

## **Abstract**

This survey ascertains the impact 2017 grantees of AWDF have made and the recognitions and awards they have earned in their localities, countries and the world at large. The results from the survey revealed that they are making tremendous impact and are promoting the rights of women and girls globally. It is therefore not surprising that some of them have earned several awards.





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#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

African Women's Development Fund (AWDF) is a Pan-African grant making organisation that funds local, national and regional autonomous women's rights organisations in Africa and the Middle East, that are working towards the promotion and realisation African Women's Rights. Since the beginning of its operation in 2001, AWDF has awarded grants and provided technical support to over 1,340 women's organisations in 43 out of the 54 countries in Africa and since 2017 in 2 countries in the Middle East.

As part of the methods AWDF employs to assess the impact her grantees have made and are still making in the lives of women in their various project areas and on the continent at large, an annual Grantee Recognition Survey is conducted. This forms part of AWDF's monitoring, evaluation and learning instruments. The survey seeks to identify achievements of past grantees, and highlight those whose partnership with AWDF contributed to said awards or recognitions. It also serves as a way of following up with grantees whose grants have ended.

The AWDF grantees are doing a tremendous job in line with AWDF's vision of having "A world where all African women live in peace, with dignity and justice and where there is equality and respect for women's rights".



Figure 1: ZWLA Human Rights Roll of Honor award from NANGO.

This is through their tireless efforts of fighting for social justice in their communities, contributing to the improved living conditions of beneficiaries and also increase recognition and inclusion of women's rights issues in the development agenda at various levels. These genuine efforts have earned them recognition, awards and influence in their localities / communities, countries, the continent and beyond. The survey showcases the recognition / awards of AWDF's grantees and also highlights the role AWDF played.

These awards / recognitions come in different forms and AWDF seeks to systematically track and document such recognitions / awards annually. For the 2019 Grantee Recognition Survey, questionnaires were sent through Google forms to 61 organisations in 22 countries (48 organisations in 16 Anglophone countries and 13 organisations in 6 Francophone Countries) who were awarded with grants of US\$5,000 and above in 2017. The sections below present the findings gathered from the responses received.

#### 2.0 OBJECTIVES OF THE SURVEY

The main objectives of this survey was to find out the recognition / awards received by grantee organisations and the impact they have made as a result of the work they have done and are doing. Specifically, the survey sought to:

- Identify the most significant changes (outcomes) the grantee have achieved / influenced as a result of the grants they received.
- Explore the part AWDF played that enabled the grantees to achieve such recognition / award.
- To use the findings to encourage and motivate other grantee organisations.
- To acknowledge and celebrate the grantees for their impressive achievements.

#### 3.0 SURVEY FINDINGS AND ANALYSIS

This section focuses on the presentation, analysis and discussion of findings from the responses received from the grantees. The analysis made are based on 3 main categories: Information pertaining to the organisation's background and the outcomes or changes that occurred as a result of the grant received, the awards / recognition received by the grantees and finally, the role their partnership with AWDF played in the achievement of their recognition.

Out of the 61 organisation who were sent the questionnaire, responses were received from 47 organisations representing a 77% response rate. The findings below are based on the 47 (77%) organisations who responded to the survey.

## 3.1 BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND OUTCOME OF GRANTS RECEIVED

Information pertaining to the respondent organisation's background and the outcomes or changes that occurred as a result of the grant received were analyzed under this section. General background information, status of their grants and outcomes of AWDF's funded project were asked. Summary of findings are presented in the sections below:

#### 3.1.1 RESPONDENTS DISTRIBUTION ACCORDING TO LANGUAGE

The 47 respondent organisations are located in 18 countries across the continent. This is illustrated in Figure 2 and has been categorized according to English and French speaking countries.

It can be noticed from Figure 2 that 78.7% (37 organisations) are located in 13 English speaking countries with the remaining 21.3% (10 organisations) being located in 5 French speaking countries.

