



**WOMEN
DELIVER 2019
CONFERENCE**

REPORT



REFLECTIONS FROM OUR PRESIDENT/CEO KATJA IVERSEN

We came together for the Women Deliver 2019 Conference — dignitaries, colleagues, old friends, new friends, and fellow changemakers. In Vancouver and all over the world, we co-created, instigated, and catalyzed change for gender equality and girls' and women's health and rights. We left with heads full of solutions, bellies full of fire, and hearts full of individual and collective power. And for those of us in the Vancouver Convention Centre, we walked out on sore feet.

Did WD2019 deliver? It did! We had a truly global conference and dialogue with the knowledge, expertise, energy, and drive of people from all over the world — from diverse sectors, from a range of experiences, and length of involvement. It featured people from communities with power and those that are traditionally marginalized, from teens to elders. Our survey shows that almost all respondents (96 percent) gained new knowledge and that the conference inspired most (91.5 percent) to take action.

We owned our power and really thought about how we can use power for good. We strategized how to harness our individual power, how to break down the barriers in structural power, and how to use the power of movements — the power of many — to drive progress.

Women Deliver conferences are not a means to an end, they are refueling stations. Participants are serious about finding and implementing solutions. Donors, sponsors, and supporters help us move the needle forward. The host country is not just a location but a true partner, living and demonstrating the power of gender equality and the willingness to drive change.

In a conference full of highlights, it's hard to choose favorites, but a few that stand out for me are Canada's pledge to raise its funding to CAD 1.4 billion annually to support girls' and women's health around the world, and that includes an additional CAD 300 million a year dedicated to sexual and reproductive health rights, including access to safe abortion; youth advocates speaking their minds in every session and every plenary; the launch of the SDG Gender Index, which measures progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) through a gender lens; and the relationship we built with the Tsleil-Waututh, Musqueam, and Squamish Nations who so warmly welcomed us as visitors and partners.

There will be another conference in 2022, but in the meantime, we're all hard at work building on the partnerships we formed, adapting and implementing the solutions we identified, and turning the sparks into action. There is much to do and no time to rest.

We thank everyone who supported, donated to, pushed, pulled, lifted, and helped organize this conference — thank you!



— KATJA IVERSEN



WOMEN DELIVER *POWER.*

WOMEN DELIVER *PROGRESS.*

WOMEN DELIVER *CHANGE.*

And we do it with the organizations, projects, campaigns, and individuals all over the world who know, as we do, that a gender equal world isn't only a fair world, it's healthier, wealthier, more productive, and more peaceful.

We believe that we can get to a gender equal world by partnering, co-creating, learning, and lifting each other to heights we could not reach alone. This is what drives our triennial Women Deliver conferences, which are the largest such events on gender equality. They are a refueling station on the way to the summit ahead.



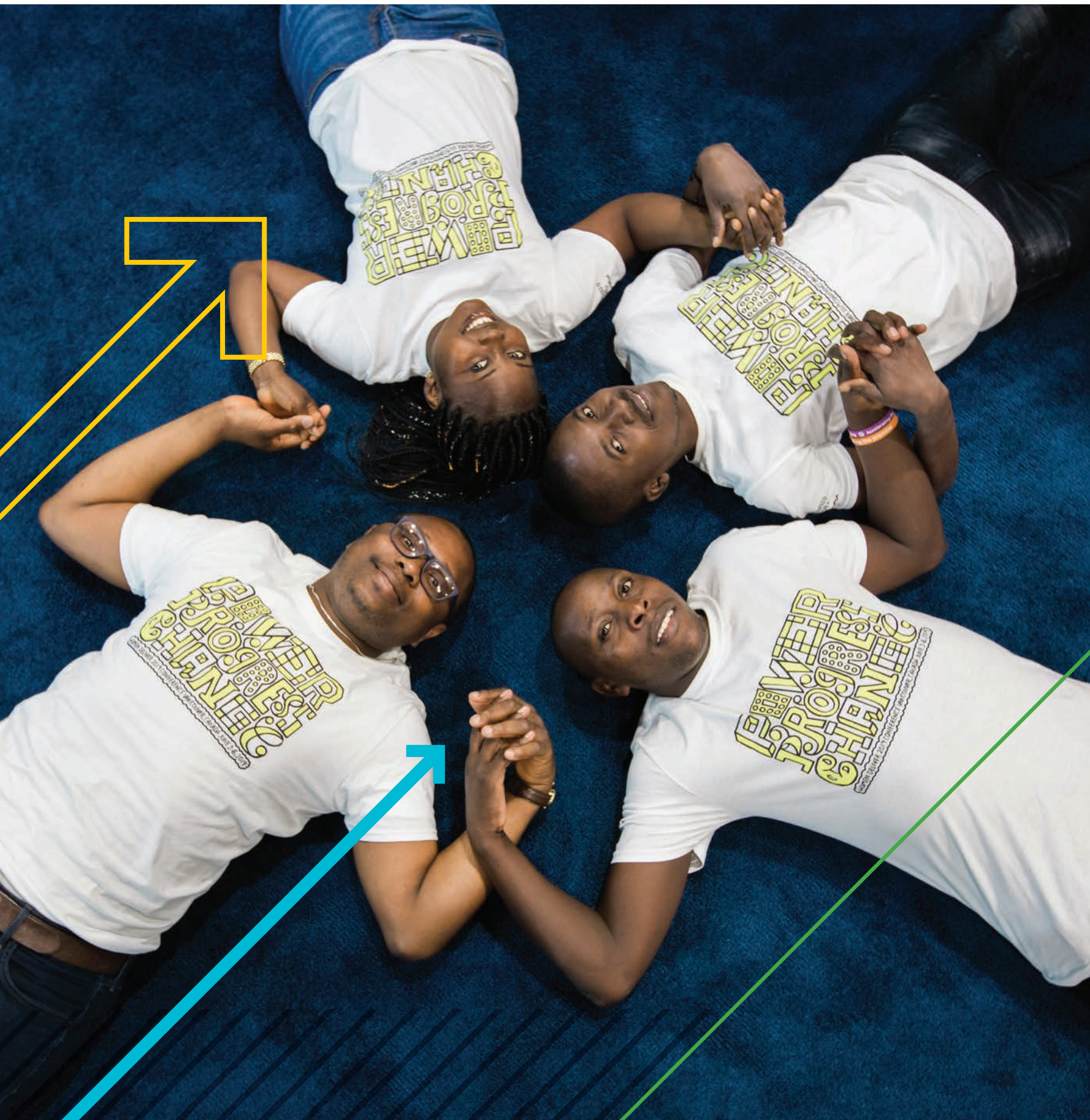


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*Women Deliver...changed my thinking.
I don't have to be a politician to accumulate
power...I have the power to transform
myself and my community.*

— WD2019 DELEGATE

WOMEN DELIVER 2019 CONFERENCE

All Women Deliver conferences share common goals, and here, we take stock of how they were met:

GOAL 1

CONNECT ADVOCATES AND DECISION MAKERS

EXAMPLES:

- > Young advocates and Heads of State shared the stage on a high-level panel in the Opening Plenary, *The Power of Us*.
- > We launched the Business Ally Network, a new addition to the Deliver for Good campaign, bringing the cross-sectoral approach required to drive solutions toward a more gender equal world.

GOAL 2

FUEL GLOBAL AND COUNTRY-LEVEL ACTION WITH A FOCUS ON SOLUTIONS

EXAMPLES:

- > The inaugural Women Deliver Advocacy Academy trained advocates from 49 countries to strengthen their skills and connections, including with parliamentarians.
- > Equal Measures 2030 launched the SDG Gender Index, the most comprehensive tool available to measure progress on gender equality commitments.

GOAL 3

INFLUENCE THE GLOBAL AGENDA

EXAMPLES:

- > Founders and leaders of some of the most influential movements of our time shared a stage and found commonalities for the way ahead.
- > Attendees from 350 private sector organizations representing a diverse set of industries created a space for true collaboration and partnerships across sectors.
- > The Global Parliamentary Alliance on Health, Rights, and Development was launched for parliamentarians to advocate both in their home countries and abroad for better health care, expanded human rights, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



WD2019 belonged to all who participated from around the world and across many sectors and issue areas including health, education, nutrition, environmental, humanitarian, economic development, financial, philanthropic, and more.

We **CONVENED** more than 8,000 attendees and more than 200,000 others around the world — advocates and private sector leaders, elected officials and youth leaders, frontline workers and global policymakers.

We **CONNECTED** advocates and decision makers. From speed mentoring to plenary panels, we facilitated conversations that often don’t happen organically.

We **COMMUNICATED** our message through media, social media, and WDLive: A gender equal world is healthier, wealthier, more productive, and more peaceful.

We helped participants **BUILD THE CAPACITY** of their organizations, companies, governments, and themselves.

WD2019: POWER. PROGRESS. CHANGE.

At WD2019, **8,008 of us gathered from 169 countries with more than 200,000 others joining remotely** — world leaders and youth leaders, frontline changemakers and social entrepreneurs, activists, advocates, and academics came together to drive progress on gender equality through the lens of power.

Power is not a zero-sum game, and gender equality is not a battle of the sexes. More power for some does not necessarily mean less power for others. Evidence shows that when women thrive and are equal, there is a ripple effect and everyone stands to benefit. At the 2019 conference, we examined power at three levels:

» THE INDIVIDUAL’S POWER

Everybody has power; big or small, soft or hard, private or public. When a girl or a woman has agency – when she can make choices over her own body, and has opportunities to shape her life – it benefits her, as well as communities, economies, and societies.

» THE POWER OF MOVEMENTS

Together we are stronger. Around the world, people are coming together in new movements, many led by young people, demanding and instituting change. From #MeToo champions to the LGBTQIA+ community, to climate change activists, to disability rights advocates, changemakers are showing that when people get together, we can make powerful change happen.

» STRUCTURAL POWER

Historically, structural barriers held back many girls and women from getting educated, participating in economies, holding political office, and sitting in positions of power. This is especially true for girls and women who experience identity-based discrimination and exclusion. But there are also opportunities. Seizing them will accelerate progress on the SDGs and development at large.



I have always had a little fire in me, inspired to do great things for this world. My little fire burst into uncontrolled flames of ambition and courage at Women Deliver 2019, fueled by the energies of all the amazing people I met.

—WD2019 DELEGATE

HOW WILL YOU USE YOUR POWER?

WD2019 also featured an aspirational vision to:

1 INSPIRE THE WORLD TO HARNESS POWER FOR GOOD.

It's time to redefine "power" and recognize our ability to use power for good at every level.

2 DEMONSTRATE THE POWER OF GENDER EQUALITY.

When girls and women have true equality, individuals, families, communities, economies, and whole societies benefit.

3 CATALYZE INVESTMENT IN WOMEN-FOCUSED ORGANIZATIONS AND SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS (SRHR).

To realize the vision of gender equality, we need new investments in women-focused organizations and SRHR.

We asked everyone – from Heads of State to grassroots advocates:

HOW WILL YOU USE YOUR POWER FOR CHANGE?



I will use my power to influence decision makers to commit to improving SRHR in the countries by working with young people and using evidence-based advocacy.

— WD2019 DELEGATE



THE ROAD TO WD2019

Women Deliver used our power to gather people from across sectors and around the world, to listen to diverse voices, and to make sure we were addressing the most pressing issues of our time.

BELLAGIO

A group of thought leaders and innovators from multi-lateral agencies, philanthropy, the private sector, civil society, and foundations came together to develop a concept and strategy for WD2019. **We asked participants to help us develop a conference that would maximize delegates’ effectiveness at rallying political support, persuading governments to fund initiatives that advance gender equality, and holding decision makers accountable.** We held this strategic planning session with the support of the Rockefeller Foundation’s Bellagio Center.

GLOBAL LISTENING TOUR

Women Deliver conducted a **nine-month Listening Tour**, during which staff consulted with individuals and organizations from a wide range of sectors and geographies, and heard perspectives from all over the world to inform and frame WD2019.



1,357 INDIVIDUALS

**FILLED OUT AN ONLINE SURVEY AND
150+ CONTRIBUTED IN GROUP INTERVIEWS**



72 ORGANIZATIONS

**FROM A WIDE RANGE OF SECTORS AND ISSUE AREAS
WERE CONSULTED VIA IN-PERSON INTERVIEWS**

17 government institutions, 28 NGOs, 11 UN Agencies,
5 corporations, 6 foundations, 2 public-private partnerships,
2 media orgs, 1 think-tank, and 3 other organizations



STAKEHOLDERS WERE BASED IN

20 COUNTRIES

Including Afghanistan, Belgium, Burkina Faso, Canada,
Côte D’Ivoire, Finland, Germany, Greece, Kenya, Lithuania,
Malawi, Mexico, Nigeria, Netherlands, Norway, Senegal,
Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, and the United States

Conference Advisory Group

A flexible and active Advisory Group — **comprised of representatives from multilateral institutions, NGOs, companies actively engaged in advancing gender equality, foundations, media, and academic/research institutions** — provided strategic advice and input in the development and implementation of WD2019. Sectors represented included health, human rights, gender equality and women’s rights, youth, education, nutrition, environment, and economic empowerment.

