



Women in politics: It works!

Capitalization of the Women in Politics Network

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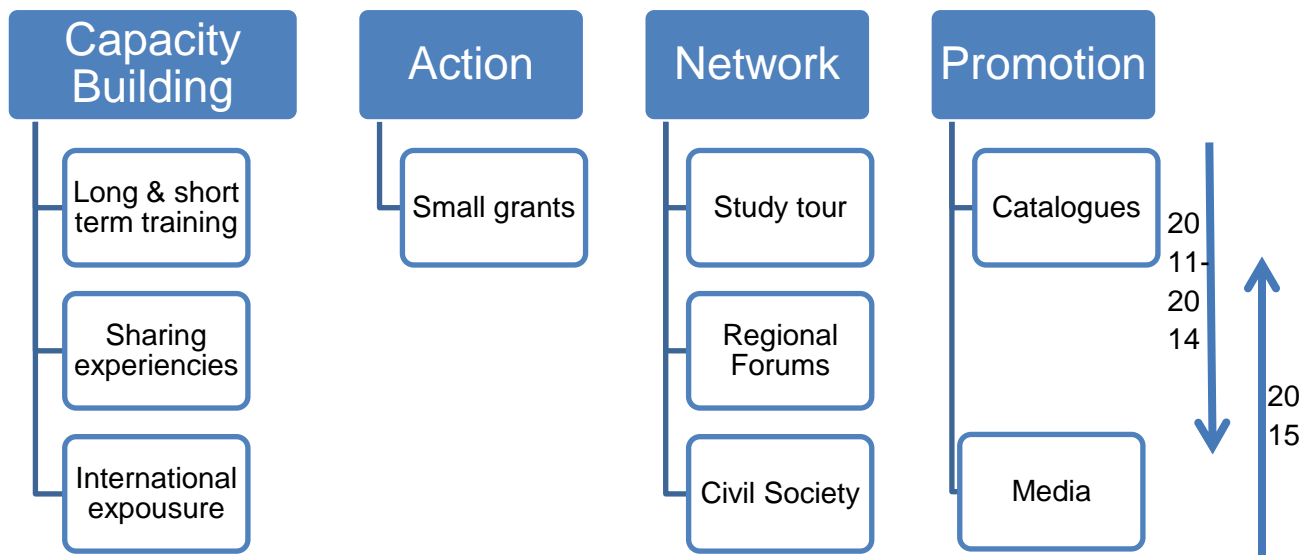


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Abstract

“For me, the network of the Women in Politics is like a toddler who is learning to walk. Not that we didn’t know how to walk, but the Network taught us to walk hand by hand”, Lindita Doda, member of the Municipality Council, Burrel.

Since 2011, the Decentralization and Local Development Programme (dlp) has supported the Network “Women in Politics” (hereinafter WiP). The Network was established with the initiative of the local councilors of the Regions of Shkodra and Lezha and since 2015, has been expanded to the regions of Durres, Kukes and Diber.



The WiP Network is a success story in the series of the movements for increasing the representation of women in politics in Albania. The studied choice of the dldp to work with the political party structures and local councilors has been proven as successful so far when the numbers show a greater presence of the women in the local councils covered by the program in comparison to the national average. A number of projects with social character, undertaken by the women councilors members of the WiP Network, has increased their reputation in the communities they serve. The members of the WiP network feel much more secure in their political career and more decisive to progress within their political parties, but also from the local government to national one, such as in the Parliament. They are making efforts to turn their political offer from quantity to quality, being loyal to their vision for the politics as a service towards the citizens and the country itself.

This approach is specifically important now when the Albanian Parliament amended the Electoral Code for the representation of the candidates in the lists of the local councils by 50% for women and men. Furthermore, Albania is entering the phase of implementing the Territorial-Administrative Reform aiming at the improvement of the financial management and services at the local level.

Regardless the various tools that WiP Network has been using in order to be active and productive- regional forums, trainings, workshops, focus groups, experience exchanges and study tours- one can identify two keywords that have been central to its success: cooperation and empowerment.

