



## Global Network of Sex Work Projects

Promoting Health and Human Rights



annual report **2014**



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# Message from Pye Jakobsson

## NSWP Board President

Looking back at last year, many important things have been achieved. But I think we all know that there is much more that must be done. We are often told that real change takes time and that we should be patient. When we fail to be thankful and wait in silence we are sometimes seen as difficult or unreasonable. The truth is that it is hard to feel patient when our voices so often are disqualified, ignored or silenced.

Being an activist often makes me feel like when I was bullied in elementary school. No matter how I dressed, talked, cut my hair, or behaved, nothing could make it stop. It wasn't about me, it was about what they had decided was true about me. Reality had nothing to do with it. Nor did they care how they made me feel. Nowadays the attacks come from 'abolitionists', but the feeling is the same. They don't care about how it affects us, as long as it makes them feel powerful. They won't stop – their power relies on us being powerless. So we seldom have the time to celebrate what we have accomplished; we are far too busy protecting the few rights we have.

As challenging as it is, we always have each other. I feel incredibly lucky to be part of such a fierce movement that makes me believe anything is possible. Over the last year I have met so many

activists, and each and every one have enriched my life and impressed me endlessly. I have been equally impressed with NSWPs' dedicated and competent staff. But eventually I find myself returning to Sweden, and to my own reality, where my voice is disqualified and my choices are deemed unimportant. I must admit that I often cry on my way home from the airport. I cry because I feel isolated and vulnerable. Just like when I was bullied, I feel powerless, as they have stolen my right to self-determination. I cry because sex workers die from loneliness in a country that pretends to care about us, when they so obviously don't. Unfortunately that is true for most countries.

If they really cared they would talk with us, listen to what we have to say. Then they might learn that stigma, discrimination, and criminalisation are the number one killers of sex workers. Abolish that. They would also learn that sex workers are growing increasingly angry with the lack of respect for our human rights. Maybe it's true that good things come to those who wait. And I guess we could be patient if we had the time. The truth is that we don't; our lives are happening right now.



IMAGE © ORLANDO G BOSTRÖM

# About NSWP

The Global Network of Sex Work Projects (NSWP) is a membership organisation. NSWP members are sex worker-led organisations and networks, committed to amplifying the voices of sex workers from across the five NSWP regions: Africa, Asia Pacific, Europe – including Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Latin America, and North America and Caribbean. The Global Network of Sex Work Projects exists to uphold the voice of sex workers globally and connect regional networks advocating for the rights of female, male and transgender sex workers. It advocates for rights-based health and social services, freedom from abuse and discrimination, and self-determination for sex workers. Our organisational culture and rules ensure that we are led by sex workers and that sex workers are meaningfully involved at all levels within NSWP.

To become a member of NSWP sex worker-led organisations must endorse the **NSWP Consensus Statement** and core values:

- Acceptance of sex work as work
  - Opposition to all forms of criminalisation and other legal oppression of sex work (including sex workers, clients, third parties\*, families, partners and friends)
  - Supporting self-organisation and self-determination of sex workers
- \* The term ‘third parties’ includes managers, brothel keepers, receptionists, maids, drivers, landlords, hotels who rent rooms to sex workers and anyone else who is seen as facilitating sex work.

Member organisations are from diverse cultures and they have different backgrounds and organisational histories. Some provide services, some focus on advocacy, some on mobilising to reduce vulnerability and address human rights issues that affect the health and well-being of sex workers. Some member organisations work with all genders and some with only female, male or transgender sex workers. A number of member organisations work with the children of sex workers.

## NSWP GLOBAL ADVOCACY THEMES:

- Advocate for universal access to health services for female, male and transgender sex workers, including primary health care, HIV and sexual and reproductive health services;
- Oppose human rights abuses, including coercive programming, mandatory testing, raids and forced rehabilitation;
- Challenge stigma and discrimination against sex workers, their families and partners, and others involved in commercial sex;
- Oppose the criminalisation and other legal oppression of sex work and support its recognition as work;
- Speak out about violence against sex workers, including violence from police, institutions, clients, and intimate partners, while debunking the myth that sex work is inherently violence against women;
- Critique the trafficking paradigm that conflates representations of sex work, migration, and mobility; and
- Advocate for the economic empowerment and social inclusion of sex workers as workers.

# 2014 Board Members

All Board members are sex workers, and one board member is openly living with HIV.

