



# MenEngage Alliance

working with men and boys for gender equality

**MenEngage Global Alliance**  
**2017 ANNUAL REPORT TO SIDA**  
**MenEngage Alliance Strategic Plan 2017-2020**

**Submitted to:**



Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency  
Stockholm, Sweden

## Contents

Glossary.....	3
Acronyms .....	5
Executive Summary.....	6
Calendar .....	10
REPORT FROM THE GLOBAL SECRETARIAT .....	12
Result Area 1 – Networks Building and Capacity strengthening .....	13
Result Area 2 – Advocacy.....	23
Result Area 3 – Knowledge Management and Communications .....	38
Result Area 4 – Accountability and Partnerships.....	43
Result Area 5 – Governance model .....	49
REPORTS FROM THE REGIONAL NETWORKS .....	54
MenEngage Africa .....	54
MenEngage Europe.....	58
CariMAN .....	62
MenEngage Latin America .....	63
North America MenEngage Network (NAMEN).....	66
MenEngage South Asia .....	69
MenEngage Lebanon .....	71
Cambodia Men’s Network .....	72

## Glossary

This glossary provides brief descriptions of how MenEngage Alliance understands and applies the concepts that are at the core of our Vision and Mission and understanding of qualitative work on men and masculinities within women's rights, SRHR and gender justice for all:

Transform and end patriarchy: We seek to engage men and boys, along with women, girls and people of diverse gender identities, to redress structural power imbalances and inequalities, male domination and their manifestations upheld by systemic male supremacy ideologies, and to reform such dualistic and sexist gender orders.

Transform masculinities: We seek to destabilize stereotypical male gender roles and hegemonic expressions of manhood, and support manifestations of non-violent, equitable and inclusive notions of manhood, by changing social norms that shape boys' and men's behavior.

Engaging men and boys: We seek to work with men and boys to encourage their active involvement in ending gender inequalities, advancing women's rights and transforming masculinities as allies with women, girls and people of diverse gender identities. Recognizing that some men and boys question the harmful notions of manhood and the privileges that society grants them, we provide them with ways to take transformative action. We work with men in power in all spheres of society to promote progressive policies and institutional practices in favor of women's rights and gender justice.

Gender transformative approaches (GTA): Policies, processes and strategies that seek to critically reflect on and transform social norms and institutional practices that create and reinforce gender inequalities. Gender transformative approaches do not view the engagement of men and boys as an end in itself, rather as a means to transform social norms and gender power relations at their roots. Gender transformative approaches are part of a 'gender integration continuum' that classifies interventions as gender exploitative, gender neutral, gender sensitive or gender

transformative. MenEngage seeks to support the increased uptake of gender transformative approaches with men and boys through the work of the Alliance.

Intersectionality: We acknowledge that oppressive institutions (racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, ableism, xenophobia, classism, etc.) are interconnected and cannot be examined separately from one another. This interplay of multiple identities can increase vulnerability and inequalities in privilege and power, and further entrench inequalities and injustice. We seek to contribute to an intersectional understanding of men and boys' roles and responsibilities, and enhance an intersectional perspective in the work of the Alliance and its members.

Feminist approach: We acknowledge that we build on the heritage of feminist women's rights organizations and movements and ground our work firmly in feminist principles. We seek to strengthen our work by embracing a women's rights perspective and feminist analysis, including placing inequalities in privilege and power that result from patriarchy at the heart of our work with men and boys. We commit to listening to and being accountable to women's rights voices; and to institutionalizing democratic and inclusive decision making processes within the Alliance.

Working as allies with women's rights organizations: We are committed to working as allies, and to fostering healthy relationships, with women and women's rights organizations, movements and networks to achieve equity and equality for women and girls, and justice for all, as a political act to strengthen the collective struggle for human rights and social, economic and environmental justice.

Enabling spaces for dialogue and joint action: MenEngage Alliance, being informed by a feminist approach, engage in strengthening partnerships, networks and alliances as a political act to change and a tool for empowerment within movement building. We work ‘glocal’: where ideas from the local to the global are jointly identified, shared, negotiated, changed, and disseminated.

Partnerships: We seek to foster concrete and equal associations and collaborations with various actors and agencies in the field of women’s rights, gender and social justice, climate justice, child rights, youth empowerment and rights, sexual and reproductive health rights, civil and political rights, indigenous population rights, human rights, among others.

The following terminology is used to refer to specific entities within MenEngage Alliance:

MenEngage Alliance, or *the Alliance*, refers to the collective of entities that constitute the international network: the MenEngage Global Alliance, Global Secretariat, Regional and country Networks, members and partners. The term is distinct from *MenEngage Global Alliance* which supports this network to achieve its full potential.

MenEngage Global Alliance refers to the non-profit organization which serves as the implementing entity of the program, responsible for anchoring the work of the Alliance and supporting its members’ activities. MenEngage Global Alliance is registered in Washington DC, USA as a 501(c)3 organization.

MenEngage Global Board, or the *Board*, refers to the Board of Directors that is responsible for the governance of the Alliance at the global level, including oversight of programs and finances, and for carrying out fundraising for the organization. The Board consists of representatives from the Alliance’s regional networks and international at-large member organizations.

MenEngage Global Secretariat, or *Global Secretariat (GS)*, refers to the executive body of the MenEngage Global Alliance. It is composed of fulltime staffs, responsible for the implementation of the MenEngage Global Alliance’s strategic priorities, carrying out fundraising for the organization (supported by the Board), and managing the budget.

## Acronyms

AGM	Annual General Meeting
CariMAN	Caribbean Male Action Network
CEDAW	Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
CHSJ	Centre for Health and Social Justice
CPD	United Nations Commission in Population and Development
CSO	Civil society organization
CSW	United Nations Commission on the Status of Women
EAC	Eastern African Community
ECOSOC	The Economic and Social Council
EIGE	European Institute for Gender Equality
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GS	Global Secretariat
HLPF	High Level Political Forum
ICRW	International Center for Research on Women
IDS	Institute of Development Studies
IMAGES	International Men and Gender Equality Survey
IPPF	International Planned Parenthood Federation
LGBTQI	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer or Intersex
MATI	MenEngage Africa Training Initiative
MGoS	Major Groups and other Stakeholders
MENA	Middle East and North Africa
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NAMEN	North America MenEngage Network
NGO	Non-governmental organization
OHCHR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SOGI	Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity
SRHR	Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNGA	United Nations General Assembly
VAWG	Violence against women and girls
WILPF	Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
WMG	Women's Major Group
WPS	Women, Peace and Security

## Executive Summary

2017 was a turbulent year for women's rights, sexual and reproductive health and rights, and gender justice for all. Shifts in the world were mixed, from backlash to signs of progress. By several measures there is cause to be optimistic as the era of 'Leave No One Behind' has begun. At the same time 2017 saw serious challenges and regressive trends that are profoundly worrying. Political momentum is building, with potential transformative implications for women's rights and empowerment.

The year had a potentially game-shifting start, through worldwide mobilization of feminist movements against sexism, misogyny, patriarchy and impunity, when Women's Marches brought together millions of activists and general public in over 50 countries. Many MenEngage Alliance members joined the marches. With the reinstatement of the Global Gag Rule by the US Administration as a significant backlash against women's rights and SRHR, there were some positive developments in the launch of the #SheDecides initiative by the governments of The Netherlands and Sweden, that provided a global boost to Women's Right to Abortion and Bodily Autonomy as part of SRHR for all, which MenEngage Alliance supported. Towards the end of 2017, the global movement surrounding #MeToo - through which women and girls, trans-people and some men and boys around the world bravely shared their experiences with sexual harassment and abuse - resulted in a surge in interest and concern about the persistence of gender inequalities. It led to a potential end to institutionalized cultures of impunity, when perpetrators have been removed from their workplaces and in some instances legally prosecuted. The year 2017 also saw remarkable progress and commitment within the UN system, when in September UN Secretary-General António Guterres launched his new strategy and for the first time in history the UN System was able achieve full gender parity at its top leadership, although the calls from feminist movements for the first female UN-SG were not realized.

In the midst of these trends, we also observed steadily increasing interest in the harmful socialization of men and boys (masculinities) and engaging men and boys towards being part of solutions. #MeToo put the roles and responsibilities of men and boys as both perpetrators and allies in ending harassment and abuse more firmly in the public eye and opinion. The movement sparked debate within the field of work on men and masculinities, prompting MenEngage Alliance to release a statement and convene an online dialogue to crowd-source potential ways forward to engage with boys and men in addressing the structural barriers and root causes of sexual harassment and abuse. We furthermore observe increased interest and uptake among policy-makers and practitioners in the international human rights and development sector on women's rights, SRHR and gender equality. In national, regional and international policy-making spaces, we observed increasing governmental support, including the adoption of a Human Rights Council Resolution on "*Engaging boys and men in the prevention of violence against all women and girls*". This milestone resolution includes some progress in language and commitments on gender transformative violence prevention work, which was a consolidated joint advocacy effort where MenEngage Alliance made significant contributions.

The increased interest in engaging men and boys in women's rights struggles, is leading to more governments and organizations developing targeted policies and programs on men and boys. MenEngage Alliance welcomes this trend, as we believe that in order to mobilize men and boys towards women's rights and gender justice for all at a large scale, the uptake of gender transformative work with men and boys needs to be taken into public policies and institutions. However, we realize that there is significant risk involved when the ethics and practice of engaging men and boys are not feminist-informed, human rights based and gender transformative. It is pivotal that work with men and boys is accountable to women and girls at every level, and includes a gendered-power analysis. Furthermore, existing gender-transformative global commitments to engaging men and boys have not yet fully translated to national and local level policies, which generally continue to limit the understanding of 'gender' as solely the roles and responsibilities of women and girls. The majority of

policies and programs still lack nuanced analysis of the multiple roles of men and boys in gender-informed power inequalities and the roles they can play in transforming them, hence missing valuable opportunities to transform the very patriarchal system that is at the basis of gender injustices.

With all these trends, 2017 was a critical year for MenEngage Alliance to shift gears and strengthen our political agenda, as directed by our mission which puts patriarchal masculinities, including male privilege and some men's power-over others, at the centre of our problem analysis. We have also promoted this politicized agenda in our internal capacity strengthening and support to the MenEngage Alliance membership, as a global network of activists, experts, practitioners, researchers, CSOs and NGOs, made up of women's rights, SRHR, gender justice and engaging men and boys-focused organizations, working towards achieving women's rights, SRHR and gender justice for all. We strived to work through participatory and bottom-up processes by strengthening our regional networks. The current strategic plan places a strong emphasis on strengthening the roots of the network, the regional and country networks, while tying the work of the network as a whole into advocacy at the global level. The Alliance laid strong foundations this year to make the plan's ambitions a reality, and began to make positive contributions to advance its *goal by 2020: to increase support, uptake and implementation of feminist-informed gender transformative approaches to engaging men and boys in key women's rights, SRHR and gender equality issues among our members, partners and allies in the gender justice and human rights fields.*

The Alliance developed a SRHR strategy that aims to challenge the social norms, stigma, discrimination, attitudes and laws that undermine the fulfilment of SRHR for all, through the increased uptake of gender transformative approaches to engage men and boys. The Alliance's approach to SRHR for all acknowledges women's current realities, their vulnerabilities and their leadership to claim services and rights, as well as an understanding of the implicit power and control that men and boys have over girls' and women's reproductive options through harmful social norms. We also continued to be actively engaged as a partner in the Global MenCare Campaign on unpaid care and fatherhood, and as a technical partner in Prevention+, a multi-country programme to engage men and boys in gender-based violence prevention. In addition the Alliance strengthened its organizing around a number of emerging issues this year. 'Learning circles' were formed on 'Militarism and Masculinities' and 'Sexual Orientation and Gender identity (SOGI)' to collectively generate better understanding of these issues and how the Alliance can add value with a men and masculinities perspective.

As part of the new Strategic Plan, in 2017 we organized our work around five areas in which we strive to make key contributions. While doing so, we are conscious of the risk of NGO-ization, in particular in the context of shrinking civil society spaces, the ongoing struggle for resources and funding in particular for women's rights organizations and other marginalized groups, and the challenges embedded in communicating the value-additions of network-building as different from program-and project-implementation.

**1. Networks building and capacity strengthening:** In order to build stronger regional and country networks and increase competencies among members and partners on gender transformative approaches, MenEngage Global supported four of the Alliance's regional networks with technical inputs and financial resources to undertake a stock-taking exercise in the form of strength and needs assessments. Through all these exercises with the regional networks, MenEngage Global Alliance took the opportunity to share about the global strategic plan as well as conduct value clarification exercises with regards to the mission statement. The Alliance also developed a 'Network-Building Toolkit' to support regional and country level networks to develop well-functioning and democratic networks. MenEngage Alliance co-organized or supported a range of regional conferences and symposia, including the 'Five Days of Violence Prevention Conference', the 'Masculinities in the Arab World

Conference', the Sixth Latin American Colloquium on Masculinities, the MAN2017 conference and the MenEngage Nordic conference 'Making the Invisible visible'.

Reflecting on the year 2017, after conducting the strength assessment and work plan development exercises with the regional networks, we realise the importance of creating more spaces for our members and partners that enable exchange and mutual learning, where they can spend quality time on strengthening their understanding and capacities on the issues and its complexity. Another realization is that the Alliance and members need to invest in conducting value clarifications at all levels of the Alliance about the nature of its work, as a key player on men and masculinities work in the broader field of women's rights and gender justice (see also Result area 4 on Accountability). In addition, there was realization among regional networks that there is a wealth of knowledge and expertise among the membership and that needs to be harnessed further, well documented, collated and disseminated. By doing so the Alliance can strengthen connectivity among our members and facilitate joint actions, in order to build capable and interconnected global, regional and country networks. Through the creation of such spaces we aspire to contribute to improved quality and quantity of their work through increasingly gender *transformative* approaches with men and boys, and will make connections which will enable them to carry out partnerships and joint programming and advocacy.

**2. Joint advocacy:** MenEngage Alliance increased its focus on international policy advocacy this year, and with a new Advocacy Coordinator on the Global Secretariat team, was able to make a more consolidated effort in our advocacy work, leading to considerable advancements in this area. Throughout the year we contributed to key policy making and civil society organizing events with men and masculinities perspectives, and supported our women's rights and SRHR partners, positioning ourselves as an ally to these movements. We facilitated members' participation in global advocacy spaces, produced and shared issue-based policy briefs and reports from key events, produced advocacy statements around topical issues and supported members' and partners' advocacy initiatives. Key advocacy moments this year included the 61<sup>st</sup> session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), the High-Level Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF), and the first time MenEngage Alliance engaged with the UN Human Rights Council (HRC). These efforts resulted in the inclusion of human-rights based, feminist-informed (addressing privilege and power-inequalities) and gender transformative language on transforming patriarchal masculinities and the engagement of men and boys in key international policies, including a milestone Human Rights Council Resolution on engaging men and boys in the prevention of violence against women.

A key lesson learned is that a consolidated, long-term advocacy strategy and capacity strengthening among members is required to ensure change is meaningful and sustained. Building a longer-term strategy for MenEngage Alliance - that is human-rights based, feminist-informed, gender-transformative, and adds value to the ongoing leadership of women's rights, SRHR, LGBTQI and feminist movements - is increasingly relevant as we observe increased interest in and uptake of work on engaging men and boys. In our advocacy this trend has meant deciding not to go for apparent easy gains on policies around men's engagement, when we feel we may not have enough influence over the quality of the end-product. To address these concerns as ongoing opportunities emerged, more consolidated agenda-setting and strategies have emerged around specific policy-making settings, such as at CSW, HLPF and HRC.

**3. Knowledge management and communications:** In 2017 MenEngage Global Alliance continued maintaining the existing website, social media platforms, and listservs to amplify the voices of our members and circulate relevant information and resources on gender transformative approaches, men and masculinities and priority issues related to, women's rights, SRHR and gender justice. MenEngage Alliance also conducted social-media mobilization activities, including twitter chats.

Through our communications channels we continued to facilitate exchange of knowledge across the Alliance and with the broader field and encouraged our members to share their information and resources on the issues of men and masculinities to advance SRHR, women's rights and gender justice. We published a range of knowledge products including thematic policy briefs and reports from advocacy events and conferences. We advanced in our plans to redesign the global interactive website and membership portal which will serve as the virtual equivalent of our community of practice. Unfortunately, during 2017 the Global Secretariat was unable to recruit a Communications Coordinator, and due to lack of this human resource capacity we were unable to fulfil all of our communications plans this year, such as the development of a comprehensive knowledge management strategy.

**4. Accountability and partnerships:** One of the key roles for MenEngage Alliance identified in the new Strategic Plan is to promote and increase understanding of accountable practices and collaborative work in the engaging men and boys field. In 2017, the Alliance made a concerted effort in all our activities and strategies to promote work with men and boys that is gender-transformative, based on feminist and human rights principles, aims to challenge male privilege and some men's power-over, and ultimately to end patriarchy. We promoted and disseminated the MenEngage Alliance Accountability Standards and Guidelines and training toolkit, organized dialogues on accountability among key stakeholders at a range of advocacy and civil society fora throughout the year, and organized capacity building sessions on accountability as part of the Prevention+ partnership. In addition, we continued to build relationships with key women's rights organizations and networks and to ensure accountability to the agendas of these groups in our advocacy work.

A key lesson learned from 2017 is we need to step-up our efforts to build better relationships with critical feminist and human rights activists. And more needs to be done to communicate and make visible MenEngage Alliance's values, principles and practices, towards the broader women's rights, SRHR and gender justice fields. With the increasing interest and uptake of engaging men and boys in policies and programming, we foresee that MenEngage Alliance's role will increasingly be one of a critical voice contributing towards that work being done in line with principles and practices that are actually clear on and contribute to the ultimate goals: to advance all women's and girls' empowerment, autonomy and rights on all issues and at all levels. Related, a key emerging insight is that while we receive feedback that the Alliance's articulation of its political agenda and principles, as well as the existence of the accountability guidelines and toolkit, are on the right track, there is growing concern on the practices of the work on the ground. During the regional assessments, accountability issues were identified as key to strengthening the national and regional networks, and the importance of putting these standards and guidelines in practice through contextualization and establishing relevant mechanisms. Therefore capacity strengthening with MenEngage members on accountable practices, so that the Alliance leads by example and inspires others, will be an increased area of focus the coming year/s. How to understand and monitor change in this regard, will be an important aspect of the articulation of MenEngage Alliance's M&E framework, to be taken forward in 2018.

**5. Institutional structure and coordination:** MenEngage Alliance has been a fully independent entity since January 2017. This year we focused on strengthening our own internal structure and mechanisms and procedures in place in order to be an active, membership-led, democratic, sustainable and accountable learning organization that acts in solidarity with its members and partners. This year we initiated the development of a Theory of Change for the Alliance, which was rigorously discussed during the board meeting and will be finalized in 2018. We submitted a proposal to Amplify Change to support our work on sexual and reproductive health and rights, and supported our regional networks with their resource mobilization strategies.

## Calendar

### January

- Worldwide mobilization around the Women's March
- MenEngage Europe meeting and EIGE civil society consultation in Vilnius, Lithuania
- 'The role of masculinities in conflict prevention' presentations at the World Bank in Washington DC, USA

### February

- Nordic MenEngage Conference "Making Invisible Visible" in Oslo, Norway
- Online consultation on "Youth and Gender Equality" in preparation for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Youth CSW Forum
- Sida and MenEngage Global Alliance strategy meeting and affirmation of continued partnership in Washington D.C., USA
- NAMEN Web Conference - Community of Practice, Boston, USA

### March

- CSW Youth Forum at the United Nations in New York, USA
- 61<sup>st</sup> session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) at the United Nations in New York, USA

### April

- 6<sup>th</sup> International Colloquium on Men and Masculinities in Recife, Brazil
- Prevention+ Advocacy/Accountability/Gender transformative approaches training in Amsterdam, the Netherlands
- WILPF event on shrinking spaces at the UN in Geneva, Switzerland
- MenEngage Africa National Project Coordinators' Meeting, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
- NAMEN Web Conference - Community of Practice, Boston, USA

### May

- 'Masculinities in the Arab World' conference in Beirut, Lebanon
- Online Course on "Understanding Masculinities: Engaging boys and men in Gender Justice", New Delhi, India
- MenEngage Alliance South Asia Steering Committee Meeting in Bengaluru, India

### June

- Human Rights Council 35<sup>th</sup> session in Geneva, Switzerland
- MenCare Global Meeting in Belgrade, Serbia
- MAN2017 Conference in Belgrade, Serbia
- NAMEN Web Conference - Community of Practice in Boston, USA

### July

- High Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development at the United Nations in New York, USA
- MenEngage Africa Annual General Meeting in Maputo, Mozambique

### August

- MenEngage Global Secretariat team meeting and Theory of change meeting in Washington D.C, USA
- NAMEN Web Conference - Community of Practice in Boston, USA

#### September

- MenEngage Alliance Global Board meeting in Ottawa, Canada
- State of the field dialogue with Global Affairs Canada and Status of Women Canada in Ottawa, Canada

#### October

- 5 Days of Violence Prevention conference in Johannesburg, South Africa
- Prevention+ Annual Partners Meeting on violence prevention in Jakarta, Indonesia
- Coloquio Nacional Sobre Masculinidades in Lima, Peru

#### November

- MenEngage South Asia Steering Committee planning meeting and strength assessment in Kathmandu, Nepal
- Geneva Peace Week event 'Building Youth Leadership to Prevent Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and the Outbreak of Conflicts' in Geneva, Switzerland
- MenEngage Europe Steering Committee meeting and strength assessment in Barcelona, Spain
- Men in Movement Conference in Barcelona, Spain
- CariMAN Steering Committee meeting and strength assessment in Trinidad and Tobago

#### December

- MenEngage Alliance Virtual Roundtable Discussion 'Roles and responsibilities of men and boys in response to #Metoo'

## REPORT FROM THE GLOBAL SECRETARIAT

In this section of the report, the MenEngage Alliance Global Secretariat (ME-GS) provides a detailed description of how MenEngage Global Alliance used its available resources in 2017, to contribute to our **Goal by 2020: increased support, uptake and implementation of feminist-informed gender transformative approaches on men's and boys' roles, attitudes and responsibilities - related to SRHR including HIV/AIDS, GBV, and gender equality - among key stakeholders in the gender justice and human rights field.**

MenEngage Global Alliance places our work towards this goal strongly within our aspired **Impact by 2020: MenEngage Alliance has contributed to improved access to sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), reduced vulnerability to HIV/AIDS, reduced gender-based violence and discrimination, just redistribution of unpaid care, and a stronger women, peace and security agenda, by strengthening efforts aiming to change discriminatory norms related to men's and boy's attitudes, responsibilities and roles, at country, regional and global levels.**<sup>1</sup>

To contribute to these changes we aspire, our **Mission statement** guides our work at all levels:

**The MenEngage Global Alliance works to transform unequal power relations and patriarchal systems by:**

- = **Transforming masculinities;**
- = **Working with men and boys through intersectional feminist approaches;**
- = **Building inclusive Alliances from local to regional to global levels; and**
- = **Fostering joint actions in partnership with women's rights, gender- and other social justice movements.**

See the glossary section for a value clarification of how we understand these and other theoretical and political concepts that we place central in our work on men and masculinities towards women's rights, SRHR and gender justice for all.

