Annual Reports 2021-22
International Alliance of Women

Rapports annuel 2021-22
Alliance internationale des femmes

Editor Hege Elisabeth Løvbak
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IAW New York report for 2021-2022

Although the UN events were largely virtual, IAW members in New York were actively engaged in numerous events, including the UN General Assemblies, CSW, consultations on the Secretary-General’s Our Common Agenda. Indeed, virtual meetings also expanded the outreach and interaction between New York-based IAW members and UN locations outside New York such as Habitat and UNEP in Nairobi.

UN Women includes the IAW in its expert consultations for the Generation Equality Forum and that allows the IAW to act as a key information source on gender equality and women’s empowerment. As noted in the last report, the IAW was represented in person during the Paris Forum July 2-4 in 2021 and continues to support commitments to Action Coalitions on health, women’s leadership, the environment, and violence against women. The IAW in New York wishes to also alert members to the important Global Compact on Women, Peace and Security that has brought together member states, private sector, civil society, youth groups and UN Agencies around joint actions.

During CSW66 and the High-Level Political Forum and preparations for the GA, the IAW in New York participated actively in side-events, hosting an Exhibit Hall space for members to publicize their events and an ad to draw attention to numerous IAW side events. It should be noted that the CSW in 2022 attracted more than 35,000 virtual participants, demonstrating the power of online consultations. IAW members also actively engaged in roundtables with members states in the Conversation Circles, Young Professionals mentoring sessions, and other events. Serious discussions took place on how to create an IAW young professionals group which should be brought to the attention of the incoming board and president.

As the priority theme for CSW66 was related to climate change, the IAW in NY advocated strongly to have the participants at CSW know more about CEDAW General Recommendation on Disaster Risk Reduction in the context of Climate Change. IAW members should note that CSW67 will be hybrid and that submission of side events can be virtual as well as in-person.

The New York IAW was represented by Soon-Young Yoon, who was appointed to the UN President of the General Assembly’s Gender Advisory Council for the period 2021-2022. H. E. Ambassador Shahid of Maldives had placed gender equality high on his priority list. The historic event took place when the Council supported his project for the first lactation rooms ever created at the UN headquarters. This event, co-sponsored by New Zealand and El Salvador, was attended by UN representatives and enthusiastically supported by member states. Hopefully, it will set a precedence for such facilities in regional UN offices and throughout the UN system.

As in previous years, the IAW in NY has actively followed preparations for Habitat on human settlements, including communications with the Secretariat on civil society
participation. The Cities for CEDAW campaign expanded its importance in the USA with more than 70 jurisdictions that have resolutions or city ordinances in support of CEDAW. Bringing women’s human rights agendas to the local level is critical to making the UN relevant to women’s lives, particularly given the backlash to women’s sexual and reproductive health and rights worldwide.
IAW’s Human Rights Team at UN Geneva: Annual Report 2022

Final Edit: Dr Sibylle von Heydebrand

Preliminary remarks
The IAW Human Rights Team at the United Nations in Geneva is pleased to present its report on its activities during the reporting year 2022.

We report on the main activities that are directly related to the human rights of women and girls, as described in the IAW’s Programme of Action in paragraph 2. Human rights of women and girls are at the heart of the activities and commitments of both the IAW and the UN Human Rights Team in Geneva.

Meetings and sessions at the United Nations in Geneva were conducted with personal attendance or in hybrid form.

Members of IAW’s Human Rights Team at UN Geneva:
Main Representative: Dr. Sibylle von Heydebrand
Representatives: LL.M, MLaw Derya Akinci Briand, Dr. Laoura Alipranti, Sanja Jeraj, Rev. Dr. Esther R. Suter
Ex officio: IAW’s Acting President Marion Böker, IAW’s Secretary General interim Camilla Wagner

1. IAW’s internal meetings of UN Geneva’s Human Rights Representatives: Report by Dr Sibylle von Heydebrand

Internal Meetings: IAW’s main representative Dr Sibylle von Heydebrand invited IAW’s HR Team UN Geneva to assist at three internal team meetings: two Zoom meetings and one in person meeting at UN Geneva. We welcomed our new team member in July 2022: Sanja Jeraj.

Action Plan adopted: In addition to the exchange of information on current events of the bodies at the UN in Geneva, the main topic of the meetings was the development of an action plan. Taking into consideration that we are willing to further deepen our commitment
to promoting gender equality and empowering women and girls globally through our work at the UN in Geneva, we have elaborated and adopted an Action Plan
https://www.womenalliance.org/iaw-at-the-un/united-nations-geneva/

2. Human Rights Council (HRC): Report by Dr Laoura Alipranti
The Human Rights Council is an inter-governmental body within the United Nations system made up of 47 States responsible for the promotion and protection of all human rights around the globe. Members of IAW’s HR Team UN Geneva participated at regular sessions as well as at special sessions of the HRC.

The HRC scheduled 3 regular sessions in 2022:
- **49th regular session** (February 28, 2022 to April 1, 2022)
  Within this session an urgent debate was also organized on the situation of human rights in Ukraine stemming from the Russian aggression and a related resolution was adopted.
  Results and more: https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/regular-sessions/session49/regular-session
- **50th regular session** (June 13, 2022 to July 8, 2022)
  The right to education and the elimination of extreme poverty and human rights were important issues within this session. During the 50th Session, on July 1, 2022, the HRC held an urgent debate on the situation of women and girls in Afghanistan: In a resolution, the Council reaffirmed its unwavering commitment to the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights by all women, girls and children in Afghanistan. Summary: https://www.ungeneva.org/en/news-media/meeting-summary/2022/07/nous-assistons lexclusion-progressive-des-femmes-et-des-filles
  Results and more: https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/regular-sessions/session50/regular-session
- **51st regular session** (September 13, 2022 to October 7, 2022)
  In this session, the annual discussion on the integration of a gender perspective throughout the work of the HRC and that of its mechanisms was held.
  Results and more: https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/regular-sessions/session51/regular-session

34th Special Session (May 12, 2022)
The subject was: The deteriorating human rights situation in Ukraine stemming from the Russian aggression The human rights implications of the crisis in Myanmar.
Results and more: https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/special-sessions/session34/34-special-session

3. NGO CSW UN Geneva: Report by LLM, MLaw Derya Akinci Briand
NGO CSW UN Geneva is a coalition of ECOSOC accredited NGOs, promoting human rights and the empowerment of women and girls with currently 20 member organizations, including the IAW. In 2022, two new member organizations were added: International Cancer Expert Corps (ICEC) and World Organization of Prenatal Education Associations (OMAEP).

Website: In 2022, the website was redesigned and comes with a fresh and new look: https://ngocsw-geneva.ch/
At the Annual General Meeting, Dr Sibylle von Heydebrand was re-elected as financial auditor of the NGO CSW UN Geneva.
NGO CSW UNG has formed five task forces: https://ngocsw-geneva.ch/about-us/task-forces/ IAW is represented by Dr Sibylle von Heydebrand in the Review, Development and Training Task Force.
At CSW66, NGO CSW Geneva organized together with NGO CSW UN Vienna the Regional Consultation Day and ran a parallel event titled, “The Human Right to a Clean, Healthy and Sustainable Environment: Building Global Solidarity and Partnership.”

On June 28, 2022 – 50th session of HRC: Joint oral statement NGO CSW UNG. Carolyn Handschin, President of NGO CSW UNG, advocated in the oral statement for women’s voices in the planning, policies, actions and reports regarding climate change. - The statement was co-sponsored by IAW.

NGO CSW UNG made a donation to support the rebuilding and re-equipment of schools in the small Ukrainian village of Bohdanivka after the devastation inflicted by Russian invasion troops.

In an effort to foster communication between the Bureau of NGO CSW UNG and the member organizations, the bureau publishes regularly “News in Brief”: https://ngocsw-geneva.ch/news-in-brief/.


Why is IAW involved in the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC)? Gender-based injustices begin even before child conception and continue through girls’ early years. Many girls adjust to this condition, not realizing that their lives could be easier if they had the same upbringing and treatment as boys.


A short image video on YouTube gives a first insight into the tasks of the CRC https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6zfhYc0lmco.

CRC meets three times a year in Geneva and monitors and reviews the reports of various contracting states. In addition to our member organizations, individual members from different countries are also interested in these documentations. Therefore, we provide you with all the links to the sessions in 2022.

89th Session (31 January – 11 February 2022):

90th Session (3 May – 3 June 2022):

91st Session (29 August - 23 September 2022):

5. Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW): Report by Dr Sibylle von Heydebrand

In line with the action plan, this report focuses on the states of IAW member organizations.

In 2022, there are three CEDAW sessions covering the following states of IAW member organizations:
Experts of CEDAW commend Uganda on phenomenal progress made in the education sector, ask about the cost of political campaigns for women and the education of refugees.

Experts of CEDAW praise Morocco for legislation prohibiting discrimination, ask about high maternal mortality and female illiteracy rates in rural areas.

83rd session October 10 – 28, 2022: With state parties reports among others: **Finland, Switzerland**. At the time of finalizing this report, the session has not yet taken place.

6. **Further Events at UN Geneva with participation of IAW representatives: Report by Dr Sibylle von Heydebrand**

**June 15, 2022: Meeting of the President of the UN General Assembly with Civil Society**
The President of the 76th UN General Assembly Abdulla Shahid (Maldives) met with civil society representatives at the UN Geneva. IAW was represented by Esther Suter and Sibylle von Heydebrand. The latter gave an oral statement on behalf of the IAW. She appealed to put the rights of girls, in all their diversity, at the center of attention, as they are among the most vulnerable people. See in detail https://www.womenalliance.org/human-rights-violations-impact-on-girls/. Read Esther Suter’s detailed report on the meeting, including the five Pillars of the President of 76th UNGA and the contributions of other NGOs: https://tinyurl.com/32kf4h43

**June 28, 2022:** – Dr Soon Young Yoon, IAW’s Main Representative to UN New York, and Dr Sibylle von Heydebrand, IAW’s Main Representative to UN Geneva, met in Geneva for a fruitful exchange of information and a conversation about future cooperation.

7. **10th NPT-Review Conference at UN-NY August 1 – 26, 2022, Report by Rev. Dr Esther R. Suter**
The Non-Proliferation Treaty is considered as a means to keep peace in the world and is essential for Peace. Observation of the session: many countries declare openly the threat with nuclear weapons by Russia as a crime and against the NPT. The imminent danger of attack of the largest nuclear Power Plant in Europe, in Ukraine, occupied by Russian military, is an additional threat. NGO statements on August 5, 2022: Open letter with many signatories, presented by UnfoldZERO with zoom meeting organized by NoFirstUse global and PNND – Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Zoom-meeting by Peace Office on August 9, 2022. Four new states joined the NPT: in Latin America/Caribbean and Asia. Ongoing goal must be in future: disarmament of nuclear weapons. Following various press conferences.

Arlesheim (Switzerland), October 10, 2022, Dr. Sibylle von Heydebrand, IAW’s Human Rights Main Representative to UN Geneva
Report IAW's Representation in European Women's Lobby (EWL)
01/2021 - 11/2022
Marion Böker, delegate to EWL together with Lea Börgerding (alternate)

Transition- And continuation for IAW in the EWL Board
This report is on our EWL work and representation after IAW 38. Congress until 39. IAW Congress end of November 2022. It was a time of transition, personally for our delegates and on dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions which hopefully will decrease in 2023. While in 2020 EWL immediately switched to online meetings only and made a lot of efforts to mutually care on all representatives well being, the negative impacts of no real social contacts paid off. 2022 work flow was served, but a long summer break and a bit a reduced contact reduced to the necessary reflected that most women had been a bit tired because of the extra efforts in 2020, 2021.

The first half year of 2021 Arina Angerman was still an EWL board member and so we still cooperated closely as before- now together with new IAW alternate Lea Börgerding- in exchanging on both of our working group participations, on our input requested from time to time from us members, and on the various board meetings which took place in 2021 before the General Assembly of EWL in June 2021. In June 2021 I as the IAW delegate with IAW alternate Lea Börgerding were elected to the EWL board (Lea as alternate). We also held a meeting with Dr. Jocelynne A. Scott who for IAW was working in the EWL observatory on Violence Against Women since years. After Congress Arina, Lea and I reached out to Leonie Valerie Schmid in IAW for her nomination in the SRHR task force of EWL. She was accepted and since is working in this task force which has now under its ToRs in its last year of 2022-2023 to work on the focus of free and safe abortion rights and reality in the EU.

In EWL much of our capacity next to our usual work was absorbed by counteracting the growing influence of the Anti-Gender & Anti-Democracy movement. The Covid-19 pandemic which had forced us to switch all work to only online meetings had opened opportunities for such non-factual and ideological driven and manipulative forces to take ground in decision making. By strong awareness rising, tied networking we finally had managed since mid 2021 to minimize that influence and repair the damage done internally with it. Than later we realized that this had happened to other NGOs also and even to Members of the EU Parliament and everywhere in the international fora. Now, in 2022 we can see the success and EWL is strong again.

WORKING GROUPS & Activities 2021/2022

In the Working Group on Feminist Economy
• I had the chance to comment in April and in autumn on the European Parliament’s proposal on the PAY TRANSPARENCY DIRECTIVE which was finally adopted on April 5, 2022 by the European Parliament (EP) by 403 votes in favour, 166 against and 58 abstentions to enter into negotiations with EU governments on a Commission proposal for a Pay Transparency Directive. We joined several meetings and dialogues on this. Still, working women in the EU earn on average 13% less than men when doing the same job which impacts a grave pension gap of women. The directives main achievements are:
  - Companies to be obliged to report on gender pay gap
  - Pay secrecy in work contracts to be prohibited
- Gender action plan to be developed when pay gap is higher than 2.5%
- EU companies with at least 50 employees should be fully and be required to disclose information to make it easy to compare salaries and expose any existing gender pay gap in their organisation. Tools to assess and compare pay levels should be based on gender-neutral criteria and include gender-neutral job evaluation and classification systems.
- It will prohibit the pay secrecy and allow workers and workers’ representatives to have the right to receive clear and complete information on individual and average pay levels, broken down by gender.
- To shift of burden of proof on pay-related issues. In cases where a worker feels that the principle of equal pay has not been applied and takes the case to court, national legislation should oblige the employer to prove that there has been no discrimination.

On March 17, 2022, the EMPL and FEMM Committees jointly adopted the report on the proposed directive and voted in favor of opening inter-institutional negotiations. After the announcement in plenary, a vote in plenary on the decision was nevertheless requested on March 23, 2022. On April 5, 2022, the Parliament voted and confirmed the Committees’ negotiating mandate for the proposal regarding informal trilogue negotiations with the Council. Later member states will have 2 years time to implement the directive into national law. After eight years the EU Commission will evaluate the result.

- In 2021 as the EWL representative I participated in a few consultative meetings of the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) on Gender Responsive Public Procurement, an approach which supplements Gender Budgeting and which was launched in 2022 by EIGE.
- In this working group's sub-group on Gender Budgeting, we were working intensively in 2021 on the finalization of our Gender Budgeting tool which was launched on June 22, 2021 and which you can use frequently on genderbudgeting.eu. We held several Training sessions online for various targeted groups as i.e. April for European Foundations on Gender Budgeting (GB). In 2021 the EU COURT OF AUDITORS stated their interest in it. This was the breakthrough next the will of the EU Commission since 2019 to implemented it. In February 2022 I was invited to speak before the EP’s Committee on Budget and Finances to comment the new GB implementation approach of the EU Commission’s GD Budget. It than was announced that the EU Commission will practice GB from 1.1. 2023 on. On request I can held a Webinar training on GB for IAW members.
- In 2023 EWL will continue to work on GB, now with a focus on concrete steering finances for to combat Violence against Women and Girls and for women’s NGOs projects for VAWG survivors.
- In 2021 in this working group and with the gender budgeting experts we discussed our analysis of the Multi Annual financial Framework (MFF), the "Care Deal" which we unfortunately found out was in 98% providing funds which mainly men were beneficiaries. As more in late 2021 and 2022 we urged the EU to improve in its new 2022 EU CARE STRATEGY which we are currently discussing we see better results and had welcomed especially the provisions on long time care and care givers.
- In 2021 and 2022 the Working group on Feminist Economics worked on a follow up publication of the Purple Pact. It shall be tabled in 2023. I am again co-author in their thematic hubs.

In February 2021 an alarming letter of the National Council of WOMEN IN UKRAINE was directed to the German Women’s Council (DFR) warning that The Russian Federation will attack Ukraine since the Minsk agreement was failing and ignored. The NCWU asked to support Ukrainian women. I decided to bring this before the EWL and forwarded the request to hold an EWL and NCWU Webinar to listen to Ukraine women as to how we can support them for peace as an Emergency motion before the GA in June 2021. It was adopted. I had organised preparatory meetings. Unfortunately, the realization of the Webinar took time. It finally took place too late March 3rd 2022, when the war against Ukraine had started: we lean, we must be faster. The result was a series of
letters to EU and UN entities (EP, EU-Commission, EU-Commissioner Borell, UNGA, UNSCR, UN WOMEN) to support Ukrainian women, to included them in all peace negotiation tables (see UNSCR 1325 ff.) and act for immediate cease fire and peace. In June 2022 our work on this had resulted in the accepted status of Ukraine and Moldova as EU accession candidate status and we as EWL adopted in the GA in June an second Emergency motion on Ukraine, now for to call on Ukrainian women NGOs to create a national women’s coordination platform to become member of EWL. Same for Moldavian women.

CSW by EWL - Mutual response on Turkey’s withdraw from ISTANBUL CONVENTION

The CSW65 and CSW66 for EWL members resulted in two briefings by the EU-Commission and the EWL became as having been already part of the European Coalition against Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) became PART OF THE NEW UN-COALITION AGAINST VAWG which was established in the CSW Generation Equality sessions in Mexico and Paris. A grave shock was the withdraw of Turkey from the Istanbul Convention in March 2021. From that moment Turkish women and girls had no more protection against VAWG. The Turkish Women’s Coordination in the EWL with our IAW support by my participation in quickly built response group in support resulted in the alliance called #UNITED4IstanbulConvention which was recognised by the EU-Commission in Paris and tried to raise support to convince Turkey to return to the Convention and prove legally that this act was unlawful. Turkish women are looking ahead with hope for change by the elections in 2023. Another outcome of our EWL work was that we intensified the pressure for a EUROPEAN UNIONS directive against gender based sexualized Violence against Women and Girls which we in 2022 welcomed as a new standard of the EU and which echoes the Istanbul Convention as an obligation for all EU member states and accession candidates as a part or the legal EU-Acquis.

Arina Angerman, later Lea Börgerding and me participated intensively in the internal development of the FUTURE EWL STRATEGY which was adopted at the GA June 2022. At the GA in June 2022 EWL decide to have a Statues Review Committee in which I work now. It was necessary because of changes and requirements by the Belgium law and the will of the EWL members to also improve on EWL rules and values.

In September I nominated Lea Börgerding (IAW alternate for EWL) for THE EWL OBSERVATORY ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS. These days the board members at the moment are voting on her and 11 other new members. I hope, Lea will follow Dr. Jocelynne A. Scott in this function by being confirmed by the current vote. With Jocelynne we will have a hand over meeting soon.

In 2022 I will try to improve our contacts to the Board members of our IAW member organisation (associates/affiliates) who are of EU member states. I like to set up IAW EU regional exchange meetings. So fare when Arina or I reach out to them we only got five or eight of responses if so out of seventeen organisations. I guess, the option of zoom meetings will make it easier to meet.