Background information

Dldp is a program implemented by HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation and funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). Dldp has worked in Northern Albania since 2006 in the regions of Shkodra (and from 2009 also in Lezha) to strengthen the capacities of Local Government Units (LGUs) to deliver efficient services. The program started the third phase in early 2014 and aims to consolidate its results through the continuation of its work with the LGUs in the aforementioned regions, but also in three additional regions Kukës, Dibër and Durrës, covering the whole northern part of Albania.

Local Governance structure in Albania

Decentralization is a process which has accompanied the democratic transition in Albania since the fall of communism in 1991. The local government units (LGUs) have been organized in two levels: the first level of LGUs included the municipalities and communes (374 in total). After the territorial reform of 2015, the number of the LGUs was reduced to 61 Municipalities.

The mayors and local councils are directly elected and are responsible for provision of local services to their inhabitants (local roads, water supply and sewage, urban planning, partially education and health services, promotion of economic development etc.). The councilors are elected based on the multi-named lists of political parties or independent candidates.

The second level of LGUs are the Councils of the Regions or Qarks (12 in total) whose main function is to coordinate the development between the communes and municipalities that are located within their boundaries. The members of the Regional Council and its chairman are elected amongst the local council members; they are not elected directly by Albanian citizens.

How did the idea of the WiP Network come?

Besides being a program implemented at the local level, dldp has a gender component mainstreaming in all lines of activities. Local realities in the areas covered by the program showed that the participation of women in politics was very low. The low level was manifested within the political parties, but also in the decision-making bodies, be it in the Parliament, government or local governance.

Parliamentary Elections 2005

	Total	females		males	
		total	%	total	%
Direct candidates	1.235	98	7,94%	1.137	92,06%
Candidates from the lists	1.968	169	8,59%	1.799	91,41%
Elected MoP	140	9	6,43%	131	93,57%

Local Elections 2007

	total	females		males	
		total	%	total	%
Candidates for mayor	1.076	35	3,25%	1.041	96,75%
Elected mayors	384	6	1,56%	378	98,44%

In 2008, the Electoral Code had an important amendment, introducing for the first time the gender quota principle: 1 in 3 names in the lists of candidates by political parties should be of the other gender. The effects of this amendment brought an evident improvement in the number of the women members of Parliament in 2009-approx.2.5 times higher than the previous elections.

Parliamentary Elections 2009

	Total	F		M	
		total	%	total	%
Candidates from the lists	3713	1185	31,91%	2528	68,09%
Elected MoP	140	23	16,43%	117	83,57%

However the objective of 30% women in the Parliament was not achieved. Several local organizations, supported by international donors, began to analyze what did go wrong with the quotas, highlighting some factors. After the national election of 2009, a study¹ on the monitoring of Gender Quotas in Politics concluded that **the party forums** and

¹Study on the monitoring of Gender Quotas in Politics, undertaken by University of Tirana, Faculty of Social Sciences supported by Regional Research Promotion Program in Western Balkans funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), 2010.

civil society are the main sources of women's inclusion in politics. While for the first one-civil society, a number of empowerment projects have been initiated; few actors have been working directly with the political parties. Dldp decided to start exactly there, believing that the unpaved roads are more difficult, but much more sustainable once built.

The turning point- the local elections in 2011

After the assistance given by dldp to WiP, for the local election of 2011, the membership of women within the political parties achieved 16% in the areas covered by the program, meanwhile the national average of women membership was 12%. In the rural areas, the party structures didn't exist at all. The political willingness and the mentality regarding gender roles in society, kept women away from politics.

The high value of percentage of women voters in the local election of 2011 was another achievement of dldpWiP network. Shkodra, one of dldp LGUs, for example was ranked the first region nation-wide with 51.2% of women voters, meanwhile the national average of women voters was 50.2%. In this context, the issue for dldp was: how to translate this power into more roles for women in the public life of the cities?