Youth Engagement Working Group

The Women Deliver Youth Engagement Working Group, **comprised of diverse youth-serving and youth-led organizations**, collaborated and coordinated with us on efforts to develop and implement youth-forward programming at WD2019 and advance meaningful youth engagement.

Indigenous Advisory Circle

Comprised of leaders from the Tsleil-Waututh, Musqueam, and Squamish Nations, the Indigenous Advisory Circle advised us on everything from meaningful engagement of local indigenous communities in the entire WD2019 program to including indigenous art and culture in the Fueling Station.

Communications and Advocacy Group

The Communications and Advocacy Group **consisted of hundreds of partner organizations and their communications and advocacy leads**. The group met regularly to identify issues and opportunities, and amplify the messages and advocacy goals of WD2019. Some of the key announcements, digital moments, and media opportunities came from or were supported by the group.



As a government, we have to stand with you, as a partner and as an ally.

— PRIME MINISTER JUSTIN TRUDEAU

CANADA AS HOST COUNTRY

After an extensive process, **Women Deliver selected Canada as the host for WD2019 — in part because it is a country that has delivered for girls and women. While it can do more, Canada is committed to investing in gender equality.** Prime Minister Justin Trudeau stressed an ongoing commitment to a feminist international assistance policy.

Civil society in British Columbia and across Canada convened to help bring Women Deliver to the country. **Vancouver embraced the concept of a conference that spilled out of the convention center and supported the drive for gender equality in the community and around the world.**

Indigenous Communities

WD2019 was held on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Tsleil-Waututh, Musqueam, and Squamish Nations. During the selection process, **their leadership embraced us as partners in the drive for women’s leadership in all areas of public life.** With the support of an Indigenous Advisory Circle, we listened and learned over many months and spent time with the Musqueam community to deepen our understanding. The Circle shared insights on the history and traditions of the community, and the WD2019 program reflected our learning.

It is a good day because all of you are here with us on our lands, the lands of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh peoples who have been here for thousands of millennia....We are honored to have all of the women from around the world to be joining with us today. We are all one. We all come together in love to hold each other up.

— WENDY GRANT-JOHN, FIRST NATIONS LEADER

The Government of Canada

Canada truly stepped up. As a conference partner, **the government provided financial support and organized many events around the world through its foreign missions to promote WD2019 participation and engagement.** In addition, **the Minister of International Development and Minister for Women and Gender Equality, Maryam Monsef, convened a Ministers Forum to discuss and deepen commitment to gender equality around the world.** Ministers representing portfolios ranging from gender to human rights to foreign affairs to social service workshopped policy solutions to address challenges for adolescent girls, interacted with and mentored youth advocates, and detailed how they will use their power to influence change at home.

Canadians Mobilized for Women Deliver

Women Deliver Mobilization Canada was established within the Canadian Partnership of Women and Children's Health (CanWACH) with representation across sectors such as banking, education, youth, health, philanthropy, INGOs, and more. More than 100 organizations joined, including Assemblée des groupes de femmes d'Interventions régionales, the Canadian Teachers' Federation, the Toronto Foundation, the Women's Health Research Institute, and the British Columbia Council for International Cooperation. **Canadians from coast-to-coast-to-coast engaged on issues where progress where progress was deemed most necessary: gender responsive health systems and services, gender-based violence, women's economic empowerment, and equal opportunity.**

The **Province of British Columbia and the City of Vancouver** welcomed us and seized the opportunity to showcase its commitments to and vision for gender equality. The Honourable John Horgan, British Columbia Premier, and Vancouver Mayor Kennedy Stewart were among the champions of Women Deliver. The Honourable Janet Austin, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, who places diversity and inclusion at the heart of her mandate, regularly champions gender parity and fighting for equality for the LGBTQIA+ community. She supported, engaged, and connected Women Deliver to partners all over the province.

A Women Deliver conference tradition, Vancouver hosted Culture Night, which encouraged delegates to meet locals for an evening of immersive culture, conversation, and entertainment. **Culture Night showcases the host country and invites locals to see what Women Deliver is all about.** Vancouver presented local bands, food trucks, and the art and civic life of Vancouver and British Columbia.

IMPACT

Because of our conference, Vancouver and the Government of Canada joined forces to announce an innovative housing project that will be led by women — from initial planning, to construction, to operation. The legacy project will be co-created with indigenous communities and local women-serving organizations.

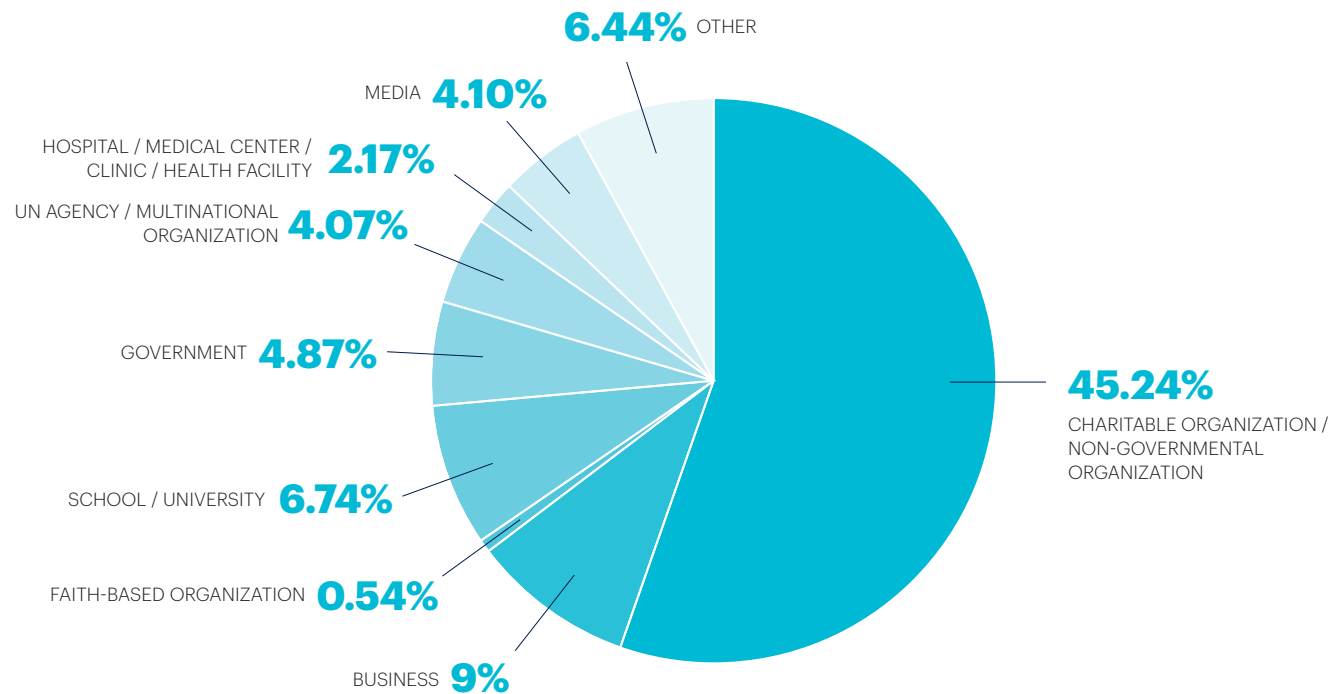


GLOBAL DIALOGUE
& INCLUSION

ATTENDEES



SECTORS

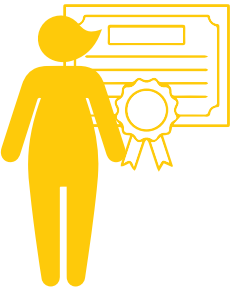


SCHOLARSHIPS

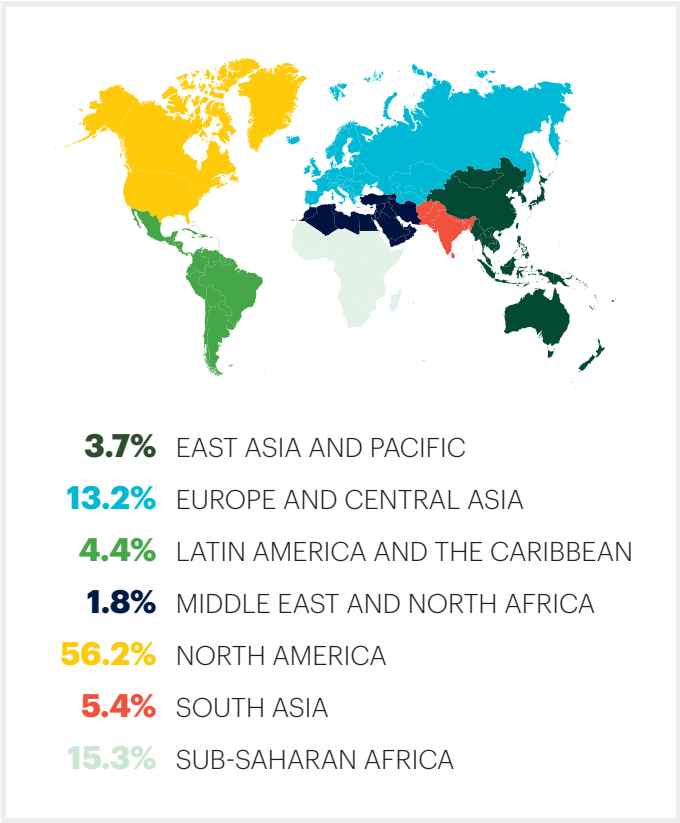
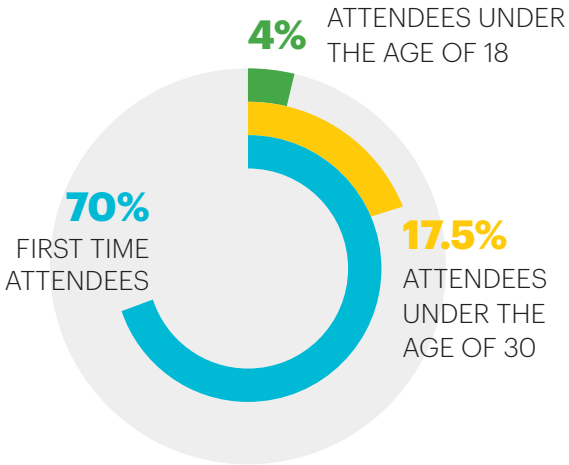
Women Deliver understands that to truly create a movement by and for all girls and all women, it's essential to have representation from an array of communities, identities, and lived experiences. **Scholarships are a way we include people who could not otherwise travel to the conference, strengthening that movement towards a more gender equal world.**



MORE THAN
100 SESSIONS
FEATURED A SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT



*Included waived registration fees



*It was truly the Olympics
of the gender parity discussion!*

— WD2019 DELEGATE

COMMITMENT TO INCLUSION

Women Deliver is committed to an intersectional approach that recognizes girls and women represent many different communities with varying experiences, priorities, challenges, and resiliencies. Women Deliver conferences are built on the knowledge that we need all girls and women to be part of the design, creation, and implementation of policies, programs, and services that promote gender equality. **The full and equal participation of young people, indigenous communities, people with disabilities, LGBTQIA+ communities, minority ethnic and religious populations, and those living in humanitarian settings, among other groups, is critical to achieving solutions that move the needle for everyone. We also recognize that gender identities are varied, and when Women Deliver uses the terms “girls” and “women,” it is wholeheartedly inclusive of transgender girls and women.**

Women Deliver made significant efforts to ensure that traditionally underrepresented voices were included in the design and execution of WD2019, including guidance from an Indigenous Advisory Circle and a Youth Advisory Board. Additionally, Women Deliver worked in collaboration with a coalition of international disability advocacy organizations coordinated by Women Enabled International to maximize accessibility and inclusion for all participants.

Women Deliver provided American sign language interpretation for all plenaries, a dedicated accessible entrance, all-gender restrooms, a prayer room, a breastfeeding room, and disability accessibility accommodations at WD2019.



WD2019 AROUND THE WORLD

WD2019 was much more than four days and 8,008 people in Vancouver.
There was incredible engagement beyond the walls of the convention center
with over 200,000 people participating around the world.



GLOBAL SATELLITE EVENTS

In its pilot year, Satellite Events built a truly global dialogue before, during, and after WD2019, allowing us to amplify the voices of and engage with groups and individuals who otherwise could not have been involved. These events will continue through the end of 2019, in particular through the scholarship recipients, who are returning to their communities and sharing what they learned at the conference. We rapidly grew this program around the world and laid the foundation for a successful WD2022.

