



AGA KHAN FOUNDATION

Strengthening Civil Society to Support Women's Mental Health

Project Profile

 **Mombasa, Kwale, and Nairobi Counties, Kenya**

DURATION

2022–24

BUDGET

\$438,000 CAD

REACH

3,764 people



2,250
FEMALE



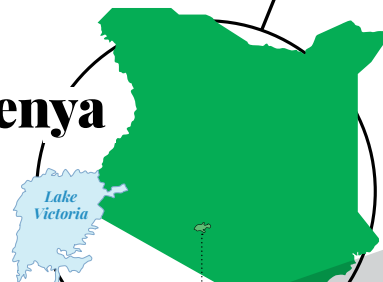
1,514
MALE

PARTNER



THE AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY

Kenya



Mombasa
COUNTY

Kwale
COUNTY

Nairobi COUNTY

Strengthening Civil Society to Support Women's Mental Health

The COVID-19 pandemic intensified gender inequalities, disproportionately impacting the social, economic, physical, and mental well-being of women, particularly for women living in rural and informal settlements of Kenya.

Through the Institute for Human Development (IHD) at the Aga Khan University (AKU), this project aims to strengthen civil society organizations (CSOs) that are supporting the mental health of women in rural and urban informal settings. By using evidence-based approaches, this project aims to assess the mental health burden and needs of women, support CSOs to design, implement and monitor appropriate interventions, and provide opportunities for training, mentorship, and networking. Workshops, trainings, and campaigns will also be organized to increase awareness of mental health and to improve access to mental health and psychosocial support services in the community.

This project is part of the Advancing Gender Equality through Civil Society component of the Foundations for Education and Empowerment (F4EE) program. F4EE aims to improve educational systems at the pre-primary and primary levels, and strengthen women's empowerment and gender equality.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT





AGA KHAN FOUNDATION

Strengthening Community Capacity for Women's Empowerment

Project Profile

 **Mombasa and Kilifi Counties, Kenya**

DURATION

2022–25

BUDGET

\$480,000 CAD

REACH

16,808 people



10,583
FEMALE

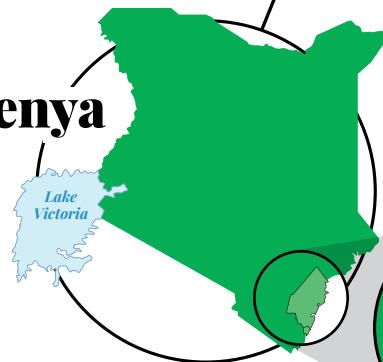


6,225
MALE

PARTNERS

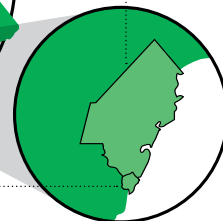
Sauti Ya Wanawake Pwani (SYWP),
Dream Achievers Youth Organization (DAYO)

Kenya



**Kilifi
COUNTY**

**Mombasa
COUNTY**



Strengthening Community Capacity for Women's Empowerment

In Kenya, women and adolescent girls face patriarchal, religious, and cultural norms that contribute to discrimination and gender inequality in their households and communities, leading to increased vulnerability to gender-based violence (GBV) and limited access to information and services for their sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR).

This project aims to train community health volunteers on SRHR and provide GBV services, such as survivor support services and a helpline, to increase access to SRHR and GBV services for women and adolescent girls in Kenya. This project also aims to strengthen the ability of local community structures, institutions, and leaders to identify and respond to gender and social barriers that inhibit access to GBV and SRHR services. This initiative also works with community members through information-sharing and awareness-raising activities to enhance knowledge about GBV mitigation, response, and available GBV and SRHR services.

