



# The Institute for African Women in Law



ENHANCING THE CAPACITY OF WOMEN FOR POSITIVE CHANGE & DEVELOPMENT



# About IAWL

The Institute for African Women in Law (IAWL) is a Washington, D.C.-based Pan-African non-profit, non-governmental organization established in 2015 by Dr. J. Jarpa Dawuni. IAWL is committed to supporting the formidable works of women in law across Africa and the African diaspora. Our goal is to be a focal point for addressing issues across the legal and judicial professions.

## Our Mission

To enhance potential, nurture leadership, create opportunities, build partnerships.

## Our Vision

To build a network of legal professionals devoted to using the law as a tool for positive societal change and advancement.



"In 2015, when I began my research on women in law, I could not find consistent data and scholarship on African women in law. My quest for knowledge about African women in law led me to establish IAWL as a non-profit that would be at the forefront of producing empirical research and data on African women in law. Our four-pronged approach is to produce **Research** that help us identify the gaps and challenges, curate **Training** to support African women in law, provide **Mentoring** for the next generation, and engage in **Advocacy** for the rights and representation of African women in law. In all our work, we are committed to maintaining **excellence** as the hallmark of realizing our vision."

– J. Jarpa Dawuni, Esq., Ph.D.

*Executive Director, Institute for African Women in Law*



# Focal areas

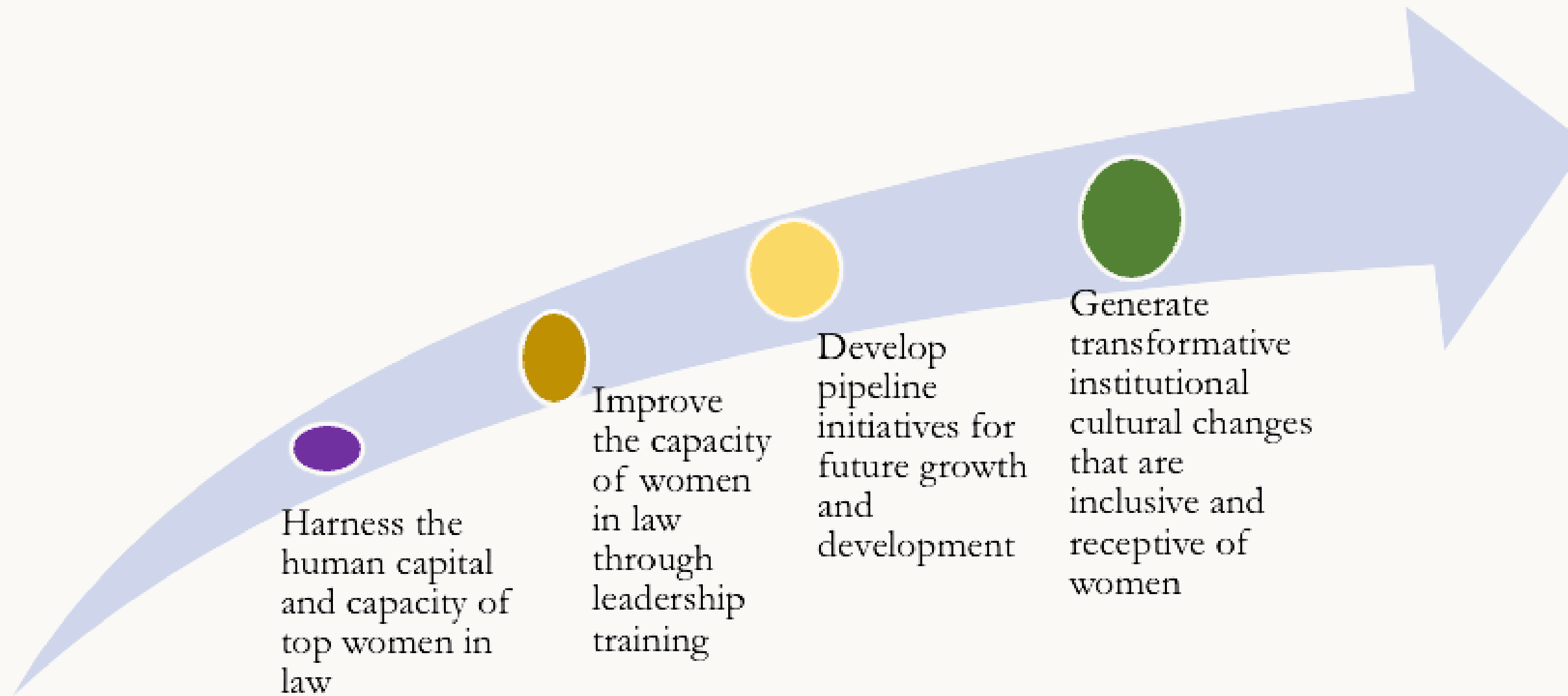
- We center women in all our approaches and interventions
  - Research
  - Training
  - Advocacy
  - Mentoring
  - Consulting





