

# AWCE

Accelerating Women Climate Entrepreneurs



AGA KHAN FOUNDATION  
CANADA

## PROJECT REACH

180+ women entrepreneurs, and 6,000+ people in their communities.

## OUR GOAL

Reduce poverty by supporting women entrepreneurs in climate-related businesses.

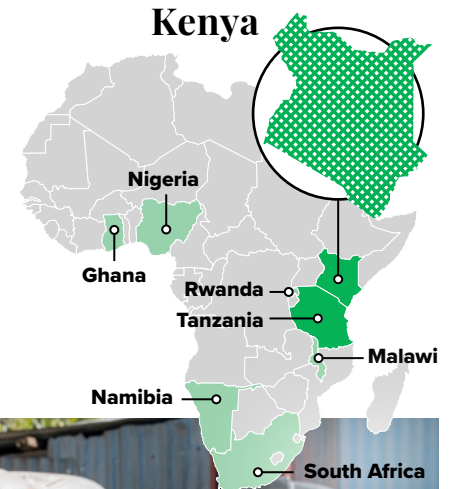


PHOTO: BIGZ Image / Aga Khan Foundation



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## Patrice Founder of Patvention Ltd. (Kenya)

Patrice has always been passionate about beekeeping. After learning about entrepreneurship in university, she decided to start her own business. Her business, Patvention, recycles plastic and rice husks to manufacture eco-friendly beehives for beekeeping and the production of honey and bee venom.

Patvention also works with farmers in the community on the importance of bees as pollinators, and helps farmers understand the value of using recycled materials when constructing beehives.

*“Before, I didn’t have enough knowledge on running a business and bookkeeping. AWCE has trained me a lot on having a proper understanding of my business and how to make profit, but also to run it in a manner that will protect the environment.” – Patrice*

## Mildred Owner of Griincom (Kenya)

Usually, the waste produced in Mildred’s town is taken to dumpsites, where it produces large amounts of methane gas and environmental pollution. But Mildred saw untapped potential. Through her composting business, which employs women and youth, Mildred transforms agricultural waste into agricultural inputs like fertilizer, helping farmers increase soil regeneration and plant health, supporting health and food security in her community.

Women entrepreneurs are often underestimated and lack social support and access to mentors and role models.

*“Through mentorship and capacity-building from AWCE, we can understand how to run a business as women and the gender-specific challenges. We’ve also been able to understand the climate focus of our business and value proposition. This has really helped us position our business in the market.” – Mildred*

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The \$2.1 million AWCE initiative was undertaken with the financial support of:



## GLOBAL PARTNERS



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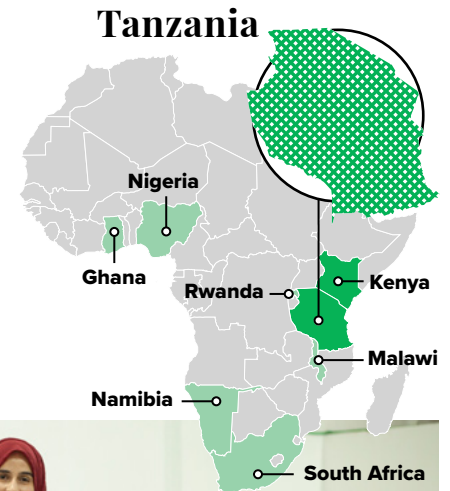


PHOTO: Nuru Media / Aga Khan Foundation



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## Iddah Founder of FHT Group Company (Tanzania)

Iddah is a medical student in Mwanza, Tanzania. She's also the founder of the FHT Group Company, a woman-founded and led business. Her business produces reusable sanitary pads, giving her community access to eco-friendly, chemical-free, and affordable menstrual products, while reducing waste from disposable pads. Her business also employs women, including young mothers, providing them with an opportunity to join the workforce.

*"Through AWCE, I learned about business management, and created a business plan, strategic plan, and Board of Directors to help guide our business growth. Through these, we have expanded our market by more than 20%, and I can restructure my business to help attract investment."* – Iddah

## Sabiha Founder of 'rosho (Tanzania)

Sabiha is the founder of 'rosho, a company that produces gourmet cashew butter. As a community-oriented business, 'rosho supports smallholder cashew farmers and local processors in Tanzania, and employs only women in their factory. Sabiha deeply cares about the health and environmental impacts of her business, using only organic-certified cashew nuts so that no chemicals or toxins are leached into the products or environment, and using plastic-free packaging.

*"AWCE demonstrated for us the fundamentals of business that we hadn't implemented, such as setting key performance indicators, automating systems, and employing tech to help streamline business and factory processes. We also had mentors, great networking opportunities, and got to know of the funding opportunities available to Tanzanian businesses."* – Sabiha

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