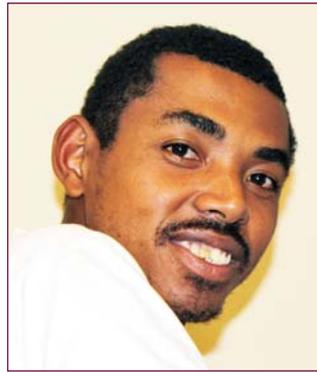


MADAGASCAR



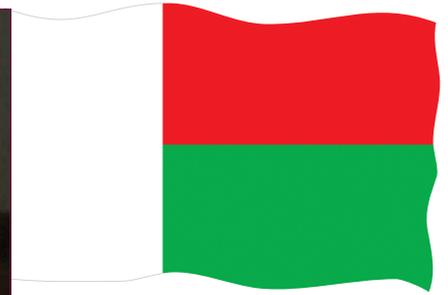
Ialfine Papisy - Country Manager



Razanandratefa Zotonantenaina



Rakotonirina Claudia



Country	Madagascar
Staff Members	Papisy Ialfine, Razanandratefa Zotonantenaina and Rakotonirina Claudia
When registered	30 June 2011
Alliance focal network	Fédération pour la Promotion Féminine et Enfantine (FPFE)
Government COEs	67
Media COEs	6
Key partners	Ministère de la Population de la Protection Sociale et de la Promotion de la Femme; Ministère de l'Artisanat de la Culture et des Patrimoines; Association des Elus Sensible au Genre (AESG); Conseil National des Femmes de Madagascar (CNFM), EISA, UNESCO; UNFPA; UNDP; Centre de Presse Malagasy; Direction Interdisciplinaire et de Formation Professionnelle (DIFP); Université d'Antananarivo

Protocol@Work Summit facts

- 187 entries were selected.
- 40 (20 more than 2013) candidates presented their good practice during the national summit.
- 37 COEs participated- 12 councils from Fianarantsoa, 18 from Antananarivo and seven councils from Toamasina.
- Seventeen winner certificates were awarded to the best performing candidates.
- At the Regional summit in 2014, only one person out got a prize. It was Farah Randrianasolo who won best French contributor for the Gender Links News Service

Background

Gender Links (GL) Madagascar office obtained its headquarters agreement from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 30 June 2011. The Madagascar office implements GL's Governance, Entrepreneurship and Media programmes. In addition the office works closely with the Madagascar alliance focal point, the Federation for Promotion of Women and Children (FPFE).

Partnerships have also been developed with organisations who share the same vision as GL-the Association of the Gender Sensitive Elected (AESG), CNFM, and UNESCO.

After the regional summit in 2011, having won the prize of the Centre of Excellence, all members of the Malagasy delegation decided to create an organization called "Association of Elected Gender Sensitive - AESG". The association is now formal and the general objective is to popularize the gender approach in all localities in Madagascar. Members are convinced that we cannot talk about development without the equal participation of men and women. The members of the associations are mayors, councilors, representatives of the Ministry of Population and Social Affairs and also the Ministry of Decentralization, civil society and various technicians.

The geographical location in Madagascar make it rather unique, municipalities in Madagascar are a division of region that lie one level down from provincial government, forming the primary level of democratically elected government structures in the country. Madagascar has 1549 municipalities, divided into three categories. Municipalities can belong rural or urban. Rural municipalities are divided in two categories 1st and 2nd. Madagascar is divided into 1549 councils, 119 districts, 22 regions and 6 provinces. The COE process had the strong support of UN agencies such as UNFPA through the Ministry of Population, Social Affairs and UNDP. In 2013, the COE project gained the support of the European Union (UE). Currently, 67 councils are part of the COE process.

Key achievements

- **Government Centres of Excellence:**
In 2014, the governance programme concentrated on the implementation of the Women and Local Elections project, funded by the European Union. This is now being rolled out in 16 new councils in four regions - Melaky, Diana, Androy and Anosy. The first activity of the project was organising a Training of Trainers workshop for 25 trainees (gender focal persons and champions), to carry out the COE programme. The official opening of this training presented an opportunity to launch the project in the presence of the European Union Delegation which funds a lot of GL activities in Madagascar.
- **Gender Protocol Summits:**
The third Madagascar National Summit took place between 8 and 10 April 2014, presenting opportunity to measure progress toward achieving gender equality in Madagascar. The summit was followed by a workshop on the 50/50 campaign and post 2015 gender agenda. The National Summit was preceded by three district summits in Antananarivo, Fianarantsoa and Toamasina. These summits aimed to evaluate progress made by the COEs in these districts. Winners from the National Summit went to Johannesburg to compete at the fifth Regional Summit which took place on 28 to 30 May 2014. In order to prepare the delegation for such a high level event, each candidate was assisted to improve power point presentations and speeches as part of their presentations to judges.
- **Media Centres of Excellence:**
In 2014, the media programme focused on completing stage seven of the COE process. Several capacity building workshops were held on gender and climate change; health; and economic justice. As part of the COE process journalists, actively participated in the Sixteen Days of Activism campaign. In order to link GL's governance, entrepreneurship and media programmes, the journalists also profiled the entrepreneurship training for survivors of gender violence.
- **Entrepreneurship Project:**
The entrepreneurship project was rolled out in Madagascar in 2013, to empower women survivors of violence to become economically independent. In 2014, ten councils benefited from this programme - Bongatsara, Tsiarahy, Moramanga, Toamasina, Morondava, Ambatondrazaka, CUA, CUT, Manjakandriana and Majunga. 185 "I" Stories were collected from the women trained in these ten councils.
- **Sixteen Days of Activism:**
In 2014, GL Madagascar focused more on exchanges between council stakeholders and women survivors of violence. Two parallel workshops were organised in five councils, namely Bongatsara, Tsiarahy, CUT, Moramanga and Morondava. In one workshop, municipal officials and development actors updated the GBV action plans, while in the other women survivors started phase three



Winners at the 2014 National Summit in Antananarivo, Madagascar.

Photo: Gender Links

of the entrepreneurship training. Women survivors had the opportunity to share their opinions concerning the GBV action plans to ensure it took their needs into account.

Key challenges

- Due to political instability in the country, local government elections were postponed. This not only creates some uncertainty in terms of political relationships, but also with planning 5050 campaign strategies.
- Fundraising remains a critical part of sustaining the work in Madagascar, but raising local funds is difficult and COEs have not yet own the processes by setting aside budgets for gender mainstreaming.

Lessons learnt

- It is important to encourage camaraderie and team spirit - working together effectively ensures objectives are met.
- Working closely with councils and partners is important for ensuring sustainability and ownership of the COE process, and partner collaboration creates opportunities for leveraging and in-kind support.
- In 2013 the Malagasy delegation took home seven awards from the Regional Summit. 2014 the delegation took home only one award from the GLNS. Thus there is need to improve its work in the field; ensure COEs are better able to demonstrate the impact of their work and must provide more evidence of good practice; and ensure beneficiaries understand that GL's work seeks to promote change at a public, private and individual level.

Key priorities for 2015

- Implement and complete the Women and Local Elections programme with the European Union, as well as continuation of the 5050 and women in government campaign.
- Complete stages of the entrepreneurship programme in existing councils, and roll out training in new councils.
- Escalate and prioritise fundraising initiatives both locally and internationally. Encourage donations and in-kind support from country COEs and partners.
- Host the 2015 district and national summits.