# Theory of Change

Our theory of change is to ***strengthen the capacity of women, increase leadership opportunities*** and ***ignite institutional change receptive to women's leadership***. When women in law are ***empowered***, they can ***empower other women in society***.



# What we do

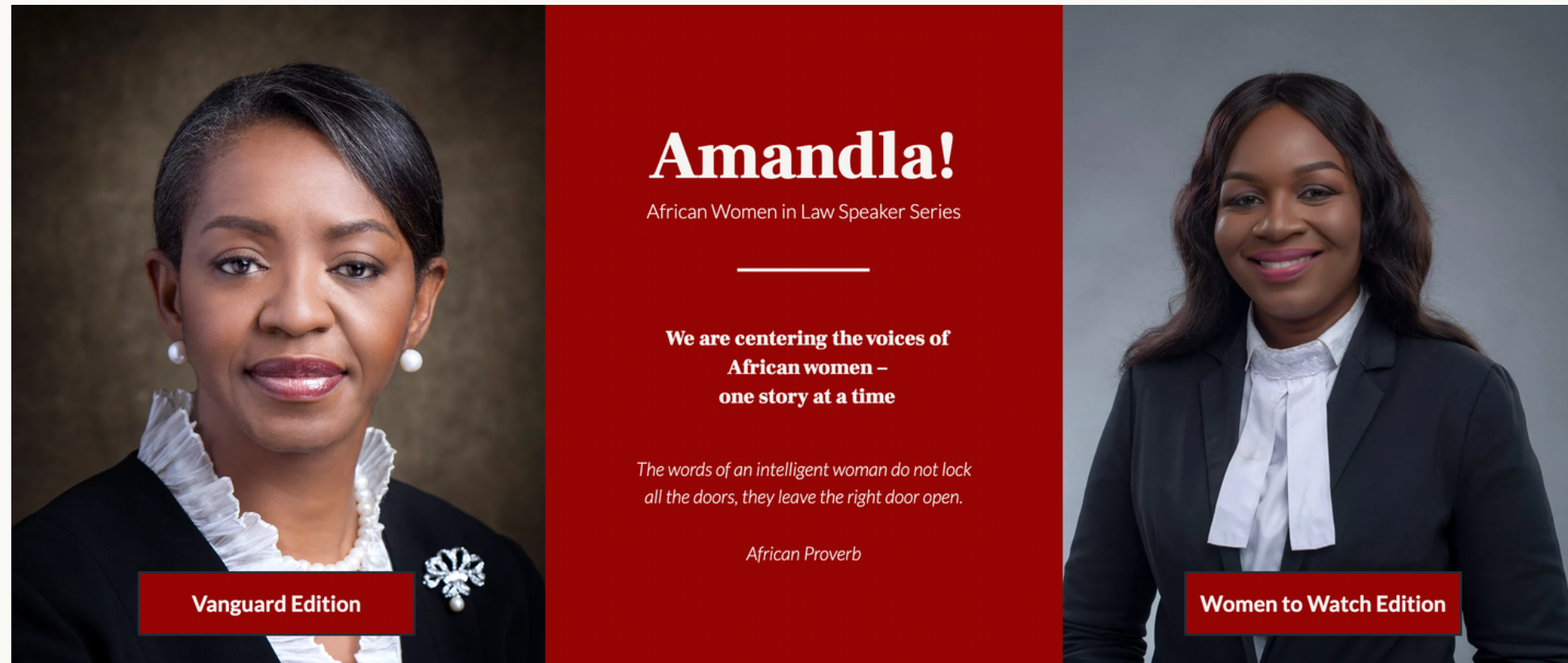
IAWL's programs engage in:

