



KVINFO's International Department 2019

Generation Equality · Gender Equality

The Danish Arab Partnership Programme · The Gender Equality Programme

The Sustainable Development Goals · Human Rights-based Approach · LGBTQIA+ rights

Denmark · The Middle East and North Africa · Morocco · Tunisia · Egypt · Jordan

Commission on the Status of Women · 25 Years with the Beijing Declaration · Women, Peace and Security · UNSCR 1325

Masculinity · Equal Economic Opportunities · Gender-based Violence · Equal Political Participation

Legal Reform · Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights · Civic Space

Partnerships · Advocacy · Training · Capacity development · Data · Evidence · Learning

breaking through



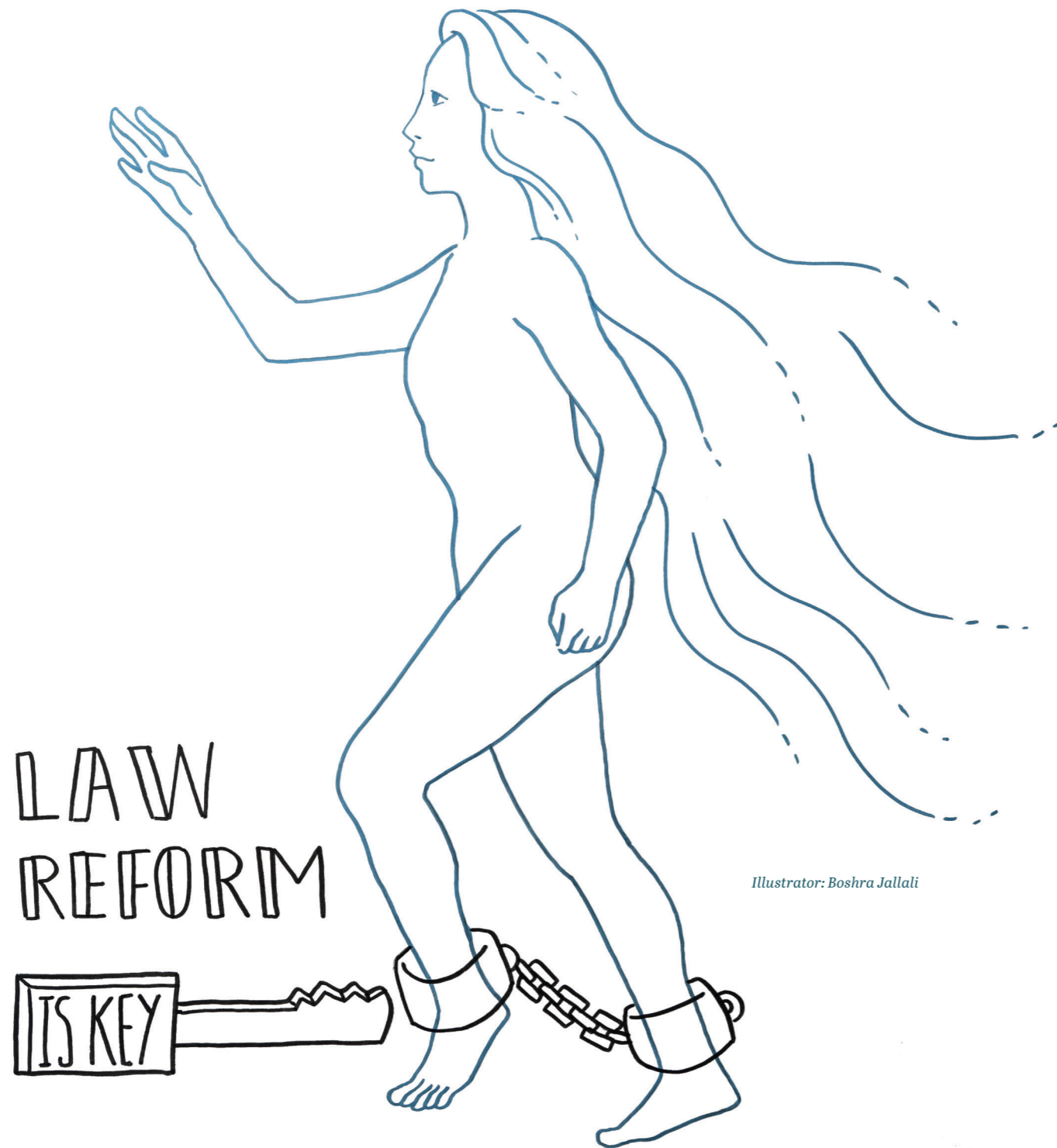
KVINFO'S VISION IS A FREE AND EQUAL SOCIETY

