

**PROJECT DOCUMENT COVER PAGE**

**UNDEF Project Number:** UDF-TRI-06-118

**Executing Agency Project Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Project Title:** **PUT A WOMAN 2006/7**

**Country/Region:** **TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO /CARIBBEAN**

**Executing Agency:** **UNDP PORT OF SPAIN OFFICE**

**Implementing Agency(ies):** **NETWORK OF NGOs OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN**

**Duration:** **12 months**

**Project Start Date:** 01/02/2007

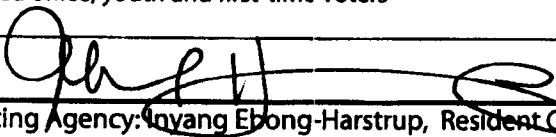
**Project End Date:** 31/12/2007


**Funding Round and Year of Grant:** First Funding Round, 2006

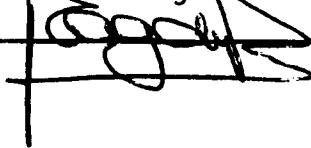
**Amount of UNDEF Grant in USD:** \$262,500

**Project Summary:**

This project, aims to prepare women and young persons to participate in the local government (2006) and general elections (2007), and at the same time prepare the environment, of a predominantly male governmental process, for their participation in greater numbers and to strengthen the networking and build capacity of women working towards this goal. It will contribute to the Global 50/50 campaign in particular the campaign financing initiative. Its main beneficiaries are women political activists and those interested in elected and appointed office, youth and first-time voters

  
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(Executing Agency: **Inyang Ebong-Harstrup, Resident Coordinator** 16.10.06 date

  
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(Implementing Agency: **Hazel Brown, Network of Non-Governmental Organisations** 13/10/06 date  
for Trinidad and Tobago for the Advancement of Women

**Magdy Martinez-Soliman**  
  
(Executive Head of UNDEF) 19/01/2007 date

## **SITUATION ANALYSIS, PROJECT STRATEGY AND SUSTAINABILITY**

### **a. Situation Analysis**

The world organization of parliaments resolutely affirmed in 1997 that “the achievement of democracy presupposes a genuine partnership between men and women in the conduct of the affairs of society in which they work in equality and complementarity, drawing mutual enrichment from their differences” (principle 4 of the Universal Declaration on Democracy). The Inter-Parliamentary Union thus stated in bold terms the idea of a specific political identity for women and a specific female contribution to politics that complements and enriches that of men for the common welfare of society.

Research on the status of women in Parliament in Trinidad and Tobago conducted by the Network during its Women’s Parliament Forum project, has confirmed that women’s input is considered vital for campaigning and voting. Political parties do not however, as a matter of policy, undertake to ensure that the selected candidates include a specific percentage of women. It has been found that little consideration is given to ensuring that the selected candidates include women. Arguments about women’s unavailability and reluctance to contest are advanced as reasons why women’s participation is so limited.

Women are reluctant to enter political office because of its ‘dirty’ image and inability/shyness in dealing with the media and lack of access to campaign funds. Women also face greater pressures of “balancing” home and family life with political involvements. Women’s ability to network and collaborate are limited by confinement to home-based activities and the absence of a culture of women’s networking around politics.

This project will contribute to the acceleration of gender integration in politics at national, and local levels, in keeping with the recommendation of Commonwealth Ministers responsible for Women’s Affairs Meeting in Trinidad and Tobago in November 1996, who agreed to a target of 30% of women in decision-making in the political public and private sectors by 2005. At present there are 7 women (19%) in the Lower House and 11 women (30%) in the Senate. There are 55 women (28%) in local government.

The projects main beneficiaries are women political activists and women interested in elected and appointed office, Youth and first-time voters and the general public whose awareness and knowledge of the role of women in politics will be enhanced.

UNDEF support for this project will increase the capacity for participation by women in political decision-making and their numbers and effectiveness both at local and national levels as they will be trained in understanding the political system.

### **b. Project Strategy**

The project takes a multi faceted approach including national, regional and international networking, training, research, information sharing and publication and youth led actions. The project will use adult education principles of experiential learning, utilizing case studies, multi-media materials and popular theatre. Participatory evaluation methodologies will be used in addition to process and impact assessments.