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WOMEN'S POLITICAL PARTICIPATION AND LEADERSHIP ASSESSMENT KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

Findings Presentation

Date: 2023

AGENDA

- Assessment Purpose & Approach
- Methodology
- Barriers & Opportunities
- Recommendations



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ASSESSMENT PURPOSE AND APPROACH

- The study of women's political leadership in the Kyrgyz Republic investigated the barriers to and opportunities for expanding women's participation and leadership in the political landscape.
- It used the Women's Political Participation and Leadership (WPPL) Assessment Framework to document women's access to and power in politics along sociocultural, institutional, and individual dimensions.
- The assessment analyzed WPPL through the lenses of access and power.
- USAID can use the report's findings to identify priority areas in which its investments are likely to have the greatest impact.



METHODOLOGY

Desk Review

Key Informant Interviews

- Fifteen politicians (eight women, seven men)
- Five civil society and media representatives (four women, one by text)
- Four donors and implementing partners (two women, two men)
- Two academics (one woman, one man)
- One man electoral officer
- Three USAID/ Embassy staff (two women, one man)

METHODOLOGY—FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION

NO.	GROUP DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TOTAL PARTICIPANTS
1	Local Council Members, Men	Saruu Village, Issyk-Kul Oblast	5
2	Local Council Members, Women	Saruu Village, Issyk-Kul Oblast	4
3	Local Activists, Men	Saruu Village, Issyk-Kul Oblast	10
4	Local Activists, Women	Saruu Village, Issyk-Kul Oblast	12
5	Local Council Members, Men	Novo-Pokrovka Village, Chui Oblast	4
6	Local Council Members, Women	Novo-Pokrovka Village, Chui Oblast	7
7	Local Activists, Men	Novo-Pokrovka Village, Chui Oblast	9
8	Local Activists, Women	Novo-Pokrovka Village, Chui Oblast	10
9	Participants of School for Youth provided by PP, Boys	Bishkek City	5
10	Participants of School for Youth provided by PP, Girls	Bishkek City	6

METHODOLOGY—SURVEY

POLITICAL PARTY	GENDER	NO. OF SURVEYS
Ata Zhurt Kyrgyzstan	Women	9
	Men	10
Yıman Nuru	Women	8
	Men	7
Yntymak	Women	10
	Men	12
Alliance	Women	7
	Men	9
Social Democrats	Women	12
	Men	9

POLITICAL PARTY	GENDER	NO. OF SURVEYS
Engek	Women	9
	Men	5
Ordo	Women	1
	Men	0
Ishenim	Women	1
	Men	0
Ata Meken	Women	0
	Men	1
<i>Total Women = 57, Total Men = 53</i>		

BARRIERS & OPPORTUNITIES



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SOCIOCULTURAL

- **Barriers**
 - Gender norms
 - Perceptions of women
 - Violence against women in politics and public life (VAWPPL)
 - Patriarchy
- **Opportunities**
 - Gender quota

“Deputies who came to the [local] council...after the introduction of the quota mechanism are constantly questioned about their achievements and are almost threatened to justify the quota mechanism. Such questions come from journalists, from members of the local community, and even from individual politicians at the national level. At the same time, none of these "evaluators" ever conduct the same assessment of the activities of men MPs.”

(Former local councilor and civil society activist, woman)



INSTITUTIONAL

- **Barriers**
 - Governmental and non-governmental support
 - Political parties
- **Opportunities**
 - Legal framework

INDIVIDUAL

- **Barriers**
 - Knowledge, skills, and confidence
 - Women's competing roles
 - Family support
 - Women's networks
 - Financial assets

“It is more difficult for women to enter and be in politics. Overall, expectations of others from her are higher, and her expectations of herself are high, so she considers whether she has enough skills and whether she can perform well, etc. While men do not have high expectations of themselves (Government official, woman)”

SELECTED RECOMMENDATIONS

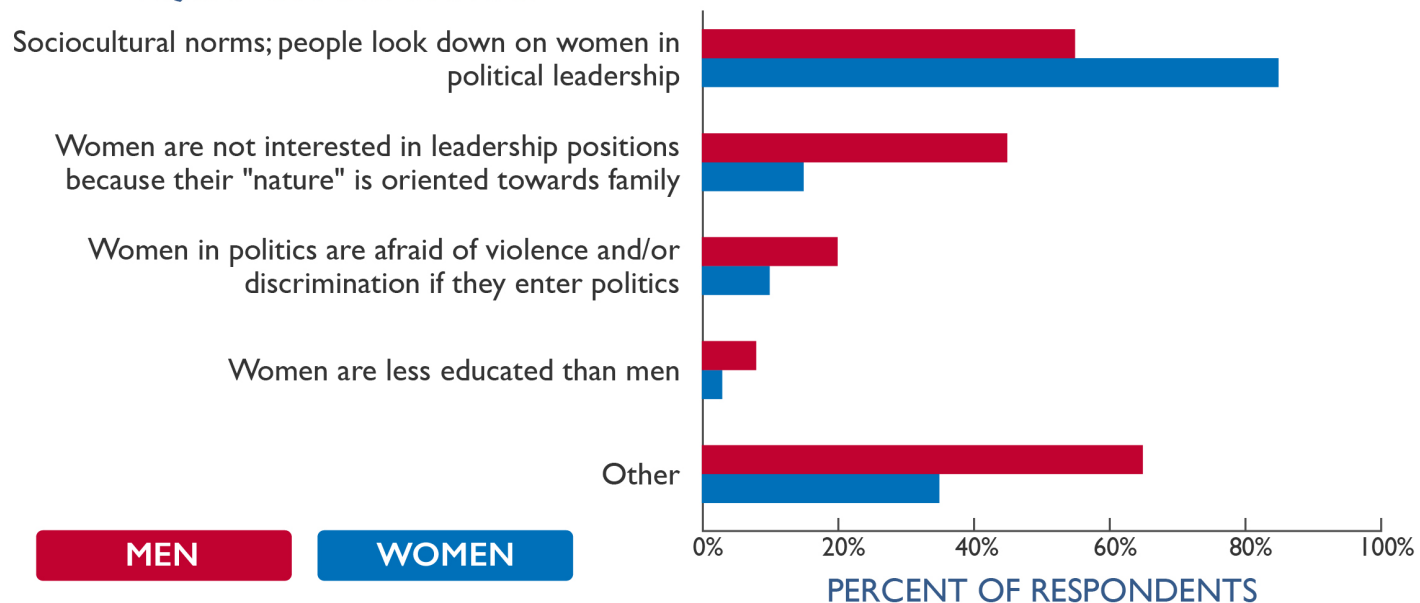


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SOCIOCULTURAL

- Journalist and media training for gender sensitivity
- Support civil society and media
- Engage men gatekeepers

REASONS WOMEN DO NOT HAVE EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES:



INSTITUTIONAL

- National Gender Strategy (NGS) and gender empowerment goals
- Combat VAWPPL
- Political advocacy to clarify the quota system
- Equal treatment of women candidates
- Opportunities for women politicians to network and caucus

INDIVIDUAL

- Civic education
- Capacity and skills among women candidates and politicians
- Train women politicians in media skills
- Training and orientation for women councilors



QUESTIONS?



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