

## CELEBRATING ANCHORING UNDER GOD'S PROVIDENCE

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### Word from the Group CEO Scaling up to greater heights!



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AWLN Kenyan Chapter &  
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Reflecting back on the year, Echo Network Africa (ENA) has maintained its catalytic role to empower, position and advocate for women (including young women, women with disabilities and women from marginalized communities) towards attainment of their full potential. Our clarion call has been to leave no one behind.

As a catalyst for development, ENA seeks to steer her programmatic direction and drive her vision and mission in line with the 2018 – 2022 Strategic Plan.

It is for this reason that the Board and Management attended a Board retreat to strategize on the road to expansion.



The scale up is intended to create a fair, just and equitable society where women participate in all issues that affect development.



**United as one:** ENA Board and Management pose for a group photo after a successful Board retreat to strategize on the road to expansion.

Also important to note, is the upward trajectory of growth as milestones have been achieved both at the corporate and programme areas of ENA.

Some of the key highlights achieved this year include; Launching of the second incubation **Girls Excel Initiative**, Graduated 100 women in the newly developed curriculum **Running to Win**, Gender male champion award accepted by Hon. Raphael uju, Jubilee party Secretary General, Recognized among the Top 100 Influential people in Kenya,

Developed and presented a seven point agenda to the newly appointed Chief Justice, Her Ladyship Hon. Martha Koome, relaunched the **TUVUKE Peace Initiative** and collaborated with 200 women from 10 sectors to enrich ENA's work on gender equality including women from Media & Technology, Health, Agriculture, Peace and Security sector, Learning Institutions, and Chamas/Informal Sector, Faith-Based, Trade Unions, just to mention but a few.

ENA in collaboration with the Ministry of Public Service and Gender invited VVIP Rt. Hon. Patricia Scotland QC, Secretary General of the Commonwealth who addressed participants of the International Women's Day Celebration. She urged women rights organizations and movements to work together and prevent and respond to Gender Based Violence.







**HONGERA!**  
Hon. Raphael Tuju (2nd Left) receives a Gender Warrior Award as ( L-R) Hon. Beatrice Elachi (Chief Administrative Secretary , Ministry of Public Service and Gender); Dr Jennifer Riria (Group CEO ENA); Phyllis Obonyo ( Chief of Party SADES-K) and Elizabeth Odongo look on.

We have strived higher guided by the ENA spirit which is ***Upholding our lasting legacy and influence anchored on catalyzing partnerships, servant leadership, resilience, endurance and working to completion in order to sustain respect and enhance human dignity.***

I am grateful to the Board, Management and staff for their relentless efforts that have seen ENA solidify its position as a strong catalyst for development and the go-to institution on matters of girls and women empowerment in the Country. I am also grateful to our development partners (UN Women, Hanns Seidel Foundation, AMREF, Open Society Foundation, MEDA, URAIA and SADES- Kenya) for their unwavering support.

Echo Network Africa wishes you and your loved ones a very Happy Holiday season and a peaceful and prosperous New Year!

**“Our clarion call has been to leave no one behind.”**

## EMPOWERING ALL WOMEN TO REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL

### Women Empowerment Focus Area

***Leave no one behind*** is the central, transformative promise of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The promise represents the unequivocal commitment of all UN Member States to eradicate poverty in all its forms, end discrimination and exclusion, and reduce the inequalities and vulnerabilities that undermine the potential of individuals and of humanity as a

whole. Despite the adverse challenges affecting girls and women among them; cultural norms, limited resource allocation, lack of opportunities and underrepresentation, women have continued to strive in their businesses.

The second phase of the Aqua culture cluster model was successfully launched in 2021. ENA leveraged on its past experience on aquaculture by enhancing sustainable livelihoods and increasing meaningful participation of women in the aquaculture value chain.



This has led to improved household-level income and economic power of 83 women in four beaches namely Kaugege (23 women), Mrongo (20 women), Wakula (20 women) and Litare (20 women) in Homa Bay County from 0.16 USD a day in 2019 to 1.4 USD a day by August 2021.

Further, the women beneficiaries attended exchange training visits at Kenya Marine and Fisheries institute Sangoro to enhance their knowledge on post-harvest handling and value addition of fish. “I’ve learnt a lot from the exchange visit. I can now maximize on profit by providing variety for my consumers,” said Esther Otieno a member of the Litare Women’s group.