We believe that well connected social justice networks - built on the principles of shared leadership, dialogue, and collaboration - can create a force for lasting, transformative change larger than the sum of its parts. To address the multi-faceted issues of gender inequality and sexual and reproductive health and rights, strong and strategic partnerships between organizations working across sectors are required. To reach men and boys at a large scale, there is a need to increase the uptake of gender transformative work with men and boys through nuanced and feminist informed approaches and take this work into programming, public policies and institutions. To contribute to these changes, MenEngage Alliance facilitates diverse actors to take joint actions. MenEngage Alliance, as a network, brings together diverse actors pursuing a common purpose, enabling them to leverage their collective skills, expertise and resources to expand our impact and accelerate change. Through our five key strategies, MenEngage Alliance believes we contribute meaningfully.

Throughout this report, we reflect on the progress made towards the result areas and outcomes. The next section elaborates in detail on the outputs and activities in those five result areas.

---

<sup>1</sup> Aligned with concepts as used by Sida.

## **Result Area 1 – Networks Building and Capacity strengthening**

*The MenEngage Community of Practice is capable, inclusive, connected, mobilized and amplifies local, country and regional work on engaging men and boys in gender transformative approaches, thereby contributing to SRHR for all, women's rights and gender justice, GBV prevention, redistribution of unpaid care, peace and security.*

A key role of MenEngage Alliance is strengthening the interconnectivity, capacities and visibility of its members' and partners, so that they can inspire and inform increased and qualitative uptake of feminist-informed, gender transformative work on men and masculinities towards advancing women's rights, SRHR and gender justice for all. Supporting the regional networks to develop into well-organized and capable networks is at the core of this objective, and in 2017 the Global Secretariat focused its efforts on working with the regional networks to carry out strength and needs assessments and develop comprehensive work-plans and strategies for 2018 and beyond. Through its 'Community of Practice' approach to capacity strengthening, MenEngage Alliance organized or supported a range of virtual and in-person consultations, conferences and dialogues, in order to facilitate exchange, mutual learning and joint actions among our members. The Alliance took steps to consolidate the regional networks working group, as well as various thematic working groups and learning circles, as key spaces to exchange challenges and lessons, enabling a better understanding of the complexities and promising practices of feminist-informed and gender-transformative men and masculinities work within critical issues and topics. The Alliance also supported new members and networks to associate with the work of the Alliance, and strengthened relationships with other networks and movements.

Reflecting on the year 2017, after conducting the strength assessment and work plan development exercises with the regional networks, we realise the importance of creating more spaces for our members and partners that enable exchange and mutual learning, where they can spend quality time on strengthening their understanding and capacities on the issues and its complexity. Another realization is that the Alliance and members need to invest in conducting value clarifications at all levels of the Alliance about the nature of its work, as a key player on men and masculinities work in the broader field of women's rights and gender justice (see also Result area 4 on Accountability). In addition, there was realization among regional networks that there is a wealth of knowledge and expertise among the membership and that needs to be harnessed further, well documented, collated and disseminated. By doing so the Alliance can strengthen connectivity among our members and facilitate joint actions, in order to build capable and interconnected global, regional and country networks. Through the creation of such spaces we aspire to contribute to improved quality and quantity of their work through increasingly gender *transformative* approaches with men and boys, and will make connections which will enable them to carry out partnerships and joint programming and advocacy.

### **Outcome 1) Capacity strengthening**

*MenEngage Alliance members have strengthened capacities to coordinate and implement collective efforts among themselves and with the broader field for women's rights and gender justice to transform masculinities and engage men and boys on issues related to SRHR incl. HIV/AIDS, GBV, and gender equality.*

Outcome indicators:

- % increase in regional networks having quality strategies & work-plans in place and implemented in the countries and regions where MenEngage Alliance is present by 2020.
- % increase in and quality of individual and collective programs and actions on engaging boys and men among members and partners in the countries and regions where MenEngage Alliance is present by 2020.
- % increase in new networks and members by 2020.

- # and quality of dialogue spaces organized to review and strategize on the work around “men and masculinities” with women’s rights and gender justice actors at country, regional and global level by 2020.

<b>Outputs</b>	<b>Output Indicators</b>	<b>Report 2017</b>
<b>Output 1.1)</b> Strength assessments and work plans developed by MenEngage regional networks	# of MenEngage regional networks undertaking capacity and strength assessment and work-plan development in 2017	4 regional strength assessments completed, and reports being compiled, with participation of altogether 72 members of regional SCs  2 regional strength assessments initiated and ongoing  5 sub-grants to the regional networks managed  6 work-plan development initiated and ongoing
	1 Network Building toolkit developed in 2017	1 completed
	% increase in MenEngage membership at country, regional and global levels. <i>Target: 5%</i>	7.69% increase in country networks (3 new country networks in Africa region; 5 new members in Indonesia where we don’t have country network)
<b>Output 1.2)</b> Joint capacity strengthening and advocacy activities organized by MenEngage regional and country networks	# of meetings, workshops, trainings organized per year among the global, regional and country MenEngage networks by 2020 <i>Baseline: 0 → Target: 6</i>	18 global and regional networks meetings counted: - 1 MenEngage Board meeting & State of the Field consultation & workshop in Canada, around 100 participants from various agencies of Canadian Government & local and international CSOs - 1 MenCare Global Meeting 2017 organised together with the MenCare Steering Committee, around 100 experts, practitioners and activists worldwide - 1 Webinar on “Paternity Leave in Latin America and Spain” in Mexico - 20 people participated from 13 countries in the region - 5 MenEngage Africa SC meetings - 2 MenEngage South Asia meetings - 2 MenEngage Europe SC meetings - 1 Caribbean network meeting - 1 Latin America meeting - 7 North America SC meetings - 1 in Cambodia

	# of members participating in the capacity strengthening initiatives by 2020 <i>Baseline: 0 → Target: 350</i>	595: - 50 NAMEN's CoP webinars - 400 in various capacity development activities across Africa region - 40 participants in Nicaragua on workshops on accountability - 10 participants in Costa Rica on contextualizing the Code of Conduct - 25 participants of the online course in South Asia - 15 participants on ToT on masculinities in South Asia - 45 participants in workshop in Cambodia
	# of thematic working groups work plans developed and implemented by 2020	5: 1 detailed SRHR work-plan developed 1 GBV work-plan implemented by organizing 5 Days of Violence Prevention event in South Africa 1 MenCare meeting 2 Learning Circles on emerging issues, SOGI and Peace/Nonviolence, initiated and developing work-plans
	# of campaigns developed, adapted and implemented at global, regional and country levels by 2020	7: 1 MenCare campaign 1 EkSaath 3 campaigns in Africa 1 Fatherhood campaign in Latin America 1 White Ribbon Campaign in Cambodia
	# of people outreached by MenEngage campaigns by 2020	We do not (yet) have a methodology to monitor this, but we know thousands from worldwide, to specific countries levels
<b>Output 1.3)</b> The MenEngage Regional Networks Working Group and virtual platforms are activated and functional	1 Regional Networks Working Group in place and functioning by 2020	1 Regional Networks Working Group in place 1 Regional Networks Working Group Listserv created
	# of calls, visits and activities organized in support of the regional networks by 2020	1 face-to-face meeting during the Board meeting 8 visits/collaborations of 1 or more GS staff to regional meetings (all regional networks + MENA-region event + 1 Indonesia event)
	1 MenEngage Alliance online membership community in place and used by 2020	In development
	# of webinars and e-dialogues organized by 2020	5: 1 global #MeToo virtual dialogue 4 NAMEN CoP webinars

	# of users and attendants of virtual platforms by 2020	80 (30 global, 50 NAMEN) (see website/social media visits in section 3)
<b>Output 1.4)</b> Symposia, colloquia and seminars organized with MenEngage members and partners at global, regional and country levels	# of global, regional and national colloquiums or symposiums organized by the MenEngage Alliance members and networks by 2020	6: 1 MENA Regional conference, Lebanon 1 5-days of violence prevention event, South Africa 1 MenEngage Nordic Conference, Norway 1 MAN conference in Serbia (members' organized) 6th International Colloquium on Men and Masculinities 1 Peruvian National Colloquium on Masculinities
	# of contextualized Platforms for Action developed by 2020	1 Declaration from 5-days of violence prevention event
	# attendants and diversity in constituency and location by 2020	650 Women's Rights activists, Academia, Men and Masculinities leaders, LGBTIQA rights activists, Social Justice activists, UN Agencies: - 100 in 5-days of violence prevention - 100 in MenCare event - 250 in MENA regional conference - 150 in Colloquium in Latin America - 50 in Peruvian National Colloquium

### **Output 1.1 Strength assessments and work plans**

*Strength assessments and work plans developed by MenEngage regional networks*

#### Regional Strength and needs assessments

During 2017, the Global Secretariat initiated regional strength and needs assessments, a systematic mapping of members' strengths, needs and core competencies, with all six regional networks, and four of the regional networks -in Africa, Caribbean, Europe and South Asia - completed the assessments. Two regional networks - Latin America and North America - are in the process of completing their assessments, which are expected to be completed during the first half of 2018. The Global Secretariat developed a conceptual framework that served as the basis for the regional assessments, based on the core strategies of network building, advocacy, communications and accountability. MenEngage Global provided financial support to the regional networks, except to MenEngage Africa who already had regional resources secured. The strength and needs assessments facilitate the development and implementation of regional strategies and work-plans and create opportunities to work together cross-regionally, to strengthen gender transformative work with men and boys. These regional strategies and plans will serve to contextualize the Alliance's vision, mission, guiding principles, priority issues and core strategies.

The Global Secretariat provided with the sub-grants, to the focal organizations in each region, between the range of 7500-10000 USD per region as was agreed during the MenEngage Global Board in September 2017 for the assessment. In addition, the Global Secretariat provided technical support, including co-facilitating the strength assessment exercise and sessions in all the regions. The strength assessments were carried out during various occasions, making strategic use of planning and momentum in each region: ranging from the network's Steering Committee meetings – in the case of

MenEngage South Asia in Kathmandu in November, MenEngage Europe in Barcelona in November and CariMAN in Trinidad and Tobago in December, to Annual General Members' meeting – in case of MenEngage Africa in Mozambique. During all these meetings, the Global Secretariat took the opportunity to further introduce the global strategic plan and thinking on strengthening the regional networks, which was appreciated and provided energy to all the regional networks and members. North American MenEngage Network (NAMEN) decided to carry out the exercise in early 2018, and MenEngage Latin America hired a consultant, with support from the Regional Steering Committee and Global Secretariat, to carry out the assessment during early 2018. The strength and needs assessments have been or will be used to inform the development of comprehensive work plans for each regional network for 2018 and beyond.

The Global Secretariat also worked closely with ABAAD, the current focal organization of the network in Lebanon and the emerging regional network, in 2017 to conduct a strengths and needs assessment with the country network in Lebanon in early 2018, and set the stage for the emerging regional network in the MENA region.

In addition, MenEngage Africa, through its secretariat at Sonke Gender Justice, initiated an external evaluation of the Sida Zambia grant, to be completed by February 2018. The Global Secretariat shared various assessment and capacity development tools developed and provided inputs on the overall evaluation framework. The findings of this evaluation, in addition to the framework agreed upon during the Africa Annual General Members' meeting in Mozambique early 2018, will inform the network's strategic plan for 2018-22. The Global Secretariat will closely work with LifeLine-ChildLine Namibia (chair) and Sonke Gender Justice, along with the steering committee, to further develop the regional strategic plan and proposal to Sida Zambia for the next strategic period.

#### Sub-Grants Management

MenEngage Global Alliance started to provide sub-grants to the regional networks in 2017, with the Global Secretariat undertaking the sub-grant management role. The Global Secretariat developed internal control mechanisms and standard operating procedures for sub-grants management, with support from Sida and board members of the Alliance. The Global Secretariat entered into 5 sub-grant agreements with the regional focal organizations, on behalf of the respective regional networks, with the prior approval of the third-party recipients.

A small Board Reference Group was formed to develop sub-granting parameters for allocating funds in subsequent years to the regional networks. The group looked at various parameters and concluded that any alone or combination opens up considerable challenges and there is a risk of getting in to a very complex process. The group acknowledged that the money available is not very much and recommended that funds be allocated equally for 2019 and 2020, which was adopted by the Board. It was agreed that the regions will have to prioritize fundraising in their work-plans and use the funds in a strategic manner mobilize resources. The board also guided the Global Secretariat to find ways to support and provide similar sub-grants to the two, MENA and South East Asia, emerging regional networks for the years 2018-20.

#### Network-building Toolkit

The Global Secretariat, with support from the regional networks and co-chairs, finalized the [MenEngage Network-building Toolkit](#) in 2017. The toolkit provides guidance on network formation and development processes and supports emerging networks to build a strong foundation from which to meaningfully and accountably implement strategies to transform masculinities and engage men and boys, including programs, campaigns, communication and advocacy. The toolkit outlines the key roles of country networks and steps for setting up functional networks, which may or may not wish to be affiliated with MenEngage Alliance. From 2018 and onwards the Global Secretariat aims to

disseminate and utilize the toolkit in its efforts to strengthen the existing regional and country networks as well as building new and emerging networks, based on their varying contexts, priorities, strengths and challenges.

#### New associations in countries and regions with no MenEngage Alliance presence

2017 saw the emergence of new associations in **Indonesia**, where five new organizations became MenEngage Alliance members. This was the result of previous communications with several organizations and members of a national network Laki-Laki Baru in Indonesia and MenEngage Alliance's association as a technical partner in The Netherlands' FLOW-funded multi-country program "Prevention+". In the coming years, the Alliance will further strengthen these relationships with other like-minded organizations in the country.

#### **Output 1.2 Capacity strengthening and advocacy activities**

*Joint capacity strengthening and advocacy activities organized by MenEngage Alliance at country and regional levels.*

#### State of the Field Dialogue with the Government of Canada

Coinciding with the Global Board meeting, MenEngage Alliance together with White Ribbon Canada, organized a half-day *state of the field* consultation on "Women's Rights, Feminisms, and the Roles of Men and Boys" in Ottawa, Canada in September 2017, hosted by Global Affairs Canada in collaboration with Status of Women Canada. This event provided an opportunity to share and discuss practical experiences and lessons learned on transforming patriarchal masculinities and engaging men and boys in gender justice, together with practitioners and policy makers. Panellists from MenEngage Alliance presented their work around transforming masculinities and engaging men and boys towards advancing women's rights and feminist agendas in a variety of contexts and issues – including SRHR, SOGI, gender-based violence, women's political participation, and women, peace and security.

In the afternoon an interactive workshop provided further opportunity to strategize on a range of topics, including GBV/VAWG, SRHR, caregiving and fatherhood, youth leadership and intergenerational dialogue, peace and non-violence, and accountability. The format built on a similar strategy with Sida Sweden in 2016, and was a key example of MenEngage Alliance's critical role in organizing spaces for dialogue and mutual learning, in order to strengthen the ways in which work on men and masculinities is framed and carried out. The event highlighted the state of women's rights and gender equality, a critical patriarchal masculinities lens, men's roles and responsibilities, collaboration between civil society, government and other stakeholders, and political leadership.

As the result of these activities and relationship building, MenEngage Alliance provided inputs on a policy brief that Global Affairs of Canada put together to further elaborate the practical implications of their global feminist foreign assistance policy. Global Affairs Canada reported a better understanding of the men and masculinities agenda and showed a sincere commitment to further strengthen their focus on gender transformative approaches to engaging men and boys in gender equality, including through their recently announced feminist foreign assistance policy. The MenEngage Global Secretariat will continue building on this and work closely and provide support to Global Affairs Canada in its agenda on women's rights and empowerment.

#### **Thematic Working Groups**

The Global Secretariat worked closely with MenEngage Alliance's existing thematic working groups in 2017:

#### Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) strategy development

In 2017, further building on the SRHR concept note developed by the SRHR working group in 2016, MenEngage Global Alliance further articulated its strategy to challenge the social norms, stigma, discrimination, attitudes and laws that undermine the fulfilment of SRHR for all, through the increased uptake of gender transformative approaches to engage men and boys. We take a comprehensive approach to SRHR for all that acknowledges women's current realities, their vulnerabilities and their leadership to claim services and rights, as well as an understanding of the implicit power and control that men and boys have over girls' and women's reproductive options through harmful social norms. The SRHR strategy focuses on women's right to choose and access to safe and legal abortion; comprehensive sexuality education; ending homophobia and transphobia; equality in contraceptive responsibility; and increasing men's access to and use of HIV and other SRH services. The strategy was presented as a program proposal to Amplify Change under its strategic grants scheme. We will receive a final decision from Amplify Change in the first quarter of 2018. If successful, the program will be rolled-out in 2018, in collaboration with the SRHR working group.

The program's concept is guided and supported by our strategic plan, with focus on strengthening the interconnectivity, capacities and engagement of MenEngage Alliance members' and partners around SRHR, as a strong and inclusive Community of Practice, by facilitating exchange, mutual learning, agenda setting and joint actions. The program will work to strengthen links with and capacities of the regional and country networks in the Global South, on engaging boys and men in community mobilization, campaigning and policy advocacy for the achievement of SRHR for all. A cross-cutting and central element of the program, the Alliance will support 30 local advocacy change-makers from the Global South through our regional and country networks, prioritizing youth, to strengthen their capacities, support them to implement interventions and mobilize them to amplify their voices and experiences in policy-making processes, thus supporting a pool of future leaders to anchor and sustain this work. The program will also build and share evidence on gender transformative programming with men and boys to advance SRHR, by documenting and disseminating promising practices and lessons learned, and strengthen an enabling policy environment through policy advocacy at all levels, together with SRHR, LGBTQI and women's rights movements. To Alliance plans to organize a global strategic consultation with MenEngage members and key partners and allies in the SRHR field in 2018, to enable these stakeholders to jointly strategize on the direction of the program and identify opportunities for collaboration.

#### MenCare-A Global Fatherhood Campaign

In 2017 MenEngage Alliance continued to be actively engaged as a Steering Committee member of **MenCare-A Global Fatherhood campaign**. MenEngage Alliance provided input on the development of the report "[State of the World's Father 2017: Time for Action](#)" the second State of the World's fathers report. Launched at the MenCare Global Meeting in Serbia, the report calls for a global goal and national action plans – building on to Agenda 2030 and Sustainable Development Goals – to include measures to ensure men and boys take on at least 50 percent of the world's unpaid care. The report also provides an 11-point action plan for achieving equitable distribution in unpaid care work, including key advocacy recommendations around policies and practices, such as equal, paid, non-transferable leave for all parents.

MenEngage Alliance co-organized the **MenCare Global Meeting 2017**, hosted by Centar E8 and Promundo, together with other steering committee members – Sonke Gender Justice, Promundo and Save the Children, in Belgrade, Serbia in June 2017. The second global gathering brought together nearly 100 activists, academics, and practitioners from 50 countries to share and exchange new findings, lessons learned, and reflections from the field of engaging men as fathers and caregivers for gender equality. The event strengthened ties among existing members, engaged new partners and developed new strategies for continuing the fight for gender equality amid rising challenges; and to raise the profile of men's caregiving within the global advocacy agenda for 2017 and beyond. A state-

of-the-field knowledge product in the form of a report of the event, is in production and will be launched early 2018.

#### Creation of 'Learning Circles' for emerging priority issues

At the Global Board meeting in September 2017, it was agreed to form 'Learning Circles' as an approach to collaborative knowledge building for two of the Alliance's emerging issues: "**Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI)**" and "**Peace, Security and Militarism**". The learning circles, coordinated by the Global Secretariat, consist of experts within the Global Board and among the Alliance membership and aim to provide a more structured space for conversation between practitioners and academics on transforming masculinities and engaging men as part of the agenda and movements that constitute them. The key objective is to develop better understanding and knowledge on these issues and identify ways forward for the Alliance to meaningfully add value to advance gender justice for all. With support from one of the Alliance's Co-Chairs, the Global Secretariat developed a concept note on the idea of Learning Circles, that further helps these and other groups to meet and establish their objectives, activities and working methods. These Learning Circles will continue to realise their plans in the coming years, including by developing discussion papers and articles, organizing webinars and consultation and mobilizing alliance members around these issues. The outcomes of the circles will inform the Alliance's networks building and advocacy.

#### Formation of Advocacy Working Group

The Alliance took concrete steps towards the realization of the **MenEngage Alliance Advocacy Working Group**, consolidating the commitment of the Global Board at the annual Board meeting. It was decided to form a working group, with representatives from the Global Secretariat, at-large members and a representative from each regional network. The Global Secretariat drafted a 'selection criteria' note, to facilitate the regions' selection of an advocacy focal point to join the Advocacy Working Group in early 2018. This document was shared and validated with the regional network focal persons, who have started selecting the regional network's representatives. (*See below in the Advocacy section for details*)

#### Barbershop Toolbox

MenEngage Alliance collaborated with UN Women and the Government of Iceland on the development of a [Barbershop Toolbox](#), a resource which provides men with the tools to address gender inequality and become agents of change. The tool includes resources from MenEngage Alliance members, including Program H of Promundo and Program Ra of ABAAD, as well as MenEngage Alliance's Accountability Training exercises. The Alliance co-organized and participated in two launch events for the toolkit, one at CSW61 in March and another in during the Human Rights Council session in Geneva in June. MenEngage Global Secretariat's engagement in tool-development focused on anchoring the work with men and boys in a strong women's rights and empowerment agenda, and on strengthening accountable practices by those who use the tool.

#### **Output 1.3: Regional Networks Working Group**

*The MenEngage Regional Networks Working Group and virtual platforms are activated and functional.*

This output area focuses on consolidated spaces for the Regional Networks representatives to connect and strategize, as well as virtual platforms where the broader membership meets to critically discuss gender-transformative work on men and masculinities.

#### Regional Networks Working Group

In 2017 the Global Secretariat supported the Regional Networks Working Group members with the strength assessment process. The working group had a face-to-face meeting during the Board meeting, where they shared their experiences and challenges in organizing as networks at the regional

level, and discussed opportunities to work together. The working group made a decision to create a google groups listserv in order to further strengthen communications across the regions and have a routine way of engaging with each other. The listserv is hosted by the Global Secretariat as a service to the regional networks working group, and facilitates communication, information/knowledge exchange among working group members - thus creating a virtual space for cross-regional learning and connections.