PLEASE, IN CASE YOU ARE AN IAW AFFILIATE OR ASSOCIATE FORM THE EU region: Forward your contact person’s email who is willing to serve for exchange with me on EWL issues to me: marion.boeker@gmx.de.
EWL position to be filled by IAW European member - Women in Politics

IF YOU ARE INTERSTED to follow ARINA in this permanent EWL working group, contact me: marion.boeker@gmx.de

Upcoming there will be a Webinar beginning 2023 on the Nordic pension models which will be open to all board members and members of members: I will circulate for your participation in IAW as soon as it will be announced.

As for the last two years I thank Arina Angerman very much for her openness and help to led me grow into the board members position as her former alternate, and for all her work done. And I thanks Dr. Jocelyne A. Scott for her long term work in the OBSERVATORY VAWG and also Lea Börgerding to be willing to serve optionally in future as an experienced and passionate researcher in it. Finally, I thank Leonie V. Schmit for her slipping ad hoc into the task force on SRHR, knowing it was a hard start but that she will have now an important contribution to make on our all free, self-determined and safe abortion (rights). We as a group have to thank all IAW members and its Board for having nominated us to work in the EWL to make EUROPE a FEMINIST CARING region.
UNESCO Team Report – 2022

This year 2022, thanks to the money of the UNESCO “Programme de Participation”, we are restarting to send trainees to the 2IE Institute in Ouagadougou so that they can be taught how to find water points and how to take care of pumps and wells. The group was meant to go to Ouagadougou in the February-march period but as the money was delayed, sending the trainees will only be by the end of the year since the date was changed, and as some of the trainees were no longer free at those new dates. it became necessary to find new trainees.

Now meetings at UNESCO becoming possible again, yet with half in presence and half on zoom, we followed a lot of zooms. Here are some examples:

As usual, there were the three weeks of the General Conference and the meetings of the Non- Governmental Partners, where the new NGO partners are examined. This year they corrected the work done by the NGOs concerning the NGO-UNESCO partnerships.

As we had followed the work of the “Road to Dakar” Forum, we participated to its follow-up. There Monique was able to talk to the President of the forum about the IAW project to send women to the 2IE Institute in Ouagadougou.

Formation of a working group to work on the strengthening of the cooperation with the UNESCO National Commissions, to establish beneficiary recommendations to the National Commission as well as to the NGOs in partnership with UNESCO.

The French National Commissions for UNESCO, In partnership with the “Femmes du Monde” Association, invited Mrs Nicole Ameline, the President of CEDAW, to speak about France at UNESCO.

IAW participated in September to the open session of the joint public meeting of the intergovernmental committee of UNESCO Bioethics Committee (IGBC) and the extraordinary session of the World commission and economy of UNESCO on the Ethics of scientific knowledge (COMEST) for the launching of two important reports one on the Ethic of Internet of things especially artificial intelligence, second on Ethics of Land use in relating to Climate change. We also participated at the SUMMIT on transforming Education, and following requests for comments, we made them with sister associations.

An international day of the girl was held at UNESCO this October. Very important testimonies were heard then.

We are starting again our work to prepare a “Day of the Girl” for a forum to be held in 2024.

UNESCO invited us, (in presence), to the movie premiere “where is Anne Frank? ” in the presence of its director Ary Folman. Mrs Azoulay, Director of UNESCO, in her speech said that the work of Anne Frank is part of our common history, and that UNESCO was created just after the second world war to promote peace. This young girl, a writer, she added, has her whole place here. Thanks to what she wrote, we can represent the crime against humanity, which engages all of humanity.
And that’s why, Monique, who is also Honorary President of the Movement for Peace and Against Terrorism participated in the demonstrations of the commemoration of the murder of the teacher Samuel Paty, a history-geography teacher of a middle school of the Paris region. This teacher was trying to train his students to live together.

For the day of Peace, NGOs organized a forum that was held in Spain. Many countries presented choir groups.

As a follow up to the Day of Peace in Tunis, whose theme was drones and robots, a book will be published thanks to all our contributions.

We are going to participate in the 13th International forum in official partnership with UNESCO, which will be held in Ottawa in Canada. Its theme will be: “Mobilizing NGOs for the international decade of indigenous languages and the United Nations Ocean Decade”. “We are all concerned by the ocean which holds the key to an equitable and sustainable planet”.

This year the International Conference of NGOs will be held from December 14 to December 16. Its theme being “Break the barriers – What role for Civil Society organizations, towards a sustainable future?”. 

Everything done by UNESCO is sent to the President to be spread, but we rarely get answers from IAW NGOs. UNESCO gives a lot of prices, but our association doesn’t take advantage of this.

Monique Bouaziz, Renée Gérard et Danielle Levy
Compte Rendu du Team UNESCO

Cette année avec la reprise de l’UNESCO et grâce à l’argent de leur Programme de Participation, nous redémarrons l’envoi de stagiaires à l’institut 2 IE de Ouagadougou pour y apprendre les techniques de recherche de points d’eau et d’entretien des pompes. Ce groupe devait partir en février-mars 2022 mais vu un retard de l’envoi des fonds, ceci ne se fera qu’en fin d’année car la date a été changée à plusieurs reprises et que certains stagiaires n’étant pas disponibles aux nouvelles dates, il a fallu trouver de nouveaux candidats.

Les réunions de l’UNESCO ont recommencé, moitié en présentiel et moitié en zooms, nous en avons suivi beaucoup dont voici quelques exemples :

Comme d’habitude les 3 semaines de la Conférence Générale ont eu lieu ainsi que la réunion sur les Partenaires Non Gouvernementaux où sont examinées les nouvelles adhésions d’ONG à l’UNESCO. Des corrections au travail accompli par les ONG sur le Partenariat UNESCO-ONG ont été faites.


Formation d’un groupe de travail pour le renforcement de la coopération avec les commissions nationales UNESCO pour établir des recommandations au bénéfice à la fois des Commissions Nationales et des O.N.G. en partenariat officiel avec l’UNESCO.

La Commission Nationale française pour l’UNESCO en partenariat avec l’association Femme Monde a invité Madame Nicole Ameline présidente de la CEDEF pour parler de la France à l’Unesco.

En septembre IAW a participé à la session publique conjointe du BIC et de la COMEST pour le lancement de ses deux rapports très importants sur le Principe de Protection des Futures Generations et sur les questions liées à l’Ethique de la neurotechnology ainsi que l’Ethiquesur l’usage des terres

Nous avons également participé au Forum sur la Transformation de l’Educationet avons suite aux demandes de commentaires nous en avons faits avec des associations soeurs.

Nous recommencions à travailler pour préparer une journée de la fille pour un forum qui se tiendra en 2024. Une journée internationale de la fille s’est tenue à l’Unesco ce mois d’octobre. On y a entendu des témoignages très importants.

L’Unesco nous a invitées à la première du film « où est. Anne Frank » en présence de son metteur en scène Ary Folman. Mme Azoulay, directrice de l’Unesco a fait remarquer dans son intervention que l’œuvre d’Anne Frank fait partie de notre histoire commune et que l’UNESCO a été créé pour promouvoir la paix à la suite de la deuxième guerre mondiale.

«Cette jeune fille, écrivaine a sa place tout entière à l’UNESCO. Grâce à ce qu’elle a écrit, on peut se représenter le crime contre l’humanité, ce qui engage l’humanité tout entière.»
Et c’est pourquoi, Monique qui est aussi la présidente d’honneur du Mouvement pour la Paix et Contre le Terrorisme, a participé aux manifestations de la commémoration de l’assassinat du professeur Samuel Patty, professeur d’histoire-géographie dans un collège de la région parisienne. Il essayait de former ses élèves au vivre ensemble.

Lors de la journée de la paix, les O.N.G. ont organisé un forum qui s’est fait en Espagne. Plusieurs pays ont présenté des groupes de chorales.

Suite à la journée de la Paix à Tunis, dont le thème était Drones et Robots, un livre va être édité grâce à tous nos apports.

Nous allons participer au 13ème Forum International des ONG en partenariat officiel avec l’UNESCO qui aura lieu à Ottawa au Canada : Le thème en sera : «mobiliser les O.N.G. pour la décennie internationale des langues autochtones et la décennie de l’océan». «Nous sommes tous concernés par l’océan qui détient la clef d’une planète équitable et durable».

La conférence internationale des O.N.G. aura lieu cette année du 14 au 16 décembre. Son thème sera «Briser les Barrières - Quel rôle pour les organisations de la société civile vers un avenir durable».

Tout ce que nous recevons de l’UNESCO est envoyé à la Présidente pour être dispatché. Mais nous n’avons pas souvent de réponse de la part de nos ONG. Beaucoup de prix sont donnés par l’UNESCO mais notre association n’en profite pas.

Monique Bouaziz, René Gérard, Danielle Lévy
IAW Newsletter

In 2021 the Editorial Group published 7 issues of the IAW Newsletter and in 2022 6 issues including the December Newsletter yet to be published at the time of Congress. The Editorial Group wish to thank the many members, who on a regular basis send reports, news, opinions to the Newsletter. These contributions all support the ambition of the Editors, who wish the Newsletter to be a link among IAW member organisations, international representatives, project managers, board members, commissions etc. In other words, the Newsletter is about IAW and for IAW.

The format of the new IAW newsletter with two subeditors from Africa and Asia has added a new dimension to the coverage and content. Even though countries like Bangladesh still have to participate in sending news pieces and articles, the move is in a positive direction since the committees of these countries have been contacted. Pakistan did in fact contribute to the issue dedicated to SE Asia which appeared in July. The regional focus has brought news items from those areas into the spotlight and the inclusion of the Francophone members too has brought in new unity to the IAW body.

I, Lene Pind, took over as editor of the Newsletter from Joke Sebus in 2014. It is time now that the Newsletter has a new editor. It is time to reconsider and rethink the different IAW platforms. A new editor will help that process.

Working as the editor of the Newsletter has given me much pleasure and joy and contact with many members. Thank you for your cooperation.

Anjana Basu
Soudad Houssein
Lene Pind

Website

There has been a lot of movement on the site over the last two years. Content has been added, the positioning within the site has partially changed. This was done to provide a better overview, movement on the site is also good in terms of Google ranking.
60 articles were published in the News (and IAW around the world) section, so on average an article is published every 2 weeks.
"IAW's Commissions", "IAW at the UN", "Commission on the Status of Women" got new navigation tabs because we felt they were too important to be buried somewhere in the depths of the navigation. These tabs are hungry for new optimized content. We ask our esteemed colleagues who are in relevant positions to provide us with meaningful content.
Our associates and affiliates are cordially requested to send us short reports with 2-3 pictures of their activities, which we will then publish - possibly edited - on our website.
The French website has also undergone slight changes but is not exactly the same as the English site.
The development of the website is not yet complete, but that is precisely the nature of the digital presence, that changes are possible constantly and with relatively little effort.
Social Media
Since the last Congress, our presence in social media has really picked up speed. We have 5 channels, 4 of which are active. We publish on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter and Instagram.

Pinterest is currently very passive because our pool of own photographs is not very extensive. This may develop differently in the future.

Our Instagram account exists since July 2019 without posts until end of May 2021. We post mainly stories; these are short statements which are visible for 24h and then disappear. We posted 160 stories on 90 days. As with Pinterest, we lack photos for more permanent content, or the copyrights are not yet entirely clear. That still needs to be worked on. Our community counts 100 followers.

On Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter we post/tweet our own IAW content and share/retweet content from our members, associates and affiliates, usually with accompanying comments. We also spread the important information of the UN, UN Women, UNFPA and other opinion leaders.

Here are some figures for the different social media:
Although our Twitter account has been active since September 2013, we tweeted for the first time in May 2021. Since then, we have tweeted 301 times, generating 47219 impressions, attracting 154 new followers (as of October 18th, 2022 a total of 1003 followers), we have been mentioned 844 times and have recorded over 16600 profile visits. The challenge is in providing as much information that uses no more than fits in 280 characters and still remains understandable. IAW-Facebook Page was created in October 2013, and has been active since then. The page has 4236 likes, almost 70% here of are women, more than half of these are in the age range 25-44 years. We have almost 5000 followers.

Regarding our posts: The available figures are stated in the table and compare the activities before and after the change of guards.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time-Range</th>
<th>Reach</th>
<th>Likes/reaction</th>
<th>Link clicks</th>
<th>Comments</th>
<th>Shares</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09/19-04/21 (20 Months)</td>
<td>8996</td>
<td>1136</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05/21-10/22 (18 Months)</td>
<td>26292</td>
<td>984</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We definitely improved the reach and the interest in more information (link clicks). We will see whether the likes/reactions and shares can still be caught up in the 2 difference months. At LinkedIn we have 423 followers and 292 connections; within the last 90 days we had 138 profile views. Almost 200 posts and additional comments and reactions have resulted from activities since seriously working on this account.

In summary, we would like to say that our public relations work serves to keep our members and interested parties informed. The quality of our content may be enhanced with the input of our members, both by submitting reports and by reacting to our contributions. The more likes or comments we receive, the better is our reach and is conducive to our common goal: The world should become aware that women all over the world are disadvantaged, and that eradicating this disadvantage is not just a benefit for women, but also for the whole earth with all residents.

Sanja JeraJ
International Women’s News
The third year of the pandemic coupled with disasters arising out of increased global warming have had a profound effect on so many people around the world with, as always, women and children bearing the greatest burdens. Despite millions of voices screaming out against violence, the horrors continue in too many parts of the world such as Syria and Myanmar and, this year, we’re seeing the blatant and indiscriminate use of live ammunition used by Russia against the Ukrainian people, their homes and their towns and in Iran against young protestors.
IWNews strives to bring you uplifting stories, inspired by IAW members and supported by an international collection of mostly good news in many different spheres. The Editorial Team will continue doing this and would really welcome a lot more comments from you, our readers – what do you enjoy? what would you like to read about? And we’re not scared of criticism! Please send us suggestions for 2023 – is there something happening in your country/region that could be developed into an article?

Priscilla Todd, Lea Börgerding, Jessica Orban and Holly Herbert
We wish that members would pay their membership fees when they receive the first invoice. This would make our lives so much easier!

Work of the IAW Membership Secretary:
- Is responsible for the database
- Is responsible for the info about members in MailChimp
- GDPR
- Correspondence with national collectors
- Invoicing members
- All kinds of exchange of information in IAW

Members’ email addresses
Members’ lists to keep updated:

1. **Database by**
   a. Affiliates
   b. Associates
   c. Individual members
   d. Important contacts

2. **MailChimp by**
   a. Affiliates
   b. Associates
   c. Individual members
   d. Extended board
   e. Elected board
   f. Important contacts
   g. New members
   h. Non-members
   i. Tags must be updated regularly

3. **When a new member joins, her info must be added to**
   a. Database
   b. MailChimp and given a tag (group)

4. **Lists must be checked against**
   a. Lists of Secretary General
   b. IAW President
   c. Other lists. It is a never-ending process
Proposal:

Money must be set aside in the budget for the next triennium to improve the database, so that invoices are sent out automatically/ in bulks, and to buy software that may make all this work easier (automatic transfer of mailing lists from one source to the most important other lists.)

Automatic invoicing will never be enough. The personal touch is important, but some of this work must be made easier.

The money set aside in the budget should be considered to be as an investment, and maybe it cannot be covered by our income over the three years.

Lene Pind & Holly Herbert

October 2022
IAW COMMISSION ON WOMEN AND THE ECONOMY

QUESTIONNAIRE OF THE SURVEY ON CARE POLICIES IN DIFFERENT COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD WHERE WE HAVE MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS OF IAW

November 2022

Report by Joanna Manganara

Head of the Commission on Women and the Economy
Honorary President of IAW

Care Economy and the Challenges facing our Century

In the 21st century an increasingly mobile and interconnected world has not succeeded to deal with the many challenges, that this century is facing like the pandemic which has demonstrated our collective failure to come together and make joint decisions for the common benefit.

There is a need for leaders and people to show more unity and efforts to deal with challenges.

The big question to answer is why this is not happening. One reason is that multilateral institutions have proved weak and L’Observatoire Marocain des Droits des Femmes (OMDF)

Individual powers have always exerted a heavy influence in the UN. The four major functions of the UN are not working well:

a) its development system has become the child of donors,
b) its peace operations are absent in the main theaters of conflicts,
c) human rights abuses are becoming more widespread,
d) only the UN’s humanitarian relief operations are showing rapid growth.

The COVID-1 Pandemic has highlighted a new situation, which has to do with the very negative impact it has had on women, mainly due to the gender division of labor in the unpaid care sectors.
Care work can be paid or unpaid. What is the definition of unpaid care work? Unpaid care and domestic work refers to non-remunerated activities performed within the household for its maintenance and well-being.

Women around the world spend more time on unpaid care and domestic work irrespective of the countries level of development, income and sociocultural factors. Why is it so? They are confronted with traditional norms in the roles and responsibilities within the household. What is the definition of care work more generally? Care work is defined broadly as work and relationships that are necessary for the health, welfare, maintenance and protection of people, women and men, young, old, able bodied, disabled and frail.

Care is a human right. It is at the same time a right that people should have access to, but also the act of caring is a key function for the reproduction of society.

Women’s unequal share of unpaid care and domestic work is an important barrier to their economic empowerment and well-being. What should be done? We should recognize, reduce and redistribute unpaid care and domestic work which can reduce women’s care burden by giving more time to them to pursue employment, decent work, education, membership and leadership opportunities and other life choices.

These policies have to do with public services that can help alleviate women’s time spent on unpaid care activities as well as help generate employment opportunities for them. This has not to do with policies on infrastructure which is often considered to be gender neutral with women’s needs not often being taken into account all of which increase the time spent on domestic tasks. The same is the case with the design of transport facilities that do not take into account the needs of women and with social protection policies which have minimal positive impacts in reducing women’s time poverty. The design of social protection programs is often gender-neutral reinforcing patriarchal structures and based on gender stereotypes of women as the primary caregivers.

Finally, we should adopt public policies to promote shared responsibility within the household and the family. Transforming household roles can also be an opportunity to challenge discriminatory social norms by increasing women’s agency in particular concerning gender violence within the family. We should try to adopt policies with a focus on challenging social norms that have to do with the traditional roles of women which are based on gender stereotypes.
According to ILO, the care economy is growing as the demand for child care and care for the elderly is increasing in all regions. It will thus create a great number of jobs. However, care work across the world remains characterized by a void of benefit protections, low wages, non-compensation and exposure to physical, mental and in some cases sexual harm.

It is clear that new solutions to care are needed on two fronts: In regard to the nature and provision of care policies and services and the terms and conditions of care.

Why is it so? The systems and structures of our world based on millennia of male domination are holding women back in all areas. In what way has the division of labor in the unpaid care work sector helped to further marginalize women?

Feminist economists have given the answer. According to them, power relations are driving social and economic dynamics. For example, in the world of work power relations articulate themselves in the form of low payment of women, in the form of gender pay gaps etc. What does this mean? It means that the amount of time devoted to unpaid care work is negatively correlated with female labor force participation.

The same is the case with quality of employment. The unequal time spent by women in unpaid care work increases the probability that they will be engaged in part-time or in vulnerable employment. Feminist economists emphasize that the described patterns heavily depend on institutional frameworks: For example, social role models of families and women are socially negotiated rather than a result of market processes, as classical economists believe.

