

GLOBAL FUND FOR
WOMEN

Champions for Equality™



**STRONG,
SAFE,
POWERFUL,
AND HEARD.**

2015
FALL
IMPACT
REPORT

HOW WE MAKE CHANGE HAPPEN.

Global Fund for Women is a global champion for gender equality, standing up for women and girls to be strong, safe, powerful, and heard. To achieve this vision, we invest in rights by getting money and support to women-led organizations that are fighting for justice in their own communities. We campaign for zero violence, economic and political empowerment, and sexual and reproductive health and rights.

We also build alliances and mobilize activists and donors, getting funds and attention where they are most urgently needed. We share untold stories, amplify unheard voices, and provide meaningful opportunities for action. By shining a spotlight on critical issues, we rally communities of advocates who take action and invest money to empower women and girls.

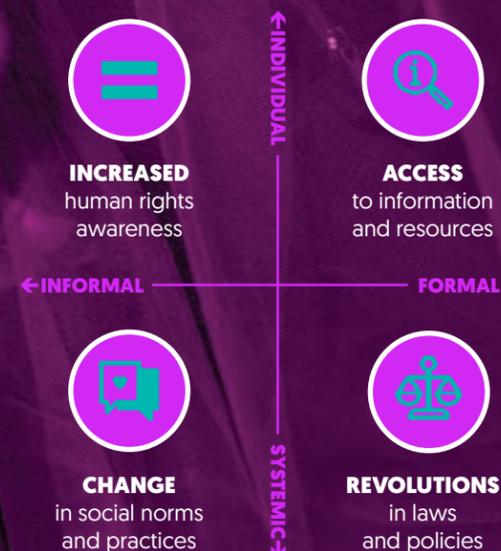
IN FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015:

495 grants awarded in 82 countries for a total of \$6,916,883.75 across all regions.



HOW WE MEASURE CHANGE.

When women join together they influence and create the lasting shifts in power, opportunity, laws, and culture that are necessary to achieve gender equality. The global movement for gender equality increases in strength when these individual women and grass-roots organizations align for gender justice. We measure these shifts and movements in four key ways:



VOICES FROM THE GROUND.

The Republican Independent Association of Women with Disabilities has provided direct services and support to over 400 women and girls.



MEET ASIPA

Asipa is the director of the Republican Independent Association of Women with Disabilities. At age 17,

Asipa was involved in an accident that left her disabled and affected all facets of her life—from accessing job opportunities to enjoying a social life. She began to face social discrimination and felt alone

in her personal struggle. “I thought I was the only person with a disability in Kyrgyzstan because I didn’t see anybody else like me.” But she didn’t let isolation and stigma stop her from exerting her voice and fighting back.

Seeing a void in programs and laws to protect people with disabilities, Asipa founded Women with Disabilities of Kyrgyzstan in 1996. Soon after, she pushed for a local law to increase accessibility to public spaces for disabled people and was arrested for mobilizing her community to protest against the state’s rejection of the law. Asipa remained steadfast in pushing for the law by continuing to organize and protest until it was eventually adopted. She feels empowered in her fight to win rights for women with disabilities and says, “My work helps me. It makes me strong.”

“Now I realize that I can fight not only for myself but also I can fight for others. I feel strong.”

-ASIPA MUSAEVA

GRANTEE:

THE REPUBLICAN INDEPENDENT ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES

This organization lies at the intersection of the women’s rights and disability rights movements in Kyrgyzstan. It brings a strong gender lens to the disability rights’ movement and incorporates the realities of disabled women in the women’s rights movement. Recently, the group conducted research on women with disabilities’ access to sexual and reproductive health care, and they are now lobbying the government to improve conditions.

AWARD: \$30,000

FOCUS: Sexual & Reproductive Health and Rights

REGION: Europe and Central Asia



100 women with disabilities were taught how to protect their SRHR rights.

89 women raised their awareness about psychological health and preventions of STDs.

45 women with disabilities participated in a round table with doctors on diagnosis and treatment during pregnancy.



100 women attended an open house to receive free SRHR services.

45 of these women received an ultrasound screening.

50 women with physical disabilities received house-calls by a doctor.

100 women and four gynecological clinics’ staff were surveyed to analyze their access to SRHR services.



OFFICIALS and doctors participated in a round table with women with disabilities to discuss their lack of access to SRHR services. With their SRHR research, the group lobbied the parliament and provided recommendations to the Ministry of Health and Parliament.



MEET GÖZDE

Kaos GL has provided support to 1,500 individuals and reached over 33,000 through their advocacy campaigns.

