

**Count Me In! (CMI!) Consortium  
NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT 2017**

**1 May 2018**



## CMI! vision and strategic goal

CMI!'s vision is to 'count in' the voices of women, girls and trans<sup>1</sup> people to advance gender equality and respect for their human rights. In partnership with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, our strategic goal is to contribute through a local, national, regional and international approach to a safe, inclusive, and enabling environment for women's, girls' and trans people's rights organisations (WROs), movements and women's human rights, girls' and trans people's rights defenders (WHRDs) in the regions and countries where CMI! is active. CMI! strengthens feminist and women's rights organisations and movements and WHRDs<sup>2</sup> globally to lobby and advocate for the prevention and elimination of gender-based violence, for economic justice and for sustainable resourcing of women's rights organisations and movements.

## CMI! in the current context

In 2017, governments increasingly limited people's rights and freedoms in more than 100 countries in all regions of the world.<sup>3</sup> State actors introduced new laws, policies and measures that have impacted activists' ability to freely organise to demand their fundamental rights and to receive funding to resource their movements.

Having operated in 'closed' or restricted spaces even before this phenomenon became globally widespread, CMI! partners have developed expertise in navigating restrictions, and have learned to respond to these challenges with creativity and innovation. In 2017 CMI! recognised and supported activists that have been organising and mobilising in new ways – making use of new technologies, social media (digital activism) as well as art and performances (artivism) to spread feminist messages and address urgent societal problems.

2017 also saw the ongoing rise of corporate influence, where corporate actors either formed close relationships with governments to advance their economic interests or, at times, superseded governments as global decision-makers. In both cases corporate actors found ways to operate beyond the rule of law and democratic mechanisms, violating human rights.

Meanwhile, CMI! members and partners continued to challenge corporate power and demand greater corporate accountability and respect for human rights. In pursuing feminist visions for just economies, WROs and WHRDs have been advancing feminist economic and social models based on equality, inclusivity and environmental sustainability.

---

<sup>1</sup> Trans people's gender identity or expression differs from the gender that was assigned to them at birth. Some trans people identify and present themselves as men or women; others identify with a non-binary gender category. CMI! has removed the asterisk that we previously used to indicate that "trans" is a placeholder designation for a range of identities. Instead, we join trans communities in acknowledging people's right to self-determine their gender and the wide range of possible gender identities and expressions. We use the word "trans" as a placeholder for the broad range of names and identities claimed by people around the world, including: transwomen, transmen, fa'afafine, leiti, fakafifine, akava'ine, mahu, vakasalewalewa, palopa, Sistergirls, Brotherboys, whakawahine, tangata ira tane, muxhe, omeguid, travesti, two spirit, hijra, bandhu, mangalamukhi, kinnar, thirunangai, thirunambi, khwaja sira, meti, katoey, waria, mak nyah, kua xing nan, trans laki-laki, transpinay, transpinoy, kwaa- sing-bit, transgender, transsexual, genderqueer, gender non-binary, gender diverse, gender non-conforming and agender people.

<sup>2</sup> CMI! uses the term women's rights organisations (WROs) and women human rights defenders (WHRDs) as short-hand for all women's, girls' and trans people's organisations and human right defenders.

<sup>3</sup> CIVICUS, [People Power Under Attack](#) (2017).

Populist, xenophobic, isolationist and fundamentalist forces have gained momentum globally, which has led to further discrimination and violence towards already marginalised groups that are central to CMI!'s programme: Indigenous women, women from groups targeted by racism, working-class women, rural women, lesbian and bisexual women, women with disabilities, sex workers, trans people and HIV-positive women.

To counter these negative trends, global feminist solidarity was on the rise in 2017. Feminist activists across movements and countries mobilised and protested against injustice, inequality and oppression in its many forms. CMI! members continued to support and bolster global feminist movement building and resistance, led by people speaking for themselves, representing their own interests and demanding their own rights, as we jointly strive for deep and lasting social change.

### **CMI! Theory of Change**

Our Theory of Change holds that **“women’s rights defenders and organisations – particularly those that are self-led by the constituencies they represent and that act collectively within larger social movements – play an essential and catalysing role in bringing an end to the inequality and injustice experienced by many millions of women, girls and trans people worldwide and in securing respect for gender equality and justice.”**

Reviewing our impact in 2017, CMI! made vital progress towards the partner-level outcomes in strengthening the lobbying and advocacy capacities of our partners, using three strategies: capacity building, strategic resourcing, and knowledge building and strategic communications.