**PRESIDENT:** Pye Jakobsson (Rose Alliance, Sweden) elected January 2014

**AFRICA:** Aimee Furaha (AHUSADEC, Democratic Republic of Congo) and John Mathenge (HOYMAS, Kenya) re-nominated October 2014

**ASIA PACIFIC:** Fatimah Abdullah, (APSNW, Malaysia) and Kaythi Win (APNSW, Myanmar) – re-nominated October 2014

**EUROPE:** Borce Bozhinov (Star-Star, Macedonia), Christine (STRASS, France) nominated September 2014

**LATIN AMERICA:** Karina Bravo (Asociación Flor de Azale, Ecuador) and Miguel Angel Saurin Romero (Asociación Civil Cambio y Acción, Perú) elected October 2014

**NORTH AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN:** Quincy McEwan (Guyana Sex Work Coalition, Guyana) nominated October 2014 and Serpent Libertine (Sex Workers Outreach Project-Chicago, USA) nominated October 2014

NSWP also wishes to thank the following Board members who stood down during 2014:

► **EUROPE:** Morgane Merteuil (STRASS)

► **NORTH AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN:** Elya Durisin (Maggie's, Canada) and Cracey Fernandes (Guyana Sex Work Coalition, Guyana)

► **LATIN AMERICA:** Alejandra Gil (APROASE, Mexico)





# The View From 2014

2014 was an exciting year for NSWP that presented many opportunities as well as challenges to sex workers' organising globally. However, with funding secured, NSWP continued to strengthen the capacity of sex worker-led networks and organisations to advocate for their human and labour rights. NSWP and our members participated in international and national dialogues and spaces, to promote rights and evidence-based policies and programmes affecting sex workers.

2014 was a year of achievements for NSWP and its members, with capacity building and technical support provided to regional networks and advocacy tools developed, including the publication of three significant documents (see highlights section) that bring the human rights of sex workers very strongly into focus.

NSWP continued to implement activities under its three annual goals set out in our 2013–2015 Strategic Plan;

- to convene and further build on NSWP achievements as the global network committed to the realisation of sex workers' human rights;
- to build capacity within sex worker-led networks and organisations and support emerging sex worker leaders;
- to promote rights and evidence-based policies and programmes affecting sex workers.

## NSWP Members

NSWP membership has grown steadily over the last few years and 2014 was no exception. We have grown our membership by just under 30% during 2014.

YEAR	2012	2013	2014
New Members	31	33	50
Total Members	145	179	219

Our members are spread across the five NSWP regions: Africa; Asia Pacific; Europe; Latin America; and North America and the Caribbean.

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# Highlights

## HIGHLIGHT 1:

### NSWP members at the International AIDS Conference 2014: *Not the Problem, Part of the Solution!*



IMAGE © INTERNATIONAL AIDS SOCIETY / STEVE FORREST

In July, 2014, sex workers gathered at the International AIDS Conference in Melbourne, Australia, alongside others committed to working towards the elimination of HIV and AIDS globally. Almost 14,000 people attended the conference to share new scientific developments in the field of HIV, explore lessons learnt, and jointly strategise towards the elimination of the global HIV epidemic. Sex workers and other communities most affected by HIV, together created a strong presence at the conference, both in the main sessions and most visibly in the Global Village.

Society Foundations grant. The networking zone at AIDS2014 was a key space where sex workers and sex worker groups from around the world participated in a large number of events, including presentations from many sex worker-led groups and organisations. It was definitely one of the more interesting places to be!

A sense of solidarity amongst sex workers, drug users and men who have sex with men, alongside other key populations, promoted a common message throughout the week: "we must not be seen and targeted as the problem, but part of the solution!"

In the lead up to the official opening of the 20th International AIDS Conference, a sex worker pre-conference was organised by Scarlet Alliance. This two-day meeting brought together sex workers from 30 countries to discuss sex workers' issues globally and strategise around main themes for advocacy to put forth in the main conference. Sessions at the pre-conference included orientation to the programmes, themes, and goals of the conference in order to facilitate meaningful engagement and greater sex worker input to the conference.



POSTER IMAGE © SCARLET ALLIANCE

#### Sex Worker Networking Zone IAC 2014

NSWP members, Scarlet Alliance – the national Australian sex worker network, APNSW – the Asia Pacific Network of Sex Work Projects, and NSWP jointly hosted the Sex Workers Networking Zone, made possible by funding from an Open



The key document that emerged from the sex worker pre-conference was the Melbourne Statement by Sex Workers that highlighted primary issues for targeted advocacy over the week to follow:

- 1 Biomedical developments including PrEP and early treatment as prevention strategies
- 2 Stigma and discrimination
- 3 Human rights issues, including the criminalisation of sex work and HIV
- 4 Migration and mobility
- 5 Funding issues and constraints

Historically, sex workers' inclusion in plenaries has been limited. However, at AIDS2014, NSWP nominee, Daisy Namakula Nakato, Executive Director of WONETHA, gave a plenary speech on Sex Work, Human Rights and Access to HIV Testing and Treatment. Daisy's speech was powerful and poetic, drawing on her personal experiences as a sex worker living with HIV in Uganda – a country context where recent criminalisation of sex work, LGBT people, and HIV has been the subject of international media attention, due to the overt violations to human rights that these laws create.

