

QUARTER 1 IMPACT REPORT | 2019



**WOMEN'S
MARCH GLOBAL**
ADVANCING WOMEN'S HUMAN RIGHTS. **EVERYWHERE.**

LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



For the last 3 years Women's March Global has shown up and marched for freedom and justice around the world. This past January was no different. Our Global Community turned out in force with over 80+ Events in 30+ countries on the 19th - 20th of Jan 2019.

The theme of this year's Global Women's March was End Violence Against Women. We subsequently made it our focus for the first half of 2019. The rates at which women continue to experience violence worldwide are staggering: 1 in 3 women will experience violence in her lifetime. In our first quarter, we shared our stories, educated ourselves on the realities and barriers women face when seeking justice, and learned how we can work together to dismantle the chains that bind us all. Stay tuned in the second quarter for toolkits and mini courses focused on the fight to end violence against women in all its forms.

We also paused during this first quarter to take stock of what we achieved last year (take a look at our 2018 Annual Report) and consider how we measure that

impact. Our Community of Members and Chapters continues to grow; our purpose as the Global Team is to support this growth. As a movement we are constantly changing and adapting, but we know that so much of the work begins and solidifies at a local level.

So we are moving forward with a bold theory of change that honors what we know -- unraveling systems of patriarchal oppression must happen on multiple levels. Our approach is two-pronged: local action, global movement. We've revamped our website to foreground what matters most, grassroots actions and global campaigns.

Perhaps the most important aspect of our new strategy is the addition of the Systems Change Grants. We launched the program internally in the first quarter and we are excited to share these grants now with all of you. Systems Change Grants are available to any Women's March Global Chapter or Member to support your local Events.

Women's March Global is committed to moving forward with you - our Community - united in advancing Women's Human Rights everywhere.

In community and solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Uma".

PROGRAMMES

3RD ANNUAL WOMEN'S MARCH | 19-20 JAN 2019

The first quarter of 2019 began with the 3rd Annual Global Women's March, the Women's Wave. There were 80+ marches in 31+ countries.



Watch the beautiful summary video from our weekend of Global livestreams

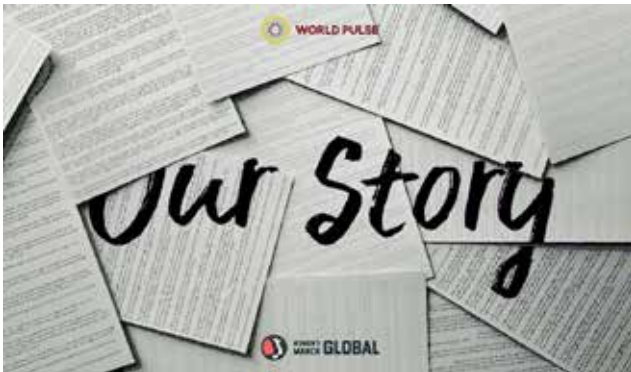


Global Livestream by **Collective Agency**
Music: MILCK + Choir, Choir, Choir

CAMPAIGNS

With your help, Women's March Global led several worldwide **Campaigns...**

5 ACTIONS TO END GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE



February: Our Story

Women's March Global partnered with [World Pulse](#) to feature stories from its extensive network of storytellers. We also hosted a month-long webinar series with [Jasmin Kaur](#) on the stories of women survivors and why the aspect of telling these stories and speaking out is so important.

March: The Law and Sexual Violence Mini-Course

Women's March Global hosted a month-long online mini-course in partnership with [Equality Now](#) on sexual violence laws worldwide, including movements driving changes in the law and demanding access to justice for survivors.



Stay tuned for...

APRIL | #22to22, women's rights and climate change

MAY | Meet Our Community! A Mini-Course with Women's March Global Chapters

JUNE | TBD

FREE SAUDI ACTIVISTS

Our Free Saudi Activists campaign continues. In coalition with 6 other organisations, we've convinced governments and the United Nations (U.N.) to pressure the Saudi government to release the jailed Activists. There has been progress in the past 3 months - with 3 Activists released in March. However, the fight is not over.

