SURVEY ON WOMEN REPRESENTATION WITHIN POLITICAL PARTIES' LEADERSHIP.

May- June 2011

Kigali, November 2012

ACCRONYMS
CSPro: Census Survey Program

ND: Not Determined

PDC: Centrist Democratic Party

PDI: Ideal Democratic Party

PS Imberakuri: Social Party Imberakuri

PL: Liberal Party

PPC: Party for Progress and Concord

PSD: Social Democratic Party

PSP: Party for Solidarity and Progress

PSR: Rwandese Labor Party

RDHS: Rwanda Demographic Health Survey

RPF-Inkotanyi: Rwandese Patriotic Front Inkotanyi

SPSS: Statistical Package for the Social Sciences

UDPR: Democratic Union of the Rwandan People

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CHAPTER ONE. GENERAL INTRODUCTION

1.1.   General Context

The National Consultative Forum of Political Organizations is a platform for dialogue and exchange of ideas among political organizations on the country's problems and national policies. It is also a permanent framework for capacity building for member political organizations in the field of political organization and activities, which they use also as a framework for conflict mediation and for the promotion of the code of conduct which should characterize political leadership in Rwanda.

It is within this framework of strengthening Rwandan political parties to achieve their core mission that the NFPO carries out different operations aiming at supporting and providing necessary technical and financial support to political parties' policy actions.

Within the current framework of political space and multiparty system recognized by the Constitution of the Republic of Rwanda of June 4th,2003 as amended to date in its Articles 52 and 54, the Forum has another responsibility of providing its ability as a framework for capacity building for political organizations to enable them to mature and assert space, with a view to multiparty democracy and equitable power sharing. It is in this regard that, through one of its main activity related to strengthening institutional and organization through the "Party and Leadership Development program", a policy activity to carry out the survey on women representation within political Party's leadership has been sorted out.

The purposes for conducting this survey were in line with the fundamental principles of the Constitution of the Republic of Rwanda of June 4th 2003 as amended to date in its Article 9, stipulating that women are granted at least thirty per cent of posts in decision -making organs. The current Survey also aimed at gathering statistics data on women representation in political parties' leadership one by one and while providing advice for more improvement.

The survey results presented in this document are mainly from National to the District level. Although there are some political parties that have already established their political structures to

the Village level, others have not yet done so.

1.2. Objectives of the survey

The overall objective of the survey is to promote women for Political party's leadership. Specifically, this survey aimed for the following objectives:

- Provide statistics data on women representation in political parties' leadership which may be used as a reference by different partners;

- Establish an appropriate user guide for further data entry and analysis to be used by political parties for day-to-day data updating.

1.3. Methodology

This exercise followed the following process:

NFPO has elaborated the questionnaire form, which has been distributed to political parties' members after training on how to complete them. Each political party has selected the respondents (women) according to the positions they hold in their Party at different political levels. Forms have been collected by Political parties which, in turn, submitted them to NFPO. After collecting forms from Political parties, the real activities related to the assessment, analysis and interpretation followed in this order:

- Forms coding
- Determining variables
- Creating Data entry template
- Data entry process using Census Survey Program (CSPro)
- Data exportation from CS Pro to SPSS
- Data analysis using SPSS (frequency tables)
- Data presentation and interpretation
- Writing the report

Data management and processing were a critical step in this study. Copies of the complete questionnaires were serialized, coded and put in well labeled boxes (cartons). A CSPro data

capturing template was created for data entry. Data entry clerks were trained on how to capture data.

Actual data entry was then conducted under supervision of the Consultant. Hard copies of the entered questionnaires were kept securely in their respective boxes during data cleaning exercises.

A large part of the analysis was on descriptive basis but some cross-tabulation for correlation analysis was also attempted.

Writing the report was done in line with the variables of interest as stated in the specific tasks of the study and elaborated in the questionnaire.

Most of the results were presented in the form of tables and charts. Relevant recommendations were formulated based on the empirical findings of the study.

Writing the report was based on findings from the SPSS output tables.

1.4.   Period of the Survey

This survey was conducted during two months, May - June 2011. Meaning that some data have to be updated as it is the main purpose of this exercise of establishing a data base where political parties shall regularly update data related to women.

It should be noted that some key variables presented in this survey report have been compared to the national indicators related to women. These key indicators are almost similar to those used in this survey but their figures differ from one another. The National indicators mentioned are contained in the Rwanda Demographic Health Survey (RDHS) 2010), published in February 2012.

Chapter II. PRESENTATION AND INTERPRETATION OF THE RESULTS

This chapter deals with the analysis and interpretation of the survey results. It focuses on the size of the population of the survey, where we analyze the number of the respondents for all political parties and how respondents are distributed in different districts.

