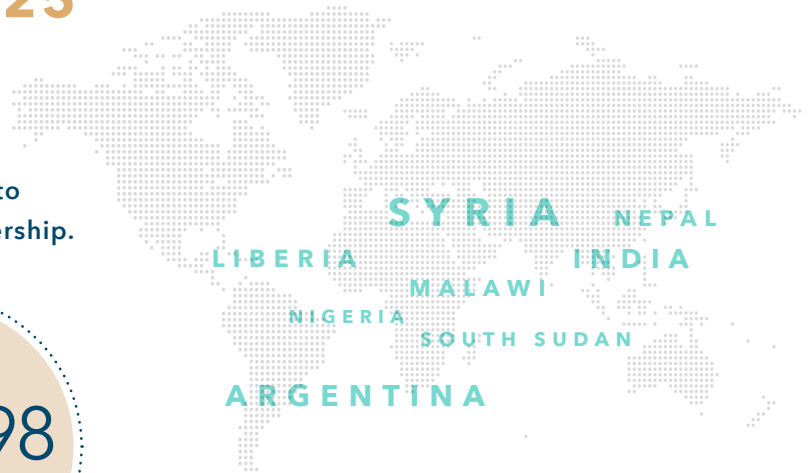


WYDE Women's Leadership Grantees' Cohort - 2025

This brief presents the cohort of grantee partners supported by the WYDE Women's Leadership programme - eight women's rights civil society organizations leading country-level interventions to advance women's political participation and leadership.



*Total amount of WYDE grants in Year 1.

Strengthening Inclusive Feminist Leadership through Collective Action and Social Norms Change

This portfolio brings together women-led civil society and youth organizations committed to expanding women's political participation by challenging the cultural attitudes and structural barriers that exclude them from leadership. Anchored in the **Generation Equality Action Coalition on Feminist Movements** and Leadership (five grantee partners are members of the Action Coalition), these projects are promoting intersectional feminist movements rooted in community, solidarity, and systemic change.

Shifting social norms to strengthen women's leadership

A core focus of this portfolio is shifting social norms pertaining to women's leadership and decision-making. Through public campaigns, media advocacy, training, and youth-led mobilization, grantees are leveraging dialogue and innovation to challenge gender stereotypes, prevent violence against women in politics, and combat disinformation.

The WYDE Women's Leadership programme supports initiatives that are redefining who can lead, how leadership must be shared and promoted, and which diverse voices can shape the political landscape. With feminist movement-building at the center, this cohort is not only promoting inclusive and intersectional leadership—but reshaping it altogether.

Transformative strategies

Grantees are advancing transformative strategies including intergenerational mentoring, coalition building, and capacity strengthening for women and girls from marginalized communities—such as women with disabilities, indigenous and LGBTQI+ women, and those affected by displacement and conflict.

By working across local, national, and regional levels, these initiatives are creating feminist platforms for policy and advocacy engagement, while reshaping perceptions of women in leadership roles.

About WYDE | Women's Leadership

WYDE | Women's Leadership, funded by the European Union, is a collaborative global effort aimed at advancing women's full and effective political participation and decision-making at all levels, especially those most often left furthest behind.

WYDE | Women's Leadership is implemented by UN Women, the International Institute for Democracy and

Electoral Assistance (International IDEA), the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), and is part of the Women and Youth Democratic Engagement initiative (WYDE), powered by the European Union, which seeks to empower and strengthen the rights, and participation in public and political life of women and youth as key actors of development and change.

AFRICA


Liberia | Organization for Women and Children

ORWOCH is promoting women's political leadership by challenging unequal power relations and strengthening feminist coalitions. Through intergenerational mentorship and male engagement, the initiative is increasing women's participation in decision-making and building organizational capacity to influence policy.


Malawi | Mbawemi WOCHRIC

Mbawemi is promoting women's political participation by building the capacities of aspiring leaders and transforming social norms. Through public and grassroots campaigns, media outreach, and a network of feminist organizations, the initiative is confronting violence against women in politics and amplifying youth engagement.

Nigeria | Women, Environment and Youth Development Initiative


WOYODEV is promoting feminist movements through leadership training, media campaigns, and civil society mobilization. The initiative is advocating for gender quotas, building inclusive networks, and supporting women with disabilities to engage in political processes and reshape social norms.


