SUMMIT

REPORT

1st - 2nd July 2023
Safari Park Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya

THEME

JUSTICE. TRUST. ACCOUNTABILITY
The Nalafem Summit established itself as one of the key young-feminist-led strategic conferences on the frontlines of women and girls liberation. Politicians, government officials, parliamentarians, diplomats, policy-makers, and activists gathered in Nairobi 1-2 July 2023 to reflect on the theme of Justice, Trust and Accountability for Gender Commitments

While specific recommendations differed in detail, the conference delivered a unified message of end the pandemic of Sexual and Gender Based Violence. Similarly, policymakers and activists expressed their strong condemnation to the push back on sexual reproductive health and rights, Maputo Protocol and the need for more young women into politics to legislate and protect progressive policies

2nd Nalafem Summit was co-hosted by the Judiciary of Kenya and Nala Feminist Collective

Male: 25%  Female: 75%

Audience Age 18-75

52 speakers  219 participants  37 countries  7 side events/workshops  14 partners

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JUSTICE
BRIDGE POLICY & IMPLEMENTATION

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The opening Keynote Address echoed the grounding of the Summit, young women want progress, they want to own their narrative and they want to be in partnerships and spaces which celebrate intergenerational greatness. This session mobilized for better understanding of SGBV courts which were created to ensure the dignity of survivors. These courts were piloted in Shanzu, and 10 other counties, an SGBV Strategy was additionally launched.

Justice should be felt and be a tool to enable us to be treated and treat everyone in a way that empowers them to know they matter. In order for this to happen everyone must be empowered to know their rights, to claim their rights, to defend their rights, to stand for their rights and enjoy the full potential of their life and the promises in their Constitution.

During this dialogue with Chief Justice, SGBV survivors were able to ask questions, raise challenges and propose solutions and pathways for the effective implementation of SGBV courts.

Some of the challenges raised is that moving through the legal system for SGBV cases is expensive and re-traumatizing. Laws are not enough without implementation and awareness. Implementation and awareness must work together to dismantle the conditioning of men to believe when they see women or girls that they are sexual objects.
Justice means healing, it means having a safe space so processes need to be safe. This session zoomed into Kenya and highlighted SGBV courts as a structure to make Justice more accessible. These courts are proposed to be mindful of the sensitivity of the issue and to center the women’s healing as part of justice. It brought together judges, Survivors, Community Organizations and the Office of the President.

正义意味着治愈，意味着有一个安全的空间，所以过程需要是安全的。这个会议将焦点放在了肯尼亚，并强调了性暴力法庭作为结构来促进正义。这些法庭被提议要考虑到这个问题的敏感性，并将女性的治愈作为司法的一部分。它汇集了法官、幸存者、社区组织和总统的顾问。

**Take Aways:**
- SGBV is a crime! It is a violation!
- Survivors at the center and forefront, communities involved to prevent SGBV
- A coordination mechanism needs to be established to work for the survivors at Health, Security and Justice and ensure they are treated with respect at all the stages leading to the courts.
- At every stage from reporting at hospitals or police stations to judgment, all actors need to be held accountable
- Justice is ensuring the structural causes that existed that permitted the sexual violence to take place should be dealt with.

Justice is ensuring that the conditions that permitted the sexual violence to take place should be dealt with.

- “It is about time our countries declare SGBV a pandemic so that we can all take dealing with it very seriously”.
- “Are we even engaging with survivors? Where are the resources? We have the laws but they are not enough.”
- “Justice means healing, it means having a safe space so processes need to be safe. This session zoomed into Kenya and highlighted SGBV courts as a structure to make Justice more accessible. These courts are proposed to be mindful of the sensitivity of the issue and to center the women’s healing as part of justice. It brought together judges, Survivors, Community Organizations and the Office of the President.”

