## Women's representation in the parliaments of Least Developed Countries: From Istanbul (2011) to Doha (2022)

## Introduction

Despite international commitments to the equal participation of women in politics as an essential element of democracy, women continue to be excluded from decision-making processes across the world. They are underrepresented in political institutions and policymaking, with the situation being even more acute when it comes to leadership positions. As a result, women have fewer opportunities to contribute to the improvement of their well-being by pushing for laws and policies that further gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls.

Given that women's empowerment and gender equality are key to sustainable development, efforts to eradicate poverty and advance progress towards social and human development in least developed countries (LDCs) must include action on women's empowerment and gender equality, particularly in politics and policymaking. This is why the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020 (IPoA) identified and included a number of goals and targets for gender equality and women's empowerment.
As part of the evaluation of the IPoA's gender-equality commitments, this brief focuses on women's representation in LDC parliaments from 2011 to 2022. Its overall finding is that, in the 46 countries categorized as LDCs, ${ }^{1}$ only one in four parliamentarians are women, and less than one in five executive post-holders are women. These disappointing results follow the global trend.

[^0]

Figure 1: Proportion of women parliamentarians, Speakers ${ }^{2}$ and executive post-holders ${ }^{3}$

## Women in parliament

In $2011^{4}$ when the IPoA was adopted, women held 18.3 per cent of seats in the lower and single houses of LDC parliaments. During the decade that followed, LDCs as a group ${ }^{5}$ made steady progress (figure 2), and by 2022, the proportion of women in parliament had risen to 23 per cent, which compared favourably with the global average of 26.5 per cent. This progress has however been uneven, and there are significant differences between countries within the category (annex 2).

[^1]

Figure 2: Global and LDC averages of women in single and lower houses of parliament (2011-2022)

Twenty-nine countries made some progress on increasing the proportion of women in their parliaments, with Senegal (+21.50\%) and Mali (+18.40\%) making the most progress. Improvements ${ }^{6}$ have been remarkable in countries like Senegal, Mozambique, and Ethiopia, where over 40 per cent of parliamentarians are now women, as well as in Rwanda, which has over 60 per cent women MPs (annex 2).
At the other end of the scale, however, are eleven countries that regressed, of which Angola $(-4.60 \%)$ and Sao Tome and Principe ( $-3.60 \%$ ) experienced the greatest reductions in the proportion of women in their parliaments (annex 2).
Certain LDCs have particularly low proportions of women in their parliaments. In five countries, less than 10 per cent of parliamentarians are women, ${ }^{7}$ Yemen has no women parliamentarians at all, and in countries like Afghanistan women have effectively been removed from the public sphere. In all, 28 LDCs are below the global average (see annex 3 for the full list of countries and the proportion of women in their lower and single houses of parliament).
A total of 63 per cent of LDCs have legislated for either candidate quotas or reserved seats (annex 4). LDCs are more likely to have these quotas compared to other countries in their regions (figure 3). Legislated quotas seem to have contributed to a growth in the number of women legislators in certain LDCs. For instance, these quotas exist in 9 of the 10 countries with the highest numbers of women MPs and 7 of the 10 countries with the largest percentage increase of women in parliament.

However, half of the 10 countries that experienced the greatest decreases in the proportion of women MPs have legislated quotas, and 6 of the 10 countries with the lowest proportion of

[^2]women parliamentarians, in spite of having adopted legislated gender quota policies. In addition, countries such as Mozambique and South Sudan have been able to achieve high proportions of women in parliament without legislated quotas, while Comoros, Chad and Bhutan have managed to make significant progress in the absence of quota policies.


Figure 3: Countries with legislated gender quotas for single and lower houses of parliament in $2022^{8}$

LDCs are also outperforming other countries on women's caucuses or other parliamentary groups that bring together women members from different parties to advocate for women's priorities. In 2018, 67.4 per cent of LDCs had women's caucuses or parliamentary groups in their single and lower houses of parliament, which was significantly higher than the global average of 48.1 per cent. ${ }^{9}$ In addition, LDCs are making faster progress.

