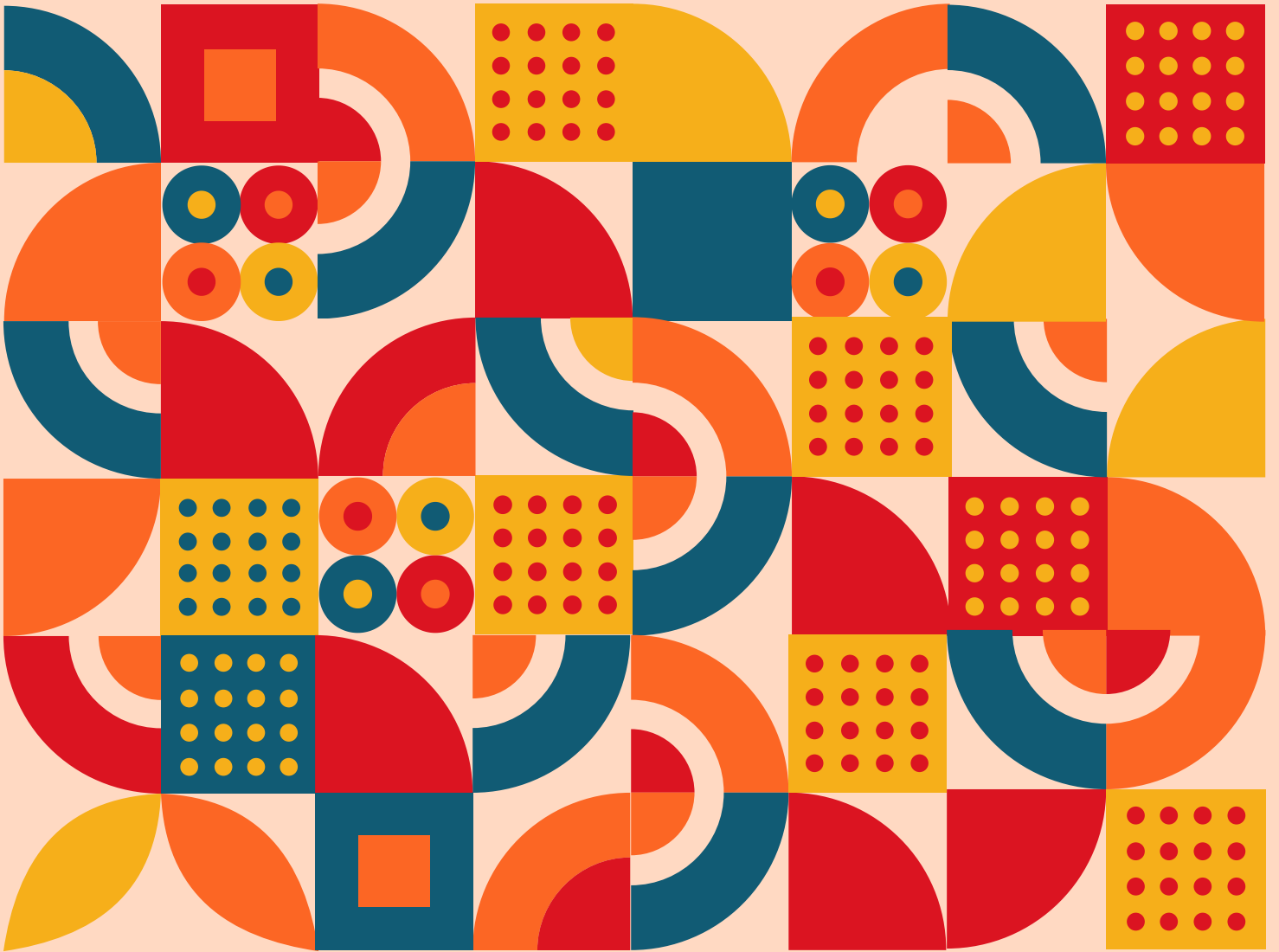


20
25

ANNUAL
REPORT



Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women

INTRODUCTION

At the end of 2024, GAATW marked its 30th Anniversary with an International Members Congress and Conference (IMCC). At the IMCC, one thing was made clear - our alliance is diverse, not just geographically, but also in the thematic areas of engagement. We also identified three separate but interconnected thematic areas of engagement that are being prioritised by GAATW's membership today:

- Human trafficking and forced labour
- Migrant rights
- Labour rights

We therefore began 2025 with a decision to restructure our own programmes at the GAATW-IS in line with these three thematic areas.

Whilst the GAATW-IS has already been implementing a distinct labour rights programme since 2020 (Women Workers for Change), we decided to formalise separate human trafficking and migration strands, with defined programmes of activity. The human trafficking programme was named Human Trafficking and Forced Labour and the migration programme was named Women on the Move.

In January 2025, a Programme Lead was appointed for each area from existing GAATW-IS staff. Each Programme Lead was supported by a Programme Advisory Committee (PAC), composed of individuals with significant expertise in the history and workings of the Alliance and/or the relative thematic area. All GAATW members were also invited to sign up to one of three thematic groupings: labour, migration or trafficking. An additional intersectional group was formed focusing on sex workers' rights.

The first six months of 2025 were dedicated to the development of work plans for the Human Trafficking and Forced Labour and Women on the Move programmes, as well as an evaluation of the Women Workers For Change programme to date.

