



STORIES OF CHANGE

WE CANNOT WAIT PROJECT (2021–2025)





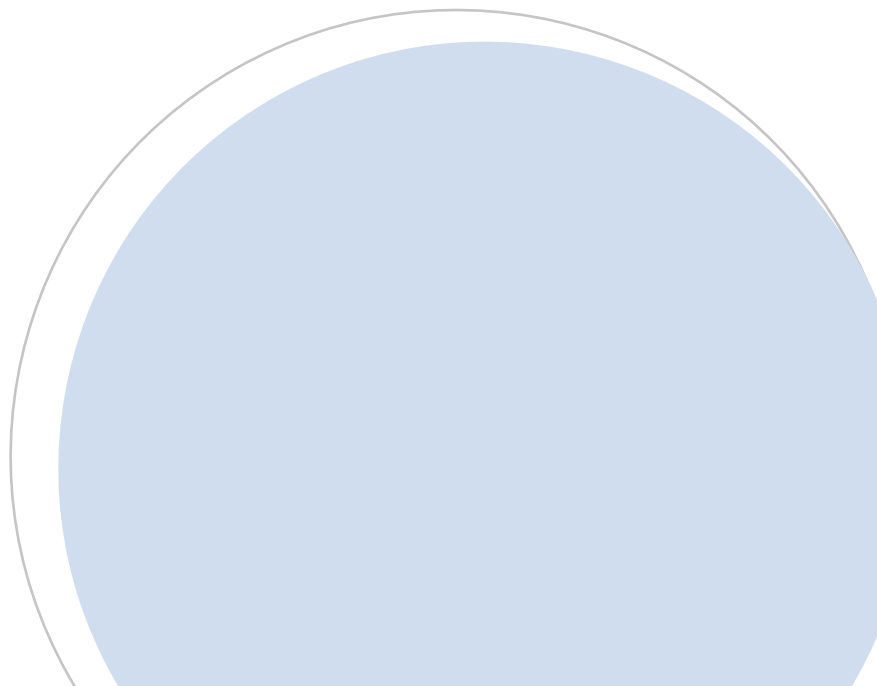
About the Project

The "We Cannot Wait" (WCW) project is a regional advocacy initiative aimed at empowering women's rights actors across the Greater Horn of Africa (GHOA) to lead transformational change. Implemented in Ethiopia by the Ethiopian Women Lawyers Association (EWLA) in partnership with the Strategic Initiative for Women in the Horn of Africa (SIHA), the project seeks to advance women's legal and socio-economic rights through capacity-building, coalition-building, policy advocacy, and grassroots mobilization. Key strategies include enhancing knowledge and skills in leadership, human rights, and advocacy, as well as strengthening financial literacy and digital activism.

Thank You

We sincerely thank all supporters of the We Cannot Wait Project (2021-2025). Your commitment and contributions helped empower women's rights actors across the Greater Horn of Africa, driving meaningful change in legal and socio-economic rights.

This booklet of success stories reflects the impact we achieved together, advancing a more equitable and just future. Thank you for supporting our mission and being part of this journey.





From Silenced to Standing Strong



"My voice was always shadowed," says Mahdiya Albeshir, remembering her early days working in Assosa town administration. Sitting at the table with 21 men, she was the only woman in the cabinet—and often, the quietest. "There were times I held back," she says. "I was afraid no one would hear me, even if I spoke."

As head of the Women and Social Affairs office, she was the first point of contact for countless women facing violence and discrimination. But the burden wasn't just professional—it was personal. She dealt with harassment, double standards, and the impossible pressure of juggling public responsibilities with motherhood, especially during election seasons. "I tried to stay strong," she recalls, "but I was constantly searching for support—something for me and the women who came to my office with tears and fear."

That support came through the 'We Cannot Wait' project, led by the Ethiopian Women Lawyers Association (EWLA). Mahdiya had heard about EWLA's work and was drawn to their mission. "When I saw how they helped women handle difficult cases, it gave me hope," she says. "That's when I decided to join."

Once part of the project, she became active in a local coalition, attended training sessions, and joined community campaigns. The change was swift. "I started to regain my confidence," she says. "The workshops helped me understand my rights—and my responsibilities as a leader. Women aren't just voters. We should be candidates too."

With her confidence rebuilt and skills sharpened, Mahdiya returned to her cabinet role with a new mindset. She started to speak up—and this time, she was heard. Within months, she helped push for more inclusive leadership. The number of women in the Assosa cabinet grew from one to six.



Her influence didn't stop at the town level. Today, Mahdiya is Vice Head of the Bureau of Finance for Benishangul-Gumuz Regional State. She now sits at the heart of regional decision-making. "I act with clarity now," she says. "I lead with confidence and I don't hesitate to speak the truth."

One case stays with her. A rape survivor had brought her story to court, but the judge gave the perpetrator just nine months. Furious and heartbroken, Mahdiya demanded a meeting. "I told the judge everything I knew about the case," she says. "He was stunned by my reaction. A few days later, he came to my office asking for more details." The outcome was extraordinary: the sentence was changed from nine months to 18 years.

This wasn't just a win in court—it was proof of how much had shifted. A woman once silenced had become a powerful voice for justice. She's now advocating for family-friendly policies in government offices, including plans to open a daycare facility in her own bureau.

Mahdiya's story reflects a wider change that WCW aims to achieve. Her journey shows what happens when women are supported to lead, when local institutions stand up for justice, and when community responses grow stronger. Through EWLA's trainings, coalitions, and persistent engagement, this single voice helped shape safer, more inclusive leadership in Benishangul-Gumuz.

And she's not done. "We cannot wait," she says with quiet certainty. "We have to keep moving—for all of us." She stopped whispering and started leading inside the courtroom and beyond.

Even from her seat at the Supreme Court of Benishangul-Gumuz, Asayech Simeneh felt invisible. Her title carried weight, but her voice did not. "I was so shy and ashamed of speaking my mind," she recalls. "I couldn't express myself." Raised in a rural community where women were expected to stay quiet, Asayech carried that silence into adulthood—even into courtrooms and official meetings where her opinions could have made a difference. She rarely spoke up, not because she had nothing to say, but because she didn't believe her voice mattered.

This silence extended to how she approached her work. Though committed to justice, she had limited awareness of how to support women—especially on issues like land ownership and property rights. She now sees how her own self-doubt shaped how she treated others. "I didn't prioritize women's experiences or recognize the burdens they carry. I just followed what was expected."

That began to change in 2014 E.C. when the Ethiopian Women Lawyers Association (EWLA) invited her to take part in a series of "coffee meetings" organized under the We Cannot Wait project. These informal gatherings created space for women like her to speak freely. For Asayech, it was the first time she connected her personal story to a broader system of inequality. "I came to understand how I had ignored gender inequality in both society and my workplace."

