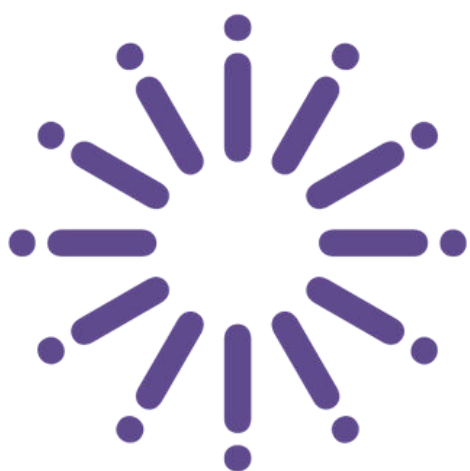


ANNUAL REPORT

2022



**WOMEN
ENABLED
INTERNATIONAL**

www.womenenabled.org

LEADERSHIP MESSAGE

We are excited to share Women Enabled International's 2022 Annual Report. This was a year of momentous celebration, marking our 10th anniversary and bright beginnings to help forge WEI's future.

WEI is the only global organization focused exclusively on the human rights of women, girls, and gender-diverse people with disabilities. In the face of rising gender-based violence and anti-rights movements worldwide, we remain steadfast in our commitment to increasing the visibility of our multiply-marginalized community and seeing our rights recognized and realized.

Throughout the year and at a special event in October 2022, we looked back at WEI's impact in our first decade and paid tribute to the people who have worked to advance our mission and our movement – especially our staff and women with disabilities around the world. [Click here to access a brief anniversary video](#) featuring esteemed global advocates, allies, and champions of human rights at the intersection of gender and disability.

Every year, as WEI grows, so does our reach and impact. In 2022, WEI widened our networks, deepened our partnerships, and substantially increased our staff and budget through diversified funding sources. To sustain this growth and strengthen organizational resilience, WEI secured a coveted BUILD grant from the Ford Foundation to further invest in the people, finances, systems, and strategies needed to thrive into the future.

Thus, WEI ended 2022 perfectly positioned to develop our next 5-year strategic plan. WEI has established an incredibly strong foundation, with touchstone values that will guide our work going forward – **intersectional feminism, disability justice, community, accountability, respect, and dignity.**

We feel energized – and privileged – by the opportunity to shape what's next for this unique and vital organization, understanding the great responsibility we bear as we pursue equality and justice for women, girls, and gender-diverse people with disabilities worldwide.

In gratitude and solidarity,



Maryangel García-Ramos
Executive Director



Catherine Townsend
President, Board of Directors

2022 HIGHLIGHTS

Women Enabled International is an organization of disabled feminists and allies that advances human rights at the intersection of gender and disability through an integrated 3-prong strategy: **Advocacy and Accountability, 360° Capacity Strengthening, and Movement Building and Cross-Movement Collaboration.**

Below are just a few examples of our programmatic impact in 2022.

48

OPD members piloted curriculum to advocate for disability-inclusive SRHR and GBV services

200+

feminists with disabilities engaged in WEI-coordinated networks:

United States Gender and Disability Justice Alliance

Latin American Collective

Inclusive Generation Equality Collective

As coordinators of the **Inclusive Generation Equality Collective**, WEI supported:

109 women and gender-diverse people with disabilities representing

24 States, UN Agencies, and feminist organizations from

37 countries as they

COLLECTIVELY DEFINED

13 commitments to accessibility for feminist events and gatherings creating

1 FEMINIST ACCESSIBILITY PROTOCOL

Pacific Region Spotlight

127

people joined SRHR outreach sessions in Central and Western regions of Fiji

over 80%

of participants reported feeling more empowered to request SRH services following the sessions



