



E-news from the Foundation for Leadership Initiatives (FLI)

Issue-1

September 21, 2012

### **Women's Leadership Critical to Reaching MDG in Laos**

The government of Laos has set the goal to graduate from least-developed country status by the year 2020. Part of the agenda to do so is to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, which include specific objectives to narrow gender gaps in education, participation in government, and income generation. Compared to countries with similar levels of development.

"Women generally do not aspire to leadership roles, preferring to let men make the decisions," explained one Lao businesswoman from Vientiane.

In single-party Laos, the National Assembly (or parliament) consists of 25 percent women, a figure significantly higher than the international average of 19 percent. (The Asia Foundation)

### **Emerging Women Leadership in Afghanistan**

In Afghanistan, 37 percent of girls i.e. nearly 3 million are enrolled in schools, 27 percent of Kabul University, 30% of school teachers, 15% of University professors are women. 40 percent of women participated in 2004 elections have 27 percent of National assembly members are women. Afghan women leaders successfully lobbied to have violence against women legislation approved by the Parliament.

### **Pacific Leaders Discussed Climate Change**

Pacific leaders in Cook Islands discussed climate change and ocean protection at Cook Islands last month which was also attended by Mrs. Clinton. Pacific leaders will also soon attend another summit that is on energy in New Zealand this will be supported by World Bank, ADB and AUSAid.

### **Women Political Leadership Forum in Bangladesh**

A 10 days grassroots women political leadership forum attended by 71 elected local government women representatives from 6 SAARC countries in September. This forum was co-sponsored by US State Department, Asian Woman University, Bangladesh. Similarly, Asia Foundation in 2011 conducted a Bangladesh women leadership training program in the US (Daily Star, Dhaka).

### **Dual Nationality Disqualifies M.P.s**

Eleven members of Parliament and State legislators in Pakistan has been disqualified by the Supreme Court to be a member of Parliament/State Legislators as they hold dual nationality (INN).

### **Young Leaders Shaping Thailand**

Bangkok Post has come out with a special publication on "Young Leaders Shaping Thailand's Future" with profiles of young leaders from social, political, financial and entertainment field. This was on the occasion of the 66<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Bangkok Post.

### **AFPPD Leadership in Political Advocacy**

Asian Forum of Parliamentarians (AFPPD) is celebrating 30 years of promoting leadership in population, Family Planning and Reproductive Health and policy change. It also has emerged as a leader in political advocacy in population and Family Planning areas.

### **Resources**

- Berlin has a school of Creative Leadership. (Best Media Info)
- "The Future of leadership" a useful article in The Hindu, India 6 September (Business Line)
- Six marketing and commercial farms in China have joined to launch a leadership institute in China to provide multi-disciplinary training. (HOLMS Report)
- University of Minnesota and Toronto University with the Wallace Foundation has concluded a research study How Leadership Influences Student Learning. (Wallace Foundation)

### **About iLead**

Several interested individuals and small scale enterprises have launched "Foundation for Leadership Initiatives"(Registered) to support developmental leadership. The **iLead** is an effort to provide information on who leads. Contact: [foundationforleadership@gmail.com](mailto:foundationforleadership@gmail.com).