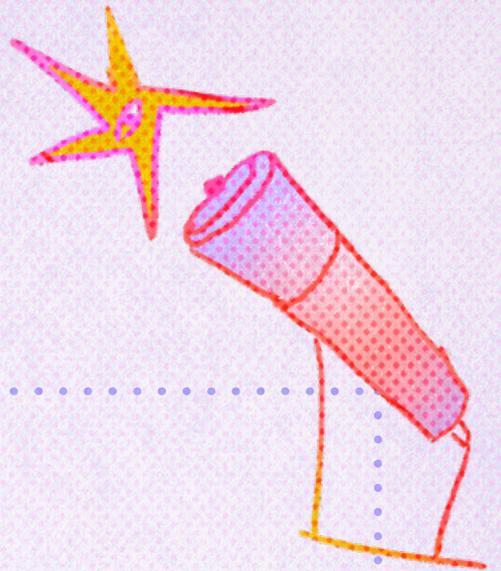
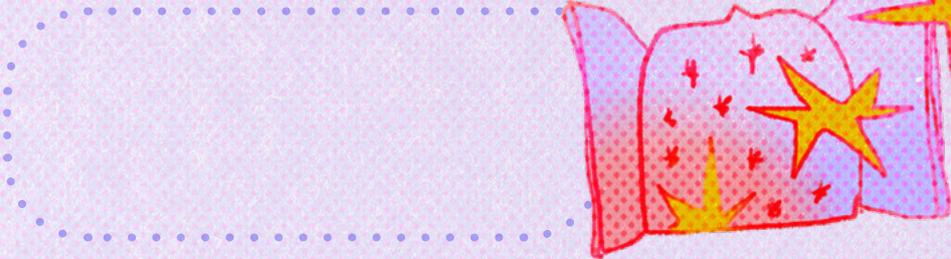
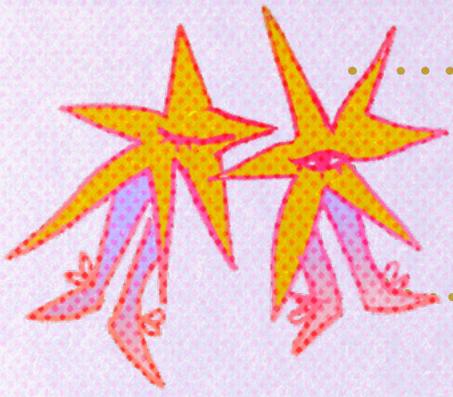


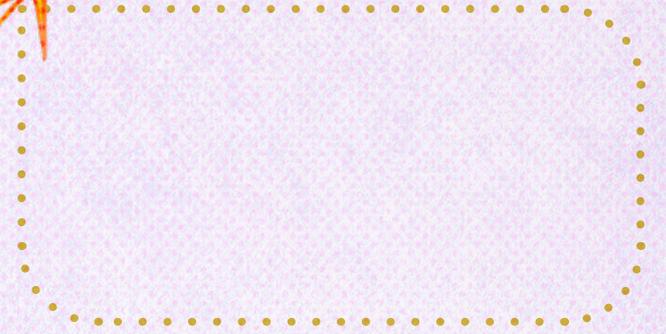
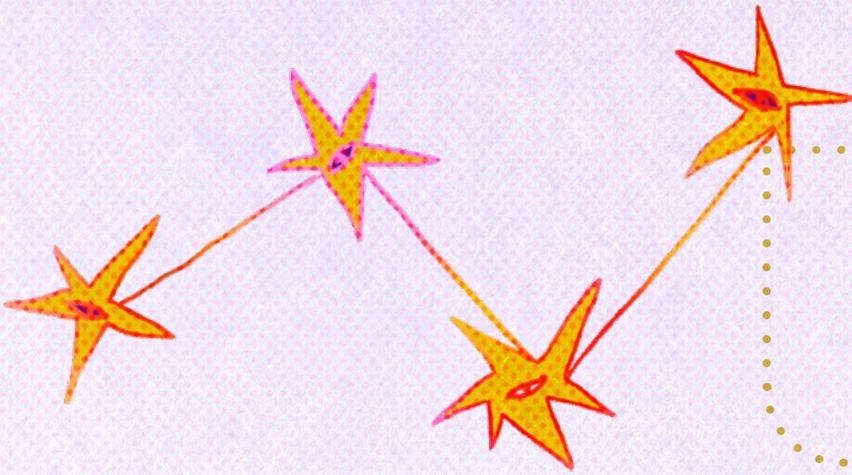
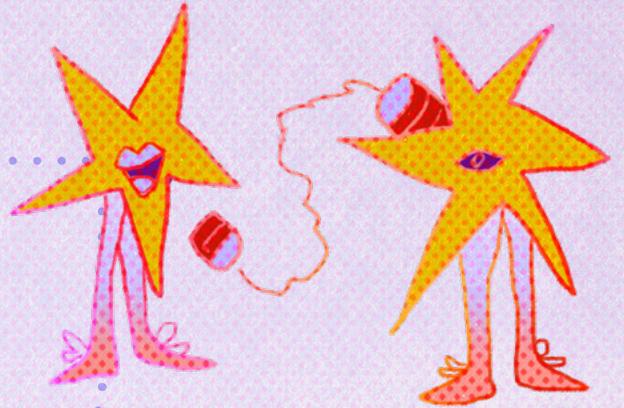
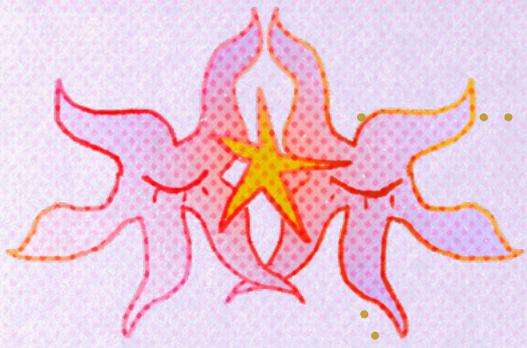
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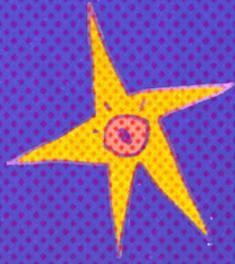
2022/2023

Annual Report









INTRO

DUCTION



Introduction

What is an Annual Report, and what does it mean to shed these self-imposed corporate shackles?

A bit dramatic, but in our quest to make an “annual report” for 2022 and 2023 that is not just a recital of everything we did in the two years, this might be the fundamental question we have stumbled upon. An “annual report”, if we’re to go by a dictionary definition, is “a company's yearly report to shareholders, documenting its activities and finances in the previous financial year”. It is in 2017, almost seven years into RESURJ being in the world, that we started putting together annual reports, and another seven years later we’re now asking ourselves more questions; for whom are these reports, for what purpose, and how can our feminist politics and ethics of care help us be more imaginative in how we frame, create and share them? While being transparent with our financials is a practice we’ll continue to follow, this felt like a moment to reflect on who we’re communicating to through the narrative, how to firmly embed the narrative in the social-political-economic realities we’re grappling with daily, and make it a collective learning and solidarity practice. So maybe it is time for us to break up with the idea of an annual report and, in its place, have something more true to Resurj emerge.

