



Keep the Promises Made to African Women and Girls



The African Women's
Development and
Communication Network

2016 Annual Report

#FOLLOWTHEPROTOCOL



**The African Women's
Development and
Communication Network**

The African Women's Development and Communication Network (FEMNET) aims to strengthen the role and contribution of African NGO's focusing on women's development equality and other human rights through communications, networking, training and advocacy.

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AU	African Union
AWID	Association of Women's Rights in Development
CSE	Comprehensive Sexuality Education
CSO	Civil Society Organizations
EAC	East African Community
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
FEMNET	African Women's Development and Communication Network
GIMAC	Gender is My Agenda Campaign
HLPF	High Level Political forum
IFFS	Illicit Financial Flows
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SRHR	Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights
TICAD	Tokyo International Conference on Africa Development
UN-CSW	United Nations commission on the status of women
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNGA	United Nations General Assembly
VAW/G	Violence Against Women/ Girls

About FEMNET

Since inception in 1988, the African Women's Development and Communication Network (FEMNET) continues to play a leading role in building the women's movement and amplifying the voices of African women to influence decisions made at national, regional and global levels, that impact on their lives.

As a pan-African membership-based organization working to advance women's rights, FEMNET continues to mobilize African women to hold governments accountable to women's rights and gender equality commitments including: the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the AU Protocol on the Rights of Women in Africa (Maputo Protocol) and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development among others.

FEMNET's vision is an African society where gender equality is achieved and women and girls enjoy all their rights and live in dignity. Our mantra is women's rights are human rights, and we exist to mobilize African women for the achievement of gender equality and the realization of women's and girls' rights at all levels.

Rising beyond the Rhetoric to Lived Realities!

It is with great appreciation that I write this Foreword to the FEMNET 2016 Annual Report for a second term running having been re-elected to serve as Chairperson of the FEMNET Board (2017 – 2019).

One of my main inspirations from our beautiful continent of Africa as we strive to enhance and improve the lives of our people especially women and girls is just the amazing potential there is to make Africa greater!

The year 2016 has seen FEMNET thrust its regional and global presence to greater visibility and formidable impact especially at High Level Policy platforms such as the African Union Summit, the High Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Governments reporting on the status of implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Sixtieth UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW 60).

I am exceedingly proud to be amongst the FEMNET illuminating team that is proactively galvanizing African women and girls to agitate and amplify African governments to steadily strive towards full and inclusive implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the AU Agenda 2063.

As African women's rights advocates and activists, we stand at a pivotal historic moment within continental and global policy frameworks that will no doubt improve the lives of Africa's women and girls to the full realization of gender equality and women's empowerment. Collectively we must continue to hold our Governments accountable to



Photo credits: UN Women/Ryan Brown

Mrs. Emma Kaliya, Chairperson, FEMNET

fulfilling existing commitments on realizing gender equality and advancing women's and girls' rights.

At FEMNET we will strive to implement our pragmatic Strategic Plan 2014-2018. We remain focused to the unwavering goal that Africa will never fully be free until all women and girls are treated equally, justly and with dignity.

Our overarching mandate is to amplify women's voices, aspirations and priorities in policy and decision-making platforms at national, regional and global level for the realization of African women's and girls' rights. We invite you to join FEMNET and together let's build the Africa We Want for ALL.

***Mrs Emma Kaliya,
Chairperson, FEMNET Board***

Demanding Accountability for the Implementation of Women's Rights Commitments



2016 being the first year of implementing the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development presented FEMNET numerous opportunities for starting to mobilize Women's Rights Organizations towards playing a key role in the implementation phase. FEMNET was keen to work with its members to draw relevant linkages between the SDGs and the existing national, sub-regional and regional commitments such as the Maputo Protocol. In 2016 we worked closely with our members in the Southern Africa sub-region to draw linkages between SRHR and SDGs policy frameworks for increased harmonization of our tracking implementation. From the national level engagements we learnt that although the 2030 Agenda is hailed for having gone through a widely consultative process, majority of women's rights activists at the national and local levels had limited information on the SDGs and how they contribute

to their work. This lesson will be informing our future interventions in the coming years.

Throughout the year, FEMNET continued to engage and influence key policy decisions and spaces both at the regional and global levels. These included the 60th Commission on the Status of Women, 14th session of the United Nations Conference on Trade & Development (UNCTAD-14) i, TICAD6, HLM2 and African Union Summits. In all these platforms FEMNET played leading roles in mobilizing, coordinating, direct advocacy and influencing the policy outcomes.

FEMNET continued its work on women's economic rights with a focus on transforming macroeconomic policies to address women's rights. During the year we convened a continental meeting on Gender and Illicit Financial Flows (IFFs) bringing together Women's Rights Organizations

from across the region to deliberate the link between IFFs and gender and the role they could play. During the meeting FEMNET validated its research on Gender implications of IFFs. It became clear in this meeting that WROs are needed to engage in the IFFs discourses to provide a feminist analysis and bring in the missing voices of women. It was concluded WROs will contribute towards advocating for curbing IFFs while at the same time keeping an eye on how domestic resources are distributed to benefit all citizens including women and girls.

