



*Reinventing
Systems and
Strategies*

arrow

annual report 2020

the asian-pacific resource and
research centre for women
(arrow)



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The 2020 ARROW Annual Report is also available in web and PDF formats. Interested in a resource or an activity reported here? Visit the ARROW website to access interactive links for further reading.

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arrow
annual report
2020

Contents

6

Reflections from the
Executive Director



8

2020 Milestones



188
Countries Reached
Through Infocom



41
International, Regional, and National
Meetings Attended by ARROW

10

About ARROW



ARROW is a regional non-profit that has consultative status with (ECOSOC).

Strategic Plan 2017-2021

In 2020, our work was guided by our strat

Our Vision

An equal, just and equitable world, where young person enjoys their full sexual and

Our Mission

We promote and defend women's rights particularly in the areas of health and their agency to claim these rights.

12

Meetings and
Events

ARROW

Attended in
2020

South Asia-Africa Dialogue on
Adolescents's Capacity and Consent:
Developing Enabling Legal Frameworks
on Sexual and Reproductive Health
WAGI, Bangkok

JANUARY

DECEMBER

Interregional Coalition to End
FGM/C Meeting
Interregional Coalition
The Virtual Global Youth Festival 2020
ARROW, Kuala Lumpur

Collaboration With

11 Regional Partners 10 Global Partners

99 Partners in Total

14

ARROW Publications Launched in 2020

SDG
MONITORING
REPORT



AFFIRMING RIGHTS,
ACCELERATING PROGRESS
AND AMPLIFYING ACTION:
Monitoring SDG in Asia-Pacific

SDG
MONITORING
REPORT



AFFIRMING RIGHTS,
ACCELERATING PROGRESS
AND AMPLIFYING ACTION:
Monitoring SDG in Asia-Pacific

16

Generating
Evidence,
Creating
Change



22
*Strengthening
 Community
 Participation,
 Empowering
 People*

26
*Forging
 New Alliances*

32
*Opening
 Minds and
 Shaping
 Views*

38
*Advocating
 for Change,
 One Year
 at a Time*

44
*Governance
 and Financial
 Management*

Segment	Percentage
A	1%
B	1%
C	2%
D	2%
E	3%
F	4%
G	4%
H	4%
I	6%
J	6%

50-51
Acronyms and Photo Credits

48 *The **ARROW** Community*

Reflections from the Executive Director

2020 will always be the year that will be known as the 'unprecedented' year. It will be remembered as the year that the world as we knew it ended. In that, it provided us opportunities to rethink systems and strategies. A chance to introduce new ways of working, collaborating, mobilising, advocating. If only we were not surrounded by human devastation on all fronts: rising numbers of mortality, morbidities and infections; collapsing health systems; children discontinuing education; unparalleled rates of unemployment; people facing hunger and homelessness. The progress towards development had always been slow, but even the smallest successes had been eroded in the first year of the pandemic.

For us at ARROW, 2020 was a year of learning. Never was the need for SRHR advocacy so pressing, yet never have we as advocates been so constrained in our ability to advocate.

As a regional organisation we carried the responsibility of gathering, distilling and quickly disseminating information about COVID-19 risks, precautions, and impact on work to our partners and allies. We also undertook sharing skills and knowledge on working virtually and ensuring safety and health of staff and communities by deploying small donations. The word 'pivot' came to the forefront—as ARROW and her partners quickly adapted, built newly needed capacities in order to continue raising the issues of sexual and reproductive rights that are important to women and young people.

The pivot to digitalisation was one that presented new challenges to ARROW. Staff capacity had to be developed. Whilst on the one hand, virtual platforms enabled greater numbers of people participating, on the other—these were limited to those who were digitally connected and had

devices. To be more inclusive, measures to compensate participants adequately for these new requirements and to ensure people with disabilities also could be included, the use of sign language and closed captioning were introduced to our webinars and events. The Regional Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue on CSE, accompanied this year with the Asia Pacific Sexuality Education Virtual Exhibition, was also innovative as NGOs in the region were able to share their best practices on a virtual platform to enable learning amongst stakeholders. The Global Youth Festival also was transformed into a vibrant virtual festival which brought together 400+ young people, and a space for both the arts and activism. The Special Rapporteur for SOGIE also attended to hear from the young people on this platform.

ARROW and partners launched the SAIGE alliance in the region and will keep building the advisory group and the membership, and a programme that will create value for the membership which includes access to knowledge resources, webinars, and capacity strengthening opportunities. In the first year of its inception, SAIGE put forward technical guidance papers on young women's access to safe abortion and self-managed abortions as well as the 'Advocates' Guide: Rights-Based Safe Abortion Policies, Programmes and Services.' SAIGE members participated actively both around May 28th Day for Women's Health and September 28th APCRSR plenary which helped propel the profile of the alliance.

ARROW also brought out the '*Right to Freedom of Speech and Expression*' AFC which was well-timed considering the crackdown and severe limitations that feminist activists and organisations are facing across the region and the globe, especially during this pandemic.

We will have our work cut out for us. We can anticipate some regretful trends. The numbers of the poor will not only grow, but the deprivation will be more stark than ever. Women and girls will fall out of paid employment and of schooling, taking up the greater burden of the increasing, unpaid care work (due to reduced social sector services in light of the pandemic). Violence (including sexual violence) against women, girls,

children, migrant workers, refugees, and LGBT persons will increase as pandemic responses divide societies politically. A majority of young people will be left behind—in education, in employment, in accessing opportunities. Privatisation of services—will be touted as the response to breaking social systems. Sexual and reproductive health services will be further divided into essential and non-essential services—dividing the way in which SRH is framed and viewed by policy-makers and practitioners, turning away from the life-cycle approach into the immediacy approach. If we have politicians who made promises from election to election—we may well see politicians who change promises from one wave of infection to another.

In this year that follows, we hope to chant one mantra:

“Courage in adversity.

Creativity in chaos.

Compassion in hardship.”

In 2020, we learned that being a regional organisation was a privilege. We were able to access learning and technology and create spaces for advocacy in a time that traditional spaces had closed up. In the time available to us, we tried as hard as possible to share our resources— financial and non-financial—with partners and staff who needed it. In 2021, we will endeavour to continue to play this pivotal role. We are hoping to:

- Learn from the new environment and share the knowledge, the tools, the technologies and the capacities with partners and activists,
- Create new spaces for feminist dialogues and discussions in the year of the Generation Equality Forums,
- Seed and cultivate new ideas to take forward the feminist SRHR agenda in the world,
- Strengthen the organisational resilience of key partners
- Contribute meaningfully to feminist movement building.



Sivananthi Thanenthiran
Executive Director, ARROW



2020 **ARROW** Milestones



5,245

Knowledge Products
Distributed



31,084

Visitors to arrow.org.my

30,866

New Visitors

79,631

Page Views

41,367

Sessions



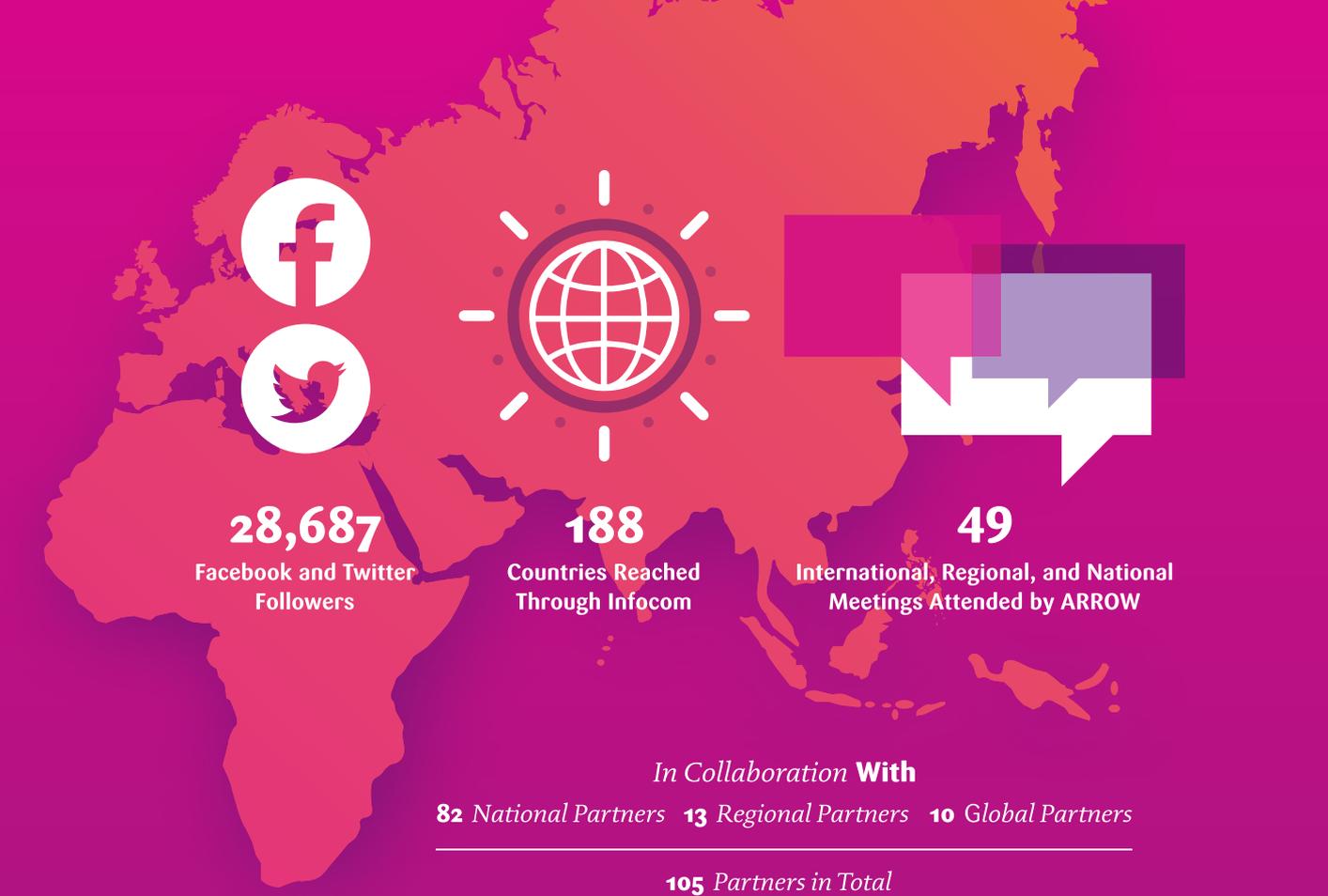
4,194

Publications Downloaded
from Our Website

Networks and Committees **We are Part of**

Asia Pacific Conference on Reproductive and Sexual Health and Rights (APCRSHR) International Steering Committee
 Alliance of Inclusive Muslims (AIM)
 ASEAN Civil Society Conference/ASEAN People's Forum (ACSC/APF) Regional Steering Committee
 Asia-Pacific Regional CSO Engagement Mechanism (AP-RCEM)
 AP-RCEM Thematic Working Group on SRHR, Gender and Sexuality
 Asia-Pacific Safe Abortion Partnership (ASAP)
 Asia Pacific Women's Alliance for Peace and Security (APWAPS)
 Asia-Pacific Women's Watch (APWW)
 Asian Rural Women's Coalition (ARWC)
 Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID)
 Civil Society Platform to Promote SRHR Beyond 2015
 Coalition for Sexual and Bodily Rights in Muslim Societies (CSBR)
 Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era (DAWN)
 Feminist Alliance for Rights (formerly the Post-2015 Women's Coalition)

FIAN International
 Global Network on the Right to Food and Nutrition (GNRtFN)
 Global Network of Women Peacebuilders (GNWP)
 Global Nutrition Group
 International Sexual and Reproductive Rights Coalition (ISRRC)
 Observatory on Universality of Rights (OURS)
 Population and Sustainable Development Alliance (PSDA)
 Reproductive Rights Advocacy Alliance Malaysia (RRAAM)
 Right to Food and Nutrition Watch Editorial Board
 South Asia Reproductive Justice and Accountability Initiative (SARJAI)
 UNFPA Global Civil Society Advisory Panel
 UN NGO Major Group
 UN Women's Major Group
 Women's Global Network for Reproductive Rights (WGNRR)
 Women Working Group for Financing for Development
 Youth Leadership Working Group



Country Partners

BANGLADESH: Association for Prevention of Septic Abortion, Bangladesh (BAPSA); Bandhu Social Welfare Society (BSWS); Barisal Mohila Kollayan Shongstha; Children and Youth Development Organisation (CYDO); Durbin Foundation; International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD); Jago Nari; Khan Foundation; Local Environment Development and Agricultural Research Society (LEDARS); Naripokkho; Sangkalpa Trust; and Women with Disabilities Development Foundation (WDDF)