Dldp supported women members of the political forums to work together in order to achieve the increase of the representation of women in politics. In 2010, training on the electoral campaigns was organized, followed by three forums in Shkodra, Lezha and Puka with the women members of the political parties. At the end of these forums, participants thought necessary to institutionalize this cooperation experience giving it a name: the Women in Politics Network, but still remaining an informal network. It was the eve of the local elections 2011.

The first product of the network was a catalogue with the profiles of 16 women candidates for local councils. The profile comprised a short bio of the candidates and their vision for the development of the cities. The catalogue was printed in 1000 copies and along with the training, had an impact in increasing the exposure of the women political activists in the voters' eyes.

Then, it was published the catalogue of civil society organizations in Shkodra. The catalogue provides information for all NGOs that are focused in addressing various issues of women.

MarijeDeda, member of the Communal Council, Kolsh, Lezhë

"Until the WiP Network, we have done only political propaganda. We learned how to present ourselves in a better way, how we can "gain" women and how to represent them better. This approach was new, fresh and different to us compared to other types of support we have received earlier. I have learned communication skills, created more connections and more opportunities."

The results of the elections in 2011 were as followed:

<i>Zgjedhjetvendore 2011</i>	Total	F		M	
		total	%	total	%
Candidates for mayors	872	15	1,72%	857	98,28%
Mayors elected	384	5	1,31%	379	98,70%
Candidates in the lists	74739	22604	30,24%	52135	69,76%
Councilors elected	6150	758	12,33%	5392	87,67%

The number of elected women in the local councils in LezhaQarks increased from 18 to 21 (out of 343) and at least 1 Qark Council member is female. Furthermore, 2 deputy mayors were female.

The number of elected women LGU councils in ShkodraQark increased from 28 to 41 (out of 529). One woman head of council was elected in Rubik.

After the elections, the women who won their seats at local councils from all political parties continued to cooperate. DIdp supported them with capacity building activities and small grants.

Why working with women councilors?

The entire history of the efforts aiming at the increase of the representation of women in politics has demonstrated that it can't be sustainable if it is not linked with the policy-making. Citizens need to see that women in politics are an added value in politics, not just numbers. They need to see concrete actions or politics in action. This way, they will be convinced to vote more women in the next elections. On the other side, women in politics should demonstrate that they are able to influence the policies and decision-making processes by taking into account the best interest of the citizens, regardless their political orientation.

Irma Kopliku, Member of the Parliament- Shkodra region, former member of the Municipal Council, Shkoder

“Being members of the local councils and part of the decision-making process, we created an experience watching in practice how the laws were implemented, how the support was gained to realize our ideas. Now it is easier for me to be an active part of the Albanian Parliament. “

How the WiP Network does work?

WiP is not the classical project which has a predefined framework. The Network is developed and takes form according to local realities. It breathes with them. It can sound impossible in an environment where “project” means papers, objectives, log frames, indicators, but WiP is a lively organism fed by its members’ ideas.

Idp is there to offer support with capacity building and expertise. On the other hand, the idp support is guided by the principles of parity and neutrality, making sure every political party represented in the network receives the same support. For example, in the general elections of 2013, 6 candidates were supported by the programme, 3 from the left and 3 from the right wing, and among regions, 3 from Shkodra and 3 from Lezha.

Nirvana Leka, member of the Municipality Council, Shkoder

“This network has something special. It always had acted concretely; it has been more linked with the citizens. We as councilors have been more reachable, more real to the citizens because we have served them directly”.

Capacity Building

Trainings and.....

Felek Kasemi, member of the Municipal Council, Shkoder

“The consecutive trainings organized by the WiP Network have been contributing in our personal growth.”

During the first phase of the programme, 2011-2013, the support to the WiP Network has been focused to the strengthening of the capacities of the local councillors in areas such as local governance functioning, budgeting, social inclusion, etc. The objective of these trainings was to professionalize the women councillors in order for them to be a

strong voice in the Local Councils during the meetings where important decisions for the improvement of the citizens life, especially women, were taken.

