



AKINA MAMA
WA AFRIKA

Journeying through the Milky Way to Afro-Feminist Dreamscapes

Akina Mama wa Afrika
Annual Report 2022

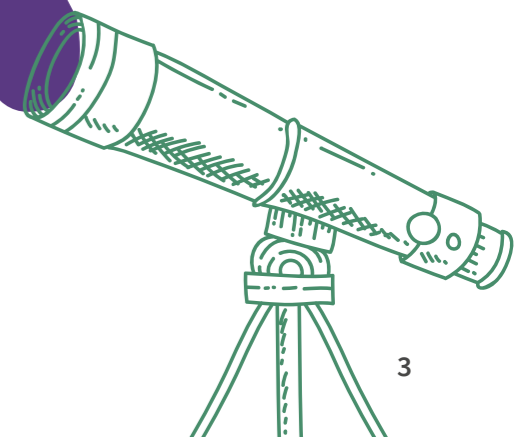


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"The doors to the world of the wild self are few but precious. If you have a deep scar, that is a door, if you have an old, old story, that is a door. If you love the sky and the water so much you almost cannot bear it, that is a door. If you yearn for a deeper life, a full life, a sane life, that is a door." -

Clarissa Pinkola Estoy, Women who run with wolves.



The sky, outer space, for humanity has always been the granary of our dreams. Even though its exploration so far has been limited to a few scientists, it has not stopped us from projecting our imaginations into it.

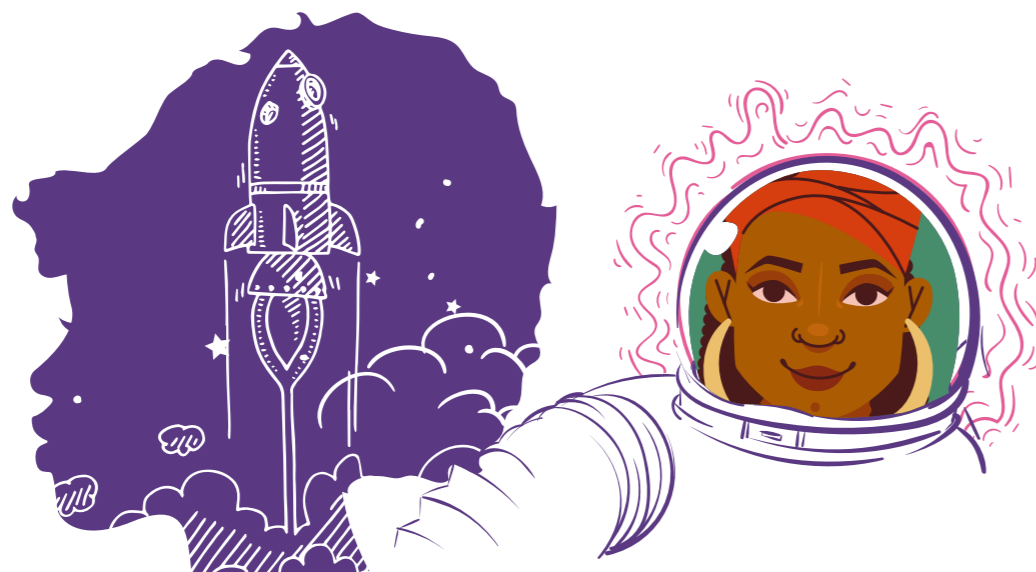
It is the throne where our higher selves roam. Beyond the clouds lie infinite dreamscapes where our most private and shared hopes are in full bloom. When we think of all that is failing around us here at home, we look to space and imagine that there is a planet or a star that provides us with the opportunity to start over and correct our course.

As revolutionaries, we too are dreamers, with our minds set on a Utopia where the maintenance of our collective joy is the governing law of those lands.

With our 5 year strategic plan in place and all the ground work in place, 2022 was the year in which our spaceships faced skyward and headed for the dreamscapes that we had held on in our imaginations for so long.

In these dreamscapes, the world is just and fair for women and girls in all their diversities. In these dreamscapes, we are liberated, we are joyful and fulfilled.

Get on board and let us take you on a ride through the Milky Way, to these Afro-Feminist Dreamscapes.



Who we are

Akina Mama wa Afrika (AMwA) is a feminist pan-African feminist leadership development organization with headquarters in Kampala, Uganda. Our work is rooted in feminist principles and beliefs guided by the Charter of Feminist Principles for African Feminists which informs all our programming and movement-building activities. We envision a dignified and equitable feminist society for African women, girls, and gender-expansive persons. AMwA provides strategic direction in key Pan-African networks including NGO CSW Africa, Solidarity for African Women's Rights, and the Gender Is My Agenda Campaign. AMwA also has consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council and Observer Status at the African Commission on Human and People's Rights.



What we do

AMwA's work relentlessly focuses on uprooting all forms of deeply entrenched patriarchal structures and systems which use power and privilege to oppress, exclude and exploit women. We do this by building women's individual and collective power to influence policy and social change. Our flagship program - the African Women's Leadership Institute (AWLI), is recognized as a pioneer in feminist leadership development on the African continent. For over 25 years it has raised a cadre of feminist leaders with enhanced political consciousness, and contributed to a strong community of feminist leaders who are championing a progressive gender justice agenda in different parts of Africa. We currently do this across 3 thematic focus areas: Women's Political Leadership, Economic Justice, and Climate Action, Sexual and Reproductive Health, and Rights.



A note from the Board Chairperson



The past year was an affirmation that our dreams are within reach, we only need to stay the course in pursuing them. This VUCA-driven (volatility, uncertainty, complexity, and ambiguity) age of disruption brings new complexities, opportunities, as well as risks for organizations like Akina Mama wa Afrika. As the world grappled with multiple challenges, we continued to seek ways in which AMwA can transform into an agile, adaptive, innovative and sustainable organization to ensure that it effectively serves her constituencies in all their diversities.

A post-pandemic era required us to embrace new definitions of leadership that are responsive to the current context. How do organizations balance business continuity while meeting the needs of the various stakeholders including employees? What kind of leadership skills are needed to successfully navigate the various challenges in a disruptive and digital driven world? We sought to answer these and more questions through the various engagements we had during the course of the year.

This year, we were disheartened to witness a surge in varieties of organized opposition or anti-gender mobilisation against the gains of the feminist movement. Populist opposition to gender justice has been couched in the language of 'imposing foreign norms'. It is a clear illustration of the risks of feminist success at national, regional and global levels. We therefore have to scale up efforts to protect

that which has been achieved before it is all eroded away and also not get stuck in the minutiae of the current moment.

Coupled with the surge in anti-gender organizing is the continued shrinking of civic space in almost 90 Countries in the world. This year, the infringement of such freedoms of association in our areas of operation has manifested as heightened threats to deregister organizations, blocking of bank accounts, restricting funding, restricting engagements, denial of fair hearing, and use of surveillance on work of human rights defenders by state and non-state actors. Such acts need to be mitigated for Women Human Rights Defenders to remain effective.

Despite the challenges, it is our unwavering focus and belief in what the world could be and who could bring about the change that has kept us going. Our dream of creating a critical mass of feminist leaders who will usher in a systemic change for a just and equal world for those who have been historically marginalized is more real each year with every effort.

My deepest gratitude, to those who walk the journey with AMwA, those who think, dream and work with us towards this vision.

