



FIRST GENDER JUSTICE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUMMIT AWARDS

365 Days of local action to end gender violence

QUICK FACTS:

- 103 entries, 69 by women, 34 by men in 7 categories
- Submissions from 9 countries.
- Winners from nine countries: Botswana, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mauritius, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe.
- 3 women and 2 men got special commendations.
- 6 women and 3 men are runners up
- 5 women and 4 men are winners

Judges commendations

The five people below were nominated by judges. They presented brilliant case studies but they did not make it to the winning list.

Saskia Naidoo ("Accountancy in Creole", a course given to small scale women entrepreneurs)

Jugdish Sanhye (Victim Support Mauritius, Support to Survivors of violence)

Nizaam Edwards (KZN Network on Violence Against Women)

Phenyo Gaotlhobogwe (Nkaikela Project, Addressing issues that affect sex workers)

Edourd Gaston (Commune Rurale Mahavelona Foulpointe)

CATEGORY ONE: PREVENTION

Prevention of gender violence (GV) at local level – how do councils work to ensure that GV does not occur? There are 20 entries for this award from Botswana, Mauritius, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe. One winner and one runner up were nominated for this award.

Runner up: Lubinda Mwala (Mongu Municipal Council, Zambia)

Case study: Construction of Imwiko Police Post with CDF funding

The case study clearly demonstrates the importance of control of gender violence. Highlights include the establishment of police posts, reporting structures of incidences, identification of support in terms of highlighting incidences and involving policing agencies in the promotion of gender violence incidences.

WINNER: Michael Yuen Sik (Mauritius)

Case study: Prevention of Gender Based Violence: A case study at Municipality Curepipe

Michael's project focused on the municipal Council of Curepipe to ensure the security of the residents. This area is a fertile ground for gender violence such as assaults and rape. Through his initiatives as an ex-mayor, he managed not only to raise awareness about gender violence but also ensured that appropriate infrastructure such as lighting and encouraging healthy sports and leisure activities.

CATEGORY TWO: RESPONSE

Response to GV at local level: what do councils do to advance legal literacy, work with local police, etc? Two winners and one runner up received awards under this category which had 19 entries submitted from Botswana, Madagascar, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Runner up: Rachel Buhle Jeremia (Sowa Town Council, Botswana)

Case Study: Life Skills programme to increase development amongst women in Sowa

The Sowa Town Council has given women in a predominantly mining town skills, knowledge and opportunities to reduce their dependency on their partners and provided them with safe spaces to talk about gender violence and to seek counseling. This programme is a good example of how town councils can build programmes to address gender violence, skills development and create economic opportunities for women.

WINNERS

Regis Manjoro (Fatherhood Peace Project, Zimbabwe)

Case Study: Educating men about child abuse

Regis Manjoro and the Fatherhood Peace Project have daringly challenged men to join the response to supporting OVC's. Their aim is to promote best fatherhood, traditional, religious and cultural peace building practices and ensure that men from various churches and communities formulate care and support programs for OVC's and other vulnerable minority interest group in Zimbabwe. They deserve credit for identifying this problem and tackling it instead of restricting itself to giving relief to victims.

Anna Selaelo Mohojane (South Africa)

Case study: Success stories on GV from the City of Jo'burg

This is a unique and complicated project. The high levels of gender violence in South Africa and in general City of Johannesburg in particular requires a multi-sectoral approach which the city has managed to craft. This uniqueness is also reflected in the holistic approach that does not only address incidents of gender violence but also seek sustainable solutions through economic empowerment programmes to ensure women do not stay as victims just in order to retain economic benefits in difficult relationships. The economic empowerment model is difficult to replicate in less affluent municipalities but it is a strategy that all who are engaged in fighting gender violence should always aim for when resources are available.

CATEGORY THREE: SUPPORT

Support around gender violence (GV) at local level – how do we support those who have experienced GV? In total, there are 27 entries for this category from Lesotho, Madagascar, Mauritius, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe. One winner and runner up will be awarded.

Runner up: Tresphord Kasale (Zambia Police Victim Support Unit, Zambia)

Case Study: Establishing victim support units in all wards countrywide

This innovative Zambian police project was presented with much conviction and commitment by Tresphord Kasale to show the softer and gentler face of the police in supporting victims of gender violence. Part of the best practice of this project is the fact that out of 430 police officers, 320 are women.

WINNER: Thulisile Chapa (World Vision, Swaziland)

Case study: Microenterprise development programme

This is a well planned project cultivates a culture of understanding money at the household level. The savings and credit scheme is an integrated approach which combines a fund for social emergencies and a fund for OVC's. This holistic project ensures that women are able to build the social capital that validates them in their culture whilst at the same time empowering them with knowledge. Chapa provided a clear, lucid and well presented case and the complex financial theme of accumulated savings and credit.

