



Activities  
Report  
2017-18

# GENDER & DEVELOPMENT NETWORK



**Cover images:**

Top left: (l-r) Renana Jhabvala, SEWA Chair and WIEGO co-founder and Chair; Chiara Capraro, Women's Economic Justice working group co-chair, November 2017.

Top right: (l-r) Jessica Woodroffe, GADN Director; Dinah Musindarwezo, FEMNET Executive Director; Jalia Kangave, ICTD Capacity Building Manager; Liz Nelson, Director and Programme Lead, Tax Justice and Human Rights, Tax Justice Network, June 2017.

Bottom left: GADN members at May 2017 members meeting.

Bottom right: (l-r) Katie Chapman, DFID Gender Equality team; Jo Cooke, DFID Gender Equality team; Jessica Woodroffe, GADN Director; Gerard Howe, Head of Inclusive Societies Department, DFID, July 2017.

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## A letter from the GADN co-chairs

*The Gender and Development Network (GADN) successfully promotes gender equality and women's rights by supporting the policy and practice of our member organisations in this area, and by influencing and encouraging UK and international decision makers to improve the impact of their work on gender equality and the promotion of women's rights. Some of the highlights of our work last year are included in this report. We are effective and impactful across all our activities, not least because of the active participation and generous financial contributions of our members.*

*Our plans for 2018–19 are as ambitious as ever, reflecting the priorities of our members and our partner organisations. 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 rights organisations. Building better links for the network with women's movements around the world will also be a significant theme for the year.*

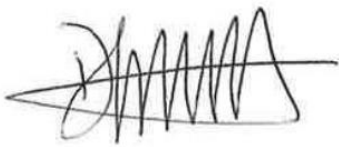
*With the working groups, we will continue to enable members to share learning and develop joint advocacy on priority areas including violence against women and girls, women's participation and leadership, women's economic justice, humanitarian issues and girls' education, as well as developing our work 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 as part of our Gender Equality and Macroeconomics project.*

*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.*

*As co-chairs of GADN's Board of Trustees, we want to thank all of the many people who came together to contribute to our achievements 2017–18. If you are not yet part of our network of organisations and individuals committed to a world where gender equality prevails, then do get in touch to find out how to join us this year.*



**Daphne Jayasinghe**  
**Co-chair**  
**Gender & Development Network**



**Lee Webster**  
**Co-chair**  
**Gender & Development Network**

**May 2018**

# Introduction

## Who we are

The Gender and Development Network (GADN) is a membership network of leading UK-based non-governmental organisation (NGO) staff, practitioners, consultants and academics working on gender, development and women's rights issues. GADN enables members to share information and expertise, effectively lobby government and international bodies on gender and development issues, and provide expert advice and comment on policies and projects. Our members work in partnership with development and advocacy organisations throughout the world.

## What people are saying about us

- *"I find GADN very professional and I trust what comes out of GADN—the quality and political judgement are good. I find the newsletter useful just to see what people are up to—a place to go to get a snapshot."* (GADN member, from stakeholder evaluation in 2016)
- GADN is an *"incredibly valued and trusted partner"* (DFID staff member, communications survey 2017)
- *"We really value the level of engagement from GADN members...it is invaluable to have this level of analysis feeding into our thinking"* (DFID staff member, July 2017)
- *"I'd like to express our enormous thanks to the Gender and Development Network for planning and organising a really meaningful discussion, packed with in-depth thinking, analysis and challenge."* (Gerard Howe, Head of Inclusive Societies Department, DFID, August 2017 following a GADN meeting on DFID's Strategic Vision for Gender Equality)
- *"Visiting with GADN last year in June gave me a rich experience and a platform to share the work FEMNET is doing in Africa to advance Gender Equality and Women's Rights. The GADN team created a safe and supportive environment which enabled me to share my perspective freely. I appreciated that GADN took into consideration my interests while planning the trip. I was interested in opportunities to network and to meet potential partners for FEMNET and they helped with setting up meetings and making introductions with strategic potential partners."* (Dinah Musindarwezo, FEMNET Executive Director, June 2017)
- *"Huge thanks...to everyone who participated so actively and thoughtfully. It very much helped the process that you had all had a pre-meet and were able to present concerns so strategically and constructively"* (DFID staff member, Autumn 2017—after a meeting with members)
- The GADN updates to members are *"incredibly helpful"* and *"timely, informative and concise which makes them easy to read—thank you!"* Another member said they *"really enjoy receiving the updates from GADN"* (GADN members, from communications survey in 2017)
- *"It is great that GADN wants to work in such a collaborative way with its sister networks like GAPS"* (Hannah Bond, GAPS Director, Spring 2018)

