

Advancing Equality through Human Rights Education

Kenya

2019 – 2024

The Situation Today

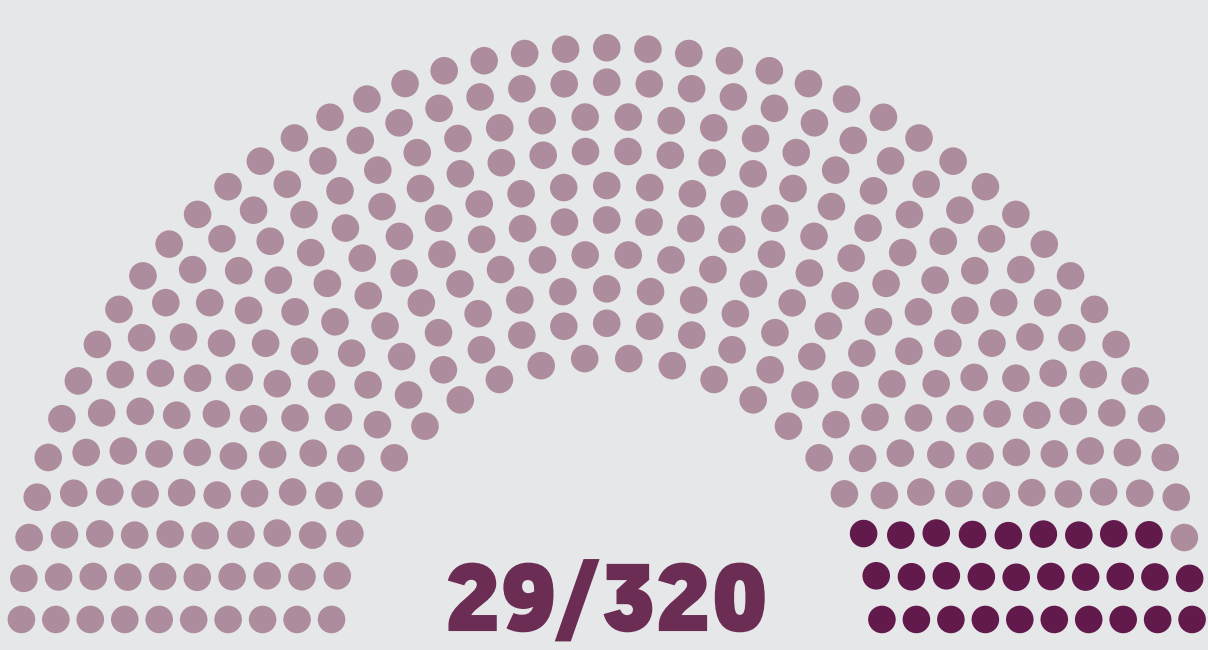
In Kenya, many efforts are being made to protect people's basic human rights. Yet inequalities exist, especially for women and girls.



45%
of women face intimate partner violence

9%

of elected government seats are held by women



1% of land
is owned by women

yet

89%

of farmers are women



The Goal for Tomorrow

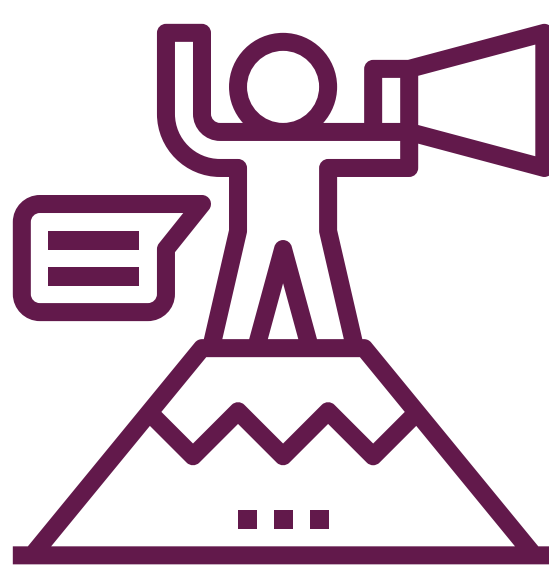
Increased empowerment
of women and girls



