



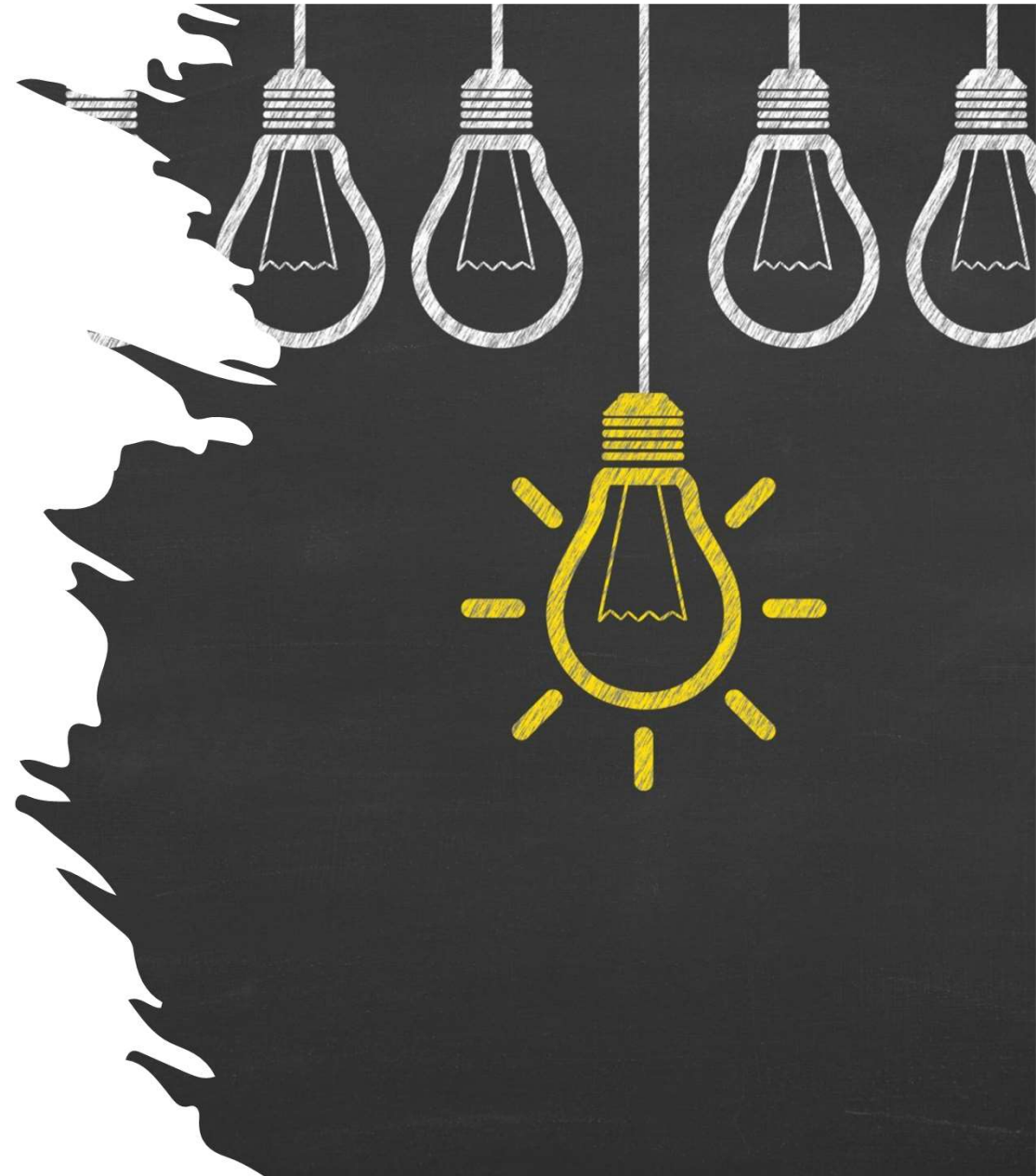
# **GENDER LINKS**

**FOR EQUALITY AND JUSTICE**

# Our Vision and Mission

[Gender Links](#) (GL) is committed to an inclusive, equal and just society in which women and girls in all their diversities exercise their voice and choice in accordance with the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Protocol on Gender and Development and related regional, continental and global instruments.