South Sudan | Bridge for Social Services

BRISS is promoting the political participation of internally displaced women by challenging discriminatory norms and strengthening women-led networks. Working in consortium, the initiative is building leadership forums and increasing inclusion of displaced and disabled women in decision-making spaces.

ASIA


India | Gender at Work (G@WI)

This initiative is promoting leadership among young Dalit and Muslim women, and LGBTIQ+ persons through mentorship, skill-building, and policy engagement. By forming informal feminist networks, it is disrupting entrenched power structures and cultivating inclusive, community-rooted leadership for long-term gender justice.


Nepal | Access Planet Organization

APO is promoting inclusive leadership by training young women with disabilities and fostering intergenerational networks. The initiative is engaging local governments, conducting community campaigns, and creating forums for political participation that center the experiences and leadership of underrepresented women.

LATIN AMERICA


Argentina | CISCESA and ANDHES

In collaboration with ANDHES, CISCESA is promoting inclusive feminist movements by training young, LBTIQ+, and Indigenous women in political leadership. The initiative is strengthening intersectional advocacy, collecting and sharing knowledge and building momentum for public policies that reflect diverse women's rights and participation.

ARAB STATES


Syria | DAR for Peace and Prosperity

DAR is promoting women's political participation in Syria by challenging stigma and reshaping social norms. Through journalist networks, disability inclusion, and grassroots mobilization, the initiative is empowering women to lead in their communities and fostering a broader shift toward gender-equitable leadership.



Funded by
the European Union



www.unwomen.org



ARGENTINA*

Feminist movements and networks for an inclusive, intersectional and intergenerational political leadership

DURATION: 02/2025 – 08/2026

Despite significant resistance, women and gender-diverse individuals are gaining political ground, contributing to democracy and global development. Although they constitute about 50% of the population, political party membership, and grassroots organizations, parity in decision-making remains elusive, particularly in Argentina, where political polarization and gender-based violence exacerbate these challenges for institutions and communities alike.

In this context, SOMOS EN RED works to build new narratives and strategies to defend hard-won rights and strengthen democratic participation. Strengthening the leadership of women in all their diversity—especially young women from grassroots, Indigenous, peasant, and migrant communities—is essential. By placing the voices, experiences, and struggles of women and gender-diverse people at the center of feminist political activism, the project will foster territorial, inclusive, and intersectional advocacy with a gender perspective.

This project aims to strengthen the political participation and decision-making power of women and gender-diverse territorial leaders in Argentina (Córdoba, Tucumán, Jujuy), using a human rights-based, intersectional feminist approach. It seeks to foster inclusive, intercultural, and intergenerational feminist movements through participatory education and feminist pedagogies, as well as strategic partnerships. Key strategies to implement this project are:



Strengthening voices and networks, of local women and diverse leaders by linking them with regional feminist movements, building a shared agenda and fostering collective advocacy.



Promoting knowledge sharing, with key stakeholders—local governments, media, and their networks—to enhance institutional support for inclusive political participation.



Raising awareness and shift gender norms through campaigns co-designed with women and diverse leaders to challenge narratives.

*Provinces of Córdoba, Tucumán and Jujuy.

KEY TARGETS INCLUDE

250

at local, subregional and regional levels trained with conceptual tools on political participation with an intersectional perspective

WOMEN, GENDER-DIVERSE INDIVIDUALS & LEADERS

3

allowing for local and cross-regional dialogues

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE SPACES

6,000

reached by the advocacy initiatives rolled out through local feminist media outlets

PERSONS

80%

in all the project's activities feel empowered in their voices and networks

OF PARTICIPANTS

PARTNERSHIPS



Latin American Women and Habitat Network (RMyH AL)

Universities, Local Governments and Municipalities, Observatory of Public Policies

KEY ACTIVITIES

- ▶ Conduct participatory diagnostics in Córdoba, Tucumán, and Jujuy to identify barriers affecting the political participation of women and gender-diverse leaders with a focus on political violence.
- ▶ Design and implement a political training programme for women and LGBTIQ+ leaders, especially young women, from diverse backgrounds to strengthen their advocacy capacities.
- ▶ Develop a Feminist Common Agenda on Inclusive Political Participation through intergenerational, intersectional exchanges among local and regional leaders.
- ▶ Host political dialogue sessions with local governments, media, and networks to present and promote the Feminist Agenda.
- ▶ Create, launch and disseminate a participatory awareness campaign involving trained leaders and feminist media groups, with the support of local media, governments, and feminist networks.



