

# Enhancing Training on Women's Human Rights for the Judiciary

Awareness raising and capacity development of officials in all administrative branches of justice and law enforcement remains essential to ensure the engendering of legal systems and allow women better access to justice. Many training programmes specifically for members of the judiciary have been introduced in different SEA countries. Below are a few examples of the training methodology and curriculum designed for judges and implemented through various judicial training institutes.

## Experiential Learning as a Training Methodology<sup>46</sup>

In conducting training for judges, the National Judicial Institute of Canada adopts experiential learning as a training methodology. It is a skills-based approach that connects judicial education to actual tasks judges have to perform. In this approach, learners are given a chance to acquire and apply knowledge and skills in an immediate and relevant setting. Learning is achieved by designing the training based on the follow key adult learning principles:

- connect learning to learners' experiences - Learning takes place when connections are made with past experiences or linked to what judges have done or if they find the new knowledge and skills to be relevant in their work;
- use learners' experiences as resources - Adults learn best when their experiences are valued, so the training should create opportunities for judges to share experiences and learn from each other;
- contextualize learning experiences - Introduce activities, for example, role playing courtroom scenes or giving judgments that are as close to judges' realities as possible.
- integrate various perspectives in the learning activities - Encourage judges as learners to be critical thinkers and allow sufficient space for them to explore and progress at their own level.

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46. Presentation of Judge Adele Kent, National Judicial Institute of Canada, Canada, 4 September 2013