



WOMEN WORKING TOGETHER IN WEST AFRICA



**The Mission for the West African Regional Program
(WARP)**

Figure 1 Women traders are creating microfinance networks

Women working together in West Africa are making a difference.

Throughout West Africa they have come together in formal and informal organizations to solve problems and explore new opportunities. They build a spirit of solidarity and purpose, learning from and supporting one another. Together



they can do more than individuals working alone. They are solving community problems, opening up business prospects, creating access to credit, and ensuring that families get better education and health care. This booklet provides information on a selection of women's organizations in the 15 ECOWAS countries. The focus is on business and professional women's groups, but we have tried to include the most active social welfare organizations as well.¹ They recognize that the new global economy is fast-paced and knowledge based, so they are getting connected. The most innovative are finding new methods and technologies through their global contacts and applying them to produce local solutions.

DIRECTORY OF LEADING WEST AFRICAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATIONS

Regional West Africa

Réseau de l'Entreprenariat Féminin en Afrique de l'Ouest
West Africa Businesswomen's Network

Benin

Association des Femmes d'Affaires et Chefs d'Entreprises du Benin
Association of Women Business Owners of Benin

Association des Femmes Juristes du Benin

¹ This directory lists only some of the most active of the many thousands of formal and informal organizations in West Africa. It was prepared by IBI—International Business Initiatives of Arlington, VA, USA, for Development Alternatives, Inc. with funding from USAID/WARP. For information on a wider range of non-governmental organizations contact the USAID or UNDP offices in your country, or go on the Internet to directories found at www.fao.org/dimitra or www.wangonet.org

Association of Women Lawyers of Benin

Burkina Faso

Association Femmes 2000
Women 2000 Association

Association Femmes Solidarité – Femmes Chef d’Entreprises
Association of Women Business Owners

Cote D’Ivoire

Association des Femmes Juristes de Cote d’Ivoire
Association of Women Lawyers of Ivory Coast

Mutuelle de Crédit et D’Epargne des Femmes Aboisso-Bonona-Bassam
Aboisso-Bonona-Bassam Women’s Mutual Credit and Savings Fund

Femme Force de Vie
Woman Life Force

Gambia

Women Entrepreneurship Development Agency

Association of Promoting Girls and Women Advancement

Gambia Women’s Finance Association

Indigenous Business Advisory Services

Ghana

Business and Professional Women Ghana

Central and Western Fishmongers Improvement Association

Helping Hand Association for Women’s Development (HHAWD)

Guinea

AFPROCKA GUINEE

AFPROCKA GUINEA

Association des Femmes Guinéennes pour la Recherche et le Développement
Association of Guinean Women for Research and Development

Association des Groupements Maraîchers Féminins de la Mellakhoree
Association of Women's Gardening Groups in the Mellakhoree Area

Femmes Associées pour le Développement et l'Exportation
Associated Women for Development and Export

Association Maaliyando des Femmes de Firawa
Maaliyando Association of the Women of Firawa

Association des Groupements pour la Promotion Socio-Économique des Femmes
Association of Groups for the Socio-Economic Promotion of Women

Association des Sages-Femmes de Guinée
Guinea Association of Midwives

Association Guinéenne des Femmes Volontaires du Progrès
Guinean Association of Volunteer Women for Progress

Association Guinéenne des Femmes Enseignantes de L'Élémentaire
Guinean Association of Women Primary School Teachers

Mali

Association des Juristes Maliennes
Association of Women Lawyers of Mali

Organisation des Femmes d'Affaires de l'Union Africaine – Amazone de Développement
Association of Business Women in the African Union

Fédération Nationale des Femmes Commerçantes
Federation of Women Traders

Association des Professionnelles Africaines de la Communication – Mali
Professional Association of Women in Communications – Mali

Niger

Réseau des Femmes Chefs d'Entreprises du Niger
Niger Network of Women Business Owners

Association Nationale des Femmes Professionnelles d'Habillement

National Association of Professional Women Dressmakers

Association of Women Lawyers of Niger
Association des Femmes Juristes du Niger

Biyan Bukata
Satisfying Women's Needs

Bunkasa-GED
Flourishing

Femme-Jeunesse-Environnement-Santé
Women-Youth-Environment-Health

Union pour la Promotion de la Femme Nigérienne
Union for the Promotion of the Women of Niger

Nigeria

Nigerian Businesswomen's Forum

Business and Professional Women Nigeria

Country Women's Association

Nigerian Association of Rural Women

Women Better Life Multi-Purpose Farmer's Cooperatives Society

Women Entrepreneurs Association of Nigeria

Women's Health and Economic Development Association

Women in Nigeria

Senegal

Centre Africain de L'Entreprenariat Féminin
African Centre for Women Entrepreneurs

Groupement de Femmes 'Bokk Jom'
Bokk Jom Women's Group

Environnement et Développement – Synergie Genre et Développement

Environment and Development – Synergy Gender and Development

Réseau des Caisses D'Épargne et de Crédit des Femmes de Dakar
Network of Savings and Credit Funds of the Women of Dakar

Groupe de Recherche et D'Appui aux Initiatives Féminines
Research and Support Group for Women's Initiatives

Association des Femmes Africaines Face au Sida (AFAFSI)
SWAA, Society for Women against Aids in Africa

Femme Développement Entreprise en Afrique
Women, Development, and Enterprise in Africa

Sierra Leone

Women in Business for National Recovery and Development (WIBNARD)

Togo

Action Pour la Promotion et le Développement de la Femme
Action for the Promotion and Development of Women

Association pour une Promotion Durable de la Femme Défavorisée
Association for the Sustainable Promotion of Disadvantaged Women

Organisation Féminine Pour L'Éducation et la Promotion de la Femme et de la Jeune
Fille
The Dove – Organization for the Education and Promotion of Women and Girls

