

# MUSLIMS WOMEN ADVANCEMENT OF RIGHTS AND PROTECTION



## *Message from the Director* **Madam Rahma Gulam**



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Welcome to the promised second quarter of 2023, where MWARP continues its pursuit of a just society, empowering women and girls to embrace their rights and dignity. During this quarter we have reached a total of **3,065** people (**1,427** male and **1,638** female). However, the counties where MWARP operates have witnessed security incidents and threats.

Lamu County experienced a surge in Al-Shabaab attacks before the reopening of the Somalia-Kenya border, resulting in nearly 100 political violence events and around 70 fatalities in Kenya. Al-Shabaab accounted for over 17% of the violence, with Garissa County recording the highest number of fatalities, followed by Mandera and Lamu counties. MWARP raised concerns over the death of Miji Aboud Mohamed, a suspected drug peddler allegedly killed by the police in Lamu County. Public outrage ensued, leading MWARP to request intervention from the Independent Policing Oversight Authority (IPOA). IPOA Chairperson Anne Makori condemned the incident and initiated investigations, with MWARP closely monitoring progress.

During this quarter, MWARP's Women Voices in Leadership Project implemented various initiatives, including mentorship sessions, skill development training, and support for higher education.

In Kwale County, supported by the Embassy of the Kingdom of Netherlands and the UNDP Amkeni WaKenya project, MWARP focused on enhancing governance, accountability, and service delivery. They engaged in pre-public participation forums, collaborated with legislators, and addressed policy gaps in a high-level meeting with the County Assembly of Kwale.

MWARP participated in the Change the Game Academy's local fundraising trajectory, acquiring innovative fundraising skills. They secured two new projects: the Kujenga Amani Project funded by the European Union and the CET Project funded by the Kenya Community Development Foundation, both aimed at empowering women, youth, and persons with disabilities.

In May 2023, MWARP launched its first newsletter, showcasing their work during the first quarter. The organization remains dedicated to achieving tangible results for women and girls, actively advocating for gender equality and seeking further partnerships to advance their mission.

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## **OUR VISION**

*A just society where women and girls realize, embrace and enjoy their full rights and dignity.*

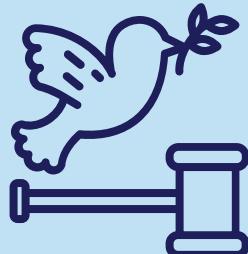
## **OUR MISSION**

*Actualize and advance women's and girls' social economic, legal and civil rights*

## **OUR MOTTO**

*We educate women because it is smart. We empower women because it changes the world.*

## — *What We Do: Thematic Pillars*



**Women, peace and security**



**Women participation in leadership and governance**



**Sexual & gender-based violence against women and girls**



**Institutional strengthening and growth**



# THEMATIC PILLAR #1: WOMEN PEACE AND SECURITY

## FACILITATING MARGINALIZED WOMEN AND GIRLS TO GET NATIONAL ID CARDS:

In partnership with the National Bureau of Registration of persons, MWARP conducted two mobile registration exercises, reaching **216** applicants (**173** female and **43** male). The exercises took place on 8th June in Lamu Island and 24th June in Kilifi County. This helped marginalized individuals, including women and youth, obtain IDs which are crucial for accessing various opportunities and services in Kenya.



## MENTORSHIP PROGRAM FOR OUT-OF-SCHOOL GIRLS AND YOUNG WOMEN:

MWARP continued its mentorship program for out-of-school girls and young women in Lamu and Kilifi County. With support from Canada's International Development - Global Affairs Canada via Uraia and CARE-International Kenya, mentorship sessions were held in Amu Island and Malindi. Mentors provided valuable insights on crafting compelling application letters, and mentees were matched with mentors for skill-building and goal-setting. The program aims to empower women in their careers and has already conducted CV development sessions for out-of-school girls in Lamu.



## CAREER GUIDANCE AND SENSITIZATION FORUM FOR THE KENYA UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES CENTRAL PLACEMENT SERVICE (KUCCPS) APPLICATION PORTAL ACCESSIBILITY:

MWARP partnered with Kwale Youth Assembly for a career guidance forum on KUCCPS application accessibility. The weeklong forums from 1st to 7th April were attended by over **638** young people from Kwale County (**360** female and **278** male). Our speakers explained eligibility criteria, courses, and institutions, emphasizing informed career choices. MWARP is proud to help Kwale County's youth make informed decisions about their education and careers.