Gözde is a 20-year old sociology student at Ege University in Izmir. When she was 16, she first became

involved with Kaos GL as a participant and award winner of the Women to Women Story Contest—Turkey’s only lesbian story competition. As she became more involved with Kaos GL, Gözde started to assert her bi-sexual identity through writing. Now, Gözde has become one of the lead coordinators of the story competition and a staunch advocate for LGBT rights at her university, where she leads marches to convince the school to legally accept a LBGT organization she helped organize, called LeGeBIT. She also uses social media to raise awareness about LGBT issues.

At a recent Istanbul Pride March in June 2015—an event that has been carried out for years without intervention—police attacked marchers with rubber pellets and fired water cannons at them. Gözde views these acts of violence as a response to the LGBT movement growing stronger and becoming more visible. She states, “I have seen that the police attacks were really harsh on us, but on the other side, I have also seen something else for the movement. For the first time, they were taking us seriously. They were seeing us as a threat.”

GRANTEE:

KAOS GAY AND LESBIAN CULTURAL RESEARCH AND SOLIDARITY ASSOCIATION

Kaos GL is one of the strongest emerging leaders for LGBT rights in the Middle East and North Africa. It is at the frontlines of addressing violent homophobia. Over the past year, the group has conducted national and international advocacy for the inclusion of sexual orientation and gender identity in Turkey’s hate-crime law.

AWARD: \$50,000 (over two years)

FOCUS: Zero violence

REGION: Middle East and North Africa



8,100 girls and women attended various raising-awareness workshops for LGBT women.

More than **5,000** people participated in a Pride March organized by the group, increasing engagement of activists advocating against gender-based violence.



INCREASED

media coverage of gender-based violence issues affecting the LGBT community by publishing and distributing a hate crimes report. KAOS GL’s website is the number one source for LGBT news in Turkey.



ENGAGED

in targeted advocacy efforts around hate crimes against LGBT individuals. Submitted a joint report to UN Human Rights Commission on rights violations. Lobbied the Turkish Parliament.

“I want to see our legal rights be approved by the constitution. This is the main future we imagine for Kaos GL’s movement and I want for my own life.”

-GÖZDE DEMIRBILEK

“We can see the impact when there is dedicated funding...not just support for one group, but support for the ecosystem of the women’s movement. Global Fund for Women has a comprehensive scope and strategy that is grounded in the diversity of the groups it funds and the integrity of relationships that go beyond its grantmaking role.”

- KATRIN WILDE, Executive Director, Channel Foundation



“The conference helped me grow personally and professionally. I will share what I learned with my coworkers and this fills me with satisfaction. This will help so that in a future not too far away we will have stronger organizations with more resources and empowered women and girls.”

– CONVENING GRANTEE PARTICIPANT, GUATEMALA



MAPPING OUR IMPACT. 2014-15

Our grantee partners are both holding ground and gaining ground. They are building movements that challenge the status quo. What’s our role? We’re with them every step of the way. We trust them to tackle the problems they’re uniquely qualified to solve. When women-led groups are well supported, they create monumental shifts in power, secure their rights, and have a greater impact on some of the biggest issues facing women and the wider world.

SPOTLIGHT: SEXUAL & REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS

AMPLIFYCHANGE

AmplifyChange is a civil society fund dedicated to securing universal recognition of sexual and reproductive health and rights as human rights. Since its launch in September 22, 2014, nearly 1,200 civil society groups have registered with the fund, and close to 300 eligible applications were received for the first grant call. Global Fund for Women is part of a management consortium with Mannion-Daniels and African Women’s Development Fund to operate the fund and provide support to civil society and community-based groups in countries where the needs are greatest, in particular Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia.

SPOTLIGHT: ADVOCACY

IGNITE: WOMEN FUELING SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

In 2014, Global Fund for Women merged with the International Museum of Women to create a more powerful global voice for unheard women’s issues. Together, we launched a global campaign to explore the roles of science and technology in advancing gender equality. A key highlight from the campaign was the International Girls Hackathon, in which 70 girls in five countries competed to design a solution for one of the most critical issues affecting girls today—access to safe spaces. The winning team was a group of four Brazilian girls who created an app and social networking tool called Não Me Calo (I Will Not Shut Up), which creates awareness of safe spaces by allowing users to rank restaurants and bars based on levels of safety for women. Over 20,000 people signed an IGNITE petition to UN and global leaders to end the global gender technology gap, making the case that the ability to access, control and shape technology is an issue of women’s human rights.

SPOTLIGHT: CONNECTING TO ADVANCE WOMEN’S RIGHTS

Bringing women’s human rights leaders together to share ideas, incubate strategies, conceive and form partnerships, and lead change is a key part of Global Fund for Women’s work. When groups connect there is exponential impact—the women’s human rights movement is strengthened and our goals are more readily in reach.

