

**KENYA PROFESSIONAL  
ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN IN  
AGRICULTURE AND  
ENVIRONMENT  
(KEPAWAE)**



**KEPAWAE strives for excellence for the:**

- \* Young woman
- \* Rural woman farmer and
- \* Professional woman

## ***What is KEPAWAE***

The Kenya Professional Association of Women in Agriculture and Environment (KEPAWAE) is an association that provides a forum for women to deliberate on issues and co-ordinate activities pertaining to their respective professions. It facilitates the advancement of women professionals in the fields of agriculture and environment. In addition, and perhaps more importantly, KEPAWAE links up with the woman farmer and endeavours to promote, develop and advance her agricultural and environmental activities. This, in the long run, will raise the living standards of the rural communities.

## ***Mission Statement***

To promote professionalism in the fields of agriculture and environment, to link with women farmers and support the next generation of professional women.

## ***Why KEPAWAE***

The Association came into being as a result of the need to legalise the existence of an organisation of women professionals who had a common challenge. It addresses issues pertaining to professional women as individuals, or collectively and provides a link with the rural woman farmer.

The Association seeks to meet the rural women's high demand for both technical and material support in agriculture and environment. This is achieved through developing and marketing joint proposals and facilitating transfer of appropriate technologies.

In an endeavour to meet its mission, KEPAWAE links its members to national, regional and international organisations with similar aspirations.

Following is an overview of the association's four main goals together with their related objectives.

### *i) Advancement of professional Women*

In order to promote the advancement of its members KEPAWAE strives to:

- \* create a forum for professional women in agriculture and environment.
- \* enhance leadership and management skills among members.
- \* develop leadership links with national, regional and international organizations concerned with agriculture and the environment.
- \* generate and disseminate information to members and other interested parties.
- \* produce and utilise media tools and other public awareness techniques and any other activities which would instill interest in agricultural development and environmental conservation.



### *ii) Developing linkages with the woman farmer*

The association works towards:

- \* strengthening the link between KEPAWAE and the rural farmer.

- \* promoting the recognition of the rural farmer's life.
- \* facilitating transfer of appropriate technology to the rural woman farmer.
- \* promoting environmental conservation and environmentally sound agricultural practices.



### iii) Influencing gender responsive policies

In order to influence gender responsive policies KEPAWAE

- \* promotes visibility and actively supports the advancement of professional women.
- \* builds supports and recognition for professional contribution and advancement of women among policy makers and managers.
- \* encourages and supports research on gender issues and develops gender disaggregated databases.
- \* recommends and assists on the enactment of legislation, which would in the opinion of the association, be conducive to agricultural development and environmental conservation.

### iv) Supporting and mentoring young professionals and girls

KEPAWAE endeavours to achieve this goal through:

- \* promoting and supporting the education of the girl child.
- \* encouraging girls to take up science subjects as a

- foundation for a wider career choice.
- \* mentoring upcoming young women professionals.



### **KEPAWAE Country Network**

The association has a network of about 500 members distributed throughout the country. Members are served by provincial branch offices managed by provincial representatives. The branches are based at each of the eight administrative provincial towns. KEPAWAE's membership keeps growing

### **Who can be a member?**

Any Kenyan woman over 18 years of age possessing a recognised degree, diploma or certificate in agriculture, environment and allied disciplines, from a recognised institution is eligible for membership of the Association.

Membership is also open for registered women groups in the fields of agriculture and environment

### **Categories of memberships:**

1. Founder member
2. Life member
3. Full member
4. Honorary member
5. Student member
6. Corporate member
7. Fraternal member



## On-going programmes and achievements

- \* The association's newsletter, "KEPAWAE UPDATE" facilitates communication among members and supporters. It is published twice a year and it carries the details of all on-going activities and achievements.
- \* Its girl child education programme supports the education of over 100 bright but needy girls from all over the country.
- \* The professional-rural woman farmer linkage is facilitated through several appropriate technology transfer projects in various parts of the country.
- \* KEPAWAE sources for training opportunities for its members in the fields of agriculture, environment, information technology and in leadership.
- \* The association has a strong mentoring and career guidance programme which brings together girls from secondary schools, local universities and professional women.

Being a non-profit making association KEPAWAE relies on support from friends and well wishers for its activities. Your kind and generous support will be highly appreciated. Cheques are payable to KEPAWAE ASSOCIATION.

For more information, contact

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