## MENTORSHIP SESSIONS FOR IN-SCHOOL YOUTHS:

Thanks to funding from Global Affairs Canada, the Women Voice and Leadership (WVL) Project MWARP organized a mentorship talk at Manda and Matondoni Secondary School. Uraia Trust, Care Kenya Canada, and Lamu Organization for Youth & People with Disability collaborated to bring together eight exceptional speakers. These speakers, who overcame challenges and achieved remarkable accomplishments, provided valuable advice to **115** students (**58** male and **57** female). The mentorship session emphasized smart choices, time management, personal growth, and overcoming challenges. MWARP aims to transform lives and plans to expand similar events to impact more pupils in the future.

## THEMATIC PILLAR #2: WOMEN PARTICIPATION IN LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE



### MULTI STAKEHOLDERS ENGAGEMENTS FORUM:

MWARP, with support from the Embassy of the Netherlands through UNDP Kenya, held a forum in Kwale County. The meeting involved CSOs consortium, county department, and CBEF leadership. Recommendations were made to improve service delivery, including enacting the Monitoring and Evaluation Policy and adopting the Citizen Oversight Forum. Other proposals included social media advocacy, PWD-led approaches, and village-level pre-public participation forums. We are committed to transformative community work.

### MASS COMMUNITY AWARENESS THROUGH RADIO TALK SHOWS:

MWARP organized an informative Radio Talkshow on budget estimates awareness, hosted by RADIO KAYA on 16th April 2023, from 4.00 pm to 6.30 pm. Supported by the Embassy of the Netherlands through UNDP Kenya, the show is part of the Strengthening Civil Society Voices in Policy making through Inclusive Platforms for Public Participation and Civic Engagement in Kwale County Project. Speakers included Eunice Adhiambo from Diani Social Justice Center, R.M. Mackenzie – member of Kwale County Budget and Economic Forum, and Mwalimu Ali Mwambanga – MWARP Field coordinator and PWD champion. The session provided insights on the county's budget estimates, its impact on the community, and ways to ensure transparency and accountability in the budgetary process.

#### AWARENESS ON BUDGET ESTIMATES KWALE COUNTY FY 2023/24

##### PANELISTS



**Mackenzi Reni**  
County Budget and  
Economic Forum(CBEF)



**Eunice Adhiambo**  
Founder & Exec. Director  
Diani Social Justice Initiative



**Mwalimu Ali**  
Kwale County Coordinator  
MWARP

**FATAKI YA  
UKWEI**

**SUNDAY**

### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON THE DIANI MUNICIPALITY ANIMAL CONTROL AND WELFARE:



MWARP, funded by the Embassy of the Netherlands through UNDP Kenya, organized a groundbreaking public forum in partnership with Diani Municipality and the Office of Ward Administrator in Ukunda Ward. It aimed to gather input for the Diani Municipality Animal Control and Welfare by-laws. This marked the first-ever public participation exercise of its kind in Kwale County, ensuring inclusive and citizen-oriented legislation to enhance service delivery.

## THEMATIC PILLAR #2: WOMEN PARTICIPATION IN LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

MWARP, funded by the Embassy of the Netherlands through UNDP Kenya, organized forums in various wards, including Ramisi, Vingujini, Wasini Island, Dzombo, Vanga, Pongwe Kikoneni, and Bongwe Gombato. The forums collected views from segregated participants - women, youths, and PWDs - with a total of **490** people (**212** male and **278** females) participating. The aim was to prepare the community to provide substantial proposals during the upcoming county government public participation forums. The discussions highlighted community concerns and needs, and their input will contribute to a more comprehensive plan addressing their specific needs. Memorandums developed from these forums will be presented during public participation.

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENTS ON KWALE COUNTY INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2023-27:



#### ROLL OUT OF BUDGET

#### CHAMPIONS/MONITORS IN 9 WARDS:

MWARP recruited nine budget champions from Lungalunga and Msambweni Sub-Counties through a rigorous selection process. The champions' exceptional efforts received overwhelming positive feedback from the community, thanks to mass awareness sensitization in various locations like Maskini meetings, Football pitches, and Bodaboda stages. Inclusivity is vital, and MWARP made dedicated efforts to engage women in similar gatherings, reaching even those in remote areas. At least **1,545** people (**743** males and **802** females) have been reached through the budget champions' community awareness sessions from April to June.



