



WALKING
THE LONG
ROAD



WALKING THE LONG ROAD

A snapshot of civil society actors in South Africa



CREDITS

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WALKING THE LONG ROAD

Message from the European Union Ambassador to South Africa	1				
Introduction	3				
1. REFUGEE AND MIGRANT RIGHTS	4				
Lawyers for Human Rights	5				
The African Centre for Migration and Society	8				
African Diaspora Forum	8				
Consortium for Refugees and Migrants in South Africa	9				
Scalabrini Centre of Cape Town	9				
2. WOMEN'S RIGHTS	10				
Cesvi Foundation	11				
Gender Links	14				
Greater Nelspruit Rape Intervention Programme	14				
Tohoyandou Victim Empowerment Programme	15				
Heinrich Böll Foundation and the National Shelter Movement	15				
3. PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES	16				
CREATE	17				
Africa Disability Alliance	20				
Disabled People South Africa	20				
South African National Council for the Blind	21				
University of Cape Town: Teacher Empowerment for Disability Inclusion	21				
4. LGBTIQ RIGHTS	22				
Gay and Lesbian Network	23				
Access Chapter 2	26				
Gay and Lesbian Memory in Action	26				
OUT	27				
Iranti	27				
5. ACCESS TO LAND, WATER AND HOUSING	28				
The Association for Rural Advancement	29				
Afesis-Corplan	32				
Built Environment Support Group	32				
Isandla Institute	33				
Planact	33				
6. ACCESS TO JUSTICE	34				
Orange Farm Human Rights Advice Centre	35				
Centre for the Advancement of Community Advice Offices of South Africa	38				
Centre for Community Justice and Development	38				
Foundation for Human Rights	39				
Wits Justice Project	39				
7. ACCESS TO HEALTH	40				
UCT, Women on Farms Project and Training for Transition	41				
Mpilonhle	44				
Small Projects Foundation	44				
				Soul City Institute for Social Justice	45
				Southern African HIV Clinicians Society	45
			8. TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY		46
			Planact		47
			Democracy Works Foundation		50
			International Budget Partnership South Africa		50
			Open Democracy Advice Centre		51
			Freedom of Expression Institute		51
		9. CHILDREN'S RIGHTS			52
		Save the Children South Africa			53
		Child Welfare South Africa			56
		Centre for Child Law			56
		Children's Radio Foundation			57
		UCT Children's Institute			57
		10. RIGHT TO EDUCATION			58
		Equal Education			59
		Equal Education Law Centre			62
		Inclusive Education South Africa			62
		Media in Education Trust Africa			63
		SECTION27			63
		Contact list			64
		Acknowledgements			68



MESSAGE FROM THE EUROPEAN UNION AMBASSADOR TO SOUTH AFRICA

Starting with its Programme for the Victims of Apartheid in the mid-1980s, the European Union (EU) has for over three decades partnered with South African Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in their efforts to promote and protect human rights, as well as to support the country in forging a more equitable society.

This publication gives you a glimpse into work done by a cross section of CSOs, many with EU support, to fight for a South Africa in which every person's rights are respected, protected, fulfilled and promoted.

Learning from our own history, the countries of the EU have committed to promote and protect human rights, democracy and the rule of law, both inside and outside of our borders.

In South Africa, our commitment has found expression through our partnership with and support of cooperation programmes through the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development, through the establishment and support of the Foundation for Human Rights (one of the first local grant-making organisations in the human rights sector), and through our grants to CSOs. Together, we have a record of remarkable achievements, including support to thousands of projects in communities across the country that work

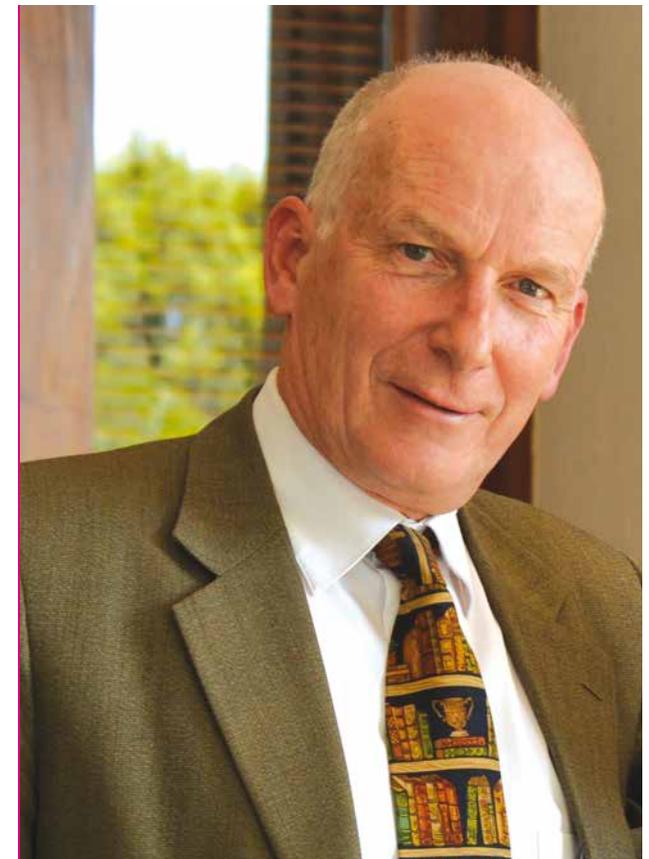
on deepening democracy and supporting access to justice for all, notably the most vulnerable.

The EU continues to value the pivotal role of civil society in striving for the transformation foreseen in the UN's Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Through their proximity to affected communities, CSOs are suitably placed to assist in overcoming the challenges of poverty, inequality and social exclusion. They are also active in the public space, engage in initiatives to promote participatory democracy, hold government and other public and private institutions to account, push for good governance, and promote human rights, including economic, social and cultural rights.

During my term as EU Ambassador to South Africa, I have been delighted to meet many of the organisations presented in this book. I would like to take this opportunity to wish them, as well as all other CSO actors in the human rights space, all the best as they continue the long walk on the road towards a more just and equitable society.



Marcus Cornaro,
EU Ambassador to South Africa





INTRODUCTION

Civil society organisations (CSOs) – including non-governmental organisations (NGOs), community-based organisations (CBOs), labour unions, faith-based organisations, trade unions and others – were key role players in the struggle against apartheid. Organisations like the Black Sash, established as a women’s resistance movement in 1955, and mass civil society-led movements like the United Democratic Front, were crucial contributors to the eventual overcoming and subsequent dismantling of the apartheid regime.

The EU and its member states, most of which refused to fund the apartheid government, provided invaluable financial support to CSOs and anti-apartheid actors. This in turn made it possible for these organisations to play their vital roles in providing services to the poor, protecting the rights of populations in difficult circumstances, lobbying for change, and providing legal assistance to those detained or charged with apartheid-era crimes. The Programme for the Victims of Apartheid, which started in 1985, was the largest European cooperation programme at the time (€450 million).

Following the unbanning of political parties in 1990 and the first democratic elections in 1994, the leaders and staff of many CSOs were co-opted into government to help guide the transition to a democratic and human rights-based state, which had the side effect of weakening many of the leading organisations in the country. In addition, and as a result of the perception that the new government would on its own be able to protect the interests of its citizens, the period following 1994 also saw a noticeable decline in funding for CSOs, as development partners began to provide funds directly to government.

In this context, the EU proved one of the few exceptions to the rule and continued to provide funds and other support to CSOs, in addition to increasing its levels of support to government. The relationship between government and civil society also grew far more collegial and collaborative post-1994, with a few notable exceptions such as the Treatment Action Campaign, which, with funding provided by the EU-funded Foundation for Human Rights, successfully challenged the government’s AIDS denialism, winning a landmark decision in the Constitutional Court to ensure the provision of antiretroviral medication to pregnant mothers.

From 1985 to 1997, the EU supported the establishment and operations of the Kagiso Trust to the tune of around R1.2 billion to provide support to development institutions and initiatives across a range of sectors. In 2000, the EU established a grant-funding mechanism, Themba Lesizwe, that ran until 2006 specifically to support CSOs that provided trauma support and assistance to (mainly women and child) victims of crime and violence.

The EU’s engagement with CSOs in South Africa continues to grow and is currently guided by a roadmap, defined on the basis of the EU’s Commission Communication on “The Roots of Democracy and the EU Engagement with Civil Society” (2012). The roadmap identifies three main areas of support: improving the environment in which CSOs operate; improving CSO involvement in policy dialogue at national and local level, and in relation to EU aid policies; and building CSOs’ capacity to play both a developmental role and a role related to governance and policy dialogue.

Such support has proved invaluable to the continued promotion and protection of human rights, particularly socio-economic rights and basic services, such as in enforcing the existing legislation of farmworkers’ rights. But while access to health care, education, justice and the protection of the rights of women, children, persons with disabilities and migrants has improved since 1994, access to services remains uneven. Levels of domestic and gender-based violence in South Africa are also among the highest in the world, and the country faces sporadic outbreaks of xenophobic violence. Access to information required for citizens to hold government to account in the use of public funds and the provision of services is still limited. While the South African Constitution was the first in the world to guarantee the right to equality for members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer (LGBTIQ) community, discrimination and violence against LGBTIQ people, including murder and sexual assault, continues.

In the pages that follow, we highlight the work of some of the main CSOs working to protect the rights of all of South Africa’s people, to increase access to justice and services and to compel government to deliver on the socio-economic rights enshrined in the Constitution. Many of the CSOs listed have received funding from the EU and EU member states, in which case, we also provide information on the projects such funding supported and the successes they achieved. This highlights the importance of the work of CSOs and their continued contribution to the development of human rights and democracy in South Africa.

REFUGEE AND MIGRANT RIGHTS

Millions of people around the world are compelled to leave the countries of their birth, often in search of new opportunities, but also to escape political instability, persecution, conflict or human rights violations. Section 9(3) of the South African Bill of Rights indicates that the state may not unfairly discriminate against anyone on the grounds of their birth, which implies their place of birth. It also constantly refers to the rights of “everyone”, so encompassing all people, not just citizens. The children of migrants are also entitled to all of the rights outlined in section 28, regardless of the legal status of their parents.





LAWYERS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS



Lawyers for Human Rights (LHR) is an independent human rights organisation committed to human rights activism and public interest litigation in South Africa. It provides free legal services to vulnerable, marginalised and indigent people and communities whose constitutional rights have been unlawfully infringed. LHR's policy development, training and advocacy activities are aimed at deepening the democratisation of South African society.

In January 2011, LHR launched the Support of Lawyers for Human Rights Refugee and Migrants' Rights Programme (RMRP). The RMRP is a specialist programme that advocates, strengthens and enforces the rights of asylum seekers, refugees and migrant workers in South Africa. It employs litigation as a tool in advancing the cause of these people when negotiation and mediation fail to yield the desired outcome.

LAWYERS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Martin Mande came to South Africa from the Democratic Republic of the Congo in 2005. He has been working with LHR to empower his fellow refugee community.

Support of Lawyers for Human Rights Refugee and Migrants' Rights Programme



625 000



2011 to 2013

CONTEXT

South Africa's refugee reception policy is based on the 1951 UN Refugee Convention and the 1969 African Refugee Convention. The local integration model outlined in this policy requires refugees to assimilate and integrate and, like citizens, to participate in the country's social and democratic space. But refugees often find themselves on the margins of society, unable to gain access to protection and essential services. One of the reasons for exclusion is the high level of intolerance for foreigners in South Africa.

OBJECTIVES

- To develop and implement a coordinated local integration policy. Local integration is a pillar of refugee protection in South Africa and LHR directs its advocacy work to giving refugees access to education, housing, health, employment and livelihoods. It also aims to improve government capacity and promote the development of national legislation and refugee policy in light of international norms and standards.
- To protect and promote an efficient and humane asylum determination process.
- To prevent the exploitation of migrant workers and other vulnerable groups, such as unaccompanied minors and stateless persons.
- To promote the adoption and ratification of key international conventions relating to migration law and policy, in particular the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.

RESULTS

- The programme saw an increase in local integration and access to social services through regularisation processes to document refugees and migrant workers.
- Strategic litigation expanded refugees' access to essential socio-economic services.
- Greater awareness of the existence

of intolerance, xenophobia and xenophobia-related violence towards migrant communities.

- Improved access to justice and legal services. LHR's law clinics have provided legal assistance to approximately 12 000 to 15 000 refugee and migrant beneficiaries per year.
- LHR developed capacity among selected government officials through several training programmes for police officers, home affairs officials and social workers.

FACTS AND FIGURES

- LHR operates three law clinics in Johannesburg, Pretoria and Durban as well as an advice office in Musina.
- During the project period, LHR assisted between 12 000 and 15 000 refugee and migrant clients per year.
- On average, 250 detainees were assisted every year by LHR, which brought urgent court applications for their release.
- The LHR statelessness project offered direct legal services to more than 700 people with statelessness concerns.

PARTNERS

- Zimbabwean Exiles Forum
- Consortium for Refugees and Migrants in South Africa





TESTIMONIAL

From refugee to activist

In 1998, a second war broke out in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). I lost my mother and I lost my father. Our government was short of people to join the military and young people going to school would be kidnapped and forced to fight.

A few friends and I started a youth movement to advocate against the use of child soldiers. But every time we met, we were beaten and arrested. I spent two years in prison as a teenager. After I was released, things didn't improve and one day I feared that I would lose my life. It was then that I decided to leave the DRC and go to South Africa.

On the way, we heard that things in South Africa were made of gold. But unfortunately, when I arrived, that wasn't the reality. I launched my claim for asylum seeker status and went every morning to the Department of Home Affairs, waiting in long queues. I had to sleep outside and experienced the worst things a person can experience.

After a year, I eventually got my asylum seeker papers, but life still wasn't easy. I was working on the streets and it was tough. One day I heard that LHR was offering training and I decided to go. It was a turning point in my life as it made me think about how I could be more useful to my community. The training gave me the skills to become a paralegal and I now have my own office and am able to give advice to others.

Left: Mande plays soccer with his daughter at his home in Pretoria.

Refugees in South Africa come from many different countries, from Rwanda to Burundi, Congo, Somalia and Eritrea. At one of the training sessions that LHR offered on community organising, a few of us decided to form the Association of Refugee Communities in South Africa (ARCOSA). Through this organisation, we help a very specific group in South Africa to come together using one voice.

I feel that organisations like LHR are very important in the lives of refugees. They stand for us. They really represent our interests. Looking ahead, I hope for a community where the rule of law is respected, where refugees are formally integrated and where they enjoy their basic rights as equal citizens.