It analyzes other different variables such as, the respondents' age, education level, marital status, employment records, political positions held by women within their political parties, women representation within political parties' structures, and political leadership levels. This chapter ends by presenting challenges encountered during this exercise and proposing the way forward.

2.1. Statistical findings

2.1.1. Size of the population of the Survey

The survey concerns 10 registered political parties and the respondents are presented for each political party as follows:

Table 1: List of political parties and size of the respondents

No	Political party	Number of respondents	Percentage of respondents (%)
1	Rwandese Patriotic Front Inkotanyi/**RPF-Inkotanyi**	2,128	45%
2	Liberal Party – **PL**	785	17%
3	Democratic Union of the Rwandan People – **UDPR**	107	2%
4	Ideal Democratic Party – **PDI**	50	1%
5	Social Democratic Party – **PSD**	418	9%
6	Party for Progress and Concord – **PPC**	423	9%
7	Centrist Democratic Party – **PDC**	47	1%
8	Rwandese Labor Party – **PSR**	129	3%
9	Party for Solidarity and Progress – **PSP**	194	4%
10	Social Party Imberakuri – **PS Imberakuri**	405	9%
	Total of respondents	**4,686**	100

Source: Survey results, 2011

The first five political parties having a total number of respondents which is greater than four hundred are RPF Inkotanyi with 2,128 respondents, followed by PL which has 785; PPC comes to the third position with 423; PSD at fourth position with 418 and PS Imberakuri at the fifth with 405 respondents.

As you may read it through the above table, 45% of the respondents are members of RPF-Inkotanyi. This is due to the fact that RPF-Inkotanyi has established its political organs from National to the Village level (Umudugudu).

PL, PSD, PPC, PS Imberakuri have also established their political organs from National to the localadministrative entities.
UDPR, PDI, PDC, PSR and PSP have not yet been able to establish their political organs to all administrative entities.

2.1.2. Distribution of the respondents by district

The respondents are distributed within all districts of the Country, but the numbers of districts where the respondents come from differ from a political party to another.
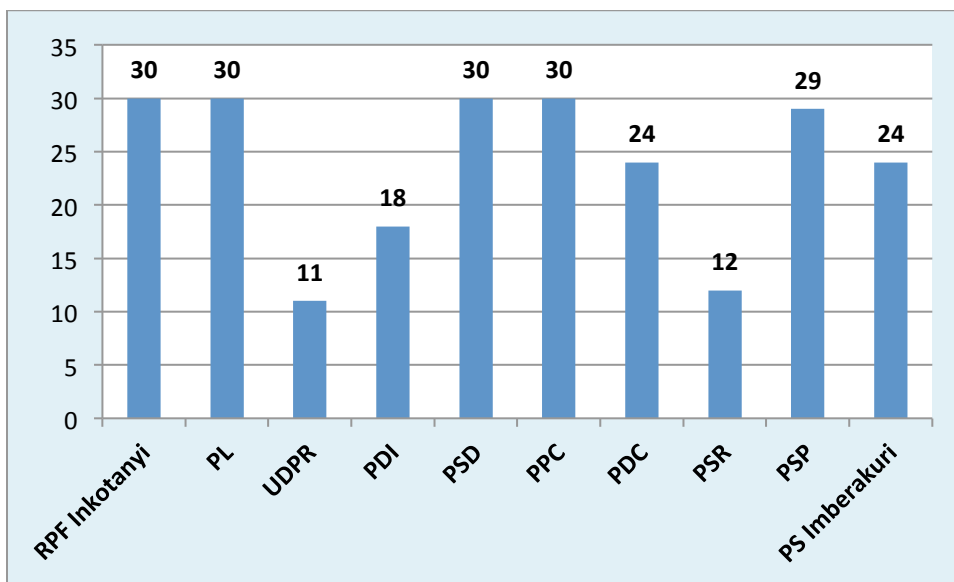

Figure 1: Distribution of the respondents by district

From the above table, only four political parties represent women respondents who are distributed in all 30 districts of the Country; these political parties are RPF-Inkotanyi, PL, PSD and PPC.

For PSP, the respondents are distributed in 29 districts; the only one district which was not represented is Nyagatare in the Eastern Province. PDC and PS Imberakuri, the respondents are distributed in 24 districts. Districts that have not been represented are: for PDC, Ngororero and Rusizi (Western Province); Bugesera and Rwamagana (Eastern Province); Gakenke (Nothern Province); and Kicukiro for Kigali City. For PS Imberakuri, those districts are, Rwamagana (Eastern Province); Rusizi and Nyamasheke (Western Province); Burera, Gakenke and Rulindo for Northern Province.

For other three political parties, the respondents are distributed in districts as follows: PDI, in 18 districts; PSR 12; and UDPR 11.

