Advancing Women Leadership and Entrepreneurship

1. ActionAid’s initiated and supported Women Movements such as Sauti ya Wanawake in Coast and Pambazuko la Wanawake in Western Region. They have been in the forefront in fighting Violence Against Women and Girls, Female Genital Mutilation, early marriages, and land and property rights violations against women.

2. Through these solidarity movements, women have successfully lobbied for inclusion in local decision-making structures and processes occupying key elective and nominated positions at the National Assembly and Local Government.

3. ActionAid’s initiated Girls Forums have instilled life skills, built girls’ confidence and enabled them to complete

4. In Tharaka, ActionAid supported Tharaka Women’s Group to start an irrigation project in Tharaka in 1982. The women-led project has inspired many women to take on leadership positions at local and national level.

5. In 2010, ActionAid completed four Violence response and resource centers in Kieni, Narok and Budalangi Local Rights Programme. (LRP) Through the centers, cases of rights violation are increasingly being reported and acted upon.

6. In Taita Taveta, ActionAid collaborated with the district hospital, police and Children’s Department to set up a public Gender Based Violence Recovery Center (GBVRC), support was given to 660 cases of GBV.

7. ActionAid’s girls’ focused projects such safe toilets and classrooms ensure that sponsored children also benefit from ActionAid’s interventions.

8. ActionAid Worked with over 50 community based groups and networks of People Living With HIV and AIDS (PLWHA’s) to champion the rights of PLWHA’s and bring about change in the stigma of people living with HIV.

9. In 2010, ActionAid facilitated over 400 women to access trainings in business management in order to improve their livelihoods.

10. In 2009, ActionAid facilitated distribution of sanitary towels to about 4,000 girls from poor families and initiated talks on personal hygiene and cleanliness.

11. ActionAid implemented school feeding programmes in areas hard hit by famine. This boosted enrolment and increased retention from 42% in 2007 to 85% in 2008.

12. ActionAid hosted a people’s tribunal at the seventh World Social Forum which offered communities the opportunity to raise social, moral and legal arguments on various issues.

13. ActionAid was appointed to Kenya’s Ministry of Health (MoH) Taskforce to analyze the implications of the proposed amendments to the Industrial Property Act 2001.

14. Stepping Stones Training and HIV and AIDS awareness education are some of the activities that ActionAid used to support to reduce transmission.
Ensuring Sustainable Livelihoods and Resilience Building

15 In a landmark case, ActionAid and the Dakatcha community in Malindi forced a multi-national biofuel company to reduce its leasehold from 50,000 to 5,000 hectares ensuring that their lives are uninterrupted.

16 ActionAid supported the Sugar Campaign for Change (SUCAM) which championed the adoption of Sugar Act in 2001. The Act led to better management of sugar industry and increased revenue for farmers.

17 The community assets; dams and water pans built through the food for assets project in Isiolo and Mwingi districts have increased resilience and reduced reliance on relief.

18 ActionAid in collaboration with other CSOs developed an investment code for multi-national corporations as well as fast track the implementation of the National Land Policy.

19 ActionAid championed the formation and further development of Kenya Food Security Policy Advocacy Network (KEFoSPAN), a coalition of 40 institutions and NGOs.

16 ActionAid led Basic Rights Basic Needs campaign culminated to Bill of Rights which is now entrenched in the Constitution of Kenya.

20 In Kuria, ActionAid supported farmers and farmer groups to acquire quality fingerlings as an alternative livelihood. Approximately 840 ponds were dug benefiting approximately 2000 people.

21 In Kwale, ActionAid in collaboration with Safaricom Foundation assisted in rehabilitation of 43 boreholes in partnership with Galu Multipurpose Group.

22 In Narok, ActionAid in collaboration with the community implemented a 44 Kilometer long water pipeline project in Ntuka village and its surroundings.

23 ActionAid through Malindi LRP linked farmers engaging in irrigation along the river Galana with the Ministry of Agriculture extension staff in order to boost food production.

24 ActionAid conducted a community-based research to establish the nature and extent of the human-wildlife conflict in West Pokot areas.

Influencing Policy and Governance at All Levels

25 ActionAid participated in the formulation of the National Gender Based Violence Framework and a related National Plan of Action in 2010.

26 In 2008, ActionAid spearheaded advocacy work for amending the political parties Bill and financing of political parties under the auspices of the Coalition for Accountable Political Party Financing (CAPF).

27 During the passage and promulgation of the new constitution in 2010, ActionAid mobilized communities through civic education, culminating in over 12,000 submissions on various positions and dissemination of 300,000 copies of the draft to communities they work with.

28 ActionAid was instrumental in lobbying the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) Members of Parliament and Trade Liaison Committees to support the civil Society led position on Economic Partnership Agreement (EPAs)

29 ActionAid facilitated training for over 200 Social Auditors in 11 constituencies who have audited a total of 138 projects to ensure accountability in use of local budgets and devolved funds.

30 ActionAid mobilized over 8,000 community representatives to participate in the formulation of the National Land Policy, National Policy on Peace Building and Conflict Management and the Wildlife Policy.

31 In 2008, the decentralization policy developed by ActionAid was mainstreamed into the vision 2030’s Medium Term Plan.

32 ActionAid facilitated formation of village education circles and Education Task force to create awareness to the effect that basic education is a right.

33 ActionAid facilitated training for over 200 Social Auditors in 11 constituencies who have audited a total of 138 projects to ensure accountability in use of local budgets and devolved funds.

34 ActionAid School feeding programmes through Protracted Recovery and Relief Operations for the last twenty years have enabled millions of children to stay in school and be the best they can be.

35 ActionAid was instrumental in lobbying for Free Primary education Policy in Kenya.

36 In a landmark case, ActionAid and the Dakatcha community in Malindi forced a multi-national biofuel company to reduce its leasehold from 50,000 to 5,000 hectares ensuring that their lives are uninterrupted.

37 Bahati Primary School in Malindi was started by ActionAid as a feeder school by ActionAid and has now grown to a fully developed government sponsored school and a very strong accountable school management Committee.

38 Community projects build by children through sponsored school feeding programmes through Protracted Recovery and Relief Operations for the last twenty years have enabled millions of children to stay in school and be the best they can be.

39 Community projects build by children through sponsored children has increased enrolment and retention in primary school.

40 Through support of ActionAid, Cashew Nut Growers Association (CAGA) conducted field rallies at the grass-root level to educate farmers on the best agronomic practices.

Increasing Access to Education Across Kenya

36 Elimu Yetu coalition hosted by ActionAid was instrumental in lobbying for Free Primary education Policy in Kenya.

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Compiled By Catherine Wanjiru

For more information log on to: www.actionaid.org/kenya