



WOMEN'S
GLOBAL NETWORK
FOR REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

WGNRR

Strategic Plan

2023-2025



© Women's Global Network for Reproductive Rights 2022
Some Rights Reserved

WGNRR holds the rights to this publication. The publication may be cited in parts as long as WGNRR is properly acknowledged as the source and WGNRR is furnished with copies of the final work where the quotation or citation appears.

Developed and co-authored by Relativ Impact in association with WGNRR.



Relativ Impact

38-5 Carn Castle Gate,
St. Catharines, Ontario,
L2N 5V4, Canada
www.relativimpact.com



WOMEN'S
GLOBAL NETWORK
FOR REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS
WGNRR

WGNRR

3 Marunong Street, Barangay
Central, Diliman, Quezon City,
1100 Philippines
www.wgnrr.org

Donate to WGNRR

Raising our Voices: Global Campaigning for SRHR

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	4
Our Herstory	5
Our Identity	6
Our Approach	8
Our Theory of Change	10
Our Impact	11
Our Plan of Action	14
Acknowledgements	15
Contact	16

Executive Summary

The Women's Global Network for Reproductive Rights (WGNRR) is a southern-based global network that connects and strengthens movements for sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and justice.

Our work is grounded in the realities of those who most lack economic, social and political power. Established in 1984, we are now moving towards our 40th year of mobilizing and advancing SRHR and justice for all. To celebrate this milestone, we developed this strategic plan with the priorities of our partners and allies in mind.

This strategic plan has been produced to provide overall direction and guidance for implementing our work for 2023-2025. It sets out a vision for advancing SRHR for all with a focus on abortion rights in the Global South. The strategic plan was developed through a co-created process with the WGNRR board, staff, and key stakeholders from India, Indonesia, Kenya, Mali, Nepal, Nigeria, Philippines, Tanzania, and Uganda. It is also deeply informed by the priorities of grassroots, youth, community-based organizations we work with. It is also shaped by a number of key broader processes including the Sustainable Development Goals, Universal Periodic Review, and Asia and Africa CPD Regional processes, among others.

The strategic plan is focused on ensuring effective SRHR advocacy is advancing SRHR in the Global South via cross-movement and cross-national collaboration and learning. It seeks to increase the dialogue in the Global South on SRHR challenges and provide solutions, while also consolidating the experiences, lessons, practices, and gains for shared learning. To do this, we identified three interconnected areas in our Theory of Change, namely, 1) Partner and ally capacity strengthening; 2) Network collaboration; and 3) Engagement in SRHR accountability mechanisms.

Over the next three years, we will work with grassroots, youth, community-based organizations, to lead SRHR actions at multiple levels. We believe that with the work planned, and with embedded measurements, this strategic plan will contribute to national, regional and global efforts to advance SRHR and justice.

Our Herstory



In the late 1970s and early 1980s, the feminist and women's health movements came into its own in pushing back against the dominating paradigm of population control.

Women all over the world began to fight for their rights - pushing for their right to freedom of choice. During the International Women and Health Meeting (IWHM) in 1984, attended by women from across the world, it became clear that reproductive issues affect all women, and that global solidarity was essential.

The grave urgency in addressing the myriad of issues faced by women and the danger to the realization of their rights saw the formation of several significant networks, including WGNRR which brought together reproductive rights advocates and activists, and ensured that these pressing issues were given a collective voice.

In the words of WGNRR Founding Member, Loes Keyzers, "WGNRR was born out of fire: the fire of anger about the abuse and suffering of women and the fire of passion to join hands to change women's lives globally."

WGNRR continued to build momentum in the women's health movement through its Call for Action campaigns, which was first articulated in 1987 at another IWHM conference. It was also then that May 28th was declared the International Day of Action for Women's Health.

