The Association for Women’s Rights in Development (AWID) is an international feminist, membership organization committed to achieving gender equality, sustainable development, and women’s human rights. AWID’s mission is to be a driving force within the global community of feminist and women’s rights activists, organizations and movements, strengthening our collective voice, influencing and transforming structures of power and decision-making and advancing human rights, gender justice and environmental sustainability worldwide.

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2013 was a big year for AWID, with the completion of our new Strategic Plan, expansion of our programmatic work and heightened response to changes in the global context as they affect women’s rights.

As AWID transitioned into its new Strategic Plan, it did so in a challenging and changing context. Those challenges continue today: the existing economic paradigm, with its strong focus on market-based development, privatization and growth, is increasingly recognized globally for its role in perpetuating inequality and poverty; discussions and intergovernmental negotiations on a post-2015 development framework are well underway as we near the end of the Millennium Development Goals; the private sector, particularly corporations and individual philanthropists, has become a central player in the development and philanthropic sectors; religious fundamentalists are gaining power; and violence against women human rights defenders becomes more widespread as they fight regressive forces seeking to roll back hard-won rights.

One of the hallmarks of AWID’s new Strategic Plan is our identification as a movement-support organization, playing multiple roles in supporting, resourcing and strengthening women’s rights advocates, organizations and movements around the world. In this Annual Report you will read about these roles in more detail. We see feminist and women’s rights movements as an amazing ecosystem—with diverse groups working at different levels, playing distinct roles and prioritizing different strategies, while working toward shared values and agendas.

In 2013, in addition to sharpening the strategic focus of our new plan, we completed work from the previous strategic plan and embarked on some new programmatic directions. Throughout this process we responded to shifts in the global context affecting women’s rights and made contributions towards strengthening the collective voice and impact of feminist and women’s rights activists, organizations and movements. 2013 was also a post-Forum year – where 24 Seed Grant recipients from around the world took their bold ideas forward and implemented diverse, innovative projects aimed at transforming economic power for women’s rights.

Despite the challenging context in which we work, AWID’s staff and Board of Directors are encouraged by the opportunities and some signs of hope. Feminist and women’s rights activists continue to be crucial in creating openings to demand structural change, resisting regressive forces, sustaining their communities, opposing violence and holding the line on key achievements. AWID is setting out to build on our successes – and challenge new obstacles to advance women’s rights – by working side by side with women’s rights advocates, organizations and movements worldwide – including you, our members.

Thank you for joining us on this journey.

Warmly,

Sarah Costa, President, Board of Directors
2013 was an important transition year for AWID as we moved into our new 2013-2016 Strategic Plan, deepening some existing areas of work and initiating others, reshaping systems and processes, advancing key tools and providing staff supports toward achieving our ambitious goals for the next four years.

AWID’s new strategic plan has been developed based on our analysis of the current global context, where deepening inequality, environmental degradation and increasing insecurity and conflict prevents women’s full economic, social and political participation and the full enjoyment of their human rights. Strengthening our movements and collective power to respond to the needs and priorities of feminists and women’s rights advocates and organizations all over the world, therefore grounds our new strategic plan and the actions we take.

As you will see in this Annual Report, we refined how we organize our work in 2013 - distinguishing between thematic programs and permanent core programs - to ensure strong coherence, alignment and complementarity across the organization. We advanced these programs by producing cutting edge research, such as our three-part compendium on the funding landscape for women’s rights; disseminating information; advocacy to influence key policy-making spaces to advance women’s rights, for instance in the post-2015 Development Agenda, mobilizing resources; convening and connecting diverse women’s rights advocates; supporting young feminists; and expanding our constituency engagement and membership.

An important part of AWID’s work in 2013 has been strengthening protection measures for women human rights defenders (WHRDs) worldwide. AWID carried out participatory research with 30 WHRDs from around the world in 2013 and brought them together in a research consultation to explore their experiences of protection mechanisms. The resulting Recommendations to Enhance the Protection and Security of WHRDs are being used by WHRDs around the world to advocate for stronger, feminist protection mechanisms for WHRDs at the local, regional and international levels. We hope to further strengthen these foundations to enhance the security and wellbeing of our members and all WHRDs as they face increasing violence in this challenging context.

I would like to thank all of you, AWID members, who reflect our belief in the power of movements to create momentum for change. Sustainable transformation, to ensure that women’s rights and gender equality are a lived reality for women and girls around the world, is possible only when we build solidarity and work together through our organizations and movements.

Finally, I would like to share my appreciation to AWID’s Board of Directors and staff for their dedication and hard work in achieving women’s rights and gender equality around the world.

