

**PROVISION FOR POST PROJECT EVALUATIONS FOR THE UNITED NATIONS
DEMOCRACY FUND
Contract NO.PD:C0110/10**

**DRAFT EVALUATION REPORT
Version 1**

UDF-EGY-11-437 - Women in54(1)6(0)-3(/1)-5(0)6()JTJE 40.2 reW*

Acknowledgements

The evaluators would like to thank the Egyptian Center for Women's Rights (ECWR) which took the time to share its experience and information with the evaluation team

Table of Contents

- I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY 1
- II. INTRODUCTION AND POLITICAL CONTEXT 6
 - (i) The project and evaluation objectives 6
 - (ii) Evaluation methodology 6
 - (iii) Political context..... 6
- III. PROJECT STRATEGY..... 9
 - (i) Project strategy and approach 9
 - (ii) L-US

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

~~effectiveness and efficiency.~~

~~NGOs outside Cairo, including~~ in under-served areas like Upper Egypt and Sinai. Over the years, ECWR has selected cadres from these NGOs and trained them in Cairo, after which they have returned to their homes to serve as trainers and advocates. So long as training venues were known and secure, and not too far from home (en-US)D 1004600449004F450003}TJET EM

UNDEF value added in financing this project was observed at several point. The UN brand was reported to have increased the quality of trainees, specifically those proposed by political parties. UNDEF was flexible to work with. Finally, it was willing to develop civil society activities at a time that other democracy supports felt that the political situation was too volatile.

(iii) Conclusions

The grantee, and project, benefited from the fact that they worked in a safe haven rights in an otherwise troubled human rights situation. Despite delays and difficulties arising from administrative turbulence, the **project was able to capitalize on a political environment reacting against the regressive gender policies of the Morsi government.**

While the favorable environment helped, the **project made a tangible rights. Beneficiaries from project training and workshops were well selected** and benefited from increased capacity as well as awareness of their political rights. Most have continued their political involvement, a significant number ran for political office, and more than a handful were successful. **ECWR was a leading force in lobbying for constitutional** unsuccessful in the case of parliament but successful in the case of local councils. It also **took the lead in successfully advocating for the institution of female quotas** on political lists for the 2015 parliamentary elections and

The return of a critical mass of progressive women to Parliament as a result of the 2015 elections can, in the case of Party list candidates, be entirely ascribed to the quota system in the 2014 elections law. However, as indicated by the striking success participation. These can in part be ascribed to the activities of groups such as ECWR, and in part to the activities supported by this project.

The impact of advocacy within political parties have been mixed. The Code of Ethics provides a useful platform for further advocacy, essentially of the -peddled vigorously from the commitments to greater female participation that they made. The key factor here is money, which parties continue to allocate to supporting the campaigns of men or women chosen for reasons other than their progressive orientation and political acumen. The ultimate political

in early 2016, the executive authority during the first period SCAF, then President Mohamed

Political Timeline

In this text box, we provide a breakdown of the key events that occurred during the project:

- **2013 July** - Army overthrows President Morsi amid mass demonstrations calling on him to quit.

- A **presidential election** in Egypt took place between 26 and 28 May 2014. There were only two candidates, former Egyptian defence minister Abdel Fattah el-Sisi and Egyptian Popular Current candidate Hamdeen Sabahi. The elections came almost a year after the June 2013 protests that led to the overthrow of then-president Mohamed Morsi. The elections showed a turnout of 47.5%, with el-Sisi winning with 96.91%, ten million more votes than former president Mohamed Morsi (who garnered 13 million votes against his opponent in the runoff of the 2012 Egyptian presidential elections).

- In July 2013, after the ousting of former President Mohammed Morsi, the military announced the schedule for the development of the constitution, with the vote to occur around the end of November 2013. The constitution replaces the Egyptian Constitution of 2012 which came into effect under Morsi and was adopted in 2014, like the constitution drafted under Morsi, is based on the Egyptian Constitution of 1971.

The 2014 New constitution bans parties based on religion and has been criticized by the Revolutionary Socialists and the Road of the Revolution Front for leaving too much power in the hands of the military.

- **Egyptian parliamentary elections** to the House of Representatives were held in two phases, from 17 October to 2 December 2015. The elected parliament will be entrusted with the task of reviewing the laws that were passed while a parliament was not in session. President Sisi made a televised appeal for %,

- A situation analysis and case study for the women political engagement position in the political sphere during the project implementation period.
- A public seminar to present a research paper on women in political parties.
- Formulation of a Code of Ethics in political parties essentially a pledge by parties to ensure that 30% of party committee members are women and to put
- Consultation with 20-30 political parties, agreement of at least twenty, followed by a public seminar.
- Project results dissemination seminar.

(2) Capacity building:

- Two two-day trainings for women in political parties for parliamentary elections.
- Two-day training on political outreach.
- Two-day training on media.
- Seven three-day schools to train women to run for local council elections in order to have an election monitor cadre.
- Three two-day trainings on elections monitoring to enforce the code of ethics.

