



Progress of Women in Politics and Governance

Updates, Gaps and Areas for Further Action CAPWIP

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Climate Change

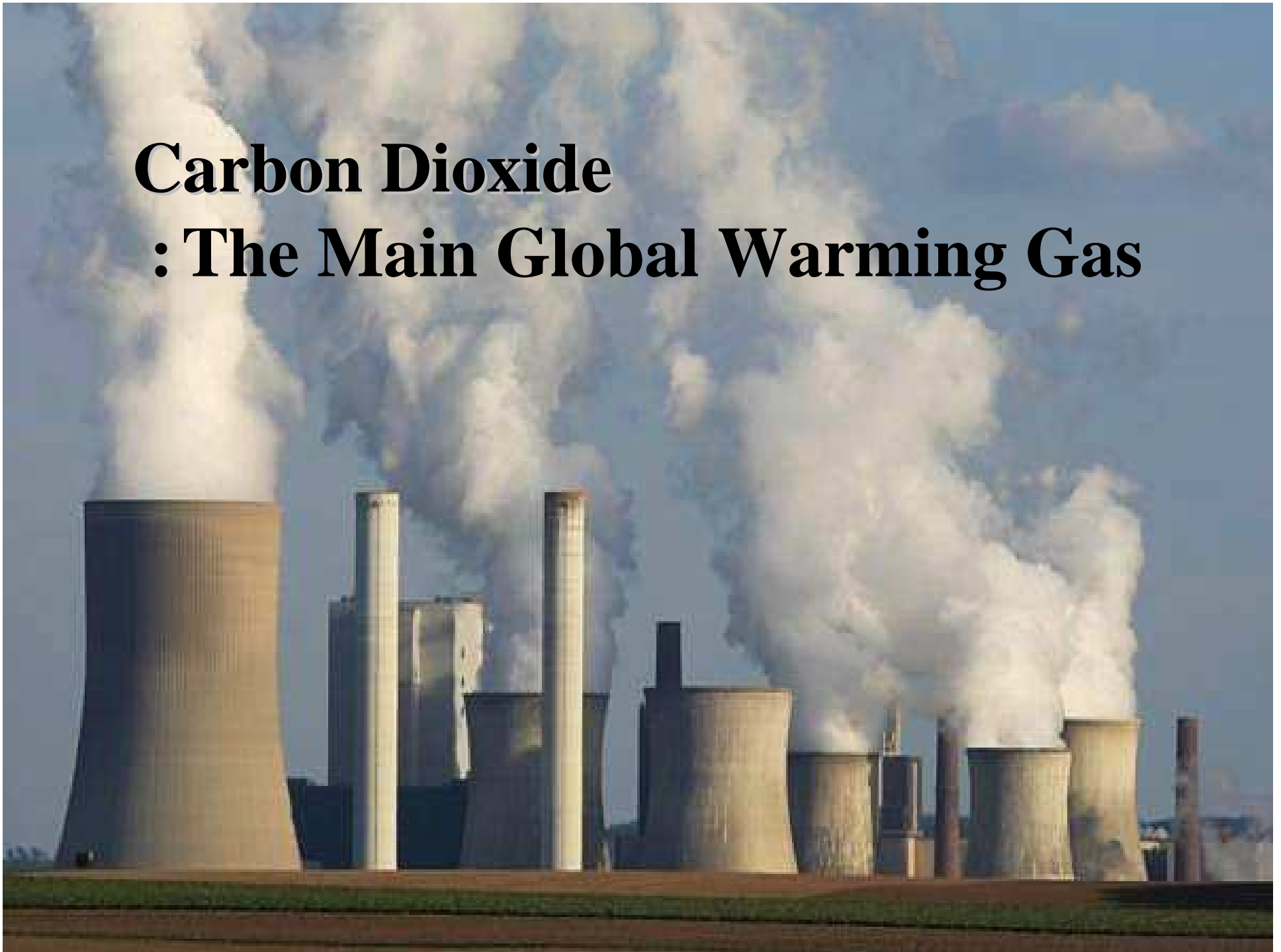
is the 21C Crisis

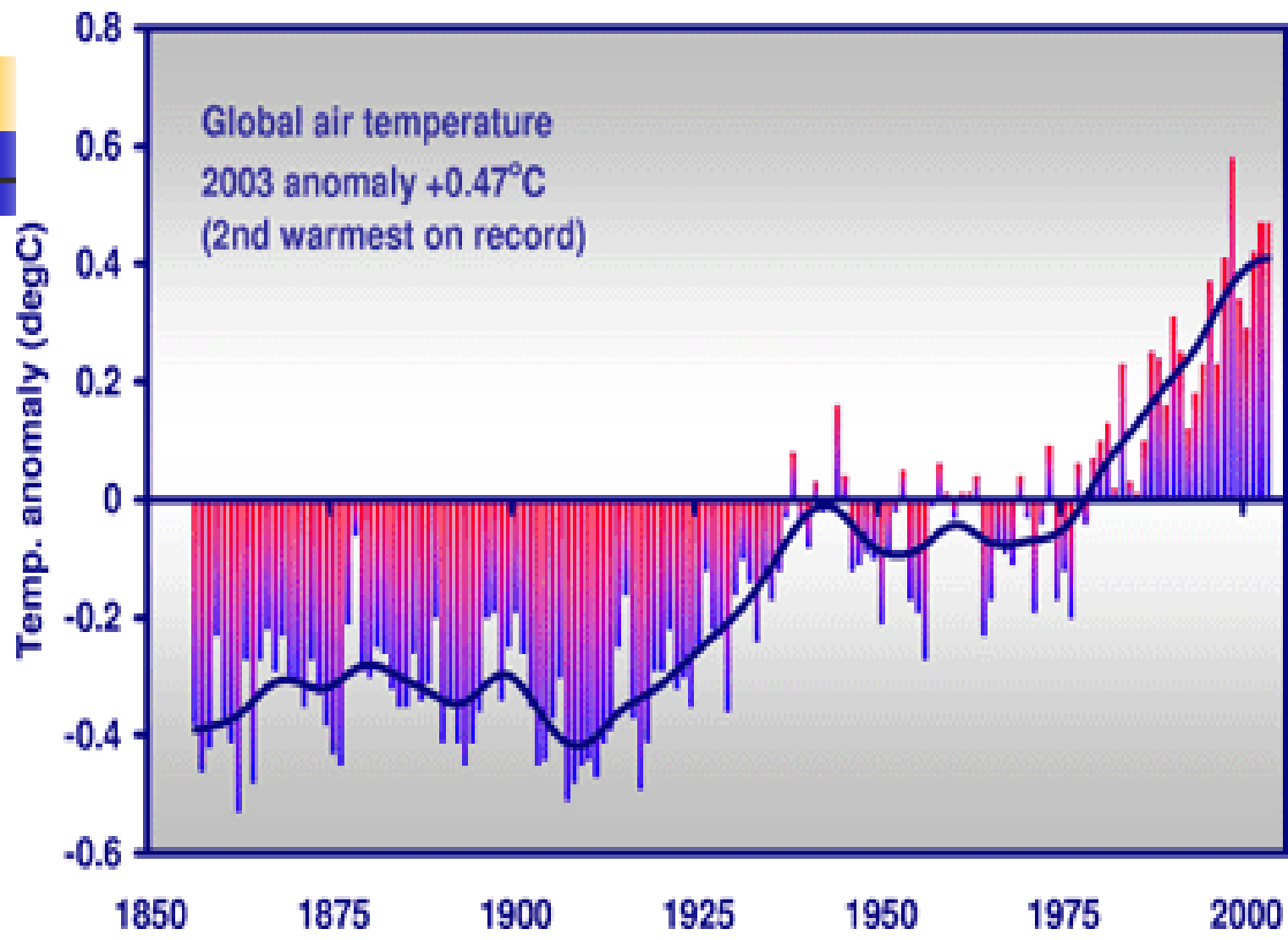
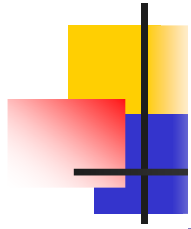
- **Climate change is the greatest threat to nature and humanity in the 21st century. Natural disasters - be it melting glaciers, rising sea levels, more powerful and destructive storms, more severe floods, less snow in the north and more drought in the south.**
- **These effects, in turn, begin to seriously impact human civilization.**

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

- ✓ The average temperature of the globe rose 0.6°C during the last 100 years, and will increase 1.5~5.8°C in 2100 over 1990.
- ✓ Sea level rose 10~25cm, and the sea level will rise to the maximum of 88 cm in 2100.

