

Annual Report

2023 ▶ 2024





► Team members of Mano Vuelta, an Indigenous and Afro-Mexican-led organization focused on equity and rights for women and girls in Oaxaca's rural areas. Mano Vuelta is named after an Oaxacan tradition of collective work, collaboration, and mutual help based on give and take for the common good. Photo: Grissel Lorenzo, Mano Vuelta, 2024.

Solidarity in Action



Giselle Carino

CEO Fòs Feminista

Solidarity is at the core of Fòs Feminista's approach to advancing sexual and reproductive health, rights and justice. Since we launched as an international alliance in 2021, we have been dedicated to nurturing global solidarity through action.

What does solidarity look like in practice? I'm proud to share this report as a lens into how solidarity infuses our work, our relationships, our mutual learning, and our strategies.

We know from experience that we have to support each other to make and sustain change over time. Our rights are always in dispute. Only together can we build the power to transform laws and social norms, eliminate sexual and gender-based violence, promote positive masculinities, hold governments accountable, and turn expanded access to sexual and reproductive care into a reality in people's lives.

We are living in an age of polycrisis, when multiple simultaneous crises – from climate change, to armed conflict, to global health emergencies – interact and have compounding complex effects.

With so much tumultuous socioeconomic change happening at once, people's anxieties and fears grow and can be more easily captured by authoritarian and anti-gender leaders that promise to restore order by targeting the human rights and bodily autonomy of youth, women, and gender-diverse people.

2024 is a year in which half of the world's population is going to the polls. This includes the United States, where the outcome of the upcoming elections – whatever the results – is sure to have global consequences given the country's geopolitical power and influence.

Polycrisis create the perfect storm for both neglect and attacks against sexual and reproductive health and rights, issues that remain chronically underfunded. Meanwhile, our partners and the women, girls, and gender-diverse people we work with don't get to choose which crisis to focus on, because they are impacted by all of them. How do we keep going?

Solidarity, mutual learning, and coming together are the answer.

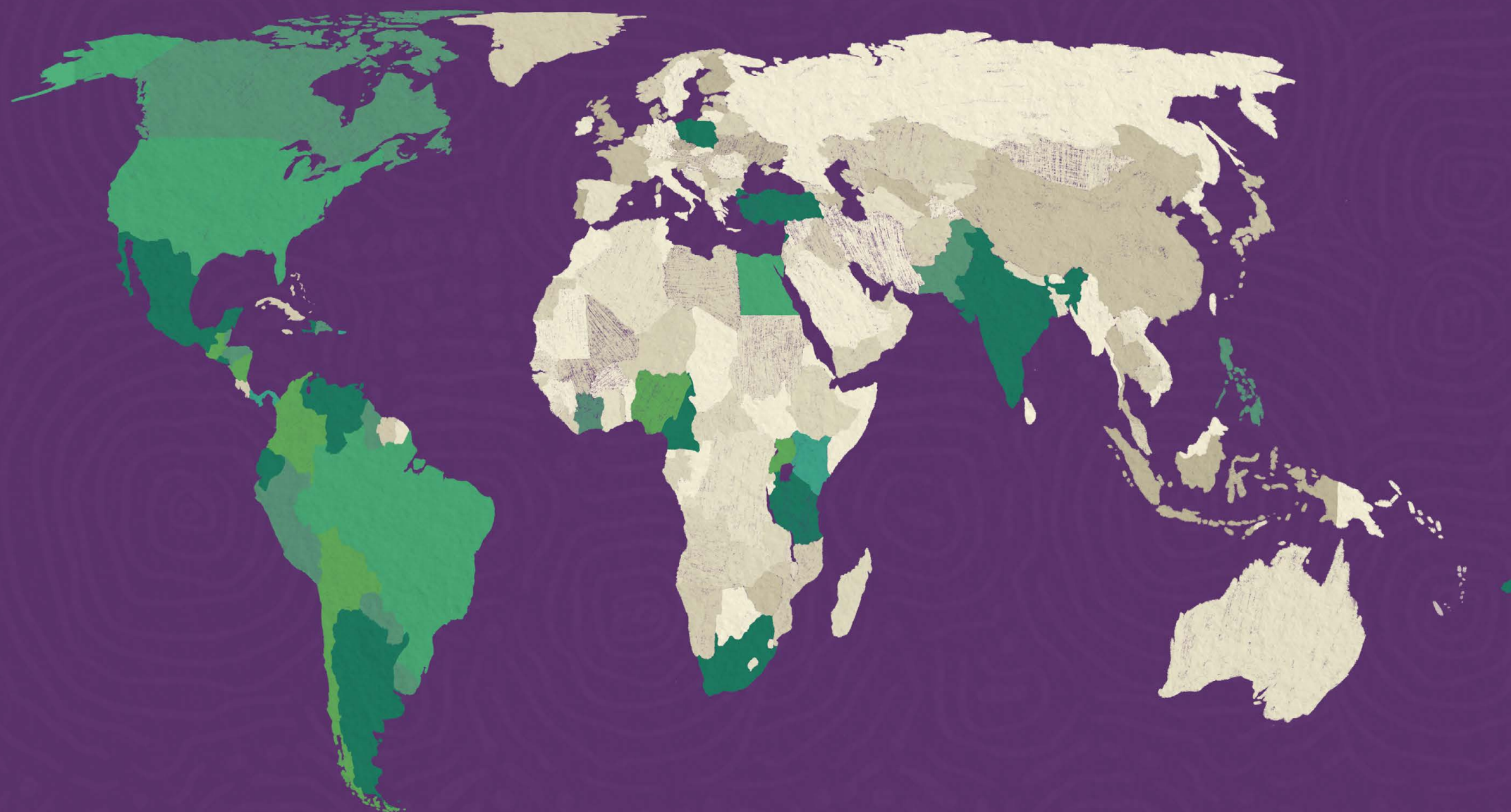
Fòs Feminista exists because we are not alone in building a more just world for all. As a field catalyst for sexual and reproductive health, rights and justice, we connect partners across the Global South and work together with them to share capacity and amplify local solutions, mobilize resources for innovation, and co-create sustainable models.

As the following pages will show, all around us we can find women trusting other women with similar lived experiences to care for their sexual and reproductive health. We see health providers from different corners of the world harnessing the power of different tools to enact social and policy change. We witness older generations mentoring and cheering young leaders on. As a supporter of the Fòs Feminista Alliance, you are standing shoulder to shoulder with all of us, and we couldn't be more grateful.



The Fòs Feminista Alliance

We work in partnership with a dynamic group of activists, coalitions, movements, and organizations worldwide to advance sexual and reproductive health, rights, and justice.



145
partners

44
allies

39
countries

Image: Barbara Quirino

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 NAME

Our name combines the Haitian Creole word *fòs* (strength) with the Portuguese and Spanish word *feminista* (feminist). Together, they reflect the collective strength we are building towards a world where all women and girls have access to the healthcare they need to determine the course of their own future.



OUR IMPACT 2023

150 million

women and girls of reproductive age
whose sexual and reproductive health and rights were
protected through national law and policy change

23.2M

sexual and reproductive
health services
provided

4 in 5

people reached
were women
and girls

1 in 4

people reached
were between
10-24 years of age

4.1M

contraceptive
services provided*

* Fòs Feminista Alliance also delivered 1.4M CYP, the estimated protection provided by contraceptive methods during a one-year period, based upon the volume of all contraceptives sold or distributed to users during that period.



