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AFRICA WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT SUMMIT 2025

Accelerating Women's Leadership, Innovation and Economic Transformation Across Africa

REPORT – 2025



WOMEN LEADERSHIP

INNOVATION OPPORTUNITIES

ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION

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1. Summit Overview

The inaugural Africa Women's Empowerment Summit (AWES 2025) was successfully held from March 6—8, 2025, at Makerere University College of Engineering, Design, Art and Technology (CEDAT) in Kampala, Uganda. Organised by the DVC Foundation, the summit convened women leaders, advocates, policymakers, and stakeholders from across the continent under the powerful theme **"MY HEALTH MY PRIDE."** This three-day, continent-wide gathering served as a dynamic platform to elevate women's voices and catalyze action across critical sectors including health, entrepreneurship, technology, and social advocacy.

2. Summit Themes & Focus Areas

The theme ***"MY HEALTH MY PRIDE*** *"guided* all summit activities, acknowledging the central role of women's health and well-being in achieving broader empowerment. Discussions and sessions were structured around key interconnected focus areas:

- Women's comprehensive health and mental well-being
- Strategies for the prevention and mitigation of Gender-Based Violence (GBV)
- Advocacy for Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH) access
- Health financing and improving access to quality healthcare
- Entrepreneurship and economic empowerment
- Technology and innovation for inclusion

3. Summit Activities & Engagements



The summit program was designed to foster both high-level dialogue and practical skill-building through a variety of interactive formats.

3.1 Key Sessions & Discussions

- Panel discussions and keynote addresses by leading experts on health, GBV, and economic empowerment.
- Interactive workshops focused on innovation, technology adoption, and entrepreneurial strategy.
- Dedicated networking forums connecting attendees with peers, mentors, and potential institutional partners.

These engagements provided a robust platform for sharing insights, building collaborations, and developing actionable plans to address pressing challenges.

4. Key Achievements & Recognition





A significant highlight of AWES 2025 was the formal recognition of outstanding contributions to women's empowerment. The DVC Foundation team was honoured to receive an **Appreciation** Award presented by Dr. Hoda Yassa, President of the Arab Women Investors Union (AWIU) from the Republic of Egypt. This continental recognition underscores the impact of dedicated advocacy and sets a foundation for future collaborative engagement.

5. Strategic Collaborations & Partnerships

The summit served as a catalyst for forming strategic alliances aimed at ensuring long-term impact. Key partnerships announced include:

- A working engagement with Ms. Halima Namakula, a renowned regional advocate for women and youth empowerment in East Africa.
- Commitments from multiple stakeholder organisations to support ongoing empowerment initiatives across health, business, and leadership sectors.

These collaborations are essential for translating summit dialogues into sustained, actionable programs and joint projects.

6. Stakeholder Participation

AWES 2025 attracted broad and diverse participation, reflecting the cross-sectoral nature of women's empowerment. Attendees included:

Stakeholder Category	**Primary** Focus
Women Leaders & Grassroots Advocates	Representation and advocacy from multiple African nations.
Healthcare Professionals & Educators	Community health, well-being, and health education.
Business Leaders & Entrepreneurs	Economic inclusion, investment, and market access.
Civil Society & Development Stakeholders	Policy dialogue, partnerships, and program implementation.

7. Summit Impact & Key Outcomes

AWES 2025 successfully delivered several concrete outcomes that will inform future action: Elevated continental awareness of the interconnected challenges in women's health, economic participation, and safety.

- Actionable dialogues leading to proposed strategies on GBV prevention, innovation access, and community health financing.
- Expansion of professional and advocacy networks, enabling new avenues for mentorship, investment, and collaboration.
- Formal recognition of leaders and organisations driving change, reinforcing commitment to the empowerment agenda.

The summit generated significant momentum for ongoing programs that support women's leadership and socio-economic participation across Africa.

Conclusion

The first Africa Women's Empowerment Summit marked a pivotal milestone in advancing a holistic agenda for women's health, pride, and leadership. Through its thematic focus, strategic partnerships, and meaningful recognitions—including the award presented by Dr. Hoda Yassa AWES 2025 strengthened continental collaboration and sparked actionable commitments. As follow-on engagements with partners like Ms. Halima Namakula progress, the impact of the summit is positioned to create lasting positive change for women and communities across Africa.

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