

Count Me In! (CMI!) Consortium
NARRATIVE ANNUAL REPORT 2018

1 May 2019



Count Me In! in 2018: Making Voices Count at the Centres of Power

In 2018, Count Me In! (CMI!) reached across regions, sectors, movements, and issues to form new alliances; built advocacy skills at local, national, regional and global levels; developed clear and unified agendas for action; found diverse allies and champions; used media (both traditional and social); influenced policy-makers; fostered creative protest; and helped to re-direct funding streams. In these ways and in an increasingly challenging political environment, CMI! continued to advance the rights and strengthen the voices of women, girls and trans¹ people across the globe.

This report presents some of the important accomplishments of 2018. It shares four stories that illustrate the effectiveness of CMI!'s strategies to achieve the outcomes outlined in our theory of change. These stories show the ways that CMI! has succeeded in disrupting notions of expertise – of who knows best about bodies, identities, policies and funding – thus shifting the way power is organised and held in ways that are truly transformative.

Vision and strategic goal

CMI!'s vision is that the voices of women, girls and trans people are 'counted in' at national, regional and international levels, thereby advancing gender equality and respect for human rights. In partnership with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, CMI! strengthens organisations and movements fighting for the rights of women, girls and trans people and contributes to creating safe, inclusive and enabling environments for their work. Through financial and strategic support, CMI! helps feminist and women's rights organisations (WROs) and women's human rights defenders (WHRDs)² to lobby and advocate for the prevention and elimination of gender-based violence, for economic justice, and for sustainable resourcing. In addition, CMI! conducts direct advocacy efforts that brings our collective experience and capacity to the global level.

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.**

CMI! uses four principal strategies to achieve its long-term goals of gender equality and respect for the human rights of women, girls and trans people: strengthening our partners — through capacity-building, strategic resourcing, and knowledge-building and communications — and direct lobbying and advocacy by the consortium members.

¹ 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.

² CMI! uses the term women's rights organisations (WROs) and women human rights defenders (WHRDs) as shorthand for all women's, girls' and trans people's organisations and human rights defenders.

Global context

2018 has been a year of struggle between opposing forces. On one side, a vicious and growing wave of right-wing populism, authoritarianism and fundamentalism has relentlessly attacked human rights and values of justice and democracy – putting the lives of women, girls and trans people at ever greater risk. On the other hand, we have seen an infusion of energy among feminist groups and movements intent on upholding justice, protecting human rights, and working in solidarity across movements.

Anti-rights forces have intensified their assaults on human rights discourse and institutions and have deliberately narrowed the already restricted civic space. Ordinary people, as well as activists, are subject to new and insidious forms of technological surveillance, restrictions on their digital access to information, and attacks on their freedom of expression. These state and non-state actions to control civil society, as well as state failure to defend activists and to protect rights and their security, has had a disproportionate impact on women, girls and trans people.³

Through its vast network of members and partners, CMI! has observed that the right-wing populist wave has fuelled hate, exclusion and repression. In most cases, national identity has been narrowly defined to exclude people based on their ethnicity, skin colour, gender, sexual orientation, political ideology, or cultural and religious background. This nationalist rhetoric, often state-sponsored, prescribes and enforces rigid patriarchal and heteronormative behaviours and identities. These right-wing forces use the longstanding tools of sexual and gender-based violence, threats and stigmatisation to control the bodies and rights of women, girls and trans people, and to exclude them from social and political spaces, making CMI!'s work even more challenging and precarious.^{4 5}

At the same time, in 2018 CMI! has observed feminist and other progressive activists, rights-focused civil society organisations, and individual citizens working tirelessly to hold the ground and push back against these hostile forces. Most women- and trans-led groups have long experience of being marginalised, criminalised, stigmatised and attacked. This history provides them with vital expertise in navigating political restrictions and repression and protecting themselves from threats to their security. In the current context, feminist activists continue to employ creative solutions to and hone strategies that mitigate risks.⁶ They are bravely stepping forward to demand that their voices be heard and to defend their rights and the rights of countless others – coming together in nationwide demonstrations, online actions, engagement in electoral politics, and protest through the arts and direct action.