◀ WINGS
Guatemala nurse
Martha Pacaja
explaining
contraceptive
options to women
at a clinic in
Antigua. Photo:
WINGS Guatemala.

SOLIDARITY IN ACTION



10
Protecting
needs

12
Facing crises
together



14
Learning
together

16
Taking care
of one another



20
Investing in
local solutions

22
Building
community



24
Holding space
for young
people



30
Joining our
voices for
justice



36
Staying in
the struggle



39
Bridging
movements



42
Making a
difference



26
Lifting up the
next generation
of leaders



32
Playing a
part in the
change



38
Sharing
capacitiess



40
Building a
period- friendly
world



COVER PHOTO

Psychologist Dyadha Zuleima Herrera Morga, who goes by Zuly, has been a team member of Fòs Feminista's Mexican partner Mano Vuelta since 2018. Coming from an Afro-Mexican and Indigenous family, Zuly finds in collective belonging an inspiration to drive her daily work promoting intercultural and anti-racist abortion care. Photo: Grissel Lorenzo, Mano Vuelta, 2024.



ILLUSTRATIONS BY ALISA PINCAY

Alisa is an Ecuadorian illustrator and feminist. A longtime collaborator of Fòs Feminista, Alisa believes art is a powerful tool for raising awareness, and she is happy to support social movements by doing what she loves to do the most.

@alisapincay



SOLIDARITY IS PROTECTING NEEDS

Sexual and reproductive health needs – from access to contraception and safe abortion, to comprehensive sexuality education and care for those experiencing sexual and gender-based violence – are at the center of women’s and girls’ rights. Our partners are deeply committed to protecting these needs and reaching women and girls where they are.



VENEZUELA
PLAFAM

“I didn’t have access to the means to take care of myself as I would have liked, but now my daughter does.”

Yasmín,
Daniela’s mother

Community-based contraceptive access

When 14-year-old Daniela* became pregnant in 2023, her mother Yasmín accompanied her to access prenatal care at an outreach event our partner **PLAFAM** was conducting near their village in Apure, **Venezuela**. Beyond the support she received to monitor her pregnancy, Daniela received accurate information about contraceptive options for the first time, opening a pathway to her future reproductive autonomy.

In a country deeply impacted by a years-long humanitarian crisis that collapsed the national economy and healthcare system, PLAFAM has been the only regular provider of a full range of contraceptives. This continuity has been made possible through sustained support from Fòs Feminista over more than 35 years, and Fòs Feminista’s participation in INNOVA Health Supplies, a joint venture with partners that facilitates access to low-cost high-quality contraception and other essential medical supplies.



▲ One of PLAFAM’s community outreach events, held at the Venezuela-Colombia border. Photo: PLAFAM, 2023.

Community outreach events like the one Daniela and Yasmín attended are central to PLAFAM’s approach to protecting the sexual and reproductive health needs of the most marginalized women and girls. During these multi-day visits, PLAFAM provides quality information and services ranging from contraception to obstetric and gynecological check-ups, to basic healthcare, besides conducting training for local health professionals to support ongoing care.

In 2023, PLAFAM provided more than **3.2 million services**; two in three of these services were provided to women and girls in outreach and community-based settings.

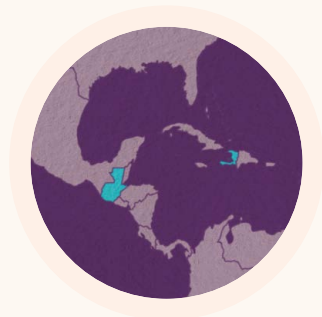
When PLAFAM followed up with Daniela after the birth, she shared that she did not want to become pregnant again in the near future and was looking to find the right contraceptive option for her. To enable her choice, PLAFAM arranged transportation for her to reach their nearest service delivery point, located nearly 100 miles away, and it was there that she got a contraceptive implant that will prevent an unintended pregnancy for five years.

*Daniela’s and Yasmín’s names have been changed to protect their privacy.



SOLIDARITY IS FACING CRISES TOGETHER

Women's and girls' needs don't pause during crisis; rather, their needs are amplified as health systems collapse, mobility restrictions limit their ability to access care, and sexual and gender-based violence increases. Our partners face these challenges alongside the communities they reach.



HAITI
PROFAMIL
GUATEMALA
WINGS

Continuity of care

In **Haiti**, the unprecedented surge of gang violence, looting, mobility restrictions, and lawlessness that took over the country in early 2024 contributed to widespread hunger and displacement. While only 20% of health services were operational, Fòs Feminista's partner **PROFAMIL** committed to keeping their clinics open.

At the height of the crisis, PROFAMIL's Delmas clinic managed to stay open thanks to the teamwork of three nurses: RoseLore Lucien offered her own home generator to keep the lights on; Maude Joseph transported the generator to the clinic every day in her car; and Evelyne Castor searched for gasoline to run the generator.

"Our team members are in the same situation as the people we serve, so they know that the services we offer are extremely important"

Florence Jeane Louise Vorbe,
PROFAMIL's Executive Director

While the international development community has mostly forgotten about Haiti, Fòs Feminista has continued to provide financial support to PROFAMIL and mobilized donors in the United States during the crisis to offer emergency relief.

In late 2023, **Guatemala** also faced national turmoil, when attempts to block the peaceful transfer of power resulted in more than 100 days of protest.

Amidst street protests, road blocks, police repression, power outages, and dwindling access to basic resources that put many Guatemalans at risk, Fòs Feminista connected our partner **WINGS Guatemala** with other partners to share experiences about how to manage institutional risk during times of political instability and threat.

Strengthening coordination with community partners was essential to overcoming the multiple barriers to reaching and continuing to provide services in communities, including protecting staff safety. When a WINGS physician was trapped behind a roadblock, the community partner sent a motorcycle to retrieve her so she could reach the health clinic and provide contraception to the women who had been waiting.

"Reproductive health services open the door for women to shape their futures. This understanding is what drives our staff to persevere, even under dire circumstances."

Eleanor Unsworth,
Executive Director, WINGS

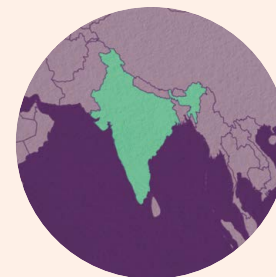


▲ Nurses Maude Joseph (left), Evelyne Castor (middle) and Rose-Lore Lucien (right) worked together to secure electricity and keep a PROFAMIL clinic open at the height of a crisis in Haiti. Photo: PROFAMIL, 2024.

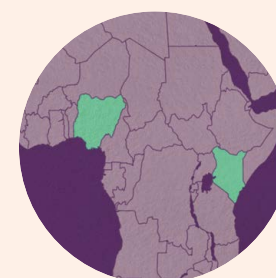


SOLIDARITY IS LEARNING TOGETHER

Despite living in vastly different settings, young people across the Global South face similar barriers to claiming their sexual and reproductive health and rights, from stigma and misinformation to a lack of youth-friendly care. By connecting them in shared learning spaces, partners are combatting isolation and mobilizing young people.



