

# **COUNTRIES WHO ROSE IN 2022 AND #NUMBER OF RISINGS**

ANALYZED AND COMPILED FROM 44 OBR FEEDBACK REPORTS REPRESENTING 60 COUNTRIES & 7 REGIONS

#### **ASIA:**

**INDIA: 145 BANGLADESH: 33** SRI LANKA: 7 MALDIVES: 1 NEPAL: 2 **PAKISTAN: 3** (STILL TO TAKE PLACE IN JULY/AUGUST) **BHUTAN: 10** (STILL TO TAKE PLACE IN JULY/AUGUST) **MONGOLIA: 8 PHILIPPINES: 136 CAMBODIA: 8 INDONESIA: 5 SINGAPORE: 3 THAILAND: 2 MYANMAR: 5** HONG KONG: 15 MACAU: 3 **TAIWAN: 2 JAPAN: 10** 

#### **MIDDLE EAST:** UNITED ARAB EMIRATES: 1 PALESTINE: 1\* EGYPT: 1\*

#### **AFRICA:**

**DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO: 6 ESWATINI: 6 ZIMBABWE: 4 SOUTH AFRICA: 5 TOGO: 6 CAMEROON: 10 KENYA: 7 SENEGAL: 5** MALAWI: 3 **RWANDA: 2 BOTSWANA: 3 SERRA LEONE: 15 LESOTHO: 2 MOZAMBIQUE: 1 UGANDA: 5 NIGERIA: 5** ZAMBIA: 6 GABON: 1 NAMIBIA: 6 **MALI: 1** LIBERIA: 1 **GHANA: 4 AFRICA REGIONAL: 3\*** 

### **NORTH AMERICA:**

USA: 60 (APPROXIMATE) MEXICO: 45 GUATEMALA: 5 JAMAICA: 3 CANADA: 5 HONDURAS: 2 PUERTO RICO: 1

#### **LATIN AMERICA:**

BRAZIL: 2 ARGENTINA: 1 URUGUAY: 2 CHILE: 1 PERU: 1 PANAMA: 1 COSTA RICA: 1 VENEZUELA: 1 REGIONAL (NORTH AND LATIN AMERICA): 1\*

#### **EUROPE:**

UNITED KINGDOM: 7 AUSTRIA: 18 POLAND: 50 PORTUGAL: 2 CROATIA: 20 ITALY: 20 SERBIA: 7 BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA: 2

BELGIUM: 2 SWITZERLAND: 1 SLOVAKIA: 1 GERMANY: 56 NETHERLANDS: 4 EUROPEAN WOMEN'S LOBBY (EWL): 19 countries: 1 ++ BELARUS: 1 FRANCE: 2 GREECE: 1 SPAIN: 1 TURKEY: 1

#### AUSTRALIA/ OCEANIA:

AUSTRALIA: 6 NEW ZEALAND: 2 FIJI: 3

#### TOTAL NUMBER OF COUNTRIES WHO ROSE: 80

#### TOTAL NUMBER

**OF RISINGS: 900** (approximate) (INCLUDING OBR LAUNCHES AND AFGHANISTAN ACTIONS)

#### **BREAKDOWN:**

78 COUNTRIES rose from February to May 2022

#### 744 EVENTS IN 2022 (approximate number)

31 COUNTRIES held formal OBR launches

### from November to December 2021

#### **107 LAUNCH EVENTS**

**49 COUNTRIES** held solidarity action events for Afghanistan

#### \*AFGHANISTAN ACTION ONLY

## EXAMPLES OF HOW THE THEME "RISING FOR THE BODIES OF ALL WOMEN AND GIRLS" WAS LOCALIZED IN SOME COUNTRIES:

**CAMEROON:** "Women as mothers of humanity"

**AFRICA:** "The protection of women's bodies is the protection of the earth" "Rising for body autonomy, justice, and the restoration and strengthening of democratic systems"

ZIMBABWE: "Rise and heal" (healing for survivors of abuse through art)

ITALY: "Men as part of the solution to end violence towards women"

**CONGO:** "Women's bodies and the earth are the sources of life"

**MONGOLIA:** "Rising against benevolent sexism" (a stereotype that portrays women and girls as vulnerable)

**TOGO:** "What does it mean to bring love back to yourself – for rural women and students"

**GABON:** "Respect for our daughters' bodies"

ZAMBIA: "Ending child marriage"

