



SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS CAMPAIGN Concept paper



<https://genderlinks.org.za/what-we-do/sadc-gender-protocol/advocacy/safe-abortion-campaign/>

Synopsis

The **2018 SADC Gender Protocol Barometer** put a spotlight on the inter-linked gender justice issues of our time including menstrual health, comprehensive sexual education, teenage pregnancies, safe abortion, maternal health, GBV, HIV and Aids, and sexual diversity. In 2018 the Southern African Gender Protocol Alliance is stretching its Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights Campaign from 28 September (International Safe Abortion Day) through to the **Sixteen Days of Activism** that runs from 25 November, International Day of No Violence Against Women, to 10 December, Human Rights Day.

Objectives

- Lobby for specific policy or legislation on for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Angola and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).
- Lobby for legislation and provision of services to for safe, legal abortions in 15 SADC countries.
- Strengthen the provision of SRHR services and maternal health services.
- Improve the provision of SRHR services for adolescents, including information, menstrual health and access to contraceptives.
- Improve access to menstrual health products.

- Promote effective gender-based violence (GBV) prevention, response and support mechanisms.
- Advocate for increased focus and investment on HIV and AIDS prevention.

Overview of SRHR policies and regulations in SADC

Country	Policies/Guidelines	Year
SRHR policies		
<i>Adopted more ore than five years old</i>		
Namibia	National Policy for Reproductive Health	2001
Mauritius	National Sexual and Reproductive Health Policy	2007
Lesotho	National Reproductive Health Policy	2008
Zambia	National Reproductive Health Policy	2008
Malawi	National Reproductive Health and Rights Policy	2009
Zimbabwe	National Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health Strategy	2010 - 2015
Mozambique	National Sexual and Reproductive Health Policy	2011
Seychelles	Reproductive Health Policy for Seychelles	2012
<i>Five years or less</i>		
eSwatini	National Policy on Sexual and Reproductive Health	2013
Madagascar	Reproductive Health and Family Planning Law	2017
South Africa	Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights: Fulfilling our Commitments and "National Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights Framework Strategy"	2014 - 2019
SRHR Guidelines		
Botswana	Policy guidelines and service standards for sexual and reproductive health	2015
Tanzania	SRHR guidelines and National Adolescent Reproductive Health Strategy	2011 – 2015
No SRHR policy or guidelines		
Angola	Included in the Constitution	1975
DRC	Included in the Constitution	2011

The table shows that eight SADC countries have SRHR policies that are more than five years old. Namibia's SRHR policy is 17 years old. These policies need urgent review and revision. South Africa, eSwatini and Madagascar have policies that are less than five years old. Madagascar adopted their SRHR policy in 2017. South Africa and eSwatini should review their policies to identify gaps and lobby for changes that would update the policies.

Botswana and Tanzania need to review their guidelines and lobby for relevant longer term SRHR policies. Angola and DRC do not have SRHR policies. These are urgent as both countries are dealing with post conflict conditions.

Activities

The SADC Gender Protocol Alliance will bring together all the SRHR organisation under the umbrella of the National SADC Gender Protocol Alliance SRHR cluster for a one-and-a-half day planning meeting. The Alliance and SRHR lead organisation in each country will invite alliance

members to the meeting that will include a launch of the 2018 SADC Gender Protocol Barometer.

Mapping SRHR organisations

The Alliance and SRHR lead organisation will send an invitation to all Alliance members and SRHR organisations. The invitation will include a link to the Alliance mapping tool which will require SRHR organisations to register as official Alliance partners.

One-and-a-half-day meeting

The one-day planning meeting will cover the following areas:

- An assessment of the existing SRHR policies, guidelines or other provisions to identify gaps and limitations
- Identify key campaigns and actions including Barometer monthly plans with key dates
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Barometer launch

Policy reviews

Organisations will assess their SRHR policies/guidelines or any other provisions against the SADC Minimum Standards on SRHR. Document the assessment in **Annex C**. Through the assessment identify gaps and areas that need strengthening that will be used to plan national campaigns.

Campaigns

Develop a country SRHR advocacy and communication plan. This plan will guide the SRHR Cluster's work for the next year.

Alliance Monitoring and Evaluation

Please see Alliance MandE pack. Develop a MandE plan for the country.

Barometer launch

Please see separate Barometer launch pack.

Outputs

- Assessment of SRHR policies/guidelines and other provisions in relation to the SADC Minimum Standards on SRHR.
- An SRHR plan for the Alliance SRHR Clusters.
- Alliance MandE roll out plan.
- Barometer launch report.

Outcomes

- Strengthened SRHR National Alliance cluster.
- Campaigns in place to enhance or develop SRHR policies or guidelines in country.