



25 YEARS OF LEADING THE WAY
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

HUMAN. RIGHT.



Global Fund
for Women

“How important
it is for us to
recognize and
celebrate our
heroes and
she-roes!”

Maya Angelou

We have come a long way and indeed have much to celebrate. The 25-year history of the Global Fund for Women is told through the eyes and perspectives of many women and men who helped us get this far: current and former board members, staff, donors, and leaders from women’s rights organizations and other social justice movements.

By listening to these voices, we gain an appreciation of how the past has informed our present, and how current challenges chart our course for the future. As you read through these pages, we invite you to reflect upon your experience being a part of the Global Fund for Women community. The final destination — human rights, dignity and justice for women and girls — has not changed. Our approach remains the same: we listen to women who define their needs and solutions. Our challenge is to evolve, grow and remain bold.

After a thorough analysis of 25 years of grantmaking by external consultants and our program directors, it became clear that our urgent attention is needed in three areas: to support women working on zero tolerance of all forms of violence against women, economic and political empowerment, and securing women’s sexual health and reproductive rights. In staying true to our values, all three will be dealt with holistically; which means for example, we will support education, leadership and technology as essential levers for women to gain ground in the three areas. We also know that if we want to see visible changes in the lives of women and girls, we must work in partnership with others to increase opportunities and share resources.

This book features 25 stories in five sections: “Ground. Breakers.”, “Pioneers.”, “Game. Changers.”, “Rising. Stars.” and “Future. Visions.”. Each one speaks to trailblazing events, movements, people, and issues that helped shape (and continue to shape) the guiding principles of our philanthropy, grantmaking, leadership, and advocacy. The final section, “Future. Visions.” is comprised of essays written by Global Fund friends on subjects that will shape our future.


We thank all who agreed to be interviewed for the book and those who worked on this project, especially Christine Ahn, who conceived the idea and served as project leader, and our design firm Tompert Design. You will find a complete listing of all of the people who helped make this book possible in the credits section.

As you will read in these pages, we can make real changes in the lives of women and girls in 25 years. Imagine how the next 25 will radically alter violence against women and gender inequality. We hope you can imagine and will join us.



MUSIMBI KANYORO

President and CEO
Global Fund for Women



LEILA HESSINI

Board Chair
Global Fund for Women

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When the ground is thick and rutted, someone has to shake things up. Plow new roads. Go where no one has gone before. Be innovative and original. That's the spirit of the Global Fund for Women. Throughout the remarkable events of our existence, we link, we shape, we bond, and we break the ground for others. We shake off what doesn't fit, step through, and respond.

**GROUND.
BREAKERS.**

GROUND

PARTNERS ABOVE ALL.

Global Fund for Women Co-Founders
L to R: Anne Firth Murray, Laura Lederer, Frances Kissling



1988

PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA



TRUST DEFINES US.

Twenty-five years ago, Anne Firth Murray, along with Frances Kissling, Laura Lederer, and Dame Nita Barrow, answered the call from the budding global women's movement. These four original board members of the Global Fund for Women knew well the obstacles women's groups around the world faced in accessing support from donors, so they set out to upend traditional philanthropy, women-style.

In 1987, Anne Firth Murray became the founding president of the Global Fund. At that time, virtually no philanthropic institution — let alone governments or multilateral agencies — was providing direct support to grassroots women's organizations. If foundations did, it was through large international development agencies that considered grantees as beneficiaries. "With the creation of the Global Fund," Anne Firth Murray recalls, "this kind of top-down giving was challenged." Furthermore, the Global Fund defined women as leaders, innovators, and change agents, not those in need of charity.

It was no coincidence that the Global Fund opened their offices in Silicon Valley, home to the world's most innovative technology companies and startups.

TOGETHER, WE CREATE THE GLOBAL FUND FOR WOMEN.



Global Fund for Women staff, 1993.

While the range of issues women were dealing with was vast 25 years ago, the Global Fund decided it would focus on advancing women's human rights and women's access to modern communications technology. "One need only look at the context of the times during the early days of the Fund to see that the 'what' — the Fund's focus on global women's rights — was radical and unusual," recalls Esther Hewlett, early donor and former board member.

But it was also the "how" that stood out. Women's groups defined their own approaches to these broad areas of interest, and the Global Fund responded by putting resources directly into their hands. And not just any resources, but flexible general support, which has since proven to be the most strategic and effective way for organizations to achieve their missions. Furthermore, providing flexible support exemplifies a trusting relationship between the donor and the grantee. "The Global Fund was not just giving away money," says Anne. "Trust was one of our key principles,



In 1980 at the World Conference in Copenhagen, there were virtually no sessions on funding. A colleague and I decided at the last minute to call a spontaneous session on funding. Women came in droves because their need for funding, and to talk, theorize, and politicize was so huge. It wasn't being responded to until the Global Fund for Women answered.

Joanne Sandler \ Former Deputy Executive Director for Programmes, UNIFEM

and we were trying to create an atmosphere of freedom and creativity.”

Not only has the Global Fund demonstrated that there can be a more socially just philanthropic model built on trust; it has used its unique position to connect donors with grantees, and people within the United States with those around the world. “A donor can invest in the Global Fund and learn alongside it about a part of the world, a specific population, or a strategy for intervention,” says Betsy Brill of Strategic Philanthropic Partners.

“The Global Fund for Women is the birth of an idea,” says Joanne Sandler. “You have many women’s rights organizations, but the Global Fund is a women’s rights funding organization, which distinguishes it. What also stands out is that it trusts its partners. It models another way of doing philanthropy, a feminist way of doing philanthropy.”

In 1987, the Global Fund gave \$27,000 to nine organizations in seven countries. Twenty-five years later, it had given over \$110 million to 4,661 organizations in 174 countries.



BEIJING
CALLS.



WOMEN'S RIGHTS = HUMAN RIGHTS.

1995
BEIJING, CHINA

It is a violation of human rights when...

...babies are denied food, or drowned, or suffocated, or their spines broken, simply because they are born girls.

...women and girls are sold into the slavery of prostitution for human greed.

...women are doused with gasoline, set on fire and burned to death because their marriage dowries are deemed too small.

...individual women are raped in their own communities and when thousands of women are subjected to rape as a tactic or prize of war.

...a leading cause of death worldwide among women ages 14 to 44 is the violence they are subjected to in their own homes.



...young girls are brutalized by the painful and degrading practice of genital mutilation.

...women are denied the right to plan their own families, and that includes being forced to have abortions or being sterilized against their will.

If there is one message that echoes forth from this conference, it is that human rights are women's rights and women's rights are human rights. Let us not forget that among those rights are the right to speak freely — and the right to be heard.

Hillary Rodham Clinton

U.N. Fourth World Conference on Women

Beijing, China

September 5, 1995

DECADES OF GRASSROOTS WORK AFFIRMED.

Ask the Global Fund for Women community about watershed moments for women and you will undoubtedly hear the word “Beijing.” This Chinese metropolis was the setting for one of the most seminal events in the foundation of the global women’s rights movement: the United Nations’ Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995.

Leading up to the conference in Beijing, increased momentum behind the feminist movement in the 1970s prompted three U.N. world conferences on women in Mexico City, Copenhagen and Nairobi known as the “U.N. Decade for Women” (1975 – 1985). These events provided an immense opportunity for grassroots women worldwide to bring their concerns to these global fora; in many cases, they were the only opportunity they had to engage directly with government officials from their own countries. The relationships built through this early organizing became the backbone of the global women’s rights movement.

These activists continued to shape global conversations, most notably on human rights. In 1993, at the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna, the concept of human rights was redefined to incorporate women’s experiences, including violence against

women. In 1994, at the International Conference on Population and Development in Cairo, family planning and development were first viewed as a women’s rights issue. “Through this global political coalition of women for women’s rights in the U.N. conferences in Vienna and in Cairo, we were able to introduce the concept of reproductive rights as human rights,” recalls former board chair and Brazilian feminist activist Jacqueline Pitanguy. “This changed the conversation.”

Then came Beijing, the vessel to channel this burgeoning global women’s rights movement. At the time, it was the largest conference the United Nations had ever organized, with over 189 governments represented and around 17,000 participants in attendance at the official event. Another 30,000 plus gathered outside Beijing for the non-governmental forum, a phenomenal cross-cultural exchange of experiences among the world’s women’s movements. Both global and mainstream, Beijing offered a momentous opportunity to shift the discourse on women’s empowerment.

And shift it did. The world watched as Hillary Rodham Clinton, wife of the President of the United States—the most

Beijing demonstrated what the concerted efforts and ideas of women around the globe could achieve.

Charlotte Bunch \ Global Fund for Women Board Member



powerful nation in the world —stepped on the Beijing stage and affirmed decades of work by grassroots women worldwide by adopting the movement’s saying: “Women’s rights are human rights.” Encapsulated in this statement is the thesis of Beijing, which represented a high point in the influence of the global women’s movement on governments and thus enshrined a concept that has forever changed global policy on women.

As momentous as the conference itself was, it was the work of women around the world to push for implementation of its outcomes that had the most impact and ultimately catalyzed the growth of the global women’s rights movement. Out of Beijing, the world gained the Beijing Platform for Action, a document that spells out the key challenges and actions needed to advance women’s rights and empowerment in twelve critical areas of concern. Hundreds of our grantee partners helped to create that document and continue to use it in their work today. Beijing can also be credited with nourishing regional coalitions of women activists, groups that Pitanguy calls “game changers” for their role pioneering the movement. According to Muadi Mukenge, Global Fund director

for Sub-Saharan Africa, these activists made up a critical mass of groups that the Global Fund supported in the years immediately following Beijing, which allowed groups to innovate and advance the movement.

Twenty-five years later, we owe much of our success to the catalyst that was Beijing and the U.N. Decade for Women. The Beijing conference spelled out what it means to implement “women’s rights are human rights” and really put it on the world map. “Beijing demonstrated what the concerted efforts and ideas of women around the globe could achieve,” reflects Global Fund board member Charlotte Bunch, a lynchpin organizer of Beijing. “And the Global Fund for Women continues to work to advance these gains and support women’s movements around the world as they build on them and create new opportunities and power for women.”

SHAKING UP PHILANTHROPY.



SHAKING UP



WOMEN'S NEEDS = WOMEN'S FUNDS.

It all started with a \$7,500 Global Fund for Women grant to launch Semillas, the first and still the only women's fund in Mexico. Then, inspired by a Global Fund workshop on financing women's rights, Tewa, the first women's fund in Kathmandu, Nepal, started with a \$10,000 grant from the Global Fund.

To get resources into the hands of women in hard to reach communities, such as indigenous women, rural and poor women, and women with disabilities, we have partnered with and helped to grow local women's funds like Semillas and Tewa.

"Transnational feminist philanthropy was born at the Global Fund and spread," said former Global Fund board chair, Amina Mama.

With a little Global Fund mentoring, local women's funds raised resources from their communities to sustain women's rights organizations long after donor agencies left for the next trend in international aid.

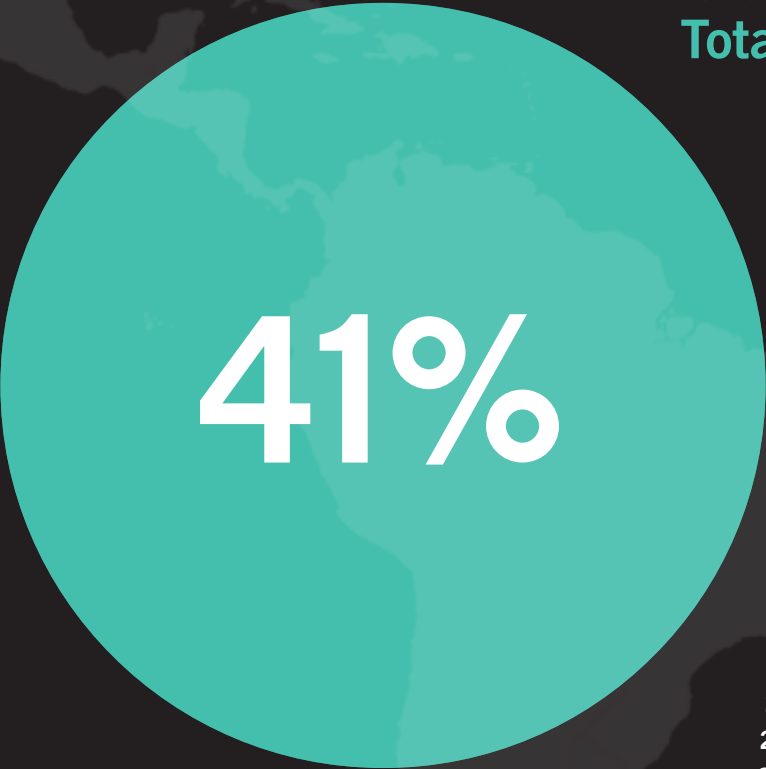
"It was a feminist philanthropy movement to proliferate other women's funds... if a site gets taken down, there are others," added Amina.