A society not limited by structures, norms and gendered stereotypes, where everyone has the same opportunities and rights, irrespective of gender.

FEMALE TECHIES

In 2019, KVINFO began collaborations with the organisation Motoon in Egypt, who works to fight digital violence and increase the number of women in the tech business in Egypt – a field dominated almost entirely by men.

Illustrator: Boshra Yumi



KVINFO is a Danish self-governing institution working for free and equal societies. KVINFO's international team works to improve gender justice in Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt and Jordan with a focus on legal reform, equal political participation, equal economic opportunities, gender-based violence and sexual, and reproductive health and rights. Results include more gender equal legislation on political representation, improved laws on gender based violence and putting child marriage on the political agenda.

GENDER EQUALITY IS NOT A WOMEN'S ISSUE

Making equality a reality benefits not only women but all human beings. KVINFO's international team strives to build equal societies and to include people of different genders in the conversation.

This annual report from KVINFO's international team sheds light on the work we did in 2019 to promote and strengthen gender equality.

We do so because more gender equal societies show to be more prosperous, peaceful and resilient for all citizens. In addition, people irrespective of gender are entitled to the same rights according to international conventions and should of course enjoy these rights on a daily as well as a legislative basis.

KVINFO is a Danish institution working both nationally and internationally. In this report, we highlight our international contributions to gender equal societies produced together with our many partners in the Middle East and North Africa and Denmark. The most part of this is the Gender Equality Programme funded by the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs under The Danish Arab Partnership Programme.

In our work, we tap into prevailing, international and national agendas on for instance human rights and women, peace and security. Our expertise is to apply a gender lens to structural and normative issues and to work for solutions that create more gender equal societies. In the following pages, you will get a snapshot of what we do – and how we did it in 2019.

Thanks for taking time to read!

