



ZAMBIA



Sarah Longwe - Board Member



Faides Nsofu - Country Manager



Cynthia Kalizinje - Field Assistant

FACT FILE

Country	Zambia
Board Member	Sarah Longwe
Staff Members	Faides Nsofu - Country Manager Cynthia Kalizinje - Field Assistant
When registered	14 December 2011
Alliance focal network	Women and Law In Southern Africa (WILSA) Regional Office
Governance COE's	13
Media COE's	7
Key partners	Local Government Association of Zambia; Ministry of Gender and Child Development; NGOCC; WILSA (Regional)

"In Zambia we have had four constitutional reviews in a span of 10 years with each new government. The current new government has started the process again of revising the Constitution. We have asked that affirmative action should be translated into 50:50. Women are saying "no women no constitution". We were protesting against some of the provisions left out the previous draft. It was to our advantage that the bill was defeated in parliament. The



Matrine Bbuku Chuulu.

claw back clause was saying any law could discriminate in personal matters of marriage, divorce, and inheritance. It allowed discrimination in areas of personal laws. It defeated the whole issue of non-discrimination and the gender equality clause.

We mobilised as alliance members of the constitutional and legal rights cluster both at CSOs and government level to help in the drafting and submission of comments. We target at various levels. At the community level, we are sensitising the people about what the Protocol says on Constitutional reviews. We are also targeting women's caucuses in Parliament. We also target umbrella bodies in terms of women's movements and the gender machineries like ministries of gender, justice, and the SADC Gender Unit at the regional level. We are also targeting several thematic groups like GBV.

We are targeting service delivery ministries like local government, health, education, and home affairs in terms of access to justice. We also target focal persons in all ministries and the provincial and district levels. We targeted judges, magistrates and local courts. Also the technical committees drafting the constitution and even the heads of states during their summit through SADC-CNGO.

We are using articles 1 to 4 on constitutional legal rights. These articles state how states should engender their constitutions. By 2015 the states should have come up with principles like affirmative action, dropping discriminatory clauses, claw back clauses and enhancing women's rights in the bill of rights." *Matrine Bbuku Chuulu, Regional Director, WLSA*



Faides Nsofu giving instructions to participants during a coe workshop in Lusaka, Zambia. Photo: Cynthia Kalizinje

On my return from the exciting Lesotho Training of Trainers workshop, I got a call from head office: the CEO was on the line. We discussed many things. One concerned the transfer of Albert Ngosa, the Zambia Programme Officer to HQ, to take up the newly created post of audio-visual officer. With mixed feelings, I accepted as I could not say no. I could see the benefits for my colleague; growth for him and the organisation. We felt honoured and appreciated as an office by recognising the contribution we make in Zambia and how that contributed to the organisations' vision. However, in spite of all that, it was still a painful moment. On the bright side Cynthia Kalizinje, who had been interning with us and cut her teeth with the office during our first summit in 2012, stepped up to the plate and has replaced Albert. This has been an important lesson in succession planning. During 2012, the Zambia office had the support of our newly appointed resident Board Member, Sara Longwe. We opened bank accounts, addressed statutory matters and forged ahead with programme work. GL Zambia became the fifth SADC country to participate in the GBV Indicators research, with the support of the gender ministry and UNFPA. Our work is growing in breadth and depth.

Key achievements

- Financial support for the National Gender Justice and Local Government Summit from UNICEF through the Ministry of Gender and Child Development.
- Implementation of the GBV Indicators project in the four COEs namely Kasama, Kitwe, Mansa and Mazabuka with funding from UNICEF through the Ministry of Gender and Child development.
- Successful piloting of the COE process during the Sixteen Days of Activism.
- Successful Training of the trainers for COE cascading for the new 12 councils and the rollout of the COE stages.
- Emerging evidence of local government work in Zambia and synergy within partnerships as evidenced at the Regional summit and the number of awards won by Zambian Participants.
- Successful launch of the national and regional Barometer with collaboration from the Alliance partners and the Ministry of Gender and Child Development.
- Transfer of a Programme Officer to Regional office evidence of capacity building at country level.

- Signing of the Statement of Commitments by four councils, showing commitment of the implementation of the Gender Action plans at local level.
- Working with the media during 16 Days of Activism campaign and the empowerment workshops in five councils continues to raise the Zambia office profile.
- Strong partnerships with the Ministry of Gender and Child Development and UNICEF as evident in the financial support for the year 2012.
- Continued partnership with the Local Government Authority of Zambia as we are still housed in their offices.
- High levels of buy in from the councils through the Annual conferences held by Local Government Authority of Zambia.
- The office successfully verified 14 COE councils out of the 22 COE under the COE process. All the councils verified have Gender Action Plans and will be platform to show case their good practices at the National Summit.

Key challenges

- Getting in country funding for the COE cascading process.
- Signing of Statements of Commitments by the old Councils.
- Transfer of key personnel in the COE councils, as we have to redo stage one in almost all the councils to get buy in with the new management.

Lessons learned

The Lesotho TOT presented a good learning opportunity for the COE cascading process. There is need to raise a good profile for the organisation in order to attract in country funding. There is still much to be done, but we are limited by funding. The lesson is to intensify in country fundraising which will support country activities.

Key priorities for 2013

- Intensify fundraising for the COE cascading process in Zambia.
- Expanding COEs council to 50 and getting all the old COE councils to sign the Statement of Commitment.
- Signing MoU with the Ministry of Gender and Child Development.
- Get buy in with the Ministry of Local Government and Housing.
- Host the SADC Gender Protocol@Work Summit bringing synergy to media, alliance and governance work.
- Complete the GBV National Baseline Survey.



Driving change in Zambia after the launch of the 2012 Barometer.

Photo: Cynthia Kalizinje