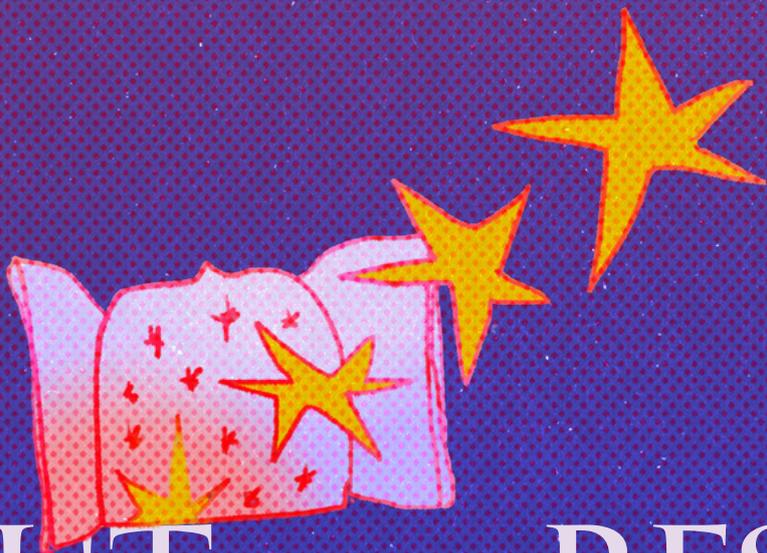
In one way, what you are about to read is the annual report that summarizes RESURJ’s activities across 2022 and 2023. But in another, more meaningful way, what you are about to read is our attempt to experiment with what an annual report is and reimagine who we are writing it for. This document, short and sweet, is meant to gently walk you through our universe and give you a glimpse of the politics, processes, and practices that have shaped and changed our collective over the past two years. Through this report, we want readers (and that includes donors, allies, friends, and a broader audience of young feminists who still do not fully know us) to get a better understanding of what RESURJ is,

what it isn't, and where we want to go from here. We discuss our happy and proud moments, our struggles, our aspirations, and our doubts. And in thinking and writing about all of what you are about to read, we have been eager to share a part of ourselves with other Global South feminists and, in a way, invite them to think and be in a conversation with us about what it takes to build and sustain a feminist collective in today's perplexing world.

We wish you a fruitful, enjoyable read.

Warmly,

RESURJitas



ABOUT

RESURJ



About RESURJ

Realizing Sexual and Reproductive Justice (RESURJ) is a Global South-led transnational feminist alliance committed to fostering stronger communities by building trust, nurturing solidarity, and sharing power.

RESURJ was founded in 2010 as a response to the palpable absence of young feminists from the global south in global advocacy spaces for sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and gender justice. By then, feminist engagement in global policy spaces was entrenched in the hegemony of the global north and among older, and often white, feminist leaders. RESURJ was formed from the realization that younger feminists from the south needed to create our own spaces to be heard and organize towards advancing an agenda that reflected our realities on the ground. While our purpose and work have opened up since, we continue to prioritize co-creating and holding space with and for younger feminists wherever we find ourselves and sustaining our clarion call for Sexual and Reproductive Justice (SRJ).

Fourteen years after we were founded, RESURJ is well-positioned to co-lead on its 13-point Action Agenda through strengthening our members' and allies' work. Our Action Agenda and our Sexual and Reproductive Justice Framework are foundational to how we articulate and advocate for SRJ, and these have been enriched and strengthened by generations of RESURJ members who have revisited them, updated them to respond to our evolving contexts and analysis, and built consensus for them among younger South feminists. RESURJ is made up of 14 diverse and multidisciplinary younger South feminists (our current maximum size cap is 17), who mobilize constituencies and decision-makers in our countries and regions to influence policy and social change while actively inviting and supporting diverse younger feminists to engage in policy spaces and processes. We are involved in different movements (feminist and gender justice, economic justice, environmental and ecological

justice, etc.), constituencies (women, youth, migrants, indigenous, human rights, health, development, law, LGBTIQ+, disability rights, and academia), embody various identities, and are deeply committed to moving forward RESURJ's Action Agenda on Sexual and Reproductive Justice. RESURJ members are mobilizers and/or leaders in their respective contexts, both nationally, regionally, and globally. This crucial profile is something that informs how we build our politics and invite young feminists to join the collective. RESURJ prides itself as a collective of diverse women and gender expansive people of different ages, economic status, migrant status; who are lesbian, bisexual, heterosexual, non-binary, HIV positive, mothers, single, married, disabled, indigenous, and who come from diverse racial, ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds in Asia, Africa, Latin America, the Pacific, and South West Asia and North Africa. We continuously discuss the intersecting privileges and exclusions we experience in our different contexts and have prioritized expanding and diversifying our membership base in the coming years, especially younger feminists from constituencies, movements, and regions that are underrepresented in feminist and women's rights organizing.

Our Ecosystem and Structure

RESURJ's ecosystem is made up of:

Members - Younger South feminists who are leading or active in movements and organizations in their contexts and are members of RESURJ in a voluntary and individual capacity. Members strategize, conceptualize, co-lead, and implement RESURJ's work in their capacity as members and/or as consultants.

Secretariat - Made up of both members and non-members, facilitates the work of RESURJ through members and external consultants. They are salaried positions.

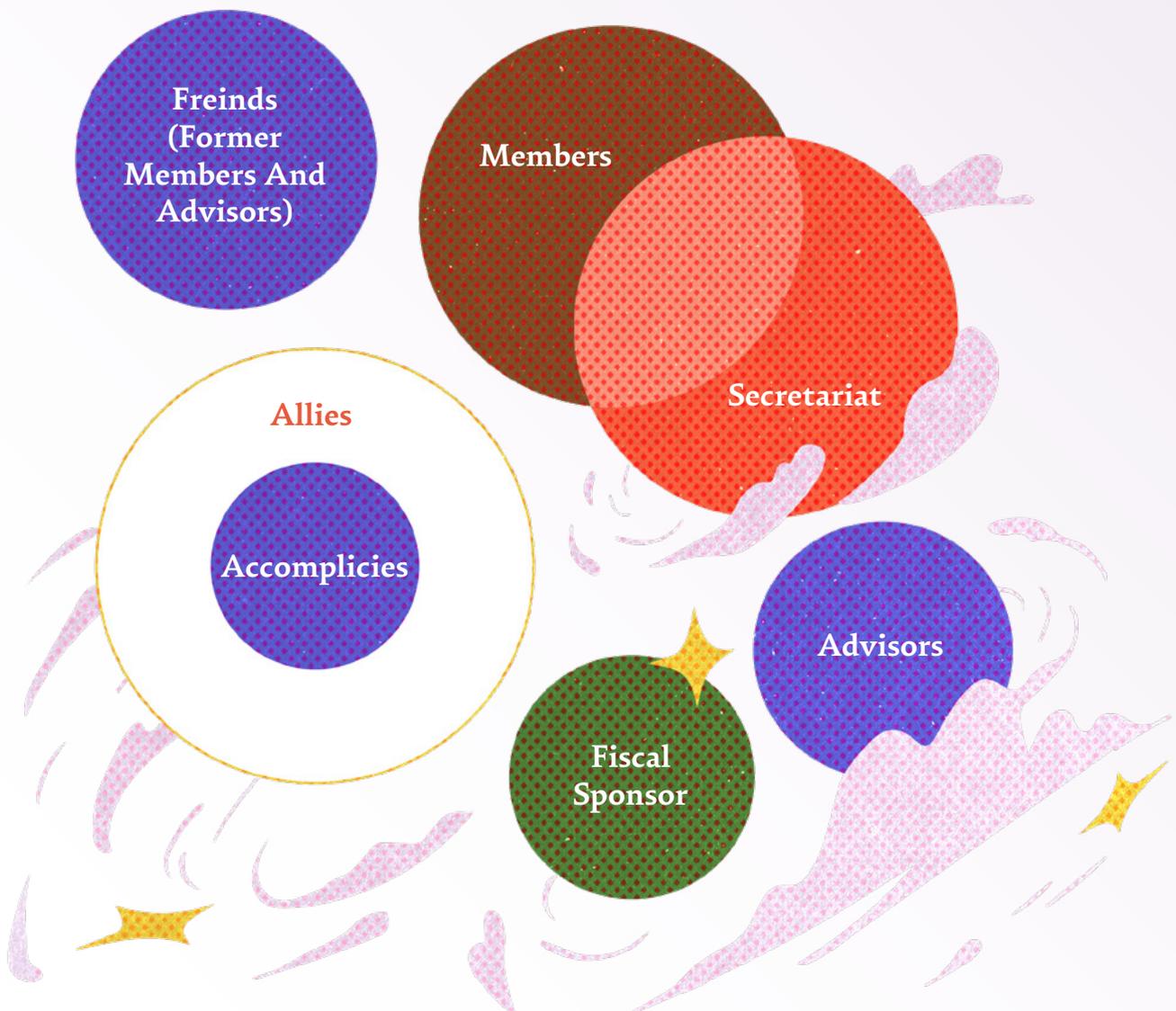
Advisors (on pause right now) - South feminists who provide guidance and act as sounding boards for the RESURJ Secretariat and members to take the work forward

Friends - Former members and advisors who continue to engage with RESURJ in varied ways

Accomplices - Feminist activists and organizations we often co-conspire with, who will speak up for/about/with us even when we are not in the room.