## Vision and strategic aims

**Our vision** is 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 strategic aims**, detailed in our [2017–20 strategy](#), are:

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.
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.
3. To strengthen UK government's commitment, policy and practice towards achieving women's and girls' rights and gender equality in its international work.
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.
5. To build a progressive and effective network that is part of a global feminist movement.

## What we do

- **Support** our members to be more effective in their own work on gender and development and women's rights by providing space to network with each other and by sharing information, analysis and joint learning.
- **Coordinate** advocacy on our core issues to improve our collective impact, making well-argued policy proposals to DFID and other decision makers.
- **Take a lead** on areas identified as gaps within the network, providing analysis, producing publications and undertaking advocacy.
- **Build alliances** with feminists and other organisations who share our goals, both in the UK and internationally.



Discussion groups at GADN Members Meeting, March 2018

# Summary of activities and achievements

## 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.
- 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.
- 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 thinkpiece 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.

## Working group activities and achievements

Our active working groups brought members together 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, as well as a members' workshop on gender mainstreaming. The groups are led by members and provide opportunities for members to learn, share best practice, network and collaborate in their advocacy. Coordination across the working groups takes place every six months at a meeting of all the chairs of the working groups. Our members have described GADN as a place where gender advocates can "*think together and collaborate together,*" which makes "*the work on influencing DFID ...stronger and more effective.*"

### Gender and Disability in Development working group

This year the Gender and Disability group has focused on producing and disseminating a factsheet on the intersection of gender and disability. The group has also worked on refocusing and clarifying its direction, with particular attention on the Global Disability Summit in July 2018 co-hosted by DFID, the Kenyan government and the International Disability Alliance. The group's chair, Sylvie Cordier, was invited by DFID to contribute to a technical working group on stigma and discrimination.

Discussions are currently underway between this group and the Programmes working group to develop a joint learning event in the coming months.

### Gender and Environment

The Gender and Environment working group has met regularly throughout the year. At a July meeting, group members shared brief presentations on their work as it relates to gender and the environment. Presentations were given by members from Womankind Worldwide, the International Institute for Environment and Development, Practical Action, Friends of the Earth, the Women's Environmental Network, Women for Women International and the Green Economy Coalition. Members also discussed a chapter from *Understanding climate change through gender relations* by Sherilyn MacGregor. In the September meeting, the group discussed the intersections between race, gender, colonialism, capitalism and the looming ecological disaster.

### Girls' Education working group

The Girls' Education working group has continued to work closely with DFID, with members regularly attending meetings between GADN and the department. Group members attended a range of meetings with DFID officials and spoke on a panel with the Centre for Education in International Development (CEID) at University College London. These events built the visibility of the group, re-energised members and re-focused work on key messages.

The Girls' Education working group also compiled messages for the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in London in April 2018, where education for girls was a

major focus. Members are also planning a potential Action for Girls' Education event with CEID and the UN Girls Education Initiative, and are participating in Foreign and Commonwealth Office planning for its Girls' Education campaign. The group hosted a number of meetings this year, with the November meeting discussing disability, education and gender, where Lauren Watters from AbleChild Africa and Karen Andrae gave an overview of inclusive education, special schools versus mainstreaming, and testing learning and learning outcomes. Magdalene Lagu, DFID Senior Advisor on Gender and Girls, presented DFID's current thinking and approach to girls' education and disability. Save the Children and Leonard Cheshire Disability also shared their experiences from programming.

