

You are HIV positive and I want you to leave my late brother's land!

No way! I am protected by the new constitution!



W O M E N

Land & Property

Rights
PROJECT



KENYA LAND ALLIANCE , 2014

ABOUT THE WOMEN LAND RIGHTS PROJECT

The women Land Rights Project is a project of Kenya Land Alliance that aims at actualisation Women land and property rights as provided in the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 and as a means towards poverty alleviation. This considering the fact that, in Kenya where the foundation of most communities is Agriculture and livestock production, women contribute up to 80% of workforce yet they only hold 1% of registered land in their names and around 5-6% of registered titles are held in joint names (Kenya Land Alliance, 2013).

This in essence means that ownership, control and access to land is important for improvement of women's welfare as well as their social status. Most rural people, a majority of whom are women rarely have access to formal or legal ownership to land due to the complexity and cost of procedures involves. This is further complicated traditional beliefs, attitudes and perceptions that dictate land ownership, deeming it a preserve of male members of the Society. As a result, women are placed in a position of considerable insecurity with regards to their land rights.

With this background, KLA has taken lead in efforts geared towards realisation of women land and property rights. Guided by Constitutional and the National Land Policy that put emphasis on equitable distribution of resources for men and women in matters of ownership of land and property, KLA has been championing for the land rights of women for the last 10years.

WHAT WE DO

To realise women land and property Rights, WLPRs KLA with the financial help of well-wishers has been involved in the following activities:

1. *Public Education and Awareness Raising on Women Land Rights*
2. *Dialogue forums with Council of Elders*
3. *Development and Dissemination of Information, Education and Communication, IEC materials*
4. *Research to inform Advocacy Campaigns*
5. *Stakeholders Bi-annual meeting*
6. *Media Campaigns through both Print and Electronic*

PUBLIC EDUCATION AND AWARENESS RAISING ON WOMEN LAND RIGHTS

Kenya Land Alliance conducts civic education forums both at the National and Regional Level on women land rights. We envisage a society where both men and women understand and appreciate the importance of women land rights and stand in defence of the same. Through the Land Rights Centres spread in all the 8 regions of Kenya, we endeavour to continuously educate the public on legislations and policies governing women land rights.



A National training on WLPRs at AACC Westlands Nairobi on 5th Feb, 2013



A participant (who was then nominated in the County Assembly) shares the concept of property division in Islamic context in Nyeri, during a Women Land Rights Civic Education Forum for central Region



Lady Chief from Nyeri shares with women the role of the chief in the succession process



Women in a focus group discussion in Makuti Villa, Kilifi; Coast Region to discussing Land and Property Ownership during a workshop on National Land Principles anchored in the Constitution



An aspiring National Assembly member in the concluded general election of March, 2013 in Kilifi sharing with participants in a workshop on Constitutional Principles anchored in the Constitution



A woman in Mombasa displays one of our posters with a message on women land and property rights



A national Civic education forum on Women land rights at AACC Westlands, Nairobi

DIALOGUE FORUMS WITH COUNCIL OF ELDERS

The realisation that ongoing legislation and institutional reforms must engage with customs, traditions and practices that govern land and property ownership in order to deconstruct and re-conceptualize existing attitudes, beliefs and perceptions are what led to the idea of dialogue forums with councils of elders. To date, KLA has held dialogue forums with the Kalenjin, Luo, Njuri Ncheke, Kaya, Somali elders from Wajir, Elders from Taita and Luhya Land



A photo taken after a meeting with Somali elders in Wajir, North Eastern Kenya



A section of the Njuri Ncheke-Ameru council of elders following a dialogue forum facilitated by Kenya Land Alliance at AACC, Westlands Nairobi

ACHIEVEMENTS

- *Trained over 600 women on Land and property rights in all the 8 regions of Kenya*
- *The women Land Rights Concept has gained popularity among the elders, with some standing fiercely in defense of women land rights*
- *Built and strengthened Strategic partnerships with Local and International Civil Societies, Government ministries and Agencies*
- *There has been increased focus on women land rights from the media with features that have brought to the surface the shift in attitude towards on women land rights. Having women land rights in the media discussion platforms is an indication to increased popularity of Constitutional provisions and a start to the appreciation of the importance of securing land rights for women*
*See <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ntXSg2jix1c> <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oACGGFPrnZg>
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jlR-rizsXr8>*
- *Increased understanding of women land rights in the Constitution, channels to seek redress in case of violation of these rights and the zeal to demand for land and property ownership as provided in the Constitution.*
- *The operationalization of the National Land Commission while upholding the not more than 2/3rd of either gender principle is among the indicators of progress that we attribute to mobilization of men and women after the president delay to gazette the commission. This saw KLA receive recognition through a letter from the National Land Commission for the efforts in ensuring its gazetment.*
- *Publication of research work on women and land rights*
- *Successfully advocated for joint tenancy and co-tenancy in the Land Registration Act, 2012 as a means of securing women land rights within matrimonial Context*

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