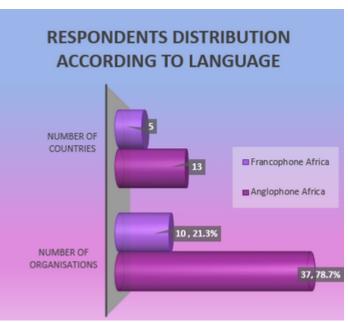


Figure 2: Grantee Distribution By Language

### 3.1.2 OUTCOME OF THE GRANTS RECEIVED

25 (representing 53.2%) out of the 47 respondents still had live grants. Organisations with live grants were asked to describe the most significant changes their organisation has achieved/influenced in the last two years. Responses given as organisations' most significant change as a result of the grants fell under the following areas:

Political Participation and Leadership: 4 Organisations trained young women in political participation and leadership. Some of these young women contested for electoral office, others were elected as Members of Parliament (MPs) and others elected as members of community development committees. Many women had regained self-esteem and confidence and are now able to take up leadership positions without fear. In Zimbabwe, Institute for Young Women Development (IYWD) trained young women on feminism and young women's political participation and as a result, at least 20 young women from the project's participants contested for electoral office in the country's 2018 July Harmonised Election. 2 were successfully elected as Members of Parliament (MPs) and 1 was elected as a ward councilor. 5 other young women were elected as members of community development committees including school and clinic development committees.

- Stronger collaboration among women's political wings: Through AWDF's grants, 3 organisations were able to bring together many women leaders from different political parties who are working together as colleagues for a common agenda to empower women to take up mainstream positions in political leadership. Through advocacy and other work plans, women's political wings are able to fight for their political rights.
- Empowerment of women living with HIV: Some women and girls living with HIV in Lagos
  Nigeria were trained and engaged as advocates to champion and lead the campaign
  against all forms of domestic violence against women and girls by Positive Action for
  Treatment Access (PATA) with the help of AWDF grants. Some of the HIV victims were also
  empowered with knowledge and skills to protect themselves against violence and know
  how to seek redress when their rights are violated.
- Influenced the passing of laws and review of by-laws: Several organisations with the help of AWDF's grants have influenced the passing of several laws with some still in the process of being implemented. Some include implementation of community bylaws with the chiefs and beneficiaries that helped to prevent violence against girls and women with disabilities, the drafting of a new civil family status law by the Jordanian Women's Union, the Land Bill 2018 in Ghana which when passed into law is expected to bring gender equity and fairness in land administration, the passing of local government (Persons with Disabilities) Employment Bill 2018 in Uganda which will provide protection, eliminate discrimination and ensure equal rights for Women and Girls with Disabilities (WGDs) on the job market among others.

## STRATEGIC INITIATIVE FOR WOMEN IN THE HORN OF AFRICA (SIHA)

SIHA, Uganda has supported 6
cooperatives to lobby and demand
from local governments and decision
makers' better policies (gender
inclusive) and approaches that has
improved the working conditions for
the urban poor woman. There is now
more confidence and more
knowledgeable urban poor women and
better coordination (collective action)
for their rights and on their issues.

#### **JORDANIAN WOMEN'S UNION (JWU)**

JWU is in the process of drafting a new civil family status law. This will be the first time in the Arab region that an organization is lobbying for a family law that is civil and not based on religion.

- Increased awareness on social and economic rights: 6 organisations championed awareness efforts and amplified voices of urban poor women on their human rights, particularly their social and economic rights. Women are now able to present their issues and demands to the local leaders. There are now more confident and more knowledgeable urban poor women who are able to demand for their social rights
- Provision of support, trainings and financial empowerment for vulnerable women:
   Some organisations like Pastoral Women's Council (PWC) in Tanzania supported women to secure their land tenure rights through stronger women's movements and public litigation. Others also empowered women in agribusiness and women participation in leadership. Widows were provided training on financial literacy and encouraged to cultivate the habit of savings and investments.
- Improved Fight against Gender Based Violence:
  Some Grantee's intervention has now enabled
  women to act like prosecutors and judges in cases
  of rights violation particularly on Gender Based
  Violence and child rights issues and boldly
  handling perpetuators in a lawful manner. Some
  traditional leaders and members of the general
  public recognise the rights of women and are also
  ensuring that women's rights are protected
  through the influence of some organisations.
- One other achievement included Girls Power Initiative's (GPI) facilitation of an adolescent friendly health clinic in Delta State Nigeria for reproductive health services.

## GENDER ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (GESD)

Through GESD's intervention in some parts of Kenya, the groups they work with have regained self-esteem and confidence and are now able to act like prosecutors and judges in cases of rights violation particularly on GBV and child rights issues. GESD has also encouraged the culture of savings and investment for economic empowerment of the widows through the training on financial literacy and table banking.