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TRUST
BRIDGE GENERATIONAL LEADERSHIP GAP

INTERGENERATIONAL CO-LEADERSHIP

We, Africa, Young women, demand that it’s time for co-leadership.
The discussion unpacked the multinational spaces are relevant but not in the current format. There is growing exploitation of smaller countries even with processes put in place that are meant to make it equal. Africa is more than a quarter the number of member states in the UN but doesn’t have the power in the system. Those with money always win even if they are the minority.

SGBV is in every aspect of life, women in politics, school, home, place of work, church. GBV is a pandemic that requires that level of seriousness to put everything aside to eradicate it. Unless we eradicate GBV any progress achieved with gender equality will not be sustainable. The language around SGBV needs to be reframed to center perpetrators. It is violence of men against women. Number of men who rape.

Call to Action:

We need to be deliberate about designing systematic ways and pathways for women to come into politics with the power that the those positions provide.

Calibrate yourself so you are someone who stands for society but also someone that belongs to society.

Moderator: Aya Chebbi, Founder & President of Nalafem Collective

Calibrate yourself so you are someone who stands for society but also someone that belongs to society.
“On average you have to ask a woman 12 times to run for office before she runs for office. Every single one of us deserves to be in those spaces of power and those rooms that decide what happens to our bodies and our communities”.

Rana Abdelhamid, 2022 New York congressional candidate, Nala Council member (USA/Egypt)

We need to deliberately move from advocacy into politics.

Aisha Yesufu, Founder Citizen’s Hub, (Nigeria), Nala Council member

There is an attitude towards disabled people as charitable model, let’s go help them! So it is hard to disassociate from someone who is seen as weak, aspiring to take up public leadership and holding resources.

Wanja Maina, Kenyan Disability Rights Activist & Politician (Kenya)

Bridging the generational leadership gap means building trust. Multigenerational approach can ensure continuity and inclusion. Young feminists need to engage in politics to be disruptors and shake tables. People are losing trust in government, leadership, and in their communities’ ability to sustain themselves.

Take Aways:
- We no longer have the luxury to not be in politics as young feminists. Keep asking women to run for office
- Invest in young women’s campaigns to be financially independent and avoid being controlled.
- Dismantle charity model when advocating for disability inclusion in politics
- Recognize and acknowledge when you are speaking from a point of privilege.
Accountability for sexual and reproductive health and rights; Why the Push Back?

Moderator: Rosebell Kagumire, Nala Council member (Uganda)

We curated this timely conversation because women’s bodies are being debated and concerted effort is being made to take away their autonomy over their bodies. Imposed politicization of bodies of women and use of ‘African values’ to justify the regression in laws and their implementation. This agenda which is being funded and pushed by anti-rights individuals and organizations from outside the continent needs to be openly addressed.

“"We are at a war. Our bodies are at war right now. A war that has to be fought using every single breathe that we have for bodily autonomy".

Saoyo Tabitha Griffith
Lawyer, health & human rights activist (Kenya)

“In Malawi every month 1000 girls are dying from unsafe abortions. It is unnecessary. It can be prevented.”

Hon. Dr Mathew Ngwale,
Member of Parliament (Malawi)

“Majority of the data around SRHR were either produced by multilateral institutions or academics, without the voices of adolescent girls at the core of it”.

Olaoluwa Abagun,
Executive Director, ATHENA NETWORK (Nigeria)

“Exclusive capitalism is toxic and patriarchy is acidic and our silence collectively or individually will not keep any one of us safe.”

Irũgũ Houghton,
Executive Director, Amnesty International Kenya

Take Aways:
- Speak up about young people’s rights and agency in accessing contraception and other sexual and reproductive health services
- Feminist and women’s rights organizations need to be in solidarity with queer women
- Highlight the wins and celebrate them to ensure they remain
- Work with and in government and other allies, get organized and strategic, as those that are working to remove SRHR
- The conceptualization and implementation of accountability should be at all levels, within our organizations and communities, and at intergovernmental institutions.
Zulaikha Patel (South Africa)

“It’s not enough for policies to change. Oppressive systems need to change, people need to change in order for justice to be achieved.”

