

ENA MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2023 ISSUE



IT'S NOT YET MADARAKA FOR WOMEN OF KENYA

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Word from the Group CEO

It's not yet Madaraka for women of Kenya



Dr. Jennifer N. Riria

PhD, EBS, MBS, HRH/
Goodwill Ambassador,
ICON/HP, Chairperson
AWLN Kenyan Chapter,
Group CEO ENA &
Patron DTF

Sixty years ago on June 1st 1963 Kenya held the first Madaraka Day. It is on this day that Kenya attained internal self-rule (Madaraka) after being a British colony since 1920.

This newfound freedom to exercise self-rule was a result of a great fight for independence, which came at a great price. Many freedom fighters lost their lives, some lived to tell of the torture, imprisonment, and injustices inflicted on them and their families. This freedom inspired our founding fathers and mothers to dream again, hope of a greater and better future was in the air.

Their children would now be in a position to pursue education, succeed in life and contribute to nation building. However, this would only be possible if they overcame poverty, ignorance and disease. Even though Kenya and women at large have gained considerable victory over these 3 enemies, the fight is not yet over. Women in this age face metamorphosed enemy. These enemies can be categorized under three areas; Societal, Organizational and Personal forces.

Societal Barriers are the subtle and often unspoken cultural cues and messages that reinforce the ways that men and women 'should' think, behave and feel in the society. Organizational Barriers relates to the hurdles experienced in the workplace, a combination of systemic obstacles, cultures and norms that disadvantage women.

While, Personal Barriers refers to the internal beliefs and attitudes that affect the perspective, resolve and actions of a woman in an effort to surmount societal and organizational hurdles. This diverse range of issues include matters like lack of; self-esteem, knowledge and exposure.

With a clear view of how these factors create inequality, Dr. Jennifer Riria and the team at Echo Network Africa are continually spearheading interventions to empower women and girls through building and running effective and sustainable transformation programmes to counteract these barriers and accelerate gender parity. That's why we continually call upon women to emerge, join us and keep fighting till we achieve individual and collective victory in the area of women empowerment.

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NEWS

Dr. Jennifer Riria was on 2nd June 2023 recognized among the top 60 most inspiring women in Kenya over the past 60 years of Madaraka in Kenya. This recognition comes as an acknowledgement of her life long national and international interventions towards women empowerment.



22. Dr Jennifer Riria
She is the patron of Democracy Trust Fund, group CEO of Echo Network Africa, and founding member of Kenya Women Holding and Kenya Women Finance Trust Microfinance Bank. She is one of Africa's leading women entrepreneurs.

Change-makers Countless incredible women – inspirational and powerful heroes – have shaken things up, from the history-makers, rights activists, politicians, corporate gurus, to scientists, educationists and community leaders

Kenya@60: Celebrating 60 of the most inspiring Kenyan women

BY THE GENDER DESK TEAM

Since Kenya gained independence in 1963, countless incredible women – inspirational and powerful heroes – have shaken things up. From the history-makers, rights activists, politicians, corporate gurus, to scientists, educationists and community leaders, they have stood out. So, over the years, we are all proud to celebrate and honor the women who have made a difference in our lives. We are proud to recognize the women who have made a difference in our lives. We are proud to recognize the women who have made a difference in our lives.

1. Wainini Kiviri
The late Kiviri rose into the spotlight in the early 1980s through her roles as a social worker, educator and community leader. She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya. She was also the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya.

2. Fatuma Zariha
The first black woman to hold the WBC. She was the first black woman to hold the WBC. She was the first black woman to hold the WBC.

3. Justice Njoki Njeng'u
She was the first female justice in Kenya. She was the first female justice in Kenya.

4. Prof. Julia Njiru
She was the first female MP in Kenya. She was the first female MP in Kenya.

5. Elizabeth Ibrahim
She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya. She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya.

6. Janet Mbugua
She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya. She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya.

7. Grace Oryango
She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya. She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya.

8. Charity Njiru
She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya. She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya.

9. Phoebe Aloyo
She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya. She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya.

10. Oria Rogo
She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya. She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya.

