

DRAFT

COUNTRY QUESTIONNAIRE FOR THE FIFTEENTH-YEAR REVIEW AND APPRAISAL OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BEIJING PLATFORM OF ACTION (BPFA+ 15)

Name of Country: _____ Lesotho _____

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Function/Title: _____ Principal Secretary _____

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INTRODUCTION

Country Questionnaire for the Fifteenth-Year Review and Appraisal of the Implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action (BPFA) +15

The adoption of the Beijing Platform for Action (BPFA) in 1995 ushered in a new era in terms of addressing women's empowerment and advancement. The inception of this Platform carried with it, a call for Governments to accelerate their efforts towards addressing gender inequality. In 2004, and in line with the BPFA, African member States reiterated their commitment to the provisions of the Platform and to gender equality in general. African member States committed themselves to addressing challenges as identified in the *Synthesis of the national progress reports on the implementation of the Dakar and Beijing Platforms for Action* (2004). The current review will therefore cover the extent to which countries have scaled up efforts, post the 7th African Regional Conference on Women (Beijing+ 10).

The United Nations (UN) General Assembly has mandated the UN Regional Commissions, including the UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), to follow-up the implementation of the BPFA. At the recent meeting of the Committee on Women and Development (CWD), the process for the African review of the implementation of the Platform was presented to member States. This process was adopted with amendments during the CWD session in August 2008.

The process for the African review will be carried out by a number of stakeholders including the AU and UN Agencies. To ensure that a comprehensive review is undertaken, this questionnaire seeks to solicit information on the status of implementation of policies, programmes and legislation in the area of women's empowerment and advancement in your country. It will be appreciated if this questionnaire could be filled in a collaborative way and in consultation with all stakeholders involved in the implementation of activities related to the empowerment and advancement of women in your country. The national gender machinery is expected to coordinate the completion of this questionnaire and also provide documents supporting information provided.

The completed questionnaires will be analysed and summarized by ECA and the results will be published in the *synthesis report* of the regional report on Beijing+ 15. The report will form part of Africa's contribution to the global review and appraisal of the Beijing +15.

The ECA Executive Secretary would therefore appreciate it if you could submit the completed questionnaire to ECA through the REC and ECA Sub-Regional Office in your region, for onward transmission to:

**The OIC
African Centre for Gender and Social Development
Economic Commission for Africa
P.O. Box 3001
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Fax: 251 11 551 2785/ 4416**

Soft copies in MS Word format should also be emailed to the following address:

eleteane@uneca.org

The deadline for the submission of the report is **31 March 2009**

Thank you in advance for your keen collaboration.

ACRONYMS

ACHPR	African Charter on Human and People's Rights
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
AU	African Union
BPFA	Beijing Platform for Action
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women
CWD	Committee on Women and Development
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa
GBV	Gender Based Violence
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HR	Human Rights
ICPD	International Conference on Population and Development (<i>held in Cairo Egypt in 1994</i>)
ICTs	Information Communication Technologies
ILO	International Labour Organisation
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
NDS	National Development Strategy
NGP	National Gender Policy
NDP	National Development Plan
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
SDGEA	Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa
STI	Sexually Transmitted Infections
UN	United Nations
UNSC	United Nations Security Council
VAW	Violence Against Women

PART 1: Enabling Environment

Preamble: In this section, countries assess the degree to which there is an enabling environment at country level for supporting effective implementation of the Beijing Platform of Action. This appraisal focuses on the following aspects of the creation of such an enabling environment for the implementation of the BPFA:

- a) Institutional Arrangements
- b) Commitment to CEDAW
- c) Commitment to continental level gender equality protocols
- d) Commitment to sub-regional level gender equality protocols
- e) Adoption of a national gender policy
- f) Emerging issues for Africa
- g) Integration of gender equality principles into national development strategies (NDS) and Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSP)

a) Institutional Arrangements for Gender Equality, Equity and Empowerment of Women

- 1.1** Have any institutional arrangements been put in place for promoting Gender Equality, Equity and Empowerment of Women in line with the strategic objectives for the BPFA, and recommendation from reviews of the BPFA. Yes No

If yes, please list the various institutional arrangements and mechanisms:

Institutional Arrangement	Year of Establishment	Function(s)
The Government of Lesotho has established a full fledged Ministry of Gender and Youth and Sports and Recreation in its efforts to promote women's rights. The Ministry has three departments with the Department of Gender strongly addressing women's specific needs – economic, social, cultural and political. To strengthen its work at the district level, District gender officers have been placed in the ten districts.	2000	The Ministry of Gender is the nation machinery coordinating and mainstreaming gender issues in all national policies and programmes on gender equity and equality.
Law Reform Commission 1998	1998	Its role is to review and reform all gender insensitive laws.
The Attorney General's Chamber		This is a national institution that supports the drafting of legislation and preparation of documentation for submission to parliamentary debates

1.2 What are the major constraints that prevent the National Gender Machineryes from being effective?)

Insufficient resources (financial and human)
 Low political will from decision makers at all levels

b) Commitment to CEDAW

1.3 What additional work has been done on CEDAW since the 2004 evaluation? What are the lessons learnt?

Lesotho has never submitted a State Party report to the CEDAW Committee. It is in the process of compiling its initial, first, second, third and fourth report for submission. An Inter- Ministerial Sectoral Committee has been set up to support the process. So far, key national legislation and policies have been reviewed in line with CEDAW guidelines.

