Our Programmes

**Feminist Law and Practice (FLP)**
This long-standing programme focuses on building capacity of women’s rights advocates and organizations in Asia Pacific in understanding law, policies and practices to advance women’s access to justice. The programme recently incorporated an urgent response and solidarity support to Women Human Rights Defenders during crisis periods through feminist litigation strategies, trials observances and campaigns.

**Women in Power (WIP)**
The programme aims to strengthen women’s political leadership and democratic participation of women in decision-making. It provides feminist political training to women leaders. Supports the formation of women’s political agenda “Womenshares”, supports progressive women parliamentarians both in the Asia Pacific Island Women’s Caucus and facilitates its engagement with women’s rights movements.

**Breaking Out of Marginalisation (BOM)**
This programme focuses on building capacity of the most marginalised groups women to the region. Rural, Indigenous, Migrant and Urban women. The programme conducts Feminist Participatory Action Research to document, co-construct collective responses and advocacy strategy for change at local, national, regional and international levels.

**Labour and Migration (L&M)**
The programme has two goals: a) To advance women workers’ rights to decent work and participatory democracy by sharing and organizing labour movements; b) Women Organising. Women programme 1) To ensure women migrant enjoy substantive equality and are able to make informed choices about migration (Migration programme). It focuses on increasing capacities, voices and leadership of women workers and migrants by providing feminist organizing training, feminist Participatory Action Research, and supporting networks for collective labour and migrant movements building, including the United for Women’s Rights (UFWR).

**Climate Justice (CJ)**
This programme focuses on building capacity of the women most affected by climate change to identify strategic alternatives and resources to address climate change. The programme conducts Feminist Participatory Action Research to research women’s organizing and experiences, and mobilise cross-movements collaboration to co-create a feminist fossil fuel Free Future.

**Grounding the Global (GG)**
This programme monitors the development of international and regional mechanisms and policies to identify strategic advocacy opportunities for APWLD members and partners. It aims to ensure international and regional laws, norms, standards and processes are both reflected of women’s human rights issues in Asia Pacific and are effectively utilized by women in the region. This programme builds on APWLD’s existing legacy in conducting annual Asia Pacific consultations with UN mandate holders. It continues to support the Southeast Asia Women’s Caucus on ASEAN.

Our History
APWLD developed from dialogues among women lawyers, social scientists and activists from Asia Pacific, which began at the 1985 Third World Forum on Women, held in Nairobi, Kenya. Participants in these dialogues recognized that building the capacity to mobilize people to understand social, economic and political dimensions of women’s oppression and take collective action for change required a clear focus and strong organization. In 1986, women lawyers and activists in the region formally launched APWLD and set up a Secretariat in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The Secretariat relocated to Chiang Mai, Thailand in 1993, and is a platform to support women rights organizations in Asia Pacific.

APWLD is the leading network of feminist organizations and individual activists in Asia Pacific. Our 228 members represent groups of diverse women from 27 countries in Asia Pacific. Over the past 30 years, APWLD has actively worked towards advancing women’s human rights and Development Justice. We are an independent, non-governmental, non-profit organization and hold consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council.

Our Work
APWLD includes feminist movements in Asia Pacific, including laws, policies and practices at the local, national, regional and international levels. We develop capacities, produce and disseminate feminist analyses, advocate and foster networks and spaces for movement building, the claim and strengthens women’s human rights. APWLD empowers women in the region to use law as an instrument to change their reality, justice and Development Justice.

Our Beliefs
We believe that women’s human rights are achieved and sustained when autonomous feminist movements exist, and have an enabling environment to work. We believe women can be transformative. We use feminist analysis in dissent, engage with and challenge laws, legal practices and the systems that shape and inform them. We believe that the issues of patriarchy with militarism, fundamentalisms and neo-liberal economic globalisation are responsible for gross violations of women’s human rights and fundamental freedoms. We believe that equality, Development Justice and the realisation of human rights can only happen when women, particularly marginalised women, are empowered to lead policy and legal debates and determine solutions. We believe, human rights can only happen when women, particularly marginalised women, are empowered to lead policy and legal debates and determine solutions.

Our Structure
Our diverse and active membership provides the strength and expertise that drives both at the grassroots and policy making levels, is needed to bring a feminist empowerment to lead policy and legal debates and determine solutions. We believe, Development Justice and the realisation of women’s human rights are achieved and sustained when autonomous feminist movements exist, and have an enabling environment to work. We believe women can be transformative. We use feminist analysis in dissent, engage with and challenge laws, legal practices and the systems that shape and inform them. We believe that the issues of patriarchy with militarism, fundamentalisms and neo-liberal economic globalisation are responsible for gross violations of women’s human rights and fundamental freedoms. We believe that equality, Development Justice and the realisation of human rights can only happen when women, particularly marginalised women, are empowered to lead policy and legal debates and determine solutions. We believe, human rights can only happen when women, particularly marginalised women, are empowered to lead policy and legal debates and determine solutions.

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