



Mbuyiselo Botha
Gender Links Board Member



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Gender Links Board Member



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Team Capricorn District municipality traditional dance at the joint SA/Swaziland Summit.

The South Africa local government programme started in 2009. It has reached 20 local government Centres of Excellence in three provinces (Gauteng, Limpopo, Western Cape). In 2018 GL:

- In partnership with Let us Grow, trained 48 survivors of Gender Based Violence in Limpopo and Orange Farm under the Sunrise Campaign.
- Hosted over 1000 women from across Southern Africa in partnership with the African Women in Dialogue.
- Trained four localities in Limpopo on Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights under the #Voice and Choice campaign.
- Collaborated with My Body My Choice in the Safe Abortion campaign.
- Developed four campaigns (Safe Abortion, Menstrual Health and Gender Based Violence) linked to the #Voice and Choice Programme.
- Collaborated with the SRHR Trust (formerly Southern Africa Aids Trust) in popularising the SADC SRHR strategy that both organisations contributed to.

- Held a policy consultation on SRHR policies in collaboration with SAWID featuring highlights of SA's reviewed policy (2018).
- Worked with the Total Shutdown movement, SAWID and the Office of the President to host the inaugural Gender Based Violence Summit. GL is a member of the interim steering committee of the South African National Gender Based Violence Council. Specific activities of the council will take effect in 2019.
- Capricorn District municipality hosted a joint summit with eSwatini, gathering a total of 54 best practices in gender mainstreaming.

GL's 2018 Barometer shows that women comprise 41% Councillors in all local authorities. Only the ruling party has a quota for women although there is increasing pressure for the opposition parties in particular the Economic Freedom Fighter (EFF) to follow suit.

South Africa is set for national elections on 8 May 2019. GL will produce a Gender and Elections report that will be launched at the South Africa national summit in June 2019.