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https://nrwomenplatform.org/

Natural Resource Women Platform

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Dear Reader,

Welcome to the latest edition of the Natural Resource Women Platform (NRWP) Newsletter. In this issue, we share highlights of our ongoing work to advance women's rights, climate justice, land rights, and sustainable livelihoods across Liberia. From grassroots advocacy and women's economic empowerment to regional and international engagements, these stories reflect the strength, leadership, and resilience of women and communities working to defend their rights, protect natural resources, and promote community-led solutions.



Photo: Women farmers during the Seed Fair in Sackie Town, Bomi County.

Women Farmers Strengthen Climate Resilience with Indigenous Seeds and Sustainable Farming

In Bomi County, 42 women farmers were trained in agroecological methods, learning crop rotation, organic fertilizer production, and soil conservation. A community-managed seed bank was established in Sackie Town, ensuring Indigenous seeds remain accessible for future generations. These efforts are strengthening food sovereignty, expanding communal farming, and reducing dependence on imported seeds.

The initiative concluded with a two-day Seed Fair in Sackie Town, where women farmers showcased Indigenous seeds and helped establish a community-managed seed bank to support food sovereignty and long-term community resilience.

Key Outcomes

- Increased adoption of sustainable and community-based farming practices
- Strengthened preservation of Indigenous seed systems
- Expanded women-led communal farming initiatives
- Improved access to farming tools and resources
- Enhanced community awareness on climate resilience and food sovereignty

NRWP will continue providing technical support to strengthen food security, women's leadership, and community resilience. For details, read the full story online: https://tinyurl.com/3vth6nfj

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Photo: Participants during the baking and livelihood skills training in Dede-ta, Margibi County.

Empowering Concession-Affected Women Through Baking and Livelihood Skills

In Margibi County, 22 concession-affected women participated in intensive baking and small business training under the CALLS Project. Beyond learning recipes, they gained skills in food safety, hygiene, and financial literacy. Each woman received a startup baking kit, enabling them to launch micro-enterprises that now provide income and independence.



Key Outcomes

- Improved income-generating skills among women participants
- Increased confidence and entrepreneurship capacity
- Strengthened peer solidarity and support networks
- Distribution of startup baking kits to participants

The initiative contributes to women's economic empowerment by creating alternative livelihood opportunities for women affected by concession-related economic challenges.

For more details, read the full story online:https://tinyurl.com/mmnesyjr

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Photo: VSLA members in Sehyi-Geh, Nimba County.

Strengthening Women's Financial Independence Through VSLA Groups

Across communities in Nimba and Bong Counties, women are coming together to build a stronger financial future through collective savings and mutual support. With the support of the Natural Resource Women Platform (NRWP), four Village Savings and Loan Association (VSLA) groups have been established, bringing together more than 120 participants, the majority of whom are women.

In the communities of Zolowee, Sehyi-Geh, and Zowienta, members have begun a journey of saving together, strengthening their leadership skills, and learning practical financial management.

Key Outcomes

- Increased women's financial inclusion and savings culture
- Improved access to community-based financial support systems
- Strengthened women's leadership and economic decision-making
- Expanded opportunities for small businesses and communal farming

The initiative continues to strengthen women's economic resilience and collective organizing within rural communities.

NRWP will continue to provide mentorship, business support, and linkages to VSLA groups to ensure sustainable economic empowerment.

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Photo: Participants during the Right to Say No awareness campaign in Senji, Grand Cape Mount County.

Advancing Land Rights Through the "Right to Say No" Campaign

In Gbarpolu and Grand Cape Mount Counties, 67 participants joined awareness sessions on the 2018 Land Rights Act. Women learned how to advocate for their communities and assert their right to say no to harmful concessions. The campaign sparked grassroots leadership and highlighted the urgent need for legal education in rural areas.



Key Outcomes

- Increased awareness of land and environmental rights
- Strengthened women's confidence in community advocacy
- Emergence of new grassroots women leaders
- Increased demand for legal education and community support

The campaign reinforces NRWP's commitment to land justice, accountability, and women's leadership in natural resource governance.

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Photo: NRWP advocacy materials displayed at COP30 in Belém, Brazil.

NRWP Amplifies Grassroots Voices at COP30

Liberian women are rewriting the story of resilience and justice. From the fields of Bomi to the global stage at COP30, they are not only cultivating food and defending land — they are shaping the future of climate justice and community empowerment.

This year's highlights capture a movement in motion: women transforming livelihoods, amplifying voices, and demanding accountability. What follows is not just a report of activities — it is a testament to power in action.

Through advocacy materials and engagement sessions, NRWP highlighted the realities faced by women and communities affected by environmental degradation, land insecurity, and climate-related challenges.