Since that first grant to Semillas in 1990, Global Fund has given over \$6 million to 31 women's funds. Today, all of the women's funds based in the global south collectively raise \$18 million annually.

By shaking up the unequal dynamic between donors in the global north and global south, this large and effective network of women's funds is changing the way we think about financing a truly global women's rights movement.



GLOBAL FUND FOR WOMEN INVESTMENTS IN WOMEN’S FUNDS BY REGION.



Latin America & the Caribbean Total: \$4,037,658

1990-1991:	\$7,500
1991-1992:	\$27,760
1995-1996:	\$10,000
1997-1998:	\$14,600
1998-1999:	\$22,145
1999-2000:	\$4,090
2000-2001:	\$199,685
2001-2002:	\$118,860
2002-2003:	\$273,350
2003-2004:	\$234,400
2004-2005:	\$212,825
2005-2006:	\$300,586
2006-2007:	\$347,066
2007-2008:	\$604,904
2008-2009:	\$305,283
2009-2010:	\$198,361
2010-2011:	\$198,178
2011-2012:	\$401,882
2012-2013:	\$556,184



Europe & Central Asia Total: \$2,276,948

23%

2000-2001: \$25,110
2001-2002: \$8,835
2002-2003: \$52,140
2003-2004: \$166,013
2004-2005: \$158,520
2005-2006: \$223,200
2006-2007: \$165,008
2007-2008: \$182,064
2008-2009: \$440,459
2009-2010: \$208,145
2010-2011: \$276,010
2011-2012: \$108,420
2012-2013: \$263,024

Asia Pacific Total: \$2,499,864

25%

1995-1996: \$20,000
1997-1998: \$12,360
1998-1999: \$21,700
1999-2000: \$14,131
2000-2001: \$88,290
2001-2002: \$264,470
2002-2003: \$252,844
2003-2004: \$159,146
2004-2005: \$163,258
2005-2006: \$443,630
2006-2007: \$137,495
2007-2008: \$168,081
2008-2009: \$106,515
2009-2010: \$125,575
2010-2011: \$185,277
2011-2012: \$110,222
2012-2013: \$226,870

Middle East & North Africa Total: \$179,000

2%
2007-2008: \$53,000
2008-2009: \$70,000
2010-2011: \$8,000
2011-2012: \$48,000

Sub-Saharan Africa Total: \$867,743

9%

1998-1999: \$16,650
1999-2000: \$16,880
2000-2001: \$95,275
2001-2002: \$75,050
2002-2003: \$15,423
2003-2004: \$99,357
2004-2005: \$156,383
2005-2006: \$25,019
2006-2007: \$53,000
2007-2008: \$60,000
2008-2009: \$65,000
2009-2010: \$70,000
2010-2011: \$33,966
2011-2012: \$52,740
2012-2013: \$18,000
2013-2014: \$15,000

FOR NOW AND FOREVER.

\$20M FOR WOMEN.



L to R: Diane Jordan Wexler, Kavita N. Ramdas,
Laurene Powell Jobs



INVESTING IN WOMEN CAMPAIGN.

The year was 2003 and wars raged in Iraq and Afghanistan. The global “gag rule”—prohibiting recipients of U.S. family planning funds from even counseling women on abortion—caused many women’s health centers to close or severely curtail services. Support for women’s programs was vanishing, rape had become a weapon of choice, and women and girls were prime targets of religious extremism.

For Global Fund for Women President and CEO Kavita N. Ramdas, VP of Development and Communications Nicky McIntyre, and board members Diane Jordan Wexler and Laurene Powell Jobs, these extraordinary times required an extraordinary response. And so the \$20 million “Investing in Women” Campaign was born, with Diane and Laurene as Co-Chairs.

Diane Wexler reflects on those heady times.

DIANE JORDAN WEXLER

Co-Chair, Investing in Women Campaign

Q: This was not your average campaign, why?

A: We weren't building a building; we wanted it to reflect the fact that the Global Fund for Women had done things differently; it was very values based. The way we set up many things were not the way everybody did it. We challenged some assumptions about "business as usual" in philanthropy and grantmaking, and we relied very heavily on advisors and activist board members.

Q: Why \$20 million?

A: Once we understood the shape of these campaigns, how they'd be done traditionally, we said, "Ok, that's great, but let's do it our way." We wanted it to be a substantial infusion. Twenty million dollars was a lot of money; it felt a bit overwhelming. We hadn't done anything like this before. Then the four of us took it on together, each working according to our strengths and passions. We were true partners.

Q: What was the thinking behind the dual track: \$10 million for the Legacy Fund and \$10 million for the Now or Never Fund?

A: It gave people a choice. Laurene came up with the name "Now or Never"; it had urgency about it. She said, "Let's give an infusion of money now and spend it down over a few years." That was very exciting for some people. There were more traditional people who said, "I want this organization to be around forever." One of the ways you do that is with an endowment, hence the "Legacy Fund."

Q: Anne Delaney made the first gift of \$1 million, which must have been exciting, but grantees got involved as well right?

A: We sent an appeal letter to our grantees that said, “This is our fund for the women of the world. Please join us in any way you can in creating this fund.” One grantee sent in a dollar; one sent us a big bag of friendship bracelets as a way of contributing to the campaign.

Q: What made Investing in Women transformative for the Global Fund?

A: I came up with the “Stand With Us” campaign line that we all embraced. It was core to how I looked at the campaign. It was not about us doing this for the women of the world; it was about all of us doing this together. Those weren’t days when we were getting million dollar gifts annually from people or a group of people. Twenty million dollars really was gigantic. And the fact that we were able to raise this in less than two and a half years was miraculous. That money infused the movement and it gave the Global Fund a bit of a cushion for the endowment. The Legacy Fund became the largest endowment for women’s rights internationally at the time.

Q: You’ve said this was one of the most significant events of your life, why?

A: I would get up every day, and I knew what I had to do. We knew what had to be done, and we did it. It was extraordinary. I think in life, to have something that you are passionate about, to have it reflect your deepest values, to have it capture your heart, your soul and your intellect, all at the same time, and make a difference in the world is truly special. I wish everyone had the chance to do something that has those characteristics in their lives. Because it is amazing, it touches you at a level that’s really rare.





THE OUTREACH EFFECT.

TRANSFORMED BY
WHAT WE WITNESS.





The idea was simple: travel to places we've never been and listen to women we've never met. At the beginning, the Global Fund for Women was not in fact global; our grant making was focused in Latin America and South Asia. Unlike many large foundations at the time, Global Fund didn't have offices around the world, and very few women in regions like Sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East knew we even existed. To get the word out, we first had to travel to these places and meet with women who were shaking things up.

In true Global Fund fashion, we didn't waltz in with our own agenda. We were on a fact-finding mission to learn as much as we could about how to support our sisters who were fundamentally changing women's roles in society. In the process, we established trust with local organizations and linked them with one another, creating grassroots-level networks all over the world.

"Many people thought Global Fund was odd in that way," said Amelia Wu, director of Philanthropic Partnerships, then program officer of Asia and Europe. "We stood out from other funding agencies because we didn't come in with an agenda—a prescription to them for how to do their work."

One of these groundbreaking trips happened in 1998, when the board and staff realized that to respond to the critical issues facing Sub-Saharan Africa—raging conflicts, the excesses of despotic rulers, crushing debt, and some of the worst socio-economic indicators in the world—the Global Fund needed to deepen and expand grantmaking through an intentional, focused program. Hope Chigudu, board member at the time, championed this initiative.

We packed our bags and headed to Cameroon, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea, Mozambique, Rwanda, Uganda and Zimbabwe. We asked women about their priorities, strategies they were using to address these issues, and the challenges and opportunities they faced in organizing as women. We met activists who joined our Advisory Council and informed our grantmaking.

In the report back, board member Stina Katchadourian wrote, "Among the women of these nations, we witnessed powerful and positive forces moving quietly. With tenacity and resourcefulness, African women, acting individually and in groups, are working in countless ways to ensure a better future for their societies... Hope can sprout in the most unexpected places."

Esther Hewlett, early donor and former board member, made the bold decision to bring her daughter on the outreach trip to Uganda. "We felt empowered seeing these women being empowered. When you saw the context in which they were operating,



MOVED. TO ACTION.

and the perseverance of these women's groups and women, you couldn't be depressed about that."

As we grew, we began hiring staff with strong on-the-ground experience and understanding. Muadi Mukenge, with roots in the Democratic Republic of Congo and expertise in the socio-political context of the region, was hired as program officer of Sub-Saharan Africa. In her tenure, she increased grantmaking to Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) from 9 percent of our entire portfolio to 21 percent, and diversified our support such that Francophone Africa is now over 35 percent of the SSA program.

In 2005, following the U.S. invasion of Iraq, we identified the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) as a region requiring critical attention. Following the success of the Africa initiative, Dr. Zeina Zaatari from Lebanon, with extensive experience in the region, was hired as the first program officer for the MENA program. Shortly after, we held a board meeting in Egypt, where we divided into groups to meet women's organizations throughout the region.

"The MENA program under Zeina's leadership pushed Global Fund to be more politically savvy," said then board chair, Amina Mama. "It gave us a much more nuanced understanding, whether of the challenges involved in the Israeli-Palestinian issue or the courage of women in Yemen. We saw that there were organizations on the ground that we should be supporting despite the fact that they are not visible to us in the United States. Many were operating in semi-underground conditions."

We stood out from other funding agencies because we didn't come in with an agenda — a prescription to them for how to do their work.

Amelia Wu \ Global Fund Director of Philanthropic Partnerships

GREAT MINDS THINK ALIKE

What do grantee partners want most? To meet each other; no matter where they live, women are eager to share their innovative solutions to everything from domestic violence to getting more women elected to office. We listened and are responding. In addition to grants, Global Fund is deepening our commitment to bring partners together. Women's rights activists of all ages will have a unique opportunity to reach beyond their borders to build coalitions and influence corporations, governments and other powerful international players.



VIETNAM & CAMBODIA



Vietnam & Cambodia Awakening

In October 2005, Global Fund staff and donors traveled to Southeast Asia to witness the growth of a women's rights movement in a region devastated by the Vietnam War, the conflict in Cambodia, and their catastrophic political and economic ramifications. In Vietnam, travelers visited women's organizations working on economic empowerment for women farmers in rural villages, where nearly 45 percent of the population lives in poverty. After this trip we expanded our Southeast Asian network to support its emerging women's movement, rich with possibilities for a better future.

CAUCASUS



Caucasus Coming of Age

The time was 2004; the place, a Global Fund regional meeting in the Caucasus where 35 regional activists were comparing notes on effective women's rights strategies. They learned how to combat alarming trends: rising poverty, increasing domestic violence, and the lack of female voices in politics. It was during this trip, meeting grantee partners in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia, that we experienced firsthand the collective power of feminists consolidating their efforts into a regional force for change.

The first to explore or settle. And in this case, it meant not settling for anything less than the best for women. From our founders to the women who shape the Global Fund today, we are never afraid to pioneer past obstacles for women. It's what we do in the face of any challenge. We forge on. We forge through.

PIONEERS.

PIONEERS.