Among the hundreds of events:

Safety for Girls = Safety for Everyone in Hanoi, Vietnam was led by the Vietnam Central Women's Union and featured Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc and other senior Vietnamese leaders, as well as representatives from organizations working in women's and children's rights.



Menstrual Hygiene Management: Empowering Women Through Sustainable Pads in Kano State, Nigeria highlighted the importance of sustainable menstrual materials, hygiene, infrastructure, and disposal. 300 girls and women were introduced to washable reusable menstrual pads and taught how to make their own.



Las Kory Warmis: Healing from Violence through Performance in Santa Cruz, Bolivia featured bold and compelling performances that explored women's stories of abuse and survival. This grassroots troupe breaks the silence on the different forms of violence women face in Bolivia and around the world.

Assessing Barriers to Gender Equality with a Multi-Sector Approach in Lahore, Pakistan featured 50 women leaders – including political leaders, elected officials, entrepreneurs, and human rights advocates – highlighting their contributions to advancing gender equality.



201 *EVENTS*
83,000 *PARTICIPANTS*
6 *CONTINENTS*
64 *COUNTRIES*


WDLIVE

The virtual conference took WD2019 outside of Vancouver and onto screens across the globe. In addition to interviews and conversations with a wide variety of participants, **WDLive streamed all 15 plenaries, 7 concurrent sessions, and every official press conference.** In all, 52 segments were viewed more than 125,000 times during the conference and in the first month after.



SOCIAL MEDIA


During the conference, more than 6.5 million people engaged with WD2019 on social media. The #WD2019 hashtag was used 179,893 times.

 **TWITTER**

31,855 *REPLIES, RETWEETS, AND LIKES*

#THEPOWEROF *WAS USED 23,521 TIMES*


27,000 *INDIVIDUALS ENGAGED IN CONVERSATIONS WITH AND ABOUT #WD2019*



 **FACEBOOK**

WOMEN DELIVER POSTS GENERATED
7,450 *REACTIONS, COMMENTS, AND SHARES*




 **INSTAGRAM**

4,487 *PHOTOS WERE TAGGED WITH #WD2019*

2,535 *PHOTOS WERE TAGGED WITH #THEPOWEROF*

7,568 *ENGAGEMENTS*







EVALUATION AND LEARNING

Women Deliver has been strengthening and improving our measurement practices and the rigor with which we measure the impact of our advocacy. Our conferences are one tactic we use to advance gender equality and the health and rights of girls and women, and therefore, it is important to have data on their effectiveness.

Measuring the full impact of WD2019 is not feasible given that the conference convened more than 8,000 participants and the effect of their participation will reach across sectors and years into the future. However, Women Deliver rigorously tracked the outcomes of WD2019 using a mix of qualitative and quantitative methods to help determine the effectiveness of its model and approach.

The main conference outcomes tracked were related to:

INFLUENCE

- The salience of the power dynamics behind gender inequality and of the solutions that power progress for girls and women
- Conference messaging uptake by decision makers and by the media
- Investments in gender equality by governments

CAPACITY BUILDING

- Equipping conference participants with knowledge of and training on tools that will help them better advocate for and advance gender equality (and SRHR)
- Equipping journalists, advocates, and influencers with the knowledge and tools to hold governments accountable for their commitments towards gender equality

ACCESS

- Providing conference participants with access to new evidence, solutions, tools, and processes for gender equality (and SRHR)
- Creating the space and opportunity for conference participants to network
- Creating the space and opportunity for conference participants to engage with decision makers
- Demonstrating effective meaningful youth engagement and creating the space for others to meaningfully engage youth

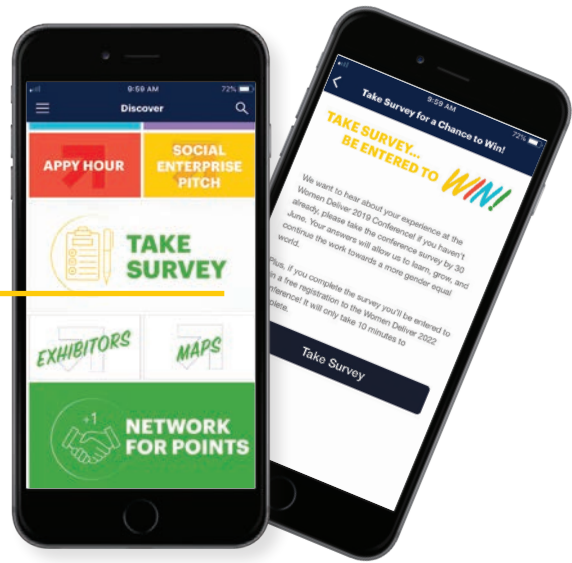
ACTION

- Inspiring and equipping conference participants to use their power to take action at the individual, structural, and movement levels

METHODOLOGY

Women Deliver developed several surveys to measure the impact of WD2019. **We disseminated surveys in-person using paper surveys and on the WD2019 conference app.**

After the conference, we disseminated a separate post-conference survey to all participants using Survey Monkey. **Respondents were able to provide feedback on every session at WD2019.**



RESULTS

Over **700 conference participants responded to surveys disseminated during the conference.** This included participants at the Private Sector Pre-Conference, the Advocacy Academy, skills-building sessions, the media training, and general concurrent and plenary sessions throughout the conference.

Following the conference, 3,102 respondents (or 39 percent of conference participants) provided feedback in the post-conference survey disseminated via email.

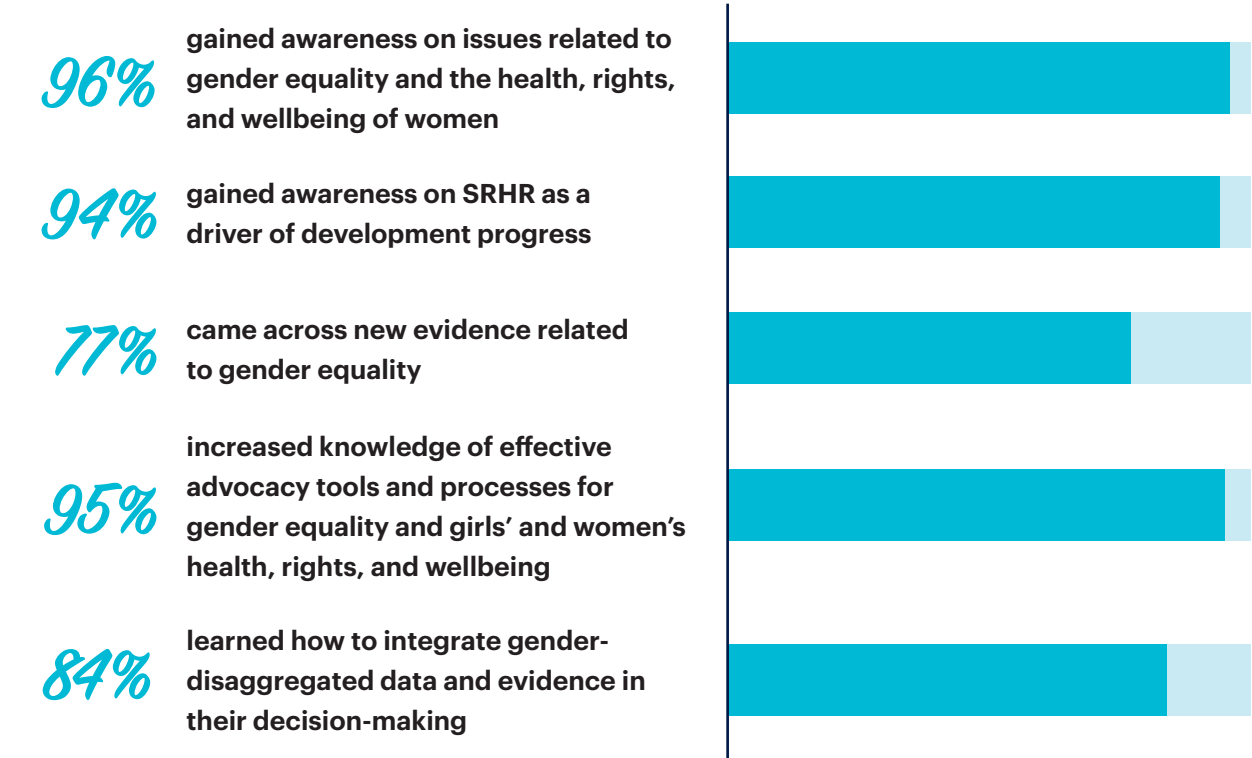
In addition to the collection of survey data, Women Deliver staff and conference consultants all developed post-conference memos and participated in a post-conference debrief to reflect on achievements and lessons learned. These memos and notes from the debrief sessions informed parts of this report and will be further analyzed to adapt the WD2022 Conference program as necessary.



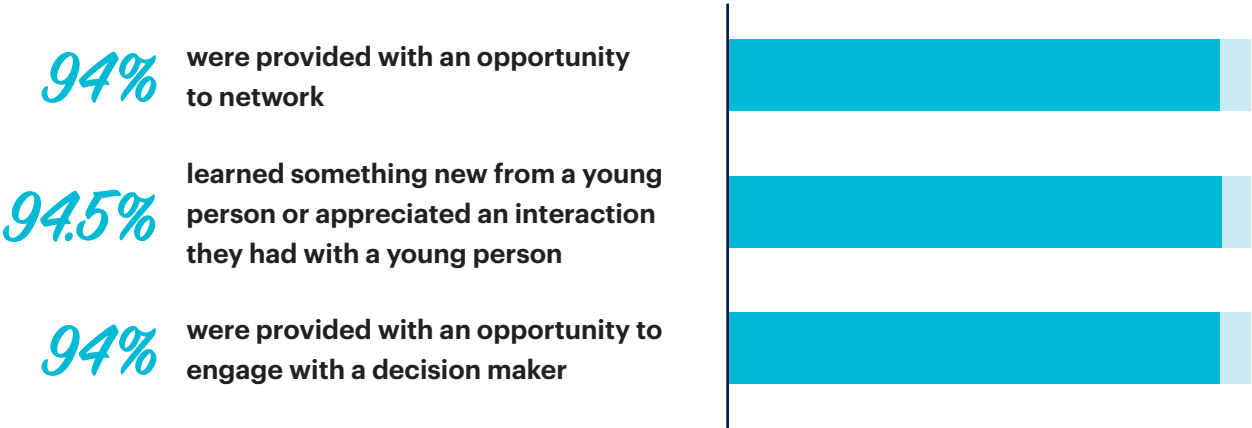
WHAT DID WD2019 DELIVER?

By all measures, WD2019 delivered for girls and women. With the conference, Women Deliver contributed to the drive for a more gender equal world in our unique way.

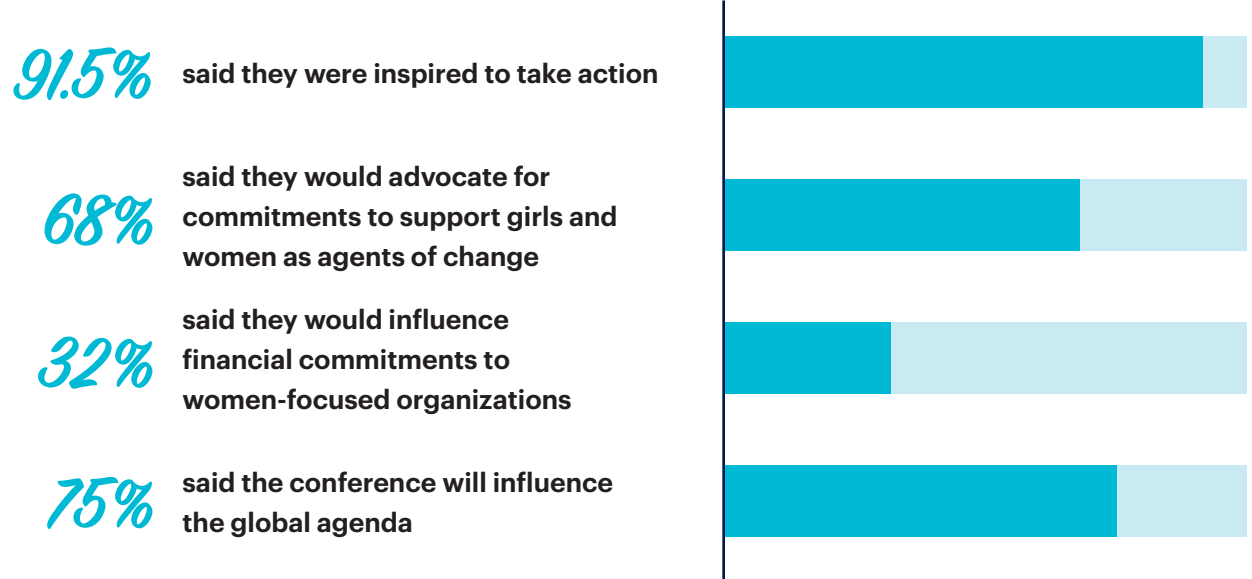
THE CONFERENCE HELPED PEOPLE GAIN NEW KNOWLEDGE



