



WOMEN *for* WOMEN
International



FORWARD



OUR VISION

Women for Women International envisions a world in which the most marginalized women affected by conflict lead lives of dignity and reach their full potential in their families and communities.

OUR MISSION

In countries affected by conflict and war, Women for Women International supports the most marginalized women to earn and save money, improve health and well-being, influence decisions in their homes and communities, and connect to networks for support. By utilizing skills, knowledge, and resources, they are able to create sustainable change for themselves, their families, and communities.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD

ON BEHALF OF OUR BOARD AND GLOBAL STAFF, I WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND INVITE YOU TO EXPLORE THE PROGRAMS AND IMPACT OF OUR WORK IN 2014 IN THIS ANNUAL REPORT.

The generosity of donors this year supported more than 55,000 women in eight countries.

In 2014, we welcomed Jennifer L. Windsor to serve as CEO. With experience leading organizations working in conflict regions, Jennifer's vision for growth is grounded in the belief that every woman deserves a chance to live with dignity.

Indeed, we meet women where they are when they enroll. From business training to health and wellness classes, our country-based trainers adapt to local needs throughout our yearlong training program. Our model and approach is transforming lives, offering women the chance to gain skills, knowledge, and access to networks of support. The results documented throughout this report underscore what is possible when we invest in a woman.

Throughout the year, we brought attention to the critical issues facing women in conflict zones, and at

events, we created space for provocative discussions including: our Annual May Luncheon featuring Ambassador Samantha Power and *Glamour* Editor-in-Chief Cindi Leive; screenings of Lekha Singh's film *Beyond Right and Wrong*; and our Annual Gala recognizing our Country Director Seida Saric's two decades of service helping 62,000 women in Bosnia and Herzegovina rebuild their lives.

With the support of partners like Bloomberg Philanthropies, we are using innovative strategies to help women improve their skills, adapting new technologies to accelerate learning and tapping into supply chains to create economic opportunity.

Together, we are moving forward.

Sincerely,

Jan Rock Zubrow
CHAIR, GLOBAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS



A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

I AM EXCITED TO JOIN WOMEN FOR WOMEN INTERNATIONAL AT THIS PIVOTAL TIME.

In 2014, we marked the 20th anniversary of the genocide in Rwanda and celebrated the inspiring recovery and renewal that is possible after conflict when we invest in women. But we also witnessed the conflict in Syria turn increasingly brutal in its third year, displacing millions and leaving many women struggling as the sole providers for their families.

Today, four in ten people who struggle with extreme poverty live in conflict-impacted regions, compounding the barriers they face to economic empowerment. For women, war deepens the political and social isolation, extreme poverty, and gender-based violence many already face.

In these countries, we are helping women move forward, providing opportunities for them to begin to overcome these barriers. Every month, women join our programs to access basic education, job training, and life skills that equip them with essential knowledge and resources to transform their lives. Our

approach is both inclusive and sustainable as we invest in the power of women to influence the decisions that affect their lives.

To support these efforts, we are committed to amplifying the voices of the women we serve to galvanize the international community to dedicate more resources to invest in the most marginalized women and their efforts to recover and rebuild from conflict.

Our work is made possible because of your generosity. From South Sudan to Afghanistan, women are transforming their lives, families, and communities because you believe in them. On behalf of all of us at Women for Women International, thank you.

Sincerely,

Jennifer L. Windsor
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



BUILDING A FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE

WHO WE SERVE

In fragile regions impacted by conflict, we reach out to the most marginalized women – those who struggle with poverty and violence, who are denied their rights, education, and healthcare, and who suffer loss from war and conflict.

WHAT WE DO

We enroll women in a unique, 12-month training program that creates a safe space where women survivors can heal, form friendships, learn new skills, and access resources.

Coming together in classes of 25, women become a network of support and learning, strengthening themselves across four critical areas of social and economic empowerment. Each woman discovers her voice and the power to transform her life. At graduation, she embarks on a new journey, equipped with greater confidence and a new outlook, ready to move forward.

WHY IT MATTERS

EARN AND SAVE MONEY

She learns basic business skills and a marketable vocational skill that help her begin moving her family out of extreme poverty. With increased income, she begins saving to help her accomplish her future goals.

DEVELOP HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

She learns how to manage her health, giving her the tools to make informed decisions for herself and her family. Connecting her to local healthcare providers enables her to access critical services.

INFLUENCE DECISIONS IN THEIR HOMES AND COMMUNITIES

Learning about her human rights and the importance of civic participation, voting, and negotiation gives her greater confidence to raise her voice on the issues affecting her life and to educate other women on how they can stand up for their rights.

CONNECT TO NETWORKS FOR SUPPORT

Bringing her together with other women in a safe space provides a source of strength and encouragement. Together, they share ideas and resources, invest in businesses, and work to find solutions to common challenges and opportunities for growth.

In the following pages, we highlight some of the many ways we are working to help women rebuild and transform their lives.

CREATING OPPORTUNITY: WOMEN EARN & SAVE MONEY

“WE HAD A VISION AHEAD OF US,” ELIANE EXPLAINS, AS SHE SITS WITH MEMBERS OF HER COOPERATIVE WEAVING BASKETS AND MAKING BEADS. SIX YEARS AGO, ELIANE AND 10 GRADUATES OF OUR PROGRAM IN RWANDA STARTED THE AGASEKE VISION COOPERATIVE, A SAFE PLACE FOR HIV POSITIVE WOMEN TO GATHER AND WORK. AFTER FACING STIGMA IN THEIR COMMUNITY, GRADUATES DECIDED TO COME TOGETHER NOT JUST FOR WORK, BUT TO CONTINUE WHAT THEY HAD DISCOVERED IN OUR PROGRAM – EMOTIONAL SUPPORT.

