

Annual Report 2025

Womanity



Letter from the Founder

This year, Womanity marks 20 years of working to advance the rights of women and girls. It is a moment to reflect not only on what we have achieved, but on why we began, and why this work remains as urgent as ever.

Womanity did not begin with a perfect plan. It began with a question: where can we make the most meaningful difference? Our early work with vulnerable girls in Morocco revealed something much larger. Inequality is systemic, and women and girls, across contexts, are disproportionately denied rights, opportunities, and agency.

What started broadly became a clear conviction: advancing gender equality is one of the most powerful levers for social justice.

Over the past two decades, this journey has been anything but linear. We have taken risks, tested ideas, and learned — often the hard way — that social change is complex. There is no “plug-and-play” model. Every context is different, and most issues are interconnected. At times, even well-intentioned solutions have created new challenges. These experiences have reinforced an important truth: meaningful impact requires humility, patience, and a willingness to keep learning.

This entrepreneurial spirit continues to define Womanity.

What stands out most through this journey are the changes, both visible and subtle, that we have witnessed along the way. From girls accessing education to shifts in how communities perceive gender roles, these moments matter. They remind us that change is possible, even if it is incremental. And even if we reach only one person, it matters to that one life. Twenty years on, the story is still being written and if there's one thing I know for certain, it's that even small actions can create meaningful change.

At the same time, today's global context is a stark reminder of how fragile progress can be. Yet, there is also progress. Gender equality is no longer seen as a standalone issue, but as central to addressing the world's most pressing challenges, from economic inequality to climate change. In the face of persistent inequalities and overlapping crises, philanthropy has a responsibility to be bold, to innovate, and to help build fairer societies.

As an entrepreneur, I am reminded that the case for gender equality is not only moral, but practical. Estimates suggest that achieving full gender parity in the workforce could add up to \$28 trillion to global GDP. Even a fraction of that would be transformative.

For me, this has never been about women versus men. It is about fairness, dignity, and creating societies where everyone has the opportunity to contribute and to thrive. Bringing more people — especially men — into this conversation is essential if we are to create lasting change.

As we look ahead, my belief remains unchanged: this work is a long-term journey.



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Womanity's role is not to lead alone, but to contribute to a broader movement striving for a more equal world.

Yann Borgstedt

Founder, Womanity

Letter from the Co-CEOs

As we reflect on 2025, one question keeps coming to mind: what sustains our energy to advance gender equality in the face of sustained push back?

The year began with the dismantling of the US Agency for International Development (USAID), with over 80% of its programmes cancelled by March. At the same time, several governments cut their international aid funding and moved capital to defence. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) estimates that more than 10 million women, girls and adolescents lost access to essential sexual and reproductive health and gender-based violence services.

For those working to support women and girls to realise their potential, this has meant navigating an increasingly complex reality, where needs are rising, funding is shrinking, and even the language we use can be turned against us. At the same time, there is less appetite for risk, less flexibility, and greater pressure for short term results.

Taken together, these trends underscore the strength of the anti-rights movement and remind us that progress on gender justice cannot be taken for granted. At Womanity, we believe that one of the most effective ways to resist is to continue the work, uphold our commitments, and remain in close connection with our team, our partners, our funders, and our peers — many of whom live and work in politically sensitive contexts.

In a world where it can feel easy to lose hope, we stand alongside the remarkable organisations advancing work in education, preventing violence against women and girls, using media to reshape gender stereotypes, and enabling women to access and own land. These are the key areas at the heart of our mission.

Despite challenges, we continue to see meaningful progress across our programmes. In Afghanistan, we have strengthened local partnerships and expanded efforts in public education for women and girls. In Cape Verde, the work of our partners to prevent domestic violence has deepened, with women community leaders engaging with schools and communities while supporting survivors. These are just two examples of how our team and partners continue to advance gender equality, even in the most difficult circumstances.

We work closely with our partners to respond to their needs, striving to remain as flexible as possible and to approach our relationships with empathy as we navigate these shared pressures. Our co-leadership model has further supported us in managing these pressures. It allows us not only to share responsibilities, ideas and competing demands, but also to be more present for our team and each other.

Creating spaces for collaboration and convening peers and partners has also been essential in fostering pockets of hope, joy, and solidarity.

By building ecosystems, shifting narratives, and remaining inventive in our approaches, we have been able to sustain the work we believe in while also preserving our collective sense of balance and well-being. In spite of headwinds, in this year marking our 20th anniversary, our work continues. Our belief that the world can change for the better continues. We keep showing up. We are still here.

Laura Somoggi & Shivani Gupta

Co-CEOs, Womanity





Grade 5 students of Rabaz Khan School in Bagrami, Afghanistan attending their classes.

📷 Aman Sadat

Stronger societies start with women

The case for investing in women has never been clearer or more urgent. In 2025, progress toward gender equality did not just stall; in many places, it reversed. Hard-won gains in reproductive rights, education, and political participation were rolled back, while gender-based violence continued at staggering levels. At the current pace, it will still take over a century to achieve gender equality.

At the same time, a global funding crisis has been quietly dismantling the infrastructure that has sustained progress for decades. Across crisis-affected contexts, nearly 90% of women-led and women's rights organisations reported being impacted by funding cuts, with many at risk of shutting down within months. Critical services, from shelters and legal aid to healthcare and livelihood support, have been reduced or eliminated.

This is not just a funding gap.
It is a systemic failure.

Women's rights organisations are often the first responders and the last line of support for women and girls. Yet they have been asked to do more with less, even as needs intensified. In parallel, funding for gender equality declined, and locally-led organisations continued to receive only a fraction of global resources.

The consequences are immediate and far-reaching. Access to essential services is shrinking, while funding and space for community engagement and public dialogue are becoming increasingly constrained. At the same time, resistance to rights-based initiatives is on the rise.

And yet, women continue to lead.

Across contexts, women are organising, innovating, and holding the line, often with limited resources and against mounting resistance. They are not only responding to crises but also reimagining systems, building more inclusive economies, and driving sustainable change within their communities.

