



Women's Fund Asia



# ANNUAL REPORT 2019 - 2020





# WE ARE WOMEN'S FUND ASIA

## OUR VISION

is the realisation of the human rights of women and trans\* people in Asia.

## OUR MISSION

is to nurture and lead feminist philanthropy in the region; to effectively mobilise resources to support individuals, groups, and networks enabling their sustainability; and to 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.

WE OPERATE IN

# 18 countries

ACROSS SOUTH, EAST,  
AND SOUTHEAST ASIA



## SOUTH ASIA

Afghanistan, Bangladesh,  
Bhutan, India, Maldives,  
Nepal, Sri Lanka, Pakistan

## SOUTHEAST ASIA

Cambodia, Indonesia,  
Laos, Malaysia,  
Myanmar, Philippines,  
Thailand, Timor-Leste, Vietnam

## EAST ASIA

Mongolia

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# A message from the WFA team

In the past year, we have witnessed movements by people around the world claiming their rights as citizens and demanding state accountability, especially across Asia. In many cases, they were met

*“Where we are coming from is at least as important as where we are going...and regardless of where we go, it is absolutely critical to determine how we plan to go.”*

with backlash and faced setbacks, but the toughest challenge yet was to come in the form of a global pandemic. While much work came to a halt because of COVID-19, many struggles faced by the communities we serve continued. New perspectives around discrimination and marginalisation emerged alongside the need for innovative strategies to deal with the crisis and highlighted the resilience of our movements. As we find ways to stand in effective solidarity with our communities across Asia, we recognise the privilege that brings us safety and increases our responsibility to

remain accountable every day. The crisis has also compelled us to reflect on our role as a women’s fund and the best strategies to support our partners. What does resourcing feminist movement-building mean in such a context? As we delve deeper, it is clear that resources for feminist organising have never been more critical. At the close of our fiscal year, WFA had begun designing and establishing a special COVID-19 grant programme to provide urgent support to our partners who are severely affected by the crisis. Our focus will be on ensuring the care and wellbeing of the organisations and their staff who stand at the frontlines supporting the most marginalised communities.

The year 2020 also marks the 25th anniversary of the historic Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, where governments from around the world committed to achieving gender equality. Last year, a process began to review what had been achieved in the 25 years since and what work is yet to be done. The pandemic led to the cancellation of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW64) in March 2020 and postponement of the Generation Equality Forums, disappointing the groups and

activists who had worked tirelessly towards it. However, commitment to the process has not wavered. Along with other women’s funds around the world, we are committed to resourcing the activists and groups (especially those who have been historically marginalised and invisibilised) to engage with the Generation Equality Forums, as well as holding the Action Coalitions accountable to ensure newer and more inclusive funding for feminist organising.

As we continue to engage with diverse funders, we see how funding to women and trans\* organisations is shrinking every day—the challenges of the last decade and half are still as real today. We know that we must push the barriers both within and outside the region to grow the resource base so that feminist movements are able to speak in their own voice and determine their own futures. Two major convenings we helped organise, Revolutionising Philanthropy, and our first-ever Disability Rights Convening, offered an opportunity for activists and donors to share learnings and foster deeper conversations amongst the participants. We recognise that we will need to build a larger understanding of this political role we take on as a women’s fund—in terms of our grantmaking and ensuring feminist principles in resource mobilisation.

The more we stride forward to serve the region, the more we grow as an institution. Currently

a team that is 23 people strong, we support a budget of USD 3.5 million through accountable processes—both for our communities and our donors. Without compromising our work in implementing our core mandate, we are committed to ensuring that our internal processes are reflective of our core feminist values—that our team members are in a work environment that enables them to do their best work. We welcome challenges and strategic differences; and hope that we harness these to strengthen the rights we fight for elsewhere, within the organisation as well.



**Shaheen Anam**  
Chairperson



**Tulika Srivastava**  
Executive Director

# Key strategic areas: 2019-20

In a little over a decade, we have supported 475+ human rights initiatives for women and trans\* people in Asia through technical and fiscal support, changemaking, and facilitating learning and networking. Our work in the past year was focused on four broad areas.

## 1/GRANTMAKING

Multilevel and flexible feminist grantmaking that is led by the needs and priorities of women and trans\* organisations, networks, and consortiums.

## 2/LINKING & LEARNING

Facilitating and supporting needs-based spaces and opportunities for learning and exchanges.

