Campaign African Cities favourable to the economic empowerment of women

CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

From 01 August to 30 November

Engaged in the promotion of gender-sensitive and women-inclusive local economy and wishing to join the Campaigns African Cities favourable to women's economic empowerment
I. FRAMEWORK FOR THE CAMPAIGN OF AFRICAN CITIES IN FAVOUR OF THE ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN.

The Network of Locally Elected Women of Africa (REFELA) brings together women members of political bodies responsible for the governance of cities and regional authorities in Africa. REFELA was launched in Tangier, Morocco in March 2011. It is headed by an Executive Board of fifteen members representative of the five sub-regions of Africa and includes national chapters which are gender equality commissions of national associations for local authorities, members of UCLG Africa.

REFELA works for the development of female leadership in African cities and local communities and the definition and implementation of local policies and strategies in Africa. For its 2019-2021 triennial agenda, REFELA decided at its General Assembly (November 2018 - Africities 8) to continue work on its three campaigns: 1. The campaign for African cities without street children; 2. The campaign for African cities with zero tolerance of violence against women; 3. The campaign for African cities for the Economic Empowerment of Women.

This call for expressions of interest is addressed to leaders and councils of cities and local authorities in Africa, inviting them to voluntarily join the campaign, African cities for the economic empowerment of women.

II. INTEREST IN THE CAMPAIGN OF AFRICAN CITIES IN FAVOUR OF THE ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN

To highlight the scope and interest of this campaign, the REFELA team have developed a framework with accompanying analysis and documents:

- The framing of the campaign emphasizes the objectives, mechanisms, stages and priority lines of action to be carried out respectively by REFELA-UCLG Africa, its partners and cities and local authorities that have joined the campaign with the support of their national associations and their REFELA country chapters;
- The analytical report focuses on the current issues relating to the economic empowerment of women in Africa, the advances that have been made and the various constraints that women still face in the different sectors of the local and national economy. This analytical report is accessible at the knowledge site of UCLG Africa;
- The document has an addendum on the integral profiling of African countries and the economic inclusion of women and their access to economic opportunities;
- Other documents in preparation, such as the Tool Kit: ECO PACK WOMEN, will be made available to member cities in support of the campaign.

Memorandum of understanding between the Network of locally elected women of Africa, REFELA-UCLG Africa and the Andalusian Fund of Municipalities for International Solidarity, FAMSI

As a reference document for the campaign (see the article which appeared in the press review of UCLG Africa), it is clear that women need greater representation in all programs and projects targeting their communities, both politically and economically, in business and employment. This report will
enable local and regional cities and territories to address and remedy this immense shortfall and the economic exclusion of the majority of African women.

The inclusion and access of women to economic opportunities is undoubtedly one of the most important bases on which to build local, stable and sustainable development, in accordance with Vision 2063 of "The Africa We Want" and the global agendas, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), to achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls (SDG5) and making African cities just, safe, inclusive and sustainable human settlements (SDG11) by 2030.

And it is within this framework that this campaign fits; which is above all a call to concrete action, from REFELA-UCLG Africa to African cities, on a voluntary basis, by massively demonstrating their support, as expected, through the launch of this call for demonstration of interest, to their address and to the expression of their membership, attested through the attached form, completed and signed.

III. ADHESION TO THE CAMPAIGN OF AFRICAN CITIES IN FAVOUR OF THE ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN

This call for expressions of interest is addressed to cities and local authorities in Africa and their national associations, members of UCLG Africa, which are concerned with the entrepreneurial and economic potential of women in their local communities and who are in favour of acting with REFELA-UCLG Africa in undertaking actions for change and the economic empowerment of women.

The call for expressions of interest will be launched for a period of 4 months, August-November 2020. Attached is a membership form that the authorities of African cities and local authorities can complete and sign to demonstrate their voluntary support of the campaign for African Cities favourable to the empowerment of women.

It should be noted that cities and local authorities that voluntarily join the campaign following this call, having sent their completed and signed forms, will be required to sign the memorandum of understanding with UCLG Africa, attesting that they are founding members and stakeholders that support the Campaign of African Cities for the Economic Empowerment of Women'.

Interested cities and local authorities must return the completed membership form below, signed by their respective mayors, to the REFELA Secretariat at the UCLG Africa headquarters, no later than 30 November 2020.

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<tr>
<th><strong>Please send signed membership forms to REFELA-UCLG Africa.</strong></th>
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<td><strong>Address of UCLG Africa Headquarters</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Email: REFELA Secretariat team</strong></td>
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| M Drissa Keita, Assistant coordinator of REFELA  
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| Website | www.uclga.org |

(See attached membership form here)  
And here (PDF)