What should be done to build this world better? Unpaid care and domestic work sustain families and communities on a day-to-day basis. Yet unpaid care work remains invisible, undervalued, neglected in economic, social, policy-making and its distribution is grossly unbalanced.

Time has come to develop counter strategies from a feminist perspective. Economies are not gender neutral and women’s experiences should be at the center of economic analysis. We need to redefine our economy. We need new concepts like care economy and reproductive economy. We should consider both these concepts as integral parts of the economy. The first makes society function. The second is the key to the continuation of the social order.
We should also correct how we measure progress and prosperity. GDP fails to account for the incalculable social and environmental damage that may be caused by the pursuit of profit.

We should therefore all work for a feminist economic model that is not solely based on economic growth which reproduces gender inequalities, but one that prioritizes people over profits.

Governments must also support women’s active participation in leadership and decision-making processes in the Covid-19 response and collect sex disaggregated data to ensure that the gender differentiated impact of the Pandemic is recognized and effectively addressed.

What we have seen in the Covid crisis once more is the difficulty of global governance. We have seen a lack of cooperation between governments, in terms of solidarity. The developing markets have received zero support from the developed ones.

Apart gender inequality, the coronavirus pandemic has exacerbated inequalities in general and thrown capitalism into question. The reason is the lack of a good representation of citizens on the ground.

Apart gender inequality, the coronavirus pandemic has exacerbated inequalities in general and thrown capitalism into question. The reason is the lack of a good representation of citizens on the ground.

Citizens are looking for safe spaces to have their voices heard or where they themselves count.

So, politicians and leaders know what they have to do. They have to develop on human dignity, to which almost everybody aspires.

One of the greatest threats to democracy actually has to do with plutocracy that is with the amount of money you have, which determines the outcome you have in society.

So, Democracy is no longer a government of the people, by the people, for the people.

We have to build a more inclusive and sustainable economy. We can take as an example the Pandemic. The only way to end it is to make the COVID-19 vaccines available for free to every person in the world.

The private sector has proved incapable of responding alone to the global health challenges, while governments have demonstrated that they can play an important role.

The image that markets can solve all problems has been undermined. What we need is a stronger public sector.
Democracy is not a static concept but an ever-changing concept of life. One that can help democratic institutions adapt to a changing environment. For Democracy to survive it should make a call to improve the ways of governments to respond to the needs of their citizens and reduce uncertainty.

COMMISSION ON WOMEN AND THE ECONOMY

SURVEY ON CARE POLICIES IN ALL COUNTRIES WHERE WE HAVE MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

The IAW Commission on Women and the Economy has been working for a long time on the effects of the economic crisis on women and the impact of patriarchal structures on women’s economic empowerment.

During 2022 I worked on a questionnaire which is the basis of the IAW survey in care policies. The questionnaire has 30 questions. Roshan Ara from Kashmir, who is a member of the Commission Women and the Economy, made some comments to this questionnaire, which is divided in 5 parts.

QUESTIONNAIRE ON CARE POLICIES

Part I: Value of unpaid care and domestic work and its contribution to the national economy.

Part II: Policies that respect the fundamental rights of care users, care givers and promote social inclusion and quality of life for all.

Part III: Policies for quality care services.

Part IV: Decent working conditions and quality employment in care.

Part V: Policies to achieve gender equality.

For the time being, I am trying to find organizations willing to collaborate and answer the questions of the questionnaire.
Report of the Peace Commission
Heide Schütz

Thanks to the technical advantages of Zoom events the IAW Peace Commission was able to meet regularly once a month except for holiday breaks. In addition, extra meetings took place by the subgroups that were installed from time to time to prepare webinars, resolutions etc. The technical backing was given by Marion Boeker. Without her functioning as administrator the Commission would have had serious problems. We are very grateful for her support.

The work of the IAW PC was very lively in many ways. It served as a platform for exchange of peace activities and conflict experiences of its members and reports of interesting national or international conferences, webinars etc. It welcomed new members and started a close cooperation with the Cyprian Women’s Organization “Hand Across the Divide” (HAD), which has been active since the division of the island into a Greek and a Turkish part. There was also one joint meeting with the convener of the Human Rights Commission, Lyda Versteegen, on the topic of peace as a Human Right. Joint meetings with The Commission on Climate Change and the Commission on Education can hopefully be organized in the near future on the ground of overlapping topics.

Two IAW parallel events were organized for the CSW 66:

- CLIMATE CHANGE: WOMEN’S WISDOM VS MILITARY CONTRIBUTION TO DISASTER
- WOMEN, PEACE & CLIMATE CHANGE IN A ‘DIVIDED’ CYPRUS

Both are available on the IAW website and on YouTube. (English language)

The international speakers, among them Rosy Weiss and Anne Pelargie (IAW) showed excellent expertise and the Q&A sections were also very interesting. Participation was very good. Therefore, we consider these two webinars a real highlight which can be built upon. Lessons learnt: future webinars should offer a time slot of two hours minimum. A digital follow-up with participants was envisioned but could not be organized so far because of other responsibilities.

The Peace Commission also prepared three resolutions for the IAW Congress and is planning a webinar with the Egyptian NGO MAAT (Development, Peace and Human Rights) during COP 28 on the contribution of standing armies and warfare to global warming by extremely high emissions of CO² and other dangerous gas which since the Kyoto protocol has never been included in the official national data on relevant emissions for climate change.

There is no news to be reported concerning the IAW signatory status (Peace Commission) of the Global Compact on WPS-HA (Women, Peace and Security and Humanitarian Action) initiated by Generation Equality and UN Women. The global monitoring project on the implementation of UNRES 1325 needs a lot of crucial preparations before the partners can fully step in, e.g. the monitoring criteria are not yet decided upon but they are being worked out soon by a UN Women team.

The Peace Commission also got involved in the IAW statement after the beginning of the Russian-Ukrainian War and in the IAW press release on September 21, the UN International Day of Peace.
IAW Congress Report Health Commission
Gudrun Haupter 10. November 2022

Consistent with the current IAW Program of Action my main activity has been writing „Letters“ to the 10 members of the Health Commission, on issues of Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights. Am now at the 67th Letter. Most of them are written in English with a Resumé in French.

The letters have 3 Sections, A,B,C. Sections A) and B) deal with issues pertaining to Sexual and Reproductive Health, primarily with Abortion. Sometimes the letters had a photo to illustrate the contents.

The letters are being mailed to 10 recipients; all are members of the IAW. I asked for comments on the Letters because I think there is always room for improvement. However, the comments were a short praise for the work I was doing.

The past letters had also a section dealing with the WHO-Convention on Tobacco. Since 2017 when IAW decided to have a project on Menstruation, section C) has news on the IAW project in Developing Countries „Water and Pads for Schoolgirls – Empowerment for Life“. Read more in Ursula Nakamura’s Congress Report on the IAW Project. We both are the Project Coordinators, but Ursula does most of the work related to the very successful IAW Project.

For me this Congress Report is also the opportunity to recall the time when WHO, the World Health Organization in Geneva, did still accredit international NGOs for its Annual General Assembly G.A. in May. IAW was then an NGO with Working Relations as Non-State Actor, NSA to WHO.

The facts I report are from a file of 2004. Each year I travelled to Geneva by train and rented a room close to the WHO building. I had to queue outside the building and got the entry badge necessary to attend the General Assembly and working group sessions. Inside the daily programme was available, and I had to decide where to go. NGO representatives sat in 3 rows with a separate entry, or on a balcony in several rows. The representatives of the countries had seats with name plates in the hall, with chairs for their proxies. The majorities of the representatives were male. Functioning microphones were very important. There was simultaneous translation into English and French, and you could switch to the language of the speaker. Representatives of accredited NGOs were allowed to make statements but had to follow rules such as register with a WHO employee. When you were called up later in the large hall, you lifted your hand to show you were in the room, then you walked to a table in the back of the hall and made your statement. Three times I spoke on behalf of IAW. The agenda was long, the General Assembly lasted several days.

How did IAW get the status of working relations with WHO? IAW-member Mala Pal lived in Geneva, with her husband Dr. Pal. Mala Pal was a member of IAW, her husband worked at...
WHO. Dr. Pal helped me to fill in the form indicating that our organization wanted to have a member accredited. It worked.

During one of the 2 Congresses in New Delhi, Mala offered me a room in their house. She also organized a taxi which took me at 5.30 in the morning to Delhi Airport.

At a General Assembly of WHO (I don’t recall the year but it was long ago) I got to know Soon-Young Yoon in the hall where you could spend the breaks walking around. She was with her country’s representative, the Minister of Health of South-Korea. I had a short talk with Soon-Young and have been in touch sporadically with her ever since. She is a recipient of my „Letters to the Commission“ and often mails a short comment. So does Ursula Nakamura.

I cannot close my Commission Report without saying that WHO has reduced the number of International NGOs with a NSA (Non-state accreditation a few years ago. Ursula Nakamura and Seema Uplekar, a native Indian, the IAW representatives at WHO, had several appointments at WHO with the aim to keep IAW as an organization with the NSA status.

When being asked within the periodical reviews one now had to present 3 NGO projects closely connected with health, all of them organized and coordinated on the global level by the NGO. There was also a high interest for projects in partnership with WHO. During the following meetings it turned out that WHO highly respected the IAW “Water and Pads” project, but IAW could not meet the demand of two more multinational health projects. Therefore, the final decision in January 2020 was definitely negative.

Ursula will continue to work as one of the coordinators of the IAW project.

I hope to be re-elected as the Health Convener of the IAW. I will work for the Health Commission as best as I can.

Gudrun Haupter
The Water and Pads Project is gaining momentum!

2021
While the previous year was still overshadowed by the consequences of the covid epidemic, most IAW organisations were now able to fully commit to the WP project again. Not only did our colleagues re-establish their contacts with familiar schools, but in autumn 2021 they even started WP activities in new schools.

This time, the two organisations RENATA and CEFAP ventured into the north of Cameroon, the region that is repeatedly threatened by attacks from aggressive gangs of neighbouring Nigeria. They both were addressing primarily students from French- and English-speaking secondary schools.

RENATA reached out to Bikok High School in the Mefou Akono District, and CEFAP went to the Ngaoundere and Beka Hosséré High Schools, all in the North of Cameroon

For the first time the IAW organisation LA COLOMBE of Togo could participate. Thérèse Akakpo the coordinator chose the Le Guide School Complex at Vogan, situated in a very poor area near Lomé the capital.

A midwife from the nearby public hospital was also present. As an expert, she could perfectly well explain the female cycle to the students.

Towards the end of the year Anne Yotchou from CEFAP quite spontaneously could introduce the WP project to internally displaced children in the Lake Yaoundé public school.

International Women's News in Focus of the Water and Pads Project!
What an opportunity! Priscilla Todd and her team dedicated an entire issue of International Women's News to the topic of "Period Poverty"!
The WP project is mainly concerned with schoolgirls in precarious situations in Africa and Asia, but it is not only in these countries that women’s menstrual bleeding is a problem of ignorance and shame, it is a worldwide problem. Holly Herbert from IAW Australia demonstrated this perfectly in her editorial. After a general part, where we were able to describe the whole development of the project since 2017, Anne Yotchou’s contribution gave an insight into the situation in Cameroon. In the meantime we have widely and successfully disseminated this IWN issue.

2022
Whereas in 2021 WP activities were still postponed due to Corona, it was now possible to plan without any problems. In fact, it was often the schools that had already gained good results of the WP project that now approached the IAW coordinators and asked them to visit their institutions once again.

The commitment of the IAW organisations during the pandemic was also well known in these places because the coordinators had explained the Covid-prevention rules and even brought disinfectants to the local population.

The RENATA team with its new coordinator Catherine Aba Fouda again travelled to the north of Cameroon in the spring and carried out its WP activities at Bikok High School and Kongola Primary School.
In March Edah Gondwe together with Zambia Alliance of Women ZAW also reached out again to Chibwe Secondary School. The students said their thanks by videos.
Unfortunately, Anuarite Siirewabo, coordinator of SOFEDEC, could no longer conduct the WP activities in Bunyakiri, because that area is constantly threatened by deadly gang-attacks. Therefore, A. Siirewabo contacted Mapendo Primary and Secondary School situated in a poor neighbourhood of Bukavu City. The schoolgirls participated enthusiastically, and the teachers already wanted to fix right away the WP project for the following year.

Just before the summer break, Rita Marque and her team of Women Comfort Corner WCCF Zimbabwe organised again a WP event at Epworth High School. In addition, they went also to some new schools, the Muguta Secondary School and the Domboramwari High School. A special challenge was the visit to the St Giles Special School, one of the few institutions suitable for girls with disabilities.

In this institution besides of all other difficulties, the monthly period poses additional problems to the girls. Together with the school authorities, WCCF is trying to remove this taboo.

In September ZAW worked for the first time together with the Djikomo School in Zambia. More WP activities are planned for the 4th quarter: CEFAP in Cameroon, RUWON in Nepal, and possibly BAWUFAG ditto in Cameroon plus SANDEPANI in India.

Present situation and future
How is it possible that now 10 IAW organisations can implement the WP project in a total of around 20 schools?
On the one hand, we owe this to the unbelievably great commitment of our IAW colleagues on the ground. They know the respective situation very well. For them it is very important that the young generation has a good knowledge of the menstrual cycle.
On the other hand, we owe this to a generous donation by a Swiss foundation, which enables us a minimal planning security for 3 years.

Nevertheless, the WP Project's financial situation is very tight. But at least now the wish of some IAW colleagues to work together with new schools could be partly fulfilled. As always, every IAW organisation has got to keep strictly to the capped annual budget for its WP events. This however is very scarce.

Until now, our menstrual-health booklets for the schoolgirls have been printed in Switzerland and sent by post to the respective IAW coordinators, which is very time-consuming. Wouldn't it be more efficient and sustainable if the brochures could be printed locally?
We were therefore very pleased that Pascale Vallée from France was joining our team in spring 2022. As a project manager, she is an expert. Since then, she has worked with in the working group “booklets” consisting of Anne Yotchou from Cameroon, Heidi Bodmer from Switzerland and me. However, we soon realised that this goal is hardly achievable. On the one hand, printing costs are higher than expected in most countries, and on the other hand, there are huge problems with transport. In addition, since the pandemic and the Ukraine war the conditions in general have become more difficult.

Therefore, we now were concentrating on another important item, the update of the flyer. In fact, now there are new chances for getting donations be it at private parties, at church reunions or whatever group-gatherings. We hope that we can widely disseminate it in print and of course virtually.
It was high time to change content of the flyer, because so much had changed since 2019!
Most of all we have now new IAW member organisations taking part in the WP project! The flyer is edited in English, French and German and can be downloaded from the WP website. Like last time Claudia Pauletto again did the graphic design.
For our IAW colleagues in the field it is important to have reusable pads for dissemination at WP events. Some coordinators are even planning to set up or promote locally small enterprises producing reusable hygienic material.

Last but not least in a yearly report one says thanks. My thanks first go to Gudrun Haupter, Co-coordinator of the WP project, who is always with us with her great international experience and good advice.
Mentioned is then Antonia Lavine, the IAW treasurer, who always keeps a close eye on the WP financials.
Our WP project would be unthinkable without Heidi Bodmer, who works very closely with me. Next comes Pascale Vallée, who brought us so much knowledge about project management and the francophone world. She is followed by Anne Yotchou in Cameroon, who does a lot of investigations and always reminds us about the everyday harsh realities in Africa!

Most of all I just can say that the engagement of our IAW colleagues is overwhelming, be it in Cameroon, DR Congo, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Togo, Zambia and Zimbabwe. They are working so much for women’s rights in their countries. Let us hope that they don’t give up. The empowerment of girls is so important!

You can support the WP project by a donation:
Alliance Internationale des Femmes
IBAN : CH96 0900 0000 9182 4969 4
BIC/SWIFT Code: POFICHBEXXX
Intended use: "Water and Pads Project"
Thank you very much in advance!

11.10.2022 Ursula Nakamura Co-Coordinator IAW Water and Pads Project
CFUW ADVOCACY REPORT TO IAW, 2021-2022

The Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) is a non-partisan and self-funded organization with close to 100 Clubs located in every province across Canada. Since its founding in 1919, CFUW has been working to improve the status of women, and to promote human rights, public education, social justice, and peace. CFUW Clubs and the CFUW Charitable Trust award approximately $1 million each year for education to help women pursue post-secondary studies. CFUW holds special consultative status with the United Nations (ECOSOC) and belongs to the Education Committee of the Canadian Sub Commission to UNESCO. CFUW is the largest affiliate of Graduate Women International (GWI) which represents women worldwide and is a member of the International Alliance of Women (IAW).

Advocating for policy changes to improve the lives of women and girls in Canada and globally is fundamental to our work at CFUW. We work with decision makers, like-minded organizations and the public to advance our vision of a more just world. We engage governments – municipal, provincial and federal – through advocacy campaigns on social and economic issues affecting women’s quality of life and career prospects. Individual Clubs and the regional councils work with local educational institutions, women’s shelters, harm and risk reduction organizations and other community groups on specific projects and fund-raising initiatives.

Over the past year, CFUW undertook many advocacy initiatives that relate to IAW’s Action Programme.

Human Rights

- Human Rights for Refugees & Migrant Women and Children:
  - CFUW wrote several letters to our federal government particularly about the Afghan refugee situation.
  - We held a webinar on the “Safe Exit and Settlement in Canada- More Work to do for Afghanistan”.
  - Held an event entitled Walking to Kabul to raise funds and awareness
  - Worked with regional affiliates of Graduate Women International - Mexico and Women Graduate-USA on the issues related to migration

- National CFUW office initiated a social media campaign for International Women’s Day. Many CFUW clubs also held independent events including local campaigns
- CFUW hosted a parallel event called "Mobilize for Impact" at the NGO/CSW virtual forum on March 17, 2021
- We prepared written and oral statements for UNCSW
- A delegation of 19 CFUW members attended UNCSW virtually
- Submitted written statement on the CSW Zero draft conclusions
- Participated in Government of Canada NGO briefings and Civil Society convened briefings
- Participated in UN Women Regional group meetings and actions (supported written statements about Ukraine and Afghanistan)
- An international service project Fundraiser was established for 2022-2023 for the Darakht-e Danesh Online Library, a program of Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan
- CFUW published press releases on:
  - International Women’s Day
  - International Refugee Day
  - International Day of Women and Girls in Science in 2020
  - International Day of Education in 2022
- With the National Council of Women Canada, produced a project commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women

**Walk to Kabul Project**

- The aim of this project was to raise awareness of the perilous significance of the Afghan peace negotiations, to advocate for the inclusion of Afghan women in the peace process, and to support the women of Afghanistan.
- The Stand on the Bridge and the Walk to Kabul event engaged 19 CFUW Clubs across Canada and 621 participants who walked 104,872 kms to Kabul.
- An advocacy component was added to the project in the form of a “postcard” to be mailed to all Members of Parliament.

- Promoted Indigenous Peoples' rights and reconciliation through education opportunities such as courses and speaker series, hosting webinars, and the coordination of a CFUW Club survey of the availability of scholarships for Indigenous women.
- CFUW clubs provided $25,623 in donations to international women’s initiatives.

