WHO WE ARE, WHAT WE DO, AND HOW WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE
WHO WE ARE

The Global Network of Women Peacebuilders (GNWP) is a coalition of over 100 civil society organizations across Africa, Asia Pacific, Latin America, Central, Eastern and Western Europe, and the Middle East and Arab World.

Our members are mostly local and national women’s rights organizations from conflict and crisis-affected countries, who share the belief that equality for women mean peace for all.

WHAT WE DO

Our mission is to amplify women’s voices to build sustainable and inclusive peace.

We empower women, young women, and girls around the world to bridge the gap between global policies on Women, Peace and Security (WPS), Youth Peace and Security (YPS), and Sustaining Peace adopted by the UN, and local action on the ground.

In 2021, we are implementing programs in 19 countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Chad, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Georgia, Indonesia, Kenya, Lebanon, Moldova, Myanmar, Nigeria, the Philippines, South Sudan, Rwanda, Uganda and Ukraine.
HOW WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

GNWP programs address the lived experiences of women and girls in communities affected by conflict and humanitarian crisis. We respond to the persistent challenges and emerging threats they face through four key strategies:

1. Translating global policies on Women, Peace and Security (WPS) and Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) into local actions
2. Bringing local women’s voices to national and global policy spaces
3. Elevating young women as leaders and agents of peace and sustainable development
4. Advancing feminist, localized humanitarian action and crisis response

We adopt a local to global, global to local approach in our work:

Our research and advocacy bring the perspectives of local women to global policy-making, highlighting the synergies between the WPS and YPS agendas, UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), humanitarian action, and the Sustaining Peace resolutions.

We provide technical assistance to governments and civil society to translate global laws into inclusive local and national policies, such as National and Local Action Plans on WPS and YPS.

We also provide technical support to governments and civil society in monitoring and implementing National and Local Action Plans on WPS, YPS, and related policies. Our programs enhance the skills of local women and young women to contribute to implementation, monitoring and evaluation.
OUR IMPACT

GNWP is recognized globally for advancing women’s leadership in conflict prevention, peacebuilding and humanitarian action.

As a result of our work:
- more women meaningfully participate in peace processes and in the implementation of peace agreements;
- local leaders and security forces better understand the WPS agenda and adopt concrete policies to implement it;
- there is more gender-responsive media coverage of peace and security, showcasing women’s roles as leaders and peacebuilders;
- young women and girls are better able to promote and protect their rights and build peace;
- local women peacebuilders have better access to funding to implement the WPS agenda – for example, through the Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund, which GNWP initiated;
- humanitarian action better responds to the needs of women and girls; and
- new global policies and instruments were created to effectively implement the WPS agenda – such as the WPS and Humanitarian Action Compact.

The UN Secretary-General cited our Localization of WPS and Young Women Leaders for Peace programs as key strategies to build inclusive and lasting peace.
OUR IMPACT IN NUMBERS

5K
UNDERSTAND THE WPS RESOLUTIONS

5,000 local authorities, traditional and religious leaders, women, youth, and police in 115 districts, provinces and municipalities across 16 countries better understand the WPS resolutions and integrate them into local governance, including local development plans.

Thanks to GNWP’s Localization of WPS strategy, local actors adopted 55 Local Action Plans to date.

Governments and civil society in 17 countries developed National Action Plans on WPS with our technical assistance.

7K
ENHANCED DECISION-MAKING SKILLS

7,000 young women enhanced their skills to contribute to decision-making on conflict prevention, peacebuilding, development, and humanitarian action in their communities.

4K+
INCREASED LITERACY

Over 4,000 young women and girls – including women and girl refugees in Bangladesh, Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) – learned to read, write and count.

300
TRAINED JOURNALISTS

300 journalists from 10 countries trained on WPS, YPS, and gender-sensitive reporting. They produced more than 150 articles, videos and radio programs on women’s leadership and peacebuilding work.

13K
SUPPORTED IN COVID RESPONSE

13,000 vulnerable women and girls and their families in Colombia, Kenya, the Philippines and South Sudan received food, face masks, sanitary pads, soaps, pregnancy test kits, and condoms during the COVID-19 pandemic.

10M
REACHED WITH MEDIA COVERAGE

Over 10 million people received gender-responsive and conflict-sensitive media reports on ongoing crises and conflicts. They also received information on WPS issues and factual, reliable information on the COVID-19 pandemic through radio programs produced by GNWP and its partners in Kenya and the Philippines.
In Colombia and the Philippines, GNWP is using Localization to promote the inclusive implementation of the peace agreements with the Colombian Revolutionary Armed Forces (FARC) and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF). 13 local ordinances and resolutions have now been adopted in the Philippines, to institutionalize the implementation of the Comprehensive Agreement with the MILF. In Colombia, 23 municipalities in Cauca added provisions on implementing the WPS agenda and the peace agreement in their local development plans.