### **Humanitarian working group**

The Humanitarian working group has been developing a new workplan for the group and members have been discussing their policy and advocacy priorities for 2018, as well as strategic linkages to similar working groups internationally.

In March, the working group hosted Lara Quarterman, DFID Conflict Humanitarian and Security Department (CHASE), and Claire Ambrose, DFID Gender Equality team, who spoke about humanitarian action in the context of DFID's new Strategic Vision on Gender Equality. The group has also been discussing the CHASE Guidance Note on Women and Girls in humanitarian crises.

### **Programmes working group**

The Programmes working group has collaborated with the VAWG working group this year, holding a joint meeting in July on scaling up VAWG programmes and exploring the confluence of policy and programmes/practice. This meeting involved presentations and input from the DFID VAWG team, the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine "What Works" programme, World Vision, Islamic Relief, Raising Voices Uganda and Westminster Foundation for Democracy. The Programmes working group co-chairs also supported the Gender Mainstreaming learning event hosted by GADN in December. In February, the working group held a meeting exploring programmatic approaches to engaging with men and boys to achieve gender equality. Potential topics for future events include safeguarding and disability, with plans for a joint learning event with GADN's Gender and Disability in Development working group.

### **Violence Against Women and Girls working group**

The Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) working group has been continuing to work with DFID, including input by the group's co-chairs into DFID's Strategic Vision for Gender Equality and discussions on scaling up VAWG work. Group members have also been working on a position paper linking intersectionality and VAWG, hosting a workshop in July.

The VAWG group also collaborated with GADN's Programmes working group, hosting a joint learning event on VAWG programming in July in collaboration with DFID and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine "What Works" programme. The learning event was very well received by members of both groups as well as the guest speakers.

### Women's Economic Justice working group

Over the course of the year, the Women's Economic Justice (WEJ) working group has worked with DFID on a number of issues, and the group's co-chairs were also invited to participate in an informal roundtable on women's economic empowerment initiated by STOPAIDS.

The WEJ working group has also worked on a short paper on WEJ throughout the life cycle, written to show how policies often focus on siloed issues that affect girls and women at particular periods of their lives to the exclusion of others. Because policy decisions have gendered impacts that are different at every stage of women's and girls' lives, the paper has concentrated on how each life stage interacts with gender inequality, specifically in the areas of unpaid care, education and paid work, sexual and reproductive health and rights, and violence.



Renana Jhabvala, SEWA and WIEGO, with GADN Coordinator Kady Billington-Murphy and Women's Economic Justice working group co-chair Chiara Capraro, November 2017

### Women's Participation and Leadership working group

Throughout the year, the Women's Participation and Leadership (WPL) working group has met with the DFID Governance, Open Societies and Corruption (GOSAC) team and brought the group's concerns to a GADN–DFID roundtable in November. The group received funding from GADN, Oxfam and CARE to create a practitioner note on engendering political economy analysis (PEA), which was then produced by two consultants and substantially developed by group members to create an output that would help practitioners actually do gender-sensitive PEA themselves.

The WPL working group hosted GADN's September members meeting in a "world café" style to focus on four themes: women's leadership in humanitarian settings, movement-building, women's leadership in formal political positions and women's leadership in informal community-based forums. In March, the working group hosted a learning event titled *Walking the Talk*, where members shared five-minute stories of organisational change and enabling environments for women's participation and leadership. The group then worked together to identify the key themes in the stories and to dig deeper.

The WPL working group co-chairs attended the cross-party two-day *Ending Violence Against Women in Public Life* conference, hosted by the Westminster Foundation for Democracy in March, where Tam O'Neil represented the group on a panel.

## Supporting our members

GADN provides a space where members share information, learning and best practice, and exchange ideas and strategy around programme and advocacy work. Our weekly updates and monthly newsletters continue to be popular, with an ever-increasing number of recipients keen to hear the latest information from across the sector.

