Background

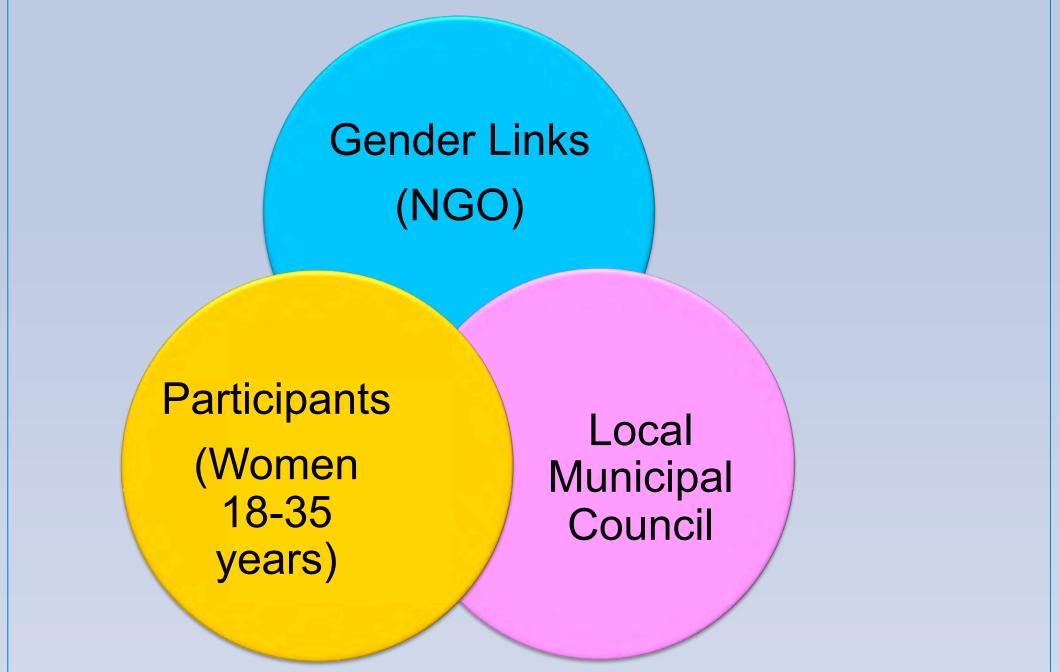


40% of men assault their partners daily and three women are killed by their intimate partner every day in South Africa ⁱ

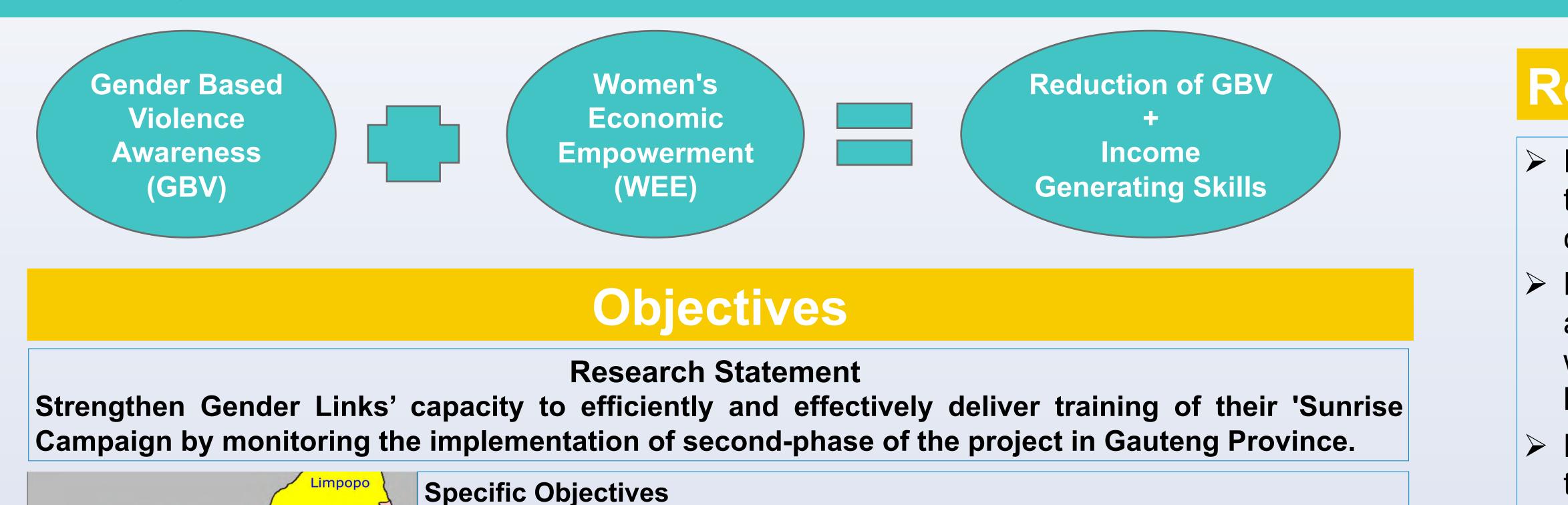
- South Africa has one of the highest rates of Gender Based Violence (GBV) globally.
- > GBV disproportionately affects women in various ways including: physically, emotionally, sexually, financially, can cause disability and even death.
- > Women's Economic Empowerment (WEE) is considered a key component in structural interventions to reduce inequality and the experience of GBV among women.
- > Women stay in abusive relationship because they are economically dependent on their abusers. There is need to economically empower women as a means to reduce risk of GBV

