



AWID IN 2016: OUR FEMINIST FUTURES

● WHAT A YEAR!

In 2016 we convened the 13th International AWID Forum in Bahia, Brazil, which was attended by over 1800 participants from 120 countries and territories across the globe. The Forum was a much needed space for strategizing and alliance building with feminists and other justice movements.



WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO



Photo credit: Antonia Eklund

We know that women's rights and feminist movements are key actors in creating sustainable transformative change. Within our movements, organizing, resisting and responding to the challenging context is sharpening, and in our increasingly connected world, the potential for collective action across diverse movements has dramatically grown. This is the crucial work that AWID seeks to amplify and support. We aim to inform and equip women's rights organizations and movements to respond to opportunities and counter threats, we support greater visibility and understanding of women's rights initiatives and the threats they face and we also work to influence actors and institutions that shape human rights and development outcomes.



Illustrations by See Hear Draw. Photo credit: Antonia Eklund



WHAT WE ACHIEVED IN 2016



Photo credit: Antonia Eklund

● Expanded solidarity and joint action across diverse movements

AWID's ground-breaking 13th International Forum was held from September 8-11, 2016 in Bahia, Brazil, with the theme: *"Feminist Futures: Building Collective Power for Rights and Justice"*.

While much of AWID's energy in 2016 was devoted to the Forum process, it also harnessed the thinking and energy of nearly 500 partners, presenters, panelists, moderators, activists, writers, facilitators, IT innovators, and performers, many of them leaders in their field. Also in recognition of the history and struggle of Bahia, we hosted a **two-day Black Feminisms Forum** (BFF) organised by a working group of Black Feminists from across the world.

The complex and polarized political landscape in the Forum's host country, Brazil, mirrored global trends. The Forum was a space to articulate the systemic and intersectional nature of the challenges we face, and build connections across movements for collective responses. It brought incredible engagement of diverse movements, built a space of inspiration and hopeful energy, deepened understandings of key issues, and contributed to enhanced solidarity and cross-movement work.



Fun Forum facts

1870 PARTICIPANTS FROM AT LEAST
120 COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES
ACROSS ALL REGIONS OF THE WORLD.



20% OF PARTICIPANTS SAID THEY WERE UNDER **30**.

OVER **150 BLOGS** WERE WRITTEN ABOUT
THE FORUM, PUBLISHED ON THE **FORUM WEBSITE**.



LIVE AUDIO BROADCASTS FEATURED EACH OF
THE FIVE **PLENARIES** IN **SIX LANGUAGES**
(SPANISH, PORTUGUESE, FRENCH, ENGLISH, RUSSIAN, ARABIC).

40 ARTISTS WERE SUPPORTED TO ATTEND AND
PARTICIPATE IN THE FORUM, CONTRIBUTING TO THE HUGE
SUCCESSFUL INTEGRATION OF ART AND CULTURE AT THE FORUM.



AROUND **20 FUNDERS** HOSTED OFFICE
HOURS AT THE RESOURCE MOBILIZATION HUB,
SEEING OVER **500 GRANT-SEEKERS**
FOR CANDID AND OPEN DIALOGUE AROUND FUNDING.

AWID GRANTED **20 SEED INITIATIVES**
TO CROSS-MOVEMENT PROJECTS SPARKED AT THE FORUM!





● Strengthened knowledge of issues and strategies

ON CHALLENGING CORPORATE POWER We produced Challenging corporate power: Struggles for women's rights, economic and gender justice with the Solidarity Center, revealing the scale and scope of corporate power and outlining how corporations in collusion with elites and other powerful actors, are impacting the lives of women and oppressed peoples. The report offers insights into strategies of resistance - highlighting five struggles that used cross movement collaboration to challenge corporate power.



ON FEMINIST ECONOMIES We produced Feminist Propositions for a Just Economy with the Center for Women's Global Leadership (CWGL) and the African Women's Development and Communication Network FEMNET. *Feminist Propositions* is an online platform proposing a feminist agenda for development, economic and gender justice.





