

Keeping the Agenda Alive

Facts & Figures: Beijing+30 status, WomankindWorldwide

Beijing at 30: Progress and Challenges



Womankind
Worldwide



Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)

Significant strides have been made in providing legal protection against gender-based violence (GBV) since the adoption of the BPfA. In terms of normative standards, this includes the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (the Maputo Protocol), the Istanbul Convention, and the ILO's Violence and Harassment Convention (No. 190).

More countries have enacted laws addressing domestic violence and online violence, such as **Kenya's Sexual Offences Act (2006)**, the Protection Against Domestic Violence Act (2015), and the UK's Online Safety Act (2023). In the UK, feminist movements have uncovered and highlighted:

Photo: Jane Anyango, Deputy Executive Director-Institutional Strengthening, FIDA-Kenya

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND
INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE
(IPV) REMAIN SOME OF THE
MOST PERVERSIVE FORMS OF GBV.**

1,500 CASES OF POLICE
VIOLENCE AND HARASSMENT AGAINST
WOMEN IN JUST SIX MONTHS, ALONG
WITH INSTANCES OF POLICE-PERPETRATED
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.

51,100 WOMEN AND GIRLS
GLOBALLY, WERE KILLED BY INTIMATE PARTNERS OR
OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS IN 2023.

AT LEAST **500 WOMEN**
IN KENYA HAVE BEEN KILLED SINCE
2016

52% OF WOMEN
IN THE UK KILLED IN 2020 WERE
VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE AT THE
HANDS OF A CURRENT OR FORMER
PARTNER.



Femicide continues to be linked to climate change, as exposure to extreme events and GBV, driven by economic instability, food insecurity, disrupted infrastructure, and increased proximity to men in temporary or displacement shelters, exacerbates gender inequality and GBV.

In Nepal, **working women in lower-paying or informal jobs** face heightened risks of abuse, linking sexual harassment with economic rights violations.

23% OF WOMEN
IN 22 COUNTRIES HAVE EXPERIENCED
ONLINE ABUSE OR HARASSMENT,
WITH MARGINALIZED GROUPS FACING
DISPROPORTIONATELY HIGH RATES OF
VIOLENCE.

54% OF COUNTRIES LACK
LAWS THAT DEFINE RAPE BASED
ON THE LACK OF FREELY GIVEN
CONSENT.



Women of colour, LGBTQI+ individuals, and activists are particularly targeted in digital spaces, and globally, journalists and activists are at high risk of tech-facilitated GBV.

The COVID-19 pandemic led to an increase in GBV, with lockdowns trapping many women in unsafe environments. In Kenya, for example, cases of **GBV against women and girls rose by 55%** following the pandemic.

Women Environmental Human Rights Defenders (WEHRDs) have faced specific forms of GBV and discrimination, as well as increased backlash against their work to protect land, water, natural resources, and territories from extraction, climate change, and other harms.

As climate-related displacement grows, women and girls are more vulnerable to human trafficking, sexual violence, and loss of livelihoods.

Women's Political Participation and Leadership (WPL)

SOME COUNTRIES HAVE MADE SIGNIFICANT STRIDES IN INCREASING THE REPRESENTATION OF WOMEN IN POLITICAL LEADERSHIP THROUGH GENDER QUOTAS.

In Kenya, the 2010 Constitution introduced mechanisms to address historical gender disparities, mandating that **no more than two-thirds of an elected body can be of the same gender**. However, progress has been slow.

Ethiopia's gender-parity cabinet, where women represented 50% of the cabinet, marked a significant step towards gender equality in political leadership, although challenges in implementation and gender-based discrimination remain.

In Afghanistan and many other conflict zones, structural and societal oppression excludes women from advocacy spaces, while militarization further deepens their marginalization.

Despite progressive legislation in many regions, there remains a significant implementation gap between policy creation and its effective execution. **Most frameworks also lack enforceability mechanisms, adequate funding, and accountability structures.**

Patriarchal norms and systemic discrimination continue to limit women's participation in decision-making processes globally.



IN NEPAL, THE CONSTITUTION MANDATES THAT AT LEAST 33% OF THE REPRESENTATION IN BOTH LOCAL AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT BODIES MUST BE WOMEN.

THIS HAS RESULTED IN A LANDMARK ACHIEVEMENT OF NEARLY 41% FEMALE REPRESENTATION IN LOCAL ELECTIONS, WITH 6,525 OF THESE WOMEN BEING DALIT.

PATRIARCHAL NORMS AND SYSTEMIC DISCRIMINATION CONTINUE TO LIMIT WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN DECISION-MAKING PROCESSES GLOBALLY.



