

The Target Program demonstrates the power of FAWCO Member Clubs working together toward a common goal to create change and to increase knowledge and awareness of the global issues impacting women and girls. The Target Program follows a three-year cycle of awareness and education, project selection, fundraising, project monitoring, review and evaluation. FAWCO and The FAWCO Foundation launched the 2025–2028 Target Program, addressing Human Rights and their impact on women and girls, at the Biennial Conference on March 28, 2025.

### *Education & Awareness*

FAWCO and the FAWCO Foundation are seeking applications for **transformative projects that strengthen human rights for all and build resilience, equality and freedom for women and girls**, aligning with UN [Sustainable Development Goal 5](#) (Gender Equality) and other interconnected [SDGs](#). In general, these projects could address systemic barriers, protect fundamental freedoms, and/or advance equal participation in society.

Some examples, **though not limited to these**, could include:

- Advancing access to justice and protecting freedom of expression: For example, promoting and developing leadership capabilities, protecting free speech and safeguarding journalists and activists, and/or creating pathways to participation in civic life.
- Enabling women and girls to strengthen their agency and voices: For example, helping girls stay in school and avoid child marriage, working to reduce ethnic and racial discrimination, and building sustainable support networks and organizations, resulting in progress and peace for all members of society.
- Building lasting safety and resilience for women and girls: For example, ensuring safety for women and girls facing war, political conflict and/or lives as refugees/asylum seekers; ensuring economic and health rights; defending bodily autonomy; fighting gender-based violence such as domestic abuse, sexual harassment, and trafficking; and addressing poverty's disproportionate impact on women and children.

Consider how a project may improve the lives of women and girls, and by doing so, promote a stronger society for all. S&P Global indicates that only 25% of senior leadership roles worldwide are held by women. Fewer than 20% of landowners are women. Women in sub-Saharan Africa collectively spend about 40 billion hours a year collecting water, significantly reducing their opportunities for paid employment. **The Target Project is an investment in the future of women and girls and through that, all of society.**

### *The Target Project*

The Target Project is a way for FAWCO members to make an actionable investment to empower women and girls through our natural environment. With the support of The FAWCO

Foundation, we will employ the energy and generosity of our Member Clubs by fundraising for a single project supporting human rights.

The application process will be a two-phase approach. The due date for Phase I applications is August 29, 2025. Projects proceeding to Phase II will be informed on October 3. The due date for submission of the Phase II information is November 3, 2025. The shortlisted proposals will be announced on January 9, 2026. Voting will take place during the period of February 1–15, and the winner will be announced at the FAWCO Interim Meeting in March 2026.

### *Join the conversation*

To learn more, please visit the [FAWCO website](#) and click on Target Program: Human Rights. From here you can sign up for the monthly Target Bulletin and read the Target Blog: Human Rights. We would love to hear from you! Join the conversation in the FAWCO Facebook Group or email your questions or comments to [Jody McBrien](#), Target 6 Chair, or [Mary Manning](#), Target Selection Chair and 3rd VP for Global Issues.