KVINFO's international team

SIGNIFICANT RESULTS 2019



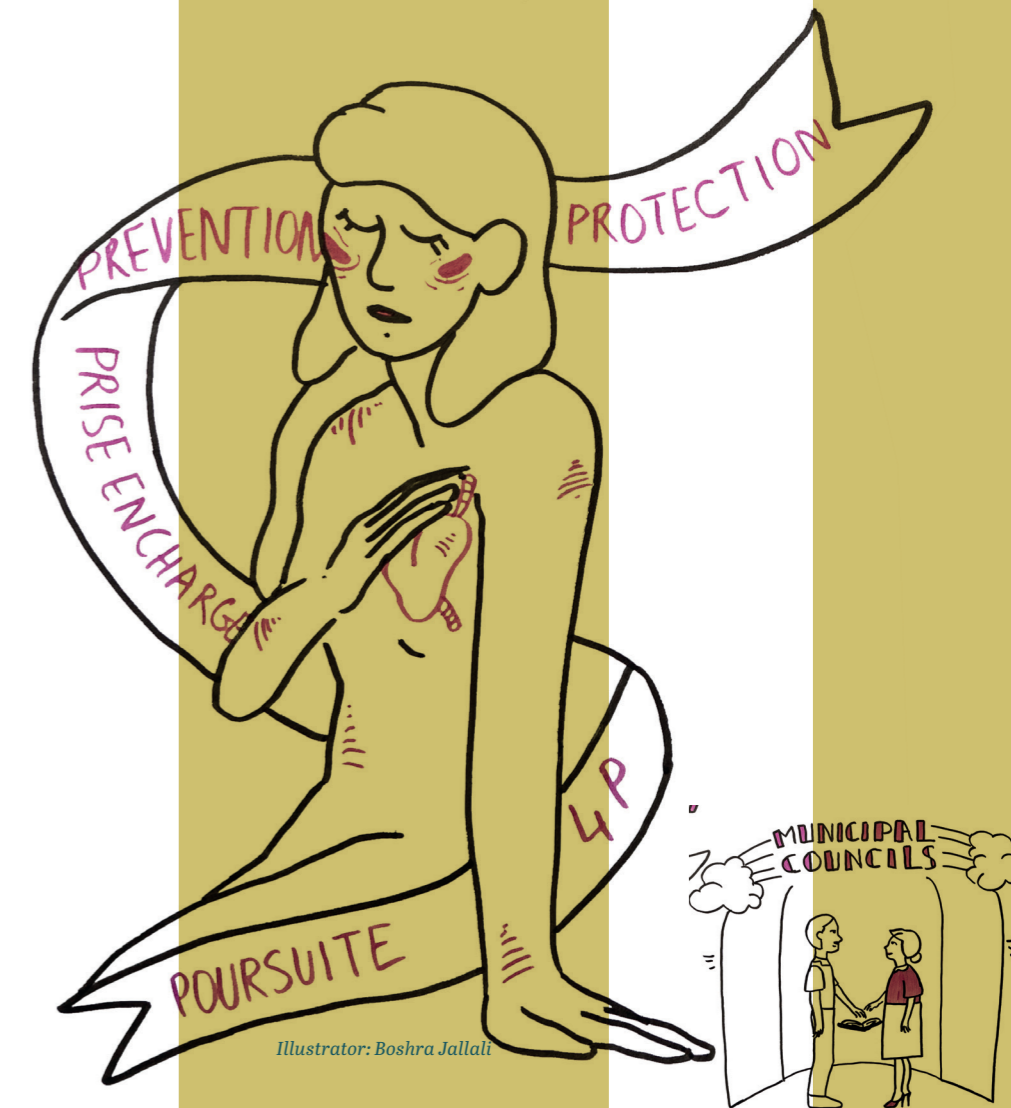
- Expansion of donor portfolio, including new funding from the EU and the Novo Nordisk Foundation to promote gender justice in Jordan.
- Support to 27 projects and 25 partners in Jordan, Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco within the Gender Equality Programme.
- Reaching youth as a focus target group at summits in Denmark and Morocco.

- Two new partnerships in Egypt to challenge stereotyped gender norms and counter the pressure on civic space.
- A new partnership in Morocco to strengthen work on masculinity as a strategy to push for equality.
- Establishment of new partnerships in Jordan to strengthen focus on youth activism.



- Inclusion of civil society in the regional review of the Beijing+25 Platform for Action on Women.
- Partner meeting with Gender Equality Programme partners from Denmark, Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt and Jordan – to share experiences and learn from each other.
- Highly acknowledged for our work on women, peace and security.

LOI DES 4 P (58) KVINFO



Illustrator: Boshra Jallali

- Spotlighting gendered features of shrinking civic space in the Middle East and North Africa.
- Exchange visits between Danish and Tunisian politicians during parliamentary elections in both countries.

STRATEGIES TO TACKLE GENDER INEQUALITY

We are continuously looking for better ways to approach the work we do. In 2019, we increased our focus on global agreements by focusing on global agreements such as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals; we challenged gendered stereotypes through our work on masculinity, and we developed a new approach to solving current gender equality challenges using design thinking and norm critique.

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, SDGs: At the beginning of 2019, we embarked on a two-year project funded by the Danish umbrella organisation Global Focus to strengthen our strategic work on the SDGs. The project includes collaborations with the Danish organisations Dignity, Danmission, GAME and Oxfam IBIS in order to share and learn from each other.

To acquire new knowledge we invited representatives from Statistics Denmark, the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Deloitte, Chora2030, Danish Family Planning Association, and the Danish Institute for Human Rights to share their perspectives on how they use the SDGs strategically. As a result, we will be organising events in 2020 to build our organisational capacities in Denmark and those of our partners in Jordan.

Masculinity: In 2019, we stepped up our strategic work on masculinity. The aim was to involve men and boys more and to challenge gender stereotypes.

