

# WOMEN'S Participation in Governance is at a Rise, Yet Far Below the Level of Impacting Meaningful Environmental Decision-making



Naypyidaw, Myanmar (2016) Multi-party female parliamentary training session



Kabul, Afghanistan (2015) Training session with Afghan women parliamentarians



Tangier, Morocco (2016) Multi-party national women councillors consultation session

“Gender equality in governance is key to ensure gender-sensitive environmental policy-making and implementation. Gender Concerns International promotes Parity in governance through Electoral Gender Parity initiatives like the G-WIN and GEOM”

## G-WIN Initiative

After the COP22 of 2016, Gender Concerns International launched the Post-COP Gender Watch International Network (G-WIN) Initiative. It offers a multi-stakeholder platform for Women's and Civil Society Organisations to:

- Audit the agreements and declarations adopted at COP
- Monitor the implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions
- Promote new gender-sensitive environmental initiatives
- Enhance female leadership in environmental decision making

The G-WIN Initiative is needed as women are still underrepresented at climate negotiations, while disproportionately affected by climate change due to gender roles and gender inequalities.

## Gender Election Observation Mission

Through our Gender Election Observation Missions (GEOMs), Gender Concerns International monitors electoral gender parity in local and national elections and provides recommendations to improve equality in electoral processes.

- There must be gender parity at all levels in order to achieve equal female leadership
- GEOMs measure gender parity in voting, election administration, and candidate lists.
- By striving for gender parity at all levels, women will have more decision-making power to combat climate change and influence environmental law and policy.



United Nations, New York (2009) Afghan female leaders at a consultation session hosted by Gender Concerns International

**Laura Bromet**, a member of the parliament and GroenLinks, the green political party of the Netherlands has proposed several initiatives and acts like the Sustainable Approach Nitrogen Act to legally ensure the reduction of Dutch Nitrogen emissions by half in ten years. and "Veen red je niet alleen" (Do not save peat on your own), with a member of D66, Tjeerd de Groot.

**Hilda Heine**, the former president of the Marshall Isles and climate change advocate spoke at the Geneva Conference in June 2019 and declared a national climate crisis in October 2019. Under her presidency, Marshall Isles was also the first country to submit a strengthened climate change action before the 2020 deadline.

**Margot Wallström**, former European Commissioner for the Environment and the former Minister of Foreign Affairs in Sweden was a key representative of REACH (Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals). One of the most progressive legislative instrument for chemical control worldwide, and one of the most far-reaching environmental laws in the European Union.

“When women have access to decision-making, they have power to influence policy-making and legislation processes to combat climate change.”



## Studies have shown that

- A larger number of women parliamentarians will lead to stricter climate change legislation
- Women in general tend to have a greater affinity for the environment, support conservation measures more than men and are more concerned about problems of inequality