

**REGIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITY  
TO PREVENT GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND PROMOTE GENDER JUSTICE  
EAST & SOUTHEAST ASIA (ESEA)**

<b>WHAT IS THE REGIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITY?</b>	<p>A group of practitioners are working together on a capacity development initiative in East &amp; Southeast Asia called the Regional Learning Community. This regional initiative seeks to develop a collective approach to knowledge creation and skills building for the primary prevention of violence against women and promotion of gender justice.</p> <p>The process aims to inspire and support national actions to contribute to long-term social change for gender justice and violence prevention.</p> <p>Practitioners will generate and share their knowledge through a series of community learning processes, including trainings, networking, and partnerships. The knowledge generated through this initiative will be organised under a regional curriculum that will be in the form of a web-based wiki. The regional curriculum will be developed by and for practitioners, activists, advocates, experts, researchers, individuals and organisations from the region. The curriculum shall be practical, user-friendly, and easy for adaptation and replication.</p>
<b>MISSION</b>	<p>The goal of the Regional Learning Community is to collectively develop the appropriate skills, tools and knowledge to promote social change, gender justice and peace in the region.</p>
<b>GUIDING PRINCIPLES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Regional Learning Community incorporates understanding of long-term social change and is grounded in <b>feminist</b> and <b>human rights principles</b>. It contributes to global, regional, and national efforts to eliminate social injustice, gender discrimination and inequality, and gender-based violence.</li> <li>• <b>Empowerment through community building, cooperation and unity.</b> Each member of the Community is a teacher and a student; all are valued equally. Each participant is encouraged to bring their unique experiences to the knowledge creation process in whatever form is appropriate. Knowledge creation is a participatory, egalitarian &amp; inclusive empowerment process. It is a process that will evolve under the spirit of continuous learning, sharing, supporting, and community and partnership building.</li> <li>• <b>Knowledge is of the Community - not reproduced for it.</b> Texts are created and contributed by the participants themselves, not imported from other places without critical reflection. The Community critically examines where knowledge comes from: “how do we know what we know”, and “who says these are good ideas?”</li> </ul>
<b>WHO CAN BE INVOLVED?</b>	<p>Membership in the Community is open to those actively working for gender justice and ending violence in the region: practitioners from community-based and national level NGOs, UN agencies/programmes, donors and international NGOs. Members of the Community must adhere to the guiding principles and must be willing to commit time to Community actions and collaborative learning.</p> <p>Members of the Learning Community will be activists/practitioners engaged in and committed to promoting gender justice and ending violence in their communities. Members will be expected to both apply new learning from the regional process in their respective contexts and contribute local experiences to the regional curriculum. Members can also support the development of a national adaptation of the regional curriculum</p>
<b>WHEN?</b>	<p>From 2011 to 2013, there will be a series of Community learning sessions as a process to develop the curriculum. In the last quarter of 2011, a five-day workshop on the Foundational Knowledge section of the curriculum will be held to build critical consciousness, critical thinking capacity, knowledge and analytical capacity. In addition, a thematic workshop on primary prevention will be organised to deepen understanding on primary prevention of violence against women.</p>
<b>HOW TO GET INVOLVED?</b>	<p>There is an application process for those interested in joining the Community. For 2011, the applications will be accepted between July and August. For more information please visit <a href="http://www.partners4prevention.org">www.partners4prevention.org</a> or <a href="http://www.engagingmen.net">www.engagingmen.net</a>.</p>