Réseau de l'Entreprenariat Féminin en Afrique de l'Ouest

West African Businesswomen's Network - WABNET

C/o Complexe Technique Wangari
BP 11231

Niamey, Niger

Regional Organizations with national chapters in Benin, Burkina Faso, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo

Amina HASSANE WANGARI, President

Tel. 227 74 29 85

Fax. 227 74 33 74

wangari@intnet.ne

Esinam AKYEA-DJAMSON, 1st Vice President

Tel. 233 21 77 99 55

Fax. 233 21 77 99 55

esinama@yahoo.com

Kadiatou SOUKO TRAORE, 2nd Vice President

Margarette COLE, Anglophone Secretary

Aby TALL TRAORE, Francophone Secretary

Zainab COLE, Anglophone Treasurer

Fatou GUEYE, Francophone Treasurer

Membership: Women who own/operate registered business, associations of women entrepreneurs

Dues: 50 USD a year for individual membership in national chapter

Goals and objectives: Lobby to lower barriers to trade for women in West Africa, reinforce capacity of businesswomen through training and secure financing. WABNET 2003 priorities are:

- 1) Customs operations/regulations
- 2) Communications and Information Technology
- 3) Training
- 4) Access to credit – interest rate issues
- 5) Marketing of their country's image

Founded: 2001

Activities/Services for Women: Business training, Information Technology (computer) training, Micro-credit loans or other credit, Networking

Partners/Financing: United States Agency for International Development – West Africa Regional Program, Africa Project Development Facility, International Business Initiatives

Association des Femmes d’Affaires et Chefs d’Entreprises du Benin

Benin Businesswomen and Business Owners Association

P.O. Box 1226
Lot 62 Habitat
Cotonou, Benin
Other offices in the country: 4

Tel. 229 85 24 48
Fax. 229 33 26 27
hotelgl@leland.bj

Grace LAWANI, Presidente
Madeleine GBEDO, Member

Full-time Staff: 3
Membership: Businesswomen, based on request to join, and dues contributions
Dues: 50,000 FCFA a year
Members: 50
Sectors: Textiles/garments 15% ,
 Services (incl. Hotel/restaurants) 20%,
 Food Processing/agribusiness 40%
 Crafts 3%,
 Distribution 20%
 Others 2%

Goals and objectives: Work to eradicate female poverty profession. To organize women for access to funds.

Founded: 1988

Activities/Services for Women: Business training, Information Technology (computer) training, Micro-credit loans or other credit, Networking

Partners/Financing: n/a

Association des Femmes Juristes du Bénin (AFJB) Association of Women Lawyers of Benin

Akpakpa Immeuble Adedjouma
04 B.P. 0331
Cotonou
Benin

Tel. 229-331696 / 317236
Fax 220 307847
afjb.benin@bow.intnet.bj

Clotilde MEDEGAN-NOUGBODE, President
Veronique AKANKOSSY-DEGUENON, Secretary General
Scholastique OLOWOLAGBA-ASSOGBA, Director,
Legal Aid Centre of Cotonou (fulltime staff)

Membership: Benin women jurists

Goals and objectives: To promote legal knowledge amongst members who represent professional groups as well as those coming from the rural areas. To promote the rights of women, children, and human rights in general and to make legal services accessible to those outside of urban areas.

Founded: 1990

Activities/Services for Women: Women participate in workshops geared towards raising awareness of the practice of forced marriage and some women continue to as trainees to become “para-legal advisors”. Women and men from select groups who participate in this training may also participate in project finance activities where they are able to secure microcredit loans in order to initiate income-generating activities.

Partners/Financing: World Bank, UNDP, Embassy of Denmark, Ministry of Justice of Canada, ACCT, Oxfam-Quebec

Association Femmes 2000

Women 2000 Association

01 B.P. 5196
Ouagadougou

Burkina Faso

Tel. 226 30 98 07

Ocnr2000@hotmail.com

Chantal Ouedraogo, President
Lacina Garane

Membership: Farmer's Organization

Goals and objectives: To provide aid to rural women through modern farming techniques training, local product development, and environment protection campaigns. To overall improve the living conditions of members.

Founded: 1997

Activities/Services for Women: Women participate in several activity sectors including: agriculture and livestock, technology, education, environmental awareness and protection, food security, microcredit, and rural development.

Partners/Financing: Provincial Health Department, Action Sociale et Famille, Provincial Department for Agriculture and Animal Resources, PSAN, Project Securite Alimentaire et Nutrition, WHFP, UNESCO

Association Femmes Solidarité - Femmes Chefs d'Entreprises

Association of Women Business Owners

01 B.P. 1638
Ouagadougou
Burkina Faso
Other offices: 1

Tel. 226 35 01 71

Fax. 226 35 01 71

noonde@caramail.com

Ouandaogo Victorine, Presidente

Full-time Staff: 2

Membership: Women with registered business and entry fee of 10,000 FCFA

Dues: 30,000 FCFA a year

Members: 89

Goals and objectives: Promote women's interests and secure financing

Founded: August 1990

Activities/Services for Women: Business training, Micro-credit loans or other credit

Partners/Financing: n/a

Association Des Femmes Juristes De Cote D'Ivoire

Association of Women Lawyers of Ivory Coast

1, rue Chemin de Fer, Abidjan Plateau
04 B.P. 1768
Abidjan 04
Cote d'Ivoire

Tel. 225 20 22 24 38
Fax: 225 20 21 76 22

Agathe Baroan, President
Anne Bera, Secretary General
Leontine Moloko, in charge of relations

Membership:

Goals and objectives: To provide training for women and the overall population in the area of rights of women and rights of the family and to encourage the protection of these rights.