The Programme Leads reflected on the input from members in the preparation for and at the IMCC, analysed gaps and opportunities in the current global context and reflected on the GAATW-IS' capacities and strengths. They also reviewed the issues and priorities which emerged from GAATW's feminist knowledge building and advocacy interactions for the period 2020-2025. The Programme Leads consulted regularly with the PACs and identified a set of priorities for each programme, along with proposed activities for 2026.

These proposed priorities and activities were presented at a joint meeting of the three PACs together with the GAATW Board at a meeting in Bangkok in November 2025. The last month of 2025 was spent incorporating the feedback from GAATW members, the GAATW Board and PACs and developing an integrated strategic plan for the GAATW-IS for 2026-2030.



Participants of the Strategic Plan Review and Planning Meeting held on 19-20 November 2025

Alongside the development of the GAATW-IS strategic plan for 2026-2030, the GAATW-IS began the process for developing a feminist monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) framework informed by the GAATW-IS' Theory of Change that was adopted in 2020.

In addition to this large strategic planning effort, we continued our day-to-day work and this Annual Report sets out what we were able to achieve alongside our organisational restructuring. For the first time we have structured our annual report according to each thematic programme. We hope this will assist the reader to better understand the intersectional and cross-movement nature of our work.

THEMATIC PROGRAMMES

Human Trafficking and Forced Labour

In 2025, the Human Trafficking and Forced Labour (HTFL) Programme focused on resisting misogynistic approaches to trafficking and increasing our understanding of alternative justice approaches to prioritise the healing, safety and autonomy of survivors.

Our activities worked towards three interconnected priorities:

- Reducing reliance on criminalisation: increasing our understanding of alternative justice
- From punishment to power and protection of rights: An intersectional feminist response to trafficking for forced criminality
- Resisting misogynistic anti-trafficking approaches to gendered forms of labour: sex work and surrogacy

i. Reducing reliance on criminalisation: increasing our understanding of alternative justice

UN Crime Congress Preparations



Vivian Cartagena (Programme Officer - Alliance Strengthening) and Maya Linstrum-Newman (Programme Lead - Human Trafficking and Forced Labour) at the Asia Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for the UN Crime Congress.

In January, the GAATW-IS participated in the Asia Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for the UN Crime Congress. We made three statements over the two days, focusing on the need for a human rights-based response to trafficking in persons rather than an exclusively crime control approach.

The UN Crime Congress will be held in Abu Dhabi in 2026.

Consultation: Critical Analysis of Criminal Law Approaches to Trafficking in Persons



Participants of the consultation: Critical Analysis of Criminal Law Approaches to Trafficking in Persons, 17-18 November 2025

From 17-18 November, we held a two-day consultation with feminist academics and activists, anti-trafficking practitioners and advocates of restorative justice and alternative justice approaches.

Twenty-five years after the UN Trafficking Protocol, a predominately crime control instrument, entered into force, we felt that it was an appropriate time for us to reflect in depth on the criminal law approach to trafficking. Whilst GAATW has long pointed out the negative impacts of this approach, we have not looked outside the criminal law or questioned what alternatives might exist. Our conversations around decriminalisation have focused on sex work rather than the broader framework.

The consultation explored what alternative justice approaches we could be advocating for when the criminal law has been unable to bring justice to survivors, and what practical alternatives to criminalisation could realise the rights of a trafficked person when trafficking has taken place.

A full report of the consultation is available [here](#).

ii. Resisting misogynistic anti-trafficking approaches to gendered forms of labour: sex work and surrogacy

In 2025, we continued to witness a growing alliance between groups that identify as radical feminists and conservative religious organisations. Both groups have been using the language of “trafficking” to argue for the abolition of sex work and surrogacy.

For GAATW the growing number of shared issues between radical feminists and conservative groups has given us an opportunity to broaden our own alliance with other social justice movements. One of the ways we have worked together is to push back against biased and harmful reports of the current UN Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women and Girls (UN SR VAWG), Reem Alsalem.

In 2025 we worked with organisations fighting for the rights of LGBTI+ persons, for the right to abortion and contraception, for the rights of women with disabilities, and for the right of children to access comprehensive sex education, as well as longstanding allies of ours from the sex workers rights’ movement.

Below are some of the outputs of this cross-movement alliance:

Joint input to the UN SR VAWG’s Report on “The Concept of Consent in Relation to Violence against Women and Girls”

In January, we responded to the UN SR VAWG’s call for inputs on the topic of “consent in relation to violence against women and girls.” The full submission is available [here](#).

In the call for inputs, the UN SR VAWG had misstated the international law relating to trafficking and consent so as to imply that sex workers are unable to consent to their work. Our submission highlighted how the SR VAWG’s misinterpretation of international trafficking law effectively treats adult sex workers as children who are incapable of giving consent.

Joint input to the UN SR VAWG's Report on Surrogacy

In April, we responded to the UN SR VAWG's call for input to the report, "surrogacy and violence against women." The full submission is available [here](#).

Our submission highlighted the absence of widespread evidence linking surrogacy to human trafficking, and the harms that have occurred when surrogacy has been incorrectly treated as trafficking in persons. This included cases in Cambodia where women involved in surrogacy arrangements were prosecuted for "trafficking" the fetuses and forced to raise the children born through this process against their will.

Review of Mexico by the UN Committee for the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

In May, we worked with a member organisation, **Brigada Callejera de Apoyo a la Mujer "Elisa Martínez,"** to submit a shadow report for the review of Mexico by CEDAW. Our shadow report focused on the rights of sex workers and migrant women, and called for the Federal Government to recognise sex work as work, to end the discriminatory laws which separate sex workers from their children and to provide safe work spaces for sex workers.

