ECHO NETWORK AFRICA FOUNDATION (ENAF)

GESI AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT CAPABILITY STATEMENT.

2026

About Echo Network Africa Foundation.

Echo Network Africa Foundation (ENAF) is a leading African women's rights and development organization with decades of experience advancing gender equality, women's economic empowerment, and social justice. Over the years, ENAF has established itself as a trusted technical partner in designing and implementing transformative programmes that address structural gender inequalities while promoting inclusive and sustainable development.

Gender Equality and Justice is not a standalone programme within ENAF—it is a cross-cutting pillar embedded across all thematic areas, ensuring that women, girls, men, boys, persons with disabilities, and other marginalized groups benefit equitably from development interventions.

Our Technical Expertise.

ENAF provides technical leadership in Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) through evidence-based programming, capacity strengthening, policy influence, and community-led transformation. Our expertise includes:

- Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) Analysis and Assessments.
- Gender Transformative Programming.
- Women's Economic Empowerment and Financial Inclusion.
- Young Women-Centric Design (YWCD).
- Safeguarding and Child Protection.
- Prevention and Response to Gender-Based Violence (GBV).
- Women's Leadership and Governance.
- Male Engagement and Positive Masculinities.
- Gender Action Learning System (GALS).
- Social Norms and Behavior Change.
- Disability Inclusion and Intersectionality.
- Capacity Building, Mentorship and Institutional Strengthening.
- Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning and Evidence Generation.

Evidence-Based and Gender-Responsive Programming.

ENAF designs programmes based on rigorous Gender Equality and Social Inclusion analyses to identify structural barriers, unequal power relations, and the specific needs of different population groups. The findings inform the development of context-specific, evidence-driven interventions that promote equity, inclusion, and sustainable impact.

Our programming adopts an intersectional lens, recognizing that women and girls experience multiple and overlapping forms of discrimination based on factors such as age, disability, socio-economic status, geographic location, and other vulnerabilities. This approach enables us to ensure that no one is left behind while addressing the unique realities faced by different groups.

Women-Centered Programmes.

ENAF has successfully designed and implemented high-impact programmes that place the most vulnerable, especially women, Persons with disabilities, girls, and children at the Centre of development while strengthening the role of families, communities, institutions, and male champions as allies for change in achieving gender equality. Key programme areas include:

- Girl Excel Initiative – empowering adolescent girls through education, leadership development, life skills, mentorship, and protection.
- Youth in Sustainable Aquaculture (YISA) – increasing young women's participation in aquaculture value chains through technical skills, financial inclusion, entrepreneurship, and gender-transformative approaches.
- Mother and Baby Behind Bars – promoting dignity, rights, psychosocial wellbeing, and reintegration support for incarcerated mothers and their children.
- Blue Economy and Peace Initiatives – strengthening women's participation in blue economy opportunities while promoting peaceful coexistence and inclusive resource governance.
- Peace, Women's Participation and Leadership Programmes – enhancing women's leadership, decision-making, governance, and participation in public and community institutions.

Gender Transformative Approaches.

ENAF believes that achieving lasting gender equality requires transforming the social norms, attitudes, and power dynamics that limit opportunities for women and girls. We apply gender-transformative approaches that encourage dialogue, reflection, and collective action at the household and community levels. Through the Gender Action Learning System (GALS), we promote shared decision-making, equitable distribution of unpaid care and domestic work, women's economic empowerment, and healthier gender relations. We also engage men and boys as allies and champions of change, working alongside community leaders, youth, faith leaders, and local institutions to challenge harmful gender norms, promote positive masculinities, and foster inclusive communities where women and girls can thrive.

Our work is further strengthened through integrated interventions in gender-based violence prevention, protection, and women's economic empowerment. ENAF has established and strengthened Gender Desks across six counties, supported by trained Gender Focal Points who coordinate survivor-centered referral pathways to healthcare, psychosocial support, legal aid, child protection, and safe shelters. At the same time, we address the economic barriers facing women through gender-responsive financial inclusion programmes that expand access to entrepreneurship opportunities, financial literacy, savings and lending, business mentorship, market linkages, and inclusive value chains. By combining protection with economic empowerment, ENAF enables women and marginalized groups to live free from violence, build resilient livelihoods, and participate fully in their households, communities, and economies.

Why Partner with ENAF?

ENAF combines deep technical expertise with extensive field experience to deliver inclusive, evidence-based, and sustainable development programmes. Our strengths include:

- Decades of experience in gender equality and women's empowerment.
- Strong expertise in Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI).
- Proven experience designing and implementing gender-transformative programmes.
- Community-driven and evidence-informed programming.
- Expertise in institutional capacity strengthening and technical assistance.
- Strong partnerships with governments, civil society, development partners, local implementing partners and communities.
- Integrated approaches that link gender equality, safeguarding, disability inclusion, economic empowerment, governance, and protection.

Through innovative partnerships and transformative programming, ENAF continues to advance a future where women, girls, men, boys, and marginalized populations can participate equally, exercise their rights, and thrive in inclusive, resilient, and prosperous communities.



Figure 1.Partcipants presenting a song they composed during GALS training.



Figure 2. Partcipants developing their tools during a group work sessions.



Figure 3.Local Service Provider facilitating a sessions during GALS training in Kisumu.