



Gender equality: Building our strength together

Annual Report 2013

Women Living Under Muslim Laws¹

¹ Photograph: Participants at Political Participation training in Cairo, December 2013. Photo credit: Asmaa Noor

Women's Rights *are* Human Rights



WLUML mission statement:

'Women Living Under Muslim Laws (WLUML) is an international solidarity network that promotes human rights and gender equality for women whose lives are shaped, conditioned or governed by laws said to be derived from Islam. It works in partnership with women's organisations and individuals to strengthen movements for social justice and the advancement of women's human rights.'²

² Photograph of participants at Political Participation training in Cairo, December 2013. Photo credit: Asmaa Noor

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Table of Contents

Introduction:

- i. WLUML Highlights from 2013
- ii. Purpose and History
- iii. Responding to shifting landscapes
- iv. Looking Forward
- v. Governance & Structure

Activities:

- i. Strategic Objectives
 1. Generate New Analyses
 2. Information Exchange
 3. Capacity & Movement Building
 - Regional Coordination Offices
 - Programmes and Campaigns
 - West Asia focus
 - Iran focus
 4. Women's Empowerment and Leadership Development for Democratization
- ii. Annual Accounts 2012
- iii. Acknowledgements

WLUML Highlights for 2013

- In 2013 the WLUML website received 13,463,973 hits, averaging 121997.75 a month; of the total amount 1, 097, 776 were unique visitors.
- The most popular pages of our website continue to be *Knowing Our Rights, Talaq-i-Tafwid: The Muslim Woman's Contractual Access to Divorce: An Information Kit*, and the publication, and *Control and Sexuality*, by Ziba Mir Hosseini and Vanja Hamzic. *Knowing Our Rights* was downloaded 4,084,497 KbF between January 2013 and December 2013. *Control and Sexuality* was downloaded 4,865,442 KbF, and *Talaq-i-Tafwid: The Muslim Woman's Contractual Access to Divorce: An Information Kit* was downloaded 117,414,106 KbF.
- Between 1st January and 16th December 2013, the Violence is Not Our Culture website had 52,725 visits, of which 46,437 were new visitors.
- Visitors accessed the website from all around the world – in 2013, we received hits from approximately 177 different countries.
- WLUML took significant action to support women human rights defenders in 2013, issuing and circulating at least 20 urgent action appeals and solidarity support messages.
- WLUML launched its new newsletter this year in May and it has been widely embraced with 1,346 people subscribed to receive it as of 15th December.
- Our social media presence continued to grow in 2013. WLUML now has 2,775 Facebook followers, the Stop Stoning Women campaign Facebook page has 315 followers, and the WLUML Twitter account has 1,186 followers.
- The *Stop Stoning Women Campaign* online petition which launched on the 8th of March 2013 with the aim of gathering a critical mass of 10,000 signatures by March 2014, as of December 2013 it stands at 11,696 signatures!

Purpose and History

Women Living Under Muslim Laws (WLUML) was established in 1984 in response to three urgent cases in which women were being denied their rights through reference to laws said to be 'Muslim'. The network has now spread to over 70 countries. WLUML was founded and is led by women's groups and individuals with mainly Muslim backgrounds based in the Global South.

WLUML's purpose is to strengthen women's individual and collective struggles for equality and access to their rights, especially within Muslim contexts. WLUML has played a critical role for women who either lack information regarding their official legal rights – such as those derived from personal status laws and civil codes – or have limited access to information that might enable them to challenge the validity of either customary or state law. This knowledge gap is reinforced by a deliberate policy of misinformation, exacerbated by the existing monopoly and control over matters purportedly relating to Islam. WLUML also creates a space for creativity and the exchange of ideas. It is in essence, a 'think tank' for activists from across the world.

Over the last 25 years, the growing power of extremist groups organised around identity politics has been a major cause limiting the range of choices available to women living in Muslim majority contexts. These disempowering forces continue to exert increasing pressure on people, especially women, to embrace ever more narrow definitions of self, such that their multiple identities based on gender, citizenship, class, religion or ethnicity are reduced to one single, imposed identity; a reduction to the 'right' identity. These forces can silence dissenting voices, both religious and secular, often through the use of violence, actual or threatened. The result is isolation, fragmentation and weakening of those who dissent.

WLUML has worked over the years to break the silence and isolation by developing a transnational network for information, solidarity and support, giving women access both to information and to each other. With the increasing threat posed by politico-religious fundamentalists, WLUML's support for women who are mounting resistance to these forces has become even more crucial. It has 28 years of experience in bringing together the collective strength and voices of women and gathering different analyses and strategies to advance women's human rights and gender equality within Muslim contexts.

Responding to shifting landscapes

Throughout 2013, women in Muslim contexts in Africa, Asia and the Middle East, as well as in diaspora communities all over the world, have been working passionately in the shifting landscapes of challenging times in an effort to see full gender equality and women's rights recognised. Through actions large and small, on an individual and a transnational level alike, they are resisting inequalities and working to dismantle the structures that uphold them. Together, they are dreaming and re-imagining; walking and dancing; advocating and blogging their way to an alternative vision of human interaction in which oppression of women has no part.

This path however is not an easy one. This year, as in previous years, there have been many obstacles to overcome. Ongoing issues include culturally justified violence against women (CVAW) and political marginalisation of women, largely within the context of the continued resurgence of the ultra-conservative 'traditional values' agenda and all-pervasive militarisation.

Women in the rapidly changing, post-revolution Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region face particular challenges. For example, the ongoing state of emergency in Egypt has led to the increasing occurrence of violence against women in general, and women activists in particular, as manifest in widespread sexual harassment, abuse and even rape of women protestors, whilst the ongoing war in Syria has left hundreds of thousands of women vulnerable to sexual exploitation and assault as well as forced, often early marriage, both in Syria and in surrounding countries. Meanwhile in Libya, women who demonstrated shoulder to shoulder with male counterparts in the Libyan uprising, now find themselves dismissed by the transitional government and international actors alike.

Elsewhere, even as the *Stop Stoning Women Campaign* gathered pace, Brunei added itself to the list of 15 countries where stoning is either practiced or legal or both, through the introduction of a new harsh penal code that includes stoning as a punishment for adultery. Meanwhile in Afghanistan, despite significant and hard-won achievements over the past year, women continue to face an alarming increase of CVAW, which now threatens to be legitimised by proposed changes to the Afghan Penal Code to include 'Sharia' punishments such as stoning, amputation and flogging, all of which will continue to disproportionately affect women.

However, there is also cause for celebration in 2013.

The government in Aceh, Indonesia has recently removed a provision calling for adulterers to be stoned to death from its draft set of criminal bylaws, while four Saudi Arabian lawyers became the first women in the Kingdom to receive licenses that allow them to practice law. In Iraq, pressure from women's groups led Iraq's parliament to pass an anti trafficking law in April of this year, while a UN resolution was passed that calls on all states to publicly condemn violence against WHRD's, amend legislation that hinders them and give activists free access to UN bodies.

Change is happening with unprecedented speed and intensity and whilst there is much at stake, there is also much potential. But change like this does not just happen.

It takes teams of dedicated and persistent women and men. It takes funds. It takes organising and sustaining campaigns. It takes detailed research and building solid networks that encourage supportive and productive relationships. It takes careful listening, decision-making and hands-on hard work.

There can be little doubt that the work of WLUMML as a transnational solidarity network is as relevant today as it was thirty years ago, if not more so. In this time of flux and ferment the need for structures such as WLUMML to support and build up the work of activists has never been more urgent.

WLUMML does not watch from the sidelines or command from on high; rather it consists of and is shaped directly by the very same self-selected activists who are based at the grass roots level. WLUMML brings together and cross pollinates between activism and academia, the transnational and the local, the on-line and the embodied, whilst remaining firmly grounded in the everyday lived experiences and needs of multiple activists across generations, languages and continents. This enables WLUMML to respond directly and effectively to the needs of its networkers who are so brilliantly and bravely challenging the status quo of past generations, if not past centuries, of patriarchal oppression. At this moment, the work of WLUMML could not be more relevant.

Looking forward

The Women's Empowerment and Leadership Development for Democratisation (WELDD) programme has successfully tapped into the needs of young activists worldwide for training and capacity building on transformative feminist leadership to better equip them for their struggles for political change. This year WLUML will hold a series of multi-country workshops in the Middle East and West Africa, bringing together and empowering the next wave of women's rights leaders.

Digital activism is a critical tool for today's women's rights leaders, especially in environments where women human rights defenders face persecution, repression and a lack of security. Accordingly, WLUML will launch its new web-portal this year. A feminist leadership development resource centre, the WELDD portal will act as a hub of knowledge, interaction and debate around issues of political leadership. We also have several bold new ventures planned for WLUML online – watch this space.

Further, in 2013 WLUML will highlight and tackle culturally-justified forms of violence against women (CVAW), such as forced marriage and stoning, via partner developed, nationally based advocacy campaigns. WLUML will push for tangible change through our international campaign on CVAW. Stop Stoning Women Now launches this year at the 57th session of the Commission on the Status of Women, building momentum towards a UN resolution on stoning as a form of violence against women and towards eradication of this continuing form of torture and cruel and inhuman treatment.

WLUML's Violence is Not Our Culture program will also actively promote women's right to live free of CVAW through such broad-based advocacy as the global 16 Days of Violence Against Women campaign, research and the promotion of international human rights mechanisms. We will also forge new alliances and expand and develop our network through our West Asia program. WLUML is on the forefront of mapping the region's major actors in women's rights, and will continue to consolidate our links and work together with local partners towards our shared goal of equality.

Finally, our Publications programme will continue from strength to strength. In 2013 WLUML will bring you *Women's Charters*, co-authored by UN Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women Rashida Manjoo and Professor Homa Hoodfar. *Dossier 32: Sexuality in Muslim Contexts* will be made available to activists to upload, and WLUML will bring you cutting-edge analysis of women's rights in the public sphere with *The Politics of Women's Sport*. In keeping with our international ethos, we will continue to translate our publications into several languages, including *Dossier 29: Mechanisms and Structures to Promote and Protect Women's Human Rights and Gender Equality*; *Dossier 30-31: The Struggle for Secularism in Europe and North America, Knowing Our Rights*; and *Great Ancestors: Women Claiming Rights in Muslim Context*

Governance and Structure

Governance

WLUML is a registered charitable organisation (in England and Wales), Charity number: 1144519. WLUML is also a limited by guarantee 'not-for-profit' company, registered Company number: 04117440.