**JAMAICA:** "Honoring and celebrating the body of the earth and our relationship to the land"

**CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA:** "The earth, women and girls as the principal and unique source of life on our planet"

KENYA: "Our bodies are celestial"

**BOTSWANA:** "Rising to increase public awareness of violence against women and children in rural areas"

#### AUSTRIA, BELARUS, POLAND, CROATIA (with other EU

countries): "Freedom for Olga"/ "Rising against the war in Ukraine, against racism, and for the climate" \*(Long time OBR organizer and activist Olga, has been taken as a political prisoner in Belarus)





**INDIA:** "Rising for the bodies of people of all genders. For the importance of organic farming and local seasonal food. Rising with people of case and religious minorities. Rising with working class women"

**SRI LANKA:** "Bodies of women (particularly rural women) have the right to rest, leisure, pleasure, movement, dance and enjoyment"

**UNITED KINGDOM:** "Rising for domestic workers, refugees, and the right to wellness"

POLAND: "Only YES means consent. Sex without consent is rape"

FIJI: "Youth activism and the climate crisis in low lying pacific island countries"

**CROATIA:** "Protection of the earth and women with disabilities"

PORTUGAL: "Celebration of the body with movement, community, and nature"

PHILIPPINES: "Rise for women's rights and security"

**SERRA LEONE:** "Rise for the future where women, girls and the earth flourish in joyful symbiosis"

RWANDA: "Wiceceka" (in the local language meaning: "Don't keep quiet")

UGANDA: "Rising for the rights of pregnant teenagers during the time of Covid"

SINGAPORE: "The portrayal of the female body in the arts"

**NAMIBIA:** "Connecting the issues of mother earth and the bodies of women, girls and non-binary people"

**SOUTH AFRICA:** "Rising for the LGBTQIA+ vulnerable groups, against marginalization and homophobia"

**SENEGAL:** "The resilience of rural women and men thanks to new technologies: prospects and constraints"

**USA:** "Exploration of what it means to truly love our bodies, honor and respect them, and earth, in the midst of a global pandemic"

**EUROPEAN WOMEN'S LOBBY** (19 European countries): "Rising For The Release of the EU Directive On Combating Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence"

# **FEEDBACK AND IMPACT OF THE THEME AND OF THE RISINGS:** (GENERAL/BROAD – SHARED BY ALL COORDINATORS):

- Deepened the understanding of the importance and intimate relationship of the living body with the body of the earth.
- Much easier to connect violence against women and the earth, climate change.
- Positive impact on communities with women really embracing the theme.
- Women felt valued.
- Communities felt the theme was very relevant now, in a time of pandemic.
- Connected different groups to look at the relevance of issues affecting them.
- Highlighted women as the continuity of the life of the earth.
- Helped in restoring women's self- confidence.
  - Gave deeper appreciation of nature and our bodies.
    - Challenged patriarchy in a different way, through the lens of the earth.
      - Gave more opportunities for the youth and for rural women to lead and express freely.

- Brought inclusivity, acceptance and care as part of the political movement.
- Brought much deeper appreciation for the strength of solidarity and unity.
- Enabled wider communication of the issues to communities who were initially not interested.
- Saw wider participation of social movements in all areas: age, class, gender, race, climate.
- Allowed different kinds of spaces to be held.
- Hugely energized and uplifted people, particularly in these difficult times.
- Created discourse on varied themes like "notions and perceptions of beauty", on "covid, health and women's bodies", on "women exploring the potential of their bodies", on what "women sacrifice for care work."
- "Mainstreaming" artistic approaches to issues enabled wider understanding of the issues and engaged more participants and audiences.
- Key impact in the media and on social media.
- Many young activists found theme empowering – developing a new movement – "girls, the earth and climate activism."

- Allowed many communities to think about the labor women put in and how it affects their body and mental health.
- Theme drew more local partnerships.
- Challenged communities to look within and reflect on their individual actions.
- Connection of women's bodies and the earth made the approach more practical

   so that local governments, members of parliament, organizations and community leaders supported OBR.
- The organic growth of how collective action and being organized is power.
- Online and offline activities grew, despite covid, bringing much bigger public awareness.
- Art became critical for healing -for filling a gap between survivors speaking out and then getting help.
- OBR continued to raise awareness and bring and strengthen solidarity.
- Brought us back to the origins of our movement and activism – the war on women's bodies.

# **SPECIFIC IMPACT:**

**ZIMBABWE** Because of their focus on healing, they had hundreds of survivors coming through for support – majority with mental health challenges because of abuse. This was a first in Zimbabwe.