Before she enrolled in the program, Eliane recalls how she struggled to support her four daughters, considering herself “the poorest of the poor.” A widow with no resources and facing the barriers of stigma caused by her HIV status, she sold bananas and avocados alone in the street.

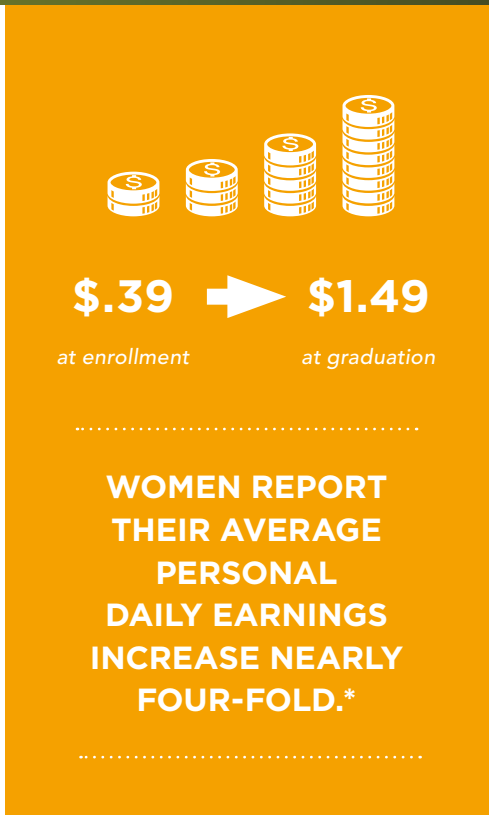
Today, Eliane is the president of Agaseke Vision, and she credits her transformation and success to the training she received in our program. Eliane plans to build a website to reach customers around the world, and their success is helping break down the stigma in her community about HIV.

We connect women like Eliane with resources and help them develop skills to increase their earnings and

transform their lives and families. As Agaseke Vision becomes more successful, filling orders for distributor Gahaya Links, its members are becoming stronger and generating income. All members are able to pay their children’s school fees, and ten of the women have built their own homes.

Through our programs, women learn a marketable vocational skill and the basic business skills needed to begin as an entrepreneur. Like the women of Agaseke Vision, many women find they are stronger together, and form saving circles, associations, and cooperatives.

To read more about Eliane and the Agaseke Vision Cooperative, visit us at www.womenforwomen.org/earn



HOW WE DO IT

NUMERACY TRAINING

One in four women are innumerate when they begin our program. In countries like Afghanistan, the DRC, Rwanda, and South Sudan, numeracy training teaches women with no or limited schooling how to use calculators and mobile phones to balance accounts.

MONTHLY STIPENDS AND BUSINESS AND VOCATIONAL SKILLS

During our program, each woman receives a \$10 monthly stipend to help meet her needs and start saving. She also learns basic business skills and a marketable vocational trade to begin earning an income. She learns how to market and price her products and calculate revenue and expenditures.

ACCESSING FINANCIAL SERVICES AND CREDIT

In our countries where savings and credit opportunities are non-existent, women create informal savings groups. In the DRC, we are piloting Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLA) for women to create their own source of savings and credit. Since January 2014, 975 women have formed 39 VSLAs and are lending to members.

When possible, we connect women with banking services. In Nigeria, 100 percent of participants have accounts; many learn about mobile banking options. During Global Entrepreneurship Week in Rwanda, we held a financial literacy seminar at our Women’s Opportunity Centre with local financial institutions.

FORMING COOPERATIVES AND ASSOCIATIONS

In 2014, a deteriorating security situation in Afghanistan made earning an income even more difficult for women. To combine their talents and limited resources, 247 women formed 13 associations and connected with local markets.

CONNECTING TO EMPLOYERS

In Kosovo, women’s unemployment is 40 percent. Since 2012, our Job Placement Office has helped 426 women find employment with local businesses. We are collaborating with online job portal KosovaJob to connect graduates with employers and job readiness training materials for continuing education.



HEALTHIER LIVES: WOMEN DEVELOP HEALTH & WELL-BEING

AS THE MARKET OPENS IN SANJASIRI, SOUTH SUDAN, RUTHA PROUDLY CLEANS HER DISPLAY AND ARRANGES HER FRESH BREAD AND PRODUCE FOR SALE. FOR YEARS, HER SMALL BUSINESS HAD STRUGGLED AS SHE AND HER FAMILY WERE OFTEN SICK. THAT IS NO LONGER THE CASE. USING HYGIENE PRACTICES AT HOME AND AT WORK, RUTHA'S FAMILY AND BREAD-MAKING BUSINESS ARE THRIVING.

As a young girl living in a conflict-torn country, Rutha never learned basic health education. Her parents forced her to leave school in second grade, believing education was not important for girls. When Rutha later married and became a mother, her five children often fell ill, and all the income she made from selling bread went toward their medical needs and food.

For women like Rutha, we work to provide critical health education tailored to address their greatest concerns. We know that health and well-being are the foundation of women's ability to pursue greater economic and social empowerment. From basic hygiene and sanitation to nutrition, sexual and reproductive health, disease prevention, and managing stress, women learn what measures they can take to protect their and their families' health, as well as the local services available to them.

After learning about effective ways to keep her family healthy, Rutha began to make small but important changes in her life. She started washing and drying dishes before using them and bathed herself and her children more regularly. With a new understanding of how different foods provide critical nutrients, she began eating vegetables for the first time and providing a more balanced diet for her family.

Today, her family is healthier. With fewer illnesses, they no longer need costly medication. These changes have also improved Rutha's business, which is growing. In the last few months, she has saved more than \$60, which she plans to use to pay her children's secondary school fees.

To read other inspiring stories of how women improve their health, visit us at www.womenforwomen.org/health



26%  85%
at enrollment at graduation

MORE THAN THREE
TIMES AS MANY
WOMEN REPORT
PRACTICING
FAMILY PLANNING.*

HOW WE DO IT

IMPROVING KNOWLEDGE AND ACCESS

We regularly review our health curriculum and list of referral services in each country to ensure we provide women the most accurate information and address their greatest health concerns.