2013 Board Members

There are currently nine Board members who serve in a voluntary capacity. They are responsible for the organisation's governance. The Board is assisted by an advisory group, the International Advisory Council who are drawn from women human rights and women's rights activists from across the Global South. The Council has a current membership of 17 women.

Board Members:

Zarizana Abdul Aziz – Chairperson (Malaysia)

Fatou Sow – International Director – Honorary (Senegal)

Djingarey Maiga (Mali)

Doaa Abdelaal (Egypt)

Faizun Zackariya (Sri Lanka)

Homa Hoodfar (Iran/Canada)

Isatou Touray (Gambia)

Karima Benounne (Algeria/ USA)

Katayoon Hoodfar - Company Secretary (Iran/United Kingdom)

Structure: International Coordination Office (ICO)

WLUML's regular services, advocacy, and communications are run from the International Coordination Office in London. The ICO provides coordination and resource support for global and multi-country campaigns and programmes.

During 2013 the staff team consisted of: International Director (based in Senegal), Deputy Director, Communications and Advocacy Officer, Iran Programme Coordinator, Finance and Administration Officer, Senior Programme Officer, Assistant Programme Officer and Communications Intern.

In addition WLUMML contracted freelance staff, based largely outside of the UK. Among these were the Culturally-Justified Violence against Women (CVAW) Coordinator for the WELDD programme, a West Asia Officer and a Funding and Resources consultant.

WLUMML has retained its strong volunteer base that supports its publications work and the Farsi website. A total of 23 volunteers and interns assisted WLUMML in 2013.

Regional Coordination Offices (RCOs)

WLUMML has two regional coordination offices, housed in independent organisations in Africa and Asia: GREFELS in Dakar, Senegal and Shirkat Gah in Lahore, Pakistan. These sister organisations facilitate WLUMML regional networks, and provide administrative and programme support to the network and projects as required.

GREFELS is a feminist research and advocacy project. It is non-denominational and not-for-profit. Its purpose is to conduct research on women's rights, to issue action alerts, conduct advocacy and raise support for human rights. GREFELS, as a member of the WLUMML network, hosts the regional coordination office for Africa and the Middle East (AME). As such, it is responsible for activities and tasks related to networking, data collection, and the provision of information and solidarity actions within these contexts. GREFELS is a non-officio member of WLUMML's Advisory Council. RCO-AME regional activities are described in a separate section.

Shirkat Gah is a multifaceted not-for-profit organisation that works towards capacity building for women on both an individual level, supported by outreach partners across Pakistan, and at a strategic level to ensure good governance and policy making nationally.

Shirkat Gah, as a member of the WLUMML network, hosts the regional coordination office for Asia. As such, it is responsible for activities and tasks relating to networking, data collection, and provision of information and solidarity actions within these contexts. Shirkat Gah is also a non-officio member of WLUMML's Advisory Council. RCO- Asia regional activities are described in a separate section.

2013 Activities

Our work has four Strategic Objectives, to:

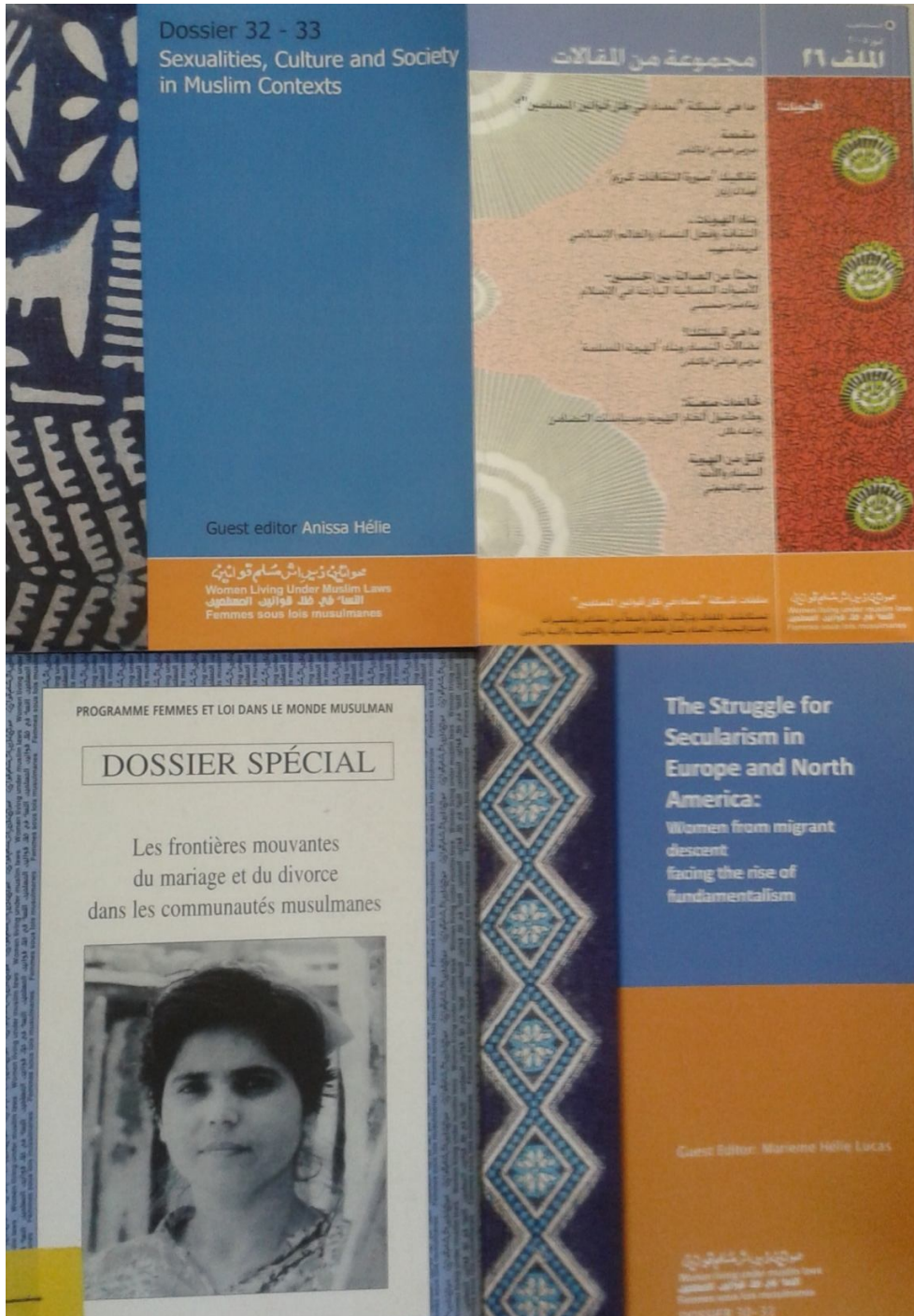
GENERATE new analyses contributing to women's struggles in Muslim countries and communities regarding WLUML critical issues, and provide a platform for a broad range of networkers' voices and analyses.

OFFER a visible source of, and means of exchanging alternative information, analysis, strategies and experience on gender, identities and culture, ensuring WLUML's unique information resources reaches networkers more widely.

BUILD capacity within the network, reaching and involving old and new networkers and organisations, and producing and disseminating information.

RAISE awareness of the work being undertaken around empowerment and leadership through the consortia programme supported by the FLOW fund 'Women's Empowerment for Leadership Development and Democratisation'

GENERATE new analyses contributing to women’s struggles in Muslim countries and communities regarding WLUML critical issues, and provide a platform for a broad range of networkers’ voices and analyses.



A Selection of WLUML Dossiers

2013 Publications

WLUMML has produced regular collections of critical analyses in the form of dossiers, articles, Occasional Papers, and books on specific topics since 1986. This year the Publication Committee completed the following work:

Dossier 32: Sexuality in Muslim Contexts

The Dossiers are conceived as a space for reflection and sharing of analysis and information, to enrich and support the struggles and strategies of women living in diverse Muslim communities and countries.

The response to papers for the 'Sexuality in Muslim Contexts inspired many excellent papers , therefore we decided to extend Dossier 32 and make a bumper edition Dossier 32-33 Sexualities, Culture and Society in Muslim Contexts which is edited by Anissa H lie. Comprised of a combination of short factual reports and more in-depth articles, this Dossier explores how women, and some men, navigate the expectations and realities linked to sexuality and reproductive rights in their specific contexts. Contributors also highlight the many ways in which culture, religion, customs and sexual conduct intersect and they demonstrate that sexuality, far from being static, is the object of constant contestation and negotiation.

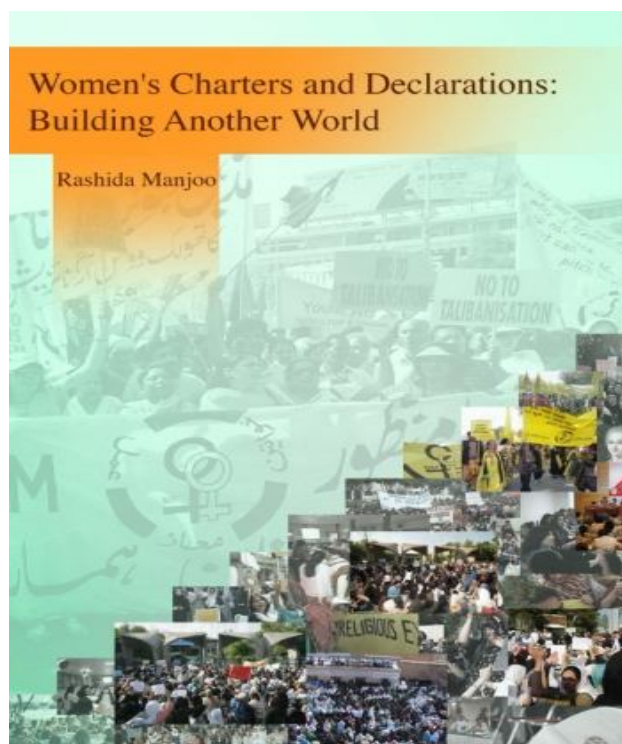
Contributors: Codou Bop, Raihana Nadra Alkaff, Shenila S. Khoja-Moolji, Urooj Arshad, Ana Ghoreishian, Aaron Louis Rosenberg, Sadia Ahmed, Amina Samiuddin, Homa Hoodfar, Fahima A. Hashim, Anissa H lie, Rebecca Gould, Fauzia Viqar, Fatima Saeed

WLUMML would like to acknowledge The Feminist Review Trust, an organization dedicated to funding research and other scholarly activities on all aspect of gender (<http://www.feminist-review-trust.com>) for their support for the support of this publication.

