# WOMEN'S EQUALITY AND ECONOMIC RIGHTS

JUDICIAL OFFICERS AND ADVOCATES MAPPING













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# Judicial Officers and Advocates Mapping

Significant progress has been made at the international, regional, and national, levels towards advancing the human rights of women and ensuring gender equality across the African continent. There are many different actors, instruments, courts, networks, and leaders committed to the promotion and protection of the rights of women. This Judicial and Advocates Mapping celebrates these advancements in Eastern and Southern Africa and showcases these various actors.

The first chapter highlights Judicial Officers who have made noteworthy contributions to jurisprudence regarding women's equality, property rights, and work rights. The second chapter showcases Judicial Networks and Trainings at the international, regional, and national level who are instrumental in providing educational guidance to the judiciary, lawyers, and court staff on women's human rights. Finally, the third chapter features Advocates at the regional and national level, who provide seminars, workshops, reports, support, counseling, and strategic litigation to promote women's access to justice with the goal of ensuring universal respect of women's rights.

This Mapping is a living document, and we welcome updates and additions to fill in any gaps. The list of judges and advocates reflects research conducted up to December 2020. Moreover, it is important to note that the judges featured in this mapping have issued at lease some good judgements on women's rights and does not necessarily indicate that their judgements in other areas of law have advanced human rights.

This Mapping is part of a broader research project to assess progressive judicial developments with regards to women's economic rights and access to justice. It is accompanied by a White Paper, setting out key human rights standards and interpretations on women's equality and economic rights, and a Case Compendium with summaries of important judicial decisions in Eastern and Southern Africa.

This Mapping was drafted by Rebecca Ramirez and Sara Lilley, legal interns with the Human Rights Clinic of the University of Miami School of Law, under the supervision of the Clinic's Acting Director, Tamar Ezer. Ishita Dutta of the International Women's Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific (IWRAW Asia Pacific) further provided important guidance. Additionally, valuable review and suggestions were provided by Allan Maleche and Nerima Were of the Kenya Legal & Ethical Issues Network on HIV and AIDS (KELIN), Lesego Nchunga of the Initiative for Strategic Litigation in Africa (ISLA) and Anneke Meerkotter of the Southern Africa Litigation Centre (SALC).

# Chapter 1: Judicial Officers

In this chapter, we hope to showcase judicial officers who have made significant contributions in jurisprudence relating to women's rights. We highlight their notable decisions, and biographies to highlight what they have done so that their achievements and decisions can continue serve as inspiration to all those committed to advancing women's rights moving forward. Organized in alphabetical order by country, below are the judicial officers we would like to celebrate:

<u>Burundi</u>	
Justice Gerard Niyungeko	<b>Biography:</b> Justice Gerard Niyungeko is the author of several works, including Les Dl'Homme, Cours Destiné aux Formateurs.
African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights	Notable contributions: APDF and IHRDA v. Republic of Mali. Case Synopsis: For the first time, the African Court of Human and Peoples' Rights found a state in violation of women's rights under regional African human rights law. The Court ruled that Mali should amend its Family Code to uphold women's and girls' rights. <sup>1</sup>

 $<sup>^{1}</sup>$  AFRICAN COURT ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES' RIGHTS, 53. App. No 046/2016 - APDF & IHRDA v Republic of Mali (last visited July 19, 2019).

Eswatini	
woman who can the first Swezi with the first Swezi	
Justice Qinisile Mabuza	<b>Biography:</b> Justice Qinsile Mabuza became the first Swazi woman to be admitted as an attorney of the High Court of Swaziland. <sup>2</sup>
High Court of Swaziland	Notable contributions: Aphane v. Registrar of Deeds, etc Case Synopsis: The Court in Aphane v Registrar of Deeds and Others invalidated the Swazi Deeds Registry Act on constitutional grounds as it discriminated against women by preventing women married in community of property from owning property.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> All is not well - Judge Qinisile, SWAZI OBSERVER, https://web.archive.org/web/20141130162442/http://www.observer.org.sz/news/66343-all-is-not-well-judge-qinisile.html (last visited August 10, 2019).

Kenya	
Justice Ben Kioko	<b>Biography:</b> Justice Ben Kioko serves as a member of the Advisory board on the Implementation of Human Rights Standards Project, Human Rights Implementation Centre at University of Bristol, UK. <sup>3</sup>
African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights	Notable contributions: APDF and IHRDA v. Republic of Mali Case Synopsis: The Court in APDF and IHRDA v Republic of Mali ruled that several provisions contained in Malii's Family Code violated international and regional human rights provisions where the Code did not state a minimum age of marriage, provide for the right to consent, or allow equitable inheritance for women and children.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Justice Ben Kioko (Vice President) – Kenya, AFRICAN COURT ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES' RIGHTS, http://en.african-court.org/index.php/basic-documents/2-uncategorised/36-justice-ben-kioko-kenyaN (last visited August 10, 2019).

Kenya	
Judge Philip Waki	<b>Biography:</b> Judge Philip Waki is best known for heading the 2008 Commission of Inquiry into Post-Election Violence, also known as the Waki Commission. <sup>4</sup>
Court of Appeal in Kenya	Notable contributions: Rono v Rono & Another Case Synopsis: The Court in Rono v Rono & Another held that
	two daughters must be granted an equal share of inheritance
	with their male siblings and are entitled to fair and equitable
	distribution of their family's estate pursuant to the Kenyan
	Constitution and international human rights law.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Waki Commission, Human Rights Watch, https://www.hrw.org/tag/waki-commission, (last visited July 30, 2009).

Lesotho	
Justice Sakone Sakone	Biography: A biography is needed; we invite
	judges to add information to their biographies.
High Court of Lesotho	Notable contributions: Private Lekhetso
	Mokhele and Others v. Commander, Lesotho Defence
	Force and Others <sup>5</sup>
	Case Synopsis: The Court in Mokhele and Others
	v Commander, Lesotho Defence Force and Others held
	that three female soldiers were wrongfully discharged on the basis of their marital and
	pregnancy status and that the Lesotho Defence
	Force violated international human rights law
	when it penalized the soldiers for becoming
	pregnant while enlisted.

 $<sup>^5</sup>$  Mokhele and Others v Commander, Lesotho Defence Force and Others (CIV/APN/442/16) [2018] LSHC 2 (14 February 2018).

Malawi	
Justice Sylvester Kalembera	Biography: A biography is needed; we invite
	judges to add information to their biographies.
The High Court of Malawi	Notable contributions: Tewesa v Tewesa
	Case Synopsis: The Court in Tewesa v Tewesa
	held that under Malawi constitutional and
	customary law a wife was entitled to
	compensation and a share of matrimonial
	property upon the dissolution of her marriage
	when she contributed to the household both
	financially and in non-monetary ways while her
	husband sought a bachelor's degree.

<u>Malawi</u>	
c) nyasalite	
Justice Dorothy Kamanga	Biography: Justice Kamanga sits on the High
	Court of Malawi and is interested in "gender, criminal justice and the law."
The High Court of Malawi	Notable contributions: Justice Kamanga
The Thigh Court of Maiawi	wrote an important piece for the Southern
	Africa Litigation Centre entitled <i>The Role Of The</i>
	Judiciary In Safeguarding And Ensuring Access To
	Criminal Justice During The Pretrial Stage: The Case
	Of Malawi. Access the article here.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> *Dorothy Kamanga*, AFRICAN NETWORK OF CONSTITUTIONAL LAW, https://anclradc.org.za/user/2409 (LAST VISITED OCT. 30, 2020).