Founded: 1984

Activities/Services for Women: Training women in the rural areas in the area of law and judiciary processes. Training community leaders to be paralegals; providing consultation to women on legal matters.

Partners/Financing: AI, LIDHO, AIDF

Mutuelle de Crédit et D'épargne des Femmes Aboisso-Bonona-Bassam (MUCREFABB)

Aboisso-Bonona-Bassam Mutual Credit and Savings Fund

B.P. 89
Aboisso
Cote d'Ivoire

Tel. 225 21 304489
Fax. 225 21 304489

Germaine A. Koffi, President
Melanie A. Koffi, Manager
Josephine A. Ngatta, Head of the Adzoue Bureau

Membership:

Goals and objectives: Through income-generating activities, MUCREFAB works to promote women's financial autonomy by giving them access to credit and action to mobilize savings.

Founded: 1994

Activities/Services for Women: Women participate in meetings in their municipality and receive training to participate in their own income generating activities mostly in the rural areas.

Partners/Financing: UNDP, BOAD, SOCODEVI

Femme Force de Vie (FODEVIE)

Woman Life Force

01 B.P. 2244
Bouake
Cote d'Ivoire

Tel. 225-31-637343
Fax: 225-31-631883

Roselyne KONAN-METTHY, Executive President
Germaine YOBOUE-OUSSOU, Financial Secretary
Thomas KOUASSI, Administrative Officer

Membership:

Goals and objectives: To provide training and technological support to disadvantaged individuals who live in both rural and urban areas and who work in the informal and agricultural sectors.

Founded: 1996

Activities/Services for Women: training in health, family planning, Aids prevention and environmental hygiene, management training through cooperative education and the marketing of agricultural commodities; accounting activities; Training in farming techniques.

Partners/Financing: ANADAR, Canadian Embassy, UK Embassy

Women Entrepreneurship Development Agency (WEDA)

P.O. Box 1144
Banjul
The Gambia

Tel. 220 39 03 11/38 19 50

Ansu Ceesay, Executive Secretary
Satou Njie, President
Salifu Ceesay, Village Chief

Membership: Women's groups in The Gambia

Goals and objectives: To improve the living conditions of women through a variety of activities that through, capacity building and skills development, initiative self-reliance amongst women. To encourage early in childhood development issues of health care, nutrition, and education.

Founded: 1999

Activities/Services for Women: Women engage in typing courses and vegetable marketing

Partners/Financing: Department of Community Development, WEC International

Association of Promoting Girls and Women Advancement

PO Box Pignard Street
Banjul
The Gambia
Bijamfi@yahoo.com

Tel. 220 39 28 26

Binta Sidibe

Membership: Women and girls of The Gambia.

Goals and objectives: To assist underprivileged women and girls in The Gambia.

Founded: 1995

Activities/Services for Women: Business training, Information Technology (Computer) training, and Microcredit loans

Partners/Financing:

Gambia Women's Finance Association

PMB 81
Banjul
The Gambia
Other offices in the country: 1

Tel. 220 39 70 64/39 70 63
gawfa@gamtel.gm

Mr. Chernow Sowl

Full-time salaried Staff: 28
Membership: Gambian women who fit target group of low income
Sectors: Services 1%
Agriculture (incl. food processing and animal rearing) 48%
Commerce 49%
Manufacturing 2%

Goals and objectives: To provide finance options for women with low income and to increase their productive capacities.

Founded: 1987

Activities/Services for Women: Works mostly with rural women.

Partners/Financing: World Bank

Indigenous Business Advisory Services

Sait Matty
PO Box 2502
Bakau
The Gambia

Tel: 220 49 60 89
payibas@gamtel.gm

Manga Sanyang

Full-time salaried Staff: 22
Membership: Gambia women/men who engage in small business activities

Goals and objectives: To enhance the members at the grass root level to become to become entrepreneurs using indigenous means.

Founded: 1975

Activities/Services/Services for Women: Provide micro-credit loans to low-income women. Women work in the following activity sectors: textiles and garments – 20%; Services including hotel and restaurant – 35%; Food processing and Agribusiness – 40%; Petty trading, jewelry making, etc. – 5%.

Partners/Financing: UNDP

Business and Professional Women Ghana

P.O. Box AN 16892

Accra-North

Ghana

Other offices in the country: 15

Tel. 233 21 76 00 42/233 21 76 52 51

Fax: 233 21 76 00 42

gfbpw@ghana.com

Nana Yaa Young GYAMPO, President

Full-time Staff: 3

Membership: Business and Professional women interested in helping others

Dues: 48,000 cedis a year

Goals and objectives: To help women achieve high standard in their business and profession. To organize women for access to funds.

Founded: 1976

Activities/Services for Women: Business Training (Some for a small fee)

Partners/Financing: CIDA, Canadian International Development Agency; Friedrich Naumann Stiftung (Germany); USAID; UN agencies.

Central and Western Fishmongers Improvement Association (CEWEFIA)

P.O. Box 98
Cape Coast, Central Region
Ghana

Tel. 233 42 32 310
Fax: 233 42 34 878

Victoria Churchill-Koomson, Executive Director
Joe Kofie Buadi, Board Chairman
Eunicentia Akpalu, Secretary

Membership: Women who work in the fishmonger and farming sectors of Ghana

Goals and objectives: To work with fishmongers and farmers in the rural villages with the goal encouraging economic, social, and political empowerment of women members. To build confidence in members along with the spirit of enterprise development.

Founded: 1990

Activities/Services for Women: Women participate in training in three major areas including: microcredit schemes, reproductive health, and fish processing and market projects.

