

WEB RESOURCES

National Organization for Women (NOW)

Founded in 1966, NOW is an American activist organisation that encourages equal rights for women. It seeks the abolition of sex discrimination in all areas of American society, especially in employment. The group also aims for the eradication of racism and homophobia.

NOW aims to abolish sexism and violence in the workplace and all other sectors of society, and to inspire women to fight for their rights, and social equality and justice. NOW engages in direct mass actions and grassroots political activities and advocacy. It also endeavours to end all forms of violence against women and advocate for the protection of women's reproductive rights.

Website: <<http://www.now.org>>

Language: English

Address: National Organization for Women, 733 15th Street NW, 2/F, Washington, D.C. 20005, U.S.A

Tel: (1-202) 628 8669 (628-8NOW)

Fax: (1-202) 785 8576

E-mail: <now@now.org>

Focus on the Global South

Focus on the Global South aims to clarify the issues of the oppressed and the poor—corruption, environmental degradation, discrimination, unemployment and other issues in the South—by linking the social agents of change. Unlike other groups established to foster the North-South relationship, Focus on the Global South concentrates on the issues of developing countries and the paradigms typically employed in development planning. The group is committed to the goals of dismantling oppressive economic and political structures and institutions, creating liberating structures and institutions, demilitarisation, and the promotion of peace-building, instead of conflict.

Website: <<http://www.focusweb.org>>

Language: English

Address: Focus on the Global South c/o CUSRI Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand

Tel: (66-2) 218 7363 to 65

Fax: (66-2) 255 9976

E-mail: <admin@focusweb.org>

National Council for Research on Women (NCRW)

NCRW's mission is to generate and facilitate collaborative research, communication, and cooperative exchange among member centres and affiliates; to expand national and international networks of organisations and individuals and disseminate current information on research, policy and action initiatives, funding opportunities, and other resources; and to promote visibility for feminist research and analysis and build stronger links between research, policy, action, and the media.

Their website provides information on opportunities to generate broad international interchange among researchers, policy makers and activists on issues of crucial concern to women, girls, and to society globally. They also provide factual information for scholars and activists factual information on women and girls issues to guide their work so that they could effectively address the needs of policymakers, service providers, educators and activists. Other useful information included are links and directory of organisations, publications and archives of past events, conferences, meetings and projects.

Website: <<http://www.ncrw.org>>

Language: English

Address: 11 Hanover Square, 24/F, New York, NY 10005

Tel: (1-212) 785 7335

Fax: (1-212) 785 7350

E-mail: <ncrw@ncrw.org>

British Overseas NGOs for Development (BOND)

BOND is an extensive network of organisations in the United Kingdom engaged in the exchange of best practices, information and intelligence with other NGO networks and coalitions, both at home and outside the UK. The Website includes presentations emanating from a workshop held in April 2002 about NGOs and Social Protest Movements that examine whether these two areas of interest are partners or rivals. The features include Jane Esuantsiwa Goldsmith's discussion of the feminist movement and lessons for development NGOs, and another about the perceptions and relationships of NGOs and social movements by Koy Thompson.

Website: <http://www.bond.org.uk>
Language: English
Address: Regent's Wharf, 8 All Saint's Street, London N1 9RL, UK
Tel: (44-20) 7837 8344
Fax: (44-20) 7837 4220
E-mail: <bond@bond.org.uk> (for general inquiries); <information@bond.org.uk> (for information about BOND's publications) and <lgoulei@bond.org.uk> (for inquiries into training and events)

Women's Health Resource Center (WHRC)

The Indian Institute of Health Management Research's commitment to improved standards of health through better supervision of health care and corresponding programmes resulted in the WHRC, which tackles women's health issues from a human-rights perspective. The objectives of WHRC are organised oversight research instruction, education and advocacy on women's health programmes.

Website: <http://www.iihmr.org/wrc/wrcmain.htm>
Language: English
Address: Prabhu Dayal Marg, Sanganer Airport, Jaipur 302011, India
Tel: (91-141) 279 1431
Fax: (91-141) 279 2138
E-mail: <wrc@iihmr.org>

Gender and Women's Studies for Africa's Transformation (GWS Africa)

Seeing the need to support teaching and research in gender and women's studies, African Gender Institute established GWS Africa Project. The advocacy project aims to strengthen African teaching and research by bringing together teachers, scholars and researchers for training design and research. Sponsored by Ford Foundation, the project also consolidates related workshops and events online. The site features a listserv of topics or debates, employment opportunities available among network members, teaching resources and a journal.