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FINANCIAL SUPPORT





AGA KHAN FOUNDATION

Empowering Women for Inclusive Decision-Making

Project Profile

 **Pemba, Montepuez, and Chiúre Districts, Mozambique**

DURATION

2022–25

BUDGET

\$480,000 CAD

REACH

7,004 people



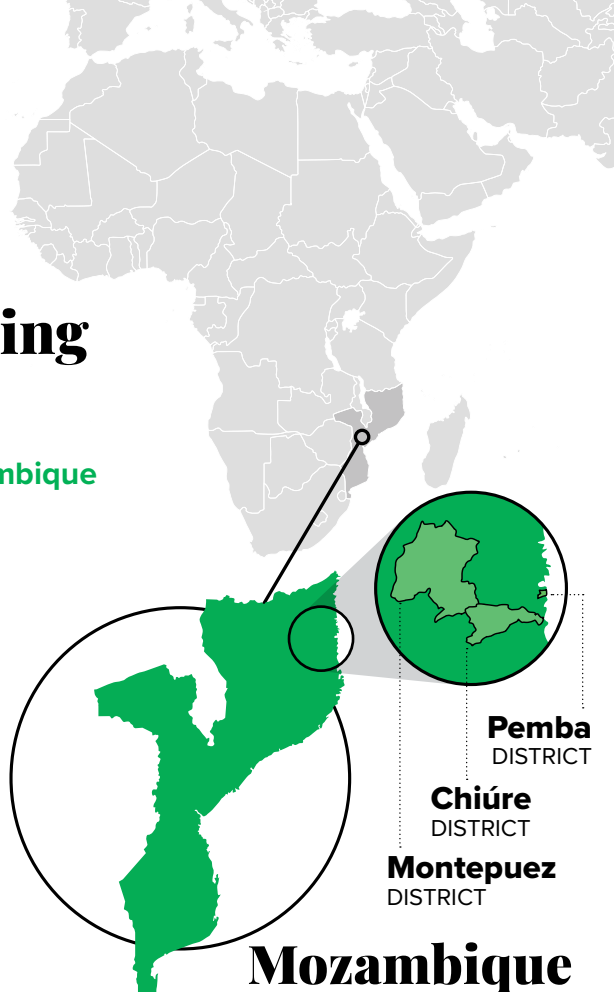
2,507
FEMALE



4,497
MALE

PARTNER

Christian Council of Mozambique (CCM)



Empowering Women for Inclusive Decision-Making

Women and girls make up the majority of the population in Mozambique, but are vastly underrepresented in formal and informal decision-making processes and spaces. This means that their needs and interests are often excluded from political agendas and decisions.

This project aims to engage with diverse civil society actors—such as religious groups, artisan groups, community courts, and traditional leaders—to identify and address barriers to women's empowerment and participation in decision-making. This project will also conduct awareness and education campaigns and other community engagement activities to enhance knowledge on gender equality and the importance of women's participation in the community.

This project is part of the Advancing Gender Equality through Civil Society component of the Foundations for Education and Empowerment (F4EE) program. F4EE aims to improve educational systems at the pre-primary and primary levels, and strengthen women's empowerment and gender equality.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT





AGA KHAN FOUNDATION

Strengthening Local Capacity to Address Adolescent Health and Rights

Project Profile

 **Ancuabe and Pemba Districts, Mozambique**

DURATION

2022–25

BUDGET

\$480,000 CAD

REACH

9,040 people



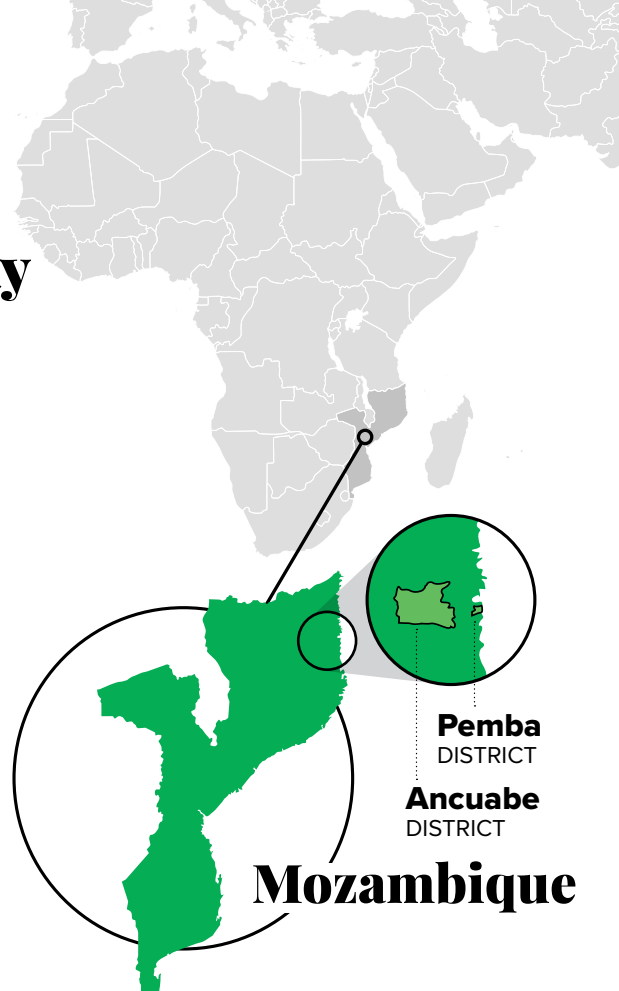
6,358
FEMALE



2,682
MALE

PARTNER

Civil Society Forum for Children's Rights (ROSC)



Strengthening Local Capacity to Address Adolescent Health and Rights

The province of Cabo Delgado has some of the highest rates of early marriage and child pregnancies in Mozambique, driven by a lack of sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services, conflict, impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, and sociocultural norms.

This project aims to strengthen local civil society organizations (CSOs) involved in gender and SRH issues, with a focus on decision-making actors like community structures, institutions, and leaders. Activities include providing technical assistance to state institutions, community leaders, and CSOs to prevent, implement, and respond to gender issues, and working with adolescents to advocate for SRH issues in policy agendas. This project will also enhance community knowledge on SRH and gender-based violence issues through activities like awareness campaigns, training sessions, safe spaces, and education materials.

This project is part of the Advancing Gender Equality through Civil Society component of the Foundations for Education and Empowerment (F4EE) program. F4EE aims to improve educational systems at the pre-primary and primary levels, and strengthen women's empowerment and gender equality.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT





AGA KHAN FOUNDATION

Promoting Gender-Transformative Community Structures

Project Profile

 **Mtwara, Masasi, and Tandahimba Districts, Tanzania**

DURATION

2022–25

BUDGET

\$333,733 CAD

REACH

17,324 people



9,278
FEMALE



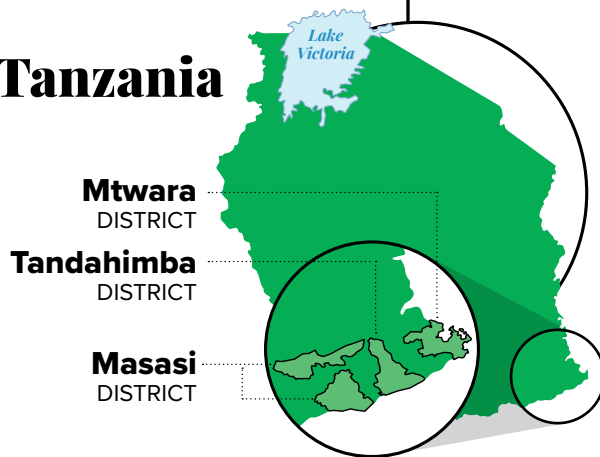
8,046
MALE

PARTNER

Faidika Wote Pamoja (FAWOPA Tanzania)



Tanzania



Promoting Gender-Transformative Community Structures

In Tanzania, some traditional norms and practices enforce negative gender stereotypes and attitudes towards women and girls. As such, women and girls may experience sexual and gender-based violence and lack the resources and access they need to make decisions about their bodies and lives.

This project focuses on working with traditional and religious leaders and community structures to help transform harmful gender norms and strengthen support systems for survivors of gender-based violence. Community awareness activities, such as training provided to school clubs and the distribution of gender-responsive materials, will be conducted to enhance community knowledge on sexual and reproductive health. This project will also support women's and girls' empowerment by increasing access to financial resources and economic opportunities through training, mentorship, and community support systems.