Human Rights Council Side Event on Trafficking and Sex Work

In June, we organised a side event at the UN Human Rights Council with Sexual Rights Initiative, Global Network of Sex Worker Projects (NSWP) and GAATW member, the **European Sex Workers Rights Alliance (ESWA)** on the harms caused by the conflation of trafficking and sex work.

Member organisation **FIZ - Fachstelle Frauenhandel und Frauenmigration** also represented GAATW at the event, speaking on the panel alongside sex workers and the UN Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons.

The event was well attended by Member States and it was the first time the current Special Rapporteur on Trafficking, Siobhan Mullally, has spoken publicly with us against the conflation of trafficking and sex work.

Open Democracy Publication

In November, we also wrote about the cross-movement alliance we have been building in this advocacy work in Open Democracy's Beyond Trafficking and Slavery. In "[A bizarre new alliance is coming after sexual freedoms. We're ready](#)", we celebrated the solidarity we have been building across different social justice movements.

iii. From punishment to power and protection of rights: An intersectional feminist response to trafficking for forced criminality

Campaign for the Release of Mary Jane Veloso

In April, through our membership of the Network for the Protection of Women Migrant Rights (NPWMR), we released a [statement](#) calling for the release of Mary Jane Veloso, a Filipina migrant worker who was sentenced to death for unwittingly smuggling drugs into Indonesia.

To mark the 15 year anniversary since Mary Jane's arrest we urged the Government of the Philippines to grant Mary Jane clemency and for the Government of Indonesia to recognise Mary Jane as a victim of trafficking for forced criminality.

Annual Interface between AICHR and Civil Society

On 10 July, we participated in the Annual Interface between the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) and Civil Society Organisations. GAATW has observer member status with AICHR and has been working with AICHR in recent years to promote a rights-based response to trafficking for forced criminality in the region.

In a joint statement delivered with the other organisations participating, we underscored the systemic and gendered violations women migrant workers face, including exclusion from labour laws, exploitative recruitment practices and forced contraception. We called on AICHR and ASEAN Member States to recognise domestic work as work, regulate recruitment agencies, ensure protection and regularisation pathways, and uphold migrant women's bodily autonomy and dignity.

Women Workers for Change

Women Workers for Change (WW4C) aims to support a feminist change agenda by, and for low-waged women workers. WW4C focuses on three key strategies; Educate, Agitate and Organise. The programme works with organisations who have already begun using these strategies to some extent or are committed to try them. We believe that this programme will strengthen the groups by supporting their self-directed learning agendas, by helping them to see links between individual experiences of abuse and systemic discrimination and by encouraging them to plan their agendas for change.

i. Programme Evaluation

In 2025, the Women Workers for Change (WW4C) Programme underwent an external evaluation. The evaluation used a feminist participatory approach to explore the changes experienced by the diverse group of women workers across trades, geographies and socio-economic-legal contexts represented in the programme. 18 women worker leaders from six different trades participated in both the interviews and focus group discussions.

The evaluation found that the programme's emphasis on political education, building solidarity and creating safe spaces is valuable and that GAATW's feminist values, and transparent, respectful and empathetic ways of working with partners, have set a very high standard for the programme.

Participatory Review with Agricultural Workers

From 3 to 5 April, the GAATW-IS met with women agricultural workers in Dhulikhel and Kathmandu, Nepal to carry out a participatory review of the WW4C programme.

The women shared how organising in networks has strengthened their voices, improved their livelihoods and deepened their understanding of labour rights, gender-based violence, and sustainable farming methods.

Despite ongoing challenges, such as lack of land ownership, wage discrimination, and limited market access, these women are advocating for identity cards, fair subsidies, and better working conditions. They reported how their collective efforts, plans to expand income-generating activities by learning and adopting new technologies, and engaging in local governance, have brought them positive visibility.

Participatory Review with Women Workers in Indonesia



GAATW-IS Team with the Women Workers

From 11 to 17 April 2025, the GAATW-IS met with women workers in Jakarta and Yogyakarta to carry out a participatory review of the WW4C programme with our partners **GSBI**, **Jala PRT** and **Yasanti**.

The workers shared how their involvement in the programme has strengthened their confidence, expanded their knowledge, and enabled them to advocate for better treatment, wages, and health rights. The review also reflected on the collective efforts and strategies led by our partners to broaden solidarity, deepen workers' education, and build stronger negotiating power with employers and local governments.

ii. Dance and Movement Therapy

Dance and Movement Therapy Training of Trainers in Bangkok



GAATW-IS and Kolkata-Sanved Team with Women Workers, Learning Facilitators from Indonesia, Thailand and Nepal

From 2-6 June, the GAATW-IS hosted a Dance Movement and Creative Arts Therapy (DMT) workshop in Bangkok for partners of the WW4C programme. Six partner organisations from Thailand, Indonesia, and Nepal participated, representing migrant workers, domestic workers, garment workers, platform workers, agricultural workers, home-based workers, and women porters.

Co-hosted with Kolkata Sanved, the workshop combined DMT sessions with reflective discussions, enabling participants to explore self-care, emotional expression, and well-being, while connecting these practices to their community and advocacy work.

Throughout the five days, participants engaged in rhythm-based activities, relaxation exercises, metaphorical movement, storytelling, and group choreography. They also discussed strategies for documenting experiences, sharing narratives through accessible media, and applying DMT techniques in their communities. Organisational planning sessions allowed partners to reflect on achievements, set future goals, and create actionable plans for integrating DMT practices into their work with workers' communities.

