

ENA MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2021 ISSUE



Anchored under God's Providence

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Anchored under God's Providence



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Greetings from Echo Network Africa (ENA) and Happy New Year! We are grateful to God to have ushered in the year in good health. Our theme this year is **Anchored under God's Providence**. We are confident that if we commit our plans to God he will direct our steps and help us succeed.

Reflecting back, 2020 was a great year for Echo Network Africa. We witnessed the bold testimony of the evidence of God's Grace. The year had begun with a lot of expectation for the planned great annual performance.

Unfortunately, everything changed because of the rapid spread of the novel Covid – 19. This significantly changed the way we work and live. Despite the odds, ENA maintained its role as a catalyst for development that empowers, positions and advocates for women (including young women, women with disabilities and women from marginalized communities) towards attainment of their full potential.

Our development partners e.g Ministry of Public Service and Gender, UN-Women, USAID, Open Society Foundation (OSF), Uraia Trust, SADES-Kenya, Common Women Agenda (COWA), FHI 360, Maasai

Mara University, African Women Leaders Network, KEWOPA, Heritage Insurance, Co-operative Bank among many others stood with us. We are glad and thankful to God for having achieved 80% of our targets.

This year, we plan to soar to greater heights guided by God and our spirit which is upholding our lasting legacy and influence anchored on catalysing partnerships, servant leadership, resilience, endurance and working to completion in order to sustain respect and enhance human dignity.

We have also resumed work physically and strive to continue being a catalyst for development.

Embracing partnerships through Local Implementing Partners

Program, Cohesion & Development



ENA'S CATALYTIC APPROACH: ENA's Senior Programme Manager, Teresiah Wakahia (standing) takes ENA staff through a training session on how Echo Network Africa will work with Local Implementing partners in 2021 and beyond to be a catalyst for development.

Echo Network Africa (ENA) is a development institution that engages in catalyzing activities that empower, position, and advocate for women, young women and women from marginalized communities.

This is achieved by collaborating with stakeholders to develop and innovate viable initiatives that enable women to advance their prosperity and security. This year ENA is keen on embracing partnerships through working with Local Implementing Partners (LIP's).

Working in partnerships is central to ENA's Theory of Change and the catalytic approach of reaching the beneficiaries through the local community-based organizations (CBOs).

Working through the local implementing partners catalyzes breakthroughs in the way the programs are implemented. The catalytic approach aims to achieve immediate and lasting change to the beneficiaries through interventions executed by the local CBOs.

ENA believes that greater impact will be realized through working with organizations with different strengths and perspectives. ENA defines partnership as a long-term relationship between two or more organizations/institutions with a mutually agreed set of principles, working towards defined objectives that facilitate lasting change for the people we serve especially women, women with disabilities and the youth.

From FGM, Period Poverty, Teenage Pregnancies and Early Marriages to excelling in STEM

Girls Excel Initiative



STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS: ENA Group CEO Dr. Jennifer Riria (2nd from right) and Maasai Mara University Ag. Vice Chancellor, Prof. Kitche Magak (extreme left) sign a partnership agreement to end FGM, teenage pregnancies, early marriages and school dropout among girls in the 22 FGM hot spot Counties in Kenya.

In December 2020, Echo Network Africa entered into a partnership agreement with Maasai Mara University.

This was to establish a framework for collaboration between the two institutions to mainstream sustainable approaches to women empowerment and a just, peaceful and equitable society.

The key stakeholders for this initiative will be the students, parents, teachers, school boards, Maasai Mara University, school alumnus, local administration and the community at large.

Drawing from the inception of the MOU, Maasai Mara University extended an invitation to ENA to participate in the Maa community teenage forum in Olorropil Baptist Church.

The main issues facing the teenagers from the Maa community are; the teenage girls are encouraged or mostly forced to undergo FGM, Teenage pregnancies are very high leading to early marriages, school dropouts are high leading to an extended poverty cycle and Inadequate community dialogues through gate keepers and influencers.

The themes for the session were:

- Education and career
- Using social media and internet constructively
- FGM myths, beliefs and effects, early marriages, school drop outs and teenage pregnancies
- FGM ACT 2011 prohibitions and
- Community visioning

ACTIVITIES IN FEBRUARY

1. International day for Zero Tolerance to FGM

Help prevent the spread of coronavirus



#ENAcare #flattenthecurve