Fund for Gender Equality
Donor Brochure 2015
UN Women’s Fund for Gender Equality (FGE) is a global fund exclusively dedicated to gender equality and women’s economic and political empowerment.

Our priority is to expand the real freedoms and opportunities that women have for leading a meaningful life. Not only to improve what they consume or earn, but also to enhance their potential as changemakers. A dynamic, responsive grant-making programme at UN Women, the Fund supports locally-led national and regional initiatives that are contributing to changing the world right now.

RESULTS

In less than five years, FGE has completed two grant-making cycles, awarding over US$ 56.4 million to 96 grantee programmes in 72 countries.

Results include:

- 9.4 million direct beneficiaries including women and men, girls and boys
- 3 million key stakeholders sensitized on women’s empowerment and gender equality
- 121 grantee organizations working in partnership to implement programmes

FGE has received over 2,245 requests for funding of which only 4 percent have been awarded a grant through a competitive selection process, showing the high demand for support on women’s empowerment issues.

INTRODUCTION

UN Women’s Fund for Gender Equality is pleased to request contributions to support its 3rd global grant-making cycle to support, sustain, and strengthen women-led Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

Now entering its sixth year of implementation, FGE has successfully demonstrated its position as a high impact delivery mechanism supported by a family of governmental, foundation, and private sector donors. Launched through a visionary contribution of US$ 65 million by the Government of Spain in 2009, the Fund has now consolidated itself as a multi-donor mechanism, and is grateful to its donors:

GOVERNMENT SUPPORTERS
Returning contributions from:
- Government of Switzerland
- Government of Germany
- Government of the Netherlands

One time contributions from:
- Government of Spain
- Government of Japan
- Government of Norway
- Government of Mexico
- Government of Israel

PRIVATE SECTOR SUPPORTERS
One time contributions from:
- The Angélica Fuentes Foundation
- Tupperware
- Net-A-Porter
- Goldman Sachs Gives

UN WOMEN NATIONAL COMMITTEE SUPPORTERS
One time contributions from:
- National Committee of Iceland
- National Committee of Australia
- National Committee of the United Kingdom
- National Committee of Germany
- National Committee of France

INDIVIDUAL DONORS

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I. Empowering Women Politically

FGE’s thematic work in women’s political empowerment has reached over 5.9 million beneficiaries through US$ 33 million in grants to 52 programmes in 53 countries since 2009, giving priority to three highly demanded areas of focus:

- Catalyzing Legislative and Policy Change
- Expanding and Strengthening Women’s Leadership
- Engaging Women in Electoral Politics

Snapshot results from women’s political empowerment programming in 2009-2013 include:

- 500 policy recommendations to mainstream gender advanced, including over 200 adopted
- 350 successful electoral campaigns involving women candidates elected to office
- 235,000 women engaged in electoral politics

II. Empowering Women Economically

FGE’s thematic work in women’s economic empowerment has reached over 3.5 million beneficiaries through US$ 23.4 million in grants to 44 programmes in 35 countries since 2009, giving priority to three highly demanded areas of focus:

- Fostering Sustainable Entrepreneurship
- Supporting Rural Women to Access and Control Resources and Assets
- Ensuring Decent Work and Social Protection

Snapshot results from women’s economic empowerment programming in 2009-2013 include:

- 600,000 women with expanded livelihood capabilities and opportunities
- 30,000 rural women gained control over productive resources and assets
- 200,000 women gained access to gender-responsive social protection services
Post-2015 Agenda & Civil Society

Women-led Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) play a critical part in helping to level the global gender gaps by holding governments accountable and by supporting the transformation of national policies into tangible gains in women and girls’ everyday life on the ground. Yet, the under-funding and lack of support of this critical sector makes it highly challenging for them to fulfil their important role in society.

Building on the momentum of the Beijing+20 review, the Fund will capitalize on the lessons learned of the Millennium Development Goal era and ensure that civil society is well-positioned and strongly engaged in implementing the Post-2015 Development Agenda and the forthcoming Sustainable Development Goals.

A UN Women Acceleration Mechanism

Identifying bold and innovative ways to achieve gender equality and secure women’s rights and empowerment worldwide is among the key challenges in the Post-2015 Development Agenda, and one in which UN Women is expected to play a leading role.

With an emphasis on frontloading high-impact results that will set a high benchmark toward achievement of the Post-2015 goals, UN Women will continue to elevate implementation mechanisms that accelerate local, national, and regional delivery on existing gender equality commitments around the world.