- **Advocacy**
  - *Amandla!* Women in Law Speaker Series
- **Research/Knowledge generation**
  - African Women in Law Legacy Project
  - Flagship Reports
  - Gender Scorecard
  - Women and International Courts
  - Women Chief Justices
  - Pioneer African Women in Law
- **Training**
  - IAWL Leadership Academy
- **Mentoring**
  - Professional legal networks





# Advocacy



**IAWL is committed to using the law as a force for change.**

Our research-based advocacy highlights challenges women face in legal professions, and we develop strategies and partnerships to address those issues.

*Amandla!* African Women in Law Speaker Series is a global diversity awareness program that aims to amplify the achievements and stories of African women in law. The series is a collection of short stories on women's achievements, challenges, resistance, resilience, and solidarity.

# Research

IAWL produces research that informs and transforms the nexus between discourse and praxis to promote transformative leadership and gender equality.

## **AFRICA WOMEN IN LAW LEGACY PROJECT**



Highlighting the lives and achievements of pioneer women Justices across Africa

## **PIONEER AFRICAN WOMEN IN LAW**



The works & achievements of African women legal professionals who have paved the way for the women coming after them

## **INTERNATIONAL COURT JUDGES**



Profiling the status of African women judges on international courts – have we made symbolic or substantive gains?



# Research

## WOMEN CHIEF JUSTICES



Highlighting the lives and achievements of pioneer women Chief Justices across Africa

## FLAGSHIP REPORTS



Research that informs and transforms the nexus between discourse and praxis to promote transformative leadership and gender equality.

# Training

IAWL curates cutting-edge programming for African women legal professionals through the *IAWL Leadership Academy*, *AmandlaClass*, and more.

## IAWL LEADERSHIP ACADEMY



A digital education series featuring high-powered women in law who will share lessons in professional development – drawing from their personal experiences in their careers.

## AMANDLACCLASS



Curates discussions and power-chats with distinguished women in law across Africa and the Diaspora who share their experiences, strategies and triumphs in their careers in law.



# Mentoring



**WE Lead  
Experts Network**

**IAWL Law  
Student Network**

**IAWL Early  
Career Network**

**MALE Allies  
Network**

IAWL is launching four networks for legal professionals devoted to using the law as a tool for positive societal change and development!

Whether you are a law student, an early career professional, or a professional looking to bridge professional silos and create partnerships – we've got you covered!



# Board Members

Our current Board of Directors come from a diverse background with one common vision of enhancing the capacity of women in law.

We invite you to join us by supporting our programs designed to amplify the stories & strategies of African women in law, address the challenges they face, and strengthen their impact on the legal field and women's rights broadly.







Here's how you can  
**get involved**  
with IAWL

# If you are a law firm...



## RESEARCH & ADVOCACY

Much of our research on the status of women in law requires data that reflects their representation and impact at the law firms. With the cooperation and support of law firms, we can build an accurate and comprehensive database on the advancements made for African women in law, and note the areas of growth that require our attention.

## TRAINING & MENTORING

In an effort to bridge professional silos and build communities committed to partnerships, we value the incorporation and direct involvement of law firms to inspire, mentor, and guide the members of our networks to the burgeoning professional opportunities that lie ahead.



# If you are a law society or bar association...

IAWL serves as an umbrella organization that various national/regional bar associations and law societies can be a part of – join our consortium!

