

### We are Fòs Feminista

A new Alliance to meet the moment, with a vision to the future

Our partners reach the most marginalized women, girls, and gender-diverse people, bringing care and services to communities, innovating to overcome barriers, expanding options in restrictive contexts, and providing care in humanitarian emergencies.

Wherever people's needs for contraception, abortion, sexual and reproductive health care, and sexuality education are unprotected, Fòs Feminista partners put choice in the hands of women and girls, expanding access to contraceptives and other essential products, and protecting their life projects.





## We are Fòs Feminista



Giselle Carino
CEO Fòs Feminista

In 2021, we launched **Fòs Feminista** as a new model for international feminist action and solidarity on sexual and reproductive health, rights, and justice (SRHRJ). Fòs Feminista provides continuity to the work of International Planned Parenthood Federation Western Hemisphere Region (IPPFWHR), **strengthened and expanded** through the global alliance we formed in 2021 with International Women's Health Coalition (IWHC) and the Center for Health and Gender Equity (CHANGE).

The wisdom of this transformation is clear as we reflect on the cascading global crises that have emerged since.

The humanitarian emergencies caused by armed violence in Afghanistan, Haiti, and Ukraine. The environmental and climate disasters in the Amazon forest, Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Pakistan. The persistent inequitable impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Each of these has demonstrated the urgent need for **robust feminist civil society organizations**, and we are proud that our partners have been there throughout to provide first-line care centering the SRHR of women and girls.

As a transnational connector of feminist movements and organizations, we are also now better positioned to counter the growing threat of anti-rights and anti-gender groups worldwide.

Our sense of purpose deepened with the June 2022 U.S. Supreme Court decision that ended almost 50 years of

constitutional protection for abortion rights in the United States, and its global ripple effects. By supporting collaborations across borders and facilitating learning exchanges with South-based feminist organizations that are experts in advancing SRHR within restrictive contexts, we are more effective in holding governments accountable and improving access to care.

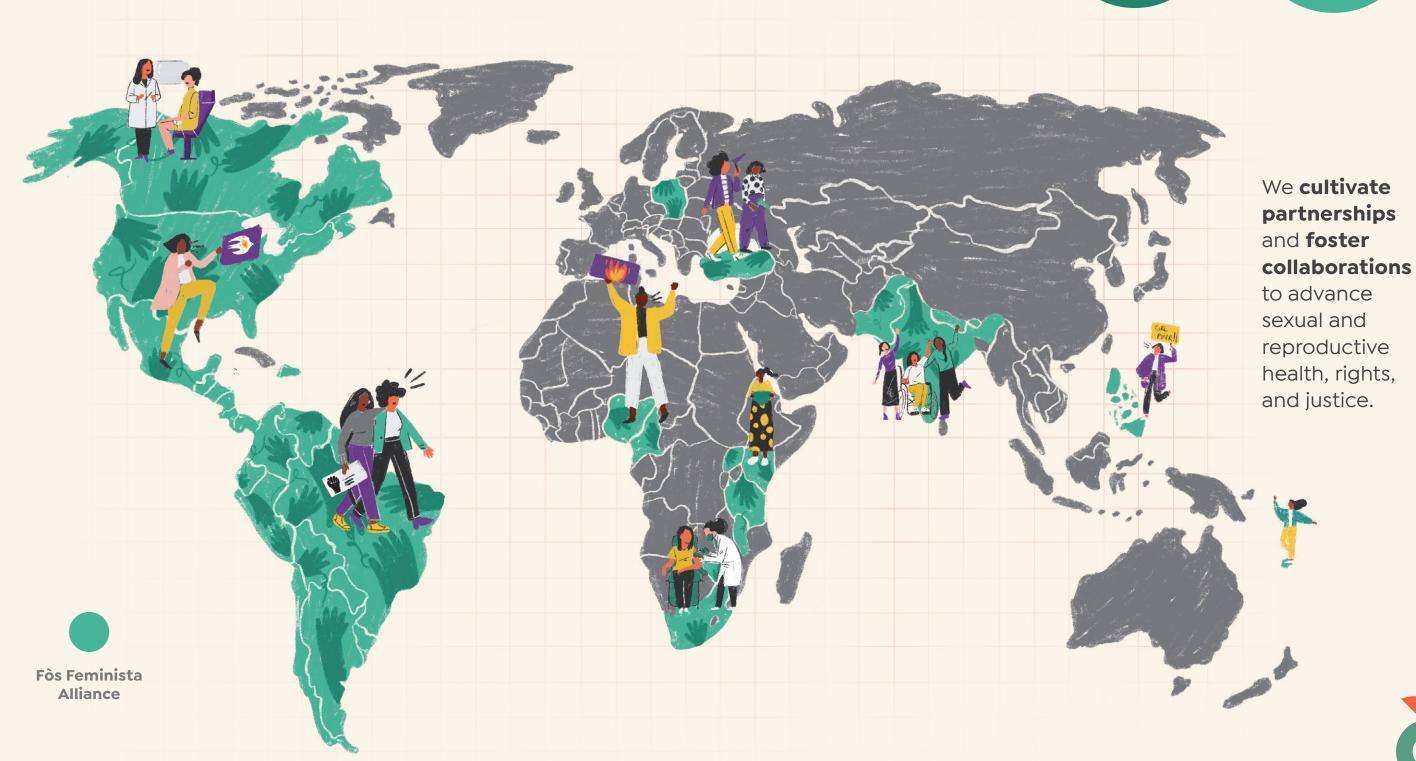
In 2021, we celebrated the decriminalization of abortion in Mexico, and in early 2022 it was time to celebrate the expansion of abortion rights in Colombia. These victories are the result of years of feminist organizing by our partners and others to shift social and moral views to prioritize protecting people's health and wellbeing when facing an unwanted pregnancy. This work of social decriminalization is essential to building support for law and policy change for SRHR rights, ensuring that changes are implemented, and ultimately enabling women, girls, and others to pursue their life projects with the conditions to exercise freedom and bodily autonomy.