**Elimination of Violence Against Women**

- In 2022, CFUW collaborated with 14 organizations on the Beijing +25 Working Group documents on Gender Based Violence (GBV) & Economic Justice based on CFUW policy in these areas to highlight Canada’s programmatic and advocacy commitments ahead of the Paris Generation Equality Forum. The 14 were: Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, Canadian Labour Congress, Canadian Women’s Foundation, Centre for Equality Rights in Accommodation, Child Care Now, Council of Canadians with Disabilities, Ending Violence Association of Canada, Feminist Alliance for International Action, Global Women in STEM, Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak / Women of the Métis Nation, National Association of Friendship Centres, National Association of Women and the Law, South Asian Legal Clinic of Ontario, and Oxfam Canada
- In 2021, signed a joint letter stewarded by Women’s Shelters Canada calling on the Federal government for an Intersectional National Action Plan on Violence against Women and Gender Based Violence.
Climate Change
- CFUW presented a parallel event at UNCSW entitled: Youth for Climate Action: Young Women Leading the Way
- With our American and Mexican partners, hosted UNCSW Webinar entitled: Forced out by Climate Change-Proactive Planning in North America

Women in the Economy
- CFUW received a grant of $81,000 from the federal government for pay equity. The project entitled Raising Awareness and Empowering Women through Pay Equity, addressed Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) # 8) and Goal #5
- Through the creation of a workshop series and using SDG #5 & 8, CFUW provided specific and relevant information on pay equity, the gender wage gap, and its consequences for diverse women pursuing post-secondary education
- Organized workshops in salary negotiation, advocacy campaigning and “Train the Trainer” which 977 young diverse women attended
- Prepared five workbooks for the workshops in English and French
- CFUW worked with Child Care Now to advocate for national paid child care. Legislation authorizing paid child care in Canada came into effect last year
- With the Ontario Equal Pay Coalition and the federal Pay Equity Commission, organized a webinar entitled “The Pay Gap and the Gendering of Care Work: Women’s Economic Insecurity amid the COVID-19 Crisis in Canada”

Security
- Attended Women, Peace & Security Network (WPSN) Canada meetings throughout the year as a member; signed a joint letter to government officials on protecting vulnerable Afghans
- Attended the launch of WPSN-Canada 2022 report on Civil Society Voices on Canada’s next Women, Peace and Security National Action Plan
- Currently working with the National Council of Jewish Women on the “Every Woman Treaty”
#WalkToKabul

Walk to Kabul

Canadian Federation of University Women
National Council of Women of Germany (DFR)

Nov 2020 - Oct 2022
Submitted by Marion Boeker, Chair of DFR-Committee for International Affairs

The DFR had limited all activities to home office, virtual video meetings and webinars at the beginning of the 2020 Covid-19 pandemic. With some exceptions of protest taking place in public spaces or with a few in person meetings the DFR is now, in October 2022 still in this mode.

Campaigning for Parity of Women in all Parliaments

The DFR consequently continued campaigning for 50% parity of women in all parliaments. The DFRs Munich section (Verein für Fraueninteressen e.V / Association for Women’s Interests) in 2021 submitted a second complaint to the German Federal Constitutional Court, supported by the Action Alliance under the Umbrella of the National Council of German Women’s Organizations of which DFR is a member. DFR members signed it as co-plaintiffs. The DFR Berlin Land Section followed the discussion about an election parity reform law in the state and federal parliaments closely and provided advocacy to politicians and members of parliaments (see IAW's Action Programme, 7. Democracy) and of the core campaign "50:50" of the European Women’s Lobby (EWL). The campaign caused progress. The debate on a Gender Parity in parliaments since 2022 is a regular item on the agenda of the Commission on Electoral Law Reform of the German Federal Parliament.

2020-2022 CARE WORK as existential must be paid better and up-valued

Under the COIVD-19 crisis the DFR's with other NGOs collaborative focus on CARE WORK gained momentum in Germany and on regional EU level in 2020. Politics as never before realised the high importance and value of care work in all sectors and the fact, that women deliver most services and work, not at all or underpaid and that this is a risk for the society as a whole: CARE WORK IS RELEVANT FOR THE SYSTEM. The EU Green Deal policy was welcomed with high expectations. In 2022 the DFR welcomed the package of the new German government which consist of: a pay-as-you-go pension, an expansion of the skilled labour strategy and more support initiatives for the training market. The DFR had a positive view on the digitalisation of work and society, but calls to ensure that all genders benefit equally from it. Discriminatory algorithms must no longer be used in personnel selection or salary determination. The DFR at Equal Pay Days in April 2021 and 2022 called for Equal pay for work of equal value, flexible working models as a right to work from home after the pandemic, an expansion of childcare in companies, the end of spouse splitting and individual taxation and the promotion of a fair distribution of gainful employment and care work.
DFR project partnership in West Africa- coordinated by Gudrun Haupter

The DFR is still supporting the A.D.F. in Bukina Faso. The main focus of this women's NGO is to overcome FGM/C, family planning by community counselors. The DFR's second partner is the Youth Education Center (CJDA) in Atigba, on the Danyi plateau, in Togo. The focus is on education for economical independency. Meanwhile the projects are connected to the IAW project Water & Pads which Gudrun Haupter had initiated and managed at the beginning. In summer 2022 Julia Schiller, member of the DFR Committee for International Affairs took over as the new partnership coordinator with Gudrun Haupter as her mentor on her side.

Work under the international human rights conventions and legal framework for peace

The DFR took note of the first review process of Germany under the Istanbul Convention in 2020 and now in October 2022 will take part in the German Istanbul Convention Alliance's event on a critical analysis of the GREVIO Baseline Evaluation Report Germany to decide the future advocacy work.

While the DFR as member of the German NGO Alliance for UNSCR 1325 throughout 2020 had consulted the German Government on the NAP III on WPS 1325 (2020-2025) once more for a clear methodology based approach to be included (objectives, indicators, benchmarks, earmarked gender responsible budget) in Feb. 24 2021 the The German NAP WPS III (ENGLISH) approved its III. NAP WPS in parliament which had adopted this approach. It is missing out still earmarked budgets. The DFR in 2020 with the Alliance consulted the German/Swiss peer review of their NAPs 1325. Before and after election in 2021 the DFR pushed a 'feminist foreign policy' which finally was adopted by the new Government end 2021. On Aug. 8 the DFR with its partners of the Alliance published the joint Policy Paper "Moving towards a Feminist Foreign Policy of Germany" (in German) which is currently discuss with the Foreign Office for their Feminist Foreign Policy Guideline in the making.

END FGM/C in Germany and beyond

Within the national NGO network INTEGRA the DFR is fighting for better protection, provisions and finances to assist women targeted by FGM/C. In March 2021 the DFR Berlin section held a Webinar on "To Eliminate Violence against Women and Girls-FGM/C" with international experts and politicians. Bilateral agreements to prevent so called "holiday FGM/C procedures", are not enough executed" said Gwlady Awo (LESSAN e.V., Hamburg). Black and migrant women who run NGOs and work 24/7 and help structures are too often not financed by the state, so the volunteering work not allows to provide the best standard as needed. Prof. Mor Baye (Senegal) explained how much colonialism still is an obstacle in the international collaboration to end FGM/C. More political pro-active de-colonialisation processes are needed. 2022 Gertraude Kämpf ended her long term service as the DFR
Alisha Qamar, member of FUTRURE, Young DFR Members, is the new DFR representative.

**2021-2022 Ending criminalisation of abortion**

had been the focus of DFR advocacy with many other NGOs based on the drastic critics and recommendations of the CEDAW on the German restrictions. In summer 2022 the new government deleted §219a from the German Criminal Code which was violating the right to access safe abortion and criminalized those who provide the surgery. Now § 218 of the Criminal Code which is criminalising women since 150 years and controls over women's right on self-determination and reproductive health and rights needs to be removed. See the DFR's [Position Paper](#).

**Annual Federal DFR Webinars 2020-2022**

In April 2021 the DFR held its *Erna-Schlepper-Seminar „Black Feminism- Intersectionality in the context of Corona.”* Dr. Natasha Kelly, DFR Women of the Year 2021, was the speaker and initiated a discussion on Critical Race Theory.

On October 8th - 9th, 2021 the DFR Federal Seminar continued the work on this issue with the title *Intersectional Feminism – Why a holistic perspective on discrimination is necessary* with experts Prof. Natasha A. Kelly (DFR Women of the Year 2021), a professor in Germany and the USA, Andrea Röpke, Peggy Piesche und Nava Zarabian. It showed how important the intersectional perspective is to unite for combating the increasing anti-feminist and right wing anti-democracy movements. Intersectionality needs to be included in all levels of the education sector.

Prof Natasha A. Kelly gave us a precious piece of IAW Herstory. She mentioned this

> „If anyone had had the courage to predict fifty years ago that a woman with African blood in her vein would journey from the United States to Berlin, Germany, to address an International Congress of Women in the year 1904, he would have either been laughed to scorn or he would have been immediately confined in an asylum for the hopelessly insane.“

(Mary Church Terrell, 13. Juni 1904)

(msmagazine.com 2021)
The year **2022** was decided to highlight **climate justice and feminism**. Prof. Dr. Maja Göpel, a political economist, researching on transformation and sustainability, having served at the World Future Council, the Wuppertal Institute for Climate, Environment and Energy and the German Advisory Council on Global Change, honorary professor at Leuphana University Lüneburg, was nominated the DFR Women of the Year 2022. She was among others a speaker of the Federal Webinar which took stock of this burning issue in October 2022 under the title "Climate – Justice. Gender perspectives for a sustainable Future"

**DFR Headquarter**

**There were changes in the DFR headquarter office:** Emma Bombien preliminarily filled the vacant job of the Director in 2021 and was than employed in Oct. 2021 as director of the DFR headquarter. Additional for assistance on Social-Media Elinor Reinicke started working in the office and Sara S. Bonilla was an intern, who now joint the Committee for International Affairs.

In 2022 Silke Schwenk started the job as director since Emma Bombien had to move on to other duties. The DFR always has excellent staff members, inters and can only recommend this since many than stay as volunteers in the organisation.

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1 see DFR, Grüne Reihe, Documentation of the Webinar Gruene-Reihe-83_2021_DFR-eV.pdf (deutscher-frauenring.de), page 23
Division for the Advancement of the Status of Women

**Division Profile:**
The Division’s activities take place throughout the county, from Kiryat Shmona in the north to Eilat in the south, in 40 branches and in local authorities that do not yet have branches. The Division focuses on tackling violence against women, promoting legal and societal gender equality, gender activism through projects tailored to the demands of the social agenda, and changes in policy and legislation.

**Battling Domestic Violence:**
- **Therapy frameworks for men, women and children:** Two shelters for abused women and their children, and two “Centers for the Treatment & Prevention of Violence” in Jerusalem and Mevaseret Zion.
- **A framework of preventative programs for men, women and teenagers:** National Violent Men’s Helpline; gender-segregated therapeutic workshops; training professionals to identify signs of violence among toddlers and children; informational helpline for women experiencing domestic violence; allies in eradicating violence in the community; training human resources managers to assist employees in matters of domestic violence; marking the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women and International Women’s Day.
- **"Safety Net" – A long-term rehabilitation program:** Safety Net is a program for the continued treatment and rehabilitative mentoring of women who have recently left a shelter. The program runs in six local authorities (around 100 women and close to 180 children).

**Legal Aid and Advice:**
The Division runs 30 legal offices to help women access their rights, providing legal advice in both labor law and family law. The legal aid program is undergoing a process of digitization, which will be more user-friendly and help create structure in payment processes and managing the quality of the service.

**Legislation:** Extension of a temporary order for the rights of working women affected by the pandemic; establishing a gender cabinet in the Knesset; promoting a bill requiring electronic supervision of people who have had a restraining order issued against them; mandatory treatment for violent men; technological violence; and postpartum issues.

**The Division and Public Government:** The Division represents WIZO in Knesset deliberations on issues within the scope of the organization. The Division is in regular communication with government offices and local authorities both as part of its role as a professional entity that operates services on behalf of the state and in the framework of WIZO’s unique programs.

**Dedicated Programs for Women:** Courses to prepare women to fill leadership positions and a range of programs for women in crisis (retirement, divorce, dismissal and young widows).
2021 – Year in Review:

The pandemic created a new reality that obligated the Division to respond to social phenomena exacerbated by the consequent changes in social norms: domestic violence increased and WIZO established a support network to support the rehabilitation of women in the community who are leaving shelters, in order to keep them away from returning to the cycle of domestic violence. At the same time, the Division expanded its education efforts among professionals at the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Welfare and the Ministry of Health, and also expanded its activity in the business sector by working with the HR departments of businesses and government companies. The majority of the unemployed are women, so with that in mind the Women’s Unlimited Potential Program (UP) was launched for mothers with small children who have left the labor market, along with training for leadership positions and programs for crisis situations. Two conferences took place, one on International Women’s Day on the topic of employment and one on the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women on the theme “Abandoned to Their Fate”, which addressed government offices and other bodies and exposed the lack of support that women receive when leaving shelters.

The Division is a partner in numerous professional forums on the eradication of domestic violence and on promoting women’s rights. In December 2021, legislation initiated by WIZO together with MK Aida Touma-Suleiman passed that required mandatory treatment for violent men.

As part of the strategic program and the credo that underpins WIZO’s activities, the Division for the Advancement of the Status of Women is integrated into the organization’s management and directly subordinate to the CEO. The Division is currently engaged in an assessment and planning process, and in creating a work plan for 2022, while continuing to conduct important activity for empowering women and eradicating violence against women.

WIZO Israel

Profile:

WIZO Israel operates throughout the county, from Kiryat Shmona in the north to Eilat in the south, in 40 branches run by thousands of volunteers. The organization focuses on promoting gender equality in communities and society as a whole. WIZO creates social impact by developing projects that address the needs of the community, providing services within WIZO's areas of activity, and running programs for children, teenagers, and women. The organization also handles the recruitment, retention, professional training, and care of volunteers.

Initiatives at WIZO branches include the “Taking Responsibility” project (initiatives for the eradication of violence against women), women’s leadership programs, upcycling workshops (upcycling donated clothing), the She Start program (tools to promote small businesses run by women), cultural activities for volunteers and the general public, fundraising, partnerships with companies, shared interest groups (French speakers, single mothers, South Americans, etc.), training programs, and empowerment and professional training for federation volunteers.

The organization runs 48 secondhand shops through the Bigudit chain, which is almost completely managed by volunteers.

2021 – Year in Review:

The coronavirus pandemic created a new reality, requiring WIZO to address various social phenomena. To cope with the increase in domestic violence, WIZO created a safety net to support the rehabilitation of women leaving shelters and to help keep them out of the cycle of domestic violence. The organization also expanded its public awareness campaign in companies. The demographic disadvantaged the most by the pandemic are women who dropped out of the workforce. To address this problem, WIZO created the "Parliament" program to help mothers of small children reenter the workforce, along with leadership training programs and programs to help women in crisis situations. WIZO also launched programs to address the academic gaps created by lockdowns and remote learning.

This year WIZO Israel developed infrastructure for three digital platforms: a registration system for afternoon childcare, an online system for legal assistance and advice, and an online Bigudit shop. These platforms will begin operating in 2022.

As part of its strategic program, WIZO Israel’s leadership is working to restructure the Israel Federation as a movement led by the Federation’s chairperson and management. The movement will focus on reinforcing the activity of WIZO branches, volunteering in the community, recruiting new volunteers for a variety of roles, fundraising, and gathering additional resources.
ADF-SVF Suisse
Sept 2021-Sept, 2022

2021 Swiss Federal Palace in the hands of the women
Besides of celebrating 2021 the 50 years women’s suffrage in Switzerland one of the most outstanding topics was the “The 2nd Women’s Parliament Session” taking place at the prestigious Federal Palace at Berne. AllianceF, a large coordination of national women’s organizations, had launched this ambitious project. As participants women from literally all walks of life had been elected. For ADF-SVF Ursula Nakamura was attending it. (AP 7)

Being “elected” meant a lot of preparatory work within “parliamentary commissions”. The topics covered numerous aspects of life where women are discriminated or underrepresented or simply being “forgotten”.

Not surprisingly, the motions drafted in advance were completely different from the proposals in the usual male dominated parliaments, and they all were accepted by the plenum almost unanimously!

Keywords: social security in old age, child-care free of charge, collection and use of specific female data for women’s health, gender medicine, protection against gender based violence, rights of migrant women, digital gender gap, promotion of women in science etc. (AP 1,2,3,4,5,6,7)

This “feminist wave” was later on carried into the official parliaments by the deputies.

Now, a year later, a few motions have already been rejected, but others are very successful...

For example, the promotion of women in STEM professions, particularly connected with digitalisation, or a massive strengthening of preventive measures against sexual violence. Gender medicine now will be taught in an integrated way at universities. (AP 1,4,6)

Never before have women been so visibly in the foreground, and never before there had been such a tangible step forward for women’s rights!

Focus of ADF-SVF in 2022
Women and gender became an important theme for the ADF-SVF yearly event in 2022. More so because the Basel ADF-SVF section had already dealt with this topic in 2021. Gender medicine might bring a light into the very controversial discussions going on at the moment. (AP 2,4,7)

When we were reading the bestseller by Caroline Criado-Perez “Invisible women” we realised that practically all areas of life were seen exclusively from the men’s point of view and designed accordingly, starting from the design of furniture or car-seats, sports-outfits etc. up to the misdiagnosis of male or female patients in medicine. Thus unfortunately, heart attacks in women might often get treated incorrectly.

So the theme for the ADF-SVF annual public event was set: “Invisible stumbling blocks for women”.

IAW Action Programme AP:
1 Elimination of Violence against Women and Girls / 2 Human Rights / 3 Climate Change / 4 Health / 5 Peace - Security / 6 Women in Economy / 7 Democracy;
We succeeded in inviting well-known female experts. Their statements were impressive: Unbelievable! Relevant gender-differentiated data are still missing everywhere, roads and streets are still being built without sufficient safety for pedestrians, mostly women, children or disabled people!

Even worse - women’s voices are largely unheard in the context of peace and security! Their suffering is immense. Finally we wanted to know from a young woman-member at the Neuchâtel parliament, whether now with a sensational majority (58%) of female deputies the “culture in the assembly” might have changed positively – are the women and their requests now better visible? (AP 1,2,3,4,5,6,7)

As it was extremely hot in June, we worried whether people might not rather stay at home. We therefore commissioned a specialist to film the event. All together it is very inspiring event, and the film is now available on our ADF-SVF website in French and German. You also find there the relevant documentation.