BURMA/MYANMAR: Akhaya Women **CAMBODIA:** Reproductive Health Association of Cambodia (RHAC) **CHINA:** Yunnan Health and Development Research Association (YHDRA) **EGYPT:** Ikhtyar for Development, Training, Research and Consultancy **FIJI:** Fiji Women's Rights Movement (FWRM) **INDIA:** Anjali Mental Health Rights Organisation; Centre for Health Education, Training and Nutrition Awareness (CHETNA); Centre for Rural Prosperity and Research (CRPR); CommonHealth; Navachar; People's Education and Development Organization (PEDO); Pravah; Prayatn; Rural Women's Social Education Centre (RUWSEC); SAHAYOG; SAHIYO; SAMA: Resource Group for Women and Health; Shiskshit Rojgar Kendra Prabandhak Samiti; Srushti Samiti; and the YP Foundation (TYPF) **INDONESIA:** Perkumpulan Keluarga Berencana Indonesia (PKBI); Yayasan Jurnal Perempuan (YJP); and Yayasan Kesehatan Perempuan (YKP, also called Women's Health Foundation) **LAO PDR:** Lao Women's Union; The Faculty of Postgraduate Studies at the University of Health Sciences (UHS) **MALAYSIA:** Federation of Reproductive Health Associations of Malaysia (FRHAM); Justice For Sisters; Penita Initiative; and Sisters in Islam (SIS) **MALDIVES:** Huvadhoo Aid (HAD); and Society for Health Education (SHE) **MEXICO:** Elige Red **MONGOLIA:** MONFEMNET National Network **MOROCCO:** Association Marocaine de Planification Familiale (AMPF, Morocco Family Planning Association) **NEPAL:** Beyond Beijing Committee (BBC); Child Society Nepal, Morang; LOOM; The Rural Institution for Community Development (RICOD), Lalitpur; Visible Impact; Women's Rehabilitation Centre (WOREC); Youth Welfare Society (YWS), Makwanpur; and YUWA **PAKISTAN:** Aahung; Chanan Development Association (CDA); Green Circle Organization; Khan Foundation; Marvi Welfare Association; Nai Umeed; Pano Akil; Rural Development Foundation (RDF); Shelter Participatory Organisation; Shirkat Gah (SG); Sindh Community Foundation (SCF); The Enlight Lab; United Youth Welfare Organisation (UYWO); and Youth Advocacy Network (YAN) **THE PHILIPPINES:** Galang; Likhaan Centre for Women's Health (Likhaan); and PATH Foundation Inc. (PFPI) **SRI LANKA:** Women and Media Collective (WMC) **THAILAND:** Migrant Assistance Program Foundation (MAP) **VIETNAM:** Centre for Creative Initiatives in Health and Population (CCIHP)

Global Partners

Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID); Association of Progressive Communications (APC); CREA; Due Diligence Project; Equal Measures 2030; Feminist Alliance for Rights (formerly the Post-2015 Women's Coalition); International Civil Society Action Network (ICAN); Musawah; Orchid Project; and Tactical Tech

Regional Partners

AFRICA: AIDS Accountability International (AAI) **ASIA:** ASEAN Youth Forum; Asia Pacific Women's Alliance for Peace and Security (APWAPS); ASEAN Disability Forum (ADF); CARAM Asia; TARSHI; Y-PEER; and Youth LEAD **EUROPE:** Danish Family Planning Association (DFPA); Riksförbundet för Sexuell Upplysning (RFSU also known as the Swedish Association for Sexuality Education), Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ); and Rutgers **LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN:** Catolicas por el Derecho de Decidir (CDD)-Mexico

About **ARROW**



ARROW is a regional non-profit women's organisation based in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, that has consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC).

Strategic Plan 2017-2021

In 2020, our work was guided by our strategic plan for 2017-2021.

Our Vision

An equal, just and equitable world, where every woman and young person enjoys their full sexual and reproductive rights.

Our Mission

We promote and defend women's rights and their needs, particularly in the areas of health and sexuality, and reaffirm their agency to claim these rights.

Our Work makes a contribution to achieving the following outcomes, in the long term:

Systems, policies and programmes are reoriented to uphold gender equality and SRHR, and deliver comprehensive, gender-sensitive, and rights-based sexual reproductive health systems that are accessible, just, equitable, and of the highest quality.

Strong and effective women's movements and civil society that are vigilant in influencing policy agenda on women's health, sexuality, and rights; demanding for governments and donors to deliver to their international and national commitments; and claiming spaces for their representation and participation within decision-making structures.

Improvements in all women's lives and health outcomes, in particular, addressing the SRHR of the poor and the marginalised.

How We Work

We believe that together, we must take concerted, collective, and progressive steps to achieve our vision. In line with our new strategic plan, we approach our work through:

Who We Work With and What We Work On

Ultimately, we want to see significant and sustained improvements in the SRHR of women and young people across Asia and the Pacific, and globally.

We work with non-governmental organisations and social movements, health service providers and associations, governments and their institutions, international agencies, human rights institutions, and the media.

Our aim is to collaborate and influence their approach so they can contribute to our vision for rights-based and gender-sensitive policies and programmes related to health, sexuality, and rights.

With like-minded stakeholders and SRHR champions, we tackle the following topics:

Our Five-pronged Strategy



MONITORING AND EVIDENCE GENERATION



MOBILISING COMMUNITIES



BUILDING NEW CONSTITUENCIES



INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION



ADVOCACY

Over-arching Themes and Critical Issues



UNIVERSALITY OF SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS



WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT AND GENDER EQUALITY



AFFIRMATIVE SEXUALITY



ADVANCING UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO QUALITY SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICES



EMERGING ISSUES IMPACTING GENDER AND SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

ARROW

Meetings and Events in 2020

RHRN ToC Development Workshop
RHRN, The Netherlands

The Consultative Session on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Contexts of Crisis and Human Insecurity

Feminist Alliance for Rights, Nepal

South Asia-Africa Dialogue on Adolescents' Capacity and Consent: Developing Enabling Legal Frameworks on Sexual and Reproductive Health
WAGI, Bangkok

RHRN International Advocacy Working Group (IAWG) Meeting
RHRN

Intersectionality Workshop
ARROW, Sri Lanka

The International Network for the Reduction of Abortion Discrimination and Stigma (INROADS) Meeting
INROADS, Kenya

75th CEDAW Session of Concluding Observations for Pakistan
CEDAW

Dialogue on FGM/C
ARROW, Kuala Lumpur

53rd Commission on Population and Development (CPD)
UN

64th Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)
UN

Launch of the Gender Equality Initiative in Malaysia in Conjunction with SheDecides Day
ARROW, Kuala Lumpur

GEI Inception and Communications Workshop
ARROW, Kuala Lumpur

Meeting with Women, Family and Community Development Ministry in Malaysia
ARROW, Kuala Lumpur

Online Roundtable Discussion on Women, Peace and Security
GNWP and ARROW

Beijing +25: Where are the Women and Youth Peacebuilders
GNWP and ARROW

Asia Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development, APFSD 2020
APFSD

JANUARY

FEBRUARY

MARCH

DECEMBER

NOVEMBER

OCTOBER

Interregional Coalition to End FGM/C Meeting

Interregional Coalition

The Virtual Global Youth Festival 2020
ARROW, Kuala Lumpur

13th Session of the APCRSR 10 Virtual Session on Sexual and Gender-based Violence and SRHR in Asia and the Pacific
APCRSR

Asia and the Pacific Multi-stakeholder Dialogue and Exhibition on CSE in the Context of COVID-19

ARROW, UNESCO, and UNFPA

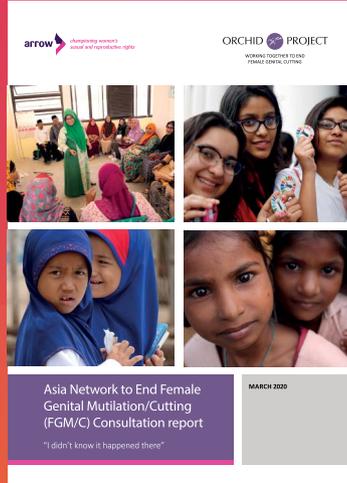
WORTH Lab 1 (Cohort 3)
ARROW, Kuala Lumpur

Regional Meeting for the Asia Network to End FGM/C
ARROW and the Orchid Project

45th Session of the Human Rights Council
HRC

Consultation on the Study and Analysis on the Compatibility of Malaysian Laws (Civil and Syariah) with the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR)
ARROW and ICRSCR

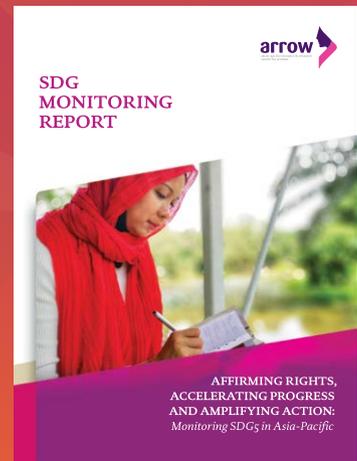




March



April

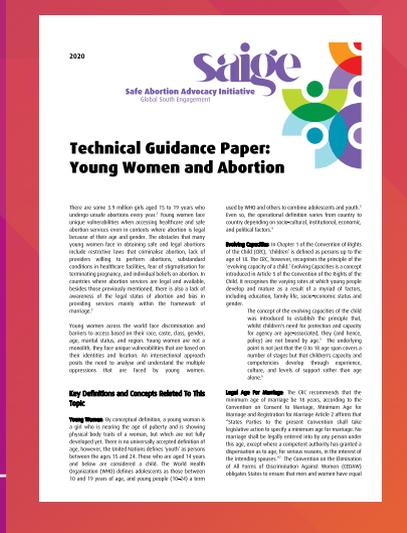


July

ARROW Publications Launched in 2020



December



September





Generating Evidence, Creating Change

Faye Wattleton, reproductive rights activist

Reproductive freedom is critical to a whole range of issues. If we can't take charge of this most personal aspect of our lives, we can't take care of anything. It should not be seen as a privilege or as a benefit, but a fundamental human right.

As the world grapples with the COVID-19 pandemic, women, especially those from rural areas and the lower income segment, have found access to contraception and safe abortion becoming exceedingly difficult. With the onset of the pandemic in December 2019, countries worldwide instituted nationwide lockdowns to curb the spread of the virus and the lockdowns halted the movement of all persons, including those in the health services.

In a province of Nepal, young unmarried Samita discovered that she was pregnant as a result of sex by coercion, and begged the father of her child to marry her so that she and their unborn child would not be discriminated and unaccepted by society. Her partner refused to marry her; and Samita, worried about societal expectations over her being unmarried and pregnant, decided to turn to abortion. However, with the lockdown in effect, she could not get to the hospital or any service provider. Sinking deeper into despair, Samita was on the verge of suicide, when luckily for her, she saw a Facebook post by women's rights organisation Beyond Beijing Committee (BBC).

BBC, with the support of ARROW and in collaboration with the Nepal government, started a toll-free service to allow the continuation of dissemination of information on sexual and reproductive health. The Facebook post provided information about abortions and the mobile number of a service provider. Feeling hopeful, she called up the number and explained her situation. BBC supported Samita by providing counselling and linked her with a province hospital in Birendranagar, Surkhet, but unfortunately, the doctors of the hospital were infected by COVID-19 and the hospital was sealed for two weeks, preventing her from getting an abortion. Disappointed and in despair yet again, Samita returned home and contacted the BBC for help. The BBC then linked her with their local partner organisation, the Women's Association for Marginalized Women (WAM) based in Birendranagar, Surkhet. WAM contacted her and provided her with counseling and gave her a different perspective to deal with her situation.

Our programme, 'Monitoring and Evidence-Generation for Change,' aims to ensure all women and girls are able to realise their sexual and reproductive rights, by recognising and addressing barriers to these rights. This is done by monitoring the implementation of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, ICPD and Beijing Platform for Action, and developing rights-based indicators that review progress on SRHR to support more effective advocacy.

By this time, Samita's pregnancy had crossed the legal threshold for an abortion, and she was left with no other option but to give birth to her child. She was linked with the One-Stop Crisis Management Center (OCMC) for her accommodation and pregnancy checkups. Abiding by the rule of the Nepal government, OCMC decided to give the child away to other parents seeking to adopt a child.

Sexual and reproductive rights and sexual and reproductive health issues in the region are categorised by the lack of progress made in ensuring women's participation in decision-making and political structures, as well as the overall lack of political commitment to issues of gender equality, women's rights and human rights. 2020 saw further global pushback against women's bodily autonomy and rights, exacerbated greatly by the COVID-19 pandemic. Our programme, 'Monitoring and Evidence-Generation for Change,' aims to ensure all women and girls are able to realise their sexual and reproductive rights, by recognising and addressing barriers to these rights. This is done by monitoring the implementation of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, ICPD and Beijing Platform for Action, and developing rights-based indicators that review progress on SRHR to support more effective advocacy.