A time of compounding crises is also a time ripe for feminist change. I cannot thank you enough for your unwavering support and critical reflections throughout. Everything from this page forward is made possible with your support and we are excited to share more about what we have achieved during a very tough but inspiring year. We hope you take as much pride in that as we do!

## A new Alliance to meet the moment

40+
countries

220+
organizations





# with a vision for the future

**VISION** 

All women, girls, and gender-diverse people have the resources, power, and safety to exercise their sexual and reproductive health and rights and to fulfill their life projects.

#### **MISSION**

To ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health care, including abortion care, particularly for the most marginalized women, girls, and gender-diverse people, to advance comprehensive sexuality education, and to advocate for sexual and reproductive rights and justice, in partnership and solidarity with feminist organizations and movements worldwide.



Our partners reach the most marginalized women, girls, and gender-diverse people





#### **Guatemala**

#### **Partners**

APROFAM

#### Context

- 1 in 2 people live in rural areas
- 2 in 5 people are Indigenous
- 3 in 4
   Indigenous people live in poverty

# Bringing care and services to communities

### Community health promoters

APROFAM works with a network of around 3,000 volunteers across the country who provide personto-person of care for the mostly Indigenous people who live in rural areas. They offer contraceptive counseling and distribute shortacting contraceptive methods supplied by APROFAM at low cost to earn a living. They are also key connectors with APROFAM's mobile health team, coordinating the visits with community leaders and raising awareness about the services.

#### **Youth peer promoters**

In a country where the age of consent is 14, but the official sexuality curriculum teaches abstinence only, ensuring that young people have information about sexual and reproductive health and access to youthfriendly care is essential to protecting their rights and life projects. APROFAM has trained a network of 75 youth volunteers who engage their peers on sexual and reproductive health and rights, offer contraceptive counseling, and distribute free contraceptives.

#### **Mobile health**

APROFAM's mobile health unit reaches remote areas with a team of doctors, nurses, and health promoters who provide longacting contraceptive methods, including surgical contraception and vasectomy, and other sexual and reproductive health care. During a typical week-long visit, the mobile team provides 30 implants, 7 IUDs, 5 vasectomies, and 20 laparoscopies.





### Nigeria

#### **Partners**

- Generation Initiative for Women and Youth Network
   GIWYN
- Education as Vaccine – EVA

#### Context

- Abortion is criminalized in all cases except risk to life of the pregnant person
- More than half of unintended pregnancies end in clandestine abortion
- 1 in 5 young women aged 15-19 is either pregnant or has given birth

# Innovating to overcome barriers

#### **Digital solutions**

that uses interactive voice response to provide information about abortion, contraception, adoption, post-abortion care, and gender-based violence in English, Igbo, and Yoruba. Callers can learn about policies, what to do if a person's life is in danger, and where to go for post-abortion care. They can also get referrals to a network of friendly pharmacies and opt to speak to someone live for further information. In 2021, GIWYN fielded more than 30,000 calls through the hotline.