Partners/Financing:

Helping Hand Association for Women's Development (HHAWD)

12, Second Palace Close Hs, North Kaheshie
PO Box 3430
Accra
Ghana

Tel. 233 21 25 07 82
Fax: 233 21 25 07 82

Mary Kpordotsi, President
Huberta Dickson, Board Member

Agnes Sowah, Board Member

Membership: Ghanaian women

Goals and objectives: To reduce poverty among rural women by promoting capacity building in the areas of crop production and soil fertility; training women so they may form cooperatives or marketing associations and participate in income generating activities in the agricultural sector.

Founded: 1991

Activities/Services for Women: Women participate in activities including: Canoe transportation and food processing, micro-credit, and environmental conservation.

Partners/Financing: ADF, Netherlands Embassy, ASAWA

AFPROCKA GUINEE

AFPROCKA GUINEA

B.P. 5599 R
Conakry
Guinea

Tel. 224 11 22 80 84/224 11 24 51 39
afprockaong@yahoo.fr

Duombouya Marliatou DIALLO, President
Hadja Binta BALDE, Vice President

Membership: Women who have paid dues
Dues: 50,000 FG a year
Members: 12

Goals and objectives: To produce and trade in shea butter and soap production

Founded: June 2001

Activities/Services for Women: Production of shea butter

Partners/Financing: Production and sale of shea butter

Association des Femmes Guinéennes pour la Recherche et le Développement (AFGRED)

Association of Guinean Women for Research and Development

B.P. 4344
Coleah – Conakry
Guinea

Tel. 224 44 42 48/224 45 31 35
Fax: 224 42 35 73
kabassan@leland-gn.org

Manangbe Sougoule CAMARA, Treasurer
Diene Saran CAMARA, Member
Doussou KABA, Member

Goals and objectives: To promote women researchers and train them in development strategies.

Founded: 1986

Activities/Services for Women: Activities involve training women cooking methods that would allow them to preserve food more easily and for a longer period-of-time as well as how to sterilize milk. Based on surveys administered by the organization, strategies for promoting education for girls are being devised .

Partners/Financing: CFU, World Bank, Canadian Fund for Local Initiatives

Association des Groupements Maraichers Féminins de la Mellakhoree (AGMFM)

Association of Women's Gardening Groups in the Mellakhoree Area

B.P. 295
Conakry
Guinea

Tel. 224 45 20 19
Fax: 224 45 18 12

Hadja M'mah SAMOURA, President
Massire FOFANA, President of a Group

Membership: Guinean women

Goals and objectives: To develop women's living conditions by providing small loans, improving skills in horticulture and other food crops, and encourage women to save.

Founded: 1998

Activities/Services for Women: Activities include training for women in the areas of horticulture. Other activities include training in environmental conservation by learning different farming techniques.

Partners/Financing: FAO

Femmes Associées pour le Développement et L'exportation (FADEX)

Associated Women for Development and Export

B.P. 2117
Conakry
Guinea

Tel. 224 46 39 23/224 46 37 84
Fica.gui@eti-bull.net

Hadja Fanta KEITA, President
Wodia CAMARA KONATE, Vice-President
Aissata KOUROUMA, Secretary General

Membership: Guinean women

Goals and objectives: To provide social services including: education, health, and literacy training; to promote food security, environmental protection, and work in agro-industrial farming.

Founded: 1998

Activities/Services for Women: Women engage in activities such as agricultural production including taking part in industrial plantations where the harvested production resulted in four times the initial expenditure.

Partners/Financing: FICA

Association Maaliyando des Femmes de FIRAWA Maaliyando Association of the Women of FIRAWA

B.P. 1960
Conakry
Guinea

Tel. 224 45 15 65
kabassan@leland-gn.org

Hawa Oulare

Martine Oulare
Fonda Toure

Membership: Guinean women

Goals and objectives: To promote income generating activities for women in order to improve their living conditions.

Founded: 1995

Activities/Services for Women: Women participate in activities such as soap making where a few women with limited knowledge pulled together to increase their production and income; palm oil extraction to increase income (this project incorporates literacy training), and the installation of crushing machines where women learn day-to-day management.

Partners/Financing: GTZ, COFEG

Association des Groupements pour la Promotion Socio-Economique des Femmes (APROSEF)

Association of Groups for the Socio-Economic Promotion of Women

B.P. 1902
Conakry
Guinea

Tel. 224 41 19 21/45 19 90/22 07 30
cofeg@eti.net.gn

Hadja Fatoumata NABE, President
Hadja Mballou CHERIF, Counsellor
Fatoumata CAMARA KEITA, Vice-President

Membership: Guinean Women

Goals and objectives: To work with women's groups in the rural areas and to encourage them to foster a spirit of unity so that they may assist each other in the development of the overall community.

Founded: 1995

Activities/Services for Women: Women participate in activities ranging from mangoe drying techniques which allow mangoes to be preserved and available for consumption throughout the year, to extracting natural indigo which incorporates an active literacy program so that women are able to keep track and manage their own sales and accounting records.

Partners/Financing: USAID, UNDP, COFEG, ACROPAD

Association des Sages-Femmes de Guinée (ASFEGUI) Guinea Association of Midwives

B.P. 2176
Conakry
Guinea

Tel. 224 45 13 46/41 26 07
Cofeg@eti.net.gn

Mariama DIOP-SYLLA
Marietou SOW-SYLLA

Membership:

Goals and objectives: To provide training for some of its members in midwifery to reduce the maternal and infant mortality rates; to educate women on food security, health, population issues, and human rights.

Founded: 1991

Activities/Services for Women: Some women participate in training to become midwives. Another service is the construction of a health center and staff people were trained to run the center.

Partners/Financing: German Technical Development Organization, COFEG

Association Guinéenne des Femmes Volontaires du Progrès (AGFVP)

Guinean Association of Volunteer Women for Progress

B.P. 4373

Conakry
Guinea

Tel. 224 22 73 76/25 15 90

Aicha Barry CAMARA, President
Fatoumata Sylla Conte, Treasurer
Aminata Barry, Project Officer

Membership: Guinean women

Goals and objectives: Deals with women's groups who work in agriculture, microenterprise, and various other industries. To promote education amongst women about their rights and support women's work by making resources available to them.

