BREAKING NEW GROUND
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We share this report at a time of flux. Sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) movements across the world are feeling the uncertainty of shifting of economic and political environments. COVID-19 has disrupted nations and lives and continues to change the way we work. We celebrate substantial progress in SRHR but also see backsliding because of a resurgent opposition.

Despite these challenging times, our grantee partners have made remarkable progress in some of hardest places in world. In Eastern DRC a coalition is working to implement laws on better abortion care. In Benin groups are using conversations on menstrual health to improve the rights of girls in schools. And civil society groups in India now have booklets to support SRHR for people with disabilities. These examples inspire us every day.

To ensure a steady stream of focused SRHR support, we transitioned in 2021 from a consortium-led project into an independent organisation. Building on our values of openness and transparency and to maximise relevance and impact we created more collaborative ways of working, and a Partnership Grants programme supporting grant-makers in the Global South. We also set up mechanisms to maximise synergy, through innovative techniques and international knowledge sharing platforms.

The response to our first funding rounds as an independent organisation was invigorating. Demand was intense from activists eager to shape the future of SRHR across Africa, South Asia and the Middle East. The quality of applications was better than ever, and the grants we awarded are cause for excitement. Now we have the requisite structures and team in place to support the extraordinary potential we see in each funding round in the years to come.

Our immense gratitude goes to our grantee partners, our Independent Technical Review Panel, our Strategic Advisors, and our donors for supporting us through this transition. We proudly recognise the consortium that established AmplifyChange and helped us become who we are today, and our Founding Members and Board have been a source of great wisdom and radical good sense. Finally, none of this would be possible without the hard work and passion of our team.

We hope you enjoy reviewing our achievements of the past year supporting the civil society organisations rising to the challenge of delivering SRHR progress across the world.
THANK YOU TO OUR CURRENT DONORS

We would also like to thank those who have supported us the past seven years.

The United Kingdom’s Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office; The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands; Viiv Healthcare’s Positive Action for Women and Girls; the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency in collaboration with RFSU; The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation; and an anonymous donor.
Persistent neglect and a well-resourced opposition deny millions of women, young people, persons living with disabilities or with HIV/AIDS, LGBTI and vulnerable and marginalised groups in the Global South their rights and access to essential SRHR information and services throughout the course of their lives. Poor outcomes reflect the continuing need to reform restrictive, outdated or non-implemented policies, laws and budgets, and to remove other barriers to accessing sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) services.

Rising to this challenge, AmplifyChange works to support stronger and more inclusive civil society movements able to bring about better laws, policies, social norms and behaviour change, information and services for SRHR. In an environment of increasingly tight purse strings we are pleased to be able to offer national and local civil society organisations accessible funding which is substantial enough to make a real impact.
Our main source of support for civil society is grant funding. Since 2014, AmplifyChange has approved over 1,000 grants supporting organisations and networks addressing key issues across the spectrum of SRHR advocacy. We work on a challenge fund model, where organisations can apply to open calls for funding focused on SRHR advocacy in the Global South. Our grant types aim to support a broad range of organisations, from small, unregistered groups up to large Southern-based NGOs. We take a broad view of advocacy and encourage applicants to highlight the approaches that work best in their contexts. We provide resources and support to give our grantee partners the best chance of success.

Through strategic review during our transition, we shaped our onward approach to grant making to maximise the learning from our experience so far whilst responding to the ways in which our world - and the work of our grantee partners - has changed over the past decade.