GL achieves its vision through a people-centred approach guided by the [SADC Protocol on Gender and Development](#) that is aligned to the Sustainable Development Goals, Beijing Plus Twenty and Africa Agenda 2063.



# Main area of intervention

- **Gender Justice**

1. Management of Gender Links Safe Haven: For women and children survivors of violence
2. Entrepreneurship training

- **Gender Governance**

1. Advocacy for Women and Children rights in the republic of Mauritius
2. Training of political parties for women representation
3. Research and survey on Gender issues

- **Gender in Media**

1. Training of Media Houses and representative on Gender and women representation in the news

# Media & Politics Training with Journalists and students in Mauritius



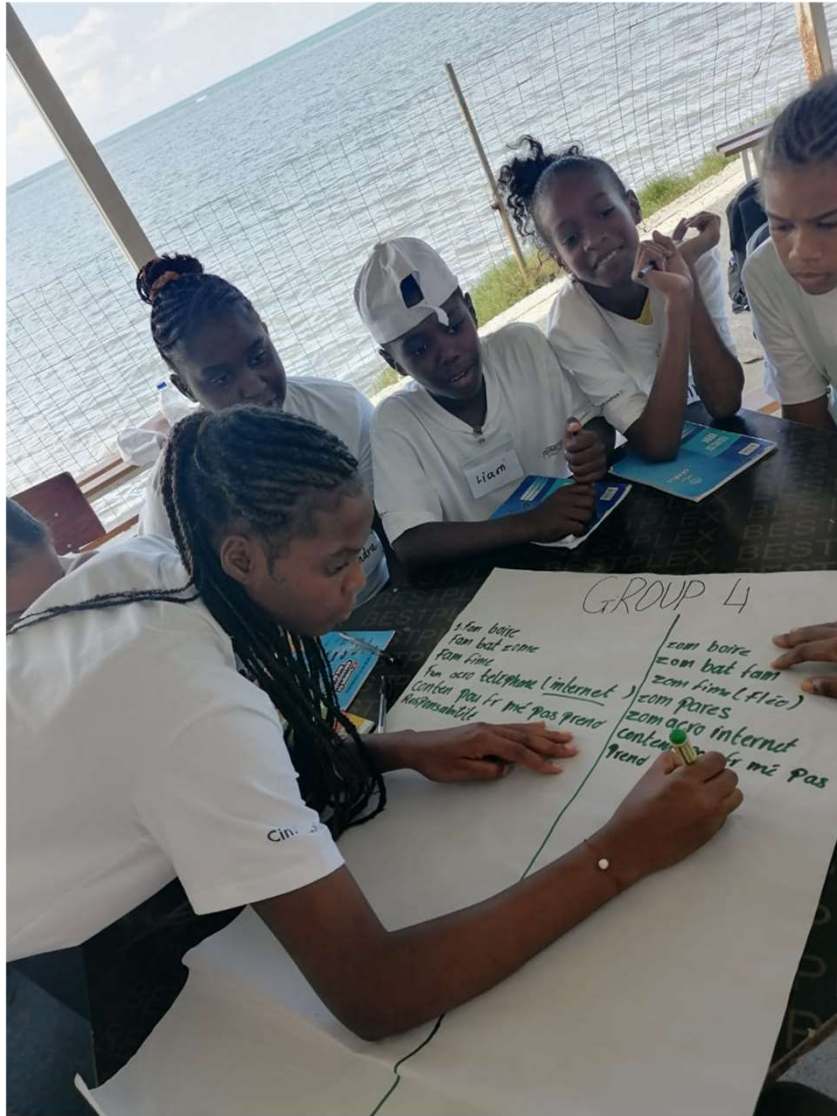
# Media & Politics Training with Journalists and students in Rodrigues