In LDCs, women hold an average of 25.3 per cent ${ }^{10}$ of leadership positions, specifically as chairs of specialized bodies. ${ }^{11}$ Although this compares favourably with the global level of 26 per cent, both figures are still far from parity. Thematic disaggregation reveals that women MPs mostly chair specialized bodies that focus on gender equality (figure 4). In LDCs, 60.7 per cent of the chairs of such groups were women, while it was 68.2 per cent globally. Nevertheless, women were underrepresented in every other group, particularly in defence and finance, where they made up around 10 per cent of chairs, both in LDCs and across the world.

[^3]

Figure 4: Specialized parliamentary bodies with women chairs in 2022 (LDCs versus global average)

## Women in the executive

Between 2010 and 2021, the proportion of women executive post-holders in LDCs as a whole rose by 4.2 per cent - from 17 per cent to 21.2 per cent. However, progress has been uneven (figure 5).
Countries like Rwanda and Guinea-Bissau have reached parity, with 54.8 per cent and 50 per cent of women in executive positions respectively, and in Mozambique and Ethiopia, women have 40 per cent or more of the posts in the executive. Other countries have, however, not been so successful. In 27 countries, the proportion of women in the executive is below the LDC average ( $21.2 \%$ ), just over a fourth of LDCs have 30 per cent or more women executive post-holders, and in seven countries, women hold less than 10 per cent of such posts. In Tuvalu and Yemen, for instance, there are no women executive post-holders at all.
When it comes to progress in increasing the proportion of women executive post-holders, Ethiopia took the lead with a 32.6 percentage point increase, while Guinea-Bissau, Rwanda and Mozambique each increased by about 20 percentage points. At the other end of the scale are countries like Malawi ( $-9.9 \%$ ) and Lesotho ( $-9.4 \%$ ) which experienced the sharpest falls in the proportion of women in the executive.


Figure 5: Global and LDC averages of women in the executive of LDCs (2010-2021)

## Implications for the Doha Programme of Action (DPoA)

As shown in this report, women's representation in LDC parliaments remains a key issue to be addressed by the new Doha Programme of Action, adopted in March 2022.
If the DPoA is to achieve "gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls... and address inequality" over the next decade, it must build on, and take into account the lessons learnt over the decade of the IPoA.

First, it is important to tackle barriers to women's political participation and representation, both in political institutions and wider society. Barriers such as a lack of financial and other resources, a lack of political experience, a patriarchal political environment and culture, unfavourable electoral systems, gender-based violence and stereotypes, and discriminatory attitudes and norms all impede women's participation in politics.
Second, the progress made by certain LDCs has shown that legislated quotas can play an important role in improving women's representation in parliament. Given that over 40 per cent of countries continue not to use legislated quotas, there is scope for action to ensure that they become more widespread, and to advocate for the adoption of affirmative-action policies more generally across LDCs. On the other hand, the limited progress towards improving women's representation in LDCs through legislated quotas demonstrates that they are not always effective. Studies have shown that the short, medium, or long-term impacts of gender quotas may be mediated by factors such as gender norms, the level of democracy, the electoral system, and even the design of the quota and choice of enforcement mechanism. It is therefore crucial to consider these factors and, where necessary, to address them in the adoption and implementation phases of quota laws. Furthermore, as a key condition for political innovation and associated contestation, it is crucial to strengthen democratic governance.

Third, it is vital to look beyond the numbers, and push for policies that are both in women's interests and substantively improve their lives, by fostering cross-party collaboration and advocating with and educating both male and female MPs on the issues that concern women. This can be done by increasing women's representation, not just in parliament, but also in leadership roles, in the executive, , and in specialized parliamentary bodies such as defence, finance, and other committees where gender dimensions key are often overlooked. This will increase the chances of women's legislative priorities being brought to the fore, and it will ensure that women's perspectives are taken into account in the design, development and implementation of policies.