## 3/INFLUENCING PHILANTHROPY, CLAIMING RESOURCES

Strengthening the feminist resource architecture in the region through undertaking strategic advocacy, influencing, and alliance building work with a diverse set of stakeholders.

## 4/INSTITUTION BUILDING

Deepening institution building through innovating WFA's feminist funding model and strengthening WFA's systems of delivery



We support feminist movements led by women and trans\* people across Asia through grantmaking under two programmes covering 18 countries in South, Southeast, and East Asia.



## STRENGTHENING FEMINIST MOVEMENTS (SFM)

Small grants and fellowships to individual activists, women human rights lawyers, and groups working at sub-national, national, and regional levels.

**USD 150,054**  
in grants

## LEADING FROM THE SOUTH (LFS)

Large programme grants to support activism devised, led, and implemented by organisations in the Global South. Implemented by four women's funds with WFA handling the Asia region.

**USD 2,461,799**  
in grants

Grants under these two programmes are made under three broad categories based on organisational capacity:



### FRONTLINE DEFENDERS

Organizations working at the community and sub-national levels as mobilisers of women's and trans\* people's movements and the front line of defense against rights violations.



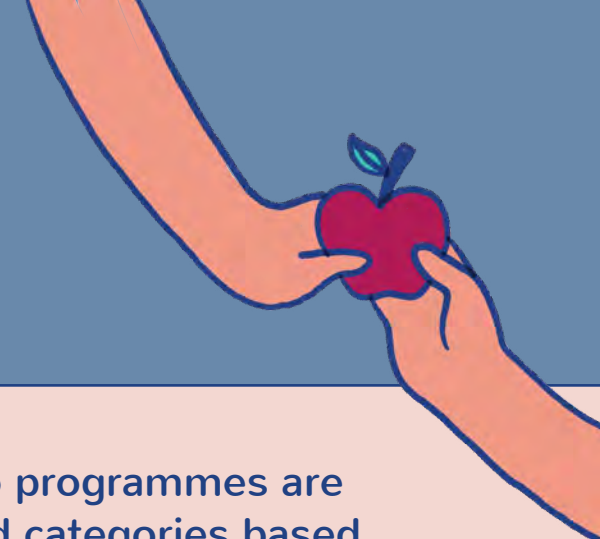
### AMPLIFYING VOICES

National and subregional organizations and networks working on policy advocacy with key stakeholders and states, as well as campaigns on women's and trans\* people's human rights.



### PROMOTING REGIONAL FEMINIST AGENDAS

Cross-national, subregional, and regional groups/networks undertaking knowledge, capacity and leadership building and advocacy for state accountability to advance women's & trans\* rights.



In 2019-20, we committed USD 2,754,702 to support activists, groups, and organisations through 82 grants for 93 initiatives in five thematic areas, as well as grants for capacity building and other opportunities related to our mission.



**USD 269,690**  
**6 grants**

**STRENGTHENING FEMINIST VOICES**

Supporting and strengthening grassroots feminist leadership and movements



**USD 798,716**  
**9 grants**

**MOVEMENT & LABOUR**

Safe migration, economic justice, and labour rights



**USD 364,595**  
**7 grants**

**AUTONOMY, DECISIONS & SEXUAL RIGHTS**

Bodily autonomy and decision-making



**USD 711,794**  
**6 grants**

**ACCESS TO JUSTICE**

Ensuring legal support to women across Asia



**USD 467,058**  
**25 grants**

**ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE**

The intersection of human rights and access to natural resources



**USD 74,850**  
**22 grants**

**LINKING & LEARNING**

Self-identified, need-based capacity building grants for feminist activists and groups in the region.



**USD 68,000**  
**6 grants**

**SPECIAL INITIATIVES**

Responding to unanticipated situations or special opportunities for strengthening our mandate



// Grantmaking

**STRENGTHENING FEMINIST VOICES**

SFV is a flexible funding opportunity that puts resources in the hands of grassroots feminist movements and frontline defenders to help them sustain and strengthen their efforts.

In 2019-20, we supported six grants totaling USD 269,690 under this thematic area.

