

GLOBAL DAY OF ACTION FOR ACCESS TO SAFE AND
LEGAL ABORTION!

2015 REPORT

#BUSTTHEMYTHS

2015
WGNRR

SEPTEMBER28.ORG

WGNRR SEPTEMBER 28 2015 CAMPAIGN REPORT



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

It is with great pleasure that we present WGNRR's 2015 report on September 28 mobilizations undertaken by members and partners for the Global Day of Action for Access to Safe and Legal Abortion around the world!

Much like previous years, this year's report aims to capture the number, range and geographical spread of events conducted during the 2015 Campaign, but most importantly to provide inspiration, for campaigners all over the world to continue fighting against abortion stigma and to address abortion as a human right and a social good. The activities that took place in 2015 stimulated and generated support for ongoing campaigns in countries where women are still endangered by unsafe abortion, threatened with criminal punishment, and subject to stigma in the absence of progressive laws and services that recognize safe abortion as a public health necessity and a fundamental human right. Drawing on the previous years' successes, this year we witnessed once more a wide and growing range of mobilizations, including rallies, marches, conferences, cultural performances, focus groups, dialogues and an huge social media mobilization throughout the month of September, peaking towards September 28. The social media outreach counted in millions of on-line users participating in on-line discussions with the hashtags [#BustTheMyths](#) [#Sept28](#), and fight [#AbortionStigma](#).

We can successfully report that the number of activities in the participating countries and among the international NGOs involved in the Campaign has grown, and their impact is greater. The day has become a widely and internationally recognized day and it's [impact in social media has been the greatest yet](#). We have seen more reports of these activities, and more reports of publicly important speeches being made, reported in national newspaper articles and in the visual media too. The infographics jointly launched by WGNRR and our wonderful partner RNW-Love Matters were a new and extremely successful feature of the 2015 campaign. The September 28 website <http://www.september28.org/> as it has in the past years, served as a central platform for collecting information on international actions and joint on-line mobilizations. The report is meant for all Campaign participants as a means to find back reflections on their activities as well as an invitation for future collaboration. Further down the pages you will find an overview of activities per country, the Virtual Mural mobilization and social media report and quick capture of on-line publications dedicated to September 28 activities.

We cannot emphasize enough the importance of collaboration and working in alliances, the success of the September 28 Day of Action would not have been possible if it weren't for the global partners and the many groups at national level who organized events aimed at showing the importance for women of safe abortion.

As a reflection towards the next year's campaign, we see the importance of expanding our alliances to increase awareness about September 28 Day of Action and to ensure an even bigger impact in the public, health and public policy spheres.

CAMPAIGN BACKGROUND

September 28 has been a regional campaign for the decriminalization of abortion in Latin America and Caribbean for nearly twenty years before being taken on by SRHR activists all over the world as a Global Day of Action for Access to Safe and Legal Abortion in 2011.

WGNRR undertakes September 28 annual campaigning activities in collaboration with its members, partners, and allies around the world, and as a member of the International Campaign for Women's Right to Safe Abortion.

*Healthcare providers are often leading advocates for access to safe and legal abortion.



WGNRR "Bust The Myths" Campaign as supported by Global Partners!

We want to thank all of the global partners who supported, followed and reported WGNRR's 2015 Campaign theme "Bust the Myths"

IWHC @IntlWomen · 28 Sep 2015
It's #Sept28, Global Day of Action for Access to Safe & Legal #Abortion. Let's #BustTheMyths & end #AbortionStigma

AWID @AWID · 28 Sep 2015
Across the world, access to safe and legal abortion is being denied because of the power of conservative religious actors #BustTheMyths

Mama Cash @mamacash · 26 Sep 2015
#BustTheMyths Criminalizing abortion doesn't stop abortions – it only makes them unsafe #LegalizeAbortion

IPPF Europe @ipfen · 28 Sep 2015
#DYK? There are 14 MILLION unsafe abortions a year. Today is Global Day of Action for Access to Safe & Legal #Abortion! #Bustthemylths

MakeEveryWomanCount @MakeWomenCount · 28 Sep 2015
#Abortionstigma makes #women ashamed of having one & will find out #Sept28 #BustTheMyths

RHM Journal @RHMJournal · 28 Sep 2015
On #Sept28 if you want to help #BustTheMyths & end #Abortion resources from @WHO are v. helpful who introproductivehe...

ARROW @ARROW_Women · 28 Sep 2015
MYTH Abortion causes breast cancer TRUTH No link between abortion and breast cancer #BustTheMyths #SRHR4ALL

CHANGE @genderhealth · 28 Sep 2015
Myths foster ignorance, fear and silence, all of which feed #abortionstigma & discrimination #BustTheMyths #Sept28

RSMCLAC @RSMCLAC · 29 Sep 2015
#28sep #RompeLosMitos #AbortoSeguro storify.com/Reddesalud/28s... via @rsmclac

ipas @ipasOrg · 17 Sep 2015
#Abortionstigma is at the root of all barriers to #sa #BustTheMyths #Sept28 #abortionisnotacrimerealitycheck.org/article/2012/1...

Women Help Women @WomenHelpOrg · 28 Sep 2015
Abortion pills are safe and effective! #BustTheMyths #Sept28

Men Care @MenCareGlobal · 28 Sep 2015
Men can be key partners in supporting women's access to safe & legal abortion. @WGNRR #BustTheMyths #Sept28 #AbortionStigma

H.E.R.A. @HERA_mkd · 28 Sep 2015
Supporters of women's right to choose! #abortion #BustTheMyths #Macedonia #аборцы #здрТодМтоторте

CentreActionLaique @ActionLaique · 28 Sep 2015
#28sept Journée mondiale pour l'accès à l'avortement: tordons le cou à quelques mythes et rumeurs! #BustTheMyths laicite.be/actualite/1509...