Strengthened capacity of our partners and ourselves enabled them and us in turn to achieve important progress towards the society-level outcomes, contributing to changes in social norms and laws in local, national, and global contexts and greater control and access to resources and decision-making.

### **CMI!'s impact: four stories of change**

The progress made by CMI! in 2017 is built on efforts of previous years and is part of a much larger matrix of social change work. Highlights of our impact are outlined in four stories of change, below.

We selected two stories where strengthened lobby and advocacy skills and knowledge were crucial to our partners being able to shift social norms and to change policies at community and national levels in Guatemala and in Kenya.

Two other stories demonstrate how CMI! members engaged in direct lobby and advocacy in collaboration with others and as a consortium at the international level, pressing for the UN Binding Treaty to end corporate impunity and ensure respect for human rights, and pushing for the EU-UN Spotlight Initiative, the largest public funding source for ending gender-based violence globally, to be accessible, inclusive and built on the expertise of women’s rights movements.

In addition to the stories of change, an overview of activities carried out by CMI! members during the programme’s implementation in 2017 can be found in the Annex at the end of this report.

### **Story #1. Aren’t we also women?**

In Kenya, due to the severe stigma attached to sex work, women in sex work face violence and violations of their human rights, namely, verbal, physical and sexual abuse and harassment from healthcare providers and police. This context prevents sex workers from accessing comprehensive

healthcare and seeking justice. *“Just stitch her. If it heals, let it heal well and good, if not so be it.”* - said a doctor to a sex worker from Busia county after she was stabbed by a woman, alleging that she had taken her husband. *“When I went to report the incident to the chief, he did not provide any assistance other than making rude remarks about me being a prostitute...”* – she shares.<sup>4</sup> Despite its importance for the Kenyan economy and for employment, sex work is criminalised, under both national and county laws.

In the face of enormous challenges, sex workers in Kenya organise together to demand justice. They do so, for example, through their membership in the Kenya Sex Workers Alliance – a national self-led network of sex workers that works to influence law and policy makers at the national level to decriminalise sex work and improve living and working conditions for sex workers and end violence against them.

As Kenya has ratified the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the national government has to periodically report on its compliance – including on basic human rights to health and employment. The CEDAW Committee’s periodic country review for Kenya took place in 2017 and provided a unique opportunity for the Alliance to act and demand direct involvement in decision-making around issues that affect them.

CREA provided support and capacity building to the Alliance in using international monitoring bodies to influence the national government. The Alliance mobilised their network and held a series of meetings and consultations to develop the [shadow report](#) to the CEDAW Committee sharing women sex workers’ perspectives and articulating their experiences. The group used extensive interviews with sex workers to bring to light the violations of women sex workers by documenting instances of police violence, arbitrary arrests and discrimination by health service providers. In October 2017 they submitted the report entitled *“Aren’t We Also Women”* on behalf of over 70 member and affiliate sex worker organisations, which provided five recommendations and specific actions that can be taken by the Kenyan government. Through the report, they also sought to challenge the Kenya government’s and CEDAW Committee’s conflation of trafficking and voluntary sex work. Next to the report, the Alliance decided that two sex workers from the group, including Phelister Abdalla, co-author of the report and the National Co-ordinator of the Alliance, would attend a lunch time meeting with the CEDAW Committee in Geneva.

Thanks to the lobbying efforts of the Kenya Sex Workers Alliance, a major victory was achieved within a month after the report was submitted. The Committee came out with specific recommendations for Kenya on sex work: to decriminalise sex work, remove mandatory HIV testing and address police brutality. Peninah Mwangi, a co-author of the report reflects: *“The making and presentation of the Kenya sex workers’ shadow report at the 68th convening of CEDAW was an eye opener and a new beginning in high level advocacy for us. We have raised our vision and one day sex workers in Africa will live freely in dignity and abundance.”*

As the next step, the Kenya Sex Workers Alliance has been engaging in advocacy directed at the national government to implement these CEDAW recommendations. Peninah Mwangi adds: *“The report is very special for us and has become our guiding light. We quote it in proposals, and meetings with the Gender or Health Ministry partners. It guides all our engagements. Now we have evidence that was acknowledged by the UN!”*

---

<sup>4</sup> Kenya Sex Workers’ shadow report submission to the UN CEDAW 68th session [“Aren’t we also women?”](#) (2017).

