



Stichting WithWomen

Annual Report and
Financial Statements 2023

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The Hague, The Netherlands

Launched in 2021, WithWomen was created to promote continuity of midwife care, and to ensure that every childbirth experience is safe and positive.

Evidence clearly shows that care by midwives, especially continuity of midwifery care, improves the quality of care for mothers and babies and is more cost-effective and sustainable, for health systems and the environment.

Midwives can provide 87% of the essential care needed for women and their babies¹. Universal access to midwives by 2035 could avert 67% of maternal deaths, 64% of newborn deaths and 65% of stillbirths. An estimated 4.3 million lives per year could be saved by 2035 if all countries were to introduce and support midwife-led childbirth services.²

Globally, women and gender diverse people have many barriers to accessing quality sexual, reproductive, maternal, newborn

and adolescent health services. This can include facing disrespect and abuse, as well as a lack of choice and control over their own bodies and choices. In too many countries, progress on reducing maternal mortality rates has slowed or stopped, and pregnant women die from preventable causes every day.

At the same time, the world is short of at least one million midwives. When midwives are undervalued and under resourced, access to high-quality sexual and reproductive healthcare declines, and human rights and health become harder to achieve.

WithWomen aims to address these challenges by supporting initiatives to increase the global midwifery workforce and overcome the

barriers midwives face in providing quality care, so that more women and babies can survive and thrive.

Mission & Vision

To improve accessibility to and competence of midwives through quality standards, advocacy, and action.

The vision of WithWomen is for every woman and gender diverse person to have a safe and positive childbirth experience.

Midwives can make a positive impact on the health and wellbeing of women, other Women and gender diverse people and their babies during the childbirth continuum. Care from a midwife is a human right.

WithWomen works closely with the International Confederation of Midwives to improve access to competent midwives, to maintain high standards of midwifery care for women, newborns and their families and to support midwives through advocacy and action.



Board Report

This report provides an overview of the main activities undertaken during 2023 by Stichting WithWomen.

Koninginnegracht 60, 2514 AE The Hague Registration Chamber of Commerce: 76666212.

¹ United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), (2014), The State of the World's Midwifery (SoWMY) 2014: A Universal Pathway. A Woman's Right to Health. UNFPA, USA

² Nove A, Friberg IK, de Bernis L, et al. Potential impact of midwives in preventing and reducing maternal and neonatal mortality and stillbirths: a Lives Saved Tool modelling study. Lancet Glob Health. 2020;9(1):e24–e32. doi:10.1016/S2214-109X(20)30397-1



2023 Activities

DURING 2023, WE HAVE WORKED TO FURTHER STRENGTHEN AND GROW WITHWOMEN'S INFRASTRUCTURE:



In 2023, we **strengthened** our governance and management structure and are finalising our governance and operational policies and procedures. Board membership changes occurred in 2023, which included increasing the number of Board members.

We are further **developing** the fundraising, marketing, and communications capacity and infrastructure to operationalise the fundraising strategy.

We **strengthened** donation processing procedures, grant-making, and monitoring policies.

In 2023, we launched our **first end-of-year fundraising campaign**. This campaign featured ICM's Young Midwife Leader Programme alumna (YML), who were asked to prepare and submit their project ideas, motivation and sample social media content. Two campaigns were chosen out of eight submitted, both featuring YMLs in Uganda.

The fundraising campaign began in December 2023 and ended in January 2024; as such the funding achievements will be reported in WithWomen's 2024 report.

Anitah Kusaaasira

Respectful maternity care is when women get information and make choices about health and care for themselves and their newborns.

RESPECTFUL MATERNITY CARE IS A HUMAN RIGHT.

Anitah Kusaaasira is a midwife in Uganda, and through her work she has seen that respectful care leads to better health outcomes for women and babies. That's why she is working on teaching midwives how to provide care that promotes women's rights and dignity.

Anitah's project will develop and deliver trainings on respectful care to more midwives and midwifery students and advocate for respectful care for everyone.



Harriet Nuyiga

Teenaged girls face a lot of stigma when they become pregnant. They skip antenatal appointments and avoid care because they're afraid of being looked down on. This is even more the case if they come from marginalised groups.

At the same time, we know that teenage girls face a higher risk for pregnancy and birth complications.

In Uganda, 1 in 4 women have been teenaged mothers.

Harriet's project makes it possible for more midwives to support more girls and young women to take control of their reproductive health.





Looking Ahead

LOOKING AHEAD, OUR
ACTIVITIES WILL BE:



Undertaking further fundraising.

Advocating to influence public policy, laws, and budgets of national and international policy-making bodies and multi- and bi-lateral organisations and their agencies to increase the educational and professional standards that impact midwives and the midwifery profession.

Supporting the projects of midwives' associations in-country and those working to increase the educational and professional standards that impact midwives and the midwifery profession.

WithWomen only assists other organisations financially when:

the organisation qualifies as an ANBI or holds a similar status; and

when the objectives of the organisation are similar to the objectives of WithWomen.

Conducting any other activities that may be connected to or conducive to the above.



Finance and Governance

WithWomen aims to finance its activities by collecting funds and seeking recurring gifts from donors and charitable donations from both companies and individuals. The funds will be, more specifically, as per our Articles of Association, received through:

1. subsidies and other contributions,
2. gifts, bequests and legacies, and
3. all other acquisitions and gains.

WithWomen is overseen by a Management Board which is comprised of professionals from within and outside of the midwifery community. Over time, we aim to attract additional Board Members in order that WithWomen can become as effective as possible and draw on a rich diversity in experiences and a broader network.

