

# Inclusive Societies

All people can meaningfully participate in political and public life on an equal basis.

All people must have an equal opportunity to exercise their rights and influence policy-making, participate in elections, and engage actively in public life. IFES collaborates with our partners to change norms and behaviors and transform discriminatory systems to create an enabling environment for all people to participate in democracy and governance.

- ✓ Supporting women to take an equal leadership role in political and public life by removing obstacles to their full democratic participation and influence.
- ✓ Positioning young people as leaders and as influential and knowledgeable advocates for democracy.
- ✓ Supporting persons with all types of disabilities to advocate for their rights.
- ✓ Furthering the rights of LGBTQ+ people and ethnic and religious minority communities through collaborative advocacy and inclusive partnerships at the local, regional, and global levels.
- ✓ Upholding the individual and collective rights of Indigenous Peoples to take the lead in the decisions that impact their communities.

## EXAMPLES

Through IFES's flagship women's empowerment program, **She Leads**, IFES has provided over 9,000 women across 11 countries with the skills and knowledge they need to take on leadership roles in political and public life. IFES specifically tailors She Leads to the needs and experiences of participants and their contexts, from training rural women leaders in Tunisia, to state legislators in Nigeria, to election officials in Indonesia, and beyond. The program provides practical skill-building and creates peer networks of women leaders who support one another and provide mentorship in their communities.



She Leads

IFES's **Learning Series on Disability-Inclusive Election Technology** provides EMBs and civil society with guidelines and recommendations to ensure the technology they use, procure, and develop is fully accessible for persons with disabilities. Topics include how to make a website accessible, countering ableist language online, using social media for voter education, and interviews with accessibility experts from Google and Microsoft.



Learning Series on Disability-Inclusive Election Technology

The **Youth SPACE** program promotes young people's engagement in democratic processes by providing the opportunity to practice leadership skills and by promoting active involvement in decision-making. IFES develops boardgames and electronic games where young players can simulate voting, act out democratic roles, and practice engaging in dialogue via role-playing.



Youth Supporting Participation Action and Civic Engagement (Youth SPACE)

OVER THE  
LAST FIVE  
YEARS: ]



**340,000+**  
women reached



**48,000+**  
youth engaged