



BREAKTHROUGH

COMMITMENTS EVALUATION REPORT 2010

The Women, Faith, and Development Alliance founding partners
InterAction | Center for Interfaith Action on Global Poverty
Women Thrive Worldwide | World Conference of Religions for Peace

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The Women, Faith, and Development Alliance (WFDA)

The idea for the WFDA was born in June 2006 when 30 representatives from interfaith and development organizations gathered at the Washington National Cathedral to begin an inquiry into the unique impact that combining the power of faith, development and women's communities could have on ending global poverty and promoting gender equality. They decided to create a movement bringing together the three diverse communities to work together to catalyze increased political will and bigger investments in women and girls living in poverty worldwide.

Two years later, on April 13, 2008, thousands of activists filled the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C., at an event titled "Breakthrough" to launch the WFDA. They joined former U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright, actress Ashley Judd, former UN Human Rights Commissioner Mary Robinson, former Prime Minister of Canada Kim Campbell, the Reverend Dr. Ishael Noko and Sheik Shaban Mubaje. In addition, leaders from over 300 women's, faith, international development, public policy, and business organizations were also present to launch the global effort and make new investments in women and girls.

WFDA is led by founding partners InterAction, the Center for Interfaith Action on Global Poverty, Women Thrive Worldwide, and Religions for Peace. It has inspired similar alliances in other parts of the world including Liberia and the Asia Pacific region, and has brought its unique combined voice and new resources to the global movement dedicated to ending poverty for women and girls worldwide.

The WFDA Commitments and This Report

In 2007, leading up to the Breakthrough Summit, the WFDA put out a Call for Commitments to faith communities, multilateral organizations, foundations, and development and women's NGOs, asking them to commit to new programming, and/or advocacy to advance women and girls worldwide. The 73 combined commitments from more than 90 WFDA partners totaled over U.S. \$1.4 billion and represented the richness and diversity of the WFDA. The commitments pledged to draw on new resources, employ creative approaches and partnerships, and to have achievable and sustainable results. These Breakthrough Commitments not only represented the dedication of the WFDA partners, but also the amazing potential and weight of this landmark Alliance.

This report tracks the progress of the U.S. \$1.4 billion in multi-year commitments made at the Breakthrough Summit. It evaluates and showcases the global footprint of the WFDA commitments and the tremendous impact that WFDA partners have had throughout the world, all in less than two years.

"Women and girls around the world face great challenges. They bear an unjust burden and this must change for the benefit of all humanity. We must act with common purpose and speak with one voice to change global policies and global wills so that gender justice and an end to poverty can be achieved."

***– Archbishop Desmond Tutu,
Breakthrough Summit Co-Chair***



Methodology

The over 90 organizations that made commitments at the Breakthrough Summit were evaluated on the progress they made for this follow-up report through the use of a unique online evaluation tool called *Making the Case*^{*}, which was created to evaluate social change. The tool measures structural and cultural change on both macro and micro levels, using indicators to evaluate both the long-term and short-term approaches taken by organizations to effect the change they seek.

For their Breakthrough Commitments, organizations submitted quantitative data on the numbers of women they impacted, the amount of resources they committed to their work, the region of the world where impact was achieved and the sector to which their work applied. They also reported the top Accelerators, or factors which moved their work forward, and Inhibitors, which held them back. The data was then aggregated for this report, to show the total impact that the Breakthrough Commitments have had.

Committers were also able to measure the qualitative change their work brought about. The online evaluation tool allowed them to define what kind of “shift” they had effected through their work: a **shift in definition** indicating a redefinition of the issue in a community; a **shift in behavior** in a community, a **shift in engagement** showing a community is more engaged, a **shift in institutional or legislative policy** or **maintaining past gains** in the face of adversity. Organizations also submitted stories and pictures to showcase their impact. This report thus provides a full picture of the tremendous ripple effect that the WFDA Commitments are having around the world.

“We have such a huge amount in common and [we must] tackle poverty by focusing on empowering women and girls. We are up against the clock of failure to meet the MDGs...So let’s resolve that this Breakthrough Summit lives up to its name, and that we live up to our commitments.”

**–Her Excellency Mary Robinson,
Breakthrough Summit Co-Chair**

^{*}*Making the Case* has been developed by the Women’s Funding Network to help empirically evaluate social change. For more information visit www.makingthecaseglobal.org

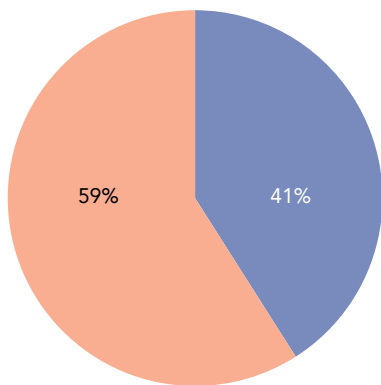


Key Findings

More than U.S. \$1.4 billion worth of new projects and programs addressing the needs of women and girls were committed to at the Breakthrough Summit in 2008. In two short years, WFDA partners have already allocated more than 40 percent of their committed dollars. Most Breakthrough Commitments were to multi-year projects.

Total Dollars Committed at Breakthrough: U.S. \$1.4 billion

Total Dollars Allocated Since Breakthrough: U.S. \$568,865,000



Breakthrough Committers aimed to impact 1.6 billion women by 2013. To date, the Commitments have reached nearly a third of the women they aimed to impact.

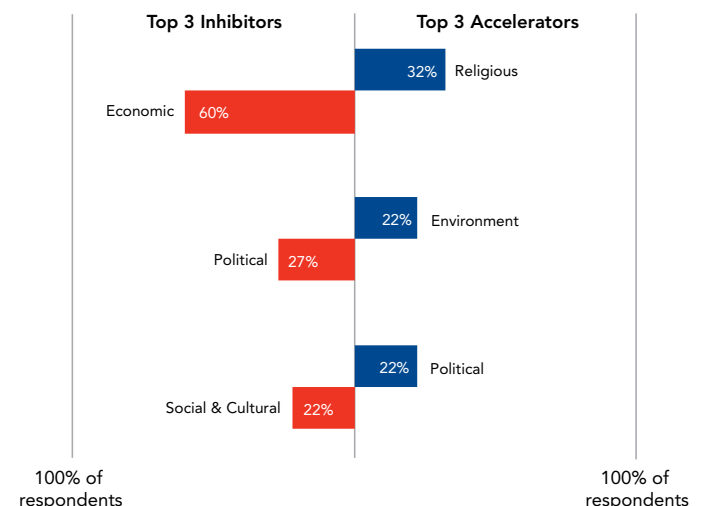
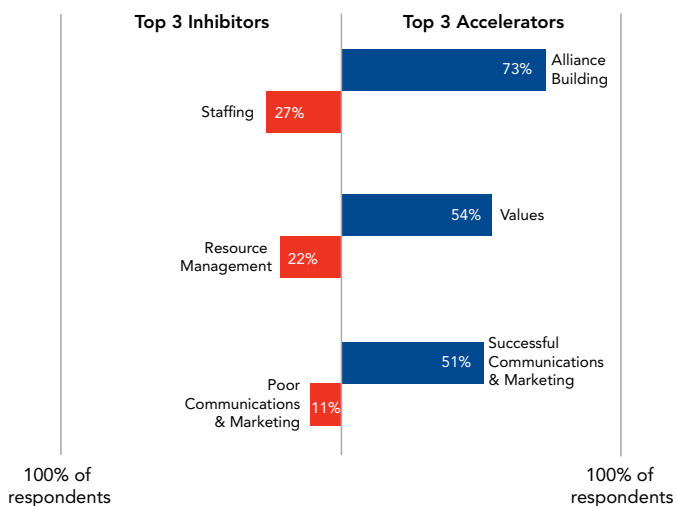


Internal Factors

Of those who responded, most felt that alliance-building, values and successful communications and marketing strategies accelerated their work. They also felt that staffing, resource management and poor communications and marketing strategies inhibited their work.

External Factors

Of those who responded, most felt religious, environmental, and political factors accelerated their work. They also felt that economic, political and social and cultural factors inhibited their work.



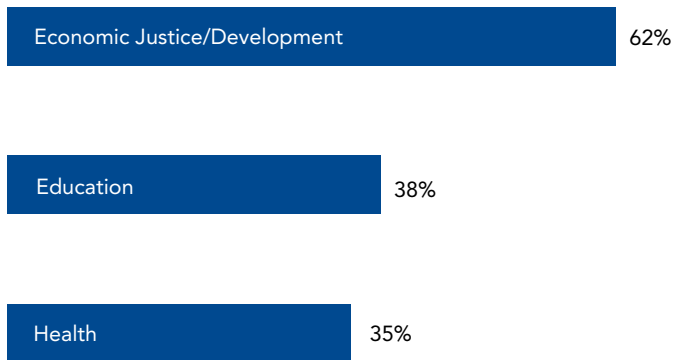
*Committees rated multiple factors as either accelerators or inhibitors. Percentages will not add up to 100.

