Blagica Kirov (legal adviser) and Beti Peeva (president) work at Kvinna till Kvinna’s partner organisation Educational Humanitarian Organization (EcHO). EcHO provides free legal aid, psychosocial support and enables economic empowerment for women who are survivors of violence. In 2019, EcHO had more than 60 ongoing cases at the local municipality in Štip, North Macedonia.

Photo: Maja Janevska Ilieva
The Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation is one of the world’s leading women’s rights organisations, working directly in areas affected by war and conflict to strengthen women’s influence and power.

We work closely together with 149 local partner organisations across 20 countries to end violence against women, reach lasting peace and close the gender gap once and for all. How? By supporting our partners’ programmes, fostering studies and research, and raising public awareness. All without attaching importance to religious, political, national or ethnic affiliation.

The future is equal. And together, we are change.

History
We have defended women’s rights since 1993, when reports of mass rapes in the wars in former Yugoslavia reached Sweden. The Swedish peace and women’s movements then organised a series of joint fundraising initiatives to support women in the Balkans.

Vision
Kvinna till Kvinna’s vision is a world of sustainable and just peace, built around gender equality, human rights and democracy. Our aim is to reach conflict resolution through civil, non-military means, whereby women have power over decisions and are included in all parts of society. In a peaceful and just society, women live free from threats, fear and exploitation, their human rights are respected, and they enjoy the same social, economic and political opportunities as men.

Focus areas
- Ending violence against women
  We work to prevent and end gender-based violence. Until women can live their lives free from the threat of violence, equality and lasting peace remain out of reach for all of us.
- Strengthening women’s participation in peace processes
  When women take part in peace talks, peace agreements are more likely to be sustainable and address inequality. We call for equal participation of women in peace processes, and for security policies to be based on the concept of human security.
- Promoting women’s equal participation in society
  Across the world, women are underrepresented in decision-making, peace processes and the public debate. We advocate for women’s full, effective and equal participation in all parts of society.
- Empowering women economically
  Women’s lack of economic empowerment is a major barrier to equality. That is why we strengthen women’s opportunities to get an education, enter the labour market, access financial resources and become financially independent.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Here is a list of frequently asked questions about Kvinna till Kvinna, with brief answers and references to the pages where you can find more details about our organisation, work and results.

What does Kvinna till Kvinna want to achieve?
Information about our vision and focus areas can be found on page 4. On page 8, we describe our broader goals and explain what we want to do for women. Our goals are also detailed on pages 16–18, where we give an account of our work around the world.

Why was Kvinna till Kvinna founded?
The history of our organisation can be found on page 4.

Where does Kvinna till Kvinna work?
We work in regions affected by war and conflict. On pages 6–7, a map shows which countries we operate in.

What does Kvinna till Kvinna do?
Our methodology and collaboration with women’s rights organisations are described on pages 8–9. Our partner organisations are presented by region on pages 16–31.

What capacity and knowledge do you have to achieve your goals?
An overview of our organisation is provided on page 8, where you’ll also find information about our offices and employees. You can read more about our capacity throughout the report, including our Board (page 30) and our development work (pages 10–13).

What strategies do you employ to achieve your goals?
Our strategies depend on location and goal, and are described throughout the report. Our overarching strategy for the coming years and our principal method of change are explained on pages 8–9.

How is your work funded?
Kvinna till Kvinna is able to support women in conflict-affected regions through private donations and grants (see page 8). Our private and corporate fundraising activities are described on pages 32–35.

How do you inform the general public about your work?
We spread information about women’s rights and our work through various communication channels, especially in print and on social media. Our volunteers are also invaluable to our communication and fundraising work (see pages 32–35). In addition to this, we engage in advocacy work, which you can read about on pages 35–36, and research (pages 14–15).

How do you know whether your organisation is making progress?
The way we plan and follow up on our work is described in the model on page 9 and you can find examples on a more overall level on pages 10–13.

What have you achieved so far?
The model on page 9 shows how our work leads to both societal and personal change for women. Our results for each region are described in the regional sections: the MENA region on pages 16–19; Africa on pages 20–23; Europe on pages 24–27; and the South Caucasus on pages 28–31. The results of our advocacy and communication efforts are described on pages 32–35.

Can I volunteer for Kvinna till Kvinna?
Yes, you can! Read about our fantastic volunteering activities on page 32–33.
OUR WORK AROUND THE WORLD

Kvinna till Kvinna operates in the MENA region (Middle East and North Africa), Africa, Europe and the South Caucasus.

INDESTRUCTIBLE FEMINIST SPIRIT

Many trends in the world are not going in the right direction when it comes to building peaceful and just societies in which women’s rights are respected. Globally, 2019 brought us increased nationalism, which aggravated conditions for women human rights defenders who are targeted with threats and hate speech.

At the same time, we also saw women taking to the streets and demanding their rights in decision-making forums, all the way from local councils to international peace negotiations. Women were at the forefront of demonstrations in Lebanon. Young Azerbaijani feminists organised street marches against sexual abuse. Our partners in Liberia stood up to violence through sit-in actions. The photo on page 19, of a woman at dawn looking out over protests in Baghdad’s Al-Tahrir square, perfectly symbolises that indestructible feminist spirit.

One of the pillars of Kvinna till Kvinna’s work is to increase knowledge on women, peace and security. This year, that led to publications like the report “The Fierce and the Furious” on the recent growth of the anti-gender movement and the strategies of women’s organisations to counter that, and “Listen to Her”, about local solutions as an effective first step towards women’s peacebuilding in the conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh.

We also published a major analysis of how international financial institutions and development banks are failing to include a gender perspective in their policies and practices. There’s definitely room for the women’s movement to push for greater civic space in that field.

After 27 years of working for women’s rights in extreme contexts of violent conflict and war, we know one of the most notable steps on the road to gender equality is women being aware of their own rights. This applies to Sweden too, which is why we’ve intensified our work with girls and young women who are new to Sweden. Gender equality should never to be taken for granted: the struggle for women and girls’ rights is continuous.

As we move on into 2020, I look forward to the conversations we’ll be having about current and future challenges, the effects of climate change on women and how the invaluable experience of women peacebuilders can contribute to long-term peace and stability.

I want to thank our partner organisations, donors, colleagues, volunteers and – not least – readers like you for your support of what we do. Together, we are change.

Petra Tötterman Andorff | Secretary-General
HOW KVINNA TILL KVINNA WORKS

A peaceful and equal world for everyone. That is what Kvinna till Kvinna has set out to achieve. We do this by supporting 149 partner organisations, fostering studies and research and raising awareness.

For us, our partner organisations come first. We get to know them, listen to them and support their priorities. We help them grow by providing financial support, training and networking opportunities.

Our methods

• Communication: We raise awareness through digital communication, media appearances, the events we organise and the activities of our volunteers.
• Advocacy: We influence decision-makers and call for legislative change to improve women’s rights.
• Research: We produce studies and reports, both internally and together with researchers and research institutions.
• Training: We offer capacity-building training on women, peace and security.

Our partner organisations

In 2019, Kvinna till Kvinna partnered with 149 women’s rights organisations in four conflict-affected regions:
• The MENA region
• Europe
• Africa
• The South Caucasus

Strategic focus

Our focus for 2016–2021 is to:
1. Reduce violence against women.
2. Increase women’s political participation.
3. Contribute to changes in security policy that give a prominent role to women’s rights.

How we measure results

We analyse how much of our budget directly supports partner organisations, whether financially or through training and networking opportunities.

Our funding

We are able to support women’s rights thanks to donations and grants:
• The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) is our main source of funding. We also receive grants from the Swedish Inheritance Fund, the EU, the Folke Bernadotte Academy, Canada, Norway, the UK and the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs.
• Our work also heavily relies on donations from private individuals and companies. Our main private donor is the Swedish Postcode Lottery.

Our partner organisations

We support women’s rights organisations in conflict-affected regions to strengthen their knowledge, capacity and autonomy. We offer our partner organisations financial support, training and access to networks. Our support empowers women’s rights organisations to act and claim space in society.

Our methods

• Network with relevant actors.
• Run projects transparently and efficiently.
• Plan and evaluate their projects.
• Develop their operations.
• Close dialogue with them about their operations.
• Monitor and evaluate our partner organisations’ results.

Head office in Sweden

Kvinna till Kvinna’s Board and senior managers set our overarching strategic course.

Local women’s rights organisations

126 employees in total, of which 59 at the head office

Women in conflict-affected areas

1
2
3

The results of our work are reported to senior management and donors.

Examples of how we make a difference

1. Eliminating gender-based violence

We support many women’s rights organisations, including the Anti-Violence Network of Georgia (AVNG). AVNG works to prevent gender-based violence and offers shelter to survivors. They lobby for legislative change and stronger response services and encourage women’s economic empowerment.

2. AVNG receives funding from us to raise awareness of gender-based violence among the police, judges and public servants. This improves the quality of response services and gives women greater access to protection.

3. We build AVNG’s capacity and help them become a more sustainable organisation. We also arrange networking events so they can share their experiences with other actors. All this strengthens AVNG as an organisation that addresses gender-based violence.

4. As a strong women’s rights actor, AVNG gains more power and influence to change institutions and strengthen the position of women – both in Georgia and the region.

5. We work with our partner organisations to analyse their results and their impact on society, so we can learn and develop together.
CONTRIBUTING TO THE GLOBAL GOALS

In 2019, world leaders adopted Agenda 2030 and its 17 Global Goals (also known as the Sustainable Development Goals) to eradicate poverty. A lot of what we do at Kvinna till Kvinnna is connected to the Global Goals, because women's rights, peace and security are key pieces of the puzzle.

Here are a few Global Goals we contribute to:

**GOAL 16:** PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS
Conflict, the use of arms and wartime ideas of masculinity and power all negatively affect women's rights and increase abuse like sexual violence and trafficking. With our partners, we advocate for peace and women's participation in peace processes – the best way to sustainable development and democracy.

With women's rights organisations in more than twenty countries, we also speak up about the Global Goals and hold states and international actors accountable for implementing them.

**GOAL 10:** NO POVERTY
Poverty and gender inequality go hand in hand. Around the world, women struggle to access formal education, income, health care, property and decision-making positions. This puts them at greater risk of poverty – which in turn aggravates inequality. With our partners, we enable women's economic empowerment. This can help lift entire families, villages and nations out of poverty.

**GOAL 3:** GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
All human beings have a right to health. Gender-based violence (GBV) like rape, early marriage and domestic violence all negatively affect women's mental and physical health. We work to prevent GBV by addressing its root causes, including harmful gender norms. We also advocate for universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) services and information.