Women's Charters and Declarations: Building Another World. Authored by Rashida Manjoo

The development of women's charters, manifestos and declarations serve as a demand for change and improvement in the status and lives of women. They are also an articulation of the need for gender justice. These documents have given women a platform to demand their rights and voice their concerns over exclusion, inequality, discrimination and oppression. They serve as tools to challenge the roots of institutional and individual belief systems that continue to operate to oppress women. This book reviewing women's charters is a sister companion of two earlier WLUMML publications on the gender equity: *Dossier 29 on Women's Machinery* edited

by Rashida Manjoo (2008) and *Electoral Politics: Making Gender Quotas Work for Women* edited by Homa Hoodfar and Mona Tajali (2011), and as such will be of interest to those engaged in the mobilization of women in demanding and articulating full equality and full citizenship. The publication is also being translated into Arabic for use in the forthcoming 'Women's Empowerment and Leadership Development for Democratization' programme workshops. The book is available in print from WLUML and Amazon.



Women Living Under Muslim Laws
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Publications programme for 2014

The WLUML Publications Handbook is a guide for WLUML publications work. The handbook will help to further 'systematize' the approach to WLUML publications, ensuring that our institutional memory is retained and built on. A draft of the handbook has been prepared with the support of the Publications Committee, and is aimed at new WLUML networkers, publication officers and members of the editorial board in addition to volunteers.

The Publications Committee will endeavour to develop more effective solutions for publication and distribution of WLUML texts. This may be done, for example, by increasing e-publications and/or working through Amazon or other presses on printing set-up and page setting. This will potentially cut Publications' costs and develop better distribution through Amazon's extensive

market channels. WLUML has also been looking at various alternative options to create a 'web shop' for publications and to distribute publications currently in stock.

Volunteers

WLUML has a strong tradition of working with volunteers on a range of activities in many of the contexts and countries in which it is engaged. Publications have always been supported by the work of volunteers, both in-house at the ICO and abroad. These volunteers include university graduates or other professionals who are interested in the fields of research, writing, editing and publication. WLUML provides the space to learn and earn hands-on experience while volunteers support the Publications Committee. At the ICO, volunteers work under the supervision of the Deputy Director or the Communication and Advocacy Officer, and those at abroad are supervised by the Chair of the Publication Committee and Guest Editor of the particular publication to which they have been allotted. Please see further the Volunteer Acknowledgement section.

Our Editorial team

Editorial committee Institutional Affiliation

Zarizana Abdul Aziz (LL.M.) Director of Developing Due Diligence Standards and Indicators on Violence against Women

Lynn P. Freedman (M.P.H) (JD) Director, Law and Policy Project Professor of Clinical Population and Family Health, Columbia University, New York, USA

Tea Hadziristic London School of Economics and Political Science

Anissa Hélie (PhD) Department of History-John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York , USA

Homa Hoodfar (PhD) Professor of Anthropology, Concordia University, Montreal, Canada

Ayesha Imam (PhD) Independent researcher

Rashida Manjoo (LL.M.) Department of Public Law, University of Cape Town, South Africa. UN Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women

Ziba Mir-Hosseini (PhD) Independent researcher Center for Middle Eastern and Islamic Law, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), London, UK

Vrinda Narain, (PhD) Faculty of Law, McGill University, Montreal, Canada

Farida Shaheed, A sociologist and director of Shirkat Gah, a woman's resource center in Lahore, Pakistan. UN Special Rapporteur on Cultural Rights.

Naureen Shameen (LL.M.) Harvard University/ WLUML

Mona Tajali Humanities, Concordia University, Montreal, Canada

Rochelle Terman Political Science, University of California, Berkley, USA

Vivienne Wee (PhD) Director of Institute of Women's Empowerment (IWE),

Communications

Solidarity and Urgent Actions

The year 2013 was marked by revisions of state policies, introductions of law reforms, and constitutional amendments especially in conflict, post conflict, and transitioning states. At the end of 2012, WLUML endorsed and circulated a statement calling for the delay of the Egyptian state's referendum on whether or not to include Shari'a law in the constitution. In solidarity with female Egyptian activists WLUML along with MENA-based organizations and associations endorsed and circulated a statement calling on Egyptian authorities to bear its legal responsibility towards the survivors of sexual violence.

The communications team was also involved in drafting and circulating a number of statements and petitions relating to the Sudanese government crackdown on human rights activists, mainly Nuban WHRDs. In 2013 the Sudanese women human rights defender organization Arry, , the Violence is Not our Culture team and the WLUML communications team circulated urgent calls for action for the immediate release of Jalila Khamis Koko who was at risk of the death penalty; Khadija Mohamed Badr ; Amira Abd Allah; Sudanese lawyer Asma Ahmed, a human rights activist, who was detained incommunicado by the National Security Services in May; Najlaa Mohammed Ali, a Sudanese human rights lawyer; WHRD Amin Senada; and 34 other Sudanese WHRDs who were arrested without charges and/or tortured as part of the authorities crackdown on Nuban human rights activists.

In July 2013, an urgent appeal was issued to help a 14-year old Pakistani-Canadian girl whose father was standing in court for sexually violating her. The Communications team followed up the case with the family, offering contacts in Canada and Pakistan including legal experts, lawyers, and NGOs to assist the girl and her family.

In August 2013, an urgent call for action was put out to stop the execution by stoning of Zahra Pour Sai and Ali Sai Bashsiz who were tried in Tabriz (Iranian Azerbaijan) court, and convicted of *zina* (adultery) in 2012.

In October 2013, WLUML's Communications team together with Sudanese allies came together to denounce the violence perpetrated by the Sudanese government on human rights activists. A statement and petition were circulated on the network and social media platforms. The Communications team also supported and circulated Equality Now's initiative calling for action to 'Protect girls by enforcing FGM and child marriage laws in Kenya'

In the case of the two Saudi Arabian women's rights activists, Wajeha Al-Huwaider and Fawzia Al-Oyouni who were convicted for the crime of *takhhbib* (incitement of a wife to defy her husband) WLUML and the Violence is Not Our Culture Campaign (VNC) issued a statement strongly condemning the activists' conviction and asking for their immediate release. The

Communications team was in contact with the American Bar Association Center for Human Rights and Saudi activists to gather information and updates.

In response to the Sultanate of Brunei Darussalam's announcement of a new penal code based on a strict interpretation of Shari'a law, WLUML, the VNC campaign and allies issued a statement appealing to the state of Brunei and the international community to call upon Brunei to halt the enforcement of the new penal code and the practice of stoning and to initiate a UN resolution to ban the practice of stoning.

The Communications team also contributed to the advocacy work of ISHR on the passing of the WHRD resolution. A statement and an urgent call for action were issued calling on national NGOs to address their respective governments and asking states to support the UN resolution.

Jalila Khamis Koko was released from detention following a court hearing on 20 January 2013, after ten months in detention and death penalty charges. On the 2nd of December 2013 the UN General Assembly committee agreed on a landmark first resolution on women's rights defenders with amendments to some of the language.

The *Stop Stoning Women Campaign* has been WLUML's main campaign work this year. The online petition which launched on the 8th of March 2013 with the aim of gathering a critical mass of 10,000 signatures by March 2014 now stands at 11,696 signatures!

To raise the profile of the campaign, and raise awareness, WLUML screened the documentary *Women in Shroud*, highlighting the issue of stoning in Iran, which was followed by a panel discussion with prominent Iranian women's rights activist Shadi Sadr and Amnesty International's Iran researcher, Drewery Dyke.

WLUML has followed up with continued communications efforts to further boost awareness of and support for the campaign. On 26 June, the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture, a Tweet-a-Thon took place that generated 803 tweets from WLUML and its partners/allies and reached 726,000 people. A Thunderclap event also took place on 25 July, UN Women's Orange Day against Violence against Women.

In September, WLUML garnered media coverage from the Thomas Reuters Foundations, who produced an article and published a WLUML infographic on where stoning is still taking place today. This was followed by two more op-eds in *Open Democracy*, and *The Independent*. On 16 October, WLUML also published a background article on stoning on policymic.com, in order to highlight the issue to new audiences.

ICO Networking

WLUML has been liaising and networking with activists and organisations via meetings in London and elsewhere especially in relation to raising the profile of the *Stop Stoning Women Campaign*. In August 2013 a meeting was held with Open Democracy to discuss a regular contribution of op-eds written by WLUML networkers to Open Democracy.

In terms of expansion of the WLUML network, new networkers from Bangladesh to Yemen have been introduced to our network in 2013. Also an online Skype meeting between the ICO and a Chechen network of activists and organizations working on women's rights, gender justice and equality was held in August 2013. This initiative was organised in collaboration with the International Rescue Committee to explore future collaborations and , to explore how WLUML's experience and research in Muslim majority contexts can benefit the activists' work in the Northern Caucasus. As a result, 10 activists based in Grozny have joined our listserv in 2013.

Emma Batha from Thomson Reuters, another connection established this year, has been instrumental in helping WLUML raise the profile of the *Stop Stoning Women campaign* by reporting on our campaign both in Reuters and *The Independent*.

Meetings were held with young London-based activists who were either born or lived in the Global South, and they made their voices heard through our 16-days of activism, and have since become members of our network. Connections also were made with the Inclusive Mosque Initiative (IMI) in London to discuss future potential collaborations.