In demanding for accountability for the implementation of women's rights commitments, FEMNET launched a continental wide campaign dubbed [#FollowTheProtocol](#). Conceptualized and rolled-out by FEMNET members and partners the Campaign mobilizes African women and girls to collectively urge their leaders to walk the talk and prioritize implementation of existing commitments on gender equality and women's rights – and specifically the Maputo Protocol - the most progressive women's rights instruments on the continent. The innovative use of social media

platforms enabled FEMNET to effectively mobilize, influence policy, engage, network, follow up and share information more fluidly with her members and the wider online constituencies.

On behalf of FEMNET Board, staff and entire FEMNET Network I want to acknowledge with heartfelt appreciation the continued support of our partners who generously contributed financial resources to our work in 2016. These include:- African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF), Swedish International Development Agency (Sida), International Women's Health Coalition (IWHC), Swedish Association for Sexuality Education (RFSU), Anonymous, Urgent Action Fund-Africa, African Women's Development Fund (AWDF), Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID), Mannion Daniels (Amplify Change), Christian Aid, Trust Africa, UN Women, Oxfam Novib, Oxfam GB, Global Fund for Women, Ipas Africa Alliance and Hivos.

Dinah Musindarwezo,
Executive Director, FEMNET

¹ FEMNET members (both organizations and individuals) and key strategic partners including:- Equality Now, Action Aid International, AWID, Ipas Africa Alliance, Girls Not Brides, Oxfam and SOAWR Coalition.

Women belong in all places where decisions are being made

At FEMNET, the year 2016 was filled with advocacy action, momentum building, capacity enhancement for our members for the advancement of women's rights and gender equality in various African countries and globally. The diverse advocacy spaces that FEMNET occupied, presented a great opportunity to lobby member states to reignite and translate the political will at regional and global arena into tangible action for women and girls at the national level for the realization of women's rights and gender equality.

The year 2016 also marked the mid-point of implementing our Strategic Plan (2014 – 2018) for FEMNET, it was a time to look back and reflect on the impact of our work and activities implemented in the last two years (2014 – 2015) of the strategic plan, assessing the path towards achieving our aspirations in FEMNET's vision of *"An African society where gender equality is achieved and women and girls enjoy all their rights and live in dignity"*.



Our Impact in 2016

♀ African women's organizing & meaningful participation: Demanding accountability

- At the **26th African Union Summit** held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in January 2016, the Minister of Gender in Guinea Conakry made a commitment to ensure that her government submits a report of implementation on the Maputo Protocol while the Minister from Malawi affirmed her government's commitments to follow through with implementation of the Protocol. These commitments were made during FEMNET's High level Panel titled *Mutual Accountability on Women's Human Rights in Africa: Rising beyond Rhetoric to Concrete Actions*. Throughout the Summit period, FEMNET together with other CSOs continued to advocate for concrete actions towards realizing gender equality, women's human rights and their empowerment in strategic advocacy spaces including GIMAC (Gender is my Agenda), the Citizens' Continental Conference and the Joint High Level meeting on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment. The theme for the AU Summit was *"African Union Year of Human Rights with specific focus on Women's Rights"*.



Hon. Mme Camara Sanaba Kaba, Minister of Social Action and Promotion of Women and Children, Guinea



Hon. Patricia Kaliati, Minister of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare, Malawi,

- At the **27th AU Summit** held in Kigali, Rwanda, FEMNET was one of the partners that collaborated with the AU Directorate of Women, Gender and Development to convene a High Level Meeting on the Implementation of the Maputo Protocol bringing together Ministers of Gender, AU departments and Institutions, UN Agencies, Women's Rights Organizations and CSOs in general. During this high level meeting FEMNET in partnership with other Solidarity for African Women's Rights Coalition (SOAWR) members made a presentation with clear recommendations on how the agenda of Maputo Protocol can be taken forward to impact the lives of women and girls. At the end of this panel discussion, Government of Rwanda through the Minister of Justice committed Rwanda to submit a report on Maputo Protocol and to reform its national law on access to safe abortion in line with the provisions of Maputo Protocol.



African women leaders attending the 27th AU Summit in Kigali, affirm their support to the #FollowTheProtocol Campaign

FEMNET also launched an online campaign dubbed **#FollowTheProtocol** on women’s human rights. Conceptualized and rolled-out by FEMNET members and partners the Campaign mobilizes African women and girls to collectively urge their leaders to walk the talk and prioritize implementation of existing commitments on gender equality and women’s rights – and specifically the Maputo Protocol - the most progressive women’s rights instruments on the continent. To date, the campaign continues to mobilize women’s rights organizations and activists to increase pressure on their respective governments to ratify, resource, implement and report on the Maputo Protocol. The innovative use of social media platforms enabled FEMNET to effectively mobilize, influence policy, engage, network, follow up and share information more fluidly with her members and the wider online constituencies.

FEMNET also engaged media to amplify key advocacy messages on implementing women’s rights commitments which were carried in an Op-Ed titled *Good Policy Frameworks for Women’s Rights Must Be Fully Implemented* published in key daily newspapers across the region including *The New Times* (Rwanda), *Standard Newspaper* (Kenya) and *The Monitor* (Uganda). And media interviews on the Rwanda T.V, *KBC TV*, and *SABC TV*. FEMNET also reached out to media through a Press Release urging *African Governments to fulfill their obligations to African women* and in partnership with SOAWR mobilized over 150 signatures on the *Letter to African Governments attending the 27th AU Summit in Kigali, Rwanda* that had key asks by women and girls. FEMNET contributed an article titled *Africa Re-Commits to Gender Equality and Women’s Rights: Moving from Policies to Practice* for the AU Summit magazine entitled AU Echo Newsletter – whose readership spans hundreds of thousand policy makers and policy influencers.



