



NEW VOICES
FELLOWSHIP

aspen institute

Locally
Rooted,
Globally
Networked



PROMOTING SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS

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www.aspennewvoices.org



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**"NVF WAS THE MOST
IMPORTANT AND
IMPACTFUL THING
I'D EVER DONE FOR
MY CAREER AND MY
ACTIVISM."
- SISONKE MSIMANG**



South African writer, activist and political analyst, whose focus is on race, gender, and politics. She is known for her memoir *Always Another Country: A memoir of exile and home* (2017)

OUR SRHR STORY

The New Voices Fellowship has activated a network of locally rooted, globally networked gender equity and sexual and reproductive health and right (SRHR) leaders. These Fellows are experts and advocates directly affected by global reproductive health policy: healthcare workers, scientists, patients and advocates.

Acting as a driving catalyst for change, the New Voices Fellowship propels Fellows into positions of powers and places of recognition where they can influence policy to improve the sexual health and rights of everyone.

189

Fellows in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean

57%

of New Voices Fellows identify as Female.

40

Fellows focus on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and Gender Equity work

Outcomes of our SRHR work

- Two-day virtual convening with 200 SRHR activists and funders across six continents
- Launch of new framework for sustainable SRHR funding
- Development of novel adolescent SRHR toolkit for educators
- Major media features for SRHR Fellows
- Policy change and development at the national, regional and global levels

SRHR



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MEDIA IMPACT

New Voices teaches Fellows how to write Opinion pieces and clearly communicate their ideas to the public. The resulting Op-Eds, speeches and interviews provide greater visibility for these advocates which in turn leads to more advocacy opportunities.

GLOBAL, HEALTH, JUSTICE & LAW

To Pursue Reproductive Justice, Latin America's Prosecutors Should Stop Enforcing the Law

5/4/2021 by **MARIANA PRANDINI ASSIS**

Desperate Guatemalan women will not be deterred, even in the face of grave risk

By **Dr. Michelle Dubón** September 13, 2019, 2:15 p.m.



Why Sex Work Is Real Work

Let's Give More Women a Chance to be a Mother

In Africa, Delaying Motherhood Can Mean Escape From Poverty

GatesNotes

THE BLOG OF BILL GATES

LOG IN

GROWING AROUND GRIEF

Wendo Aszed's best friend died. Then she did something remarkable.

End of Trump's rule will not end the assault on reproductive rights in Africa

OPINION

In India, Ending FGM Demands Truth and Transparency

gama Ranalvi





SRHR NETWORK IMPACT

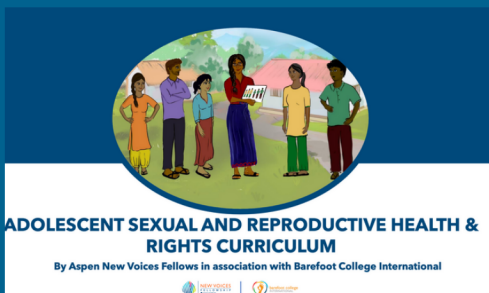
Launched a new framework for sustainable SRHR funding

Fellows developed guidelines for SRHR funding that they encourage donors to adopt. Fellows hosted a private roundtable discussion with representatives from a half-dozen of the largest global SRHR funders, who committed to working towards the vision captured in the best practices guidelines. This is a continuing conversation, and Fellows are eager to establish an accountability mechanism to ensure the philanthropic community provides more than empty promises.

In a call to action, **Aspen Institute's New Voices Fellowship** want donors to offer flexible, long-term funding for sexual and reproductive health and rights and ensure leaders, those allocating grants and programme teams reflect the communities and groups they seek to support. They also want the “tiresome barriers and bureaucratic loops and hoops” involved in applying for funds to be removed.

-- THE GUARDIAN

Introduced a new toolkit for SRHR work with adolescents



Fellows identified a gap in adolescent SRHR education, which doesn't always reach young people in rural settings with limited internet access. They developed a **free, shareable online toolkit** to equip trusted partners such as teachers, religious leaders and youth advocates with better knowledge and teaching techniques. The toolkit follows a rights-based approach to sexual health, and is designed for use in settings with limited internet access or low literacy levels.



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ADVOCACY IMPACT

THE FIRST: 2020 Fellow Masooma Ranalvi credits the New Voices Fellowship for equipping her with the communications and advocacy skills necessary to push for FGM policy reform in India. Masooma's organization, WeSpeakOut, has partnered with a well-known Indian law university to draft the first bill to decriminalize FGM in India.

THE BEGINNING: As a result of the Fellowship's work around sustainable SRHR funding, the Human Rights Funder Network hired Mariana Prandini (NVF '21) to advise them on the development of their grant-making principles to ensure equity and transparency.

THE LARGEST: After her Fellowship year, funding for Michelle Estrada's (NVF '19) Guatemalan organization doubled. WINGS Guatemala is now the largest provider of contraceptives in Guatemala.



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TESTIMONIALS

"The New Voices Fellowship has had great impact on my career... I have gained greater recognition as an expert on gender equality and the empowerment of women. This contributed to my appointment as the gender lead for the UN Food Systems Summit and subsequently my appointment to UN Women to lead programming on women's economic empowerment." – **Jemimah Njuki** ('17), Chief, Economic Empowerment at UN Women

"No university or college or program gives such detailed and focused attention to developing overarching communication skills to launch campaigns, undertake developmental work and sustain movements for change, as does the NVF. It provides very concrete and useful skills and tools like Oped writing, audio visual media, social media, advocacy, leadership skill building and critical thinking." – **Masooma Ranavli** ('20), Founder, WeSpeakOut

"Just this week (November, 2022), after reviewing old Oped with the New Voices team & submitted to the Star Newspaper (Kenya), the Star offered me a bi-monthly column. Now, a columnist with the star, as a widow rights champion and a 2021 Aspen New voices Fellow. This platform will change the gender discourse from homogeneity to heterogeneity, in Kenya and beyond." -- **Roseline Orwa** ('21), Widows' Rights Activist



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