Two Day Agenda

Draft Agenda

Emerging Women Leaders in Public Service in Asia

The Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and Ministry of Women’s Affairs, Australia

Women in Public Service Project

Materials on each of the topic areas will be distributed to participants and resource persons

The Women in Public Service Project was launched by Secretary Hillary Clinton and now expanded to include universities and government entities around the world to advance women to positions of influence in governments and civic organizations worldwide.

Day One

Welcome:

Transformative Power of Voice:

Making a compelling case on behalf of women and communicating effectively at local, national and transnational and international fora.

Participants will divide into groups and work with resource persons and make the presentation. The examples given can be adapted and presenters will examine emerging and critical new developments on gender and public policy in the Asian region.

Group One:

Introduce, support or challenge a bill in your Parliament or National Assembly (for example, introduce an amendment or revision on sexual abuse to an anti-violence against women’s law in parliament; Develop a National or Regional Action Plan on Women Peace and Security; and develop a presentation on the importance of male engagement in combating violence against women)

Group Two:

Make recommendations from the Asian region to the U.N. Economic and Social Council’s post-2015 development agenda. Reviewing the progress of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG)’s Representatives from governments, civil society, philanthropic organizations,
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academia and the private sector are being engaged in conversations to examine the broader implications – for development cooperation – of a post-2015 development agenda.

Group Three:
Address your constituencies on broadening access to education for girls (your constituencies could be a school board, civic organization, religious group, local government officials or national level stakeholders); speak to local government authorities on gender mainstreaming into water law; challenge a development project that will displace women and their families).

Group Four:
Make a presentation to your Ministry/Agency/Department on the need for greater leadership opportunities for women in your Ministry/Agency/Department. This could be in terms of more training, mentoring, sponsorship opportunities, gender equality in hiring and promotion, family leave and work family reconciliation policies. targets or quotas.

Group Five:
Call a press conference on emergency services for women and children during a natural disaster. This should include security measures including personal security, food security, access to health care, access to reproductive health care, access to school, rehabilitation, reintegration, family unification, resource allocation etc.

Comments from participants and resource persons

Part Two

Women’s Leadership in Public Service: Transcending Barriers and Broadening Opportunities through networking, Advocacy, Alliance Building, and Partnerships:

Participants will break into groups and will work with resource persons to develop presentations on developing networks, emerging advocacy campaigns; partnerships, alliance building exercises in their countries

Group 1: Develop and present a plan for a campaign for increasing the number of women’s representation in Parliament. This can include quotas at the local government or parliamentary level; could be quotas for political parties or legislative quotas; training for women; parliamentary caucuses; campaign finance support etc.
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**Group 2:** Develop a strategy for alliance with grassroots organizations, religious organizations, male alliances on fighting violence against women. Present the strategy and provide best practices and case studies from the region.

**Group 3:** Organize women’s caucuses in your national assembly or parliament. Present the challenges and opportunities of working as a caucus across party or other lines. Present an example of how a caucus can connect with women’s groups to back a gender sensitive policy, law or action plan.

**Group 4:** Convene a transnational network to combat trafficking of women in the Asian region. Present how you would go about doing this and a potential platform of action for the network.

**Group 5:** Create a strategy for government agencies, departments, and ministries to strengthen partnerships and linkages with civil society groups with a special focus on women’s groups.

Comments from participants and resource persons

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**Day Two**

Women at the Negotiating Table: Claiming Your Voice in the Negotiating Process

**Group One:**

Role play negotiating a critical part of a peace agreement. This could include a decision on a parity law; women at the table; transitional justice arrangement and constitutional making; women in transitional justice initiatives (including addressing violence against women in conflict and post conflict and the sexual abuse by armed forces); Including provisions on social and economic rights in peace processes) and operationalizing Security Council 1325 and other international conventions and agreements including drafting reports and national action plans under SCR 1325. The provisions of the peace plan should also explore reparations, restitution, and reconciliation initiatives.

**Group Two:**

Role play negotiating a conflict resolution (the conflict can be local or national and could be a hypothetical case study).

**Group Three**

Role play negotiating a gender budget to be introduced into every department and agency.

**Group Four**
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Role play negotiating between two agencies (example: agency for women’s affairs and the ministry for economic development on a development project that will result in land appropriation and displacement of communities)

Group Five:

Role play negotiations between two embassies on the transnational issue of cross-border trafficking

Part Two

Creating an Action Plan on Mentoring, Building Pipelines for Women in Public Service and Local, National and Transnational Networking

Break into five groups and work with a resource person from the five Colleges on creating a platform of action. Critically examine ways in which this forum and the new network that you are now part of can bolster your work as leaders in public service. Make recommendations on next steps for the network.

Each group will present the action plan followed by discussion and the adoption of the:

Asia Region Platform of Action on Women’s Leadership

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