FRIDA @FRIDAfund · 28 Sep 2015
Access to safe & legal abortion is a #humanright. This #Sept28 spe against #AbortionStigma and #BustTheMyths on.fb.me/1K0DJyU

AsiaPacificAlliance @AsiaPacAlliance · 28 Sep 2015
#BustTheMyths. Fight abortion stigma & discrimination! Join september28.org

Youth Coalition @youth_coalition · 28 Sep 2015
MYTH: Abortion causes serious medical complications FACT: Safe abortions have an extremely low rate of complications #Sept28 #BustTheMyths

SRHRforALL @SRHRforALL · 28 Sep 2015
Beyond Beijing Committee celebrating #Sept28 by busting abortion myths! #BustTheMyths fb.me/1PA3L6YIQ

PopDev Program @PopDevProgram · 28 Sep 2015
#BustTheMyths and end #AbortionStigma september28.org

WHRDIC @WHRDIC · 28 Sep 2015
#BustTheMyths #Sept28 #abortionstigma fb.me/sqqH4mZ

Fundación Mujeres @fujeres · 28 Sep 2015
Este #28S que nadie te obligue #AbortoLibre #BustTheMyths #AbortoLegal#DerechoADefenderDerechos

AVESA @AVESA_DNG_VZLA · 30 Sep 2015
En América Latina, el aborto inseguro es responsable del 17 % de las muertes maternas. #RompeLosMitos

IPPF Global @ipf · 28 Sep 2015
Because of #AbortionStigma women resort to unsafe abortion #Sept28 #BustTheMyths ow.ly/SK4PA

Women Deliver @WomenDeliver · 29 Sep 2015
#AbortionStigma is detrimental to women's health - not abortion. #BustTheMyths #Sept28

TARSHI @tarshingo · 28 Sep 2015
Criminalizing abortion will not stop it, but will force women to seek unsafe underground services. #AbortionStigma #BustTheMyths @WGNRR

A is For @AlsForOrg · 28 Sep 2015
#BustTheMyths #Sept28

Elige Red de Jóvenes @EligeRed · 29 Sep 2015
#RompeLosMitos el aborto es un servicio médico, no #AbortoSinEstigma #Sept28 @ipasMEX

NNAF @NNAF · 28 Sep 2015
Sept 28 is Global Day of Action for Access to Safe and Legal Abortion. #BustTheMyths at septeml

CREA @OfficialCREA · 28 Sep 2015
Its critical to addressing abortion stigma-unsafe abortion contribute to 8% of maternal death in India #BustTheMyths

Pathfinder Int. @PathfinderInt · 28 Sep 2015
#BustTheMyths. Fight abortion stigma & discrimination. #Sept28

Sea Change Program @SeaChangeProg · 3 Sep 2015
It is high time we #BustTheMyths surrounding abortion negative-!... #Sept28

FIGO @FIGOHQ · 28 Sep 2015
FIGO advocates for reproductive rights and supports Global Day of Action for Safe and Legal Abortion #abortionstigma #bustthemylths #Sept28

Love Matters @LoveMattersHQ · 28 Sep 2015
#LoveMatters #News.Highlighting the realities of #abortion through testimonials #BustTheMyths #Sept28 @WGNRR lovematters.in/en/news/not-ev...

ASTRANetwork @ASTRANetwork · 28 Sep 2015
Being pro-choice means that I am pro-life as well! #BustTheMyths #Sept28

Cumbre Social @SocialcumbreS · 26 Sep 2015
Manifestación por un #abortolibre #28S 19-30h ¡LAS MUJERE #28SAbortoLibre15 #AbortoLegal #BustTheMyths

Médécins du Monde @MdM_France · 28 Sep 2015
MdM défend le droit universel des femmes à décider d'avoir ou non des enfants #BustTheMyths #VGCestmondroit bit.ly/1Vqk1j

Youth Ki Awaaz @YouthKiAwaaz · 28 Sep 2015
The conversation we need to have to #AbortTheStigma #AbortionStigma #Sept28 #BustTheMyths

YouAct Europe @YouAct_Europe · 28 Sep 2015
#28Sept. YouAct members join the fight against #discrimination and #BustTheMyths

Abortion Rights @Abortion_Rights · 28 Sep 2015
#MYTH Abortion is traumatic #BustTheMyths There's no such thing as a free lunch #AbortionSyndrome #Sept28

Doctors of the World @DOTW_UK · 28 Sep 2015
Stigma is at the root of all barriers to #SafeAbortion access. On #Sept28 we join the campaign to #BustTheMyths.

The importance of September 28 as commented by our partners and allies:

"Congratulations to WGNRR on the Social Media success for Sept28 Campaign, it was huge" - [Women for Women International](#)

"Hats off to @WGNRR and their partners #Sept28 Success!" - [@DoaaAbdelaal](#)

A big shout out to @WGNRR for their fantastic #Sep28 campaign and ongoing work to #BustTheMyths -[@TrueOrgAu](#)

"The September 28 Mobilization creates a safe platform for interaction between young, old, policy makers, civil societies and human-right organizations to exchange ideas and create awareness towards the change of attitude of people and society in ending abortion stigma and discrimination towards women who choose to have an abortion"- [Generation Initiative For Women and Youth Network](#)

"We thank WGNRR for motivating member organizations and for a successful conduction of Sept 28 day." - [Grameena](#)

Our Call for Action!

This September 28, the Global Day of Action for Access to Safe and Legal Abortion, WGNRR called on our members, partners and allies to [#BustTheMyths](#) surrounding abortion and fight [#AbortionStigma](#) and discrimination! The call for action is an important tool and resource for those who want to advocate for access to safe and legal abortion.

The call for action was **downloaded 141** times in English, **111** times in Spanish and **100** downloads in French from the official www.september28.org website it was also printed and disseminated, widely shared through social media and through all of our partners' online communications.



CALL FOR ACTION!

September 28 Global Day of Action for Access to Safe and Legal Abortion

Join us and [#BustTheMyths](#)
Fight [#AbortionStigma](#) & Discrimination!

Abortion - an action undertaken to effectively end a pregnancy - has existed since time immemorial and is a common experience during women's (1) sexual and reproductive lives. Approximately 44 million pregnancies worldwide end in voluntary termination each year, occurring even in restrictive or illegal settings.(2) Globally, 1 in 3 women will have an abortion by the age of 45,(3) while trans men, gender queer, gender-non-conforming individuals and others of diverse gender identity who can and do get pregnant will also need access to safe abortion over the course of their lives.