This is why our focus remains unwavering. At Womanity, our programmes unlock opportunities for women and girls to access education, economic independence, and leadership roles. By removing barriers to equality and amplifying their voices, we enable women to build futures on their own terms. We work with locally-led organisations and leaders who understand the realities on the ground and are best placed to create lasting change. Here's how we are supporting the SDGs:



A gender-equal world is not inevitable. It must be resourced, defended, and built deliberately.

Because when women move forward,
the world cannot afford to move back.

How we advance gender equality:

Create new pathways to end violence against women and girls

Empower women through access to, and ownership of, land

Incubate and support media platforms to shift gender stereotypes

Increase access to education — including STEM — for women and girls

Investing in the conditions for lasting gender equality

There is no single pathway to gender equality. The environments we work in demand approaches that are nuanced, locally led, and responsive to shifting realities. At Womanity, we focus on enabling this kind of work to take shape and endure.

Since 2005, we have invested in innovative, scalable solutions in underfunded and overlooked geographies — ensuring that women and girls in all their diversity have the opportunities and resources they need to lead progress.

Our approach is shaped by the complexity of the contexts we work in.

We back work that not only responds to immediate challenges but strengthens the systems and ecosystems that enable lasting change. This means investing in organisations and ideas deeply embedded in their communities, with a clear understanding of how gender inequality intersects with culture, economics, and power.

Our partnerships go beyond funding.

Through sustained, flexible support, our partners are able to test, refine, and scale approaches often overlooked by traditional funding models. This includes efforts that shift social norms, expand access to opportunities, and build collective power, recognising that change is rarely linear and requires persistence over time.

A defining aspect of our approach is our commitment to redistribution of resources, decision-making, and visibility. We work to ensure that those closest to the challenges are shaping the solutions, while amplifying their insights in broader conversations that influence policy and practice.

We also invest in narrative change as a lever for systems transformation. Through media, storytelling, and research, we support efforts that challenge dominant narratives and open up space for more inclusive, representative voices.

Ultimately, our role is to enable the conditions for change: supporting bold ideas, standing alongside those driving them, and helping shift the systems that hold inequality in place.



Our Strategic Objectives:

Advance
gender equality indicators
for women and girls in
underserved communities

Increase
and leverage funding
to deepen impact

Build
capacities and resilience
of partners advancing
gender equality

Create
and disseminate content,
evidence, and narratives
to inspire and impact
transformational change

Forge
synergetic partnerships
for effective and
sustainable impact

Snapshot of our programmes



She Learns AFGHANISTAN

Expanding educational opportunities for Afghan women and girls through vocational training, including our Girls Can Code (GCC) initiative, which builds skills in coding, web development, computer literacy, and English. We support primary education for marginalised girls in public schools and Community-Based Education (CBE) classes in underserved areas. Additionally, we strengthen education systems by training and mentoring teachers in modern teaching methodologies, ensuring lasting impact on learning outcomes.

Since 2007, we have supported ~38,000 girls and young women through multi-year educational initiatives alongside training 1,300 teachers.



Disruptive Media SOUTH WEST ASIA AND NORTH AFRICA*

Supporting progressive media platforms by partnering with trailblazing content creators to drive gender-inclusive storytelling and social change across South West Asia and North Africa. Our flagship initiatives include Radio Nisaa, Palestine's women-led community radio station; Khateera, a digital platform challenging gender norms through content like its YouTube series 'Sma'touha Minni' (You Heard It From Me); SOWT — expanding feminist narratives through podcasting; and Righters House — training women in scriptwriting and filmmaking in Saudi Arabia.

Since 2009, we have incubated 2 impactful initiatives and supported the production of 6 series on our partners' radio and digital media channels, amassing millions of listens/views and challenging gender stereotypes.



Land for Women INDIA

A transformative programme addressing systemic gender inequality and enabling economic empowerment of women in rural India. Developed in collaboration with experts and grassroots partners, it leverages land as a pathway to strengthen women's agency, independence, and long-term financial security.

Since 2022, 352,109 marginalised women have been made aware of their land rights. 115,741 of them have got land rights, and \$5.68M in government funds have been unlocked.



Freedom from Violence BRAZIL, CAPE VERDE, INDIA, LEBANON, MEXICO, SOUTH AFRICA

Advancing locally-led projects to prevent violence against women and girls (VAWG), our work centres on collaboration, catalysing partnerships between organisations across different countries in the Global South. The organisations work together to adapt and scale evidence-based initiatives that address the root causes of VAWG. We provide holistic support to women's rights organisations, including funding, organisational development, networking opportunities, monitoring, evaluation and learning, and self care.

Since 2014, we have supported 9 organisations in adapting programmes focused on VAWG prevention, including online and domestic violence, safer cities through technology, and engaging boys in challenging harmful social norms.

Sustaining education pathways for Afghan girls

Afghanistan continues to face overlapping humanitarian, economic, climate, and rights-based crises. Women and girls bear the brunt of these challenges. Policies continue to restrict their fundamental rights in far-reaching ways. Girls are barred from education beyond grade six, women remain banned from universities, access to healthcare is deteriorating due to the shortage of female medical staff, and these are just a few examples of the intensifying constraints they face.

Against this backdrop, we continue to sustain and expand access to education for girls and women. Our *She Learns* programme operates through two complementary pillars: online vocational training for young women, and support to primary education for children in underserved communities through Community-Based Education (CBE) classes and public schools in Kabul province.

Over time, we have been able to consolidate our work, moving from short-term interventions to more stable and longer-term planning. In 2025, this meant strengthening relationships with authorities and communities, sustaining programme activities, and preparing the ground for incremental future expansion.

While English and coding courses continued online during the year, we engaged in dialogue with the Ministry of Education and local partners to transition these courses to in-person delivery. This process required extensive consultations but ultimately resulted in an official agreement with the authorities. The shift will take effect with the next cycle of activities planned for 2026.