This project is part of the Advancing Gender Equality through Civil Society component of the Foundations for Education and Empowerment (F4EE) program. F4EE aims to improve educational systems at the pre-primary and primary levels, and strengthen women's empowerment and gender equality.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT





AGA KHAN FOUNDATION

Promoting Women's Empowerment through Economic Participation

Project Profile

 Kilombero, Malinyi, and Ulanga Districts, Tanzania

DURATION

2022–25

BUDGET

\$478,533 CAD

REACH

11,867 people



7,980
FEMALE



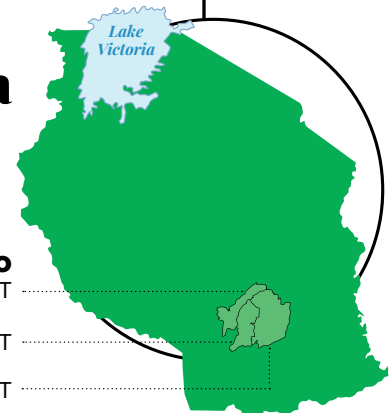
3,887
MALE

PARTNERS

Women and Poverty Alleviation in Tanzania (WOPATA), Morogoro Paralegal Center (MPLC)



Tanzania



Kilombero
DISTRICT

Malinyi DISTRICT

Ulanga DISTRICT

Promoting Women's Empowerment through Economic Participation

In Tanzania, rural women play a key role in food production and agricultural economies, but often lack access and opportunities to participate and make decisions in social, economic, and community structures.

This project will focus on supporting small-scale women farmers in the rice value chain, a major economic activity in the Morogoro region. By promoting knowledge on low-carbon farming and sustainable ecosystem practices, this project will train women farmers in sustainable natural resource management, provide opportunities for learning business and leadership skills, link them into the value chain, and connect them with financial services. This project will also engage with religious, traditional, and community leaders to help identify and respond to gender and social barriers. Community dialogues and awareness campaigns will also be used to enhance knowledge on gender equality and women's empowerment.

This project is part of the Advancing Gender Equality through Civil Society component of the Foundations for Education and Empowerment (F4EE) program. F4EE aims to improve educational systems at the pre-primary and primary levels, and strengthen women's empowerment and gender equality.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT





AGA KHAN FOUNDATION

Strengthening Women's Community Participation and Leadership

Project Profile

 Morogoro, Dodoma, and Mtwara Regions, Tanzania

DURATION

2022–25

BUDGET

\$478,285 CAD

REACH

22,035 people



11,081
FEMALE



10,954
MALE

PARTNER

Tanzania Gender Networking Programme (TGNP)

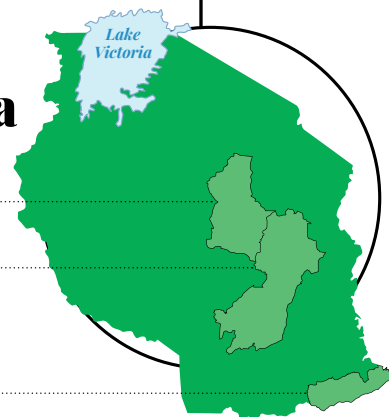


Tanzania

Dodoma
REGION

Morogoro
REGION

Mtwara
REGION



Strengthening Women's Community Participation and Leadership

In Tanzania, cultural norms, practices, and perceptions often prevent women from participating in public life. Consequently, women are underrepresented in leadership and decision-making processes, and women who obtain leadership roles often leave due to lack of institutional and community support systems.

This project aims to promote and enhance women's participation and leadership in decision-making from grassroots to district-level institutions. By identifying and working with youth, male gender equality champions, remote communities, civil society organizations, political actors, traditional leaders, media, and religious groups, this project will use an intergenerational and multidimensional approach to transform sociocultural norms and practices. Activities include, but are not limited to:

Awareness campaigns and advocacy sessions to promote positive norms, perceptions, and attitudes around women in leadership.

