

ADVOCATING FOR  
WOMEN AND CHILDREN  
TO BE AT THE TOP  
OF AFRICA'S AGENDA



GRAÇA MACHEL TRUST



*“ We cannot address decision makers with 100 fragmented voices, we need to build a common voice, to influence structural and policy change. ”*

*Graça Machel, Founder*



# ABOUT US



The Graça Machel Trust works across the continent on four main areas:

CHILD  
DEVELOPMENT  
AND CHILD  
RIGHTS

NUTRITION  
ADVOCACY

WOMEN'S  
ECONOMIC  
ADVANCEMENT

LEADERSHIP  
AND  
GOVERNANCE

We catalyse action,  
support local initiatives,  
lend solidarity and offer  
support where it is  
needed

We connect people and groups  
that should know each other  
and work together; and engage  
both publicly and behind the  
scenes with power brokers to  
strengthen, multiply and amplify  
the voices of African  
women and children

We work through  
networks and  
collaborations, and  
incubate and create  
new initiatives where  
gaps exist

## ADVOCATING FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN TO BE AT THE TOP OF AFRICA'S DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

When addressed effectively, equitable Children's and Women's rights become the fundamental building blocks that not only develop thriving local communities, but also shape societies that are better equipped to contribute meaningfully to the overall development of the African continent. It is for this reason that the rights of women and children remain a key focal point of programmes at the Graça Machel Trust. It is through the passionate and ongoing implementation of these programmes that our holistic and rights-based approach to community development is fully expressed.

## OUR VISION

*Nurture caring societies that value social justice, promote and protect the rights of women and children*

## OUR MISSION

*Amplify women’s movements, influence governance and promote women’s contributions and leadership in the economic, social and political development of Africa; and advocate for the protection of children’s rights and dignity*

## OUR VALUES

### *Integrity*

We demonstrate the highest levels of personal and organisational integrity in all areas of our work. We remain permanently guided by the principle of good conduct, responsible behaviour and high integrity in our interactions with partners and collaborators.

### *Courage*

We exercise disciplined risks in our resolve to bring positive change in the lives of women and children across the region and globally. We are prepared to take calculated risks, stand by the decisions we make, challenge ourselves to think outside the box, and deliver innovative programmes.

### *Excellence*

We set ourselves ambitious goals and targets, and consistently strive to deliver excellence in our work. Our ambition is driven by a desire to deliver measurable, high-impact results for women and children, and to ensure value for money for our donors and supporters.

### *Accountability*

We value accountability in all that we do. We are accountable to those we serve as well as those who support our work and give us resources, including our funding partners, friends, and collaborators.



## OUR APPROACH

*The Trust’s experience working on women’s and children’s rights has enabled us to develop a model that links national, regional and global, advocacy.*

To this end, we

**Engage with governments, regulators and policymakers** to remove policies that are harmful to women and children and influence decision-makers towards making positive policy changes

**We work through networks and a broad range of partners** to both inspire and demonstrate the power of collective action

