



GENERATION EQUALITY

2026 Financial Commitments Analysis Report



UN WOMEN

UN Women is the United Nations entity dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women. A global champion for women and girls, UN Women was established to accelerate progress on meeting their needs worldwide. UN Women supports UN Member States as they set global standards for achieving gender equality and works with governments and civil society to design laws, policies, programmes and services needed to ensure that the standards are effectively implemented and truly benefit women and girls worldwide. It works globally to make the vision of the Sustainable Development Goals a reality for women and girls and stands behind women's equal participation in all aspects of life, focusing on four strategic priorities: 1) Women lead, participate in and benefit equally from governance systems; 2) Women have income security, decent work and economic autonomy; 3) All women and girls live a life free from all forms of violence; and 4) Women and girls contribute to and have greater influence on building sustainable peace and resilience, and benefit equally from the prevention of natural disasters and conflicts and humanitarian action. UN Women also coordinates and promotes the UN system's work on advancing gender equality.

GENERATION EQUALITY

Generation Equality is a multi-stakeholder initiative convened by UN Women in partnership with the UN system, civil society, youth, governments, the private sector and philanthropists to catalyse partners, increase investments, drive results and accelerate the full and effective implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the Sustainable Development Goals. Generation Equality is anchored in the UN Decade of Action. It emphasizes the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 5 on gender equality and the delivery of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to benefit women and girls in all their diversity.

View the report at: <https://commitments.generationequality.org/2026-publications/2026-financial-commitments-analysis/>

UN Women would like to express gratitude for the Leaders, Commitment Makers, and Compact Signatories who reported on the survey, provided data and contributed to the current report.

The views expressed in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of UN Women, the United Nations, any of its affiliated organizations, or any of the Commitment Makers and Compact Signatories. For a list of any errors or omissions found after printing, please visit our website.

e-ISBN: 9789211548570

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Deputy Director of the UN System Coordination Division: Alice Shackelford

Report Lead: Raymond Jacky Shama

Report authors: Raymond Jacky Shama, Laura Gagliardone

Production, communication and outreach: Laura Gagliardone

Reviewers and contributors: Svenja Siemonsen, Ziad Sheikh, Javier Piriz, Jeevika Shiv, Isatou Badjie, Bindu Bhandari, Nazneen Damji, Evelyn Selle Letiyo, Helene Molinier, and Harriette Williams Bright (all UN Women).

Copyeditors: Jen Ross

Designer: Blossom

We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to the organizations that participated in the 2025 financial survey and contributed to the development of this report.

© UN Women 2026

All rights reserved

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FOREWORD	I
ACRONYMS	4
KEY FINDINGS	5
Recommendations and way forward from the 2025 Financial Survey	11
1. INTRODUCTION	12
2. IN-DEPTH FINANCIAL ANALYSIS, BY STAKEHOLDER GROUP	14
2.1 GOVERNMENT	15
2.1.1. Financing landscape in 2024: Scale, composition and commitment types	15
2.1.2. Mapping the gaps: Regional implementation patterns	16
2.1.3. Partnership and collective financing of commitments	17
2.1.4. Financing priorities across Action Coalitions and the Beijing+30 agenda	17
2.1.5. 2025 Financial footprint: How Governments are powering gender equality	20
2.1.6. 2025 Financial good practices and lessons learned	22
2.1.7. Insights into barriers and institutional enablers	25
2.1.8. Navigating today's context: Challenges and adaptive strategies	26
2.2. PHILANTHROPY	27
2.2.1. Financing landscape in 2024: Scale, composition and commitment types	27
2.2.2. Mapping the gaps: Regional implementation patterns	28
2.2.3. Partnership and collective financing commitments	29
2.2.4. Financing priorities across Action Coalitions and the Beijing+30 Action Agenda	29
2.2.5. 2025 Financial footprint: How philanthropy is powering gender equality	31
2.2.6. 2025 financial good practices and lessons learned	33
2.2.7. Insights into barriers and institutional enablers	36
2.2.8. Navigating today's context: Challenges and adaptive strategies	37
2.3. MULTILATERAL AND SUPRANATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS	38
2.3.1. Financing landscape in 2024: Scale, composition and commitment types	38
2.3.2. Mapping the gaps: Regional implementation patterns	39
2.3.3. Partnership and collective financing commitments	39
2.3.4. Financing priorities across Action Coalitions and the Beijing+30 Agenda	40

