



URGENT ACTION FUND FOR WOMEN'S HUMAN RIGHTS

ANNUAL
REPORT
2008

UAF is an organization that has the heart of women, eyes of women, ears of women, reason, choice, feet of women, as your path has taken you around the world... because if even one woman is uprooted, threatened or whose wings are cut and whose conscience is silenced the Urgent Action Fund for Women's Human Rights will exist...

— Organización Femenina Popular,
Colombian Grantee



Terry Greenblatt, Executive Director & CEO

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends & Allies,

When the moment for change is **NOW**, women activists around the world rise to the occasion, share what they do not have enough of, and give to the world what they never received themselves.

NOW is the moment activists are called upon to take individual and collective leaps of faith and strides of spirit into the possibility of a more just and peaceful future. Whether struggling to hold onto their land in Ecuador, or to ensure education for their daughters in Pakistan, or for a seat at a table where peace is being negotiated in Georgia, they refuse to cut their world down to what they do not fear. **NOW** is the moment Urgent Action Fund for Women's Human Rights is here to support. This year's Annual Report is a testament to the **NOW** moments in transnational activism funded by UAF in 2008.

It is humbling to witness the growth of local and national women's movements in all their resplendent diversity and specificity. It is equally astounding to witness the expansion of our own family of funds as UAF and UAF-Africa welcome our third Sister Fund based in Colombia, UAF-Latin America, which will launch in Fall 2009. As an activist fund within the dynamic global women's movement, we trust the instincts and strategies of women activists on the ground. UAF's Sister Funds are just one way we demonstrate our commitment to locating resources and decision-making in the hands of local activists.

Over the course of the year, it has been particularly meaningful to facilitate the engagement of a global community of donor activists in support of human rights and sustainable peace worldwide. The quality and depth of our convictions and our feminist politics evolve out of our commitment to honorable process, and I thank each and every one of you for supporting our endeavors to bring the fullness of activist sensibilities to bear on our work. It is with an abundant sense of gratitude that I acknowledge the ever-growing circle of support and relationships that makes UAF's work possible.

I must also recognize the warmth and openness with which I was received by staff as the incoming Executive Director, and the generosity demonstrated by exiting Founding Director Julie Shaw during a graceful transition of leadership. Not least, I wish to thank the members of our international activist Board of Directors, who have shown their willingness to recognize our own **NOW** moments, and bring the truth and poignancy of their activism around the world to the deepest and most profound UAF deliberations.

In solidarity, and looking to the future,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Terry Greenblatt". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Terry Greenblatt, Executive Director & CEO

WHEN THE MOMENT FOR CHANGE IS NOW



Women human rights defenders (WHRDs) often have only hours or days to respond to opportunities or challenges that advance or protect women's human rights - they simply cannot wait for traditional funding cycles. It is in those moments that a threatened activist's life can be protected, escalating violence can be mitigated, or a law enacted that changes the lives of women for generations to come. For this reason, Urgent Action Fund accepts grant requests in any language 365 days a year, responds within 72 hours, and often provides funding within a week.

Rapid Response Grants (RRG) are made in three categories:

- Strategic interventions in situations of armed conflict, escalation of violence or political instability
- Protection and security for women human rights defenders and their families
- Potentially precedent-setting legal or legislative actions, or actions that aim to protect a precedent that has already been set

UAF is able to respond this rapidly and effectively with the support of an international activist Board of Directors, and the volunteer efforts of a world-wide network of activist advisors who provide local context for the situation and can address the strategic importance of the proposed initiative. It is this extensive web of women whose generosity of spirit enables UAF's unique funding to exist.

Complementing the RRG program, UAF also serves as witness, to learn from and record the work of WHRDs through our **Research, Publications and Advocacy program**. What is seemingly a solitary undertaking oftentimes has deep local and broad transnational resonance. We draw inspiration from the courage and resilience of women around the world. In turn, UAF seeks to strengthen activists with publications that illuminate their work, and initiate change in the way activists and the philanthropic community understand and support activism.



◀ Indigenous leader, Bai Bibyaon Ligkayan Bigkay, from Solidarity Action Group for Indigenous People (SAGIP) in the Philippines. SAGIP received a \$4,925 grant to provide for the protection of a regional Indigenous activist.

It is this extensive web of women whose generosity of spirit enables UAF's unique funding to exist.

BRIDGE OF FRIENDSHIP KARTLOSI



Georgia—September 2008. Tensions between Georgia and Russia erupted over the contested autonomy and independence of South Ossetia. In the fighting that ensued, women were killed, raped, injured, and thousands more displaced. Even prior to the escalation of violence, women human rights defenders were operating in an environment where human rights violations, violence against women and trafficking of women presented formidable challenges and obstacles to the advancement of human rights.