INDIA
The YP
Foundation



KENYA
KMET
KESWA
TICAH

NIGERIA
Education
as Vaccine

Engaging young people as activists across regions

In the wake of the United States Supreme Court's 2022 decision in Dobbs, which overturned constitutional protections for abortion, Fòs Feminista conducted joint research with partners in Colombia, India, Kenya, and Nigeria to understand the impact on local abortion laws, policies and narratives.

One of the key findings of this research was that anti-rights groups were actively recruiting young people from the Global South to spread anti-abortion messages and misinformation.

Acknowledging the critical importance of engaging young people with a focus on their rights, Fòs Feminista connected two of the research partners – **The YP Foundation**, a youth-led organization in **India**, and **Education as Vaccine (EVA)** in **Nigeria** – and they decided to work together. Drawing on each other's strengths and pooling resources, in 2023 they collaborated to create content and virtual trainings for young people.

In Nigeria, EVA leveraged this joint initiative to train medical students – a key audience who represent the future of health care – on sexual and reproductive health and rights, with a focus on debunking myths about and promoting access to safe abortion.

In November, EVA and The YP Foundation convened young activists and medical students from India, Nigeria, and Kenya – through a connection with Fòs Feminista Kenyan partners **KMET**, **KESWA**, and **TICAH** – for a two-day virtual workshop to build their communications skills as advocates for reproductive justice. Despite different legal frameworks, participants found that they were facing similar struggles as young people in other countries.

“Now they know they are part of a vibrant global movement fighting for sexual and reproductive health, rights, and justice. This connection transcends geographical boundaries and fosters a sense of solidarity and unity in fighting and advocating for reproductive justice globally.”

Oluwatoyin (Toyin) Chukwudozie,
EVA's Executive Director

◀ EVA's Executive Director Toyin Chukwudozie (right) with fellow team members. Photo: Esperança Dias Fòs Feminista, 2022.



SOLIDARITY IS TAKING CARE OF ONE ANOTHER

Abortion care requires comprehensive and clear information, empathetic and non-judgmental listening, and respect for people's autonomy. These principles are central to the feminist abortion accompaniment provided by our partners.



▲ Meeting of feminist activists and abortion companions held by La Revuelta in the Argentinian city of Neuquén in February 2024. Photo: La Revuelta, 2024.



ARGENTINA
La Revuelta



▲ Abortion companion and medical student Paz.
Photo: personal archive, 2024.

Accompanying, and being accompanied

For the past six years, Paz* has been an abortion companion with **La Revuelta**, a Fòs Feminista partner in **Argentina**. A medical student, she is dedicated to making sure people know that early self-managed abortion with medications mifepristone and misoprostol is safe, effective, and recommended by the World Health Organization. She also knows that accompaniment is so much more than providing accurate information.

"It is about showing each person that seeks an abortion that we are there together, listening to them and supporting them in whatever they decide"

Paz, abortion companion,
La Revuelta

This kind of sensitive and stigma-free approach to care is something Paz has experienced herself. Last year, she was supported by her fellow La Revuelta companions when she decided to have a self-managed abortion. She recalls that, when she shared that she was pregnant with Ruth Zubriggen, La Revuelta's co-founder, "she didn't assume anything. She simply asked how I felt about the pregnancy and what my decision was."

Each year, La Revuelta accompanies more than 1,000 women seeking an abortion. They provide information about self-managed abortion and accompany women who choose to have an abortion using pills through text and phone-based channels, as well as in person. Where needed, La Revuelta also coordinates care with health services.

Abortion up to 14 weeks was legalized in Argentina in 2020, following decades of feminist organizing that mobilized a Green Wave for abortion rights in Argentina and across Latin America and the Caribbean. But abortion rights and access are currently under attack by the Administration of Argentina's current president. While an attempt to roll back abortion rights through the legislature was defeated in early 2024, the gutting of the country's healthcare budget has caused a severe shortage of contraceptives and abortion medications.

Fòs Feminista is supporting feminist accompaniment networks like La Revuelta, clinical service providers, and activists across Argentina to protect rights and access to abortion.

*Paz's last name was omitted to protect her privacy.



INNOVA Health Supplies

INNOVA Health Supplies is a social enterprise that has been catalyzing a transformation in local reproductive health supply chains and solutions. Facing chronic stockouts and long wait times for supplies, Fòs Feminista and five partners jointly created INNOVA in 2017 to expand access to affordable, reliable, high-quality contraceptives and other products for organizations in the Global South.

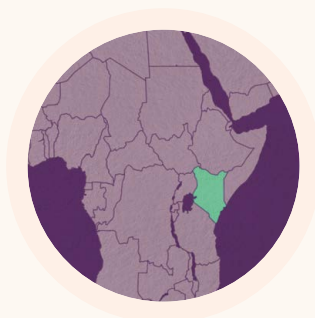
In just a few years, INNOVA has distributed products to 26 countries, ensuring timely delivery of a wide range of options. It has also proven to be a successful business model, experiencing double digit growth since 2020 and generating a profit that has been reinvested in its mission.

In 2024, INNOVA donated menstrual cups to two partners that work on menstrual dignity, including **Redes da Maré**, a community-based organization in the Maré favelas in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Photo: Redes da Maré, 2024



SOLIDARITY IS INVESTING IN LOCAL SOLUTIONS

Organizations working directly with women and girls have a wealth of knowledge related to advancing sexual and reproductive health and rights, but they need the resources to do it. Through social enterprise, our partners are creating business models to address local needs using local solutions to sustain their missions.



KENYA
KMET

Sisterhood for Change

In **Kenya**, where nearly 5,000 women and girls die each year due to pregnancy and childbirth-related complications, our partner **Kisumu Medical and Education Trust (KMET)** set out to tackle the problem with a woman-centered solution.

In 2016, they launched the **Center for Maternal Health Innovations**, a social enterprise that seeks to address the systemic drivers of high maternal mortality, including severe shortages of health supplies and lack of skilled health professionals.

The Center produces, stocks, and distributes key medical products both for KMET's own programs and for sale to medical facilities, government agencies, and international agencies. The Center has also refined a low-cost revolutionary technology – the uterine balloon tamponade (UBT) – that is highly effective in stopping post-partum hemorrhaging, a medical emergency that causes one in three maternal deaths in the country.

In 2023, KMET participated in Fòs Feminista's **Innovation and Social Enterprise Lab** to further scale its impact. The Lab provided marketing and sales technical support for launching a new e-commerce web page, which will expand the Center's reach to wider markets. The Center projects that this new sales and marketing channel will quadruple the revenue generated from sales of these of these maternal health innovations, significantly increasing the reach and impact of this solution. The Center has now distributed about 30,000 kits to 8 countries, including 31 counties in Kenya.

By commercializing UBT kits and other supplies (including reusable menstrual pads and nutrition products), the Center

estimates it has saved more than 2,400 lives. The profit generated is reinvested in their mission, including through their **“Sisterhood for Change”** program, which employs a team of women and girls in situations of vulnerability to assemble the UBT kits, thus creating a virtuous cycle of economic empowerment tied to care.

“The Center is an evidence-based, high-impact social enterprise that is rooted in local solutions to improve women’s health. As a local organization, our target markets and audiences know and trust us, which helps enormously in advancing our causes.”