Surgical abortions done by trained providers in hygienic settings, and early medical abortions are extremely safe procedures,(4) do not increase individuals' risk of mental health problems,(5) and along with complete, accurate and unbiased counselling are an integral component of sexual and reproductive health services. Obstetrician-gynecologists (ob-gyns) and other healthcare providers have often been in the forefront in advocating for safe and legal abortion, disseminating information, raising awareness, and encouraging fellow service providers to support individuals' access to safe, high-quality abortion care.(6)

Yet, abortion stigma continues to play a critical role in the social, medical, and legal marginalization of abortion care worldwide,(7) constituting one of the main obstacles towards the decriminalization, availability and accessibility of comprehensive abortion information, care and drugs.

The stigma surrounding abortion is complex and pervasive, both building on and perpetuating other forms of discrimination and structural injustices,(8) while also being produced, reproduced and reinforced at individual, community, institutional, cultural, and legal levels.

Myths and misinformation surrounding abortion, such as abortion being a dangerous, "immoral," or regrettable act, largely stem from abortion-related stigma. In turn, these myths feed and perpetuate

The Virtual Mural

The 2015 **Virtual Mural** was a dramatic success! We received more than **100** individual submissions together with photos and individual phrases from **37 different countries!** About **300** individual users downloaded the template provided in the website and many others decided to be creative and design their own format for **Busting the Myths!**



Busting the Balloons, Busting the myths

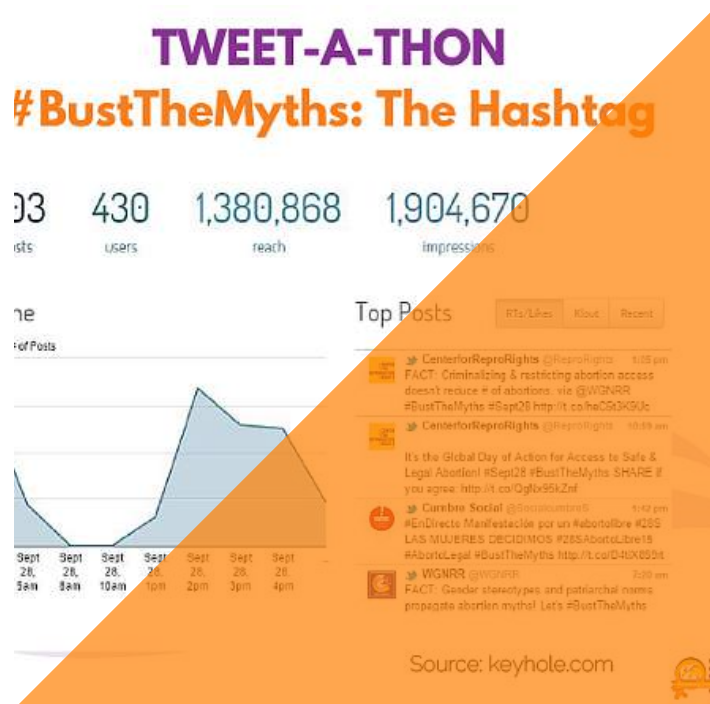


WGNRR was able to mobilize over 35 different grassroots organizations in Asia, Africa, Latin America and Eastern Europe, where members showed much enthusiasm in helping bust the myths surrounding abortion and discussing the main myths in their specific contexts.

The Campaign on Social Media

The #BustTheMyths hashtag was a huge success worldwide getting more than 2 million impressions, and becoming a trending topic in Kenya! To learn about the details of the social media campaign click [HERE!](#)

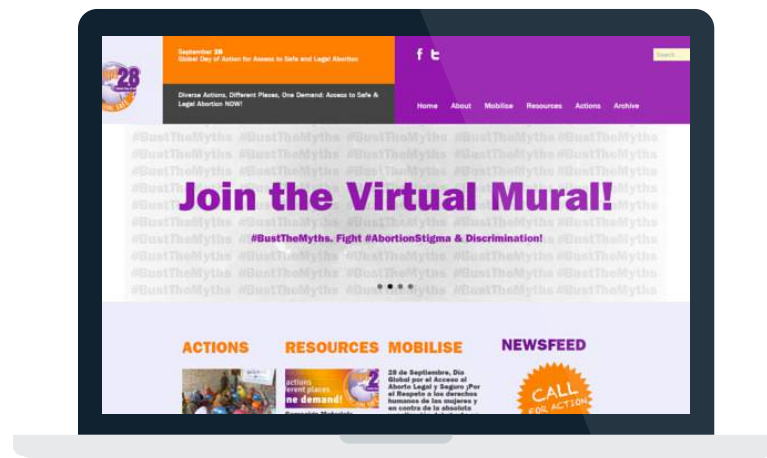
2 million impressions!



The Website

“The Sept28 website (www.september28.org) is the obvious platform to share all events from around the world...” - Margarita, Central America Women's Network (CAWN) ”

The www.september28.org website enjoyed busy traffic during the month of September picking up toward September 28 and reaching more than 500 thousand of sessions with individual visitors. The website has become the "go to" page for anything related to Global Day of Action for Access to Safe and Legal Abortion!



Top Downloads

The most downloaded materials from our website were:

1. The infographics available in 5 different languages!
2. The fact sheets (700 downloads!)
3. The Virtual Mural Template (300 downloads!)
4. The Campaign Toolkit (123 downloads!)

The Campaign Materials!



SEPTEMBER28.ORG

WGNRR produced posters, banners and social media images in English, Spanish and French for members, partners and individual activists to use and translate to their different languages!

These were WIDELY shared and reached an audience of over 1 million users!



The Infographics!