Martin Mande, paralegal

“At LHR, we work to promote the rights of all people who find themselves in vulnerable positions. When they're being harmed, we help them through litigation, legal advice, training, rights awareness and capacity building.”

Faith Munyati
LHR Attorney

THE AFRICAN CENTRE FOR MIGRATION AND SOCIETY

Based at Wits University and established in 1993, the African Centre for Migration and Society (ACMS) is one of Africa's leading scholarly institutions for research and teaching on human mobility. It is an independent, interdisciplinary and internationally engaged institution focusing on the relationships between human movement politics, poverty, and social transformation.

The centre conducts scholarly and policy-oriented work in South Africa, across sub-Saharan Africa, and has partnerships in Asia, Europe and the Americas. It also offers Africa's only post-graduate degree in migration and displacement studies.



From 2012 to 2014, and with an EU grant (€249 000), the ACMS implemented a Migrating for Work Research Consortium project to upgrade the quality of the EU-South Africa migration dialogue and other pillars of the EU-South African strategic partnership, and to build awareness and capacity among government departments and civil society. The project resulted in four major research reports, six sectoral policy reviews, various policy briefs and media releases, a series of policy-makers' learning events at national and regional levels, capacity-building for government staff, scholarly articles, and opinion pieces in the South African media. The project also contributed to the formulation of policy and policy positions on foreign labour.

AFRICAN DIASPORA FORUM

The African Diaspora Forum was created in response to the outbreak of xenophobic violence in 2008 as a platform for African migrants to voice their concerns and work for an integrated society. A total of 21 countries are represented on the forum, whose objectives are to:

- Work for an integrated society that is free of xenophobia and all forms of discrimination.
- Promote and consolidate a pan-African forum for African residents to work together to build a unified voice on common issues and a shared feeling of belonging to Africa.
- Facilitate and develop relationships, exchanges and mutual understanding between South Africans and non-South African residents in South Africa through the organisation of pan-African cultural events and participation in CSOs at local level.
- Ensure that xenophobic statements in public discourses and policies do not go unchallenged.

- Work with South African institutions at national, provincial and local level to promote integration between African communities and to dismiss discriminatory policies that fuel xenophobia.

The forum conducts a range of awareness and education campaigns including music concerts, Africa Day celebrations, marches, workshops, seminars and advocacy.



CONSORTIUM FOR REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS IN SOUTH AFRICA

Established in 1998, the Consortium for Refugees and Migrants in South Africa (CoRMSA) is a national network of organisations working with asylum seekers, refugees and international migrants in South Africa. Its main objective is the promotion and protection of the rights of asylum seekers, refugees and international migrants. It operates at national, regional and global levels and provides strategic support to its members at local and provincial levels.



With an EU grant (€960 000), partnered by Oxfam GB, CoRMSA implemented an Access to Justice and Constitutional Rights for Non-nationals Programme, together with Adventist Development and Relief (ADRA) South Africa and ACMS from 2010 to 2012.

Among its key achievements, the programme successfully lobbied the Department of Justice to develop a policy document on hate crimes, provided training to religious leaders in two provinces and, with CoRMSA's official Observer Status at the African Commission on Human and People's Rights, was able to engage the Special Rapporteur on the rights of refugee and migrants to pressure the South African government to implement regional commitments.

Various publications on migrants' rights were produced and a network of CSOs was established to provide relief to victims of disasters. Research, advocacy and lobbying activities addressing issues affecting non-nationals were also conducted.

SCALABRINI CENTRE OF CAPE TOWN

The Scalabrini Centre offers development and welfare programmes to migrant and local communities in Cape Town using a holistic approach that considers all basic needs and human rights. Its vision is to foster the cultural, social and economic integration of migrants, refugees and South Africans into local society.



The centre receives migrants from 14 African countries and runs a range of programmes targeting advocacy, access to employment, English language courses, welfare and basic needs, and a women's platform that provides sector-specific training and mentorship for women. Its UNITE Programme is an outreach programme that works in four high schools in Cape Town to promote critical thinking and activism among the youth. According to the Scalabrini Centre's 2018 annual report, recent successes include:

- Assisting close to 2 000 individuals under the advocacy programme.
- Engaging with the Minister of Home Affairs to grant exemption immigration permits to former Angolan refugees, affording them permanent residence for four years.

- Successfully advocating and litigating for the reopening of the Cape Town Refugee Reception Office.
- Assisting over 320 clients with the renewal of their Zimbabwean Special Permit.
- Providing welfare assistance to 1 557 new clients during 2017 and 2018.
- Training 249 people on job readiness and basic Excel skills, and assisting 234 clients to successfully secure employment.

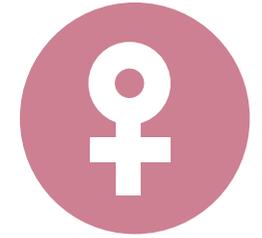
WOMEN'S RIGHTS

Hailed as an international bill of rights for women, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women clearly defines what constitutes discrimination and violence against women and prescribes actions to end it. In South Africa, women are equally entitled (in terms of section 9) to all of the rights listed in the Bill of Rights. Section 12(1)(c) also gives women and children the right to be free from all forms of violence, including domestic violence, and harmful cultural practices and customary law provisions, which often discriminate against women, are prohibited under section 31(2).





CESVI FOUNDATION



The Cesvi Foundation (Cesvi) supports the most vulnerable populations around the world by promoting their human rights and helping them to achieve their ambitions. Its work pursues the ideals of social justice and respect for human rights, and takes the form of humanitarian aid that cares for women, children, the elderly and social outliers. Founded in Italy, Cesvi has approximately 30 offices all over the world.

In South Africa, Cesvi's Citizens in Action Project aims to improve social and development-oriented services for women, children and the youth in informal settlements in Philippi, Cape Town. It does this through active citizenship, coordination and multi-stakeholder engagements.



Zola Gcaleka sought refuge at Cesvi's House of Smiles shelter when she left her abusive husband. She has since become a support for many other women through her work with the organisation.

Citizens in Action Project



444 169



2015 to 2017

CONTEXT

Women and children suffer alarming rates of domestic and sexual abuse in South Africa. Although gender-based violence, child abuse and HIV/AIDS affect families from every income bracket, they are pervasive among poor communities living in townships in and around Cape Town.

Until Cesvi opened the House of Smiles/Khanyisa Centre in Philippi, there was no facility properly equipped to host women in this area and provide them with counselling and treatment in their mother tongue.

OBJECTIVES

- To improve the capacity and provision of social and development-oriented services for the poor.
- To develop the House of Smiles/Khanyisa Centre into a coordinated service hub for victims of domestic violence.
- To strengthen the organisational and technical capacity of public and private service providers and community action groups (CAGs) dealing with domestic violence in Philippi.
- To improve civic and local authorities' engagement for service delivery with regards to domestic violence.

RESULTS

- The project has raised awareness among community members on issues related to domestic violence, and has equipped them with the support tools and information they need to seek help when faced with these issues.
- The number of domestic violence cases reported to the police has increased since the implementation of the Citizens in Action Project. This has been directly attributed to the fact that community members are now more aware of the domestic violence support services available to them.
- A conference was held for the representatives of organisations dealing with domestic violence in Philippi. This platform was used to discuss and analyse the project's models and practices with all relevant stakeholders, including regional and national

government officials and those working with domestic violence victims and survivors.

FACTS AND FIGURES

- Up to 80 stakeholders involved in domestic violence work in Philippi were reached through the project's awareness-raising activities. They included representatives from CAGs, CBOs, youth groups, police forums, school governing bodies and street committees.
- The stakeholders who attended the conference were grouped into consortiums and assigned projects, most of which involved hosting awareness-raising events. One respondent reported that these events were carried out at 12 schools in Philippi, reaching a total of 450 young people.
- The centre holds regular workshop on sexual and reproductive health rights attended on a regular basis by 60 children and teenagers.
- The centre helps approximately 40 clients per month on issues relating to domestic violence, assault or gender-based violence and it caters for an average of 20 women residents a month (those who stay there for three to four months), though this can go up to as much as 30, including children.
- The centre's after-school programme caters for about 60 children.

PARTNERS

- Cordaid International
- Community Connections

TESTIMONIAL

When a shelter leads to salvation

In South Africa, the rate of women being harmed and even killed by their partners is very high. I kept silent about my abuse for many years, despite being physically and emotionally attacked by my husband from the beginning of our marriage. My family is deceased and I kept believing that my husband would change, but he didn't.

One day I became frightened for my life and realised that I couldn't cope anymore. I went to the police station where someone heard my story and told me about Cesvi's House of Smiles, a shelter for abused women and children. They took us in – me and my three children – for four months.

I could never have imagined the level of support and consolation that would be offered to us there, especially since I was unemployed and had nothing. The social workers listened to my story and didn't judge me. And they not only provided us with a safe home, but everything we needed during that time, including toiletries, transport money and school fees. I will forever be grateful to them.

I met many similar women at the shelter. We shared our stories and, in the group counselling sessions, we began to rebuild our self-esteem. I started to realise that I shouldn't blame myself for my husband's behaviour and that I could live a life independently of him, both emotionally and financially. At the shelter, we were offered free courses and training in security, computers and legal support. When I arrived, I was doing a course in education, and with their help I managed to write my assignments and take my exams. Cesvi also gave

me a part-time job working as a baseline data collector and I was able to put aside the money I earned for my studies. I and other women there had the sense that studying, together with the skills training offered by House of Smiles, would help get us out of our situations and would empower us to stand on our own feet.

Although I am no longer living at the shelter, some of us still go for counselling there, and my children still attend its youth empowerment programmes. I wish that there were more of these places, and that they were known to more women. So often women stay in abusive marriages because they don't know where to go and don't believe that it's possible to rebuild their lives, and to regain their dignity and self-confidence.

I am currently studying for a degree in education, which is more than just a dream come true for me. It is also my salvation.

Zola Gcaleka, student
(pictured right, on the left-hand side)



“Cesvi and its hub partners have worked to create awareness around domestic violence in Phillipi. Through the programmes we offer to abused women, including shelter, counselling, skills training and aftercare for children, we hope to make an important contribution to their lives. We work to empower their sense of dignity and confidence, and to help them successfully reintegrate into their families, workplaces and society.”

Luvuyo Zahela
Cesvi Programme Manager

GENDER LINKS

Gender Links (GL) is an award-winning Southern African women's rights organisation whose work has been widely acclaimed across the continent. Formed in 2001 with headquarters in Johannesburg and offices in 10 SADC countries, GL conducts a range of activities on gender and gender-based violence and coordinates the Southern African Gender Protocol Alliance, a regional alliance across the 15 SADC countries to promote the SADC Protocol on Gender and Development.

In partnership with South Africa Women in Dialogue, GL received an EU grant (€171 992) for the period January 2013 to June 2015 to build a South Af-

rican Gender Protocol Alliance Network to provide an environment for dialogue between civil society and policymakers on gender equality. Activities aimed to make citizens, especially women, aware of their rights; build their capacity to engage in democratic processes; and empower them to make demands of government. Under the initial grant, the alliance also advocated for government to ratify the protocol, monitored progress towards its targets and benchmarks, and created links for the network to the regional and international processes relating to the campaign for women's rights. GL continues to host the Alliance Secretariat and to push for the implementation of the SADC Protocol (as updated) post 2015.



GREATER NELSPRUIT RAPE INTERVENTION PROGRAMME

Established in 2000, the Greater Nelspruit Rape Intervention Programme (GRIP) provides victim empowerment services to survivors of sexual and domestic violence through "care rooms" at police stations, hospitals and courts in the Ehlanzeni and Gert Sibande Districts in Mpumalanga. Care rooms are staffed by volunteer counsellors and provide counselling, HIV-testing, support and advice. GRIP also conducts community outreach, awareness and education activities, runs support groups for parents and caregivers of survivors, and provides support to victims and witnesses during criminal trials. GRIP is a member of the National Strategic Plan for the Gender-based Violence Campaign and Shukumisa – a coalition of over 60 organisations working against sexual violence.

With an EU grant (€192 574), GRIP implemented a programme supporting victims of sexual assault and domestic violence in two pilot sites (Barberton and Bushbuckridge) from 2013 to 2016. Although the Bushbuckridge pilot site was not successful, the programme nonetheless achieved results under the grant including:

- Care, support and services to 2 891 survivors of sexual assault and domes-



tic violence through interventions in 23 care rooms at hospitals and police stations.

- A total of 6 983 home visits and 290 school awareness campaigns.
- Court preparation services for 721 survivors, and support to 458 parents and caregivers, and 138 recorded convictions.
- Established the Umjindi Victim Empowerment Centre in Barberton.

THOHoyANDOU VICTIM EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME

The Thohoyandou Victim Empowerment Programme (TVEP) is a Limpopo-based NGO, which was established in 2001 to provide support to victims of child abuse, domestic and sexual violence, people living with HIV and AIDS, and members of the LGBTIQ community. Services include counselling, shelter, psychosocial counselling and legal support.

TVEP secured an EU grant (€450 000) for the period February 2017 to January 2019 to empower two communities in the Sinthumule-Kutama District in Limpopo to understand, advocate for, and exercise their sexual, reproductive, gender, and related human rights. In line with TVEP's Zero Tolerance Village



Alliance (ZTVA) approach, each community has been supported to establish a democratically elected forum to take ownership of the programme and to facilitate community dialogues between community leaders and state service providers on sexual and reproductive health rights, HIV, and the rights of LGBTIQ persons.

Age-appropriate educational materials have been produced for learners and educators, and training provided to all relevant state service providers (such as the police and health service providers) to ensure they comply with their mandates. Young leaders forums have also been established at two schools in the areas served by TVEP – Litshovhu and Mmilige Secondary Schools – and awareness activities have been conducted at both schools. Aligned with the ZTVA approach, leaders from Madombidzha village publicly pledged zero tolerance for any form of violence or abuse in the community. The project has also helped to build the capacity of CBOs to ensure the sustainability of actions after the project comes to an end.

HEINRICH BÖLL FOUNDATION AND THE NATIONAL SHELTER MOVEMENT

The Heinrich Böll Foundation (HBF) has been active in Southern Africa since 1989. Its work focuses on ecology and sustainability, democracy and human rights, self-determination and justice. The National Shelter Movement (NSM) of South Africa is an umbrella body comprising eight provincial shelter movements representing over 70 shelters across the country.

The project has conducted research in six provinces; hosted roundtables with government, public debates with CSOs and the media, and a costing workshop with government and shelters; and held capacity-building workshops for provincial shelter representatives. Project partners have used research findings to input into legislation, policy and strategic plans, and the Commission for Gender Equality has used the research during an investigation into the state funding of shelters.