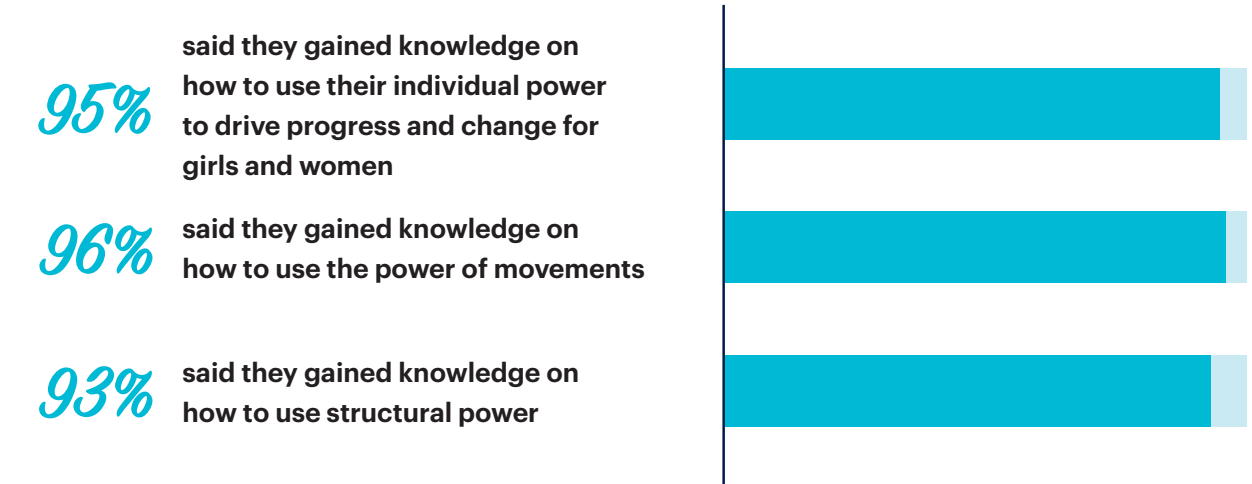
THE CONFERENCE CONNECTED ADVOCATES AND DECISION MAKERS



THE CONFERENCE FUELED GLOBAL AND COUNTRY LEVEL ACTION



THE CONFERENCE INSPIRED PARTICIPANTS TO USE THEIR POWER



22 TIMES WD2019 DELIVERED

5 FIRSTS!

1 Women-focused civil society organizations from crisis-affected communities advocated directly with donors and international organizations about the concrete actions needed to drive a more feminist and localized approach to humanitarian aid at the first **Humanitarian Pre-Conference**.



2 Founders and leaders of some of the world's most influential movements shared a stage for the first time in history. Leaders from #MeToo, Time's Up, Ni Una Menos, climate, labor unions, citizen journalism, and others found commonalities for the way ahead.

3 We welcomed participants from 49 countries to the inaugural Women Deliver Advocacy Academy to strengthen their skills and build connections.

4 NGOs, grassroots, and survivor-led organizations from across the globe came together for the first time to create a unified plan to **end female genital mutilation/cutting by 2030**.



5 The **Global Parliamentary Alliance on Health, Rights, and Development** was launched, the first global platform for parliamentarians to advocate both in their home countries and abroad for better health care, expanded human rights, and SDGs.

9 NEW INVESTMENTS IN GENDER EQUALITY

6



CANADA RAISED THE BAR
Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced a 10-year, CAD 1.4 billion annual commitment for gender equality and sexual and reproductive health and rights.

8

KENYA PLEDGED TO LEAD
President Uhuru Kenyatta committed to ending female genital mutilation by 2022, ending child marriage, acting on climate change, and making primary and secondary education compulsory for all children.



10

Merck and P&G, together with Women Deliver and campaign partners, launched the **Deliver for Good Business Ally Network**. These private sector champions are a new and important part of the Deliver for Good campaign, bringing the cross-sectoral approach required to drive solutions toward a more gender equal world.

12

At the **Gender-Smart Investing Summit**, nearly 200 top innovators representing trillions in assets under management gathered to address bottlenecks that slow the deployment of capital to projects and companies that champion gender equality.



13

Pro Mujer announced a new joint venture with Deetken Impact to manage the Ilu Women's Empowerment Fund, a diversified portfolio of high-impact businesses in Latin America and the Caribbean that promote women in leadership and governance, gender-sensitive value chains, and workplace equity.

"FIRST OF ITS KIND" PARTNERSHIP

The Government of Canada announced that it will invest CAD 300 million to bring granting, philanthropic, and investment worlds together into a single platform, the Equality Fund. The Fund is structured to create sustainable and predictable funding for women's rights organizations and movements in developing countries. The fund is expected to mobilize over CAD 1 billion dollars in the next 15 years to empower girls and women around the world, working to shift how investment decisions are made for gender equality outcomes.

14

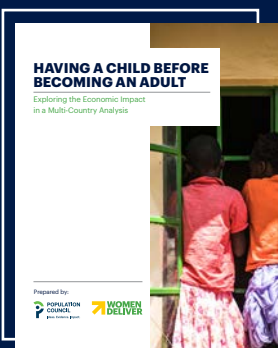
8 NEW STUDIES/REPORTS CONTRIBUTED TO OUR ADVOCACY

15

Navigating transitions will put women on a path to greater gender equality, but failing to do so could worsen existing challenges, according to **McKinsey Global Institute's "The Future of Women at Work,"** which explores the impact of automation through a gender lens.



> **INVEST IN GIRLS AND WOMEN SO THE FUTURE OF WOMEN AT WORK DRIVES PROGRESS FOR ALL.**



There is a lifelong negative association between giving birth before age 18 and a woman's economic empowerment, according to **research commissioned by the Population Council and Women Deliver.**

> **MORE EVIDENCE THAT INVESTING IN SRHR COULD HAVE A POSITIVE ECONOMIC IMPACT.**

16

17

1.4 billion girls and women live in countries with a failing grade on gender equality, according to the **SDG Gender Index launched by Equal Measures 2030.**

> **GENDER SPECIFIC DATA SHOWS WHERE INVESTMENTS ARE MOST NEEDED.**

18

A vast majority of girls worldwide want to take leadership positions, but more than nine out of ten believe they will suffer widespread discrimination and sexual harassment, according to **research by Plan International.**

> **UNDERSTANDING THESE PERCEPTIONS AND CAUSES WILL HELP THE WORLD ADDRESS OBSTACLES TO MORE WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP.**

19

While 85 percent of fathers say they would do anything to be very involved in caring for their new child, they are still taking on far less than mothers, according to **the State of the World's Fathers Report by Promundo**, which launched alongside a new Unilever Paternity Leave Corporate Task Force and MenCare Commitment.



> **IF MEN COMMITTED AN ADDITIONAL 50 MINUTES A DAY TOWARD CARING FOR CHILDREN AND HOUSEHOLDS, THE WORLD WOULD MAKE A LEAP TOWARD ACHIEVING GENDER EQUALITY IN UNPAID CARE.**

20

The Global Gag Rule is reducing the quality and availability of care, particularly for marginalized communities, verified by **a new report by the International Women's Health Coalition.**

> **THE GLOBAL GAG RULE IS REDUCING THE QUALITY AND AVAILABILITY OF CARE, PARTICULARLY FOR MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES.**

21

There are opportunities to transform gender inequalities and harmful norms within policies, systems, programs, and research, according to **a series of papers published by The Lancet** in advance of WD2019, "Gender Equality, Norms, and Health."

> **DEVELOPMENT GOALS DEMAND GREATER ATTENTION TO THE SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH, INCLUDING GENDER, TO ENABLE ALL PEOPLE TO REACH THEIR FULL HUMAN POTENTIAL.**

22

A new initiative of Women Deliver, Girl Effect, and the Government of Canada will engage young people as researchers on youth sexual and reproductive health.

> **RESEARCH BY AND FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN INDIA, MALAWI, AND RWANDA.**



THE PROGRAM

Women Deliver convenes triennial conferences to connect, to partner, and to identify solutions and instigate action — together. Women Deliver conferences are designed to maximize delegates' effectiveness at rallying political support, persuading governments to fund initiatives that advance gender equality, and holding decision makers accountable.

We know that policies and programs that address the whole girl and the whole woman create a virtuous cycle that leads to more women in leadership and at decision-making tables, solving the world's most intractable problems.

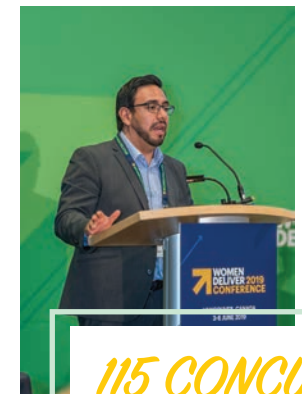
WD2019 CONFERENCE EVENTS



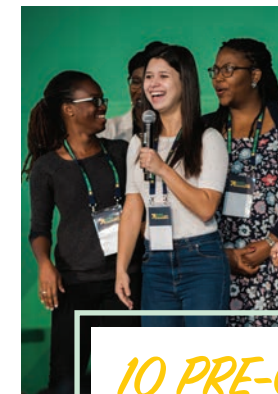
15 PLENARIES



7 SKILLS BUILDING/ WORKSHOPS



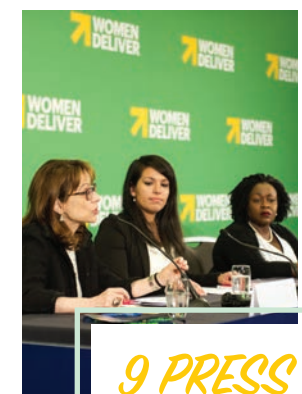
115 CONCURRENT SESSIONS



10 PRE-CONFERENCES



52 WDLIVE SEGMENTS



9 PRESS CONFERENCES

OTHER EVENTS



MINISTERS
FORUM

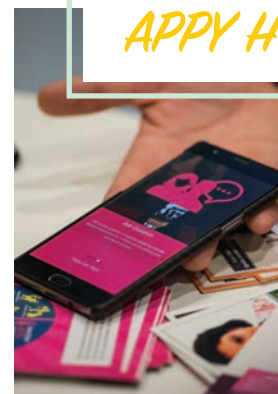


PARLIAMENTARIANS
FORUM



118 PARTNER
EVENTS

APPY HOUR



176 SCREENINGS
AT FILM FESTIVAL

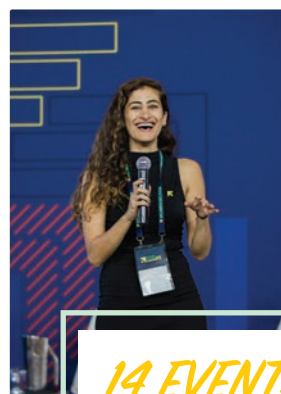


11 360° VIRTUAL
REALITY FILMS



OUTSIDE THE VCC

FUELING STATION



14 EVENTS IN
THE YOUTH ZONE

82 SPEAKERS ON
THE POWER STAGE



170 EXHIBITORS

CULTURE
NIGHT



FEMINISTS
DELIVER



LONGHOUSE
DIALOGUES



CANADIAN
PAVILION



201 SATELLITE
EVENTS



SOCIAL ENTERPRISE
PITCH



136 POSTERS IN
SOLUTIONS GALLERY



PRE-CONFERENCES

Pre-Conferences provided invited participants with opportunities to exchange best practices and coordinate world-changing initiatives. WD2019 featured Pre-Conferences that brought together participants from all over the world with a common goal such as ending female genital mutilation/ cutting (FGM/C), promoting midwifery, and better serving women in crisis-affected communities. Other Pre-Conferences brought people together to discuss how to better use their power including the indigenous women of British Columbia and the Canadian philanthropic community.