As UAF began receiving messages from activists in Georgia it became clear that the speed of the conflict exacerbated the difficulty in strategizing an effective response. Although humanitarian needs predominated the funding requests circulating within the donor community, within hours, women were also organizing and affecting change. Activists were not just saving lives,

but also protesting the violence, creating safe spaces for WHRDs to respond, and documenting the conflict for use in tribunals and other reconstruction efforts.

Understanding the invaluable importance of monitoring the violence and human rights violations against women and girls, Bridge of Friendship Kartlosi requested UAF funds to document rights violations that were being perpetrated. In addition, they felt it was important to complement the documentation with direct action and therefore organized a peace march to raise public awareness regarding women's experiences during the war. Through their efforts and in collaboration with other women's organizations, Kartlosi was also able to initiate a Women's Anti-War Movement that continues to organize peaceful actions.



◀ Women activists from Bridge of Friendship Kartlosi mark the grave of an unknown soldier who died during the violence in Georgia.

ASIA PACIFIC NETWORK OF SEX WORKERS



Cambodia—April 2008. When policies and legislation are developed without the participation of the communities they will impact, it can result in institutionalized human rights violations.

In an effort to curb human trafficking, a law was recently passed that criminalizes prostitution in Cambodia. The law was drafted in the United States as a model for South and Southeast Asian governments' counter-trafficking strategies. It resulted in sex workers in Phnom Penh being rounded up by police and taken to government-run "rehabilitation centers" where they were routinely beaten and raped by police and guards. The women were detained without charge in unsanitary detention centers and only allowed to leave if they bribed the guards and paid a fine. Rather than decreasing human trafficking, the Asia Pacific Network of Sex Workers (APNSW) reported to

UAF that the practice of releasing women to anyone who paid the price (the "fine") actually increased trafficking and debt bondage. At the same time, the United States was encouraging other South and Southeast Asian States to pass a similar law.

In an effort to prevent further adoption of this harmful legislation, APNSW requested UAF funds to organize sex workers and civil society groups in opposition to the law. Through providing immediate medical and mental health needs for women released from the "rehabilitation centers," APNSW was able to collect testimonies of the detained women to use in an awareness-raising campaign, and to organize meetings with the U.S. delegation and other United Nations representatives to emphasize the brutal impact of Cambodia's anti-trafficking measure.



Activists from APNSW draw attention to the detrimental effects of the new law in Cambodia, which had resulted in rape, loss of livelihood, and increased vulnerability to trafficking for sex workers across the country.

All of the activities took place as a direct result of the UAF grant. In particular the timing of the grant and the speed at which it was processed were key to it having had such an enormous impact. We believe that of all the grants the Asia Pacific Network of Sex Workers has had from various donors this grant had the most impact.

—APNSW



ORGANIZATION Q THE 26-MINUTE GRANT

Bosnia—September 2008. While a response within 72-hours makes UAF's Rapid Response Grantmaking unique from traditional funding cycles, some situations require an even faster response.

In September 2008, UAF received a call from Organization Q (OQ), an LGBTIQ rights group, regarding an escalation of threats before their upcoming Queer Sarajevo Festival. Over the previous 12 months, OQ had been planning a major arts festival, with widespread publicity throughout Europe. As the festival approached, the organization received mounting hate speech messages and threats to their safety by religious extremists who wanted the festival canceled.

Despite the threats of disruption, violence and death, OQ refused to be intimidated into canceling the festival. They requested funds for intensified

security in order to ensure participants' safety and the festival's success. Within **26 minutes** of receiving this urgent call, the UAF grantmaking team was able to consult with two funders familiar with OQ's work for necessary endorsements, approve the grant with UAF's Executive Director, and make arrangements to wire the funds.

Unfortunately, despite increased security, during the first night of the festival there were attacks on the attendees. The next day, instead of following the original program, festival organizers held a press conference publicly denouncing the violence. They announced that due to the attacks, the gathering was no longer about arts and culture, but was now political. Although increasing harassment and threats continued and the festival was forced to stop its activities, OQ was proud that the event served as a high-profile political protest against violence and discrimination in Bosnia.

UAF funds were used for private unarmed security to protect Organization Q activists and festival attendees. Despite the security and a stepped-up police presence, at least nine people were injured.

queer sarajevo festival
24. - 28.09.2008.
Sarajevo, Bosna i Hercegovina



RESEARCH, PUBLICATIONS & ADVOCACY

SUSTAINING ACTIVISM AND INTEGRATED SECURITY

All around the world, women defend the rights of individuals and communities facing oppression, discrimination and conflict. Their work is powerful and controversial, and it is often met with bitter and violent opposition, leading to burn out and illness. UAF is an activist fund that prioritizes the sustainability and wellbeing of individual women human rights defenders, their organizations, and transnational women's activism.