Funded by
the European Union



www.unwomen.org



ciscsa@ciscsa.org.ar



proyectos@andhes.org.ar

INDIA*

Rising together: strengthening feminist leadership of young women and gender-diverse persons from Dalit and Muslim communities

DURATION: 03/2025 – 02/2027

In India, young Dalit and Muslim women and gender-diverse people face systemic discrimination, exclusion, and underrepresentation in political and civic life, despite constitutional protections.

This exclusion exists amidst an increasing restrictions on community engagement, reflecting the broader global trend of shrinking civic space and diminished civil liberties. While women and gender-diverse people from both Dalit as well as Muslim communities have been organizing, their voices remain sidelined. These young leaders often challenge both societal norms and state structures, yet are rarely seen as agents of change. Structural barriers continue to hinder their leadership. Supporting a new generation of young Dalit and Muslim women leaders is crucial for inclusive, representative policymaking.

This project aims to build a 'learning and solidarity platform' of young women and gender-diverse leaders from Dalit and Muslim communities, grounded in co-leadership and collective power, to serve as catalysts for gender equality in policy and public life. It centers intersectional feminist strategies to amplify voices and leadership. Key strategies to implement this project are:



Strengthening political consciousness and leadership skills through feminist popular education, mentorship, and intergenerational exchange.



Building the organizational resilience of grassroots collectives led by young women to enable sustained advocacy and collective action.



Fostering cross-community solidarity and connecting local efforts to national and global feminist movements, enabling participants to influence policy and challenge systems of gender, caste, and religious oppression.



KEY TARGETS INCLUDE

150

from Dalit and Muslim communities with strengthened capacities to lead

YOUNG WOMEN AND GENDER-DIVERSE LEADERS

100

actively advocate or promote intersectional gender equality within policymaking spaces

YOUNG WOMEN AND GENDER-DIVERSE LEADERS

300

provided to young women and gender-diverse leaders from Dalit and Muslim communities to deepen community leadership and strengthen advocacy skills

HOURS OF MENTORING

10

conducted through the Community of Learning on Feminist Leadership, Policy and Governance

LEARNING SESSIONS

PARTNERSHIPS



All India Dalit Mahila Adhikar Manch (AIDMAM), a recognized grassroots movement aligned with UN Women GEWE goals.

KEY ACTIVITIES

- ▶ Conduct capacity development workshops centering gender justice and feminist approaches to policy making, to deepen community-led leadership, foster advocacy campaigns and movement building, hone organizing skills, and enable inter-generational and inter-state learning among leadership cohort members.
- ▶ Facilitate structured dialogues between young women leaders and seasoned feminist activists to foster solidarity, knowledge exchange, and collaborative leadership across caste, religion, and regions.
- ▶ Build an informal national network and online learning community for peer support, storytelling, knowledge sharing, and collective strategizing among young Dalit and Muslim women leaders.
- ▶ Develop a unified, intersectional national advocacy agenda for feminist policy-making, addressing key issues that emerge from consultations, workshops and webinars with young Dalit and Muslim leaders. These could include gender-based violence in the home and in the workplace, exclusion from the workforce and from policy-making, and political representation of women and gender-diverse persons from Dalit and Muslim communities.



Funded by
the European Union



www.unwomen.org



www.genderatworkindia.org

LIBERIA*

Challenging unequal power relations for inclusive participation of women in decision-making

DURATION: 02/2025 – 02/2026

Women leaders, especially young women, in Liberia face significant barriers to political participation and leadership. Despite regional and international commitments, women remain underrepresented at all levels of government. For instance, women made up just **15% of candidates** and **11% of elected legislators** in the 2023 elections. Deep-rooted social norms, forced and early marriage, limited education for girls, and a lack of infrastructure exacerbate gender disparities. Strong patriarchal systems continue to silence women and perpetuate violence and discrimination. Social norms surrounding women's political participation and leadership severely limit women's ability to be outspoken and assume leadership roles. Further, the slow implementation of gender transformative policies further hinder progress. Addressing these structural and cultural barriers is essential for achieving gender equality in Liberia's governance and public life.