Grantee Highlight // Myanmar

**SHAN WOMEN'S ACTION NETWORK (SWAN)**

The mission of SWAN is to work on gender equality and justice for Shan women in the struggle for social and political change in Burma. In 2019, WFA supported six 6-month long Youth Capacity Building workshops for 201 participants and 14 Women's Exchange workshops for 424 participants, organised by SWAN. These workshop strained young women and girls on topics such as human rights, women's rights, CEDAW, sex and gender, gender roles, gender-based discrimination, domestic violence, violence and law, documentation, power mapping, political and court procedures, and leadership development.



"I am now confident to work in the field, support my family, and help my village and my community."

Nang\* (24), workshop attendee, Pongsan Village, Shan.



\* Nang is not her real name.

## // Grantmaking

# MOVEMENT & LABOUR

Through this thematic area, we support initiatives that challenge restrictive and protectionist views about women and trans\* people's right to move freely, access better life opportunities, and engage in work of their choosing without stigma, violence, or exploitation. M&L grants support interventions that challenge the view of women and trans\* people as powerless victims and put agency and autonomy in their hands.

In 2019-20, we offered nine grants totaling USD 798,716 under this theme to tackle a range of complex issues such as labour rights of informal and stigmatised labour groups; organising and unionisation; access, information, and infrastructure; destigmatisation and decriminalisation of certain types of labour; and informed and secure migration.



## // Grantmaking

# AUTONOMY, DECISIONS, & SEXUAL RIGHTS

Sexual rights are central to the realisation of the highest standards of human rights for all. Through this theme, we support women and trans\* people-led initiatives that amplify voices on issues related to sexuality, gender discrimination, decision making, and bodily autonomy.

Over the years, we have aided groups that work for the sexual rights of disabled women and girls, LGBTI rights, rights of Dalit women, migrant women, and people living with HIV. In 2019-20, we offered seven grants totaling USD 364,595 under this thematic area.

### Grantee Highlight // Thailand

## EMPOWER FOUNDATION

Empower Foundation is challenging the laws criminalising sex work in Thailand by presenting documentation, holding constructive dialogues with policymakers and government institutions, and having sex worker leaders speak out for repeal of the country's Prostitution Act. WFA is supporting their work on legal reform and helping them strengthen alliances with women's rights defenders.



The attitude of policymakers, specifically the Thailand Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, has changed. Instead of the law reform being led by the findings of government-appointed academics alone, they are engaging with Empower through a series of consultations and meetings.

### Grantee Highlight // Nepal

## BLUE DIAMOND SOCIETY & NATIONAL INDIGENOUS WOMEN'S FORUM

The two organisations, the former working with LGBTIQ+ people in Nepal and the latter with indigenous women, are collaborating to do intersectional work and fuel collective action by marginalised communities. Their effort is to build the capacities of indigenous women on LGBTI issues, and for LGBTI people on indigenous women's issues, to advocate for policy reform and secure human rights at the community, local, and national levels.



Their work led to inclusion of LGBTIQ and indigenous women's issues being included in the Universal Periodic Review Report by the civil society in Nepal. The National Human Rights Commission has endorsed the 5th National Human Rights Action Plan that addresses the issues of LGBTIQ people.



## // Grantmaking

# ACCESS TO JUSTICE

Women survivors of violence face severe challenges in accessing justice mechanisms at all levels, especially in primary courts. WFA funding under this thematic supports women in this process and strengthens a regional movement grounded in feminist praxis, that calls for access to justice for women.

We do this through two key components: the Legal Fellowship Programme that offers financial and technical resources to women lawyers working in South Asia's primary courts; and grants to support interventions that improve access to justice for women and trans\* people. In 2019-20, we offered six grants totaling USD 711,794 under this thematic area.



### Grantee Highlight // Nepal **BINITA NEPALI**

Binita Nepali is a Dalit lawyer from Pokhara, Nepal who takes on cases of caste discrimination, women's property rights, and domestic violence. One of the few women's rights lawyers in her region taking up pro bono cases, she has supported 14 women to access their rights through the legal system. She is also chairperson of the Oppressed Women's Society, Kaski, an NGO that works to get women legal and social justice, skill development, awareness on gender-based violence, advocating for women's rights, and scholarships for Dalit students.



Nepali finds the Legal Fellowship Programme to be an enriching experience, not only strengthening her work at the local and national courts, but also giving her the opportunity to connect with and learn from a network of feminist lawyers in the region.