ANNE FIRTH MURRAY

GLOBAL FUND FOR WOMEN FOUNDING PRESIDENT, 1987 – 1996

LEARNING BY LISTENING.
NO AGENDAS/
ONLY PEOPLE.

ANNE FIRTH MURRAY

Global Fund for Women Founding President

Under Anne's leadership, the Global Fund's pioneering approach was to support women's human rights and access to modern communications technology by learning from potential grantees, and listening to them. By providing funds in flexible ways, groups could define problems and solutions on their own terms.

Q: How did you know a new approach to supporting women was needed?

A: When I worked at the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, I traveled widely where I met many smaller groups, often headed by women, focusing on women's rights. For various reasons, these smaller women's groups did not catch the attention of the major international donors or their work did not "fit" with the agendas of donors working internationally.

Once when I travelled to Kenya, I met women in Mombasa who were doing family planning work, which matched the goals of the Hewlett Foundation. But they were also working on women's human rights and income generation programs, areas of vital importance to them. They told me they felt they had to gear their proposals towards donors' interests, yet their other work—focusing on basic rights—was crucial to their visions of positive change.

I realized how vitally important general, flexible support was to grantees, allowing them to take advantage of unexpected opportunities, or to respond to the real needs of their communities. At the Global Fund, we felt the same way. We also needed general flexible support to feel free to provide funds in strategic ways as the opportunities arose.

Q: Betsy Brill, President of Strategic Philanthropy, recalls how Global Fund was “so novel at a time when gender was not even on the radar screen.” How did you know then that investing in women as leaders, innovators and changemakers in their own communities would be such an effective strategy?

A: For ten years, I had been working in the international philanthropic world and served on the international committee of the Council on Foundations and the boards of the Independent Sector and Women and Foundations/Corporate Philanthropy. It was clear from my travels, my involvement in the women’s movement, and my interactions with these and other philanthropic organizations that there was a huge need to support women’s groups specifically encouraging women’s rights and women’s leadership.

Supporting women was vital for these three main reasons: (1) above all, justice for women; (2) the practical need to have women participate and contribute in international development; and (3) the strategic need to have women’s experience, inform and improve international development and human rights work. These three “rationales” underlaid the work of the Global Fund from the beginning.

Q: Joanne Sandler, former Deputy Executive Director for Programmes, UNIFEM, speaks about how Global Fund “models another way of doing philanthropy, a feminist way of doing philanthropy.” Unlike traditional philanthropy which seeks to “bet on winners,” Global Fund has historically funded women on the margins. How did you know then this was so important?

A: It was clear to me that we not only had to change what was being funded through the usual philanthropic channels, but also the way that traditional philanthropy operated. The top-down approach of traditional charity was not a system changer; we had to challenge patriarchy and set in place ways of doing business that would challenge traditional structures and processes.

Our approach to philanthropy was to listen and learn from potential grantees, to interact with them as true partners, and to provide support as flexibly as possible. Women’s groups had the ideas and commitment; our role was to respond and move forward together to change the world for women and all others.

THE SILENCED. SPEAK.

FROM THE MARGINS
TO THE CENTER.





“When particularly marginalized women gain a voice and agency, that is a game changer.”

Shalini Nataraj \ Global Fund Director of Advocacy and Partnerships

Whether working the double shift in and out of home, or facing violence because of their gender, women’s already heavy burdens are further compounded by other factors, such as race, ethnicity, class, sexuality, age and disability. Recognizing this, Global Fund for Women prioritizes supporting women who are up against the greatest challenges to realizing their basic human rights.

Our grantmaking for the past 25 years has been guided by the fundamental belief that social justice can exist only when those who are being silenced, living outside the norm, and on the margins of their communities have voice, choice, and resources to take control and power over their own lives.

In their fight for basic human rights, Global Fund grantee partners often put their own lives at risk by pushing against governments, corporations and religious institutions. We intentionally direct resources to women most affected—whether rural women, indigenous women, sex workers, HIV-positive women, and lesbians and transgender individuals—because we believe they

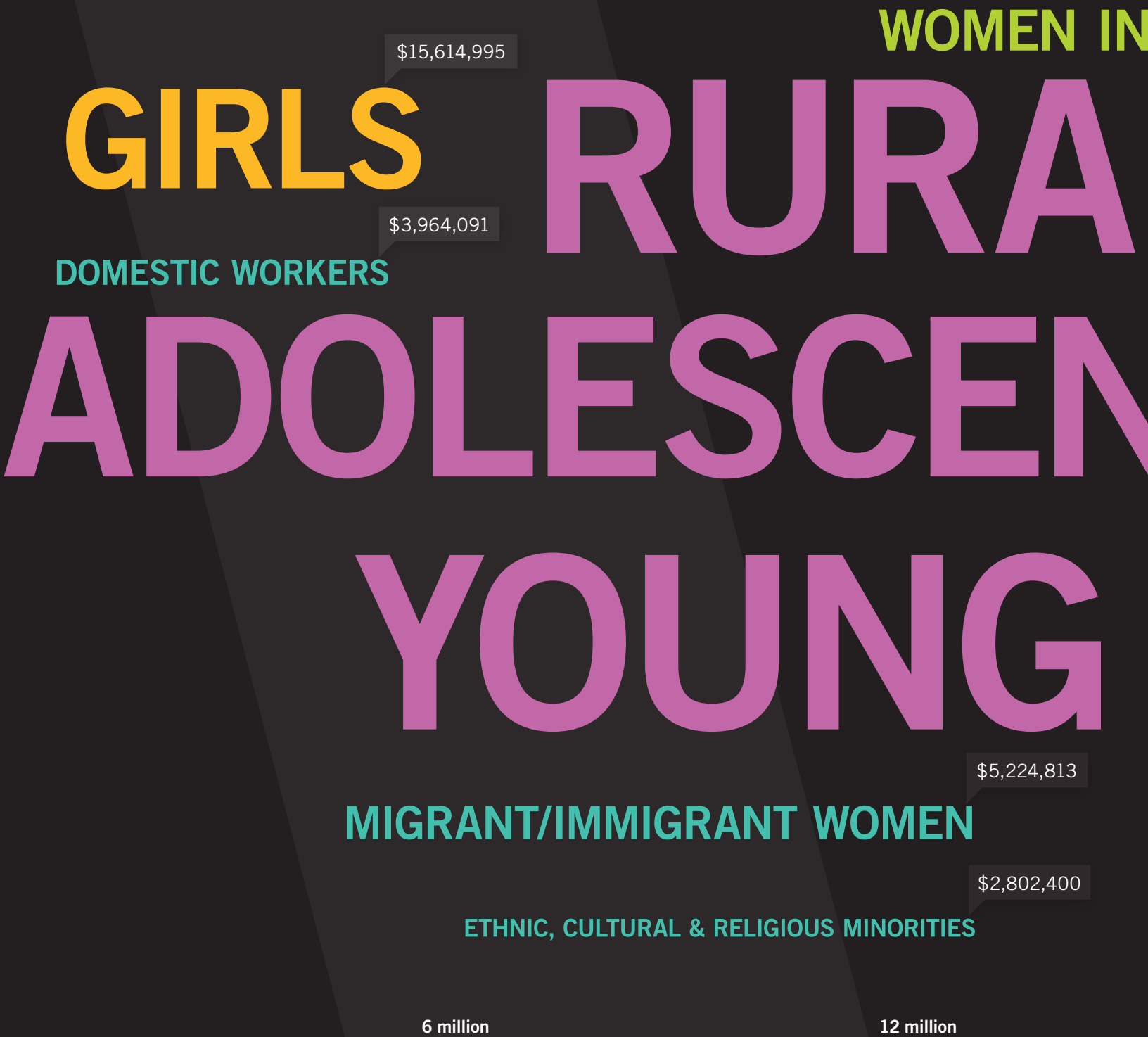
must be central actors agitating for cultural and political change.

“When particularly marginalized women gain a voice and agency, that is a game changer,” said Shalini Nataraj, Director of Advocacy and Partnerships at Global Fund. “It changes the discourse and lifts the boat for everybody.”

Global Fund invests in changing attitudes and behaviors, where most funders fear to tread, as the work is long and often frustrating. The returns can be significant when particularly oppressed women such as domestic workers, sex workers or migrant workers have their rights as humans and workers recognized and protected.

“I don’t think there’s any other organization like the Global Fund,” said Daniel Lee, Executive Director of the Levi Strauss Foundation. “It’s the premier women’s organization that has tentacles in every women’s movement around the world.”

WHERE THE MONEY WENT:



\$5,272,722

WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES

\$10,058,745

\$3,832,924

\$1,879,111

LBTQI

OLDER WOMEN

WOMEN IN PRISONS

\$6,419,604

CONFLICT AND OCCUPATION AREAS

\$27,244,063

L WOMEN

\$25,268,832

IT FEMALES

\$27,423,632

WOMEN

\$6,397,295

SEX WORKERS

\$735,600

REFUGEE/IDP WOMEN

\$8,022,144

INDIGENOUS WOMEN

18 million

24 million



ZERO TOLERANCE.



GLOBAL FUND PROVIDES GLOBAL SHELTER.

If you can't feel safe in your own home, where do you go? For many women, their local women's shelter not only provides that safe space, but it's one of the only places where women are able to talk openly about their right to live a life free from violence, rape and harassment.

In the early eighties, the Global Fund for Women made grants to organizations providing such a space. They were pioneers in exposing domestic violence as a community problem, dragging the issue out of the home and into public space. In fact, nearly every request we received dealt with the persistent and impenetrable problem of violence. "We could have become the Global Fund for Prevention of Violence," reflects Anne Firth Murray.

Those years of support made it possible for women to have tough conversations about the root causes of violence. Women realized that violence did not start and stop in the home; it was a consequence of something deeper. Restricting a woman's ability to make choices about her own body, silencing her political voice, and trapping her in low-wage domestic jobs are all examples of structural violence. As our partners became more sophisticated in their analysis of violence, so did our support. We began investing in women's organizing in places of violent conflict and political unrest, spaces most funders wouldn't dare venture.

“Whether it’s a man hitting his wife because she doesn’t get dinner on the table on time or a government bombing another country in order to maintain power, violence is used as a strategy at every level of society to maintain or gain power.”

Anne Firth Murray \ Global Fund for Women Founding President

After investing over \$20 million to 1,500 women’s organizations, we’ve seen enormous progress in our efforts to end gender-based violence. Whether it was the first domestic violence hotline by the Maple Women’s Psychological Counseling Center in China, or the first safe haven from Colombian paramilitaries in the City of Women, Global Fund has been there. We’ve helped build a strong and resilient women’s movement that has erected shelters, provided medical care and legal counseling for survivors, and advocated for anti-violence legislation. According to research conducted in 2013, grantees receiving Global Fund support succeeded in passing anti-violence laws in 25 countries. Over 1 billion women and girls are protected under those laws today.

Yet, despite major legal protections, gender-based violence remains rampant. In fact, there is growing backlash against women’s human rights and gender equality, from outlandish anti-abortion laws to unspeakable violence committed against women

and girls, like the 2012 brutal gang rape and murder of a college student on a bus in Delhi, India. The one silver lining to that case: it sparked mass protests by thousands of women, men and transgendered individuals who took to the streets to express their outrage against such horrific acts of violence and the failure of authorities to protect women.

Women who openly defend their own rights and speak out against human rights abuses are under increasing threat from their governments and religious fundamentalists. Despite great risk to their own safety, including having to live with bodyguards, women human rights defenders such as Mónica Roa of Women’s Link Worldwide has championed judicial reform in Colombia, an overwhelmingly Catholic country, by pushing courts to honor and protect a woman’s right to safe and free abortions and healthcare.

In our quarter century of supporting women’s groups working to stop violence against women, we’ve learned that it takes more than building a health clinic

or a school to achieve meaningful impact. Many of our grantee partners provide critical services and engage in advocacy or public education, including forming non-traditional alliances to challenge public acceptance of domestic violence. In Afghanistan, for example, the Afghan Women Welfare Department launched a dialogue with leaders of the Shinwari tribe to outlaw a practice of using girls to end feuds between men. If a man has committed a serious crime against another, he can offer his sister or daughter to the victim as “restitution.” In 2011, Shinwari elders came together and pledged to outlaw this violent practice.