In primary education, we further strengthened our engagement with public schools. Agreements with the Ministry of Education were renewed, enabling us to continue hiring, training, and mentoring 70 female teachers in public primary schools. Community-Based Education classes were also expanded into a new district, while programme implementation was aligned more closely with the national academic calendar.

Across all activities, 2025 was defined by sustained presence, relationship-building, and continuous learning from peer organisations operating under similar conditions.

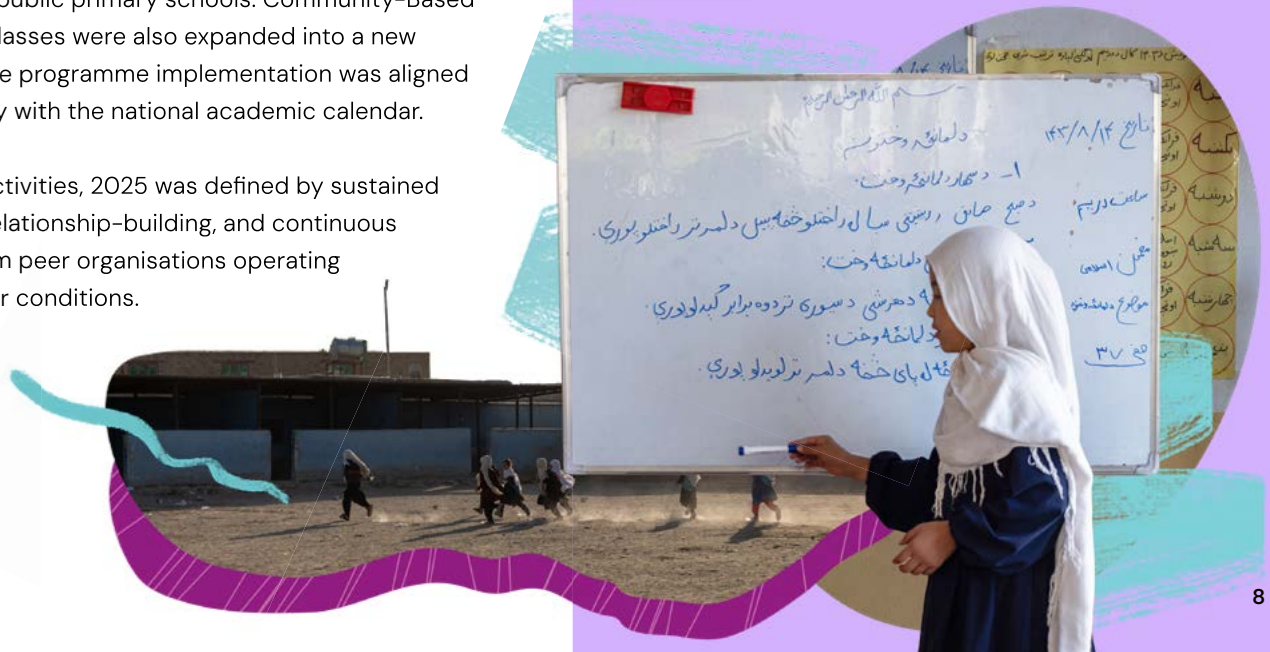
Impact Highlights

184 participants completed courses in coding, web development, and/or English.

3,223 children (78% girls) received support in our primary education programme.

96 teachers trained and mentored teaching methodologies – 80% are women.

84 classrooms equipped with teaching and learning materials.





Strengthening teaching quality

Improving the quality of teaching was a central focus of the programme in 2025 and the support to teachers went beyond financial stipends. We combined training with continuous pedagogical mentoring, classroom observation, and structured feedback, helping teachers strengthen their skills despite the limited resources available in public schools.

Teacher development remained a priority, especially for public schools. Mentoring and structured feedback helped teachers adopt more participatory teaching methods, improve classroom management, and make better use of limited materials.

The positive results of these approaches prompted several school administrations to request that mentoring support be expanded to additional teachers — an encouraging sign of institutional buy-in and growing demand for professional development.

These efforts also contributed to stronger exam performance among students and more interactive classroom environments.

📷 Aman Sadat

Building local capacity & coordination

Beyond direct service delivery, we continued to invest in strengthening local education systems and community engagement.

We supported school councils to improve coordination between teachers, parents, and local authorities. Parent engagement in school activities was also encouraged, helping reinforce the importance of education within communities.

Regular monitoring and evaluation visits ensured accountability and allowed the team to respond quickly to operational challenges, such as inadequate learning spaces or shortages of educational materials. At a broader level, we remained actively involved in education coordination platforms and peer networks.

Sustainability remains central

By training local teachers, aligning with the national curriculum, and mentoring local partners, we seek to ensure that progress can be maintained even amid ongoing uncertainty.



Navigating a shifting landscape

Operating in Afghanistan requires constant adaptation. In 2025, we continued to navigate restrictive policies affecting women and girls, under-resourced public services, climate-related shocks, and the volatility of permissions required to deliver education programmes. These realities highlight the complexity of working in a severely constrained environment, where progress is often incremental and fragile. They also underscore the importance of trusted partnerships, local presence, and continuous learning. The team maintains flexible delivery models and keeps activities deliberately low-profile. Alternative implementation approaches remained ready if access conditions changed.

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"I want to learn something new every day. When I grow up, I want to help my community and encourage others to study. Learning is not just a lesson for me — it is the path to my dream."

Zarlasht*

Wiyar Ahmadzai School, Bagrami district

*Name changed to protect identity

Despite narrowing opportunities for women and girls, the demand for education remains strong. Girls continue to show up to learn, teachers continue to teach, and communities continue to support education wherever it is possible. As long as those opportunities exist — however small they may be — we will continue to build on them, ensuring that learning remains within reach for Afghan girls and women.

Expanding women's roles in media

2025 was a year of sustaining our work and our partners in difficult times. Across South West Asia and North Africa, funding instability, ongoing wars, and shifting global political priorities continued to place independent media under increasing pressure. In this environment, our priority was continuity with depth: strengthening what already exists while carefully experimenting with new pathways, including supporting the production of a short film for the first time.