We offer four grant types:

**PARTNERSHIP GRANTS**
Significant support for established groups fostering capacity of smaller NGOs.
£200k - £2.5m

**NETWORK GRANTS**
Significant support for networks and coalitions.
£300k-£1.375m

**STRENGTHENING GRANTS**
Small grants for medium-sized groups to expand their advocacy.
£100k-£750k

**OPPORTUNITY GRANTS**
Micro grants to support advocacy at a local level.
£10k-£150k
(NB: Opportunity Grants were temporarily paused in 2021 during the transition)
Grantee partners are based across diverse contexts, in some of the most challenging places for SRHR. Their work engages a range of strategies to achieve improved advocacy outcomes within five key themes:

- Gender-based violence, including female genital mutilation/cutting, domestic and sexual violence
- Safe abortion choices
- Challenging stigma and discrimination, including for LGBTI groups
- Better sexual health for young people
- Access to SRHR services for poor, vulnerable and marginalised groups, including people with disabilities or living with HIV/AIDS

Throughout this report, we highlight our grantee partners’ work across the five outcome areas of our Theory of Change:

- Increase individual awareness of SRHR as human rights
- Increase access to SRHR resources, information and services
- Transform social norms
- Catalyse changes in, and implementation of, policies and laws
- Build stronger, more inclusive movements for SRHR
SOLIDARITÉ DES FEMMES POUR LE DÉVELOPPEMENT INTÉGRAL (SOFEDI)

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO (DRC)

STRENGTHENING GRANT

SOFEDI and the Coalition 14 have been advocating for stronger policies on access to SRHR services in South Kivu, including family planning, youth access, and comprehensive abortion and post-abortion care in line with the updated national law. They have built strong connections through their engagement with parliamentarians and other influential stakeholders in the province.

While advocacy efforts to pass a specific bill improving SRHR services in South Kivu are ongoing, SOFEDI are collaborating with other advocates, both nationally and within South Kivu, to disseminate the Standards and Guidelines for Comprehensive Woman-Centred Abortion Care amongst policymakers and medical professionals to improve the understanding of the legal parameters for abortion services in DRC. Ensuring that influential stakeholders have a complete understanding of the national law is a crucial step in furthering province-specific policies and providing people in the region with the care they need.

AmplifyChange published an evidence brief, Advocacy Works, that summarises lessons learned from our grantee partners’ advocacy successes.
In making our first grants as an independent organisation in 2021, AmplifyChange maintained a focus on supporting countries and contexts where there is a highest need for funding for neglected areas of SRHR. Demand was as high as ever; we received over 1,000 applications for our first two funding rounds. We approved 64 new grants across Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. Additionally, we continued to support 259 grants that had been contracted and funded in previous years.1

1. Data for this report relates to the period 1 January to 31 December 2021.
With our goal of lasting change, we do not just fund projects, we invest in the future. We not only provide grants to support civil society grantee partners for work towards their advocacy goals but concurrently build capacity to create resilient, more sustainable movements for change.

AmplifyChange also provides flexible core funding to help organisations become adaptable so they can respond to changes in their advocacy contexts. As we move forward into the next chapter of our work, AmplifyChange is committed to continuing to fund SRHR advocacy in challenging contexts.

**PERCENTAGE OF APPROVED GRANTS ACROSS THEMES**

- **Access**: 27%
- **Violence**: 19%
- **Youth**: 18%
- **Stigma**: 24%
- **Abortion**: 12%

**PERCENTAGE OF APPROVED GRANTS ACROSS GRANT TYPE**

- **Opportunity**: 0%
- **Strengthening**: 86%
- **Network**: 5%
- **Partnership/Strategic**: 9%

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2. Opportunity Grants were paused in 2021 (during transition) but will be resumed in future.
3. Renewals of historical Strategic Grants only (the Strategic Grants programme has been replaced by Partnership Grants).
EXTENDING IMPACT THROUGH NEW PARTNERS

We introduced the new approach of on-granting in 2021 in order to increase shared roles with our grantee partners, who know best how to support their local networks and movements. To strengthen grant-makers in the Global South for positive change in sexual and reproductive health and rights, we launched the Partnership Grants programme in April.

This support enables grant making to smaller groups through established organisations based in the Global South, alongside organisational strengthening tailored to smaller civil society organisations within their local movement. It will strengthen solidarity and linkages between civil society groups working on the same topic in the same region.
We were excited to forge our first three new partnerships through this funding mechanism:

**CONSEILS ET APPUI POUR L’ÉDUCATION À LA BASE (CAEB)**

**Mali**
An NGO working to promote participatory development of grassroots communities by strengthening their organisational capacity.