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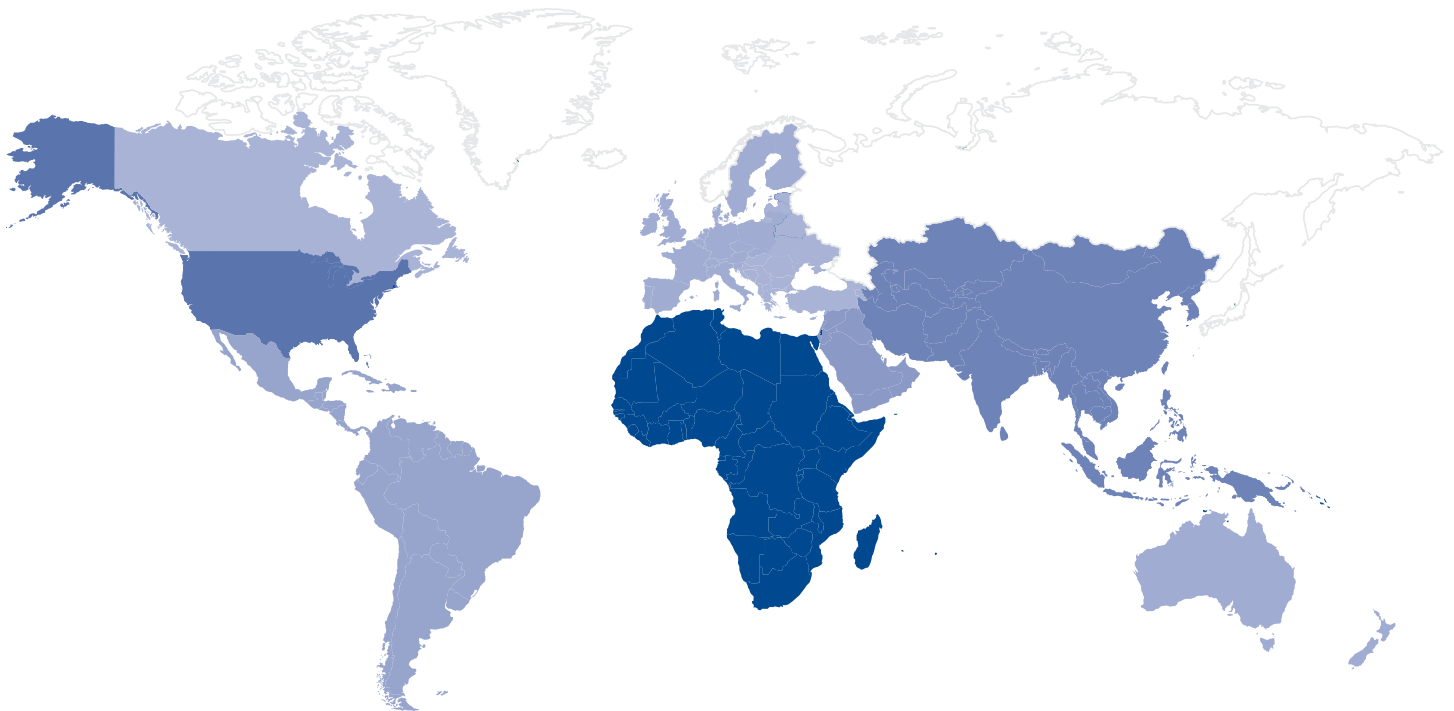
Commitments by Sector

The Commitments made at Breakthrough impacted more than 15 sectors. Most respondents indicated that their projects addressed economic justice and development, education, and/or health.



Commitments by Region

Breakthrough Commitments have been implemented all over the world. The greatest number of projects have taken place in Africa, followed by: the U.S., Asia, the Middle East, the Pacific Islands, Latin America, Western Europe, New Zealand, Australia, Canada, Eastern Europe and the Caribbean/West Indies.





Commitment Highlights

The following commitments are representative of the projects that have been implemented by the diverse communities that comprise the WFDA. They are also representative of the types of shifts in engagement, behavior and policy the Breakthrough Commitments have achieved.

Adventist Relief & Development Agency (ADRA)

ADRA's education and global advocacy programs highlight how one WFDA member is working to shift engagement of marginalized women and to raise public awareness.

Since making their Breakthrough Commitment, ADRA International has funded and initiated education and literacy programs that have impacted the lives of more than 55,000 people. The goal of these programs is not only to teach women and girls how to read and write, but also to empower them to use these skills to address a host of issues ranging from health and nutrition, to agriculture, governance, property ownership and gender-based violence.

Rupa Thapa lives in a village in southwestern Nepal, near the border with India. Recently, she completed ADRA's literacy project covering topics around health and women's rights. As with all graduates, upon Rupa's completion of the program, she received an animal to help her earn an income. Since graduating and receiving her goat, Rupa's situation has improved dramatically. She says, "Before, I would use my fingerprint to sign. But then I learned to write. I also learned about hygiene, cleaning the house, preparing nutritious food, and how to look after the goat that I received from ADRA. I didn't have any experience caring for goats. I'm happy because the goat is expecting a baby goat, which I'll provide to other women in the project."



"I'm willing to continue these activities in the group and obtain more training because it will continue to change my life," shares Thapa.

In addition to its direct service programs, ADRA has also made a commitment to increasing public awareness about gender-based violence. Recently, ADRA developed and launched *enditnow™*, a global anti-violence campaign that aims to reach more than 16 million people in over 200 countries.

"Although women are often the most vulnerable in a society, as mothers and primary caregivers, their empowerment is essential both for their own well-being and the well-being of their children," said Charles Sandefur, president of ADRA International. *"Empowerment is the key to reducing physical, sexual, and psychological abuse and is not only the right thing to do, but an absolute necessity in reaching our development goals."*

There is little question that a shift has occurred and that ADRA International is beginning to place a much greater emphasis on women and gender in development.

The International Rescue Committee (IRC)

In Burundi, the IRC is helping to dramatically shift how remote villagers save and borrow money.

In Burundi, more than 200,000 people were killed, and one million people displaced during the 16-year long conflict that only officially ended this year. Celine Mpitabakana and her family, displaced during the conflict, faced the prospect of starting their lives over with little more than what they had brought back with them from exile. Then Céline heard about a unique project sponsored by the IRC: a local village savings and loan association designed to offer low interest loans to members of the community. Each week members of the association gather together and agree to set aside small sums of money which are then used to make loans to members. The low percentage interest payments help the group build capital in the form of shares that are paid out after one year.

Céline initially joined her local association hoping to earn enough money to support her children. She came away with much more.

She used her "share-out" from the fund to buy the small patch of land she and her husband had always dreamed about. With the money left over she opened a small store where she sells bananas, flour and fish.



At the same time, Céline and her husband took part in discussions sponsored by the association that encouraged the couple to share more equally in household decisions and work.

"My husband started asking me more questions and now he listens to what I have to say," Céline said. "Before he just did what he liked and wasted money on beer, which made him fight with me. Now, we make decisions together."

Tamah Murfet, who manages the IRC's program in Burundi, said that not only did the associations support women's economic empowerment they also played a crucial role in encouraging women to take a bigger role in decision making.

The associations also create a strong sense of community. Members meet in each other's homes, check in when someone misses a meeting, and contribute to an emergency fund in case someone needs extra help.

For Céline, being part of an association helped ease the feelings of alienation and hopelessness she felt when she first returned home. *"Now all our children are in school and our souls are calm."*

The IRC believes that every program has the potential to transform gender relations and create opportunities for women and girls. That's why IRC has aimed to fulfill its Breakthrough Commitment to engender global programs by looking across sectors to find new and innovative ways to reduce women's and girls' vulnerability to violence and promote their empowerment. One way IRC has done this, is with its work in Burundi. What began as a simple village savings and loans association (VSLA) program to help women economically, became a powerful tool for reducing violence against women in the home.

MADRE

By bringing clean, potable water to indigenous Maasai peoples, MADRE is helping young girls to spend more time in school.

MADRE's Breakthrough Commitment to make potable water available to indigenous Maasai families living in the Emayia community in Kenya directly affected the lives of more than 1,500 women and girls, and indirectly affected more than 4,500 others. Water collection is often a task left to a community's women and girls, and decreasing this burden allowed girls living in Emayia to take part in income-generating, educational, and other productive activities.