1.4 Has the Government ratified the Additional Protocol to CEDAW?

a. Ratified? Yes Year of ratification [_____] No

c) Commitment to Continental Level Gender Equality Protocols

1.5 Indicate actions taken to implement the following continental level policy/strategy/framework in your country:

Year

1. *AU Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa* [_2006_]

1.1. Frequency of reporting: Always Sometimes
 Never

2. *The African Women's Protocol* [_____]

2.1. Frequency of reporting: Always Sometimes
 Never

d) Commitment to Relevant Sub-regional Level Policies and strategies

1.6 State the relevant sub-regional level policy or strategy and actions taken at country level

Instrument	Action taken at country level
SADC Gender and Development Protocol	Awareness raising conducted at the national and district levels on the content of the Protocol Draft Framework on 50/50 representation of women in decision making by 2015

	prepared

e) Adoption of a National Gender Policy

1.7 Has the Government developed a national gender policy or reviewed an existing one to conform to the BPFA+10 Recommendations?

(a) Developed **Yes** Year of adoption [_2003_]
 No

f) Emerging Issues for Africa

1.8 Has your Government adopted Gender Responsive Budgeting as a mechanism?

Yes Year of adoption [_____] No **X**

1.9 What are the lessons learnt in formulating, implementing and monitoring the National Gender Policy?

The National Gender and Development Policy, including its Implementation Framework was formulate with the active participation of government, non-governmental organizations and with support from development partners. However, its implementation has experienced a series of challenges as outlined below:

- Lack of institutional based policies by different ministries and partners
- Lack of conformity of available institutional policies with the National Gender and Development Policy
- Lack of political commitment and will by management to advocate for the implementation of the Framework of implementation of the policy
- Lack of dedicated resources to implement the plan
- There no M/E tool to monitor its implementation. Monitoring is done on ad hoc basis with the use of the Framework of implementation of the policy. More so ad hoc monitoring conducted is not documented in reports.

g) Integration of Gender Equality Principles in the NDS/ PRSP

1.10 Has the Government formulated a National Development Strategy (NDS) / PRSP?

NDS: Yes **X** Year [_2006_____] No
 PRSP: Yes **X** Year [_2004_____] No

If Yes, please indicate which of the following areas articulated in the NDS and budgeted for in the national programme of activities? (*Tick the box for which the answer is 'Yes' or leave box unchecked if answer is 'No'*)

Gender Issues Articulated Gender

Issues Budgeted for

the NDP *In the NDS/ PRSP* *in*

BPFA 12 Critical Areas of Concern	<u>Yes</u>
1. Women and Poverty <input type="checkbox"/>	X <input type="checkbox"/>
2. Women in the Economy <input type="checkbox"/>	X <input type="checkbox"/>
3. Education and training for women <input type="checkbox"/>	X <input type="checkbox"/>
4. Women and health <input type="checkbox"/>	X <input type="checkbox"/>
5. Violence Against Women <input type="checkbox"/>	X <input type="checkbox"/>
6. Women in Conflict Situations <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Women in Power and Decision Making <input type="checkbox"/>	X <input type="checkbox"/>
8. Human rights of women <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Women in the media <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Women and the environment <input type="checkbox"/>	X <input type="checkbox"/>
11. The Girl Child <input type="checkbox"/>	X <input type="checkbox"/>
12. HIV/AIDS	X

Emerging Issues for Africa

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| 13. Financing for Gender Equality
<input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 14. Other (Specify) | |

The Government of Lesotho in collaboration with development partners and civil society organizations has initiated programmes and projects benefitting women's advancement. To state a few, we have:

- Gender Credit Programme whose objective is to enable self employment to women and men by providing them with capacity building and credit support for sustainable enterprise creation. Women make up 80% of these beneficiaries.
- Moliko Micro Credit Trust Project whose overall goal of the project is to increase household revenue through facilitating investment in income generating activities, principally for the peri-urban and rural poor, especially women and men organized in groups. The specific objectives of the project are:

-To enhance food and economic security of the poor who are economically active

- To strengthen the capacity of Moliko Trust to extend credit in a profitable and sustainable manner
- To create and sustain existing jobs within the microenterprise which are operated by the beneficiaries

- The 5th Country Programme of Cooperation between the Government of Lesotho and UNFPA 2008-2012 which aims to enhance institutional and technical capacity of government and civil society organizations to advocate for, and plan, implement and monitor gender responsive policies, and programmes. The programme also aims at increasing capacity of government and civil society organizations to prevent gender-based violence and manage survivors thereof in order to promote women and girls rights.
- Establishment of Legal Aid Unit to provide legal services to indigent persons. Women have benefited the most in maintenance cases.

