WOMANKIND
WORLDWIDE EQUAL RESPECTED PROUD



IMPACT REPORT 2017-18

Transforming the lives of women and girls

Contents

Message from our board	3
Our vision for change	4
Our impact in 2017-18	6
In solidarity with women's movements	8
Advocating for change	9
Ending violence against women and girls	10
Case study: Helping Namunyak to change tradition	11
Promoting women's economic rights	12
Case study: Supporting Miremba to resist land grabs	13
Enabling women to be leaders of change	14
Case study: Fostering leaders like Velile	15
Beyond the ballot: Women and elections	16
Meet our new partners	18
Meet some of our team	19
Our supporters	20
Income and expenditure	22
Thank you	23
Support us	24



Message from our board: **Maggie Baxter, Chair of Trustees**



The past year has been one of cautious optimism for the global women's movement. In spite of persistent social, political and economic inequalities – from the prevalence of violence against women and girls to the gender pay gap – a powerful and unmistakably feminist movement is growing.

Across the globe, women are continuing to rise up and speak out, and are being heard.

From the ascent of the #MeToo movement to the introduction of the Jo Cox Memorial Grants supporting women's rights organisations across the globe, women are continuing to rise up and speak out, and are being heard. Around the world, women activists are organising and mobilising, unified by one clear message: enough is enough.

Throughout, Womankind is surer than ever that our approach of supporting and strengthening women's movements is the way to effect change. Both research and experience show that women's movements are paving the way for real change in the lives of women and girls, from the suffragettes a century ago in the UK to the present-day activists in Uganda's eco-feminist movement.

It has been a privilege and a pleasure to be part of Womankind this past year, both as Chair of Trustees and as a passionate supporter marching in the streets of London for PROCESSIONS 2018.

On behalf of the entire Womankind team, we are proud to share our Impact Report for the 2017-18 year. To our partners, donors, supporters, and fellow activists and allies who challenge patriarchy and gender inequality every day, thank you. Together we are making the change that we want to see.



Our **vision for change**



In no country in the world are women equal to men. We believe that this is unacceptable, and stand with women's movements around the world working tirelessly to change this.

In partnership with women's movements, we work towards…

1. An end to all forms of violence against women and girls
2. Women's economic rights and control over resources
3. Women's equal influence in decision making and ability to exercise political power

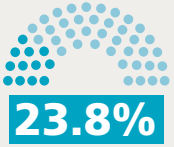
The problem



Globally, 1 in 3 women experience violence in their lifetimes



Women own less than 20% of the world's land



Fewer than 24% of all parliamentarians are women

Our projects

In 2017-18 we had:



12 projects focused on ending violence against women and girls

6 aiming to advance women's economic rights





11 supporting women's participation and leadership





Self-care and well being

Funding and financing

Connection between movement actors

In our 2016-2021 strategy, we developed **7 pillars** identifying ways in which Womankind supports our partners' work and the women's movements that they are part of. In 2017-18, **13** of the projects we supported addressed at least one of these 7 pillars.

Connection to wider platforms

Communications and ICT support

Feminist documentation and research

Mapping and intersectionality

Our vision is of a just world where the rights of all women are respected, valued and realised.



Our impact in 2017-18

This year, we forged ahead in the second year of our strategy, standing proudly with our partners and in our actions as part of the global women's movement.

We continued to work closely with our partners in **9 countries** – including those with a regional scope – on programmes that transform women's lives, from changing attitudes and behaviours to training women leaders and influencing governments.



We established or continued to support partnerships with a total of **45 partners**, including 41 women's rights organisations in our 5 focus countries (Ethiopia, Kenya, Nepal, Uganda and Zimbabwe).

103,705 women directly benefited from our work with women's movements, from receiving legal advice and representation to being supported to stand for election in their communities.





12.7 million+ people were indirectly supported through awareness-raising on women's rights and changes to laws, policies and practices.





52,000+ social media users from across the world were reached regularly by Womankind's channels, with content ranging from partner activities and successes to news from the global feminist movement.

3,745 politicians, traditional leaders, journalists and service providers were influenced through our partners' advocacy and awareness-raising initiatives.



We forged relationships with **21** new partners to bring about transformational change for women and girls in our focus countries.







7 partners participated in key international meetings and conferences, ranging from the UN Forum on Business and Human Rights to the Commission on the Status of Women.

In solidarity with women's movements


Florence

Womankind Worldwide is a global women's rights organisation working in solidarity with women's rights movements and organisations to transform the lives of women.


Olerai

For nearly 30 years, we have pursued a world where women are free from violence, economically empowered and represented in leadership spaces. In 2017-18, we deepened our commitment to women's movements as the bearers of this change.