Partners' engagement with the police has also led to a commitment to improve referrals to shelters. The project has generated public awareness on the importance of shelters and has created space for survivors to have their voices heard on the importance of adequately responding to gender-based violence, and the impact of failing to do so.

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

People living with disabilities often face extreme forms of discrimination, including barriers to employment, freedom of movement, social protection and adequate medical treatment. Internationally, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities advocates for a human rights-based approach to disability. People with disabilities are protected under section 9(3) in South Africa's Bill of Rights. It is important to note that all of the rights prescribed in the Constitution also apply to people with disabilities.





CREATE



Based in Pietermaritzburg in KwaZulu-Natal, Community-based Rehabilitation Education and Training for Empowerment (CREATE) protects and advances the rights of disabled people in the province. It does this through its training and advocacy work, which is focused on educating disabled people on their rights and empowering them to participate proactively in their communities. CREATE also works directly with these communities, guiding them on how to respect and support people with disabilities.

Under the Impendulo Project, CREATE fosters partnerships between traditional leaders and rural people with disabilities (especially women and girls) to promote inclusive access to justice in traditional courts.



Bongi Khanyile engages traditional leaders, school children and parents in the community, offering support and advice through his work with CREATE.

Impendulo Project



310 862



2017 to 2020

CONTEXT

The Impendulo Project takes place in rural communities under traditional leadership in KwaZulu-Natal. These areas are mostly poor, with subsistence farming and social grants serving as the primary livelihoods for many. People with disabilities experience discrimination and rights abuses, and struggle to access traditional justice mechanisms. They are treated as minors before the court and must be represented by others. Women and girls with disabilities are doubly disadvantaged. Traditional leaders have little knowledge of disability and often perpetuate the beliefs that underpin discrimination.

OBJECTIVES

- To ensure that traditional leaders respect and fulfil the rights of people with disabilities before the law and provide equal access to justice in the traditional courts. They must work together with people with disabilities and other stakeholders to remove barriers to access, whether physical, attitudinal, informational, financial or procedural.
- To help men and women with disabilities and parents of children with disabilities to access traditional justice and dispute resolution mechanisms and to ensure they are allowed to represent themselves in court.
- To provide national and international role players with knowledge products from the project to promote access to justice for people with disabilities in traditional courts.
- To increase capacity among implementing partners regarding disability, gender, access to justice and the traditional courts.

RESULTS

- Some traditional courts now allow people with disabilities to represent themselves in court matters, including in land and housing grant applications. Previously, people with disabilities were treated as minors, and family members had to speak on their behalf. This meant complaints of abuse by family members could not be brought to court.
- Traditional leaders now understand the

rights of people with disabilities, and how these are often denied or abused. They have begun speaking directly with people with disabilities and parents of children with disabilities, and are working together to remove barriers to participation in the community.

- Traditional leaders are aware of the challenges faced by the mothers of children with disabilities, especially due to traditional beliefs. Women are believed to cause childhood disability through infidelity or dishonouring the ancestors, and fathers frequently abandon their families as a result. Leaders who have done this themselves are now coming forward to admit their wrongs and make amends.
 - For the first time, people with disabilities are being appointed as members of traditional councils. This has influenced many headmen to begin including people with disabilities in other community structures, such as clinic committees and men's forums. They are also being invited to community meetings and events.
- none of the courts made information available in accessible formats, and none had adequate ablution facilities for people with disabilities.
 - Almost 600 traditional leaders have been trained in disability rights and access to justice, including the most senior chiefs in both districts. They've also asked CREATE to invite local disability representatives to the training, as well as community health workers and other local stakeholders, so that they can all work together.
 - A total of 14 people with disabilities (five women and nine men) have been appointed across six traditional councils to date. Parents of children with disabilities are now being invited as well.
 - Abuse of people with disabilities is now being spoken about openly, and traditional leaders now understand their role in addressing this. In the past they were told not to interfere by the families. Some leaders are developing safe reporting systems for people with disabilities. For example, a person who is being sexually abused by a family member can hang a red T-shirt outside their house to let the leaders know to investigate.
 - The Impendulo partners have held two joint workshops to share their skills and knowledge with regards disability and gender. Both CREATE and Justice and Women have broadened their perspectives and skills in intersectional disadvantage and inclusion.

FACTS AND FIGURES

- The baseline study at the start of the project revealed the experiences of people with disabilities in rural communities. It indicated that a wheelchair user pays three times as much as others to use public transport: one fare for themselves, one for their wheelchair and one for a helper to assist them. Furthermore, only two of the six traditional councils surveyed knew how to access sign language interpreters,

PARTNER

- Justice and Women

TESTIMONIAL

"I am proud of my disability; it has shaped who I am"

When I was six years old and starting school, I was paralysed by polio. It changed the course of my life. Since I was a very physically active child, climbing trees and swimming in rivers, those early years were very painful. Other children didn't want to play with me and they teased me. I was my family's first-born son and worried that my father would be upset with me for being this way. But he was very supportive and

we moved houses so that we could live opposite the local school.

I managed to finish matric and went to Durban to look for an office job. But nobody wanted to hire me. They said that my body was too stiff. I decided to return to my home in Nkandla, knowing that I wanted to help people with disabilities in the future because I know what they go through. I eventually got a job with Disabled People South Africa, and that's where I met the people from CREATE.

I appreciated their passion right away, and we started to work together to educate people with disabilities on their rights, and to find ways to help them prosper in business despite the prejudices and difficulties they face. Today, we also work with traditional leaders who have large

influence in the area. We train members of the traditional courts to be sensitive to disability issues and how to deal with cases concerning people with disabilities. Knowing the law helps as you can use it to fight people who abuse you.

CREATE regularly goes to schools in the area and talks openly to parents and teachers about disabilities so that they know what to do from an early age. But these ideas are still not easy for people to accept. So at almost every official forum, CREATE continues to speak out about the rights of people with disabilities. I am proud of my disability; it has shaped who I am. And my work is now the love of my life.

Bonga Khanyile, former local councillor and Chairperson of the District Disability Forum

"At CREATE, we strive to promote the inclusive development of every individual so that they feel empowered to fight for their rights and have the confidence to participate in community structures. Through our training, advocacy and engagement with educators, parents, social workers, health professionals and traditional leaders, we hope that there will be supportive structures for people living with disabilities in rural KwaZulu-Natal, as well as significant improvements to their lives."

Bongi Zuma
CREATE Senior Advocacy Officer
(pictured left, second from right)



AFRICA DISABILITY ALLIANCE

The Africa Disability Alliance (ADA) is a disability-led technical agency deriving its mandate from its member organisations of persons with disabilities (PWDs). The ADA works in partnership with the African Union (AU), United Nations, governments, CSOs, academia and disabled persons' organisations (DPOs) to promote inclusive development and human rights for PWDs.

With Christoffel-Blindenmission, the ADA received an EU grant (€1.9 million) to implement a Communities of Practice for Disability Advocacy and Mainstreaming (COPDAM) Programme (2013 to 2016). The programme focused on Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe, and aimed to build the capacity of national and continental disability federations to negotiate and advocate for disability mainstreaming in all sectors of government and at the AU. The programme strengthened federations to participate in political and societal dialogues on the inclusion of disability, supported federations to develop national disability mainstreaming plans for government, and shared best practice in disability inclusion in policies, plans and programmes

among COPDAM members, DPOs, governments of targeted countries, AU organs and CSOs.

A second EU grant (€2.43 million) was awarded to the ADA to implement the Alliance for Rights – Africa Towards Disability Inclusion (ARADI) Project. The grant runs from 2017 to 2019 and will enable 13 pan-African disability federations and 14 youth CSOs to promote the importance of disability rights using the AU's Africa Charter on Human and People's Rights – also known as the Africa Disability Protocol (ADP) and the Model Disability Law. The focus of the ARADI Project is to lead AU member countries towards the adoption and ratification of the ADP.



DISABLED PEOPLE SOUTH AFRICA

Established in 1984, Disabled People South Africa (DPSA) is an African thought leader and expert on disability human rights and is the largest democratic, cross-disability movement in the country. It is recognised by government as the National Assembly of Disabled Persons in South Africa and is affiliated with regional bodies such as the South African Federation on Disability (SAFOD) and the Pan-African Federation on Disability (PAFOD). It also has observer status with the AU and, through the World Council of Disabled Peoples' International, has observer status at the United Nations.

Through its advocacy work, DPSA contributed to the development of the Constitution and has ensured the integration of disability in legislation and policy, including the Employment Equity Act, Skills Development Act, and the Draft White Paper on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

It mobilises its members into local branches to ensure their representation at local, provincial and national level, including in the National Assembly, provincial legislatures, local government, the Human Rights Commission

and the Commission for Gender Equality. DPSA also conducts research and provides training to members, including on the implementation of a community-based rehabilitation disability support programme; a national training programme for disabled people, with a special focus on women and youth; and economic empowerment programmes focused on developing disabled people to participate in economic activities linked to income generation.



SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR THE BLIND

The South African National Council for the Blind was established in 1929 to coordinate South African organisations for the blind, to advocate and promote the rights of persons with visual impairments, and to contribute to the prevention of blindness. Since then, the council has added education and rehabilitation (1985), a centre to make assistive devices available (1986), and entrepreneurial development and support (1991) to its list of services. Through a network of over 100 member organisations, the council serves, supports and facilitates the prevention of blindness, rehabilitation, community development, training and education of South Africans with visual impairments. The council has nine provincial structures. It is also affiliated to international organisations including the Africa Union of the Blind (AFUB) and the World Blind Union (WBU).

Among its many objectives, the council:

- Provides relevant services and support to South Africans with visual impairments.
- Advocates on behalf of persons with visual impairments.
- Promotes education, training and rehabilitation for the employment of persons with visual impairments.

- Supplies assistive devices and related technologies to persons with visual impairments.
- Works together with international organisations for the improvement of the quality of life of persons with visual impairments.
- Ensures that blind and partially sighted people of all ages enjoy all rights promised by the Constitution of South Africa.



UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN: TEACHER EMPOWERMENT FOR DISABILITY INCLUSION

The Teacher Empowerment for Disability Inclusion (TEDI) Project, headed by the University of Cape Town (UCT) in partnership with Christoffel-Blindenmission (co-funded by the EU), aims to empower teachers to provide quality education for learners with severe or profound sensory or intellectual impairments through training that is focused on inclusivity, diversity and addressing learners' disability-specific needs.

The project draws on multiple perspectives and the challenges of role players in South African education – learners, teachers, parents, school management teams, and district and provincial education officials – to identify the difficulties faced by teachers and learners with disabilities in poorly resourced schools and what is needed to empower them to provide quality education. By so doing, it supports the South African government's efforts to effectively implement the constitutional right to education for children with disabilities.

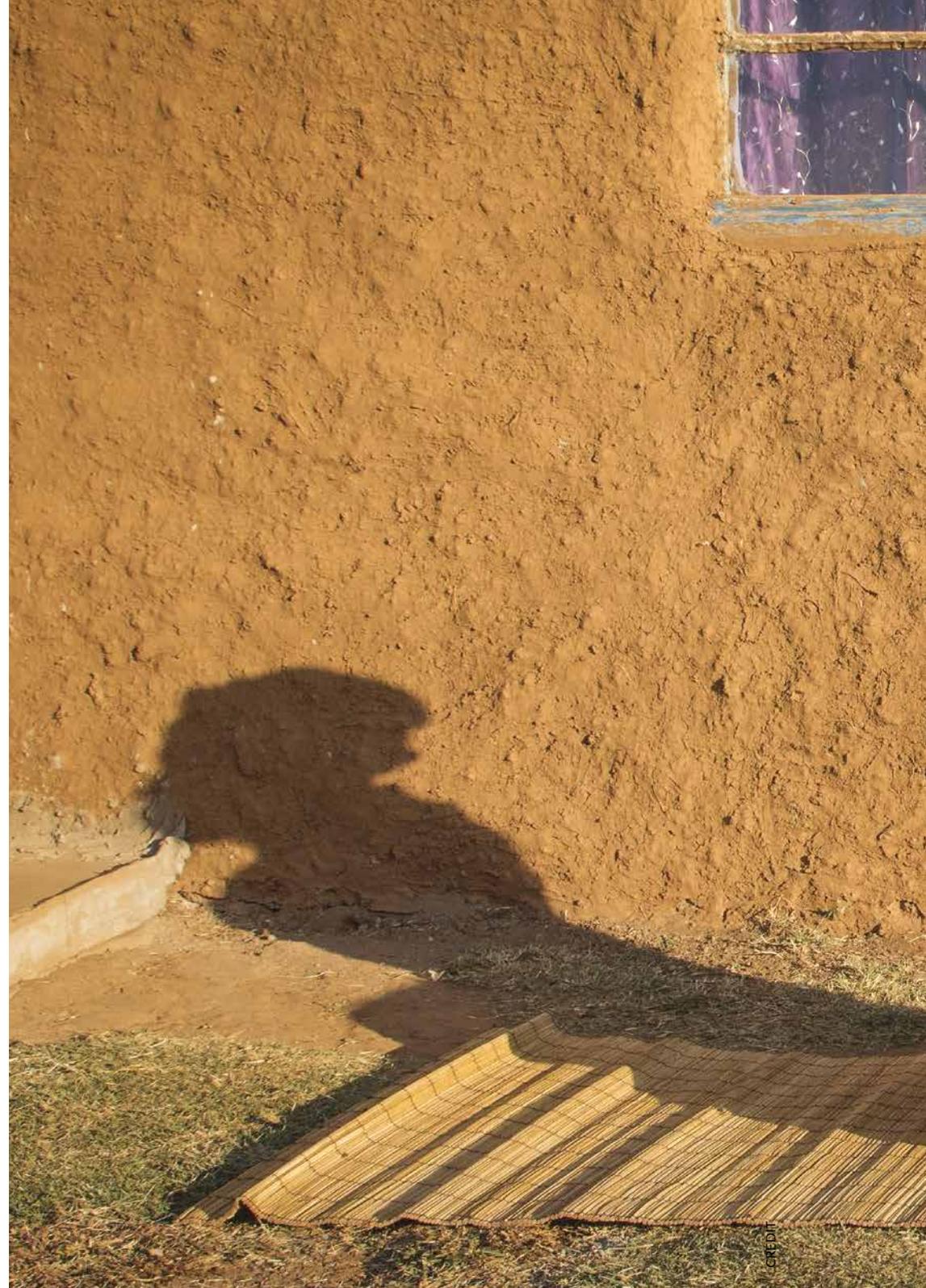
The specific objective of the EU support is to ensure that qualified teachers are

able to provide quality education for children with profound hearing, visual and intellectual disabilities as well as early childhood development through training that is focused on inclusivity, diversity, and addressing learners' impairment-specific needs. The grant allowed UCT to conduct studies to analyse the needs for quality education for children with specialised needs, to develop common models and standards for the development and growth of teachers, and to develop and offer various accredited courses for teachers.