**“Giving sex workers sewing machines to “get off streets and reduce HIV” is NOT a solution.”**

**“I did not want to see another sex worker queuing up, waiting for someone to die so that they could access medicine.”**

**“I am a sex worker, and I am proud to be a sex worker.”**

**DAISY NAKATO**

In addition to the events discussed above, a jointly facilitated panel by Ruth Morgan Thomas, NSWP and Dr Jenny Butler, UNFPA was held, shifting the discourse on sex work into a framework on labour rights. The panel titled: **“It's not what we do, it's how we do it”** brought together panellists with a range of experience in the promotion of labour rights for sex workers, including Catherine Healy (New Zealand Prostitutes' Collective, NZPC), Elena Jeffreys (Scarlet Alliance), and Richard Howard (International Labour Organization, ILO Asia Pacific Office). Panellists brought into focus sex workers' labour rights by drawing on good practice examples from New Zealand and New South Wales, Australia. These included sex workers' rights to: a safe and healthy workplace, prevention and elimination of sexual harassment and gender-based violence, organise and unionise, and access to social protection schemes. Implementation of occupational health and safety standards (OH&S) were highlighted as crucial to improving working conditions for sex workers, regardless of legal frameworks.

The above is only a snapshot of the AIDS2014 conference. For a more in-depth look back at the conference, have a look at our 20th IAC special issue of Sex Work Digest.



Daisy Nakato delivering her plenary speech at IAC 2014

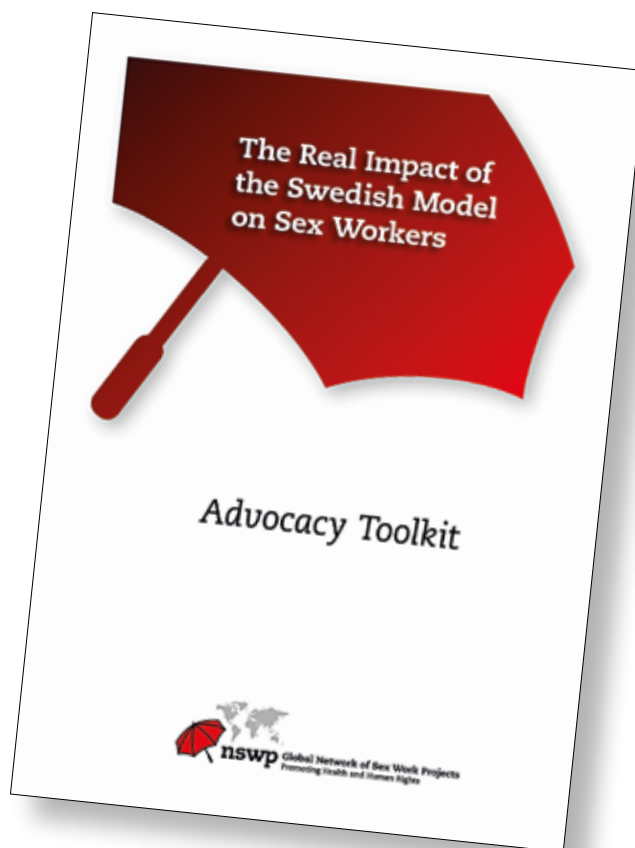
## HIGHLIGHT 2:

### Launch of the Swedish Model Advocacy Toolkit on the International Day to End Violence Against Sex Workers

The criminalisation of sex workers' clients is part of a new legal framework, designed to eradicate sex work and trafficking by 'ending demand'. In 1999, Sweden criminalised sex workers' clients and maintained the existing criminalisation of third parties. The individual selling of sex remained legal. Various referred to as the 'Swedish', 'Nordic' or 'End Demand' model, there is tremendous pressure in many countries to adopt this legislation. The damaging consequences of this model on sex workers' health, rights, and living conditions are all too rarely discussed, with the voices of sex workers and sex worker rights organisations consistently and systematically silenced in the debate.

