



Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development

NGO in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations

Call for applications: Gender and Politics Training February 2022

Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD) is Asia Pacific's leading feminist, membership driven network. Our membership represents diverse women from 30 countries in the region and provides the strength and expertise that both drives and executes our programmes. For over 34 years, APWLD has been empowering women to use law as an instrument of change for equality, justice, peace and development. We use capacity building, research, advocacy and activism to claim and strengthen women's human rights and Development Justice.

APWLD is inviting women activists and leaders to apply for: Gender and Politics Training to be held virtually during 7 - 18 February 2022

To apply, please review details below & submit application form and CV to the attention of:
Aizhamal Bakashova, sub-grant coordinator, APWLD.

Email: aizhamal@apwld.org

Please indicate in the subject line "Application for Asia Pacific Gender & Politics Training 2022"

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: 11th DECEMBER 2021, midnight Bangkok time

Background

Women's participation and leadership in decision making at all levels, starting in the home and extending to the highest levels of government, is a fundamental assertion for women's human rights, participatory democracy and Development Justice.

Recognising the importance of capacity and transformative leadership building in increasing women's democratic participation and political power APWLD has been carrying out its Gender & Politics (G&P) trainings since 2006. The G&P training is designed for women engaging in multiple forms and levels of politics and leadership in expanding their engagement in democratic processes, challenge gendered political structures, lead women's initiatives and engage with broader peoples' movements and influence development agendas at local, national, regional and international levels.

Statistics continue to reflect the under-representation and marginalisation of women in political institutions and structures at the local and national levels. Moreover, while women have gained victories in occupying decision-making and leadership roles, they continue to hurdle many challenges ranging from cultural barriers to the growing influence of neoliberal globalisation, fundamentalisms and militarisation. The Covid-19 pandemic crisis has brought new challenges and threats to participatory democracy with the surge authoritarian governance in the region that is aided and abetted by corporate capture, fundamentalisms and militarisation. Altogether is leading to a heightened repression of dissent and brutal attacks on women human rights defenders (WHRDs).

Objectives of the Gender & Politics Training 2022

The overall objective of the G&P training is to strengthen women's transformative leadership to generate systemic change and advance participatory democracy, women's human rights and Development Justice.

The specific objectives of the G&P training are:

- To equip women leaders with knowledge and critical analysis on politics, political systems and barriers to women's democratic participation and political leadership;
- To share and exchange experiences among the women leaders on how to raise gender issues and advance feminist agendas within existing political institutions and democratic processes;
- To encourage women leaders to aspire for elected positions and advocate for women's human rights and Development Justice;
- To foster networking and solidarity among women leaders in Asia and the Pacific.

The training will be held virtually during 7 February 2022 - 18 February 2022, and will include the following themes for capacity building and learnings: politics and political systems; gender, class and patriarchy; gender and feminist participatory budgeting; transformative leadership; international human right; laws and legislations; advocacy and lobbying including campaigning; movement building; and Development Justice as an alternative feminist vision.

Who can apply:

- Women activists, leaders, aspiring to participate in political processes and other decision-making positions or to run for position.
- Women leaders working at the grassroots organisations promoting women's transformative leadership at the community level.
- Joint applications together with a woman teammate (e.g. preparing for upcoming elections, working/training) are encouraged.

Participants will be selected based on the following considerations:

- Balanced representation from countries across Asia and the Pacific region.
- Election schedules in Asia and the Pacific in the next couple of years.
- Limited group size of 14-16 participants.

Selected participants must:

- Attend the online training in its entirety.
- Respond to emails in a timely way regarding training preparations and participation.
- Produce a Personal Action Plan towards the end of the training.
- Commit to respond to periodic follow up from APWLD after the training.

Procedure:

- All applicants should submit a completed application form and send it along with their Curriculum Vitae (see attached application form).
- Recommendation letter from institution/organisation/party that states the applicant's experience in the area of women's human rights and political participation and recommending entity's commitment/work on women's leadership, political participation and vision towards enlarging spaces for women's participation at decision-making.

Only selected candidates will be contacted for further details.

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