#### LINKING FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS WITH WOMEN CHAMAS IN KILIFI COUNTY:

MWARP, through the WOMEN's Voice and Leadership-Kenya project in Kilifi and Lamu, supported the Sheila Maendeleo Women Group in Malindi Sub-County, helping them register as a self-help group. Their commitment to support continues, empowering them with various business ventures, savings, and entrepreneurial engagements. On 7th June, MWARP facilitated a meeting with Imarika Sacco from Kilifi, advising on savings and exploring other Sacco products. Over **50+** members opened group and individual accounts with the Sacco. MWARP supports women in self-reliance and resilience building to prevent Sexual and Gender-Based Violence.

#### PRESENTATION OF MEMORANDUM TO THE KWALE COUNTY DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC PLANNING

With the CIDP for Kwale County Government in progress, MWARP organized engagement sessions to gather views from various groups, including women, PWDs, and youths. A comprehensive memorandum representing the concerns and suggestions from Msambweni and Lungalunga Sub-Counties was presented to Mr. Athman Mwatuza, the Director of Finance and Economic Planning, on 20th June. MWARP is confident that the proposed issues and recommendations will be considered as the county government formulates the CIDP.



## THEMATIC PILLAR #3: SEXUAL & GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS



### DEVELOPMENT OF A MEMORANDUM FOR THE KWALE COUNTY SEXUAL AND GENDER BASED PROTECTION BILL 2023:

Through MWARP Project on 'Strengthening Civil Society Voices in Policy making through Inclusive Platforms for Public Participation and Civic Engagement in Kwale County' Funded by the Embassy of the Netherlands in Kenya through UNDP Kenya, MWARP hosted the thematic group on gender-based violence in the Kwale Civil Society Consortium to discuss this bill with a view of giving recommendations before its first reading in the assembly. The bill has six epic parts to it, each one carefully crafted to ensure that it covers all bases. Covering everything from the establishment of a Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Protection Board to the provision of safe houses for victims of violence. It also includes financial provisions to ensure the effective implementation of the bill. This bill once enacted, will be a huge win for the people of Kwale County, and a clear signal that the leaders are committed to protecting the most vulnerable members of our society. The memorandum will later be submitted to the county assembly and also during public participation forums.

### FACT FINDING MISSION ON THE SHAKAHOLA MASSACRE:

MWARP joined forces with other civil society organizations, united under the #Jumuiya ya Mashirika ya Pwani to lend support to the tireless frontline workers who are devoting their time and energy around the clock to various actions at the crime scene. As a dedicated practitioner in this field and particularly a member of the Kilifi Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Prevention and Recovery Network, we are profoundly saddened by these developments since significant number of bodies exhumed were women and children.



### SKILL DEVELOPMENT TOWARDS ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT FOR YOUNG MOTHERS

A total of 20 women and young mother participated in the training. Through their active involvement, they gained valuable skills in producing a range of liquid detergent products, such as multipurpose liquid soap, home liquid bleach, domestic antiseptic liquids, hand wash, shampoo, and toilet cleaners. Equipped with these practical skills, these women are now empowered to establish their own homemade detergent businesses, enabling them to generate income and contribute to their local communities. With the potential to earn profits of up to 100%, these entrepreneurial ventures will undoubtedly enhance their financial independence and improve their overall well-being. Financial independence is a step towards reducing the vulnerability and risks women and young mothers face to domestic and gender based violence, poor family health and nutrition among others.

## THEMATIC AREA #4: INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING AND GROWTH



### REFLECTION MEETING WITH CARE CANADA, CARE KENYA AND URAIA TRUST TEAM

MWARP team had a full day reflection meeting at our head office in Mombasa with our amazing partners of the Women's Voice and Leadership-Kenya program. During the reflection meeting, MWARP shared its journey with this project and as an organization and the growth of the institution so far and where the organization is heading in the next five years. MWARP brought in beneficiaries from Kilifi who shared incredible stories of change and we're more motivated than ever to keep pushing forward. Despite the harsh working environment, MWARP is proud to say that its efforts are making a real difference in the lives of women and girls in the Coastal region of Kenya.



### TRAINING ON LOCAL FUNDRAISING:

MWARP Programs Office members, Mr. James Kitti Chappa and Fahad Changi, attended a Local Fundraising Training in #Nairobi organized by Kenya Community Development Foundation - Change the Game Academy (CtGA). The training enhances MWARP's capacity to mobilize local resources and develop effective local fundraising strategies. We are proud to be associated with the concept, known for creating positive change in societies across three continents. Local fundraising fosters sustainability and community ownership, promoting long-term impact. .

### COACHING SESSIONS ON LOCAL FUNDRAISING:

During this quarter, through the visionary leadership of Mr. Tsuma Barua our LFR Coach assigned to us by the Change the Game Academy, MWARP has its first coaching session on Local Fundraising LFR. During the meeting, we discussed several key aspects, including the starting points and initial steps for embarking on this journey.



