

#Jan-Dec 2025

# INGOMA



AFRICA REGION  
WORLD ASSOCIATION  
OF GIRL GUIDES  
AND GIRL SCOUTS

our Voice, our Rhythm, our Movement



REGION GROWTH CATALYSTS YOUNG WOMEN IN-PERSON EVENT  
1 (5TH DECEMBER, 2025)

“The Girl Guide community at the chalet was incredibly warm, accepting, and homely. From the very beginning, I felt a strong sense of belonging.”  
— Stephanie, Nigeria

“Living, sharing, and reflecting with Girls from different cultures pushed me to understand myself better and appreciate the power of collective leadership.” — Prisca, Tanzania

“This opportunity has truly opened my eyes to a world of possibilities, and I am so grateful for the experience.” — Mufaro, Zimbabwe

## GOVERNANCE



## CONNECTIONS



## GIRL LED ACTION



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# EDITORIAL



## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

The Africa Region continues to move with strength, creativity, and resilience guided by the voices and leadership of girls and young women. Across our diverse Member Organisations, 2025 has been a year of learning, action, and connection.

From intergenerational governance initiatives to bold environmental action and Member Organisation collaboration, our Movement remains rooted in its values while responding to today's realities. INGOMA captures these rhythms of our shared stories, our collective progress, and our vision for the future.

As we close the year, I extend my gratitude to our Member Organisations, volunteers, partners, and every Girl Guide and Girl Scout whose commitment brings our Movement to life. Together, we continue to shape a stronger, more inclusive, and girl-led Africa Region.

**LALIZ CHATWUA**

CHAIR OF THE AFRICA REGIONAL  
COMMITTEE

# Intergenerational Governance Workshop in Rwanda

This incredible event will bring together leaders from 27 member organisations across Africa to share, learn, and shape the future of governance in our Movement. Leaders from across the Region reflect on governance practices, leadership responsibilities,

and strategies for strengthening organisational systems. The workshop created space for intergenerational learning, peer exchange, and shared problem-solving, reinforcing a collective approach to good governance across Member Organisations.



The workshop kicked off with a pre-event session on membership growth. This enabled participants to connect with each other,



mentally prepare for the main event and fully enjoy the overall experience



Highlights from the governance event



Highlights from the governance event



The closing ceremony officially marked the end of these 5 intense days of learning. Each participant was solemnly rewarded with a certificate of participation.



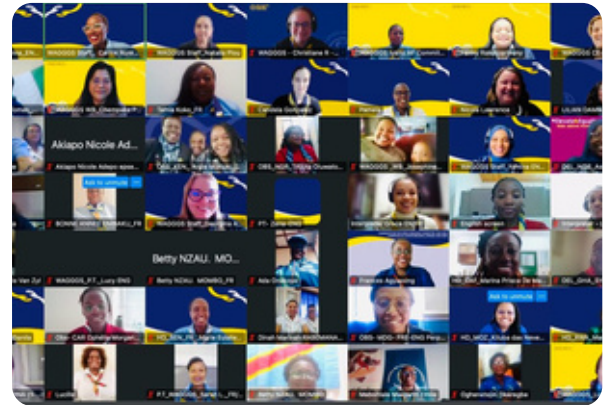
# 14th Regional Conference hosted by the Ivorian Federation of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts

The 14th Africa Regional Conference officially began on 26 July 2025 with the opening of the conference proceedings. At the end of the proceedings, the Chair, Vice-Chair of the conference, members of the procedural team and scrutineers were approved by the participating member

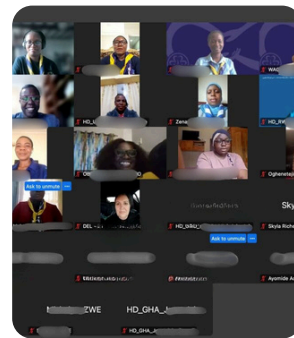
organisations present at the roll call of this major gathering. The outgoing regional committee then presented its triennial report. Watch the video highlights of the outgoing Africa committee's three-year term.



