

25% Women's Quota in Local Government Elections

Gender Equality · Good practice · Sri Lanka

Quality score: 74/100

Evidence strength: Observational / pre–post

Summary

Sri Lanka's 2016 law required 25% women candidates for local councils. In the 2018 elections, women's representation jumped from under 2% to roughly 23%, though legal loopholes have since let some councils avoid full compliance.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Transferability / replicability	2/3
Impact on gender equality	1/1
Effectiveness	1/1
Efficiency	0/1
Evaluated outcomes	1/1
Sustainability	1/1
Achievement / evidence	1/1
Gender-mainstreaming embedding	0/1
Curator validation	1/1

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-07-05

[Election Commission of Sri Lanka](#) — accessed 2026-07-05

[UN Women – Women in Local Government: Sri Lanka](#) — accessed 2026-07-05

[IFES – Women's Political Representation in Sri Lanka](#) — accessed 2026-07-05

[The Sunday Times – Women not elected to 49 local bodies in contrast to 16 in 2018](#) — accessed 2026-07-05

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