Information products on strategies to increase women's participation in leadership.

Safe spaces for community dialogue on positive masculinity and gender-inclusive sociocultural norms.

Leadership and mentorship programs for current and aspiring women leaders.

This project is part of the Advancing Gender Equality through Civil Society component of the Foundations for Education and Empowerment (F4EE) program. F4EE aims to improve educational systems at the pre-primary and primary levels, and strengthen women's empowerment and gender equality.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT





AGA KHAN FOUNDATION

Let Her Shine: Promoting Socioeconomic Opportunities for Adolescent Girls and Young Women

Project Profile



Mukono and Kampala Districts, Uganda

DURATION

2022–24

BUDGET

\$459,552 CAD

REACH

25,160 people



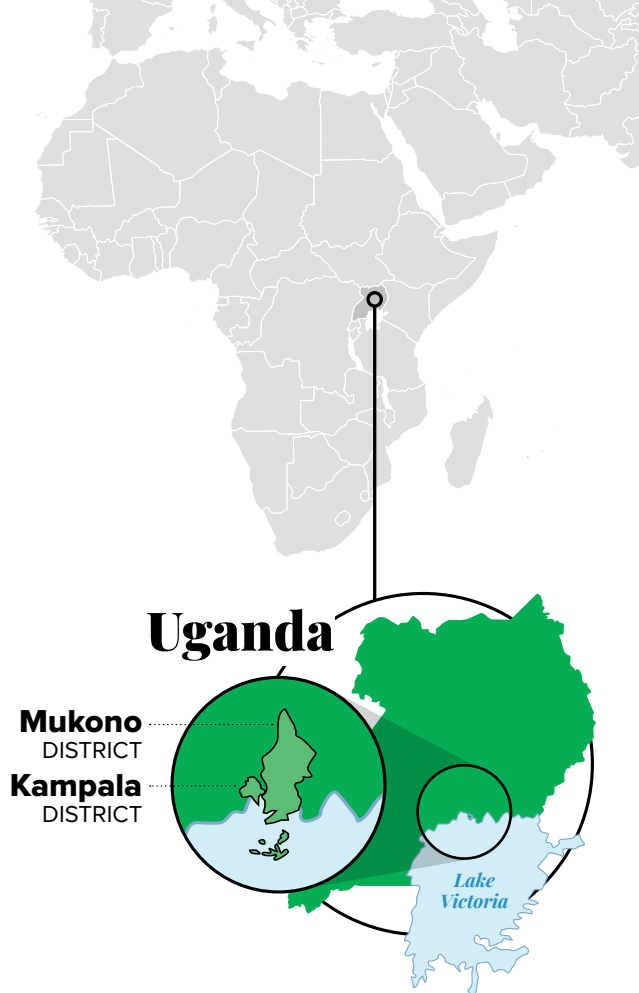
18,740
FEMALE



6,420
MALE

PARTNER

Public Health Ambassadors Uganda (PHAU)



Let Her Shine: Promoting Socioeconomic Opportunities for Adolescent Girls and Young Women

Adolescent girls and young women in Uganda face unique challenges that limit their choices and opportunities due to pervasive gender norms, including risks—like early pregnancy, sexual and gender-based violence, and expectations for early marriage—that have lifelong implications.

This project aims to increase access to socioeconomic empowerment opportunities for adolescent girls and young women by addressing gender and social barriers in their communities. This will be done through training and mentoring on vocational, advocacy, financial, entrepreneurial, and leadership skills to help them make informed decisions about their lives and communities. By working with local community structures, institutions, and leaders, as well as women and men in the community, this initiative aims to enhance knowledge and help communities identify and respond to gender equality issues.