FEMNET’s Executive Director, Ms Dinah Musindarwezo, at the official launch of the SDGs Kenya Forum in Nairobi, Kenya

At the **first multi-stakeholder forum on SDGs** in Kenya, FEMNET worked closely with CSOs in Kenya to support the launch of the SDGs Kenya Forum in March 2016. The multi-stakeholder forum brings together stakeholders including representatives of government ministries, UN, CSOs, private sector, development partners, academia, youth and development think-tanks from across Kenya. SDGs Kenya Forum provides a national space for a structured and coordinated CSO engagement with government officials, creating a space for various actors including citizens to make concrete recommendations and constructively provide technical expertise and other resources to enhance the successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda. This model of a national CSOs led forum

is planned to be replicated in other African countries to serve as a CSO platform for tracking SDGs implementation at national and local levels as well as act as the strategic peer resource platform for CSOs partnership during implementation of the SDGs. FEMNET was the first co-chair of the SDGs Kenya forum alongside VSO international.

In July 2016 FEMNET in partnership with SDGs Forum and CIVICUS held a *multi-stakeholder forum to explore opportunities for delivering an integrated, data-driven multi-stakeholder approach to implementing and monitoring progress on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)*; with special focus on Goal Five “achieving gender equality and empowering women and girls” and other gender related targets in the SDGs in Kenya. This created a platform to deliberate on how civil society, UN Agencies and government can work together to harness gender data and fill in the gaps.

Women’s empowerment and its link to sustainable development was the theme for the 60th Commission on the Status of Women held in New York in March 2016. This provided a **great opportunity for African women to influence key global policy outcomes** including negotiations on Agreed Conclusions and Methods of Work. FEMNET as a co-convenor of the Women’s Rights Caucus and co-Chair of NGO CSW/ Africa, mobilized African women and girls to participate in the CSW60 and specifically contribute to side events and sessions of the African Women’s Caucus co-hosted by FEMNET and the NGO CSW/Africa members. FEMNET members lobbied their government representatives with key [advocacy messages/ recommendations](#) that were developed during the regional Pre-CSW60 meeting held in February 2016 and organized by FEMNET in partnership with NGO CSW/Africa and NGO CSW/New York.



FEMNET partnered with SDGs Kenya Forum and Civicus World Alliance to convene a multi-stakeholder forum to explore opportunities for delivering an integrated approach to implementing and monitoring SDG 5



Women’s rights activists and advocates attending FEMNET’s side event at the CSW60, New York



FEMNET members and partners at the Pre-CSW60 meeting held in February 2016 in Nairobi, Kenya

♀ Enhancing Women’s Capacity to Engage Policymakers on SRHR and SDGs

- After adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDGs) in 2015 September, the first year, 2016 was critical to spur implementation. FEMNET partnered with her members to provide an entry point and opportunity to re-energize and mobilize African women’s collective voice to engage regional and national policymakers and stakeholders on implementation mechanisms. Special focus was given to SRHR (sexual and reproductive health and rights) given the growing pushback and backlash on SRHR, human rights and women’s rights which risk to erode the gains consolidated over 20+ years since the 4th world conference on women in Beijing.

SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS (SRHR) AND THE 2030 AGENDA FOR

**SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS**

THE AFRICA WE WANT

FEMNET partnered with her members in Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Kenya to **increase awareness on a newly adopted 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development/SDGs and how it relates with other national, sub-regional and regional women’s rights instruments.** Through these engagements, women’s rights organizations in these countries identified their role in the implementation of SDGs and the existing opportunities for effective engagement and influencing. A particular focus was on how to monitor the implementation of gender and SRHR policies as articulated in the SDGs and other regional and international commitments.

- **During the 16 Days of Activism FEMNET** mobilized its members across the region to engage in the dialogues on ending Violence against women as well as held national level dialogues in Kenya and Malawi. In Kenya FEMNET facilitated **dialogues on creating safe spaces for women and girls** in Kibera, Kenya, one of Africa’s largest slum areas with more than 4 million inhabitants and held series of discussions on Radio hosting various women’s rights activists throughout the period of 16 Days of Activism. Malawi was the official launching site for 16 Days alongside a policy dialogue for religious and cultural leaders from Malawi, Kenya and Tunisia. FEMNET converged a significant representation of these policy influencers and with the credible high-level support through the Malawi government and the Ministry of Gender launched the 16 Days of Activism. Development partners like UN Women and several members of the Diplomatic corps were present at the launch graced by an entire conference hall full of women human rights actors as well as representatives from the Malawi Police Force.

FEMNET Chairperson Ms. Emma Kaliya delivered the key note speech reiterating the call for the full implementation of the Maputo Protocol with a specific focus to ending harmful cultural practices affecting women and girls. Cultural and religious leaders facilitated to FEMNET also took to the platform to galvanize solidarity with their Malawi counterparts in spearheading the campaign against harmful cultural practices such as female genital mutilation and child marriages.