During 2018, CMI! has continued to concentrate its efforts on supporting and strengthening these bold activists, organisations, and movements that are taking an intersectional approach to understanding the current context and are creatively organising across regions, issues, sectors and movements to fight back.

^{3 5 6} Mama Cash and Urgent Action Fund (July 2017). [Women- and Trans- Led Organisations Respond to Closing Space for Civil Society](#).

⁴ Urgent Action Funds- Sister Funds (November 2017). [Feminist Resistance & Resilience: Reflections on Closing Civic Space](#).

CMI!'s impact: four stories of change

The progress made by CMI! in 2018 was built on earlier efforts to strengthen organisations and movements that challenge power and bring about systematic change, in social norms, in laws and policies, in powerful institutions, and in the funding ecosystem. Highlights of CMI!'s impact in 2018 is outlined in the four stories of change below.

The stories selected reflect a variety of strategies, geographical reach, and local to global advocacy efforts of both CMI! partners and members. They illustrate how CMI! is able to shift social norms, as well as alter power dynamics that lead to changes in laws and policies and make resources more accessible to feminist activists.

Two of these stories focus on work done by CMI! member organisations working with particularly vulnerable communities within one country. Both are stories of the people most affected finding their voices, exercising their power, and leading the change. The first story chronicles sex workers in India uniting against proposed anti-trafficking legislation that would have put their rights and well-being at risk. The story highlights how strengthening partner capacity to analyse the political moment, build alliances, develop a unified advocacy agenda, lobby policy-makers, and utilise communications strategies can result in policy change. The second story recounts how women living with HIV in Malawi undertook HIV treatment literacy to build their individual and collective power, resulting in an increased capacity to understand their rights and ultimately claim access to health care services and self-care.

The other two stories demonstrate how CMI! members collaboratively engaged in direct lobbying and advocacy, pressing for more and better money for feminist organising. These stories illustrate the value of the consortium itself, and show how CMI! as a whole is greater than the sum of its individual parts – bringing together diverse networks and actors to analyse the threats and opportunities in the current funding landscape and to develop clear priorities for action. The story of CMI!'s engagement with the EU-UN Spotlight Initiative (the largest public funding source for ending gender-based violence globally) has resulted in it being more accessible and inclusive and developing mechanisms to draw on the expertise of women's rights movements. The second of these stories, the Money and Movements initiative, shows how CMI! has opened up new conversations among feminist activists and donors, ensuring that feminist voices are heard and taken seriously in funding decisions, so that increased resources go to WROs and WHRDs, particularly those led by marginalised communities in the Global South, which too often have been neglected by funders.

Whether it is sex workers in India, women living with HIV in Malawi, or feminist activists in dialogue with funders, CMI! support for collective and strategic action contributed to achieving significant results in 2018. In addition to these stories of change, an overview of activities carried out by CMI! members during the programme's implementation in 2018 can be found in the Annex at the end of this report.

Story #1. Movements for sex workers' rights unite to halt an Anti-trafficking Bill in India

As a result of persistent and skilled advocacy by self-led sex worker networks supported by CMI!, an Anti-Trafficking Bill in India was halted in 2018. This bill conflated trafficking with sex work, which would have increased stigma, discrimination and violence against sex workers, reduced their autonomy and agency, and threatened their human rights. The attempt to pass this bill was met with resistance, as sex workers in India fearlessly insisted on being counted in.

This story demonstrates how CMI!'s support to sex worker led organisations in India achieved CMI! outcomes 1 (Partners have improved skills and infrastructure to pursue their mission and grow in influence, scale and power); 2 (Partners have the capacity to mobilise constituencies to create broad and inclusive bases of support for social change); and 3 (Partners are aware of the political landscape and have a shared analysis of the structural factors and proposed resolutions) and contributed significantly to outcome 6 (Policy makers and funders have incorporated demands by CMI! partners in relevant laws, policies and funding practices; the laws and policies are implemented).