2.1.3. Distribution of the respondents by age

The following chart present the respondents' age which is grouped into five categories as follows: the first category is composed of respondents who are less than 21years old. The second category is between 21-35 years old; the third,between 36-55; the fourth, between 56-65; and fifth more than 65 years old.
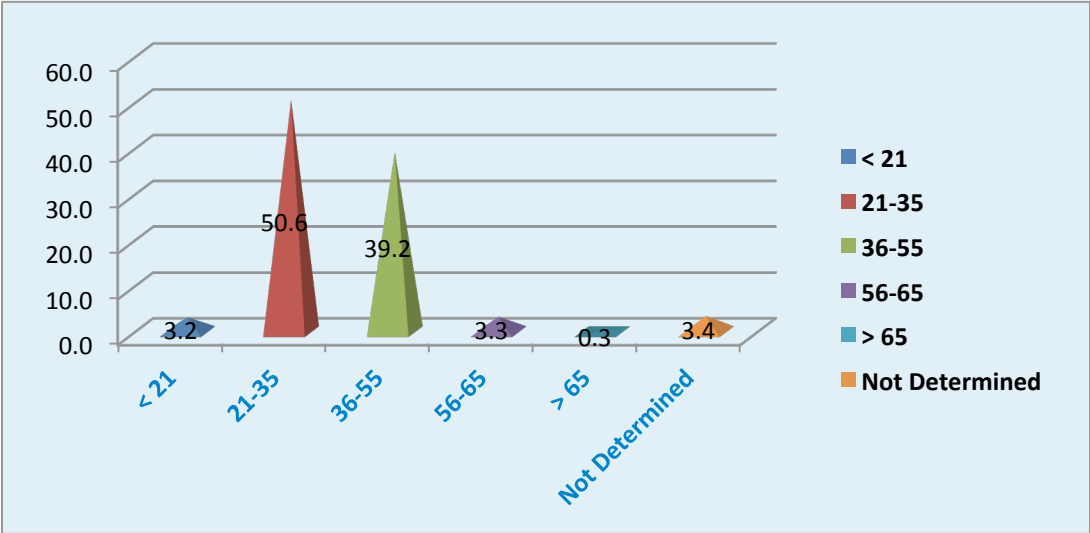

Figure 2: Distribution by age

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With regards to the age of the respondents, the majority of women in different positions within their political parties' structures are in the category of youth (under 35 years old). Based on the Survey results, 50.6% of the respondents revealed that they are in the category of age from 21 to 35 years (21 - 35years). The second category representing 39.2% of the respondents is composed of women with age group between 36 to 55 years old (36-55). Women within other categories of age are below 3.5% of the respondents. These include women below 21years old representing 3.2%, women between 56-65 years old represent 3.3%,and women with more than 65 years old representing 0.3%.

2.1.4. Respondents' education level

Women in different positions within their political parties' structures possess different education levels. These education levels differ from a political party to another and more particular from positions held by women within the Party's leadership.
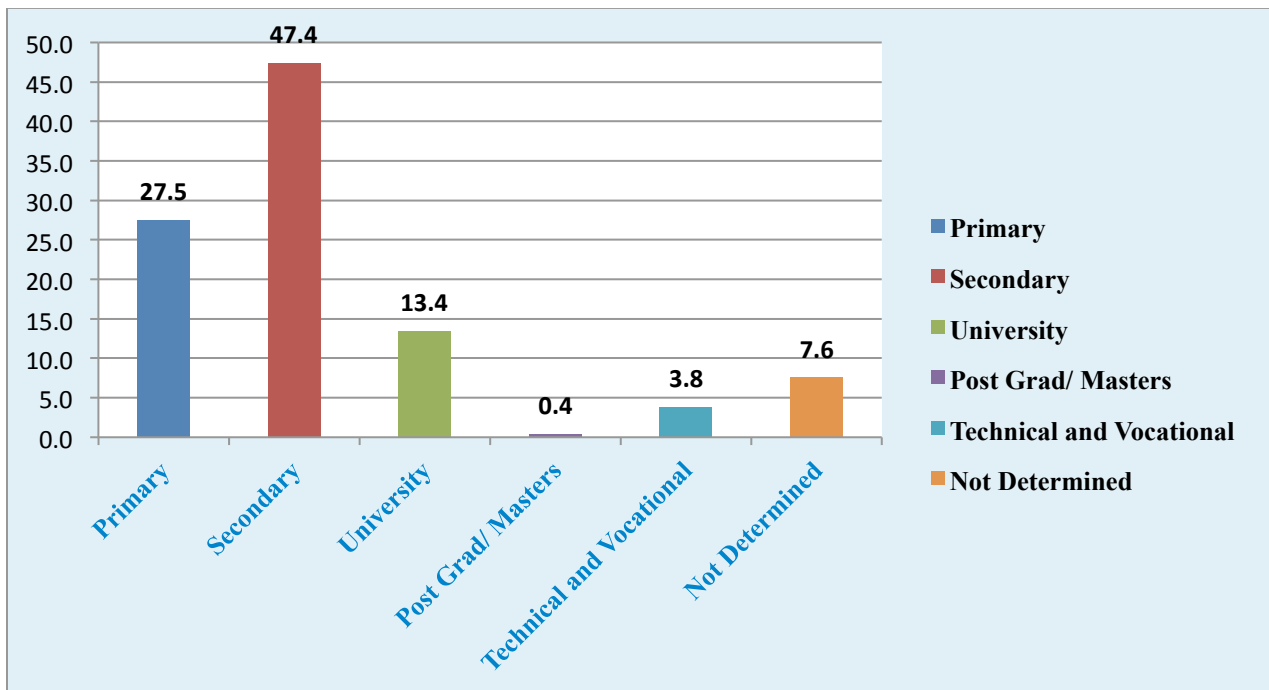