**GOAL 5:** GENDER EQUALITY
Ensuring women can fully participate in society is a direct road to sustainable development. That's why we address structural obstacles to equality (like discriminatory laws), GBV and destructive norms. We encourage women's participation in decision-making and strengthen their ability to organise themselves. We also monitor backlash against equality and raise awareness of the consequences that can have.

**GOAL 1:** NO POVERTY
Poverty and gender inequality go hand in hand. Around the world, women struggle to access formal education, income, health care, property and decision-making positions. This puts them at greater risk of poverty – which in turn aggravates inequality. With our partners, we enable women's economic empowerment. This can help lift entire families, villages and nations out of poverty.

**GOAL 3:** GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
All human beings have a right to health. Gender-based violence (GBV) like rape, early marriage and domestic violence all negatively affect women's mental and physical health. We work to prevent GBV by addressing its root causes, including harmful gender norms. We also advocate for universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) services and information.

**GOAL 5:** GENDER EQUALITY
Ensuring women can fully participate in society is a direct road to sustainable development. That's why we address structural obstacles to equality (like discriminatory laws), GBV and destructive norms. We encourage women's participation in decision-making and strengthen their ability to organise themselves. We also monitor backlash against equality and raise awareness of the consequences that can have.

**GOAL 16:** PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS
Conflict, the use of arms and wartime ideas of masculinity and power all negatively affect women's rights and increase abuse like sexual violence and trafficking. With our partners, we advocate for peace and women's participation in peace processes – the best way to sustainable development and democracy.

With women's rights organisations in more than twenty countries, we also speak up about the Global Goals and hold states and international actors accountable for implementing them.

**RENEWED AGREEMENT WITH SIDA**
The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) is one of our biggest donors. In 2019, they renewed our CIVSAM funding agreement for another five years. As we worked on this process for months, this is a significant decision. The CIVSAM agreement (which only a handful of Swedish NGOs receive) gives us the freedom to develop our operations across all regions. Most of all, however, it’s a sign of Sida’s continued trust in Kvinna till Kvinnna – a trust we’re very proud of.

**UNDERSTANDING CONFLICT ZONES**
“Conflict sensitivity” refers to our efforts to fully understand how our programmes, activities and behaviour interact with the conflict contexts we operate in. This helps us understand how we can maximise the positive impact of what we do while minimising any negative impact.

This year, we took specific steps to mainstream conflict sensitivity in our operations. We strengthened our partners’ capacity to apply conflict sensitivity to their own work, wrote the concept into all sections of our new Programme Handbook and introduced it to new staff during their onboarding.

**TRAINING THE COLOMBIAN MILITARY AND POLICE**
We launched a brand-new training programme in Colombia: for one year, twenty-three participants from the security forces, armed forces and the police will work with us on Resolution 1325.

We started in November with a two-week session in Villa de Leyva, in the mountains outside of Bogotá. International and Colombian NGOs held talks, including how to strengthen the gender perspective in peace agreements.

Participants then took off to implement their own change projects: drafting equality guidelines for the Ministry of Defence, introducing Women, Peace and Security issues into military schools’ curricula, and increasing dialogue with civil society in Colombian provinces.

Next up: meeting each other in Sweden to explore the topic of masculinity and swap notes with Swedish and European counterparts!

Training participants met with local women and youth organisations to discuss the concept of “security” and listen to their experiences of war and domestic violence.

**IMAGE**
Training participants met with local women and youth organisations to discuss the concept of “security” and listen to their experiences of war and domestic violence.

**HELLO – OR HEJ, AS WE SAY IN SWEDEN!**
I’m Johanna Arkåsen.

I’ve been with Kvinna till Kvinnna since 2012, working with the Western Balkans and Georgia. This year, I became Advisor for Programme and Partnership.

What do you do at Kvinna till Kvinnna?
My role is completely new. I’m responsible for implementing our Programme Handbook and keeping it up-to-date. I also help colleagues with programme development and daily interactions with our partner organisations.

Why this new role?
Kvinna till Kvinnna is expanding, but the backbone of our work remains our partnership with women’s rights organisations. This role assembles our knowledge about that. I think it’s good to have someone who can consolidate and assure the quality of what we do.

What’s your biggest challenge?
I like how I get to be in touch with colleagues everywhere to talk about how we work, why we do things the way we do, and how that can be improved. I actually really appreciate when colleagues turn to me with their issues.

What’s your biggest challenge?
As a decentralised organisation, it’s not easy for all of us to have the same standards and methods. I want us to feel comfortable with the Programme Handbook, to feel we’re able to apply it no matter where we’re based.

Any plans for your role in 2020?
I want to properly roll out the Programme Handbook, make it more user-friendly and clarify its connection to our Partnership Policy. And I look forward to continuing our discussion about different kinds of partnerships.
As a decentralised organisation, finding opportunities to bring Kvinna till Kvinnan staff together can be a challenge. But at our Programme Days in October, we did just that!

Almost seventy colleagues from our country offices and the head office gathered for a two-day staff exchange outside of Stockholm. Different teams had lively cross-regional discussions about everything from partnerships to working in harsh environments. Despite the physical distance, it turns out many of us face surprisingly similar challenges.

Goodwill Ambassador Fanna Ndow Norrby also stopped by for a much-appreciated presentation on intersectionality, and there was a panel debate on shrinking space.

“I especially enjoyed the group work,” said one participant. “It was a chance to discuss and learn from each other.”

After the Programme Days, the regional teams stayed on for an extra day of operational planning.

Did you know that 1,500 SEK allows a woman who’s survived abuse to take her case to court in Bosnia and Herzegovina? Your donation makes a difference!

A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET COLLEAGUES

OUR LIFE HAS CHANGED

Women’s economic empowerment is an integral part of the work we do on peacebuilding, gender-based violence and women’s political participation. Our partners encourage economic empowerment by focusing on three pathways to change:

• Institutional change – like addressing conservative laws that prevent women from inheriting land or entering the workforce.
• Economic change – like strengthening women’s employability and providing access to financial resources.
• Change in power and agency – like dismantling harmful norms that prevent women from making independent economic choices.

Here’s one example of how change in power and agency can bring about economic empowerment: Our Rwandan partner Réseau des Femmes raises awareness of why both women and men should do their share of chores at home. The organisation regularly works with men in rural areas, discussing social norms and masculinity and explaining that unpaid care work can perpetuate inequality; girls may be forced to drop out of school to help out at home, and women are unable to accept paid work when the household rests on their shoulders.

Hi! My name is Joana Acosta. I’m the new Regional Safety and Security Advisor for the MENA region.

Before I joined Kvinna till Kvinnan, I worked in various post-conflict and humanitarian-related jobs. I was a UN electoral officer and security advisor to the president of East Timor. Over the past eight years, I've worked exclusively with security in the MENA region, in Cairo, Jerusalem and Amman.

What do you do at Kvinna till Kvinnan? As Regional Safety and Security Advisor, I help colleagues conduct their work in a safe way. Every day, I monitor the security situation in the MENA region. I make risk assessments and give our country offices advice on how to prepare for emergencies.

But security is a joint effort: engaging with colleagues is very important to me. Together, we find solutions that improve our safety, our wellbeing and the quality of our work.

What’s the best part of your job? I really enjoy the way I get to engage with a diverse representation of women across different contexts. Working in conflict zones comes with a lot of challenges. But it empowers me to the human condition. It impacts me as a person and helps me develop professionally.

What’s your biggest challenge? These days, I think the MENA region has to be the most politically and militarily unpredictable region in the world. This volatility affects human security – and my ability to assess situations and give our country offices support. This year, we supported our partners in focusing more on change processes when they plan and identify results. We’ve started using “Theory of Change” for this: a tool that helps us pinpoint why and how change will happen in a certain context.

In 2019, we worked with Theory of Change on different occasions. We participated in Sida’s Resulitlab where we discussed the tool with six other major Swedish civil society organisations. Using what we learned there, we piloted Theory of Change in a new regional advocacy programme in the Western Balkans. In Liberia, we held a four-day capacity-building training for seven partners, to show them how to use Theory of Change.

Another 50 representatives from civil society and authorities in the Western Balkans, Moldova and Ukraine joined our International Training Programme (ITP) on gender-based violence (GBV), ready to implement change projects in their own organisations.

Many participants have successfully trained stakeholders back home to respond to GBV: the Resonance Centre in Transnistria helped the police establish standard operating procedures on GBV, and the Women’s Rights Centre in Montenegro trained the country’s social services, who now refer victims to WRC’s shelter more often.

What struck us this year was the way participants made use of the contacts they’d gained through ITP. One of our Ukrainian participants, for example, collaborated with the Swedish organisation Fryshuset on a conference on discrimination and violence in schools.

The ITP is implemented in partnership with the Swedish Police Authority, with funding from Sida.
A major daily newspaper in Sweden. In Göteborgs-Posten, a major and highlighted by an op-ed article was launched on November 27th rights. “The Fierce and the Furious” gender equality and women’s growing global backlash against a survey and a desk study, is our joint response to the report: Together with EuroMed Rights, we published the FIERCE AND FURIOUS report: “The Fierce and the Furious – Feminist Insights into the Anti-Gender Narratives and Movements”. The report, which compiled the results of interviews, each year, it writes Country Reports to capture the progress (or setbacks) the six countries have made on their path to EU integration. But the reports themselves often fall to include a gender perspective. Together with our partners, we’ve been monitoring this process for several years. In 2019, we launched our second gender analysis of the Country Reports. To make our case very clear, we’ve developed what we like to call “the emoji scale” … ;-)

Gender representative at a major development bank, commenting on why IFIs have been slow to integrate a gender perspective:

They’re bankers, what do you expect?

TWO STEPS FORWARD, ONE STEP BACK
In the Western Balkans’ EU accession process, the EU claims it is committed to supporting women’s rights. Each year, it writes Country Reports to capture the progress (or setbacks) the six countries have made on their path to EU integration. But the reports themselves often fail to include a gender perspective.

Together with our partners, we’ve been monitoring this process for several years. In 2019, we launched our second gender analysis of the Country Reports. To make our case very clear, we’ve developed what we like to call “the emoji scale” … ;-)

Two STEPS FORWARD, ONE STEP BACK
In the Western Balkans’ EU accession process, the EU claims it is committed to supporting women’s rights. Each year, it writes Country Reports to capture the progress (or setbacks) the six countries have made on their path to EU integration. But the reports themselves often fail to include a gender perspective.