#### GROUPE D'APPUI AUX INITIATIVES FÉMININES POUR UN DÉVELOPPEMENT INTÉGRÉ ET DURABLE (GAIFEDID-ONG), BENIN

After 20 months of implementation of the project, we were able to put in place 2 platforms of sex workers who support themselves and work with local elected officials and security officers without any holdup. Also sex workers who were unable to denounce the actors of the violence of which they are often victims, have started doing so through the monitoring committees' alert and denunciation measures that have been implemented in the boroughs and communes of the project. Sex workers who didn't like to be recognized and who used to hide now appear on television to present themselves as sex workers and debate their rights, violence against them and their safety.

### 3.2 AWARDS / RECOGNITIONS RECEIVED

The main aim of this survey which was to find out about the recognition / awards received by grantee organisations is addressed in this section. It focuses on organisations that have received any form of award/recognition, the type of awards/recognition, the recipient (whether it was awarded to the organisation, staff/beneficiary or both) and when the said award/recognition was received. The responses collated revealed that 22 (representing 46.8%) out of the 47 organisations that responded had received some form of recognition / award while the remaining 25 (representing 53.2%) are yet to receive

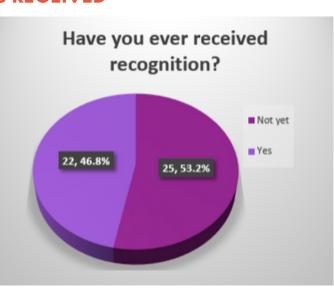


Figure 3: Whether Grantees have received recognition or not

an award or recognition. The subsequent analysis under this section are based on responses from the 22 organisations who have received some form of recognition. Percentages are therefore calculated out of the 22 organisations who have received some form of recognition/award.

### 3.2.1 TYPES OF AWARD / RECOGNITIONS RECEIVED

The various types of awards and recognitions the grantees had received were grouped into nine categories with the 10th category being "Other". This category represented other forms of recognition that do not fall into the nine categories. Majority of the organisations (81.8%) had received a certificate of recognition. 72.7% of organisations were asked to represent their communities / local authorities in events and meetings and some were also invited for meetings / events.



Figure 4: HOMEF Award to Priscilla Achakpa (WEP)

More than 50% of the organisations had the following types of recognition; given certificates of recognition, given a plaque, invited for meetings / events, asked to represent their communities in events / meetings, media recognition, and asked to make a speech. 50% also got public recognition by an influential member of the community and same invited to be member of a Board / Committee. In addition, only 27.3% of the organisations had been given resources (Money,material) as their form of recognition.

4 organisations specified other types of award / recognition they received. The following are their responses.

- Réseau Associatif pour la Psychologie Intégrale, RAPI asbl in DRC has been asked to join the CFIDH/D Excellence Award Winners Club.
- LEDUCANET Cameroon is represented at the strategic level of HIV/AIDS policies (MINSANTE/UNAIDS).
- Dr. Priscilla Achakpa from Women Environmental Programme (WEP), Nigeria has chaired several sessions and made speeches at several events at national and international level including serving as Organizing Partner for Africa on the Women Majors Group (WMJ).
- Because of their work in rural development and gender responsive governance, The Other Half Women Empowerment Initiative (OH) is becoming a strong partner/adviser in state/local governments in the South East of Nigeria, as well as an active member of the prestigious board of the South East Regional Economic Development Corporation (SEREDEC) www.southest.ng -founded to develop the former civil war ravaged South East of Nigeria.

Table 1 below breaks the various award categories down according to their frequencies and corresponding percentages. Some organisations received more than one award.

Table 1: Table showing the type of Award / Recognition received
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TYPE OF AWARD / RECOGNITION	FREQUENCY: No. of respondents	PERCENTAGE of yes responses
Given a certificate of recognition	18	81.8
Asked to represent my community / local authority in events / meetings	16	72.7
Invited for a meeting / events	16	72.7
Given a plaque	15	68.2
Media Recognition	13	59.1
Asked to make a speech	13	59.1
Public Recognition by an Influential member of the community	11	50.0
Invited to be a member of a board of committee	11	50.0
Given resources (Money, material)	6	27.3
Other	4	18.2

### 3.2.2 RECIPIENTS OF AWARD / RECOGNITION

The various types of awards / recognitions received by the grantees were either individual