1.12 Please rate availability of the following statistics and data in your country?

Very effective	Good	Average	Poor	Ineffective
1	2	3	4	5

Availability of gender statistics in following areas	Response				
	1	2	3	4	5
Sex disaggregate data on social issues (education, health)	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sex disaggregate data on economic issues (production, income, trade, employment, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sex disaggregate data on environmental issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sex disaggregate data on Time-Use	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Statistics on GBV/Violence Against Women	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
Statistics for women in decision-making positions (cabinet, parliament, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>

1.13 How effective is the dissemination strategy of Gender Statistics in your country?

Very effective	Good	Average	Poor	Ineffective
1	2	3	X	5

1.13.1 Does it involve use of ICT? Yes X No

Please elaborate:

The Government uses DEVINFO to collect and analyze data on different development issues. However, information on gender statistics is not available and there is limited usage of the DEVINFO software by those who have received training.

PART 2: Review of the 12 Critical Areas of Concern and other Emerging Issues

Preamble: Part 2, provides a set of guiding questions that can be used to assess a country’s performance against expected actions to be taken by governments as stipulated in the BPFA for 1995. All the 12 critical areas of concern are covered. Countries will also review their performance against cross cutting and emerging issues for the BPFA for Africa.

Section 1: Women and Poverty

a) Measures taken by government to empower women and reduce poverty

2.1.1 Indicate actions taken by your government through review of macro policies, development of new legal framework and other socio-economic measures and strategies all aimed at empowering women and reducing their level of poverty. (Tick the box for which the answer is ‘Yes’ or leave box unchecked if answer is ‘No’)

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	If Yes Indicate Specific Actions Undertaken at Country Level	Give Brief Description of Concrete Results Achieved and when (year)
Reallocation of public spending in favour of programmes and projects aimed at empowering women	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		
Design social protection tools (gender-sensitive safety nets in favour of women and girls)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		
Provision of services (training, legal services, credit) to women to enable them to start up businesses.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		

b) Addressing Cross Cutting and Emerging Issues for BPFA

2.1.2 For the critical area of Concern “Women and Poverty”, please indicate if any of these issues were addressed in efforts to empower women and reduce poverty. (Tick the appropriate response)

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	Response
Effective Result Based Management mechanism	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Involvement of men and boys	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Capacity Building	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Gender and ICTs for women and poverty	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Food security	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Financing gender equality to reduce poverty	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

If you have responded “yes” to any of the questions above, please elaborate:

Trainings have been conducted which have benefited several women in terms of knowledge on how to address poverty. This information has not been enough as women

have not been provided with the necessary skills, equipment and capital to address poverty.

Information has been shared with the linkages between GBV and food insecurity. The Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security regularly distribute seeds and food vouchers at the community level with the goal to address poverty.

Section 2: Education and training for women

a) Measures taken by government for education and training of women

2.2.1 Indicate actions taken by your government to ensure education and training of women. (Tick the box for which the answer is 'Yes' or leave box unchecked if answer is 'No')

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	If Yes Indicate Specific Actions Undertaken at Country Level	Give Brief Description of Concrete Results Achieved and when (year)
Elimination of barriers that hinder boys and girls' access to education	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Free primary education has been adopted and implemented	Since 2002 enrolment of both boys and girls increased
Measures to increase tertiary enrolment and retention of women and girls, especially in sciences, mathematics and technology-related disciplines	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		
Eliminate gender gap in basic functional literacy	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lesotho Distance Teaching Centre is conducting a programme on Basic Education in different districts from 2002 with the support of UNICEF	2002
Support and develop gender studies and research	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	A gender audit study on the education sector was undertaken Institute of South African Studies (ISAS) has undertaken several studies on gender issues	2005
Eliminate gender disparities in all areas	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		

of tertiary education by 2015			
Measure to eliminate barriers to schooling of pregnant adolescents	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		

b) Addressing Cross Cutting and Emerging Issues for BPFA

2.2.2 For the critical area of Concern “*Education and training of women*”, please indicate if any of these issues were address in efforts to empower women and reduce poverty. (*Tick the appropriate response*)

