



These past few years have brought crisis after crisis, often piling one on top of another. But as I look back on 2024, what I hold on to isn't just the challenges — it's the reminder that even in times of despair, we can't forget that change is possible and realistically achievable.

During 2024, girls, women, and gender-diverse people from the Global Majority continued to bear the heaviest burden of global threats, including the climate crisis, economic instability, shrinking financial assistance, deliberate attempts to roll back decades of collective progress, the rise of authoritarian forces in many parts of the world, and even genocide. Feeling angry or defeated in the face of so much loss and injustice is only human. But giving up is not an option. As these crises continue — and take on new forms in 2025 — we must use this moment to imagine and bring to life the just, sustainable future we know is possible.

It became clear that new, bold narratives — overarching frameworks for systemic change — were needed to influence gender equality policy at every level. We needed to come together as a sector and across regions to strengthen our feminist advocacy efforts, especially with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) already off track and the future of a post-2030 agenda uncertain amid the current state of multilateralism. As a result, we came together to build new frameworks for change.

Those narratives we shaped together were foundational to the work we are doing in 2025 and showed us why building a common roadmap for the future was urgent. In response to the global challenges unfolding in early 2025, this reflection evolved into a strategic shift at Women Deliver: **using our convening power to co-create with others a Global Feminist Playbook.** The Playbook will serve as our shared vision for gender equality and justice, alongside concrete pledges of action detailing how the international development sector can help make this vision a reality.

These changes now guide how we operate, collaborate, and engage. While the 2024 Annual Report doesn't fully capture our new ways of working and visions — since the shifts had not yet been implemented at the time — last year's efforts set the stage for the impact we are seeing today. These new ways of working also framed the content and focus of the upcoming <a href="Women Deliver 2026">Women Deliver 2026</a>
<a href="Conference">Conference (WD2026)</a> in Narrm (Melbourne), Australia. This ensures that our discussions address the issues that matter most: the climate crisis, youth leadership, and advancing the sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) of adolescent girls.

The road ahead will not be easy, and every day reminds us how fragile progress can be. Women Deliver will continue to work for a shared vision of the world we need. This moment calls on us to believe not just that change is possible, but that it is within our reach. Together, we can turn this opportunity into the beginning of something transformative.

Dr. Maliha Khan

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President and CEO, Women Deliver

# **Convening for Change**

**At Women Deliver, we believe that convenings are where change begins.** When advocates, policymakers, and communities come together, they generate the energy and collaboration needed to move agendas forward. Convenings provide space for diverse actors to exchange evidence, identify solutions, and amplify calls for accountability. **For SRHR, they have been particularly powerful:** feminist movements, human rights defenders, and gender equality champions have long used them to shape global priorities, align advocacy efforts, translate commitments into tangible progress, and ensure that policies reflect the lived realities of girls, women, and gender-diverse people.

For those working toward gender equality and bodily autonomy, Women Deliver Conferences are moments of transformation.

### **Strategic Highlights**

# WD2023: Impact One Year After

Women Deliver reached out to Women Deliver 2023 (WD2023) participants to better understand the impact their engagement in the Conference continues to have on their efforts to advance gender equality, justice, and inclusion within their own context.

The results were clear: **78% of respondents believed that WD2023 provided an opportunity to share knowledge** or skills gained at the Conference with others, and **65% said they have applied what they learned** at the Conference to advance their work.

A smaller percentage (39%) of survey participants noted that they took action to elevate girls' and women's health and rights on platforms, national plans, or within their own organizations' strategic direction. Women Deliver is working to shift this, prioritizing agenda-setting and action planning within our strategic frameworks for WD2026. The Feminist Playbook (see below) will be one of our key mechanisms to ensure that there is better coordinated and more effective action following WD2026.

Attending WD2023 as a Women Deliver Young Leader was a genuinely insightful opportunity for me to learn about efforts towards reaching gender equality in different regions of the world. I learned about initiatives of different scales that took place in other regions and in different sociocultural contexts but that can be adapted and applied in my community/country.