In 2014, we began a partnership with the M·A·C AIDS Fund that will improve the HIV/AIDS component of our curriculum and identify new treatment and prevention services in Jos, Nigeria and the barriers that prevent women from accessing them. Sharing the curriculum updates across our country offices will benefit thousands of women.

PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF CHOLERA

In June 2014, our program participants responded to a cholera outbreak in South Sudan by each reaching out to educate five other families in their community on prevention measures such as improving hygiene and sanitation and how to report cases.

ACCESS TO HIV TESTING, COUNSELING, AND TREATMENT

In collaboration with the Mashiah Foundation Center, CAROSA Memorial Foundation, and Annunciation Hospital in Nigeria, we connected more than 4,700 women with free HIV counseling and more than 3,900 women with free HIV testing in 2014. Those who tested positive were given private follow-up sessions with health professionals and referred to health centers where they could receive anti-retroviral drugs.

ACCESS TO SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICES

In Kosovo, we help women arrange appointments for PAP smears and negotiate lower group pricing for check-ups. During the year, doctors and survivors of breast cancer met with participants to answer their questions, and 90 women and staff joined together to participate in the Walk against Breast Cancer in Pristina.

TAKING ACTION ON EBOLA

In March 2014, a deadly Ebola outbreak began in West Africa that would eventually kill more than 11,000 people. Our social empowerment trainers in Nigeria educated program participants on ways to prevent the virus and how to report any suspected Ebola cases to the nearest health center.



STANDING UP FOR EQUALITY: WOMEN INFLUENCE DECISIONS IN THEIR HOMES & COMMUNITIES

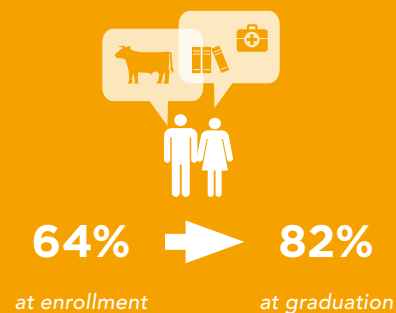
WHEN HER HUSBAND DIED A FEW YEARS AGO, ROSELINE KNEW SHE NEEDED TO FIND A WAY TO MOVE FORWARD AND SUPPORT THEIR EIGHT CHILDREN ON HER OWN. SHE DIDN'T ANTICIPATE THAT SHE WOULD HAVE TO FIGHT TO KEEP HER LAND AND HOME. AFTER HER HUSBAND'S DEATH, HER BROTHER-IN-LAW TRIED TO CLAIM HER PROPERTY, INCLUDING THE PROFITABLE PALM, COCONUT, AND WILD MANGO TREES GROWING NEAR THEIR HOME IN ENUGU, NIGERIA.

"They said that according to tradition, all of my husband's property now belonged to his eldest brother," says Roseline. Despite legal reforms, traditional and customary norms in Nigeria are often used to deny widows the right to inherit their husbands' property, instead following patrilineal practices that grant men the exclusive right to own land.

Around the world, women like Roseline are marginalized and denied their economic, political, and social rights. However, through our programs, women learn about their human rights, often for the first time. We connect them with local legal resources, which help them challenge impunity for crimes committed against them. To strengthen support for women's equality, we engage local male leaders and women's relatives, recognizing the significant influence they have in their families and communities.

Learning about her property rights gave Roseline the confidence and courage to approach her husband's brother about the trees. The family held a series of meetings to discuss her claim, and tried to intimidate Roseline into backing down. "But I stood my ground, knowing it was my right to demand to have those trees," she says. "It took a while, but the family finally decided to hand them over. Today, they are mine."

To read more about Roseline and other inspiring stories of women standing up for their rights, visit us at www.womenforwomen.org/rights



NEARLY 30% MORE
WOMEN REPORT
PARTICIPATING
IN FINANCIAL
DECISIONS AT HOME.*

HOW WE DO IT

LEARNING THEIR RIGHTS AND FINDING THEIR VOICE

Women learn about their rights and discuss the importance of gender equality and girls' education to build stronger communities. They gain confidence to raise their voices in the safe space of our classrooms and beyond.

TAKING A STAND AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

Drawing attention to the experiences of survivors of wartime sexual violence, our Kosovo Country Director Iliriana Gashi joined the Global Summit to End Sexual Violence in Conflict hosted by former UK Secretary of State William Hague and Angelina Jolie. During the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence, over 500 women in Rwanda held discussions to address violence against women, and our supporters joined the social media campaign to raise awareness.

STRENGTHENING WOMEN AS ADVOCATES FOR PEACE

When conflict resumed in South Sudan, our participants recognized they could stand up for peace. In partnership with Cordaid, we are training 200 women to be peace advocates in their communities, helping them develop leadership, communication, and negotiation skills.

IMPROVING ACCESS TO LAND AND PROPERTY RIGHTS

We help women learn how to assert their property rights, which can affect their income, health, and safety. In Kosovo, where women own 15 percent of property, we joined a national coalition and media campaign to encourage women to exercise their property rights. With UK Aid funds from the UK government and support from New Perimeter, we published a report documenting how discriminatory customary norms prevent women from owning and effectively accessing land and seeking justice in the eastern DRC. We are advocating with local partners to address challenges faced by the women we serve.

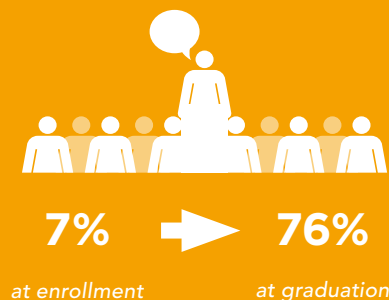
RAISING AWARENESS FOR #BRINGBACKOURGIRLS

When Boko Haram kidnapped nearly 300 girls, our Nigerian colleagues helped galvanize global attention to the #BringBackOurGirls campaign. Working with Nigerian civil society organizations, we supported efforts to encourage the government to improve security for women and girls and raised awareness through media and demonstrations.