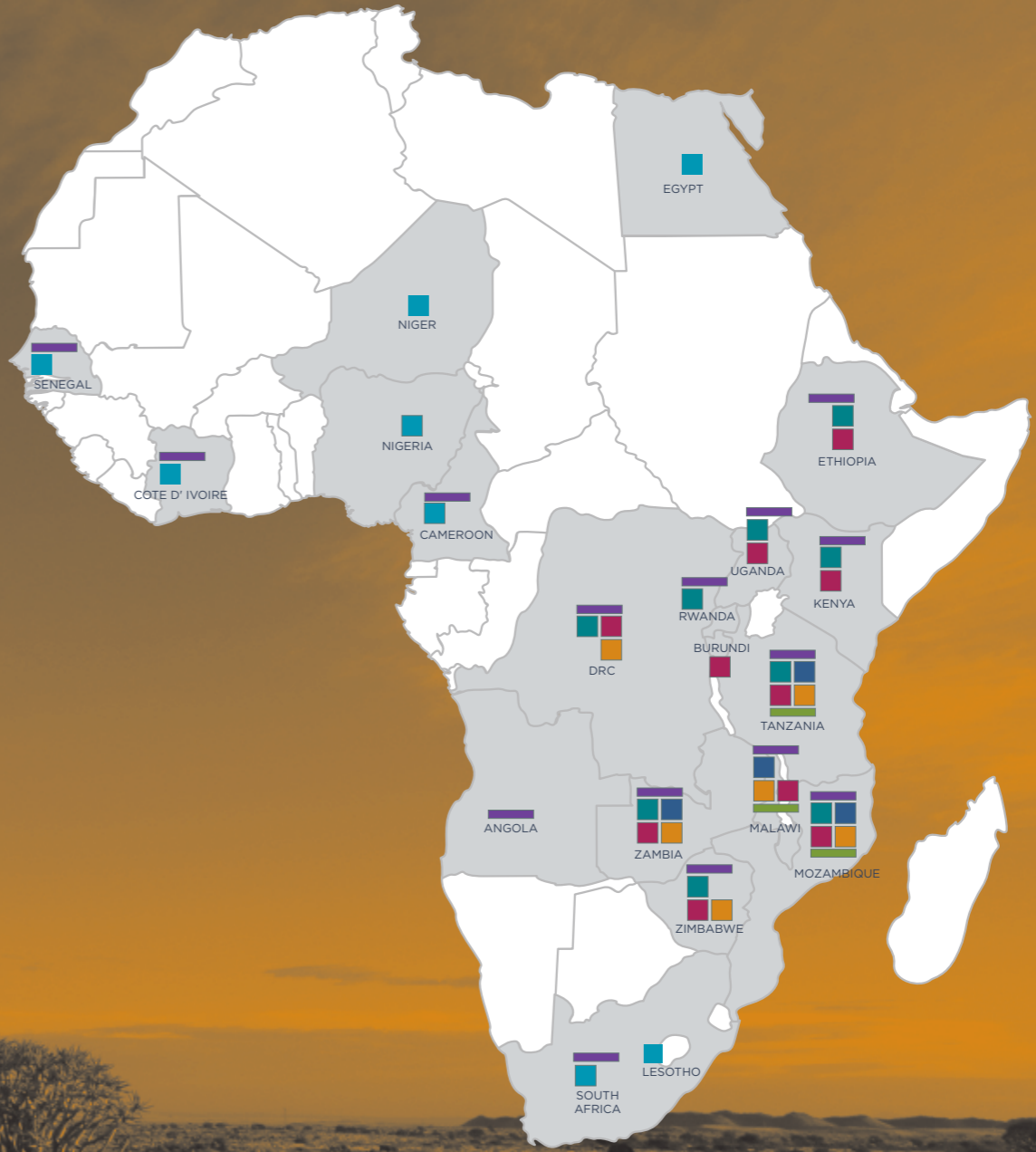
**Convene meetings, round-table discussions and forums** to facilitate and promote dialogue with various stakeholders to find common ground and work towards a common agenda






**Conduct research and disseminate knowledge** to ground our advocacy in data driven facts, that give weight and credibility to advocacy positions

**Implement demonstration projects** that give us a granular understanding to assist us in developing multi-faceted approaches to solve complex problems



OUR PRESENCE IN AFRICA



NEW FACES NEW VOICES (NFNV)			WOMEN IN MEDIA NETWORK (WIMN)
NETWORK OF AFRICAN BUSINESS WOMEN (NABW)			CHILDREN'S RIGHTS PROGRAMME
NUTRITION PROGRAMME			AFRICAN WOMEN IN AGRIBUSINESS (AWAB)



# OUR PROGRAMMES

## CHILDREN'S RIGHTS PROGRAMME

*We work with activists, partners, individuals and groups that are committed to creating a better future for Africa's children.*



GRAÇA MACHEL TRUST

## CHILDREN'S RIGHTS PROGRAMME

**Our vision for the African child is that every child, in every nation, should begin his or her life with the best possible foundation that will allow them to reach their full potential.**

Leveraging our partnerships at country, regional and global levels, we seek to ensure that all children are able to progress optimally in order to achieve their full potential. This means being able to access quality formal and non-formal education and benefiting from optimal health and good nutrition. With a special focus on early childhood development and the needs of the girl child, the Children's Rights Programme also works to ensure an end to child marriage, along with other traditional practices that are harmful to children, including ending crimes and violence against children.