**Capacity Building:** ENA hosts an exchange training visit at Kenya Marine Fisheries Sangoro for Mrongo Women cage farmers from Mfangano island. The purpose of the training was to enhance knowledge on best aquaculture practices to increase production and maximize profit

**Value Addition:** Kaugege women group are taken through a fish value addition training to help them maximize on profit through development of diversified products.





This year the initiative also expanded its reach to empower women in the marginalized communities in Wamba in Samburu County and Kalacha and Maikona in Marsabit County. Most of the women in these two counties lack access to finance facilities and have to travel long distances to access these facilities.

ENA trained over 30 women groups on business management and empowered them with idea generation on income. This was to help the women improve their livelihoods and enhance

meaningful participation of women in wealth creation.

Through the trainings, women businesses have scaled up to the next level. Some of the end products of the businesses include animal skins converted into wall décor and Tourist's souvenirs made out of sisal just to mention but a few. The women have also been empowered and liberated

This shift has aided women to become more financially independent.

## CELEBRATING WOMEN'S GAINS AS SPELT OUT IN THE CONSTITUTION

### Positioning & Democracy Focus Area



*Lady Justice Martha Karambu Koome, Chief Justice of the Republic of Kenya and President of the Supreme Court of Kenya*

History was made in Kenya when Hon. Lady Justice Martha Koome was appointed as the first woman Chief Justice in Kenya. She was congratulated for this honorary achievement in a Luncheon hosted by the Ministry of Public Service and Gender and Echo Network Africa.

A memorandum with priority actions towards making the judiciary gender-responsive was presented to the Chief Justice by Common Women Agenda and the African Women Leaders Network.

The Memorandum is an accountability framework driven from the need to have priority action areas for the new Chief Justice to set her agenda toward having gender-responsive actions aimed at promoting women's rights and enhancing access to justice for women and girls.

## PRIORITY ACTION

1

### Institutionalize Gender Integration /Mainstreaming in the Judiciary through

road Map

- a) Development and adopting a Gender Action Plan to provide the of implementation.
- b) Establish the position of Gender Advisor to facilitate action mainstreaming, formulating policies and monitoring implementation of gender actions appropriately.

2

### Revamp the Office of the Judiciary Ombudsperson

and make it gender responsive to deliver on its mandate and provide an open accountability process toward access to justice for all and especially for special interest groups including girls and women.

3

### Facilitate capacity building/training, knowledge sharing and management and communication

to improve skills and capacities promoting partnership with media, Women Rights Organisations (WROs) and the Judiciary.



4

## Promote gender balance and meaningful participation by women

to improve skills and capacities promoting partnership with media, Women Rights Organisations (WROs) and the Judiciary.

5

## Facilitate establishment of Special Courts to timely dispense

with matters of Sexual and Gender Based Violence including in electoral processes. Make available the Register of sexual offence's convicts as per the Sexual Offences Act.

6

## Gender Responsive Budgeting, Monitoring and Reporting by the Judiciary

Consider facilitating availability of budget / resources for implementing Gender Action priorities by improved tracking of implementation and reporting on gender. Prepare and release an annual gender and inclusion progress report and provide sex disaggregated data and gender statistics to aide policy making, accountability and reporting and advocacy, and;

7

## Include in the Annual State of the Judiciary Report

a comprehensive report on the State of Gender Justice in the country

In addition on International Womens Day over 100 women drawn from different counties including Marsabit, Baringo, Siaya, Kakamega, Nyeri, Kiambu, Tharaka Nithi, Kisumu, Kilifi, Mombasa, Murang'a and Samburu among others graduated from the Running to Win – Women's Pathways to Successful Campaigning Programme.

Her Excellency, Margaret Kenyatta, First Lady of the Republic of Kenya presided over the auspicious ceremony. Also present was Rt. Hon. Patricia Scotland QC, Secretary General of the Commonwealth, Prof. Margaret Kobia, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Public Service and Gender and ENA Group CEO, Dr. Jennifer Riria.



**Running to Win:** Graduates of the first cohort of the Women's Pathways to Successful Campaigning program take a group photo with Rt. Hon. Patricia Scotland QC, Secretary General of the Commonwealth (seated at the center), Prof. Margaret Kobia, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Public Service and Gender (seated third from left) and ENA Group CEO, Dr. Jennifer Riria (seated third from right).