Internally, we also reflected on what it means to engage the “movable middle” at a time when gender narratives are increasingly polarised. If positions are hardening, the challenge is not only to support women creators but also to ensure their work reaches audiences who may be undecided, conflicted, or quietly observing. Safeguarding gains in gender equality requires engaging those not yet convinced. This strategic clarity shaped how we approached the year.



Rehab Eldalil

Supporting resilient media voices across the region

Our partner **Radio Nisaa** continued operating under wartime conditions in Palestine, where resilience has meant far more than maintaining programming. In addition to content production, Radio Nisaa integrated livelihood pathways for women journalists into its approach. Beyond training, women reporters were commissioned for stories, integrated into editorial processes, and given consistent space to share their perspectives. This included, importantly, amplifying the voices of female journalists in Gaza.

The organisation also enabled several of these journalists to secure freelance work with other media outlets, extending opportunities beyond the immediate programme.

Alongside this work, our long-standing partnership with **Khateera** continued to expand spaces for feminist storytelling across the region. In 2025, Khateera launched *'Bala Sukkar'*, a new show exploring relationships, gender expectations, and everyday negotiations of power, while also preparing a new season of its flagship programme *'Sma'touha Minni'*. Together, these productions continue to push conversations around gender norms into more accessible and culturally resonant formats for Arabic-speaking audiences.

Producing new gender narratives

Our partnership with **SOWT** also entered a new phase with the third season of the *'Maloom'* podcast. Building on the success of previous seasons, the show expanded to include a visual format through YouTube, reinforcing the importance of experimenting with formats to reach broader audiences. The four episodes explored topics such as myths around feminine and masculine energies, and the science of sex chromosomes, combining scientific perspectives with conversations on gender norms and societal perceptions.

We also supported Saudi scriptwriter Nora Aboushoushah in developing her original series *'Sido & Horia'*, marking our first individual grant for script development. The series has been acquired by **Shahid**, the leading streaming platform in the region. Filming concluded in October 2025, with the series scheduled to air after September 2026.



SOWT

Impact Highlights

80

Radio Nisaa: Trained 80 young female journalists across West Bank and Gaza, recruiting some of them as freelancers.

17

Righters House: Trained 15 young women in filmmaking; together with two alumni (17 total), they contributed to producing the short film 'Arriving'.

621

Saudiaat: Helped 621 women secure job offers, and coached 1,010 women on workplace skills.

415,802

Khateera: A total of 415,802 views across 12 episodes of 'Bala Sukkar' with over 84,000 watching at least 50% of an episode, signalling strong retention that significantly outperforms industry standards for long-form content.

14,585

SOWT's 'Maloom' Podcast series 3:
Achieved 14,585 unique downloads and listens.

Building women's presence across the creative chain

Our partnership with **Righters House** evolved from training individual creatives to strengthening interconnected cohorts of 17 aspiring women filmmakers living in Saudi Arabia, whose skills complemented one another across directing, choreography, production, sound, and lighting.

As their final project, the group produced a short film, 'Arriving', which explores the realities of women navigating public spaces and the layered pressures shaping their sense of safety. The film is expected to be submitted to international film festivals over the next two years.

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"The shoot went beyond our expectations, we achieved nearly 90% female crew representation across all departments, including technical roles. It was inspiring to see the participants from the workshop supported by Womanity step into their positions with such professionalism, creativity, and confidence. Many were working on a professional set for the first time, yet they performed exceptionally and truly shined."



Fahad Samman and Rulan Hasan
Co-Founders, Righters House

Expanding job opportunities

Our **Saudiaat** initiative continued to strengthen women's economic participation through an AI-powered employment platform combined with coaching and training. In the past two years, they connected over 621 women to roles across more than 500 employers, helping bridge access to the labour market while contributing to shifting narratives about women's roles in Saudi society.

Looking ahead

Looking ahead to 2026, our priorities remain threefold. First, we will continue supporting our partners' resilience as they operate in volatile environments and in a shrinking funding landscape. Second, we aim to strengthen our frameworks for selecting and enabling new partners. Third, we will expand our efforts to influence the broader media ecosystem within which these organisations operate.

What gives us hope is the determination of women creators across the region who continue to imagine and produce alternative narratives despite growing challenges.



From land to livelihoods and beyond

2025 marked the beginning of Phase II of our *Land for Women* programme, shaped by key learnings from the first three years of implementation. Phase I focused on supporting rural and marginalised women in India to access and control land, laying a critical foundation for change. Programme reflections highlighted that land alone did not automatically lead to transformation. Many women continued to face social resistance, lacked the resources to use land productively and remained excluded from decision-making spaces.

Phase II is therefore designed to deepen and extend the work beyond land. We expanded our focus to include how women use land, benefit from it, and experience change as a result. Land was positioned as a starting point for strengthening women's economic security, climate resilience, and social standing, rather than an end in and of itself.



📷 Selvaprakash Lakshmanan

Strengthening implementation and long-term impact

We continued to support women in securing land, while expanding efforts to help them use it as a productive and sustainable asset. Women were trained in natural farming, kitchen gardens, and forest stewardship practices, including soil, seed and water conservation, crop diversification, cultivation of indigenous crops, biodiversity mapping, and responsible foraging. These efforts strengthened household food security while creating additional income opportunities.

Partners also deepened engagement with key government departments such as Revenue, Forest, Agriculture, Horticulture, and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to ensure women could not only secure land but also access schemes, technical support, and institutional resources.

Understanding the role of women as land stewards in the climate action landscape also became a priority. We collaborated with partner organisations to strengthen women's leadership in sustainable land management, participation in local governance bodies, and intergenerational learning of traditional knowledge.

Above all, 2025 was guided by a central question: what changes after women secure land?

To explore this, a women-centred study was initiated with a research agency to document women's lived experiences and the outcomes of land ownership, prioritising women's voices and perspectives.