**EVA** runs a mobile app (<u>Frisky</u>), a platform geared toward adolescents. Frisky offers sexual and reproductive health information to break down the culture of denial around adolescent sexuality and overcome the barriers they face in accessing information and care. Users can search for information, use a risk assessment feature, and connect to a trained counselor via SMS, WhatsApp, or email for counseling and referrals. **Through this app, EVA provided around 2,500 contraceptive counseling sessions in 2021.** 



#### Song as social decriminalization

Using song as a means to connect with communities, **GIWYN** created a song to raise awareness about reproductive options and destigmatize abortion. Known as the "<u>Miso Song</u>", the lyrics explain how to use misoprostol safely to induce abortion as well as the potential side effects, giving voice to an experience that is often silenced by taboo. The Miso Song has become popular in the communities where GIWYN works and continues to be sung by women and others to teach and raise awareness.



#### **Brazil**

#### **Partners**

- Anis Instituto de Bioética
- Redes da Maré

#### Context

- Authoritarian government built on anti-gender disinformation
- Double epidemic of Zika and COVID-19
- Criminalization of abortion in all cases except rape, risk to the life, and anencephaly

# Expanding options to protect rights in restrictive contexts

# Telehealth consultations and prescriptions for medication abortion

**Anis** leveraged a regulatory change created in response to COVID-19 to carve out a space for legal abortion care through telehealth. In partnership with a public teaching hospital, Anis developed an innovative protocol to make medication abortion available via telehealth and trained providers to offer this care. They also trained doctors in abortion harm reduction and set up an online course on harm reduction and social norms change attended by more than 2,000 health professionals. Four in five women who sought legal abortion at this hospital since the partnership began, in late 2020, have accessed it through telehealth, enabling them to safely terminate their pregnancies at home.

# Community-based care during the COVID-19 pandemic

Redes da Maré, a community-based organization that works in 16 favelas in Rio de Janeiro, implemented a multi-faceted response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Throughout 2021, they reached more than 300 vulnerable women and their families with regular food assistance and Internet service for virtual schooling, offered community-based mental health support, and developed a WhatsApp channel to provide counseling and referrals for sexual and gender-based violence, contraception, and abortion.





### Venezuela and Colombia

#### **Partners**

- Asociación Civil de Planificación Familiar (PLAFAM), Venezuela
- Fundación Halü, Colombia

#### Context

- Complex humanitarian emergency exacerbated by COVID-19
- Widespread internal displacement and migration
- Shortages of health personnel and basic medications, including contraceptives

# Providing care in humanitarian emergencies

Amidst a deepening crisis in Venezuela, **PLAFAM** has remained the only reliable and affordable provider of contraception and other sexual and reproductive health services. They use multiple models of care to reach people where they are.

#### 13 mobile health units

reach rural and marginalized communities to provide care, including long-acting contraceptive methods

### 10 community-based distribution points

offer person-to-person care and access to information and contraceptives

#### 6 clinics

provide comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care, including a new laboratory

#### 1 digital platform

offers online care for gender-based violence

#### **Transnational Solutions**

By the end of 2021, some six million Venezuelans had left the country, and one in three were living in Colombia. PLAFAM collaborates with **Fundación Halü**, in Colombia, to reach migrants along the border. Through a combination of clinical services and mobile health brigades, they provided contraceptive methods to more than 8,000 migrant women in 2021, more than half of whom were under the age of 24.





### RESPONDING TO HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCIES

Many Fòs Feminista partners provide care and services in humanitarian contexts, including climate disasters (Puerto Rico), political and social upheaval (Haiti and Lebanon), and migration and internal displacement (Cameroon, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Guyana, Panama, Mexico, Nigeria).



#### INNOVA HEALTH **SUPPLIES**

#### **Panama**

#### **Partners**

- CIES Salud Sexual - Salud Reproductiva, Bolivia
- Profamilia, Dominican Republic
- APROFAM, Guatemala
- RFSU. Sweden
- Plafam. Venezuela

## Improving access to contraception and essential health products

INNOVA Health Supplies is a social enterprise co-owned by Fòs Feminista and five partners that was created in 2017 to expand access to an affordable and reliable supply of contraceptives, particularly for the most marginalized women.

