## MEMORABLE MOMENTS AT GROOTS KENYA

GROOTS Kenya is a national movement of grassroots women-led community-based groups (CBOs) and self-help groups (SHGs). Our mission is to facilitate grassroots women effective engagement in development through movement building, leadership and advocacy with the vision of an equitable and empowered society in which women are effectively engaged in development.

Below are some testimonies from grassroots women who have been involved in some of the projects under GROOTS Kenya



# 1. My name is Rhodester Muthui; I am from Kitui County

I joined GROOTS in 2013 through a mapping exercise that took place in our community. At that time I was a poultry farmer and GROOTS Kenya introduced me to other farmers. Following a GROOTS Kenya training, we formed one group of poultry farmers and as a result of the training I became a market champion and my monthly income from the market increased from ksh 5, 000 to ksh 20,000per month. Furthermore, I have since joined many boards at the sub-county and county levels, and have also been elected as a treasurer in my clan

# 2. I am Anne Gachambi Njuki; from Kiambu County

My memorable moment at GROOTS Kenya is when I was appointed to represent GROOTS Kenya in the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) conference in New York in September 2018. During the conference I was given a platform to speak as a grassroots community leader to highlight on how leadership is perceived in the rural to areas in relation to education, economic status and family background. Through my presentation I got the right platform to voice out my concerns and highlight out the challenges women from the rural areas faces when it comes to leadership.





# 3. My name is Jessica Kwete; I am from Busia County

My memorable moment at GROOTS Kenya is when I was invited as a member to take part in a women and leadership meeting, that meeting was an eye opener for me and challenged me to actively participate in politics by either voting or vying for a seat in my home area, GROOTS Kenya empowered me to believe that I am capable of being a leader and my voice matters a lot when it comes to issues that affect me in one way or the other.

Thank you so much GROOTS Kenya for the exposure.

## 4. My name is Alice Khakobo; I am from Kakamega County

I joined GROOTS Kenya as a caregiver back in 2000 after being identified in a mapping exercise carried out by Sevenga Ambani through GROOTS Kenya. Since then I have made significant changes in my life with GROOTS Kenya's support. As a result of my increased empowerment, I formed a group of Community Health Volunteers and registered with social services. This led me to be elected to the Constituency AIDS Control Committee (CACC) representing women groups. Through GROOTS Kenya I wrote a successful proposal which was submitted to



the National AIDS Control Council (NACC) and qualified to receive ksh 350,000 to map and scale the general population affected and infected with HIV/AIDS.



# 5. My name is Teresia Wambui; I am from Kiambu County

My memorable moment at GROOTS Kenya is when I was recommended by GROOTS Kenya to attend an advocacy and data collection training with Africa Monitor. The opportunity was a life changing moment to me; I boarded a plane and traveled to Tanzania for the first time and learnt a lot of new things and gained skilled full information during the training workshop.

I am grateful to GROOTS younger, rural women's lives.

### 6. My name is Jane Winnie Njihia; I am from Laikipia County

My memorable moment at GROOTS Kenya goes back during water conference which was held at Nanyuki Sport Club in April 2018. During the conference, GROOTS Kenya gave me and other members of GROOTS Kenya from Laikipia County, a platform to exhibit our own water harvesting method which was well received and appreciated by other GROOTS members at the meeting





### 7. My name is Dorcas Kigera; I am from Nakuru County

My memorable moment at GROOTS Kenya was during a meeting in Tumaini garden resort under 'Accelerating Rural Women access to agricultural Market and Trade' project. The meeting was marking an end of the project and at the end of it, we women from kiambu and Nakuru receive funding from World Bank through GROOTS Kenya to support our activities in the community.