



# OUR VOICE

KEY STATISTICS ON WOMEN'S POLITICAL LEADERSHIP



Women have the right to influence decisions that affect their lives but are drastically under-represented in leadership at all levels of society.



## GLOBAL SNAPSHOT

**1 in 20**  
of the world's mayors and  
**1 in 5**  
councillors are women.  
(Estimate - UCLG, 2018)

**23.8%**  
is the current worldwide average of  
women's participation in national  
parliaments. (IPU, 2018)

**20 women**  
hold the office of Head of State or Head  
of Government, representing just 6.3% of  
the total number of international leaders.  
(Women In International Politics, 2018)



## REGIONAL SNAPSHOT

The percentage of women in Pacific parliaments is 7.5% (2018), the lowest in the world.

Women's representation is also below the global average in Southeast Asia, at 19.41%. (2018)

**"We know now that without gender equality and a full role for women in society, in the economy, in governance, we will not be able to achieve the world we hoped for."**

*Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director, UN Women, 2015.*

When women lead, everybody benefits and communities are safer and more **EQUAL.**

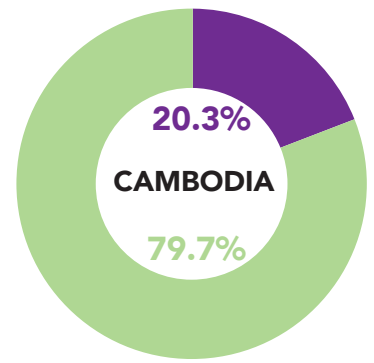
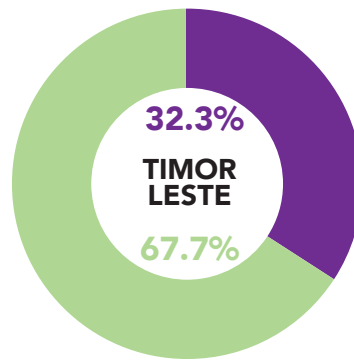
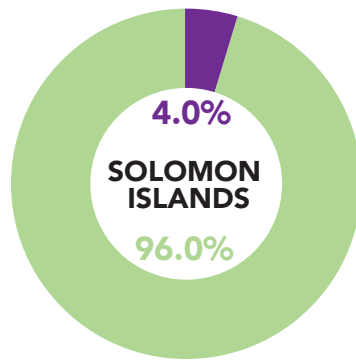
A survey conducted by the Inter-Parliamentary Union of 187 female parliamentarians from 65 countries revealed that **89% of these women** believed they had a special responsibility to represent the interests and needs of women. (IPU, 2008)

Cross-country analysis found that when at least **one quarter of members of parliament are women**, laws that discriminate against women are more likely to be repealed. (Cited in World Bank, 2014)

When women are included in a peace process, the resulting agreement is **35% more likely to last longer than 15 years.** (UN Women, 2015)

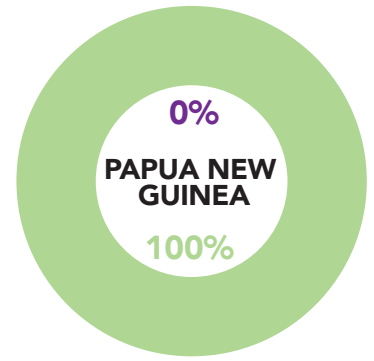
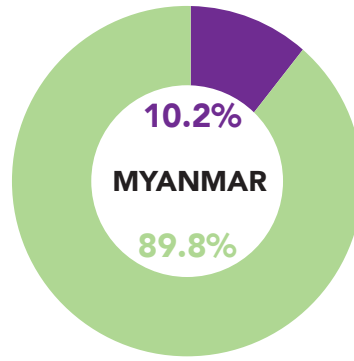


## NATIONAL SNAPSHOT



### NATIONAL PARLIAMENTS BY GENDER

- Female MPs
- Male MPs



## Papua New Guinea

0.5% or 35 out of 6138 local level government representatives are women.

## Cambodia

16.76% of commune council seats are held by women (as at 2017 commune council election).

## Timor Leste

4.75% of community (sucu) chiefs are women in Timor-Leste (2017).



## Myanmar

0.25% or 42 out of 16,785 village tract or ward administrators are women (2015).

## Solomon Islands

2.3% or 4 out of 172 members of Provincial Assemblies across 9 Provinces are women (2018).

## Bougainville

2 women were elected as Chairperson and 41 as Vice-Chairperson, out of 43 rural Community Governments (2017).



Women's Action for Voice and Empowerment (WAVE), funded by the Government of the Netherlands, is a ground-breaking women's leadership program that brings together and supports individual women, organisations, and movements in Asia and the Pacific region to increase the representation of women in diverse leadership positions.

TO FIND OUT MORE VISIT:

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