ADF-SVF - Other activities

Of course, we also dealt with many other issues last year, often in close cooperation with other national organisations. This was done, for example, within the framework of the National Coordination post Beijing NGO, which is primarily concerned with the implementation of CEDAW and regularly writes critical shadow reports (AP 1,2,3,4,5,6,7). This NGO also monitors closely the correct implementation of the Istanbul Convention against gender-based violence. (AP 1)

In Switzerland the federal authorities usually ask organisations and political parties for their opinions about various legal propositions. Therefore ADF-SVF recently has handed in several statements, e. g. better retirement-pensions or a non-discriminatory law against sexual violence (AP 1,6,7)

ADF-SVF actively supports the federal initiative for nationwide low-cost day care centres to improve the compatibility of work and family life. This is crucial for young mothers, because it increase considerably their chances for a good employment. (AP 6,7)

ADF-SVF was also committed in collecting signatures regarding the national initiative for an individual taxation of married couples. (AP 6)

But we were most happy about the successful national initiative “Strengthening the Nursing Care” in November 2021. Maybe it was also thanks to Covid but certainly it touched a longstanding serious problem – the glaring lack of professional nurses, their low pay and their difficult work-situations. ADF-SVF had strongly supported it. Now it is up to the national parliament to make the necessary legal changes. (AP 4)
Switzerland is also affected by the international backlash. Opponents of abortion have regrouped. They are currently collecting signatures for two national initiatives that are intended to restrict the possibilities of the current legal regulation of unpunished abortion within twelve weeks. Under the leadership of Swiss Sexual Health ADF-SVF is calling for abortion without penalty even after the 12th week of pregnancy. (AP 4) During the vote on 25 September, many (women’s) organisations and some political parties opposed the increase of the women’s pension age from 64 to 65 years. We wanted that first of all the disadvantages in terms of wages or unpaid care work should get eliminated. Unfortunately, the opposing side (mostly men!) won by a minimal margin of 0.4%. (AP 6,7)

Intensify cooperation and networking
Especially in a small country like Switzerland, it is enormously important to join forces. This makes it easier to achieve the goals. ADF-SVF has cooperated with the Swiss federal bureau for equality preparing CSW66. ADF-SVF has continued to successfully expand its national contacts with (women’s-)organisations and feminist groups. There were several media interested in the activities of ADF-SVF, mostly related to the event where we made invisible women more visible! (AP 2) ADF-SVF now presided by the Basel section has a regular exchange of information and ideas with the ADF sections Vaud and Neuchâtel. We are particularly grateful that possibly new groups or even re-awakened cantonal sections of ADF-SVF might arise, particularly in Berne.

Cooperation with IAW
ADF-SVF is well connected with IAW. Esther Suter is the official ADF-SVF delegate at IAW. Dr. Sibylle von Heidebrand is the main representative of IAW at United Nations in Geneva, where she is joined by Esther. Jessica Kehl represents IAW at FAO in Rome. Heidi Bodmer and Ursula Nakamura are very much involved in the IAW “Water and Pads” project. ADF-SVF Suisse is proud of being a member of IAW, its worldwide umbrella organisation. The Swiss Suffragettes joined IAW already in 1912, and ever since have closely worked within this framework for the worldwide empowerment of women and girls. More than ever, it is necessary to work closely together with our IAW colleagues, particularly in the Global South.

IAW Action Programme AP:
1 Elimination of Violence against Women and Girls / 2 Human Rights / 3 Climate Change / 4 Health / 5 Peace - Security / 6 Women in Economy / 7 Democracy;
2nd Women's Parliament Session" October 2021: 3 former and the present President of the Swiss National Parliament:
From left: Maya Graf, Marina Carobbio, Isabelle Moret and Irène Kälin

Meeting and casual exchange of ideas among ADF-SVF Suisse and ADF Sections 26.09.2022 at Berne.
From left: Annemarie Heiniger, Lucie Waser, Marina Schneeberger, Josiane Greub, Martine Gagnebin and Ursula Nakamura

For all further information about ADF-SVF Suisse please visit the website: 
www.feminism.ch (French and German)
29.09.2022  Ursula Nakamura and Annemarie Heiniger, Co-presidents ADF-SVF Suisse

IAW Action Programme AP:
1 Elimination of Violence against Women and Girls / 2 Human Rights / 3 Climate Change / 4 Health / 5 Peace - Security / 6 Women in Economy / 7 Democracy;
Danish Women’s Society

150th Anniversary
In 2021 Danish Women’s Society (Dansk Kvindesamfund) celebrated its 150th anniversary. As founded in 1871 it is Denmark’s oldest women’s rights organization, which we are naturally very proud of. The great history and legacy of the organization is something we strive to live up to, honor, and continue every year by advocating for gender equality and supporting the freedoms, opportunities, and rights of women.

Helena G Hansen, forewoman

Current national issues
One of the most pressing issues in Denmark is gender-based violence and domestic abuse. Therefore, we launched a campaign on our independent subsidiary Dansk Kvindesamfunds Krisecentre’s (Danish Women’s Society’s Crisis Centers) social media. Using the hashtag #forholddigtilvold we posted short videos of various Danish politicians and celebrities urging the Danish public and other politicians to take a stand against violence, and some shared their personal experiences with violence in close/intimate relations. The campaign helped raise awareness of the importance of daring to talk about the violence that occurs every day, but that we are too timid to speak of and step up against. Violence in intimate relations needs to be considered a societal issue – not just a private one.

Sexism is still a prevalent issue in Denmark. We have joined the Alliance against Sexual Harassment established by the Danish government as one of 17 initiatives to help create a cultural change concerning sexual harassment in the labor market.

Additionally, the wage gap has been a common topic in Denmark over the past few years – especially during the pandemic, where nurses in particular have advocated for a fairer wage. Denmark still has a very gendered labor market, in which female-dominated fields of work are underprioritized and undervalued. We have actively spoken out against the wage gap and persistent dismissal of women’s work, and we will continue to advocate for a de-gendered labor market in which men and women are equal.

International Solidarity
As you know, 2022 brought the end to Roe v. Wade and many American women consequently lost their right and access to safe abortions. At Danish Women’s Society, we were saddened and enraged
by this attack on women’s bodily autonomy and reproductive rights. To show our condemnation of this development and our solidarity with the American people affected by it, we co-organized various demonstrations in front of the U.S. Embassy in Denmark. Additionally, we promoted US organizations that provide American women with direct access to safe abortions. With the rise of anti-abortion rhetoric and organizations globally, as well as in Denmark, we partook in public discussions and debates to advocate for the right to bodily autonomy and access to abortions. Our forewoman Helena G. Hansen appeared on televised national news to spread awareness of how vital access to safe abortions is and to oppose the arguments put forward by anti-abortion organizations.

The demonstrations in Iran and the fight for Iranian women’s freedom and safety is something we have been following closely. We stand with the women of Iran and have participated in demonstrations calling for the end of the oppression of and violence against Iranian women. In Denmark, some politicians are currently calling for the ban of hijabs and other headscarves, supposedly to free Muslim women of oppression. In Danish Women’s Society, we have openly stood against this proposal and pointed out the hypocrisy of trying to control what women wear in an attempt to end the social control of those same women. We will continue to fight for women’s rights and freedom to choose how to dress and present themselves.

**Informative efforts**

We aim to be an informative organization and seek to educate while we advocate for change. The following are some of the latest educational projects we’ve conducted:

- A collaboration with PostNord in which we published a collection of stamps featuring 10 significant Danish women. The purpose was to spread awareness and information about the women who helped shape both Denmark and the world, yet who are often overlooked or forgotten despite their impact. By bringing influential women into the cultural conscience,
we push for gender equality and the recognition of women’s worth and impact in all aspects of society. The list of women includes Inge Lehmann, who discovered the inner core of the earth is solid, and Nielsine Nielsen, Denmark’s first female student, academic, and doctor.

- During the cultural festival Golden Days, which this year had the theme QUEENS, we collaborated with Meta and Isabella Udo and donated Copenhagen’s first-ever digital statue. Denmark does not have many statues of women, but getting a statue approved and built can take years. Therefore, the digital one is to represent all the women who deserve a statue of their own and all the women who will ever deserve one. We hope to see more physical statues of important women in the future.

- On our Instagram profile we post our ‘Feminist Dictionary’ weekly, where we explain typically feminist terms. Some of the latest terms we’ve covered are intersectionality, heteronormativity, and womanism. Many are not familiar with the meaning of these terms, as some are mainly used in academic or feminist settings and discourses. By explaining them we contribute to the productivity of public debates wherein they may occur or are relevant to use, as well as negate some of the misconceptions there may be regarding the terms.

- We regularly host feminist debates/talks about different contemporary subjects, such as the gendered labor market and intersectional feminism. Our debates are public and free, occasionally also live-streamed on our Facebook profile.

- Our podcast ”Verdensmålene for begyndere” (”The world goals for beginners”) explores the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals from a Danish perspective, by discussing how the goals relate to Denmark, how far we currently are in implementing them, and how far we have left to go. The podcast is supported by the Ministry of Culture's development pool for local public education.

Our latest work has therefore related to multiple aspects of the IAW Action Programme – primarily elimination of violence against women and girls, human rights, health, the human right to peace and security, women in the economy, and democracy.
La politique en faveur des droits des femmes s’est imposée durant les dernières années comme une politique de l’égalité entre les sexes. Il ne s’agit pas de reconnaître des droits spécifiques aux femmes mais, au contraire, de mettre fin aux discriminations dont elles sont victimes, dans la perspective d’établir une société égalitaire. Au Maroc, pays qui, depuis l’adoption de la Constitution de 2011, se réfère à un universel neutre de la citoyenneté, le Nouveau Modèle de Développement (2018–2021), élaboré dans la perspective de répondre aux besoins de la nouvelle société marocaine, est perçu au regard du droit des femmes comme une forme de révolution copernicienne, tellement il insiste sur l’émancipation féminine et l’égalité des genres en vue d’assurer l’égalité réelle entre les sexes. Néanmoins, des limites d’ordres juridique et sociétale qui perdurent, exigent une attention particulière.

Durant les vingt dernières années, le Maroc a réalisé d’importants progrès dans la façon dont les femmes doivent être considérées, au sein de la famille comme dans les espaces de vie professionnelle et collective, en amont avec les importantes transitions sociétales amorcées, qui virent la société marocaine contemporaine passer d’une structure traditionnelle de nature patriarcale favorisant la discrimination à l’égard des femmes, vers une organisation familiale davantage nucléarisée et urbanisée, dans laquelle les femmes sont parvenues à s’autonomiser, aussi bien politiquement qu’économiquement. Cependant, et malgré l’appropriation par les femmes des droits de la première génération (droits civils et politiques), aujourd’hui garantis par la Charte fondamentale de 2011, la conquête des droits de la deuxième génération, qui font référence aux droits économiques, sociaux et culturels, en mesure d’assurer la justice sociale et la défense des droits des plus vulnérables, demeure une quête inachevée. Au-delà de la législation, les mentalités réfractaires à l’émancipation des femmes ont la peau dure. Cet état de fait a poussé la Commission spéciale sur le Nouveau Modèle de Développement (CSNMD) à consacrer tout un axe au rôle et la place des citoyennes marocaines dans le Maroc contemporain. Alors que l’an 2020-2021 était censé être une période prometteuse en matière des droits des femmes et filles marocaines, l’horizon s’est brusquement assombri. Nonobstant le fait que nous ne devrions plus plancher sur le problème de l’égalité des sexes en ce XXIème siècle, ce dossier continue de faire l’actualité. Par ailleurs, comme nous le savons, l’histoire nous a démontré que les crises, quelles que soient leurs formes, n’ont jamais été en faveur des femmes et filles car c’est le cas dans cette crise du Covid-19 ne demeure pas en reste de cette assertion.

En ce qui concerne cette crise sanitaire inédite, les données prévisionnelles ont, tout de suite, été très inquiétantes. Celles-ci se sont manifestées avec cette période de confinement. Ainsi, on a pu malheureusement dénoter une recrudescence des violences faites aux femmes et filles caractérisées par :
- le flambé de cas de mariages précoces et forcés dans les zones défavorisées du Maroc dans le grand et moyen-Atlas ;
- le taux élevé de cas de violences conjugales dans les grandes agglomérations du pays et surtout dans les zones péri urbaines ;
- Faible taux de fréquentation scolaire des filles pour avoir une éducation de qualité

Pour faire face aux problèmes cités ci-dessus, l’Observatoire Marocain des Droits des Femmes recommande aux instances décisionnelles de vulgariser aux publics les instruments juridiques des Nations Unies qui protègent les droits de femmes en cas de crise.

Aussitôt que le Maroc a été touché par la pandémie, on se doutait bien au sein de l’association que la mesure du confinement obligatoire ne saurait tarder. Nous avons rapidement rassemblé les membres de notre association pour réfléchir à notre stratégie, nous avions une seule certitude : il était impossible d’arrêter l’activité de l’association du jour au lendemain.

Au cours de la période de covid-19, l’association « Observatoire Marocain des Droits des Femmes » s’est associé au Collectif des associations nationales des 12 régions administratives du Maroc ,il a apporté un appui et services à des femmes et filles marocaines qui sont exposées à un risque de violence domestique chronique et aux violences conjugales et sexistes dans les communes urbaines et rurales de la région de L’Orientale qui compte par les régions les plus défavorisée du Maroc. Durant cette période, les violences conjugales ont beaucoup fait parler d’elles, dans la mesure où elles ont exponentiellement augmenté de 30%. Pour s’insurger contre ces faits, OMDF a mené avec le Collectif des associations nationales pour la gestion de la crise pendant la Covid-19, une campagne ardue sur le terrain ou parfois par le biais des réseaux sociaux, et les associations partenaires du collectif, y étaient très actives. Mais également, on a déployé dans le monde rural nos sensibilisateurs afin qu’une tranche de la population féminine n’ayant pas accès aux nouvelles technologies, ne se trouve pas délaissée dans cette lutte.

Pendant cette période de Covid-19, la connexion à internet et les outils technologiques non généralisées rendaient l’accès aux services à distance d’autant plus difficile pour mener nos sensibilisations en faveur des femmes et filles vulnérables. Ainsi, quand bien même nous mettons en place des services d’écoute, les victimes de violence ne disposent pas toutes d’un téléphone ou d’un Smartphone et quand cela est le cas, elles n’ont que rarement des forfaits téléphoniques et accès à l’information nécessaire de base.

Signalons dans cette rubrique que bien que les nous avons réalisées cette activité, nous nous sommes butés aux difficultés d’ordre financier et technique à cause du nombre élevé de femmes et filles du Maroc profond qui n’ont pas accès aux nouvelles technologies pour qu’elles soient atteintes par la sensibilisation. D’où, nous recommandons aux décideurs et décideuses marocains d’installer de connexion internet même dans des zones défavorisées pour faciliter l’accès à l’information pour tous et doter des Smartphones à ces femmes vulnérables.

Durant cette période de crise sanitaire, nous avons mis un accent particulier sur la partie du Maroc profond. Une zone où les structures de base sont fragilisées, accès difficiles, des villages enclavés par des montagnes, des routes qui sont pas goudronnées, etc. Les femmes et filles ont eu du mal à avoir de soins de santé de qualité pour lutter contre la Covid-19 à cause de l’inaccessibilité dans les zones. Il revient au gouvernement marocain de songer aussi à cette catégorie de population qui habite ces milieux car l’accès à la santé, à l’éducation et à la protection sont des droits universels pour tous. C’est dans ce cas, OMDF recommande au gouvernement de construire de routes, de désenclaver le Maroc profond pour lier aux grandes villes. Dans ce sens, disposité des ambulances et hélicoptères pour faciliter la mobilité des malades en cas de crise sanitaire et catastrophe naturelle serait l’un des moyens idéal pour mettre la population à l’abri de toutes les conséquences néfastes.
Dans même ordre d’idée, pour venir en assistance aux femmes et filles marocaines pendant la pandémie de COvid-19, l’OMDF a d’abord rapidement programmé des actions suivantes en étroite coordination avec le Collectif des associations nationales mis en place durant la pandémie :

- Mise en place de lignes téléphoniques pour assurer l’écoute à distance et la sensibilisation des citoyens et citoyennes. Nous sommes sorties avec nos véhicules personnels et des mégaphones dans les rues des petites villes et villages éloignés, dans les quartiers les plus vulnérables, pour la distribution de flyers avec les numéros d’écoute et des messages de promotion de la paix au sein des foyers.
- Création d’un réseau de partage d’information et de sensibilisation via des réunions à distance avec un collectif d’associations féministes thématiques de la protection et la promotion des droits humains que nous diffusions massivement sur les réseaux sociaux.
- Assistance en vivre et non vivres aux femmes migrantes africaines qui se trouvent au Maroc.
- Organisation de réunions en ligne/webinaire en partenariat avec les membres individuels africaines de l’Alliance Internationale des Femmes
- Accompagné des mères célibataires et des femmes victimes de violences conjugales et sexistes pour avoir un hébergement de réconfort.
- Négociation fructueuse a eu lieu avec l’Entraide Nationale, qui a mis à notre disposition un espace au sein d’un établissement qui abrite également les sans domiciles fixes durant le confinement.
- OMDF a fait l’intermédiaire entre des victimes de violences domestiques avec les autorités compétentes locales, soit les cellules de prise en charge des femmes victimes de violence du Ministère Public, de la Direction Générale de la Sûreté Nationale soit, le Ministère de la Santé. A cette occasion, nous avons travaillé en étroite collaboration avec ces institutions pour trouver des pistes de solutions idoines à cette crise.

Eu égard à ce qui précède, une autonomisation de la femme marocaine est plus que nécessaire du fait que les prévisions économiques ne sont pas reluisantes car le Covid-19 a eu un véritable impact sur l’activité économique. Ces prévisions sont encore plus inquiétantes pour les zones défavorisées de Maroc profond où la plupart de l’activité économique repose sur l’informel et où nous devons nous préparer à cette éventuelle crise.

Les femmes étant des membres actives de ce secteur, elles sont alors directement concernées par ces suspicions de faillite monétaire. Ainsi, un maintien des aides pour soutenir leur activité doit être mis en œuvre car celles-ci peuvent se retrouver rapidement privées de la manne financière. Le financement de la mobilisation pour les droits des femmes doit considérablement être augmenté, au lieu d’être réduit. Par ailleurs, cette autonomisation passe par l’éducation de la jeune fille. Ce volet continue de souffrir. Qui dit éducation, dit préparation pour les défis de demain dont celui de la participation au domaine économique. Une fille instruite est une valeur sûre pour l’économie d’un pays.

L’autonomisation de la femme paraît donc plus que nécessaire dans ce contexte délétère. Ceci passe également par la préservation des carrières de la jeune fille qui risquerait de ne jamais se remettre de la crise du Covid-19. Ce problème étant interdépendant à celui de la scolarisation. Un doigt rigoureux doit être mis sur la scolarisation de la jeune fille. Une femme dans la misère est encore plus exposée à tous les vices et sévices. Lutter contre la pauvreté de cette tranche de la population serait une bonne stratégie pour l’endiguer.

Grâce à la pleine mobilisation des associations des femmes, nous avons compris qu’il ne fallait pas reléguer au second plan, la lutte pour l’égalité des sexes car celle-ci vacille en ce moment. Il est alors important de
garder la détermination et redoubler d’efforts pour maintenir les avancées durement acquises. Et sur ce point, les féministes marocaines font leur part.

Par ailleurs, sur le terrain et au quotidien, nous devions gérer d’autres contraintes liées au confinement, et plus particulièrement vécues par les femmes et les filles victimes de violences domestiques, conjugales, sexistes, etc. En effet, l’attribution d’une seule attestation de déplacement dérogatoire par ménage, généralement détenue par le conjoint, limite significativement, voir rendre impossible, les options de sortie de la violence des victimes. Elles ne pouvaient malheureusement plus avoir accès aux centres d’hébergement, et encore moins aller dans une autre ville pour être accueillie chez des proches. Le chef de ménage étant bénéficiaire de l’indemnité mensuelle octroyée par l’Etat, les victimes de violences sont, donc, non seulement dépendantes financièrement de leurs conjoints, mais aussi, n’ont pas accès aux services des associations d’appui à leur l’autonomisation économique.

