



Women's Fund Asia



ANNUAL REPORT

2018 – 2019



WOMEN'S FUND ASIA
ANNUAL REPORT
2018 – 2019

Letter from WFA

We are Women's Fund Asia!

Since changing our name on 8 March 2018, we have embraced our new identity and mandate over the last year. Our Board of Directors saw four new incoming members from East and Southeast Asia, and our team welcomed two new members based in Thailand. It has been a continuous process of growth and adaptation, fuelled by the desire to serve our partners, who inspire us every day. They are located in far more challenging contexts as they work toward social transformation.

As we deepen our work in Asia, strengthening our understanding and outreach, we recognise the challenges of resource flows in Asia. There is a subtle shift away from the region among larger development aid agencies and foundations alike. The rationales range from the increase in middle-income countries across Asia to increasingly complex legal-financial regimes. Moreover, a July 2019 article in *The Guardian* stated that only 1% of aid targeted at gender equality has gone to



women's organizations, and most of it was directed to organizations based the donor countries, leaving only a trickle for the organizations based in the Global South—where much of the work needs to be done. If there ever was a time for standing with the region, it is now.

Despite the shift of attention away from Asia, we are looking at a growing interest in feminist approaches to resources, and grantmaking in particular. We must step up our mandate of engaging with the politics of resources by bringing the needs of the community to the forefront. Only this way can we ensure that donors become allies in the growth and strengthening of movements led by women and trans* people.

Clear in our feminist rooting and approach, our grantmaking is geared to address not only the manifestations of discrimination and inequality, but also its underlying causes. Our focus on the leadership of women and trans* people is based on our political understanding of their status as marginalised, oppressed, and deprived. We use an intersectional

lens to address issues identified by communities, understanding that gender issues are further complicated by caste, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, location, minority status, as well as disability, amongst others. We need long-term strategies with enough flexibility to enable review and redirection.

We would like to see stronger institutions led by women and trans* people, so we encourage applicants to seek core funding from us rather than activity-focused funding. However, we are aware that we must grow our resource pool and ensure that donors fully understand what it takes to sustain strong movements to secure rights for those who are denied. Our mandate is to listen to these communities and be the resource arm for them to wield.

We would like to extend our thanks to the team, board, and advisors who remain committed to WFA's mission to ensure the resourcing of women and trans* rights work. We are ever grateful to our donors, who have also provided unparalleled support: Mama Cash, Global Fund for Women, Wellspring Philanthropic Fund, Ford Foundation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, Foundation for Just Society, and Prospera the International Network of Women's Funds.

Shaheen Anam
Chair

Tulika Srivastava
Executive Director



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Vision

Realising the human rights of women and trans* people in Asia.

Our Background

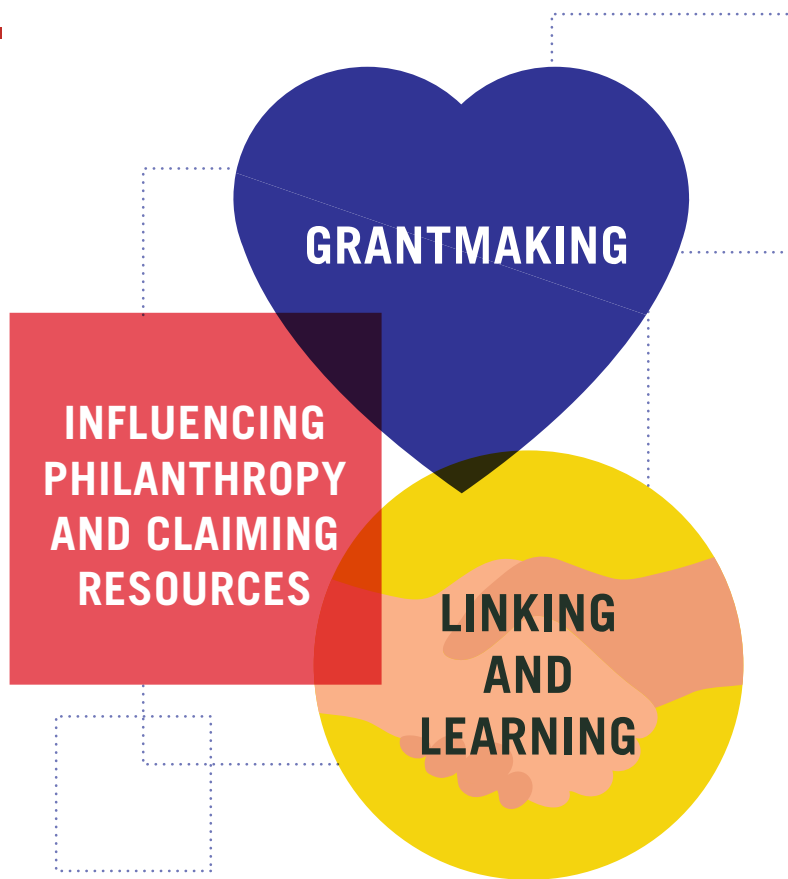
Women's Fund Asia (WFA) is a regional women's fund committed to supporting women and trans* people-led interventions to enhance and strengthen their access to human rights. We began in 2004 as South Asia Women's Fund to address the lack of resources for feminist organizations, especially smaller front-line groups. We now fund women and trans human rights work across 18 countries in Asia.

