

BOTSWANA



Ntombi Setshwaelo
Gender Links Board Member



Onneetse Makhumalo
Country Manager



Keletso Metsing
Country Officer

“Championing gender has changed my way of life. I am interested in ensuring that all programmes are gender sensitive and aware. For example, our data base are now categorised by gender. I ensure that gender is mainstreamed in all council departments.” *Obakeng Kheru, Maun Administrative Authority.*

Gender Links Botswana opened in 2008 as a liaison office with the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) and country office. In 2019 the Botswana office:

- Trained 80 GBV survivors in entrepreneurial and life skills. The programme connected women with information, services and resources to enhance their ability to make decisions about their lives and be economically independent.
- Integrated partners and family members into the process of understanding and addressing GBV in close relationships and the community.
- Conducted a national #Voice and Choice Protocol@work Summit on 11-12 June 2019. The summit brought together 138 participants: 27 men and 108 women and four gender non-conforming persons from local government, media, government and civil society organisations. The summit gathered 64 presentations by 54 women and 8 men and two gender non-conforming persons in 12 categories.
- Conducted a pre- and post- gender audit of the 2019 national and local government elections. With 11% women in the National Assembly and 18% in local government, the 50/50 campaign must

be intensified in the run-up to the 2024 elections.

- Held three Sunrise, Economic power to End Gender Violence follow up workshops in Selibe Phikwe, Tonota and Good Hope.
- Conducted one SRHR advocacy workshop with the Botswana Council of NGOs, BOCONGO, our Alliance partner and worked with LEGABIBO on the campaign to decriminalise homosexuality in Botswana.
- Conducted COE verification in ten councils: Maun, Okavango, Francistown, Tonota, Goodhope, Selibe Phikwe, Lobatse, Moshupa, South East and Mabutsane.

GL's Monitoring and Evaluation through the Gender and Local Government Scorecard based on the data for 16 councils show that:

- **Representation of women** in local councils in these councils is 19% women councillors and 31% women in top leadership positions.
- **Employment of women** in councils is 55%.
- **Women in council management** constitute 43%.
- **Land:** 75% is allocated to women for various uses in the councils.
- **Housing:** 59% is allocated to women ensuring that they are independent and able to negotiate safe relationships without fear.
- **Disability facilities:** 88% of councils have facilities that cater for people with disability.