

**SDDirect**  
at  
**Women Deliver**  
**2026**



**Social Development Direct (SDDirect)** works for equal rights and social justice around the world. We are a feminist organisation, with a long history and passion for working for women's rights and gender equality. As a social enterprise consultancy, we aim to offer the best quality advice, evidence and programme delivery to our partners and clients to help them make distinctive and lasting contributions to a more equal world.

Our multi-disciplinary team work to provide a range of services including strategic technical guidance, demand led technical helpdesks, and specialist research, reviews and evaluations. Our expertise spans development and humanitarian contexts and includes GBV, Safeguarding, Inclusive Governance, Climate Justice, and MERL - with gender equality and social inclusion at the heart of everything we do.

Read more about SDDirect's work on:

[GBV](#)[Inclusive Governance](#)[Safeguarding](#)[Disability Inclusion](#)[Climate justice](#)[MEL](#)[Contact](#)[LinkedIn](#)[Website](#)

# Regional + Global Programmes Spotlight



## Climate, Environment and Nature (CLEAN) Helpdesk

SDDirect are the GEDSI and MEL leads for the [CLEAN Helpdesk](#), which provides technical assistance to support FCDO, and other ODA spending government departments, to deliver the UK's ambition to tackle climate change and reverse biodiversity loss. The programme is led by SouthSouthNorth, with partners ODI and Paul Watkiss Associates. We review all requests from a GEDSI perspective and provide support to ensure GEDSI is mainstreamed in all guidance and research reports produced. We lead on GEDSI-focused requests, including analysis of GEDSI in International Climate Finance reporting, GEDSI analysis of coastal reef communities, and developing guidance with the Ending VAWC Helpdesk on tackling GBV to improve climate action.

[Explore the CLEAN Helpdesk](#)



## DFAT Prevention Platform

SDDirect is the GBV Technical Partner on the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)-funded GBV prevention platform. The Platform's goal is to strengthen locally led efforts to prevent GBV through evidence-based advocacy, dialogue, policy and programming in Southeast Asia. It will bring together diverse stakeholders across the region to collaborate, share and work together to strengthen good practice evidence and action to prevent GBV in all its forms. The Platform is led by a regionally staffed Secretariat and supported by Cowater International.

[Explore the Prevention Platform](#)





## DFAT's Equity Hub

SDDirect is the Helpdesk and knowledge translation partner for DFAT's new Equity Hub, working with Alinea International and the Nossal Institute.

Equity Hub supports DFAT with streamlined, high-quality advice to ensure that Australia is a thought leader and partner of choice for progressing gender equality, disability equity and social inclusion.

The Helpdesk provides technical oversight to rapid response queries and supports deeper, intersectional engagement through a roster of experienced and emerging GEDSI advisers. Equity Hub also supports longer term advisory services, research and learning to strengthen outcomes across DFAT investments



## The Disability Inclusion Helpdesk

SDDirect's team of in-house experienced researchers work alongside over 80 senior disability inclusion experts providing research and advice to FCDO and other UK government departments on disability inclusion in policy, programming, and across FCDO's five minimum standards on disability inclusion.

The Helpdesk aims to deliver tangible outcomes to improve the lives of people with a disability; provide evidence-based understandings of 'what works' to deliver results for people with disabilities; and ensure data and evidence produced leads to increased action and investment.

[Explore the Disability Inclusion Helpdesk](#)



## **GEDSI-Climate Nexus Research (DFAT supported)**

SDDirect, with ARROW and Edge Effect, is conducting intersectional and practice-based research, focused on locally led CSOs working on GEDSI and climate in Fiji and the Philippines. We have partnered with eight CSOs, four in each country, for this research; those that are led by people with lived experience - organisations of persons with disabilities (OPDs), Women's Rights Organisations (WROs), LGBTQIA+ organisations, and youth groups.

The objective of our research is to gather evidence on how locally led and inclusive GEDSI-climate action can be strengthened. Movement building and collective action is explored across all the research questions. We are using participatory action research (PAR) to put the CSOs at the centre of the research, as lead researchers, and to mobilise external stakeholders in the discussions and research process

Gender-Based Violence  
***Funder Forum***

## **GBV Funder Forum**

SDDirect provides the Secretariat to the global GBV Funder Forum - a platform for funder collaboration that brings together public and private donors committed to ending gender-based violence (GBV) globally. Members of the Forum include philanthropic foundations, bilateral government agencies, and multilateral institutions. The Forum meets annually in person and coordinates regularly throughout the year to track priorities, shape joint initiatives, and safeguard progress for women, girls, and gender-diverse communities affected by GBV.



