ADVANCING RIGHTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

BACKGROUND

Advancing Rights in Southern Africa is a five-year, $12.5 million regional human rights program operating across the southern Africa region. The program is implemented by Freedom House in collaboration with the American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative, Internews, and Pact. ARISA works in the following eight countries: Angola, Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mozambique, Namibia, and South Africa.

GOAL AND OBJECTIVES

The goal of the ARISA program is to improve the recognition, awareness, and enforcement of human rights in the region and a cross-cutting emphasis on protecting the region’s most vulnerable and marginalized groups, including indigenous peoples, women, and youth. This goal is pursued through the following intermediate results:

- Improving the enabling environment for the promotion and protection of human rights
- Strengthening the capacity and engagement of regional and local civil society actors to seek redress for rights violations
- Increasing public demand for improved rule of law and human rights protection
- Fostering South-South community of practice for knowledge and resource sharing for continued efforts to address human rights violations
ARISA partners with and support Southern African civil society organizations across the following thematic areas:

- Indigenous People’s Rights
- Women’s Customary Land Rights
- Media Freedoms and Digital Rights
- The Protection of Human Rights Defenders

**CONTACT DETAILS**

Amy Hamelin: Agreement Officer’s Representative, ahamelin@usaid.gov

Tiseke Kasambala: Chief of Party, kasambala@freedomhouse.org