**GENDER LINKS SOUTH AFRICA**
A women’s rights organisation working towards a Southern Africa region in which women and girls in all their diversity are able to realise their rights.

**UHAI EASHRI KENYA**
The first indigenous activist-led fund supporting the human rights of sex workers and sexual and gender minorities in all their diversity.

“We are looking forward to thinking radically with our movements to build agency and reinvent and rethink SRHR approaches and programming for sustainable results. We can’t wait!”

- UHAI EASHRI, Kenya

We see Partnership Grants as a critical component of building more resilient movements for the most challenging issues and in countries with closing civic space. The partnerships will help embed advocacy and funding decision-making in the Global South in countries where civil society seeks to bring about positive change.

Read more about our new partner organisations here.
Jan Sahas is supporting a network and alliance of 220 CBOs and CSOs developed during a previous AmplifyChange grant. Through this current project, Jan Sahas will further strengthen the network to advance collective work for the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). They will also provide direct support to survivors of SGBV through outreach, a hotline, and one-stop centres.

The first six months of the project focused on a baseline study conducted to understand the knowledge and behaviours of the survivors they are working with to develop appropriate support interventions. Jan Sahas also trained and empowered survivors to be barefoot lawyers and advocates in their communities. They have created a joint action plan with a range of departments and authorities on the prevention of SGBV, supporting survivors, rehabilitation of survivors, and capacity building for government departments. Jan Sahas and its partners have also created a SGBV case monitoring tool which has been impactful during COVID-19 restrictions and lockdowns.
STRENGTHENING CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS
The SRHR movement is only as forceful as the organisations behind it. Our grantee partners know best what support they need in order to maximise their potential, so AmplifyChange’s contribution to organisational strengthening is to support them in finding their own way forward. Many organisations have a clear view about the direction they want to take their organisation, but others are less certain. AmplifyChange commits to supporting the organisational strengthening of grantee partners through:

- Offering core funding for organisational development in every grant type
- Connecting leaders across the global SRHR ecosystem at all levels, from national through regional, and supporting global connections to share experience and advice across organisations
- Introducing grantee partners to like-minded funders, both by brokering connections and creating a platform for partners in our grant portfolio and funders willing to support organisations to grow

In 2021, the Grants Support Team carried out a pilot needs assessment with current Strengthening Grant grantee partners, forming the first stage of a tailored support model. Additional research on organisational strengthening needs included a focus group to learn how organisations create networks and what they need to improve their ability to connect and learn from others. This research helped us understand the areas where AmplifyChange can support organisations in their development journeys as well as how to better foster connections across the constellation of organisations we fund.
As part of our work to enhance the capacity of Global South organisations, AmplifyChange developed a Building Blocks Handbook on organisational development in 2021. Although we are a challenge fund, we strive to give all SRHR organisations the best chance of succeeding, whether that be in securing a grant or working more effectively in all that they do. The handbook shares key insights from AmplifyChange’s financial management assessments and due diligence standards and guidance on best practice, to help organisations strengthen their management and operations. It is aimed primarily at organisations who have applied, or are interested in applying, for an AmplifyChange Opportunity or Strengthening Grant, but it can be used by any organisation that wants to be stronger and more sustainable.

“FOLLOWING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF [AMPLIFYCHANGE’S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT ASSESSMENT] RECOMMENDATIONS, WE IMPROVED OUR INTERNAL PROCESSES AND CONTROLS, WHICH HELPED US TO SECURE LARGER FUNDING FROM AMPLIFYCHANGE, THROUGH A STRENGTHENING GRANT.

THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THESE RECOMMENDATIONS MADE OUR FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT BOTH MORE TRANSPARENT AND EFFICIENT.”

– Dynamic Femmes, Cameroon
Vision Spring Initiatives (VSI) is a feminist organisation working to improve political and social norms on women’s and girls’ rights in Nigeria. Through their AmplifyChange work, they engage and empower female sex workers to understand their SRHR and legal rights.