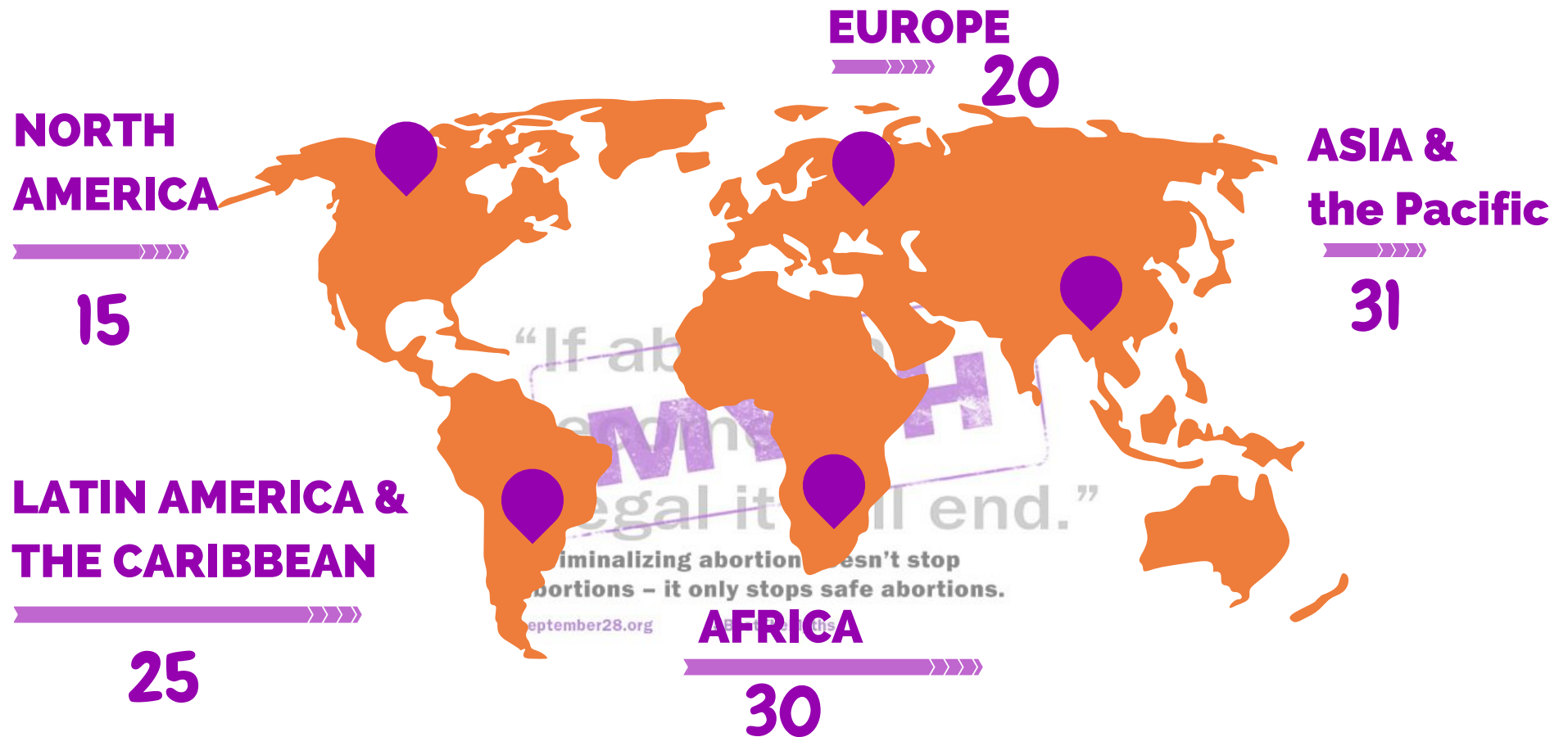
SEPTEMBER28.ORG

WGNRR joined forces with RNW-Love Matters and co-created a series of infographics busting different myths surrounding abortion and explaining why these myths were detrimental to women's health. The infographics were a **HUGE** success in social media and with our local partners! They are available **HERE** in English, Spanish, French, Chinese and Arabic! Special thanks to our wonderful partners at Love Matters!



Open, Honest, Sex Friendly

Actions Around the World



September 28 actions include national campaigns, discussion groups, rallies, marches, public meetings, film and video showing, plays, cultural nights, poetry slams, concerts, a global tweetathon, launching of reports on the situation in countries, press releases, manifestos, petitions and statements, and a couple of flashmobs as reported to WGNRR by members and partners!



WGNRR in Action!

AFRICA

SEPTEMBER 28

In Burundi, WGNRR's Africa Programme Officer, addressed a crowd of more than a hundred people at a conference focusing on the importance of busting the myths around abortion.



Nondo Ejano,
WGNRR's Africa Programme Officer



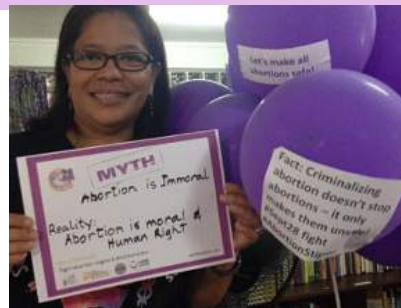
WGNRR in Action!



ASIA

SEPTEMBER 28

WGNRR's Manila Office celebrated the Day of Action by chanting "End Abortion Stigma!" at a street in Quezon City. The Manila staff also joined in the selfie campaign to #BustTheMyths.





WGNRR in Action!

LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN

SEPTEMBER 28

In Mexico, together with the youth-led organization Elige Red de Jóvenes por los Derechos Reproductivos, the WGNRR staff held the “Bust The Balloons” activity after a discussion session on the myths surrounding abortion in the country and its negative effects on sexual and reproductive health and rights.

Advocacy Officer Lara Cousins gave a lecture at Universidad Iberoamericana on sexual & reproductive rights, & access to abortion in Latin America & the Caribbean.



Lara Cousins,
WGNRR's Advocacy Officer

Local, National, Regional and Global actions around the world!

AFRICA

SEPTEMBER 28

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Aube Nouvelle pour la Femme et le Développement (ANFD)

The ANFD organized 2 days of workshops with young people aged 18 to 35 on the topic of access to safe and legal abortion.

Pathfinder DRC

In the DRC, Pathfinder together with other local organizations hosted 2 events, one in South Kivu, and one in Kinshasa.

Celebrating the September 28th Day of Action. The event's theme was "Congolaise, unite efforts for the recognition of our rights to sexual and reproductive health in DR Congo!"