In Solidarity,
Dr. Maggie Kigozi,
Board Chairperson.

A note from the Executive Director



Dear Friends

I write to reflect on the year 2022, which was a conspicuous year for Akina Mama wa Afrika at all levels. At a time when the world was confronted with the onset of a Polycrisis: from the cost of living crisis, the climate-related risks, debt crisis, security crisis, Russia-Ukrainian War; to the world reeling in regression for instance the overturning of Roe v Wade, the Taliban's ongoing repression of women and girls' access to education, we drew from existing and new reservoirs to collectively conceive new ideas, courageously execute them and care for ourselves and others too.

Through our 4 strategic approaches that includes: Feminist and Transformational Leadership Development, Feminist Research and Documentation, Policy Influencing and Movement Building, Arts and Creative Expression, AMwA's reach on the continent and the impact in the 7 countries of focused operations was notable.

We steered three (3) intersectional feminist leadership development cohorts directly impacting 11 Alumni who consequently took up seats at decision-making tables, for instance presenting a communique championing women and girls' interests to inform COP 27 that was held in Egypt or another alumni moving the motion around the East African Community Sexual and Reproductive Health Bill, 2021 that would harmonize policies on SRHR around the region at the EALA parliament or another Alumni who developed a gender policy to nurture gender responsive intra-party policy and practice to harbor an enabling environment for women to participate in all key decision-making processes within the party.

To continue building evidence for policy influence we developed 4 policy briefs and two Leaders Journals that compiled papers and articles from African women around SRHR, Economic Justice and Climate Action. Together with our Kenya partners, we developed the National Economic Recovery Manifesto for Women in Kenya, 2022-

2027. The Manifesto lays bare the intersections between politics and women's economic justice and as well as provides gendered and classed ways in which women in Kenya navigate the economy amidst multiple forms of disadvantages caused by structural, political, and systematic arrangements within which narratives are embedded and enabled.

Under our approach of policy influencing and movement building, we engaged at global, regional and national levels to push forward an intersectional feminist agenda. We participated in the African Commission on the Status of Women's sixty-sixth session in Nairobi, March 2022 organized by FEMNET under the theme "Africa CSW 66 disrupting organizing". During the conversation, CSOs drafted the Nairobi declaration that provided a framework for African solutions to climate change in the global fight for climate justice.

AMwA participated in the World Bank IMF spring meetings in Washington DC. In partnership with Wemos, Oxfam, Action Global Health Advocacy Partnership, AMwA convened a parallel event to share findings from the Africa Medical Equipment Facility (AMEF) report to contribute to conversations around increased public financing, pushing back against privatization of Health Care and ensuring health equity. We hosted two feminist forums, the Uganda Feminist Forum and the East African Feminist Forum where we drew roadmaps for working through an increasingly fundamentalist context.

This immense work spanning several countries was able to bear fruit because of the indefatigable community of our partners, alumni, implementing partners and funders. So as we celebrate the end of 2022, this is indeed a harvest for us all.

In Revolutionary Love,
Eunice Musiime,
Executive Director



1. 2022, through the Telescope

At AMwA, how we conduct our work is as important as the work itself. We acknowledge that there are many ingredients that need to come together for change to happen. Therefore in 2022, we continued to sow seeds towards gender justice through our 4 strategic approaches as shown below:



1.1 Strategic Approach 1: Feminist and Transformational Leadership Development

a) The African Women's Leadership Institute

At the heart of AMwA's work is the African Women's Leadership Institute (AWLI). It is a site of political awakening and building the muscles for critical inquiry and resistance. Still anchored on the P.OT model, AMwA conducted 3 AWLIs in 2022 that ignited feminist fires among the participants to challenge the existing systematic and structural oppression that are a hindrance to gender justice. Cognizant of the need for the AWLI to remain relevant in providing the required knowledge for feminists to dismantle patriarchy in all its manifestations, in 2022 AMwA re-modeled the AWLI curriculums to focus on the critical feminist issues under each thematic area; Women's Political Leadership, Climate Justice, and Intersectional SRHR. The unmatched experience in each AWLIs was curated by not only the enriching knowledge but also the experiences from a diverse group of participants ranging from Members of parliament from Uganda and Kenya, Senior Leadership Team members of civil society organizations, SRHR, and climate justice advocates from 6 countries namely: Uganda, Kenya, Zambia, Tunisia, Sudan, and Ethiopia. The participants reported enhanced knowledge not just on feminism but also on key critical issues like women's political leadership, climate justice and Intersectional SRHR that feminists should pay attention to challenge the rising fundamentalisms and false solutions. The inclusion of participants from Sudan and Ethiopia created opportunities to expand AMwA's reach in the two countries.



Snapshot:

- 3 AWLI curriculums developed;
- 3 AWLIs conducted;
- 75 ALWI alumni across Uganda, Kenya, Ethiopia, Zambia, Sudan, and Tunisia
- 4 Intersectional SRHR trainings across Kenya, Uganda, Zambia and Rwanda
- 100 persons trained in intersectional SRHR;
- 5 seed grants given to AWLI alumni



Messages from the space station

In the words of **Hon. Monica Amoding** - "As a leader one needs to be mentored in specific areas so as to master the game of politics better. This is predetermined by where you want to be and where you want to go. You can have more than one mentor. The body needs growth, the mind is an area where you die slowly if you don't grow it. Personal growth is a process of understanding yourself and pushing yourself through the desired actions."

b) Intersectional SRHR Feminist trainings

As an organization, we acknowledge that raising political consciousness is a journey that requires continuous nourishment for one to be fully equipped with the necessary knowledge and tools to dismantle patriarchy in all its manifestations. Hence learning from the knowledge gaps identified during the first intersectional SRHR training in Uganda, the organization rolled out intersectional SRHR

feminist trainings across the countries of Kenya, Rwanda, and Zambia. These trainings targeted all consortium partners and collaborating partners under the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs funded by the Make Way Programme in these countries. Across the board, we realized an increase in knowledge specifically on intersectionality and feminist advocacy. This is a critical step for challenging individual biases that shape how programmes are designed and delivered within organizations.

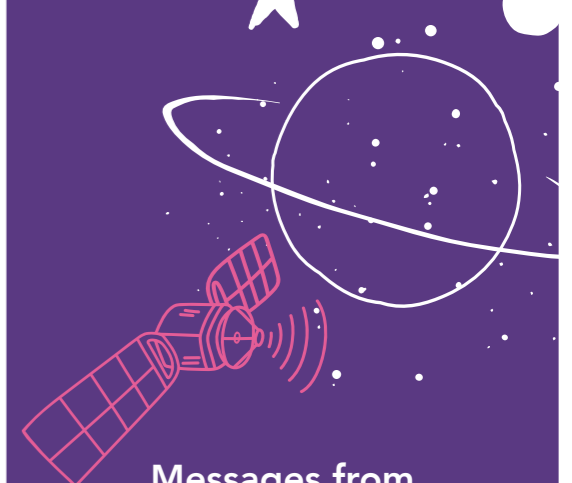
1.1.1 The change thus far



1.1.2 Alumni exercise voice and Agency

Alumni of the African Women's Leadership Institute demonstrated leadership in advancing feminist principles and approaches to climate justice. In partnership with the Gender Is My Agenda Campaign Network (GIMAC), the alumni developed a position paper which was presented during the 4th Session of the Gender Is My Agenda Campaign (GIMAC) AU-RECs Coordination meeting held in Lusaka, Zambia in July 2022. Additionally, young women leaders including AWLI alumni successfully organized an East African Regional Debate in Kampala, Uganda on contentious feminist issues pertaining to Sexual Reproductive Health Rights and Women's Political Leadership. This engagement which garnered 720,900 online impressions globally exemplified the need for collective learning and reflection spaces for budding feminists to deepen their feminist knowledge and analysis. This convening created space to glean useful insights from people's stories and experiences and to explore ways that those experiences are linked to structural power arrangements that limit African women in their diversities to exercise voice and agency.