2.3.5. 2025 financial footprint: How multilateralism is powering gender equality	43
2.3.6. 2025 financial good practices and lessons learned	45
2.3.7. Insights into barriers and institutional enablers	46
2.3.8. Navigating today's context: Challenges and adaptive strategies	47
2.4. PRIVATE SECTOR	48
2.4.1. Financing landscape in 2024: Scale, composition and commitment types	48
2.4.2. Mapping the gaps: Regional implementation patterns	49
2.4.3. Partnership and collective financing commitments	49
2.4.4. Financing priorities across Action Coalitions and the Beijing+30 Agenda	50
2.4.5. 2025 financial footprint: How private sector organizations are powering gender equality	51
2.4.6. 2025 Financial good practices and lessons learned	53
2.4.7. Insights into barriers to disbursement and institutional enablers	54
2.4.8. Navigating today's context: Challenges and adaptive strategies	55
2.5. CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS	56
2.5.1. Financing landscape in 2024: Scale, composition and commitment types	56
2.5.2. Mapping the gaps: Regional implementation patterns	57
2.5.3. Partnerships and collective financing commitments	57
2.5.4. Financing priorities across Action Coalitions and the Beijing+30 Action Agenda	58
2.5.5. 2025 financial footprint: How CSOs are powering gender equality	60
2.5.6. 2025 financial good practices and lessons learned	61
2.5.7. Insights into barriers and institutional enablers	63
2.5.8. Navigating today's context: Challenges and adaptive strategies	64
3. ALIGNMENT WITH GLOBAL GENDER EQUALITY FRAMEWORKS	69
3.1. Alignment with the Pact for the Future and SDG Indicator 5.c.1	70
3.2. Alignment with the Financing for Development agenda	72
3.3. Alignment with the Beijing Platform for Action and Beijing+30 Action Agenda	73
4. WPS-HA FINANCIAL FOCUS	74
5. CROSS-STAKEHOLDER INSIGHTS: PRIORITIES FOR ENHANCING IMPACT AND ACCOUNTABILITY	77
6. CONCLUSIONS	79
TECHNICAL NOTE	80

ACRONYMS

ACs	Action Coalitions	ODA	Official development assistance
AI	Artificial intelligence	P&G	Procter & Gamble
BPfA	Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action	SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
CAD	Canadian dollar	SRHR	Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
CIFF	Children's Investment Fund Foundation	STEAM	Science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics
CSO	Civil society organization	SVRI	Sexual Violence Research Initiative
DKK	Danish krone	T&I	Technology and Innovation
EA	Equality Accelerator	TZS	Tanzanian shilling
EJR	Economic Justice and Rights	UGX	Ugandan shilling
EVAW	Ending Violence against Women	UN DESA	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
FACJ	Feminist Action for Climate Justice	UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
FfD4	Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development	UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
FGM	Female genital mutilation	UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
FML	Feminist Movements and Leadership	USD	United States dollars
GBA Plus	Gender-Based Analysis Plus	WHO	World Health Organization
GBV	Gender-Based Violence	WPS-HA	Women, Peace and Security and Humanitarian Action
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development	WYDE	Women and Youth Democratic Engagement
ILO	International Labour Organization		
JWF	Jumuiya Women Fund		
KES	Kenyan shilling		
LGBTQI+	Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex and other sexual identities		
M&E	Monitoring and evaluation		
MHH	Menstrual health and hygiene		
MPs	Members of Parliament		
MXN	Mexican peso		

KEY FINDINGS



Scenes from an activation during 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence in Senegal. Photo: UN Women/Abdoul Ahad Thiam

GOVERNMENTS

Government financing remains substantial and stable, reflecting sustained commitment to pre-agreed plans

Data: In 2024, Governments reported USD 22.2 billion pledged and **USD 9.1 billion spent**, maintaining the scale of multi-year commitments established in earlier cycles. Governments also directed USD 697 million in pledges to civil society organizations (CSOs) and reported USD 820 million secured for youth- and adolescent-led initiatives.



