

Feminist Notes

on Creativity and Persistence

2024 Report



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Writing Our Own History

For FCAM, 2024 was a year for us to write and rewrite in the face of sudden, unexpected changes, which led us to continue reflecting and strengthening our adaptability, political creativity, and commitment to the sustainability of women's and feminist movements in Central America.

In recent years, and particularly in 2024, working toward social justice and human rights in Central America has required not only perseverance and resilience, but also the capacity to constantly reinvent ourselves. Indeed, the current context compels the collectives, organizations, and networks that make up women's and feminist movements, ourselves included, to reflect and be reborn with each new challenge, with the conviction and persistence to continue being the ones who write our history.

Women, trans, and non-binary people of all ages are the ones organizing and taking the front lines to defend and sustain life in contexts marked by social, political, and environmental crises, with initiatives that promote gender justice.

At the Fondo Centroamericano de Mujeres (FCAM), we recognize that transformative power resides in those who, from their local, community, and national realities, dare to reimagine and take action for more just and inclusive societies.

This report reflects our commitment to the movements, and it highlights some of the achievements and lessons learned that we, together with the partner organizations, have gained since 2024. In this process, we want to highlight our shared capacity to turn challenges into opportunities for change and strengthen solidarity and collective action.



Funding that Enables Action and Sustains Movements

At FCAM, we support the priorities and strategies of grassroots groups, organizations, and networks that are part of social movements and women's and feminist movements. We prioritize groups with less access to traditional funding and who are at the forefront of social and environmental justice and the defense of human rights, which is why we seek to guarantee flexible, multi-year support for organizations, thus contributing to their political, financial, physical, and emotional sustainability.

Financial Support

In 2024, we supported 215 organizations in Central America, including 17 feminist media outlets. We are very proud to have contributed USD 5,373,660, delivered through 239 grants to our partners.

These organizations are led by women of all ages and backgrounds: young women, Indigenous women, Afro-descendant and Garifuna women, domestic and maquila workers, pro-choice activists, rural and peasant women, human rights defenders, people with disabilities, people living with HIV, trans and non-binary people, migrants, and feminists.

Sixty-four percent of the partners we support work with at least three target populations, the most common being young people, Indigenous people, LGBTQ+ people, rural and peasant women, girls, and adolescents. These data reflect the significant participation and contributions of historically marginalized people in initiatives and actions that contribute to their recognition and to building their future.



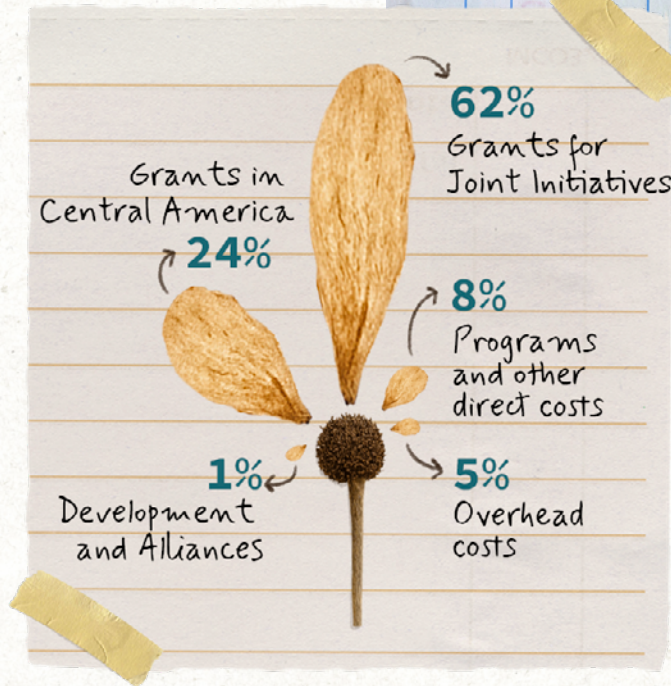
Calls for Proposals

In 2024, we launched a general call for proposals and another one aimed exclusively at young people. Through our participatory selection process, which empowers movements to make vital decisions regarding FCAM, applicant organizations voted for the groups that they believed are crucial and should receive support via our programs.

In 2024, 160 organizations were chosen by their peers to receive funding in 2025 and 2026. They join over 100 organizations that will remain in our programs in 2025 because they are receiving multi-year support. This approach ensures that funding decisions are made by those who do the work and are part of the movements, fostering a sense of ownership, accountability, equal opportunity, and transparency.



Budget Execution



Category	Expenses USD	Percentage
Grants in Central America	5.373.660	24%
Grants for Joint Initiatives	13.766.651	62%
Programs and other direct costs	1.644.426	8%
Development and Alliances	208.207	1%
Overhead costs	1.085.774	5%
TOTAL	22.078.718	100%

Ninety-four percent of the executed budget (4% more than in 2023) was invested in grants and program expenses, which is consistent with our commitment to channel most of our funding to feminist movements in Central America and other countries in the Global South.