**CONGO** Focus had great impact on community leaders who became aware of consequences of not respecting and protecting nature, so multiple actions have been planned to plant more trees and implement initiatives on collection of non-biodegradable objects.





**MONGOLIA** Reached over 1 million people through all their online activities (in a country of 3.5 million people, this is very significant). This led to the creation of women-friendly environments and spaces for women, which is the first of its kind in Mongolia.

**GABON** Their theme of consent created initiatives for schools and communities to make protection of their pupils the main priority with listening and care programs.

**PHILIPPINES** Linking OBR to the plunder of the country's resources by the government was impactful as a huge number of local government units joined OBR this year, making OBR an integral part of their March month long women's month programs. This is despite the continued vilification, political suppression and red tagging of groups like Gabriela by the national government, and despite the national government's order not to support progressive organizations like Gabriela.



**SOUTH AFRICA** Because South Africa rose in a huge way for and with and led by the LGBTQI+ communities, they were able to have their first OBR pageant in partnership with Pink Knights of the Cape Flats and Your True Colors, and have now initiated monthly awareness actions in various communities. This is very significant in a country where hate crimes against LBGTQI+, as well as abuse of them by the government, are still alarming.

**POLAND** The action and campaign to change the definition of rape in the country gained stronger ground because of OBR. More than 40 big groups from all over Poland took part in OBR actions in various ways this year for this issue.

**INDONESIA** Because OBR Indonesia focused on youth risings, in rural areas in particular, many colleges and high schools have now implemented counselling centers, as well as included violence against women and girls with youth (the types of violence and education on it) as a focus in their school programs.

**ESWATINI** Establishment of community circles where women and girls can challenge cultural barriers – a first of its kind in Eswatini. OBR's call for solidarity also enjoined more than 23 organizations – which is also unprecedented in the country.

**AFRICA** Currently, OBR Africa as a regional collective united force is the only organic women's movement keeping everyone alive and not easily influenced by politics, funders or governments.

**NAMIBIA** OBR provided firm focus on the extraction of natural resources of Namibia due to corruption, as well as on the issue of oil exploration by foreign companies in the country. This is a major thing for the country and built community initiatives for people to come and take part.



**SRI LANKA** For the first time on tea plantations, women farm workers played traditional games, sang and danced and had fun. In a country and sector where rural farm working women's bodies are sacrificed for "care" or "labor" work, and where older women are expected to remain shy, humble, quiet and tirelessly work for their families – this was a very significant breakthrough.

ZAMBIA Like Zimbabwe, many, many more GBV cases were reported as a result of women and girls finding their power and voices through OBR – particularly among teenage girls who are still being forced into teen marriages.

**AUSTRIA** On its 10TH year in Austria, OBR was able to mobilize partnerships with Parents for Future Vienna, and with the Fridays for Future Austria movements – because of the connection to the climate crisis and stronger community awareness on its connection to women by OBR Austria and a yearly increasing involvement of Artists rising.

**CAMBODIA** Because of their original song and video "Rise For Our Bodies" – campaign reached more LGBTQI+ communities and youth groups, with nearly 400,000 people on Facebook, with nearly 250,000 views – which is also a first for the country. And more significantly, the outreach encompassed more rural communities. Apart from inclusion, a lot of focus went on questioning "standards of beauty" – especially on whitening, connecting it to layers of colonialized consciousness.





**EUROPEAN WOMEN'S LOBBY (EWL)** (19 countries represented in Europe): 20 MP's from across Europe participated in the action in Strasbourg, France, and the social media actions after the gathering garnered nearly 58K impressions on Twitter.

**SIERRA LEONE** Establishment of OBR clubs in 15 schools – where there will be ongoing discussions on ending VAW, and OBR activities, led by the OBR team.

**NEW ZEALAND** Intergenerational impact coming much more into focus: OBR Auckland New Zealand organizer is a 15-year-old girl Nidhi Chetty. This is her second year organizing OBR, and she has organized OBR primarily for migrant communities, being a migrant herself from Fiji, and a child of a single mother who has been abused in an intimate partner relationship. This is a direct quote from her: "OBR is how my mom found her voice, and I want other girls, women, children and people from the LGBTQ+ community to find their voices too. OBR is not just a movement for me. It is a way of raising awareness for women and fighting against the patriarchal society. Taking part in the 205 OBR movement saved my mom somehow, and is the reason for our safe and healthy life, and this is what I want to raise awareness for. It makes me want to scream and show all the people who didn't believe in her, to look at where she is now, the woman she has become, and the child she has raised. I stand for my mom and every single woman out there who went through or is going through abuse or violence."