The AWLI is intended to nudge participants into spheres of discomfort and set them on a path of questioning and alas! The alumni in Zambia set their foot out to the world. They led the delegation that convened a strategic meeting with the Members of the Parliament of Zambia to demand for gender-responsive legal and policy frameworks on climate action. Together with other climate justice actors proposed the establishment of a parliamentary caucus to steer the climate Justice Agenda within the legislature. Relatedly, three (3) alumni contributed to collating and documenting collective feminist climate justice proposals for COP27 during the Young Feminist Pre-COP27 convening held in August 2022 in Kampala, Uganda. These gains cannot go uncelebrated because the ability for alumni to articulate feminist alternatives in key policy and decision-making spaces contributes to deconstructing intersectional systems of oppression to advance gender and social justice. AMwA was deliberate to support the presence and active participation of alumni in regional spaces virtually or physically, particularly working with them to translate their increasing feminist political consciousness into demands for change at all levels.



Messages from the space station

Our Executive Director at AMwA, **Ms. Eunice Musiime**, succinctly emphasized- "We learn the most from those who are close to us. It's important to have that tribe of people who are walking the journey together and these have to be at least three people. We grow by growing others."





AMwA's partners adopt an intersectional feminist advocacy agenda

1.1.3 AMwA's partners adopt an intersectional feminist advocacy agenda

After a radical awakening on the need to examine certain aspects of oppressive relations within multiple systems of oppressions that African women in their diversities experience simultaneously in the AWLI. AMwA's partners both at the global and national levels started paying close attention

to the nuanced and complex intersections of the different systems of oppressions that exacerbate inequality both at the personal and organizational level. In Ethiopia, Make Way Collaborating Partners for the first-time conducted a values clarification to examine individual biases and thereafter developed action plans on inclusion, accessibility, and diversity to ensure integration of intersectional feminist approaches in their advocacy work. This happened during the Intersectionality and Sexual and Reproductive Health Workshop facilitated by AMwA in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. This is such a significant milestone in a context characterized by cultural rigidities and religious fundamentalisms. It also lays a firm foundation

for the implementation of the Make way Programme in Ethiopia.

Relatedly, in September 2022, Alliance Partners at the Global level within the Voices for Just Climate Action (VCA) Programme adopted feminist principles and perspectives in the development of the VCA Programme's proposals on the New Collectively Quantified Goal on Climate Finance (NCOG). The proposals emphasized the need to take into qualitative analysis, including an analysis of the macro and micro economic aspects of climate finance. This move centers the interests and needs of the most marginalized in the climate finance decision making process.

1.1.4 AWLI Alumni influence practice and policy in political parties

Challenging coloniality is key in our arsenal towards a gender responsive legal and policy framework. After participating in the AWLI, the leader of the Women's League in the Democratic party – Uganda developed a gender policy to nurture gender responsive intra-party policy and practice to harbor an enabling environment for women to participate in all key decision-making processes within the party.



AWLI in pictures



Why we exist

- To build feminist leadership and collective power
- Strengthening the African Women's Leadership
- Amplifying the voices of African women, girls, and gender expansive persons
- Strengthening AMwA's capacity

Theme:
Feminist as Practice

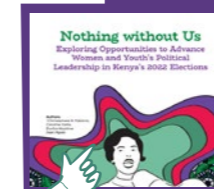
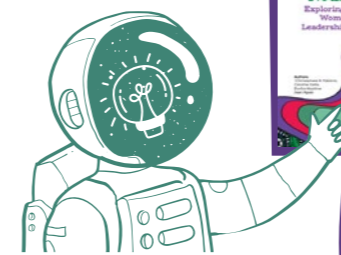


1.2 Strategic Approach 2: Feminist Research and Documentation

Throughout the year, AMwA continued to shape discourse and contributed to the existing body of knowledge and analysis on women's rights issues from an African feminist perspective and amplified the visibility of diverse African feminist voices. The knowledge products developed were deployed for policy advocacy, to inform the development of modules for the AWLI, and to shape programme design and strategies.

Some pieces targeted challenging the harmful and stereotypical depictions of African women in their diversities in mainstream media in addition to amplifying feminist alternatives towards climate justice and intersectional SRHR. Below is a catalog of the different knowledge products developed throughout the year.

1.2.1 Technical/Policy Briefs



Global South Perspectives on why the climate crisis is a feminist issue - [Here](#)

Nothing without us: Exploring opportunities to advance women and youths' political leadership in Kenya's 2022 elections - [Here](#)

Feminist Approaches to Abortion Rights in Uganda (unpublished)

Volume 2 of the Feminist Taxation Framework Guide. - [Here](#)



Messages from the space station

Joanita Najjuko, EJCA Officer at AMwA reminds us that "the absence of an intersectional lens has meant that the multitude of women's rights are advocated for in isolation and are often blind to the urgency of attaining economic justice to achieve the wide spectrum of women's rights."

1.2.2 Research reports

Intersectional Feminist Analysis of SRHR Legal and Policy Frameworks in Uganda (unpublished)

Insights and recommendations for positive media portrayal of women leadership: An analysis of personal experiences and perceptions of the public and media towards women leaders.

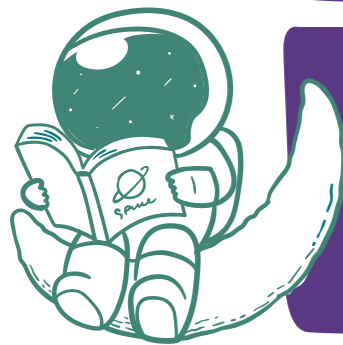
Baseline study on the current status of Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights of minoritized youth in Uganda: Case study of experiences of minoritized youth from Kampala, Gulu, Kalangala, Mukono and Terego.

Africa Medical Equipment Fund (AMEF) Research in collaboration with Wemos



1.2.3 Journals

The Leaders' Journal: A Decolonial Economic Anthology Amidst Post COVID-19 Economic Renewal in Africa - [Here](#)



1.2.4 Guides/Manuals

Intersectional Feminist Climate Action Guide - [Here](#)

Women's Political Leadership Mentorship Guide Reviewed the AWLI curriculum to address critical knowledge gaps in intersectional SRHR and climate justice.

1.2.5 Database

AWLI Alumni Directory

Directory of African eco-feminists, climate and environmental experts-[Here](#)



1.2.6 Mini documentaries/Oral herstory

Toilet Tax too? Concerns of Women in the informal Sector on Multiple Taxation in Uganda -[Here](#)

We also celebrate our contribution to different thought pieces through our partnerships and collaborations with like-minded organizations within the region. These include: <https://femnet.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Africa-Disrupt-Issue-03.pdf>

<https://femnet.org/2022/03/africa-csw-nairobi-declaration/>

<https://nation.africa/kenya/blogs-opinion/blogs/capitalism-to-blame-for-the-climate-crisis-3750454>

CSW66 African Feminists, Women's Rights and Civil Society Organizations **position statement** highlighting 16 key demands for a Gender-Transformative Agenda for Climate & Environmental Action.

