



A region of possibilities: Ezulwini Market, eSwatini.

"In 2017 we saw an unprecedented upsurge of movements for women's rights, equality, safety and justice. The tireless work of activists has been central to this global drive, and women all over the world continue to demonstrate the power of many voices speaking as one. Together, we are calling for opportunity and accountability, drawing momentum from grass-roots networks and forging coalitions that stretch right up to the leaders of governments, businesses and civic institutions." - *Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director, UN Women in the foreword to The Time is Now! UNWomen, 2018 Annual Report.*

2018 is the tenth anniversary of the SADC Protocol on Gender and Development, as well as the Barometer produced annually by the Southern African Gender Protocol Alliance. It is also the year in which, incensed by the stream of sexual harassment allegations against businessman-turned-US President Donald Trump and other celebrities, high profile women have found their voice in the #MeToo, #TimesUp and many other social media campaigns that are putting gender equality squarely on the global agenda.

Breaking with the usual tradition of its Person (usually man) of the Year in 2017, Time Magazine named the "Silence Breakers" as the Persons of the Year. In South Africa, the murder of Karobo Mokwena by her partner, also much amplified by social media, gave rise to the black dresses and red lipstick #CountMeIn campaign; the #MenAreTrash debate, and #NotInMyName response by progressive men.

Globally, the #SheDecides movement has drawn renewed focus to the imperative of enabling women, and particularly young women, to have control over their own sexual and reproductive health and wellbeing. The movement is galvanising support across the globe to Stand Up, Speak Out, Change the Rules and Unlock Resources.

This year, the Southern Africa Gender Protocol Alliance launches the #SheDecidesSouthernAfrica campaign, with our spotlight on SRHR, and a pull out Barometer to be launched during the Sixteen Days of Activism. Welcome to 2018, and to a world in which women and girls finally exercise voice, choice and control over their bodies! Welcome also to a world and region in which for every step forwards for gender equality, there seem to be two steps backwards.

PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING THE SADC GENDER PROTOCOL OVER THE LAST DECADE¹

Target 2030	Baseline 2009	Progress 2018	Variance (Progress minus 2030 target)
CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL RIGHTS			
15 Constitutions provide for the promotion of gender equality	7	13	2 (Botswana and Seychelles)
15 Constitutions have no claw back clauses	7	10	5 (Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius and eSwatini)
15 Constitutions provide for special measures to promote gender equality	9	13	2 (Angola, Botswana)
15 countries decriminalise homosexuality	1	4 (DRC, Mozambique, South Africa and Seychelles)	11
Marriage age for girls and boys is a minimum of 18 in 15 countries	8	14	1 (Mauritius)
GOVERNANCE			
50% women in parliament (regional average)	25%	26%	-24%
<i>Highest % women in parliament</i>	South Africa (42%)	South Africa (41%)	-9%
<i>Lowest % women in parliament</i>	DRC (8%)	DRC (8%)	-42%
50% women in cabinet	21%	20%	-30%
<i>Highest % women in parliament</i>	South Africa (42%)	South Africa (50%)	-0%
<i>Lowest % women in parliament</i>	Mauritius (10%)	Lesotho, DRC (10%)	-40%
50% women in local government (regional average)	23%	23%	-27%
<i>Highest % women in local government</i>	Lesotho (58%)	Namibia (48%)	-1%
<i>Lowest % women in local government</i>	Mauritius (6%)	DRC (6%)	-44%
EDUCATION			
Equal number of girls and boys enrolled in primary school in 15 countries	5	13	2 (Angola and Malawi)
Equal number of girls and boys enrolled in secondary school in all 15 countries	7	8	8 (Botswana, DRC, Lesotho, Namibia, Seychelles, Swaziland, Tanzania and Zambia)
Equal number of women and men enrolled in tertiary school in all 15 countries	7	11	5 (Botswana, DRC, Mauritius, Seychelles and South Africa)
Girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development in all 15 countries	N/A	11	4 (Angola, Seychelles, Tanzania and Zambia ²)
ECONOMY			
15 countries with a Human Development Index ⁴ of more than 0.7	2 (Mauritius and Seychelles)	2 (Mauritius and Seychelles)	13
50% women in economic decision-making	18%	20%	-30%
<i>Highest % women in economic decision-making</i>	44% (Botswana)	44% (Botswana)	-6%
<i>Lowest % women in economic decision-making</i>	13% (Madagascar)	None (Mauritius)	-50%
Lowest % difference in earnings between women and men	12% (Namibia)	12% (Botswana)	12%
Highest % difference in earnings between women and men	58% (Mauritius)	54% (eSwatini)	54%
GBV			
Laws on domestic violence in 15 countries	9	12	3 with no laws (DRC, Lesotho and Tanzania)
Laws on sexual assault in 15 countries	7	13	2 with no laws (Angola and Seychelles)
15 countries have specialised facilities, including places of shelter and safety	3	14	1 With no specialised facilities (Seychelles).
Comprehensive treatment, including post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) in 15 countries	3	15	0
National action plans in 15 countries	7	15	0
GBV or VAW baseline data study in 15 countries	None	7	8 no baseline studies (Angola, DRC, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland and Tanzania)
HEALTH			
Highest % contraceptive use among sexually active women	South Africa (65%)	Mauritius (76%)	-24%
Lowest % contraceptive use among sexually active women	Angola (6%)	Mozambique (12%)	-88%
Highest maternal mortality per 100 000 births	Angola (1400)	DRC (693)	
Lowest maternal mortality per 100 000 births	Mauritius (13)	Seychelles (0)	
Highest % births attended by skilled personnel	Mauritius (100%)	Mauritius, Seychelles (100%)	0
Lowest % births attended by skilled personnel	Angola/Tanzania (46%)	Madagascar (44%)	-56%
Highest % who say a woman should be able to choose to terminate pregnancy in first three months		Angola (52%)	-48%