Founded: 1993

Activities/Services for Women: Activities include soap making, maize growing, and the development of a market gardening area; women receive training in management as a component of these projects.

Partners/Financing: CTA, Technical Center for Agriculture and Rural Cooperation (the Netherlands)

Association Guinéenne des Femmes Enseignantes de L'Elementaire (AGFEE)

Guinean Association of Women Primary School Teachers

B.P. 3190
Conakry
Guinea

Tel. 224 41 16 01/21 60 80
Ttsst3@yahoo.com

Mariama Kesso DIALLO-THIAM, President
Oumou S. DIALLO BALDE, General Supervisor
Djenaba Galissa Mane, Vice-President

Membership:

Goals and objectives: To raise awareness in women teachers regarding the educational needs of girls as well as raise the functional literacy rate of women at the village level.

Founded: 1996

Activities/Services for Women: Activities aim mostly towards improving the literacy rate amongst women through training programs as well as producing literacy trainers. Women may also participate in soap making workshops. Construction of a 3 classroom Primary school and a health center is underway.

Partners/Financing: ADECOMA, UNACOFAG

Association des Juristes Maliennes

Association of Women Lawyers of Mali

Rue 422

Porte 537

Niarela, Bamako

MALI

Other offices in the country: 8

Tel. 223 221 23 21

Fax. 223 221 23 21

ajm@afribone.net.ml

Madina DIALLO, President

Soyaca MAIGA, Vice President

Dambale Fatimata Doumbia, Legal Clinic Coordinator

Full-time Staff: 1

Membership: Lawyers,

Dues: 10,000 FCFA a year

Members: 100

Goals and objectives: Promote and protect women's legal rights

Founded: 1987

Activities/Services for Women: Information and Business Advisory services

Partners/Financing: World Bank, UNDP, United States Embassy

Organisation des Femmes d’Affaires de l’Union Africaine – Amazone de Développement

Association of Business Women in the African Union

BP 46
Place de la Liberte
Bamako, Mali

Tel. 223 222 50 36
Fax. 223 222 21 20
hstchico@yahoo.fr

Hawoye Sidi TOURE, Administrative Secretary

Membership: Business women and public sector officials supporting business women
Dues: 15,000 FCFA a year, Executive Members, 5,000 FCFA regular members

Goals and objectives: Unite business women for solidarity, partnership, and exchange of experiences; promote the economic development of women and children, address reproduction, illiteracy, poverty, corruption, and environment concerns

Founded: 2001

Activities/Services for Women: Business training

Partners/Financing: n/a

Fédération Nationale des Femmes Commerçantes

Federation of Women Traders

BP 1894
Bamako
MALI
Other offices in the country: 8

Tel. 223 223 28 72/ 223 222 50 36/ 223 222 96 45
Fax. 223 222 21 20

Aiché Malinké DRAVÉ, President

Membership: Women engaged in commercial activities

Dues: 5,000 FCFA a year

Members: 800 (approx)

Goals and objectives: Mobilize women from all business sectors to unite to develop their commercial activities. Organize participation in trade shows. Defend and support members rights vis a vis the authorities.

Founded: 1992

Partners/Financing: n/a

Association des Professionnelles Africaines de la Communication – Mali

Professional Association of Women in Communications - Mali

Rue 228

Porte 474

BP E 731

Hippodrome, Bamako

MALI

Other offices in the country: 8

Tel. 223 221 2912

Fax. 223 222 1921

maisonpresse@cefib.com

Makoro CAMARA, President

Membership: Women in communications/media

Dues: 5,000 FCFA a year

Members: 100 (approx.)

Goals and objectives: Fight against alienation of women in the media, provide training and defend the rights of women communications professionals

Founded: 1988

Activities/Services for Women: Information Technology (computer) training

Partners/Financing: UNICEF, United States Embassy, Women's Ministry

Réseau des Femmes Chefs d'Entreprises du Niger

Niger Network of Women Business Owners

BP 12920

Niamey

NIGER

Other offices in the country: 7

Tel. 227 74 29 85

Fax. 227 74 33 74

wangari@intnet.ne

Amina HASSANE WANGARI, President

Membership: Women business owners or directors

Dues: 61,000 FCFA a year or 31,000 FCFA for auxiliary members

Members: 64

Sectors: Textiles/garments 10% ,
 Services (incl. Hotel/restaurants) 20%,
 Food Processing/agribusiness 5%
 Crafts 10%,
 Distribution 10%
 School/Education 10%
 Others 35%

Goals and objectives: Promote and develop female entrepreneurship

Founded: December 1999

Activities/Services for Women: Business training, Information Technology (Computer Training), Information and Business Advisory services, Networking

Partners/Financing: n/a

Association Nationale des Femmes Professionnelles d'Habillement

National Association of Professional Women Dressmakers

BP 12986

Niamey

NIGER

Other offices in the country: 5

Tel. 227 72 22 04

Mobile. 227 92 68 66

Fax. 227 72 30 94

ykallou2002@yahoo.fr

Yacouba Kallou Tidjani

Membership: Women dressmakers with minimum of 3 years technical experience

Dues: 5,000 FCFA a year

Members: 130

Sectors: Textiles/garments 70% ,
 Services (incl. Hotel/restaurants) 0%,
 Food Processing/agribusiness 0%
 Crafts 10%,
 Distribution 20%
 Others 0%

Goals and objectives: Reinforce capacity of women dressmakers and promote female socio-economic development

Founded: 2002

Activities/Services for Women:

Partners/Financing: NIGETECH2

Association des Femmes Juristes du Niger (AFJN)

Association of Women Lawyers of Niger

B.P. 10689

Niamey

Niger

Tel. 227-722890

Fax: 227-724519

Mme Amina Abdourahamane, President
Mme Bayard Mariama, Secretary General
Amsatou SIDDO, Assistant Secretary General

Goals and objectives: To promote awareness in women of the law and their rights and duties in Niger. To contribute to the protection of mothers and children.