A **podcast** with Hub Cymru Africa on what it means to work in solidarity with women and girls in Africa.

African Feminist position paper (Africa COP27 Taskforce) - [Here](#)

National Women's Economic Recovery Manifesto





1.3 Strategic Approach 3: Policy Influencing and Movement Building

2022 was another opportunity for AMwA to leverage key advocacy spaces to speak to the issues affecting African women in their diversities and advance feminist alternatives as possible solutions to gender and social justice. We turned our gaze to the global and regional policy-influencing spaces while maintaining the momentum built within the different countries from the previous years. Since our work is

deeply political and reliant on organizing with diverse voices to demand change, we created opportunities for greater transnational solidarity and collective strategizing through partnerships, collaborations, and sub-granting. Our aim is to ensure that the gains from these collective efforts progressively lead us to the feminist future.



1.3.0 Our engagements at a glance

1.3.1 Global level

The 2022 climate negotiations under the 27th convening of the Conference of the Parties (COP), the supreme decision-making body of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) for the first time in 6 years happened in Africa - Egypt and excitingly AMwA participated in these conversations. Together with other African feminists working within the climate ecosystem under the Feminist Africa Taskforce presented key demands to the Conference of Parties. Specifically demanding for the inclusion of women and young people in the national and UNFCCC decision making process and provision of adequate, accessible, flexible, affordable, and human rights centered climate finance as a matter of justice and equity among others. In preparation for these conversations, AMwA participated in the First Technical Experts Dialogue on the New Collective and Quantified Goal (NCQG) on Climate finance of the UNFCCC, the outcome document of this consultative process informed the development of the key demands by the Feminist Africa Taskforce during the Africa feminist COP27 convening that was held in Nairobi, June 2022.

Additionally, in October 2022, AMwA participated in the World Bank IMF spring meetings in Washington DC. In partnership with Wemos, Oxfam, Action Global Health Advocacy Partnership, AMwA convened a parallel event to share findings from the Africa Medical Equipment Facility (AMEF) report to contribute to conversations around increased public financing, pushing back against privatization of Health Care and ensuring health equity. In the same space, we held conversations with the World Bank and IMF officials and directors to push for ending austerity measures, pandemic preparedness and increasing support for public financing for health. AMwA also contributed to the development of the IMF gender strategy.

Messages from the space station

Joanita Najjuko, EJCA Officer at AMwA reminds us that
 “the absence of an intersectional lens has meant that the multitude of women’s rights are advocated for in isolation and are often blind to the urgency of attaining economic justice to achieve the wide spectrum of women’s rights.”



1.3.2 Regional level



Building on previous advocacy efforts and collective action within the Africa region, AMwA continued to advance an intersectional frame of analysis and alternatives that seek to address challenges not as a single issue but in recognition of the full spectrum of the challenges that African women in their diversities face. We participated in the African Commission on the Status of Women's sixty-sixth session in Nairobi, March 2022 organized by FEMNET under the theme "Africa CSW 66 disrupting organizing". During the conversation, CSOs drafted the Nairobi declaration which made recommendations on the need to invest in African solutions to climate change in the global fight for climate justice. We also participated in the 8th session of the African Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (ARFSD) where we hosted a side event and submitted strong recommendations on education, gender equality and women's empowerment, climate and partnerships; and the Gender Is My Agenda Campaign (GIMAC) where we re-echoed our demand for climate financing.

Under the auspices of advancing a Pan – African feminist agenda in political and decision making spaces, AMwA supported the EALA women's caucus to develop their strategic plan for the period 2022- 2026. We played a major role in enriching their thought process in gender-responsive policy making in regard to SRHR, Health Finance, Trade and Economic policies, sustainable climate justice and food sovereignty, gender-responsive governance and women's political leadership. The Strategic Plan articulates the vision and roadmap that will achieve an integrated East Africa where all women participate in decision-making processes and enjoy and fully exercise their rights with a view to achieving sustainable political and socio-economic development and programme implementation of regional integration. Our contribution was through resource and technical support and the mobilization of partners to participate in the consultative process. Additionally, AMwA was at the forefront of influencing the content and advocating for the passage of the East African Community Sexual and Reproductive Health Bill 2021 (EAC SRH Bill).



Messages from the space station

"Young feminists must know more about tax justice and economic justice in order to hold governments accountable. Women are underpaid and tend to purchase more of public goods than their counterparts, how do we ensure we have progressive taxation?" - **Shyleen Momanyi**



1.3.3 National level



In Kenya, AMwA developed the National Economic Recovery Manifesto for Women in Kenya, 2022-2027. The Manifesto lays bare the intersections between politics and women's economic justice and as well as provides gendered and classed ways in which women in Kenya navigate the economy amidst multiple forms of disadvantages caused by structural, political, and systematic arrangements within which narratives are embedded and enabled.

In Uganda, among the many feminist advocacy agenda's that AMwA advanced was

the push for increased health financing. We built consensus and secured commitments from legislators and line ministries to stop cuts to the FY 2022/2023 health budget. We leveraged the power of coalitions and collective action and jointly presented position papers and policy statements mainly focusing on strengthening the health system through increased health financing. Although the gains under this campaign are yet to be celebrated, we acknowledge the need for rigorous political conscientization on how a dysfunctional health system entrenches limitations to social justice.

"The EAC SRH Bill is progressive and inclusive bill and includes provisions on equality and non-discrimination, sexuality education, access to safe abortions, surrogacy, assistive technologies, SRH for persons with disabilities and older persons."



1.3.4 In the spotlight

The African Union adopted proposals in a position paper developed by AMwA and her alumni titled “A call to African governments to reclaim Africa’s food sovereignty to guarantee the continents and women’s food and nutrition security” during the 4th GIMAC Strategic Engagement with the African Union (AU), Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and Partners of the AU in Lusaka, Zambia.

★ The Government of Uganda fulfilled its commitment to ratify ILO C189 and ILO C190. The ratification of ILO C189 and C190 is the first step to implementation of the conventions in Uganda. The ILO C190 is the first international standard that aims to put an end to violence and harassment in the world of work, shaping and recognizing a future of work for everyone based on dignity, respect, free from violence and harassment.

★ The Netherlands Institute for Multiparty Democracy (NIMD) Uganda and AMwA developed a Joint Lobby and Advocacy Strategy to promote women and female youth participation in politics in Uganda. The Joint Lobby and Advocacy Strategy sets shared objectives and a push for

political parties and the government to develop, review and reinforce gender responsive policies that will enable women’s meaningful participation in political and decision-making processes.

★ The Uganda Rapid Response Taskforce for opposition monitoring and mitigation (RRT) successfully developed a holistic opposition mitigation action plan to effectively respond to threats and attacks related to mis and dis information around gender identity and sexual orientation and resistance to SRHR advocacy. The plan will serve as a guide for collaboration and effectively countering opposition in Uganda.

At Akina Mama wa Afrika, we see movement building as critical to building people power to clobber the organized fronts that inherently blur our vision and restrict our individual organizing capabilities.