Through her role as a WCW coalition member, she received leadership and legal rights training and joined awareness-raising events and campaigns. Slowly, she started gaining the confidence she had never been taught to claim. "The project taught me to stand equal with men," she says. "Now I understand the worth of my opinion."

The change was visible. Asayech began speaking confidently in public and in meetings. She started giving women priority in legal proceedings, recognizing how much more they carry both at home and in court. Her personal transformation also became a professional one: she now trains others—something she once would have avoided.

Through her coalition role, she's joined public campaigns, called for legal reforms, and become a visible advocate for structural change. A judge who once sat quietly now helps others raise their voices too.

"If we want women to be equal, confident and strong," she says, "the project must continue."

Asayech's story shows that when women in power are empowered themselves, the ripple effect touches the entire system—from the courtroom to the community.



ዝምታን የሰበረው ድምፅ

"ድምፅ ሁሉም በሌሎች ጥላ ስር ነበር" ስትል መሀዲያ አልበሽር በአሶሳ ከተማ አስተዳደር ውስጥ የነበራትን የመጀመሪያ የሥራ ጊዜ ታስታውሳለች። ከ21 ወንዶች ጋር በአንድ ጠረጴዛ ዙሪያ ስትቀመጥ፣ በካቢኔው ውስጥ ብቸኛዋ ሴት ነበረች — ብዙውን ጊዜም ከሁሉም የበለጠ ጸጥተኛዋ። "ሀሳቤን ሳልገልጽ የምቀርባቸው ጊዜያት ነበሩ" ትላለች። "ብናገር እንኳ ማንም አይሰማኝም ብዬ አፈራ ነበር።"



ዛሬ መሀዲያ የቤኒሻንጉል-ጉሙዝ ክልል የገንዘብ ቢሮ ምክትል ኃላፊ ናት። አሁን በክልሉ የውሳኔ ሰጪነት እምብርት ውስጥ ትገኛለች። "አሁን በግልጽነት እሰራለሁ" ትላለች። "በልበ ሙሉነት እመራለሁ፤ እውነትን ለመናገርም አላመነታም።"

የሴቶችና ማሳበራዊ ጉዳይ ጽ/ቤት ኃላፊ እንደመሆኗ፣ ጥቃትና መድልኦ ለሚያጋጥማቸው ስፍር ቁጥር የሌላቸው ሴቶች የመጀመሪያዋ የመረጃ ምንጭ ነበረች። ነገር ግን ሸክሙ ሙያዊ ብቻ አልነበረም — ግላዊም ነበር። ትንኮሳ፣ ድርብ መመዘኛዎች እና በተለይም በምርጫ ወቅቶች የሕዝብ ኃላፊነቶችን ከእናትነት ጋር የማመጣጠን የማይቻል ጫና ገጥሟት ነበር። "ጠንካራ ሆኜ ለመቆየት ሞክራለሁ" ስትል ታስታውሳለች። "ነገር ግን ያለማቋረጥ ድጋፍ አፈልገ ነበር — ለራሴም ሆነ በእንባና በፍርሃት ወደ ቢሮዬ ለሚመጡት ሴቶች።"

ያ ድጋፍ የመጣው በኢትዮጵያ የሴቶች ሕግ ባለሙያዎች ማህበር (EWLA) በሚመራው 'ዊ ካናት ዌይት' ፕሮጀክት በኩል ነበር። መሀዲያ ስለ EWLA ሥራ ስምታ ስለነበር በተለያዩ ተማርካ ነበር። "ሴቶችን አስቸጋሪ ጉዳዮች ላይ እንዴት እንደሚረዱቸው ሳይ፣ ተስፋ ስንቄ ነበር" ትላለች። "ያኔ ነው ለመቀላቀል የወሰንኩት።"

የፕሮጀክቱ አካል ከሆነች በኋላ፣ በአካባቢው ባለ የቅንጅት ቡድን ውስጥ ንቁ ተሳትፎ አደረገች፣ በሥልጠናዎች ላይ ተገኘች፣ እንዲሁም በማሳበረሰብ ዘመቻዎች ተቀላቀለች። ለውጡ ፈጣን ነበር። "በራስ መተማመኔን መልሼ ማግኘት ጀመርኩ" ትላለች። "ወርክሾፖቹ መብቶቼንና እንደ መሪ ያሉብኝን ኃላፊነቶች እንዳውቅ ረድተውኛል። ሴቶች መራጮች ብቻ አይደሉም። እኛም እጩዎች መሆን አለብን።"

በራስ መተማመኗን መልሳ በመገንባትና ክህሎቷን በማዳበር፣ መሀዲያ በአዲስ አስተሳሰብ ወደ ካቢኔ ሚናዋ ተመለሰች። ድምፇን ከፍ አድርጋ መናገር ጀመረች — በዚህ ጊዜ ደግሞ ተሰማች። በወራት ጊዜ ውስጥ፣ ሁሉን አቀፍ አመራር እንዲኖር ግፊት በማድረግ አገዛ አድርጋለች። በአሁኑ ወቅት በአሶሳ ካቢኔ ውስጥ የሴቶች ቁጥር ከአንድ ወደ ስድስት ልየዓድግ ችላል።

ተፅዕኖዋ በከተማው ደረጃ ብቻ አላቆመም። ዛሬ መሀዲያ የቤኒሻንጉል-ጉሙዝ ክልል የገንዘብ ቢሮ ምክትል ኃላፊ ናት። አሁን በክልሉ የውሳኔ ሰጪነት እምብርት ውስጥ ትገኛለች። "አሁን በግልጽነት እሰራለሁ" ትላለች። "በልበ ሙሉነት እመራለሁ፤ እውነትን ለመናገርም አላመነታም።"

አንድ ጉዳይ ከህሊናዋ አይጠፋም። የአሰገድዶ መድፈር ጥቃት ስለባ የሆነች እንዲት ሴት ታሪኳን ወደ ፍርድ ቤት አቅርባ ነበር፣ ነገር ግን ዳኛው ለአጥፊው የሰጠው የዘጠኝ ወር ቅጣት ብቻ ነበር። በቁጥና በሐዘን የተሰማት መሀዲያ፣ ስብሰባ እንዲደረግ ጠየቀች። "ስለ ጉዳዩ የማውቀውን ሁሉ ለዳኛው ነገርኩት" ትላለች። "በእኔ ምላሽ በጣም ተደናግጦ ነበር። ከጥቂት ቀናት በኋላ፣ ተጨማሪ ዝርዝሮችን ለመጠየቅ ወደ ቢሮዬ መጣ።" ውጤቱ አስደናቂ ነበር፣ የቅጣት ውሳኔው ከዘጠኝ ወር ወደ 18 ዓመት ተቀየረ።

