



# RAISE YOUR VOICE

online course report

## THE COURSE

Women Thrive Alliance once again presented our flagship advocacy course, Raise Your Voice, in April 2017.

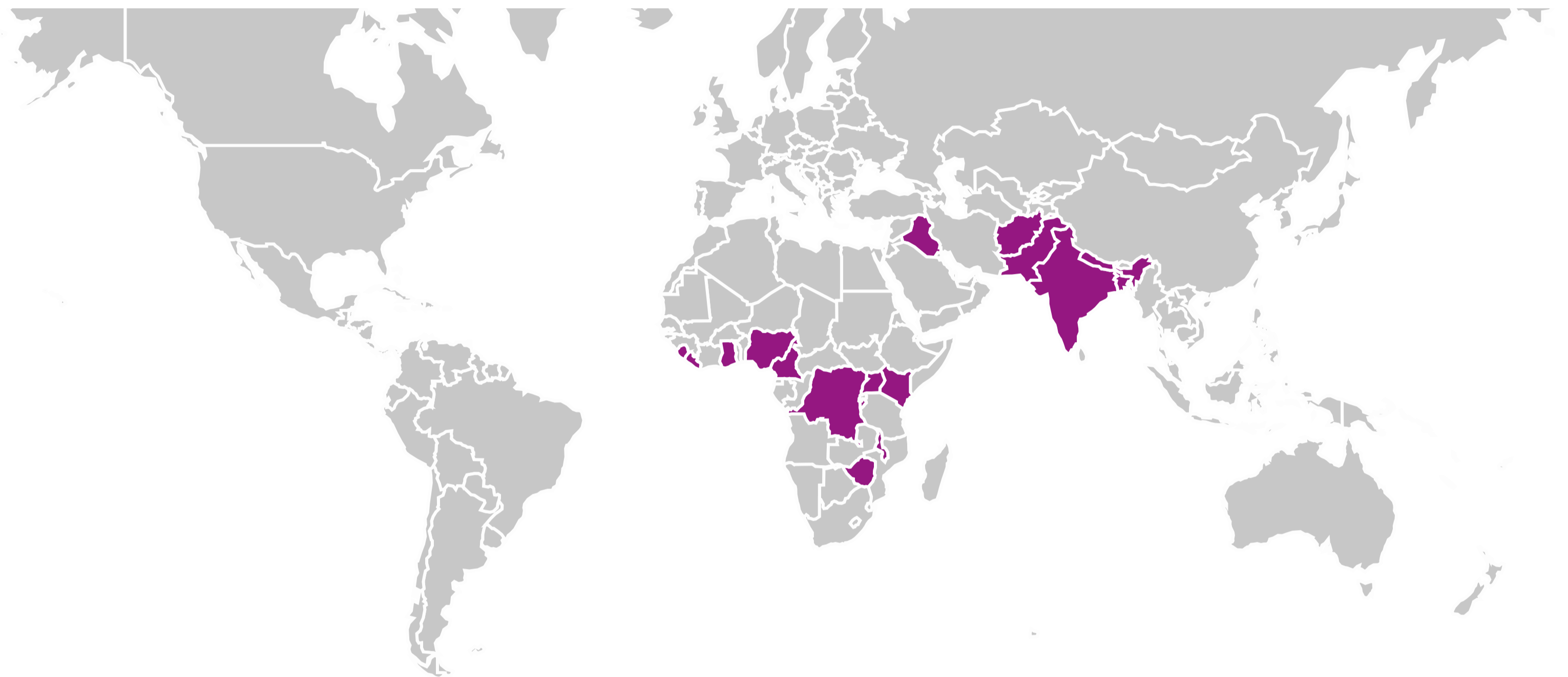
Raise Your Voice prepares our member organizations to develop and execute feminist advocacy strategies targeting diverse audiences.

At the end of the course, organizations have a better understanding of gender equality, creating objectives to attain their goals, identifying stakeholders and decision-makers, and planning advocacy campaigns.

Course facilitators created customized lessons by recording video presentations and providing learners with supplementary readings and activities.

## PARTICIPATION

This April, 38 Alliance members participated in Raise Your Voice. Member organizations from 18 countries benefited from the course.



