

RWANDA WOMEN NETWORK
(FOR ECONOMIC JUSTICE)

AT - A - GLANCE

OUR HISTORY

Rwanda Women-Net (RWN) is an offspring of Church World Service (CWS) USA. The parent organization executed a 2 year programme in Rwanda 95-97 and later on gave birth to RWN to continue where CWS signed off.

OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Shelter construction of 150 houses for 750 beneficiaries in Rukara-Umutara Prefecture.
- Shelter Rehabilitation for 50 families of women victims of rape during the 1994 genocide in P V K.
- Micro-credit financing to women's associations and groups fostering orphans in 5 Prefectures (1995-1997).
- Grants to agricultural and educational oriented activities.
- Supply of Relief Aid during massive return of refugees from Zaire and Tanzania 1996.
- Coordination and mobilization of local women's groups and church groups, a challenge of reconciliation
- Established a Project (Polyclinic of Hope) in support of the women victims of violent crimes during 1994 genocide.
- Championing a Professional Women's forum.

Acknowledgements to the following who have made our successes possible; Rwanda government, Board members, members of staff and beneficiaries.

Sincere thanks to our donors for their support

- * CWS - Nairobi and New York
- * NCA - Nairobi and Oslo.
- * Canadian Cooperation.
- * US Embassy -Kigali.
- * USA State Department.
- * World Association for Christian Communication - UK.
- * Global fund for Women - USA.
- * MADRE Inc and Individuals in the USA
- * Swiss Cooperation.
- * WHO / PNLs.
- * PACT - USA.
- * Women Parliamentarians.
- * GTZ - Rwanda.

OUR CHALLENGES

- ⇒ Maintaining momentum in empowering women.
- ⇒ Fundraising and mobilizing the international/national community.
- ⇒ Call to government to continue to give guidance and support.
- ⇒ Call to local NGOs to team up and coordinate better.
- ⇒ Clear identification of partnerships guided by priorities to create positive impact.
- ⇒ Call to beneficiaries to keep up with the pace and break through the dependency syndrome.

OUR PERSPECTIVES

1. Sustainability.
2. Meaningful partnerships.
3. Women's empowerment and equal participation.
4. Programme activities/focus/priorities
 - Shelter construction / rehabilitation
 - Micro-credit financing
 - Training, education and awareness programmes focusing (HIV/AIDS, legal and human rights, health care, etc)
 - Publication of a Quarterly Magazine titled "Visions and Voices: Rwanda Women Speak".
5. Lastly to achieve and work towards peace building and reconciliation in our nation.

"If development is not engendered, it is endangered, and if poverty reduction and eradication strategies fail to empower women, they will fail to empower society"