Website: <<http://www.gwsafrica.org>>
Language: English
Address: African Gender Institute, University Of Cape Town, Private Bag, Rondebosch, Cape Town 7701
Tel: (27-21) 650 2970
Fax: (27-21) 685 2142
E-mail: <info@gwsafrica.org>

Participatory Development Forum (Pdforum)

The Participatory Development (PD) Forum is an international network of several hundred development practitioners, non-governmental organisations, academics/action researchers, private sector representatives, and policy makers interested in advancing reflection and practice in the area of participatory development.

The Participatory Development Forum was established to promote the philosophy of participation that would encourage people's competence to assert and control their progress toward equality and social justice. The forum's main objectives are:

- To promote alternative strategies for mainstreaming development;
- To popularise field experiences to practitioners, policy makers and academics

The site is designed to sustain interest in participatory development beyond cultures and among generations, especially with the youth. The special feature of their website is the PD Forum Virtual Resource Centre (VRC) which is an innovative and participatory web-based resource centre. It is a compilation of articles, papers, book reviews and resources for development practitioners, action researchers, project officers, programme managers, policy makers and people interested in Participatory Development to draw upon to enhance their understanding and practice of participation.

One of the unique features of the VRC is that it was designed to allow anyone to post articles to the resource centre and thereby capture the "grey literature" that is invaluable to improving practice and advancing thought. The VRC provides a space for practitioners, communities, and activists from all over the world to post their experiences and lessons learned in an accessible and non-academic environment.

Website: <<http://www.pdforum.org>>
Language: English, Spanish
Address: 1404 Scott Street, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
Tel: (1-613) 792 1006
Fax: (1-613) 792 1206
E-mail: <pdforum@pdforum.org>

Feminist.Com Foundation

Feminist.com is a ten-year-old activist community and consciousness-raising portal of resources and information that supports women's equality, justice, wellness and safety. The Feminist.com web site was founded to initiate and facilitate grassroots mobilisation, networking and communication around important political, health and educational issues related to women. The web site is dedicated to promoting and sustaining women's well-being through the principles embodied in their motto which is "Awareness, Education, Activism and Empowerment".

Feminist.com supports women-friendly organisations, expands civic participation, promotes women's business development, and encourages women's self-sufficiency. The Feminist.com web site is a responsive community that offers resources for all women and provides a safe space for diverse dialogues.

Established in December 2002 as a non-profit organisation, Feminist.Com Foundation also seeks to encourage women's business development, expand civic participation movements and promote women's competitiveness.

Website: <<http://www.feminist.com>>
Language: English
Address: Feminist.Com Foundation, P.O. Box 668, Woodstock, New York, NY 12498, U.S.A.
Tel: (1-845) 679 0576
E-mail: <support@feminist.com>

Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era (DAWN)

The DAWN network spans the Caribbean, Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Pacific. Organised in 1984, DAWN puts a premium on women's lived experience and collective efforts and strategies in its advocacy work. It seeks the "reform" of international institutions and monitor if governments are true to their pledges of mainstreaming gender in development. DAWN focuses on the effects of four interconnected global problems (famine, debt, militarism and fundamentalism) on poor and oppressed women in the South, and present solutions and alternative concepts.

Their website provides information on DAWN's research and advocacy that is focused on these areas:

Political Economy of Globalisation, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, Political Restructuring and Social Transformation, Sustainable Livelihoods. It also gives comprehensive information on their advocacy work in the global level. This includes producing and disseminating new analyses, engaging in key global processes and meetings, participating in selected institutional reform initiatives, working in partnership with like-minded feminist and development organisations and networks, and engaging with global civil society and social movements.

Other important information includes activities they are involved with and a listing of their publications and resources.

