

# CanWaCH Strategic Plan 2020-2025

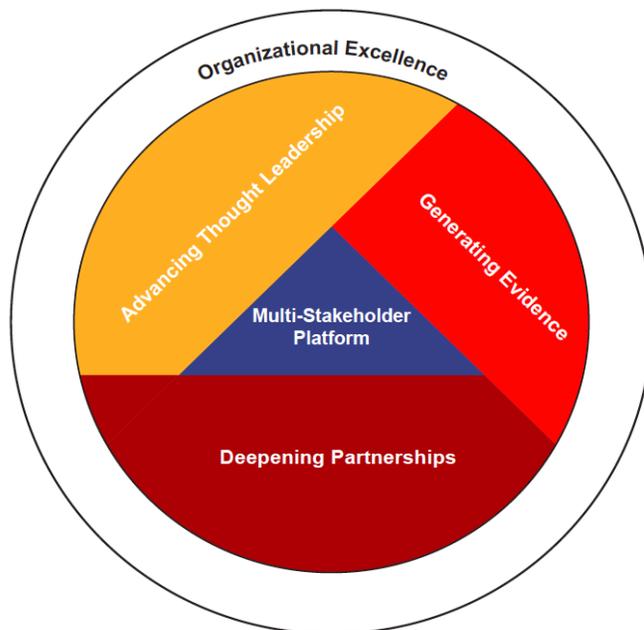
**VISION:** A world where, in all their diversity, women, children and adolescents everywhere realize their right to thrive in full health and live in equitable societies.

**MISSION:** CanWaCH animates a collaborative platform for the Canadian global health and gender equality sector that unites the passion, knowledge and evidence necessary to realize excellence in women's, children's, and adolescents' health and rights globally.

**VALUES:** Human Rights ♦ Partnership ♦ Accountability ♦ Inclusion ♦ Feminism

## Strategic Framework

**Multi-Stakeholder Platform:** We believe that by standing on the strength of a diverse and interdisciplinary base of individuals and organizations committed to global health and gender equality, we will create the scaffolding required to uphold the right of every woman, child and adolescent to survive and thrive.



**Organizational Excellence:** Strategic objectives are delivered through the Board of Directors, Secretariat, and Membership.

## Strategic Objectives

**Advancing Thought Leadership:** We believe that by gathering, exchanging and championing leading ideas and emerging trends, we will mobilize the knowledge necessary to turn ideas into impact for the SDGs. This means:

- Conducting timely synthesis and analysis to inform policy insights, programming decisions, and efforts to engage the Canadian public; and
- Acting as an interlocutor to connect the Canadian international development sector to domestic expertise and global initiatives.

**Generating Evidence:** We believe that by building a culture of evidence through the effective and timely sharing, visualization and integration of data, we will discover the solutions to pressing issues and reinforce the best practices in global health and gender equality. This means:

- Facilitating the utilization and communication of data to inform monitoring, evaluation and learning, programming, public engagement and political decisions; and
- Embracing emerging technology and innovations in data to respond proactively and comprehensively to current and emerging issues.

**Deepening Partnerships:** We believe that by convening partnerships for impact, we will increase the propensity of stakeholders to engage in the collective action necessary to advance the SDGs. This means:

- Offering purposeful moments for connection, networking and peer mentorship among members and partners; and
- Identifying and responding to gaps in knowledge and capacity through member-informed learning and training opportunities.

## Values

**Human Rights:** We are committed to upholding our obligations as duty-bearers of human rights obligations and to prioritize the promotion and protection of human rights. We are dedicated to understanding the ways in which overlapping root causes of inequality, discrimination, and marginalization continue threaten the rights of women, children, adolescents and gender diverse peoples.

**Partnership:** We are committed to holding our relationships at the heart of all that we do and harnessing our collective ability to achieve more together than any individual could do alone.

**Accountability:** We are dedicated to upholding our commitments to Members of CanWaCH, our partners and the people we aim to serve. We are committed to convening an environment of openness and transparency and to clearly linking resources to the results, outcomes and impacts they produce.

**Inclusion:** We are committed to respecting and prioritizing the voices and interests of women, children, adolescents and gender diverse peoples - especially the hardest to reach - and to standing behind the experience and ideas of partners from the Global South in the development of solutions. We are dedicated ensuring no one is left behind and to holding space for these voices where intersecting forms of discrimination and/or marginalization have previously silenced them.

**Feminism:** We are committed to an approach that recognizes and upholds the agency and individuality of women, children, adolescents as well as Members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and intersex communities, people of colour, people living with disabilities and under-represented disciplines. We are committed to prioritizing transformative approaches to achieving gender equality and global health that take into the structural determinants of gender inequality.

## Building on Our Foundation

Since the last CanWaCH Strategic Plan was developed in 2016, we have significantly built up our multi-stakeholder platform and established CanWaCH as a go-to broker for information and relationships. Key activities included the creation of the Project Explorer, the formalization of a Membership base, offering a Learning Series, developing the Thrive Agenda policy platform, and launching the Lead On Canada public engagement campaign. The strategic planning process and the results of the Global Affairs Canada mid-term evaluation have inspired us to be clearer about our unique value proposition and to be even more ambitious in carrying out a purposeful and coordinated approach to convening stakeholders and demonstrating leadership in collaboration.

While our three pillars of work – Measuring Results, Exchanging Knowledge, and Engaging Stakeholders – remain at the core of all that we do, our 2020-2025 Strategic Plan reflects the bold and forward-thinking action that will be required to address pressing issues in global health and gender equality. This Strategic Plan makes clear that our three strategic objectives are interlinked and must be achieved in tandem in order to achieve excellence in our policies, programming, and public engagement. The strategic objectives also set forth an intention to hold space for innovation and experimentation, as these will be critical aspects of finding lasting solutions to persistent problems. The urgency of global issues such as climate change, political conflict, infectious disease, and mass displacement portends the need for partnerships focused on impact and promptly addressing the needs of the most vulnerable and marginalized. To bring about structural and societal changes required to remove barriers to health and gender equality, we must be explicit in enacting strong values in every aspect of our work.