**SPOTLIGHT ON LOCALIZATION**

GNWP’s Localization of WPS strategy convenes diverse local actors to plan how they will implement WPS policies in their communities. Local authorities, indigenous and traditional leaders, religious leaders, women leaders, youth leaders, teachers, police and others draft Local Action Plans, and/or integrate the WPS agenda into existing local policies and strategies. This ensures that local actors translate WPS policies into concrete actions that directly benefit conflict-affected women and girls—and the community as a whole.

During Localization workshops in Kitgum, Uganda, women informed local police that survivors of sexual violence rarely report abuse, due to fear and stigma. After the workshops, police and women established gender-based violence desks and liaison officers in local police stations. As a result, the number of reported cases increased from 435 in 2014, to more than 2,500 each year since.
SPOTLIGHT ON YOUNG WOMEN LEADERS FOR PEACE

GNWP supports young women to become leaders and agents of peace in their communities. We provide training of trainers on peacebuilding, communications, leadership, and economic empowerment. We then support the young women to use the skills they acquired in practice. They become literacy trainers, design and implement their own advocacy campaigns, convene peace dialogues in their communities, or open small businesses.

Young Women Leaders for Peace from North and South Kivu, Democratic Republic of Congo, are using what they learned in the GNWP trainings to promote a survivor-centered approach to WPS. They have generated support from community elders and religious leaders to condemn impunity for sexual violence. In South Kivu, Young Women Leaders for Peace prepared “period kits,” improving access to sexual and reproductive health products for young women in neighboring communities. They also hosted monthly radio broadcast on topics like prevention of conflict and sexual violence, and promotion of relief and recovery.
In Cox’s Bazar, Bangladesh, GNWP trained 30 young women from host communities to lead age-appropriate and gender-sensitive literacy classes for Rohingya refugee and host community women and girls. This enabled 180 Rohingya and host community women and girls to sign their names on legal documents, read important signs in the refugee camps, and access information and services provided by government, civil society, and UN agencies. The interactions between the young women from the host communities and the Rohingya refugees has reduced the tensions between the Rohingya refugee population and host communities. GNWP has also trained the young women to effectively participate in coordination meetings among humanitarian organizations in Cox’s Bazar. Their participation will promote locally driven and locally owned solutions that empower women and girls.

**SPOTLIGHT ON FEMINIST, LOCALIZED HUMANITARIAN ACTION AND CRISIS RESPONSE**

GNWP responds to humanitarian emergencies, while also advocating for humanitarian action that better responds to women and girls’ urgent needs. We have organized relief efforts in the Rohingya refugee camps in Bangladesh; in Indonesia, following the 2018 earthquake; in South Sudan, during the 2015 fighting; and during the COVID-19 pandemic around the world. We contribute to humanitarian coordination mechanisms at local, national, regional and global levels. Our programs elevate local women and youth peacebuilders as decision-makers in the design and implementation of humanitarian emergency response.

Globally, we provide humanitarian actors with critical information and gender-sensitive analysis of crises. For example, we developed and maintain a global database on COVID-19 and WPS. Our advocacy led to the establishment of the WPS and Humanitarian Action Compact – a unique instrument designed to improve implementation and accountability for existing commitments on WPS and gender-responsive humanitarian action, and strengthen the links between the two.
In 2020, GNWP conducted research on conflict-related sexual slavery to examine how to best address the needs of survivors and prevent the recurrence of the crime. With case studies in Iraq, Korea and Uganda, the research includes the voices of 90 survivors, women’s rights activists, human rights lawyers, academics, grassroots peacebuilders, and global policymakers. Research participants stressed the urgency of strengthening language on conflict-related sexual slavery within the WPS agenda. They also called for context-specific, locally-led, and survivor-centered conflict resolution initiatives, using GNWP’s Localization of WPS as a model. GNWP’s local research partners presented these recommendations to national and global policymakers at the UN during the Anniversary of UN Security Resolution 1325.

GNWP partners with academic institutions to produce high-quality research with concrete recommendations for policymakers. GNWP runs a joint practicum with the NYU Center for Global Affairs, through which graduate students explore critical WPS issues. The practicum students and GNWP team formulated practical recommendations on gender provisions in peace agreements and the impact of COVID-19 on peace agreement implementation. We have also worked with the Georgetown Institute on WPS to provide qualitative analysis to contextualize the findings of the WPS Index in Colombia, South Sudan and Ukraine.