(3) Media:

- Six one-day orientation meetings with media professionals from several influential media outlets.
- Creation of media platform and watchdog tribune to lobby for women political rights.
- Two one-day media trainings.
- 180 articles produced based on the provided trainings by the trained journalists.

(ii) Logical framework

The Project Document translates ECWR's programmatic approach into a structured plan of project activities and intended outcomes, including the achievement of the project's overall and specific objectives. The framework below aims to capture the project logic.

Project Activities and related outputs	Intended Outcomes	Medium-term impacts	Long-term objective
engagement in political parties: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Research paper on women's situation in political parties, presented during public seminar - Formulation of code of ethics of political parties for - Public seminars with participation of political parties, civil society organizations, and medi 	position analyzed Need for policies to representation in parliament, local councils and party leadership broadly	Political parties adopt a unified code of ethics on engagement.	More women are <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 100px; width: 100%;"></div>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training women from political parties to empower them to be candidates and selected for national parliament. - Training women from political parties on political outreach, internal party rights within parties - Training trainings on media: how to communicate the constituencies through media and the media competence for the women to be successful parliamentarians. - Women's cadre school for local council elections aimed at enhancing campaign skills - Female youth training on election monitoring (parliamentary and local council elections) - Female youth training to monitor implementation of the code of ethics 	<p>react to changes affecting women through political channels</p> <p>Increased capacity of cadres inside the political parties.</p> <p>awareness of their political rights inside and outside political parties.</p>	<p>local council elections.</p> <p>Female political party members empowered to play an active role and undertake leadership roles</p> <p>Women able to monitor elections and ensure transparency.</p> <p>Women able to monitor Code of ethics and its related action plan</p>	<p>participation of women in elections</p> <p>Enhanced role for women within political parties. I</p> <p>Greater transparency of elections and political party processes.</p> <p>Code of ethics fully implemented</p>
<p>Media</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Orientation meetings with participation and status - Creation of media platform covering all issues related participation. - Journalist trainings on women in the political sphere - Mentoring journalists 	<p>Journalists more aware, better informed, and better equipped to particularly political participation, code of ethics, etc.</p> <p>Journalists trained to produce high-quality media productions</p>	<p>High profile media coverage of women in politics.</p> <p>Communities made aware of issues surrounding equality and the rights of women in the political arena.</p>	

Project Success Stories

The project resulted in several success stories reflected in the women parliamentarians and female political party members who were able to secure a prominent leadership position in their parties due to the Parties Compact, or those who were able to run in the last elections in 2015 and obtain a parliamentary seat. Thanks to the activities

(iv) Impact

At the personal level, all persons who participated in project training and workshops found the experience valuable. To give an example, one woman who eventually ran for local council Campaign

skills she learned included how to cr
within political party structures, techniques of teamwork, and media outreach (e.g., how to organize a media event or press conferences). Many trainings included basics like the role of local councils, the role of political parties, the Constitution, etc. Trainings related to elections

of the associated training and advocacy was to make women within political parties more aware of their rights as party members and better equipped to claim them.

When considering impact mediated through political parties, it is important to keep the overall context in mind. Almost all political parties there are now over 90 are brand new. Only a handful of established parties have real critical mass. Most political parties are remarkably apolitical; with no real program or agenda, often organized around a well-known individual, family, or business.

The political environment has affected impact in a complicated fashion. Activists interviewed thin. Women are greatly under-represented among Cabinet ministers and governors, a problem that could be easily rectified. At the same time, the present government has been ed Muslim Brotherhood government. favorable conditions and what share was due to high project quality would be a largely

cadre of female political operatives familiar with voter needs and priorities, than the higher-profile parliamentary races – a view endorsed by some parliamentarians themselves. One trainer estimated that about two-thirds of the women he trained will eventually run for local council.

An important factor for sustainability is that ECWR is, in effect, a going concern with relatively well-assured funding.

and there is no indication that, unlike some other NGOs that are publically out of line with the government, they are being harassed into non-existence. While it is dependent on donor funding, it is not in a position so precarious that the loss of one grant would spell disaster. By the time the UNDEF project ended in 2015, ECWR was already implementing a UN Gender Equality Trust Fund project complementing and building on the UNDEF project by a stress on lobbying.

All women interviewed were of the view that, without quotas, there would have been no

VI. RECOMMENDATIONS

(i) UNDEF should continue to work with ECWR, for several reasons. First, there is still work to be done. Second, while the scope for valuable democracy support work is limited, in considering possibilities for further work, UNDEF should consider involving UN Women, which has a very favorable view of ECWR and can offer invaluable local thematic expertise. A strategic advantage for UNDEF is that through ECW, it can provide support that complements the work of the government-independent NGO. This recommendation follows from Conclusion (i).