GADN has been described as: *“an institutional landscape [that binds] together people who have come from quite diverse circumstances. You know that people know each other through GADN. There’s a sense of knowing each other, like having a school tie on or something—a recognition element.”* Another member told us that, *“GADN provides valuable influence and status for members collectively.”*

This year also saw GADN’s first learning event, on gender mainstreaming, with 35 people attending and more on the waiting list. The session provided space to discuss what works, as well as what has been less effective, and attendees shared useful resources. Group and plenary discussions were rich, focusing on recognising gender mainstreaming as only one of many paths to women’s rights and gender equality, the need to keep the work political by engaging with autonomous women’s rights groups and enabling staff in organisations to reflect on their own attitudes and behaviours, and a recognition that incremental change takes time and comes in different ways for different organisations.

Now a year old, the Feminist Forum continues to provide a space for interested members to discuss issues, concerns and challenges related to feminist politics today, free of their organisational “hats”. Meetings last year were held in April on *Breaking out of the Echo Chamber* and in July on *What Does Feminism Mean to Us?*, followed by a meeting in October on trans activism and in March on safeguarding and sexual harassment.

### Members meetings

Members meeting, held quarterly, allow members to meet each other, exchange their plans, identify areas for collaboration and learn about new issues. All our meetings start with a members’ round-up where participants have a chance to share highlights of their own work.

Last year we held four successful meetings:

- **What's going on in the world of women's rights?**  
We started the year with a panel discussion in May 2017 led by Preethi Sundaram, IPPF; Chiara Capraro, Womankind; and Jessica Woodroffe, GADN Director, who reported back from the AWID Forum in Brazil and identified new trends. The “global gag rule”, DFID’s position on SRHR and UN processes for implementing the SDGs were on the agenda, while new topics such as intersectionality and just transitions to a carbon-free world were identified as areas where we need to do more work.
- **Promoting women's rights globally**  
GADN’s June 2017 meeting gave members the chance to hear from Dinah Musindarwezo, Director of the African Women's Development and Communication

Network (FEMNET), who spoke on priorities and best practice in promoting women's rights globally based on her experience working in a pan-African network.

- **DFID and gender equality**

At a packed meeting in November, staff from DFID's Gender Equality and VAWG teams, including head of the Gender Equality team Becky Terzeon, came to meet with members, discuss priorities and update us on progress with their new Strategic Vision on Gender Equality. The team gave us helpful tips on how to navigate DFID's current work on gender equality.

- **Opportunities and challenges in the coming year**

The March 2018 meeting provided a more interactive space for members to exchange information and ideas on their work over the next 12 months. On the agenda were issues like sexual harassment and safeguarding, the forthcoming Disability Summit and the G7.

## Secretariat and Advisory Group activities

While the working groups lead on their chosen topic, it is the job of the Advisory Group and Secretariat to coordinate activities and strategy across the network, taking the lead on projects that span our various priority issues.

### Building alliances

A priority over the last year, under the new GADN strategy, has been developing our partnerships with feminists and women's rights organisations in the Global South. These partnerships influence our own work, enabling us to develop policy proposals and strategy with sister organisations, but we also aim to act as a facilitator, creating spaces for Southern feminists to speak to international decision makers and relaying their messages through our own advocacy work.

Hosting Dinah Musindarwezo of FEMNET in July was particularly valuable, and we were pleased to introduce her to DFID staff, provide a number of opportunities for members to meet with her and pursue other priorities that she identified. Members were also able to hear from Renana Jhabvala, Chair of the Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA) and co-founder and Chair of Women in Informal Employment: Globalising and Organising (WIEGO), on securing women's economic rights in the informal economy. Renana was also a member of the UN High-Level Panel on Women's Economic Empowerment and discussed the Panel's work with GADN members and interested members of the public.

At the 62<sup>nd</sup> Commission on the Status of Women (CSW62) in New York in March, Policy and Communications Officer Marion Sharples developed GADN's alliances with Regions Refocus, South Centre, Public Services International and DIVA for Equality via a strategy session on gender and trade. We also deepened connections with the Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID), the Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD), the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW), the Global Alliance for Tax Justice, Third World Network and FEMNET.