Helen, a 12-year-old indigenous Maasai girl living in the Emayian community, describes her experience before and after the water project took place.

"Before the water system came, I was late to school every morning because I had to go to the water hole to collect water for my family. I was very embarrassed to arrive late and miss the morning lessons. But it was my duty to collect the water and even when I tried to arrive earlier in the morning to collect water, there were already others there waiting."

"Many girls from school were there. We all stood in a long line with women from our village waiting for our turn to take water before the cows were brought for their morning drink. If we got there late, we would miss our chance or have to pull dirty water to bring home. One time a



friend tried this and she and her younger brothers got very sick. She told me she had very strong pains in her stomach and could not take any food for many days. Her youngest brother, who was very small, became very ill and had to be taken to a clinic."

"No one in my family got sick, but my teacher got angry that I arrived late each morning. He thought I did not take my lessons seriously. Finally, he talked to my father and said if I could not arrive at school on time I should just stay home. My father agreed with him, saying I did not need schooling anyway. I was scared that I would have to give up school."

"Luckily, before this happened, the women's group in my village decided to make it so we could collect water at any time. Men and women worked to make a special place for the cows to take their water and used pipes to bring water to a place where I can take it from a tap. Now I no longer miss morning lessons because I can collect water for my family after school. And now we don't have to wait in long lines because each family sends a girl at a different time. This means we have more time to study—and play."

Beyond increasing access to clean water, MADRE's project also succeeded in building and strengthening local capacity by providing trainings in the administration of water systems and the management of natural resources.



United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

Work being done by UNFPA has had a global impact on women and girls.

UNFPA's commitment to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and the MDGs, integrates the importance of multi-sectoral partnerships. UNFPA's strategic areas of work are maternal health, gender equality and population and development. In October 2008, UNFPA launched the Global Interfaith Network for Population and Development, with over 400 international, regional and national faith-based service delivery organizations. The Forum drew participants from four earlier regional forums in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, the Arab States and Latin America and the Caribbean. As noted by UNFPA Executive Director, Thoraya Ahmed Obaid, discussions at the Global Forum revealed overlaps in the language used by UNFPA and faith-based representatives as participants from both backgrounds continually referred to the "right to human dignity, showing a greater understanding of each other's worldviews". In August 2009, UNFPA convened leaders and decision makers from over 40 international faith-based organizations to participate in the Policy Roundtable in New York where two key priority areas (maternal health and violence against women) were identified for partnership and mutual accountability until 2015. The Policy Roundtable was followed by the second Inter-Agency Task Force Meeting on FBO Engagement.

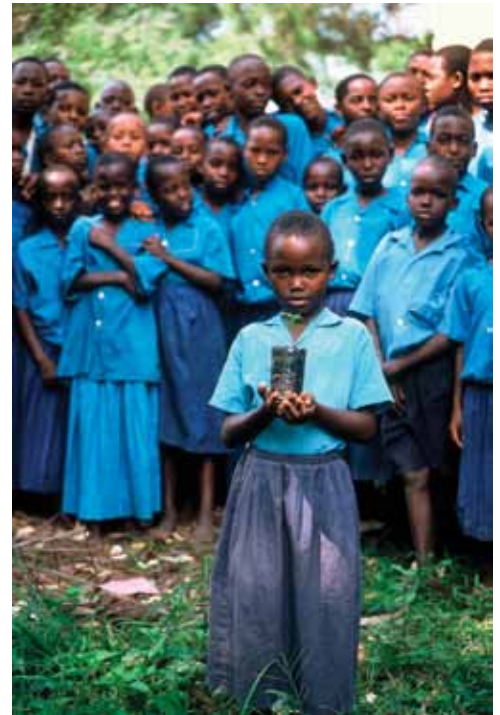
UNFPA actively supports several UN Inter-Agency initiatives, as well as civil society organizations (including youth, women's rights), parliamentary networks, as part of its dedicated work with governments around the world. All to ensure that every birth is safe, every pregnancy is wanted, every person is free of HIV/AIDS and that everyone counts. UNFPA's work on maternal health includes initiatives to eliminate FGM/C in 17 countries.

The past year and a half has also witnessed important UNFPA action in reducing female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C), and in improving maternal health. The UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme Towards Accelerated Abandonment of Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting was implemented in twelve countries during 2008 and 2009 – Egypt, Sudan, Djibouti, Kenya, Ethiopia, Senegal, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Burkina Faso, Gambia, Somalia and Uganda– and plans to implement in four additional country with an aim to see a 40 percent reduction of FGM/C in girls 0-15 years by 2012.

The Maternal Health Thematic Fund is a key UNFPA contribution to the work on maternal and newborn health is estimated to be over \$500,000.

UNFPA's Campaign to End Fistula represents yet another way that UNFPA is working to improve maternal health globally. The Campaign works to address the comprehensive needs of women living with fistula, which was eliminated in the West more than a century ago but continues to plague at least two million women in Africa, Asia and the Arab region. According to one woman, a 32-year old Kenyan named Kidangasi, "the experience [of fistula] has been full of humiliation, pain, self pity, rejection and loneliness. I have often thought of committing suicide." But with the help of the UNFPA's Campaign to End Fistula, Kidangasi received fistula repair surgery and is now working to help other women with the condition. To date, UNFPA's Campaign to End Fistula has shown great promise. Over 4,000 women have received fistula treatment, and UNFPA has strengthened the capacity to manage and treat fistula in 109 health facilities in 21 countries by training more than 2,000 healthcare personnel.

UNFPA continues to stay committed to, not only addressing the needs of women and girls, but collaboration between and among communities, by its support of WFDA itself. Since the Breakthrough Summit, UNFPA has funded this vital work in many ways, including its generous support of more than \$250,000.



In 2009, the State of World Population - the centerpiece of UNFPA's worldwide media communications and advocacy efforts during the year - focused on gender and climate change.



Commitment Updates

Adventist Development and Relief Agency – International

Opening Opportunities for Women Through Literacy

ADRA International funded and initiated education and literacy programs that impacted the lives of more than 55,000 individuals. ADRA's programs aimed not only to teach women and girls how to read and write, but also empowered them to use those skills to improve their knowledge regarding a host of issues, such as disease prevention, nutrition, maternal-child health, gender-based violence, civic responsibilities, property ownership, agriculture, and business entrepreneurship. ADRA also developed a global advocacy campaign called enditnow(tm) to reach more than 16 million people in 200 countries on the issue of gender-based violence. Placing much greater emphasis on women and gender in development, ADRA is working toward mainstreaming gender into its programs and professional development activities.

American Islamic Congress (AIC)

A Modern Narrative for Muslim Women

The American Islamic Congress launched a project that seeks to carve out a modern narrative for women in five countries in the Middle East: Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Morocco and Saudi Arabia. The project aims to establish a network of women who will promote a positive view of women's roles in the Middle East. An FGM survivor herself, one project participant has led a decade long campaign against the practice. She launched "Female Students Against FGM" alongside her contemporaries at university. This program reached out to urban-poor mothers, educating them on the health risks associated with FGM, with the ultimate goal of persuading them not to perform the act on their daughters. The campaign saved many young girls from being circumcised. In addition, she has represented the project through speaking engagements at the United States Embassy in Cairo, at local NGOs and universities and during numerous domestic, regional and international media interviews. Ultimately, the project will develop a "best practices" guide for the empowerment of women focusing on five spheres of study: economic, legal, political, religious and social, as well as recommendations to policymakers on how to aid women in the region.

Amnesty International USA (AIUSA)

Amnesty International USA Launches a Maternal Mortality in the US Report

Since the Breakthrough Summit, Amnesty International USA (AIUSA) has been working on a report outlining the state of maternal health in the United States. The results of this nationwide study and report will be released in March 2010. The report reveals a maternal health care system in shambles and in desperate need of reform. AIUSA found that most maternal deaths in the United States could have been prevented by high-quality, accessible, affordable and timely medical care. As a result of the report, AIUSA is launching a nationwide campaign and mobilizing its grassroots activists to end maternal mortality in the United States. AIUSA's efforts will focus not only

on Congress and the Administration, but also on selected states. AIUSA's work on maternal mortality is a natural continuation of its global campaign to stop violence against women. Coupled with AIUSA's efforts to pass the International Violence Against Women Act in 2010, work on maternal health will advance efforts to comprehensively address women's human rights within the United States and abroad.