Finally, in implementing the DPoA, adequate attention must be given to new and emerging crises and their potential impacts on gender equality. An example is the regime change in Afghanistan which, despite assurances from the Taliban, has curtailed women's rights in many ways: another example is the gendered impacts of climate-related disasters which are on the rise in many countries.
Commitments on each of these areas will ensure that the DPoA effectively tackles both existing and future challenges as well as barriers to gender equality and women's empowerment in LDCs. This will further advance sustainable development across all policy areas and help to ensure that no one is left behind.

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## Annex 1: List of LDCs

| Country |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| Afghanistan | South Asia |
| Angola | Sub-Saharan Africa ${ }^{12}$ |
| Bangladesh | South Asia |
| Benin | Sub-Saharan Africa |
| Bhutan | South Asia |
| Burkina Faso | Sub-Saharan Africa |
| Burundi | Sub-Saharan Africa |
| Cambodia | East Asia and Pacific |
| Central African Republic | Sub-Saharan Africa |
| Chad | Sub-Saharan Africa |
| Comoros | Sub-Saharan Africa |
| Democratic Republic of the Congo | Sub-Saharan Africa |
| Djibouti | Middle East and North Africa |
| Eritrea | Sub-Saharan Africa |
| Ethiopia | Sub-Saharan Africa |
| Gambia | Sub-Saharan Africa |
| Guinea | Sub-Saharan Africa |
| Guinea-Bissau | Sub-Saharan Africa |
| Haiti | Latin America and the Caribbean |
| Kiribati | East Asia and Pacific |
| Lao People's Democratic Republic | East Asia and Pacific |
| Lesotho | Sub-Saharan Africa |
| Liberia | Sub-Saharan Africa |
| Madagascar | Sub-Saharan Africa |
| Malawi | Sub-Saharan Africa |
| Mali | Sub-Saharan Africa |
| Mauritania | Sub-Saharan Africa |
| Mozambique | Sub-Saharan Africa |
| Myanmar | East Asia and Pacific |
| Nepal | South Asia |
| Niger | Sub-Saharan Africa |
| Rwanda | Sub-Saharan Africa |
| Sao Tome and Principe | Sub-Saharan Africa |
| Senegal | Sub-Saharan Africa |
| Sierra Leone | Sub-Saharan Africa |
| Solomon Islands | East Asia and Pacificic |
| Somalia | Sub-Saharan Africa |
| South Sudan | Sub-Saharan Africa |
| Sudan | Sub-Saharan Africa |
| Timor-Leste | East Asia and Pacific |
| Togo | Sub-Saharan Africa |
| Tuvalu |  |

[^4]| Uganda | Sub-Saharan Africa |
| :--- | :--- |
| United Republic of Tanzania | Sub-Saharan Africa |
| Yemen | Middle East and North Africa |
| Zambia | Sub-Saharan Africa |

Annex 2: Change in percentage points, women in LDC single and lower houses of parliament (2011-2022) ${ }^{13,14}$

${ }^{13}$ Data from December each year.
${ }^{14}$ Data missing for the Democratic Republic of Congo, Eritrea, Guinea and Haiti, and data unavailable for Afghanistan, Myanmar and Sudan whose chambers of parliament have been suspended.