# **HGHLGHS** OF RISINGS AND CREATIVE RESISTANCE ACTIONS





**EWL (EUROPEAN WOMEN'S LOBBY)** EWL Directors travelled to Strasbourg, France, where the European Parliament plenary session took place – where they coordinated an action and photo call attended by 20 EU MP's from across Europe for the official launch of the EU Directive on combating violence against women and domestic violence – which is a historic landmark.

**BANGLADESH** As well as a large artists rising online with strong artists support, 15 orphanages from 15 rural areas held OBR events with Karate events. In another 15 rural areas, tree planting ceremonies were held in honor of Kamla Bhasin.

**GUATEMALA** In Antigua, women workers did a 5-hour OBR on empowerment with lots of dancing.



**UNITED KINGDOM** Domestic Workers held a series of online art actions where they drew themselves as superheroes and where they described each of their powers. The Voice of Domestic Workers also held a prominent rising action at the Labour Party Conference in Brighton – focusing on a decade without rights (10 years since the rights of domestic workers were removed).

In Wincanton, poets, rappers, storytellers, writers and musicians held a rising for revolution artistic event.

The UK also headed the "Raise The Vibration" – DJ livestream event, where 18 DJ's across 8 countries raising funds for local charities supporting femme identifying persons escaping or recovering from violence/abuse.

**NEPAL** Held a huge in person artistic rising coordinated and participated in by over 30 civil society organizations (diverse and all classes and castes and genders were equally represented), with dances, poems, drama, art exhibitions and panel discussions.

**CAMEROON** 7 events across the country that focused on wellbeing, creativity, relaxation, intimate and body hygiene, stress managements which included painting workshops for girls and recycling actions.

**RWANDA** Girls schools held stage performances and other creative presentations. A second rising was a partnering with local authorities to focus on the OBR theme with various artistic actions.

**UGANDA** Held reconciliation dialogues (with community elders, parents and pregnant teens), community sexual reproductive health clinics, community legal aid clinics (about channels of regress in case of sexual violence and abuse), career education clinics for teen, and a teenage mothers OBR Solidarity dance.

**SINGAPORE** Held an artistic initiative on "The Portrayal of the Female Body In The Arts"; did a Youth Rising with a performance of "The Vagina Monologues" with an all-teen cast; creating and producing shorts plays on the theme of "Feminine Power".



**BOTSWANA** An artistic rising with drama was held, after a situational analysis on cases of violence was given by the police.

**SERBIA** 6 risings which included premiering new plays on women, OR street dancing, vagina workshops and OBR street actions.

**HONG KONG** Hybrid programs (combination of face to face and online because of lockdowns) in different areas across HK. While the warmth and energy of face-to-face events got somewhat sacrificed, the online aspect made it possible to have bigger engagement and participation across borders, time zones (with domestic and migrant groups all across Asia).





JAMAICA Held 2 meta activation meditations on the land that was to give the community space to drop into the theme and to ground their bodies as a beginning and the connections to their ancestors.

JAPAN Had more than 15 OBR street actions which highlighted the dancing of "Break The Chain", and included women's consultations and counselling sessions – some led by women trade unions, some led by women members of the Diet (legislature), and others led by LGBTQI+ communities, women survivors, women NGOs.

**KENYA** 4 risings which included an Artistic Rising on reproductive health, women's shapes and sizes; Rising with women vying for political seats; Safe public place march, an action call "Rising From the Ruins" (an exhibition on violence towards curvaceous women, with a focus on plus size confidence and belief).



**TOGO** Film screenings on OBR theme in schools; interviews with women on domestic violence; a March 8th event led by domestic workers.

**PORTUGAL** Held a "dance temple" where they created an altar out of natural materials in the shape of a vulva, where they had fire and water and where people were invited to sit, reflect, pray, cry, meditate, gift something to the altar, witness the inner movements and feelings while dancing with the body and the earth body.

**GHANA** Had various provincial and rural community gatherings, with queen mothers, community leaders, women farmers, shop owners, students, to discuss the vision of OBR. **AUSTRIA** Held numerous OBR flashmobs leading up to their main Artistic Rising events last May 5th with prominent Austrian artists and speakers.