(ii) ECWR should continue to concentrate on analysis and content development to support its advocacy and training actions. With a reasonable number of progressive women now in Parliament and a large number of women slated to be on local councils by the end of next year, ECWR may wish to target its work less on candidates and more on women actually in office. It should follow up on its own observation that the greatest ones, may lie at the local council level and not in parliament. At the same time, it may want to look for ways to increase its influence in Parliament. This recommendation follows from Conclusions (ii), (iii), (vi), and (vii).

(iii) Media outreach and relations at ECWR are currently handled as a part of its broader portfolio of responsibilities. Given the excellent quality of the content being produced and steady stream of activities, ECWR should consider whether it is desirable to upgrade media relations to a full-time function or at least consider whether it is currently leveraging its work to the maximum extent possible. This recommendation follows from Conclusion (vi).

(iv) In considering project proposals that give emphasis to decentralized activities, UNDEF should closely scrutinize the institutional capacity of the grantee to ensure that its local network is both broad enough and strong enough to deliver promised results. This recommendation follows from Conclusion (v).

(v) ECWR has already made up its mind that it will continue to advocate with political parties, using the Code of Ethics as a platform and a tool. At the same time, it recognizes that the most significant achievement of the 2015 parliamentary elections was in the area of independent candidates. Since the main constraint faced by women both within parties and as independents is campaign finance, ECWR may want to devote more attention to this subject. In judging future projects, UNDEF may wish to consider the experience of this project, where the main output of advocating for change in parties was not actual change itself, but rather a commitment that could subsequently be used to lobby for real change. This recommendation follows from Conclusions (ii), (iii), and (iv).

ANNEX 3: LIST OF PEOPLE INTERVIEWED



Meeting with several trained journalists:	Doaa Abdul Aziz Nermin Gamal Hiam Nicola Fatma Al Zahraa Mohamed Al Dawi Fawzi Morsi
12th of May 2016	
	UN Women meeting.
Meetings with 3 trained media professionals	Ahme Kamal Sameer Ali Fatma Sarhan

ANNEX 4: LIST OF ACRONYMS

CSO Civil Society Organization
DAC

ANNEX 5: PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

<u>Activities</u>	<u>Notes</u>
<p>-Research situation in political parties and quota in political parties to be presented during the Public Seminar 1 (one day-venue: hotel - 45 participants from Cairo). The research paper on women's situation in the political parties was issued in Arabic and English languages and showcased in public seminar.</p> <p>- A seminar for the political parties' representatives on women rights and entitlements</p> <div data-bbox="73 800 412 856" style="background-color: white; height: 27px; width: 100%;"></div>	

won and had a seat in the general assembly of Al-Ahram Newspaper. Also, the trainer agreed with one of the journalists in 'Al-Bawabah news' to videotape the candidates for campaigning on news websites:<http://www.albawabhnews.com/769054>.

2.

	<p><u>Sixth meeting:</u> Under the title "Women's Economic Rights", ECWR held the sixth meeting on March 8th, 2015 in Pyramisa hotel. 21 media specialists attended including "Al-Watan newspaper, RozelYoussif, Dot Com website, News gate, October magazine, Spanish radio station, Al-Hayat channel TV, CBC channel TV, Al-Fagr newspaper, Al-Hayat TV, Veto website, Middle East, Tahrir website, the Arab news network, Al- Gomhuraya newspaper, The World TV, Masrayat website, Geater Cairo radio.</p> <p>Dr. Salwa El-Antrary was the moderator of that meeting. She started the discussion with the increase of women's contribution in the economic activity is a main condition to increase their participation in decision making at the political level, or the work association or within the family. The meeting addressed the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women's situation in Egypt through opportunities and work conditions Women's situation in Egypt through the loans Women's situation in Egypt through the appreciation of unpaid work at home Women's contribution in the economic activity <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To study and evaluate women's contribution in the economy and formal and informal labor market as well as to evaluate the housewives' contribution in the economy (the unpaid work) and the medical and social insurance for them. To ensure that procedures are undertaken to guarantee women's appointment in all the positions based on efficiency and professionalism guaranteeing equal citizenship and participation. To eliminate the discrimination against women in the labor market and provide work opportunities and trainings equally. To pay attention and empower the household women though small projects taking in to account exemption taxes as men <p>To provide supportive social services for working women such as good nurseries, protecting the reproductive role of working women.</p>
<p>- Two 1-day Media training. 51 journalists and media workers were trained on</p>	<p>Conducting the trainings (2 trainings) ECWR held two training workshops; the first one was held on April 29, 2015 and the second one was held on May 13, 2015.</p> <p>The workshops concluded with the recommendations to improve women's image as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To present positive role model of women instead of focusing on negative models To not publish the photos of female victims To be more accurate in the news To be accurate in publishing photos To give feedback on the team work At the mention of incidents that are committed by women, we should not write it is an individual case nor present the news as generalization To make sure of the information source before publishing the news To not focus personally on racial issues The need to pay attention to the individual and collective sports for women To recognize women's problems To not be bias to men's issues patriarchal society and to not focus on the negative side To acknowledge mistakes and articulate a clear language To prioritize women's issues in an attractive way for the media