

Lesotho's Legal Capacity of Married Persons Act (2006) — Abolishing Marital Power Over Women's Property

Gender Equality · Good practice · Lesotho

Quality score: 85/100

Evidence strength: Strong

Summary

Lesotho's 2006 law ended husbands' legal 'marital power' over wives, letting women independently own and register property; World Bank registry analysis (1981-2019) links it to an 80%+ female co-ownership share on new urban land titles, though rural gains lag.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Transferability / replicability	2/3
Impact on gender equality	1/1
Effectiveness	1/1
Efficiency	0/1
Evaluated outcomes	1/1
Sustainability	1/1
Achievement / evidence	1/1
Gender-mainstreaming embedding	1/1
Curator validation	1/1

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-09-07

[Government of Lesotho — Ministry of Gender, Youth, Sports and Recreation](#) — accessed 2026-09-07

[World Bank Policy Research Working Paper 10043 \(2022\)](#) — accessed 2026-09-07

[Millennium Challenge Corporation — Lesotho land governance reform](#) — accessed 2026-09-07

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