Strengthened
leadership for
women and men



Enhanced
collaboration

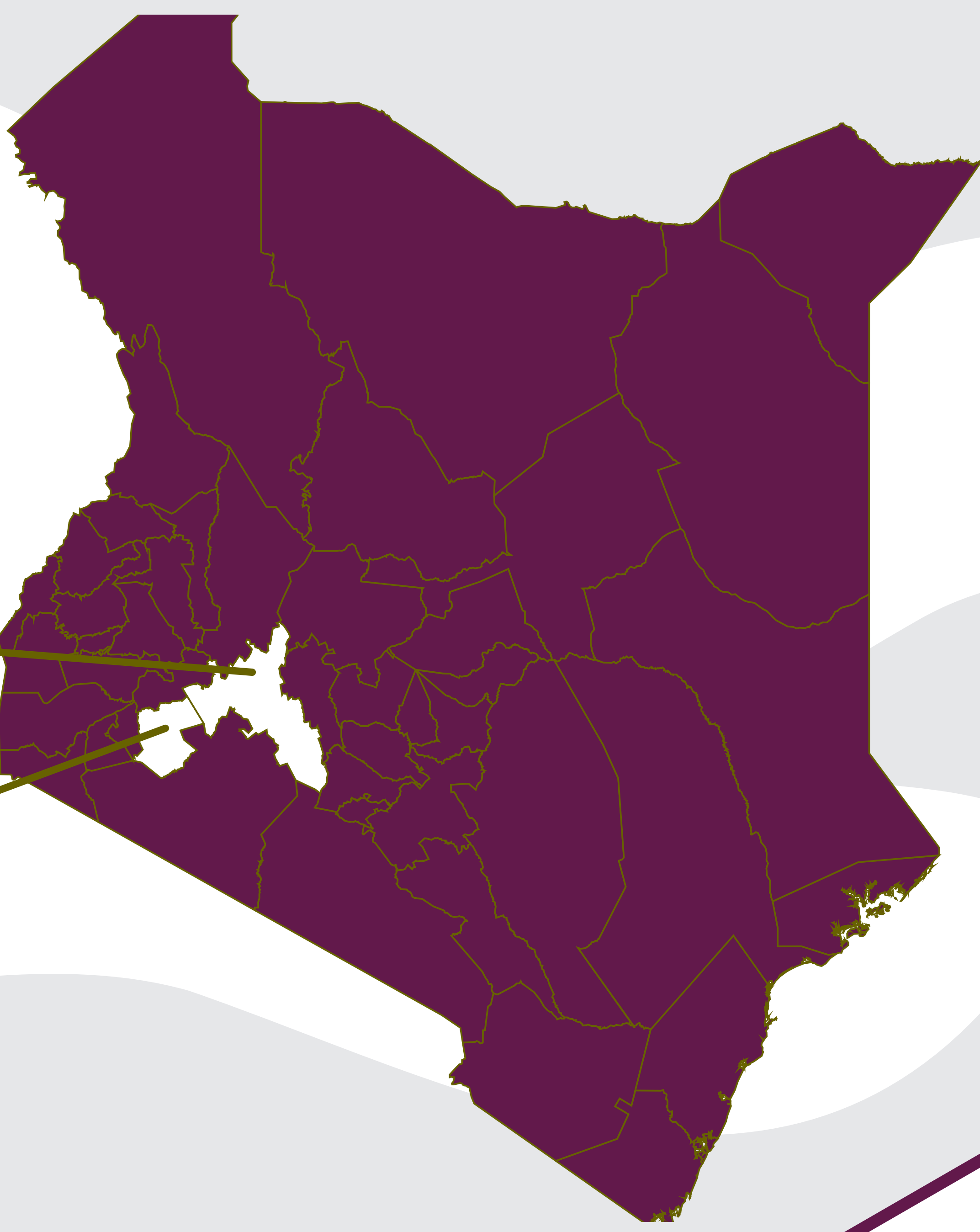


Improved efforts of
women's organizations
to engage with
decision-makers

County Focus

Nakuru

Bomet



How to Get There

The Project adopts a participatory approach to advance gender equality that includes:

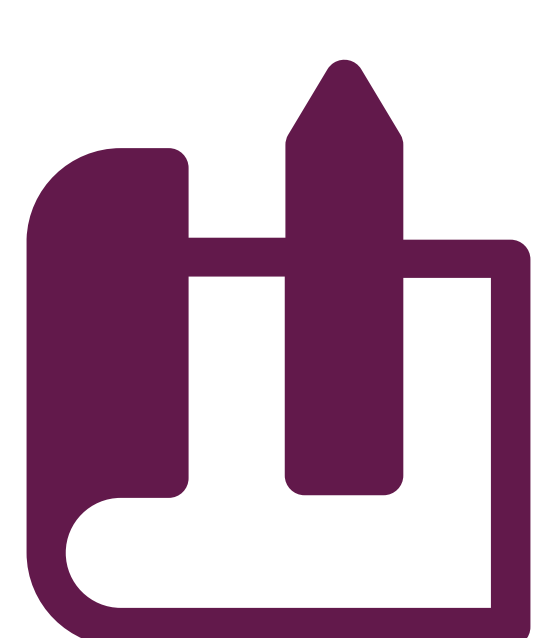


Understanding Gender Equality Issues

Preparing the study

June – September 2019

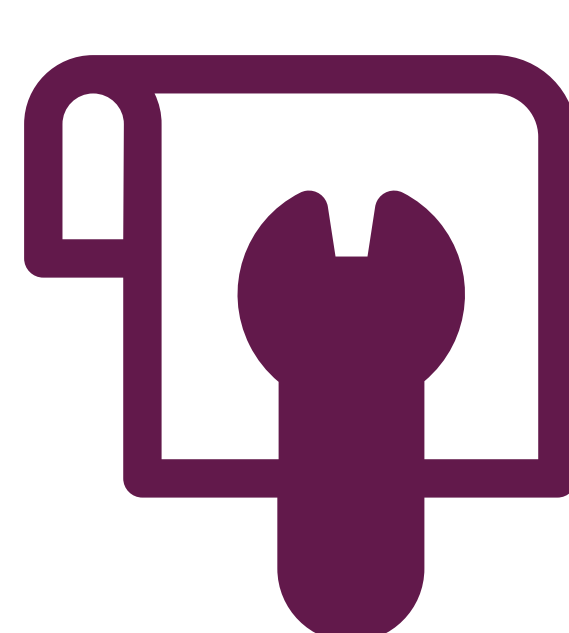
1



Planning

- Partners meetings
- Research on the legal, policy and institutional context
- Identifying community members, organisations and decision-makers to provide local context

2



Developing

- Creating questions and tools to identify gender equality issues

3



Training

- Orienting local community members to lead the study

Carrying out the study

September – October 2019

Where?

- Nakuru County
 - Nakuru West
 - Nakuru East
- Bomet County
 - Bomet Central
 - Sotik

Who? 114 participants



56 men



58 women

How?



16 focus group discussions



12 interviews

Processing the information

November 2019 – March 2020

Analysing

- Reviewing all participant responses
- Identifying most common gender equality issues



Sharing

- Presenting the results in communities
- Validating results with community members



Gender Equality Issues

“Our society has given men the upper hand in all aspects of life: from leadership to inheritance of land and property”

