

ENA MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

JULY 2022 ISSUE



CHAGUA AMANI! CHAGUA MAMA!

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Word from the Group CEO Chagua Amani! Chagua Mama!



Dr. Jennifer N. Riria

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Goodwill Ambassador,
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AWLN Kenyan Chapter,
Group CEO, ENA
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With only a few days left to the General Elections, it is important for the electorate to be responsible for the future of their Constituency, County, and Country.

It is our civic duty to vote wisely. Each eligible voter is responsible for the development, stagnation or deterioration of their Constituency, County and Country based on their choice of representatives.

Whether one opts to vote or not, the choice directly influences the outcome of the elections.

Earlier this year, Echo Network African (ENA) together with our Local Implementing Partner, the Democracy Trust Fund (DTF), Africa Women Leaders Network Kenyan Chapter (AWLN), Women Mediation Network Kenya (WMNK) in collaboration with the UN Women, launched two campaigns dubbed CHAGUA AMANI! CHAGUA MAMA! and the 1 Million Signatures For Peace.

The two campaigns were officially launched on 7th March 2022 as a curtain-raiser to the International Women’s Day by Prof Margaret Kobia, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Public Service, Gender, Senior Citizens Affairs & Special Programmes and Stephen Jackson, UN Women Resident Coordinator.

The ‘Chagua Mama’ or ‘Elect Her’ campaign is intended to raise awareness among the electorate on the need to elect women into political

leadership while the Chagua Amani campaign is a call for peace before, during, and after the General Elections. Our clarion call to the electorate is to vote wisely, elect a woman and maintain peace during the election period. To reiterate our running Chagua Mama radio message

‘On the 9th of August 2022, Kenyans should elect leaders who must be accountable. We remind ourselves that no Kenyan should die or suffer loss on account of a mere General Election. We call upon politicians to maintain peace and the rule of law. We urge Kenyans to vote peacefully and to elect women.’

Echo Network Africa maintains a complete non-partisan stance in all our initiatives including the Chagua Mama Campaign. We are nonetheless clear that we shall continue to stand in full support of leaders who support and affirm women.

TEN REASONS FOR ELECTING WOMEN

1

HUMAN RIGHTS: Women rights are human rights and these include the right to participate in decision making spaces and in political leadership.

2

INCLUSIVITY: Countries where women hold at least 30 percent of political seats are more inclusive, egalitarian, and democratic.

3

IMPROVED LIVELIHOODS: Women’s leadership within households, including decision-making over land and household income, improves access to education and healthcare for their families.

4

EQUALITY: Countries with a greater proportion of women as top decision-makers in legislatures have lower levels of income inequality.

5

PEACE: Through its peacekeeping operations, the U.N. has found that when women are included, deadly conflicts can be avoided.

6

PROFITABILITY: When women hold more executive leadership positions, their companies are more profitable: companies in the top-quartile for gender diversity on executive teams are 21% more likely to outperform the national average.

7

DEMOCRACY: Countries where women hold at least 30 percent of political seats are more inclusive and democratic.

8

BETTER SERVICE DELIVERY: The next time you're frustrated by poor roads or a lack of potable water, vote for a woman. USAID reports that women's political participation increases cooperation across party and ethnic lines and improves government responsiveness to citizens.

9

INCREASED BUYING POWER: Women leaders increase the capacity of the citizenry to afford basic needs such as food, clean water, health and shelter.

10

MORE LASTING PEACE: Women have an important role to play in driving reconciliation and reconstruction. According to the U.N., involving women in conflict negotiation and peacebuilding efforts can lead to more widely accepted and durable peace agreements.

“

The World has enough women
to take up Leadership:

CHAGUA MAMA !

CHAGUA AMANI! CHAGUA MAMA LAST MILE LAUNCH

Since the enactment of the new constitution, Kenya has had two General Elections and is yet to achieve the 33% women representation quota for elective positions. ENA's local implementing partner Democracy Trust Fund (DTF) is working with women from more than 23 political parties and women who are running as independent candidates.

This month, over two hundred people inclusive of sixty women candidates representing twenty counties attended the Chagua Amani! Chagua Mama Last Mile Launch held at the Jennifer Riria Hub in Nakuru.

The Last Mile Launch targeted women candidates aspiring for elective positions in the August 9th General elections. The forum aimed to catalyze the aspirants' last mile campaign efforts through the distribution of campaign materials and to urge the electorate to vote for women and to maintain peace during the electioneering period.

Campaign materials including posters and Lesos were presented to women political aspirants to amplify the Chagua Mama campaign.

"Women have a lot of power! The electorate, especially the young men must step out to vote for women, peace, and for our future," said Dr. Riria, ENA Group CEO. She further added that the Chagua Amani! Chagua Mama campaign is non-partisan, non-denominational and inclusive of all the 47 counties in the Country. "Women are one, regardless of where they come from." She added.

The Chagua Amani! Chagua Mama Last Mile Launch was officiated by Hon. Phoebe Asiyo. She shared anecdotes from her life some of which are included in her memoir- It Is Possible. She told of a conversation she had with the founding father Mzee Jomo Kenyatta urging him to include women in government for their wisdom. Hon. Asiyo urged the electorate to elect women of their capability.