DMT Workshop in Bhubaneswar, India



GAATW-IS and Kolkata-Sanved Team with Women Workers and Learning Facilitators from Odisha, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, and West-Bengal

In July, we worked again with Kolkata Sanved to hold a five-day DMT workshop with WW4C partners, in India. **JEETA, Jan Vikas Samiti, Shramajivi Mahila Samity, Pragati, Kala aur Katha, National Domestic Workers Movement** and **Nishtha** work with women workers in the informal economy in India. Women workers and community organisers learnt DMT for self and collective care and made plans to continue the practice in their groups.

iii. Meeting with the Phuket Pinay Migrants Association (PPMA)

On 27 July, we organised a meeting with the **Phuket Pinay Migrants Association (PPMA)** in Phuket, Thailand. PPMA is part of the WW4C programme, and this meeting included 12 PPMA members and 13 other Filipina workers, working in education and care work.

The participants discussed strategies for building solidarity and overcoming wage disparities and discrimination. We also discussed the gendered assumptions that reinforce structural inequalities in women's paid and unpaid care work. The meeting included a DMT session facilitated by the PPMA members who had attended our DMT "train the trainers" workshop in Bangkok in June.

iv. Documentary Films

In 2025 we worked with four WW4C partners to produce documentary films about the workers and their strategies for organising.

WINS

WINS produced two films in conjunction with the two groups of workers they are working with. The first film with agricultural workers can be viewed [here](#). The second film with sex workers can be viewed [here](#).

JEETA

JEETA's film with women agricultural workers in Odisha can be viewed [here](#).

YASANTI

YASANTI's film with women porters in Yogyakarta can be viewed [here](#).

PRAGATI

Pragati's film with agricultural workers can be viewed [here](#).

Women on the Move

The Women on the Move (WoM) Programme focuses on the labour migration experiences of women and the policies and practices that shape their opportunities, rights, and agency. Additionally, the programme addresses the new challenges women migrants face during economic, environmental, and political crises.

In 2025, the WoM Programme focused on three key areas: 1) Supporting the Struggle of Migrant Women in the Care Economy, 2) Unpacking the Impacts of Migration Policy and Strengthening Collective Action; and 3) Understanding Women's Experiences of Forced Migration and Displacement to Develop Grassroots Advocacy Action.

i. Building alliances and movement support to the migrant rights movement

Asia Pacific Regional Migrants Summit 2025



Alfie Gordo, Women on the Move Programme Lead, gave a presentation on the crucial roles of families and communities in women's migration and trafficking experiences based on Issue 24 of the Anti Trafficking Review Journal.

From 21-22 June, we participated in the Regional Migrants Summit 2025 organised by the Asia Pacific Mission for Migrants (APMM) and the Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD) in Manila, Philippines.

The Summit provided a space for policy discussions, sharing research and experiences of organising, and building solidarity among migrant-led organisations and allies.

Read the Summit proceedings [here](#).

Sixth General Assembly of the International Migrants Alliance (IMA)



Participants of the Sixth General Assembly of IMA with slogans they prepared to emphasise the need to strengthen migrants' organising and resistance against imperialism

From 24 - 26 October, we participated in the Sixth General Assembly of the International Migrants Alliance (IMA). The Assembly brought together 164 participants from 28 countries and regions, representing 125 organisations, under the theme *"Defend Migrants' Rights, Livelihood, Lives and Movement."*

The rise of fascism, racism, and anti-migrant policies globally was identified as a central threat. Participants discussed the challenge of organising under conditions of isolation, surveillance, and fear of retaliation.

Participants shared their strategies for resistance, through digital organising, legal challenges, alliance-building with trade unions, and community-based education.

We delivered a solidarity message at the Assembly, and served as part of the Electoral Committee during the IMA leadership elections.

APWLD Regional Women Migrant Convening and Migrant Solidarity Exchange



Participants of the APWLD Regional Convening carrying out an exercise to identify important events and policies related to migration in Southeast Asia

In October, we attended a regional convening organised by the Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD) to assess the state of women's migration in Asia and the Pacific and to strengthen regional coordination toward the 2026 International Migration Review Forum (IMRF).

Alfie Gordo from the GAATW-IS delivered a session on regional trends for irregular migration, labour precarity and emerging forms of trafficking for forced criminality.

The participants mapped priority issues for the region against the objectives of the Global Compact on Migration, and began developing shared feminist advocacy strategies for the next International Migration Review Forum, which will be held in New York in 2026.

18th ASEAN Forum on Migrant Labour (AFML)

We submitted an [input](#) to the CSO regional representatives to the 18th ASEAN Forum on Migrant Labour (AFML), which focused on *Safe and Secure Environments Free from Forced Labour*. We emphasised the need for a more structured and transparent review mechanism with the ASEAN

Committee on Migrant Workers, and policy alignment with the commitments in the ASEAN Declaration, including labour standards for domestic work and monitoring of informal sectors, and ensuring migrants' access to rights protection and justice.

ii. Unpacking the Impacts of Migration Policy Strengthening and Collective Action

Statement to Uphold Human Security And Human Rights, End Mass Deportations And State Repression

In June, we issued a [statement](#) expressing solidarity with human rights advocates and organisations fighting against the state-led repression of migrants in the United States. Our statement called for an end to the criminalisation of migration, protection for advocates and NGOs, transparency and fairness in detention, and accountability for state violence.

Submission to the UN OHCHR on the Human Rights of Migrants

In October, we responded to the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights' call for inputs to a report on the "human rights of migrants."