1.3.5 Movement building – Claiming space

As the dissent of fundamentalisms gets steeper across the region, the need for organized fronts becomes undisputable. At Akina Mama wa Afrika, we see movement building as critical to building people power to clobber the organized fronts that inherently blur our vision and restrict our individual organizing capabilities. We did this through convening both the Uganda Feminist Forum and African Feminist Forum – East Africa Region and feminist sub-granting.

a) Uganda Feminist Forum

Returning after 2 years of the pandemic, the Uganda Feminist Forum was anchored on the theme: “Feminism as Practice.” The convening built momentum for the growth of a feminist movement rooted in radical intersectional politics in both theory and praxis; enhanced solidarity amongst the community of feminists in Uganda through rebuilding frayed connections and a recommitment to the values of the UFF. The gathering culminated in a collective development of a feminist vision for Uganda—one that is representative of contemporary

needs, challenges, experiences and the hopes and dreams of the different stripes of people that make up the UFF. The vision cast captured wide ranging aspirations from a world without prisons, equal distribution of income, a country where people were free to enjoy their sexualities without judgment, one where feminists were in leadership and governance, and a world where spirituality went beyond the Abrahamic faiths that many are socialized into. It was indeed a space for intergenerational learning on feminist movement building.





b) Africa Feminist Forum – East Africa Convening

In recognition of the growing religious, ethnic, and cultural fundamentalisms that capture popular and political imagination, undermining community support for gender justice and blocking progress on positive legal and policy change. Akina Mama wa Afrika in partnership with the African Women’s Development Fund (AWDF) and Ford Foundation convened the African Feminist Forum, East Africa regional gathering, under the theme “Movement Building against Fundamentalism” as part of the wider work of challenging the calcifying threat of fundamentalisms which have resulted in the rollback of rights and freedoms for minoritized groups particularly women, girls, and gender diverse persons.

The gathering was an attempt to congregate and gain a deeper understanding of fundamentalism as an existential threat to gains in gender justice and the feminist movement, strengthen relations and solidarity amongst East African feminists, and as well as collectively commune on a clear strategy to fight and mitigate all forms of fundamentalism, waging war against the forces of patriarchal domination in the region. The programme also facilitated intergenerational conversations from which participants obtained innovative ideas and techniques for feminist activism. African Feminists in their diversities from South Sudan, Uganda, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Kenya, and Rwanda developed action plans on igniting feminist fires in their respective countries and the region at large.



c) Feminist Healing Festival

The magnitude of violence against women and girls, the relentless search for justice and the work towards uprooting the patriarchal systems that enable this violence means that activists rarely get a break. With time, the proximity to trauma and immersion is painful; dehumanising experiences take a toll on the activist mind and body. Knowing that activists, too, need a space to heal and a break from this important but heavy work, Akina Mama’s offering of love for 2022’s #16DaysOfActivism, a global campaign highlighting VAWG, was a healing and restoration space for activists working on Gender-Based Violence. It was beautiful to see feminist activists deliberately indulging in joy and being intentional about self-care. The sight of feminists dancing, singing and relaxing

brought the words of Audre Lorde to life, “Caring for myself is not self-indulgence, it is self-preservation, and that is an act of political warfare.”

In order to normalise the quest for healing, we also created a guide to healing for feminist activists. The guide is a fun, colourful, story-filled document from feminist activists who do healing work. It is filled with resources and tips around self-care and healing. We hope that this Guide, titled “Healing is our Inheritance”, will continue to be a companion of activists on their journey and a reminder that healing is our ultimate goal and begins with us. Do check out the guide and gift it to a feminist activist that you know. [HEALING GUIDE FOR FEMINIST ACTIVISTS](#)

African Feminist Forum in pictures



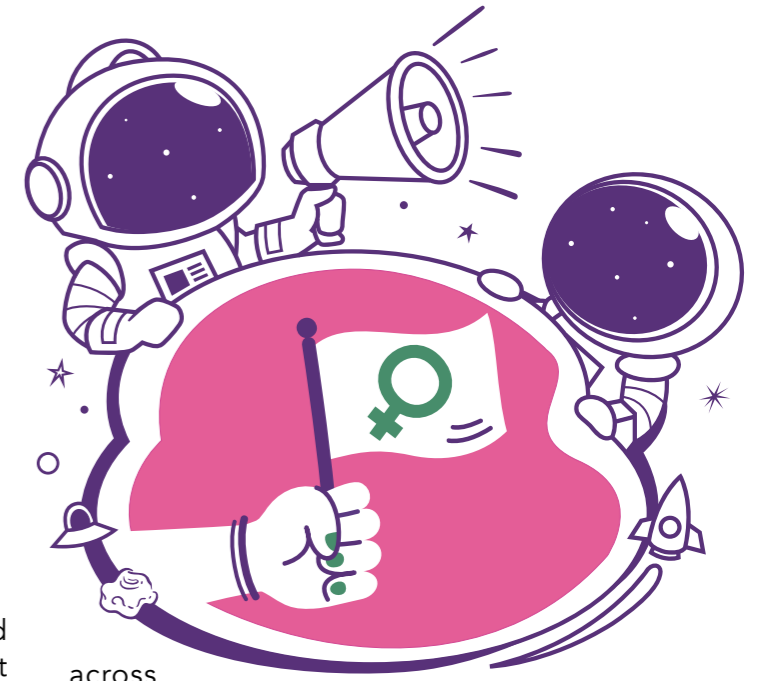
2. Sub-granting

In 2022, AMwA was intentional about watering the seeds of feminist organizing and policy influencing work across the region through feminist sub-granting. We actively supported 18 partners across the countries of Kenya, Zambia, Uganda, Rwanda, and Tunisia to amplify the voices of African women in their diversities while imploring feminist approaches to policy influencing in the realization of Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights and Climate Justice. At the end of the year, we reflected on the progress made towards their goals while celebrating each milestone attained in building stronger movements, feminist transformational leadership and both individual and collective shifts in practice and policy.



3. Partnerships

Collective engagement has been a mainstay of AMwA's strategic approaches since its inception. Partnerships are therefore critical to the achievement of our work. In this period, critical partnerships have been forged leading to new streams of resources, new ways of doing our work and also access to yet unfamiliar spaces. We can count amongst our partners the Bretton Woods Project, an NGO that works on IFIs and has presented opportunities for engagement with the IMF through facilitating capacity strengthening on understanding how the IMF/WB and other IFIs work for AMwA and partners. We can also count the Oak Foundation which has made a discretionary grant of US\$10,000 in response to our climate justice work among others. The SRHR programme is partnering with Africa No Filter on storytelling on SRHR.



Within these partnerships, AMwA's technical expertise on a number of topics but particularly feminism has been highly sought after. Throughout the year, AMwA provided technical and financial support to partners and collectives within the wider feminist movement

across Africa. In line with enhancing strategic partners and grantees' technical capacities on relevant thematic areas, a series of capacity strengthening engagements were held. Notably, in partnership with Men Engage, Sonke Gender Justice and Makerere University, we co-hosted a Feminist and Transformational Leadership Training on SRHR for religious, cultural leaders, and young feminists. Other training included a lobby and advocacy training young political and civic actors to strengthen their capacities to contribute towards the achievement of an inclusive political governance for youth and women in Uganda.