Malawi	
Judge Zione Maha	
Justice Zione Jane Veronica Ntaba	Biography: Justice Ntaba sits on the bench of the High Court of Malawi. She is passionate about issues relating to women and child rights issues and "works with a number of Non-Government Organizations and Trusts dealing with women, children, [and] disability" In Pempho Banda, Justice Ntaba held that the arrest and trial of nineteen women who were tried for the offence of living on the earnings of sex work was unconstitutional. The Court added that "prostitution related offences in Malawi shall remain an area of blatant discrimination, unfairness, inequality, abuse as well as bias from law enforcement" and the court system.
The High Court of Malawi	Notable contributions: Republic v Pempho Banda and 18 others <sup>8</sup> Case Synopsis: The Court in Republic v Banda and Others held that the arrest and trial of several women for living off earnings from sex work was unconstitutional and discriminatory against women and that the existing Penal Code did not criminalize sex work.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Zione Ntaba, THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS, http://habitat3.org/the-conference/programme/speakers/zione-ntaba/(last visited August 7, 2019). <sup>8</sup> Republic v Banda and Others (Review Order) (Review Case No. 58 of 2016) [2016] MWHC 589 (08 September 2016). https://malawilii.org/mw/judgment/high-court-general-division/2016/589

Malawi	
Judge Sun Madise	Biography: A biography is needed; we invite
	judges to add information to their biographies.
Malawi High Court	<b>Notable contributions:</b> Madikhula v. Goba <sup>9</sup>
	Case Synopsis: The Court condemned acts of
	land grabbing and property deprivation against
	widows and declared that such actions
	jeopardized the financial independence of
	women under domestic law principles.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Malawi: Protecting Women from Illegal Land Seizure, SOUTH AFRICAN LITIGATION CENTRE, https://www.southernafricalitigationcentre.org/2017/05/22/malawi-protecting-women-from-illegal-land-seizure/ (last visited August 10, 2019).

Malawi	
Justice Rachel Sikwese	Biography: Justice Sikwese currently sits on the
	Malawi High Court where she specializes in
	commercial law. She was also recently elected to sit on the panel of the United Nations Dispute
	Tribunal where she will hear labor cases related
	to "United Nations employees and member
	countries."10
Malawi High Court	<b>Notable contributions:</b> Justice Kamanga
	wrote an important piece for the Southern
	Africa Litigation Centre entitled Women's
	Economic Rights: Removing Barriers to Women's
	Access To Justice In Malawi. Access the article
	<u>here</u> .

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Malawi High Court Judge Justice Rachel Sikwese Appointed Judge For The United Nations Dispute Tribunal, THE PERMANENT MISSION OF REPUBLIC OF MALAWI TO THE UNITED NATIONS, https://www.un.int/malawi/fr/news/malawi-high-court-judge%C2%A0justice-rachel-sikwese-appointed-judge-united-nations-dispute-tribunal (Oct. 11, 2019).

Mauritius	
Justice Aruna Devi Narain	<b>Biography:</b> Justice Narain presently serves as Judge of the Supreme Court of Mauritius and is
	a member of the UN Convention on the
	Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination
	Against Women (CEDAW) Committee. <sup>11</sup> She is a member of the Working Group on
	Communications and the Vice-Chair of the
	Working Group on Working Methods of the
	Committee. She works in collaboration with
	international bodies and organizations including IWARW Asia-Pacific and UN Women. <sup>12</sup> Justice
	Narain lectures on Constitutional Law and
	Human Rights at the Institute for Judicial and
	Legal Studies. <sup>13</sup>
Supreme Court of Republic of Mauritius	<b>Notable contributions:</b> Ms. Narain has written judgements on non-discrimination and
	domestic violence. Through her role as former
	Parliamentary Counsel, she drafted and vetted
	bills on non-discrimination, domestic violence,
	and women's rights issues.

https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/Treaties/CEDAW/Shared%20Documents/1\_Global/INT\_CEDAW\_BDF\_20\_26804\_E.pdf (last visited July 18, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Curriculum Vitae, OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMM'R FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/CEDAW/Elections2016/Ms.ArunaDeviNarain\_C V.pdf (last visited July 18, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Biographical Data Form for Candidates to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women, OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMM'R FOR HUMAN RIGHTS,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> A Celebration of the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of CEDAW, THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE, http://www.lse.ac.uk/women-peace-security/events/Current-Events/Where-Would-We-Be-Today-Without-CEDAW (last visited July 18, 2019).

South Africa	
Justice Johan Froneman	Biography: Justice Froneman has described the South African Constitution as the country's "never again" document which was designed to ensure the atrocities of apartheid are never to be repeated. He has a particular interest in judicial education and has both participated in various judicial courses, as well as helped conduct seminars for judges throughout Africa. 15
Constitutional Court of South Africa	Notable contributions: Mayelane v. Ngwenyama Case Synopsis: The Court in Mayelane v Ngwenyama ruled on the basis of South African constitutional law that the principles of equality and dignity requires that both a husband and wife provide consent should a husband seek to marry another woman in Xitsonga customary marriages.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Judge Froneman says 'never again' to human rights violations in SA, GROCOTT'S MAIL, https://www.grocotts.co.za/2009/10/15/judge-froneman-says-never-again-to-human-rights-violations-in-sa/ (last visited August 10, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Justice Johan Froneman, CONSTITUTIONAL COURT OF SOUTH AFRICA, https://www.concourt.org.za/index.php/judges/current-judges/13-current-judges/76-justice-johan-froneman (last visited August 10, 2019).

South Africa	
Judge Sisi Khampepe	Biography: Judge Khampepe for the Industrial Aid Society from 1979 - 1980. It was during this experience that she was exposed to the dishonorable employment conditions of Black workers. Her law firm was one of the few Black labor law firms in the country and she has represented unions advancing worker rights. Justice Khampepe has also been involved in many different legal and community organizations from the Trade Union's Fund to Vice Chairperson of the Women's Desk on Children and Women Abuse. In October 2009, she was appointed as a Judge to the Constitutional Court. <sup>16</sup>
Constitutional Court of South Africa	Notable contributions: Mayelane v. Ngwenyama Case Synopsis: The Court in Mayelane v Ngwenyama ruled on the basis of South African constitutional law that the principles of equality and dignity requires that both a husband and wife provide consent should a husband seek to marry another woman in Xitsonga customary marriages.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Justice Sisi Khampepe, CONSTITUTIONAL COURT OF SOUTH AFRICA, https://www.concourt.org.za/index.php/13-current-judges/78-justice-sisi-khampepe (last visited August 10, 2019).

