

**AFRICAN WOMEN'S ACTIVE NONVIOLENCE INITIATIVES
FOR SOCIAL CHANGE
(AWANICH)**

**GENDER MAINSTREAMING TRAINING
FOR LEADERS OF PEACE ORGANIZATIONS**

10-12 OCTOBER, 2011. ACCRA-GHANA





For sustainable peace and development to prevail in our societies, there is a need for both male and female inclusion at program and decision-making levels. It is in that respect the **African Women's Active Nonviolence Initiatives for Social Change (AWANICH)** organized a three-day Gender mainstreaming training for leaders of Peace Organizations in **Accra-Ghana from the 10th to the 12th October 2011.**

The three-day training sought to build the capacities of leaders of peace building organizations in Africa to mainstream gender and active nonviolence within their organizations. It was expected that this change will permeate policy, program and activity levels of all participating organizations to ensure the needs and concerns of both men and women would be taken into consideration.

The selected group of twenty-one leaders of African peace organizations represented thirteen countries (Anglophone, francophone and Portuguese). Participants included both men and women of which five males and sixteen females.

Participants were introduced to notions of Active Nonviolence, Masculinity and Gender mainstreaming by a pair of experienced and highly skilled facilitators.

At the end of this participatory and highly interactive training, participants shared



understanding on the interconnection between gender and peace. They also provided a base-line analysis of what their organizations are already doing in terms of gender which brought about cross fertilization of learning for group. Building on what was already being done participants developed action plans, to enable

them monitor and measure of their implementation.



It is worth noting that the concept of Active Nonviolence was quite a new topic to most participants who embraced it well and further identified it as yet another instrument for effective gender mainstreaming within their organizations and the society at large.