This project is part of the Advancing Gender Equality through Civil Society component of the Foundations for Education and Empowerment (F4EE) program. F4EE aims to improve educational systems at the pre-primary and primary levels, and strengthen women's empowerment and gender equality.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT





AGA KHAN FOUNDATION

Skills-Building for Women's Economic Empowerment and Transformation

Project Profile

 **Arua District, Uganda**

DURATION

2022–24

BUDGET

\$480,000 CAD

REACH

1,143 people



1,007
FEMALE



136
MALE

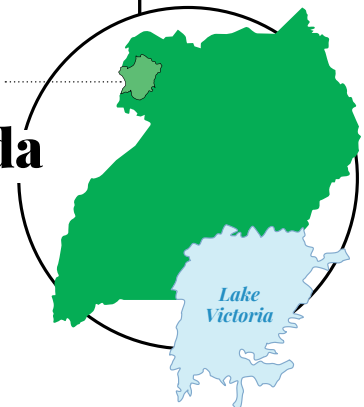
PARTNER

Community Empowerment for Rural Development (CEFORD)



Arua DISTRICT

Uganda



Skills-Building for Women's Economic Empowerment and Transformation

Women and adolescent girls in Uganda face significant sociocultural barriers to livelihood activities and opportunities. This restricts their ability to generate income and participate in decision-making processes in their households and communities.

This project aims to reduce the gender and social barriers to accessing social and economic opportunities for women and adolescent girls, focusing on providing vocational, skills, entrepreneurship, and financial literacy training. This project will also conduct community engagement and awareness campaigns to ensure that community leaders, structures, and institutions are able to respond to the needs of women and adolescent girls. Awareness campaigns, including a focus on men, will also be conducted to enhance the community's knowledge of gender equality issues.

This project is part of the Advancing Gender Equality through Civil Society component of the Foundations for Education and Empowerment (F4EE) program. F4EE aims to improve educational systems at the pre-primary and primary levels, and strengthen women's empowerment and gender equality.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT





AGA KHAN FOUNDATION

Women's Amplified Voice and Empowerment

Project Profile



Mityana and Luwero Districts, Uganda

DURATION

2022–24

BUDGET

\$480,000 CAD

REACH

8,508 people



3,988
FEMALE



4,520
MALE

PARTNER

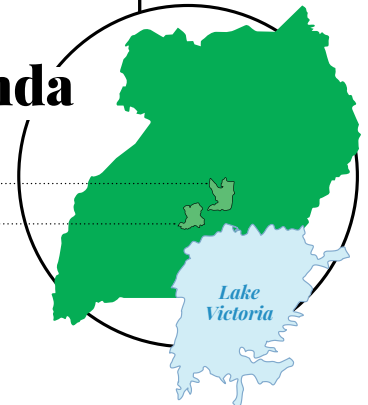
Forum for Women in Democracy (FOWODE)



Uganda

Luwero
DISTRICT

Mityana
DISTRICT



Women's Amplified Voice and Empowerment

Women in Uganda are significantly excluded from economic and political life. This lack of women's participation, particularly in leadership positions, translates to a lack of participatory, responsive, equitable, and inclusive decision-making processes.

This project aims to enhance women's leadership through economic empowerment, capacity-building, and community engagement. By providing training and mentorship opportunities, this project will help support women in leadership and governance to increase effective and meaningful participation. This initiative will also focus on community sensitization, with a focus on men, to encourage behavioural and attitude transformations toward women's empowerment.

This project is part of the Advancing Gender Equality through Civil Society component of the Foundations for Education and Empowerment (F4EE) program. F4EE aims to improve educational systems at the pre-primary and primary levels, and strengthen women's empowerment and gender equality.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT





AGA KHAN FOUNDATION

Advancing Gender Equity in Media and Civil Society in East Africa

Project Profile



Kenya



Tanzania



Uganda

DURATION

2022–25

BUDGET

\$1,350,000 CAD

REACH

4,917 people



2,460
FEMALE



2,457
MALE

PARTNER



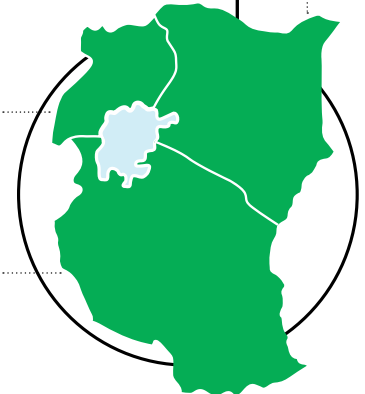
THE AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY



Kenya

Uganda

Tanzania



Advancing Gender Equity in Media and Civil Society in East Africa

Media plays an important role in channeling information to the public, often shaping social, cultural, and political norms. However, gender equality issues are often underreported in media, and there is a lack of leadership and capacity-building to support women in this field.

