

**REPORT**  
**CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE IN GENDER MAINSTREAMING**  
**IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT**  
**STAGE THREE AND FOUR WORKSHOP REPORT**

**Country: Madagascar**

**District: Urban council of Mahanoro, Atsinanana region**

**Date: 01-02 September 2011**

**Venue: Tropicana Hotel Mahanoro**



Participants during the workshop in Mahanoro council, group photo.



## **CONTENTS**

Executive Summary

Background

Process and activities

Challenges

Way Forward

Outputs

## **Annexes**

A - Programme

B -Participants' list

C -Summary of workshop Evaluations

## Executive Summary

This document is a report on the proceedings of the Centers of Excellence for Gender Mainstreaming in local Government stage three and four, held on the 1<sup>th</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2011 at Tropicana Hotel, Mahanoro, Madagascar. This workshop gathered council's representatives and members of local Civil Society.

The purposes of the program were to train and build the capacity of the Executives and counselors as well as the Civil Society in gender mainstreaming. The program included sessions on gender and local government. It was composed of:

- The differentiation between sex and gender.
- Identification of stereotypes and its impacts on the society's representation of women and men.
- Discrimination of women due to stereotypes. See the full workshop program at **Annex A**.
- Identification of barriers which prevent women's participation in political life and decision making spheres.

The workshop saw the participation of the deputy Mayor of the Urban Council and the different councillors of different categories, some representatives from the Red Cross, CSB health centre as well as the members of associations. See **Annex B** for the participants' list.

The participants evaluated the workshop as having been an enlightening one. A summarised version of the evaluation forms is attached at the end of this report as **Annex C**.

## **Background**

In 2003, GL undertook the first comprehensive study of the impact of women in politics in Southern Africa. One of the key findings of "*Ringing up the Changes, Gender in Politics in Southern Africa*" was that local government is a sadly neglected area of the gender and governance discourse. Taking heed of this finding, GL conducted groundbreaking research in 2006/2007, *At the Coalface, Gender and Local Government* covering South Africa, Lesotho, Mauritius and Namibia.

A key finding of this study was that few practical steps have been taken to mainstream gender in this tier of government or to build the capacity of councillors to lead this process. The study has since been extended to nine countries. In terms of process, once the research reports have been written up, GL hosts launch and strategy workshops in the respective countries with key stakeholders and partners, ideally the local government associations of that particular country to map out a way forward of how to roll out the strategy and host Gender and GBV action plan workshops. The launches are then followed by Gender and GBV action plan workshops that are held at a provincial, regional or district, level to ensure that all councils have gender action plans.

**In 2009**, GL embarked on a study in **Madagascar** on women's representation and participation in local government to assess the conditions necessary to increase the representation of women in local government in Southern Africa, and to ensure their effective participation.

In March 2010 GL convened the first Gender Justice and Local Government Summit and Awards to gather evidence of institutional and individual initiatives to empower women and end gender violence. The recommendations of this event informed the need for councils to become Centres of Excellence for Gender Mainstreaming in Local Government to ensure that Councils have the necessary and support to address issues of gender across all spheres.

## **Process and activities**

### **Official opening**

Before the official declaration of the opening of the workshop, different prestigious guests took the floor in order to thank GL for having chosen Mahanoro Council and they hope to have an immense success during and after the workshop. Mr. the Mayor of the Urban Council of Mahanoro wished that this workshop will have some influence on the development of the Council. He also encouraged women to participate in the processes of decision. Thus, he added that may the women of this Council be more responsible and cleverer in the management of the public affairs. Mrs Ialfine PAPISY (representative of GL in Madagascar) also thanked the deputy Mayor of the Council for his help towards women and she wished the continuation and the strengthening of their cooperation with the Council.

### **Workshop proceedings**

The facilitator, Ialfine PAPISY started the workshop with the presentation of the SADC protocol on Gender and Development. Then, she explained to the participants the ideology of gender as well as the usefulness of Gender in the local government. She also approached the indispensable technique to lead a way to the adoption of the gender mainstreaming within the council policy.

Some various questionnaires were asked in order to know the strategic needs of the Council as well as the problems it encounters.