| Annex 3: <br> Percentage of women in LDC single and lower houses of parliament (20112022) Country | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Afghanistan ${ }^{15}$ | 27.7\% | 27.7\% | 27.7\% | 27.7\% | 27.7\% | 27.7\% | 27.7\% |  | 27.0\% | 27.0\% | 27.0\% |  |
| Angola | 38.2\% | 34.1\% | 34.1\% | 36.8\% | 36.8\% | 36.8\% | 30.5\% | 30.5\% | 30.0\% | 29.6\% | 29.6\% | 33.6\% |
| Bangladesh | 19.7\% | 19.7\% | 19.7\% | 19.8\% | 20.0\% | 20.0\% | 20.3\% | 20.3\% | 20.9\% | 20.9\% | 20.9\% | 20.9\% |
| Benin | 8.4\% | 8.4\% | 8.4\% | 8.4\% | 7.2\% | 7.2\% | 7.2\% | 7.2\% | 7.2\% | 8.4\% | 8.4\% | 7.4\% |
| Bhutan | 8.5\% | 8.5\% | 6.4\% | 8.5\% | 8.5\% | 8.5\% | 8.5\% | 14.9\% | 14.9\% | 14.9\% | 17.0\% | 17.4\% |
| Burkina Faso | 15.3\% | 15.7\% | 15.7\% |  | 9.4\% | 9.4\% | 11.0\% | 11.0\% | 13.4\% | 6.3\% | 6.3\% | 16.9\% |
| Burundi | 30.5\% | 30.5\% | 30.5\% | 30.5\% | 36.4\% | 36.4\% | 36.4\% | 36.4\% | 36.4\% | 38.2\% | 38.2\% | 38.2\% |
| Cambodia | 20.3\% | 20.3\% | 20.3\% | 20.3\% | 20.3\% | 20.3\% | 20.3\% | 20.0\% | 20.0\% | 21.6\% | 21.6\% | 20.8\% |
| Central African Republic | 12.5\% | 12.5\% |  |  |  | 7.2\% | 8.6\% | 8.6\% | 8.6\% | 8.6\% | 12.9\% | 12.9\% |
| Chad | 12.8\% | 14.9\% | 14.9\% | 14.9\% | 14.9\% | 14.9\% | 12.8\% | 15.3\% | 15.4\% | 15.4\% | 32.3\% | 25.9\% |
| Comoros | 3.0\% | 3.0\% | 3.0\% | 3.0\% | 3.0\% | 3.0\% | 6.1\% | 6.1\% | 6.1\% | 16.7\% | 16.7\% | 16.7\% |
| Democratic Republic of the Congo |  | 8.9\% | 8.9\% | 10.6\% | 8.9\% | 8.9\% | 8.9\% | 8.9\% | 12.8\% | 12.8\% | 12.8\% | 12.8\% |
| Djibouti | 13.8\% | 13.8\% | 12.7\% | 12.7\% | 12.7\% | 12.7\% | 10.8\% | 26.2\% | 26.2\% | 26.2\% | 26.2\% | 26.2\% |
| Eritrea | 22.0\% | 22.0\% | 22.0\% | 22.0\% | 22.0\% | 22.0\% | 22.0\% | 22.0\% |  |  |  |  |
| Ethiopia | 27.8\% | 27.8\% | 27.8\% | 27.8\% | 38.8\% | 38.8\% | 38.8\% | 38.8\% | 38.8\% | 38.8\% | 42.6\% | 41.5\% |
| Gambia | 7.5\% | 7.5\% | 7.5\% | 9.4\% | 9.4\% | 9.4\% | 10.3\% | 10.3\% | 8.6\% | 8.6\% | 8.6\% | 8.6\% |
| Guinea |  |  |  | 21.9\% | 21.9\% | 21.9\% | 21.9\% | 21.9\% | 22.8\% | 16.7\% |  | 29.6\% |
| Guinea-Bissau | 10.0\% | 14.0\% | 14.0\% | 13.7\% | 13.7\% | 13.7\% | 13.7\% | 13.7\% | 13.7\% | 13.7\% | 13.7\% | 13.7\% |
| Haiti | 4.2\% | 4.2\% | 4.2\% | 4.2\% | 4.2\% | 0.0\% | 2.5\% | 2.5\% | 2.5\% |  |  |  |
| Kiribati | 8.7\% | 8.7\% | 8.7\% | 8.7\% | 8.7\% | 6.5\% | 6.5\% | 6.5\% | 6.5\% | 6.7\% | 6.7\% | 6.7\% |
| Lao People's Democratic Republic | 25.0\% | 25.0\% | 25.0\% | 25.0\% | 25.0\% | 27.5\% | 27.5\% | 27.5\% | 27.5\% | 27.5\% | 22.0\% | 22.0\% |
| Lesotho | 24.2\% | 26.7\% | 26.7\% | 26.7\% | 25.0\% | 25.0\% | 22.1\% | 22.1\% | 23.3\% | 23.3\% | 23.3\% | 26.5\% |
| Liberia | 9.6\% | 11.0\% | 11.0\% | 11.0\% | 11.0\% | 11.0\% | 9.9\% | 12.3\% | 12.3\% | 11.0\% | 11.0\% | 11.0\% |
| Madagascar | 12.5\% | 17.5\% | 17.5\% | 20.5\% | 20.5\% | 20.5\% | 19.2\% | 19.2\% | 15.9\% | 17.9\% | 17.9\% | 18.5\% |