Mission

WFA works to nurture and lead feminist philanthropy in the region, effectively mobilise resources to support individuals, groups, and networks to enable their sustainability, and strengthen partner capacities, leadership, advocacy, and networks in the field.

This document endorses the use of the name trans* with an asterisk, denoting a placeholder for the entire range of possible gender identities that fall under the broad definition of trans.

Our Key Strategic Areas



GRANTMAKING

Our grants are flexible and focus on filling the resource gaps faced by women and trans* groups. We fund work across five specific thematic areas:

- Strengthening Feminist Voices
- Movement & Labour
- Autonomy, Decisions, & Sexual Rights
- Access to Justice
- Environmental Justice

LINKING AND LEARNING

We facilitate, create, and participate in spaces and opportunities that bring together our partners, allies, and other catalytic actors for collective learning, reflection, and strategising.

INFLUENCING PHILANTHROPY AND CLAIMING RESOURCES

We not only raise funds but also facilitate access to funds by influencing philanthropy towards women's and trans* rights work.

Where WFA Works



Grantmaking

Supporting Women and Trans* Movements throughout Asia

OUR GRANTS
are given under
the structure of

2

programmes

STRENGTHENING FEMINIST MOVEMENTS (SFM)

Making smaller grants and fellowships, SFM currently covers South Asia.

Bangladesh

India

Nepal

Sri Lanka

Pakistan

LEADING FROM THE SOUTH (LFS)

Covering larger programme grants, LFS is implemented in 18 countries through South, Southeast, and East Asia.

Afghanistan

Laos

Pakistan

Bangladesh

Malaysia

Philippines

Bhutan

Maldives

Sri Lanka

Cambodia

Mongolia

Thailand

India

Myanmar

Timor-Leste

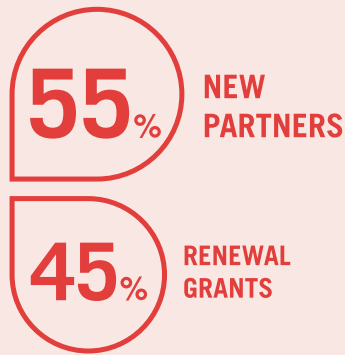
Indonesia

Nepal

Vietnam

Our grantmaking **FOCUSES ON ENSURING SUPPORT TO THE MOST MARGINALISED IN THE WOMEN AND TRANS* COMMUNITIES.** Therefore, our grantee organisations work with diverse constituencies—young, old, students, activists, those who identify as LBTQI+, indigenous people, migrant workers, sex workers, workers in the informal sectors, those with accessibility requirements, religious and ethnic minorities, women from urban slums, among others.

// **WE COMMITTED**
\$464,787
FOR 87 GRANTS,
WHICH SUPPORTED
92 INITIATIVES
FOR WOMEN AND TRANS*
ORGANISATIONS ACROSS
THE REGION¹.



As LFS had only closed its applications at the end of this fiscal year, grants were only made under the SFM programme.



We make grants in 5 thematic areas



STRENGTHENING FEMINIST VOICES (SFV)

Supporting and strengthening grassroots feminist leadership and movements

\$145,350 IN GRANTS
22 INITIATIVES

SFV is all about building perspectives, raising awareness, and understanding of feminist principles. We may make grants for institutional and core support, especially for small grassroots groups; innovative interventions, especially using media, ICTs, and other tools; developing and strengthening collaborations between individuals and groups, particularly across borders; as well as support feminist research which addresses critical women's issues and can be used for advocacy or learning by the women's movements.



MOVEMENT & LABOUR (M&L)

Safe migration, economic justice, and labour rights

\$61,910 IN GRANTS
9 INITIATIVES

M&L focuses on building feminist perspectives and understanding around movement, mobility, and labour. Our grants are geared towards strengthening decision-making capacities and leadership of women; enabling women in the unorganised labour sector, such as domestic workers and sex-workers, to come together to claim their rights; and supporting spaces for discussion, exchange, and learning at local, national, and regional levels.

¹ WFA is increasingly supporting collaborations between two or more groups at various levels. Hence, one grant can support more than one initiative. Therefore, in the thematic sections we will be discussing the number of initiatives supported rather than number of grants.



AUTONOMY, DECISIONS, & SEXUAL RIGHTS (ADS)

Bodily autonomy and decision-making

\$65,852 IN GRANTS
10 INITIATIVES

ADS grants aim to build perspectives, as well as raise awareness and understanding on feminist principles on sexuality and gender. Our grants promote and support the engagement and decision-making of women and trans* people, particularly from marginalised, rural, and disadvantaged communities.



ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE (EJ)

The intersection of human rights and access to natural resources

\$64,000 IN GRANTS
10 INITIATIVES

The goal of the EJ thematic area is to ensure that women and trans* leaders are supported in the decision-making processes governing distribution of land, water, and other natural resources; as well as development of policies on disaster management and response, climate change adaptation, and sustainable development.



ACCESS TO JUSTICE (ATJ)

Ensuring legal support to women across Asia

\$26,475 IN GRANTS
4 INITIATIVES **\$48,000** FOR
12 LEGAL FELLOWSHIPS

ATJ aims to enable and support women in the litigation process and strengthen legal awareness at the community level. Our grants may cover litigation work, increasing access to legal aid for women and trans* people, strengthening the capacity of paralegals and supporting their work at the community level, and providing holistic support (including psychosocial support) to survivors of violence. Our legal fellowships provide financial and technical resources to women attorneys providing pro bono legal services in primary courts.



CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS (CD)

Building Capacities, Supporting Advocacy

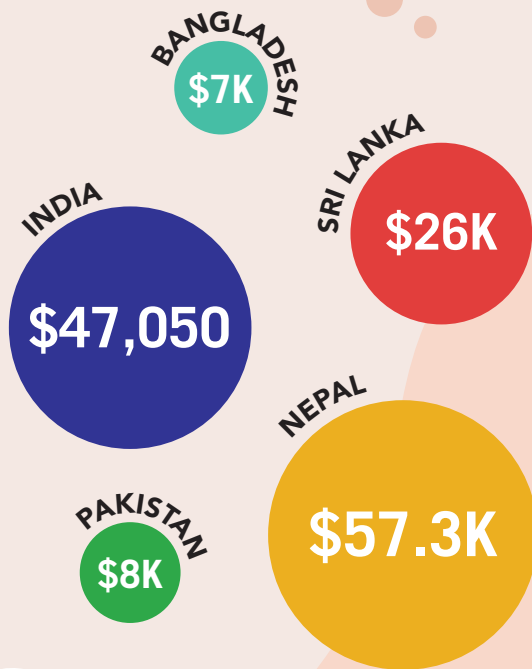
\$53,200 IN GRANTS
25 INITIATIVES

While not a specific thematic area, our CD grants were developed to fund capacity building and be used to cover travel, research, critical spaces, and advocacy. In the past, grants have covered travel expenses for partners to attend various conferences, training programs, and exchange programs to facilitate knowledge sharing and learning.

Strengthening Feminist Voices

The Strengthening Feminist Voices portfolio embodies WFA's political mandate of providing resources to frontline defenders to strengthen and sustain themselves and their organisations while exploring new issues and strategies.

As our largest portfolio, WFA supported 22 initiatives under SFV for a total of \$145,350 across Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.



VOICES & VIEWS

BANGLADESH

Voices & Views (V&V) works to raise the voices of women and girls with disabilities, through grassroots mobilisation and empowerment programs. A women-led disability rights organisation, V&V works in the Dhaka, Narsingdi, and Faridpur districts, building the capacities of women with disabilities and disability rights organisations, establishing and consolidating networks with government and civil society partners, and advocating to reduce violence and discrimination faced by women with disabilities.

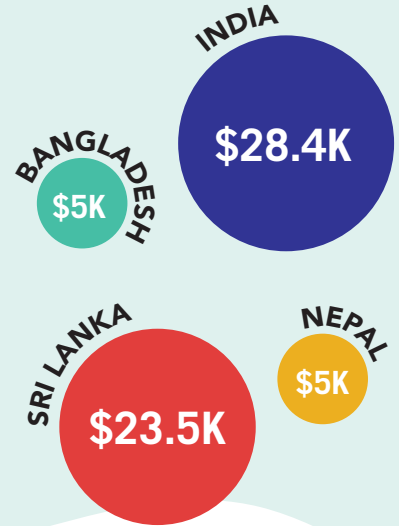
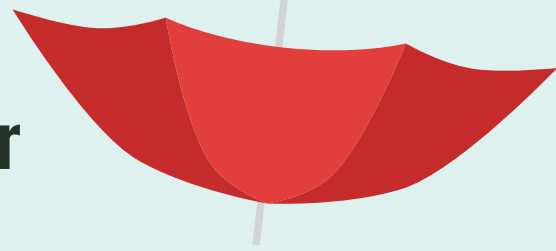
WFA has supported V&V since 2016. V&V has used WFA funds to carry out sustained programmatic interventions with their constituency, as well as to strengthen its operational and organisational development efforts. WFA has steadily increased its support to disability rights groups led by women, highlighting the critical need to support work that looks at the intersection of gender, women's rights, and disability.



Movement & Labour

Grants made in our Movement and Labour portfolio challenge the traditional anti-trafficking rescue-rehabilitation-repatriation discourse with rights-based interventions that reflect voices and decisions of women. Over the last nine years, this thematic area has supported a range of complex issues, including promotion of labour rights for informal and stigmatised labour groups, formation of organisations and unions, improvement of access information and infrastructure for these groups, advocating for de-stigmatising and de-criminalising certain types of labour, and assisting with informed and secure migration.