### **Role of CREA**

CREA provided trainings and capacity building support to the Kenya Sex Workers Alliance. CREA helped the Alliance to understand the CEDAW process; facilitated a session where a list of issues and priorities for the shadow report was identified by the sex workers; provided feedback and editorial support to ensure that the suggested recommendations in the report were in line with CEDAW's requirements; and provided financial support for two sex worker activists to travel for the CEDAW session to Geneva. A briefing with the CEDAW Committee on sex work, where sex workers from Kenya were present and spoke themselves to the Committee, played a vital role in ensuring positive recommendations on sex work. In further efforts to elevate voices of sex workers and leverage their access to international spaces, Red Umbrella Fund (RUF) (an autonomous fund directed by and for sex workers, hosted by Mama Cash) organised a plenary panel session and invited Phelister Abdalla, the National Co-ordinator of the Alliance, to speak about why decriminalisation of sex work is important in the context of HIV during the "Funders Concerned About AIDS" meeting in September 2017 in Washington DC.

Capacity building support provided to the Kenya Sex Workers Alliance by CREA contributed to the partner-level outcome 3: Partners were aware of the political landscape and had a common analysis of the structural factors (causing injustices) and of the proposed solutions. In turn, strengthened organisational capacity of the group contributed to the society-level outcome 6: Policy makers and funders have incorporated demands by CMI! partners in relevant laws, policies and funding practices.

### **Story #2. Women's land rights are human rights**

La Lupita is an Indigenous community in Guatemala made up of around 650 members, mostly families of returnees who took refuge in Mexico during Guatemala's internal armed conflict in the 1980s. Rural and Indigenous women of La Lupita community do not have equal access to resources, such as owning land. Despite the fact that by law women and men have equal rights to land ownership in Guatemala, the cultural norm puts ownership of land strictly in the hands of men.

Dalila is a leader of Asociación Mujeres Madre Tierra (hereafter, Madre Tierra), an organisation that consists of 420 women members and represents their interests in La Lupita community. Madre Tierra demands equal distribution and control over land and natural resources. Their courageous organising and lobbying to exercise their rights to access, use and steward land is often met with harassment, violence and repression by men within their communities.

In order to effectively resist, advocate and strengthen the political leadership of Madre Tierra, Dalila joined Alquimia, JASS's Mesoamerica feminist political education and leadership school. The school was launched in 2013 as a regional three-year course and included 22 Indigenous and rural women participants from Guatemala, México, Panamá, El Salvador, Honduras, Costa Rica and Nicaragua. JASS initiated this school as a response to struggles of WHRDs in the region. During the three-year course Dalila and other participants learned the importance of collective action for justice and benefited from the solidarity and mutual support. She reflected on her experience: *"Being able to share, get to know, and exchange, makes us ground ourselves in what we are, what we want and what we're seeking to achieve."*

Upon graduation in 2016 the participants of the course decided to implement the knowledge they had gained and formed a cross-border Mesoamerican Indigenous, Rural, and Mestiza Women's Alliance.

In 2017, members of the newly created Alliance were invited to participate in the "Regional Gathering of Defenders of Land, Territory, and the Environment" convening co-organised by JASS and

Urgent Action Fund (UAF) Latin America together with other organisations. The methodology of the convening included one day with only WHRDs to collectively analyse the forms of violence they face, formulate demands as well as build protection and security strategies for their movements. On the following day, Dalila with other members of the Alliance, invited men from their rural and Indigenous communities, including La Lupita, to the convening. Women leaders challenged existing discrimination, educated the men on patriarchy, named power dynamics that violated rural and Indigenous women's human rights and excluded them from equal participation in their communities. As a result of the convening, all participants, including men, drafted and signed a pact, supporting women's leadership and rights to land, sharing equitable work at home and rejecting violence against women inside and outside of their communities.

Having secured their right to own land at the community level, Madre Tierra, led by Dalila, continues to defend their rights to natural resources against state and non-state actors at the national level. Both corporations and the government in Guatemala focus on mining, the extraction of valuable minerals or other geological materials from the earth, which causes environmental degradation, prevents access to water and harms Indigenous communities. As part of the much stronger Alliance, in 2017 Madre Tierra documented the damage and danger to women's livelihoods and territory caused by the extractive industries in their communities and shared the findings with the UN Human Rights representative in Guatemala.

