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Welcome

AmplifyChange hit the ground running in 2022 as countries re-opened after COVID-19, continuing our growth and support for civil society advocates for improved sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) in Africa, South Asia, and the Middle East. The pent-up need for support following these unprecedented years of challenge was evident. Across the board in 2022 there was a steep increase in requests for funding in response to our open calls for proposals targeting civil society organisations leading change in their communities. Whilst encouraged by the appetite of civil society to improve SRHR outcomes, just as clear was the increased challenge it brings:

- More than 2,000 civil society organisations registered with us to apply for grants
- We received over 700 applications for 56 available Strengthening Grants
- Interest in 2022’s Network Grant round was so high we could fund only 1 in 20 applications

This surge in demand came from several directions. During the pandemic, we saw funding diverted away from SRHR to support public health and COVID-19 interventions. Sadly, in many places aspects of the pandemic led to a rise in SRHR violations, such as intimate partner violence, FGM/C, child marriage, and unintended pregnancies. These violations have increased the work needed to regain progress made before the pandemic. Disappointingly too, the growing coordination and presence of the opposition in many countries has enhanced the threat to SRHR and the need for more resources to counter their push.

In this landscape we were very grateful to welcome new donors committed to facing these challenges, including Sida, the Vitol Foundation and other philanthropic organisations. We also strengthened our infrastructure with the appointment of our established Board of Directors and CEO, Grethe Petersen, whose combined commitment and expertise will be invaluable in working with civil society to improve SRHR for all.

A priority focus in 2022 was operationalising our commitment to centring the grantee partner experience in all aspects of our work. AmplifyChange exists to catalyse social change by supporting those on the frontline; civil society actors know best what is needed in their communities, how to achieve change, and where to gain the knowledge and skills they need to do that. Therefore, we take every opportunity to learn from applicants and grantee partners so we can improve our funding and organisational support practice.

In 2022:

- We asked our new Grantee Reference Group how to improve to our application process to save time and provide better pre-application support;
- We showcased the brilliant work of our grantee partners at events both online and in-person and developed partnerships to strengthen their capacity and share their successes; and
- We began working with our first Partnership Grants partners, enhancing the impact of scarce resources by delegating the decisions about what works best locally to partners, to strengthen and grow local SRHR movements.

There are many other ways in which civil society and our grantee partners are helping each other, and we continue to learn how best to support their work. We are excited to share these with you in our report and to showcase their excellent work improving sexual and reproductive health and rights across the world.
We would like to thank our current donors

We would also like to thank our donors who have supported us over the past eight years: Norad - Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation; 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.
**Fuelling movements for change**

AmplifyChange funds and supports civil society organisations (CSOs) who advocate for improved sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) in their communities. Our vision is to secure full attainment of sexual and reproductive health and rights for all. We believe this can only be achieved through building a stronger civil society, with diverse organisations who are resilient and work together to grow robust movements for change.

We predominantly work in Africa and South Asia and focus our efforts on three core delivery streams:

- **Grant making**
- **Organisational strengthening and support to civil society**
- **Generating and sharing knowledge and impact**

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**AmplifyChange offers four grant types to support all levels of civil society**

- **Opportunity Grants**
  - Micro grants to support SRHR advocacy at a local level, with funding up to £75,000 over two years

- **Strengthening Grants**
  - Small grants to support medium sized groups seeking to advocate for SRHR beyond their local communities, with funding up to £200,000 over three years

- **Network Grants**
  - Significant support to networks and coalitions to encourage movement building, with funding up to £1,375,000 over five years

- **Partnership Grants**
  - Significant support to established groups working to build and strengthen civil society movements and foster capacity of smaller CSOs, with funding up to £2,500,000 over five years
We increased our core support to civil society through grant making in 2022. Two new funding rounds – a Network Grant round and a Strengthening Grant round – attracted high demand.

Our **Network Grant** funding round received 382 applications for 17 available grants (4% of demand met).

Our **Strengthening Grant** funding round received 731 grant applications for 56 available grants (8% of demand met).

With the approval of 17 new Network Grants representing movements from across a diverse range of SRHR civil society organisations in Sub-Saharan Africa, the Middle East, and South Asia, the overall AmplifyChange grant portfolio grew to 83 grants. Over half of these grants will be implemented in our Not To Be Missed Countries, which are countries we have identified as facing particular challenges to progress in SRHR and at risk of being overlooked.