We view children as more than just rights holders, which places child participation central to all our programme interventions, as we seek to find solutions that protect and promote the continent's most precious citizens.



## NUTRITION PROGRAMME



*We are engaged in advocacy for nutrition as a developmental priority at a country, regional and global level to ensure that nutrition is placed high on the agenda – to ultimately end hunger, achieve food security, improve health and promote sustainable agriculture in Africa.*



## NUTRITION PROGRAMME

The prevalence and consequences of malnutrition and under-nutrition, stunting, morbidity and mortality are well documented yet not fully understood. The impact of chronic malnutrition is of particular concern in Africa, where, lasting effects on the cognitive and physical development of children and their families has inadvertently led to the stunted development of families and societies.

At the Graça Machel Trust, we believe that access to adequate nutrition is not just a health issue, but is also developmental in nature as it forms the bedrock of an educated, healthy and productive society. The goal of the Nutrition Programme, therefore, is to advocate for greater awareness and political commitment for effective food security and nutrition programmes in Southern Africa with special emphasis on Malawi, Mozambique and Tanzania.

*Under-nutrition contributes to about one third of all child deaths worldwide*

*Children in sub-Saharan Africa are 16 times more likely to die before the age of 5 than children in developed countries*

*One in five children under the age of five is underweight in sub-Saharan Africa*

### COLLECTIVE AND MULTI-SECTORAL APPROACH

**In order to successfully redirect public focus towards nutrition, and ensure that it is placed high on the agenda of national government and civil society, a collective and multi-sectoral approach is required.**

- Our **country-level** work seeks to strengthen civil society nutrition alliances and stakeholder platforms from different sectors, including government officials, representatives from different political and administrative levels, parliamentarians, development partners, United Nations organisations, private sector, media, academia and community representatives.
- At a **regional level**, we aim to bring respected African voices, who are leaders in their own countries from the private and public sector, to the regional and global debates on nutrition, and are working with regional bodies to ensure that governments meet their commitments by developing accountability mechanisms and scorecards.
- Our **global level** advocacy will emphasise nutrition and food security as part of reaching the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), specifically Goal 2, which is to “End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture and its corresponding targets”.

## WOMEN'S RIGHTS PROGRAMME

*The Graça Machel Trust encourages women to challenge the status quo and to demand recognition of their contributions to their countries' economies.*



GRAÇA MACHEL TRUST

### WOMEN'S RIGHTS PROGRAMME

The economic development of the continent hinges on the sustained participation of women in socio-economic spheres at all levels and across all sectors. Using a collaborative approach, and working through networks and various partners, we advocate for the increased recognition, representation and participation of women in the economy to drive their economic advancement, well-being and leadership, and Africa's prosperity.

#### OUR WOMEN'S NETWORKS

Our approach to network building is based on bringing new and existing women's networks together. Spanning nearly 20 countries these networks represent a range of sectors that are critical for Africa's development. The networks are geared to support women in their efforts to influence and shape socio-economic policies and identify untapped business opportunities for women, as they individually and collectively work towards making a tangible impact on Africa's development. Working closely with a broad range of partners, the Trust provides institutional and technical support to these networks to build a critical mass of highly qualified and capable women leaders in areas where they are underrepresented.