(staff or beneficiary) recognitions, organizational recognitions or both (individual and organizational) recognitions. Recognitions are not only received by the organisation only, the efforts of some staff and beneficiaries are also acknowledged externally. Based on the responses received, 16 grantees (representing 72.72%) received both individual (staff or beneficiaries) and organisational recognitions, 3 grantees (representing 13.64%) responded that their recognitions were only individual



Figure 5: Classification of Award / Recognition

(staff / beneficiary) recognitions and the remaining 3 (representing 13.64%) responded that their recognitions were only organisational recognitions. This is shown in Figure 5

### 3.2.3 WHEN THE AWARD / RECOGNITION WAS RECEIVED

From the responses received,
12 organisations (54.5%) received
their recognitions after 2017, 9 (40.9%)
organisations were awarded in 2017 and
8 (36.4%) were also awarded before 2017.
Some organisations had received
recognition in more than one of the
categories. The results show that most of
the recognitions were received after the
grantees had received funding from
AWDF. This does not necessarily
conclude that AWDF's partnership
played a role in their achievement of
these recognitions and awards.



Figure 6: When the various recognitions were received

## 3.3 ROLE OF AWDF'S PARTNERSHIP IN THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE RECOGNITION

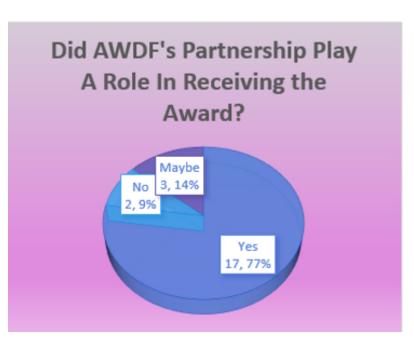
This section provides the answers to the following:

- Did your partnership with AWDF play a role in your achievement of this recognition?
- If yes, please describe what AWDF did, that enabled you to receive each recognition that you have described above.

From the responses received, 17 (representing 77%) of grantee organisations who had received some form of recognition / award acknowledged that their partnership with AWDF played a role in their achievement of these recognitions. 3 (14%) said they were not sure AWDF played a role whiles the remaining 2 organisations (representing 9%) also replied that AWDF's partnership did not play any role in their achievement of the recognition.

16 out of the 17 organisations who acknowledged that their partnership with AWDF played a role in their achievement of the recognition described what AWDF did that enabled them to receive said recognition.

Most of the organisations acknowledged that as a result of the financial support they received from AWDF to undertake their projects, they have become visible and established several links with authorities and organisations both locally and internationally. An organisation also made mention that support by AWDF strengthened their



governance structure especially their board which helped them to expand their network globally. Again, others cited that, AWDF's capacity building workshops, trainings and support equipped them with competence, confidence, knowledge and skills to do excellent work here by giving them desired visibility.

The exact responses of the various organisations are outlined in Table 2, on the next page.

Table 2: Role of AWDF's Partnership

Name of Organisation	Role that the partnership with AWDF played to enable them achieve this recognition
Community Serve Tanzania	Since December 2017, CST has been funded by AWDF and based on this funding, the organization was able to establish partnership link with local government in Ubungo District as a result the local government within the district recognized the work and contributions of CST in advancing women's human rights, hence recommended our organization to participate on the parliamentary committee.
Gender Environment And Sustainable Development (GESD)	The financial support GESD received from AWDF, to carry out the Widows rural outreach project, and offer paralegal and financial literacy training in Asembo-Memba sub location contributed to the recognition whereby GESD was invited to share in the meeting with the Chiefs, as well as the trained paralegals who were also invited.
Women Rights Action Group (WRAG)	As partners, AWDF provided WRAG to implement a project on women economic empowerment, in which we were recognized by Women Guild, Vienna
Zimbabwe Women Lawyers Association (ZWLA)	The award was specifically recognising the work that ZWLA is doing as an NGO in Zimbabwe and this work is also being supported for the period under review by AWDF. Hence AWDF played a pivotal role in enabling the award.
Girls Power Initiative	AWDF capacity building gave us the competence and skills to do excellent work that gave us the desired visibility,
Network for Women's Rights in Ghana (NETRIGHT)	Capacity Building Workshops organized by AWDF equipped Cynthia Sunu (A Programme Officer of NETRIGHT) with skills and knowledge required to participate in the GWSLP Programme
Slum Women's Initiative for Development (SWID)	AWDF funded our organization to implement a one-year project entitled promoting women's rights to land and housing in Walukuba-Masese division, Jinja District, Uganda. The impact of this project were points of reference which enabled us write a paper which was accepted for presentation during the 2017 Land and Poverty World Bank Conference. Also through the same project, we were able to mobilize and organize 10 women groups. That is why Nangobi Joyce Rosemary the Director of Slum Women's Initiative for Development was awarded a medal as the best community mobilizer and organizer.