The International Conference "Reinforcing Reproductive Rights", held in Madras, India in 1993 was monumental for the SRHR movement when concepts of sexuality, sexual and reproductive rights, and the health frameworks were actively debated upon. SRHR activists insisted that self-determination was the basic cornerstone of the entire

movement. At the conference, WGNRR reiterated this idea and still holds this concept central to all its work today. It was also the year WGNRR began deliberately tackling and advocating for the right of access to safe, legal abortions.

The International Conference on Population and Development in 1994 was a watershed year for women's health. WGNRR was part of a coalition that ensured women's voices were heard and represented at the conference. WGNRR was also closely involved in the development of the Programme of Action for the Women's World Conference in Beijing that year.

Since then, WGNRR has been mobilising and campaigning together with partners and allies for the realization of SRHR for all, with notable global campaign periods on May 28 and September 28 - International Safe Abortion Day.



Our Identity



Vision

WGNRR envisages a world where all people can fulfil their sexual and reproductive rights. We work within the rights, justice, and feminist frameworks.



Mission

Through critical analysis and strategic actions, we connect members, partners, and allies; strengthen their capacities; organize advocacy and campaign actions on feminist, SRHR, and justice issues; and share resources.



Values

We aim to be member focused, inclusive and accountable in all that we do.

We are committed to equality for all genders and value diversity.

We are self-reflective and independent from

political, governmental, and religious institutions.



Guiding Principles

Our work is grounded in the realities of those who most lack economic, social, and political power.

Our work is based on the foundation that SRHR are human rights, and that these should be respected, protected, and fulfilled, as articulated in numerous Human Rights treaties and consensus documents.

We are committed to equality for all genders.

We are non-discriminatory, respectful, equitable, transparent, accountable, and inclusive.



Where We Work

In 2008, WGNRR relocated the Coordinating Office from Amsterdam to Manila, where it is currently headquartered. In 2015, WGNRR Africa was established as a response to the expressed need of our members and partners in Africa. In 2016, WGNRR Africa was formally registered as a separate entity with its own NGO registration in Tanzania. While WGNRR Africa's engagements with partners and allies differ due to local status of SRHR, they are committed to the same vision and principles as WGNRR.

We are southern-based but our network of partners and allies consists of almost 1,000 individual and organizational members in over 100 countries. We have supported the development of SRHR networks in Kenya, Nigeria, Nepal, and DRC and held workshops and advocacy skills building sessions in Pakistan, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, and South Africa, to name a few.



TODAY IS THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF ACTION FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH



SEPTEMBER 28

International Safe Abortion Day



Our Approach

Through a co-creation process with our Board members, staff, and partners, we developed a Theory of Change to determine our 2023-2025 strategic plan and define organizational success.

During virtual and in-person workshops, our stakeholders shared their own visions of success for WGNRR, highlighted learnings from their experiences working in SRHR advocacy, and discussed ideas for new activities and partnerships needed to grow our impact.

"My vision of success for WGNRR is to be one of the helping arms of the most SRHR-related organizations, including the ones who focus on young people"

– WGNRR Team Member

Our Theory of Change simplifies the complexity of the systemic changes addressed by our work with partners and allies by mapping out the unique pathways that connect our activities to the measurable outcomes we plan to accomplish in order to achieve the impact goal we are committed to. Additionally, it provides a blueprint to communicate our intentions and invite new stakeholders to be a part of the shared vision we have as a network.

While our Theory of Change serves as the basis of our 2023-2025 strategic plan, it is a dynamic approach. As local, regional, and global contexts change we will measure progress and track our impact to learn, adapt, and continue to fight for SRHR for all through effective advocacy.

Our hypotheses for the future reflects our deep understanding of what is important to the grassroots, youth, community-based organizations we work with. Over almost forty years of exploring what works, and what doesn't, including the voices of those who are often silenced, and challenging ourselves to having difficult conversations, we set out to ensure real, positive outcomes for the feminist community we are proud to be a part of.

With partners and allies based in several regions across the Global South with different social, political, economic, and environmental conditions, each of their journeys to advancing SRHR look different. Learning from the differences and leveraging the areas of similarity is what makes our approach powerful.