GHANA

GLOMEF

During September 28 GLOMEF garnered support from key actors in the health delivery sector including pro-choice civil society organizations, among others in efforts to bust myths surrounding abortion. They also made a visit to action senior high school in Accra on the 25 September to give a talk on the dangers of unsafe abortion and gave out some flyers with the Bust the Myths infographics!



Save-Ghana

SAVE- Ghana in partnership with Global Media Foundation organized a series of activities to commemorate this year's Global Day of Action for Safe and Legal Abortion which is aimed at busting myths surrounding abortion in the country.

KENYA

ANMA

ANMA Kenya teamed up with other WGNRR members to front a bold statement on need for ensuring that public office holders especially the national government through MoH finalize and disseminate policies, standards and guidelines on reduction of maternal morbidity and mortality in Kenya. Most media houses were represented at the event.

K-MET

K-MET organized a community discussion that engaged county officials to break the silence on abortion.



KENYA

Youth Intercommunity Network

The Youth Intercommunity Network in Kenya organized a conference to discuss the different myths surrounding abortion and had a very successful Bust the Balloons event!



MALAWI

Centre for Girls and Interaction (CEGI)

CEGI conducted a community open discussion with youth on prevention of unsafe abortion among teen girls.



MOZAMBIQUE

Coalition for Sexual and Reproductive Rights

In Mozambique, the Coalition for Sexual and Reproductive Rights hosted an event on the current state of abortion in the country (including the implementation of the new abortion law). With 65 people in attendance, the event was a huge success.



NIGERIA

Generation For Women and Youth Network (GIWYN)

GIWYN, and The National Coalition together with a number of other organizations celebrated the September 28 Campaign in two states in Nigeria(Lagos and Imo States). In the events organized both in Lagos and Owerri 100 people participated in the event, 40 of them were young people including young people living with HIV. The activities included decision makers- 9 people were decision makers. Activities reached over 15,000 people.



WFI

WFI organized an event with other NGOs and stakeholders in women rights and youth organizations in Kuje. Placards such as 'bust the myth, bust the balloon', and 'voice out against stigma' were used in the campaign.



SOUTH AFRICA

End Abortion Stigma Initiative

The End Abortion Stigma Initiative (EASI) in Cape Town led a march to make a public stand and send the message that abortion, a common, safe medical procedure, should not have a stigma attached to it.



TANZANIA

Pathfinder

Pathfinder held awareness raising workshops for hospital and health facility staff near Dar Es Salaam, aimed at clarifying the laws regarding abortion, educating facility staff on comprehensive post abortion care services, showing the link between unsafe abortion and maternal mortality, and clarifying health facility staff's values regarding safe abortion and post abortion care.

TANZANIA

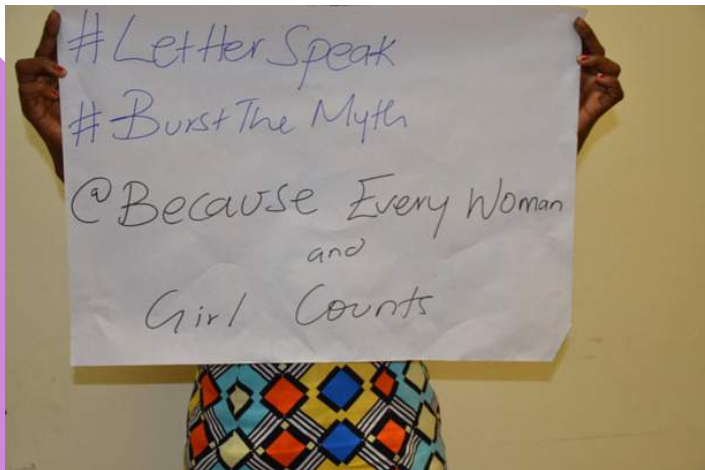
Women's Promotion Center

The WPC joined the Bust the Balloons activity. They also participated in the selfie session, shared Powerpoint presentations on the topic of myths surrounding abortion and a video projection on safe abortion. They also had a workshop in which they learned how to frame a positive story for the media: how media can/should write about abortion in a positive way.

UGANDA

Community Network for Reproductive Health Rights

The Community Network for Reproductive Health Rights organized a video projection related to the topic of the importance of safe abortion. By the end of the day the organization held a Busting the myths, busting the balloons activity.



Center for Health, Human Rights and Development (CEHURD)

CEHURD launched the Let her Speak campaign that featured experiences of young women who have suffered complications from unsafe abortions and they also launched the "Every woman and every Girl counts" 1,000,000 online signature campaign on Change.org for legal reforms on abortion.

Local, National, Regional and Global actions around the world!

ASIA & THE PACIFIC

SEPTEMBER 28

AUSTRALIA

Reproductive Choice Australia

Reproductive Choice Australia released a statement during the Day of Action to highlight the overwhelming demand access to safe abortion services in the country and to also highlight the need for a comprehensive, national Reproductive Health Strategy.



#End12 Campaign, NSW

#End12 Campaign was launched in New South Wales to campaign for decriminalisation of abortion and enact privacy zones around abortion clinics, to bring NSW in line with other states in Australia.

BANGLADESH

Community Life Bangladesh

There was a rural community Discussion meeting on 28 September Global day for access to safe and legal abortion international day that resulted in the creation of a [video](#)



Abortion
is MYTH
dangerous

for legal contexts
times safer than childbirth
BustTheMyths **INDIA**

CREA and Youth Ki Awaaz (YKA)

CREA and Youth Ki Awaaz launched the #AbortTheStigma campaign to create the space for open discussions about abortion and the stigma that surrounds it.

INDIA

Hidden Pockets

Hidden Pockets performed its first ever spoken word performance on the issue of Abortion. The performance took place at the '100 Thousand poets for change' event organised by Bring Back The Poets, Delhi with Oindrila, Jasmine and Pallavi. For excerpts of the poems read click [here](#).



SAMYAK

SAMYAK organized interactions with the members of press in the field regarding women's access to safe abortion services. Also, a first draft of Marathi translation of Government of India's guidelines "Ensuring Access to Safe Abortions and Addressing Gender Biased Sex Selection" was circulated to those who are active in women's SRHR networks.

abortion is 10 times safer than childbirth

september28.org

#BustTheMyths

Family Planning Association of India

The Family Planning Association of India organized an even at which they put up a banner containing 9 myths in the city of Trivandrum, India; distributed flyers and taking feedback from random passersby on 27th and 28th. They also recorded a video of bursting balloons having myths written over it and then reading the facts and promote it in social media.