From ecosystem building to action

The earlier focus on strengthening practitioners through capacity building training evolved to include community engagement and implementation, with extended mentoring and post-training support to translate knowledge into sustained action. Support groups comprising volunteers, village councils and community leaders were formed to help women access information, seek guidance, and take steps to secure land. This approach has been particularly important in regions shaped by deeply entrenched patriarchal norms, testing whether community awareness efforts can translate into tangible change on the ground.

We also expanded our focus on the role of women in climate action through a series titled *'Climate Leaders: Women in Local Climate Action'*, highlighting stories of women across India and shifting prevailing narratives from women as victims of climate change to land stewards contributing to climate resilience.



📷 Selvaprakash Lakshmanan

Looking ahead

We have largely worked with women who are already in distress, supporting them to regain dignity, identity and livelihood through land ownership. In 2026, while continuing this work, we will also begin identifying pathways that can prevent women from reaching such vulnerability in the first place.

As part of our field building efforts, we have worked closely with practitioners, researchers, academics, and gender and land experts. Going forward, engagement will expand to include other key actors, while also engaging youth more intentionally to support early shifts in attitudes and social norms around women and land.

We will also explore additional pathways for productive land use, including opportunities such as solar energy generation on farmland, to strengthen women's long-term economic security.

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"Thanks to Womanity's 'Land for Women programme', awareness about land entitlements is increasing and women are participating more actively in village-level governance and decision-making. Through grassroots women land champions, women are supported to understand land processes and secure land in their own names, resulting in greater confidence, dignity, and stability."



Richa Audichya
Director, Jan Chetna Sansthan

Impact Highlights

87,433

Multiple Marginalised Women (MMW) made aware of their land rights

36,737

MMW with access/control/tenure security and/or ownership of land

19,493

women linked to government entitlements

\$3.16M

value in funding unlocked via government schemes for women and their households

Deepening community-led efforts to prevent violence against women and girls

For over a decade, our *Freedom from Violence* (FFV) programme (previously *Womanity Award*) has supported cross-country collaboration in the Global South to adapt and scale innovative interventions that prevent Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG). At the heart of this work is a partnership model which brings together organisations with evidence-based approaches and partners with local knowledge to adapt and implement them in new contexts, with a focus on long-term, community-led change.

In 2025, we continued to support **Themis Gender Justice and Human Rights** (Brazil) and the **Cape Verdean Association for the Fight Against Gender-Based Violence** (ACLVBG, Cape Verde) through the *Fla Sim pa Mudjer* (Say Yes to Women) project, which adapts Themis' legal empowerment methodology to prevent domestic violence in two communities in Cape Verde. Building on three years of implementation, the focus was to strengthen 65 trained Women Multipliers of Citizenship (WMCs), who work as community paralegals, to ensure sustained engagement and more impactful delivery of VAWG prevention interventions that transform gender norms, attitudes and practices in schools, families, and communities.

Consolidating and expanding impact

To consolidate progress, partners implemented a robust capacity-building and peer-support strategy for the WMCs, implementing 88% of planned activities. These included VAWG awareness sessions in schools and communities, reaching 2,961 people (72% women), and providing assistance to 61 survivors. The partners also strengthened linkages within the wider VAWG ecosystem, contributing to service improvements by training 34 representatives from police, public health, and justice services, and providing feedback on making support more accessible, timely, and survivor-friendly.

We also expanded our focus to the intersection of VAWG and climate change. A learning visit to Pallisa, Uganda, highlighted how climate-affected contexts exacerbate violence, particularly against women and children, and underscored the importance of integrating VAWG prevention from the outset. Lessons from this visit are informing our work in this emerging area for 2026.

Building organisational resilience, visibility and influence

We invested in partners' organisational development, supporting strategic planning, communications, fundraising, and monitoring, evaluation and learning. Partners used this support to hire experts and strengthen key capacities, enhancing their ability to mobilise communities and build sustainable local activism. We also supported visibility opportunities, with partners sharing their work on international platforms; for example, Vicenta Fernandes, President of ACLVBG, represented Cape Verde as a global peace ambassador at the Women's Federation for World Peace conference in Albania.



Driving narrative change and evidence building

FFV focused on building knowledge and sharing learning to strengthen the VAWG prevention field. Collaborating with nine like-minded organisations, we began work on the creation of a resource — *Adaptation Journeys* — offering practice-based knowledge to help practitioners, researchers, and funders navigate the challenges of adapting VAWG interventions. We co-authored the SVRI blog 'Power within, power with and power to' with the Center on Gender Equity and Health (GEH), UC San Diego, reflecting on equity-centred partnerships. Additionally, our peer-reviewed article, 'Shifting the paradigm: insights from feminist research on power dynamics between Global North funders and Global South implementers', became one of the most read in the Global Social Challenges Journal. By sharing evidence and practical learning, Womanity is positioning adaptation as a sustainable strategy for VAWG prevention.



In Cape Verde, ACLCVBG focused on system-level change by strengthening the network of VAWG stakeholders and the referral pathway, advocating with actors such as the Cape Verdean Institute for Gender Equality and Equity, National Police, and the Ministry of Justice to improve GBV Law implementation. These efforts led to commitments to minimise delays in VAWG cases, provide legal aid, and participate in community awareness sessions with WMCs.

Looking ahead

Our key priorities include launching a project addressing the intersection of VAWG and climate change, and generating evidence on the co-benefits of integrated approaches. We will continue advocacy and knowledge-sharing, while fostering a community of practitioners, funders, and researchers to advance the adaptation of VAWG prevention projects. We will also measure the impact of, and conclude our support for, the Cape Verde project, while strengthening partners' sustainability and fundraising capacity.

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"I assist GBV survivors and conduct community discussions among women with disabilities, women living with HIV/AIDS, and children at risk. I gained the confidence to speak in public after the WMC training. Being a psychologist, the training also strengthened my capacity to identify signs of violence and provide support".



Rosana Carvalho

Women Multiplier of Citizenship in Praia



📷 Ricci Shyrock

Impact Highlights

2

community-based GBV Information Service Centers established in Cape Verde.

61

women survivors of violence assisted to access services, of whom, 39% pursued justice.