Figure 3: Education level

Data from survey show that the majority of women in different positions within their political parties' structures have done secondary school as the highest education level, representing 47.4%

of the respondents. Women who come to the second position representing 27.5% are those who have done primary school as the highest education level. Women who possess a university education level represent only 13.4% of the respondents. Women who possess Post graduate or Master's program as the highest education level represent 0.4%, whereas those who have done the technical and vocational training represent 3.8% of the respondents.

It should be noted that at the national level, Data from Rwanda Demographic Health Survey (RDHS 2010) for the education sector show that women who have done only Primary school education represent 67%. Those who have completed the secondary school education are 9%, whereas those with beyond secondary school level (i.e university studies and upper) represent only 1.5%. Women with no education school represent 23%.

In addition, at the national level, 92% of women with no education level work in the agriculture sector, and 82% of women with only Primary education level work also in the agriculture sector.

2.1.5. Respondents' marital status

Women in different political positions are represented in terms of marital status. The following chart shows the distribution of women among the four categories of marital status, which include the married, widowed, separated and single.
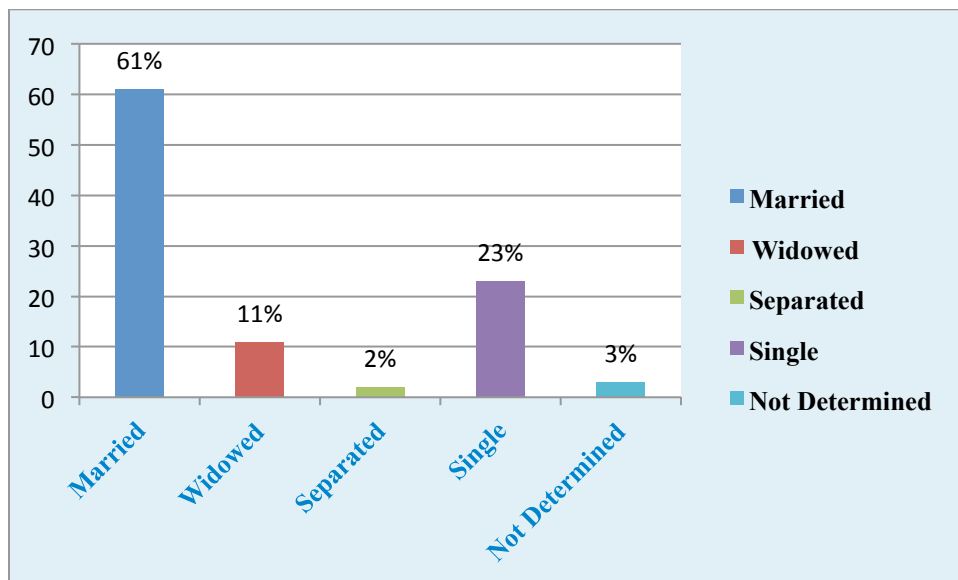
Figure 4: Marital status

From the above chart and for all 10 registered political parties, women who hold different positions within their political parties' structures are represented among the married, widowed, separated and the single.

With regards to the marital status, the majority of women in different positions within political parties' structures are married representing 61% of the respondents. Women who revealed that are single come to the second position representing 23%, whereas the widowed and the separated represent respectively 11% and 2% of the respondents.

According to the Rwanda Demographic Health Survey 2010 published in 2012, the marital status indicators at the national level represent for the married women 50% and for the single (or never married) 39%. At the national level, these two indicators are also the first ones having a high percentage compared to others, the widowed and separated, which represent respectively 5% and 6% of all women in the Country.