Dahabo Guracha (Kenya)

“Be you. Do you. Go shine because its your right and its your time.”

Ikram Ben Said (Tunisia)

“Femicide is deeply rooted in the tragic manifestation of misogyny. Tunisia is experiencing an alarming surge of this crime.”

Rose Mbune (Kenya)

“Grassroot feminist women are always the first respondents to sexual and gender based violence but sometimes they are threatened. Their lives are in danger. They end up running away from home because they are living in the same community and the perpetrators can easily access them.”

Maryam Bukar Hassan (Nigeria)

“You are a cub of a lion. You are a gift. You are Nala. So if you ever feel like, you, your ideas are not good enough. Remember all you have to do is Roar.”

As parents we can not wait for institutions to catch up with us. In our homes that is where the power is. Our kids must be educated and empowered and it starts with us parents agitating for that change.

Zainab Nasser & Cedric Nzomo (Kenya)

Dahabo Guracha (Kenya)

“Be you. Do you. Go shine because its your right and its your time.”

Zainab Nasser & Cedric Nzomo (Kenya)
“Explore the things that you value and care about as a women and make sure that you are pushing those agendas within those spaces no matter what your age is”.  
Valerie Wiggett,  
Director of Career Programs, African Leadership Academy (South Africa)

“There are those who have walked the feminist path before not only from a place of theory and concept but also actually living it and testing it.”
Shuvai Busuman Nyoni,  
Executive Director of the African Leadership Centre

“The university is a very male dominated space, very patriarchal, very challenging. we have to start thinking how do we as feminists make this a space for us.”
Dr Njoki Wamai,  
Assistant Professor United, States International University-Africa

“The messages shared during the summit have encouraged us to trust ourselves, trust each other and have trust in the change that we can bring”
Sunita Caminha,  
UN Women Kenya, Policy Specialist - Ending Violence against Women • UN Women East and Southern Africa Regional Office
Side Events/Workshops

Criminalising Gender Based Violence - Hosted by UN Women

The workshop on the prevention of gender-based violence created a learning platform for participants to deepen their understanding of the diverse and growing evidence-based prevention and interventions taking place throughout Africa. It provided an opportunity to access resource materials, share experiences, and discuss advocacy strategies to foster increased investments in prevention efforts across the region.

Intergenerational Co-Leadership - Hosted by the African Leadership Academy

This side event was a workshop set up that provided a safe space for discussion about the challenges and opportunities for young people. Participants shared their experiences and heard interventions by elders. They discussed ways to integrate intergenerational spaces and platforms for co-leadership.

Mental Health & Well Being - Hosted by The Girl Generation

The session led by activists’ explored wellness, collective care and practical sessions (exercises and development of individual self-care plans). Participants were introduced to a number of wellbeing tools and a solidarity space to enable participants to rebuild and strengthen their wellness and wellbeing.

Digital Justice - Hosted by Siasa

The digital clinic deepened the participants’ understanding of the Digital Ecosystem, Digital Rights in the Kenyan Context, Cyber Security and Dealing with trauma among other issues related to women’s safety online. The Digital Clinic increased awareness, developed knowledge skills, fostered collaboration, empowered individuals to influence policy discussions.

Silencing the Guns - Hosted by UN Women

The workshop provided Participants with a platform for young women to showcase their contributions to promoting peace and security in Africa and garner policy makers commitment through advocacy efforts. The dialogue had the participation of representatives from Member States, the AU, young women peacebuilders, and youth advocates.

Access to Justice and Protection - Hosted by Action Aid

The workshop provided a platform to unpack access to justice and protection and pathways for diverse stakeholders engagement.
The workshop on the prevention of gender-based violence created a learning platform for participants to deepen their understanding of the diverse and growing evidence-based prevention and interventions taking place throughout Africa. It provided an opportunity to access resource materials, share experiences, and discuss advocacy strategies to foster increased investments in prevention efforts across the region.

