

Workshop XI: Gender and Governance

(United Development Fund for Women, UNIFEM)

Many countries in Europe, Africa and Asia have introduced the use of quotas as a tool to increase the number of women in governance. Morocco has recently introduced quotas, as the first country in the Arab region. However, the quota systems vary when it comes to aims, systems, target groups, percentages - as well as results. In some countries the quota system have had a positive long-term impact; in other countries there have been limited results or even negative results.

The workshop will focus on the different quota systems and analyse the advantages and disadvantages of the different systems, as illustrated by the international UNDP Gender Empowerment and Human Development statistics. The aim of the workshop is capacity development regarding the different forms of quotas, as a tool to increase women's participation and influence in governance, i.e. a combination of a technicalities and advocacy. The workshop will focus on tools and lessons learnt and review of country level experiences and projects.