

Gender Election Observation Missions (GEOM)

Expierence

Gender Concerns International pioneered a series of unique and succesful Gender Election Observation Missions (GEOM) in several countries to observe if women have equal opportunities for a democratic electoral participation.

Together with partner organisations, Gender Concerns has observed elections in Morocco ([2021](#), [2016](#), [2015](#) and [2011](#)), The Netherlands ([2021](#) and [2017](#)), Myanmar ([2015](#)), Tunisia ([2014](#) and [2011](#)), Pakistan ([2013](#) and [2008](#)) and Libya ([2012](#))



Impact and Follow-up

- Capacity Building
- Training and Skills Development
- Lobby and Advocacy
- Supporting Women's and Civil Society Organisations

The GEOM: Aims and Targets

GEOMs are designed as a tool to support women's participation in democratic electoral processes and to promote female leadership and gender equality at key decision-making levels.

"Women are catalysts for change and women's organisations need respect, recognition, and resources to bring about this change." -

Sabra Bano, Director

The GEOM: Methodology

GEOMs are international election observation missions, managed and led by women election-experts and are conducted in partnership with major national women and human rights organisations. GEOM promotes female leadership and inclusive governance within the framework of UN Sustainable Development Goals and UNSCR 1325 targets. The Missions document and denounce any inequalities and discrimination against women that might prevent their full political engagement and contribution to the formation and functioning of governments.

Pre-Election Gender Need Assessment Missions (PEGNAM)

The Pre-Election Gender Need Assessment Missions (PEGNAM) have been conducted by Gender Concerns International in accordance with its mission to support the women's full integration into electoral and policymaking processes taking place within democracies around the globe.

The mission's goal is to assess the conditions for women's engagement in the democratic electoral process in several countries. Among them, the PEGNAM missions have been conducted in [Ukraine](#) (2019), Sweden, [Thailand](#) (2018) and [Switzerland](#) (2019). The meetings conducted with key stakeholders helped in generating understanding regarding support given to them by the State, and assisted in building crucial insight into these conditions.

Morocco (2021, 2016, 2015, 2011)



GEOM Morocco 2021 marked 10 years of commitment to the fight for gender equality and democracy. An all-female team of 7 international observers set out to observe the Legislative, Regional and Municipal Elections in Morocco held on 8th September 2021.

The Netherlands (2021, 2017)



Despite the challenging reality of the Covid-19 pandemic GEOM NL 2021 has successfully observed the elections in 19 out of 20 Electoral Districts. The Missions final report holds recommendations for the government, political parties, the Electoral Council and the media.

Myanmar (2015)



Gender Concerns International was one of the few international organisations honoured to receive an invitation to observe the first democratic elections in Myanmar in 2015.

Tunisia (2014, 2011)



The GEOM 2011 Mission in Tunisia was the first of its kind in the region. Following the GEOM 2011, the largest international mission in 2014 comprised of 10 International and 110 Domestic Female Election Observers and was deployed across 22 governorates in the country.

Libya (2012)



The GEOM team of Domestic Observers and 6 experienced International Observers were deployed across the country. The Mission concluded that the level of women's empowerment achieved to date is a benchmark to beat and not a threshold to be maintained.

Pakistan (2013, 2008)



The GEOM Pakistan mission trained local female observers and met with various stakeholders. The GEOM Pakistan 2013 recommendations were eventually presented to the Election Commission of Pakistan.