## OUR WOMEN'S NETWORKS

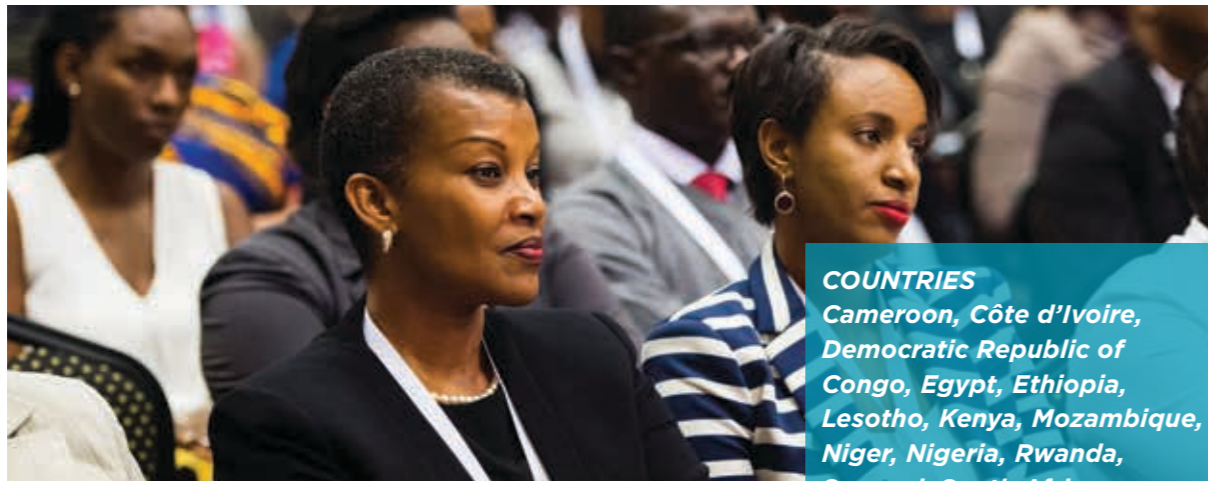
### WOMEN IN MEDIA NETWORK



A network of African women journalists who individually and collectively use their influence and voice to help shape and disseminate empowering storylines about Africa's women and children.

**COUNTRIES**  
 Angola, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe

### NEW FACES NEW VOICES WOMEN IN FINANCE NETWORK



Established in 2009 for the purpose of expanding the participation and influence of women in the financial sector.

**COUNTRIES**  
 Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Lesotho, Kenya, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe

### NETWORK OF AFRICAN BUSINESS WOMEN WOMEN IN BUSINESS NETWORK



National and regional umbrella body of business associations that seek to represent and serve the interests of businesswomen across sectors.

**COUNTRIES**  
 Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe

### NETWORK OF AFRICAN WOMEN IN AGRIBUSINESS WOMEN IN AGRIBUSINESS NETWORK



Launched as an AWAB driven initiative, this is a women-led project that promises to bring an innovative and regional approach to Africa's food security challenges. The model adopted has a unique multiplier effect that will provide investment opportunities for women in the production of food supplies, value-addition, storage, marketing and logistics.

**COUNTRIES**  
 Democratic Republic of Congo, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe

## LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE PROGRAMME

### OUR FOUNDER'S WORK AND INFLUENCE

Our Founder, Graça Machel, engages in a range of global and continental initiatives to ensure that women and children are part of important global, regional and national conversations that impact on development, peace, democracy and good governance in Africa.

As a world-renowned advocate for women and children, and an SDG advocate for the United Nations Secretary General, she continues to work at all levels and leverages strategic partnerships to promote the social, economic and democratic transformation of Africa for the benefit of future generations.

### THE GRAÇA MACHEL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME

The Graça Machel Scholarship Programme offers opportunities for women to study at post-graduate level at leading universities in Southern Africa and others parts of the world. The programme provides funding to women for Masters' and Doctoral degrees in health, education, science and technology, economics and finance. The programme aims to empower and equip women to take up leadership positions so that they may have direct impact in the development of the communities, countries and regions in which they live across Africa. Almost 100 scholarships have been awarded, to date, with the alumni creating a powerful network of young leaders.

### WOMEN IN POLITICAL LEADERSHIP

The Graça Machel Trust believes in catalysing women's leadership, to create the inclusive and equitable societies that we envision. One of the key strategic objectives of the Trust is to offer learning and networking platforms for women in political leadership to improve their ability to access and navigate the centres of power.

Through this initiative, the Trust aims to support women's political participation and leadership across the continent in all spheres of government and is committed to increasing women's voices in democracy and governance. In order to make an impact and to transform the political landscape, it is crucial that women in politics are equipped, supported and connected with one another. It is not through individual efforts that women's gains have been achieved and sustained, but through collective effort and leadership.