Together with our partners, we’ve been monitoring this process for several years. In 2019, we launched our second gender analysis of the Country Reports. To make our case very clear, we’ve developed what we like to call “the emoji scale” … ;-)

Together with EuroMed Rights, we published the report: “The Fierce and the Furious – Feminist Insights into the Anti-Gender Narratives and Movements”. The report, which compiled the results of interviews, a survey and a desk study, is our joint response to the growing global backlash against gender equality and women’s rights. “The Fierce and the Furious” was launched on November 27th and highlighted by an op-ed article in Göteborgs-Posten, a major daily newspaper in Sweden.

LISTEN TO HER
Our report “Listen to Her” zooms in on the conflict over the Nagorno-Karabakh region, which has divided Armenia and Azerbaijan since the 1990s. Many call the conflict “frozen,” but there’s nothing frozen about the way it affects the daily lives of women in the region. This report analyses women’s needs and their different experiences of the conflict. It also investigates possibilities to strengthen women’s influence over the peace process—just like in many of the places we work in, women are mostly left out of peace talks over Nagorno-Karabakh. “Listen to Her” provides recommendations to all stakeholders involved in the conflict—so both they and women themselves can start seeing women as the powerful agents for peace they can be.

Did you know that 970 SEK can provide a survivor of gender-based violence in Liberia with social and psychological support for an entire year? Your donation makes a difference!

SUPPORTING WOMEN’S RIGHTS IN DEVELOPMENT FINANCING
International financial institutions (IFIs), like the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, and development banks play a central role in reconstructing countries after conflict and supporting fragile states. Because they invest large sums of money, they have a lot of influence over countries’ development.

But are IFIs aware of the gendered implications of their loans and programmes?

To answer this, we mapped IFIs’ work in Jordan, Tunis and Egypt. We interviewed 56 key stakeholders and analysed a wide range of IFI documents. We looked at thematic areas in which IFI policies, gender and civic space intersect, and analysed how women’s rights organisations could engage with development banks.

This led to our new report: “Maintaining a Role for Women’s Organisations in International Development Finance: A Guide on How to Effectively Engage with International Financial Institutions in the MENA region on Gender Equality and Civic Space”

The report shows there is room for improvement:

• IFI gender policies rarely use a rights-based language.
• While IFI gender strategies have become stronger, gender mainstreaming remains limited in practice because IFI country officers lack the capacity to work with this.

• There is a lack of research and disaggregated data on gender issues, and the existing data is not transparent enough.
• Gender and women’s rights are usually not explicitly included in IFI country frameworks; when they are, there are no explicit gender targets.
• IFI engage with and consult civil society in a limited, selective and ineffective way.
• Knowledge of IFI policies is limited among civil society organisations.

So what’s next?

Few actors seem to work on this issue—so we’ve identified a clear line of advocacy we’re eager to pursue. Together with our partners, we’ll be discussing ways for them to promote a stronger gender perspective among IFIs and influence IFIs’ policies and programmes. We’ve already mapped out possible advocacy avenues and relevant stakeholders to talk to. This is a new arena for us, though, so this will be a long-term process.

Image: Our report was launched in mid-September in Amman, as well as at the Stockholm Development Forum.
IRAQ
We have been working in the country since 2005, with an office in Erbil.

TUNISIA
We have been working in the country since 2016, with an office in Tunis.
Partner organisations: Association Tunisienne des Femmes pour la Défense de la Citoyenneté, Association Tunisienne des Femmes pour la Défense de la Citoyenneté, Association Tunisienne des Femmes pour la Défense de la Citoyenneté, Ligue des Electrices Tunisiennes.

ISRAEL
We have been working in the country since 2001, with an office in Jerusalem.

PALESTINE
We have been working in the country since 2001, with an office in Jerusalem.
Partner organisations: Women Now for Development, Musawa/Women’s Study Center, Kesh Malek, Dawlaty, Syrian Female Journalist Network, Start Point, Badael.

IRAN
We have been working in the country since 2009, with an office in Amman.

SYRIA
We have been working in the country since 2005, with an office in Amman.

LEBANON
We have been working in the country since 2005, with an office in Beirut.
Partner organisations: Association for Women in Development, Tomorrow’s Women’s Studies Center, Justice and Development Action.

PALESTINE
We have been working in the country since 2001, with an office in Ramallah.

SYRIA
We have been working in the country since 2005, with an office in Amman.

EUROPE
We have been working in the countries since 2010, with offices in Brussels, London, and Paris.

#METOO GOES VIRAL IN TUNISIA
Sexual violence is rife in Tunisia. In a recent study, up to 90% of women reported having been sexually harassed in public transport, and 75% had been harassed at work. While there’s a law to prevent such misconduct, the subject remains taboo.

In 2020, a young woman called Othmane Boughazoula launched the #EnaZeda Facebook group, calling for a new law against gender violence. In just a few weeks, 25,000 people joined, posting stories directly or anonymously through #EnaZeda.

Our partner Aswat Nissa offered a safe space for the discussions by starting the #EnaZeda Facebook group. In just a few weeks, 25,000 people joined, posting stories directly or anonymously through Aswat Nissa’s moderators.

While the offending politician was charged with sexual harassment, he managed to be sworn into office – and receive immunity from prosecution – before the court case could be finalised. Aswat Nissa protested outside parliament on the day new MPs were sworn in, with the slogan “Harassers should not be legislators”.

GOALS
Long-term goals:
- A strong and sustainable women’s movement that strengthens women’s rights and their opportunities to participate in decision-making at all levels.

Short-term goals:
- Reducing violence against women.
- Preventing and combating discrimination.
- Increasing women’s participation in peacebuilding and society.
- Supporting the development of women’s rights organisations.
- Strengthening the protection of activists.

Our partners focus on:
- Gender-based violence 47%
- Participation & Advocacy 31%
- Economic empowerment 8%
- Peacebuilding 6%
- Violence & Exploitation 4%
- Security 2%
CAMPAIGNING FOR MIGRANT WOMEN’S RIGHTS IN ISRAEL

Our partner organisation Achoti champions the rights of marginalized women in Israel – including migrant workers from Philippines, Sri Lanka, India and Africa. When migrant workers give birth in Israel, they automatically lose their work visa. Their children are stateless and they themselves can only work illegally, without insurance or rights. This summer, the Israeli government arrested 17 migrant women. Achoti reacted together with United Children of Israel (an organisation founded by a migrant-worker mother). The two organised a massive campaign to prevent the deportation of the 17 women. They provided hiding places for families, held nearly 100 demonstrations outside of prisons and courts, petitioned local businesses and arranged both a court appeal as well as two meetings between MPs and migrant women.

Tackled in the campaign were four main lines of action:

- They had arranged both a court appeal as well as two meetings between MPs and migrant women.
- They provided hiding places for families, including nearly 100 demonstrations outside of prisons and courts.
- They petitioned local businesses.
- They arranged for both a court appeal and two meetings between MPs and migrant women.

After extensive media reporting on the campaign (and an official debate in parliament), 15 of the 17 women were released! Now, Achoti will continue campaigning for citizenship for the women's children.

END CHILD MARRIAGE

Child marriage is a major problem in Palestine, including in the Gaza Strip. 37% of Palestinian girls marry before they turn 18. In most cases, the groom is over the age of 19. Up to 63% of young married women suffer from domestic violence in their marriage.

For half a decade, women’s rights organisations in Palestine have been advocating against child marriage. Our partner Women’s Affairs Center, for example, raised awareness among students, parents and young people in the Gaza Strip and met with politicians and religious leaders – reminding them of the government’s commitment to end child, early and forced marriage by 2030 (in the context of the Global Goals).

At the end of November, these efforts finally paid off: the Palestinian Authority government passed a new law, setting the minimum age for marriage at 18! The law still allows for some exceptions, though: the next step for our partners is to convince the government to remove these.

NEW GLOBAL GOAL NETWORK FOR IRAQ

Our partner organisation Hawa established a unique advocacy network of 30 local NGOs to promote the Global Goals in Iraq – a first for the country! The network focuses on Goals 5, 16 and 17 and cooperates with the Iraqi Ministry of Planning and UN agencies. In 2019, Hawa coordinated several network meetings and two workshops in Baghdad. Sixty percent of participants said they were “only vaguely aware of the Global Goals” at the start of the workshop; afterwards, all participants had become enthusiastic supporters of the Global Goals.

While it’s still early days, the future looks promising: for example, the network was the only civil society actor specifically mentioned in the Iraqi government’s annual National Report on civil society. A significant achievement!

SRHR SUPPORT TO REFUGEES IN THE MENA REGION

Lebanon has a large population of Palestinians and Syrians living inside and outside of refugee camps. Many face severe discrimination because of their refugee status. Often, the government is unable to accommodate their needs: they cannot access health care services, get an education or even legal redress as victims of sexual violence. In the Borj el Barajneh refugee camp, our partner Palestinian Women’s Humanitarian Organization offers women free gynecological care and info sessions on menopause, sexual and reproductive health. Social workers are available to offer women and girls psychosocial support.

Regional exchange on child marriage

Children often marry under age. In many countries this is common practice. Children's rights are often neglected. Adult men tend to marry children to stop them from going out.
STRONG RESULTS DESPITE CHALLENGING CIRCUMSTANCES

We’re excited to have secured funding to stay in the DRC for another five years, and continue our exploration of whether to set up operations in Somalia. But critical challenges remain. Liberia is one of the world’s ten poorest countries. Less than 20% of its population has access to clean water and electricity. The DRC is still a humanitarian catastrophe: up to 140 militia groups roam the country, while 77% of people live below the poverty line. Violence against women is widespread in all three countries. In Rwanda, gender stereotypes are strong and almost half of all women have experienced violence at home. Rape is the second most common form of violence and support its victims.

Our partners focus on:
- Gender-based violence 53%
- Participation & Advocacy 22%
- Peacebuilding 13%
- Economic empowerment 10%
- Other 2%

GOALS

Long-term goal
A future in which women in conflict-affected countries in Africa are no longer subjected to violence and have the same rights and opportunities to participate in society as men, and in which conflicts are resolved through peaceful methods.

Short-term goals
- Prevent violence against women and support its victims.
- Support the development and networking efforts of women’s rights organisations.
- Increase women’s participation at all levels of society.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO
We have been working in this country since 2009, with an office in Bukavu.

Partner organisations: Association des Femmes des Médias du Sud-Kivu (AFEM), Cercle d’Échange pour le Développement des Jeunes dans la région des Grands Lacs (CEDEJ-GL), Solidarité des femmes activistes pour la défense des droits humains (SOFAD).

LIBERIA
We have been working in the country since 2007, with an office in Monrovia.