### **Role of JASS and Urgent Action Fund Latin America**

JASS provided capacity strengthening and alliance building support to Madre Tierra. Through the Alquimia school, JASS facilitated and opened spaces for women activists and WHRDs, like Dalila, to share their stories, challenges, strategies and goals with other women; and helped participants to dissect the power and violence operating in their lives. JASS also provided follow-up accompaniment support to the participants of the course in their cross-border alliance building process. For example, JASS and UAF Latin America, together with Amnesty International, Peace Brigades, Frontline Defenders, Brot fur die Welt and IM-Defensoras, among others, prepared the design and the methodology of the "Regional Gathering of Defenders of Land, Territory, and the Environment" convening and included the issue of collective protection practices.

Capacity building activities such as training institutes (schools) and alliance building convenings, provided by JASS and UAF Latin America, contributed to Madre Tierra's progress towards partner-level outcomes 1 and 4: Partners have improved skills and infrastructure to pursue their mission and grow in influence; Partners of the women's rights and other relevant movements have strengthened and built healthy and effective alliances. In turn, strengthened organisational capacity of Madre Tierra and their broader and deeper base of support through the Alliance contributed to the society-level outcome 5: Social norms (including attitudes, values, beliefs, behaviours and practices) have shifted in support of women's, girls', and trans people's rights.

### **Story #3. Women Challenging Corporate Power**

Sixty-three percent of the largest 175 global economic entities are transnational corporations, not countries.<sup>5</sup> As AWID's research on corporate power and women's rights shows, the sheer size and scope of corporate power is not matched by mechanisms of accountability. Corporate human rights abuses disproportionately impact women across industries and sectors. When it comes to violations of labour rights, women workers, particularly young women and migrants, work in the most precarious environments. When it comes to forced displacement and land grabbing by companies to exploit natural resources, women are excluded from community consultations, rarely compensated,

---

<sup>5</sup> AWID, [Challenging corporate power: struggles for women's rights, economic and gender justice](#) (2016).

and bear the burden of increased unpaid care work.<sup>6</sup> WHRDs challenging powerful economic interests in defense of their rights, communities and the environment, like Berta Cáceres, are met with reprisals and lethal violence. This broad range of violations is enabled by existing regulatory gaps: human rights frameworks for businesses are voluntary, not binding.

There is a strategic opportunity to create a normative framework for corporate accountability and to challenge corporate impunity. An open-ended intergovernmental working group (IGWG) within the UN Human Rights Council is currently reviewing a proposal to create an international legally binding instrument (Binding Treaty) on transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights. The UN Binding Treaty negotiations provide an opportunity for people and states to address the gaps that currently exist in the international human rights system and demand greater corporate accountability and respect for human rights.

While a number of women's rights organisations were interested in the treaty process and outcomes, until recently there hasn't been any collective agenda to ensure that women's rights and feminist perspectives are present in the future instrument. Since 2016, AWID has been working towards building the feminist movement's engagement in the Binding Treaty process and, in March 2016, joined the Treaty Alliance, a coalition of civil society organisations, to ensure that women's rights and gender justice are an integral part of the process.

In order to increase the visibility and voices of women's rights organisations and feminist allies, AWID and partners organised an informal convening at the IGWG session in 2016. During the convening, Debbie Stothard, a women's rights activist from the International Federation for Human Rights in Myanmar shared: *"A Binding Treaty to stop corporate abuse is essential to the protection of women's rights. For too long, women in all parts of life; women in rural areas; women from Indigenous communities; women from social minorities; women suffering poverty, have had to carry the worst effects of human rights violations and denial of basic livelihood because of corporate power working in coordination with States that have refused or failed to protect women's human rights. We need to have a binding treaty in order to equalise that situation."*

This opportunity for feminist movements to come together and strategise led to the delivery of a [joint statement](#) focused on women's rights. *"In the negotiations of this Treaty we must have women's voices, particularly from affected communities at the centre, speaking up and making as much noise as possible"*, according to Stothard<sup>7</sup>.