Mrs. Machel also lends her expertise and insights to a number of organisations in both governance and leadership roles, to ensure that the rights and needs of Africa's women and children are fully integrated into the regional and global discourse:

- Board Chair of the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health (PMNCH)
- Board Chair of the Africa Child Policy Forum (ACPF)
- Board Chair of the African Centre for the Constructive Resolution of Disputes (ACCORD)
- Vice Chair of the Mandela Institute for Development Studies (MINDS)
- Board Member of the Mo Ibrahim Foundation
- Board member of Education Above All
- Member of the Africa Progress Panel (APP)
- Chancellor of the University of Cape Town
- Chancellor of the African Leadership University (ALU)
- President of School of African and Oriental Studies

# KEY INITIATIVES



## MARA OUT-OF-SCHOOL CHILDREN EDUCATION PROGRAMME

*A multi-dimensional approach to provide a second chance at education for out-of-school children*

In an effort to combat the high levels of school drop outs and to build the capacity of schools, governing bodies and teachers in the Mara Region in Tanzania, the Graça Machel Trust partnered with the government of Mara, the Mara Alliance and the Qatar based, Educate A Child (EAC) programme to bring 20,000 out-of-school back into the school system.

The Mara Alliance consists of The Graça Machel Trust, thirteen NGOs and faith-based organisations including the Mara Regional Government.

The Mara out-of-school Programme incorporates global and African benchmarked education frameworks to provide an essential multi-dimensional package that makes schools the centers of care and support for learners.

This unique approach is based on the premise that that if the government, private sector, non-governmental organisations and families form a supportive alliance that in turn supports schools and families; it leads to an improvement in the quality of education and a decrease in school drop-outs.

*The Mara Programme will challenge adverse cultural and traditional aspects of our culture to help liberate girls and bring about gender equality*



PHOTO CREDIT: GIRLSNOTBRIDES

### MARA PROGRAMME INTERVENTIONS

- nutritional support
- health promotion
- water and sanitation
- safety and protection
- social welfare services
- psychosocial support
- material support
- curriculum support
- leadership and structures
- community involvement
- infrastructure
- teacher development and support

## DRIVING SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION

Women Advancing Africa (WAA) is a new Pan-African flagship initiative launched by the Graça Machel Trust to acknowledge and celebrate the critical role women play in shaping Africa's development agenda and driving social and economic transformation.

The WAA Forum puts women at the centre stage of the continent's economic liberation, by providing a highly visible platform to showcase African women's leadership and concrete contributions towards building a stronger, more vibrant and equitable future for all Africans.

We believe that Africa's continued journey towards full economic and social prosperity will only be achieved when women take the lead in setting the continent's development agenda and have equal opportunities to participate at all levels in society. Through their collective action, women are instrumental in building a stronger and more vibrant and equitable future for all Africans.



### CONVENE



### CONNECT



### CATALYZE



*WAA seeks to drive the change needed to bring about an inclusive and transformed society that works for the collective good*

## WOMEN CREATING WEALTH PROGRAMME

We celebrate African businesswomen whose enterprising activities not only provides households with much needed income, but who have the potential to grow their businesses into larger more profitable and job creating opportunities. We know that money in the hands of women stretches far, building families and communities and underpinning growth at all levels of the economy.

To address the wealth creation gap, the Graca Machel Trust established the Women Creating Wealth initiative, a regional entrepreneurship development programme that will train and equip 1,000 growth-oriented women-led businesses to become business leaders in 10 countries by 2020.

*“We need to move women from financial inclusion to wealth creation”*

### CASE STUDY Women Creating Wealth Turning Challenges into Opportunities



**URSULA BANDA**  
Entrepreneur from Malawi

When I first signed up for the programme my perspective was that women entrepreneurs were mostly small and micro businesses and that that they did not enjoy the same high turnovers as the larger businesses which are mostly owned by men. This assumption changed on the first day of training when the coordinator asked people to stand up and describe their businesses. In the room were women who were making millions in their businesses which included agribusiness, retail and construction. This diversity opened up my mind to the possibilities of growth. My fear dissolved and my confidence was boosted, as I was one of these incredible women who had been selected for this programme. It made me bold enough to apply for the Graca Machel Trust MBA scholarship to the African Leadership University

in Rwanda, and I am proud to say that I was selected as a fellow from Malawi. I will now get the opportunity to travel to Canada and other places for further training. The pitching practise has also greatly improved my articulation, and although in the last competition I did not make it to the final round, I will use what I have learnt in Canada. I still have access to professional coaches, who continue to help me on the financial aspects of my proposals and business plans. Lastly, I am now able to speak ‘quantitative language’, I was great at describing my business and my story. Now I am able to project, predict and convey my finances. Overall, I feel blessed to have shared the company of women on their journey to become billionaires. This has inspired me and I am watching their path with interest!