In solidarity,

Lydia Alpizar, Executive Director, AWID
our mission
WHAT WE DO

AWID’s mission is to be a driving force within the global community of feminist and women’s rights activists, organizations and movements, strengthening our collective voice, influencing and transforming structures of power and decision-making and advancing human rights, gender justice and environmental sustainability worldwide.

our vision
WHY WE DO IT

A world where human rights and freedoms, environmental sustainability and gender justice are a lived reality for all people and the planet.
our values
WHAT GUIDES OUR WORK

Our work is built upon feminist values toward the full realization of women’s rights and human rights of all people. This includes work towards the eradication of all discriminations based on gender, sexuality, religion, age, ability, ethnicity, language, nationality, caste, class or other factors. We are committed to:

- Work as part of a movement to build our collective voice, power and influence
- Diversity and inclusion, ensuring that in our work we are opening spaces and convening different expressions of women’s organizing—particularly from groups that have not been as visible or included in more traditional women’s rights work and instances in the past
- Transparency, responsible use of financial resources, fairness, accountability and integrity in all our interactions
- Work independently from any political party, government, religious institution or corporate interest
- Strive for excellence, while being creative, bold and courageous
AWID’s New 2013-2016 Strategic Plan

2013 marked the beginning of a new 2013-2016 Strategic Plan, developed in response to the current global context. Here we provide highlights of our analysis of the global context, how we position ourselves as a global feminist membership organization in this context, the outcomes we seek to achieve, and how our work is organized to achieve these outcomes.

The Current Context

Women’s rights advocates, organizations and movements work in a challenging context of fewer resources, more risks, increasing violence and inequalities, and environmental uncertainty. Our valuable energy and resources are increasingly expended fighting regressive forces that seek to roll back hard-won rights and our organizing remains fragmented with the diverse expressions of women’s rights organizing still not coming together in the most strategic ways as movements to collectively address pressing challenges.

- The existing economic model. With its strong focus on market based development, privatization and growth, the economic standard is increasingly recognized globally for its role in perpetuating inequality and poverty. This model often raises the costs of basic services leading to clear gendered impacts and inequalities, while women’s unpaid work in domestic subsistence, reproduction and in unwaged household production continues to be exploited. Alongside this are multiple and concurrent systemic crises (energy, food, finance and climate), which continue to pose challenges for governments, donors, development practitioners, activists and policy-makers. Steps taken to address the ongoing crises, such as fiscal austerity measures and dismantling of the welfare state (where it existed) have generated increased inequality.

- The private sector, particularly corporations and individual philanthropists, have become central players in the development and philanthropic sectors.
We have seen an increase in funding from new private sector actors towards women and girls, often instrumentalizing their contributions to economic growth. ‘Investing in women and girls’ has been heralded as a new key strategy by diverse actors – but this rhetoric has not necessarily translated into real resources for women’s rights. AWID’s recent research illustrates a complex panorama of new actors and new resources for women and girls that defies simplistic categorizations, and brings with it new opportunities and challenges.
• **Religious fundamentalist movements are continuing to gain power.** In many regions, the growing influence of fundamentalisms with arguments based on religion (as well as culture, tradition and nationalism) is used to violate and deny the rights of women, LGBTQI people, and religious, ethnic and cultural minorities. Fundamentalists and their supporters have also been successfully advancing arguments based on cultural relativism in multilateral processes as occurred at the 56th UN Commission on the Status of Women in 2012.

• **A shrinking of democratic space has been accompanied by the ongoing criminalisation of dissent.** Violence by both state and non-state actors towards the general population and particularly against social movements and activists is on the rise. In particular there have been significant increases in the severity and number of attacks against Women Human Rights Defenders (WHRDs) in most regions of the world with widespread impunity. This has serious impacts on the lives of WHRDs, their families and communities and on the sustainability of women’s rights movements.

• **Widespread public mobilizations in most regions of the world.** Mobilizations have been challenging authoritarian regimes and increased militarization, the financial system, the neoliberal economic model, corporate power, and resisting austerity policies. Hundreds of thousands of people have mobilized on the streets using new ICTs, especially social networking tools, to rapidly bring people together, share information and denounce abuses. As in the past, young people and women have played key roles in these mobilizations.
AWID’s ‘Movement Support’ Roles

Building our collective power and increasing our capacity to work together are vital to respond to this increasingly challenging context. As a ‘movement support’ organization AWID’s work serves to support, resource and strengthen women’s rights advocates, organizations and movements so that they in turn can be more effective in their work and struggles at different levels. These ‘movement support’ roles include:

- **Knowledge-builder & agenda-setter:** AWID builds knowledge from a feminist perspective of the forces, trends, processes and institutions undermining or impacting women’s human rights as well as strategies and innovations used to counter these influences and advance our agendas. AWID contributes as a provocateur to putting new issues on the agendas of women’s rights organizations and movements and other influential actors and provides an ongoing feminist critique of development and human rights trends. As an agenda-setter AWID is an active, critical and thought-provoking player in relevant CSO and official processes.

- **Clearinghouse for global feminist information and analysis:** In order for women’s rights advocates, organizations and movements to achieve their goals, respond to changes in their context, and learn from the experiences of others around the world, they need access to high quality information and analysis on current and emerging trends and available resources. AWID is recognized as a key “go-to” source for such information and through this role, we are able to increase visibility of women’s rights groups, perspectives, regions and issues that are commonly excluded in the work of mainstream human rights and development organizations.

- **Convener & connector of diverse actors and constituencies within and outside women’s movements:** AWID has significant convening power that we use to promote dialogue, build bridges, and strategize on key issues. We organize and facilitate constructive spaces for diverse women’s rights organizations, donors, development agencies, human rights or other CSOs to explore and strengthen connections within and across diversities of generations, issues, regions and sectors and to bring together groups that have not yet found common ground.