Our Sustaining Activism and Integrated Security projects synergistically enhance the ability of women activists to protect and sustain themselves and their organizations, while increasing recognition and resources for their work. UAF helps make the sphere of women's rights activism more visible, real and respected.

What's the Point of Revolution If We Can't Dance? and *Insiste Persiste*

Resiste Existe: Women Human Rights Defenders' Security Strategies, were both published by UAF in 2008. They highlight the stories and the strategies of women who continue to struggle, achieve and believe in the possibility for change – despite the challenges and risks, and the extremely limited funds and support available for their work.

The publications, in multiple languages, are taking on a life of their own in the hands of women activists. In concert with UAF's Integrated Security/Sustaining Activism workshops on three continents, and public dialogues on international panels and presentations, these concepts and tools are resonating with activists and their allies as they embark on their individual and collective journeys toward sustainability.

Visit www.urgentactionfund.org to download copies of these publications.



▶ Women human rights defenders after the Integrated Security/Sustaining Activism Workshop in Colombia.

I take away your love, your support, your care, your beauty, your gentleness, and your courage. I take away the idea that this conversation needs to continue, among us and within our community. The journey is hard because it takes us back to the heart. I am going home enriched because of you.

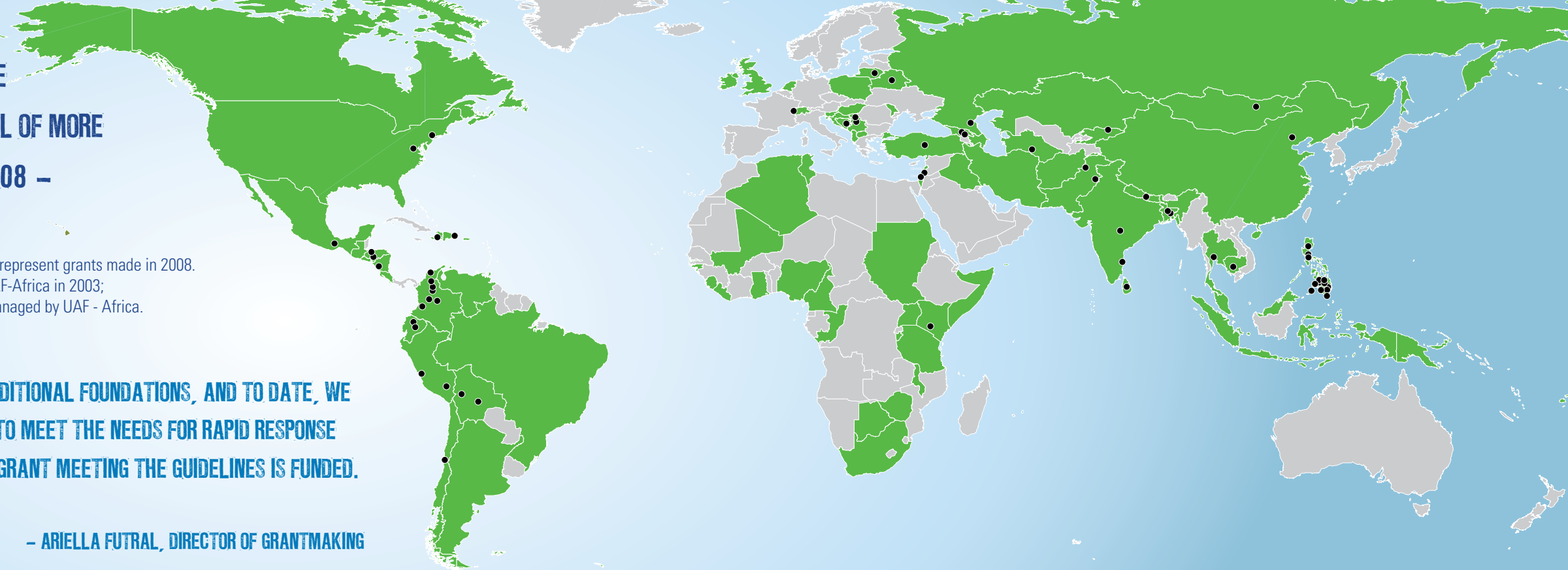
– Asia Workshop Participant

OVER THE PAST TEN YEARS, UAF HAS MADE MORE THAN 700 RAPID RESPONSE GRANTS, FOR A TOTAL OF MORE THAN \$3 MILLION. UAF MADE 124 GRANTS IN 2008 – REPRESENTING A 55% INCREASE FROM 2007.