Monitoring international commitments to women's SRHR is an integral political strategy that ARROW uses to press for accountability from national governments in the region towards their commitments to sexual and reproductive health and rights for all. In line with this, ARROW published the regional briefs on monitoring progress towards Agenda 2030. The brief titled *'Affirming Rights, Accelerating Progress and Amplifying Action: Monitoring SDG3 in Asia Pacific'* is in relation to women's

health and wellbeing, in particular, universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights. It drew on secondary data to measure progress across 19 countries in the region. Furthermore, ARROW's Gender Equality Monitoring framework was finalised and was used for developing the EM2030 Gender Equality Regional Briefs. This regional brief titled *'Affirming Rights, Accelerating Progress and Amplifying Action: Monitoring SDG5 in Asia Pacific'* sheds light on the progress made by countries in the region on a set of key transformative gender equality targets and indicators linked to the SDG 5, and identified the challenges in achieving our commitments including key data gaps that need urgent attention to realise gender equality for women and girls in the region. The briefs were published and released in July at the High Level Political Forum.



Unsafe abortion is one of the leading causes of maternal mortality. Worldwide, an estimated 68,000 women die of unsafe abortion each year and around 25 million unsafe abortions are estimated to have taken place worldwide each year, almost all in developing countries. Continuing the work from its launch in 2018, we contributed to the capacity building of SAIGE (the Safe Abortion Advocacy Initiative – A Global South Engagement) by publishing two technical guidance papers on 'Young Women and Abortion' and 'Self-Managed Abortion.' Furthermore, in 2020, the members of SAIGE increased from six to 11 members, with 13 members in the SAIGE Advisory Committee. In the process, SAIGE and its country partners found ways to creatively use the online spaces to the maximum extent possible by conducting webinars, online regional partners meetings, participating in online campaigns, strategic release of knowledge products, and social media dissemination with the aim of positioning SAIGE as a Global South network and continue with advocacy efforts in a virtual environment during the pandemic.



Above: On September 28th International Safe Abortion Day, SAIGE and ARROW hosted a film-screening and panel discussion on Abortion Stigma. The XY video project by FYIKL was done with the support of RRAAM and ASAP. **Below:** The film screening and panel discussion event was held in ARROW's office, following health and safety protocols.

Moving Forward on Safe Abortion: Key Recommendations and Priority Areas from the Ground

BANGLADESH

নারীপক্ষ

- > **Ensure availability** at government health facilities and regulate the sale through pharmacies.
- > **Train and re-train** service providers and health practitioners in providing MRM services; develop guidelines and counseling tools.
- > **Raise awareness** among users and work with human rights groups and CSOs to advocate and hold policy makers and providers accountable towards SRH needs and rights.

CAMBODIA



- > **Increase** awareness, especially among the most vulnerable groups (poor women, women living in remote areas).
- > **Reduce** abortion stigma and separately address circumstances of unmarried and married women.
- > **Expand** awareness campaigns and include husbands and community leaders.
- > **Ensure** equal access to information and that women have access to all necessary information and programme materials.

INDIA



- > **Improve availability** of abortion services in public facilities.
- > **Enhance** people's knowledge and awareness.
- > **Provide** quality medical abortion services, especially to marginalised communities.
- > **Address** the stigma and negative attitudes towards abortion.

NEPAL

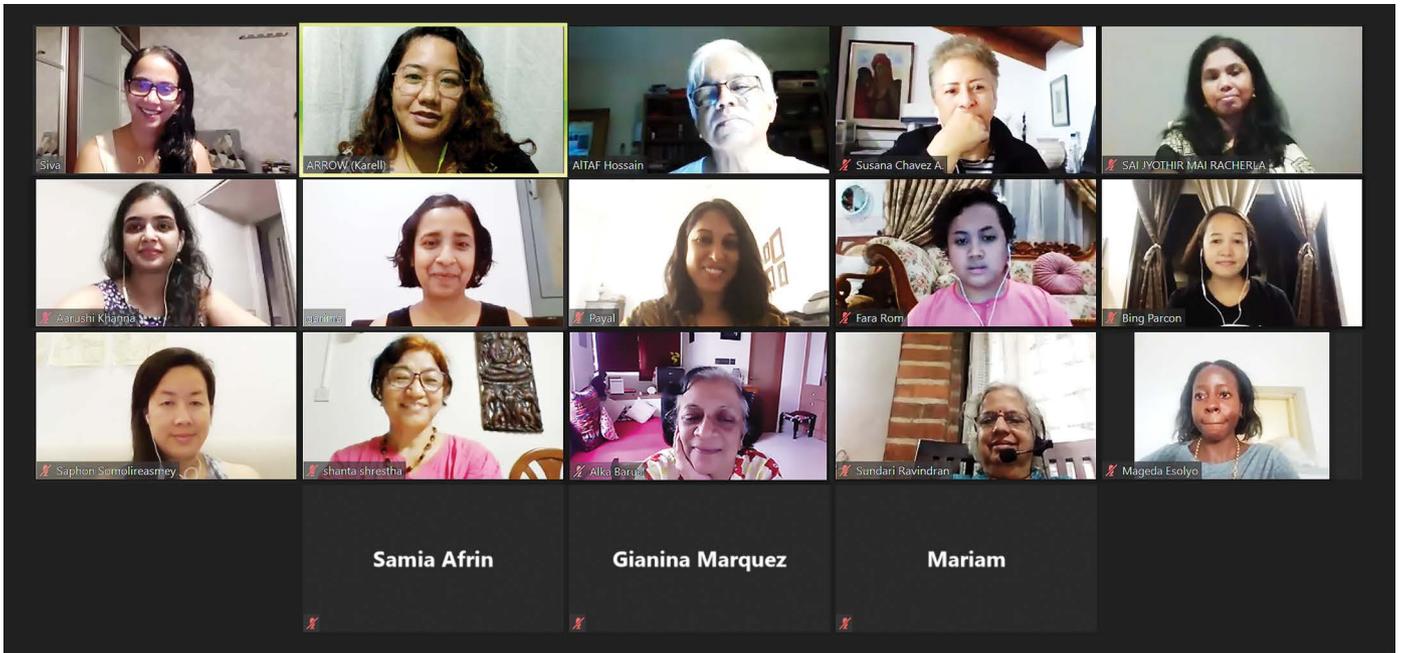


- > **Ensure** reach of complete, accurate and pragmatic information on safe abortion in the community to reduce the myths on abortion.
- > **Include** Values Clarification and Attitude Transformation (VCAT) training in the curriculum of abortion service providers.
- > **Sensitise and mobilise** religious leaders to impart information on safe abortion and reduce the traditional and religious notions on abortion.
- > **Ensure** a multi-sectoral approach to increase access to SAS and reduce abortion stigma.
- > **Implement** proper counseling to abortion service seekers on all aspects of SAS.
- > **Implement** evidence-based practices to reduce stigma and increase access to SAS.

PHILIPPINES



- > **Include** PAC education in medical and nursing schools as the first step towards humane, non-judgmental, quality PAC accessible for women.
- > **Integrate** PAC into other medical disciplines or specialities.
- > **Ensure** SRHR and safe abortion discussions are incorporated into existing courses.
- > **Ensure** the implementation of a rights-based PAC policy.
- > **Allow** safe abortion advocacy groups to conduct special courses on abortion stigma reduction with students, faculty, and school heads.



The first SAIGE Advisory Committee meeting was held virtually in 2020. In attendance (Left to right, top to bottom): Sivananthi Thanenthiran, ARROW; Karell Calpito, ARROW; Altaf Hossain, Association for Prevention of Septic Abortion, Bangladesh (BAPSA); Susana Chavez A, CLACAI/PROMSEX/Global Campaign for Safe Abortion; Sai Jyothirmai Racherla, ARROW; Aarushi Khanna, ARROW; Garima Shrivastava, ARROW; Payal Shah, reproductive justice advocate and strategist; Fara Rom, ARROW; Marevic Parcon, WGNRR Philippines; Saphon Somolireasmey, RHAC; Shanta Shrestha, Beyond Beijing Committee (BBC), Nepal; Alka Barua, CommonHealth; Sundari Ravindran, Achutha Menon Centre for Health Science Studies/Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Trivandrum, Mageda Esolyo, WGNRR Africa.



With health and safety protocols in place, BAPSA conducted the training on menstrual regulation with medication (MRM) among drug sellers to orient them on MRM misuse, complications and referrals for counseling. Photo: BAPSA.

Enabling the Vulnerable with Assistance and Knowledge

Case Studies from the Association for Prevention of Septic Abortion, Bangladesh (BAPSA)

“I will forever be grateful to BAPSA for helping me get through one of the toughest times of my life.”

This is what a 26-year-old mother of two young children said after BAPSA enabled her to terminate an unwanted pregnancy via menstrual regulation with medication (MRM). It took her only 15 days of simple and succesful medication to be able to have a safe abortion, allowing her to move from a point of deep despair and on with her life.

The patient who is currently residing in Barisal, was a regular client at a BAPSA clinic prior to moving away from Dhaka nearly two years ago. Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, she was faced with an unwanted pregnancy and wanted to have menstrual regulation services. However, being relatively new to the area along with negative community sentiment around this issue, she felt hesitant to seek out local healthcare providers.

She turned to BAPSA via its hotline and sent her pregnancy report to the service provider via a social messaging app. She was prescribed her MR medication, with full information on how to use it properly, and she was also given meticulous counselling. After 15 days of successful medication, she returned to her previous healthy condition, feeling amazed at how simple the treatment was.



Despite the pandemic restrictions imposed by the government, BAPSA's service centres remained open for MR/MRM services. Photo: BAPSA.

Another patient, a 16-year old girl, said she was oblivious when she missed her periods but started to be gripped by fear when she started exhibiting morning sickness. “My head was spinning, my stomach churning and I felt like vomiting. I told my boyfriend that I was pregnant and he stopped talking to me.

Fearful of the stigma of being a teenage and unmarried mother, the girl from Dhaka went to a BAPSA clinic where under the supervision of a doctor, she was able to take an abortion pill. “This not only prevented me from becoming a teenage mother, it also saved me from suicide,” she said.

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Strengthening Community Participation, **Empowering People**

Audre Lorde, activist and author

*I am not free while any woman is unfree,
even when her shackles are very different
from my own.*

More than half of the world's 1.2 billion adolescents live in Asia and the Pacific and yet adolescents and young people face increasing challenges to exercise their right to comprehensive sexuality education and access to youth-friendly sexual and reproductive health services, which has only been further exacerbated by COVID-19. As the regional coordinator of RHRN 2, a global strategic partnership, which envisions a world where all young people are able to access quality and youth friendly health services, and are not afraid to openly express who they are and who they love, ARROW's work on empowering communities gives critical focus to youth voices across the region and facilitates the empowerment of communities to advocate and demand accountability from leaders and governments at all levels via mobilisation, capacity building and forging partnerships through linking and learning mechanisms. With the completion of Phase 1 of the RHRN programme and the upcoming implementation of Phase 2, we are confident that a powerful youth movement is in the making in the region.

In 2020, our Programme on Mobilising Communities was marked with rigorous coordination and support for the partners for the changes in plans of RHRN implementations due to COVID-19 and the conclusion of Phase I in December 2020. Additionally, a 'Changemakers' training was developed and rolled out for 63 participants. The training explored innovative ways to sustain the youth SRHR movement and 40 innovative ideas by the participants were pitched at the end of the training, out of which 16 received the Changemakers seed grant.

Naura Nabila Haryanto from Rutgers WPF Indonesia shares that when it comes to implementing SRHR, gender and youth-served programmes in Indonesia, she has learnt that it is not only about the value improvement of gender norms, it is also about how to tackle real and technical problems faced by educators. Being given the opportunity to participate in the ARROW RHRN Changemakers Programme has opened her horizons. The mentoring sessions by ARROW taught and encouraged her to think out of the box, and gave her the opportunity to connect with other inspiring young Indonesian activists that have brilliant ideas on



Naura Nabila Haryanto during a CSE training session. Photo: Rutgers WPF Indonesia.

mainstreaming youth participation, gender, and SRHR values. During the training, she received insights on mapping out trained CSE (comprehensive sexuality education) teachers' challenges in the disruption of traditional teaching due to the COVID-19 pandemic in Indonesia.

The large social restriction in Indonesia as a response to COVID-19 has triggered an increase in child marriages and sexual violence cases in Indonesia, and sexual and reproductive health education and information is challenged as most schools and youth-friendly services remain closed. Naura was recently involved in #TexThroughTech, a two-month mentoring programme that involved 11 trained CSE teachers as mentors to facilitate them using digital platforms such as Canva, Google Slides, Google Meet, Zoom, Mentimeter, and Quizziz, to provide CSE during the distance learning process. The trained mentors succeeded in transferring their knowledge to 89 mentees, who consisted of not only sex education teachers, but also teachers from other subjects. For the last step, 11 mentors and 21 mentees were piloted to convey CSE to 573 students through an online method.

Naura shares that the process has opened her eyes to how the peer education strategy is a new learning experience for the teachers who are not familiar with digital methods of providing CSE, so they can learn from each other. Furthermore, not only did the CSE teachers find it useful, other teachers did too. She is inspired to expand these

Our Impact

success stories and encourage the government that this process is needed to help educators adapt to the new era.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and rising infection rates especially in the South Asia region, lockdown, and global travel restrictions, our annual RHRN Regional Fora was held virtually through online regional learning exchange sessions. The focus in the last lap of the project was on youth movement building for SDGs with a focus on gender and sexuality in Asia in the context of COVID-19, and worked to understand this by covering the topics of youth movement building, principles and values of youth movement building, and how to align each of those with advocacy efforts related to SDGs and upholding of human rights.