Violence against women happens everywhere and requires every country working in concert to stop it. It's no coincidence that we've focused most of our grantmaking in this area.

BREAKING ISOLATION.

PRIORITIES FROM
THE FRONT LINES.



BREAKING



GLOBAL FUND LINKS EMERGING GROUPS.

From day one, the Global Fund for Women has always relied on listening to and trusting its grantees to identify the priority needs of women and girls. With general support and without imposing an agenda, ideas and innovative solutions to problems emerged from women themselves. Crucial Global Fund money, otherwise not available, helped seed many new organizations. As Joanne Sandler, Former Deputy Executive Director for Programmes, UNIFEM, says, “I think of the Global Fund for Women as the mother. It helped birth organizations and funds.”

But as women’s groups proliferated and evolved, so did our grantmaking approach. While we devoted a portion of our grantmaking towards seeding, we saw the need to strengthen many existing organizations in their efforts to broaden their reach and impact.

One organization we have funded since 1997 is the Afghan Institute for Learning (AIL). During the Taliban’s reign, AIL ran underground schools for girls in Afghanistan and refugee camps in Pakistan. Although their education work at first was primarily focused on educating girls in classrooms, their work has since evolved. Today, AIL trains teachers in human rights and provides health education and care through its clinics, reaching 360,000 women and girls across Afghanistan and Pakistan.

We have also played a critical role in networking and linking key women’s organizations. Approximately 15 percent of Global Fund’s grantmaking budget in the past 25 years has been invested in women’s participation in key forums where women’s groups have significant opportunity to network and develop relationships and new knowledge. These forums include

I think of the Global Fund for Women as the mother. It helped birth organizations and funds.

Joanne Sandler \ Former Deputy Executive Director for Programmes, UNIFEM



the Feminist Encuentros in Latin America and the Caribbean, U.N. Conferences and the Commission on the Status of Women summits, and African Feminist Forums. Linking grantees with similar organizations has allowed them to break their isolation, develop a sense of solidarity, and strategize together. This approach builds the capacity of the movement by facilitating common agendas, creating spaces for women to network, learn and share.

Our evolution has enabled us to be ahead of the curve in funding, supporting and ultimately legitimizing issues, long before they became mainstream.

For instance, Global Fund was one of the first funders to realize the importance of funding girl's education. Because of our insight, in 1997, The Preston Fund for Girl's Education was set up in memory of former World Bank President Lewis T. Preston. The Preston Fund became a permanent endowment at the Global Fund and supports groups that improve girls' access to primary education in areas of the world where there is a demonstrated gender gap in enrollment between boys and girls. Perhaps most importantly, Global Fund has been influential in broadening the definition of education to include educating women and girls of their rights and training them in civic and political participation.

The Global Fund also supported the very first groups that identified domestic violence as a human rights issue, and was one of the first funders to highlight and address the issue of trafficking. We have been leaders in supporting issues and movements when they were controversial: reproductive health and rights, LBTQI, domestic worker rights, disability, indigenous and rural women, and militarism.

Our ability to fund cutting-edge issues stems from our grantmaking philosophy: listen, trust women's solutions, and give flexibly. This foundational framework coupled with our staff and advisors' expertise, movement background and understanding of the contexts in which grantees work make us an evolving and dynamic movement funder.

Building on lessons learned and analysis of our impact to date, the Global Fund is evolving once more, ramping up our role in strengthening the capacity of the global women's movement. By prioritizing cross-cutting issues like zero violence against women, sexual, reproductive health and rights, and economic and political empowerment, we will continue to lead efforts that result in significant and measurable change in women and girls' lives.

**LIVES
CHANGED.**

INCLUDING YOURS.

LIVES





BECOME A PART OF SOMETHING GREATER.



MARÍA NÚÑEZ
GLOBAL FUND DONOR

María Núñez was in the epicenter of the women's rights movement: in a huge convention hall speaking and meeting with activists, heads of major foundations, U.N. representatives, and donors like herself. It was that moment at the 2012 Association for Women's Rights In Development (AWID) conference that María finally understood what it meant to be part of "the movement."

Even though María knew the Global Fund and the philanthropy sector well, meeting the people who make up the women's movement helped her appreciate and understand why Global Fund is unique.

"If you think of Global Fund as just a grantmaker, you're losing a big part of it," said María. "What makes us effective is that we know the field; whether it's someone from the Global Fund speaking on a panel, presenting research, or making grants, it's making an impact," said María.

Global Fund is different in that we don't rely on a single funding source or individual's contribution. We

are a network powered by María and 60,000 plus others, pooling our resources to advance women's rights.

"This whole idea of creating networks of supporters, it's about movements—connecting people in the north with people in the south," said Erika Guevara-Rosas, former program director for Latin America and the Caribbean.

For us, philanthropy is a shared responsibility. Transforming the world requires the support of many. For example, violence against women isn't just a problem that happens in India or Colombia, it's everywhere, including in the United States. If we're going to reduce or end violence, we have to do it together.

Being part of the Global Fund community makes you an activist, an activist who cares as much about how you advocate for women's rights as you do the impact itself. No matter where you're from, whether you give your time, \$5 or \$5 million, we value and respect your gift. At the Global Fund, we call this equal generosity.

“I am connected to this incredible group of women. Whoever you are — someone who is directly benefiting from a women’s organization, an activist, or donor — you are in the movement.”

María Núñez \ Attorney and Long-time Global Fund Donor

Revolutionary Learners

The Global Fund network is a movement of life long learners. Instead of claiming to be the experts, Global Fund asks women about the issues in their communities, listens to their solutions, and supports their efforts. We learn from successes and challenges, a revolutionary approach 25 years ago and even now.

Just as we ask grantee partners to tell us how we are doing, we invite donors to learn with us.

“A donor can invest in the Global Fund and learn alongside them about a part of the world, a specific population, a strategy for intervention,” said Betsy Brill, founder of Strategic Philanthropy. “Being co-learners is a very different paradigm than one where you give directly to a NGO, which is one of the reasons why we encourage investing in intermediaries as a first step to global engagement.”

This Fund is Our Future

In the early nineties, Global Fund was one of the only organizations challenging traditional notions of international development and philanthropy. Though we continue to inspire a movement of donors as activists bonded to women’s movements, it’s not enough. We must make way for different movements of young women and men who, like the Global Fund, are willing to disrupt harmful traditions for the collective good.

“We often say we need an endowment of money, but we also need an endowment of young people to carry on the work when people like me are too old.” said Esther Hewlett, early donor and former board member. “We need to be encouraging, mentoring and listening to the next generation, and bring them on board and let them lead this effort.”

One who changes. The Game. Why play by the rules, when the rules are unfair? Set new boundaries. Set new terms. Change lives, open possibilities, fuel movements. There are so many Game Changers at the Global Fund, we could only share a few. Change the game with us.

**GAME.
CHANGERS.**

GAME



KAVITA N. RAMDAS

GLOBAL FUND FOR WOMEN PRESIDENT, 1996 – 2010

THINK BIG.

GAME. CHANGERS.
Think Big.

BUCKING TRENDS AND
SETTING THEM.
GLOBAL FUND GROWS 600%.

THINK BIG.

KAVITA N. RAMDAS

President and CEO of Global Fund for Women, 1996 – 2010

A maverick in the world of women's funds and the philanthropic community, Kavita N. Ramdas never shied away from a challenge. The women's movement needed more resources; she delivered. Under her leadership, Global Fund for Women's annual grantmaking grew 600%.

Q: You led Global Fund's \$20 million Investing in Women campaign. Many point to your boldness and willingness to take risk as key. Looking back, what made you leap?

A: Three things mattered. First, George W. Bush's election and subsequent global gag rule that denied U.S. aid to women's groups working on abortion, followed by the U.S. invasions of Afghanistan and Iraq. Second, there was strong leadership from our board, led by Jacqueline Pitanguay, the Brazilian feminist activist, who was clear that we had to respond to these violations of international law and human rights. Finally, the staff had political awareness and commitment, which led us to march in the streets with millions around the world against the Iraq war. The chairs of the Investing in Women campaign supported these goals with the launch of the Now or Never Fund, supporting urgent needs facing women, while complementing our efforts to build an endowment. We had taken a political stance; now we would raise money around this political vision. We took heart from Gandhi's words, "when the cause is right, the means will come."

Q+A

Q: Global Fund board member Dina Dublon says you have the masterful ability “to engage groups that were not yet part of the choir,” recalling a corporate board meeting where you both challenged and convinced those from the far right. How do you do this?

A: I learned at the Global Fund to be humble about people, regardless of their backgrounds of privilege or poverty. Appearances are deceiving — many donors had personal experiences with violence and inequality, and many activists and leaders from very poor communities had a confidence that some wealthy women lacked. I learned how to speak with compassion and courage, pointing to injustice while giving individuals the chance to realize that their choices do make a difference.

Q: Under your leadership, Global Fund took some radical positions, including opposing Israel’s bombing of Gaza. Characterized as “values-driven,” your leadership demonstrated it is possible to fundraise with a political agenda. How was it possible?

A: We had a board willing to take courageous political stands, which allowed us to push the Global Fund in many different ways. I would love to take credit for it myself but I wouldn’t have been able to do it otherwise. I also had incredible support from staff who were proud that the organization was unafraid to be political — small “p.” Taking thoughtful, political positions requires engaging with people who thought differently from us. But it became more challenging as we grew and sought to reach corporate and mainstream donors, balancing our commitment to being values-driven and expanding resources for women’s groups around the world. Small is not always beautiful. Women have big ideas and dreams, and they deserve big investments to make those real.

Q: When did you realize Global Fund impact on the lives of women?

A: Following 9/11, everyone suddenly wanted to liberate Afghan women. That was 2001, but Global Fund had been funding Sakena Yacoobi and underground girls’ education since 1997. In 2004, when most donors shifted to fund Iraqi women, the Global Fund was still there for Afghan and Iraqi women. Similarly, we were there for the women of the Balkans. I remember one of our grantees, Rada Borich, telling me: “In 1992 – 93, as we were just coming out of war, you funded us. We got so much money from the EU but they refused to pay our rent. How are we going to run a shelter for women war victims in Croatia if we can’t pay rent?” It just shone clearly for me — this work is vital. It matters.

OUT FOR JUSTICE.

LGBTQI GROUPS
RISE FOR GAINS.





COURAGE IN THE FACE OF OPPRESSION.

Imagine walking down the street without fear of getting beaten. Imagine being able to live openly with the person you love. Imagine not worrying about getting evicted or fired for being yourself. Imagine living free of laws that could execute you for expressing your love. This is still a dream for many gays, lesbians, trans people and sexual minorities around the world.

In 1989, Global Fund for Women awarded its first grant to advance the rights of sexual minorities, at a time when very few funders supported the issue. Our support of LGBTQI activism in the global south has made us one of the most significant funders of this global movement today.

We have provided nearly \$3.5 million in support to 260 groups working to advance the rights of LGBTQI individuals. We support groups in 61 countries, of which at least ten criminalize homosexuality. In these countries, stigma among the general population, police repression, as well as hate speech and violence by religious and conservative groups, threaten the very existence of queer individuals.

In much of the world, women who identify as lesbians, bisexual or transgender face the dual oppression of being females and sexual minorities. They struggle against oppression and discrimination from their families, communities and governments that persecute them for being queer. In addition, LGBTQI activists have been alienated by

mainstream women's movements that haven't always embraced sexual rights.

Given the multiple oppressions they face, LGBTQI activists have had to be amazingly resourceful in fighting for their rights and survival.

In the Middle East and North Africa, where homosexuality is criminalized in many countries, our grantee partners set up unmarked safe houses where LGBTQI persons meet to discuss issues like coping with parents, self-esteem and coming out.

Technology and media are important tools for the LGBTQI movement in the Asia Pacific. In 2010, Rainbow Rights Project in the Philippines launched the country's first lesbian radio program to break taboos that stigmatize sexual minorities.