This project aims to transform unequal gender power dynamics by promoting women's political participation and leadership. By tackling social norms and enhancing capacity at both county and community levels, the project strives to ensure that women and girls can lead and actively participate in Liberia's governance and public affairs. Key strategies to implement this project are:



Raising awareness of men and boys, among others, about social norms that limit women's rights and engagement, especially in decision-making processes.



Mobilizing stakeholders, including CSOs, men, boys, and communities, to foster inclusive environments.



Mobilizing young women through:

- ▶ leadership training,
- ▶ increased knowledge of international normative and national legal frameworks,
- ▶ building capacity for economic empowerment towards transformational leadership,
- ▶ providing mentorship opportunities for intergenerational support and advocacy.



ORWOCH raising awareness on women's political participation through the "Truth" radio talk-show, in Montserrado County.

Photo: ORWOCH/Marthaline Boimah

*Counties of Gran Kru, Maryland, Montserrado and Sinoe

KEY TARGETS INCLUDE

65

WOMEN

with increased confidence and capacity to participate in decision-making through leadership trainings

6

CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS & WOMEN GROUPS

trained in feminist mobilization and international legal policy frameworks in order to campaign for increased participation

40

MALE INFLUENCERS

who challenge negative masculinity through engaging in community dialogues and media campaigns

10

AWARENESS RAISING INITIATIVES

led by women's groups and organizations addressing social norms and promoting women's participation in decision-making

PARTNERSHIPS



Network of Peace and Security Women in ECOWAS countries

Feminist Humanitarian Network

KEY ACTIVITIES

- ▶ Train and mentor young women leaders, as well as civil society groups to advocate for women's rights and political participation.
- ▶ Mobilize communities and facilitate intergenerational exchanges through townhalls, dialogues, and grassroots engagement to shift social norms around women's leadership..
- ▶ Launch awareness campaigns and broadcast through media public messages promoting gender equality and challenging social norms.
- ▶ Engage men and boys, including male influencers through education, media, and research to challenge negative masculinity and promote women's leadership.



Funded by
the European Union



www.unwomen.org



orwochliberia@gmail.com

MALAWI*

Strengthening feminist voices by supporting women's participation in political decision-making and leadership positions

DURATION: 02/2025 – 01/2027

Malawi is a predominantly rural country where over 80% of the population depends on smallholder agriculture, with women and girls playing an important role in the labor force. Yet women remain vastly underrepresented in politics, holding just 23.3% of parliamentary and 14.6% of local council seats. In the northern region, numbers are even lower. Deep-rooted patriarchy, limited party support, and systemic gender bias continue to block women's access to leadership. This limits progress on key issues, including the fight against gender-based violence (GBV). Through this project, MBAWEMI WOCHRICE aims to increase women and girls' participation in the 2025 elections and beyond, advancing gender equality, influencing policy change, and ensuring women's rights are prioritized at all levels of decision-making.

This project aims to increase the meaningful participation of women and girls in political processes and decision-making ahead of Malawi's 2025 elections. Key strategies to implement this project are:



Building capacities of women, including young women, political party gatekeepers such as committee chairs or party secretaries, traditional leaders, and local structures to strengthen leadership skills, gender awareness, and political engagement.



Supporting women aspirants to advocate, lobby and engage political parties and duty bearers in demanding policy reforms and greater representation, using a rights-based approach to amplify accountability and justice.

*Districts of Mzuzu, Nkhata-Bay and Mzimba.