In 2018 the Indian Minister of Women and Children's Development introduced the new Trafficking for Persons Bill, which failed to make a clear distinction between the victims of sexual exploitation or human trafficking and persons who voluntarily choose to sell sex for a living, thereby criminalising all adult sex work. The National Network of Sex Workers (NNSW), a CMI! partner of Mama Cash, ADARSHA, a CMI! partner of Red Umbrella Fund (RUF), and the All India Network of Sex Workers (AINSW), a CMI! partner of both RUF and CREA, mobilised to ensure that the voices of sex workers, and those of other social movements affected by the bill, were heard.

The three groups, NNWS, AINSW and ADARSHA, independently and jointly launched nationwide advocacy efforts to fight the Anti-Trafficking Bill. They lobbied at state and national levels and held regular meetings with government agencies and parliamentarians, including opposition leaders. NNSW organised regional meetings to foster a better understanding of the bill and to build the advocacy skills of sex workers, so that they could present their concerns to their parliamentarians. Sex workers met with more than 20 Members of Parliament to discuss the bill. NNSW organised a three-day cross-movement national dialogue to share information and develop joint strategies. In the process of advancing this strategy the AINSW was able to build a coalition beyond the sex worker groups including other workers in trade unions and other movements such as disability rights, transgender rights and women's rights movements. NNSW and AINSW jointly drafted a letter opposing the Anti-Trafficking Bill, which was signed by more than 250 non-sex worker organisations and more than 4,000 individual sex workers, including members from both networks. CMI!'s partners also brought public attention to the issue; some 30 - 35 newspaper articles spoke about the efforts of sex workers, mentioning NNSW specifically. To strengthen their presence at the national level and to amplify their lobbying and advocacy efforts, NNSW opened an office in New Delhi.

Their advocacy went beyond local and national levels, bringing the issue to international attention and meeting with representatives of UN bodies, including the ILO, UN Women, and UNAIDS. During an anti-trafficking and sex work meeting between funders and activists held in Bangkok in February 2018, two sex workers from NNSW presented their work and shared the negative effects of anti-trafficking policies in India. Advocacy efforts directed at UN bodies were also effective. In July 2018, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights issued a statement, which urged the Indian Parliament to revise the bill in accordance with human rights law and in consultation with civil society organisations, UN agencies and other relevant actors. The statement reinforced the analysis of the sex workers' organisations, which was that the bill "could lead to the blanket criminalisation of activities that do not necessarily relate to trafficking" and "conflate sex work with trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation" and the "criminalisation of all irregular migrants."

Sensing widespread opposition, the Indian government communicated that they would not present the bill, but rather referred it to a Parliamentary Standing Committee for review, consultation and revision. Per parliamentary procedure, this bill has lapsed and will have to be reintroduced in the lower house of Parliament, starting the process all over again. With

this victory behind them, CMI!'s partners continue to speak out and convey their message: "Nothing about Us, Without US". In the words of one of the partners:

It's essential to remember that as community we alone can't make too loud voices. We realise[d] this through this years' collaboration with allies in various areas, when doing the advocacy at national level with different stakeholders. - ADARSHA

The role of CMI!

CMI! members provided NNSW, AINSW and ADARSHA with the financial resources and capacity building support that enabled them to skilfully lobby against the bill. Sex workers brought significant pressure on policy makers and legislators to review various provisions of the bill that were seen to adversely impact sex workers rights. The advocacy was carried out at different levels – to influence the content of the bill and the process of drafting the bill which excluded consultations with sex workers who would have been disproportionately impact by the bill. Moreover, sex workers groups were able to build a coalition with other movements to form a stronger and more powerful movement demanding inclusion in a consultative process on the law. The resources ensured that sex workers were involved at all levels of the decision-making process and that their perspectives helped to determine the outcome of the Anti-Trafficking Bill.

Story #2 Malawi women empower themselves and others to expand access to HIV treatment

In Malawi, where an estimated 1 million people are living with HIV/AIDS, women living with HIV launched a campaign to build women's leadership and organising capacity to advocate for access to safe and effective medicines and tackle stigma and discrimination, among other issues. The Our Bodies, Our Lives (OBOL) campaign – an 8,000 women-strong initiative – has mobilised to demand accountability and improve healthcare for HIV+ people.