This year, the Programme team also implemented a new initiative titled Defending the Rights of Women and Girls with Disabilities, through a partnership with Women with Disabilities Development Foundation (WDDF) in Bangladesh that focuses on the intersections between disability and SRHR, with the aim of ending violence against women and girls with disabilities. A results-based framework for the project was finalised for the initiative and a series of regional consultations were carried out with experts on the issue from South Asia as part of the development of a training manual on gender, SRHR, and disability. The training manual will enable users to unpack the meaning of gender, SRHR, and disability rights and understand the interlinkages between them. Sections of the manual will extensively discuss the meaning of violence, abuse, and exploitation, as well as elaborate on the effects of violations of rights on persons with disabilities.

At the national level, our partner WDDF released a series of newsletters and widely disseminated it among disability rights-based organisations and NGOs working in the area of advancing rights of women in Bangladesh. With the start of this initiative ARROW has actively been highlighting the issues of women and girls with disabilities in multiple advocacy spaces at the regional and global levels.

4

Countries reached in terms of project implementation.

60

Youth-led, youth-serving, and disability rights organisations reached directly through mobilising and partnerships.

109

Youth advocates' capacity strengthened on a regional level and their advocacy actions for SDG supported.

36

Regional alliances/networks, youth-led, youth-serving organisations contributed to the regional Key Findings Report: Online Youth Survey Ahead of the APFSD 2019.

300

Youth SRHR advocates oriented on value clarification on topics related to young people's SRHR from the GYF.

76

Youth participants registered for the Changemakers Programme.

1000+

Women and girls with disabilities reached to collect information on their SRHR in the context of violence and impact from COVID-19.

3

Regional consultations held on disability rights, gender, and SRHR.

96

Online monitoring visits, and national planning meetings with partners completed.



Lirisha Tuladhar, third from right, with the Youth Activists Leadership Council members of YUWA Nepal. Photo: YUWA.

Determined to Change Perceptions and Bring Change

Lirisha Tuladhar, YUWA, Nepal

“Young people have always been chained to stereotypes and are not allowed to trudge forward to access the information they want relating to SRHR. Out of my own interest, I volunteered for YUWA, a youth-led organisation, working under the Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) department. When I first learned about SRHR back in 2016, it was not just new but also a stigmatic topic for me and I was not comfortable talking and working on these issues, as stereotypically, anything with the element of sexuality in it, was not normal in Nepalese society.

Gradually, as I started learning more about SRHR, hearing stories of young people and interacting with an activist on SRHR issues, I grew interested and began to advocate for SRHR advocacy through the Youth Activist Leadership Council (YALC) of YUWA initiating Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) in local schools of Nepal.

The experience of YALC introduced me to a much more alarming reality for most of the young people here and portrayed the gap in the education system which prevented them from getting the required SRH information they needed. Though many young people are interested to learn about SRHR, they are not readily able to openly talk about SRHR in public as it is regarded as an act of shame, so we search for information on the Internet on our own.

I was motivated from my own experience, having been criticised for choosing to be a female SRHR youth activist and being labeled many times. I am currently working for young people, the ethnic community I belong to, and other marginalised groups sensitising them about gender equality and SRHR. There exists inaccessibility of SRHR related resources, information, and

services for young people. I have always struggled to find resources and access to services. Many people used to reach out to me asking for information and policy-related information.

The ARROW Changemakers Programme of 2020 became the platform to visualise my change by structuring it in the form of an online portal named “Unfolding SRHR.” The idea of Unfolding SRHR is to bridge SRHR and gender-related information and services among the youth through digital innovations. ARROW taught me to design my project and take ahead the dreams of change to reality. The guidance and support from ARROW helped me initiate this project, providing me with confidence, ample technical and practical support, and seed money. Volunteers like me came together to contribute ideas, innovations, skills, and knowledge but the idea came with unprecedented challenges imposed by COVID-19 and limited resources.

As a core team member, Unfolding SRHR and the process of developing a portal development led to learning, and leveling up our efforts. We developed the format of a portal, developed content, and also organised a capacity strengthening session for the core team. We have launched an online platform where young people can have access to SRHR and gender-related policies and programmes on a single platform. We want to use social media to disseminate SRHR related information and link young people with SRHR related information. “Prayash ka Katha ” which means stories of effort, highlights the stories of people contributing to progressive sexual and reproductive health.

Indeed, we are just starting this challenging journey towards progressive SRHR but we are firm, confident, and persistent to bridge the information gap of SRHR among young people.”

A photograph of a woman with a joyful expression, holding a large bouquet of pink and yellow flowers. She is wearing a light blue patterned top. The background is softly blurred, suggesting an outdoor market or garden setting. The overall tone is warm and positive.

Forging New **Alliances**

Kimberle Crenshaw, intersectionality activist

If you don't have a lens that's been trained to look at how various forms of discrimination come together, you're unlikely to develop a set of policies that will be as inclusive as they need to be.

Communities with low income who are reliant on natural resources for their livelihoods are disproportionately affected by climate change-related hazards and disasters due to lack of alternative resources. Gerlyn Pacon Arol, 38, was unable to go to college due to financial constraints. To escape poverty, she got married when she was 20 years old. Together with her husband Josito, they are raising two children aged 17 and 18 and live on Iloc Island, a remote and rural fishing community located three to five hours by boat away from the main island in Linapacan in the Province of Palawan, Philippines.

Gerlyn has taken a keen interest in helping the women of her community, working together with them to teach them how to attain well-being, and ensure they have enough food. She is very active in community work and has been the focal person of the nutrition programme of the municipality for three years. She is also a member of *Tarabidan Ang Magtarangay 'Y Babae sa Bakawan/ Association of Friends for Mangroves (TaMaBa)*, a women's organisation established with support from PATH Foundation Philippines Inc (PFPI) to manage its WORTH Initiative, "Women Managed Area (WMA) is a Right Project," implemented by WORTH grantee Vivien Facunla.

Her involvement in the various activities made her realise the situation of other people in her barangay, which is a small territorial and administrative district. She also realised the burden of work other women like her experience in their daily lives. While they are interested in joining community activities or doing something for themselves like attending seminars, they are unable to do so as they have to prioritise their household duties.

She reaches out to other women and other communities, educating them on sexual and reproductive health and rights, on conserving mangroves and getting involved with the WMA. As a result, the women in her community have begun to appreciate their potential beyond their regular household chores and have started to initiate shared chores with their husbands. The WMA Project has strengthened the leadership capacity of Gerlyn both



Above: WORTH grantee, Vivien, speaking to women fishers in the municipalities of Coron and Linapacan through her Women-managed area (WMA) Project. **Below:** Geryln, supporting her community at one of the "Women Managed Area (WMA) is a Right" Project trainings by PFPI, as part of the WORTH Initiative.

in addressing conservation challenges and SRHR issues. She has gained more respect from her husband, fellow women and the community. The project has given her the needed boost and motivation to advocate for women's SRHR and environmental conservation to attain resiliency and secure food now and for the future.

For herself, the project has empowered her. Gerlyn wants to be an inspiration to other women, a leader of action that can catalyse a chain of reaction among other women towards a better life, and be able to contribute to a society of equal opportunity.

Our work on building new constituencies is guided by the principle of intersectionality and aims to develop knowledge and ownership of gender, feminism and SRHR and their intersections with other issues, such as but not limited to, climate change, food security, conflict and sports. 2020 was a remarkable year and involved many different approaches which made us rethink and rework our action plan to build new constituencies for SRHR. In a way, a transformational approach was achieved in terms of innovation as we pursued virtual modalities of operation to implement our activities for capacity strengthening and for our strategic advocacy. This year our focus continued on building further linkages of SRHR and gender with issues such as climate change, food (in) security, conflict, and sports.

COMPREHENSIVE SEXUALITY EDUCATION AND INTERSECTIONALITY. ARROW, in collaboration with Youth Advocacy Network Sri Lanka, conducted the first sexuality and intersectionality workshop of the year in Colombo, Sri Lanka in February. The workshop provided an opportunity to a diverse group of 25 young Sri Lankans to reflect and learn how sexuality intersects with issues like education, health, employment, law, and citizenship, and how policy and programmes can address discrimination, and be made more inclusive and youth responsive.

Above and below: In February 2020, the first sexuality and intersectionality workshop was held in Colombo, Sri Lanka, with 25 participants.



2020 was a remarkable year and involved many different approaches which made us rethink and rework our action plan to build new constituencies for SRHR. A transformational approach was achieved as we pursued virtual modalities to implement our activities.



Alongside our monthly webinar series on intersectionalities and SDGs to prepare young people to participate at the 10th Asia Pacific Conference on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (APCRSHR10), we mentored 10 scholars from Nepal and Myanmar to participate and attend the bi-weekly APCRSR10 virtual dialogue series actively as well as created spaces for the scholars to make interventions in the virtual dialogue series highlighting young people's SRHR and their intersections with other identities such as diverse SOGIE and disability.



ARROW at the Climate Change and Health: A Gender Lens event by Institute for Climate and Sustainable Cities (ICSC) as part of their WORTH Initiative project.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND SRHR. In collaboration with the Danish Family Planning Association (DFPA), our Women and Earth Initiative (WORTH) Innovation Lab Programme has been created to build the capacity of environmental/climate change civil society organisations (CSO) on the nexus between sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), climate change and innovation. In 2020, our work on interlinkages between climate change and SRHR was strengthened with implementation of four innovative ideas from the WORTH grantees from the first round. The second round received 10 grant proposals at the end of Lab 2, of which six ideas were chosen for funding.

We continued our partnership with UN Women under the EmPower project this year. The project looks at the nexus between gender and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) as well as climate change with an overall aim for enhancing capacities of CSOs to advocate for gender mainstreaming

in climate change and DRR projects, policies, and activities. In 2020, three scoping studies from the pilot countries—Bangladesh, Cambodia, and Vietnam—to identify CSOs active in the space of gender, climate change and disaster reduction and to understand their capacity gaps were completed. A draft of the training manual based on these capacity gaps was also prepared. This manual will be used for conducting training of trainers in 2021.

CONFLICT AND PEACE BUILDING. ARROW is an active member of the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders (GNWP). We contributed to the finalisation of recommendations for the Generation Equality Forum Compact on WPS and HA. We were also invited to speak at the Virtual Torino Forum to highlight the interlinkages between the UNSCR 1325 Women Peace and Security and Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the importance of SRHR in sustainable peace.

We also presented our thematic paper, 'Redefining Peace: Interlinkages of Conflict, Gender, and SRHR', to an expert of the UN Working Group on discrimination against women and girls. In the online roundtable discussion on Women Peace and Security, our presentation highlighted the importance of discourse that sees gender equality, SRHR, and sustainable peace as areas contributing to each other.

SPORTS, HEALTH AND EMPOWERMENT INITIATIVE.

The initiative began in 2019 and aims to empower adolescent girls, physically and mentally, to enhance their participation and in the long run, their competitiveness in sports by working on their leadership skills and personal growth. In collaboration with the Malaysian Cricket Association and the Federation of Reproductive Health Associations, Malaysia (FRHAM) as a peer educator, the final analysis of the research was done in 2020, a report of findings was compiled, and the results were presented by FRHAM and ARROW to the Malaysian Cricket Association representatives. The results highlight very fundamental issues in women actively taking up cricket as a profession and will inform the development of a leadership programme in the second phase.

Our Impact



Media Molds for Women & SRHR in Climate Change

Samreen (front row, middle) at the Media Molds for Women & SRHR and Climate Change project inception event with over 100 attendees, held on 14 Feb 2020 at the Environment Department University of Mehran Engineering and Technology.

Exploring Untold Stories and Data to Generate News

Samreen Khan Ghauri, Pakistan

“My dream project “Media Molds for Women & SRHR in Climate Change” has been a unique experience not just for me, but my entire field team and all those who were involved in this journey.

The issue of women and climate change in the context of SRHR is a unique and complex one that is rarely focused on by the media. A lack of understanding and absence of information are the most common reasons that have hampered coverage on the subject from contemporary and modern media in Pakistan.

Media Molds envisions raising awareness through media by empowering young journalists to improve their knowledge and understanding the nexus between climate change and SRHR. My project allows fellow journalists to explore untold stories and data and unleash their creativity while generating news media production.

Young journalists with relatively less experience but were highly motivated, did wonders and came up with in-depth data and information from affected communities.

Themes We Focused On



For instance, a couple of young journalists visited the fishermen community situated at the bank of the Indus River. They found that in this community, women are responsible for many pre- and post-fishing labour activities but remain mostly invisible in the fishing narrative, holding very little decision-making power in the fishery community due to the lack of gender equality. Women in that community are disproportionately poor, have a higher marital and infant mortality ratio, are more highly exposed to risks from natural disaster, and more sensitive to the degradation of natural resources.