Through close collaboration with the Nigerian Sex Workers Association, VSI has conducted multiple advocacy capacity building sessions with 60 sex workers in both Southern and Northern Nigeria to increase their understanding of key legislation relating to SRHR, sex work and other human rights issues. Together, they created an advocacy handbook for the participants to use in further advocacy work. The sessions, while focused on skills building, also provided a safe space for participants to share their experiences and learn from each other.
CAMEROONIAN FOUNDATION FOR AIDS – CAMFAIDS

CAMFAIDS advocates for improved rights of LGBTI people in Cameroon, engaging with media, local authorities, and communities to reduce discrimination and violence against the LGBTI community. They provide access to services and referrals to LGBTI people for legal, psychosocial, and health needs. CAMFAIDS works closely with other LGBTI and human rights organisations in Cameroon to ensure holistic support for LGBTI people.

In the first six months of their project, CAMFAIDS supported an intersex girl who was a survivor of a violent attack that had been filmed and disseminated through social media. They helped her through legal proceedings and connected her with psychosocial support and healthcare facilities. The case was tried and the perpetrator found guilty—one of the rare times that a case like this has been prosecuted successfully in Cameroon due to the stigma that the LGBTI community faces.
DEEPER LEARNING WITH PARTICIPATORY APPROACHES
Innovative participatory approaches to grant making and project evaluation are a growing area of interest for AmplifyChange. Learning from those who are doing the work on the ground is essential to ensuring we effectively support our grantee partners in their efforts to strengthen SRHR movements. We will be exploring new ways of doing this in the coming years; in 2021 we started with a participatory video project.

The Hewlett Foundation funded nine of our abortion rights-focused grantee partners to participate in a one-year pilot project using participatory video to evaluate their organisational capacity and identify pathways to strengthen their organisations. We carried out the project in partnership with InsightShare, a participatory media organisation.

Using participatory video techniques, the organisations each created two pieces of work exploring the journey of their growth leading up to AmplifyChange funding and then evaluating how this affected their onward development. In this way we were able to learn directly from our grantee partners about their journeys and needs. Coming together in groups to discuss what worked when strengthening their organisations also provided increased networking opportunities and valuable peer learning.

Through this work participating organisations highlighted valuable insights about catalysts for change which will inform the development of our organisational strengthening plans for grantees.

Key findings included:

- Core funding and funding for organisational strengthening are instrumental in improving organisational systems and technical capacity.
- Activities such as participatory video and related tools allowed organisations to come together more organically than they usually would in their work.
- Connecting with like-minded organisations to discuss challenges and successes is important to inspire further development ideas within the organisations themselves.

You can watch the full series of videos here.

4. The Hewlett Foundation funding supported the consortium-led AmplifyChange fund.
“THESE VIDEOS BROUGHT A LOT OF CREATIVITY FROM EACH ORGANISATION.... FOR US, IT WAS MOST IMPORTANT TO ENGAGE WITH [OTHER ORGANISATIONS] SO WE CAN LEARN MORE ABOUT THEIR WORK AND TO SEE HOW WE CAN BEST INTEGRATE IT INTO OUR WORK. EACH GROUP THAT PRESENTED HAD A UNIQUENESS ON HOW THEY DO THEIR WORK AS WELL AS THEIR ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURES. AS AN ORGANISATION WHO IS STILL LEARNING A LOT OF THINGS AS FAR AS OUR ORGANISATIONAL STRENGTHENING IS CONCERNED, AND OUR CAPACITY TO IMPLEMENT PROJECTS, IT IS REALLY A GREAT INITIATIVE.”

– COHERINET, Uganda
Knowledge generation is crucial to shaping local, national, and international efforts to improve SRHR. The work that grantee partners do to promote SRHR across the globe generates valuable learning about the needs of civil society advocacy. A core part of our mission is centring grantee partners as knowledge and evidence generators, ensuring that their voices and experiences are heard at all levels of the SRHR community.