LGBTIQ RIGHTS

The world over, individuals are subject to discrimination and abuse based on their sexual orientation and gender identity. In some countries, homosexuality is still punishable by death and same-sex marriages are recognised by only a few. South Africa was the first country in the world to outlaw discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and same-sex marriage has been legal in the country since 2006. The right to equality under section 9(3) grants people the right not to be persecuted against based on their sexual orientation or gender identity. Members of the LGBTIQ community are also entitled to all of the rights enshrined in the Constitution.





GAY AND LESBIAN NETWORK



Since its inception in 2003, the Gay and Lesbian Network (GLN) has undertaken pioneering work with primarily young, unemployed and marginalised lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer (LGBTIQ) people living in and around Pietermaritzburg in KwaZulu-Natal. It works with the broader community to create an enabling environment where LGBTIQ people can access services and be treated with respect and without fear of discrimination or violence.

The GLN's Khulumani Sekuyisikhathi Collective works with women, people with disabilities and LGBTIQ people living in six rural districts in Kwa-Zulu-Natal, often under traditional authorities, advocating for increased access to their socio-economic rights.



Joining GLN marked a turning point in Ntsiba Sphelele's life, opening his eyes to the possibilities of living his life within a supportive community. He is now a counsellor and facilitator at GLN.

Khulumani Sekuyisikhathi Collective



629 896



2016 to 2019

CONTEXT

Members of the LGBTIQ community are often subject to discrimination. This mistreatment manifests as a denial of their basic socio-economic rights, including the right to land, housing and quality health services.

GLN works to build inclusive and democratic practices that challenge the underlying socio-cultural norms that produce inequalities. It engages with traditional and religious leaders and government officials to reinforce the agency of marginalised people and to create sustainable change.

OBJECTIVES

- To facilitate learning spaces where rural women, children, people with disabilities and LGBTIQ people can gather to analyse and understand how unequal power relations, rooted in social norms and practices, limit their access to socio-economic rights. In this way, they can learn to take transformative action.
- To support these marginalised groups as they engage with traditional and religious leaders and government officials in their local communities.
- To sensitise traditional and religious leaders and government officials to make substantive changes to their practices and services.
- To develop a community-based system to collect monitoring data, using innovative and realistic technologies.
- To document and disseminate learnings through various media and state institutions, including Chapter 9 institutions and traditional leadership forums, to inform future engagements in these contexts.

RESULTS

- A baseline study for the project was conducted. The report detailed the experiences of excluded community members, LGBTIQ people in particular, as well as the views of power holders, such as traditional leaders, with the aim of understanding the way these groups engage with each other. The document also endeavoured to find solutions to the problems that these marginalised community members face.



- A series of consultative meetings were held between general and LGBTIQ community members, religious leaders, traditional leaders and local clinics to discuss issues that the LGBTIQ community deal with within the Elandskop and Mafakatini areas, including issues relating to land, housing and health.
- Gender and sexuality workshops were held among community groups to discuss and address a range of issues, including discrimination and the use of Bible scriptures against LGBTIQ people.
- Human rights workshops were organised to discuss the Bill of Rights, which guarantees all people the right to equality and the right not to be unfairly discriminated against on the basis of their gender, sex or sexual orientation. This aspect allowed the project to provide training on the Constitution to local communities, including its LGBTIQ members.

FACTS AND FIGURES

- A total of 40 people participated in the baseline study to assess the access to rights for LGBTIQ people, including a local chief (induna), health personnel, LGBTIQ people and community members.
- A total of 66 people attended consultative meetings within the first two years of the project.
- A total of 113 people participated in specific workshops on gender and sexuality across the districts within the first two years of the project.

PARTNERS

- Phatheka
- Bhekuzulu Self Sufficient Project
- iTeach

TESTIMONIAL

“We’re here, we’re gay and we’re not going anywhere”

Today, I can proudly say that I am many things. I am a traditionalist, a theatre performer, a part-time university student, and a gay rights activist who lives in a rural area. But for most of my youth I was depressed and confused. Friends and family turned their backs on me because I was gay. I suffered from denial, loneliness and feelings of rejection. It felt as if my entire world was collapsing.

Shortly after I tried to commit suicide, an acquaintance invited me to a GLN workshop on gender and sexuality. This marked a new phase in my life. I found genuine support from other people for the first time; they told me that I didn’t have to copy anyone else, and that I should follow my own journey. I realised that I was suppressing my sexual orientation because of my community and family’s expectations of what it means to be a man.

GLN gave me a safe space and a supportive community and I began to meet many other people with similar stories. I started to volunteer at GLN and travelled to many places with them. Engaging with people on the ground boosted my confidence and in time I joined GLN in an official capacity. I am now a GLN health coordinator, researcher, facilitator and counsellor.

Working at GLN makes me feel like I have a voice and a platform to challenge society, and to say, “We’re here, we’re gay and we’re not going anywhere”. Through GLN theatre, I am able to tell my story, help others to heal, and make people question their attitudes towards LGBTIQ people. I



am passionate about my tradition, religion and spirituality, and continue to engage with religious and church leaders so that they can create a more supporting environment for all of us.

My hope is hope is that we can deepen the work that we do in our communities and engage further with religious and

traditional leaders who play a huge role in our lives. I want LGBTIQ people to feel free and safe to express their identities and for their families and communities to accept and embrace them.

Sphelele Ntshiba, LGBTIQ activist
(pictured above)

“Through our various programmes, we hope to challenge social norms that harm LGBTIQ people. We want to make sure that they feel safe and healthy, live lives free of prejudice, can follow their religious beliefs and traditions, and are not hidden away but robustly contribute to policymaking and debate. We believe that, in South Africa and elsewhere, people need to work together to ensure that power is held accountable and that all people are treated fairly.”

Anthony Waldhausen
GLN Director

ACCESS CHAPTER 2

Access Chapter 2 was founded in 2013 to promote human rights, to empower women and LGBTIQ people, and to facilitate the participation of CSOs in governance and policy processes at local, national, regional and international levels.

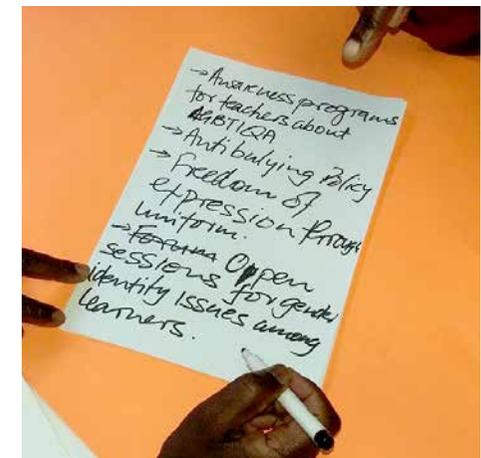
It does so by creating space and coordinating platforms for engagement on governance, policy and accountability processes, by developing innovative and active empowerment for transformation knowledge on community systems strengthening, and building solidarity within civil society and other sectors. The organisation conducts a range of activities, including direct services, legal support and advocacy, education, research and community engagement in the Eastern Cape, Free State, Gauteng, Mpumalanga and the North West.

GAY AND LESBIAN MEMORY IN ACTION

Founded in 1997, Gay and Lesbian Memory in Action (GALA) is an activist archive of LGBTIQ testimony, experience and culture in Africa. It is a custodian to over 200 organisational and personal archival collections from the 1940s to the present, including LGBTIQ organisational records and campaign material and personal documents such as letters, diaries, and photographs. Its mission is to act as a conduit for the production, preservation and dissemination of knowledge on the history and contemporary experiences of LGBTI people. Its key objective is to showcase and preserve queer African histories and stories through a number of creative avenues, including fiction.

Materials housed by GALA have been used to make documentaries, plays, exhibitions, books, short stories, poetry, biographies and academic theses. In addition to providing research materials via the archives, GALA also commissions research projects and publications, usually positioned within a human rights and social justice framework. Although its core activities remain as an archive and research facility, GALA also provides education and conducts movement-building activities.

GALA is based at Wits University and, during 2017, GALA and Wits concluded a memorandum of understanding that envisages mutually enriching partnerships, including jointly funded research projects, targeted internships and training activities, doctoral or postdoctoral programmes, and sabbatical stays for researchers.



OUT

OUT has been in existence for more than 20 years and provides health services to the LGBTIQ community, men who have sex with men (MSM), and injecting drug users, including HIV testing, counselling, treatment and general lifestyle advice and support. It has a strong focus on reducing discrimination against members of the LGBTIQ community, MSM, and injecting drug users, and aims to reduce and deal with hate crimes against members of these communities. It also works to sensitise local communities and provides support to victims, including medical and psychosocial support.

OUT provides training to government and other stakeholders on LGBTIQ issues and related competent services, and supports advocacy, research and expertise-building related to its objectives and target communities. OUT received funding from various sources including France (for training of correctional service staff on gay and lesbian rights) and the Netherlands (towards its programme on hate crimes).

Some of OUT's main successes during 2017 and 2018 included:

- Facilitating 16 736 peer contacts through its TEN81 mobile clinic (up from 5 465 the previous year).
- Providing access to a range of services for 2 883 clients through its TEN81 clinic (up from 2 288).
- Providing safe spaces to 891 members of the LGBTIQ community.
- Monitoring 55 cases of hate crimes on behalf of clients.



IRANTI

Based in Johannesburg and founded in 2012, Iranti is an LGBTIQ rights visual media organisation that works to raise issues on gender, identities and sexuality. It aims to build local partnerships and movements that use media as a key platform for lobbying, advocacy and education.

Iranti works with rural and urban populations in South Africa as part of its engagement with civil society to document the lives of queer Africans, build visual narrative evidence, raise awareness, and influence policies and laws that advance human rights across South Africa and beyond.

Iranti received an EU grant (€300 000) from 2015 to 2018 to implement the Zwakala: Strengthening Capacities of CBOs to Document and Report on Hate Crimes and Other Human Rights Violations Towards LGTBI Persons Project ("zwakala" means speak out/rise up). The project aimed to strengthen the capacity of eight CBOs and NGOs in Gauteng, Limpopo and the Northern Cape to document and report on hate crimes and other human rights violations against LGTBIQ people and



their families. Key activities included training, study tours and learnerships to provide human rights defenders and CBOs with media making and other skills to document and report cases of human rights violations, and to conduct research, public education and advocacy activities, including social dialogues, at community and national levels.

ACCESS TO LAND, WATER AND HOUSING

Being able to access land, water and housing offers tangible knock-on developmental benefits, including improving human rights and food security, establishing gender equality and alleviating poverty. It even presents advantages for environmental conservation and mitigating climate change. The right to housing, food and water is enshrined in South Africa's Bill of Rights.





THE ASSOCIATION FOR RURAL ADVANCEMENT



The Association for Rural Advancement (AFRA) is a land rights advocacy NGO that supports marginalised black rural people in South Africa, especially farm dwellers. It works towards an inclusive, gender equitable society where rights are valued, realised and protected, essential services are delivered, and land tenure is secured. AFRA works closely with communities in and around the uMgungundlovu District Municipality in KwaZulu-Natal.

Through the Farm Dweller Rights Settlement Project (known as the Pathways Project), AFRA seeks to help farm dwellers out of poverty by helping them secure land tenure and access to services, and by developing relationships between all parties involved.



AFRA | Association For Rural Advancement

Jabulani Luthuli is one of many farmworkers in South Africa facing the daily threat of eviction, intimidation and denial of access to basic services by their landowners.

Farm Dweller Rights Settlement Project



590 000



2016 to 2019

CONTEXT

Farm dwellers are South Africa's forgotten citizens. They often live in self-constructed mud houses with little or no access to housing alternatives, electricity, potable water or education. Farm dwellers face poverty, the constant threat of eviction, and reduced access to land for grazing livestock or growing subsistence crops.

In the uMgungundlovu District located around Pietermaritzburg in KwaZulu-Natal, these burdens, which fall particularly hard on women and children, have been exacerbated by a multi-year drought. Despite clear evidence of their vulnerability, farm dwellers are neglected in land and agrarian reform policies.

OBJECTIVES

- To provide farm dwellers with pathways out of poverty through the progressive realisation of their constitutional right to secure land tenure and services.
- To develop and test spatial planning frameworks that use incremental, flexible approaches to secure tenure and services for farm dwellers. These approaches include ending the cycle of violations that affect farm workers, securing for the long term, counting farm dwellers in, putting farm dwellers on the map and promoting landowner-led strategies.

RESULTS

- A farm dweller rights and services survey produced baseline data on 6 048 farm dwellers in 838 households across the entire district. A land record was developed and distributed to participants of the survey containing basic evidence of the household data and GPS locations. This information will be valuable to planners and decision makers.
- The Pathways Out of Poverty report is an important reference document that analyses complex and overlapping legal frameworks. It works in conjunction with a second report, Land Rights Adjudication: Developing Principles and Processes for Extension of Security of Tenure (ESTA) and Labour Tenant Rights Holders, and a review of the Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act. Together, these documents have

created a strong basis for informed engagement between stakeholders.

- Six models for securing tenure and access to services have been developed:
 1. End the cycle of violations: unblocking land rights violations affecting farm dwellers
 2. Secure for the long term: promoting the long-term rights of ESTA occupiers and labour tenants
 3. Count farm dwellers in: listing farm dwellers and developing land rights records
 4. Put farm dwellers on the map: increasing the official visibility of farm dwellers using planning instruments
 5. Landowner-led strategies on some farms
 6. Current official land reform options
- Four strategies that cut across the models were prioritised through visioning, reality checking, and by identifying farm dwellers' preferences:
 1. Local land record production, distribution and high-level advocacy for new legislation (a Land Records Act)
 2. ESTA Section 4 activation to secure ESTA occupier rights in selected site/s
 3. Farm dweller visibility in municipal planning in integrated development plans, spatial development frameworks and zoning schemes
 4. Promoting redistributive tenure security on farms through two land release mechanisms: donations and expropriation

FACTS AND FIGURES

- The sample survey conducted with 842 farm dweller households captured data of 6 478 men, women and children on 82 farms in seven local municipalities. Of those interviewed, 75% earn below the minimum farm worker wage of R3 000 per month, with the average person earning R2 300 per month.
- A total of 15 willing landowners were identified in bilateral and localised engagements in seven local municipalities.
- AFRA has engaged with more than 500 farm dwellers through various representative structures. These engagements involved learning more about what farm dwellers want for the future and educating them on their rights.
- One class action litigation option began. The initial court application has been framed around the provision of basic services to people on farms.

