign finance issues.
9. Strengthening of the Caribbean Regional Network around women in politics.
10. Parliamentary agenda and budgetary allocations will reflect greater gender sensitivity.

## WOMEN IN NATIONAL PARLIAMENTS

Rank in Region/World	Country	# in Lower House	# in Upper House	# in Upper House	% Overall
1/8	CUBA	219/609	36	-	36
2/17	GUYANA	20/65	30.8	-	30.8
4/28	SURINAME	13/51	26.5	-	26.5
4/5	CANADA	64/308	20.8	32/100	23.5
7/52	T & T	7/36	19.4	10/31	25.4
9/77	BARBADOS	4/30	13.3	5/21	17.6
6/7	USA	66/435	15*	14/100	14.9*
11/86	JAMAICA	7/60	11.7	4/21	13.6
14/129	ST. LUCIA	1/18 speaker	5.5	2/12 president	10

\* Numbers are said to have increased in November 2006 elections. Listed in descending order of percentage of women in the lower or single houses in 189 countries. Numbers include presiding officers.

**GENDER PARITY AND PARTNERSHIP in politics are central to the functioning and strengthening of democracy. Indeed, only joint and equitable political action by women and men can guarantee that politics truly interprets and responds to the needs and aspirations of society as a whole. Men and women bring to politics a different flair and different political priorities. Society as a whole stands to benefit when women are involved in the political process in more equitable numbers.**

...to prepare women the local and general ... prepare the ... governmental ... numbers. The ... networking and ... towards this goal.

... contribute to the Global ... campaign financing ... to establish the ... ics (CIWIP).

... partnership with ... development

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