To this end, through our funding we focus on shaping the knowledge infrastructure by establishing a platform at key global events related to SRHR and creating new platforms, influencing the priorities of donors to invest in grassroots organisations and exciting movements, and supporting quality evidence production and dissemination.
38% of grants are implementing projects contributing to evidence generation

To support peer-to-peer knowledge sharing, we continued to collaborate with grantee partners in 2021 to produce a series of resources hosted on our learning channels, including:

How-to guides on AmplifyChange Learn exploring real-life experience of organisational strengthening, including fundraising through alternative income streams such as crowdfunding, membership fees or social enterprise, and advocacy strategies.

New podcasts on a range of topics such as digital advocacy, featuring interviews with our grantee partners.

3,300 users accessed AmplifyChange Learn, with 4,342 unique sessions, over 2021.
Forum for African Women Educationalists (FAWE) is an organisation dedicated to the promotion of girls’ rights in Benin. Through their AmplifyChange project, they focus on improving the evidence available around menstrual health for school-going girls in Benin, and work to ensure that menstrual health is recognised as a key component of SRHR for girls.

FAWE’s baseline study allowed them to identify areas of need in terms of advocacy and social norm change on menstruation, which contributed to the development of key messaging for advocacy and outreach. Through their sensitisation campaigns with queen mothers and other religious and cultural leaders, as well as school-aged youth, the communities they are serving gained a better understanding of issues related to menstrual health, reducing stigma and taboo on the topic.
REINVESTING THE WEALTH OF SRHR KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE
Bringing grantee partners together, with each other and with key SRHR stakeholders, influencers and donors, is a powerful way to enhance movements and drive change and a cornerstone of our future approach. In 2021 we created new opportunities to support this cross-fertilisation and exchange of learning across the globe.

AmplifyChange hosted two international dialogues, and we plan to continue creating and providing space for civil society to speak to the SRHR issues affecting their contexts.

GLOBAL SAFE ABORTION DIALOGUE

OVER 650 FRONTLINE ACTIVISTS,

service providers, policy makers, and funders assembled for the third Safe Abortion Dialogue from 15-29 April 2021, to share plans and perspectives on how to strengthen the global safe abortion movement. The dialogue took place virtually for the first time and was more diverse and inclusive than ever.

The dialogue was co-organised by AmplifyChange and our partners Ipas, MSI Reproductive Choices, Sida, and Trust for Indigenous Culture and Health, who continue working together to build on the tremendous success of this project.
The ‘Talking about Life Skills, More Comprehensive’ dialogue took place virtually from 23 November to 3 December 2021.

We created a ‘first of its kind’ platform for civil society and grassroots activists to lead, discuss and share their strategies on how to ground activism for comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) in real world contexts.

This was an exciting opportunity for experienced champions of CSE to pass on hard won advice on negotiating challenging environments to achieve lasting positive outcomes for young people.

AmplifyChange co-organised the event with Faith to Action Network, Aahung, Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) and Reseau Africain de l’Education pour la Santé (RAES) – specialists in funding and supporting civil society activism for CSE and sexual and reproductive health and rights.

Some of the key outcomes of the discussions highlighted by participants included a need to:

- Focus on personalising CSE to the contexts and communities where organisations work
- Democratise CSE through shifting the power back to civil society to inform development and implementation of curricula and approaches
- Adapt the language used to discuss CSE based on your environment

As a result of the conference, AmplifyChange was invited to join the Global Partnership Forum on CSE, co-convened by UNESCO and UNFPA. This collaborative platform brings together a range of experts from across civil society, INGOs, UN agencies, donors, and educational institutions to work together towards making evidence-based, age-appropriate CSE a reality for children and young people across the world. To support this goal, AmplifyChange is helping organise the Forum’s Global Symposium on CSE in June 2022. Our contribution is to ensure that the CSOs we support are placed centre stage in global decision-making to shape priorities around grassroots needs relating to CSE.
PUTTING THE SEX BACK INTO SEXUAL HEALTH

Pleasure-based approaches to sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) start from the premise that sex is a healthy, natural part of life when it is respectful, enjoyable and consensual. Programmes that take this standpoint as opposed to one based on fear, judgment or control are known to be more effective in promoting safer sex and healthy relationships.
Exploring this innovative approach, we partnered with The Case for Her and The Pleasure Project and provided eight grantees with extra funding to implement, evaluate and monitor pleasure-based approaches in their existing AmplifyChange projects over the course of a year. The projects span Sub-Saharan Africa and India, enabling diverse populations to improve their access to sex-positive SRHR.

