

## SEMI-ANNUAL CONFERENCE SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA JULY 13-14, 2009

## Exhausted, Exiled Or Dead: Can Funders Better Sustain Human Rights Activism?

Monday, July 13, 2009, 3:45 - 5:15pm

Facilitator and Session Organizer:

Terry Greenblatt, Executive Director & CEO, Urgent Action Fund for Women's Human Rights

## Panelists:

Karen Plafker, Program Director/Women's Rights, Wellspring Advisors, LLC (also session organizer); Gistam Sakayeva, (Past) Executive Director, Doveriye (Chechnya, Russia); Sunila Abeysekera, Executive Director, International Women's Rights Action Watch/Asia Pacific

## Sponsor:

Urgent Action Fund For Women's Human Rights; Kvinna Till Kvinna, Frontline

The defense and promotion of human rights are obstructed by threats to the well-being — and sometimes the safety — of individual activists and to the sustainability of their organizations. Drawing on testimonies and research, progressive funders are piloting grantmaking practices with a deliberate eye towards better sustaining activists and activism. What does the research say? What does this kind of grantmaking look like so far? How can it be improved and replicated? Participants took part in a facilitated but informal conversation about grantmaking practices that can keep activists healthy and safe, and their organizations vibrant and growing.