

Bangsamoro Inclusive Political Party and Policy Development Project

about this project

The National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI) and the Institute for Autonomy and Governance (IAG) are implementing a new project called Bangsamoro Inclusive Political Party and Policy Development. This project aims to facilitate the emergence of inclusive political parties in the Bangsamoro region through providing capacity-building support to both existing and emerging regional political parties.

This initiative also seeks to provide space for dialogue between political parties, civil society, political and election experts to help shape major public policies and processes as foundation for a strong party system in the BARMM Parliament. NDI, our implementing partner for this project, is based in Washington, DC in USA and is known for their groundbreaking work on strengthening and safeguarding democratic institutions, processes, norms, and values to secure a better quality of life for all peoples around the world.

project objectives



- Political parties in the BARMM are strengthened to support inclusive internal processes and effectively represent women and Indigenous Peoples.
- Partnerships between political parties and marginalized groups (women and Indigenous Peoples) are improved as a result of inclusive dialogue and public policy development.

Training Series on Political Party Development

The training series on political party development aims to build existing and emerging political parties' competencies on organizational processes, systems, policies and programs. These competencies will facilitate political parties' ability to aggregate and represent the interests of their respective constituents and sectors. The training will be offered in a non-partisan and equitable manner to all major democratic regional political parties, existing and new, that seek to broaden their reach to women sector and indigenous peoples.



Political Party Grassroots Town Hall Meetings

Engagement between multiple political parties and women organizations, IP organizations and CSOs from the region will follow town hall style of dialogue. The primary goal for this is to harness the value of participatory and inclusive governance through consultation and open dialogue between potential political parties and CSOs. The town halls aim to become a starting point for regional parties to establish and maintain close links with sectors of women and indigenous peoples.

The town halls will allow women and indigenous peoples the opportunity to advocate for their agenda with emerging regional political parties in the BARMM while the parties are still forming their party platforms. The women and IP groups are encouraged to maintain programmatic engagement with emerging political parties in order to put forward their issues and agenda and if viable, emphasize their meaningful participation and representation in political parties.

Multi-stakeholder Roundtable Discussions (RTDs)

The multi-stakeholder RTD series will be participated by regional political parties, CSOs, the Bangsamoro Election Office (BEO), the Bangsamoro Transition Authority, and key election stakeholders. The dialogue series will serve as a mechanism for sharing updates and information useful in coordinating and planning activities around electoral policy formulation and advocacy during the extended transition in the region. The RTD series will help surface and identify issues and next steps not only for regional government agencies but also for CSOs, political parties, and advocacy groups that aim to contribute to regional policies on strengthening the BARMM political party system. The dialogue will involve smaller, community-based political groups or movements so they will have an opportunity to articulate their thoughts and inputs.



Since each RTD will discuss a particular topic or issue, the composition of participants will be unique relative to the aim of the discussion. Participation of women and IPs is at the heart of the RTD series and they will be involved in all activities to ensure that their interests and concerns are mainstreamed in the discussions and future policies.

Also, the RTD series will also serve as venue to be in dialogue with key officials of relevant BARMM agencies, the Commission on Elections (COMELEC), and CSOs that do meaningful work around elections and political party reforms. Policy papers that will be borne out of the results of the RTD series will be published and shared with political party leaders, CSOs, and regional and national policymakers as a way of popularizing and gathering support for the proposed reforms and policy inputs.

Outreach on Policy Issues

One of the aims of the project is to popularize policy issues related to the participation and representation of women and indigenous peoples in political parties and in democratic processes in the Bangsamoro. The project will produce and circulate timely policy papers, reports, videos, podcasts, and proceedings of RTD series through digital platforms. The aim is to raise awareness and build public support for the representation of women and indigenous peoples in political parties and regional governance in Bangsamoro.



partner
stakeholders

BARMM Government,
BTA, and Bangsamoro
Electoral Office

Bangsamoro civil
society groups

Existing and emerging
political parties in the
Bangsamoro

Political party and
electoral reforms
groups and experts

Commission on
Elections
(COMELEC)

About IAG

A homegrown think-tank based in Cotabato City, IAG runs an active political party building and development program that supports groups and individuals form genuinely principled political parties in the Bangsamoro. IAG believes that a genuinely principled political party system is the basic building block and catalyst for change in the current and future political system in the Bangsamoro region and the Philippines as a whole.

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