



AMPLIFYCHANGE

Advocacy works. Period.

On [#MHD](#)ay, we want to highlight our commitment to menstrual health programming in the Global South by showcasing how advocacy contributes towards securing positive long-term changes in some of the most challenging legal and policy environments.

We have supported 79 menstrual health projects, through the investment of EUR 3.8 million across 27 countries.

AmplifyChange has demonstrated our commitment to changing the menstrual health landscape, through an investment of EUR 1.4 million in policy and law change work.

This investment has seen grantees manage to secure long-term, sustainable change, with regards to menstrual health policy, provision and financing.

AmplifyChange recognises menstrual health as a cross-cutting SRHR theme with a focus on overlooked and marginalised communities such as refugees, people with disabilities, the LGBTI community, and those with menstrual disorders.

We continue to support inclusive and holistic menstrual health projects that work on access to both education and products for all who menstruate, as well as focusing efforts on public dialogue and stigma reduction, in order to normalise and mainstream menstrual health.



79
grants



#WeAreCommitted to continue funding menstrual health programming that works towards catalysing progress and sustaining impact, even after programmes have finished.

Centre for Human Rights Education Advice and Assistance (CHREAA) – Malawi

In 2019, [CHREAA](#) began advocating for the inclusion of menstrual health packages in the Malawi Prison health budget for women and girls in detention.

“With funding from AmplifyChange, we engaged our efforts in lobbying for the inclusion of menstrual packages for female inmates. Previously, female inmates had to use small pieces of cloth or old blankets as they could not afford pads. The key achievement of this project was the Malawian Parliament approving an increase of K30 million in their prison service health budget, specifically to provide menstrual products for women and girls in prisons.””

The project also saw large donations of products to female inmates, and an increased awareness around the state of product access for prisoners. This budget change continues to positively impact the lives of inmates, providing access to safe and appropriate menstrual products for those in prisons or reformatory centres.



Rwanda Interfaith Council on Health (RICH) - Rwanda

From 2019 – 2020, [RICH](#) received an opportunity grant from AmplifyChange, focusing on challenging stigma and discriminatory practices surrounding MHM in the workplace and community, as well as increasing the role and awareness of men in promoting menstrual health management.

Through their advocacy work conducted alongside other partners, they contributed to influencing the government to remove the tax on menstrual pads. This result is a great step towards reducing period poverty, and has allowed for more efforts to shift to focusing on access to both products and education, as well as mainstreaming conversations around menstruation.

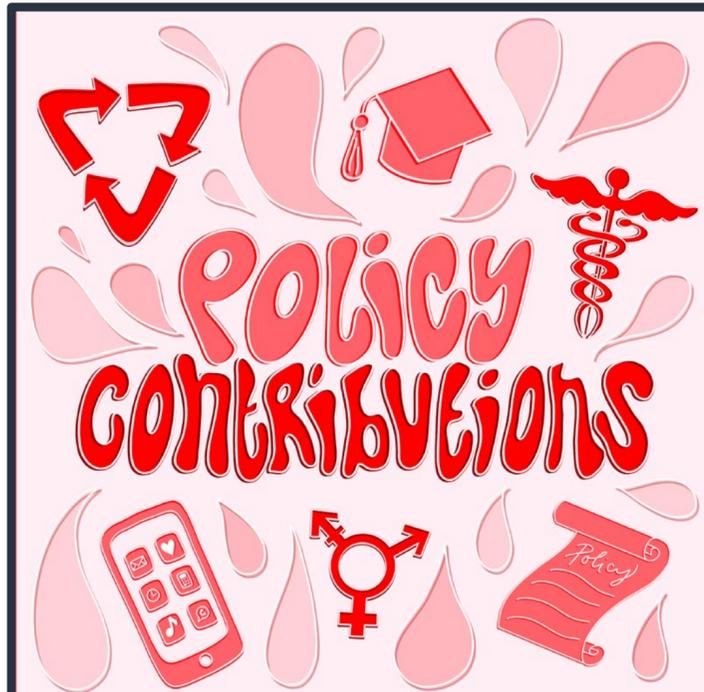
“The grant we received from AmplifyChange helped us to continue the advocacy work that we were conducting. We focused on influencing local government, religious leaders and private sector in the districts. This advocacy, which started at local level, snowballed into an increased pressure to the government, as there were other partners who were also influencing the policy too. This resulted successfully in the removal of taxes on menstrual pads in December 2019.””

Huru International - Kenya

From 2019 to 2020, [Huru International](#) received an opportunity grant from AmplifyChange to focus on developing and piloting an innovative digital learning experience to increase both knowledge and awareness around menstrual health and life skills education.

“At the beginning of the project, the Kenya MHM policy was in draft stage. Huru were able to engage representatives from three key ministries (health, education and gender), to ensure that we were integrated into the final review of the policy. We advocated for reusable menstrual products which had previously faced major resistance from other players, especially those working in waste management. Reusable products were recognised in the policy, and this then led to the publication of the first Kenya Standard for Reusable Sanitary Towels in 2020 – something that had taken almost a decade to materialise.””

The involvement of civil society organisations in the review of the country-wide MHM policy ensures greater uptake and ownership of policy guidance at community level. It also can be used as a starting point for accountability, in terms of allocation of resources, provision of standards and ensuring that duty bearers can be held accountable.



Beyond Beijing Committee (BBC) - Nepal

From 2017-2021, [BBC](#) received two grants from AmplifyChange to focus on addressing the provision of accurate menstrual health education in schools in Kavre, Nepal.

They advocated with local and federal government bodies to ensure that sufficient funding was allocated to construct period-friendly toilets in public schools within the district. This result means that many young people who menstruate continue to have access to safe and private spaces to change their menstrual products.

“Through AmplifyChange funding, we were able to conduct research that we then used as evidence, and as a basis for our advocacy. We developed strategies based on the study results and worked with decision makers to create awareness. We also developed strong alliances with government and non-government stakeholders. This led to local governments allocating budget to ensure that period friendly toilets were available within the schools. In several targeted schools, there has recently also been the introduction of free period products.””





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#WeAreCommitted

With thanks to:

Centre for Human Rights Education Advice and Assistance

Rwanda Interfaith Council on Health

Huru International

Beyond Beijing Committee