STRONGER TOGETHER: WOMEN CREATE & CONNECT TO NETWORKS FOR SUPPORT

“THE WOMEN IN MY ASSOCIATION GIVE ME SO MUCH INSPIRATION,” SAYS HUMA, WHO FOUND NEW STRENGTH AND SUPPORT WHEN SHE JOINED AN ASSOCIATION OF PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS IN HER COMMUNITY. “I AM NOT AFRAID OF ANYTHING ANYMORE, AND I BELIEVE I CAN DO EVERYTHING.”



MORE THAN 10 TIMES
AS MANY WOMEN
REPORT SHARING
INFORMATION ABOUT
THEIR RIGHTS WITH
OTHER WOMEN.*

That was not the case before joining her local association. Living in rural Bosnia and Herzegovina, Huma would spend her days caring for her children in her home and tending the cows that were the main source of income for her family. She rarely had the chance to leave her home. She didn't have any friends in her neighborhood, and she never spoke in public. "I did not have the courage to express my opinion, because I didn't believe it had any value," she remembers.

Creating opportunities for women like Huma to connect with each other in safe and supportive classes is at the heart of what we do. For the most marginalized women, coming together helps women begin to heal from trauma, isolation, and hardship and to move forward. Together, women learn they are not alone in the struggles they face. They encourage and inspire each other to take on new

challenges, and find ways to join their strength, by sharing knowledge, forming cooperatives and associations, and taking action in their communities.

As Huma gains self-confidence earning money through the agriculture skills she learned in our program, she recognizes that the opportunity to connect with other women has had the greatest impact on her life. "I come to the association constantly because of them. We work together, we share our life stories. Sometimes we cry together - but together we are strong enough to carry on."

To read more about Huma and other inspiring stories of women finding strength together, visit us at www.womenforwomen.org/networks

HOW WE DO IT

CONNECTING WOMEN WITH SPONSORS

Around the world, more than 24,000 sponsors have stood with women in our programs as they begin to rebuild their lives, providing emotional and financial support. To learn more about sponsoring a woman, visit www.womenforwomen.org.

COMING TOGETHER IN A SAFE SPACE

When a woman begins our program, she joins a class of 25 women who share her struggles, hopes, and dreams. Over the year, they build close relationships, find confidence and strength in sharing their problems, and learn how they can work together toward common solutions.

STRENGTHENING CIVIC ASSOCIATIONS

In Bosnia and Herzegovina, we have helped graduates form 30 associations. We are providing additional training to 200 graduates from 10 local associations on women's civic engagement and economic empowerment, to help them raise their voices to effect change.

ENCOURAGING SUPPORT FOR THOSE IN CRISIS

When disasters strike, sometimes the only resources women have are each other. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, record floods destroyed an entire village where we had worked and damaged several others. Many women lost their homes and fields - their source of income. Local associations stepped up to connect those affected with emergency assistance. With grant support and private donations, our local staff also provided needed items like clothes, appliances, heaters, and dishes. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, several program participants' homes were destroyed by floods in October 2014. Determined to help, their classmates pooled their resources to give to their friends in need.

BUILDING BRIDGES ACROSS COMMUNITIES

In Kosovo, divisions between Albanian and Serbian communities have persisted since the war ended 15 years ago. Reaching across the divide, 57 Serbian and Albanian women in Shterpce are now taking classes to learn each other's languages so they can work together in a pre-cooperative and identify ways they can strengthen ties and mutual understanding between their communities. Their leadership is an example of how women are coming together to move their communities forward after conflict.



ENGAGING MEN, SUPPORTING WOMEN'S RIGHTS

"YOU SHOULD NOT SELL YOUR DAUGHTER FOR MONEY," IS THE ADVICE GHULAM NOW GIVES MEMBERS OF HIS COMMUNITY OUTSIDE JALALABAD, AFGHANISTAN WHO LOOK TO HIM FOR GUIDANCE AS AN ELDER. GHULAM TELLS THEM MARRIAGE IS A CHOICE THAT A WOMAN SHOULD MAKE FOR HERSELF, AND NOT SOMETHING SHE SHOULD BE FORCED INTO FOR THE BENEFIT OF OTHERS.

Since 2001, we have engaged men to build awareness for women's rights and equality and for the value of our programs. Our efforts to engage men began at the request of the women enrolled in our programs in Nigeria. Despite all they had learned in our programs, women continued to face barriers at home and insisted that the men in their communities hear the same important lessons they had learned.

SHARING KNOWLEDGE

A few months ago, Ghulam's advice on marriage might have been different. In meeting with religious scholars through Women for Women International's men's engagement program, he and other local community leaders learned how women's rights and equality are supported by Islam and outlined explicitly in the Qur'an.

Reflecting on his new understanding after attending the program, Ghulam acknowledges the dominant role tradition has played in his community. Before, there was little discussion or understanding about the teachings of the Qur'an. "We didn't know about these rights and verses, and all the rights that women have in the Holy Book."

INSPIRING CHANGE

"I now believe that Islam is an open, bright religion, with good rights for women."

For Ghulam and the 50 other local community leaders who participated in the program, they now talk about how certain common practices go against their faith - and how to change them. With 670 families in his community who look to his leadership and advice, Ghulam is eager to educate more men on how they can promote women's rights in marriage and education and prevent violence against women.

13%  51%
at enrollment at graduation

.....
IN AFGHANISTAN, 51 PERCENT OF MALE GRADUATES REPORT THEY TOOK ACTION TO REDUCE GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE, COMPARED TO 13 PERCENT BEFORE THE PROGRAM
.....