Photo: Vera Machera, Programme Officer, Women Challenged to Challenge, Kenya

In Afghanistan, the Taliban's 'Vice and Virtue Order' has reversed two decades of progress, including in education, where girls above the age of 12 are now forbidden from attending school.

Women in conflict zones such as Afghanistan and Ethiopia continue to face violence and displacement, further exacerbated by militarization and impunity.

Institutional violence, including abuse in detention centers, discriminatory practices in healthcare, and social and legal systems, as well as abuse by police or law enforcement agencies such as border and immigration authorities, continues to be perpetrated against women.



The Women's March in London in 2020

Women's Economic Rights (WER)

In recent years, there has been some progress in advancing women's economic rights, including **increased labour rights for women** and **greater representation of women in the workforce.**

Efforts to reduce poverty among women have included targeted microfinance initiatives and conditional cash transfer programs, many of which are highlighted in national Beijing+30 reports.

Economic violence reinforces women's dependence on men, exacerbates their experience of violence, reduces their autonomy, and increases the risk of intimate partner violence (IPV).



WOMEN ACCOUNT FOR **LESS THAN 40%** OF OWNERS OR RIGHTS-HOLDERS FOR AGRICULTURAL LAND **IN 32 OUT OF 49 COUNTRIES** WITH AVAILABLE DATA.

In contexts where austerity has been a dominant fiscal policy, women's economic empowerment is often negatively impacted due to the increased burden of unpaid care work they take on when public services are cut.



Feminist funding

New and innovative funding models and approaches are emerging, such as the Fenomenal Funds, the Black Feminist Fund, Womankind's flexible funding mechanisms i.e. Her Voice Fund, the Movement Strengthening Fund and Strategic Partner Support Grants, The Collective Action to Realise Equality (CARE) Fund, and the Equality Fund. Additionally, coalitions of grantees and funders, such as Prospera INWF, and smaller funding programs, including tech support initiatives, are also making a difference.

CURRENTLY, LESS THAN 1% OF GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT AID IS ALLOCATED DIRECTLY TO WOMEN'S RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS, WITH EVEN LESS REACHING GRASSROOTS FEMINIST MOVEMENTS IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH.

Despite gender equality being a 'principal objective' of Official Development Assistance (ODA), funding for gender equality remains at only 4% of all bilateral ODA and faces ongoing cuts and scrutiny.

Photo: Edinah Masiyiwa, Executive Director, Women's Action Group, Zimbabwe

FOR EXAMPLE, IN 2022, THE UK REDUCED ITS AID BUDGET TO 0.5% OF GROSS NATIONAL INCOME (GNI) FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE 2013, A REAL-TERM REDUCTION OF 50%.

IN RECENT YEARS, ONLY 8% OF ALL PRIVATE PHILANTHROPY FOR DEVELOPMENT TARGETED GENDER ISSUES, WHILE BLACK FEMINIST MOVEMENTS RECEIVED JUST BETWEEN 0.1% AND 0.35% OF ANNUAL GRANT DOLLARS FROM US FOUNDATIONS.

Restrictions such as compulsory registration and the review of foreign funds have negatively impacted grantees and recipients in the Global South. In November 2024, the Dutch government announced plans to cut funding for civil society globally through development funding by 1 billion Euros in the next 5 years, and the UK and USA are planning major cuts to development aid in the coming years.

Feminist Foreign Funding policies continue to be implemented within an extractive and neoliberal framework, where the resources that continue to be taken and gained by Global North governments in the form of illicit financial flows, mining, extraction, and land, for example, significantly outweigh the assistance received by recipient countries.

FOR 2021-2022, JUST THREE ANTI-LGBTQI+ ORGANISATIONS REPORTED \$1 BILLION INCOME COMPARED TO 8,000 GLOBAL LGBTQI+ GRANTEES RECEIVING \$905 MILLION BETWEEN THEM.

Photo: Young women at the She Leads Forum in Nairobi that works to provide mentorship and coaching for upcoming leaders



Call to action (from Womankind Worldwide)