16 Days of Activism 16 years of Violence



The African Women's
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Strengthening Women's Economic Justice and Leadership

- Recognizing the need to **strengthen African women's engagement and contribution in the fight to curb Illicit Financial Flows (IFFs)**, FEMNET convened a stakeholders meeting in Nairobi in August 2016 to explore the nexus between gender and Illicit Financial Flows (IFFs); and broadly for resourcing the women's rights and gender equality agenda. This is part of our broader work on Gender and Macro-economic policies where we seek to build capacity of African women to analyze and transform the current economic models from a feminist perspective. The convening assembled over 30 stakeholders drawn from FEMNET members, women's rights organizations, gender equality advocates, international organizations, UN agencies, civil society, development partners, academia, researchers, experts and feminists working on IFFs and macroeconomics. The space provided a platform for organizations working on tax justice and economic justice to collaborate with women's rights organizations who are not necessarily working on IFFs but on gender justice and macroeconomics, and come up with practical mechanisms for working collectively on curbing IFFs, and influence how domestic resources are distributed thus increasing resourcing for gender equality and women's rights.

In a collaborative and co-operative space to learn and make a series of recommendations related to the meeting objectives, there was significant agreement among participants that adding the voice, and the perspective, of African women to the IFFs discourse had great potential to increase citizen engagement and a feminist analysis to IFFs, a critical step in realizing the goal of Domestic Resource Mobilization for Africa's development. The conference led to a heightened awareness, especially among academics, professionals, policy makers, politicians and civil society, of how the current financial system facilitates tax evasion, corruption, fraud, embezzlement and illicit commercial activities and of the remedies available to tackle these deficiencies.

- At the UN-Women High Level Panel on Women's Economic Empowerment held during the 71st UN General Assembly in September, 2016, **FEMNET joined other women's rights advocates in calling for the recognition and valuing of all unpaid care work** disproportionately

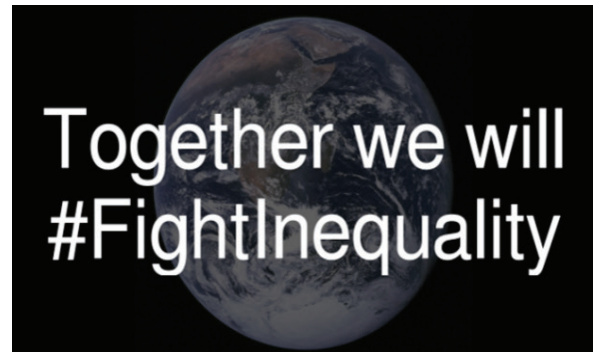


done by women and girls especially those that are underprivileged and most marginalized. Read Blog [“We Must Recognize the Care Economy and Redistribute Care Work This is #TheAfricaWeWant!”](#)



FEMNET's Executive Director at the 71st UN General Assembly held in New York, called for the recognition and valuing of all unpaid care work disproportionately done by women and girls especially those that are underprivileged and most marginalized.

- With increasing inequalities, FEMNET joined like-minded organizations as one of the members of the **Fight Inequality Alliance** bringing in the feminist voices and highlighting gender inequality within the inequality debate.



- FEMNET joined other women's rights activists at the AWID forum in Brazil – under the theme *Feminist Futures: Building Collective Power for Rights & Justice* and hosted a side on **African women and Money: opportunities and threats**. The event presented an opportunity to diverse African women working at different levels to share their lived experiences of trying to access resources to facilitate their work. The thought-provoking conversations among feminists and women's rights advocates highlighted key challenges and possible solutions to sustainable resources for women's rights organizations. The side event resulted in renewed vigor among **African women's rights organizations'** calling for sustainable funding for the realization of gender equality and women's empowerment.



■ **FEMNET at the African Women’s Leadership Symposium – 24th & 25th August 2016, Nairobi**



Audacious, bold and leading from the front! African women leaders who joined the 2017 African’ Women’s Leadership Symposium in Nairobi, Kenya #AWLS

In the unwavering pursuit for universal gender justice and women’s rights, FEMNET in partnership with OXFAM, UN Women, UNDP, Akili Dada, Hivos, Australian Development Corporation, Urgent Action Fund Africa (UAF), Trade Mark, Bloggers Association of Kenya (BAKE) and other associate partners, the theme of Women’s Transformative Leadership came to the fore in a landmark convening. The African’ Women’s Leadership Symposium (AWLS), the first of its kind specifically focused on Transformative Leadership and attracted the participation of **over 150 women leaders** and a total of 200 attendees from diverse areas of focus. About **40 African countries** were represented at the Symposium. The Symposium addressed Transformative Leadership of and by women as a critical aspect to tackling gender inequality and power imbalances that perpetuate the disenfranchisement and marginalization of women who represent more than half the population of the African continent. A high level participation of guests at the symposium included Kenya’s Minister for Foreign Affairs **Dr. Amina Mohammed**, Kenya’s Minister for Defense **Ambassador Raychelle Omamo**, OXFAM International’s Executive Director **Winnie Byanyima** and a virtual appearance by **Mrs. Geraldine Fraser-Molenketi**, the Vice President of the African Development Bank (AFDB). The Symposium concluded for all intent and purposes that women should aspire for political leadership positions and that all women should prioritize advocating for issues affecting women and girls in the African continent. Most importantly and with specific emphasis, the Symposium challenged African governments to be mindful of the diversity of their people and to ensure equality of all its citizens regardless of their sex, age, color & economic ability.