CATEGORY FOUR: INDIVIDUAL INNOVATION

Individual innovation – 10 entries have been submitted from Lesotho, Mauritius, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Prizes will go to one winner and one runner up who have shown particular innovation and dedication to ending GV at the local levels.

Runner up: Mary Chipango Chainda Makai (Mongu Municipal Council, Zambia)

Case Study: Initiating the law of succession in Western Province

Alone, Mary ventured into the remote areas to sensitise women and men about the Zambian inheritance law. To date, she has imparted knowledge of having empowered a lot of rural women about their rights.

WINNER: Bertha Amakali (Namibia)

Case Study: The impact of "I" stories

Bertha realized the importance of documenting the "I" stories told by survivors of gender violence and this is a wonderful tool for reference and proof that gender violence does exist. She specifically targeted the girls in this case and this documentation is useful for use by intervention providers to know who the girls are and forms of gender violence they go through. The stories could also motivate other survivors to come out to share their stories and this would help them access support systems they need.

CATEGORY FIVE: INSTITUTIONAL GOOD PRACTICES

Institutional good practises – Entries from Madagascar, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe that demonstrate good practices such as lobbying for a GV budget in IDPs / Municipality's Annual Strategic Plans were presented. One winner and a runner up will be announced as winners.

Runner up: Naledi Masipa (Capricorn Municipality, South Africa)

Case Study: CDM 365 Days Action Plan addressing the issue of violence in the home and school environment

The 16 Days Campaign has been stretched to year long programme or campaign in partnership with various sectors of society. The project has resulted in an increased awareness of high levels of domestic and gender violence against women and children. The programme has encouraged victims to speak out. There are also effective monitoring and evaluation mechanisms in place. There are efforts to ensure sustainability through partnerships.

WINNER: Jo Ann Krieger (Witzenberg Municipality, South Africa)

Case Study: Encouraging the participation of women in empowerment programmes in Witzenberg Municipality

The project targets the poorest in the municipalities. The municipality runs an effective programme which is all encompassing, a programme which focuses on women and children and facilitates access to government services. The programme empowers the youth to participate in economic development. It is initiated by local authority which also appreciates strategic partnerships with other spheres of government and civil society organizations making the municipal efforts sustainable.

CATEGORY SIX: SPECIFIC GENDER BASED VIOLENCE INITIATIVE

Specific GV campaigns: 16 Days campaigns and lighting campaigns. 18 entries were submitted and awards went to one winner and runner up. Countries represented include Lesotho, Madagascar, Mauritius, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland and Zimbabwe.

Runner Up: Sifiso Kunene (Swaziland)

Case Study: Swaziland Action Group Against Abuse

Sifiso was well composed and demonstrated good knowledge of his presentation.

WINNER: Nakayi Godfrey Nengomasha (Padare, Zimbabwe)

Case study: 16 Days Campaign

Padare is a men's organisation that works to popularize men's involvement in bringing about gender equality and gender violence related issues. By collaborating with traditional authority structures, key gatekeepers of patriarchy. Padare has opened up new terrains of deconstructing the concept of power and masculinities in rural and urban settings in Zimbabwe. There is also inter-generational capacity building as Padare engages younger boys who are being groomed for their future role to promote gender equality.

CATEGORY SEVEN: INNOVATIVE COMMUNICATION

WINNER: Senelile Khumalo (Baphalali Red Cross, Swaziland)

Case study: Stop Gender Based Violence Billboard

JUDGES CHOICES

Three runners up

1. Rasoamaniry (Madagascar)

Case Study: Commune Urbaine Ambatondrazaka

The individual is recognized for commendable effort in assisting and positively impacting on the life of a young woman who was a victim of gender violence.

2. Patience Tsoho (Lesotho)

Case study: Cultural Youth engagement and mentoring where gender violence is addressed through traditional dance routine.

3. Robert Eva Monique Ravaloriaka (Manjakandraina District, Madagascar)

Case study: Organisation of civil group marriage

This project is based on the premises that in the Malagasy context there is a high level of cohabitation which is often related with cases of domestic abuse. By organizing mass weddings free of charge, it was observed that there was more commitment and respect of women's and children's rights from the part of husbands/ fathers. Laws pertaining to the rights and duties of conjugal partners as well as heritage rights to offsprings were more easily applicable. While it is open to question how far this project is relevant outside the Malagasy context, it appears that it is contributing at least to some extent in the alleviation of gender based violence.

WINNER: Bernadette Chipembere (Zimbabwe)

Case study: Women and land reform in Zimbabwe

This courageous councilor used her personal convictions and bravery to fight against land being removed from women and orphans by high ranking government officials. She risked her own

life and that of her immediate family by forging ahead to seek justice for voiceless victims in a highly sensitive political environment where corruption is rife and the rule of law is not observed. Her integrity and conviction succeeded in having repossessed land to be returned to its rightful owners.