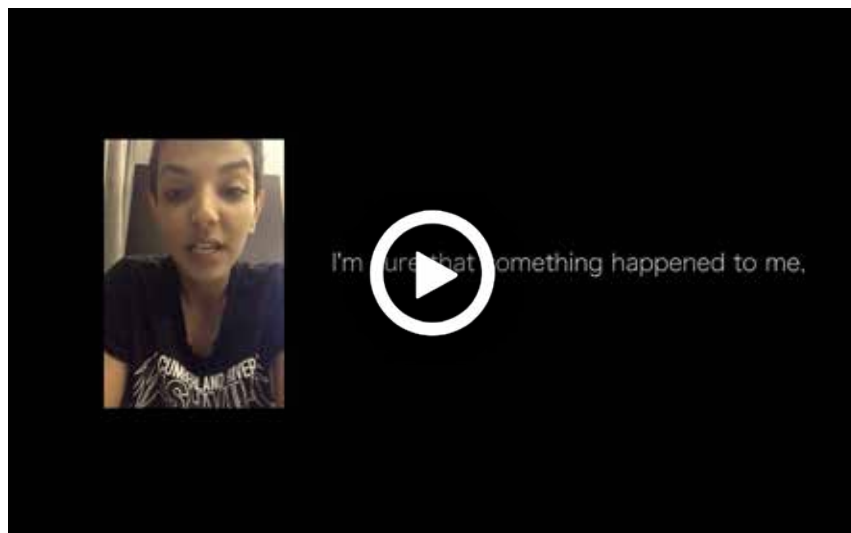
In early March, we joined 50 other human rights organisations calling on U.N. Member States to adopt a resolution at the 40th session of the Human Rights Council (HRC) explicitly demanding the immediate release of Saudi Women Human Rights Defenders (WHRD) as well as establish an in-country monitoring mechanism for human rights violations generally. We are happy to share that a coalition of 36 Member States, led by Iceland, publicly denounced the human rights violations in Saudi Arabia and called for the release of Saudi Activists.

In partnership with the Free Saudi Women Coalition, we held side events at the HRC and at sixty-third session of the U.N.'s Commission on the Status of Women (CSW63). Our Executive Director, Uma Mishra-Newbery, spoke on the panel Reality of Saudi Women Activists in the U.N. Correspondents Association Room at CSW63.

Yet, the trials of the Saudi WHRDs are repeatedly delayed and Saudi Arabia continues its arc of oppression and silencing. Three weeks ago the government arrested even more people, including two U.S. citizens. Just this week, Saudi Arabia beheaded 37 people suspected of terrorism; one, a Saudi youth who was about to start university in Michigan.

Our work is far from over. We will continue to speak out, we will continue to galvanize, we will continue to advocate for the freedom and release of all Saudi Women Human Rights Defenders.

The Realities of Male Guardianship



There were a total of **100 Events** hosted by you, our **Community**.

Among those events were **Women's March Barcelona**, **Women's March Harare**, and **Women's March Bamenda**, recipients of our new **Systems Change Grant**. These grants are Women's March Global's first step in directly supporting you, our **Chapters and Members**.



We had an interactive discussion on Gender equality where we educated invitees on the advantages and the various ways of empowering women. We introduced them to safe platforms of speaking out especially as we are affected by the current violence and conflict [in Cameroon] in our community."

- Ngwa Damaris, [Women's March Bamenda](#)



We chose V-Day because it provides a platform to stand up for women and against gendered violence, in this case through theatre, that can touch people in different ways. Many of the volunteers were victims of or family members of victims of sexual & domestic violence. For them, this was a therapeutic process that I'm sure continues to this day."

- Cecilia Gomez-Engler, [Women's March Barcelona](#)



The Systems Change Grant enabled us to host a discussion about abuses faced by women in conflict. During the Shutdown demonstrations in Zimbabwe the army raped women with no accountability. While there are still miles to walk in terms of women's rights, the fact that women activists discussed these issues proves there is still hope."

- Tatenda Natarcia Wachenuka, [Women's March Harare](#)



OUR NEW STRATEGY

Billions of women worldwide still do not have access to basic human rights.

We are changing that.



1 Local Action. We believe change begins in our own communities: talking to a neighbor, coming together to solve a town or village issue, having tough discussions, or helping someone in need. We see each Women's March Global Chapter or Member Event as a turning point - an opportunity to advance women's human rights on a local scale. *Let's create a million focused points of change.* (See our [Systems Change Grants](#))

2 Global Movement. While we need to hold corporations, politicians, banks, law enforcement, and policy makers accountable, we also need to work alongside them to create a world that works for everyone.

Our Global Campaigns spotlight issues that affect women everywhere. We partner with like-minded organisations and utilise our visibility to advise on, and advocate for legal and cultural change. *The only way forward is together.*



Join Us.



If they don't give you a seat at the table, bring a folding chair.

- Shirley Chisholm