This story demonstrates how CMI!'s support to organisations of women living with or affected by HIV has achieved CMI! outcomes 1 (Partners have improved skills and infrastructure to pursue their mission and grow in influence, scale and power) and 2 (Partners have the capacity to mobilise constituencies to create broad and inclusive bases of support for social change) and contributed significantly to outcomes 5 (Social norms, including attitudes, values, beliefs, behaviours and practices, have shifted in support of women's, girls', and trans* people's rights) and 9 (Women can make active use of their rights; have bodily integrity and sexual rights; live safe and secure lives).

In Malawi, as in much of the rest of Africa, women are disproportionately affected by HIV/AIDS, often due to sexual violence. Progress that has been made on increasing access to HIV treatment is in danger of being reversed, as people discontinue their anti-retroviral medication when they see their viral loads reduced to undetectable levels, due to the medication, and mistakenly believe that they are cured. In other cases, women are discouraged from seeking the services they deserve, because they experience neglect or mistreatment in health clinics. MANERELA+ (Malawi Network of Religious Leaders Living with or Affected by HIV and AIDS), and COWLHA (Coalition of Women Living with HIV/AIDS) – both CMI! partners of JASS- launched the OBOL campaign to raise awareness in affected communities, so that individuals are not misinformed and continue their life-saving treatment. At the same time, OBOL organised to engage local authorities, to work with religious leaders, and to educate health care workers.

Recognising that access to medicines alone is not sufficient for maintaining health, in 2018 the OBOL campaign focused on expanding feminist literacy treatment (FTL) workshops and dialogues in 24 of Malawi's 28 districts. With a feminist approach, these workshops apply a power analysis and centre women's bodies – critical components missing in many treatment literacy efforts. Through the FTL trainings, women increase understanding of their bodies and become experts in and drivers of their own healthcare. They also bring that knowledge to their communities and organisations. For example, in February, OBOL conducted a Trainings of Trainers (TOT) for 15 members, who then rolled out six more feminist FTL trainings to reach 150 women in 12 districts.

JASS's capacity building and advocacy interventions supported women's leadership strengthening by enabling women to build collective power, to speak out, build constituencies, challenge power holders including traditional and religious leaders and cultivate alliances to ensure an enabling environment to further the agenda of HIV+ women and their organisations.

Through these activities, OBOL members discovered and exposed widespread abuse of HIV+ women by health care workers. The initiative provided women with tools to report cases of patient neglect or mistreatment. The resulting exposure led to improvements in patient care. The impact has been impressive; in Malawi there is now greater access to a variety of health services, such as cervical cancer screenings, and people living with HIV have benefited from equitable treatment access, greater social acceptance, and reduced levels of stigma and discrimination.

In the words of one FTL participant:

This training has given me the platform to speak out, share my story and experiences. Now I know that I am in control of my sexuality and body. - Emily, OBOL member

And a health provider speaks to its effectiveness:

By the end of the training, I witnessed a room full of informed and empowered women, who were determined to make good choices for their health and collectively to challenge systems that made it difficult for them to choose healthy options. – Dr Di Lavies, a clinical doctor, specialising in HIV.

The role of CMI!

With its partners, CMI! has sustained the process of strengthening the capacity and leadership of women activist leaders across Malawi. CMI! has supported the treatment literacy component by supporting the organising efforts of more than 8,000 women in developing workshops and creating dialogues in 30 district hubs. This in turn has contributed to shifting attitudes and norms toward women living with HIV and to increasing their access to improved health information and services.

Story #3 Spotlight advocacy – ensuring a seat at the table for feminist movements (update since 2017)

CMI! contends that for funding to make a positive change in the lives of women and girls, feminist and women's rights activists must play a central role in helping define, implement and track funding mechanisms. "Nothing for us, without us" has long been a rallying cry of feminist movements. When the Spotlight Initiative (a €500 million European Union and United Nations programme to eliminate violence against women and girls) was announced in September 2017, CMI! quickly responded by developing an advocacy strategy, demanding and establishing regular communication with the Spotlight secretariat, and sharing information with feminist and women's rights movements globally.