ይህ በፍርድ ቤት የተገኘ ድል ብቻ አልነበረም — ምን ያህል ለውጥ እንደመጣ ማረጋገጫም ነበር። በአንድ ወቅት ድምፁ የተዘጋባት ሴት፣ ኃይለኛ የፍትሕ ድምፅ ሆናለች። አሁን በመንግሥት ቢሮዎች ውስጥ ቤተሰብን ያገናዘቡ ፖሊሲዎች እንዲወጡ እየተሟገተች ሲሆን፣ በራሷ ቢሮ ውስጥ የህፃናት ማቆያ ማዕከል ለመክፈትም እቅድ ይዛለች።

የመሀዲያ ታሪክ WCW ሊያሳካው የሚፈልገውን ሰፊ ለውጥ ያንጸባርቃል። ጉዞዋ ሴቶች እንዲመሩ ሲደገፉ፣ የአካባቢ ተቋማት ለፍትሕ ሲቆሙ፣ እና የማሳበረሰብ ምላሾች ሲጠነክሩ ምን እንደሚሆን ያሳያል። በEWLA ሥልጠናዎች፣ ቅንጅቶችና የማያቋርጥ ተሳትፎ አማካኝነት፣ ይህች ብቸኛ ድምፅ በቤኒሻንጉል-ጉሙዝ ውስጥ ደህንነቱ የተጠበቀ ሁሉን አቀፍ አመራር እንዲቀረጽ ረድታለች።



She stopped whispering and started leading inside the courtroom and beyond

Even from her seat at the Supreme Court of Benishangul-Gumuz, Asayech Simeneh felt invisible. Her title carried weight, but her voice did not. “I was so shy and ashamed of speaking my mind,” she recalls. “I couldn’t express myself.” Raised in a rural community where women were expected to stay quiet, Asayech carried that silence into adulthood—even into courtrooms and official meetings where her opinions could have made a difference. She rarely spoke up, not because she had nothing to say, but because she didn’t believe her voice mattered.

THE CHANGE WAS VISIBLE. ASAYECH BEGAN SPEAKING CONFIDENTLY IN PUBLIC AND IN MEETINGS. SHE STARTED GIVING WOMEN PRIORITY IN LEGAL PROCEEDINGS, RECOGNIZING HOW MUCH MORE THEY CARRY BOTH AT HOME AND IN COURT. HER PERSONAL TRANSFORMATION ALSO BECAME A PROFESSIONAL ONE: SHE NOW TRAINS OTHERS—SOMETHING SHE ONCE WOULD HAVE AVOIDED.

This silence extended to how she approached her work. Though committed to justice, she had limited awareness of how to support women—especially on issues like land ownership and property rights. She now sees how her own self-doubt shaped how she treated others. “I didn’t prioritize women’s experiences or recognize the burdens they carry. I just followed what was expected.”

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Through her coalition role, she’s joined public campaigns, called for legal reforms, and become a visible advocate for structural change. A judge who once sat quietly now helps others raise their voices too.

“If we want women to be equal, confident and strong,” she says, “the project must continue.”

Asayech’s story shows that when women in power are empowered themselves, the ripple effect touches the entire system—from the courtroom to the community.



ዝምታን ያሸነፈ የመሪነት ጉዞ

ወ/ሮ አሳዮች ሰሜንህ በቤኒሻንጉል-ጉሙዝ ክልል ጠቅላይ ፍርድ ቤት የዳኝነት ወንበር ላይ ተቀምጧል እንኳ። በቦታው እንደሌለች ያህል የማይታይ ሰሜን ይሰማት ነበር። የኃላፊነት ቦታዋ ትልቅ ቢሆንም፣ ተፅዕኖዋ ግን እዚህ ግባ የሚባል አልነበረም። "ራሴን ለመግለፅ በጣም እቸገር ነበር፤ አይናፋርነቴና ፍርሃቴ ማንነቴን ወሰነውት ነበር" ስትል ያለፈውን ጊዜ ታስታውሳለች። በገጠራማ አካባቢ ማደጓና በዚያም ማሳበረሰብ "የሴት ልጅ ቦታዋ ወጥ ቤት ነው" የሚለው አስተሳሰብ ስር ስዶ በመቆየቱ፣ ያ ዝምተኝነት እስከ ፍርድ ቤት ችሎት ድረስ አብሯት ዘልቋል። ለውጥ ልታመጣ በምትችልባቸው መድረኮች ላይ እንኳ ሀሳቧን ከመግለፅ ወደኋላ ትል ነበር።

ለፍትሕ ጽኑ እምነት ቢኖራትም፣ ይህ ለረጅም ጊዜ አብሯት የቆየው ዝምታ በሥራዋ ላይ የራሱን አሉታዊ ተፅዕኖ አሳርፏል። በተለይ የሴቶችን የንብረት ባለቤትነት መብት በማሰከበር ረገድ ልታደርግ የምትችለውን ያህል አስተዋጽኦ እንዲታደርግ ጋረዳት። በራስ የመተማመን ሰሜቷ ውስን መሆኑ ሌሎችን የመርዳት አቅሚ ላይ እንዴት እንቅፋት እንደፈጠረባት ስታስረዳ፣ "የሴቶችን ጫናና በሕይወታቸው የሚያጋጥማቸውን ፈተና ከመረዳት ይልቅ፣ 'ይህ የተለመደ የሚጠበቅ ነው' ብዬ የማለፍ ልማድ ነበረኝ" ትላለች።

ይህ ሁሉ መለወጥ የጀመረው በ2014 ዓ.ም. ነበር። የኢትዮጵያ የሴቶች ሕግ ባለሙያዎች ማህበር (EWLA) በ'ዊ ካኖት ዌይት' ፕሮጀክት አማካኝነት ያዘጋጀው ተከታታይ "የቡና ውይይቶች" መድረክ ለለውጧ መነሻ ሆነ። ይህ መደበኛ ያልሆነ የውይይት መድረክ፣ ራሷን በነፃነት እንድትገልጽና ልምዷን እንድትካፍል እድል ፈጠረላት። በዚህም ውይይት፣ በሴቶች ላይ የሚደርሰውን ኢ-ፍትሃዊነትና ጫና በጥልቀት ለመረዳትና የራሷን ታሪክ ከሌሎች ጋር ለማጋራት እድል አገኘች። "ውይይቶቹ፣ በሥራ ቦታዬም ሆነ በማሳበረሰቡ ውስጥ ያለውን የሥርዓተ-ጾታ ኢ-ፍትሃዊነት ምን ያህል ከግንዛቤ ሳላሰገባ እንደቆየሁ አሳውቀውኛል" ስትል ሁኔታውን ታስታውሳለች።

