

Africana Women Working Group at the UN

Review of the Implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (BPfA) +25 Members

NGO Parallel Report

Participating Organizations

Tabernacle Worship and Prayer Ministries

LEAH Foundation

Irene Menakaya Schools

African Cultural Promotions Inc

Women and Child Watch Initiative

For 25 years since after the Beijing women conference, World Leaders have concerned themselves about women and how best to reposition women in the overall sectors of world development. The concerns further led to the establishment of UN Women at the United Nations to address gender equality and participatory roles of women in decision making, political and leadership positions. In 2015 World Leaders signed into action, the seventeen Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which highly reflect the overall concerns and expectations on women and girls.

There had been overriding interest across the world to ignite machinery of action on women roles. Successes had been made relevant deriving from the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, yet more is needed in refocusing the mind set of women and girls for sustainability and positively helping women and girls to reimagine themselves in such roles that could support the move of the global agenda successfully.

Since 2013, the Africana Women Working Group at the UN has enacted action on the mission of its member organizations along the trends in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the Sustainable Development Goals.

1. Women and poverty
2. Education and training of women
3. Women and health
4. Violence against women
5. Women and armed conflict
6. Women and the economy
7. Women in power and decision-making
8. Institutional mechanisms for the advancement of women
9. Human rights of women
10. Women and the media
11. Women and the environment

12. The girl child

Based on these, our organizations established initiatives that have not only drew the attention of the mission of their organizations to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action but have aligned the mission of their organizations to the 2030 Agenda.

The Tabernacle Worship and Prayer Ministries adopted the Institutional mechanism for the advancement of women; women and the environment for women in religion and community. They further flagged the campaign on “1000 Women in Religion for Global Peace” with the mission of transforming lives through information sharing, education and training, economic and resource empowerment along the BDPA and the 2030 Agenda to women and girls in world religion. The mandate of the campaign is to provide necessary resources that could encourage women in world religion to utilize institutional mechanism for the advancement of women and girls in world religion.

LEAH Foundation: The LEAH Foundation adopted Women and Health; Human Right of Women, Women and the environment; and the girl child to address the health and social needs of women in the community. To ensure the implementation of BDPA , LEAH Foundation through the campaign “**Life Empowered Anchors Hope**” works to ensure that adequate, available and affordable resources for achieving social welfare, health of women on cervical and breast cancer; and education are provided to women in the communities of Kwara State Nigeria. LEAH Foundation established health centers and clinic and commits to referral services, counseling and Health Support Scheme where necessary in addressing BDPA on women and health and the SDG 3 of the 2030 Agenda.

Irene Menakaya Schools: the Irene Menakaya School adopted the education and training of women, Women and the environment; and the girl child to reach out to women and girls in the community on the outcome of the BDPA. The school 'Mothers Forum every year to provide community education and training along the annual CSW themes thereby educating women in community about the BDPA and the 2030 Agenda. The School also provides succor to women in needy situation with financial resources to start small scale business in overcoming poverty. Through the Mothers Forum, the school provides knowledge about the 2030 Agenda and the mandate of the BDPA to reach about 90% of women in the community. These women are also led to certificate educate in local vernacular to address their common issues in the community.

African Cultural Promotions Inc (ACPI). The African Cultural Promotions Inc. works to advance the mission of BDPA and the 2030 Agenda through social respect and understanding between people, work of the government and the promotion of cultural exchange in communities. Through its programs, MUSICULTURE, SCHOOLTALENCULTURE, Better Live than Die and Culture for SDG10 and Targets, ACPI provides education and awareness about the BDPA through cultural exchange programs while utilizing language of the community. To achieve the global goal and the BDPA for meaningful commitment, ACPI develops programs specifically tailored to the affective, social needs and interests of the prevailing need initiative for the community. Through its program, Advocacy and Dialogue ACPI creates dynamic and robust network of individuals across disciplines and cultures among women and youth.

Women and Child Watch Initiative: The Women and Child Watch Initiative utilizes a multi-pronged and consistent approach to advocate and promote laws, policies or practices that enhance the mental, physical and socio-economic status of women and children on the framework of the BDPA and the SDG 5 and targets. The Organizations core activities to

ensure the implementation of the BDPA and 2030 Agenda in communities are focused on;

- Legal: protection and defense of the rights of women and children
- Health: free eye treatment and surgery for adult & children-, advocacy on prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS)
- Education: Spelling Bee Competitions among Secondary Schools in community schools

Africana Women Working Group at the UN Network Priorities in the future implementation of BDPA

The Africana Women Working group at the UN posits that the past 25 years of the BDPA and the ushering of the 17 SDGs has laid strong foundation for the voices of women and the repositioning of women to active participation in national, community and societal development. The past 25years had also enacted action for gender awareness and inclusion, creating understanding for actual teamwork in addressing issues of national and societal development.

As we hold to discuss the gains, challenges, strengths and weakness where necessary in the past 25 years, efforts should focus on sustaining the gains of the past 25 years of the BDPA for the future we want for all women and girls.

The Africana Women Working Group at the UN strongly recommend that the next 25 years of BDPA and the remaining 11years of the 2030 Agenda should work on strategies that could;

- Sustain social protection and active participation of women in decision making
- Inclusive development and shared prosperity for sustainable future of women and girls
- Sustain gender recognition and acceptance in all ramification and spheres of development

- Address inclusive support and empowerment of all women irrespective of social and health status.
- Encourage NGOS groups and working groups to design a holistic Inclusive Model(HIM) to bring into action a 25 years Action Oriented Strategies that could adequately embrace the sustainable future of women in community and National development.
- The Model will expand on crucial policies and future resolution or agreed conclusions while considering the global upsurge of women participation in all round development of nations and communities