- **Advocate & Mobilizer:** We engage in policy advocacy, collaboratively develop positions with allies and advance those positions in relevant international spaces. We also use general influence strategies to transform the practices and agendas of powerful institutions, to strengthen their support for women’s rights and gender equality. AWID works to mobilize our members and broader constituency to strengthen collective action in solidarity with women’s rights causes, against backlash and violence against women activists and human rights defenders, and in favour of pluralism, democracy and peace.
AWID’s Outcomes

Through these movement support roles, we aim to contribute to the following five outcomes:

- Women’s rights organizations and movements are well informed and equipped to effectively respond to opportunities and counter threats to women’s human rights at different levels.

- Shifts made in policies and practices of diverse influential actors and institutions that shape or influence human rights and development outcomes (including donors, development agencies, business sector, human rights institutions and major CSOs) to advance, respect, protect and fulfill women’s rights and promote gender justice.

- Expanded solidarity and powerful joint action among women’s rights activists and allies through meaningful inclusion and engagement of historically excluded or discriminated groups of women.

- Women’s rights activists across generations, causes and movements are accessing and using knowledge and other resources to strengthen their security and wellness, and expand the enjoyment of their own human rights.

- Greater visibility and understanding of women’s rights initiatives, the threats they face and effective response strategies led by women and women’s rights organizations, among influential actors and institutions that shape human rights and development outcomes.
Challenging Religious Fundamentalisms

Religious fundamentalisms are growing across regions and religions with negative consequences for women’s rights, minority rights, and human rights in general. Launched in 2007, AWID’s Challenging Religious Fundamentalisms Program contributes to greater strategic thinking, dialogue and advocacy among women’s rights organizations, movements, and allies to understand and counter religious fundamentalisms.

**International Strategy Meeting:** AWID co-convened the 3rd International Strategy Meeting on Religious Fundamentalisms, with Católicas por el Derecho a Decidir-Mexico, Musawah Global movement for equality and justice in the Muslim family, and Global Rights Watch (project of Ipas and International Planned Parenthood Federation – IPPF) – together with contributions from the Asia-Pacific Resource and Research Center for Women (ARROW). Forty women’s rights activists from 26 countries participated in the meeting which facilitated greater dialogue, cooperation and coordination across regions, religions and sectors of work, and created an opportunity to strategize, learn, and advance collective action. One of the working groups formed at the meeting is in the process of refining an idea to form a new platform called the OURS - Observatory on Universal Rights – to leverage collective capacity to monitor, track and respond to regressions in the international human rights system.

“For me, the meeting was a refreshing few days where I received Strategic direction and vision; I am so grateful to have been part of this feminist thinking. Just to use our ideas and analysis and heads and hearts to develop some key actions we can take collectively. I carry these ideas and will do whatever I can to support the process of implementation of these ideas.” – Dawn Cavanagh, Coalition for African Lesbians (CAL), South Africa

**New publication:** *Religion, Culture and Tradition: Strengthening Efforts to Eradicate Violence against Women* equips women’s rights activists and allies with key arguments and excerpts from human rights instruments which affirm that religion, culture and tradition cannot be used to justify violations or non-compliance with international human rights standards and is being used in advocacy efforts connected to international human rights processes.
Resource manual: Understanding Religious Fundamentalisms for Activists is based on research and analysis produced by AWID over the past six years, including the experiences and analysis of hundreds of women’s rights activists in diverse regions of the world. The manual is a user-friendly resource which includes a series of discussion questions, participatory activities and exercises to inform and inspire discussions on how religious fundamentalisms are manifesting in the day-to-day work of activists and how to strengthen activist responses.

- Information and analysis: Short spotlights in our Facing Fundamentalisms e-newsletter continued to provide fresh and timely analysis for activists. A new ‘Reader Writes’ section in the newsletter gives space for subscribers to contribute diverse local perspectives, with contributions from Bangladesh, the Stop Stoning Campaign and the European Union, in 2013.

- 57th Commission on the Status of Women: At CSW 57 AWID contributed to a strategic exchange on religious fundamentalist opposition, co-convened with Global Rights Watch (GRW) (project of Ipas and International Planned Parenthood Federation – IPPF) and the International Civil Society Action Network (ICAN), to build capacity amongst those directly involved in lobbying for a progressive outcome at the CSW. AWID’s support to Articulación Feminista Marcosur (AFM) and allies at the CSW57 in the drafting, review and translation of a call to “un-state” the Holy See from the UN was an important contribution to a larger and longer term process of different civil society actors drawing attention to the unique and disproportionate role of the Vatican at the international level.
Economic Justice and Financing for Women’s Rights

The new Economic Justice and Financing for Women’s Rights Program builds on AWID’s long history of work in this area and more recently the debates at our 2012 Forum on Transforming Economic Power to Advance Women’s Rights and Justice. Through this program, AWID produces and disseminates information on economic justice issues and collaboratively advocates for policy that has women’s rights at its centre within key international development policy processes, such as the post-2015 development agenda.