WOMEN DELIVER PRE-CONFERENCES



HUMANITARIAN



YOUTH



PRIVATE SECTOR



GENERATION NOW

SPONSORED PRE-CONFERENCES

- > MINISTERS FORUM

> INDIGENOUS WOMEN

> PHILANTHROPY

> MIDWIFERY
- > WOMEN'S HEALTH RESEARCH

> FGM/C

> PARLIAMENTARIANS FORUM

Humanitarian Pre-Conference

Building a Feminist Approach to Humanitarian Aid brought together women-focused civil society organizations and donors to drive investment in feminist humanitarian programming led by local stakeholders. **This was a first step toward developing a broader advocacy agenda to push the current humanitarian ecosystem to provide more money, influence, and decision-making power to local women-focused organizations led by women from the community.**

Youth Pre-Conference

Focusing on issues that young people themselves identified as crucial to their work – intersectionality, diversity, social inclusion; sustaining youth-led movements; achieving the SDGs, and more – **the Youth Pre-Conference helped young people gain knowledge, hone skills, build networks, and generate momentum for gender equality on a global scale.**



Private Sector Pre-Conference

Women Deliver and BSR joined forces together with McKinsey Global Institute to host *How Business Can Build a “Future of Work” That Works for Women*. **High-level corporate decision makers gathered to explore the specific actions the private sector can take to minimize the risks to women’s employment and maximize the opportunity for women to succeed and thrive, particularly in the current disruptive environment.**



Generation Now Pre-Conference

Women Deliver hosted the second part of a Women Deliver/International AIDS Society partnership to drive action for integrated HIV and SRHR policies was a youth-led and youth-forward event. The first part was held at the International AIDS Conference in 2018. **Four hundred young people attended the second intersectional, innovative, and intergenerational Pre-Conference in Vancouver focused on what is needed to shape systems and services that meet those in need.**

Ministers Forum

On behalf of the Government of Canada, Minister of International Development and Minister for Women and Gender Equality, Maryam Monsef, **convened ministers from 17 countries with portfolios ranging from gender to human rights to foreign affairs to social service to discuss and deepen their commitment to gender equality.**

Indigenous Women’s Pre-Conference

Local indigenous health organizations hosted a Pre-Conference for girls and women from First Nations in British Columbia and beyond. **Nutsamaht: We are One. Our Voices. Our Stories. inspired and informed participants to advocate for their own and their communities’ rights and wellness.**

The panelists were amazing. I am very grateful to have the chance to be involved with this. Thank you!

— WD2019 DELEGATE



PLENARIES

Women Deliver conferences are most notable for bringing together youth leaders youth leaders, heads of state, activists, global policymakers, advocates, and private sector leaders. **The WD2019 plenaries showcased how all kinds of people wield and manifest their power.**

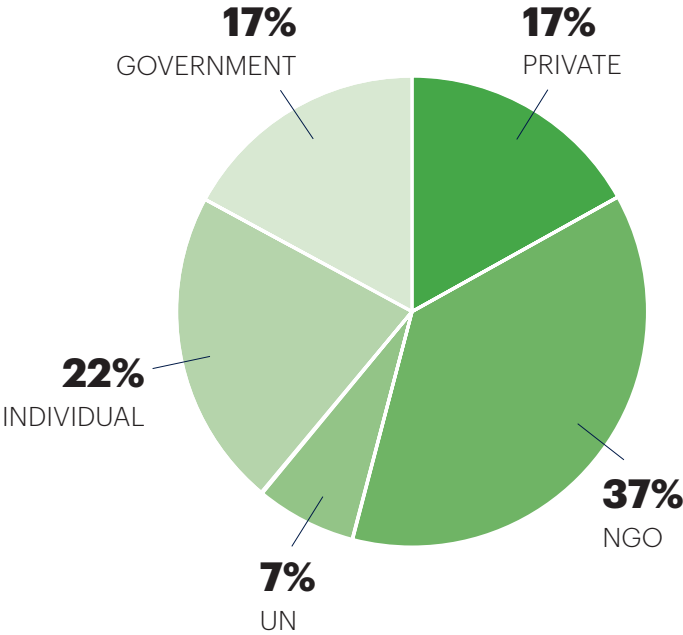
The 15 WD2019 plenary sessions featured presentations and panels with a wide range of voices and experience and were moderated by world-class journalists and other professionals.

SESSIONS INCLUDED

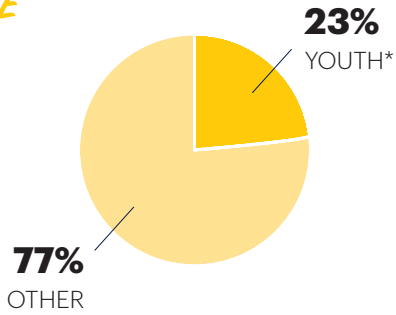
- > The Power of Now
- > The Power of Tech
- > The Power of the Arts
- > The Power of Movements — with leaders from #MeToo, Time’s Up, Ni Una Menos, climate, labor unions, citizen journalism, and others
- > The Power of Youth
- > The Power of Momentum

120 PLENARY SPEAKERS

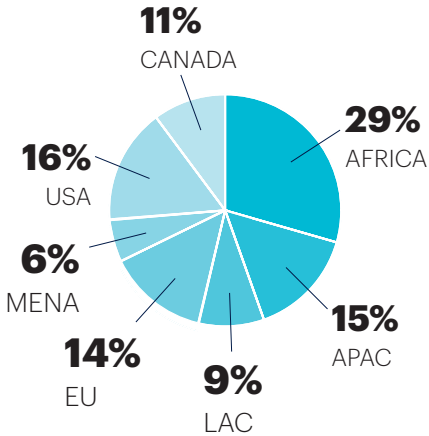
SECTOR



AGE



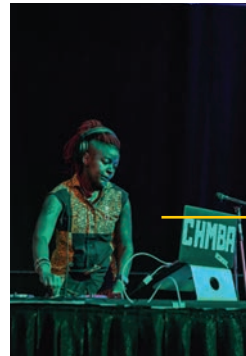
REGION



*Youth refers to individuals under the age of 30

DELIVERING FOR GIRLS AND WOMEN AWARDS PRESENTED TO

- > **Carmen Barroso**, Co-Chair, Independent Accountability Panel, Global Strategy on Women, Children, and Adolescents' Health
- > **Graça Machel**, Deputy Chair, The Elders
- > **Loujain al-Hathloul**, "Friends of Loujain"
- > **Naveen Rao**, Managing Director, Health and Senior Advisor to the President, Rockefeller Foundation



PERFORMANCES BY NUMEROUS ARTISTS INCLUDING

- > Grammy Award winning singer and activist and founder of The Batonga Foundation **Angélique Kidjo**
- > Producer and activist Ellen Chilemba aka **DJ Chmba**
- > Twelve-year-old, award-winning Ghanaian DJ Erica Tandoh aka **DJ Switch**
- > **MTV Shuga Cast**
- > U.S.-based theater company **Girl Be Heard**

JOURNALISTS FROM BUZZFEED INDIA, BBC, RADIO CANADA, AND OTHERS SERVED AS MODERATORS

Four Heads of State shared the stage and microphone with advocates and activists

- > **Her Excellency President Sahle Work-Zewde**, Government of Ethiopia
- > **His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta**, Government of Kenya
- > **Prime Minister of Canada The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau**, Government of Canada
- > **President of Ghana His Excellency Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo**, African Union Gender and Development leader and HeForShe Champion



90%

OF RESPONDENTS THOUGHT THE **PLENARY SESSIONS** WERE GOOD OR VERY GOOD



We need gender equality and we need this reflected in national priorities... We want to know that we, ourselves, have the power to take charge and influence whatever is going on in our lives.

— NATASHA MWANSA, YOUTH ADVOCATE AND PLENARY SPEAKER

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

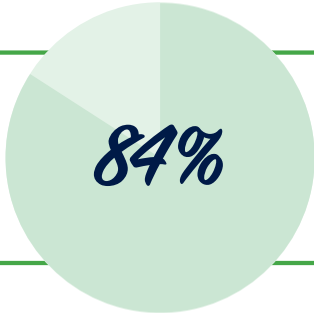
Concurrent sessions are designed to inform, to focus on solutions, to connect potential partners, and to spark ideas and inspire. **A total of 115 concurrent sessions developed by 126 partner organizations** featured advocates and experts across sectors, geographies, communities, and lived experiences to drive solutions that meet the totality of needs of girls and women.

Six focus areas were explored in this part of the program:

IMPACT AREA	CLUSTER
THEMATIC TRACK CHANGING POWER DYNAMICS FOR GIRLS AND WOMEN IN AND THROUGH INSTITUTIONS AND STRUCTURES	
Understanding Gender	Gender norms: progress and challenges
Political Participation	General
The Power Of Faith	Religion, faith-based institutions
Education	Girls’ education and gender equality
	Access to education without fear and in challenging situations
Economic Empowerment and Financial Inclusion	Economic participation
	Financial inclusion and skills-buidling
	Entrepreneurship
THEMATIC TRACK GIRLS AND WOMEN: (RE)CLAIMING DECISION MAKING POWER	
Work and Home	Formal, paid work
	Informal work
	In the household
Power of Sports	General
In the Media, Arts, and Pop Culture	General
Engaging Youth to Reclaim Power for Girls and Women	Engaging Youth 1
	Engaging Youth 2

IMPACT AREA	CLUSTER
THEMATIC TRACK UNLOCKING POWER FOR THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF GIRLS AND WOMEN	
SRHR	Improving access to family planning and reproductive health (FP/RH) services (1)
	Improving access to family planning and reproductive health (FP/RH) services (2)
	Abortion
	Diversity and rights SRHR (1)
	Diversity and rights SRHR (2)
	Sexual health in all dimensions
	Political and financial investments
	Fertility/infertility
MNH	Eliminating/preventing mortality and morbidity
	Maternal-newborn health links
Comprehensive Health	Person-centered care
	Health systems
	Bringing health systems to the people they exist for
GBV and Harmful Practices	GBV
	Harmful traditional practices
Nutrition	General
THEMATIC TRACK COLLECTIVE POWER: WORKING TOGETHER	
Partnerships	Cross-sectoral/cross-issues partnerships
Advocacy and Accountability	Advocacy
	Movement building
	Accountability
Impact Area	Cluster
THEMATIC TRACK FINDING POWER IN CHALLENGING SETTINGS	
Humanitarian and Fragile Settings	Girls’ and women’s health, safety, and wellbeing in humanitarian settings
	Protection for displaced girls and women
	Social and economic empowerment of marginalized women
Environment/Climate Change	Solutions to better the environment and reduce climate change

IMPACT AREA	CLUSTER
THEMATIC TRACK <i>FINDING POWER IN CHALLENGING SETTINGS (continued)</i>	
Rural and Urban Issues	Rural issues
	Urban issues
THEMATIC TRACK <i>POWER TOOLS: HOW TO BUILD THE WORLD WE WANT</i>	
Data, Research and Evidence	Data, research, and evidence
Innovation and Technology	Innovation and tech delivering for girls and women
Financing for Development	Financing for development (1)
	Financing for development (2)
Measuring Impact	Measuring impact
Skills-Building Sessions	7 sessions
Indigenous Girls and Women	Indigenous Girls and Women
Opposition	Opposition
Access to Resources	Access to Resources



*OF RESPONDENTS FELT THE CONCURRENT
SESSIONS WERE GOOD OR VERY GOOD*



The conference inspired me to go back home and use my voice to spread my learnings to my community.

— WD2019 DELEGATE

SKILLS-BUILDING WORKSHOPS

WD2019 offered expanded skills-building sessions. These hands-on training sessions gave participants the opportunity to improve their skills, enabling them to better use their power to advocate for improved policies and programs and more investment.

ADVOCACY ACADEMY

Women Deliver convened our first Advocacy Academy — **a three-part program to bolster advocates’ skills and knowledge.** In addition to learning opportunities leading up to WD2019, 100 people were accepted to the academy in Vancouver.

Online Training

An online course, open to all WD2019 registrants, introduced advocacy terms, tools, and techniques for building effective, targeted, and impactful advocacy strategies. **Over 900 registrants accessed the course.**

Interactive Webinars

Live, intimate, and interactive online learning opportunities offered advocates the chance to learn from colleagues who are leading advocacy initiatives around the world. **Women Deliver hosted six webinars – in English, French, and Spanish – on social accountability and effective coalitions, reaching over 230 individuals through live viewings.** Webinars on data and UHC reached an additional 309, while the Advocacy Academy online training courses led in the days leading up to WD2019 trained over 900.

In-Person Workshop

Advocates from 49 countries participated in this two-day, hands-on workshop to develop and refine targeted advocacy strategies. They put their new skills to work with members of parliament attending WD2019.



*I have never been so proud to be a woman!
Women Deliver helped me to find an internal
flame that can never be extinguished!*

— WD2019 DELEGATE

*ABOUT TWO-THIRDS OF THE PARTICIPANTS
IMPROVED THEIR TEST SCORES AFTER THE WORKSHOP,
AND ALMOST ALL PARTICIPANTS FELT THEY HAD
IMPROVED THEIR OVERALL KNOWLEDGE IN SOME WAY*

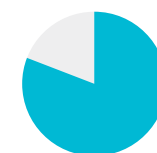
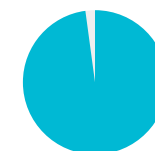
MEDIA TRAINING

As part of our work to bring the issues tackled at WD2019 to people around the world, we offered scholarships to 100 journalists from more than 60 countries to join the press pool in Vancouver.

These scholars were chosen through a competitive application process. Regional communications professionals ranked the applicants in the first round based on questions such as “Why is gender equality important to your outlet’s audience?” and “What do you anticipate focusing on at the conference?”