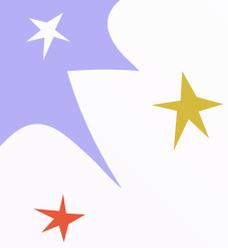
Allies - Feminist activists and organizations with shared objectives as ours
Fiscal sponsor - RESURJ is an unregistered collective with a fiscal sponsor

The RESURJ Ecosystem



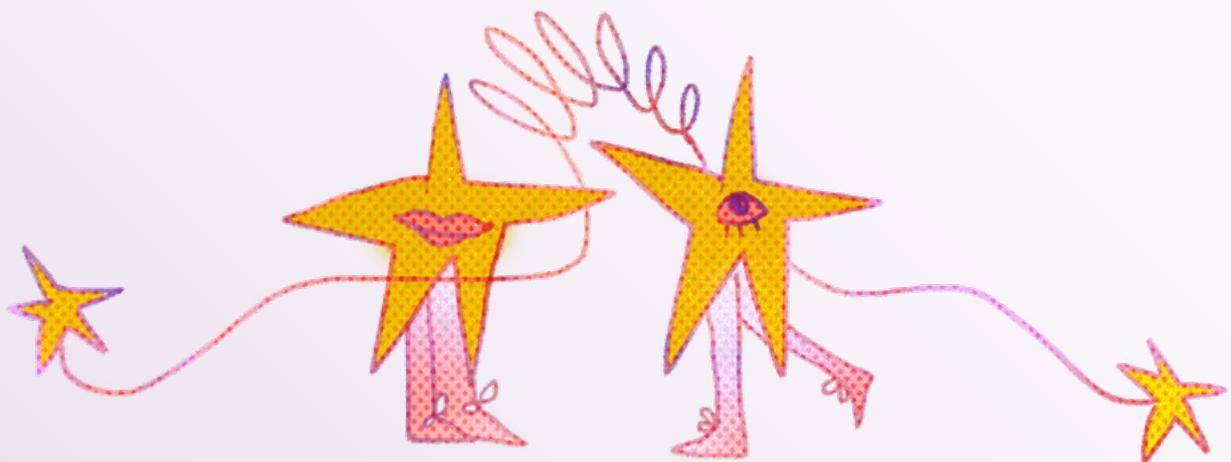


METHODOLOGY



Methodology

Over several months, a group of members and Secretariat got together and did some soul searching about what it is that meant so much to us, as a collective, in 2022 and 2023. We had many thoughts (because, of course), and we pulled out three different but connected threads that kept running through those thoughts: the power of convening, interlinkages, and collective care. Then we clustered those thoughts into three main thematic areas, ran them by the rest of the collective, and fine-tuned them. Then, we hosted a series of internal conversations in which small groups of members kept tugging at each thread to explore what was intriguing about them, what we've learnt so far, and where we want to go. A select number of members were invited to reflect on a few questions that pertain to one of the themes. The conversations were semi-structured, initiated by the guiding posts of the questions, but flowed enough that they took us to unexpected places of inquiry and collective honesty and reflexivity. We transcribed those conversations in full for our learning and documentation, and what you'll be reading are snippets of those conversations as well as any belated thoughts members wanted to add in. From there emerged the main content of this report, in addition to written reflections that were added by members.



