

# HEAR MY VOICE

— WOMEN'S NETWORK —

## Quarterly Newsletter April-June 2023:

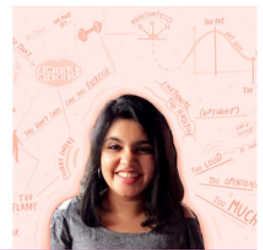
### April

#### Ask the Expert Event. April 28.

Hear My Voice- Women's Network's (HMY-WN) held an 'Ask The Expert' online event with Ameira Sikand to discuss Sexual Reproductive and Health Rights in-depth and the challenges that people face, in India and globally, in accessing those rights.



**Ameira Sikand**  
Sexual and Reproductive Rights



### May

#### inspiring Individuals Launch

Beginning in 2020, HMY-WN has showcased the work of women around the world through the Women of the Week initiative. Each week, HMY-WN promoted the amazing work of women working in specific fields across all sectors. Beginning this quarter, HMY-WN has transformed Women of the Week into the Inspiring Individuals initiative. The Inspiring Individuals initiative continues to serve as a platform for the important work being done in gender justice around the world but with a more inclusive lens. Participants in the initiative are encouraged to share information about themselves and their experience working in their sector.

Each month, the Inspiring Individuals initiative focuses on a theme. To celebrate World Press Freedom Day on May 3, 2023, the May cohort of Inspiring Individuals were journalists and other professionals working in the press sector.

#### Inspiring Individual!



"Gender roles and expectations do not disappear when women and girls (and other historically-marginalized groups) are on the move to another country – they are even amplified. For example, the unpaid care work and child-rearing burden keep following a mother, and she now has more work to do to keep the children and family well-fed in such an under-resourced situation. Humanitarian responses that do not take into account the different experiences of different groups will result in mistargeting, wrong approach in programming and thus resource wasting. In fact, in the previous refugee crisis I worked for, I had no choice but to deliberately target women and girls in the programming because 90% of refugees were women and children. That way, I could promote more focused and impactful work amid minimum resources."

**Priliantina Bebasari**

In June, to celebrate World Refugee Day on June 20, 2023, the Inspiring Individuals initiative highlighted the work being done in the displaced persons and refugee sector

Priliantina Bebasari: A gender and protection in emergency specialist on a mission to support women and girls in the most difficult situation with multi-years of experience in humanitarian international non-governmental organisations

## Program Completed for Community Action and Gender. May 14

On May 14, HMV- WN completed its Gender Justice and Community Action Program, January-May 2023. This program that brought together wonderful women from all corners of the globe. During the course of this program, 7 participants, Achen Clavyn Aidah (Uganda), Beloved Sechele (South Africa), Emma Thomson (Scotland), Kashmala Amin (Pakistan), Rachna Thim (Cambodia), Sharon Atyang (Uganda), and Yanagi Rune (Japan), completed community action initiatives that they designed and implemented, under the mentorship of the HMV-WN team. Each element of the Program is designed to increase participants' skills and confidence, so that they are able go back into their communities and take direct action to create gender equitable change. On May 14, 2023, the participants came together to discuss their action initiatives and reflect on the lessons learned during the process.

The action initiatives included:

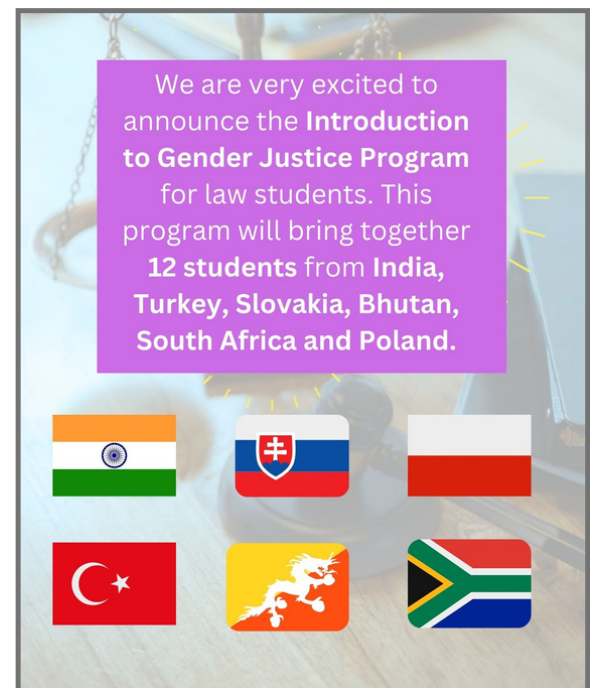
1. Facilitation of a virtual workshop on sexual harassment and bystander training;
- 2.i.Provision of a platform where university students can work together to combat climate change, with a focus on the disproportionate impact climate change has on gender equality issues for women;
- 3.i.Provision of a free and accessible place to learn about sexual harassment on university campus;
- 4.i.Creation of a "Gender Garden" on campus to discuss gender issues and sexual diversity; and,
- 5.i.Creation of a digital handbook for trauma informed communication and story-telling.

## June

### Law Student Program. June 4.

On June 4, 2023, HMV-WN launched a new cohort of its cross-university Empowerment Program for law students. This program brought together 7 students from 5 of our partner universities: Nelson Mandela University (South Africa), Bahcesehir University (Turkey), Comenius University Bratislava

(Slovakia), Nepal Law Campus (Nepal), and SWPS University of Social Sciences and Humanities (Poland) for an introduction to gender justice. The 5-week program focused on gender equality, gender-based violence and access to justice.



***If you would like to learn more about our work or you would like to discuss collaboration with us. Please get in touch at [hearmyvoice2020@gmail.com](mailto:hearmyvoice2020@gmail.com)***