PROGRAMS FOR MEN THAT MAKE A DIFFERENCE

More than a decade ago, we began piloting various programs and activities for men to better understand how discrimination and violence harm women, families, and their entire community, and how they can be voices and advocates for change.

GLOBAL REACH

Since 2001 when we began our first outreach to men in Nigeria, we have worked with more than 7,500 men in Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iraq, Rwanda, and South Sudan through our men's engagement program.

TARGETING LEADERS AND FAMILY MEMBERS

We began our men's engagement work with a focus on engaging religious, traditional, and civic leaders, law enforcement, and military members for the roles they play in influencing attitudes in the community and in protecting and enforcing women's rights. We are expanding our outreach to male relatives of the women in our program, sharing the same messages about women's rights and equality with them and encouraging them to support their wives, sisters, and daughters as they move forward.

ADDRESSING ISSUES TO HELP WOMEN MOVE FORWARD

Men participate in discussions that help them understand how women's security and social and economic empowerment are limited in their communities, and how they can be advocates for change.

To learn how you can support our work to engage men as advocates for change, please email us at majorgifts@womenforwomen.org.



STRENGTHENING SURVIVORS OF WAR FROM SYRIA

IN A SMALL TENT IN THE KAWERGOSK REFUGEE CAMP IN NORTHERN IRAQ, KINDA SMILES AS SHE SHOWS OFF THE DISPLAY OF USED CLOTHES THAT SHE SELLS TO OTHER REFUGEES. AT 17 YEARS OLD, SHE IS PROUD OF THE INCOME SHE IS ABLE TO PROVIDE FOR HER MOTHER AND HERSELF AND THE CHALLENGES SHE HAS OVERCOME.

ONE IN FOUR SYRIAN REFUGEE FAMILIES IS HEADED BY A WOMAN.

Four years ago, Kinda and her mother fled Syria and arrived at the refugee camp two years later. Kinda soon married another refugee, hoping for greater stability. But shortly after finding out she was pregnant, Kinda's husband became abusive. A few months later she gave birth to a boy who died within hours. "And a few days after that, I lost my husband too. He left me," says Kinda. The experience left her nearly mute from stress and grief.

FROM CRISIS TO EMPOWERMENT

Nearly 4 million people have fled Syria since the conflict began in 2011, and one in four of those families is headed by women like Kinda who are often alone and trying to support their families. Many are survivors of extreme sexual violence used as a weapon of war, and they continue to face insecurity in refugee camps. One UN report on Syrian refugee women living in northern Iraq found 68 percent of women reported knowing someone who had been abused, and 82 percent lived in daily fear of abuse or aggression.

In 2014, Women for Women International began providing critical support for Syrian women living in Kawergosk refugee camp through its local partner, Women's Empowerment Organization (WEO). Together, we are

working to create safe spaces and provide psychosocial support to 400 women and business skills training to 20 women, addressing their most pressing needs as they recover from the trauma of war and move forward.

For Kinda, the psychosocial support helped her find the strength to start over, and enabled her to take the next step toward creating a business. "The idea of setting up a used-clothing shop came to me while I was going through the WEO course," she says, describing how the advanced business skills training she received helped her identify a market opportunity. Soraya, Kinda's mother, shares the remarkable change she witnessed in her daughter. "She has grasped life and got her voice back. I am so happy to see her smile again, as well as her self-esteem and confidence."

MOVING BEYOND AID TO INVESTMENT

Inspired by the potential of women like Kinda, we know humanitarian assistance alone will not be enough to enable her to move forward with her life. Our support for Syrian refugee women is grounded in our experiences in other conflict-affected countries and the knowledge that going beyond aid to investing in sustainable development will have the greatest long-term impact.

WE OFFER WOMEN A CONSISTENT PLACE TO GATHER, SHARE, AND FIND THE PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT THEY NEED TO RECOVER FROM THE TRAUMA THEY HAVE AND CONTINUE TO EXPERIENCE. WE KNOW THAT WOMEN WHO SURVIVE CONFLICT DRAW STRENGTH AND CONFIDENCE FROM EACH OTHER – THIS MAKES ALL THE DIFFERENCE.

We also provide business skills training that enables women to move beyond dependency on aid to earning their own incomes. When women are able to earn income, they can better support their families, providing food, medicine, and shelter, and strengthening their health and well-being. Our business skills training targets women who are marginalized and do not have the education and skills to earn an income.

With the opportunity to earn her own income and find the support of others, women like Kinda are moving forward, overcoming the barriers facing refugees and taking the first steps toward rebuilding their lives.

To learn how you can support Syrian women as they recover and rebuild their lives, please visit us at www.womenforwomen.org/syria



PARTNERSHIPS FOR IMPACT

WE ARE PROUD TO RECOGNIZE A FEW OF THE MANY IMPORTANT PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS WHOSE COMMITMENT TO WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT ENABLES US TO BRING OUR PROGRAMS TO THOUSANDS OF WOMEN AROUND THE WORLD.

BLOOMBERG PHILANTHROPIES

CREATING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN IN RISING INDUSTRIES

In Rwanda, coffee production is one of the largest economic sectors and is fueling the country's growth and development. With major international buyers interested in Rwanda's specialty coffee production, Women for Women International and Bloomberg Philanthropies are working to ensure that more women are a vital part of this growth – and emerge as strong participants in the international coffee market.

Bloomberg Philanthropies and Women for Women International have partnered with Sustainable Harvest to support women in sub-Saharan Africa with innovative workforce training to gain new job skills, basic business training, life skills, and support networks. Women for Women International's 12-month program provides participants with the tools and resources to sustain an income, learning small business management and the importance of saving.

Once they graduate, women are grouped into cooperatives, such as the Nyampinga Cooperative in Rwanda, whose members have received additional training in sustainable coffee agriculture from Sustainable Harvest. As they have improved their coffee-growing techniques, the women are looking to purchase a coffee washing station, which will help them move up the coffee value chain.

