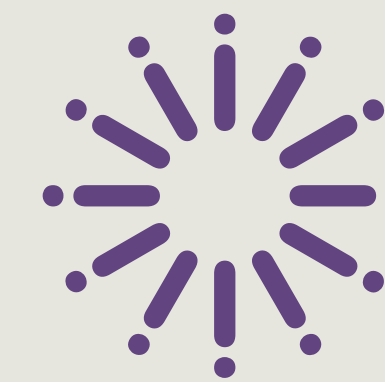




FY23

# ANNUAL REPORT



WOMEN  
ENABLED  
INTERNATIONAL

# Dear friend,

2023 was a transformational year for Women Enabled International. This report highlights pivotal moments in our work and provides a preview of what's next for us as the only global organization dedicated to advancing rights at the intersection of gender and disability.

In her first full year as Executive Director, Maryangel brought to bear her lived experience, business acumen, and movement roots as founder of a national disabled feminist rights group in Mexico, to lead WEI through a dynamic and participatory strategic planning process that has put us on a path to continued success and sustainability.



WEI's new 5-year Strategic Plan, which will guide our work 2024-2028, articulates our unique role as a connector of intersecting global movements, a thought leader on key issues, an influencer of narratives and decision-makers, and an amplifier of advocacy efforts driven by disabled feminist leaders in every country and community.

While planning and structuring for a sustainable future, the WEI team had incredible impact in real time. We deepened partnerships, bolstered movements, increased representation in key advocacy spaces, and created innovative, research-based approaches to improving access to essential rights-based programs and services. We also strengthened WEI from the inside, expanding policies and practices that promote solidarity, joy, care, and rest.

As a valued member of the WEI community —along with our committed staff, board, partners, and funders— you contributed to this powerful progress. We hope you share our pride in these accomplishments and join us in solidarity with disabled feminists and allies worldwide until equality and justice are enjoyed by all.

We recognize the pressing challenges gender and disability rights are facing today, and now more than ever, we are convinced that the future of disability rights is feminist, and the future of gender equality is inclusive.

**With gratitude,  
Maryangel and Catherine**



*Maryangel*

Maryangel Garcia-Ramos  
Executive Director



*Catherine H. Townsend*

Catherine Hyde Townsend  
Board President

“Maryangel's commitment to feminist leadership and her ability to lead strategically, with dynamism and intentionality, has elevated WEI's work and the work of disability justice movements and activists globally. Together with her team, she has been able to build in-roads with different stakeholders and movements all while strengthening the culture and programs of WEI as an organization. The future is bright and just with Maryangel at the helm.”

**Juliana Vélez**  
Global Program Officer  
Foundation for a Just Society





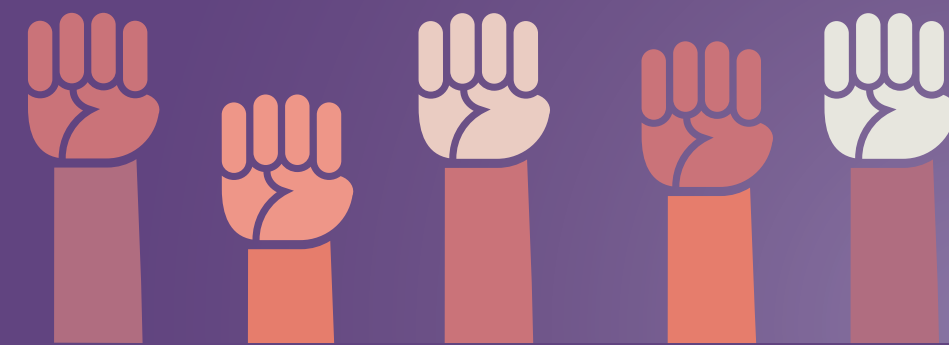
## 2023 Highlights

### Our Mission

As feminists with disabilities and allies, Women Enabled International advances human rights and justice at the intersection of gender and disability to challenge exclusionary, unjust systems, and support the leadership and center the voices of women, girls, and gender-diverse people with disabilities globally.



Participated at  
**19 global advocacy forums**  
focused on gender and/or disability  
where we reached out to  
**6,500 activists**



The Feminist Accessibility  
protocol obtained  
**222 signatories** from  
**33 different countries**



We welcomed  
**5,200**  
new followers from around the  
globe, including Latin America,  
Africa, Europe, and North America.



