



Ncane Maziya
Swaziland Country Facilitator

Registered in 2012, Gender Links Swaziland (GLS) is a lean office that works strategically through the Swaziland Association of Local Government Authorities (SWALGA). In 2017 the Swaziland office:

- Strengthened partnerships to solidify GL Swaziland's work and achievements in the past 6 years. To date 12 councils and 24 Tinkundlas form part of the COE process. This covers a total population of over half of 2 million Swazis.
- Participated in the Sixteen Days of Activism campaigns on ending GBV collaboratively with faith-based organisations through the media.
- Participated in launching the regional SADC Protocol@Work Community of Practice anchored on the Gender Links website.
- Administered monitoring and evaluation tools for Swaziland's inputs into regional assessments and analysis of progress made in localising the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Agenda 2030 SADC Gender and Development Protocol.

GL's Monitoring and Evaluation through the Gender and Local Government Score Card shows that:

- Women comprise 20% of the COE councillors and 33% of the mayors/political heads and 17% of the deputy mayors/political head.
- Women chair 15% of committees and 15% women participated in public consultations. Women comprise

66% of water/sanitation committees and 50% of these are chaired by women.

- COE Councils employ 34% women; women comprise 50% of the managers.
- All councils have disability friendly facilities.
- Women comprise 45%, and youth 44% of those employed by council projects.
- COE Councils allocated 32% of land to women.
- All councils now have street lights.

"The COE programme helped councillors work very closely with the communities. Having worked in local government for nine years I have discovered that there is a need for several projects on the ground for the improvement of the community, and this need is relevant to any community in this country. I got to know about Gender Links in 2009 when the SADC Gender Protocol was introduced in the country. I had an opportunity to attend the summit at regional level in Johannesburg where I was enlightened on a number of possible interventions to assist underprivileged fellow community members. This inspired me to actively participate in motivating and providing guidance to fellow women."

*Sthembile Simelane Town Clerk,
Siteki Town Council, Swaziland*



GL work has continued in eSwatini despite funding challenges.
Photo: Colleen Lowe Morna