Since 2008, Bloomberg Philanthropies has partnered with Women for Women International to support marginalized women in sub-Saharan Africa to gain new job skills, basic business training, life skills, and a support network. Bloomberg Philanthropies is supporting innovative workforce training for women in Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

THE CARTIER CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

STRONGER WOMEN, STRONGER SOCIETIES

In southeast Kosovo, 95 percent of women are unemployed. Lutfije is working to change that. Through Women for Women International's programs supported by Cartier Charitable Foundation, Lutfije learned horticulture skills and brought together a group of women to begin working with her. Today, she is the vice president of *Manushaqja*, a cooperative of 82 women. She earns over \$220 per month growing medicinal herbs, blackberries, and vegetables,

and her income is helping her family afford to build a second floor for their home and put their three children through school.

Through a multi-year grant, the Cartier Charitable Foundation is supporting 3,000 marginalized women like Lutfije in Afghanistan, Kosovo, Nigeria, Rwanda, and South Sudan with the knowledge, skills, and resources to move from crisis and poverty to stability and self-sufficiency.

DONOR INVESTMENT IN STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE

LEVERAGING TECHNOLOGY FOR GREATER IMPACT

In Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kosovo, Nigeria, Rwanda, and South Sudan, our staff no longer carry stacks of paper to our training sites several times per month to collect data from program participants at enrollment and graduation. They no longer scan and email each individual data form to our headquarters. And our staff at headquarters no longer manually enter the data into our database. A process that used to take six days now takes four hours, thanks to electronic data collection.

Through the support of an anonymous donor, Women for Women International has made key investments in our technology infrastructure. We started by bringing tablet technology to our country offices, enabling them to collect data more accurately, efficiently, and cost-effectively. In 2014, we also upgraded our website and internal systems, which is making it easier to engage with and grow our supporter base to serve even more women.



TO LEARN MORE ABOUT PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES TO SUPPORT WOMEN FOR WOMEN INTERNATIONAL'S LIFE-CHANGING WORK, PLEASE CALL 202.737.7705.



WOMEN FOR WOMEN INTERNATIONAL 2014 LEADERSHIP

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2014 FINANCIALS

2014 CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (AUDITED)

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGE IN NET ASSETS

Contributions and grants	26,380,502
Other revenues	299,784
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE*	26,680,286
Program services expenses	18,375,885
Finance & administration	2,696,224
Fundraising	5,203,615
TOTAL EXPENSES*	26,275,724
Return of unused grant funds	566,497
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(161,935)

* Excludes donated goods and services.

ASSETS, LIABILITIES, AND NET ASSET SUMMARY

Cash and cash equivalents	7,571,126
Investments	5,846,389
Property and equipment, net	3,890,933
Contributions and grants receivable	2,936,396
Prepaid expenses and deposits	409,343
Other assets	128,344
TOTAL ASSETS	20,782,531
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	1,596,419
Loan payable**	1,650,942
Deferred rent and leasehold incentive	1,918,410
Other liabilities	121,527
Net assets	15,495,233
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	20,782,531

** Loan related to Afghanistan Microfinance Company.



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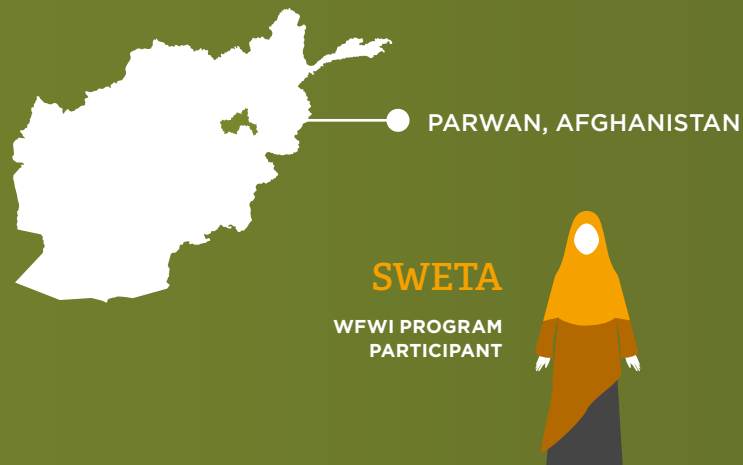
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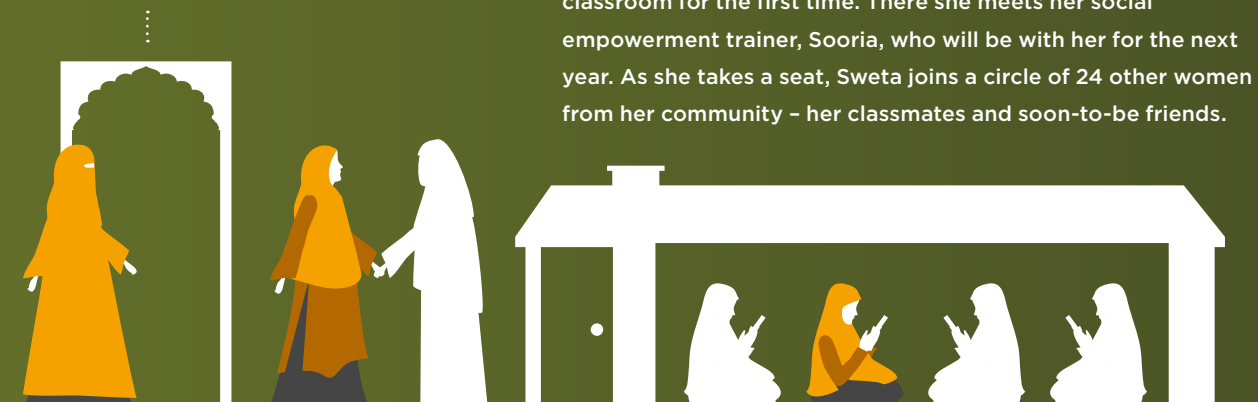
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A JOURNEY OF HOPE

In a rural village in Parwan, Afghanistan, Sweta is getting ready to enroll in our training program. Follow her journey over the next year as she begins to create a new future for herself.