Partner organisations: Liberia Female Law Enforcement Association (LFLEA), Liberian Women Empowerment Network (LWEN), Rural Women Right Structure (RWR), Southeastern Women Development Association (SEWODA), The West Africa Network for Peace building (WANP), West Point Women for Health and Development Organization (WPHDO), Women for Self Employment (WASEL), Women NGO Secretariat of Liberia (WNGOSOL), Women Rights Watch (WOWWA).

RWANDA
We have been working in the country since 2017, with an office in Kigali.

Partner organisations: Association of Kigali Women in Sport (AKWOS), Huguruka, Harenda des Femmes, Rwanda Women’s Network (RWN), Save Generation Organisation (SGO), Sevota, UNABU.

DRC PROGRAMME WILL CONTINUE
Kvinna till Kvinna is very proud we were able to maintain our presence in the DRC throughout 2019 – despite financial constraints the year before. We secured funding for the next five years, and reinstalled a full team in a new office in Bukavu, South Kivu. This year, we continued supporting our long-term partner organisations AFEM, CEDEJ and SOFAD, who work to prevent gender-based violence and support women’s political participation.

GOOD THINGS FIRST: THE KIND OF BACKLASH WE’VE SEEN HERE ARE RELATIVELY STABLE.

Liberia is one of the world’s ten poorest countries. The region hasn’t witnessed the kind of backlash we’ve seen elsewhere and our operations here are relatively stable.
In Rwanda, sexual health is a taboo. Sex education is mandatory, but many schools are run by churches and cherry-pick what to teach.

This has created a major problem: half of all pregnancies in Rwanda are unwanted and teen pregnancies are on the rise. Abortion is illegal except for rape cases; many doctors also refuse to offer the service because of their beliefs.

Our partner Save Generation Organisation (SGO) confronts the taboo head-on. In 2019, they provided information on sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) to 200 adolescents in schools. They broke down barriers that prevent dialogue: children, parents, teachers and community and religious leaders came together to dispel misunderstandings about SRHR. Through debate, music, art and theatre, SGO encouraged young girls to claim their rights. The organisation also ran leadership and self-confidence trainings, all to help girls make informed decisions over their bodies and their life goals.

SGO worked with 40 male students on positive masculinity too, ensuring they promote girls’ SRHR to other boys and men. The boys got to reflect on equality, everyone’s equal potential and the importance of taking on their share of chores at home.

Today, students have established SRHR clubs in the schools SGO worked with: they hold both their classmates and adults accountable for making SRHR services and information available to all.

Sit-in against intimidation of women candidates

In August, a female candidate of the opposition in Liberia’s by-elections was violently attacked by supporters of a rival candidate. Teltia Urey and several of her supporters were injured, some critically.

Allegedly, members of the police saw the events unfold and failed to act. Days later, Liberian women gathered for a sit-in on the sidewalk outside the president’s office. Several of our partners (WONGOSOL, WANEP/WIPNET) helped organise the demonstration, to demand an end to intimidation and violence against women – especially in politics. As a result of the demonstration, an investigation was launched into the attack against Teltia Urey, and the head of the police was called in for questioning about the role of the police during the incident.

Dorothy Tarpeh, Chairwoman of VSLA group supported by WE4SELF. 11tyen community

My husband used to beat me. But since I started bringing money home, he respects me. Today, I can pay my children’s school fees and buy food for the family.

Award for Gégé Katana Bukuru

Gégé Katana Bukuru – founder of our partner SOFAID and staunch defender of women’s rights and peace in South Kivu, DRC – was given the Defender of Democracy Award in November. Each year, the International Parliamentarians for Global Action network extends this award to individuals who’ve demonstrated an exceptional commitment to peace, democracy, the rule of law, human rights or gender equality. We couldn’t be prouder of Gégé!
At a press conference this year, the EU ambassador to Bosnia and Herzegovina expressed his support for our work:

There can be no EU integration without women’s participation!

**OUR WORK IN BRIEF**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REGION</th>
<th>WORK IN COUNTRY</th>
<th>PARTNERS</th>
<th>OUR PARTNERS FOCUS ON:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA</strong></td>
<td>We have been working in the country since 1994, with an office in Sarajevo.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Participation &amp; Advocacy 6% Gender-based violence 29% Peacebuilding 23% Economic empowerment 3% Security 3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>KOSOVO</strong></td>
<td>We have been working in the country since 1994, with an office in Pristina.</td>
<td>Partner organisations: Arjaals, Kosovo Women’s Network (KWN), Kosovo Women’s Association for Human Rights (KWNH), The Kosovo Gender Studies Center, The Network of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian Women’s Organizations of Kosovo (NRM-W); Women Center Open Door (Dita e Hapur) &amp; Buka Ru, Women’s Association Medica Kosova.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NORTH MACEDONIA</strong></td>
<td>We have been working in the country since 1999, with an office in Skopje.</td>
<td>Partner organisations: Active Citizens – AKTIVO Veles, Active Citizens – AKTIVO Veles, Association of persons with cerebral palsy – Veles, Coalition for Women’s Rights – Skopje, Centre for Women’s Studies, European Women’s Network, National network to end violence against women and domestic violence, Organization of Women from Sveti Nikole, PeachPreach, REACTOR, Women Action.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SERBIA</strong></td>
<td>We have been working in the country since 1994, with an office in Belgrade.</td>
<td>Partner organisations: Alternative Girls’ Center, ASTRA – Anti-Trafficking Action, Autonomous Women’s Center (AWC), Center for Women’s Studies, Roma Center for Women and Children (DAC), Network Women Against Violence Serbia, Reconstruction Women’s Fund (RWF), The Association of Women Pescanik (Sandglass), Women in Black, Women’s Centre Ulice.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SWEDEN</strong></td>
<td>From our head office in Stockholm, we raise funds for our work around the world, cooperate with volunteers and run the Gemaket project.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>UKRAINE</strong></td>
<td>We have been working in the country since 2019, with an office in Kyiv.</td>
<td>Partner organisations: Centre for Cultural Anthropological Studies, Slave Heart, Smile of a Child, Women’s Perspective.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**GOALS**

Long-term goal
Ensure peacebuilding work in the region continues and put gender equality, women's participation and women's rights on the agenda for the EU accession process.

Short-term goals
- Ensure women are involved in ongoing peacebuilding and conflict-resolution processes.
- Improve protection for women subjected to violence.
- Support partner organisations’ advocacy efforts.

**NATIONALISM AND SIMMERING TENSION UNDERMINE EFFORTS**

In Europe, we work with partners in the Western Balkans (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia) and in Ukraine to promote peace, increase women’s participation in decision-making and prevent violence against women. In Sweden, we run the Gemaket project and support the activities of our volunteers.

At first sight, the Western Balkans seem relatively stable: there’s been peace since the wars in former Yugoslavia ended twenty years ago and several countries are being considered for EU membership. Below the surface, however, problems simmer. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, ethnic tension and the political system paralyse decision-making. Kosovo and Serbia are locked in an ongoing dispute. Recently, the EU blocked Albania and North Macedonia from starting membership talks.

There is still no peace for Ukraine, where conflict has raged in the east since 2015. Ceasefire violations continue and women are shut out from peace negotiations. For activists isolated by the conflict, the focus is on surviving: our partners work hard to include women from these areas in their activities.

Rising nationalism is a worrying trend that hinders our work in both the Western Balkans and Ukraine. Our partners face frequent threats by right-wing and religious groups.

In Sweden, 2019 saw the highest number of attacks recently recorded against women’s rights activists in the Western Balkans. On March 8th, women’s demonstrations in Kyiv and other Ukrainian cities needed heavy police protection.

Gender-based violence (GBV) is a widespread problem across the region, but rates of reporting remain low. When victims do speak up, they are often stigmatised. For marginalised groups in particular, figures are troubling: by estimation, 90% of Roma women have experienced sexual violence. While Ukraine recently introduced new legislation to combat GBV, awareness of the problem remains sketchy and the availability of protection services varies greatly.

A final issue our partners in Europe work with is political representation of women. Both in the Western Balkans and in Ukraine, representation ranges from low (nationally) to extremely low (locally). With a paltry 15%, Albania has the highest share of female mayors. In Kosovo, the number is zero.
Gender-based violence is a serious problem in Ukraine: each year, more than 1.1 million women are subjected to violence within the family. But only 1 in 10 seek help.

Protection services remain inadequate; close to the demarcation line, help is all but inaccessible. Perpetrators seldom face any consequences. As a result, 600 Ukrainian women die from gender-based violence every year.

Our partner organisation Women’s Perspective works to turn things around. This year, they trained government officials, doctors and hospital lawyers to respond to gender-based violence. The training is now even an official part of the curriculum at Lviv Medical University!

They also campaigned intensively to get the Lviv city administration to open a shelter for survivors. But despite countless requests, the city failed to act. Luckily, Kvinna till Kvinna could offer a grant: Women’s Perspective now runs their own shelter in a private apartment instead. It remains the only designated place for survivors of gender-based violence in a city of more than 800,000 inhabitants.

GBV TRAINING FOR DOCTORS

Our partners led a large-scale study on gender-based discrimination in the labour market in the Western Balkans (Kvinna till Kvinna contributed with the report for Serbia). Did you know 38% of women in the region felt they were treated differently by their colleagues or manager after taking maternity leave? The study also showed women were 2.5 times more likely than men to experience workplace sexual harassment.

The grant from Kvinna till Kvinna helped us enormously. Still, we continue to demand that the local authorities assume some responsibility for the violence against women.

Promoting an alternative discourse in Ukraine

The Centre for Cultural Studies creates a space for feministic, anti-militaristic debate in Ukraine. This autumn, it published a special issue of its peer-reviewed, online journal “Feminist Critique”, with original texts and translations in Ukrainian, English and Russian. The issue reached 20,000 views on the journal’s website and sparked a lively discussion on social media. One of the most popular articles was a piece by Anna Nikishchyan, who examined how Resolution 1325 can be misused for militaristic purposes.

The centre also organised a feminist summer school and completed the project “From anonymity to publicity: A feminist voice during war” – a series of 15 interviews with women’s rights activists and artists.

One of the participants from Kosovo at the women’s peace meetings.

I realised women from Serbia are no different from us; I never imagined we could sit, chat and laugh together.

WOMEN FROM KOSOVO AND SERBIA TAKE PEACE INTO THEIR OWN HANDS

Serbia and Kosovo are stuck in a long-standing conflict, with significant mistrust on both sides. While there are official EU-level peace negotiations, women’s rights organisations have never been consulted or invited to these talks.

That is why our partner organisations MWAHR (Kosovo) and Sandglass (Serbia) have started their own dialogue. The two have held several peace-building meetings – including with local-level women politicians – where they met and discussed their priorities. The women are still fighting to get their voices heard at the highest level, but one crucial result has already been achieved: they dismantled prejudices and built mutual trust.