Carbon Dioxide : The Main Global Warming Gas







April 15, 2008



May 5, 2008



REUTERS 

Natural Disaster Risk Reduction





**Droughts in
Africa, Australia, southern Europe
and parts of China and India**



What can be done?

- **Some of the primary measures are: protection of environmental resources; care with land use planning, zoning, and building codes and most importantly sustained political commitment in the form of policies, budgets and administrative systems to drive and support an effective risk reduction agenda.**

India

What can be done?

- The time is now for each country to make meaningful movement toward policies which confront climate change and which reduce risk of disaster. Moreover, movement must occur at all levels - local, national, regional, and international.

Bay of Bengal

Myanmar

Andaman
Islands





The Need for Gender Mainstreaming

- **Women have been excluded from the discussions of climate change responses and disaster risk reduction.**
- **Women are the primary victims of disasters that result from climate change.**



The Need for Gender Mainstreaming

- **One method to promote adaptation to climate change and disaster risk reduction at the national level is to provide legal and institutional frameworks.**
- **Women should have full access to the politics and governance to be effective agents of adaptation to climate change and disaster risk reduction.**



The Need for Gender Mainstreaming

- 1. The anthropocentric and male - centered view of nature and the world, militarism, short sighted economic growth models, and the abuse of science and technology has spawned problems for women and the environment that are mutually interrelated.**



The Need for Gender Mainstreaming

- 2. It is a universal belief that gender-sensitive perspectives be integrated into sustainable development.**
- 3. Women should share the benefit of policies responding to climate change.**

In the fierce market competition of low carbon business, women's interests tend to be ignored.



The Need for Gender Mainstreaming

- 4. There are gender differences regarding experiences in climate change and disaster.**

Women are the primary victims of disasters that result from climate change. Women accounted for more than 75% of the victims in the 2005 Tsunami. The death of mothers resulted in high infant mortality rate, early marriage, neglected education for young girls, sexual violence, traffic in women, and prostitution.



Recommendation for Gender-responsive Legislation

- **Each nation should take legislative measures based on gender mainstreaming in adaptation to climate change and disaster risk reduction, so that women can participate in, exercise influence on, and share benefits of adaptation to climate change at local, national, and international levels.**



Recommendation for Gender-responsive Legislation

- **Gender responsive legislation relevant to climate change and disaster risk reduction shall provide the followings;**
- **equal participation in the formulation and implementation of climate change policies, sharing the benefits of market based approach to curbing climate change such as CDM (Clean Development Mechanism)**



Recommendation for Gender-responsive Legislation

- **Allocating funds for gender-sensitive research in adaptation to climate change and disaster risk reduction, thereby raising awareness among women and men.**
- **Encouraging and training women experts in adaptation to climate change response and disaster risk reduction.**



Women in Politics and Governance

- **Women's Environmental Movements have taken the form of individual, voluntary service activities, but institutional processes have not been widely established to actively monitor and present alternatives on adaptation to climate change & disaster risk reduction**
- *e.g.* **The Green Party of Germany**



Women in Politics and Governance

- **For effective adaptation, women should participate in politics and introduce gender responsive legislation in aid of climate change and disaster risk reduction.**

Women's Political Participation, Regional Breakdown

▶ **World Average : 18.3% (Both Houses Combined)**

▶ **Regional Average** (Unit : %)

| Indicators | 1990 | 2000 | 2008 |
|---|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| World Average | 13 | 14 | 18.3 |
| Nordic countries | 34 | 39 | 41.4 |
| Europe-OSCE member countries(including Nordic countries) | 17 | 17 | 20.6 |
| Europe-OSCE member countries(excluding Nordic countries) | 16 | 15 | 19.1 |
| Americas | 11 | 16 | 21.4 |
| Asia | 13 | 15 | 18.1 |
| Sub-Saharan Africa | 9 | 13 | 18.3 |
| Pacific | 5 | 13 | 14.9 |

Source : IPU, "Women in National Parliaments" <http://www.ipu.org/wmn-e/classif.htm> (September, 2008)