## RWANDA WOMEN'S FUND

*A digital investment fund owned by women, for women*

The Trust's Women in Finance Network, New Faces New Voices, was established to expand the participation and influence of women in the financial sector, by increasing women's access to finance and financial services, strengthening the skills and capacity of women as consumers, entrepreneurs and investors to access finance, and fast-tracking women's leadership in the financial sector.

and cash deposits in Rwanda and East Africa. The Fund will manage its assets to achieve a positive return and will reinvest all profits to grow its net asset base. Within two years, the Fund will invest up to 5% of its assets in a second fund that will invest debt and equity into women-led businesses or businesses that benefit women.

The NFNV Rwanda Chapter recently launched the RUGORI FUND that will invest in different market securities (equities and fixed income)



By buying into the Rugori Fund, investors will support the economic empowerment of women in Rwanda; and within the next five years the Fund will significantly contribute to lifting one million Rwandans out of poverty.

### THE RUGORI FUND KEY MILESTONES

At least  
**3,000**  
women will be  
connected to  
markets through  
“She Trades”  
platform in the  
next 3 years

The fund will reach  
out to at least  
**300,000**  
women as investors

**90%**  
of women will be  
formally financially  
included  
(from 63% today)

At least  
**30,000**  
Rwandan women will  
obtain certification in  
basic financial literacy



## THE AFRICAN FOOD BASKET PROJECT

*A model for developing women-owned seed companies and small-holder farmers*

The African Women in Agribusiness Network (AWAB) aims to propel women's agricultural activities beyond subsistence farming into viable businesses that participate equitably in the agricultural value chain.

The Food Basket Project offers an innovative, sustainable and home-grown solution to resolve a number of agribusiness challenges, particularly addressing the increasing need for seed in the Southern African Development Community. The project has been specifically designed to raise the productivity levels of women smallholder farmers using climate-smart agricultural techniques to tackle food security in the region. It is currently being rolled out in Malawi and Zambia, with plans to expand to Mozambique, Tanzania and Zimbabwe.

*“A women-led solution to address Africa's food security challenges”*

NETWORK OF  
AFRICAN WOMEN IN AGRIBUSINESS  
**WOMEN IN AGRIBUSINESS**  
NETWORK

### THE AFRICAN FOOD BASKET PROJECT WILL

Produce  
**10 000**  
metric tonnes  
of quality  
legume seeds

Identify  
**250 000**  
grain producers  
in the region

Ensure that  
**5050**  
women  
small-holder  
farmers are  
mechanised





Design African  
Food Basket  
facility structures

Develop  
**50**  
women-owned  
and sustainable  
seed companies

## CONTACT US








### GRAÇA MACHEL TRUST

-  [www.gracamacheltrust.org/new](http://www.gracamacheltrust.org/new)
-  [info@gracamacheltrust.org](mailto:info@gracamacheltrust.org)
-  [@TheGracaMachelTrust](https://www.facebook.com/TheGracaMachelTrust)
-  [@G\\_MachelTrust](https://twitter.com/G_MachelTrust)



### WOMEN ADVANCING AFRICA

-  [www.womenadvancingafricaforum.com](http://www.womenadvancingafricaforum.com)
-  [waa@gracamacheltrust.org](mailto:waa@gracamacheltrust.org)
-  Women Advancing Africa Forum - WAA
-  WAA Forum @waa\_forum
-  waa\_forum

NEW FACES NEW VOICES

### WOMEN IN FINANCE NETWORK

-  [www.nfnv.org](http://www.nfnv.org)
-  [info@gracamacheltrust.org](mailto:info@gracamacheltrust.org)
-  @nfnv.org
-  @nfnv\_org





GRAÇA MACHEL TRUST