Lee Webster, co-chair of the GADN Board; Theo Sowa, CEO of the African Women's Development Fund; and Jessica Woodroffe, GADN Director, March 2018

### **Influencing decision makers**

GADN acts as a DFID “go-to” point for work on gender and development, enabling us to ensure that the work of our members is heard by the right people in the department. In addition to the many meetings held between our working groups and civil servants across Whitehall, the Secretariat also maintains close contact with the DFID Gender Equality team, ensuring a smooth and reciprocal flow of information and analysis.

Much of the year was spent working with DFID on its new Strategic Vision on Gender Equality through a series of consultation meetings and written inputs. At the launch of the strategy, Jessica chaired a panel discussion on women’s rights organisations, and we were delighted to see some of our suggestions incorporated into the new strategy.

Jessica and members of the WEJ working group also met with DFID about developing their Economic Development Strategy, and with the Commonwealth Development Corporation to comment on their draft gender strategy. We also made a submission to the International Trade Committee inquiry on trade and the Commonwealth developing countries, the Labour Campaign for Human Rights and the Labour Party International Development Task Force.

Our work on intersectionality, including our [discussion paper](#) for members, was well received by DFID, who invited Jessica and Advisory Group member Fenella Porter to speak to their staff on the subject. We also produced a [blog](#) for Oxfam and an [article](#) for the Transforming Agency, Access and Power newsletter.

The Commonwealth Summit in London in April 2017 was one of our targets for the year, because of its influence on future international gatherings and the existence of a Women’s Forum whose outcome document fed into the leaders’ Summit. We worked with the Commonwealth Secretariat and DFID on the forum agenda and then compiled key messages for each agenda item, with the help of many of our working groups and our sister network GAPS UK. GADN Policy and Communications Officer Marion Sharples reinforced these

messages at a roundtable meeting with DFID Director of International Relations Gwen Hines and Cabinet Office Deputy Director of Policy for the Commonwealth Summit Tom Wintle, as well as at a meeting with the Secretary of State in March. Success came when a substantial number of our messages were included in the [Women's Forum final outcome document](#).

As the year came to an end, revelations on sexual harassment and abuse dominated much of the agenda. Jessica was invited by DFID to speak at the Safeguarding Summit co-hosted by the Charity Commission and DFID, to ensure that a gender equality perspective was present in the proceedings. We have subsequently maintained close contact with the team at DFID leading on safeguarding, sharing ideas and analysis.

### **Gender Equality and Macroeconomics (GEM) project**

The GEM project is led by the Secretariat in collaboration with the WEJ working group. With our partners Bretton Woods Project, we received funding for a third year for our work to promote gender equality and women's rights through a shift in macroeconomic policy.

Our work on gender equality and trade has been particularly well received. In July 2017 we published [Making Trade work for Gender Equality](#), a briefing that discusses the impact of the current global trade regime on gender equality and concludes with recommendations on how to develop trade agreements that promote gender equality. This was followed by a [blog post](#) on Bond's site. Building on these successes, we have injected a gender analysis into meetings on trade 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, followed by [key outcomes](#) and [accompanying blog](#), and co-hosted a strategy meeting on trade and gender with global allies at CSW62 in New York in March 2018.

As part of a UN Women expert group, Jessica presented GADN's work at seminars in New York and Berlin to share analysis and strategy with some of the world's leading experts on gender and macro-economics and to build new alliances. As a member of the Global Alliance for Tax Justice gender working group, we also participated in the Global Convening on Women's Rights and Tax Justice organised by Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES), Public Services International (PSI), the Global Alliance for Tax Justice (GATJ) and Tax Justice Network (TJN) in Bogotá, Colombia.

The G7 Summit in Canada in June 2018 will be another valuable opportunity, as the Canadian hosts declared it the first feminist G7. Ahead of the Summit, the Secretariat worked closely with allies in Canada and the USA to share intelligence and develop advocacy messages, which they shared with DFID's Gender Equality team and the Cabinet Office. The Secretariat is also preparing for the G20 in Argentina; Marion is sharing strategy with Poder Ciudadano, which will co-chair the C20, and the Latin American Network on Debt, Development and Rights (Latindadd). GADN successfully lobbied for a new gender working group at the C20, and within this we are working with other CSOs to develop policy recommendations for the G20.