We introduced partners to possible ways of working with masculinity at a workshop in Tunisia and we participated in the Global Men's Meeting in Rabat in Morocco to expand our knowledge and relations in the field.

In 2020, KVINFO and the Moroccan organisation Quartiers du Monde will strengthen the capacity of smaller Moroccan youth organisations and women's rights organisations on working with masculinity.

GenderLAB: Copenhagen Business School, CBS, and KVINFO developed a new methodology, the GenderLAB, where a combination of design thinking and norm critique provides a solution-based approach to solving problems related to gender equality and diversity. In relation to the work with the GenderLAB, the leading university within the field of design thinking, Stanford University, invited KVINFO staff members to participate in their course 'Designing for Social Systems'. Attending Stanford's highly professional and creative course resulted in new insights and important knowledge, which are included in the on-going development of GenderLAB. In 2020, we will apply GenderLAB in projects, in Jordan.

Without men, gender equality will never be a reality. Therefore, KVINFO and our partners focus specifically on including men in the daily work. We are highly aware that masculinity is also subject to restrictive ideas of norms and ideals and 'how to be a man' in the world, which puts limitations on the lives of many men. To fight this, KVINFO launched the campaign #maninmanyways on November 19th 2019, the Men's International Day.

The campaign was widely shared by organisations and politicians in Denmark, and it reached Morocco and the Lebanese organisation Abaad, as seen in the photo.

#maninmanyways

Anthony
Keedi
Abaad -



In September, we organised a partner meeting in Tunisia with partners from Denmark, Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt and Jordan. At the partner meeting, we created a market place where all partners could visit each other and present their work. In the photo above, the Tunisian organisation Mawjoudin and the Danish organisation Women's Council Denmark exchange stories.

WORKING FOR GENDER EQUALITY IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

It is almost 15 years since KVINFO initiated its first partnership project in the Middle East and North Africa. Today, the flagship programme in our international work is the Gender Equality Programme funded by the Danish Arab Partnership Programme, DAPP, under the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It runs from 2017 to 2022 with an annual budget of 25 million DKK. KVINFO leads the Gender Equality Programme, which consists of 27 projects with 25 partners in Denmark, Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt and Jordan. You will find the names of partners listed on the final pages of this report.

KVINFO's international team continued the implementation of the Gender Equality Programme in collaboration with partners in Denmark, Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt and Jordan. Our daily work includes strategic development, project design, assessments, monitoring, actor based result management, reviews and reporting. In the Middle East and North Africa, partners manage project and activities on ground.

Below are a few highlights from the Gender Equality Programme in 2019.

Partner meeting in Tunisia: All partners in the Gender Equality Programme were invited to a three-day meeting, Accelerating Gender Equality – Learning Together, in Tunisia. The aim was twofold: To co-create a

holistic understanding of the results already achieved; and to share experiences in order to inspire further collaborations to improve gender justice in the Middle East and North Africa. Below, a snapshot from the evaluation by a partner participating in the meeting:

“I learned more about the success of the Gender Equality Programme and the aspect of its work in other countries”

Youth Summits: As part of DAPP, KVINFO participated in youth summits in Denmark and Morocco. These events were very valuable to us as they serve as an opportunity to discuss gender issues at eye level with the young people. Furthermore, at the summit in Morocco, local partners met many young



By invitation from KVINFO, Tunisian partners and politicians visited Denmark during the Danish parliamentary elections. Among other things, they attended a debate at a Danish high school with representatives from both left and right political wings. Such debates rarely takes place during Tunisian elections, the delegates told. Later, KVINFO arranged a trip for Danish politicians to Tunisia to experience how politicians in the nascent Tunisian democracy carry out election campaigns.

Photo: Simon Læssøe / dapp.dk

people who showed a great interest in discussing gender norms in Morocco and some even signed up as volunteers.

New Partners in Egypt: Egyptian civil society organisations working with human rights and women's rights face severe constraints. To strengthen the position of civil society, KVINFO collaborated with new partners: Cairo International Women Film Festival, the tech company Motoon, and the feminist organisation Ganoubia Hora. These new partnerships allow access to the culture industry, the tech industry and the Egyptian city Aswan far from the capital, Cairo.