HER FIRST DAY



Taking off her shoes and burqa, Sweta walks into the sunny classroom for the first time. There she meets her social empowerment trainer, Sooria, who will be with her for the next year. As she takes a seat, Sweta joins a circle of 24 other women from her community - her classmates and soon-to-be friends.

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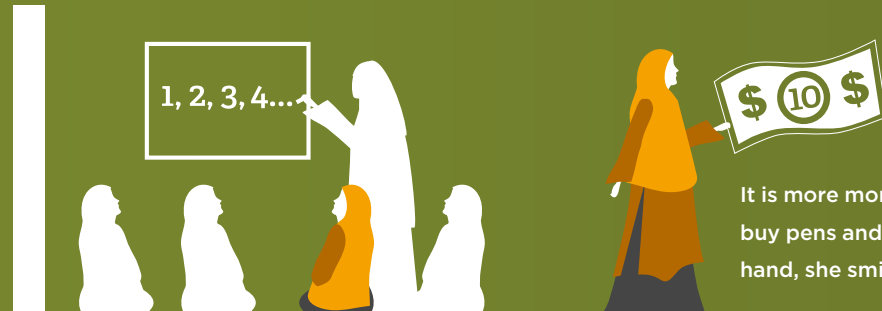
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JANUARY

Sweta begins her classes with numeracy training, a first step to learning business skills. Around the room, posters show numerals in Dari and English. By learning both sets of numbers, Sweta and her classmates can use calculators and cellphones and read the price of goods in the market. Her teacher helps Sweta as she practices writing 1, 2, 3, 4...



SWETA RECEIVES HER FIRST \$10 MONTHLY TRAINING STIPEND.

It is more money than she has ever received at once. She plans to buy pens and notebooks for her children. Looking at the bill in her hand, she smiles as she realizes she can read the number "10".

FEBRUARY

Sooria asks Sweta and her classmates as they begin the first program module - *Women Earn and Save Money*. Sweta learns how her unpaid work at home has value, and how women and men could accomplish more if they shared household responsibilities.



At home, Sweta begins to share things she is learning in class, like adding and subtracting single digit numbers, with her husband and children.



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MARCH

Sweta finishes her numeracy classes.

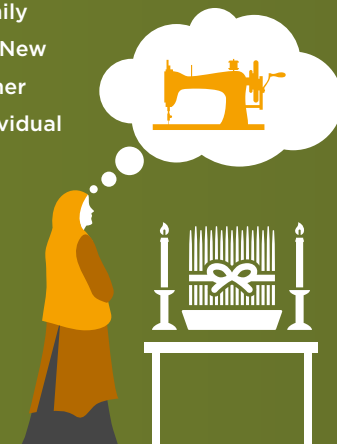


SHE CAN ADD AND SUBTRACT LARGER NUMBERS using both a pencil and paper and a calculator.



With her new confidence, Sweta begins to learn the importance of budgeting household finances, opportunities to earn income, and how to set and reach her financial goals through saving.

This month, Sweta and her family celebrate Nowruz, the Afghan New Year. Looking ahead, she and her classmates each create an individual participant plan. In it, Sweta decides she wants to learn tailoring vocational skills training from Women for Women International to help her earn an income. She also sets income and savings goals.



APRIL

Sweta finishes her classes on earning and saving money. She begins lessons on basic business skills, starting with an overview of the market economy and small business operations.

The leader of a local women's association visits her class to talk about how women are combining their talent and resources to earn money.



SWETA IS INSPIRED, AND THINKS SHE MAY WANT TO JOIN AN ASSOCIATION TOO.



For the next eight months, she will learn tailoring as a vocational skill, starting with: *an overview of the sewing machine, drawing patterns, scissoring, stitching, and evaluating cloth quality.*

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MAY

"WHAT ARE COMMON HEALTH CHALLENGES IN OUR COMMUNITY?"

Sweta's class begins the second program module - *Women Develop Health and Well-being*. Her friends share stories of sick children, problems with pregnancy, and the lack of a hospital nearby.

SWETA LEARNS ABOUT BASIC HYGIENE AND SANITATION.



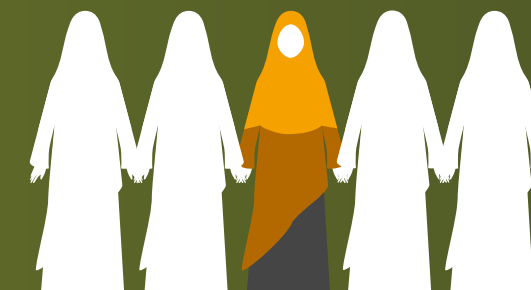
She learns that flies carry diseases and convinces her husband to use some of the savings from her training stipend for nets for their windows.

As tailoring lessons continue, Sweta learns about entrepreneurship, initiative and risk. With few job opportunities for women, Sweta knows she will rely on these skills for income.

JUNE

Sweta and her classmates share more about the challenges in their lives. They talk about sources of stress: street harassment, being hurt by a family member, poverty, and the loss of loved ones.

“ BEFORE THIS, WE WERE VERY ISOLATED FROM EACH OTHER EVEN THOUGH WE LIVED IN THE SAME VILLAGE. NOW, WE HAVE BECOME LIKE A BIG FAMILY. ”



Sweta and her classmates encourage each other, and feel stronger knowing they are not alone. Their trainer Sooria shares ways they can manage stress and resources for additional support. Six months in, Sweta trusts her classmates and feels safe sharing her life story with them.