We supported eight initiatives totalling \$61,910 in Bangladesh, India, Nepal, and Sri Lanka. Within the four countries that received support in the Movement and Labour portfolio, India had the most initiatives supported (five). Nepal and Sri Lanka each had two supported, while Bangladesh had one.



ASIA PACIFIC NETWORK OF SERVICE WORKERS (APNSW)

MULTI-COUNTRY

APNSW is a sex worker-led regional network that promotes the health and human rights of sex workers and has 38 member groups in 23 countries across the Asia and Pacific region. The network focuses on sex worker participation and information sharing on technical and policy issues, building leadership among female, male, and transgender sex workers, and sex worker rights advocacy. Their members share the core belief that sex work is work, and that sex workers should lead the way in decision-making in projects that impact their communities.

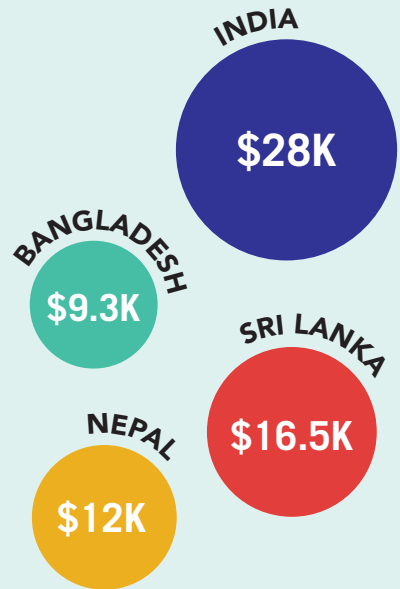
With WFA's support, APNSW is undertaking a multi-country regional program implemented in Bangladesh, Indonesia, Nepal, and Myanmar, aimed at reducing violence against sex

workers and enhancing their access to justice. This has included community mobilisation and capacity building of member organisations via community art, film making, and music to bridge language and cultural barriers between communities and build stronger alliances. Between 2011 and 2015, APNSW—in partnership with UNFPA, UNDP, CASAM and UNAIDS—implemented a ground-breaking, multi-country qualitative study on sex work, violence, and HIV. APNSW has also implemented strategies for regional and international movement building to protect and promote human rights of sex workers: for example, responding to the eviction of the Tangail brothel in Bangladesh; working with Cambodia sex workers to support mobilisation around HIV prophylaxis medications; working with Fijian sex workers in response to violence from state actors; working with HIV+ Indian sex workers to demand access to antiretrovirals; and working with sex workers in Indonesia to support the establishment of legal services for sex workers at risk of human rights abuses.

Autonomy, Decisions, & Sexual Rights

When initially launched in 2013, the WFA used this thematic area to support groups and activists, particularly second line leaders, working on issues of young women's autonomy, leadership, physical integrity, and sexuality. It supported diverse constituencies fighting for their right to sexuality, gender orientation, and strengthening feminist leadership.

We funded 10 initiatives with \$65,852 in Bangladesh, India, Nepal, and Sri Lanka. Within South Asia, there were four countries that were given grants under the Autonomy, Decisions, and Sexual Rights portfolio. India had the most initiatives funded (five) while Nepal and Sri Lanka each had two, and Bangladesh had one.



VENASA TRANSGENDER NETWORK (VTN)

SRI LANKA

Founded in 2015, VTN is one of the few organisations solely dedicated to the trans* and non-binary community in Sri Lanka. With membership covering 10 districts in the country, they've established a national network of trans* and intersex people and allies. VTN is led and primarily staffed by trans* people who work towards the rights, acceptance, and well-being of trans* persons, intersex, and gender non-conforming persons. They raise awareness, provide counselling, offer emergency assistance for trans* persons in crisis, and engage in research

projects. They also do critical work in reaching out to trans* people, particularly trans* youth, in rural contexts, and linking them with a network of support.

WFA has supported VTN for two years, with core grants to cover operational costs, support their interventions, and ensure sustainability. This support is critical to build and sustain a nascent movement where trans* people live in a difficult context, are criminalised through several laws, and experience significant stigma and discrimination.



Access to Justice

WFA's Access to Justice portfolio offered grants to grassroots organisations and activists as well as fellowships to women lawyers who provided pro bono legal services to women in primary courts. We continued to focus on improving women's access to justice while conducting outreach and the discussions to promote it.

This year, we supported four initiatives amounting to \$26,475, supporting two initiatives from India and two from Nepal. We also supported twelve legal fellows for \$48,000—five in Sri Lanka, four in Nepal, two in Pakistan, and one in India.



INDIGENOUS WOMEN LEGAL AWARENESS GROUP (INWOLAG)

NEPAL

Comprising legal experts and professionals, INWOLAG is an indigenous woman-led non-governmental organisation in Nepal established in 2000. These women work at the grassroots level to bring the issues of indigenous women's rights to the forefront. They provide legal aid and counselling for clients, advocate for the rights of indigenous women, and conduct awareness raising programmes on various issues such as

violence against women, citizenship, menstrual taboos, child marriage, and witchcraft allegations against indigenous women. INWOLAG also contributes to the CEDAW Shadow Reporting process. Their work is concentrated in 14 districts across Nepal where they have reached out to more than 1500 indigenous women.