11. Prof. Olive Mugendi
She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya. She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya.

12. Nyira Nwendia
She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya. She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya.

13. Koki Mutungi Irene
She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya. She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya.

14. Grace Ogot
She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya. She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya.

15. Margaret Wambui Karanja
She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya. She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya.

16. Margaret Karanja (First Lady)
She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya. She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya.

17. Ida Odiga
She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya. She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya.

18. Jael Mbugo
She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya. She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya.

19. Joan Mombia
She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya. She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya.

20. Tegla Loroupe
She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya. She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya.

21. Flora Mutahi
She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya. She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya.

22. Dr. Jennifer Riria
She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya. She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya.

23. Martha Karua
She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya. She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya.

24. Tabitha Karanja
She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya. She was the first woman to head the National Commission on the Status of Women in Kenya.

(Programme Highlights)

ENA Working with Women in Marsabit County to transform their families

Community Resilience and Livelihood

Esther Wanjiru Wanjogu, hailing from Wamba in Samburu County, has experienced a remarkable transformation in her business, thanks to the invaluable guidance and training provided by Echo Network Africa (ENA). ENA's impact on Esther's life has been nothing short of extraordinary, empowering her to achieve new heights of success.

ENA's training sessions equipped Esther with essential skills and knowledge that revolutionized her business approach. Through ENA, she gained insights into sales improvement techniques, effective communication and customer relations, as well as capital management strategies. These learnings had an immediate and significant impact on her business, resulting in a boosted customer rate and increased customer satisfaction.



Esther Wanjiru Wanjogu (center) showcasing her retail business to a team from Echo Network led by the Head of Programmes, Madam Grace Wangechi (2nd Left) .

Crucially, ENA also guided Esther in making informed decisions about choosing the right financial institution for savings, investments, and loans. She learned to identify banks and Saccos that offered favorable interest rates and flexible payment periods. This financial literacy support from ENA played a pivotal role in empowering Esther to make sound financial choices and secure her business's future.

With newfound knowledge and confidence, Esther successfully expanded her boutique to include a wide range of baby clothes and adult apparel, including both second-hand and brand-new items.

This expansion not only broadened her product offerings but also attracted a growing customer base. Esther's commitment to providing exceptional service has earned her a loyal clientele and numerous referrals, contributing to her continued success.

From ENA's support, Esther acquired a one-acre piece of land, setting the foundation for future investments and expansion. This notable accomplishment speaks to the transformative power of ENA's training and mentorship.

“ ENA also guided Esther in making informed decisions about choosing the right financial institution for savings, investments, and loans...This financial literacy support played a pivotal role in empowering Esther to make sound financial choices and secure her business's future.

ENA appointed to the Two-Third Gender Rule legislation National Taskforce Women's Leadership, Political Participation and Governance

Echo Network Africa (ENA) has been appointed part of the Multi-Agency working group to develop the Two –Third Gender Rule affirmative action legislation.

The Chairperson of the Taskforce, Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Public Service, Gender and Affirmative Action, Aisha Jumwa announced the taskforce during an inaugural breakfast held on 15th June.

The meeting brought together stakeholders, including the Attorney General Justin Muturi, Members of Parliament amongst them Majority leader Senate, UN Women Country Representative Anna Mutavati. Others included Women's Right Organization (WRO), Women leaders and Women Politicians. Other organizations appointed to the task force include CRAWN Trust, National Gender and

Equality Commission (NGEC), Kenya Women Parliamentary Association (KEWOPA), Kenya Law Reform Commission, and Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA) amongst others.

Ms. Jumwa urged the team to be cognizant of the previous attempts to develop legislation on the same. She outlined the teams terms of reference to include identifying and facilitating key stakeholders, review proposals towards the same, organize and coordinate public participation.

Other roles are to develop a draft framework towards the implementation of the 2/3Third gender rule. Attorney General Justin Muturi said a standalone legislation may not work and urged the team to consider an omnibus legislation as a sweetener for the Members of Parliament.