Management Board

As at 31.12.2023 the Management Board comprised of:

Mr A. Otiko
Ms M. de Geus
Ms N. Yeaman

International Confederation of Midwives
One vacant position
(filled 8th January 2024)



Acknowledgements

WithWomen gratefully acknowledges our partners, donors and supporters.

Approved by the Board on 30th June 2024 and signed on their behalf on 30th June 2024 by:

Andrew Otiko
CHAIR OF THE BOARD

Annual Financial Statement 2023

1 Balance sheet as at December 31, 2023

(AFTER APPROPRIATION OF THE RESULT TO
RESERVES AND FUNDS)

Assets	31 December 2023 (EUR)	31 December 2022 (EUR)
Cash at bank	13,998	6,817
Total assets	13,998	6,817
Equity and Liabilities		
Equity		
General Reserve	-22,856	-26,903
Short term Liability		
Creditors	33,520	17,237
Other	3,334	16,483
	36,854	33,720
Total equity and liabilities	13,998	6,817

2.2 Statement of income and expenditure for the year 2023

Notes

- 2.1 Donation from Stichting Verloskundige
- 2.2 Due to activities in 2023 the foundation received private donations
- 2.3 In 2023 the professional services (general support on administrative, financial and secretarial tasks) and audit were provided by ICM to support the foundation
- 2.4 Annual costs for hosting and maintenance of the WithWomen website.

Income	Note	Actual 2023 (EUR)	Actual 2022 (EUR)
Income from organisations	2.1	5,000	1,165
Income from private donations	2.2	2,334	-
Subtotal Income		7,334	1,165

Expenses

Professional Services	2.3	-	5,644
Website	2.4	3,134	7,992
Audit	2.3	-	2,647
General costs		-	-
Subtotal Expenses		3,134	16,283
Operational Result		4,200	-15,118
Financial cost		-153	-152
TOTAL RESULT		4,047	-15,270

Appropriation of the result

Add to/deduct from general reserves		4,047	-15,270
Total Appropriation of the result		4,047	-15,270

2.3 Statement of cash flows

Cash flow operational activities	2023 (EUR)	2022 (EUR)
Net generated result	4,047	-15,270

Change in current assets and liabilities

Receivables	-	-
Liabilities	3,134	16,283
Total cash flow operational activities	7,181	-1,013

Cash flow of financial activities

Change of cash in hand and at bank	7,181	-1,013
Cash at 31 December	13,998	6,817
Cash at 1 January	6,817	5,804
Change of cash in hand and at bank	7,181	-1,013

3 General notes to the Financial Statements

GENERAL

On December 16th 2019 the Stichting WithWomen was established, with its listed address as Koninginnegracht 60, 2514 AE The Hague.

The purpose of the Foundation is to improve access to and competence of midwives by means of quality standards, advocacy and action, and to enhance gender equality in midwifery and promote quality childbirth services globally. The Foundation received the charity status “Algemeen Nut Beogende Instelling” (ANBI) on December 19, 2019.

The Board of the Foundation comprises 5 members, who are jointly authorised.

The Foundation has no Founding Capital and is qualified as a subsidiary company with ICM as the head of the group.

Using the exemption according to article 407, lid 2 sub a Title 9 BW2 (of the Dutch constitution) the Foundation is not consolidated by ICM.

CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES

No change in accounting principles has taken place in the reporting period.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The generally accepted accounting standards in the Netherlands applying to not-for-profit organisations have been applied. The financial statements 2023 are prepared according to the guideline RJ micro and small sized entities C1 “small sized not for profit organisations”.

The financial statements have been prepared using the principle of purchase value. If not otherwise indicated, all assets and the equity and liabilities are stated at face value. Revenues and costs are recognised on accrual basis.

COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS YEAR

The valuation principles and method of determining the result are the same as those used in the previous year, with the exception of changes as set out in the relevant section, if applicable.

PRINCIPLES FOR THE VALUATION OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Receivables

All receivables are recorded with fair value and valued against amortised cost. The fair value and the amortised cost are both equal to the nominal cost. Any necessary provision due to possible bad debts has been deducted. The provision has been determined based on an individual assessment of the claim.

Liquid assets

All liquid assets are valued at nominal value. If any resource is not freely available, it has been taken into account with the valuation of it.

Equity

The equity of the organisation is divided into different funds and reserves, which are defined as restricted funds or unrestricted reserves.

The unrestricted reserves include the general reserve, which serves as an assurance for the continuation of the activities of the International Confederation of Midwives, and earmarked funds available for activities defined by the ICM Board. Restricted reserves are only available for specifically defined activities as stated in the Terms of References of the funds, defined by the donors or external contributors to the funds.

Current liabilities

Borrowing and payables are initially recognised at fair value and valued against amortised cost.

PRINCIPLES OF THE STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE

Unrestricted funds raised, inheritances and donations are recorded in the year in which they have been received or as per the date the receipt becomes certain. Other income and expenditure will be accounted for in the relevant reporting period to which they relate.

During the year a midpoint daily exchange rate is used for the transfer of foreign currencies to or from Euros. At year end, monetary assets and liabilities will be (re)valued against closing rate.

Fundraising activities comprise the balance of income and expenditures of fundraising activities. Income and expenditures are accounted for in the relevant reporting period to which they relate.

PRINCIPLES OF THE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

The overview is stated with the indirect method. This means that the change in cash is explained by the changes of the other balance lines.