## Safeguarding Resource and Support Hub

SDDirect is the technical and delivery lead of the Safeguarding Resource and Support Hub (RSH), working in consortium with Options, International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA), Terre des hommes, Clear Global and Sightsavers. RSH is a programme funded by the UK government that aims to support organisations in the aid sector to strengthen their safeguarding policy and practice against Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Sexual Harassment (SEAH). RSH supports organisations working in both the humanitarian and development sectors but is driven by the needs of smaller national or local organisations in developing countries.

[Visit the Resource Hub](#)



## UK Partnering for Accelerated Climate Transitions (PACT)

UK PACT is a UK Government funded programme that works in partnership with countries with high emissions reduction potential to support them to implement and increase their ambitions for tackling climate change. SDDirect is the GEDSI lead responsible for developing and implementing the GEDSI strategy, mainstreaming GEDSI across activities, and building capacity for more inclusive climate action. We develop learning products, including a series of reports on GEDSI entry points in UK PACT sectors, and facilitate a monthly GEDSI Learning and Leadership Hub to encourage greater focus on GEDSI. Our team of 14 GEDSI and Climate Experts support country and regional funds across Africa, Asia, and Latin America to mainstream GEDSI through their calls for proposals and support implementing partners by providing feedback, delivering training, and working with them to develop GEDSI action plans.

[Explore the UKPACT](#)



## What Works II

SDDirect is part of the implementation consortium, led by the International Rescue Committee (IRC), with Raising Voices, Breakthrough, Samya and CARE UK, delivering the What Works to Prevent Violence against Women & Girls: Impact at Scale initiative funded by the UK government.

Together we are funding women-led organisations and their partners to innovate and explore pathways to take proven approaches to scale. We provide support to capacity strengthening, cross-project learning and advocacy for impact.

[Read more about Works II here](#)

# SDDirect and partner events

PRE-CONFERENCE SESSION

[Contact Gemma Ferguson](#)

Sunday, April 26 | 8:00am – 5:00pm

**Venue:** Melbourne Room 1

## **Resourcing the Global Movement: A Strategy Day on Strengthening the Global Efforts to End Sexual and Gender Based Violence**

*Hosted by The Accelerator for GBV Prevention, me too. International, Justice for Migrant Women, Free From, and The Equality Institute.*

**Table Captains:** Southeast Asian GBV Prevention Platform, Funder Forum, What Works II, Social Development Direct

INVITE ONLY EVENT

[Contact Kate Bishop](#)

Tuesday April 28 | 10.30am – 1pm

**Venue:** Project Everyone Space

## **Strategic Leaders Roundtable – GBV and Innovative Financing,**

*Hosted by GBV Funder Forum, All In, Accelerator*

# SDDirect and partner events

SIDE EVENT 2E

[Contact Emma Haegeman](#)

Tuesday April 28 | 12 – 1.30pm

**Venue:** Meeting room 204, Level 2

## **The Power of Being Counted: Feminist Data for Climate Justice,** *Hosted by the Climate Resilient Communities Support Unit (CRCSU)*

Gender-transformative climate action demands feminist, intersectional, community-led data. This Side Event explores new research from six partners in Asia Pacific that demonstrates the power of making the lived experiences of adolescent girls, women, and gender diverse people visible in climate data. Join us to build the data-driven vision for feminist climate justice.

### **Speakers:**

- Hira Amjad (DASTAK Foundation, Pakistan - WEDO)
- Sharon Inone (Greenenergy, Solomon Islands - WEDO)
- Emma Haegeman (Social Development Direct)
- Georgie Robinson (University of Technology Sydney – Institute for Sustainable Futures)
- Vaela Falefehi (Ministry of Women, Youth, Children and Family Affairs, Solomon Islands)
- Tanushree Soni, Plan International Australia

# SDDirect and partner events

CONCURRENT SESSION

[Contact Lusungu Kalanga](#)

Tuesday April 28 | 4 – 5.30pm

**Venue:** Meeting room 203, Level 2

Strategic Foresight for GBV Advocates: Preparing for Different Scenarios, *Hosted by the Accelerator for GBV Prevention, in collaboration with UN Women and ACT Programme implementing partners; Feminist Futures; South-East Asia GBV Prevention Platform*

This interactive workshop brings together GBV advocates to explore how emerging signals of change can lead us to different futures, with specific challenges and breakthrough opportunities. Using feminist foresight tools, we'll build plausible future scenarios, discuss how they could reshape our work, and identify the most effective strategies to strengthen our messaging, organising, and influence.



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