



## Mauritius

### Electoral Website

<http://electoral.govmu.org>

### Parliamentary Structure

Unicameral

### Election System

Presidential: Indirectly by NA

National Assembly: Majority  
(Block Vote)

Local: FPTP

# Female Political Participation in Sub-Saharan Africa

## Metafile

### Administrative Divisions

Mauritius has three levels of government: central, local and village. Sub-national government is divided into 9 districts which have 2 cities, 4 towns and 130 villages. Local government has two tiers which consist of municipal councils and district councils, the latter is responsible for overseeing village councils (CLGF, 2016). There are 4 municipal councils and 1 city council which fall under the category of municipal councils. In rural areas there are 7 district councils which oversee 130 village councils. Village councils are represented in district councils by one or two representatives elected by the respective village councillors. There is no formal provision in the constitution for local government.

### Election System

Municipal and village elections are carried out using a first-past-the-post. Mayors of municipal councils and Chairs of district councils are elected by members of their relevant council. For municipal councils a ward system is implemented where 3 councillors are elected per ward. Village councils are put into groups to elect a district council via a secret ballot.

Municipal council and village council elections are held every six years. The last legislative national elections were held in December 2014 and the last Presidential elections were held in 2015. The last municipal and village local elections were held in June 2015 and December 2012 respectively.

### Womens Representation & Quota Information

Mauritius does not have legislative quotas for female representation in the single/lower house however there are legislative quotas at the sub-national level. Furthermore, voluntary quotas have not been adopted by any political parties. The legislated quota includes candidate quotas for local government elections. Legal sanctions for non-compliance are not imposed (Quota Project, 2014).

### Seats & Trends in Seat Numbers

Mauritius has a unicameral legislature, comprising of a maximum of 70 seats. 62 of whom are directly elected through a first-past-the-post system and 8 additional members, known as "best losers", appointed by the Electoral Supervisory Commission to ensure that ethnic and religious minorities are equitably represented.

Following the May 2010 general election, women held 13 out of 69 (18.84%) in the National Assembly. This number decreased to 8 of 69 (11.59%) following the December 2014 election. Following the June 2015 local elections, women won 451 of the 1380 available positions (32.68%).

## References

*The local government system in Mauritius*. 2016. [Online]. Available: [http://www.clgf.org.uk/default/assets/File/Country\\_profiles/Mauritius.pdf](http://www.clgf.org.uk/default/assets/File/Country_profiles/Mauritius.pdf) html. [2016, December 29].

*Mauritius*. 2014. [Online]. Available: <http://www.quotaproject.org/country/mauritius.html>. [2016, December 21].