In 2009, Mexico City approved gay marriage, defining marriage as "a free union between two people." This change in policy was in part influenced by the incredible organizing of a coalition of lesbian groups in Mexico City—LeSVoZ, Archivo Histórico Lésbico, Telemánita, Patlatonalli, Mujeres y Cultura Subterránea—that built bridges with other historically marginalized groups. Global Fund helped underwrite four Marchas Lesbicas over six years. After the first march, they wrote to us, "In a world governed by misogynistic and patriarchal laws, we inundated the streets of



the downtown capital and made ourselves seen in the demand for our rights.”

Grantee partners also document and expose human rights violations based on sexual orientation and gender identity. In Kyrgyzstan, Labrys convened a working group of health officials, medical specialists, psychiatrists, and LGBTQI people to develop a gender identity policy that upholds the rights and dignity of transgender people. As a result, 13 Ministries of the Kyrgyz Republic signed the first gender marker change legislation proposal, without objections.

In 2011, the Coalition of African Lesbians in South Africa worked closely with officials to introduce—and successfully passed—the first ever U.N. resolution explicitly recognizing and protecting the human rights of LGBTQI people. While not legally binding, the resolution urges countries to de-criminalize homosexuality, abolish the death penalty for consensual sexual relations, and enact comprehensive anti-discrimination laws to end violence against the LGBTQI community.

As an organization dedicated to gender equality and justice, we are proud to have supported the first “out” lesbian groups in several countries, including China, Croatia, India, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Mexico, Slovenia, Thailand, and Turkey. Their coming out for justice has changed the game.

**In a world governed
by misogynistic and
patriarchal laws, we
inundated the streets of
the downtown capital
and made ourselves
seen in the demand
for our rights.**

Coalition of Lesbian Groups \\
Mexico City

**NO LONGER
IN THE
SHADOWS.**

**DOMESTIC WORKERS
SHOW US THE WAY.**

NO LONGER



FROM THE HOME, WE TAKE DIRECTION.

At 14, Hester Stephens had to leave the 5th grade to get a job as a domestic worker so she could help support her family. Like many domestic workers employed as “nannies” or “maids,” Hester was vulnerable to abuse. Long hours without days off, unfair wages, sexual or physical abuse, and little to no access to healthcare or maternity leave are disturbing realities for an overwhelmingly female workforce that is growing exponentially.

Inspired by a union protest in Cape Town, Hester joined the South African Domestic Service and Allied Workers’ Union, a Global Fund for Women grantee partner since 1991. Shortly after the union’s first Global Fund grant, Hester was elected president and grew its membership to over 25,000 workers. Under her leadership, the union secured minimum wage and other important protections in South Africa under the Domestic Workers Act.



The Groundbreaking ILO Victory

Fast-forward to 2011, when, despite limited infrastructure, women like Hester joined domestic worker organizations worldwide to advocate for and eventually win the International Labor Organization's Convention for Decent Work.

The ILO estimates there are 100 million or more domestic workers worldwide; approximately 83 percent of them are women and girls. The passage of Convention No. 189 now extends basic labor protections and human rights to millions of women, including, for example, abolition of child labor, clear terms and conditions of employment, minimum wage protection, guaranteed rest days, and protection from abuse, harassment and violence,

"Human rights are basic requirements for a society to develop and evolve in the right way for its own people," said Dina Dublon, Global Fund board member and corporate leader.

"The passage of the ILO Convention was a clear demonstration of the power domestic workers have gained through years of effective on-the-ground organizing and international networking," said Linda Burnham, research director at U.S.-based National Domestic Workers Alliance.

Funding the Movement

Global Fund is one of the most consistent funders of the transnational domestic workers movement, even when some feminists worried that domestic work perpetuated violence against women. Their ability to mobilize across nations and with limited resources is a testament to movement building as an

effective strategy for change. "Domestic workers are such a gem amidst women's movements," said Erika Guevara-Rosas, former program director for Latin America and the Caribbean.

Global Fund grantee partners like Migrant Forum in Asia spent years recruiting women and girls, and advocating for their rights on the national level. The group's leadership and networking was vital to the creation and implementation of laws that protect the rights of migrant women domestic workers. Another grantee partner, Coordination of Action Research on AIDS and Mobility (CARAM), successfully advocated for "one day of rest" per week for domestic workers in Malaysia. Those women strategically used that day for organizing, building a community of allies, and preparing for the ILO campaign. Right here in the United States, the National Domestic Workers Alliance has won basic protections at the state level, passing laws in New York and Hawaii.

Despite limited funding to organize at the international level, language barriers, and minimal infrastructure, including spaces to meet and technology, domestic workers are game changers in the women's movement. Their collective efforts on every continent culminated in the historic and groundbreaking ILO win and recognition of women's work as important labor that deserves protection and rights. Thanks to their hard and inspiring work, there are worldwide standards for millions of women working in other people's homes.

ORIGINAL VOICES.



INDIGENOUS WOMEN BREAK THROUGH.

“Indigenous women have shifted women’s rights agendas to achieve greater impact on issues such as violence against women and climate change with virtually no resources and power from their local context.”

Erika Guevara-Rosas \ Former Global Fund Director of Latin America and the Caribbean

It’s no secret that armed conflict, unfair government policies, and corporations greedy for natural resources push indigenous communities off their land and into poverty. Cutoff from traditions vital to their survival, and experiencing violence at the hands of authorities, indigenous peoples are fighting an uphill battle for their human rights.

Indigenous women in particular face double discrimination. Not only are they losing status in their own society, but as a result of forced migration into cities or to militarized lands, find their hands tied as they don’t have equal access to justice.

Even in the wake of violence and intimidation, indigenous women have successfully advocated for their cultural rights as key to achieving self-determination, autonomy, and basic safety and security. In today’s globalized and modern world, they are challenging grantmakers to support a movement based on the principle of harmony with mother earth and respect for all living creatures.

Global Fund has long supported indigenous women and their organizations worldwide in their struggle for justice. As a movement active on all continents, they have been instrumental in advocating and winning groundbreaking laws, including International Labor Organization Convention 169 on the rights of indigenous and tribal peoples and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP). Articles 21 and 22 of UNDRIP specifically uphold the special rights and needs of indigenous women and children, including protecting them from violence and discrimination by Member States and other stakeholders. By mobilizing indigenous leaders worldwide, they have further succeeded in establishing the U.N. Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and expanded the role of the U.N. Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.



MIRNA CUNNINGHAM

Longtime Ally and Former Global Fund Board Member



In recognition of the critical roles individual indigenous leaders play, we pay tribute to Mirna Cunningham, a longtime ally and former Global Fund board member. Mirna is a Miskitu woman from Nicaragua who has tirelessly worked to defend women's and indigenous rights, including as the Chair of the U.N. Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

Q: How have indigenous women helped and challenged women's movements?

A: In 1975, when feminists gathered for a world conference in Mexico City, indigenous women helped contribute thinking about the world we wanted to live in. Indigenous women have since worked hand in hand with the women's rights movement across the world.

Indigenous activists have challenged the predominant notions of feminism, which place a certain set of people in the center and others in the periphery, and have instead encouraged movement towards a more inclusive framework of women's oppression and liberation. Indigenous women believe that the struggle for social justice is one that must be fought by everyone who is negatively impacted by discrimination and exclusion. Indigenous women believe that their cultures are not the source of gender oppression, but rather a source of strength. This is reinforced by our cultural belief in holistic well-being, which principally means the ability to exercise self-determination over our minds, bodies and territories. We embrace positive elements of cultural rights, such as the duality and complementarity between women and men. Yet we recognize the difference between cultural practices and human rights violations done in the name of culture.

Q: What are indigenous women facing today?

A: Like most women, indigenous women face mounting threats from economic globalization, militarization and religious extremism. Preserving natural resources and traditional knowledge are viewed as a threat to the development model that calls for massive displacement of communities by huge multinational construction projects. We must urgently recognize that these are not only indigenous problems; rather they affect us all.

Q: How has Global Fund for Women been significant to indigenous women's struggles?

A: The Global Fund has invested in building movements and generating catalytic actions to transform communities and leaders in the struggle for indigenous rights all over the world. It has planted seeds and has nurtured a movement that is now global and a major force for social transformation. When we were invisible actors, the Global Fund believed in us.



LET'S GO DUTCH.



VISION + FORESIGHT REACH 65.5M WOMEN & GIRLS.

In 2008, Global Fund for Women received its largest gift at the time: \$2.9 million from the Dutch Foreign Affairs Ministry's Millennium Development Goal 3 Fund (MDG3). Through its 82 million euros investment, the MDG3 Fund was at that time, the single largest government gift to support civil society organizations working on gender equality and women's rights. Acceptance of the Dutch government money signaled a major shift for the Global Fund, financially and philosophically. "It showed that the Global Fund could have other sources of funding that hadn't been tapped," said board member Lydia Alpízar. "We could take money from bilaterals without compromising our vision and values."

Global Fund was one of the 45 networks, organizations and funds to receive this support to reduce violence against women, enhance women's economic independence and rights, and increase women's participation in politics and public administration. Unlike most government grants, MDG3 funds go directly to support international and local women's funds and organizations.

This historic commitment by the Dutch government to gender equity and women's empowerment has undoubtedly allowed women's movements to widen their influence and deepen their impact. According to research conducted by the Association for Women's Rights In Development (AWID), the MDG3 Fund reached 220 million people, of which 65.5 million were women and girls, and strengthened 100,000 women's organizations.

With flexible support from the Dutch grant, Global Fund hired an external consultant to conduct a multi-

year evaluation of our grantee selection process, specifically whether we were identifying and supporting groups influencing transformative, systemic change. The study confirmed Global Fund's effectiveness in selecting groups using a rights-based approach that were more likely to achieve concrete wins towards gender equality.

Recognizing the life-changing impact of the MDG3 Fund, in 2012 the Dutch Foreign Affairs Ministry launched a new 80.5 million euros fund — Funding Leadership and Opportunities for Women (FLOW) — to advance women's leadership in more than 100 countries around the world. This investment fills a critical gap in the funding landscape for women, girls and the women's movement, and serves as a shining model of bilateral funding for women's empowerment and gender equality.

The MDG3 and FLOW funds are a powerful tool for the Global Fund as we can leverage those grants to open doors — to other large donors and progressive governments. CEO Musimbi Kanyoro believes, "Tracking impact and supporting big ideas that originate from women requires giving them larger grants for longer periods. This is why we must continue to access government funding where such funding supports our values and mission." In the end, it's a win-win proposition: women and girls realize their human rights; communities and countries become more just, for everyone.

MDG3 KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

In 2008, the Dutch government took a giant leap and invested 82 million euros to catalyze strategic, breakthrough actions to advance gender equality worldwide. Based on a 2012 independent study*, the return on its investment in 45 women's organizations, networks and funds: priceless.

>220 million people reached with new awareness of women's rights.



200,000+ activists were provided tools and skills to support women's assertion of their rights.

Greater than **27 national governments'** gender policies were positively influenced.



>3,400 women's organizations were provided new or more resources.



Local and national governments in at least **46 countries** were persuaded to improve their gender equality outcomes.

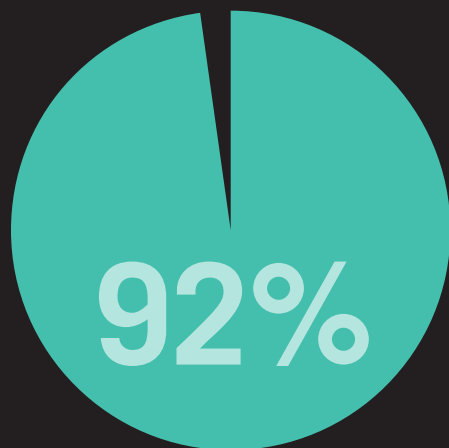
One new international rights instrument (ILO Convention 189 on domestic work) was approved with fund-supported "last lap" work.

Over **65 million grassroots women** reached with awareness of their rights.



More than **100,000 women's organizations** were strengthened / provided greater capacity and tools.

