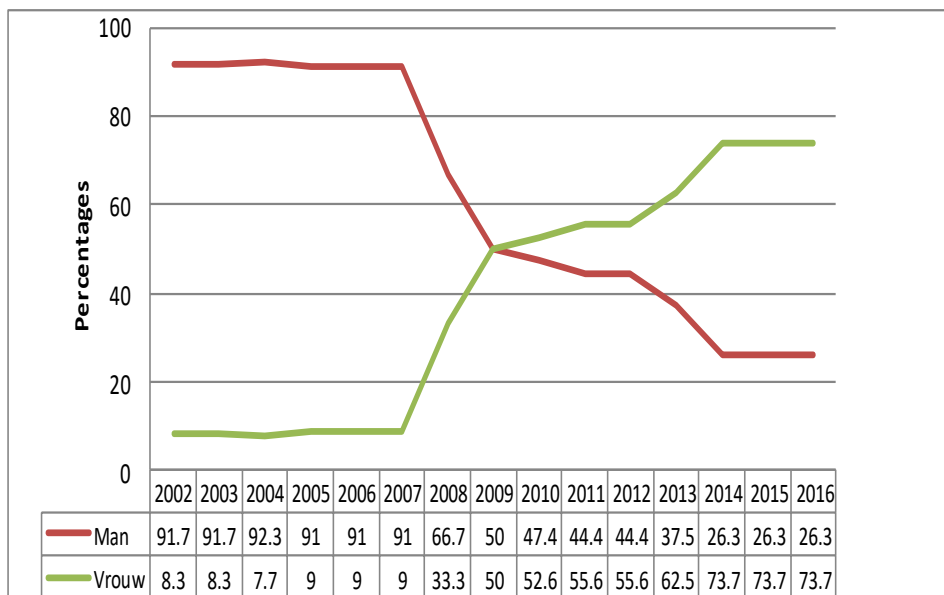


Situation Analysis of Women and Men in Suriname: Public Participation

KEY GEI PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MESSAGES

- Participation of women in political and decision-making positions are very low. Data from the General Statistics Bureau indicate that ministerial positions between 1987 and 2015 were on average 11%.
- In comparison with the council of ministers, the participation of women in national parliament is higher. Several programs have been initiated and implemented in recent years in order to encourage more women to partake in political and decision-making positions. Political parties have been encouraged to nominate more candidates on their lists.
- Although women are in majority at tertiary education level, namely 70%, data still show that women are still underrepresented in management positions. A growth of women in management positions in the public sector is observed, particularly in constitutional bodies such as the State Advisory Council, the Independent Electoral Office and National Polling Office. Within the Court of Justice, a rising trend has been observed since 2008: data of 2016 indicate that 74% of the Court of Justice are women (Figure 1).
- The share of male police officers in Suriname is four times higher than female police officers. Unfortunately, there are no data available of the grades in which these female police officers are positioned.

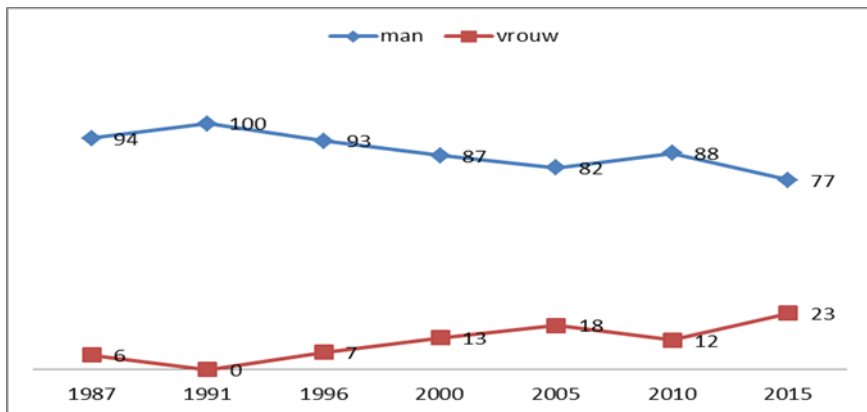
Figure 1: Percentage Court of Justice by sex, 2002-2016



74%
Women Judges
in 2016

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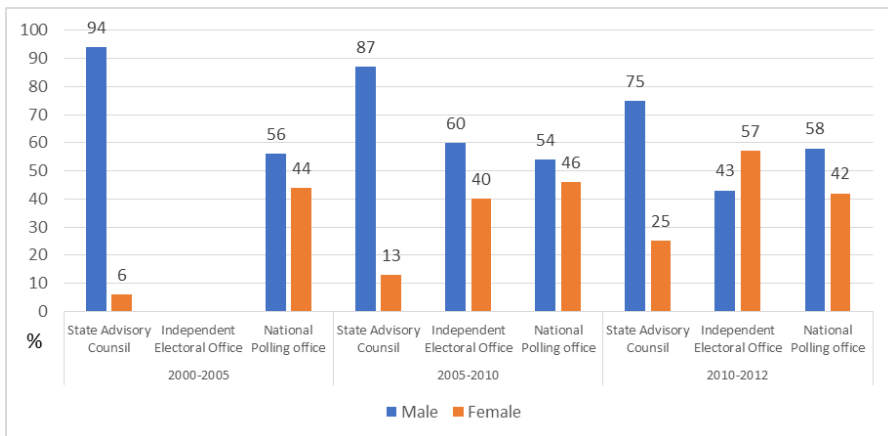
Figure 3 Percentage of Ministers by sex, 1987-2015



Source: The National Assembly, 2016

Figure 2 shows the structural underrepresentation of female ministerial positions since 1987 compared to their male colleagues. A slight increase of women in the cabinet has been observed since 2000, with a reversal in the year 2010 and an increase again in 2015, with 24% of cabinet being female ministers.

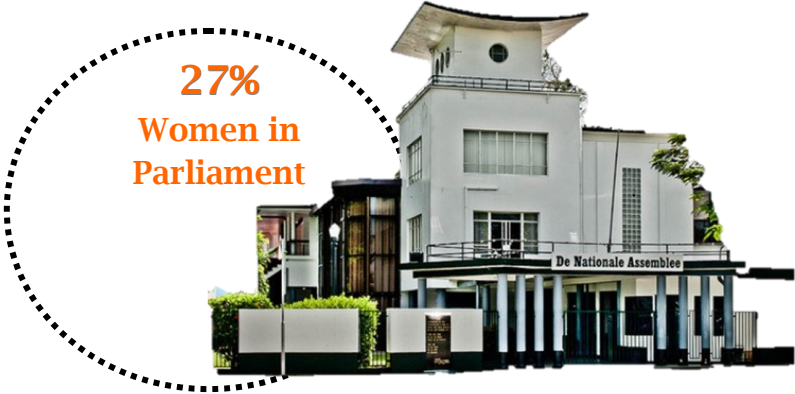
Figur 3 Participation in government institutions by sex, 2000-2012



Source: (2010) Situation Analysis/Independent Voting Bureau (CEDAW Report, 2016)

Within the public sector and predominantly in specific public-sector institutions, an increasing trend of female participation has been observed. An overview is presented in figure 3, which depicts the female participation in constitutional bodies over the period 2000 -2012. For example, in the State Advisory Council female participation has grown from 6% to 25% and the Independent Electoral Office shows an increase in female participation from 0% to 57%.

In the 2015 elections, thanks to the project of The National Assembly (DNA) "More Women in Decision Making 2015" and the national awareness campaign 'Ook Zij' of Stas International, with the support of the Ministry of Home Affairs, a peak of 27% women in parliament was reached.



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