### Grantee Highlight // Malaysia

## MUSAWAH

Musawah is a global movement of feminist activists, NGOs, scholars, legal practitioners, and policy makers that works to challenge the ways in which religion is used to justify discrimination against women and offer a rights-based discourse on Islam to advocate for equality and justice for women living in Muslim contexts. With WFA's LFS grant, Musawah conducted a Regional workshop on Family Law Reform with participants from nine South and Southeast Asian countries. A global convening is on the cards.



The workshop led to the formation of an active, vocal network of advocates on Muslim family law reform in these sub-regions. Network participants from Maldives were supported in successfully lobbying the Maldives government to take a greater leadership role in advancing family law reform on the regional and international stage. Musawah also supported a network partner to make an intervention at the CEDAW session with Pakistan in January 2020 on issues pertaining to discriminatory family laws including forced child marriage, divorce, inheritance, and more.

**This three-day workshop is really the beginning of our campaign —to build a truly global movement. We hope this contributes to progressive steps, not even radical steps, towards justice for Muslim women, their families and their communities."**

– Zainah Anwar, Musawah



// Grantmaking

## ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Under this thematic area, we offered 25 grants totaling USD 467,058 in 2019-20 to activists and organisations including seven new grantees.

The initiatives supported include building organisational capacities for environmental justice work, disaster risk reduction management and allied advocacy with local partners, strengthening the leadership of women fishers to negotiate on policy matters, and building environmental protection and climate resilience within communities.

Grantee Highlight // Sri Lanka

### ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES (AKASA)

AKASA is a 3200-strong network of women with disabilities, their parents, and carers, mostly from rural or disadvantaged backgrounds. They advocate for inclusive and accessible services and schemes in development and environmental policies. For the 2019-20 grantmaking cycle, WFA is helping AKASA strengthen the capacity of their women leaders with disabilities to link the issues of environmental justice and disability rights.



AKASA partners attended WFA's Regional Convening on Environmental Justice where they sharpened their understanding of the impact of environmental risks on marginalised communities.

## Claiming our Voices: Beijing+25

### THE BEIJING DECLARATION AND PLATFORM FOR ACTION (BPFA)

was created in 1995 at the UN's Fourth World Conference on Women with the mission of removing obstacles to women's active participation in all spheres of public and private life through a full and equal share in economic, social, cultural, and political decision-making.



WFA's Claiming Our Voices: Beijing+25 Review and Follow-up grant programme seeks to amplify Asian women and trans\* communities' voices in global discussions during the review and follow-up 25 years after the adoption of the BPFA by 189 countries. It supports feminist movements' actions to hold governments and other stakeholders accountable so they make tangible commitments on gender equality.

This grantmaking programme is in collaboration with our sister funds Urgent Action Fund and Urgent Action Fund - Africa with the support of the Gates Foundation. Through it, WFA will build a better understanding of the processes and outcomes of the Generation Equality Forums.

Note: The COVID-19 global crisis has impacted many events and advocacy opportunities relating to Beijing+25, as well as the timelines of the grants selection process. The results will be announced in July/August 2020 and actions are likely to be moved to 2021.



# Connections. Collaborations. Knowledge exchange.

One of WFA's goals is to help our activists link with and learn from their peers, partners, and experts. In 2019-20, we offered 22 L&L grants for USD 74,850 that allowed 32 activists to participate in critical advocacy spaces (77% of grants) and the organising of five convening spaces for learning, exposure, and knowledge sharing (23%).



## Grantee Highlight // Cambodia

### BUNN RACHANA

Bunn Rachana, executive director of Klahaan Organization, is a women's labour rights activists who brought the reality of gender discrimination and lack of effective laws against gender-based violence in Cambodia to the attention of an international human rights body. Our L&L grant supported her to attend a session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) in October 2019, where she spoke out on gaps in gender laws and policies, the lack of gender-responsive budgeting, and the need for accountability.



The CEDAW Concluding Observations for Cambodia released in November, 2019 directly addressed 37 of the 44 concerns raised by NGO representatives. Attending the event has helped Rachana engage policy institutions and industry groups, and lobby government ministries better.

## // Linking & Learning

# EVENTS & SPACES

Our L&L grants enabled activists and groups to participate in regional and global advocacy platforms and supported convening spaces for networking and solidarity building. Here is a snapshot of some events that we participated in.

### GAATW-IS WOMEN'S RIGHTS TO MOBILITY AND WORK

Amman, July 2019

Participated in this civil society dialogue, organised by our partner GAATW, to share knowledge and explore opportunities to support the protection of the rights of women migrant workers.