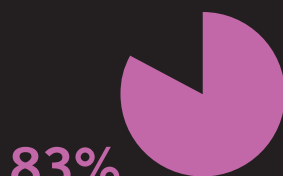
*Srilatha Batliwala et al. "Women Moving Mountains: AWID's Independent Assessment of the Global Impact of the MDG3 Fund," 2012.



- reached a larger number of women and women's organizations.
- increased geographic coverage.
- strengthened women's leadership.
- launched new programs and strategies.
- united women and built new collective power.



focused on new issues and constituencies of women.



built alliances with other movements and organizations.



influenced gender equality work of other movements, sectors, and organizations.



survived / continued our work in very challenging contexts.



more effective advocacy to change discriminatory laws and policies.



prevented reversal of past gender equality gains or achievements.



tracked reversals / backlash more effectively.



other achievements.

Moving. Quickly. Up. These people move us. Here are five. Rising brightly, they inspire us all. They empower girls and women economically. They move to end violence, done simply because you are a woman. Their efforts shape our commitment as we look at the next 25 years and beyond. From this light, we can see. Look up. So can you.

The background is a solid orange color. A large, dark orange triangle points upwards from the bottom left towards the center. A smaller, lighter yellow triangle points downwards from the top center towards the bottom left, overlapping the dark orange triangle. The text 'RISING. STARS.' is written in a bold, white, sans-serif font, positioned in the upper left quadrant of the image.

**RISING.
STARS.**

DIAMOND

STRONG AND RISING.



CREATIVE APPROACHES TO GLOBAL ACTIVISM.

In recent years, the world has witnessed a surge in large-scale protests, many advocating for the rights of women and girls. From Tahrir Square to Delhi, women activists and ordinary citizens have taken to the streets and to social media to demand change.

“We’re seeing what it means to have collective energy and movement around an issue,” says Global Fund for Women board chair Leila Hessini. “When Malala was shot in Pakistan, there was a collective movement of women to respond. In India, following the gang rape of the student, there was a broad movement of women and men to respond. People are pissed, angry and frustrated, realizing we can no longer be silent on these issues.”

What does the rise in non-“activist” participation in women’s rights protests mean for the movement-at-large? “I really think those [ordinary people] are the rising stars,” says Joanne Sandler, Former Deputy Executive Director for Programmes, UNIFEM. Moving forward, the participation of everyday people will be crucial to achieving the goals of the global women’s rights movement.

Activists we work with have already taken note. In Egypt, Nazra for Feminist Studies defines a “woman human rights defender” as someone who doesn’t necessarily identify as a “feminist”; a term that is still uncommon within the larger women’s movement. Mozn Hassan, Nazra’s Executive Director, believes that, “Every woman who is active in the public space and is trying to express themselves openly as a woman is a human rights defender.” For that reason, her organization includes young female protestors, female medical professionals, and women from the labor movement in its work.

What the inclusion of ‘ordinary people’ in women’s rights advocacy does is open up dialogue and space for more people to see the aims of the movement as in line with their own goals and values. In other words, the women’s rights movement creates more individual allies and builds more cross-movement alliances.

Great examples of this are the many men who rose up against the brutal gang rape of a 23-year-old female student that took place on a Delhi bus December 16, 2012. When asked why he was demonstrating about a “women’s issue,” protestor Sanjay Kumar said, “Was I not born of a mother? The world can only run if men and women function together.” In Tahrir Square, women and men have organized together to form anti-sexual-assault groups—notably Operation Anti-Sexual Harassment—that patrol demonstrations and run hotlines to prevent and end instances of sexual violence.

Ultimately, more participation of non-“activists” in the movement means more people, voices and resources in support of a women’s rights agenda. That amplifies the potential reach and impact of any action, campaign, or program.

Esther Hewlett, early donor and former board member, highlights the role of “ordinary citizens” when she talks about her hopes and dreams for the global women’s movement:

“My hope is that the momentum is going to be on our side.

People are going to understand that we really need to keep this going. I also hope that this will be a global movement, not just in the geographic sense, but also in the universal sense, and by that I mean everybody. Funding and participation doesn’t have to come only from people who are activists for a career. We also need regular people, bus drivers, dentists, and architects... everyone to understand these issues and be aware and do something about it.”

LADIES,
START
YOUR
ENGINES.



SHATTERING STEREOTYPES, WOMEN BEAT THE ODDS.

Women are two-thirds of the world's labor force, yet they only earn 10 percent of the income. Imagine how the world's economic engines would hum if two thirds of women earned two thirds of the income.

For 25 years, Global Fund for Women has worked to reverse history by investing in women entrepreneurs. As a result, over 20,000 women around the world now have the business skills to run successful enterprises, but it has not always been a smooth ride.

For women business leaders in countries like Nepal and Nigeria, just being a female leader can be dangerous. Add traditional cultural practices meant to keep them financially bound to their male counterparts and you can understand why failure rates for women are higher in those countries. Yet, women continue to beat the odds and are shattering stereotypes along the way.



Take Nepal's first cab service run exclusively by women. Back in 2002, Sangita Nirola started Swati to address two unmet needs: women in Kathmandu did not feel safe riding in taxis with male drivers and employment options for women were low-paying jobs like cooking and tailoring, locking them into a cycle of poverty.

Nepal is one of the poorest countries in the world. More than half of Nepalese women report experiencing some form of violence, according to the Center for Research on Environment Health and Population Activities in Nepal. Contributing factors include high illiteracy, early marriage, and lack of women in decision-making roles.

Sangita and her colleagues started a driving school for women. With their Global Fund grants, they

purchased taxicabs and uniforms for the drivers, rented the garage space, and paid maintenance fees for the cabs.

"Swati is taking a sector approach and looking at the transportation industry, where women have been excluded, and coming up with ways for women to get jobs in those industries," said Leila Hessini, Global Fund board chair. "They are gaining skills and challenging stereotypes. That opens doors for everybody."

The women of Swati believe that when women establish their own business they become independent and empowered. Making sure every woman receives comprehensive

leadership training, the Lady Driver Training Program offers courses on Nepal's thriving tourist industry, self-defense techniques, mechanics, and business. Once up and running Swati leveraged its Global Fund support to attract major funders like USAID.

"A Global Fund grant doesn't just help an organization financially," said Mary Beth Salerno, longtime Global Fund donor and former President of American Express Foundation. "It gives them even more motivation to focus on their mission and go after other funding."

If a Nepalese woman driving a cab was revolutionary; then a female auto mechanic in Nigeria would have been earth shattering. That's until The Lady Mechanics drove into town.

Started to promote women's economic empowerment and self-reliance, The Lady Mechanics Initiative is growing by leaps and bounds. From rigorous technical and business management training, to advocacy campaigns for equal pay and gender equality education, more than 350 women mechanics have graduated from the program.

"I will say to you that there is no automobile company in Nigeria that does not have female mechanics, and they got all these girls from me," Sandra Aguebor-Ekperouh, founder of The Lady Mechanics Initiative, told National Public Radio in 2013. "So it's spreading out like a wildfire, gradually, and also empowering other women. And we don't intend to even stop in Nigeria."

With multiple grants from Global Fund, the organization supports graduates as they start their mobile garages and find jobs in the industry. But the story doesn't end there. Women of Swati and Lady Mechanics are paying it forward and it's paying off.

"I want to train other girls. I want to build up this country. One more year, and I'll have my own garage," 25-year-old Elizabeth Ekwem told NPR. "Look, my hands are dirty. I love it... It's the best job in the world."

A Global Fund grant... gives [an organization] even more motivation to focus on their mission and go after other funding.

Mary Beth Salerno \\
Global Fund Donor and Former President of American Express Foundation

MOBILE & ACTIVE.

YOUTH LEAD.



MOBILE



40% OF GLOBAL FUND FOR WOMEN STAFF IS GENERATION “NEXT.”

Young people, those aged 30 and younger, have been called many things: Millennials, Millennial Generation, Generation Y and Generation Next. At the Global Fund for Women, “Generation Next” works because it speaks to the future leaders we’ve come to know through the movement. We believe that Gen Next is more than people; it’s a rousing combination of people, politics, organizations, technology, and movements. Individually each can create a stir. Collectively, they can cause a tidal wave of change.

In Cambodia, for example, young activists are playing a powerful role in opening up information channels that were previously closed by government. According to Mu Sochua, former Global Fund board member and current Cambodian Member of Parliament, these young people are “...a growing media-savvy population who depend on each other and the Internet to share news and information that is recognisably absent from state-run TV and radio.”¹

Over the last 25 years, Global Fund has witnessed how critical technology has been to strengthening women’s movements within countries, across regions and globally. We have invested \$22 million across 128 countries to support 873 women’s organizations using creative media and technologies as core strategies in their work.

One tool is the mobile phone, the instrument of choice for activists. “In a moment of crisis, if a woman or a girl uses the phone in her hand to advocate for help, sparking others to act, that is empowerment,” says Global Fund CEO and President Musimbi Kanyoro.

We saw this during massive protests in Egypt in the summer of 2013 when hundreds of women protestors





were victims of mob sexual assaults and harassment. Human Rights Watch documented over 170 cases in and around Tahrir Square in one month alone. Global Fund grantee partner, Nazra for Feminist Studies, was instrumental in promoting the hotline number of its close partner, Operation Anti-Sexual Harassment (OpAntiSH). Witnesses would call, text, or Tweet and OpAntiSH would send a team to physically pull women out of the mobs and take them to safety. The group's Facebook page also served as a safe place to report abuses.

Another is the combination of education and technology, which provides girls a powerful path to act independently and make choices. Nineteen-year-old Shabham grew up in a rural village in India where being an educated girl is considered shameful. After moving to Delhi, she took courses at Feminist Approach to Technology, FAT, which offers girls computer skills and technologies to earn a living. FAT founder Gayatri Buragohain realized that technology offered a back door for girls whose parents disapproved of their education but approved of them learning to use a computer. After three months at FAT, Shabham applied to university and stood up to her father who initially refused to sign her application. "I told him that when you come for the signature for the marriage

document, I will deny in front of everyone and not sign." He signed and Shabham got a telecom job to pay her tuition; she is now a self-sufficient activist.

"In my village, the girl relatives are talking about me and saying, 'Shabham finished 12th grade, so why can't I?' I want to help those girls who can't come out of their house."

As both stories illustrate, advancing women's empowerment and rights can cause backlash.

But with the right resources, young women can fight back. It is one of the reasons that since 2007, more than half of our grants have supported groups working with young women and girls, a trend that will continue.

In addition, because we recognize the tremendous potential for change led by Generation Next, Global Fund is infusing our organization with young women leaders and feminist activists. Forty percent of our staff is 30 or under, three young women have joined our board of directors, and we are embarking on multi-year strategies to integrate technology and girls' empowerment in our all aspects of our work.

¹ Kate Hodal, "Cambodian opposition power figure Mu Sochua relishes election fight," *The Guardian*, July 26, 2013.





WE ELECT
PROGRESS.

What's more effective at combatting violence against women than a nation's wealth, left-wing political parties or greater numbers of elected women? According to a 40-year study in the *American Political Science Review* published by Cambridge University, the single most influential factor forcing countries to recognize and address gender-based violence is the presence of **strong autonomous feminist movements**. In analyzing data on violence against women in 70 countries, S. Laurel Weldon and Mala Htun found "social movements shape public and government agendas and create the political will to address issues."

Now, imagine women from these movements running for political office; that is powerful, and it is increasingly occurring. We profile three women political leaders—all affiliated with the Global Fund as past and present board members and grantees. Each made the dramatic leap from being activists to elected officials with the power to make new policies.

We profile three women political leaders — all affiliated with the Global Fund as past and present board members and grantees — who took the dramatic leap from influencing policy from outside the halls of power to getting elected and making government policy.