The journalists developed and suggested new integrated solutions to gender equality, sexual and reproductive health and rights, environmental sustainability, and climate change adaptation challenges through their series of feature stories and a short documentary. Women groups from the community discussed the issue in depth in front of the camera and gave voice testimonials for the first time in their lives.

The Media Molds team brought those news stories as evidence to the Provincial Disaster Management Authority to re-visit and re-design their strategy with a more gender sensitive approach. Through this project, more than 100 young journalists became more aware

and motivated to advocate for the issue that has a unique blend of SRHR and climate change.

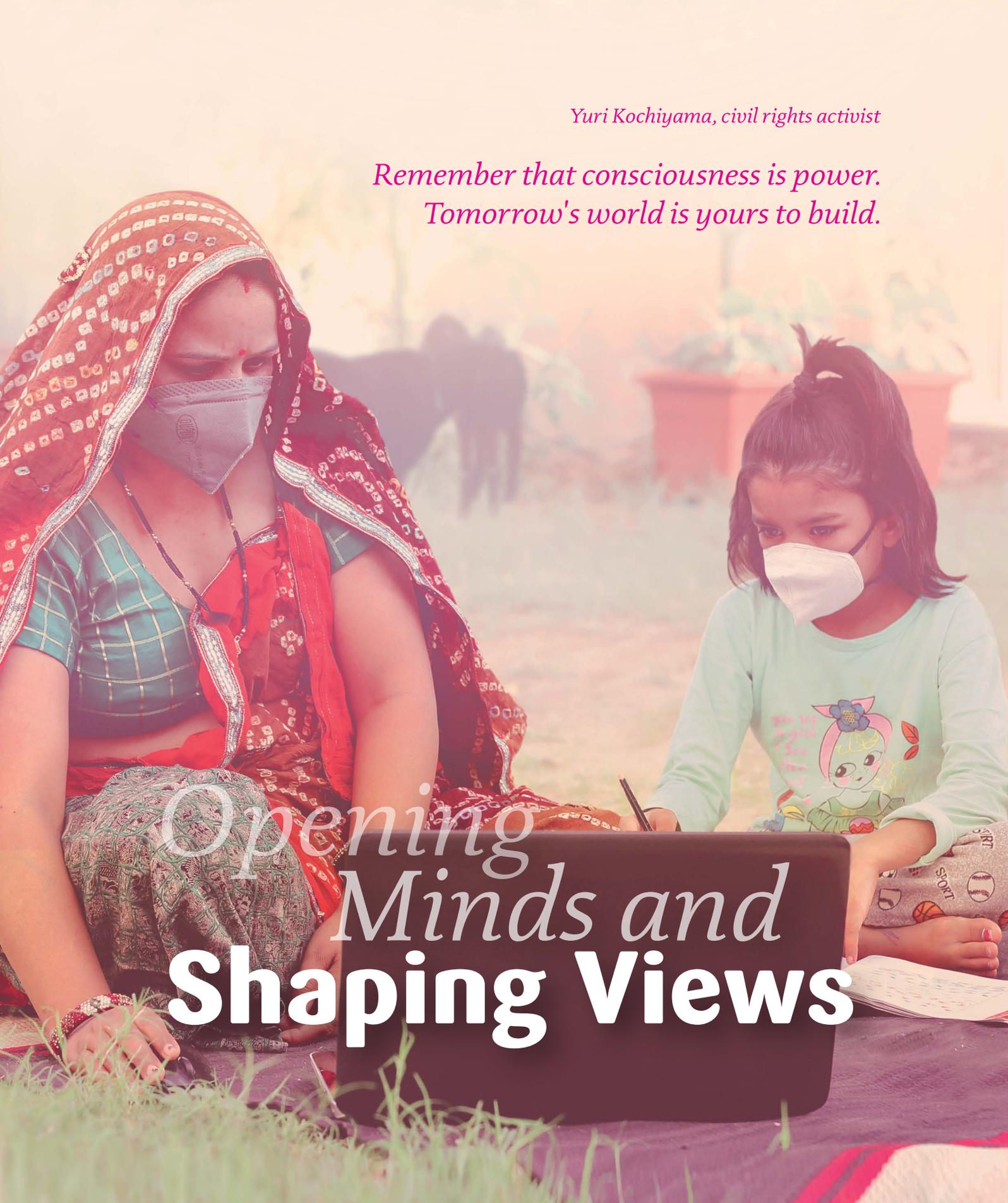
Team Media Molds encouraged the youth to go into the field and their respective communities to explore untold stories. We engaged with young journalists to sharpen their skills and utilise their enormous energy to bring factual data, original and fresh content for news features and multimedia productions. Those involved in this project carry forward with them the skills, knowledge, perseverance in order to reach a bigger audience and continue with the positive results.

The pandemic was a challenging element, and yet we discovered how to transform opportunities and adapt, align and adjust according to given situations to minimise the loss. When health emergencies and domestic violence emerged as the most crucial matters during the pandemic, the Media Molds team integrated these elements in order to maintain relevance and logic and keep the project on track.

The trust, interest and momentum we earned through this successful media advocacy, the journey of WORTH's "Media Molds for Women & SRHR in Climate Change" by SPO Pakistan, will gradually but definitely bring change."

Yuri Kochiyama, civil rights activist

*Remember that consciousness is power.
Tomorrow's world is yours to build.*

A woman wearing a red and white patterned headscarf and a grey face mask sits on the ground next to a young girl. The girl is wearing a light green long-sleeved shirt with a cartoon character and a white face mask. They are both looking at a black laptop. The woman is wearing a green and white patterned top and a red and white patterned skirt. The girl is wearing a grey patterned skirt. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with a horse and some plants.

*Opening
Minds and
Shaping Views*

Transgender activist, Sulastri Ariffin, has been working on the ground for many years to raise awareness on violence and persecution against the transgender community in Malaysia. As one of the founding members of Justice for Sisters, Sulastri is no stranger to the issues faced by the community. She has been working tirelessly to educate the members of the community as well as policy makers and those from outside the community, in order to create awareness and understanding and reduce stigma and discrimination.



Transgender activist Sulastri Ariffin.

“This is my first time working on a project which is part of the Gender Equality Initiative (GEI), a collaborative project between ARROW, the Federation of Reproductive Health Associations Malaysia (FRHAM) and Justice for Sisters, and funded by the European Union. I have been doing community work since the 1990s, which focused on HIV/AIDS education and counselling for the marginalised communities.”

She worked with transgender people and female sex workers, facilitating sessions, workshops and capacity building on related topics. For this project, Justice for Sisters engaged in four workshops with stakeholders and civil society organisations which focus on sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and sex characteristics and human rights, and two engagements with policy makers on laws related to transpeople.

“This was also the first time I organised an event for the LGBTIQ community, and I felt quite nervous doing so as I don’t have many contacts with communities other than the lesbian and gay communities. I am beginning to learn more about other communities such as the intersex and queer communities.”

Like everyone else impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, Sulastri had to adapt very quickly to working on a new virtual platform as due to the pandemic, she could not organise physical workshops and could not travel to the communities to engage with them.

“IT has always been my weakness. Due to the pandemic, everything is being done virtually and I have had to learn from my colleagues. It was very stressful as we had to quickly adapt to a virtual platform after so many years of doing everything face-to-face and in person. However, with full support from JFS and other CSOs like ARROW, AWAM, WAO, SIS and many more, as well as human rights defenders from the LGBTIQ community, we have been able to embark on this project successfully.”

In her quest to raise awareness among policy makers, the authorities and government agencies in Malaysia and gain legal gender recognition for the transgender community, Sulastri is committed to continue with her advocacy work.

“We need ongoing consultations with policy makers on related issues, a SOGIESC workshop for the LGBTIQ community to reduce stigma and discrimination within their community, and more capacity building for the community with regards to laws and human rights.”

ARROW’s Information and Communications (InfoCom) strategies work to champion positive social change by advancing sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) in the Asia and Pacific region and the world by influencing mindsets, building new and critical perspectives around gender, feminism, sexual and reproductive rights and their intersections through publications, knowledge management and sharing, new media and online communications, as well as engaging with local, regional, and international media outlets.

Publications continue to be one of our most powerful evidence-based advocacy mediums through which we, with the support of our partners, advance the SRHR agenda with governments, policymakers, and other stakeholders. Our publications are also key for us to forge alliances and ally with existing movements.

We aim to strengthen ARROW's and her partner's ability to influence key stakeholders on SRHR policies and programmes with our reach to over 120 countries. In addition to ARROW's communications work, the Programme team also started implementing two new projects in 2020: the Asia Network to End FGM/C, and the Gender Equality Initiative in Malaysia.

Publications continue to be one of our most powerful evidence-based advocacy mediums through which we, with the support of our partners, advance the SRHR agenda with governments, policymakers, and other stakeholders. Our publications are also key for us to forge alliances and ally with existing movements. The ARROW For Change (AFC) is ARROW's flagship, long-running, peer-reviewed serial publication that explores current and emerging issues related to SRHR, as well as its inter-linkages with other development issues. In 2020, responding to the rising global pushback against public dissent and democracy, ARROW published one AFC in December titled, *'The Right To Freedom of Speech and Expression.'* It was published on December 10th 2020, in conjunction with International Human Rights Day. It showcases various perspectives and voices on the right to freedom of expression and speech, particularly around the issues of the right to seek, impart, and receive information and ideas as well as explores current protests across the region and delves into the current calls for action these movements are fighting for. It can be found here: <https://www.arrow.org.my/publication/arrow-for-change-the-right-to-freedom-of-speech-and-expression/>.

InfoCom has always been an integral programme that works to strengthen and visibilise ARROW's overall work and with the COVID-19 pandemic, and majority of ARROW's work being taken to the online and virtual spaces, we were able to boost our advocacy through Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, as well as other new advocacy platforms, to an even greater extent than previous years. We reached out to our 30,000 followers through live updates, photos, social media tiles, and videos from key international events, conferences, publication launches, and events with SRHR advocates, UN agencies, and partner organisations. We also actively continued to engage with traditional and digital media organisations to garner public support for the critical issues that we work on, appearing in 48 news articles, and television and radio interviews over the course of the year.

The Asia Network to End Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting (FGM/C), launched in 2019, is a collaboration between ARROW and UK-based NGO Orchid Project that focuses on gathering data and evidence on FGM/C prevalence rates, engaging key stakeholders such as the faith-based and medical communities, awareness-raising and advocacy, and urging governments in the region to report on the Sustainable Development Goal indicator (5.3.2) related to FGM/C. As part of the project, a consultation report was finalised in January and published in March. The report is the result of a five-month consultation in 2019 with activists, CSOs, researchers and survivors of FGM/C from across the Asia region. Activists and stakeholders have called for greater political will to end FGM/C, including legislation and its implementation and enforcement, as well as broad awareness raising, direct work with affected communities, and work to challenge harmful social and gender norms. Activists and organisations across the region are mainly working in isolation, lack resources and capacity, and are concerned about reprisals for their work on such a sensitive issue. They are overwhelmingly in favour of creating an Asia Network to End FGM/C to give the issue legitimacy, advocate for change, be better connected, and strengthen access to resources and capacity building.

The Gender Equality Initiative (GEI) in Malaysia project was launched in conjunction with SheDecides Day in March with the objective of contributing to the implementation of relevant CEDAW and UPR concluding observations and recommendations that aim to abolish discriminatory laws and policies against women and girls and fulfill the human rights of the LGBTIQ community

against discrimination and violence in Malaysia. The launch, which included several spoken word, dance, and music performances surrounding the theme of gender equality, was also attended by representatives from the Embassies of Finland, Nepal, and Sweden, along with 60 NGO and youth-led organisations from around Malaysia.

SheDecides Day 2020

March 2nd marks SheDecides Day, a movement to defend girls and women's rights to control what happens to their bodies, their futures and their lives. In conjunction with this date, ARROW organised a SheDecides Event in which we also officially launched our new project, the Gender Equality Initiative in Malaysia, alongside our project partners, FRHAM and Justice for Sisters. The project was launched with a speech by ARROW's Executive Director, Sivananthi Thanenthiran, and the European Union Ambassador and Head of Delegation to Malaysia, Maria Castillo Fernandez, who gave a speech on the partnership between the EU and the project.

The launch, which included several spoken word, dance, and music performances surrounding the theme of gender equality, was also attended by representatives from the Embassies of Finland, Nepal, and Sweden, along with 60 NGO and youth-led organisations from around Malaysia in order to celebrate a day of gender equality.



Above: Classical dancer, January Low, performs at the launch event. **Top right:** ARROW's Gender Equality Initiative team, our project partners FRHAM and JFS, along with the European Union Ambassador and Head of Delegation to Malaysia, Maria Castillo Fernandez, at the launch event. **Bottom right:** ARROW Programme Officer, Fara Rom, asks members of the audience what gender equality means to them.



The Asia Network to End FGM/C



Membership and Reach

- > 85 Network members across 13 countries in Asia, including previously unknown affected countries, Nepal and Myanmar.

Growth of the Network

- > In 2020, ARROW and Orchid Project officially secured funding to grow the Asia Network over the next two years, from Amplify Change and Wallace Global Fund.