THE POWER OF



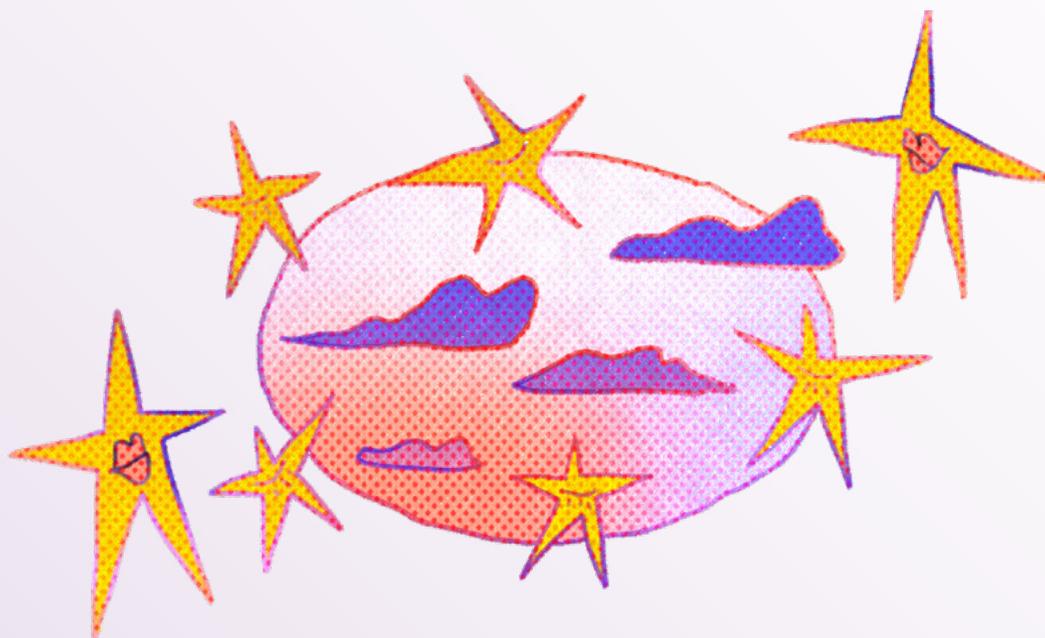
CONVENING

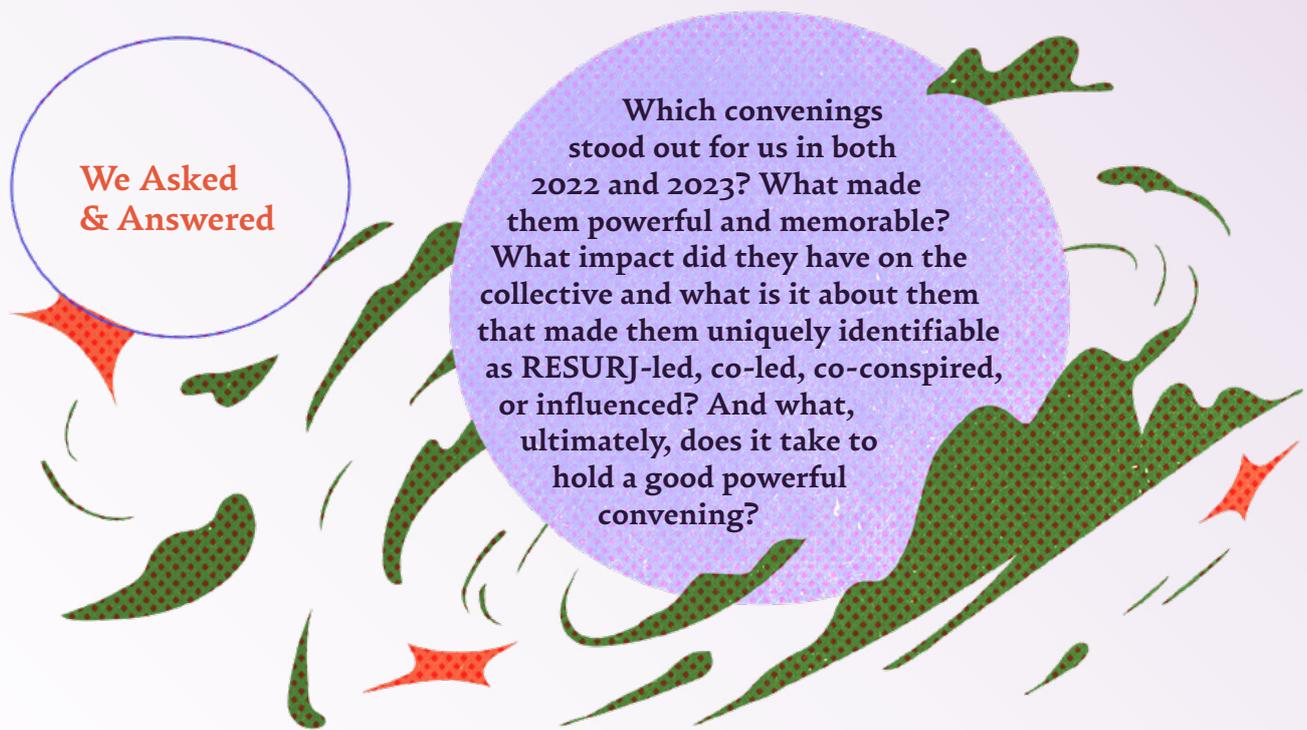




The Power of Convening

RESURJ's origin story is that the collective emerged from a convening back in 2010 when a group of young feminists from across the globe came together to develop a joint understanding of the political context and to strategize around the opportunities to advance SRHR in the lead-up to some key international policy negotiations. So it is no wonder that we know, cherish, and nurture convenings as a key strategy in how we advance sexual and reproductive justice and strengthen the leadership and solidarity of younger South feminists. In 2019, [we assessed the impact of our convenings](#) and heard from our accomplices and allies the importance of continuing to prioritize convening. We also collaborated with Purposeful on [their report on the power of transnational convenings](#). Therefore, as we reflected on our work over 2023-2022, the power of convening came up as a theme we wanted to discuss, both in terms of our convenings as well as our practice of providing mutual aid to other feminist convenings.





Some of our key convenings (internal and external) in 2022 and 2023 included:

- › Feminist Community of Care (FemCom) at CSW, CPD, ACSHR
- › Annual members' retreat: Costa Rica in 2022, Rwanda in 2023
- › Cross-regional convening with feminist activists and lawyers
- › AfriFem
- › [Feminist Faultlines](#) (A group made of Amnesty International, CREA, IWRAW Asia Pacific, RESURJ, and the Global Health Justice Partnership of the Yale Law School and Yale School of Public Health)

A few recurring themes emerged from our conversation, and in this report, we are sharing a glimpse of them.

Convening as an antidote to loneliness and isolation

There can be incredible loneliness and isolation in our lives, activism, work, and society at large, and even when we come together, this can sometimes linger. In 2022 in particular, many of our countries were just emerging from pandemic lockdowns and loosening travel restrictions,

and even as virtual spaces had helped us continue to convene and connect during the pandemic, [they had brought their own set of challenges](#). So our convenings over the last two years were about navigating the virtual and the in-person dynamics, making new connections but also being conscious of the need to reinvigorate old connections thoughtfully as we came back to advocacy and movement spaces after time apart, and through all of this, strive to grow politically together.

If there can still be loneliness and isolation even when we convene, then how do we address that as feminists? For RESURJ, it's been about intentional feminist accompaniment. We won't claim to be perfect at accompaniment or to get it right each time, but it remains a muscle we continue to develop and strengthen.

*I would like us to reflect on the intention that we put into our convenings. Our accompaniment is a powerful thing, especially for younger feminists. Because even if younger feminists get sponsorship to go to convenings, some will go to spaces and not know how to navigate, or how to bring back the conversations they had back home. Some will be lost. So I think about the intention behind our convenings and how we want to make sure that younger feminists are accompanied and how we're providing a safe space. I don't think everyone is doing that. - **Umba Zalira, Malawi***



Feminist Community of Care (FemCom, formerly known as The Space), which we co-convene with DIVA for Equality from Fiji, is a space through which we try to practice this confluence of convening and accompaniment. In 2022 and 2023, we convened [FemCom at the 66th \(virtual\)](#) and [67th](#) (in-person in New York City) sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), [56th session of the Commission on Population and Development \(CPD\)](#), [the Africa Conference on Sexual Health and Rights \(ACSHR\) in Sierra Leone](#), anywhere else? The idea of FemCom is to create supportive spaces for collective organizing, learning, deepening of analysis, solidarity practice, centering collective care and pleasure for South feminists, including newcomers to spaces. We've learnt that when you have a flagship convening (we've been doing FemComs since 2016), it can be easy to become complacent or fall into prescriptive models of organizing that are not always responsive or intuitive.

It felt priceless that in CSW67, a space that was so overwhelming for me as a first timer, RESURJ was there to do real accompaniment, you know, the kind where if something went wrong, if I met some people or was in a event and I didn't know what was going on, what it was that I was missing, I had a group of people to turn to for support. But it was the retreat that made me realize the stakes of being in a collective. I got to experience what it means to be part of something, cooking something with others, instead of just participating in a space and going home to the pile of work I had. - **Samia Habli, Lebanon**



Humbleness as a key ingredient of feminist convening

To continue Samia's metaphor of convening as cooking together, we reflected that humbleness is a key ingredient of feminist convening. Meaning we can, of course, take great pleasure, enjoyment, and satisfaction in pulling off a convening, but to always make and maintain space to ask questions about what we can do better or differently. And a huge part of such humility is to design convenings that anyone can join from wherever they are in their feminist journey, and to not be afraid to be fully ourselves, in the multitudes we carry. There is a lot of conditioning – whether within social movements or from donors or capitalist logic – to create simplified cost-benefit algorithms about convenings along the lines of convening only issue/domain experts to be more efficient, to convene with the expectation of convenings always culminating in an “output” or a partnership (in fact often a condition of funding), to look at malleability and nimbleness as hindrances rather than strengths in convening, etc. Humbleness is a way to resist such conditioning and co-create convenings that are based on feminist principles and politics. And a way to make space for conversations around political issues we're curious about, even if we don't fully understand them or have fully developed language for them.

FemCom is the one space that is very comfortable for me to bring myself with all the knowledge gaps that I have, which, sometimes, I can feel uncomfortable bringing to other spaces. Climate justice is not one that I'm very polished in, and I needed the kind of accompaniment that the virtual sessions brought to the table. So, for me, just being in a space where we're all trying to grapple with questions and not assume where people are at, but starting from the ground up, was very helpful. - **Sibusiso Malunga, Zambia**



Convening as a way to co-create and exchange knowledge and political analysis, and ask the philosophical questions!

Convening, particularly when we do so in person, can be a way to be fully present and get a deeper, offline understanding of the local, regional, and other specificities of our contexts. As a collective that mostly works remotely, we cherish our annual members' retreat as a space to not just rest and recharge but also to learn from and with each other and gain nuanced insights into the complex contexts we are embedded in and the issues we're passionate about whether it is abortion, digital rights, environmental rights, population dynamics, education, etc. The retreats are a space co-created by members, and the time we spend together — not just making work plans and mapping our contexts but also making art, dancing, swimming, getting into scrapes, and making inside jokes — is so critical to building authentic connections and intimacies that stay with us when we organize and work together remotely.

The retreats have been a space for me to grow politically a lot. To hear, not just about what other members are doing back home and in their work, but also to be in a space where it's possible to just say either that you don't know something or that you're too shy to approach a certain issue, and find other members showing you the different ways you could be part of it, even if you don't necessarily feel like you have a good hang of what the right political position is, or why we would, for example, partner with those folks and not others. - **Nana Abuelsoud, Egypt**



In 2022, we convened a [cross-regional dialogue among feminist activists and feminist lawyers](#), with a particular focus on how we're grappling with criminal justice and criminalization in our contexts and building on the critical analysis of the limitations of criminal justice as a response to rights violations. While the group had political alignment in as much we were all questioning the effectiveness of criminal justice, we were coming from contexts that were distinct from each other in Asia, Africa, Latin America and SWANA, and with various entry points to the conversation whether through SRHR, economic justice, HIV/AIDS, LGBTIQ rights, militarization, civil and political rights, human rights and treaty bodies system, etc. It was an intergenerational group, and some of us were activists, some of us lawyers, and some of us both. In preparation for this report, we reflected on how the cross-regional dialogue managed to be a good balance of being grounded in our experiences and contexts while also asking the philosophical questions and abstractions that we might be hesitant to raise. And while the convening didn't culminate in a manifesto or a declaration or a formal partnership (none of which were intentions we had for the space in the first place), we used the space [to document transnational conversations](#) as well as creating and renewing allyships that have some of us inviting each other to more spaces, creating knowledge together, doing advocacy together, etc. In other words, the building blocks of (cross) movement building.