Our submission argued that security frameworks must not be weaponised against migrant people, that strengthening labour rights protection is vital for ending exploitation of migrant people, and that preventing trafficking must involve a strong commitment to protect the rights of migrants, rather than restricting them.

The full submission is available [here](#).

iii. Understanding Women's Experiences of Forced Migration and Displacement to Develop Grassroots Advocacy Action

UN COP 30

In November, at the Conference of Parties of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 30), we shared a [statement](#) that highlights climate change as a driver of migration, with communities globally using migration as an adaptation strategy to a changing climate. The statement emphasised the need for recognising the gendered dimensions of climate-displaced people's experiences and advocating for a mechanism that ensures a just transition, and upholds human rights for all, especially migrants and displaced individuals.

The statement also called for strengthened language in the Just Transition Work Programme regarding these groups, by urging member states to address gender experiences and avoid stereotypes. We stressed the importance of including marginalised groups in adaptation negotiations and ensuring that climate finance is directed thoughtfully to support those affected by climate change.

Finally, we called for the provision of non-debt-creating public finance to countries on the front lines of the climate crisis and better inclusion of migrant women in the COP and UNFCCC processes.

Climate Change, Migration and Exploitation in Southeast Asia Seminar



(From the right: Borislav Gerasimov, Sallie Yea and David Feingold speaking at SEA Junction on 4 December 2026.)

On 4 December, to celebrate the launch of the Anti-Trafficking Review Special Issue [Climate Change and Work on a Heated Planet](#), we organised the event, "Climate Change, Migration, and Exploitation in Southeast Asia", hosted by SEA-Junction, in Bangkok.

The speakers discussed how weather events, exacerbated by climate change, destroy livelihoods and force many to migrate in unsafe conditions and to accept exploitative work. Rising temperatures are also worsening working conditions for migrant workers in many sectors in the region.

iv. Supporting the Struggle of Migrant Women in the Care Economy

Migration and Care Podcast



In November we launched *Migration and Care*, a new podcast series exploring care systems and policies, community-led care initiatives, and the experiences of care workers.

In the [first episode](#) we spoke with Pedro Moreno of ANEM Per Feina, who reflected on how social justice movements in Barcelona helped put care on the political agenda.

Working Paper on Migration and the Care Economy

In December, we published new research into migration and emerging labour economies, focusing on migrant care work titled [Crisis in Care: Migrant Workers and Ageing Societies in Japan and South Korea](#).

Our working paper examines how care work is defined, structured, and governed in Japan and South Korea, and how these frameworks shape the experiences of migrant care workers.

Our paper calls for stronger labour protections, equitable care systems, and sustained solidarity to advance the rights and well-being of migrant care workers.

Alliance Strengthening and Movement Support

Reframing Narratives

In April we launched a new publication, *Reframing Narratives: Anti-trafficking from the ground up*, an annual publication by GAATW members.

This series offers a unique GAATW perspective on emerging anti-trafficking issues, focusing on the experiences and efforts of members and allies rather than ranking responses or estimating case numbers.

In the inaugural issue, *(In)formal Pathways to Justice*, GAATW members examined the mechanisms that influence migrant and trafficked individuals' access to justice, highlighting both formal and informal avenues.

Eleven GAATW members contributed to the issue: **ASTRA – Anti-Trafficking Action**, Serbia; **Bangladesh Nari Sramik Kendra (BNSK)**, Bangladesh; **Brigada Callejera (Brigada Callejera de Apoyo a la Mujer “Elisa Martínez”)**, Mexico; **Comité Permanente por la Defensa de los Derechos Humanos (CDH)**, Ecuador; **European Sex Workers Rights Alliance (ESWA)**; **Federation of Women Lawyers in Kenya (FIDA-Kenya)**; **Fundación Libera contra la Trata de Personas (LIBERA)**, Chile; **LEFÖ – Information, Education and Support for Migrant Women**, Austria; **Peers Victoria Resources Society**, Canada; **Solidaritas Perempuan**, Indonesia; and **Women’s Initiatives (WINS)**, India.

Voice and Participation of Impacted Communities in Processes of Change: A Joint Learning Initiative



GAATW-IS and Partners in Athens in October 2025

The *Voice and Participation of Impacted Communities in Processes of Change: A Joint Learning Initiative*, launched in 2022, works with partner organisations in Asia and Europe to empower migrant workers, trafficked persons, and other impacted communities to become partners in the process of change rather than merely beneficiaries of projects.

In 2025, the partners embarked on a new initiative to document their organisations' journeys of engaging with migrants, trafficked persons and refugees through a series of essays which describe their strategies, struggles and successes.

From 1 to 3 October, the partners met in Athens, hosted by Melissa Network, to peer-review their essays. The anthology will be published in 2026.

Learning Circles on "How we work"

Intersection in practice

On 6 October, the Learning Circle focused on "Intersection in practice." We heard from Meera from **WINS** in India about the work of their organisation to empower sex workers through community organising, leadership development, and advocacy for the recognition of sex work as informal labour. We also heard from Aranya from **JELI** in Thailand who explained how women platform delivery workers face deeply intersectional challenges (including gendered care burdens, economic precarity, and migration) and how collective organising is building solidarity despite the fragmented nature of gig work. We also heard from Daniel from **Nigat Global Initiative (NGI)** in Ethiopia who shared their survivor-led, intersectional strategies to address human trafficking and unsafe migration, including a national digital literacy campaign, survivor peer-education programmes, and cross-sector alliance building to shift public narratives and drive systemic change.