Presence: KVINFO has been present in Jordan the last three years. The learnings are manifold. For instance, we collaborate closer with local actors and partners, and we have seen an increase in joint activities and exchange of knowledge. We have also established closer relationships with other development actors such as the EU, and we have gained a better understanding of the national context, for example, in relation to the elections and donor coordination. Based on this, we increase our presence in Tunisia, and will have permanent presence in the country in 2020.

Parliamentary elections in Denmark and Tunisia: Both Denmark and Tunisia held parliamentary elections in 2019. KVINFO facilitated exchange visits with running candidates from the two countries, where Tunisian politicians followed the campaign in Denmark and vice versa. In this way, we managed to share experiences on how the political debates and campaigns in the two countries unfold – in an old democracy with firm democratic traditions (Denmark) and a nascent democracy (Tunisia). Exchanges such as these are extremely valuable as

they enable us to build bridges and increase understanding and dialogue between the countries we work in. We also used the visits to advocate for the causes we work for – in this case equal political representation.

Studies for advocacy: Partners across the Gender Equality Programme work hard to shed light on existing problems within their societies in relation to gender equality. However, often they hit a wall, as data to support their case is insufficient or absent. To overcome this obstacle and strengthen their advocacy, partners conducted studies on relevant topics. For instance, in Jordan, the organisation Jordanian Women's Union conducted a study on gender based violence, and the Moroccan organisation LDDF-Injad did the same in Morocco with their partner Women's Council Denmark. In Tunisia and Morocco, organisations as the League of Women Voters (LET) and The Federal League for Women's Rights (FLDF) provide data on the lack of socio-economic rights such as equality in inheritance and the rights to access common land. In Morocco, Droit et Justice collected evidence to show the scale of child marriages in order to strengthen their advocacy for closing the loophole in current legislation, which still makes it possible to marry off a child. The results of the study will be presented in spring 2020.

Family laws: A long-time partner of KVINFO in Jordan, the Jordanian Women's Union is leading a regional initiative across the Middle East and North Africa including 10 countries to combat a common challenge: Sharia-based family laws that treats people differently based on their gender. For instance in relation to inheritance, rights to own land, marriage, divorce, custody of children and much more. In 2019, partners continued their efforts to change the family law to civil law.



The Jordanian Women's Union, JWU, and KVINFO are working to ensure equality in politics, laws, sexual and reproductive health and rights and to combat gender based violence. One of their main focuses right now is to work to change the sharia based family law in Jordan that treats people differently based on gender.

EXPANSION OF DONOR PORTFOLIO

One of our primary goals in 2019 was to diversify and expand our donor portfolio in order to scale up the work on gender justice.

EU Funding: We received three million DKK from the EU to work in Jordan. This means that we will upscale our work on combatting violence against women and ensuring women's participation in politics. The EU funding strengthens the ongoing work of KVINFO. The focus will be to support the capacity of civil society organisations and municipal council members to amplify the dialogue and interactions between civil society organisations and local authorities to jointly accelerate gender equality.

Novo Nordisk Foundation: We received one million DKK from the Novo Nordisk Foundation for a one-year project in Jordan, beginning in 2020. Together with a Jordanian organisation, we will work to empower youth and women within the Jordanian host communities and in high-density level refugee locations. This is to support that young people and women in these humanitarian crisis locations to become capable of organising and engaging in societal change towards justice, equality and dignity.

ACCOUNTABILITY FOR GLOBAL COMMITMENTS

Global commitments and national policies are of great significance to our work, because they function as a lever for gender justice.

Civic Space Conference: KVINFO co-organised an international conference on 'Reclaiming Civic Space' in collaboration with the member organisation Global Focus and the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Together with International Media Support and LGBT+ DK, we invited activists from Egypt and Uganda to present testimonials about the sexualised harassment, threats and violence that organisations and people fighting for equality, LGBTQI+ and women's rights face. After the conference, the former Danish Foreign Minister and Foreign Ministry officials promised that Denmark will do more to support human rights defenders.