### CREA'S RECONFERENCE

Kathmandu, April 2019

WFA programme team and select partners attended this global gathering that provided a space to discuss themes such as Abortion, Consent, Disability, Pleasure and Danger, Sexual and Gender Diversity, and their intersections with feminism, art, and technology.

### 1ST GLOBAL FEMINIST LBQ WOMEN'S\* CONFERENCE

Cape Town, July 2019

WFA team member participated at this unique conference and shared our grantmaking strategy and funding opportunities within WFA at this conference on affirming the experiences, needs, and activism of those who identify as women with marginalised sexualities.

● External L&L spaces

● WFA-organised

### ASEAN CIVIL SOCIETY CONFERENCE/ASEAN PEOPLE'S FORUM

Bangkok, September 2019

Attended the forum along with 1000 activists and CSO representatives from ten countries. An overarching concern discussed was the increase in threats to the safety and security of human rights defenders.

### REGIONAL DISABILITY RIGHTS CONVENING

Colombo, February 2020

WFA organised its first convening on disability rights to map the women and trans\* people-led disability rights movement in Asia; understand the challenges they face and the strategies that are proving most effective for them.

### REGIONAL LEGAL FELLOWS MEETING

Kuala Lumpur, June 2019

Created a platform for WFA and SAWF-IN fellows to share knowledge and experiences, and sharpen their understanding and responsiveness to critical human rights issues.

### LEARNING EVENT ON RISK ASSESSMENT AND HOLISTIC SECURITY

Kuala Lumpur, June 2019

WFA organised this space for its select partners on building knowledge of the basics of digital security in the context of shrinking civil spaces and increased vigilance on rights groups.



// Linking & Learning

# DISABILITY RIGHTS CONVENING (DRC)

6-8 February 2020, Colombo

In this first-of-its-kind event for WFA, we brought together 28 women and trans\* disability rights activists from eight countries for networking, sharing experiences, learning, and solidarity building.

“Nothing about us  
without us”



## CELEBRATING INTERSECTIONALITY

The disability rights movement is not a homogeneous group. Some sections, like women and trans\* people with disabilities, face marginalisation within the movement; the access needs of people with different disabilities are also varied. The DRC’s focus on intersectionality provided a safe space to articulate these vulnerabilities and challenges.

**PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SPACES,  
DIGITAL SPACES, INCLUSIVITY IN  
EVERYTHING, ECONOMIC RIGHTS,  
ACCESSIBILITY, DISASTER PREPAREDNESS  
PROGRAMMES, EDUCATION FACILITIES**

## THE ROLE OF FUNDERS

Funders need to be better allies to disability rights groups by investing in outreach strategies, supporting unregistered and smaller groups, accommodating their geo-political realities, and acknowledging and supporting the high cost of assistance needs.



For WFA, the convening highlighted the need for greater cohesion, sustainability, and meaningful, continued, action-oriented intersectionality in supporting women’s disability rights. We were heartened by the tremendous resolve among the participants to hold space for each other and strengthen the movement through compassion and kindness.

## Ensuring access to resources for feminist activism

To contribute to sustainability and resilience of the feminist movements in the region, it is critical to resource initiatives led by women and trans\* activists. WFA works to engage and influence philanthropy by participating in dialogues, creating spaces, and pushing for opportunities that expand the resource base for feminist work in the region.



## COLLABORATIONS & CONSORTIA

In March 2019, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands undertook a midterm review of the Leading from the South programme, which is a consortium led by African Women's Development Fund, Fondo de Mujeres del Sur, International Indigenous Women's Forum, and Women's Fund Asia. It was an opportunity to learn and reflect at an individual fund level, as well as at the consortium level.

WFA is also a founding member of the Sex Worker Donor Collaborative, a network of funds that have come together to increase the amount and quality of funding for sex workers' rights. We are also an active member of Prospera - The International Network of Women's Funds. Throughout the year, we also contributed to a number of research initiatives conducted by the likes of Human Rights Funders Network and Prospera; the trends shared by these groups annually are important tools for WFA and other women's funds while undertaking advocacy.

In February 2020, we hosted the two day Asia and the Pacific regional consultation for the Equality Fund, facilitated by the Association for Women's Rights in Development, in Colombo.