Website: <<http://www.dawn.org.fj>>
Language: English
Address: DAWN Secretariat, P.O. Box 13124, Suva, Fiji
Tel/Fax: (679) 314 770
E-mail: <admin@dawn.org.fj>

South Asian Women's Network

A forum for those interested in South Asian women issues, the site began in November 1991 as a mailing list with only about 40 subscribers. The founders originally ran the mailing list by simply e-mailing collected posts to all subscribers. With the continued circulation growth, today, it is based in Concordia University for the dovetailing of its work with academe-based women studies. The site features studies from countries such as Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka on issues like domestic violence, divorce, health, and legal issues. The site also provides reviews on films and useful reading materials and resources for women and children.

One of the highlights of the site is "The Khush Page" which is for and about gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered South Asians. It gives a comprehensive list of literature, films, organisations and web links.

Website: <<http://www.umiacs.umd.edu/users/sawweb/sawnet/>>
Language: English
E-mail: <sawweb@umiacs.umd.edu>

Web References:

1. Women and the Millennium Development Goals by Ana Elena Obando (WHRnet)

<http://www.whrnet.org/docs/issue-mdg.html>

This is a special issue on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) that features critiques of MDGs by the international women's movement, as well as the challenges and opportunities that the MDGs present for the advancement of women's rights. It also features the main international instruments related to the MDGs, the achievements in realising the MDGs during the '90s and alerts on the measures and indicators needed. in measuring success in MDGs.

2. Choike in-depth report on Cairo +10

http://www.choike.org/nuevo_eng/informes/1869.html

This site tackles the review of the Programme of Action on the defence of sexual and reproductive rights 10 years since the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD).

Choike is a portal dedicated to improving the visibility of the work done by NGOs and social movements from the South. It serves as a platform where citizen groups can disseminate their work and at the same time enrich it with information from diverse sources, which is presented from the perspective of Southern civil society.

The site offers a directory of NGOs containing Southern NGO web sites; relevant information from other sources can be found in separate sections. It has search engine that enables users to find information in the directory's web sites. It is a tool designed to search the sites selected by Choike on the basis of their quality and relevance.

The site provides a selection of materials produced by NGOs which contain information of relevance to civil society and to those people who are interested in what NGOs have to say. These materials can be accessed through reports, news items and information resources. It also includes in-depth reports on key issues, which provide comprehensive information and reflect different views, in particular highlighting the position adopted by civil society on these issues. It also highlights of other NGO's actions and campaigns.

Choike is the Mapuche name for the Southern Cross, the constellation that helps travellers find their way.

In the same way, Choike.org helps Internet users find the best of the South on the web. Choike is a project of the Instituto del Tercer Mundo, NGO in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations based in Montevideo, Uruguay.

3. Trading away our rights: Women working in global supply chains

<http://www.maketradefair.com/en/assets/english/taor.pdf>

Globalisation has drawn millions of women across the developing world into paid employment where they are working at the end of a global supply chain, sewing clothes, picking fruit and cutting flowers, but are systematically denied a fair share of the benefits brought by globalisation. The PDF document is a look into such women's work and its salient features—long hours, low wages and no job security.

4. Africa: Health Reforms Bad For Women's Health, Says Group

<http://www.eldis.org/cf/rdr/rdr.cfm?doc=DOC14862>

Governments must take responsibility for women's health, develop more gender-sensitive policies and increase health budgets for women's sexual and reproductive health. These are the three demands contained in a brief produced by the Women's Global Network for Reproductive Rights (WGNRR) entitled "Health sector reforms: hazardous to women's health." The brief outlines the main issues related to health-related reforms and suggests what individuals can do to effect change. Topics covered include budget cuts, structural adjustment programmes, poverty reduction strategies, the privatisation of health services, the unregulated health market, user fees, and the limits of health insurance.

5. Food First: Institute for Food and Development Policy

<http://www.foodfirst.org/>

A member-supported, non-profit people's think tank and education-for-action centre, Food First seeks to highlight the root causes of hunger and poverty around the world, and suggest value-based solutions to these. It looks at the issue of food as a fundamental human right. Food First produces books, reports, articles, films, electronic media and curricula, plus interviews, lectures, workshops and academic courses. The features are suitable for policy makers, activists, media, students, educators and researchers.