It was a multilingual, hybrid space with interpretation to French and English.

**OUTCOME**

- GEF for most grassroot and community organizations is not relevant as they either do not know about it or understand how they can use it and to access the commitments made especially finances.

- There is a need for Africa specific indicators that take into consideration the context in the continent.

- Accountability data needs to be incorporate stories which unpack the lived experiences of women and girls that are not included in statistical data.

- Government commitments need to be framed as state commitments to prevent commitments being dismissed due to power change.

- The gap between UN Women and feminist organizations needs to be bridged and the accountability process needs to be more transparent.
Dr. Obiageli Katryn Ezekwesili receives NALAFEM AWARD 2023 for her commitment to Intergenerational Co-leadership

Athena Network receives NALAFEM AWARD 2023 On Sexual Reproductive Health & Rights

Dr. Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Former UN Women Executive Director receives NALAFEM AWARD 2023 for her commitment to Intergenerational Co-leadership

The Amazon Leadership Initiative receives NALAFEM AWARD 2023 on Ending Gender Discrimination

Wendy Kay
Live Performance

AKOTH
Live Performance
Hon Justice Martha Koome, EGH, Chief Justice and President of the Supreme Court of Kenya receives NALAFEM AWARD 2023 for her leadership on advancing Access to Justice & Protection.

Siasa Place receives NALAFEM AWARD 2023 on Intergenerational Co-leadership.

Hon. Dr Mathew Ngwale, Member of Parliament of Malawi receives 2023 NALAFEM AWARD for his leadership in advancing Sexual Reproductive Health & Rights.

Young Women’s Consortium receives 2023 NALAFEM AWARD on Sexual Reproductive Health & Rights.

EDDIE GREY & THE FLOWER PROJECT
Live Performance

NALAFEM Partner of the Year Award
Waridi Events
Press

JUDICIARY TO ESTABLISH SPECIALIZED SGBV COURTS ACROSS COUNTRY
VISIT WEBSITE

GOVERNMENTS ASKED TO HELP SGBV VICTIMS TO EASILY ACCESS JUSTICE
WATCH VIDEO

CJ KOOME URGE COURTS TO SPEED UP SEXUAL AND GBV OFFENSES CASES
WATCH VIDEO

JUDICIARY TO ESTABLISH SPECIALIZED SGBV COURTS ACROSS COUNTRY
VISIT WEBSITE

ACTIVISTS AT THE FOREFRONT FOR JUSTICE FOR SGBV VICTIMS
VISIT WEBSITE

Lobby groups urge African Governments to declare GBV cases a national pandemic

Press

Sponsors

“A women should be in public office because we constitute half the population. We vote and pick our leaders, we pay taxes, and we need determine how that money is being spent”

Keynote: Hon Lady Justice Njoki Ndungu, Judge of the Supreme Court of Kenya

Partners

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The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Kenya, @CJMartaKoome, former Deputy President of South Africa and Executive Director of UN Women @phumlambongouka and I were awarded by the incredible young women of the continent @Nalafem at their #NFS2023 #iamnala and got us to shuffle 😊😊

Besides the irreplaceable Chief Justice, another woman on Kenya Supreme Court, Hon. Lady Justice @NjokiNdungu_UJ got us all super excited at some of their remarkable collective strides in their determination to turn their judiciary into a strong and independent institution. Iconic women. 💁‍♀️👩‍⚖️👩‍⚖️

Grace Kitoi @KitoiGrace

It’s been two days at the #NFS2023 truly amazing organizing #iamnala. Great work @TheALorg for believing in YFLs and giving us an opportunity to be in such places.