Community Organising and Community-Driven Advocacy

On 3 December, the second Learning Circle focused on "community organising and community-driven advocacy." We heard from Flora Enifo from **MIST** in France about the work of their survivor-led organisation to identify community leaders through storytelling and intentional conversation with women who have experienced trafficking. We also heard from Margarita and Graham from the **Worker Support Centre (WSC)** in the UK who explained how informal gatherings and worker-led communication channels create spaces for seasonal agricultural workers to organise despite short stays and constant surveillance. We also heard from Elvira from **Brigada Callejera de Apoyo a la Mujer, E.M.A.C.** in Mexico who shared about their peer-led organising strategies, including the training of 3,500 community promoters and human rights defenders across Mexico.

Our Political Contexts

In 2025 we launched a new digital section in our e-bulletin: Our Political Contexts. In the [first issue](#), **Just Economy and Labour Institute (JELI)** explained Thailand's recent reform extending paid maternity leave to 120 days and the effect on the rights of informal and platform-based workers.

GAATW Members Meeting Kathamdu



GAATW's members in Nepal on April 6th, 2025.

On 6 April, we held a members meeting in Kathmandu for our ten member organisations with offices in Kathmandu.

During this meeting, our members shared updates on their work, reflected on current trends and challenges in their areas of focus, and discussed the impact of Nepal's policies on the rights of trafficked persons, migrant workers, and other vulnerable groups.

We reflected on advocacy work the members had carried out over the last few years, their funding realities and recommendations our members had for the GAATW-IS.

Anti-Trafficking Review

We published two issues of our open access, peer reviewed journal *Anti-Trafficking Review*.

No. 24 (2025) Special Issue – Family and Community Guest Editor: Nerida Veale

This Special Issue explored the experiences, needs, and roles of those in the immediate environment of migrants and survivors of trafficking – their parents, siblings, spouses, children, and community. With contributions from Australia, Malaysia, Ethiopia, Albania, Nigeria, France, the United Kingdom, United States, and Peru, the articles in the issue highlighted the complex roles of families in migration and human trafficking. On the one hand, families may exert pressure on migrants to engage in risky migration or endure exploitative work. On the other hand, families can also be key to helping migrants and trafficking survivors leave and recover from situations of exploitation. Authors call for greater attention to family dynamics in the design and implementation of policies and programmes to support migrants and survivors of trafficking.

No. 25 (2025) Special Issue - Climate Emergency and Work on a Heated Planet Guest Editors: Denise Brennan and Sallie Yea

In this Special Issue contributions explored the impacts of the climate crisis on migration, precarious labour, and human trafficking.

Contributions from across Asia, Africa, and the Americas illustrated how slow- and rapid-onset events, such as droughts, soil erosion, floods and typhoons—made increasingly frequent and severe by the climate crisis—destroy homes and livelihoods, forcing people to undertake risky migrations or accept exploitative employment.

Rising surface and sea temperatures are also making working conditions in already precarious sectors, such as agriculture, construction, and fishing, unbearable, prompting us to reconsider what would count as forced labour on a heated planet. Contributors further highlighted that the climate crisis disproportionately affects people from disadvantaged groups, including elderly and disabled people, temporary and undocumented migrants, incarcerated people, and others.

We are conscious that knowledge production remains dominated by academics from the Global North and especially English-speaking countries. Sadly, this is the case with our journal too, but we are making efforts to give platform to diverse voices. In 2025, of the 20 articles we published, five were (co-)authored by people working at NGOs and nine by authors in/from the Global South. For the second time, we published [an article](#) in both English and Spanish.

E-Bulletin

April 2025

In the first e-bulletin of 2025, the GAATW-IS shared the decision to restructure the programmes of the Secretariat into three thematic areas and celebrated the new energy and direction for GAATW that was created at the IMCC in 2024. Our April [issue](#) also covered events, workshops and evaluations across various regions, including participatory reviews in Indonesia and Nepal with women workers participating in the Women Workers for Change programme.

September 2025

In our September [issue](#), we shared details of the first activities being carried out under the new thematic structure and expressed our solidarity with the protest movements in Nepal and Indonesia that were taking place. We shared updates from our participation in several international and regional advocacy events, including the UN Human Rights Council and the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights. We also share our statement of solidarity with the migrant rights groups resisting US state-led oppression and violence against migrant people.

December 2025

In the last [issue](#) of 2025, we reflected on the impact of the many conflicts and situations of political unrest that took place in 2025, and how these crises were often marked by displacement, conflict, unfair labour systems and the systemic erosion of labour and social protections. We shared opportunities we had had to build solidarity with different movements in the last quarter of 2025, from migrant rights movements in the Asia Pacific region to anti-carceral feminists and those advocating for alternatives to criminal legal systems.



Organisation Development and Structure

Development of a new MEL framework

The GAATW-IS engaged three MEL experts from the Feminist Participatory Action Research Academy (FPAR Academy) to develop and streamline an organisational-wide feminist MEL framework. The consultants worked with the entire GAATW-IS, including part-time colleagues, the PACs and members of the GAATW Board. They carried out a desk review of GAATW policies and outputs, held a series of online consultations with GAATW-IS staff and GAATW member organisations, and presented initial findings to the Secretariat, PACs and Board Members in a meeting in Bangkok in November 2025.

The consultants presented their final recommendations and proposed MEL framework to the GAATW-IS in December 2025.

