



Gender Links Botswana opened in 2008 as a liaison office with the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) and country office. In 2016 the Botswana office:

- Worked with 26 of the 32 Centres of Excellence for Gender in Local Government on their Agenda 2030 Gender and GBV action plans. Councils contributed towards the COE by providing their participants with transport and accommodation.
- Collaborated with UNFPA in strengthening Gender Violence lobbying and advocacy. 11 councils conducted their own Sixteen Days of Activism against GBV on women and children.
- Trained 92 survivors of gender violence in entrepreneurship.
- Conducted a SADC Protocol@Work summit that brought together 145 participants, 37 men and 108 women from local government institutions, media, government and civil society organi-

sations. 54 women and 4 men made entries in 10 different categories.

- As part of GL Services, GL Botswana signed a National GBV study consultancy contract with The Ministry of Nationality, Immigration and Gender Affairs to undertake the second National GBV study, including Violence Against Men. The office and carried out a programme evaluation on training women entrepreneurs for Business Botswana.

GL's Monitoring and Evaluation through the Gender and Local Government Score Card, and the Gender Empowerment Index shows that as a result of this work:

- Councils contributed R53 million to work on gender mainstreaming in 2016.
- Women now constitute 53% of those employed by councils.
- Women chair 20% of council committees.
- 7% of those employed through council projects are disabled.
- 109 survivors of gender based violence (GBV) in 10 councils in Botswana have been trained as entrepreneurs. 18 elected for the follow up mentorship.
- 100% completed a business plan and 56% followed through on the plan.
- 37% grew their businesses, 33% started a new business and 29% found new markets.
- 78% perceived a positive change in their financial circumstances, 27% added new products and 24% opened bank accounts.
- 96% of participants said they now experience less or much less GBV. The average Botswana score of 82% for relationship control is the highest in the region.



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