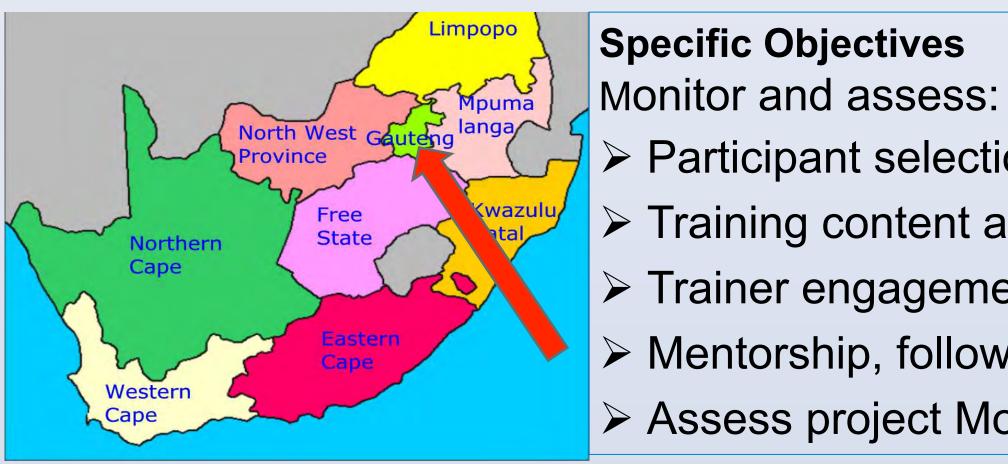
The Project

Gender Links, a Southern Africa NGO through its 'Sunrise Campaign' seeks to end GBV in the region by empowering women with Life Skills, Basic IT Knowledge & Entrepreneurship training. Parteners with local municipal governments in Gauteng Province, South Africa.









Methods

Focus Groups

With 32 women who are survivors of GBV and training participants.