That represents a  
**28%**  
growth in audience across  
our channels

With our work in  
**The Pacific Region**  
we reached  
**150 women and  
young people  
with disabilities**



Our audience engaged  
with our content over  
**2,000 times**  
-Including likes, shares, saves and reposts





## 2023 Highlights

We published

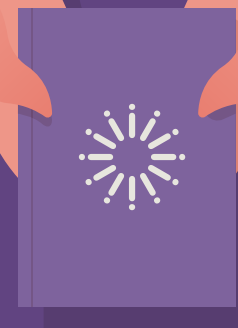
**13 stories** from  
**7 different countries**

that spoke about the different life experiences of being a woman or a gender-diverse person with a disability.



**100,970**

people visited our website to learn more about our work and make use of our resources, trainings, reports, and methodologies



We designed a

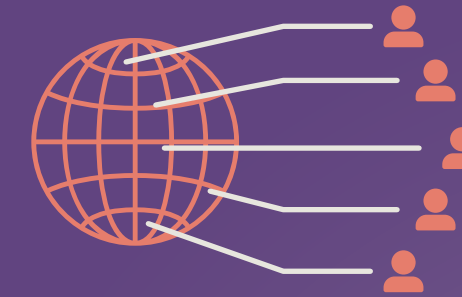
**one-of-a-kind OPD\* Curriculum**

with partner organizations in

**Botswana and China.**

This curriculum will help organizations and activists worldwide to become champions and advocates of their own sexual and reproductive health and rights.

*\*Organizations of people with disabilities*



We collaborated with

**223 partners**  
across the globe,

including federal and local governments, UN agencies and organizations, health services providers, as well as grassroots organizations and activists.

Our work building trustworthy relationships and our persistent advocacy landed

**5 key conversations**  
with members of the  
**UN CEDAW\*\* committee**

to promote equal access to decision-making spaces to women and girls with disabilities in global strategies and spaces.

*\*\*Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women*

Feminist disabled leadership is at the core of our work.

This year we worked tirelessly to deepen connections across movements to ensure the voices of women and girls with disabilities around the world are heard, and the impact of their advocacy work is felt around the world.





## Shaping global conversations to change hearts and minds

Women Enabled International has strategically positioned itself at the forefront of global discussions on gender and disability rights. WEI organized and participated in 19 events at key international forums on gender and disability rights. This work allows us to:

# Our impact



### Amplify Intersectional Advocacy:

This year, WEI supported 11 global partners to advocate for their rights at the United Nations, including disabled feminist leaders from Malawi, Ghana, the Philippines, Poland, Kenya, and the U.S.



### Expand Global Reach:

At major gender and disability forums, WEI reached over 6,500 activists, fostering a robust global network of advocates committed to advancing the rights of women and girls with disabilities through inclusive feminist movements.



### Influence Policy and Practice:

WEI's joint advocacy with local disabled feminist leaders resulted in the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities issuing 19 recommendations to advance rights at the intersection of gender and disability in Malawi.

**This strategic engagement underscores WEI's commitment to advocating for the rights and empowerment of women, girls, and gender-diverse people with disabilities on a global scale**





# Events

MARCH 2023

## The Commission on the Status of Women



JULY 2023

## The Women Deliver Conference

WEI led a roundtable discussion exploring gender, disability, age, and care. That conversation led to the creation of policy priorities intended to strengthen care policies and intersectional movements for care justice.



DECEMBER 2022

JANUARY 2023



JUNE 2023

## Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

SEPTEMBER 2023

## Free Future 2023: Preventing Gender Violence Around the World

WEI's Executive Director, Maryangel García-Ramos was part of the event hosted by the Ford Foundation. This gathering unites activists, leaders, and change makers committed to ending gender-based violence globally including: #MeToo's Tarana J. Burke, activist Kasha Jacqueline Nabagesera, Rise founder Amanda Nguyen, and iconic legal scholar Anita Hill.





