



WOMEN AND GIRLS EMPOWERMENT AND GENDER EQUALITY

PROJECT CONCEPT

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Issues and Challenges faced by Women and Girls in Sierra Leone

Sierra Leone faces several problems regarding various forms of sexual violence, including domestic violence, sexual assault, rape of adults and minors, marital rape, and school-related sexual abuse, lack of economic independent, high illiteracy and entrenched customs and traditions as well as supposedly harmful practices such as female genital mutilation (FGM). The voices of Sierra Leonean women are ignored in the debate about their own sexual and reproductive health. Their voices are being drowned out by the resistance of conservative religious groups and reluctant government officials. Moreover, the patriarchal structures in place hamper the debate, while at the same time restricting the effective implementation of the positive laws and regulations already in place

Women account for 52% of total population in Sierra Leone, yet occupy less than 20% of workforce. Their contribution to the country's agriculture amount to about 60-80% and the agriculture sector represents 51% of the Nation Gross Domestic Products (GDP).

Their voice visibility, participation and representation still remain low. Women seeking leadership and decision making positions in Sierra Leone face enormous challenges as compared to men.

THE CLIMATE NUT/PRIDO ORGANIZATION

The organization is a community grassroots working towards the empowerment of women and girls, through advocacy on their human rights and delivers programs that support women's empowerment, right to equal choices, equal opportunities and equal chances to achieve their desired goals of sustainable development.



Women and Economic Growth

Women in Sierra Leone have always made vital contribution to the economy and have often play a substantial role in the subsistence of their families, in the rural labour force

Women provided more that 60% of farm labour for food production but this formed part of larger power dynamic problem as men still possessed greater access to ownership and control of production.

PRIDO have been focusing on providing women with access to financial services as it has the potential to act as a catalyst for enhancing women's economic, social and political empowerment. It helps mobilize their productive capacity to alleviate poverty and to maximize economic output.

By working with community women's groups in the past years, PRIDO have been focusing on providing women with access to financial services as it has the potential to act as a catalyst for enhancing women's economic, social and political empowerment. It helps transform their productive capacity to alleviate poverty and to maximize economic output.by providing them with:

1. Support to escape from violence, and implement projects with community leaders to help women and girls improving their community.
2. Agricultural support for food production, consumption and marketing to combat poverty and hunger
3. Community tree plantation and ecosystem conservation
4. Livelihood and income generating activities

THE MAIN OBJECTIVES OF PRIDO NON-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

1. Achieving gender equality
2. Promoting gender empowerment and justice
3. Fostering an inclusive society
4. Increase hope for equal rights and dignity, love and respect

The organization fosters a culture that encompasses its commitment to gender empowerment, quality and adoption of good practices, attitudes and inclusion by



this way, it enables women and girls to thrive and realize their potential with dignity, love and respect and where earth nurtures life in all its diversity.

WOMEN AND GIRLS EMPOWERMENT AND GENDER EQUALITY PROJECT

Through the “Women and girls Empowerment and Gender equality” project, PRIDO is working to support up to 600 women and girls in rural communities within the Bombali and Karene districts. The goal of the project is to empower women and girls to pursue their potential, free from violence and inequality, focusing on increasing their economic resources, train them on how to voice their priorities and participate in decisions that affect themselves and their homes and strengthen gender-based violence (GBV) response, coordination and referral pathways.

Regards,
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Women empowerment advocacy officer