



GRASSROOTS WOMEN LEADERS SHAPING A SAFER KENYA





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In a powerful win for justice and equality, this quarter saw the formation of a National Technical Working Group on Gender-Based Violence including Femicide. Across counties, GROOTS Kenya champions stepped forward to shape this pivotal moment. From nomination processes to policy discussions, our grassroots leaders were not just present, they were driving the agenda.

Their bold advocacy is a testament to our Focus Goal this quarter: Eliminating Gender Injustices Against Women and Girls. From village centers to county halls, grassroots women are reclaiming power, challenging harmful norms, and ensuring no one is left behind in the fight for safety and dignity.

Over the past quarter, GROOTS Kenya champions have taken center stage in the national conversation on GBV and femicide.

Following the formation of the Presidential Technical Working Group, grassroots women across 12 counties (Garissa, Kitui, Nyandarua, Tana River, Nakuru, Murang'a, Kiambu, Kakamega, Elgeyo Marakwet, Baringo, Laikipia, and Busia) mobilized, organized and presented lived realities, community data, and practical solutions to policymakers.

In Nyandarua, Kitui, and Tana River, champions shaped county-level submissions and even secured representation in high-level forums.

This is what feminist policy engagement looks like: **informed, lived, and unapologetically grassroots.**



OUR MILESTONES & IMPACT

Organizing at Scale: The Power of a National Grassroots Movement



Between April and June 2025, GROOTS Kenya grassroots women across 12 counties, convened held 170 ward-level dialogues and 25 sub-county consultations. These spaces were not symbolic gatherings; they were strategic organizing platforms where women analyzed power, surfaced community priorities, and shaped collective demands.

On 15 April 2025, more than 50 grassroots women leaders came together to consolidate county priorities into a shared national agenda. This moment reflected the strength of the movement – local realities translating into national positioning, led by women whose authority is rooted in lived experience. Organizing at this scale is not accidental; it is the result of three decades of trust, structure, and movement discipline.

Climate Justice Begins Where People Breathe



Through the Breathe Cities: Nairobi Initiative, grassroots women and youth stepped into climate leadership.

GROOTS Kenya reached over 130 community members through targeted trainings in Mathare and Kibra, while 60+ Clean Air Community Champions were trained across 11 wards.

Working alongside county officials and environmental agencies, communities strengthened their capacity to use data, law, and advocacy to demand cleaner air.

For these communities, climate justice is not abstract, it is about health, dignity, and survival.

Grassroots Women Taking Charge of Public Budgets



Power shifts when communities understand public finance.

This quarter, over 60 grassroots women, GBV survivors, and men4women champions were trained on the full Public Finance Management cycle.

An additional 60 GBV survivors from Kakamega and Kiambu completed the Grassroots Budget Academy, equipping them to analyze and influence county budgets.

Graduates are now actively engaging CIDPs, ADPs, and county budgets ensuring public resources respond to women's realities.

OUR MILESTONES & IMPACT

Livelihoods, Leadership and The Blue Economy



Economic justice remained central to the movement's work. In Kilifi County, GROOTS Kenya supported **16** women entrepreneurs from eight women-led groups, strengthening livelihoods across four blue economy value chains, including ecotourism, mariculture, mangrove honey, and marine products.

These investments went beyond income generation. They positioned women as economic decision-makers in traditionally male-dominated sectors, reinforcing the link between economic power, safety, and leadership.

World Environment Day 2025: Grassroots Climate Action in Motion

GROOTS Kenya marked World Environment Day 2025 with action on the ground in Laikipia County, partnering with CIFOR-ICRAF and Laikipia University to lead a three-day, community-driven training on agroforestry, indigenous tree species and gender-responsive land restoration. Women farmers, students, and grassroots champions came together to strengthen practical skills on food forests, sustainable land use, and climate resilience linking environmental restoration directly to livelihoods and food security.

Beyond learning, the commitment was tangible. Over **200** trees were planted, and Laikipia University unveiled a **10,000**-capacity tree nursery, reinforcing long-term restoration efforts. Experts, county leaders, and farmers shared knowledge on quality tree seeds, post-planting care, plastic pollution reduction, and climate-smart farming.

Women farmers showcased how agroforestry is already improving yields and strengthening leadership at the community level.

This was more than a commemoration. It was grassroots women reclaiming their role as custodians of the land, proving that local action drives national climate goals.



Launching Gender-Transformative Agroecology: Centering Women, Securing Food Futures



This quarter, GROOTS Kenya officially launched the Gender-Transformative Agroecology Modules, marking a significant step toward building inclusive, climate-resilient, and community-rooted food systems across Kenya. Farmers, extension officers, civil society actors, and government leaders came together with a shared commitment: to place grassroots women at the center of sustainable agriculture and climate action.

The launch brought together national and county leadership, including Eng. Laban Kiplagat, Agricultural Engineering Secretary at the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development; Dr. Stephen Kimwele, CECM, Kitui County Government; and Dr. Dennis Kasoo, CECM, Laikipia County Government. Their presence underscored the power of collaboration between grassroots wisdom, public institutions, and bold partnerships.

