



GRAN's Vision, Mission and Human Rights Approach and the Key Principles That Guide Our Advocacy

GRAN's Vision and Mission

Our vision is a world where the human rights of older women, children and youth, and gender-diverse persons are recognized and protected so that they can achieve their full potential.

Our passion for this vision is a deep concern for the human rights and wellbeing of grandmothers in sub-Saharan Africa and the children and youth in their care, as well as those of vulnerable and marginalized women in communities of the Global South.

The mission of GRAN is to advocate for the human rights of these vulnerable groups, both globally and locally.

Our mission recognizes that, despite their courage and resilience, grandmothers, older women, and young people in sub-Saharan Africa experience gross inequities due to the intersection of multiple factors, among them: poverty, age, gender, and the stigma attached to HIV and AIDS. Our mission also recognizes and is made more urgent by the fact that inequalities are increasing between low-, middle- and high-income countries.

GRAN's Advocacy Framework – A Human Rights Approach

The [Universal Declaration of Human Rights](#) (UDHR) is an international agreement adopted by the United Nations General Assembly that enshrines the fundamental rights and freedoms of all human beings to be universally protected by law. The Declaration states:

Human Rights are rights inherent to all human beings, regardless of race, sex, nationality, ethnicity, language, religion, or any other status. Human rights include the right to life and liberty, freedom of opinion and expression, the right to work and education, and many more. Everyone is entitled to these rights, without discrimination.

Principles that Guide GRAN's Advocacy

Age Justice

[Age justice](#) creates an inclusive society where the dignity and human rights of all are respected, no matter one's age. Age justice works for cultural and systemic change to address ageism and discrimination, marginalization, and economic inequities. Age justice seeks the well-being of all persons at all ages through equity, access, participation and rights.

Climate Justice

The climate emergency disproportionately affects the disempowered and most marginalized across the world – the poor, the old, the very young, and women in particular. [Climate justice](#) links human rights and development to achieve a human-centred approach, safeguarding the rights of the most vulnerable people and sharing the burdens and benefits of climate change and its impacts equitably and fairly. Climate justice includes [intergenerational justice](#) and the importance of intergenerational partnerships. Climate justice is informed by science, responds to science and acknowledges the need for equitable stewardship of the world's resources.

Economic Justice

[A just economy](#) is inclusive. It promotes equality, protects the planet, and ends poverty. It builds social cohesion and promotes the economic empowerment of women and marginalized groups. It supports the rights of all workers, offers social protection and ensures that livelihoods and planetary resources can be sustained.

Gender justice

[Gender Justice](#) is the full equality and equity among women, gender-diverse persons, and men in all spheres of life, resulting in equality in defining and shaping the policies, structures and decisions that affect lives of individuals and society as a whole. Transforming gender and power relations and the structures, norms, and values that underpin them, is critical to ending poverty and challenging inequality.

Social Justice

[Social Justice](#) is the full participation and inclusion of all people in society, together with the promotion and protection of their legal, civil and human rights. The aim of social justice—to achieve a just and equitable society where all share in the prosperity of that just society—is pursued by individuals and groups through collaborative social action. [Social justice](#) is grounded in the idea that every human being deserves the full spectrum of political, economic and social rights and opportunities. To withhold this access is discrimination.

“Justice is what love looks like in public.”

-- Dr. Cornel West --