To foster quality coverage of WD2019 and more gender balanced reporting beyond the conference, the media scholars were asked to join a half-day media training. **The session explored various themes, such as the role of media in creating a solutions-oriented narrative, the use of gender-disaggregated data, how to hold governments accountable for commitments to girls and women, and climate change through a gender lens, among other topics.**

98% of media training participants felt that the session improved their knowledge



81% are likely to integrate the ideas discussed in the media training in their work

52% said knowledge of how to hold government accountable to their commitments to gender equality increased greatly or by a good amount



60% said knowledge of how to integrate gender-disaggregated data and evidence in your decision-making increased greatly or by a good amount

I realized that local media in my country are low informed, and, at present, I’m developing a training for local media on gender issues.

— WD2019 DELEGATE

COMMUNICATIONS

The skills-building session provided participants with **tools to communicate their stories effectively on behalf of themselves and their organizations**. It also covered adapting communications techniques for today's fast-paced, multi-platform environment.

*ALL OF THE PARTICIPANTS WHO RESPONDED TO THE SURVEY
THOUGHT THE SESSION IMPROVED THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF EFFECTIVE
COMMUNICATIONS TOOLS AND PROCESSES FOR GENDER EQUALITY, AND
ALL PARTICIPANTS STATED THAT THEY INTENDED TO USE THESE TOOLS*

EQUAL MEASURES 2030 AND DATA2X

The session brought together **non-technical audiences, training them to use the 2019 SDG Gender Index, develop strategies for using data to frame issues, and highlight trouble spots** in a country's gender equality profile. It walked participants through identification of relevant indicators and different options for communicating advocacy messages.

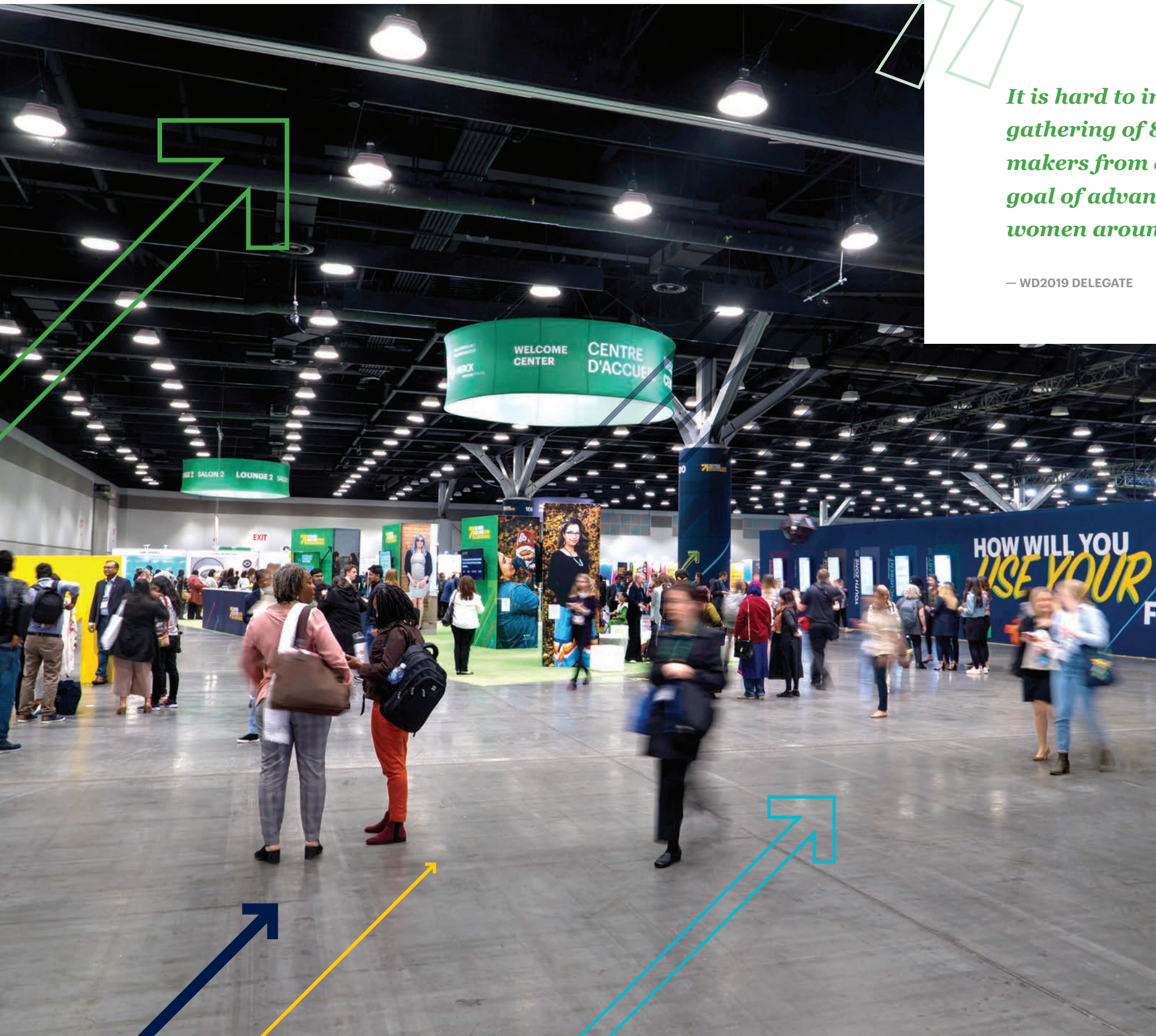
*MOST OF THE PARTICIPANTS WHO RESPONDED TO THE SURVEY
THOUGHT THE SESSION IMPROVED THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF EFFECTIVE
ADVOCACY TOOLS AND PROCESSES FOR GENDER EQUALITY,
INCLUDING GENDER-DISAGGREGATED DATA*

*Using the power of data and accountability
taught me to use data for advocacy campaigns...
which strengthens investment politically and
programmatically in advancing gender equality.*

— WD2019 DELEGATE

SIDE EVENTS

It is in our DNA to partner and co-create new strategies and new solutions. **118 Partner Side Events expanded our programming and facilitated networking and potential partnerships**. Hosts included UN Agencies such as UN Women and the World Health Organization; companies actively engaged in advancing gender equality such as BMO, Unilever, and P&G; foundations like the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and Fondation Botnar; the governments of Australia, Canada, Denmark, Switzerland, and others; and global organizations such as Girls Not Brides, Promundo, Landesa, and WaterAid.



It is hard to imagine how one can feel connected to a gathering of 8,008 people, but when activists and decision makers from around the globe convene with the united goal of advancing the health and rights of girls and women around the world, that is exactly what happens.

— WD2019 DELEGATE

FUELING STATION

A new investment this year, WD2019 opened up the exhibition space, adding much more programming and encouraging partners to make it a place to truly fuel inspiration and learning. WD2019 presented an exhibition hall unlike any other, featuring a prominent Youth Zone, the Power Stage, a Solutions Gallery, a Film Festival, the WDLive TV Studio, and 170 exhibitors. Programming included Appy Hour and the Social Enterprise Pitch.



YOUTH ZONE

At the heart of the Fueling Station, this physical space was dedicated to all young people at WD2019 to encourage energy and creativity.

The Youth Zone was a bustling central hub of intergenerational dialogue and idea-sharing. Among the many highlights were sessions on Creative Tensions and Meditation and Self-Care, a Solutions Workshop, a Speed Networking session, a Storytelling Booth, and a Silent Disco.

POWER STAGE

The Power Stage highlighted 82 individual voices from 43 countries – one quarter of them youth – and their contributions to change.

Five-minute informative and inspiring Power Talks offered personal journeys, research findings, innovation, and more. Solutions were presented and lessons shared. There was optimism and impatience, power and vulnerability.



64%

OF RESPONDENTS RATED THE
POWER STAGE GOOD OR VERY GOOD

SOLUTIONS GALLERY

Also new at WD2019, solutions from around the world were shared with the international audience via electronic posters. **In all, 136 digital posters were presented at WD2019 from a pool of 491 submissions**, allowing attendees to research potential solutions from innovators unable to travel to Vancouver.



43% were submitted by youth

136 digital posters

60 represented research
and scholarly work

76 represented evidence-
based initiatives

FILM FESTIVAL

Three days of outstanding films, conversations with directors, and live performance art added to the conference experience. Films of all genres were screened — narrative, documentary, animation, music video, student, PSAs, and others — bringing the most inspiring and impactful voices forward. **This year, we introduced a new immersive component: 360° films with the use of virtual reality headsets to put viewers in the shoes of girls and women around the world.**



54%

OF RESPONDENTS RATED THE
FILM FESTIVAL GOOD OR VERY GOOD



*The Film Festival brought a multiplicity
of voices, concerns, and proposed solutions
to the forefront.*

— WD2019 DELEGATE



APPY HOUR

This mixer gave attendees hands-on experience with mobile apps that have the potential to change the world for girls and women. A global call for submissions was judged by a team of experts based on the app’s potential contribution to global health and ease of use. Fifteen apps were selected and featured at the conference. Among them were:

Girl Rising (Girl Rising India) is based on real-life stories from The Girl Rising film and uses puzzles and other tasks to help people identify gender-based discrimination and question commonly held beliefs.

Hello Doctor (Durbin Labs Limited) enables patients in Bangladesh to consult with doctors through video and audio calls using very little bandwidth. This fast, low-cost platform also facilitates e-prescriptions and medicine reminders.

Lucy Bot (Paradigm Youth Network Organization) on Facebook Messenger makes it easier for Kenyan youth to ask questions about sexual and reproductive health from a “fun friend.”

NiDARR (Ujyalo Foundation) mitigates gender-based violence in Nepal, with features like a panic button and safety check-ins to help individuals stay connected to their contact circle.

SOCIAL ENTERPRISE PITCH

A live competition featured ten outstanding social entrepreneurs, who had ten minutes to convince a panel of experts that their product or idea can transform the lives of girls and women. More than 40 entrepreneurs in the early to mid-stages of launching their ventures were nominated by organizations, incubators, and accelerators. Nominees were invited to submit an application, and an independent panel of judges selected the pitches to compete in Vancouver. Three winners were selected, received a cash prize, and gave a one-minute pitch to the plenary audience.

Arushi Chowdhury Khanna won for LoomKatha, which will bolster traditional supply chains and connect rural handloom weavers and handicraft artisans in India to the global market.

Matt Dickson won for Eggpreneur, which provides flexible yet stable income-generating opportunities to rural mothers in Kenya through small backyard poultry production.

Rebecca Hui won for Roots Studio, which will create new economic opportunities for indigenous artists by connecting them with multibillion-dollar retail markets in ways that protect their heritage and safety.



87%

*OF RESPONDENTS RATED THE
FUELING STATION GOOD OR VERY GOOD*



OUTSIDE THE CONFERENCE CENTER

Women Deliver prioritizes building a meaningful relationship with the local community that hosts our conferences. We welcome locally-driven events as part of the Women Deliver experience. These events often highlight women-led organizations and focus on local issues and solutions.

FEMINISTS DELIVER

A grassroots collaboration of British Columbia-based women, girls, non-binary, and Two Spirit people and the organizations that support them hosted a four-day conference on the urgent issues facing indigenous and other communities in British Columbia. **This collaboration was designed to build transnational connections between grassroots intersectional feminist movements and re-envision the global women's agenda as one of a diversity of grassroots intersectional feminist voices.**



LONGHOUSE DIALOGUES

Four non-permanent longhouses in the style of the Coast Salish, Nuuchah-nulth, Kwakwaka'wakw, and Pacific Island peoples were erected near the conference center for a series of events and dialogues led by young, local, and indigenous peoples that explored issues pertinent to girls and women in British Columbia and globally. **Organized by the British Columbia Council for International Cooperation, the goal was to build global solidarity and understanding of shared concerns.**