This advocacy toolkit serves to highlight the harms associated with this approach of criminalisation, both in relation to the simplistic and crude understandings of sex work and of sex workers that are used to justify the law, and in relation to the direct outcomes of the resulting legal framework of criminalising the purchase of sex. In contrast to claims that the Swedish model is a necessary and effective approach in protecting women from violence and exploitation, sex workers in Sweden note worrying consequences to their safety and wellbeing.

The toolkit is an evolving series of papers. They will serve to raise awareness of the outcomes of the Swedish Model through ongoing publishing of briefing papers and fact sheets. These advocacy tools will provide evidence-based resources to sex workers, allies and researchers around the



world, to challenge widespread promotion of this harmful legal and political approach to the regulation of sex work.

**The first series of papers** launched in the toolkit document the impact of the Swedish model on the lives of sex workers in Sweden. These papers provide a means with which to tackle attempts to silence criticism of the law; principally, they serve to undermine assertions that the law has not had detrimental side-effects.

**A second series of papers** will be added to the advocacy toolkit in 2015. These will document the ways in which the Swedish model undermines the human rights of sex workers.

## HIGHLIGHT 3:

### Launch of the Global Consultation on PrEP and Early Treatment as Prevention at the 20th International AIDS Conference

New medical technologies are increasingly being promoted in the prevention and treatment of HIV, and heralded as interventions to be used within communities of key populations including sex workers. NSWP urges the international HIV community and donors to take the concerns of sex workers, presented in this report, seriously and continue meaningful engagement with key populations in this shift towards the increased use of biomedical interventions.

For years, sex workers around the world have been developing and sustaining sex worker-led HIV prevention, treatment, care, and support services. The successes of these community-led programmes have been recognised by UN and international partners including the World Health Organization, United Nations Population Fund, Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, The World Bank, USAID, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Their most recent guidelines **'Implementing comprehensive HIV/STI programmes with sex workers: practical approaches from collaborative interventions'** (SWIT, 2013<sup>1</sup>) clearly support sex worker-led programmes as most effective in reducing sex workers' vulnerability to HIV. These sex worker-led efforts must be continually supported and not undermined by biomedical interventions that do not take seriously, and ensure to mitigate, the risks involved of strategies such as PrEP, and test and treat prevention strategies.

While these new prevention technologies may have the potential to significantly reduce HIV prevalence amongst wider society by targeting key populations, the risks to the individual and to sex worker communities' long-term efforts to reduce prevalence through community empowerment must be recognised.

This report highlights the experiences and concerns of sex workers around the world, in the hope that dialogue and meaningful engagement with key populations will continue. Increased vulnerability amongst key populations is fuelled within structural contexts of criminalisation, stigma and discrimination, particularly in relation to healthcare access. NSWP recognises, in line with the diverse opinions of sex workers across the world, that there is a place for biomedical interventions in the global fight to end HIV. However, these will fail if implemented at the expense of supporting and empowering sex workers and other key populations to take ownership of their health needs, related policies and programmes, and if they are not implemented within a rights-based framework. Sex workers must be fully engaged in this growing debate, as noted by NSWP members.

NSWP also urges those reading this report to consider the potential benefits and risks of PrEP and early treatment as prevention strategies carefully through the three lenses of impact;

- ▶ impact on the individual sex worker;
- ▶ impact on the wider sex worker community; and
- ▶ impact on wider society and overall HIV prevalence.



1 World Health Organization, United Nations Population Fund, Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, Global Network of Sex Work Projects, The World Bank. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2013.

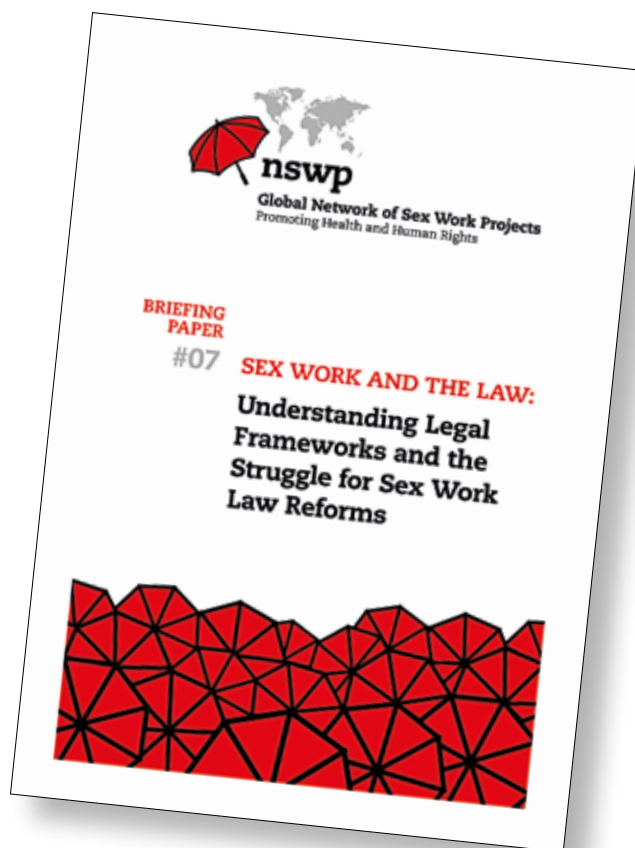
## HIGHLIGHT 4:

### **Publishing Sex Work and the Law: Understanding Legal Frameworks and the Struggle for Sex Work Law Reforms**

NSWP published 'Sex Work and the Law' briefing paper in July 2014. The global sex workers' rights movement has a long history of campaigning against laws that violate the rights of sex workers. One of NSWP's core values is opposition to all forms of criminalisation and other legal oppression of sex work that affects sex workers, clients, third parties, families, partners and friends. Advocacy efforts also extend to reforming police practice and law enforcement, which cannot be separated from the law itself, and often includes extortion, corruption, and the discriminatory targeting of sex workers.

Importantly for sex workers and sex worker advocates, the paper describes the different legislative frameworks used to criminalise and oppress sex work and sex workers, including oppressive regulatory frameworks. It also provides insight into the language and shared principles that NSWP members use when advocating for law reforms that respect and protect sex workers' human and labour rights.

NSWP is proud to have produced this important tool for advocates and campaigners. It is also a useful guide that can be used to counter arguments put forward by anti-sex work campaigners who consistently confuse the decriminalisation of sex work with 'legalising' sex work or 'legalising pimps and johns' for example.





# NSWP 2014 Goals and Related Activities

## GOAL 1:

### **Convene and further build on NSWP achievements as the global network committed to the realisation of sex workers' human rights**

In 2014, the NSWP Global Secretariat in Edinburgh continued to provide a positive working environment for the Global Coordinator, Operations Manager, Senior Policy Officer, Policy Officer, Communications Officer, and Admin and Membership Assistant. The Secretariat has continued to function as a communications hub, keeping members informed of activities across the world and soliciting nominations from member organisations through regional networks for both regional and global events. During 2014 NSWP continued to work with task consultants in relation to translation, website development, copy editing and graphic design. NSWP membership has increased from 195 members in 2013 to 219 at the end of December 2014. Our members span five regions, with NSWP continuing to host and moderate the global and regional listservs that enable members to share information/experiences and request support from one another.

### **NSWP Website and Social Media Platforms**

The NSWP website has functioned well with exciting new and relevant content being updated regularly. A project to upgrade the website with more functionality was started in July 2014 with a view to complete early January 2015. In early 2014 NSWP employed teams of Regional Correspondents in each of the 5 regions. The Latest News section of the website hosts a rich collection of up-to-date news stories by the Regional Correspondents on issues related to sex work in their regions, making a significant contribution to the NSWP's website and providing fresh perspectives from the sex worker communities in their regions. NSWP also increased the number of resources uploaded, which provide sex workers and policy makers access to articles related to sex work whether published by NSWP or other organisations. Another exciting initiative was the development of NSWP member publications and community knowledge in the website Resources section. In 2014, NSWP's website had 97,219 visitors.

NSWP communications strategy is strengthened by the use of social media platforms, as they aid wide dissemination across our network and

allows us to reach a wider external audience. NSWP utilises Facebook and Twitter to share information, opinions and promote sex work-related events. NSWP maintains a private group on Facebook to ensure the integrity of the group as a safe and secure space for sex workers and sex worker rights advocates to discuss issues directly affecting them and organising around common causes. Facebook membership has increased to 1,730 from 1,560 in 2013, representing more than a 10% increase in its membership in 2014. The NSWP twitter account has a wider reach, as the broader public can follow our account. Followers of the NSWP Twitter account @GlobalSexWork grew by over 44% from 5,982 to a total of 8,646 by Dec 31st. These platforms are increasingly being utilised to engage and share information with members and allies.

