



DIVING DEEPER:

Under the surface of LBQTI funding data
Global Resources Report Brief
Series #1 of 4
FEBRUARY 2021

Diving Deeper Brief Series

The 2017–2018 *Global Resources Report: Government and Philanthropic Support for LGBTI Communities*¹ (Global Resources Report, or GRR) documents six years of global LGBTI funding, from 2013 to 2018, including over 19,764 grants awarded in 2017-2018 by 800 foundations, NGO intermediary funders, and corporations and by 15 donor government and multilateral agencies. The 2017-2018 GRR documents a total of \$560 million in grants awarded in that two-year period. The report provides detailed data on the distribution of LGBTI funding by geography, issue, strategy, and population focus, offering a tool for identifying trends, gaps, and opportunities in the rapidly changing landscape of LGBTI funding.

The biennial Global Resources Report contains over 125 pages of data and analysis – and yet there are many more ways to assess and engage with the information collected by Funders for LGBTQ Issues and Global Philanthropy Project.

In 2021, for the first time, GPP is sharing a series of “Diving Deeper” briefs to explore a number of new analyses using the GRR dataset. These briefs focus on: global LBQTI funding, the role of intermediaries and government embassies in global LGBTI funding, and regional trends. As we move towards development of the next iteration of the Global Resources Report which will be published in 2022, this series further illuminates the importance of the GRR data in ongoing strategy and advocacy towards impactful resourcing of LGBTI human rights advancement and inclusive development. The “Diving Deeper” briefs are developed to serve as tools for LGBTI movements, funders, and policy makers.

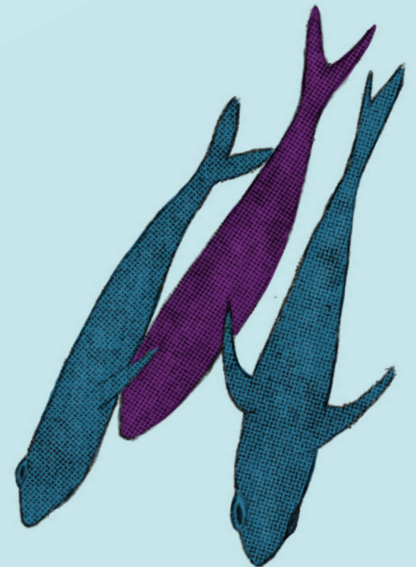
The “Diving Deeper” brief series is developed by the GPP staff, with additional review and feedback from members and other key partners.

Introduction

The 2017–2018 *Global Resources Report: Government and Philanthropic Support for LGBTI Communities* documents global LGBTI funding from 2013 to 2018. Across each biennial GRR report, over 80 percent of the documented global funding (excluding funding focused on the U.S.) was categorized as General LBQ. Funding explicitly focused on lesbian, bisexual, and queer women (LBQ) consistently made up less than 10 percent of the total, while trans (T) funding reached 11 percent and intersex (I) funding reached only 2 percent at their highest points.²

Numerous GPP members and partners are committed to increasing the amount of funding and the quality of focused grantmaking reaching global LBQ, trans, and intersex communities. The longtime GPP Trans and Intersex Funding Working Group is one example of a funder advocacy space engaged in these efforts.

This “Diving Deeper” brief shares additional data analysis from the *Global Resources Report* exploring gaps and improvements over time and identifies opportunities to increase funding for LBQ, trans, and intersex communities and movements. The brief also identifies top LBQTI funders and shares good practice examples of government and multilateral funders integrating LBQTI issues into their gender equality development programming.



¹ Global Philanthropy Project and Funders for LGBTQ Issues. (2020). *2017–2018 Global Resources Report: Government and Philanthropic Support for LGBTI Communities*. globalresourcesreport.org

² The total funding for LBQ, Trans, and Intersex communities in addition to General LGBTQ amounts to more than 100% due to coding some grants to multiple subpopulations.

Methodology

The *Diving Deeper* brief series draws from and expands data analysis developed for the 2017-2018 *Global Resources Report: Government and Philanthropic Support for LGBTI Communities*. This brief series will retain the methodology documented on page 8-14 of that report. We note a few elements key to this brief.

Funding attributed in full to year of grant award

The GRR provides data on the year of grant award as opposed to the year(s) of grant disbursement. This means that for multiyear commitments, the full sum of the grant is counted in the year in which it was awarded.

Funding focused on populations

The GRR collects and analyzes data on grantmaking that *specifically focuses* on lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, and intersex (LGBTI) issues and includes two sets of grants: (1) grants awarded to organizations that primarily focus on LGBTI communities and (2) grants awarded to organizations that serve a larger audience, and are directed to a project that specifically focuses on LGBTI communities. The data does not include grants to organizations or projects that are generally inclusive of LGBTI people unless they explicitly address an LGBTI issue or population.

This method of documenting focused, as opposed to generally inclusive, funding is also applied to LGBTI “subpopulations” based on sexual orientation, gender identity, and sex characteristics. For this reason, the GRR makes every effort to code grants to only one subpopulation within the LGBTI acronym. For example, grants are coded as intersex funding when they are focused exclusively on intersex communities, rather than attributing intersex funding to all groups that use the acronym LGBTI. For grants focused on multiple sexual orientation subpopulations, the “general LBQ” code is often used.

In the case of grants identifying populations explicitly intersecting across sexual orientation, gender identity, and sex characteristics – such as “LBT women” or “trans and intersex” – a grant may be coded to a primary group or in some cases may be coded to multiple subpopulations based on the grant and organization descriptions. In the case of especially large grants, the coding may be split to multiple subpopulations.

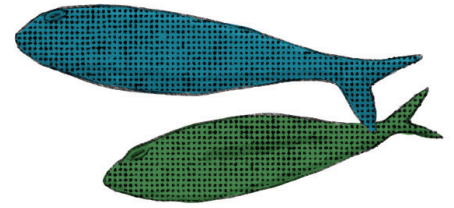
Recognizing these limitations of data analysis, the *Global Resources Report* aims to provide the best possible data to evaluate and document global LGBTI funding flows. The “Diving Deeper” series provides an opportunity to look more closely at areas of the data not fully visible within the biennial report.

