



**ASPEN NETWORK
OF DEVELOPMENT
ENTREPRENEURS**

Accelerating Women Climate Entrepreneurs (AWCE)

Dennis Kyalo | ANDE

Gender responsive resourcing for climate resilience workshop

By: SAEDI Consulting Barbados, in collaboration with WOCAN and SGP

Tuesday 23rd March 2022
3:00pm-5:00pm EAT



Global Affairs
Canada

Affaires mondiales
Canada



Why Climate Entrepreneurship?

- Over 50 million people globally were directly affected by floods, droughts or storms, and wildfires ([UNEP 2021](#))
- “Green entrepreneurs” are developing, deploying, and expanding localized solutions to global climate crises, yet only 2% of incubators and accelerators focus on climate challenges worldwide ([ANDE 2021](#))
- Need to close gaps in - research, investments, convening, capacity building, and advocacy



Overview :- Accelerating Women Climate Entrepreneurs (AWCE) Project & Fund

AWCE Project

About: The AWCE Fund, an activity under the [Accelerating Women Climate Entrepreneurs](#) project

Project focus: Building the gender-lens investing ecosystem for women climate entrepreneurs to grow scalable climate-related businesses in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Aligned to ANDE strategic priorities & SDGs Gender Equality & Climate and Environmental Action

AWCE Fund

Aim: Increasing investment into WCEs in SGBs

- Contribute to poverty reduction and respond to climate change by identifying and promoting good practices to support women entrepreneurs in climate-related value chains.

Target regions: Sub-Saharan Africa

Funding support & type:
GAC | Grant

AWCE Fund

Funding size: Up to US \$ 65,500

Project partners:

AKF (*AWCE program in Tanzania and Kenya - Incubation or business support for ESOs/intermediaries*) &

WUSC (*AWCE Research*)

Over 500 concept note applicants, the largest we have ever had

Currently funding 3 ESOs, will add 2 after funding support from FMO

Supported ESOs under ANDE AWCE Fund



Westerwelle Foundation

Title of project: SHEIgnites Greenpreneur Program

Country: Rwanda

About Project

To implement a green sector hackathon for 100+ female entrepreneurs in Rwanda and support up to 15 selected teams in developing and validating their sustainable solutions over a period of eleven months.

Kawjo Foundation

Title of project: Promoting women led markets in Malawi through upscaling and promoting the use of climate smart fish processing technologies

Country: Malawi

Future Females Empowerment Initiatives

Title of project: FutureFinance: Accelerating Women Climate Entrepreneurs in Kenya, Nigeria, Namibia and South Africa

Countries: Kenya, Nigeria, Namibia, and South Africa

Why women climate entrepreneurs?



First, Women suffer the effects of climate change disproportionately.

- This is due to the intersection of other social and economic inequalities such as land ownership rights, access to finance or patriarchal power structures.

Secondly, Investing in women is investing in climate and environmental action.

- Gender equality and climate and environmental action are inextricably linked.
- Women are responsible for 80% of food production in the Global South.

Thirdly, Supporting women climate entrepreneurs is not only the right thing to do, but good business.

- Women generate more revenue per dollar invested in start-ups compared with male peers.

Lastly, All investing, especially climate investing, should be done with a gender lens if we are to close the gender financing gap.



What next?

❑ **Role of public finance** – It can play a role to de-risk some of the investments in climate interventions

❑ **Improve funding ecosystem** - Investments involve capital investments in both physical and technology platforms. This calls for **hybrid/blended financing** (debt/equity/grants). Walk the talk in gender-lens investing

❑ **Role of data** – There is need for new measurements and reliable gender disaggregated impact data

❑ **Defining success in climate gender investing** - We need to look at realistic outputs e.g. for the next 10 years

❑ **Share success stories** – what works and what doesn't

⑩ ANDE targets to share key learnings with ecosystem actors on how best to support WCEs and invest in WCEs. E.g. Most (>60%) WCEs in Sub-Saharan Africa are in climate adaptation in agriculture and renewable energy ([GAC, WUSC, AKFC, ANDE, 2021](#))



**ASPEN NETWORK
OF DEVELOPMENT
ENTREPRENEURS**

Thank you!

Tel: +254 720636111

Email: dennis.kyalo@aspeninstitute.org

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/dennis-kyalo-9046703a>