Nyaboth Foska @NyabothFoska

Being in such spaces gives me life! The intergenerational excellence of African women and wisdom is everything I need to refill my cup 🍺🍺

Thanks @Nalafem @unwomeninafrica #nfs2023

Sunita Carrinha @SunitaCarrinha

Grateful to be part of #NFS2023 today and the inspiring discussions on growing collective power for #genderequality through justice, trust, and accountability. #iamnala #GenerationEquality

Taifa Bokie @TaifaBokie

"Character is not complete until it is consistent" @obyezekz

Such a privilege to have attended the 2nd Nalafem summit where women exercise their power.

@Nalafem @TheGirlGen #NFS2023 #iamnala

Dr. Njoki Wamai, PhD. @njakikwuamai

Congrats @Nalafem for the inspiring #NFS2023. Great weekend holding intergenerational dialogues with the feminists before us @obyezekz @phumlambongouka @CJMartaKoome and the #iamnala feminists for hosting us & creating this space. Asante sana @DRem_ @aya_chebbi @RosebelUK

Hon. Hummingbird @marjiaah

Just learnt from @CJMartaKoome that people with disabilities are given special priority in the courts...so that their matter moves fast...same case for kids and people in small claims courts... #iamnala #nalafemsummit2023 #nfs2023 @Nalafem

Shujaa Sadia Hussein (HSC) @SadieH

Great moment with @CJMartaKoome, @aya_chebbi and @obyuezekz at the #NFS2023 FGM survivors have been given a platform to talk about mental health and wellbeing including access to justice! @TheGirlGen @Amref_Worldwide @EssmaelOmarN #IanNala

Geers for Change Initiative @G4C_Initiative

It’s been an honour to be part of the #NFS2023 #iamnala

Sissata Place @sissaplace

We are starting off the week on a high note 🎈

We were awarded the Young Feminist Award for Inter-generational co-leadership at the Nalafem summit 😊. A big thank you to @Nalafem and the people we work with that have continuously believed in us and what we do. #NFS2023
Congratulations to you and the team for the success Ayah Chebbi! I love everything you do and I’m truly inspired by it.

When I joined #nalafem last year, after customising my profile according to interests, passion, ambition etc and with only one connection at the time, LinkedIn suggested your profile to me. I glanced, followed, and as my journey as one of your followers began, I followed you closely to learn more about you and I could resonate with your work to a greater extent.

After that, I desperately wanted to meet you, to draw inspiration. I felt meaning you would complete a part of me.

I was yet to figure out how, and then Athena happened!

You are amazing! Keep doing great work! www.nalafem.org

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Ashleigh "Oby" Ezekwesili - 2nd Chairperson, The African Leadership Academy. Multi-faith, Multi-cultural, Gender-sensitive, Equality and Humanitarian Awards. "As an influential voice in the fight against gender-based violence andupilization of women in every sphere, #mamaezekwe stories. I'm looking forward to working towards the goal of ending violence against women."

Maryse Wansheji - 3rd gender inclusive Architect | IDEG & 1st Advocate | Driving Innovation for Social Impact (Fresh Feminist) 2nd - Edited - 

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In the presence of Nelson Mandela leaders, converging at Safari Park Hotel in Nairobi, Kenya, our #nalafem20 summit on July 1-2, 2023.

Nelson Mandela leaders convened for an experience at the #nalafem20 Summit on July 1-2, 2023.

This recognition highlights the incredible efforts and dedication of all the young female leaders, NALAFEM Associates, TheALF, PANAF oil Regional Caucus leaders, and our phenomenal founder Mary Idowu, who together have been working tirelessly to promote gender equality and empower young women across Africa. We are incredibly proud of this accomplishment.

In addition to the award, TheALF has been granted a generous sum of $200,000 US, which will further support our initiative to promote gender discrimination. With this grant, we will be able to continue creating positive change, fostering inclusive spaces, and empowering women to rise above societal barriers. #backyourdreamsarevalid
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#IamNala