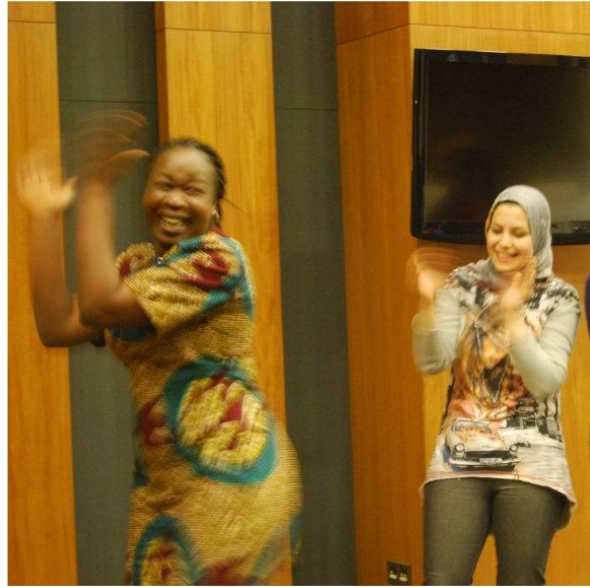
Lapsed networkers, mainly academics, were recently contacted as part of the Communications team's outreach strategy to revive these important links. As a result, networkers' contacts have been revised and updated.

In terms of the overall communications approach by WLUML, the WLUML communications strategy is being further developed to incorporate more effective social media strategies.

WLUML Facebook users have increased by almost 36% in the past six months and stand at 2775 as of December 2013. WLUML's twitter account has also been extremely active in disseminating information and guiding more traffic to the WLUML Facebook page and website and increasing publicity of the *Stop Stoning Women campaign*.

Another major communications achievement for 2013 was WLUML's newsletter was revived and launched as the 'WLUML E-Gazette' in May. The newsletter will be a regular publication that covers the latest women's rights news and events along with a feature article by one of our networkers.

BUILD capacity within the network, reaching and involving old and new networkers and organisations, and producing and disseminating information.



Celebrating new friends and allies: Building bonds across borders in Cairo and Istanbul

WLUML's Regional Coordination Offices

RCO Asia: Shirkat Gah

In its role as WLUML RCO Asia, Shirkat Gah worked in the following areas:

Advocacy and Support

Solidarity and Alerts: In 2013, Shirkat Gah continued active advocacy on issues such as threats to women's rights activists; minority women's conversion; and violation of women's rights in South Asia. A total of 31 alerts and petitions were posted relating to women's rights violations and issues for Asia and the Middle East. The majority of these alerts and petitions aimed to support Women Human Rights Defenders faced with threats to safety from State and non State actors, and incarceration in countries such as Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Sudan. Shirkat Gah also issued 38 news reports related to women rights legislations, violations. These were shared via social media and the website, as well as via the network.

Campaigns

A dedicated campaign for murdered Human Rights Defender (HRD), Juvy Capion and her two children in the Philippines resulted in acknowledgment of the threat to HRDs which was outlined in the response from the Philippine Secretary of Justice, Lbila M. De Lima.

The 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence campaign in Pakistan this year included advocacy actions with the help of partners in 22 districts across Pakistan. This year a national media campaign focusing on domestic violence was launched to help increase awareness on the issue and also pressure the government to speed up the legislative process. SG also supported WLUML through ongoing online advocacy via Facebook and Twitter.

This year's 16 days of activism saw engagement of both conventional media and social media used as advocacy tools. Using social media, SG was able to create awareness about various aspects of the issue and sent a call-to-action. More than 49,000 people saw SG's TVC (animated TV campaign message) against domestic violence on Facebook and more than 7,000 people engaged with our posts. Through Twitter, SG reached more than 40,000 twitter users. Message from the community were also used to engage people.

The conventional media that was engaged to create awareness on gender based violence during the 16 days of activism campaign included: *The Express Tribune* that published a series of articles (5) highlighting the need to curb gender violence, the need for effective legislation and the importance of having women representation in local governments. The articles included:

- Home and hearth - Shirkat Gah to launch campaign against domestic violence: Published on 21st November the report was a curtain raiser to the upcoming 16 days of activism campaign.
- Local bodies: Government asked to reinstate 33 per cent quota for women: The report narrated SG and civil society's demand of women's direct election to reserved seats under a joint electorate system and reinstatement of 33 per cent of quota for women.
- '56 women killed in 2013 for giving birth to girls'
- Gender violence: 'State of women in the Punjab is deplorable': Published on 10th December, the report analyzed state of violence and discrimination against women in the country's most populated province, Punjab.
- Gender-based violence in Punjab: Another feature focusing on VAW in Punjab.

Also PTV World, Pakistan's national TV, aired an hour-long interview of civil society members (represented by SG) and legislators to discuss domestic violence and the need for legislations.

Online Advocacy

SG continued its ongoing contribution to WLUML's advocacy online through Facebook and Twitter. This included taking part in the Stop Stoning Women tweet-a-thon by tweeting 21 times on the issue. SG's tweets were re-tweeted by 35 people and/or organisations including parliamentarians and journalists.

Information Services

SG also responded to more than 100 requests for information from government departments, students and women help seekers who were referred to appropriate outreach services or resources. Some of the information requests included:

- Request for information for data on VAW by Ministry of Law, Justice & Human Rights
- Request for information by journalists from Dawn, Pakistan Today and *Nawa-i-Waqq*
- Request for information by PHD candidate from University of Waterloo, Canada

Publications

Shirkat Gah continued to contribute to WLUML publications, including:

- Three quarterly News sheets with 4000 English, 4000 Urdu and 3000 Sindhi copies disseminates through mailing lists and to stalls in events

RCO AME: GREFELS

This report concerns activities carried out by GREFELS as part of the WELDD Program:

- 1- Outcome 3: Culturally-Justified Violence Against Women
- 2- Outcome 2: Peace and security of the Women's Empowerment and Leadership Development for Democratisation (WELDD)

I- The Child Marriage Project

Under Outcome 2, GREFELS has been developing a project that deals with child marriage. It aims at empowering girls (the most disempowered section of Senegalese society) and women to denounce child marriage as violence and to challenge this custom and all violence against them.

The Project takes place in the province of Velingara, South Senegal.

The project has 3 main objectives: (i) building the capacity of young women in high school and poor neighborhood in the city through trainings in order for them to lead in the struggle against child marriage in the province; (ii) mobilizing women's groups, young men leaders and civil society actors, media and artists (rap groups, cartoonists, community media etc) against child marriage; (iii) developing a critical mass of advocates against child marriage and its consequences through the creation of a network led by the trained high school girls and out of school young women who will sensitise the community through strategically using community media and art to challenge child marriage.

During the first year (2013) most activities were about meeting the first objective that is to build the capacity of the actors of the Project.

Two trainings were held. One for GREFELS partners on the theme of "Democratic Leadership, Gender (especially issues of social construction of womanhood and CVAW, and Human Rights). A second training aimed the high school girls from the two villages, out of school girls living in the city and young men leaders. This second training dealt with gender issues, violence, especially CVAW and human rights especially bodily rights.

A few girls aged 12 to 16, participants to the training gave testimonies about their situation as child brides whose dream to have a future through education and training has been shattered when they were married against their will. One of them was divorced by her husband only 7 months in wedlock while she was pregnant. One girl said that her cousin who was forced to marry took her life instead.

The young men who are part of the project and who participated to the training said that thanks to the girls' testimonies, they are now fully aware not only that girl child marriage is

violence but they fully commit to side with the girl and take part to the struggle to put an end to it.

At the community level, activities such as sensitization talks, door to door visits take place. For these activities communication products such as didactic materials to be used by traditional birth attendants in their talks, banners, T-shirts, holding signs, performances, music (traditional, rap and slam) radio programs, movies and videos films were developed.

Celebration of the International Women's Day (8th March)

First it should be pointed out that with the Child Marriage Project's initiative, it is the first time that the International Women's Day is celebrated in Velingara, although this is provincial capital. Several women's groups, NGOS, associations of human rights defenders and the Association of Traditional Communicators asked to be part of the march, behind the Youth

The central point of the rally was the arrival of the Girls and their supporters (about 300 people) at the Prefecture to read their Declaration to the Prefect who was waiting for them. The Declaration stressed all obstacles making the lives of the girls of Velingara so difficult, the most crucial ones being forced marriage, early pregnancies and female genital mutilations.

In its response, the prefect after welcoming this great initiative renewed its commitment to the cause. He promise set up a Monitoring Committee to ensure that by next International Women's Day, most of the concerns raised by the Girls are taken care of.

Other women's organizations also took this opportunity to present their demands for women to access to land, to credit, to all available resources, to political participation and demanded the enforcement of the Law on Violence against Women

II - Capacity Building of young women's political participation and peace, under WELLD Outcome 2: Peace and security of the Women's Empowerment and Leadership Development for Democratisation

The project targets young women leaders who are active in political parties, in women's organizations and other civil society organization working on issues of women's human rights and citizenship. It aims at building women's leadership skills through critical thinking, training, mobilizing, and at creating an enabling environment through building solidarity, activism, and peace building for security. The project is implemented in Kaolack, a province located in the central part of Senegal, with strong and organized civil society and women's organizations

Project's outcomes so far are:

A group of women (adults and young) are trained in issues about politics, governance and conflict resolution to enable them to stand for their rights and to resolve conflicts in their own parties or organizations.

A non-party linked coalition for women's empowerment that includes women from different parties and civil society is created. During the local elections that took place in July 2014, members of the coalition sensitized female candidates about issues relevant to women and urged them to support and advocate for any female candidate from any political party who is the best placed to win in coming elections.

The Coalition stays as a women's space for a continued activism, mobilization, lobbying or advocacy for the respect of their interests in local councils, to demand accountability and to promote peace and security.

Programmes and Campaigns

Violence is Not our Culture

In 2013, the Violence is not our Culture (VNC) Campaign along with WLUML continued to make important strides in exposing the use of culture including religion to justify discrimination against women and girls and pursue strategic partnerships to support its work.

Solidarity & Action Alerts

The VNC supported ten solidarity and action alerts. Women human rights defenders especially from the Nuba Mountains have been the target of the Sudanese government crackdown on human rights activists. Jalila Khamis Koko, a Nuban WHRD, was charged with crimes against the state and a death penalty, and was one of over 40 activists WLUML and VNC stood in solidarity with, and issued action alerts on behalf of, alongside the Arry Organization, and the Sudanese WHRD.

Others included Sudanese women human rights defender Khadija Mohamed Badr ; Amira Abd Allah; Sudanese lawyer Asma Ahmed, a human rights activist who was detained incommunicado by the National Security Services in May; Najlaa Mohammed Ali, a Sudanese human rights lawyer; WHRD Amin Senada; and 34 other Sudanese WHRDs who were arrested without charges and/or tortured as part of the authorities crackdown on Nuban human rights activists.