Why it matters: Well-orchestrated and adequately funded national strategies are supporting prevention of violence against women, expanding services and improving coordination for long-term protection. Governments' sustained investment signals continued political will and recognition of the essential role of civil society and youth-led groups in advancing gender equality.

Domestic public budgets remain the primary mechanism for Government financing

Data: In 2024, Governments reported **USD 10.4 billion**, around 78 per cent of secured funds, disbursed through public budget allocations. Most financing supported national policies, services and institutional reforms, reflecting strong use of domestic systems.

Why it matters: Governments are better positioned to deliver predictable, systemic and transformative results when gender equality objectives are integrated into national budgets, legal reforms and programmatic financing. Reliance on domestic financing also aligns with global commitments on country ownership and strengthens accountability, integration of gender priorities and long-term sustainability within national institutions.



Government spending is highly uneven across regions, with greater disbursement in North America

Data: **Sub-Saharan Africa and Central and Southern Asia host the largest number of Government-implemented commitments**, with USD 911 million and USD 370 million spent, respectively. However, North America is the region with the highest pledged volume, with USD 12.5 billion in commitments implemented in whole or in part in the region, of which USD 8.5 billion are directed exclusively to North America.¹ North America also accounts for the majority of funds disbursed, while only USD 1.5 billion (15 per cent) of the USD 9.7 billion pledged to all other regions has been spent.

Why it matters: These disparities show that while many Governments implement commitments across the Global South, disbursement is far greater in high-income regions. Uneven spending patterns risk widening regional gaps and limiting the impact of commitments in areas where resources are most needed.

¹ Regional allocation is based on a multi-select survey question allowing Commitment Makers to indicate more than one region per financial commitment. As a result, amounts reported for each region represent totals for commitments that include that region, not exclusively allocated amounts. An additional "exclusive allocation" estimate is provided based only on commitments that selected a single region.

PHILANTHROPY

Philanthropic financing is substantial but heavily concentrated

Data: Philanthropies pledged USD 3.5 billion and **spent USD 1.8 billion** in 2024, with over half of all financing directed to bodily autonomy and sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). Nearly the entire amount spent was for commitments implemented in whole or in part in sub-Saharan Africa. Most of these resources originate from organizations based outside the region. A smaller but growing share of financing comes from regionally-based feminist funds, which pledged approximately USD 3.3 million exclusively within the region. Direct funding for youth-led organizations remains limited, with only USD 211,000 specifically pledged.

Why it matters: This imbalance risks leaving critical actors and areas of work underresourced. It also reflects the continuing reliance on external financing to support movement-building and service-delivery in sub-Saharan Africa.



Philanthropies rely on flexible and diversified resources that allow them to frontload implementation, renovate or expand commitments more frequently

Data: In 2024, philanthropies disbursed the largest share of their commitments through project-specific grants, totalling almost **USD 3.2 billion**, although only about one third of this amount, USD 1.15 billion, was secured. Philanthropic organizations are financing their Generation Equality commitments primarily through investment returns and endowment drawdowns, followed by general revenues and targeted fundraising campaigns, while disbursing resources mainly through project-specific grants. Philanthropic organizations combine flexible funding, diversified capital sources and innovative financing tools to advance gender equality and adjust grant-making cycles in response to evidence.

Why it matters: The flexibility of philanthropic funding allows fast responses to emerging priorities while sustaining long-term programming. At the same time, the strong reliance on project-specific grants and global initiatives underscores the need to expand direct and flexible financing, particularly for women and youth-led groups, to ensure that community-level actors can fully participate in and influence these investments.

Collective commitments remain limited in scale but highlight local feminist funds' movement-coordination role

Data: Philanthropies reported **eight financial commitments towards collective commitments**, totalling USD 3.9 million in pledges, of which USD 2 million has been secured and **USD 1.5 million spent**. These collective commitments are primarily driven by regionally-anchored feminist funds and represent a small share of the overall philanthropic portfolio, which is otherwise dominated by large global commitments.