Participant Observation

Attended and participated in trainings

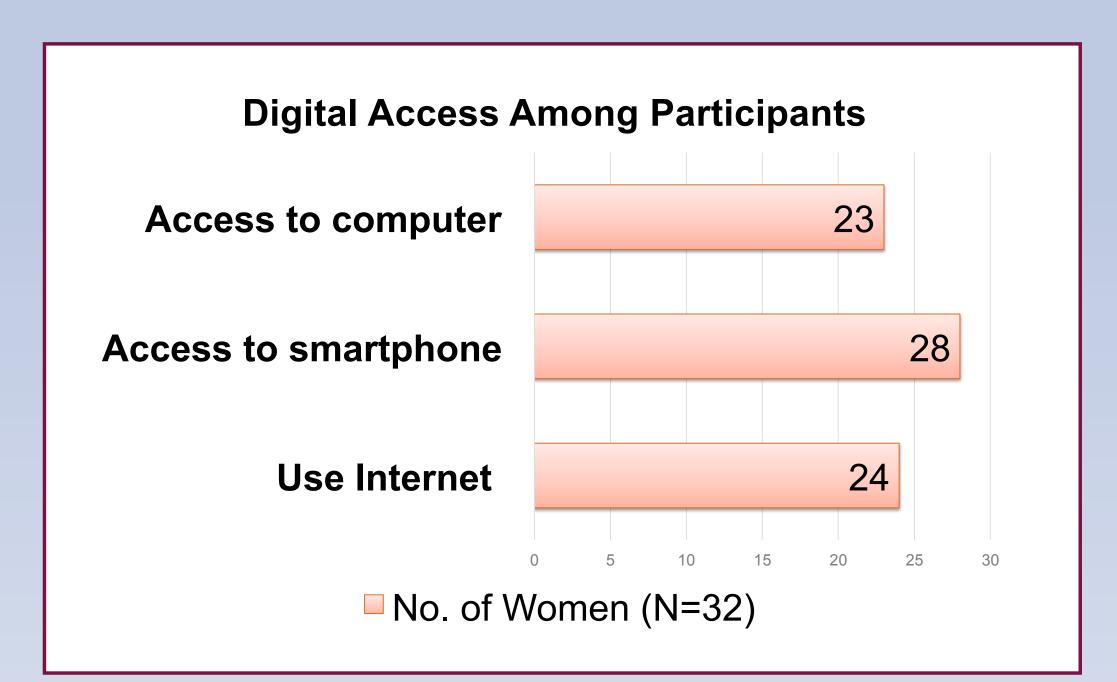
Interviews

With 6 Gender Focal Persons (GFPs) who are local municipal employees in-charge of gender programs.

Secondary Data Analysis

Gender Links' in-house publications, Assessment of M&E tools Review of external GBV related literature

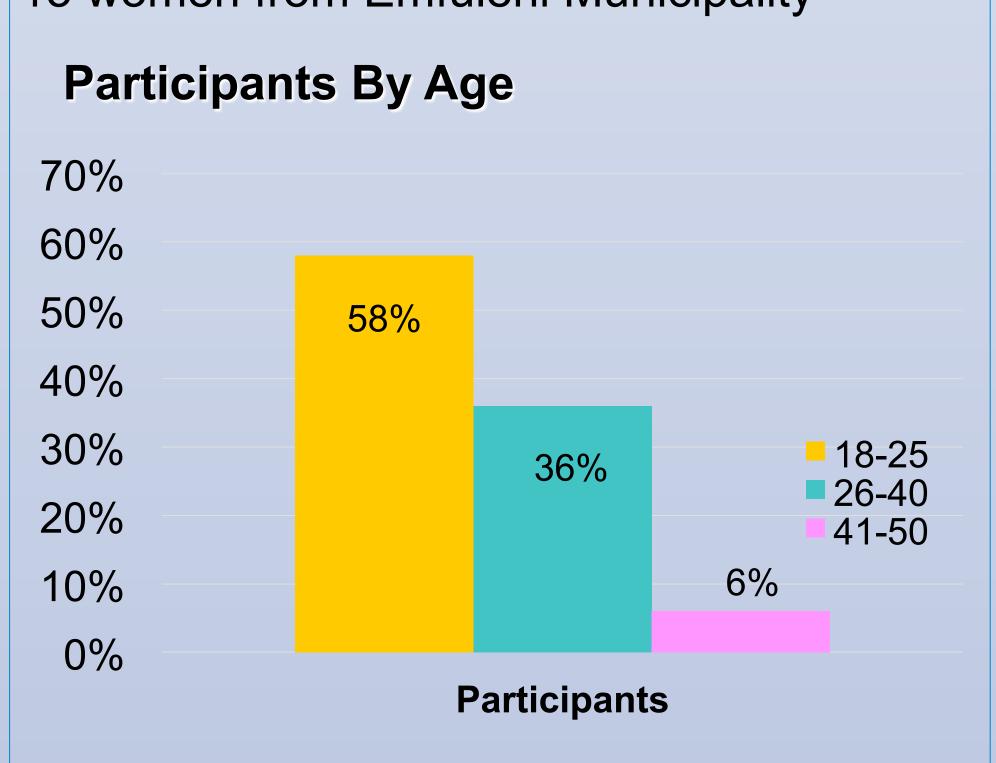
Participants' Digital Literacy



- > Participant selection criteria, participation and commitment
- Training content and early learning outcomes among participants
- Trainer engagement with participants & content
- > Mentorship, follow-up and council support systems
- > Assess project Monitoring & Evaluation tools and their application

Participants

- Total of 36 participants (women) trained 21 women from Midvaal Municipality
- 15 women from Emfuleni Municipality



A Training Session







Results

Participants had high engagement with training content and could replicate key concepts

Participants selection was not as rigorous as had been proposed by Gender Links some women were not GBV survivors and some had no high school diploma.

Participant- Trainer engagement was high though language barriers were noted.

Participant mentorship, follow-up and council support was low.

Relationship between Gender Links and Councils for the project was not strong

Training Concepts Outlined by Participants



Recommendations

Strengthen the relationship/ role of councils and GFPs in the training project to promote a sense of ownership and sustainability

Participant selection should emphasize more commitment and interest across various entrepreneurial interests

Training content should be customized to the specific needs of the participants

Mentorship should be incorporated into the training.

Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) tools should be strengthened to improve data collection and validity. Post-training evaluation

processes should be implemented to further document the relationship between GBV and

WEE. South Africa Medical Research Council (MRC)