Government funding does not include domestic programs

The GRR documents funding awarded by donor governments through a range of agencies and embassies. This report includes government funding focused on international development efforts to advance LGBTI rights and *does not* include domestic government funding.

Reporting global funding excluding funds focused on the U.S.

In most sections of the *Global Resources Report*, and in this brief, we exclude U.S.-focused funds (unless otherwise noted) and report on all other global LGBTI funding. As documented in The Big Picture section of the GRR, funding to the U.S. vastly outsize funding to all other world regions and is separately explored in detail by Funders for LGBTQ Issues in their annual domestic tracking reports.



This model of coding grants regarding subpopulation yields challenges in representing the landscape of solidarity and mutual efforts between and within LGBTI movements and other populations. Additionally, this method of reporting does not fully reflect the nuances of multiple and intersecting identities.

For example, the category of LBQ women includes trans women who are not heterosexual. The category of intersex people includes some people who are also LBQ and/or trans.

LBQ trans women and LBQ intersex persons are always included in the category of LBQ women within the GRR data analysis process. The same logic applies to the category of Gay/Bisexual Men/Queer Men/MSM.

Under the surface of LBQTI funding data

TOTAL FUNDING FOCUSED ON LBQTI COMMUNITIES

LBQ, trans, and intersex organizations and movements continue to lead global, regional, national, and local efforts to uproot and overturn widespread legal, political, and social discrimination; transform cultures and institutions of marginalization; and push back against “anti-gender” groups and other anti-rights opposition actors.

Diving deeper to look at the funding for LBQTI communities across 2013–2018, we document inspiring progress in mobilizing resources for this work.

Chart 1

Total amount and number of grants focused on LBQ, trans, and intersex populations [percentage change compares 2013–2014 to 2017–2018]

Note: In the above chart and throughout this report, we exclude funding focused on the U.S. and funds awarded for the purpose of regranting unless explicitly noted. Unless otherwise indicated, all currencies in this brief are in U.S. Dollars.



Population focus	2013–2014	2015–2016	2017–2018	% change
LBQ women - amount	\$9,574,603	\$6,434,396	\$17,571,972	+84
LBQ women - # grants	167	236	496	+197
Trans - amount	\$18,839,254	\$20,027,222	\$24,941,664	+32
Trans - # grants	213	444	721	+238
Intersex - amount	\$1,099,511	\$2,315,757	\$4,130,073	+276
Intersex - # grants	21	107	179	+752

While we celebrate this encouraging trend, the levels of funding remain far below what is needed to address the human rights violations and barriers to inclusive development faced by LBQ, trans, and intersex communities around the world.

Many LBQ, trans, and intersex organizations are working in ‘survival mode.’

According to *Vibrant Yet Under-resourced: The State of Lesbian, Bisexual and Queer Movements*, almost half (47 percent) of all LBQ-led organizations operate on less than \$10,000 per year and fewer than one in four groups receive sufficient funding to fully implement their strategies.³ In 2016, more than half (56 percent) of trans groups responding to *The State of Trans Organizing* survey had annual budgets of less than \$10,000⁴, while only 19 percent of intersex groups responding to *The State of Intersex Organizing* survey were receiving more than \$10,000 in external funding.^{5 6}

In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic has necessitated many LBQTI organizations to shift programmatic focus and address the immediate humanitarian needs of their communities, especially urgent given a lack of support from state and mainstream services.⁷

DOCUMENT KEYS

Throughout the charts in this report, please note these icon keys which identify whether reported funds include funding awarded for the purposes of regranting and funding focused on the United States.

REGRANTING

INCLUDED

NOT INCLUDED

INCLUDED

NOT INCLUDED

³ Mama Cash and Astraea Lesbian Foundation for Justice. (2020). *Vibrant Yet Under-Resourced: The State of Lesbian, Bisexual and Queer Movements*, p. 13. <https://fundlbq.org/>

⁴ Global Philanthropy Project. (2019). *Funder Briefing: The State of Trans Funding*, page 5. <https://globalphilanthropyproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/2019-Trans-Funding-Brief.pdf>

⁵ Global Philanthropy Project. (2019). *Funder Briefing: The State of Intersex Funding*, page 5. <https://globalphilanthropyproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/2019-Intersex-Funding-Brief.pdf>

⁶ External funding included funding from governments, philanthropic foundations, or non-government organizations beyond the group and its members. This distinction reflects that many LBQTI groups are funded only through small contributions by the groups’ own members.

⁷ Global Philanthropy Project. (2020). *Where are the Global COVID-19 Resources for LGBTI Communities?*, page 9. <https://globalphilanthropyproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Mapping-COVID-Report-2021-Final-1.21.21.pdf>

Funding for work led by LBQ women, trans people, and intersex people

As indicated in Chart 1, funding for programs focused on LBQ communities increased by 84 percent comparing 2013–2014 and 2017–2018, with close to double the number of grants awarded. However, as demonstrated in Chart 2, funding for LBQ-led organizations decreased 3 percent. Furthermore, the percentage of LBQ-focused funding awarded to LBQ-led organizations dropped considerably, from 67 percent in 2013–2014 to 35 percent in 2017–2018.

Comparing the same time period, funding focused on trans communities increased 32 percent, more than doubling the number of grants awarded. The amount given to trans-led organizations for this work has grown at an even higher rate, increasing by 184 percent.

There was almost four times as much funding focused on intersex communities in 2017–2018 compared to 2013–2014, with over seven times increase in the number of grants. Similarly, intersex-led organizations received more than three times more funding. Although funding awarded for intersex issues is still very limited, these increases within only a few years clearly indicate the power of ongoing advocacy by intersex communities and supporters.