This story demonstrates how in 2018 CMI! has made progress toward CMI! outcomes 6 (Policy makers and funders have incorporated demands by CMI! partners in relevant laws, policies and funding practices; the laws and policies are implemented) and 7 (Partners have greater control over resources, including more and better funding, and decision-making).

In 2018, with additional resources from the 1% Fund from the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, CMI! continued to advocate with the Spotlight Initiative to ensure that it is responsive and beneficial to the intended recipients. An important part of CMI!'s early advocacy was to ensure that Spotlight resources supported local and regional women's rights organisations with a track record of working on violence against women and girls (and not just UN bodies and INGOs). In direct response to this advocacy, the Initiative was re-conceptualised to include a 'pillar of action' (Pillar #6) dedicated to supporting women's rights organisations through country and regional programmes.

CMI! leveraged its networks to engage feminist and women's rights movements in coordinated ongoing advocacy, engaging more than 1,000 feminist activists from some 90 countries, and working with them to share information from country to global level. In consultation with more than 400 activists around the world, CMI! developed a series of recommendations directed at the Spotlight Initiative, on issues such as engagement with feminist movements, funding mechanisms, disbursement, and programme implementation. CMI! then spear-headed advocacy with Spotlight to implement these recommendations. The results of these efforts have been encouraging: of the 18 public recommendations, six have been fully or partially implemented, only one declined, and 11 are still under consideration.

One of the recommendations being implemented is that decision-making structures include meaningful participation (target of 50 %) from women's rights and feminist organisations, which has been incorporated by Spotlight in the Terms of Reference for a new Global Civil Society Reference Group, released in late 2018. Spotlight also asked CMI! to help analyse the composition of interim reference groups at country and regional levels, with a view to increasing representation of women's rights activists. In response, CMI! reached out through our networks and provided suggestions to Spotlight for increasing representation where low. Another recommendation that has been adopted is that there be coordination between civil society reference groups and governance bodies. In response, Spotlight announced that civil society reference groups at the country and regional levels will nominate members to programme steering committees, to reach a minimum of 20 %, and the reference group at the global level will nominate one member to the governing body.

Among other gains CMI! made in 2018, were convincing Spotlight to make funds for civil society available through open calls, to encourage other donors to directly fund WROs,

WHRDs and feminist movements, and to disburse a portion of funds through existing mechanisms without government involvement, essential where activists are under threat.

The role of CMI!

CMI! was able to swiftly engage, advocate and influence the largest-ever stream of funding for ending gender-based violence. CMI!'s efforts been recognised and appreciated by the members of the Spotlight Secretariat, and have resulted in significant changes in the Spotlight Initiative, as specific recommendations have been implemented. The results of these wins will be felt for many years and affect the lives of millions of women, girls and trans people.

Story #4 Money and Movements initiative

CMI! recognises that challenging power imbalances in funding decisions and ensuring that donor resources benefit girls, women and trans people in truly transformative ways, entails seizing opportunities to influence existing mechanisms, as described in story #3 above. CMI! also perceives the need to go further. We believe that ensuring sustainable resourcing for feminist activism will require development of a stronger funding ecosystem, with funders acting in greater synergy to support the diverse needs and priorities of feminist movements. This story shows another powerful way that CMI! has made progress toward CMI! outcomes 6 (Policy makers and funders have incorporated demands by CMI! partners in relevant laws, policies and funding practices; the laws and policies are implemented) and 7 (Partners have greater control over resources, including more and better funding, and decision-making).

In April, 2018, CMI! brought together activists and funders to strategise about the future of resourcing feminist movements and social change globally. The 100 participants in the Naivasha, Kenya meeting included women, girls, trans and intersex activists from around the world and funders from a variety of sectors (bilateral/multilateral, public and private foundations and women's funds). The gathering succeeded in generating new insights, connections, and ideas among activists and donors alike. One participant reflected:

An excellent safe space to have a rich, open discussion around the realities of funding for women's rights movements - between those that give and those that receive.