Kenya

- ★ Grassroot women engage stakeholders for the first time on climate action.
- ★ Enhanced synergy and collaboration among Climate Justice advocates and actors.
- ★ Partners proposed amendments to the County Integrated Development Plans to be gender responsive and mirror the priorities of marginalized groups.



Zambia

- ★ Feminist Climate Action groups formed in Zambia.
 - ★ AMwA partners were recognized as key players on the climate action front and co-opted to provide a gender lens during the formulation of the National Adaptation Plan – Agriculture and the national preparations for COP27.
- Increased media coverage on climate issues specifically how the climate crisis is exacerbating the gender gap.



Tunisia

- ★ AMwA partners break the chain of centralizing policy and decision making in Tunisia by establishing platforms for dialogue and ideation between local and national level authorities specifically on climate change.
- ★ A young woman activist from the most marginalized community in Tunisia participated in the drafting of the first climate law in Tunisia. This is such a significant landmark since the region of Jendouba is highly conservative and women are not allowed to actively participate in civic engagements.



Uganda Feminist Forum in pictures



4. Organisational Development



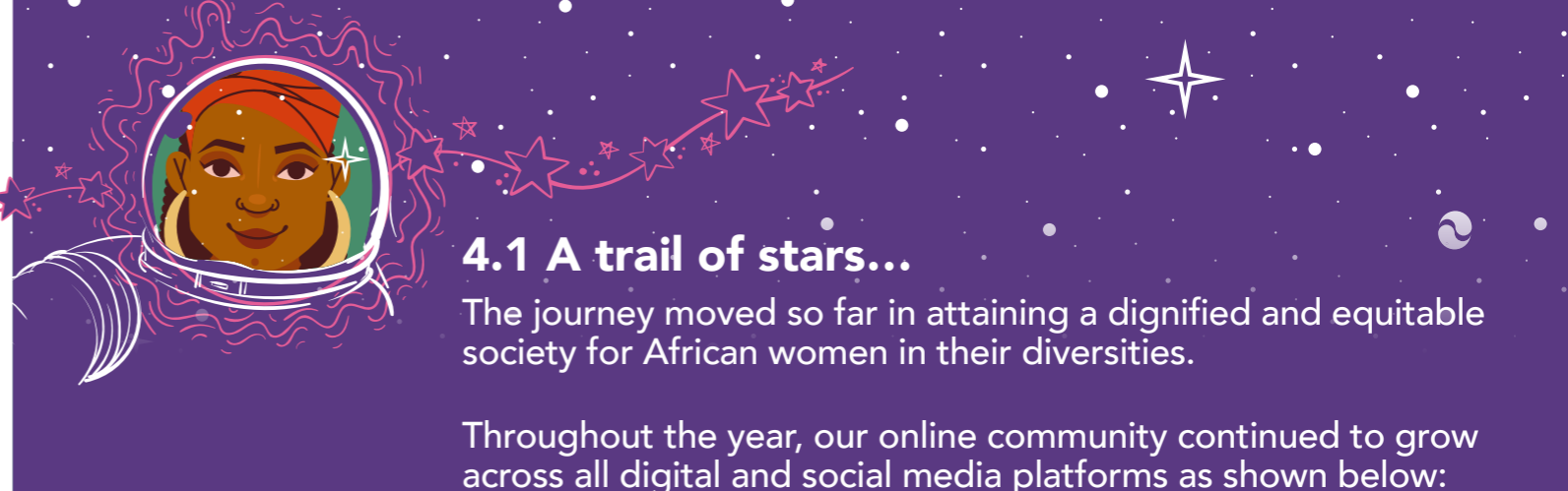
Messages from the space station

“As feminist organisations we commit to... - Exercising accountable leadership in feminist organisations taking into consideration the needs of others for self-fulfillment and professional development. This includes creating spaces for power-sharing across generations”
The Feminist Organisational Development Tool - **AWDF**



The year 2022 brought forth another opportunity for AMwA to nurture her soul. Cognisant of the fact that the mechanisms we put in place to provide support and solidarity are what sustain a movement particularly in times of adversity, AMwA developed and reviewed its organisational policies and guidelines. Among these included: Safeguarding Policy, ICT policy, Financing Strategy, and HR Manual. We acknowledge that this is a continuous process as we gain footing on what rhymes with our soul. Additionally, 2022 brought forth a new air of excellence and consistence in our branding. We refined our logo to reflect the new frontiers that AMwA is geographically reaching in Africa - East, West, South, and MENA region. Notably, the practice and spaces for monitoring, evaluation, accountability and learning were held without fail both for ourselves and for our partners.

Focused on ensuring that AMwA has a diverse and grounded team with the capacity to deliver effective and impactful work. We took a bold move to pilot the 4 day work week. This was in recognition of the multiple responsibilities that staff hold within and outside the workplace and the relentless juggling that leads to burnout. This was to also allow the team to get time to breathe a bit more, and invest time in things that bring them joy and that keep them grounded. In the same effort, we continued to develop the capacity of staff to strengthen their ability to deliver on technical interventions. All staff were collectively trained on outcome harvesting, personal growth and development and upscaling strategy and execution. This year also birthed the monthly feminist book club, a space for staff to challenge each other in collegial debate and grow together intellectually. The ambition is that this space for deep intellectual rigour will deepen staff's politics on a number of issues and also spur them to provide thought leadership through writing.



4.1 A trail of stars...

The journey moved so far in attaining a dignified and equitable society for African women in their diversities.

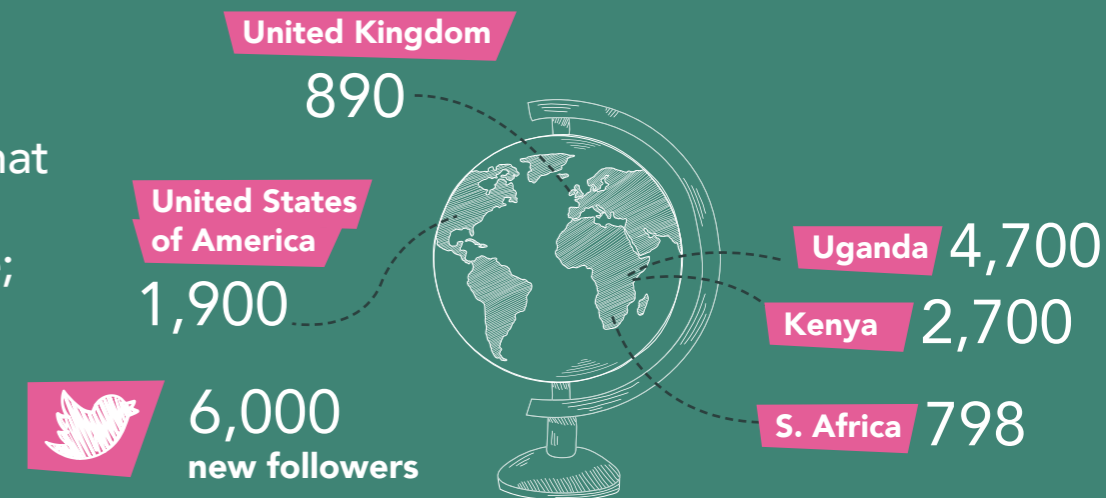
Throughout the year, our online community continued to grow across all digital and social media platforms as shown below:



Website:

1827 Users (new users - 11,000),
678 download of publications from the website
10,000 times organic Search of our organization
100 new (from 400 to 500) Mailchimp subscribers-

The top 5 countries that visited our website are;



Our footprint (Countries of operation)

In 7 African countries;
Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Zambia, Tunisia, and Sudan.

