

Mrs. Emily Peal on Microcredit at Int'l Confab in Kenya

By *ajohnson*

Created *Apr 21 2010 - 6:41am*



Flashback: Mrs. Peal, first from right, along with other members of FFW in a Microcredit meeting

By: Alaskai Moore Johnson

Mrs. Emily Guegbeh Peal, Chief Executive Officer of Foundation for Women, has returned to the country after attending the 72nd Africa-Middle East Microcredit Summit in the Kenyan capital, Nairobi.

Mrs. Peal's foundation, which is a microcredit loan organization, empowers women and men by giving them loans and upgrading their skills, among others.

The conference, which was held from April 7 to 10, was under the theme, Committed to Ending Poverty.

At the conference, the Foundation for Women CEO was among four international women who presented papers. Her presentation on Micro Financing in Post-conflict and Post-disaster Situation gave a clearer picture of Liberia's economy as one in transition after years of devastation and destruction that left the infrastructure and the hope of people in ruins.

She said from this backdrop, the organization chose to follow a different way of giving microloan to Liberians. She further said that her organization also aims at empowering Liberians, especially women, to make their own decisions to move themselves out of poverty to dignity.

Mrs. Peal intoned that the Foundation takes into consideration literacy and scholarship programs that complement its microcredit initiative.

Mrs. Peal further explained that the Foundation for Women considers education, health, etc, as paramount among its programs and that the Foundation uses in its holistic approaches to empower destitute Liberians.

She stated that microcredit's considerable impact on individuals in Liberia allows people to start building trust in their communities and institutions. She added that microcredit also intervenes in facilitating a strong institutional role in community awareness; making citizens have confidence in their leaders and being able to understand local needs, including priorities and constraints to help foster mutuality.

In her presentation to the over 1,000 international and local participants at the conference, Mrs. Peal gave the organization's case study of the program staff's effectiveness in tackling the cultural gap. She also dilated on the remnants of war, mainly addressing the culture of dependency that has hampered personal as well as local and national development, among others.

The Summit was attended by high-profile personalities, including Kenyan President Mwai Kibaki, Her Majesty Queen Sofia of Spain, Her Royal Highness Princess Maxima of The Netherlands and Mr. Uhuru Kenyatta, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance of Kenya.

More Images:

Copyright Liberian Observer - All Rights Reserved. This article cannot be re-published without the expressed, written consent of the Liberian Observer. Please [contact us](#) for more information or to request publishing permission.

[Women & Family](#)

Source URL (retrieved on *Jun 25 2010 - 4:42am*): <http://liberianobserver.com/node/5879>