

Achievements and plans:

Summary from the Gender & Development Network (GADN)

Plans for 2018–19

Our new priority this year is to support members in ensuring that their actions to prevent sexual harassment and abuse are as robust as possible. In response to working groups' requests, we will also hold a members meeting on intersectionality and explore work on the shrinking civil society space for women's organisations. Building better links for the network with women's rights movements around the world will also be a priority.

With the working groups, we will continue to enable members to share learning and develop joint advocacy on priority areas including violence against women and girls, women's participation and leadership, women's economic justice, humanitarian issues and girls' education, as well as developing our work on the intersections between gender equality and both disability and the environment. Through our programming working group, members can develop best practice and exchange learning on agencies' own work.

In the coming year, DFID's new Strategic Vision on Gender Equality will provide a platform for us to hold the government to account on their work on gender equality internationally, while we continue to develop our relationship with the new Secretary of State for International Development and her department. The G7 Summit, which will be held this summer in Canada, provides a good opportunity for influence given the Canadian government's commitment to make it a feminist event. Meanwhile our work on economics and gender equality will continue with a new focus on trade.

GADN's membership has continued to expand over the last year, and while our working groups grow in strength and influence, we will be looking at better ways to coordinate across the network and ensure that all members can play a full role in our activities. Our communications review will lead to a more user-friendly website and better social media, alongside our growing webinar series. All our activities will contribute to the achievement of the GADN [2017-20 strategy](#)

Highlights of 2017-18

In the last year, our network has provided support and leadership to our member organisations in a variety of ways, including:

- Four members meetings on key topics like strengthening solidarity on women's rights, women's political participation and leadership, gender equality and DFID, and opportunities and challenges in the coming year.
- Active working groups that bring members together work on themes of violence against women and girls, women's participation and leadership, women's economic justice, girls' education, humanitarian work, gender and the environment, programming and gender and disability and a members' workshop on gender mainstreaming.
- A new platform for members to share resources and best practice for safeguarding and beyond, alongside a workshop and resource briefing.

- Opportunities to hear from Southern partners including Dinah Musindarwezo, Executive Director of the African Women's Development and Communication Network (FEMNET), and Renana Jhabvala, Chair of SEWA Bharat.
- Weekly bulletins providing resources and opportunities across the development sector, allowing members to publicise their work to the rest of the network and benefit from information-sharing.
- Regular meetings of the Feminist Forum where members can come to share thoughts on more controversial aspects of their work.

Working with our members, GADN has influenced policy and built new international alliances throughout the year. Notable successes have included:

- Facilitation and coordination of members' input on DFID's policy and practice on gender equality, including meetings with teams across the department to influence their new Strategic Vision on Gender Equality, consulting with DFID on responding to sexual harassment revelations, and meeting with the new Secretary of State for International Development, Penny Mordaunt, in March 2018.
- Development of a set of core messages with our working groups that have been valuable in influencing the Women's Forum of the Commonwealth Summit in April 2018. GADN also met with Downing Street officials on the forthcoming G7 and G20 Summits and prepared submissions to the Labour Party's International Development Task Force and the Labour Campaign for Human Rights.
- A new GADN webinar series that has enabled the network to build alliances internationally and provide a platform for collaboration between allies across the global feminist movement.
- Publications and blogs providing information and analysis to our members and targeting external audiences, including a think-piece on intersectionality and a discussion paper on macroeconomic policy and women's economic empowerment.
- Ensuring that gender equality is part of trade discussions with a joint meeting with DFID and the Department for International Trade, drawing on the expertise of women's rights organisations in the Global South such as the Eastern African Sub-regional Support Initiative for the Advancement of Women (EASSI) and International Women's Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific (IWRAP-AP). GADN also convened a joint webinar on the topic with Oxfam and co-hosted a strategy meeting on trade and gender with global allies at the 62nd Commission on the Status of Women in New York in March 2018.

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April 2018