♀ Infusing the women’s rights agenda within TICAD-6, UNCTAD-14 and HLM-2 processes

FEMNET worked with other Women’s Rights Organizations to engage and influence key international meetings hosted in Kenya including UNCTAD 14, TICAD-6, and HLM2. Our purpose of engaging in these processes was to ensure that women’s rights and gender equality issues are the center of the discussions and outcomes.

- **14th session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD-14)** – 17th – 22nd July 2016. FEMNET was a member of the CSOs organizing committee that worked to mobilize CSOs engagement. FEMNET worked to influence the process from a gender perspective through direct advocacy, speaking on panels, holding side events and engaging the media. FEMNET’s Side Event on Gender & Trade: Alternative Realities for A Transformative Economy raised critical matters on the importance of mainstreaming gender in trade FEMNET was instrumental in ensuring that women’s demands were categorically specified and together with other women’s rights and gender advocates under the umbrella of the Women’s Major Group issued and submitted a *Joint Statement on UNCTAD 14* and media highlight on *Women need equal access to trade benefits*.



FEMNET’s Executive Director at UNCTAD-14

“We strongly urge governments to support and strengthen UNCTAD’s mandate to advance global cooperation on: reviewing the human rights, gender equality and sustainable development impacts of bi-lateral, pluri-lateral and multi-lateral trade agreements; advancing application of the debt principles and addressing debt issues; supporting global tax reform and cooperation including curbing illicit financial flows; addressing trade mispricing and evasive corporate governance structures and promoting fair, equitable, gender responsive, rights based and transparent investment policies.”

- **Excerpt from the** Women’s Major Group Joint Statement on UNCTAD 14





#TICADVI

#WhatWomenWant is for TICAD process to commit to working directly with women rights & gender Organizations –Not limiting financial support to governments. But to include women at the grassroots and complement governments reach on women and gender in significant ways

Hellen Apila
FEMNET & SDGKenyaForum

- **Sixth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD VI)** – 27th – 28th August 2016. FEMNET influenced the content of the outcome documents of these processes and specifically undertaking the first ever gender gap analysis of the TICAD process.
- **2nd High Level Meeting on the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (HLM2)** 28th November – 1st December 2016. FEMNET in partnership with CPDE Feminist Group [mobilized and coordinated](#) the Women’s Forum, the High Level Panel and Gladiator Session at the HLM2 and influenced the language in the [Outcome Document](#)



FEMNET’s Head of Programmes, Memory Kachambwa and Immediate former Chairperson Mama Koite at the HLM2 calling for the recognition of women’s rights and gender equality at the HLM2 Women’s Forum

♀ Contributing to the Body of Knowledge on Women's Rights

Throughout the year FEMNET produced thought-provoking articles and blogs on women's rights and gender equality. Check out the following knowledge products available on our website www.femnet.org



The ninth issue of the African Women's Journal on the theme *Unraveling Gender Dimensions in Macroeconomic Policy Frameworks in Africa* expounds on how the current macroeconomic models are impacting gender equality and women's human rights in the African context.

Online Link: <http://femnet.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/AWJ-English-Issue-9.pdf>



This Briefing pack summarizes the SRHR related targets within the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDGs) - Goals: 3, 5, and 10 – and links these to existing national and regional commitments. This is critical in monitoring implementation and holding governments accountable so as translate commitments into a reality for all people.

Online Link: <http://femnet.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/Briefing-on-SRHR-and-SDGs-FEMNET.pdf>

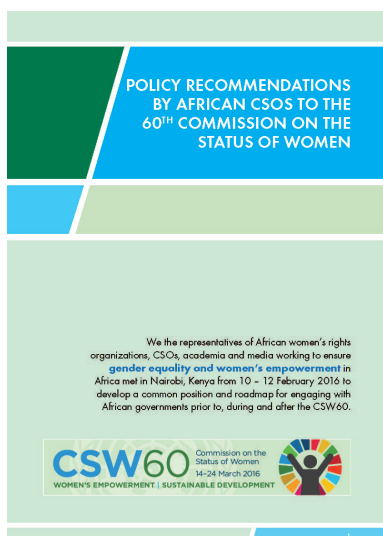
Breaking down the barriers

Macroeconomic policies that promote women's economic equality

The achievement of women's economic equality and empowerment (WEE) is pivotal to the advancement of gender equality and women's rights, yet it has received inadequate attention to date. The ground-breaking Beijing Platform for Action (BPfA) called for the promotion of "women's economic rights and independence, including access to employment, appropriate working conditions and control over economic resources."¹ In the subsequent two decades, however, most gender equality work shied away from the economic sphere. When WEE has been discussed, too often it is in relation to generating economic growth rather than gender equality and the fulfilment of women's rights.

When women's economic empowerment has been discussed, too often it is in relation to generating economic growth rather than gender equality and the fulfilment of women's rights. This Briefing compiled in partnership with GADN, FEMNET and other partners recommends the need to acknowledge the differential gendered impact of economic policies at both global and national levels and calls for the removal of structural barriers to WEE.