| Malawi | 22.3\% | 22.3\% | 22.3\% | 16.7\% | 16.7\% | 16.7\% | 16.7\% | 16.7\% | 22.9\% | 22.9\% | 22.9\% | 22.9\% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Mali | 10.2\% | 10.2\% |  | 9.5\% | 8.8\% | 8.8\% | 8.8\% | 8.8\% | 9.5\% | 27.3\% | 27.3\% | 28.6\% |
| Mauritania | 22.1\% | 22.1\% |  | 25.2\% | 25.2\% | 25.2\% | 25.2\% | 20.3\% | 20.3\% | 20.3\% | 20.3\% | 20.3\% |
| Mozambique | 39.2\% | 39.2\% | 39.2\% |  | 39.6\% | 39.6\% | 39.6\% | 39.6\% | 41.2\% | 42.4\% | 42.4\% | 42.4\% |
| Myanmar ${ }^{16}$ | 3.5\% | 6.0\% | 6.0\% | 5.6\% | 12.7\% | 9.9\% | 10.2\% | 10.2\% | 11.1\% | 15.3\% | 15.3\% |  |
| Nepal | 33.2\% | 33.2\% |  | 29.5\% | 29.5\% | 29.6\% | 29.6\% | 32.7\% | 32.7\% | 32.7\% | 32.7\% | 33.1\% |
| Niger | 13.3\% | 13.3\% | 13.3\% | 13.3\% | 13.3\% | 14.6\% | 17.0\% | 17.0\% | 17.0\% | 25.9\% | 25.9\% | 25.9\% |
| Rwanda | 56.3\% | 56.3\% | 63.8\% | 63.8\% | 63.8\% | 63.8\% | 61.3\% | 61.3\% | 61.3\% | 61.3\% | 61.3\% | 61.3\% |
| Sao Tome and Principe | 18.2\% | 18.2\% | 18.2\% | 18.2\% | 18.2\% | 18.2\% | 18.2\% | 14.5\% | 14.6\% | 23.6\% | 23.6\% | 14.6\% |
| Senegal | 22.7\% | 42.7\% | 42.7\% | 43.3\% | 42.7\% | 42.7\% | 41.8\% | 41.8\% | 43.0\% | 43.0\% | 43.0\% | 44.2\% |
| Sierra Leone | 12.9\% | 12.4\% | 12.4\% | 12.1\% | 12.4\% | 12.4\% | 12.4\% | 12.3\% | 12.3\% | 12.3\% | 12.3\% | 12.3\% |
| Solomon Islands | 0.0\% | 2.0\% | 2.0\% | 2.0\% | 2.0\% | 2.0\% | 2.0\% | 2.0\% | 6.1\% | 8.0\% | 8.0\% | 8.0\% |
| Somalia | 6.8\% | 13.8\% | 13.8\% | 13.8\% | 13.8\% |  | 24.4\% | 24.4\% | 24.4\% | 24.4\% | 24.4\% | 19.7\% |
| South Sudan | 26.5\% | 26.5\% | 26.5\% | 26.5\% | 26.5\% | 28.5\% | 28.5\% | 28.5\% | 28.5\% | 28.5\% | 32.4\% | 32.4\% |
| Sudan ${ }^{17}$ | 24.6\% | 24.6\% | 24.6\% | 24.3\% | 30.5\% | 30.5\% | 30.5\% | 30.5\% |  |  |  |  |
| Timor-Leste | 32.3\% | 38.5\% | 38.5\% | 38.5\% | 38.5\% | 38.5\% | 32.3\% | 33.8\% | 38.5\% | 38.5\% | 38.5\% | 40.0\% |
| Togo | 11.1\% | 11.1\% | 15.4\% | 17.6\% | 17.6\% | 17.6\% | 17.6\% | 17.6\% | 18.7\% | 18.7\% | 18.7\% | 18.7\% |
| Tuvalu | 6.7\% | 6.7\% | 6.7\% | 6.7\% | 6.7\% | 6.7\% | 6.7\% | 6.7\% | 6.3\% | 6.3\% | 6.3\% | 6.3\% |
| Uganda | 35.0\% | 35.0\% | 35.0\% | 35.0\% | 35.0\% | 33.5\% | 34.3\% | 34.3\% | 34.9\% | 34.9\% | 33.8\% | 33.8\% |
| United Republic of Tanzania | 36.0\% | 36.0\% | 36.0\% | 36.0\% | 36.0\% | 36.6\% | 37.2\% | 37.2\% | 36.9\% | 36.7\% | 36.9\% | 36.9\% |
| Yemen | 0.3\% | 0.3\% | 0.3\% | 0.3\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 0.3\% | 0.3\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% |
| Zambia | 11.5\% | 11.5\% | 11.5\% | 10.8\% | 12.7\% | 18.0\% | 18.0\% | 18.0\% | 16.8\% | 16.8\% | 15.1\% | 15.1\% |