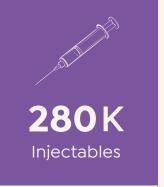
**INNOVA** has supplied contraceptives to partners and governments in 23 countries, and in 2021 donated 1,300 abortion pills to the government of Mexico to support the implementation of the Mexican Supreme Court ruling to decriminalize abortion.

INNOVA has also created its own brand of condoms, oral contraceptives, injectable contraceptives, and menstrual cups, which are less expensive than other brands. INNOVA's Ellas brand menstrual cups sell at less than US\$6 each, well below the global market average of US\$23 per item, making this menstrual hygiene product more affordable.

By managing the entire supply chain - from purchasing and production to registration and shipping – INNOVA has reduced processing times for orders by 60% while also reducing costs.

#### IN 2021, INNOVA DISTRIBUTED MORE THAN:













### **ARGENTINA BOLIVIA** KENYA

#### **Partners**

- · CIES. Bolivia and Argentina
- KMET, Kenya

#### Context

- Approximately 1 in 5 girls in Bolivia and Kenya are married before the age of 18
- 1 in 5 Kenyan girls and 1 in 10 Bolivian girls aged 15-19 have either given birth or are pregnant with their first child
- 1 in 3 Bolivian girls and 1 in 7 Kenyan girls experience sexual violence before age 18



CIES and KMET use parallel and diverse strategies to provide a continuum of information and care to protect women, girls, and gender-diverse people throughout their life cycle.

#### Comprehensive **Sexuality Education (CSE)**

As the lead partner in a South-South Center for CSE and Youth-Friendly Services, CIES leverages its innovation and leadership in reaching adolescents and young people with CSE and making the critical link between education and services. With schools in remote learning for much of 2021, CIES scaled up its digital CSE program to reach more young people online, in addition to sessions provided in schools and communities. CIES also greatly expanded the number of young people it reached with SRH services by promoting its youthfriendly services in educational sessions.

**KMET** engages adolescents and young people in schools and in their communities using the Age Appropriate CSE model, which focuses on preventing intimate partner violence among young people. KMET also works directly with adolescent mothers through 43 support groups, providing health information and training in small business development to build their economic capacities. This in-person engagement is complemented with an SMS platform that provides information on adolescent sexual and reproductive health, counseling and SGBV case management, and referrals to services.

#### Sexual and genderbased violence (SGBV)

**CIES** routinely screens all women and girls who seek sexual and reproductive health services for SGBV, offering first-aid and care for related sexual and reproductive health needs, as well as external referrals for ongoing support. **KMET** also integrates screening and care for survivors of SGBV into its sexual and reproductive health services, with a focus on expanding access to contraception and abortion. In addition, KMET operates a temporary shelter (Freedom House), a place of safety for girls experiencing high vulnerability to SGBV, including sex trafficking.

**KMET** 

CIES

128K

young people reached with CSE

**534**K

young people reached with CSE

6K SGBV services provided

406K **SGBV** services provided

# Together, we make change



**Fòs Feminista partners** contributed to **64 legislative**, **policy, and judicial reforms** in support of sexual and reproductive health, rights, and justice that were approved or successfully defended in 2021.



**JANUARY** 

#### **UNITED STATES**

President Biden revokes the Global Gag Rule

#### **Fòs Feminista**

created and cofacilitated the Global Gag Rule research group and a legal working group to coordinate partners' research, legal, and advocacy strategies. **FEBRUARY** 

#### **NIGERIA**

Niger State
passes the
Violence
Against Persons
Prohibition
Act, which
criminalizes
female genital
mutilation and
other forms of
gender-based
violence

#### **INCRESE**

conducted an advocacy visit to the state house of assembly.

**MARCH** 

#### INDIA

Congress passes amendments to the 1971 Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, reducing some barriers to legal abortion

CommonHealth,
CREA, the YP
Foundation, and
other civil society
organizations
co-created
recommendations
to make the bill more
centered on women,
girls, and genderdiverse people.

APRIL

#### ECUADOR

Constitutional
Court
decriminalizes
abortion in
cases of rape

**CEPAM-G** was one of the civil society organizations that presented the seven cases that led to the Constitutional Court decision.