Governments and Policy Makers

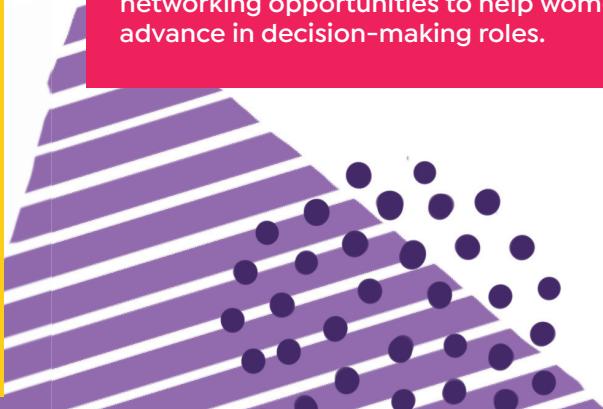
1. Strengthen policy frameworks and ensure full implementation of existing gender equality laws and policies, with adequate funding and institutional capacity.
2. Commit increased and sufficient budgets to gender equality efforts, especially in underserved areas and for marginalised communities.
3. Urgently implement comprehensive actions to eliminate GBV by strengthening legal frameworks, ensuring full implementation of existing laws, and committing substantial, sustained funding for GBV prevention and survivor support services.
4. Champion publicly funded public services that meet women's needs, progressive taxation and the reform of the global taxation system, and the implementation of legislation mandating workplace protections, such as International Labor Convention 190 (ILO190).
5. Implement progressive taxation systems that fund women-centered public services, such as affordable childcare, healthcare, and housing, ensuring that economic policies are designed to address the unique needs and barriers faced by women in the workforce.
6. Implement policies that enforce gender quotas and take concrete steps to increase the representation of women in leadership roles at all levels of decision-making, both in the public and private sectors, while ensuring a safe, and harassment-free environment.
7. Strengthen national gender machineries with a focus on intersectionality to address the diverse needs of all women, including LGBTQI+, women with disabilities, and Indigenous women.

Women's Rights Organisations (WROs) and Civil Society

- 1. Advocate for comprehensive and survivor-centred approaches to tackle GBV, going beyond punitive measures to include restorative justice and support systems.**
- 2. Safeguard feminist activists and leaders, as well as WHRDs and WEHRDs, from violence and harassment through robust protective measures.**
- 3. Invest in research, conduct mixed-method, real-time research to demonstrate the positive impacts of women's leadership and document their contributions at family, community, and national levels.**
- 4. Disaggregate and analyse a Gendered-Data Collection to monitor progress, identify gaps, and inform policy and program development.**
- 5. Support and expand leadership development programs for women, including mentorship, networking, and skill-building opportunities, to ensure they can ascend to leadership positions in both the public and private sectors.**

International Organizations and Donors

- 1. Provide funding for research and programs into alternative response and redress of GBV, including community-led initiatives and survivor-centered programmes.**
- 2. Increase investment in advancing women's economic rights programmes, supporting women's entrepreneurship, access to finance, and equal employment opportunities.**
- 3. Support initiatives that promote women's leadership, including funding leadership development programmes, mentorship, and networking opportunities to help women advance in decision-making roles.**



Individuals and Communities

1. Offer direct support to feminist activists, ensuring their safety and well-being.
2. Individuals, communities, and local leaders can adopt intersectionality as a framework for understanding and addressing the unique challenges of the most marginalised groups in their societies.
3. Foster an environment where women's economic rights are recognised by supporting women entrepreneurs, advocating for workplace equality, and ensuring equal access to education and training opportunities that can lead to financial independence.
4. Actively mentor and provide guidance to young women and girls, encouraging them to take on leadership roles in both formal and informal settings, and helping to break down barriers that prevent women from reaching leadership positions.
5. Participate in the fight against GBV by promoting zero-tolerance attitudes, supporting survivors, and demanding accountability for perpetrators.

Funding

1. Prioritise direct funding to grassroots feminist organisations in the Global South.
2. Prioritise long-term, core, and flexible funding for feminist movements.
3. Provide a sustainable and flexible funding to grassroots feminist organizations and groups including support for disability justice initiatives led by disabled women and informal groups and movements, through a feminist and trust-based approach, ensuring broad support for responsive, intersectional feminist movements.
4. Feminist movements play a more central role in decisions around funding to address their identified needs through participatory grant making processes.
5. Move away from one-size-fits-all funding models and support locally driven, context-specific gender equality initiatives.



Feminist Movements

1. Foster inclusive and intersectional frameworks that challenge patriarchy by addressing the interconnected realities of gender, race, class, disability, and sexual orientation etc.
2. Prioritise grassroot organising and ensure that local voices shape agendas and strategies.
3. Build reflexive practices to increase awareness of and confront power imbalances and patriarchal structures within movements, ensuring accountability and inclusivity.
4. Build reflexive practices to confront power imbalances and patriarchal structures within movements, ensuring accountability and inclusivity.
5. Develop strategies to operate effectively in shrinking civic spaces, such as leveraging digital tools and creating safe spaces for advocacy and collaboration.
6. Nurture inclusive and intersectional frameworks that bring to the fore the interlocking experiences of gender, race, class, disability, and sexual orientation amongst other areas in specific contexts. Stress grassroots organising and ensure that local perspectives drive agendas and strategies.