¹ Select indicators from the Barometer.

² No statistics available.

Target 2030	Baseline 2009	Progress 2018	Variance (Progress minus 2030 target)
Lowest % who say a woman should be able to choose to terminate pregnancy in first three months		Madagascar (13%)	
Highest % sanitation coverage	Mauritius/ Seychelles (100%)	Seychelles (98%)	-2%
Lowest % sanitation coverage	Madagascar (14%)	Madagascar (12%)	-38%
HIV and AIDS			
Highest percentage of women living with HIV	Namibia (68%)	Tanzania (61%)	-11%
Lowest percentage of women living with HIV	Mauritius (15%)	Mauritius (28%)	+32%
Highest coverage of PMCTC	Seychelles (99%)	Seychelles 100%	0
Lowest coverage of PCTC	Madagascar (3%)	Madagascar (11%)	-89%
Highest % of those on ARV	Namibia 68%	eSwatini (85%)	-15%
Lowest % of those on ARV	Madagascar (3%)	Madagascar (7%)	-93%
Highest % of women with comprehensive knowledge of HIV	South Africa (95%)	Seychelles (100%)	0
Lowest % of women with comprehensive knowledge of HIV	Angola (7%)	DRC (17%)	-83%
PEACE AND SECURITY			
15 countries with UNSCR National Action Plans	1	3 (DRC, Angola Namibia)	12
15 countries with sex disaggregated data on defence	5	14	1 (Madagascar)
Highest % women in defence	South Africa (24%)	South Africa (30%)	-20%
Lowest % women in defence	DRC (3%)	DRC (3%)	-47%
15 countries with sex disaggregated data on the police force	6 countries	15	0
Highest % women in police force	South Africa (21%)	Seychelles (39%)	-11%
Lowest % women in police force	Mozambique (7%)	DRC (6%)	-44%
15 countries include women in peacekeeping forces	7	8	7 (Angola, DRC, Lesotho, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles and eSwatini)
Highest % women in peacekeeping	Namibia (46%)	Zimbabwe (35%)	-15%
Lowest % women in peacekeeping	Tanzania (6%)	DRC (none)	-50%
MEDIA			
% women sources (regional)	19%	20%	-30%
Highest % women sources	1 Lesotho (32%)	2 Botswana and Seychelles (28%)	-32%
Lowest % women sources	2 Mozambique and Zambia (14%)	1 DRC (6%)	-44%
% women in management	27%	34%	-16%
Highest % women in management	1 Lesotho (52%)	1 Lesotho (53%)	+3 %
Lowest % women in management	DRC (10%)	DRC (17%)	-23%
CLIMATE CHANGE			
50% women in decision-making bodies that address climate change	24%	25%	-25%
Highest Representation	Zambia (60%)	50% Zimbabwe	0
Lowest Representation	Seychelles (0)	DRC, Tanzania (0)	-50%
% women sources on climate change	27%	27%	-23%
15 countries ratify the global climate change treaty (Paris Agreement)	13 countries	14 countries	1 country (Tanzania)
15 countries have gender-sensitive climate change adaptation and mitigation measures (MERF)	Not measured this period	Sporadic evidence	15 countries
IMPLEMENTATION			
Signing and ratifying of the Post 2015 SADC Gender Protocol			
15 countries that have signed the Protocol and the amended Protocol	13 countries (Protocol)	9 countries ³ (amended Protocol)	-6 countries (Malawi Mauritius, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa and Zambia)
Knowledge of the Protocol (regional)	49%	48%	-1%
Highest knowledge of the Protocol	70% (Swaziland)	58% (Swaziland, Lesotho)	-42%
Lowest knowledge of the Protocol	35% (Zimbabwe, Mauritius)	37% (Angola)	-63%
Gender Progress Score- GPS (attitudes - regional average)	53%	61%	8%
Highest GPS	Mauritius (65%)	76% (Seychelles)	-24%
Lowest GPS	Mozambique (49%)	51% (Mozambique and Angola)	-49%