AmplifyChange grants are contributing to the most neglected and challenging SRHR issues globally today:

- Gender-based violence, including female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C), 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
Our grants, in numbers

1. Data for this report relates to grants approved after October 2020 up to 31 December 2022, unless otherwise stated.
Our grants, in numbers

Percentage of approved grants across themes

- Access: 26%
- Violence: 20%
- Abortion: 13%
- Stigma: 19%
- Youth: 22%

Percentage of approved grants across type

- 3 Partnership Grants and 3 Strategic Grants²
- 22 Network Grants
- 55 Strengthening Grants
- 0 Opportunity Grants²

2. Opportunity Grants were paused in 2022 but will resume in 2023.
3. Renewals of historical Strategic Grants only (the Strategic Grants programme has been replaced by Partnership Grants).
The projects contribute to our Theory of Change by working in our **five outcome areas:**

1. Increase individual awareness of SRHR as human rights
2. Increase access to SRHR resources, information, and services
3. Transform social norms
4. Catalyse changes in, and implementation of, policies and laws
5. Build stronger, more inclusive movements for SRHR

According to the 2019-2020 Global Resources Report issued by Global Philanthropy Project, AmplifyChange is the **8th largest LGBTI funder in** the Asia and Pacific region and the **3rd largest LGBTI funder in** the Sub-Saharan Africa region.
Holding fast in Francophone West Africa and the Sahel

AmplifyChange is committed to supporting advocacy in the most challenging of contexts. Francophone West Africa and the Sahel region have some of the highest levels of need within SRHR in the world. Six French-speaking West African countries feature in our Not to Be Missed Country list of 25. Whilst increasing investment has the potential to transform people’s SRHR here, destabilising events over the past few years have critically worsened the state of SRHR in the region. The region has been adversely affected by climate change, health crises and conflict.

Like many other countries, many French-speaking West African countries diverted their healthcare resources to address COVID-19. As a result, progress on SRHR stagnated during the pandemic. In countries where the healthcare budgets for SRHR were already low, such as Mali, support for services was further stripped. Fear and concern about contracting the virus, combined with low availability of protective equipment, meant that healthcare workers were more hesitant to provide care, including sexual and reproductive healthcare.

In addition to the COVID-19 pandemic, countries in Francophone West Africa, particularly Sahelian countries, are experiencing the effect of climate change through increased drought and subsequent famine. Desertification has reduced fertile soil for agriculture, a cornerstone of income for the majority of people in these countries. As people’s livelihoods are affected due to soaring temperatures and reduced access to land, many families turn to child marriage as a means of supporting their families, which is often accompanied by an increase in FGM/C. For people fleeing their homes as a result of climate change, access to SRHR services decreases while risk of violence increases.

The ‘Sahel crisis’ of persistent violence and conflict over recent years has redirected local priorities away from gender equality and SRHR policies amidst worsened human rights in the region, particularly for women and girls. Over 9,000 schools have closed, leaving 1.7 million children out of school in Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger due to terrorist activity. The closure of schools, often a place of protection for young people, brings increased risk of SRHR violations. The humanitarian crises resulting from terrorism and fighting between state military and extremist groups have led to increased sexual violence, unintended pregnancy, unsafe abortion, and maternal deaths.

Despite these challenges, civil society organisations continue to work tirelessly to safeguard access to sexual and reproductive health and rights. Throughout 2022, Conseil et Appui pour l’Education à la Base (CAEB), based in Mali and working across Francophone West Africa, supported country-level networks advocating for improved SRHR policy and law. These networks advocated for the implementation of existing laws and policies and increased awareness of legal frameworks amongst stakeholders and the general population.

4. The countries included in the Sahel region in West Africa are Senegal, Mauritania, Mali, Burkina Faso, and Niger.
In 2022, CAEB’s partners made great strides in the region:

**Mali**

In December 2022, Coalition des organisations de la société civile pour le repositionnement de la planification familiale (COSC-PF) organised a digital advocacy campaign to disseminate key facts about the sexual and reproductive health law, highlighting provisions supporting marginalised groups, adolescents, and women, as well as the gaps that still exist in the legal framework. The campaign reached more than 100,000 people, including 18,679 young people via social media. Several thousand viewers watched a televised debate in Bambara between Namory Traoré, head of advocacy at Marie Stopes Mali, and Professor Youssouf Traoré, president of the Société malienne de gynécologie obstétrique (SOMAGO), who discussed the details of the law and next steps to ensure even stronger SRHR policies. The debate was also aired on the radio in Mali and around the world.

**Niger**

The Coalition societé civile engagée pour la PF au Niger (CAR-PF) engaged members of the Association des femmes juristes du Niger (AFJN) and the Association des sages-femmes du Niger (ASFN), to bolster advocacy on the reproductive health law and its application decree. The coalition trained 25 members on key SRHR concepts, such as sexual versus reproductive rights and gender social norms related to SRHR. Twenty then went on to analyse the legal documents to support an advocacy session at the National Commission for Human Rights in December 2022. They identified key advocacy issues and gaps in the current law, such as discriminatory provisions against unmarried couples and individuals in accessing SRHR services, which will inform their future advocacy efforts.

**Mauritania**

A campaign to implement l’éducation à la vie familiale (EVF) (in English: ‘family life education’) in the national school curriculum at all education levels is underway, led by the Coalition ENEM (Ensemble espaçons nos naissances en Mauritanie). The key subjects in the curriculum are reproductive health, HIV/AIDS, STIs, and FGM/C. Currently, EVF classes are only available at secondary level, but the coalition is building advocacy messages and campaigns to improve its availability. They are working closely with a technical working group of the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Social Affairs, Ministry of Youth, civil society, religious leaders, and parents’ associations.