To support the development of the MEL framework, the GAATW-IS team also participated in a Feminist MEL Community of Practice (COP) with six other feminist organisations in Asia. The COP was a learning space for feminist organisations to share strategies for implementing feminist MEL frameworks and jointly solve MEL-related problems. We took inspiration from the tools currently being used by other organisations to measure impact, particularly in the areas of movement support and alliance strengthening, and worked with the FPAR Academy consultants to adapt these for GAATW's context.

GAATW Structure

i. GAATW Member Organisations

In 2025, the Alliance welcomed three new member organisations:

- Jan Vikas Samiti (JVS) in India
- National Survivors' Network (NSN) in the US
- Nigat Global Initiative in Ethiopia

ii. The Board of Directors in 2025

- Dr. Naruemon Thabchumpon, President
- Poonsap Suanmuang Tulaphan, Member and Treasurer
- Dr. Ratchada Jayagupta, Member and Secretary
- Bianca Fidone, Member Representing Latin American Membership
- Dr. Lucila Granada, Member Representing European Membership
- Andriyeni, Member Representing Southeast and East Asia Membership
- Grace Ideahor Osakue, Member Representing Africa Membership
- Meera Raghavendra, Member Representing Asia Membership

iii. Programme Advisory Committee Members

Human Trafficking and Forced Labour

- Janet Anyango, FIDA-Kenya
- Bobby Gerasimov, GAATW-Canada and Anti-Trafficking Review
- Suzanne Hoff, La Strada International
- Mom Sokchar, Legal Support for Women and Children
- Andrea Querol, CHS Alternativo

Women Workers for Change

- Nelien Haspels
- Caroline Robinson, Workers Support Centre

Women on the Move

- Shakirul Islam, OKUP
- Eni Lestari, ATKI-Hong Kong
- Vani Saraswathi, MRRORS
- Roula Seghaier, Women in Migration Network (July 2025-present)
- Carol Barton, Women in Migration Network (until June 2025)

iv. The Secretariat in 2025

- Trinity Blacklock, Intern (*May-November*)
- Vivian Cartagena, Programme Officer - Alliance Strengthening
- Apivart (Nong) Chaison, Finance and Admin Manager
- Borislav (Bobby) Gerasimov, Editor, Anti-Trafficking Review
- Alfie Gordo, Programme Lead - Women on the Move
- Trisana Jirasawanon, Administrative Assistant and Events Coordinator
- Panjit Kaewsawang, Accountant
- Maya Linstrum-Newman, Programme Lead - Human Trafficking and Forced Labour
- Bandana Pattanaik, International Coordinator and Programme Lead - Women Workers for Change
- K Santoshi Rani, Programme Associate
- Michelle Soe Moe, Programme Officer Communications (*until 30 June*)
- Prabina Tandukar, Programme Associate
- Vijaya Vanamala, Programme Associate
- Dewi Nova Wahyuni, Programme Associate
- Alvin Gallardo, Communications and IT Support Officer

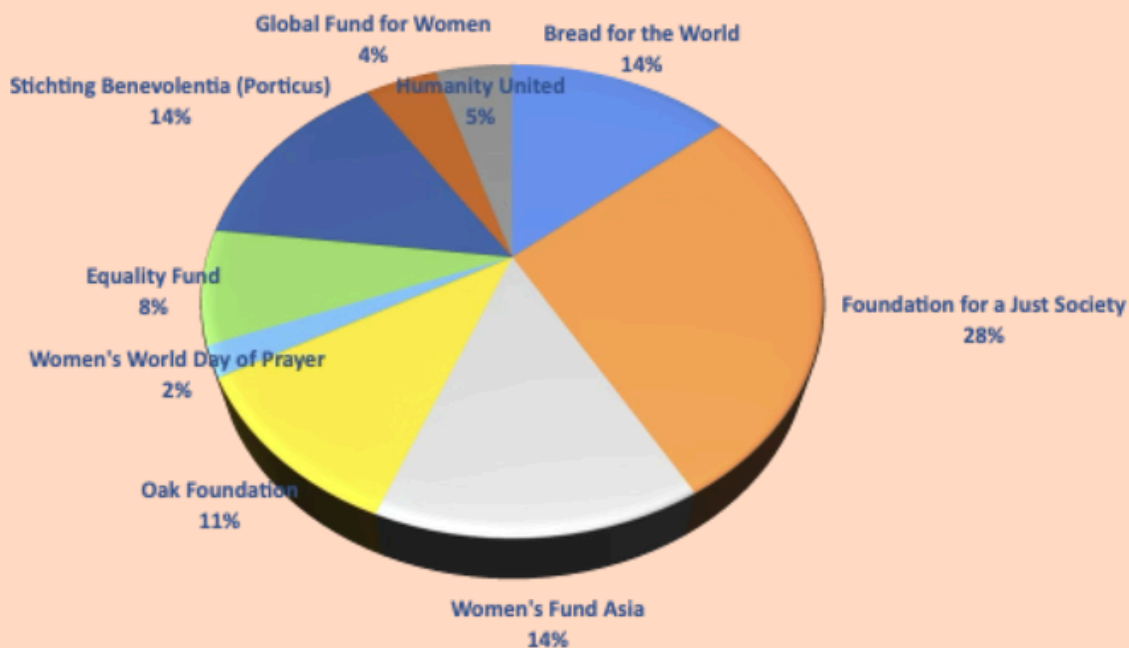
v. Editorial Board of the Anti-Trafficking Review