Publications

- > The Asia Network to End FGM/C consultation report was published in March 2020. Results indicated high levels of support for a network amongst participating activists, organisations, and allies.

Activities

- > In February, a dialogue on FGM was hosted by ARROW in conjunction with the International Day of Zero Tolerance for FGM/C.
- > In April, the inaugural webinar 'Our Issues Too: Voices from Aisa.' Speakers included prominent activists and researchers from across Asia.
- > From April to July, an online survey on the impacts of COVID-19 on FGM/C in Asia was conducted. Responses were received from 12 Network members across eight Asian countries.

Interventions

- > The Asia Network ensured strong references to FGM/C in regional statements submitted to international human rights mechanisms through interventions at global advocacy spaces HRC, HLPF, and CEDAW. The Network highlighted the importance of working towards eliminating traditional and harmful practices such as FGM/C; the Network also provided critical inputs and briefed high-level committees on the issue.
- > The Asia Network supported a youth advocate in delivering an intervention at the APCRSRHR 10 Virtual Session on Sexual and Gender-based Violence and SRHR in Asia and the Pacific.

Media and Visibility

- > ARROW and the Asia Network were featured in two media articles: Malaysia's anti-FGM advocates: Leave our bodies alone (Al Jazeera, Feb 2020); and Pan-asian collaboration needed to end female genital mutilation/cutting (BanglaNews, March 2020).
- > The End FGM Canada Network featured Asian activists in their social media campaign, through the Asia Network's support. These included Network members from India, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Singapore.
- > The Asia Network participated in a Twitter chat organised by Equality Now, alongside six of our network members from India, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Singapore.

Inter-regional Collaboration

- > The Asia Network was invited to represent the Asia region in the Interregional Coalition to End FGM/C meeting, alongside the EU, US, Canada, and Middle East networks, and the Inter-African Committee on Harmful Practices.



Top left, seated from left to right: ARROW's ED, Sivananthi Thanenthiran, activist Azira Aziz, religious leader Datuk Ismail Yahya, O&G specialist Professor Datuk Dr Harlina Siraj, and Sisters In Islam's Rozana Isa with ARROW staff and participants after a panel discussion at the dialogue on FGM in Kuala Lumpur. **Bottom left:** Obstetrics and gynecology specialist, Dr Harlina Siraj, at the dialogue on FGM held at ARROW's office in Kuala Lumpur on February 5th, 2020. **Above:** The first regional convening of the Asia Network to End FGM/C was held in November 2020 via Zoom, with 30 Network members participating.

Social Media Snapshot



Most Popular Publications of 2020



Comprehensive Sexuality Education for Malaysian Adolescents: How Far Have We Come?
Downloads: 148



Arrow for Change: The Right to Sexuality
Downloads: 147



InterSEXuality: A Facilitator's Guide
Downloads: 114

Reaching Out



Digital Library, ASK-US
Total collection: 1,142
Total visitors: 3,158

ARROW Newsletter
Total issues: 38
Total subscribers: 2,499

Top Media Stories

16 News Articles

ARROW's presentation on Gender, SRHR, and Climate Change at the 10th APCSRHR

3 News Articles

ARROW's statement on Malaysian Women's Ministry messaging

3 News Articles

ARROW's statement on Gender 2030 targets

Profile of ARROW Website Visitors



A photograph of three children in school uniforms. A girl on the left is hugging a girl in the middle, who is smiling broadly. A boy on the right is also smiling and looking towards the girls. They are standing in front of a wooden wall. The image has a warm, reddish-pink tint.

Sarojini Naidu, political activist and poet

When there is oppression, the only self-respecting thing is to rise and say this shall cease today, because my right is justice.

*Advocating
for Change,
One Year
at a Time*

In a multi-cultural and multi-religious country like Malaysia, comprehensive sexuality education remains a culturally sensitive topic. As the Principal Assistant Director heading the Health Education Unit at the Curriculum Development Division, Ministry of Education Malaysia, Tan Huey Ning is used to dealing with the complexities and sensitivities surrounding this ‘taboo’ subject. With over 30 years of experience in the field of education, Tan and her team have developed a curriculum for both primary and secondary schools which encompasses comprehensive sexuality education.

In the Malaysian educational context, sexuality education is termed as ‘Reproductive and Social Health Education’ or PEERS (*Pendidikan Kesihatan Reproduksi dan Sosial*). PEERS, only parts of which are in the mainstream curriculum, focuses on preparing young people for a safe, productive and fulfilling life. It aims to empower children and young people to make informed decisions in order to help them understand, accept, respect and trust oneself and others, and prepares them to be responsible regarding their sexual behaviours.

The programme is focused on a healthy and safe lifestyle and was developed to provide students with accurate and up-to-date knowledge and understanding related to experiences in life, such as dealing with human sexuality in its biological, psychological, socio-cultural and moral dimensions. The syllabus is reviewed and refined from time to time with input from both government and non-government agencies.

“We have collaborated with various parties including NGOs such as ARROW in the implementation of the PEERS curriculum to enhance the level of knowledge and awareness of the community to a healthy, prosperous young Malaysian generation free from social problems. It is a comprehensive and evidence-based sexuality education curriculum which is aligned with various international guidelines, particularly the International Technical Guidance on Sexuality Education (UNESCO 2018).”



Tan Huey Ning, Principal Assistant Director of the Health Education Unit of the Ministry of Education, Malaysia.

Last year, the COVID-19 pandemic required a Movement Control Order (MCO) to be implemented in Malaysia in March 2020 as a preventive measure to curb the spread of the virus. This resulted in the realignment of the curriculum for various subjects in schools, as lessons had to be brought online so that children’s studies would not be derailed by the pandemic.

“For the vast majority of children, confinement means protection within a safe environment. However, for far too many girls and boys, confinement may result in an increased vulnerability to violence, including sexual abuse and exploitation. In addition, as a result of the confinement measures, children are increasingly online and dependent on social media to remain in contact with friends, to express their feelings, to study and to distract themselves. This may allow sexual offenders to take advantage of this situation and more children are likely to be groomed online and become victims of sexual extortion, cyber-bullying or other sexual exploitation facilitated by information and communication technologies.”

Tan says it is critical to raise awareness on such increased online risks. Various online programmes such as training courses, webinars, and many others have been provided by MOE to facilitate teachers to inculcate knowledge and the importance of PEERS.

Moving forward, Tan advocates for a ‘whole-of-society’ approach, which characterises the most effective response to a global pandemic; the combined efforts of society undertaking a multitude of effective actions harmoniously and simultaneously (Dubb, 2020).

This was the topic of her presentation at the Asia-Pacific Multi Stakeholder Dialogue on Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) which was held virtually in November 2020.

“I was honoured to participate in the Asia-Pacific Multi Stakeholder Dialogue on Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) which was held last year. I was impressed by how the organisers adapted to the situation, moving the event and exhibition to a virtual platform. Continuous efforts between national, regional and local authorities, as well as cooperation with civil society and the private sector is crucial and must take place to regularly review the situation, assess needs and adapt measures in preventing and combating child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse, and caring for the victims of sexual violence through a whole-of-society approach.”

We have been resilient, adaptive and innovative in all advocacy initiatives further ensuring active and effective engagement in different advocacy spaces and processes despite the challenges posed by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic which led to a substantively restrictive and uncertain situation for advocacy, particularly physical advocacy engagements, to happen.

The year 2020 recorded several key advocacy achievements as a direct result of ARROW and her partners’ continued strategic and meaningful engagement at the national, regional and international advocacy spaces. We have been resilient, adaptive and innovative in all advocacy initiatives further ensuring active and



Top: ARROW’s capacity strengthening session on intersectionality, climate change and food security for the Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development, Malaysia. **Bottom:** ARROW Programme Manager, Shamala, with Permanent Mission of Malaysia to the UN in New York.

effective engagement in different advocacy spaces and processes despite the challenges posed by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic which led to a substantively restrictive and uncertain situation for advocacy, particularly physical advocacy engagements, to happen.

Recognising the impact of COVID-19 on our work and that advocacy is crucial during the COVID-19 crisis, ARROW explored alternatives to take our advocacy work forward despite the restrictive situations we were faced with. In 2020, many of the regional and international advocacy meetings including the CSW, CPD, APFSD, APCRSRHR, GEF and COP were postponed, while many other meetings including the HLPF and the HRC sessions saw substantive changes in their meeting modality where these meetings were convened either entirely virtually or in hybrid modalities.

At the national level, ARROW and partners saw meaningful engagement in human rights accountability mechanisms including the 75th CEDAW Session for Pakistan which resulted in outcome documents with strong, progressive recommendations to advance gender equality and SRHR of young people in the country, as well as the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) for Nepal. We were also invited by the Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development, Malaysia, to organise a capacity strengthening session on intersectionality, climate change and food security.

The year also witnessed many effective advocacy engagements at the regional level such as ARROW and partners' interventions at the Asia Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD 2020) and the 10th Asia Pacific Conference on Reproductive and Sexual Health and Rights in Asia Pacific (APCRSHR 2020).

Furthermore, through the organising of the Asia and the Pacific Multi-stakeholder Dialogue and Exhibition on Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) in the context of COVID-19, ARROW created the region's first, one-of-a-kind, virtual advocacy and learning engagement platform. The virtual exhibition facilitated learning exchanges among stakeholders including governments, CSOs, sexuality education organisations, around curriculum-based CSE initiatives, curriculum-based digital initiatives, technology enabled sexuality education initiatives such as games, mobile applications, social media applications including initiatives that cater to marginalised, underserved young people such as persons with disabilities, LGBTIQ persons and people living in disaster prone areas. The dialogue, organised with UNFPA and UNESCO, gathered 270 government officials and sexuality education partners, CSOs, UN agencies across the region, and showcased 23 exhibition booths of diverse sexuality education initiatives, further attesting their commitment to advance the status of CSE implementation in the region within the context of COVID-19.

Recognising the impact of COVID-19 on our work and that advocacy is crucial during the COVID-19 crisis, ARROW explored alternatives to take our advocacy work forward despite the restrictive situations we were faced with.

At the international level, 2020 witnessed ARROW's selection to co-lead the Generation Equality Forum (GEF) Action Coalition on Bodily Autonomy and SRHR. Our strong expertise, engagement and proven track record on the issues of SRHR made this selection possible. ARROW was also selected as a Global Organizing Partner (OP) for Women's Major Group (WMG) for High Level Political Forum (HLPF) leading to another year of meaningful and strategic advocacy at the global level in 2020. During the HLPF, other than co-organising an official SDG virtual side event with the Permanent Mission of Malaysia to the UN in New York, ARROW also published two SDG Monitoring Reports (SDG 3 and SDG 5), and supported the VNR for Bangladesh, Nepal, and India.

ARROW and partners were also involved in the Human Rights Council (HRC) deliberations through our selection to deliver five video statements, including two joint video statements, channeling attention to constructive recommendations on the priority issues at the 44th and 45th HRC sessions. We also made two important joint submissions along with our partners in response to the call for submission by the Special Rapporteurs on the increase of gender-based violence against women and domestic violence in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and rape and sexual violence against lesbian and bisexual women, trans and intersex (LBTI) persons.

Other than our engagement in the traditional advocacy spaces, as an innovative first, ARROW, along with Rutgers and RHRN consortium partners, also created the first virtual Global Youth Festival to celebrate the gains and progress made as part of RHRN implementation in the last five years and for sustaining the momentum to accelerate actions around youth SRHR post-2020. The festival saw four plenary sessions, 17 virtual exhibitions, and 23 parallel sessions with at least 200 participants from around the globe

ARROW's Regional Advocacy Events in 2020

- > The Consultative Session on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Contexts of Crisis and Human Insecurity
- > Asia Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development 2020 (Virtual)
- > 7th Session of the APCRSHR 10; Virtual Session on Population Ageing and SRHR in Asia and the Pacific
- > 8th Session of the APCRSHR 10; Virtual Session on Safe Abortion and SRHR in the Asia and the Pacific
- > Asia and the Pacific Multi-stakeholder Dialogue and Exhibition on CSE in the Context of COVID-19
- > Regional Meeting for the Asia Network to End FGM/C
- > Webinar on COVID-19 and its Impact with ARROW partners
- > Generation Equality Forum (GEF) – Regional webinar with partners
- > 13th Session of the APCRSHR 10; Virtual Session on Sexual and Gender-based Violence and SRHR in Asia and the Pacific

ARROW's International Advocacy Events in 2020

- > 75th CEDAW Session of Concluding Observations for Pakistan
- > UPR Nepal
- > 53rd Commission on Population and Development, CPD
- > 64th Commission on the Status of Women, CSW
- > Online Roundtable Discussion on Women, Peace and Security
- > 2020 United Nations Ocean Conference Keeping the Momentum for Ocean
- > 44th Session of the Human Rights Council
- > High-Level Political Forum 2020
- > WPS and YPS at the Heart of Peace: Dialogue on Intersectional Peace in the Lead up to the GEF
- > 75th Session of the UNGA
- > 45th Session of the Human Rights Council
- > The Virtual Global Youth Festival
- > Sixth Session of the Committee on Social Development
- > Partnership in Solidarity: The Action Coalition on Bodily Autonomy and SRHR event organised by UN Women, UNFPA and the co-leaders of the GEF Action Coalition
- > ARROW selected as a co-sponsor and panellist in Adolescent Girls Investment Plan (AGIP) UNGA75 flagship event titled “Adolescent Girls' Vision for Accountability in Generation Equality.”
- > ARROW selected as a panellist at a regional webinar on “CSO Development Effectiveness in COVID-19 Context from Feminist perspectives” organised by CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness (CPDE)
- > Informal closed meeting of the CEDAW 78th PSWG with NGOs

who were able to actively connect and interact and also share their knowledge and skills through the virtual platform. The festival also witnessed the presence of the Dutch Ambassador for Women's Rights and Gender Equality, the UN Independent Expert on Violence and Discrimination based on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity, and a speech from the UN envoy on youth. The festival included poetry recitations, monologues, and musical performances keeping the spirit of the festival on the issues of SRHR.