With their Partnership Grant, CAEB is preparing for its first funding round in 2023 through their newly established grant making mechanism, Dambe Funds. Dambe Funds will provide local civil society groups across West Africa with funding to better strengthen grassroots advocacy for improved SRHR.
Here are further examples of advocacy successes from our grantee partners in Francophone West Africa

**Association Songui Manéré/ Aide au Développement Endogène (ASMADE):**
In 2019, the Burkina Faso government committed to providing free family planning services.

**Action contre les Grossesses Non Désirées et à Risque (l’AGnDR):**
In 2019, Côte d’Ivoire adapted their Penal Code to allow for access to abortion in the case of incest.

**Réseau des jeunes pour la promotion de l’abandon des MGF/E:**
Through their project, which ended in 2022, the Réseau built partnerships with over 100 local authority, community and parliamentary leaders to change social norms around FGM/C in communities across Senegal.

**Réseau Africain pour l’Education et la Santé (RAES):**
In Guinea, advocacy is ongoing to the Minister of Youth to include a budget line to rehabilitate 20 of the country’s 38 Youth Listening and Counseling Centres and to the Minister of Health to provide and equip qualified staff in these Centres.

**Lafia Matassa:**
The municipalities of Damana, Tera and Sherkin-Hausa in Niger included in their budget a budget line for SRHR in 2019.

**Appui au Développement et à la Santé Communautaire (ADESCO):**
From 2019-2021, in Togo, a network of SRHR organisations called the Pro-SRHR For All in Togo Movement was developed to support the implementation of SRHR including for LGBTI populations and other marginalised groups.

**SOS/Jeunesse et Défis (SOS/JD):**
From 2019-2021, a regional collaboration project strengthened the capacity of six national taskforces to improve abortion rights and access, and helped change social norms and beliefs around abortion.

**Réseau des jeunes pour la promotion de l’abandon des MGF/E:**
Through their project, which ended in 2022, the Réseau built partnerships with over 100 local authority, community and parliamentary leaders to change social norms around FGM/C in communities across Senegal.

As a bilingual fund operating in English and French we have proudly funded 71 grants worth over £9.8 million to organisations working across all our themes and supporting stronger movements in the Francophone West African region since 2014.

Grants per country since 2014
‘Working smarter’ for grantee partners

AmplifyChange centre our grantee partners to ensure we support their work as effectively, efficiently, and authentically as possible. To this end, we undertook several areas of work in 2022 to improve access to our support by streamlining administrative processes and developing responsive support resources. These new approaches were in place for our Strengthening Grant funding round in November 2022.

More efficient systems

Databases may not be known for inspiring passion, but we were genuinely excited to introduce our new AmplifyChange Grants Portal, hosted on a grants management system called Fluxx. This new Grants Portal is a game-changer for grantee partners and AmplifyChange alike. Its functionality and features have substantially improved the grant application and management experience.

Fluxx acts as both an application platform as well as a one-stop shop to support grantee partners to manage their projects from application through to close out. Applicants and grantee partners can create an organisational profile to apply to all funding rounds, saving time and allowing them to view their historic applications to inform new applications and draw lessons from unsuccessful ones. Multiple team members can create profiles within the system, allowing for better collaboration across organisations during the application process and in grant management. Grantee partners directly upload reports, means of verification and registration documents. This makes it easier to store and access this information at will, safeguarding version control and preventing potential confusion from the circulation of different versions to numerous people through multiple communication channels.
Because we designed the Grants Portal to accommodate the way we work and the needs of our applicants and grantee partners, we have been able to:

- streamline application and grants management processes for quicker and easier use
- work seamlessly in multiple languages (currently English and French)
- reduce the time between application and grant disbursement, getting funds to grantee partners more quickly
- offer immediate real-time updates on application status by centrally handling communications
- adapt each funding round to meet registration demand and customise requirements for the application review process

These improvements and features will save valuable staff time for grantee partners and for AmplifyChange, allowing us all to get on with the work that matters. The Portal will also enhance coordination of grant programmes and assist with analysis that will help us direct our support more effectively.

In a survey of Grants Portal users in our Strengthening Grant round, 95% of respondents found the overall application process clear to understand.

We are continuing to learn from applicants and grantee partners where we can adapt to become more efficient and automate more of our business processes in the AmplifyChange Grants Portal.
Clearing the path to application

Grantee partners have told us that at application stage it would be helpful to have more information in advance of the opening of grants rounds, both about the funding round itself and what will be on the application form. We trialled some approaches to this in our 2022 Strengthening Grant round.

Firstly, we released the application questions and project planning documents four weeks before opening the system for applications. This allowed organisations to better prepare for the online application form and also to work collaboratively on the application with their teams offline.

Secondly, we posted the guidance for our Strengthening Grant round – including eligibility criteria and what we are looking for – four weeks before the funding round opened. 94% of applicants found this guidance clear and accessible overall.

Finally, we found that applicants would also like resources and guidance for funding rounds in the future.