*"We are still fighting to enter decision-making spaces on an equal basis with others, a fight that pulls our attention away from the substantive contributions we can and should make to those spaces."*

– Gertrude Oforiwa Fefoame

Global Advocacy Adviser, Sightsavers and member of the Inclusive Gender Equality Collective

Statement on Equal and Inclusive Participation of Women in Decision-making Systems

**"We deserve equal access to decision-making spaces!"\***

\* Gertrude Oforiwa Fefoame during CEDAW

Accessibility is a first –and non-negotiable– step. This is the message that WEI brought to **Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)** in Geneva on behalf of the Inclusive Generation Equality Collective.

With WEI's support, the Inclusive Gender Equality Collective secured individual meetings with 5 (of 23) CEDAW Committee members.

**In both formal and informal advocacy spaces, WEI promoted the leadership of feminists with disabilities and sought to deepen connections across movements. Our goal was to ensure that the discussions, decisions, and outcomes are empowering and effective in their impact on individuals and communities worldwide.**





## Training activists, supporting regional networks, and championing global movements

*WEI champions global movements by working in partnership to:*



Train activists to be better equipped to advocate for their rights, particularly in the areas of sexual and reproductive health and rights, and gender-based violence



Ensure that women, girls, and gender-diverse people with disabilities are meaningfully included in gender equality conversations and decision-making spaces



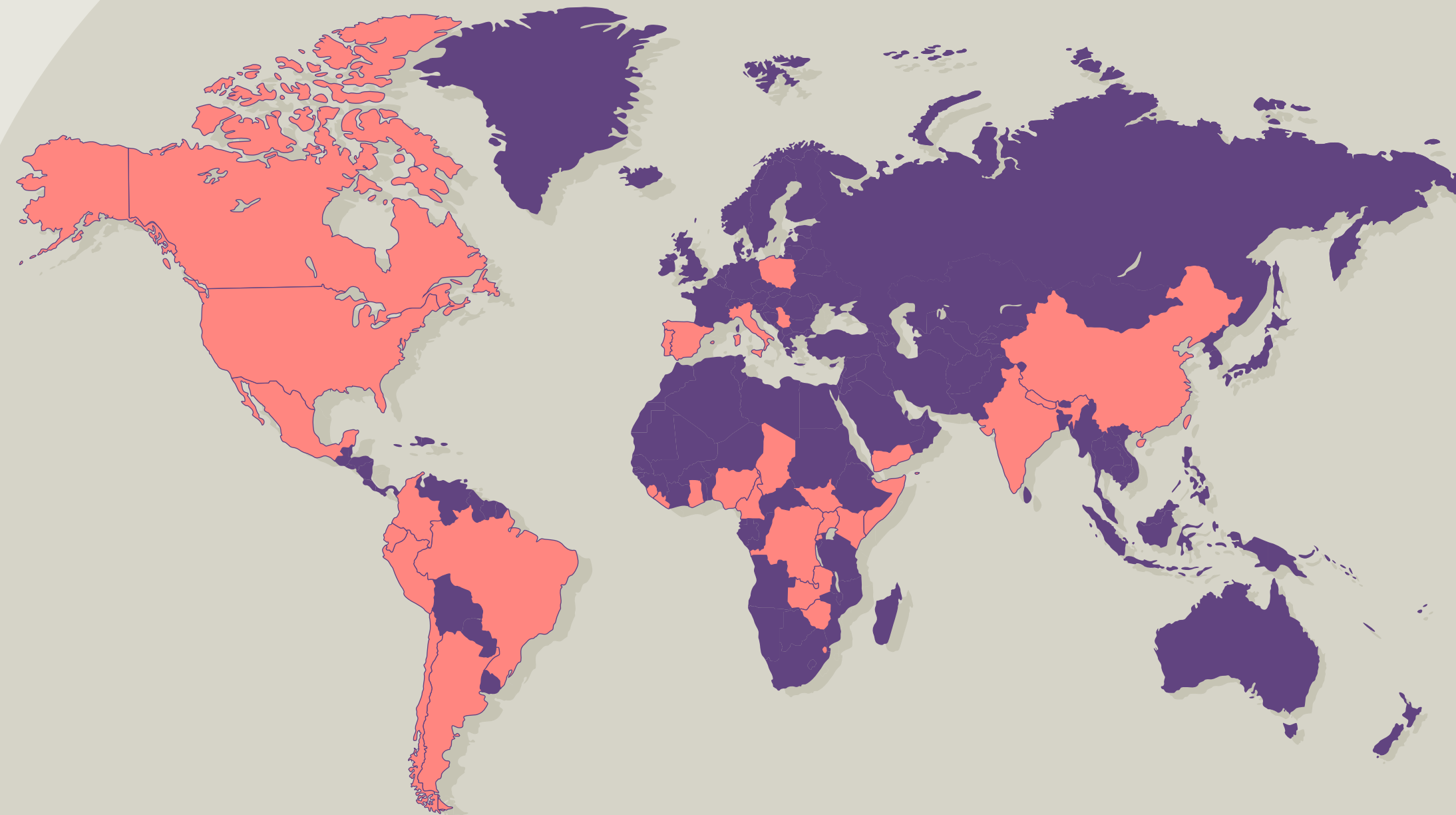
Ensure women, girls, and gender-diverse people with disabilities have access to sexual and reproductive health services