## CRITICAL SPACES

We participated in a number of peer network events and solidarity building spaces during 2019-20. Some of these include the Prospera Biennial in Victoria, Canada (June 2019), which focused on developing systems and processes to strengthen the network; panel discussions at Women Deliver in Vancouver; and meetings by OECD's Networks, Partnerships, and Gender Division.



### PANEL DISCUSSIONS AT WOMEN DELIVER

Vancouver, June 2019

- 10 Things You Did Not Know about Philanthropy for Gender Equality — Tulika Srivastava, Executive Director, WFA
- Busting Myths about Funding Feminist Movement Building — Anisha Chugh, Deputy Executive Director, WFA



// Influencing Philanthropy

# REVOLUTIONISING PHILANTHROPY CONVERGENCE

25-28 September, 2019 - Bangkok, Thailand

Revolutionising Philanthropy was the first in a series of feminist funding dialogues organised by Prospera Network Asia and the Pacific members: Fiji Women's Fund, Her Fund, Korea Foundation for Women, Mongolian Women's Fund (MONES), South Asia Women's Foundation India (SAWF-IN), Tewa, Urgent Action Fund Asia & Pacific, and Women's Fund Asia. Over three days, 150 participants from 16 countries shared the contexts in which they were working and articulated a vision for the future of transformative feminist funding.

## DISCUSSION AREAS



Current geopolitical context in APAC as relevant to feminist work in the region



Values that are important for resourcing feminist movement building



Role of women's funds, especially in local philanthropy and corporate resource mobilisation



Collective reflection on a vision for transformative feminist funding in Asia

## KEY PRINCIPLES OF FEMINIST FUNDING

As defined by RPC participants



Rights-based approach



Diversity, equity & inclusion



Empathy (solidarity, trust, respect)



Lived realities and contextual/local knowledge



Transparency and accountability



Feminist analysis of power dynamics

The future of transformative feminist work needs to be guided by a framework of intersectionality, ensure diversity by including a range of voices, and build peer dialogue. An illustrated report outlining these takeaways and titled 'Resource Strengthening of Feminist Movements in Asia and the Pacific: A Feminist Funding Manifesto' was published in mid-December.



## Strengthening our core to support growth

With an expanded mandate and team, the transition into WFA has been a challenging one requiring continuous reflection and engagement. In 2019, we focused energy and effort into staff expansion and restructuring, updating our policies to reflect our new regional focus, and developing new policies to address gaps that emerged during our expansion. We engaged expert consultants and invested in learning opportunities to identify ways to improve the way we work. We also focused on becoming more accessible and agile through upgrading our systems and adopting better technology tools.

### OUR INSTITUTION BUILDING EFFORTS WERE SPREAD ACROSS THESE AREAS.



## MEET THE TEAM

### THE HUMANS OF WFA



At Women’s Fund Asia, we take our lead from our partners as they speak up, organise, revolutionise, and drive change, and support them in their work.

