

COUNCIL CHAIR PERSON

MRS
MASEKOATI
MASUPHA



DESCRIPTION OF COUNCIL

The council is situated at the rural areas in Berea district Lesotho, it has a total of 18 councilors of which eight of them are women while ten are men. The council is composed of three committees which are land committee, finance committee and social development committee, of which two of them are chaired by women.

Due to the fact that the council chairperson is a female, she automatically chairs the finance committee and the management committee. There are six staff members

KEY GENDER AND SERVICE DELIVERY CHALLENGES

- ❖ Significant challenges to decentralization. The first is the inadequate capacity of stakeholders which includes councilors, staff of the council, line ministries at district level and communities.
- ❖ There are no street lights in the area, and the road that lead between the houses are gravel and unmarked posing challenges when there are emergencies. The biggest challenge is the budget cut that the council faces, as the cuts negatively affects the fight against gender based violence. For as long as there are budgets cuts, the level of GBV will remain unchanged.

GENDER CHAMPIONS

The council has a gender champion who is also a member of finance committee. Her role is to act in community mobilization and also capacity building through the job training by gender links country manager of Lesotho.

HOW WAS THE COE PROCESS CONTRIBUTED TO ADDRESSING THE CHALLENGES

As the council is the part in the (DDCC), we work as a link between the central government and the community

The implementation on gender policy fully and work towards complying with the gender protocols. These stipulate that parliament should compromise 50 percent women. (government of Lesotho civil society and other non state holders)

HOW THE COE PROCESS CONTRIBUTED TO ADDRESSING THE CHALLENGES

Our council hold the meeting with ministries, chieftainship, and parliamentary affairs, ,minister of gender sports and recreation and all other ministries in discussion about how the government should open avenues for women and men, girls and boys to equally have access to and control over credit, land and property in order for them to equally contribute significantly to the development process



How the COE process contributed to addressing the challenges

In our meeting with ministers and the district team, we influenced on how the government of Lesotho could achieve its goals.

- They should develop and implement effective measures to ensure that pregnant women, woman on maternity leave and women re-entering the labour market after children bearing are respected and not discriminated especially in the industries.

HOW DOES YOUR COUNCIL
CONTRIBUTING TOWARDS
ACHIEVING THE 28 TARGET OF THE
SADC PROTOCOL

❖ Our councils delegates with the NGO's in order to fight against Gender based violence, we even hold public gatherings with NGO's and the police to bring a red light against [GBV]

❖ Councils are fighting to bring the health centers to their offices in order to see to it that births are being attended skilled personals



How does your council contributing towards achieving the 28 targets of the sadac protocol

- 1) Due to challenges to decentralization (conflicts) council work in partners also with ngo's like DPE and CCR to introduce the decentralization advantages to the community, together we provide them with skills and knowledge how to deal with conflicts.

IMPACT

- ◉ We have reached the positive impact because all the planned strategies have been implemented

CHANGING LIVES

- ◉ *We are now fighting for decline of HIV/AIDS death rate as we see to it that through our education projects after counseling and test those infected follow their ARV routine*
- ◉ *As development and introduction of sustainable, cleaner and renewable sources of energy are needed but seems to be blind, we are now lobbying and encouraging young ladies to enroll to courses related to environment*

CHALLENGES TO GENDER MAINSTREAMING

- Lesotho has established institutions, passed the laws and developed policies that responds to gender issues and are right based. A case in point is the legal capacity of a married persons Act no;9 of 2006,This effectively eliminates discrimination against women in all walks of life[except in the instance of inheritance]including women married under customary law

WAY FORWARD

- The legal framework for decentralization be harmonized in order to clarify the functions responsibility and adequate capacity of stake holders which include councilors, staff of the councils line ministries at district level, and committees.
- That the fiscal decentralization be systematically structured that district and community council planning and budgeting functions be elaborated and that monitoring and evaluation systems be established.
- That there be concerted efforts to promote genuine broad-based participation in local governance and development initiatives this can be achieved by identifying grass roots system for empowering communities.