2.1.6. Respondents' employment records

The employment records presented in the following section focus on the category of the employer for which women holding different positions within their political parties' structures
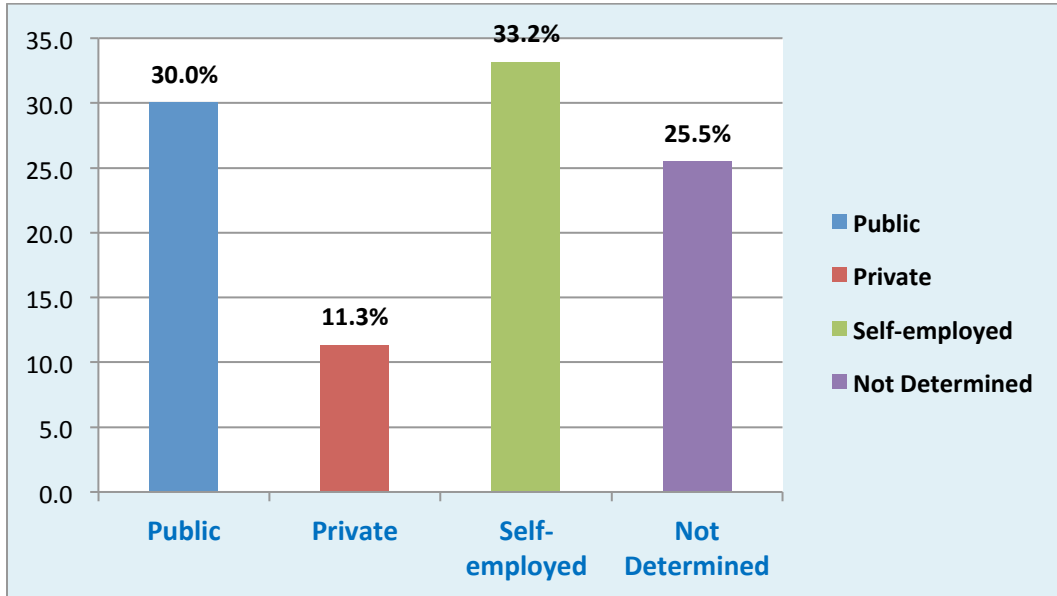
work for.

Figure 4: Employment records

Women within different positions, either work for Public, Private or are Self- employed workers. From the above chart and for all 10 registered political parties, women who work for any given employer differ from another and this vary from a political party to another.

The survey results show that the majority of women in different political positions within their political parties' structures work as self-employed workers representing 33.2% of the respondents.Women who work for Public and Private sectors represent respectively 30.0% and 11.3% of the respondents.

It has been observed that, the majority of women who work as Self-employed ones work in agriculture sector and the majority of them live in the rural areas. In addition, this category of women doesn't possess a high education level.

At the national level, Data from Rwanda Demographic Health Survey (RDHS 2010) show that 77% of women were employed or working in agriculture sector. And among them 85% were working in rural area while 32% were working in urban area.

2.2. Women representation within political parties' leadership

2.2.1. Positions held by women within Political parties' structures

Women within their political parties' structures hold different positions, from the posts of high responsibilities to the posts of mobilization and implementation. These positions differ from a political party to another and are based on each Political party's structures.
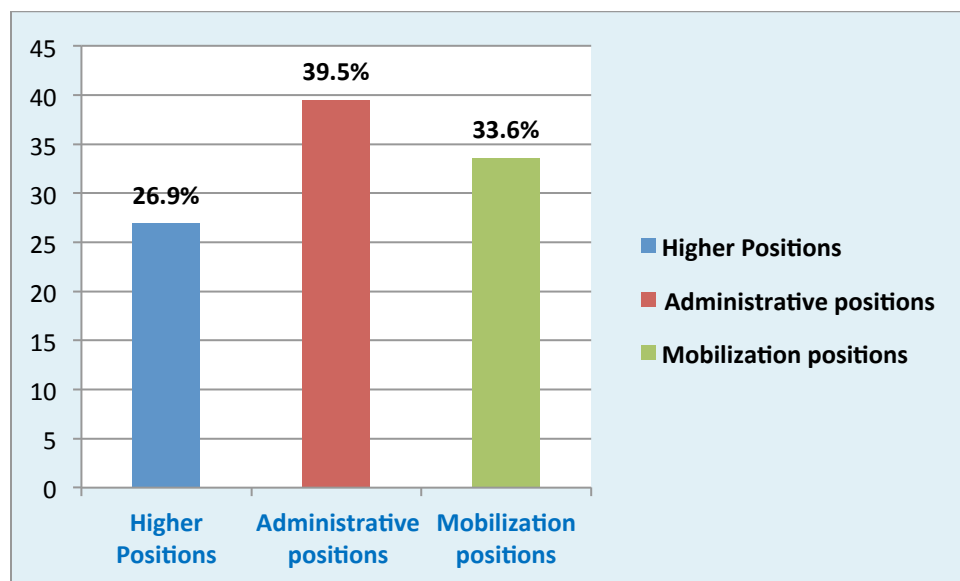

Figure 6: Political positions

In the case of this Survey, Higher positions refer to the positions of Party's Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and the Secretary General. The Administrative positions refer to the positions of Secretary and Treasurer, whereas the Mobilization positions are those in charge of Mobilization, in charge of Gender, and in charge of Youth.