PARTNERS

- Farm dwellers: Siyanqoba Rural Transformation Forum
- Individual farmers
- KwaZulu-Natal Agricultural Union (KWANALU)
- Upper Midlands Agricultural Transformation Initiative (UMATI)
- South African Sugar Association
- uMgungundlovu District Municipality
- Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA)
- Department of Rural Development and Land Reform

TESTIMONIAL

The road to peaceful coexistence

I have lived on this farm my whole life – my mother was born here, too. This land is all that I've known but, like so many others, I didn't know that I had legal rights as a farm dweller. I felt powerless.

People on farms face many problems, including difficulty accessing services and unfair treatment by their landowners. Sometimes, people are even prevented from practising cultural traditions, growing crops or collecting firewood. In the past, I didn't know how to deal with the conflict I was experiencing with the owner of the farm I live on, but since meeting the team from AFRA, I feel empowered. AFRA made me aware of my rights, and taught me how to use them.

AFRA helped us to push for important services, and we recently obtained the necessary permission from our farm owner to install electricity in our homes. This had been an issue for some time as he had refused to allow wires and pipes to pass through his property, and the municipality needed this permission in order to provide us with electricity.

Now, whenever I come across an obstacle, it's comforting to know that I can turn to AFRA for advice. It has helped me approach the problems we face on our farms in a much more productive way. I have also put other farm dwellers and workers in touch with AFRA. Since I am now more knowledgeable and confident about our rights and processes, I've started to help others with their struggles.

I think that AFRA's work is important because it tries to facilitate relationships between the people living on farms and



their landowners. This is necessary as we all need each other and want to coexist, to live in the same spaces and to find solutions to our problems. With the backing of AFRA, I will continue to reach out to other farm dwellers, spread my knowledge and form bonds of solidarity, especially

among those who feel vulnerable and who are too afraid to speak. My hope is that we can all come together, share our views and live peacefully and in equality.

Nonhle Mkhize, Siyanqoba Rural Transformation Forum (pictured above)

“Our interventions are designed to ensure that farm dwellers and farm workers are visible in policymaking, and are empowered to assert their rights where violations occur. The reality is that our rural communities, including farm owners and farm dwellers, are intertwined. The journey that we need to take is one of establishing new pathways, where dignity and rights are mutually recognised and respected.”

Glenn Fared
AFRA Programme Manager

AFESIS-CORPLAN

Established in 1992, Afesis-Corplan is based in East London. It is a recognised pioneer in deepening participatory democracy and good local governance, community development and alternative settlement development approaches. Afesis-Corplan implements two main programmes:

- The Sustainable Settlements Programme to assist low-income households to access appropriate land for settlement development and to ensure that well-located land is made available for settlement de-

velopment timeously and affordably, and that municipalities are planning for and supporting low-income settlement development interventions.

- The Local Governance Programme provides citizens with avenues for engaging with the state on issues of interest to them and to hold elected representatives to account. It seeks to ensure that governance systems provide for public participation and accountability and that municipalities are listening to the views of their citizens.



BUILT ENVIRONMENT SUPPORT GROUP

The Built Environment Support Group (BESG) was established in 1983 by the then University of Natal Department of Architecture and Allied Disciplines as a support group to defend communities against eviction from informal settlements in urban areas, often as a result of inter-political party violence.

In the early 1990s, BESG became a key player in shaping planning and housing policies from local to national level and, since 1995, it has been a leader in enabling poor communities and other vulnerable sectors of society in accessing and developing land, basic services, shelter, and livelihood security through the provision of capacity-building, social and technical support, and promoting citizen engagement with government.

BESG is based in Pietermaritzburg and serves the Msunduzi and eThekweni municipalities as well as various smaller towns and rural areas in the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands. It implements programmes in three broad areas: human settlements, good governance and climate change adaptation.



ISANDLA INSTITUTE

The Isandla Institute is a public interest think tank focused on fostering just, equitable and democratic urban settlements through research and advocacy. It works with multiple partners to guarantee that new ideas are disseminated, tested and remoulded to solve problems in the “real” world, and with academic institutions to ensure that its policy focus is rooted in robust knowledge systems.

To advance the “right to the city” for poor South Africans and inspire new approaches to urban development, the institute generates research that recognises the importance of the practical application of knowledge and ideas, and the development of appropriate methodologies, processes, tools and in-



struments for development professionals, especially in the public sector. The institute’s programmes focus on urban land and integration, HIV/AIDS in the city, local government, and culture. It also provides specialist advice and consultancy services and runs an academic teaching and internship programme.

ACCOUNTING FOR BASIC SERVICES PROJECT

Together with the Heinrich Böll Foundation, Afesis-Corplan, BESG and the Isandla Institute, Planact recently completed an Accounting for Basic Services Project. Supported by an EU grant (€570 000), the project ran from May 2016 to November 2018 and aimed to strengthen community engagement with local government to ensure the equitable, just and effective use of municipal funds. The project supported six communities in the Eastern Cape, KwaZulu-Natal, Gauteng and Mpumalanga to understand, interrogate and monitor their local government budgets. It expanded the use of budget analysis and social accountability tools as key approaches to mobilising communities, fostering responsive governance and holding the state to account for the delivery of basic services. Activities included:

- Support to communities in strengthening political voice and holding municipalities to account for effective and equitable spending of their finances.
- Intensive capacity-building of project partners’ abilities to analyse and monitor municipal finances.
- Development of tools, popular education materials and the hosting of forums to extend budget analysis



and advocacy beyond the partners to other CSOs.

- Crystallising lessons for policy and practice.
- Based on research support and outputs (policy briefs and case studies), the project included among its successes:
- The establishment and capacity-building of local CBO networks to better understand the budget process, how to monitor expenditure, and how to hold municipalities to account for basic service delivery.
 - The creation of temporary jobs in road construction.
 - Assisting 343 households to register for indigent support to access free basic water.
 - Conducting an infrastructure social audit into the misuse of public funds – the first of its kind in South Africa.
 - Bringing together communities, municipalities, infrastructure developers and service providers to discuss key challenges in service delivery and how to address them.

ACCESS TO JUSTICE

Human development and the elimination of poverty depend on improved access to justice. Most importantly, legal advice and formal or informal courts must be accessible to indigent and vulnerable people and communities. All of those who seek justice must also be treated equitably and without discrimination. Although access to justice is not specifically mentioned in South Africa's Bill of Rights, it forms part of various rights including the right to freedom and security of the person as expressed in sections 9, 12, 13, 14, 33, 34 and 35.





ORANGE FARM HUMAN RIGHTS ADVICE CENTRE



The Orange Farm Human Rights Advice Centre (OFHRAC) is committed to defending the socio-economic rights of indigent people and communities. It does this by providing these people with access to information, legal advice and legal assistance on a range of issues including social grants, labour mediation, evictions, domestic violence, child abuse and disability rights. OFHRAC also helps refugees and asylum seekers, and runs a day care centre for the Orange Farm community in Gauteng.

Through its various projects, OFHRAC undertakes sustainable grassroots initiatives in an effort to fulfil the basic human rights of its community.

ORANGE FARM HUMAN RIGHTS
ADVICE CENTRE



Goodness Jeki was threatened with eviction from her home after her husband died. She turned to OFHRAC, who advised that the eviction was illegal and have taken her case to court.

Orange Farm Human Rights Advice Centre



Funded through the Foundation for Human Rights



2016

CONTEXT

Orange Farm is a semi-rural community 40km south of Johannesburg that is largely undeveloped. Two of the most crucial human rights problems in the area are access to justice and access to healthcare facilities. Orange Farm residents have to travel more than 20km to reach a court and 30km to reach a hospital. The vast majority of inhabitants also suffer from low levels of literacy, and their lack of access to basic services such as sanitation compromises their human dignity. In addition, residents have very little access to information, which would allow them to gain better social services and economic opportunities. OFHRAC seeks to address all of those issues through its various programmes, services and campaigns.

OBJECTIVES

- To serve as a coordinating body of community-based paralegal offices.
- To promote a culture of human rights and access to justice.
- To establish, promote and uphold uniform standards of professional competence among advice office members and in surrounding communities.

RESULTS

- To date, OFHRAC has seen more than 900 clients from Orange Farm and its surrounding areas. Most of the cases it deals with relate to housing, deceased estates, labour matters, mediation and divorce.
- In 2018, two workshops were held. The first, which was on citizenship, addressed 120 people and was jointly held with a legal counsellor from Lawyers for Human Rights. The second was on wills and was conducted by a team of attorneys. A total of 80 people participated in the latter workshop and the attorneys helped 26 people to draw up their wills.
- In addition to a day care centre, OFHRAC also runs a recycling project that contributes to the funds needed to run the centre. The project helps to address pollution and empowers community members by demonstrating alternative ways for them to earn an income while contributing to environmental conservation.

PARTNERS

- The Department of Labour
- Foundation for Human Rights and Land Reform

TESTIMONIAL

Justice for the disempowered

My husband, children and I lived in a shack until we were able to afford a house. I was so happy when my husband bought our house – it was a place for us to call our own. We had been living in it for a few years when my husband died, leaving me alone with our children.

One day, people arrived and said that the house didn't belong to us; they said it was theirs. I explained that it was mine and told them how we bought it. But people kept coming to say, "This is not your place. It belongs to someone else and they have paid for it." It has been very painful dealing with all of this without my hus-

band. I tried to work it out with the local councillor and the police but had no luck.

One day, a man came with an eviction notice, and said that we had to leave the house or go to court. I looked through the legal papers. There were a lot of pages and I couldn't understand them. I didn't know what the law said and didn't know what to do. That same day in the taxi, I was sharing my story and someone told me about Bricks from OFHRAC, who they had heard on Theta Radio giving free legal advice. I called Bricks and, when we met, I explained my story.

Bricks listened to me, read the legal papers and asked me for any proof or documents that I had. He really helped me and made me feel that I had support. When I was at the OFHRAC office, I saw that there were a lot of people who were coming there for help with their problems. Bricks then put me in touch with a lawyer in Johannesburg who is helping me with my case. I will now go to court to challenge my eviction. I have faith that I will succeed.

Goodness Jeke, widow and mother
(pictured right)





“At OFHRAC, we help the poorest of the poor with basic legal services and connect them to lawyers, whether they have the money or not, because we believe in the constitutional right of access to justice. Our hope is to reach as many people as possible so they know they can get legal advice whenever they need it, and so you will find us in taxi ranks, shopping centres, churches and other public places.”

*Richard “Bricks” Mokolo
OFHRAC Paralegal
(pictured on page 36, standing)*

CENTRE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COMMUNITY ADVICE OFFICES OF SOUTH AFRICA

The Centre for the Advancement of Community Advice Offices of South Africa (CAOSA) was formed in 2018 as a merger between the Development of Community Advice Offices (Nadcao) and the Association of Community Advice Offices of South Africa (ACAOSA).

- Nadcao was established as an alliance of human rights organisations in 2005, supported by the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, Atlantic Philanthropies and the Foundation for Human Rights. Nadcao works towards the development and long-term sustainability of community advice offices (CAOs) in all nine provinces. Its objectives are to strengthen CAOs; conceptualise and develop ideas for the advancement of CAOs and community-based paralegals; identify, influence and support initiatives and interventions that will ensure the sustainability of the sector; facilitate the provision of relevant support and development services; mobilise resources; and articulate the issues of the sector within an authoritative national source.

- ACAOSA is a federal organisation representing 312 CAOs in South Africa. Its focus areas include access to information, community/customary land rights, criminal justice, economic empowerment, environmental justice, gender-based violence and governance.

As a result of the merger, Nadcao and ACAOSA now work jointly under CAOSA to coordinate and facilitate the provision of free, accessible legal and social services to marginalised and vulnerable communities and individuals by supporting and developing CAOs.

CENTRE FOR COMMUNITY JUSTICE AND DEVELOPMENT

The Centre for Community Justice and Development (CCJD) provides fundraising, training, research and other support services to 15 community-based advice offices in KwaZulu-Natal. The offices provide access to justice to rural communities, offering legal advice, mediation, counselling and educational services and negotiating with service providers on behalf of clients. The main issues addressed by the CCJD are domestic violence, entitlements such as pensions and grants, labour rights and child abuse.

From November 2014 to April 2016, the French Embassy Civil Society Development Fund provided a grant to three CCJD community advice offices in Mpumalanga, Mountain Rise and Osizweni to work with women and children's rights in their respective areas of operation.

The overall aim of the grant was to increase awareness of women's and children's rights in terms of their knowledge of the law, to enhance victims' reporting of violence to advice offices, and to help decrease levels of domestic violence, sexual assault and child abuse. With the support provided, paralegals based at the advice offices were able to attend to 489 cases of domestic violence, child abuse and rape; assist 124 clients to obtain protection orders; successfully mediate 164 cases; conduct 90 workshops reaching 2 531 participants; and conduct 86 school presentations reaching just short of 50 000 learners.



FOUNDATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

The Foundation for Human Rights (FHR) was created in 1996 out of an agreement between the EU and the South African government to promote and protect human rights and democratic principles in South Africa.

The FHR's mission is to address the historical legacy of apartheid, to promote and advance transformation in South Africa, and to build a human rights culture using the Constitution.

The FHR became one of the first grant-making institutions to support CSOs implementing programmes to improve access to justice for the country's most vulnerable groups – in particular by supporting legislation promoting socio-economic rights.

From 2009 to 2014, with an EU grant (€20 million), the FHR implemented the Access to Justice and Constitutional Rights (AJPCR) Programme on behalf of the Department of Justice. The programme supported 176 community advice offices (a primary source for access to justice for the realisation and enforcement of socio-economic rights for people living in marginalised areas), trained 180 CSOs to improve their capacity to deliver restorative justice and alternative dispute resolution and services, and reached more than 350 000 farm workers and farm dwellers through



grants to CSOs working with these communities. In addition, 210 CSOs received grants to host events, campaigns and workshops to raise awareness of human rights and celebrate human rights events; more than 9 million people were reached through popular education programmes on constitutional rights; and more than 90 000 refugees, undocumented migrants and asylum seekers accessed legal support services from grantees funded through the programme.