For example in the seminar on gender issues organized in January 2011, 36 women from Lezha, Puka, Shkodra, Laci and Rreshen participated. In December 2011, another seminar on participatory budgeting was held, in order for the councilors to be able to analyze the data and the process of budgeting.

Other trainings dealt with topics such as the electoral campaigns (38 participants) and the performance of the women candidates for the general elections.

[....more](#)

The Academy of the Political studies

Besides trainings, the dldp has supported the participation of the members of the WiP network at the Academy of Political Studies. The Academy is an educational program established in 2007 in the framework of the Network of the Schools of Political Studies by the Council of Europe. The Academy aims at promoting the development of a new generation of politicians and leaders as committed citizens for the implementation of the democratic model of governance and development. Since 2010, the program is being supported by the Swiss Cooperation Office in Albania and Council of Europe.

The dldp has supported 7 women members of the WiP so far to follow the studies at the Academy. Two of them graduated with excellent results in 2013 and are living, working and developing their career in Shkodra. 5 women (1 for each of the regions) are actually following the Academy and are expected to be graduated at the end of October. The selection of the candidates for the Academy is based on the criteria established by the school itself - higher education, age, foreign languages. Besides these criteria, the dldp takes into consideration also the contribution of the candidate in their respective parties. The principle of parity is applied here as well, for example this year 2 students are from PS, 2 from PD and 1 from LSI.

Irma Koplaku, Member of the Parliament, Shkodër

"I am very happy that I have been selected by dldp to be part of the Academy of the Political Studies. It has been one of the most beautiful and useful experiences in my life. I think that after a relatively long period of efforts to increase the number of women in politics, it is exactly the time for women to be competitive in politics with their own ideas and vision."

Networking

While developing itself, the WiP Network started to build bridges with its partners in the Qark (second level of LG) and at the national level, with the members of the Parliament. For example, two women members of Parliament representing Shkodra from different political parties, Mrs Ademi (DP) and Mrs Hafizi (SP), have been very close to the WiP Network in various activities, giving a clear example of the cooperation between women in politics in all levels.

During the period 2011-2013, the WiP Network established alliances with national and international actors working in the gender equity in politics field.

In this context, 13 women councilors visited Kosova in November 2012 in a study tour aimed at expanding their advocacy power for gender issues. This activity was organized in cooperation with the Swiss – Kosova Local Governance and Decentralization Support (LOGOS) program, supported by Swiss Development and Cooperation (SDC) and implementing by Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation (HIS).

The cooperation with international organizations such as OSCE, NDI and UN Women, with whom the WiP network shared common values, helped it to maximize the impact of capacity building efforts and coordination.

Regional & Local Forums

The second phase of the WiP Network 2013-2015 has started with the efforts to draft a common platform for women in the general elections of 2013. For this reason, 5 regional forums were held in Shkoder, Lezhe, Rubik, Malesi e Madhe and Puka. The main aim of the forums was to increase the representation of women in the regions of Lezha and Shkodra as candidates and voters in the general elections of that year. Specific objective was to increase the membership of women in the political parties from 15% to 20% and from 3 members of Parliament to 5 in these two regions.

Every forum brought together approx. 60 participants, women and men. Men and boys were less in number, but part of the political leadership at the regional level, such as member of the Parliament, chairman or vice-chairman of the parties. Women participants were members of the political structures and forums at the regional level, but also representatives from the NGOs working for gender equity, activists, representatives of the businesses, local governance, etc. For the main topics discussed in forums see Anex 1.

Jolanda Mustafaraj, member of the Municipal Council, Durrës

“We came out of that Forum with a clear objective in our head: we should support each other in order to include as many women as possible in the lists of the candidates and cooperate with each other in this road we have been entering together”.

Both objectives of the regional forums were achieved: Lezha from 0 MoP had 3 women MoP, while Shkodra had no changes in the number of the women MoP.