KEY TARGETS INCLUDE

150

with strengthened capacities to develop issue-based campaign manifestos and run for elections

**WOMEN
POLITICAL
ASPIRANTS**

198

are engaged and deliberately support women, youth and persons with disabilities to reach leadership positions

**CHAIRPERSONS,
POLITICAL PARTY
SECRETARIES OR
PARTY INFLUENCERS**

200

trained to implement community level HeforShe action plans

**MALE
CHAMPIONS**

10

with strengthened capacities to engage and advocate for women's political participation

**WOMEN'S
RIGHTS
ORGANIZATIONS**

PARTNERSHIPS



Mzuzu Youth Association (MYA)

KEY ACTIVITIES

- ▶ Train aspiring women leaders in public speaking, self-esteem, and manifesto development to enhance their readiness for councilor, MP, and presidential races in 2025.
- ▶ Host role modeling sessions and public debates to build confidence and visibility of women candidates, with participation from prominent women leaders.
- ▶ Engage political party gatekeepers and leaders through lobbying meetings and panel discussions to increase the number of women and youth candidates in primaries and elections.
- ▶ Mobilize voter support through public debates, market-day campaigns, and radio jingles promoting gender equality and women's leadership.
- ▶ Combat GBV and harmful norms via community dialogues, media campaigns, and roadshows focused on preventing violence against women in politics and public life.



Funded by
the European Union



www.unwomen.org



wochricembawemi@gmail.com

NEPAL*

Empowering Marginalized Women Through Political Participation and Leadership Development in Nepal's Diverse Provinces

DURATION: 02/2025 – 02/2027

Women in Nepal, particularly those with disabilities, from lower socio-economic backgrounds, and other marginalized communities, face systemic barriers to political participation and leadership. These include entrenched gender stereotypes, limited access to education, and minimal structural support. Social norms often confine women to domestic roles, while in some instances discouraging women from pursuing leadership positions. Women with disabilities face compounded discrimination and intersectional marginalization, restricting diverse voices in governance and undermining inclusive development. Structural inequalities are intensified by stigma, safety concerns, and limited mobility—especially in rural and underserved areas—leaving many women without pathways to participation. Addressing these barriers requires a deliberate, intersectional approach that builds women's leadership capacity, transforms social attitudes, and creates enabling environments for long-term political engagement and change.

This project aims to address systemic barriers to women's political participation in Nepal, particularly among marginalized groups such as women with disabilities, low-income women, and those from socially excluded communities. It builds inclusive leadership ecosystems and promotes structural transformation at community level. Key strategies to implement this project are:



Empowering marginalized women across three provinces through leadership training and mentorship.



Shifting social norms by engaging men, youth, and traditional leaders in sustained community dialogues.



Establishing intergenerational support networks and regional fora to amplify women's voices in governance.



Increasing visibility of women's leadership through media campaigns and storytelling.

*Provinces of Bagmati, Madesh and Sudurpashchim.

KEY TARGETS INCLUDE

90

trained in political, governance, advocacy and decision-making skills

WOMEN

45

mentored by established community leaders

YOUNG ACTION AMBASSADORS

6

with local governments engaging men, boys and community members as advocates for women's leadership

COMMUNITY DIALOGUES

90

paired and engaged in intergenerational mentorship sessions

WOMEN LEADERS AND YOUNG WOMEN



KEY ACTIVITIES

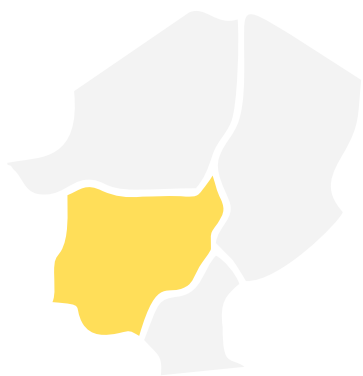
- ▶ Train aspiring women leaders in public speaking, self-esteem, and manifesto development to enhance their readiness for councilor, MP, and presidential races in 2025.
- ▶ Host role modeling sessions and public debates to build confidence and visibility of women candidates, with participation from prominent women leaders.
- ▶ Engage political party gatekeepers and leaders through lobbying meetings and panel discussions to increase the number of women and youth candidates in primaries and elections.
- ▶ Mobilize voter support through public debates, market-day campaigns, and radio jingles promoting gender equality and women's leadership.
- ▶ Combat GBV and harmful norms via community dialogues, media campaigns, and roadshows focused on preventing violence against women in politics and public life.



www.unwomen.org



<mailto:accessplanet@gmail.com>


NIGERIA*
From margins to mainstream: Empowering societies for increased women's political participation in Nigeria
DURATION: 02/2025 – 03/2027

Despite making up over half of Nigeria's voters in the 2023 general elections, women remain underrepresented in political offices especially in parliament—ranking 179 out of 185 countries globally.¹ No state in Nigeria has achieved the 35% affirmative action target for women's political participation. Deep-rooted barriers such as patriarchal social norms, gender-based violence, limited access to financing, and lack of implementation of special measures restrict women's inclusion. Gender-based violence against women in politics continues to be widespread, with intimidation, harassment, and bullying. Additionally, the absence of strong national women-led political movements limits coordinated action. Urgent efforts are needed to ensure equal, safe, and meaningful participation of women in political life.