This approach was very positively received, with 99% of those who accessed the documents before applying reporting that they were useful. As a result, we will continue to provide preparatory application documents offline in future funding rounds.

To support applicants using the AmplifyChange Grants Portal for the first time, we also developed guidance answering applicants’ most frequently asked questions and guides which walk applicants through the key steps of the application process.

For the next funding rounds we plan to create a series of videos to provide multimedia support for both applicants and grantee partners. We will also return to hosting webinars, as an additional way to support applicants.

A continuous feedback loop

We will continue to learn from applicants and grantee partners and improve our systems and resources to be as useful as possible and meet their evolving needs. This will involve regular surveys and the solicitation of feedback to directly inform planning for future funding rounds.
Moving funding to the frontline

AmplifyChange launched its newest grant type, the Partnership Grant, in 2021. The aim of the Partnership Grant is to support established organisations in Africa and South Asia to make grants locally and sub-regionally with AmplifyChange funds, in order to more closely meet the needs of their communities. In addition, they provide capacity sharing opportunities with their partners and networks.

In 2022 two of our Partnership Grant partners held funding rounds designed reach organisations that strengthen their movements:

UHAI EASHRI granted one Strategic Grant in Kenya; five Opportunity Grants in Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Tanzania and Uganda; and two Capacity Support Grants in DRC and Rwanda. These grants are supporting LGBTI and sex worker organisations across East Africa.

Gender Links ran two funding rounds for their Voice and Choice Southern Africa Fund, targeting women’s rights organisations working on SRHR in Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries. One funding round focused on movement building and selected nine organisations across DRC, Malawi, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Madagascar, South Africa and Eswatini. The second round offered smaller grants targeting community-led organisations. Eighteen grants were allocated to organisations in South Africa, Lesotho and Zimbabwe.

Monitoring sexual and reproductive rights in Southern Africa

Gender Links published their 2022 Voice and Choice SADC Gender Protocol Barometer, tracking the progress of sexual and reproductive health in Southern Africa. This tool provides civil society activists in the SADC region with data to hold their governments to account on their commitments to the SADC SRHR Strategy. The Barometer measures progress against indicators in seven thematic areas: sexual and reproductive health; adolescent SRHR; safe abortion; GBV; HIV and AIDS; harmful practices; and sexual diversity.
By the end of the year, 215 female and transgender sex workers had accessed support through these centres.

Further activities aimed at reducing community stigma towards sex work included sensitisation sessions with police, public cultural celebrations, and health camps where individuals could obtain SRH treatment, counselling, and prevention support.

As part of Aastha Parivaar’s focus on community building, they also provided development support to their nine partner organisations. Following a participatory process of reviewing current organisational practices, they worked with a consultant to help them build their management plans and skills. Aastha Parivaar also supported partners to submit funding proposals and hope they will now be able to apply for further funding with their improved internal systems.

The removal of legal sanctions against sex workers by the Supreme Court of India in May 2022 was a major milestone following decades of determined advocacy by the SRHR community. Social norms and attitudes, however, take longer to change. Despite the change in law, discrimination against sex workers persists. As a result, sex workers face increased barriers to accessing services and legal aid.

Aastha Parivaar is an organisation in India working on HIV response and supporting the sex worker community to improve their knowledge and rights about sexual and reproductive health. Their AmplifyChange funded project organises sex worker groups for collective action and facilitates discussion about community needs. Using community-led interventions and strategies, the sex worker groups work together to address issues related to stigma and discrimination.

In this project, Aastha Parivaar worked with state and local stakeholders to set up legal centres in three locations to support sex workers with assistance in cases of discrimination, violence, harassment, and rights violations.
Learning from the experts

Wherever possible we facilitate peer learning between grantee partners, as they are the experts in the work that they do in civil society in their communities.

In 2022 we commissioned grantee partners to author 13 new How-To guides on fundraising and financial management based on their experience of strengthening these aspects of their organisations. The guides include advice on topics such as creating a fundraising plan and improving financial reporting and monitoring. They were published on our online learning platform, AmplifyChange Learn, a global repository for sharing experience and expertise across all grantee partners.

We also added sections on these topics to our Building Blocks Manual, a resource designed to support small-to-medium sized civil society groups seeking to grow their organisational capacity. The guide additionally provides information on our due diligence and financial assessment processes and what successful applicants can expect.

We will continue to update and refresh the manual in line with the needs of grantee partners and applicants to AmplifyChange.

To learn more about how we can best support grantee partners to grow their organisations, we updated our final narrative grant report template to ask about grantee partners’ organisational growth and how AmplifyChange has contributed to this through our funding. This data will be invaluable in identifying how we can improve organisational strengthening support to grantee partners.

In 2022, over 4,100 users accessed AmplifyChange Learn, in nearly 6,000 sessions.
Enhancing organisational effectiveness

Another way we prioritised the needs of our grantee partners was in developing standards of good practice in organisational management and oversight.

