Increasing Participation of Women in Politics

UNDP Suriname and the Parliament are jointly hosting a briefing session themed: “Increasing Participation of Women in Politics”. The session will be held on Wednesday 27 June 2012 in the Parliament and is part of the wider cooperation agreement between UNDP Suriname and the Parliament which was signed in August 2011. Members of Parliament, representatives of political parties and NGOs have been invited to attend this session.

"Participation in politics and decision-making processes is a human right", said the UNDP Country Director, Thomas Gittens, during his opening remarks. "For a number of reasons, we have seen over the past couple of decades that while many women hold membership of political parties and participate actively at the grassroots level; they are not well represented in positions of power within political parties. When women participate in decision-making there are benefits for women, men, children, communities and nations. One of the key areas in which UNDP works is therefore “empowerment of women”; UNDP strives to ensure that women have a real voice in all governance institutions, from the judiciary to the civil service, as well as in the private sector and civil society, so they can participate equally with men in public dialogue and decision making".

Three speakers will be sharing their insights during the session namely: Henna Guicherit, Cultural Anthropologist and expert in Gender and Development issues and Women’s Rights, Vincent Alexander, Member of the Guyana Elections Committee and former Member of Parliament of Guyana, and Ana Laura Rodriguez Gusta, Gender Expert. The speakers will present on the various initiatives which have been implemented to increase participation of
women in politics, of which establishment of a quota system is one of the most well-known.

Together with Projekta, UNDP will also be hosting these speakers on Thursday 28 June 2012. This second session which is titled: “Few Women in Politics: Causes and Solutions” is open to the wider public and will be held in Lala Rookh Conference Hall. The session starts at 19:00.

More information

Pictures from the session held on the National Assembly of Suriname

A Guidebook to Promote Women's Political Participation

Fast Facts: Gender and Democratic Governance

Opening remarks from UNDP Country Director at the session “Increasing Participation of Women in Politics”

Pictures form the session "Few Women in Politics: Causes and Solutions"