HELPING MUNICIPALITIES PRIORITISE GENDER MAINSTREAMING

In North Macedonia, our partners are assisting local municipalities with gender mainstreaming. Representatives from women’s organisations act as official mentors to five municipalities (Sveti Nikole, Veles, Kavadarc, Negotino and Demir Kapija). For half a year, they regularly visited and talked with local authorities: helping them review documents, making these more transparent and gender-sensitive, and advising them on how to consult women in rural areas and collect and use relevant data on gender. Add to that a study visit to Stockholm and the municipalities now both understand how to prioritise women’s needs and why this is important. And: it’s showing: in several places, women’s requests – like more local bus stops or new playgrounds for children – have been directly incorporated into next year’s budget.

MEETING EU OFFICIALS

Each year, our Balkan partner organisations join us for an intensive advocacy week in Brussels. Our partners then meet with EU politicians, civil servants and like-minded organisations to highlight their concerns about women’s rights in the Balkan region. But Roma women – one of the most marginalised groups in Europe – rarely get a seat at the table at forums like this.

During this year’s trip to Brussels in November, however, three Roma representatives joined our delegation! They met with key European MPs and the EU Commissioner’s Coordinator for Roma Policy. As our partners usually work at the local and national level, addressing their concerns at the EU level was an important development. Meeting each other also strengthened their cooperation across the region.

Did you know that our partner organisations support women in Serbia who are affected by violence and trafficking? Since 2016, they’ve helped more than 21,000 women through local hotlines and consultations to take power over their own lives.
A major issue is sexual and reproductive health and rights. The topic is a complete taboo, especially in rural and conflict-affected areas, where SRHR services are difficult to access. Across the South Caucasus, sex-selective abortion is common, since many prefer sons over daughters. In Abkhazia, abortion is entirely illegal. Because of religious opposition, schools do not offer sex education. This leads to low awareness of SRHR among young people, resulting in teen pregnancies and the spread of STDs. On a positive note, more and more (young) men are participating in our partners’ SRHR activities, especially in Georgian and Abkhaz contexts.

Gender-based violence, femicide and early/forced marriages are worrying problems too. As long as stereotypical perceptions about the role of women persist in the region, this is unlikely to change. But there are promising evolutions: Georgia recently adopted a law criminalising sexual harassment at work, and public awareness of gender-based violence is increasing in Azerbaijan. Both in Armenia and Azerbaijan, there is an ongoing push to ratify the Istanbul Convention. This year, young Azerbaijani feminists organised street marches against sexual violence, chanting slogans like “We don’t want love that kills!”

Frustratingly, many of the above issues are aggravated by an inadequate response from the state. In Armenia, the police routinely fail to protect survivors of gender-based violence – often with deadly results. Perpetrators commonly walk away scot-free in Azerbaijan. This is linked to the region’s problem of shrinking space. In Azerbaijan in particular, critics are silenced and NGOs all but outlawed by the authorities. When activists do speak up, they face police violence. The same happens in Armenia, where law enforcement agencies regularly fail to protect activists who are being harassed. Far-right nationalist groups also limit the space to advance women’s rights. In Georgia, freedom of press is under threat and recent anti-government protests were brutally quashed.

Admirably, our partner organisations and individual women’s rights activists refuse to back down despite these difficult conditions. Increasingly, they’re joining forces across borders, strengthening their advocacy on shared issues.

While there have been some improvements for women’s rights in the South Caucasus over the past decade, women in the region continue to have their rights curtailed. They struggle to access resources like health care or education and are all but excluded from peace negotiations on the region’s conflicts.

While there have been some improvements for women’s rights in the South Caucasus over the past decade, women in the region continue to have their rights curtailed. They struggle to access resources like health care or education and are all but excluded from peace negotiations on the region’s conflicts.

FACING CONSERVATISM AND STATE REPRESSION
SUPPORTING SURVIVORS OF GBV

Anti-Violence Network of Georgia (AVNG) runs two shelters in Tbilisi, with staff on call 24/7. Women and their children can stay here for free and receive medical, psychological and legal support. Volunteers come by to help the children with their homework. To help survivors regain their independence, AVNG has started a social catering firm. The participating women – who grow their own produce in the garden – are taught by professional cooks how to plan and prepare meals, so they can learn the trade.

PHOTO: Lara Aharonian

PHOTO: Maja Brand

In Armenia, the concept of gender is very controversial. The word is rarely mentioned in laws or government policies, and there is almost no educational material on gender available in local languages. That is why Society Without Violence (SWV) is designing a course very own social enterprise, producing herbal oils.

PHOTO: Women’s Fund for Development

PHOTO: Lara Aharonian

PHOTO: Maja Brand

ARmenian women starting their own enterprise

In 1988, the small city of Spitak in northern Armenia was all but wiped out by a devastating earthquake. Local industry was destroyed, and the region is still recovering. But our partner Spitak Helsinki Group Human Rights NGO refuses to be dragged down by the past: positivity is in its DNA! Since 2017, we’ve been helping to develop Spitak Helsinki Group’s capacities through structural support, advice on grant management and fundraising tips. The organisation has used its new skills to empower local women economically – including survivors of gender-based violence, who often struggle to find employment, and young, unmarried women, who are often confined to the home. Our partner offers them various courses (including in computer literacy and English) and together the women have started their very own social enterprise, producing herbal oils.

A NEW SYLLABUS ON GENDER

Society Without Violence is in the process of designing its first module on gender for its training programme for teachers.

PHOTO: Lara Aharonian

PHOTO: Maja Brand

In Armenia, the concept of gender is very controversial. The word is rarely mentioned in laws or government policies, and there is almost no educational material on gender available in local languages. That is why Society Without Violence (SWV) is designing a course on gender together with experts from Yerevan State University and the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge and Canterbury. The course will highlight the link between gender and stereotypes, the media, domestic violence and peacebuilding, among other themes.

PHOTO: Women’s Fund for Development

VIRAL CAMPAIGN

When our partner Women’s Fund for Development organised a 16 Days of Activism campaign, their original plan was to focus solely on Gal, in the east of Abkhazia. As they launched a photo contest on Facebook, however, their idea went viral: young women and men from all over the region joined in to raise awareness of gender-based violence!

This is part of a promising trend in Abkhazia. Harmful gender norms remain strong in this region, but more and more people are starting to decry violence against women – especially after several high-profile cases of honour killings in 2019. Women’s Fund for Development was particularly pleased to see many young men supporting the campaign this year: this helps society see gender-based violence as a serious problem that affects us all, rather than a “women’s issue”.

WOMEN’S MOVEMENT TACKLES SCHOOL BULLYING

Azerbaijan was pitfalls away this year by the tragic case of a teenage girl committing suicide after being bullied at school. Public debate zoomed in on the role of parents, schools and school psychologists – but women’s rights organisations were the ones to come up with a solution.

They approached the government bodies in charge of education and proposed a comprehensive, gender-responsive anti-bullying strategy. The focus should be on early prevention, they suggested, and the needs of young girls in particular should be taken into account.

Based on this input, the government implemented a mandatory anti-bullying programme in all Azerbaijani schools. Teachers, school directors and psychologists all receive training, and gender awareness will be a big part of the efforts.

PHOTO: Lara Aharonian

PHOTO: Maja Brand

ALINA’S STORY: A BREAK FOR FREEDOM

I’m so grateful for AVNG’s help and support! I feel like I was born again.

When she got married, Alina from Ukraine looked forward to a happy life. Only nothing turned out as planned: straight after their wedding, her husband locked Alina up at home in a provincial city in Georgia. She neither owned a key nor knew her own address. Even the birth of her son did not change things, and her husband regularly beat her. Eventually, the police found out about Alina’s situation and helped free her one night when her husband was out. A few days later, Alina was brought to a safe house run by our partner Anti-Violence Network of Georgia (AVNG) in Tbilisi, together with her two-year-old son.

Alina stayed there for several weeks, while AVNG got her a lawyer and helped her contact the Ukrainian embassy to return home. When Alina’s husband got a court order to keep her son in Georgia, AVNG helped retrace the decision.

Today, Alina is back in Ukraine, living with her mother. She is looking for work and has taken up volunteering – a way to give back to the community and show her gratitude.

PHOTO: Lara Aharonian

PHOTO: Maja Brand
ENGAGEMENT AND ADVOCACY

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM

Following the launch of our new report “The Fierce and the Furious”, Kvinna till Kvinna participated in “16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence” for the first time. The global campaign, which has run every autumn since 1991, brings activists across the world together to call for an end to violence against women and girls.

During the campaign, we communicated in Arabic, Bosnian, English and French across our channels under the hashtag #WeSay. We’re particularly grateful to our volunteers in Sweden, who united as one to make #WeSay a success. Online, they enthusiastically shared digital content and encouraged Facebook and Instagram users to donate. At the same time, they arranged seminars and lectures on gender-based violence and participated in street manifestations.

ENTREPRENISING YOUNG WOMEN

As part of our Gemaket project, each year we award several young women a small grant to develop a dream they have. This year, 10 Gemaket participants got the honour. Here’s what happened...

• At Gemaket’s summer camp, Sewra tried feminist self-defence – and loved it. Today, she uses our grant to train jiujitsu several days a week in Gothenburg.

• Amena from Afghanistan moved to Boden when she first arrived in Sweden. After she’d joined Gemaket, she wanted more newly-arrived young women to learn about feminism too. Today, she regularly holds talks on women’s rights – including for other Afghan girls in Boden.

• Nasrin’s life-long dream is to become a florist: thanks to Kvinna till Kvinna, she got to take a florist course to get started.

Enterprising Young Women

The Swedish Postcode Lottery is one of Sweden’s largest lotteries and we are proud to be one of their trusted beneficiaries. Over the years, we have received more than 100 MSEK!

Did you know that for 100 SEK, a woman trying to leave an abusive partner can spend the night at a safe house in the South Caucasus? Your donation makes a difference!

EUROPEAN ELECTIONS

In the weeks before the European Parliament election in May, we ran a campaign to help voters understand what was at stake. In recent years, extreme-right and nationalist ideas have grown stronger in Europe. As a result, democracy and hard-won women’s rights like abortion are under threat. Whoever voters would give a seat to in the EU Parliament would be able to wield influence over these matters – for better or worse. By sharing facts and highlighting key issues in our digital channels, we urged voters to cast their vote pro-women and anti-nationalism. In the end, nationalist parties did gain seats in the EU elections, but luckily not to the extent we had feared.

CRUCIAL EUROPEAN ELECTIONS

55 new volunteers joined us – an increase of 93% compared to last year!