Another described the convening as:

Dynamic three days that brought together various activists and funders for dialogues, creative thinking, and brainstorming about how to create a more enabling environment for feminist movements.

Among all participants, 80% agreed that they made new connections and two-thirds of the funders said it had sparked new ideas about how their organisation could influence funding for feminist movements.

CMI! would like to acknowledge the role of the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs not only in actively participating in the convening but in committing to the follow up actions. Since then the Ministry has been supporting CMI! in involving other peer government donors in this initiative. In the months following the convening, CMI! intensified its efforts to collaborate more closely with other activists and with funders to find new ways to reduce the barriers to increased and more accessible funding for women's rights organisations and movements. CMI! (through Mama Cash) and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation discussed how to

build the evidence base to demonstrate the transformative power of feminist activism. Building on the successful convening and these and other strategic conversations with donors and with other activists, CMI! began planning for future Money and Movements activist-donor dialogues and strategising meetings, for example, at the Commission on the Status of Women in April 2019 and the Women Deliver conference in June 2019. It is expected that through these planned engagements – both individual conversations and larger gatherings – and through building the evidence base and strategic communications, the Money & Movements initiative of CMI! will lead to increased and more accessible funding for feminist activism and movement building.

The role of CMI!

The Money and Movements initiative demonstrates why CMI! working as a consortium is a true value add – able to achieve results that no individual organisation could accomplish on its own. CMI! has taken the lead to create opportunities for funders and feminist activists to dialogue, learn from each other, and find new ways to work, so that transformative social movements and WROs receive the funding they need. Funders were also called upon to use their own power to shift the funding landscape by transforming their own institutions, influencing peers and advocating that other funders boost and improve funding for women's rights and gender equality. The key take-aways from the convening have been captured in the graphic booklet [here](#).

Conclusion

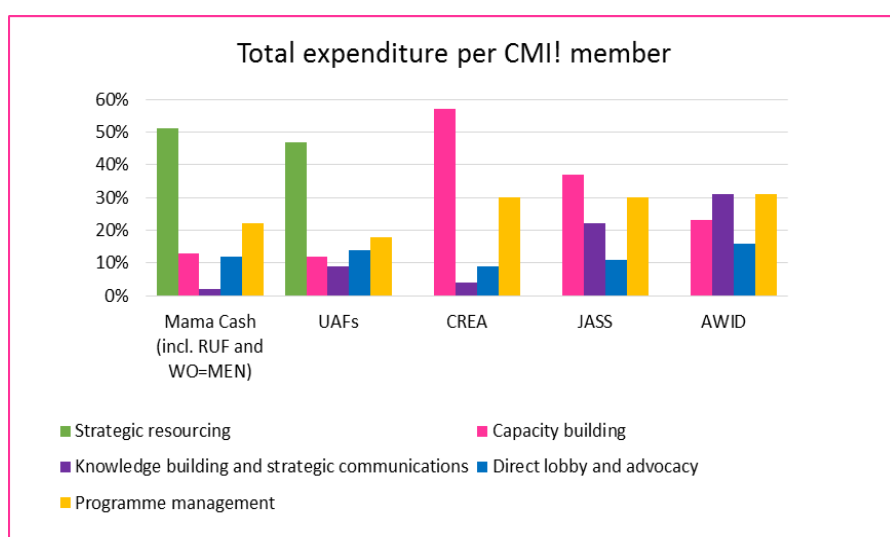
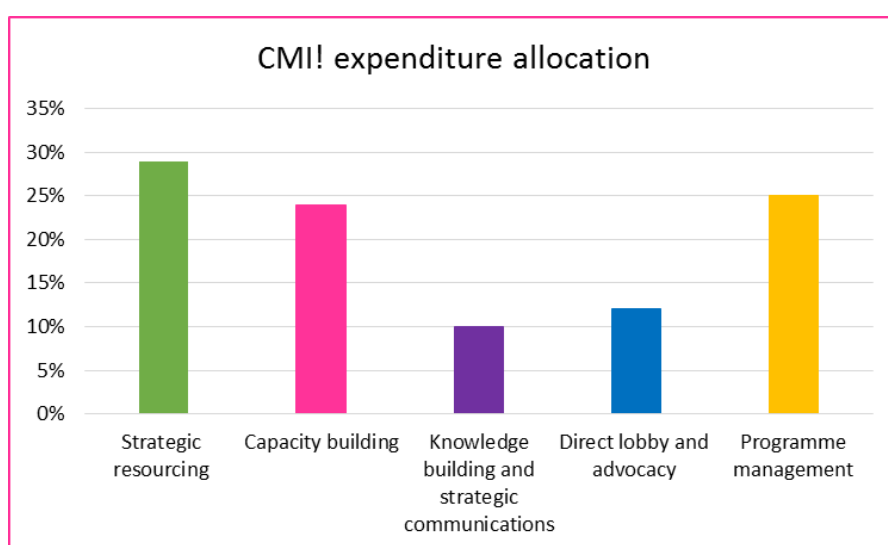
In 2018, CMI! continued to provide critical resources that enabled our WRO and WHRD partners to build new alliances, work across sectors, identify new champions, increase their visibility, and develop clear advocacy agendas and strategies, and change perceptions among decision-makers and the broader public. A key to these successes has been the leadership of women, girls, and trans people who are often most marginalised or ignored. These advances, in turn, have contributed not only to stronger organisations and movements, but to shifting social norms, changing laws and policies, and increasing access to funding.