NRWP's reflections emphasized that while progress was made on climate finance and emissions reduction discussions, major gaps remain, including:

- Lack of binding commitments on fossil fuel phase-out
- Inaccessible climate finance for grassroots organizations
- Weak implementation of gender justice commitments

Key Advocacy Messages

- Direct funding for women-led and grassroots organizations
- Protection for women environmental defenders
- Stronger environmental governance and accountability
- Enforcement of community land rights and FPIC

The participation strengthened NRWP's international advocacy and elevated grassroots women's voices within global climate justice spaces.

For more details, read the full story online:https://l1nq.com/nep3okh

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Photo: Community women and the NRWP team during the 16 Days of Activism campaign in Grand Cape Mount County.

NRWP Launches 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence

NRWP launched the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence campaign in Monrovia, bringing together women leaders from Bomi, Grand Cape Mount, Margibi, and Grand Bassa Counties, alongside civil society partners.

During the global campaign, women leaders from multiple counties shared lived experiences of gender-based violence. The initiative strengthened survivor advocacy, documented cases, and demanded accountability from institutions. It was a powerful reminder that ending GBV requires both grassroots voices and systemic change.

Key Outcomes

- Increased grassroots participation in GBV advocacy
- Strengthened documentation of GBV cases and survivor experiences
- Improved awareness of the links between GBV, land rights, and natural resource governance
- Stronger calls for accountability and survivor support systems

Participants called for stronger enforcement of GBV laws, expanded awareness initiatives, improved survivor services, and greater economic empowerment opportunities for women.

For more details, read the full story online:https://tinyurl.com/3t9z2wpd

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Photo: Distribution of farming tools to women-led communal farms in Grand Bassa County.

NRWP Supports Women-Led Communal Farms in Grand Bassa

NRWP provided farming support to women-led communal farm groups in Grand Bassa County as part of efforts to strengthen women's livelihoods, food sovereignty, and community resilience ahead of the 2026 farming season.

Working alongside women farmers within the Liberia Agricultural Company (LAC) concession area, NRWP supported five communal farms by providing power saws and other essential farming tools to reduce heavy manual labor and improve productivity.

The communal farms serve as important spaces for collective organizing, solidarity, food production, and women's leadership within concession-affected communities.

Key Outcomes

- Improved access to farming tools and resources
- Increased support for women-led communal farming
- Strengthened collective farming and solidarity among women
- Enhanced community resilience and food production capacity

Women beneficiaries noted that access to appropriate tools would significantly reduce farming burdens and improve agricultural productivity.

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Photo: Participants during the Women Environmental Defenders training in Gbapa Town, Nimba County.

Legal Empowerment and Protection for Women Environmental Defenders

Across Nimba and Bong Counties, more than 60 women strengthened their knowledge and confidence to advocate for their rights and participate in decisions affecting their communities. Through training on the 2018 Land Rights Act, Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), environmental and human rights, advocacy, risk management, and emotional well-being, women gained practical tools to engage in land governance, support one another through peer networks, and organize for stronger community representation. The training is helping women move from being observers to active leaders and advocates for land justice in their communities.

Key Outcomes

- Increased women's participation in land governance discussions
- Strengthened advocacy and security awareness
- Establishment of Peer Support Groups in Nimba and Bong Counties
- Enhanced community organizing and solidarity

Women participants are now engaging concession actors and local leaders with increased confidence while raising concerns around land rights, environmental accountability, and community protection.

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Photo: Women participating in NRWP's International Women's Day activities.

NRWP Celebrates International Women's Day Through Regional Advocacy

In commemoration of International Women's Day, NRWP hosted a regional webinar under the theme:

"Invest in Women: Accelerate Progress in Natural Resource Governance"

The event brought together speakers and participants from Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Cameroon, and Liberia to discuss women's leadership in climate resilience, land rights, and environmental governance. NRWP also mobilized grassroots women to participate in Liberia's national International Women's Day celebration in Monrovia, providing a platform to amplify women's voices on environmental justice and rights-based advocacy.

Key Outcomes

- Increased regional dialogue on women's leadership
- Expanded visibility for women environmental defenders
- Strengthened regional feminist and environmental solidarity
- Increased public awareness through online advocacy campaigns

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Photo: NRWP's Policy Advisor speaking at the 9th Maputo Workshop on Corporate Impunity and Human Rights.

9th Maputo Workshop on Corporate Impunity and Human Rights

NRWP participated in the 9th Maputo Workshop on Corporate Impunity and Human Rights, joining movements, civil society actors, and community representatives from across Africa and beyond.