Online Link: <http://femnet.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/Breaking-down-the-barriers-macroeconomic-policies-that-promote-WEE-1.pdf>



A summary of key policy recommendations to the 60th CSW by representatives of African women's rights organizations, CSOs, academia and media working to ensure gender equality and women's empowerment. This formed the common position and roadmap used to engage African governments prior to, during and after the CSW60.

Online Link: <http://femnet.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/2016.-Policy-Recommendations-by-Africa-CSOs-for-CSW60.pdf>

Throughout the year, FEMNET continued to stimulate discussions and engage with online users through the various social media platforms, leading and contributing to critical conversations such as:-

- #UnpaidCareWork
- #FollowTheProtocol
- #16DaysofActivism
- #EndGBV
- #FightInequalities
- #SRHRDialogues
- #AWIDForum
- #FeministFutures
- #WhatWomenWant
- #AbortTheStigma
- #BreakTheStereotype
- #StepIntoOurShoes
- #4WomenOfSouthSudan
- #YoungWomenSay
- #WithoutPatriarchy
- #CSW60Africa



Membership and strategic partnerships

As a membership organization we continued to effectively engage our members in critical discussions. All our contributions were made in collaboration with members. The membership grew from 548 in 2015 to 596 in 2016. We believe that our impact is stronger when we work as a collective.

In 2016, FEMNET joined new strategic partnership including **Deliver for Good Campaign** as an Advisor member and **Equal Measures2030** as a founding member. These partnerships are key in advancing our vision and mission.



Marching on together: priority focus areas in 2017

We are so grateful for the support we continue to receive from our members, partners, colleagues, friends who stand with us, cheer us on, strategize with us and join us in demanding for a better world for women and girls. We remain committed to keep on informing and mobilizing you and indeed African women and girls, in order for us to proactively participate and strategically influence processes and policies that affect our lives.

In 2017, we invite you to join as a member or partner of FEMNET and together let's continue to build ***an African society where gender equality is achieved and women and girls enjoy all their rights and live in dignity.***

Our priority focus areas in 2017 include:-

- Mobilizing women's rights organizations to engage in the monitoring, follow up and review of the 2030 Agenda, Maputo Protocol and other related instruments on women's rights.
- Influencing various policy spaces relating to women's human rights holistically with a particular focus on our Strategic Plan thematic areas of Economic Justice, SRHR, Women's Leadership and Ending VAW/G and harmful cultural practices.
- Mobilizing, strengthening movements and amplifying the voices of African young women in policy and advocacy that advances gender equality and women's empowerment.
- Building capacity of our members in the areas identified during the Capacity Needs Assessment of 2016.

In 2017, FEMNET will continue to Inform, Mobilize, Participate, Influence and Amplify African Women's Voices.

Follow/ Engage with us online:-

Twitter [@FemnetProg](https://twitter.com/FemnetProg)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/femnetsecretariat>

Website: www.femnet.org

ENOUGH of the RHETORIC!
#WhatWomenWant is for African Leaders to commit resources towards women's empowerment and gender equality. Our leaders **MUST** create the needed space for women of Africa to take their rightful place as decision makers **#CSW60Africa**

Charity Binka
 Secretary, FEMNET Board.

Governments continue to pass laws that police women's bodies, **#WhatWomenWant** is comprehensive sexuality education, the ability to decide on their own bodies and access to friendly services that meet the needs of women and girls in all their diversities and ages **#CSW60Africa**

Jade Maina,
 FEMNET Member

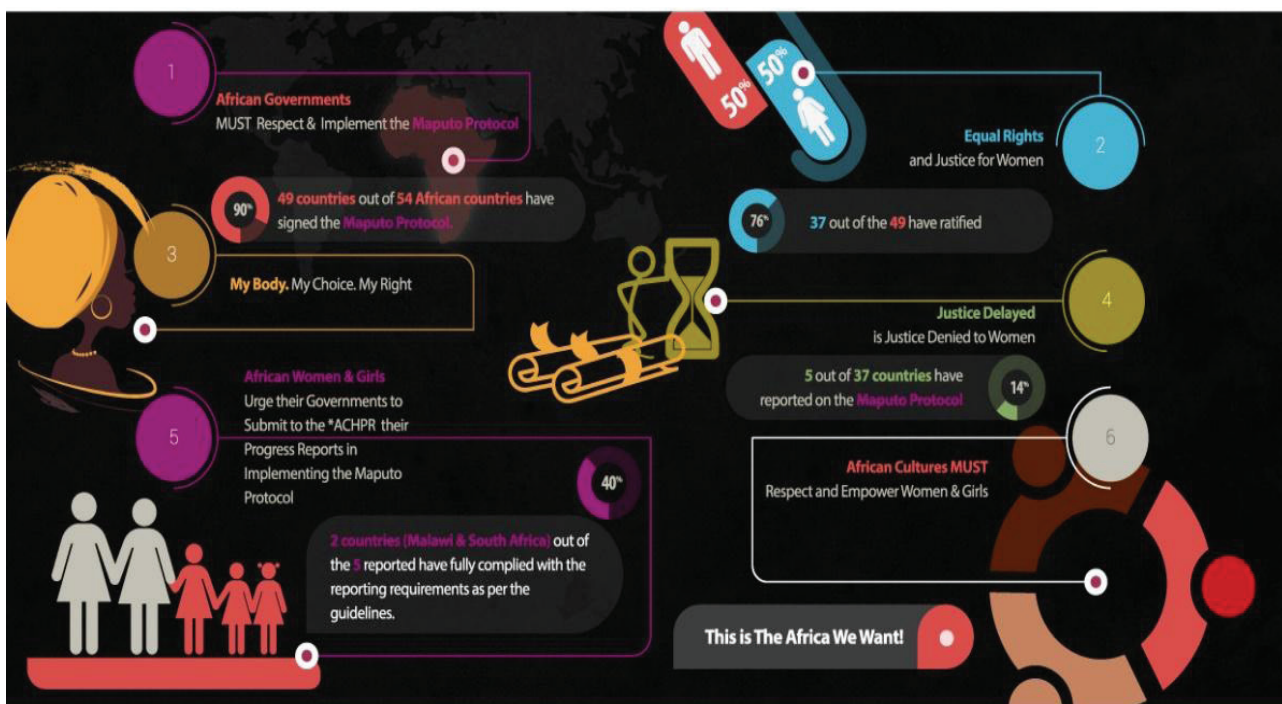
#TICADVI
 Whatever infrastructure we put in place, if we don't prioritize **#GenderEquality**, Those will turn into White Elephants. In this regard, we need gender responsive budgets & data which are key to enable governments serve all women and girls of all ages. Involvement of all actors in these efforts including private sector is key
Maungo Mooki- President CCfA