Map of Western and Central Fiji

5

countries in the region will adopt and expand the project in the coming years

WEI COMMUNITY

294

people around the globe
joined WEI's 10th
Anniversary celebrations

18 CREATORS
FROM 9
COUNTRIES

rewrote the narrative by
sharing their stories on
our community blog

948

subscribers joined the
WEI mailing list for
quarterly newsletters

In 2022, we asked about our global community

157 people from 48 countries responded

WHO YOU ARE

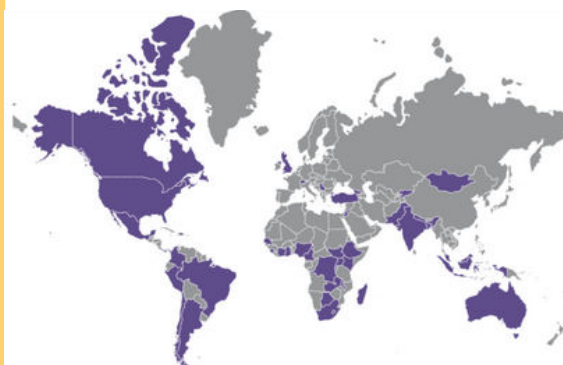
41% 58%

identify as
being from
the Global
South

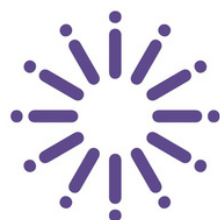
identify as
a person
with a
disability

13%

identify as a family
member of a person
with a disability



WHERE YOU ARE



WOMEN
ENABLED
INTERNATIONAL

YOUR TOP ISSUES



Inclusion and
Participation



Gender Based
Violence



Discrimination,
Equality,
Stigma, and
Stereotyping

"A valued Strategic Partner, WEI's collaborations and capacity strengthening efforts center the diverse voices, lived experiences, and leadership of women, girls and gender-diverse people with disabilities."

- Catalina Devandas, Executive Director, Disability Rights Fund

A GLOBAL CALL TO ACTION FOR ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSION

The global Generation Equality Forums in 2021 lacked basic accessibility measures. Because of this, the process largely excluded the participation and perspectives of feminists with disabilities in both its processes and outcomes.

Following this experience, which echoed what feminists with disabilities have faced in gender equality spaces over many years, the WEI-convened Inclusive Generation Equality Collective (IGEC) led a consultative and participatory process that resulted in the groundbreaking Feminist Accessibility Protocol.

The Protocol is a historic initiative that asks States, feminist civil society, United Nations entities, and other actors to pledge to ensure that, moving forward, gender equality discussions and decision-making spaces are fully accessible to and inclusive of women, girls, trans, intersex and nonbinary persons with disabilities. Each of the 13 pledges in the Protocol is a call for action on a specific aspect of accessibility and inclusivity in feminist events and meetings, including event planning, execution, and follow-up.

Since its launch in December 2022, the Protocol garnered an immediate global response. More than 150 parties have signed on, including notable conveners like Women Deliver, AWID, and CREA, and WEI, partners, and IGEC members continue to champion the Protocol.



>150 CURRENT SIGNATORIES

EXPANDING ACCESS TO SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

In one of our most impactful projects to date, WEI advanced its multi-faceted, multi-year Pacific Project by successfully piloting a training workshop for Community Health Liaisons in Fiji, which directly led to more disabled people knowing about their sexual and reproductive rights and feeling confident to access needed sexual and reproductive health services.

Building on our own needs assessment research and in partnership with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), WEI developed a peer education training aimed at strengthening the provision of sexual and reproductive health and gender-based violence services for women and young people with disabilities.

For the pilot, WEI worked across sectors, partnering with the Pacific Disability Forum, Fiji Disabled People's Federation, UNFPA, the Fijian Ministry of Health, and local SRH service providers to train Fijian women with disabilities to serve as Community Health Liaisons.

"The training was very useful as it provided health workers with a better platform on how best to provide assistance and services for persons with disabilities..., treating them as any other human being, instead of seeing them as objects of charity or a 'special-case.'"

—A healthcare worker who joined the awareness session on disability-inclusion



OVER 80% of the **127** participants reported feeling more empowered to exercise their sexual and reproductive rights and request SRH services following the sessions.

AMPLIFYING PARTNER ADVOCACY

After two years of navigating cancellations and then virtual meetings, in 2022, WEI seized the opportunity to engage in in-person advocacy with the UN. WEI traveled to Geneva and sponsored a colleague from the Indonesia Mental Health Association (IMHA) who spoke powerfully before the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD Committee) during the Committee's country review of Indonesia (August 2022).

Our joint advocacy focused attention on the rights of women, girls, and gender-diverse people with psychosocial disabilities, and the CRPD Committee's subsequent concluding observations reflected the need for the Indonesian government to address related abuses.

As a result, the government conducted a joint site visit with IMHA to an institutional facility, which led to further action and government monitoring of concerning conditions in such institutions. WEI and IMHA continue to partner to ensure that human rights commitments bring about action on the ground.



WEI Programs Advisor and Ira Askarina Azhar from the Indonesian Mental Health Association, standing in front of the United Nations, in Geneva, Switzerland.