We work with partners to design and deliver projects and services which help women and girls to transform their lives. We support women's movements to strengthen and grow through technical support, connectivity and shared learning, advocacy platforms and funding opportunities.

We have worked hand-in-hand with national, regional and global movements. To amplify our partners' voices, we have also created spaces for collaboration, and provided them support for their communications work.

The women's rights activists leading these movements are diverse, determined and thriving. In Uganda, 72-year-old activist **Florence** supports survivors of violence, while in Kenya, **Olerai** protects the next generation against Female Genital Mutilation (FGM).

Despite precarious political climates, systemic funding challenges and patriarchal backlash, women's movements are leading the way.

Womankind stands decisively in solidarity with them.

Advocating for change



In 2017-18, through compelling research, advocacy and campaigning with partners in the UK and internationally, we took critical action to strengthen commitments on women's rights:

- We supported our partner **Zimbabwe Women Lawyers Association** to conduct research on violence against women and access to justice. These findings were published as ***Routes to Justice: Response to violence against women*** and accompanied by a launch in both Zimbabwe and the UK.
- Equipped with powerful demands for the international community on women's land rights, we brought the voices and expertise of our partners **Women and Land in Zimbabwe** and Uganda's **National Association for Women's Action in Development** to the **United Nation's Commission on the Status of Women** at the UN Headquarters.
- In the UK, we stood with feminists across the country to mark 100 years since the first women's votes, joining campaigning coalition **Centenary Action Group** and marching in **PROCESSIONS 2018**.



Ending violence against women and girls

We continued to support women-led services for survivors of violence and build evidence on successful approaches to prevent child, early and forced marriage and Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). Here are just a few examples of what we achieved with our partners in 2017-18:

- **FIDA Kenya** continued its work preventing FGM and child, early and forced marriage. By enabling girls who have survived or escaped FGM to become community-level champions, other girls and community members were supported to defend women's rights. Between January and March 2018, **8 girls were rescued from FGM** by police trained by FIDA.
- Our partner the **Nepal Disabled Women's Association** embarked on a project to strengthen the capacity and visibility of women with disabilities. To inform the development of future projects, they conducted a research study with **184 participants** on violence against women with disabilities in Nepal.
- The **Zimbabwe Women Lawyers Association** continued to support Zimbabwean women to access justice, reaching **125,000 clients** in 2017-18, many of whom are survivors of domestic violence. As a result, women are forging a path to recovery, justice and freedom from violence.
- In Ethiopia, the **Association for Women's Sanctuary and Development** enabled **104 women to pursue legal cases against perpetrators of violence**. Police and prosecutors were trained to better understand the needs of survivors, and **6 Community Violence Prevention Committees** were established to raise awareness and vigilance around violence against women.





CASE STUDY

Helping Namunyak to change tradition

As a child, Namunyak survived Female Genital Mutilation. Since meeting FIDA Kenya, she has fought so the next generation of girls will never meet the same fate.

I was cut when I was 12 and I will never forget the pain.

They used a razor blade and there was no anaesthetic; I was bleeding for two weeks. When I gave birth, the pain was terrible.

I won't let my daughters be cut. Because they use the razor, my girls could get an infection, but I also don't want them to feel the same pain as me. FGM doesn't have any advantages; it is just a tradition – they say if you are not cut, men won't marry you. But things are changing now.

I want to make sure FGM is gone in my community

FIDA Kenya's project is working: when women know more about the effects of FGM, they will protect their daughters. Maasai women now have the skills, knowledge and means to generate an income. **FIDA Kenya** is helping women in the community to change their future and the future of their children. Before I leave this world, I want to make sure FGM is gone in my community.

When I said no to FGM for my girls I was discriminated against by my family. They wouldn't help me with school fees or speak to me. But now that they know FGM has no value in our community, they are happy my girls have not been cut – my brother-in-law's daughters refused FGM too as my daughters have been their role models. I gave my girls a choice and they said no.

I have hopes that my girls will be independent and educated. I am helping them to get to know their rights and to make their own income – they will not have to depend on men.

This project is kindly funded by the UK government's Department for International Development through the UK Aid Match scheme.