Post 2015 Development Agenda: In 2013, efforts to establish a new development agenda to succeed the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) when they expire in 2015 gained momentum, with the debates so far being led by the United Nations, in consultation with other stakeholders including Member States, civil society, academia and the private sector.

AWID and other women’s rights groups engaged with this process through the umbrella of the Women’s Major Group and the Post 2015 Women’s Coalition (WC), mainly participating in the series of sessions held between March and December 2013 of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals (OWG on SDGs) in New York. As part of its Steering Committee, AWID participated in building the WC – an international network of feminist, women’s rights, women’s development, grassroots and social justice organizations working through advocacy and movement building to challenge and reframe the global development agenda. In response to the Post-2015 High Level Panel (HLP) Report, AWID produced an in-depth analysis and critique proposing concrete ideas for a post-2015 agenda with human rights at the centre. AWID also worked closely with Amnesty International and the Center for Economic and Social Rights (CESR) to push for a human rights based approach in the post-2015 agenda, issuing a statement that was widely supported by CSOs and movements across regions. As part of the Righting Finance Initiative, AWID, together with the Center of Concern, Social Watch, DAWN, and others, advocated for a human rights approach to financial regulation at national and global levels. AWID submitted recommendations on the impact of fiscal policies on women’s rights to the Special Rapporteur (SR) on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights, Magdalena Sepúlveda Carmona. These contributions aimed to influence the report prepared by the SR concerning fiscal policy and the human rights of persons living in poverty.

Recognizing that the majority of women’s rights groups that currently follow international development processes such as the post 2015 development agenda are working at the regional or global level, AWID also aimed to address the needs of groups working at the local and national levels for access to information and analysis on these global policies and processes. In 2013 AWID produced several Friday Files to demystify some of these important processes and to inform and mobilize women’s rights organizations, including The Post 2015 Development Agenda – What it Means and How to Get Involved; The UN Post-2015 Development Agenda – A Critical Analysis; and UN Starts With Gender Equality Focus Preparing For Its 2014 DCF And Post 2015.
**Development Alternatives:** Continuing to collaborate with women’s rights and other social movements to frame ‘development alternatives’ and articulate clear demands that feed into development processes, AWID produced the second in our series summarizing debates on development alternatives: *Re-envisioning Development, Exploring Alternative Constructions across the Globe.*

“Finally we can have such a great knowledge production for our movement. I am sure this (publication) will be useful for me and my organization.” – Nani Zulminarni, JASS/PEKKA, Indonesia

**FundHer Scorecard:** In 2013 we continued to develop the innovative FundHer Scorecard in collaboration with Social Watch and with support from UN Women. The Scorecard will enable women’s rights organizations and other CSOs to monitor the quality and quantity of resources going to gender equality and women’s rights in their respective contexts. Furthermore, the tool will provide ideas for allies within donor institutions to increase the quantity and improve the quality of resources allocated towards women’s rights and gender equality.
The Right to Defend Rights: Women Human Rights Defenders

Violence against women human rights defenders continues to increase around the world. Since 2010, AWID has responded to this context through our WHRD Program, working collaboratively with regional and international networks to raise awareness of violations of the rights of WHRDs, strengthen mechanisms for their protection, and contribute to more gender-responsive and effective responses to WHRDs at risk.

Protection Mechanisms for WHRDs: During 2013, as part of the Urgent Responses Working Group (URWG) of the Women Human Rights Defenders International Coalition (WHRD IC), AWID carried out a participatory research project involving interviews with more than 30 WHRDs worldwide on their experiences of protection mechanisms. A consultation brought these WHRDs working in 16 different countries together to share knowledge and experience, discuss the results of the research, and develop recommendations for different actors responsible for implementation of protection measures that respond to the needs and realities of WHRDs.

On 10 December, Human Rights Day, we launched Recommendations to Enhance the Protection and Security of WHRDs, based on the research findings. The recommendations are being used by WHRDs around the world to advocate for more effective protection mechanisms at state, regional and international human rights institutions. The recommendations are available in English, French, Spanish and Arabic.

The Online Directory of Resources for Urgent Responses for WHRDs, launched December 2012 in collaboration with the WHRD IC Urgent Responses Working Group (URWG), was expanded and widely promoted in 2013 with the launch of Spanish and French versions, as well as additional content. The Directory allows WHRDs and their organizations worldwide to easily access information on ten different types of support available to WHRDs according to specific circumstances of risk.

Advocacy for WHRDs at the global level: In 2013, AWID contributed to joint advocacy efforts within the WHRD International Coalition (WHRD IC) at CSW57. As a result of this advocacy, the Agreed Conclusions of the CSW, for the first time ever, included specific language that calls on states to support and protect WHRDs who face particular risk of violence due to the nature of their work. AWID also contributed to joint advocacy with WHRD IC members and the Norwegian government resulting in the adoption of the first-ever resolution on protection of women human rights defenders by the UN General Assembly’s Third Committee. This resolution recognizes the importance of WHRDs’ work and the nature of the violations and abuses against them. In the resolution all States commit to developing and putting in place comprehensive, sustainable and gender-sensitive public policies and programs that support and protect WHRDs.
**Action in support of WHRDs at risk:** In 2013, AWID took 290 actions in response to incidents of rights violations against WHRDs in 57 countries. Our actions include postings on AWID’s Urgent Action section on awid.org, appeal or condemnation letters, joint statements, social media campaigns, and specific resource mobilization in partnership with others.