1,633

community members (1,267 women and 366 men) reached with information on VAWG prevention and response.

1,328

students (526 girls and 802 boys) reached with information on VAWG prevention and response.

47%

of the trained WMCs actively influencing change in their communities.

WMC Angela Fonseca with students from Alfredo da Cruz Secondary School in Praia, Cape Verde, after an information and awareness session.

📷 Ricci Shyrock



Driving visibility, influencing discourse

In 2025, we expanded our presence across media and key forums, helping shape conversations on gender equality and social justice. Through convenings, digital storytelling platforms, and strategic communications, we elevated partner voices, shared evidence and insights from the field, and contributed to more informed, inclusive narratives.



Knowledge

Shifting the paradigm: insights from feminist research on power dynamics between Global North funders and Global South programme originators and implementers
| Global Social Challenges Journal

Co-authored by Carol Shemeri, Laura Somoggi, and Valentina Di Felice from Womanity, along with partners including the Center on Gender Equity and Health at UC San Diego, the article explores the power imbalances between Global North funders and Global South organisations working to prevent violence against women and girls.

Climate Leaders: Women in Local Climate Action | Behanbox

We developed the Climate Leaders series, in partnership with BehanBox, to document stories of women across India leading local responses to the climate crisis, highlighting their agency, knowledge, and solutions that emerge when women are centred in climate action.



Why Meghalaya's Women Seed-Guardians Are Resisting Commercial Hybridisation



In An Arid Pocket Of Rajasthan, Women Are Conserving Vanishing Grasslands



Once Swallowed By Lantana Menace, Women Are Reclaiming Forests, Lands And Foods



Colours From Koraput Forests And The Adivasi Women Reviving Natural Dyeing



The Women Who Brought Water Back To A Himalayan Village



How Arunachal's Women Healers Are Conserving Rare, Endangered Plants



Women Like Bhanumati Are Powering Andhra's Natural Farming Model



In Drought-Hit Karur, One Woman Builds A Climate-Resilient Food Forest



Mapping Tidal Floods: How Women in Coastal Kochi Villages Are Building Climate Resilience



Forecasting Drought: In Parched Marathwada Villages, Women Are Building Early Warning Systems



Women Who Guard The Tides: Mangrove Conservation In The Absence Of Land Rights

In the news

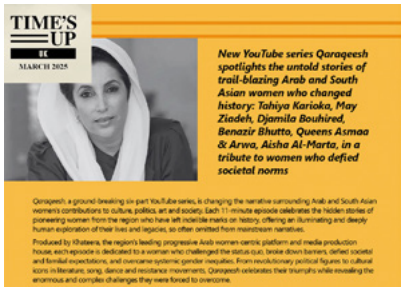


Article



Power within, power with and power to: A reflection on equity-centred partnerships for VAWG prevention by Sarah Smith, Rebecca Lundgren, Marilyn Akinola (Center on Gender Equity and Health at the University of California San Diego) and Laura Somoggi, Carolyne Shemer (Womanity) | SVRI

Newsletters featuring Womanity

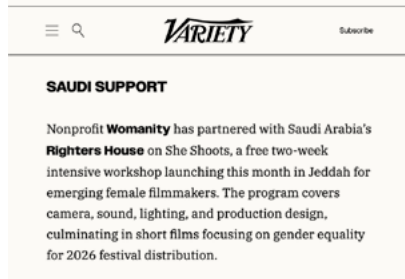


TIME'S UP UK Newsletter
Featured Womanity-supported YouTube series Qaraqeesh for spotlighting powerful stories of Arab and South Asian women who challenged the status quo.



TIME'S UP UK Newsletter
Shared our 'Open Letters' campaign for International Women's Day.

Featured Media & Partner Highlights



'She Shoots', co-led by Rulan Hasan and Rights House featured in *Variety*.



Avery Dennison featured our work in Afghanistan through the *She Learns* programme.



'Women's rights face 'full-on assault' due to UN and aid funding cuts' | Reuters

Our Donors

We are immensely grateful to our community of donors — individuals, organisations, and those who choose to give anonymously — whose generosity makes this work possible and continues to move us closer to a more inclusive and equitable future for women and girls.

“

“What impressed us most about the Womanity team was simple: they stay when others leave. Watching their work unfold — with care, competence and conviction — left no doubt: we belong at their side. They remind us every day that where there’s enough will, there’s always a way — and hope always endures!”