## Communications

Our members have told us that they appreciate GADN’s regular updates and information-sharing, and our publications have been described as “rigorous and high-quality”. In our 2017–2018 communications survey, the majority of respondents agreed that the GADN weekly updates were useful for sharing information, updates and analysis around gender and development from the GADN Secretariat, GADN members, DFID and the wider sector.

In 2017–18, GADN communicated with members and the wider development sector in the UK and around the world through our website ([www.gadnetwork.org](http://www.gadnetwork.org)) and via Twitter and Facebook. We also provided monthly newsletters collating gender and development news, job opportunities, events and publications, and weekly notices to members.

GADN’s 2017–18 publications include:

- **Briefing**: Making trade work for gender equality (July 2017)
- **Briefing**: GADN responds to DFID’s Strategic Vision for Gender Equality (August 2017)
- **Discussion paper**: Macroeconomic policy and women’s economic empowerment (September 2017)
- **Discussion paper**: Intersectionality: reflections from the Gender & Development Network (November 2017)
- **Webinar summary**: Trade and gender equality: outcomes from a joint webinar (December 2017)
- **Compilation**: Guidance and resources on gender reviews, support to survivors of violence, sexual harassment and safeguarding (March 2018)

Communications highlights in 2017–18 include:

- Our audience on Facebook increased by 12 per cent from 10,062 to 11,224 in 2017-18.
- Our number of Twitter followers increased by 20 per cent from 4,006 to 4,808.
- Our website attracted over 22,000 visits this year and over 43,900 page views.





GADN members contribute at a members meeting with DFID and Bond on DFID's Strategic Vision for Gender Equality, July 2017.

## GADN structure

GADN's [handbook](#), available on our website, provides more information and the structure and procedures of the network and its different parts.

### Membership

In 2017–18 our membership continued to grow. We now have 70 organisational members and over 100 individual members who share our ambition to achieve gender equality and women's rights. Of these organisations, 17 are based overseas as a result of our new policy to allow international membership. GADN's organisational membership is intended for NGOs that promote our aims; thus, after careful consideration, the Board decided in May 2017 not to accept further applications from management consultancy firms.

GADN has also continued to partner or work with the following networks based in the UK: Bond, the Bretton Woods Project, Gender Action for Peace and Security (GAPS UK), Girls Not Brides, the National Alliance of Women's Organisations (NAWO), STOPAIDS, Trade Justice Movement, WIEGO, the UK Network for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and Women's Resource Centre (WRC).

We have also liaised with international networks and organisations including Women in Development Europe (WIDE+), Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era (DAWN), AWID, APWLD, South Centre, Regions Refocus, DIVA for Equality, ICRW, the Global Alliance for Tax Justice, Third World Network, Public Services International and FEMNET.

## Board of Trustees

GADN's trustees are Daphne Jayasinghe (co-chair), Lee Webster (co-chair), Cristiana Conte (treasurer), Kanwal Ahluwalia, Beverley Duckworth, Catherine Klirodotakou, Antonella Mancini, Anne Quesney (resigned 21 February 2018) and Radha Wickremasinghe.

This year, the Board of Trustees met on 11 May 2017, 13 July 2017, 12 October 2017 and 21 February 2018. An annual strategy day that included members of GADN's Advisory Group was also held on 21 February 2018.



Six of GADN's trustees: Cristiana Conte, Lee Webster, Antonella Mancini, Radha Wickremasinghe, Kanwal Ahluwalia and Daphne Jayasinghe, October 2017.

## Advisory Group

The Advisory Group works with the Secretariat to implement GADN's annual workplan and lead on those issues not covered by our working groups. Members of the Advisory Group devote substantial amounts of time to the network and play a vital role in GADN's work.

The current Advisory Group consists of Danielle Spencer, ActionAid UK; Fenella Porter, Oxfam GB; Lee Webster, Womankind Worldwide; Ines Smyth, independent consultant; and Sophie Efange, Christian Aid. Thanks are also due to previous members of the group in 2017–18 including Preethi Sundaram, IPPF; Chiara Capraro, Womankind Worldwide; and Francesca Rhodes, Oxfam GB.