[^5]
## Annex 4: LDCs with legislated gender quotas in lower and single houses of parliament

| Countries | Year first adopted |
| :---: | :---: |
| Afghanistan | 2004 |
| Angola | 2010 |
| Bangladesh | 2004 |
| Benin | 2019 |
| Burkina Faso | 2009 |
| Burundi | 2005 |
| Central African Republic | 2016 |
| Djibouti | 2018 |
| Eritrea | 2002 |
| Ethiopia | 1995 |
| Guinea | 2010 |
| Guinea-Bissau | 2018 |
| Lesotho | 2011 |
| Liberia | 2014 |
| Mali | 2015 |
| Mauritania | 2012 |
| Nepal | 2007 |
| Niger | 2000 |
| Rwanda | 2003 |
| Sao Tome and Principe | 2009 |
| Senegal | 2012 |
| Solomon Islands | 2014 |
| Somalia | 2011 |
| South Sudan | 2011 |
| Sudan | 2008 |
| Timor-Leste | 2011 |
| Togo | 2013 |
| Uganda | 1995 |
| United Republic of Tanzania | 1995 |

Annex 5: Percentage of women in the executive in LDCs (2010-2020)

| Country | 2010 | 2012 | 2014 | 2015 | 2017 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Afghanistan | 7.4\% | 12.0\% | 11.1\% | 10.0\% | 16.7\% | 16.1\% | 9.7\% | 6.5\% |
| Angola | 27.8\% | 29.0\% | 19.4\% | 22.2\% | 22.2\% | 34.4\% | 40.0\% | 31.8\% |
| Bangladesh | 16.0\% | 14.3\% | 6.7\% | 6.7\% | 6.3\% | 8.0\% | 7.7\% | 7.7\% |
| Benin | 13.3\% | 30.8\% | 22.2\% | 14.8\% | 14.3\% | 18.2\% | 20.8\% | 20.8\% |
| Bhutan | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 10.0\% | 10.0\% | 10.0\% | 10.0\% | 10.0\% | 10.0\% |
| Burkina Faso | 17.9\% | 12.0\% | 13.8\% | 12.5\% | 13.0\% | 14.3\% | 14.3\% | 15.4\% |
| Burundi | 28.6\% | 34.8\% | 36.4\% | 34.8\% | 22.7\% | 26.1\% | 26.1\% | 37.5\% |
| Cambodia | 9.7\% | 4.9\% | 4.7\% | 7.0\% | 9.1\% | 9.4\% | 9.4\% | 9.4\% |
| Central African Republic | 12.0\% | 20.7\% |  | 24.1\% | 17.4\% | 18.2\% | 20.0\% | 20.7\% |