Yonca Even Guggenbühl
President, Dalyan Foundation

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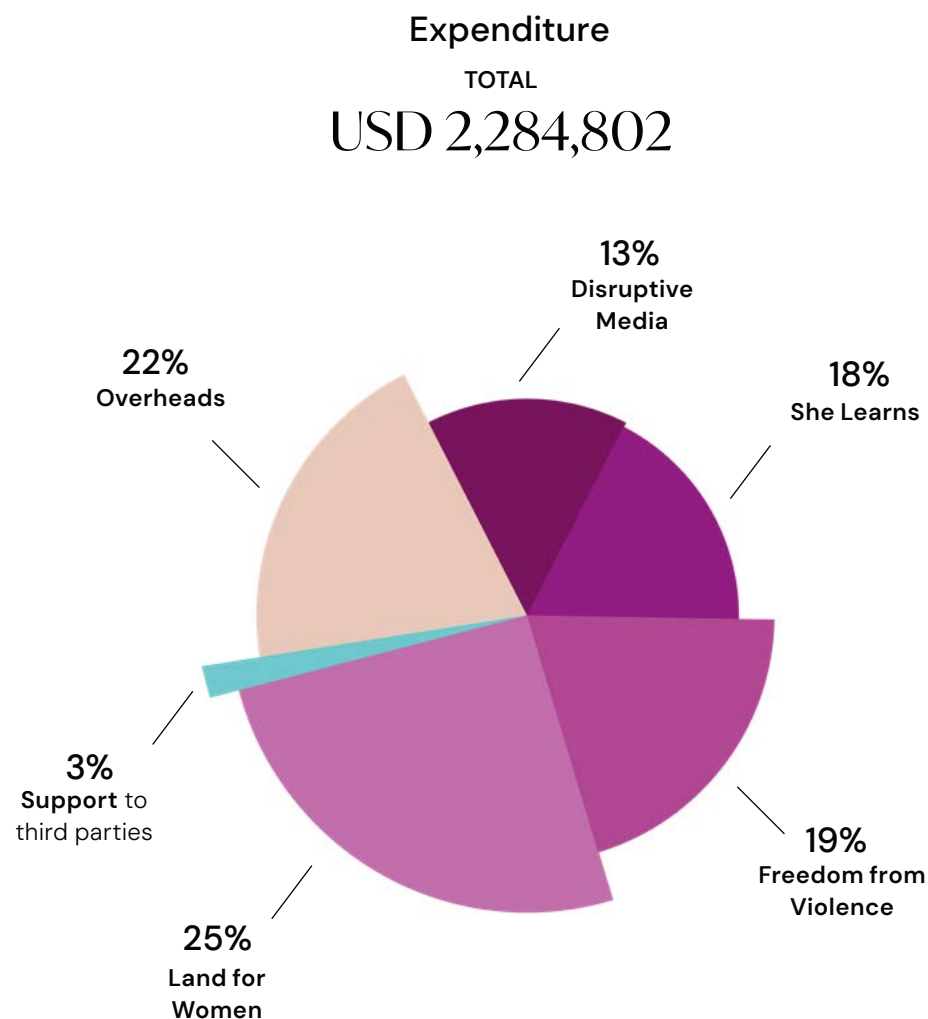
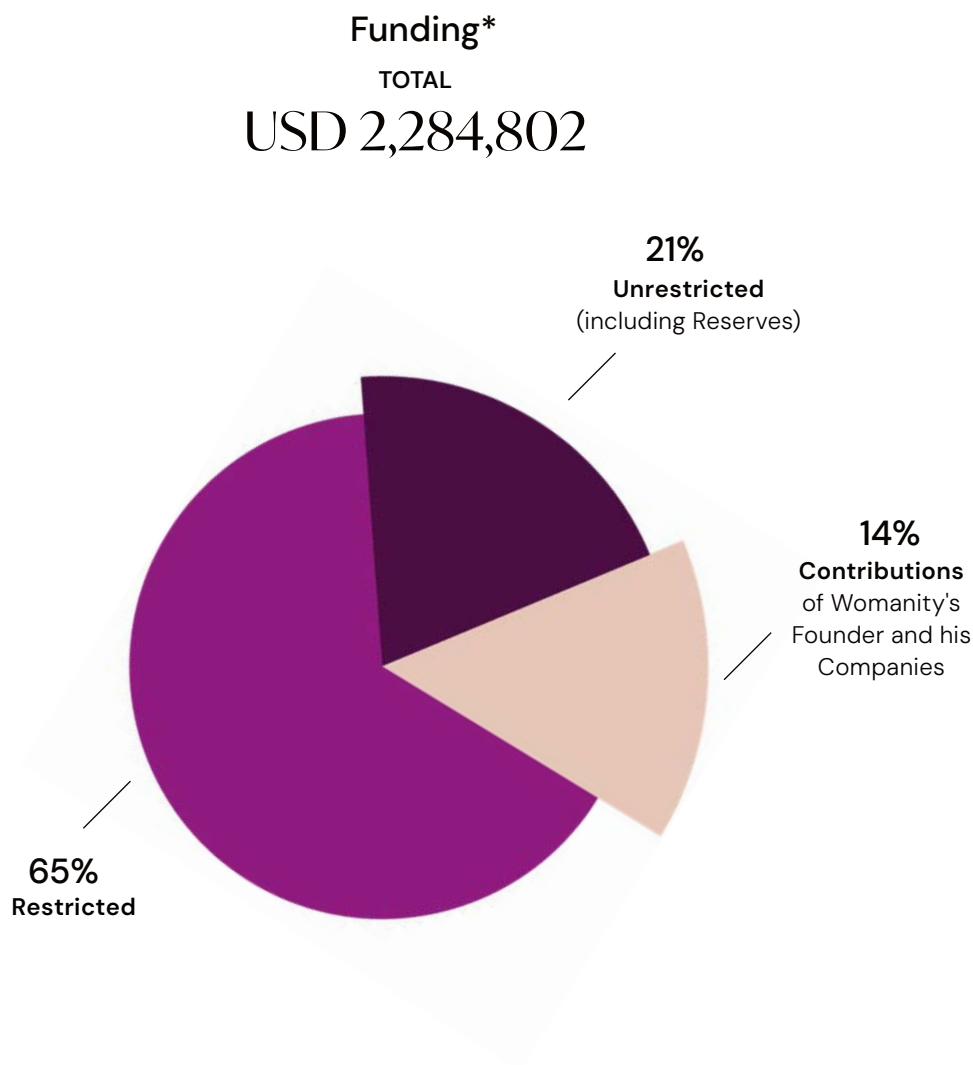
UK ONLINE GIVING FOUNDATION



Indigenous women from Rajasthan, India with their land title deeds.

📷 Selvaprakash Lakshmanan

Funding & Expenditure



Figures are not audited. If you wish to receive a copy of the audited accounts, please contact Aurelia Ovan at aurelia@womanity.org.

*This includes all the funding received in 2025 or multi-year funding which has partly been allocated to 2025, and the funds received in our UK accounts in 2025.