Support activists from across the globe as they engage in collective action for their rights

Expanded activist networks across Inclusive Generation Equality Collective (IGEC), US Gender and Disability Justice Alliance, and Latin American and Caribbean Collective (LAC Collective) by **81 members**, which represents over **55% increase in overall membership**.

We reached **222 signatories** since the launch of Feminist Accessibility Protocol, with **121 of those signing in 2023**, including **States, UN agencies, feminist civil society, and other feminist actors**.



This protocol is a groundbreaking set of commitments that seek to ensure feminists with disabilities are meaningfully included in gender equality spaces and has been used to advocate for access, inclusion, and leadership at key gender equality spaces in 2023.

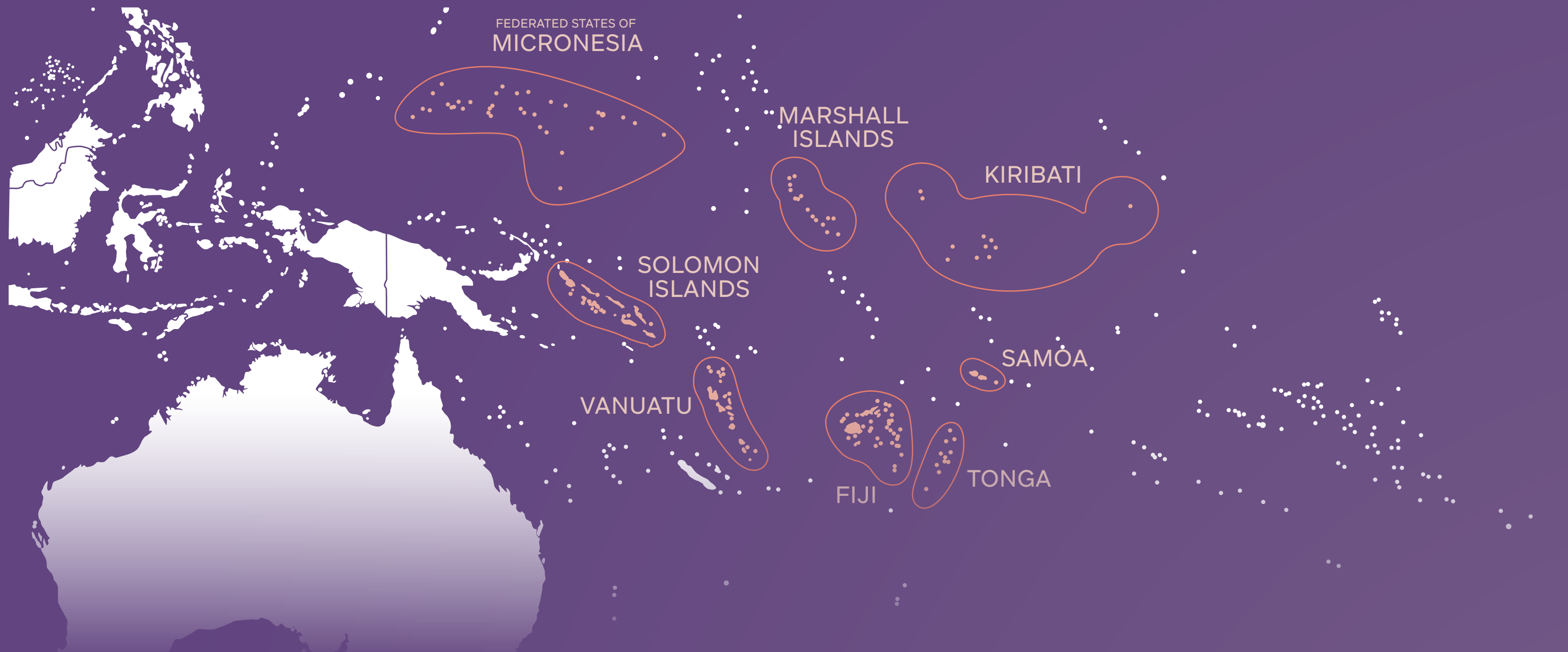
**33** countries represented by those signatories including: Argentina, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ecuador, Eswatini, Ghana, India, Italy, Kenya, Liberia, Mexico, Nepal, Nigeria, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Rwanda, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan, Spain, Uganda, the United States of America, Yemen, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.