MAY

#### **ARGENTINA**

Ministry of
Health approves
protocol for
implementing
the 2020
Abortion Law

**CEDES** contributed to the process as part of the protocol drafting team

JUNE

#### GLOBAL

Convening in Paris, Generation Equality Forum adopts Global Acceleration Plan with strong commitments on abortion rights, contraception, CSE, and feminist movement building

#### Fòs Feminista

participated in the development of the plan and made commitments to contribute to each area



2021



**JULY** 

**COLOMBIA** 

Withdrawal of three draft bills that would have limited access to abortion

#### CDD-Colombia

sent technical briefs to the Congress arguing the bills were unconstitutional

**AUGUST** 

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Government launches combined policy for preventing child marriage, early unions. and adolescent pregnancy

#### **Profamilia**

participated in the development of both policies, research on adolescent pregnancy, and advocacy to eliminate child marriage and early unions

**SEPTEMBER** 

**BRAZIL** 

**Federal Appeals Court dismisses** preliminary injunction that had sought to halt legal abortion through telehealth

Anis. Cravinas legal clinic, CDD Brazil, Grupo Curumim. and other civil society actors orchestrated an advocacy and litigation strategy to counter governmentbacked attacks against telehealth abortion provision

**NOVEMBER** 

**SOUTH AFRICA** 

**Eastern Cape Province adopts** revised safety strategy that is aligned to the national Strategic Plan on Gender-**Based Violence** and Femicide

Masimanyane

participated in the Provincial Safety and Security Committee that developed the strategy

**NOVEMBER** 

**PARAGUAY** 

Government publishes the **National Plan** for Educational Transformation, a rights-based initiative that includes comprehensive sexuality education

**CEPEP** 

to the process

participated in the Inter-Institutional Working Group for Educational Transformation, which contributed



**DECEMBER** 

**PUERTO RICO** 

Withdrawal of proposed bill that would have restricted access to abortion

**Profamilias** actively participated in public hearings and strategic media advocacy to oppose the bill





## and make that change a reality for women, girls, and genderdiverse people.

#### **MEXICO**

#### **Partners**

- Chiapas

   Incondesi,
   Linea de Aborto
   Chiapas
- Oaxaca
   Ciarena, Las
   Consejeras,
   Mano Vuelta,
   Siempreviva,
- Michoacán MAPAS
- National

   IDOC3, Asociación de Parteras
   Profesionales,
   Católicas por el Derecho a
   Decidir (CDD) 

   Mexico, GIRE

In 2021, we celebrated significant victories for abortion rights in Mexico that were the result of years of feminist organizing in the country, including with the leadership of our partners CDD-Mexcio and GIRE.

In September 2021 the Mexican Supreme Court ruled that criminal penalties for abortion are unconstitutional because they violate human dignity, autonomy, equality, reproductive health, and freedom. The decision set a precedent for abortion decriminalization across the country, and several states have since followed suit.

While Fòs Feminista's advocacy partners continue to put pressure to hold state and national government accountable to implementing the decisions, Fòs Feminista is working with a diverse ecosystem of partners to provide abortion care.

They are accompaniment networks providing grassroots care, midwives working in public or private service, doctors who provide telemedicine services, and feminist advocates for sexual and reproductive health, rights, and justice. Many of them focus on reaching people facing multiple forms of marginalization and discrimination: Haitian and Central American migrants, Indigenous rural women, Afro-Mexican youth.



CHRONOLOGY

OF CHANGE

30

30

Decriminalization of abortion in Hidalgo state

20

JULY

Decriminalization of abortion in Veracruz state **7**Court declar

SEPT

Supreme Court declares criminalization of abortion to be unconstitutional

Supreme Court declares protection of "life from the

**SEPT** 

moment of conception"

to be unconstitutional

Supreme Court limits use of conscientious objection by health staff 29
ecriminaliza

Decriminalization of abortion in Baja California state





# Collaborating with partners to generate new and sustainable sources of funding for their work

## Innovation and Social Enterprise Lab

We provide technical assistance to partners to develop financial leadership skills that will support them to innovate and take risks. The Lab's offerings include:

- An Incubator Program, through which we support small groups of partners in creating investment-ready social enterprise models, revenue-generating solutions for expanding and improving access to sexual and reproductive health and rights.
- An Acceleration Program, through which we provide one-to-one tailored accompaniment for partners to launch and implement pilots of their social enterprises.
- Seed funding to close key gaps in the financial models of promising initiatives of partners in the program.



