

# WFTO AFRICA & MIDDLE EAST

GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON HBWS  
NEW DELHI, INDIA  
SITUATION AND PROGRESS REPORT – AFRICA  
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# Who are we?

- Global network of organizations representing the Fair Trade supply chain - producers, marketers, exporters, importers, wholesalers and retailers that demonstrate 100% commitment to Fair Trade and apply the 10 WFTO Principles.
- WFTO Africa & Middle East is one of the 5 Regional chapters of WFTO.



# The 10 Principles of Fair Trade (I)

1. Creating opportunities and market access for economically disadvantaged producers
2. Transparency and accountability
3. Fair trading practices (long-term, solidarity, pre-financing, assistance)
4. Payment of a fair price, fair trade terms
5. No Child Labour or Forced Labour (Respect of UN Conventions)



# The 10 Principles of Fair Trade (II)

- 6. Non-discrimination, gender equity and women's economic empowerment, and freedom of association
- 7. Safe and healthy working environment
- 8. Providing capacity-building to small producers
- 9. Promotion of Fair Trade and trade justice
- 10. Respect for the environment





# Home Based Work in Africa

HBWs exist in Africa, but the exact number is not known. There are no known support organizations, no association of HBWs, and workers who are clearly HBWs do not see themselves as such, including those within FT.

Initiative: WFTO Africa & Middle began to engage on this issue in 2013 through a partnership with WIEGO. The project involves Local Fair Trade networks – KEFAT and UGAFAT for Kenya and Uganda, and Partner Africa in the case of Egypt.



# What has been done?

- Mapping of HBWs in Kenya and Egypt and South Africa
- Hosted a forum in Nairobi for sharing experiences and learning – brought together HBWs and organizations from Egypt, South Africa, Kenya and Uganda as well as Asian countries of India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Pakistan.
- Participating at the first Global Conference of HBWs.

## Observations:

- HBWs among the members of these networks constitute about 70% of the workers, majority are sub-contracted.
- The majority of HBWs are women
- The concept of home based workers is not known and HBWs do not identify themselves as such.

- Most HBWs are not organized, and where organized, are not organized as HBWs.
- From the sharing and experience with HBWs in Asia, the entry point to beginning to organize, are usually, environmental and civic issues. In Africa, the focus is access to the market- however the challenges facing HBWs are generally the same irrespective of the regions.

**The majority of HBWs in Africa use hand tools. In Asia, productions is relatively mechanized.**



# Going forward: The following are plans for 2015:-

- Participate at the Global Meeting , providing important opportunity to share experiences and to learn- be part of the agenda for action.
- Working with KEFAT, UGAFAT and SASEWA – consolidate baseline and mapping of HBWs, conduct policy analysis and provide capacity building to champions of HBW.
- Conduct mapping in Ethiopia – part of growing the concept.
- Hold regional forum to share and enrich experiences and learning





As a region we have join the race in the middle and at a relatively small scale. We are prepared to learn from you.

On behalf of the colleagues from Africa, thank the organizers – the good people HomeNet South Asia and WIEGO for making it possible for Africa to be part of this historic meeting.

Thank you.