MUSIKHJÄLPEN

We partnered with Radiohjälpen – the fundraising wing of Sweden’s public service radio and TV. Each December, they organise the nation-wide Musikhjälpen campaign, in which three hosts stay in a glass house for several days to broadcast music non-stop while raising money. This year, Musikhjälpen focused on raising awareness of sexual violence as a weapon of war. Kvinna till Kvinna’s very own Stina Magnuson Buur was invited as an expert to take part in one of the broadcasts.
We were awarded the prize of “Fundraiser of the Year” by the Swedish Fundraising Association (Giva Sverige, former FRI) for our 2018 Christmas campaign.

As we chose to continue with the same “Men’s violence against women takes no Christmas break” campaign concept in 2019, the prize was a lovely endorsement of that decision. The jury praised the way Kvinna till Kvinner “made expert use of digital channels to attract donors.” It said the campaign’s message was simple but clear, and “managed to make people understand what it’s like really for women who face abuse.” The jury members were particularly impressed by the campaign’s success despite its limited resources and despite the difficulty of standing out as an NGO during the hectic holiday season.

Our goodwill ambassador Fanna Ndow Norrby travelled with us to North Macedonia in March, where she met our local partner organisations and got to see the work they do for women’s rights. Fanna describes what it was like: “The visit exceeded all my expectations. It showed me what that immeasurable fighting spirit we all carry inside us as feminists can lead to! One thing I’ll carry with me forever is Irena Cvetkovik’s words before we parted ways. When I asked her about her plans, she said: ‘Tonight, we celebrate. Tomorrow, we’re fighting the anti-abortion law!’ The very next day, they did just that – and won. Victory!”

In mid-October, the African Commission on Human and People’s Rights (ACHPR) gathered in Banjul, Gambia.

For the second year in a row, we invited our African partner organisations to attend the NGO Forum ahead of the Commission’s meeting. Réseau des Femmes and Rwanda Women’s Network attended from Rwanda, LIFLEA and WORIWA from Liberia and SOFAD and AFEM from the DRC. At the Forum, Kvinna till Kvinner organised a side event as well as a panel debate on the African human rights system and Women, Peace and Security. With input from our partners, we drafted a resolution: the NGO Forum decided to adopt it, after which the resolution became one of just four thematic resolutions that later influenced the ACHPR’s discussions.

**HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCACY IN AFRICA**

**FUNDRAISING AWARD**

We were awarded the prize of “Fundraiser of the Year” by the Swedish Fundraising Association (Giva Sverige, former FRI) for our 2018 Christmas campaign.

In mid-October, the African Commission on Human and People’s Rights (ACHPR) gathered in Banjul, Gambia.

For the second year in a row, we invited our African partner organisations to attend the NGO Forum ahead of the Commission’s meeting. Réseau des Femmes and Rwanda Women’s Network attended from Rwanda, LIFLEA and WORIWA from Liberia and SOFAD and AFEM from the DRC. At the Forum, Kvinna till Kvinner organised a side event as well as a panel debate on the African human rights system and Women, Peace and Security. With input from our partners, we drafted a resolution: the NGO Forum decided to adopt it, after which the resolution became one of just four thematic resolutions that later influenced the ACHPR’s discussions.

The funds we raise come from:

- Private donations = 25% (half of this comes from monthly donors)
- Corporate donations = 75%

The number of private monthly donors increased by 40% during 2019.

The number of corporate donations increased by 64% during 2019.

**IN 2019, WE RAISED A TOTAL OF 16.2 MSEK AND SOLD PRODUCTS FOR 415,000 SEK.**

The funds we raise come from:

- Private donations = 25% (half of this comes from monthly donors)
- Corporate donations = 75%

The number of private monthly donors increased by 40% during 2019.

The number of corporate donations increased by 64% during 2019.

Our goodwill ambassador Fanna Ndow Norrby travelled with us to North Macedonia in March, where she met our local partner organisations and got to see the work they do for women’s rights. Fanna describes what it was like: “The visit exceeded all my expectations. It showed me what that immeasurable fighting spirit we all carry inside us as feminists can lead to! One thing I’ll carry with me forever is Irena Cvetkovik’s words before we parted ways. When I asked her about her plans, she said: ‘Tonight, we celebrate. Tomorrow, we’re fighting the anti-abortion law!’ The very next day, they did just that – and won. Victory!”

Our corporate fundraising continues to grow – here are just a few examples!

- Pharmaceutical company Gedeon Richter hired us to provide expert information on SRHR to the midwives and gynaecologists the company works with.
- The Body Shop partnered with us for a major sponsored campaign, “Empower You – Empower Her”. Between March and September, The Body Shop raised awareness of women’s economic rights in all its Swedish stores, resulting in 335,000 SEK in donations for our work for women’s rights globally.
- Silversmith Viktor Lenper created a bracelet in memory of Tova Moberg – murdered by her boyfriend in 2017. Thirty percent of all sales profits will go to Kvinna till Kvinnen.

**ALMEDALEN DEBATE ON (UN)EQUAL INTEGRATION**

During Almedalen (an annual political gathering in July on the Swedish island of Gotland), we organised a well-attended panel debate. Based on the lessons we’ve learned from our Gemaket project for girls who are new to Sweden, we looked into why Sweden still struggles to integrate foreign-born women and girls into its labour market and society – despite good intentions by politicians.

Panellists included Inger Ashing (director of DELMOS), Rosaline Marbinah (chairperson of LSU, the National Council of Swedish Youth Organisations), Camilla Divander (counsellor at a centre for refugees and asylum seekers) and Isadora Spoerer (project manager for Gemaket). The debate was moderated by lawyer and public speaker Dona Hariri.

**INCOME AND FUNDRAISING**

96,155 followers and fans across our channels – an increase of 22.5%

Followers and fans across our channels

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Platform</th>
<th>Followers/Fans</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instagram</td>
<td>49,273</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LinkedIn</td>
<td>6,343</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facebook</td>
<td>25,429</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International page</td>
<td>4,748</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LinkedIn</td>
<td>10,362</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Followers and fans across our channels

- Instagram followers increased by 38.6%
- 75% more on LinkedIn
- The number of fans on our international Facebook page increased by 11.2%
Kvinna till Kvinna’s Board is appointed by the Swedish section of the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) and the Swedish Peace and Arbitration Society. While our secretary-general runs Kvinna till Kvinna’s daily operations, the Board sets Kvinna till Kvinna’s long-term strategic course. Board members are elected for a period of four years.

**Chairperson**

1. **Devin Mavi**
   Editor-in-chief and op-ed writer. Has been involved in the feminist and anti-racist movement for more than 15 years. Board member since 2014.

**Deputy Chairperson**

2. **Viola Furubjelke**
   Former member of the Swedish parliament, ambassador to Syria/Lebanon and secretary-general of the Olof Palme International Centre. Board member since 2011.

**Secretary**

3. **Kajsa Wijby**

**Members**

4. **Johanna Mannergren**
   Peace researcher at the Swedish Institute of International Affairs. Former journalist, peace observer (South Africa) and election observer (Bosnia and Herzegovina).

5. **Lars Jalmert**
   Emeritus professor of education at Stockholm University and board member of the Fredrika Bremer Association. Has participated in eight government reviews on gender-based violence.

6. **Malin Almroth**

7. **Maria Appelblom**
   Police chief superintendent. Former chief of the UN Standing Police Capacity and chairperson of Stockholm’s UN association.

**Deputy Members**

8. **Lena Backhausen**
   Licensed psychologist, former HR manager and leadership and organisational consultant. Has been involved in WILPF for many years, including as Board member.

9. **Tsehainesh Tekleab**
   Environmental strategist at the Swedish Institute of International Affairs. Peace researcher at the Swedish Peace and Arbitration Society. While our secretary-general runs Kvinna till Kvinna’s daily operations, the Board sets Kvinna till Kvinna’s long-term strategic course. Board members are elected for a period of four years.

10. **Carina Andersson**
    Manager for east and southern Africa at the Red Cross. Significant experience of development cooperation, including at We Effect.

11. **Lisen Bergquist**
    Managing director of the World Anti-Bullying Forum at Friends. Formerly worked at Kvinna till Kvinna, Albright Stonebridge Group and the Swedish Institute of International Affairs.

**Thank you**

In 2019, a new Board was elected – meaning we said goodbye to Birgit Hansson, Jesper Hansén, Marie Sundberg, Banafshe Hejazi and Karin Karlström. A warm thank you for your dedication and enthusiasm as Board members!

**Administrative Report for 2019**

**About our operations**

The Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation has defended women’s rights since 1993. For every woman’s right to be safe and to be heard. With over 100 partner organisations in 20 countries, we are now one of the world’s leading women’s rights organisations. We work in areas affected by war and conflict to strengthen women’s influence and power, end violence against women and highlight women’s struggle for peace and human rights. Together, we make a difference - together, we are change.

Kvinna till Kvinna’s mandate

- To conduct projects in war- and conflict-affected regions that promote women’s self-reliance, self-esteem and psychosocial and/or physical health, or contribute to promoting women’s participation in building a democratic civil society.
- To foster studies and research on the effects of war and armed conflict on women.
- To publicise facts and information about the effects of war and to build public support for peaceful conflict resolution through the use of civil methods.

**Content**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Administrative report</th>
<th>37-49</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income statement</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance sheet</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash flow statement, indirect method</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Unless otherwise specified, all amounts are reported in thousand SEK. Figures between brackets are from the previous year.

**Broad-based support in Swedish society**

When it was founded, Kvinna till Kvinna brought together Sweden’s peace and women’s movements. To this day, we are supported by a large number of other organisations:

Significant events during the year

2019 continuously confirmed that Kvinnahems support for women's rights activists in conflict-affected areas is still needed. As our report “The Fierce and the Furious”, women's rights activists reveal how they face increasing physical and virtual threats and hate. Along with growing bureaucratic demands and anti-organisation rhetoric, shrunk space for thinking – and not just outside Europe. In spite of this, our partner organisations persisted with their systematic work for change; in 2019, we were able to see many positive results for women's rights: from the individual and local to the national and international level.

In Libya, after years of advocacy and demonstrations, violence against women is now officially illegal. Women's organisations have also gathered a stronger voice and were even able to leave their partners thanks to the small-enterprise support they received from our partner organisations. In the DRC, the country's new presidential elections message of women's rights activists and encouraged women's political participation in the general election. In Rwanda, over 200 teenagers received sexual education from our partner Save Generation Organisation, who addressed this sensitive subject through, amongst other, media, dance and art.