በፕሮጀክቱ ቆይታዋም የአመራር ክህሎት፣ የህጋዊ መብቶችና ሌሎች ሥልጠናዎችን በመውሰድ የፕሮጀክቱ የሴቶች ጥምረት አባል ሆናለች። ይህም በራስ መተማመኗ እንዲዳብር አይነተኛ ሚና ተጫውቷል። "ይህ ፕሮጀክት ፍርሃቴን እንድንገፋና ከወንዶች ጋር እኩል መድረክ ላይ ራሴን መግለፅ እንድችል አቅም ሰጥቶኛል። የማንሳው ሀሳብም ትልቅ ዋጋ እንዳለው እንድንገነዘብ አድርጎኛል" በማለት ያገኘችውን ለውጥ ታጋራለች።

አሁን ወ/ሮ አሳዮች የመድረክ ሰው ናት፤ በልበ ሙሉነት ስብሰባዎችን ትመራለች፣ በመድረኮችም ላይ ሀሳቧ ጎልቶ ይሰማል። ይህ ለውጥ በራሷ ላይ ብቻ ሳይወሰን፣ በሥራ ቦታዋም ሆነ በአካባቢዋ ለሴቶች ጉዳይ ልዩ ትኩረት እንድትሰጥ አድርጓታል። ይህም ሌሎችን የማስልጠን አቅሚን በማሳደግ በሙያዋ የበለጠ ስኬታማ እንድትሆን አስችሏታል።

በጥምረቱ ውስጥ ባላት ተሳትፎ፣ የህግ ማሻሻያዎች እንዲደረጉና መሰረታዊ ለውጦች እንዲመጡ በሚደረጉ ንቅናቄዎች ውስጥ በንቃት ትሳተፋለች። በዳኝነት ሥልጣኗም ለውጥ እንዲመጣ ድምጿን ከፍ አድርጋ ታስማለች፤ ሌሎችም ድምፃቸውን እንዲያስሙ ታግዛለች።

"የሴቶችን እኩልነት ለማረጋገጥ በራስ መተማመንና ጥንካሬ ያስፈልጋል። ይህ የተጀመረው ለውጥ እንዲጎለብትና ግቡን እንዲመታ፣ ፕሮጀክቱ መቀጠል አለበት" ስትል ታምናለች።

የአሳዮች ታሪክ እንደ ቁልፍ እውነትን ያሳያል፤ በኃላፊነት ላይ ያለች እንዲት ሴት እራሷን ስታበቃ፣ የምታመጣው ለውጥ ከፍርድ ቤቱ አዳራሽ እንስቶ እስከ ማሳበረሰቡ ድረስ በመስፋፋት ሥርዓታዊ ለውጥ ለማምጣት ምን ያህል ጉልህ ሚና እንደሚጫወት በተግባር ያስረዳል።



How Abebech Reclaimed Her Rights and Transformed Her Community



At 40, Abebech Belete’s life has taken a remarkable turn—from a quiet acceptance of limits to a role of community leadership. Living in Melka Adama Woreda near Adama City, she once believed that land and decision-making were beyond her reach. Her experience mirrors what many women face, caught in longstanding traditions that deny them basic rights—but her story also shows how awareness and support can break those chains.

Abebech grew up in Bishoftu Quftu kebele, where customs firmly barred women from inheriting property. Land belonged only to men, and women were expected to marry and rely on their husbands. “I thought my place was to follow what others decided,” she remembers. School ended for her after grade eight, while her brother continued his education. At home, her husband made the choices, and her role was silent and secondary.

Things began to shift when she joined a women’s group started by the Rural Professional Community (RPC) about eleven years ago. The group introduced her to saving money, managing a small business, and, most importantly, understanding her legal rights. Through this connection, EWLA and their We Cannot Wait project reached out to Melka CLA, her women’s association. EWLA’s training on women’s rights, land ownership, gender-based violence, and leadership uncovered a world Abebech hadn’t known existed. “Learning I could inherit land was like unlocking a door I didn’t know was there,” she says. This wasn’t just information—it was a lifeline backed by legal aid and community support designed to center survivors and encourage collective action.



Armed with this new knowledge and EWLA's backing, Abebech challenged her brothers' long-held control over her inherited land. The court ruled in her favor, but winning the case was only part of the battle. She took charge of making sure the decision was carried out, even handling land tax payments herself. "Now, my husband and I discuss things together," she explains. "I often bring up what I learned in the trainings when we talk about our family's future."

Her success inspired other women nearby to assert their own inheritance rights, quietly rewriting what was considered normal in their community. Beyond her personal win, Abebech stepped into leadership roles—she serves as zonal treasurer and participates actively in local women's federations and self-help groups.

Financially, the skills she gained made a big difference. She and her husband now manage their money openly and thoughtfully. Their family moved into a new house, and she even bought a plot of land where she built a rental property that provides regular income. Reflecting on her journey, Abebech says, "If only I had learned these things sooner. I want younger women to have that chance early on."

Her story demonstrates how legal awareness, community solidarity, and practical support can dismantle long-standing barriers. EWLA's approach—focused on grassroots partnerships, survivor-centered care, and legal empowerment—has helped women like Abebech protect themselves, claim leadership, and improve their livelihoods.

Abebech's experience illustrates the core goals of the We Cannot Wait project: increasing safety from gender-based violence, boosting women's leadership, and strengthening local organizations. It's a reminder that change is possible when knowledge meets action, and that empowering women reshapes not just lives but entire communities.

She leaves us with a clear message: waiting for change isn't an option. Supporting organizations like EWLA that stand with women on the ground is key to opening doors long shut. When women understand their rights and act on them, the future shifts—one family, one village at a time.



አበበች መብቷን በማሰከበር የማኅበረሰቧን ገጽታ እንዴት እንደለወጠች

የ40 ዓመቷ ወ/ሮ አበበች በለጠ፣ የተጣለባትን ወሰን በዝምታ ተቀብላ ከመኖር ወደ ማኅበረሰብ መሪነት የተሸጋገረችበት አሰደናቂ የሕይወት ለውጥ ላይ ትገኛለች። በአዳማ ከተማ አቅራቢያ በመልካ አዳማ ወረዳ የምትኖረው አበበች፣ በአንድ ወቅት መሬትም ሆነ የውሳኔ ሰጪነት ሚና ከአርሷ አቅም በላይ እንደሆኑ ታምን ነበር። የእሷ ተሞክሮ መሰረታዊ መብቶቻቸውን በሚነፍጉ ሥር የሰደዱ ወጎች ውስጥ የሚገኙ ብዙ ሴቶች የሚያጋጥማቸውን የሚያንፀባርቅ ሲሆን፣ ታሪክ ግንዛቤና ድጋፍ እነዚያን የዝምታ ስንሰለቶች እንዴት እንደሚበጥሰም ያሳያል።

