



Republic of Benin

Electoral Commission Website
<http://www.cena.bj>

Parliamentary Structure

Unicameral

Election System

Presidential: TRS
National Assembly: List PR
(Directly)
Local: Directly

Female Political Participation in Sub-Saharan Africa

Metafile

Administrative Divisions

Benin is divided into 12 departments which are sub-divided into 77 communes. Communes are further divided into arrondissements which are divided into villages or city districts.

Election System

The administrative local authority members are elected directly by universal suffrage for a term of five years (UCLG, 2006).

National Assembly is elected directly according the list proportional representation system. However the amount of candidates on each party list is equal to the number of seats to be filled (IPU, 2016). Seats are allocated to the different lists on the basis of the departmental quotient. Remaining seats are allocated according to the rule of the largest remainder. The President is elected using a two round system. The last local elections and national elections were held in April 2015. The last Presidential elections were held in March 2016.

Women's Representation & Quota Information

Benin does not have legislated gender quotas for sub-national government (Local Democracy, 2016).

Seats & Trends in Seat Numbers

The National Assembly of Benin is the country's unicameral legislative body. It is currently comprised of 83 members who are directly elected through a party-list proportional representation system to serve five year terms.

Following the October 2009 national elections, women held 8 of the 83 available (9.64%) seats in the National Assembly. This figure decrease to 6 of the 83 (7.23%) available seats following the April 2015 elections. At the local level, following the April 2015 local elections, women held 114 of 1428 (7.98%) positions in local government.

References

Benin. 2016. [Online]. Available: <https://localdemocracy.net/countries/africa/benin/>. [2017, January 30].

BENIN (National Assembly). 2016. [Online]. Available: http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2033_B.htm. [2017, January 31].

Republic of Benin. 2006. [Online]. Available: http://www.cities-localgovernments.org/gold/Upload/country_profile/Benin.pdf. [2017, January 30].