From the above chart, women who revealed that are in the category of Higher positions represent 26.9% of the respondents for all 10 registered political parties. Those who are in the administrative positions represent 39.5%, whereas those in mobilization positions are 33.6% of the respondents.

Data at the national level show that women in Rwandan Parliament represent 56% in low chamber, and in the Senate 38%. For the ministerial positions women represent 31%, whereas in local Government, women represent 37% (District Mayors and Vice Mayors).

Other political positions

Besides the above political positions, women revealed that they occupy other political positions within different commissions. The common commissions mentioned almost by women from the 10 registered political parties are mainly: Social commission, Justice Commission, Good governance commission, Economic commission, Disciplinary Commission, Control committee, and Mediation committee. These positions are also very important in the Party's functioning.

The Survey found that other political positions go together with the Party's structures; Party's capacity in terms of human resources as well as financial.

For some Political parties, leaders of different commissions are also members of Executive Committees. This is the case of RPF-Inkotanyi for which the Executive Committees from National to the Village level (Umudugudu), leaders of Commissions are also members of Executive committees. Hence, from Province to the Village level, the Executive committee is composed of 7 persons among them 4 are leaders of commissions (Good governance, Social, Justice, and Economic).

In order to highlight the importance of other political oppositions within the political parties' structures, the survey has compared the proportions of women in political positions to those of women in other political positions as shown by the survey results.
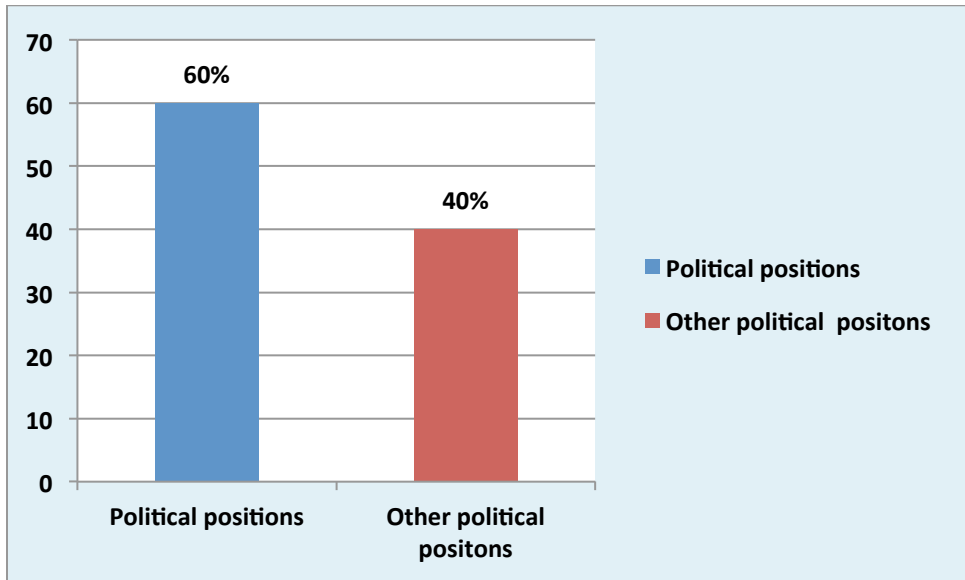
Figure 7: Other political positions

From the above chart, it is observable that women who revealed that they hold other political positions within their political parties' structures represent 40% of the respondents. Those women are leaders of Social commission, Justice, Good governance, Economic, Disciplinary commission, Control, and Mediation committee. In addition to this, other political positions which are not common for all political parties are for instance, Research commission, Information and Propaganda commission, Sport commission, communication commission, Advisors.

