GADN strategy 2017-2020

Our vision is of a world where social justice and gender equality prevail and where all women and girls are able to realise their rights free from discrimination.

Our role is to promote gender equality and the rights of women and girls by building alliances and using our influence strategically within the UK and internationally. To do this we:

- Support our members in their programming, advocacy and gender mainstreaming work
- Identify and pursue opportunities to influence policy- and decision-makers and shape debates
- Share learning, evidence and analysis amongst our members, allies and target audiences
- Propose solutions and feminist development alternatives
- Work collaboratively as part of a growing global feminist movement

Our aims and objectives

Aim 1: To support and increase the capacity of members to deliver effectively on gender equality and the rights of women and girls in international development

1.1 To ensure members are well-informed by enabling them to exchange knowledge, primarily through Working Groups and Members’ Meetings, and by providing relevant and timely information to members via the Secretariat.

1.2 To increase the effectiveness of members’ advocacy by supporting the development of joint strategy and advocacy positions and by facilitating their access to DFID and other policy- and decision makers.

1.3 To improve programme work and gender mainstreaming across the sector by sharing learning and best practice examples of working on women’s and girls’ rights and gender equality

1.4 To increase the quality of members’ work by providing thought leadership in our priority areas and by facilitating shared learning and collaboration with feminists globally.

Aim 2: To increase commitment to women’s and girls’ rights and gender equality, and develop a better understanding of best practice and alternative policy proposals, across the UK international development sector

2.1 To influence the sector’s agenda by sharing well researched, accessible and relevant information and analysis, including the work of Working Groups, members’ partner organisations and Southern feminists.

2.2 To encourage others in the sector, including key influencers, to include a gender analysis in all areas of programme, policy and advocacy work; leading by example, through our research and advocacy on topical issues, and by building new alliances with feminists and other progressive movements in the UK.
Aim 3: To strengthen UK Government commitment, policy and practice towards achieving women’s and girls’ rights and gender equality in its international work

3.1 To proactively influence the UK Government’s analysis and initiatives on our priorities.

3.2 To hold the UK Government to account for implementing its policies and promises in our priority areas.

3.3 To provide DFID and other departments with technical expertise on gender equality and women’s rights including by creating space for our members, and feminists internationally, to share their learning.

Aim 4: To strategically influence international development processes and debates that shape the discourse around gender equality and women’s rights where we have expertise and leverage.

4.1. To contribute to a global feminist movement by listening to, collaborating with, and sharing political space with feminist allies.

4.2. To build alliances with wider economic and social justice networks.

4.3. To build a common understanding within GADN of the global trends and political agendas that will be most influential on gender equality, prioritise concrete opportunities for influencing and, in alliance, develop policy proposals and advocate for policy change.

Aim 5: To build a progressive and effective network that is part of a global feminist movement

5.1 To maintain and develop a membership base that works together effectively to promote GADN’s aims.

5.2 To secure sufficient, appropriate, funding and ensure that these funds are raised and spent cost-effectively in line with donor commitments.

5.3 To build an effective and transparent management and governance structure for the network.

5.4 To maintain and build our reputation as an authoritative actor on gender equality and women’s rights among the UK international development sector and other target audiences by ensuring our outputs are strategic, accurate, relevant and rooted in feminist analysis.

5.6 To become more explicitly progressive by listening to and learning from others, developing our understanding of feminist alternative strategies and building new alliances with feminist organisations in the UK and internationally.

February 2017