It is to be noted that each participant was very active and took part voluntarily in the discussions. The workshop involved reflection sessions and group works.

### **Emerging issues**

The emerging issues arising from the various debates during the workshop include the following:

#### **-On stereotypes:**

- Representation of women in the society (women's ideas are underestimated)
- Malagasy traditions still maintain women under the authority of men

### **-On women's access to decision making spheres:**

- Women have no self-esteem
- Education
- Few women are interested in doing politics
- Complex of inferiority
- Insufficiency of sensitization
- Lack of time due to domestic tasks

### **Suggested solutions**

- Encourage education of girls
- Encourage women to participate in politics
- Build the capacity of women
- Lobbying in political parties to encourage female candidates
- Communication
- Reinforce women self-esteem
- Increase the number of associations and NGO.

### **Strategic needs of the council**

- Basic Health Centre
- Clothing
- Hygiene
- Communication and access to information
- Lack of data
- Nutrition

## **Outcomes**

- The council knowledge about the SADC Protocol is updated.
- The council is more aware of gender issue.
- The council get to know the importance of gender mainstreaming at local government.

## **Way forward**

The participants took eagerly part in all the activities and practical works and group exercises. This shows that the workshop was participatory. The use of group works proves to be an effective training method. There were much interaction and debates throughout the workshop, and it was noticed that the participants felt free to express their views.

## **Closing remarks**

The deputy Mayor of Mahanoro thanked Gender Links and the participants for their active participation during all the sessions. The workshop was ended by the signature of the convention between GL and the council, which is a mark of the collaboration of the two entities.

## Annex A: Workshop program

### Workshop program stage 3-4 Centre of Excellence

**Date:** 01-02 September 2011

**Venue:** Tropicana hotel Mahanoro

Hour	Activities	Who
Wednesday 01 <sup>st</sup> September 2011		
8:00 – 8: 30	Registration	IP
8: 30 – 8: 45	Opening official	Mayor of Mahanoro
8:45- 10:00	Speeches of different authorities	
10h- 10h30	T/BREAK	
10:30-12:30	International, regional and national instruments Gender concept, sex and stereotypes	IP
12:30-14:00	Lunch	
14:00-16:00	Attitude survey and GMDC Methodology: access, participation and transformation	IP
16:00- 16:15	T/BREAK	
16:15- 17:00	Group work Access Participation and transformation	All the participants
Friday 02 <sup>nd</sup> September 2011		
9:00 -10:30	Strategies for gender mainstreaming Transformative leadership Evaluation	GL All the participants
10:30-10:45	T/BREAK	
10:45-12:30	Signature of convention between GL and the council	GL
12:30– 14:00	Lunch	





## ANNEX B: PARTICIPANTS LIST

**Stage 3- 4 Mahanoro**  
**Country: MADAGASCAR**  
**Venue: Tropicana Mahanoro**  
**Date: 01-02 September 2011**

N°	NAME	SEX	INSTITUTION	FUNCTION	TEL	E mail
1	LEZOMA Maurice	M	Council	Executive committee	033 20 276 43	
2	BAOTSARA Jeanne	F	Red Cross	President	033 02 488 91	
3	Gizy Rasoanandrasana Eléonore Odile	F	CSB (Health Centre)	Doctor	033 03 068 74	
4	LERIZA	M	Council	Deputy mayor		
5	BAOLAHADY Monique	F	CISCO (Educational Circumscription)	Secretary	033 03 119 66	
6	RANDRIAMIHARISOA Nariso	M	Ministry of agriculture	Chief of circumscription	034 05 652 78	
7	MAMPIANINA Willie J	F	Council	Development officer	032 02 516 65	
8	ANDRIAMANGA E. Tahiry	M	Ministry of agriculture	Cir DR	034 06 755 91	
9	RAZAFIRIMANANA Nandrasantsoa Telo vavy	F	CSB (Health Centre)	Care giver	033 11 704 37	
10	RAVANOMANANTSOA Euloge Hénerry	M	Council	General secretary	033 71 908 33	
11	RAZAFINDRAMANANA Lucie	F	OTIV	Vice president	033 09 447 05	
12	ROBISON	M	Delcom Mahanoro	Journalist	033 41 325 55	
13	Telovavy Jeannine	F	Council	Accountant	033 07 526 56	