Founded: 1991

Activities/Services for Women: Legal Aid project where the lawyer's fee is paid by AFJN for women who are involved in lawsuits. Rural Extension Project, which promotes the rights of women in the rural sector in order to improve their living conditions.

Biyan Bukata

Satisfying Women's Needs

Rus des Batisseurs
B.P. 13863
Niamey
Niger

Tel. 227 73 71 23

Goals and objectives: To promote self-help initiatives and autonomy within women and girls in the rural and urban areas by integrating them into the micro-credit schemes.

Founded: 1995

Activities/Services for Women: A pilot project launched in 1996, targeted underprivileged women, and granted to them a small amount of capital to begin income-generating projects.

Partners/Financing: IRED, Innovations et Réseaux pour le Développement.

Bunkasa - GED

Flourishing

B.P. 13405
Niamey
Niger

Tel. 227 73 31 81

Goals and objectives: To promote women's roles in development through a participatory and gender based approach. To train women in various skills to improve their living conditions.

Founded: 1997

Activities/Services for Women: Activities include a credit and savings scheme to eventually integrate women into the decentralized financial system. Another project works to train women in credit management, business skills, and other means of advisory support in order to develop income-generating activities and improve women's overall livings standards while reducing domestic labor.

Partners/Financing: SNV Niger; Netherlands Embassy, EDF, European Development Fund.

Femme-Jeunesse-Environnement-Santé

Women-Youth-Environment-Health

B.P. 10271
Niamey
Niger

Tel. 227 75 35 87/73 30 14
Email: femjes@intnet.ne

Goals and objectives: To improve living conditions amongst members through a participatory approach and to encourage awareness of health, education, and environmental issues.

Founded: 1996

Activities/Services for Women: Project for supporting the activities of Tonkobongou women, which aim to create additional income for members of this group. Another project involves further credit and savings schemes for the Koure women including the training of two extension officers and an agricultural supervisor.

Partners/Financing: PRSCS, Programme de Renforcement de la Société Civile au Sahel, CFLI, Canadian Fund for Local Initiatives.

Union Pour la Promotion de la Femme Nigérienne (UPFN)

Union for the Promotion of the Women of Niger

B.P. 13168
Niamey
Niger

Tel. 227 74 12 55

Diama DIALLO, President
Aissata ZOUMARI, Training Officer
Marie Solange DJIBO, Secretary General

Email:

Goals and objectives: To promote women's rights and roles in Niger by working to integrate women into the economy, protect women's reproductive health, and combat violence that affects women and children.

Founded: 1992

Activities/Services for Women: Women participate in micro-credit projects designed from the grass roots level and help them engage in income-generating activities. Another project developed a health post/facility in Sabouday village where there were health needs by villagers. Members of the management committee were trained to maintain the facility and a rotating fund was implemented to sustain the facility.

Partners/Financing: NGOs and member associations of KASSAI, Fédération des Associations et ONG Féminines Nigériennes; ASEPEP; DIMAL.

Nigerian Business Women's Forum

6 Balarabe Musa Street
Victoria Island, Lagos
Nigeria

Tel. 234 1 262 3155/60
Fax: 234 1 262 5888
fovadje@lbs.edu.ng

Franca Ovadje

Full-time Staff: 1

Membership: Women business owners, required membership meeting, dues contribution

Dues: 15,000 Naira

Members 100 (25 dues uptodate)

Goals and objectives: To strengthen women-owned businesses. Influence policy affecting the former; education, marketing, trade fairs, networking, international linkages

Founded: 1998

Activities/Services for Women: Business training, Information and business advisory services, networking

Partners/Financing: APDF with sponsoring seminars and UNIDO with technical support.

Business and Professional Women's Nigeria

Nelson Mandela Street
Abuja
Nigeria

Tel. 234 9 314 0451 7

Mary Babalola

Goals and objectives: To promote business and professions of members. To assist disadvantaged girls and women economically and with informal education.

Founded: April 2001

Country Women Association of Nigeria (COWAN)

72 Yakubu Gowon Way
P.O.Box 6504
Anglo, Jos Local Government Area

Tel. 234 44 42 48/234 45 31 35

Fax: 234 42 35 73

kabassan@leland-gn.org

Julie E. Ser

Membership: Nigerian women

Goals and objectives: To encourage women to engage in activities of self-promotion and empowerment. To increase women's earning capabilities.

Founded: 1982

Activities/Services for Women: Women engage in activities including credit schemes for member groups, training women in cottage industries, ensuring that each members engage in tree planting, poultry keeping, and health education.

Partners/Financing: NCWS Network of Africa Rural Women Association (NARWA). Forum for African Voluntary Development Organizations (FAVDO).

Nigerian Association of Rural Women (NARW)

15 Industry Road
P.O. Box 8426
Port Harcourt
Nigeria

Ada N. Amoji, President
Okuboere Suowari, Vice-President
Bobara Forteta, Secretary

Membership: Nigerian women

Goals and objectives: To implement poverty alleviation strategies to improve the living standards of rural women.

Founded: 1983

Activities/Services for Women: Women are sensitized to micro-credit and micro-enterprise ventures and encouraged to participate in these programs. There are also currently literacy programs, informal education programs on food production and services, and workshops on building a strong family unit.