## Work in the Pacific

The Community-Based Sexual and Reproductive Health Officers Programme was a joint effort by WEI, the Fijian Ministry of Health, UNFPA Pacific, Pacific Disability Forum, Fiji Disabled People's Federation, and Medical Services Pacific.

Our collective work is a key component of the Transformative Agenda for Women, Adolescents, and Youth in the Pacific funded by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade,



*"It's very important for us to know about [reproductive health] and what reproductive health means for us. At times we are not included in a lot of spaces or workshops that share this kind of topic."*

– A woman with a disability in Fiji

Outreach in this region included

**2** trainings | **6** visits | **150** women and young people with disabilities reached

## OPD\* Curriculum

WEI partnered with organizations in **Botswana and China** to develop the OPD curriculum, a program designed to serve as a resource for people with disabilities to understand and become champions of accessible and inclusive sexual and reproductive health and rights and gender-based violence services

\*Organizations of people with disabilities

*"Women Enabled International is a global leader on addressing violence against women and girls with disabilities. They are a long-standing and trusted partner of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) towards the inclusion of women and young people with disabilities in efforts to ensure sexual and reproductive rights, and freedom from gender-based violence."*

– Leyla Sherafi  
Chief, Gender and Human Rights Branch  
UNFPA

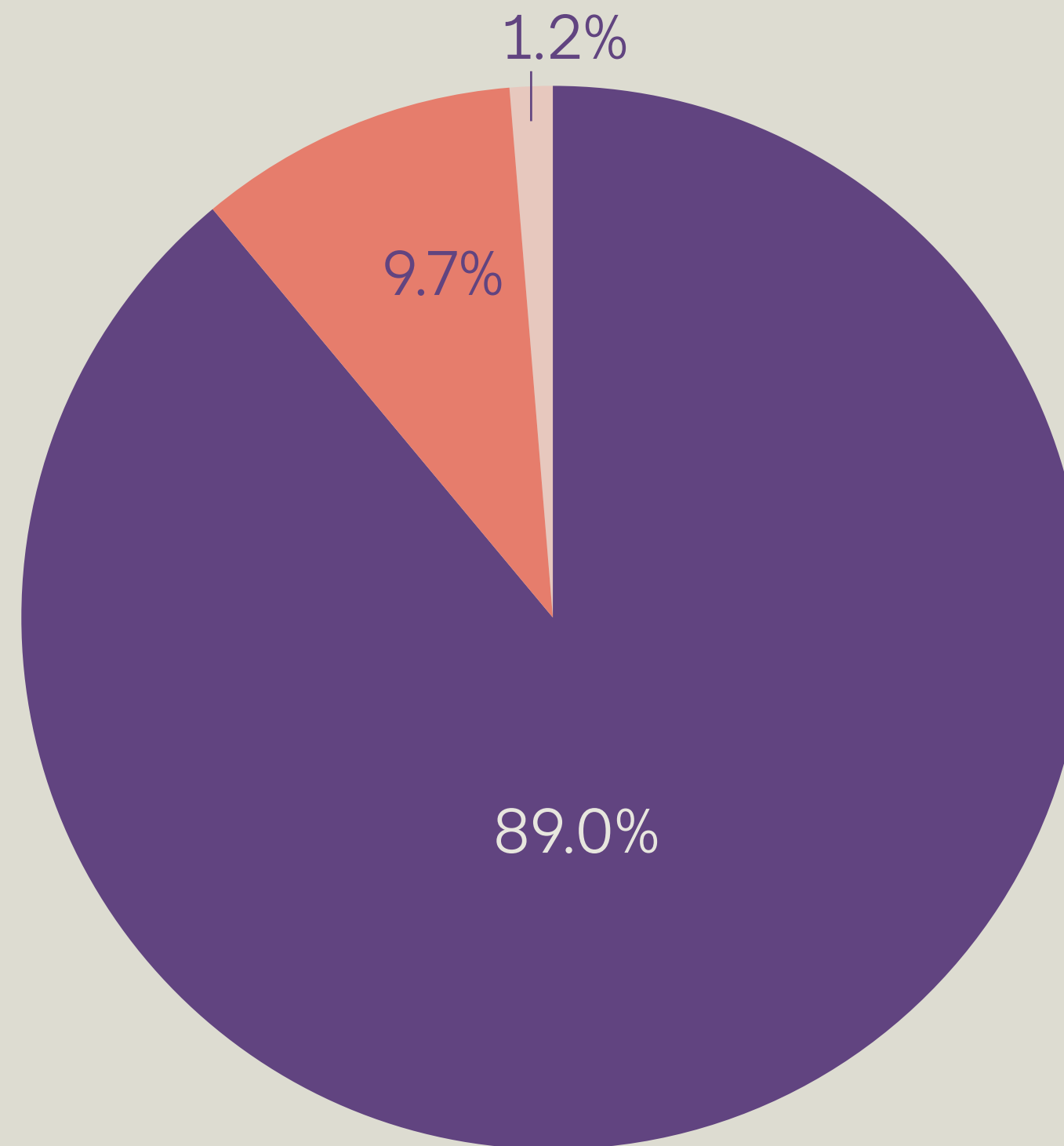




## Financials 2023

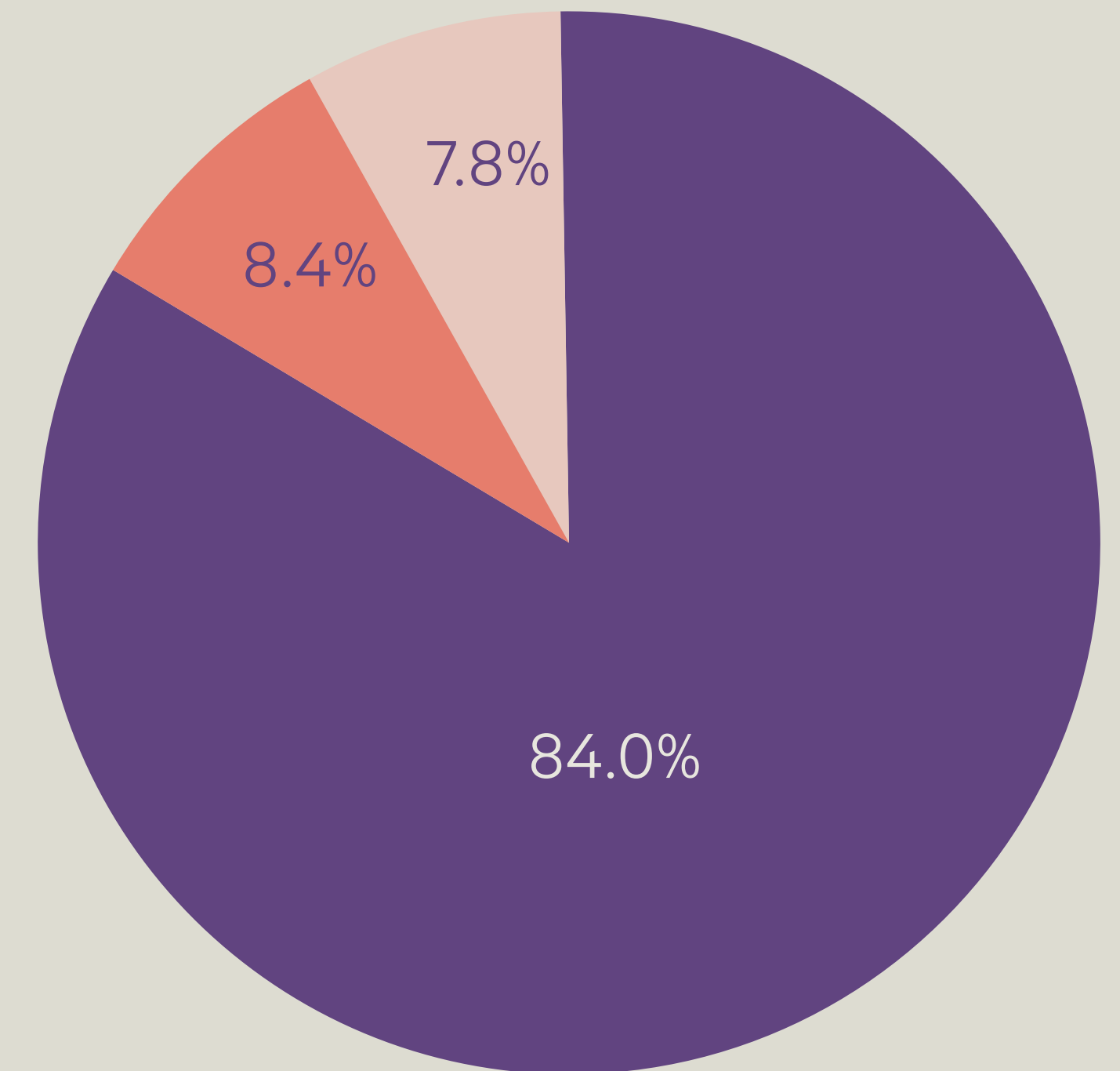
WEI continued its growth trajectory in 2023, increasing our operating budget by 48% from the previous year. We expanded our core programming while also strengthening our infrastructure and financial resilience to ensure the sustainability of our work and our global movements. These charts illustrate our strong fundraising results and responsible stewardship of organizational resources.