Supporting younger South feminists to convene

If you've been with us so far in this chapter, you know we're highly enthusiastic about the potential of convening as a feminist strategy. We're also highly aware of how challenging it is for feminists to resource convenings, even though there is so much appetite and enthusiasm to convene. Funding mechanisms often force convenings into prescriptive, stiff affairs and kill the vibrancy that could have been. To this end, we

try to use our mutual aid initiative to support younger South feminists to convene on their own terms. Some examples from 2022 and 2023 include supporting feminists from Lusophone countries in Africa and Latin America to convene virtually and organize around shared struggles, supporting feminists based in Tunisia to co-create a series of in-person convenings to deepen indigenous feminist knowledge on SRJ and co-create spaces for collective care and joy, supporting queer feminists from the North and the East of Sri Lanka to convene and build context specific knowledge on gender and sexuality, and supporting an LBQ feminist convening in Southern Africa.

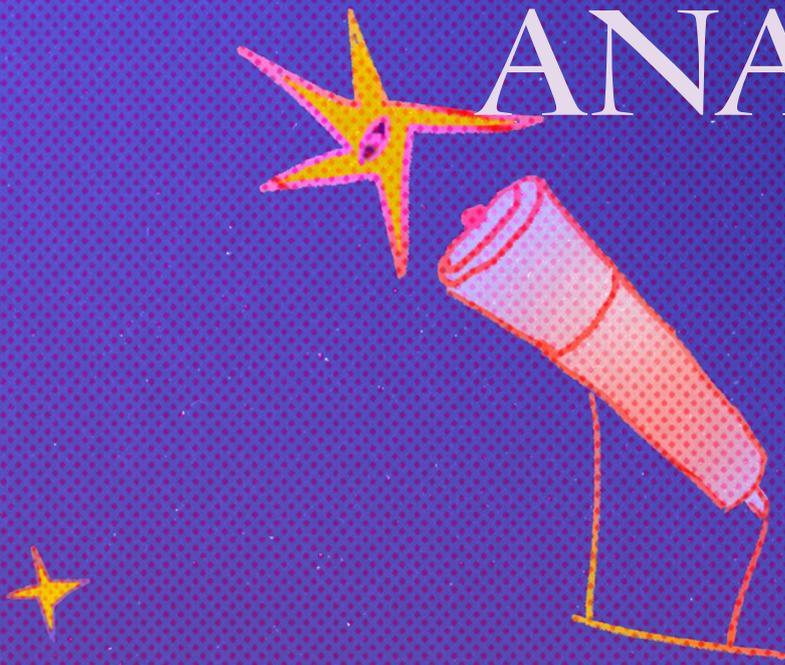
In 2023, we invited a group of younger African feminists who were attending the Women Deliver conference to join us at AfriFem, a one-day convening co-convened by RESURJ, Rwanda Feminists Platform (RWAFFEMs), [Tanga Community](#), and Hope for Single Mothers with Disabilities. Part of our intention was to create a space for young African feminists to find and make connections so that they have support and accompaniment going into an overwhelming global conference. Another intention was to acknowledge that the conference remained inaccessible for many Rwandan feminists, given the prohibitive costs, and to create a space for them to connect with African feminists who were coming to Rwanda, to practice solidarity, hold contextualized conversations on African Feminists organizing and activism, and remind each other of our regional feminist organizing histories.

For AfriFem, what stood out to me was younger feminists from the continent just discussing different issues. It was also good to see the enthusiasm and the hunger for such spaces from the different people who were brought to the convening. So I think for me, what stood out more than anything was the need for such spaces and how we can continue to create them. I was more than happy to see how people wanted to continue to engage with the space and move it forward. - Sibusiso Malunga, Zambia



We're also intentional about ensuring that our cohorts in various advocacy and movement spaces include accomplices and allies — particularly those who might be underrepresented in such spaces — who are supported and accompanied by us and collaborate with us, share space and leadership, and call us in when we fall short.

DEEPENING OUR ANALYSIS:

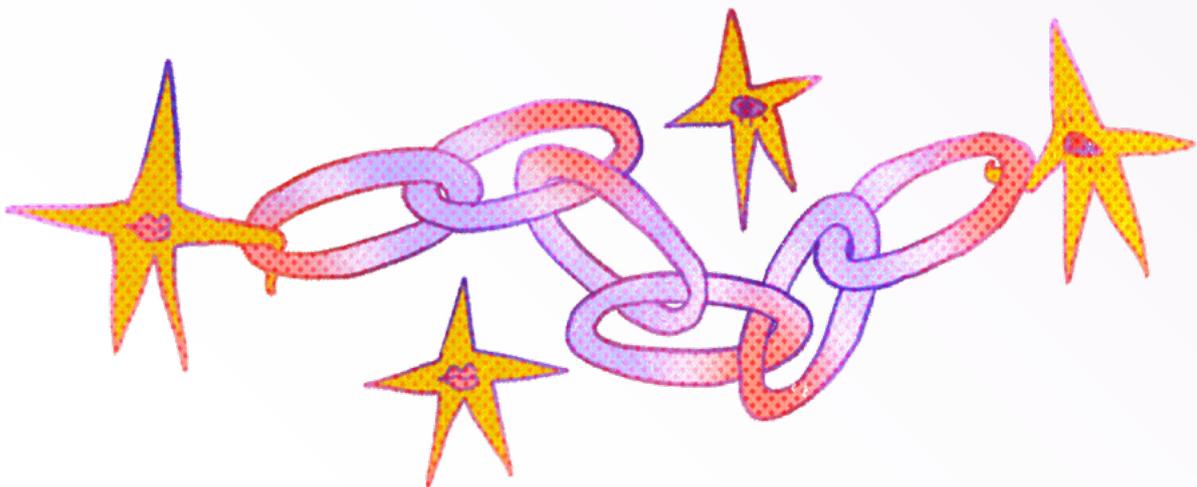


INTERLINKAGES
& THOUGHT
LEADERSHIP



Deepening Our Analysis: Interlinkages & Thought Leadership

As our name denotes, RESURJ, from our formation, has had a political and grounded “justice approach” to sexual and reproductive rights. This approach recognizes that human rights cannot be achieved, accessed, and enjoyed in a vacuum, and are intrinsically interlinked to structural inequalities and injustices, whether social, economic, environmental, or climate-related. This approach also enables us to question the effectiveness of criminal justice and punishment as responses to violations of sexual and reproductive rights and nudge us towards reimagining feminist conceptions of justice and accountability. Deepening our analysis through a justice approach has meant sitting with our discomforts and stretching outside of our comfort zones. It has also meant the joy and privilege of (un)learning together, breaking and making pedagogies for how to have these conversations, and building evidence, such as our flagship storytelling initiative, [Our Lived Realities](#), our flagship publication [Reflections on Our Countries](#), and our [Beyond Criminalization](#) thought leadership work.





**We Asked
& Answered**

How were each of us involved in interlinkages and thought leadership work in RESURJ in 2022 and 2023? Were there any AHA moments? Or frustrations? What learnings can we share with feminists who are starting to adopt an interlinkages approach in their work?

Some highlights from our interlinkages and thought leadership work in 2022 and 2023 included:

- › Special Edition of Reflections on Our Countries on [The IMF and Our Bodies](#)
- › [Feminist Community of Care](#) on interlinkages around climate change and gender equality
- › [South Feminist Dispatches](#) from the 66th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women
- › #16DaysOfActivism edition of Reflections on Our Countries on [Responding to Gender-based Violence Beyond Criminalization](#)

A few recurring themes emerged from our conversation, and in this report, we are sharing a glimpse of them.

