

## **Women's stories. Adeline Lweramula, FADECO Radio, Tanzania.**

My name is Adeline Lweramula, I am the station manager of FADECO Radio. FADECO Radio stands for Family Alliance, for Development Cooperation. In the beginning I was a program manager. Through my struggle, and as a hobby, I was very interested to work with the community. So I have the experience in collecting news, programming, organizing discussions, making documentaries based on the community issues. Somehow women feel inferior, but in my organization I have four women. One, she is a program manager, and three others, they are presenters, news makers, programme makers. We also have three men that share our newsroom.

Concerning challenges, first I'll talk from my side. I'm a woman, I have a baby, but I work over time, from morning to night. I have much work to do as a station manager. It's my hobby, and I like my job. I tried to keep my child and my job because I like it. Some challenges that face women in general, the situation that I don't like, include cases of love affairs, low participation of women in decision making, etc. They feel that women in community always were inferior, which is not good. And we want it to be changed.

We have equal opportunities, but I can say that in my radio station we struggle to fight against challenges by giving opportunity of working together, to empower women, to create discussion, to be a leader. When you are a leader in some organization, people say: why women control us? I appreciate myself for what I'm doing. I'm the one woman station manager who contributed on the Gender Policy Desk in the Karagwe district<sup>1</sup>.

I improved in a capacity building to be strong in management, because I'm still young but now I'm strong to manage people, to manage resources which are available in my station. I expect to be more than a station manager, to become a director and more than a director, and my staff to be professional journalists. I don't know what I can say about UNESCO. Many thanks to UNESCO.

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<sup>1</sup> The Gender Policy Desk at FADECO advises the radio on gender issues in the workplace and in programming. It is also linked to the Gender Desk at the police station of the Karagwe district, and has helped established a network campaign involving the District Commissioner, NGO's, CBO's and other stakeholders to promote women's rights and eradicate gender-based violence and sexual harassment.