



PRESENTER'S NAME : RABEARISOA Annick Hantanirina

Function : Mayor of Bongatsara

e-mail : lancelot.ah@gmail.com

Phone Number : +261 34 07 185 46 - +261 33 07 373 19 - +261 20 26 399 03

"Gender equality & development, let us make it together!"

CATEGORIE: LOCAL GOVERNMENT COE
COUNTRY SADC GENDER PROTOCOL SUMMIT
DATE
VENUE

GENDER EQUALITY BY 2015, YES WE MUST!

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF COUNCIL

Location (urban/rural):

- A rural council.

Population (how many females/males):

- The number of population is 21 788 and 53% of them are women.

How many councillors (number of females/males):

- Of the 7 rural councillors only one is a woman.



District of Bongatsara.



Members of councillors of Bongatsara.

➤ there are 186 civil servants in Bongatsara.
108 of them i.e 58% are women:

- Women local chiefs
- Women local polices
- Women tax collectors
- Women members of the local observations of the Election
- Women coordinating the activities of the local Health center (vaccination campaigns – campaigns against malaria, other diseases).
- Part-time teachers
- Local government officials

Been part of the COE process:

➤ We have started to participate in the COE process since the **9th of october 2012.**

Stage 1 to 10.



The mayor and some employees of Bongatsara.



Session course in the Motel Restogasy

KEY GENDER AND SERVICE DELIVERY CHALLENGES

- 1) To increase the number of **proportional representation of women** in the village council.
- 2) For the next election women will **have at least half of the seats** in our council.
- 3) As a rural district, **dealing with problems of agriculture**
 - Harvest failure,
 - Impoverishment of farmers,
 - The amount of **good productive lands are falling, hindered by wild urbanization, population growth, problems of heritage, land dispute.**
- 4) **Farmers cannot afford fertilizers & new seeds**: no government subsidies for poor rural farmers.



GENDER CHAMPIONS

- Gender champion in our council.
- Of course, we have, myself.
- Position : Mayor
- How do they push the COE process:
 1. **founded a local women association** . It has about **250 active members**.
 2. Organized **sports events**. Both the female soccer teams or the male ones take part in the local tournaments.
 3. **Sharing out foods** for elderly people.
 4. From 2008 till 2012, **launching the program of land and property ownership** for lower-class people.
 5. Training women & mainly teenagers to produce hand-made crafts & articles.



Ms RABEARISOA Hanta
Mayor of Bongatsara.



Mayor and the association
"Mandroso". (1)



The female soccer teams. (2)



Food sharing (3)



Titles delivery. (4)



Teenagers producing hand made crafts articles. (5)

HOW HAS THE COE PROCESS CONTRIBUTED TO ADDRESSING THE CHALLENGES?

- Policy interventions:
 - **Introducing a chapter on Gender & Development in our budget** - to implement the LOCAL ACTION PLAN.
 - **Working a local Committee of 12** to carry out the Action Plan.
 - **Taking care of women/or children** who have been ill-treated-raped-or oftenly beaten.
- Specific campaigns:
 - **Launching campaigns** against Gender based violence mainly during the Sixteen days on November 2012.



Innovation

The Gender and GBV work plan:

- **Increase of the number of persons who came to the centre .**
- **Changing attitudes towards cases of GBV**
- **Community begins to break up-the law of silence**
- **Women & Men equally participate in campaigns to stop GBV**

Women participation :

- **Raising social awareness on Gender & Development issues.**

Public participation :

In the Local Action Plan:

- **The women Association participating in sessions on Gender equality & women ' rights.**
- **Both Men & women taking part in programs : cleaning up water courses -to clear streets and main roads.**
- **Using labour intensive workers to improve the rural class incomes : on october 2012 till march 2013.**



THE COE PROCESS CONTRIBUTED TO ADDRESSING THE CHALLENGES?

Climate change :

- **Carrying out activities** related to **reforestation** .
- **Electricity supply** by the use of solar panel systems , for 3 primary public schools.
- **Enforcing laws on environmental issues** & raising taxes for new societies which are settling down in our town



HIV AIDS and care work

- Thanks God , we don't have any case of HIV and AIDS.



Community initiatives

- To try to fight against this epidemic, **getting teenagers of our public college involved in Health & Reproduction** issues .
- **Only do pregnant women HIV testing.**
- Many people don't know whether they are infected or not!

I think: HIV/AIDS struggle is more relevant today than it ever was.



Employment practices

- To cope with our staffs' Health Care System, **to finance up to 80% of their medical fees.**



HOW HAS THE COE PROCESS CONTRIBUTED TO ADDRESSING THE CHALLENGES?

Gender specific programmes :

- Road construction
- Access to safe drinking water
- Water resources management.
- Access to primary education
- Ensure environmental sustainability
- Improve maternal health
- Promote Gender equality & empower women
- Develop a global partnership for development



Budgets :

- To allocate funds for those basic infrastructures

Monitoring and evaluation :

- The twelve members of the Local Committee and Gender links staffs, are responsible for the monitoring and evaluation of the action.