### **NSWP Publications**

In 2014, NSWP published seven briefing papers and one advocacy toolkit (consisting of four briefing papers on the Swedish Model). The briefing papers published were:

- Briefing Paper: An Overview of Access to Medicines – 'Don't trade our Lives away!'
- Briefing Paper: The Voices and Demands of Positive Sex Workers
- Global Briefing Paper: Sex Workers' Access to HIV Treatment Around the World
- Regional Briefing Paper: Sex Workers Demonstrate Economic and Social Empowerment – Overcoming Practices that Limit Sex Worker Agency in the Asia Pacific Region
- Briefing Paper: Sex Work and the Law: Understanding Legal Frameworks and the Struggle for Sex Work Law Reforms
- Briefing Paper: The Needs and Rights of Male Sex Workers (summary)
- Briefing Paper: The Needs and Rights of Trans Sex Workers (summary)
- The Real Impact of the Swedish Model on Sex Workers: Advocacy Toolkit (toolkit individual briefing papers: #1; #2; #3; #4)



## GOAL 1 (continued):

NSWP continued to facilitate and mentor sex worker representatives' participation in a range of consultations, international policy forums and conferences, amplifying the voices of sex workers at an international level. The reports and policies emerging from these meetings support the call for greater resources for HIV programming for sex workers and in particular, greater resourcing for sex worker-led organisations.

Alongside planned advocacy tools such as the Swedish Model Toolkit, NSWP published five statements and responses to a number of emerging issues arising in 2014. NSWP and INPUD coordinated the drafting and dissemination of an **Urgent Action Letter to The International AIDS Society (IAS) Governing Council regarding San Francisco as a venue shortlist for the International AIDS Conference (IAC) in 2018**. Both sex workers and people who use drugs, two of the key populations in the HIV epidemic, face legal travel restrictions to entering the United States. In addition, the United States still has in place a requirement on all international recipients of USAID funding to sign a contract with an anti-prostitution clause and has a federal ban on purchasing supplies for needle and syringe programmes, both domestically and in its overseas programmes.

NSWP drafted and published a brief on the Alejandra Gil case presented to the Office of UN Special Rapporteur on Situation of Human Rights Defenders. The brief highlighted the arrest and prosecution of Human Rights Defender, Alejandra Gil and her son, Omar Sayun Gil and their treatment as a result of Mexico's new anti-trafficking law (*'General Law to Prevent, Sanction and Eradicate Crimes regarding Human Trafficking and for the Protection and Assistance of Victims of these Crimes'*), which conflates human trafficking and sex work and prohibits the self-organising of sex workers.

Other NSWP statements and responses included:

- ▶ a statement in response to the 'Decision by FEMM to Support Criminalising the Clients of Sex Workers';
- ▶ an NSWP Statement in Response to European Parliament Support for Proposals Criminalising the Purchase of Sex;
- ▶ an NSWP Statement in Response to Norwegian Evaluation of the Ban on the Purchase of Sex;
- ▶ and Response to Release of Synthesis Report of UN Secretary-General on the Post-2015 Agenda.



Alejandra Gil collected her 'Golden Years Award' at the Sex Worker Freedom Festival in 2012

All of these publications will increase members' ability to provide evidence to support their local advocacy work in the longer term. NSWP continued to mentor and build leadership amongst sex workers by supporting participation in meetings and contributing to a number of other international events.

An integral part of supporting the capacity of sex worker-led organisations is to share examples of good practice. To this end, UNFPA continues to fund a quarterly *Sex Work Digest*, which provides a regular summary of emerging global, regional and national policy issues, debates, crises, news stories and recent publications for NSWP members. The *Sex Work Digest* is distributed widely within the membership of NSWP and made available publicly on our website.

## GOAL 2:

### Build capacity within sex worker-led networks and organisations and support emerging sex worker leaders

A continuing goal of NSWP in 2014 was to build the capacity of sex worker-led organisations throughout the network. This is vital in ensuring the global sex workers' rights movement can respond nationally, regionally and internationally to human rights abuses of sex workers, and meaningfully engage with and influence policies directed at sex workers.

NSWP Board continued to prioritise building the capacity of sex worker-led organisations in Africa. This was made possible by funding from the Dutch Foreign Ministry's through the Bridging the Gaps programme, the Robert Carr civil societies Networks Fund (RCNF) and UNFPA. NSWP facilitated a South-South exchange between APNSW and ASWA, which involved collaboration between NSWP members VAMP and Ashodaya Samithi in India and the Kenya Sex Worker Alliance (KESWA) in developing a curriculum and training a faculty of Kenyan sex workers. The exchange happened in February 2014 to facilitate the Sex Worker Academy Africa (SWAA), as a pan-Africa resource for sex workers, based in Nairobi, Kenya. SWAA aims to strengthen the sex worker rights movement in Africa, through building the capacity of

sex workers and their national sex worker movements, to advocate for and meaningfully engage in the implementation of rights-based HIV programming at local, national and regional levels. Three academies were held in 2014, in July (Kenya), September (Kenya, Tanzania and Zimbabwe) and November (Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya and Nigeria). The SWAA faculty will be sustained through recruiting selected Academy graduates from the Kenyan country team, who will be mentored by an existing faculty member. The Academy will enable more sex workers to effectively advocate for a rights-based community-led approach to HIV programmes in their countries. They will be provided with the knowledge, skills and tools to build strong networks of sex worker-led organisations when they return to their home countries.

