

Ghana is unlikely to reach gender parity in government leadership before 2090

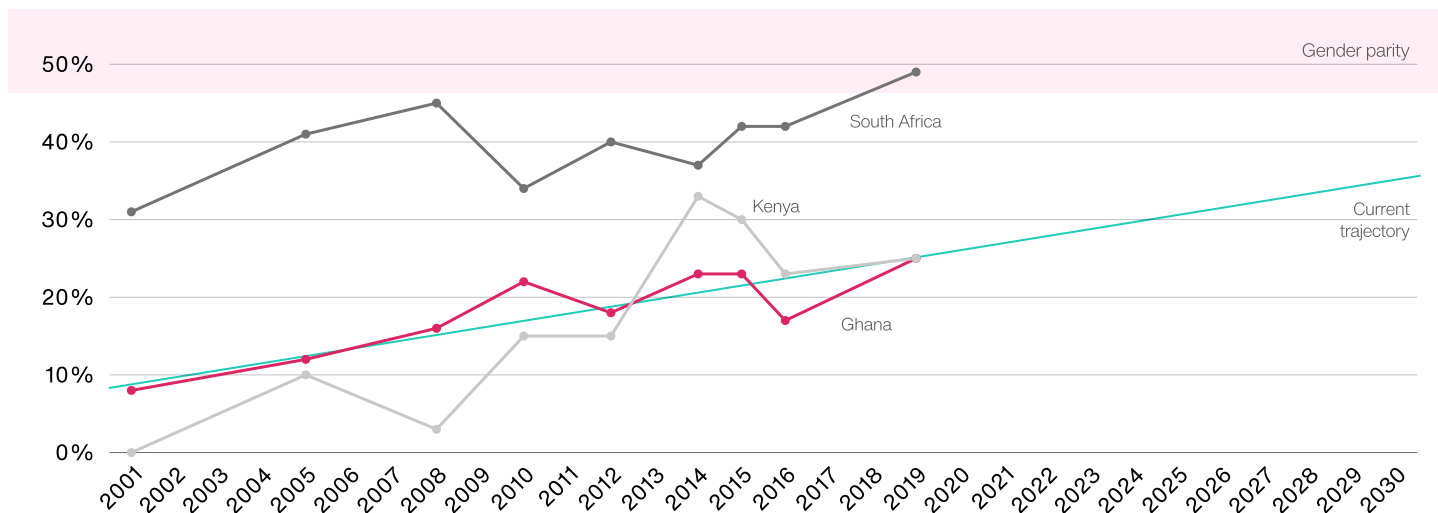


If current trends continue, Ghana is unlikely to reach gender parity in government leadership before 2030, and may only just begin closing the gap.

Expected Progress in Ghana's Government Towards Achieving Gender Parity by 2030

The proportion (%) of women who hold ministerial or cabinet-level senior government roles

Data Sources: IPU, EM2030 calculations, SDG 5.5.1 Indicator

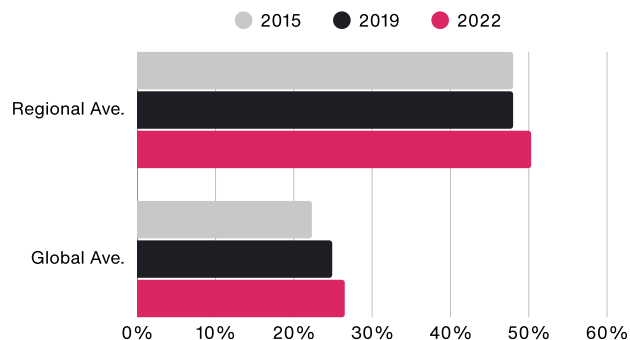


Between 2015 and 2022, Ghana's share of women in parliament increased from 10.9% to 14.6%, a rise of just 3.7 percentage points over seven years, or roughly 0.5 points per year. At this pace, Ghana would only reach gender parity (50%) by around 2090, falling far short of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goal. This is particularly stark when compared to the global average, which rose from 22.3% in 2015 to 26.5% in 2022, nearly double Ghana's current representation.

By contrast, South Africa already exceeds 46% women in parliament, and the Sub-Saharan African regional average has climbed to 26.9%, closely aligning with global progress. Even Kenya, though still below average, is advancing faster than Ghana, rising from 19.7% in 2015 to 23.3% in 2022.

Ghana's slow trajectory highlights deep-rooted structural and cultural barriers to women's political participation. Without bold interventions, such as electoral quotas, financial and institutional support for women candidates, and targeted leadership development, gender parity will remain out of reach. This is not merely a matter of lagging statistics; it is a story of missed opportunities for inclusive governance, equitable policymaking, and a truly representative democracy.

Women in National Parliaments Regional and Global Averages Over Time



Data Sources: EqualMeasures 2030 SDG 5.5.1 Women in Parliament
Tableau Dashboard, <https://ourworldindata.org/sdgs/gender-equality>, IPU

Futurelect is a non-profit organisation committed to strengthening democracy across Africa through public leadership programmes to build ethical leaders, and youth civic education to promote active citizenry. Futurelect operates in Southern and East Africa, and soon West Africa, with an overarching goal to increase women and youth representation in national and local government in Africa.

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