The grantee partners involved are:

- SESOTHO MEDIA AND DEVELOPMENT 
  LESOTHO
- YOUNG AND ALIVE INITIATIVE 
  TANZANIA
- WOMEN’S HEALTH AND EQUAL RIGHTS ASSOCIATION 
  RWANDA (WHERAR)
- SOUTH INDIA AIDS ACTION PROGRAMME 
  INDIA
- GROUPE DE VOLONTAIRES POUR LA PROMOTION DE LA MATERNITÉ SANS RISQUES RDC (GVP-MASAR/RDC) 
  DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO
- HAGURUKA 
  RWANDA
- ENCADREMENT DES FEMMES INDIGÈNES ET DES MÉNAGES VULNÉRABLES (EFIM) 
  DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO
- TRANSGENDER EQUALITY UGANDA 
  UGANDA

The Pleasure Project is providing participating organisations with individualised technical support and group training on effective pleasure-inclusive sexual health approaches, with the technical support designed in collaboration with the organisations to maximise effectiveness. The training includes a series of webinars covering topics and concepts such as collecting evidence in pleasure-based sexual health, guidance on measuring pleasure and influencing pleasure narratives and communicating pleasure.

Early feedback is very promising. The participating organisations report that integrating a pleasure-based approach into their project is weakening taboos and stigma around the topic in their communities. Adding even more value, they feel more confident in discussing sexuality, pleasure and consent through their other work as well.

We are excited to continue sharing progress updates about the impact of pleasure-inclusive approaches on the organisations’ SRHR advocacy with the wider community, to contribute to the growing body of global evidence on pleasure-based approaches within SRHR.
“FUNDING PLEASURE-BASED APPROACHES IN SRHR IS LIKE AMPLIFYING THE IMPORTANCE OF PLEASURE-BASED SEX EDUCATION, WHICH WE THINK IS VERY IMPORTANT. AMPLIFYING PLEASURE-BASED APPROACHES IS EQUAL TO PROMOTING SAFE SEXUAL PRACTICES, UNDERSTANDING OUR SEXUAL DIVERSITIES AS YOUNG PEOPLE, AND TRANSFORMING CULTURAL NORMS THAT MAKE DISCUSSING SEX A TABOO.”

– Young and Alive Initiative, Tanzania
As part of AmplifyChange’s ongoing commitment to embracing cross-cutting themes such as pleasure-based sexual health in the work we support, we also endorsed The Pleasure Principles. The seven principles, developed by The Pleasure Project, outline key tenets to ensuring SRHR programming remains sex-positive and pleasure-based. Through this endorsement, we are committed to:

- Improving the internal capacity of AmplifyChange staff, through team training, to understand pleasure-based and sex-positive approaches
- Increasing the integration and mainstreaming of these approaches in future funding rounds and grants
- Amplifying grantee partner stories of change that share experiences of using a pleasure-inclusive approach in their work

“The Pleasure Project is delighted to partner with AmplifyChange to expand and evaluate pleasure-based sexual health with grantee partners across Africa and Asia. Since our seminal and critical evidence review with the World Health Organisation, published this year, we know that pleasure-inclusive sexual health is not only important in recognising the entirety of people’s sexuality, but also has a significant and positive impact on people’s condom use, health and well-being. Pleasure can no longer be ignored in SRHR programming. AmplifyChange and their grantee partners are trailblazing in implementing this evidence to improve sexual health. The learning we will gain from this partnership will support the SRHR community to understand how to effectively implement what has been for a blind spot for too long. We are even more proud and pleased that Amplify Change has endorsed The Pleasure Principles on their journey to a pleasure-based approach to sexual health, encouraging grant applications from organisations who want to improve communities’ health by tackling the stigma around pleasure.”