2.2.2. Women representation within political parties' structures

With regards to women representation within political parties' structures, it should be noted that even though women hold different positions within their political parties' structures, for some political parties this representation is not yet high in terms of percentage. In addition, the percentages of women who are in the higher positions remain limited.
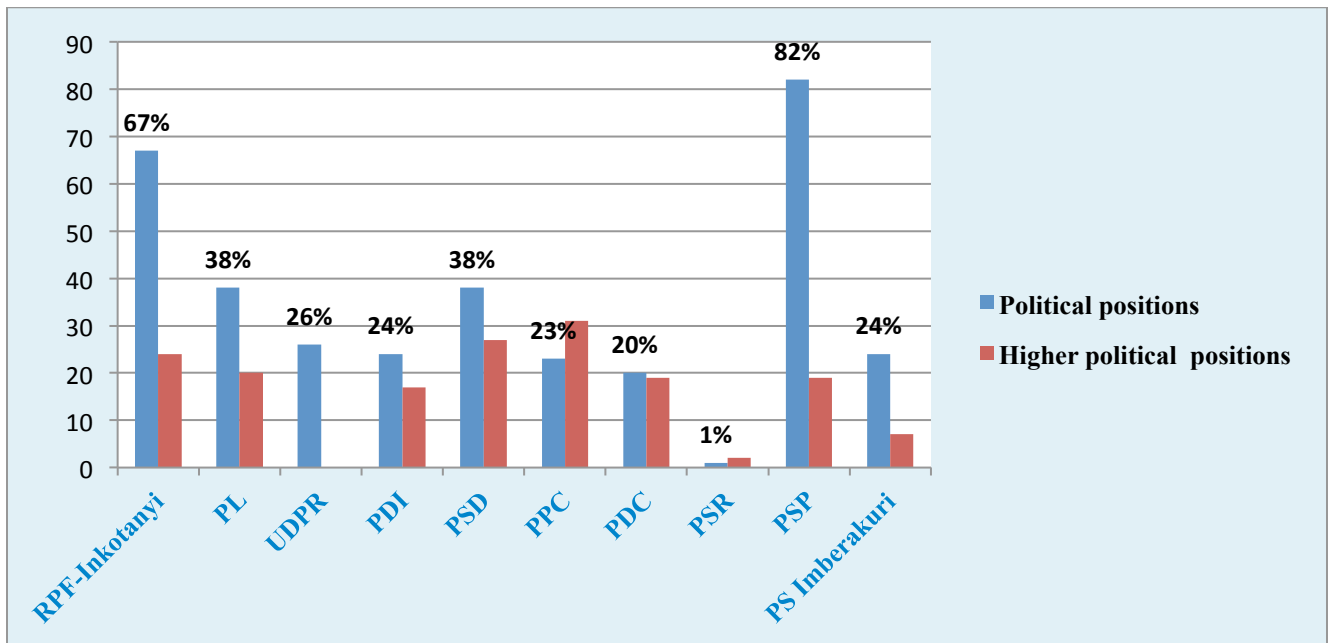
Figure 8: Women representation within political parties' structures

As observed above, women hold different positions within their political parties' structures. More interestingly, some of them hold high positions, such as the Party's Chairperson where we have 4 political parties led by women at the national level, those are PPC, PDC, PSP, and PS Imberakuri. The concern is to know to what extent women are represented within Party's leadership andthe percentage of women in top leadership positions (Higher positions).

Due to some Political parties haven't yet established their political organs to the sector level; and given that during the data collection some respondents got confused and were unable to differentiate political organs that lead the Party from others which are the wings of the party, the NFPO opted for the calculation of the percentage of women in different positions compared to members of the Leadership organs based on the political structures of the Party concerned from National to the District level.

Hence, the figures presented above (Figure 8) have been calculated based on the respondents who hold political positions for each political party from National to the District level. In addition, the calculation was based on Party's political structures for districts where the respondents come from, meaning that each political party has its own number of respondents differ to others.

From the above chart, four political parties out of ten (RPF-Inkotanyi, PL, PSD, and PSP) represent figures which show that women who hold different political positions within their political parties' leadership are greater than 30%.

2.3. Women political leadership levels

Women in different positions within their political parties' leadership have been elected at different political leadership levels. These political leadership levels are similar to the administrative entities which are the National, Province, District and Sector levels.

Remember that according to the Organic law no 16/2003 of 27/06/2003 as amended to date, in its article 3, paragraph 1-2*["The leadership organs of political organizations shall have offices at the national level.The leadership organs of political organizations may also have offices at the level of all the country's administrative entities in the country"].*