Since 1997, UAF has made grants in 87 countries (shown in green). The dots represent grants made in 2008. Grants in Africa were made before the establishment of UAF's Sister Fund UAF-Africa in 2003; all Rapid Response Grantmaking on the continent of Africa has since been managed by UAF - Africa.

GRANTMAKING STAFF DON'T HAVE A "DOCKET" AS AT TRADITIONAL FOUNDATIONS, AND TO DATE, WE HAVE NEVER HAD TO WORRY ABOUT HAVING ENOUGH FUNDS TO MEET THE NEEDS FOR RAPID RESPONSE GRANTS. OUR DONORS HAVE ALWAYS ENSURED THAT EVERY GRANT MEETING THE GUIDELINES IS FUNDED. IN OUR EYES, THIS IS A TRUE BLESSING.

– ARIELLA FUTRAL, DIRECTOR OF GRANTMAKING



RAPID RESPONSE GRANTS IN 2008

Altufula: Pedagogical and Multipurpose Women's Center, Israel: \$5,000

Provided funds to recreate real-time feminist responses to escalating violence in the region.

Anti-Violence Network of Georgia, Georgia: \$4,900

Provided funds to document human rights violations committed against women during the conflict in Georgia in order to present these findings before the European Union Court and Hague Military Tribunal.

Asia Pacific Network of Sex Workers, Cambodia: \$5,000

Supported an awareness raising campaign in response to a newly implemented law that criminalizes prostitution in Cambodia and has resulted in widespread violations against women sex workers.

Asociación De Mujeres Amor Lesbico, Bolivia: \$4,150

Enabled group to increase the security of threatened activists and organize an awareness raising campaign after anti-government protests became violent and targeted groups, including members of AMAL.

Asociación De Mujeres Amor Lesbico, Bolivia: \$3,800

Provided an additional grant to increase the protection and security of threatened lesbian activists.

Asociación de Mujeres para la Integración de la Familia en Nicaragua, Nicaragua: \$5,000

Supported a massive mobilization and awareness raising campaign to respond to increasing violence and political repression in Nicaragua.

Asociación Instituto Vida, Peru: \$2,700

Supported an awareness raising campaign regarding an escalation in state persecution after three women activists were labeled as 'terrorists' for organizing a peaceful protest.

Association "Women and Development", Georgia: \$2,980

Provided funds to respond to the post-conflict environment in Georgia's buffer zones via an education campaign highlighting how women can increase their security during occupation.

BARGAD, Pakistan: \$5,000

In response to the unanticipated repeal of a 24-year ban on student unions, UAF supported BARGAD to advocate for a precedent-setting 33% quota for women students in university unions.

Blue Veins (Women Welfare and Relief Services), Pakistan: \$5,000

Enabled group to purchase a vehicle to provide safe transportation for women members of the organization facing increasing threats and harassment from religious militant extremists.

Bridge of Friendship "Kartlosi", Georgia: \$3,410

Enabled group to react to the conflict in Georgia by organizing a peaceful protest and ensuring that human rights violations against women are documented.

Centro de la Mujer Acción Ya, Nicaragua: \$5,000

Supported an awareness raising campaign to address the government crackdown on women's rights organizations and nine activists who were facing an escalation in threats.

Centro Ecuatoriano para la Promoción y Acción de la Mujer, Ecuador: \$5,000

In response to the unexpected backlash by the Catholic Church following a newly proposed pro-choice amendment, UAF funded CEPAM to initiate an awareness raising campaign to highlight the importance of women's reproductive rights.

Centro Ecuatoriano para la Promoción y Acción de la Mujer, Ecuador: \$5,000

In response to the unanticipated escalation of anti-rights groups' pressure on the government, UAF supported CEPAM's awareness raising campaign to ensure that the rights of women and minority groups are included in Ecuador's revised constitution.

Corporación Contigo Mujer, Colombia: \$5,000

Provided funds to increase the protection and security of a woman activist threatened due to her work.

Corporación Contigo Mujer, Colombia: \$5,000

Provided funds to ensure that a trial against Indigenous women arrested after performing female genital cutting, a practice thought to have been eradicated in Colombia was culturally competent and fair.

DAH Theatre Research Center, Serbia: \$4,920

Provided funds to increase the security of the DTRC office after a theft and arson occurred in response to their political theater performances denouncing militarism, nationalism and gender inequality.

In addition to the 124 grants made directly by UAF, 39 Rapid Response Grants were made in 2008 by UAF's regranting partners in Colombia (26), Serbia (9) and a confidential location (3).