Anglican Women's Empowerment

Increasing Financing for Women's Projects

AWE developed a Gender Financing & Budget Toolkit to facilitate gender budgeting in the Anglican Communion with 75 million members worldwide as response to the UN's call for a shift toward gender budgeting. It has been translated into Spanish and French with Chinese and Arabic translations underway. Currently, AWE is developing a website where the toolkit can be freely downloaded and a network of women supporting each other's efforts at implementing Gender Budgeting can be housed. AWE is committed to the disseminating the knowledge of gender budgeting to make sure women's voices are being heard and their needs met.

BeadforLife

Income Opportunities for Ugandan Women

BeadforLife enrolled two new groups of impoverished women into its innovative 18 month program. The women learned to roll paper beads and were able to increase their income six times over. They have also received entrepreneurial training, and are in the process of opening small businesses in the local economy that will sustain them when they graduate from the program. The beads they make are sold in North America, allowing the program to reach over 100,000 people last year with information about extreme poverty and how citizens can fight it.

Market Development Initiative

In 2008, BeadforLife launched the Market Linkage project in Northern Uganda, working with 1,600 women who had been displaced to IDP camps by a 20 year conflict. In 2009, BeadforLife was able to purchase shea nuts collected by the women, increasing their incomes by 20 percent. The new economic value for the shea trees also resulted in government and citizen efforts to decrease the number of trees cut to make charcoal.

Bonobo Conservation Initiative (BCI)

Establishing Community-Based Nature Preserves

With support from the Kokolopori-Falls Church in Virginia, Sister City Partnership and the Indigo Foundation of Australia, BCI established the first health clinic at Kokolopori. In the past 18 months, the clinic has performed 150 surgeries. Resident physician, Dr. Pondolo Saidi says, "We are saving lives...we've treated patients for appendixes, caesarian sections, hernias, ovarian cysts, tumors, and prostates."



Bread for the World

Addressing Women's Needs Through Development Assistance

In their 2009 Hunger Report, "Global Development: Charting A New Course," Bread for the World featured an article on women and food security from the International Center for Research on Women as a centerpiece of the report. The Hunger Report has been distributed in print and online to over 14,000 individuals including the 37 organizational co-sponsors of the report. Through the efforts of the development advocacy community and the report, many legislative initiatives to improve aid effectiveness have recognized the important role that women in developing countries play in reducing poverty, improving food security, and promoting economic growth.

CARE

Mobilizing Resources to Decrease Maternal Mortality

In Peru, the Foundations to Enhance Management of Maternal Emergencies (FEMME) project, implemented by CARE and Columbia University's Averting Maternal Death and Disability Program, in partnership with the Ministry of Health, has contributed to a significant increase in the use of health services and improved the survival rates of women in the Ayacucho region of Peru. A final evaluation found that FEMME helped to reduce maternal mortality by 50 percent in the remote Ayacucho region, twice that in Puno, a comparison region. Before the program began, only one-third of women who needed obstetric services actually accessed them. CARE and its partners set about removing blocks in the emergency referral system, focusing on providing bilingual staff, a friendly environment and culturally appropriate care. Emergency obstetric protocols were developed and now 75 percent of women who need obstetric services can access them. The Peruvian Ministry of Health has established new national clinical guidelines for obstetric emergencies based on those developed in the FEMME project. In addition, CARE has worked with the Peruvian Ministry of Health to develop detailed guidelines on how to implement and cost each of the core FEMME strategies. CARE is now working with the Peruvian authorities on their nationwide implementation.

Catholic Relief Services

Building Expertise on Gender-Based Violence

CRS has fulfilled its commitment to fund a new staff position to strengthen the agency's capacity to understand, respond to and prevent gender-based violence. Since the Breakthrough Summit, CRS has hired a new Program Manager for Sexual and Gender-based violence. Since joining CRS, she has worked to increase the capacity of CRS staff and local partners throughout its overseas programs. Key accomplishments include trainings and technical assistance in Burundi, Dominican Republic, Pakistan, Eastern Congo and Zambia among many others. The gbv specialist was instrumental in developing a strategy to address gender violence in the DR Congo and has helped to greatly increase CRS' capacity to address gender violence there. Overall, this position provided assistance in program strategy development, proposal writing, and proposal review on at least 21 new project proposals last year which represent \$1.25 million in new public and private funding dedicated to addressing SGBV. Along with the US Catholic Conference of Bishops

and the Catholic Confront Global Poverty Initiative, CRS has worked to raise awareness and educate thousands of Americans about gender-based violence and the links between violence against women, mining and ongoing conflict in the DRC.

Pushing for PEPFAR Reauthorization

In addition to its work on gender-based violence, CRS has also worked extensively to advance the PEPFAR legislation and is now supporting funding for PEPFAR commitments through the appropriations process. As a part of this process, CRS developed a range of media and education materials in order to educate its constituents throughout the U.S. about PEPFAR and its successes.

Centre for Development and Population Activities (CEDPA)

Empowering Women to Lead the Global Response to AIDS

CEDPA is empowering women to lead the global response to HIV/AIDS through the *Advancing Women's Leadership and Advocacy for HIV/AIDS Action* initiative. This effort equips and empowers cadres of women from around the world by enhancing their confidence and self-efficacy, strengthening their program management skills, providing them with coaching to support the application of new learning beyond the workshop setting, expanding their professional networks, and providing opportunities for their participation in global and regional events to raise awareness and advocate for issues affecting women and HIV/AIDS. *Advancing Women's Leadership* includes global, regional and national level training for women living with and affected by HIV to hone their management and advocacy skills, exchange lessons learned, and provide cutting-edge technical and program information for more effective HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, care and support.

Center for Health and Gender Equity (CHANGE)

Increase U.S. Commitment to Comprehensive Reproductive Health

Based on research in three countries and extensive literature review, CHANGE published and distributed a major report that presents a strong case for U.S. policy to support comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights. The report has reached over 7,000 people through hard copy and electronic distribution. Opinion leaders and decision makers showed particular interest in the comprehensive framework and report, as well as in the testimony of CHANGE's Reproductive Justice Ambassadors. During the Ambassadors Tour, CHANGE brought the report and the Ambassadors to senior officials in the White House, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Office of the Global AIDS Coordinator (OGAC). In a tangible example of how important it is to bring evidence from the field, CHANGE's report and Reproductive Justice Ambassador's Tour led directly and swiftly to a U.S. grantee eliminating a rights-violating provision in their peer mother contract. Also, CHANGE reached over 160 people in speaking events directly related to this project, and hundreds more with the messages developed in the project. CHANGE provided interactive, in depth training to 40 advocates in advocacy techniques and the connections between local and global sexual and reproductive health issues.



Church Women United (CWU)

Ratifying the UN's Convention on the Rights of the Child

Church Women United (CWU) has fulfilled its commitment to working on U.S. ratification of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) in a variety of ways. To date, members have gathered and sent more than 6,800 petition signatures to the President urging ratification of the CRC. As part of the 2008 National Action Project Building a World Fit for Children, CWU received more than 270 pieces of art produced by children and their families from 17 different states. Of the best, 39 were mounted and displayed at the Methodist Building on Capitol Hill in Washington DC, for 5 weeks and the display was featured at a Symposium entitled: "The CRC: why it is time to ratify."

Episcopal Diocese of Washington (EDOW)

EDOW Brings Beijing Circles to 90 Parishes

The Episcopal Diocese of Washington (EDOW), formed in early 2008, has worked through the Diocesan Millennium Development Goals (MDG) Committee to facilitate the formation of Beijing Circles. The Beijing Circles are a parish-based tool to discuss, promote, and take action on gender equality. To date, EDOW Committee members have made presentations throughout the Diocese and have used a variety of means and media to introduce and discuss several options for parishes to support the MDGs. The Committee is very pleased and blessed to support and advocate on behalf of the ministries that are addressing more than one MDG (approximately 25 percent of the Diocese). In the future, the Committee will continue its involvement with efforts focused on women and girls, and will reach out to other Diocesan committees in reaching shared goals.

Episcopal Relief & Development

Supporting Women's Empowerment Strategies in all ERD Programs

In addition to their work of empowering women, Episcopal Relief & Development established the Women's Empowerment Program with the goal of impacting 1.6 million women and girls throughout 40 countries in 2008. Specific areas of focus included: (A) Promote Health and Fight Disease; (B) Alleviate Hunger and Improve the Food Supply; (C) Create Economic Opportunities and Strengthen Communities; (D) Strengthen Partnerships; and (E) Respond to Disasters and Rebuild Communities. At the end of the year, Episcopal Relief & Development and its partners reached approximately 2.4 million women and girls, which was 150% of the original goal.