# PARTNERSHIPS, COLLABORATIONS, ENGAGEMENTS AND INTERNATIONAL DAYS CELEBRATIONS

## QUARTERLY KILIFI CSOS NETWORK:

As Kilifi CSOs Network Secretary, MWARP convened a meeting in Kilifi town on 15th April 2023. Members from various thematic groups shared their achievements, including mobilizing communities for the CIDP (2023-2027) discussion and submitting policy briefs to the county's annual development plan. Concerns were raised about an alleged cult in Malindi involving Pastor McKenzie, prompting members to monitor the case within the criminal justice system. Land ownership disputes were also discussed, and an advocacy strategy was developed to engage key stakeholders and address the root causes of conflicts. This meeting highlighted the power of collaboration and the importance of civil society organizations in effecting positive change in our communities.

## ROUND TABLE MEETING WITH DIFFERENT STAKEHOLDERS IN KWALE COUNTY STARTING WITH THE COUNTY COMMISSIONER:

On 26th and 27th April, MWARP and partner organizations met with stakeholders in Kwale County, including County Commissioner, County Department of Gender, Sports & Culture, and County Department of Education. The aim was to discuss potential partnerships for the program "Kujenga Amani," focusing on enhancing the well-being of young people as agents of peace and transformative development. MWARP is grateful for the warm reception and support, and we are confident in achieving positive impacts in the lives of young people in Kwale County.

## ENHANCING CIVIL SOCIETY CAPACITY AND ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR THE ACHIEVEMENT OF SDGS IN KENYA:

MWARP attended a meeting organized by PEN, with support from the Embassy of Netherlands through UNDP Kenya. CSOs in Kilifi County shared an analysis of county-based laws and policies affecting their work and engaged with the government on Acts like public participation and civic engagement, as well as public finance management. The aim is to enhance service delivery through meaningful collaboration with the County Government. The meeting included representatives from the Kilifi County Government, including Mr. #Joel\_Deche, the coordinator of public participation and civic engagement in the county.

## MEETING WITH THE KILIFI COUNTY GOVERNMENT AND THE KILIFI CSOS NETWORK:

The network and the county through the visionary leadership of the Kilifi Department of Devolution, Civic Education and Public Participation Participation, have joined forces to forge a path of unity, progress, and positive change! During the fruitful discussions, both parties shared their visions for a prosperous Kilifi County, where the voice of the people is heard, valued, and acted upon. We explored innovative ways to strengthen community engagement, promote transparent governance, and ensure inclusive development that leaves no one behind.

## MEETING WITH THE EU AMBASSADORS IN MOMBASA:

MWARP, as a UNDP Kenya grantee, attended a closed-door meeting convened by UNDP Kenya with European Union Ambassadors, including Ambassadors from France, the Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden, the EU, Finland, Austria, Portugal, and Germany. The meeting offered a unique opportunity to engage with influential voices, share insights, and discuss vital topics impacting local communities and the world.



# PARTNERSHIPS, COLLABORATIONS, ENGAGEMENTS AND INTERNATIONAL DAYS CELEBRATIONS

## ROAD SAFETY AWARENESS PROCESSION:

As part of the United Nations Global Road Safety Week, MWARP teamed up with "The Outstanding Abilities Kenya - TOA-Ke," Diani Walkers, and the Kwale Walk Movement for a Road Safety awareness procession on 20th May 2023, themed Zero Harm on our roads. We walked 10.8 kilometers from Kombani junction to Ukunda, raising awareness about safe road practices and the need to reduce accidents and their life-altering consequences. The event aimed to promote adherence to traffic regulations, seat belt usage, avoiding distractions while driving, and responsible pedestrian behavior. H.E. Fatuma Achan, Governor of Kwale County, flagged off the procession, emphasizing the commitment of local leadership to address road safety. Together, we strive to build a culture of road safety and save countless lives.



## COMMEMORATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL WIDOWS DAY 22ND JUNE:

Aligned with the United Nations' theme Invisible Women Invisible Problems, the event united stakeholders from Samba Sports Youth Agenda, Base Titanium, and state actors like the Office of the Deputy County Commissioner of Msambweni, County Director on Gender, local Member of Parliament, and County Women Representative. The occasion marked the launch of Tuwajali Wajane Sacco, a cooperative society tailored to meet the needs of widows. The Sacco's elections were held, appointing a board and committee members to oversee operations. MWARP and partners are committed to ongoing support and empowerment, amplifying the voices and addressing the needs of widows.