Chart 2 – Total amount of grants for LBQ, trans, and intersex-led organizations [percentage change compares 2013–2014 to 2017–2018]

US — R —

Leadership Focus	2013–2014	2015–2016	2017–2018	% change
LBQ women	\$6,423,316	\$2,415,343	\$6,203,881	–3%
Trans	\$3,580,788	\$6,728,010	\$10,156,301	+184%
Intersex	\$391,398	\$1,231,628	\$1,646,707	+321%

A greater number of organizations led by LBQ women, trans people, and intersex people are receiving funding. As shown in Chart 3, there has been a considerable increase in the number of organizations led by LBQ women, trans people, and intersex people receiving at least one grant within each two-year *Global Resources Report* period.⁸ These increases reflect growing global movements for the LBQ, trans, and intersex rights.

Chart 3 – Number of LBQ, trans, and intersex organizations receiving at least one grant

US — R —

Population focus	2013–2014	2015–2016	2017–2018
LBQ women	43	53	100
Trans	39	75	155
Intersex	4	23	43

Most funding focused on LBQ, trans, and intersex communities was not given to organizations led by the communities

Across these six years of documented global funding, a key finding remains that **the majority of funding focused on LBQ, trans, and intersex communities was not given to organizations led by the communities themselves.**

⁸ Noting that this is the number of groups receiving at least one grant within each two-year period of the GRR, in this assessment many of the groups have received multiple grants and receive support from multiple funders within each two-year period.

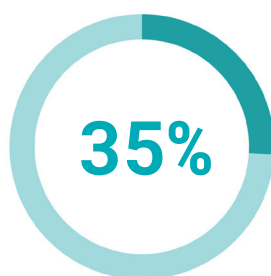
Are grant amounts getting smaller?

In Chart 3, the number of LBQ-led organizations receiving grants increased significantly between 2013-2014 and 2017-2018. Despite this increase, we note that in Chart 2, LBQ-led organizations received less funding in the same time comparison. However, as per the Global Resources Report methodology, grant income is assigned in full to the year awarded, not the year distributed, and grant duration can therefore complicate assessment of average grant size. For LBQ funding, over 65 percent of the 2013-2014 grant amount total was a single major grant awarded for distribution over four or more years. There were no similarly large grants in the 2017-2018 dataset. If that large grant is removed from the 2013-2014 comparison data, the average grant amount has remained relatively level.

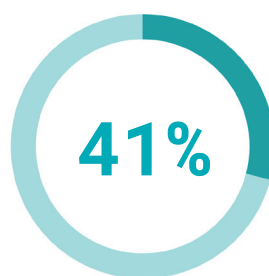
In comparison, funding for trans-led organizations in 2013-2014 included only one-year grants while the 2017-2018 grants included a number of larger multi-year grants among a wide spread of amounts including many small grants, yielding a smaller average grant size in 2017-2018.

Funding for intersex-led organizations in 2013-2014 included only six grants, most within a similar range and with durations of 1-2 years. In contrast, 2017-2018 funding included close to 100 grants with a wide range of amounts including many small grants, and a larger number of multiyear grants. As a result of this increased range of funding, the average size of grants to intersex-led groups did significantly decrease.

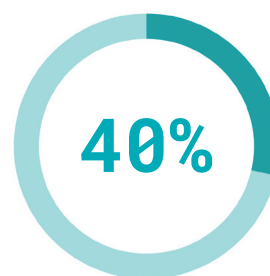
LBQ women, trans people, and intersex people hold unique expertise about the issues affecting their lives. Despite this, in 2017-2018:



LBQ-led organizations received **35 percent** of all funding focused on LBQ women.



Trans-led organizations received **41 percent** of funds focused on trans communities.



Intersex-led organizations received **40 percent** of all funding focused on intersex communities.

Sources of Funding

Charts 4-6 below show the changes in funding for LBQ, trans, and intersex communities from each funder type comparing 2013-2014 and 2017-2018.

Across all three populations, funding increased from each funder type except government and multilateral donors.

For the purposes of this brief we have additionally analyzed a segment of feminist and women's rights funders based on two criteria: those who reported to the Global Resources Report (GRR) at least once between 2013-2018, and those who hold membership in either the Philanthropy to Advance Women's Human Rights (PAWHR) network or the Prospera International Network of Women's Funds (Prospera). The list is included as Appendix 1 within this document.

In a few instances, we included foundations that reported to the GRR and were not members of either PAWHR or Prospera because research on their mission and focus indicated that they were a funder focused on feminism and/or women's rights.

Funding for work focused on LBQ communities increased from all funder types while funding to LBQ-led organizations increased from all types except government and multilateral donors, which decreased significantly.

Feminist and women's rights funders which were not members of GPP showed dramatic increases in funding focused on LBQ populations and LBQ-led organizations, in part because the initial reported amounts were so small. These increases represent the difference between \$28,000 and \$1.66 million in LBQ funding, and between \$4,000 and \$1.24 million in funding for LBQ-led organizations.

Chart 4 - Funding focused on LBQ women Communities, by Funder Type
[percentage change compares 2013–2014 to 2017–2018]

US — R —

Funder type	All funding focused on LBQ women (% change)	Funding to LBQ-led orgs (% change)
Government and multilateral funders	+12	- 61
Private Foundations	+114	+43
Public Foundations	+125	+104
Feminist and women's rights funders (members of GPP)	+77	+43
Feminist and women's rights funders (non-members of GPP)	5.7x	31x

Funding focused on trans communities increased from all sources between 2013–2014 and 2017–2018, except from government and multilateral donors.

Funding to trans-led organizations from government and multilateral donors also showed a significant decrease, while all other funder types increased their support.

Again, feminist and women's rights funders which were not members of GPP showed dramatic increases in funding focused on trans populations and trans-led organizations, in part because the initial reported amounts were so small. These increases represent the difference between \$10,000 and \$643,000 in trans funding, and between \$8,000 and \$411,000 in funding for trans-led organizations.