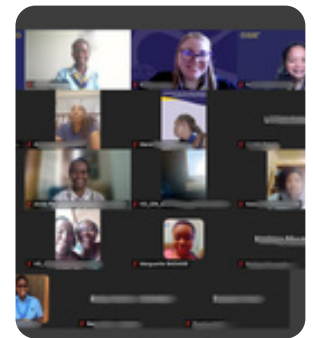
The year also marked an important leadership moment with the 14th Africa Regional Conference hosted by Côte d'Ivoire Girl Guides Association, where strategic priorities were reviewed and the Region renewed its commitment to girl-led and values-based leadership. As part of this process, the Region welcomed new members of the Africa Regional Committee, including two women under the age of 30, reflecting intentional progress towards youth representation and inclusive decision-making.



Beyond reflection, the Conference provided space for strategic dialogue and decision-making, ensuring continuity and alignment as the Region transitions into a new triennium. Discussions focused on governance effectiveness, leadership development, sustainability, safeguarding, and the evolving needs of girls and young women in diverse contexts across Africa.



Highlights



Highlights



Highlights



Highlights

## Regional Representation at Global Policy Spaces

Women from the Africa Region continued to demonstrate leadership beyond national and regional structures by representing the Movement at key global policy platforms, including the Conference of the Parties (COP). Delegates engaged in discussions on climate action, gender equality, sustainable development, and the rights of girls and young women.

Here's what they stood for at COP30:

- Investing in climate

education that empowers and transforms.

- Supporting women entrepreneurs and income-generating opportunities for financial resilience.
- Ensuring gender-responsive policies in climate adaptation, loss & damage, and resource allocation.
- Securing access to land, water, and sanitation rights.
- Building capacity and ensuring equitable participation in decision-making.



These spaces provided opportunities to amplify the voices and experiences of girls from the Africa Region,



contribute to global advocacy conversations, and strengthen leadership capacity in policy engagement and diplomacy.

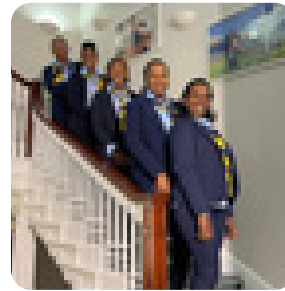


More updates from the event



More update from the event

## Regional Committee Engagements



In 2025, the Africa Regional Committee played an active role in guiding the strategic direction of the Region. Committee members participated in an induction process that strengthened shared understanding of roles, responsibilities, and priorities. Throughout the year, the Committee represented the Africa Region at regional and global platforms, contributing African perspectives to key discussions and decision-making spaces. Strategic meetings focused on governance strengthening, programme quality, communications, and regional visibility.



Global youth mobilisation big six high-level side engagement, at the IGE Forum hosted by the Duke of Edinburg award.



The Chair of the Africa Region Committee represented the region at the December 2025 WAGGGS World Board meeting, which formed part of the Board's end-of-year governance cycle.

## Helen Storrow Seminar – Food Sustainability in Action

The Helen Storrow Seminar (HSS) is a WAGGGS flagship international leadership programme designed to develop young women leaders with the skills, confidence, and global perspective needed to drive positive change in their communities and organisations.

With the support of the mentors and facilitators, the participants will develop their leadership skills, set off on an adventure and create a sustainable development project that will have an impact on their local community.