"Thanks to WEI, we had a very meaningful meeting with members of the CRPD Committee about the poor conditions of mental institutions and the problems faced by persons with psychosocial disabilities in Indonesia. I was very impressed with the effectiveness of this joint advocacy."

- Ira Askarina Azhar, Indonesian Mental Health Association

TRANSLATING GLOBAL STANDARDS TO LOCAL CONTEXTS

Translating research and recommendations into responsive interventions, WEI piloted a training of trainers for local organizations of persons with disabilities (OPDs) to further their knowledge around sexual and reproductive health and rights and gender-based violence and equip them to advocate for inclusive services.

Following a successful virtual pilot in China in 2021, we held an in-person workshop in Botswana in 2022, using a new curriculum we designed based on global guidelines on sexual and reproductive health and rights [LINK] we developed in 2018 – all in partnership with UNFPA.

The in-person training of trainers brought the curriculum to six women with disabilities who, by the end of the training, were ready to take the curriculum to their communities. This innovative and now field-tested global curriculum can be tailored to specific languages and cultural contexts moving forward.



A photo of thirteen advocates gathered for a training on SRHR in Botswana.



An advocate addresses the room during a Training of Trainers workshop with WEI's Senior Legal Advisor in the background.

"The workshop gave me a clear understanding of the sexual and reproductive health rights of disabled women and young people, which enabled me to share this knowledge with other disabled partners."

- Pilot training participant

ORGANIZING FOR OUR RIGHTS

Community research, consultations, and organizing led to the 2022 launch of the U.S. Gender and Disability Justice Alliance – the first cross-disability network of feminist advocates in the United States. The nascent Alliance grew in members and influence as they solidified their priority issues, built a collective leadership model, and engaged in advocacy activities that address the compounding nature of disability with gender, race, and other identities that further marginalize us.

In partnership with U.S.-based organizations working at the intersection of race and disability, the Alliance submitted a shadow report to the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination,

which was undertaking a country review of the United States. The report highlighted critical issues affecting women and gender minorities from marginalized races, e.g., access to healthcare, home and community-based services, access to services during natural disasters, and violence against women and gender minorities.

Following the 2022 U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization* overturning a national right to abortion, sexual and reproductive health and rights emerged as a key intersectional advocacy issue for the Alliance and for WEI’s work in the United States.

Building on WEI’s longstanding work on abortion and disability, WEI helped shape immediate national discussions about the *Dobbs* decision to ensure the inclusion of an intersectional perspective, and WEI and the Alliance worked to build relationships with reproductive rights and justice actors in the U.S. to bring a critical disability inclusive lens to abortion rights advocacy at the national and global levels.

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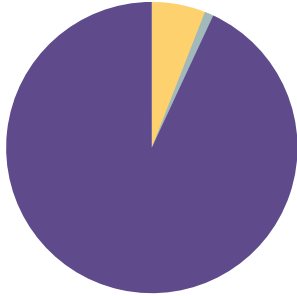
The very lives of disabled people depend upon the ability to make personal decisions without interference – including decisions about our bodies and medical care.

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—WEI’s *Dobbs* Statement

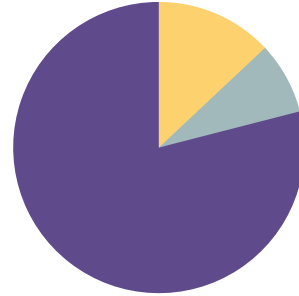
FINANCIALS

FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2022



INCOME: \$3,188,029

- Grants - 94%
- Multilateral Funding - 6%
- Contributions & Other - < 1%



EXPENSES: \$1,629,589

- Programs - 79%
- Core Mission Support - 13%
- Development - 8%

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

- Channel Foundation
- Disability Inclusion Fund
- Disability Rights Fund
- Dropbox Inc.
- Ford Foundation
- Foundation for a Just Society
- Gucci
- New York Women's Foundation
- Open Society Foundations
- PRBB Foundation
- UN Population Fund
- UN Women
- Urgent Action Fund
- Wellspring Philanthropic Fund

"WEI is the first gender and disability rights organization to receive a Ford BUILD grant, a testament to their leadership, effectiveness, and potential to advance equality and social justice into the future."

*- Monica Aleman, International Program Director
Gender, Racial, and Ethnic Justice, Ford Foundation*

Your donation makes a powerful impact on the lives and access to rights of women, girls, and gender-diverse people with disabilities.

womenenabled.org/donate