The FHR is currently implementing a follow-up programme to the AJPCR – Socio-Economic Justice for All – in partnership with the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development and the EU. As part of this programme, the first baseline survey on constitutional rights (covering almost 25 000 respondents) has been completed, more than 11 million people have been reached through popular education campaigns, 320 grants have been made to CSOs supporting human rights awareness, 85 grants have been made to community advice offices, and a range of research reports on the implementation of socio-economic rights (including the right to social security, education, water, health and sanitation) have been produced.

WITS JUSTICE PROJECT

Based at Wits University's Journalism Department, the Wits Justice Project (WJP) investigates miscarriages of justice and raises awareness of issues, advocates for change, strengthens procedures and builds on reform efforts within the criminal justice system through investigative journalism, advocacy, research and education.

With the support of an EU grant (€296 398), the WJP, together with co-grantee Just Detention International-South Africa (JDI-SA), implemented a Tackling Torture and Sexual Abuse in South Africa's Detention Facilities Project. By providing training to media personnel and Department of Correctional Services (DCS) officials on how to report on, and respond to, reports of torture and sexual abuse in prisons, the project aims to investigate and expose cases of torture and sexual abuse and to assist survivors to access the information and services they need to rebuild their lives. The project also aims to hold government to account for protecting detainees from torture and sexual abuse, to build government's capacity to provide protection, and to mobilise other CSOs to focus on the rights of prisoners providing support to survivors of torture and violence in prisons.

Since the project's end in February 2018, the WJP continues to investigate, advocate and write about incidents of inmate torture, and JDI-SA has recently partnered with the DCS to implement a policy to address the sexual abuse of inmates in DCS facilities.



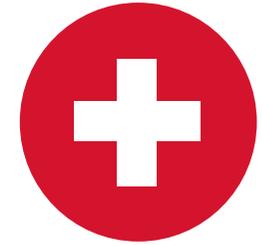
ACCESS TO HEALTH

To maintain their health, to prevent, treat and manage diseases and to mitigate against disability and death, people need access to quality healthcare services, medication and social security. This access is often limited depending on their race, economic status, sexual orientation, gender identity, geographic location and disability status. Under section 27, everyone in South Africa has the right to healthcare services, including reproductive healthcare, and no one may be refused emergency medical treatment. Children have specific and direct rights to healthcare in terms of section 18(1)(c).





UCT, WOMEN ON FARMS, TRAINING FOR TRANSITION



The University of Cape Town (UCT) is South Africa's oldest university and one of Africa's leading teaching and research institutions. The Women on Farms Project (WFP) works with women involved in commercial agriculture, strengthening their capacity to claim their rights and fulfil their needs. Training for Transition (TFT) provides training and mentoring for organisations that serve the needs of vulnerable communities.

Together, these three entities developed the Community Systems Strengthening for Health Project to address the social determinants of health through local participative structures. This project aims to help community members realise their health rights and to promote their well-being.



The Community Systems Strengthening for Health Project provides training on health issues to people living in Klapmuts, an under-resourced farming community in the Western Cape.

Community Systems Strengthening for Health Project



880 000



2016 to 2019

CONTEXT

In three communities in the Western Cape, a range of social issues affect community-level health.

Klapmuts is subject to extreme social inequality, with high levels of poverty, alcohol abuse, violence, rural displacement and exploitative working conditions. In Gugulethu, community members face food insecurity, violence and child abuse. And Belhar battles high levels of unemployment, criminal gang activity and poverty. All three deal constantly with chronic diseases and other health challenges. Community-based and intersectoral actions are necessary to address these issues.

OBJECTIVES

- To contribute to improved governance and access to health and social services for the poor and marginalised in Klapmuts, Gugulethu and Belhar in the Western Cape. It endeavours to do this by helping community members to actively lead and undertake advocacy actions at local, sub-district, district, regional and national levels.
- To strengthen the coordination of services through community and organisational leadership structures, networks, partnerships and connections with local government. This involves improving community activities and service delivery.
- To understand how the project should be adapted according to different contexts by modelling it in three communities over three years. This will guide its implementation in other communities in the future.

RESULTS

- Community baseline mapping has been conducted across three communities, the data for which is now available.
- A monitoring and evaluation system is now in place to track the project's development and implementation.
- Community dialogues have been held across the different sites. These serve as a participation platform for community members and health activists to advocate for their rights in relation

to the social determinants of health.

- All three sites have received training in the following work packages: food and nutrition, child protection, health promotion and peace building.
- The project's observations have reached a wide range of policymakers, civil society members, academics and public officials. They have also raised awareness of these issues among local communities, health departments, elected political leaders in municipal and provincial legislatures, NGOs and international peers.

FACTS AND FIGURES

- The baseline study revealed the widespread prevalence of assault and violence, with 75% of respondents indicating that this was an issue in Klapmuts, Gugulethu and Belhar. Child abuse, most commonly in the form of neglect, is also rampant.
- The study revealed that more than half of all households had at least one member living with a chronic health condition, including high blood pressure, diabetes, HIV/AIDS, TB and mental illness.
- Training has been provided to over 250 community members and health activists across the pilot sites covering the above work packages to help in responding to the social determinants of health and related community challenges.
- A cohort of community members and health activists from the three sites also attended an 18-month



adult education qualification course provided by UCT as a means of building formal leadership skills.

PARTNERS

- UCT
- WFP
- TFT

TESTIMONIAL

A ground-up approach to health

There are many health problems in Klapmuts, the town where I live. But many of us don't feel that we can get proper help. Sometimes we don't even know that we are sick, and we carry on with our lives with great difficulty. When I had a stroke a few years ago, I didn't know that I had been living with dangerously high blood pressure for years. Being sick and needing treatment made me realise that there are also many problems with the healthcare services in this area.

After this experience, I decided to attend a workshop held by Women on Farms, which focused on the common health and social problems in our community, including vari-

ous illnesses and alcohol and drug abuse. The issues that we discussed were directly related to what I was seeing happening around me. I continued with the training offered by Women on Farms, and learnt about various practical health matters, including diagnosing and treating diseases, dealing with sexual health issues, the importance of taking medication correctly, the rights of patients, and what to expect from doctors and clinics.

At one of the workshops, I was asked to co-facilitate a discussion on gender-based violence, and this marked a significant turning point for me. My confidence began to grow because of this experience, and I was on my way to becoming a community health advocate.

Women on Farms has empowered me and the other advocates to become clinic monitors. We regularly go to the local clinic to see if people are satisfied with the services they are receiving and to confirm that there are sufficient medicines in stock. I also spread the knowledge that I have gained to others in my community, and we do walkabouts in the area, giving out Women in Farms pamphlets and speaking to people about their health concerns. We listen to their grievances and go back to the Women on Farms training sessions and discuss these with everyone. In this way, we deal with real health and social issues on the ground.

When I was sick, I felt like my hands had been chopped off. I felt hopeless and alone. But now that I am part of the Women on Farms Project, I feel I can help others who are sick. I hope that more women – and more people generally – get involved with Women on Farms.

Michelle Scheepers, health activist
(pictured right)



“Through this project, we train and empower women living in under-resourced areas, which are severely affected by poverty, crime and gender-based violence. We help them to come out and speak about their health and social problems, to learn about what constitutes a healthy lifestyle, and to take up health issues in the wider community. Because of this work, we are heartened that even vulnerable women living on farms are now directly involved in governance and policy matters.”

Sharon Messina
Women on Farms Health and Empowerment Programme Officer

MPILONHLE

Mpilonhle (meaning “a good life” in isiZulu) was founded in 2006 and operates in northern KwaZulu-Natal. It is dedicated to identifying and implementing innovative solutions for the health and social problems faced by youth in South Africa, especially impoverished youth living in rural areas.

Mpilonhle was awarded an EU grant from March 2014 to September 2016 (€828 429) to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the school health programme in the uMkhanyakude district. The project established 10 school health teams and trained them on how to use a real-time electronic data capture and reporting systems, developed under the project, to reduce the time

required for learners to complete the forms before they could be attended to by a professional nurse.

With the assistance of Mpilonhle staff, health teams also conducted health education and HIV testing services to increase acceptance among the community, schools, learners and the District Department of Health of HIV testing in schools, leading to a 67% increase in the number of learners tested (16 000 by the end of 2015). And with the addition of lay counsellors from Mpilonhle, health teams were also able to increase the services provided to learners by professional nurses from 20 to 40 per day by assisting with the pre-loading of learners in the electronic system and the capturing of all pre-screening data.



SMALL PROJECTS FOUNDATION

Founded in 1988 in the Eastern Cape, the Small Projects Foundation (SPF) aims to improve the lives of poor and disadvantaged people and to empower people and communities to improve their quality of life socially, economically and physically. The SPF conducts various projects in education and health, including two with grants from the EU:

- The EU Match Project (€1.3 million) ran from 2012 to 2015 and supported 13 clinics in Lusikisiki, Flagstaff and Kondoa. Among other successes, the project helped to reduce mother to child transmission (PMTCT) of HIV/AIDS to 1.2%, and trained nurses and volunteers to provide antenatal care, PMTCT, maternal and child HIV/AIDS antiretroviral therapy (ART), care and support in all 13 clinics. Male partners' involvement in PMTCT was improved by 30% and over 3 000 children in 30 schools were given sexual and reproductive health education.
- The Improved Health and Social Services through Capacity for Active Citizenship (HSSCAC) Project (€646 354) ran from 2015 to 2017. Under it, the SPF (in consultation with the provincial Department of Health) provided action and learning

activities to over 2 200 users of 15 clinics in the Amahlati sub-district and 15 clinics in the Buffalo City Metro, trained 29 clinic committees and 30 orphans and vulnerable children safety net committees, and conducted 230 nutrition support meetings for 1 840 participants.



SOUL CITY INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

Established in 1992, the Soul City Institute (SCI) is internationally recognised as a premier health and development communication project, using a combination of mass media, social mobilisation and advocacy to improve people's quality of life and health. Relunched in 2016 as a social justice organisation for young women and girls, the SCI promotes a just society that ensures equal treatment and respect for basic human rights. Its projects reach over 87% of the South African population.



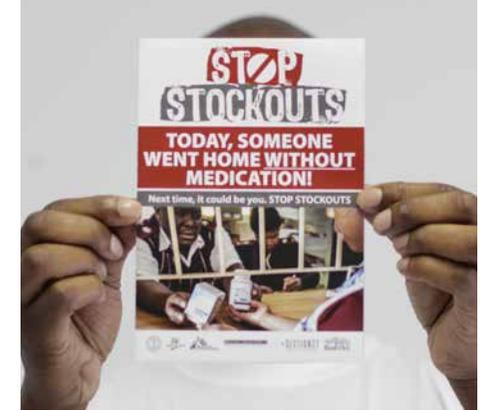
The SCI's most recent EU grant (€540 000), together with Women'sNet, contributes to the Raising Voices of Young Women and Girls Project. The project runs from 2017 to 2019 and aims to empower young women and girls (15 to 25) with knowledge and skills on governance, democracy, gender equality and advocacy so they may use the law to fight inequality and discrimination.

It will train 40 young women advocates in Mpumalanga, the Free State and the North West and build a RISE Young Women and Girls Advocacy Coalition to channel their collective voice for social justice and to participate in democratic processes to advance the human rights of young women and girls. The project was also included in the Commission for Gender Equality's presentation to the Second African Youth Sustainable Development Goals Summit in Ghana in November 2018.

SOUTHERN AFRICAN HIV CLINICIANS SOCIETY

The Southern African HIV Clinicians Society (SAHCS) has been in existence for 20 years and aims to promote evidence-based, quality HIV health-care in Southern Africa. It represents almost 10 000 healthcare workers including doctors, nurses, pharmacists and other healthcare professionals working in the field of HIV.

The SAHCS strives to support and strengthen the capacity of its members to deliver high-quality, evidence-based HIV prevention, care and treatment services through journals and publications, practice guidelines, meetings and conferences, providing clinical resources, and advocating for the highest quality HIV treatment and care for people living with HIV.



Together with Médecins Sans Frontières, Rural Doctors Association of South Africa Rural Health Advocacy Project, SECTION27 and the Treatment Action Campaign, the SAHCS has been implementing the Stop Stockouts Project since 2012, supported by an EU grant (€800 000) for the period 2017 to mid-August 2019. Project partners monitor stockouts of HIV and TB medicines, vaccines and other essential medicines in the public healthcare system to improve the right to health and access to timely and quality healthcare.

Through information sharing and education with community engagement, the project raises awareness and knowledge about health rights and government's responsibilities to users of public healthcare. Data collected is also used to advocate for better supply chain management systems and improvements in healthcare services.

TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY

In democracies around the world, transparency and accountability are hailed as two of the most important pillars of governance. If properly implemented, their benefits span the length and breadth of society. Part of South Africa's commitment to these qualities lies in section 32 of the Bill of Rights, which indicates that everyone has the right to access any information held by the state. Section 33 is also relevant as it grants everyone the right to know what administrative action is being planned before a decision is taken, and to written reasons for the decision made.





PLANACT



Planact supports and mobilises community processes that enhance good governance at local level. It does this to improve people's living environments as a means of alleviating poverty. Planact works on the ground to help people and communities understand and engage with local government and municipal budgets. In this way, they are taught how to advocate for better service delivery and to monitor developments relevant to them.

Planact's Accounting for Basic Services Project aims to tackle the inadequate use of resources by municipalities and build a rights-based approach to service delivery. It focuses on supporting and building capacity among citizens marginalised by geography, poverty, race and gender so that they can hold local government to account. It also helps these communities to reshape their relationships with public representatives.

plan act

Planact works to promote and support integrated human settlements by strengthening CBOs. One of its key methods involves municipal budget training and analysis.

Accounting for Basic Services Project



570 000



2016 to 2018

CONTEXT

In South Africa, local government is responsible for providing important basic services, including water, sanitation and electricity. In order to engage with local government structures to improve the quality and quantity of these services, communities need to be familiar with budget analysis.

Planact works on the ground to help communities to understand and engage with local government and municipal budgets. It does this by teaching people to use and analyse the budgets to advocate for better service delivery and to monitor developments.

OBJECTIVES

- To develop a transparent, accountable and responsive local government that can provide better basic services to marginalised communities in informal settlements, townships and rural areas. This will help local government to improve the socio-economic rights for the majority of South Africa's population.
- To help marginalised communities in informal settlements, townships and rural areas engage with local government stakeholders – including municipalities, the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, and Treasury – and hold them to account. In this way, the project aims to ensure that state resources are better utilised and basic services properly provided.

