



The Role of Feminist and Transformational Leadership in Movement Building

Call for Papers

Akina Mama wa Afrika invites submissions of abstracts for papers and journal articles on the role of feminist and transformational leadership in Movement building and strengthening across the continent of Africa. This call for papers seeks to contribute to African feminist scholarship by engaging the experiences and thought leadership of practitioners, academics, activists and advocates in how feminist transformative leadership models and alternative approaches contribute to movement building at national, regional, and global level.

A 2024 AMWA study on the Role of Feminist Transformational Leadership in Movement Building validated the need for further research into the role of feminist and transformational leadership in movement building in order to examine and document viable models and strategies especially in the context of growing violence and backlash. Further research demonstrates that there are various interlinked factors impeding robust feminist movement building. These challenges include growing anti-gender and anti-rights movements, and limited funding for women's rights and feminist organizations to do transformative work, limited feminist leadership capacities, shrinking civic space, among other factors. The current landscape reveals that various organizations and actors approach movement building with differing goals, principles and values, strategies and tactics. Additionally, the absence of systematic documentation of good practices and successful strategies from the past has hindered the replication and scaling of practical approaches to movement-building.

The purpose of the publication is to explore feminist leadership development and its role in strengthening African social justice movements. It seeks to address gaps in feminist leadership, examine transformational leadership models, and highlight strategies for sustainable movement building at national, regional, and global levels, while documenting successful approaches and practices that can be replicated to enhance feminist movements across Africa. The areas of focus can include:

- 1) **Feminist Leadership Models and Movement Building:** This area invites the examination of feminist leadership models, such as AMWA's Personal Mastery, Organizing Skills, and Taking Action (P.O.T.) framework. Papers should explore their impact on both individual and collective leadership capacities in strengthening women's rights and the feminist movement across different contexts.
- 2) **Feminist Leadership in the Context of Backlash and Shrinking Civic Space:** Contributions can explore how feminist leadership responds to the growing backlash



against gender rights and the shrinking civic space. The focus should be on strategies feminist leaders use to resist these challenges and continue their work in hostile environments.

- 3) **Interlinking Feminist Leadership with Broader Movements:** Papers are encouraged to delve into the intersection of feminist leadership and broader movement building, analyzing whether feminist leadership development enhances the ability to mobilize, organize, and inspire sustained activism across the continent.
- 4) **Challenges and Opportunities in Feminist Movement Building:** This area seeks to highlight the current gaps in feminist leadership, including limited leadership capacities, funding challenges, and other barriers. Papers should provide insights and propose solutions for overcoming these obstacles to foster stronger feminist movements.

Case Studies in African Feminist Leadership that showcase real-world examples of African feminist leaders and their contributions to movement building are particularly welcome. These case studies should highlight successful leadership models, strategies, and the tangible impacts of feminist leadership on the ground.

Please submit an abstract of no more than 250 words via this [google form link](#). **AMwA will provide a humble honorarium to all successful submissions.**

Dates and Specifications

Deadline for abstracts: 10th October, 2024

1st copy of the paper/article: 4th November, 2024

Final Submission of the paper of no more than 6000 words: 30th November, 2024