The Innovation and Social Enterprise Lab is also a pipeline for the Feminist Impact Fund, a **\$2.5 million repayable finance mechanism** that was created in 2021 from a joint investment of Fòs Feminista and the Packard Foundation. Partners that have completed the Incubator Program can apply for low-interest, long-term impact loans from the Fund to finance their social enterprises. In 2021, the Fund made its first investments:

- CIES Bolivia to co-finance the purchase of a building that will be converted into a comprehensive sexual and reproductive healthcare center, expanding their capacity to meet needs in the Cochabamba region.
- CEPEP Paraguay to purchase a mobile health unit and portable x-ray and ultrasound machine to launch a self-sustainable mobile outreach program in the region of Alto Paraná, bordering Brazil and Argentina, which is home to several of Paraguay's most vulnerable groups.

ACCESS REPRODUCTIVE WEALTH SERVICES

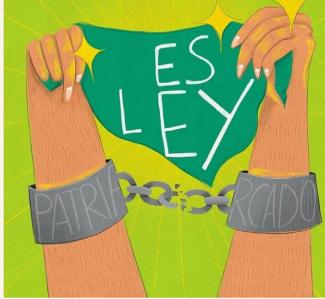
# and sharing joy with art.

Follow us on instagram:



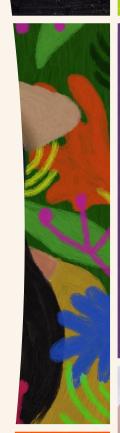
@Fosfeminista @Womenintimes







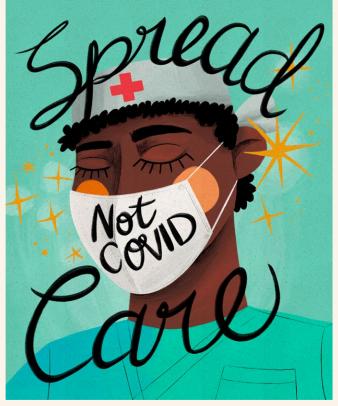




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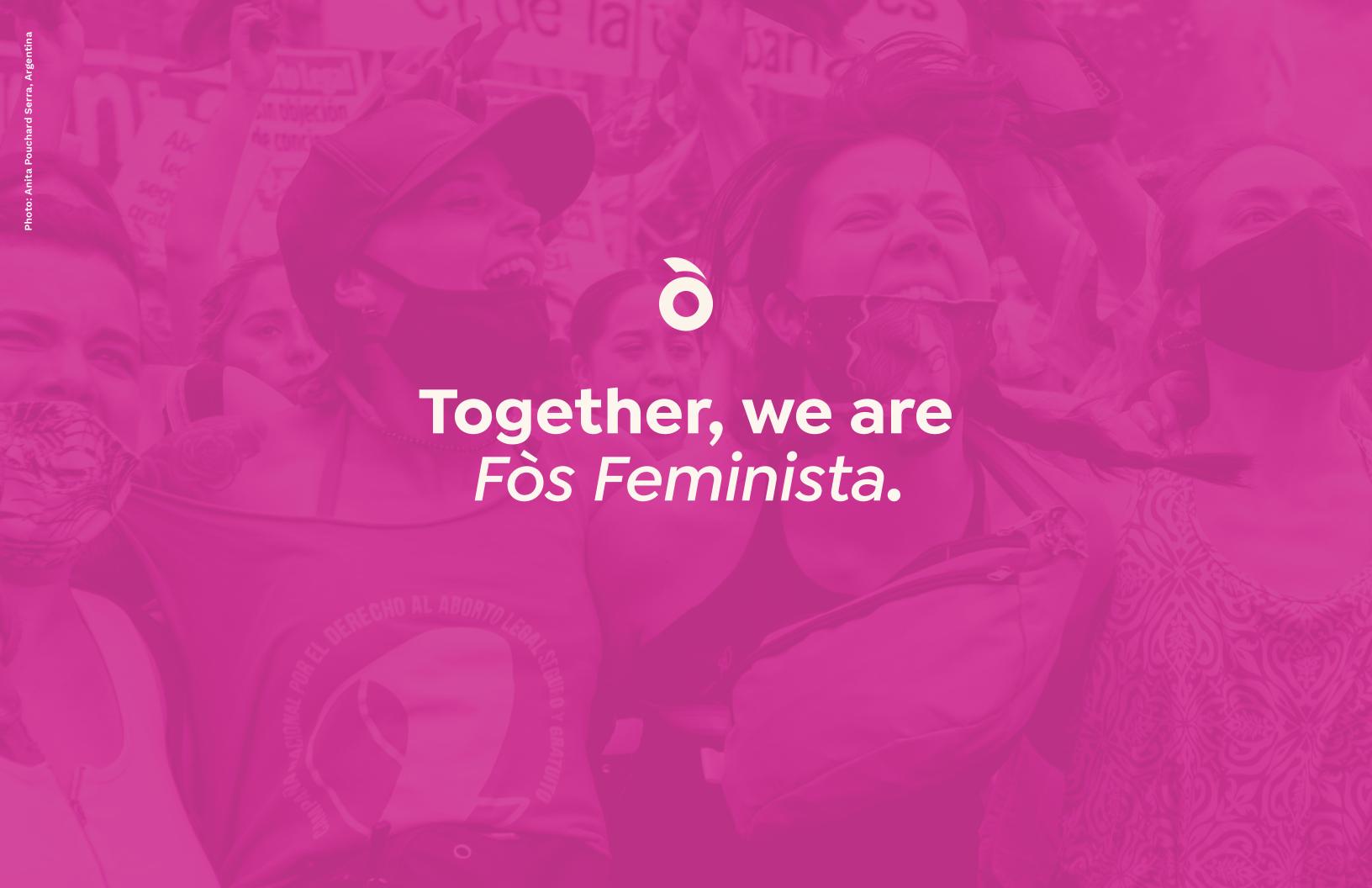