In 2017, as a continuation and result of efforts in 2016, AWID supported the establishment of an informal "Feminist Group" which advances a women's rights focus within the Binding Treaty process. It consists of 15 partners, including WILPF<sup>8</sup>, PODER<sup>9</sup>, APWLD<sup>10</sup>, IWRAW-AP<sup>11</sup> and others, and it is constantly growing. To articulate feminist demands, AWID along with the Feminist Group, developed [three key recommendations](#) for women's rights in the Treaty's draft: on women's access to justice, on Gender Impact Assessment for business activities, and protection for Women Human Rights Defenders.

---

<sup>6</sup> AWID, [Women Human Rights Defenders Confronting Extractive Industries](#) (2017).

<sup>7</sup> AWID, [Feminist and cross movement support for a binding treaty against corporate abuse is key](#) (2016). Scroll down to video to hear Debbie Stothard speak.

<sup>8</sup> The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF).

<sup>9</sup> The Project on Organising, Development, Education, and Research (PODER)®

<sup>10</sup> The Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD).

<sup>11</sup> The International Women's Rights Action Watch - Asia Pacific (IWRAW-AP).

### **Role of AWID**

AWID's work resulted in feminist recommendations being articulated in advocacy meetings with state missions, including the Dutch mission in Geneva; invitations to AWID and partners to present a feminist and women's rights lens in civil society webinars and discussions; and strong uptake of a women's rights and feminist lens and approach in the third session of the IGWG in Geneva, manifested through multiple oral statements<sup>12</sup> and side-events, and ultimately echoed by a number of state missions.

The number of women's rights organisations that expressed interest in joining this mobilisation and positioning corporate accountability for human rights abuse as a women's rights issue has been growing. This is a process of building collective power to ensure a strong women's rights dimension in corporate accountability processes and future instruments, contributing to partner-level outcomes 3 and 4: Partners are aware of the political landscape and have a common analysis of the structural factors and proposed resolutions; Partners of the women's rights and other relevant movements are strengthened and build healthy and effective alliances. The elaboration of a legally-binding instrument will take time and is contributing towards society-level outcomes 6 and 8: Policy makers and funders have incorporated demands by CMI! members and partners in relevant laws, policies and funding practices; Corporate actors respect and fulfil human rights, including women's rights.

### **Story #4. EU-UN Spotlight Initiative: Ensuring a seat at the table**

In September 2017 the European Union (EU) and the United Nations launched a new, global, multi-year initiative focused on eliminating all forms of violence against women and girls - the Spotlight Initiative. The European Commission made the initial investment of EUR 500 million. The modality of delivery will be via a UN multi-stakeholder fund. The Spotlight Initiative will deploy targeted, large-scale investments in Africa, Latin America, Asia, the Pacific and the Caribbean focusing on strengthening legislative and policy frameworks, national and sub-national institutions, ensuring gender-equitable social norms, attitudes and behaviour, increasing access to quality services and improving data gathering.

In the initial stages of the initiative, there had not been any attempts from the EU or the UN to meaningfully engage with feminist movements and women's rights organisations. The design of the Initiative focused on specific forms of gender-based violence per region (e.g. harmful cultural practices in Africa, trafficking in Asia and femicide in Latin-America). There was the risk that this would reinforce narrow interpretations and 'culturalised' readings of these concepts, ignore evidence about the main sources of violence in women's and girls' lives and the interconnectedness between forms of gender-based violence.

### **Role of CMI!**

The CMI! consortium proactively engaged in advocacy to shift these dynamics and ensure that women's rights organisations and the expertise of women's rights and feminist movements played a role in defining and developing the Spotlight Initiative. The consortium developed [10 recommendations](#)<sup>13</sup> addressed to the EU and the UN based on three main principles: "*Nothing for us without us*", "*Let demand drive strategy*", and "*Fund results, not bureaucracy*". To endorse this set of recommendations, CMI! mobilised more than 400 women's rights organisations and activists from 92 countries within a month. As a global community of feminist activists, we pushed the Spotlight

---

<sup>12</sup> Example: AWID co-authored the [written submission with WILPF](#) on integrating gender (endorsed by 14 NGOs) and delivered an [oral statement](#) in the formal session on behalf of seven NGOs, calling on all states to support the process and positioning it as a women's rights issue.

<sup>13</sup> AWID website, [Recommendations for Spotlight Initiative's investment to end violence against women](#) (2017).



Initiative to both recognise and trust the expertise of women's rights organisations and feminist movements and directly resource women's rights organisations and groups in the Global South.