VNC co-drafted an urgent call for action to stop the imminent execution by stoning of Zahra Pour Sai and Ali Sai Bashsiz who were tried in Tabriz (Iranian Azerbaijan) court, and convicted of *zina* (adultery) in 2012.

In the case of the two Saudi Arabian women's rights activists, Wajeha Al-Huwaider and Fawzia Al-Oyouni who were convicted for the crime of *takhib* (incitement of a wife to defy her husband) WLUML and the Violence is Not Our Culture Campaign (VNC) issued a statement strongly condemning the activists' conviction and asking for their immediate release. The Communications team was in contact with the American Bar Association Center for Human Rights and Saudi activists to gather information and updates.

In response to the Sultanate of Brunei Darussalam's announcement of a new penal code based on a strict interpretation of Shari'a law, WLUML, the Violence is Not Our Culture campaign (VNC) and allies issued a statement appealing to the state of Brunei and the international community to call upon Brunei to halt the enforcement of the new penal code and the practice of stoning and to initiate a UN resolution to totally ban the practice of stoning.

The Communications team also contributed to the advocacy work of ISHR on the passing of the WHRD resolution. A statement and an urgent call for action were issued calling on national NGOs to address their respective governments and calling on states to support the UN resolution.

Jalila Khamis Koko was released from detention following a court hearing on 20 January 2013, after ten months in detention and death penalty charges. On Dec 2, 2013 the UN General Assembly committee has agreed on a landmark first resolution on women's rights defenders with amendments to some of the language.

VNC Statistics

In 2013, VNC dismantled its listserv, and VNC members were invited to join the WLUML listserv. VNC continues to maintain two of its online communications platforms, the website and Facebook account. All platforms are hosted for free.

In 2013, the VNC website has 52,725 visits, of which 46,437 were new visitors. Overall in 2013 the website had 77,066 page views and with 86.6 per cent being new visitors viewing content.

The VNC Facebook page continued to grow in 2013, with 577 followers now following the Campaign's activities.

16 Days of Activism 2013 against Gender Based Violence

Voices from across the WLUML network denounce VAW

This year, the WLUML network and its partners took part in the global 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence campaign ('16 Days'), for which the 2013 theme was 'From Peace in the Home to Peace in the World: Let's Challenge Militarism and End Violence Against Women!'. Taking part in this international action is becoming an annual event at WLUML, as we build on this unique campaign to engage our networkers around the world to share their stories, organise locally and act together.

During the 16 Days, we aimed both to promote the voices of our networkers, and improve WLUML's reach and influence on social media. To achieve these aims, WLUML not only published a blog series to highlight the voices of our networkers, but emphasised the importance of engaging members in online activism through various online platforms, including both Facebook, Twitter, and our petition on Change.org.

To both mark the first day of the campaign, and acknowledge the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women on November 25th, WLUML issued a statement denouncing violence against women in all forms and urging states to remember their obligations

to eliminate gender violence. In the statement, we also reiterated the links between militarism and gender violence, in keeping with the theme for 2013:

"In all contexts, violence against women has accompanied the escalating conflict in numerous forms. As history testifies, at times of conflict, lawlessness and social vulnerability, women are at an even higher risk of being subjected to sexual violence. In the common parlance of war, these crimes are made invisible - such forms of violence almost always go unnoticed, and rarely is there any redress. But we must state clearly that violence against women is a profound human rights violation."

We also used the statement to emphasise that militarism should be conceptualised as being on a continuum and, concurrently, that women's freedoms are threatened when modes of governance become militarised; not only during open conflict.

WLUML took the 16 Days as an opportunity to harness the voices and experiences of our networkers to raise awareness of different facets of violence against women. Due to the success of our series of blogs last year for the 16 Days, we chose to again publish a series of blogs from across the network.

The blog series as a whole highlighted both the diversity of women's struggles in different contexts and the ways in which they face similar problems of violence and discrimination – a necessary reminder that violence against women remains a problem, and a spotlight on our network as a space in which meaningful resistance is nurtured.

Written articles came from networkers in India, Pakistan, Lebanon, Yemen, Egypt, the United Kingdom, and Afghanistan and including two posts in Arabic. Furthermore, two of the pieces were picked up as exclusives by mainstream and feminist online media – the first (by Samreen Shahbaz) by the UK publication Feminist Times and the second (by Rochelle Terman) by Open Democracy. Across the world, WLUML networkers engaged in local activism, including Shirkat Gah, our partners in Pakistan who ran a photo campaign against domestic violence.

We also engaged with social media discussions throughout the 16 Days. By tweeting consistently under the 16 days hashtag (#16Days), engaging in the online discussion questions shared by the central 16 Days Campaign organisers, sharing powerful quotes and images relating to women's rights, and using Facebook and Twitter as a platform to promote our 16 blogs, we were able to increase WLUML's recognition, and project the diversity and dynamism of our network to a wider audience. This is reflected in our increased Twitter followers and Facebook likes.

Throughout the #16days we publicised our petition to the UN calling for a resolution against stoning, and following this promotion during the 16 Days, our petition received 374 new signatures. The culmination of this online activity was the successful execution of a 'Thunderclap' – the Thunderclap broadcast our message ("Stoning is a brutal control of women's freedom #16days. Call on Ban Ki-moon to #stopstoning") with a link to our petition through 105 social media accounts simultaneously on the last day of the 16 Days (International Human Rights Day), giving it a social media reach of over 90,000 people.

This year, we have built on the success of our engagement with the 16 Days Campaign in 2012, improved coverage of WLUMML across feminist and political media, and increased our online supporter base - great preparation for a busy year ahead in 2014!

Links for more information and further reading:

WLUMML's Statement on the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence:

<http://www.wlumml.org/media/16-days-campaign%E2%80%99-exposing-and-eliminating-violence-home-violence-streets>

WLUMML's 16 Days blog series: <http://www.wlumml.org/section/news/latest?page=1>

WLUMML's mainstream media coverage:

- 'Backlash: The unintended consequences of western human rights intervention' by Rochelle Terman on Open Democracy <http://www.opendemocracy.net/5050/rochelle-terman/backlash-unintended-consequences-of-western-human-rights-intervention>

- 'The Disbelieving of Women' by Samreen Shahbaz on Feminist Times <http://www.feministtimes.com/16days-the-disbelieving-of-women/>

'Stop Stoning Women' Thunderclap: <https://www.thunderclap.it/projects/6619-stop-stoning-women>

For more information, WLUMML's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Women-Living-Under-Muslim-Laws-Solidarity-Network/173314106036158?fref=ts>

For further information, WLUMML on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/WLUMML>

West Asia focus

WLUMML brought to a close its West Asia programme this year with the research for and writing up of a needs assessment of women's organisations in the region. This needs assessment covered ten (10) countries – Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Iran, Jordan, Libya, Morocco Syria, Tunisia, Yemen – and sought to identify the gaps in skills, knowledge, and resources in which WLUMML could help to build capacity.

For this assessment, WLUMML's West Asia Officer, Assistant Programme Officer and Senior CVAW Programme Officer conducted interviews with representatives of local women's organisations from these ten countries over the period July-November 2013. These interviews were sought from organisations that fit our outlined criteria of:

- Based in a country in the West Asia region;
- Must be independent, not affiliated to governments;
- Not single issue organisations; and
- And, from within the same country, the organisation selected needed to contrast in focus, size and outputs.

Prior to embarking on the needs assessment, WLUMML's West Asia Officer conducted a scoping study on the West Asia region, which presented a general overview of the main themes that cut across the region in relation to women's rights and women's rights activism, as well as outlined the regional commitments each state had signed up to; along with this, a mapping of organisations in the region was also collated, which gave a brief background on each of the countries under assessment, then followed with an annotated list of women's rights organisations in that country. Based on these studies, WLUMML's Senior CVAW Programme Officer developed the questions for interview, which were conducted in either English or Arabic.

The writing up of the needs assessment was broken down into eight sections outlining: background; objectives; methodology; challenges; countries assessed; analysis of research; recommendations; and conclusion. It highlighted the issues of lack of funds, outreach and advocacy, internet tools and security, organizational processes and management, and concepts and methods as sites of need for activists in the region. Based on these findings, WLUMML will continue to develop work to support/train/build capacity of activists in the areas they identified.

WLUML Arabic website

During 2013, 64 items were uploaded to the 'news' section of WLUML's Arabic website – an increase of 60 per cent from 2012. The subject matters of these vary widely and include a full range of topics related to violence against women and women's political/public participation. More specifically, reoccurring issues include sexual harassment, forced marriage including marriage of minors, and 'honour' crimes. Particularly in the latter part of this year, many news items deal with the situation for Syrian women refugees in Lebanon and Jordan, and all that they are suffering in terms of violence against women and violations of their rights. By regularly updating news, we aim to amplify the voices of women coming from the Arabic speaking region as well as informing these women about what is happening in other countries in terms of the path towards women's rights and gender equality.

Six items were uploaded to the 'resources' section in 2013. The aim of these highly relevant and detailed resources is to assist and inform women's rights activism in Arabic speaking countries. Resources this year include a 120 page handbook on electoral politics and making quotas work for women, a collection of essays on secularism in the WLUML dossier no.28, a shared statement against the intimidation and exclusion of female protestors in Egypt, an extensive report on women's rights in the new Libya, a handbook on the role of political violence in producing violence against women and children, and finally WLUML's dossier no.29 on women's rights and gender equality more broadly.

Seven items have been uploaded to the 'Our Voices' section in 2013. These include shorter essays or posts contributed by WLUML networkers, such as a piece about women in Egypt entitled 'Women: Participants in battle or human shields?' and two blog posts that were contributed as part of the Sixteen Days of Activism blog roll. As well as this, the WLUML 'Stop Stoning Now' Petition was uploaded here, alongside several WLUML statements on current events, for example a shared statement condemning the use of violence against women protesters in Sudan.

Overall the number of uploads to the WLUML Arabic website this year is markedly more than in previous years.

New contacts in the West Asia region

WLUML expanded its outreach, connecting with several online and offline women's groups in the West Asia region.

From Egypt WLUML established links with the young Arab Women Uprising group founded by Egyptian, Lebanese and Jordanian women's rights activists. Links were made in the Gulf area with, Bahrain Center for Human Rights and activists from Saudi Arabia.