***"Nutrition isn't just about food its more than that, it should be a wholesome & sustainable lifestyle."***

—Mitchell. Zimbabwe



A major highlight of the seminar was the hands-on training I received in food sustainability and project management. The sessions were practical, engaging,



and insightful, equipping me with skills and knowledge that I can apply directly to community and development work. We also had a short excursion to a food museum,



which was both surprising and highly educational. The visit deepened my understanding of food systems, sustainability, and the global importance of responsible food practices. My experience at the chalet during the Helen Storrow Seminar



in Switzerland was enriching, empowering, and eye-opening. I returned home with new skills, broadened perspectives, meaningful connections, and a renewed commitment to leadership, service, and sustainability - Stephanie, Nigeira



## Girl Led Action On Climate Change

Through the WAGGGS Girl-Led Action on Climate Change (GLACC) programme, young girls and women around the world are turning awareness into action and hope into leadership. In partnership with the AKO Foundation, girls and young women are leading practical, community-rooted action, proving that when girls lead, climate solutions follow. We're celebrating the stories behind our goals

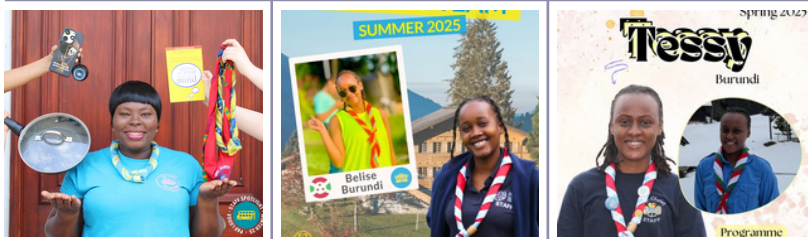
- Empowering youth to respond to climate challenges
- Strengthening climate consciousness in communities
- Influencing decision-makers with youth-led advocacy
- Amplifying girls' and young women's voices globally
- Strengthening Guiding and Scouting for climate education

Every story shows what happens when girls and young women are given the knowledge, confidence, and platform to protect our planet



## World Centres Volunteering Stories

Each year, the world centres share opportunities that attract a large number of guides. In the following pages, let's discover the volunteering experience of some Guides from the Africa Region who had the chance to take part in a volunteering programme at any of the WAGGGS' 5 World Centres.



**MUFARO. ZIMBABWE**  
Kusafiri Volunteer.

My Kusafiri volunteer journey has far surpassed all my initial expectations, and the highlight has been attending the Huduma kwa Utamaduni event at the World Centre in Ghana. It was a platform for personal growth where I had the chance to lead, share ideas, and learn from my colleagues about effective communication, planning, and adaptability. The cultural experience was incredible, from enjoying delicious Ghanaian cuisine to learning about the country's rich history and traditions. This opportunity has truly opened my eyes to a world of possibilities, and I am so grateful for the experience.



I visited Our Chalet for the Autumn in the Alps event, where I learnt to build endurance and to push myself out of my comfort zone

**MAASILINA. GHANA**  
Our Chalet Volunteer

## Highlights from 2025

Thank you for your continued support, energy and engagement across the Region. 2025 remained a vibrant year. Kusafiri hosted impactful in-person events, including the U4SDGs Climax Event, Huduma kwa Utamaduni (its first fully fee-paying in-person programme), and the Africa Region Young Women's Event. Online gatherings for World Thinking Day and Menstrual Hygiene Day also connected participants across borders.

## Africa Region Young Women's Event



At Kusafiri, Ghana, several young women from various Member Organisations in the Africa region participated in an intensive training programme on the theme: Catalysts for Growth: Young Women Leading Sustainable Member Organizations in Africa. Facilitators from across the region are guiding these young women leaders in the process of acquiring the skills and knowledge essential for designing and implementing sustainable entrepreneurship projects in line with the Sustainable Development Goals.

## U4SDGs Climax Event



The U4SDGs Climax Event at Kusafiri was indeed transforming. These ambassadors have been making a significant impact in their communities through innovative mini-projects aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals.

At Kusafiri, they immersed themselves in the rich Ghanaian culture while fostering new friendships and strengthening global connections.

## Looking Ahead to 2026

Following the release of the Motion 10 Evaluation Report from the 38th World Conference. As part of this transition, the Ghana Girl Guides Association will conclude its role as host at the end of the pilot period in December 2026. Kusafiri extends heartfelt thanks to the Ghana Girl Guides for their leadership, hospitality, and dedication throughout the pilot phase.