INDONESIA

SAMSARA

Samsara organized two workshops for sex workers community and religious community in Bali. They also actively participated in the social media campaign, and in collaboration with womenhelp.org they made a short video talking about medical abortion access in local area context in Bali and Yogyakarta.

PBKI

PBKI disseminated the results of a [research](#) on safe abortion policy in Indonesia in Kepndudukan and Policy Studies Center, Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta, Indonesia.

MALAYSIA

Asian-Pacific Resource & Research Centre for Women (ARROW)

ARROW released an online campaign on 7 Myths About Abortion That Need To Be Busted Immediately. The online campaign provided factual truths that SRHR activists can use to counter the myths on abortion..

MYANMAR

International Youth Alliance on Family Planning (IYAFP) and Focal point to Global Youth Coalition on HIV/AIDS(GYCA)

The IYAFP fought against abortion stigma with fellows and advocates network in Myanmar. They also co-hosted an event with MOH and youth advocates.

NEPAL

Beyond Beijing Committee

Beyond Beijing Committee organized their staff and colleagues in busting the myths related to abortion in Nepal.

***Under safe and/or legal contexts
abortion is 10 times safer than childbirth**

september28.org

[#BustTheMyths](https://twitter.com/BustTheMyths)



NEPAL

Youth Champions Nepal

The Youth Champions Nepal organized an event in which students, doctors, and service providers spoke about the most common myths surrounding abortion in Maharajgunj Nursing campus.



Family Health Division

Nepal celebrated its first "Safe Abortion Day" in 2015. The celebration was linked to the #BustTheMyth campaign regarding policy makers and how myths impact abortion laws and policies.

PAKISTAN

Peace Foundation, Pakistan

Peace Foundation, Pakistan organized a focus group to discuss the myths surrounding abortion in Pakistan and had the Bust the Ballons activity. Here's a [video](#) of the activity.

Abortion
MYTH



PHILIPPINES

Abortion Advocacy and Campaign Partnership (AACP)

The Abortion Advocacy and Campaign Partnership (AACP) organised a global social media campaign building up to Sep28 Global Day of Action for Safe and Legal Abortion. AACP successfully organised a google hangout and tweethaton to #StandUpSpeakOut against #AbortionStigma.

The Philippine Safe Abortion Advocacy Network (PINSAN)

Launched the first and only safe abortion advocacy website in the country. The website provides information and research on abortion in the country including the impact of the criminal ban to the health and lives of Filipino women and girls. The website also provide links to the global safe and legal abortion advocacy.



PHILIPPINE SAFE ABORTION ADVOCACY NETWORK

SRI LANKA

Youth Advocacy Network Sri Lanka – YANSL

Youth Advocacy Network Sri Lanka – YANSL organized national 'Think Tank' with medical professionals, journalists, movie makers, youth, charity workers, medical students and government ministry representatives on issues related to unsafe abortion. They also launched social media campaign in support of the call to bust abortion myths and to relaunch ASK US SL hotline that provides accurate information on contraception and safe medical abortion in Sri Lanka.

WOMEN DON'T DIE FROM ABORTIONS IN SRI LANKA ? !

12% OF THE MATERNAL DEATHS IN SRI LANKA
ARE DUE TO SEPTIC ABORTIONS
(THE SECOND MOST COMMON REASON FOR DIRECT MATERNAL DEATHS).



Ask Us Hotline
+94(0)715903414 +94(0)715903417

Source: Women & Media Collective

Women and Media Collective

Women and Media Collective launched the video that raise awareness on the negative impacts of myths surrounding abortion in Sri Lanka. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jxAbWTL2Z0g>

THAILAND

Tamtang

Tamtang, safe abortion network together with 7 other Bangkok-based organizations held a Pro Voice Forum on safe and legal abortion at BACC to commemorate #Sept28

Abortion
is MYTH
is dangerous

***Under safe and/or legal contexts
abortion is 10 times safer than childbirth**

september28.org

[#BustTheMyths](https://twitter.com/BustTheMyths)



Local, National, Regional and Global actions around the world!

EUROPE

SEPTEMBER 28

ARMENIA

Women's Rights Center

The Women's Rights Center launched broadcasting TV programs in different regions of Armenia. These actions were ongoing and devoted to safe abortions. The selected regions are the ones where abortion rate is the highest. The Head of Maternity and Reproductive Health Protection Division, Mother and Child Health Protection Department of the Staff of the Ministry of Health of RA, obstetrician-gynecologist Gayane Avagyan and the head of the department of Gynecology & Obstetrics of Gegharkunik Maternity Hospital Dr. Hovhannisyan participated in the first show in Gegharkunik region on September 28.

AUSTRIA

Gynmed Clinic, www.gynmed.at

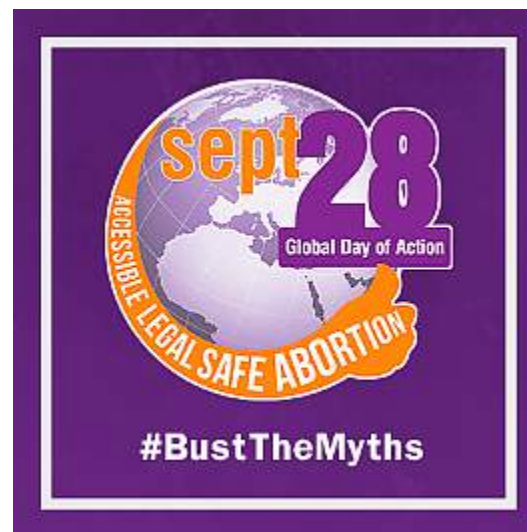
Created a website where the organization debunks abortion myths by giving evidence based information on 36 myths: www.abortion-myths.info

The site is in English and German.

CROATIA

Znaj znanje

Launched the project "Know your knowing" on abortion accessibility in Croatia. And wrote a short piece on the campaign that was later published on the website.