As part of the grant making process at AmplifyChange, we conduct a due diligence and financial management assessment on every successful applicant organisation. The assessment looks at five key areas: governance and internal controls; ability to deliver; financial stability; downstream delivery; and safeguarding. Each grant type’s due diligence assessment is customised to the expectations of the different sizes of organisation we fund. Our goal in conducting these assessments is to ensure best practice across our grantee partners as well as to meet our obligations as funders.

Once successful with an application, if an organisation does not meet a due diligence requirement for funding our first step is to support them to strengthen the areas that need work. AmplifyChange’s fiduciary risk and grants management teams work closely with the organisation to put processes in place to meet these requirements at different points during the grant lifecycle.

This collaboration has helped grantee partners in a range of ways:

- in registering their organisations
- in hiring and training staff members for specific roles
- in developing and strengthening their policies and systems, including financial management procedures, monitoring and evaluation mechanisms
- in developing their safeguarding and anti-fraud and corruption practices

The development of best practice not only enhances the success of AmplifyChange-funded projects but strengthens civil society as a whole, increasing effectiveness and sustainability.
An analysis of due diligence assessments for our most recent Strengthening, Network, and Partnership Grant grantee partners showed that in the 81 active awards we made, we issued 562 grant conditions classified as major or moderate. These conditions must be met in order to receive AmplifyChange funding. Our grantee partners made swift progress to complete those conditions, meeting 391 by December 2022, and are on track to complete the rest as they come due.

391 conditions were completed addressing the following organisational areas...

- **Ability to deliver**: 21 major, 0 moderate
- **Downstream delivery**: 4 major, 30 moderate
- **Financial stability**: 6 major, 95 moderate
- **Governance and internal controls**: 13 major, 57 moderate
- **Safeguarding**: 2 major, 163 moderate
By integrating pleasure into their work, teachers reported feeling more equipped to directly address concerns regarding SRHR amongst their students. Faith leaders recognised the importance of CSE in schools, particularly as a protective mechanism against sexual harassment and exploitation for students. Students were more engaged in the topic and felt more able to speak openly about the challenges they face in managing their wellbeing and health, especially within sexual or romantic relationships. The topics of bodily autonomy and consent provided young people with the confidence to address gender-based violence at school and amongst their peers.

Based on end-of-project student interviews, a majority of young people in the project felt better equipped to make informed decisions about their sexual health as a result of the improved curriculum.

Haguruka is a civil society organisation based in Rwanda working to improve the rights of women, young people and children, including through better sexual and reproductive health and rights. As part of their AmplifyChange grant, they worked with faith-based schools to improve the availability and accessibility of age-appropriate, high quality comprehensive sexuality education (CSE).

A key barrier to CSE in schools is negative social norms around adolescent sexual health, despite high rates of youth gender-based violence and unintended pregnancies. Haguruka successfully navigated these challenges by working closely with faith leaders, schoolteachers, and parents to simplify the existing CSE curriculum and to integrate a new module using a pleasure-based approach to reduce negative discourse around sexual health. Pleasure-based lessons centred on healthy communication, consent, and decision-making, including about safer sex.

Six teachers were trained as pleasure champions, and by the end of the project they helped engage 120 other teachers on the topic.
Amplifying the voices of civil society

A core part of AmplifyChange’s mission is to amplify the voices of the organisations we fund. In 2022 AmplifyChange grantee partners shared their important work with the international community at a number of events.

During the Global Partnership Forum on CSE’s Global Symposium in June 2022, eight current and former AmplifyChange grantee partners working on comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) presented on panels alongside a range of stakeholders, including UN agencies. The organisations spoke about topics such as working with faith leaders for improved life skills education, navigating challenging social norms, and engaging youth voices to advocate for improved access to CSE.

AmplifyChange highlighted the work of grantee partners in a number of cause day campaigns and impact pieces

- **International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia (IDAHOBIT)**
  - Read our impact piece sharing the successes of LGBTI groups across the world.

- **Advocacy Works. Period.**
  - For Menstrual Health (MH) Day, read our retrospective of key advocacy success improving menstrual health for all.

- **16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence (GBV)**
  - Read a blog article by grantee partners the Socio-Legal Information Centre and the Human Rights Law Centre, who used maternal health audits to analyse gaps in access for poor pregnant people in India.

- **Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE)**
  - Read our impact piece showcasing our dedicated funding to comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) since 2014.
Taking pleasure to heart – and to the world

One of the first organisations to endorse the Pleasure Principles, in 2022 AmplifyChange brought the pleasure approach into the mainstream of our work, explicitly integrating pleasure into our funding calls. The Strengthening Grant funding round in November 2022 was the first to include pleasure as an implementation approach within its funding round guidance for applicants. We were delighted to receive 27 applications with pleasure-positive approaches in this funding round.

Through our collaboration with The Pleasure Project and The Case for Her, eight organisations who received funding in 2021 to integrate pleasure-based sexual health into their AmplifyChange projects concluded their work. The broad spectrum of interventions – including with sex workers, LGBTI individuals, midwives, out-of-school youth, and faith leaders – were positively received in their communities. To share the learning about how this approach can enhance the impact of SRHR initiatives, their experience of these projects will be captured in an article and best practice document due to be published in 2023.