Analysis as something living, breathing, continuing, and collaborative

As younger South feminists trying to break out of development and human rights frameworks and framings that oversimplify and silo the complex contexts we are from and the complex issues we grapple with, building our own analysis has remained a central and ongoing political project for RESURJ. We discussed that when it comes to building our

analysis, the process is as important as the substance, and that these are intertwined. Our members come into the collective while embedded in various movements, communities, and issue areas, and that is what is exciting about building our analysis collaboratively by sharing what we know, connecting dots, and where dots don't connect, presenting specificities and complexities without feeling pressure to homogenize.

*Environmental justice. For me, I am very motivated because of my own background. Very exciting to bring that to Resurj. SRJ's knowledge in the environmental space is crucial. A lot of work for us in those spaces is just explaining simple things to people. Push further to understand which role we can have there. Addressing issues for those who are already there. Not being in the center. - **Laura Valenciano, Costa Rica***



We also acknowledged that our analysis must be dynamic and reflective of our changing contexts. For example, with COVID19-, we saw a rapid increase in securitization and militarization in some of our countries and regions, faster internet penetration, a normalizing of disease surveillance, tightening of borders, etc. And so the way we build our analysis also needs to be iterative, continuously being informed by changing contexts. As a collective that engages in multilateral and intergovernmental spaces, we also discussed how the logics of those spaces sometimes overly influence our analysis. With our Beyond Criminalization work, even as we try to build and present a Global South analysis, it is important to acknowledge and learn from how criminal justice is experienced and perceived in widely disparate ways in our different regions.

*Reflecting on 2022 and 2023, in different spaces, we can see the visions about the criminal system in different contexts. Especially SWANA. For them, there is either militarization or no safety. - **Inas Miloud, Libya***



Importance of deep and intentional learning and reflection

We took time to reflect on the trajectory of our work around interlinkages and Beyond Criminalization in 2022 and 2023. Several members observed that while there was welcome recognition in this period of the analysis we had built as RESURJ as well as in collaboration with our accomplices and allies — on a range of topics including Covid19- and criminalization, vaccine justice, criminalization of adolescent sexuality, economic justice dimensions of female genital mutilation, etc. — that this recognition mostly came in the form of invitations to spaces and speaking engagements. While this is exciting and we represented and made visible RESURJ in various advocacy and movement spaces, this also meant a plateauing of our analysis with little time and space for deep discussions, learning, and reflection.

We are busy engaging and not taking the chance to take advantage of our own background. Just sharing personal experiences and thoughts. I remember this document about how governments were regulating COVID, and it was a brilliant idea. We can create collectively and share knowledge and wisdom. I will love to work on this. Speak with more evidence. - Dana Zhang, Taiwan



The lack of time and space for deep (un)learning leads to underdeveloped analysis or static analysis that is no longer responsive to changing contexts. We briefly discussed how the interlinkages between climate change and sexual and reproductive justice are still not explored enough in the various advocacy and movement spaces we find ourselves in. During the 66th Commission on the Status of Women in 2022 where the priority theme was on climate change, environment and disasters, [we observed that the advocacy messages that emerged from the Women's Rights Caucus had potential to go deeper](#). Even in terms of context mapping, there were struggles and tensions as advocates realized that member states who are usually considered champions of gender equality and SRHR were no longer our allies when it came to climate change, and that the usual strategies and alliances were not useful in exploring and advocating for this interlinkage. We observed that the analysis and leadership of our long-term accomplice DIVA for Equality from Fiji was

indispensable in this moment and that there's more RESURJ can do in solidarity, as well as learning from those who are building their analysis from the frontlines of climate change.

How we deepened our analysis in 2022 and 2023

The first edition of 2023 of our flagship publication, Reflections on Our Countries, was focused on [The IMF and Our Bodies](#), with members and allies making contributions to bring in ideas and analysis of bodily autonomy and freedoms to economic (in)justice. It was followed by a conversation between the contributors from Egypt, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. The edition was widely received, and we got positive feedback on the importance of the interlinkage explored, the need for more South feminist voices in this conversation, and recommendations to submit the edition to influence UN Special Procedures. We've also seen some of the pieces get cited in other feminist publications. Towards the end of 2023, we also published a special edition of our flagship publication, Reflections on Our Countries, that was released in conjunction with the 16 Days of Activism in 2023 and focused on [“Responding to Gender-based Violence Beyond Criminalization”](#). We received contributions from members and allies from Malawi, Kenya, India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Costa Rica, Egypt, and Malaysia that examined various facets of GBV and criminal justice, including community led strategies, role of the state in providing comprehensive care to survivors, protectionism and punitivism, criminal justice and online gender-based violence, etc.

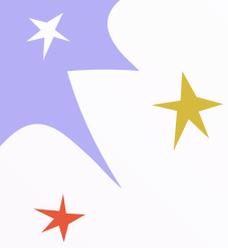


We also continued work on a glossary of terms and phrases related to sexual and reproductive justice (SRJ) that we use in RESURJ. One of

the intentions is to familiarize RESURJ's community of friends, allies, and accomplices with how we use certain words and why we prefer certain wording over others, and how these change from one region to another, and over time. This is important in terms of language justice, decolonising and feminist archiving, but also to draw clear political positioning and distinctions in how we use certain terms, including SRJ, that are becoming more commonly used in our movements and sometimes interchangeably without clear intentions or politics behind them. Our members from Costa Rica and Nepal attended RightsCon in Costa Rica in 2023, where our member from Nepal spoke about how digital rights advocates and abortion rights advocates need to come together, given the political climate around safe abortion globally. They also used the opportunity to conduct some capacity strengthening for [our member's organization](#) on risk assessment and developing strategies for holistic security. They explored the intersections between SRJ and technology and the digital space, specifically within limiting contexts regarding abortion access. Our members brought forward big tech's responsibility to hold itself accountable instead of the proposed conversations on the role played by activists in keeping it in check.

COLLECTIVE CARE





Collective Care

Over the years, we have seen conceptions, practices, and integration of care in RESURJ evolve, as individuals and as a collective. What are/were informal practices of collective care have become core strategies in how we move in the world, have been translated into policies, are being resourced, and are being understood through our structural framework of sexual and reproductive justice. In the larger feminist ecosystem RESURJ belongs to, we have seen an uptake in how collective care is raised, used, and politicized. Even as we appreciate and reap the benefits of these developments within and without RESURJ, we also remain aware of how collective care can get co-opted and stripped of its political and structural meanings.



**We Asked
& Answered**

What does collective care mean to us, in our own words, experience and contexts? How has RESURJ practiced collective care in 2022 and 2023? Where have we done well and where do we fall short or can do better? How does trust, mutual accountability and financial resources interact with how we understand and practice collective care?

Some experiences around collective care in 2022 and 2023 included:

- › Recurring spaces like the annual retreat, the Feminist Community of Care, Recurring spaces like the annual retreat
- › Expanding the RESURJ Secretariat to be fit for purpose and workload
- › Mutual aid

For me, collective care is about rebuilding the community and rebuilding the social fabric, and in this case, it's also about how it works in a collective or in a place of work. How do we take care of each other? - Oriana Lopez, Mexico



Even as we have political clarity on the injustices of neoliberal capitalism and the importance of resisting and dismantling it as part of our liberatory politics, we are also aware of how capitalist logic influences and dictates our day-to-day, both as external forces and also as internalized. It shows up in our minds, bodies, communities, and yes, even our feminist collectives and ecosystems. Our discussions on how we've practiced collective care in these two years spanned from our different constructions of what we mean by collective care, our discomforts at the commodification of self care or self care practices designed around capitalist logic while also having compassion for ourselves for the comfort some of those may bring us, and how we can navigate the ways we practice care individually and together so that we still remain accountable to each other and to our collective. In other words, we discussed what it means to acknowledge and incorporate — often imperfectly — both the deeply personal and deeply structural dimensions of collective care in our practices, policies, strategies, and how we want to move in the world as a collective.