Federación Nacional de Mujeres Campesinas Artesanas Indígenas Nativas y Asalariadas del Perú, Peru: \$5,000

Supported a massive awareness raising campaign regarding the impact of newly implemented anti-terrorism legislation and its effects on Indigenous women and civil society.

Federation of Suara Bangsamoro Women Organizations, Philippines: \$5,000

Provided funds to increase the protection and security of a woman activist threatened due to her work.

Federation of Suara Bangsamoro Women Organizations, Philippines: \$4,475

Provided funds to increase the security of a threatened woman human rights defender.

Fondo para Ayudas de Emergencia y Fortalecimiento Organizacional en Protección y Autoprotección, Colombia: \$25,000

Supported the re-granting partnership established in 2006 and enabled FFP to continue their rapid response grantmaking program on behalf of threatened women activists in Colombia.

Fondo para Ayudas de Emergencia y Fortalecimiento Organizacional en Protección y Autoprotección, Colombia: \$5,000

Provided funds to increase the security of members of FFP who were facing an escalation of threats.

Gandhian Unit for Integrated Development Education, India: \$4,975

Supported a campaign in response to the unanticipated announcement to rescind the Coastal Zone Management Notification, which would have a deleterious impact on women and the environment.

Grass-roots Women for Change, Cambodia: \$5,000

Supported an awareness raising campaign to ensure women leaders are involved in a precedent-setting case to support the struggle for land rights.

Helsinki Committee For Human Rights, Serbia: \$5,000

Provided funds for the security of the threatened woman leader of the organization.

Karapatan Task Force on Women and Children, Philippines: \$4,200

Provided funds to increase the protection and security of a woman activist threatened because of her human rights work.

Kay Fann, Haiti: \$5,000

Supported an awareness raising campaign to pressure the government to respond to the increase in sexual violence against women due to the lawlessness and impunity in post-hurricane Haiti.

Khadidja-Davao, Philippines: \$5,000

Provided funds to increase the protection and security of a threatened woman activist.

Khadidja-Davao, Philippines: \$3,700

Provided funds to increase the safety of a Moro woman human rights defender facing threats.

La Federación de Juntas Vecinales de la Ciudad de El Alto, Bolivia: \$5,000

Supported an awareness raising campaign in the months leading up to the constitutional referendum, to highlight precedent-setting changes to the Bolivian constitution to secure political, cultural, and economic rights for women and Indigenous peoples.

LABRIS Lesbian Human Rights Organization, Serbia: \$4,980

Supported an awareness raising campaign regarding the potentially precedent-setting legal case to prosecute the perpetrators of hate crimes committed during the Queer Belgrade Festival in September 2008.

Liga nga Kabataang Moro-Lanao (League of Moro Youth – Lanao Chapter), Philippines: \$5,000

Enabled group to respond to an escalation of the conflict between the Moro Islamic Liberation Front and the Philippine Armed Forces through an anti-war campaign and a fact-finding mission to document abuses against women in Moro Muslim dominated areas.

MADRE, Nicaragua: \$5,000

Provided funds to prepare affidavits for the unexpected announcement that the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights will review the case against Nicaragua's ban on therapeutic abortions.

RAPID RESPONSE GRANTS IN 2008

**Maryknoll Sisters, Philippines: \$2,900**

Provided funds to increase the security of a threatened woman activist.

Mongolian Women's Fund, Mongolia: \$5,000

Supported an awareness raising campaign to highlight the murder of a woman human rights defender targeted because of her anti-violence against women work.

Movimiento Autonomo de Mujeres, Nicaragua: \$5,000

Supported an awareness raising campaign to draw national and international attention to the government's crackdown on women's rights organizations and nine individual women activists.

Movimiento por la Defensa de la Anticoncepción, Chile: \$5,000

Supported a campaign to raise awareness regarding women's reproductive rights after the prohibition of emergency contraception was unexpectedly announced by the Chilean Constitutional Court.

Mujer Sin Límite, Honduras: \$5,000

Provided funds to increase the security of their organization after hate crimes left their office's security system destroyed.

Mujer Sin Límite, Honduras: \$5,000

Provided funds to increase the security of lesbian and bisexual activists facing increased threats.

Nacionalidad Zapara de la Amazonia Ecuatoriana, Ecuador: \$5,000

Enabled group to increase the protection of a woman human rights defender facing increased threats due to her activism on behalf of the Zapara Indigenous community.

NARAL Pro-Choice Virginia Foundation, United States: \$5,000

Supported a grassroots awareness raising campaign to ensure women are aware of the precedent-setting opening of a "Pro-Life" pharmacy in their community and to collectively contest it.