ZAMBIA Risings took place in school focusing on violence, reporting and empowerment. Held other risings - a workshop attended by police, legal practitioners and NGOs on children's rights; discussions on child protection with priests; and participation in advocating for their Access to Information Bill.

**TALY** Had a national OBR Italy event online with activists, artists, journalists and various organizations who have been involved with OBR from the beginning – with the focus on the involvement of men – alongside various OBR flashmobs around the country.



**MEXICO** Held a Love and Friendship race; OBR dancing of "Break The Chain" in huge events all across the country; inauguration of the first shelter for transwomen in Cuernavaca Mexico; cultural youth risings events with dancing and music and orchestras; Photo exhibition of women first responders in sensual photographs showing the love women have for their bodies; and the launch of the "Break the Chain" video featuring acclaimed singer (and long- time OBR artist) Mrs. Manoella Torres with the world famous "Ballet Folklórico de Amalia Hernándezn", and featuring the famous art work of Frida Kahlo.

**MALAWI** OBR risings included tree planting actions led by traditional authority and local chiefs, and OBR awareness meetings.





INDIA Had huge and varied risings all across the 22 states of India; Actions on cybercrimes and against child marriages; Women farmers rising; Traditional and Seasonal Food Festival; "From Oppression to Expression" (emerging Dalit creativity and agency in the mainstream discourse); Human rights day celebration; poster making competition, Balloon march (to let girls out at night); Road shows to promote gender equality and safety for women and girls; Women group meetings on issues of health services and employment, unpaid care work; Human rights actions of girls; March for accountability of International Women's day; Body movement workshops; Actions on the "meaning of love"; OBR cultural programs; Bicycle rally; Artistic Uprisings; Midnight walks: Conference on violence on women and the earth; Travelling film festival; Mountain Arts Festival.



**CONGO** Held OBR activities in high schools on positive masculinity and protection of Mother Nature; waste collection activities in communities; OBR dancing and actions in City of Joy with members of the community (including religious leaders, workers from Panzi foundation and Panzi hospital, young mothers, women from the markets).

**MONGOLIA** Huge online actions on collecting survivors letters, then developed posters, videos, and stand- up comedy in person actions in line with this focus.

**GABON** Showed videos on consent in various schools, then had art and drawing challenges with children on the theme.

**PHILIPPINES** Mixture of physical or on-the-ground gatherings (artistic, cultural and political risings), flash mobs on the streets and plaza – with mixed constituents of women, LGBTQI+, youth , children, workers, farmers, indigenous people, religious, government employees, etc. A highlight event was a rising called "Ride, Dance Unite", a bike protest participated in by more than 300 bikers from grassroots communities cycling to end VAWC, followed by a rally. More than 120 OBR actions were held across the country.

**CROATIA** 19 risings all across Croatia – with notable ones organized by Roma women and by women with disability; events were artistic with dancing, cultural programs, creation of more rising gardens, and creative. A big focus was women sending a clear message against discrimination of women with disabilities (with the theme: "let the beauty and strength of women with disabilities be visible").

**AFRICA REGION** The OBR Africa coordinators held regional online events with various themes: "Africa Rising For the Bodies of all Women, Girls and the Earth", "Rape: Another War on Women's Bodies", "OBR Africa Conversation on Climate Justice in Africa in Connection to Women's Bodies".

**ZIMBABWE** Held a huge artistic rising concert at the Zimbabwe College of Music focusing on the importance of music and dance therapy for survivors of abuse; Produced a film titled "One In Three"; Produced a book on experiences of women supporting other women who are on a healing path from violence.



**ESWATINI** Held a grassroots rising/convention; Community Circles youth rising; Actions to protect Mother Earth including a clean-up action; Conversations with women leaders; Earth day artistic risings.

**NAMIBIA** Risings in rural schools; Risings led by LGBTQI+ communities; Earth Day risings with "Rising for Planet Earth Safe Spaces" – using bodies as forms of resistance in the creation of liberating dance moves.

**SOUTH AFRICA** Held Safe Space dialogues with LGBTQI+ participants; Huge Artistic Rising with songs and dances on homophobia and racism; an all-inclusive "celebrating your diversity" pageant.

**POLAND** OBR dance protests on the theme "Only Yes means consent. Sex without consent is rape"; petitions and actions to change the definition of rape. More than 60 groups around Poland participated.