Through the Graduate School of Media and Communications (GSMC) at the Aga Khan University (AKU), this project aims to enhance the ability of media organizations and civil society to identify and respond to gender and social barriers to equality. This will be done by:

Increasing the skills and knowledge of media professionals on how to ensure better representation and equitable content in the media through mentorship, networking opportunities, and training for newer and experienced media professionals in the field.

Using data to develop a set of policy recommendations and support media organizations in developing inclusive editorial and community guidelines.

Developing gender desks in two legacy media organizations to provide an example of effective change within the media sector.

This project is part of the Advancing Gender Equality through Civil Society component of the Foundations for Education and Empowerment (F4EE) program. F4EE aims to improve educational systems at the pre-primary and primary levels, and strengthen women's empowerment and gender equality.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT





AGA KHAN FOUNDATION

Gender Equality Advocacy in Practice

Project Profile



Kenya



Mozambique



Tanzania



Madagascar



Uganda

DURATION

2022–25

BUDGET

\$580,000 CAD

REACH

7,600 people



5,325
FEMALE



2,120
MALE



155
NON-BINARY

PARTNER

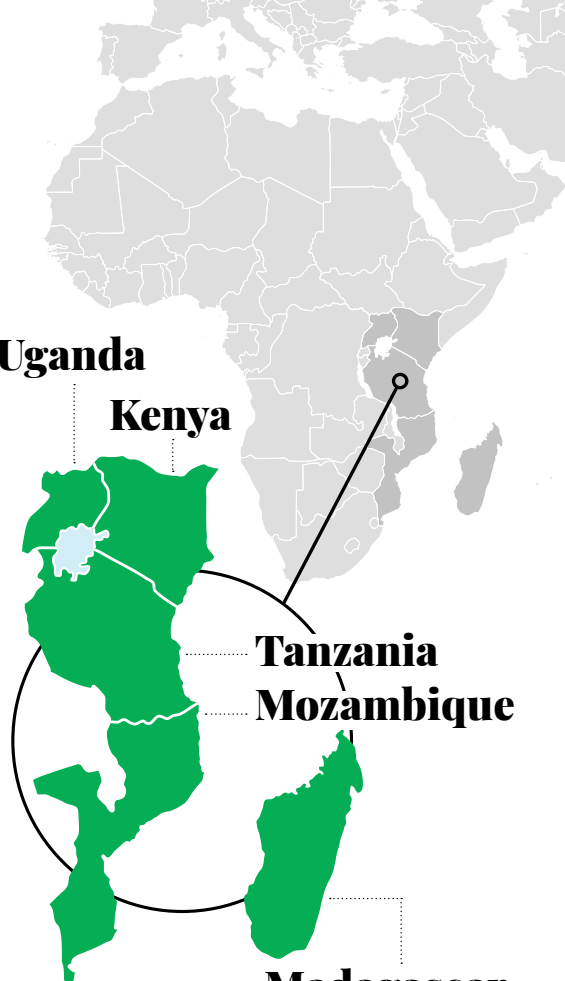
African Women's Development and
Communication Network (FEMNET)

Uganda

Kenya

Tanzania
Mozambique

Madagascar



Gender Equality Advocacy in Practice

Socially entrenched norms, reinforced through politics, culture, religion, and patriarchal structures, limit the voices, choices, and participation in political and civic life of women and gender-diverse people. This contributes to gender inequalities like barriers to land ownership, lack of leadership opportunities, and gender-based violence. Civil society organizations (CSOs) and women's rights organizations (WROs) are at the forefront of advocating for social change, engaging with governments and local leadership, and working with community members.