National Network of Mongolian Women's NGOs, Mongolia: \$5,000

Supported a campaign to oppose the Mongolian parliament's unanticipated decision to repeal the 30% quota for women candidates in parliamentary elections.

New Generation of Women's Initiatives, Lithuania: \$5,000

Supported a campaign in favor of women's reproductive rights in reaction to an anti-choice bill, which was unexpectedly introduced in the Lithuanian parliament.

Nirmaya Trust, India: \$5,000

Provided support of women's peacebuilding initiatives in response to unanticipated communal violence in Orissa.

Novi Sad Lesbian Organization, Serbia: \$2,320

Provided funds to increase the security of NLO's office after a highly publicized lesbian festival resulted in threats against the organization.

Organization Q, Bosnia: \$5,000

Provided funds to increase the security of their Queer Sarajevo Festival after receiving threats in the days leading up to the event.

Red Flag Women's Movement, Sri Lanka: \$2,900

Supported an awareness raising campaign to promote the rights of domestic workers in response to an unanticipated decision by the government to streamline Sri Lanka's labor laws.

Rural Poor Women's Apostolate - Northern Mindanao, Philippines: \$5,000

Enabled group to provide increased security for RMP's main organizer and to launch an awareness raising campaign to highlight government aggression against women human rights defenders.

Ruta Pacifica de las Mujeres, Colombia: \$5,000

Provided funds to ensure grassroots women's voices are included in the implementation of a precedent-setting decree, which aims to increase the rights of displaced women via trainings and an awareness raising campaign.

Samahan ng Maralitang Kababaihang Nagkakaisa (Organization of United Urban Poor Women), Philippines: \$4,800

Provided funds for the increased protection and security of a threatened woman activist.

Samahan ng mga Maralitang Kababaihang Nagkakaisa - Northern Mindanao Region, Philippines: \$5,000

Enabled group to increase the protection and security of three threatened women activists.

Solidarity Action Group for Indigenous Peoples, Philippines: \$4,925

Provided funds to ensure the protection and security of an Indigenous woman leader facing increased threats from the military.

Taller Salud, Puerto Rico: \$3,625

Supported theater forums on LGBTIQ and women's rights in response to an unanticipated revision of Puerto Rico's Civil Code that would erode previously earned gains.

Vida Integración Desarrollo Amor, Peru: \$2,850

Provided funds to increase the security of activists who were attacked after an action celebrating International Day for Human Rights, and to launch an awareness raising campaign condemning hate crimes against the LGBTIQ community.

Voice of Difference, Serbia: \$4,900

Supported a campaign to encourage Serbian women to vote in upcoming early elections in the midst of an increasingly nationalistic and isolationist political environment.

Women Against War, Israel: \$5,000

Provided funds to mobilize a peaceful protest against the Israeli invasion and attacks on the Gaza Strip.

Zakher Association for the Development of Palestinian Women's Capabilities/Skills/Strength, Palestine: \$5,000

Supported an awareness raising campaign regarding the escalation of violence in Gaza, including Hamas' crackdown on 120 local NGOs, resulting in the destruction of ZAKHER's office.

Zamboanga Peninsula Center for Indigenous People's Women Concern, Philippines: \$2,700

Provided funds to increase the security and protection of two threatened women activists.

Zamboanga Peninsula Center for Indigenous People's Women Concern, Philippines: \$3,700

Provided funds to evacuate four women activists and their families threatened due to their work.

UAF also made 64 confidential grants in the following countries in 2008: Bangladesh, Belarus, China, Colombia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Mexico, Nepal, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Russia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, and the United States.

ALLIANCES & COLLABORATIONS

Distinct from UAF's Rapid Response Grantmaking Program, the Colleague Alliance Grant Fund supports organizations working on issues that intersect with UAF's mission and mandate. This is a discretionary fund managed by the Executive Director that does not accept applications.

Grantmakers Without Borders (Gw/oB), United States: \$10,000

Support for Gw/oB's efforts to network individual donors and foundations that practice global social change philanthropy.

International Human Rights Funders Group (IHRFG), United States: \$500

Core support for IHRFG, an association of grantmakers devoted to supporting efforts to achieve the rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

International Network of Women's Funds (INWF), Global: \$10,000

Support for INWF's commitment to expanding the resources available to women's rights organizations worldwide.

Women Human Rights Defenders International Coalition, Global: \$10,000

Funding to support this international initiative for the recognition and protection of women human rights defenders.

THE PEOPLE WHO MAKE UAF'S WORK POSSIBLE



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girls just want to have funD, Kerry Lobel & Marta Drury in honor of UAF's 10th Anniversary

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Cathy Ziemba

Thank you to our grantmaking advisors around the world!

