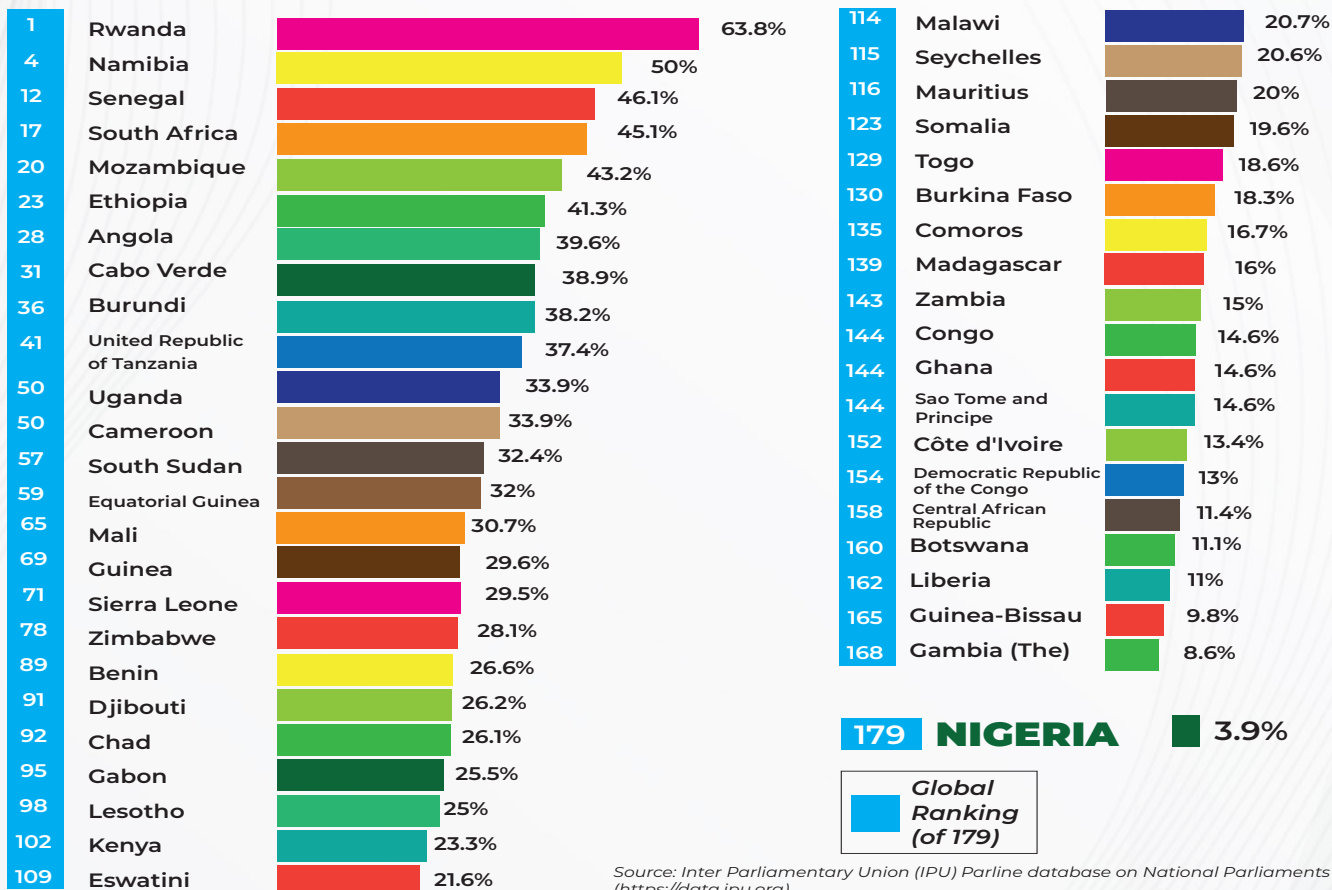


FACTSHEET

Nigeria Ranks Very Low on the Number of Women in African Parliaments

Ranking and Percentage of Women in Unicameral or Lower Chambers of Sub-Saharan African Parliaments