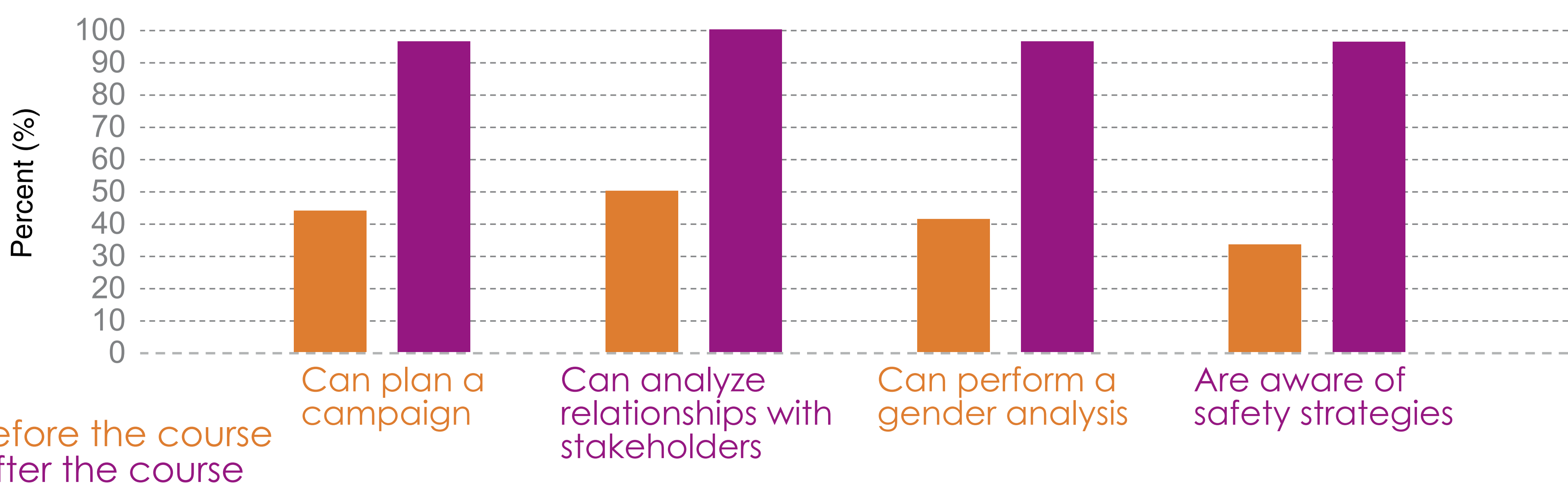
Participants worked to implement their learning by completing practical exercises like creating problem trees, mapping stakeholders, writing advocacy objectives, targeting messages to audiences, and planning campaigns. They also took part in lively group discussions on the course materials on Skype, and had one-on-one "office hours" with facilitators.

## OUTCOMES

100% of responding participants reported that the course was of high quality and contained useful information and tools that they would use in their advocacy. 96% of responding participants reported that it was easy to understand and that they would share information and tools from the course with others.

100% of responding participants reported that after taking the course, they understood feminism, the global movement for gender equality, and how their organization can contribute to it. 92% of responding participants reported that they understood how to create an advocacy strategy, and 96% reported understanding how to carry out an advocacy campaign and were aware of strategies to stay safe while doing so.

After taking the course, 96% of respondents reported that they could confidently perform a gender analysis, create a targeted advocacy message, tell an effective story about why they advocate, and plan a woman-centered campaign. 100% could identify and analyze stakeholders and decision-makers, identify problems related to gender equality and innovate solutions to those problems.





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## FROM MEMBER-PARTICIPANTS

"This course will help me to identify different gender issues that are facing many women in community. **Keep spreading this important course** to other actors in gender areas to perform the good work they are doing or planning to do."

- Gilbert, Imagine Burundi, Burundi

"I will **share the information with my colleagues** at my workplace so that we all know how SMART objectives can be arrived at."

- Veronica, Zubo Trust, Zimbabwe

"We will start using **creative and innovative methods** to pass across messages in our campaigns."

- Olayemi, YCDEI, Nigeria

"[Raise Your Voice] will help our organization to **develop and execute feminist advocacy strategies** for the betterment of marginalized women and girls."

- Emmanuel, YELI, Burundi

"It has already **started to impact my organization**. I have started involving stakeholders and other organizations ...to see how best we shall work together."

- Florence, BACRC, Uganda

"The skills [from the course] will be taught to other organizational members and **improve our advocacy work**."

- Sula, Women of Uganda Network, Uganda

"This course was a great opportunity for me in gaining **new skills and ideas**."

- Queenie, PPSDPH, Liberia



## HOW CAN I TAKE THIS COURSE?

Our **Raise Your Voice** course has finished for now, but it will be offered again next year!

We offer several other courses over the length of the year, including **Raise Your Visibility (June 2017)**, **Raise Your Funds (August 2017)**, and **Speak the SDGs (Fall 2017)**. Keep up-to-date with our course offerings on the Alliance Online!

<http://womenthriveglobalnetwork.ning.com/>

Women Thrive will email members about upcoming courses, and will post course information and requirements on the Alliance Online website. All members are given the opportunity to apply to each course. If you have additional questions about the application process, please contact [capacitybuilding@womenthrive.org](mailto:capacitybuilding@womenthrive.org).

## WHAT IF I AM NOT A MEMBER?

If you or someone you know would like to take the course, but you are not a member, you may want to think about joining the Alliance Online.

In order to become a member of the Alliance, you must:

- be a grassroots women's rights and/or gender equality organization based in a Global South country
- be an organization directly engaging in advocacy for women's rights and/or gender equality within your community
- be committed to working with other fellow advocates from around the world to advance gender equality globally.

Women Thrive Alliance does not accept memberships from organizations that do not conduct any kind of advocacy, nor from those who do not specifically identify women's rights as a fundamental target of the organization's work. If you have doubts about your eligibility, or for more information, please contact [membership@womenthrive.org](mailto:membership@womenthrive.org).