The impact we are committed to requires a participatory approach to co-create strategies that assert ourselves in the necessary rights and justice movements. While we support the initiatives of our partners and allies at various advocacy stages on several SRHR matters, our Coordination Office in the Philippines has set out to focus our 2023-2025 efforts on access to safe abortion.

"It is clear that barriers to universal access to sexual and reproductive health services remain, especially in areas such as safe abortion. The insight that inspired me the most [from the 2022 International Conference on Family Planning] is that we need to learn from the journey of women and girls in accessing services and working towards eliminating the barriers there are. To enable their power over their bodies and reproductive lives while calling for state accountability in ensuring an enabling environment through policies and availability of services."

Teta Sibugon, WGNRR Asia Projects Coordinator

The Philippines has some of the most restrictive abortion laws in the world. We're on a mission for transformative change.

It remains a huge irony that even though the Philippines ranks as the most gender-inclusive nation in Asia, up to date the country has among the highest number of maternal mortality and adolescent pregnancies.

Abortion is restricted in the country, without clear exceptions on any grounds, not even to save the life or protect the health of a pregnant woman, when pregnancy is a result of rape or incest, or in cases of serious fetal deformity.

Every year, 1.1 million people self-induce abortions; accounting for the COVID-19 pandemic lockdowns, the number rises to 1.26 million¹.

Evidence shows that denying access to safe abortion exacerbates socioeconomic inequities². These are the same inequities that make abortions, and most health care services for that matter, grossly inaccessible to many Filipinos.