Enfin, le renforcement des capacités des femmes en matière de textes juridiques concernant les droits de femmes marocaines. Les droits économiques, sociaux, culturels incluent le droit à une alimentation adéquate, à un logement convenable, à l’éducation, à la santé, à la sécurité sociale, à la participation à la vie culturelle, au travail, à l’eau et assainissement.

Alors si nous devrions tirer une leçon de cette crise, cela serait d’accorder davantage importance à la :

- Autonomisation, éducation, santé et l’accès à distance aux services essentiels pour les femmes et filles victimes de violences sexuelles, conjugales et de discrimination.
- Renforcement de capacités des utilisatrices à l’utilisation des nouvelles technologies de communication et l’accès au numérique lors des services d’accompagnement et d’orientation.
- Renforcement de partenariats publics privés en faveur des femmes et filles défavorisées
- Formation continue sur l’encadrement et renforcement de capacités des associations locales, nationales et régionales dans les nouvelles approches de communication ;
- Vulgarisation des instruments juridiques nationaux, régionaux et internationaux concernant la protection et promotion des droits de femmes
- Vulgarisation de la résolution 13 25 des nations Unies sur la sécurité et protection des droits de femmes en milieux urbains et en zones rurales
- Renforcement de capacités des femmes en matière de rédaction lobbying et plaidoyers.

Pour clore, le seul message que l’association Observatoire Marocain des Droits des Femmes transmet aux décideurs et décideuses est : « Assurer la sécurité des femmes et filles vulnérables devrait être l’une des priorités nationales en période de crise, en commençant par la sensibilisation, l’autonomisation, la santé et l’éducation car ce sont des droits universels pour tous tel que prônés par les objectifs de Développement Durable ». La réponse à la violence faite aux femmes et filles doit d’abord être préventive. Par exemple, dès lors que l’on a su que la population allait être confinée par foyer, il fallait immédiatement communiquer sur les sanctions que prévoit la loi 103.13 et sur la réalité que représente la violence domestique au Maroc, en diffusant les chiffres clés.
All Pakistan Women’s Association (APWA)

Introduction of the Author:
Ms. Charmaine Hidayatullah was a banker by profession and is a zealous social worker; she has done (LLM) master’s in law and have been a practicing lawyer for even number of years. Additionally, she has served two terms as a member of National Commission on the Status of Women. She also has an honor of being the Honorary Consul of Monaco since 2004.
At present Ms. Charmaine is working as President of APWA (All Pakistan Women’s Association), her association with APWA has been over 30 years, and she has been a mission driven leader for the socio-economic development of women, due to her devotional commitment to APWA she has been reelected for another three years as President of APWA, she has also worked as an advocate for the destitute women by handling indigent cases on humanitarian basis

Impact of Pandemic (2020 – 2021)
In the first quarter of 2020, the world was faced with COVID-19 pandemic which was truly a ‘black swan’ event – an event whose probabilistic occurrence is rare and had devastating consequences. Pakistan being a struggling to development country had to face huge difficulties. As there was a gradual increase in cases and closure of business, both employers and employees have started worrying about their business and jobs. Investors have started becoming concerned about their money invested in companies.

Impact of heavy Rainfall:
This year the recent floods have claimed thousands of lives and the country is facing a dire humanitarian crisis stemming from rainfall and floods that have impacted every part of the country and has left the country underwater. Along with this the waterborne disease such as cholera and gastroenteritis are the most common ones. Flood victims are in dire need of safe shelter, healthy food, uncontaminated water and healthcare aid.

Introduction of APWA:
The All Pakistan Women’s Association (APWA). APWA a non-profit women’s welfare organization, Established in 1948 by Begum Ra’anaLiaquat Ali Khan (1905 – 1990), the wife of Pakistan’s first Prime Minister Nawabzada Liaquat Ali Khan. APWA’s main focus has been on women empowerment through skill development, health and education. It has been able to do this with the support and generous grant of many national & International organizations.

Activities
During the above mentioned, our toughest times, APWA worked hard as ever to support its country and feels proud to share its noteworthy achievements:
a) Twenty thousand Masks were donated to APWA, we distributed to SIUT, Jinnah hospital and Lady Dufferin hospital, in Darul sukoon and amongst all the schools of APWA including Punjab hospitals, Shikar pur and Interior Sindh Maternity Home.

b) With the support of IAW grant we built Public ladies toilets as there was a dire need for it, the ladies either had to hold it till they reach home which could cause severe health issue or use public toilets which were at times very inconvenient and embarrassing too. We would like to encourage other branches to build some more toilets in their own cities.

c) Rations (food bags) were distributed among the poor communities and their families during the Pandemic.

The main achievement of APWA in 2020 was the successful seminar we had held at the Avari hotel with President’s wife as chief guest they recognized APWA as a force. Another seminar held on Sexual Harassment was a huge success.

Another great achievement of APWA was the recognition of its capacity to assist State Bank of Pakistan, organizing seminars and then setting up Financial Access Help Desk along with literacy sessions at the National Headquarters. With the support of SBP we were able to support gender equality and women empowerment, as women entrepreneurs were encouraged to avail the financial inclusion with the help of State Bank of Pakistan.

Now this year to support the flood victims APWA collected donations from numerous generous donors including APWA –National along with some local individuals collected food stuff including mineral water bottles, milk packs, biscuits, tea packets, medicine for fever & pain and sachet of ORS. APWA was also able to collect donations to purchase water coolers, bed sheets and basic utensils like spoons, plates, glasses, pots & pan and kettles.

APWA Staff members took its part by packing the stuff and securing it in the large water coolers with medicine, food items, bed sheets and crockery so that it could be handled properly and be distributed easily. APWA was able to distribute approximately 500 such water coolers.

With the help of Sindh Rangers APWA was able to identify the places where the help had not reached. While distributing the water coolers filled with stuff, we cautionary called one person on behalf of their family to receive the packages so that as more families may be supported.

To avoid any repetition or duplication we made sure that each person will submit a copy of their CNIC, with this act we were able to assist more and more families.

**Future Plans:**

a) Support the flood victims to normalize their lives, by providing them with shelters as at present most of them are living in tents, which is only for temporary use.

b) Help in building or rebuilding their houses.

c) Providing rations

d) Providing household essentials like stoves and crockery etc.

e) Organize fund raising campaign to collect enough donation to achieve this noble cause.
In the end I would like to request more support as the need is much greater than our range. We need more support and help to bring back the flood victims to their normal living.

Distributing masks to the children:

Seminar on Sexual Harassment against women and children
Norwegian Association for Women’s Rights

Report 2021/2022
Anne Hege Grung, president

Norwegian Association for Women’s rights (NKF) have throughout the year continued to work strategically with prioritized areas: Violence against Women, particularly killings of and violence against women in relationships including marriage; Women’s disadvantaged possibilities in Norwegian prisons compared to the possibilities for male inmates; Women’s healthcare including health care connected to pregnancy and giving birth, and women’s reproductive rights including the right to a safe, self-determined abortion. Our working modes has been public meetings, workshops and participating in governmental hearings. The organization has also had a workshop for members about the legal aspect of binary and non-binary gender identities.

In March 2022 we had our biannual congress where Anne Hege Grung was re-elected chair and Beret Bråten was re-elected deputy chair. Karin M. Bruzelius was appointed as honorary member of the Norwegian Women’s Association. Honorary membership is an award that recognizes a public role in society as a pioneer for women’s interests of national and/or international importance. Bruzelius is a Swedish-born Norwegian lawyer and former Supreme Court judge. She was the head of NKF in the periods 1978 – 1984 and 2018 – 2020. Karin M. Bruzelius contributed to the writing of the abortion law in 1975 and 1978 and has been an active champion of women’s right to self-determination. Bruzelius has been board member of International Alliance of Women.

One of our projects in the near future is called “Diversity and Women’s rights” where we will focus on building closer connections between our organization and groups of minority women in Norway. We are still working on how to profile us in social media, and how to recruit younger generations of feminist into our organization.
Women’s Electoral Lobby Australia
- Celebrating 50 Years of Political Activism for Women’s Equality

WEL Australia has been a federation of state/territory organisations. Independent, not for profit, non-party political and feminist, WEL is celebrating fifty years of activism.

WEL was founded through an initiative by Beatrice Faust in Carlton, Victoria in February, 1972. She called a meeting of ten feminists to discuss establishing a women’s organisation to lobby politicians. The first public meeting occurred in April, 1972 and the first action was a survey of Federal Election candidates on their attitudes to equal pay, equal opportunity, child care, abortion and family planning.

In the last two years, WEL’s major work has been on developing the policies against which it would be assessing political parties’ commitments prior to the 2022 Federal Election. The Policy Priorities it campaigned for in the 2022 Federal Election included support for the Australian Human Rights Commission Report and Recommendations on First Nations Women and Girls: Wiyi Yani U Thangani. It incorporated a statement on the climate and environmental crises pointing to the way gender roles, responsibilities, expectations, norms and division of labour shape all forms of human relationships with the environment. Other areas covered included: income adequacy and equality for women, affordable and safe housing, women’s health and well-being, eliminating and reducing family, domestic and sexual violence against women, strengthening women’s representation in the Federal Parliament, gender equality in school education, vocational education and training and early childhood education and care. As part of our lobbying, the Policy Priorities were sent to all Ministers in the new Federal Labor Government seeking their support for its key recommendations.
A key feature and emphasis of WEL’s work at the national level has been its focus on homelessness and in 2020/21, WEL partnered with Blur Projects and artist Belinda Mason to produce multi-media art installations for national and international audiences focussed on the experience of homelessness. Funded by the City of Sydney, the art focussed on topics such as sexuality, disability, identity and the impacts of violence. The project presented performance, writing and visual art by women who had experienced homelessness.

WEL NSW has been the lead organisation and carried out most of the national work for the last few years. It led the campaign in NSW for the decriminalisation of abortion and the Abortion Law Reform Act became law on 2nd October, 2019 after over a hundred years in the Crimes Act of NSW. It made submissions to parliamentary inquiries including on a NSW Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Religious Freedom) Bill as well as on Coercive Control in NSW in 2021 and Australia’s Family Law system to a Joint Select Committee and on Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence to a House of Representatives Committee in 2020. In 2021 WEL made submissions on consultation drafts of the Religious Discrimination Bill.

WEL, with the National Foundation of Australian Women (NFAW) and key women’s organisations and alliances, has lobbied consistently over many years for a Gender Responsive Budget approach by the Federal Government. WEL members therefore continued to contribute to the NFAW’s Gender Lens on the Budget 2021/22 with analyses of budget initiatives on housing and homelessness, violence against women and vocational education and training. This work provides a comprehensive account of the Federal Government’s investment in relevant initiatives and programs and their impact on women. Its focus for the financial year was funding for the Care Sector, Women’s Safety, Women’s Economic Security.

Jozefa Sobski AM
WEL Australia National Convenor
October 2022
All India Women’s Conference

Report for IAW 2021-2022

Introduction:

All India Women’s Conference a 95 years pan-India NGO established in 1927, with the primary focus of women’s education and empowerment has steadily grown into a pioneer women’s organization working towards socio-economic empowerment of women. The organization has membership of over 100,000 dedicated women volunteers working through a network of more than 500 hundred branches across India. At the International level, AIWC has consultative status with the UN ECOSOC and observer status with the UNFCCC. The organization has been working at the grass root level to make sure that the benefits of development reach women from lower income groups, marginalized communities and the most vulnerable sections of society.

Aims and purpose of the organization:

Emancipation, education and empowerment of women being achieved through programs designed and implemented through our branches.

Activates of the organization in 2021-2022:

During this period the Head Office participated in a number of webinars organized by the AIWC-Head Office, branches and other institutions.

- **ATME –CICC College, Mysore** – Sexual Harassment of workplace webinar- It was published in the newspaper and other social platforms.
  - Gender- Sensitization – Online Training Programme –Karnataka State Police Academy
    - Officers of the rank of Deputy -Superintendents of Police attended the seminar.
    - In Inaugural speech covered Gender Sensitization which was highly appreciated by the officers

- **Sexual Harassment Programme- Celebrating 8th year of POSH ACT**
  - Conducted four programmes on the instructions of WCD
  - Ministry of Rural Development
  - Ministry of Public Enterprises

- **Kalimpong Case- triggered the other pending cases**
  - Complaint received from Kalimpong branch regarding the repeated rape of a young girl.
  - Action was taken by AIWC Head Office
  - The Ministry of Home Affairs of Parliamentary committee sent letter to Home Secretary to Govt of India, based on which immediate action was taken, charge sheet
was issued to the accused and it triggered the handling of pending 90 cases under POCSO ACT.
  
- Impact- Rapist is behind the bar.
  
- Current Status: Life Imprisonment, Rs. 60,000/- fine.

- **Sale of Muslim Women through Bulli Bai – Sulli deals & Github App**
  
  - Very distressing news was received about the sale of women belonging to particular religion which was highly shocking therefore
  
  - Letter was sent to Prime Minister, Home Ministry and Parliamentary committee of Home Affairs for immediate action against the perpetrators.
  
  - NCW acknowledged the letter and informed that they have taken Suo-moto cognizance of the matter.
  
  - AIWEFA has appreciated AIWC prompt action on this matter.

- **Waste Management and Waste Segregation awareness with AIWC staff - Sep 6th, 2021.**

- **Relationship Management by Dr. Aditi Singhal- 8th October 2021:**
  
  - Due to Covid-19 pandemic, there was a feeling of anxiety and insecurity amongst the staff, therefore, a programme on Relationship Management was organised. It gave solace to the staff. The same programme is continued as Hello Zindagi covering the different aspects for positive thinking & happiness.

- **Women Rights to Inheritance and Property- 22nd October 2021:**
  
  - Programme was organised by AIWC Vice President Smt. Suman Yadav.
  
  - The resource person Siddhartha Yadav spoke about the inheritance and property rights of women in details and there was a healthy interaction.

- **Cyber Security for Women- 30th October 2021 Indore Branch:**
  
  - Session was conducted by Police Officer.
  
  - Session was interactive and he explained in details how the young girls can protect themselves from the increasing cyber crime.
  
  - He gave examples from his personal experience so that the message could reach the masses.

- **The United Nations is marking the 16th Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence – Orange Campaign:**
  
  - 2 Programmes Conducted
  
  - Students of Dental College-Delhi
  
  - With AIWC Eastern Zone (B)

- **Training - Sexual Harassment at the workplace- POSH - 3rd January 2022-** The programme created an impact on participants and there was a positive feedback.
International Meetings:

- South Asian Regional Conference- Kathmandu-Nepal Violence against Women & Girls- Deeply Disturbing Health Issue- March 2022

- Working Women under COVID-19: Unprecedented Challenges and Career Setbacks - CSW 66-21st March 2022 - Participated countries- India, Turkey, Ghana, USA

REPORT BY
MRS. SHEELA KAKDE
PRESIDENT, AIWC

27th September, 2022
Women’s Network for Peace, Germany
Frauennetzwerk für Frieden e.V. (FNF)

Report on the year 2022
Heide Schuetz

During the period of restrictions because of Covid 19 the Women’s Network for Peace like many others was not able to carry on with all of its activities, e.g. the workshop meeting of the students and their teachers participating in the peer mediation program of regional schools. There were two online exchanges organized for the teachers which were well attended.

Social media like Facebook and Instagram were given more attention to than before, FNF sending posts and sharing information and appeals on the topics of women’s empowerment and participation in decision making in peace processes, abolition of nuclear arms, resistance towards the purchase of killer drones by the German army, solidarity with Iranian women in their fight for freedom, appeal to end warfare in Ukraine in favor of arbitration etc.

Networking is very important within the Women’s Network for Peace itself and with other German or international networks or alliances, e.g. the “Sea Bridge” to end drowning in the Mediterranean Sea, the Working Group on “Gender and Peace”, “Stop the Arms Trade” related to Germany as No 4 in the list of arms trading nations. Convening the IAW Peace Commission with members from different continents was a rewarding work in networking and cooperation for Heide Schuetz, honorary president of FNF.

FNF has been active in the preparatory process for a new German civil society “Network for Feminist Foreign Policy and Development” and has continued to work within the” Network 1325” for the implementation of UNSCR 1325 on “Women, Peace and Security” by the German government. A regular exchange between this group and representatives of the government, mainly the Foreign Ministry, has been going on in regard to the German National Action Plans (NAP) and different facets of the UN resolution. But this year the coalition launched a profound policy paper “Approach to a German Feminist Foreign Policy” (Unfortunately it has not been translated into English yet. The German title reads: Annäherung an eine feministische Aussenpolitik Deutschlands). FNF was part of the drafting group with the focus on peace processes and multilateralism. Furthermore, a “Parliamentarian Breakfast” on the role of the German parliament for a feminist foreign policy will take place in November in Berlin.

Bertha von Suttner was the first woman to be awarded with the Peace Nobel Prize in 1905. Since 2005 the Women’s Network for Peace has been engaged in bringing her ideas to life again honoring her outstanding work and personality. A sculpture and a tram that carries her portrait and a quotation besides information on the Nobel Peace Prize was initiated by FNF in Bonn. As we do every year, we remember her publicly on the anniversary of her birth and of her death. This year we were able to commemorate her death anniversary even in Vienna in front of the house where she died.
During the Bonn International Days for Peace which are celebrated each year around the UN International Day for Peace on September 21 the citizens of Bonn were invited to a lecture on her life and work which was well received. Close cooperation related to Bertha von Suttner has been taken place this year with a peace Museum in Estaing, France, and for some years already with the Peace Institute for Progress, Georgia. There the Bertha-von-Suttner International Peace Prize was awarded for the fourth time this year - in Zugdidi in the Didiani Castle where Bertha von Suttner had lived for some years with her husband. Both institutions are run by a woman.

A broad civil network on climate change has been established in Germany. The Women’s Network for Peace has joined the movement with the core message that the climate and the peace movement must work hand in hand. (See our cartoon in previous booklet) The CO₂ emissions caused by the military in times of war and peace (!) are by far the worst worldwide, but data about this scientifically proven fact are not tabled because of the resistance of the USA since the Kyoto protocol 1997. This must be changed by COP 27 this year.
On the photo you see Annegret Krüger (left), vice president of the FNF board and IAW individual member, and Heide Schütz (right) FNF honorary president, in the background an FNF member with FNF flag.
LA COLOMBE

Les activités de LA COLOMBE ont porté essentiellement sur les droits des femmes et des enfants et la santé sexuelle de la reproduction.

1. Dans le domaine des droits des femmes et des enfants:

- 38 épouses des chefs de villages appelées « Fiosrons » ont été formées en leadership, les violences basées sur le genre, le mécanisme de prise en charge des victimes, le plaidoyer au niveau communautaire, le counseling. Les Fiosrons constituent désormais dans une quarantaine de villages dans la région maritime (sud Togo), des défenseures des droits des femmes et des filles. Elles interviennent chaque fois qu’elles sont informées d’un cas de violation de droits de la femme. Elles font le plaidoyer auprès de leurs maris chefs de villages afin que les femmes et les filles jouissent de leurs droits d’accès à la terre, les filles soient à l’abri de la traite des personnes et des mariages précoces et mariages forcés.

- 121 filles dont l’âge est compris entre 16 et 35 ans parmi lesquelles ; 23 filles mères vulnérables et 71 filles victimes de violences basées sur le genre dont 6 vivants avec un handicap ont bénéficié de services variés : apprentissage de métier de couture et de coiffure, kits scolaires, établissement d’actes de naissance, fonds de petit commerce. Ceci pour les rendre capables de se prendre en charge et d’être autonomes.