³ 0 = no human development; 1 = optimal human development

⁴ Based on: Life expectancy at birth; Mean years of schooling; Expected years of schooling; and Gross national income per capita SARD (June 2017) SANF 17 no 23 available at <https://www.sardc.net/en/southern-african-news-features/sadc-gender-ministers-to-review-progress-on-regional-gender-development/> (Accessed 25 July 2017)



Southern Africa is rich in commitment and in activism. In 2005, gender activists began a campaign that led to the adoption in 2008 of the SADC Protocol on Gender and Development: the only sub-regional instrument in the world that brings together existing African and global commitments to gender equality and enhances this through a legally binding Protocol, with initial targets aligned the 2015 Millennium Development Goals. The Southern African Gender Protocol Alliance, comprising women's rights networks in all the 15 SADC countries as well as cross-cutting theme NGOs, has produced the Barometer annually since then.

In 2014, the Alliance launched a campaign for the updating of the Protocol in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), African Agenda 2063, and Beijing Plus Twenty. The SADC Gender Protocol is one of only two SADC Protocols (there are 27 altogether) that have been amended and the only one to be accompanied by a Monitoring Evaluation and Results Framework (MERF).

As reported in Chapter Eleven on Implementation, all of the 15 existing SADC Member States⁵ except Mauritius have signed the SADC Protocol on Gender and Development, but only ten have signed the amendment. One more country needs to do so for the amendment to go into force. This means that two years after the adoption of the updated SADC Gender Protocol in 2016, it has not gone into force.

As incoming chair of SADC, Namibia is expected to become the eleventh country to sign, so that the amended Protocol goes into force. By the time of the Gender Ministers meeting in June, only seven countries (Botswana, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles and Zimbabwe) had submitted their two yearly reports. The Secretariat cited late reports as a "recurring challenge".

At the local level 363 Centres of Excellence for Gender in Local Government councils are championing gender

equality at the local level. Seven countries held SADC Protocol@work summits between November 2017 and June 2018, with Swaziland and South Africa holding a joint summit. These yielded 406 best practices on how the SADC Gender Protocol is being applied, especially at the local level.

The Barometer uses two measures of progress, both updated in 2016 in line with the amended Protocol. The SADC Gender and Development Index (SGDI) comprises 36 empirical indicators (such as women in parliament) weighted to a factor of 100. The Citizen Score Card (CSC) is derived from scoring of performance against target by nearly 10,000 women and men around the region. Reflecting the lacklustre performance, the SGDI in 2018 is at 59%, one percentage point lower than 2017. The CSC at 62%, three percentage points lower than last year. The following are key highlights of the red lights and green lights in the 2018 Barometer:

Each year the Alliance administers the Gender Progress Score (GPS) that measures gender attitudes in the region. The Alliance added five questions in 2016 on tough issues such as sex work and sexual orientation. In 2018, the region registered a score of 61%, eight percentage points higher than the 2016 score of 53%.

Responses to individual questions reflect the contradictions in Southern African society. For example, 55% of respondents said that people should be treated the same whether they are women or men, yet 56% said that a woman should obey her husband!