#### #MeToo Virtual Dialogue

In the wake of #MeToo, the MenEngage Alliance Global Secretariat issued a [statement](#) calling boys and men to step up and take responsibility to end the culture of silence and impunity surrounding men's violence, and actively engage in dismantling patriarchy. Following the discussion that disrupted on the Alliance's listserv and further informed by public debate, in December 2017 MenEngage Alliance held a virtual discussion on the "Roles and responsibilities of men and boys in response to #MeToo". Intended as a safe-space for critical reflection and exploration as a collective on the work of engaging men and boys in addressing the issues surfaced by #MeToo, the discussion explored what MenEngage Alliance members and partners around the world have been doing in response to #MeToo, and collectively 'crowdsource' ideas and solutions on how to appropriately address this complex issue of men's critical roles and responsibilities in putting an end to these persistent cultures of violence.

We invited four panellists from diverse contexts across the Alliance and partners, and participants from around the world also shared their thoughts and comments on the issues raised, suggestions on working with men and boys to create change from the individual to the systemic level, as well as key resources from their work, resulting in a dynamic and constructive conversation. MenEngage Alliance produced a [summary report](#) of the conversation and are planning a second dialogue on this topic in early 2018.

#### CSW Youth Forum Online Consultation

In February 2017, in advance of CSW61, MenEngage Alliance co-organized an online consultation with the UN Interagency Network on Youth and Development's Working Group on Youth and Gender Equality, inviting young people from around the world to provide their inputs on the key themes of the Youth Forum: Young Women's Leadership, Young Women's Economic Empowerment, Partnerships with Young Men in Gender Equality, and Inter-generational Partnerships. MenEngage Alliance together with the members of the Task Force on Young Men, co-moderated the one week-discussion on "young men in gender equality". The online consultation, which touched on all themes and lasted for 4 weeks in the lead-up to the Youth Forum, was successful in collating inputs, thoughts and promising examples across the world among the young people who were unable to attend the Youth Forum in person. The inputs collated from the [online discussion](#) were brought together, and presented, during the Youth Forum and informed the [Youth Declaration](#) that was presented during the formal closing session of CSW61 (*for more information about Youth Forum, please see below in the Advocacy Section*).

#### **Output 1.4: Symposia, colloquia and seminars**

*Symposia, colloquia and seminars organized with MenEngage members and partners at global, regional and country levels.*

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> Global Symposium

The Alliance began preparations for the organization of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Global Symposium, with a discussion at the September 2017 Global Board meeting, in which the Board discussed the rationale of organizing the next symposium and how this could build on the success of the previous symposia in [Rio](#) and [Delhi](#) to further advance the Alliance's agenda and position as an ally with the broader women's rights

agenda. The Global Secretariat released a [“call for expressions of interest”](#) from potential host organizations and networks, to be decided upon in 2018, in order to prepare for the event in 2019 or early 2020.

#### Masculinities in the Arab World Conference

Around 250 activists, researchers, practitioners, and policy makers came together in Beirut, Lebanon in May to take part in the conference “Masculinities in the Arab World” to collectively identify actionable strategies for engaging men and boys as allies in achieving gender equality and peace in the Arab world. The conference was organized by Promundo-US, ABAAD-Resource Centre for Gender Equality, UN Women Arab Regional Office and other supporting partners, including MenEngage Alliance’s Global Secretariat. The event featured the launch of results from the [International Men and Gender Equality Survey in North America and Northern Africa \(IMAGES MENA\)](#) – which explores men’s and women’s attitudes and practices towards gender equality in the region, as well as the effects of conflict and displacement on masculinities in the region. The study confirms that there is a long way to go in transforming attitudes and behaviours regarding gender equality, and the engaging men and boys field in the region is still nascent. The conference showed, however, that there is considerable energy and enthusiasm in the region to strengthen and advance this work.

MenEngage Alliance developed an action-oriented report [“Discourses and reflections from the conference Masculinities in the Arab World”](#), based on the discussions at the conference and interviews with key stakeholders. The report identifies some existing promising initiatives in the MENA region and focuses on recommendations for ways forward to translate the conclusions from the conference sessions and the IMAGES study. It provides concrete suggestions for developing gender transformative approaches to engaging boys and men in gender justice, in the areas of civil society organizing, advocacy, policies and research.

#### 5 Days of Violence Prevention

Sonke Gender Justice, in partnership with MenEngage Africa, MenEngage Alliance Global Secretariat, MÄN, FEMNET, Mosaic, Soul City, We Will Speak Out and UN Women, hosted the second [Five Days of Violence Prevention Conference](#) in Johannesburg in October 2017. The conference brought together researchers, activists, policy makers, donors and programmers from civil society organizations, UN agencies, government ministries, faith-based organizations academic institutions and multi-lateral organizations from around the region to discuss emerging issues in the field of violence prevention, and to review promising practices with the potential for adaption to different regional and country contexts. A strong focus of the conference was to foster accountability toward women’s rights organizations, coalitions and activists while carrying out programs geared toward engaging men and boys and transforming violent masculinities. Dr Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director of UN Women, delivered the keynote address – [Violence Prevention: Global and Regional Trends in Africa](#).

#### MenEngage Nordic Conference

[MenEngage Nordic](#), a sub-regional network of MenEngage Europe, organized a one-day conference on **Transforming Social Norms among Boys & Men for Gender Justice in Practice**, in Oslo, Norway in February 2017 that was attended by more than 100 participants from across the European region. The conference, [“Making the Invisible Visible”](#), resulted in rich exchanges of promising experiences between peers through workshops and sessions on topics of relevance to the day-to-day work of practitioners. Focus was on gender justice in the Nordic region and the specific national and local contexts, as well as issues and experiences from Europe and globally. MenEngage Alliance Co-Chair and staff of the Global Secretariat joined the forum and jointly facilitated one of the parallel workshops on organizing the next Global Symposium. MenEngage’s Co-Chair also delivered the closing remarks at the event. This conference boosted connections among MenEngage Nordic members and created a space for further joint actions in the Nordic sub-region in the coming years. With this energy,

MenEngage Nordic is planning to continue follow-up conferences in the region to share and learn from each other.

#### MAN2017 Conference

Centar E8, in cooperation with Promundo, organized its seventh annual expert conference “[MAN2017: Europe talks on masculinity](#)” in June 2017 in Belgrade, Serbia. This focused on multidisciplinary analysis of masculinities in the contemporary social context, in specific in the Eastern European context. The three-day event provided opportunities for learning and advancement of knowledge of youth workers, activists and professionals who use feminist and critical theories of masculinity in their work. Members of MenEngage Europe participated and presented at the conference, facilitating a workshop “Boystalk2017: engendering intersectional conversations that matter” and the MenEngage Global Secretariat with Tal Peretz from Auburn University co-facilitated an interactive panel discussion on accountability within transforming masculinities and engaging boys and men in gender justice.

#### 6th International Colloquium on Men and Masculinities

The 6<sup>th</sup> bi-annual [Latin-America Colloquium on Men and Masculinities](#) took place in Recife, Brazil in April 2017. This year’s theme was “*Masculinities and contemporary dynamics of power and resistance: Ethical, ideological and political suppositions from diverse voices, practices and interventions in work with men and masculinities*”. The event brought together more than 400 researchers, human rights activists, public policy practitioners from countries all over the region, and created a space to share and amplify the visibility of knowledge and promising practices, and contributed to the evidence base for this work and the building of more equitable public policies. MenEngage Latin America also held a steering committee meeting to coincide with the event. MenEngage Global Alliance financially supported the participation of the co-coordinators of MenEngage Latin America at the conference.

#### Peruvian National Colloquium on Masculinities

The “*Coloquio Nacional Sobre Masculinidades*” organized by [Red Peruana de Masculinidades](#) – the MenEngage country network in Peru – took place in October 2017, with support from GIZ. The colloquium created a space for dialogue, reflection, debate and exchange of experiences between organizations working in the sector of GBV prevention, LGBTIQ rights and research on men, masculinities and prevention of VAW. The colloquium also analysed and made visible public and private politics on work around men and masculinities, promoting gender equality and violence prevention. MenEngage Global Alliance financially supported one of the co-coordinators of MenEngage Latin America regional network to join the event. The support to the emerging network in Peru by the regional co-coordinator, created an opportunity for strengthening the network’s development process and its relationship with the regional network.

## **Result Area 2 – Advocacy**

*An enabling policy environment for gender transformative approaches with men and boys to advance women’s rights and gender justice, SRHR for all, GBV prevention, redistribution of unpaid care, peace and security.*

MenEngage Alliance increased its focus on international policy advocacy this year, and with a new Advocacy Coordinator on the Global Secretariat team, was able to make a more consolidated effort in our advocacy work, leading to considerable advancements in this area. Throughout the year we contributed to key policy making and civil society organizing events with men and masculinities perspectives, and supported our women’s rights and SRHR partners, positioning ourselves as an ally to these movements. We facilitated members’ participation in global advocacy spaces, produced and shared issue-based policy briefs and reports from key events, produced advocacy statements around topical issues and supported members’ and partners’ advocacy initiatives. Key advocacy moments this

year included the 61<sup>st</sup> session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), the High-Level Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF), and the first time MenEngage Alliance engaged with the UN Human Rights Council (HRC). These efforts resulted in the inclusion of human-rights based, feminist-informed (addressing privilege and power-inequalities) and gender transformative language on transforming patriarchal masculinities and the engagement of men and boys in key international policies, including a milestone Human Rights Council Resolution on engaging men and boys in the prevention of violence against women.

A key lesson learned from the progress made through joint advocacy this year is that a consolidated, long-term advocacy strategy and capacity strengthening among members is required to ensure change is meaningful and sustained. Building a longer-term strategy for MenEngage Alliance - that is human-rights based, feminist-informed, gender-transformative, and adds value to the ongoing leadership of women’s rights, SRHR, LGBTQI and feminist movements - is increasingly relevant as we observe increased interest in and uptake of work on engaging men and boys. In our advocacy this trend has meant deciding not to go for apparent easy gains on policies around men’s engagement, when we feel we may not have enough influence over the quality of the end-product. To address these concerns as ongoing opportunities emerged, more consolidated agenda-setting and strategies have emerged around specific policy-making settings, such as at CSW, HLPF and HRC.

**Outcome 2.a) Increased joint policy advocacy actions**

*MenEngage members and strategic partners have increased joint policy advocacy actions, thereby contributing to increased policy and decision makers’ awareness on gender transformative approaches with men and boys on issues related to SRHR including HIV/AIDS, GBV, women’s rights and gender equality.*

Outcome 2.a indicators:

- # and quality of joint advocacy agendas formulated and shared broadly in a timely manner at national, regional and global advocacy spaces on GBV, SRHR including HIV/AIDS, unpaid care, peace and security by 2020
- # and quality of joint advocacy activities undertaken at national, regional and global advocacy spaces on GBV, SRHR including HIV/AIDS, unpaid care, peace and security by 2020
- # and quality of supportive statements by policymakers demonstrating their awareness on gender transformative approaches to engage men and boys on GBV, unpaid care, SRHR including HIV/AIDS and gender equality by 2020

<b>Outputs</b>	<b>Output Indicators</b>	<b>Report 2017</b>
<b>Output 2.1)</b> Interconnected Global-Regional-Country advocacy strategy developed and implemented with MenEngage regional and country networks and at-large member organizations	# of joint MenEngage Alliance advocacy working group meetings by 2020	7: - CSW61 Men and Masculinities Strategy - MENA Event – Network-Building Strategy - HRC Resolution Rapid Response Mobilization - HRC Resolution Report Submissions Strategy - HLPF Global Advocacy/Lobby Strategy - Prevention+ AWG Advocacy Strategy - Started the development of the Alliance's overarching and long-term advocacy strategy

	1 interconnected MenEngage Advocacy Strategy developed and used	Global Strategy in development - 1 Petition filed in India by FEM on Marital Rape in Delhi High Court
	# of advocacy capacity strengthening events organized with MenEngage Alliance members and partners by 2020	5: - CSW61 – HLPF advocacy - HRC engagement advocacy strengthening with experts from WILPF and board - HRC Rapid Response Lobby capacity strengthening event at HRC35 with OHCHR - Prevention+ Partners Meeting - 5 Days of Violence Prevention
	# of participants in advocacy capacity strengthening events organized by MenEngage Alliance global, regional and country networks by 2020	685: - CSW61 – HLPF advocacy (50) - HRC engagement advocacy strengthening (10) - HRC Rapid Response (500) - Prevention+ Partners Meeting (25) - 5 Days of Violence Prevention (100)
	1 MenEngage Global Advocacy calendar created and maintained with updated opportunities and activities	In development
<b>Output 2.2)</b> Timely activist responses on women’s rights, SRHR, gender and social justice violations developed and broadly disseminated, including focus on transforming gender norms and the roles and responsibilities of men and boys	# of global and regional rapid responses issued by MenEngage Alliance and members by 2020	1 process with 20 responses by members: 35th HRC MenEngage Alliance Rapid Response of members
	# of action alerts and responses supported by MenEngage Alliance and members by 2020	10: - WILPF Petition on CSW61 - UNAIDS Statement – Athena Network - Coalition to end VAWG Global Petition - WILPF Open letter to Security Council - IPPF European Court of Appeals - Champions for Global Reproductive Rights - INDA Statement - MADRE Letter to Ambassador Nikki Haley - Promundo Be a Model Man petition to Donald Trump - Statement to UN Working Group on Women in Law and Practice - Letter to the United States Federal Funding for Gender Based Violence - Statement on United States Title IX conference
	# of human rights and gender justice solidarity statements	2:

	issued and circulated by MenEngage Alliance and members by 2020	- MenEngage Alliance Statement on safe and legal abortion - #MeToo Statement MenEngage Alliance
<b>Output 2.3)</b> Concrete partnerships among MenEngage Alliance members and partners with global SRHR, women's rights and gender justice CSOs, NGOs and UN agencies developed and implemented.	# of MoUs with strategic partners signed by MenEngage Global Alliance by 2020	1 in progress with UN Women, potentially other UN agencies under One UN
	# of collaborative actions between MenEngage Alliance and members and UN agencies in 2017	10 meetings/calls with UN Women 4 joint actions with UN agencies: - CSW Youth forum - HeForShe Toolkit - 5 Days of Violence Prevention - MENA IMAGES Launch State of the World's Fathers Report
	# of collaborative actions between MenEngage Alliance and members and other women's rights and gender justice actors by 2020	28: - CSW 61 (10 side events) - HLPF (10 WMG advocacy +1 side event) - HRC – advocacy with SRI (1) - WILPF & Geneva Peace Week (2) - Prevention+ Coalition (4) - 5 Days of Violence Prevention (1)
<b>Output 2.4)</b> Global, regional and national decision and policy makers are reached with collective MenEngage Alliance policy advocacy	# of MenEngage country and regional advocacy champions supported in collective policy advocacy efforts at country, regional and global levels by 2020	30 country- & regional-level activities in global-level advocacy: - Responses to HRC evidence report (20) - MenEngage members collaborating at CSW61 (10)
	# joint events and panels organized in strategic policy advocacy settings by 2020	16: - CSW (10) - HLPF (1) - 5 Days of Violence Prevention (4) - HRC (1)
	# of policy and decision makers reached by MenEngage Alliance and members during 2017	300
	# of submissions and technical advocacy inputs made to relevant decision and policy making institutes by MenEngage Alliance and members in 2017	7: - HRC Resolution - CSW61 Agreed conclusions - SIDA Development Policy - SIDA Gender Policy - Canada Development Policy - UN Women Global Strategic Plan - CEDAW Committee General Recommendations

### **Output 2.1: Advocacy strategy**

*Interconnected global-regional-country level advocacy strategy developed and implemented with MenEngage regional and country networks and at-large member organizations.*

Initiation of a consolidated Advocacy Strategy and Calendar

MenEngage Alliance began the drafting of a consolidated global-regional-country advocacy strategy in 2017, bringing the thinking from the Strategic Plan 2017-2020 into concrete steps for operationalization. The strategy will be finalized in 2018 with inputs and review by a membership-based Advocacy Working Group (see below). Furthermore, the MenEngage Alliance Global Secretariat continues to maintain an advocacy calendar of civil society and UN events, to anticipate and plan mobilization of members and partners towards key moments for women's rights, SRHR and gender justice throughout the year.

#### Advocacy Working Group organizing

As a main driver in advancing MenEngage Alliance's plans for a consolidated joint advocacy agenda and strategy, in 2017 we took concrete steps towards the formation of an Advocacy Working Group. The plans for the group were discussed at the Global Board, and the first commitments were confirmed among at-large members and representatives from each region. For the selection of one focal point per region to join the group, the Global Secretariat drafted a 'selection criteria' note, which was validated with the regions. The group is coordinated by the Global Secretariat and includes members with specific expertise in the New York and Geneva based UN policy spaces, and by thematic area of expertise. A first virtual convening is scheduled in early 2018.

In addition to the overarching Advocacy strategy and group, throughout the year MenEngage Alliance members and partners have developed a variety of opportunity/response-based advocacy strategies – including around CSW, HLPF and HRC (see below).

#### Development of Change Agents Platform

Furthering the step to create the MenEngage Advocacy Working Group, in 2017 the Global Secretariat organized team strategy meetings to develop a Change Agents Platform, defining the integration of the actions of the Advocacy Working Group within this long-term capacity strengthening initiative. A plan of action is ready to launch the Change Agents Platform project in 2018, including a concept note and recruitment materials for the Advocacy Working Group to select 30 Change Agents to be part of the platform.

#### **Output 2.2: Activist responses**

*Timely activist responses to human rights violations developed and broadly disseminated, with a focus on transforming gender norms and the roles and responsibilities of men and boys.*

MenEngage Global Alliance led various rapid responses and statements:

#### MenEngage Alliance Statement on Global Day of Action for Access to Safe and Legal Abortion

In recognition of Global Day of Action for Access to Safe and Legal Abortion, the Global Secretariat drafted and disseminated a [global call to action](#) to express the solidarity and support for the calls by women's rights and SRHR organizations on the fundamental human rights of women to safe and legal abortion. The statement, available in English and Spanish, was signed by over 110 organization and individuals and disseminated widely across social media.

#### 35<sup>th</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council Rapid Response

As the Human Rights Council 35<sup>th</sup> session was underway, MenEngage Alliance members engaged in rapid response advocacy at the country level, as we sought to pressure governments who had not co-sponsored the resolution to support the adoption, including its gender-transformative framing.

The GS convened consultation meetings with civil society and government partners, mapping key countries to lobby in order to influence the framing of the resolution. This challenging call to action for MenEngage Alliance members was met with concrete and coordinated national lobbying of key

governmental officials, ministries and diplomats, in addition to media advocacy such as national press conference. The countries identified and mobilized included: Burundi, Cambodia, Dominica, DRC, Ethiopia, Grenada, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Malawi, Mali, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, St. Lucia, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe. The Rapid Response was successful in that many MenEngage Alliance members around the world indeed engaged in a consolidated joint advocacy effort, and with considerable response from their governments.

#### #MeToo Statement

As a response to #MeToo, in which women around the world share their stories of sexual abuse and harassment, MenEngage Alliance released a [statement](#), showing solidarity to the women and urging men and boys around the world to take responsibility for transforming social norms around masculinities and ending such harassment and abuse. We circulated the statement widely on social media and among our listservs, where it sparked a lively debate among members. The Swedish Committee to Afghanistan translated the statement to Swedish and published it on their website as a [joint statement](#). To further this important discussion, the Alliance then held a webinar on the topic as part of 16 days of Activism against gender-based violence in December (see section 1.3 for details).

In addition, MenEngage Alliance put its weight behind and united with various rapid responses and statements initiated by members and partners:

#### Global Women's March Mobilization

In January 2017, MenEngage Alliance called on members in the US and around the world to participate in the Global Women's March, to defend women's rights and those of others in response to the election of Donald Trump to the US presidency and the rising rhetoric of far-right populism around the world.

#### Be a Model Man Petition

Promundo US issued a public petition calling on President Trump to respect women's rights and to [#BeAModelMan](#). A number of MenEngage Alliance members signed on to the petition, and over 1500 individuals and activists signed it. This was followed by twitter mobilization using the hash tag #BeAModelMan.

#### SheDecides Manifesto

MenEngage Alliance also signed onto and helped disseminate the [SheDecides manifesto](#), supporting the right of women and girls to make autonomous decisions about their bodies and lives.

#### WILPF Petition on Mission Voices at CSW61

In response to the increased difficulties to obtain visas to the USA since the election of Donald Trump as its president, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) raised concerns that many women human rights defenders would not be able to attend CSW61 this year. MenEngage Alliance joined many other women's rights and gender justice organizations in setting aside several empty chairs with a 'reserved' sign during our events to draw attention to the missing voices. More than 700 civil society groups, including MenEngage Alliance, signed a petition during CSW denouncing the lack of NGO access and citing unprecedented issues at this year's events, including U.N. security staff removing NGO pass holders from the building and NGO participants being prevented from reaching CSW government delegates in U.N. meeting rooms.

**At a time when civil society space is shrinking and women's human rights are threatened globally, global spaces are more important than ever. We strongly believe that no political decisions, boundaries, economic accessibility and affordability, or faith should be a barrier for any one,**

**especially women, to be able to access and participate meaningfully in a forum whose primary intention is to advance and bring about equality, peace and justice. In the coming years will step up our collective advocacy for an enabling civil society environment and participatory UN system, at CSW and other spaces where norms are set for development and human rights.**

#### UNAIDS Statement by Athena Network

MenEngage Alliance signed onto a statement led by at-large member Athena Network to UNAIDS, urging global leadership to ensure accountability, coordination, partnership, and investment for women and girls across diversity.

#### Coalition to End Violence Against Women and Girls Globally Petition

MenEngage Alliance signed onto at-large member led petition by the Coalition to End Violence Against Women and Girls Globally, of which CARE is a member, to President-Elect Trump, in support of the advancement of rights and opportunities for women and girls in the United States and globally. It encompassed the myriad ways that organizations work to advance the rights and opportunities of women and girls and the importance of this work. The statement was signed by over 100 organizations.

#### Open Letter to Permanent Representatives to the UN: Recommendations on the Security Council Open Debate on Women, Peace and Security (WPS) by WILPF

MenEngage Alliance signed onto and helped disseminate at-large member WILPF's ["Open Letter to Permanent Representatives to the UN: Recommendations on the Security Council Open Debate on Women, Peace and Security \(WPS\)"](#), through the NGO working group on women, peace and security. The statement noted that despite the commitments contained in the eight WPS resolutions adopted by the UN Security Council, the positive rhetoric espoused every October, and a wealth of evidence on the importance of ensuring gender equality and women's participation in peace and security efforts, implementation of the agenda remains fragmented and regularly loses out to other political considerations.

#### IPPF Statement the European Court of Appeals

MenEngage Alliance signed onto member IPPF's statement to the European Court of Appeals in mobilization around September 28<sup>th</sup>, in solidarity with all European women, to demand that women's rights, the right to control their own bodies, the right to abortion and to health are respected in all European countries and recognized as fundamental rights for equality in Europe.