John Okere, KMET’s Deputy CEO

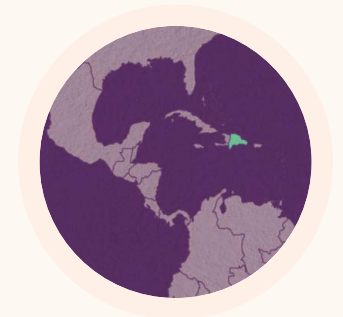


▲ Assembly of UBT kits by participants of KMET’s “Sisterhood for Change” program, which offers reproductive health, vocational, and life-skills training to women and girls. Photo: KMET, 2023.



SOLIDARITY IS BUILDING COMMUNITY

Community is an expression of how our relationships, livelihoods, hopes, and dreams are interconnected and interdependent. Our partners' work is centered on communities because it is where individual change can become collective transformation.



**DOMINICAN
REPUBLIC**
Profamilia

Intergenerational community health promotion

Leona Adolfo has been engaged in building community health and resilience in the **Dominican Republic** for 45 years. She grew up in a *batey* – a rural community originally built around sugar mills where people of both Haitian and Dominican descent have long faced marginalization and multiple barriers in accessing basic needs like education and medical care. She has dedicated her life to overcoming these challenges.

Leona first volunteered with Fòs Feminista partner **Profamilia** in 1979 as a community health promoter, motivated by her personal experience with difficulties accessing contraceptive methods in the *bateyes*. Witnessing the impact of community-based care, she studied to become a nurse – but she never stopped volunteering with Profamilia, even when she started her new career.

Seven years ago, Leona jumped at the chance to join Profamilia's mobile health team as a nurse. With the mobile health unit – a care model



▲ Leona Adolfo, a nurse with Profamilia's mobile health team, in the Mata Mamón *batey* located near the Dominican capital Santo Domingo. Photo: Fòs Feminista and Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation, 2023.

Profamilia pioneered more than 20 years ago with Fòs Feminista support – Leona now travels regularly to 53 *bateyes* and other rural communities to provide pap smears, contraceptives, referrals to clinics for more complex procedures, and other sexual and reproductive health care.

Leona is also an essential advocate for Haitian women in the *bateyes*, often accompanying them at clinic referrals to be a translator and support. She learned to speak Creole as a child from her father, a Haitian immigrant, who also taught her about solidarity.

“My father taught me the importance of serving others,” she says. “If you are able to help others, you should help them, expecting nothing in return.”

Leona Adolfo, Nurse

The work of Profamilia's community health promoters is intergenerational. 24-year-old Lauren Sierra Tejeda has been following in Leona's footsteps after participating in Profamilia's youth capacity-building sessions. She has a clear vision of why she wants to promote sexual and reproductive justice for her community.

“A community with no access to education, where people grow up to get married and have children as soon as they become teenagers, is a community that will always struggle with poverty.”

Lauren Sierra Tejeda,
Community health promoter

Lauren is now building a life for herself and her family as she studies to become a lawyer.



SOLIDARITY IS HOLDING SPACE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Adolescents and young people need not only sexual and reproductive health information, education and friendly services, but also safe and welcoming spaces to express themselves. Our partners support young people in finding their voices.



ECUADOR
CEPAM
Guayaquil

GUYANA
GRPA

Rights From the Start

Fòs Feminista, in partnership with Action Canada, has just wrapped up the Rights From the Start project, a five-year initiative funded by Global Affairs Canada (GAC) that expanded access to sexual and reproductive health and rights to almost **1 million young people** in Bolivia, Ecuador, Guyana and Peru. Our partners work with young people both as rights holders and as agents of change.

In **Ecuador**, **CEPAM Guayaquil** used activism – the combination of arts-based activities with activism for social justice – to engage young people in conversations about gender equality, sexual and reproductive rights, and human rights.

CEPAM Guayaquil's Theatrical Laboratory and Cinema Forum used singing, bodily expression, capoeira, dance, singing and percussion as mediums for encouraging young people to feel empowered about

their bodies and rights and to recognize cycles of violence and inequality within their personal lives and society.

18-year-old Lisbeth Quinde, who is a survivor of gender-based violence and an activist, found in artistic expression a way to “channel emotions in a healthy way and release all that was repressed, turning something bad into something beautiful. When people approach me to say this artistic work resonates with them, I feel like I can really change things for myself and others”.

Plays created by participants in the Theatrical Laboratory have been seen by more than 800 public health officials from various Ecuadorian provinces, fueling debates about improving access to youth-friendly sexual and reproductive health services.

In **Guyana**, the Rights From the Start project has been transformative for 24-year-old Alexandria Persaud. After volunteering with the **Guyana Responsible Parenthood Association (GRPA)**'s Youth Advocacy Movement at 18, she became a peer educator and joined GRPA's team as a Project Officer in 2023 with many ideas for expanding access to comprehensive sexuality education through a culturally sensitive approach.

With the aim of reaching the most marginalized young people in the country, Alexandria has been training local peer educators who can work with remote Indigenous communities, including by using local Creole dialects. Alexandria plans to launch a national network of peer educators to advance a more accessible, sustainable and culturally relevant model for comprehensive sexuality education.

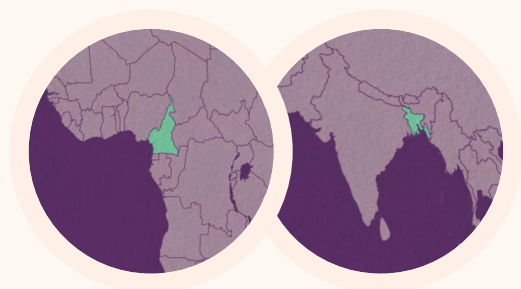
► Lisbeth Quinde participated in one of CEPAM Guayaquil's activism initiatives, an artistic performance titled “Against all violence”. Photo: CEPAM Guayaquil, 2024.





SOLIDARITY IS LIFTING UP THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS

To sustain our work in building a more just world where everyone can fulfill their life projects, we need to cultivate a generation of young people committed to reproductive justice to lead us into this future.



CAMEROON
Women for Change

BANGLADESH

“I was struck by the energy and passion that young people bring to the discussions on gender equality. Our voices and perspectives are essential in shaping policies and programs that affect our lives and future generations.”

Hilux Fokou Ngoumo,
youth activist

Young leaders experiencing Advocacy in Practice

Hilux Fokou Ngoumo is one of the leaders for the next generation. He is 20 years old, from Bertoua, a small city in Cameroon. For three years, he followed the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) – an annual meeting held at the United Nations – virtually. In 2024, with Fòs Feminista’s support, he was able to attend the event in person in New York.

At CSW, Hilux spoke at multiple panels to share insights from the grassroots initiatives he is engaged in as a participant and member of MIFALI, an adolescent and young women-led feminist movement mentored by Fòs Feminista partner **Women for a Change Cameroon**. These include campaigns for comprehensive sexuality education and training sessions with boys and young men to respond to gender-based violence and champion gender equality in Cameroon. In this global and powerful space, Hilux was also selected to be among the first-ever cohort of the NGO Committee on the



▲ With Fòs Feminista’s support, Cameroonian activist Hilux Fokou Ngoumo attended the 2024 Commission on the Status of Women in person in New York. Photo: personal archive, 2024.

Status of Women’s Global Youth Fellows for Gender Equality.

Fòs Feminista is supporting young leaders from the Global South like Hilux to have an active and influential voice in political processes that impact them and their communities. Through our **Advocacy in Practice** program, we work with young people who are new to international advocacy to develop the knowledge, language, and tools to engage in regional and global advocacy spaces, particularly at the United Nations.