- The Pleasure Project team
Point of View (POV) works on gender, sexuality, technology and disability. They work towards destigmatising SRHR for people with disabilities and provide sex-positive education around sexuality and disability. Through their AmplifyChange project, POV formalised their years of on-ground outreach and digital media campaigning on the topic into a comprehensive SRHR toolkit, Pyaar Plus.

A pleasure-based approach was central to the production of the curriculum as well as engaging the lived experiences of women and girls with disability as part of the development. POV developed the curriculum as a series of booklets to be used as an educational and advocacy tool to engage civil society on the topic of SRHR for people with disabilities. So far, the content has been accessed by over 2,000 people, and there are plans to increase the reach of the booklets through further digital dissemination.
AMPLIFYING GRANTEE PARTNER VOICES INTERNATIONALLY
In an AmplifyChange article, menstrual health activists and grantee partners discuss the role of language in reducing the stigma around menstrual health. By normalising menstrual health through inclusive, non-stigmatising language, organisations can change behaviours and attitudes towards menstruation in their contexts. You can read more about it here.

An important part of our work is to amplify the voices and experience of grantee partners at an international level, raising awareness of the range and impact of their important work. One way we did this in 2021 was to highlight such work in relation to international cause day campaigns, a selection of which can be found below.

You can read more about it here.

In an AmplifyChange article, menstrual health activists and grantee partners discuss the role of language in reducing the stigma around menstrual health. By normalising menstrual health through inclusive, non-stigmatising language, organisations can change behaviours and attitudes towards menstruation in their contexts. You can read more about it here.

On the AmplifyChange podcast, AmplifyChange board member Dr. Sara Seims spoke with Judy Gitau of Equality Now about advocacy and litigation as tools to further the rights of girls and young women. You can read more about it here.

Grantee partners talk about the importance of funding civil society advocacy and centring local context-specific approaches and solutions to end all forms of GBV. In supporting organisations working on the ground who are best placed to respond to the needs of their communities, we can help make lasting, sustainable change towards eliminating GBV. You can read more about it here.
AmplifyChange is committed to learning from our grantee partners and colleagues in the Global South and involving them as equal partners in our work to support stronger SRHR movements. As part of our mission to be responsive and flexible to the needs of the organisations we fund, AmplifyChange established a Grantee Reference Group (GRG) in 2021 to invite advice and guidance from our grantee partners who meet on an ongoing basis.
The GRG currently comprises five representatives across a broad spectrum of AmplifyChange grantee partners:

- **NZEVE DEAF CENTRE ZIMBABWE**, ZIMBABWE
- **PRAVAH**, INDIA
- **WOMEN’S HEALTH AND EQUAL RIGHTS ASSOCIATION RWANDA**, RWANDA
- **CAMEROON ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROTECTION AND EDUCATION OF THE CHILD**, CAMEROON
- **YOUNG AND ALIVE INITIATIVE**, TANZANIA

The Group is developing an improved feedback mechanism for grantee partners to AmplifyChange. This is expected to be completed in 2022, after which the Group will feed back on issues including the new grant management system and refreshing our Theory of Change.

> “WE JOINED THE GRANTEE REFERENCE GROUP BECAUSE IT IS RARE THAT FUNDING GROUPS ACTIVELY CREATE SPACES WHICH ALLOW FOR FREE INTERACTIONS AMONGST GRANTEES AND WHERE THE GRANTEES HAVE A FULL VOICE IN DECIDING THE AGENDA OF THE GROUP. WE HOPE TO LEARN FROM BEST PRACTICES OF OTHER PARTNERS AND UNDERSTAND THE WORKINGS OF AMPLIFYCHANGE”

– PRAVAH, India
Samburu Girls Foundation's mission is to eliminate harmful practices in the Samburu region of Kenya, including FGM/C, child marriage, beading, sexual violence and related GBV abuses. They work at the community level, engaging a wide range of human rights approaches to community social norm transformation.