**IM-Defensoras (Mesoamerican Initiative of Women Human Rights Defenders):** As a member of the steering committee, we continue our engagement with the IM-Defensoras which seeks to contribute to the protection of WHRDs in the region and to document their experiences so that these can be shared with other regions of the world. For example, AWID drafted a section on WHRDs in a research report on access to justice by the CEDAW committee following a meeting between IM-D and CEDAW experts in Guatemala. At the meeting the CEDAW experts committed to including WHRDs’ issues in future analysis and country recommendations, and to sharing the 2012 Assessment Report of the Situation of WHRDs in Mesoamerica with the rest of the experts on the committee.

Also as part of IM-D work, we hosted the first training on the Mesoamerican registry of incidents of violence against WHRDs and digital security for WHRDs national networks of Honduras, Mexico, El Salvador and Guatemala, building their capacity to collect data at the national level and strengthening their security. We are also supporting the establishment of WHRD networks in other regions by sharing the IM-D’s best practices with Nazra for Feminist Studies (Egypt), who are leading efforts to initiate a WHRD network in the MENA region.

Finally, the Second Mesoamerican Encuentro of WHRDs held in September 2013 in El Salvador brought together over 180 WHRDs and allies and included the launch of the 2013 Assessment of the Situation of WHRDs in Mesoamerica, which included for the first time data collected from January to December 2012 through the registry of incidents of violence against WHRDs and provides clear evidence of the increasing violence against WHRDs in Mesoamerica and the types of violence being experienced.
International Forum on Women’s Rights and Development

AWID’s International Forum on Women’s Rights and Development is the largest recurring event of its kind and responds to the urgency of promoting stronger and more coordinated engagement and action by women’s rights advocates, organizations and movements globally. The 2012 Forum made clear that more than just an event, the Forum can facilitate a process that convenes diverse groups to learn from each other, and influences thinking and agendas of women’s rights movements and other social movements. Forum evaluations have consistently affirmed the unique value that participants find at the Forum for sparking new ideas, strengthening existing and building new relationships and generally ‘getting a pulse’ on key trends and debates impacting women’s rights organizing around the world.

AWID’s 2012 Forum, held in Istanbul, Turkey, focused on the theme “Transforming Economic Power to Advance Women’s Rights and Justice” and was the largest and most diverse AWID Forum to date, bringing together 2239 women’s rights activists from 141 countries. Of these participants, around 65% were from the global South and close to 15% were young women under 30, and 75% attended an AWID Forum for their first time. The Forum program focused on and featured over 170 different kinds of sessions.

2012 Forum Seed Grants: In 2013, we supported 24 Seed Grants from 19 countries across all regions with USD 5000 each to implement innovative activities related to the 2012 Forum theme. Grantees represent both commonly excluded sectors from and the diversity within women rights movements, including: sex workers, young women, garment workers, trade unionists, home-care workers, environmentalists, rural agriculture and fisherfolk, grassroots women, economists, Roma, and trans people.

The diversity and innovation of the initiatives was remarkable and ranged from workshops for sex workers in Myanmar to open bank accounts to research on Palestinian women within the Israeli civil service; and research on practices of food sovereignty and the care economy in Chile, which resulted in the creation of educational radio programs. Seed Grant outcomes will be featured on awid.org in the second half of 2014.
2013 HIGHLIGHTS OF PROGRAM ACHIEVEMENTS: INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON WOMEN’S RIGHTS AND DEVELOPMENT

2013 AWID Forum Seed Grantees
Bridging Knowledge and Practice for Women’s Rights

The BKaP Program area strengthens the impact and relevance of AWID’s programs by expanding existing and pursuing new partnerships to strengthen the development and dissemination of knowledge resources as well as capacity building. We also aim to be responsive to requests and opportunities that arise to pursue partnerships in this area and continue networking with a diverse array of groups engaged or interested in the issues addressed by our programs. In 2013, this work focused mainly on feminist resource mobilization, building on AWID’s long standing work on this issue.

**Action Research:** Based on a survey of more than 1000 women’s rights advocates around the world, our latest research report on the funding landscape for women’s rights organizing, *Watering the Leaves, Starving the Roots*, shows that in 2010, the combined income of 740 women’s organizations around the world totalled a mere USD 106 million – a fraction of the budgets of many international NGOs. The role that new actors, including the corporate sector, are playing in this funding landscape is explored in *New Actors, New Money, New Conversations*, which finds that out of 170 initiatives focused on women and girls, USD 14.6 billion dollars was committed to initiatives related to women and girls around the world, yet only 27% of the 170 initiatives actually engaged women’s organizations as partners, and only 9% directly funded them. *Women Moving Mountains*, our survey of the aggregate impact of women’s organizations that received support from the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs MDG3 Fund, demonstrates the huge reach and transformative changes that are possible when organizations working to build women’s collective power for change receive significant, strategic resources.

