

THE GCERF CAROL BELLAMY LEADERSHIP AWARD 2023

AWARDEE REPORT: **WOMAN-KENYA**

AT A GLANCE: WOMAN-KENYA

Women Moving Agenda Network Kenya (WOMAN-KENYA) is a women-led civil society organisation (CSO), officially registered in Mombasa Kenya as an NGO since 2020. The organisation works to create space for women religious and ethnic leaders to participate in community Peace, security and development agendas. It aims to improve gender equality; raise awareness and sensitivity communities around gender issues and women's rights; strengthen and mobilize local mechanisms to prevent all forms of discrimination and violence against women.



WOMAN-KENYA
has operated in
Kenya since 2020

PROJECT OVERVIEW

WOMAN-KENYA's project consisted in establishing a physical presence of the organisation in Mombasa county, support the development of policies and support women initiatives on Prevention of Violent Extremism.

From there and with strengthened governance and programme policies, the organisation was able to support women's role in PVE within their villages by training a pool of women PVE influencers, who then organised psychosocial support to victims of violent extremism.

In parallel, WOMAN-KENYA also directly supported the economic autonomy of women farmers in the Ondo state by providing them with climate-resilient seeds. This allowed these women to stay engaged within the community



WOMAN-KENYA considers that religious and ethnic peace building spaces are still largely dominated by male leaders.

The organisation thus works towards sensitizing, training and empowering women to effectively address community challenges that affect women development and community well-being as a whole, notably vulnerability to violent extremism.

Considering the fact that women play an important role in addressing violent extremism, WOMAN-KENYA targets women to influence them as change makers.



PROVISION OF INPUTS TO CLIMATE RESILIENT FARMING

Treated seedlings (resistant to pests) were distributed in the communities: cassava, maize, melon, beans.

Following this distribution, the women selected all across the community formed a cooperative, and were able to share their newly-acquired knowledge on climate-smart agriculture (e.g. manure to mitigate effect of drought).



STRENGTHENING WOMEN SAFE SPACES THROUGH TAILORED TRAININGS

Trainings were provided on the following topics: leadership, Women's Rights, Child Rights; use of IT in selling products; entrepreneurship

As a result, awareness among local leaders was raised, women were able to take part in traditional weddings negotiations, submit strong candidacy for political positions, organise women cooperatives and successfully advocate on local issues (e.g. fixing an out-of-service rice mill)



IDENTIFIED GOOD PRACTICES

WOMAN-KENYA, through this programme strengthened its capacities, identifying lessons learned during the evaluation phase.

As an example, for CSA activities, the organisation will base their calendar on the optimal planting periods and anticipate on local herdsmen practices (such as occasional indiscriminate burning).

As for RGAs, WOMAN-KENYA will have a solution ready for unbanked individuals