| Chad | 6.9\% | 12.1\% | 15.2\% | 13.6\% | 14.3\% | 25.9\% | 25.9\% | 20.0\% |
| Comoros | 0.0\% | 20.0\% | 20.0\% | 20.0\% | 0.0\% | 8.3\% | 8.3\% | 10.0\% |
| Democratic Republic of the Congo | 12.5\% |  | 10.3\% | 8.1\% | 11.6\% |  | 17.4\% | 17.8\% |
| Djibouti | 10.5\% | 13.0\% | 5.3\% | 5.3\% | 5.6\% | 10.0\% | 13.0\% | 13.0\% |
| Eritrea | 25.0\% | 23.5\% | 25.0\% | 16.7\% | 16.7\% |  | 17.6\% | 17.6\% |
| Ethiopia | 7.4\% | 9.7\% | 13.0\% | 12.5\% | 10.0\% | 47.6\% | 47.6\% | 40.0\% |
| Gambia | 31.3\% | 31.3\% | 27.8\% | 21.1\% |  | 11.1\% | 22.2\% | 25.0\% |
| Guinea | 16.1\% | 12.9\% | 14.7\% | 14.7\% | 23.3\% | 11.8\% | 10.8\% | 27.8\% |
| Guinea-Bissau | 23.5\% | 18.8\% |  | 31.3\% | 0.0\% | 16.7\% | 50.0\% | 50.0\% |
| Haiti | 22.2\% | 16.7\% | 35.0\% | 20.0\% |  | 27.8\% |  | 25.0\% |
| Kiribati | 7.7\% | 20.0\% | 23.1\% | 21.4\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 7.1\% |
| Lao People's Democratic Republic | 10.3\% | 11.5\% | 11.5\% | 10.3\% | 7.4\% | 11.5\% | 11.1\% | 10.3\% |
| Lesotho | 31.6\% | 36.8\% | 21.7\% | 21.7\% | 18.2\% | 14.8\% | 7.4\% | 22.2\% |
| Liberia | 30.4\% | 22.7\% | 21.1\% | 20.0\% | 15.8\% |  | 22.2\% | 22.2\% |
| Madagascar | 17.2\% | 26.5\% | 31.3\% | 20.0\% | 17.9\% | 27.3\% | 30.0\% | 34.8\% |
| Malawi | 27.3\% | 21.1\% | 32.0\% | 11.1\% | 22.2\% | 16.7\% | 11.1\% | 17.4\% |
| Mali | 21.4\% | 13.8\% | 12.1\% | 16.1\% | 24.2\% | 34.4\% | 25.0\% | 16.0\% |
| Mauritania | 23.1\% | 11.5\% | 13.0\% | 26.9\% | 30.8\% | 31.8\% | 20.0\% | 21.7\% |
| Mozambique | 25.9\% | 27.6\% | 28.6\% | 28.6\% | 23.8\% | 28.6\% | 42.9\% | 45.5\% |
| Myanmar |  |  | 2.6\% | 5.3\% | 5.0\% | 3.7\% | 3.8\% | 4.0\% |