South Africa	
Justice Leona Valerie Theron	Biography: Justice Theron currently sits on the
	Constitutional Court of South Africa. Her
	judgments illustrate an effort to further
	women's rights, as she often hands down just
	judgements against gender- based violence and
	uses her position on the court to bring
	awareness to the unprecedented number of
	rapes that occur in the country. <sup>17</sup>
Constitutional Court of South Africa	Notable contributions: Justice Theron is the
	first black female judge and the youngest judge
	appointed to the KwaZulu-Natal division of the high court. She is also Founding Member of the
	South African Chapter of the International
	Association of Woman Judges (IAWJ). 18
	11550clation of woman judges (111wj).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> *Judge Leona Theron*, JUDGES MATTER, https://www.judgesmatter.co.za/interviews/april-2017-interviews/jsc-candidates/judge-leona-theron/ (Apr. 2017).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Justice Theron, Leona Valeria, CONSTITUTIONAL COURT OF S. AFR, https://www.concourt.org.za/index.php/judges/acting-judges/12-acting-judges/193-justice-theron-leona-valerie (last visited July 18, 2019).

<u>Uganda</u>	
Justice Susan Okalany	Biography: Honorable Lady Justice Okalany was awarded Prosecutor of the Year by the International Association of Prosecutors (IAP), for her efforts to fight against terrorism as chief prosecutor in the Kampala Twin Bombings. She was a part of the first team to successfully prosecute a terrorist case in Africa. <sup>19</sup> Before she obtained the position of judge, she was the Assistant Director of Public Prosecutions where she was the head of the gender and sexual offences division. Okalany held the positions of consular assistant at the American Embassy, researcher with Forum for Women in Democracy and legal assistant at Ochienghs-Wellborn and Company Advocates. Okalany served as resident state attorney in the Tororo, Iganga, Mbarara and Masaka districts.
Senior Resident Judge, Mbale, High Court of Uganda	<b>Notable contributions:</b> Lady Justice Okalany is celebrated for her efforts working on the 2010
	Kampala Bombing Suspects case. <sup>20</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Justice Okalany wins World Prosecutor of the Year award, DAILY MONITOR, https://www.monitor.co.ug/News/National/Ugandan-judge--World-Prosecutor--Year-award-China/688334-4094004-yb18o2z/index.html (Sept. 13, 2017).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> IAP Awards 2017 - Beijing, China, INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PROSECUTORS, https://www.iap-association.org/About/IAP-Awards/2017-Award-Recipients (last visited July 18, 2019).

Zambia	
Justice Mwamba Chanda	Biography: A biography is needed; we invite
Local Court in Zambia (now currently in High	judges to add information to their biographies.  Notable contributions: Mwanamwalye v.
Court of Zambia)	Mwanamwaly $e^{21}$
Source Daniola)	Case Synopsis: The Court in Mwanamwalye v
	Mwanamwalye held that women married under
	customary Zambian law are entitled to a fair
	and equitable share of marital property upon
	the dissolution of marriage or death of the
	husband.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Empowering Women, LEGAL PLURALISM: MULTIPLE SYSTEMS, MULTIPLE CHALLENGES, http://siteresources.worldbank.org/EXTGENDER/Resources/9780821395332\_ch3.pdf (Last visited July 21, 2019).

# **Zimbabwe**



Judge Amy Tsanga

Biography: Jusdge Tsanga was a senior lecturer in law, and Deputy Director of the Southern and Eastern African Regional Centre for Women's Law at the University of Zimbabwe prior to her appointment to the High Court. She taught Theories and Perspectives in Women's Law and also Women Law Reform and Social Justice Strategies at Masters level. Tsanga described herself, before her appointment, as an 'African feminist', concerned about 'women's struggles', particularly against 'patriarchal and sexual domination." Tsanga is well known for her efforts to mainstream feminist realities in the realm of academia.<sup>23</sup> She also gave lectures at the Columbia Institute for the Study of Human Rights about her efforts with the Center's Africa Human Rights Education & Training Program.<sup>24</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> War Against Women with Rise in Gender- Based Torture, AFR. LEGAL INFORMATION INSTITUTE, https://africanlii.org/article/war-against-women-rise-gender-based-torture (May 11, 2018).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Amy Shupikai Tsanga, AFRICAN FEMINIST FORUM, http://www.africanfeministforum.com/amy-shupikai-tsanga/(last visited July 18, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Amy Tsanga, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF HUMAN RIGHTS, http://www.humanrightscolumbia.org/profile/visiting-scholars/amy-tsanga (last visited July 18, 2019).

High Court of Zimbabwe	Notable contributions: Tsanga is known for
	her efforts to bring awareness to domestic
	violence and identifies such acts as gender-
	based torture. Noteworthy cases include S v
	Tevedzay, S v Ilukena and S v Kasimeya. <sup>25</sup>

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> War Against Women with Rise in Gender- Based Torture, AFR. LEGAL INFORMATION INSTITUTE, https://africanlii.org/article/war-against-women-rise-gender-based-torture (May 11, 2018).

# **Retired Judges**

Botswana	
Judge Sanji Mmaseno Monageng	Biography: In 2009, Monageng was elected a
	judge for the International Criminal Court (ICC)
	and between 2012—2015, she served as First
	Vice-President of the Court. In 2014, Monageng
	was given the Human Rights Award by the
	International Association of Women Judges. <sup>26</sup>
(Retired) African Commission on Human and	Notable contributions: Women's Legal Center
Peoples' Rights	and Moto v. Tanzania

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Judge Sang-hyun Song of the Republic of Korea has been elected President at the International Criminal Court, THE HAGUE JUSTICE PORTAL, http://www.haguejusticeportal.net/index.php?id=10410 (last visited August 10, 2019).

Kenya	
Justice Joyce Aluoch	Biography: Hon. Lady Justice Joyce Alouch served on the International Criminal Court as judge and held the position of First Vice-President. She also served as a Judge of the High Court and Court of Appeal in Kenya. She is celebrated for her zealous advocacy and training of judges, magistrates, and paralegals on international human rights. She has worked to promote rights of children through her position as vice Chair of the United Nations Committee on the Rights and Welfare of the Child and her position as chair on a committee in the African Union to secure children's rights. <sup>27</sup>
(Retired) International Criminal Court	Notable contributions: Justice Alouch was first African to be granted an award by the Fletcher School in the United States, and she awarded the Order of the Burning Spear, 1 <sup>st</sup> Class, Chief of the Burning Spear (CBS). <sup>28</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Joyce Alouch Former Judge, International Criminal Court and High Court of Kenya, WORLD JUSTICE PROJECT, https://worldjusticeproject.org/world-justice-forum-vi/joyce-aluoch (last visited July 18, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Lady Justice Joyce Alouch, MINISTRY OF PUBLIC SERVICE, YOUTH, STATE DEPARTMENT FOR GENDER, http://gender.go.ke/lady-justice-joyce-aluoch/ (last visited July 18, 2019).

Malawi	
Judge Vera Mlangazua Chirwa	Biography: Judge Vera Chirwa is the first
	female Lawyer from Malawi. Her name
	"Mlangazua" means Truth. Dr. Chirwa also
	founded and led the gender rights organization,
	Women's Voice and Advocates for Human
	Rights. <sup>29</sup>
(Retired) African Commission on Human and	Notable contributions: Women's Legal Center
Peoples' Rights	and Moto v. Tanzania

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Human Rights in Malawi, REVOLVY, https://www.revolvy.com/page/Human-rights-in-Malawi, (last visited August 10, 2019).

