



Slide 1 - Introduction

ACWW is a membership-based organisation, made up of member societies and individual members. Our network is crucial to accomplishing ACWW's aim of empowering rural women and their families, and one of our priorities is strengthening and extending that network.

Slide 2

ACWW was founded in 1929 with a vision to unite rural women's groups around the world in friendship, collaboration, and understanding. Now comprising more than 450 member societies and thousands of individuals, we represent about 9 million women in more than 80 countries. The strength of ACWW is this network, which allows rural women to unite their voices and make themselves heard on the issues they face.

Slide 3

By becoming an ACWW member, you become part of a network that allows rural women to connect their voices, so the issues they face and the solutions they raise are heard and acknowledged by national and international policy-makers and legislators. ACWW exists for women who want to actively engage with international policy and the empowerment of rural women.

Discussion point: Are these benefits relevant to you?

Slide 4

Because the women ACWW is connecting are rural, we face specific challenges. Connection, in terms of social isolation, digital infrastructure, and postal services can all make it much harder to reach these communities and find out about the difficulties they face. Rural women are usually self-sufficient hard workers, so they are not used to asking for help or support, and this means that their living conditions go unnoticed, and unchanged.

1.  

ACWW and the
UN Decade of Family Farming

Our Network is Crucial

to find out more, visit
www.acww.org.uk

2.  

Our Network

- More than 80 Countries
- Over 450 Member Societies
- Thousands of individual members
- Representing 9 million women

to find out more, visit
www.acww.org.uk

3.  

The Benefits of our Network:

- Friendship, support, and solidarity from women all over the world
- Connecting Rural Women and amplifying their voices
- Consultative Status with UN Agencies

ACWW is an opportunity to make your voice heard and to speak on behalf of others, to stand in solidarity with women, and to make sustainable changes all over the world.

to find out more, visit
www.acww.org.uk

4.  

The Problem of Rurality

When it comes to networking Rural Women, certain barriers stand in the way of uniting and amplifying their voices.

- Isolated - socially, and in terms of postal and digital connection
- Independent
- Not used to receiving help, and therefore not asking

to find out more, visit
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Slide 5

ACWW has consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the UN. This means that we have the ear of UN Agencies, and they want to hear from us about Rural Women and their living conditions. The UN recognises that there is a data gap on Rural Women, but there are no plans in place to address the gap. ACWW can help address this gap, but we need to hear from our members. Data means that aid and funding can be appropriately directed, and that issues facing rural women can be raised as a priority with policy-makers.

Slide 6

So, what can you do?

- Respond to ACWW Surveys, which are sent out at key points to report back to the UN. They are anonymous and only ever used to further the purposes and aims of ACWW.
- Your society can also report on their activities in the Triennial Report. Every 3 years, ACWW produces a Triennial Report of Work for the Triennial World Conference, which includes the actions of ACWW member societies.
- When you use materials produced by ACWW – posters, powerpoints, leaflets, or booklets – please let us know! Tell us about your event, how many people were there, how they responded to the work of ACWW, and if we need to do any follow-up.
- Contribute to *The Countrywoman* magazine – again, tell us about your events, your societies, let us know what you want to see in the magazine, and give us your feedback as each issue is released.

Slide 7

ACWW's network is her greatest strength. The united voices of our ACWW membership can achieve great change and inspire women around the world. Rural women have always been the backbone of communities and it is vital that their voices are heard, their experience considered, and their needs met.

Discussion:

1. Do you think that being part of the ACWW network can benefit you directly?
2. What are some ways you can spread the word about ACWW?
3. How can ACWW can stay relevant and vital into the future?

5.

RURAL WOMEN IN ACTION

ACWW Needs You

Consultative Status means that we have the ear of UN Agencies

There is a data gap on Rural Women that the UN isn't addressing

ACWW can help address this gap, but we need to hear from our members

Data means that aid and funding can be appropriately directed, and that issues facing rural women can be raised as priority

to find out more, visit www.acww.org.uk

6.

RURAL WOMEN IN ACTION

What can you do?

Surveys

Triennial Reports

Tell us about your events

Contribute to *The Countrywoman* magazine

to find out more, visit www.acww.org.uk

7.

RURAL WOMEN IN ACTION

Spread the word!

When we share information, we empower each other. This pack is full of resources to share with your community, and to inform those around you.

THE GLOBAL GOALS

to find out more, visit www.acww.org.uk