**FRIDA | The Young Feminist Fund:** In 2013, AWID continued to support young feminist leadership and organizing as co-incubators of FRIDA | The Young Feminist Fund, along with the Central American Women’s Fund. Four years since it was founded, FRIDA remains the only youth-led fund focused exclusively on supporting young feminist groups in the world.

In 2013, FRIDA mobilized USD 415,915, doubling its previous year’s budget. It supported 28 groups of young feminist activists in five global regions. FRIDA also provided additional opportunities for learning, linking, and leadership. Read FRIDA’s Annual Report infographic to see the diversity of communities and issues with which FRIDA grantee partners engage.

One example of the important impact of FRIDA’s funding is in Uganda and Nigeria, where the volatile environment and new laws criminalizing homosexuality and pornography have directly affected the work of FRIDA’s grantees. FRIDA’s flexible funding enabled grantees to adapt their strategies and respond to this changing environment by increasing their safety measures and increasing their advocacy activities to reverse the laws.
FRIDA's participatory grant-making process has proven to be a powerful vehicle for dialogue and movement building between grassroots young feminist activists as well as multi-generational collaborations in different locations, facilitating the creation of important alliances and networks. One applicant from the 2013 cycle says:

“I thank the FRIDA team for sustaining this participatory process of selecting the grantees and widening the network of young feminists across the globe. It bolsters the spirit of sisterhood, empowerment, and sense of being part in the process of building networks of women’s rights groups.”

– Anonymous

FRIDA moved towards a co-leadership model in 2013 with two young feminist co-coordinators now leading the fund to ensure complementary skill sets and expertise, as well as in recognition of FRIDA’s growth projections and ambitious work plans. More information about FRIDA is available on their website.
Young Feminist Activism

AWID’s work aims to ensure the voices of young women are heard and reflected in feminist activism and discourse, that young feminists have better access to funding, capacity-building opportunities and networks, and that they play a role in decision-making affecting their rights. In addition to supporting young feminists directly, AWID works with women’s rights activists of all ages on practical models and strategies for multi-generational organizing.

Young Feminist Wire: In 2013, we expanded the multilingual online community of young feminists on the Young Feminist Wire. In 2013, we expanded the multilingual online community of young feminists on the Young Feminist Wire and provided information on issues impacting young feminists around the world, reaching 600 new members by the end of 2013. In 2013, the Wire included guest blog posts such as Body and Mind: Tale of Women’s Oppression by Paola Salwan from Nasawiya in Lebanon, Young Nepalese Women Against Patriarchy by Anisha Pokharel, and Challenging Canada’s Neglect on Public Inquiry into Missing Indigenous Women by Lara Yeo. In 2013, the Wire also focused on bringing visibility to diverse initiatives led by young feminists to fight violence against women and gender based violence to coincide with the 16 Days of Activism campaign, including ‘Why selling anti-rape perpetuates victim blaming’ which included interviews with young women working on anti-rape initiatives.

As part of our ‘Guests on the Wire’ series, we screened the documentary “Young Lakota”, about activists’ fight in the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota, USA against the state’s potential law to ban abortion, with a follow-up panel with the Producers and Directors of the documentary. The ‘Guests on the Wire’ session on the World Social Forum in Spanish and English with panellists from Oxfam International Youth Partnership explored how international solidarity activism and spaces are useful for young feminist activism.

“I was so excited to see that the Wire was hosting a discussion that connected indigenous women’s experiences to the broader reproductive rights/women’s rights movement in the States. Overall it was a wonderful e-discussion and I’m so glad I could participate!”
– Lara Koerner Yeo, Canada

“I think one of the most important values is to meet people from different countries, backgrounds and experiences, otherwise [it] would not be possible to gather all this valuable information.”
– Monica Lopez, Planeta Mujer, Mexico
Multigenerational Organizing. AWID builds knowledge on best practices for effective multigenerational organizing, responding to the needs to ensure young feminist voices and contributions to women’s rights movements are visible and effective but not isolated from a larger vision for more effective ways of organizing across different generations. This work included convening a four day e-discussion on Effective Multigenerational Organizing amongst 25 of AWID’s YFA members from regions as diverse as South Asia, MENA, North America, Western Europe, Sub-Saharan Africa, LAC, and SEE/CEE/CIS. After the e-discussion, we published a blog by Loubna Skalli, one of the participants, entitled Generations in Dialogue: Beyond the blame game, and ran an e-learning session on the highlights of the four days.

“Many thanks for this session! I found it very effective in discussing multigenerational organizing, and I really valued the diversity of thought and experience. I am eager to get a follow up email with the slides and maybe some links to specific resources that were mentioned throughout the webinar.” – Jaclyn Gilstrap, IPAS, USA
Women’s Rights Information

AWID believes that providing information is fundamental to building understanding of the trends affecting women’s rights, setting agendas, and amplifying the voices and perspectives of diverse forms of organizing by women from around the world. AWID produces and sources a wide range of women’s rights information in English, Spanish, and French. News, interviews, analysis, job announcements, new resources, events, and urgent appeals are disseminated through the AWID website, social media, and e-newsletters.