Representing the voices of feminist activists, members of the CMI! consortium participated in the civil society consultations organised by the EU-UN in New York and Brussels from October to December 2017. During the consultations, CMI! demanded: recognition that all forms of violence are interdependent and categorisation of certain forms of violence by region is not the most effective mechanism for eradicating gender-based violence globally; a proper accountability mechanism to be built in; accessibility of funding to women's rights organisations and groups in the Global South.

Joint strategies and presence at the consultations has brought some fruitful results thus far. The [Terms of References 2017-2023](#) of the Spotlight Initiative recognised the role of women's rights organisations as essential when ensuring that those facing multiple forms of discrimination are not left behind.<sup>14</sup> A new 6th outcome area called "Civil society/women's movement" was added to the Initiative's global Theory of Change, based on the timely feedback provided by CMI! at the consultations. The Spotlight Initiative Secretariat has been directly engaging with CMI!, with AWID, UAF and Mama Cash playing a lead role, to strategise on the best ways to include civil society and especially women's rights organisations and women's funds in Spotlight's decision-making processes.

There will also be a series of regional consultations in Asia, Africa, Latin America, the Pacific and the Caribbean. In order to leverage the momentum and act collectively, CMI! members will continue to develop timely recommendations with other feminist and women's rights organisations to advance feminist demands and agendas, mobilise feminist organisations to actively participate in consultations, and influence the relevant spaces and decision-making bodies. CMI! is also taking part in conceptualising and considering joining the Global Reference Group as a member, giving a voice to women's rights and feminist movements and keeping a seat at the table.

This effective joint lobby and advocacy work was a good example of CMI! members' collaboration in 2017 and our contribution to the partner-level outcome 7: Partners have greater control over resources, including more and better funding, and decision-making.

## **Conclusion**

Despite threats and dangers, CMI! partners and members boldly organised, strengthened collaborative relationships, built alliances across movements and borders and claimed spaces to be visible and heard. Thanks to the CMI! programme, feminist and women's rights organisations and movements and WHRDs received financial resources, were supported in networking and coordinating actions, and accessed key spaces to amplify the voices of women, girls, and trans people.

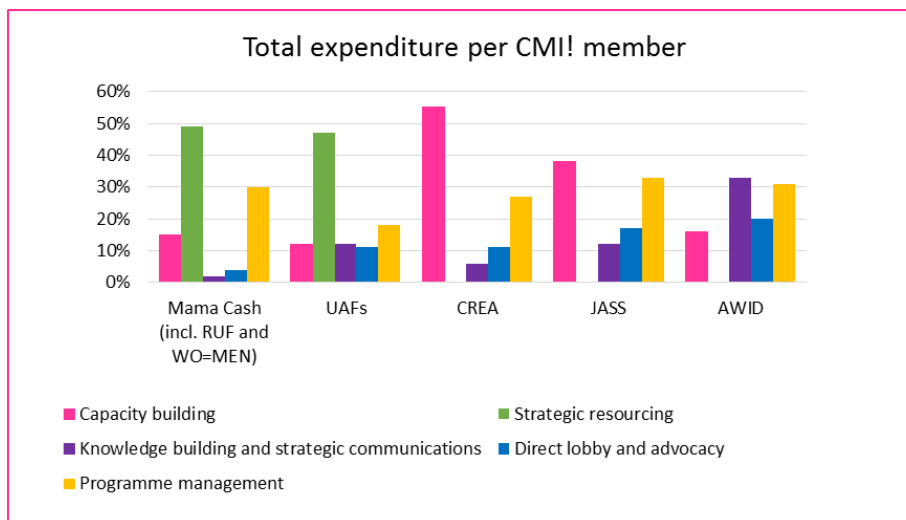
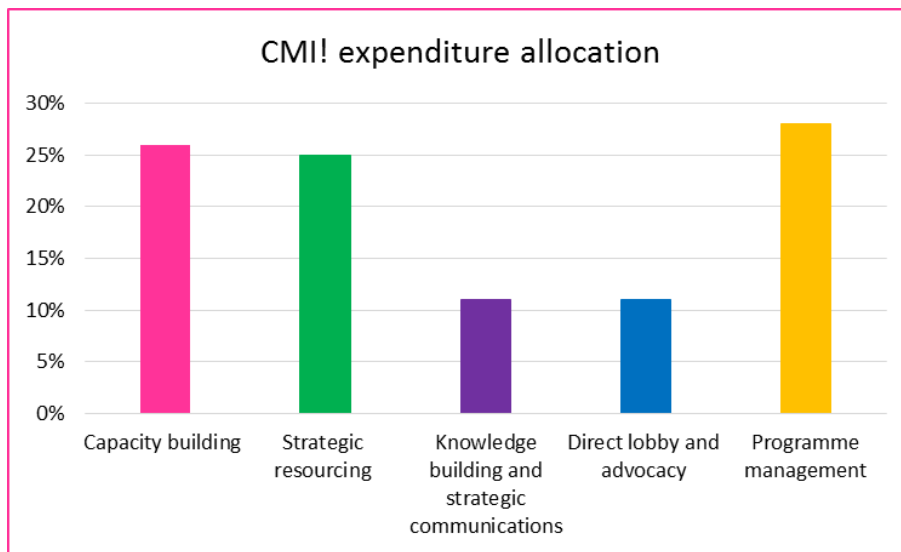
Our ability to work intersectionally has been a great added value in all four strategies of this programme. Joint CMI! learning and solidarity among CMI! members and partners combined with complementarity in knowledge, skills and networks allowed us to continuously take a feminist movement building approach in our work, and in the process make advancements towards the impacts CMI! seeks whether at the community, national, regional or global levels.

