

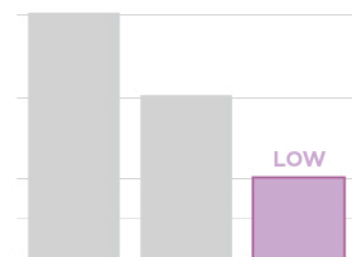
Women's role in Nepal's constitution-making process (2008–2012)



BACKGROUND ON NEPAL'S CONSTITUTION-MAKING PROCESS (2008–2012)

The First Constituent Assembly, elected in 2008, was the key mechanism for implementing the Comprehensive Peace Agreement between the Government of Nepal and the Maoist armed group. It was tasked with establishing a new set of principles to govern Nepal, including the drafting of a new constitution. It did not succeed in adopting a new constitution before its mandate expired in 2012 but a Second Constituent Assembly eventually adopted a Constitution in 2015.

WOMEN'S INFLUENCE



WOMEN'S INCLUSION IN THE PROCESS

Mass action

Women's organizations actively participated in mass protests that brought down the governments of **1990** and **2006** and in demonstrations pushing for women's inclusion in politics



Pushed for the greater inclusion of women in the official process and for the adoption of a gender equality agenda

Public consultations

Women, as experts and citizens, participated in public consultations throughout the process



Transferred suggestions to the official process

Official constitution-making process

Interim constitution drafting committee (2006)

Mandate: Draft an interim constitution

4 women out of **16 members**

First Constituent Assembly (2008–2012)

Mandate: Draft a new permanent constitution and act as parliament until the adoption of the constitution

33% women (197 out of 601 delegates) as a result of a quota system

Women present in all **11** thematic committees

Mandated the election of the Constituent Assembly

WOMEN'S ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE PROCESS

➔ Women contributed to securing a 33% quota for women in the Constituent Assembly (until 2007 women had never comprised more than 6% of parliamentarians) by taking part in mobilizations and thanks to a proposal by two women members of the House of representatives

➔ A march of 10,000 rural women in the Kathmandu Valley influenced some of the political parties to adopt a gender equality agenda

➔ During the constitution-making process, women's organizations and networks managed to articulate recommendations—principally to prohibit discrimination based on gender, age, or marital status—even though their activities became fragmented overtime

+ FACTORS ENABLING WOMEN'S INFLUENCE



Presence of strong women's groups



Mass action



Selection process favoring women's representation

- FACTORS CONSTRAINING WOMEN'S INFLUENCE



Resistance from the major political parties



Lack of collective women's voice



Selection process encouraging nepotism



Lack of preparedness



Exclusive, informal decision-making practices



Discrimination and violence toward women

This infographic is based on a case study published by the Inclusive Peace & transition Initiative (IPTI) as part of the series "Women in Peace and Transition Processes" that analyzes the conditions under which women participated in and influenced peace, political reform, and constitution-making processes worldwide. To discover other infographics and our case study series, visit our website:

www.inclusivepeace.org

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