

Gender Links Eswatini has been in operation since July 2012. In 2020 GL Eswatini:

- In partnership with Young Women Alliance conducted SRHR campaign analyses.
- Launched the 2020 Barometer and gathered the monitoring and evaluation tools to measure changes in gender attitudes.
- Facilitated two meetings on the impact of SRHR campaigns and two radio talk shows on the impact of COVID-19 on SRHR.
- Conducted the Barometer and SRHR Learning on SRHR and COVID-19; and 16 Days of Activism meeting in Eswatini.
- Worked with Eswatini Local Government Association (ELGA) to advocate and lobby for an increase of women in local government.
- In partnership with the Commonwealth Local Government Forum (CLGF) Gender Links launched three networks Women in Local Government Forum (WiLGF), Young Women in Local Government Forum (YWILGF) and the Women in Local Economic Development (WLED) Networks in August 2020 by the Prince HRH Simelane, Minister of Housing Urban and Development.



Cllr Thembisile Dlamini-Ngcamphalala, engaging with journalists on the coverage of women in politics.
Photo by Thandokuhle Dlamini

- The two partners also collected “I” stories from members of the three networks to document their experiences, these will be followed up in 2021 to measure changes over the year.
- Supported entrepreneurs in three councils, Mbababane, Ezulwini and Ngwenya, with business revival workshops and start-up funds to mitigate the impact of COVID-19.
- GL Eswatini held a #Voice and Choice national summit that brought together and the launch of the Women Local Economic Development network (WLED) in Eswatini.
- Ran a workshop for media practitioners on Women's Effective Political Participation. The workshop included session with women politicians, local government representatives and election management bodies.

GL's Monitoring and Evaluation through the Gender and Local Government Scorecard based on the data for 11 councils show that:

- **Representation of women** in the local councils in Eswatini is 18% with 14% women in political leadership positions.
- **Employment of women** in councils is 37%.
- **Women in council management** constitute 38%.
- **Land:** 39% of land is allocated to women for various uses in the councils.
- **Housing:** 38% of housing is allocated to women ensuring that they are independent and able to negotiate safe relationships without fear.
- **Disability facilities:** 82% of councils have facilities that cater for people with disability.

ESWATINI



Mbuso Simelane
Gender Links Board member



Ncane Maziya
Local Action for Gender Justice
Eswatini Facilitator



Thandokuhle Dlamini
Local Action for Gender Justice
Eswatini Officer