



Labour Research Service – LRS

Enhancing the participation of the employed in political and socioeconomic activities

The LRS is a trade union controlled institution that maintains its independence by providing services nationally to all progressive trade unions, across political affiliations, federations, artificial racial barriers and provincial boundaries.

The LRS was launched as an independent organisation on 1 May 1986. From the start, the LRS concentrated on providing empirical research for trade unions to facilitate their struggle to achieve concrete objectives. The organisation supports 15 member unions directly and they in turn serve over 2 million working men and women.

Four themes support the LRS vision of promoting the general and specific interests of the labour movement and they encourage inter-union solidarity and alliances with NGOs and others namely:

- The provision of accessible and relevant information to their labour movement
- The development of education interventions
- The creation of a culture of reading and building a dedicated range of publications to use to disseminate all relevant information

Five core programmes contribute to the work of the LRS, namely collective bargaining support, gender issues including HIV/AIDS, the Trade Union library and archive, the transformation of Corporate Governance and worker education and advocacy. All of these interventions support the objectives of the organisation.

With regards to female representation in their union's strategies, this has been enhanced through the Gender and HIV/AIDS programme that facilitates the development of an active and productive female leadership for unions and societies. They have been empowered to engage actively and are able to share their experiences of operating in the workplace.

The LRS operates in a highly pressurised environment and recognises the importance of increasing its efforts to support its sustainability and development over the long term.



LABOUR RESEARCH SERVICES

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