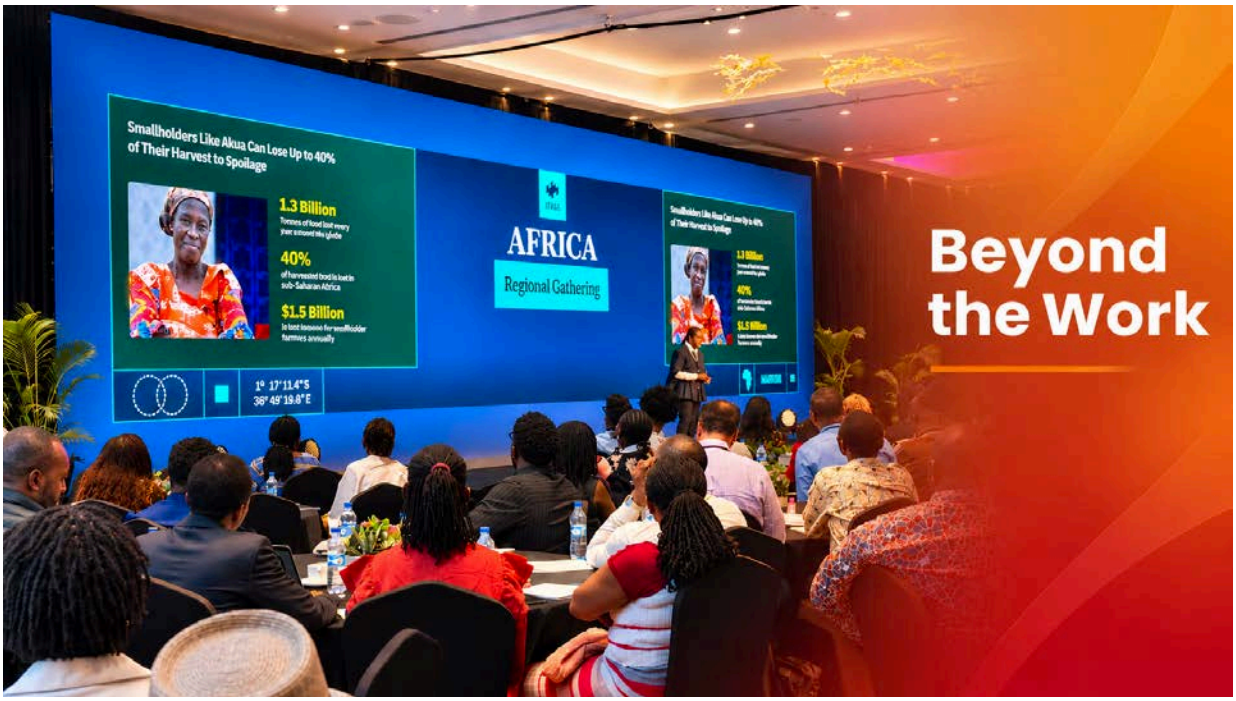
Institute for Faith and Gender Empowerment



October 2026 Newsletter

Beyond the Work: Building Connections, Creating Possibilities

Executive Director's Message

Dear Friends, Partners and Members of the IFAGE Family,

Happy November, everyone!

One of the things that continues to affirm our work at IFAGE is the reminder that meaningful change does not happen in isolation. It grows through relationships, conversations, partnerships and the willingness to learn from one another. October has offered us opportunities to do just that.

From Cape Town, where we joined conversations on the future of African philanthropy, to Nairobi, where we engaged with a community of faith-driven

innovators and change makers, we have continued to build relationships and explore possibilities for collaboration.

Closer to home, we are seeing an important transition in our work through the Community United Against Violence (CUAV) Seed of Hope leaders, who are now taking their learning beyond the training space and into communities. This is where knowledge begins to translate into action.

We have also taken an important step towards the 6th Pan-African Faith and Gender Justice Conference through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with Makerere University, our conference host institution for 2027.

These moments may appear different, but they are connected by a common thread: our belief that sustainable transformation requires collective effort.

As IFAGE continues to grow, we remain committed to building relationships, strengthening communities and creating spaces where faith can contribute meaningfully to gender justice and human flourishing.

Thank you for being part of this journey.

With gratitude,

Rev. Domnic Misolo
Executive Director, IFAGE

FROM TRAINING TO COMMUNITY ACTION
Seeds of Hope Are Finding Their Way Into Communities



The real measure of a training is not simply what participants learn, but how they put that knowledge into practice when they return to their communities.

Through the **Community United Against Violence (CUAV) – Seeds of Hope initiative**, IFAGE, in partnership with **Episcopal Relief & Development (ERD)** and **Anglican Development Services (ADS) Kenya**, is supporting faith leaders to translate their learning into meaningful community action.

Following their training, leaders are now facilitating community sessions, creating spaces for conversations around violence prevention, gender equality, safe relationships and the role communities can play in building supportive environments.

The impact is already extending beyond these conversations. One of the trained leaders is actively supporting and following up on a gender-based violence (GBV) case, demonstrating how the knowledge and skills gained are being applied in real-life situations.