Chart 5 - Funding focused on Trans Communities, by Funder Type
[percentage change compares 2013–2014 to 2017–2018]

US — R —

Funder type	All funding focused on trans communities (% change)	Funding to trans-led orgs (% change)
Government and multilateral funders	-38	-63
Private Foundations	+116	+170
Public Foundations	+27	+254
Feminist and women's rights funders (members of GPP)	+112	+184
Feminist and women's rights funders (non-members of GPP)	61x	+51x

Similarly, funding focused on intersex communities, including funding to intersex-led organizations, increased from all sources between 2013–2014 and 2017–2018, except for government and multilateral donors.

Governments and multilateral donors made grants totaling \$273,920 focused on intersex communities globally in 2017–2018. The chart below lists "not-applicable" (N/A) percentage change as there was no recorded intersex funding by government and multilateral donors in 2013–2014. In 2017–2018, there were no recorded grants awarded by government or multilateral donors to intersex-led organizations, as was the case in 2013–2014.

While feminist and women's rights funders which are members of GPP showed meaningful increases in intersex funding between 2013–2018, there was no documented intersex funding by feminist and women's rights funders which were not members of GPP in that time.

Chart 6 – Funding focused on Intersex Communities, by Funder Type [percentage change compares 2013–2014 to 2017–2018]

US — R —

Funder type	All funding focused on intersex communities (% change)	Funding to intersex-led orgs (% change)
Government and multilateral funders	N/A	N/A
Private Foundations	+433	+389
Public Foundations	+314	+352
Feminist and women's rights funders (members of GPP)	+156	+248
Feminist and women's rights funders (non-members of GPP)	N/A	N/A

Celebrating Top Funders

While we commit to the work ahead in mobilizing increased and improved LBQTI resources, we also want to highlight 29 funders whose crucial global support of LBO, trans, and intersex communities placed them in the top ten funder lists for 2017–2018 for total amount (sum USD) and/or in the number of grants awarded.

In Chart 7 below, we have added an asterisk next to the names of GPP member organizations and we celebrate that 14 of 21 GPP members are included as leaders in these funding areas. American Jewish World Service, Astraea Lesbian Foundation for Justice (including the Intersex Human Rights Fund), and Mama Cash are the three funders who rank in the top ten within each column. This illuminates the important role of public foundations, and specifically feminist public funders, within the wider funding ecosystem.

In alignment with Top 10 funder lists in the *Global Resources Report*, funding awarded for regranting is included in calculations in the list below. The list below excludes government funders because a focused list of donor governments is shared in Chart 8. Funding focused on the U.S. is also excluded.

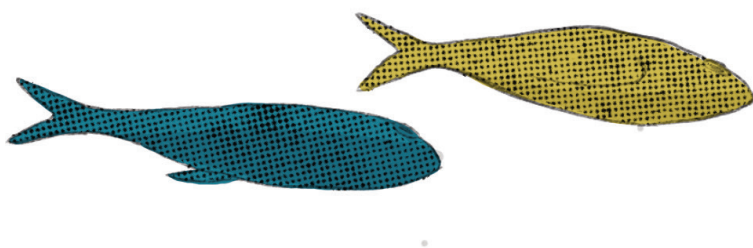


Chart 7 – The top ten funders of global LBQ, trans, and intersex populations in 2017–2018; ranked from #1 (highest funding sum/ number of grants) to #10 by total amount (sum USD) and by number of grants in each population category

Note: Because the tenth highest number of LBQ grants was awarded by two institutions, both are included on this chart.

If anonymous funding was included as a group in this chart, it would rank in the top ten trans and intersex funders by total amount, and in the top ten intersex funders by number of grants.

* = GPP member



TOP LBQTI Funders		Top 10 Funders (sum USD)			Top 10 Funders (# of grants)		
Grantmaker Name	Foundation type	LBQ	Trans	Intersex	LBQ	Trans	Intersex
African Women's Development Fund	Public	9					
AIDSfonds	Public		8				
American Jewish World Service*	Public	10	10	5	2	3	4
Arcus Foundation*	Private	5	3	4			8
Astraea Lesbian Foundation for Justice*	Public	3	4	1	1	1	1
Baring Foundation*	Private	4	9		10		
Comic Relief	Public	8					
Dreilinden*	Private			9			10
ELAS - Social Investment Fund	Public				10		
Fondo Centroamericano de Mujeres (FCAM)	Public				5		
Fondo Semillas	Public				8		
Foundation for a Just Society*	Private	2					
FRIDA the Young Feminist Fund	Public				9	7	
Fundación Triángulo	Public	7					
Global Fund for Women*	Public				7		
Heinrich Böll Stiftung	Private						6
International Trans Fund*	Public		7	7		2	5
M.A.C. AIDS Fund			2			8	
Mama Cash*	Public	6	5	3	3	4	2
National Lottery Community Fund	Public		6				
Open Society Foundations*	Private		1	2		5	3
Sigrid Rausing Trust*	Private			10			
Solidarity Foundation	Public						9
Swedish Federation for LGBTQ Rights (RFSL)	Public			8			
The Other Foundation*	Public				6	10	7
UHAI EASHRI (East African Sexual Health and Rights Initiative)*	Public				4	6	
UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women	Multilateral	1					
Urgent Action Fund – USA*	Public					9	
VOICE	Public			6			

Focus: Donor Governments

In the last few decades, numerous donor governments concerned about human rights have scaled up their development assistance focusing on gender equality. Efforts to address LBQ, trans, and intersex issues are an important part of working towards gender equality. Indeed, many LBQ, trans, and intersex-led organizations and movements are advancing gender equality at the local, national, and global levels.

In 2017–2018, donor governments contributed \$4.6 billion in overseas development assistance (ODA) towards projects principally focused on gender equality.⁹ Many of these donors have also played an increasingly important role in resourcing the global LGBTI rights movement. **Yet funding focused on LBQ, trans, and intersex communities is a small part of their global LGBTI grantmaking, and a smaller fraction still when compared to overall gender equality funding.**

In 2017–2018, donor government funds accounted for only four percent of global LBQ funding (\$2.7 million), four percent of global trans funding (\$1.9 million), and two percent of global intersex funding (\$274,000).

