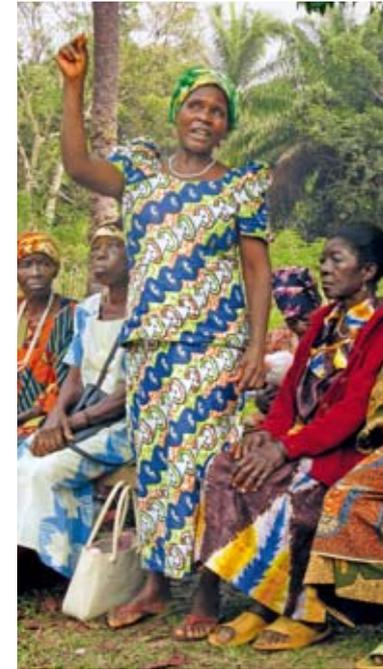


OUR THEMES

Improving the living conditions and chances of women and girls tangibly is the aim of WWDP's project support. We support our local partners in the following areas of work:

- Social and political participation
- Women's health
- Combating violence against women and sexualised violence
- Education and professional qualification
- Economic autonomy/Secure livelihoods in urban and rural environment
- Food sovereignty
- Women's perspective in church, ecumenism and interfaith dialogue



OUR LOCAL PARTNERS

Whether it is a newly founded grass-roots-initiative or a well interconnected human rights organisation, a social movement in the capital or a female farmers' cooperative – we work together with very different partner organisations.

They are all

- experienced in the work for women's rights,
- well interconnected in their local environment,
- on an equal footing with the women and girls they work with,
- capable as implementers and aware of project's long-term impact on the lives of women and girls.



HOW A WWDP-PROJECT COMES INTO EXISTENCE

In the beginning of a project women are dissatisfied with their living conditions and feel a strong desire for change. Together with our local partner organisation, they contemplate what should be different.

▼ FROM THE IDEA TO A PROJECT PROPOSAL

The partner organisation supports the women in developing a concrete action plan from their ideas. If resources are needed to implement this plan, they contact WWDP and submit an application for funding.

▼ PERUSAL AND APPROVAL

The project proposal is reviewed carefully in WWDP's project department. The Committee of WWDP Germany (equivalent to an assembly of members) decides once a year about the support of project proposals. Once approved, a contract is signed and the cooperation can begin.

▼ PROJECT MONITORING

The partner organisation submits regular reports about the course of the project and accounts for the appropriate disbursement of funds. If needed, the project department offers advice to the partner organisations.

▼ THE PROJECT ENDS, THE COMMITMENT FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS CONTINUES...

At the end, the project is evaluated jointly by all parties concerned. Together they reflect on how the concerns of women and girls can be followed up in future.

CONTACT

Please get in touch with us if you have questions with regard to our support for projects. You may contact us as follows:

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On our website you will find more information about our project support and our annual report, including information on how the offering is being spent: www.weltgebetstag.de

WWDP is a member of UN Women (National German Committee reg. Ass.) and the Association of German Development Non-Governmental Organisations (VENRO, reg. Ass.).

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WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS

OUR PROJECTS



Women's World Day of Prayer
German Committee

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: ECUMENISM, SOLIDARITY, PARTNERSHIP

- Women's World Day of Prayer (WWDP) is a major global movement of Christian women.
- Each year Christian women come together on the first Friday in March to observe a common day of prayer. Each year the service is written by women from a different country. Throughout the world, women of different Christian confessions work together locally to prepare the service and all people are welcome to attend.
- The World Day of Prayer links Christian faith and responsible action for a fairer world.



- With hospitality, prayers and experience, people committed to the World Day of Prayer share their resources worldwide on equal terms and in solidarity. This is signified also in the way the collection taken during the service supports women worldwide.

OUR PRINCIPLES

FOCUSING ON RIGHTS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS

We support women and girls, regardless of their colour, social origin, age, sexual orientation and religion, to lead a self-determined life.

TAKING SIDES

There are structural barriers which marginalize and oppress women and girls and force them to live a life in poverty or indignity. We are on their side with our commitment to more social justice and empowerment of women in society.

EMPOWERING WOMEN AND GIRLS

In many parts of the world women and girls lack the opportunity to lead

a self-determined life. We support them in recognising their strengths and shaping their own ways of life.

ACHIEVING MORE GENDER JUSTICE

We believe that gender justice is a concern of women and men alike. If both can change ingrained traditional mind-sets and attitudes, a more gender-just interaction will be possible.

PARTNERSHIP APPROACH

Sustainable changes need reliable relationships and time. Thus, in our co-operation with our partners in the various countries we focus on mutual exchanges and the willingness to learn from each other.