Women's Political Participation in the World

| Rank | Country | Seats | Women | % | Rank | Country | Seats | Women | % |
|------|-------------|-------|-------|-------|------|-------------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1 | Rwanda | 80 | 45 | 56.3% | 9 | Costa Rica | 57 | 21 | 36.8% |
| 2 | Sweden | 349 | 164 | 47.0% | 10 | Spain | 350 | 127 | 36.3% |
| 3 | Cuba | 614 | 265 | 43.2% | 11 | Norway | 169 | 61 | 36.1% |
| 4 | Finland | 200 | 83 | 41.5% | 12 | Belgium | 150 | 53 | 35.3% |
| 5 | Argentina | 255 | 102 | 40.0% | 13 | Mozambique | 250 | 87 | 34.8% |
| 6 | Netherlands | 150 | 59 | 39.3% | 14 | Ireland | 63 | 21 | 33.3% |
| 7 | Denmark | 179 | 68 | 38.0% | 15 | Nepal | 305 | 65 | 21.3% |
| 8 | Angola | 220 | 82 | 37.3% | 16 | New Zealand | 121 | 40 | 33.1% |

Source : IPU, "Women in National Parliaments," (<http://www.ipu.org/wmn-e/classif.htm> (September, 2008))

Women's Political Participation in the World

| Rank | Country | Seats | Wom en | % | Rank | Country | Seats | Wom en | % |
|------|--------------|-------|--------|-------|------|---------------------------------------|-------|--------|-------|
| 17 | South Africa | 400 | 132 | 33.0% | 54 | Philippines | 239 | 49 | 20.5% |
| 19 | Germany | 613 | 194 | 31.6% | 56 | Democratic People's Republic of Korea | 687 | 138 | 20.1% |
| 25 | Switzerland | 200 | 57 | 28.5% | 59 | United Kingdom | 646 | 126 | 19.5% |
| 30 | Australia | 150 | 40 | 26.7% | 64 | France | 577 | 105 | 18.2% |
| 31 | Vietnam | 493 | 127 | 25.8% | 69 | United States of America | 435 | 73 | 16.8% |
| 36 | Singapore | 94 | 23 | 24.5% | 84 | Republic of Korea | 299 | 41 | 13.7% |
| 51 | Canada | 305 | 65 | 21.3% | 103 | Japan | 480 | 45 | 9.4% |
| 51 | China | 2987 | 637 | 21.3% | 104 | India | 541 | 49 | 9.1% |

Source : IPU, "Women in National Parliaments" (<http://www.ipu.org/wmn-e/classif.htm> (September, 2008))



Still less than 50%

- **Women still have a long, long way to go to attain equitable representation for a constituency comprising more than half of the world's population.**
- **The ideal of parity between men and women in national legislatures remains distant hope.**

Difficulties faced by Women in their attempt to become legislators

1. Cultural factors

- Patriarchal culture of male dominance

Their role was strictly confined to the home matters (private sectors)