Chart 8 below outlines the top 10 government donors' global funding focused on LBQTI populations in 2017–2018 based on the *Global Resources Report* dataset. It also shows the amount of overseas development assistance (ODA) principally targeting gender equality that was given by each of these donors over the same period, based on reporting to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Comparison of these two datasets provides an indication of the current small level of dedicated funding for LBQTI issues by the leading government donors as a percentage of their overall funding to address gender equality.

Chart 8 – Top donor government funders of global LBQ, trans, and intersex populations by total amount (Sum USD) and as a percentage of overseas development assistance focused on gender equality [in 2017–2018]

Note: We generally do include regranting in top donor lists, however no LBQTI funding was awarded for the purpose of regranting by donors on this list in 2017–2018. As in the top donor list above, funding focused on the U.S. is excluded.



Government Donor ¹⁰	Combined LBQTI Funding (in millions)	ODA Principally Targeting Gender Equality ¹¹ (in millions)	LBQTI Funding as % of Gender Equality ODA
Sweden	\$1.7	\$1,157.2	0.15
United Kingdom	\$0	\$1,064.6	0
Netherlands	\$0.7	\$845.2	0.08
Norway	\$0.3	\$276.2	0.11
Finland	\$0	\$62.9	0
Canada	\$1.6	\$211.4	0.77
Denmark	\$0.3	\$218.1	0.14
Germany	\$0.2	\$434	0.05
France	\$0	\$421.9	0
Australia	\$0	\$625.5	0

The room for improvement in donor government and multilateral LBQTI funding can also be demonstrated through comparison with funding levels from feminist and women's rights funders.

⁹ OECD DAC NETWORK ON GENDER EQUALITY (GENDERNET). (2020). *Aid Focused on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment*, page 1. <https://www.oecd.org/development/gender-development/Aid-Focused-on-Gender-Equality-and-Women-s-Empowerment-2020.pdf>

¹⁰ The U.S Government did not report to the 2017–2018 *Global Resources Report*.

¹¹ Figures taken from OECD International Development Statistics (database). *Creditor Reporting System: Aid activities targeting gender equality*. Accessed 2020, December 14. <https://doi.org/10.1787/data-00824-en>

Charts 9 and 10 below highlight this comparison in LBQ, trans, and intersex funding levels, as well as specifically for LBQ, trans, and intersex-led organizations.

As noted above, no documented funding for intersex populations and intersex-led organizations was identified among non-GPP member feminist and women’s rights funders in 2013–2018. This data point illuminates an area for additional advocacy within feminist and women’s rights funding conversations.

Chart 9 – Funding by source as a percentage of all funding for LBQ, trans, and intersex communities in 2017–2018; comparison between feminist and women’s rights funders and donor government and multilateral funders

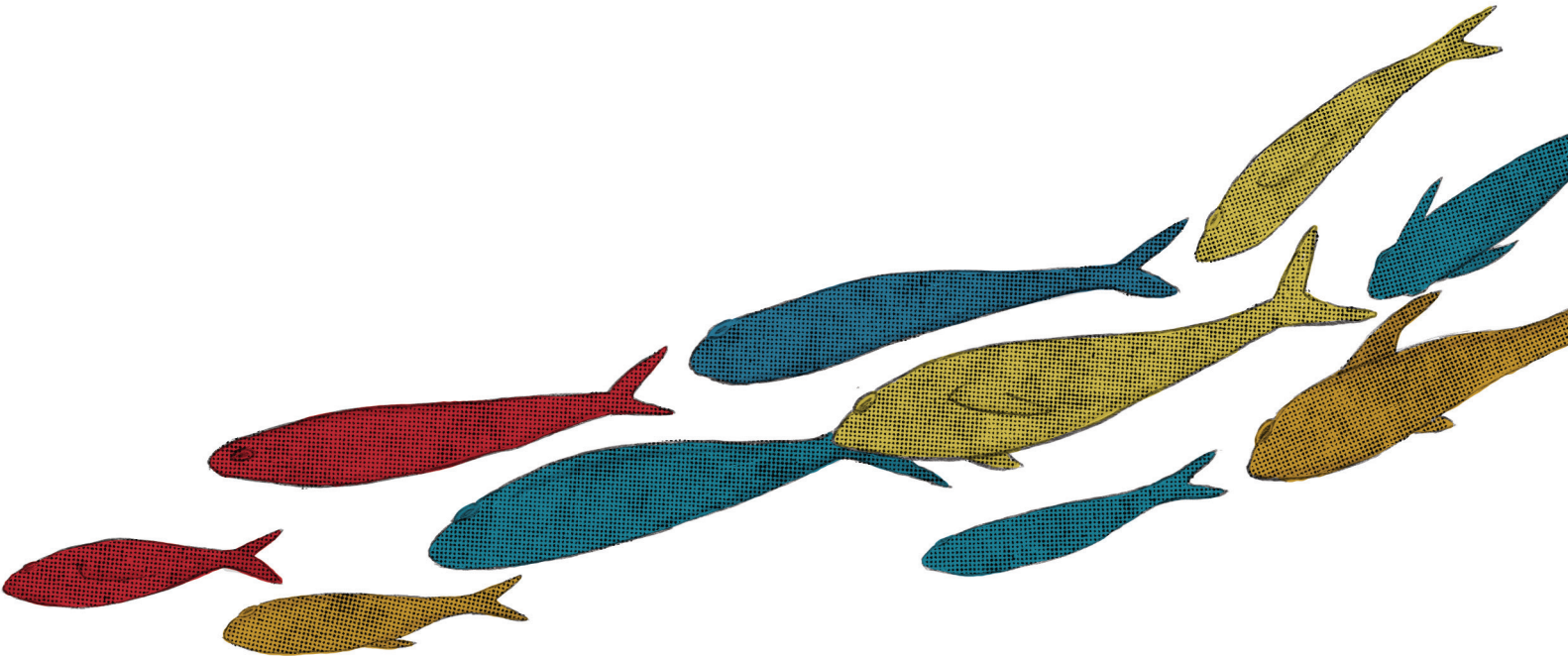
US — R —

Population Focus	Feminist and women’s rights funders	GPP members	Non-GPP members	Government and multilateral donors
LBQ Women	36%	27%	9%	27%
Trans	32%	28%	4%	8%
Intersex	57%	57%	0%	7%