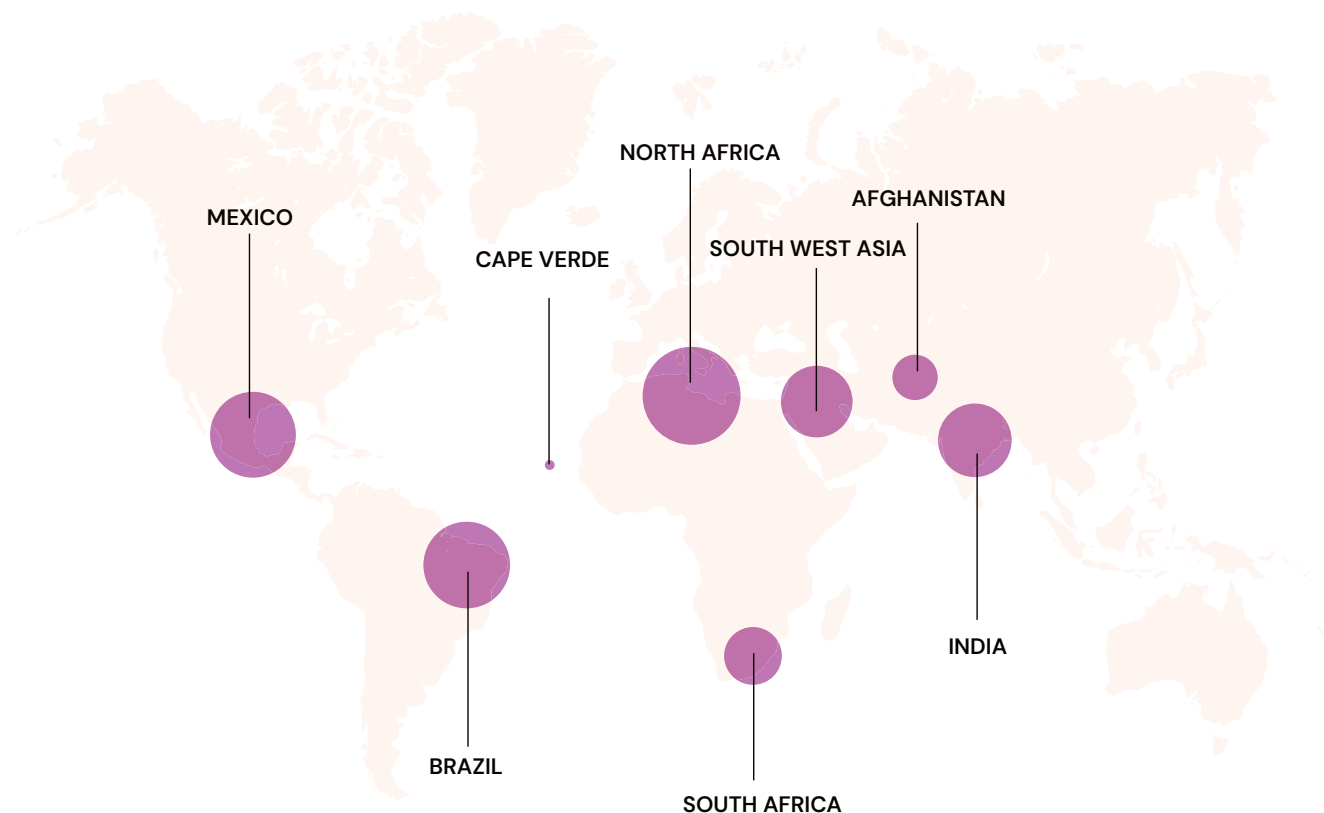
About Us

We are a Switzerland-based organisation with a globally experienced team committed to addressing gender inequality. From designing and delivering innovative programmes to strengthening locally-led movements, women's rights organisations, and changemakers, we work to challenge boundaries and create lasting, meaningful impact for women and girls in all their diversity.

Since 2005, our sustained focus on gender equity has enabled us to develop a deep, context-specific understanding of the challenges women face, alongside a strong global network of experts and local partners. Through strategic investments and partnerships with philanthropists, we have expanded access to education, economic opportunity, safety from violence, and land rights for women across Afghanistan, Brazil, Cape Verde, India, Mexico, South Africa, South West Asia and North Africa.

→ www.womanity.org

\$19 million invested. 31 million lives impacted — most of them women and girls.



Support our work

Our impact is powered by the commitment and generosity of our partners, funders, and collaborators. Through your financial support, time, expertise, and shared efforts, you help bring our mission to life.

We are deeply appreciative of your continued belief in a more just and equitable future for women and girls. Thank you for being part of this journey with us.

Donate Online

womanimity.org/donation-page

Swiss Bank Payment

The Womanity Foundation — UBS SWITZERLAND AG PO BOX 8098 ZURICH

Swift code: UBSWCHZH80A

IBAN CHF: CH58 0020 3203 1413 8001 L

IBAN €: CH86 0020 3203 1413 8061 G

IBAN \$: CH43 0020 3203 1413 8060 H

IBAN £: CH53 0020 3203 1413 8062 P

For any other currency, please use the Swiss Francs reference.

UK Bank Payment

The Womanity Foundation — Barclays Bank Plc 1

Churchill Place, London, E14 5HP

Account: 03425002

Sort code: 20-31-52

IBAN: GB38 BUKB 2031 5203 4250 02

Swift code: BUKBGB22XXX

United States of America

Your donation is made to Every.org, a tax-exempt US 501(c)(3) charity that grants unrestricted funds to the American Friends Fund set up for Womanity hosted by Myriad USA on our behalf. To donate, visit <https://www.every.org/the-womanimity-foundation-ch>.

European Union

Womanity is a beneficiary of the Transnational Giving Europe Network. You can make a donation from your country and benefit from your local tax advantages in a safe and secure environment. To make a donation, visit <https://donate.transnationalgiving.eu/landing/womanimity> or contact the TGE partner in your country of tax residence at <https://www.transnationalgiving.eu/category/partner>.

Womanity's administrative costs are mostly covered by our Founder. This ensures that the majority of your contribution goes directly to our programmes. Donations received are critical to our success and directed to the areas of greatest need. They allow us the flexibility to respond to opportunities and needs, helping us reach our objectives in each of our programmes.

All donations to Womanity are tax deductible in Switzerland, the USA, and most European country members of the Transnational Giving Europe Network, as per applicable laws and regulations.

If you would like to explore how you can get involved in our work or if you wish to make a donation, please contact Aurelia Ovan at aurelia@womanimity.org.

The Womanity Foundation

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