Equality Now

Supporting Grassroots Efforts to End Female Genital Mutilation

In the last year, Equality Now launched screenings and distribution of its documentary film: *Africa Rising: the grassroots movement to end female genital mutilation*, by Paula Heredia. The movie tells the stories of brave activists from the Horn of Africa to the Western shores of the sub-Saharan nations, who are leading the path against all odds to break the silence about FGM, a 5,000 year old

tradition. *Africa Rising* is a film that presents an insightful look at the frontlines of a quiet revolution taking the African continent by storm and paints an intimate portrait of courageous individuals with dignity and strength, whose passion for justice is changing the course of history. It was shot in Burkina Faso, Kenya, Mali, Somalia, and Tanzania.

FAIR Fund

Empowering Survivors of Trafficking and Exploitation with Economic Opportunities

FAIR Fund empowered 200 young women through its JewelGirls program in 2008-2009. Of the 200 young women served, 80 percent have stable housing and 70 percent of those who are of age to work now have employment. Many of the young women, who are predominately adolescents, joined FAIR Fund's JewelGirls program during a time of crisis in their lives. Due to extreme homelessness and human trafficking, these young women frequently did not have stable housing, jobs, access to education, or supportive social networks. FAIR Fund's goal is to offer each young woman the tools and knowledge she needs to empower herself against future trafficking and violence.

Family Care International (Maternal Health Cluster)

Ensuring Safe Pregnancy and Childbirth

Committed to prioritizing the three pillars of maternal health, Family Care International has impacted over 3,000 individuals through their initiatives to promote quality maternal health care. These include training service providers, evaluating the quality and availability of maternal health care, and promoting increased maternal services. FCI also published research that highlighted the life-saving potential of the three pillars. Finally, FCI is featuring and promoting increased investment in the three pillars during the 2010 Women's Deliver global conference. FCI has helped to reduce maternal mortality by casting the three pillars as significant priority areas.

FLOW

Opening Pathways for Women Entrepreneurs to Flourish

FLOW plans to impact and empower women entrepreneurs in Africa, the Middle East, Asia, Latin America, and the U.S. through the Accelerating Women Entrepreneurs (AWE) program's Social Enterprise and Social Media Fund. The AWE program plans on linking empowerment training with social enterprise development training. Although the results are too early to see, FLOW projects reaching over 500,000 women in their mid-term strategic plan.

Heifer International

Increasing Visibility of Women Farmers

Since making it Breakthrough Commitment, Heifer has scaled up its grassroots and advocacy work to influence policy and decision makers. Heifer facilitated the participation of women farmers in international and national policy and decision making processes, includ-



ing: the United Nations Commission for Sustainable Development (UNCSD), World Food Security Summit and Global Governance of Food Security, and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). In collaboration with others, Heifer facilitated the creation of the Network of Women Ministers and Leaders of agriculture to ensure women farmers' voices inform policy and decision making processes on global, regional and national levels. Heifer also worked to bring together women farmers and women leaders of agriculture to contribute to policy decisions and strategies around global agriculture and food security issues. This effort of influencing policy change will benefit not only close to one million women, who are currently directly involved, but also many more millions of individuals and families Heifer works with around the world.

Institute for Inclusive Security

Female Leadership in Post-Conflict countries

The Institute for Inclusive Security published three long papers and eight policy briefs documenting their research on women's post-conflict leadership in Rwanda. To disseminate the research, the Institute collaborated with over 10 organizations to hold a series of events and discussions, thus increasing the general awareness of this research in Washington, D.C. and New York City. As a result, the Institute has discovered a community of people interested in their research and has forged new connections that can translate into opportunities for further dissemination.

InterAction

Putting Women and Girls at the Heart of U.S. Overseas Assistance

InterAction has been working successfully to integrate gender equality into its expanded advocacy for poverty-focused U.S. development assistance. InterAction, in collaboration with its 172 members, has successfully planned for providing input and consultations with the U.S. government on foreign aid reform. In November 2008, InterAction produced a *Foreign Assistance Briefing Book* that presents the NGO community's best thinking on foreign assistance issues that President Obama's Administration and the 111th Congress might face in the first six months. This briefing book identifies key areas and sectors in need of immediate attention and lays out suggested actions. One of the key chapters included in the Briefing Book is the inclusion of gender in development and humanitarian relief policies. This chapter includes a succinct one-pager that describes the key issues related to gender and an additional longer, in-depth background paper. In addition to this, InterAction has set up five working groups co-chaired by members of InterAction's Task Force on Foreign Aid Reform (TFFAR) that mirror the QDDR U.S. government working groups. InterAction's Gendering of Foreign Assistance Reform Working Group has been playing a pivotal role in ensuring that gender is included in both the QDDR and Presidential Study Directive.

The International Center for Research on Women (ICRW)

Putting Women and Girls at the Center of the Global AIDS Response

As a leader in gender and HIV research, ICRW uses its expertise to educate policy makers and NGOs in the fight against HIV/AIDS. ICRW's research findings have been shared with over 500 individuals and 20 organizations, and the resulting improvements to HIV/AIDS relief policy and programming will impact millions. A prominent example is the reauthorization of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), during which ICRW met with policy makers to emphasize gender integration as the smartest and most cost effective way to improve the prevention, care and treatment of people living with HIV and AIDS. PEPFAR was reauthorized with improvements that strengthened the U.S. global AIDS program's priority to women and girls.

International Rescue Committee (IRC)

Engendering its Global Programs

Through its commitment, the IRC aimed to engender its global programs to ensure that women and girls remain a priority across all areas of the organization's work. Toward this end, in 2009 the IRC approved a new gender policy which provides guidance on how to strengthen gender equality through all aspects of its operations and programs. This policy highlights the importance of understanding the different experiences of women and men in order to guide program design, implementation and evaluation. The IRC is one of the only humanitarian organizations to have an entire technical unit dedicated to addressing GBV and, currently, 60 percent of IRC's beneficiaries are women and girls.

Inter-Religious Commitment

World Religious Leaders Pledge Action to Reach MDGs & End Gender Based Violence

More than 30 partners from all faiths and regions—made this groundbreaking inter-religious commitment to ensure that girls and women's suffering through poverty is reduced if not eradicated; that male religious leaders in the faith community must become part of this endeavor; and that both men and women should strive to make education accessible to all girls equally as a way of opening windows of opportunities. To this end, faith communities from all regions have been working together to prevent and eliminate violence against women and girls.

The National Council of Churches has been advocating for the dignity and rights of women around the world through distributing educational pamphlets on sexual violence and by leading "Fistula Stories" – an initiative that helps increase awareness in the US about the incidence of fistula and maternal health in the developing world. The Women of Reform Judaism have also been leading interfaith efforts advocating the MDGs to reduce extreme poverty worldwide, funding international agencies fighting HIV/AIDS and ending the genocide in Darfur. Islamic Relief USA prevents violence against women and empowers women and girls around the world by providing them with the medical, educational, and social tools they need to lead and empower their communities. Islamic Relief



USA provided health services in Sudan to over 13,000 women and girls fleeing the ongoing conflict in the country. Internally displaced women gained access to health personnel, essential medications, and various services that catered to their critical needs. Through the *Restoring Dignity* initiative coordinated by Religions for Peace, religious communities and over 1,000 people of different faiths around the world have mobilized to join the Interfaith Pledge to End Violence Against Women, signed the Letter to the United Nations Secretary-General to engage religious communities in ending violence against women, and have participated in other interfaith prayers and services to promote peace and end violence against women and girls. When the inter-religious commitment was made, poverty was thought to be an issue relating only to women in many faith constituencies. A change in this has begun; and women are more involved in consultation at both the home and the community levels. Much work remains, so the faith community will continue to raise its diverse voices to advocate for the rights and dignity of all in the human family- particularly women and girls.

Islamic Relief USA

Empowering One Million Girls

IR has already impacted the lives of over one million women and girls through their sustainable projects in ten countries and their Ramadan Food Boxes around the world. These projects range from cataract operations to restore eyesight to women in Afghanistan, to building rainwater collection and storage cellars in China, to feeding Palestinian school children living in poor and marginalized areas. IR's efforts to improve the lives of women and girls are making a real difference in their families and communities as the benefits translate into empowerment.

Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)

Improving Health Care for Women and Adolescent Girls

During the 24th Programme Coordinating Board meeting, members moved to operationalize the *UNAIDS Action Framework: Addressing Women, Girls, Gender Equality and HIV* and to that end, Michel Sidibe, the UNAIDS Executive Director, established the Global Task Force on Women, Girls, Gender Equality and HIV. The aim of the Task Force is to significantly improve global action for women and girls within the context of AIDS, toward the achievement of Universal Access to HIV prevention in support of the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. More than 30 governments and organizations are collaborating with the Task Force as it works toward operationalizing the *UNAIDS Action Framework*. The Task Force met once in 2009 and reviewed the synthesized Operational Plan that includes actionable and strategic recommendations which will not only guide the work of the UNAIDS Cosponsors, Secretariat and UNIFEM, but also will inspire partners to accelerate action at national, regional and global levels.

MADRE

Helping Women Gain Access to Clean Water

In 2009, MADRE worked with Kenyan partner organization, the Indigenous Information Network (IIN), to conduct a pilot project to bring clean water to Indigenous Maasai families in the Emayan community in Transmara. By bringing potable water MADRE aimed to increase women and girls' ability to take part in income-generating activities by decreasing the burden of collecting water for families, and to strengthen local capacities by providing trainings in the administration of the water system and the management of natural resources. MADRE constructed a barrier to protect the water source from contact with livestock and developed a watering trough for animals to prevent erosion and environmental deterioration of the area around the clean water sources. Girls in the community are no longer forced to wait in long lines or miss school to collect water and the health concerns associated with contamination by livestock has been eliminated.

Mercy Corps

Helping People Build Secure, Productive and Just Communities

Mercy Corps and the Nike Foundation have completed their partnership in rural China called GLOW (Giving Leadership Opportunities to Young Women). This program addressed the economic empowerment needs of impoverished young women from the Yi minority group. Mercy Corps China is in the process of formulating a framework for expanding collaboration with the Nike Foundation based on the best practices and lessons learned from the GLOW project. These best practices are currently being incorporated to scale up the GLOW project in a broader area of China with young migrant girls. In addition to this Mercy Corps has begun implementing InterAction's participatory Gender Audit. This agency-wide assessment has been constructed to explore gender at every level of the agency from financing and donor relations to programming and technical support, as well as internal policy and external awareness-raising. The goal is to gain a stronger understanding of current programming and capacity regarding gender programming and Mercy Corps' work supporting women and girls. The agency wide assessment incorporates institutionalized learning from the GLOW programming in China as well as other gender programming throughout the agency in order to create a long-term sustainable gender strategy moving forward. Fulfilling this commitment has and continues to directly impact the creativity and sustainability of Mercy Corps' programming with regards to gender justice, empowerment and equity.

Mission Life Center (MLC)

Helping Address the Needs of Women in Sudan

In 2008, Mission Life Center conducted a field visit to Sudan to determine the needs of the community there. Since that visit, and as a result of that work, MLC has partnered with the Coptic Orthodox Church in building a hospital to serve the poor and those who cannot afford basic check ups. To date, MLC has directed \$2,000 to the hospital to address the needs of women in Khartoum and Northern Sudan and the church is providing services at minimum cost or free for those who cannot afford them. This project will help thousands of women and will have a ripple affect across many communities.



Mobility International USA

Ending Discrimination Against Disabled Women and Girls

More than 20 representatives from international development agencies attended the four day Gender Disability, and Development Institute (GDDI) event that was a part of MIUSA's Women's Institute on Leadership and Disability (WILD) program. Through GDDI, MIUSA promoted the necessity of including women with disabilities into development programs as advisors, implementers, and beneficiaries. As a result, the development agencies reported growing sensitivity to the needs of the women and girls with disabilities as well as a desire to partner with organizations devoted to working with women with disabilities. Participating women with disabilities also reported new opportunities after the event as the GDDI raised awareness of their presence and needs.

Muslim Women's Coalition (MWC)

Engaging Women; Empowering Humanity

MWC is fostering gender equality by educating women about their rights and providing them with success stories of women within the Muslim Community. They are accomplishing this through the creation of a publication that highlights women of the Muslim faith who are mothers, leaders, activists, and educators in their communities, as well as by engaging women in a series of empowerment workshops and seminars.

National Council of Churches (NCC), Justice for Women Working Group

Women's Full Participation in Leadership

Since the Breakthrough Summit, the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA (NCC) Justice for Women Working Group has monitored women's participation and leadership within the NCC and member communions. NCC has monitored women's participation at decision-making tables encouraging age, racial and economic diversity, and has had an impact on the public leadership at its national assembly. A brochure about prevention of sexual harassment was developed and distributed at the General Assembly, Governing Board, Committee and working group meetings of the NCC in order to safeguard women's full involvement. The NCC directly distributed over 1,000 brochures to NCC meeting participants from November 2008 to November 2009. The brochure has also become a resource for NCC's communions across the USA. The NCC Women's Ministries office and staff have served as a resource to identify women leaders as public advocates in partnership with other WFDA members.

Oikocredit

Empowering Women Through Access to Credit

Oikocredit, as a worldwide cooperative society, promotes global justice by challenging people, churches and others to share their resources through socially responsible investments and by empowering disadvantaged people with credit. Since making its Breakthrough Commitment, Oikocredit USA has raised four million dollars to provide loans to its more than 500 microfinance institutions. Doing so has helped women like Agnes Kang'Ombe, an active busi-

nesswoman who runs a phone business and a grocery store. Since receiving her loan, she has grown her businesses to support her family. Using her telephone, customers can make calls. She charges them a small surcharge on top of the actual cost of the call. In her grocery store, she sells food products and homemade samosas. She also sells her samosas on the street and at the market. Although it is very hard work, she can make a decent living and dreams of one day buying her own kitchen and utensils so she can start a take-away business.

Opportunity International

Protecting Adolescent Girls Through Microfinance

Opportunity International aimed to impact 500,000 adolescent girls and reduce their vulnerability in the event of a disaster or crisis. In doing so, Opportunity International will provide an estimated 100,000 adolescent girls with health care vouchers, cash for hospital stays, and/or the HMO-type health insurance. In addition, more girls will be protected through Child Saving Accounts through Opportunity International's Micro Insurance Agency partnering with the NIKE Foundation and local NGOs. Opportunity International has also partnered with Innovations of Poverty Action to monitor the outreach of the commitments as well as the impact of the programs on adolescent girls.

Banking on Indian Women to Transform Communities

As Opportunity International's implementing partner in the Indian province of Tamil Nadu, Growing Opportunities Finance (GO) is empowering over 53,000 women and their families by providing them the chance to improve their lives through microfinance. Moving forward, GO plans to expand their microfinance and related services to over 250,000 active women clients throughout India by 2012. Opportunity International and GO are committed to empowering women as the key to addressing global inequality.

Pathfinder International

Expanding Access to Family Planning and Clean Water.

At the end of the first year of its three-year, two million dollar community-based project, Pathfinder directly impacted the lives of over 4,200 individuals in northern Uganda. As of July 2009, Pathfinder has trained 187 facility-based health providers and 300 Village Health Team members to provide quality family planning and reproductive health care information and services to local communities. In addition, Pathfinder also improved access to safe drinking water at health facilities to provide better services to their clients. Pathfinder is now working with the Ministry of Health and other stakeholders to strengthen collaboration and information sharing among partners involved in efforts to revitalize family planning services.

People's Advocacy

Involving Egyptian Rural Women in Policy Making

Although People's Advocacy was unable to participate in the Egyptian elections as originally planned, throughout 2009, they allocated \$50,000 towards supporting the political involvement of women in several countries throughout the world. In the Middle East and North Africa, People's Advocacy partnered with Freedom House,



Partners Jordan, and the United Nations Democracy Fund in providing advocacy and civil rights education to female activists and civil society workers in Egypt, Yemen and Lebanon. People's Advocacy also implemented a regional intermediate training for 20 activists from Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Palestine on budget analysis and advocacy. An important part of the program covered concepts and different analytical tools on gender budgeting. People's Advocacy's work in the Middle East and North Africa is exemplary of the organization's continued involvement in promoting the global voice of women in the political sphere.

Population Services International/Youth Aids

Safe Water in the Hands of Women

One of the chief ways of empowering women is to give them tools to protect their families. PSI aimed to place clean and affordable water in the hands of women whose families are affected by the lack of clean water. Integrating local culture into their programs, PSI provided health products and services attractively packaged and marketed for the local context. PSI also employed a variety of ways to communicate their products and services to the community, thereby maximizing the number of people who will benefit from this knowledge.