## Secretariat

All our staff work part time as part of our commitment to provide flexible working in the sector. In addition to the posts of Director and Coordinator, we started the year with a Research Officer, which then became Policy and Communications Officer later in the year.

Our current staff are:

- Jessica Woodroffe, Director
- Natasha Piette Basheer, Coordinator (from February 2018)
- Marion Sharples, Policy and Communications Officer (from August 2017)

We are also grateful to previous post holders:

- Megan Daigle, Research Officer (left August 2017)
- Kady Billington-Murphy, Coordinator (left September 2017)
- Marion Sharples, Coordinator (maternity cover, June 2016 to July 2017)

GADN is particularly indebted to our outstanding volunteers in 2017–18: Fernanda Nidecker Parker, Leila Mani Lundie and Kathleen Bailey.

## Working group chairs

The chairs of our working groups provide an essential function coordinating and leading the work of the groups. Current chairs are:

<b>Gender and disability:</b>	Sylvie Cordier, ADD International
<b>Gender and environment:</b>	Kate Metcalf, Women’s Environmental Network
<b>Girls’ Education:</b>	Amy Parker, Relief International Rebecca Ingram, British Council
<b>Humanitarian:</b>	Howard Mollett, CARE International UK Danielle Spencer, ActionAid UK
<b>Programmes:</b>	Jake Phelan, ActionAid UK Priya Nath, WaterAid Valentine Lecluse, Integrity Action
<b>Violence against Women and Girls:</b>	Maria Vlahakis, Womankind
<b>Women’s Economic Justice</b>	Sophie Efangé, Christian Aid Rachel Noble, Action Aid UK
<b>Women’s Participation and Leadership:</b>	Emily Brown, Oxfam Tam O’Neil, Care International

We are also grateful to GADN members who stood down as chairs during 2017–18: Chiara Capraro, Womankind Worldwide; Preethi Sundaram, IPPF; Barbara Dockalova, Womankind Worldwide; Anne Quesney, ActionAid; Diana Trimiño, IRC; Rebecca Haines, CARE International UK; Jonathan Casey, Practical Action; Cristiana Conte, Plan UK; Alice Fookes, UN Women UK; Jessica Mony, SDD; Anna Watson, Friends of the Earth.