HOW IS YOUR COUNCIL CONTRIBUTING TOWARDS ACHIEVING THE 28 TARGETS OF THE SADC PROTOCOL?

PROTOCOL TARGET	COUNCIL ACTIONS
Article 4 – 8 civil Marriage Rights	<p>Husband & wife get informed about malagasy laws on marriage. How are they going to run the family properties.</p> <p><u>Eg:</u> Joint ownership of property.</p>
Article 12-13 : Local Governance & Gender Parity	<p>Equal representation of our civil servants.</p> <p>Of the 186, 58% are women.</p>



HOW IS YOUR COUNCIL CONTRIBUTING TOWARDS ACHIEVING THE 28 TARGETS OF THE SADC PROTOCOL?



PROTOCOL TARGET	COUNCIL ACTIONS
Article 15 - 19	<p>Access to land ownership: 246</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In 2008: 12 land ownership title. ○ In 2010: 33 land ownership title. ○ In 2011: 24 land ownership Titles . ○ In 2012: 177 land land ownership titles delivered. <p>Total 246 land ownership titles.</p>



IMPACT

3 tangible results

- 1) **Providing school meals for children of 3 primary public schools.** More than 58% of Malagasy children under the age of 10 are malnourished. They don't eat 3 meals a day.
- With that program, **increasing the number of children attending schools. Improving the result of the exams.**



2008	2009	2010	2011
79,12%	70,12%	73,45%	75%

- 2) **Changing attitudes towards GBV. People are now more concerned about this issue:**

- **To give away to the police the offender.**
- **To report the case of GBV to the police or to the local officials**
- **To treat fairly the case of Children victims of sexual abuse: no financial compensations .**

Increasing number of people being affected and going to the Centre is now. This includes persons living on the outskirts of our cities.

Année	July 2012	March 2013
Case of violence	35	19

- 3) **Access to land ownership.**



CHANGING LIVES

- Tell a short story of someone:
 - The story of woman with 6 children.
For years, she was beaten by her husband.
Being tired of years of violence, she has decided, on her own behalf, to leave him.

Now, she lives in our village & she is an activist member of the women's Association, fighting for Gender equality.

She has volunteered herself to talk about her case in the local newspapers.

She is amongst the women who have benefitted from the land & property ownership programs.

We can see her working on her lands & in her poultry yards.



A newspaper clipping with a green border. At the top left is a photo of two women standing in front of a building. Below the photo is a green caption: "Attribution de terrain domanial par les responsables de la commune de Bongatsara". To the right of the photo is text in Malagasy: "Vehivavy niharana ny herisetra. Niala tamin'ny tokantranony nohon'ny tsy fahazakany ny herisetra nihatratamin'ny Mananjana 6. Ary izy ihany no miahay ireo zaza ireo." Below this is a paragraph in Malagasy: "Nefa afaka nandray an-tanana ny hoaviny sy ny zanany. Manohana sy afaka manentana ny vehivavy toa azy mba hatratarana ny 30% ny vehivavy mitantana ny raharaham-pirenena ahafahany mananteraka ny miralenta." Below that is a paragraph in French: "Témoignage d'une femme qui a subi des violences perpétrées par son mari. Actuellement, ils se sont séparés. Et c'est elle qui a décidé de quitter son foyer avec ces 6 enfants. Malgré ses malheureuses expériences, elle a réussi à prendre en main son destin et celui de ses enfants." At the bottom are two small photos: one of a woman working in a field, and another of a woman sitting with several white chickens. Below the photos is a paragraph in French: "Toutefois, les activités qu'elle a entreprises pour nourrir sa famille ont été handicapées par l'insécurité (vois - infraction) et la crise dans notre pays."

CHALLENGES TO GENDER MAINSTREAMING

Main challenges :

1. Our challenges will be: to **increase the number of Proportional Representation of women in the local government.**
2. **to provide school meals for public schools.**
The WFP has stopped its program in providing school meals in our country.
That means: a billion children could suffer from malnutrition & starvation & being pulled from school.
3. **We should launch programs on literacy campaigns in rural areas.**
4. We should deal with the (problems) **population growth: 5,18 % & the disorder caused by wild urbanization .**
Problems of social gap between poor & rich people.
5. **With this population growth;** to cope with activities: **cleaning our cities, how to manage water-supply, household waste and pollution:**

How to educate people about hygiene.

6. We should **involve in our local Action Plan: collecting & recycling household waste.**



WAY FORWARD

- What are the next steps?
 1. To take measures in order to **strengthen the local Action Plan**. We are seeking out partnership with NGOs international organizations – Civil Society in order to build the Center for Gender & Development.
 2. As, I've said above, we should **carry out projects related to Health and Education; invest in programs of water Supply, slum clearance & sanitation services**.
 3. We should **set up an Urban Plan** to coordinate house building:
We include women in the coordination e& participation process.
 4. **To raise the local taxes incomes to achieve our goals.**



Thank you very much.