This is the second time that WFA has extended support to INWOLAG. Their work focussed on building awareness and knowledge on the new Civil and Criminal Code and increasing access to justice among three indigenous communities, Tamang, Magar and Tharu, in three districts of Nepal (Sindhupalchowk, Tanahun, and Nawalparasi).

LEGAL FELLOWS PROGRAM

WFA has been providing legal fellowships to women lawyers since 2013. The fellowship offers financial and technical support, and regional networking opportunities to lawyers working in the primary courts in Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. So far, WFA has supported approximately 30 women lawyers, who provide pro bono legal services to women at the local level.

This past year, 12 legal fellows implemented strategies that ranged from building leadership through legal awareness, providing holistic legal support, and pro bono litigation support.

TABASSUM

SINDH PROVINCE, PAKISTAN

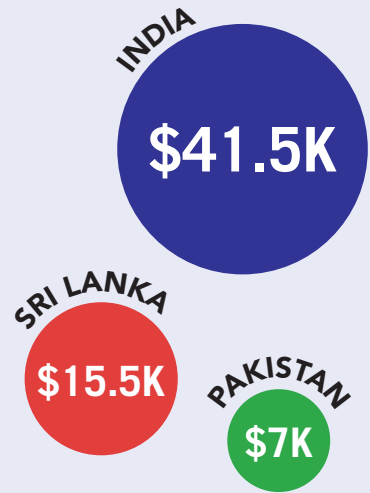
Tabassum has been a WFA Legal Fellow for the past two years, but she began litigation in 2009. For the fellowship, she takes up sexual violence, divorce, maintenance, and domestic violence cases. She is associated with organisations like Legal Rights Forum and Dastageer Legal Aid Centre in Hyderabad District, Sindh, where she provides legal aid to survivors of gender-based violence, persons with disabilities, and religious and ethnic minorities. She is also a trainer of human rights and works with many human rights organisations to train women on how to claim their rights. Tabassum represented 20 women litigants in this period.



Environmental Justice

The Environmental Justice grants centre the voices and leadership of women and trans* people in the decision-making processes which govern access to and distribution of resources such as food, land, water, and other natural resources; as well as in the creation and implementation of policies that govern disaster management and response, climate change adaptation, and sustainable development.

WFA supported ten initiatives with a total amount of \$64,000 directed to India, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. India had the most initiatives supported (six) amongst the three South Asian countries, with three initiatives in Sri Lanka supported while Pakistan had one.



MAHILA KISAN ADHIKAR MANCH (MAKAAM)

INDIA

MAKAAM is a network and loose informal collective of more than 120 individuals and organisations of farming women, women farmers' collectives, civil society organisations, researchers, and activists from across 24 states of India. It was formed in 2014 with a core focus to build visibility, identity, and recognition of women farmers. MAKAAM organised the first ever National Convention of Women Farmers in India in 2014, bringing together more than 500 women farmers from 19 different states and ending with the Bapatla Declaration that emphasised the centrality of their rights to achieving agricultural growth, livelihood security, and food security.

This was the first WFA grant to MAKAAM. It supported movement building of Indian women farmers through information dissemination, consultations, and network strengthening. It also supported cross movement building by increasing networking and collaborations with other movements. This work put the rights of women farmers in the heart of conversations about agriculture, livelihoods, environment, development, and highlighted issues that concern these women.



Capacity Development Grants



WFA also provides grants for travel, capacity building, and accompaniment for grantees. This category is open to all mandated Asian countries, with a focus on travel and workshops in the Asian region. It also supports grantees' travel and participation in international advocacy spaces such as CEDAW, CMW, and CSW.

In 2018 – 2019, WFA provided \$39,885 in capacity development grants. With WFA's support, our grantees were able to participate, network, and exchange knowledge with other countries and organisations. Indian, Pakistani, and Sri Lankan grantees were able to participate in a feminist

filmmaking project. Other Indian grantees had the opportunity to network and be trained on human rights law and pro bono lawyering in Asia. Mongolian and Indian grantees were able to exchange partners to understand the intersections between environment and women's rights.

CREA RECONFERENCE

KATHMANDU, NEPAL

WFA issued ten grants for grantee-partners from Bangladesh, Nepal, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and Thailand to attend the CREA global gathering, Reconference, in April 2019 in Kathmandu, Nepal. Seeking to build inclusive feminist visions of justice, the conference will seek to address today's most challenging socio-political issues and their intersections with feminism, art, and technology. The grantee-partners include young activists, queer activists, trans rights activists, and activists working on the rights of women with disabilities. WFA is also

engaging a translator for three of its grantee-partners to ensure that discussions at the conference are accessible to its partners.

Through participation in the event, our grantees will gain new insights around the intersections of feminism, art, and technology, and will be able to engage with activists from around the world to exchange ideas and strategies on their work, particularly on sexuality and sexual rights. Given the importance of the discourse around sexuality and sexual rights in the region, capacity development on this issue remains a key component of WFA's support for its partners.

