

STAGE SIX ADOPTION OF ACTION PLAN AND SIGNING OF STATEMENT REPORT

**Country: Swaziland
Council: Hlatikhulu Town Board**

**Dates: 07 June 2013
Venue: Assegai Inn**



Hlatikhulu Town Board mayor Mr Simo Dlamini exchanging the signed documents with Neane Maziya GL Country Manager, looking on is councillor Mr. Hezekiel Siyaya.



Table of Contents

Executive Summary	2
Background	3
Process and activities	3
Outcomes	4
Way Forward	4
Annexes	
• A – Programme	5
• B – Participants' list	6
• C – Statement of Commitment	

Executive Summary

This is a report on the proceedings of the Centres of Excellence for Gender Mainstreaming in Local Government stage 6 adoption of the action plans and signing statement of commitment held at Assegai Inn with Hlatikhulu Town Board on the 07th June 2013.

The purpose of the programme was to;

Adopt and sign the statement on the listed below:

- Completing all ten stages of the COE process.
- Ensuring gender balance and sensitivity within the Council.
- Ensuring that women in the Council and in the Community actively participate in all decision-making processes.
- Integrating gender into the planning, monitoring and evaluation systems of Councils.
- Ensuring gender balance and sensitivity in the services delivered by the Council.
- Promoting flagship programmes on ending gender violence; empowering women; gender and climate change, local economic development and care work.
- Building the gender analysis and programming skills of Councillors and staff.
- Establishing a sustainable Gender Management System, including human and financial resources for this purpose.
- Allocating specific budgetary resources for promoting gender equality.
- Ensuring that women and men benefit equally from all Council expenditure.
- Administering the Gender and Local Government score card at least once a year to benchmark progress.
- Documenting in multimedia formats the difference that gender awareness makes to the work of the Council.
- Sharing good practices at the annual Gender Justice and Local Government Summit.
- Sharing experiences with, and assisting neighbouring Councils that join the COE process.

See the full workshop programme attached **Annex A**

The event was attended by councilors, staff and management and Tindvuna Tetinkhundla from two constituencies in Hlatikhulu. see full participants list at **Annex B**

Photos – 4

http://gemcommunity.genderlinks.org.za/gallery/main.php?q2_itemId=38855

http://gemcommunity.genderlinks.org.za/gallery/main.php?q2_itemId=38858

http://gemcommunity.genderlinks.org.za/gallery/main.php?q2_itemId=38840

http://gemcommunity.genderlinks.org.za/gallery/main.php?q2_itemId=38843

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 ten 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 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 support to address issues of gender across all spheres.

Welcome and Opening

The event was opened by the Chairperson Mr. Simo Dlamini who welcomed participants, and Gender Links. He explained that by signing of this statement is a full commitment of Hlatikhulu Town Board that they are adopting and implement the activities developed from the action plan.

Gender Links Country Manager, Ncane Maziya took over and proceeded with the program.

Processes and activities

The 2 hours adoption and signing of statement of commitment involved the commitment of Hlatikhulu Town Board to contributing towards achieving the targets of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Protocol on Gender and Development. To this end the material makes use of discussions and adopts the action plan by signing of the statement.

The GL Country Manager in her remarks thanked the participants for showing commitment for attending such an important event. She elaborated on the purpose of the adoption of the action plan and signing of the statement of commitment that is a follow up from the stages the council has covered and that today the council is committing itself for implementing the activities from the action plan they developed.

Hard copies of the statement of commitment were distributed to the councillors, staff and management members. The contents of the statement of commitment were read through and participants confirmed understanding them.

The country manager explained that GL and the council will come together and administer a scorecard verification which will highlight what could not be implemented and why, thus where possible GL may come in and support the council on such issues, e.g capacity building

Outputs

The signing of the statement of commitment commenced, with the Mayor Mr. Simo Dlamini first to sign, followed by the Town Clerk Mr. Mr. Bongani Dlamini and lastly Ncane Maziya Gender Links country manager.

After signing, there was an exchange of the statements of commitment between the Mayor and the GL country manager in inclination from the audience as a sign of appreciation to the decent attempt to end gender inequality in the running and management of Hlatikhulu Town Board.

Outcomes

Hlatikhulu Town Board has committed to become a fully-fledged COE and understands the importance of gender mainstreaming through the adoption of Action Plans by signing the Statement of Commitment.

Next steps

Committed to implement the action plans and popularize the SADC Protocol and sensitize the communities on gender equality. To empower more women participation in leadership and decision making positions especially it is the time of the national elections.