In Syria, WLUMML connected with organisation working on the ground such as the Syrian Women's Forum for Peace. Iraqi organizations such as the Baghdad Women's Association were another active group WLUMML established links with along with the Jordanian Women's Union.

In Morocco, WLUMML connected with the National Union of Women's Organisations and ISIS Centre for Women and Development (ICWAD), and in Libya the Women 4Libya and Voice of Libyan Women; Etar for Social Development organization in Yemen; in Tunisia, Voice of Women organization; and also in Tunisia, Emna lwatch women and Democracy Forum movement.

The WLUMML network has benefited greatly from the West Asia region mapping study. WLUMML has developed these new relationships, and is bringing learning resources to women's groups and collaborating and building co-operative partnerships, while keeping a focus on and helping to strengthen women's rights and human rights movements in the region.

Iran Focus

In 2013, Justice for Iran (JFI), a WLUMML sister organisation that works in close collaboration with WLUMML, ran two programs. Firstly, *Space for Women's Rights, Human Rights and Citizenship in Iran* is a program that seeks to improve the capacity of citizens and civil society groups to organise and advocate for citizen interests and to enhance capabilities to protect internationally recognised legal rights through publication of new women's rights resources. Secondly, they carried out follow up activities of last year's comprehensive research program *Crime without Punishment* that documented and raised awareness of human rights abuses against female political prisoners in Iran. The outcomes of these two projects are reviewed briefly below.

Space for Women's Rights, Human Rights and Citizenship in Iran

Scope of work and outputs in 2013

In 2013 JFI in collaboration with WLUMML ran two training workshops. One was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on January 17th, for activists who were mostly temporarily out of Iran but intended to return. A second workshop was held from the 5th to the 7th April in Frankfurt, Germany.

JFI participated and presented in 12 public events to raise awareness about the situation of HRDs and WHRDs in Iran. Furthermore, they published and widely distributed 17 urgent actions, press releases and statements.

Online legal advice and guidance was provided at least 352 times to a wide range of activists in Iran, including women's right activists, journalists, family members of detainees, women's rights activists, political activists, LGBT rights activists and students' rights activists residing throughout Iran as well as in the diaspora. Furthermore, JFI published and widely distributed

four booklets containing guidelines for activists about Iranian laws related to human rights abuses.

Numerous interviews regarding the situation of HRDs and WHRDs in Iran were held with various media, including mainstream media outlets such as *the Guardian*, BBC Persian and VOA as well as other online media.

A submission entitled *Weapons of Mass Discrimination: The Islamic Republic Policies and the Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of citizens in Iran* was made to the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) on the occasion of the review of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the 50th Session of the CESCR in which the committee members were briefed and lobbied. In addition to this, a submission on Violence against Women was also made to the International Development Committee of the UK Parliament.

Actions by JFI led to 32 perpetrators (individuals and entities) being identified through the gathering of evidence against them. This was then introduced to the European Union in order to add them to the list of restrictive measures (human rights sanctions). Almost all of those identified have massive records of gross and systematic abuse of Human Rights Defenders.

Two analytical reports were published by JFI as part of this program. '[Seeking Rights to Cultural Identity: The Deathly Struggle of Ahwazi Arab Activists](#)' was published in February and reports on the human rights violations against Arab cultural activists in South West Iran. '[Stolen Lives, Empty Classrooms: An Overview on Girl Marriages in the Islamic Republic of Iran](#)' was published in October and deals with the increasingly pressing issue of forced marriage of the girl child in Iran.

Finally, five activists, one group of prisoners and one organisation were nominated for prestigious international awards. The aim of doing this is to raise the profile of these human rights defenders so that they may receive more international recognition.

Crime without Punishment Programme

Scope of work and outputs in 2013

JFI published a book in Farsi on [Torture and Sexual Violence against Women Political Prisoners in the Islamic Republic](#) in the past fifteen years. In addition to this, a policy brief entitled '[Raped out of Paradise](#)' was published that also deals with the subject of 'Women in Prisons of the Islamic Republic of Iran'. On the same subject, a groundbreaking documentary was produced in Farsi and widely aired (with English subtitles) called *Final Moments* in which victims and witnesses of sexual violence in this context recall their experiences.

An international symposium was held on the 8th of June in London with Dr. Ahmed Shaheed, the UN Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in Iran, as the keynote speaker. Furthermore, one submission was made to the UN Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women.

JFI participated in four public events in Montreal (September 2013), Berlin (September 2013), Toronto (September 2013), Geneva (October 2013) to talk about their work on Crimes without Punishment.

Outcomes of the *Crime without Punishment* programme

The UN Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in Iran has picked up the issue of the violations of the rights of the Mothers of Khavaran to seek justice, to know the truth about the disappearance of their loved ones, to mourn and to assemble. This issue was raised in our appeal to him and other relevant Special Rapporteurs.

The *Crime without Punishment* report was recognised by the Iran Tribunal team of legal experts and it was subsequently included in the final judgement of the Tribunal.

After years of silence, official bodies of the Islamic Republic, including an organisation representing the Supreme Leader in Iranian Universities, have refuted claims of rape prior to execution. This is the first time that official state organisations have declared their position with regards to this matter.

The *Crime without Punishment* report on sexual torture has inspired grassroots activists to produce a theatrical performance in Italy and a dance performance in Germany.

A TV documentary was produced and was broadcast on the most popular Iranian satellite channel, Manoto TV, called *The Dream of Freedom* and was viewed by millions of people in Iran.

The submission to the UN Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women, resulted in the first ever inclusion of the criminal State policy of raping virgins prior to their execution, in Professor Rashida Manjoo's report to the UNGA in October 2013.

WLUML's Farsi and Dari Website

A total of 12 WLUML volunteers are now working on the Farsi website and Farsi social media along with the new consultant, in particular to translate news to English and from English to Farsi, to ensure that news from the Middle East about the ongoing situation in Egypt and Syria reaches Iranian women's rights and human rights activists. Iran held Presidential elections this June 14th. The lead up to the Presidential elections are traditionally the time women's rights activists use opportunities to reach out and engage, and sometimes this civic engagement leads to political clashes and can result in security forces arresting women human rights defenders. As such, the WLUML KBF project team decided extra resources were needed to monitor issues and news stories during this time to ensure WLUML is aware at all times of what is happening on the ground. A call for volunteers was posted out on the Farsi website, and 14 people responded to this call. From this group, a total of six people were recruited with the

appropriate experience i.e. photographers and journalists, who documented events as they happened.

A promotion was run on the Facebook page targeting Afghani women to increase their awareness of the website and news items. This was a huge success with the number of visitors from Afghanistan significantly increasing the number of Facebook likes from 540 in the quarter to 1484. The Facebook page has grown from 540 followers/likes to 1484, which is an increase of 275%, and has more than doubled our original goal of 500. A total of 71 items were posted onto the Farsi Facebook page, some with quotes from news stories to attract people to read the items.

In addition to the HIVOS KBF staff resources who work on the production of information for the Farsi website, undertakes regular monitoring of all women's rights activist cases and plans are being put in place as part of this project to revise and update processes and IT monitoring systems in order to more efficiently monitor and disseminate information on Iranian HR cases and put information from the Space programme onto the WLUML main website. This will increase coverage and publicity of the cases, as WLUML's website achieved 15 million hits in 2012 and over 14 million thus far in 2013.

WLUML: Space for Human Rights, Women's Rights and Citizenship in Iran

In 2013, WLUML began its new 18 month programme, 'Space for Human Rights, Women's Rights and Citizenship in Iran' funded by HIVOS KBF. This programme seeks to improve the capacity of citizens and civil society groups to organise and advocate for citizen interests and enhance capabilities to protect internationally recognised legal rights through publication of new women's rights resources. It focuses on information dissemination using WLUML's main site and the Farsi/ Dari section.

During 2013, WLUML have continued to capitalise on the significant experience in outreach and networking within the Iranian HRD/WHRD communities both in Iran and in Diaspora. The focus has been on the Farsi website content, Facebook content, publications, and nominations of Iranian activists. The programme at the end of December 2013 had 12 volunteers who have been given ongoing support and mentoring to assist with monitoring issues and news stories. The volunteers also include writers and photographers, for the Farsi website who meet weekly to discuss the latest developments in relation women's issues and rights in Iran. The big news stories focused on the Iranian elections, the release of Nasrin Sotoudeh and Jila Baniyaghoub and the permission from the Iranian authorities for the first female triathlete to take part in the sport's world championship.

In June in conjunction with Justice for Iran, WLUML decided to nominate Mothers of Khavaran for the *UN Human Rights Prize*. A number of other organizations jointly nominated the

organization for this prize. Mothers of Khavaran is an Iranian grassroots group largely made up of women whose children, mostly political and ideological activists, were tortured and secretly executed in the masses during the 1980's by Islamic Republic officials. They lead a non-violent movement in Iran that seeks justice for these executions.

RAISE awareness of the work being undertaken around empowerment and leadership through the consortia programme



WELDD political participation workshop, Cairo, December 2013

Women's Empowerment and Leadership Development for Democratisation (WELDD)

WLUML continues to deliver on a multitude of activities as part of its work under the Women's Empowerment and Leadership Development for Democratisation programme.

WLUML is part of a consortium, with Shirkat Gah as the lead partner and the Institute for Women's Empowerment as third partner, which was awarded a grant in 2011 by the Dutch Government's FLOW Fund. The programme's objectives are to advance equal rights and opportunities for women and girls in the following areas:

- Women's participation in public and political arenas for strengthening democratising processes;
- Safety and security through strengthening women's leadership to combat violence against women that is excused in the name of culture, and actively promoting women's involvement in processes of peace, security and reconstruction; and
- Economic self-reliance through increasing women's access to and control over economic resources.

The WELDD programme will contribute to these three areas by building leadership capacity of at least 1,500 women in at least 10 DAC countries in Asia, Africa and the Middle East (and select additional countries), establishing strong alliances and coalitions within and across national borders.

An important feature of this programme is that it will invest in women's leadership to act locally, regionally and globally. The linkages from local to global will help to increase visibility of community women's concerns, needs and demands to an international audience, especially within the United Nations system, so that international standards and norms can reinforce local initiatives in a cycle of empowerment.

Under the WELDD programme, WLUML is responsible for delivering activities on leadership development, and strategies to combat Cultural Violence Against Women (CVAW). Funding for WELDD will run for three and a half years (from 2012 to the first half of 2015).