South Africa	
Justice Dikgang Ernest Moseneke	<b>Biography:</b> Justice Moseneke held the position of Deputy Chief Justice of the Republic of South Africa from 2005 until his retirement in 2016. 30
	He was awarded five honorary doctorates from
	the University of the North, University of Natal, Tshwane University of Technology, University
	of South Africa and the City University of New
	York respectively." <sup>31</sup> In his outstanding opinion in <i>Gumede</i> , Justice Moseneke observed that
	codified law on customary marriage condones
	and protects "male domination of the family household and its property arrangements." 32
	These "codified rules of customary unions
	fostered a particularly crude and gendered form
	of inequality, which left women and children singularly marginalised and vulnerable." <sup>33</sup>
(Retired) Constitutional Court of South Africa	Notable contributions: Gumede (born Shange) v.
	President of the Republic of South Africa and Others
	Case Synopsis: The Court in Gumede (born Shange) v. President of the Republic of South Africa and
	Others invalidated several South African statues
	as they were deemed discriminatory against

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Justice Dikgang Ernest Moseneke, The Presidency Republic of S. Afr, http://www.thepresidency.gov.za/national-orders/recipient/justice-dikgang-ernest-moseneke (last visited August 7, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> Gumede (born Shange) v. President of the Republic of South Africa and Others (CCT 50/08) [2008] ZACC 23; 2009 (3) BCLR 243 (CC) ; 2009 (3) SA 152 (CC) 11 (8 December 2008). http://www.saflii.org/za/cases/ZACC/2008/23.html

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women in customary marriages because they
afforded husbands exclusive control over family
property and deprived women of their marital
property rights in violation of the South African
Constitution and regional and international
human rights law.

# Chapter 2: Judicial Networks and Trainings

The following international, regional, and national networks and trainings provide continuing education to members of the judiciary in Southern and Eastern Africa. The conferences offered by these institutions provide thematic updates, case studies, and resources to judicial officers on various subject matter related to women's rights. The networks and trainings included below were selected for their ardent efforts to eliminate gender discrimination and promote access to justice for women.

#### International

### THE COMMONWEALTH MAGISTRATES' AND JUDGES' ASSOCIATION (CMJA)<sup>34</sup>

The objective of the international organization CMJA is to "advance the administration of the law by promoting the independence of the judiciary, to advance education in the law, the administration of justice, the treatment of offenders and the prevention of crime within the Commonwealth." The CMJA works towards this end by circulating information and literature about the legal process to countries of the Commonwealth. The Commonwealth publishes guides and resources for magistrates and judges "underpin the role of the judiciary as one of the pillars of democracy and the important part that the magistracy (lower judiciary) play in promoting the rule of law and good governance." The Commonwealth holds conferences and publishes reports on the subject matter discussed during the event. The Judicial Education Programme provides continuing judicial education to judicial officers, maintains a network of officers, provides "judicial and administrative advice and support to existing judicial institutes," establishes and develops codes of conducts, publicizes developments in countries of the Commonwealth.

### COMMONWEALTH JUDICIAL EDUCATION INSTITUTE (CJEI)35

The CJEI is an official Commonwealth NGO located in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. The institute provides "support and linkage among existing Commonwealth judicial education bodies," promotes the "sharing of information, human, and fiscal resources," develops programs and tools, provides judicial education programs, organizes "study tours of justice systems," provides a forum for interaction among judges in different jurisdiction, "provide[s] gender and racial inclusive judicial education programmes," and conducts research on judicial reform. The CJEI publishes newsletters, bulletins, speeches, case studies, program modules, thematic teaching kits of statutory authorities and journal articles on HIV/ AIDS, and interacts with the International Association of Women Judges during Regional Conferences.

#### COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT<sup>36</sup>

There are 53 members of the Commonwealth Secretariat including Botswana, Kenya, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia, South Africa, Uganda, Tanzania and Zambia. The Commonwealth Secretariat supports "member countries to achieve development, democracy and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> About, COMMONWEALTH MAGISTRATES' AND JUDGES' ASSOCIATION, https://cmja.org/about.html (last visited July 18, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> *Introduction,* THE COMMONWEALTH JUDICIAL EDUCATION INSTITUTE, http://cjei.org/introduction.html (last visited July 18, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> About Us, THE COMMONWEALTH, http://thecommonwealth.org/about-us (last visited July 18, 2019).

peace." By promoting justice and human rights, the Commonwealth's work "helps to grow economies and boost trade, empower young people, and address threats such as climate change, debt and inequality." The Commonwealth assists decision- makers in their efforts to draw up legislation provides "impartial advice and solutions to national problems." The Commonwealth Secretariat is split into three major areas: Economic, Youth and Sustainable Development, Governance and Peace, and Trade, Oceans and Natural Resources.

### GLOBAL JUDICIAL INTEGRITY NETWORK<sup>37</sup>

The Network unites the efforts of judges, magistrates, members of judicial councils, court personnel, judicial associations, stakeholders, and relevant international organizations. The Network's mission is to" promote peer learning and support activities, facilitate access to relevant tools and resources related to judicial integrity, and support the further development and effective implementation of principles of judicial conduct and the prevention of corruption within the justice system." To realize this aim, the Network works to "strengthen global guidance and technical materials on judicial integrity and anti-corruption." Objectives of the Network include networking, publishing guiding resources online, provide trainings programs on judicial ethics and fill gaps in international standards and technical resources.

### INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN JUDGES (IAWJ)<sup>38</sup>

The International Association of Women Judges is an organization comprised of 4,000 members of the judiciary from over 90 nations. The IAWJ recognizes that "women judges can be catalysts for social transformation." Women judges of the IAWJ discuss their experience for best practices in areas including violence and discrimination against women and gender bias. The overarching motive of the IAWJ is to advance human rights, eliminate discrimination, improve accessibility of the courts, and to eliminate gender bias from judicial systems. To implement these objectives, the IAWJ conducts "judicial training on women's human rights," provides "research on gender and the law," "sponsor[s] international conferences, and collaborates with international institutions on justice and women's issues.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> Mission Statement of Network, GLOBAL JUDICIAL INTEGRITY NETWORK, https://www.unodc.org/ji/en/about.html (last visited July 18, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> Twenty Years of Judging for Equality, INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN JUDGES, http://www.iawj.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/JUBILEE-BOOK-FINAL.pdf (last visited July 18, 2019).

### **Regional**

### JUDICIAL INSTITUTE FOR AFRICA<sup>39</sup>

The Judicial Institute for Africa offers professional development courses based on "experiential and interactive learning methods including small group work, hypothetical case studies as well as engagement with lawyers, academic experts, NGO's and others when relevant." The Institute also offers shorter courses including Judicial Independence and Ethics, Civil and Criminal Case management and Ethics for legal officers.

### SOUTHERN AFRICAN CHIEF JUSTICE FORUM<sup>40</sup>

The Southern African Chief Justice Forum works with the AU, sub-regional bodies, and member states to "secure the institution independence of the Africa Judiciaries legislatively and functionally. The Forum strives to ensure accountable and efficient judiciaries promote good governance and eradication of corruption. Foundational principles of the SACJF are the transparence, integrity, and "promotion of a cultural of human rights, freedom, tolerance and peaceful co-existence."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> Background, JUDICIAL INSTITUTE FOR AFRICA, http://www.jifa.uct.ac.za/background-3 (last visited July 18, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> About Us, SOUTHERN AFRICA CHIEF JUSTICES FORUM, https://sacjforum.org/content/about-sacjf (last visited July 18, 2019).