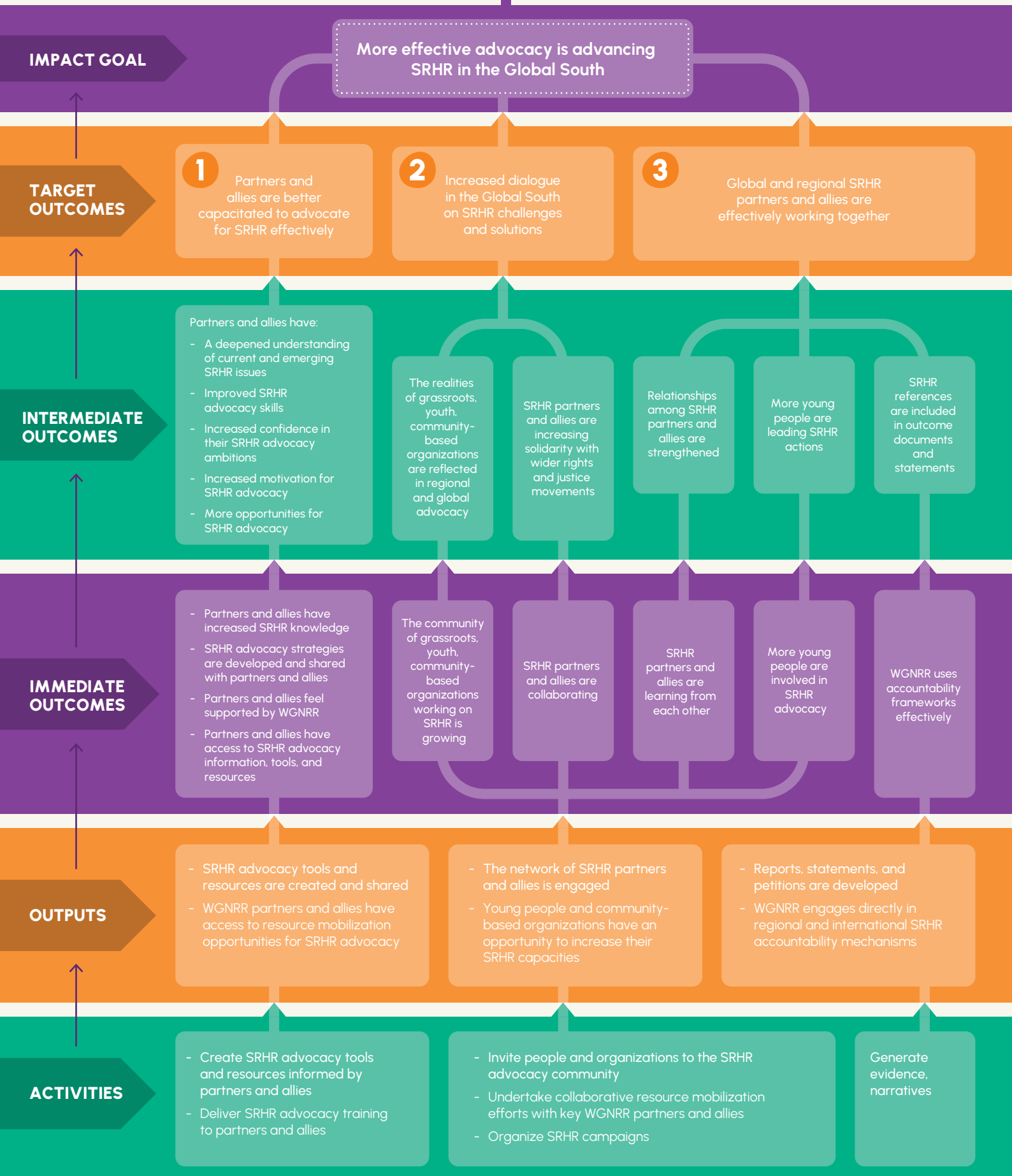


1 Maria Paz N. Marquez et al., "Estimating the potential impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on key sexual and reproductive health outcomes in the Philippines." University of the Philippines Population Institute. October 15 2020. <https://www.uppi.upd.edu.ph/sites/default/files/pdf/UPPI-Impact-of-COVID-19-on-SRH.pdf>

2 Diana Greene Foster et al., "The Turnaway Study." Advancing New Standards in Reproductive Health. <https://www.ansrh.org/research/ongoing/turnaway-study>

Our Theory of Change

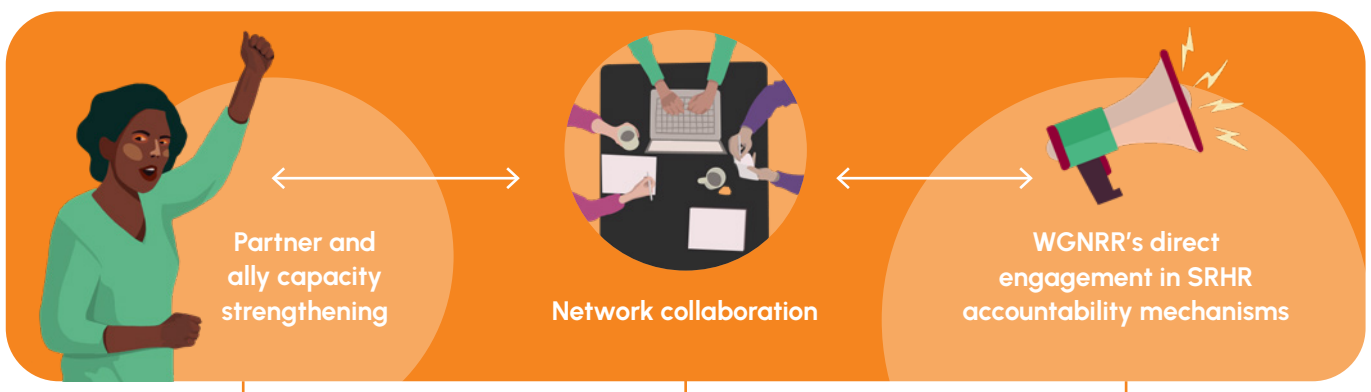
WGNRR works with partners and allies to advance SRHR in the Global South, with a focus on access to safe abortion



Our Impact

Our impact is seen in the accomplishments of our partners and allies. By enabling our network to reach the full potential of their advocacy capacity, collaborate effectively, and increase the dialogue on challenges and solutions in the Global South, our collective efforts will continue to advance SRHR.