#### BOARD:

**Shaheen Anam**  
Chair, Bangladesh

**Honey Tan Lay Ean**  
Member, Malaysia

**Linda To**  
Member, Hong Kong

**Kunthea Chan**  
Member, Cambodia

**Sivalee Anantachart**  
Member, Thailand

**Dilani Champika Alagaratnam Goonatileke**  
Member, Sri Lanka

**Radhika Coomaraswamy**  
Member, Sri Lanka

#### STAFF:

**Tulika**  
Executive Director

**Anisha**  
Deputy Executive Director

#### Kishani

Director of Finance and Operations

#### Malyn

Director of Programmes

#### Meenu

Programme Officer – Grants Management

#### Shuchi

Programme Officer – Grants Management

#### Wei San

Programme Officer – Grants Management

#### Madhu

Programme Officer - Monitoring, Learning & Evaluation

#### Nikita

Programme Officer – Strategic Partnerships

#### Pim

Programme Officer – Communications

#### Krisha

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

#### Pinki

Office Administration Assistant

#### Jayanthi

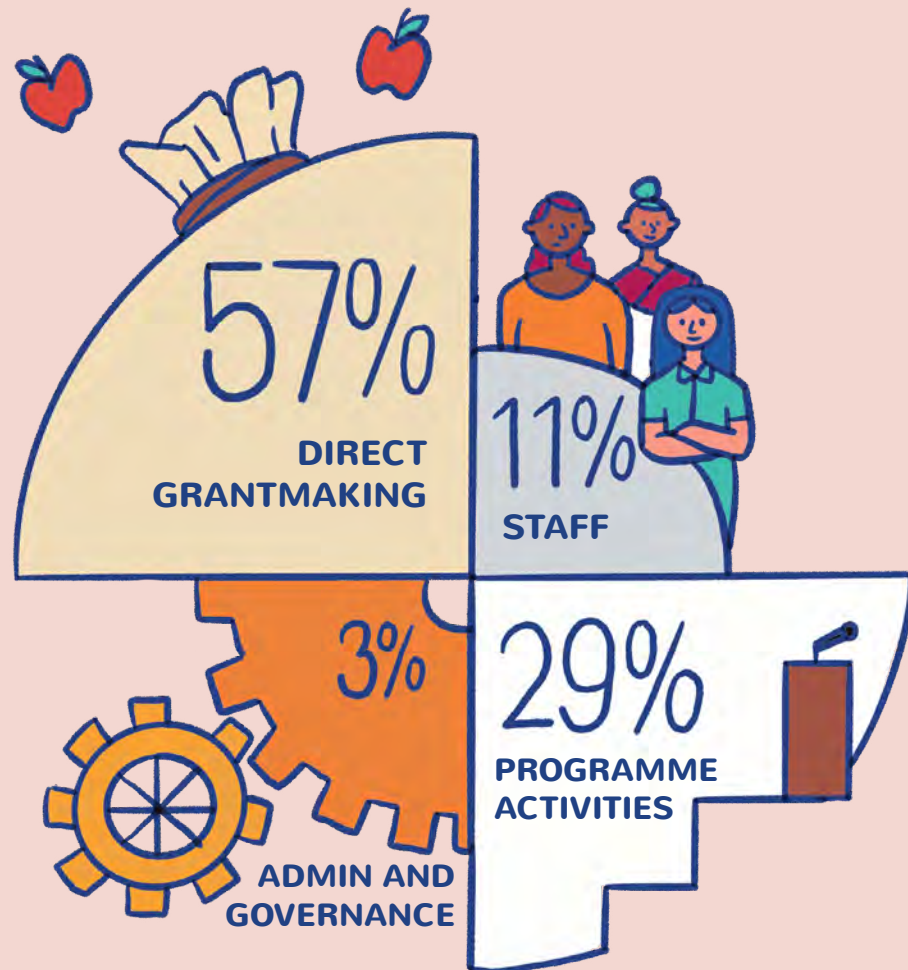
Office Support Staff

#### Preeti

Office Support Staff



# Utilisation of Funds



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APAG/DSM/HEDA/DM

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT  
TO THE MEMBERS OF WOMEN'S FUND ASIA**

**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 2020, 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 2020, 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/)

Members: W R P Fernando FCA FCMA, P N de Saram ACA FCMA, Ms. A. D. S. Jayasinghe FCA FCMA, Ms. T. A. De Silva FCA, W R H De Silva ACA FCMA, W K P S E Fernando FCA FCMA, Ms. K. R. M. Fernando FCA ACMA, Ms. J. R. H. Fernando FCA, A. P. A. Gunawardene FCA FCMA, A. Hecath FCA, D. S. Rajasinghe FCA FCMA LLB (Jurat), N. M. A. Jayasinghe FCA FCMA, Ms. A. A. Ludooviyke FCA FCMA, Ms. D. D. S. Manatunga FCA, Ms. E. V. K. N. Sathyanarayana FCA, N. M. Subasinghe ACA ACMA, P. E. Wimalawansa FCA FCMA

Principals: G. B. Gouilan ACMA, A. A. J. R. Perera ACA ACMA, T. P. M. Ruberu FCA FCMA

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Building a better  
working world.

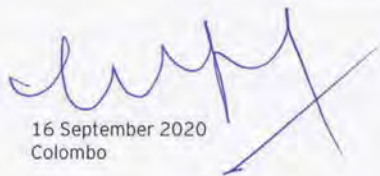
As part of an audit in accordance with SLAuSs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- 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.

#### Report on other legal and regulatory requirements

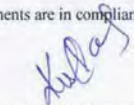
As required by section 163 (2) of the Companies Act No. 07 of 2007, we have obtained all the information and explanations that were required for the audit and, as far as appears from our examination, proper accounting records have been kept by the Company.