NSWP continued to provide technical support to the African Sex Worker Alliance (ASWA), based in Nairobi, Kenya. The consolidation of ASWA as an independent organisation is essential to ensure the voices of sex workers in Africa are amplified and utilised within the broader range of civil society organisations that work with sex workers of all genders.

Democratic Republic of Congo participants present their painting at SWAA Academy November 2014



IMAGE © DALE KONGMONT



## GOAL 2 (continued):

In August 2014, APNSW, NSWP and W4GF jointly organised a workshop for sex worker-led organisations from both the Asia Pacific and Africa regions. The workshop aimed to improve and increase their knowledge and understanding of The Global Fund, including its purpose, infrastructure and mechanisms for sex worker organisations to meaningfully engage in the (not so new) New Funding Model.

Painting done at the APNSW / NSWP workshop and later presented to Mark Dybul, Executive Director, Global Fund.



Caribbean Sex Worker Coalition Regional Training Workshop Participants, Guyana, October 2014.

In October 2014 Pye Jakobsson, NSWP President, provided technical assistance to the Caribbean Sex Worker Coalition during their regional training workshop. The workshop was held in Guyana from 20–23 October 2014 to train sex worker-led leaders from various organisations in the Caribbean. The participating countries included Antigua, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Suriname and Trinidad. There were twenty-eight participants throughout the four-day training. The content of the meeting included training on leadership, advocacy and governance. An advocacy strategy was also developed by participants. The workshop took the form of lecture sessions, group activities, individual presentations and videos.

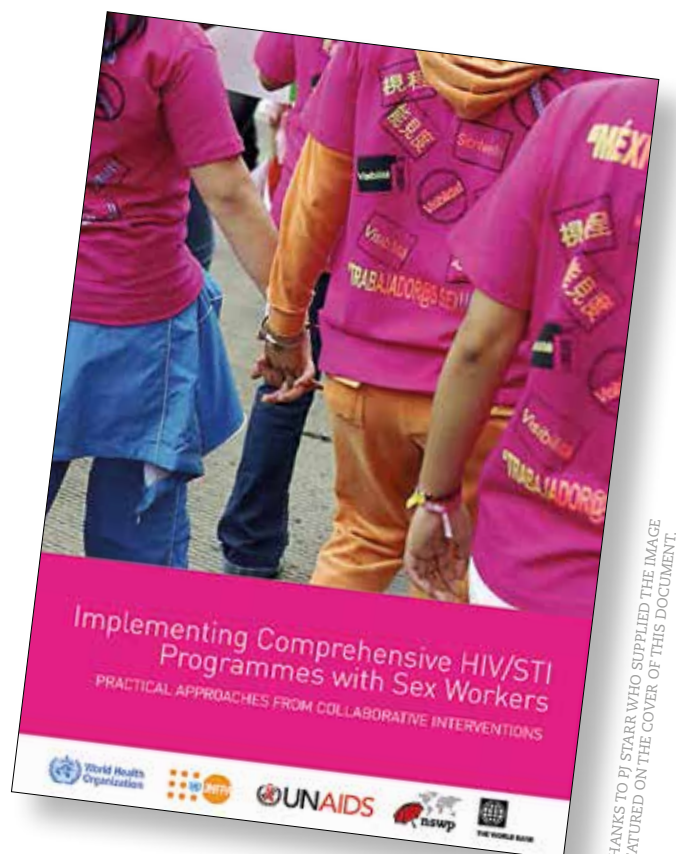
## GOAL 3:

### Promote rights and evidence-based policies and programmes affecting sex workers

NSWP continued to participate in various key forums and dialogues around HIV policy and programming that affect sex workers as a key population. This is a process that is often challenging, however extremely important in ensuring that the lived experiences of sex workers are taken into consideration.

In 2014, NSWP co-chaired the UNAIDS Steering Committee on HIV and Sex Work, in partnership with UNFPA and UNDP, developing an action plan for the roll out and scaling up of the Sex Worker Implementation Tool (SWIT) – Implementing Comprehensive HIV/STI Programmes with Sex Workers: Practical Approaches from Collaborative Interventions. In addition NSWP has seats on a number of policy advisory groups, including the WHO Civil Society Reference Group; the WHO Consolidated Guidelines on HIV Prevention, Diagnosis, Treatment and Care for Key Populations Development Group; The Global Fund Communities, Rights and Gender Advisory Group; GNP+ Board; and the LINKAGES Advisory board.

