

VOICES FROM THE FIELD

Liberia



“I am running for election because of my passion to serve.”
 – A.D. Scott

A.D. Scott, aged forty, understands the challenges of contesting an election as a women after being defeated in the 2011 Liberian elections. In 2017, she decided to run for election once again. Scott was one of 50 women who attended a UN Women-supported training on election strategies organized by Liberia’s Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection and the Women’s Political Forum. “The legislature [parliament] is an important space to champion the cause of [...] the youth and women,” says Scott.

Tanzania



“I never had anyone to guide me [...] It doesn’t have to be this way for the next generation.”
 – Pili Hussein

Pili Hussein is Tanzania’s first women miner, who disguised herself as a man to access the Tanzanite mines. Today, she has 70 employees, a mining license, and wants to make sure that the next generation of women miners don’t face the same barriers as she did. “I want to work with younger women to teach them how to do business in the mining sector,” she says of her experience. Hussein was interviewed for the “Mapping Study on Gender and Extractives Report in Mainland Tanzania”, conducted by UN Women Tanzania in collaboration with Global Affairs Canada.

Haiti



“If sometimes we work through a weekend, we all do it, because we’re that committed to the cause—our cause—empowering women!”
— *Nadege Beauvil*

In 2006, during the lead-up to Haiti’s long-awaited general elections, **Nadege Beauvil** was a volunteer with Haiti’s national women’s umbrella organization, Femmes en Démocratie. By 2015, Beauvil was steering UN Women’s project to encourage more women to vote in the parliamentary elections. “We had so much to do in so little time—it was practically mission impossible. But I kept the faith. I told my team: we will make it!” she says. “It was worth it all in the end [...] some women who said it was ‘mission impossible’ applauded our success.”

Ukraine



“I often talk to my son about gender roles because this topic is relevant.”
— *Dmytra Shurov*

Dmytro Shurov, Ukrainian singer and opinion leader, is the first HeForShe advocate in Ukraine. Often appearing at major events with his 14-year-old son Lev Shurov, he speaks about fatherhood, sharing domestic work and child care responsibilities at home. “It’s an honor for us to become part of the gender equality campaign. Women have been fighting for their rights for many years and, unfortunately, men are rarely involved in this struggle.” Recently, Shurov and his son Lev spoke at the Docudays International Human Rights Film Festival and International Book Festival (‘Book Arsenal’) about the importance of men’s role in achieving gender equality.

Photos: above left: UN Women/Alide Andral; above right: UN Women/Volodymyr Shuvaev