Chart 10 – Funding focused on LBQTI-led grantees as a percentage of all funding focused on the population; comparison between feminist and women’s rights funders and donor government and multilateral funders [in 2017–2018]

US — R —

Leadership focus	Feminist and women’s rights funders	GPP members	Non-GPP members	Government and multilateral donors
LBQ-led grantees	59%	39%	20%	25%
Trans-led grantees	51%	44%	7%	2%
Intersex-led grantees	80%	80%	0%	0%



Good practices: government and multilateral funder case studies

The data explored above demonstrates much room for development and fine-tuning of government and multilateral funding flows to increase focused LBQTI funding. At the same time, there has been significant positive development in recent years. We highlight here three encouraging case studies which indicate paths for successful LBQTI funding: The Government of Sweden, The Government of Canada, and The UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women. These three funders have been highlighted because of their efforts in recent years to prioritize LBQTI issues (and more broadly LGBTI issues in the case of Sweden) into their development assistance programming targeting gender equality and human rights.

THE GOVERNMENT OF SWEDEN

Leading global support for LGBTI issues developed through a human rights and gender equality lens

Sweden is the largest funder of LGBTI human rights in the world, providing more than US\$30 million in funding for LGBTI issues across the Global South and East in 2017–2018.¹² Sweden's global LGBTI funding strategy and programming emerged from a broader commitment to addressing human rights and gender equality through foreign policy, and has demonstrated continued commitment to those values.

The 2003 *Swedish Policy for Global Development* provided a first ever reference in Swedish foreign policy to the right of all people to enjoy their human rights regardless of sexual orientation.¹³ To assist action on this directive by the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the two government institutions commissioned an initial review of Swedish policy and administration of LGBT issues in international development cooperation, published in 2005. In addition to recommending an increase in level of support, the review's main recommendation was that "LGBT and intersex issues should be treated as a human rights issue and included in programming on gender equality and social equity and considered whenever revising policy and strategy documents that deal with gender, democracy, human rights, gender-based violence, health and sexuality."¹⁴

In practice, this meant:

- Engaging in dialogue on LGBTI issues with counterparts in development cooperation countries, as part of discussions about "social and gender inequalities and their implications for development."
- Within bilateral support, integrating the special vulnerability of LGBT persons within programs to fight gender-based violence, and across analysis, dialogue and support for human rights, health, education, culture and research.¹⁵

¹² Global Philanthropy Project and Funders for LGBTQ Issues. (2020). *2017–2018 Global Resources Report: Philanthropic and Government Support for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Intersex Communities*, page 33. <https://globalresourcesreport.org/>

¹³ Sida. (2005). *A Study of Policy and Administration: Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Issues in Development*, page 6.

¹⁴ Ibid, page 6.

¹⁵ Ibid.

As a follow up to the 2005 report, Sida developed an action plan for its work on sexual orientation and gender identity in international development cooperation for 2007–2009.¹⁶ The overall goal of the plan was “to enable lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons to improve their living conditions in the countries where Sweden is engaged in development cooperation,” as part of Sweden’s broader international development cooperation policy objective “to help create conditions that will enable poor women, men, girls and boys to improve their quality of life.”¹⁷

In 2010 an independent review of the implementation of the 2007-2009 action plan was undertaken, which provided a range of recommendations on how Sida could strengthen the mainstreaming of LGBTI issues, including by requiring all Swedish embassies to address decriminalization within ongoing human rights dialogues in countries where same-sex relations remained illegal; including LGBTI indicators in gender, SRHR, HIV/AIDS, and human rights programs; and providing direct political, financial and moral support to local LGBTI organizations.¹⁸

Although Sida discontinued the use of action plans for some years after 2010, LGBTI human rights continued to be an important issue within the agency’s overall focus on poverty reduction, human rights, and gender equality. In 2013, Sida commissioned a further review of its LGBTI work, which found that “the situation and human rights of LGBTI persons is a specific focus area in Sweden’s bilateral and multilateral cooperation on sexual and reproductive health and rights, in its efforts to combat gender-based violence, and in its general gender equality and human rights work. Efforts in this sphere are both normative and operative to its character”.¹⁹ The review found that Sida’s support had resulted in:

- Increased capacity of the LGBTI movement globally, regionally, and in some countries.
- Increased mainstreaming of LGBTI issues in general programs, with around 60 Sida programs addressing LGBTI issues and 23 embassies reporting that LGBTI issues are included in their dialogues with other donors, governments, and NGOs, and with 10 of those having detailed dialogues with governments.
- Sweden being seen as a global leading donor on effective integration of LGBTI issues into development cooperation.²⁰

These outcomes were achieved through a number of broader actions taken by Sida and the Swedish government. In particular, the review noted internal Sida staff training across different sections of the organization on integrating LGBTI issues into their work and engagement by the senior leadership of Sida on LGBTI issues and high-level political commitments from the Swedish Government all contributed to an increase in the inclusion of LGBTI issues across Sida. Further, it noted the importance of linking bilateral and multilateral diplomacy with development cooperation to advance LGBTI issues in the countries of focus for Sweden’s international development cooperation policy.