1998

ELECTED TO ASSEMBLY
CAMBODIA



MU SOCHUA

After fleeing war and genocide, Mu Sochua returned to Cambodia after being in exile for 18 years. She started Khemara, one of the first non-governmental organizations after the country's civil war. In 1998, she entered politics, winning a National Assembly seat and then becoming the Minister of Women's and Veterans Affairs, where she helped draft and pass the Prevention of Domestic Violence Bill. Her tireless work to fight sex trafficking in Cambodia landed her among the 1,000 women nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize. In 2004, during her tenure on the Global Fund board, Mu stepped down from her cabinet position, citing rampant corruption in the government and her party as the main reasons. Now a Member of Parliament in the opposition party, Mu is determined to overturn the rule of Prime Minister Hun Sen, Asia's longest serving leader. A peoples' politician who chooses to travel the country on public transportation without a bodyguard despite threats on her life, Mu mobilizes thousands of women to run for office, raises the voices of victims of illegal land grabs, and speaks out against impunity, even if it means challenging the Prime Minister himself. In the immediate aftermath of the recent elections in July 2013, Mu and her party are challenging the results that saw Hun Sen's party win only by a razor's edge, despite widespread claims of voting irregularities.

2012

ELECTED PRESIDENT
MALAWI



JOYCE BANDA

In 2012, Joyce Hilda Banda was elected President of Malawi—the first woman in the nation’s history. Before assuming the nation’s top post, Joyce served as Vice President, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Member of Parliament, and Minister for Gender, Children’s Affairs and Community Services. What distinguishes her even more is the work she did before entering national politics. She was a grassroots activist and educator who founded many important civil society organizations, including Global Fund grantee partner the Joyce Banda Foundation, the National Association of Businesswomen, Young Women Leaders Network, and the Hunger Project.

In 1981, Joyce took her three children and fled an abusive husband. She told the BBC*, “Most African women are taught to endure abusive marriages. They say endurance means a good wife but most women endure abusive relationship because they are not empowered economically, they depend on their husbands.”

*Tenthani, Raphael. *Joyce Banda: Malawi’s first female president*, BBC News, April 10, 2012.

2012

ELECTED VICE PRESIDENT, SOCIAL
DEMOCRATIC PARTY, EGYPT



HODA ELSADDA

Global Fund board member Hoda Elsadda is Professor of English and Comparative Literature at the University of Cairo and Chair of the Women and Memory Forum. When Egypt’s revolution erupted, Hoda left the University of Manchester and returned to Egypt to participate in building a new country and society. She joined the Egyptian Social Democratic Party and was elected Vice-President. “Before the revolution, involvement in civil society organizations was the way to get involved in politics. There were no other venues. Now, people are finally able to form parties that are *real* opposition parties. Egypt needs strong political structures that are organized and capable of mobilizing large numbers of people. I decided to contribute to the making of this party. Women must become involved now to make sure that the new Egypt is sensitive to women’s needs and issues. This is the time for women, young and old, to enter politics.”

In September 2013, Hoda was one of 50 appointed to amend the constitution.

SAFE. HAVEN.

**BEFORE, DURING &
AFTER CONFLICT.**



PATRICIA GUERRERO

LEAGUE OF DISPLACED WOMEN, COLOMBIA

LEYMAH GBOWEE
NOBEL PEACE LAUREATE, LIBERIA

WE RESPOND TO WAR.

Before the Bosnian war killed 100,000 people and displaced half the country's four million people, women's groups were focused on starting businesses and getting women elected to public office. Once war erupted, massacres and systematic rape was used as a form of ethnic and religious cleansing on over 60,000 women. The Global Fund had to act. The best way we could was by providing flexible support that enabled women's groups to pivot, putting money where it was needed most—helping women survivors and their children.

"No other funder was willing to go there, or trusted women's groups to use resources as they needed," recalls former Global Fund president Kavita N. Ramdas. Most aid to conflict regions is highly restricted and focused only on short-term humanitarian concerns. Our flexible funding is entirely different, recognizing that innovation and local leadership were needed, especially within a conflict zone, to support strong and creative responses to terrifying circumstances. It enables women's groups to pay rent for shelters, clandestinely meet women across enemy lines, and innovate healing techniques.

From the provocative actions of Women in Black in Jerusalem protesting the war on Gaza, to the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo in Argentina holding candlelight vigils for their disappeared children, women's organizations bring visibility to the critical role women can and must play in ending conflict. One famous action that earned her the Nobel Peace Prize was when Leymah Gbowee who, along with thousands of Christian and Muslim women, barricaded and refused to leave the site of stalled peace talks until Charles Taylor and the warring factions signed a peace agreement. It takes the visionary imagination of women activists like Patricia Guerrero and the League of Displaced Women to build the City of Women,

“Women were not the makers of the war and were not at the negotiating table when the conflict stopped. But they were the first ones to cross imaginary and imposed borders and began working on rebuilding the country inside out.”

Taida Horozovic \ CURE Foundation, Sarajevo

a safe haven for 100 women and their children from the Colombian paramilitary. And in former Yugoslavia, because of the courage and resilience of women survivors who came forward to testify, the International Criminal Tribunal became the first court ever to prosecute war rape as an independent crime against humanity.

In the past 25 years, Global Fund has provided nearly \$7 million to over 300 women’s organizations building peace in 80 countries. We provide women the support needed before, during and after conflict. For example in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Global Fund invested \$880,000 in five years to over 70 groups implementing innovative community-based strategies to combat sexual violence so rampant during wartime. Their collective efforts have now led traditional chiefs to enlist women to mediate community and domestic conflicts.

Following 9/11, as we witnessed an unprecedented rise in fundamentalism and militarism—the belief that violence and armed force is the way to resolve conflicts—Global Fund sought a radically different vision.

“Militarized societies are where the worst abuses against women happen,” says Amina Mama, former board chair, who, along with her predecessor Jacqueline Pitanguy, pioneered the Global Fund for

Women’s Dismantling Militarism Initiative. “It was a strategic grantmaking effort that sought to go beyond emergency relief work, beyond mopping up the blood,” explains Amina. It opened a crucial political space for others in the women’s movement to challenge militarism, including advocacy efforts by the Nobel Women’s Initiative and Center for Global Women’s Leadership.

But women’s human rights are also violated in what is called militarized peace. Global Fund grantee partners who know this well are ones living on the borders of U.S. military bases in foreign countries.

In October 1995, following the rape of a 12-year old girl by three U.S. servicemen, Okinawa Women Act Against Military Violence was formed. “U.S. troops are allowed to move freely outside the bases and their violent training overflows into the Okinawan community,” explains Suzuyo Takazato, co-chair of the organization. Suzuyo’s organization has partnered with similar grassroots women’s groups across the Asia-Pacific region to form the International Women’s Network against Militarism. “Global Fund for Women support has been essential to our international gatherings where women share information about U.S. militarism in all our communities,” says Gwyn Kirk, U.S. representative of the network.

The ability. To see. How do we see the future? Through visionaries' eyes. We are fortunate to have met so many and to have so many around us. Here are just five. They see a better world. A world where every woman and girl can live with security, dignity, and hope. A world of realized dreams. A world of our own making. Together, we have a job to finish. And no job is finished until it's done.

**FUTURE.
VISIONS.**

WILLIAM





FUTURE. VISIONS.
It's a Woman's Choice.

IT'S A WOMAN'S CHOICE.

THE POWER AND PERILS OF PROCREATIVE RIGHTS.

FRANCES KISSLING

GLOBAL FUND FOR WOMEN CO-FOUNDER

It's the 21st century and around the world, women still don't have the right to control their own bodies. This is one of the reasons why we are deepening financial and other support to women's organizations fighting for sexual, reproductive rights and health for all women and girls. One leader who has guided us from the start is Frances Kissling, a co-founder of the Global Fund for Women and leading scholar and activist in the fields of religion, reproduction and women's rights. The former president of Catholics for a Free Choice, Frances is now a visiting scholar at the Center for Bioethics at the University of Pennsylvania.

ON BEING A WOMAN

by Frances Kissling

“...women bear the brunt of the pain
that comes with human rights.”

Phumzile Mlambo Ngcuka \ Global Fund for Women Board
Member and U.N. Women Executive Director

In that simple sentence Phumzile set the stage for a new understanding of sexual and reproductive rights as compassionate human rights; human rights advocacy as the effort to alleviate suffering. That suffering originates in the Abrahamic idea of sex as an evil, punishable offense. In the Genesis narrative of the loss of paradise God said to the woman, “I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you.”

In too many places this biblical verse still influences how we think about women, sex and reproduction. We ignore the pain women suffer when they take charge of their own bodies: decide whom they will love; expect to be treated as the subjects of their lives not the objects of their partners' lives; and decide for themselves when and whether they will bring new life into the world. They take the task of procreation seriously considering not just themselves but the best interests of a child that might be born, an existing family and the economy they face, even the best interests of a community and the earth itself.

At the level of the eternal unconscious, women's power to decide whether to bring new life into the world or not is a challenge to men's sense of fertility and power. No one is to blame, but women's power over life and death is frightening. Abraham Lincoln put best when he said, “a woman is the only thing I am afraid of that I know will not hurt me.”

It would have been far better had nature made it possible for both men and women to gestate new life. Imagine a world in which men could get pregnant.

Would the Chilean president marvel at a raped, pregnant 11-year-old boy's “wisdom and maturity” when he decided to have the baby and hold it in his arms like a “little doll” or would he have higher aspirations for him? Would the governor of Virginia think it a good idea that all pregnant men have a penile ultra sound before an abortion as necessary “informed consent?” Would South African men need to pay bribes in order to take their babies home after delivery? And would parents anywhere in the world not work to prevent their teenage sons from dying as a result of botched illegal abortions? Would abortion be illegal, emergency contraception denied, and the lack of skilled birth attendants tolerated?

Most likely not. But those violations of reproductive rights are enshrined in law and practice world-wide and the burden of pain is borne only by women. For these reasons the Global Fund for Women from its first grant docket in 1988 has been a courageous funder of reproductive rights, including the right to choose abortion.

But procreative decisions are not just about rights. The decision to have or not have children is at once the most private and intimate of acts with consequences not just for women but for the whole of society. Too often, the good in opposing views is not heard and doubts are pushed aside. Fostering deep listening and a desire to understand the other might bridge the divide. Such an effort would honor the words of Phumzile, and create a form of advocacy for reproductive rights that is compassionate and respectful of all human dignity.

UN- SUSTAINABLE.



WOMEN PAY FOR GLOBAL PROFIT.

Of seven billion people living on the planet, 1.7 billion live in absolute poverty, meaning they don't have access to the basics for survival: food, water, sanitation, clothing, shelter, health care and education. A 2013 World Bank report found that climate change will negatively impact agriculture and fisheries, further worsening the very poor's access to clean water and food security. With global climate change, ocean acidification, biodiversity loss and other pressing environmental issues, the conditions in which poor people live are about to get even worse.

For 25 years, the Global Fund for Women has supported women's movements advocating for economic models that advance human development and rights while balancing environmental sustainability.

One leading organization is Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era (DAWN), a network of feminist scholars, researchers and activists from the global South working for economic and gender justice and sustainable democratic development. As a Global Fund partner, we asked them to outline key principles for a new economic paradigm.



A CALL TO BALANCE THE GLOBAL ECONOMY.

Q&A with Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era (DAWN)

Q: First, what's wrong?

A: The current economic paradigm over-emphasizes the importance of economic growth as a driver of development; it assumes that the poorest will benefit from the spillover effects of growth. Seeing how unregulated markets cannot address the complexity of poverty nor persistent social inequalities, women's movements believe that, for human rights to be met, market systems must be deeply transformed to ensure more equitable distribution of wealth and resources. Central to finding solutions to the current ecological and economic crises is seeing that the rapid deterioration of the planet and displacement of the majority of the world's livelihoods are, in part, due to unsustainable patterns of production and consumption.

Q: How do women factor in?

A: Women's poverty and disempowerment cannot be narrowly defined and measured by income alone. Rather, women's poverty is the result of multiple violations of their rights, including the invisible barriers that keep them down, such as unpaid "care" work and lack of access to education, good jobs, and quality and affordable reproductive health care.