You can read the full report here:

<https://campfire.waggs.org/topic/kusafiri-motion-10-evaluation>

Looking ahead to 2026, Kusafiri will host eight diverse events spanning cultural exchange, leadership development, creative arts, and community-focused programmes. With strong bookings already underway, members across the Africa Region are warmly encouraged to take part and continue shaping Kusafiri's future.

## Get Involved!

You can explore all upcoming events here: [https://worldcentres.waggs.org/events/?\\_world\\_centre=kusafiri](https://worldcentres.waggs.org/events/?_world_centre=kusafiri)

## World Centres Volunteering Stories



**-NAPHATITI. NIGERIA**

**Pax Lodge Volunteer, July 2025**

programmes, which helped create a welcoming and engaging environment for guests and participants. Through this experience, I developed strong teamwork, communication, and adaptability skills while working in a diverse and dynamic setting.

A major highlight of my volunteer experience was my involvement in the Journey Through London (JTL) program. In this role, I guided groups to key attractions, such as the London museums and the London Eye, and through the busy areas of central London, including Westminster. This responsibility required confidence, leadership, and strong organisational skills to ensure group safety while navigating the fast-paced urban environment.

In addition to structured activities, I greatly enjoyed exploring London during midnight walks, which allowed me to experience the city uniquely and memorably. Overall, volunteering at Pax Lodge was a rewarding experience that enhanced my cultural awareness, leadership abilities, and passion for community engagement in an international setting.

During my five months as a general volunteer at Pax Lodge, I was actively involved in the daily running of activities that supported the smooth operation of the lodge. My role included participating in regular activities, sessions and assisting with



**-OPHELIA. GHANA**

**Pax Lodge Volunteer, August 2025**

meeting new people, working with an incredible team of staff and other volunteers from different countries who have become sisters, learning about other cultures and understanding their way of life, building confidence and leadership skills while discovering other ways to develop myself and career goals.

I would like to say that Pax Lodge is definitely a place where strangers become friends and is certainly a great way of promoting community engagement and service to humanity.

Hi, I am Ophelia and I was privileged to have been a Front of House Volunteer at Pax Lodge, one of the 5 World Centres of WAGGGS which is located in London. The experience was amazing and truly fulfilling in its entirety; from the beginning of the journey through to



## Association des Guides du Rwanda

Association Des Guides Du Rwanda keeps nurturing a generation of girls who lead with empathy, preserve the environment, and promote peace via intergenerational learning and international

cooperation. The world becomes stronger, greener, and more cohesive when girls rise, as evidenced by their deeds.



AGR's impact extended even further through the International Peace Camps, held in Rwanda in August 2024 with 50 participants, and in Tunisia in August 2025 with more than 55 participants. These camps brought together Guides from Rwanda, Ivory Coast, Lebanon, Tunisia, and France for a vibrant

exchange of cultures, ideas, and hope. Participants learned how to use digital platforms in positive ways – to connect rather than divide – and took part in meaningful discussions and interactive activities focused on tolerance, peacebuilding, and environmental awareness.



Through storytelling and cultural reflection, the young women examined the meaning of coexistence. In Tunisia, they witnessed how people of different religions live side by side, while in Rwanda, they reflected on the painful lessons of history, where division once led to the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi. Together, these insights inspired them to become ambassadors of peace in their own communities.

In January 2025, Association des Guides du Rwanda hosted an Intergenerational Governance Workshop, bringing together leaders and young women from across the WAGGGS Africa Region. The workshop created a dynamic space for shared learning on membership growth and retention, innovative fundraising, strategic partnerships, and safeguarding. Participants also explored how to design engaging, girl-centred programmes that respond to today's realities. By the end of the workshop, strong bridges had been built between experience and emerging leadership.



