



## Femmes Africa Solidarité

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### PROJECT: AFRICAN GENDER FORUM AND AWARD

**PERIOD:** 2005 – up to date

**AMOUNT in Euros:** Forum: 173 136

Award: 147 783

**DONORS:** AWDF, government of Senegal

**PARTNERS:** AU, UNECA, GIMAC, Government of Mozambique

**POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** OXFAM GB, FAO, WFP, UNIFEM, AFDB

### DESCRIPTION

The **African Gender Forum** aims to bring together African women and women from other continents to share experiences and lessons on important current issues from a multi-dimensional perspective which integrates gender, economic, social, and political discussions. It allows African women to make their own assessment of their situation and to propose strategies for future action. It was launched in 2005 by FAS' Pan African Centre on Gender, Peace and Development (PAC) in Dakar and it includes a Gala dinner to close the Forum.

The **African Gender Award** is a ceremony closing the Forum and a time of celebration to recognize and reward African Leaders or Government representatives, who have demonstrated outstanding achievements in gender mainstreaming and women's advancement. As such, the African Gender Award has been designed to be a performance award recompensing Governments accountability towards the Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality.

### **The Recognitions of the Civil Society & the Private Sector**

Under the African Gender Award Program, two Recognitions are granted to Civil Society (CSO) and to the Private Sector (PS) of the Award recipient country. Indeed, the CSO and the PS are two inevitable partners of the State in promoting Gender mainstreaming. Therefore it was necessary to give also visibility to their achievements and commitments. The Award and the two Recognitions expected goal is to strengthen the synergy between the State, the CSO and the PS and mostly to sustain the African Gender Award's visions and to facilitate monitoring and evaluation on the SDGEA performance.

### RESULTS

The expected objective of the Forum is for women to establish networks by strengthening the communication and cooperation between actors from the public and economic spheres, with the aim of instilling a culture of solidarity at the continental level.

The first Forum, held in Dakar, Senegal, in May 2005, which was held in partnership with the Arab Women's International Forum discussed **globalization** and its impact on women.

The first African Gender Award (2005) was awarded to **President Wade of Senegal** and **President Mbeki of South Africa** in celebration of their work towards gender equality and gender mainstreaming in the African Union (AU).

The 2007 edition of the Forum featured a dialogue between the African women on one side and the African Diaspora and descendants on the other side. The discussions concentrated on the relationship between **women and migration**, and its socio-economic and political implications with a focus on migration's positive contributions to development.

The 2007 African Gender Award was presented to **President Paul Kagame of Rwanda** for his commitment to promoting gender equality in a series of political and legislative reforms, which has made Rwanda an exemplary country, not only for the African Continent, but for the entire world.

This year, it was decided to devote the 2009 Forum to the Global crisis (food, fuel, finance, and climate change) and its impact on African women, which requires close attention and special measures from both the African and gender perspectives.