


Fund for Gender Equality

GENERAL PROGRAMME INFORMATION				
Project Information				Nigeria
Project Name	Capacity Building and Empowerment through Political Education for Nigerian Women			Programme Type: Catalytic
Lead Org	BAOBAB for Women's Human Rights			Grant ID: 160
Co-lead Org	Kudirat Initiative for Democracy (KIND)			
Thematic Area(s)	Political Empowerment			
Thematic Sub Area(s)	Decision Making (Increase women's participation in politics at national levels)			
Grant Amount	\$480,000	Grant Start Date	December 18, 2009	
Additional Gov't Funding		Grant End Date	December 31, 2011	
Total Budget	\$480,000			

Partner Agencies	
Government	Political Parties, Ministry of Women's Affairs, Local Governments of Ressano Garcia and Boane
Civil Society	NGO-CEDAW Coalition; 30 by 11 Coalition

Programme Summary
The 2007 Nigerian elections resulted in women gaining a mere 6 percent of state and federal legislative seats. This programme seeks to increase women's political participation in Nigeria by training and mentoring young women with political aspirations to be competitive candidates for the 2011 elections and beyond. The programme will train a cadre of young, informed candidates for political office. These women will be part of a supportive political network and therefore better able to negotiate the world of male-dominated politics.

DETAILED PROGRAMME INFORMATION				
Contribution to Law(s)				
Name of Law	Law Type	Year Implemented	Type of Contribution	Expected Level of Contribution (High or Low)
National Gender Policy	Policy	2007	Implementation	Low
African Protocol	Plan		Implementation	Low

General Programme Goal
Increased number of women participating in the political and decision-making processes at all levels of government.

Expected Programme Outcomes
Outcome 1: More women are aware of the need to participate in the political process
Outcome 2: Women better understand and engage in the political field
Outcome 3: Media give more visibility to women's political participation

Main Achievements
In its first year of operation, the programme advanced significantly in all three areas, building capacity, raising awareness and building coalitions among stakeholders that include young women, women Parliamentarians and the general public. The programme emphasized increasing the abilities of young women and women candidates to participate fully in Nigeria's political process and demand accountability from elected officials with respect to their rights, guaranteed by Nigerian electoral law. The programme has successfully: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducted a baseline study across 18 states in Nigeria in order to obtain information on women's perception of political processes, establish data on the numbers of women who already are politically involved and identify key challenges to women's political participation • Launched, with media coverage, a strategic opportunity to increase the visibility of women's political participation (particularly in

light of the upcoming elections in Nigeria) and to obtain the commitments of four media organizations to cover the story

- Organized a capacity-building workshop with 30 female students from tertiary schools in the Borno, Abia, Lagos and Cross-River States. This is done to identify young women political aspirants, train them in the requirements for political participation and provide them with the access and support necessary to begin to operate in political circles.
- Conducted mentoring and advocacy meetings with the participation of the media, female politicians and 30 young women political aspirants, to foster networks and alliances among established women politicians

Key Highlights

The use of communications and social networking tools (i.e. Facebook and Twitter) to bolster women's political participation