The Fund for Gender Equality is one such mechanism. Supporting competitive, high-impact gender equality and women’s empowerment programmes since 2009, FGE is well positioned to catalyze the work of groundbreaking CSOs around the world, while building strong partnerships with donors and other stakeholders to grow support for women’s rights in the coming years.

FGE’s Three-Pillar Approach

FGE is strengthening its position as a grant-making mechanism that adds substantive value to the work of women-led CSOs using a three pillar approach. These include:

Sustain
CSOs through rigorous and competitive global grant-making that mobilizes large financial resources for the design, development and implementation of dynamic and impactful programming;

Support
CSOs with a package of monitoring and technical services to enhance their organizational, technical, and human resource capacities for them to implement strategic and innovative interventions, amplify their voice and visibility, and enables them to create opportunities for advocacy with strategic partners including governments, institutions, non-traditional stakeholders, and men and boys;

Strengthen
the capacities of CSOs to plan, implement, evaluate, and track high-impact programmes and results through Results-based Management (RBM) training, guidance and reporting with the aim of enabling them to become global brokers of their own knowledge, experience, and results.

What will it take?
The Fund is taking steps to ensure it can achieve its goal of awarding US $86 million in total grants by 2017. Through its 2015 Call for Proposals, new impactful initiatives led by women’s organizations will be ready to start implementation by 1 January 2016, making progress in advancing the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

However, in order to reach its overall goal, the Fund needs to replenish its available resources by US$ 40 million by 2017.
Budget

PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2015-2017 (US Dollars)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>2015* Cycle III</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017* Cycle IV</th>
<th>Totals</th>
<th>Percent of Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>$10 million</td>
<td>$20 million</td>
<td>$30 million</td>
<td>$60 million</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FGE Services</td>
<td>$2.4 million</td>
<td>$2.0 million</td>
<td>$2.4 million</td>
<td>$6.8 million</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UN Women Administrative Costs**</td>
<td>$1.08 million</td>
<td>$1.04 million</td>
<td>$1.08 million</td>
<td>$3.2 million</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Funding to be Secured per year</td>
<td>$13.5 million</td>
<td>$13 million</td>
<td>$13.5 million</td>
<td>$40 million</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Budget Notes:
* Denotes a grant-making year when a Call for Proposals is released.
** UN Women reinvests almost half of its administrative costs to the field offices where grantees are located to ensure sufficient in-country monitoring and technical support, in addition to FGE’s direct support.

Why Give to FGE?

➤ Create **tangible, high impact results** for women and girls around the world

➤ Get **value for your money**: 75% of your contribution goes **directly to grants** and an additional 17% is invested in strengthening capacities of grantee organizations

➤ Support **high-impact programmes** through FGE’s competitive, independent, transparent, **demand-driven** global grant-making process

➤ Join **UN Women’s frontline efforts** to empower women-led CSOs to advance gender equality and women’s rights as set forth in the **Beijing+20 Review** and **Post-2015 Agenda**

➤ **Assurance** of efficient and effective programming through robust accountability and **results-driven** systems

➤ Get recognized as a valuable partner on FGE **global reporting**, **knowledge**, and **communication products**

Partnership Modalities

Strengthening donor engagement is at the heart of FGE’s Post-2015 strategy.

Becoming an FGE donor means you will not only play an instrumental role in improving the everyday lives and opportunities available to women and girls around the world, but also gain opportunities to:

➤ Receive **first-hand information** about our **newly selected grantees**

➤ **Take part in grantee meetings or in-person updates** at Permanent Missions and donor headquarters

➤ Participate in grantee **field visits and missions**

➤ Have your say in **FGE research and knowledge** products on issues that matter to you

➤ Receive **periodic updates and media highlights** of FGE grantees around the world

To become more responsive to the needs, interests and priorities of our expanding donor community, FGE welcomes the following partnership modalities:

[Diagram: SINGLE OR MULTI-YEAR CONTRIBUTIONS: SUPPORTING THE OVERALL WORK OF THE FUND]

[Diagram: REGIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS: FOCUSED ON ONE OR MORE OF UN WOMEN’S SIX WORKING REGIONS]

[Diagram: THEMATIC CONTRIBUTIONS: ALIGNED WITH WOMEN’S ECONOMIC OR POLITICAL EMPOWERMENT]