NRWP used the space to highlight the experiences of women and communities affected by concessions, corporate abuse, land dispossession, and environmental harm in Liberia. The engagement strengthened regional solidarity and reinforced the need for stronger accountability, protection of community rights, and women's participation in natural resource governance.

Key Outcomes:

- Strengthened regional solidarity and collaboration
- Increased visibility for women's land and environmental rights issues in Liberia
- Expanded advocacy on corporate accountability and justice for affected communities

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Photo: NRWP's Policy Advisor presenting at the UN Tax Convention and Ending Austerity consultation in Nairobi.

Regional Consultation on the UN Tax Convention & Ending Austerity – Nairobi, Kenya

NRWP participated in the Regional Consultation on the UN Tax Convention & Ending Austerity, where civil society actors discussed feminist economic alternatives and the impact of austerity measures on vulnerable communities. NRWP highlighted how harmful tax incentives, corporate profit shifting, and weak revenue systems continue to affect women and concession-affected communities in Liberia.

Key outcomes of the consultation included:

- A renewed call for an inclusive, transparent, and equitable UN Framework Convention on International Tax Cooperation that gives developing countries a stronger voice in global tax governance.
- Recognition of the need to end harmful tax practices, including excessive tax incentives and illicit financial flows, which reduce domestic resources for public services and sustainable development.



For more details, read the full story online :https://tinyurl.com/2deeumrt

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Photo: Participants at the CSO Oil Palm Working Group strategic meeting.

NRWP Participates in CSO Oil Palm Working Group Strategic Meeting

NRWP participated in the CSO Oil Palm Working Group Strategic Meeting focused on strengthening dialogue and accountability within Liberia's oil palm sector.

The meeting brought together civil society organizations and stakeholders to engage with the National Bureau of Concessions (NBC), discuss developments within the oil palm sector, and revisit the National Oil Palm Development Bill.

NRWP advocated for stronger inclusion of women in land governance, environmental decision-making, and economic processes affecting concession-affected communities.

Key Outcomes

- Strengthened civil society collaboration and advocacy
- Increased focus on women's participation in concession governance
- Renewed calls for accountability, community rights, and sustainable land governance

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Across Liberia, the Natural Resource Women Platform remains committed to advancing women's leadership, climate resilience, land and environmental rights, and sustainable livelihoods.

From grassroots advocacy to economic empowerment, NRWP continues to amplify the voices of women at the frontlines of environmental and social justice.

As a women-led platform and grassroots movement, NRWP will continue to strengthen community-based structures, build solidarity, and support women in leadership as they take collective action for land justice, climate justice, and accountable natural resource governance.

NRWP extends sincere appreciation to our community partners, women's groups, allies, and funding partners whose support made these achievements possible.

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About NRWP: Our Movement Identity

The Natural Resource Women Platform (NRWP) is a grassroots feminist movement-building platform based in Liberia. NRWP amplifies the voices, leadership, and collective action of underrepresented women, Indigenous women, rural women farmers, women living in concession-affected communities, and Women Human Rights Defenders.

Our mission is to build and strengthen women-led grassroots movements that defend land rights, protect natural resources, advance climate and environmental justice, and challenge systems of inequality.

Our Movement-Building Approach

NRWP believes lasting change happens when women organize, build collective leadership, and act together. Our work is grounded in six interconnected approaches:

Community Organizing

We organize women into local platforms and strengthen community structures where women identify priorities, analyze challenges, and take collective action.

Feminist Leadership Development

We support women leaders, Indigenous women, and Women Human Rights Defenders through political education, legal literacy, advocacy, leadership development, and protection support.

Knowledge and Evidence Building

We document women's lived experiences, land conflicts, environmental injustices, gender-based violence, and Indigenous ecological knowledge to inform advocacy and movement strategies.

Collective Advocacy and Solidarity

We connect grassroots women across Liberia to build solidarity, strengthen networks, influence policies, and advocate for land rights, environmental justice, and gender equality.

Economic and Ecological Resilience

We strengthen women's livelihoods through agroecology, Indigenous seeds, communal farming, value addition, and women-led economic initiatives that reinforce community resilience.

Climate and Environmental Justice

We support women and youth in leading locally rooted climate solutions, protecting biodiversity, promoting Indigenous ecological knowledge, and holding governments and corporations accountable for environmental harm.

Our Core Values

Feminist Leadership | Collective Power | Justice | Solidarity | Participation | Accountability | Care | Respect for Indigenous Knowledge

Our Vision of Change

NRWP believes that when women organize, strengthen collective leadership, build solidarity, and influence decisions affecting their lives, they become powerful agents of social transformation. Through grassroots organizing and collective action, women can secure land rights, protect natural resources, strengthen livelihoods, and build a more just, feminist, and environmentally sustainable Liberia.

NRWP

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