Religions for Peace

Education on Religion's Role in Ending Gender-Based Violence

Religion for Peace's Restoring Dignity-End Violence Against Women initiative was launched in September 2009 and provides an inter-religious opportunity for people of diverse faiths to coordinate efforts to prevent and eliminate violence against women. Religions for Peace has also developed *Restoring Dignity-A Toolkit for Religious Communities to End Violence Against Women*, which aims to inspire action. The Toolkit affirms the centrality of mobilizing religious infrastructures, assets and resources for action in response to violence against women. Through the Restoring Dignity initiative, religious communities and over 1,000 people of different faiths around the world have mobilized to join the Interfaith Pledge to End Violence Against Women, signed the Letter to the United Nations Secretary-General to engage religious communities in ending violence against women, and have participated in other interfaith prayers and services to promote ending violence against women and girls. Religions for Peace continues to expand and strengthen The Global Women of Faith Network. It launched The Asia and Pacific Women of Faith Network in 2008, and plans to launch the North America Women of Faith Network on March 1-2, 2010. Work to establish a Middle East and North Africa Women of Faith Network is underway. On the occasion of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, the Women of Faith Leadership Summit will bring together women of faith from around the world to inspire new actions for Restoring Dignity and to engage new and existing stakeholders to advocate around shared goals including promoting peace and ending violence against women.

RESULTS

Empowering Women Through Microfinance

RESULTS' efforts have contributed to an increase in funding for USAID's microenterprise and microfinance programs from \$245 million in FY09 to \$264 million in FY10, as well as key appropriations language supporting the goal of ensuring 50 percent of those funds help the very poor with an increased focus on sub-Saharan Africa. RESULTS grassroots gathered the signatures of 93 representatives and 21 senators for a December 2008 bipartisan congressional letter to the World Bank suggesting a set of initiatives that would increase financial access for the poor and marginalized. In conjunction with the Microenterprise Coalition, RESULTS is also working to ensure that foreign aid reform supports increased access to financial services for those most in need.

RESULTS Educational Fund (REF)

Girls Deserve a Seat in the Classroom

Throughout this past year, RESULTS activists have been building support for one of President Obama's campaign promises — a two billion dollar global education fund. The President's pledge represents the biggest opportunity in a decade to ensure that all children have the chance to go to school and learn. Obama's bold campaign pledge will not be achieved without first building awareness and support for a multilateral Global Fund for Education among the public and Congress. To that end, REF has been generating media coverage through grassroots and "grasstops" efforts. Over 30 chapters have generated media about the Global Fund for Education, ranging from editorials to letters-to-the-editor to blogs. Grasstops efforts have included a press conference with Queen Rania of Jordan and a media call with Archbishop Desmond Tutu, both in conjunction with the Global Campaign for Education. RESULTS was also instrumental in bringing together Archbishop Tutu, Muhammad Yunus, and Mary Robinson to author a letter calling on President Obama and other G8 leaders to create a Global Fund for Education by the end of 2009. When all three were chosen to receive the Presidential Medal of Honor in August, more media coverage ensued. By publicly supporting President Obama's call, engaging with members of Congress to build support for basic education, and ensuring that people across the U.S. are advocating for children's right to learn and thrive, RESULTS and REF are working towards a breakthrough.

Sister Fund

Garnering One Billion in Contributions from Women's Funds Worldwide

With the vision of fundraising at the one million dollar level or above, the Women Moving Millions campaign has moved over 101 women and men to commit to giving to 43 women's funds in the Women's Funding Network. The donors support for the funds and their willingness to resist complex restrictions on the allocation of their gifts has given the women's funds the freedom to build and develop as well as advance their strategic priorities. To date, more than \$150 million has been raised and the success of the campaign has encouraged the various women's funds to take bolder steps forward in advocating for change for women by going beyond grant making for leverage and influence.



Toledo Area Ministries (TAM)

Supporting Women Affected by Sexual Exploitation

Toledo Area Ministries has implemented several programs to address the needs of women in its community. The ministry's programs served more than 125,000 people last year, 75 percent of which were women. The programs addressed basic human needs such as food and shelter, and issues like street level prostitution and trafficking. In addition to this, TAM wrote and produced a video for trafficking prevention and hosted the largest conference in the Midwest on prostitution and human trafficking.

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

Providing Access to Primary Education; Promoting Gender Equality

Since the Breakthrough Summit, UNICEF has implemented many programs addressing the needs of women and girls around the world. In Uganda and Nigeria, UNICEF supported improved access to sanitation in schools through the construction of separate latrines for boys and girls. In addition, at state levels in Nigeria, over 1,000 women from women's groups, Ministries of Women Affairs and civil society organizations were oriented on the content of the National Gender Policy. In Somalia, UNICEF worked with women's networks for its HIV/AIDS prevention strategies through the Woman to Woman Initiative on HIV and AIDS supporting peer education sessions among vulnerable women, including female IDPs, women-headed households, widows and adolescent girls. In Rwanda, UNICEF collaborated with women's groups by supporting income-generating activities to enable women to obtain health insurance for increased access to services. Finally, UNICEF sponsored the International Conference on Women, Water & Waste, and co-convoked the International Conference on Gender, Migration & Development in the Philippines.

United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM)

Partnering with Faith Communities to End Violence against Women

Fulfilling their Breakthrough Commitment, UNIFEM and Religions for Peace formally inaugurated a partnership in September 2008 when Religions for Peace 'signed' on to the UNIFEM Say **NO** to Violence against Women campaign, and subsequently rolled out the Say NO campaign to all parts of the world. These efforts contributed significantly to the total number of Say NO signatures –more than 5 million in all – presented to the UN Secretary-General on November 25, 2008. On November 6, 2009 in Nairobi, UNIFEM presented the next step to showcase global advocacy in action through its Say NO – UNiTE to End Violence against Women, a global internet-based initiative that provides a framework for partner organizations. As a launch partner from day one, Religions for Peace is a key actor in this international effort. Adding education to advocacy through the partnership, UNIFEM supported the development of Religions for Peace's toolkit entitled *Restoring Dignity - A Toolkit for Religious Communities to End Violence Against Women*, launched on March 1, 2010, which provides practical information and tools to communities of faith on ways to raise awareness and

prevent violence against women and girls. The partners continue to sustain their Breakthrough commitment into the future.

United Nations Foundation (UNF)

Eliminating Fistula Through Education and Financial Support

The UN Foundation is working with faith-based organizations and UNFPA's Campaign to End Fistula to end fistula in this generation. In 2008, in partnership with UNFPA, the UN Foundation hosted two fistula survivors and surgeons from Kenya and the Democratic Republic of Congo for events in New York City and Washington, DC. Between 2008 and 2009, the UN Foundation provided three small grants – totaling \$200,000 – to faith-based organizations interested in engaging in this effort that articulated a need for funds to jump-start their outreach efforts. To raise greater awareness about obstetric fistula, UNF also supported outreach and dissemination activities related to the film *A Walk to Beautiful*, a 2009 Emmy award-winning documentary that follows several young Ethiopian women as they attempt to have their fistula repaired.

Increasing Public Outreach to Adolescent Girls and Eradicating Fistula

To address the problem of obstetric fistula in developing countries, the United Nations Foundation led the formation of the Adolescent Girls Cluster, a coalition of 15 faith-based and non-governmental organizations working together to eliminate fistula through the elevation of adolescent girls on the global development agenda. Organizations participating in the Cluster pledged to contribute to ending fistula worldwide by either educating their members, communities, or the broader public about the urgent need to prevent and treat fistula. Faith-based partners include: The United Methodist Church General Board of Church & Society, the National Council of Churches, and Religions for Peace.

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

Working to Reduce Maternal Mortality, End Gender-Based Violence, and Partner with Faith Communities

UNFPA's commitment to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and the MDGs, integrates the importance of multi-sectoral partnerships. In October 2008, UNFPA launched the Global Interfaith Network for Population and Development, with over 400 international, regional and national faith-based service delivery organizations. UNFPA actively supports several UN Inter-Agency initiatives, as well as civil society organizations (including youth, women's rights), parliamentary networks, as part of its dedicated work with governments around the world. All to ensure that every birth is safe, every pregnancy is wanted, every person is free of HIV/AIDS and that every-one counts. UNFPA's work on maternal health includes initiatives to eliminate FGM/C in 17 countries. In partnership with the UN Foundation, UNFPA's Campaign to End Fistula has supported over 4,000 women and 109 health facilities in 21 countries. The Campaign's work is reflective of UNFPA's overarching commitment to serve vulnerable and marginalized populations in a culturally sensitive and rights'-oriented manner.