They also delved into the art of developing girl-centered, engaging programmes and discussed the importance of safeguarding every member. By the end of the workshop, participants had not only expanded their skills but also built bridges between generations, proving that leadership flourishes when experience meets fresh energy.



## Kenya Girl Guides Association

In February 2025, the Kenya Girl Guides Association (KGGA) marked World Thinking Day at Moi Nyeri Complex Primary School in Nyeri County under the global theme “Our Story: Reflecting the Symbolism and Values of Our Movement.”

The celebration brought together Guides, young leaders, volunteers, partners, and government representatives to honour the shared identity and heritage of Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting.



The event was graced by H.E. Rachel Ruto, First Lady of Kenya, highlighting national support for the empowerment and development of girls and young women. Through speeches, performances, and storytelling, Guides explored the meaning of

the Movement’s symbols, celebrated cultural diversity, and reaffirmed the values of sisterhood and service. World Thinking Day 2025 marked an inspiring start to the new triennium, amplifying girls’ voices and stories.



On Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) Day, 25 May 2025, KGGA joined the global movement to promote menstrual health through impactful activities across Kenya.

In Nyeri County, 500 girls from 15 schools gathered at Nyamachaki Comprehensive School for learning sessions focused on breaking menstrual stigma and building body confidence. In Nairobi, KGGA partnered with schools and organisations to host awareness discussions, while in West Pokot, sanitary towels were distributed with support from the State Department of Gender.

These activities created safe, supportive spaces for girls to learn, ask questions confidently, and access essential menstrual hygiene products – reinforcing the right of every girl to manage menstruation with dignity.



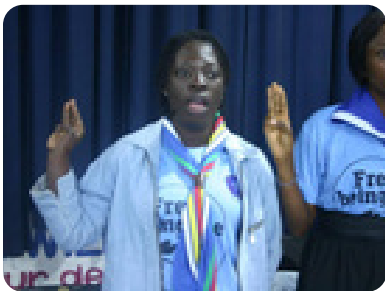
KGGA marked World Environment Day 2025 with nationwide action focused on sustainability and ecosystem restoration. In Kilifi County, Guides, volunteers, and community members led a large-scale clean-up and waste segregation exercise, followed by an awareness walk engaging residents on environmental responsibility. The celebrations culminated at Karisa Maitha Grounds, with Deputy Governor Hon. Flora Chibule reaffirming country’s commitment to environmental protection.



## Association of Girl Guides of the Democratic Republic of Congo (AGRDC)

Throughout 2025, the Association of Girl Guides of the Democratic Republic of Congo (AGRDC) implemented impactful programmes focused on leadership development, youth empowerment, community engagement, and international representation. In January 2025, AGRDC organised

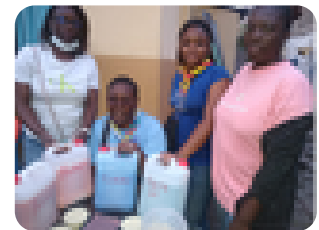
intensive leadership training sessions for female leaders at its mini training camp, strengthening skills in leadership, group management, activity planning, and active citizenship. Participants expressed strong commitment to applying their learning within their units.



Capacity building continued with a Free Being Me Training of Trainers held in August 2025 in Kinshasa, facilitated by regional experts from Central Africa. The training exceeded expectations with 62 participants and was highly appreciated, with certificates awarded at completion. Through the Global

Youth Mobilization (GYM) programme, Girl Guides led environmental action initiatives on waste management across schools, churches, and communities. Activities included awareness-raising, organised waste collection, and the production of eco-friendly paving stones made from recycled plastic waste.