#### Champions of Global Reproductive Rights CSO Statement Opposing the Global Gag Rule

MenEngage Alliance signed onto and helped disseminate a PAI, Champions of Global Reproductive Rights [CSO Statement](#) Opposing the Global Gag Rule, uniting 154 CSOs as the Trump Presidency submitted a "Presidential Memorandum Regarding the Mexico City Policy", attempting to halt further action on the dramatic expansion of the scope of the restrictive policy to all "global health assistance furnished by all department or agencies"—not just family planning assistance.

#### International Women's Development Agency Statement

MenEngage Alliance signed onto and disseminated a [statement](#) presented by the International Women's Development Agency and directed at Antonio de Aguiar Patriota, Chair of CSW, raising concerns over issues of NGO access to the CSW61 negotiations, and highlighting the increasing restrictions limiting the capacity of NGOs to work with member states to deliver strong agreed conclusions. The statement highlighted that in recent years collaboration has been subjected to increasing restrictions, limiting the capacity of NGOs to work with Member States to deliver strong Agreed Conclusions that make a real difference to the policy and legal settings that are used to realise women's human rights.

### MADRE Statement to Ambassador Nikki Haley

MenEngage Alliance signed onto an [open letter](#) that MADRE drafted to Ambassador Nikki Haley, expressing deep concerns about the selection of Lisa Correnti from the Center for Family and Human Rights (C-Fam), classified as a hate group by the Southern Poverty Law center, as a representative in the US Mission's official delegation to the 61st Commission on the Status of Women (CSW).

### Joint Statement of the United Nations Working Group on Discrimination against Women in Law and Practice

For the International Day of Rural Women, on 15 October 2017, MenEngage Alliance signed onto the joint statement recognizing the critical role and contribution of rural women – including indigenous women – in enhancing agricultural and rural development, improving food security for their families and communities, and eradicating rural poverty.

### **Output 2.3: Partnerships**

*Concrete partnerships among MenEngage Alliance members and partners with global SRHR, women's rights and gender justice CSOs, NGOs and UN agencies developed and implemented.*

### UN Women

MenEngage Alliance worked towards the signing of a One-UN MOU via our ongoing engagement with UN Women in 2017. As part of this process, the Alliance held 8 virtual meetings with the Civil Society Department in order to discuss the development of a global-regional-national joint agenda to influence both the global normative gender-transformative framework for engaging men and boys as well as the operationalization of a strategic partnership at all levels in joint programmatic work. As part of this effort, UN Women was invited for the second time to participate in the Alliance's Global Board Meeting. Additionally, MenEngage Alliance held in-person meetings with various departments responsible for advancing the men and masculinities agenda at UN Women, including the HeForShe Team, the Civil Society Department, and the Executive Director's point person for the development of the agency's Global Strategy to engage men and boys. These meetings were held at UN Women Headquarters.

### CSO/NGO Partnerships:

#### CSW61

MenEngage Alliance participated in the 61st session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW61) was held from 13-24 March 2017, at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. CSW61 is a vital opportunity for those working for the realization of gender equality, human rights and empowerment of all women and girls to share experiences and approaches, learn from each other, gain inspiration, build solidarity and partnerships, and influence government delegates and UN agencies to implement transformative legislative frameworks to advance the human rights of women and girls around the world. MenEngage Alliance took an active role in participating and was represented through the participation of members and partners from Africa, Europe, the Middle East, North America and South Asia, and the Global Secretariat.

MenEngage Alliance organized the consultation "Engaging men and boys in social norms change on women's rights and gender justice – to inform a transformative Agenda for Action to achieve the SDGs" in partnership with UN Women and UNFPA and in collaboration with ABAAD, Breakthrough, CARE, IDS, IPPF, Promundo, Rutgers, Sonke Gender Justice, and Women Peacemakers Program. This consultation aimed to collect promising practices, risks and obstacles, and program and policy recommendations from CSW participants, for the development of a comprehensive Agenda for Action

that is inclusive of engaging men and boys and transforming masculinities to contribute to achieving the SDGs, in particular those that relate to women's rights, SRHR and gender justice. In addition, MenEngage Alliance members organized 10 side-events, deepening strategic partnerships on key themes to the conference with Civil Society Organizations. For a full list and description please see this [report](#).

#### CSW Youth Forum

Building on the success of the first CSW Youth Forum in 2016, the second CSW Youth Forum was held this year in advance of the main negotiations and the formal CSW event. Nearly 700 young people, aged 10-35 years, gathered at the UN headquarters to share their stories of activism, ideas for a gender just world and urge world leaders to listen to their voices and needs. The forum was organized by UN Women, World YWCA, WAGGGS and UN Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development's Working Group on Youth and Gender Equality. MenEngage Alliance is a member of the Working Group and co-chairs the Taskforce on Young Men and Gender Equality. MenEngage Alliance, together with others, played a crucial role in shaping the discussions around engaging boys and young men in gender equality, including organizing a panel featuring male youth activists from around the world, including MenEngage Alliance representative Musa Hove, of SafAIDS and MenEngage Alliance Zimbabwe. The Alliance also co-organized two breakout and skills building sessions, one with WAGGGS and Sayfty.com on the prevention of violence against women, and another with ManUP and NextGenMen on working with young men and boys on gender justice and healthy masculinity.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Youth Forum presented its own outcome document, [The Youth Declaration](#), developed based on the inputs from the sessions and various of participants over the course of the two days. The declaration emphasizes the importance of tackling social norms and harmful stereotypes and the engagement to men and boys to support the leadership and empowerment of women and girls. The declaration was handed over to the chair of the CSW and the Executive Director of UN Women at the closing session at the Youth Forum. The declaration was also presented at the formal closing ceremony of CSW61, by a young woman leader selected democratically by the Youth Forum, and was acknowledged at the formal session of CSW.

#### High Level Political Forum (HLPF)

During the HLPF, the MenEngage Alliance participated in coordinated advocacy alongside the [Women's Major Group](#). As one of our main priorities at HLPF2017, we sought to deepen our strategic partnership with the WMG, in order to actively work in solidarity with women's rights activists and organizations, in advancing the women's rights political agenda within this international space. A critical part of the Alliances' engagement at the HLPF came in the co co-organization of a side event (alongside Women Deliver, Women for Women International, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), Civicus, FemNet, and Plan International - a group of organizations convened as part of the UN Women Advocacy Coalition). Titled "[From Shrinking Spaces to Feminist Movement Building: Key Priorities on SDG 5 and 16 for Sustaining Peace](#)", the event drew over 70 participants.

#### Human Rights Council

During the 35<sup>th</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council, MenEngage Alliance took the opportunity to foster a strategic partnership with leading SRHR coalition, Sexual Rights Initiative (SRI), in order to advance in its advocacy efforts in solidarity with the inputs and vision of this leading women's rights network. The Global Secretariat held two consultation meetings with Sexual Rights Initiative, mapping key countries to lobby in order to influence the adoption of the resolution.

#### Facilitation of MenEngage Alliance members' participation in international advocacy fora

MenEngage Alliance supported the participation of members at the 35<sup>th</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council. The Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights (OHCHR) organized a [High-Level Expert Panel](#) as part of the annual full day discussion on women’s human rights, as an opportunity for experts, UN Agencies, Member States and CSOs to engage in a dialogue around the Canadian resolution on accelerating efforts to eliminate violence by engaging men in boys in preventing and responding to violence against all women and girls. Abhijit Das, Co-Chair of MenEngage Alliance and Founder of Men’s Action for Stopping Violence against Women, reflected on why it was important to have a discussion about men and boys, when women and girls are the ones facing the violence. Anthony Keedi, Masculinities Technical Adviser, ABAAD Resource Centre for Gender Equality, Lebanon, addressed the audience with a powerful statement regarding his grassroots work with men, including refugees and ex-combatants within a conflict setting. For more information see this detailed [report](#).

In addition, MenEngage Alliance facilitated the participation of Alliance member Besnik Leka in a joint side event at Geneva Peace Week in November. World YWCA in partnership with Sonke Gender Justice, MenEngage Alliance, Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP), Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (IHEID), Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF), Gender and Mine Action Programme (GMAP) held a side event on “*Building Youth Leadership to Prevent gender-based violence (GBV) and the outbreak of conflicts*”. MenEngage Alliance member Besnik Leka (Bosnia) from CARE International Balkans, provided the expert voice behind the work to engage men and boys and transform masculinities in a post-conflict setting at the event.

#### Prevention+ advocacy

MenEngage Alliance is a partner in Prevention+, a five-year multi-country programme that addresses the root causes of gender-based violence, coordinated by Rutgers, Promundo, and Sonke Gender Justice and funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands. The Alliance plays a key role in the consortium in coordinating its joint global advocacy strategy, as well as promoting accountable practices. This year the Alliance was selected to coordinate the advocacy efforts of the Prevention+ consortium as chair of the Advocacy Working Group.

At the partners meeting The Netherlands in April, the Alliance provided an in-depth training on international policy spaces and opportunities for Prevention+ global joint advocacy. The Alliance co-designed and delivered a strategic one-day High-Level Accountability Dialogue following the Partners Meeting in Indonesia in October, in coordination with Rutgers WPF Indonesia, Aliansi Laki-Laki Baru (the new men's alliance), titled “*To Prevent Gender-Based Violence and Fundamentalisms and How to Fulfill the Right to Gender Justice and the Protection of Women and Children and Promote Positive Masculinities*”. The public seminar gathered 40 participants to discuss the issues, challenges and opportunities to end gender-based violence within the Indonesian context. It resulted in the drafting of a recommendation document that outlines some ways forward to strengthen commitment to on women’s rights and gender justice, in particular gender transformative approaches to engaging boys and men.

## **2.4 Policy makers reached**

*Global, regional and national decision and policy makers are reached with collective MenEngage Alliance policy advocacy*

#### Human Rights Council

At the 35<sup>th</sup> session of the UN Human Rights Council in June, MenEngage Alliance carried out coordinated advocacy and lobbying in order to influence the successful adoption of the resolution [“Accelerating efforts to eliminate violence against women: engaging men and boys in preventing and responding to violence against all women and girls”](#) tabled by the Canadian government.

In advance of the session, the Canadian Ministry of Foreign Affairs invited MenEngage Alliance to participate in an open civil society consultation. The MenEngage Global Secretariat, in collaboration with Global Board Members, provided a comprehensive compilation of recommendations for strengthening the inclusion of gender-transformative language on engaging men and boys within the resolution. The Global Secretariat coordinated an advocacy strategy meeting with MenEngage Board Members in order to define a plan of action leading up to the session, and these discussions led to the development of a [Policy Brief](#) for dissemination during the event, as well as an advocacy tool with like-minded governments prior to the 35th Session, including Sweden, the Netherlands, and Iceland.

MenEngage Alliance was represented by a broad coalition of MenEngage Alliance members at the event, who carried out targeting lobbying with member states, continued monitoring of the language and framing of engaging men and boys under a gender-transformative framework within the draft resolution and participated in informal negotiations with the Canadian government. In addition, MenEngage Alliance Co-Chair Abhijit Das and member Anthony Keedi presented their work and insights during an [expert panel](#) for the Full Day Discussion on Women's Human Rights, which was attended by over 100 policymakers. Alliance members also participated in a HeForShe Barbershop Event/State of the World's Fathers Global Report 2017 launch.

This resolution is a milestone in the field of engaging men and boys in gender justice. It represents the first international policy instrument with fully dedicated text and agreed upon language on engaging men and boys in eliminating VAWG, through a gender transformative lens seeking to address root causes and harmful norms, stereotypes and practices. The resolution calls for the production of a comprehensive report on promising practices to engaging men and boys in ending all VAWG. This document, elaborated by the OHCHR and to be presented to the Human Rights Council in June 2018, with inputs from UN Agencies, Governments and CSOs, will help shape the global discourse on the topic, culminating with a set of recommendations to Member States which will guide them in implementing policies and approaches to engaging men and boys in VAWG.

This was the first time the Alliance had engaged with the Human Rights Council, and one of the most impactful realizations emerging from our participation was the impact potential possible, through coordinated global mobilization of the MenEngage Alliance around a concrete policy advocacy opportunity. MenEngage Alliance have compiled a [report](#) which further details the process and lessons learned from the experience.

As a follow up to this process, MenEngage Alliance connected with key expert advocates within the Geneva Human Rights Council space, in order to define a strategy around the submission of inputs to the follow-up report production process. The Alliance created a survey, available in three languages (English, Spanish and French) for our members to submit their promising practices and challenges in the field of engaging men and boys, broadening the contributions of the wider Alliance to this international process. MenEngage Alliance provided an independent submission to the production of the report, articulating a cohesive normative framework for the engagement of men and boys in VAWG. We coordinated the submissions of over 20 members and partners to provide inputs to the follow-up report production process, including the submission of a Prevention+ joint input, gathering best practices from all Prevention+ program countries. Through this process, the Alliance developed a strategic relationship with key stakeholders at OHCHR Geneva, in order to influence and track the report production process towards a favourable outcome.

#### High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development

The 2<sup>nd</sup> High Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development, was held at UN Headquarters in New York in July, 2017, marking the second occasion for the convening of the main UN follow-up

and review mechanism for the implementation of Agenda 2030. MenEngage Alliance participated in the forum to further build its knowledge on the global review mechanism for the implementation of the SDGs and assess opportunities for civil society participation. During the HLPF, the MenEngage Alliance participated in coordinated advocacy alongside the [Women's Major Group](#). As one of our main priorities at HLPF2017, we sought to deepen our strategic partnership with the WMG, in order to actively work in solidarity with women's rights activists and organizations, in advancing the women's rights political agenda within this international space. Together with the WMG, the Alliance engaged in targeted advocacy to influence the ministerial declaration and ensure had gender equality and women's human rights as a central focus.

#### Commission on the Status of Women, 61<sup>st</sup> Session

The 61st session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW61) was held in March 2017, at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. MenEngage Alliance was represented through the participation of members and partners from Africa, Europe, the Middle East, North America and South Asia, and the Global Secretariat.

CSW61 focused on "Women's Economic Empowerment in the Changing World of Work". In advance of CSW, MenEngage Alliance shared its key advocacy messages in a written statement, developed and submitted in partnership with Rutgers. MenEngage Alliance members Reform and Sonke Gender Justice were represented on the official government delegations of Norway and South Africa, respectively, and worked with their governments over the course of the negotiations to include strong language on gender transformative approaches to engaging men and boys. The Commission resulted in a set of agreed conclusions on *women's economic empowerment in the changing world of work*, which place considerable emphasis on the engagement of men and boys and transforming unequal power relations.

The Alliance, together with its members and partners, organized a one-day consultation on "*engaging men and boys in social norms change on women's rights and gender justice: to inform a transformative Agenda for Action to achieve the SDGs*" to compile recommendations for the High Level Political Forum at the UNGA in July. The Alliance also co-organized a number of engaging side events in collaboration with members and partners such as ABAAD, Breakthrough, Reform-Resource Centre for Men, Women Peacemakers Program, IPPF, Sonke Gender Justice, MenEngage Africa, Care International, UN Women, UNFPA, Permanent Mission of Iceland to the UN in New York and many others. These events dealt with diverse topics such as faith-based approaches, young men and gender equality, and unpaid care, and put transforming masculinities and engaging men and boys on the agenda of the international community as a strategy which can contribute to women's rights, empowerment, SRHR and gender justice for all.

As in previous years, the Alliance developed a comprehensive [report](#), giving members and partners who were unable to attend access to the event and providing our analysis of this year's agreed conclusions and policy environment.

#### **Outcome 2.b) Policies**

*Policies and laws on SRHR, women's rights and gender justice increasingly include gender transformative analysis and approaches inclusive of men and masculinities, and are implemented at country, regional and global levels.*

Outcome 2b Indicators:

- # global, regional and national policies and laws integrating gender-transformative approaches to engaging boys and men on GBV, unpaid care, peace and security, SRHR and HIV/AIDS at national, regional and global levels where MenEngage is present by 2020

- Improved quality of the policy language on engaging men and boys from a gender-transformative perspective among laws and policies at country, regional and global levels by 2020

Outputs	Output Indicators	Report 2017
<b>Output 2.5)</b> MenEngage Alliance issue-based policy advocacy statements developed and broadly disseminated at global, regional and country levels	# of policy advocacy briefs produced and disseminated by MenEngage Global Alliance and members in 2017	3: - CSW61 Written statement - HLPF Policy brief - HRC policy brief
	# of people reached with MenEngage Alliance advocacy materials in 2017	115,000 10,000 website 1,500 printed and disseminated in policy spaces
	% increase in (social)media sharing of MenEngage Alliance advocacy statements and materials by 2020	Monitoring mechanism for this in development
<b>Output 2.6)</b> Policy and law-makers are supported by MenEngage Alliance and members in their policy development around SRHR, women's rights and gender justice at global, regional and country levels	# of direct policy development support, proposals and recommendations provided by MenEngage Alliance and members to policy-, law- and decision-makers at national, regional and global levels by 2020	7: - HRC Resolution - CSW61 Agreed conclusions - SIDA Development Policy - SIDA Gender Policy - Canada - UN Women Global Strategic Plan - CEDAW Committee General Recommendations
<b>Output 2.7)</b> Policies, laws and statements by policy makers on SRHR, women's rights and gender justice are monitored on gender transformative approaches inclusive of men and masculinities perspectives, by MenEngage Alliance and members and partners at global, regional and country levels	# of policy monitoring tools developed and used by MenEngage members and partners	1: - Beijing Platform for Action & CSWs language mapping and analysis (CEDAW and HRC mappings in development)
	# of policy analysis and monitoring reports by MenEngage Alliance global, regional and country networks 2020	See above. In addition: - 5 rounds of analyses of CSW61 Agreed Conclusions conducted with members and shared among members and partners
	# of shares of MenEngage Alliance's policy analysis and monitoring reports by 2020	200 hard-copies 1000 soft-copies online

### **Output 2.5: Advocacy statements**

*MenEngage Alliance issue-based policy advocacy statements developed and broadly disseminated at global, regional and country levels*

MenEngage Alliance produced a range of issue-based policy advocacy statements which were disseminated widely at advocacy events and through our communications channels. MenEngage Alliance led global advocacy efforts for the inclusion of a feminist-informed, human rights-based, gender transformative framework for the engagement of men and boys in key international policy frameworks. 2017, observed promising progress in this regard. At the Commission on the Status of

women and the Human Rights Council this year, we observed a gradual shift from the technical address of merely engaging of men and boys towards more gender-transformative language, consistent with the need to address root causes and to transform social norms, power, privileges, and stereotypes, in particular related to masculinities or manhood. We noted contextual framing addressing the need to transform social systems at large, as a central framework for the attainment of gender equality, since gender injustices are expressed through various forms of dominant masculinities and require a shift in patriarchal power structures.

At the Human Rights council, we observed widespread support from States on the inclusion of approaches geared towards engaging men and boys in gender equality, specifically in the elimination of violence and discrimination towards all women and girls, with many delegations speaking to examples of concrete actions being carried out at national level to advance the engagement of men and boys in gender equality within national development plans and policies, and note an increasingly enabling environment for the global uptake of gender transformative approaches to engaging men and boys.

#### HLPF Policy Brief

In preparation for our participation in the HLPF, a [Policy Brief](#) was drafted, providing a comprehensive Call to Action on the engagement of men and boys in social norms transformation for the achievement of the SDGs, in particular Goal 5. It calls for scaled-up and institutionalized evidence-based gender-transformative interventions with men and boys that challenge the social and cultural norms which act as a barrier to gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls. This document was developed based on insights of a consultation held by the MenEngage Alliance during CSW61. 1000 copies of the policy brief were printed and disseminated in key international policy spaces across 2017, as well as circulated widely via social media and the Alliance's website.

#### Human Rights Council Policy Brief

In preparation for the 35<sup>th</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council, the Global Secretariat coordinated an Advocacy Strategy Meeting with MenEngage Board Members in order to define a plan of action leading up to - and for implementation during the HRC Session. The discussions around framing the work of engaging men and boys within the broader gender justice movement, specifically as it pertains to preventing and responding to violence against women and girls, became the basis for a [Policy Brief](#) developed for distribution at the HRC as well as disseminated as an advocacy tool with like-minded governments prior to the 35<sup>th</sup> Session. 1000 copies of the policy brief were printed and disseminated in key international policy spaces across 2017, as well as circulated widely via social media and the Alliance's website.

#### **Output 2.6:**

*Policy and law-makers are supported by MenEngage Alliance and members in their policy development around SRHR, women's rights and gender justice at global, regional and country levels*

#### **CEDAW Committee General Recommendations**

The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW Committee) released its [General Recommendation number 35](#) on violence against women in 2017, which incorporated several suggestions MenEngage Alliance submitted to the committee in 2016. The document recommends measures that address the root causes of violence – patriarchal attitudes, social norms related to masculinity, male power and privilege – and that engage men and boys at all levels of society, including traditional and religious leaders, and male perpetrators of violence. It also stresses the importance of

education on non-violent masculinities and comprehensive sexuality education to prevent gender-based violence.

#### UN Women Strategic Plan

MenEngage Alliance drafted and submitted key technical inputs to influence the development of UN Women's Global Strategic Plan 2018-2021. The Alliance recognized and applauded the mainstreamed objective of broadly challenging harmful gender norms, stereotypes, and traditional practices within the strategic plan. The Alliance however, advocated that these focuses explicitly define how work to engage men and boys should be carried out in a responsible manner – women and girls centred and through a gender transformative lens which seeks to challenge patriarchal masculinities manifested in social norms, stereotypes, traditions, etc. Additionally, we suggested that the Strategic Plan and its operationalization clearly defines how gender transformative work on engaging men and boys can contribute to the achievement of UN Women's key strategic outcomes.

UN Women's final draft of the Strategic Plan 2018-2021, had a stronger integration and focus on social norms transformation, and had a wider inclusion of civil society women's rights organizations as a key constituency of their work. In the Theory of Change document, transformation of discriminatory norms and gender stereotypes was included, with the accompanying strategy of engaging men and boys in order to achieve this end.

#### Global Affairs Canada State of the Field Dialogue and Strategic Meeting

MenEngage Alliance, in partnership with its member organization White Ribbon Canada, and hosted by Global Affairs Canada in collaboration with Status of Women Canada organized a State of the Field Dialogue on "*Women's rights, feminisms, and the roles of men and boys*", a one-day dialogue to provide an opportunity for civil society experts and practitioners, government partners, and UN Agencies to share and discuss practical experiences and lessons learned on transforming patriarchal masculinities and engaging boys and men to achieve SRHR and gender justice for all. The event counted with multi-departmental participation by the agency, as staff sought to gain more expertise on the work to engage men and boys in gender justice.

Following the event, MenEngage Alliance and White Ribbon Canada held a strategic meeting with Global Affairs Canada, in order to discuss areas for future collaboration. As a follow-up to this meeting, the agency asked MenEngage Alliance to develop an internal briefing note on key promising practices, strategies and considerations for engaging men and boys in gender justice. Global Affairs also agreed to send a message to the Canadian embassies and High Commissions, informed by the joint events in Ottawa, to introduce MenEngage Alliance and White Ribbon in support of possible connections at the country and regional levels with our network members.