In the six cycles of Advocacy in Practice Fòs Feminista has led since 2022, we have trained young people from 59 countries, prioritizing the participation of women, Afro-descendants, gender-diverse people, Indigenous people, and people with disabilities.

After participating in the training, Indigenous activist Ananya Drong was inspired to mobilize her community in **Bangladesh**.

“*Many women in our communities are illiterate, and I want to support them in engaging more actively in discussions surrounding our rights and well-being.*”

Ananya Drong, Indigenous activist

Applying and sharing her new skills and knowledge about advocacy, education, and community action, Ananya is encouraging and mentoring other young Indigenous women to pursue education and leadership roles, and to participate in global conversations about the issues that affect their lives. She aims to reach 50 Indigenous communities in the country with knowledge-sharing sessions.



► Youth team working on national advocacy at Fòs Feminista's Nigerian partner Education as Vaccine (EVA). Photo: Esperança Dias – Fòs Feminista, 2022.



SOLIDARITY IS JOINING OUR VOICES FOR JUSTICE

Resilience and social transformation are collective endeavors. Our diversity of contexts, experiences, and ideas is what fuels our creativity and agility. We are stronger together.



BRAZIL
Anis
Nem Presa
Nem Morta

An ecosystem approach to defending sexual and reproductive rights

Over the last years, a surge in anti-rights groups and authoritarian governance worldwide has multiplied threats to the health and rights of women, girls, and gender-diverse people. Through collective action, we are pushing back.

In May 2024, anti-abortion representatives in the National Congress of **Brazil** proposed and gained a fast-track procedure for a bill that would impose severe restrictions on abortion, especially impacting access for girls who are survivors of sexual violence – mostly very young, Black, and Indigenous girls.

Anis, **Nem Presa Nem Morta**, **Fòs Feminista**, and other allies mounted an immediate and coordinated response to protect the already limited abortion rights in Brazil. Rallying around the motto “**A child is not a mother**”, our campaign generated a public outcry in favor of abortion rights. Because the bill



▲ Street protests held in São Paulo in June 2024 against a bill that tried to further restrict abortion rights in Brazil, with signs saying “Legal abortion now”, “Legal abortion is a right” and “A child is not a mother”. Photos: Junior Lima, 2024.

proposed criminal penalties of up to 20 years in prison for women and girls who have abortions outside the law, while the penalty for rape is half that, the law was derided as the “Rapist’s Bill”.

The outrage prompted President Lula and the First Lady to speak out publicly about abortion, condemning the bill and positioning abortion as a public health issue. In an unexpected political turn, the bill lost momentum in Congress, giving hope to the power of collective push back in the fight for abortion rights.

Fòs Feminista is also connecting partners across borders to build pressure for government accountability on sexual and reproductive rights.

When the **Ugandan** Parliament passed sweeping restrictions on sexual rights, in early 2023, international feminist and LGBTQI+ organizations worked hand in hand to respond. Fòs Feminista co-authored a letter with Alliance partners to oppose the Ugandan President’s ratification of the bill that criminalizes consensual same-sex conduct, with penalties up to life imprisonment and death.

Our joint letter – signed by more than 30 Alliance partners across the Global South – describes the Anti-Homosexuality Act as a violation of fundamental human rights and an affront to public health. Our partners continue to oppose the law while mobilizing international solidarity with the Ugandan LGBTQI+ population.



SOLIDARITY IS PLAYING A PART IN THE CHANGE

Making change is a collective, complex, non-linear process. It requires a variety of strategies to achieve formal progress and make it real in people's lives. We participate in every step of the change cycle, mobilizing with communities toward a better future.



Fòs Feminista Alliance advocacy outcomes

Fòs Feminista works alongside partners to advance sexual and reproductive health, rights, and justice through law and policy change. In 2023, we contributed to:

- 102** **positive legal and policy outcomes**
for sexual and reproductive health, rights, and justice.
- 14** **reforms advanced**
Laws, policies, judicial cases, or protocols formally progressed by public decision makers
- 31** **reforms approved**
Laws, policies, protocols, or judicial decisions enacted by public decision makers
- 23** **reforms introduced**
Laws, policies, judicial cases, or protocols proposed by public decision makers
- 19** **existing laws and policies defended**
Successful blocking of decisions by public decision makers that would have eroded sexual and reproductive health, rights, and justice
- 15** **reforms implemented**
Existing laws, policies, judicial cases, or protocols put in effect by public decision makers with formal proceedings

◀ March for abortion rights in Mexico City, with protester holding a sign that says “Society punishes single mothers, never absent fathers. #LegalAbortion”. Photo: Katy González – CDD Mexico, 2022.

CHILE

New law to prevent violence against women

INTRODUCED → APPROVED → DEFENDED

Miles provided evidence to congress on a comprehensive law to improve prevention and eradication of violence against women and girls that was introduced in the National Legislature in January 2023. When the law was ratified in March 2024, anti-rights groups attempted to block the legislation, and Miles contributed to its successful defense by filing evidence and giving oral arguments at the constitutional tribunal.

PHILIPPINES

Education and care for adolescents

ADVANCED

In June 2023, **WGNRR** convened a forum on a new Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Bill that would require comprehensive sexuality education and access to sexual and reproductive health services for adolescents. The forum, coordinated in partnership with the National Anti-Poverty Commission, generated recommendations from 46 organizations. The House of Representatives approved the bill in September 2023; as of September 2024, it was still pending before the Senate.

KENYA

Clinical guidelines to reduce maternal mortality

APPROVED

In May 2023, Kenya’s Congress approved national clinical guidelines for preventing the five main causes of maternal morbidity and mortality, one of which is unsafe abortion. **TICAH** engaged policymakers in technical and strategic dialogue to mitigate the influence of the opposition and ensure that the government issued a recommendation for implementing the new guidelines, which include guidance and requirements for public health providers to offer medication abortion.



▲ Young activists at a 2023 LGBTQI+ Pride march held in Guayaquil, Ecuador. Photo: Pasos y Huellas, 2023.

ECUADOR

National strategy for CSE

APPROVED

In October 2023, the Ministry of Education approved a National Strategy for Comprehensive Sexuality Education, which requires that CSE be implemented in all educational institutions in the country. The approved strategy reflects technical input provided by **CEPAM-G**.

COLOMBIA

Protecting abortion rights

DEFENDED → IMPLEMENTED

Fòs Feminista supports an ecosystem of local partners in Colombia – including **Católicas por el Derecho a Decidir-Colombia**, **Colectivo Colombiano Justicia y Mujer**, and **La Mesa por la Salud y la Vida de las Mujeres** – that have been leading the defense of the 2022 Constitutional Court decision that decriminalized abortion and ensuring its implementation. In 2023, partners supported the development of new technical guidelines for providing abortion services and successfully defended these against a request to have them suspended. They participated in the defense of abortion decriminalization against a lawsuit filed by anti-rights groups, leading to the lawsuit being dismissed by the Constitutional Court. And they provided evidence in public hearings before the Senate, contributing to the rejection of two draft bills that would have partially or completely criminalized abortion in Colombia.