She highlighted that women carry out vital roles in our societies being the last to go to bed and the first to wake in majority of the households. She added that with women in leadership there shall be better health, education, food stability and fairness, and reminded the public that there cannot be stability without peace.

“ Women have a lot of power! The electorate, especially the young men must step out to vote for women, peace, and for our future. ”

Highlights from the Chagua Amani! Chagua Mama! Last Mile Launch



Dr. Jennifer Riria flags off 100 branded Boda Boda riders at the Afraha Stadium for the Chagua Amani! Chagua Mama! match around Nakuru city.



Women aspirants and invited guests dancing to ENA's peace song -Mungu Baba led by popular Kenyan gospel artist, Rufftone.

Highlights from the Chagua Amani! Chagua Mama! Last Mile Launch



The Guest of honor, Hon. Phoebe Asiyo delivering her keynote address and Dr. Jennifer Riria presenting her with Chagua Mama Campaign materials



Women aspirants from different political parties stand up for introduction.

WOMEN MEDIATION NETWORK KENYA CALL FOR PEACE AHEAD OF THE GENERAL ELECTIONS.



Catalysing Peace: Women Mediation Network Kenya members pose for a group photo with IEBC Commissioners and Management after a successful courtesy call meeting.

This month members of the Women Mediation Network –Kenya (WMN- K) paid a courtesy call to the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) to discuss peaceful elections in respect to women aspirants and voters from the vulnerable and marginalized categories of the electorate. They also discussed the support accorded to women’s leadership including full implementation of the Two Third Gender Rule in pursuit of the attainment for gender parity in Kenya, among other emerging issues.

Echo Network Africa acknowledges that the task of preserving peace and national unity is a mammoth task which cannot be done by one individual or a group of people on their own. Neither the Presidency, Legislature, Judiciary or even the citizenry can achieve much on their own.

The Commission and the Network agreed to work together to; prepare for peace before war, pray for peace for the Commission and the Nation, ensure all requirements for people living with disabilities are in place and to disaggregated the candidates in terms of age, gender, and disabilities among other issues.

Chagua Amani is our clarion call as we near the electioneering period. The Government of Kenya has made notable efforts by advancing the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda through the implementation of Kenya’s Second National Action Plan on UNSCR 1325.

Despite these gains and an increased recognition of the WPS agenda nationally, there remains a need for more systematic, consistent, and comprehensive implementation of UNSCR1325 in Kenya.

Echo Network Africa through the Women Mediation Network - Kenya seeks to enhance the leadership of Kenyan women to bring about transformative change in relation to advancing sustainable peace and strengthening of women’s active and meaningful participation in conflict prevention.

This aims to increase the number of women’s participation in peace and mediation process targeting women from the grass roots, to the county and national levels.

ENA'S GIRLS EXCEL INITIATIVE EMPOWERING THE GIRL CHILD

Last 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 in Meru as the pilot for the initiative. Hesabu club was also launched in the school to help address the poor performance of STEM subjects.

This month, ENA through her LIP Youth and Women Advocacy Network carried out a mentorship session in Kithangari Girls Secondary School targeting the whole school. The mentorship session aimed to engage the students in a conversation around self-awareness and self-esteem. The girls were also supplied with 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.

This has led to poor performance in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) subjects. ENA is committed to catalyzing change in this respect.

137 Girls in Narok also benefited from a mentorship session held by the Girls Excel Initiative. The session was a major boost and inspiration for the girls to pursue education and appreciate STEM based subjects.

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. These evil practices affect the girls physical, mental, social and psychological being.



Girls Empowerment: Students from Kithangari Girls Secondary School actively participating in the Self-awareness and Self-esteem Mentorship Session.



8 Eradicating Period Poverty: Girls from Olepolos Narosura in Narok receive dignity packs from ENA after a successful mentorship session.



Chagua Amani! Chagua Mama!



Drumming Up Support: ENA Board Members (above) and ENA staff members (below) receive Chagua Mama Campaign materials ahead of the August general elections.

Peace Pledge



I am a woman. I am a leader.
I am committed to peace.
I believe no Kenyan should
suffer or die because of
elections.

Peace starts with Me.



Dada Rescue Pack

**Support a Girl
by Donating Kshs 500**

The 5 for 5 ENA Dada Rescue Pack contains

**3 packets of sanitary towels
2 panties**

Echo
Network
Africa
Catalyst for Development



**Mpesa
paybill**

972800

Account : 5forG

TO LET



The Jennifer Riria Hub

is an ultra-modern, state of the art facility developed by Echo Network Africa. Its design is inspired by the strength, character and gait of the African woman. The hub is located at the heart of Nakuru City at the junction of Tom Mboya and Kipchoge Keino road. It's strategically positioned to provide a serene environment for its clientele.

The hub is the perfect and hustle free place for shopping, business, dining, banking and hosting indoor and outdoor events. Key features include good access road, 24 hours CCTV surveillance, ample parking spaces, sufficient water supply, lift access to all floors, easy access and exit to the mall and ample clean sanitary facilities.

We are currently looking for an anchor tenant. Other spaces available to let include; food court spaces, banking hall spaces and specialty stores just to mention but a few. Don't be left out!

To Book a Space Call:
0722 54 61 24