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JULY

"HOW MANY HERE ARE MOTHERS?"

Nearly all the women raise their hands. As they discuss reproductive health, Sweta realizes that despite being a mother, there is a lot she never knew.

She had three children within four years and her last pregnancy was difficult. For her health, she talks with her husband about spacing childbirth.

SWETA'S TAILORING SKILLS TRAINING HAS CONTINUED

She's learned how to cut and pleat pants. It is difficult for women to sell directly in the markets, so she thinks working in a group will be the best way to connect with local sellers and earn money.

AUGUST

“ WHY DO YOU THINK WOMEN ARE TREATED DIFFERENTLY FROM MEN? ”

Sweta's class begins the third program module, *Women Influence Decisions in Their Homes and Communities.*

Sweta's class discusses gender equality, and how women can change perceptions in their communities, starting with how they raise their children.

They share how the training stipend helps their families value their financial contribution. Since buying window nets, Sweta has noticed her children are healthier.

In her tailoring class, she practices sewing sleeves and collars onto dresses and becomes confident that her tailoring skills will earn her an income.

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SEPTEMBER

In the safe space of their class, Sweta and her friends learn they have the same rights as men, surprising many of them.



SWETA HAS FOUND 10 WOMEN WHO WANT TO START A TAILORING ASSOCIATION WITH HER.

In their final business skills classes, they learn about bookkeeping and business financing, a new concept for Sweta.

She sees how important it will be to her association's success.



OCTOBER

Sweta and her class discuss the importance of raising women's voices in their communities.



“WOMEN CAN DO ANYTHING!”

Sweta and her class learn that a former participant and trainer is now a Provincial Council Member, inspiring Sweta to vote in the next election.



In a special training, Sweta learns the practical skills of organizing and running an association.

In tailoring class, she completes her first vest and practices making coats. She is looking forward to reviewing key aspects of a tailoring business, to help her association start strong.



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NOVEMBER

As Sweta begins the last program module – *Women Create and Connect to Networks for Support* – she and her classmates talk about how much they have already supported each other this year, from helping with sick children to pooling funds for a friend in need, and more.

Sweta finishes her vocational training in tailoring, eager to begin work with her association. They decide on a name – The Future Makers – and elect Sweta as president.

THE FUTURE MAKERS

Seeing how much Sweta has grown and how their family has become stronger over the last year, her husband encourages her to keep learning, and begins teaching her how to read in the evenings.



DECEMBER

SWETA AND HER CLASSMATES CELEBRATE THEIR GRADUATION FROM THE YEARLONG PROGRAM.

In their final classes, Sweta and her class learn about leadership in social networks, practice negotiation and conflict management skills, and tools to use in their families and communities.

She feels a rush of pride as she receives the first education certificate she has ever earned. With all she has learned, she is excited to begin the next chapter, hopeful for the future.



Recognizing a need for a local women's health clinic, they form a plan to petition their council to support building one.



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Every effort has been made to ensure a complete and accurate list. We regret any errors or omissions and ask that they be brought to our attention at majorgifts@womenforwomen.org.



At our 2014 Annual Gala, Brigitta Witt, Global Head of Corporate Responsibility for Hyatt, accepted our 2014 Active Citizen Award for Hyatt in recognition of the company's partnership to bring education and opportunities to the women we serve.

A NEW JOURNEY BEGINS

Her tailoring association has grown. They are busy filling orders from local merchants and saving to buy more sewing machines.



A YEAR AFTER GRADUATION, SWETA IS PROUD OF ALL SHE HAS ACCOMPLISHED AND THE DIFFERENCE THAT HAS MADE FOR HER FAMILY AND COMMUNITY.

With the income, her friends are investing in their families. They support each other through difficult times and encourage each other to reach for new goals.



At home, Sweta and her husband work together on ideas to expand her business.



THEY ARE SAVING FOR THEIR CHILDREN'S EDUCATION

RAISING THEM TO BELIEVE THAT GIRLS AND BOYS, WOMEN AND MEN, SHOULD BE TREATED EQUALLY.



Concerned by the lack of a local clinic Sweta is working with her association to petition their provincial council for one.



Looking ahead, Sweta feels confident in her ability to face whatever future obstacles come her way, and to work toward making her dreams a reality.

JOIN US

Help Women Survivors of War Build a Better Future

THANKS TO THE 381,000 WOMEN AND MEN AROUND THE WORLD WHO SUPPORT OUR WORK, NEARLY 429,000 WOMEN ARE MOVING FORWARD AFTER CONFLICT AND CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR THEIR FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES.

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“ WE LAST HELD A PEN TO WRITE IN A BOOK BEFORE THE WAR, AND NOW WE HAVE THE CHANCE TO DO IT AGAIN. ”

– WOMEN FOR WOMEN INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPANT | SOUTH SUDAN

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* This analysis includes a set of 10,058 participants who graduated from Women for Women International's social and economic empowerment program in 2014, representing approximately 29% of all 2014 graduates. Data are self-reported and are gathered on a geographically stratified sample of participants at enrollment and graduation. Reported personal earnings at graduation include the \$10 monthly stipend in all countries except Kosovo. For the question on reported practice of family planning, we exclude the 24%-28% of respondents who report family planning as being N/A to them at the time of the survey. Only participants who were tracked and surveyed at both of these points in time are included in this analysis. Our Monitoring, Research, and Evaluation team is engaged in ongoing efforts to establish the effects of our programs more definitively. For additional questions, please contact us at general@womenforwomen.org.

CONTACT US

WOMENFORWOMEN.ORG

WOMEN FOR WOMEN INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

2000 M Street NW
Suite 200
Washington, D.C. 20036
T. 202.737.7705
F. 202.737.7709

WOMEN FOR WOMEN INTERNATIONAL UK OFFICE

32-36 Loman Street
London SE1 0EH UK
T. 020.7922.7765
F. 020.7922.7706

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