AmplifyChange and grantee partner Young and Alive Initiative presented on a panel at the International Conference on Family Planning (ICFP) in Thailand in November 2022. The panel explored the impact of integrating pleasure across the spectrum of SRHR interventions and also included presentations from WHO, IPPF Africa Region, and The Pleasure Project. We highlighted AmplifyChange’s work with civil society organisations implementing pleasure as part of SRHR advocacy. Young and Alive Initiative spoke about their experience using a pleasure-based approach with youth SRHR advocates, and their programme manager, Innocent Grant, was awarded the Phil Harvey SRHR Innovation Award. They will be using the award’s prize money towards integration of pleasure-based sexual health into the development of an app for young people in Tanzania.

Pleasure based sexual health received wider visibility in an article in British newspaper *The Guardian* featuring AmplifyChange, Young and Alive Initiative, and The Pleasure Project.
Addressing FGM/C from the heart of the community

Djibouti Women’s Rights Initiative

While community organising is a crucial tool for social norm change, DWRI also implemented activities to directly support improved access and accountability. They set up a whistleblowing system to ensure that cases of FGM/C and other forms of gender-based violence (GBV) are identified and reported. A referral system in partnership with local health clinics further improved access to services for community members. These networks connect those who need medical or legal services and support to the right resources.

In the latter half of 2022 alone, DWRI supported 109 referrals.

Djibouti Women’s Rights Initiative (DWRI) is a women-led non-governmental organisation based in Djibouti, founded in 2013 for and by women and girls who have undergone FGM/C. They aim to empower women and girls through awareness raising, human rights promotion and gender empowerment. Although the practice is illegal in Djibouti, over 90% of women and girls have undergone FGM/C.

Through their project, DWRI implements community-led approaches to reducing the practice. In 2022, they trained 30 women to become community leaders to share SRHR information and advocate for improved access to services. The leaders oversee SRHR discussion groups which enable accurate information about SRHR to be disseminated across the community. By training women who are respected and known in their communities, DWRI ensures sustainable advocacy and knowledge sharing through the project and beyond. This in turn drives locally-led strategies and solutions to addressing GBV and FGM/C.

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Working together, working better

Feedback from AmplifyChange grantee partners is crucial to improving our systems and serving them as best as we can. A primary channel for that feedback is our Grantee Reference Group (GRG). Established in 2021, eight grantees partners in Africa and South Asia working across the spectrum of SRHR advocacy come together with the AmplifyChange team to share their experiences and reflections on our processes and work. The group’s dedication to sharing honest opinions on how AmplifyChange can be a better donor and partner to civil society groups keeps us learning and being more accountable.

In 2022, the GRG provided feedback on several topics: our new reporting templates and application questions; how to better collect grantee partner feedback; and how we can best measure organisational strengthening outcomes within AmplifyChange projects. We integrated these suggestions into our planning and implementation to improve processes for applicants and grantee partners; for example, we updated questions on our application form to be clearer and more relevant to applicants.

We also collected feedback in other ways. For example, an analysis of historical grantee partner reports looked at responses to a specific question on how AmplifyChange can support learning and information sharing among grantees. Analysis of over 1,000 responses revealed grantee partners’ support preferences and helpful ideas:

- The majority were interested in learning opportunities about specific SRHR thematic areas and advocacy strategies, as well as connecting with other groups within their country.
- Respondents highlighted digital information sharing platforms, in particular webinars, as their preferred means of learning.
- Networking with other organisations was the top request from grantee partners, whether through direct linking or via an online platform. One-third of respondents were keen to meet other grantee partners in person to build their networks.

As a result of these findings, AmplifyChange is following up new ways to improve grantee partner learning and knowledge sharing. This includes an improved platform to showcase the spectrum of organisations we support, more webinars and digital convenings, and taking advantage of in-person events to bring partners together. We continue to collect feedback on learning and knowledge sharing in our grantee partner report forms.
In their project, ARC is leading a series of trainings to equip health care workers with essential knowledge of the ToP process, highlight and strengthen referral pathways, and improve the quality of post-rape abortion care. ARC is also combating stigma around abortion care among healthcare workers. Working closely with the Ministry of Health and Child Care, they trained 128 medical, legal, and social care providers in five provinces to improve access to abortion services after rape. As a result of the training, 79% of medical personnel reported increased confidence in performing abortion services, as well as a positive change in attitude towards referring or providing abortion care.

Adult Rape Clinic (ARC) is an organisation in Zimbabwe working primarily to deliver medicolegal and counselling services to child, adolescent and adult survivors of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). Through their project, ARC has supported nearly 1,800 children and 725 adult survivors of SGBV to access treatment, care, and resources. They also conduct awareness raising, education, advocacy, training, and research that works towards changing mindsets and attitudes on SGBV.