United Way

Empowering Women to Advance the Common Good

United Way seeks to create lasting impact by mobilizing and recruiting volunteers and investing billions in innovative programs and services that address underlying issues around education, income and health in communities worldwide. Since the Summit, the United Way network raised over \$5.1 billion (USD) worldwide, spending roughly \$867 million, \$821 million, and \$1.018 billion to advance the causes of Education, Income, and Health, respectively. In 2009, United Way Worldwide convened 200 women at its Women's Leadership Summit specifically to engage women in taking the lead on issues of education, income and health in their communities. Over 120 communities mobilized 40,000 to make a difference in these areas. United Way's commitment to women in leadership is evident in United Way Mumbai, a branch that is addressing critical health issues while improving the financial condition of residents. By working with local municipal authorities and engaging and empowering residents, United Way Mumbai is teaching residents, a majority of whom are women, to sort dry and wet garbage more effectively, and generate income from recycling and composting. Residents in the training program testify that they have built greater confidence and increased their organizing and communications skills. The program has also succeeded in creating trusting relationships which has spurred the interest of more grassroots groups interested in working with United Way on issues that will improve conditions in the community for all residents.

Washington National Cathedral

Practicing and Proclaiming the Good News of Gender Equality

On par with its ongoing commitment to raise awareness for issues of gender justice, the National Cathedral has brought the message of the WFDA Breakthrough Summit through publications and other media to over 35,000 people. Stories from the Breakthrough Summit were featured in two issues of the *Cathedral Age* magazine, and two issues of the *Cathedral Voice* newsletters also mentioned the Summit. The Cathedral also hosts a page on the Summit on its website that includes resources and links to partner organizations. Furthermore, the Cathedral continues to seek other ways to incorporate advocacy for gender justice, especially through the weekly Sunday Forum at the Cathedral.

Winrock International

Transforming Africa through Girls' Education

To achieve the goal of transformation through the education of African girls, Winrock invested \$143,000 to conduct a feasibility study for Scholarships for African Girls Education (SAGE), a program designed to keep girls with academic and leadership potential in school, despite financial limitations. Winrock has designed a viable program that received strong support from 70 potential donors. However, due to the financial downturn, donors have indicated a hold-off on launching new programs. Winrock remains committed to advancing girls' education in Africa through SAGE and is actively seeking funding for it.

Women Deliver

Add italics, Partnering With Communities of Faith

Recognizing the significant roles that faith-based organizations (FBOs) play in the Global South, Women Deliver spent time forging partnerships involving FBOs in improving maternal health worldwide. As a result, efforts have reached numerous different organizations and other stakeholders in maternal health, which has a tremendous multiplier effect on the number of people impacted. Furthermore, the Women Deliver 2010 conference will feature a symposium with faith-based leaders on solutions for averting maternal mortality.

Women of Reform Judaism (WRJ)

Advocating To Reduce Women's Poverty Worldwide

Since 2008, Women of Reform Judaism (WRJ) has focused its organizational programming and advocacy on reducing women's poverty worldwide. Through its work, WRJ has advocated federally and internationally on behalf of women's empowerment in foreign aid reform, efforts to end violence against women, the human trafficking of women and girls, and the necessity of strengthening food and health programs. WRJ provided programming, advocacy, and educational resources on women's poverty to sisterhood women throughout North America as well as in South Africa and Israel, and put out a weekly social justice newsletter on the welfare of women. Newsletters were distributed to approximately 65,000 members in 500 sisterhoods. The information and calls to action provided in the social justice newsletters have had profound effects. One sisterhood, for example, was so moved by a WRJ newsletter that focused on women and malaria, that they managed to collect \$1,200, enough to purchase nets for 120 families in Darfur, in just one night, and over \$6,000 throughout the year.

Women Thrive Worldwide

Helping Women in Africa Benefit From Global Trade

Women Thrive Worldwide holds the firm belief that economic investment in women and girls is critical to reducing poverty and creating economic growth around the world. Since the Summit, Women Thrive has worked extensively to better identify African women's views on global trade and to bring those to U.S. government policymakers in a number of ways. They have completed a survey of women's NGOs in two African countries about their views on trade policy and how it is helping or impeding women's efforts to lift themselves out of poverty. Furthermore, Women Thrive has specifically focused on consulting with women entrepreneurs in Ghana, Burkina Faso and Senegal on the kinds of programs and assistance they need in order to tap the benefits of global trade and their experience with U.S.-funded programs, and is providing recommendations directly to USAID's Trade Hubs in Senegal and Ghana. In addition, they are working with Congress on specific legislation to reform U.S. trade preference programs to increase the number of women who can access them, make them more long-term, and make them easier to use so that they will economically benefit women in developing countries. They have also focused on The President's Global Food Security Initiative, which has a



strong focus on Africa, has provided an unanticipated opportunity to shape U.S. government agriculture and food security policies and programs, with a goal of generating investments in women small-holder farmers to help them move up the chain from subsistence-level farming to export.

Women's Environment & Development Organization (WEDO)

Women's Participation in Climate Change Projects

Through the Global Gender and Climate Alliance, WEDO has been working successfully with partners around the world to advocate for the inclusion of gender perspectives in the international climate change negotiations. WEDO and its partners are also working in various countries to influence climate change legislation to take into account the different ways climate change impacts women and men. In Congress, WEDO has worked closely with the main champions of gender and climate change to influence the progress being made on Capitol Hill. Furthermore, WEDO hosted climate change summits that helped to engage more grassroots women's organizations with environmental organizations on U.S. climate change legislation and its implementation.

Women's Funding Network

Catalyzing Women's Voices, Solutions and Leadership to Break the Cycle of Poverty

Across the globe, the top collective funding priority of 155 women's funds is poverty alleviation and economic equity. The Women Funding Network's Dismantling Poverty Initiative has expanded the scope and scale of the social impact of over 70 Women's Funds through shared strategies and action focused on removing poverty as a barrier to women's economic security. The Dismantling Poverty Initiative worked in conjunction with innovative fundraising programs to exponentially increase the giving of women's funds to provide resources for women's innovation and solutions to tackling the issue of global poverty. Collective strategies being implemented on the ground for poverty alleviation include: Entrepreneurship, Building Assets and Financial Literacy, Better Jobs for All, and Investing in Our Children.

World Hope International

Empowering Communities and Families Through Entrepreneurial Women

In June of 2009, a team from WHI traveled to Assuit, Egypt to further develop its microfinance program there. WHI did additional market analysis, discussed methodology, and completed its business plan. WHI representatives also visited the future Shrouk location, where local microfinance experts estimate that there could be as many as 19 million business people eligible for microfinance loans who were not receiving them. In September of 2009, WHI finally completed the long registration process and established Shrouk Misr, a fully independent microfinance institution in Egypt. Because of the poor economy, recent progress in Egypt has been limited. The largest challenge is still ahead as WHI is working to raise enough working

capital to finance the thousands of microloans that willing Egyptian entrepreneurs will use to provide a better living for their families.

Women's Learning Partnership ***Increasing Decision-Making at Household, Community & National Levels***

Women's Learning Partnership impacts the lives of women by building their capacity to take on leadership and decision-making roles at family, community, and national levels. In the past year and a half, WLP has trained over 4,000 activists, journalists, students, politicians, and rural women (with an estimated reach of nearly 50,000 people) through leadership workshops and Institutes, where participants gain communication, facilitation, advocacy, negotiation, and networking skills. Participants in WLP's leadership trainings are becoming agents for change in their communities as they think more critically about their legal rights, engage in advocacy initiatives, and even run in local elections. The leadership workshops provide the tools and resources necessary for women to make a difference in their communities.

World Vision

Addressing Gender Norms to Fight AIDS

World Vision's Channels of Hope (CoH) project has helped faith leaders to confront stigma against those infected with HIV and to embrace their faith in their responsibility to minister to those affected by AIDS. The CoH methodology mobilizes the infrastructure, organizational capacity, pool of current and potential volunteers, and unmatched moral authority of local faith leaders. Faith leaders and congregational leadership teams in Christian and Muslim communities are invited to explore attitudes and stigma, convey information, encourage debate on difficult topics, and mobilize compassionate action. With the aim to combat cultural and gender-based vulnerabilities and stigma, in the past year 853,000 children received values-based life-skills education, 997,000 orphans and vulnerable children received care, and about 500,000 people have been involved in HIV/AIDS advocacy or engaged in church mobilization activities. This program has directly influenced more than 175,000 faith leaders from 20,000 congregations. It is projected that this project will ultimately impact over two million people living with, or affected by, HIV.

At the time of publication, WFDA had not yet received evaluations from the following organizations:

American Society of Muslim Advancement, Church World Service, FirstWorks International, GenderAction, International Medical Corps, Metropolitan Community Church, NETWORK, Save the Children, St. Columba's Episcopal Church, UNDP, Whole Planet Foundation and Women's Foreign Policy Group

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