# **ASRHR Focus Group Discussion and Awareness session in primary schools - Rodrigues**



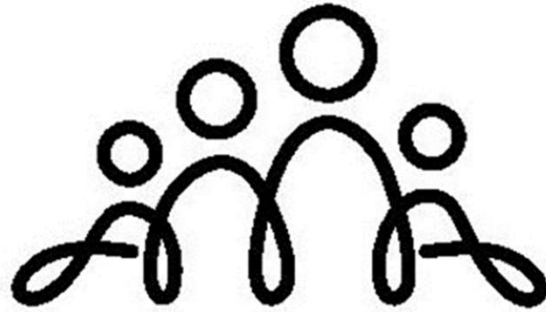


# ASRHR Bootcamp with Youth in Rodrigues

# Leadership with a Gender Lens training in Mauritius and Rodrigues



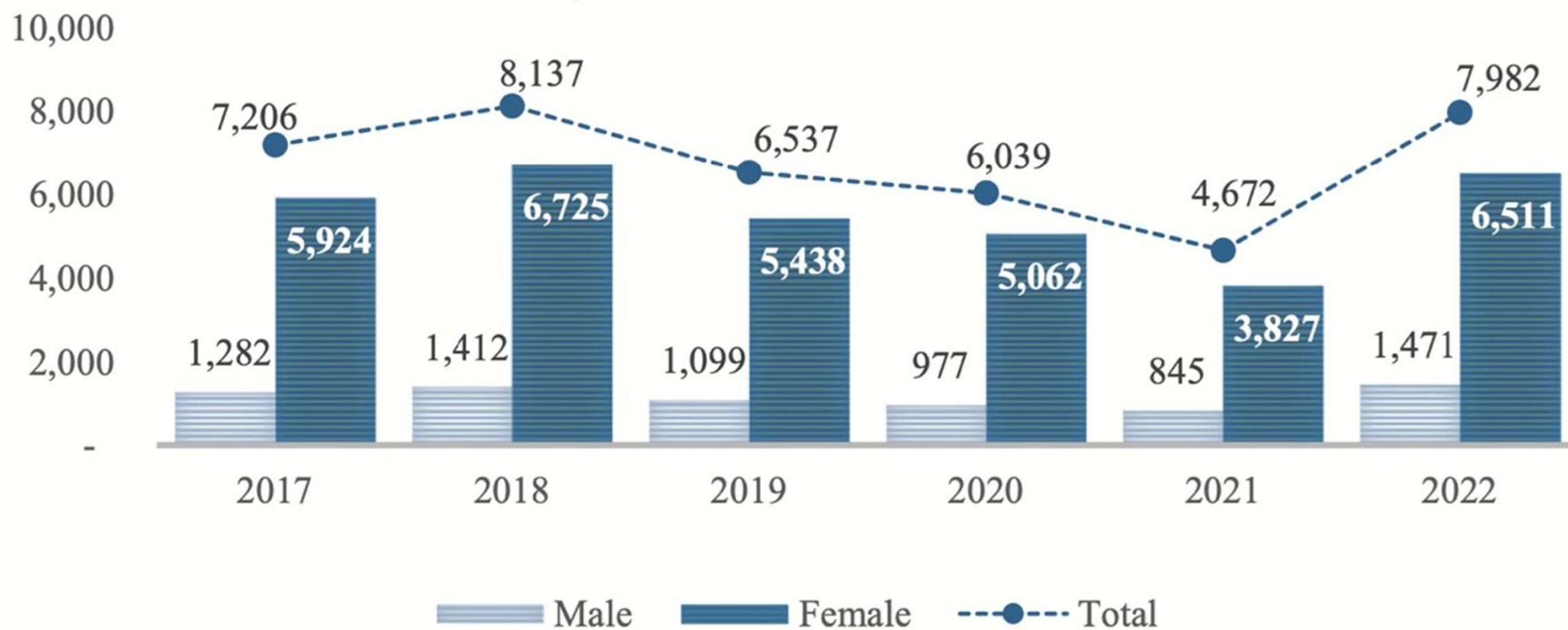




**Safe Haven**  
Halfway Home



**Number of registered cases of DV at FSB and BPF**



# Gender Links Safe Haven Halfway Home

GLSHHH aims at

- Empowering - work
- Grooming and healthcare
- Protecting
- Counselling
- Training and capacity development