GEORGIA

Association HERA-XXI

HERA initiated the campaign 'Reproductive Health Week' in Georgia. The activities were dedicated to World Contraception Day 26th September and 28th September Global Day of Action for Access to Safe and Legal Abortion. The main message of the campaign was "Your Life is Your Future".

POLAND

Federation For Women and Family Planning/ Federacja na rzecz Kobiet i Planowania Rodziny

To mark the September 28 Global Day of action there was a conference organized in Skopje on the topic of legal and unrestricted access to safe and legal abortion.



ROMANIA

On the 28th of September 2015, to support international efforts for the decriminalization of abortion, Romanian women's rights NGOs organized a large scale public campaign demanding comprehensive and inclusive sexual and reproductive rights for young people living in Romania.

The campaign included an open letter sent out to relevant authorities demanding that all young people should have access to comprehensive sexuality education in schools.

SPAIN

A number of mobilizations in Madrid and Barcelona, including rallies and marches were held in Spain in the eve of September 28 to commemorate the Global Day of Action for Safe and Legal abortion and to support the efforts held by the Chilean feminist organizations for the decriminalization of abortion at least under 3 grounds.



Abortion
MYTH
is dangerous

*Under safe and/or legal contexts
abortion is 10 times safer than childbirth

8.org

#BustTheMyths

Central America Women's Network, 15M London Women's Assembly, Amnesty International, Voice for Choice, Hysteria, Young Feminists London, Feminist Fightback.



In London, feminist and human rights organisations organised the Festival of Choice from 22 to 28 September. The Festival of Choice aimed to raise awareness of threats to reproductive rights and the plight of those who do not have access to safe and legal abortion in countries around the world.

Local, National, Regional and Global actions around the world!

LATINAMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN SEPTEMBER 28

ARGENTINA

National Campaign for the right to safe, free and legal abortion.

In Argentina, the national campaign gathered in Buenos Aires and held a march to fight for the rights to access safe and legal abortion services.

REDAAS

REDAAS launched their support to the September 28 Campaign through different videos with hopes of promoting constructive discussions on the right to abortion. Questions such as contributions of medical abortion to the right of women, or the requirements to implement a safe and legal abortion health services.



CHILE

There were big mobilizations held in Chile in the eve of the September 28 Day of Action but also due to the ongoing legislative process that the country is partaking in to decriminalize abortion under 3 grounds. WGNRR led a targeted tweethatton for the specific case of Chile on September 15.



COLOMBIA

Orientame

Orientame commemorated the date with visible posters at their clinics supporting the Campaign. They also participated in several outreach efforts: Health brigades for displaced people and several seminars at which we work in tandem with the district of the capital (Bogotá).

JOVENES DE LA LOCALIDAD ANTONIO NARIÑO DE BOGOTA

The youth group in Colombia organized a meeting on September 26 in which they talked about the existing abortion laws in their country.

NICARAGUA



SI Mujer, NICARAGUA

Si Mujer Nicaragua sent out a press release demanding the government of Nicaragua to decriminalize abortion, guarantee Comprehensive Sexual Education and Ratify the CEDAW treaty. They also published an article TRAPS IN ABORTION LANGUAGE written by Dr. Ana Maria Pizarro Founding Director of Integrated Services for Women - Women SI , NICARAGUA.

Grupo Estratégico por la Despenalización del Aborto

The strategic group organized a rally marching towards the Supreme Court of Justice advocating for access to Safe and Legal Abortion

MEXICO

Espolea

Published an article talking about the lack of truly independent Mexico in a country where women do not have sovereignty over their own bodies. The article included infographics created by WGNRR in collaboration with Love Matters.

PERU

Flora Tristán- Centro de la Mujer Peruana

The organization published on the eve of September 28 a survey on rape and abortion. They published the results in several media outlets. They also shared a public statement in networks expressing a collective voice for the Campaign "Dejala Decidir" (Let her decide).

PUERTO RICO



Taller Salud

Taller Salud organized an open forum and creative writing workshop to discuss topics related to abortion and abortion stigma. Health Workshop on each topic on September 28 to commemorate the Global Day of Action for the safe and legal access to abortion .

ST. LUCIA

St. Lucia Planned Parenthood Association

There was a Balloon release event focusing on 7 common abortion myths. The organization released the balloons at a look out point over the city of Castries. Photos were posted on their website and social media. Balloons were used in the national colors and also the color of the campaign.



NORTH AMERICA

SEPTEMBER 28

CANADA

Action Canada For Sexual Rights

Published an op-ed on Canada's abortion myth

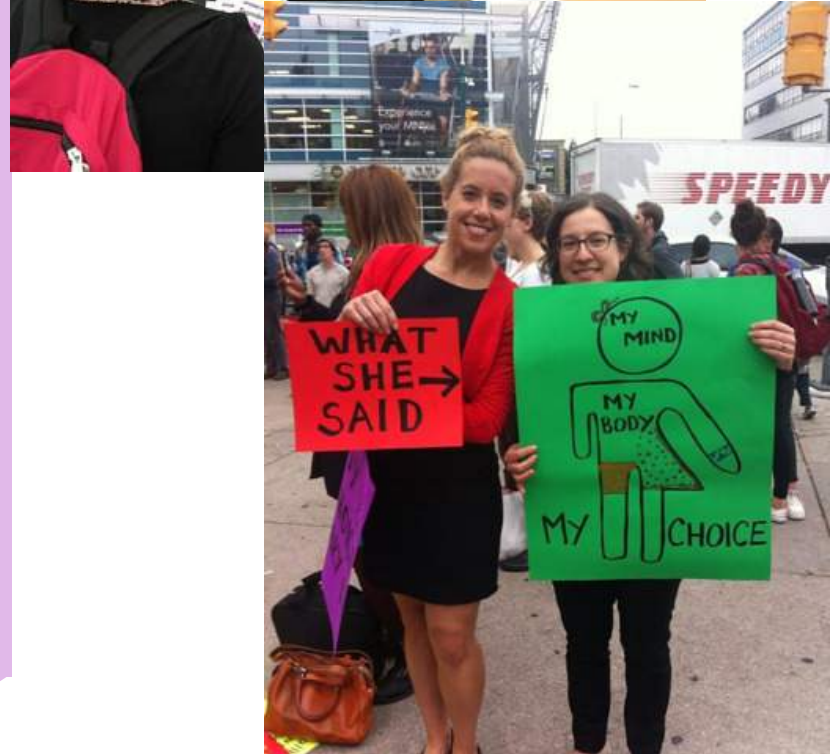
NDP Member of Parliament Olivia Chow

Spoke on #NDP's principled stand for women's right to choose their reproductive future here & abroad