Further, Echo Network Africa established and collaborated with 200 women from 10 sectors to support ENA work on gender equality including women from Media & Technology, Health, Agriculture, Peace and Security sector, Learning Institutions, and Chamas/Informal Sector, Faith-Based, Trade Unions, among others. Other key highlights in the year include, journalists’

forum on deepening reporting on gender issues challenging the world, Forum on scenarios of the state of women’s political leadership ahead of the upcoming general elections, media campaign highlighting Sexual and Gender Based Violence and mobilized, recruited and sensitized 151 male champions to support gender equality work just to mention but a few.



**Roadmap to 2022 General elections:** ENA Group CEO, Dr. Jennifer Riria addresses participants on the status of Kenyan women in political leadership.

## RAISING WOMEN’S VOICES IN PEACEBUILDING & MEDIATION INITIATIVES

### Tuvuke Initiative

The African Women Leadership Network (AWLN), and Echo Network Africa (ENA) in partnership with the UN Women this year convened a meeting with a select group of women to brainstorm on the need to bring women’s voices into peace building efforts ahead of the 2022 General Election.

The meeting brought together over 20 women representing different sectors and spaces ranging from women rights organization, women leaders, entrepreneurs, legal experts, seasoned politicians, training and research, professional mediators, Kenya Women Teachers’ Association, grassroots women – women agenda, Maendeleo ya Wanawake, peace keeper/ community volunteer social worker, gender expert, Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) practitioner among others.

The participants of the forum deliberated on women’s roles in peace building and mediation and helped develop a plan of action that will be implemented by AWLN - Kenya in partnership with ENA and supported by the UN Women.

On international day of peace, Echo Network Africa also relaunched the TUVUKE initiative in pomp and color. Women in the informal settlements were fronted as peace ambassadors to lead in peace processes in their communities before, during and after the elections.

Peace starts with me is the clarion call for action that women peace ambassadors are placing on Kenyans as the country heads to the 2022 General Election.



Aligned to the United Nations 1325 Resolution, the initiative calls out to the women to sensitize the locals on the importance of peaceful co-existence, lead caravans for passing peace messages and monitor sparks of conflicts to which they are to engage with all stakeholders to find amicable solutions.

**“Peace starts with me is the clarion call for action that women peace ambassadors are placing on Kenyans as the country heads to the 2022 General Election.”**

"Elections must never translate to deaths and loss of livelihoods," said ENA Group Chief Executive, Dr. Jennifer Riria. She added that women must take lead in ensuring Kenya remains peaceful throughout the electioneering period given that they are the ones who are disproportionately affected during conflicts and disasters.



**Light up Kenya, light up the world:** Dr. Jennifer Riria, GCEO ENA (left), Hon. Beatrice Elachi, Chief Administrative Secretary Ministry of Public Service & Gender (center) and Dr. Anna Mutavati, UN Women Country representative (right) light up candles in commemoration of Tuvuke Initiative launch.

## EMPOWERING THE GIRL CHILD

### Girls Excel Initiative

Over the past 39 years Echo Network Africa (ENA) has addressed issues that impede on Girls and Women's social, economic and political inclusion in Kenya.

Girls and especially those leaving in rural areas face four main challenges; Female Genital Mutilation, Period Poverty, Teenage Pregnancies and Child marriages.

ENA is committed to catalyzing change in this respect. This year, ENA launched its second incubation Girls excel initiative. Through a rapid survey to establish the status of uptake, retention and performance in STEM subjects as well as the rate of teenage pregnancies, the initiative identified Kithangari Girls Secondary School as the pilot for the initiative. Hesabu club was also launched in the school to help address the poor performance of STEM subjects.



Echo Network Africa has further facilitated mentorship sessions for 430 girls in partnership with the school, teachers, and young professional women in STEM fields and supplied menstrual hygiene materials to help stop period poverty. This is one of the effective ways of ensuring that girls do not miss school during their menstrual cycle. This strategy also recognizes that parents, teachers and communities must be involved in an attempt to keep children in school.



**Career Alignment:** Students from Kithangari Girls Secondary School are taken through a mentorship session on career selection.

**Lending a helping hand:** ENA donates a projector and laptop to enhance STEM performance in the school.





# TO LET



**The Jennifer Riria Hub** is an ultra-modern, state of the art facility developed by Echo Network Africa (ENA). Located at the junction of Tom Mboya and Kipchoge Keino road in Nakuru town ( Soon City). The Hub has 108 shops and 184 parking slots making it the perfect and hustle free place for shopping, business, indoor and outdoor events.

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(GROUND FLOOR)

&

7,640.29 Sqft  
(UPPER GROUND FLOOR)

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