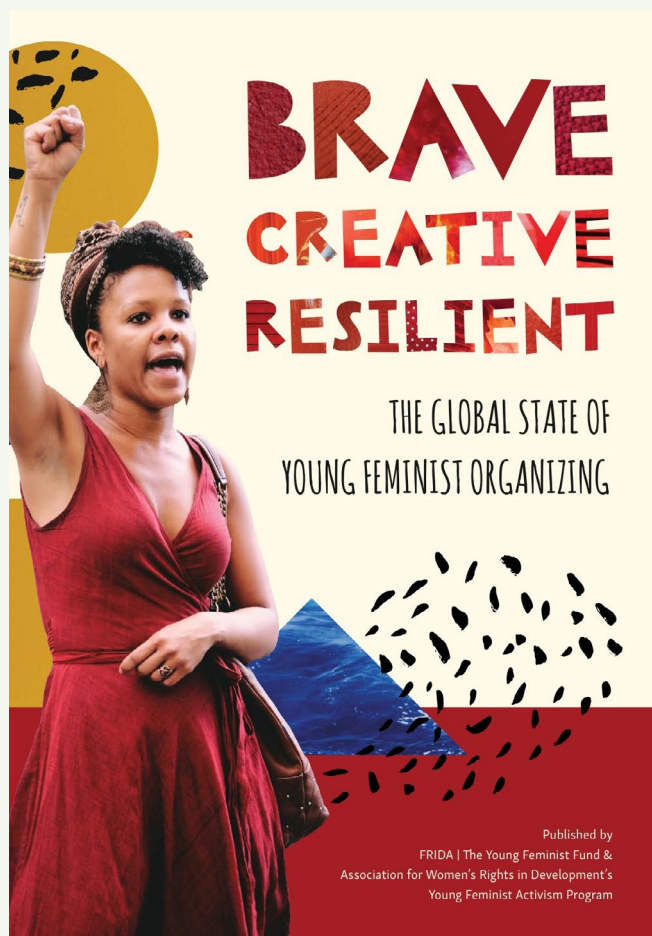
ON CHALLENGING FUNDAMENTALISMS

The Devil is in the Details: At the Nexus of Development, Women's Rights, and Religious Fundamentalisms details how religious fundamentalisms constrain development and women's rights in particular and provides recommendations to development actors to strengthen women's rights.

The Devil is in the Details

At the Nexus of Development, Women's Rights, and Religious Fundamentalisms

awid
women's rights
Association for Women's Rights in Development



ON YOUNG FEMINIST ACTIVISM

Brave, Creative, Resilient: The Global State of Young Feminist Organizing is a young feminist mapping project in collaboration with FRIDA, that draws on data collected from 1360 FRIDA grant applications between 2012-2014 and a global survey, which included 694 respondents from 118 different countries!

Published by
FRIDA | The Young Feminist Fund &
Association for Women's Rights in Development's
Young Feminist Activism Program



Photo credit: Claudia Ferreira

● Collective advocacy

With news that the selected grantees of the Dutch FLOW2 Fund were mostly Northern development INGOs, AWID, in partnership with other feminist and women's rights organisations, engaged in advocacy and dialogue to explore better solutions for women's rights agendas. Continued lobbying and advocacy resulted in the Dutch Minister of Trade and Development Cooperation allocating EUR 5 million per year over five years, through their Embassies' Accountability Fund, to support women's rights groups. In addition, a new EUR 40 million fund was created to support activism devised, implemented and led by women's rights organisations in the global South. Supported by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 'Leading from the South' (LFS) is developed and implemented by three regional and one international women's fund.

On March 3rd 2016 WHRD Berta Cáceres from Honduras - leader of the indigenous organization COPINH, member of the Mesoamerican Initiative of WHRDs and the Honduras National Network of WHRDs - was murdered. Through the Count Me In! Consortium that AWID is part of, we joined in collective advocacy to pressure FMO, the Dutch development bank, to withdraw and divest from the Agua Zarca dam project that Berta was opposing. FMO [announced](#) their formal exit from the project on July 6, 2017.

The collaborative Observatory on the Universality of Rights (OURs) initiative monitors, analyzes, and shares information on anti-rights initiatives threatening international and regional human rights systems. Its web platform is continuously updated with current developments on anti-rights initiatives and is used as a resource by many rights based groups.



● Increased the visibility of movements

The experiences of women with disabilities, Black and Afro-descendant women, sex workers, Indigenous women, trans and intersex people, domestic workers and how their lives are impacted by multiple oppressions and violence were placed front and center of the Forum process.

Access Fund grants supported 500 women's rights, feminist and gender justice activists from 100 countries to attend the Forum as presenters, panelists, or artists.

During the 16 Days of activism, and thanks to the contributions from our members, we launched the 2016 WHRD Tribute to **commemorate defenders** who are no longer with us.

Our partnership with The Guardian and Mama Cash: the **women's rights and gender equality in focus section** of The Guardian's global development portal, has resulted in greater attention to groups and issues that do not usually receive adequate mainstream media coverage. This partnership led to an interview with the daughter of Berta Cáceres, murdered environmentalist and indigenous leader: **Berta Cáceres: 'My mother's is not the first assassination. I don't want another'**; and also led to this article on LGBTQ rights: **How can we tolerate anti-LGBTQ rhetoric at a major human rights forum?**, which was the third most commented on article in 2016, according to The Guardian.



VIDEOS | 7 December 2016

In memory of the Women Human Rights Defenders we have lost



"This memorial is more important than ever, thank you for putting in all the hard work to make it possible."

— Molly Rose Cyr (Front Line Defenders Research and Training Fellow: Africa)



More than one third of our members identify as young feminist activists. We support them through the Young Feminist Wire - with 1856 members. On the Wire we launched the #PracticeSolidarity campaign with a call for blogs and a [tweetathon](#) exploring what solidarity means for young feminists across gender, racial, economic, social and ecological justice movements.