UKaid from the British people

Promoting women's economic rights



We continued to promote women's economic rights through research and advocacy. Here are a few ways Womankind and our partners helped women claim their economic rights in 2017-18:



- In Uganda, strengthening our focus on women's land rights, we supported new partners **National Association of Professional Environmentalists** and **National Association for Women's Action in Development** to conduct Feminist Participatory Action Research. **35 women** from the eco-feminist movement were trained to interview **350 women** affected by land grabs, with the findings used by our partners to share powerful evidence and recommendations with governments, corporate actors and the international community.
- In Ethiopia, **Integrated Community Education and Development** conducted entrepreneurship training for **20 leaders** of women's self-help groups, building their capacity to better mentor and support group members.
- **Women and Land in Zimbabwe** established **189 new groups** of women living in rural areas, providing the space for women at the grassroots to learn about their entitlements to land, find allies and share information with other women.
- In Uganda, Women in Village Savings and Loan Associations supported by the **National Association for Women's Organisations in Uganda** have successfully began income-generating activities, leading to increased respect in the home and improved family welfare.

Supporting Miremba to resist land grabs

CASE STUDY

When Miremba's farming was halted after an oil refinery opened nearby, she began speaking out against forced evictions with the support of National Association of Professional Environmentalists.



Life was okay before the oil refinery, but when it came, everything changed.

We were told not to move on with farming as we would have to move out. This was five years ago – we still haven't relocated. I live in fear because they could come at any time and take our home and land.

Women are most affected by land grabs as their rights are not considered at all, and it is tradition that women don't own or inherit land. It has an effect on young girls too, stopping them from going to school as parents say they should stay home and help.

If my rights are violated, I will stand up

I have taught my daughter about the issues affecting women, especially land issues. I have told her that she must work hard for her rights to land and be strong.

National Association of Professional Environmentalists empowered me to speak up. They have helped me gain confidence to fight for my rights. If my rights are violated, I will stand up. Even if I had to face the President of Uganda, I could speak up. I won't let my home be taken without proper compensation.

I am in the women's group as a leader, speaking out on women's issues in our community. I was then chosen to become a community researcher to help document how the oil refinery is affecting women here. The training taught me how to empower other women to speak up.

I hope that women are empowered to speak out on issues of land grabbing so our voices are no longer overlooked. We are growing a movement of women so that more and more can know their rights. We are standing up against issues that are affecting women.

Enabling women to be leaders of change

We supported partners to strengthen women's political engagement and advocacy efforts to secure change. Here are just a few examples of how we've supported women to raise their voices in 2017-18:

- As a result of lobbying and advocacy efforts by **Nepal Disabled Women's Association**, the government has committed to ensuring the participation of persons with disabilities in livelihood-related planning, policy formulation and programming.
- Our final year of partnership with the **Zambia National Women's Lobby** included leadership training provided to **600 girls**, many of whom have gone on to organise debates, participate in radio discussions and serve as role models for other young girls.
- In the lead-up to Zimbabwe's 2018 general elections, the **Women's Coalition of Zimbabwe** facilitated collective action by the country's women's movement, resulting in **14 political parties** signing Gender Parity Pledges as well as a High-Level Women's Election Strategy Dialogue bringing together **120 delegates** from government, media and civil society. In addition, our partner **Women in Politics Support Unit** helped prepare **325 women candidates** through training in areas such as campaign design and electoral processes.
- Recognising the unique and compounded discrimination faced by women with disabilities in accessing decision-making spaces, we have partnered with **Deaf Women Included** in Zimbabwe, supporting young women to develop feminist leadership skills and make demands from leaders and stakeholders across the country.





CASE STUDY

Fostering leaders like Velile

In Zimbabwe, women like Velile are often denied access to decision making spaces. Our partner Women and Land in Zimbabwe provides training to women so their voices are heard.

My life was miserable; my husband used to beat me up.

I was unable to work in our fields because my husband technically owns the land, so I depended on odd jobs for income. I wasn't allowed to attend community meetings or report anything, even to my relatives. I was suffering in silence.

One day I was fetching water at the borehole when a woman approached me from **Women and Land in Zimbabwe**. She told me that they were training women in the community on land rights and transformational leadership. I attended this training and felt so excited to share my story. This was the only opportunity for me to be heard, listened to and get help.

Women and Land in Zimbabwe trained me in women's rights, gender-based violence and lobbying and advocacy. This gave me knowledge and improved my confidence and boldness.

After I received training on women's land rights, I approached the village head and was given two hectares of land. This has resulted in me gaining some economic independence: I grow tomatoes and maize for food and to sell for some income. I also reported my abuse case and my husband was arrested. Now I can look after myself; I no longer do odd jobs and I am sending my children to school. I am now a free woman.

Women and girls are now able to speak out

Women and Land in Zimbabwe is important. They provide knowledge for women in rural areas, and some women in this community are now in decision-making positions, making household and community decisions. This has improved power relations, and women's rights are being protected and respected. Women and girls are now able to speak out.