For IFAGE, Episcopal Relief & Development and ADS Kenya, this marks an important step in strengthening the role of faith leaders as community-level actors in preventing and responding to violence.

The seeds planted through training are beginning to take root – in conversations, in pulpit and sermon, in community action and in the lives of those who need support.

Small Steps, Big Wins: Supporting Maranda Learners To Turn Ability into Opportunity



At Maranda School for Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, IFAGE is supporting a simple but powerful idea: every learner deserves the opportunity to discover their abilities, build confidence and grow towards greater independence.

Through our work with the school, we are contributing to an environment where progress is measured not only in academic milestones, but also in the everyday achievements that shape a learner's life.

Maranda supports 136 learners across four stages of learning: foundation, intermediate, prevocational and vocational. Beyond the classroom, learners develop practical skills in weaving, carpentry, welding, doormat making and farming. These skills offer pathways towards greater independence, dignity and potential livelihoods.

A key part of IFAGE's engagement is the Youth Running Club, which brings together 136 learners in different groups and ages. Through adapted physical activities, the club creates opportunities for learners to improve their fitness and coordination, build friendships and experience the confidence and belonging that come from participating as part of a team. Here, movement becomes more than exercise; it becomes a space for inclusion, connection and personal growth.

The journey comes with challenges. Some families face financial hardship, while teachers must continually adapt their approaches to meet different communication and learning needs. Yet the dedication of Maranda's teachers (coaches) reflects a shared commitment to ensuring that every learner is met with patience, respect and encouragement.

Through the Youth Running Club, IFAGE continues to champion inclusive spaces where learners are recognised for their abilities and supported to reach their potential.

Because every child has potential. Sometimes, all it takes is the right opportunity, one skill, one stride and one small step at a time.

BEYOND BORDERS
Reimagining the Future of African Philanthropy
IFAGE joins continental conversations in Cape Town



What does the future of African philanthropy look like, and how can African organisations shape it?

These were among the important questions explored at the 2026 African Philanthropy Forum Conference, held in Cape Town, South Africa, from 25–27 October.

IFAGE's Executive Director, Rev. Domnic Misolo, joined philanthropists, funders, thought leaders and changemakers from across Africa and the Global South for conversations centred on the theme: "Bridge the Divide; Reimagine the Future."

The gathering explored the changing philanthropic landscape, the need for stronger collaboration across regions and generations, and new ways of mobilising resources to respond to Africa's development priorities. African Philanthropy Forum.

For IFAGE, participation in such spaces is an opportunity to connect community-grounded work with wider conversations on philanthropy, partnerships and

sustainable development.

It is also a reminder that African organisations must not only participate in shaping the future of development but have a voice in defining it.

The conversations are global. The impact must remain rooted in communities.

THE POWER OF CONNECTION
Where Faith Meets Innovation: IFAGE at the Praxis Africa Gathering



Sometimes, the most valuable part of a gathering is not just what happens on stage, but the conversations that happen around it.

From **28–30 October**, IFAGE participated in the **Praxis Africa Gathering** in **Nairobi**, a regional convening bringing together founders, philanthropists, investors, innovators and leaders motivated by their faith to address major societal challenges.

The gathering created space for conversations around redemptive entrepreneurship, innovation, leadership and the role of faith in shaping solutions to Africa's pressing challenges. It also showcased the inaugural 2026 Praxis Africa Accelerator cohort.

For IFAGE, the engagement provided an opportunity to exchange ideas, strengthen relationships and connect with a wider ecosystem of people exploring how faith, enterprise and social impact can work together.

As an organisation working at the intersection of faith and gender justice, these conversations are important to how we continue to imagine new possibilities for collaboration and transformation.

Sometimes, moving the work forward begins with being in the right room, listening and building the right relationships.

The Conversation Continues: 16 Days of Activism

16 Days. One shared responsibility. A future free from violence.

As we join the global movement for the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, IFAGE is calling on communities, partners, faith leaders and advocates to speak up, challenge harmful norms and take action towards a world where everyone can live free from violence.

The work does not end with awareness. It begins with the choices we make, the conversations we start and the actions we take together.

Be part of the conversation. Be part of the change.

Follow IFAGE on social media for campaign stories, updates, conversations and opportunities to take action.
Connect with us: Facebook & LinkedIn

Follow. Engage. Share. Take Action.

Together, let's make every voice count



THE 6TH PAN-AFRICAN FAITH & GENDER JUSTICE CONFERENCE
26–29 July 2027 | Makerere University, Kampala

We have officially signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Makerere University, marking an important step towards hosting the 6th Pan-African Faith & Gender Justice Conference.
A gathering of **faith leaders, gender justice advocates, researchers and community actors** from across Africa and beyond.

300+ delegates | 20+ countries



Preparations are underway.

Interested in being part of it?
Click here to find more

Looking Forward

As we move further into November, our focus remains on translating relationships, learning and community engagement into sustained action.

The journey continues.

IFAGE INTERNATIONAL

Driven by faith. Committed to justice. Transforming communities.

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"Advancing Gender Knowledge . Empowering Communities"

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