7. Develop strategies that allow for effective action in restricted civic spaces, such as leveraging digital spaces and creating safe spaces for activism and collaboration.
8. Prioritise healing and mental health spaces to create care-driven and sustainable efforts.
9. Building the capacities of feminist leaders, especially young and marginalised leaders, with sustained training and programmatic support; supporting grassroots women's organisations in decision-making and policy implementation.
10. Strengthen partnerships and ensure constant dialogue among governments, CSOs, NGOs, and feminist movements.
11. Leverage international organisations and allies to seek government accountability with respect to gender equality mandates in line with the BPFA. Continued public awareness and mobilisation that challenge destructive practices, norms, and values.

“

Accessibility and inclusion have always been a thorny issue. We also anticipate some resistance from employers should we get to the ratification of ILO 190 because this will also need resources that not many are willing to put in- from trainings on safety to whistle blowing tools and mechanisms.”

-Alice Munala, Programme Officer, Women Challenged to Challenge

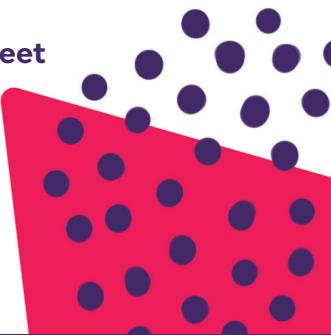




“

Everything I do is to try to address or to try to contribute to a world that's more balanced.”

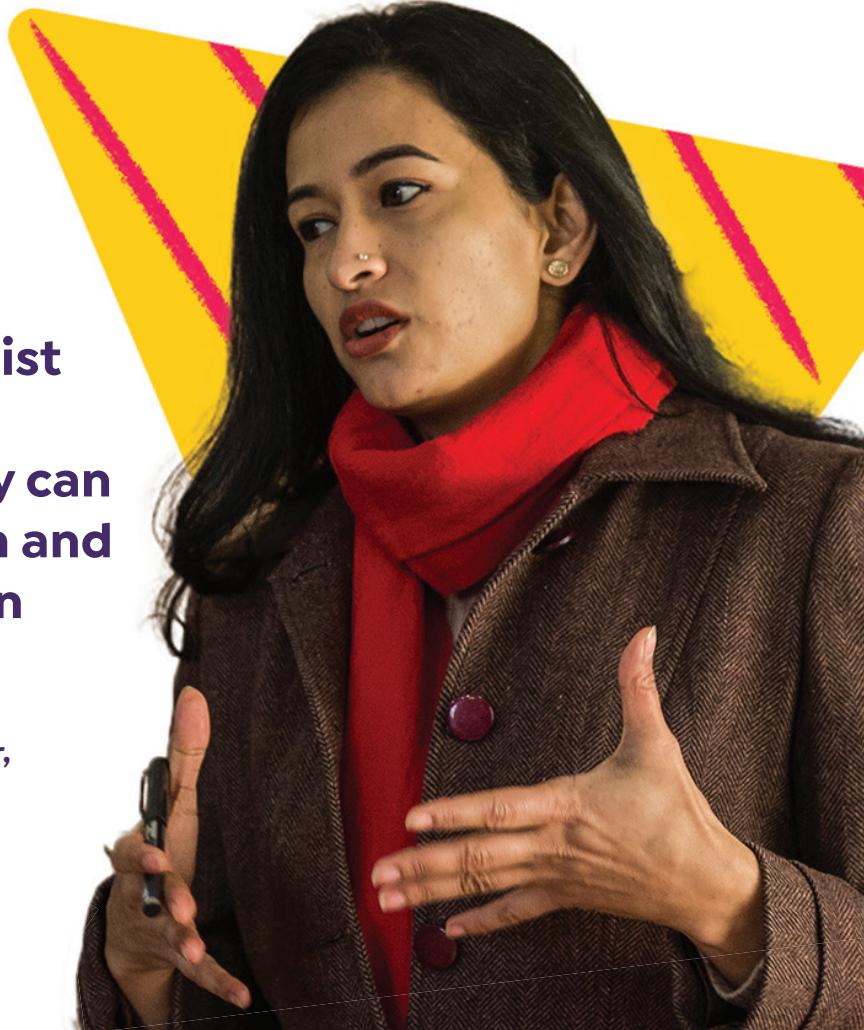
~Sehin Teferra, Director, Setaweeet



“

We support the next generation of feminist leaders – existing feminist leaders and emerging feminist leaders, so they can have a sharing approach and unite in a place and learn together.”

—Srijana Bastola, Programme Coordinator,
Sankalpa





**Womankind
Worldwide**

Charity Reg 328206
Company Reg. No. 2404121

Womankind Worldwide,
Shoreditch Exchange,
Gorsuch Place, 97-101 Hackney Road,
London E2 8JF

Womankind Worldwide
www.womankind.org.uk



You can download
the full publication
by scanning this QR
code.