**INDONESIA** Youth risings in rural high schools, with speeches, poetry, OBR dancing with the focus on "performing the body language of VAW".

**SRI LANKA** Tea plantation workers rising; Rising of workers of free trade zone, LGBTQI communities and sex workers; Rising of university students and teachers; Rising with children.

**CAMBODIA** OBR radio talk shows; Tik Tok dance challenge; Creation of music video entitled "Rise For Our Bodies" with their original OBR song and dance and led by LGBTQI+ producing team and artists; In person youth risings in rural communities including OBR dancing and panel discussions.

**MYANMAR** Held several community artistic risings in the countryside, with children of displaced peoples who are running away from the military conflict in the cities.



#### AUSTRALIA

The country held many risings, and a highlight was the annual sunrise rising at Byron Bay on the beach, where after the program and flashmob, women and girls strip naked and run into the water.

**MYANMAR** Held several community artistic risings in the country sides, with children of internally displaced peoples (IDP) who are running away from the military conflict in the cities. They also held risings focusing on the connection of the political situation of the country, the covid crisis and food crisis (with youth, artists, and children of IDP's).

**CANADA** Vancouver held a rising celebrating the shared strength of women with art, music and dance.

**USA** An online event called "Rejoice and Rise 2022: A Body Love Uprising" was held with artists, activists, and thinkers as they explored what it means to truly love our bodies, honor and respect them and the earth in the midst of a global pandemic.

Among many others, women farmworkers held risings in fields led by Lideres Campesinas in California – rising for women's bodies and the earth. In Tuczon Arizona, a community youth flashmob was held to rise against childhood sexual violence. In Illinois, The Long Red Line held their annual OBR Art event and exhibition. In West Hollywood LA, OBR activists held a rising drum and dance circle for women to reclaim their bodies. Dallas Rising held a "Dallas Rising In Love Flashmob". Orlando held a "Dance to unite against violence" event. "Brooklyn Rising" held a dance and OBR youth revolution. Sacramento held a "Purple Hearts Awards" to raise awareness on violence. Hawaii held a huge dance rising in Kauai.

#### ONE BILLION RISING IN SECOND LIFE (ONLINE MULTI-MEDIA PLATFORM/ ONLINE VIRITUAL WORLD): ONLINE (GLOBAL) – UK BASED

For the 9th year, men and women in Second Life joined activists, writers, thinkers, celebrities, and people across the world to Rise, Resist and Unite. The event features a four-region stage where thousands came together to dance, surrounded by an area of art installations, arenas for poetry, live music, dance and dramatic productions, and informational exhibits. A variety of performers played over the 24-hour period and poetry and dance events were held at different times, enabling people all over the world to attend this virtual event no matter their timezone.



# THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS TO RISE FOR IN 2023

For the bodies of all women and girls

To end patriarchy

To end imperialism, capitalism, racism

For Peace ("any threat to peace is a threat to women's bodies")/ to end all wars, conflicts and militarism

For climate justice

To end fascism

To end intervention of militaristic, ravenous, capitalist countries, and end poverty

To end hate against minorities, and religious fundamentalism

For the right to dissent and speak

For protection of indigenous lands and resources

To end traditional and religious practices, and cultural chains

To end the pandemic of male violence

For equitable and proportional representation of women in all state/formal structures

For the rights of refugees and workers

To hold governments accountable

## SHOULD WE CONTINUE WITH THE CAMPAIGN AND WHY?

All coordinators are unanimous in their decision to continue with the One Billion Rising campaign because it has amplified, strengthened, sustained, expanded, galvanized, deepened and intensified their work in ways that no other campaign has. It has also exposed and highlighted, validated, escalated and magnified their work, as well as connected it with a larger global movement, creating valuable solidarity- in these times of increasing political suppression and oppression, which they have relied on to be able to continue. It has energized them to keep doing the work despite and against all odds and obstacles and increasing challenges. And that it has given exuberance, dynamism, creativity, joy, hope and vigor to all the expressions of their activism which they do not often experience outside of OBR.



"We cannot lead if we haven't served. We need to continue with OBR because one day, the next President of South Africa will be a woman – and she will be an OBR woman! Womandla! OBR is our lifeline in a war...we cannot stop."

> -LUCINDA EVANS (OBR SOUTH AFRICA COORDINATOR)

## IT HAS ALSO PROVEN, IN THE LAST 10 YEARS OF THEIR RISINGS – THAT ART IS THE MOST POWERFUL FORM OF ACTIVISM.