Closing

Mayor Mr Simo Dlamini in closing thanked Gender Links team once again for a wonderful weeklong workshop the presentation and the signing of the statement of commitment. He encouraged Gender Links to continue the good work, up to the Tinkhundla (Constituencies) where issues of GBV are rife due to poverty and lack of education.

Mr Dlamini then thanked participant for the commitment and patience they have shown in participating for both the workshop and the signing of the statement. He said it was a short and informative session defying time odds that almost never let happen of such an important event.

Annex A: Programme



**SIGNING OF CENTRES OF EXCELLENT STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT
HLATIKKULU TOWN BOARD**

07 JUNE 2013

PROGRAMME

Time	Activity	Who
07 JUNE 2013		
12:20 -12:45	Objectives	Gender Links
1300hrs	Adoption and Signing of Statement of Commitment	Mayor, CEO and GL
13:15	Closing	Hlatikhulu Town Board - Mayor
<i>REFRESHMENTS!!!</i>		

(Annex B: Participants list)

Stage 6: Signing of Statement of Commitment

Country: Swaziland Hlatikhulu Town Board

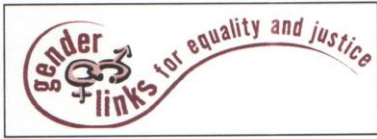
Venue: Assegai Inn Date: 07 June 2013

NAME	Sex M/F	ORGANISATION	DESIGNATION	PHONE	FAX	E MAIL
Ncamiso Mmema	M	Hlatikulu town board	MAPM	76284627	22176135	ncamisommema@yahoo.com
Siza Sifundza	M	AMICAALL	Youth mentor	76148066	22176135	
Simo Dlamini	M	Hlatikulu town board	Chairperson	7675497	22176135	dlaminisimo@ymail.com
Muntu Lukhele	M	Magele area	Indvuna	76048692		
Welcome Dlamini	M	Hlatikulu town board	Supervisor	76419129		
Hezekiel Siyaya	M	Hlatikhulu Town Board	Cllr	76058391	22176135	
Tenele Dlamini	F	AMICAALL	SCS	76279302	22176135	teneory@gmail.com
Petros Khumalo	M	Hlatikulu town board	Cllr	76117625		petroskhumalo@yahoo.com
Mlungisi Maphalala	M	Sibetsamoya	Indvuna	76530384		
Joseph Dlamini	M	Deputy Mayor	Cllr	76044151		
Sbongile Mazibuko	F	Hlatikulu town board	Cllr	76076114		
Buyisile Makhanya	F	MSF	HTC Supervisor	76368790		buyisilemakhanya@gmail.com
Mlamuli Dlamini	M	Swaziland government	MP	76154846		
Thandokuhle Dlamini	M	Gender Links	Programme assistant	76353820		swazilandintern@genderlinks.org.za
Ncane Maziya	F	Gender Links	Country manager	76240486		swdlocalgvt@genderlinks.org.za

Attendance statistics by gender

Females	4	26%
Males	11	74%
TOTAL	15	100%

Annex C – Statement of commitment



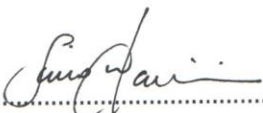
STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT

Name of Council: Hlatikhulu Town Board

Centre of Excellence in Gender Mainstreaming in Local Government

We **HLATIKHULU TOWN BOARD** are committed to contributing towards achieving the targets of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Protocol on Gender and Development through:

- Completing all ten stages of the COE process.
- Ensuring gender balance and sensitivity within the Council.
- Ensuring that women in the Council and in the Community actively participate in all decision-making processes.
- Integrating gender into the planning, monitoring and evaluation systems of Councils.
- Ensuring gender balance and sensitivity in the services delivered by the Council.
- Promoting flagship programmes on ending gender violence; empowering women; gender and climate change, local economic development and care work.
- Building the gender analysis and programming skills of Councillors and staff.
- Establishing a sustainable Gender Management System, including human and financial resources for this purpose.
- Allocating specific budgetary resources for promoting gender equality.
- Ensuring that women and men benefit equally from all Council expenditure.
- Administering the Gender and Local Government score card at least once a year to benchmark progress.
- Documenting in multi media formats the difference that gender awareness makes to the work of the Council.
- Sharing good practices at the annual Gender Justice and Local Government Summit.
- Sharing experiences with, and assisting neighbouring Councils that join the COE process.

Chairperson's Signature: 

Town Clerk's Signature: 

GL Country Manager's Signature: 

Date: 