

## Women in Struggle, Paving the Way for the Future



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### Because I am a Girl

**Laos** Lao New Wave Cinema Productions / PAONETWORK

24-year-old Lao Kang was born in the rural north of Laos where girls are married in their teens, and as the oldest daughter in the family she had to quit school to help with farm work. One day Kang discovered rugby and everything changed. Now representing the Lao Rugby Federation to find promising female players, Kang is helping young women in rural areas to make a change through the power of sport.



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### Beyond the Wave, Bangladesh Surf Girls

**Bangladesh** Goopy Bagha Productions / TELECOM STAFF

Nasima, the first female surfer from Bangladesh, was forced to stop surfing and sell her surfboard after becoming married. When her husband abused her, she decided to leave with her baby and take up surfing once more. Struggling to balance her passion for surfing alongside family obligations, will Nasima be able to win a place at the national surfing competition where she was once a champion?



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### Smiling Woman of Banda

**India** Apricot Sky Entertainment / Far Eastern TV Entertainment

Collecting and carrying water are women's responsibilities in rural India. The long walks to gather and transport water can take up to six trips, fifteen liters a trip, ten miles a day. As gathering water is essential to daily life, 40-year-old Raj Kumari has successfully formed a group of female mechanics who learned how to install and repair water pumps. As female mechanics gain more respect in the village, could this lead to gradual change in India's deeply-rooted caste system?