Cases of domestic violence, homeless, no fix abode, young girls from Rehabilitation Youth Centers (RYC) and Correctional Youth Centers (CYC), from children shelter and women's prison.

# **Gender Links Safe Haven Halfway Home**

- Most of the residents come from traumatic backgrounds
- a second chance to life
- equipping them with the necessary tools to reintegrate the society back as empowered individuals.



# Gender Links Safe Haven Halfway Home

GLSHHH provides services such as

- counselling and psychological support
  - self-esteem, personal development and hygiene trainings;
- economic empowerment assistance,
- Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights awareness sessions
- After-school programs for children.

**All these tailored-made programs aim at the economical, emotional, sexual and mental emancipation of those women after their crisis period.**

# IMPACT



**121,848+ meals served  
in year 2023**



**Rs 551,361.54 worth  
donations received  
through In-Kind support**



## **OUR to be 7 YEARS JOURNEY IN FIGURES...**

- **SHHH has provided sheltering more than 289 residents since its inception in September 2017. (Including 145 children) – monthly cost for each resident is MUR 18,000.00**
- **An 80% success rate has been achieved based on a regular monitoring and evaluation. The success rate is measured through indicators being “free from violence” and “financial autonomy”.**
- **Unfortunately, 20% of our past residents have either returned with their perpetrator or another abusive partner.**

## OUR DESPERATE NEEDS



1. Cases of Domestic Violence and Homelessness keep rising! **We need a larger infrastructure to accommodate survivors and children shelters.**
2. Empowering women and girls not only those in our shelter, but **extending the programme** to other shelters and survivors
3. **Perpetrators programme**





# Ways of helping

**Become a child sponsor**

**Financial donations to**

**Banking details**

**Account Name:** GENDER LINKS

**Account Number:** 62030100120406

**Type of Account:** Current Account

**Full name of Bank:** STATE BANK OF MAURITIUS  
(SBM) Rose Hill Branch



**Strengthening the entrepreneurship capacities of women fishers following an ecological disaster through an effective mentoring framework**

# Objectives of the project

1. Cash Earnings from business to grow their purchasing power and cater for educational and health needs of their children
2. Empowerment : Promoting gender equality in terms of self-esteem, decision-making and independence
3. Creation of job opportunities and economic development in regions affected by the ecological disaster
4. Institution of code of practice to work with people in situation of poverty
5. Advocacy to improve accessibility to micro finance
6. Improve professionalism in social actions in the field



# Stakeholder Mapping

Gender Links has engaged with 8 key partners during the 2-year project implementation.

Bois Des Amourettes  
Village Council

Breast Cancer Care

Rotaract Club of  
Middlesex

District Council of  
Grand Port

National  
Empowerment  
Foundation

National Human  
Rights Commission

Small and Medium  
Enterprises Mauritius

PILS (Prévention  
Information Lutte  
contre le Sida )



# Social Impact



**Provision of evidence based and customised training to the 140 new beneficiaries of the project during the course of 5 weeks**



**Themes that were explored include Gender Based Violence, Self-realization, Communication and Entrepreneurship including social entrepreneurship.**



**A total of 19 I-Stories in the form of video snippets were produced and a further 10 I-Stories were written, in line with Gender Links' mission of providing voice and choice to beneficiaries.**

# Monitoring and Evaluation(M&E) Tools

Data analysis through our M&E Frameworks: (Gender Empowerment Index, Social Profile Form, Ecology Impact Form, Contact Form and Evaluation Form)