The outcomes in our Theory of Change are interconnected but fall into three categories:



To ensure our partners and allies are better capacitated to advocate for SRHR effectively, we aim to see an improvement in their understanding of current and emerging SRHR issues, their advocacy skills to leverage increased opportunities, and their confidence and motivation to work in a space that often comes with a lot of risk.

For global and regional partners and allies to effectively work together, we aim to see strong relationships that include solidarity with wider rights and justice movements and take guidance from the realities of grassroots, community-based organizations.

Over the next three years we also plan to see the opportunities for young people, especially young women, to lead SRHR actions increase through full integration of youth perspectives and youth-specific issues into all networks and strategies.






To improve our internal capabilities and be best positioned to support our network in their advocacy efforts, we aim to see more SRHR references included in outcome documents and statements as a result of our effective accountability framework engagements.

"The WGNRR team is very open and approachable by other SRHR organizations, therefore it opens a lot of opportunities for collaboration."

– WGNRR Partner

In order to effectively measure the extent to which we are achieving our desired impact in these three areas, specific assessments need to be in place. **Our Theory of Change is the point of departure for our Impact Management and Measurement journey for 2023-2025.** To support the implementation of this strategic plan we will be putting resources into building a measurement framework that links each outcome to qualitative and quantitative data as evidence of our impact to elevate the opportunity for alignment and comparability amongst our peers.

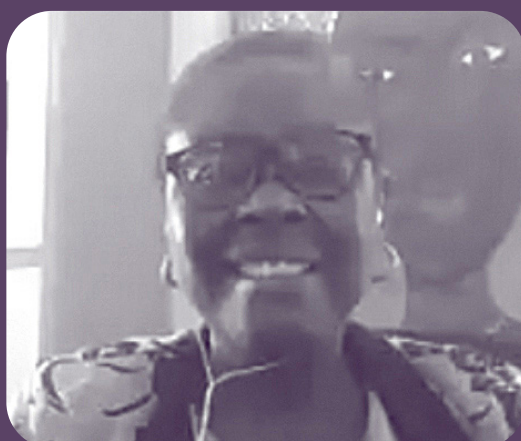
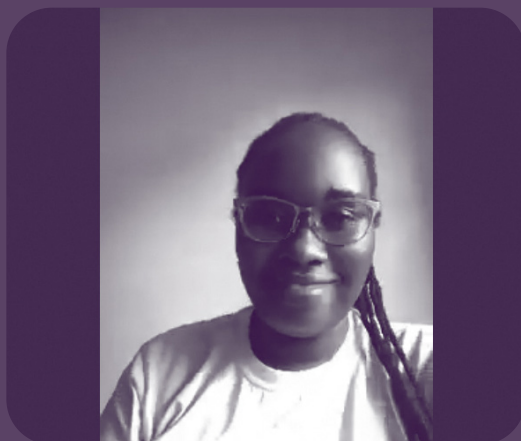
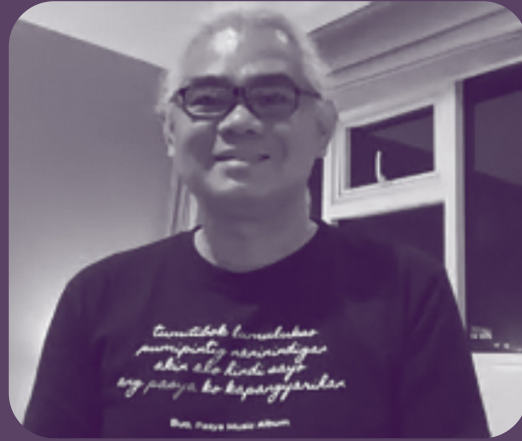
Guided by the increasing need for consistent and reliable reporting, a network of standard-setting organizations developed a framework for applying standards to impact measurement, management and reporting. The framework, initially published by the Impact Management Project, has been adopted around the world and provides a logic and common language for comparing information about impact goals. By referencing our Theory of Change, these ‘Five Dimensions’³ will inform our measurement framework and further strengthen our strategy:

DIMENSION OF IMPACT	DATA TO GUIDE MEASUREMENT AND MANAGEMENT	
What		What outcome occurs? Is it positive or negative? Is it important to the people or planet experiencing it?
Who		Who experiences the outcome? How underserved were they in relation to it?
How Much		How much of the outcome occurs – in terms of how many people experience it, the degree of change and how long it lasts for?
Contribution		What is the organization's contribution to the outcome, relative to what would likely happen anyway?
Risk		What is the risk to people and planet that impact does not occur as expected?

“Everybody has put their full efforts to develop safe abortion as a human right and right to health issue. To act better we need innovative approaches and methodologies to change the mindset of leaders where safe abortion is restricted.”

– WGNRR Team Member

³ Godeke, S et al., “Impact Management Project ANDE Metrics.” Impact Management Project. 2018.



Our Plan of Action

To understand the internal capabilities and capacity needed to see our Theory of Change come to fruition, we conducted a review of the activities we are committed to for 2023-2025.

ACTIVITY	HOW WILL WE DO THIS?
Create SRHR advocacy tools and resources informed by partners and allies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Organize consultations with partners and allies that inform advocacy priorities – Co-create tools and resources with partners on topics such as advocacy guides, SRHR 101 modules, values clarification and attitude transformation modules, campaign toolkits, publication templates, and digital learning tools
Deliver SRHR advocacy training to partners and allies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Implement virtual and in-person trainings to individuals and community-based organizations on topics such as funding proposal development, advocacy planning, opposition mapping, digital rights and security, and skills-based capacity building – Host training bootcamps specifically designed for youth – Train trainers to replicate and implement workshops to a wider range of people and organizations
Invite people and organizations to the SRHR advocacy community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Map potential people and organizations to engage with – Create safe spaces and platform which is intersectional to our issues – Invite people and organizations into our campaigns and activities and offer to support their initiatives – Share newsletters, resources, and activity summaries regularly
Undertake collaborative resource mobilization efforts with key WGNRR partners and allies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Monitor funding opportunities and identify potential funders – Identify potential partners for sub-granting opportunities – Co-create project proposals and budget – Conduct due diligence and monitor activities – Build and embed sustainable mobility strategies
Organize SRHR campaigns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Lead the International Day of Action for Women's Health on May 28th – Lead the International Safe Abortion Day on September 28th – Scope new opportunities for campaign development – Develop youth-specific campaigns
Generate evidence, narratives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Identify key SRHR information in the Global South – Research intersections with other social, political, economic, and environmental issues – Map and learn from opposition movements and intentions – Counter fake information on abortion in social media

Acknowledgements

WGNRR would like to thank our partners and allies who participated in the feedback surveys, online and offline meetings, and informative discussions which shaped this strategic plan. Thank you to the Relativ Impact team for your guidance, facilitation, and coordination of the process. Against the backdrop of global inequalities exacerbated by a public health crisis, we crafted our collective vision and planned our coordinated actions for the advancement of SRHR and justice for all. With this, we will continue to resist and persist!

Sincerely,

WGNRR Board and Staff



Contact

COORDINATION OFFICE

3 Marunong Street, Barangay Central,
Diliman, Quezon City, 1100 Philippines

T + 63 (2) 8 9287785 ext/loc 105

F + 63 (2) 89287992 ext/loc 108

office@wgnrr.org

www.wgnrr.org

WGNRR AFRICA

5th Floor, Ngome Holding House TRA Road
Plot # 416, Block '43', Kijitonyama P.O. Box
75501 Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Contact: Nondo Ejano

nondo@wgnrr.org

www.wgnrrafrica.org



WOMEN'S
GLOBAL NETWORK
FOR REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

W G N R R