Thank you to everyone who supported Urgent Action Fund through BoldeReach especially board members Alex Baris, Laura Beann, Penny Bennett, Tina Bukala, Sue Dubach, Cindy Lindsay, Sacha Millstone, Alice M. Norton, Regina Rain Richardson, Carolyn Schuham, Susan M. Thevenet, Nicky Wolman, and Sarah Wood. BoldeReach is a community of women dedicated to supporting organizations that aid and empower women and children in extreme need around the world. In 2008, Urgent Action Fund was honored to be chosen as the beneficiary of their annual gala.



The women at UAF have impressed me time and again by their ability to enable their grantees' extraordinary work in such a fearless way, while still being humble, extremely caring toward each other, and light-hearted in spirit. The balance that they achieve within the workplace between passion and empathy, drive and humility, and demanding the best from each another while still remaining endlessly supportive has truly inspired me. [The] stories and determination [of the women activists] have touched me irrevocably and given me faith in the power of the human spirit to emerge and thrive in even the most repressive of situations.

– Saren Oliver Intern at UAF May 2008 – June 2009

If you would like to support Urgent Action Fund with a gift of time, expertise or money, please contact our office at 303-442-2388 or urgentact@urgentactionfund.org. Urgent Action Fund for Women's Human Rights is a registered 501 (c)(3) nonprofit.

Please note that you can make gifts directly to Urgent Action Fund – Africa by contacting their office at info@urgentactionfund-africa.or.ke or 254-20-2301740 or visit their website at <http://www.urgentactionfund-africa.or.ke/>.

The financial statements for Urgent Action Fund are prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) in the U.S., and have been audited by the independent accounting firm Doty, Lyle & Jones, LLC for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2008.

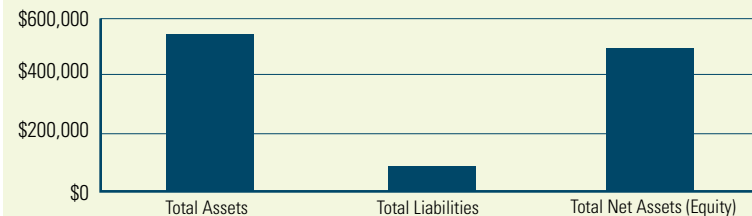
To obtain a copy of the full auditors' report, please contact Urgent Action Fund or visit our website at www.urgentactionfund.org. UAF is a tax-exempt organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES JAN. 1 – DEC. 31, 2008

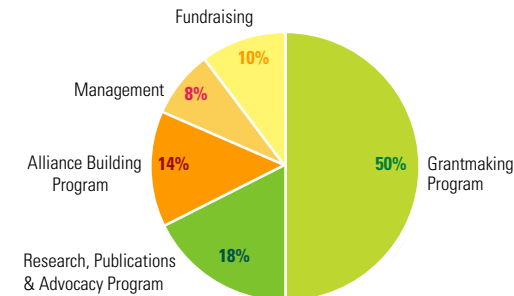
SUPPORT AND REVENUES	
Contributions	\$1,224,028
Investment Income	\$10,864
Misc. Income	\$2,043
Total Support and Revenues	\$1,236,935
EXPENSES	
Program Services	
Rapid-Response Grantmaking	\$817,863
Research, Publications & Advocacy	\$298,486
Alliance Building	\$229,343
Total Program Services	\$1,345,692
Management and Administration	\$139,657
Fundraising	\$164,037
Total Expenses	\$1,649,386
Change in Net Assets	(\$412,451)
Net Assets, beginning of year	\$909,610
Net Assets, end of year	\$497,159

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION DEC. 31, 2008

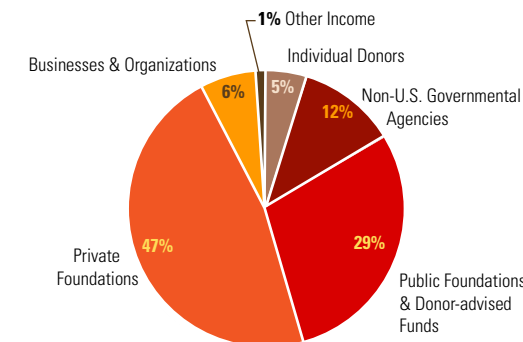
Assets		Liabilities and Net Assets (Equity)	
Cash and equivalents	\$296,801	Liabilities:	
Contributions receivable	\$2,785	Accounts payable	\$33,379
Grants receivable	\$214,553	Accrued liabilities	\$14,589
Accounts receivable	\$2,274	Total Liabilities	\$47,968
Prepaid expenses	\$10,555	Net Assets (Equity):	
Fixed Assets, net	\$8,746	Temporarily Restricted	\$328,493
Deposits	\$9,413	Board Reserve Fund	\$155,573
		Other Unrestricted	\$13,093
Total Assets	\$545,127	Total Net Assets	\$497,159
		Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$545,127