The Termination of Pregnancy (ToP) Act in Zimbabwe guarantees free and legal access to abortion services in the cases of rape, incest, when the health or life of the pregnant person is at risk, or in the case of foetal anomalies. However, knowledge of this constitutional right and availability of the service at health care facilities remain very low; stigma, discrimination, and a poor understanding of the legal framework means many healthcare providers do not offer the service. This results in many girls and women either reporting long after delivery, or when pregnancy is advanced beyond the termination period. Ultimately, this barrier results in unsafe abortions.

As a result of the training, 79% of medical personnel reported increased confidence in performing abortion services, as well as a positive change in attitude towards referring or providing abortion care.
Insights from across the globe

AmplifyChange continues to work closely with its network of nine Strategic Advisors across the world. Our Strategic Advisors are activists, researchers, healthcare professionals, and experts from the SRHR sector based across Africa, South Asia, and Europe. Their role is to provide grant management support through application review, oversight of a grant portfolio, and monitoring project impact. Most are located in the countries we fund, allowing them to convene and to support grantee partners directly. While supporting our management of the overall grant portfolio, Strategic Advisors also provide crucial insight into the contexts of the countries where they are based.

In November 2022, AmplifyChange hosted a grants management team gathering in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, bringing together the team based in the UK and our international Strategic Advisors. The retreat allowed for the team to meet each other, some for the first time, and discuss how to better support our grantee partners.

Our Strategic Advisor Neha Mankani, based in Pakistan, wrote a blog about the impact of the floods on SRHR and her work as a midwife. As a result of her brave work, she was awarded the 2023 International Women of Courage Award by the US Mission in Pakistan.
Welcoming new leadership

In May 2022, AmplifyChange’s Founding Members appointed a Board to succeed our Interim Board, with directors from four continents. We hugely benefit from their broad expertise, including their experiences from activism in the communities closest to our grantee partners.

Our Board are passionate about the work of SRHR advocacy and bring extensive experience of working in the field of SRHR and international development. The directors guide our strategy, approve funding applications, and provide oversight of the CEO. They also oversee financial and risk management, ensure compliance and accountability, and approve policies and procedures to govern organisational activity. You can learn more about our board here.

We also appointed our new CEO, Grethe Petersen. Grethe has been a supportive partner to AmplifyChange for several years and will skilfully guide us in delivering on our strategy. She is a proven strategic leader and communicator within the sector and brings a deep commitment to supporting grassroots organisations. She has experience of grant making and advocacy as well as fundraising for gender equality and SRHR. Grethe was most recently the CEO of Orchid Project, a non-profit organisation focusing on ending female genital mutilation/cutting. Before that she was Director at the Children’s Investment Fund Foundation and has also held leadership roles within MSI Reproductive Choices.

We look forward to working together to address the challenges ahead.
to date, they have reached over 200 students.

Through stakeholders’ engagement, three Municipal Assemblies agreed to provide menstrual health products to students to ensure they could access products during the school day and engage more fully in schoolwork. Additionally, over 600 out-of-school adolescents received training on SRHR.

GNAD used their experience in evidence-based advocacy to push even further for improved rights for women and girls with disabilities in Ghana. In 2019, they conducted research on menstrual health among deaf and hearing-impaired adolescents and used this research to engage the Special Education Division of Ghana Education Services, which has since developed a document on Adolescent Reproductive Health and Development (ARHD) for schools for young people with disabilities. GNAD is also contributing to the development of a new Ghana Health Services Disability Inclusion Health Promotion Policy promoting access to healthcare for people with disabilities.

Ghana National Association for the Deaf (GNAD) is a civil society organisation working to improve the rights of deaf and hearing-impaired people to ensure they can freely access opportunities in their lives. In the field of SRHR, they provide technical support to key stakeholders; develop accessible information and materials on SRHR for the deaf community; strengthen the capacity of medical personnel working with deaf and hearing-impaired people; and build evidence through research to influence national policies on inclusive SRHR.

Deaf women and girls face numerous barriers to accessing comprehensive SRHR services. Menstrual health is one area in which they are often left behind. Stigma, a lack of inclusive resources about menstruation, and the high cost of menstrual products, prevent deaf and hearing-impaired young women and girls from managing their menstrual cycles with dignity.

In their project, GNAD trained 45 peer educators at three deaf schools to share information about SRHR, including menstrual health, with their peers;
Looking forward

2022 was a year of growth and change for AmplifyChange. While we pushed forward with our core work – launching funding rounds, supporting organisational growth, showcasing the work of our grantee partners, and building connections with partners – we also focused on improving our ways of working.

We want to continue to learn throughout 2023. We will seek feedback from grantee partners and commission independent studies to highlight the impact of our joint work to attain SRHR for all. We will improve networking and building connections between grantee partners through new platforms and more linking and learning opportunities. We will continue to improve our application and grant making processes for greater efficiency and better support for our grantee partners.

Most importantly, we will continue to place our grantee partners at the centre of our international engagement and partnerships.