Rutvica Andrijasevic, University of Bristol, United Kingdom
Lyndsey Beutin, McMaster University, Canada
Jacqueline Bhabha, Harvard School of Public Health, United States
Denise Brennan, Georgetown University, United States
Amalia Cabezas, University of California Riverside, United States
Joy Ngozi Ezeilo, University of Nigeria; Former UN Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, Nigeria
John Gee, Transient Workers Count Too, Singapore
Yana Hashamova, Ohio State University, United States
Suzanne Hoff, La Strada International, The Netherlands
Mónica Hurtado, Universidad de la Sabana, Colombia
Kamala Kempadoo, York University, United Kingdom
Annalee Lepp, University of Victoria, Canada
Marika McAdam, Independent Consultant, Australia
Sanja Milivojevic, La Trobe University, Australia and Oxford University, United Kingdom
Sverre Molland, Australian National University, Australia
Jennifer Musto, Wellesley College, United States
Marina Novaes, Business & Human Rights Resource Center, Brazil
Victoria Ijeoma Nwogu, United Nations Development Programme, Somalia
Julia O'Connell Davidson, University of Bristol, United Kingdom
Pia Oberoi, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Thailand
Sam Okyere, University of Bristol, United Kingdom
Sharamila Parmanand, London School of Economics, United Kingdom
Elaine Pearson, Human Rights Watch, Australia
Nicola Piper, University of Sydney, Australia
Adriana Piscitelli, University of Campinas, Brazil
Nivedita Prasad, Alice Salomon University of Applied Sciences, Germany
Joel Quirk, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa
Caroline Robinson, Independent human rights expert, United Kingdom
Jyoti Sanghera, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Switzerland
Marie Segrave, Monash University, Australia
Kiril Sharapov, Edinburgh Napier University, United Kingdom
Elena Shih, Brown University, United States
Rebecca Surtees, NEXUS Institute, United States
Sallie Yea, Independent scholar and consultant, Australia
Cathy Zimmerman, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, United Kingdom

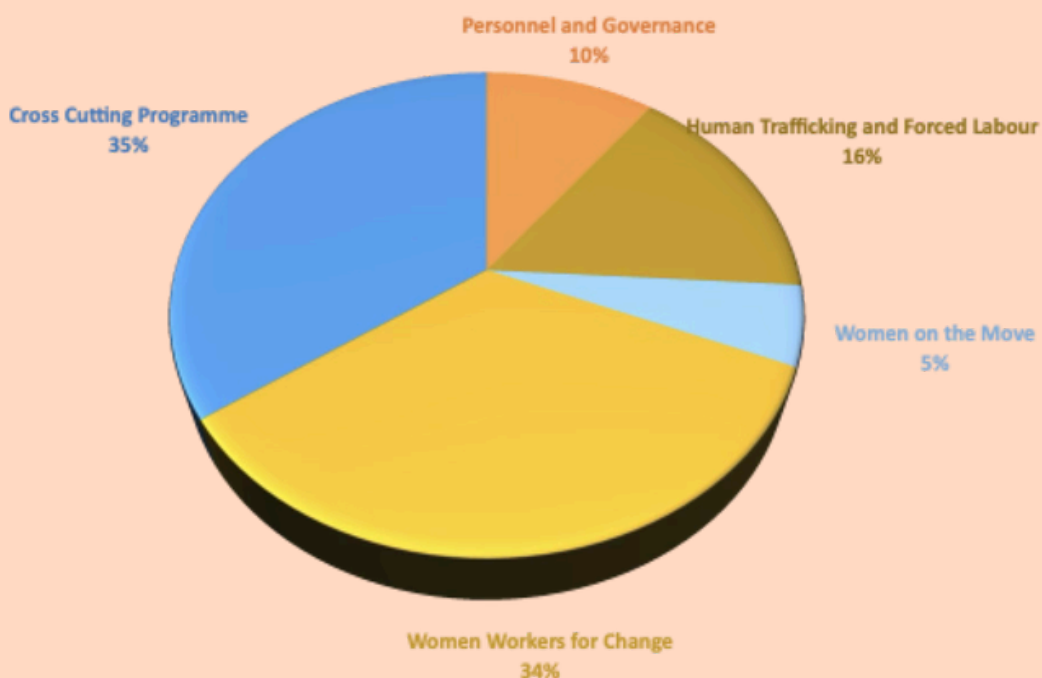
Funding Support

During 2025, GAATW Secretariat's work was financially supported by Oak Foundation, Global Fund for Women, Bread for the World, Women's World Day of Prayer, Foundation for a Just Society, Equality Fund, Women's Fund Asia, and Porticus Foundation.

Income for 2025



Expenditure per Programme 2025



About GAATW

GAATW is an alliance of organisations from Asia, Africa, Europe and the Americas that promote the rights of women migrant workers and trafficked persons and believe that ensuring safe migration and fair workplaces should be at the core of all anti-trafficking efforts.

We advocate for living and working conditions that provide women with more opportunities in their countries of origin and for the incorporation of human rights standards in all anti-trafficking initiatives, including in the implementation of the UN Trafficking Protocol.

GAATW strives to promote and share good practices of antitrafficking initiatives but also to critique practices and policies that are having a negative impact or are causing harm to trafficked persons, migrants and other communities.

GAATW supports the self-organisation of women in vulnerable and marginalised situations, especially migrant workers in the informal sectors, and aims to strengthen their efforts of self-representation and advocacy.

The GAATW-IS works in conjunction with its member and partner organisations and aims to plan and implement the strategic agenda of the Alliance in a democratic manner, centring the rights of all migrating people.

