

# WOMEN'S SOLIDARITY ACROSS BORDERS



When women come together to fight for their rights, they can achieve dignified livelihoods, living wages, and safe workplaces.

That's why Union Aid Abroad - APHEDA works with its partner organisations around the world to support women's movements and women leaders, advocates, and campaigners to achieve justice in their workplaces and communities.

Here's a snapshot of how Union Aid Abroad - APHEDA is working to strengthen women's power across the globe.

## WOMEN FIGHTING FOR THEIR RIGHTS TOGETHER WITH UNION AID ABROAD – APHEDA



# DEFENDING WOMEN'S RIGHTS TO SAFE WORKPLACES IN CAMBODIA



In Cambodia, women who work in entertainment, hospitality, and prostitution are often placed at risk of exploitation and abuse. By building strong unions women working in these sectors are fighting against the stigmatisation and discrimination that often accompanies their work.

The Cambodian Food and Service Workers' Federation is working in the food and entertainment sector to improve workers' understanding of their rights and to build their negotiation skills.

The Cambodian Prostitutes' Union is building its power to take on the institutional discrimination that denies sex workers their legal and social protections. These women are campaigning to defend the rights of sex workers to decent work, fair conditions, and safe workplaces.



# A POWERFUL VOICE FOR KAREN WOMEN ON THE THAI-MYANMAR BORDER



On the Thai-Myanmar border conflict has raged for decades, forcing thousands of families from their homes and villages. In the refugee camps along the border, a powerful movement called the Karen Women's Organisation has emerged to defend the rights of displaced women.

The Karen Women's Organisation supports the health and welfare of refugee women, and trains them to become leaders, advocates, and change-makers in their own communities. Its 60,000-strong membership fights for equality and freedom from violence for all women and girls affected by war and conflict.



# WOMEN FIGHTING FOR WORKPLACE JUSTICE IN TIMOR LESTE



For years, the women who work in the homes of Dili have been denied a living wage, have had their rights ignored, and have not received the respect they deserve.

But domestic workers in Dili have been building a collective voice through the Working Women's Centre of Timor Leste, an organisation that is campaigning to recognise the rights of domestic workers in Timor's labour laws and to give women the knowledge and skills they need to defend their rights in the workplace.

By distributing an easy guide to workplace rights and offering a hotline to guide workers through complaints processes, the Working Women's Centre of Timor Leste is helping women win workplace justice.



# STRONG WOMEN'S REPRESENTATION IN VIETNAM



In Vietnam, women are challenging patriarchal political structures by training to become decision-makers in their own communities.

By learning the skills of leadership and active citizenship, and by gaining knowledge of the political process, women in Vietnamese communities can stand for election as candidates in local governments and win. With more women at the decision-making table, women in Vietnamese communities are using their voice and collective power to advocate for equality.

# REFUGEE WOMEN PURSUING WORK AND EDUCATION IN LEBANON



Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA has been working closely with the Palestinian Women’s Humanitarian Organisation since the early 1990s to support Palestinian and Syrian refugee women find work, learn new skills, and educate their children in the refugee camps of Lebanon.

The Palestinian Women’s Humanitarian Organisation has supported generations of refugee families by providing early education services, after-school care, children’s disability support, and healthcare for the elderly. They work to remove the barriers for women to work, study, and train.

By providing spaces for children to learn and play, the Palestinian Women’s Humanitarian Organisation gives kids a head start on their education and helps women work to become financially independent.



# ZERO-TOLERANCE FOR GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IN MYANMAR'S GARMENT FACTORIES



In Myanmar, garment workers are fighting back against workplace harassment by demanding stronger contractual protections against gender-based violence, and by developing their leadership and advocacy skills that will allow them to advocate for safe workplaces.

Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA has partnered with Action Labor Rights and the Myanmar Industry Craft and Service Trade Unions Federation to collect information on gender-based violence cases, and to encourage the emergence of women leaders skilled in advocating against workplace harassment. Day by day, factory by factory, Myanmar garment workers are fighting to end harassment in their workplaces.