In addition GNP+, INPUD, MSMGF and NSWP were all engaged in the Guidelines Development Group for the Consolidated Guidelines on HIV Prevention, Diagnosis, Treatment and Care for Key Populations which was published in July 2014 and launched at the 20th IAC in Melbourne.



Sex Worker Implementation Tool (SWIT), launched November 2013.



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# NSWP and Partnership Working to Advance Sex Workers' Rights

NSWP continues to invest in effective partnerships to enhance the health and human rights of sex worker. Some of these partnerships are listed below.

**THE COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AND ACTION COLLABORATIVE (CLAC):** NSWP is a member of the collaborative, providing technical support to countries around the New Funding Model. The technical hub continues to support gay men and other men who have sex with men (MSM), people who use drugs, sex workers, transgender people and people living with HIV (PLHIV) to engage in The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria's New Funding Model. NSWP continued to play an active role in the Community Leadership and Action Collaborative, which submitted a successful proposal to The Global Fund to provide in-country technical assistance to enable key populations to meaningfully participate in Global Fund country dialogue processes and promote programming which is most relevant to their communities.

**COALITION ON CHILDREN AFFECTED BY AIDS:** GNP+, INPUD, MSMGF and NSWP have continued to work collaboratively with The Coalition for Children Affected by AIDS (CCABA) on the development of guidelines for care workers, in relation to working with key populations to support a rights based approach that protects not only children's rights but balances those with parent's rights. The guidelines for care workers in managing ethical decisions when caring for children and families of key populations 'Difficult Decisions: A Tool for Care Workers' was launched at AIDS 2014 in Melbourne.

**FREESPACEPROCESS:** NSWP continued to work with the FreeSpaceProcess.

**GLOBAL COALITION ON WOMEN AND AIDS (GCWA):** NSWP has continued to work with GCWA to ensure sex workers needs and rights are addressed in HIV responses to women and girls.

**HARM REDUCTION INTERNATIONAL (HRI):** NSWP continues to explore potential for collaboration around harm reduction advocacy.

**IPPF:** NSWP has Minute of Understanding with IPPF to support and enhance their member associations' work with sex workers, and will continue to work with IPPF on linking sex worker groups with local member associations.

**THE RED UMBRELLA FUND:** NSWP has continued to work with donors to operate the new funding mechanism to support human rights advocacy by sex worker led organisations. The Red Umbrella Fund, which was launched in April 2012, approved its third round of grants to sex worker-led organisations and national and regional networks in October 2014.

**GLOBAL NETWORKS OF KEY POPULATIONS:** NSWP has continued to build strong alliances with other global networks of key populations including MSMGF and INPUD. NSWP has also developed strong working relationships with GNP+ and ITPC to ensure the needs of sex workers are integrated into the work of both networks and to strengthen NSWP's work around sex workers living with HIV and treatment activism.



# Looking forward to 2015

In addition to our on-going work outlined in the NSWP Strategic Plan, the Board of Directors annually identifies advocacy priorities around which advocacy tools will be developed (resources permitting).

2015 advocacy and capacity building priorities

- Addressing human rights and access to healthcare – HIV and STI testing and treatment
- Addressing the stigma and discrimination experienced by sex workers living with HIV
- Addressing the needs of sex workers who use drugs, including injecting and non-injecting drug use
- Addressing population size estimates and mapping
- Meaningful participation of sex worker-led organisations in the development and roll-out of The Global Fund New Funding Model and building capacity of sex work organisations to engage with Country Coordinating Mechanisms

# Financial Summary 2014

## INCOME 2014

£

**TOTAL INCOME RECEIVED 770,310**

NSWP would like to thank the following donors for their financial support during 2014:

- AIDS Fonds – Bridging the Gaps Programme
- AIDS Fonds – Stepping Up, Stepping Out Programme
- HIVOS
- Open Society Foundations – Sexual Health and Rights Program
- UNFPA
- Robert Carr civil society Networks Fund (RCNF)
- UNDP
- The Global Fund

## EXPENDITURE 2014

£

Personnel (staff and consultants) – Global and Regional 382,601

Activities – Global and Regional 278,800

Operating costs 88,081

Capital Costs 5,452

**TOTAL 754,934**



**Global Network of Sex Work Projects**  
Promoting Health and Human Rights

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