#### Swedish Global Thematic Strategy on Gender Equality

MenEngage Alliance contributed to the development of the Swedish Global Thematic Strategy on Gender Equality with a submission detailing how the Alliance's vision, mission and work, firmly aligns with the objectives of the Swedish Foreign Service and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency. MenEngage Alliance articulated how our work will contribute to advancing Sweden's Feminist Foreign Policy and its Action Plan.

#### Swedish Strategy for Global Social Development

The Alliance provided a submission to Sida's Global Social Development Strategy, advocating for a strong focus on gender transformative approaches and the engagement of men and boys. The Alliance made the suggestion to focus on engaging men and boys in sexual and reproductive health and rights.

### **Output 2.7: Policy monitoring**

*Policies, laws and statements by policy makers on SRHR, women's rights and gender justice are monitored on gender transformative approaches inclusive of men and masculinities perspectives, by MenEngage Alliance and members and partners at global, regional and country levels*

Building on our previous mapping of language relating to the engagement of men and boys from the agreed conclusions of recent CSWs, the Alliance initiated the development of a comprehensive mapping of all relevant international policies and agreements (HRC, CEDAW, CPD, WPS related agreements). We aim to produce an advocacy tool for our members, explaining how to engage with these mechanisms and outlining relevant agreed language to their work. This tool will be finalized in 2018.

### **Result Area 3 – Knowledge Management and Communications**

*Programs, campaigns, advocacy efforts and organizations in the gender equality and human rights field are informed and strengthened by the information and knowledge produced by MenEngage Alliance and members on gender transformative, intersectional feminist and rights-based approaches to men and masculinities in addressing SRHR including HIV/Aids, gender-based violence, women's rights and gender equality by 2020.*

In 2017 MenEngage Global Alliance continued maintaining the existing website, social media platforms, and listservs to amplify the voices of our members and circulate relevant information and resources on gender transformative approaches, men and masculinities and priority issues related to, women's rights, SRHR and gender justice. MenEngage Alliance also conducted social-media mobilization activities, including twitter chats. Through our communications channels we continued to facilitate exchange of knowledge across the Alliance and with the broader field and encouraged our members to share their information and resources on the issues of men and masculinities to advance SRHR, women's rights and gender justice. We published a range of knowledge products including thematic policy briefs and reports from advocacy events and conferences. We advanced in our plans to redesign the global interactive website and membership portal which will serve as the virtual equivalent of our community of practice. Unfortunately, during 2017, the Global Secretariat was unable to recruit a Communications Coordinator, and due to lack of this human resource capacity, were unable to fulfil all of our communications plans this year, such as the development of a comprehensive knowledge management strategy.

#### Outcome 3)

*Knowledge emerging from MenEngage Alliance members and partners on promising practices to transform masculinities and engage men and boys on issues related to SRHR incl. HIV/AIDS, GBV, women's rights and gender equality is systematized, disseminated and broadly used by the broader gender equality and human rights field.*

#### Outcome 3 Indicators:

- Quality of publications by MenEngage Alliance and members by 2020
- # of organizations, academic institutions, government agencies and programs utilizing evidence from MenEngage Alliance members, partners and allies by 2020
- # of publications, news-items, stories highlighting MenEngage Alliance members' work by 2020
- # of requests and downloads of the documents and materials produced by MenEngage Alliance members and partners at country, regional and global levels by 2020

<b>Outputs</b>	<b>Output Indicators</b>	<b>Report in 2017</b>
<b>Output 3.1)</b> MenEngage Alliance knowledge management & communications (KM&C) strategy developed and implemented with regional and country networks and at-large member organizations	# members participating in the MenEngage Alliance KM&C working group by 2020	9: - 3 at-large members confirmed - 6 regional networks identifying their representative
	1 global comprehensive MenEngage Knowledge Management and Communications Strategy developed and utilized by 2020	Process started
	# of regional and country networks utilizing contextualized versions of the MenEngage KM&C strategies by 2020	To be developed
	# of mentions and articles in newspapers and blogs at country, regional and global levels by 2020	Monitoring mechanisms for this to be developed
	# of social media (Facebook, twitter) posts and shares at regional and global levels by 2020	839 at global level: - 500 posts in Facebook - 339 tweets See also report below under Social Media Mobilization for outreach numbers
<b>Output 3.2)</b> MenEngage Alliance knowledge products on transforming masculinities and engaging men and boys in priority issues related to SRHR, women's rights and gender justice developed and disseminated at country, regional and global levels	# of publications (discussion papers, synthesis reports) developed and shared at global, regional and country levels by 2020	11: - Evaluation report - Strategic Plan - Annual Report - HRC Policy Brief - HLPF Policy Brief - HRC report - CSW report - MENA report - Network building toolkit - SOTF report - MeToo report - Updated Accountability toolkit
	# of global e-newsletters and magazines published and disseminated by 2020	2: - 1 VoiceMale Magazine special edition - 1 newsletter
	# of uses and shares of knowledge products at global, regional and country levels by 2020	Monitoring mechanisms for this to be developed
<b>Output 3.3)</b> Case-stories about promising practices and lessons learned on gender transformative work with	# of country and regional network members participating in meetings, workshops and trainings on collating and	Strategy for identifying, collating and sharing promising practices in development, to be implemented in 2018. See also below

men and boys issues related to SRHR, women's rights and gender justice identified, packaged and disseminated with MenEngage Alliance at country, regional and global levels	sharing promising practices by 2020	
	# of quality stories of change developed at country, regional and global levels and disseminated by 2020	18: - 8 stories published in VoiceMale Magazine - 5 stories produced in South Asia - 5 stories produced in India

### **Output 3.1: Knowledge management and communication strategy**

*MenEngage Alliance knowledge management & communications (KM&C) strategy developed and implemented with regional and country networks and at-large member organizations*

#### Comprehensive Knowledge Management and Communications Strategy

While we were unable to develop a full-fledged strategy in this regard in 2017, we did make progress, including through ongoing strategizing among the Global Secretariat team and with members on how to best make visible our advocacy strategies and publications. As we continue to better get to know the strengths, challenges and needs of the MenEngage worldwide members (as a result of the collaborative assessment process with the Regional Networks) these learnings will be integrated in the development of the strategy as we move forward. In 2017 also steps were taken to fill the capacity gap at the Global Secretariat, by working with consultants from the membership to develop specific elements of communications, such as publications and website (see below).

#### Social Media mobilization

MenEngage Alliance Global Secretariat carried out a daily review, including content mapping, of relevant news and articles relating to transforming masculinities, women's rights, SRHR, LGBTQI rights and other topics, in order to feed our Facebook and Twitter pages. This online monitoring importantly consisted of following and re-amplifying the outlets of MenEngage members and partners, including regional and country networks with their own accounts, and importantly of elevating critical women's rights, SRHR, LGBTQI and other social justice voices. During the year 2017, the Alliance posted over 500 posts in Facebook and 339 tweets, making a conscious effort to diversify sources and include articles relevant to masculinities, women's rights, SRHR, LGBTQI rights and other social justice issues from the Alliance and around the world. We also used our social media presence to share our knowledge products and upcoming events and to support campaigns and showcase work by our members, partners and other social justice organizations.

We co-organized and/or participated in several social media mobilizations around key advocacy events. MenEngage Alliance joined the Funding Leadership and opportunities for Women (FLOW) five-day Twitter chat (#FlowNL) during the HLPF, building pressure on governments to deliver on their promise of accelerating gender equality including #SDG5 in sustainable development, as part of the Prevention+ Coalition. The Prevention+ coalition did a monitoring report of the event, which analyses that "a total of 3,800 messages were tweeted out during our campaign, with a potential reach of 8.9 million! Based on Hashtagify, #FlowNL was one of the top two most popular civil society-led hashtags used during the HLPF. The other hashtag was #feministvision, the official hashtag used by the HLPF 2017 Women's Major Group." MenEngage Alliance also mobilized our membership to use #feministvision during HLPF. As part of the 16 days of Activism against gender-based violence this year, we participated in another twitter chat organized by the Prevention+ consortium and hosted by Youth-Power Learning, on "Men and Women Ending Gender-Based Violence".

As the result of these dedicated efforts, the analytic metrics attest to the success of MenEngage Alliance's outreach to new audiences via social media and our website:

- MenEngage Alliance's Facebook page gained 772 followers in 2017 for a total of 5,205, an increase of 17%.
- MenEngage Alliance's Twitter account gained 982 followers in 2017, an increase of 23%, for a total of over 5,250. In addition, during this year the MenEngage twitter had 15,902 profile visits and 1,734 mentions during the year 2017.
- The MenEngage Alliance website also witnessed substantial traffic in 2017, with over 400,000 visits during the period.

#### Website redesign

In 2017, the MenEngage Global Secretariat advanced in the process of redesigning the Alliance website, which is planned to be launched in 2018. The redesign focuses on adding dynamic interactive content to the website; a community site enabling members to interact and share content; and an updated resource database. The Global Secretariat mapped new content for the redesign, specifically by compiling and categorizing new and existing resources on engaging men and boys for the resource database. Steps were also taken to organize a membership-based working group to review and provide inputs to draft versions on the website.

### **Output 3.2: Knowledge products**

*MenEngage Alliance knowledge products on transforming masculinities and engaging men and boys in priority issues related to SRHR, women's rights and gender justice developed and disseminated at country, regional and global levels*

#### Knowledge Products and Documentation

As mentioned in various sections of this report, MenEngage Alliance produced around 8 knowledge products ranging from policy briefs to synthesis papers, with the aim to generate greater understanding of boys' and men's multiple roles in various issues related to SRHR, women's rights and gender justice. These processes and their outcomes have been important to further think through, discuss and articulate what feminist-informed, human-rights based, gender transformative men and masculinities work looks like. These think-pieces were disseminated widely through our listservs and social media, which sparked discussions on the various topics covered. Below is the list of some knowledge products developed by the MenEngage Alliance in 2017:

- MenEngage Alliance 2012-2016 Evaluation Report, with valuable lessons on the state of the field and the Alliance's roles in it – from the global to the regional and local levels.
- MenEngage Alliance 2016 Annual Report, with a comprehensive and inspiring review of activities and achievements across the Alliance (see section 5.1)
- MenEngage Alliance new Strategic Plan for 2017-2020, which took considerable time articulating and is proving a pivotal resource in all our following communications work, including related to advocacy (See section 5.1)
- Policy brief "[Accelerating efforts to end VAW: Engaging men and boys in preventing and responding to violence against all women and girls](#)" for the Human Rights Council (see section 2.4)
- Policy brief "[Engaging men and boys in social norms transformation as a means to achieving Agenda 2030 and the SDGs](#)" for the HLPF (see section 2.4)
- A report on the Commission on the Status of Women ([CSW61](#)) (see section 2.4)
- A report on the [Human Rights Council resolution](#) process (see section 2.4)
- MENA Conference Report "[Discourses and reflections from the conference 'Masculinities in the Arab World'](#)" (see section 1.4)

- A [report](#) on the virtual dialogue organized around #MeToo (see section 1.3)
- Updated [Accountability toolkit](#) (see section 4.1)
- [Network-building Toolkit](#) (see section 1.1)

We assume that these knowledge products have reached XX people and organizations globally.

#### Technical Inputs to Members

Global Secretariat, MenEngage Alliance provided inputs towards a women's rights and gender-as-relations framing in the development of the report "[Men and boys in displacement: Assistance and protection challenges for unaccompanied boys and men in refugee contexts](#)" by CARE International and Promundo.

#### MenEngage Alliance Newsletter

The Global Secretariat produced one newsletter in 2017, sharing a number of key resources with our members: the evaluation report and management response, our strategic plan 2017-2020 and our annual report 2016 and executive summary in Spanish. The Global Secretariat, was not able to consistently produce newsletters as was done in previous years due to the lack of a Communications Coordinator. A communications coordinator is expected to join the Global Secretariat team in early 2018.

### **Output 3.3: Case Stories**

*Case-stories about promising practices and lessons learned on gender transformative work with men and boys' issues related to SRHR, women's rights and gender justice identified, packaged and disseminated with MenEngage Alliance at country, regional and global levels*

#### Case-story project development

During the year 2017, the Alliance started more concretely to facilitate the collection, packaging and dissemination of stories of change from members' efforts to change discriminatory norms, focusing on boys' and men's attitudes, responsibilities and roles related to SRHR, women's rights and gender justice. The overall objective is to highlight the work of our members and partners, including featuring promising examples, with the intention to stimulate actions, initiatives, programming, advocacy and policy strategies of the Alliance as a whole. The plans were further developed and included in fundraising proposals. The format is in development and the first potential case-stories have been identified, to start in 2018.

#### Voice Male Magazine

In early 2017, MenEngage Alliance collaborated with VoiceMale magazine, a leading publication in the engaging men and boys field and an active member of the Alliance in North America, on a special "[MenEngage Gender Equality Issue](#)" for CSW61. This special issue covers stories of change from MenEngage Alliance members and partners around the world on a range of themes, including from Brazil, Congo, India, Kenya, Kosovo, Lebanon, Sweden, and Uganda. The issue was widely distributed during CSW61 in March and at several international conferences and advocacy events throughout the year. These individual articles were also disseminated and circulated through MenEngage Alliance listservs as well as the social media platforms. The Alliance will continue to actively partner with Voice Male magazine in the coming years to collate and produce stories of change from our members and disseminate issues of the Magazine.

#### Case studies by MenEngage Alliance South Asia

Centre for Health and Social Justice (CHSJ) and MenEngage Alliance South Asia developed [10 case studies, five from the region and five from different states in India](#), in the series "Best Practices in South Asia of Engaging Men and Boys to Transform Gender Discriminatory Practices", showcasing

work of the members of MenEngage Alliance South Asia from [Sri Lanka](#), [Nepal](#), [Bangladesh](#) and [India](#). (See section 'Reports from the Regional Networks' for details.) The case studies were disseminated widely through various listservs, including those managed by the Global Secretariat, which helped to provide increased visibility to these organizations.

#### Article - Contribution to WILPF Newsletter

Director of the MenEngage Global Secretariat, contributed an article "[Against Violent Masculinities and For Feminist Peace: Engaging Men and Boys](#)" to WILPF's Women, Peace and Security newsletter in June. She called upon male leaders -at all levels- to make the spaces they occupy feminist, be accountable to women and girls, and to ensure meaningful participation of women's rights organizations to achieve peace and development commitments.

### **Result Area 4 – Accountability and Partnerships**

*Accountable practices and partnerships among MenEngage Alliance members and SRHR, women's rights and gender justice movements, based on solidarity, equality, justice and feminist principles.*

One of the key roles for MenEngage Alliance identified in the new Strategic Plan is to promote and increase understanding of accountable practices and collaborative work in the engaging men and boys field. In 2017, the Alliance made a concerted effort in all our activities and strategies to promote work with men and boys that is gender-transformative, based on feminist and human rights principles, aims to challenge male privilege and some men's power-over, and ultimately to end patriarchy. We promoted and disseminated the MenEngage Alliance Accountability Standards and Guidelines and training toolkit, organized dialogues on accountability among key stakeholders at a range of advocacy and civil society fora throughout the year, and organized capacity building sessions on accountability as part of the Prevention+ partnership. In addition, we continued to build relationships with key women's rights organizations and networks and to ensure accountability to the agendas of these groups in our advocacy work.

A key lesson learned from 2017 is we need to step-up our efforts to build broader relationships with critical feminist and human rights activists. And more work needs to be done to communicate and make visible MenEngage Alliance's values, principles and practices, towards the broader women's rights, SRHR and gender justice fields. With the increasing interest and uptake of engaging men and boys in policies and programming, we foresee that MenEngage Alliance's role will increasingly be one of a critical voice contributing towards that work being done in line with principles and practices that are actually clear on and contribute to the ultimate goals: to advance women's and girls' empowerment, autonomy and rights on all issues and at all levels. Related, a key emerging insight is that while we receive feedback that the Alliance's articulation of its political agenda and principles, as well as the existence of the accountability guidelines and toolkit, are on the right track, there is growing concern on the practices of the work on the ground. During the regional assessments, accountability issues were identified as key to strengthening the national and regional networks, and the importance of putting these standards and guidelines in practice through contextualization and establishing relevant mechanisms. Therefore capacity strengthening with MenEngage members on accountable practices, so that the Alliance leads by example and inspires others, will be an increased area of focus the coming year/s. How to understand and monitor change in this regard, will be an important aspect of the articulation of MenEngage Alliance's M&E framework, to be taken forward in 2018.

#### Outcome 4)

*MenEngage Alliance members and partners have strengthened capacities to uphold quality standards and accountable practices in transforming masculinities and engaging men and boys, and work in partnerships and solidarity with the broader field of SRHR, women's rights and gender justice.*

Outcome 4 Indicators:

- % of members and partners reporting increased understanding of key concepts such as power, privilege, patriarchy, feminism, masculinities by 2020
- % of members, networks and partners reporting having tools and procedures in place to deal with accountability issues at country, regional and global levels by 2020
- # of partnerships and collaborations with women's rights and gender justice actors and organizations at country, regional and global level where MenEngage Alliance is present by 2020

Outputs	Output Indicators	Report in 2017
<b>Output 4.1)</b> Joint accountability activities organized by MenEngage Alliance members and partners at global, regional and country levels	# of capacity strengthening meetings, workshops, trainings on MenEngage Alliance Accountability Standards organized by 2020	9: - 1 pre-SVRI event with Promundo - 1 session during the MAN conference (100 participants) - 1 High-Level Accountability Dialogue in Indonesia (40 participants) - 5 workshops in various regions in Nicaragua - 1 workshop in Costa Rica
	# of times the online MenEngage Global Alliance Accountability education platforms are accessed by 2020	Monitoring mechanism for this to be developed
	# of MenEngage country and regional networks adapting the MenEngage Alliance Accountability Standards by 2020	- 4 global-regional dialogue on usability of Accountability standards and tools at regional level during strengths & needs assessments - Translations into Spanish and French initiated, forthcoming - 1 country network in Costa Rica developed their contextualised code of conduct
	# of promising practices on accountability and partnerships among MenEngage Alliance members and partners documented and disseminated internationally by 2020	- 3 cases identified in Latin America by regional network, forthcoming in 2018 - 6 cases from the regional networks added to the updated Accountability toolkit
<b>Output 4.2)</b> Collaborative actions among MenEngage Alliance members and partners with leading CSOs/NGOs in the broader field of SRHR,	# of collaborative actions including 'men and masculinities perspective' among MenEngage Alliance members and leading CSOs/NGOs in the broader field of women's rights and gender justice by 2020	4: - Youth forum - Geneva Peace week - WILPF event on CSW - ICRW event

<p>women's rights and gender justice on issues related to SRHR including HIV/AIDS, GBV, unpaid care, peace and security, LGBTQI rights, Youth rights, Child rights, etc. at national, regional and global levels.</p>	<p># of collaborative actions with key women's rights organizations and networks on emerging issues of shrinking democratic spaces and (women's) human rights defender violations by 2020</p>	<p>2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 1 joint action initiated by WILPF: reserving seats at CSW61 to highlight missing voices of women human rights defenders</li> <li>- 1 solidarity statement on #MeToo, shaming unsafe work-spaces for women</li> </ul>
	<p># of public actions by MenEngage Alliance and members condemning individual and groups of men that are against feminism and women's rights ("MRAs") and/or promoting positive alternatives (leading by doing) by 2020</p>	<p>2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- MenEngage HRC submission, calling out anti-feminist groups as detrimental to women's rights</li> <li>- Behind the scenes strategizing with women's rights and SRHR organizations who experience backlash</li> </ul>
	<p># of global women's rights and gender justice alliances that MenEngage Global Alliance is an active member of by 2020</p>	<p>3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Global Networks of Women's Reproductive Rights (WGNRR)</li> <li>- Women's Rights Caucus (WRC) at CSW, Women's Major Group (WMG) in HLPF, etc</li> <li>- SDGs coalition</li> </ul>

#### **Output 4.1: Accountability activities**

*Joint accountability activities organized by MenEngage Alliance members and partners at global, regional and country levels*

##### Promotion and Dissemination of MenEngage Alliance Accountability Standards and Guidelines

The Global Secretariat continued to promote accountability standards and guidelines across the regional networks. The Accountability agenda was one of the core elements of the conceptual framework as well as the actual regional networks' strength assessments conducted across the regional networks. As the result of this, most of the regional networks have prioritized the contextualization and adaptation of the global tools for the regional and country networks and included, or will include, in their work-plans. The Global Secretariat will further strengthen this work with all the regional networks, including the emerging networks, in the coming years.

In preparation for conducting capacity and skills building on the issues of accountability within the Alliance, the Global Secretariat updated its [Accountability Training Toolkit](#), based on various inputs received when carrying out accountability trainings, particularly a two-day workshop in Nicaragua with MenEngage Alliance leaders from Central America in 2015 and 2-hour session during the Prevention+ project partners' meeting in 2016. The new version contains additional training sessions, resources and updated case studies of real life examples of accountability in practice.

Keeping in mind the usability of this important toolkit, with support from a member in Russia the MenEngage Alliance [Accountability Standards and Guidelines](#) as well as the [Accountability Toolkit](#) were translated into Russian, and disseminated widely among our networks. Further, the Global Secretariat is translating the accountability toolkit in two additional languages, Spanish and French, in 2018.

##### Targeted Discussions on Accountability

The Global Secretariat, together with the Board and other members, organized discussions on accountability issues at various occasions throughout the year. At CSW, the Alliance organized a consultation on engaging men and boys to achieve the SDGs, where we gathered inputs from among experts on strengthening our collective agenda of accountable practices among men and boys, including those in positions of power, and related advocacy efforts (see section 2.3). Similar discussions were also organized at the State of the Field dialogue with Global Affairs Canada and Status of women Canada in Ottawa, Canada (see section 1.2).

As mentioned earlier in this report, MenEngage Alliance contributed to the conceptual development and hosting/facilitating of various sessions specifically on accountability throughout 2017 at conferences, symposia and other events:

- MenEngage Alliance and Promundo developed the pre-conference session on accountability, which facilitated dialogues with Women's Rights Organizations during the SVRI Conference in Rio Brazil. The event, led by Promundo-US, gathered conference participants to explore key accountability concerns when working to engage men and boys in gender justice. (see section 1.4)
- At the conference "MAN2017: Europe talks on masculinity" in Belgrade, staff of the Global Secretariat and Tal Peretz from Auburn University co-facilitated a panel discussion on accountability within the field of transforming masculinities and engaging boys and men in gender justice. (see section 1.4)

These session raised various critical concerns and reflections on the overall field of 'men and masculinities', including the debate around evidence on what works in engaging men and boys. There were concerns about quality control and unintended consequences, and participants raised the need

to ensure that efforts to engage men and boys are feminist-informed and led. Following this session and the concerns raised, MenEngage Alliance has planned to be more proactive in the implementation of its global accountability standards and guidelines among the membership, as directed by its Strategic Plan 2017-20. More elaborated ways forward will be developed in the first quarter of 2018 and implemented successively across the regions in close collaboration with the regional networks.