- 74 groupements de femmes sont formés à la pratique de l’approche Fafawa (épargne et crédit), en gestion des activités génératrices de revenus (parmi les membres, 61 femmes vivent avec un handicap);

- 20 groupements ont bénéficié de crédits sociaux sans solde (subvention) d’une valeur de 200$ à 250$ afin de renforcer leur épargne et combler l’impact de covid19 sur leurs activités ;

- 543 élèves dont 443 filles ont bénéficié de fournitures scolaires;

- Appui au centre de jeunes de Danyi Attigba;

  - Le centre forme des jeunes en couture et offre des espaces de lecture aux jeunes. Le centre gère un motel qui génère des revenus pour prendre en charge les cas les plus vulnérables.

- 31 chefs de villages, 11 chefs religieux, 42 groupements, 13 conseillers municipaux, 30 Enseignants; 25 responsables des organisations de la société civile et des services
techniques statiques ont renforcé leurs connaissances sur les violences faites basées sur le genre, violences sexuelles et mariages précoces;

- 25 campagnes de plaidoyers ont été organisées dans 11 villages sur les mariages précoces;

2. **Dans le domaine de la santé:**

- 22 journalistes des radios rurales et communautaires formés sur la Gestion de Hygiène des Menstrues (GHM), la SSR ;
- 284 émissions radiophoniques réalisées;
- 79 parents formés dont 53 femmes et 26 hommes sur la Santé sexuelle et de la reproduction;
- 854 élèves touchées par les sensibilisations;
- 500 filles ont bénéficié de kits GHM (composé de pochette, savon, serviette hygiénique, slip, sachet);
- 565 personnes ont bénéficié de kits anti-covid 19;
- 170 mamans dont les enfants souffrent de malnutrition du niveau 2 ont bénéficié des kits alimentaires composés de sorgho ou mais, de riz, niébé et du miel;
- 181 femmes vulnérables ont bénéficié de kits sanitaires et ou alimentaires;
- 5 fora communautaires réalisées sur le Droit à la santé sexuelle et de la reproduction (DSSR);

3. **Dans le cadre de la mise en œuvre du projet Eau et serviette pour les écolières**

- 142 élèves ont renforcé leur connaissance sur la santé sexuelle et de la reproduction. Ils ont pris conscience de l’existence des Infections sexuellement transmissibles;
- 79 filles dont l’âge se situe entre 11 et 22 ans ont été renforcées en gestion de l’hygiène des menstrues.

4. **Dans le domaine de Paix et sécurité**

- Dans le cadre de l’implication des femmes dans la gestion des conflits, LA COLOMBE a réalisé des actions de plaidoyers à l’endroit des chefs de villages, des chefs coutumiers et des transhumants ainsi que des ateliers de renforcement de capacités sur la paix et la gestion des conflits.
- 51 chefs traditionnels et religieux, 20 acteurs de développement et 60 femmes ont été touchés.
Atelier de formation des « Fiosrons » (épouses des chefs de villages)

Fourniture de machine à coudre aux filles victimes
l’ONG survenue de la mere et de L’enfant (AIF)

L’équilibre du monde est tributaire du niveau de respect des droits de la femme. L’humanité l’a si bien compris que de plus en plus des actions, quand même isolées, se font bien. La République du Bénin quant à elle s’est dotée le 14 Novembre 2019 d’un Code Electoral dont les articles 144 et 145 stipulent clairement que « Au moins une femme doit être bien positionnée dans chacune des vingt-quatre Circonscriptions électorales que compte le pays ». En cas de respect de cette disposition légale, l’Assemblée Nationale du Bénin devra compter au moins vingt-quatre femmes sur les cent neuf Députés.

Quel progrès !

Fort de cette ouverture, l’ONG SURVIE DE LE MERE ET DE L’ENFANT dont la vision est : « La démocratie restera toujours inachevée tant que les droits de la majorité que constituent les femmes et les enfants ne seront pas intégralement respectés », a élaboré un projet dénommé « Projet de mise en place d’une pépinière de femmes leaders dans les communes de Dassa-Zoumé, Glazoué et Savalou. La phase expérimentale qui s’est déroulée du 1er Avril 2021 au 31 Mars 2022 a produit quatre-vingt-dix femmes leaders dont quarante-cinq issues des partis politiques actifs au Bénin, quinze dans le monde des artisans puis trente dans le monde des étudiantes. Les quarante-cinq femmes leaders issues des partis politiques s’activent très sérieusement pour les élections législatives de Janvier 2023. Le succès remporté par ce projet a motivé le gouvernement du Canada agissant par l’entremise d’Affaires Mondiales Canada à renouveler le projet pour les trois autres communes du département des Collines. Cette phase II du projet qui a démarré le 1er Avril 2022 est actuellement en cours et s’achèvera le 31 Mars 2023. Cette seconde phase produira également quatre-vingt-dix femmes leaders.

L’expérience de la France dont l’Assemblée Nationale est présidée par une femme avec quatre vice-présidentes sur six, devrait inspirer les vrais démocrates africains.

Dans le cadre de la mise en œuvre de ce projet, SURVIE ONG a reçu l’appui de tous les partis politiques sans exception, de même que celui de Mme Cécile Goudou KPANGON de l’Association des Femmes Journalistes du Bénin, de Me Alexandrine F. SAÏZONOU épouse BEDIE membre de l’Association des Femmes Droits et Développement du Bénin, Avocat au Barreau du Bénin, de Madame Christine GBEDJI, ancienne Ministre de la Famille et membre influente de l’Association des Anciennes Femmes Ministres et Parlementaires du Bénin puis, celui de l’Honorables Sèdami MEDEGAN-FAGLA, Députée dans la législature actuelle du Bénin. L’Institut National de la Femme n’est pas resté indifférent à ce projet.

Le bonheur se lisait sur le visage de Madame Marie-Fiacre MITOBAWA, Représentante d’Affaires Mondiales Canada le 10 Août 2022 à Dassa-Zoumé à l’occasion des activités de suivi du projet.

L’ambition de l’ONG est de dupliquer ce projet dans plusieurs autres départements que compte le Bénin, en prélude aux élections communales, municipales, législatives et présidentielle de 2026. L’ONG s’est donnée pour objectifs, au moins trente (30) femmes à
l’Assemblée Nationale sur les cent neuf députés à élire, trente (30) femmes Maires sur les soixante-dix-sept (77) à élire et un nombre important de femmes Chefs d’Arrondissements et de villages. La Présidente de SURVIE ONG, Madame SINZOGAN Prisque est très fière des résultats de la phase I du projet et prendra très bientôt son bâton de pèlerin pour la mobilisation de ressources financières qui permettront à l’ONG de préparer véritablement les élections de 2026.

www.surviemereenfant.org ; email : ong.survie@gmail.com

**Madame Aurelienne DEFODJI, Cheffe Projet.**
Email : aureliennedefodji@gmail.com
Rural Women’s Network, RUWON Nepal

Rural Women’s Network is a Women’s organization that has been working hard to improve the condition of marginalized girls and women in rural Nepal since 2007.

RUWON Nepal strives to contribute for the economic and social development of the country at local, national and international levels by helping grassroots women and marginalized people through networking, empowerment, and education.

RUWON Nepal has the especial Consultative Status to the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). It is the highest status granted by the United Nations to non-governmental organizations (NGO’s), thereby allowing us to participate in the work of the United Nations.

Current Projects

1. Microfinance

Transforming the Lives Of Disadvantaged Communities

RUWON Nepal, has developed the micro-finance program through interest free loans for women from a variety of communities of the rural district of Sindhuli. The interest free loans are being provided to the neediest single (divorced, war widows, separated) women so that they can start their own businesses and become self-reliant. This program has helped women to become more independent, as well as gaining their own identity and self-esteem in society. We have so far provided this loan to 155 women. The project has delivered very positive outcomes as when the loans are paid back more women are recruited.
2. **Leadership and capacity training**

RUWON has a project that provides leadership and capacity building training for disadvantaged women from rural Nepal. Women are provided with interpersonal and professional skills in areas of education, development, empowerment, capacity building, leadership, political participation, democracy, human rights and social justice regarding gender-based problems. This improves their self-esteem and confidence, group work and leadership skills. It is anticipated that through training in these areas’ women will be able to actively participate in society and create political and social change in the area of gender equality and human rights.

This training is carried-out when we get sponsorship. We have provided this training to 355 women so far.

3. **Water and Pad Project**

The monthly cycle belongs to the life of women all over the globe. For women in affluent countries it is a commonplace recurrent fact. But in remote/rural areas of countries Nepal the periodic bleeding is subject to shame and taboos. This can have dire consequences for school-girls. They lack any knowledge of sexual and reproductive health. Sanitary pads are almost
unavailable. To avoid being mobbed many schoolgirls hide at home during their period using dirty rags. Absence from classes' amount to 5 -7 days per month consequently they have to abandon school prematurely.

These adolescents are particularly at risk of sexual violence, undesired pregnancies and forced marriage. With the partnership with IAW RUWON Nepal is doing a very meaningful and interesting project at different schools in Nepal to aware of sexual and reproductive health. The female students who have reached the age of menstruation are also providing with an Eco-friendly sanitary kit and an educational booklet.

4. Funding Girls Education

We support 25 uneducated girls living in Sindhuli District and Kathmandu Valley to go to school. These girls remain in the home undertaking domestic chores, and with our funding we give them the opportunity to go to school. RUWON Nepal funds the school fees, extra tuition fees, uniforms, shoes, bags and stationery. This includes girls from primary school age up to University. This project has been running since 2016 but we now need more funds so the girls can continue their education next year and future years.

5. IT Training & E-Mentoring

RUWON Nepal is providing IT training for girls and women from rural areas. Our focus is the women and girls from the earthquake-affected areas in the rural communities who are studying
at university in Kathmandu. They have a huge disadvantage when they come to compete with girls and boys from other backgrounds in cities areas for employment. Our aim is to provide girls and women from rural backgrounds who are studying in University with computer skills to enhance their employability. Currently we are training 30 women and girls.

E-mentoring

RUWON, has also set up an 8-week e-mentoring program for the participants of our IT training program.

Every week, the students focus on a soft skill and exchange emails with mentors from all around the world to discuss this topic. The soft skills covered include time-management, teamwork and problem-solving skills, for example.
RAPPORT D’ACTIVITES 2021 et 2022

INTRODUCTION

Crée en 1998, l’Association d’aide à l’Education de l’Enfant Handicapé (AAEEH) est une organisation à but non lucratif qui a pour objectif de contribuer à la réalisation d’une éducation de qualité, équitable et inclusive pour TOUS concernant les personnes handicapées. En tant qu’organisation caritative, humanitaire et de développement intervenant aux plans national international, AAEEH est implantée en France et à l’étranger Afrique subsaharienne et un point focal aux USA. Depuis 2013, elle est dotée du statut consultatif spécial auprès des Nations Unies (ECOSOC). Elle est membre de différents réseaux et groupes dédiés au handicap ou à d’autres thématiques et sujets transversaux, elle est membre du groupe de travail des ONG de l’UNESCO sur l’éducation depuis 2007, puis membre de la consultation collective des ONG UNESCO Education2030 entres autres. Dans son travail, AAEEH s’appuie sur la convention relative aux droits des personnes handicapées (art. 24), celle relative aux droits des enfants (art. 21), au programme 2030 pour les objectifs de développement durable (objectifs 4, 5 et 17) et aux législations nationales des pays où elle intervient.

En 2021 et 2022, malgré la pandémie qui a bouleversé son plan d’action, AAEEH a poursuivi ses activités selon ses 3 axes d’action :

- la sensibilisation au handicap,
- le plaidoyer pour une prise en compte du handicap dans les politiques publiques et les programmes de développement et
- l’appui multiforme aux enfants handicapés et à leurs familles.

Elle a mené la majorité de ses actions et activités en format virtuel ou hybride. Ces activités ont porté sur la sensibilisation, le plaidoyer, les positionnements, le soutien à la scolarisation des enfants handicapés et la représentation dans diverses instances.

Au cours de 2021 et 2022, malgré la pandémie elle est venue en aide, de manière diverses à des centaines d’enfants handicapés et a accompagné de nombreuses familles. Elle a également contribué aux activités planifiées par les organisations et réseaux dont elle est membre sur des projets collectifs.

https://aaeh.fr/en/notre-action/
ACTIVITÉS REALISÉES EN FRANCE

Au plan national nous avons continué d’alimenter une veille informationnelle sur Facebook pour fournir et relayer les informations relatives à la continuité des apprentissages, les mesures sanitaires en rapport avec la pandémie de la COVID19. Nous avons produit également un guide d’informations relatif à la scolarisation des enfants handicapés en France. En sa qualité de membre du secrétariat du collectif générations féministes (qui rassemble une cinquantaine d’organisations de la société civile française, associations et ONG), notre organisation a été très impliquée à la préparation du forum génération égalité dans une démarche de co-construction avec la société civile féministe mexicaine. Nous avons participé à de nombreuses réunions avec le gouvernement français et ONU Femmes siège, contribué à la définition des axes de plaidoyer, au développement de la stratégie de participation de la société civile et des messages clés à porter. Nous avons également pris une part très active à la préparation et l’organisation, en amont de la tenue du forum génération égalité à Paris (30 juin et 1er Juillet 2021), de la campagne des 24h pour mettre fin aux violences sexuelles et sexistes et pour le financement des organisations féministes (#StopTalking#StartFunding) co-organisée par notre collectif et NousToutes.

Nous poursuivons nos activités de proximité au niveau de notre arrondissement (conseil local du handicap) et des instances de la ville de Paris (conseil des générations futures, conseil parisien des associations).

ACTIVITÉS REALISÉES À L’INTERNATIONAL

- briser les tabous, préjugés et stéréotypes à l’intersection du genre et du handicap.
- donner la parole et amplifier les voix des filles et femmes handicapées: “Plus rien pour elles sans elles”
– inspirer à travers les récits de parcours pour offrir des modèles identificatoires.

Dans le cadre de ce projet et pour atteindre les objectifs visés, cinq épisodes de la série récit de parcours ont été animés par visio conférences ou en format hybride. Des thématiques comme le leadership féministe et le handicap, la violence basée sur le genre et le handicap ainsi que les questions de la santé de la reproduction concernant les filles et femmes handicapées en lien avec l’éducation ont été abordées. En moyenne une cinquantaine de participants avec des profils variés venant de trois continents (Afrique, Europe, Amérique) ont été enregistrés à chacune de nos sessions.Chaque des sessions a donné lieu à des recommandations, des pistes de reflexion ou d’actions.

Pour amplifier les voix, un document de plaidoyer intitulé “Pourquoi porter la voix des filles handicapées au forum génération égalité? Priorités et recommandations” signé (60
signataires) au nom des organisations ou à titre individuel a été produit et largement distribué en version bilingue (français/anglais).


En 2022, nous avons lancé l’initiative “des kits dignité pour les adolescentes handicapées” qui vise à offrir des protection hygiénique, informations et sensibilisation autour de la santé reproductive, des produits d’hygiène et des fournitures scolaires, ce projet a obtenu la double labelisation de ONU Femmes FRANCE. L’organisation est porteuse d’engagement sur 3 coalitions d’action du forum génération égalité.


DEFIS ET PERSPECTIVES

Notre organisation s’est engagée pour les droits des personnes handicapées, avec une attention particulière pour les filles handicapées ces dernières années. Le projet sur les filles handicapées est important pour nous car il met en évidence les aspects transversaux du handicap, du genre et de l’éducation, ainsi que d’autres questions connexes telles que le rôle des parents et de la communauté, les questions de violences basées sur le genre; la santé de la reproduction, le leadership et l’autonomisation économique; mais nous manquons de fonds réguliers pour couvrir toutes ses composantes.

Au cours de l’année 2023, nous poursuivrons notre implication dans tous les aspects concernant l’éducation et les questions de genre, le suivi des conventions internationales et des ODD 4 et 5. Avec le succès remporté par notre série « récit de parcours » nous espérons faire encore plus par exemple : offrir des kits dignité aux adolescentes handicapées et continuer d’amplifier les voix pour inspirer et servir ou offrir des modèles.
La pandémie liée à la covid-19 a affecté lourdement les populations de la Mauritanie surtout celles qui habitent dans les zones défavorisées. Elle a mis en exergue les insuffisances en termes d’accès des populations aux services d’eau potable, à l’assainissement et à des dispositifs liés à l’hygiène nécessaire au lavage des mains. Cela alors même que ce sont des services essentiels à la lutte contre la propagation du coronavirus.

En réponse à ces enjeux, les équipes de l’ONG Mafubo Mauritanie a mené plusieurs activités en vue d’améliorer la santé des populations et limiter la propagation du virus en milieu rural mauritanien.

Pendant la pandémie de Covid-19, l’ONG Mafubo Mauritanie a réalisé trois activités principales notamment :
1. Forage des puits
2. Fabrication des savons
3. Visite des centres de santé locale

En ce qui concerne le forage de puits, l’ONG Mafubo Mauritanie a construit de forages de puits pour faciliter un meilleur accès à l’eau potable et à l’assainissement, mais aussi par une sensibilisation aux bonnes pratiques d’hygiène et aux gestes barrières. Comme dans de nombreuses régions rurales de Guidimakha, commune de Gouraye et Ould Yenge l’accès à l’eau potable y est précaire et dérisoire. Les structures existantes sont rudimentaires et fournissent de l’eau saumâtre et de qualité médiocre. Dans les villages de TEKTAKE, KOROKORO et Foulé, la tâche de chercher de l’eau est souvent confiée aux jeunes filles. Les populations qui habitent ces contrées doivent marcher une heure voire deux heures sur des pistes sablonneuses jusqu’aux puits. Cela occasionne souvent l’absence prolongé de certaines filles à se rendre à l’école car elles sont trop fatiguées en revenant de puits à cause la longue distance parcourue à la recherche d’eau potable.

Ayant le souci de venir en aide les populations défavorisées, l’ONG Mafubo Mauritanie a fait de fundraising/collecte de fonds auprès de diasporas mauritaniens et aux personnes de bonne volonté en vue de pallier à ce problème de manque d’accès à l’eau potable dans les villages de TEKTAKE, KOROKORO et Foulé. Auparavant, il fallait marcher jusqu’à deux heures pour atteindre les puits dont certains d’eux avaient une profondeur de 50 mètres et il fallait avoir de la force pour soulever le seau d’eau rempli. Maintenant grâce aux soutiens de l’ONG Mafubo Mauritanie, les populations de ces villages parcoururent moins de distances pour accéder à l’eau potable. Signalons aussi que ces puits construits ont une profondeur de 5m à 10m, ce qui rend l’accès facile de l’eau potable à toute la population.
Avant la construction de forages de puits dans ces villages de, parfois les villageois devaient payer moins d'un dollar pour un bidon de 20 litres auprès de propriétaires de charrettes qui ont les moyens de transporter des bidons d'eau. Depuis le début du projet, ils ne paient presque rien. L'argent mis de côté servira à d'autres besoins essentiels tels qu'acheter de la nourriture, les habits, etc.