WELDD 2013 Activities

In 2013 WLUML continued to deliver on its multitude of activities as part of its work under the WELDD programme. From training workshops in Africa and the Middle East to advocating at the highest international levels during the Commission on the Status of Women in New York, WLUML have had an incredible year delivering on its 2013 activities as part of the WELDD consortium. To wrap up activities and provide an opportunity for all three consortium partners to reflect on the achievements and lessons learnt, Shikat Gah as head of the consortium once again hosted the WELDD Management Group meeting in Lahore Pakistan in November 2013. The concepts of sustainable, transnational feminist leadership continued to be debated, along with presentations on the work delivered thus far by partners, and what to expect in the coming year. This meeting there was also cause for celebration as the consortium received additional funds under the FLOW programme to expand the work under WELDD in 2014. Under the 'WELDD Extension Project' WLUML will be delivering an additional Anglophone workshop in Africa and three regional Cultural Violence Against Women (CVAW) Training Workshops in Asia, the Middle East and Africa, with the aim of raising awareness around CVAW practices and how best to educate and advocate to work towards an end to these damaging, dangerous and in many instances, deadly, practices.

The following is an overview of activities that were delivered under each outcome in 2013.

Outcome 1 - Leadership and political participation

“By 2015, at least 1,500 strengthened women leaders advocating gender-equitable, pluralistic societies and States in at least 12 DAC countries in Asia, Africa and the Middle East with reinforced alliances and networks within and across national borders reach at least 100,000 people)”

Under Outcome one WLUMML has had some excellent both immediate and longer term results, showing the sustainability of actions taken. From January to April 2013, WLUMML was reviewing relevant materials on women’s political participation and leadership including WELDD workshop training modules, WLUMML Dossiers, Feminist Leadership Institutes training materials and selected articles and books focused on feminist leadership which were translated to Arabic and French for the MENA and West Africa workshops. They are as follows:

- *Electoral Politics: Making Quotas Work for Women* by Dr. Homa Hoodfar and Mona Tajali
- *Great Ancestors: Women Claiming Rights in Muslim Contexts*, by Farida Shaheed and Aisha Lee Shaheed
- Nazra Manual on WHRD
- Feminist Leadership – Paper by Charlotte Bunch
- Dossier 28 (on Secularisms) and 29 (on Gender and Equality Mechanisms)

These publications were assessed by partners approached during the MENA mapping study in Egypt, Syria, Iraq, Iran, Libya, Sudan and Tunisia. The participants of the MENA workshop in January also assessed their usability as online training modules for the future WELDD Web portal. Participants from the West Africa workshop (Mali, Niger and Senegal) also provided feedback on the French translations of the publications and articles listed above.

Workshops

WLUMML held its first MENA WELDD Women’s Leadership Workshop from 13th to 20th January in Cairo, Egypt. A total of 23 women participants attended from Egypt, Libya, Syria, Iraq, Sudan, and Singapore. The training ran over seven days with trainers from Iran, Senegal, Hong Kong, Malaysia, the United States and Egypt.

The West Africa Workshop was also held in Dakar, Senegal from 8th to 12th April. A total of 17 women from Mali, Niger, and Senegal attended. The preparations for this included mapping of partner organizations; finalizing the concept note; terms of reference for workshop trainers; and setting the participant criteria.

Networks

Following the first phase of the West Asia review of its current partners and network members, and identification of new network members, WLUMML via the West Asia scoping study continued to identify new organizations in Egypt, Tunisia, Sudan, Syria, Iraq, Yemen, and Bahrain following the revolutions. This study has assisted in identifying participants for the

WELDD MENA Workshop, and continues to highlight 'newcomers' to the women's rights movement. New linkages with these 'newcomer' women's rights organizations and activists such as *Uprising of Arab Women* and *Imprint*, have been made throughout 2013.

The WLUMML WELDD Officer met with Uprising of Arab Women team in Cairo in May to discuss how WLUMML can support them in their upcoming campaign; also in May the WLUMML WELDD Officer met with the Steering Committee of 1000 Peace Women to discuss WLUMML and the network in the governorates which will enhance the outreach post the WELDD Women's Leadership workshop that was delivered in January.

Sustainable actions

In January 2013 the nine participants from the WELDD Women's Leadership workshop in January who were from Egypt and Sudan (living in Cairo) formed a Feminist Reading Group in Cairo coordinated by WLUMML's WELDD Officer in Cairo to study leadership literature highlighted by the WELDD literature review. The group continued to meet every month, and provided updates to WLUMML that were posted on the WLUMML Website, and other mediums. The group have set up a Drop Box to share feminist books and other forms of women's rights literature. They have been approached to add new members to the group; however, the idea is to start with a small group of people involved in WELDD and then gradually open it up to others after it has been running effectively for a while.

Literature reviewed in the Group to date includes:

- 'Facts of Life' Written by Margret Jackson.
- 'The Trouble between Us: An Uneasy History of White and Black Women in the Feminist Movement' Written by Winifred Breines.
- 'Women's Leadership - Why Should You Care?' Written by Charlotte Bunch.

Campaigns

Many campaigns that have relevance to WLUMML or can be supported by WLUMML's actions have been identified in the MENA region post the WELDD Women's Leadership Workshop that intersect with WLUMML's WELDD programme campaigns. Some of these include the *Uprising of Arab Women* and *Harrassmap's* campaign on sexual harassment in Egypt.

WELDD Web portal

WLUMML is responsible for the development of the WELDD web portal. The new web portal will house all the newly developed resources from the WELDD programme from the three partners. The portal is a key part of the WELDD programme, as it is the means by which the programme disseminates its work to an online audience.

The contract to develop the web portal was granted to EMU Design at the beginning of 2013. The initial phase involved understanding WELDD and conceptualizing the web portal. During the first quarter of 2013, several meetings were held with the developers to discuss the content

of the WELDD web portal and building an archiving system that would hold the WLUML and WELDD content seeing that WELDD is a sub-domain of WLUML. In the same stage HTML layouts/PDF files of the different web portal hub pages, pathways, and site map rationale were developed. Following the structural development of the web portal, the design phase commenced around the end of spring 2013, and was completed during the summer of 2013. The layout, color palette, and logos of the web portal were approved by the management team.

Once the information hierarchy, general content taxonomy, sitemap rationale, and design were approved developers proceeded to the dynamic built stage, where the static HTML version of the website was brought to life. The web portal is now live, and available on the following URL: <http://weldd.wluml.org/>. The web portal is now in its final stages where bugs and glitches are being inspected by the developers. Resources are currently being shared by WLUML and national partners to populate the web portal. To see the most updated version of the web portal please visit <http://weldd.wluml.org/>

A TOR for web portal administrators/editors is currently being developed with SG. In addition, a 'criteria' document for the selection of WELDD and WELDD related news is being developed which will inform the 'Our news & voices' section of the web portal.

Outcome 3: Challenging Cultural Violence Against Women

"By 2015, at least 100 women in 7 WELDD countries assume leadership to reject cultural justifications for VAW in at least 100 local to international initiatives".

Partnerships

The WELDD Outcome 3 Program has facilitated the forging of partnerships with new and existing networkers for WLUML.

On forced/child marriage the following partnerships have been established:

- Baobab for Women's Rights- Nigeria
- GREFELS – Senegal
- Saalmah Women's Resource Center – Sudan
- Foundation for Solidarity and Justice – Afghanistan
- Justice for Iran – Iran

On stoning the following partnerships have been established:

- Research Institute for Women Peace & Security (with focus on CVAW) – Afghanistan
- Solidaritas Perempuan (Aceh) – Indonesia
- Organisation of Women's Freedom AND Warvin Foundation for Women's Issues- - Iraq

- Saalmah Women's Resource Center AND Aid Center for Advocacy and Legal Consultation (ACAL) - Sudan

Capacity-building

The ICO through the Outcome 3 Coordinator produced a planning tool to support partners' conceptualization, strategizing and action planning, as well as a framework to develop a training strategy for their projects on culturally justified VAW (CVAW). National strategies and action plans on building women leadership to challenge CVAW were produced, including: capacity building needs of women activists and leaders; leadership and advocacy strategies on CVAW; and campaigning and working within UN mechanisms. Regular consultations (averaging 2 to 3 consultations each month) through skype, phone calls, emails and face-to-face meetings when possible with each of nine partners from seven countries took place to finalize their projects.

Extensive capacity building of WELDD CVAW partners Afghanistan (Research Institute for Women, Peace and Security) and Iran (Justice For Iran) took place for their participation at the 57th Session of Commission on the Status of women (CSW) in 2013 and the launch of the Global Campaign to Stop Stoning (see below).

The directors of our two partners in Afghanistan were engaged with and supported in the development of their national strategies related to the United States' attempts to hold talks with the Taliban. A statement of concern was released on this issue in consultation with these partners.

Seven (7) WLUMML partners and networkers from six (6) countries (Egypt, Syria, Senegal, Sudan, Afghanistan and Indonesia) participated in the WELDD international meeting on the intersection of peace, security and CVAW that took place in Pakistan in November 2013.

One (1) leader from Afghanistan attended the Training of Trainers workshop on peace and security (WELDD Outcome 2), which was convened by Shirkat Gah.

Advocacy/ Campaigning

The Global Campaign to Stop Stoning

The campaign to end stoning was launched at the 57th CSW session in March 2013. Eleven partner organizations (two international networks and nine national partners) signed on to coordinate this campaign in collaboration with WLUMML. These organizations are:

- Women's UN Report Network (WUNRN)
- Women's Intercultural Network
- Groupe de Recherche sur les Femmes et Les Lois au Sénégal (GREFELS)
- Justice for Iran (JFI)

- Research Institute on Women, Peace and Security (Afghanistan)
- Foundation of Solidarity for Justice (Afghanistan)
- Baobab for Women's Human Rights (Nigeria)
- Salmmah Women's Resource Center (Sudan)
- Shirkat Gah Women's Resource Center (Pakistan)
- Solidaritas Perempuan (Indonesia)
- Institute for Women's Empowerment (IWE)

A well-attended panel discussion was held on the occasion of the campaign's launch, which included the Chair of WLUMML's Board, Zarizana Abdul Aziz, representatives from the two international networks (WUNRN and the Women's Intercultural Network), and representatives from Iran and Afghanistan. A public statement – endorsed by all the conveners – was also issued at this time and became the basis of the global petition that had generated 11,726 (as of 10 December 2013). A very robust series of activities via social media (Facebook and Twitter), the WLUMML and VNC websites, and list serves took place, which coincided with the launch of the campaign and raised the profile of both WLUMML and the campaign. Other communication products produced for launch included an op-ed and blog series on stoning published on openDemocracy.net; and a video of the launch event at the CSW on 8 March was produced and uploaded.