Partners/Financing: Ministry of Agriculture, ACWW, Associated Country Women of the World

Women Better Life Multi-purpose Farmers' Cooperative Society (NNEWI)

P.O. Box 578
Nnewi, Anambra State
Nigeria

Tel: 234 46 46 10 15
Email: cuco757@yahoo.com

Dumezie M.T. OKEKE, Project Coordinator
Chinwe UCHE
A.E. ANAGBOGU

Membership: Nigerian women

Goals and objectives: NNEWI aims to help women to fulfill their economic and basic needs, emphasizing income-generating activities, saving and investment services. Issues include health, education, political development, legal rights, violence and exploitation, economic policies and empowerment.

Founded: 1980

Activities/Services for Women: NNEWI through the donations built a school and employed teachers. The school maintains itself through member donations. Some women participate in animal husbandry in small units on their own land. They are given some money to buy animals and then raise them. Women participate in basket making and sell them for additional income.

Partners/Financing: Village Women's Association; Church Women's Association; Parents & Teachers' Association.

Women Entrepreneurs Association of Nigeria (WEAN)

No. 3 Gbajumo Crescent
Surulere – Lagos
Nigeria

Tel: 234 1 28 80 66 5/83 20 62

Angela IKEDIALA, Project Director
Christy A. Olowogbemi, Chairperson, Management Council Team

Felicia CHUKS-OKAFOR, General Secretary

Membership: Nigerian women

Goals and objectives: Through workshops, training programs, and seminars, the association aims to encourage entrepreneurial skills in young people.

Founded: 1996

Activities/Services for Women: Women participate in workshops that teach them skills in business such as accounting principles and record keeping, time/stress management, and resource management. Women may also participate in conferences.

Partners/Financing: USAID, WAWA, DEVNET, and the Nigerian Association of Women Entrepreneurs

Women's Health and Economic Development Association (WHEDA)

3B Ekpo Obot St
P.O. Box 2665
Uyo
Nigeria

Tel: 234 85 20 39 44/20 49 64

Email: wheda@fordwa.linkserve.com

Fidela ETIM UBUK, Chief Executive and National Coordinator
Membership:

Goals and objectives: To aid mostly rural women and children who are underprivileged in two main areas: health and income generation.

Founded: 1988

Activities/Services for Women: Women participate in the formation of cooperative societies that engage in micro-credit schemes. Women also participate in agriculture, food production and distribution to add income. There are also many seminars, workshops, and campaigns organized to education rural women in health care and HIV/Aids.

Partners/Financing: Ford Foundation (USA); EZE, Evangelische Zentralstelle für Entwicklungshilfe (Germany).

Women in Nigeria

12, Yovi Street

Iwaya – Yaba

Lagos

Nigeria

Other Offices in the country: 20

Tel: 234 803 306 5134 7

Toro Oladapo

Full-time Staff: 4

Membership: Individuals who believe in the organization's mission.

Dues: token of 100 Naira a year

Members: 3000

Goals and objectives: The social, political, and economic empowerment of the disadvantaged, especially women. Pro-democracy, pro-human rights association working to address gender inequality and class division.

Founded: 1982

Activities/Services for Women: Business training, Information and business advisory services, Micro credit loans or other credit, Networking

Partners/Financing: Friedrich Neumann and Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (Germany), USIS, USAID

Centre Africain de l'Entreprenariat Féminin

African Centre for Women Entrepreneurs

B.P. 10351

Dakar

Senegal

Tel. 221 82 48 464

Fax: 221 82 48 464

caef@telecomplus.sn

Khadija DOUCOURE, Director

Marie NIANG, Administrative Assistant

Adji Fatou NDIAYE, Program Officer

Membership: Senegalese women

Goals and objectives: To promote women's involvement in socio-economic fields by developing their entrepreneurial skills.

Founded: 1993

Activities/Services for Women: Women participate in activities that gear towards income generation such as training in small business management. Conducts research and studies on the relevance of socio-economic promotion of women.

Partners/Financing: Netherlands Embassy, UNIFEM, Canadian International Development Agency

Groupement de Femmes 'Bokk Jom'

'Bokk Jom' Women's Group

B.P.A 237

Thies

Senegal

Astou HANNE, President

Aida NIANG, Treasurer

Membership: Women from the village of Keur Banda Niang

Goals and objectives: This women's group of the village of Keur Banda Niang aims to promote biological farming and administer small family businesses in the sectors of transportation, retail trade, and catering trade.

Founded: 1991

Activities/Services for Women: Women engage in activities such as the millet mill project, and the market gardening project where they received training from a local NGO in regenerative farming techniques.

Partners/Financing: US Embassy, FNGPF, IIED, ASPAB

ENDA-SYNFEV – Environnement et Développement- Synergie Genre et Développement

Environment and Development – Synergy Gender and Development

B.P. 3370
Dakar
Senegal

Tel. 221 82 34 542
Fax: 221 82 22 95
Synfev2@enda.sn
<http://www.enda.sn/synfev/synfev.htm>

Marie Helene MOTTIN-SYLLA, Head of the SYNEV Team
Diodio SAMBE, Communication Officer

Membership:

Goals and objectives: To promote issues such as human rights, health, women's independence and economic equality by incorporating gender as an essential component to understanding these topics.

Founded: 1987

Activities/Services for Women: Women engage in training in electronic communications and have begun a website for French speaking women's groups to talk to each other about gender issues.

Partners/Financing: APC-Femmes-Afrique, Association for Progressive Communication

Réseau des Caisses D'Epargne et de Crédit des Femmes de Dakar (RECEC)

Network of Savings and Credit Funds of the Women of Dakar

Grand-Yoff, Cite Millionnaire
Dakar
Senegal

Tel. 221 82 78 823
Fax: 221-82 73 215
recec@enda.sn

Marie Victorine MAMADY
Seynabou DIOP

Membership: Senegalese women

Goals and objectives: To facilitate access for women to financial services in order to improve their skills and activities.