Women Environmental Programme (WEP)	As a result of the support by AWDF in strengthening WEP's governance structure especially the board, and giving us a new strategic direction, more women were brought on board and one of them has helped to expand WEP's network at the global level as well as nomination to serve on the WECF board and making speeches at international events.
Moremi Initiative	The resources provided by AWDF to convene the Milead Fellowship as well as participate in the CEO forum to strengthen governance structures have been tremendously significant in helping the organization to effectively support fellows.
Habiba Dangana (Hadis) Foundation	Hadis established the women's group Tsintsiya with the first AWDF voice, political participation and gender accountability grant, Anguwan Alkali is a member of the Tsintsiya umbrella, which has grown from 100 to 1000 strong members as at 2018, with advocacy and fund raising skills. We are now working with Tsintsiya to support an 'our girls our future' project, where young girls supported to acquire maternal care skills are paired with traditional birth attendants. The crop of modern health givers share new skills in culturally suitable ways with the TBAs, thus saving lives while studying to earn an income giving them a career pathway.
Reach Out (REO)	The funding we got from AWDF to work with PLWHA and their rights, the Child Early Forced Marriage project in Bakassi played a key role in giving us visibility to the work we are doing with regards to Human Rights.
Réseau Associatif pour la Psychologie Intégrale, RAPI asbl	AWDF's support has been a plus for RAPI in raising awareness in communities about preventing sexual violence, referring survivors to medical facilities, strengthening the economic power of women survivors of sexual violence and denouncing of out-of-court settlements for rape cases.
Femmes et Droits <u>Humains</u>	AWDF provided funding for the National Feminist Forum initiative and supported the coaching program for young feminists in Mali.
Women's Promotion and assistance association (WOPA)	At events (march, women's training seminars) organized by WOPA on the project "Advocacy for women, groups led by HIV positive women and widows to land property and inheritance" Several widows testified before the radio and television media their joy at having benefited from this project from which they've learnt a lot; before they were ignorant but to this day they have been trained by WOPA. They have managed to follow their cases through at the courts and are already receiving their pension from the relevant social services. Some of them were able to recover their family home and land that had been taken away by their in-laws after their husband's death.
ONG ALAFIA	In the health sector, the review or eradication of harmful widowhood practices leading to HIV AIDS, has enabled us to
	mounitod practices redding to the Albo, has chabled as to

	reach many people in Togo in order to eliminate many forms of violence against women and promote their rights.
Lifeskills Education Network (LEDUCANET)	Naturally, AWDF's trust to award and renew our grant for three projects of which; one is providing IT equipment for women's ICT capacity building and two, for the promotion of female leadership has given LEDUCANET a high profile with administrative and technical authorities in the Western Region. This forms part of the reasons why LEDUCANET was invited by these authorities to participate in various ceremonies as mentioned above.

#### 4.0 SUMMARY OF FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

The findings from the survey revealed that 46.8% of the grantees who responded to the survey had received some form of recognition for the work they are doing. Majority (81.8%) of the organisations had received certificates of recognition with only a few (27.3%) given resources in the form of money or material. For most of the organisations (72.7%), their staff or beneficiaries have been invited for meetings / events and others also asked to represent their community / local authority in events / meetings.



Figure 8: RAPI asbl Certificate of Excellence

This gives a platform for the voices of women to be heard and their issues made known at both the local and national levels.

Also, some of the major outcomes the grantees achieved as a result of the grants they had received from AWDF included empowerment of women living with HIV, the passing of laws and review of by-laws, improved fight against gender based violence, provision of support, trainings and financial empowerment for vulnerable women amongst others.

In conclusion, out of the 22 organisations who had received some form of recognition, 17 (representing 77%) acknowledged that their partnership with AWDF was very vital in their achievement of the various awards and recognitions.