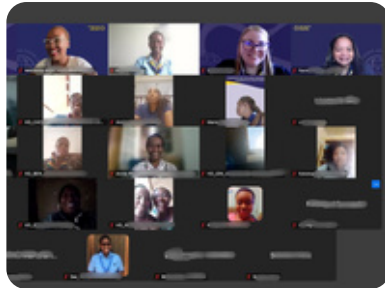
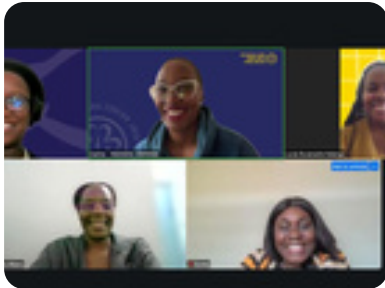
Entrepreneurship was introduced as a key focus area, empowering girls and young women with practical income-generating skills. Participants produced jewellery, household products, food items, and paving stones, and showcased their work at a municipal fair in Lemba, alongside ongoing vocational training in agriculture and livestock farming. AGRDC also celebrated the International Day of the Girl 2025 under the theme “The girl I am, the change I am leading,” with activities carried out across units and provinces. Reflective sessions such as the “Tree of Hope” in Kinshasa encouraged faith, resilience, and personal growth, while guide activities resumed in South Kivu through peace-focused training and dialogue.



At the diocesan level, Girl Guides in Katanga Province engaged in advocacy and education discussions, including leadership camps for patrol leaders and participation in diocesan youth events. In November 2025, guides supported protocol duties during the Diocesan Youth Day celebrated by Cardinal Fridolin Ambongo. AGRDC leaders also strengthened regional and global engagement. Pierrette Mibanga participated in a WAGGGS Good Governance Workshop in Kigali, while Bonne Année, International Commissioner, represented AGRDC at the International Conference of Catholic Guides in France, reinforcing the association’s commitment to strong governance and international collaboration.

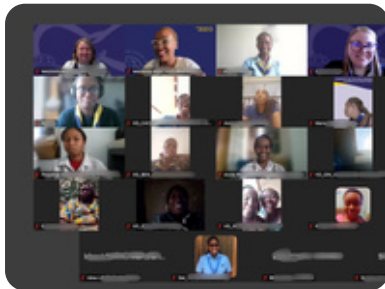
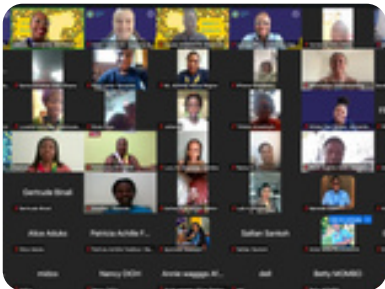
## Building Capacity Across Member Organisations

Strengthening Member Organisations remains a key priority for the Africa Region. Throughout 2025, the Region facilitated collaborative initiatives, peer learning opportunities, and targeted capacity-building sessions designed to support sustainable growth.

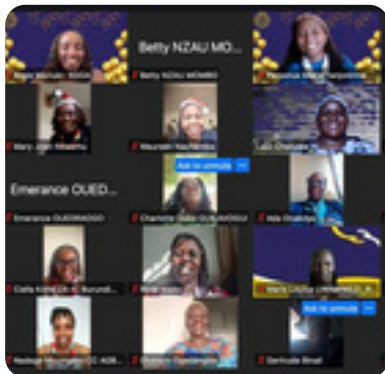
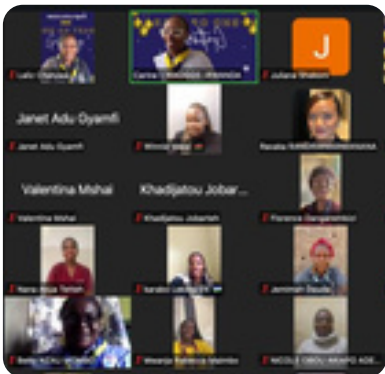


## Webinar on Visibility

The Africa Region hosted a webinar on visibility for Member Organisations, aimed at strengthening capacity to enhance organisational image, visibility, and effective use of social media. The session provided practical guidance on communication and digital engagement, while selected Member Organisations shared best practices and successful approaches to increasing visibility within their contexts, creating a valuable space for learning and peer exchange.