68 years after adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 21 years after Beijing & 13 years since the adoption of the Maputo Protocol, we should not have to debate the principle of human rights as interdependent & indivisible **#WhatWomenWant** is for all African governments to ensure the promotion & protection of human rights so as to ensure that no woman or girl is left behind as we implement **#2030Agenda #CSW60Africa**

Yvette Kathurima.....FEMNET, Member

#FOLLOWTHEPROTOCOL

African women and girls are urging their governments to go beyond the rhetoric and take significant steps to fulfill ALL the promises in the Maputo Protocol.



The Maputo Protocol referred to here is the *Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa*, adopted in 2003 by African Heads of States as the blue print for the total emancipation, respect and protection of women and girls in Africa.

*African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights



Financial Statements

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITIONAS OF DECEMBER 31, 2016 AND 2015

ASSETS	2016	2016	2015	2015
	Kshs	USD	Kshs	USD
Property and equipment-net of accumulated depreciation	14,555,941	142,009	14,771,047	144,389
Current Assets				
Cash and Bank Balances	39,938,828	389,647	77,883,002	761,320
Accounts Receivable	675,805	6,593	1,442,851	14,104
Total Current Assets	40,614,633	396,240	79,325,853	775,424
Current Liabilities				
Accounts Payable	4,227,451	41,243	4,609,882	45,062
Restricted / Deferred income	30,873,518	301,205	72,559,311	709,280
Total current Liabilities	35,100,969	342,448	77,169,193	754,342
Net Current Assets	5,513,664	53,792	2,156,660	# 21,082
Net Assests	20,069,605	195,801	16,927,707	165,471
Represented by:				
General Reserves	19,494,349	190,189	16,352,451	159,848
Capital Fund	575,256	5,612	575,256	5,623
Total Funds	20,069,605	195,801	16,927,707	165,471

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014

	2016 KShs	2015 USD	2015 KShs	2015 USD
INCOME				
Grant received	125,362,699	1,223,051	107,097,587	1,046,897
Other income	3,302,816	32,223	2,113,269	20,657
Total Income	128,665,515	1,255,274	109,210,856 #	1,067,554
EXPENDITURE				
Programme expenses	105,917,052	1,033,337	90,977,995	889,326
Establishment expenses	4,879,093	47,601	4,139,530	40,465
Administration expenses	14,727,472	143,683	11,022,791	107,748
Total expenses	125,523,617	1,224,621	106,140,316	1,037,539
Balance for the Year	3,141,898 #	30,653 #	3,070,540 #	30,015

The Statement of financial position of FEMNET closed the year 2016 with a net assets balance of KES 20,069,605 (US\$ 195,801).