14	SAMBALALY Pierrot	M	Council	Régisseur	033 11 468 49	
15	RAZAFINIMANANA	M	Council	President CC	033 75 833 57	
16	SYLVIA MARIE MAXIMIENNE Brunette Anna	F	Sanitary bloc	Responsible	033 71 971 31 034 71 154 04	
17	RAKOTONAIVO Adolphe	M	Fokontany	Chief		
18	TELOLAHY Pierre	M	Council	Mayor	033 08 186 03 034 64 907 78	
19	RAZANADRATEFA Zotonantenaina	M	GL	Intern	034 43 087 78	<a href="mailto:madagascarintern@genderlinks.org.za">madagascarintern@genderlinks.org.za</a>
20	Ialfine Papisy	F	GL	Country Facilitator	034 29 665 61	<a href="mailto:madalocalgvt@genderlinks.org.za">madalocalgvt@genderlinks.org.za</a>

**Attendance statistics per gender and percentage:**

<b>Females</b>	9	45%
<b>Males</b>	11	55%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100%</b>

## ANNEX C: SUMMARY OF EVALUATION

### Administrative Information:

<b>Country</b>	MADAGASCAR					
<b>Sex</b>	Male 10 Female 8					
<b>Organisation</b>	Urban council of Mahanoro					
<b>City/ Ville/ Village</b>	Tamatave II					
<b>Age group</b>	12 - 17 <input type="checkbox"/>	18 -30 <input type="checkbox"/>	31- 40 1	41 – 50	51 – 60	60 + <input type="checkbox"/> 4
		4		3	6	
<b>Educational level</b>	Primary 1	Secondary 10	Tertiary 4	Vocational 3	Adult literate <input type="checkbox"/>	

### EVALUATION

	<u>EXCELLENT</u>	<u>GOOD</u>	<u>CORRECT</u>	<u>POOR</u>	<u>VERY POOR</u>
<b>1. PROGRAM DESIGNING</b>	10	7	1		
<b>2. PROGRAM CONTENTS</b>	5	12	1		
<b>3. DOCUMENTATION</b>	6	10	2		
<b>4. FACILITATION</b>	13	4	1		
<b>5. GROUP WORK</b>	3	8	7		
<b>6. OUTPUTS</b>	3	8	7		
<b>7. OUTCOMES AND FOLLOW UP PLANS</b>	5	5	8		
<b>8. LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES</b>	6	9	3		
<b>9. NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES</b>	9	6	4		
<b>10. ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS</b>	10	4	4		

### COMMENTS

#### 1. Which session did you find most useful, why?

- Transmit what we have acquired during the training.
- Through communication and exchanges.
- The concept of gender equality
- Encouragement of women.
- Group work and discussion.
- Differentiation between sex and gender.
- Group work because it helped me to know much information and exchange with the others.
- The concept of helping discriminated persons to fight against poverty.
- Information about Gender Links
- The training helped me to be more open-minded in my everyday life and in my work.
- Explanations about gender equality
- The fact that everyone could express themselves freely.
- The session about strategic needs.

#### 2- Which session did you find least useful?

- There is also violence against men. So, men should not be always be considered as being in fault.
- No need to be extremist.

#### 3- How will you apply what you have learned from this engagement?

- I will apply it in my life and then in the society.

- I will try to apply all the methods given here.
- Through communication and sensitization.
- I will begin within my family and in the society, for instance doing a campaign of sensitization with women in my village.
- I will apply it during meetings
- Awareness raising within the council.
- Little by little application.
- By participating in the different meetings and events in the council.

**Any other comments?**

- There are also some situations in which women should consider themselves as such. Not in every situation should women require their right to be like men.
- The training was very useful for us.
- The concept of gender is now clear for us. I would be better to enlarge the actions in other fields.
- Such training should be frequent.
- We need money
- The time is too short.
- We should be given motivation, tee-shirt
- The program is well-prepared.
- The participants should create an association in order to apply what we have received together.
- Need per diem