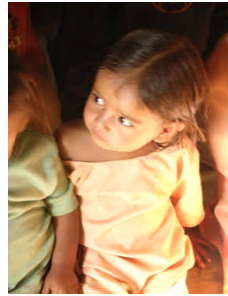


## Contribution of Life-long Education for Women's Empowerment & Leadership development

Koto Kanno  
Visiting Scholar, NWEC

1

## EDUCATION



NOT equal to SCHOOL education;  
Including Non-formal Education,  
continuing education & literacy, skills  
training, professional development... :

Education takes place in all spheres,  
family, workplace, community, etc.  
through diverse delivery channels;  
Meeting learning needs of women/girls,  
men/boys of all ages from the birth  
throughout life.

2

## Expanded vision of basic education: "LIFE-LONG LEARNING"



- A continuous process of forming whole human beings - their knowledge & aptitudes, the critical faculty and the ability to act.
- Enable people to develop awareness of themselves and their environment, and encourage them to play their social role at work and in the community.

3

## EDUCATION & LITERACY EMPOWER WOMEN:



By acquiring reading/writing & simple  
calculation skills at Literacy class

- Freedom of movement
- Confidence in expressing one's opinion

Skills and vocational training

- Economic independence
- Motivated to learn and acquire new technologies

- Self-confidence, Sense of independence and self-respect
- Perspective/plans for future and
- Wide life choices

4

## EMPOWERMENT involves several dimensions:

- cognitive dimension, or women's awareness and understanding of their conditions;
- psychological dimension, or women's self-confidence and self-esteem;
- economic dimension, or women's ability to access resources, to engage in productive activities and to take autonomous decisions; and
- political dimension or women's ability to set their own agenda, to negotiate, lead and organize for changing conditions.
- Physical dimension, or control over one's own mobility and physical conditions including sexuality and reproductive health/fertility

5

In spite of various international commitments & MANY programs/projects for women's empowerment, **WHY**

- **STILL SMALL NUMBER OF WOMEN LEADERS?**
  - WOMEN'S POLITICAL EMPOWERMENT STILL SIGNIFICANTLY LOW?
- **WOMEN SHY AWAY FROM LEADERSHIP POSITIONS & HIGHER RESPONSIBILITIES?**

**WHAT IS REQUIRED TO OVERCOME THESE PROBLEMS AND DILEMMAS?**

**WHAT KIND OF EDUCATION IS REQUIRED?**

6

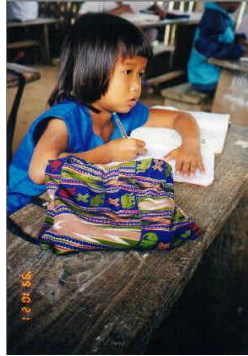
## LEADERSHIP

Not only Political + Administrative spheres, but

- ☑Community
- ☑Workplace
- ☑Professional/Business
- ☑ . . .

Including collective leadership

ability to set up agenda, present a vision, advocate, organize, lead, negotiate and come up with **concrete action for change.**



7

## Challenges

- **Women's Empowerment & Leadership is politically sensitive, as well as personally delicate.**
- Dilemmas in the process towards women's empowerment & leadership



8

## Empowerment Education requires:

- **P**olitical will
- **O**wnership of Gender-responsive programs
- **W**orking with all stakeholders
- **E**ffective and efficient use of resources
- **R**esearch practice, tracking of progress



9

*Great challenge for women's empowerment,*

***Even Greater challenge towards women's empowerment for leadership!***

*Thank you.*



10