Strengthening Leadership in Central America

Our close relationship with our partners allows us to gain firsthand knowledge of their needs, issues, and progress, as well as the contexts and situations at the community, local, national, and regional levels. This is vital to providing them with better support and opportunities for empowerment.

As part of our collaboration model to strengthen and contribute to movements, the grants we channel are always accompanied by a strategy to strengthen the organizations' capacities and leadership, which is an essential element for their sustainability. This strategy responds to the specific needs of the organizations and the complexity of the contexts in which they operate.

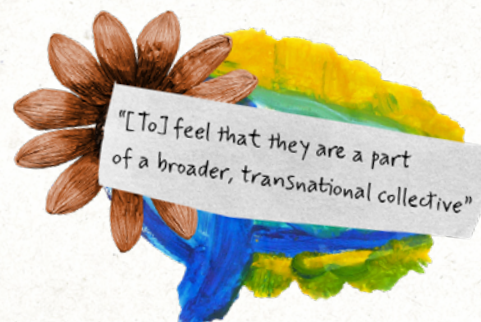
Some examples of the training and capacity-building processes we conducted in 2024 were:



“Brake to Heal” Workshop.

In this workshop, we provided healing justice tools to strengthen the personal and collective sustainability of women defenders from 14 organizations in Guatemala and El Salvador. Its approach contributed to horizontal exchanges between organizations with diverse backgrounds, fostering mutual learning and connecting experienced and emerging groups.

The participants analyzed the complexities of their contexts, identifying barriers that hinder decision-making regarding self-care. As a result, the defenders recognized the importance of initiating individual healing processes as a fundamental step to strengthening collective spaces and ensuring greater resilience in their work.



"[To] feel that they are a part of a broader, transnational collective"


Gathering: "Transforming the Present to Build our Future".

The meeting analyzed the contexts, interests, common goals, and visions of the future of Central America's women's, trans, non-binary, and young feminist movements. 48 diverse young women and 4 adults from 37 organizations, groups, and collectives from Panama, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala participated.

As FCAM, we recognize the contributions and commitments of young women, as well as their leadership at the family, organizational, public, and community levels, which is why we are delighted that the participants were able to meet, connect, and feel that they are a part of a broader, transnational collective. The experience allowed them to acknowledge and embrace their role, impact, and influence of young people in the areas where they are active.



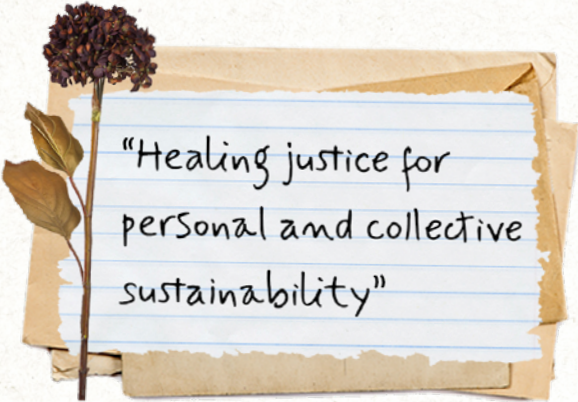
"Emancipatory economies"




Training on feminist economics.

This training had a gender and intersectional approach and brought together 9 partners working to defend the labor and economic rights of young and adult women. The methodology integrated theoretical analysis, the recovery of life experiences, and critical reflection to address topics such as the sex-gender system, the care economy, gaps in time distribution between men and women, and emancipatory economies.

The organizations analyzed the foundations of feminist economics and problematized existing economic structures from a transformative perspective. The process provided them with tools to develop more comprehensive strategies based on economic justice, strengthening their work to promote labor rights and the sustainability of young and adult women.



"Healing justice for
personal and collective
sustainability"




Feminist Narratives

At FCAM, it is important to constantly highlight organizations that are part of the women's and feminist movements. In 2024, we shared their perspectives, realities, demands, actions, and challenges through stories, campaigns, research, and publications because we know how urgent and important it is to showcase non-mainstream narratives that allow us to envision a future that is fair, inclusive, supportive, and plural.



On this occasion, we highlight four success stories focused on social justice, the right to choose, gender equality, and resilient actions in the face of the climate crisis, which inspire and motivate us:

El Salvador: Lilian, the last of the 17 is free

Lilian was sentenced to 30 years in prison for aggravated homicide after her daughter died under hospital care 72 hours after birth. She spent seven years in prison, but thanks to the unstoppable fighting spirit of the Agrupación Ciudadana por la Despenalización del Aborto and the organized support of women's and feminist movements in Central America, she gained back her freedom.



"Movements
that resist
against all
odds"



[Read full story](#)



"Learning to let go of fear and to find our own strength"

Guatemala: Boxing as a tool for feminist self-defense

Imagine having safe spaces where girls, adolescents, and women can practice sports, free from prejudice and discrimination, and where they strengthen their self-esteem, develop their leadership, and learn to work as a team. This is part of what the organization Jóvenes por el Cambio (JXC) does.