## MEETING WITH THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY LEADERSHIP:

During the Quarter, MWARP held a high-level meeting with the County Assembly of Kwale to address policy gaps hindering effective service delivery. Gaps identified include operationalizing the Public Participation Act, developing legislation for PWDs, and fast-tracking the Sexual and Gender-Based Protection Bill 2023. The meeting's outcomes were remarkable, and MWARP is committed to working together to bridge the policy gaps and ensure meaningful public involvement in shaping Kwale County's future.



## INTERNATIONAL ALBINISM AWARENESS DAY : MWARP JOINED OTHER STAKEHOLDERS BOTH STATE AND NON-ACTORS IN ORGANIZING THE INTERNATIONAL ALBINISM AWARENESS DAY ON 13TH JUNE 2023.

The event gathered government representatives, committee members, and stakeholders committed to promoting inclusivity and countering negative beliefs about albinism. Deputy Governor Hon. Chimera of Kwale County led the event, with representatives from Mombasa and Kilifi showing strong commitment. Beyond raising awareness, the celebration provided essential services like cancer screenings, sunscreen distribution, and eye screenings, promoting overall health and well-being. Inspiring speakers emphasized inclusion and challenged negative beliefs about albinism and PWD community. Kenya National Commission on Human Rights unveiled a mapping initiative to enhance understanding and coordination among stakeholders for effective collaboration and sharing of best practices.



## MEDIA OUTREACH AND HIGHLIGHTS



RADIO KAYA 49 949 | 0702 931 931 | www.radiokaya.co.ke | SMS 20931 | DOWNLOAD ~ R/

DISCUSSION ON COUNTY BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE FINACIAL YEAR 2023/24 ON RADIO KAYA

[Click to watch](#)



OUR EMPOWERING SESSIONS FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES #PWDs FEATURED ON PRIME TIME NEWS ON TV 47 KENYA.

[Click to watch](#)



CALL TO INCLUDE KWALE PWDs IN PREPARING DEVELOPMENT - FEATURED ON NATION

[Click to read](#)



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MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS ON THE PROPOSED FINANCE BILL 2023

[Click to see more](#)



THE STAR, KENYA NEWSPAPER PROUDLY FEATURES OUR EMPOWERMENT CAMPAIGN FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

[Click to read](#)



ENLIGHTENING LISTENERS ON THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE COUNTY BUDGET CYCLE IN DAY-TO-DAY LIVES ON RADIO KAYA

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## SIGNIFICANT CHANGE STORIES



### BLOSSOMING ENTREPRENEURSHIP: UNLEASHING ENTREPRENEURIAL POTENTIAL THROUGH SOAP AND DETERGENT MAKING.

In the remote village of Matondoni in Lamu County, women faced numerous challenges due to limited employment opportunities and a lack of financial independence. Struggling to make ends meet, these women were trapped in a cycle of poverty and dependency. The absence of sustainable livelihoods not only hindered their personal growth but also affected the overall development of the community. It was crucial to address this issue and empower these vulnerable women, providing them with the means to create their opportunities.

To tackle the prevailing situation, MWARP organized a transformative workshop focused on soap and detergent making. The goal was to equip the women of Matondoni with valuable skills that could unlock their entrepreneurial potential and improve their socio-economic conditions. Led by experienced trainers, the workshop covered various aspects, including the art of crafting high-quality, eco-friendly soap and detergents, marketing strategies, and basic financial management.

Against all odds, one remarkable woman emerged as a beacon of hope for her community. Hafswa Said Mohd, a participant in the MWARP workshop, recognized the immense potential of soap and detergent making as a viable business opportunity. Inspired and armed with newfound knowledge, she fearlessly embarked on a journey to establish her small shop in Matondoni. Hafswa's determination and resilience fueled her vision of not only becoming financially independent but also uplifting the lives of other women in her community. She also actively mentors and trains other women in Matondoni, sharing her knowledge and empowering them to achieve self-sufficiency.

"I thank MWARP for conducting a soap and detergent-making workshop in Matondoni that brought about a remarkable success story through the inspiring journey of my life. MWARP has helped me to be financially independent and now earn a profit of between Ksh. 6,000/= to Ksh. 7,000/= which I invest in my family's well-being e.g. in my childrens education, and contribute to the overall development of the community."

Said Hafswa Said Mohd.

### REACH OUT TO US:



[www.mwarp.or.ke](http://www.mwarp.or.ke)



### OUR PARTNERS:



NL Netherlands