TOTAL 2008 EXPENSES



TOTAL 2008 FUNDING





◀ UAF's board and staff are pictured in front of a collection of tributes sent by grantees from around the world in celebration of UAF's 10th Anniversary. Clockwise from the left: Trena Moya, Eleanor Douglas, Sunila Abeysekera, Kaari Murungi (Former Executive Director of UAF-Africa), Melissa Haniewicz, Keely Tongate, Ariella Futral, Amalia Fischer, Chela Blitt, Hope Chigudu, Jelena Đorđević, Julie Shaw, Terry Greenblatt, Rachel Wareham, Clare Murray (Not pictured: Ho-Ming So Denduangrudee, Marta Drury, Saira Hamidi, and Anissa Hélie)

STAFF

- Ariella Futral**, Director, Grantmaking Program
- Terry Greenblatt**, Executive Director & CEO
- Saira Hamidi**, Junior Program Officer
- Melissa Haniewicz**, Development Coordinator
- Julianna Johnson**, Administrative Assistant (through May 2008)
- Greta Jonikaite**, Grants Program Associate (through July 2008)
- Trena Moya**, Director, Finance and Operations
- Clare Murray**, Office Coordinator
- Julie Shaw**, Executive Director & CEO (through June 2008)
- Ho-Ming So Denduangrudee**, Development Officer
for Philanthropic Partnerships
- Keely Tongate**, Program Officer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Sunila Abeysekera**, Sri Lanka, Co-Chair
- Chela Blitt**, USA (through October 2008)
- Jelena Đorđević**, Serbia, Secretary
- Eleanor Douglas**, Colombia, Co-Chair
- Marta Drury**, USA
- Amalia Fischer**, Brazil/Mexico
- Terry Greenblatt**, USA/Israel, Executive Director & CEO
- Anissa Helie**, Algeria/France
- Julie Shaw**, USA, Executive Director (through June 2008)
- Rita Thapa**, Nepal (through October 2008)
- Rachel Wareham**, Afghanistan/Kosova/Nepal, Treasurer

INTERNS

- Asia Hassan Kambal
- Saren Oliver
- Sierra Shaffer

Reading requests from all over the world and the different projects that women are undertaking within their own societies has had a most profound effect on me. As sad as some of the situations are, I always left UAF optimistic, because there are women... working in the harshest and most difficult environments to make much needed and necessary changes within their own spheres of influence. As I approach my last day at UAF, I am humbled and awakened... I shall continue my journey as a global citizen, one with a sense of awareness, responsibility, and motivation.

– Asia Kambal Intern at UAF, July 2008–February 2009



◀ A young woman participates in peace lessons organized by Journalist Women's Center in Georgia in response to the outbreak of violence in September 2008. Thousands of women and children attended the peace lessons, learning about the international laws that protect women's rights in times of conflict and how to become an ambassador for peace.



BEING ACTIVIST-LED AND –INSPIRED, TO ME, MEANS WE HAVE OUR EARS TO THE GROUND, WE ARE HEARING WHAT POPULAR WOMEN ACTIVISTS ARE FEELING, DOING AND THINKING. AN ACTIVIST FUND, GUIDED BY FEMINIST PRINCIPLES, PAYS SPECIAL ATTENTION TO WOMEN ACTIVISTS ON THE GROUND OFTEN EXCLUDED IN MAINSTREAM DISCOURSES. IT IS DELIBERATELY SENSITIVE TO THOSE WHOSE VOICES ARE MUTED FOR REASONS OF SOCIAL STATUS, GENDER, CLASS, RACE, ETHNICITY, LANGUAGE, SEXUAL IDENTITY, AND CULTURAL EXCLUSION. IT EMBRACES AND DEFENDS THE STRUGGLES OF WOMEN ON THE “FRONT LINES” IN THE DEFENSE OF THEIR RIGHTS.

– ELEANOR DOUGLAS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE NEW UAF-LATIN AMERICA & FORMER UAF BOARD CO-CHAIR

Cover photos (from left to right):

Participants of Journalist Women's Center in Georgia "peace lessons."

Young activists from Liga ng Kabataang Moro in the Philippines.

Activists from the Women's Rehabilitation Centre (WOREC) in Nepal.

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**URGENT
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FUND ♀**

FOR WOMEN'S HUMAN RIGHTS

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