

**ANNUAL REPORT
OF
NETWORK OF
WOMEN IN
GROWTH(NEWIG)
GHANA. 2004**

ORGANISATION CONTACT INFORMATION

1.1 Name Of Organization

Network Of Women in Growth (NEWIG), Ghana

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Introduction

Network Of Women In Growth (NEWIG) Ghana was founded by Mawusi Nudekor Awity in 8th January 2002 in response to contributing her quota to fighting economic, social and political poverty especially among Ghanaian women.

The NGO was duly registered on 9th September 2003 and has a Ladies Club of a membership of 40 committed women.

NEWIG secretariat is located in Burma Camp, Accra. NEWIG Entrepreneurial Development Center also located in Burma Camp runs a 5 months trainer-training programme twice a year in entrepreneurial skills.

NEWIG is currently a self – sponsored NGO.

Aim:

NEWIG's basic aim is to educate and train marginalized rural community people especially women, both literates and illiterates, to realize and develop their gifted potentials as well as talents for progress in life.

Objectives:

1. Women are in gainful employment.
2. Women's rights are promoted.
3. Women attain and play leadership roles in society.
4. Women powered through functional literacy and skills training.
5. Women are aware of human and legal rights.

Areas Of Operation:

The Broad areas of operation includes:

- Development of women.
- Small scale enterprise development.
- Entrepreneurial skills acquisition programmes.
- Non-formal education training.

Activities:

1. Organising 10 days entrepreneurial skills acquisition workshops in rural communities.
2. Running 5 months trainer training in the following disciplines: floral, balloon, beads jewelry, batik, tie dye, francotik, screen print, pomade and soap making, cake decoration, dress making, catering, design concept, book keeping and costing, entrepreneurship, leadership skills and public speaking.
3. Seminars and lectures on socio-economic and political empowerment.

Membership of Ladies Club

Ladies club membership is opened to women of all ages who are interested in developing themselves, and in self-employment.

Administration:

NEWIG secretariat has 3 full time and 4 part time workers and 3 volunteers. The full time workers are made up of the Executive Director, Project Officer and Office Assistant. The part time workers are part of the teaching and administrative staff including the volunteers.

Programmes Organised

Entrepreneurial Skills Development Training

1st March –17th July 2004

A four and a half months Entrepreneurial Skills Development Training was organized for 19 women and 1 man. This programme run from Mondays to Fridays and sometimes Saturdays. They were trained in the 16 disciplines as mentioned previously. The graduation ceremony took place at the Army Officer's Mess on the 17th July 2004. Hon. Hawa Yakubu and Hon Mohammed Mumuni were among the dignatories. Hon.Hawa Yakubu made a presentation of 20 sewing machines. Tv3, TV Africa, Metro TV, Graphic, Chronicle, Times were the press in attendance.

2. Tie Dye Workshop

5th March – 13th March 2004

A nine days workshop in Tie-dye was organised for 30 women in Asewewa in the Eastern Region. Tv 3 and Chronicle covered the closing ceremony.

3. Tie Dye Workshop

11th March – 15th March 2004

A five days workshop was organised in collaboration with Hon. Hawa Yakubu, MP Bawku Central in Kuntu in the Central Region. 200 women were trained. Tv3 covered the closing ceremony.

4. Tie Dye Workshop

20th March – 25th March 2004

Eighty women and men of Gbawe Church of Pentecost were trained in tie-dye manufacturing. Tv3 covered the closing ceremony.

5. Economic Empowerment Lecture
24th April 2004

A lecture on economic empowerment was organised for 200 women in Daman Ahuntem in the Eastern Region. The lecture encouraged women to take their economic destiny in their own hands. It also spelt out ways of fighting poverty and means of sourcing for funds for their businesses.

6. Gender Training
12th May – 13th May 2004

A two days workshop in Gender Training was organised for 30 women and men in Sogakofe in the Volta Region.