Commission on the Status of Women, CSW: At the Commission on the Status of Women, CSW, in New York, the Danish delegation ensured that the outcome document

mentioned shrinking civic space as an obstacle to gender equality. This was a direct result of the continued advocacy by KVINFO and partners from the Middle East and North Africa. We stressed how shrinking civic space limits the work of partners in the region. The CSW is exclusively dedicated to the promotion of women rights and the empowerment of women and builds on global agreements from the World Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995. We invited partnering civil society organisations to participate, and at one of the meetings with the Executive Director of the UN Women, LGBTQI+ person's rights were on the agenda for the first time.

KVINFO will support civil society presence at the CSW 2020 to ensure that consistent advocacy continues.

16 Days of Activism: Each year, the campaign '16 Days of Activism Against Gender-based Violence' runs from November 25th to December 10th. It is initiated by UN Women, and in 2019, KVINFO highlighted the work we do with partners in relation to the prevention of gender-based violence in Denmark, Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt and Jordan.

Women, Peace and Security: In 2019, the British consultancy company Social Development Direct evaluated Denmark's performance in relation to fulfilling the UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, WPS. Resolution 1325 guides work to promote gender equality and strengthen women's participation, protection and rights across the conflict cycle, from conflict prevention through post-conflict reconstruction. It recognises the importance of women's involvement in peace and security issues to achieve long lasting stability and the necessity to protect women against sexualised and gender-based violence in conflict situations. The report acknowledged KVINFO for our efforts to fight for women's rights and dignity in Denmark as well as in the Middle East and North Africa, as it stated:

"Under the Danish Arab Partnership Programme, 2013-2016, impressive results were achieved by the targeted WPS partner KVINFO within their activities across target countries for the period 2013 - 2016 (no evidence was provided for 2017-2022). This appears to be a result of funding a partner with specialist expertise in WPS able to identify priorities and entry points."

Following the evaluation, at a conference held by Oxfam IBIS, we presented our recommendations for Denmark's next national action plan. Our recommendations were threefold: 1: Denmark should pioneer the establishment of an inclusive and welcoming work environment in the Danish Defence; 2: Denmark should earmark financial resources to women's rights organisations so that they can continue and scale up work on gender equality; and 3: Denmark should prioritise the support and protection of Women Human Rights Defenders.

STRONG PARTNERSHIPS AND RELATIONS

As in previous years, 2019 was also a year when KVINFO participated in various events, working groups and strategic partnerships in order to connect with and strengthen networking and collaborations with other organisations and institutions as well as current collaborators.

The People's Democratic Festival,

Denmark: At the People's Democratic Festival (Folkemødet) we participated in a panel debate on how religion can promote equality. KVINFO's perspective on the topic is that the work for equality and women's rights must also take place within religious organisations, both Christian and Muslim. KVINFO's work in the Middle East and North Africa region has provided us with positive experiences in terms of initiating dialogue with religious leaders, and we see Islamic feminism rising as people try to reform Islam from within.

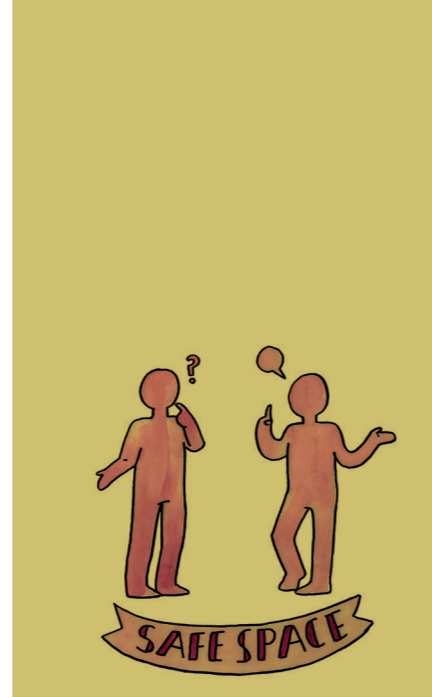
Together with the organisations Dignity and International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs, we hosted a debate between politicians and activists on Denmark's priorities in the UN Human Rights Council: the rights of women, indigenous people and torture victims. We wanted the Government to know that organisations such as ours would like to work with the Government to promote this agenda and support Denmark in raising these issues in the UN Human Rights Council. We also wanted them to understand that we intend to hold the Government accountable for their own ambitions regarding the Danish seat on the council.