Linking and Learning

Spaces for collaboration and knowledge exchange

Beyond our grantmaking, WFA supports strengthening feminist movements across Asia by convening and facilitating connections through linking and learning spaces that bring together our partners, experts, and other actors for collective learning, reflection, and strategizing. We also support activists and researchers to contribute to national and/or regional feminist discourses. Under Linking & Learning, we undertake the following activities:

- **Capacity Building Support**

WFA directly organised spaces to provide capacity building support to some of our partners—both substantive/theoretical as well as practical and technical.



- **Regional Feminist Convergences**

WFA brings together all its partners across the region/sub-region to facilitate a space for networking, sharing, learnings and solidarity building. Given the current geo-political climate which has adversely affected the work on the ground, such spaces are extremely critical to reflect upon one's own activism.



Events



“UNDERSTANDING RIGHTS-BASED APPROACH AND CEDAW PRINCIPLE” WORKSHOP

Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia | June 2018
Organised in collaboration with Mongolian Women’s Fund

Nepalgunj, Nepal | August 2018



FINANCE TRAINING WORKSHOPS

Colombo, Sri Lanka | July 2018

India | February 2019

These capacity-building workshops hosted by WFA focused on key governance and financial management issues faced by civil society organizations.



LEGAL FELLOWS ANNUAL MEETING

Colombo, Sri Lanka
 November – December 2018

The workshop “Role of Feminist Lawyering in Accessing Justice and Activism” was an opportunity for women lawyers from four countries in South Asia to reflect on their successes and challenges through group work, individual presentations, and plenary discussions.



ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE MEETING

Sri Lanka | February 2019

Participants explored the intersectionality of women and trans human rights with environmental issues. The results of this meeting helped inform further development of our environmental justice strategy.*



PROSPERA MONITORING, EVALUATION, & LEARNING COMMUNITY-OF-PRACTICE

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
 July 2018

ASEAN CIVIL SOCIETY CONSULTATION ON WOMEN, LABOUR, AND TRAFFICKING

Bangkok, Thailand | November 2018

LEADING FROM THE SOUTH LINKING & LEARNING MEETING

Buenos Aires, Argentina
 November 2018

GLOBAL ALLIANCE FOR GREEN AND GENDER ACTION (GAGGA) MID-TERM REVIEW MEETING

Indonesia | July 2018

GLOBAL ALLIANCE FOR GREEN AND GENDER ACTION (GAGGA) GLOBAL MEETING

Amsterdam, The Netherlands
 December 2018



Organised by WFA

Influencing Philanthropy & Claiming Resources

Peer networks and solidarity spaces

The mandate of Women's Fund Asia

is to ensure that the women and trans* rights movements in the region have access to sustainable and flexible resources to undertake their work. Hence, influencing philanthropy is a key strategy of WFA, where we move beyond raising resources for WFA and its partners—participating in dialogues, creating spaces, and pushing for opportunities that expand the resource base for feminist work in the region.



Publication

- “Feminist agendas, democratic processes” by WFA ED Tulika Srivastava in CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation Series on Reimagining Democracy

This article was about democracy as an enabling context for the realisation of feminist agendas, particularly in Asia.

Networks

- WFA became a member of the steering committee of the Sex Worker Donor Consortium (SWDC), which was created with the aim to influence funding for sex worker rights and overall anti-trafficking discourse.
- November 2018: LFS Consortium met for Linking and Learning meeting in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Critical Spaces

JUN 2018

Prospera-Asia Network Annual Regional

Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Asian Venture Philanthropy Network Forum

Singapore

WFA ED was a speaker at this event on the panel “Combating Gender-Based Violence.”

OCT 2018

Partos Innovation

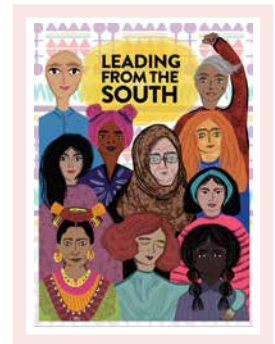
Amsterdam, The Netherlands

WFA ED Tulika Srivastava was a keynote speaker. She spoke about the process of transformation in the face of backlash and shrinking democratic spaces for women and vulnerable communities in Asia.

Human Rights Funders Network Annual Meeting

Mexico City, Mexico

Leading from the South (LFS) consortium members participated in the panel “Shifting the Power: Southern Women’s Fund in Action” and discussed the critical work of women’s funds based in the Global South. This was the first time LFS presented in a public forum.



APR 2019

Money & Movements Convening

Naivasha, Kenya

FEB 2019

Australian Aid Conference

Canberra, Australia

WFA ED moderated the panel “Catalysing Change Through Women’s Movements: Evidence from the Pacific.” WFA had an opportunity to meet with representatives of the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, which is seeking to improve its engagement with women’s funds within the Asia and Pacific region.



