

## 6 GENDER AND CLIMATE JUSTICE



**Goal:** Halt the cataclysmic destruction of the planet through innovative links between gender and climate justice in our work and practice.

### Specific objectives

- Ensuring women and men's equal and effective participation in decision-making around climate change.
- Strengthening gender mainstreaming at all levels, especially local government, to ensure that women and men's specific needs are addressed.
- Partnerships with climate change focused and humanitarian organisation to draw expertise and lead effective campaigns.
- Increase the capacity of women and men politicians to advance gender and climate justice.
- Involve youth, especially young women and promote intergenerational exchange and learning.
- Ensure internal policy and practice promotes a green working environment.

### What we have achieved

- Annual research for the climate justice chapter in the annual *#VoiceandChoice Barometer*, which will be our baseline for future Barometers which measure progress on the implementation of the SADC Protocol on Gender Development and other relevant frameworks.
- Coordinating SADC Gender and Climate Change cluster of the Alliance.
- Integrated into Sixteen Days of Activism campaigns and local level advocacy work.
- Sharing of best practices on climate justice during Protocol@work summits.
- Capacity building on gender concepts in climate change.

- Internal Organisational Policy on Climate change which includes paperless office; recycling,
- Road transport for short distances, planting of trees by board members and staff, including Policy on Environmentally Sustainable Management of used PPE at Gender Links. Green workspace - Go Solar, Go green: Gender Links has remained committed to maintaining green office workspaces. This is because GL believes that less cluttered, green friendly and aware offices make for more holistic and pleasant working environments. At the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020, GL took a further step in the area of electricity and energy conservation for its offices in South Africa. In consultation with its donors, GL was able to pivot and negotiate for funds to install solar equipment. This has greatly reduced bills for the Head office.

### What we have learned

- **There are few campaigns and initiative to address climate justice:** While the climate crisis is arguably the biggest threat of our time, countries have been slow in adopting and implementing international agreements on climate change. There are just a few climate justice campaigns or initiatives at the local level, where it matters most.
- **Women are underrepresented in decision-making on climate change** from the local to national level, despite bearing the brunt of the climate crisis.
- **There are links between COVID-19 and climate justice** which need highlighted - reflection on the COVID-19 responses, or lack of, must inform how the SADC region shapes climate change adaptation for generations to come.
- **The climate crisis presents the perfect opportunity** for policymakers to focus on building a future that uses a gender

lens and addresses the concerns of the most vulnerable members of society.

- **Data on climate justice is not disaggregated by sex** making it difficult to quantify the links between gender equality and climate justice.

### What we will do in 2021-2025

- Conduct research on the links between gender and climate justice to inform advocacy and campaigning, including advocating for climate justice indicators to be disaggregated by sex.
- Conduct learning sessions for Alliance and local government partners on climate justice and its links to gender justice.
- GL and Alliance partners will design a series of campaigns linked to the 2021 *#VoiceandChoice Barometer* that draws links between the COVID-19 pandemic and the climate change crisis. These campaigns will run at regional, national and local level.

- Seek out and document best practices on climate justice to be showcased during Protocol@work summits.
- Work with local councils to develop and implement gender aware climate justice policies and action plans.
- Ensure compliance with internal Organisational Policy on Climate change to promote a green working environment.

### How we will measure change

- Number of campaigns implemented at national and local levels.
- The number of Gender and climate justice entries to the Protocol@work summits.
- Tracking the proportion of women in decision-making on climate from community groups to national government.
- Number of countries and councils with gender aware climate change policies and action plans.
- Number of countries providing sex disaggregated data on climate change indicators.