On-site observations and Focus group discussions with beneficiaries (Perceived and Expressed needs)

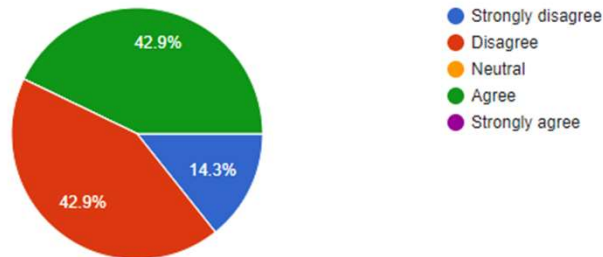
Post-assessment: Validating data and setting priorities to make informed decisions

# M&E : Participants' evaluation of workshops



# Situational Analysis – GBV (Some information from the Gender Empowerment Index Form)

A woman needs her husband's permission to do paid work



2 participants strongly disagreed, 6 participants disagreed and 6 participants agreed with the statement "A woman needs her husband's permission to do paid work".

The survey has been useful in revealing the thought patterns of the participants regarding gender issues at the micro and macro level of society. The findings reveal that despite the growth in the trend of gender equality, there are still archaic and unreasonable stereotypes prevailing among people, shockingly including some people who are in a leading position in society. This survey has acted as a whistleblower, iterating that additional gender mainstreaming and gender equality workshops should be done both at grassroots level and in well-established institutions.





# PERTINENT FINDINGS

- Beneficiaries complained about financial issues since they were either unemployed due to different crosscutting factors including lack of skills and family commitments.
- It was also highlighted that men were always the sole breadwinner of the family and were unable to reinvent themselves as their main area of expertise was fishery. In parallel, substantial increases in the cost of living in Mauritius were identified, which exacerbated the precarious conditions that beneficiaries live in.
- GL emphasised on the importance of Gender and Climate change through data collected in the Women and Youth Empowerment sessions. Mauritius is experiencing unusual and intense climatic conditions such as the recent floodings and the cyclone Belal with further put coastal communities at risk.
- Increase in the incidence and intensity of different forms of violence experienced by women along the southeast coast. This is coupled with the scourge of drug and alcohol addiction as well as a decline in law and order (increase in thefts and other crimes)
- The absolute need for a day care centre or nursery providing government subsidised payment schemes to allow mothers to seek employment opportunities.
- Most beneficiaries expressed their desire to have additional resources to aid them in setting up their own small businesses.

# Short Testimonial from beneficiaries

Caroline (Anonymised): “I remember participating in Gender Links’ training last year where I had provided maximum information on the problems and solutions affecting us, along the southeast coast. I am a fisherwoman and when the sea is not good, we do not get anything from it. Since I do not have a fisherman card, I did not receive any compensation. Gender Links proposed a new project for women’s empowerment and emphasised on improving progressively the quality of life of inhabitants such that we may get out of poverty and precarity. We were told to have a healthy self-esteem and to have the confidence that we are capable. The association exists to help and support individuals out of precarious conditions. We live close to the coastal regions and are fishers who have been through tough times following the Wakashio oil spill and Covid-19. Our coral reefs are destroyed and it is now harder and harder to find any fish and we benefit from very low incomes. “





# Sustainability of the Project

1. Expanding the programme in other areas in Mauritius and Rodrigues
2. On 27th April 2024, Gender Links Mauritius launched its flagship Youth Hub where youth will have the space and resources to tackle the pressing issues including gender and climate justice, economic empowerment of gender-based violence survivors amongst other themes. These themes were identified during the course of the MOL funded project.
3. Gender Links also endeavours to continue working via its partners and other donors in the southeast region. As Mauritius as well as other countries around the world continue to bear the aftermaths of climate change, it is even more important to underscore the importance of gender and climate justice.



## **Contact us**

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**THANK YOU**



**EMPOWERING  
WOMEN AND YOUTH**