Collaborating with partners, networks and other stakeholders, including governments and UN agencies is crucial to further our work on SRHR advocacy and we will continue to be creative, innovative, flexible and open to changes to ensure meaningful and effective advocacy engagement of ARROW and partners at the identified advocacy spaces for 2021.



Top: The ARROW Global Youth Festival organising team. **Bottom:** The UN Independent Expert on Violence and Discrimination based on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity, Victor Madrigal-Borloz at the Global Youth Festival.

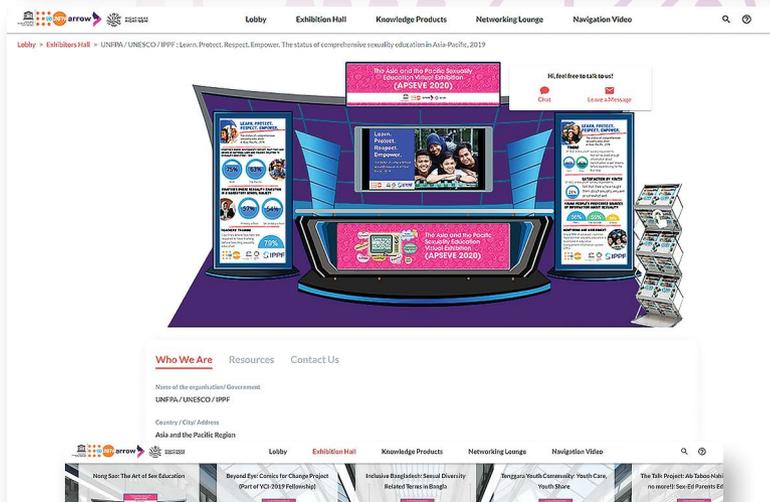
Asia Pacific Sexuality Education Virtual Exhibition (APSEVE) 2020

The Asia Pacific Sexuality Education Virtual Exhibition (APSEVE) 2020 was the region's first, one-of-a-kind, virtual sexuality education platform that provided an innovative, digital, learning and knowledge platform for sexuality education partners in the region, including the governments, CSOs, UN agencies and sexuality education organisations.

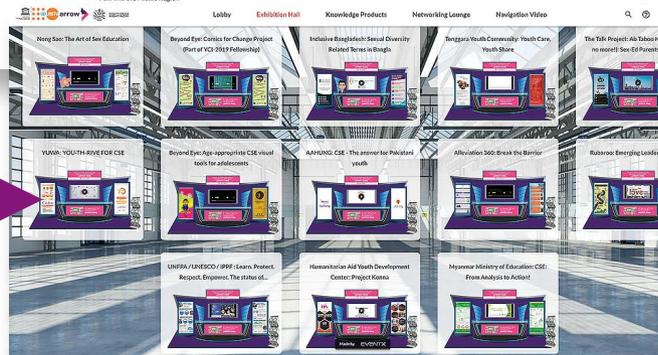
The APSEVE was created by ARROW, in collaboration with UNESCO and UNFPA. This was launched on November 3rd, 2020 and was accessible to all until the end of March 2021. Asia and the Pacific Sexuality Education Virtual Exhibition (APSEVE) 2020, was a diverse and vibrant space that showcased a range of innovative sexuality education initiatives (formal/non-formal/informal/digital/in-person) in the Asia-Pacific region. The exhibition space consisted of virtual booths where selected sexuality education organisations, education partners shared information about their programme/ approach through short videos, e-posters and knowledge products.

The virtual exhibition showcased 23 diverse sexuality education initiatives focused on curriculum-based CSE initiatives, curriculum-based digital initiatives, technology enabled sexuality education initiatives such as games, mobile applications, social media applications including initiatives that cater to young people including marginalised, underserved young people such as persons with disabilities, LGBTIQ persons and people living in disaster prone areas.

455 Registered visitors constituting young people from across the region, and stakeholders working on sexuality education implementation, including governments, and UN agencies.



23 Virtual exhibitions including governments, CSOs, UN agencies and sexuality education organisations.



A woman in traditional Indian attire, including a blue and white patterned sari and multiple gold bangles, is carrying a stack of three red bricks on her head. She is smiling and looking towards the camera. The background is a solid dark purple color.

Governance and Financial **Management**

Assata Shakur, activist

No movement can survive unless it is constantly growing and changing with the times. If it isn't growing, if it's stagnant, and without the support of the people, no movement for liberation can exist, no matter how correct its analysis of the situation is. That's why political work and organising are so important.

In 2020, we saw the transformation and adaptation of the way we deliver our work from the physical to virtual space due to COVID-19 and Malaysia's Movement Control Orders (MCO) that were implemented in the first quarter of the year. The team continued to focus on the non-programmatic aspects of operations and enhance our organisational development via digitisation, as well as continued the learning and upskilling of ARROW staff, especially in the area of information and technologies.

PLANNING AND REVIEW MEETINGS: We held two planning meetings in 2020—the first carried out in Surabaya, Indonesia in January, to agree on key components of the Implementation Plan for the year and to finalise the annual work plan related to advocacy interventions. Secondly, in June we were able to hold the semi-annual planning physically in the ARROW Women's Space, implementing the COVID-19 guidelines for the workplace. It was attended by all ARROW staff, including three staff members remotely. The meeting discussed team achievements and challenges for the first half of the year's work plan implementation, and highlighted the adaptation of activities utilising the virtual/digital modality as well as mapped out the activities/interventions for the final six months of the year.

STRENGTHENING ADMINISTRATIVE AND HR MANAGEMENT AND SYSTEMS: In 2020, ARROW migrated the financial system from a local server to cloud based to enable access flexibility from any location at any time with internet connection. Microsoft Dynamics 365 was successfully launched in September. We also started the use of internet banking for all bank payments from March. There was extensive use of virtual platforms due to COVID-19 such as Zoom, Google Meet and Microsoft Teams and the introduction of new tools such as Google Calendar for the staff to share meetings, events and notification of staff leave. Data storage and backup in the new server were also introduced to enable file sharing among the staff.

STAFF CAPACITY BUILDING AND TRAINING: In 2020, ARROW initiated Feminist Fridays, a space for all ARROW staff to get together and discuss various topics to understand feminist values, human rights, and ARROW's organisational values. The topic for each Feminist Friday is decided and facilitated by ARROW staff, PAC and Board members. Sessions held during the year covered topics of: the basics of feminism and why we need it, intersectionality, understanding gender, ARROW's organisational core values, and the importance of human rights. Furthermore, a Design Thinking Training for Managers was also held during the year as well as a Strategic Insight and Scenario Planning Training for all ARROW staff.

PMEL: In 2020, the ARROW staff went through a series of workshops throughout the year to co-develop an effective, well governed, accountable, sustainable, cohesive, improvised, and integrated ARROW programme planning, monitoring, evaluation, and learning (PMEL) ecosystem. Key principles in this initiative include a) To embrace a feminist, participatory research approach in the review and strengthening of ARROW's PMEL; b) To use the review and strengthening of ARROW's PMEL to build the PMEL capabilities within ARROW; and c) To align ARROW's PMEL with best practice approaches to feminist advocacy PMEL.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (BoD) AND PROGRAMME ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC): Our Board held three meetings in May and December 2020, including the 27th Annual General Meeting. In November, Maya Indira Ganesh was appointed as a new Board member of ARROW, replacing Pramada Menon and Bishakha Datta due to completion of their terms. The Board reviewed and approved papers on capacity strengthening, remote working and mental health for staff, digital transformation, and COVID-19 resilience funds. Our PAC meeting was held in May and PAC members reviewed and provided feedback on the programme deliverables of 2019. Three PAC members, Otgonbaatar Tsedendemberel, Titi Soentoro, and Renu Khanna, ended their terms this year.

In 2020, ARROW initiated Feminist Fridays, a space for all ARROW staff to get together and discuss various topics to understand feminist values, human rights, and ARROW's organisational values.



ARROW staff at the launch of the Gender Equality Initiative.

OPERATIONAL FUNDING SOURCES:

In 2020, ARROW received grants from various donors amounting to USD2,582,133. The total operational fund is made up of USD1,727,564 received during the year, USD211,754 which was brought forward from 2019 and USD1,515,810 receivable in 2020. 2020's operational fund was about 6% lower than 2019 (USD 132,948) due to the COVID-19 pandemic and physical activities being carried out virtually. The exchange rates used for the purpose of this report were as follows:

Year 2019 – USD1 = MYR4.00

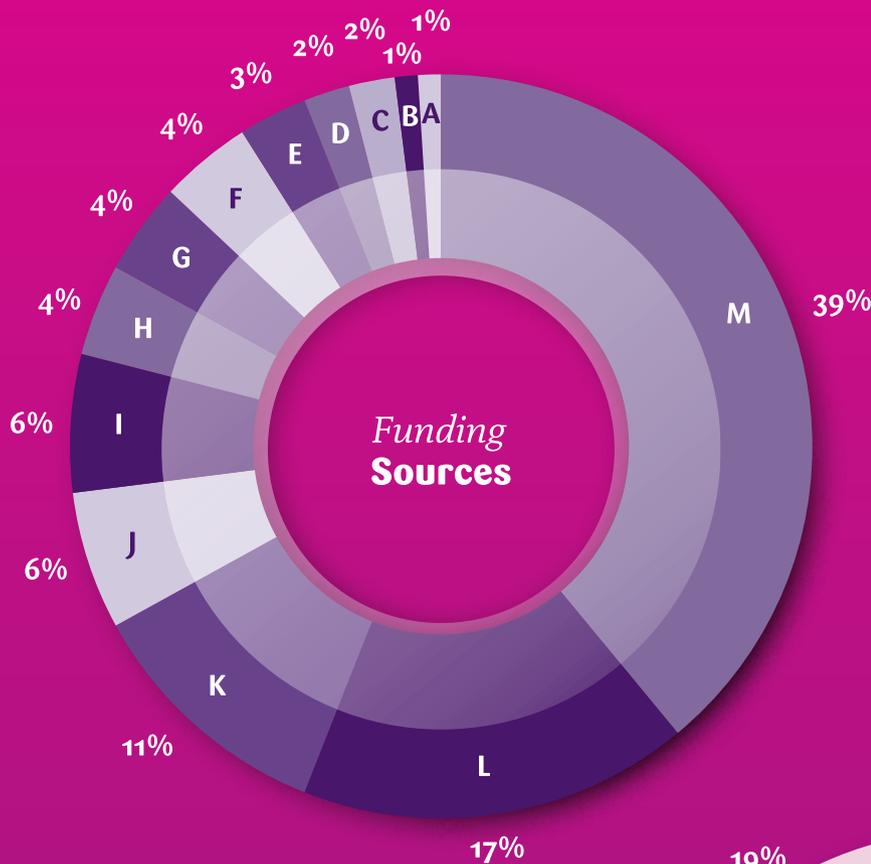
Year 2020 – USD1 = MYR4.10

ARROW receives core funding support from Ford Foundation, Foundation for a Just Society (FJS) and David and Lucile Packard Foundation. ARROW's other donors for 2020 include EM2030, Rutgers WPF, Swedish Association for Sexuality Education (RFSU), Danish Family Planning and Associations (DFPA), American Jewish World Services (AJWS), UN Trust Fund, EU EIDHR, UN Women, Wallace Global Fund, and Amplify Change among others (refer to charts on the next page).