7. Floral Arrangement Training
18th June – 21st June 2004

10 women in Ho in the Volta Region were taken through a four days training in floral arrangement and wreath making to enable them set up businesses in this trade. This is to fill up the florist vacuum in the city.

8. Entrepreneurial Skills Development Training
9th August 2004 – 29th January 2005

The third entrepreneurial development training for 14 women as trainers. They would graduate on 29th January 2005.

9. Skills Acquisition Workshop
30th August – 4th September 2004

200 women in Kumasi were trained in tie-dye, screen print and floral arrangement. This programme was done in collaboration with Hon. Hawa Yakubu. The Vice President Alhaji Alieu Mahama was the Special Guest of Honour at the closing ceremony. Tv 3, Gtv and some Kumasi Fm stations covered the programme.

10. Tie Dye Workshop
6th Sept. – 13th Sept 2004

150 women in Bawku were trained in tie dye and screen print. This well received programme was to equip the women with skills they could make money from during dry seasons when off their farms.

11. Domestic Violence
20th Sept – 22nd Sept 2004

Sensitization fora on Domestic Violence was organised for women and men, in Tefle, Vume, Dabala and Yorve in the Volta Region.

12. Tie Dye Workshop
30th Sept – 23rd Oct 2004

Upon a popular request another tie-dye and screen print workshops were organised for 500 women in Bawku and the surrounding villages. Namdon and its surrounding villages were also beneficiaries.

13. Entrepreneurial Skills Acquisitions Programme
10th Oct – 27th Oct 2004

150 men and women in Tefle, Dabala and Gadzekpota traditional areas in South Tongu district benefited from the tie dye, screen print, soap, pomade, beads jewelry and floral arrangement training programme. This programme aimed at getting the people acquire these skills to enable them start their own business in the district instead of rushing to the big cities looking for non-existing jobs. Tv3 and Volta Star Fm station covered the closing ceremony.

Gender and HIV/AIDS
28th Oct – 29th Oct 2004

A two days workshop on Gender and HIV/AIDS was organised for fifty women drawn from NEWIG Ladies Club and other women's groups in Accra.

14. Entrepreneurial Thinking Seminar
16th November 2004

A seminar on entrepreneurship was organised for students of SOS Vocational and 1st Mission Schools at SOS School, Tema, and comm.1. This was to encourage especially the final year students to start grow their own businesses from the skills they have acquired. Tv3, Ghana News Agency, Times and Adom Fm covered the programme.

Funding

NEWIG's main sources of income include:

- ❖ Sales of products the NGO makes: - soap, textiles, beads jewelry, floral works etc.
- ❖ Fees charged for some consultancy services.
- ❖ Honorarium from some Entrepreneurial Skills Training Programmes.
- ❖ Commitment fees from students trained at our Entrepreneurial Development centre.
- ❖ Grants from the founder and friends of NEWIG.

Plans For NEWIG:

Currently the intake of students for entrepreneurial development training is 20 at a time. This is due to the small size of the training center. The NGO plans to raise funds to secure a bigger space for the center and possibly a hostel for students from far. This would enable the target of an intake of 50 students at a time to be achieved. It is also the intention of NEWIG to assist women we train with micro financing and ready market as well as sourcing and managing development funds for women's groups in rural areas. NEWIG plans to run a lot of workshops on Law and Rights of Women in Politics to sensitize them to get into active politics, and to encourage more women stand for the next district assembly and parliamentary elections.

Conclusion

NEWIG, though a fairly new NGO is fast growing despite the challenges of limited funds. The organisation has organised quite a number of effective programmes of training and counseling prospective entrepreneurs on the requisite steps and procedures for establishing at least small enterprises. The NGO has taken upon itself to develop the capacity of Ghanaians especially women who wish to start and manage their own businesses. Acquiring a bigger office, workshop, vehicle, equipment such as computer, sewing machines, furniture etc, NEWIG would be in a better position to contribute a more laudable quota.