At the national level, the results of the general elections 2013 were as follows:

<i>Elections 2013</i>	Total	F		M	
		total	%	total	%
Candidates from the lists	7149	2834	39,64%	4315	60,36%
Elected MoP	140	25	17,86%	115	82,14%

Durring April 2015, 8 local forums were held in Shkodra, Lezha, Bajram Curri, Kukes, Peshkopi, Burrel, Koplik, Durrës. The local forums were used to prioritise the projects drifted for 8 functional areas (where project works). Projects aimed at increasing social-economic cohesion, by avoiding the risk of fragmentation (for functional areas) that comes from the implementation of territorial-administrative reform². Around 120 projects drafted by a pool of experts were dicussed during the Local Forums with the WiP Network members.

Being public & influencing the policy-making

After the elections of the 2013, the WiP Network was engaged in some proposals with social character enabling the budgeting of several activities with funds from the municipalities and dldp. For example:

The initiative for the screening of the breast cancer and cervical cancer in Lezha and Rubik.

In October 2013, the women councilors of Lezha and Rubik, assisted by a gender expert, designed an awareness campaign for the breast cancer and cervical cancer for women in these areas. They organized a door- to- door information campaign for women, contacted several hospitals in Tirana to make the controls free of charge and

²The Functional Area Study is a product of dldp which identified sustainable LGUs or clusters of LGUs that could serve as models for efficient public service delivery.

obtained it, while organizing transportation for the women from rural areas to Tirana. As a result:

- approx. 450 women, half of them from rural areas, carried out controls and screening tests free of charge in Tirana. 20% of them which resulted positive in the tests took appropriate treatment protecting their lives.
- 10 thousand women were sensibilized regarding the early prevention of the breast and cervical cancer.

Dave Rusta, member of the Municipality Council, Lezha

“Besides the awareness campaign, we achieved another goal: the increase of our reputation as councilors in the community. We made people saying: these women do things, they achieve what they say, because we achieved.”

Libraries of schools in Shkodra

In Shkodra, the group of women councilors in the Commission of Education proposed enriching the libraries of 10 schools- 8 secondary and 2 high schools- with new titles. The list of the books was elaborated in cooperation with the directors of the schools, while in the Council the women councilors lobbied for obtaining funds from the municipality for the other materials.

The local council approved a fund of 500 thousand lek (3800 Euro) for the project and today the libraries of the school serve 400 children with new books in their shelves.

The anniversary of the Independence and women councilors

On the occasion of the anniversary of the Independence of Albania, the women councilors in Shkodra organized an activity in the honor of the women which served as councilors in the Municipality since 1912. An album with the profiles of the women councilors in years was prepared. Four of them were awarded the prize “The honor of the city”.

Gender Budgeting

The municipality of Shkodra for the first time has provided gender oriented budgeting within its social services budget. Under the section for social services, the budget for 2013 provides 1,870,000 ALL financial support for several social aspects with the initiative of the women councilors.

What are the results of the WiP Network?

After 5 years, the WiP network has achieved some results.

Referring to the Local Election of May 8th, 2015, the main result was that the average of the women in local councils of the main municipalities covered by the dldp program was higher (16%) than the national average (12%).

No.	Municipality	Number of the members of the MC	Females in the MC	Percentage of the females
1	Shkodër	45	7	16%
2	Lezhë	25	1	4%
3	Durrës	45	8	18%
4	Kukës	26	2	8%
5	B.Curri	15	7	47%
6	Peshkopi	17	3	18%
7	Burrel	17	2	12%
8	Koplik	17	2	12%

Average for 8 municipalities	16% ³
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³ Data refer to the local election of May 8th, 2011.

WiPin figures& action (2011-2015)

400 women in the Network

32women councilors

5 regions (covering 30% of the total population)

8 municipalities

63 LGUs

5 trainings

5 regional forums

8 local forums

1 study tour

Small grants

Catalogue for women candidates for local elections 2011

Catalogue for civil society organizations in Shkodra

Quota for women's representation of 50% in municipality councils was not achieved.