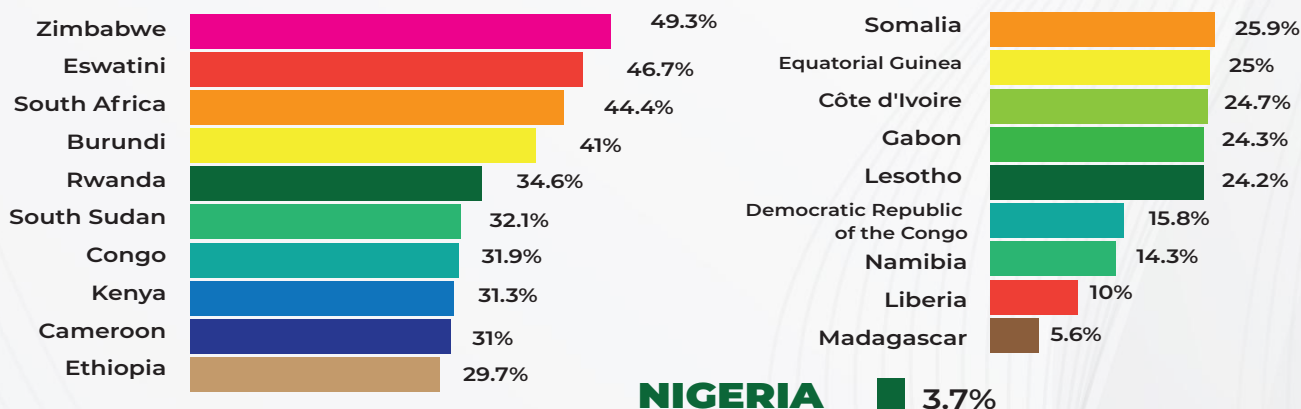
* As of September 2024



Source: Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU) Parline database on National Parliaments (<https://data.ipu.org>)

Percentage of Women in Upper Chambers of Sub-Saharan African Parliaments

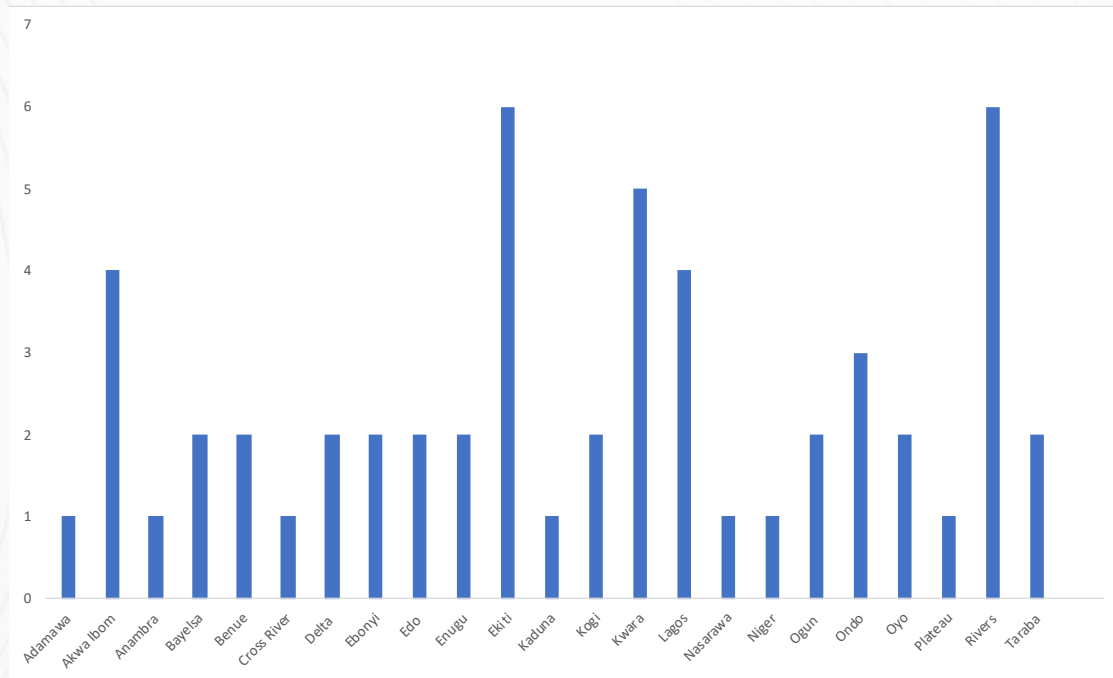
* As of September 2024



* There are currently 16 women in the 360-member House of Representatives and 4 women in the 109-member Senate.

Source: Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU) Parline database on National Parliaments (<https://data.ipu.org>)

Number of Female Legislators in the State Houses of Assembly



Source: Compiled by PLAC. No record found of female state legislators in Abia, Bauchi, Borno, Gombe, Imo, Jigawa, Kano, Katsina, Kebbi, Osun, Sokoto, Yobe, & Zamfara

FAST FACTS

- Most African countries that have achieved a high level of women's representation have done so through the use of special measures such as quotas.
- About 41 out of 54 African countries adopt constitutional, legislated or voluntary party quotas to elect women to parliaments.

Algeria, Angola, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Guinea, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Republic of the Congo (Brazzaville), Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zimbabwe

- Those countries that have not yet adopted a legislated quota or meaningful voluntary party quota are mostly Anglophone countries with plurality majority (first-past-the-post) electoral systems such as Ghana, Nigeria, and Zambia.
- The first-past-the post/plurality electoral system is unfavourable to women candidates versus the proportional representation (PR) system where more women are elected. Here, political parties win and share legislative seats in accordance with the proportion of votes they receive at elections
- The 2008 Uwais Electoral Reform Panel Report recommended as a special measure, the creation of 108 additional federal legislative seats to be filled on a proportional representation basis, 30% of which would be for women.

Sources: International IDEA Gender Quotas Project; IPU Parline Database on National Parliaments; 2008 Electoral Reform Main Report.



European Union Support to Democratic Governance in Nigeria (EU-SDGN) Programme

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