---

<sup>14</sup> UN website, [Spotlight Initiative: Terms of References 2017-2023](#) (2017).

## Annex

The graphs below present total CMI!'s expenditure and a breakdown per CMI! member.



### Programme expenditures by strategy

**Capacity building:** 26% of CMI!'s expenditures were directed to capacity strengthening of women's rights organisations and WHRDs. CMI! resources supported 60 different dialogues, convenings, training institutes, and alliance building meetings. These activities allowed CMI! partners to strengthen collaborative relationships and to build alliances and solidarity across borders and movements.

**Strategic resourcing:** The grantmakers in CMI! (Mama Cash (incl. RUF) and the UAFs) made 156 core and rapid response grants to WROs and WHRDs, accounting for 25% of CMI!'s expenditures.

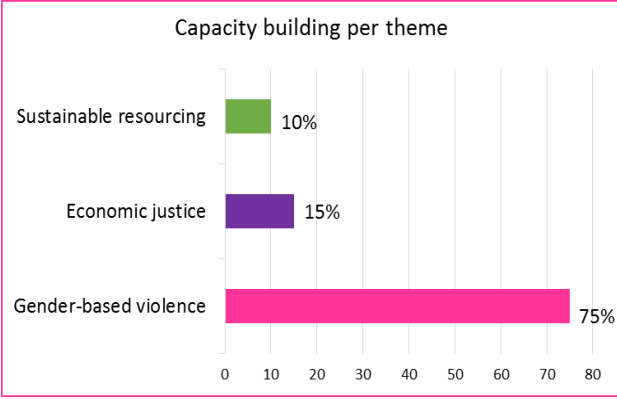
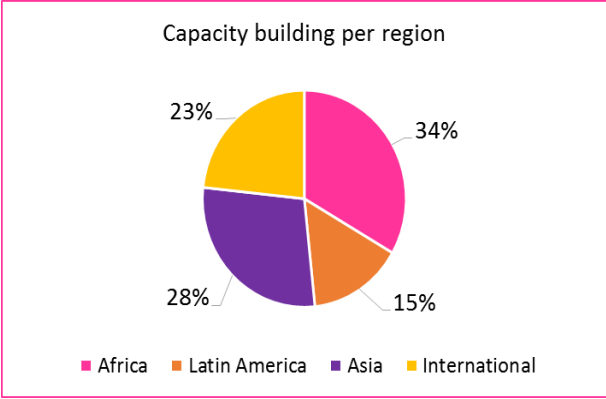
**Knowledge building and strategic communications:** CMI! supported 29 research initiatives, and media engagement initiatives to build and share knowledge to support the advocacy work of feminist movements. This work accounted for 11% of CMI!'s total expenditures.

**Direct lobby and advocacy:** CMI! engaged in 43 direct lobby and advocacy efforts to advance agendas to eliminate gender-based violence, secure economic justice and promote sustainable resourcing for women's rights. CMI! allocated 11% of its 2017 expenditures to direct lobby and advocacy.