Dialogue and Dissent

The Hague, The Netherlands

Hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, this conference is an opportunity to provide input and feedback to the MFA on its next framework. WFA ED took part in a panel called “Ways Forward—Key Themes for a New Policy Framework: Shifting Power Relations.”

Board and Team

BOARD

Shaheen

Chair, Bangladesh

Priya

Founding Director, India

Suneeta

Founding Director, India

Sonaali

Member, Sri Lanka

Kunthea

Member, Cambodia

Honey

Member, Malaysia

Linda

Member, Hong Kong

Sivalee

Member, Thailand

WFA would like to thank
Jael Silliman for her
continued support.



TEAM

Tulika

Executive Director

Anisha

Deputy Executive Director

Kishani

Director of Finance
and Operations

Malyn

Director of Programmes

Tehani

Programme Officer,
Grants Management

Meenu

Programme Officer,
Grants Management

Wei San

Programme Officer,
Grants Management

Madhu

Programme Officer,
Monitoring, Learning
& Evaluation

Pim

Programme Officer,
Communications

Krishna

Grants Administrator

Deya

Programme Associate

Vaishna

Programme Associate

Vineeta

Manager, Operations
and HR

Heloise

Manager, Administration
and Events

Miruna

Finance Manager

Anukriti

Account Officer

Mifaza

Account Officer

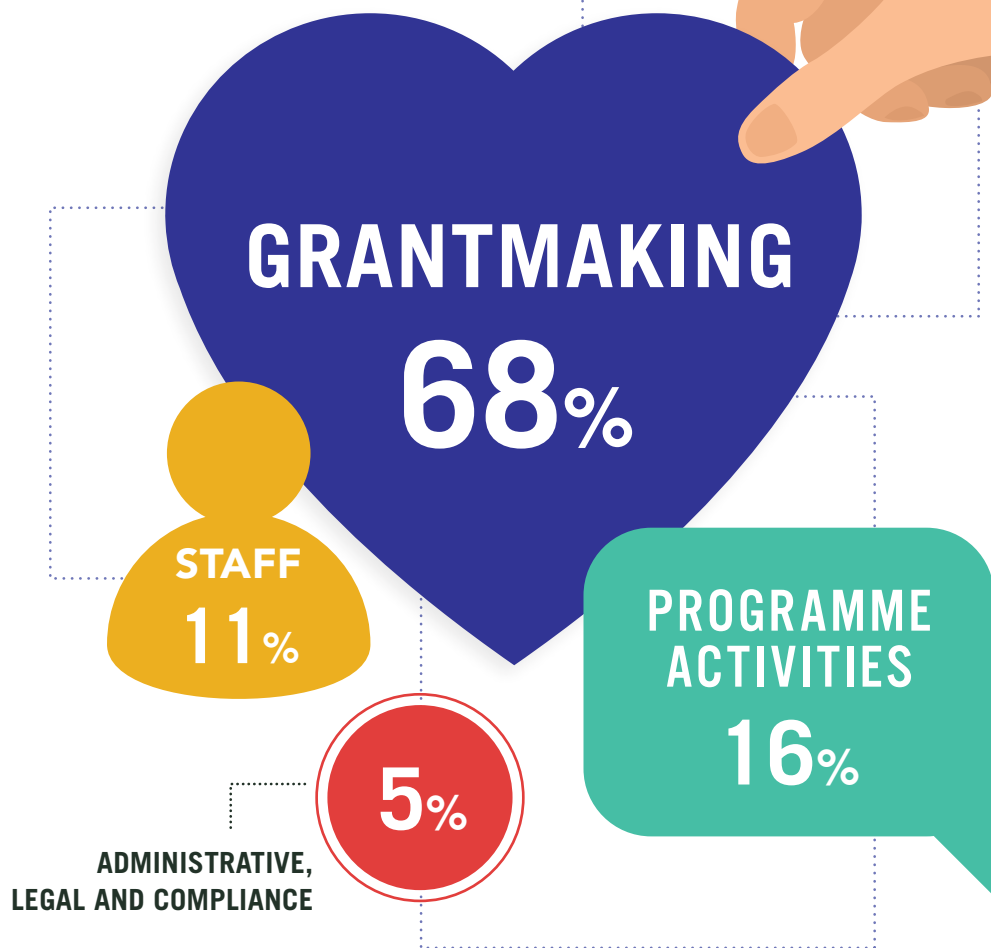
Abhilasha

Operations Officer

Financials

(with Auditor's Note)

UTILIZATION OF FUNDS



APAG/DSM/AD

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF WOMEN'S FUND ASIA (FORMERLY KNOWN AS SOUTH ASIA WOMEN'S FUND)**

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of Women's Fund Asia ("the Company"), which comprise the Statement of Financial Position as at 31 March 2019, and Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Changes in Reserves and Statement of Cash Flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view of the Financial Position of the Company as at 31 March 2019, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Sri Lanka Accounting Standards for Small and Medium-Sized Entities.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Sri Lanka Auditing Standards (SLAuSs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the Code of Ethics issued by CA Sri Lanka (Code of Ethics) and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code of Ethics. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of management and those charged with governance for the financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in Sri Lanka Accounting Standards for Small and Medium-Sized Entities, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Company's financial reporting process.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with SLAuSs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