8 projects namely:

Power of Dialogue, Amplifying Voices for Just Climate Action, The Make Way Programme, Strengthening women's leadership and influence in political party processes in Uganda, A bold and progressive movement for the realization of women's rights through the Maputo Protocol, Centering an Intersectional Feminist Approach to Economic Policy Reforms, Post COVID-19, Power of Young Women's Voices, Feminist response to SRHR amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, Joint Advocacy for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights.





4.2 List of our implementing partners per country

Uganda Netherland Institute of Multiparty Democracy (NIMD) Uganda, Network of Women in Politics (NOWIP), Katelemwa Chesire Home(KCH), Volunteers Over Seas(VSO), SRHR Alliance, Freedom and Roam Uganda(FARUG), Alliance For Women Advocating for Change(AWAC)

Kenya Mzalendo Trust, KEWOPA, CRAWN Trust, SIYAMUNGANO, Lamu Women Alliance(LAWA), Women Empowerment Link(WEL), Youth Changers Kenya (YCK), Trust for Indigenous Culture and Health (TICAH).

Rwanda Impanuro Girls Initiative, Save Generations Organisation

Zambia Community Technology Development Trust (CTDT), Women Life and Wellness Fund (WLWF), Zambia Alliance for Women(ZAW), Women's Alliance for Equality (WAFE), Young Women's Alliance (YWA).

Tunisia APPELUB, Tunisia Youth Impact (TYI), Tunisia Institute for Peace and Conflict Studies(TIPCS)

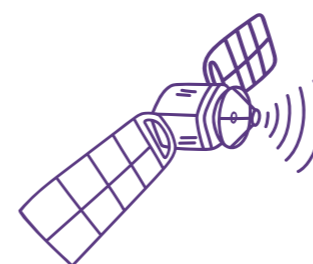
Ethiopia National Ethiopia Women Association(NEWA)



5. Hurdles and awakenings

Our season of learning continues, here are the lessons that we are taking with us.

- ★ Over the past years we have learned that it is nearly impossible to advance effective advocacy strategies alone. But notably are the people and institutions you choose to work with. As these can either make or break the work so a commonality in values is a vital denominator in all partnerships to succeed. We enter 2023 with clarity on the goal as opposed to visibility and public credit of individual institutions within partnerships.
- ★ Breaking ground in more difficult contexts, particularly politically and socially conservative ones, requires a mixed bag of social skills, technical expertise and street smarts. Key to these ingredients is courage of conviction, which provides the reason to keep going despite seemingly insurmountable challenges. Secondly, partners in a country become the gateway for entry by making introductions to the right people, creating access to new and unfamiliar areas, and above all providing the lens for decoding power and social cues, which an outsider might trip on.
- ★ This year, we ventured into feminist sub-granting and collected a bounty of lessons to share with the movement. At the center of feminist grantmaking is a delicate balance between the grantee's needs and the funding organisations larger goals. We have learnt that the most important thing is to meet the partner where they are and try as much as is reasonable to meet the needs expressed. Additionally, continuously studying the context in which the grantees operate is critical to allow for flexible and responsive funding styles.
- ★ In spite of the assurances from our community and partners on the unique experience they received throughout the AWLI, we are committed to make the experience more attractive and fulfilling. We have learned the need to re-structure our approach to meet the unwavering pursuit for feminist knowledge across a broad spectrum of issues. In addition, since the AWLI is a catalytic programme for feminist leadership, the types of people we select for the training as well as faculty are integral to its success in the moment and there after.
- ★ In the age of hybrid work and the great resignation we have learnt that we cannot take shortcuts to inculcating organizational culture, and that culture is not organically adopted but rather investments need to be made for this to happen. While we were in some regards prepared to welcome a new team, the ever-evolving nature of the workplace in the post pandemic era meant that we had to learn as we go along, in some case after serious mistakes. We are dedicated to learning from those false starts and recalibrating to ensure that we meet the needs of our team.



Messages from the space station

Over the past years we have learned that it is nearly impossible to advance effective advocacy strategies alone. But notably are the people and institutions you choose to work with.

Rethink space-decolonisation

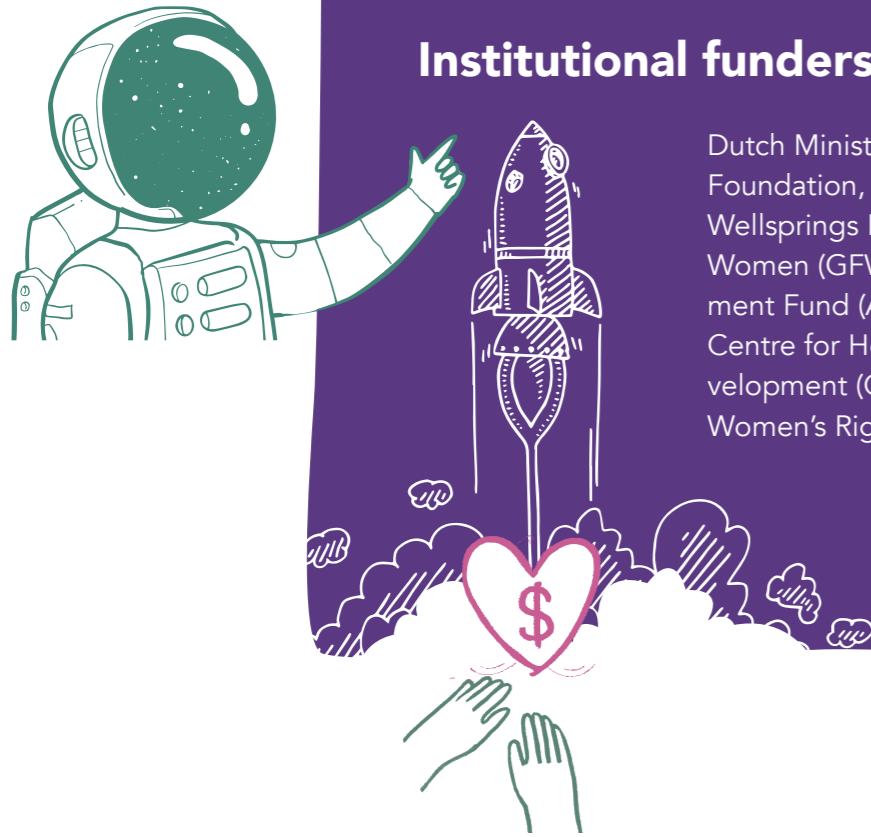


Celebrating everyday heroines



6. Friends on the road

Institutional funders



Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Hewlett Foundation, Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung (RLS), Wellsprings Foundation, Global Fund for Women (GFW), African Women's Development Fund (AWDF), Adey-Hopewell Fund, Centre for Health, Human Rights and Development (CEHURD), Solidarity for African Women's Rights (SOAWR)

7. Astronauts

Cabin Crew- Board of Directors

Dr. Maggie Kigozi -Chairperson • Claire Mathonsi-Vice Chairperson • Abisagi Namugenze Mugenyi (ACCA)-Treasurer • Alison Ngibuini -Board Member • Motsamai Mmabatho-Board Member • Rainatou Sow-Board Member • Zoneziwoh Mbondgulo-Board Member