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	Response
Effective policy development and implementation	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring and evaluation tools and mechanisms in place	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Availability of sex disaggregated data	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Capacity Building	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Gender and ICTs for women and education	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Addressed food security issues	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Financing gender equality education and training of women	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

If you have responded “yes” to the question above, please elaborate:

- There is education and training policy
- There is curriculum training and education inspectorates monitor National Curriculum development
Ministry of Education has data chart
- There is capacity building programme that cover all subjects from secondary school
- Computer literacy is instilled as early as primary schools but not all schools have ICTs
- The GoL is supplying food for schools for free since 2002

Section 3: Women and health

a) Measures taken by government for women and health

2.3.1 Indicate actions taken by your government to ensure quality health services for women (Tick the box for which the answer is 'Yes' or leave box unchecked if answer is 'No')

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	If Yes Indicate Specific Actions Undertaken at Country Level	Give Brief Descr of Concrete Re: Achieved and v (year)
Implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action and the Copenhagen Declaration	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Design and implement and monitor gender-sensitive health programmes, including affordable sexual and reproductive health care services and education for women and girls, and increase resources for women's health	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Guideline for management of sexual abuse for Lesotho developed Multi-sectoral groups trained on the guidelines Free services for survivors Child help line established	Improved service Improved communication services as w collaboration b doctors and magistracy - 2006
Reduce maternal morbidity and mortality, deal with health impacts of unsafe abortions, ensure that girls have continuing access to necessary health and nutrition information and services, and address harmful traditional practices that harm women and girls' health including female genital mutilation	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Peer educators trained Nurses and midwives curriculum reviewed to enable them perform life saving skills in the area of male circumcision, removal of retained placenta	HIV/AIDS testir counselling for al clients 2007
Support interventions to curb the spread of malaria, cardiovascular diseases, STIs and cancer that affect women, including provision of free and subsidized reproductive health care services	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Free RH services Vaccination with Human Papiloma Virus Vaccine to girls 9-18 years	2008

		against prevention of cervical cancer	2009
Medical school curriculum include gender-sensitive mandatory courses.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Reviewed General nursing and midwifery programme to include gender sensitive issues	August 2008

b) Addressing Cross Cutting and Emerging Issues for BPFA

2.3.2 For the critical area of Concern “*Women and Health*”, please indicate if any of these issues were addressed in efforts to ensure quality health for women. (*Tick the appropriate response*)

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	Response
Monitoring and evaluation tools and mechanisms in place	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Involvement of men and boys	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Capacity Building	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Gender and ICTs for women and health	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Addressed food security issues	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Financing gender equality for women’s health	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Provision of support for elderly women	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Provision of support for HIV/AIDS affected girls	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

If you have responded “yes” to any of the questions above, please elaborate:

- Involvement of men and boys through peer education, condom promotion by the use of street boys, transit advertising targeting commercial sex workers and anybody in the streets.
- Adolescent Health Programme has incorporated ICTs in the youth corners where youths are able to send messages and download information on issues concerning their lives
- In the area of financing for gender equality, GoL has not yet attained nor implemented the 15% increase of the Abuja Declaration.
- On food security issues, malnutrition is addressed through Community Health Workers who screen children and outpatients and provide take home ration including supplementary feeding of food packages provided by WFP. Hospitalized children of the ages 1-10 also receive milk. The GoL also promotes backyard gardens through the provision of seeds and garden tools

Section 4: HIV/AIDS and its Gender Implications

a) National Institutional and Policy Framework

2.4.1 Has the Government put in place the institutional framework to address HIV/AIDS or adopted any recent strategies or measures including changes in legislation to address HIV/AIDS concerns?

Yes No

If yes, please indicate as follows:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Yes | No | |
| | | 1. Existence of an engendered national HIV/AIDS policy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| | | 2. Engendered service delivery guidelines and standards |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| | | 3. Availability of adequate human resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | X | |
| | | 4. Others (please specify): |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

2.4.2 Has your government established, enforced and monitored strict legal frameworks to address the vulnerability of girls and women

Yes No

If Yes, give details

Enactment of the Sexual Offences Act 2003

b) HIV/AIDS Prevention and Treatment Strategy

2.4.3 Has the Government adopted any recent measures and strategies including changes in legislation as part of the country's HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment strategy?