# Kenya

### JUDICIAL TRAINING INSTITUTE - KENYA41

The JTI facilitates the growth of jurisprudence and judicial practice. The Continuing Judicial Education for Judges and Magistrates offers courses in "substantive law, evidence and procedure, and subject expertise; the acquisition and improvement of judicial skills including, where appropriate, leadership and management skills and the social context within which judging occurs." The training informs the judiciary about the social issues of the community and keeps the judicial officers informed on developments in the law.

"The Judiciary Training Institute is the focal point for multi-stakeholder discussion on common concerns in the justice system, such as temporary injunctions, public interest litigation, poaching & environmental crimes management, legal responses to terrorism, human rights, etc." The JTI is dedicated to working with institutions at the national, regional, and international level and continues to partner with local government and non-government bodies to deliver courses on various thematic areas."

### THE KENYA WOMEN JUDGES ASSOCIATION (KWJA) - KENYA<sup>42</sup>

The KWJA's vision is to "promote human rights, with special focus on gender parity and access to justice for women and children." The KWJA works to achieve this vision through empowering women, creating awareness on gender parity and by development jurisprudence on equality. The association makes courts and justice more accessible, promotes equal representation and provides "skills and knowledge enhancement for judicial officers on human rights, gender parity, and access to justice." The association advocates for the appointment of women to the roles of judges and magistrates, engages "in research, studies, judicial exchange and training programs which contribute to the understanding of and resolution of critical legal issues affecting women, children and families," and "work[s] actively towards the eradication of all forms of discrimination against women in administration of justice."

# STRATHMORE INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDIES IN INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL JUSTICE - KENYA $^{43}$

The institute is a dedicated to ongoing education on international criminal justice utilizing trainings, applied research and teaching to criminal justice practitioners in the legal infrastructure of Kenya and in Africa. The Institute focuses on transnational and organized crime, armed conflict and international crimes, terrorism, sexual and gender based violence, wildlife crimes, transitional justice and the rule of law.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> *About Us,* JUDICIARY TRAINING INSTITUTE, https://www.judiciary.go.ke/about-us/affiliate-institutions/judiciary-training-institute/(last visited July 18, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> About Us, INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN JUDGES- KENYA, http://kwja.org/about-us/(last visited July 18, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> *About SLASIC*, STRATHMORE INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDIES IN INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL JUSTICE, http://www.strathmore.edu/siasic/about-siasic/(last visited July 18, 2019).

### **Malawi**

### WOMEN JUDGES ASSOCIATION OF MALAWI<sup>44</sup>

The Women Judges Association of Malawi seeks to ensure justice to access for women by providing "research on women and the law" with a view towards "policies, legislation, systems and processes that continue to hinder their full enjoyment of their rights." The Association also provides training to judicial officers and law enforcement about the "particular needs of women at various stages of the law." The "judiciary needs to have a proportionate number of female judicial officers" and efforts should be made to create a "women friendly environment" in all court facilities. The Association has undertaken the goal to provide "more career talks and role modelling across Malawi so that more girls and women are encouraged to consider the legal and judicial profession."

# **Mauritius**

### INSTITUTE FOR JUDICIAL AND LEGAL STUDIES – MAURITIUS<sup>45</sup>

The IJLS works to ensure ongoing judicial and legal education, promote communication of judicial and legal studies between other jurisdictions, and "promote transparence and consistency in the sentencing of offenders, and award of Civil damages by making recommendations to the Chief Justice." The Institute supports courses, seminars, workshops, Continuing Professional Development Programs for law practitioners and judicial and legal officers, coordinates research and development in judicial and legal sectors and links the efforts of local, regional, and international bodies.

### South Africa

#### DEMOCRACTIC GOVERNANCE AND RIGHTS UNIT – SOUTH AFRICA<sup>46</sup>

DGRU is based in the Department of Public Law at the University of Cape Town. The Unit's mission is to "advance, through research and advocacy, the principles and practices of constitutional democratic governance and human rights in Africa." The Unit has become a leading research center that for its focus on judicial governance and for providing free access to legal resources in Africa.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> Women Judges Association of Malawi, NAMATI, https://namati.org/network/organization/women-judges-association-of-maalwi/(last visited August 7, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> *About Us*, THE INSTITUTE FOR JUDICIAL AND LEGAL STUDIES MAURITIUS, http://www.ijls.mu/index.php/about (last visited July 18, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> Constitution Seventeenth Amendment Bill, DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE AND RIGHTS UNIT UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN,

https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=9&ved=2ahUKEwjckufz torjAhUEnlkKHVFuAoEQFjAIegQIAxAC&url=http%3A%2F%2Fpmg-assets.s3-website-euwest-

<sup>1.</sup>amazonaws.com%2Fdocs%2F110803dgru\_0.rtf&usg=AOvVaw01bhMXtpxnWZBnmQyew2l5 (last visited July 18, 2019).

# Chapter 3: Advocate Leaders

The regional and national organizations included below were selected for their zealous efforts in advancing and promoting the rights of women. These civil society and non-governmental actors are committed to the realization of women's right to access the justice system. The leaders below provide legal aid, conduct strategic litigation, research, and provide documentation and advocacy to promote law and policy reform on human rights issues.

### **Regional**

### INITIATIVE FOR STRATEGIC LITIGATION IN AFRICA (ISLA)<sup>47</sup>

ISLA works with individuals and institutions to identify lawyers who can do strategic litigation on gender and sexuality manners. The Initiative is developing a Women's Human Rights Network to administer capacity programs, litigation seminars, country visits and in depth litigation seminars. ISLA also has created the African Sexual Rights Lawyers Network to provide a forum for lawyers in different jurisdictions to exchange information on sexual rights cases and ensure litigation strategies can be supported by legal representation. ISLA engages in thematic workshops with participants from academia, the legal sector, NGOs and National human rights institutions. The Institute carries out strategy consultation meetings, hosts expert advisory meetings, provides advisory opinion consultations and participates in various networking sessions.

### SOUTHERN AFRICA LITIGATION CENTER (SALC)<sup>48</sup>

The South Africa Litigation Center works to promote awareness, respect, protection and fulfilment of human rights law across Southern Africa. The Center works towards this vision through "strategic litigation, advocacy and capacity strengthening." Major focus areas of the SALC are women's land property rights, children's rights, business and human rights and freedom of expression.

### WOMEN IN LAW AND DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA (WiLDAF)49

Women in Law and Development in Africa (WiLDAF) works to promote women's participation in law and development at the local, national and international level. The network is Pan-African and unites several African countries including Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The mission of the network is to promote gender equality and development by increasing women's participation in decision making. WiLDAF carries out this objective by promoting women's' access to justice, offering mobile health programs, working on the "Women Farmers against Poverty in West Africa" project to address agricultural and land rights program and the persistence of gender based violence, and by increasing representation of women in governance thorough programing that advocates for increasing the appointment and election rates of women in political positions.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> Capacity Strength Training Programmes, INITIATIVE FOR STRATEGIC LITIGATION IN AFRICA, https://www.the-isla.org/capacity-strengthening-programmes/(last visited July 18, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> Overview, SOUTHERN AFRICA LITIGATION CENTRE,

https://www.southernafricalitigationcentre.org/about/overview-and-history/last visited July 18, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> WOMEN IN LAW AND DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA, https://wildaf-ghana.org/ (last visited July 18, 2019).