#### Accountability work in Prevention+

MenEngage Global Alliance co-designed and delivered a strategic one-day High-Level Accountability Dialogue in Indonesia following the Partners Meeting, in coordination with Rutgers WPF Indonesia, Aliansi Laki-Laki Baru (the new men's alliance) Titled: *“To Prevent Gender-Based Violence and Fundamentalisms and How to Fulfill the Right to Gender Justice and the Protection of Women and Children and Promote Positive Masculinities.”*

The Public Seminar gathered 40 participants to discuss the issues, challenges and opportunities to end gender-based violence and end impunity and advocate for women’s rights, SRHR and gender justice within the Indonesian context. This event resulted in the commitment to draft a recommendation document that will outline some ways forward for the organizations and participants around ways to strengthen commitments and focus on women’s rights, SRHR and gender justice, in particular gender transformative approaches to engaging boys and men. The consultative workshop during the second half day challenged participants to dig deeper in these conversations through world café methodology. This workshop aimed to help clarify the foundations of gender transformative work on engaging boys and men in gender justice, promising practices and strategies on engaging boys and men, how to strengthen accountable practices in the work with boys and men, and find ways to strengthen collective advocacy efforts. 25 participants attended this workshop.

#### Accountability in MenEngage Alliances Global Advocacy Efforts

MenEngage Alliance focused heavily on deepening its accountability practices within its global advocacy efforts, aligning its actions firmly in the feminist leadership of various organizations, networks and movements leading the gender justice and women’s rights agenda at key CSO and UN fora. Particularly, during the High Level Political Forum, the Alliance participated in coordinated advocacy with the Women’s Major Group, participating in daily advocacy strategy meetings and following the lead of the prominent group in advancing the most progressive outcome document at the forum. Similarly, during the Commission on the Status of Women, the Alliance made concrete recommendations for the inclusion of gender transformative language to engage men and boys in the Agreed Upon Conclusion, while supporting the overall recommendation of the Women’s Rights Caucus and running strategic lobbying with members states for their adoption of all recommendations. During the Human Rights Council, MenEngage Alliance held strategic meetings with global SRHR coalition, Sexual Rights Initiative, in order to align its broader advocacy efforts to the agenda of SRHR activists. During the negotiations of the resolution on engaging men and boys, which was highlight favoured by Member States with little contest, the particular language on sexual and reproductive health and rights was concretely under attack by regressive states, giving the Alliance a concrete opportunity to advance strong accountable advocacy in solidarity with the broader gender justice agenda.

#### Condemning anti-feminist men and/or promoting positive alternatives

During the Human Rights Council Resolution negotiations, MenEngage Alliance strategized behind the scenes with women’s rights and SRHR organizations and coalitions, on how to ensure that backlash against feminism was recognized in the progress. And with collective success. The Resolution acknowledges the backlash against the progress made by ‘feminist groups and women human rights defenders.’

## **Output 4.2: Collaborative actions**

*Collaborative actions among MenEngage Alliance members and partners with leading CSOs/NGOs in the broader field of SRHR, women's rights and gender justice on issues related to SRHR including HIV/AIDS, GBV, unpaid care, peace and security, LGBTQI rights, Youth rights, Child rights, etc. at national, regional and global levels.*

Previous sections in the report have highlighted a variety of partnership's and collaborative actions. We highlight a few here:

### CSW Youth Forum

The MenEngage Alliance Global Secretariat jointed hands with various other organizations including UN Women, World YWCA, WAGGGS and UN Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development's Working Group on Youth and Gender Equality to organize the Youth Forum at CSW62. This has led to stronger ties with several of these organizations in the work across various spaces, including UN Advocacy spaces. For more details of the Youth Forum and its outcomes, please refer to section 2.3 above.

### WILPF event

MenEngage Alliance members contributed to *"Reclaiming the United Nations as a Peace Organisation. Ensuring women's meaningful participation for peace and strengthening multilateralism"*, organized Women International League for Peace and freedom (WILPF) in Geneva in response to the exclusion of women advocates and activists at this year's CSW. The three-day event shed light on current obstacles to women's meaningful participation in the UN system and how they can be overcome. The event was an important space for activists to come together and discuss the challenges faced in interacting with UN systems and its member states. It helped build solidarity and alternative strategies for influencing towards women's rights and gender justice outcomes.

### Geneva Peace Week event

MenEngage Alliance co-organized an event at Geneva Peace week in November together with World YWCA, Geneva Center for Security Policy (GCSP), Geneva Center for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), Gender Centre at The Graduate Institute for International and Development Studies (IHEID), Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF), Gender and Mine Action Program (GMAP). The event, titled *'Building Youth Leadership to Prevent Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and the Outbreak of Conflicts'* recognized young people's role in building and sustaining peace through a multi-level, inter-generational conversation. MenEngage Alliance was represented by Besnik Leka of CARE Balkans who spoke about his work with the Young Men Initiative. Participants shared informed strategies to prevent and respond to gender-based violence, including strategies implemented with adolescents and youth living in a broad range of settings and strategies to engage men and boys in ending GBV and advocating for gender equality.

### Support to ICRW on their 'Theory of Change' development

MenEngage Alliance was invited by the International Center for Research on Women to provide expert inputs on a [Theory of Change](#) on how male engagement approaches contribute to women's empowerment and broader gender equity. This theory of change aims to provide an overview of the field and guidance for stakeholders to support the funding, design, and implementation of programming that effectively engages men and boys in creating sustainable gender norms transformation. ICRW aims to use this to guide the Cartier Foundation and other funders' male engagement investment strategies. The Theory of Change is expected to be completed in early 2018. This consultation led to further discussion with ICRW on the possibility of re-associating with the Alliance (as ICRW used to be in the Steering Committee of MenEngage Alliance) including strengthening interconnectivity of the partnership across the countries and regions.

## Result Area 5 – Governance model

*A strong, inclusive, democratic and sustainable MenEngage Global Alliance governance model.*

### Outcome 5)

*MenEngage Alliance is an active, membership-led, democratic, sustainable and accountable learning organization that acts in solidarity with its members and partners.*

#### Outcome 5 Indicators:

- % of members and partners reporting increased collective actions, participation and sense of ownership at country, regional and global levels by 2020
- Quality of planning, reporting, operation and governance of MenEngage Alliance at country, regional and global levels by 2020
- # of global, regional and country networks having raised at least 80% of their planned budget through independent fundraising activities by 2020
- # of inter-country and inter-regional coordinated activities on GBV, unpaid care, peace and security, SRHR and HIV/AIDS issues, including cross-sharing and learning exchanges between and among members, partners and allies taking place at country, regional and global levels by 2020

<b>Outputs</b>	<b>Output Indicators</b>	<b>Report in 2017</b>
<b>Output 5.1)</b> MenEngage Alliance Strategic plan and Theory of Change developed, implemented and monitored at global, regional and country levels	# of strategic planning activities with MenEngage global, regional and country networks and at-large members organized by 2020	7: - 1 board meeting - 4 regional meetings - 1 prevention+ partners meeting - 1 ToC development meeting - 5 meetings of MenEngage Africa
	1 Strategic Plan and 1 ToC developed and implemented by MenEngage Alliance and members by 2020	1 Global SP being implemented 1 Global ToC in development, with support of external expertise Shared with regional and country networks to inform their plans development
	1 MenEngage Alliance Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation (PM&E) strategy developed and implemented by MenEngage global, regional and country networks by 2020	Started, to be developed in 2018
	# of annual plans and reports developed and disseminated by MenEngage global, regional and country networks by 2020	2: - 1 annual plan - 1 annual report
	# of external evaluations undertaken and disseminated by MenEngage global, regional and country networks by 2020	1 Global 2012-2016 external evaluation widely disseminate
<b>Output 5.2)</b> MenEngage Global Alliance governance structures in place, participatory and	# of joint initiatives by the Global Secretariat (GS) organized with regional and country networks, members and partners by 2020	50+ Majority of the activities described in this report were joint by members and partners, with country and/or

functional at global, regional and country levels		regional networks members, and MenEngage Global
	# of Board meetings, calls and joint activities, including exchange visits, organized with regional networks, at-large members and the GS by 2020	1 in-person Board meeting 3 Board conference calls on Board matters 2 Board calls on issue-matters
	# of contextualized global, regional and country network Membership Strategies developed and implemented by 2020	1 Global membership strategy in development
	1 Up-to-date Global membership database maintained by 2020	1 Global database in development, website based. Some progress made on synchronizing regional and global data-files
<b>Output 5.3)</b> MenEngage Global Alliance resource mobilization and fundraising strategy developed and successfully implemented	% of MenEngage Global Alliance operating budget secured by 2020	Funds diversification strategy in development
	# of regional and country networks supported for fundraising and resource mobilization efforts by 2020	5: - South Asia - Europe - Nordic - NAMEN (Africa network supported in regional evaluation to inform future fundraising)
	# of grants, donations and philanthropy support received by the Alliance by 2020	1 Sida core-grant 1 Prevention+ program grant 1 Financial support for event participation 5 in-kind contributions by Board members through meeting attendance (flights covered)
	# of concept notes, ToRs and proposals developed and submitted by 2020	1 proposal submitted to Amplify Change

### **Output 5.1: Strategic Plan and Theory of Change**

*MenEngage Alliance Strategic plan and Theory of Change developed, implemented and monitored at global, regional and country levels*

#### Implementation of the Strategic Plan 2017-2020

2017 saw the last stretch of the development, the launch and an energetic start to the implementation of MenEngage Alliance's new Strategic Plan. The MenEngage Alliance Global Secretariat worked with the Board and Sida to finalize the plans and submit them. Implementation started with sharing the strategic plan with the regional networks and membership in relevant settings. A standard presentation was developed by the Global Secretariat that served as the basic framework and tool to share the strategic plan, which has since been used and amended by members in their own work.

The new strategic plan was well received among the members and was considered a good resource for them to further shape their political discourse and language. The regional networks found the framing and articulation of the strategic plan helpful to further develop collective understanding as well as their own regional strategic and work plans. The regional networks welcomed the plan's strong focus on strengthening the regional networks and offering space for their visibility and participation. Another factor that inspired all the regions, was the provision of sub-grants to the regional networks and the strong technical support from the Global Secretariat for strengthening the regions.

#### Support regional networks on institutional development

The Global Secretariat had individual calls and conversations around strengthening the 6 regional networks and their institutional development plans for the coming years, including during the face-to-face Board meeting in Ottawa, Canada. These discussions helped identify key areas of support to the regional coordinators and/or chairs (and representative to the Global Board), and regional steering committees in their network building and coordination activities. In addition, the Global Secretariat, together with the interim focal organization ABAAD, developed a joint strategic plan for the development of a network in the MENA region. All these discussions also fed into the planning and execution of the strength assessment exercises for each of the regional networks.

#### Development of MenEngage Alliance's Theory of Change

MenEngage Alliance works with two consultants, Silvia Salinas Mulder and Patrick Welsh, who previously conducted the Alliance's external progress evaluation, to support the development of a Theory of Change for the Alliance. The Theory of Change will outline the transformation the Alliance is working towards in the world, how different elements of the network contribute to this change and some underlying assumptions about the way the Alliance works. The consultants met with the Global Secretariat team for two-days in August and developed a draft model, which was presented to the Global Board for their inputs at its meeting in September. The conversations centred on the Alliance's contributions to a feminist vision of dismantling patriarchy, how to link individual level change to systemic change, how to relate to other social justice issues, and how to ensure a feminist-approach in the Alliance's work with a focus on countering male privilege and power, and being accountable to and working in partnership with women's rights and other social justice groups. The model will be further refined based on inputs from the Board members and finalized in early 2018. Following this the Global Secretariat will further work with them to develop the Monitoring and Evaluation framework and strategy for the Alliance.

#### Planning, Monitoring & Evaluation:

##### Annual Plan and Report

The Global Secretariat, with support from the regional networks and Board members, prepared the [project completion report](#) for the previous strategic period 2012-16, which was submitted to and accepted by Sida. Significant time during the first half of the year was dedicated to finalizing the new Strategic Plan with significant support from Sida. Following the approval of the strategic plan the Global Secretariat developed - with support from the Board - a detailed work plan for the year 2017, which was submitted to Sida for approval. The plan was taken further once the approval from Sida was received. The articulation of the vision, aspired changes, strategies and activities – both in plans and reflection on achievements – are of tremendous importance to MenEngage Alliance's further development to an active, membership-led, democratic, sustainable and accountable learning organization that acts in solidarity with its members and partners.

##### Development of Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Strategy (PME&L) for the Alliance

To be developed in 2018, informed by the final ToC articulation, and emerging insights from 2017 annual reporting process. A key lesson from the monitoring process in 2017 is that there are gaps in

articulation of meaningful Outcome-level indicators for MenEngage Alliance as a ‘social change network’, and the need to further develop information gathering strategies. Technical mechanisms for outreach measurement need to be developed (in particular as part of the Knowledge Management and Communications strategy) and a set of questions will be developed to support the Alliance at all levels – from country, to regional, to the global networks – to be able to capture the changes it contributes to through its activities.

### **Output 5.2: Governance structures**

*MenEngage Global Alliance governance structures in place, participatory and functional at global, regional and country levels*

#### Implementation of New Operating Model

Since 1 January 2017, MenEngage Global Alliance has been fully independent with its own institutional mechanisms, including independent staff members and strong operational, financial and internal control systems. This process has included the development of a number of organizational policies and procedures, such as a human resources handbook, an accounting manual, and policies on corruption and fraud, procurement and travel. With this institutional set up, the Global Secretariat has been effectively conducting its day-to-day operations as well as implementation of the strategic plan for the overall Alliance.

#### Global Board Meeting in Ottawa

Members of the MenEngage Alliance Global Board, including additional regional representatives and the Global Secretariat and key partners gathered in Ottawa, Canada for four days in September for a series of meetings and events: the annual Global Board Meeting, a meeting on the development of a Theory of Change for the Alliance, and a state of the field dialogue on ‘Women’s Rights, Feminisms, and the Role of Men and Boys’ at Global Affairs Canada. The week provided the 21 representatives of the MenEngage Global leadership with the most important yearly annual opportunity to reconnect, exchange perspectives, reflect and strategize, and developed joint work-plans as the Alliance enters a new phase in its existence.

At the Global Board meeting, decisions were made on governance of the Board; organizing the 3<sup>rd</sup> Global Symposium; progressing with emerging issues such as the interconnections of men and masculinities with women’s rights, SRHR, SOGI, militarism, and sex-work/prostitution; sub-granting to the regional networks, amplifying the impact of our collective advocacy, and increasing the generation and sharing of our stories and evidence.

WILPF’s Abigail Ruane [wrote a blog](#) on her experience joining the Board meeting in Ottawa. She writes “*The space at these discussions was remarkable for its self-reflective awareness, personal to political analysis and cultivation of a community of practice for a feminist peace alternative in our world. As others at WILPF have found, this network’s community invoked an inspiring feminist space, full of inclusivity, rebellion, respect, liberation, participation and a feminist curiosity and electricity.*”

### **Output 5.3: Resource Mobilization**

*MenEngage Global Alliance resource mobilization and fundraising strategy developed and successfully implemented*

#### Amplify Change Proposal Submission

In order to generate additional funding to implement our plans with regards to the Alliance’s priority issue Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), MenEngage Global Alliance submitted a proposal for a strategic grant from Amplify Change. This grant, if approved, would boost the Alliance’s work on SRHR at all levels and support a pool of advocacy change-makers at country level. The

proposal was developed by the Global Secretariat in collaboration with the SRHR working group. The final decision from Amplify Change is due in the first quarter of 2018.

#### Support to regional networks

The Global Secretariat provided support to four of the regional networks to generate additional resources to make the networks self-sustaining. A meeting was facilitated between MenEngage South Asia and UN Agencies based in the region about possible opportunities to generate partnerships in the region. In addition, the Global Secretariat presented about the global strategic plan and reinforced the importance of continuation of the funding support to MenEngage Africa in a meeting in Mozambique, during the MenEngage Africa AGM. The Global Secretariat also had meetings and calls with various agencies to explore opportunities to support the development of a regional network in the MENA region. These conversations will be followed up in 2018, depending on the strategic work plans that the regional networks will develop in early 2018.

## REPORTS FROM THE REGIONAL NETWORKS

### MenEngage Africa

#### Highlights/main outcomes

MenEngage Africa has made significant progress through their advocacy work, which has resulted in governments increasingly engaging with the members and country networks in the region in terms of either amending legislation or proposing new policies and guidelines around women's rights and gender justice, in particular Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), ending child marriages (ECM) and Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). At the sub-regional and regional levels, the network engaged parliamentarians on various initiatives around the elimination of FGM/C resulting in promising work to develop national action plans on FGM/C. In Tanzania and Namibia, MEA members participated in a review of the draft Marriage Regime Bill, while in Democratic Republic of Congo the country network members have been involved in advocacy around new laws to end ECM. In Kenya, the network contributed to the development of the draft National HIV and AIDS Male Engagement Guideline while in Zambia the network is advocating for laws and policies to criminalise GBV. In addition, the network engaged with the East African Community (EAC) and Southern African Development Community (SADC) during this reporting phase. MenEngage Africa members participated alongside other civil society organisations to influence the debate and language around gender issues in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) and the United Nations Human Rights Council.

Furthermore, there is increasing recognition of religious and community leaders as key agents with the potential to play a central role in the engagement of men and boys to advance gender equality. As a result of the network's sensitisation and capacity building initiatives, traditional and community leaders were involved in community mobilisation activities such as a campaign against FGM in Tanzania, or initiatives around GBV in Rwanda and community dialogues on early child marriages in Uganda and Zambia.

MenEngage Africa's member organisations and partners have benefitted from various capacity building initiatives as well as ongoing financial support from Sonke. This has resulted in increased capacity among the network members in areas such as media training, exchange visits (Namibia and Botswana) and technical assistance in relation to financial management and monitoring, evaluation and reporting. MEA has continued to play a critical role in informing the gender equality field in Africa through evidence generation. This has led to the improvement of programming, governance and operational systems of network members – many of whom are now in a position to attract other donor funding as in the case of Kenya, Rwanda, DRC and others.

In 2017, MenEngage Africa also made significant progress with regards to re-establishing the Africa Youth Advisory Committee under the convenorship of Sonke Gender Justice and Chairpersonship of SAFAids Zimbabwe. The Youth Advisory committee consists of 10 youth leaders across the African region. In 2017, the committee met in Jinja, Uganda to review the MEA Youth MoU and guide the activities of the committee. The meeting led to the development of a youth strategy for 2017-2020, the adoption and contextualization of the MEA MoU, and the setting up of the Youth Advisory Group.

#### Network-building and Strengthening

MenEngage Africa acquired three new country networks in 2017: Cameroon, Togo and Lesotho, bringing its total to 21 country networks and 260 member organizations.

#### Steering Committee meeting

MenEngage Africa, hosted by HOPEM, organized its Annual General Meeting in Maputo, Mozambique in July 2017. The meeting created a learning space for participants from 15 country networks and the regional and global secretariats, where the country representatives shared their highlights, challenges and recommendations for strengthened programme implementation. The participants were also introduced to MenEngage Alliance's Global Strategic Plan 2017-20, with a key focus on strengthening regional networks. The participants discussed governance structure and the strategic direction for MenEngage Africa beyond 2018, thus providing inputs for the next strategic plan for the regional network.

Another important element of this meeting was the election of a new regional Steering Committee. Laxman Belbase from the Global Secretariat and Angelica Pino from Sonke Gender Justice co-facilitated the session which included nominations and elections for the incoming steering committee members for 2017-2020. The process was based on the process that was agreed by the steering committee beforehand, as the part of the regional network's MoU. The newly elected Steering Committee members are James Itana from LifeLine/Child Line Namibia (Chair), Ilot Muthaka from COMEN (Vice-Chair), Lydia Mungherera from ATHENA network, Mercy Kabangi from Plan International, Michael Jackson from CDF Tanzania, Desmond Lunga from Men and Boys for Gender Equality Zambia, Tamba David from Sierra Leone MenEngage Network, and Sixtus Otieno from Margaret Wanzuu Foundation. This was followed by the first sitting of the new Steering Committee, which included an induction for the new members and signing of MoU.

### **Governance structure**

During the reporting period, the regional Steering Committee held an in-person meeting during the network's annual general meeting in July in Maputo and four virtual meetings were organized. MenEngage Africa organizes its Steering Committee meetings in a roving system, to enable members to host meetings and to use the opportunity to learn from one another and support each other's work.

### **Capacity Strengthening**

Significant progress has been made against this outcome with members and country networks reporting improved organisational systems as well as the ability to undertake advocacy work (including using media), strengthen networks and implement programmes effectively. There was also increased movement in some of the campaigns as a result of support provided, particularly Men and HIV, and engaging men and boys in the elimination of FGM and SGBV. Despite the strengthened ability of networks to implement such activities, they can at times be limited by resources and staffing available, as highlighted in numerous country reports from the region. In addition, further support was provided through training tool kits such as the one developed to support the work with religious leaders. The toolkit consists of a guide on work with faith-based organizations on gender transformation, a guide on work with the LGBTIQ sector; and a guide on biblical resources for work with faith-based sector on GBV.

MenEngage Africa has organized various capacity building interventions with partners in the region, including network sessions in Kenya with various organisations including UNFPA, MMAAK and MWF. In Tanzania, there were various engagements with the EAC aimed at ending FGM, and in Botswana with SADC on developing a sub-regional strategy on engaging men and boys. As a result of this, UN agencies are now taking forward some of the campaigns and participating in key consultations, which is seen as a key success for MEA.

### **Annual Capacity Building Workshop**

Ten partners of the MenEngage Africa network, including MenEngage Botswana, Kenya MenEngage, MenEngage Tanzania and MenEngage Swaziland, met in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, in April 2017 for the network's annual capacity building programme. The training focused on a wide range of topics

including strengthening media and communications, improving monitoring and evaluation systems, network building and sharpening the thematic campaigns, viz sexual and gender-based violence, female genital mutilation (FGM) and work with men and HIV at country level - of the MenEngage Africa alliance, with focus on gender transformative work with faith-based organisations, understanding and engaging with international process such as the SDGs and the UPR. The capacity building workshop resulted in strengthening an African network of organisations with increased commitment and capacity to implement, document and advocate for effective, evidence-based and scaled-up interventions to engage boys and men in achieving gender equality.

### **Engaging community, traditional and faith leaders**

One of MenEngage Africa's key focus areas is on engaging community, traditional and religious leaders, to ensure that they have the capacity, commitment and skills to advance gender equality, SRHR and children's rights and once that is achieved to ensure that they are able to undertake community mobilisation activities.