  
16 September 2020  
Colombo

## Women's Fund Asia STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION As at 31 March 2020

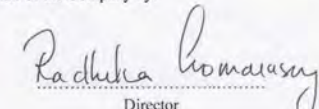
	Notes	2020 Rs.	2019 Rs.
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Non Current Assets</b>			
Property Plant and Equipment	4	78,285	172,689
		<u>78,285</u>	<u>172,689</u>
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Other Receivables	5	4,309,866	1,722,130
Cash and Cash Equivalents	6	422,459,999	502,032,202
		<u>426,769,865</u>	<u>503,754,332</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<u>426,848,150</u>	<u>503,927,021</u>
<b>FUNDING AND LIABILITIES</b>			
Unrestricted Fund			
		19,222,690	15,804,573
Restricted Fund			
	8	391,962,091	474,560,716
		<u>411,184,781</u>	<u>490,365,289</u>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Accruals and Liabilities			
	7	13,159,477	7,249,004
Grant Payable			
		-	3,789,519
Income Tax Payable			
		2,503,892	2,030,288
Bank Overdrafts			
	6	-	492,921
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<u>15,663,369</u>	<u>13,561,732</u>
<b>Total Funding and Liabilities</b>		<u>426,848,150</u>	<u>503,927,021</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 18 form an integral part of these financial statements.





Women's Fund Asia  
STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME  
Year ended 31 March 2020

	Note	2020 Rs.	2019 Rs.
<b>Incoming Resources</b>	3	630,946,216	430,624,067
<b>Programmes Expenses</b>			
Grant Making	10	357,628,754	291,613,462
Grant Management	11	9,216,584	-
Linking and Learning	12	100,711,106	63,374,541
Institutional Building	13	71,050,013	6,659,293
Organisational Cost			
Staff Expenses	14.1	66,990,992	49,102,644
Administration Expenses	14.2	11,389,823	14,518,819
Legal and Compliance	14.3	8,134,070	5,673,538
Assets Purchased through Grant Funds	4.1	411,378	466,719
		<u>625,532,720</u>	<u>431,409,016</u>
<b>Net Surplus / (Deficit) in Operating Activities</b>		5,413,496	(784,949)
<b>Revenue Earned from Other Activities</b>	9	3,457,516	1,933,078
<b>Net Surplus Before Taxation</b>		<u>8,871,012</u>	<u>1,148,129</u>
Income Tax Expense	15	(5,452,895)	(4,593,266)
<b>Net Surplus / (Deficit) for the Year</b>		<u>3,418,117</u>	<u>(3,445,137)</u>

The accounting policies and notes on pages 07 through 18 form an integral part of these financial statements.



# THANK YOU

**WE ARE DEEPLY GRATEFUL TO OUR GRANTEE-PARTNERS,** not only for the courageous and critical work they do, but also for their continued faith and belief in us; and for always pushing us to be accountable, transparent, and reflective.

**WFA WOULD LIKE TO THANK ITS FUNDERS**

for being our companions in our journey as we navigate challenges and obstacles, and celebrate critical moments of victories. Thank you for your continued solidarity, support, and commitment to women and trans\* rights in Asia.

- Comic Relief
- Fondo Centroamericano de Mujeres
- Ford Foundation
- Foundation for a Just Society
- Gates Foundation
- Global Fund for Women
- Mama Cash
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands
- Oak Foundation
- Open Society Foundation
- Prospera - The International Network of Women's Funds
- Wellspring Philanthropic Fund

**OUR GRATITUDE TO ALL THE AMAZING FEMINISTS**

in the region who have supported our work by being part of our various advisories. Your wisdom has guided our work during some very challenging times.

**A BIG THANK YOU TO THE SECRETARIAT AT PROSPERA -**

The International Network of Women's Funds, to all the member sister funds across the globe for their inspiring work, as well as the

**LEADING FROM THE SOUTH CONSORTIUM** and the **HUMAN RIGHTS FUNDERS NETWORK.**

As a member of the **SEX WORKER DONORS COLLECTIVE,** we are also grateful to be part of a network of funders committed to being strong allies for sex worker rights movements globally.





**Women's Fund Asia**

**Women's Fund Asia**  
**30/62A Longden Place**  
**Colombo 7, Sri Lanka**  
**Tel: +94 11 4324541**

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