The implementation of this article depends on the capacity of a Political party to another. Hence, political parties establish their political leadership organs depending on their political structures and resources (human and financial).
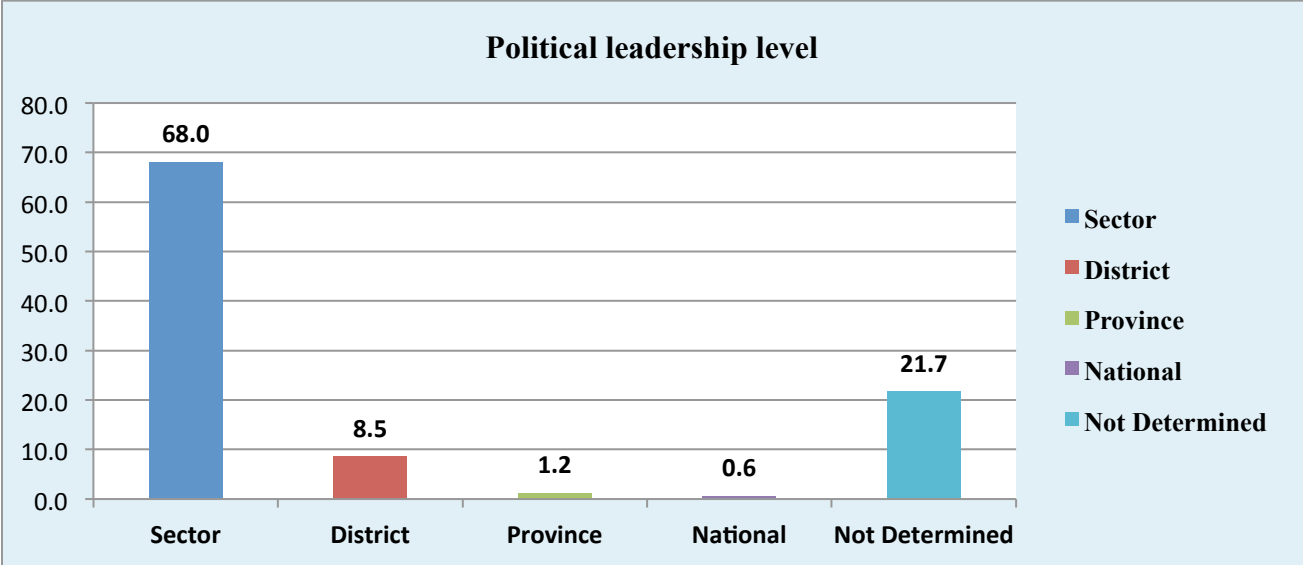

Figure 9: Political leadership level

From the above chart, the majority of women representing 68% of the respondents in different positions within their political parties' structures have been elected at the Sector level. Women who have been elected at the District level represent 8.5%, whereas those who have been elected at the Province and national level are very few representing respectively 1,2% and 0.6%.

2.4. Conclusion, challenges and recommendations

2.4.1. Conclusion

From the survey results, all 10 registered political parties represent women who hold different political positions within Political parties' structures. These positions go from the highest, the decision- making organs (Chairperson, Vice chairperson) to the implementation positions. There are four political parties (PPC, PDC, PSP, and PS Imberakuri) which are led by women at the national level. However, for some political parties the percentages of women who hold positions within their political parties' structures are still below thirty percent (30%).

With regard to the administrative entities' levels where Political parties operate, some political parties have already established their political organs from National to the grass root levels, such as RPF-Inkotanyi, PL, PSD, PPC, and PS Imberakuri; others haven't yet done so (UDPR, PDI, PDC, PSR, PSP). This goes with each political Party's capacity and resources, human as well as financial.

The survey results revealed that the majority (68%) of women in different political positions within their political parties' structures have been elected at the sector level and very few women (0.6%) at the national level.

With regards to the education level, the marital status, the employment records, and the age of the respondents, the survey results revealed that 47% of the women in different political positions within their political parties' structures have done the secondary school as the highest education level; 61% are married; 33.2% work as Self-employed workers; and more than fifty per cent of the respondents (50.6%) are in the group age   of 21- 35.

All these data have been collected from May to June 2011, meaning that many things may have been changed. This requires for all political parties to regularly update their data accordingly.

2.4.2. Challenges

Challenges presented here are related to the level of the respondents while answering the survey questionnaire.

Even though women are committed to actively participating in the Party's leadership, some of them do not fully understand the responsibilities under their positions within their political parties. Hence, some respondents failed to provide full information compared to what they were expected to answer on the Questionnaire Form.

2.4.3. Recommendations

For the NFPO,

1. Based on this survey results, the NFPO should organize training for political parties' leaders in charge of political mobilization and recruitment. This training should focus on how to update data related to the women in political parties' structures and to analyze them accordingly.
   They shall be trained on appropriate software which will facilitate their task, such as CSPro, SPSS and Advanced Excel sheet.

2. The NFPO should regularly organize such kind of exercise to monitor how the principle of Gender equality is observed in accordance with the Organic Law N° 16/2003 of 27/06/2003 governing political organizations and politicians as amended to date. According to this Organic Law art. 5, paragraph.2, "*each political organization shall constantly reflect the unity of the people of Rwanda and gender whether in recruiting members, setting up administrative organs and in its functioning and activities*".

   Art.5, paragraph.3, "*each political organization shall ensure that at least thirty per cent (30%) of posts that are subjected to elections are occupied by women*".

3. The NFPO should provide Political parties with women-related data for update, and, in turn, Political parties should provide the NFPO with updated data.

For Political parties,

1. For further data collection survey, political parties should urge women members to provide accurate data /information, given their importance to the political party in particular and to the country in general.

2. During political trainings organized by political parties, women should be encouraged to have a full understanding of their positions within the Party as well as any related responsibilities.

ANNEXES
Lists of women in different positions within Political parties' structures

May-June 2011.

N.B.

The list for each political party's women respondents may be found at the Political party's Head Offices.