“The fact that Global Fund for Women has brought us together is very important for us. This gathering of women is part of solidarity building – saying we are with you. When we bring our voices together on the same issues we make more progress than if we work in our own individual cocoons.”

- HARRIET N. MUSOKE, Exchange Program Coordinator at Isis-Women’s International Cross Cultural Exchange, Uganda

SPOTLIGHT: ACCELERATING CHANGE IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

In November 2014, Global Fund for Women organized a Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Convening in Lima, Peru bringing together 58 participants from 51 organizations and 18 countries. These grantee partners represented a diverse range of issues and marginalized voices, and included Afro-Caribbean and indigenous women, domestic and sex workers and LGBTQ communities, among other priority populations.



SPOTLIGHT: STRENGTHENING WOMEN’S MOVEMENTS TO ADVANCE PEACE AND SECURITY IN AFRICA

Global Fund for Women was a lead partner at the first meeting of the Women’s Platform for the Peace, Security, and Cooperation Framework. In collaboration with the United Nations, and the Special Envoy to the UN Secretary General, this three-year initiative seeks to strengthen women’s movements to advance lasting peace in the Great Lakes Region of Africa, including the four core countries of Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Rwanda, and Uganda. These countries have been engulfed in armed conflict for over two decades. Women have been the most affected by the conflict with increases in sexual violence and loss of livelihood.

SPOTLIGHT: RAPID RESPONSE

NEPAL CRISIS FUND

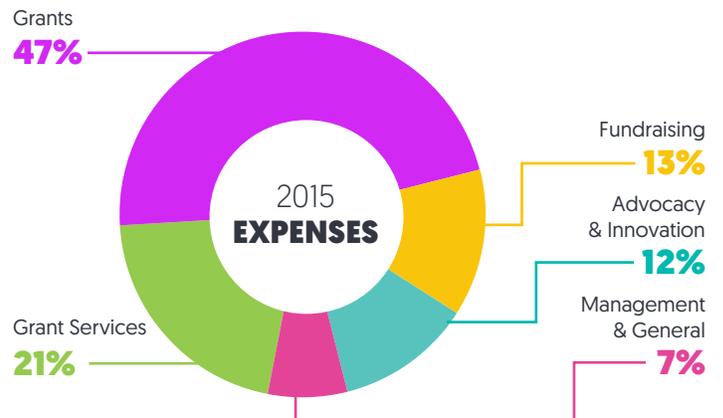
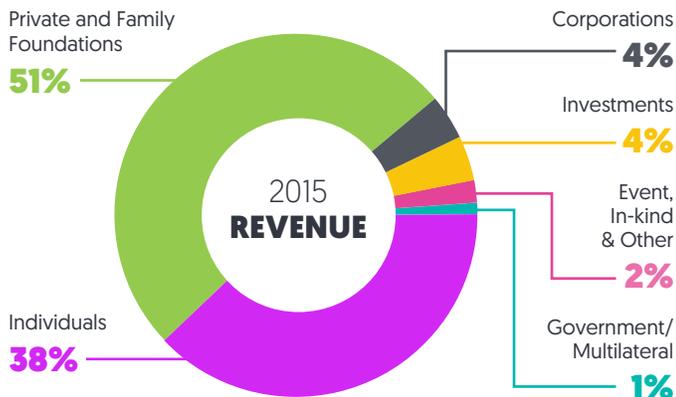
In response to the earthquake that devastated Nepal in April 2015, Global Fund for Women implemented a rapid response campaign to get money to women’s groups in the most heavily affected regions. We immediately mobilized to gather public support and delivered our first communications focused on the urgency of the situation within 24 hours. Since then, we have covered the evolving situation for women and women’s rights activists in order to mobilize awareness, secure donations, and educate the public about the critical roles and vulnerabilities of women in crisis and post-crisis settings. As of August 2015, we have raised over \$700,000 for the Fund, with roughly 30 percent supporting emergency efforts. Once the situation has stabilized, the remaining 70 percent of funds will be disbursed to women’s groups for medium and long-term recovery and rehabilitation.

MOVEMENTS ARE POWERFUL.

The incredible stories of resilience and courage highlighted in this report demonstrate that women and girls are powerful agents of change capable of catalyzing and sustaining large-scale social movements. When they receive the support they need to connect and mobilize, they influence and shift power structures and social attitudes, create opportunities, and change laws.

GLOBAL FUND FOR WOMEN finds, funds, and amplifies the courageous work of women to help build social movements and create lasting change for women and girls everywhere. Global Fund for Women aims to get money and attention where it can make the biggest difference possible in the fight for gender equality.

A GIFT to the Global Fund for Women can truly make all the difference—we invite you to renew your commitment to women and girls worldwide. Join us and become a champion for gender equality!



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 Champions for Equality.™

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