Woman from Nakuru

Main gender equality issues

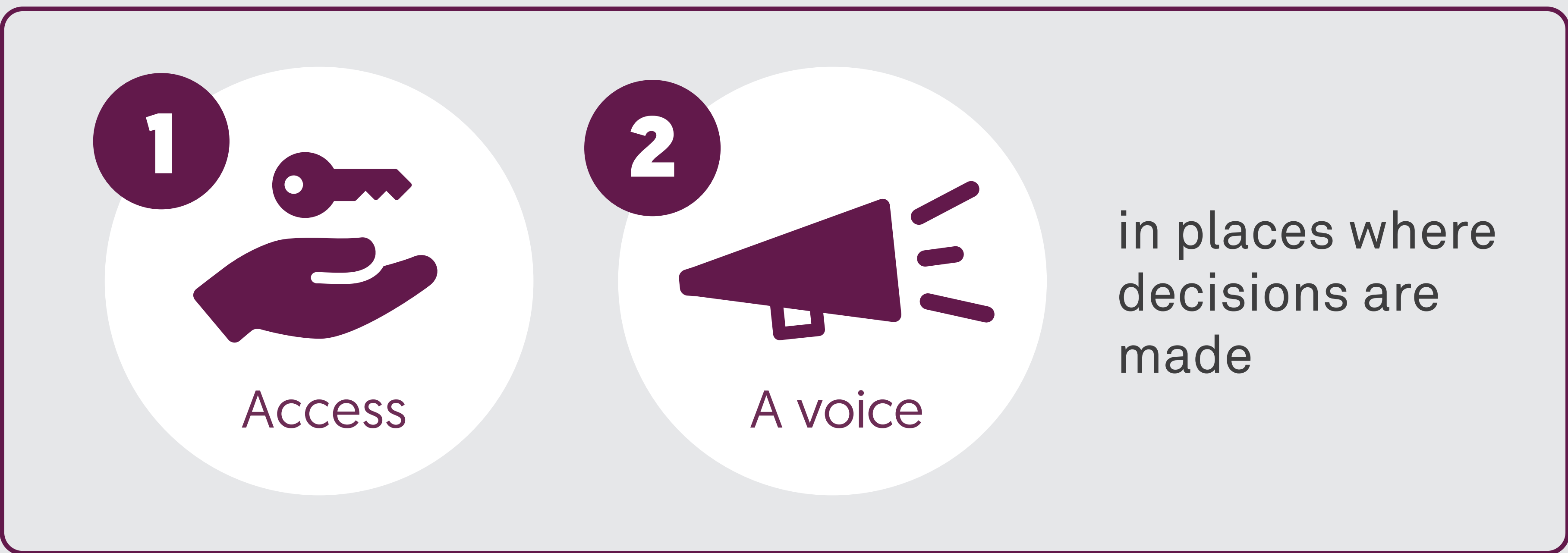


Impact of women’s participation in decision-making



Women's Participation In Decision-Making

To participate in decision-making
means that people have

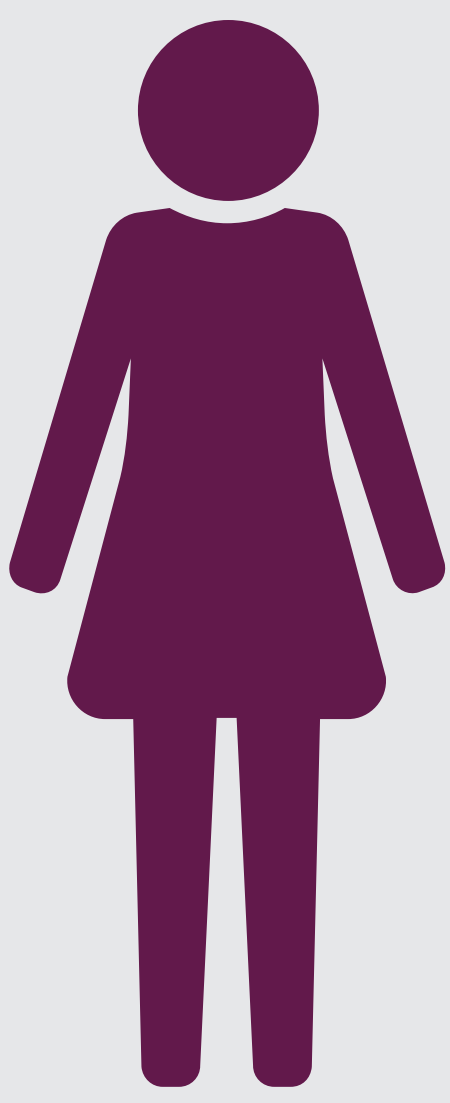


Beyond just physical presence, participation means that people are
actively influencing the decisions taken.

Where decisions are made and the level of participation of women and men



Common roles assigned to women and men in these places



- Women**
- Witnesses
 - Welcoming guests
 - Cooks and cleaners
 - Treasurers
 - Secretaries



- Men**
- Final decision-makers
 - Leaders
 - Chairmen
 - Organizers
 - Enforcing rules

Why Are Women Participating Less In Decision-Making?

“In our culture, women are supposed to be seen but not heard. In several ways, we have despised them to a level that diminishes their voices.”

Man from Nakuru

**Stereotypes and
certain cultural norms**

**Certain interpretations
of religious texts**

**Stigma against women
from marginalized groups**



Violence and fear of violence

Low self-esteem

Barriers to access



- Unequal division of household tasks
 - Timing and location of meetings
- Lack of awareness of right to participate
- Restricted and controlled movements by family members
 - Inaccessible facilities

Barriers to voice



- Level of education
- Economic status
- Marital status
- Lack of representation and support
- Stereotypes and discrimination
- Past experiences of violence, and fear of future violence

What Can Be Done To Change This?



1

Educating women and men on human rights and the importance of women participating in decision-making



2

Creating space for women in leadership positions and educating men on their roles in supporting this

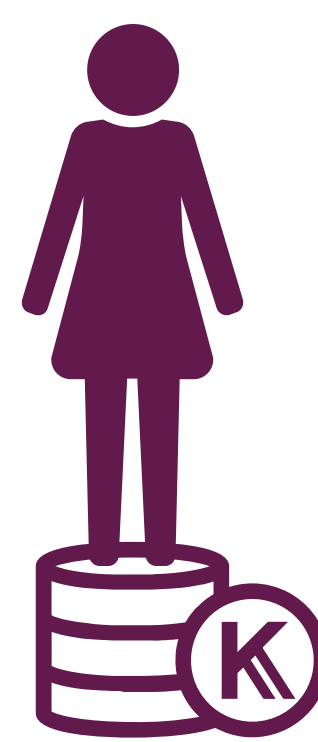


3

Building women's motivation and capacities to take on leadership roles

Community recommendations

6



Supporting conditions for the economic empowerment



5

Eradicating gender-based violence



4

Reinforcing laws and developing policies to make women's participation and voices stronger

Taking these into account, the project will focus on:



Knowledge and capacity building

- **Trainings** for community leaders on human-rights based approaches and gender equality
- **Community forums**
- **Coaching**

› **Community recommendations:**

1 2 3



Collaboration

- **Joint awareness raising activities**
- **Community actions** that advance gender equality

› **Community recommendations:**

1 2 3



Engagement with decision-makers

- **Trainings** for certain women's and human rights organizations
- **Policy dialogues**
- **Action plans**

› **Community recommendations:**

3 4 5 6