

Closing the Data Gap on Women's Representation in Local Government: A long story short

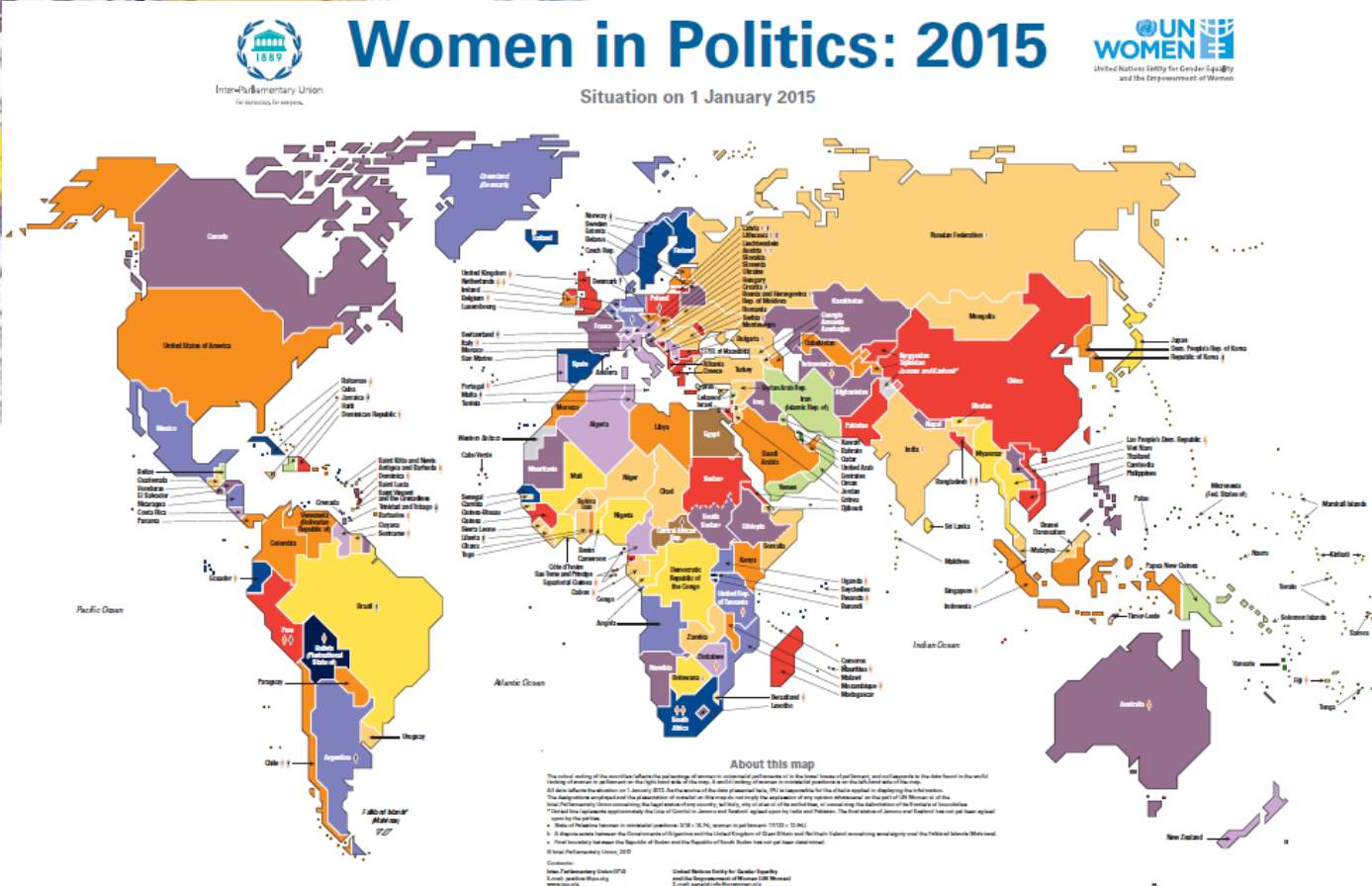
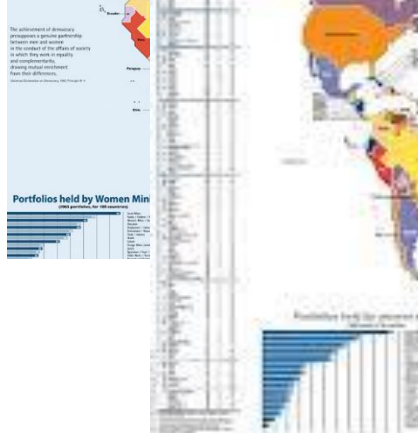
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How we got here:



The case for an indicator on local government:

- ❖ No global baseline of women in local government exists.
- ❖ So, UN Women started working towards one.
- ❖ Most countries have a local government.
- ❖ The contributions of millions of women are not being captured; rather focus is on 10,000 women MPs.
- ❖ Little, but significant, evidence that women in local-level decision-making improves women's lives.

“What is not measured is invisible. What is invisible is lost. What is lost cannot be acted or remedied.”

- (UN Women I Know Gender Course)



SDG framework

SDG 5

“Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls”

Target 5.5: *“Ensure women’s full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at **all levels** of decision-making in political, economic and public life.”*

Indicator 5.5.1: *Measures women’s proportional representation in two distinct areas of government: (1) **national parliaments** (Tier I Indicator) and (2) **local government** (Tier III Indicator)*

Indicator 5.5.1b: *“Proportion of seats held by women in **local governments**.”*

TIER 3!

Methodology development

Collecting and analyzing data on local government for global baseline.

- 1. 1st technical meeting** (November 2014)
- 2. Extensive research** (e.g. legal review of constitutions and local government acts to identify local government structures – original, UCLG and CLGF)
- 3. Typology of LG** (how many tiers of local government) and **leadership** positions
- 4. Consultations with partners** to understand data collection at country level and data compilation at regional levels

6. Data request form and pre-testing with countries

7. Expert Group Meeting held in November 2017.
Agreement to hold 2 regional meetings with statistical commissions: ESCWA and ECA

8. Continue testing and collect data

9. Obtain input from countries on the methodology of the indicator through regional workshops and individual consultations

10. Tier 2: hopefully move the indicator from tier 3 to tier 2.
Documents ready in early October, IAEG meets in November.

Workshop Objectives & Agenda

- **Discuss findings of UN Women-led research on local government and how it relates to the development of this SDG indicator;**
- **Provide input on the methodology of the indicator and discuss the relevance of the indicator in the region**
- **Sharing of country experiences in producing and using data on women's representation in local government**
- **Reflect on activities and roles of key actors in data collection and reporting for global monitoring of SDG indicator 5.5.1b.**



Thank you
(any questions?)

SESSION III. DEFINING LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Objectives:

- (1) Share key definitions and terms related to local government
- (2) Understand how local government is organized in the world and in the region
 - Findings of UN Women Review of national legal frameworks in 80 countries and an additional 40 country profiles developed by UCLG and CLGF
 - The group activity on identifying national organization of local governments in the region