አበበች ያደገችው በቢሾፍቱ ቁፍቱ ቀበሌ ሲሆን፣ በዚያም አካባቢ የነበረው ባህል ሴቶች ንብረት እንዳይወርሱ በጥብቅ ይከለክል ነበር። መሬት የወንዶች ብቻ የነበረ ሲሆን፣ ሴቶችም አግብተው በባሎቻቸው ላይ ጥገኛ እንዲሆኑ ይጠበቅባቸው ነበር። "የኔ ቦታ ሌሎች የወሰኑልኝን መከተል ይመስለኝ ነበር" ስትል ታስታውሳለች። ወንድሟ ትምህርቱን ሲቀጥል፣ እሷ ከስምንተኛ ክፍል በኋላ ትምህርቷን እንድታቋርጥ ተደርጓል። በቤት ውስጥም ውሳኔዎችን የሚወስነው ባለቤቷ ሲሆን፣ የእሷ ሚና ዝምተኛና ሁለተኛ ደረጃ ነበር።



አበበች ወንድሞቿ ለረጅም ጊዜ በቁጥጥራቸው ስር ያዋሉትን የወረሰችውን መሬት ተከራክረች። ፍርድ ቤቱም ለአርሷ ወሰነላት፤ ነገር ግን ክሱን ማሸነፍ የውጊያው አንድ አካል ብቻ ነበር። ፍርዱን በማሰፈጸም በኩል ራሷ ግንባር ቀደም ሚና ተጫውታለች፤ እንዲያውም የመሬት ግብሩን በራሷ ትከፍል ነበር።

ነገሮች መለወጥ የጀመሩት ከዐሥራ አንድ ዓመት ገደማ በፊት በገጠር ሙያ ማኅበረሰብ (RPC) በተመሠረተ የሴቶች ቡድን ውስጥ ስትቀላቀል ነበር። ቡድኑ ገንዘብ መቆጠብን፣ አነስተኛ ንግድ ማስተዳደርን፣ ከሁሉም በላይ ደግሞ ሕጋዊ መብቷን መረዳትን አስተዋወቃት። በዚህ ግንኙነት እማካኝነት፣ የኢትዮጵያ የሴቶች ሕግ ባለሙያዎች ማህበር (EWLA) እና የ"ዊ ካናት ዌይት" ፕሮጀክታቸው በመልካ ሴቶች ማኅበሯ በኩል ሊደርሷት ቻለች። የEWLA ሥልጠና በሴቶች መብት፣ በመሬት ባለቤትነት፣ በጾታ ላይ የተመሠረተ ጥቃትና በአመራር ዙሪያ አበበች ፈጽሞ የማታውቀውን ዓለም ገለጠላት። "መሬት መውረስ እንደምችል ማወቄ፣ መኖሩን እንኳ የማላውቀውን የተዘጋ በር እንደመክፈት ነበር" ትላለች። ይህ መረጃ ብቻ ሳይሆን፣ ተገጂዎችን ማዕከል ባደረገ እና የጋራ እርምጃን በሚያበረታታ የህግ ድጋፍና የማኅበረሰብ እገዛ የታገዘ የሕይወት እስትንፋስ ነበር።

በዚህ አዲስ ዕውቀትና በEWLA ድጋፍ በመታገዝ፣ አበበች ወንድሞቿ ለረጅም ጊዜ በቁጥጥራቸው ስር ያዋሉትን የወረሰችውን መሬት ተከራክረች። ፍርድ ቤቱም ለአርሷ ወሰነላት፤ ነገር ግን ክሱን ማሸነፍ የውጊያው አንድ አካል ብቻ ነበር። ፍርዱን በማሰፈጸም በኩል ራሷ ግንባር ቀደም ሚና ተጫውታለች፤ እንዲያውም የመሬት ግብሩን በራሷ ትከፍል ነበር። "አሁን ከባለቤቱ ጋር በጋራ እንወያያለን" ስትል ታስታደላለች። "ስለ ቤተሰባችን የወደፊት ሁኔታ ስንነጋገር በሥልጠናዎች ላይ የተማርኩትን ነገር ብዙ ጊዜ አነሳለሁ።"

የእሷ ስኬት በአካባቢው ያሉ ሌሎች ሴቶችም የውርስ መብታቸውን እንዲጠይቁ በማነሳሳት፣ በማኅበረሰቡ ዘንድ እንደ ልማድ ይታይ የነበረውን አመለካከት በጸጥታ እንዲቀየር አድርጓል። ከግል ድህ ሳሻገር፣ አበበች ወደ አመራርነት ሚናዎች ገብታለች — የዞን ገንዘብ ያዥ ሆና ታገለግላለች፤ እንዲሁም በአካባቢው የሴቶች ፌዴሬሽኖችና በራስ-እገዛ ቡድኖች ውስጥ በንቃት ትሳተፋለች።

በገንዘብ ረገድም ያገኘችው ክህሎት ትልቅ ለውጥ አምጥቷል። እሷና ባለቤቷ አሁን ገንዘባቸውን በግልጽነትና በጥንቃቄ ያስተዳድራሉ። ቤተሰባቸው ወደ አዲስ ቤት የተዛወረ ሲሆን፣ እሷም መሬት ገዝታ ቋሚ ገቢ የሚያስገኝ የኪራይ ቤት እስከመገንባት ድርሳለች።

ጉዞዋን ስታስታውስ፣ "ይህንን ሁሉ ነገር ገና በጠዋቱ አውቄው ቢሆን ኖሮ" ስትል በቁጭት ትናገራለች። "ወጣት ሴቶች ይህንን እድል ገና በለጋነታቸው እንዲያገኙ እፈልጋለሁ።"



የአበበች ታሪክ የህግ ግንዛቤ፣ የማኅበረሰብ ትብብርና ተግባራዊ ድጋፍ ለረጅም ጊዜ የቆዩ እንቅፋቶችን እንዴት እንደሚያፈርሱ ያሳያል። የEWLA አቀራረብ — ከታችኛው የማኅበረሰብ ክፍል ጋር በሚፈጠር አጋርነት፣ ተጎጂዎችን ማዕከል ባደረገ እንክብካቤ እና በህግ ማብቃት ላይ ያተኮረ በመሆኑ — እንደ አበበች ያሉ ሴቶች እራሳቸውን እንዲከላከሉ፣ አመራር እንዲሰጡና ኑሯቸውን እንዲያሻሽሉ ረድቷቸዋል።

የአበበች ተሞክሮ የ"ዊ ካኖት ዌይት" ፕሮጀክት ዋና ግቦችን ያሳያል፤ ይኸውም ከጾታ ጥቃት ደህንነትን ማረጋገጥ፣ የሴቶችን አመራር ማሳደግ እና የአካባቢ ድርጅቶችን ማጠናከር ነው። ዕውቀት ከተግባር ጋር ሲገናኝ ለውጥ እንደሚቻልና ሴቶችን ማብቃት ሕይወትን ብቻ ሳይሆን መላውን ማኅበረሰብ እንደሚለውጥ ማስታወሻ ነው።