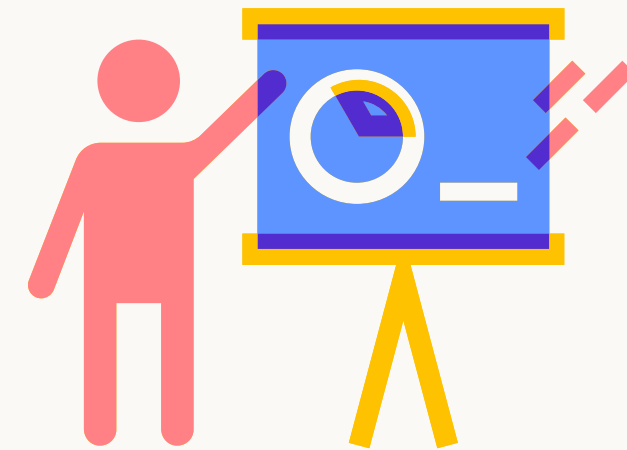
## RESEARCH & ADVOCACY

Bar associations and law societies across Africa and the diaspora play a pivotal role in convening fora amongst legal professionals. This invaluable resource of community would greatly assist IAWL to build an accurate and comprehensive database on the advancements made for African women in law, and note the areas of growth that require our attention.



## TRAINING & MENTORING

IAWL identifies great potential in partnerships with law societies and bar associations as we launch projects building global legal networks to bridge traditional professional silos across various legal occupations. We seek to bolster the standards of the law, and how it is practiced across Africa and the diaspora through innovative strategies developed by key African law experts.



# If you are a funding agency...

IAWL greatly appreciates the generous financial support of individuals, corporations, institutions, and foundations who share our vision and mission for enhancing the capacity of women for positive change.



IAWL is building a comprehensive data hub – collecting key data on the status of women in law across the African continent.

As there is no other data hub of its kind, IAWL seeks to build human resources to conduct the data analysis and visualisation to make this project a reality!



IAWL curates cutting-edge programming for African women legal professionals through the *IAWL Leadership Academy*, *AmandlaClass*, and more.

With our growing profile due to the success of these webinars, IAWL seeks to build our capacity to host more speakers exploring contemporary issues, and providing innovative solutions and strategies.



# If you are a funding agency...



IAWL is launching four networks for legal professionals devoted to using the law as a tool for positive societal change and development:

1. **IAWL Law Student Network** – dedicated to early career legal professionals looking to make moves in their careers
2. **IAWL Early Career Network** – dedicated to building community among law students starting their careers
3. **WE LEAD Experts Network** – bridging the professional silos between academia, the bench, the bar within the legal profession
4. **MALE Allies Network** – dedicated to igniting individual and organizational transformation towards gender equality in the legal profession

We aims to offer unique opportunities such as leadership training, mentoring, career coaching, networking opportunities, capacity building and more across these legal networks. We would greatly benefit from funding for the development of these resources and running of the networks.

# If you are an interested individual...

IAWL values your **time**, **talent**, and **treasure**!



We welcome your invaluable expertise and experience in the legal field as we build a roster of pivotal mentors to guide up-and-coming lawyers who are committed to affecting social change and development with the law.



Given your rich knowledge, we invite you to contribute to data & research hub which curates seminal works for and by African women in law.



Your financial support is greatly appreciated as it directly aids our efforts to make our innovative ideas a reality!



# Let's stay in touch!

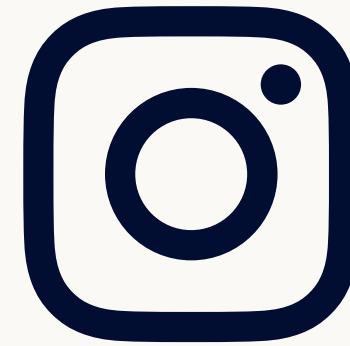
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Email us at: [info@africanwomeninlaw.com](mailto:info@africanwomeninlaw.com)



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