2. Lack of occupational experience in useful fields to enter the politics

3. Women's family responsibility

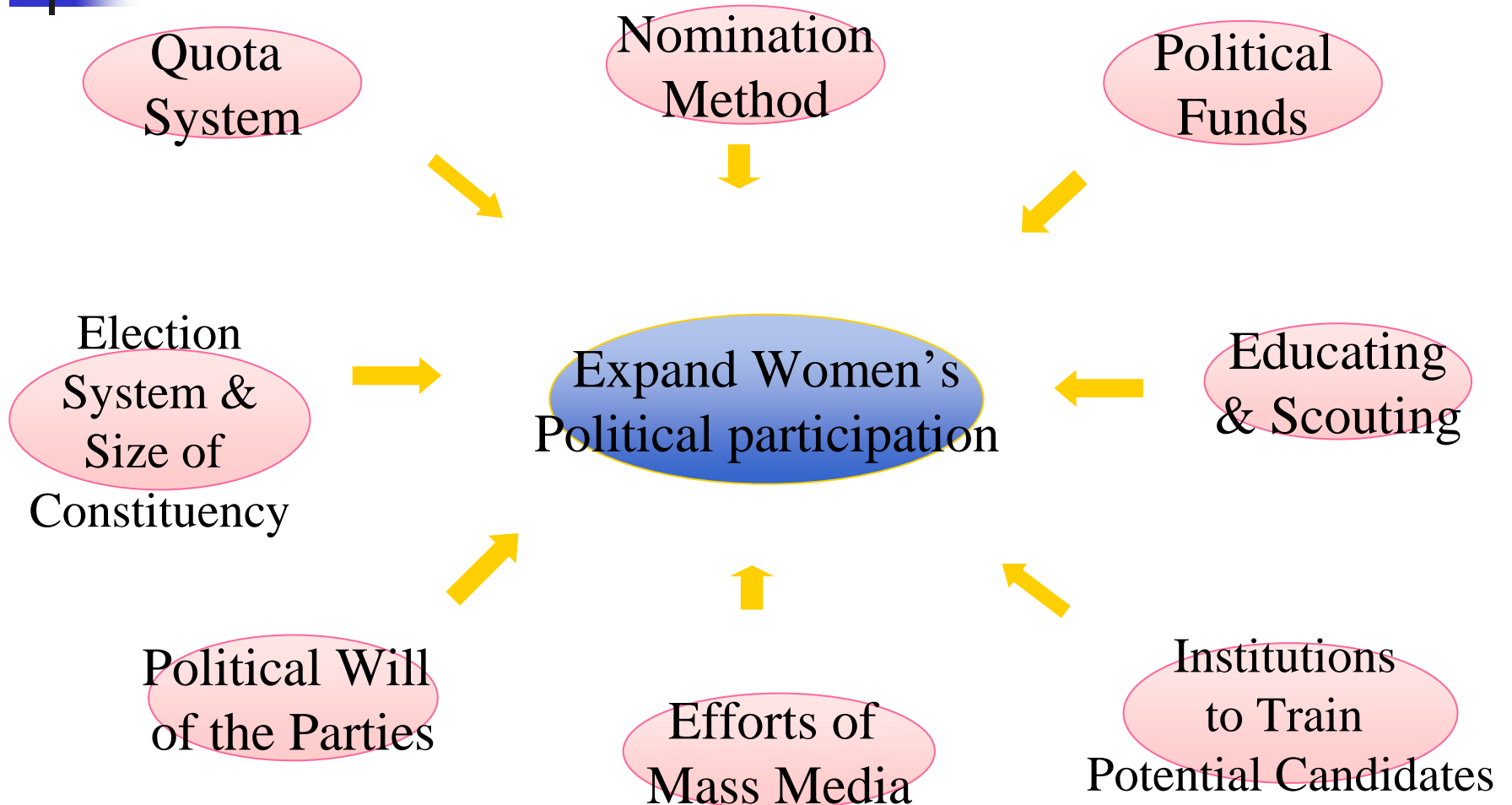
4. Political funds, Political culture & consciousness

5. Party nomination process

6. Election system (majority representation, Proportional, combined)

7. Size of electoral constituency (small, medium, large)

Strategies to Expand Women's Political Participation





Quota system for Women as an affirmative action

- **Many countries have constitutional, electoral, and/or political party quotas for women.**
 - *e.g.* Legal Quota (France(50%), Argentina(30%), South Africa(50%) etc.), Legislative Seats (Tanzania(20%), India(33%) etc.), Quota by Political Parties (Sweden, Norway, England, etc.)
- **Yet the average proportion of women in legislature is merely 19.7%, far less than 50%.**



Quota

for Korean Women in Politics

- **For the last decade, Korean women's organizations, women politicians and leaders have united together to make their concerted efforts to achieve the quotas for women.**
- **Based upon the Election Laws and Political Party Act revised in 2004, 50% of proportional representatives seats should be allocated to women and 30% of district constituencies are recommended to be allotted for women in each level assemblies. (National and Local)**



Future Tasks for Expanding Women's Political Participation

- **Recruiting, educating, and establishing a Brain pool of women candidates**
- **Encouraging democratic movement from down up and continue to expand the quantity and quality of women's advance into local politics**
- **Making the nominating process within political parties much clearer and more democratic**
- **Women's networking for expanding women's political participation**



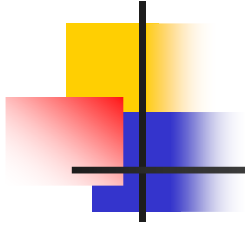
Empowerment of Women

- **Women's political participation should be expanded further to bring in transformative politics with a new perspective and potential leadership in adaptation to climate change and disaster risk reduction.**
- **We, women leaders, women NGOs should make concerted efforts to change the current male-centered politics into more trustworthy and transformative politics.**



Empowerment of Women

- **A key ingredient for success, and one of paramount importance in today's reality, lies in the efforts of women themselves, acting collectively.**
- **Women's organizations, NGO's, and citizen's organizations, when acting in a concerted manner, have considerable power to alter both cultural and institutional conditions to expand political empowerment for women.**



Thank You