RESULTS

- Members of the Good Governance Learning Network now have the tools and core capabilities to empower communities to engage effectively with municipalities, particularly on budget allocation and expenditure issues.
- In six communities, different groups have built unified leadership structures, forged alliances and strengthened mobilisation capacities.
- Six communities have the tools to influence and monitor municipal finances and to participate effectively in existing mechanisms.
- Lessons and best practices that address the inadequate use of local government resources have been

identified and discussed with representatives from all spheres, including peer CSOs, Chapter 9 and oversight institutions, and the media.

FACTS AND FIGURES

- A guide to local government budget advocacy was developed with the International Budget Partnership. A gender-responsive budgeting manual and activists' guides were also developed, as were six research documents, six budget submissions and three policy briefs.
- A minimum of 142 community members were actively involved for the duration of the project. A community leadership exchange was held with 36 community leaders and 23 visitors from six communities.
- Various social audits were conducted on the communities' sports grounds, infrastructure and water systems.
- Two round table discussions with government departments and CSOs were held. These meetings were attended by five partner organisations, three government departments and 10 CSOs, and resulted in five articles printed in both the local and national press.

PARTNERS

- Heinrich Böll Stiftung
- BESG
- Afesis-Corplan
- Isandla Institute
- International Budget Partnership

TESTIMONIAL

The bottom line of basic services

I was a happy child when I was growing up but then my parents passed away and I couldn't finish school. I had to leave my home to find work. I found a job, and ended up erecting a shack alongside many others in an informal settlement close to my work.

When I arrived, there were no basic services here at all, and there still aren't many, just a few taps and toilets and still no electricity. It isn't safe to live here without power and without access to water and sanitation. We get sick easily. We've been trying to speak to the municipality to come and render services here since 2002, but nothing has happened.

In 2013, we met with Planact and told them about our problems. They immediately donated 12 water taps to assist the community. They also gave us spray paints to paint numbers on our shacks so that ambulances and the postal service can find our homes easily. Then they taught us how municipal budgeting works: how the budget is divided and how money is allocated for education, housing and other services. They showed us where we can see how much the municipality spends on services and how much income they get from services.

Before Planact helped us with the budget analysis, we were very confused, but now we know exactly what's going on in the budget. Now that we have more knowledge about how budgeting works, we hold meetings and invite officials who come to speak to us. They are starting to take our grievances more seriously.

We have also made a submission to the municipality on budget allocations for next



year, and are teaching others in the community how to get involved and hold the authorities accountable. I want to fight for better services not just for myself but also for my children and their children. I don't want them living like I do.

Molefe Mkhwebane, community activist
(pictured left)

“At the core of South Africa’s service delivery problem is the fact that marginalised communities don’t know how local municipal budgeting works. Planact works with these communities on budget training, civic empowerment and capacity building to ensure that local government is held accountable for basic service delivery.”

Nkululeko Ndlovu
Planact Programme Coordinator

DEMOCRACY WORKS FOUNDATION



The Democracy Works Foundation (DWF) implements innovative interventions and technologies to foster inclusive development through the deepening of democratic culture and capacity. Together with the Westminster Foundation for Democracy, the DWF is currently implementing a three-year Civil Society Participation in Provincial Legislatures Programme in the Northern Cape, the North West and Limpopo to nurture an accountable and functioning democratic infrastructure in South Africa. The programme runs from May 2018 to October 2020 with an EU grant (€506 000) under the Enhancing CSO Participation in Legislatures' Oversight and Participation Processes Programme.

The programme aims to increase public participation in the provincial legislative process by building the capacity of local CSOs and provincial government to engage with each other on safety and security and health. It provides research, training and mentoring to CSOs and support to members of provincial legislatures to enable them to engage with CSOs, particularly those that

include women, youth and people with disabilities. To date, project implementers have:

- Introduced the project to the three provincial legislatures.
- Entered into partnerships with 10 CSOs in the North West and completed the first collaborative engagement between CSOs and the North West Provincial Legislature.
- Partnered with six CSOs in Limpopo and eight in the Northern Cape.
- Completed the draft baseline report for the North West.
- Developed the digital tracking tool and introduced seven CSOs in the North West to the tool.

INTERNATIONAL BUDGET PARTNERSHIP SOUTH AFRICA

The International Budget Partnership South Africa (IBPSA) was established in 2014 to help poor communities engage in government budget processes in order to improve service delivery. The IBPSA provides training and other support to grassroots CSOs in five of the nine provinces and five of the eight metropolitan councils to build their capacity to understand the processes involved in developing policies and budgets, the rules regarding procurement of goods and services, and the information they are entitled to and how to access it. The IBPSA also engages with government to access information on budgets and policies in language that ordinary people can understand. The right of access to information, together with the right of people to participate in government decision-making, is thus key to their work.

The IBPSA has received an EU grant (€650 000) under the new EU Public Financial Management Capacity Development Programme for Improved Service Delivery 2018 to 2021 to increase the ability of citizens and CSOs to participate in budget formulation and monitor implementation at local government level. The IBPSA will also develop an open budget index for the five targeted metros to determine how open the budgeting process is and use the results to lobby government to increase public access to accessible and relevant budget information.



OPEN DEMOCRACY ADVICE CENTRE

The Open Democracy Advice Centre (ODAC) are transparency experts and thought leaders, conducting experiments in opening information and advancing transparency to forward social and economic justice to create an open world. ODAC is a leading CSO when it comes to research, litigation and advocacy on access to information (including open data) and the protection of personal information. ODAC assists public and private institutions to develop policies, procedures and systems to implement key legislation such as the Promotion of Access to Information Act and the Protection of Personal Information Act.

A good example of ODAC's work was its assistance to the Blikkiesdorp community to access information related to their circumstances. Blikkiesdorp is a temporary relocation area used to house families rendered homeless as a result of evictions or xenophobic violence. During 2015, the community became aware that the City of Cape Town was planning to relocate community members as part of a process to upgrade the city's airport. With funding from the Foundation for Human

Rights and France, ODAC assisted the community to access the city's housing policy and plans, produced a documentary on the project, developed a media strategy, and held a conference with stakeholders. The project empowered the community to engage with officials at the highest levels and to develop a long-term strategy for the realisation of their housing rights.



FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION INSTITUTE

The Freedom of Expression Institute (FXI) was established in 1994 to promote freedom of expression, oppose censorship, promote access to information and knowledge, and promote media diversity and was formed from a merger between the Anti-Censorship Action Group and the Campaign for Open Media. FXI is a member of the Media Institute of Southern Africa, which is a regional organisation devoted to the promotion of freedom of expression and a free, fair and independent media; the global free expression network IFEX; and the African Free Expression (AFEX) network.

FXI has a dedicated law clinic, established in 2005, to provide litigation support, legal advice and support of freedom of expression matters, and to challenge inconsistencies that affect the exercise of the right to freedom of expression. Its research unit monitors the development and implementation of policy and legislation and conducts research on issues impacting freedom of expression and trends in the exercise of this right. FXI's outreach unit conducts advocacy campaigns around legal and policy issues, to remove outdated

legislation from the statute books, and for the adoption of new legislation on freedom of expression. FXI also runs campaigns to ensure greater openness and transparency in government and engages in mass mobilisation with its partners and allies to raise awareness and demand for particular development objectives.



CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, which came into effect in 1990, is the most widely ratified international human rights treaty in history. It boasts 196 signatories worldwide. In South Africa, section 28 of the Bill of Rights grants children the right to care, nutrition, shelter and healthcare, and to be protected from neglect, abuse and exploitative labour. Children are also entitled to all other rights enshrined in the Constitution, except the political rights outlined in section 19.





SAVE THE CHILDREN SOUTH AFRICA



Save the Children South Africa (SCSA) believes that children and teenagers have the right to have a decent present and future. It works to provide them with a good start, to protect them from harm and violence, to give them the opportunity to learn, and to ensure that their needs are met and their voices heard.

Together with Save the Children Italy and the Education with Enterprise Trust, SCSA is implementing the Youth Engagement and Socio-Economic Empowerment Project (YESEEP). This project aims to ensure that disadvantaged young people and under-skilled youth CSOs and networks can contribute to decision-making processes, social development and livelihoods in their communities. It has been implemented in Limpopo, Mpumalanga and the Free State.



Children in South Africa are generally not aware of the structures in place to promote and protect their rights and welfare.

Youth Engagement and Socio-Economic Empowerment Project



600 000



2017 to 2019

CONTEXT

Children in South Africa are generally not aware of the structures, such as the AU, the South African Human Rights Commission and the African Children's Charter, that are in place to promote and protect their rights and welfare. This denies, limits or reduces the chances of them participating in and influencing policies and interventions designed to address their needs.

SCSA, through YESEEP, seeks to create platforms where children can raise their voices and engage with different stakeholders to help improve the state of children in South Africa.

OBJECTIVES

- To ensure that targeted youth networks and CSOs have increased voice and representation in governmental social and economic forums.
- To help young people gain increased awareness, skills and knowledge on socio-economic rights, entrepreneurship, sexual reproductive health, substance abuse, crime and violence.
- To increase the income of targeted youth networks and youth CSOs and to improve their economic resilience.

RESULTS

- SCSA conducted a national children's consultation workshop, where children were guided on producing a Children's Complementary Report to the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child. The report is critical to SCSA's programmes. Its findings and recommendations will be used to guide SCSA's project priorities and will be shared with governmental departments and partners to improve the situation of children in South Africa.
- As a follow-up to the national consultative meeting, a provincial children's consultative meeting was held in Limpopo to gather information on how SCSA can better engage children and improve its interventions at provincial level.
- Municipal officials were trained on child rights planning and budgeting. The training was conducted in collaboration with SCSA's internal

projects: Child Rights Governance, Child Protection and YESEEP. The workshop strengthened the capacity of municipal officials and decision makers to incorporate the rights of children in their plans and budgets. It also gave insights on the rights of children and why municipalities should prioritise children.

- SCSA also conducted child rights and child participation workshops to educate children on their rights and the importance of their participation in different government and community structures. As an outcome of these workshops, children identified challenges they encounter in their communities that have a direct impact on their well-being. Dialogues were held in Limpopo, Mpumalanga and the Free State, and were coordinated by children with support from SCSA staff. These platforms allowed children to engage with leaders on their rights to survival, development, protection and participation.

FACTS AND FIGURES

- In total, 107 children (53 boys and 54 girls) between the ages of 12 and 18 participated in the national children's consultation workshop. As a result of the workshop, the National Complementary Report was produced.
- A total of 42 children from the Vhembe and Capricorn districts attended the meeting in Limpopo, and four local municipalities were represented. Children made recommendations on key issues that needed to be

addressed, such as corporal punishment and recreational activities.

- Ten municipal officials from the Vhembe and Capricorn districts were trained on municipal child rights planning and budgeting in Limpopo.
- A total of 709 youth were empowered with skills and knowledge on child rights and participation. Children also gained a better understanding of how to influence decisions that affect them in their respective communities.

PARTNERS

- Education with Enterprise Trust
- The Nelson Mandela Children's Fund
- Kids Haven
- SOS Children's Villages South Africa

TESTIMONIAL

Helping children to become leaders

My name is Matshidiso Mooko. I am a 15-year-old girl from a small village called Thabana Tsoana in the town of Phuthaditjhaba in the Free State. I stay with my mother, my 19-year-old brother and my niece. I attend Mohale Intermediate School, where I am currently in Grade 8.

The mountainous and remote village where I come from is dominated by high rates of unemployment, and residents of my community lack access to basic services. Like the majority of families in the area, my family has limited resources and struggles to make ends meet. I lost my father in 2011, which left my unemployed mother to fend for our family. We rely primarily on a child support grant of R760 (approximately €45) per month. My background illustrates the realities of many children living in poverty-stricken parts of South Africa.

Together with 40 other children, I participated in the child rights and child participation dialogue organised through YESEEP. Although I was shy at first, my leadership qualities have blossomed since and have made me aspire to become a champion in my community, and to advocate for children's basic rights such as the right to play. I also want to encourage children to take their responsibilities seriously. I would like to ask the President to continue prioritising children's rights, especially with regards to free education and the creation of safe environments for all children.

Matshidiso Mooko, project beneficiary
(pictured right)



“At SCSA, we raise awareness on children’s rights, solicit support for the promotion and protection of the rights of children, and hold those who violate these rights accountable. We need to constantly create child-friendly platforms where children can raise their issues and be heard. It is critical that we actively engage with all stakeholders including government departments and schools, as well as partners and parents because child participation starts at home.”

Tshegofatso Dolo
SCSA Project Manager

CHILD WELFARE SOUTH AFRICA

Child Welfare South Africa (CWSA) is an umbrella organisation representing 164 child welfare affiliates, 30 developing organisations, 25 outreach projects and 206 communities. It aims to protect children from all kinds of abuse, establish networks and partnerships to ensure the safeguarding of children, and provide support and guidance to member organisations.

Collectively, CWSA members reach around 2 million children, their families and caregivers across the country. CWSA and its members speak on behalf of children, lobby on matters affecting the well-being and safety of children, and advocate for children's rights in various ways. It raises public awareness on children's needs and conditions affecting their well-being; educates the public on the nature, extent and value of child welfare services; participates in processes to develop or amend legislation and policies affecting children; provides services for children in disadvantaged communities; and facilitates the development of services to children and families.



CWSA also provides training and mentoring to member organisations and communities, assists members to raise funds, and spearheads national programmes to facilitate community-based services for children through the mobilisation of communities.

In addition to empowering marginalised communities to meet their needs through development programmes, it also conducts research to ensure relevance in the formulation and delivery of service programmes for children.

CENTRE FOR CHILD LAW

The Centre for Child Law was established in 1998 and is based in the Faculty of Law at the University of Pretoria. The centre aims to contribute towards the establishment and promotion of the best interests of children in South Africa through litigation, advocacy, research and education.

A registered law clinic, the centre's overall purpose is to develop child law through law reform, case law, policy development and influencing public discourse. Using the constitutional right for NGOs to bring public interest litigation, the centre conducts strategic impact litigation that aims to set legal precedent to improve and strengthen laws relating to children. It also focuses on strengthening the legal frameworks supporting the protection and realisation of children's rights in the thematic areas of education, social assistance, foreign migrant children, care and protection, child justice, birth registration, and children with disabilities. The centre also has the capacity and flexibility to participate in "vanguard" cases that arise in the children's rights field, even where these may not fit perfectly within their chosen themes.