Through their project, Samburu Girls has created a network of engaged stakeholders at various levels, working alongside a movement of youth ambassadors who have been integrated into a larger national network of youth advocates to increase awareness of GBV work in Kenya. They have partnered with the Samburu County Gender Sector Working Group and are contributing to a roadmap to end FGM/C based on community-identified problems, practices, and needs. By engaging communities directly, they have supported the development of holistic and sustainable community-based action plans to end harmful practices and SGBV.
GROWING PARTNERSHIPS WITHIN THE SRHR COMMUNITY
The AmplifyChange team continued to work closely with the wider SRHR and civil society community and looks forward to exploring further partnerships. We are committed to being an active member of the international SRHR movement, to help maximise the movement’s potential and impact for the benefit of civil society organisations everywhere.

Examples of the diverse partnerships and joint working we engaged in during 2021 include:

AmplifyChange shared LGBTI portfolio data with the Global Philanthropy Project and participated in the Shimmering Solidarity conference, building stronger connections on funding LGBTI organisations around the world.

AmplifyChange were thrilled to join the Women Deliver Advisory Group for the upcoming 2023 Conference, helping to shape the conference approaches and goals.

Building on our existing partnership, AmplifyChange participated in the abstract review process for the Sexual Violence Research Initiative (SVRI)’s upcoming 2022 conference.

Through the pleasure grant work funded by The Case for Her, AmplifyChange strengthened collaboration with The Pleasure Project and looks forward to sharing learning outcomes and increasing opportunities for organisations to implement pleasure-based sexual health interventions.

AmplifyChange is collaborating with multi-lateral partners such as the Global Partnership Forum on CSE, co-convened by UNESCO and UNFPA, on comprehensive sexuality education, and the WHO on disseminating the new abortion care guidelines.

“AmplifyChange joined the Global Partnership Forum on Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE), co-convened by UNESCO and UNFPA, in December 2021. Ever since their joining, they have been actively involved and contributed immensely to this global community of practice on CSE. In June 2022, we organised the first ever Global Symposium on CSE and AmplifyChange was an integral and valuable member of the Symposium Advisory Committee. They contributed their time to advising on the programme for the Symposium, reviewing abstracts, and ensuring that their grantee partners working on CSE, in diverse parts of the world, were able to showcase their good work. We look forward to more fruitful collaboration on advocacy, programming, and sharing and learning on CSE with AmplifyChange and its network.”

- Secretariat of the Global Partnership Forum on CSE
WEATHERING THE CHALLENGES OF COVID-19

2021 still presented challenges relating to COVID-19 and the ability of civil society organisations to effectively implement their work. In line with our mission to be flexible and responsive to grantee partner needs, AmplifyChange ensured continuous communication with organisations, offering those who were implementing projects the ability to pivot or adapt them to respond to COVID-19 in their contexts. For organisations who were in the process of setting up their AmplifyChange projects, we worked closely with them to integrate mitigation approaches so their projects could respond to current and potential threats from COVID-19.

You can read more about AmplifyChange’s COVID-19 response in our policy brief.
Whilst a year of evolution for AmplifyChange, we are proud to have continued delivering on our mission during 2021 alongside the work of transition. In the coming year, we will build on these experiences and learn from what works. We are developing an organisational strengthening plan to better support grantee partners in growing, strengthening and sustaining their organisations. We are engaging civil society in showcasing their work to broad audiences and look forward to supporting further platforms and international stages to do this. We will continue funding and supporting civil society advocacy for sexual and reproductive health and rights through open, competitive grant rounds. We will further build and maintain strong partnerships to enhance civil society voices in the international SRHR community.

AmplifyChange aims above all to be a strong partner to civil society organisations advocating for SRHR across the Global South. Building on the first seven years of our work as a fund, we will continue as an organisation to learn and evolve. We are excited about the ever-growing potential for change and look forward to sharing this journey with you.
THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING ORGANISATIONS FOR ALLOWING US TO SHARE THEIR IMAGES

Amahoro Human Respect 41
Cameroonian Foundation for AIDS CAMFAIDS 18
Forum for African Women Educationalists (FAWE-Benin) 24
Golden Centre for Women’s Rights 11
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