Why it matters: While small in volume, philanthropic collective commitments demonstrate the importance of locally-led feminist funds in strengthening networks, supporting front-line organizations and coordinating shared strategies across movements, particularly in crisis settings. Locally-rooted partnership models and governance approaches that protect feminist and youth leadership are essential to advance resilient, systems-oriented and inclusive progress.

MULTILATERAL AND SUPRANATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Multilaterals mobilize large-scale resources, but reported disbursement remains low due to incomplete data

Data: In 2024, 12 multilateral organizations reported USD 11.7 billion pledged and USD 13.2 billion secured, exceeding their initial commitments. Reported **spending totals USD 548 million**, less than 5 per cent of pledged and 4 per cent of secured financing. This low ratio is largely driven by one organization that secured nearly USD 12 billion but did not report its disbursements, significantly skewing aggregate spending figures.

Why it matters: While multilaterals and supranational clearly mobilize substantial resources, incomplete reporting creates an artificial disbursement gap and highlights the need for greater transparency and more consistent tracking across complex, multi-country portfolios.

Multilateral and supranational financing remains predominantly regional and project-based, with limited flexibility in allocation

Data: Most multilateral disbursements were delivered through **project-specific grants**, and only about half of commitments allowed flexible allocation across programme components. Implementation remained primarily regional or multi-country, reflecting institutional mandates. Partnerships were stable: Governments and academia were involved in 14 commitments each, followed by civil society and other multilaterals (13 commitments each).

Why it matters: Project-based and regional delivery strengthens coordination across countries but limits flexibility and can slow spending. Sustainable and transformative results require flexible and predictable financing. More adaptable financing instruments could thus enhance responsiveness and improve support to front-line actors.



PRIVATE SECTOR

Private sector financing is highly concentrated

Data: In 2024, private sector entities reported **spending USD 10.3 billion** and pledging USD 12.4 billion. Two companies account for 99 per cent of the total amount pledged. Sub-Saharan Africa hosts the largest number of private sector commitments, with USD 10.1 billion pledged and USD 9 billion spent, with most resources originating from outside the region.

Why it matters: Private sector financing is highly concentrated and largely externally driven. Although Sub-Saharan Africa hosts the most commitments, funding is dominated by a few multinational companies, while emerging regional actors reinvest locally at a much smaller scale.

Private sector commitments rely heavily on partnerships, while collective financing models remain rare

Data: **19 out of 20 private sector commitments were implemented in partnership with other actors**, most frequently with civil society organizations (14 commitments) and Governments (9 commitments). Despite this extensive collaboration, collective financing is minimal, with only one private sector commitment formally structured as a collective initiative, valued at USD 4 million, which has been fully secured and disbursed.

Why it matters: Partnership-based implementation underscores the crucial role of feminist, community-based and public institutions in delivering private sector commitments. The strong execution rate of the sole collective initiative suggests that pooled models, though infrequent, can enhance coordination and accelerate delivery when institutional mechanisms are in place.



An emphasis on flexible and responsive funding has enabled partners to remain open and resilient amid backlash

Data: Amid rising anti-rights rhetoric and reduced external funding for feminist and women's rights organizations, some private sector partners have **made a point of bolstering struggling women's movements**.

This aimed to counteract shrinking support from Government donors and help grass-roots organizations sustain their work.



Why it matters: Aligning with the evolving partners' needs enables women's groups to adapt to evolving contexts. Private sector impact is strongest when gender equality is treated as a strategy and cultural commitment, with long-term, partnership-based investments that strengthen the ecosystems in which women and girls live and work.

CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS AND YOUTH-LED ORGANIZATIONS

Civil society financing is shrinking and increasingly concentrated

Data: In 2024, civil society organizations pledged USD 403 million, compared to USD 475 million in 2023. Only USD 135 million was secured and **USD 97 million spent**. Nearly half of all pledged resources originate from a very small number of organizations, and most financing remains international in nature rather than regionally generated.

