

Mission: AAWE builds the capacity and skills of African women economists and it addresses the low representation of African women in the economics profession.

www.aaawe.org/about/

Background information: AAWE is a non-profit International Professional Association registered in South Africa and the US (with a 501 C3 status). It is the sixth and newest Women's network to focus on increasing the number of women economists and facilitating their professional development. The other five associations focus on women in Australia, Canada, China, U.K. and the U.S.

Activities: AAWE's activities include a **visiting scholars** program and **scholarships** for undergraduate and graduate studies. It also organizes **mentoring** and **technical workshops** and presentation sessions at international conferences.

www.aaawe.org/aaawe-activities/

Membership: Any individual (male or female) interested in the advancement of African women economists may join. AAWE members include students, university lecturers, professionals in Government, the private sector and Think tanks. AAWE membership has increased from 320 in 2012 to 840 (616 African women) in 2015, representing 57 countries.

To join AAWE, go to: www.aaawe.org



Mentoring Workshop in Ghana

If more economists are women, economic analysis will be richer, and if more women are familiar with economic reasoning, public debate will be stronger and deeper.

- Jonung and Ståhlberg, Econ Journal Watch, 2008

Why AAWE: While women are generally under-represented in the economics profession throughout the world, the problem is particularly pronounced among African women. African women face severe challenges in moving up the career ladder due to a number of structural and cultural constraints, including: (i) Fewer African women than men pursue or complete graduate studies in economics; (ii) Due to pervasive cultural bias against women's involvement in Math and Science, women tend to be relatively less equipped than men in the kinds of technical skills needed to conduct rigorous research in economics; (iii) Lack of senior women economists to serve as mentors and role models for junior female economists in Africa. In addition to being a social equity issue, the systematic under-representation of African women in the economics profession has profound implications on the responsiveness of economics research and policy making to social and economic development issues faced by women. Given the lack of adequate voice and representation of women, economic policies developed in this context may neither adequately focus on building strong and inclusive economies nor properly address the interests and needs of the largest segment of the population. There is therefore an urgent need to foster women's representation in the profession through tailored programs that support the training and professional development of African women economists.

AAWE fills this need.

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AAAWE Contact Information

Professor Elizabeth Asiedu
Department of Economics
University of Kansas
Lawrence, KS 66045
United States

Phone:

785-832-8154

Email:

elizabeth.asiedu@aaawe.org

Enquiries:

admin@aaawe.org

Website:

www.aaawe.org



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Association for the Advancement of African Women Economists (AAAWE)

Association pour la promotion des
femmes africaines économistes



Building the Capacity and Skills of African Women Economists



Development Conference, Oxford University