### Income



<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 3,110,599</b>
<b>Grants &amp; Contributions</b>	89.0% - \$ 1,061,992
<b>Multilateral &amp; Govt. Funding</b>	9.7% - \$ 301,965
<b>Interest &amp; Other</b>	1.2% - \$ 37,597

### Expenses



<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,416,638</b>
<b>Program</b>	84.0% - \$ 2,028,969
<b>Core Mission Support</b>	8.4% - \$ 199,818
<b>Development</b>	7.8% - \$ 187,851

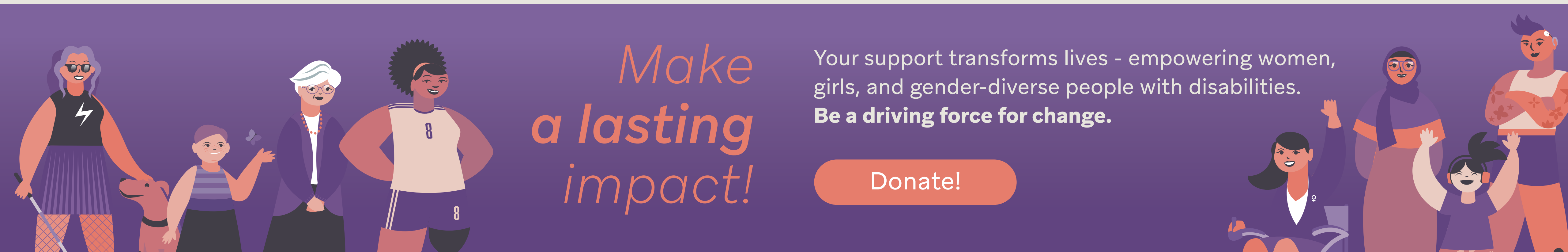




## Thank you to our supporters!

WEI is deeply grateful to our growing community of funding partners, whose generosity is critical as we face increasing global threats to the safety and essential rights of women, girls, and gender-diverse people with disabilities.

- Channel Foundation • Disability Inclusion Fund • Disability Rights Fund
- Equal Justice Works • Ford Foundation • Foundation for a Just Society
- Gucci • The New York Women's Foundation • Open Society Foundations
- PRBB Foundation • United Nations Population Fund • Urgent Action Fund
- Wellspring Philanthropic Fund • Individual Donors



*Make  
a lasting  
impact!*

Your support transforms lives - empowering women, girls, and gender-diverse people with disabilities.  
**Be a driving force for change.**

Donate!





**WOMEN  
ENABLED  
INTERNATIONAL**