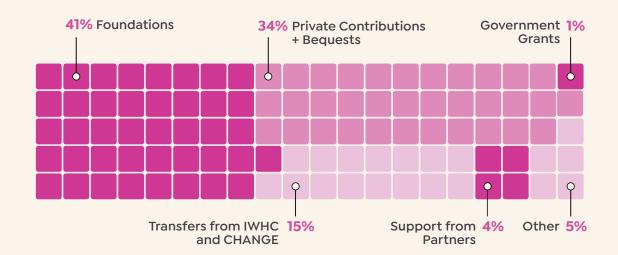


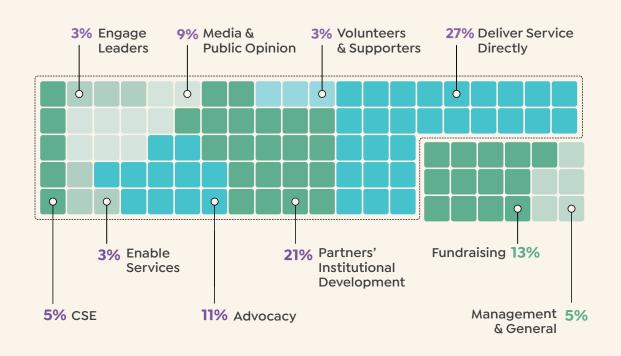


#### **2021 Financial Snapshot**

#### January 1 to December 31, 2021

View our complete 2021 Financial Statement





#### **Total Net Assets**

as of December 31st, 2021

\$96,780,489

Total Operating
Support and Revenue

\$35,454,022

**Total Expenses** 

\$27,658,035

#### **Our Efficiency**

You can be sure that your gift will help achieve justice and equity for women, girls, and gender-diverse people.

**82**%

of all donations directly benefits our programs.













### **FÒS FEMINISTA**

# Board of Directors

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We thank **Tamara Kreinin** and **Darian Rodriguez Heyman** for their tenure on the Board of Directors from 2020-2021.

Honorary Legal Counsels: Jim Sligar and Marci Tempesta

Very special acknowledgement to **Alexander Sanger** for his dedication in raising the visibility of our mission among volunteers and philanthropic supporters.

#### COVER PHOTO

# "Having knowledge about reproductive choice means that I am in control of my life project."

Amincia Cloveus is a Haitian immigrant in the Dominican Republic. She says that it was when she connected with Profamilia that she accessed the information and care she needed to be able to exercise her choice not to have children. She now works with movements, programs, and initiatives focused on adolescent pregnancy and abortion harm reduction at Profamilia. She says she feels honored to be on the cover of Fòs Feminista's Annual Report as she shares "the organization's values for making change."



Photo: Esperança Dias, Dominican Republic

#### **Citations for Country Context Data**

#### Page 5

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International Alliance for Sexual and Reproductive Health, Rights, and Justice