Cabinet Secretary Aisha Jumwa (Center) unveils the multi-agency working group on the Two thirds gender rule affirmative Action legislation under the Ministry of Public Service, Gender and affirmative action where DTF/ENA have been appointed part of the working group.

“ Ms. Jumwa urged the team to be cognizant of the previous attempts to develop legislation on the same. She outlined the teams terms of reference to include identifying and facilitating key stakeholders, review proposals towards the same, organize and coordinate public participation.

ENA Empowers Women Peace Actors from Informal Settlements

Peace & Conflict Resolution

ENA was thrilled to empower women peace actors from informal settlements in nine counties, fostering peaceful co-existence within their communities. The online training session brought together these dedicated women, equipping them with essential skills to actively contribute to enhancing peace. The enthusiasm and energy within the virtual room were palpable, as many of them had never before participated in online sessions or received training on peacekeeping. To kick start the

training process, a comprehensive context analysis was undertaken, shedding light on the root causes of violence within these communities. The women peace actors identified several key triggers, including:

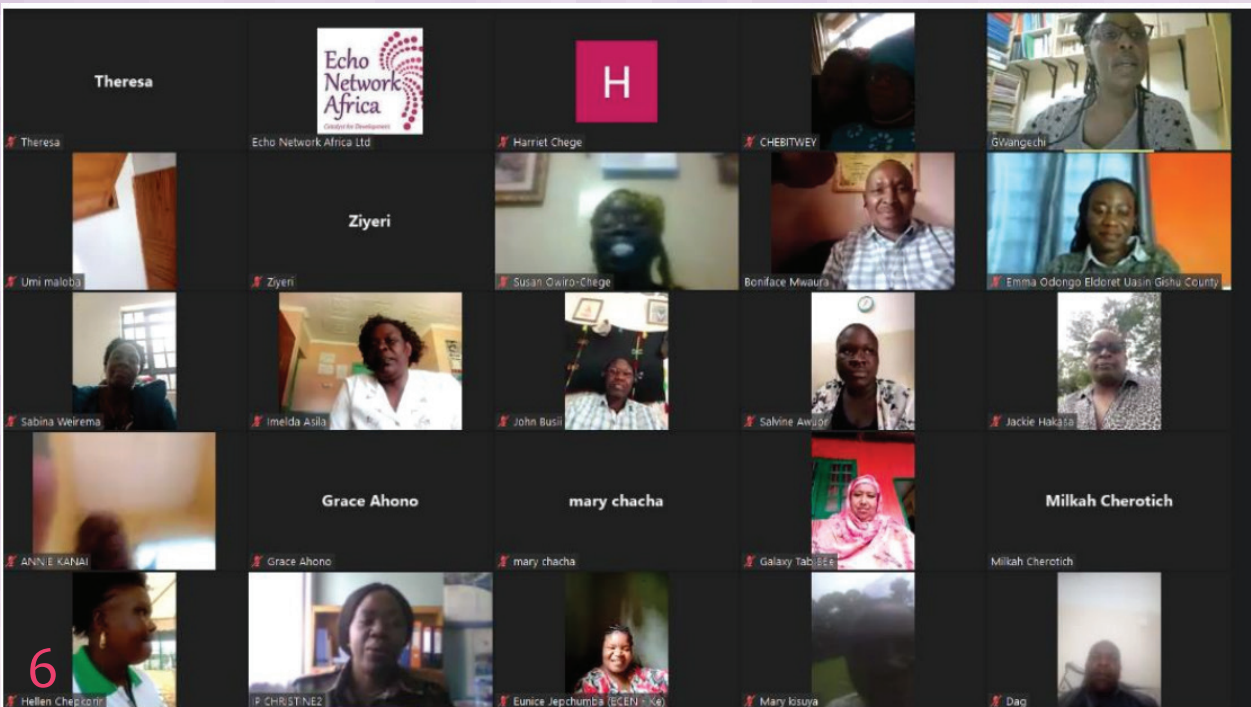
Competition for scarce natural resources: In counties like Migori, West Pokot, and Laikipia, disputes over land, water, and pasture resulting from climate change have been prevalent.