Taking care of myself should not mean that I do not acknowledge other people's hardship because I don't show up or because I drop things. It should mean that we have collectively decided on effective communication, strategies, and mechanisms so that we avoid getting to that place in the first place. - Laura Valenciano, Costa Rica



We had a critical conversation on how, in RESURJ, we have tried to do this. A few examples emerged. We talked about the history of how our **Feminist Community of Care (FemCom)**, along with DIVA for Equality, came about. As feminists who were deeply involved in UN-based advocacy while also exhausted by its pace, knowledge, and decision-making hegemonies, technicalities, bureaucracy, etc., we wanted to create a community that would be a respite. A space in which we could escape UN jargon and speak about our issues in complex and multifaceted ways as we do on the ground, try to overcome the information gatekeeping of these spaces, slow down and decompress, and build a shared political analysis that keeps us grounded when we're back inside the UN. We talked about the **expansion of the RESURJ Secretariat**, which happened in this period, which was a recognition that even as we want to remain a lean collective, we still needed a Secretariat that was fit for purpose in supporting members to implement the work of the collective effectively. The Secretariat has evolved from a -3person team of Executive Coordinator, Operations Coordinator, and Communications Officer to a -4person team of Executive Coordinator, Programs and Advocacy Coordinator, Finance and Operations Coordinator, and Campaigns and Communications Coordinator. While restructuring roles may come with their own growing pains for the Secretariat and the collective, it has also created space to experiment and for some Secretariat members to switch between part-time and full-time, with others stepping in and stepping out to support.



We also looked at **our mutual accountability practices in RESURJ** and agreed that even as these practices constitute collective care for us, they may not always be centered in care. Several members reflected on the -360degree assessment, in which all members can give and receive feedback from all members. We agreed the intentions of the practice are commendable and aligned with how we want to stay accountable to each other in the collective, but that we should be intentional in when it is needed and when we may need a different practice.

*We still need to have spaces where we can tell things to each other, because on a day-to-day basis, things are so busy and hectic, and we don't always get the time to do that. But also something I took when I came back (home from the retreat) and tried to do that (360) with my team, is that I really felt the difference when you get to know the people you are organizing or building something with. The more we get to know each other as people, the more we appreciate working with each other. The more we appreciate or see the person as a whole being, in their flaws, their quirks, what strength they have, and what they bring to the table. - **Samia Habli, Lebanon***



COMMUNICATIONS REPORT OF



2023 and 2022





Communications Report of 2022 and 2023

Key communications stats from 2022 and 2023

Platform	2022	2023
Total website views	34K	65K
Twitter followers	5747 (5281 in 2021)	6062 (5.5% increase)
Instagram followers	1783 (1559 in 2021)	2054 (15.5% increase)
Number of newsletter subscribers	524	762
Top performing newsletter	South Feminist Dispatches from CSW 66 and COP27	RESURJ Dispatch from Women Deliver 2023

2022 highlights

The cross-regional dialogues video series

As part of our commitment to documenting and amplifying the richness of this dialogue, which we've mentioned above, we [produced four recorded video](#) outputs that captured key conversations from the convening in Costa Rica. These videos offered a glimpse into the diversity of experiences, critical reflections, and political questions raised by allies and friends across regions and movements. Rather than serve as definitive answers or conclusions, the recordings reflect an ongoing, nuanced engagement with criminalization and justice from a feminist lens. They have since become a resource for continued reflection and dialogue, and a tool that we fall back on for building collective knowledge across movements and regions.

Injusta Justicia Discussion Guide

As part of our broader engagement with feminist critiques of criminalization, we contributed to the [Injusta Justicia](#) illustrated discussion guide, developed in collaboration with [Vecinas Feministas](#) and [Balance AC](#). The guide invites critical reflection on the use of criminal justice systems in response to violations of sexual and reproductive rights, particularly those affecting adolescents. It challenges punitive approaches that often reinforce state control over young people's bodies and instead encourages dialogue on community-based, transformative justice strategies. Designed as a tool for feminist activists, educators, and policymakers, the guide supports cross-movement conversations on building feminist alternatives to criminal justice that center care, accountability, and the lived experiences of those most impacted. Since then, we have been working on translating the guide from Spanish to English for our internal use and are continuing to assess its relevance and usability through cross-regional convenings and transnational platforms.

Reflections on Our Countries

In 2022, we [published](#) 18 entries for our flagship publication, Reflections on Our Countries, across themes of bodily autonomy and the right to choose, disembodiment and hyperembodiment, as well as feminist movement building in times of crisis.

2023 highlights

Reigniting Strategic Communications Inside the Collective

In 2023, we took a bold step to strengthen our external communications and advocacy efforts by creating the position of Campaigns and Communications Coordinator within the RESURJ Secretariat. This role was filled by a young feminist/communications specialist from Egypt, bringing a creative background and a fresh perspective to the team. This decision was key to ensuring that our communications were in alignment with our ongoing advocacy work, while also providing a platform to amplify the incredible initiatives our members are leading. In parallel, we revitalized the Communications Task Team, empowering members to take ownership of our communications and deepen our collective approach.

Themed Reflections and the Postscript

2023 marked a standout year for our Reflections editions. We kicked things off with the highly acclaimed [IMF and Our Bodies edition](#), which resonated deeply within feminist circles, gaining significant recognition. This was followed by our first-ever Reflections on Our Countries: [The Postscript](#), a live event series which aims to further expand on key entries from each edition by inviting contributors to delve deeper into their pieces and make the cross-connections visible. A [general edition](#) and an additional edition focused on responding to [gender-based violence](#) beyond criminalization followed suit. However, due to the tragic genocide in Palestine, we decided to postpone a Postscript on the last issue to 2024.

Women Deliver

Our presence at Women Deliver in Rwanda was a major highlight of the year. Thanks to the generous support of Open Society Foundations, we were provided with a booth space, where we curated a vibrant space that reflected our values and creative, laid-back spirit. The booth was a successful touchpoint for sharing our work and engaging with like-minded feminists, who loved to stop by and rest, chill, talk, and exchange knowledge. One of the most impactful takeaways from our experience was the [newsletter](#) we sent out after the forum, which reflected on what we loved, what could have been improved, and what needs urgent attention from the forum conveners. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive, signaling the importance of continuous reflection and feedback loops within and across our movements.

March 28 Campaign to End Abortion Stigma

2023 was also the year of preparation for a major milestone in our collaborative work with allies: the [launch of the March 28 campaign](#) to end abortion stigma, which launched in 2024. We were thrilled to be invited to co-convene this powerful campaign with Inroads and dozens of other feminist organizations.

Data4Change Mentorship for Comms

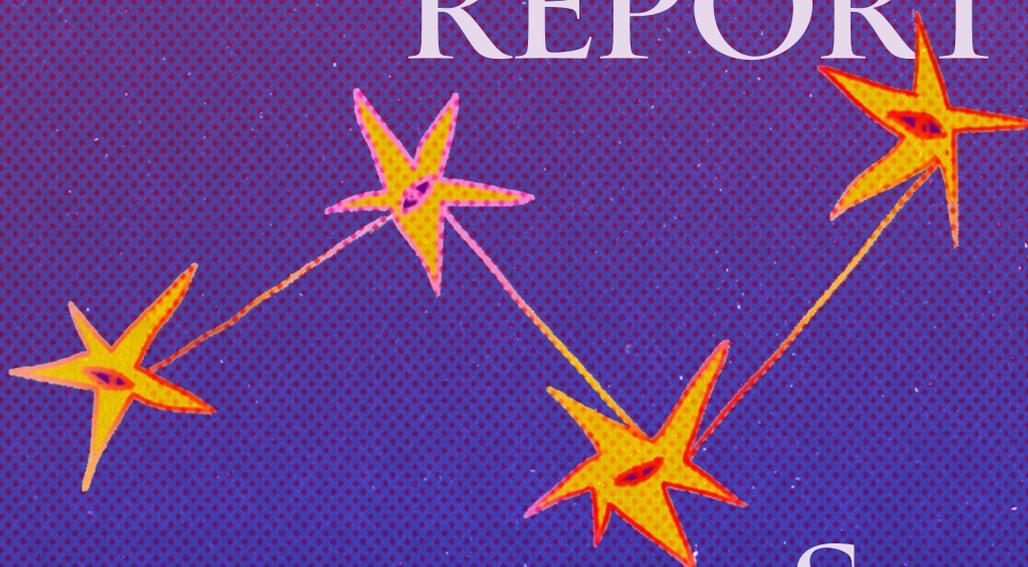
Finally, we were excited to be selected for the Data4Change mentorship for communications, which was an incredible opportunity to refine our strategic approach to data-driven advocacy. This mentorship supported

us in identifying our target audience for external communications and starting deeper conversations within the collective about how to (and not to) engage them. Overall, we feel that the past two years have been full of experimentation, learning, and growth. It was a period of having fun, testing out new ideas, and reflecting deeply on our work while engaging our audience more, whether through newsletter dispatches, video dialogues, IG Lives for the Postscript, or on-site engagement at forums. It also marked a strategic realignment in how we communicate both internally and externally, refining our voice and amplifying the work of our members. These shifts have been foundational in ensuring we continue to evolve and remain true to our collective values while adapting to the changing landscape of transnational advocacy work.