Most recently, the Swedish Foreign Service action plan for feminist foreign policy 2019-2022 commits the Swedish Foreign Service to “challenge norms that make it difficult for women and girls and LGBTI persons to enjoy their sexual and reproductive health and their rights”²¹ and “gender mainstream the activities that Sweden takes part in, organizes or supports financially, both bilaterally and multilaterally...to enhance the visibility of – and thereby strengthen – women, girls and LGBTI people as actors.”²²

The Government of Canada

Promoting human rights and improving socio-economic outcomes for LGBTQ2I people

Caribbean LBTIQ Women Voice and Leadership

The Canadian government’s 2017 Feminist International Assistance Policy announcement included a bold commitment of CA\$150 million in support of Global South women’s rights organizations through the Women’s Voice and Leadership Program. The fourth project to be announced under this program was Women’s Voice and Leadership – Caribbean. This project is a five-year joint initiative of CA\$4.8 million between the Equality Fund and the Astraea Lesbian Foundation for Justice (Astraea) to support feminist organizing to advance gender equality in the Caribbean, with a particular focus on the most vulnerable and marginalized.

¹⁶ Sida. (2007). *Action plan for Sida’s work on sexual orientation and gender identity in international development cooperation 2007–2009*.

¹⁷ Ibid, page 4.

¹⁸ Sida. (2010). *Evaluation of Sida’s Action Plan on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity in Swedish Development Cooperation 2007–2009*, page 10.

¹⁹ Sida. (2014). *Study on Sida’s work on human rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons*, page 9.

²⁰ Ibid, page 7.

²¹ Swedish Government. (2019). *Swedish Foreign Service action plan for feminist foreign policy 2019-2022*, page 10.

²² Ibid, page 17.

WVL-Caribbean currently supports 27 grantee partners from across the region including emerging and established organizations operating in both rural areas and urban settings—representing young women, indigenous women, sex workers, and the LGBTIQ-led organizations.

Canada's decision to fund this cross-movement joint collaboration between the Equality Fund and Astraea demonstrates a strategy to support LBQ women, trans and intersex people at the frontlines of discrimination, poverty, and violence in the Caribbean. WVL-Caribbean is improving the access of women's rights organizations and LGBTIQ groups to key resources, including funding, capacity-building, and network and alliance building. Such resources allow these organizations to invest in their own priorities for change and to strengthen the Caribbean women's and LGBTIQ movements as a whole.

Consultations by the Equality Fund and Astraea with feminist movements in the Caribbean region have demonstrated ongoing intersectional organizing. WVL-Caribbean supports women's rights and LGBTIQ groups working at the intersections of the following broad thematic areas: Economic Justice; Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights; Feminist Leadership and Movement-Building; Lesbian, Bisexual and Trans Rights; and Climate Change.

WVL-Caribbean is being supported by a Caribbean Advisory Group, which is providing high-level support and advice on the main components of the project, including multi-year and responsive grant-making, capacity-building, and network and alliance building, as well as on other key aspects, such as project sustainability. The WVL-Caribbean Advisory Group is comprised of an outstanding group of feminist leaders from across the Caribbean, coming from different backgrounds and generations and with different perspectives, but united by their shared passion and interest in advancing women's and LGBTIQ rights and gender equality in the Caribbean.

LGBTQ2I International Assistance Program

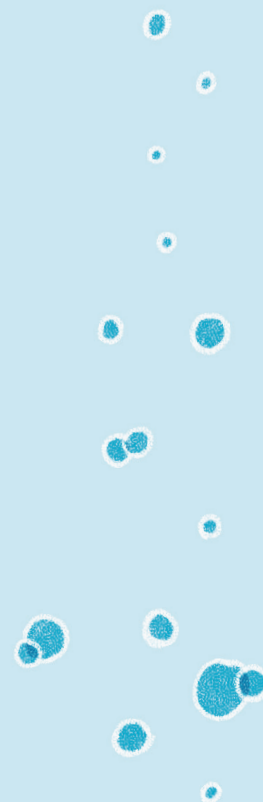
In 2019, the Government of Canada announced the LGBTQ2I International Assistance Program - CA\$30 million in dedicated international assistance funding over five years, followed by CA\$10 million per year thereafter, to support Canadian and local partners working with LGBTQ2I communities in developing countries.

A core element of Canada's LGBTQ2I International Assistance Program is that it is being designed and implemented in keeping with the principles of a human rights-based approach. This innovative program serves as a pilot for Global Affairs Canada in this regard and it is intended to yield lessons learned and enable knowledge exchange at multiple levels in order to expand institutional experience in what is a complex area of development practice.

The Program is delivered through three windows of funding:

- Canadian Partnerships Window (CA\$10M): aims to reinforce the efforts of Canadian organizations working to advance the rights of LGBTQ2I people in developing countries. This funding window resulted in the creation of the Act Together for Inclusion Fund;
- Global Partnerships Window (CA\$5M): which supports LGBTQ2I communities in developing countries through impact-driven and innovative global initiatives that contribute to LGBTQ2I-related policy, advocacy and research efforts;
- Geographic Programs Window (CA\$15M): which will support local and regional organizations located in developing countries that are engaging in grassroots projects that address the needs and priorities of LGBTQ2I communities.

The Program's human rights-based and inclusive approach also places an emphasis on a participatory process, whereby the meaningful and ongoing engagement of Canadian CSOs and local, regional and international partners to ensure that programming is informed by the perspectives and realities of LGBTQ2I persons and their representative organizations in developing countries.