Thirty percent said that homosexuality is a disease. Considering the high levels of homophobia in the region it is heartening that 70% of respondents disagreed.

Only 32% said that a woman can choose to terminate her pregnancy in the first three months. This shows that there is still a lot of public education and awareness required on abortion.

While it is heartening that the lowest scores are on issues such as "if a man beats a woman in shows that he loves her" it is sobering that almost one fifth of respondents agreed or strongly agreed with this statement.

Overall, the results show that there is still a big lag between normative frameworks and the patriarchal attitudes that drive gender disparities.

⁵ Comoros is set to become the 16th member in August

Constitutional and legal rights: Governments continue to send out mixed messages on women's rights. Over the last decade eleven countries in the region have undertaken Constitutional reviews. All but two (Botswana and Seychelles) now have specific references to promoting gender equality. But five countries (Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius and eSwatini) have "claw back clauses" giving precedents to customary provisions that may undermine equality. Mauritius still refuses to sign the Protocol because it disagrees with the minimum age of 18 for marriage of girls, citing religious provisions for earlier marriage, and despite the mounting pressure to eradicate child marriages. Around the region, domestication of the SADC Model Law on Eradicating Child Marriage and Protecting Children Already in Marriage has been slow.

While eSwatini passed laws on gender violence and political participation, the monarchy pronounced that widows in mourning would not be allowed to participate in the 2018 general elections due later in the year. Only widows who had been in mourning for at least two years and had been "cleansed" will be allowed to participate.

Homophobia continues to run high in the region. Despite boasting the only country in the world with a constitution that recognises sexual orientation (South Africa) only three other countries in the region (Mozambique, DRC and Seychelles) have decriminalised homosexuality. But in a progressive move by the judiciary, the Botswana High Court ordered the government to change the gender of a transgender woman on her identity documents. The government had initially refused to effect the change.

In another win for gender justice, the Lesotho High Court ruled that the Defence Forces could not dismiss female soldiers who get pregnant during the first five years of their engagement, as still stated in army regulations. This represents an important precedent given that many Defence Forces in the region have similar regulations.

Governance: Over the past year three countries held elections: Angola (national); eSwatini (local, urban) and Lesotho (local). In both Angola and Lesotho the proportion of women declined from 38% to 30%; and 49% to 40% respectively. Women's representation in parliament in SADC is at 26%, one percentage point lower at baseline in 2009, but two percentage points higher than the global and Sub-Saharan average of 24%. Women's representation in cabinet in the region is lower at 20%. This is also true in local government (23%).

Five more countries are due to hold elections in 2018: DRC (tripartite), Madagascar (tripartite), eSwatini (national), Mozambique (local), and Zimbabwe (tripartite). Five countries will hold elections in 2019: Mozambique (national); Malawi (national); Mauritius

(national); South Africa (national and provincial); Botswana (national and local); Namibia (national, regional and local). The coming period is therefore one in which maximum effort needs to be given to the Fifty Fifty campaign. "Special measures" and conducive electoral systems give the greatest assurance for increasing women's representation in politics at all levels.

As the 2018 Barometer went to press, all indications were that the Zimbabwe elections, with four women presidential candidates, will be remembered for women finding their voice, but failing to make any significant electoral headway. Elections marred by violence and misogyny did witness some promising new young candidates who answered hate speech with calm logic. Young women also broke new ground by demanding a 25% quota for young women.

Blazing the trail for a new brand of young female leadership, independent candidate for Mount Pleasant suburb in Harare and Cambridge trained barrister Fadzayi Mahere fought back social media derision about her not being married with tweets like: "Marriage, though often a beautiful thing, is not an achievement. It does not qualify one for public office. It's an irrelevant factor when we assess whether one will or won't succeed. Individual character is the true test. Grace (Mugabe), after all, was married." A prominent member of the [#ThisFlag Movement](#) that galvanised public opinion against Mugabe, Mahere's strapline was that "Africa's future is bright and it is young." Challenging the old boys network through prolific use of social media, she is running a refreshingly modern campaign calling for clean governance under her hashtag #Bethechange.



