



Gender Links Namibia (GLN) became operational in 2012. The office works with 37 local authorities in Namibia. After three years as a “project site” (ie programme but no operational presence) in 2018, GLN:

- Held a stakeholders meeting with COE representatives, local government associations' representatives and civil society to revive operations in Namibia.
- Resuscitated the partnership with the Association of Local Authorities in Namibia (ALAN) and the Association of Mayors (AMICAALL) resulting in GLN sharing offices with ALAN.
- Conducted Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) training and Action Planning with five local authorities (Eenahna, Outapi, Oshikuku, Ongwendiva and Oshakati) reaching 55 local government participants including youth and LGBTI+ groups.
- Developed five youth-led campaigns on SRHR on menstrual health, maternal health, sexual identity, child marriages and safe abortion.
- Reached 23 youth and junior councillors through the SRHR programme.
- Established a partnership with UNFPA for GLN to implement GBV programmes at the local level. The programme will be implemented in the Zambezi and Ohangwena regions of Namibia.

- Launched the 10th edition of the SADC Gender Protocol Barometer in the wings of the SADC Civil Society Forum and the Heads of State summit.
- Formed a partnership with the Kaleidoscope Trust (KT), which brought together organisations working on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identities (SOGIE). GLN will work with these partners as part of the #Voice and Choice Programme.
- Lobbied with civil society activists for Namibia as the chair of SADC to adopt the SADC SRHR strategy in Windhoek in November 2018.

The Government of Namibia received the Gender Award from the Gender is My Agenda Campaign. Namibia is second highest proportion of women in defence forces in the SADC region at 23%. The 2018 Barometer shows that Namibia has 48% proportion of women in local government, a large portion of which are local government COEs. This is due to the adoption of the zebra system by the ruling party SWAPO with a voluntary quota of 50%. The country has a legislated quota of 30%.



Local Government work resumes in Namibia.



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