# **Botswana**

### DITSHWANELO: BOTSWANA CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS<sup>50</sup>

DITSHWANELO promotes the protection of human rights in Botswana. The advocacy organization is federated by the International Federation for Human Rights whose mandate is to protect all rights as identified in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. DITSHWANELO engages with legislative procedures and government to "establish a human rights culture in Botswanna."

### KAGISANO WOMEN'S SHELTER PROJECT<sup>52</sup>

Kagisano Women's Shelter Project "empowers communities to deal with gender-based violence and its linkages to HIV and AIDS" The organization provides economic empowerment programs, legal and medical services to women and children, as well as counseling to individuals in abusive relationships.

#### THE BOTSWANA NETWORK ON ETHICS, LAW AND HIV/AIDS (BONELA)54

BONELA works to "make the right to health a reality in Botswana." The organization fulfills their mission to protect, promote, and fulfil the right to health through disseminating evidence via direct engagement, creating advocacy messages, testing policy briefs, monitoring human rights, carrying out strategic litigation and generating policy and practical solutions to fulfilling health rights.

#### WOMEN AGAINST RAPE<sup>55</sup>

The mission of WoMen Against Rape (WAR) is to "reduce the incidences and impact of Gender Based Violence" by empowering women and children. WAR stimulates policy and legal reform in order to encourage change in the practices that affect disadvantage groups. The organization provides educational training and skills courses to empower the economic independence of survivors. Additionally, the organization also provides rehabilitation to perpetrators through counseling and conflict resolution services. Finally, WAR offers psycho-social counselling to those affected by gender-based violence and provides legal aid services.

<sup>56</sup> *Id.* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> Ditshwanelo: Botswana Centre for Human Rights, INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, https://www.fidh.org/organisation/ditshwanelo-the-botswana-centre-for-human-rights (last visited Sept. 14, 2020).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> Ditshwanelo: Botswana Centre for Human Rights, ELDIS, https://www.eldis.org/organisation/A35588 (last visited Sept. 14, 2020).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup> Kagisano Women's Shelter Project, UN WOMEN, https://evaw-global-database.unwomen.org/en/countries/africa/botswana/2009/kagisano-womens-shelter-project (last visited Sept. 14, 2020).
<sup>53</sup> Id.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> About Bonela, THE BOTSWANA NETWORK ON ETHICS, LAW AND HIV/AIDS, http://www.bonela.org/index.php?option=com\_content&view=article&id=26&Itemid=211# (last visited July 18, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup> Who We Are, WOMEN AGAINST RAPE, https://www.womenagainstrape.org.bw/aboutus.html (last visited Sept. 14, 2020).

### **Burundi**

### ASSOCIATION DES FEMMES JURISTES BURUNDI (AFJB)57

AFJB provides support to survivors of gender-based violence through legal aid and counseling services. The organization actively lobbied for legislation to promote recognition on the problem of gender-based violence. AFJB also provides training about the legislation to inform local authorities of its implications.

# Eswatini

### SWAZILAND ACTION GROUP AGAINST ABUSE (SWAGAA)58

SWAGAA works to "end gender- based violence, sexual abuse, and human trafficking in Eswatini." SAGAA offers clubs for school children where activities offered by mentors teach boys and girls about "GBV, children's rights, reproductive health and HIV/AIDS and sexual abuse." SWAGAA also offers care and support through counselling and collaborates with government agencies and police services to address the "emotional and economic needs of survivors." The legal unit at SWAGAA to help survivors "navigate the criminal justice system."

# WOMEN AND LAW IN SOUTHERN AFRICA RESEARCH AND EDUCATION TRUST (WLSA) ESWATINI<sup>59</sup>

WLSA Eswatini envisions a nation "where justice is equitably accessed, claimed and enjoyed by women and girls in all spheres of life." The organization's objectives are to "improve the legal status of women" by empowering women through participation in leadership, researching gender issues, advocating "on human rights issues that impact negatively on women and girls," networking, offering legal advice, and providing education and training. The major services offered by WLSA include paralegal initiatives, conducting action research, lobbying and advocacy on law and policy reform, providing human rights education and training, and giving legal advice and assistance.

# **Kenya**

FEDERATION OF WOMEN LAWYERS (FIDA-KENYA)60

FIDA Kenya is the oldest women's rights organization that focuses on women's rights in Kenya and has offered free legal aid to women and children. The organization focuses on "custody and maintenance, matrimonial disputes, discrimination in Employment, participation in public positions and sexual violence." FIDA works to promote women's rights at the national, regional, and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>57</sup> Working for women's rights and equality in Burundi, KIOS FOUNDATION, Mar. 8, 2018, https://www.kios.fi/en/2018/03/naisten-oikeuksien-ja-tasa-arvon-asialla-burundissa/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>58</sup> SWAZILAND ACTION GROUP AGAINST ABUSE, http://www.swagaa.org.sz/(last visited July 18, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>59</sup> Women and Law in Southern *Africa* Research and Education Trust, http://www.wlsaswaziland.co.sz/ (last visited July 18, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>60</sup> About Us, FEDERATION OF WOMEN LAWYERS, https://www.fidakenya.org/about-us/(last visited July 18, 2019).

international level and works to share best practices and influence policy. The organization's human rights based- approach places an emphasis on substantive equality and works to promote women's access to justice and "influence institutional structures to recognize, comply and be responsive to women's rights."

#### THE KENYA LEGAL & ETHICAL ISSUES NETWORK ON HIVA AND AIDS (KELIN)61

The goal of the KELIN is through a rights- based system of service advocate for the fulfilment and full enjoyment of the right to health for all. The KELIN does this by advocating for the promotion of human rights in policies, laws, and operational frameworks/ regulations relating to the right to health," by facilitating access to justice, and by engaging in strategic partnerships at the "national, subregional and regional levels."

### Lesotho

### LESOTHO FEDERATION OF WOMEN LAWYERS (FIDA)62

FIDA aims to equip women and children with advice and information so they can achieve social justice. The organization's areas of focus include "property or land claims, domestic abuse, women's empowerment and children's rights." FIDA offers legal advice and support, mediation and litigation, training on human rights and legislation, and educational material. FIDA has facilitated a number of achievements with respect to women's' empowerment in Lesotho including efforts to ensure "married women have a right to a pension and domestic workers receive a minimum wage." 64

### TRANSFORMATION RESOURCE CENTRE (TRC)65

TRC is an advocacy and lobby organization working to promote "justice, peace and participatory development." The organization provides support and seeks to empower those who are poor and marginalized by providing networking opportunities, training and educational publications. TRC works in a variety of areas including "rural development, resource conservation, environment protection, human rights, good governance and democracy." Additionally, TRC has created the Socio-Economic Rights Programme that aims to facilitate outreach activities, provides capacity building to civil society organizations, and advocates for equitable compensation. <sup>67</sup>

# WOMEN AND LAW IN SOUTHERN AFRICA RESEARCH AND EDUCATION TRUST (WLSA) LESOTHO<sup>68</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>61</sup> About Us, KENYA LEGAL AND ETHICAL ISSUES NETWORK, https://www.kelinkenya.org/about-us/ (last visited July 18, 2019).