The number of elected women in municipality councils from Local Election of June 21th, 2015, in program areas is listed below:

No.	Municipality	Number of the members of the MC	Females in the MC	Percentage of the females
1	Shkodër	51	20	39%
2	Malesi e Madhe	31	7	23%
3	Pukë	15	3	20%
4	FushëArrëz	15	1	7%
5	VauDejës	21	6	29%
6	Lezhë	41	12	29%
7	Durrës	51	24	47%
8	Shijak	21	7	33%
9	Kukës	31	5	16%
10	Tropojë	21	4	19%
11	Dibër	31	12	39%
12	Bulqizë	21	3	14%
13	Mat	21	3	14%
14	Klos	21	3	14%
Average for 14 municipalities				28% ⁴

⁴Data refer to the preliminary results published by CEC for local election of June 21th, 2015.

In qualitative terms, the results of the WiP Network are:

- The Network has increased self-confidence of the women to contribute in politics. They feel confident to face challenges in the upper levels of the politics such as the Albanian Parliament.
- The Network has brought a new political culture based on the cooperation and solidarity contrasting with the conflicting climate of politics during transition period.
- The members of the WiP network are able to contribute to policy making process with concrete and visible results.
- In 4 years, the members of the WiP network feel ready to pass their experience and knowledge to the younger generation in topics such as the gender budgeting and social issues. On the other hand, they acknowledge the need for a continuous formation to perform better in politics.

Jolanda Mustafaraj, member of the Municipal Council, Durrës

“The Network gives you a new horizon, it guides you, it reveals on you some potential that you don’t know you have it. There are many women with great potentials, but they should be able to work them out.”

Key success factors

- Working with women within the political party’s forums and structures is an winning approach. Empowering women activists to lobby for the increasing of the representation of women in politics.
- Working with women councilors at the local level, this has been neglected for so long.
- Listening to the women, adjusting the support to their needs, being flexible.
- Giving support from beginning to the end- not only during elections, but also on the duty. On the job trainings type- looking for impact-indirectly contributes to the self-confidence of women to enter and contribute in politics.
- Believing in women’s potential and ideas/passion/integrity.
- Be less formal and more dynamic.

Limitations

Based on the success of the catalogue of women candidates for local councils in 2011, the WiP Network tried to replicate that product for the local elections in 2015. After long negotiations, the objective was not met, because the tension between political parties in these elections was higher and the competition fiercer, due to the changes in the administrative map. In this context, women weren't successful in convincing their respective parties to campaign together for women candidates as they did in 2011. The neutrality principle didn't work out during elections time, compared to the pre-election period.

The results of the new local councils after the elections of June 21, 2015 are below the expectations regarding women representation. With the amendments of the Electoral Code in April 2015, it was believed that the presence of women in the local governance structure would be at least 40%. Not only this objective was not fulfilled, but in some regions such as Tropoja for example, we saw a shrinking of quotas of women in the municipality councils (from 47% to less than 20%). From the data shown in the following table it can be summarized that in all the municipalities of Northern Albania percentage of women in local councils is below 30%, with the exception of Shkodër and Dibër (39%).

By comparison of the data of percentage of women in local councils for main municipalities of Southern Albania with those of Northern Albania it is evident that the percentage of women in Southern Albania is above 40% and some cases it is near the limit of 50%.

No.	Municipality	Percentage of the females in MC before the Local Election of June 21, 2015	Percentage of the females in MC after Local Election of June 21, 2015 ⁵
1	Shkodër	16%	39%
2	Malësi e Madhe	12%	23%
3	Lezhë	4%	29%
4	Kukës	8%	16%
5	Tropojë	47%	19%
6	Dibër	18%	39%
7	Mat	12%	14%

⁵Data refer to the preliminary results published by the CEC for local elections 2015.