Women Deliver Young
 Leader, WD2023 Delegate





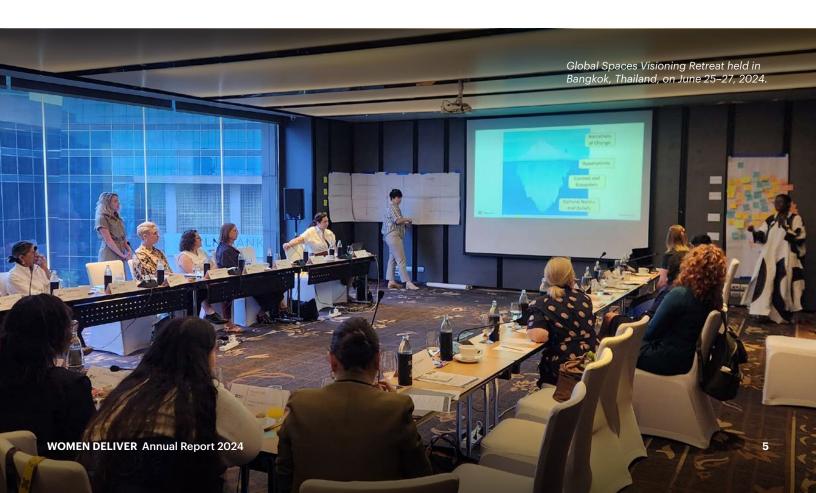
# **Advancing Narratives for Social Change**

Convenings have the power to generate <u>narratives</u> that shift public opinion, fuel movements, and shape policy, from global forums to local governments. These narratives aren't just stories; they are the guiding beliefs and assumptions that influence policies, social norms, and collective action for gender justice.

That's why, in 2024, Women Deliver initiated a process to brainstorm and develop narratives that could transform how key constituencies — particularly the international development sector, States, and other decision-makers — perceive and address gender equality-related issues. This shift was intended to drive concrete action, with the Post-2030 Agenda serving as the most strategic platform for these narratives. To support this work, in June the organization hosted a visioning workshop in Bangkok, Thailand, convening

25 participants representing different communities, fields, and geographies.

Following Bangkok, Women Deliver facilitated a <u>series</u> of narrative ideation workshops over six months (September 2024–early 2025), both in-person and virtually. These included one-on-one and small-group meetings, bespoke focus-group discussions, and larger workshops. The sessions not only helped brainstorm key narratives for the broader Post-2030 Agenda, but also shaped content and programming for WD2026.



### **Strategic Highlights**

Throughout this process, Women Deliver convened a series of 12 Narrative Ideation Workshops that brought together 350 participants from 300+ new and long-term partners.

This process brought together the rich ecosystem of feminist movements and gender equality champions who regularly engage in global spaces such as the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), the World Health Summit, the Conference of the Parties (COP), the AWID Forum, Beijing+30 Ministerial Meetings, the World Health Assembly, and the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). In addition, Women Deliver convened three cross-movement dialogues in three cities: Washington DC, London, and Ottawa.

#### **Key Events:**

## Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on the Beijing+30 Review

The International Women's Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific, Women's Fund Asia, and Women Deliver co-convened a dynamic workshop that enabled participants to identify key moments to fast-track progress toward the Beijing Platform for Action, the Sustainable Development Goals, and a visionary post-2030 agenda. Discussions also focused on how to leverage the Women Deliver 2026 and 2029 Conferences as critical milestones that feminist movements and champions could collectively shape.

The main new narratives that emerged from this process were centered around decolonization, funding, and climate — marking a collective call to reimagine global power structures and invest in feminist leadership.