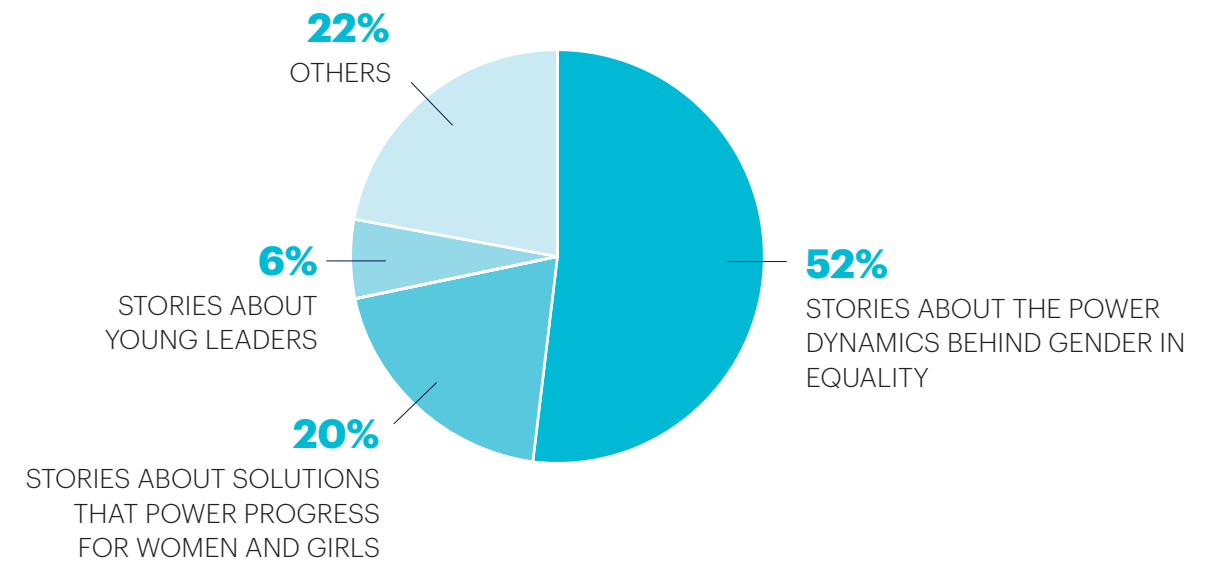
*Women Deliver ignited a roaring fire in me to speak out boldly, bravely, and passionately...
EVEN MORE than I've already been doing.*

— WD2019 DELEGATE



NEWS COVERAGE

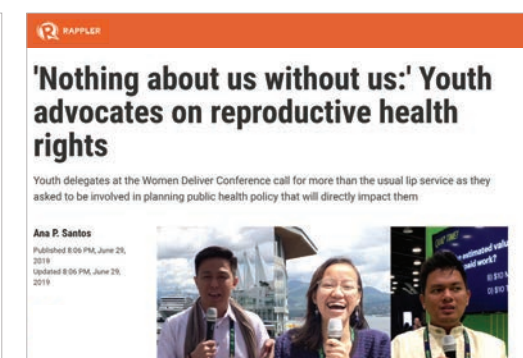
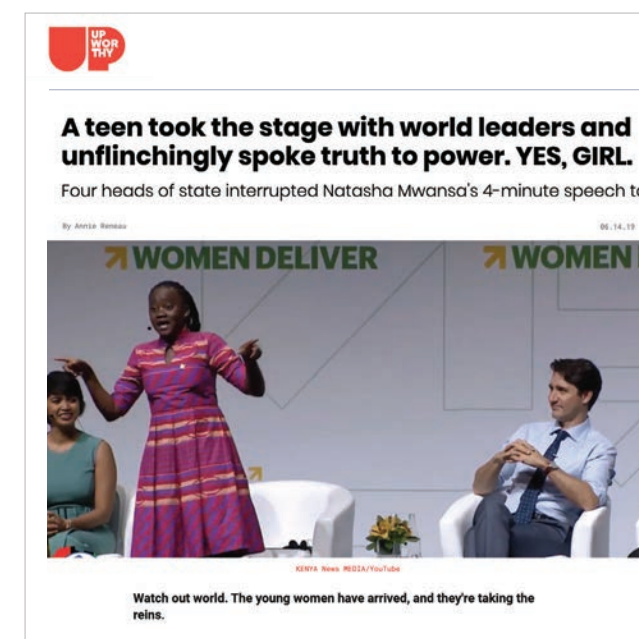
More than 280 reporters, bloggers, and photographers from 63 countries attended the conference, producing 2,559 total stories, including 988 original and 1,571 syndicated pieces in outlets such as *The New York Times*, *Al Jazeera*, the *BBC*, *AllAfrica*, and *Ghana's Asempa News*.



Top-tier outlets: *The New York Times*, *CBC News*, *BBC*, *Forbes*, *CNN*, *The Washington Post*, *Bloomberg*, and the *Associated Press*

Top original publishers: *Toronto Star*, *Devex*, *Thomson Reuters Foundation*, and *Global News*

181 global outlets from every corner of the world broadcasted highlights of the opening ceremony including: *AFP*, *Associated Press*, *Reuters*, *BBC*, *TV5 Monde*, and *SABC South Africa*



MEDIA SCHOLARS

Women Deliver offered scholarships to 100 journalists to attend WD2019. They published 88 stories covering the conference.

I have already started using my power since returning home. Today, I trained young journalists in the South of Egypt on covering sexual and reproductive health. It was awesome!

— WD2019 DELEGATE

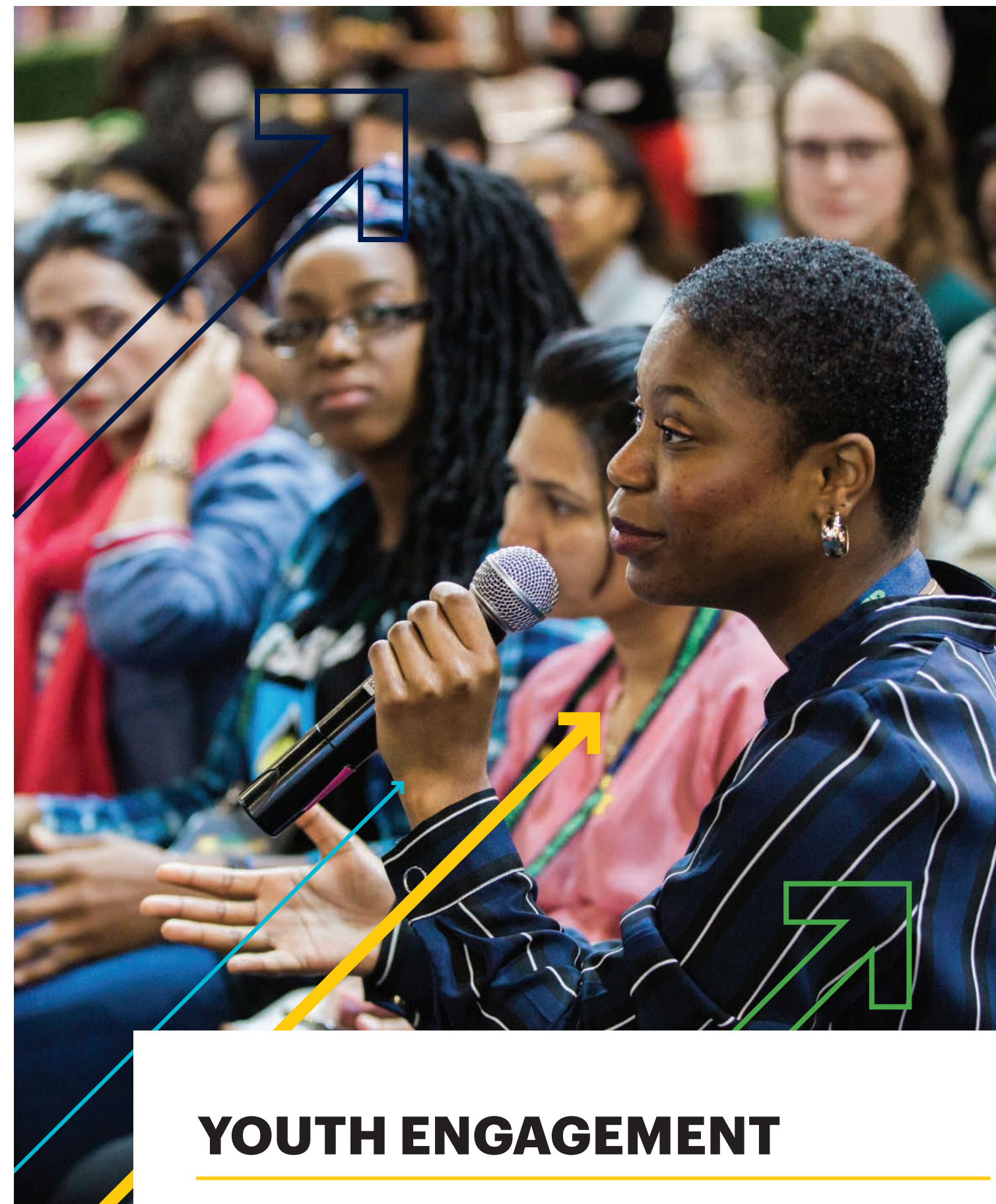
SPECIAL EDITIONS

In collaboration with Women Deliver, the Overseas Development Institute launched an entire issue of its *Humanitarian Exchange Magazine* during WD2019, focused on best practices for addressing the needs of girls and women in emergencies. Nearly every article was co-authored by a women-focused civil society organization from these contexts.

In advance of WD2019, *The Lancet* published “Gender Equality, Norms, and Health,” a series of papers which used new analysis and insights to explore the impact of gender inequalities and norms on health. The series identified opportunities to transform gender inequalities and harmful norms within policies, systems, programs, and research.



MEDIA PARTNERS



YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

Young people’s lived experiences, energy, knowledge, creativity, and leadership must be part of any strategy and implementation plan that addresses the world’s most intractable challenges.

WD2019 walked the walk on youth engagement, welcoming **1,400 youth whose voices, ideas, and advocacy were elevated and integrated across all programming from the four big youth-forward events to the Power Stage, the plenaries, and in a total of 156 speaking opportunities.** Women Deliver laid out a vision for the powerful future of meaningful youth engagement in a new and groundbreaking publication: *Meaningful Youth Engagement: Sharing Power, Advancing Progress, Driving Change*.

From the opening plenary where young activist Natasha Wang Mwansa called on her fellow panelists – including four Heads of State – for action rather than talk, there was not an hour of the conference when participants did not hear from young people.

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT WORKING GROUP

The Women Deliver Youth Engagement Working Group, comprised of diverse youth-serving and youth-led organizations, collaborated and coordinated with us on efforts to develop and implement youth-forward programming at WD2019 and advance meaningful youth engagement.

WOMEN DELIVER YOUNG LEADERS AND ALUMNI WORKSHOP

The Women Deliver Young Leaders Program is a catalyst, connecting outstanding young advocates from 138 countries with the platforms, networks, and resources to amplify their influence on a larger scale. The workshop was the place where 440 Young Leaders and Alumni from all classes (2010, 2013, 2016, and 2018) came together for the first time ever.

The Young Leader and Alumni Workshop programming was highly rated



YOUTH PRE-CONFERENCE: SPEAKING TRUTH TO POWER

Open to everyone 30 and under, approximately 1,000 young people attended the Youth Pre-Conference to learn from peers, hone skills, network, and ultimately, generate momentum for gender equality advocacy. Issues covered were those that young people themselves identified as crucial to their work — intersectionality; diversity; social inclusion; meaningful youth engagement; sustaining youth-led movements; achieving the SDGs, and more.

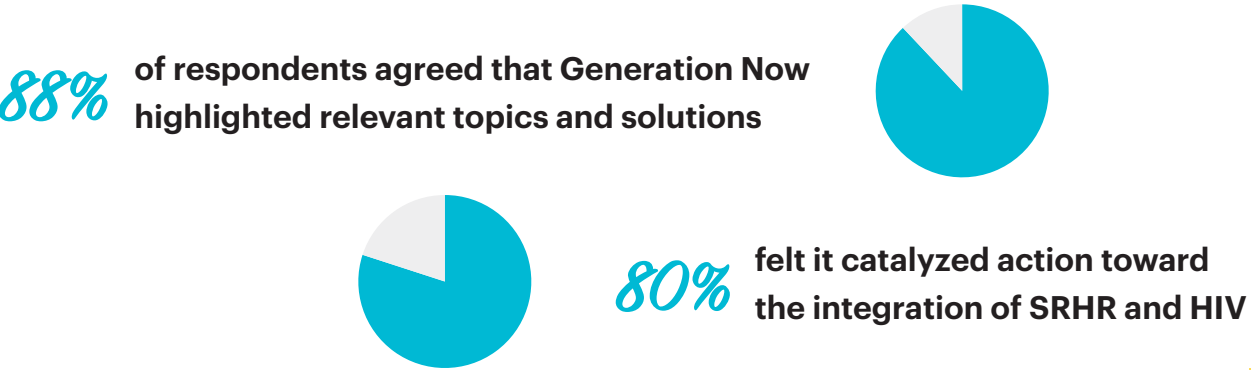


MOST PARTICIPANTS BELIEVED THAT THE YOUTH PRE-CONFERENCE ELEVATED YOUTH; 95% AGREED OR STRONGLY AGREED THAT IT SHOWCASED DIVERSE YOUTH VOICES IN THE MOVEMENT FOR GENDER EQUALITY

GENERATION NOW: OUR HEALTH, OUR RIGHTS PRE-CONFERENCE

The second part of a Women Deliver–International AIDS Society partnership to drive action for integrated HIV and SRHR policies was a youth-forward event. The first part was held at the International AIDS Conference in 2018. Four hundred people attended the intersectional, innovative, and intergenerational Pre-Conference in Vancouver, which focused on what is necessary to shape systems and services that meet those in need. Onsite commitments included:

- > **FP2020** committed to using the results of a clinical trial to forge new, robust partnerships with leaders and advocates of the HIV community to increased services for women that provide dual protection from unintended pregnancy and HIV infections.
- > **The UNAIDS Secretariat** committed to walk the talk and tackle parental consent laws, and their implementation, in five countries of Eastern and Southern Africa: Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Uganda, and Zambia.
- > **AVAC** committed to launching the Integration Index to track family planning and HIV services in clinics, programs, policies, and advocacy.