Using our network and partnerships to amplify grantee partner voices continues to be our goal, and we look forward to expanding these opportunities in 2023. As AmplifyChange grows and evolves, so does our alliance with civil society organisations working for positive change across Africa, South Asia, and the Middle East.
Together
For Change

AmplifyChange Financial Report 2022
Total Expenditure in 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Delivery Stream</th>
<th>GBP £</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Grants for Civil Society</td>
<td>5,150,790</td>
<td>89.51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Organisational Strengthening of Civil Society</td>
<td>75,160</td>
<td>1.31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Knowledge for Advocacy</td>
<td>460,762</td>
<td>8.01%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Governance, Management, Administration</td>
<td>67,860</td>
<td>1.18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>→ Total</td>
<td>5,754,572</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AmplifyChange's total expenditure in 2022 was GBP £5,754,572.

89.5% of our expenditure contributed to grants for civil society organisations (GBP £5,150,790) which supported advocacy initiatives across Africa, South Asia, and the Middle East.

1. Data for this and the following chart relates to the period 1 January to 31 December 2022.
The largest proportion of grant funding (48%) was allocated to smallest of our current three grant types, Strengthening Grants.

GBP £387,545 (4%) has been disbursed to grassroots organisations through on-granting by our Partnership Grant recipients, with more grantmaking to come in 2023.

We additionally supported larger organisations and their movements through Network Grants.

AmplifyChange is relaunching Opportunity Grants in 2023.

A significant amount of our grantmaking in 2022 went to small-to-medium sized organisations:

- The largest proportion of grant funding (48%) was allocated to smallest of our current three grant types, Strengthening Grants.
- GBP £387,545 (4%) has been disbursed to grassroots organisations through on-granting by our Partnership Grant recipients, with more grantmaking to come in 2023.
- We additionally supported larger organisations and their movements through Network Grants.
- AmplifyChange is relaunching Opportunity Grants in 2023.

Total funding by grant type in 2022:

- Network Grants: 19% (£808,489)
- Partnership Grants: 33% (£1,425,795)
- Strengthening Grants: 48% (£2,047,374)

Total £4,281,658
Up to the end of 2022, the largest percentage of funding was disbursed to Kenya and South Africa, where two of the three organisations we are supporting through our largest grant type, the Partnership Grant, are based. The next largest country disbursements were India, Cameroon, and Tanzania.

2. Data for this and the following chart relates to grants approved after October 2020 up to 31 December 2022, unless otherwise stated.

3. In the case of regional or multi-country projects, disbursements from AmplifyChange are only made to the lead organisation managing the grant. The countries listed are where these lead organisations are based.
Total and percentage of funding disbursed by country

(to end of 2022)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Total GBP £</th>
<th>% of total funding disbursed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Benin</td>
<td>128,285</td>
<td>1.23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burkina Faso</td>
<td>191,150</td>
<td>1.83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cameroon</td>
<td>665,557</td>
<td>6.38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Democratic Republic of the Congo</td>
<td>262,105</td>
<td>2.51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Djibouti</td>
<td>86,752</td>
<td>0.83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>124,627</td>
<td>1.19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>199,470</td>
<td>1.91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guinea</td>
<td>67,070</td>
<td>0.64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>862,564</td>
<td>8.26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>2,026,136</td>
<td>19.41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lesotho</td>
<td>111,216</td>
<td>1.07%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberia</td>
<td>181,806</td>
<td>1.74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malawi</td>
<td>175,731</td>
<td>1.68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mali</td>
<td>796,486</td>
<td>7.63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Namibia</td>
<td>148,736</td>
<td>1.42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>272,291</td>
<td>2.61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>333,248</td>
<td>3.19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palestine</td>
<td>155,535</td>
<td>1.49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rwanda</td>
<td>577,437</td>
<td>5.53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>375,473</td>
<td>3.60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sierra Leone</td>
<td>88,425</td>
<td>0.85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>1,156,568</td>
<td>11.08%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>592,700</td>
<td>5.68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Togo</td>
<td>143,985</td>
<td>1.38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>247,256</td>
<td>2.37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zimbabwe</td>
<td>468,518</td>
<td>4.49%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total**                                           | **£10,439,127** |                             |
Thank you to the following organisations for allowing us to share their images:

Aastha Parivaar 16
Adult Rape Clinic 25
Coalition des organisations de la société civile pour le repositionnement de la planification familiale (COSCPF) 9, 10
Coalition ENEM (Ensemble espaçons nos naissances en Mauritanie) 10
Coalition société civile engagée pour la PF au Niger (CARPF) 10
Deaf Women Included 18
Development Expertise Center 27
Djibouti Women’s Rights Initiative 19, 23
Ghana National Association for the Deaf 28
Groupe de volontaires pour la maternité sans risques-DRC 22
Haguruka 3, 12, 13, 14, 20
Pravah Front Cover
Reach Out Cameroon 5
Réseau des organisations de la société civile-SR/PF (ROSCI-SR/PF) 12, 18, 19
Sesotho Media and Development 17, 18
Troupe de Personnes Handicapés Twuzuzanye 1
UHAI-EASHRI 15
Women’s Health and Equal Rights Association Rwanda 8
Young and Alive Initiative 24, 29, 30
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