WORLDWIDE COMMITMENT FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

Projects of the World Day of Prayer are about breaking structural barriers which marginalize, exploit and oppress women and girls. The projects strengthen the social, political and economic rights of women and girls.

With the collection taken during the World Day of Prayer such projects are supported worldwide. Some examples:

NICARAGUA BIBLE BOLSTERS WOMEN

Women's perspectives in church and ecumenism. "Our churches have done a lot of good work in the social sector. Unfortunately, they have not yet tackled the problem of why women in the church as an institution are made to look small through traditional bible interpretations". Lorena is the director of socio-pastoral services in a protestant community. Since taking part in a seminar on feminist pastoral work at the ecumenical centre CIEETS, she reads the bible differently. Women take responsibility for their belief. They look into religious traditions, church doctrines and bible interpretations and criticise the extrapolation of suppression and injustice, "because the liberating message of the bible encourages women to realise our gifts and talents in the churches and parishes too."



COLUMBIA NO COMMUNITY PLANNING WITHOUT WOMEN

Political Empowerment: „Many women's projects fail due to the fact that women lack the knowledge of financial administration" explains Cristina from our partner organisation VAMOS MUJER in Medellin. "So since 2005 we have been making indigenous women more competent in project management". Out of these activities a network of 14 women's groups named Plataforma evolved. "Women's interests have to be part of the community development planning, otherwise they will not be realised", stresses Cristina, so "it is obligatory for all to take their interests into consideration". Nowadays Plataforma initiates activities for women's rights and sustainable development all over Columbia. The women are promoting especially the human right to food.



BENIN COOPERATIVES ARE OPENING UP NEW PERSPECTIVES

Economic Empowerment. Memouna and Mariam, two farmers in the region of Collines, are working hard to support their families with food and daily needs. Despite the important role women play in the food production of this fertile region, they are hardly ever involved in how their products are marketed and distributed. So they are not able to get better prices for their products. Our partner organisation CRADIB offers women a new perspective on how they can improve their social and economic conditions, by growing cashew nuts and developing cooperatives. Up till now there are about 1.200 women organised in seven cooperatives. They jointly produce, distribute and market their products now. Moreover, by processing juice and jam out of the cashew fruits the women have access to additional sources of income.



SOUTH AFRICA STRONG GIRLS

Education. Poverty, violence, lack of prospects – everyday life in the former townships is often depressing. Where do I get help and support? This question was asked seven years ago by Nozipho, a girl from Soweto. At the Children's Resource Centre (CRC) she found a home from home at that time. Today she is one of some 1.000 girls who are organised in the countrywide movement of CRC. "Here we get tips for learning and hygiene and learn new sports. In assertiveness training we practise how to defend ourselves better against sexual violence." The 18-year-old has since become a regional coordinator and supports other girls in finding their way.



CHECHNYA COUNSELLING MAKES THE DIFFERENCE

Women's health. In Grosny, capital of Chechnya, still largely in ruins three years after the official end of the war, hardly any functioning health service exists. This affects women especially badly: When 19-year-old Kheda realises that she is pregnant, she has never heard of anything like contraception or antenatal classes. At the centre run by our partner organisation "Women's Dignity", Kheda receives gynaecological and psycho-social counselling. "Women's Dignity" also organises workshops for students and further training for teachers, so that health and sexual education can take place in the schools. Kheda is glad to have found a place to go with the many questions she has. Before her child is born, she wants to feel ready to care for it.

BANGLADESH TRAINING OPENS UP CHANCES

Securing livelihoods. In the region of Batiaghata, poverty and social exclusion are everyday experiences for women. At the time when Nilofar first heard about our partner organisation SHARE, she and her neighbours considered their situation hopeless. Then they attended SHARE's training programme and learnt about their rights and how they could build up an economic existence. Step by step not only the income of the families but also the self-confidence of the women grew: "Today I can feed my family well and in our group I am responsible for the finances", Nilofar adds happily.



PAPUA NEW GUINEA SETTLEMENT OF CONFLICTS WITHOUT VIOLENCE

Overcoming Violence against Women. For many decades violent conflicts have prevailed between ethnic groups in the Highlands of Papua New Guinea. A climate of hostility exists and dominates social relationships: Violence against women and their family members is widespread. Gloria experienced this in her neighbourhood before she heard about our partner organisation „Voice for Change" (VFC). VFC provides practical support such as counselling services (help desk), and shelter homes for women who have been victims of violence. Moreover, VFC addresses the root causes of violence: How can we change traditional values and role models which support violent behaviour against women? Through courses women are trained in conflict resolution and mediation. Gloria has also been trained and today she is able to mediate conflicts in her community and to solve family disputes.