Founded: 1987

Activities/Services for Women: Women engage in activities such as savings and credit schemes, which set up booths in various districts in Dakar and promote savings and for women to gain access to commodities through foodstuffs cooperatives.

Partners/Financing: APIMEC, ENDA-GRAF, NOVIB

Groupe de Recherche et D'appui aux Initiatives Feminines (GRAIF)

Research and Support Group for Women's Initiatives

B.P. 524
Thies
Senegal

Tel. 221 95 13 656
graif@telecomplus.sn

Josephine NDIONE, Secretary General
Vincent NDIONE, Bookkeeper
Paulette DIATTA, Secretary to the Director

Membership:

Goals and objectives: To support groups who aim to combat illiteracy and poverty.

Founded: 1990

Activities/Services for Women: The activities include functional literacy training of women in particular and men; a microcredit scheme that specifically deals with women who are involved in income generating activities and have their own funds; and a public hygiene, health and nutrition program.

Partners/Financing: AgroAction, Brot fur die Welt, Action de Careme

Association des Femmes Africaines Face au Sida (AFAFSI)

SWAA, Society for Women against Aids in Africa

B.P. 7504
Dakar
Senegal

Tel. 221 82 45 178/ 82 43 722

swaa@telecomplus.sn

Charlotte Faty Ndiaye, President
Soukaye Dieng Diop, Secretary General
Mama Awa Faye NIANG, External Relations

Membership:

Goals and objectives: To promote awareness of HIV/AIDS issues and educate women on consequences related to infection.

Founded: 1988

Activities/Services for Women: Women participate in STD/Aids prevention by conducting surveys and focus groups geared towards implementing programs within companies and schools to educate people about STD/Aids.

Partners/Financing: ICASO, ANLS, Population Council, UNDP, USAID, UNIFEM, UNFPA

Femme Développement Entreprise en Afrique (FDEA) Women Development and Enterprise in Africa

B.P. 3921
Dakar
Senegal

Tel. 221 82 52 058/82 47 153
Fax: 221 82 54 287

fdea@telecomplus.sn

Soukeyna NDIAYE BA, President

Ndeye Mariane THIOYE, Director of Credits
Assane KANE, Administrative and Financial Director

Membership: Senegalese women

Goals and objectives: To promote women's entrepreneurial skills by providing training in SMEs/SMIs and to make financial resources accessible to women through credit systems.

Founded: 1987

Activities/Services for Women: Women engage in micro-credit schemes aimed towards integrating mostly rural women into the national economy, and in the creation and progression of the DIAMBAR network of women entrepreneurs in Senegal, which provides links to the national and international economic circle. The DAIMBAR network also encourages synergism between rural and urban women's groups.

Partners/Financing: AGETIP, UNDP

Women in Business for National Recovery and Development (WIBNARD)

C/O 111 Campbell Street
Freetown
Sierra Leone

Tel.233 22 241 271
maggshaff@yahoo.com

Margarette O. Cole

Membership: Individual business women and registered businesswomen's associations

Members: 37

Sectors: Textiles/garments 50% ,
 Services (incl. Hotel/restaurants) 20%,
 Food Processing/agribusiness 20%
 Crafts 10%,
 Distribution 0%
 Others 0%

Goals and objectives: Enhancing the status of women entrepreneurs

Founded: 2001

Activities/Services for Women: Networking

Partners/Financing: NA

Action pour la Promotion et le Développement de la Femme (APDF)

Action for the Promotion and Development of Women

B.P. 183
Sokode
Togo

Tel. 228 50 10 82
Fax: 228 50 10 82

Anne Kpedji, President
Lydie Soussou, Treasurer
Marthie Batora, Secretary

Membership:

Goals and objectives: To engage women in community development projects involving social life, education, and capacity building particularly in the rural areas.

Founded: 1994

Activities/Services for Women: Activities include a program for setting up land use, literacy training geared towards reading and writing in the local language of Kabye, small animal husbandry.

Partners/Financing: FED, WWSF, Women in Law and Development in Africa.

Association pour une Promotion Durable de la Femme Defavorisée (APDFD)

Association for the Sustainable Promotion of Disadvantaged

B.P. 7197
Lome
Togo

Tel. 228 26 01 51
apdfd@hotmail.com

Akouvi Betty GBLEM, President
Ayayi APEDO-AMAH, Secretary-General
Edem Espoir KEKANOU, Treasurer

Membership:

Goals and objectives: To encourage women to pursue income-generating activities, literacy training, family-planning activities, environmental protection, the creation of infrastructure.

Founded: 1994

Activities/Services for Women: Women participate in income-generating activities such as selling iodised cooking salt, and post-literacy programs.

Partners/Financing: UNESCO Development Institute, International Literacy Institute, CTA

Organisation Feminine Pour L'Education et la Promotion de la Femme et de la Jeune Fille (LA COLOMBE)

The Dove – Organization for the Education and Promotion of Women and Girls

B.P. 80498
Lome
Togo

Tel. 228 21 49 65
Fax: 228 21 77 94
fongto@rdd.tg

Therese AKAKPO, Coordinator
Felicite KOUBLANOU, President

Membership: Togolese women and girls

Goals and objectives: To encourage women and girls to get actively involved in their own development in areas of education, vocational training, human rights, environment, and health issues.

Founded: 1990

Activities/Services for Women: Women and girls become involved in activities such as the self-help center for Girls where young women of 17 years of age or older engage in vocational training in the areas of tapestry making, dyeing, hair plaiting, and management. Recreational activities are also encouraged. Other activities include literacy programs and the promotion of women's rights.

Partners/Financing: Comic Relief, CARE International, AHUEFA, Brot fur die Welt