Women’s Rights Information and Analysis: In 2013 our total subscribership grew from 45,222 to 48,599. We produced 54 Friday Files (FFs) in English, Spanish and French covering a wide range of different issues and organizing contexts. We also continued our content partnerships with TrustLaw Women (TL) of Thomson Reuters Foundation and openDemocracy50:50 (oD), expanding the reach of our information and analysis.

Social Media: In 2013 AWID’s social media presence continued to grow with our Facebook page ‘likes’ increasing by over 5,000, to 14,292 and our Twitter following grew by 6,000 to 16,117.

Women’s Rights and Gender Equality In Focus: In 2013, AWID conceptualized an exciting joint project with Mama Cash and the Guardian Online to develop a dedicated women’s rights and gender equality in-focus section of The Guardian’s Global Development portal. The project aims to increase the visibility of women’s rights organizing, amplify the voices and perspectives of women’s rights advocates in all their diversity and influence key policy debates from a feminist perspective, including the post-2015 development agenda. Regular content on women’s rights issues and the work of WHRDs around the world will be produced and made more visible on this website for a large global audience, including policy makers, governments and newer development actors. The In-Focus section went live on 4 February 2014.

Democratizing Access to Information on Policy Advocacy: In 2013 for the first time AWID covered some of the key advocacy moments for women’s rights advocates, organizations and movements through special focus sections on AWID’s website in English, Spanish and French, ‘demystifying’ and democratizing access to information on policy processes at the global level:

• Special focus: Post-2015 development agenda: AWID’s special focus section sheds light on the post-2015 development agenda by providing up to date critical resources, including feminist analysis and recommendations, while providing and profiling the latest news, publications, statements, campaigns and events.

“The only NGO known to be engaging in any meaningful way this year is the Association for Women in Development (AWID), which plans to interview each candidate. William Pace, Executive Director of WFM/IGP, stated that “it would be best if the SGs process were more transparent.””

– Tony Fleming, Globalmemo.org
**Special Focus: Vienna +20**: 2013 marked twenty years since representatives of 171 States adopted the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action (VDPA) of the World Conference on Human Rights that took place in Vienna, Austria from 14-25 June 1993. This special focus section aimed to share analysis and commentary from women’s rights advocates around the world on the achievements and challenges to advancing women’s human rights.

**Special focus: 57th Commission on the Status of Women (CSW57)**: Our special focus section featured the proceedings, events, news, analysis, and official and CSO statements.

**Special focus: UN Women Executive Director**: On 10 July 2013, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon announced the appointment of Ms. Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka from South Africa as the new Executive Director of UN Women. Prior to the appointment, by sharing information and the views of three of the candidates for this key position at the UN, we contributed to ensuring that feminist and women’s rights organizations and movements were sufficiently informed to send letters of support for their preferred candidate to the UN Secretary General. AWID’s coverage of the appointment process for the UN Women Executive Director was the only information of its kind available and highlighted the need for more transparency of key UN appointments.
AWID Members

AWID’s members are dedicated to achieving gender equality, sustainable development and women’s rights around the world. They are researchers, academics, students, educators, activists, business people, policy-makers, development practitioners, funders, and more. In 2013 our membership increased to a total of 4061 (565 institutional and 3496 individual) members. This included members from 159 different countries – a majority from the global south - with 32% under the age of 30. In 2013 we had the highest number of institutional members to date.

Institutional Members by Region (31 December 2013)

- Sub-Saharan Africa - 96 (17%)
- North America - 83 (15%)
- LAC - 83 (15%)
- South and Southeastern Asia - 73 (13%)
- Western Europe - 80 (14%)
- East Asia - 67 (11%)
- SEE/CEE/CIS - 44 (8%)
- Pacific - 21 (4%)
- MENA - 18 (3%)

17%

15% LAC - 83

15% North America - 83

14% Western Europe - 80

13% South and Southeastern Asia - 73

11% East Asia - 67

8% SEE/CEE/CIS - 44

4% Pacific - 21

3% MENA - 18
“I am so proud of being a member of this dynamic and diverse network of women and men to ensure women’s rights and sustainable development.”
– Fabrice Byiringiro, Rwanda

“I very much appreciate the efforts that AWID has made to strengthen the women’s movements locally and internationally. I will be collaborating with AWID and gaining new knowledge.”
– Ana Maria Hernandez Cardenas, Mexico

“I’m so grateful to be a member of such great organization raising women’s voices into public, helping women to find themselves and [claim] their rights … from anyone who … think[s] that female[s] don’t have the right to search for [their] rights, and to stop any violence against [them]!! Many thanks for sending me … AWID’s publications CD. I hope I can influence the organization & have a direct effect on the [women] here in Egypt.”
– Anonymous, Egypt

“I’m glad you are doing this important work of remembering our ‘herstory’.”
– Nadine Jubb, Nicaragua

“One thing I will never forget that I learned at this e-learning session is that it is useful to recognize the feminist activists working in challenging environments and condition as Women’s Human Rights Defenders.”
– Magdalena Pochec, Poland
**Connecting Our Members:** Our new online membership area in English, Spanish and French was launched in 2013 providing a central place for members to find the latest membership activities, opportunities to engage with AWID’s program areas, share their views on AWID’s latest analysis and share news about their work for dissemination through our newsletters.