We hosted a number of collaborative webinars reaching hundreds of women's rights and feminist activists spanning over 30 different countries. For example, ["Being our own media: Our young feminist voices in the struggle!"](#) explored how young feminists can elevate their voices online and offline; our [Self Care and Collective Wellbeing](#) webinar discussed the politics and practice of health and healing justice in our lives and movements; and ["Data, Resources and Women's Rights"](#) focused on the role data plays in influencing funding and resource availability for women's rights organizing...

**Join the YFA
webinar**

**Being Our Own Media:
Our Young Feminist Voices
in the struggle!**

**25 August 2016,
10 AM EDT**






Host & speakers:



Speaker:
Gurkirrat Sachdeva,
Youth Ki Awaaz



Host:
Lori Adelman,
Feministing



Speaker:
Kagure Mugo,
HOLAA!



Speaker:
Bandana Danuwar
Radio Udayapur

"It is so easy to focus on what one's own organization is doing that it's useful to have fora for colleagues across the movement to collaborate and share best practices."

— Anonymous feedback from evaluation



OUR MEMBERS

AWID members come from many backgrounds, beliefs, abilities and experiences.

At 31 December 2016 we had **5 387 members** (4 861 Individual and 526 Institutional).

37% of members identify as being **30 years or younger.**

62% of our members are from the global South (outside of Western Europe, Canada and U.S.A)



Since launching our **online members only platform** 2015, members have been able to post news, resources and calls for action. The member directory has been particularly helpful for members to contact one another directly.

Before the Forum, we invited members to [share their excitement](#) and [reasons for wanting to attend](#) the AWID Forum. This created a series of 10 testimonials. Post-Forum, we published [reflections from members](#) in the MENA, Sub-Saharan Africa, North America, and Western Europe.

"I am... thrilled to share my observation about the solidarity shown throughout the AWID Forum and the BFF. The solidarity from feminists during those seven days was one I have never experienced in any feminist gathering I have attended before."

— Mariatou Newlands

"I was told the Forum is overwhelming, nurturing and highly educational. Upon my arrival, I realized I was in a utopian feminist parallel universe... I saw many feminists of diverse backgrounds occupying the space of the Sauipe Resort, smiling, laughing, talking in different languages, engaged in serious conversations, exchanging loving embraces, it was filled with love, solidarity, respect and fun."

— Amal Elmohandes



FINANCIALS



Photo credit: None on Record

CONTRIBUTIONS	USD
Donors	
Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)	2,333,424
Mama Cash (including CMI! funding)	1,192,936
Ford Foundation	925,000
Foundation to Promote Open Society	510,000
Foundation for a Just Society	500,000
Anonymous donors	432,500
Oak Foundation	375,000
Tides Foundation	284,985
NoVo Foundation	100,000
Levi Strauss Foundation	90,000
UN Women	70,000
Global Fund for Women	65,240
Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF)	55,447

Continues...



CONTRIBUTIONS	USD
Donors	
*FRIDA	55,142
Wallace Global Fund	50,000
Action Aid International	43,747
Disability Rights Advocacy Fund (DRAF)	37,500
Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs	27,172
Channel Foundation	25,000
*Coalition of African Lesbians	20,000
Institute of International Education	20,000
Donations	15,200
*Catolicas por el Derecho a Decidir	15,000
Oxfam UK	13,068
*El Fondo Centroamericano de Mujeres (Central American Women's Fund)	12,232
*Asia-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women (ARROW)	10,000
Guardian News Media Foundation	7,200
*Urgent Action Fund	1,800
<i>*Note: contributions from these organizations supported collaborative work, rather than direct funding to AWID programs.</i>	
Other Revenue	
Forum accommodation fees	720,146
Registration fees, exhibition booths, sales & services	426,389
Contributed services (probono legal services)	92,239
Membership	23,395
Interest	143
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	8,549,905



EXPENSES 2016	USD
Advancing Women's Rights in and through Media (AWRM)	254,165
Resourcing Women's Rights (RWR)	745,153
Challenging Religious Fundamentalisms (CF)	498,997
Economic Justice (EJ)	478,361
AWID International Forum	4,334,719
Women's Human Rights Defenders (WHRD)	526,404
Women's Rights Information (WRI)	310,260
Young Feminist Activism (YFA)	333,134
Management, Governance, and General	322,382
Fundraising	120,378
TOTAL EXPENSES	7,923,953
Foreign Exchange (Loss/ -Gain)	159,029
TOTAL EXPENSES WITH FOREIGN EXCHANGE	8,082,982



AWID in 2016: Our Feminist Futures

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 strengthen the voice, impact and influence of women's rights advocates, organizations and movements internationally to effectively advance the rights of women.

AWID is grateful for the generous support provided by the following funders in 2016:

Action Aid International	Mama Cash
Channel Foundation	NoVo Foundation
Disability Rights Advocacy Fund	Oak Foundation
Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Open Society Foundations
Ford Foundation	Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie
Foundation for a Just Society	Oxfam UK
Global Fund for Women	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
Guardian News Media Foundation	Tides Foundation
Institute of International Education	UN Women
Levi Strauss Foundation	Wallace Global Fund

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