Education: An encouraging development over the last decade is the narrowing of gender gaps in education. As reflected in the tracking table, out of the 15 SADC countries, 13 now have equal enrolment at primary school (compared to five at baseline); 8 at secondary school (compared to seven at baseline) and 11 at tertiary (compared to 7 at baseline). Literacy levels are within an acceptable range for most countries in the region

with a few exceptions (women in Angola, Malawi and Mozambique, and women and men 65 and older across the region).

But child labour is keeping young people out of school. More than 20% of children between ages seven and 14 spend their days working instead of studying in nine SADC countries. Teenage pregnancy, violence in schools, child labour and inadequate physical infrastructure continue to impact learning, enrolment, performance and completion rates. Teaching is also a critical challenge in the region. There are low levels of trained teachers at secondary level - and in some countries at primary level.

The Barometer calls for inclusivity in education as evidence shows that member countries in the region have failed to create enabling environments for all children, including those with disabilities.

Economic Justice: Over the decade women's representation in economic decision-making has increased by a mere two percentage points from 19% to 20%. Botswana (44%) has the highest proportion of women in economic decision-making, while Mauritius has no women in the economic decision-making positions measured in the Barometer.⁶

On the other hand, Mauritius and Seychelles are the only countries in the region with a Human Development Index of over 0.7 (with 1 indicating optimal development of life expectancy at birth; mean years of schooling and Gross National Income per capita). This is the same as ten years ago, showing that the economic growth being experienced in many countries is not translating into development; a worrying signal for gender equality. Tax justice issues have started gaining traction in the SADC women's movement with SADC Gender Protocol Alliance joining forces with Femnet to bring attention to the effects of illicit financial flows on women and

girls. Evidence on the ground shows that illicit financial flows undermine the possibility of closing financing gaps, which impedes the attainment of gender equality and women's and girl's rights.

GBV: Over the decade considerable progress has been made in passing progressive laws. Of the 15 countries, 13 have sexual assault legislation (compared to seven at baseline, with eSwatini the most recent) and 12 on domestic violence (compared to 9 at baseline). All SADC countries now have National Action Plans to End GBV (compared to seven at baseline).

Seven countries have undertaken Violence against Women (VAW) Baseline studies. Botswana and Seychelles studied both violence against women (VAW) and violence against men (VAM), allowing for an informed and gender-specific response to GBV. These studies show that at least one in three women in the region have experienced GBV in their lifetime. Emotional abuse, the most prevalent form of GBV, is the type of GBV least likely to be reported to the police. Sexual and physical abuse are grossly under-reported. There is little or no government support for prevention and places of safety.

Innovative work at community level through the Centres of Excellence for Gender in Local Government shows promising signs of ending violence community by community. These councils are supporting the Sunrise Campaign - entrepreneurship training for survivors of GBV, making the link between economic empowerment and sustainable solutions to GBV. But political will and leadership are key to tackling this human rights abuse that has become so normalised that it hardly features in political discourse.

Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights: The region has recorded slow progress on health over the past year. Maternal mortality across most of SADC, with the exception of Mauritius and Seychelles, is unacceptably high and declining too slowly to meet even the SDG target of 70 per 100 000. The quality of services that are available for women, including the levels of skill and motivation of service providers are receiving increased attention.

Only South Africa and Mozambique have legislation that allows abortion on request. In late 2017 Madagascar passed the Reproductive Health and Family Planning Law after a clause that would have legalised abortion had been removed and Angola has withdrawn a bill that was passed in early 2018 that would have made abortion illegal after women marched in the streets against it.



March against ritual killings in Swaziland.

Photo: Zethu Shongwe

⁶ Minister, deputy minister and permanent secretaries of the ministries of finance, economic planning, trade and industry, as well as governors and deputy governors of the reserve banks.

In the past year there has been significant focus on menstrual health and hygiene as a key SRHR issue. This is particularly focused on young women but there is acknowledgement that there are also issues for older women and in menopause that need to be addressed. As reported last year, the Botswana parliament voted to provide free sanitary ware in schools.

Tanzania has removed taxes on sanitary ware. But the Tanzanian government sparked an outcry when in a public address in June 2017, President John Magufuli reinforced a ban on teenage pregnancies. Magufuli challenged human rights groups to open schools for young parents, stating that the government provides free education for students “who have really wanted to study.”