CMI! uses an intersectional approach to problem analysis and to strategy development. By shifting resources and power to the hands of women, girls and trans people CMI! supports them to achieve the scale, power and influence necessary to secure lasting social change.

Deep learning, solidarity, and innovation is at the heart of CMI!'s work. Operating as a consortium enables CMI! to benefit from the deep expertise, diverse skills, and wide networks of our individual members. CMI! strategically uses this collective power to foster connections among local, national, regional, and global advocacy efforts, and to develop shared goals and strategies. Finally, in 2018 CMI! has shown that, through the collaboration between individual members and through joint efforts as a consortium, we add value and realise results that none organisation can achieve alone.

Annex

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



*Mama Cash expenditure includes RUF, Wo=men, joint working and coordination.

Programme expenditures by strategy

Strategic resourcing: The grantmakers in CMI! (Mama Cash (incl. RUF) and the UAFs) made 107 core and rapid response grants to WROs and WHRDs, accounting for 29% of CMI!'s expenditures.

Capacity building: 24% of CMI!'s expenditures were directed to capacity strengthening of women's rights organisations and WHRDs. CMI!'s resources supported 63 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.

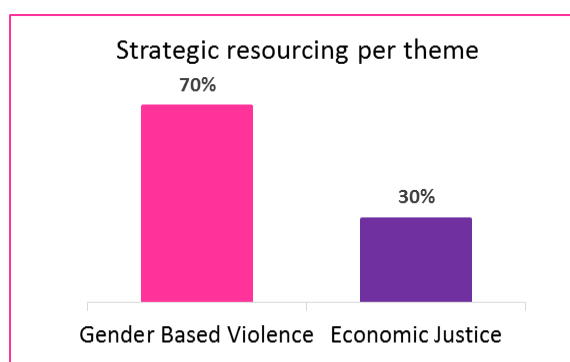
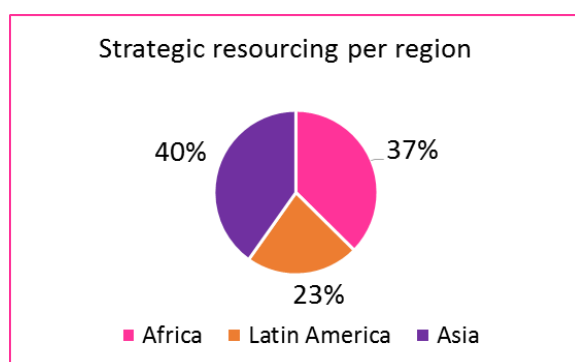
Knowledge building and strategic communications: CMI! supported 30 research and media engagement initiatives to build and share knowledge to support the advocacy work of feminist movements. This work accounted for 10% of CMI!'s total expenditures.