Aussi les équipes de l’ONG Mafubo Mauritanie fabriquaient de cache nez à l’aide de tissus locaux et les distribués aux personnes vulnérables qui n’avaient pas de moyens de s’en approprier. Pendant ce temps, elles faisaient de sensibilisation de masse sur l’importance de porter les caches nez pendant la pandémie de Covid-19.
Troisièmement, l’activité de la visite des centres de santé locale consistait à identifier les matériels nécessaires qui manquaient dans les structures. Aussi, lors de ces visites, il était question d’encourager les femmes enceintes de ces villages d’aller au centre de santé pour de consultations post natales en d’éviter tous les risques liés à l’accouchement. Ces visites ont été un bon moment de sensibiliser les malades en général et les femmes en particulier à prendre de vaccin contre le Covid-19.

Fait à Mauritanie, le 20/10/2022 Mme Gangue Diouma
Présidente de l’ONG Mafubo Mauritanie
Dr Djamila Goumaïwè ASSAMA SIDI

SOCIO-DIPLOMATE-POLITOLOGUE- ASSISTANTE EN COMMUNICATION ET PROMOTION DE LA FEMME Membre individuelle à l’AIF, , Marraine de l’Association « Une Sœur Une Collégienne » et Présidente de l’ONG Action pour le Développement et les Conseils des Femmes (ADCF)

Rapport d’activité 2020-2022

La pauvreté, le chômage et la perte d’espoir du changement du régime politique pour les plus avisés et le marketing agressif des trafiquants, justifient la recrudescence de la migration, qu’elle soit volontaire ou par contrainte, clandestine ou légale. Elle est devenue un palliatif pour des familles modestes ayant leur espoir de vie meilleure par la réussite des enfants et particulièrement la jeune fille. Cette dernière parait donc comme, une adulte, une femme, mère de famille dès son jeune âge et développe des ambitions pour sortir ses parents de la misère vaille que vaille.

En dépit des avancées du cadre promotionnel de la jeune fille et de la femme au Togo : école gratuite pour les jeunes filles au primaire et au secondaire, les nominations des femmes à des postes de responsabilité, les interventions continuent des organisations féminines, les femmes demeurent rares et marginalisées dans les niveaux supérieurs, de formations, d’études et d’emplois, publics, privés, politique ou civil. L’égalité homme-femme par le maintien des filles à l’école demeure donc un parcours de combattant au sein de la société justifiant ainsi notre engagement au sein de l’AIF en tant que membre individuel depuis 2020.

Cet engagement en faveur des femmes est matérialisé par :

- La création en février 2020, de l’association Une Sœur Une Collégienne (USUC) qui regroupe les femmes et les hommes ainsi que des artistes engagées pour la cause des femmes et les jeunes filles, dont la vision est de protéger les parents, écolières et les filles en apprentissage contre les publicités mensongères des trafiquants et la migration clandestine, afin de maintenir les filles à l’école.

- La participation au congrès de l’AIF en Novembre 2020

- La création des micro-entreprises en communication et médias (www.skdcentraltogov.tg/.com et Daily Job) et en prestation de service, agrobusiness et commerce (CENTRAL HOLDING CONSORTIUM qui a déjà mis en valeur un champ de production d’ananas bio) en faveur des jeunes à Sokodé et à Lomé depuis décembre 2020 dont la vision est la création et la pérennité des emplois et des richesses

- L’acceptation de la présidence de l’ONG Action pour le Développement et les Conseils des Femmes (ADCF) en novembre 2021 dans la perspective d’agir à la réduction de la vulnérabilité et à la pulsion de l’émancipation effective des femmes. (Je suis membre fondateur de l’ADCF créé depuis 2009)

Les résultats de ces initiatives se mesurent par la régularité des activités et des actions à effets directs ou indirects sur les femmes et les jeunes filles en terme économique et social.

Les activités de sensibilisations et d’actions en faveurs des familles vulnérables, des femmes, des jeunes et des filles exposées sont menées conjointement par l’ONG ADCF et l’association USUC. Toutefois, les jeunes filles en milieux scolaire et en apprentissage sont prises en charge par l’USUC et les femmes, les parents et les autorités sont la cible de sensibilisations et de concertation de l’ADCF.

C’est dans cet optique que la conférence-causerie sur le thème de : « Fille d’aujourd’hui, femme de demain : Préservons les jeunes filles en milieu scolaire contre la migration clandestine » a été co-organisée par les 2 structures sœurs en août 2022 à Sokodé (cf news letter N°5 de l’AIF d’octobre 2022). La conception des gadgets et supports de sensibilisation ainsi que des dons les cache-nez, les T-shirts, ... sont également des initiatives communes de l’ADCF et de l’USUC.

A la note particulière de l’ADCF les activités principales menées courant cette année 2022, sont :

- La réalisation d’un film documentaire sur la résilience des femmes rurales face aux dérèglements climatiques et les violences qu’elles subissent,
- La campagne de reboisement de 1000 arbres par les femmes, dans les villages environnants de la ville de Sokodé, en collaboration avec le ministère de l’environnement.
- La formation de 3 groupements socio-économiques des femmes
Pour USUC, les activités essentielles ont été
- L’animation des émissions radiophoniques directes et interactives en français et en langues locales, suivi des jeux et des dons des kits scolaires
- Des rencontres et organisations des jeunes filles porte-paroles de l’USUC dans les établissements scolaires ainsi que dans les villages de komoundé, Djarakpenga, et Boulowou.
- Une campagne médiatique de sensibilisation sur les radios rurales animée par les jeunes filles lycéennes et les membres du bureau de l’USUC à SOKODE, BAFILO et Lomé.
- L’initiation des jeunes à l’audio-visuel pour les vacances utiles
- Le placement des bachelières dans les familles d’accueil dans les villes universitaires de Lomé et de Kara (6 à Kara et 15 à Lomé) ainsi que la recherche des partenaires fiables à l’étranger pour les formations dualistes.

Les projets d’occupation scolaire et extra-scolaire des jeunes filles et des femmes en cours d’étude sont :
- Une collégienne, Une planche de jardin Scolaire afin d’occuper les filles en plein temps
- Un village une Bibliothèque digitalisée, à accès libre pour les femmes afin de les connecter au monde extérieur. Ce projet fait suite au constat d’abandon des études universitaires pour cause de méconnaissance de l’internet par les étudiantes venues des villages non connectés.
- Le Mentoring, Une marraine/ Une Sœur/ Une femme, Une collégienne travailleuse issue d’une famille nécessiteuse afin de faire agir chaque femme pour la promotion des filles.
- L’extension des activités des vacances utiles à d’autres domaines socioculturels et économique
- La recherche des partenaires pour l’accueil et l’hébergement d’un plus grand nombre d’étudiantes sans parents dans les villes universitaires
- La poursuite des formations des groupements de femmes et la recherche de financement de leurs activités. 3 groupements de 25 femmes ont reçu cette année une aide de 1500 000 F CFA (1500 dollars US) post COVID-19 sur fonds propre pour la transformation des produits locaux et le petit commerce.
- l’extension des activités de l’ADCF à l’échelle nationale
- Adhésion de l’ADCF à l’AIF.

STOP A LA MIGRATION CLANDESTINES DES JEUNES FILLES SCOLARISEES !
Fait à Lomé, 27 octobre 20

Tel / WhatsApp : +228 90 15 60 25  E-mail : assamadjamila@gmail.com
Introduction

En Afrique de l’Ouest, précisément en Guinée, les femmes travaillent généralement plus que les hommes. Elles s’occupent des jardins, des animaux et des travaux des champs, vont chercher le bois de chauffage et l’eau, sont responsables de l’alimentation de la famille et du foyer, surveillent la croissance et l’éducation des enfants, les soignent lorsqu’ils en ont besoin, garantissent la stabilité du foyer, assurent les revenus de la famille en faisant toutes sortes de travaux, généralement dans le secteur informel et sans sécurité sociale: elles sont couturières, cuisinières, coiffeuses, femmes de ménage, productrices de biens alimentaires, vendeuses sur les marchés, elles travaillent dans l’artisanat et dans le domaine des services.

Mais en dépit de leur importance pour la famille et la société, les femmes sont généralement défavorisées par rapport aux hommes dans les principaux domaines: éducation, niveau de revenus, droit d’héritage, droit foncier, accès aux pouvoirs de décision, mise en place de communautés sociales, postes de direction dans l’éducation, l’économie et la politique. L’égalité des sexes est loin d’être ancrée dans la conscience collective et la réalité.

Activités réalisées par AFESE

Au cours de cette année 2021, les différentes activités ont été réalisées (expositions, ateliers de formation) par l’association « Aucune Femme Sans EMPLOI » communément appelée AFESE. Ces activités réalisées sont détaillées dans les lignes suivantes.

DU 15 au 20 Juin 2021 : Une exposition de vente a été organisée à l’hôtel Kaloum avec la participation de l’association AFESE.

DU 1ER au 4 Juillet 2021 : L’association AFESE a bénéficié d’une formation avec l’assistance de WINROCK INTERNATIONAL du programme FARMER TO FARMER. La formation portait sur la gestion des coopératives dans les locaux de la caisse nationale de sécurité sociale.

A la même date une autre nous a représenté à la radiotélévision guinéenne(RTG) dans une émission appelée ZENITH KOLOMA sur l’autonomisation et entrepreneuriat des femmes.


DU 20 au 25 SEPTEMBRE 2021: L’AFESE a reçu une formation pratique en transformation de la boisson et confiture telle que : le nectar de Kiri (pain de singe), gingembre, la confiture de pomme et de l’ananas, toujours avec assistance de WINROCK INTERNATIONAL à Kindia.

DU 1ER au 3 OCTOBRE 2021: L’association a pris part à une autre exposition à l’hôtel Palm en partenariat avec l’Office National de Promotion de l’Artisanat(ONPA).

Conclusion
Pour conclure, cette année 2021 a été une année merveilleuse pour l’AFESE malgré les difficultés rencontrées. A travers les différentes formations que l’association a bénéficiée, AFESE a su se mettre au travail pour y arriver. C’est ainsi qu’AFESE lance un appel solennel aux institutions et bailleurs de fonds afin de faire face à ce secteur d’Entrepreneuriat féminin.

Fait en Guinée, le 18/10/2022
Mme Djenabou Coker BANGOURA
Présidente de l’Association Aucune Femme Sans Emploi
Introduction :

La situation actuelle de pandémie de COVID-19, aggravée par l'obligation de confinement [décret de l'état d'urgence], s'est présentée comme l'un des plus grands défis sanitaires, sociaux et économiques au Cap-Vert de Tira-chapéu.

Ainsi, ACRIDES, une ONG qui promeut et défend les droits des enfants, a lancé et coordonné la campagne "Solidarité en action" dont l'objectif était de collecter des dons et des aides financières pour l'achat de nourriture afin de distribuer des paniers de nourriture de base à la population la plus vulnérable du quartier de Tira-chapéu touchée par la pandémie COVID-19, où elle mène des interventions sociales depuis 10 ans. La campagne a pu atteindre d'autres quartiers de la ville de Praia pour aider les familles en situation précaire. La campagne a débuté le 6 avril, avec le stockage des produits alimentaires donnés, l'ensachage des paniers et leur distribution.

Dans un premier temps, la campagne s'est adressée aux enfants ayant des besoins spéciaux et aux personnes âgées. Avec l'extension de l'état d'urgence, il était nécessaire d'élargir la stratégie de collecte de nourriture et d'autres produits de première nécessité pour aider les familles les plus vulnérables du quartier de Tira-chapéu.

Activités réalisées par l'ONG ACRIDES

A cause de la pandémie du Covid-19 et la pauvreté dont fait face la population du Cap Vert, l'ONG ACRIDES a focalisé ses activités dans l'octroi des denrées alimentaires aux enfants en besoin et aux personnes de troisième âge surtout les femmes.

La campagne a débuté le 6 avril, avec le stockage des produits alimentaires donnés, l'ensachage des paniers et leur distribution.
Eu égard à ce qui précède, tout au long de cette année, l’ONG ACRIDES a assumé le rôle de soutien aux familles les plus défavorisées en étant présentes dans les quartiers, dans les actions d’aide alimentaire aux familles dans le besoin, dans la collecte de dons et dans la sensibilisation de la population.

Ainsi, deux campagnes ont été lancées sur le réseau social Facebook: l’une sous l'instruction de la psychologue capverdienne Dr Rosilda James, résidant aux USA, en Californie et, l'autre sous la direction des membres d'ACRIDES Paris. Ces deux initiatives ont permis de récolter 801 795 $00 ECV (9 000 dollars et 800 euros), ce qui a largement contribué au succès de la campagne "Solidarité en action".

Cette aide a permis de répondre aux besoins primaires de 489 ménages, soit 2405 personnes. Parmi le groupe de bénéficiaires, environ 699 sont des enfants, vivant avec les mères chefs de famille. L'impact de notre campagne a été d'avoir réussi de manière ininterrompue [pendant la phase de quarantaine de 70 jours] à distribuer de la nourriture et des produits d'hygiène à la population la plus vulnérable.

Difficultés rencontrées

Les restrictions de l’état d’urgence ont eu un fort impact sur le revenu des ménages, avec la fermeture d’espaces de travail et la limitation des activités économiques. Le gouvernement a cherché à atténuer les effets de la pandémie en approuvant un ensemble de mesures économiques et financières, telles que le "licenciement" en vigueur : protection de l'emploi, garantie des salaires et soutien au secteur informel; malgré cela, les difficultés financières des familles se sont aggravées.

On constate que ce sont les personnes en situation économique plus précaire qui sont les plus touchées financièrement par la crise. Ce groupe comprend 140 000 personnes vivant sur le seuil de pauvreté extrême.

Ainsi, la plus grande difficulté rencontree pendant la campagne "SOLIDARITE EN ACTION" d'ACRIDES était l'insuffisance de moyens financiers et matériels pour subvenir aux besoins primaires de toute la population. ACRIDES n’a pas pu répondre aux besoins alimentaires de tous les enfants vulnérables en particulier, et à toute la population Capverdienne en général.

Recommandations

ONG ACRIDES - Association pour l'enfance défavorisée lance un SOS aux organisations humanitaires, bailleurs des fonds, aux personnes de bonne volonté de venir en aide la population capverdienne en général, et les enfants et femmes touchés par la pandémie de COVID-19.

Signalons que bon nombre de familles passent nuit à la belle étoile et le grand nombre d’enfants et femmes risquent de souffrir de la malnutrition si rien n’est fait.

Fait au Cap vert, le 20/10/2022
Mme Lourença Tavares, Présidente du Conseil d’administration
RAPPORT DES ACTIVITÉS ANNUELLES D’ADAFEV 2022

Mme RACHEL MAGALA, Coordinatrice d’ADAFEV
https://www.adafevrdc.org;
https://www.facebook.com/ADAFEVRDCONGO

1. AUTONOMISATION DES FEMMES ET FILLES

Au cours de cette année 2022, l’Association d’appui aux femmes et enfants vulnérables, ADAFEV en sigle met l’accent particulier sur le suivi et l’évaluation de ses activités de « Mutuelle de Solidarité », MUSO en faveur des femmes et filles vivantes avec le VIH/SIDA et femmes victimes de violences sexuelles à l’Est de la République Démocratique du Congo, précisément dans le territoire de Fizi, une zone où sévissent les conflits armés à répétition où les femmes et filles sont les plus victimes. Dans la pratique, à partir des avantages de la MUSO, nous sensibilisons les femmes et jeunes filles de l’importance d’appartenir à ce groupe. Ces activités contribuent à l’autonomisation de femmes et lutte contre la vulnérabilité dont elles font face. Les femmes membres de MUSO se conviennent sur un montant de cotisations soit hebdomadaire ou mensuelle selon le cas et commencent leurs cotisations. Le fonds cotisé est donné sous forme de crédit à certaines femmes qui veuillent entreprendre une activité génératrice de revenus (AGR) dans le but d’émanciper et autonomiser financièrement les femmes vulnérables. Celles-ci remboursent le fonds au groupe moyennant un taux d’intérêt bien convenu. Cet intérêt fait gonfler le montant du groupe et au même moment les cotisations continuent et un crédit peut être octroyé à d’autres femmes membres du groupe. Ainsi, nous parlons d’un crédit rotatif dont la priorité est orienté vers les femmes/filles n’exerçant pas d’AGR ou celles dont l’AGR nécessite une amélioration.

Octroi de crédit aux membres de la MUSO et Réunion des membres de la MUSO Maendeleo

En vue d’autonomiser financièrement les femmes et filles vulnérables dans les territoires de Fizi et Uvira, Association d’appui aux femmes et enfants vulnérables, appui, accompagne et forme 95 femmes et filles en métiers professionnels (coupe et couture, savonnerie, pâtisserie, gestion des AGR, etc.). Les images en dessous illustrent en grandes lignes les actions réalisées.
2. **SANTE SEXUELLE ET REPRODUCTIVE**


L’hygiène menstruelle constitue un réel problème pour les filles écolières adolescentes. Par exemple, 3 sur 5 filles restent à la maison par crainte d’être surpris en règle menstruelle sans serviette hygiénique appropriée et sans eau pour le bain intime à l’école, ce qui augmente les chances d’absences répétées à l’école et par ricochet d’abandon scolaire des filles.

Cette campagne de sensibilisation visait à renforcer les capacités aux jeunes de 12 à 18 ans sur les enjeux plus larges liés à la santé et l’hygiène menstruelles. Aussi cette campagne vise à interpeller les décideurs et décideuses pour améliorer les infrastructures sanitaires en milieu scolaire, afin que les règles ne soient pas un frein à la scolarisation des filles, leur participation et leur maintien à l’école pendant leur cycle menstruel.
Lors de débat dans la salle avec les filles adolescentes, nous avons remarqués que bon nombre de filles-élèves utilisent parfois des méthodes inadaptées et dangereuses pour leur santé (des torchons, des feuilles, du papier journal, des morceaux de matelas ou de pagnes, etc.) quand elles sont dans leurs cycles menstruels. Le manque d’éducation sexuelle et reproductive, et le manque d’eau et d’installations sanitaires appropriées compliquent également une gestion hygiénique des règles. Ces adolescentes courent de gros risques d’infections urogénitales (mycoses, vaginoses, infections urinaires) considérables et difficiles à soigner par les personnes les plus vulnérables, qui ont un faible accès au système de santé.

3. ASSISTANCE MEDICALE ET NUTRITIONNELLE

Dans le cadre de son projet d’« Assistance aux femmes et enfants vulnérables en territoire de Fizi/République Démocratique du Congo », ADAFEV a eu le privilège d’assister 95 malades (femmes et enfants) internés dans deux hôpitaux dans le village de Kazimia en territoire de Fizi. Au cours de cette activité, nous avons sensibilisé les femmes sur la lutte contre la malnutrition (consommation des aliments diversifiés dans le repas : aliments de construction, aliments de protection et aliments énergétiques), sur les IST, lutte contre l’avortement, la santé sexuelle et reproductive. Après sensibilisation, nous avons distribué la bouillie nutritionnelle avec de beignets et sandwiches aux malades malnutris. Après cette activité s’en est suivie la distribution de kits vestimentaires en faveur de nouveaux nés et les enfants de moins de 10 ans internés dans les deux hôpitaux (Hôpital de Kazimia et dans le centre de santé de Kazimia). Le kit vestimentaire complet était composé des habits, souliers, poupées, savon, chaussettes, homo, etc.)
Prise en charge de soins aux filles violées
Assistance aux femmes enceintes et allaitantes
Distribution des kits vestimentaires aux malades
Distribution de la bouillie aux enfants

Fait à Fizi/RDC, le 20/10/2022
RACHEL MAGALA/Coordinatrice ADAFEV