ለውጥን መጠበቅ አማራጭ እንዳልሆነ ግልጽ መልዕክት ትታልናለች። እንደ EWLA ያሉ ከሴቶች ጎን የሚቆሙ ድርጅቶችን መደገፍ ለረጅም ጊዜ የተዘጉ በሮችን ለመክፈት ቁልፍ ነው። ሴቶች መብታቸውን ሲረዱና ተግባራዊ ሲያደርጉ፣ የወደፊት ጊዜ ከአንድ ቤተሰብ ተነስቶ አንድን መንደር እየለወጠ ይቀየራል።



How One Woman's Courage Sparked Change for Her Community



Seble Demissie, a 30-year-old social worker from Adama's Bole Sub-City, once saw her job as just a paycheck. She worked quietly behind the scenes, arranging trainings and managing reports for a local child protection group. But inside, she struggled. Seble had faced gender-based violence herself, and the pain made her withdraw. She didn't have the training or confidence to support other women or speak out. For her and many women in her community, violence was something to hide, and justice felt out of reach.

Before the We Cannot Wait project came to her area, Seble's daily work was routine and limited. She didn't know how to challenge the deep problems women faced. Many women in Adama suffered quietly, unaware of their rights or how to get help. There were few services, and the local systems often failed survivors. People like Seble felt stuck—unable to lead or bring change.

Then everything began to shift when Seble connected with the Ethiopian Women Lawyers Association (EWLA) through the We Cannot Wait project. At first, she sought legal help for children facing violence, but what she found was more — a community ready to listen and act. EWLA offered training on women's rights, gender-based violence, leadership, and how to work with local officials. They paired this with ongoing mentoring and community meetings that made Seble feel supported and capable. Slowly, she started to see herself not just as a worker but as a leader.



With this new knowledge and confidence, Seble took bold steps. She convinced her organization to redirect funds toward fighting gender-based violence and set up a support fund for survivors. She helped start 25 Self-Help Groups, reaching 625 women who had been left out before. These groups pooled their savings—about 8 million Birr—and started small businesses like raising sheep, selling local drinks, and running bakeries. More than money, they held regular sessions to raise awareness about violence and fought publicly for their rights.

Seble also led a “model village” project focused on ending violence, promoting education, and improving health. This community space helped find girls suffering abuse and ensured they got support and justice. Thanks to Seble’s work connecting survivors to EWLA’s legal aid, many perpetrators faced arrest and conviction. She organized meetings where women could speak directly with police and local leaders, helping change attitudes and hold officials accountable.

The difference in Seble is striking. From shy and quiet, she has grown into a confident speaker who shares her story to inspire others. She no longer hides but stands up against discrimination and violence. Her personal journey reflects a wider transformation — of women moving from silence to leadership, and communities learning to protect and value them.

Seble’s story is a clear example of how the We Cannot Wait project helps women live safer lives, take leadership roles, and build stronger communities. EWLA’s legal aid, awareness training, and community dialogues didn’t just teach skills—they created real change. Women like Seble are now leaders and advocates who push for justice every day.

This transformation ties directly to the project’s goals: protecting women from violence, increasing women’s leadership, and strengthening local groups to respond to challenges. By building these connections, the project helps communities become safer and more just for everyone.

Seble’s experience shows that when women get the right support, they can lead powerful change. To keep this progress going, it’s important to support organizations like EWLA and projects like We Cannot Wait. Together, they prove that justice and leadership grow strongest when women are given the tools, respect, and space to shine.



የለውጥ ፈር ቀዳጅ

የ30 ዓመቷ ወ/ሮ ሰብላ ደምሴ በአዳማ ከተማ ቦሌ ክፍለ ከተማ የምትኖር የማኅበራዊ ጉዳይ ባለሙያ ስትሆን፣ በአንድ ወቅት ሥራዋን የምትመለከተው ለደመወዝ ብቻ ነበር። በአካባቢው በሚገኝ የሕፃናት ጥበቃ ድርጅት ውስጥ ሥልጠናዎችን በማዘጋጀትና ሪፖርቶችን በማጠናቀር በጸጥታ ከበስተጀርባ ትሰራ ነበር። በውስጧ ግን ከባድ ትግል ላይ ነበረች። ሰብላ ራሷ ፆታን መሰረት ያደረገ ጥቃት ስለባ የነበረች ሲሆን፣ ጥቃቱ በውስጧ ያሳደረው ስቃይ ራሷን እንድታገል አድርጓት ነበር። ሌሎች ሴቶችን ለመደገፍም ሆነ ድምጿን ከፍ አድርጋ ለመናገር የሚያስችላት ሥልጠናም ሆነ በራስ መተማመን አልነበራትም። ለእርሷና በማኅበረሰቧ ውስጥ ላሉ በርካታ ሴቶች፣ ጥቃት ሊደበቅ የሚገባው ነገር ሲሆን ፍትሕ ደግሞ የማይደረስበት ይመስል ነበር።

በዚህ አዲስ ዕውቀትና በራስ መተማመን፣ ሰብላ ደፋር እርምጃዎችን ወስደች። ድርጅቷ በጀት መድቦ ፆታን መሰረት ያደረገ ጥቃትን እንዲታገልፍ ለተጎጂዎች የድጋፍ ፈንድ እንዲያቋቁም አሳመነች። ከዚህ ቀደም ተገልለው የነበሩ 625 ሴቶችን ያካተቱ 25 የራስ አገዝ ቡድኖችን እንድትመሰርት አገዘች። እነዚህ ቡድኖች ወደ 8 ሚሊዮን ብር የሚጠጋ ገንዘብ በመቆጠብ እንደ በግ ማርባት፣ የአገር ውስጥ መጠጦችን መሸጥና ዳቦ መጋገር ያሉ አነስተኛ ንግዶችን ጀመሩ።

'ዊ ካኖት ዌይት' ፕሮጀክት ወደ አካባቢዋ ከመምጣቱ በፊት፣ የሰብላ የዕለት ተዕለት ሥራ የተለመደና ውስን ነበር። ሴቶች የሚያጋጥሟቸውን ከባድ ችግሮች እንዴት መጋፈጥ እንዳለባት አታውቅም ነበር። በአዳማ ያሉ ብዙ ሴቶች መብቶቻቸውን ወይም እርዳታ እንዴት ማግኘት እንደሚችሉ ሳያውቁ በዝምታ ይሰቃዩ ነበር። ለተጎጂዎች የሚቀርቡ አገልግሎቶች ጥቂት ሲሆኑ፣ የአካባቢው ሥርዓቶችም ብዙውን ጊዜ ምላሽ አይሰጡም ነበር። እንደ ሰብላ ያሉ ሰዎች ለውጥ ማምጣትም ሆነ መምራት እንደማይችሉ እየተሰማቸው ተስፋ ቆርጠው ነበር።