Photo: WOYODEV/Nigeria

This project aims to accelerate a socio-cultural shift from restrictive gender norms that limit women's political participation toward inclusive, democratic values that empower women to lead. It will adopt a Comprehensive Advocacy Methodology to challenge systemic barriers and shift public attitudes, enabling increased engagement by women in politics and governance. Key strategies to implement this project are:



Raising awareness and challenging social norms pertaining to women's leadership and addressing gender-based violence against women in politics.



Building strong feminist coalitions and women-led civic movements.



Strengthening community and policy-level partnerships for sustained advocacy.



Promoting media counternarratives and digital campaigns to inspire change.



Engaging lawmakers to support and finance reforms in favor of women's political participation.

*States of Enugu, Kwara and Lagos.

KEY TARGETS INCLUDE

45

trained to lead coalitions and mobilization for women's active participation in next general elections in Nigeria

CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS

120

strengthened their knowledge and financial abilities to campaign and run for the general elections

WOMEN POLITICAL ASPIRANTS

10

engaged in a two-week advocacy campaign on women's political leadership

RELIGIOUS BODIES AND CONGREGATIONS

12

through jingles and announcements promoting women's political participation

MONTHS OF RADIO CAMPAIGN



KEY ACTIVITIES

- ▶ Organize workshops and mobilize influential women leaders to form feminist coalitions in each state; to organize mentorship activities, advocacy campaigns and rallies.
- ▶ Engage male allies and religious leaders to promote women's participation through trainings and convenings.
- ▶ Support women with disabilities through targeted outreach and political rights education.
- ▶ Advocate for gender quotas and spending caps by engaging policymakers and media.
- ▶ Launch media campaigns, including radio shows and social media content, to shift public attitudes and social norms.
- ▶ Deploy social media influencers to increase public pressure for inclusive policies.



Funded by
the European Union

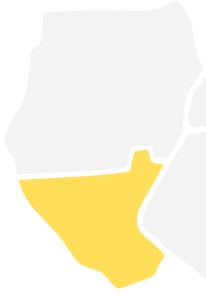


www.unwomen.org



www.woyodev.org

SOUTH SUDAN*



From displacement to decision-making: Empowering internally displaced South Sudanese women to effectively participate and lead in political processes

DURATION: 02/2025 – 02/2027

Despite making up 65% of the Internally Displaced People (IDP) population, women's representation in camp leadership remains disproportionately low, with 14% of women in Juba's zonal committees and 17% in Wau IDP site management. Traditional male-dominated governance systems reinforce restrictive social norms, often excluding women from leadership. Meetings held at inappropriate times and locations further combined with social stigma, family resistance, and gender-based violence discourage participation. Displacement, trauma, economic hardship, low literacy, and mobility issues, make political engagement even harder. Additionally, weak links between camp and local governance structures limit IDP women's influence in broader political processes. These overlapping challenges highlight the urgent need for inclusive policies and targeted support to empower displaced women as political actors.

This project aims to challenge cultural barriers, promote inclusive leadership, and ensure displaced women play a central role in shaping decisions that affect their lives. The project will strengthen the visibility, voice, and agency of IDP women within governance structures. Key strategies to implement this project are:



Transforming social norms towards IDP women's political leadership in Juba and Wau counties, creating an enabling environment for their participation in decision-making.



Establishing feminist networks and movements of IDP women leaders to effectively advocate for women's political participation and build linkages with broader women's movements.



Building coalitions with IDP women leaders who actively engage in political processes and demonstrate increased influence at both camp and local government levels.

*Counties of Juba and Wau.

