



# Women and Peace

A listing of organizations  
working for  
women's rights *and* peace  
in the Maldives  
2015

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## **WOMEN AND PEACE: AN INCOMPLETE SOUTH ASIAN DIRECTORY**

This project originated in a quest to identify potential partners for peace-related projects. That quest shifted shape, but we kept the kernel of the work and expanded its scope to include all SAARC member countries.

We started with the question, “Which women’s organizations work on peace?” But given that feminists define peace as far more than the cessation of conflict and hostilities, the term was hardly a filter. After all, peace is also empowerment, engaged citizenship, good governance, sustainable development and a free flow of information and expression. As we identified organizations across a spectrum of activities, we began to tag them with ‘keywords’:

- Peace and conflict transformation
- Women’s rights and empowerment
- Capacity building and community mobilization
- Governance and policy advocacy
- Gender, welfare, relief and sustainable development
- Information and communication

The keywords are simply intended to help in our search to identify resources and partners, not to narrowly define an organization’s work in any way.

The directory is the product of a desk-based Internet search. We invite you to email us with names and website addresses for organizations you think should be included. Email us at [prajnyatrust@gmail.com](mailto:prajnyatrust@gmail.com).

Profound thanks are due to Vignesh Rajendran, Research Intern at Chaitanya-The Policy Consultancy; it is his diligent research that made this project possible. Thanks are also due to Mitha Nandagopalan whose meticulous editing has refined these documents immensely.

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### **About Prajnya**

The Prajnya Trust is a Chennai-based non-profit engaged in research, public education and network-building in areas related to peace, justice and security. This project is located at the intersection of its two initiatives—Politics, Security and Women and Education for Peace. Prajnya’s online coordinates:

Email: [prajnyatrust@gmail.com](mailto:prajnyatrust@gmail.com)

Web: <http://www.prajnya.in>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/prajnyatrust>

Twitter: [@prajnya](https://twitter.com/prajnya)

NAME	LOCATION	KEYWORDS	CONTACT PERSON/EMAIL	PAGE
VOICE OF WOMEN (VOW)	Malé	Women's rights and empowerment; Capacity building and community mobilization; Gender, welfare, relief and sustainable development	info@voiceofwomen.org	4
SOCIETY FOR WOMEN AGAINST DRUGS (SWAD)	Malé	Capacity building and community mobilization; Governance and policy advocacy; Gender, welfare, relief and sustainable development	info@swadngo.org	5

## **VOICE OF WOMEN (VOW)**

<http://voiceofwomen.org/>

**Keywords: Women's rights and empowerment; Capacity building and community mobilization; Gender, welfare, relief and sustainable development**

M. Noohiri, 9th Fl.  
Shaheedh Ali Higon  
Male', Republic of Maldives

Telephone: +960 790 4432; +960 790 0777; +1 917 678 8785

Email: [info@voiceofwomen.org](mailto:info@voiceofwomen.org)

### **Factfile**

- VoW, established in 2009 and officially registered in 2011, works to promote women's rights in the Maldives.
- VoW aims to bring the voices of Maldivian women to the global platform.
- Acting President: Dr. Ismail Sivas Zahir
- Vice President: Ms. Azleena Ahmed

### **Areas of Activity**

VoW's initiatives for gender equality and women's empowerment include:

- Workshops and programs in schools to provide information, education and communication on women's rights issues;
- Leadership training for selected women in sustainable development, environment and climate change;
- Awareness-building on women's rights and human rights in the Maldives;
- Documenting human rights violations, domestic violence and sexual abuse;
- Providing assistance to other Maldivian women's NGOs through the development of networks and finance.

## **SOCIETY FOR WOMEN AGAINST DRUGS (SWAD)**

<http://swadngo.org/>

**Keywords: Capacity building and community mobilization; Governance and policy advocacy; Gender, welfare, relief and sustainable development**

H. Bandosge, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Dhanbugasmagu  
Male', Republic of Maldives

Email: [info@swadngo.org](mailto:info@swadngo.org)

### **Factfile**

- SWAD, established in November 2006, works to combat the use of drugs in Maldives.
- SWAD aims to empower youth and build a society free of drug abuse.
- Chairperson: Ms. Fathimath Afiya

### **Areas of Activity**

SWAD's activities to combat drug use in Maldives and to empower youth include:

- Working with policy-makers, stakeholders and NGOs to frame policies to combat drug use;
- Conducting advocacy seminars on prevention of drug abuse;
- Psychological rehabilitation services for drug users and their families;
- Workshops on life-skills training to enhance employment opportunities for rehabilitated youth.