



Overview of AfWA's Network for Professional Women in WASH

Pre- STC Women's Forum (Chad)

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Presentation Outline

- Introduction
 - How it began?
 - Who we are?
- Vision, Mission & Objectives
- Countries with Women Networks
- Network Activities
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- Procedure for Setting up a Network
- Call for Action

Introduction



- **How it began?**

Scientific and Technical Council Meeting held in Douala, Cameroun (July 2015).

- **Who we are?**

African Women in Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Network, launched during the pre-forum congress in Nairobi, Kenya (Nov 2015)

Network Members





The AfWA Network of Professional Women WASH

Vision

Make the network a proposing force that addresses the issue of women's participation in decision-making bodies in the water and sanitation sector, in accordance with AfWA and AMCOW policy on gender promotion

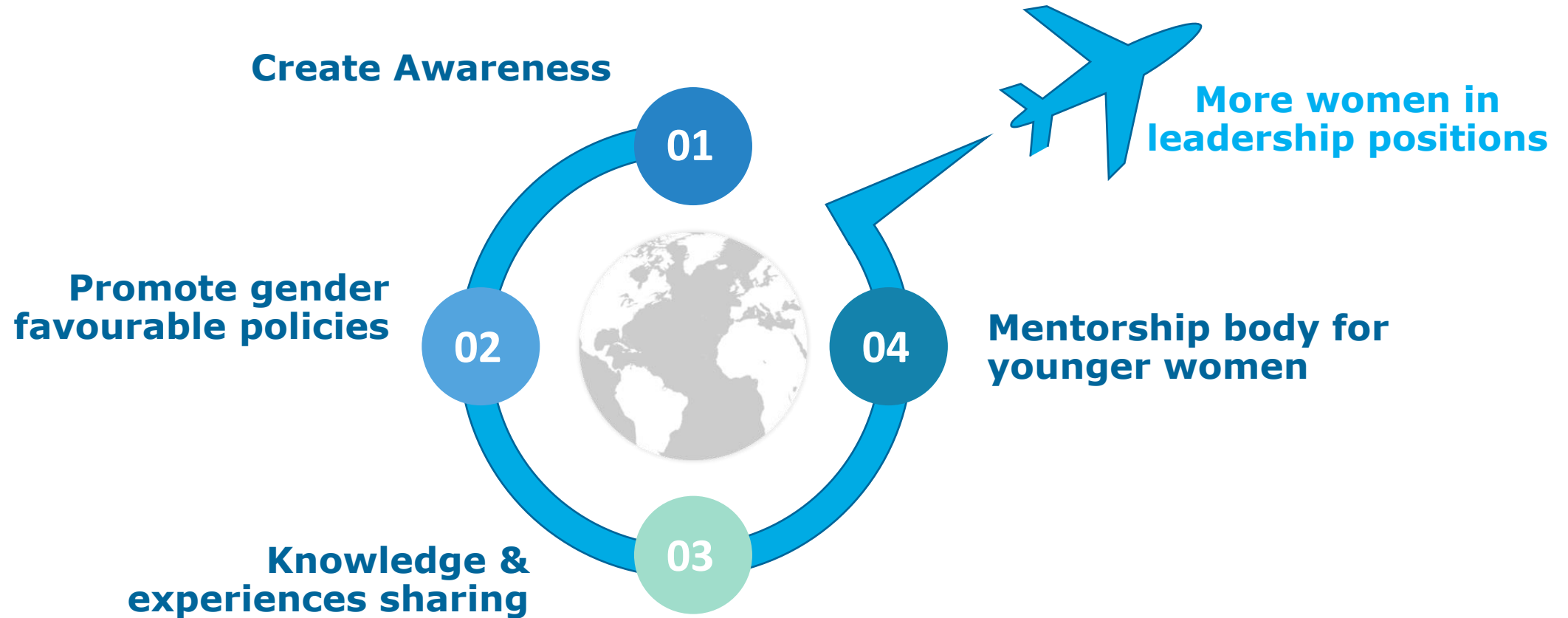
Mission

Work to build women's leadership in water, sanitation and environment sector through actions that contribute to gender mainstreaming in development programs