# Advancing Bold New Narratives on The Rights of Adolescent Girls and Climate Justice

One of the most powerful narratives to emerge from this process centered on adolescent girls' rights and leadership. Women Deliver's convening power and ability to drive collective action led to the creation of the Girls Deliver community. During UNGA79 in New York, the Girls Deliver Workshop sparked new conversations — recognizing that adolescent girls are leaders, a distinct constituency, and have unique needs that must be addressed. Through subsequent co-creation meetings, including at CSW69, and a virtual girls-led workshop in April 2025, adolescent leaders shaped and refined this narrative themselves — culminating in the drafting of the Girls' Manifesto that will launch at WD2026 where it will be spotlighted and formally launched as a rallying vision for collective action.

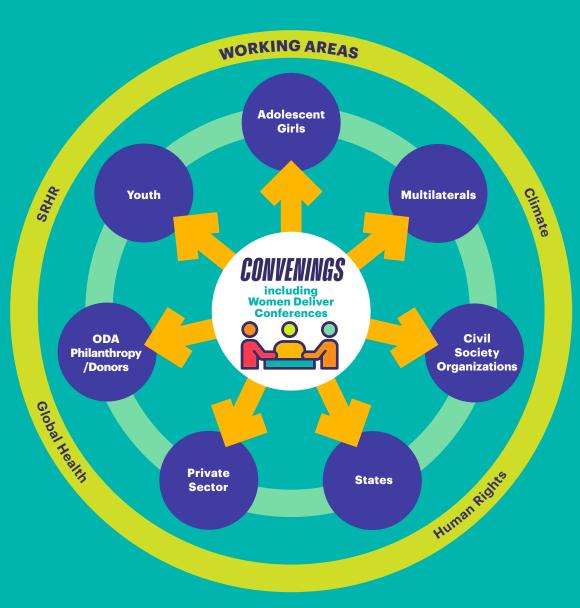
The Manifesto boldly declared that adolescent girls are not beneficiaries but leaders and rights-holders with the power to shape agendas and the right to an enabling environment that supports them. The resulting Girls' Manifesto has since served as a foundational anchor for a multi-year campaign, led by the Girls Deliver Adolescent Girls Working Group, calling for a global commitment for adolescent girls.

Through the narrative work, Women Deliver forged partnerships and strengthened networks, laying the groundwork for the Global Feminist Playbook process. These collaborations will continue to play a key role in shaping the Playbook, which addresses the urgent need for a collective vision to advance gender equality. The issues and language surfaced during the narratives work will be central to the Playbook's content. It will be both a product — an evolving statement of vision and action — and a process — a participatory journey. Launching it at WD2026 ensures that all our constituencies will be present to shape it, drive it forward, and commit to concrete pledges.

## **Collective Action for Change**

At the heart of the Collective Action for Change Program is the belief that progress comes from a coordinated movement, driven by alliances, partnerships, and coalitions.

Women Deliver engages a broad range of stakeholders — including adolescent girls, youth, civil society organizations, multilaterals, key States, the private sector, Official Development Assistance (ODA), philanthropy, and donors. Real change requires connecting these diverse actors, amplifying the voices of those historically excluded, and bringing them together in global spaces and convenings.



### Strategic Highlights

Women Deliver Conferences are one of the many spaces where these constituencies convene, which is why the organization's work also extends to key global forums addressing the most persistent drivers of gender inequality.

Throughout 2024, Women Deliver engaged in several global spaces to advance SRHR:

#### **March 2024**

#### **CSW68**

- We participated in <u>#ShowUpForGirls</u> to amplify adolescent girls' calls for change.
- In collaboration with the Population Council GIRL Center and building on the call for more coordinated action from the WD2023 Girls Deliver Pre-Conference, we hosted a workshop with 34 girl-focused organizations and girl advocates – the newly formed Girls Deliver community – to develop a strategic goal and action to advance adolescent girls' rights and well-being.





#### May 2024

### United Nations Civil Society Conference (UNCSC)

Part of the Summit of the Future (SOFT) process

- We hosted a strategy session with Girls Deliver community members to ensure adolescent girls' unique needs and rights were included and delivered on through the SOTF process and the Pact for the Future.
- In partnership with the Population Council GIRL Center, the Major Group on Children and Youth, and Help Age, we co-convened a session to form the Youth and Intergenerational Engagement: Collective Action for Youth, Adolescents, and Older Generations Impact Coalition, ensuring adolescents remain a civil society priority.