The Space Crew - Organisational Staff

Women's Political Leadership • Chimwemwe Fabiano - WPL Lead • Patience Nganzi - WPL Associate-Transitioned in August • Jean Frank Ngobi - WPL Officer • Patience Rebecca Mutonyi - WPL Intern -Transitioned in Dec • Sharon Eryenyu- WPL Associate • Stella Nansamba- Ag WPL Officer

Economic Justice and Climate Action • Faith Lumonya - EJCA Lead • Joanita Najjuko - EJCA Officer • Tricia Abwooli - EJCA Intern • Patricia Mworozzi - EJCA Intern -Transitioned in August • Stella Agara - EJCA Lead - Transitioned in March

Sexual Reproductive and Health and Rights • Williams Olabukunola - SRHR Lead • Grace Namataka - SRHR Officer • Fionah Komusana - SRHR Associate-Transitioned in July • Gloria Mugabekazi - SRHR Associate-Transitioned in May • Kirtseen Sebabi - SRHR Intern • Daphine Arinda - SRHR Associate • Esther Wambui - SRHR Officer • Chipasha Mwansa - SRHR Project Liaison – Zambia

Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning & Communications • Sarah Nannyondo Okello-MEAL Coordinator • Bitamisi Nyakato-MEAL Officer • Martha Naluwende -MEAL intern • Ann Lindah Namuddu-Communications Associate • Oluwatobiloba Ayodele Elizabeth-Communications Co-ordinator-Transitioned in November

Finance and Administration • Wilson Sserubide-Senior Finance Officer • Barbra Kahunde-Finance Associate • Rhonah Nakirya -Finance and Administration Support • Margret Nambi- Grants Officer • Safura Kyabagye-HR & Admin Associate • Isaac Mulindwa-IT Officer • Constance Tumuramye-Admin Assistant • Annet Mutuwa- Office Caretaker • Emmanuel Byamungu-Transport Assistant

Senior Leadership Team • Eunice Musiime-Executive Director

• Leah Eryenyu-Head of Programmes-Transitioned in July
• Beth Naluboka.M -Finance Manager



Healing Festival



8. Treasures Attained - Financial statement



8.1 Statement of Income, Expenditure and Fund Balance, 2022

| | Notes | Restricted Fund | General Fund | Total Actual | Actual |
|---|-------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| | | UGX | UGX | UGX | USD |
| Receipts | | | | | |
| Grants Received | 9.13 | 9,784,952,561 | - | 9,784,952,561 | 2,691,216 |
| Other Income | 9.14 | - | 838,340,881 | 838,340,881 | 230,630 |
| Total Funds | | 9,784,952,561 | 838,340,881 | 10,623,293,442 | 2,921,846 |
| Payments | | | | | |
| Programme Costs | | | | | |
| Strengthen the African Women's Leadership Institute (AWLI) as a center of excellence on feminist and transformative leadership development | | 2,087,961,600 | 967,551,005 | 3,055,512,605 | 840,581 |
| Amplify African women's voices in critical spaces through collective advocacy, and through movement building, informed by feminist research and documentation | | 2,740,534,199 | 25,000 | 2,740,559,199 | 753,937 |
| Institutional Strengthening | | 4,743,619,533 | 77,230,548 | 4,820,850,081 | 1,326,231 |
| Total Programme Costs | | 9,572,115,332 | 1,044,806,553 | 10,616,921,885 | 2,920,749 |
| Foreign Exchange (Gain)/Loss | | (115,875,232) | 9,625,929 | (106,249,303) | (29,230) |
| Surplus/(Deficit) for the year | | 328,712,460 | (216,091,601) | 112,620,859 | 30,327 |
| Fund balance as at 01 Jan 2022 | | 2,707,031,814 | 183,911,040 | 2,890,942,854 | 806,555 |
| Fund Balance as at 31 Dec 2022 | | 3,035,744,274 | (32,180,561) | 3,003,563,713 | 836,882 |

8.2 Statement of financial position

| | 31-Dec-22 | | 31-Dec-21 | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| | UGX | Actual USD | UGX | Actual USD |
| Property, Plant and Equipment | 1,386,582,922 | 372,737 | 109,281,630 | 31,125 |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents | 6,373,394,461 | 1,713,278 | 4,197,049,261 | 1,195,400 |
| Advances and Prepayments | 37,008,993 | 9,949 | 739,660,465 | 210,669 |
| UAP Investment | 19,057,338 | 5,123 | 73,635,042 | 20,973 |
| TOTAL | 7,816,043,715 | 2,101,087 | 5,119,626,398 | 1,458,168 |
| Represented by: | | | | |
| Restricted Fund | 3,035,744,274 | 816,060 | 2,707,031,813 | 774,124 |
| General Fund | (32,180,561) | (8,651) | 183,911,040 | 49,272 |
| Capital Fund | 1,386,582,923 | 372,737 | 109,281,630 | 31,125 |
| | 4,390,146,636 | 1,180,147 | 3,000,224,483 | 854,521 |
| Current Liabilities | | | | |
| Accounts Payable | 1,924,139,231 | 517,242 | 2,119,401,915 | 603,646 |
| Due to Related Party | 40,000,000 | 10,753 | - | - |
| Deferred Income | 1,461,757,847 | 392,946 | - | - |
| | 3,425,897,078 | 920,940 | 2,119,401,915 | 603,646 |
| TOTAL | 7,816,043,714 | 2,101,087 | 5,119,626,398 | 1,458,167 |

8.3 Statement of cashflows.

| | Note | 2022 UGX | 2021 UGX |
|--|------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Cash Flows From Operating Activities | | | |
| Surplus (Deficit) for the year | | 112,620,859 | 2,461,398,326 |
| Adjustments for: | | | |
| Capital expenses | 9.3 | 1,316,526,440 | 67,065,578 |
| Write off | | - | 15,653,360 |
| Depreciation | | - | 26,927,860 |
| Operating profit before working capital changes | | 1,429,147,299 | 2,571,045,124 |
| Working Capital Changes | | | |
| Decrease in Account receivables | | 32,756,456 | 32,889,754 |
| Increase I (Decrease) in Deferred Income | | 1,461,757,925 | (374,559,713) |
| Increase (Decrease) in Related Party payables | | 40,000,000 | - |
| Increase (Decrease) in Account payables | | (191,393,167) | 2,033,918,592 |
| Net Cash used in operating activities | | 2,772,268,513 | 4,263,293,757 |
| Cash flows from investing activities: | | | |
| Investment in the Trust Fund | | 720,603,127 | (739,660,465) |
| Purchase of property and equipment | | (1,316,526,440) | (109,646,800) |
| Net cash used in investing activities | | (595,923,313) | (849,307,265) |
| Net increase in Cash & Cash equivalents | | 2,176,345,199 | 3,413,986,492 |
| Movements In Cash & Cash Equivalents | | | |
| At 1 January | | 4,197,049,260 | 783062768 |
| Net Increase in cash and cash equivalents | | 2,176,345,199 | 3,413,986,492 |
| Cash & Cash equivalents 31 December | 9.4 | 6,373,394,459 | 4,197,049,260 |

Acknowledgement

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