HIV and AIDS: SADC remain at the epicentre of the HIV epidemic. Though rates of new infections are declining, at the current rate of decline the region will still have at least 570,000 new infections annually (more than double the target). Gender inequality is still a strong driver of the pandemic: 59% of new infections in Southern Africa are women, but 53% of AIDS related deaths are men. Young women 15 to 24 years old are only 10% of the total population but 26% of new HIV infections.

Considerable effort is being invested in many aspects of prevention including comprehensive sexuality education, voluntary medical male circumcision, services for Key Populations such as harm reduction, condoms, PrEP and continued PMTCT. While most countries in the region are making progress on UNAIDS 90- 90- 90 goals⁷, Madagascar, Angola and DRC still require support and resources.

There is greater focus on adolescents especially the girls as the rate of infection is generally three times higher than that of adolescent boys. A number of studies have shown that small cash transfers combined with adult care and regular attendance to secondary school is associated with lower incidence of HIV as well as improved treatment adherence for adolescent girls and boys. The rising number of people on treatment requires a much greater focus on differentiated care within the community, from community caregivers who need training, support, supplies, remuneration and recognition.

Peace and Security: While Southern Africa is now a much more peaceful region than a decade ago, security concerns emerged in DRC, Madagascar and Zimbabwe.



Botswana police marching against GBV.

Photo: Keletso Metsing

The DRC failed to hold elections in 2017. It remains in a tenuous state with elections now scheduled for December 2018. Violent protests re-emerged in Madagascar over its new electoral laws leading to a postponement of elections. In Zimbabwe, former deputy president Emmerson Mnangagwa ousted Robert Mugabe as president after a 38 year reign that brought the country to its knees, and paved the way for credible elections.

The SADC Secretariat adopted a Regional Framework for Mainstreaming Gender into the SADC Organ. It calls on all countries in SADC to adopt Women, Peace and Security (WPS) National Action Plans (NAPs). However progress has been very slow in this area. Only the DRC and Angola have adopted UNSCR 1325 NAPs while Namibia is validating its NAP.

Fourteen countries, compared to five at baseline, now have publicly accessible data on women in the security sector. South Africa (30%) has the highest proportion of women in defence, up from 24% a decade ago. DRC (3%) has ranked lowest over the decade. Women in the police services range from 6% in DRC to 39% in Seychelles (39%).

Media: The sixty-second session of the Commission on the Status of Women review theme focused on women's participation and access to media. It recognised the role the media can play in the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.

The proportion of women sources is the single most important measure of women's voice. The Gender and Media Progress Study (GMPS) reports that women sources have increased by a mere three percentage points: from 17% in 2003 to 20% in 2015.

The region has seen an encouraging increase in the proportion of women in media management, from 27%

⁷ The UNAIDS programme to diagnose 90% of all HIV-positive persons; provide Anti-Retroviral Therapy (ART) for 90% of those diagnosed and achieve viral suppression for 90% of those treated by 2020

to 34%. The #MeToo and #TimesUp campaigns have re-engaged discussions about gender discrimination and sexual harassment in the media and film industries.

Climate Change: The addition of gender and climate change to the Protocol in 2015 is a key Extreme weather events, such as droughts and floods, pose an increasing threat to the population and, according to climate scenarios, their frequency and intensity will continue to increase. Women and girls constitute the majority of those impacted by the effects of climate change and environmental degradation, yet they remain less likely to have access to environmental resources.

Along with the projected reduction in rainfall and increase in temperatures across large parts of the region, experts expect climate change will significantly affect productivity in the agricultural sector.⁸ In SADC, 77% of the population rely on this sector for income and employment. Climate change therefore presents a serious

threat to food security and livelihoods, particularly among poor segments of the population in rural areas. However women can be powerful agents for change in the transition to, and promotion of, sustainable energy. Whilst women own less than 10% of the land they are key managers of the environment.

Looking ahead: Effective implementation of the amended SADC Gender Protocol requires systematic engagement by SADC, Member States and Non State Actors. Strengthening gender programmes at a local level has the potential to reignite movement building and amplify the voice of women. Collecting the right data to monitor progress is critical to sustaining momentum. Ten years since the historic adoption of the SADC Gender Protocol, the Alliance demand for action and results remains as important as ever.



Members of the Southern Africa Gender Protocol Alliance at the 2017 Annual strategy meeting.

Photo: Thandokuhle Dhlamini

⁸ <https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/53743.html>