<sup>62</sup> Home, FIDA LESOTHO, https://fidalesotho.wordpress.com/ (last visited Sept. 14, 2020).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>63</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>64</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>65</sup> Background and History, TRANSFORMATION RESOURCE CENTER, http://trc.org.ls/background-and-history/ (last visited Sept. 14, 2020).
<sup>66</sup> Id.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>67</sup> Socio-Economic Rights Programme, TRANSFORMATION RESOURCE CENTER, http://trc.org.ls/socio-economic-rights/ (last visited Sept. 14, 2020).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>68</sup> About, WOMEN AND LAW IN SOUTHERN AFRICA RESEARCH AND EDUCATION TRUST, http://www.womenandlaw.org.ls/about.html (last visited July 18, 2019).

WLSA Lesotho is a feminist and human rights organization that works to promote gender justice for women and girls. To implement this vision, WLSA advocates to protect socio-cultural and economic rights of women and girls, conduct action research to promote legal and political rights, conduct "advocacy and lobbying," pursue reforms in law and policy, and eliminate discriminatory practices against women. Services offered by WLSA include providing information documentation and dissemination, offering legal advice and services, offering training and education, and influence legislation through lobbying and advocacy.

### Malawi

### CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, EDUCATION, ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE<sup>69</sup>

CHREEA is "committed to combating ignorance of rights and to making justice accessible to marginalized communities." CHREAA initiated the Paralegal Advisory Service, a radical reform measure of the Malawi prison system that provides legal aid, empowers prisoners to represent themselves in court and access the justice system and facilitates the release of prisoners. This initiative "aims at reaching as many people as possible, with a ratio of 1:100 (paralegal: prisoner) per day." The Service's four pillars are to: facilitate communication and cooperation throughout the criminal justice system, improve the legal literacy of the formal justice system for people in communities, provide legal advice and assistance, and to influence policy to reflect justice and penal reform.

# WOMEN AND LAW IN SOUTHERN AFRICAN RESEARCH AND EDUCATION TRUST (WLSA) MALAWI<sup>70</sup>

WLSA Malawi researches gender issues relating to legal rights in Malawi and throughout Southern Africa. To carry out this objective, the organization promotes awareness on gender and the law to "influence policy and legal reform;" networks with other WLSA countries, conducts training and educational seminars, and develops new perspectives and developments in the study of gender and the law. To provide awareness on the many forms by which women face discrimination, WLSA seeks approaches the law from substantive, structural, and cultural perspectives. WLSA addresses women's rights and gender and the law through advocacy, training and education on women's rights, laws and policies and by conducting action research.

### WOMEN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION (WLA) OF MALAWI71

The mission of WLA of Malawi is to "to champion the promotion and protection of the human rights of women and children with a view to contributing to the realization and enjoyment of those rights through legal services, advocacy and research." The organization aims to achieve this goal by promoting societal respect for human rights of women and children and to promote the attainment of women's protection under the law. WLA of Malawi also closely monitors discriminatory legislation and ensures those laws that are not compliance with human rights standards are appealed.

<sup>72</sup> *Id.* 

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>69</sup> About Us, CHREAA, http://chreaa.org/about/ (last visited August 7, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>70</sup> WOMEN AND LAW IN SOUTHERN AFRICA RESEARCH AND EDUCATION TRUST - MALAWI, https://wlsamw.wordpress.com/(last visited July 18, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>71</sup> WOMEN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION OF MALAWI, https://womenlawyersmalawi.com/ (last visited Sept. 14, 2020).

Finally, the organization seeks to promote positive relationships "among women lawyers locally and partners in the justice system." <sup>73</sup>

#### **Mauritius**

### **Namibia**

### LEGAL ASSISTANCE CENTER (LAC)74

LAC works to protect human rights of Namibians through free litigation, information and advice, education and training, research, law reform and advocacy. Legal advice is provided on areas such as HIV/ AIDS, gender equality, human rights and the Constitution, and, environment, and development. Research projects include LGBT issues and Namibian law and access to justice. LAC has advocated for law reform for combating the Rape Act, Domestic Violence Act and Nondiscrimination on the basis of HIV in the Labour Act.

### South Africa

### ALTERNATIVE INFORMATION & DEVELOPMENT CENTRE (AIDC)<sup>75</sup>

AIDC ens South African civil society "by building leadership and analytical capacity and facilitating networking though a series of conferences, trainings, and leadership schools for trade unionists, women and youth." AIDC envisions a society free of sexism and oppression. The organization disseminates information and analysis on sustainable development, facilitates advocacy, and provides educational programming.

### LAWYERS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS (LHR)<sup>77</sup>

Lawyers for Human Rights is a non-profit NGO that "strives to promote awareness, protection and enforcement of legal and human rights through the creation of a human rights culture." LHR's objective is to be a "human rights and constitutional watchdog and advocate," an "international force in the development and delivery of human rights, with a primary focus in Africa," and a "primary contributor to clear strategic policy on the delivery of socio-economic rights for the disadvantaged." LHR offers various programs including the Refugee and Migrant Rights Programme, Mozambican Mineworkers, Project, Strategic Litigation Unit, Penal Reform Programme, Land and Housing Unit, and the Security of Farm Workers Project. The organization publishes landmark cases, relevant legislation and policy and publications on issues of human rights.

#### WOMEN'S LEGAL CENTRE<sup>78</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>73</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>74</sup> LEGAL ASSISTANCE CENTRE, https://www.lac.org.na/(last visited July 18, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>75</sup> *Id.* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>76</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>77</sup> About Lawyers for Human Rights, LAWYERS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, http://www.lhr.org.za/about-lawyers-human-rights (last visited July 18, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>78</sup> Our Approach, WOMEN'S LEGAL CENTRE, https://www.wlce.co.za/about-us/#what-we-do (last visited July 18, 2019).

The Centre envisions a South Africa free from violence, where women are "empowered to ensure their own reproductive and health rights, free to own their own share of property, having a safe place to stay and empowered to work in a safe and equitable environment." Through an African feminist approach, the Centre acknowledges and works to "dismantle" the patriarchal structure and implementation of the legal system. The Centre uses an intersectional approach to their work and litigation as women experience discrimination in different forms. By using a human rights and rights-based approach, the Centre "aims to achieve substantive equality which builds on formal equality." Finally, through empowering women to "represent their own agency and voice," the Centre effectively invests and collaborates with agencies to support women and address their problems at all levels of their work.

# WOMIN AFRICAN WOMEN UNITE AGAINST DESTRUCTIVE RESOURCE EXTRACTION<sup>79</sup>

WoMin supports communities and peasants impacted by mining operations by researching publishing the impacts of extractive activities, advocates for long-term reforms, and advances "an African post-extractivist eco-just women-centered alternative[s]<sup>80</sup>" to destructive development models. Thematic areas of work include fossil fuels, energy and climate justice, consent and democratized socio-economic decision-making, extractivism, militarization and violence against women. WoMin is in the process of developing and organizing research, dialogues and alliance-building "to draw traditional women's rights organizations and movements closer to economic justice struggles for land, energy, services and climate justice."

### **Tanzania**

### TANZANIA WOMEN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION (TAWLA)82

TWLA seeks to promote the professional advancement of women lawyers and promote the rights of children and women through good governance. TAWLA implements their strategic objectives by providing legal aid in communities, promoting public dialogue, campaigning against "laws [and] policies that hinder gender equality." Two of TWLAS current projects are: To Enhance Women's Access to Justice Through Protection and Secure Their Land and Property Rights Through Legal Frameworks & the CSO Parallel Support to Land Tennure Support Program.