#### May-June 2024

#### 77th World Health Assembly (WHA77)

- We collaborated with the World Health Organization's (WHO) focal points to support WHO's work on SRHR and adolescent health.
- We also advocated for the inclusion and centrality of SRHR and gender equality in WHO's Fourteenth General Programme of Work (GPW 14).





#### **June 2024**

## 60th Session of the UN Climate Change Subsidiary Bodies (SB60)

As a member of the <u>Sexual and Reproductive</u>
 Health and <u>Rights and Climate Justice</u> (<u>SRHR & CJ) Coalition</u>, we hosted a side event to advance discussions on the Gender Action Plan (GAP).

#### June-July 2024

#### 56th Human Rights Council (HRC56)

- We secured space for a delegation of sex workers to advocate for their rights and deliver an oral statement. On behalf of Women Deliver, Sabrina Sanchez, Executive Director of ESWA, addressed the Council, calling for the full decriminalization of sex work.
- We engaged on six HRC resolutions to secure progressive language on SRHR and gender equality.





#### September 2024

#### **Summit of the Future (SOFT)**

- We protected critical SRHR language, securing several key wins despite significant pushback from anti-rights actors. These included:
  - Preventing regression on SRHR language linked to universal access;
  - Linking SRHR to youth and to efforts toward universal health coverage;
  - Ensuring language on adolescent girls, safeguarding their SRHR, and expanding access to opportunities.
- We also joined the What Girls Want campaign, an informal coalition of more than 20 girl-centered organizations, institutions, funders, and allies working to amplify girls' demands in spaces where they are often ignored. At a mobilization in front of the United Nations Headquarters in New York, together with more than 50 young women from around the world, Women Deliver Young Leader Alum Raven (Harpreet) Dhillon demanded that world leaders put girls at the center of the Summit of the Future.
- We served on the planning committee for the Youth Action Day, led by the UN Youth Office, which provided a dedicated space for youth to share their visions for the future and advocate for their priorities in the Summit of the Future.



#### **Other September highlights:**

We co-authored, alongside other partners,
 <u>"The Global Roadmap for Action on the Care Economy"</u> — a vital tool for policymakers working to influence the global care economy.

#### **November 2024**

# The 29th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP29)

 Together with feminist allies across and beyond the Women and Gender Constituency (WGC), we helped secure a 10-year program on gender and roadmap to action it, including commitments to collect gender- and age-disaggregated data.



#### **Women Deliver's Engagement with States**

States represent a key stakeholder to achieve Women Deliver's mission. During 2024, we continued to strengthen our engagement with States, bringing together governments, civil society, and multilateral partners to advance gender equality and SRHR. These relationships with States enable us to influence policy, promote shared priorities, and strengthen cross-sectoral action that drives measurable impact at national, regional, and global levels.

# **Shifting Power to Youth Advocates**

Young people are at the forefront of global movements around the world. Drawing on their lived experiences and expertise, they are challenging power structures and pushing for legal change. By investing in their leadership and providing the tools and resources they need, we unlock transformative change for entire communities.

Women Deliver supports the journey of young advocates in becoming architects of the international frameworks and standards that shape their lives.

## Emerging Leaders for Change Program

co-designing, and reimagining how best

One of Women Deliver's biggest achievements was the launch of the Emerging Leaders for Change

Program in 2024 — a bold new initiative that builds on more than a decade of lessons learned from our Young Leaders Program. This work reflects years of listening,

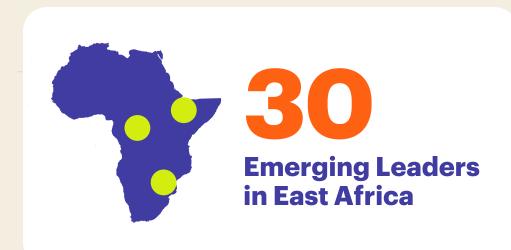
to partner with young people in advancing gender equality. Rooted in the belief that those closest to their communities are best placed to drive change, the program invests in young advocates to ensure that solutions for girls' and women's SRHR are youth-centered and context-specific.