KEY TARGETS INCLUDE

500

with increased understanding of women's political leadership through public discourse events

COMMUNITY MEMBERS

700

reached by or participated in advocacy and campaign activities to support women's political participation and challenge social norms

STAKEHOLDERS

200

trained to implement community level HeforShe action plans

MALE CHAMPIONS

10

with strengthened capacities to engage and advocate for women's political participation

WOMEN'S RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS

PARTNERSHIPS



Consortium with Women Peace Force (WPF)

Hope Africa South Sudan (HASS)

KEY ACTIVITIES

- ▶ Host weekly community dialogues, prioritizing the inclusion of women-headed households, women with disabilities, elderly women and young mothers; using participatory methods such as storytelling, role-play, and community theater.
- ▶ Organize bi-weekly dialogues with traditional leaders and church-based groups to reinforce cultural acceptance and community support for women's leadership.
- ▶ Launch Leadership Academies to build the political and civic capacities of emerging IDP women leaders.
- ▶ Roll out the "Champions Program" engaging male allies including religious leaders and cattle camp leaders to advocate for gender equality and women's leadership.
- ▶ Train site committees and camp management to strengthen institutional support for women's participation in governance.



Funded by
the European Union



www.unwomen.org



briss.org@gmail.com

SYRIA*

Empowering Women in Political Leadership: Social Norms Change, Reducing Stigma, and Fostering Sustainable Political Participation in Afrin and Qamishli in Northeast Syria

DURATION: 02/2025 – 02/2026

The current context in Syria has severely marginalized women in political and peacebuilding processes. Across the country, women face barriers such as exclusion from decision-making, limited access to resources, and deeply rooted patriarchal norms. While the Northeast region shows some representation by women, it often lacks substance. In the South, emerging women's movements struggle due to weak structures, and in Central Syria, worsening economic conditions further restrict women's roles. With the recent political changes in Syria, this project represents an important opportunity to strive for more women in leadership, shifting CSO: civil society organizations toward gender-responsive strategies and providing women with the tools, training, and support needed for lasting and meaningful political participation.



A participant from Afrin takes part in a training session of the "Watad" project, empowering women to challenge the social stigma surrounding their participation in public life.

Photo: DAR for Peace and Prosperity.

This project aims to enhance women's participation in political and community leadership in Afrin and Qamishli by empowering female activists, reducing stigma around women's leadership, and fostering inclusive social change. Key strategies to implement this project are:



Empowering women activists through tailored leadership and advocacy training.



Mobilizing community support by raising awareness to reduce stigma around women's political roles.



Strengthening local networks (e.g., Syrian Women Journalists Network, Agora, Early Warning Network) to sustain change.



Promoting inclusive dialogue by engaging diverse ethnic, religious, and social groups.



Building local and international partnerships to reinforce community-based solutions and ensure lasting impact.

*Focus on the cities of Afrin and Qamishli.

KEY TARGETS INCLUDE

60

from Afrin and Qamishli empowered with peacebuilding and political skills

**WOMEN
ACTIVISTS**

15

to increase community awareness on women's political leadership

**COMMUNITY-LED
INITIATIVES**

2

established in each city bringing activists to quarterly exchanges of experiences, best practices and knowledge

**COMMUNITY OF
PRACTICE (COP)
PLATFORMS**

10 –
15%

related to women's political leadership and on gender-based violence, within communities of Afrin and Qamishli (1800 surveys administered)

**REDUCED
STIGMA**

PARTNERSHIPS



Agora Network

Early Warning Network

Swiss Peace

Syrian Women Journalists Network

Synergy for Justice

KEY ACTIVITIES

- ▶ Deliver interactive online training workshops with Swiss Peace on peacebuilding, governance, leadership, and advocacy skills for 60 women activists.
- ▶ Organize quarterly hybrid Community of Practice meetings in Afrin and Qamishli to facilitate experience sharing among activists from partner networks.
- ▶ Coordinate with Synergy for Justice for expert consultation on gender-based violence stigma assessment.
- ▶ Implement community events by network teams, including media productions, debates, theater, and dialogues to raise awareness and foster women's leadership.
- ▶ Provide ongoing mentoring and support for teams implementing community initiatives.
- ▶ Produce a comprehensive report on women's political leadership in Afrin and Qamishli, summarizing project outcomes and guiding future efforts.



Funded by
the European Union



www.unwomen.org



DAR For Peace and prosperity
دار للسلام والازدهار

info@dar.ngo