HIV Prevention and Treatment Strategies	Response	If Yes Indicate Specific Actions Undertaken at Country Level	I
Counselling and voluntary testing	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Know Your Status Campaign launched nation wide	
Male and female condom availability and use	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Distribution and	

		information on proper use communicated	
Targeted intervention to women and other vulnerable groups	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sex workers	
Prevention of mother to child transmission	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	All antenatal clinics provide PMTCT services	
Provision of antiretroviral therapy	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Senkatana clinic established, Health Service Areas now provide ART, Filter clinic also do	
Behaviour change communication	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A draft BCC strategy is in place and BCC is done for youth	
Medical, psychological and social care to HIV/AIDS victims	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	These are provided by different health facilities and support group including among others Senkatana, LENEPWA, LPPA, Bayler	
Home based care	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Community health workers have been trained to undertake this tasks and plans have been made by the Ministry of Health for their remuneration	
Other (please specify)	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There are Flying Doctors, Partners in Health, Monna Ka Khomo organization supported by Sentebale to render services in hard to reach places for different target groups including herd boys	

Section 5: Violence Against Women

a) Measures taken by government for elimination of violence against women

2.5.1 Indicate actions taken by your government to ensure elimination of violence against women (*Tick the box for which the answer is 'Yes' or leave box unchecked if answer is 'No'*)

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	If Yes Indicate Specific Actions Undertaken at Country Level	Give Brief Description of Concrete Results Achieved and when (year)
Legal sanctions for violence against women	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Imprisonment Fine	Despite the sanctions being undertaken, VAW has not reduced
Enacted or reinforced country legislation to punish offenders and support women subjected to violence with justice and legal services	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Sexual Offences Act adopted in 2003	More awareness understanding of the negative consequences of VAW, including rape
Mainstreamed gender perspectives in all policies and laws related to VAW	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Ongoing	Ongoing
Women with disabilities have access to information on services for violence against women	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		
Provide well funded shelters and relief support for girl and women	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Ongoing	One Out reach Centre has been established and equipped. Preparations are ongoing operationalization of the Center
Promote research, collect data and compile statistics on domestic violence	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Ongoing	Research has been conducted on the prevalence and perception on domestic violence in Lesotho
Measures aimed at preventing sex tourism and trafficking	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		
Encourage the media to examine the impact of gender role stereotyping including those	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		

encouraged by commercial advertising.			
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b) Addressing Cross Cutting and Emerging Issues for BPFA

2.5.2 For the critical area of Concern “*Violence Against Women*”, please indicate if any of these issues were addressed in efforts to ensure elimination of violence against women. (*Tick the appropriate response*)

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	Response
Effective policy development and implementation	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring and evaluation tools and mechanisms in place	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Availability of sex disaggregated data	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Involvement of men and boys	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Capacity Building	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Financing gender equality for violence against women	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

If you have responded “yes” to any of the questions above, please elaborate:

A national coordination plan as a mechanism for national response to GBV prevention and management has been developed. The Plan is structured at three key levels with distinct roles and responsibilities: The Thematic Group, The Technical Group, The District Gender Based Violence Committee (made up of the Community and the Village Gender Based Violence Committees).

Although there are no specific programmes on men and boys involvement, activities targeting men and boys have always been integrated into the national campaign on 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence.

There is ongoing training of health workers from in management of GBV cases and plans are underway to conduct orientation workshops for the judiciary on the guidelines of GBV case management.

Through the 5th Country Programme of Cooperation between GoL and UNFPA, funds have been allocated to address GBV issues. The national budget of the GoL for the Ministry of Gender provides for support to operationalize the Outreach Centre.

Section 6: Women and Armed Conflict

a) Measures taken by government for protection of women in armed conflict situations: Emelang

2.6.1 Indicate actions taken by your government to ensure elimination of violence against women (*Tick the box for which the answer is ‘Yes’ or leave box unchecked if answer is ‘No’*)

		If Yes Indicate	Give B1
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Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	Specific Actions Undertaken at Country Level	of Co: Achie
Women's voices in conflict prevention are heard and they are meaningfully involved in peace processes, including in the planning, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of refugee projects	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		
Train women in conflict resolution, reconciliation and tolerance	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		
Integration of a gender perspective in the resolution of armed and other forms of conflict	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		
Investigate and punish policy, security and armed forces involved in acts of VAW	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		
Protect the safety and integrity of women refugees	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		
Train military officials on the human rights of women and measures to assist women refugees deal with the trauma of rape and rejection	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		
Implement provisions of UNSC Resolution 1325	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		
Implement provisions of the AU Protocol on Women's Rights	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		
Ratified and domesticated international Conventions and Protocols	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		

b) Addressing Cross Cutting and Emerging Issues for BPFA

2.6.2 For the critical area of Concern "*Women in armed conflict*", please indicate if any of these issues were address in efforts to protect women in armed conflict. (*Tick the appropriate response*)

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	Response
Monitoring and evaluation tools and mechanisms in place	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Availability of sex disaggregated data	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Involvement of men and boys	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Capacity Building	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Gender and ICTs for women in armed conflict situations	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Addressed food security issues	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Financing gender equality for women in armed conflict	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

