

Botswana Domestic Violence Act 2008 — First Explicit Legislation Against Domestic Violence

Gender Equality · Good practice · Botswana

Quality score: 37/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

Botswana's 2008 Domestic Violence Act, the country's first explicit DV law, introduced civil protection orders without requiring prior evidence of violence. Botswana's WBL score rose from 38.1 to 63.8 since 2000, though five shelters nationwide reveal significant enforcement gaps

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Transferability / replicability	1/3
Impact on gender equality	0/1
Effectiveness	0/1
Efficiency	0/1
Evaluated outcomes	0/1
Sustainability	1/1
Achievement / evidence	1/1
Gender-mainstreaming embedding	0/1
Curator validation	1/1

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-06-23

[Government of Botswana](#) — accessed 2026-06-23

[World Bank: Botswana Women's Economic Participation](#) — accessed 2026-06-23

[PolicyVault.Africa — Domestic Violence Act 2008](#) — accessed 2026-06-23

[Afrobarometer: GBV as Priority in Botswana \(2023\)](#) — accessed 2026-06-23

[UK CPIN: Botswana Women Fearing GBV \(2025\)](#) — accessed 2026-06-23

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