#### WOMEN'S LEGAL AID CENTRE (WLAC)83

WLAC seeks to promote women's rights in Tanzania and foster a societal environment whereby the rights of women and children are respected. Objectives of WLAC include providing legal aid to women and children, "strengthen paralegal units across Tanzania" to educate the community on legal and human rights, "lobby forc hange of discriminatory policies, laws and cultural

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>79</sup> What is WoMin, WOMIN, https://womin.org.za/who-we-are/what-is-womin.html (last visited Sept. 14, 2020).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>80</sup> *Id.* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>81</sup> Extractivism, militarisation and violence against women, WOMIN, https://womin.org.za/our-work/developing-areas-of-work/extractivism-militarisation-and-violence-against-women.html (last visited Sept. 14, 2020).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>82</sup> Our History, TANZANIA WOMEN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION, https://www.tawla.or.tz/our-history/(last visited July 18, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>83</sup> Who We Are, WOMEN'S LEGAL AID CENTRE, http://wlac.or.tz/about-us/(last visited July 18, 2019).

practices which promote and sustain gender-based violence," publish educational materials, foster partnerships with organizations at local, national, and international levels, provide TV and radio programming, and "conduct seminars, workshops, and conferences on different topics related to women and children's rights to different segments of the population."

# <u>Uganda</u>

### LAW AND ADVOCACY FOR WOMEN IN UGANDA (LAW-UGANDA)84

LAW- Uganda "promotes recognition, respect and realization of the rights of women and girls and gender equality as provided for under the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, 1995" and the International Human Rights Conventions Uganda has signed. The organization uses "advocacy; training and capacity building; strategic litigation; and partnerships" to promote the rights of women and girls in Uganda. The organization focuses on social cultural rights, economic rights, political rights, special rights of women minorities. LAW- Uganda also provides "legal technical support and referral services" with the goal of promoting women's rights and to promote the representation of young women in decision making.

### UGANDA NETWORK ON LAW ETHICS AND HIV/AIDS (UGANET)85

UGANET focuses on the areas of Health and HIV/AIDS to advocate, develop and strength, "policy, legal, human rights, and ethical" responses to health issues. The UGANET utilizes human rights, legal policies, and the law to influence health interventions to "mitigate the adverse social impact and suffering caused by HIV and other Health conditions." Strategies used by UGANET include advocacy, policy influencing, legal aid, and mobilizing communities.

### UGANDA ASSOCATION OF WOMEN LAWYERS (FIDA UGANDA)86

FIDA Uganda is the "pioneer of legal aid and public legal education in sub-Saharan Africa."

The organization works to promote human rights as codified in "international, regional and national human rights instruments and uses a feminist and rights based approach in order to address the underlying causes of abuse, including patriarchy, injustice and exclusion." FIDA Uganda aims to advance "law and policy reform for the protection of women" and monitors the government's efforts to "fulfil its obligation to protect and promote the human rights of women through establishing/strengthening sustainable and effective legal and structural mechanisms." The organization "also monitors the justice systems' adherence to international human rights standards in delivering justice to women."

### Zambia

#### LEGAL RESOURCES FOUNDATION87

<sup>84</sup> Who We Are, LAW AND ADVOCACY FOR WOMEN IN UGANDA, http://www.lawuganda.org/about-2/(last visited July 18, 2019).

<sup>86</sup> About Us, FIDA UGANDA, https://fidauganda.org/about-us1/ (last visited Sept. 30, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>85</sup> *About,* UGANDA NETWORK ON LAW ETHICS AND HIV/AIDS, https://uganet.org/index.php/about-1/(last visited July 18, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>87</sup> About Us, LEGAL RESOURCES FOUNDATION, https://lrf.org.zm/about/ (last visited Sept. 14, 2020).

Legal Resources Foundation seeks to empower people by providing legal aid services and by advocating for "a sustainable human rights culture throughout Zambia."88 The organization's key working methods include providing legal aid services to indigent persons, promoting juvenile justice, incorporating gender and HIV/ AIDS into programming, sharing human rights violations and legal knowledge, disseminating updates on polices and legislative reforms, and strengthening networking channels to promote awareness on human rights issues.

### WOMEN AND LAW IN SOUTHERN AFRICAN RESEARCH AND EDUCATION TRUST (WLSA) ZAMBIA89

WLSA Zambia seeks to "contribute to the socio-economic, political, and legal advancement of women and girls" in Southern Africa. To achieve this developmental objective, WLSA develops the research skills of "women's law researchers in the network countries" which include Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe; conduct research on gender issues; disseminate information on gender and law; engage in networking initiatives, conduct training and hold seminars; "explor[e] and develop new methodologies and new perspective for the study of gender and the law; "and continually foster active communication and cooperation with the affiliate country organizations.

### **Zimbabwe**

### WOMEN AND LAW IN SOUTHERN AFRICAN RESEARCH AND EDUCATION TRUST (WLSA) ZIMBABWE<sup>90</sup>

Women and Law in Southern African Research and Education Trust of Zimbabwe is comprised of network member countries including network Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland and Zambia. WLSA works to advocate for legal rights and conduct "actionoriented research" for women and girl children. The interplay between action and research is facilitated through the active questioning and challenging of law, hosting campaigns that advocate for "changes in laws, policies and plans of action," by "educating women and girls about their rights," and by providing legal advice. Other strategies utilized by WLSA include advocacy and lobbying, partnerships collaboration and networking with civil society organizations, developing models for replication by other stakeholders, by encouraging inclusivity and participation youth to promote gender equality and justice, and by communicating through social medial platforms to increase visibility of the organization.

#### ZIMBABWE LAWYERS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS<sup>91</sup>

The vision of Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights is to "promote a culture of human rights, equality and respect for the rule of law for a just and democratic society in Zimbabwe." To achieve this goal, the organization provides sustainable litigation, education and advocacy. Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights strives to broaden those provisions of the Constitution of Zimbabwe

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>88</sup> *Id*.

<sup>89</sup> About Us, Women and Law in Southern Africa Research and Education Trust - Zambia, https://www.wlsazambia.org/index.php/about-us-2 (last visited July 18, 2019).

 $<sup>^{90}</sup>$  About Us, Women and Law in Southern Africa Research and Education Trust -ZIMBABWE, www.wlsazim.co.zw/about-us/ (last visited July 18, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>91</sup> Vision, ZIMBABWE LAWYERS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, https://www.zlhr.org.zw/?page\_id=57 (last visited Sept. 14, 2020).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>92</sup> *Id*.

acknowledging the importance of human rights and to work with legal professionals and human rights group in South Africa. The organization engages in a variety of forms of litigation including constitutional, public interest, anti-impunity, regional, and international litigation.

### ZIMBABWE WOMEN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION (ZWALA)93

The mission of the ZWALA is to "defend and dialogue on women and children's rights." ZWALA works towards this end by provid[ing] legal aid and education, "lobb[ing] and advocat[ing] communities, institutions, government and policy makers to be sensitive to women and children's rights," and by raising awareness on women's experiences. ZWALA also provides information on women's rights on issues of Zimbabwean inheritance law and steps on how to apply for protection under the Domestic Violence Act.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>93</sup> About Us, ZIMBABWE WOMEN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION, http://www.zwla.co.zw/about-us (last visited July 18, 2019).