FINANCIAL
REPORT OF



2022 & 2023



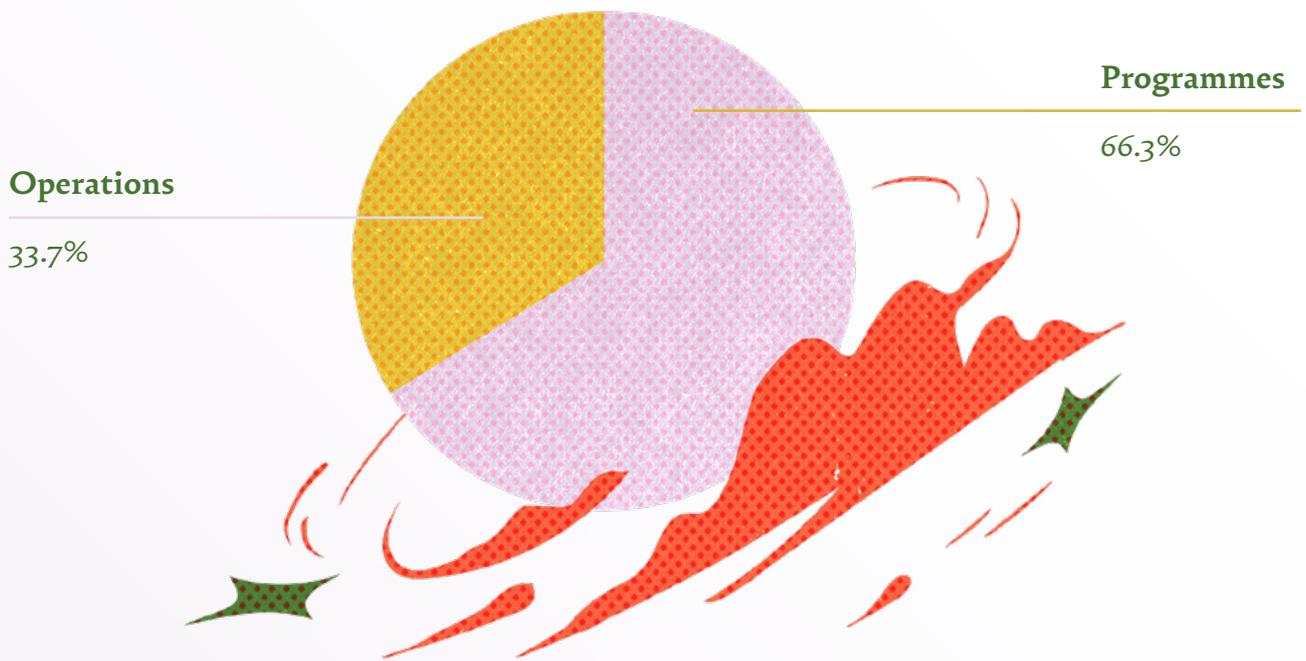
Financial Report of 2022 and 2023

Our funders for 2022 and 2023 included the Wellspring Philanthropic Foundation, Ford Foundation, Foundation for a Just Society, Open Society Foundations, and Channel Foundation (only until 2022).

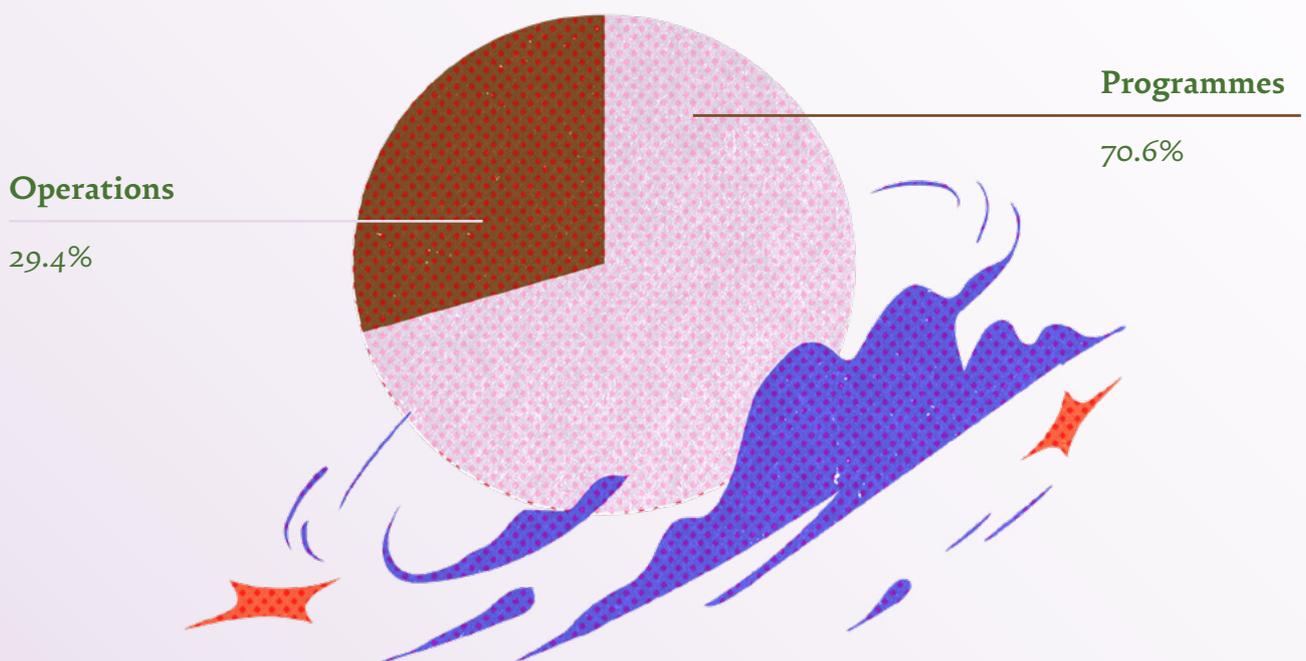
2022	Amount (USD)
Programmes	437,776.63
Operations	222,189.43
Total expenditure	659,966.06

2023	Amount (USD)
Programmes	397,109.52
Operations	165,545.13
Total expenditure	562,654.65

2022



2023





ANNEX



Annex

Members list from 2022

Oriana López Uribe (*Mexico*)

Chantal Umuhoza (*Rwanda*)

Viva Tatawaqa (*Fiji*)

Sachini Perera (*Sri Lanka*)

Umba Zalira (*Malawi*)

Nana Abuelsoud (*Egypt*)

Madiha Latif (*Pakistan*)

Mirta Moragas (*Paraguay*)

Inas Miloud (*Libya*)

Dana Zhang (*Taiwan*)

Sibusiso Malunga (*Zambia*)

Shubha Kayastha (*Nepal*)

Laura Valenciano (*Costa Rica*)

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Mirta Moragas (*Paraguay*)

Inas Miloud (*Libya*)

Dana Zhang (*Taiwan*)

Sibusiso Malunga (*Zambia*)

Shubha Kayastha (*Nepal*)

Laura Valenciano (*Costa Rica*)

Samia Habli (*Lebanon*)

Mangia Macuacua (*Mozambique*)

Secretariat 2022

Sachini Perera

Nana Abuelsoud

Sibusiso Malunga

Suman Saurav

Bruna David

Secretariat 2023

Sachini Perera

Nana Abuelsoud

Bruna David

Laura Valenciano

Alya El Marakby



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