EuroMed Rights Working Group: KVINFO actively participated in the EuroMed Rights' Gender Working Group. The working group focuses on violence against women, and we used the meetings to exchange experiences, to build the capacity of participants and prepare advocacy for women's rights. The

network has a particular focus on the EU and the EU's human rights policies. The working group focused on the strong wave of anti-feminist propaganda that is becoming more and more evident around the world, including developing a series of counter-slogans to share during 16 Days of Activism.

Danish Council on Human Rights: On December 10, the International Human Rights Day, the Danish writer Sara Omar received an honorary price from the Danish Council for Human Rights (part of the Danish Institute for Human Rights). Each year, the price goes to a person, group or organisation who has done a remarkable job in promoting human rights in Denmark. The council chose Sara Omar for her work for women and children's rights. KVINFO is represented on the Council, where we contribute to various human rights processes, e.g. the evaluation of Denmark in The Universal Periodic Review (UPR). The UPR is a state-driven process, under the auspices of the UN Human Rights Council, which provides each state with an opportunity to declare which actions they have undertaken to fulfil their human rights obligations. When Egypt was examined under the UPR, we made sure recommendations from Egyptian partners were submitted to the Danish permanent mission of the UN in Geneva in order for Denmark to raise concerns over human rights violations in Egypt in the Human Rights Council.

Along with Danish and Moroccan partners, KVINFO facilitated a workshop at an International Youth Summit in Morocco organized by the United Nations Development Programme and The Danish Foreign Ministry. At the summit, KVINFO's international director, Lene Steffen, introduced our Moroccan initiatives towards gender equality to her Royal Highness Crown Princess Mary of Denmark.



PARTNERS IN THE GENDER EQUALITY PROGRAMME (GEP)

MOROCCO

- » Fédération des Ligues Démocratique des Droits des Femmes (FLDF)
- » Association Marocaine de Planification Familiale (AMPF) partnering with Danish Family Planning Association.
- » Droit et Justice (D&J)
- » LDDF-Injad (GBV branch of FLDF), partnering with Women's Council Denmark
- » Quartiers Du Monde

EGYPT

- » Tadwein Gender Research Centre partnering with Women's Council Denmark
- » Motoon
- » Ganoubia Hora
- » The Women and Memory Forum
- » Cairo International Women's Film Festival (CIWFF)

TUNISIA

- » Ligue des Electrices Tunisiennes (LET)
- » Association des Femmes Tunisiennes pour la Recherche sur le Développement (AFTURD) partnering with Danner
- » Mawjoudin, partnering with LGBT+ DK
- » Association Tunisiennes de la Santé de la Reproduction (ATSR) partnering with the Danish Family Planning Association

JORDAN

- » Jordanian Women's Union (JWU)
- » Ahel
- » Jordanian National Commission for Women (JNCW)

REGIONAL

- » Danner
- » United Nations and Social Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA)
- » Meedom Kommunikation
- » ABAAD

DENMARK

- » Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Denmark (LGBT+ DK)
- » Danner
- » Danish Family Planning Association (DFPA)
- » Women's Council Denmark (WCD)