If you have responded "yes" to any of the questions above, please elaborate:

Section 7: Women and the Economy

a) Measures taken by government for women and economy

2.7.1 Indicate actions taken by your government to ensure full participation of women in the economy. (Tick the box for which the answer is 'Yes' or leave box unchecked if answer is 'No')

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	If Yes Indicate Specific Actions Undertaken at Country Level	Give Brief Description of Concrete Results Achieved and when (year)
Adopt and enact laws that guarantee an equal access to employment opportunities and social protection benefits.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>-Labour code amendment Act(2008)</p> <p>-Codes of Good Practice(2002)</p> <p>Legal Capacity of Married Persons</p>	<p>Marternity leave for people on the textile and clothing industry. It also stipulates minimum wages for people in private sector, including, domestic workers, which is women, domain.</p> <p>Sec 16(13) people with Hiv and Aids should not be discriminated on that basis, women are most susceptible, therefore, they are protected. Women can now take executive jobs and be directors.</p>
Ensure equal access to capital and trade opportunities.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	Information to entrepreneurs both men and women on business opportunities.	People take advantage of business opportunities like the duty free quotas of the Free Trade

			Area. (e.g. women selling cultural dresses)
Build capacity in gender-sensitive economic analysis.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Capacity building targeting entrepreneurs to be equipped to start businesses	New businesses are being opened
Ratified and domesticated International Conventions that guarantee the participation of women in the economy	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Equal Remuneration Convention ratified 1998 Minimum age for employment is 15 year Convention(2001) Occupational Safety and Health Convention.2001 Termination of Employment Convention (2001) Labor Code wages Amendment Act 2008. Codes of good practice Act 2002 Legal capacity of married persons (2006)	Remuneration should not be based on sex

b) Addressing Cross Cutting and Emerging Issues for BPFA

2.7.2 For the critical area of Concern “*Women and the Economy*”, please indicate if any of these

issues were address in efforts to ensure equal participation of women in the economy.

(Tick the appropriate response)

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	Response
Effective policy development and implementation	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring and evaluation tools and mechanisms in place	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

Availability of sex disaggregated data	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Involvement of men and boys	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Capacity Building	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Gender and ICTs for women and the economy	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Addressed food security issues	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Financing gender equality for women and the economy	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

If you have responded “yes” to any of the questions above, please elaborate:

Section 8: Women, governance, power and decision making

a) Measures taken by government on women governance, power and decision-making

2.8.1 Indicate actions taken by your government to ensure meaningful participation and involvement of women in power and decision-making. *(Tick the box for which the answer is 'Yes' or leave box unchecked if answer is 'No')*

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	If Yes Indicate Specific Actions Undertaken at Country Level	Give Brief Description of Concrete Results Achieved and when (year)
Encourage and promote stronger representation of women in political and diplomatic circles	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Political Empowerment campaigns (50/50 campaign at Litšoeneng)	50% women in the judiciary, 41% in Cabinet, 33% in parliament, 56% Ambassadors
Encourage greater involvement of women, in particular indigenous women, in decision-making processes	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Local Councilors workshops done in all districts	2008-2009
Support research to help identify adequate ways and means to politically empower women			

b) Addressing Cross Cutting and Emerging Issues for BPFA

2.8.2 For the critical area of Concern “Women in power and decision making”, please indicate if any of these issues were address in efforts to ensure equal participation of women in power and decision-making. *(Tick the appropriate response)*

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	Response
Institutional mechanisms in place	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Effective policy development and implementation	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring and evaluation tools and mechanisms in place	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Availability of sex disaggregated data	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Involvement of men and boys	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Capacity Building	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Gender and ICTs for women	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Food security issues	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

Financing gender equality	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
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If you have responded “yes” to any of the questions above, please elaborate:

Enactment of Local Government Act which stipulates that women be allotted 30% quota.

The Bureau of statistics collects the data and issues population data sheet yearly on Gender and Development

Section 9: Human rights of women

a) Measures taken by government for human rights of women

2.9.1 Indicate actions taken by your government to protect human rights of women. (Tick the box for which the answer is ‘Yes’ or leave box unchecked if answer is ‘No’)

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	If Yes Indicate Specific Actions Undertaken at Country Level	Give Brief Description of Concrete Results Achieved and (year)
Report on schedule to the Committee on CEDAW	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		
Publicise information on national, regional and international mechanisms for seeking redress of HR abuse	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Use media and network with other stakeholders	
Embody the principle of the equality of men and women in country legislation and strengthen development of programmes to protect the human rights of women	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Legal Capacity of Married Persons	2006
Translate to user friendly language information relating to the equal status of women including relevant protocols	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Legal capacity Act is translated into Sesotho language and in a user friendly language	
Ratified and domesticated International and African Conventions and Protocols that guarantee the human rights of women	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ratified CEDAW, UDHR, SADC Protocol on Gender development but have not yet domesticated	CEDAW 199 SADC Protoc 2008

b) Addressing Cross Cutting and Emerging Issues for BPFA

2.9.2 For the critical area of Concern “*Human rights of women*”, please indicate if any of these issues were address in efforts to protect human rights of women in decision-making. *Tick the appropriate response)*