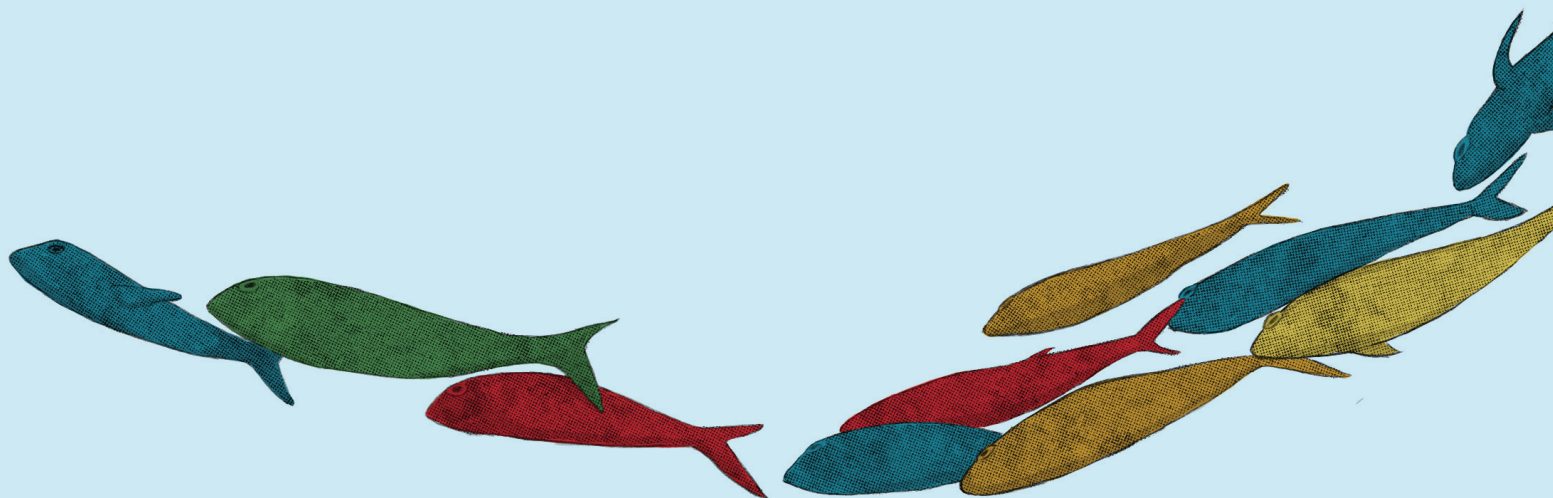


Centering lesbian, bisexual, queer, and trans organizations in the UN's work to end violence against women

The UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women (UN Trust Fund) provides support to innovative initiatives preventing violence against women and girls, implementing laws and policies, and improving access to vital services for survivors. It prioritizes reaching women and girls from communities who are often left furthest behind, and who are often at increased risk of violence not only due to gender, but also due to other factors including sexuality and expression. In the last few years, the UN Trust Fund has provided grants to explicitly support addressing violence against LBO women and trans people in several countries. Between 2016-2019, the UN Trust Fund reported that their supported grantees reached over 15,527 lesbian, bisexual, and transgender women.²³

These grants include support for:

- a coalition of seven women's rights organizations representing marginalized communities in Chile, which included lesbian-led organization Breaking the Silence, participating in the drafting of a "Right of Women to a Life Free of Violence" bill which is currently before the Chilean Congress;²⁴
- an NGO in China training service providers, government officials, and activists how to use China's 2015 domestic violence law to support LBT women and women living with HIV/AIDS who are survivors of domestic violence (this programme has subsequently expanded through additional support from the Ford Foundation);
- a first-ever large-scale research project on the challenges faced by LBT women experiencing violence in Albania, including gaps in institutional responses to such violence.²⁵



²³ UN Women | UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women. *Case Studies*. Accessed 2020, December 14. <https://untf.unwomen.org/en/results/case-studies>.

²⁴ UN Women | UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women. *Case Study: 'We have made advances': Working together to end violence against underrepresented women in Chile*. Accessed 2020, December 14. <https://untf.unwomen.org/en/news-and-events/stories/2019/07/we-have-made-advances-working-together-to-end-violence-against-underrepresented-women-in-chile>.

²⁵ UN Women | UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women. *Case Studies*. Accessed 2020, December 14. <https://untf.unwomen.org/en/results/case-studies>.

Appendix 1: Feminist and Women's Rights Funders

As previously noted, for the purposes of this brief we have analyzed a segment of feminist and women's rights funders based on two criteria: those who reported to the Global Resources Report (GRR) at least once between 2013–2018, and those who hold membership in either the Philanthropy to Advance Women's Human Rights (PAWHR) network or the Prospera International Network of Women's Funds (Prospera).

In a few instances, we included foundations that reported to the GRR and were not members of either PAWHR or Prospera because research on their mission and focus indicated that they were a funder focused on feminism and/or women's rights.

GPP MEMBERS

Astraea Lesbian Foundation for Justice
Ford Foundation
Foundation for a Just Society
Global Fund for Women
Mama Cash
Oak Foundation
Open Society Foundations
Sigrid Rausing Trust
Urgent Action Fund
Wellspring Philanthropic Fund

NON-GPP MEMBERS

African Women's Development Fund
Bulgarian Fund for Women
ELAS - Social Investment Fund
The Equality Fund
filia.die frauenstiftung
Fondo Alquimia
Fondo Centroamericano de Mujeres (FCAM)
Fondo Lunaria Mujeres
Fondo De Mujeres Del Sur
FRIDA | The Young Feminist Fund
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
HER Fund

Korea Foundation for Women
The Mediterranean Women's Fund
Mongolian Women's Fund
NoVo Foundation
Reconstruction Women's Fund
Fondo Semillas
Slovak-Czech Women's Fund
Stars Foundation
Tewa Foundation
Urgent Action Fund Africa
The Women's Foundation of California
Women's Fund Asia
Women's Fund in Georgia



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About GPP

Global Philanthropy Project (GPP) is a collaboration of funders and philanthropic advisors working to expand global philanthropic support to advance the human rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTI) people in the Global South and East. Established in 2009, GPP's 20 member organizations include many of the leading global funders and philanthropic advisors for LGBTI rights. As the first international cohort of LGBTI funders, GPP is internationally recognized as the primary thought leader and go-to partner for donor coordination around global LGBTI work.

Contact:

Global Philanthropy Project
c/o Community Initiatives
1000 Broadway Suite #480, Oakland, CA 94607
info@globalphilanthropyproject.org

Website: <http://globalphilanthropyproject.org>

Twitter: @gpp_updates

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Shalini Eddens, Co-Chair

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The Baring Foundation, Deputy Director

Staff:

Matthew Hart

Director

Ezra Berkley Nepon

Senior Program Officer for Knowledge and Learning

Marina Gonzalez Flores

Program Associate

Dave Scamell

Senior Liaison, Government Relations