(Contd....2/-)

Partners: W R H Fernando FCA FCMA R N de Saram ACA FCMA Ms. N A De Silva FCA Ms. Y A De Silva FCA W R H De Silva ACA ACMA W R B S P Fernando FCA FCMA
Ms. K R M Fernando FCA ACMA Ms. I R H L Fonseka FCA A P A Gunasekera FCA FCMA A Herath FCA D R Hulangamuru FCA FCMA LLB (Lond) H M A Jayasinghe FCA FCMA
Ms. A A Ludowyke FCA FCMA Ms. G G S Mervinunga FCA Ms. P V R N Sumanawati FCA H M Sulaiman ACA ACMA D E Wariyathilaka FCA FCMA
Principals: G B Goudan ACMA A A J R Perera ACA ACMA T P M Rubera FCMA FCCA

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As part of an audit in accordance with SLAuSs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

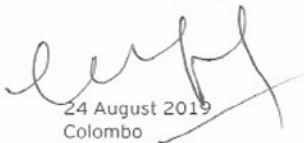
We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Other Matter

The financial statements of Women's Fund Asia for the year ended 31 March 2018 were audited by another auditor who expressed an unmodified opinion on those financial statements on 13 August 2018.

Report on other legal and regulatory requirements

As required by section 163 (2) of the Companies Act No. 07 of 2007, we have obtained all the information and explanations that were required for the audit and, as far as appears from our examination, proper accounting records have been kept by the Company.


24 August 2019
Colombo


Women's Fund Asia

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

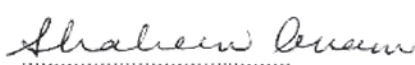
As at 31 March 2019

	Notes	2019 Rs.	2018 Rs.
ASSETS			
Non Current Assets			
Property Plant and Equipment	4	172,689	306,976
		<u>172,689</u>	<u>306,976</u>
Current Assets			
Other Receivables	5	1,722,130	1,246,638
Cash and Cash Equivalents	6	502,032,202	394,787,569
		<u>503,754,332</u>	<u>396,034,207</u>
Total Assets		<u>503,927,021</u>	<u>396,341,183</u>
FUNDING AND LIABILITIES			
Unrestricted Fund			
		15,804,573	19,249,710
Restricted Fund			
	8	474,560,716	368,916,803
		<u>490,365,289</u>	<u>388,166,513</u>
Current Liabilities			
Accruals and Liabilities			
	7	7,249,004	2,729,291
Grant Payable		3,789,519	3,565,144
Income Tax Payable		2,030,288	1,880,235
Bank Overdrafts	6	492,921	-
		<u>13,561,732</u>	<u>8,174,670</u>
Total Liabilities		<u>13,561,732</u>	<u>8,174,670</u>
Total Funding and Liabilities		<u>503,927,021</u>	<u>396,341,183</u>

These Financial Statements are in compliance with the requirements of the Companies Act No.07 of 2007.


.....
Director Finance & Operations

The Board of Directors is responsible for these Financial Statements. Signed for and on behalf of the Company by:


.....
Director


.....
Director

The accounting policies and notes on pages 07 through 17 form an integral part of these financial statements.



Women's Fund Asia

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

Year ended 31 March 2019

	Note	2019 Rs.	2018 Rs.
Incoming Resources	3	430,624,067	360,951,776
Programmes Expenses			
Grant Making	10	291,613,462	244,291,704
Communication and Publication	12	5,527,629	7,825,331
Linking and Learning	13	57,075,564	46,991,751
Travel	14	7,430,641	1,655,774
Institutional Building			
Staff Expenses	11.1	49,102,644	41,144,693
Administration Expenses	11.2	14,518,819	8,739,621
Legal and Compliance	11.3	5,673,538	5,106,199
Assets Purchased through Grant Funds	4.1	466,719	917,624
		<u>431,409,016</u>	<u>356,672,698</u>
Net Surplus / (Deficit) in Operating Activities		(784,949)	4,279,078
Revenue Earned from Other Activities	9	1,933,078	4,650,696
Net Surplus Before Taxation		<u>1,148,129</u>	<u>8,929,774</u>
Income Tax Expense	15	(4,593,266)	(3,255,771)
Net Surplus /(Deficit) for the Year		<u>(3,445,137)</u>	<u>5,674,003</u>

The accounting policies and notes on pages 07 through 17 form an integral part of these financial statements.



WOMEN'S FUND ASIA would like to thank its **DONORS** for their continued support and commitment to women's and trans* rights in Asia.

MAMA CASH

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FOUNDATION**

**DUTCH
MINISTRY OF
FOREIGN
AFFAIRS**

**FOUNDATION
FOR JUST
SOCIETY**

**PROSPERA
INTERNATIONAL
NETWORK OF
WOMEN'S
FUNDS**



Women's Fund Asia

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