This initiative aims to strengthen the knowledge and capacities of CSOs and WROs in the region to respond to gender and social barriers and more effectively advocate for change. By bringing together diverse organizations, this initiative will create networks for peer learning and knowledge-sharing about policy advocacy processes and practices, and expand participation in advocacy spaces at the regional and global levels. Activities include, but are not limited to:

Coordinating joint regional and global advocacy campaigns and awareness events, including media and digital campaigns.

Organizing learning events, including a three-day transformative leadership academy and three-day peer-to-peer knowledge-sharing forum.

Developing policy briefs and knowledge products on feminist transformative leadership developed for use by CSOs and WROs and distribution at advocacy forums.

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FINANCIAL SUPPORT





AGA KHAN FOUNDATION

Women's Leadership Academy

Project Profile



Kenya



Mozambique



Tanzania



Madagascar



Uganda

DURATION

2021–24

BUDGET

\$1,000,000 CAD

REACH

145 people



145
FEMALE

PARTNER



THE AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY

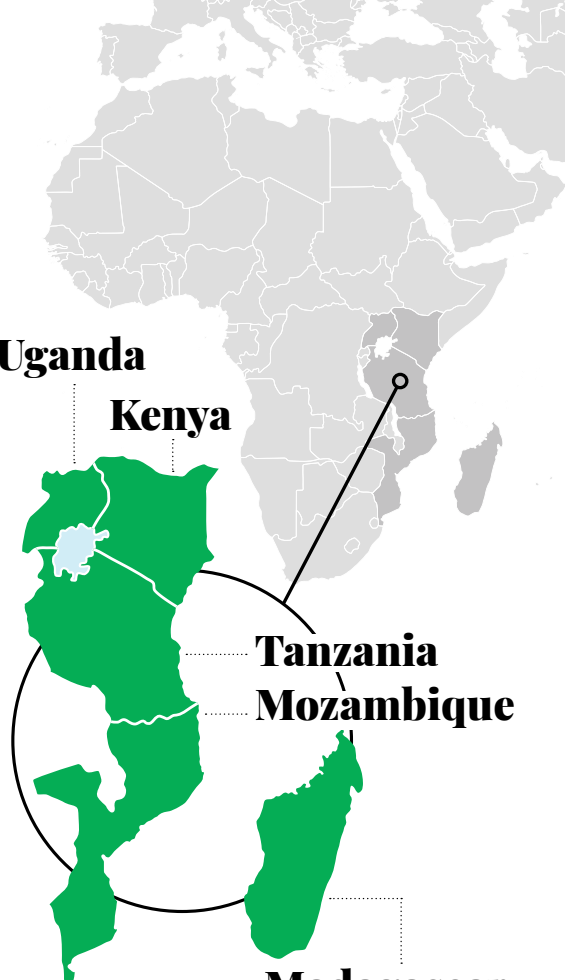
Uganda

Kenya

Tanzania

Mozambique

Madagascar



Women's Leadership Academy (WLA)

The Institute for Human Development (IHD) at the Aga Khan University (AKU) is developing the Women's Leadership Academy. This mentorship program aims to enhance women's leadership and decision-making within civil society to support gender equality, inclusive governance, and community transformation.

The WLA will be a six-month blended-learning course with five modules and two themes, based on needs assessment surveys conducted with women in the selected countries. Topics will include:

Unravelling socialization: understanding gender norms, barriers, and the impact of historical injustices and culture on girls and women as leaders.

Leading oneself and others: understanding strategies for self-awareness, wellness, and communication and how these skills intersect with leadership.

Leading for impact: strategic thinking, focused action, and organizing teams for impact.

Life and business skills: business management, entrepreneurship, and financial management.

Learning to learn: knowledge building, mentorship, and networking for results.

The WLA will also provide networking and mentorship opportunities for women leaders of civil society organizations in Africa.

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FINANCIAL SUPPORT