To address this imperative, 12 African country networks held workshops to engage faith leaders in promoting gender justice in 2017, directly reaching out to 398 community, traditional and faith leaders across the region. What has emerged across the countries is that there are numerous examples of ways in which the network has managed to successfully engage religious leaders. The examples indicate that these leaders have been sensitised around gender issues such as early marriage, GBV, FGM and gender justice etc. Of even more importance is that the examples illustrate the ways in which these leaders are already implementing activities that give concrete expression to this increased awareness, including a willingness to call on boys and men around these issues.

### **Strategic partnerships**

In 2017, MenEngage Africa network developed and strengthened its relationship with 32 strategic partners, including UN agencies such as UNFPA, UN Women, UNAIDS and WHO, regional CSOs such as Gender Links, FEMNET, IPPF, Raising Voices, WILPF, Nobel Women's Initiative, Save the Children and Concern Worldwide and African Union and other Regional Economic Communities and Parliamentary bodies such as African Union, Southern African Development Community, East African Development Community, Pan African Parliament and SADC Parliamentary Forum. MenEngage Africa works to ensure that strategic partners have capacity to advocate and implement gender transformative work that includes a focus on men and boys. This is achieved through two primary interventions: technical assistance provided to identified strategic partners and through the establishment of strategic partnerships at national and regional levels. During this period progress was made with respect to the capacity building of strategic partners as well as the establishment of strategic partnerships, such as the example cited previously with respect to the partnership with the EAC.

### **Advocacy**

#### **Strengthening Partnership and Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)**

MenEngage Africa (MEA) and Sonke Gender Justice successfully contributed to establishing civil society partnerships to support global advocacy initiatives such as the SDGs and CSW, both in the region as well as globally, together with the Global Secretariat. Sonke and MEA participated in the 3<sup>rd</sup> session of the African Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (ARFSD) held in Addis Ababa from 17-19 May 2017, and the Human Rights Council held in June 2017. This was in preparation for the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development held in New York from 10-19 July 2017. Prior to the start of the ARFSD, civil society organisations and other stakeholders met to review processes around identified SDGs. A key achievement from this process was that the parties emerged with a statement which included a collective position on SDG 5 which relates to gender equality and empowerment of

women and girls (as well as a position on SDG3 which relates to promoting healthy lives and wellbeing for all).

#### Pan African Parliament's annual women's conference

MenEngage Africa co-organized the Pan African Parliaments annual women's conference in Johannesburg in October 2017 under the theme "The Role of parliamentarians in promoting international and regional Human Rights instruments, especially those related to Women and Youth, Peace and Security, and Female Genital Mutilation in order to achieve the Demographic Dividend". Co-organised together with the Pan African Parliament (PAP), Sonke Gender Justice (Sonke) and the UNFPA (United Nations Population Fund), the conference mobilised members of the PAP to promote international and regional human rights instruments and to accelerate the fight against female genital mutilation (FGM) deemed to be a threat to Demographic Dividend of Africa. The conference reviewed progress of the Pan African Parliament in the promotion of gender mainstreaming and the economic advancement of women in Africa, and participants discussed strategies and measures to fast-track the ratification and domestication of the African Union Legal Instruments. PAP members committed to engage men to address gender inequalities and harmful practices such as FGM in their respective countries.

#### Regional Meeting on Ending FGM

MenEngage Africa (MEA), Sonke Gender Justice (Sonke) and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) hosted a regional meeting in July in Zanzibar, Tanzania with key regional and international stakeholders, civil society, traditional and religious leaders, and MenEngage country networks across the region. The meeting focused on how to synergise work on ending FGM and integrate initiatives on engaging men and boys, as well as provide inputs for the MenEngage Africa campaign on ending FGM.

#### Meeting with EAC

In addition, a significant development at the regional level was the meeting between the MenEngage Africa and the Eastern African Community (EAC). The meeting was held in April in Arusha and included a representative from the Children's Dignity Forum/MEA Tanzania, two representatives from the EAC secretariat and four from Sonke. The meeting helped MenEngage Africa network to reconnect with the EAC and explore areas of collaboration in policy work, including a policy scan in the sub-region, as well as programmatic interventions with member states, especially work with men and boys focusing on SDG implementation.

#### Resource mobilization

During this period, Sonke Gender Justice, the regional secretariat, developed two proposals that were granted to support some of the regional work. However, it should be noted that the development of these proposals was not for the sole benefit of MenEngage Africa but rather Sonke complementing the network's work in the region. A grant from NORAD will benefit two of the member networks: SAfAIDS from Zimbabwe will receive a sub-grant of R3, 472,623.61 and MAGE from Sierra Leone will receive a sub-grant of R 1, 363,375.34. A Concern Worldwide grant will ensure linkages to networks in Sierra Leone, Kenya, DRC and Malawi, amongst others.

### **Communications**

#### Media strategy

In the absence of sustained and critical media coverage, social media has become a very important vehicle to deliver messages, to educate, to create awareness and to mobilise individuals, communities and societies around issues. MenEngage Africa capitalised on using social media to communicate news, views, awareness and developments around three main campaigns –FGM, men and HIV and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). Strategically, Facebook and Twitter were chosen as the main social media platforms. The networks' use of social media started in earnest in August 2015 when

the services of a dedicated Communications staff member was utilised. Up until then both the Facebook and Twitter accounts, which had been lying dormant, had just over 100 followers. Through a sustained effort to keep them ticking, the network's Facebook page has seen a growth of followers that surpasses 1,500 people, while its Twitter account has grown to more than 1,100 by July 2017.

#### Channel Africa partnership

MenEngage Africa developed a special partnership with Channel Africa, a radio service that broadcasts to the rest of Africa and internationally, in which the Alliance produced content for two radio programmes that engage men and boys across the African continent to create the change necessary for all to enjoy equitable, healthy and happy relationships. The 40-minute-long programmes [AfricaGender Indaba](#) used a human rights framework to build the capacity of government, civil society organisations and citizens to achieve gender equality, prevent gender-based violence and reduce the spread of HIV and the impact of AIDS.

## **MenEngage Europe**

#### **Highlights/key achievements**

In 2017, MenEngage Europe network was able to organize two in-person Steering Committee meetings, in Vilnius in January and in Barcelona in October, which significantly helped the network advance in its network strengthening plans. With support from the Global Secretariat, MEE was able to get on-board two interns who worked closely with the co-coordinators, which facilitated improved communications within the network, specifically among the Steering Committee members, and allowed it to advance on some of its plans.

MenEngage Europe built a strategic relationship during 2017 with the OAK Foundation, including through an in-person meeting in Belgrade during the MenCare Global meeting where they discussed the possibility of partnership and financial support. In December, the network submitted an application for a grant which would enable the network to have a secretariat and hold a membership meeting in 2018. In addition, after discussions during the Global Board meeting in Ottawa, three MenEngage regional networks from North America, Europe and Caribbean submitted a joint funding proposal. Although the proposal was not successful it sparked an interesting discussion on the potential for working cross regionally and collaborating to address the issues of privilege and power and the responsibilities that come with this.

MenEngage Europe took steps towards the formalization of the network towards a well-functioning and transparent entity. The Steering Committee had a number of deep and important discussions on issues such as membership, voting rights, and the division of responsibilities and developed a 'House Rules' document to govern the functioning of the network.

#### **Network Strengthening and Development**

##### **Strength assessment and work plan**

MenEngage Europe conducted a strength and needs assessment during their Steering Committee meeting in Barcelona in October, facilitated by the Global Secretariat. Some of the key strengths identified were the presence of strong, experienced member organizations, and a dedicated core group with a strong common understanding of transforming masculinities. One of the key challenges the network faces is a lack of clarity on who their members are, a lack of active members and a lack of capacity to manage membership requests. Lack of funding as well as time and human resources to dedicate to the network were identified as further challenges, and working towards a more formalized coordinating function was identified as the main aspiration for the network in the coming period. The

network also developed a comprehensive work plan for 2018, which includes plans to recruit a secretariat function and hold a membership meeting in late 2018 which will bring together all existing members as well as potential new members. The network has not held such a meeting since 2014, and this is based on the realization of the need to energize existing members and involve more members from across Europe that are increasingly approaching the network with interest to join. MEE is preparing the final report of the meeting and develop a preliminary work plan for 2018, which will be submitted to the Global Secretariat during the early 2018.

### **Capacity Strengthening and Learning Exchange**

MenEngage Europe network members hosted 3 organizations, members of the Alliance, with the objective of sharing experiences and strengthen mutual capacities on work to engage men and boys. MÂN, one of the co-coordinators of MEE, hosted an exchange visit from 3 organizations from Brazil, South Africa and Russia to share international experiences of working with fathers.

### **Regional Steering Committee meetings**

The MenEngage Europe Steering Committee held two in-person meetings in 2017, one in Vilnius in January and another in Barcelona in November, as well as 8 skype calls throughout the year. With interns onboard to support the co-coordinators with the workload, they were able to organize calls and meet virtually on a weekly basis. These meetings allowed the Steering Committee to have in depth discussions about the formalization of the network and its 'House Rules', including key institutional topics such as the roles and responsibilities of members. At the meeting in Barcelona, The Steering Committee discussed the role of a potential secretariat for the network, discussed what a membership meeting in 2018 might look like, and developed a concrete work plan for 2018.

### **Regional conferences**

#### **MenEngage Nordic Conference**

[MenEngage Nordic](#), a sub-regional network of MenEngage Europe, organized a one-day conference in Oslo, Norway in February that was attended by more than 100 participants from across the European region. The conference, titled "[Making the Invisible Visible](#)", resulted in rich exchanges of promising experiences between peers through workshops and parallel sessions on various topics of relevance to the day-to-day work of practitioners. In the plenary and parallel sessions, participants focused on gender justice in the Nordic region and the specific national and local contexts, as well as issues and experiences from Europe and globally. Todd Minerson, MenEngage Alliance Co-Chair and Global Secretariat staff joined the forum and jointly facilitated one of the parallel workshops on organizing the next Global Symposium. Todd Minerson also delivered the closing remarks at the event. This conference boosted connections among MenEngage Nordic members and created a space for further joint actions in the Nordic sub-region in the coming years. With this energy, MenEngage Nordic is planning to continue follow-up conferences in the region to share and learn from each other. For a full report on the conference click [here](#).

#### **MAN2017 Conference**

Center E8, in cooperation with Promundo, organized its seventh annual expert conference "MAN2017: Europe talks on masculinity" in June 2017 in Belgrade, Serbia. This annual expert conference focused on multidisciplinary analysis of masculinities in the contemporary social context, with a focus on the Eastern European context. Already recognized as one of most prominent conferences of its kind in the Balkan region, the three-day event provided opportunities for learning and advancement of knowledge of youth workers, activists and professionals who use feminist and critical theories of masculinity in their work. Members of MenEngage Europe participated and presented at the conference. Jan Reynders of MenEngage Europe and Krizia Nardini facilitated a workshop called "Boystalk2017: engendering intersectional conversations that matter" and the Global Secretariat staff

and Tal Peretz from Auburn University co-facilitated an interactive panel discussion on accountability within the field of transforming masculinities and engaging boys and men in gender justice.

### **Men in Movement III: Decolonizing Masculinities conference**

Several MEE members participated in the conference “Men in Movement III Decolonizing Masculinities” in Barcelona in November. Jan Reynders spoke on a panel on behalf of MenEngage Europe as part of an activist roundtable entitled “Accountability in advocating for gender justice in neoliberal times: relations, communication, initiatives”.

### **MenCare Campaign**

MenEngage Europe members were involved in the organization of, or participated in, the MenCare Global meeting in Belgrade in June 2017 (see section Output 1.2 Capacity strengthening and advocacy activities for details).

### **Advocacy**

None of the MEE Steering Committee members are currently engaged in direct advocacy at the EU level, although this is something the network may consider as it evolves as a network. There has been some exchange of experiences and knowledge in terms of advocacy successes, in particular related to the #MeToo movement, and a level of cross European learning.

However, MEE members contributed to the global MenEngage advocacy effort around the UN Human Rights Council resolution on engaging men and boys in preventing violence against women and shared the opportunity among the network. MEE has been in continuous contact with Sida gender focal points throughout the year.

### **Accountability and Partnerships**

MEE members in Russia translated the MenEngage Accountability Standards and Toolkit into Russian and held training sessions on the implementation of the toolkit. Luis Lineo of MÄN participated in the MenEngage virtual roundtable dialogue following #MeToo and reflected on the importance of accountability in men’s response to this movement. Accountability is also a clear thematic element of the IMAGINE project. The project partners thoroughly discussed and exchanged experiences of engaging with local women’s organizations and working in mixed and single sex groups to ensure that accountability will become a key consideration when they begin to do concrete work together.

MEE has seen more and more women being involved in the network, both in the Steering Committee and larger meetings.

### **Strengthening Partnership with Women’s Rights networks**

MEE has been rebuilding and strengthening its relationship with the European Women’s Lobby as part of its accountability and partnership efforts. With these efforts, MenEngage Europe has been able to strengthen its partnership with the European Institute of Gender Equality (EIGE), a major actor in the women’s rights and gender equality field at the European level. MEE was invited, along with the European Women’s Lobby (EWL) and the Social Platform, to participate in an EIGE civil society consultation in Vilnius in January 2017, to inform its strategy and strengthen synergies and cooperation in the region. There were 30 participants at the workshop from a cross-section of European women’s and gender equality organisations, who discussed expectations for men and masculinities work and opportunities for collaboration, including how to maintain a strong feminist approach in this work. MEE were also invited to a bilateral meeting to support and advise EIGE on European policy and strategy in 2017 and beyond, in which they expressed their commitment to working in closer partnership with civil society, specifically including MenEngage Europe.

### Collaboration among network members

The IMAGINE (Inspiring Male Action on Gender Equality in Europe) joint project, funded through the EU Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme, by three MEE members, Swedish NGO MÄN (Men for Gender Equality) and run in conjunction with NGOs Emancipator (Netherlands) and The Good Lad Initiative (UK). The project grew out of the work of MEE as a way to start doing something concrete together and create new opportunities. This two-year project aims to tackle sexual harassment and sexual violence in the EU by engaging men and boys in the movement for gender equality. The three partners are working together to co-design a youth engagement initiative for the UK, Sweden, and the Netherlands before sharing their learning and results more widely throughout the EU. In 2017 the project recruited volunteers that are now working throughout the Netherlands, Sweden and the United Kingdom to inspire young people to reflect upon gendered norms, equality, relationships and consent.

In addition, MEE and the members have strengthened relationships with other European organizations that are associated partners of the IMAGINE project, such as Poika, an Austrian NGO who inspired by the IMAGINE project has received funds.

### Knowledge Development and Management

Several MEE Steering Committee members, especially those based in the UK, were involved in the research study by Promundo "[The Man Box: A Study on Being a Young Man in the US, UK, and Mexico](#)". This new study on young men's attitudes, behaviours, and understandings of manhood. The research, conducted with a representative, random sample of young men aged 18 to 30 in the US, UK, and Mexico, reveals that most men still feel pushed to live in the "Man Box" – a rigid construct of cultural ideas about male identity. This includes being self-sufficient, acting tough, looking physically attractive, sticking to rigid gender roles, being heterosexual, having sexual prowess, and using aggression to resolve conflicts.

### Institutional development and strengthening

During 2017, MEE was able to hire two interns for the first time which helped to drive the network's activities forward. The network also hired a consultant to work on proposal development, support working groups and the development of the MEE House Rules document. These efforts led to very constructive discussions among the SC members and the Global Secretariat around membership, MEE's governance model, resource mobilization and advocacy opportunities in the region. All these discussions set the stage for the network's strength and needs assessment in November.

### Resource mobilization

MenEngage Europe received \$7,500 for the Global Secretariat in 2017, as the part of the sub-grants from the global strategic plan. This sub-grant enabled the Steering Committee members to travel to Barcelona, Spain for the Steering Committee meeting and also attend the "Men in Movement" conference.

The network was supported by EIGE to bring 12 members to the civil society meeting in Vilnius, and support from the Nordic Council of Ministers enabled the participation of 25 CSOs at the MenEngage Nordic meeting.

MEE developed a funding proposal to the OAK Foundation in 2017 for \$80,000 - \$90,000 which would enable the network to have a secretariat function. After discussions during the Global Board meeting in Ottawa, MenEngage Europe also submitted a joint funding proposal to NoVo Foundation together with MenEngage regional networks NAMEN and CariMAN.

MEE, under the leadership of the Nordic MenEngage Network, supported in developing a proposal to NIKK (Nordic Council of Ministers) for a sub-grant to organize a cross-country exchange and learning event on “working with men and boys on psychosocial health”. This proposal was unsuccessful. However, MÄN, one of the MEE co-coordinators, supported the Nordic MenEngage Network to contact the Swedish Government – Chair of the Nordic Council of Ministers - to develop a joint proposal to bring the Nordic country members together at the ICMEIO conference to be organized in Stockholm, Sweden in April 2018.

## **Caribbean Male Action Network (CariMAN)**

### **Key achievements**

Responding to challenges faced by the network in previous years regarding its executive membership dwindling, CariMAN recruited 9 young men to join the network in 2017. Some of the new members are from countries in the region that had not previously been engaged with CariMAN, and they have brought new energy and experience to the network. Since the meeting, new members from Antigua and St. Vincent's have begun active work to establish local chapters. They will be formally elected as Steering Committee members in 2018.

CariMAN held an in-person regional meeting in Trinidad and Tobago in November 2017, during which the network carried out a rigorous strength and needs assessment and developed an ambitious workplan for the coming three years. The 9 new members attended together with 4 long standing members.

CariMAN and its members continued to implement awareness raising community workshops on a range of topics. The network held 42 workshops in 2017, with over 1250 participants. CariMAN Dominica and CariMAN Bahamas both implemented capacity development programmes for young men.

The network has improved its internal communications and has been using instant messaging to more consistently communicate among the membership and share information and resources.

### **Strength assessment and workplan development**

CariMAN, supported by the Global Secretariat, carried out its strength and needs assessment during the regional meeting in November. It was acknowledged that the network has become very well-known and respected in the region and is seen by many regional partners as a go-to source for expertise and resources on transforming masculinities and engaging men and boys for gender justice. A key need identified was to have a more formal coordinating mechanism, secretariat function, as well as additional financial resources. Another important need identified was better communications, both internally and externally. The group also developed a comprehensive and ambitious workplan for 2018 and beyond, which addresses and seeks to resolve some of these needs and challenges.

### **Capacity Strengthening**

The Caribbean Gender Advocates Program is a two-year advocacy training program with the UN Women Multi Country Office. Three members of CariMAN – from Grenada, Jamaica and Trinidad – were selected to be members of the newly established group after a competitive application process which drew more than 40 applicants from across the region. They took part in a week-long training, held in Grenada in February 2017. Members of the group will take part in a two-year training which will include both face-to-face and online workshops. Upon completion of the training, group members will provide in-country and regional consultancy support to the MCO in a variety of gender-based violence prevention, social justice promotion and advocacy projects currently being implemented or

envisioned to come on stream. Support will include mentoring, training, process facilitation, monitoring and evaluation.

#### Awareness raising activities

As part of the annual observation of international women’s day in March by the Ministry of Social development. CariMAN Grenada organized a series of men’s health workshops together with the local Planned Parenthood Federation. The workshops dealt with issues of sexual health, prostate cancer and lifestyle diseases. The network organized 20 workshops with over 500 participants in total.

CariMAN Grenada also organized a series of national violence prevention awareness raising conversations with community and school groups, together with a legal aid and counselling clinic. Between July and November, they held 22 workshops with over 750 participants in total.

#### Executive Committee meetings

The regional Executive Committee held one in-person meeting in Trinidad and Tobago in November, as well as 9 additional calls throughout the year.

#### Resource mobilization

CariMAN Bahamas began a partnership with the national ministry for social services and secured \$25,000 in funding from UN Women for their ‘reclaiming our boys’ program. This program began in early 2017 and will run for at least a year. It focuses on the sensitization of men as champions for change and will run training programs to empower men with the skills to mentor high school age boys effectively during this critical period of their development.

CarMAN Dominica continued with the implementation of a training programme funded by the Caribbean development Bank, to work with young men in institutional care on building hard and soft skills.

<u>Program Name</u>	<u>Grant holder</u>	<u>Donor Agency</u>	<u>Total budget (currency)</u>	<u>Program Period</u>
Basic Needs Trust Fund	CariMAN Dominica	Caribbean Development Bank	US \$49,500	July 2016 – Dec 2017
Reclaiming our Boys	CariMAN Bahamas/ Ministry of Social Services	UN women	US \$25,000	Jan- Dec 2017

## **MenEngage Americana Latina**

#### Key achievements

The year, the network continued its strong communications mechanisms, internally and externally, and posted regularly on its websites, social media pages and email listservs. As a result of this the regional network has developed a close relationship with all the country networks in the region, and the regional co-coordinators have been able to provide support in network strengthening, campaigns and programs as well as institutional development in the region. As a result, it was decided that the co-coordinatorship be shifted to two new members who can spearhead this role for the coming strategic period. In this sense, 2017 was a year of transition for MenEngage Latin America, where the Steering Committee invested huge energy and time in jointly thinking through this process.

MenEngage Latin America co-organized the 6th Colloquium on Men and Masculinities in Recife, Brazil which gathered over 400 academics and practitioners working on masculinities and engaging men and

boys. The regional network also held a meeting to coincide with the colloquium in which 39 members attended and identified ways forward for the network.

In September, MenEngage Latin America put out a call for consultants to carry out an evaluation of the regional network. A consultant was hired and will finalize the evaluation in early 2018.

Several MenEngage members provided inputs on the report “State of the World’s Fathers: Latin America and the Caribbean”, which presents research about men’s engagement in issues related to fatherhood. The report was launched this year regionally and internationally.

#### Strength Assessment and workplans

The MenEngage Latin America Steering Committee decided to institute an open and transparent process to identify an external consultant to support the network to conduct its strength assessment and workplan development. In September 2017 the network developed terms of reference, with support from the Global Secretariat, and put out a call for consultants to carry out an evaluation of the Latin American regional network as well as country networks in the region. Patrick Welsh was selected, following through a competitive and transparent process, to carry out the evaluation, which will be finalized in 2018. The final products will be an evaluation report and four case studies documenting good practices in national networks and communications campaigns.

#### Regional network and Steering Committee meetings

MenEngage Latin America held one in-person meeting in April coinciding with the regional colloquium in Recife, Brazil. 39 participants attended the meeting, in which the MenEngage Global Strategic Plan was presented, and the committee reflected on the achievements of the regional network as well as the country networks. Agreements were made on consolidating the Steering Committee, renewing national and regional coordinators and holding virtual meetings.

The Steering Committee also held two calls during the year, in which they made decisions on the evaluation design and the election of new coordinators. The coordination team met on a bimonthly basis and participated in MenEngage Global board meetings throughout the year.

#### National and regional colloquia

The 6th International Colloquium on Men and Masculinities took place in Recife, Brazil in April this year. The last 5 colloquiums have taken place in different Latin American countries and have played a crucial role in the consolidation this field of work and study in the region, serving as a space for the exchange of knowledge bridging the academic, activist and public services sectors in the region. This year’s theme was “Masculinities and contemporary dynamics of power and resistance: Ethical, ideological and political suppositions from diverse voices, practices and interventions in work with men and masculinities”.

