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Press releases

SADC Secretariat conducts its first ever Training of Trainers (TOT) for Lesotho Govt Officials on the SADC Online M&E System

The Lesotho Directorate of Regional Integration (DRI), in the Lesotho Ministry of Finance, in collaboration with the SADC Strengthening National Regional Linkages (SNRL) Programme has facilitated a Training of Trainers (TOT) on the use of the SADC online monitoring and evaluation system in an effort to enhance progress tracking in the implementation of SADC (national, regional and sectoral) policies and programmes in Lesotho.

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Participants at the Training of Trainers in Gaborone

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The training which took place this week in Gaborone, (8-10 July 2019), is the first ever TOT conducted by the SADC Secretariat M&E Unit on the SADC online M&E system. The training offered the Lesotho officials an opportunity to familiarise themselves with the Secretariat M&E Unit, and to cultivate rapport with the Secretariat while at the same time establishing links of communication to be used for giving feedback, reporting challenges and problems and communicating updates on the trainings that will be undertaken by the trained officials in Lesotho. Ultimately, improved capacities to monitor and evaluate progress in SADC regional strategies and protocols will support alignment of national-regional plans at the national level.

This initiative is running concurrently with a process to establish SADC Cluster Sub-Committees, in line with the SADC Treaty, to strengthen national coordination and implementation of the SADC agenda in the Kingdom. The trained officials in the TOT will be training participants of proposed SADC Cluster groupings in Lesotho in the week beginning 22 July over four days. Lesotho DRI is implementing all these initiatives in collaboration with the SADC-SNRL Programme - a partnership programme between SADC, the European Union (EU) and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ).

Through these initiatives Lesotho's capacity to manage and monitor the implementation of SADC strategies and priority protocols will be enhanced and ultimately Lesotho's influence in the SADC policy making will be informed by regular progress monitoring and reporting, while Sectoral policy and budget making processes will be evidence based and informed by the SADC monitoring systems.

The training follows a scoping study undertaken in 2018 which showed that implementation of the SADC regional integration agenda in Lesotho is facing numerous challenges at the national level due to structural, procedural and resource deficits of the institutions charged with the coordination of SADC Protocols and related RI programmes. .

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