Women also make up the majority of the world's small-scale and subsistence farmers, so every effort to confront climate change and ecological damage must address this. We must shift from disaster management and adapting to its negative effects,

towards guaranteeing women inheritance rights, access to credit, and land ownership and use.

Q: So, what can be done?

A: To address our current economic and ecological crises, we need a holistic approach informed by diverse local, indigenous, feminist and other alternative systems of knowledge. Every development agenda must comply with human rights principles, including financial, monetary and trade policy.

The enormous profits of industries like mining, gas and oil must be evaluated against the devastating human and environmental cost of unsustainable policies and practices. The collective rights of indigenous, rural and remote communities must be upheld because women, children and young people bear the brunt of land displacement and other serious abuses that prevent them from leading lives of dignity and well-being. Environmental and social issues cannot ever be secondary considerations to profit. Rather, economies should be restructured to support the social, economic and environmental well-being of people, and the overall ecological health of the planet.

Women's rights and gender equality advancements, especially with regard to economic empowerment and ecological sustainability, must be firmly rooted in internationally recognized and respected human rights obligations and commitments.

Q+A

The Way Forward

In line with DAWN's assessment, we at the Global Fund are prioritizing support for women's rights organizations leading on food and water security, workers' rights, and land and inheritance rights as part of our commitment to women's economic and political empowerment.

Access to money and resources enables women's participation in civic and political life. Conversely, having decision-making power allows women to shape economic policies and programs that directly affect their lives. We believe this is the most strategic way forward to build up a strong and vibrant global women's movement capable of advancing a more just and sustainable world.



MOTHER. EARTH.

WOMEN + ENVIRONMENT = ONE

VANDANA SHIVA \

The future of humanity hangs in the balance of how we act now to protect mother earth. Women, the main providers of food and water to their families, know this well. That's one of the reasons why Global Fund for Women invests in grantees developing women leaders working to preserve and protect the environment.

One thought leader whose vision guides us is Vandana Shiva, world-renowned eco-feminist, activist and thinker from India.

Vandana is an acclaimed author of many books, including

Earth Democracy: Justice, Sustainability, and Peace
and *Staying Alive: Women, Ecology, and Development*.



WHAT WE DO TO THE ENVIRONMENT DOUBLY AFFECTS WOMEN.

by Vandana Shiva

In the early 1970s, I saw the deep connection between the women's movement in India and the protection of the environment through the very inspiring movement called Chipko, which means to hug. It was a movement that practiced the Gandhian methods of satyagraha and non-violent resistance, through the act of hugging trees to protect them from being felled. Women protested, "You can't cut these forests. These forests protect our soil, our water. They're not timber mines." It took ten years for the government to eventually recognize that the Himalayan forests' primary function is to provide a stable water supply to avoid floods and drought, not the value of its timber.

I also saw the deep connection between women and the environment 26 years ago when I started Navdanya, the movement for seed saving in India, after learning how corporations wanted to patent life. For instance, in India, Monsanto controls 95 percent of the cottonseed supply. Farmers are indebted because the price of seed jumped 8,000 percent. There are no other options, except ones we

are creating through Navdanya by saving open-pollinated seed. Since Monsanto entered the seed market, 270,000 Indian farmers who couldn't repay the debt have committed suicide. It's genocide. And every farmer who commits suicide leaves behind a widow. For me, this is a prime example of violence against women through violent economic means.

We are living in a very violent economic order to which war has become essential — war against the earth, women's bodies, local economies and democracy. This violent economic order can only function as war against people and the earth, and in that war, rape against women is a very, very commonly used instrument of war. To protect the dignity of women, we must see the connections — the multiple wars against the earth must end, and we must recognize we are part of the earth.

Most of the indigenous, non-industrialized and non-Western cultures of the world live

“Since Monsanto entered the seed market, 270,000 Indian farmers who couldn’t repay the debt have committed suicide. It’s genocide. And every farmer who commits suicide leaves behind a widow. For me, this is a prime example of violence against women through violent economic means.”

Vandana Shiva

in the consciousness that we are part of nature and the earth is a mother. For example, we are now fighting against dams on the Ganges River and central to this struggle is a very real discourse that the Ganges is a divine mother. She has her own standing. The government cannot block her flow. She has a right to flow free. That’s the basis of fighting the dams, not only the environmental impact in terms of displacement.

The liberation of the earth, of women, of all humanity is the next step of freedom we need to work for. To achieve this, a paradigm shift led by movements for ecological sustainability, social justice and deep democracy is desperately needed. Their paradigm is centered on the rights of mother earth, the rights of future generations, of women, indigenous communities and farmers. It is this epic contest between a destructive and dying outmoded paradigm and a life enhancing emergent paradigm. The outcome of this contest will determine the future of humanity and will be fought in

every country, in every village and town, every farm and workplace, every home and street.

For 25 years, the Global Fund for Women has given crucial support to thousands of women’s groups mobilizing for their human rights and earth’s rights. From indigenous women facing rape and death to prevent the loss of their ancient rainforests to women farmers organizing against pesticides that harm their health and their children’s, the Global Fund’s support is vital to continue the courageous work of these women to advance their own rights and protect mother earth.



MEN. STAND WITH US.

**VIOLENCE TO ONE
IS VIOLENCE TO ALL.**

SIR PATRICK STEWART

Violence against women and girls is at crisis levels, everywhere. So it's no surprise that one of the Global Fund's top priorities is zero violence against women and girls. But we can't do it alone. We must enlist men to break the silence and make such violence intolerable. One leading voice calling upon men to end violence against women is Sir Patrick Stewart, the distinguished film, television and stage actor most widely known for his role as Captain Jean-Luc Picard in *Star Trek: The Next Generation*.



TOGETHER, WE WILL FIND THE WAY.

by Sir Patrick Stewart*

When I was a child I witnessed repeated violence against my mother. My father was a soldier, a superstar, Sergeant Major of his regiment. He was a man of huge discipline, character and charisma. He was brilliant at his job. But at home, behind our closed front doors was another story. At home, my father was an angry and unhappy man who was unable to control his emotions, or his hands.

I was five years old when this began, and I witnessed a lot of harm. Our house was very small. When you live with violence in a confined space, you learn to gauge the temperature of situations very quickly. I became an expert. I knew exactly the moment when the shouting was done and when a hand was about to be raised. I knew exactly when to throw open a door and to insert myself between my father's fist and my mother's body. That's a skill no child should ever have to learn.

As a child, I recall so vividly hearing police officers in my home saying things like, "She must have provoked him," or "Well, Mrs. Stewart it takes two to make an argument." They had no idea. As a child, I didn't have the words to explain. As an adult, I can tell the truth. The truth is, my mother did nothing to deserve the violence she endured. She did not provoke my father, and even if she had, responding with violence is not an acceptable way of dealing with conflict.

*Excerpted from talk at the launch of Global Fund grantee partner Breakthrough's global campaign—Ring the Bell: One million men, One million promises, March 8th, 2013



Last year I learned things about my father that I didn't know. In 1940 due to his experiences in France with the British Expeditionary Force, my father was suffering from what was then called severe shellshock. That's what I read in his notes at the Imperial War Museum in England. We now know it as post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). We also know that there are soldiers all over the world who are returning from combat zones with a serious condition of PTSD. Now we know what it is and how to deal with it. In 1940, it was just shellshock. Basically soldiers were being told, "Pull yourself together, get a grip on yourself, and get out there and be a man." An expert in this condition who works with a charity called Combat Stress told me, "What your father had in 1940, because he was never treated, never left him. And all the conditions of your childhood that you have described are classic symptoms of veterans who are suffering from this serious psychological and physical illness."

For my mother, I work for Refuge, a safe house for women and children, and for my father, and I work for Combat Stress.

Let's be absolutely clear: violence is a choice a man makes and he is responsible for it. It is not a women's issue. It is humanity's issue. It is your issue. It is my issue. And it is not something that is always hidden away in a bad neighborhood, in a remote town, in a developing county. It is in our homes, our streets and in our places of work and at every level of society. Places where we are supposed to feel safe, and protected. A change in society's attitude to domestic violence is needed and men have to lead that change.

A few months ago, I joined the Ring the Bell campaign and pledged with one million men to end violence against women. It is in our hands.

“Let's be absolutely clear:
violence is a choice a man makes
and he is responsible for it.
It is not a women's issue.
It is humanity's issue.
It is your issue. It is my issue.”

Sir Patrick Stewart

A portrait of Musimbi Kanyoro, a Black woman with a warm smile. She is wearing a vibrant headwrap with large red, white, and black floral patterns. Her earrings are long and ornate, featuring a teardrop shape with red and yellow details. She is wearing a blue patterned top with a red and gold polka-dot collar and a silver necklace. The background is a rich, textured fabric with a geometric pattern in red, blue, and white. A diagonal red band runs across the bottom right corner of the image.

MUSIMBI KANYORO

GLOBAL FUND FOR WOMEN PRESIDENT
AND CEO, 2011 – CURRENT

LEADING.
W/COMPASSION.

FORWARD.
W/SOLUTIONS.

MUSIMBI KANYORO

President and CEO, Global Fund for Women

Q: What is it like to be the leader of the Global Fund during its 25th anniversary year?

A: I have always been in awe of the incredible history and the bold leadership that built the Global Fund from concept to the thriving organization that it is today. We have a strong and solid anchor for our next generation of successes. We will remain as fearless as our predecessors and grounded in the belief that “how” we do our work is as important as “what” we do. The Global Fund vision and values are timeless and compel us to pay attention to how they are lived out in a changing world. This is our challenge and opportunity.

Global Fund has been incredibly successful in getting money into the hands of women, helping to build women’s organizations, and connecting women to generate real, substantive change for millions of women and girls. We hold this close to our heart and aspire to raise the bar by leading this excellent organization to the next level of significance.

Q: What do you mean by the next level of significance?

A: For me, it is about taking a page from our past and looking to the future for direction. It’s time to look back less, and look forward more to the next 25 years. While I celebrate past leaders, I am also focused on building a pipeline of future leaders. We will continue to call out human rights violations against women and invest more in women’s movements’ efforts to eradicate human rights violations. Twenty-five years ago, violence against women was a private “domestic” matter, today the personal is political and the future demands zero tolerance of any form of violence against women.

Q: What are some of the most compelling actions Global Fund will undertake in the future?

A: Our grantees are bold; we shall be equally bold. In the past 25 years, our grantees have used Global Fund grants to advocate for laws to protect women against domestic violence, sexual violence, trafficking, and female genital mutilation in at least 25 different countries. Today, more than one billion women and girls have legal rights under these laws. Wow! That is an amazing story of resilience and results.

We shall think big and seek to be a positive influencer of change for women and girls. We shall be as bold as our grantees in asking investors and donors to do more so women and girls have more resources. As one of the most consistent sources of funding for women's rights organizations, imagine what we could do with more! We will use technology to communicate quickly and effectively, and we will be responsible in using data and personal stories to amplify the voices of women and girls. We shall use our place of privilege as an international organization to tell the world what we are learning from our networked organizations in the places we work.

We'll be transparent about where the money is going and what we, as leaders, are doing within the movement. We shall share the data and impact of the grants we make in multiple spaces. In short, fast communication, transparency, accountability, collaboration, networked solutions and good use of data and stories.

We are part of a vibrant global women's movement and therefore will redouble our efforts to strengthen its effectiveness and influence. The resurgence of conservatism threatening to reverse hard fought gains cannot be taken lightly. To stem the tide, Global Fund will bring more young women into social justice work and ensure they have the resources they need to lead. We will also deepen our investment in and support for organizations that are providing safe spaces for social justice work. Finally we will harness our connections and influence to advocate for progressive infrastructures where partnerships, collaborations, and networks form to build a **common platform for change**. As Helen Keller once said, "Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much."

Social justice is achieved when women and girls have choices and opportunities to create the world they want live in.

Musimbi Kanyoro \ President and CEO, Global Fund for Women

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MISSION

We advance the rights of women and girls worldwide by increasing the resources for and investing in women-led organizations and women's collective leadership for change.

VISION

We envision a just, equitable and sustainable world in which women and girls have resources, voice, choice, and opportunities to realize their human rights.



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