

IN THIS ISSUE

- **Word from the Group CEO**
- **ENA 's Game Changer project for women fish farmers**
- **ENA celebrates 2019 Mother's Day**
- **ENA in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**
- **Benchmarking at Echo Network Africa**

WORD FROM THE GROUP CEO



Dr. Jennifer N. Riria
PhD, EBS, MBS, HRH/Goodwill
Ambassador, ICON/HP
Group CEO, ENA

My every daily night dreams are not about big awards. These I have received thanks to God's blessings bestowed on me. I dream about changing lives, building communities, leaving the world a better place than we found it. I am convinced that this can only be achieved by involving those who try to help in transforming their lives. It can be sustainable, by catalyzing change and commitment through Community Based Organizations that truly understand the rights of those being helped.

Among the lessons that I have learnt over the years is the invaluable gift of supporting teams in pursuing dreams. A team that shares the principles of hard work and willingness to be individually and collectively accountable for results. A team that consistently looks at individuals in the team and challenges them with, "Let's see what you have got". This is the catalytic spirit that is driving ENA to achieving its 2019 theme: "The year of the evidence of God's Grace".

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

ENA 's Game Changer project for women fish farmers launched in Homa Bay County

The Group C.E.O. of Echo Network Africa launched a Ksh. 24 Million aquaculture project on 23rd May 2019 in Homa Bay County.

In her statement during the meeting, the Group CEO, Dr. Jennifer Riria, informed the stakeholders that the project will be implemented within a period of 18 months. She also clarified that ENA would use the Aquaculture Cluster Model, where women already practicing cage fish farming will be champions to mentor other women engaging in fish farming for the first time.

This approach will be Community based, Community owned and Community led. "ENA's approach is to achieve results by collaborating and engaging different government agencies, the community and other like-minded partners in identifying gaps in the fishing value chain and finding ways of incorporating women in fish farming activities to better their livelihoods.

"The programme will start with research on Lake Environment as a basis for environmental interventions," she said. Officials from the Kenya Marine Research Institute (KEMFRI), a government body that studies marine life is committed to conduct surveys on the lake to establish likelihood of disease outbreaks on fish, to ensure the success of the programme.



The Programmes team led by the Group CEO, Dr. Jennifer Riria (right) during a meeting with Homa Bay Deputy Governor, HE Mr. Hamilton Orata (center). In attendance were Homa Bay County Executive Committee Members (right).



Participants at ENA's Aquaculture inception meeting in Homa Bay County.

The initiative which is a collaboration between ENA and Open Society Foundation, aims at strengthening women's voices to reduce human rights violations along the aquaculture value chain and enhance participation of women in aquaculture as a sustainable economic activity.

The project which is under ENA's Women Empowerment brought together Homa Bay County Executive Committee Members from the Ministry of Health, Water, Environment & Natural Resources and Land & Physical planning. Other government representatives were drawn from the departments of Gender and Social Development, Agriculture, Livestock & Fisheries, the National Government Affirmative Fund (NGAAF), National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) and the Kenya Marine Fisheries Research Institute (KEMFRI). Community Based Organizations present included DevLink, Wanawake Wavuvi (WAWA), Kaugenge, Teams, Farm Africa, Lake View Fisheries, Victory Farms and Humanist Rusinga.

The County Health Executive Committee Member, Prof. Richard Muga and his Environment counterpart, Dickson Nyawinda actively participated and gave valuable advice on the implementation of the project.



Participants at the ENA sensitization workshop on the Aquaculture Cluster Model.



Mrs. Odhiambo, a cage fish farmer; shares her experience with participants present during the ENA's Sensitization Workshop on aquaculture cluster model.

ADVOCACY

ENA celebrates 2019 Mother's Day

ENA's advocacy focus area joined this year's mother's day celebrations held on 11th May at City Park grounds in Nairobi County. The theme for 2019 was: ***Every Mother Matters***. This focus area aims to increase survival of newborn babies by improving the quality of care during the first 28 days after birth.

The pilot project based in Nakuru County is targeting 960 women. Data shows that pregnant mothers attending four recommended antenatal clinics is low. To mitigate the challenge and increase survival rate for mother and child, ENA will collaborate with Nakuru County Government and local partners to promote maternal health care.



Promoting Maternal Care Health through the Toto Care

ENA in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Dr. Jennifer Riria on Thursday 29th May addressed experts at the consultation workshop on Women's Financial Inclusion in East Africa held at the Food and Agriculture Office of the United Nations (FAO) offices in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

The Forum brought together experts and practitioners from East Africa sub region that engage in gender and rural finance domains. Countries represented were Burundi, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan, Rwanda, Uganda among others. The workshop aimed at identifying and documenting innovative approaches in inclusive finance specifically targeting women traders, entrepreneurs and other value chain actors in the agri-food sector, in order to improve their access to financial services.

Dr. Riria emphasized on the need to adopt gender sensitive approaches to all interventions that are meant to empower women.



Dr. Jennifer Riria, Group C.E.O, ENA (circled) with participants at the Expert Workshop on Women's Financial Inclusion in Africa.

Benchmarking at Echo Network Africa

HLUVUKU ADSEMA, a microfinance institution from Mozambique paid a courtesy call to Echo Network Africa Group C.E.O, Dr. Jennifer Riria, as part of their learning excursion in Kenya on micro finance institutional transformation processes.

Lessons learnt would enhance HLUVUKU ADSEMA work in improving the socio economic conditions of the population, providing high-quality sustainable services to low income earners in Mozambique, Maputo province.

The team that was led by the Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Bernard Tembe, recognized Dr. Riria's lifetime efforts towards women empowerment and financial inclusion. In addition, Mr. Tembe embraced ENA's mission of being a catalyst for development. ENA will continue pursuing partnership with HLUVUKU ADSEMA as it ventures into the rest of Africa as envisioned in its strategy.



Dr. Jennifer Riria, (fourth from right) with the management of HLUVUKU ADSEMA at the ENA offices



Dr. Jennifer Riria, Group CEO ENA with Mr. Bernard Tembe, CEO HLUVUKU ADSEMA