POLAND

Expanding abortion access

IMPLEMENTED

In a country with strict abortion laws that only allow access under an exception for health, **FEDERA** brought a case to regulatory authorities arguing that “mental health” is included in the definition of health in the existing protocols for legal abortion. The May 2023 decision in favor broadens access to care for people seeking abortion care.



Fòs Feminista Alliance in global advocacy spaces

Fòs Feminista and partners actively engage at the United Nations and other international spaces to ensure that global and regional policies and development frameworks advance sexual and reproductive rights.



Commission on the Status of Women

The Agreed Conclusions of the **67th Commission on the Status of Women** – which took place in March 2023 – formally recognized the potential of technology and innovation – including digital and mobile health solutions – to improve women’s and girls’ lives and achieve gender equality. These positions were informed by Fòs Feminista’s and partners’ active engagement with civil society, member states, and United Nations agencies during the meetings.

United Nations General Assembly

Fòs Feminista and partners successfully advocated for two resolutions approved by the Third Committee of the U.N. General Assembly: the **WASH Resolution** includes new references to menstrual health and notes the inequitable effect on women and girls of inadequate access to water, sanitation and hygiene; and the **Resolution on Violence Against Women Migrant Workers** includes new references to gender-based violence through digital technologies and to intersectional issues, like climate change, that undermine women’s equality.

ICPD+30

Fòs Feminista had an all-youth delegation of staff, Board members, and partner representatives to participate in the **Global Youth Dialogue** in Benin, which took place in April 2024. Their active engagement contributed to a formal declaration from young people about their priorities for ICPD+30 and beyond.

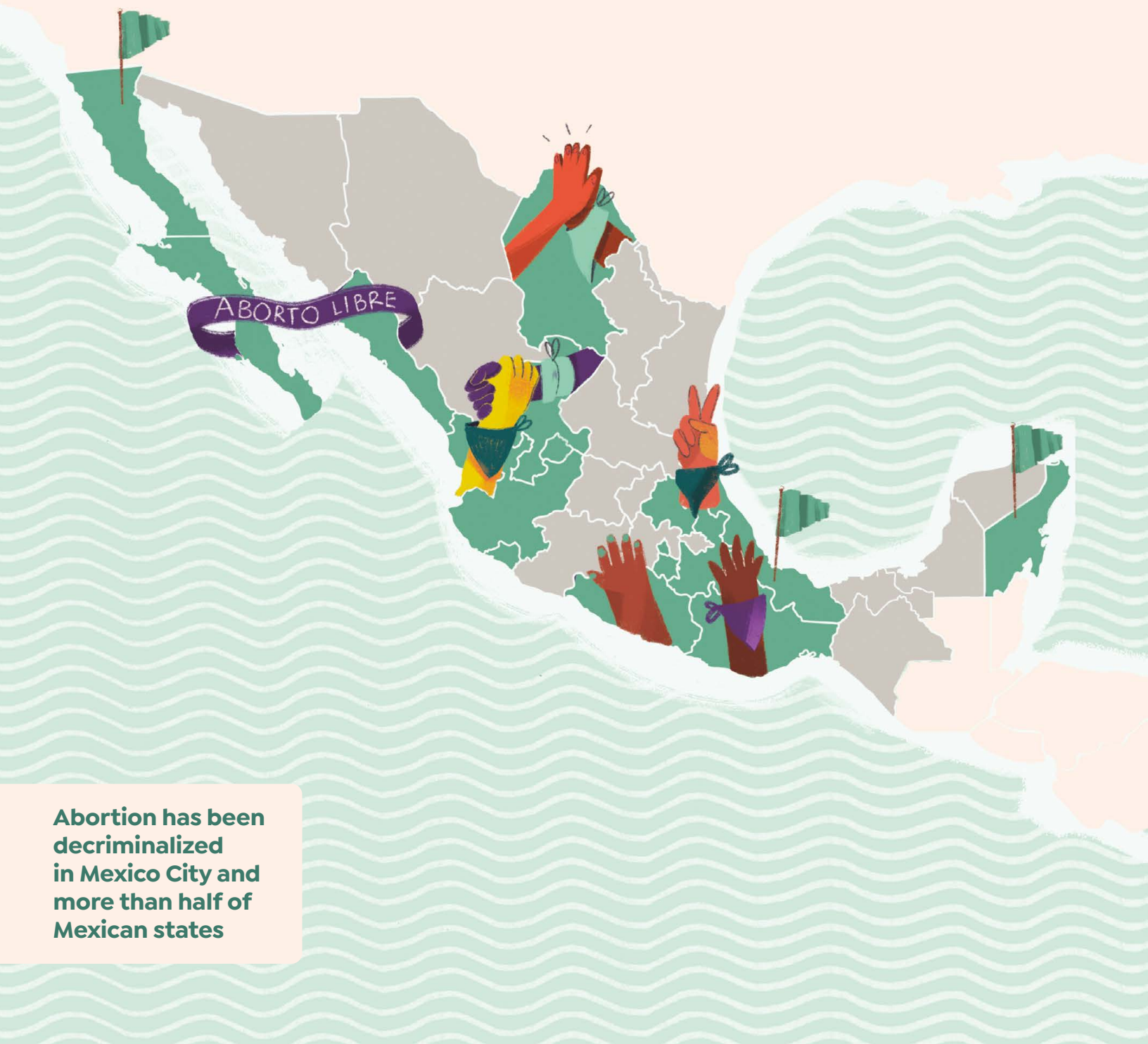
Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

At the **Summit for the Future** in Nairobi in May 2024, Fòs Feminista mobilized more than 350 civil society organizations from the Global South to sign a joint letter to push back against measures that would have limited the participation of feminist advocates.



SOLIDARITY IS STAYING IN THE STRUGGLE

Making change doesn't happen overnight. It can take months, years, sometimes generations. We support our partners' enduring and creative efforts for the long haul.



Abortion has been decriminalized in Mexico City and more than half of Mexican states

Changing Mexico's abortion rights landscape

Following Mexico's 2021 and 2023 Supreme Court decisions that declared criminalization of abortion unconstitutional and removed all federal penalties for abortion, respectively, Fòs Feminista's ecosystem of partners are pressing local governments to fully implement these decisions.

GIRE is advancing a country-wide legal strategy, in collaboration with **Católicas por el Derecho a Decidir-Mexico**, to demand that abortion is removed from state-level penal codes. Along with **Equidad de Género, Mano Vuelta** and other local allies, our partners are holding local governments accountable to providing legal abortion care.



MEXICAN STATES WHERE ABORTION HAS BEEN DECRIMINALIZED



FEMINIST MOVEMENTS ORGANIZE TO PRESS FOR DECRIMINALIZATION OF ABORTION.

2007
ABORTION DECRIMINALIZED IN MEXICO CITY

2008-2011
Half of Mexican states reformed their constitutions to introduce the anti-abortion language, changes that the Supreme Court rejected as unconstitutional.

2019
OAXACA

2019-2021
A Green Wave of feminist movements present local and federal initiatives for decriminalization and recognition of abortion as an essential medical service.

2021
Supreme Court declared criminalization of abortion to be unconstitutional.

2021 HIDALGO VERACRUZ BAJA CALIFORNIA COAHUILA COLIMA	2022 GUERRERO BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR SINALOA QUINTANA ROO
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2023
SEP | The Supreme Court removed all federal criminal penalties for abortion.