In Syrian Idlib, one of the world's most war-torn areas, our partner Women Now provided over 800 women with a mean of 17,000 followers on a channels and obtained practically. Our organisation also teamed up with Dawlaty to deliver recommendations for the UN's Human Rights Council. Palestinian organisations have access like a new law that prohibits undergraduate marriage, and 94 verdicts in favour of women in 98 family-law cases dealt with by local Sharia courts. In Israel, where migrant women lose their work visas when giving birth, our partner Acholi managed to have 15 of 17 women released after they arrived in Sweden, had a record number of groups and participants in its final year. During the year, our volunteers put in 4,000 hours of work. We also entered a partnership with Radiohjälpen (the fundraising wing of Sweden's public service radio and TV) and took part in the campaign Musikhjälpen, which highlighted the issue of sexual violence in war and conflict.

In the weeks running up to the EU election, we conducted a campaign to show voters how the rise of nationalism in Europe is threatening women who long fought for. We presented facts, posts and videos about our partner organisations to urge voters to vote for a Europe in which women can live lives based on their own decisions. Ahead of Christmas, we also took part in the global “16 Days of Activism” campaign and produced the report “The Fierce and the Furious” in collaboration with EuroMed Rights, which puts forward feminist views on the anti-gender movement. The report was launched with a panel debate on November 27th, Female Defenders Day, and in social media in different languages, while we also tested a new way of engaging our volunteers in digital activism on Instagram.

At the Stockholm Development Forum in October, we launched a report on efforts by the World Bank and other development banks to integrate a gender perspective into their financing packages and projects. The study mapped three MENA countries and prepared the ground for further examination of how the banks can include and finance women's rights organisations.

Method, development and quality assurance

In 2019, Kvinnahem strengthened its internal operational follow-up on guidelines and tenets for programme implementation and partner support. In effect this meant hiring an advisor to take charge of how we support our partners and consistently clarify our quality assurance guidelines. This quality assurance is also part of our improvement efforts following an external effectiveness audit in 2018 to enhance our systems and guidelines.

Women’s economic autonomy presented results from a Europe in which women can live lives based on their own decisions. Ahead of Christmas, we also took part in the campaign Musikhjälpen, which highlighted the issue of sexual violence in war and conflict.

For detailed financial accounting, see the following income statement, balance sheet, cash flow statement and notes.

Sustainability

After many years of working for change, we finally concluded the process of decentralising our organisation during the year, even if some minor changes and adaptations will continue. In 2019, we focused on implementing previously adopted procedures and guidelines, with the exception of a few larger development projects. For our volunteers, we produced new guidelines for incident and crisis management suited to a relatively large, decentralised organisation. We also carried out a major review of conditions for different staff groups.
Kvinna till Kvinna is a sustainable organisation that is respected. A future in which global security is based on human rights. Future developments: Kvinna till Kvinna was initially formed in 1993 as a network of women’s organisations. The Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation was founded in 1995 by the Swedish section of the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF). The organisation is headed by a secretary-general. Kvinna till Kvinna has four departments (Programme, Communications, Finance and Resource), each of which is managed by a departmental head. The Resource Department comprises units for methodology, security and human resources. The management group comprises the secretary-general, the departmental heads and the head of HR. The secretary-general and the deputy secretary-general were co-opted to the Board during the year. A Board secretary and a staff representative, with a personal deputy, were also co-opted to the Board. The secretary-general is appointed and dismissed by the Board. The Board is elected every fourth year by WILPF in Sweden (6 members) and the Swedish Peace and Arbitration Society (1 member). The current Board took up office in May 2019. The Board’s rules of procedure and annual plan are revisited annually. The purpose of the rules of procedure is to specify procedures for the Board’s work, allocate responsibilities among Board members and clarify the division of responsibilities between the Board and the secretariat. The rules establish responsibility for the organisation’s long-term strategy, guidelines and evaluations, its management and control systems, as well as systems for managing and administering funds. They also regulate matters pertaining to the accounts and budget decisions, and require Kvinna till Kvinna’s auditors to attend at least one Board meeting each year, which they duly did in 2019.

Over the coming two-year period, we plan to produce a new strategy for 2022–27 and continue our efforts to establish operations in Somalia. We will close our programme office in Ukraine in 2020 and decide on operations in Sweden following a lengthy pilot programme. We will actively take part in international celebrations of the 20th and 25th anniversaries of various conventions and declarations on women’s rights. We will also invest in diversifying our financing (primarily by increasing private fundraising) to become financially more independent and to be able to make beneficiary contributions to major institutional grants. We will continue our digital growth by developing our intranet, the SharePoint platform and data security. We will also be developing our procedures regarding the Xledger financial system and our new HR and salary system, Hogsia. Following the expansion we’ve seen in recent years, we will be paying extra attention to work environment issues, including staff conditions and competence development. To coincide with the drafting of our new strategy, we will also be strengthening our monitoring and learning cycle.

Administration: Kvinna till Kvinna is a sustainable organisation that is well-known both in Sweden and internationally for its work to support women in conflict-affected regions.
## Income Statement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Note</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Foundation’s income</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>16,242</td>
<td>17,270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>181,199</td>
<td>149,889</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other operating income</td>
<td>3,548</td>
<td>2,577</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total income for the Foundation</td>
<td>200,989</td>
<td>169,716</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Note</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operating expenses</td>
<td>4, 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programme expenses</td>
<td>-189,668</td>
<td>-156,973</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising expenses</td>
<td>-4,485</td>
<td>-3,767</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative expenses</td>
<td>-5,683</td>
<td>-5,090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total operating expenses</td>
<td>-199,836</td>
<td>-165,830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Profit/loss from operations</td>
<td>1,203</td>
<td>3,976</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Profit/loss from financial items |  |  |
|---|---|
| Profit/loss from financial investments | 677 | 294 |
| Interest expenses and similar profit/loss items | -1,148 | -277 |
| Total profit/loss from financial investments | -471 | 17 |
| Gross profit/loss | 732 | 3,993 |
| Tax | 6 | 63 |
| Net profit/loss for the year | 668 | 3,990 |

| Allocation of net profit/loss for the year |  |  |
|---|---|
| Net profit for the year according to the income statement (see above) | 668 | 3,990 |
| Utilisation of designated/unrestricted reserves from previous years | 520 | 39 |
| Reservation of designated/unrestricted funds received but not utilised during the year | -547 | -362 |
| Amount remaining for the year/funds carried forward | 841 | 3,667 |

## Balance Sheet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Note</th>
<th>2019-12-31</th>
<th>2018-12-31</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fixed assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tangible fixed assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment, tools and installations</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial fixed assets</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other long-term securities holdings</td>
<td>620</td>
<td>620</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total fixed assets</td>
<td>620</td>
<td>645</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stocks etc.</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total stocks etc.</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current receivables</td>
<td>384</td>
<td>9,847</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts receivable - trade</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,451</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other current receivables</td>
<td>10,515</td>
<td>5,418</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid expenses and accrued income</td>
<td>2,869</td>
<td>2,978</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total current receivables</td>
<td>13,384</td>
<td>9,847</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cash and bank</strong></td>
<td>83,151</td>
<td>86,326</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total current assets</td>
<td>98,531</td>
<td>96,180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total assets</strong></td>
<td>97,151</td>
<td>96,825</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Equity and liabilities** |  |  |
|---|---|
| **Equity** |  |  |
| Funds brought forward | 7,949 | 3,990 |
| Net profit/loss for the year | 668 | 3,990 |
| Total equity | 8,617 | 7,949 |
| **Current liabilities** |  |  |
| Accounts payable | 2,729 | 1,693 |
| Tax liabilities | 63 | 5 |
| Liability from received but not utilised grants | 44,151 | 44,151 |
| Other current liabilities | 1,462 | 1,513 |
| Accrued expenses and deferred income | 63,987 | 41,516 |
| Total current liabilities | 88,554 | 88,876 |
| **Total equity and liabilities** | 97,151 | 96,825 |
CASH FLOW STATEMENT

Cash flow statement Note 2019 2018
Operating activities
Profit/loss from operations before financial items 731 3 993
Adjustment for items not included in cash flow, etc. 25 55
Past income tax -67 72
Cash flow from operating activities before changes in working capital 689 4 120
Cash flow from changes in working capital
Increase/Decrease in other short-term operating liabilities -1 373 25 099
Cash flow from operating activities 689 4 120
Investment activities
Increase/Decrease in accounts payable – trade 1 036 -1 294
Increase/Decrease in current receivables -4 989 449
Cash flow from investment activities 85 142
Investment activities
Investment in other fixed financial assets 0 -299
Cash flow from investment activities 0 -299
Cash flow for the year -3 195 26 642
Opening cash and cash equivalents 86 326 59 684
Closing cash and cash equivalents 12 83 131 86 326

NOTE 1 Accounting and valuation principles

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Swedish Annual Accounts Act, BFNAR 2012:1 (K3) and the Swedish Fundraising Association's (GIVA Sverige) operating guidelines for annual financial statements.