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	Response
Monitoring and evaluation tools and mechanisms in place	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Availability of sex disaggregated data	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Involvement of men and boys	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Capacity Building	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Gender and ICTs	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Food security issues	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Financing gender equality	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

If you have responded “yes” to any of the questions above, please elaborate:

- The Ministry of Gender and many organizations such as WLSA, Federation of Women Lawyers, hold workshops to capacitate women.
- There is a project called CERF dealing with food insecurity
- Advocacy programmes are financed to address gender equality issues

Section 10: Women in media

a) Measures taken by government for human rights of women

2.10.1 Indicate actions taken by your government to ensure effective participation of women in media (*Tick the box for which the answer is 'Yes' or leave box unchecked if answer is 'No'*)

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	If Yes Indicate Specific Actions Undertaken at Country Level	Give Brief Description of Concrete Achieved at (year)
Measures that support research on women and media and ensure women's access to and participation in media	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		
Promote gender-aware media policies and gender balance in appointments at all levels of the media	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	One Media Policy on gender and 13 Gender aware media policies.	2008
Encourage and recognise women's media networks	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lesotho Media Women Association reestablished	2009
Encourage the participation of women in the development of professional guidelines and codes of conduct for media	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	GEMSA has developed a Diversity Journal for use in reportage and ethics of gender aware stories	
Promote gender sensitive research and implementation of a strategy of information, education and communication and support research on women and the media	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		
Enforcement of provisions of the World Summit on the Information Society			

b) Addressing Cross Cutting and Emerging Issues for BPFA

2.10.2 For the critical area of Concern "Women in media", please indicate if any of these issues were address in efforts to promote equal participation of women in media (*Tick the appropriate response*)

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	Response
Institutional mechanisms in place	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Effective policy development and implementation	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring and evaluation tools and mechanisms in place	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Availability of sex disaggregated data	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

Involvement of men and boys	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Capacity Building	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Food security issues	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Financing gender equality	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

If you have responded “yes” to any of the questions above, please elaborate:

13 media houses have committed to an action plan to promote the presence of women at Board level in their media houses

In the process of implementing Policy Development in all SADC countries including Lesotho. Policies of Gender aware HIV and AIDS are now being implemented to be reviewed in 2009-2010

The media has been trained on gender sensitive reporting. Gender features regularly in print media and there is notable shift towards using more gender sensitive language in reporting.

Not in all areas there is however Research on Baseline studies that give some statistics on news covered by women. The Glass Ceiling Research has not yet been published.

Some Cyber dialogues with PLWHA in 2008

Section 11: Women and the environment

a) Measures taken by government on women and the environment

2.11.1 Indicate actions taken by your government to ensure beneficial participation of women in the environment. (Tick the box for which the answer is 'Yes' or leave box unchecked if answer is 'No')

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	If Yes Indicate Specific Actions Undertaken at Country Level	Give Brief Description of Concrete Results Achieved and when (year)
Measures integrating gender in the design and implementation of environmental sound resource management, especially in rural areas	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Environmental Management on Poverty Reduction (EMPR) though not necessarily focussing on women as a special group	2000
Measures to engender MDG 7, empower women as producers and consumers to ensure effective environmental actions	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Highlands Natural Resources and Rural Income Enhancement Project (HNRRIEP) though not necessarily focussing on women as a special group	2001
Provide technical assistance to women in sectors such as agriculture, fisheries, small enterprises, trade and industry	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Highlands Natural Resources and Rural Income Enhancement Project (HNRRIEP) though not necessarily focussing on women as a special group	2001
Evaluate policies and programmes in terms of environmental impact and women's equal	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Environmental Impact	

access to and use of natural resources		Management though not necessarily focussing on women as a special group	
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b) Addressing Cross Cutting and Emerging Issues for BPFA

2.11.2 For the critical area of Concern “*Women and the environment*”, please indicate if any of these issues were address in efforts to promote equal participation and benefit in the environment.

