

FAQ on WRA Global Sunset

1. Why is WRA Global sunsetting?

WRA Global is sunsetting in response to several internal and sectoral shifts, such as COVID-19, an upsurge of anti-oppression activism, and a roll back of hard-won rights and health indicators, including a troubling stagnation on progress towards reducing global maternal mortality. These developments have prompted critical reflections on how best to foster genuine and lasting change. There is a resounding call for shifts in power and to make way for new leaders, new perspectives, new voices, and new ways of organizing.

Throughout history, we have witnessed that the most impactful organizations or ‘movements’ are those uniquely suited to their time, place, and conditions. In light of this, WRA Global will officially close its doors in 2024. In line with our principles and values, we will engage a wide variety of stakeholders and partners to inform our sunset approach in a manner that ensures the mission continues, creates space for new initiatives driven by those with lived experience, addresses evolving challenges and opportunities within the sector, and contributes to greater impact.

2. Is White Ribbon Alliance disappearing?

WRA Global refers to the US registered 501c3. WRA is an alliance of autonomous groups, including WRA Global, which are committed to improving maternal, reproductive, and newborn health and rights. Since 2005, WRA Global has served as a coordinating body for these organizations and networks, including National Alliances based primarily in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. National Alliances, as autonomous organizations, will determine for themselves how they want to collaborate and work together and have already taken steps to develop a Global Alliance Leadership group to chart the course forward. Before we close our doors, WRA Global will provide desired support to the National Alliances to help ensure a collective, inclusive, and sustainable transition that benefits mothers, pregnant and birthing people, and newborns.

3. How will this impact other members of the network?

WRA Global has convened a wide variety of partners over the years for Alliance-wide strategy development, mass mobilization and advocacy campaigns, and communities of practice. Some of these groups formalized into National Alliances, others identify as members of the Global Alliance, and others as partners and allies of WRA. Since 2021, this has included partnerships with local community and grassroots groups in every region, including Women's March Global (WVG) chapters, on a wide variety of topics from climate resilience to economic opportunity to health and well-being. As WRA Global sunsets, we are committed to working with all stakeholders to facilitate desired connections and opportunities for collaboration between these grassroots and community-based organizations and other global platforms, networks, coordinating bodies, and donor agencies.



4. How will this impact current grants to and from WRA Global?

WRA Global takes our obligations and commitments very seriously. Before closing, we will complete all pending deliverables in a quality, timely, and impactful manner, and we will work with our donors and sub-grantees to determine opportunities and next steps for any follow-on programming.

5. Will current WRA Global coordinated campaigns continue?

For our two active campaigns, *Women's Health and Well-being: Listening across the Lifespan* and *Midwives' Voices', Midwives' Demands*, we are committed to extending the momentum we have built. We will work with our co-organizers, sponsors, and mobilizing partners to ensure women's and girls' demands captured as part of these campaigns are distributed and shared with as many advocates, decision-makers, donor agencies, networks, and organizations as possible to make change. We will also work with our collaborators to identify pathways of ensuring ongoing advocacy to realize campaign demands, as well as to expand to new geographies.

6. Will WRA Global coordinated communities of practice continue?

WRA Global coordinates a number of communities, such as the Self-Care Trailblazers Country Advocacy Working Group, Global Respectful Maternity Care Council, and Women's March Global chapters. These active communities include a wide number of stakeholders—advocates, researchers, implementers, donors, policymakers, providers, and more. In consultation with these critical stakeholders, WRA Global will support development and implementation of sustainability plans so communities can continue to evolve, thrive, and rotate leadership.

7. Will WRA Global generated tools, resources, and materials remain available?

WRA Global produced and/or financed tools, resources, and materials are global goods. We will ensure they remain publicly available and accessible for use by advocates, decision-makers, allies, and other stakeholders following our sunset. We intend for our different tools, resources, and materials to live on in multiple places.

8. How can I stay informed of WRA Global's plans to sunset?

We want our sunset to be in service of expanded and ever more powerful organizing for, by, and with women and girls. We hope everyone, everywhere who is committed to an equal, healthy, and just world, listens to women and girls, and builds on what they say to make meaningful, practical change. WRA Global is committed to being open, transparent, and consultative regarding next steps and continuing our engagement with all stakeholders. We welcome ideas and suggestions on how the campaigns, communities, and resources can carry on. We will begin reaching out at the upcoming Women Deliver conference, and we encourage you to reach out to us too. We will offer periodic updates on our website and through our global mailing list and webinars.

For more information, please reach out to Kristy Kade, kkade@whiteribbonalliance.org, CEO or Sandra Pepera spepera@whiteribbonalliance.org, Chairperson of the Board of Directors.