## END OF YEAR GATHERING



## Growth Catalysts

Young Women Driving Sustainable Member Organisations in Africa! project is a transformative initiative by the WAGGGS Africa Region. Its primary goal is to empower national youth leaders with the skills and knowledge to design and implement sustainable, youth-led entrepreneurship projects. These projects are specifically aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and aim to generate income, thereby enhancing the long-term sustainability of Member Organizations (MOs). Through a blended learning journey combining webinars and an in-person gathering at the Kusafiri World Centre in Ghana, participants developed practical skills in innovation, financial literacy, business planning, and pitching. The programme empowered young women to design income-generating projects tailored to their national contexts, with a strong focus on long-term organisational sustainability.



## WORLD THINKING DAY

This year February, we are celebrating 100 years of World Thinking Day! Get ready to have fun, build friendships, and mark this special day with Girl Guides and Girl Scouts around the world!

Double tap on the link below for more information

<https://campfire.waggs.org/worldthinkingday>

## WORLD CONFERENCE

Get ready for the 39<sup>th</sup> WAGGGS World Conference in Cambodia, June 2026. **We see.** – Focused on Get Ready for World Conference. **We care.** – A key value at the Olave Baden-Powell Society Event. **We act.** – Central to the World Conference

Double tap on the link below for more information

<https://campfire.waggs.org/dashboard/world-conference-2026>

## WAGGGS GLOBAL FORUM

The Growing and Learning Hub is designed to provide members of the Movement with the knowledge needed to deliver a quality learning experience to youth and adults through the Growing and Learning framework.

Double tap on the link below for more information

<https://campfire.waggs.org/organization/growing-and-learning>

## REGIONAL EVENTS & WEBINARS

- Image and visibility workshop
- Networking Webinar
- Webinars for young women by young women
- Governance 2.0 event
- The Constitution makeover webinars
- Friends of Africa virtual gathering
- WAGGGS Giving Day
- WAGGGS Global Programme Market at ICs Gatherings

## VOLUNTEERING

We are looking for passionate and committed volunteers with skills and experience to help implement the Africa Region's Triennial Action Plan (2026-2028).

As a member of the Africa Region team, you will work alongside regional members, WAGGGS staff, and other volunteers in a collaborative environment to create a meaningful impact for girls and young

## VOLUNTEERING

Who can apply?

- Active members of a WAGGGS member organization
- 18 years of age or older
- Able to communicate in English or French

Double tap on the link below for more information

[campfire.waggs.org/event/africa-call-volunteers-2026-2028](https://campfire.waggs.org/event/africa-call-volunteers-2026-2028)

Application closes February 25<sup>th</sup> 2026

## STAY IN TOUCH

Instagram: [instagram.com/africa\\_region](https://www.instagram.com/africa_region)

Facebook: [facebook.com/AfricaRegionWAGGGS](https://www.facebook.com/AfricaRegionWAGGGS)

Campfire: [campfire.waggs.org/book-page/africa-region](https://campfire.waggs.org/book-page/africa-region)

Website: [waggs.org/en/our-world/africa](https://www.waggs.org/en/our-world/africa)

# THANK YOU

**AYOMIDE ADEBAYO**

WAGGGS Africa Region  
Committee  
Communications Portfolio Lead



We extend our heartfelt appreciation to every girl, young woman, volunteer, leader, and partner who continues to shape the Africa Region.

To our Member Organisations, thank you for your dedication to empowering girls in diverse communities across the continent. To our volunteers and leaders, your time, passion, and commitment remain the heartbeat of our Movement. To our partners and Friends of the Africa Region, your support and collaboration strengthen our shared impact.

INGOMA reflects our collective voice, rhythm, and movement a celebration of leadership, service, and sisterhood across the Africa Region.

Together, we move forward with purpose.

# HAPPY NEW YEAR