



**SEMI-ANNUAL CONFERENCE
SAN FRANCISCO
JANUARY 24-25, 2012**

Where is the Money for Women's Rights?

Tuesday, January 24, 2012
8:00 am – 9:00 am

Facilitators:

- Katrin Wilde, Executive Director, Channel Foundation
- Annie Hillar, Director of Programmes, Mama Cash

Guest Speaker:

- Angelika Arutyunova, Project Manager, Association for Women's Rights in Development; Founding Advisor, FRIDA: Young Feminist Fund
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Angelika: Overview

- Initiative started in 2005. Now wondering for how much longer we going to ask "where is the money?"
- What can we do right now with this initiative to answer that question so that we can answer others?
- Due to capacity, past focus has been more on bilateral and multilateral funding and that of women's funds. US foundations have not been as much of a focus
- 1500 organizations answered the survey
- Will have findings to share in June/July
- Will collect information from funders at AWIF Forum
- We are exploring whether or not organizations receive funding in the year that they are founded or whether they have to wait for a few years
- We want to show that the movement for gender equality is not a new movement (many NGOs founded before 1990)
- We are tracking strategies, populations, and issues (if 2 NGOs work on same issue but use different strategies, do they get similar amounts of funding? Or are there politics at play?)
- We do not ask about the number of staff (we started with 60 questions, ended up with 43)
- We do follow up after receiving survey responses if we have questions and do interviews with a small sample of organizations
- We also ask about assets and investments. Does the organization work grant to grant? (found that almost 50% have some assets, but often furniture, land, etc)
- 20% in 2010 received multi-year support. A few NGOs received 6 year grants (who from?)
- Found that many NGOs are functioning on project support

Participant Questions:

Q: Can you talk about impacts of the financial crash?

- We ask if the organization has lost (or knows of any organizations that have lost) any financial support since 2008
- Not many. Possible collective hysteria about organizations closing (most common answer “yes, but I cannot name it”)

Q: Do you ask about organizational budgets?

- We have no guarantee that organizations who answered in 2005 are the same as those in 2007. We are now collecting names of organizations, so that we will be able to compare
- We ask organizations “who are your donors?”. Highest: membership fees, individual donors

Q: Do you follow up with top donors and ask them directly about their funding for women’s rights?

- We conduct interviews with top donors and share data with them – ask for their help in analyzing and ask funders what they need from AWID to be advocates with other funders on these issues

What would support you to advocate within your own institution? Who do you need to get those tools from?

In past, we have found funding to young women-led initiatives very low. At the last AWID Forum young feminists put up a challenge to start a fund to address this gap
CAWF and AWID started FRIDA (with Oak, Mama Cash, Channel Fdn support. Have secured 2012 budget – ¼ million and increasing budget now)

How is the pie being divided? Can we challenge this within funder spaces collectively? How much of your funding is going to support women and girls?

Q: Who is doing advocacy and lobbying around US policies that make women become frontline human rights defenders?

Resources:

- Peace and Security Funders Mapping
- Mama Cash report – funding for issues related to women and girls (Untapped Potential)
- Follow up will be with Grantcraft – the “how to” of supporting women and girls
- National Committee for Responsible Philanthropy campaign– funding for grassroots organizing

Talk with Angelika if:

1. You are interested in being involved with the research
2. If you know of any funder that is so close to getting into this space. How can we utilize the space of the Forum (2000 feminists from around the world)?