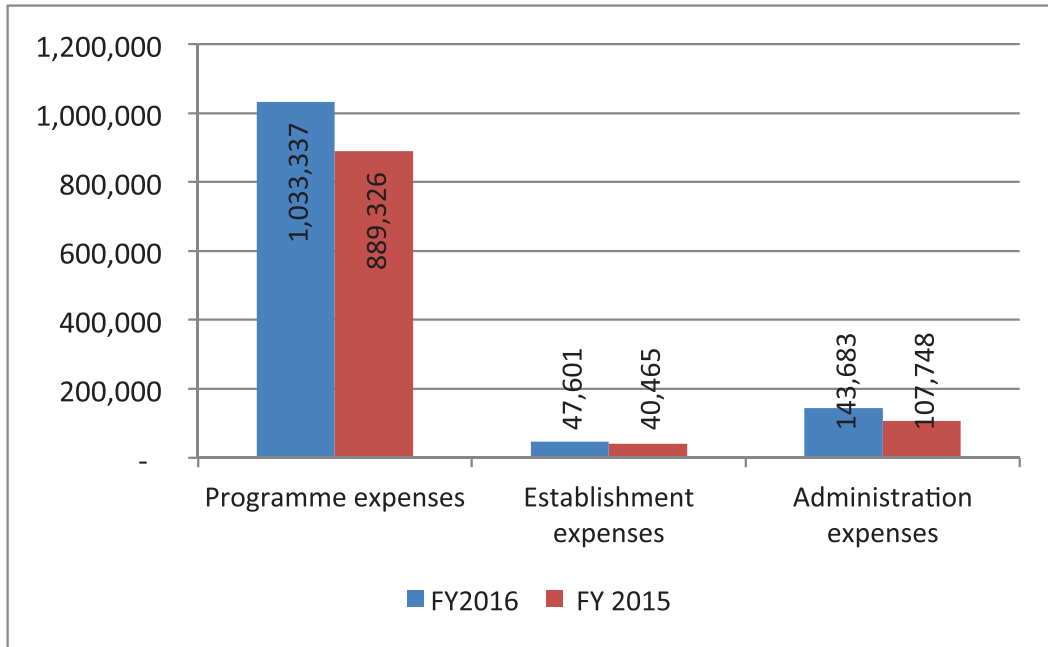
FEMNET recorded Income of KES 128,665,515 (US\$ 1,255,274) in during the 2016 financial year. The organisation continued to have very strong expense ratios with programme expenses representing 84% of the total expenses.

The Assets include a 2 acre land in the outskirts of Nairobi presented at cost (2012)

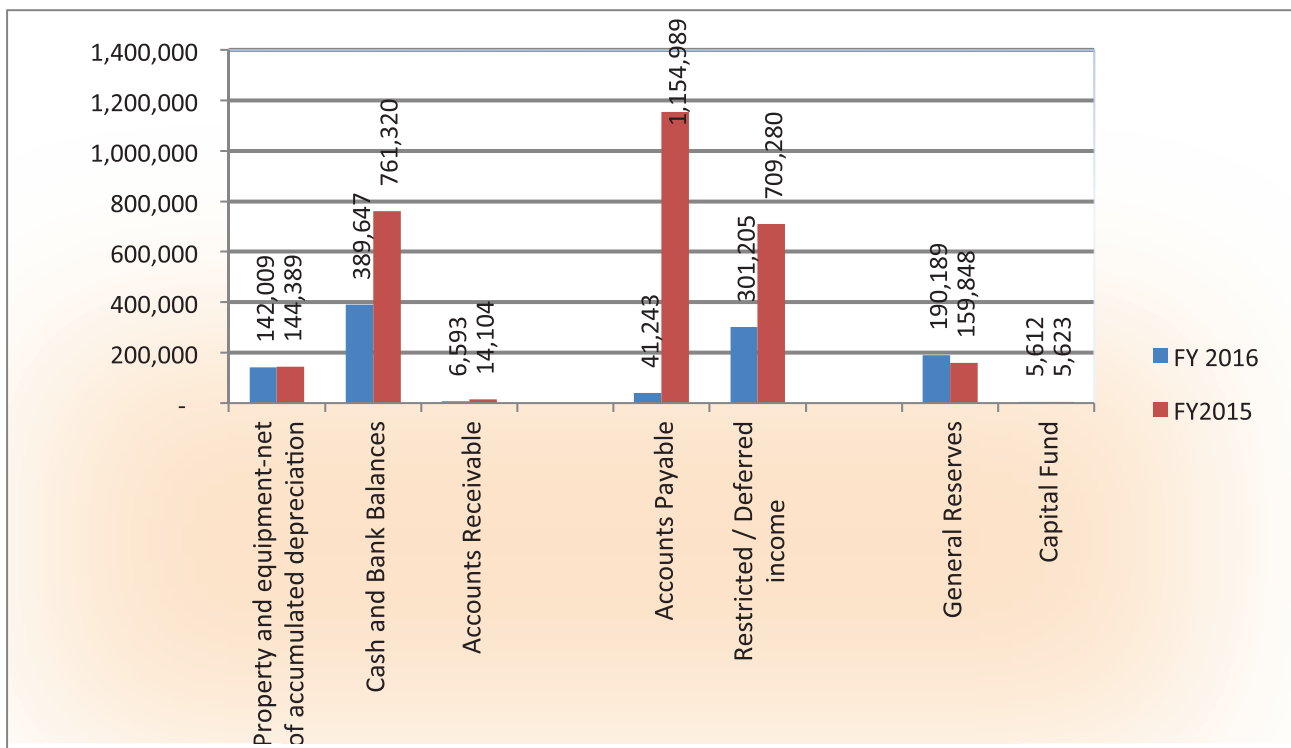
* The figures have been translated at rate of USD 1 = KSh 102.50; Euro 1= 107.06 (2015: USD 1 = KSh 102.30; Euro 1 = 111.78)

The published financial reports are extracts from audited Financial Statements , * FEMNET's financial statements have been independently audited by Audit firm of Horwath Erastus and Company, CPA. and received an unqualified audit opinion as to their fair presentation in conformity with International Standards on Auditing (ISA).

EXPENDITURES FOR 2015 AND 2015-COMPARATIVES FIGURES IN US\$



STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2016 AND 2015



ALL WE ARE SAYING
IS YOU PROMISED
US, IT'S TIME TO
PAY UPI
#FOLLOWTHEPROTOCOL



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