Tick the appropriate response)

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	Response
Effective policy development and implementation	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring and evaluation tools and mechanisms in place	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Availability of sex disaggregated data	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Involvement of men and boys	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Capacity Building	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gender and ICTs	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Food security issues	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Financing gender equality	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

If you have responded “yes” to any of the questions above, please elaborate:

Section 12: The girl child

a) Measures taken by government on the girl child

2.12.1 Indicate actions taken by your government to ensure beneficial participation of women in the environment. (Tick the box for which the answer is 'Yes' or leave box unchecked if answer is 'No')

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	If Yes Indicate Specific Actions Undertaken at Country Level	Give Brief Description of Concrete Results Achieved and when (year)
Eliminate injustice and obstacles related to inheritance by girl children	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Government established Office of the Master of the High Court to ensure that children's inheritance is not taken away from them after death of parents	
Enact and enforce legislation protecting girls from all forms of VAW and ensure marriage is by young women's consent	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Government of Lesotho established Child and Gender Protection Unit within Police who received special training on gender issues as well as handling abused children in 2002. Sexual Offences Act was enacted in 2003 which protects underage girls from forced marriage	

		and sexual abuse.	
Implement policies, plans and programmes for the survival, protection, development and advancement of the girl child	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>The Ministry of Education and Training has Draft School Health Policy which is being implemented already, which stipulates that latrines for girls and boys should be separate for safety and privacy. This helps to keep girls at school.</p> <p>A policy on free primary education was implemented in 2000 and girls' enrolments rates increase from 83% to 88%. There is a bursary scheme which gives bursaries for both orphaned girls and boys but more girls are benefitting: 11,517 girls as opposed to 7,740 received bursaries in secondary schools. A small percentage of these are learners with disabilities who</p>	

		are in boarding primary schools or houses of safety. The Ministry of Health has introduced vaccination against cancer and that campaign is targeting adolescent girls. There are adolescent health corners in about 6 districts where adolescents including girls can get health services as well as psychosocial services with no fear of stigma.	
Ongoing research on the situation of the girls and realignment of policies and programmes	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		
Develop and adopt curricula, teaching materials and textbooks to improve the self image, lives and work opportunities of girls	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There is a Curriculum and Assessment Policy which has just been approved by MOET which cuts down the number of subject from 13 to compulsory 5. One of the 5 compulsory subjects is Life Skills Education which among other thing aims	

		at building self esteem and confidence of girls and boys in class. Gender is one of the chapters in each of the textbooks for each class. The NFE sector revised all its books to be gender responsive in 2006 and got printed in 2008. They are now in circulation.	
Facilitate the equal provision of appropriate services and devices to girls with disabilities	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X <input type="checkbox"/>	The Ministry of Education and training has introduced the policy of inclusive education which allows children with disabilities be taught in the mainstream class. The new schools that are being built by the Government have ramps a provision for children with physical disabilities	

2.12.2 For the critical area of Concern “*The girl child*”, please indicate if any of these issues were addressed in efforts to promote the rights of the girl child. *Tick the appropriate response*)

Specific Measures/Actions Taken in the Following Areas	Response	Response
Effective policy development and implementation	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring and evaluation tools and mechanisms in place	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Availability of sex disaggregated data	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Involvement of men and boys	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Capacity Building	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Gender and ICTs	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Food security issues	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Financing gender equality	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

b) Ratification or domestication of relevant global protocols

2.12.2 Has your country ratified and domesticated the Convention on the Rights of the child?

Ratified

Yes

Domesticated

Yes

If you have responded “yes” to the question above, please elaborate:

The Convention on the Rights of the Child is being domesticated through different interventions. For instance through the Sexual Offences Act of 2003, issues of the girl child are address; through the Education Bill, corporal is being abolished.

PART 3: Review on key Achievement, Challenges and Lessons Learnt

Overall, what do you view as your key achievement, challenges and lessons learnt in your efforts to implement the BPFA at country level. For each of the three items highlight 4 priority.

Key Achievement in implementing the BPFA

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Key Challenges in implementing the BPFA

The extent of the achievements between 1995 till date has proven difficult to measure in the absence of national plans with time bound targets. Government interventions on gender equality demonstrate that overall, "**gender and women specific issues**" have not yet been fully integrated into the core of government thinking or in development planning in a coherent and comprehensive way. Some reports have been obtained on programmatic responses to various conditions of women at different levels, on donor driven programmes, on outreach programmes of civil society organizations, on advocacy programmes of international development agencies on gender equality, women's and children's rights. However, there were gross gaps in policies and interventions to address gender inequities.

The GoL does not have a National Programme for the Advancement of Women that reflects the 12 critical areas of the Beijing Plat form for Action. Despite adoption of a National Gender Policy, there is minimal acknowledgement of gender equality as a guiding principle of development in the country, suggesting that most official pronouncements and declarations on the issue are still mainly in the realm of rhetoric.

Key Lessons Learnt in Implementing the BPFA

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Final Note:

Are there any relevant issues that were not covered in the questionnaire? If yes, what are your views, comments and observations on these issues?

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!