AGUASCALIENTES

2024 JALISCO PUEBLA	NAYARIT YUCATAN	ZACATECAS
----------------------------------	--------------------	-----------

AUG | The Aguascalientes state Congress approved a regressive bill reducing the period for accessing abortion from 12 to 6 weeks.



SOLIDARITY IS SHARING CAPACITIES

The richness and diversity of experiences, knowledge, and skills among partners in the Alliance are a deep resource for strengthening our collective work. As the connecting fabric of the Alliance, Fòs Feminista is committed to creating opportunities for sharing and learning among partners.

Fòs Feminista supports and co-hosts with partners four Centers for Capacity-Sharing on priority issues for the Alliance:

Center for Legal Responses

Shares knowledge and experience on feminist strategic litigation as a key instrument for political advocacy, accountability, and political change.

Co-hosts: CEPAM-G (Ecuador), Women's Link Worldwide (Global), Fòs Feminista

Center for Comprehensive Sexuality Education and Youth-Friendly Services

A platform for sharing educational materials, research, and guides for this work with young people, and supporting related advocacy strategies.

Co-hosts: Aahung (Pakistan), CIES (Bolivia), Women for a Change (Cameroon), Fòs Feminista

Center for Transformative Narratives

Amplifies and disseminates innovative narratives and supports partners to develop new narratives that counter anti-gender populist threats.

Co-hosts: Anis (Brazil), TICAH (Kenya), WGNRR (Philippines), Fòs Feminista

Center for Evidence-Based Advocacy

Supports partners in analyzing, systematizing, and utilizing evidence on sexual and reproductive health and rights to influence political processes.

Co-hosts: Católicas por el Derecho a Decidir (Argentina & Mexico), Education as Vaccine (Nigeria), Iniciativas Sanitarias (Uruguay), The YP Foundation (India), Fòs Feminista

In 2023, the **Center for Transformative Narratives** organized a series of regional dialogues on defending bodily autonomy against oppression and attacks. More than 200 people from over 150 organizations participated in these virtual sessions to collectively identify prevalent anti-rights narratives, discuss the impact of anti-rights actors and movements on abortion rights, in particular; and learn from each other about successful examples of feminist narratives.

The ideas generated in these regional spaces fed into a global dialogue, convened during the 2023 Women Deliver conference, where the Center presented transnational and transregional strategies for countering the opposition on abortion rights and advancing sexual and reproductive health, rights, and justice.

SOLIDARITY IS BRIDGING MOVEMENTS

Sexual and reproductive justice is about the connections between bodily autonomy, life projects, livelihoods, communities and the environment. Our struggles are interconnected and interdependent, and so must be our movements.



Catalyzing connections for justice

For years, the **Center for Reproductive Rights (CRR)** and Fòs Feminista have been working to connect the struggles for reproductive and environmental justice through joint research into the impact of agrotoxins on the reproductive health of Indigenous and Afro-descendent women and children in rural areas of Argentina, Brazil, and Colombia.

This research, funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), has been conducted along with national partners and academic allies. The findings are now being used to engage in high-level international and national advocacy that seek to stop and repair the harms – including fertility disorders, miscarriages, premature birth, congenital malformations, infant mortality among others – associated with exposure to agrotoxins commonly used in the region.

In November 2023, CRR, Fòs Feminista and other partners participated in the

first hearing held by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights about the negative effects of agrotoxins on reproductive health. In Brazil, Fòs Feminista connected CRR with **ABRASCO**, a Brazilian public health organization in our ecosystem. The evidence gathered by this new partnership was considered in the presidential partial veto of the law known as the “Poison Package”, which weakened state control of pesticides. Although the law was only partially vetoed, it marked the first time that authorities in Brazil have considered damages to reproductive health in agro-environmental discussions.

Fòs Feminista and **Astraea Lesbian Foundation for Justice** recently launched a two-year project seeking to strengthen the solidarity, connection, and collaboration between the trans liberation and reproductive justice movements in the southern United States and Latin America. The project will build on and expand both movements' capacity to defend bodily autonomy as well as collective care and safe spaces for activists through shared learning and joint action.

“

No one would be shy about the fact that they are on their period. No one will feel embarrassed when they get stained in public.”

SARA,
Nigeria.



“

For me, a world that respects menstruation is one in which society does everything possible to offer adequate hygienic environments for women and girls, so that they can live their period with a greater peace of mind.”

MARIE-STELLA COWPPLI-BONY,
Ivory Coast



“

For the foundation, a world that welcomes and respects menstruation is a world without taboos, without shame, without bullying but a world with support, access to water, and products!”

BÉNÉDICTA K.M-T. ALOAKINNOU,
Benin.



“

A world where the high prevalence of uterine fibroids in black women and the heavy menstrual cycles associated with them are considered a health emergency that deserves awareness and proper care to protect the dignity of black women.”

MARTINE LANEY,
Cameroon.



“

To me, a period-friendly world represents freedom from stigma and disgust, allowing every individual to learn, embrace, and acknowledge menstruation as a normal part of life. It ensures that menstrual hygiene and reproductive health care are available to all women, regardless of status, race, or identity.”

IRENE NARCISA CANETE,
Philippines.



“

My advice to all young girls is to talk to the people involved to understand the changes and also that it is normal to see blood during the first period.”

DELVA DAPHACAÏNA
Haiti.



SOLIDARITY IS BUILDING A PERIOD- FRIENDLY WORLD

Fòs Feminista is partnering with **Equipop**, **Global South Coalition for Dignified Menstruation**, and **PSI Europe** in the Sang Pour Sang consortium to launch a new initiative to advance menstrual justice in Benin, Guinea, Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria, Cameroon, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Dominican Republic, and Haiti. The initiative, which is funded by the Republic of France and the Agence française de développement (AFD), will leverage feminist movement building, advocacy, and expanded access to menstrual products to create an enabling environment for women, girls and gender diverse people to exercise their right to menstruate with dignity.

Period poverty is an urgent issue hidden in plain sight by stigma and inequalities. Out of the 1.8 billion people who menstruate, at least 500 million lack access to clean water, sanitation, adequate facilities like private toilets and essential products they need to manage their periods, hindering their education, livelihoods and life projects.

In 2024, Fòs Feminista and partners have been mapping the state of feminist organizing on menstrual health and dignity in the 9 countries, analyzing the legal and policy landscape, and setting a baseline to track our progress and refine our approach as we begin implementation.

◀ For World Menstrual Hygiene Day (May 28), the Sang Pour Sang consortium led by Fòs Feminista launched a social media campaign in which people from the Global South shared what a period-friendly world means to them. Photos: Fòs Feminista, 2024.



SOLIDARITY IS MAKING A DIFFERENCE

We would like to thank our foundation and government partners, and the more than 10,000 people who expressed their solidarity with the women and girls at the center of our work by making a donation to Fòs Feminista in 2023.



Institutional donors who supported Fòs Feminista in 2023 and 2024

- » Agence Française de Développement (AFD)
- » The Channel Foundation
- » Children's Investment Fund Foundation
- » Erik E. and Edith H. Bergstrom Foundation
- » Flora Family Foundation
- » Fondation Chanel
- » Foundation for a Just Society International, Ltd.
- » Global Affairs Canada (GAC)
- » Google.org
- » Hewlett Foundation
- » The Kendeda Fund
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- » Open Society Foundations
- » The David and Lucile Packard Foundation
- » The Swedish Association for Sexuality Education (RFSU)
- » The Summit Foundation
- » Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)
- » United Nations Foundation
- » Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation
- » Wellspring Philanthropic Fund
- » WestWind Foundation
- » Anonymous donors

Very special acknowledgement to **Susan Nitze** and **Alexander Sanger** for their commitment as co-chairs of the Fòs Feminista Leadership Council, a giving platform that is inspiring new philanthropic support for feminist movements around the world.

