



Call for Applications

CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP

LGBTIQ+ Human Rights Defenders in Africa
Capacity Building Workshop
on Strategic Litigation and Advocacy 2021

23 – 27 August 2021

*Centre for Human Rights,
University of Pretoria*

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www.chr.up.ac.za
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Centre for
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The **Centre for Human Rights, Faculty of Law, University of Pretoria**, with the support of the **Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands**, cordially invites you to apply for its hybrid model (in person and on zoom) Capacity Building Workshop on Strategic Litigation and Advocacy for human rights defenders working on the promotion and protection of the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, and other non-binary and gender-nonconforming persons in Africa.

Date: 23 – 27 August 2021
Time: 09:00 to 16:00 (from Monday to Friday) SAST
Venue: Zoom/ Centre for Human Rights University of Pretoria
Apply online: Complete the application form and provide work and personal details by **15 May 2021**. **PLEASE CLICK HERE TO APPLY ONLINE BY 15 MAY 2021**
Enquires: Dr Ayo Sogunro (Tel: +27 (12) 420 5449 / ayodele.sogunro@up.ac.za)

About the Workshop

The LGBTIQ+ Human Rights Defenders in Africa Capacity Building Workshop is an annual event aimed at empowering selected LGBTIQ+ human rights defenders in Africa on designing and conducting strategic litigation and advocacy. Due to public health restrictions on events and international travel in South Africa, the sixth edition of the workshop will follow a hybrid approach with some selected participants present at the University of Pretoria and others participating online.

Background

Resolution 275 of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights calls on state parties to curb violence on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity. However, despite this, violence and discrimination targeted for these groups continues to exist. Similarly, human rights defenders and activists working on LGBTI issues continue to face different threats in relation to their work.

Against this background, the Centre for Human Rights will be conducting a five-day capacity building workshop for LGBTI human rights defenders in Africa. The workshop is designed to assist activists in Africa to effectively promote and protect LGBTIQ+ rights through domestic, regional, and international level strategic litigation and advocacy using African-specific approaches.

The workshop is targeted at experienced activists who want to build on their capacity and develop their skill-sets. It will include a combination of expert presentations delivered by Centre for Human Rights staff as well as other experienced human rights defenders on advocacy and litigation opportunities. It will also include interactive advocacy and litigation exercises at regional and international levels.

The workshop seeks to strengthen the capacity of civil society organisations so that they can better pursue legal challenges and advocate on behalf of LGBTI individuals at risk of or having suffered serious violations of human rights. The workshop also aims to have participants learn from each other about the challenges of filing cases at domestic courts.

Participants

The hybrid workshop will bring together activists, scholars, practitioners, advocates for law reform, and notable LGBTI individuals from across Africa to address the issues of strategic advocacy and litigation.



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This programme is directed at **experienced human rights defenders** in non-governmental organisations, with existing advocacy experience at the national level and some prior knowledge of the international human rights system.

Successful applicants will be notified of their selection by 30 May 2021. At least 15 participants will be selected for physical attendance. Applicants are required to specify their participation preference in the application form and to provide a motivation if they choose to attend in person. Participants should commit to attending all five days of the workshop, whether present in person or attending virtually. Certificates of participation will be issued by the Centre for Human Rights for successful completion of the workshop.

Funding

Limited funding for travel and accommodation is available to support participants who will be selected for the workshop. Successful applicants will be notified of their selection by **30 August 2019**. Due to limited funding, selected applicants will be required to take care of visa costs in their respective countries as well as airport transfer costs at ports of departure. Self-funding participants are encouraged to apply as well.