The event brought together more than 400 researchers, human rights activists, public policy practitioners from countries all over the region, to share and amplify the visibility of knowledge and best practices, to contribute to the evidence base for this work and the building of more equitable public policies. The program included 5 days of panel discussions, roundtables, working groups, posters, book launches and cultural events. Themes discussed included violence, men’s health, work and education, fatherhood and caregiving, sexual rights, ethnic and racial diversity.

#### Coloquio Nacional Sobre Masculinidades, Peru

The MenEngage country network in Peru, Red Peruana de Masculinidades, organized a national colloquium on men and fatherhood “Coloquio Nacional Sobre Masculinidades” in October, with support from GIZ. The colloquium created a space for dialogue, reflection, debate and exchange of

experiences between organizations working in the sector of GBV prevention, LGBTIQ rights and research on men, masculinities and prevention of VAW. The colloquium also analysed and made visible public and private politics on work around men and masculinities, promoting gender equality and violence prevention. Regional co-coordinator Francisco Aguayo attended the event, which supported the national network in their development, and strengthened ties between the national and regional networks.

#### Advocacy activities to support the Global Secretariat

One of the co-coordinators of MenEngage Latin America was invited by the Global Secretariat to join the event at the 35<sup>th</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva and support the advocacy and lobby activities carried to influence the successful adoption of the resolution [“Accelerating efforts to eliminate violence against women: engaging men and boys in preventing and responding to violence against all women and girls”](#) tabled by the Canadian government. During the occasion, MenEngage Latin America co-coordinator also presented and participated in a HeForShe Barbershop Event/State of the World’s Fathers Global Report 2017 launch.

#### MenCare Campaign

MenEngage Latin America engaged in educational campaigns and public awareness initiatives in 2017, in particular around the MenCare Campaign, in various countries in the region. In Mexico, Complices por la Equidad and MenEngage Latin America held a webinar on paternity leave in Latin America and Spain in October 2017, where 20 people from 13 countries in the region participated.

In Nicaragua, as part of the launch of State of the World’s fathers report, REDMAS organized a national forum with various women’s rights organizations and organizations that work with children and adolescents. La Red de Masculinidad por la Igualdad de Género promoted a new training course on “masculine sexuality and involved fatherhood” as part of the campaign [Vos Sos Mi Papa](#) #VosSosMiPapa (you are my father) financed by CUSO international. In Guatemala, Red de Hombres por la salud organized a photography contest ‘Guatemalan fathers’, with the support of the Swedish embassy and He for She. In Chile, Fundación CulturaSalud-EME organized a photography competition ‘Chilean Dads’, sponsored by UNICEF and UN Women.

#### Campaign Against Sexual Violence

EME-Masculinidades y Equidad de Genero, Observatorio Contra el Acoso Callejero Chile and Red entrelazado (MenEngage Chile), and MenEngage Latin America launched the campaign [¿#NoTeDaVergüenza?](#) (are you not ashamed?) in January 2017. The campaign aims to sensitize people around the issue of sexual violence against women and girls. Continuing with the networks experience of the White Ribbon campaign in the region, the campaign seeks to involve more men in violence prevention efforts, especially those who witness violence, and encourage them to speak up and commit to a society free of violence against women and girls. The campaign is funded by the Canadian Embassy in Chile, FCB MAYO and the White Ribbon Campaign.

#### Communications

This year MenEngage Latin America identified communications focal points, updated its email listservs and membership database. The network further defined its communications mechanisms, and shared news, documents and activities using email listservs, social media and the regional website.

	<b>Links</b>	<b>Outreach</b>
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.campanapaternidad.org/">http://www.campanapaternidad.org/</a>	30 posts
	<a href="http://www.lazoblancolac.org">www.lazoblancolac.org</a>	2 posts, 20 updates
<b>Facebook:</b>	<a href="#">Campaña del Lazo Blanco</a>	82 posts, 1230 likes

	<a href="#">Campaña de Paternidad MenCare América Latina</a>	205 posts, 2050 likes
	<a href="#">MenEngage América Latina</a>	171 posts, 2565 likes
Twitter:		(tweets/retweets)

### Knowledge Products

Several MenEngage members provided inputs on the report [“State of the World’s Fathers: Latin America and the Caribbean”](#), which presents research about men’s engagement in issues directly related to fatherhood, including caregiving and parenting tasks; child development; sexual and reproductive health; maternal, newborn, and child health; and the prevention of violence against women and children. The report was launched in presented and launched together with country networks in Mexico, Panama, Colombia, Nicaragua, Bolivia, Guatemala, Peru. The report was also launched internationally during the Human Rights Council session in June, and at the Barbershop conference in New York in June. Regional coordinator Douglas Mendoza participated in both launches, where he shared his experiences of engaging men and boys to promote involved fatherhood with global policy makers.

### Accountability

REDMAS, the MenEngage country network in Nicaragua held five workshops in different regions of the country on accountability for organizations working with men and boys and the MenEngage code of conduct. 40 people from 30 civil society organizations participated. The network in Costa Rica, held their first workshop in order to develop the network’s own contextualized code of conduct. 10 organizations attended, including Red de Masculinidades por la Igualdad, a network of government workers who work to promote gender equality in various ministries in Costa Rica.

## **North America MenEngage Network (NAMEN)**

### **Key Achievements**

#### **Network Building and Capacity Strengthening**

##### Strength Assessment

In 2017, NAMEN’s Steering Committee held a number of discussions about ways to strengthen the network. The committee agreed that a strategic assessment of what NAMEN has accomplished since 2012 and of the lessons learned to date would help the network to identify and set priorities for the next three years. NAMEN’s Coordinating Committee further discussed the benefits of undertaking a facilitated strategic assessment to strengthen our ability to influence opinion.

With approval from the Steering Committee, and funding from the Global Secretariat, NAMEN retained a team of three experienced members to lead this process, which will include a review of NAMEN’s governance structure and procedures, program materials and official positions. The facilitators will consult with the members of the Global Secretariat, gather information from its membership using an online survey, and hold phone interviews with Steering Committee members and key informants. The assessment will be concluded in April 2018.

##### Capacity Strengthening activities

NAMEN established a working group tasked with coordinating Community of Practice (CoP) events. In 2017, the network organized four CoP events, each on a different topic with member or guest speakers

invited. The topics of the events were: "Holding our Ground, What to expect in the new US Administration?", "Local work, first edition: showcasing two NAMEN Member projects", "Planning our Community of Practice: what works for you?", "Understanding NAMEN's Accountability to Women of Color". With this activity, NAMEN was able to directly reach around 50 people in the US and Canada. CoP events have been able create a space for NAMEN members and others to share and learn from each other about promising examples, strategies and lessons learnt around transforming masculinities and engaging boys and men in gender justice.

#### Regional Network meetings and governance structure

In 2017 NAMEN's Steering Committee met six times via zoom, an online video conferencing platform that enabled NAMEN to log 110 person/hours of participation. Steering Committee meetings follow established protocols, hold elections, share information and make consensual or majority-supported decisions on behalf of the network. The NAMEN Steering Committee of 14 people meet every two months by web video conference, using Google Docs as a virtual office. The agenda focused on full range of organizational topics, including strengthening the regional network and identifying opportunities where NAMEN can contribute with its strong knowledge base.

A Coordinating Committee of 5 people functions as the executive committee and meets in the alternate months as well. NAMEN's Coordinating Committee also met six times to conduct due diligence and other businesses approved by the Steering Committee. Two NAMEN representatives attended the Global MenEngage Alliance board meeting in Ottawa, Canada.

#### Resource mobilization

In 2017 NAMEN retained a consultant to serve as grant writing coordinator to strengthen the network's fundraising efforts. In collaboration with NAMEN's Coordinating Committee, the coordinator researched and explored opportunities with private foundations. Four proposals were developed and submitted to prospective donors. This effort will continue in 2018. In addition, NAMEN is a dues-based membership organization, where annual dues are collected. Membership fees are collected through a system online based on Wild Apricot Membership Software.

In order to further strengthen resource mobilization in North America, and given that NAMEN is not a registered entity, NAMEN is working on a MoU with the Global Secretariat, in which the Global Secretariat will serve as the fiscal agent for NAMEN in the coming years. The MoU will be signed in early 2018.

### **Advocacy**

#### Activist responses

In response to the violence and hate perpetrated by white, mostly male, supremacists in Charlottesville, Virginia in August, the NAMEN Steering Committee released a [statement](#) declaring the network's sorrow at the people who were harmed, including the murder of paralegal and activist Heather Heyer. The statement articulated the network's commitment to continuing to work in solidarity for racial, gender and other forms of justice:

*"We will continue to actively resist institutional and personal manifestations of racist, sexist, heterosexist, transphobic, classist, anti-Semitic and other multiple and intersectional forms of oppression which undermine the "life, liberty and pursuit of happiness" of all those who live, work and breath in the United States of America, and throughout the world."*

Individual NAMEN members Rus Funk and Rob Okun also spoke out publicly about the incident.

#### Partnerships and Support

NAMEN received multiple requests from advocacy groups to lend its voice in collaborative or joint public statements in support of gender equality or condemning violence against women or gender-based violence. In each case, the Steering Committee conducted an assessment to determine the extent to which NAMEN'S involvement was pertinent. In 2017, NAMEN endorsed three public statements:

1. A Letter to the United States Federal Funding for Gender Based Violence
2. A statement of support for the United States Title IX conference
3. A statement released by the Global MenEngage Alliance in support of women's right to safe and legal abortion care.

### **Knowledge Management and Communications**

#### Communications means and outreach

In 2017 NAMEN improved its website capacity, making it more responsive to user and mobile ready. Website content was updated regularly. In addition, NAMEN launched a Facebook page and began posting and reposting content regularly.

	<b>Links</b>	<b>Outreach</b>
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://namen.menengage.org/">http://namen.menengage.org/</a>	<b>Posts key newsletter articles and displays Facebook posting, Provides membership joining and account services.</b>
<b>Facebook:</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/MenEngageNorthAmerica/">https://www.facebook.com/MenEngageNorthAmerica/</a>	<b>Total Followers: 199 Total Likes: 196</b>
<b>Newsletter:</b>	<a href="http://namen.menengage.org/Newsletters">http://namen.menengage.org/Newsletters</a>	<b>Five Editions</b>
<b>Mailing list:</b>		<b>339 members</b>

#### Knowledge products

With the goal of engaging members in the most current debate about how men stand up for gender equality, NAMEN launched a bi-monthly e-newsletter that shares news and upcoming events. Since its launch in February 2017, five [e-newsletters](#) were published and circulated through its listserv, directly reaching 64 members of the regional network. The e-newsletter typically includes five sections: Community Highlights (from our partners and allies), What We Are Learning (about a relevant topic such as accountability or harassment), Working Groups and Global Alliance updates, Upcoming Events, and Resources.

### **Accountability and Partnerships**

#### Accountability activities

Accountability has been a core focus area of NAMEN since its inception and the network has engaged in various activities to promote accountable practices among its members. During the year 2017, NAMEN conducted various activities to advance this agenda.

Raising the topic via e-newsletter: NAMEN's e-newsletter #3 featured accountability as an important discussion for the gender equality movement. In this e-newsletter NAMEN focused on substantive issues about engaging men, and what NAMEN has been able to learn as a movement/field. In this Issue, NAMEN began to examine issues around men's accountability.

Including accountability in the agenda of regular steering committee meetings: By addressing the topic in its regular meetings, members identified the need to move from discussion to action. The Steering Committee of NAMEN agreed unanimously that NAMEN needs to support and strengthen

its voice behind one strategic women's rights and/or social justice organization and reached agreement to support the Women of Color Network.

Holding peer organizations accountable: NAMEN deliberately engaged in a series of conversations and exchanges with a peer organization about what constitutes acceptable, respectful behaviour vis-à-vis women's organizations and partners, urged them to assume responsibility for their actions and to commit to active awareness of how their actions impact those around them.

#### Collaborative Actions

NAMEN is currently partnering with the Pennsylvania-based organization Women of Color Network, which works to end violence against women by centralizing the voices and leadership of women of colour and their communities. NAMEN steering committee member Tonya Lovelace has been instrumental in leading discussions about intersectionality and the need for an intentional shift in power balance and use of resources to enable women of colour to realize their full potential as leaders, and have their voices heard.

## **MenEngage South Asia**

### **Key Highlights**

2017 was another vibrant year for MenEngage Alliance South Asia, with all five country networks actively implementing their respective workplans along with the regional work plan for the year, guided by its regional strategy developed in 2016. The regional network met several times to review and strengthen the regional collective by bringing together the experiences, lesson learnt and opportunities to support each other, devise collective strategies to deal with the challenges faced, support each other across country contexts, foster cross-learning opportunities, initiate capacity development initiatives, collate stories of changes and promising examples in the countries, and strengthen partnerships with women's rights and gender justice actors in the region.

The regional Steering Committee met 2 times virtually during the year and in May. MenEngage South Asia organized a smaller face-to-face meeting where the group came together to identify strategic ways forward for the regional network. However, it was decided that this exercise needed to be expanded with a slightly larger group in order to generate more ownership and participation on the regional strategy. Following this, the network organized its strength assessment and work plan development exercise, with support from the Global Secretariat, in November 2017 in Kathmandu, Nepal. The meeting supported in creating a space to share updates, progress, promising practices and success stories among the country and regional networks, and develop a regional work plan.

During the year 2017, the regional network organized various capacity development initiatives ranging from the online course on Men and Masculinities to in-person capacity development workshop at the regional level, to various in country workshops and campaigns in the region. All these supported the network to train and strengthen capacities of over 100 individual and activities from various NGOs and organizations in the region.

### Strength Assessment and Strategic Plan

MenEngage South Asia carried out a strength and needs assessment in November 2017, during a Steering Committee meeting in Kathmandu, Nepal. The 4-day meeting provided the opportunity to take stock of the network's achievements and lessons learnt and reflect on previous commitments. Participants shared updates, progress, promising practices and success stories among the country and regional networks, creating cross-country exchange of knowledge that created a base for conducting the strength assessment and analysis of the regional network.

The meeting also identified strategic ways forward for MenEngage Alliance South Asia for the coming 3 years. The regional network devised a strategy and work-plan with concrete ideas for collective actions in the region. The meeting identified the network's key priority issues (Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV), Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), Caregiving and Fatherhood, Non-violence, Peace and Security, SOGI Rights, Youth Leadership, and Women's Inheritance Rights) as well as key strategies (network development and partnerships, including strengthening accountability, campaigns and mobilization, capacity strengthening, research and evidence building, advocacy, and knowledge management and communications). The report of this meeting as well as the strategic work plan will be finalised in early 2018 and submitted to the Global Secretariat.

### Capacity strengthening activities

#### **Online course on "Understanding Masculinities"**

Centre for Health and Social Justice (CHSJ) and MenEngage Alliance South Asia launched ["Understanding Masculinities – Engaging Men and Boys towards Gender Equality: An Online Training"](#) in April 2017. The specific objectives of the training are to create a deeper understanding and engagement with issues of men and masculinities, to increase critical understanding of tools, methods and theories to formulate violence prevention programs; and to provide expert knowledge on masculinities, violence and gender through historical, economic and social processes. While this course has been initially conceptualized from the work of SANAM, which was dedicated to developing a South Asia focused curriculum on understanding sexual and gender-based violence as well as sexual and reproductive health and rights and their intersections with masculinities, the modules in this online training have been designed to be action-oriented and accessible to participants of varied backgrounds. All together 25 participants from various organizations and sectors from South Asia region participated in this course.

#### **Capacity strengthening workshop in India**

Centre for Health and Social Justice (CHSJ), together with MenEngage Alliance South Asia, hosted a 4-day workshop on "Understanding Masculinities and Strengthening work with boys and men in Gender Justice", where 25 participants from various countries in the region, except Pakistan, participated. The resource persons for the training was invited from all the 4-countries, except Pakistan due to visa challenges, in the region who came in for specific sessions, which included around half of the Steering Committee members. They also took the opportunity to organize regional steering committee meeting, following the success of the workshop.

#### **Steering Committee meetings**

The Steering Committee of MenEngage South Asia met three times in 2017, once through Skype and twice in person at meetings in Nepal and India. These meetings enabled the Steering Committee to shares experiences of engaging men and boys in the region, reflect on the progress of the network and establish ways forward for the next period.

### Advocacy activities

Forum to Engage Men, the MenEngage country network in India filed a petition to the Delhi High court asking for marital rape to be made a criminal offence on the ground that sexual violence violates human rights, which was agreed to hear by [Delhi High Court](#). The bench allowed the intervention application by Forum to Engage Men (FEM) and made it a party in the petitions seeking declaration of Section 375 (offence of rape) of the IPC as unconstitutional on the ground that it discriminated against married women being sexually assaulted by their husbands. "Marriage is a partnership between

equals. However, men have historically assumed privileges including the privilege of having sex at their instance. Most women have been conditioned to accept that. The fact that some women have been driven to complain of coerced sex and sexual violence indicates that they are going through extreme levels of violence and coercion and have been literally pushed to the wall," FEM argued. It said that in the Indian context, "a wife will only bring about such a complaint against her husband when there is actual non-consent and she is desperate".

### **Case Studies**

The Centre for Health and Social Justice (CHSJ) put together five case-studies as part of the series "Best Practices in South Asia of Engaging Men and Boys to Transform Gender Discriminatory Practices". These are practices developed by MenEngage South Asia member organisations in Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh and India. The purpose of developing these case studies is to provide increased visibility to organisations and issues related to work with men on masculinity, gender-based violence, sexual and reproductive health rights and gender equality. The five case studies are: "[Engaging Men and Boys Against the Practice of Chhaupadi in Nepal 'Awaaz Do' \(Speak Up\)](#)", "[Engaging Youth to Address Violence Against Women in Odisha, India](#)", "[Engaging Men and Boys for Gender Equality in Sri Lanka - Resisting 'Karumaya' \(The Fate of Women\)](#)", "[Using Communications for Exploring Masculinities - Work with Young Men In Urban India](#)", and "[Engaging Boys and Men to Stop Acid Violence In Bangladesh](#)".

### **MenEngage Lebanon**

MenEngage Lebanon is an emerging network in the MENA region, under the leadership of ABAAD – a Lebanese NGO. The Global Secretariat has been closely working with ABAAD to develop and strengthen the network, including exploring possible resource mobilization to support network development activities. However, there has not been much progress in terms of resource generation, but these efforts have led to relationship building among other regional and national organizations in the region.

Together with ABAAD and other organizations, the MenEngage Global Secretariat are working to mobilize organizations in the region with a view to forming a regional network in the MENA region. We hope the conference will give direction for this work in the coming years and provide momentum for the advancement of gender transformative work with men and boys, as a key component in the realization of peace and gender justice in the Arab region.

### **Regional Conference "Masculinities in the Arab World"**

Nearly 250 activists, researchers, practitioners, and policy makers came together in Beirut, Lebanon in May to take part in the conference "Masculinities in the Arab World" to collectively identify actionable strategies for engaging men and boys as allies in achieving gender equality and peace in the Arab world. The conference was organized by Promundo-US, ABAAD-Resource Centre for Gender Equality, UN Women Arab Regional Office and other supporting partners. The event featured the launch of results from the [International Men and Gender Equality Survey](#) in North America and Northern Africa (IMAGES MENA) - the first study of its kind to explore men's and women's attitudes and practices towards gender equality in the region, as well as the effects of conflict and displacement on masculinities in the region.

The conference represents a crucial first step for research, advocacy and programming to engage men and boys and transforming masculinities in the MENA regional context. The IMAGES study confirmed that there is, as in the rest of the world, a long way to go in terms of transforming men and women's attitudes and behaviours regarding gender equality, and the engaging men and boys field in the region

is still nascent. The conference showed, however, that there is considerable energy and enthusiasm in the region to strengthen and advance this work.

### **Knowledge Development and Management**

#### **International Men and Gender Equality Survey (IMAGES) in Arab World**

The International Men and Gender Equality Survey (IMAGES) in Arab World - the first study of its kind to explore men's and women's attitudes and practices towards gender equality in the region, as well as the effects of conflict and displacement on masculinities. Coordinated by Promundo and UN Women, in collaboration with local research partners, the report takes a never-before-seen look at what it means to be a man in Egypt, Lebanon, Morocco, and Palestine today. The research explored key issues at home and at work, in public and private life, the research confronts many of the stereotypes commonly associated with men in the region and highlights pathways to gender equality. The study examines four countries, chosen in part to reflect the diversity of the region, Egypt, Lebanon, Morocco and Palestine. For more about this study please visit <https://imagesmena.org/en/>

#### **Discourses and reflections from the conference masculinities in the Arab world: trajectories to peace and gender equality**

MenEngage Alliance, together with ABAAD, Promundo and UN Women, developed a report compiling the insights from conference participants and recommendations for ways forward. This [action-oriented report](#) compiles the outcomes of the conference, based on the discussions at each of the 12 sessions as well as interviews with 14 key stakeholders. It focuses primarily on recommendations, including from the IMAGES report, and ways forward for men and masculinities work in the region. Divided into 6 thematic focus areas, it outlines key IMAGES findings, provides a brief description of the context and main discussion points at the conference and identifies some existing promising initiatives in the MENA region. The report presents recommendations for future strategies for engaging men and boys in gender equality in the areas of civil society action, advocacy opportunities and potential policies, and research.

#### **Cambodia Men's Network**

The Cambodian Men's Network, affiliated with MenEngage Alliance and coordinated by GADC organization, provided capacity building for its 50 members, including local authorities, policemen, NGO staff and men's network members in target areas. The training was on laws and policies to prevent violence against women, facilitation skills for men's dialogues.

The network carried out at least 15 collaborative actions among members and CSOs/NGOs in the field of women's right and gender justice. The network also implemented the White Ribbon Campaign in three different Cambodian provinces, engaging over 790 participants in total. Interviews with the participants revealed that they felt positive about the campaign events and felt it was useful to promote non-violence.

#### **Capacity Development Initiative**

In addition, Cambodia Men's Network and men's groups at sub-national levels, organized 12 men's dialogue meetings on gender-based violence and the roles and responsibilities of boys and men in ending the culture of sexism and impunity. One masculinity workshop was conducted at national level with 45 participants from 15 NGOs working on gender issues and human rights. The purpose of the workshop was to reflect committed actions from CSOs/NGOs staffs/participants on gender roles and responsibilities. The participants debated and analysed case studies about gender roles and responsibilities.

**Steering Committee and leadership meeting**

Two steering committee meetings were conducted in 2017 to review the network's strategic plan and men's dialogue guidelines. As a result, the strategic plan was updated, and the guideline was reviewed and implemented in the field.

**Resource Mobilization and Fundraising**

CMN developed a funding proposal to support the men's dialogue which was submitted to the Australian Embassy to Phnom Penh in Cambodia. CMN is waiting to hear from them, which is expected during the first half of next year.