#Sept28

The Sexual Rights Initiative

The Sexual Rights Initiative hosted an event during the 30th Session of the Human Rights Council on Unsafe Abortion and Maternal Mortality and Morbidity. The Save the Date is attached. I'll send out the invite once available via ISRRC and the SRI e-list as soon as it's available



UNITED STATES

A is for

The organization launched a series of awareness raising videos commemorating September 28, and using the hashtag #BustTheMyths, initiated by WGNRR.

ATLANTA

WGNRR individual members
Busting the Myths!



A **A is For** @AIsForOrg · Sep 28
Watch "Martha Plimpton - Global Day of Action for Access to Safe and Legal Abortion" on @Vimeo vimeo.com/140450162?ref=... #BustTheMyths #Sept28

Vimeo



Martha Plimpton - Global Day of Action for Access to Safe and Legal...
This is "Martha Plimpton - Global Day of Action for Access to Safe and Legal Abortion" by A Is For on Vimeo, the home for high quality videos and the people...
[View on web](#)

6 4

ANNEX

Internet Publications

On the eve of September 28 we had a number of online articles, publications and videos that discussed the topic of the right to safe abortion and the impact of myths surrounding abortion:

Women Help Women launched their "Pill Wars" available here: <https://youtu.be/gRRhApfDPOw>

From Flash Mobs To Collaborative Art: 5 Unique Ways To #AbortTheStigma Around Abortions
<http://www.youthkiawaaz.com/2015/09/5-unique-ways-to-abort-the-stigma-around-abortion/>

Shattering the Stigma of Abortion
<http://iwhc.org/2015/09/shattering-the-stigma-of-abortion/>

<http://yfa.awid.org/2015/09/call-for-action-september-28-global-day-of-action-for-access-to-safe-and-legal-abortion/>

<http://www.nursingstudentsforchoice.org/bustthemyths/>

Bust the myths: World marks Global Day of Action for Safe and Legal Abortions <http://thisisafrica.me/bust-the-myths-world-marks-global-day-of-action-for-safe-and-legal-abortions/>

Media Sensitization on Safe Abortion
<https://ceezana10.wordpress.com/tag/bustthemyth/>

7 Reasons You Shouldn't Be Ashamed Or Guilty About Wanting Or Having An Abortion <http://www.youthkiawaaz.com/2015/09/7-reasons-not-be-ashamed-of-abortion/>

<http://www.ipas.org/en/Get-Involved/September-28-Campaign-to-Decriminalize-Abortion.aspx>

<http://www.ippfen.org/news/launch-new-family-planning-hotline-%E2%80%93-global-day-action-access-safe-and-legal-abortion>

ANNEX

Internet Publications

Illegal Abortion Is a Maternal Health Crisis

<http://rhrealitycheck.org/article/2015/09/28/illegal-abortion-maternal-health-crisis/>

<http://www.ipas.org/en/Get-Involved/September-28-Campaign-to-Decriminalize-Abortion.aspx>

<http://www.awid.org/get-involved/call-action-september-28-global-day-action-access-safe-and-legal-abortion>

<http://www.pathfinder.org/news/pathfinder-joins-september-28.html?referrer=https://www.google.com.ph/>

<http://www.astra.org.pl/repronews/382-september-28-conference-on-safe-and-legal-abortion-in-macedonia.html>

<http://newsghana.com.gh/global-day-for-safe-and-legal-abortion-held-in-accra/>

<http://www.newsletter.co.uk/news/bust-the-myths-fight-abortion-stigma-and-discrimination-1-6978421>

Column on the Global Day of Action:

<http://courtingthelaw.com/2015/09/28/commentary/guest-columnists/global-day-of-action-for-access-to-safe-and-legal-abortion/>

<http://iheartbeingagirl.blogspot.com/2015/09/september-28-global-day-of-action-for.html>

<http://www.csbronline.org/2015/09/september-28-global-day-of-action-for-access-to-safe-legal-abortion/>

<http://ifmsa.org/2015/11/02/september-28-a-time-to-reflect-on-our-achievements-and-future-hurdles/>

<http://myrepublica.com/society/story/28954/awareness-on-safe-abortion-lacking-in-nepal.html>

<https://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/voices/reaching-moveable-middle-abortion-latin-america>

<http://www.dailymaverick.co.za/article/2015-09-30-op-ed-lack-of-abortion-services-puts-lives-at-risk/#.Vl05yt8rIUo>

<https://feminist.org/blog/index.php/2015/09/28/mifepristone-more-than-an-abortion-pill-a-lifesaver-for-women/>

<http://www.sexualhealthandrights.ca/opinion-canadas-abortion-myth/>

<http://www.dailylife.com.au/news-and-views/dl-opinion/its-time-to-break-the-silence-on-abortion-law-in-nsw-20150927-gjvv7b.html>

http://www.huffingtonpost.ca/sandeep-prasad/canadas-abortion-myth_b_8198478.html

<http://iwhc.org/2015/09/shattering-the-stigma-of-abortion/>

<http://wordsinthebucket.com/access-safe-legal-abortion-saves-lives>

Statements and Call for Actions

http://www.litci.org/en/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=2778:september-28-no-more-losses-because-of-unsafe-abortion-demand-immediate-decriminalization&catid=78:statement-iwlf-europe&Itemid=65

<http://www.goportec.com/hiv/global-day-of-action-for-safe-and-legal-abortion-statement/>

<http://pinsan.ph/website-launch/>



September 28 is a Global Day of Action for Access to Safe and Legal Abortion where activists all over the world speak out in defense of the right to safe and legal abortion free of stigma and discrimination.



www.september28.org