

Fourth Annual Report Web Update

GTF174 Gender Links



GL Zimbabwe country facilitator Priscilla Maphosa distributes the SADC Protocol on Gender and Development at a village meeting in a high density suburb of Zimbabwe.

Accomplishments: GL has championed the adoption and ratification of the SADC Protocol on Gender and Development that provides a roadmap for MDG 3 (gender equality) through 28 targets with a deadline of 2015. GL and 25 partners in the Southern African Gender Protocol Alliance have produced four annual SADC Gender Protocol Barometers, tracking progress by governments against the Protocol targets. In 2011, the Alliance broke new ground with costing implementation of the Protocol and a campaign for an addendum to the Protocol on Gender and Climate Change. GL core programmes work to achieve SADC Gender Protocol targets in the governance, media and justice sectors, where GL has conducted key baseline and progress studies, such as the GBV indicators research; *At the Coalface, Gender and Local Government*, and the Gender and Media Progress Study. Innovative advocacy campaigns include “Score a Goal for Gender Equality” and “Making IT work for Gender Justice.” Using IT to cascade its reach across the fifteen countries of the region, the GL state-of-the-art website includes a permanent cyber dialogue or chat facility for online seminars. GL has pioneered use of google map to plot the 260 media and local government Centres of Excellence for Gender that form part of a drive to effect change at the institutional level. GL has recently extended its reach to young audiences through Facebook and Twitter. In 2010, GL won the “Investing in the Future” award for the Gender Justice and Local Government Summit.

Significance: GL’s work on the SADC Gender Protocol is recognised globally as a best practice of civil society working strategically to build coalitions and drive change. GL is credited with initiating a gender and media movement in Southern Africa; placing gender on the local government agenda; and pioneering cutting edge research, notably on measuring voice through the media, and GBV through the indicators project.

Main beneficiaries: Women in general, gender and media activists, women politicians, survivors of GBV, care givers and care giving organisations in the SADC region.

Human Aspect: Since its tenth anniversary GL, has been collecting first hand accounts of *Changing Lives* through its programme work. GL has pioneered the “I” stories – first had accounts of care givers and survivors of violence, as part of a “Healing through writing” project. GL’s Opinion and Commentary Service distributes these stories and expert views to a wide range of mainstream media in across the globe.

Targets for the coming year: Completing the fifth SADC Gender Protocol Barometer in the run up to 2015 and running a series of summits under the slogan: *2015, Yes we Must: The SADC Protocol@Work*. Getting Mauritius and Botswana to sign the SADC Gender Protocol, and at least five countries to buy into costing the Protocol. Developing GBV indicators. MTR and GTF 174 reports: <http://www.genderlinks.org.za/page/reports-for-the-dfid-governance-and-transparency-fund>.