- Negative cultural practices: FGM, child marriages, and moraanism (warrior culture) pose challenges in West Pokot, Samburu, Marsabit, Homabay, and Migori.
- Religious extremism: Mombasa has been affected by incidents related to religious extremism.
- Vigilante groups and organized gangs: Nairobi, Nakuru, and Mombasa face issues concerning vigilante activities, organized gangs, and hired goons.
- Cross-border conflict: Samburu and Laikipia experience conflicts stemming from their shared borders.
- Proliferation of small arms: Nakuru and Uasin Gishu have encountered challenges associated with the widespread availability of small arms and
- Corruption, nepotism, lack of accountability, and bad governance: These issues plague various counties across the region.

As a result of the training, these resilient women have committed themselves to actively leading peacekeeping and conflict resolution interventions within their respective counties. They have recognized and identified several good practices that they plan to adopt among them:

- Government collaboration: The women peace actors intend to work closely with the government, particularly the National Government Administration Offices (NGAOs).
- Youth engagement: Recognizing the importance of the youth in peacekeeping and economic empowerment, they aim to involve young people actively.
- Partnership with service providers: They will collaborate with organizations offering medical and psychosocial support to survivors of violence.
- Advocacy for women's inclusion: The women have pledged to boldly advocate for the inclusion of women's perspectives and agendas within peacekeeping structures, aiming to overcome the historical exclusion they have faced and
- Inclusivity of marginalized groups: They will prioritize engaging individuals with disabilities and young persons in their peacebuilding efforts.

The accompanying photos aptly capture the dynamic and interactive sessions, showcasing the active involvement of these women peace actors in enriching discussions and making significant contributions. Their determination to address pressing issues within their communities is evident, and they eagerly anticipate making a positive impact through this initiative.



Highlights from the women peace actors virtual training held on 22nd June 2023.

AWLN-K to kick start collaboration with Kenya's National Gender and Equality Commission (NGEC)

Special Projects

On 21st June, the African Women Leaders Network (Kenyan Chapter) Chairperson, Dr. Jennifer Riria convened a consultative meeting with the National Gender and Equality Commission (NGEC) commissioner, Dr. Margaret Karungaru who was accompanied by NGEC's Director of Programs and Research, Mr. Paul Kuria. Their deliberations centered on possible areas of partnership and collaboration.

As a catalyst for development that propels the empowerment agenda, ENA is keen on amplifying this partnership by exploring strategies for enhancing women's agency thereby contributing to the reduction of gender inequalities and discrimination. This falls squarely with the AWLN Kenya Chapter's key result areas of collaborating with relevant Ministries, Departments, and Agencies in pursuit of the attainment of gender equality.



ENA staff led by Dr. Jennifer Riria (center) pose for a commemorative photo with the NGEC commissioner, Dr. Margaret Karungaru (2nd Left) and NGEC's Director of Programs and Research, Mr. Paul Kuria. (2nd right)



Dr. Jennifer Riria presents ENA's recent publication on women matters to Dr. Margaret Karungaru and Mr. Paul Kuria.

ENA DADA PACK



Did you know?

1. That lack of pads drives 1 in 10 girls aged 15-19 to 'sex for pads'¹
2. A girl misses 4 days of school per month due to lack of sanitary towels which is associated with shame and stigma?

By donating Ksh. 650 you can help a girl get an ENA Dada Pack and keep her in school for a whole year.

The ENA Dada Pack Contains:

12 packets of Sanitary Towels
2 Panties
3 Cakes of Soap

Donate Ksh 1000

Through

Mpesa
Paybill

>>

972800 >>

Account:
Dada Pack

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 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.

ANCHOR TENANT SPACE AVAILABLE

15,700.05 Sqft
(GROUND FLOOR)

&

7,640.29 Sqft
(UPPER GROUND FLOOR)

OTHER SPACES AVAILABLE

Offices, Banking Hall,
Food Court- Restaurants,
Speciality Stores, etc.

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24 hrs CCTV security system, Ample parking, Standby generator, Sufficient water supply, Lift access to all floors, Easy access & exit Ample toilet facilities, Good access roads

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