ከዚያም ሰብላ በ'ዊ ካኖት ዌይት' ፕሮጀክት አማካኝነት ከኢትዮጵያ የሴቶች ሕግ ባለሙያዎች ማህበር (EWLA) ጋር ስትገናኝ ሁሉም ነገር መለወጥ ጀመረ። መጀመሪያ ላይ የህግ እርዳታ የፈለገችው ጥቃት ለደረሰባቸው ሕፃናት ቢሆንም፣ ያገኘችው ግን ከዚያ በላይ ነበር — ለመሰማትና ለመተግበር ዝግጁ የሆነ ማኅበረሰብ። EWLA በሴቶች መብት፣ በፆታ ላይ የተመሠረተ ጥቃት፣ በአመራር እና ከአካባቢው ባለሥልጣናት ጋር እንዴት መሥራት እንደሚቻል ላይ ሥልጠና ሰጣት። ከዚህ ጋር ተያይዞ የቀረበላት ተከታታይ የአማካሪነት ድጋፍና የማኅበረሰብ ሰብሰባዎች፣ ሰብላ ድጋፍ እንዳላትና አቅም እንዳላት እንዲሰማት አደረገት። ቀስ በቀስ እራሷን እንደ አንድ ተራ ስራተኛ ሳይሆን እንደ መሪ ማየት ጀመረች።

በዚህ አዲስ ዕውቀትና በራስ መተማመን፣ ሰብላ ደፋር እርምጃዎችን ወስደች። ድርጅቷ በጀት መድቦ ፆታን መሰረት ያደረገ ጥቃትን እንዲታገልፍ ለተጎጂዎች የድጋፍ ፈንድ እንዲያቋቁም አሳመነች። ከዚህ ቀደም ተገልለው የነበሩ 625 ሴቶችን ያካተቱ 25 የራስ አገዝ ቡድኖችን እንድትመሰርት አገዘች። እነዚህ ቡድኖች ወደ 8 ሚሊዮን ብር የሚጠጋ ገንዘብ በመቆጠብ እንደ በግ ማርባት፣ የአገር ውስጥ መጠጦችን መሸጥና ዳቦ መጋገር ያሉ አነስተኛ ንግዶችን ጀመሩ። ከገንዘቡ በላይ፣ ቡድኖቹ ስለ ጥቃት ግንዛቤ ለመፍጠርና መብታቸውን በይፋ ለመጠየቅ መደበኛ ውይይቶችን ያደርጉ ነበር።

ሰብላ በተጨማሪም ጥቃትን ለማስቆም፣ ትምህርትን ለማበረታታትና ጤናን ለማሻሻል ያለመ "የአርአያ መንደር" ፕሮጀክትን መርታለች። ይህ የማኅበረሰብ ምህዳር ጥቃት የደረሰባቸውን ልጆቿ ለመለየትና ድጋፍና ፍትሕ እንዲያገኙ ለማረጋገጥ ረድቷል። ሰብላ ተጎጂዎችን ከEWLA የህግ ድጋፍ ጋር በማገናኘት በሠራችው ሥራ ምስጋና ይግባውና ብዙ አጥፊዎች ለፍርድ ቀርበው ተገቢውን ቅጣት አግኝተዋል። ሴቶች ከፖሊስና ከአካባቢው አመራሮች ጋር በቀጥታ

የሚነጋገሩባቸውን ሰብሰባዎች በማዘጋጀት፣ የአመለካከት ለውጥ እንዲመጣና ባለሥልጣናትም ተጠያቂ እንዲሆኑ አድርጋለች።

በሰብላ ላይ የታየው ለውጥ ጉልህ ነው። አይናፋርና ዝምተኛ ከነበረችበት ሁኔታ፣ አሁን ታሪኳን ለሌሎች በማካፈል መነሳሳትን የምትፈጥር በራስ መተማመን ያላት ተናጋሪ ሆናለች። ከአሁን በኋላ እራሷን አትደብቅም፤ ይልቁንም መድልኔንና ጥቃትን በድፍረት



ትቃወማላች። የግል ጉዞ ሰፊውን ለውጥ ያንጸባርቃል — ሴቶች ከዝምታ ወደ አመራርነት ሲሸጋገሩ፣ ማሳበረሰቦችም እነርሱን መጠበቅና ዋጋ መስጠት ሲማሩ።

የሰብላ ታሪክ 'ዊ ካኖት ዌይት' ፕሮጀክት ሴቶች ደህንነታቸው የተጠበቀ ሕይወት እንዲመሩ፣ የአመራር ሚና እንዲወሰዱ እና ጠንካራ ማሳበረሰቦችን እንዲገነቡ እንዴት እንደሚረዳ ግልጽ ማሳያ ነው። የEWLA የህግ ድጋፍ፣ የግንዛቤ ሥልጠናዎችና የማሳበረሰብ ውይይቶች ክህሎቶችን ከማስተማር ባለፈ እውነተኛ ለውጥ ፈጥረዋል። እንደ ሰብላ ያሉ ሴቶች አሁን በየቀኑ ለፍትሕ የሚታገሉ መሪዎችና ተሟጋቾች ናቸው።

ይህ ለውጥ ከፕሮጀክቱ ግቦች ጋር በቀጥታ የተያያዘ ነው፤ ይኸውም ሴቶችን ከጥቃት መጠበቅ፣ የሴቶችን አመራር ማሳደግ እና የአካባቢ ቡድኖች ለችግሮች ምላሽ እንዲሰጡ ማጠናከር። ፕሮጀክቱ እነዚህን ግንኙነቶች በመገንባት፣ ማሳበረሰቦች ለሁሉም ሰው ደህንነታቸው የተጠበቀና ፍትሃዊ እንዲሆኑ ይረዳል።

የሰብላ ተሞክሮ እንደሚያሳየው፣ ሴቶች ትክክለኛውን ድጋፍ ሲያገኙ፣ ኃይለኛ ለውጥ መምራት ይችላሉ። ይህንን እድገት ለማስቀጠል፣ እንደ EWLA ያሉ ድርጅቶችን እንደ 'ዊ ካኖት ዌይት' ያሉ ፕሮጀክቶችን መደገፍ አስፈላጊ ነው። ፍትሕና አመራር በጠንካራ ሁኔታ የሚያድጉት ሴቶች የሚያስፈልጓቸውን መሳሪያዎች፣ ክብርና የሚያበሩበት መድረክ ሲያገኙ መሆኑን በጋራ ያረጋግጣሉ።



Best practices from the project

1. Justice Without Barriers for Poor Women

In Assosa, impoverished women were systematically denied their right to free legal services due to a bureaucratic requirement to present an official poverty verification letter from their Kebele. This procedural hurdle created a major bottleneck, delaying justice and discouraging marginalized women from pursuing their cases. Responding to this gap, the Benishangul-Gumuz Regional Supreme Court, through a multi-stakeholder consultative process involving EWLA and other justice sector actors, initiated and passed a formal legal amendment that completely eliminated the need for this letter.