**Activities<sup>15</sup> by geography and theme**

**1. Capacity building**

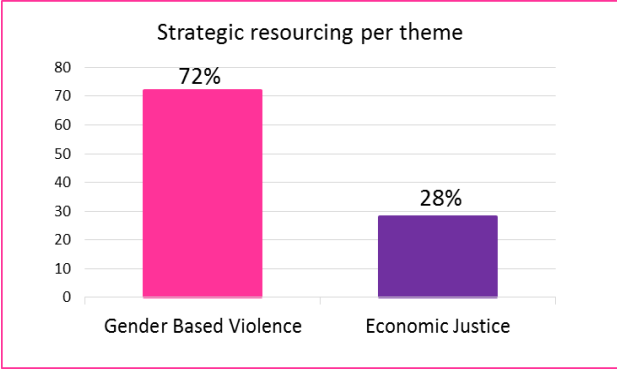
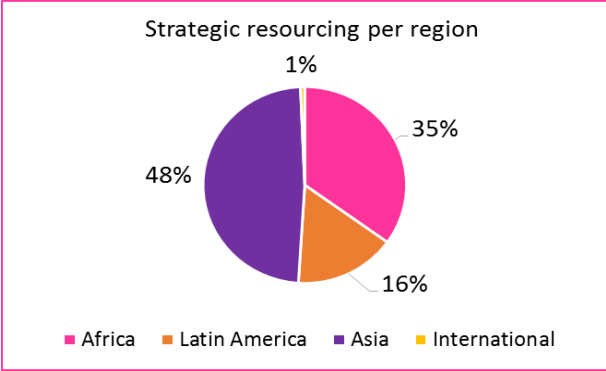
Capacity building activities took place: 1) **geographically**: 34% of activities in Africa, 28% in Asia, 23% internationally and 15% in Latin America; 2) **thematically**: 75% of activities were focused on gender-based violence, 15% on economic justice and 10% on sustainable resourcing.



These capacity building activities created time and space for activists to share experiences, learnings and strategies and to build the analysis and trusting relationships that were crucial to strengthening sustainable social justice movements.

**2. Strategic resourcing**

Core support and rapid response grants were distributed:1) **geographically**: 48% of all grants in Asia, 35% in Africa, 16% in Latin America and 1% internationally; 2) **thematically**: 72% of grants funded activities of feminist groups and WHRDs in eradicating and preventing gender-based violence, 28% in seeking economic justice.

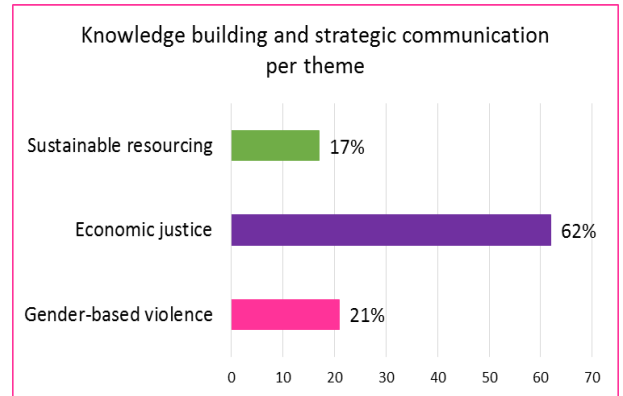


Mama Cash and the Red Umbrella Fund provided core support grants, allowing CMI! partners to cover general operating costs, build their organisational capacities, and determine their advocacy priorities. The three Urgent Action Funds made rapid response advocacy and security grants to strengthen and sustain feminist organisations and WHRDs poised to make important gains or facing serious threats.

<sup>15</sup> Activities are not equivalent to expenditure per strategy.

### 3. Knowledge building and strategic communications

Initiatives were divided as follows: 1) **geographically**: 66% of all initiatives were organised or funded internationally, 24% in Latin America and 10% in Africa; 2) **thematically**: 62% of initiatives were focused on securing economic justice, 21% on eliminating gender-based violence and 17% on promoting sustainable resourcing.



### 4. Direct lobby and advocacy

The following charts show CMI's work to advance lobby and advocacy agendas: 1) **geographically**: 63% of the work was carried out internationally, in Asia (14%), Africa (16%) and Latin America (7%); and 2) **thematically**: 52% of our efforts were directed at eliminating gender-based violence, 27% at promoting sustainable resourcing for women's rights and 21% at securing economic justice.