This was more than a ceremonial launch. It marked the beginning of a collective journey to ensure the modules are adopted, implemented, and used to equip communities with practical tools that advance gender justice, climate resilience, and food sovereignty. Together, we are working to translate policy commitments into everyday practice from farms to county systems.

We extend our appreciation to our partners Hivos East Africa, Seed Savers Network Kenya, and SeedChange for anchoring this work in inclusion, resilience, and justice. As we roll out the modules, one truth remains clear: agroecology is only truly transformative when it empowers the women who grow our food.

Earth Day 2025: When Communities Lead, Restoration Thrives



On Earth Day 2025, GROOTS Kenya stood alongside fellow changemakers at the Mazingira Odyssey: Celebrating Restoration Journeys, convened by Earth Now Media under the global theme Our Power, Our Planet. The gathering created space to center the people not just the projects driving Kenya's climate resilience.

During a powerful fireside conversation, Catherine Wachira, a GROOTS Kenya restoration champion from Laikipia, reminded us that restoration is not a one-off intervention, but a way of life rooted in community leadership and sustained action. Her words echoed the core of our work: lasting environmental change is built when communities are trusted to lead.

Grassroots Voices at the Center of Global Media Spaces



On 27th May, GROOTS Kenya proudly participated in the Generation Equality Media Festival in Nairobi, hosted by UN Women Africa, bringing together commitment makers, media professionals, and gender equality advocates from across East and Southern Africa.

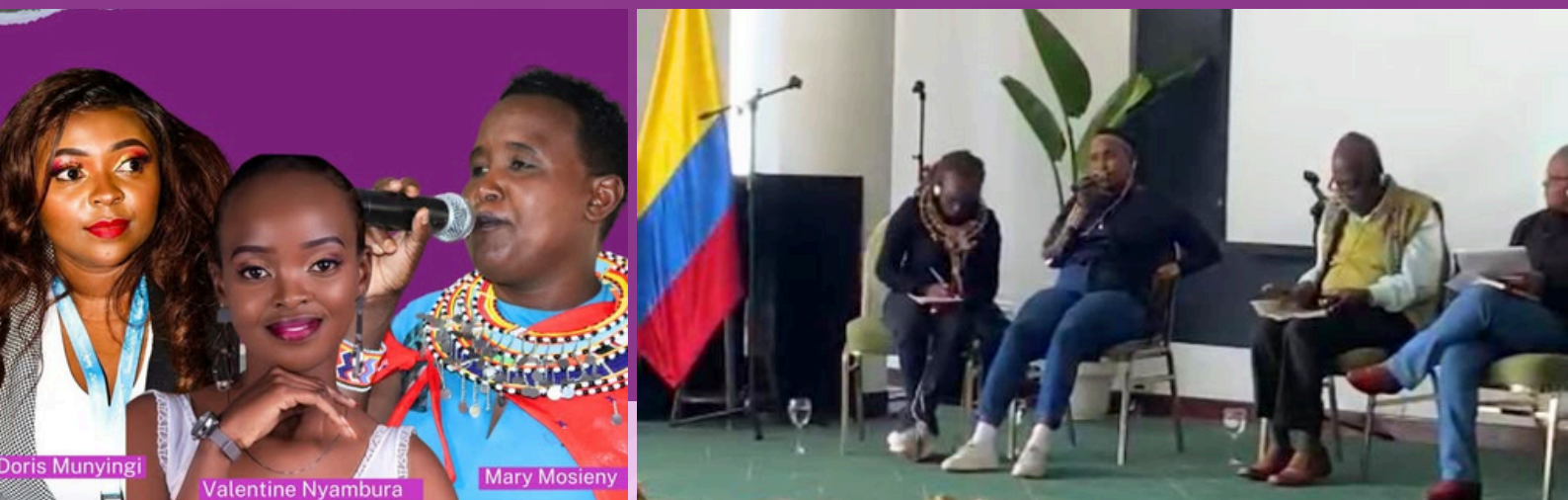
Our grassroots champion, Njoki Macharia, represented GROOTS Kenya under the Feminist Action Coalition on Climate Justice (FACJ), using the power of media to spotlight community-led solutions advancing gender equality and climate justice. Through her contribution, Njoki amplified the lived realities, bold actions, and tangible results of grassroots women leading climate responses in their communities.

This platform reaffirmed a truth at the heart of our movement: grassroots voices do not belong at the margins of global conversations they belong at the center. When women closest to the challenges shape the narrative, media becomes a tool not just for visibility, but for justice and transformation.

Grassroots Women at the Global Table: GROOTS Kenya at the 10th Global Land Forum

GROOTS Kenya proudly participated in the 10th Global Land Forum 2025 in Bogotá, Colombia, convened by the International Land Coalition, where grassroots voices, Indigenous peoples, farmers, women, youth, governments, researchers, civil society, and the private sector came together to shape the future of people-centered land governance.

Our movement was represented by Mary Mosieny, Valentine Nyambura, and Doris Munyingi, ensuring that the lived realities of grassroots women in Kenya were present and visible in global conversations on land, power, and justice. From village struggles to international policy spaces, we carried one clear message: land rights are human rights and women's leadership in land governance is not optional; it is transformational.



GROOTS Kenya in the NEWS

workshop provided a platform to review and refine the draft communication strategy aimed at improving access to MNCH information among grassroots communities.
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