| Nepal | 7.7\% | 15.4\% |  | 13.6\% | 3.7\% | 14.3\% | 10.5\% | 13.6\% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Niger | 22.6\% | 26.1\% | 12.9\% | 12.9\% | 16.2\% | 13.5\% | 12.8\% | 15.8\% |
| Rwanda | 33.3\% | 32.0\% | 39.3\% | 35.5\% | 47.4\% | 51.9\% | 53.6\% | 54.8\% |
| Sao Tome and Principe | 38.5\% | 9.1\% | 15.4\% | 7.7\% | 18.2\% | 33.3\% | 33.3\% | 33.3\% |
| Senegal | 12.9\% | 25.0\% | 16.1\% | 20.0\% | 20.0\% | 22.9\% | 21.9\% | 21.9\% |
| Sierra Leone | 8.0\% | 7.7\% | 10.3\% | 6.9\% | 13.8\% | 18.5\% | 17.2\% | 13.8\% |
| Solomon Islands | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 4.3\% | 4.3\% | 4.3\% | 5.0\% | 10.5\% |
| Somalia |  | 5.6\% | 8.0\% | 8.0\% | 6.7\% | 14.8\% | 18.5\% | 18.5\% |
| South Sudan |  | 16.7\% | 22.7\% | 22.7\% | 20.0\% | 18.8\% | 15.6\% | 33.3\% |
| Sudan | 6.3\% | 9.1\% | 16.1\% | 15.2\% | 11.4\% | 9.5\% | 20.0\% | 20.0\% |
| Timor-Leste | 21.4\% | 23.1\% | 11.8\% | 12.5\% | 18.8\% | 18.2\% | 18.2\% | 15.0\% |
| Togo | 14.3\% | 22.6\% | 21.4\% | 20.7\% | 20.0\% | 16.7\% | 24.0\% | 31.0\% |
| Tuvalu | 0.0\% | 14.3\% | 12.5\% | 14.3\% | 14.3\% | 12.5\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% |
| Uganda | 32.0\% | 32.1\% | 32.1\% | 29.6\% | 36.7\% | 36.7\% | 33.3\% | 34.5\% |
| United Republic of Tanzania | 26.9\% | 27.6\% | 36.7\% | 32.3\% | 20.0\% | 22.7\% | 21.7\% | 18.2\% |
| Yemen | 5.9\% | 8.1\% | 8.8\% | 9.7\% | 5.4\% | 6.5\% | 6.3\% | 0.0\% |
| Zambia | 16.7\% | 11.8\% | 15.0\% | 20.0\% | 33.3\% | 30.0\% | 32.3\% | 32.3\% |

# Annex 6: Change in percentage points, women in the executive in LDCs (2010-2021)18,19 



[^6]${ }^{19}$ Data missing for Myanmar, Somalia, and South Sudan.


[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ Countries facing extraordinary social, economic, and environmental impediments to development (see annex 1 for current list).

[^1]:    ${ }^{2}$ The presiding officers of one of country's house of parliament.
    ${ }^{3}$ Data for women parliamentarians and Speakers as of 31 December 2022; data for women in the executive from 2021.
    ${ }^{4}$ As of 31 December 2011.
    ${ }^{5}$ Countries that are currently classified as LDCs; excludes Samoa, Equatorial Guinea and Vanuatu, which graduated from the LDC category in 2014, 2017 and 2020 respectively.

[^2]:    ${ }^{6}$ Between 31 December 2011 and 31 December 2022 : the number of LDCs with 10 per cent or more women MPs increased from 33 to 36 ; the number with less than 10 per cent decreased from 12 to 6; and the number with 30 per cent or more women MPs increased from 8 to 11.
    ${ }^{7}$ As of 31 December 2022.

[^3]:    ${ }^{8}$ There are currently no LDCs in Europe, Central Asia and Latin America.
    ${ }^{9}$ No data was available for 10 countries across the world.
    ${ }^{10}$ As of December 2022.
    ${ }^{11}$ Excluding women's caucuses or parliamentary groups.

[^4]:    12 World Bank regions

[^5]:     effectively dissolved following the Taliban takeover in August 2021
    ${ }^{16}$ Chamber is suspended. As a result of a military coup on 1 February 2021, there is currently no functioning parliament in Myanmar.
    ${ }^{17}$ Chamber is suspended. The Parliament of Sudan was dissolved following a coup d'état in April 2019.

[^6]:    ${ }^{18}$ Data from December each year.

