PNGWIP

Formed: 19 July, 1986

Aim:
Increase number of women in politics in PNG provincial and national parliaments.

Membership:
Mostly women who have political interests and provincial women councils members. Networking with PNG National Council of Women.

Challenge: Financial resources to carry out programme.
Proposed Action Plan
2009-2012

1. GAP ANALYSIS
a. Women Candidates

Where are we?

• Only 4 women have been elected to PNG parliament since independence (1975);
• There is only one woman MP in PNG parliament and she has expressed wish not to seek re-elections at 2012;
• Increase in number of women contesting in national and local level elections but only one has got in since 1997 at national level.
Where do we want to go?

- Increase number of women MPs to 5-10 in 2012 National Elections;
- Increase number of elected women in Provincial/local level Government;
- Conduct education awareness on importance of women in decision making/politics

b. Men voters and women voters
Where are we?

- Men control and influence how voters cast their votes;
- Male voters engage in campaigning and lobbying for candidates;
- Male stereotypes are reinforced through political and economic systems of government including political party systems.

Where we want to go?

- Need for greater education awareness among both male and female voters of their rights and responsibilities as citizens in bringing about an honest and transparent Government;
- Target men as key players – e.g. Trade Unions, churches, youth/women movements etc.
c. Electoral systems and political reforms.

We are we?
- Not enough electoral awareness is given for the LPV system.
- Vote buying and corruption is a major problem;
- Integrity of Political Parties and Candidates Act is not a guaranty that political parties will sponsor women candidates.
- Women have done poorly under the current system
Where we want to go?

• Increase number of women MPs at National level from 1-10 in 2012 election;

• Use existing models of Affirmative Action e.g Motu-Koita/Bougainville for other 19 local/provincial Governments;

• Strong women representation at provincial governments and ward councils;

• Prepare and launch major awareness campaign with women, church, NGO and other civil society organizations

d. Culture
Where are we?

• Used as excuse to marginalize women in politics and decision making;

• Lack of education awareness on gender issues and important role of women in society and development of country;

• Foreign political and business culture has contributed towards discriminative/stereotypes that keep women away from playing their role as equal citizens.

Where we want to go?.

• Launch an education awareness as part of WIP programme;

• Push for gender education to be part of PNG education curriculum;

• Establish PNG WIP political education/training institution;
e. Leadership

Where are we?

• Political (parliament) will is not pro-women thus all women’s programmes are affected;

• Private sector has shown no interest in greater participation of women in politics (they do a lot for advancement/promotion of women in decision making at corporate sector);

• One woman at National parliament, plus 22 at provincial and 700 (?) at local level.

• Strong National Council of Women network (recently reviewed NCW Act which is now with cabinet and will further strengthen NCW and women’s participation as citizens).
Where we want to go?.

• 3 women nominated reps;

• 20 provincial elected women reps for National parliament;

• 5-10 women MPs by 2012.

2. ACTION PLAN
### Objective 1:
**To take affirmative action for women nominated MPs at all levels.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key issue</th>
<th>Specific action</th>
<th>Who should be doing this?</th>
<th>By when?</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Get 3 women under sec. 102</td>
<td>-Dame Carol Kidu -WIP</td>
<td>Dec 2008 (immediate)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Campaign for more women reps e.g 20 rep</td>
<td>-WIP/NCW -Dame Carol Kidu</td>
<td>2009</td>
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| 3         | Organise forums/engage with women leaders at provincial/local level | -WIP -NCW with WIP coordinating | 2009 continuous |
| 4         | -Identify and train“star” women leaders for 2012 -Strengthen and support current LLG women Reps to stay in office. (e.g Keke’s survey) | -WIP -NCW with WIP coordinating | 2009-2010 Continuous |
### Objective 2: To build PNG WIP’s capacity and training.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Strengthen WIP Institutional Capacity</td>
<td>-WIP Executive -Donors e.g UNIFEM, AusAID, NZ</td>
<td>2009-2010</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Fund raising/resource mobilization</td>
<td>-WIP Executive -Friends e.g Oz women MPs</td>
<td>2009….</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Establish and strengthen WIP provincial institution building</td>
<td>-WIP -WIP with donor funding</td>
<td>2009-2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Skills training for WIP Executive</td>
<td>-WIP -Donors e.g AusAID/CDI (ANU) etc</td>
<td>2009-2012</td>
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3. Team strengths and weaknesses in skills, experiences to complete the tasks above.

Strengths

• Enshrined in PNG constitution the recognition of women as equal rights.
• Existing WIP organisation;
• Existing network with NCW and other Organisations;
• Members are determined to “do or die” for 2012 PNG Elections to increase number of women;
• Network with donors e.g Australian women;
• Existing constitutional /legal provisions for increasing numbers of women MPs at local/provincial and national levels.
Weaknesses

• Skills training e.g. mobilizing resources, lobbying etc;
• Institutional capacity to carry out programme;
• Financial and technical resources;
• Culture and education (high illiteracy);
• Need to strengthen capacity of WIP (institution)

Who else do we need to complement the team?

• Local and Provincial women leadership;
• Professional and business women org.;
• Donors e.g. UNIFEM, AusAID
4. What can I do when I get back?

- Support Dame Carol Kidu with 3 Women Reps e.g lobbying MPs for their support on floor of parliament;
- Prepare programme/grant writing proposal;
- Organised WIP workshop for March 2009;
- Launch fundraising internal/external

Tenk yu tru ol wantok!
Thank you friends!
Trimakasi!
pngwiporg@yahoo.com

dorothy.tekwie@gmail.com
ibaiau.@yahoo.com.au
rkekeloa@yahoo.com