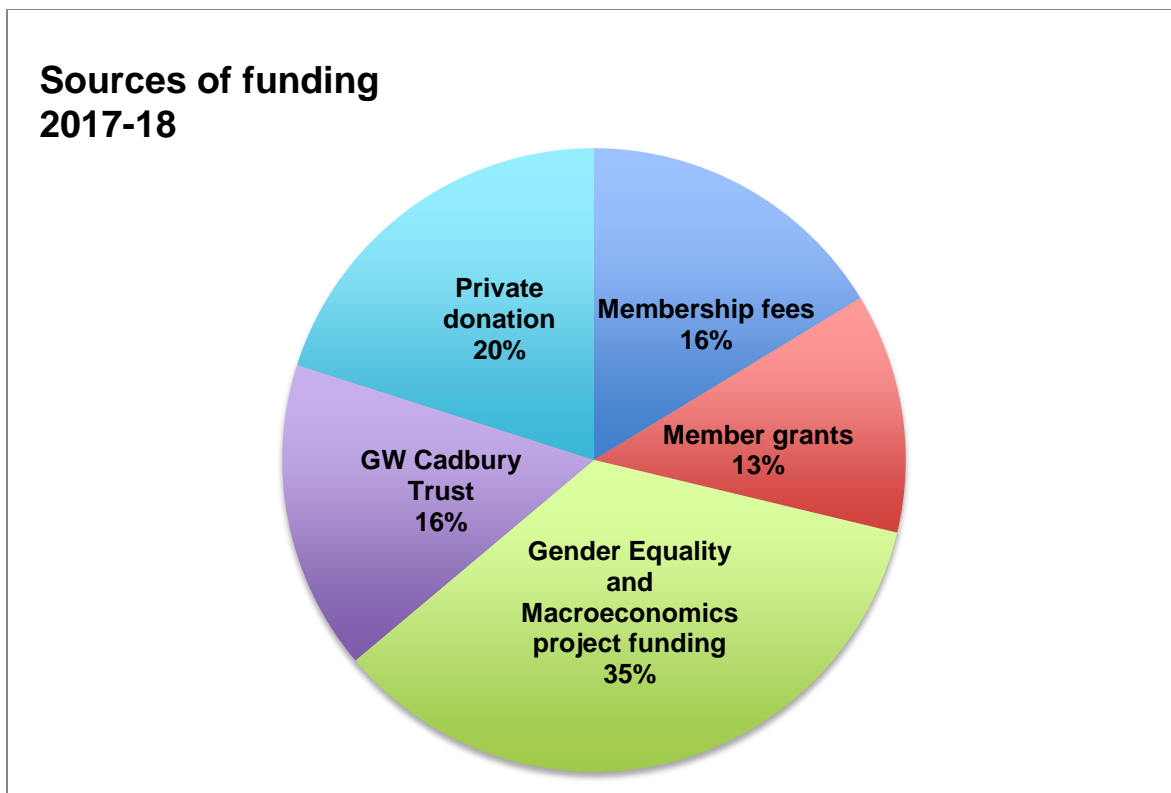
## Feminist Forum

Thanks are due to the coordinating group of our Feminist Forum over the last year, including founder member Helen Elliott and current members Priya Nath, Ines Smyth, Sally King and Kavita Kalsi.

## 2017–18 funding

Membership fees are vital for our work. We also received core funding this year from ActionAid UK, Christian Aid, Oxfam GB and Plan International UK, while a number of working group members have also co-funded their groups' activities. Funding was also provided by the G.W. Cadbury Trust, the Bretton Woods Project (part of a grant from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation) and a generous donation from supporter John Ward. We are grateful to all our member organisations and donors for their contributions to our work. We would also like to acknowledge the contribution that the staff of our member organisations make to the success of GADN.

For more information on GADN's funding and finances, please see our 2017–18 financial report, which will be made available on our website in the coming months.



For any further information about GADN, or to become a member, please visit our website [www.gadnetwork.org](http://www.gadnetwork.org) or contact:

**Natasha Piette Basheer, GADN Coordinator**

[coordinator@gadnetwork.org](mailto:coordinator@gadnetwork.org)

Gender and Development Network

c/o ActionAid

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## Annex: GADN member organisations 2017–18

28 too many  
ActionAid UK  
ADD International  
African Initiatives  
Age International  
Amnesty International  
British Council  
CAFOD  
CARE International UK  
CBM UK  
Cherie Blair Foundation for Women  
ChildHope  
Children in Crisis  
Christian Aid  
Concern Worldwide  
Development Planning Unit  
Emerge Poverty Free  
Fair Trade Foundation  
FORWARD (Foundation for Women)  
Friends of the Earth  
Girl Effect  
Global Alzheimer's & Dementia Alliance  
Health Poverty Action  
HelpAge International  
Integrity Action  
International AIDS/HIV Alliance  
IIED  
International Planned Parenthood Federation  
International Rescue Committee  
Islamic Relief Worldwide  
Link Community Development International  
Marie Stopes International  
Mother's Union Worldwide  
NFWI  
Orchid Project  
Overseas Development Institute  
Oxfam  
Plan  
Practical Action  
Progressio  
Reproductive Health Matters  
Saferworld  
Salvation Army—International Development  
Save the Children  
SCIAF  
SDDirect  
Self Help Africa  
Send A Cow  
Sense International  
Stonewall  
Tearfund  
The Brooke  
Theatre for Change  
Trocaire  
Tropical Health and Education Trust  
UN Women UK  
VSO  
WaterAid  
Westminster Foundation for Democracy  
WILPF  
WISE Development  
Womankind Worldwide  
Women for Women International  
Women's Environmental Network  
Wonder Foundation  
World Learning Europe  
World Vision  
WWF

**Overseas organisations**  
Aid Organisation Bangladesh  
World University Service Canada  
Women's Rights and Democracy Centre  
Efforts for Integrated Development  
Foundation