Our heartfelt appreciation to the **Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation** for their long-standing partnership to ensure that local organizations have ongoing, reliable funding, including through their support for our Innovation and Social Enterprise Lab.

Our deepest gratitude to **Catherine Warner** for her transformational commitments that have inspired us to dream audaciously and fuel support for feminist activism around the world.



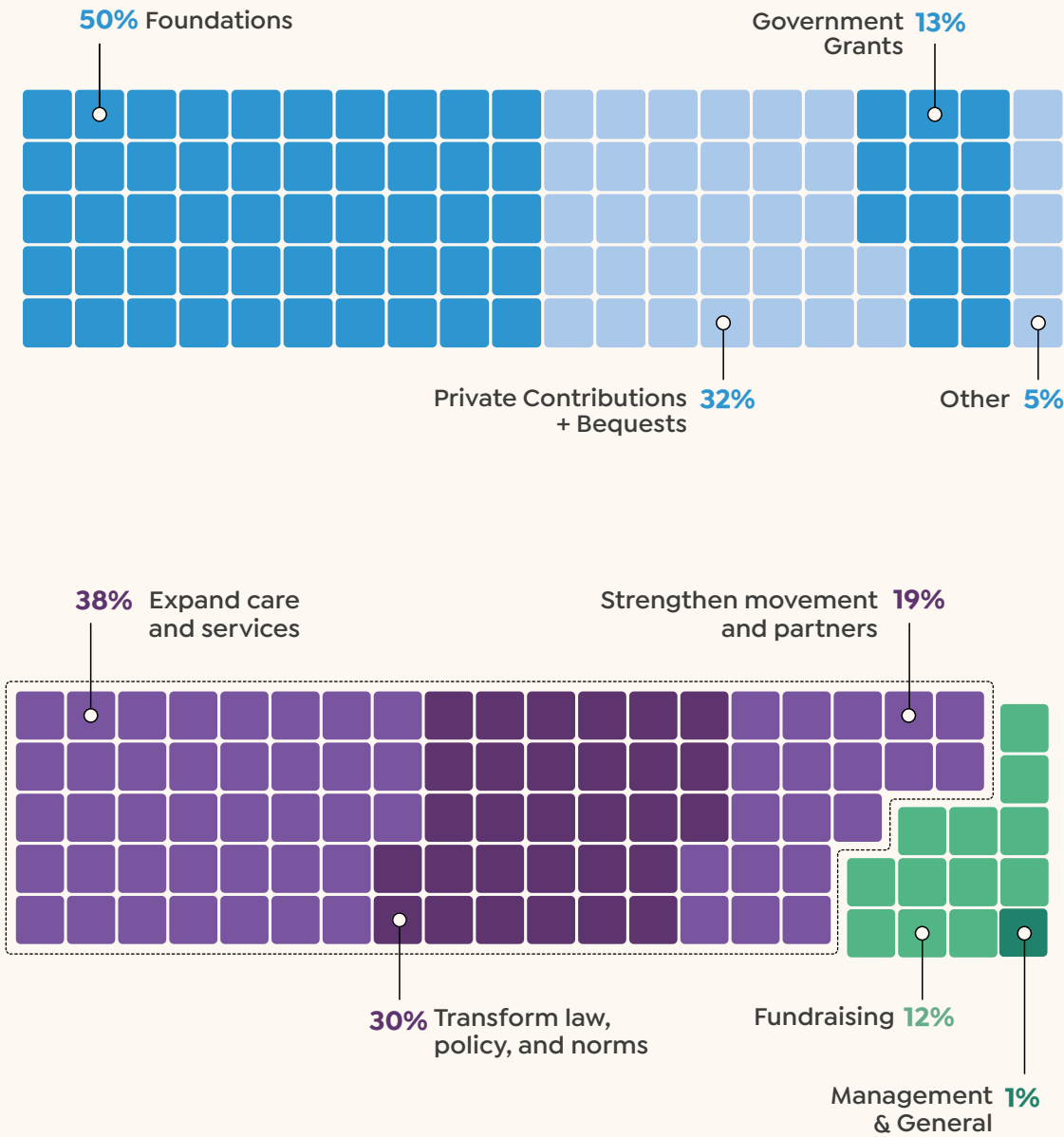
▲ Bill Villafranco (left), Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation trustee, and Alexander Sanger (right), co-chair of the Fòs Feminista Leadership Council, during a visit to Fòs Feminista's Dominican partner Profamilia in December 2023. Photo: Fòs Feminista, 2023.

◀ Fòs Feminista champion Catherine Warner. Photo: personal archive, 2024.

2023 Financial Snapshot

January 1 to December 31, 2023

Complete 2023 Financial statement available at www.fosfeminista.org



Total Net Assets

as of December 31st, 2023

\$80,345,635

Total Operating Support and Revenue

\$32,621,638

Total Expenses

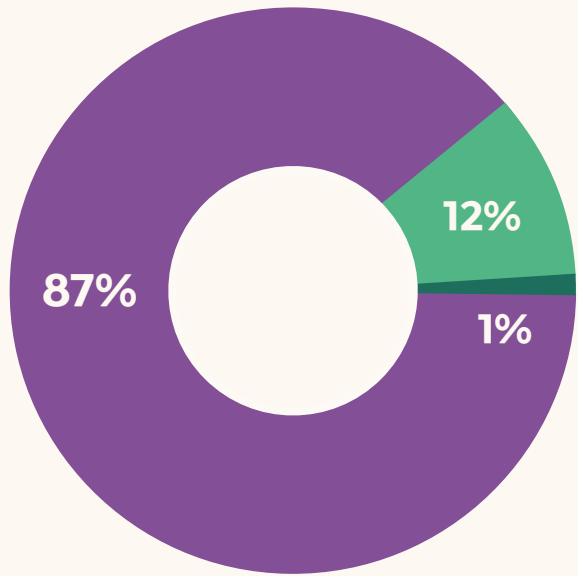
\$32,795,750

Our Efficiency

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

87%

of all donations directly benefits our programs.



PROGRAM SERVICES FUNDRAISING MANAGEMENT & GENERAL





► Woman attending a reproductive justice capacity-sharing session led by Fòs Feminista's partner SAMA in the state of Bihar, India. Photo: Esperança Dias - Fòs Feminista, 2023.

FÒS FEMINISTA

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We extend our gratitude to **Kobe Smith**, who joined our Board in 2017 as a youth Director and served as Vice-Chair from 2022 to 2023.



Thank you for helping us to create lasting change for generations to come.

Your continued solidarity will allow Fòs Feminista to protect hard-won gains and push the boundaries of what’s possible.

Join us

◀ 17-year-old Fernanda Martinez, a participant in Mano Vuelta’s education initiative about sexual and reproductive health and rights for young Indigenous and Afro-Mexican women. Photo: Mano Vuelta, Mexico, 2023

FOS FEMINISTA

International Alliance
for Sexual and Reproductive
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