General Objective

Promote the presence of women in the decision-making bodies of water and sanitation utilities in Africa

Specific Objectives





Countries with Women Networks



- 1. Benin:** Beninese Network of Professional Women in Water and Sanitation (RBFPEA)
- 2. Burkina Faso:**
- 3. Cameroun:** Association of Professional Women of Water and the Environment of Cameroon (AFPEEC)
- 4. Central Africa Republic:**
- 5. Cote Ivoire:** Ivorian Network of Professional Women in Water and Sanitation (RIFPEA)
- 6. Djibouti:** Djiboutian Network of Professional Women in Water and Sanitation (REDFEPEA)
- 7. Ghana:** Professional Network Of Women in Wash, Ghana (WIWASH)



Countries with Women Networks



8. **Guinea:** Network of Guinean women professionals in water and sanitation (REFEGPEA)
9. **Kenya:** Women In Water And Sanitation, Kenya (WIWAS)
10. **Malawi:** Women in Water Malawi Chapter (WWMC)
11. **Mali:** Malian Network of Professional Women in Water and Sanitation (REMAFPEA)
12. **Nigeria:** Women Professional in Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, Nigeria (WOPWASH)
13. **Senegal:** Senegalese Network of Professional Women in Water and Sanitation (RFPEAS)
14. **Uganda:** Professional Women Network for Water and Sanitation Uganda (PW4WATSAN)

Network Activities – Importance



- Essential for career progression
- Provide insight into different fields

"There is no doubt that networking is one of the most powerful ways to advance one's career. We've seen countless books written on the topic of relationship building and nurturing. The business world runs on connecting the right people, and for a reason." - **Eve Melon, Head of People & Culture at Tidio**

Network Activities – Benefits



- Strengthen Business Connections
- Get Fresh Ideas
- Gain More Knowledge
- Build Confidence

→ developing & improving your skillset



Some Activities carried out by the Network

- Capacity building of members in different fields
- Engagement and advocacy / community engagement (e.g tree planting)
- Participation in initiatives for the girl child/partnership with schools
- Proposals for funding
- Mentorship and coaching
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- Commemoration of international and sector day celebration

Networking in Action





Network Activities – Pictures



Pictures of Network Activities



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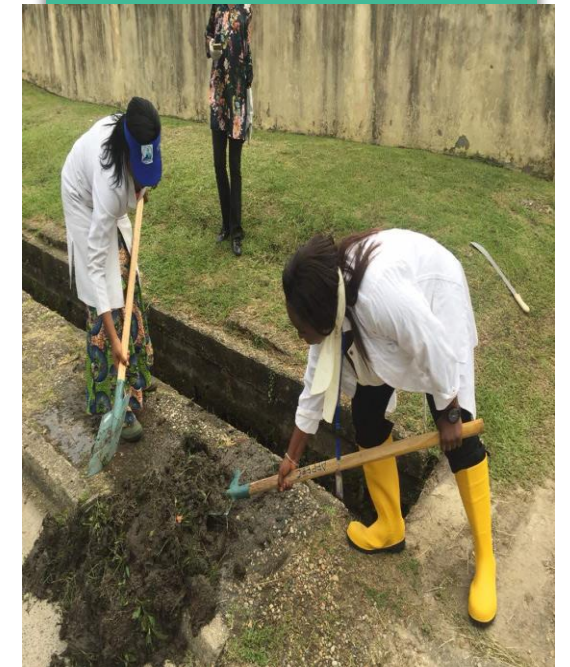
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Procedure for Setting-up a Network



Identify a committed Team



Market the idea towards Management, peers and sector practitioners



Convene a meeting to outline the idea and form a restricted committee

Draft constitution



Set up an executive bureau and forward the list of members to AfWA secretariat.

Register the network locally



Thank You!