Direct lobby and advocacy: CMI! engaged in 58 direct lobby and advocacy efforts to advance agendas to eliminate gender-based violence, secure economic justice and promote sustainable resourcing for women’s rights, accounting for 12% of CMI!’s expenditures.

Activities⁷ by geography and theme

1. Strategic resourcing

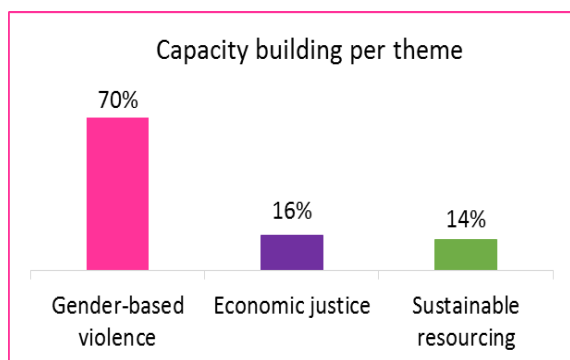
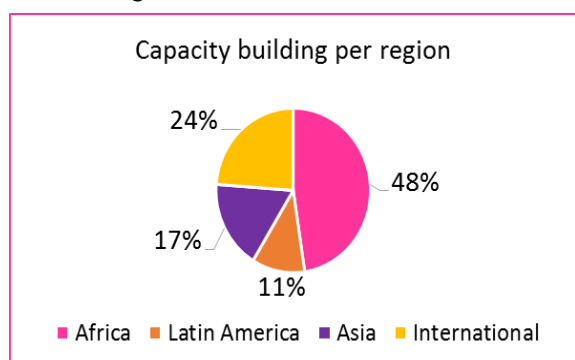
Core support and rapid response grants were distributed: 1) **geographically:** 40% of all grants in Asia, 37% in Africa, 23% in Latin America; 2) **thematically:** 70% of grants funded activities of feminist groups and WHRDs in eradicating and preventing gender-based violence, 30% in seeking economic justice.



Mama Cash and the Red Umbrella Fund provided 45 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 62 rapid response advocacy and security grants to strengthen and sustain women’s and feminist organisations and WHRDs poised to make important gains or facing serious threats.

2. Capacity building

Capacity building activities took place: 1) **geographically:** 48% of activities in Africa, 24% internationally, 17% in Asia, and 11% in Latin America; 2) **thematically:** 70% of activities were focused on gender-based violence, 16% on economic justice and 14% on sustainable resourcing.



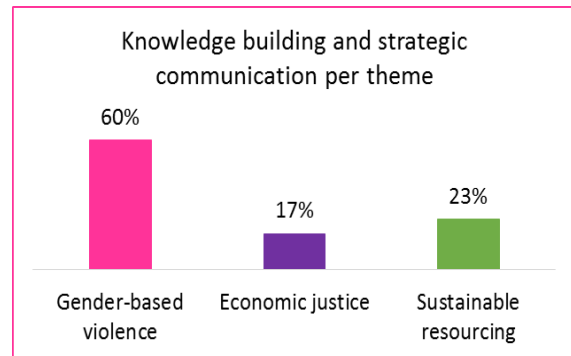
These capacity building activities created time and space for activists to share experiences, learnings and strategies and to build the analysis and trusting relationships that were crucial

⁷ Activities are not equivalent to expenditure per strategy.

to strengthening sustainable social justice movements.

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 Asia; 2) **thematically**: 60% of initiatives were focused on eliminating gender-based violence, 23% on promoting sustainable resourcing and 17% on securing economic justice.



4. Direct lobby and advocacy

The following charts show CMI!'s work to advance lobby and advocacy agendas:

1) **geographically**: 59% of the work was carried out internationally, in Africa (21%), Latin America (17%) and Asia (3%) the work was carried out at national and regional levels; and 2) **thematically**: 60% of our efforts were directed at eliminating gender-based violence, 24% at promoting sustainable resourcing for women's rights and 16% at securing economic justice.