Numbers: TARGET GROUPS REACHED THROUGH THE GENDER EQUALITY PROGRAMME

19%

YOUTH

0.1%

NON-BINARY

20%

IN RURAL AREAS

80%

IN URBAN AREAS

20%

MALES

79.9%

FEMALES

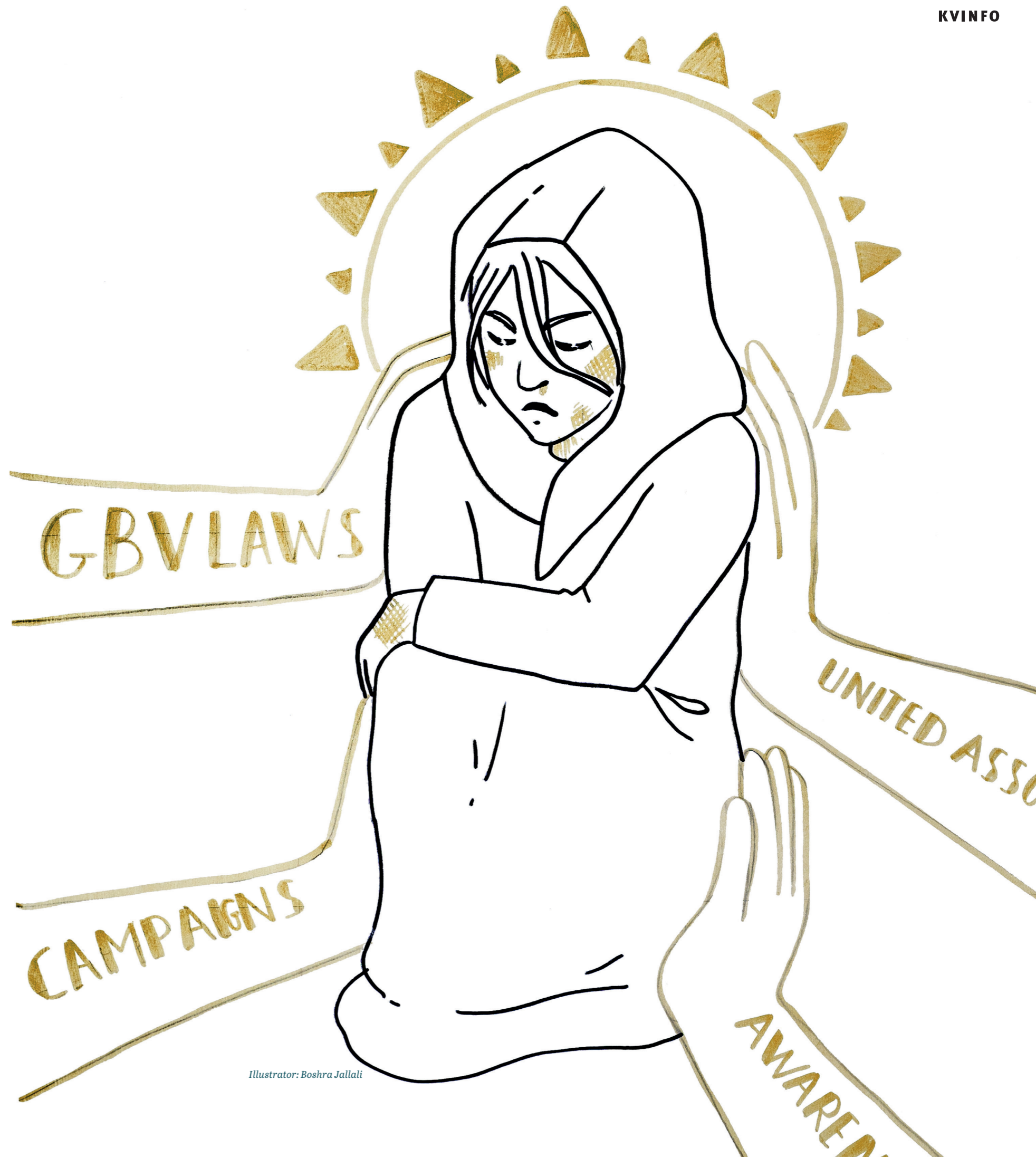
13%

DUTY BEARERS

87%

RIGHTS HOLDERS

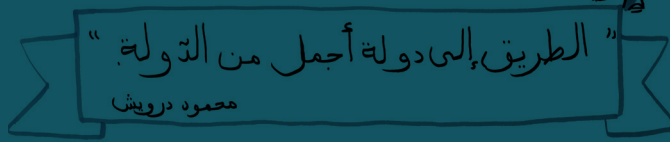
**LET US MAKE
GENDER
EQUALITY
A REALITY.**



Illustrator: Boshra Jallali

legislative reform & equal distribution

Gender based violence (GBV)



women are ready for politics E.P.P

sexual and reproductive health and rights

KVINFO

KVINFO Christians Brygge 3, DK-1219 København K
kvinfo.dk kvinfo@kvinfo.dk

Tel: +45 33 13 50 88