IN FOCUS

Beyond the ballot: **women and elections**

Women's movements both impact and are impacted by politics at the local, national and international levels. In the 2017-18 year, general elections were either held or announced in 3 of our focus countries – Nepal, Kenya and Zimbabwe – presenting a unique set of challenges and opportunities for women's movements in these countries.



NEPAL

Nepal's 2017 parliamentary elections saw an impressive quota of one-third of seats at all levels reserved for women. At the local level, following years of Womankind support and campaigning by our partner **Feminist Dalit Organization** and others resulted in the 2017 Local Level Election Act with massive gains for Dalit women. In September 2017, many women – including over 6,000 Dalit women – were elected to local government.

KENYA

The August 2017 election in Kenya served as a painful reminder of the dangerous and often-gendered nature of post-election violence. In the days following the election, Jane Anyango, founder of our partner **Polycom Development Project**, shared that *"Due to the anxiety and fear in the country, women cannot leave to go do their daily duties to earn money. We are in crisis."*





ZIMBABWE

Finally, our partners in Zimbabwe spent the year hard at work preparing for the country's July 2018 election. From conducting a feminist analysis of the pre-election environment to extending the voter registration period, the **Women's Coalition of Zimbabwe** ensured that women across the country were informed and prepared to participate in key meetings and women aspirants were supported to stand for election.

Globally, there remain substantial barriers for women to enter and participate in politics. Whether it is supporting women to run or changing the laws that sustain these barriers, women's movements are working to ensure that women's participation is meaningful, sustainable and transformative.

Meet our new partners



Nepal Disabled Women's Association (NDWA)

Nirmala Dhital, Chairperson

"In Nepal, many women face multiple forms of discrimination due to gender, caste, religion, sexual orientation, disability and age. NDWA is one of the only organisations in Nepal led by women with disabilities, for women with disabilities. Through advocacy, lobbying and training, we are working to break down barriers for women with disabilities.



NDWA and Womankind have similar goals of ensuring equality for all women. **Women with disabilities are one of the most diverse and marginalised groups, and we are working together to ensure they are not left behind."**

FEMNET (pan-Africa)

Crystal Simeoni, Head of Advocacy & Economic Justice Lead

"Africa has made great strides, but we are struggling to bridge rhetoric with the reality of implemented policies. Despite this, the women's movement is relentless. **I really enjoy pushing the boundaries of issues that have historically left women – and especially African women – out.** My role contributes towards ensuring the voices of the women and girls of my continent are loud and meaningful.

Solidarity with a women's rights organisation from the Global North that truly has a feminist approach to their work cannot be taken for granted. We both work on ensuring women have a say in making decisions about all facets of their own lives. We learn from each other and support each other in ways that are mutually accountable."

Meet some of our team



Bethan Williams
Major Grants Manager

Q How do you work together?

Bethan: Piyumi and I work together to develop funding applications and maintain a database of partner projects. Piyumi has an excellent knowledge of our focus countries and partners – I learn a lot from her.

Piyumi: We've also worked closely on proposals for large institutional donors which required the input and coordination of stakeholders across organisations, time zones and work patterns. It's been rewarding to work with Bethan and learn from her expertise – the work has benefited from our integrated team approach.

Q What's your favourite part about your job?

Bethan: I really enjoy working with other members of the team and our partners. I love the last few days of a deadline when everyone works together for the last push.

Piyumi: For me, it's understanding the specific contexts where our partners operate – it's easy to take our own operating context and its advantages for granted.

Piyumi Samaraweera
National Programme Development Manager



Q How does your role contribute to a more feminist world?

Bethan: If there's one thing that women's rights organisations need to bring about change, it's money. Many of our partners struggle to fundraise for their work and we help open doors to new funding opportunities.

Piyumi: Womankind is purposefully partner-led – we take a lead from our sisters who know their context best. In supporting the development and management of our partners' projects, I hope my role is helping achieve a more equal world.

Our supporters are shining a spotlight on women's rights

We are generously supported by a range of trusts, foundations, community organisations, schools, companies and individuals who, like us, are committed to transforming the lives of women and girls.



Our fundraising gala in March 2018 raised an incredible **£116,916**, made possible by the companies who donated prizes and bought tables, Gala Committee members, guests and our event sponsor, Weil, Gotshal & Manges (London) LLP.

Thanks to the players of the **People's Postcode Lottery** and their support of **£200,000**, our partner Setaweet in Ethiopia kick-started their Gendershops project, designing workshops for 10,000 secondary school students based on a feminist curriculum.

With their largest-ever donation of over **£27,000** on International Women's Day, **OptiBac Probiotics** announced they have raised over **£100,000** for Womankind over the past four years through the sale of their 'For women' probiotics.