CHILDREN'S RADIO FOUNDATION

Founded in 2007, the Children's Radio Foundation uses radio to create opportunities for youth dialogue, participation, leadership, and active citizenship. With over 72 projects in five African countries, the foundation partners with radio stations, schools, youth centres and CBOs, and trains and mentors youth broadcasters across Africa to create well-informed radio programmes that are broadcast live on local radio stations.

In partnership with Gun Free South Africa, the Foundation is currently implementing a youth civic engagement and advocacy project to build safer communities through youth-led radio initiatives at community radio stations across South Africa.

The project is supported by an EU grant (€480 000) and runs from July 2017 to June 2019. It aims to increase awareness and knowledge around issues of violence, crime and community safety and supports communities to take media, messaging and advocacy actions at the local and national level through submissions for amendments to the Firearm Control Act (2000). In its first year,



16 community radio stations broadcast 32 hours (384 annually) of interactive youth-produced and hosted shows. A total of 49 community outreach activities were also conducted, mobilising more than 2 315 participants.

The initiative has helped build networks between youth-focused CBOs and community radio stations and has created opportunities for young people to play an active role in building safer communities.

UCT CHILDREN'S INSTITUTE



The UCT Children's Institute harnesses the collective academic capability at the university to promote enquiry, build capacity through teaching and training, and present evidence to guide the development of policies, laws and interventions for children. The institute aims to:

- Conduct research that characterises the situation of children in South Africa and identifies gaps and opportunities to strengthen law, policy and practice.
- Make academic research accessible to government and civil society.
- Engage in dialogue and evidence-based advocacy to promote effective policy design and service delivery.
- Contribute to discourses on children and childhoods.
- Provide education and training to ensure that children's rights are respected in professional practice.

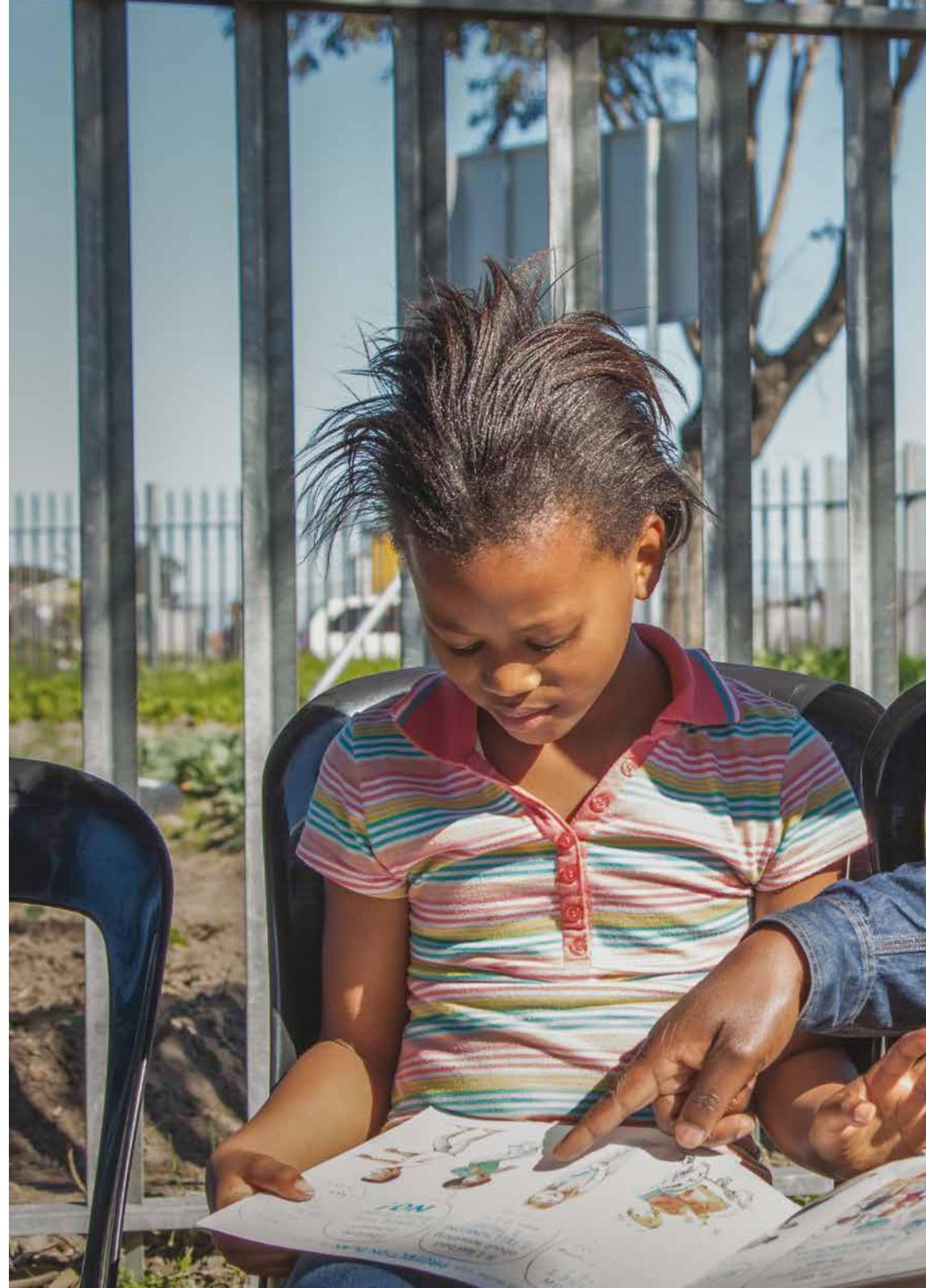
To these ends, the institute conducts and stimulates research and scholarship; provides education and training to graduate students, child practitioners and policymakers; and provides technical assistance to practitioners and poli-

cymakers. As an independent broker of evidence, the institute also provides information to those who are advocating on behalf of children and engages in its own evidence-based advocacy. With the best interests of the child at its centre, the work of the institute aims to ensure that children are given primary consideration by society. In particular, the institute pays special attention to promoting children's participation in its work, and advocates for their voices to be heard in decisions affecting their lives.

With the support of an EU grant (€75 000) under the Programme to Support Pro-Poor Policy Development II, the institute carried out a study to assess a local therapeutic programme for sexually abused children living in rural areas, to establish its impact and efficacy in the therapeutic management of sexual assault, and to provide children with post-intervention care and support. Through the programme, the institute has also started framing its research on children and inequality, which was the focus of the 2012 Child Gauge "Children and Inequality: Closing the Gap".

RIGHT TO EDUCATION

Education is synonymous with human development. It helps to promote democracy and economic growth and to develop peaceful and healthy societies. The right to education is firmly enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in South Africa's Bill of Rights. In the latter, section 29 states that everyone has the right to basic education and to further education, and to receive an education in the official language or languages of their choice. The right to establish and maintain non-discriminatory, legally registered and high-quality educational institutions is also provided for in the Bill of Rights.





EQUAL EDUCATION



A community and member-based organisation, Equal Education (EE) is a movement of learners, parents, teachers and community members working for quality and equality in South Africa's education system. Its detailed knowledge of this system enables it to forge new ways to bring change to education and society. EE is a leader in youth leadership development.

Through one of its projects, referred to as Youth Organising: Securing the Right to a Quality Education, EE helps learners to strive for quality and equal education through analysis and activism.



Equal Education works to improve the quality of education young people receive, especially with regards to infrastructure, transport, sanitation and safety.

Youth Organising: Securing the Right to a Quality Education Project



600 000



2017 to 2020

CONTEXT

The education received by young people in South Africa is highly unequal, with class and race-based issues persisting despite more than two years of democracy. These unequal educational opportunities remain among the greatest obstacles to equality, dignity and freedom in the country.

The problems that the majority of black learners in townships and rural communities face include unacceptable and demeaning physical conditions in many schools, lack of basic equipment and books, poor quality teaching, insufficient teachers, gang violence, the absence of sanitation and inadequate transport. These realities, which affect learning outcomes and opportunities later in life, also contribute to wider social injustices.

OBJECTIVES

- To help young people by improving the quality of education they receive, with particular improvements to school infrastructure, school transport, sanitation (especially for female learners) and safety.
- To increase the civic engagement of learners living and attending schools in poor and under-resourced communities in South Africa.
- To provide legal support to learners in public schools whose educational rights may be compromised.

RESULTS

- In 2017, 6 700 learners participated in EE's youth groups.
- In 2018, learners in Nquthu in Kwa-Zulu-Natal were successfully able to campaign to secure transport for 15 schools, assisting approximately 3 000 learners.
- EE has also secured court judgement – confirmed by the Constitutional Court – which requires the state to provide improved school infrastructure to all South African public schools.
- The Equal Education Law Centre has provided legal support to multiple learners and their families on specific issues, ensuring that educational rights are protected.

FACTS AND FIGURES

- EE has membership in five provinces.
- Its activities take place in more than 200 schools nationally.
- Approximately 65% of EE members are young women.

PARTNERS

- Equal Education Law Centre

TESTIMONIAL

A platform to raise our voices

My name is Amahle Geqiwe and I am a Grade 11 learner at Oscar Mpetha High School in Cape Town. I joined EE at the end of 2015 and, within a year, was elected by learners at my school to serve on EE's Western Cape's Leadership Committee. Shortly after that I was elected to EE's National Council, its highest decision-making body.

I am an EE member because I believe in standing up for people, and because I believe that EE is an important platform that enables the youth to pursue their passions. It also gives us the tools to raise our voices and concerns, both as learners and as members of the public.

In my roles at EE, I get to interact with different people, and to learn about and embrace their different backgrounds, sexualities and cultures. I also get to engage with people who are like-minded and those who love and are passionate about learning about politics.

Amahle Geqiwe, learner member and leader





“Every week, thousands of EE members – high school learners – meet in their schools and communities to learn and to strategise on how to tackle complex problems of inequality. These young people, who have named themselves Equalisers, represent the best of South Africa: an optimism that the status quo can be altered when we work collectively, with skill and with discipline. Even in tough times in South Africa, I rest easier knowing that these are the future leaders of our country.”

*Noncedo Madubedube
EE General Secretary*

EQUAL EDUCATION LAW CENTRE

Founded in 2012, the Equal Education Law Centre (EELC) is a law clinic using legal advocacy and strategic public interest litigation to advance the rights of learners to equality, dignity and quality education. The EELC provides legal support to social movements such as EE, and also runs a daily walk-in law clinic to provide assistance to learners, parents and teachers on issues such as discrimination, expulsions, disciplinary matters and access to schools.

The EELC advocates for legal and policy development in the education sector (including submissions to government institutions), conducts legal and policy research related to its objectives, and helps communities, CBOs and other institutions to formulate their own policy and legal perspectives. The EELC has also litigated numerous cases on the right to education and the rights of children. Recent cases include building state accountability for the provisioning of school infrastructure, advancing the rights of children to protest, securing transport for learners, and challenging discrimination in fee exemption processes.

The EELC is a sister organisation of EE and is a co-applicant in the EE's EU grant (€600 000) for the Youth Organising: Securing the Right to a Quality Education Project. The project aims to increase civic engagement of learners through political education and to empower young people to improve the quality of the education they receive.



MEDIA IN EDUCATION TRUST AFRICA

Media in Education Trust (MIET) Africa has been in existence for more than 20 years and aims to improve the lives of children and youth by contributing to the provision of quality education for all. MIET Africa is based in South Africa, with a strong presence in the SADC region, and works in three main focus areas:

- Addressing barriers to learning and development, which focuses on supporting the transformation of education institutions in SADC member states into inclusive centres of learning, care and support.
- Enhancing the quality of education by working with ministries of education to design innovative approaches to strengthen education systems and institutions, including teacher development.
- Youth empowerment through programmes to improve access to youth-friendly sexual and reproductive health services and knowledge, and to develop and deliver life skills, career and entrepreneurial programmes.



MIET Africa is a co-beneficiary with the British Council of an EU grant (€814 000) for a three-year Teaching for All: Mainstreaming Inclusive Education in South Africa Project. The project aims to improve the attitudes and capacity of pre-service and in-service teachers towards IE through the implementation of existing policy and the integration of training modules and courses on IE into universities and provincial education departments. It has a specific focus on teachers working in early childhood development and those working in poorer and rural communities.

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION SOUTH AFRICA

Inclusive Education South Africa (IESA) was established in 1995 to promote positive models of inclusive education in schools, preschools and other centres of learning in South Africa. Its mission is to ensure that families, educators and service providers of children experiencing barriers to learning have access to information, and are introduced to support networks and services that can facilitate inclusion into ordinary neighbourhood schools.

IESA works together with similar organisations and objectives as well as all role players within the education system, such as early childhood development practitioners, teachers, parents and related professionals like therapists, school administrators, learning support teachers and district support staff. During the period 2016 to 2017, IESA worked in 11 project schools, training 245 teachers and impacting 14 122 learners.

IESA is a co-beneficiary of an EU grant (€1.1 million) for a Teaching and Learning for Inclusive Education Project in the Free State, Northern Cape and the

North West province. The project runs from 2016 to 2019 and aims to improve learning for all children through the provision of quality differentiated education by skilled and qualified teachers. The project will develop and share a library of relevant materials, support three universities to offer training on inclusive education (IE), pilot an IE programme for new teachers, establish professional learning communities for continuous professional development in IE for principals and teachers, and produce and disseminate research on IE.



SECTION27

SECTION27 is a public interest law centre that seeks to achieve substantive equality and social justice in South Africa. It uses law, advocacy, legal literacy, research and community mobilisation to achieve access to healthcare services and basic education.

Over the last few years, one of SECTION27's priority areas has been the right to basic education guaranteed by section 29 of the Constitution. Its work in this area includes research, litigation and advocacy directed towards securing vital resources such as textbooks and public school funding, and achieving safe and positive education environments conducive to effective learning and teaching.

It focuses particularly on the prevention of sexual violence and corporal punishment; the provision of safe and hygienic sanitation facilities; the provision of learner-teacher support materials, furniture and sufficient classrooms; and the timeous payment of sufficient public school funds.



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36 INTERNATIONAL BUDGET PARTNERSHIP SOUTH AFRICA

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37 OPEN DEMOCRACY ADVICE CENTRE

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38 FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION INSTITUTE

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CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

39 SAVE THE CHILDREN SOUTH AFRICA

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40 CENTRE FOR CHILD LAW

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41 CHILD WELFARE SOUTH AFRICA

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42 CHILDREN'S RADIO FOUNDATION

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43 UCT CHILDREN'S INSTITUTE

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RIGHT TO EDUCATION

44 EQUAL EDUCATION

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46 MEDIA IN EDUCATION TRUST AFRICA

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