[Read full story](#)



"With each conscious act we build up our health and our future"

El Salvador: Life is what we breathe, what we eat, what we think

In 2023, 5 environmental leaders were arrested, including ADES' executive director, Antonio Pacheco. The news hit the team and the community like an earthquake, but they had to make a choice: shut down or go on? The team chose to go on, and since then ADES has focused on developing projects and actions led by women, with the support of men from the community, aimed at continuing the legacy of fighting for their land and the freedom of their wrongly imprisoned colleagues.

[Read full story](#)



El Salvador:

We are stronger as a community

For several years, various Salvadoran governments have attacked the community of Santa Marta through destabilization strategies and actions. Despite this, Ventana Abierta remains focused and works to support communities and their needs, with empathy and solidarity. Through their political clarity, they address basic questions such as: Why is it that people from poor communities and neighborhoods are being disproportionately targeted amid the state of exception? Why is it women searching for their children, who have been disappeared by the State?

[Read full story](#)

"We face adversity
and build hope"



Climate Solutions with Gender Justice

The Global Alliance for Green and Gender Action (GAGGA) is an alliance led by FCAM in collaboration with Mama Cash and Both ENDS, which addresses the climate crisis, biodiversity loss, and gender inequality. The initiative includes 26 women's and socio-environmental funds, 42 NGOs, and 460 grassroots organizations in 44 countries in Africa, Latin America, Asia, the Pacific, and Europe.

GAGGA supports communities affected by the climate crisis, highlighting their ancestral knowledge and community practices to offer real solutions to the socio-environmental and climate crisis.

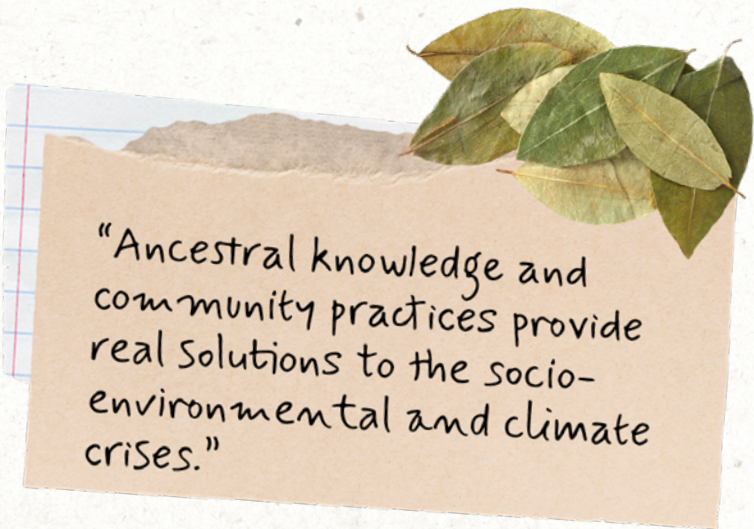
In 2024, we actively engaged in advocacy; here are a few highlights regarding the conceptualization and organization of the following reflection-action spaces:



At COP 29, with the session “Local Adaptation as a Means to Achieving Gender-Fair Climate Policy and Finance,” in partnership with the British government. The session demonstrated how grassroots solutions can inform global policy, particularly by redirecting climate change funding toward community-led initiatives.

At the 15th AWID Forum, we organized the session “Raising Ambition on Feminist Climate Action: From Challenges to Actionable Strategies.” GAGGA partner grassroots organizations, government representatives, private foundations, and alliance funders participated, sharing approaches, priorities, and concrete examples of the work being done in different communities.





"Ancestral knowledge and community practices provide real solutions to the socio-environmental and climate crises."

We have also launched a new initiative together with the International Analog Forestry Network (IAFN), the Inter-American Association for Environmental Defense (AIDA), the Tierra Viva Fund, Fundo Casa, Both Ends, and the Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO). Our goal is to strengthen interaction and collaboration between civil society organizations in Latin America and National Designated Authorities of the Green Climate Fund (GCF). This initiative provides tools that facilitate access to GCF funds for local women's groups so that climate projects respond to community needs with a gender perspective.





Acknowledgments

This past year has left us with profound lessons that we have internalized, thereby becoming stronger, more adaptable, and more resilient.

Likewise, as it has been the case for the past 21 years of continuous work, we continue to be inspired and strengthened by the creativity, persistence, and power of women, trans, and non-binary people organized in their commitment and struggle for social justice.

Along this journey, we deeply thank our funders, whose political trust and material support have allowed us to reach this point. We hope they take this year's work and achievements as their own.

We also thank our partners and allies for their commitment to continue building together.

We will continue, with you by our side, writing and rewriting the future we have envisioned and work tirelessly toward, until we achieve our collective dream of having communities, countries, and regions living with justice and in peace.