Supported by players of PEOPLE'S POSTCODE LOTTERY

Awarded funds from POSTCODE EQUALITY TRUST

OptiBac probiotics



This year, supporters **shaved their heads, ran marathons, hosted book clubs** and **put on theatre productions**, all in the name of women's rights.

24 running champions took on the Virgin London Marathon and Royal Parks Half Marathon, raising **£16,692**.

For International Women's Day, supporters held fundraisers raising a total of **£11,118** – including **Etta Dunsmure**, whose head shave brought in **£3,720** for women's rights.

We gratefully received **£151,637** from supporters who made a special lasting contribution by leaving a gift in their will.



Thank you to all our supporters for working with us to make the world a better place for women.

Income and expenditure

Of every £1 we spent:

60p went into our programmes, campaigning and policy work



37p was invested into fundraising

3p was spent on governance costs

For every **£1** invested in fundraising...





...we raised **£2.58**

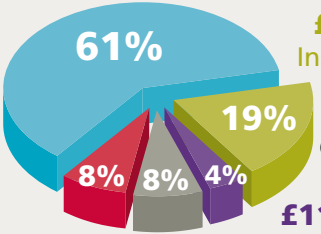
In 2017-18 we saw a number of large grants come to a planned end, whilst many expected statutory and institutional funding opportunities were delayed. This has meant that our income raised and spent on programmes, campaigning and policy work was less than in the previous financial year. However, we did maintain our investment in fundraising in order to generate additional income for Womankind's vital work in future years and expect to see fundraising's return on investment improve in the next year.

Income 2017-18

£1,675,547 Individual giving (including Gift Aid)

£229,927 **Statutory grants** (including UK Aid)

£203,785 **Other** (including legacies & events)

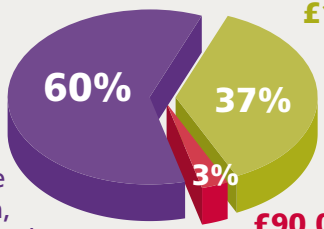


£504,682 Institutional grants (including Comic Relief)

£117,769 Trusts, foundations & major donors

TOTAL: £2,731,710

Expenditure 2017-18



£1,059,615 Cost of generating income

£1,703,382 Ending violence against women, ensuring women have a say in decisions and advancing women's economic rights

£90,041 Governance costs

TOTAL: £2,853,038

Thank you to...

Our partners

Afghanistan
- Afghan Women's Resource Centre

Ethiopia
- Addis Continental Institute of Public Health
- Association for Women's Sanctuary and Development
- Centre for Accelerated Women's Economic Empowerment
- Ethiopian Women Lawyers Association
- Ethiopian Women with Disabilities National Association
- Integrated Community Education and Development Association
- Organisation for Women in Self Employment
- Setaweet
- Siiqqee Women's Development Association

Ghana
- Women in Law and Development in Africa

Kenya
- African Women's Development and Communication Network – FEMNET (Pan-Africa)
- FIDA Kenya
- Polycom Development Project
- Women Challenged to Challenge

Nepal
- Community Action Center Nepal
- Feminist Dalit Organization
- LOOM
- Mitini Nepal
- National Indigenous Women's Federation
- Nepal Disabled Women's Association
- Saathi
- Sankalpa – Women's Alliance for Peace, Justice, and Democracy
- Tewa
- Women for Human Rights Nepal

Tanzania
- Women's Legal Aid Centre

Uganda
- Forum for Women in Democracy
- Freedom and Roam Uganda
- Isis-Women's International Cross-Cultural Exchange
- National Association for Women's Action in Development
- National Association of Professional Environmentalists
- National Association of Women's Organisations in Uganda
- National Union of Women with Disabilities of Uganda

Zambia
- Zambia National Women's Lobby

Zimbabwe
- Deaf Women Included
- Female Prisoners Support Trust
- Her Zimbabwe
- Musasa
- Pakasipiti
- Women and Land in Zimbabwe
- Women in Politics Support Unit
- Women's Action Group
- Women's Coalition of Zimbabwe
- Zimbabwe Chamber of Informal Economy Associations
- Zimbabwe Women Lawyers Association

Our supporters

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Sir Alec Reed

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- Yasmine Bassili
- Lia Larson • Miray Topay
- Susana Leith-Smith
- Zulekha Rahman

Support us

Our supporters enable us to directly help thousands of women and girls to live free from violence, have a say in the decisions affecting their lives and be free to know and claim their rights. Join our movement and together we can help more women to transform their lives.

To make a donation call 020 3735 5558 or visit womankind.org.uk

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