In late October 2013, WLUMML issued a statement protesting the introduction of stoning as punishment by the Sultanate of Brunei Darussalam. The Statement was sent to the relevant authorities in the country and was endorsed by: Aid Centre for Advocacy and Legal Consultation, Sudan; Aliansi Nasional Bhineka Tunggal Ika, Indonesia; Ardhanary Institute, Indonesia; Centre for Secular Space; Forum Anti Korupsi dan Transparansi Anggaran (FAKTA), Indonesia; Forum Islam Rahmatan Lil'alam (FIRL), Indonesia; Gambia Committee on Traditional Practices Affecting the Health of Women and Children (GAMCOTRAP); GaYA Nusantara, Indonesia; Global Sisterhood Network; Ikatan Pemuda Nahdlatul Ulama (IPNU), Indonesia; Jaringan Masyarakat Sipil Peduli Syariah (JMSPS), Indonesia; Jari Aceh, Indonesia; Justice for Iran; KOMPAK, Indonesia; LBH APIK, Indonesia; Lembaga Solidaritas Perempuan dan Anak (eLSPA), Indonesia; Perhimpunan Bhineka Tunggal Ika (PBTI); Practical Solutions; Salmmah Women's Resource Centre, Sudan; Serikat Inong Aceh (SeIA), Indonesia; Shirkat Gah Women's Resource Centre, Pakistan; Sisters in Islam, Malaysia; Solidaritas Perempuan, Indonesia; Syrian Women Forum for Peace; Violence is Not Our Culture; Women's UN Report Network (WUNRN); Yayasan Anak Bangsa (YAB), Indonesia; Yayasan Lembaga Kajian Islam dan Sosial (LKIS), Indonesia; YEE APINDO, Indonesia.

During the 16 Days of Activism (25 November-10 December) WLUMML also hosted a blog series, which each highlighted either the issue of stoning specifically or CVAW more generally. Blogs were written by networkers in the language of their choosing, with one being released each day to coincide with the 16 Days.

WLUML also embarked on engaging with the UN process when, in May 2013, WLUML's Harvard Fellow Naureen Shameem attended the 23rd session of the Human Rights Council, where she began the process of networking with civil society groups in Geneva in order to generate their support for a UN resolution against stoning.

Child/ Forced Marriage

Two (2) meetings with the international office of the Girls not Bride Global Partnership to End Child Marriage took place in August and November 2013. The meetings explored potential collaborations in the campaign to end child / forced marriage; exchanged notes on strategies around the UN resolution to stop child / forced marriage and how to respond to the call by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) for submissions on the subject as mandated by the Human Rights Council.



Images from the Global Campaign to Stop Stoning, including the Infographic published by Thomson Reuters (bottom-left)

WLUML Acknowledges

ICO Staff

WLUML ICO staff for 2013: Fatou Sow – International Director; Mariem Omari - Deputy Director; Shadi Sadr – Iran Coordinator; Yasmin Ghrawi - Communications and Advocacy Officer, and Anthonia Onwordi - Finance and Administration Officer.

Consultants

Edna Aquino – WLUML CVAW Coordinator for Outcome 3 of the WELDD programme. Shaina Greiff – CVAW Senior Programme Officer. Dina Wahba – West Asia Officer & MENA workshop organiser; CVAW Rose Codner - Assistant Programme Officer.. Sally Buchanan – Finance Officer. Rhiannon Redpath joined the WLUML team as a part-time short term consultant in November 2013. Both Rima Athar and Rochelle Terman finished their terms with WLUML and WLUML would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to both of them for their dedication and outstanding work. A special mention should be made here for Edna Aquino's enormous effort to coordinate the panel for the Commission on the Status of Women in March 2013, which was very well attended and received outstanding reviews.

Fellows & Interns

WLUML's internship programme has been very active this year. The ICO has so far offered four intelligent, engaged, and creative young activists one to three month internships. The internships involved putting together the monthly newsletter, the WLUML e-Gazette. In addition, interns were providing assistance to the Communications & Advocacy team; drafting statements of solidarity, updating WLUML, VNC websites, and associate social media platforms. The interns were also given an opportunity to develop their own work, and to publish and publicize their work on WLUML's listserve, website and social media platforms.

The interns came from diverse backgrounds. Naureen Ali from Pakistan, was a graduate student at the Gender Studies department in SOAS. Dana Khalil Ahmad came from the UAE to spend one-month with WLUML. Dana was studying International Relations and English literature at the American University of Sharjah. Aishah Khokhar, British/Pakistani, a second-year LLB Law Student at the University of Westminster. Isabel Marler from the United Kingdom. Isabel has a Masters in Gender Studies from School of Oriental and African Studies SOAS.

Finally, a Harvard Law Fellow, Naureen Shameem. Naureen worked in the position of Program and Publications Fellow, and became a much valued and vital member of the WLUML ICO team from September 2012 to August 2013.

Volunteers

And extra special mention needs to be made to highlight the work of WLUMML's dedicated volunteers:

Early 2013, Adrienne Choukour reached out to WLUMML through our Facebook account. Adrienne is a Gender expert based in France, and has assisted WLUMML in translating articles, reports, and various other texts from English to French. Also at the beginning of 2013, Harriet Dodd and Stella Michael supported the ICO Coordination team in London with organisational and project planning support.

In October 2013, Radhika Sasidharan Nair, a media professional based in Mumbai contacted WLUMML to relay the success stories of one women's grassroots group, the Bharatiya Muslim Mahila Andolan, (BMMA) who launched an all woman Sharia court to dispense justice for women and also contributed to WLUMML's 16-days blog series.

During 2013 Aisling Barratt worked in Montreal under Homa Hoodfar's supervision and in constant contact with our contributors and editors. WLUMML's policy allows a volunteer to develop a project of their own where they can contribute, produce, or conduct their own research. Aisling has conducted research on the history and struggle of women in Europe and North America and has written a chapter for the *Politics of Sport* publication due out in 2014.

In November 2013, Latifa Akay recent Human Rights, Conflict and Justice LLM graduate from SOAS provided additional support to WLUMML Communications Team on the 16 day blog.

Nasrin Afzali is one of WLUMML's long-term networkers who also participated in the WLUMML Feminist Leadership Institute in 2007 and has been working with us since then. Nasrin looks after the Farsi website, edits and e-publishes articles on the website, organises and manages seven volunteer networkers who help with translation work. Azadeh Momeni joined the Farsi Editorial Board in April 2012.

Partners

WLUMML acknowledges and very warmly appreciates the tremendous help and support given by individuals and sister organisations in 2013. In particular Shirkat Gah, the lead partner in the WELDD consortium, along with the Institute of Women's Empowerment.

Finally, a special mention to HIVOS, Channel Foundation and Global Wallace Fund as they have underpinned some of WLUMML's priority work through their grant support of WLUMML's core activities and focus areas.

Funding Received In 2013

Income and Expenditure Overview

WLUML's main sources of income in 2013 are from HIVOS, HIVOS/KBF (Iran publications project), Channel Foundation, Global Fund for Women (GFW), and Justice for Iran and the FLOW Fund for the Women's Empowerment and Leadership Development for Democratisation (WELDD) programme. HIVOS and GFW are unrestricted while the others are restricted to project-related expenditure.

In addition to all above, we received \$45,000 from Wallace Global Fund towards core expenses.

Income received to 30 November 2013 was £488,067 and this includes both actual receipts for 2013, as well as income received in 2012 but meant for activities in year 2013. Out of this, project funding was £398,757 while core funding was £86,197. We also received donations which amounted to £2,117. Publications sales, other income and interest earned amounted to £996.

Expenditure to 30 November 2013 was £368,118. Project expenditure was £162,481 while core expenditure was £205,637. The major expenditure apart from costs directly attributed to project activities was staff costs. Overall staff costs was £121,734, out of which 82% is programme staff costs.

Funding received in 2013

Restricted Funds

FLOW Fund

Project name: "Women's Empowerment and Leadership Development for Democratisation" (WELDD); a three-year joint programme of Shirkat Gah, WLUML and IVE that commenced in January 2012.

We received a total of €323,130 from FLOW Fund for 2013 split as follows:

1. €299,610 – project funding for 2013 as per budget.
2. €11,200 – translation of French publications.
3. €6,190 – translation of Arabic publications.
4. €5,000 – contribution towards Africa w/shop held in Dakar in April 2013.
5. €1,130 – WELDD audit fee

We also received €48,333 from Shirkat Gah to organise the Peace-building workshop that was held in Istanbul, Turkey in October.

HIVOS/KBF

Project name: "Space for Human Rights, Women's Rights and Citizenship in Iran"; a two-year joint programme with HIVOS that commenced in 2012.

We received a total of \$20,000 in 2013, making a total of \$40,000 to the period ended 30 November 2013.

Channel Foundation

We received \$20,000 through International Human Rights Initiative (IHRI). The grant is to support the Women's Leadership Institute with emphasis on the MENA region.

Justice for Iran

Project name: "Crimes without Punishment"

We received the sum of £35,682 for the Iran Coordinator's salary and core costs. We are still expecting approximately £5,818 for 2013.

Unrestricted Funds**HIVOS**

Project name: "Core Support for the WLUMML-ICO"; a three-year funding to support core costs with emphasis on strengthening WLUMML's work in West Asia (Iraq, Iran and Syria).

We received the sum of €100,000 in 2013. This year is the last year of HIVOS' core support.

Wallace Global Fund

In December 2013 we received \$45,000 in support of the programme "Empowering WHRDs in the MENA".

Global Fund for Women

We received a discretionary grant of \$5,000 from Global Fund for Women on the recommendation of Charlotte Bunch towards general support.

Donations

We have received £2,117 so far from individual donations.

Publication Sales

There has no significant income from publications sold this year.

Company number: 0411740. Charity registration number: 1144519

Women Living Under Muslim Laws

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