Operational Costs

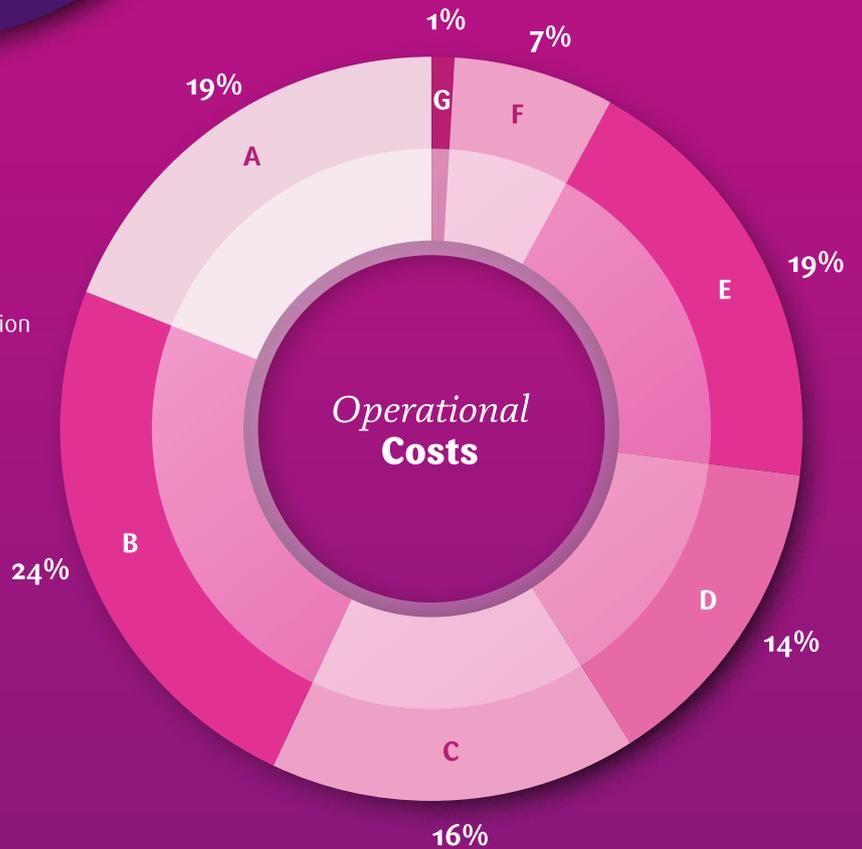
PARTICULARS	ACTUAL COST (USD)	% TOTAL COST	ALLOCATION	
			ARROW	PARTNERS
PROGRAMME COSTS				
Programme 1: Monitoring and Evidence-Generation	319,394.09	19%	190,320.92	129,073.17
Programme 2: Mobilising Communities	419,323.58	24%	385,120.09	34,203.49
Programme 3: Building New Constituencies	283,774.79	16%	168,080.59	115,694.20
Programme 4: Information and Communications	248,663.71	14%	224,942.34	23,721.37
Programme 5: Advocacy	323,800.84	19%	303,364.21	20,436.63
Institutional, Governance, and Overhead	132,607.93	8%	132,607.93	—
TOTAL OPERATIONAL COST	1,727,564.94	100%	1,404,436.08	323,128.86
@RM4.1 : USD1.00			81%	19%

Source: ARROW Audit 2020



- A. FJFSI
- B. Packard Foundation
- C. Packard PMEL
- D. UN Trust Fund
- E. EM 2030
- F. Foundation for a Just Society
- G. Small Grants
- H. UN Women Climate Change
- I. EU EIDHR
- J. Ford Foundation
- K. DFPA
- L. RFSU
- M. Rutgers

- A. Programme 1 - Monitoring and Evidence Generation
- B. Programme 2 - Mobilising Communities
- C. Programme 3 - Building New Constituencies
- D. Programme 4 - Information and Communicatios
- E. Programme 5 - Advocacy
- F. Institutional, Governance, and Overhead
- G. Organisational Development



The **ARROW** Community

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- **Bishakha Datta**
Executive Director, Point of View, India (till June 2020)
- **Maya Indira Ganesh**
Freelance Research and Consulting, Germany
- **Pramada Menon**
Consultant, India (till June 2020)
- **Rachel Arinii Judhistari**
Programme Manager, FORUM-ASIA, Indonesia
- **Rashidah Shuib**
Academic-activist and Professor, School of Health Sciences, (PPSK), Universiti Sains Malaysia, Malaysia
- **Suriani Kempe**
Programme Manager, MUSAWAH, Malaysia
- **Tu Anh Hoang**
Vice Director-Founder, Centre for Creative Initiatives in Health and Population (CCHIP), Vietnam
- **Virisila Buadromo**
Co-Lead, Urgent Action Fund for Women's Human Rights-Asia-Pacific, Fiji

PROGRAMME ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- **Farhanah**
Fellow for Digital Defenders Partnership, Indonesia
- **Liyana Khairuddin**
Political Adviser, British High Commission, Malaysia
- **Madhavi Joshi**
Senior Programme Director, Youth Programme, Waste Management, Rural Programme, Centre for Environment Education, India
- **Mary Gyknell Tangente**
Advocacy Officer, GALANG Philippines, Inc.
- **Maya Indira Ganesh**
Freelance Research and Consulting, Germany
- **Menka Goundan**
Senior Programme Manager, Fiji Women's Fund, Fiji
- **Niluka Gunawardena**
Researcher, Sri Lanka
- **Otgoonbaatar Tsendemberel**
Partner, MONFEMNET, Mongolia (till June 2020)
- **Renu Khanna**
Founder/Trustee, SAHAJ, India (till June 2020)
- **Suriani Kempe**
Programme Manager, MUSAWAH, Malaysia (till July 2020)
- **Titi Soentoro**
Policy Advisor of Aksi! For Gender, Social, and Ecological Justice, Indonesia (till June 2020)

FULL-TIME STAFF

- **Aarushi Khanna**
Programme Officer
- **Azmilia Binti Mohd Kamil**
Senior Finance Officer
- **Biplabi Shrestha**
Programme Director
- **Deepa Chandra**
Programme Officer
- **Dhivya Kanagasingam**
Programme Officer (till July 2020)
- **Emily Yip Yoke Chan**
Operations Director
- **Evelynne Gomez**
Programme Officer
- **Fara Amalina Binti Firdaus Muhammad Rom**
Programme Officer
- **Farahnina Binti Ahmad Salludin**
Human Resource Officer (till mid July 2020)
Finance Officer (from Mid July 2020)
- **Garima Shrivastava**
Programme Manager
- **Hanizah Abd Latiff**
Operations Officer (till February 2020)
- **Hema A/P Annadorai**
Operations and HR Manager
- **Kamal Gautam**
Programme Officer
- **Karell J.A.C. Calpito**
Programme Officer
- **Khairanamala Binti Juhaizat**
Junior Finance Officer (till August 2020)
- **Lee Mei Poh**
Finance Manager (till February 2020)
- **Lim Hwei Mian**
Senior Programme Officer (till Feb 2020)
- **Lim Mun Yee**
Finance Officer
- **Momota Hena**
Programme Officer
- **Nawmi Naz Chowdhury**
Programme Manager
- **Nur Hazwani Binti Azman**
Operations Officer
- **Prakriti Naswa**
Programme Manager
- **Roslina Binti Ahmatahir**
Finance Officer

- **Rosnani Binti Hitam**
Executive Officer
- **Sai Jyothirmai Racherla**
Deputy Executive Director
- **Shamala A/P Chandrasekaran**
Programme Manager
- **Sharifah Keshia Binti Syed Mahmood**
Programme Officer

- **Sivananthi A/P Thanenthiran**
Executive Director
- **Wong Chooi Fong**
Finance Manager
- **Zeeneeshri Ramadass**
Programme Manager (till July 2020)

CONTRACTUAL

- **Mallika Karuppaiah**
Housekeeping (till Dec 2020)

Donors

- **American Jewish World Services (AJWS)**
- **Amplify Change**
- **DANIDA through the DFPA**
- **David and Lucile Packard Foundation**
- **EM2030**
- **EU EIDHR**
- **Ford Foundation**
- **FJS Foundation International, Ltd (FJSFI)**
- **Foundation for a Just Society (FJS)**
- **Swedish Association for Sexuality Education (RFSU)**
- **UN Women**
- **Wallace Global Fund**
- **WPF Rutgers Netherlands**

Vendors and Contractors

- **A&V Phone Systems**
Phone systems services
- **ABC Ideals Partner Sdn. Bhd.**
Corporate gift supplier
- **Ablecool Aircon & Electric Service**
Air conditioner contractor
- **Al-Zam Sdn. Bhd.**
Company secretary
- **Ark Builder Enterprise**
Renovation contractor
- **Asashi Technology**
Technology and hardware services
- **Brothers Base Centre**
Toner supplier
- **Cerli Noor Telecommunication**
Telephone installation services
- **Coway (M) Sdn. Bhd. and Sterling Pure Sdn. Bhd.,**
Drinking water
- **CYF Contracts & Marketing**
Printing services
- **DHL**
Mailing services
- **Deloitte Malaysia**
Tax consultant
- **Fazli Fadzil**
Office maintenance contractor
- **Full Image Sdn. Bhd.**
Alarm security services
- **Grand Lotus Travel Agencies**
Travel services
- **Great Eastern Sdn. Bhd.**
Medical insurance
- **ICompucare Global Service Sdn. Bhd.**
IT technical support
- **IPServerone Solutions Sdn. Bhd.**
Cloud and web hosting services
- **K.A Fazal Enterprises Sdn. Bhd.**
Stationery supplier
- **Ken Chong**
IT technical support
- **Liquid Web**
Domain on information
- **M.M. Ally's Sdn. Bhd.**
Money changer
- **Maybank KL Sentral**
Banking services
- **Micow Sdn. Berhad**
Printing services
- **Nicolette de Lange Mallari**
Publications and information design
- **Pos Malaysia Berhad**
Courier services
- **Protech Security Automation Service**
CCTV installation and service
- **RapidKill**
Pest control
- **Redsun IT Solutions (M) Sdn. Bhd.**
IT services and computer hardware provider
- **Ricoh Sdn. Bhd.**
Printing and photocopy services
- **Sepakat Suria Maju Resources**
Cleaning service
- **Shutterstock**
Domain on information
- **Sky Cool Trading Service**
Air conditioner contractor
- **Syarikat Bekalan Air Selangor**
Utilities
- **Sync Consulting Sdn. Bhd.**
Bulk mailing
- **Syarikat Bekalan Air Selangor**
Utilities
- **Sync Consulting Sdn. Bhd.**
Accounting software company
- **Teck Soon Locksmith**
Locksmith services
- **Telekom Malaysia Bhd.**
Telecommunication services
- **Tenaga Nasional Bhd.**
Utilities
- **Tun Muhammad Ali Jinnah Basir**
Promotional materials development
- **Wong Kum Fatt, Ng Ah Meng Sdn. Bhd.**
Landlord
- **Zoom Inc.**
Video communications provider



Acronyms

AFC	ARROW For Change	FJS	Foundation for a Just Society
AJWS	American Jewish World Services	FRAM	Federation of Reproductive Health Associations, Malaysia
APCRSHR	Asia Pacific Conference on Reproductive and Sexual Health and Rights	GEF	Gender Equality Forum
APFSD	Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development	GEI	Gender Equality Initiative
ARROW	Asian Pacific Resource & Research Centre For Women	GNWP	Global Network of Women Peacebuilders
BAPSA	Association for Prevention of Septic Abortion, Bangladesh	HLPF	High Level Political Forum
BoD	Board of Directors	HRC	Human Rights Council
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women	ICPD	International Conference on Population and Development
COP	Conference of Parties	InfoCom	Information and Communications
CPD	Commission on Population and Development	KM	Knowledge Management
CSE	Comprehensive Sexuality Education	KS	Knowledge Sharing
CSO	Civil Society Organisations	LGBTI	Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex
CSW	Commission on the Status of Women	LGBTIQ	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer/Questioning
DFPA	Danish Family Planning Association	MRRM	Menstrual Regulation with Medication
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction	NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
EM2030	Equal Measures 2030	OP	Organising Partner
FGM/C	Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting	PAC	Post Abortion Care
		PAR	Popular Annual Report
		RFSU	Swedish Association for Sexuality Education



Photo Credits

RHAC	<i>Reproductive Health Association of Cambodia</i>
RHRN	<i>Right Here Right Now</i>
SAIGE	<i>Safe Abortion Advocacy Initiative – A Global South Engagement</i>
SAS	<i>Safe Abortion Services</i>
SDG	<i>Sustainable Development Goal</i>
SRH	<i>Sexual and Reproductive Health</i>
SRHR	<i>Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights</i>
UN	<i>United Nations</i>
UNESCO	<i>United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization</i>
UNFPA	<i>United Nations Population Fund</i>
UNSCR	<i>United Nations Security Council Resolution</i>
UPR	<i>Universal Periodic Review</i>
VCAT	<i>Values Clarification and Attitude Transformation</i>
WDDF	<i>Women with Disabilities Development Foundation</i>
WGWD	<i>Defending the Rights of Women and Girls With Disabilities</i>
WMG	<i>Women’s Major Group</i>
WORTH	<i>Women and Earth Initiative</i>
WPS	<i>Women, Peace and Security</i>

Front cover: Hmong woman in traditional costume.

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Inside back cover: Indian women wait in line to cast votes.

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Page 16: Myanmar girl in straw hat.

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Page 22: Indian school girls doing homework.

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Page 26: Woman holding exotic flowers in Vanuatu.

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Page 32: Mother and daughter accessing online lessons.

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Page 38: Children playing outdoors.

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Page 44: Child worker carrying bricks.

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championing women's sexual and reproductive rights

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