Income statement
Operating income
Only the inflow of economic benefits that the organisation has received or will receive on its own account is recognised as income. Unless otherwise specified below, income is valued at the fair value of the benefit that has been or will be received.
Donations
Donations include donations received from the general public, companies, organisations, associations, private and non-profit funds and foundations, and sponsorship. Donations also include bequests, the value of donated assets, and income from donations with deeds of gift. Funds from the Swedish Postcode Lottery are also classified as donations. Donations received in the form of undertakings by companies to pay a certain percentage of their sales to a fundraising organisation are also deemed funds raised, because the third-party company is the seller – not Kvinna till Kvinna.
Grants
Funds that the organisation has received from the European Union, the Swedish state and formally independent bodies formed by the EU or Swedish state, and which are provided in the form of transfers of resources to an organisation in exchange for that particular organisation having met, or having pledged to meet, certain conditions relating to its activities, are deemed public grants and are to be recorded as grants (K3, Sections 38.6 and 37.10). This is also a requirement in relation to the obligation to repay such grants if the conditions are not met. The definition of a grant also applies to other organisations that provide funds under these conditions.
Other income
Primarily, income from successfully completed International Training Programme (ITP) courses and the sale of products.
Operating expenses
Programme service expenses
Programme service expenses refer to expenses that have a direct connection with the fulfilment of the organisation’s purpose and Articles of Association, namely:
• To support projects that promote women’s self-reliance and self-esteem, that promote women's psychosocial and/or physical health, or that otherwise help to promote women’s participation in building a democratic civil society.
• To publicise facts and information about the effects of war and to build public support for peaceful conflict resolution through the use of civil methods.
• To foster studies and research on the effects of war and armed conflict on women.
Administrative expenses incurred as a direct result of an activity/ project are programme service expenses. Examples of such expenses are our overseas offices, central project management and governance, and the administration of grant applications.
Fundraising expenses
Fundraising expenses consist of expenses that have a direct connection to fundraising activities targeting any or all of the organisation’s donors.
Administrative expenses
Administrative expenses are those that the organisation incurs to fulfil the quality requirements that we have for our purpose and for our donors, but that cannot be regarded as programme service expenses. In our allocations, around 7.3 percent finance the administrative expenses and these are accounted for as programme service expenses. Remaining expenses are those for certain managers and some staff within the finance and communication departments, as well as development expenses for administrative and organisational processes, accounting expenses and some of the common costs.
Common costs
The above costs include common costs that can be defined as follows: Common costs include IT, the finance and accounting functions, premises and management (Board of Directors and the secretary-general).
Leasing
All the organisation’s leasing costs are accounted for as operating costs. Leasing costs include premises rent.
Payments to employees
Current payments to employees in the form of wages and salaries, payroll overheads and the like, are recognised as expenses concurrently with the performance of their duties. Since all pension obligations are classified as defined contribution, a cost is recognised in the year the pension benefits are earned.
Income tax
The tax expense for the year includes tax relating to this year’s taxable income. This applies to our activities within the International Training Programme (ITP), which is classified as an economic activity. There are no temporary differences, which is why deferred tax is not reported.
Balance sheet
Fixed assets
Tangible fixed assets are valued at their costs of acquisition less depreciation according to plan. Tangible fixed assets are systematically depreciated over their assessed economic life. In doing so, the following depreciation period is used:
Equipment/Computers 5 years
Some equipment purchases are recorded as programme service expenses. This occurs when appropriations have been made for the purchase, or when, due to the high risk of theft in field work, the equipment is equated with expendable equipment. During the year, equipment purchases totalling thousand 569 SEK were recorded as programme service costs.
Receivables
Receivables are reported in the amounts that we estimate will be paid, based on individual assessment.
Foreign currencies
Receivables and payables in foreign currencies are valued at the closing day rate. Receivables in foreign currencies, foreign currencies in cash and bank balances in our field offices are valued at the exchange rate applied for the most recent transfer of funds from Sweden. These currencies are used in the field and are not intended to be returned to Sweden.
Liability received but not utilised grants
A grant received by an organisation that does not meet the necessary criteria is recorded as a liability.
NOTE 2 Funds raised

2019 2018

The Foundation's income is detailed as follows:

Donations 16 242 17 270
Grants 181 199 149 869
Other operating income 3 548 2 577
Total 201 999 180 715

Donations are detailed as follows:

General public 3 767 4 225
Companies 1 245 595
Swedish Postcode Lottery 10 800 12 000
Other foundations 430 450
Total 16 242 17 270

Donations not reported in the income statement:

Advertising 3 958 2 521
Pro bono services (estimated amount) 194 218
Total 1 132 469

NOTE 3 Grants recognised as income

2019 2018

Sida grants recognised as income

South Caucasus 5 019 4 822
Western Balkans 14 361 14 010

Sida grants recognised as income

South Caucasus 5 019 4 822
Western Balkans 14 361 14 010

NOTE 4 Leasing

Future leasing payments fall due according to the following:

Falling due and payable within 1 year 5 411 4 938
Falling due and payable within 5 years 2 215 3 114
Total 7 626 8 052

Expensed leasing charges during the period:

Total 6 996 5 456

Leasing charges include premises, and office and IT equipment

NOTE 5 Average number of employees, staff costs

2019 2018

Number of employees (women only)

Sweden 70 69
Bosnia & Herzegovina 2 7
Kosovo 2 2
Macedonia 4 4
Serbia 4 7
South Caucasus 5 4
Liberia 9 7
Palestine and Israel 3 4
Jordan and Lebanon 11 10
Iraq 2 2
Rwanda 6 5
Ukraine 4 2
Turkey 2 2
DR Congo 2 1
Total 126 114

Salaries and other employee benefits

Secretary General 830 773
Other employees 45 240 39 699
Total 849 1 513

NOTE 6 Tax on profit/loss for the year

2019 2018

Income tax based on taxable economic activities

Pre-tax profit/loss recognised 295 189
Unused tax losses utilised during the year – (174)
Total 295 189

Tax calculated at prevailing rate (21.4%) 63 3
Total 63 3

NOTE 7 Equipment

2019 2018

Costs of acquisitions brought forward 1 464 1 666
Sales and disposals – (372)
Closing accumulated costs of acquisitions 1 464 1 666
Depreciation brought forward – (1 439)
Sales and disposals – (372)
Depreciation for the year – (25)
Accumulated depreciation carried forward – (1 464)
Residual value according to plan 0 25

NOTE 8 Long-term securities held

2019 2018

Acquisition value brought forward 620 620
Year's acquisitions – (299)
Closing accumulated acquisition value 620 620
Securities specification

Money market fund 79 79

Total 620 717

NOTE 9 Contingent liabilities

2019 2018

Rental guarantee/deposit 849 849
Mortgages – 664
Total 849 1 513

NOTE 10 Liability, received but not utilised grants

2019 2018

Sida South Caucasus 117 –
Sida Europe/Western Balkans 3 375 1 779
Sida Middle East 4 676 23 605
Sida Liberia 7 461 257
Sida Ukraine 2 474 –
Sida Rwanda 3 633 10 059
Sida framework grants 4 816 879
Sida information 3 933 284
Sida other 859 –
Swedish Inheritance Fund 510 –
Other allocations 1 805 3 137
Total 20 293 44 151

NOTE 11 Accrued expenses and deferred income

2019 2018

Holiday pay – 2 470
Other items – 2 346
Prepaid grants, Sida – 35 800
Repaid payroll fees – 897
Retrospective pension contributions 3 619 –
Total – 41 516

NOTE 12 Cash and cash equivalents

2019 2018

Cash assets 230 342
Bank balances 82 901 85 184
Total 85 131 90 326

NOTE 13 Significant events after the end of the financial year

The Board is following the covid-19 pandemic, which is affecting everyone in society. Kvinnor till Kvinnor is monitoring developments in Sweden and its programme countries, and taking appropriate measures to protect its staff. The secretary-general keeps the Board regularly informed on developments and how they impact the organisation.
Office translation of original document in Swedish

AUDITOR’S REPORT

To the board of Krima till Krima
Corporative identity number: 882401-6134

Report on the annual accounts

Opinions

We have audited the annual accounts of Krima till Krima for the year 2019. The annual accounts are included on pages 49-62 in this document.

In our opinion, the annual accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Annual Accounts Act and present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Krima till Krima as of 31 December 2019 and its financial performance and cash flow for the year ended in accordance with the Annual Accounts Act. The statutory administration report is consistent with the other parts of the annual accounts.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) and generally accepted auditing standards in Sweden and Sweden Act on Statutory Auditors (Kammarrättens regler för rättvisnings- och stödredovisningsfrågor) as they have been adopted by the National Audit Board in accordance with the Audit Act. We also complied with the International Standards on Quality Control (ISQCs) and related pronouncements of the International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board (IAASB).

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to support our opinions.

Information of particular importance

As is the case in all Year 13 Significant events after the end of the balance sheet date, the Board of Directors estimates that the outcome of the event (GriP) would have material significance for the Founder’s activities in the new year.

Other Information than the annual accounts

The Board of Directors is responsible for the preparation of the annual accounts and that they give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the company during the financial year and an accurate presentation of the company’s financial year for which the internal control system does not, in our view, provide sufficient protection to ensure that the accounts are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the annual accounts, the Board of Directors is responsible for the assessment of the Association’s ability to continue as a going concern. They, therefore, draw up the annual accounts on the going concern basis. They also make an assessment of whether the annual accounts represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We concluded the audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards in Sweden. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the “Auditor’s Responsibilities” section. We are an independent firm of Krima till Krima in accordance with professional ethics for accountants in Sweden and have otherwise fulfilled our other responsibilities in accordance with these.

We believe that our audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to support our opinions.

Responsibilities of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors is responsible for the preparation of the annual accounts and that they give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the company during the financial year and an accurate presentation of the company’s financial year for which the internal control system does not, in our view, provide sufficient protection to ensure that the accounts are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the annual accounts, the Board of Directors is responsible for the assessment of the Association’s ability to continue as a going concern. They, therefore, draw up the annual accounts on the going concern basis. They also make an assessment of whether the annual accounts represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We concluded the audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards in Sweden. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the “Auditor’s Responsibilities” section. We are an independent firm of Krima till Krima in accordance with professional ethics for accountants in Sweden and have otherwise fulfilled our other responsibilities in accordance with these.

We believe that our audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to support our opinions.

Report on other legal and regulatory requirements

Opinions

In addition to the audit of the annual accounts, we have also audited the administration of the Board of Directors of Krima till Krima for the year 2019.

In our opinion, the Board of Directors have not annulled in breach of the foundation’s Act, the foundation’s regulation on the annual accounts.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted the audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards in Sweden. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the “Auditor’s Responsibilities” section. We are an independent firm of Krima till Krima in accordance with professional ethics for accountants in Sweden and have otherwise fulfilled our other responsibilities in accordance with these.

We believe that our audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to support our opinions.

Responsibilities of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors is responsible for the administration according to foundation Act and the foundation’s regulation.

Auditor’s responsibility

Our objective concerning the audit of the administration, and therefore our opinion about the financial statement fair presentation, is to obtain an adequate degree of assurance whether the Board of Directors in its annual report has undertaken an appropriate process of preparing the financial statement and keeping the foundation’s Act and the foundation’s regulation.

In order to attain this objective, we have undertaken the following:

- Identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in the annual accounts, whether due to fraud or error, designing and performing audit procedures appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on the financial statements.
- Evaluating the board’s competences in accordance with the generally accepted accounting standards and the foundation’s Act and the foundation’s regulation.
- Assessing the board’s competence to prepare the financial statement and keep the foundation’s Act and the foundation’s regulation.
Kvinna till Kvinna has a 90-account – a special type of account granted by the non-profit organisation Swedish Fundraising Control. This type of account is an assurance to the public that the accountholder's fundraising activities are monitored by the Swedish Fundraising Control. It guarantees that funds are raised in an ethical and responsible way, and that the collected funds are used for their intended purpose.

Image: Varduhi Tonapetyan from Armenia was only a student when she was forced to marry against her will. She became completely dependent on her husband and was subjected to violence and abuse for years. Through the support of Kvinna till Kvinna's partner organisation Spitak Helsinki Group, Varduhi has become more economically independent and gained freedom and self-determination. “My goal is to save enough money to start my own business.”

Photo: Maja Brand
For all women’s rights, in every corner of the world.