



## **HABITAT INTERNATIONAL COALITION**

### **Women and Habitat Africa Working Group (WHAWG)**

#### **URBAN OCTOBER EVENT:**

**Title: Gender Equality, Women's Land and Housing Rights: Bridging The Gap.**

**DATE: 13<sup>th</sup> October 2022. TIME: 10am -11:30am EST: 3pm – 4.30 pm GMT+1**

**Register:** <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUucu2sqTooEtHVb86EbwUOM3THTd3iwD7i>

**Check Your Time Zone:**

<https://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/fixetime.html?msg=WHAWG+Urban+October+Event+&iso=20221013T15&p1=136&ah=1&am=30>

#### **BACKGROUND.**

Every October UN-Habitat and partners organize a month of activities, events and discussions to raise awareness, promote participation and generate more knowledge and understanding of the challenges and opportunities created by the fast rate of changes in our cities and towns

The Women and Habitat Africa Working Group is a group of Habitat International Coalition (HIC) Members and Friends across Africa committed to consolidating, developing and mainstreaming the feminist approach in HIC Africa processes, projects and activities.

WHAWG mission is to work collectively and individually with HIC Members and allies to tackle historic challenges facing women and girls in their habitat and ensure that they are able to enjoy their habitat-related human rights. These include the human rights to adequate housing, land, food, water and sanitation, including full and equal access to, use and control of natural and economic resources. This will be achieved through decent work, credit, equal and equitable inheritance, legally secure tenure—including, but not limited to ownership—of land, housing and other property, and the use of appropriate technologies.

A major hindrance to women's economic advancement and effective participation in development activities in many parts of the world, especially the global south, is the traditional resistance to women's ownership of land and property. Women and girls in Africa are often denied access to land use, inheritance and control of land and private property.

It is also important to note that access to land, housing and tenure security for women in Africa is fundamental for the realization of their human rights. Land tenure security is crucial for women's empowerment and a prerequisite for building secure and resilient communities.

It offers women a way out of insecurity and poverty and is the foundation from which women can support themselves and their children and start to create better lives for themselves and their families.

Women and Habitat Africa Working Group is hosting this event to further create awareness and ask that urgent attention be given to these and all other issues that are of great importance to women and girls in Africa.

If no one is to be left behind and if we must reach the farthest first to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, then it is time to address and bridge the gaps on the rights of women and girls in Africa.