Each week we also published an individual and institutional AWID member profile – fostering increased connectivity through members highlighting their current work and their aspirations for women’s rights and women’s rights organizing. To connect with our members, please email membership@awid.org.
Solidarity with WHRDs: To build solidarity with women human rights defenders who are facing threats and violence, AWID mobilizes members to take action in support of WHRDs at risk. In 2013 we launched AWID-alerts highlighting situations of WHRDs at risk ranging from Organización Femenina Popular from Colombia to Nuba WHRDs detained in Sudan (who were released in part due to the efforts of AWID members) and sorcery-related violence and killings in Papua New Guinea.

AWID also organized an Online Tribute to commemorate feminists and WHRDs who have died as part of the 16 Days Campaign Against Gender Based Violence. The tribute – an online photo exhibit of more than 100 slides featuring WHRDs from around the world, two videos and a compilation of 16 profiles shared through social media - honour the work of WHRDs and raises awareness about the increased levels of violence and repression faced by many WHRDs around the world. It also drew attention to the need to politicize and support self-care, increased protection and safety for women's rights defenders.

Sharing Resources and Tools: AWID’s webinars create a space for women's rights advocates to come together, share perspectives and learn from each other. AWID organized several webinars in 2013 to inform and equip our members and constituency on key issues. These included webinars in collaboration with Catapult to introduce members to the results of our research on funding for women’s rights. Catapult representatives shared information about their crowdfunding platform for women and girls and informed AWID institutional members how they could fundraise through Catapult.

Partnering with institutional member ‘Peace is Loud’ we also convened a webinar with AWID members on Empowering and Protecting Women Human Rights Defenders and screened the film The War We Are Living. You can listen to the webinar recording here.

AWID’s new bi-monthly membership e-bulletin Encounters, includes reflections from diverse members’ voices, analysis by AWID and a call to take action on an urgent women’s rights issue. We published six Encounters in 2013 on a diverse range of topics including: the UN post-2015 development agenda process; perspectives from the Post-2015 Women’s Coalition; the Fifth World Conference on Women; research and tools to mobilize more and better quality resources for women’s rights organizing; and the World Conference of Indigenous Peoples “Progress and Challenges Regarding the Future We Want” (WCIW).

Mobilizing for Women’s Rights: In 2013, we co-organized an International (IWD) Women’s Day March during the 57th Commission on the Status of Women (CSW 57), and an online global mobilization calling upon UN Member States to take concrete steps to end impunity; fund gender equality and human rights instead of militarism; protect WHRDs; and affirm existing international agreements. More than 100 organizations co-sponsored the march and organized their own activities in their respective countries. Click here to see a photo album of the activities.

AWID also mobilized our members online on the post-2015 agenda on the occasion of the UN General Secretary’s Special Event on Post-2015 September 25, 2013. This mobilization, through Twitter and Facebook, called for women’s rights to be a central part of the post-2015 development agenda, and reached nearly half a million people.
AWID gratefully acknowledges the generous contribution of our funding partners who believe in building strong women’s movements to advance women’s rights and gender equality worldwide.

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<th>Contributions USD</th>
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### 2013 Expenses

#### Expenses

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### Board of Directors and Staff

#### AWID Board Members 2013

**Sarah Costa**  
Executive Director, **Women’s Refugee Commission**, USA  
(AWID Board President)

**Usu Mallya**  
Executive Director, **Tanzanian Gender Networking Program**, Tanzania

**Lydia Alpízar**  
Executive Director, **AWID**, Costa Rica/Brazil

**Myrna Cunningham**  
President, **Centre for Autonomy and Development of Indigenous Peoples (CADPI)**, Nicaragua

**To Tjoelker**  
Head of Cooperation of the Netherlands Embassy, Mali  
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Founder and Scholar, **Center for Women’s Global Leadership**, USA

**Natasha L. Primo**  
City of Cape Town, South Africa  
(AWID Board Secretary)

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Executive Directress, **OneWorld – Platform for Southeast Europe (OWPSEE)**, Bosnia and Herzegovina

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Hogan and Lovell, USA  
(Legal Counsel supported by Marcia Wiss)

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Independent activist and researcher, Lebanon/USA

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President, Society for Rural Education and Development, India

**Kaythi Win**  
**Asia Pacific Network of Sex Workers**, Myanmar

**Jac SM Kee**  
Manager, Women’s Rights Programme, **Association of Progressive Communications**, Malaysia

**Natalia Flores González**  
Executive Secretary, **Observatorio de Género y Equidad**, Chile
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Director of Programs

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Program Associate, Economic Justice and Financing for Women’s Rights

Angelika Arutyunova
Manager, Bridging Knowledge and Practice

May Abu Jaber
Assistant, Thematic Programs

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Executive Director

Meghan Babin
Assistant, IT

Srilatha Bhatiwal
Scholar Associate, Bridging Knowledge and Practice

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Anne Schoenste
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Ritu Sharma
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Assistant, Forum and Events

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Manager, Young Feminist Activism

Veronica Vidal
Research Associate, Where is the Money for Women’s Rights?

Saira Zuberi
Coordinator, Resisting and Challenging Religious Fundamentalisms
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