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Implementation



Time for action: Bianca Dlamini from Swaziland Environmental Authority, links gaps, to actions to budget for the SADC Gender Protocol.

Photo: Colleen Lowe Morna

KEY POINTS

- Thirteen out of 15 countries have signed the SADC Gender Protocol (SGP). Botswana and Mauritius have still not signed but there are positive signs that they may do so.
- Twelve countries (up from 9 in the last year) have ratified the Protocol, with Malawi being the latest to ratify and deposit its instruments. Of the countries that have ratified, only DRC has not deposited its instruments of ratification.
- Namibia, Swaziland, Seychelles, and Zambia have led the way in drafting costed gender action plans aligned to the SGP.
- Learning from these four countries, DRC, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zimbabwe are set to align their policies and action plans to the SGP.
- 300 councils in ten countries, covering one fifth of the SADC region have committed to become Centres of Excellence (COE's) for gender in local government.
- The campaign for an Addendum on Gender and Climate Change gained momentum with an online petition signed by 1027 citizens (55% men; 45% women) - Gender Ministers formally backed this proposal at their meeting in Maputo in February 2013.
- Alliance partners have administered knowledge and attitude quizzes to nearly 50,000 citizens across the SADC region. With knowledge at 53%, and attitudes at 65%, the Alliance has its work cut out well beyond 2015.



Trends table - Implementation

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	Target 2015
Number of countries that have signed the Protocol.	12 Botswana Malawi, Mauritius had not signed	13 Malawi signs the Protocol	13 Botswana Mauritius not signed	13 Botswana Mauritius not signed	13 Botswana and Mauritius close to signing	15
Number of countries that have ratified the Protocol.		2	9	11	12	15
Number of countries with policies and action plans aligned to the SADC Gender Protocol.	0	0	3 Namibia, Seychelles, Zambia	5 Add Zambia and Swaziland	10 Add Mozambique, DRC, Tanzania, Malawi, Lesotho	15
SGDI overall.			64%	66%	67%	70%
CSC overall.	55%	55%	55%	57%	66%	70%
Number of Alliance country MOU's.		10	12	14	15	15
Number of theme MOUs.		6	8	8	8	10
Knowledge of the SADC Gender Protocol.		46%	54%	59%	53%	60%
Number of SADC Gender Protocol@Work case studies.		19	44	631	1190	
Number of signatories to the Petition for an Addendum on Gender and Climate Change.	0	0	0	600 signatures	1027 citizens signed online petition	Addendum signed

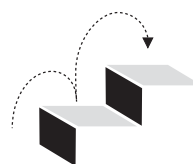
With only two years before the 2015 deadline for achieving the 28 targets of the SADC Gender Protocol (SGP), implementation has become the watchword of gender activists across the region. In April 2013, over 300 activists, government and local government officials and media from around the Southern African Development Community (SADC) converged in Johannesburg for the SADC Gender Protocol @work regional Summit, following 12 National Summits involving 1484 participants (69% women and 31% men).

The summits yielded 672 case studies SGP is being used by citizens to demand and create change. In the five years since the adoption of the Protocol, the Alliance slogan has progressed from "the time is now", to "yes we can", to "yes we must." As the countdown began, the focus of work has shifted from a push for countries to sign and ratify the Protocol to lobbying for costing and implementation of its targets to move from paper rights to people's rights.

Two countries, Botswana and Mauritius, have still not signed the Protocol. But, as reflected in the tracking table, there has been a rapid progression of countries ratifying the Protocol (among the fastest of any SADC Protocol to be ratified). Twelve countries have ratified the SADC Gender Protocol that went into force in September 2012 after Swaziland became the ninth country to deposit its instruments of ratification. The DRC remains the only country that has ratified but not yet deposited its instruments of ratification.

Key contacts

For more information visit: <http://www.sadcgenderprotocol.org> or contact Lucia Makamure on allianceofficer@genderlinks.org.za or call on +27 11 622 2877.



Next steps

- Produce the fifth edition of the SADC Gender Protocol Barometer and subsequent editions up to 2015.
- Hold the SADC Gender Protocol Summit in 2014 and in 2015.
- Strengthen institutional mechanisms and partnerships within the Southern Africa Gender Protocol Alliance and with other strategic partners.
- Annual meeting of the Alliance preceded by national caucus meetings.
- Lobby Heads of State for the adoption of an Addendum on Gender and Climate Change.
- Develop costed national gender action plans in at least six more countries.
- Increase public awareness and empower more women to use the SADC Gender Protocol to claim their rights through village level workshops.
- Press home the 50/50, GBV and climate change campaigns, building on the successes to date.
- Active engagement of national governments especially gender/women's affairs ministries by giving technical assistance as well as getting them to pay for some of the costs because they have the obligation and infrastructure to bring about change.
- Step up implementation efforts with local government as it is the sphere of governance closest to the people.
- Engage with the international community on the post 2015 development agenda.