8	Durrës	18%	47%
9	Elbasan		41%
10	Fier		34%
11	Vlorë		46%
12	Sarandë		42%
13	Gjirokastër		39%
14	Korçë		41%
15	Berat		47%

In our analysis this could be explained with some factors:

- ✓ The reduction of the LGUs number from 374 to 61 led to a smaller number of local councilors. On the other side, the threshold of votes to obtain a seat in the new local councils was increased. Thus, the competition even within political parties to enter the councils was much harder than previously.
- ✓ In northern municipalities the number of small parties that won a mandate in the local council varies from 7 to 13, while in the southern municipalities it varies from 4 to 8.
- ✓ In northern municipalities small parties have started their lists with men; while in the southern municipalities it is found (in many cases) that their lists started with women.
- ✓ In southern municipalities it is found that the third political force in the country (LSI), its lists started with woman, which is not the case for northern municipalities.
- ✓ In Northern Albania, we still have traditional voting structures based on the tribe's lines; i.e the tribe vote for a small party, while in South, the dominance of the two main parties is stronger and more consolidated.

Hidden actors

The analysis of the results of 2015 local elections regarding the representation of women in local councils put some light on the process of lists compilation. In informal meetings, the dldp has learned that in DibërQark for example⁶, powerful businesses had influenced the inclusion of some names in the lists of candidates for councilors, using informal and short links with the head of the political parties. On the other hand, the Head of the parties have informally included in the lists wives of powerful men in their

⁶ Informal interviews with members of WiP network.

party, without the consent of the structures. Other persons that have been listed as candidates had no experience at all in politics, neither have contributed to political parties. Thus, this category is unmotivated to invest and campaign to be elected as local councilors. All these factors, taken together, are believed to have contributed to the low level of women in the new local councils.

Next steps

Lindita Doda, member of the Municipal Council, Burrel

“The new administrative map and the new law on electoral quotas obliged us to include in the lists of candidates many women which have no previous experience in policy-making. The Network should work heavily with these women once councilors, because they will soon face discussions and decision-making moments”.

The year 2015 marks the third phase of the WiP Network. The Network has been expanded in three other regions, covering 30% of the population in Albania. An ambitious program is currently being implemented, starting with the establishment of a database for women in local councils and the support of 5 women at the Academy for Political Studies.

Based on the findings of the study “Need assessment for the WiP Network” carried out in February-April 2015, the future objectives are:

Mid-term⁷:

- ✓ Increasing the capacities of future councils (men and women, boys and girls) in order to improve strategic decision-making in issues of socio-economic cohesion of the integrated territory;
- ✓ Extensive consultation of the Organic Law (under review process) and Law of Local Finances (planned 2015-16) in order to reflect gender aspects and social equality, particularly in the field of services, participation and representation.

Long-Term:

- ✓ Pursuant to the Law on Public Information, public hearings and consultation processes should reflect the principles of access and gender equality;
- ✓ Increasing the membership of women and girls in political parties and strengthening their advocating and lobbying capacity.

After the local elections of the 21st June 2015, the support of the WiP foresees trainings of the new women councilors on local government, social inclusion and gender

⁷Dldp is working on med-term objectives.

responsive budgeting. Also, coaching with the women councilors and LGU staff to address social needs of men and women in projects will be organized as well. Forums and focus groups will continue to be used as evaluation tools for social inclusion elements in dldp products. A study tour for sharing the best practices is planned for the last trimester, along with workshops with women councilors on lobbying for social projects.

Annex 1: Main topics discussed and recommendations formulated during forums.

The moderators (member of the WiP Network) supported each roundtable with arguments on topics such as:

- the representation of women in politics in rural areas,
- lack of the structures of political parties representing women in rural areas ,
- family voting,
- lack of the women in the local commission for the administration of elections, etc.

The forums served not only to formulate recommendations for different actors to improve the situation, but also for the network itself, such as:

- ✓ Increasing of the women and girls as voters, would contribute to the reducing of the family voting phenomenon.
- ✓ WiP Network members need to increase their knowledge about electoral programs and organize campaigns in every family.
- ✓ Increasing of the numbers of women as members of the electoral commissions, representatives of the political parties and observers.
- ✓ Increasing the number of the activities focused in the specific needs of women and men in the electoral programs of the political parties.
- ✓ Increasing the number of women and girls in all electoral activities, with a specific focus in the electoral meetings or gatherings.
- ✓ Increasing the membership of women and girls in political parties and promotion of the WiP network activities in the whole territory of Lezha and Shkodra region.