YOUTH ZONE

At the heart of the Fueling Station, this physical space was designed to encourage intergenerational collaboration and creativity. The Youth Zone was a bustling central hub of dialogue and idea-sharing. In addition to a Storytelling Booth, a Silent Disco, and a Self-Care and Meditation Session, the Youth Zone hosted:

Creative Tensions

Participants explored tensions that can arise among advocates in the gender equality and sexual and reproductive health and rights movement, with a focus on LGBTQIA+ communities.

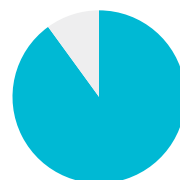
88% of respondents rated Creative Tensions good or excellent



Solutions Workshop

Youth Zone visitors were invited to problem-solve alongside leading young entrepreneurs in their journey to promote gender equality worldwide. Interdisciplinary teams tackled pressing challenges in real time.

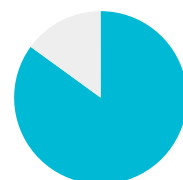
90% of respondents rated the Solutions Workshop good or excellent



Speed Networking Session

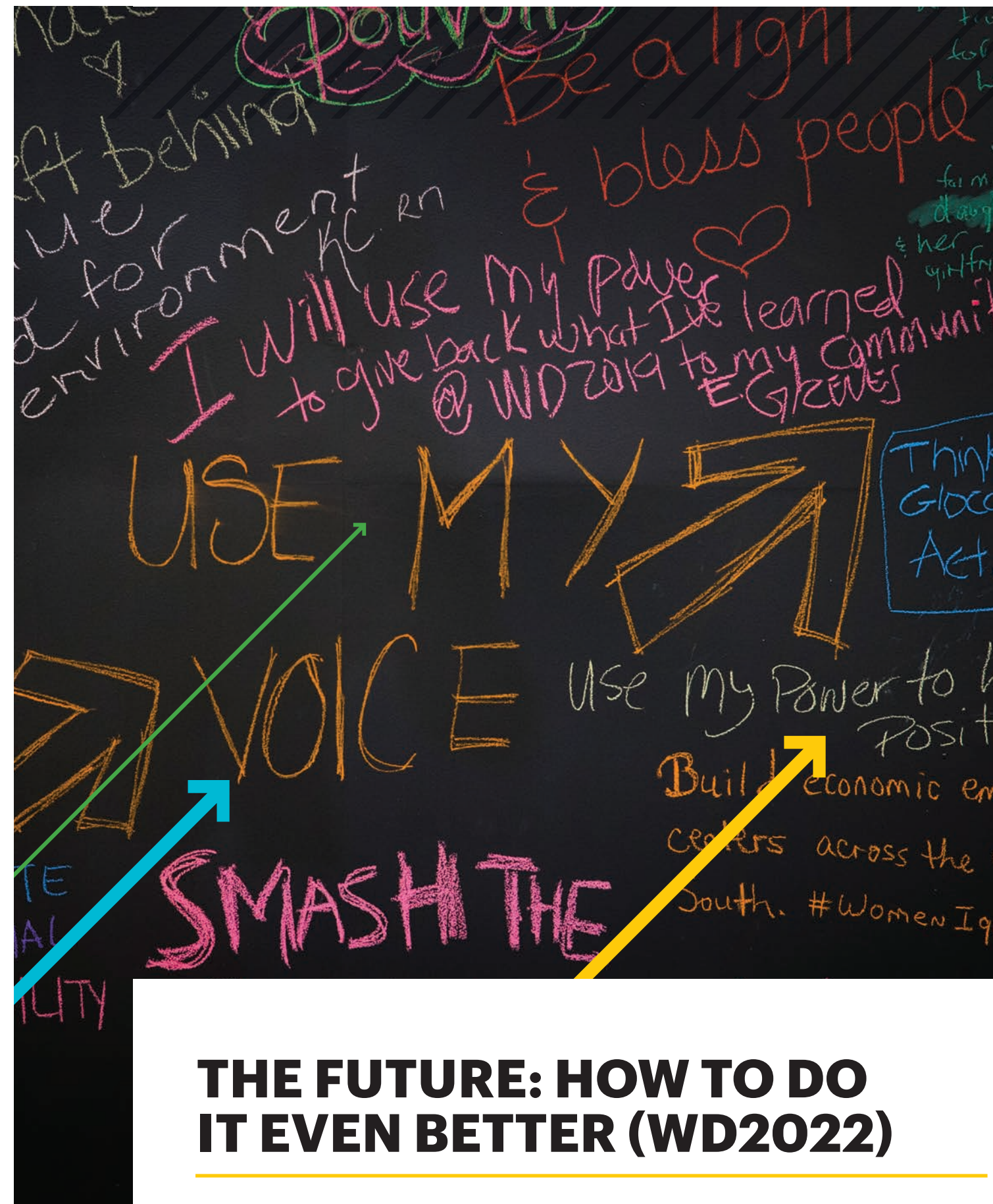
This session connected new advocates with youth and adult leaders from a variety of fields for quick conversations and personalized advice to take advocacy to the next level.

85% of respondents rated the Speed Networking good or excellent



Women Deliver 2019 brought youth voices from around the world to the forefront and gave us a chance to demand the changes we want to see not only in the future, but now.

— WD2019 DELEGATE



THE FUTURE: HOW TO DO IT EVEN BETTER (WD2022)

This report is a first step to planning our next conference. We have compiled and analyzed valuable feedback that helps Women Deliver better understand the strength of our conferences and inspire new ideas. We are committed to developing conferences that evolve to meet the needs of our diverse community.

1 ARE WE TRYING TO COVER TOO MUCH?

WD2019 offered 15 plenaries and 115 concurrent sessions, a plethora of partner-driven side events, and a variety of dynamic and informative offerings outside of the convention center. Conference days began at 6:00 AM and concluded at 10:00 PM each day.

How do we cover the broad spectrum of issues that impact gender equality but cut down on programming?

Possible solutions:

- Collaborate with programming partners on a schedule that will strike the right balance between quantity and quality.
- Consider the timing, duration, and quantity of partner side events.
- Consider plenary time slots that do not overlap with other programming.
- Continue to push for intersectionality with concurrent sessions, perhaps by increasing the size of rooms.

2 HOW CAN WE BE EVEN MORE INCLUSIVE AND MORE DIVERSE?

At Women Deliver we believe that in our work to create a more gender equal world, diversity is our strength. In addition to a diversity of geography, identity, generations, and sectors we know it is important to examine how we incorporate a greater diversity of voices and experience at our conferences.

GEOGRAPHY

How can we ensure greater partnership and co-creation with advocates and organizations from every region of the world? How can we live our values and ensure that more people who are outside the channels of global organizations get to the table?

ACCESSIBILITY AND DISABILITY

How can we better ensure that the venue and delegate hotels are accessible to people with disabilities? How can we more fully engage the disability community early in our planning to ensure our conferences can accommodate everyone?

GENDER IDENTITY

How can we ensure that we create a conference that meaningfully features the contributions of the full range of gender and sexual identities?

INTERSECTIONALITY

Are sessions at Women Deliver too targeted, leaving out nuanced discussions of the ways in which issues and solutions affect communities differently? What is the best way to incorporate more inclusive discussions into our programming?

Possible solutions:

- Ensure a dedicated staff member for diversity, inclusion, and engagement.
- Ensure a dedicated staff member for delegates with accessibility requirements.
- Increase scholarships for smaller NGOs and individual advocates.
- Consider a Global South location for the conference.
- Include an accessibility audit and/or expert in the site visit process.

3 HOW CAN WE ENGAGE MEANINGFULLY WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND BALANCE THE INFLUENCE?

The private sector has a vital role to play in creating a gender equal world, and its presence and participation at our conferences is important. But we also need to ensure that the private sector doesn't have an oversized influence on the conferences — either in actuality or in appearance.

How can we advocate for change in the private sector and partner with companies that see the benefits of gender equality — to society and to the bottom line — without allowing companies to appear to have an oversized influence? How do we ensure companies don't use support of WD conferences in place of actual progress? Finally, how do we assure our civil society and public sector partners that we have done our due diligence?

Possible solutions:

- Continue to maintain the firewall between sponsorship and speaking engagements. Better communicate to all delegates that sponsorship and donor benefits do not include the opportunity to speak on a plenary (as example).
- Consult with WD2022 advisory group members and others to ensure the right balance in our private sector engagement.

4 HOW CAN WE ENSURE MORE ENGAGEMENT AND AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION WITHIN THE SESSIONS OFFERED?

Sessions that resulted in skills-based learnings and robust discussions were some of the most popular and meaningful. While there will always be logistical and technology considerations, how might we ensure delegates can more fully participate in sessions?

Possible solutions:

- Utilize social media and audience/participant technology that allows polling, feedback, and Q&A.
- Encourage (early on) alternative session set-ups for moderators and key-speakers.
- Increase the number of technical- and skills-based sessions offered.

5 HOW CAN ADVOCACY BE A STRONGER OUTCOME OF THE CONFERENCES?

WD2019 provided networking, solutions exploration, knowledge sharing, and an examination of the ways in which we can use our power.

Should the conferences be tied more explicitly to the advocacy goals of Women Deliver and the gender equality community at large?

Possible solutions:

- Consider expanding the scope of the Advocacy Academy — offering both in-person and online options.
- Serve as a proactive partner on strategy and agendas for future Minister and Parliamentarian Forums.
- More explicitly, connect the global advocacy moments in the gender equality space, as a trajectory, that includes the Women Deliver conferences as a key opportunity for commitments, announcements, and convening of decision makers.

6 HOW MIGHT WOMEN DELIVER CONTINUE TO ENHANCE AND DEVELOP OUR OPERATIONAL AND CONFERENCE PLANNING INFRASTRUCTURE TO SUPPORT OUR GROWING AND DIVERSE CONFERENCES?

Possible solutions:

- Create a dedicated support team for sponsored delegates and visa support.
- Create a timeline that begins conference planning two years out (for all teams).
- Examine technologies and online tools that can work across all conference programming areas.
- Build financial resources to maintain “Conference as Program” ongoing team that helps ensure continuation of key relationships, programmatic next steps, and logistics.
- Examine the role of a Professional Conference Organizer (PCO); are there additional logistical functions that can be outsourced, as Women Deliver staff continues to focus on partnership and content?
- Increase support for protocol, security, and crowd operations.

UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN, THANK YOU

This undertaking and conference was a co-creation of advocates, grassroots implementers, elected officials, humanitarian and development experts, academics, civil society and private sector leaders, among others from every corner of the world and from many sectors including health, education, nutrition, environmental, humanitarian, economic development, financial, philanthropic, and more. Women Deliver is grateful to all who collaborated, instigated, partnered, and contributed their time, energy, ideas, funds, and solutions.

Moving forward, we will use the power we all have to move us toward a more gender equal world — together.

DONORS AND SPONSORS

We are deeply grateful to the foundations, corporations, and NGOs that support Women Deliver conferences. These sponsors make our incredible conference possible. Thank you for your dedication to gender equality and the health and rights of girls and women.

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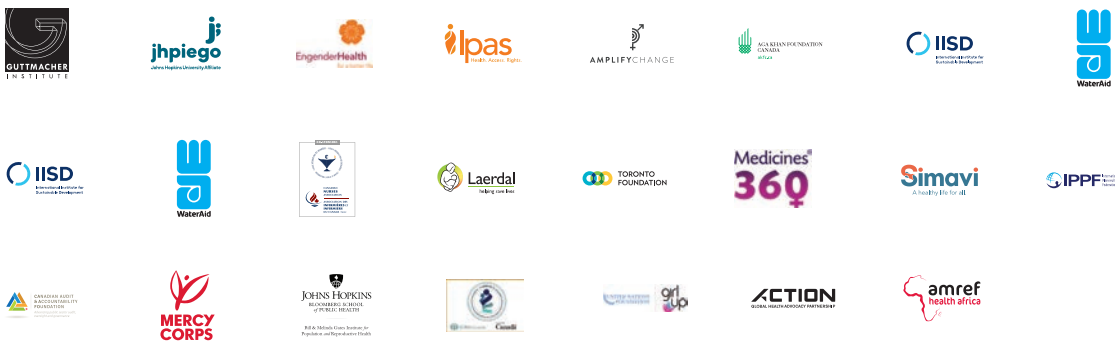
NGO DIAMOND



NGO GOLD



NGO SILVER



NGO BRONZE







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