Designed as a two-year journey, this initiative provides adolescent and youth activists with the tools, networks, and opportunities they need to lead boldly and transform policies. Each cohort is recruited from a single region, with a new region selected each year, to promote collaboration, collective action, and locally and regionally led solutions.

# In 2024, the first cohort was launched in East Africa: 30 young advocates between ages 15 and 29, selected from more than 3,100 applicants across six countries.

To support their work, five Young Leader Alumni serve as mentors, offering context-specific guidance and co-creating learning opportunities for and with Emerging Leaders.





Emerging Leaders in Kenya

Emerging Leaders in Uganda

Emerging Leaders in Ethiopia Emerging Leaders in Tanzania

Emerging Leaders in Rwanda Emerging Leaders in Burundi Emerging Leaders Ages 15-19

Emerging Leaders Ages 20-24

Emerging Leaders Ages 25-29

## Strategic Highlights

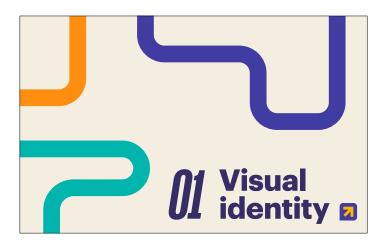
#### **Throughout 2024, Women Deliver:**

Supported the participation and leadership of Young Leader Alumni and Emerging Leaders program members during key global spaces throughout the year, including CSW68, UNGA79, COP29, <u>HRC56</u>, the <u>15th AWID International Forum</u>. This included full travel funding, speechwriting and presentation guidance, policy briefings, and on-the-ground assistance, while also facilitating peer and partner connections to expand their networks.



# Women Deliver's Refreshed Brand

**During March 2024, we unveiled our new visual and verbal identity**, showcasing our evolution and steadfast commitment to justice and equality for everyone. Crafted in consultation with our global network, including youth advocates, our redesigned visual and verbal identity centers the girls and women whose lives we want to positively impact in everything we do.













# Women Deliver's Digital Impact in 2024



# Thank You to Our Donors and Supporters

Thanks to the dedication of our donors and supporters in 2024, Women Deliver was able to strengthen collective action, champion bold convenings, and expand youth leadership initiatives to safeguard and advance the bodily autonomy, health, and lives of girls and women.

#### **2024 FUNDERS INCLUDED:**

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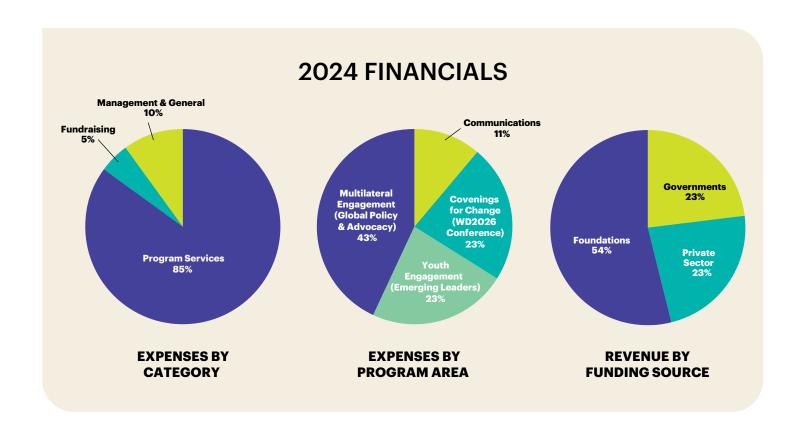
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## **Acknowledgement**

Women Deliver thanks its funding partners for their kind and generous contributions to creating a world where every girl and woman has full control over her body and her life. Their support to Women Deliver is gratefully acknowledged.

**Board Member** 