This systemic change, effective July 8, 2025, immediately streamlined women's access to the justice system and restored a sense of fairness. Unlike a temporary project-based intervention, embedding the solution in formal law creates a sustainable, institutional fix that respects women's dignity and frees up CSO resources. The key lesson is that collaborative advocacy focused on formal legal reform is a powerful and enduring strategy for dismantling deep-rooted, discriminatory barriers to justice.

2. Saving Circles Lead the Way to Justice

In Adama, women in economically focused Self-Help Groups (SHGs) under the Timret Lelewut Federation often lacked awareness of their legal rights, leaving them vulnerable to gender-based violence and social isolation. EWLA addressed this by partnering with the federation to deliver legal rights training directly within these existing and trusted community structures. The approach was unique in its engagement of intergenerational allies, including elders (Aba Gedas) and youth groups, which built broad community support and legitimacy for the initiative.

This practice successfully transformed economic platforms into hubs for justice and empowerment. SHG members began supporting each other in reporting violence, elders became active advocates for women's rights, and the federation itself gained legal recognition as a model for community-led justice. The key lesson is that leveraging established grassroots networks is a highly effective and sustainable strategy; change is most impactful when legal empowerment is woven into the existing fabric of a community.



ከፕሮጀክቱ መልካም ተሞክሮዎች መካከል

1. እንቅፋትን ያስወገደው የህግ ማሻሻያ (አሶሳ)

በአሶሳ ከተማ የፍትሕ ሥርዓቱ ድሃ ሴቶችን በነፃ የህግ ድጋፍ እንዲያገኙ ቢፈቅድም፣ ይህንን መብት ለመጠቀም ከቀበሌ የድህነት ማረጋገጫ ደብዳቤ የማቅረብ ግዴታ ዋነኛ እንቅፋ ሆኖ ነበር። ይህ ቢሮክራሲያዊ እንቅፋቶች ፍትሕን ከማጓተቱም በላይ ብዙ ሴቶችን ተስፋ አስቆርጦ ለጥቃት ያጋልጥ ነበር። ይህንን ክፍተት ለመሙላት የቤኒሻንጉል-ጉሙዝ ክልል ጠቅላይ ፍርድ ቤት፣ ከEWLA እና ከሌሎች ባለድርሻ አካላት ጋር በመተባበር፣ ሴቶች ይህንን ደብዳቤ ሳያቀርቡ ነፃ የህግ አገልግሎት እንዲያገኙ የሚያስችል መደበኛ የህግ ማሻሻያ አድርጓል።

ይህ ማሻሻያ አስተዳደራዊ እንቅፋቶች በማስወገድ የፍትሕ ሂደቱን ፍትሃዊና ቀልጣፋ አድርጎታል። ለውጡ በጊዜያዊ ፕሮጀክት ላይ የተመሠረተ ሳይሆን በህግ ማዕቀፍ ውስጥ የተካተተ በመሆኑ፣ ዘላቂና ተቋማዊ መፍትሔ ሆኗል። ይህም የሴቶችን ክብር ከመመለሱም በላይ፣ እንደ EWLA ያሉ ድርጅቶች ሀብታቸውንና ጊዜያቸውን ሌሎች ወሳኝ ድጋፎች ላይ እንዲያውሉ አስችሏቸዋል። ይህ ተሞክሮ፣ ሥርዓታዊ ለውጥ ለማምጣት የህግ ማሻሻያ ምን ያህል ወሳኝ እንደሆነ ያሳያል።

2. የቁጠባ ቡድን የተገኘው የማኅበረሰብ ፍትሕ (አዳማ)

በአዳማ ከተማ የሚገኙ የራስ አገዝ የቁጠባ ቡድን አባል የሆኑ ሴቶች በኢኮኖሚ የተደራጀ ቢሆኑም፣ ስለ ህጋዊ መብቶቻቸው ያላቸው ግንዛቤ ዝቅተኛ በመሆኑ ለጥቃት ተጋላጭ ነበሩ። EWLA ይህንን ክፍተት ለመሙላት፣ ከ'ትምህርት ለሰው' ፌዴሬሽን ጋር በመተባበር፣ የህግ ግንዛቤ ሥልጠናዎችን በቀጥታ በእነዚህ በተመሰረቱና በሚታወኑ የቁጠባ ቡድኖች ውስጥ ሰጥቷል። ይህ አሰራር ከሴቶች በተጨማሪ ወጣቶችን፣ የሀገር ሽማግሌዎችን (አባ ገዳዎችን) እንዲሁም ባሎችን በማሳተፍ በማኅበረሰቡ ዘንድ ሰፊ ተቀባይነት እንዲያገኝ አስችሎታል።

ይህ ተሞክሮ እንደሚያሳየው፣ አስቀድሞ የነበሩ የማኅበረሰብ መዋቅሮችን ለህግ ማብቃት ሥራ መጠቀም ከፍተኛ ውጤት ያስገኛል። የቁጠባ ቡድን አባላቱ እርስ በእርስ መደጋገፍ፣ ጥቃቶችን ሪፖርት ማድረግና ፍትሕን በጋራ መፈለግ ጀመሩ። ሽማግሌዎች የሴቶች መብት ተሟጋች ሲሆኑ፣ ፌዴሬሽኑም ህጋዊ እውቅና በማግኘት በማኅበረሰብ-መር የፍትሕ ሥራ እንደ አርኪያ መታየት ጀምሯል። ትምህርቱ ግልጽ ነው፤ እውነተኛ ለውጥ በማኅበረሰቡ ውስጥ ሥር ሲሰድ የበለጠ ያድጋል።



ABOUT EWLA

Ethiopian Women Lawyers Association (EWLA) is a non-profit women's advocacy group founded by Ethiopian Women Lawyers. It began its work in 1996 after registered in 1995. It has been re-registered as a Local organization by the F.D.R.E Authority for Civil Society Organizations in 2019 as per the Civil Society Organization Proclamation no-1113/2019. Since its establishment, it has been working for more than 25 years to promote women's social, economic, political and legal rights to help them exercise their constitutional and other rights through its three major programs (Free Legal Aid Service, Legal Research and Advocacy as well as Public Education and Capacity Building).

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