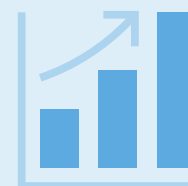
Why it matters: Shrinking and concentrated funding reduces diversity in the civil society ecosystem. It limits the ability of grass-roots and women's rights organizations to sustain long-term work and weakens local ownership of gender equality initiatives.



Civil society commitments show strong regional disparities and heavy reliance on external funding

Data: Central and Southern Asia received USD 340 million across 51 commitments, reflecting fewer but larger investments. Sub-Saharan Africa reported 83 commitments, the highest number of any region, but received USD 287 million with USD 59 million spent.

Why it matters: The contrast between high-volume but lower-value commitments in sub-Saharan Africa and larger, more concentrated investments in Central and Southern Asia reveals imbalances. Strengthening regional financing ecosystems and improving predictability of funding are essential for sustainable civil society leadership.



Youth-led organizations deliver high-impact, community-based results with limited resources

Data: Youth- and adolescent-led groups mobilize a very limited volume of financial commitments, USD 7.48 million, and face an estimated funding gap of USD 577 million, yet continue to advance advocacy, movement-building, service-delivery and cross-sector engagement. Their commitments often combine financial, programmatic, policy and advocacy components and generate strong results with modest budgets.

Why it matters: Youth-led and adolescent-led organizations play a vital role in sustaining intergenerational leadership and driving community mobilization. Increasing flexible and sustainable investment in these actors is essential to protect civic space and accelerate progress towards gender equality.

FOCUS ON THE COMPACT ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY AND HUMANITARIAN ACTION (WPS-HA)

Financing for the WPS agenda increased in 2024 but remains uneven and vulnerable to future shocks

Data: In 2024, spending by WPS-HA Compact signatories rose by 35.9 per cent to USD 2.12 billion, driven mainly by increased reporting, despite more than half of signatories facing budget reductions. Most financing was allocated to the WPS and gender-responsive humanitarian action financing pillar (USD 486.3 million), while allocations to economic security, participation, protection, and leadership remained comparatively low. Financing to civil society organizations is still heavily reliant on international sources, with limited domestic and private sector contributions.

Why it matters: Without expanded core, multi-year and flexible funding, gains under the WPS agenda and gender-responsive humanitarian action remain at risk. Increased official development assistance, stronger domestic and private sector financing, greater direct support to local women-led organizations, and improved WPS financial data are essential for sustainability and accountability.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND WAY FORWARD FROM THE 2025 FINANCIAL SURVEY



INCREASE DIRECT, FLEXIBLE AND PREDICTABLE FINANCING

Expand core, multi-year funding for feminist, youth-led and grass-roots organizations and reduce administrative barriers. Increase direct funding to local actors; strengthen co-financing models; and prioritize long-term investments in prevention and social norms change.



REINFORCE DATA, MONITORING AND ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEMS

Establish standardized monitoring and evaluation frameworks across Commitment Makers, using intersectional, sex-disaggregated data systems, and include qualitative measures. Support independent verification and third-party evaluation.



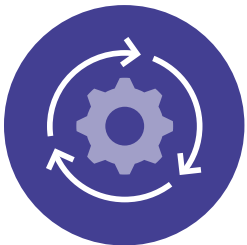
SHIFT POWER TO FEMINIST MOVEMENTS AND LOCAL ACTORS

Ensure movements, youth-led groups, Indigenous women and Global South actors shape priorities, decision-making and accountability. Invest in political education and embed young activists and grass-roots leaders in governance structures. Prioritize sustainability over short-term projectization.



BUILD RESILIENCE TO ANTI-RIGHTS BACKLASH

Develop proactive strategies to counter anti-gender movements and shrinking civic space. Support legal protection, vigilance and safe digital infrastructure. Strengthen collaboration with religious and traditional leaders for social norms change. And provide long-term support for activists and grass-roots organizations in hostile contexts.



STRENGTHEN GOVERNANCE, COORDINATION AND CROSS-REGIONAL SOLIDARITY

Institutionalize multi-stakeholder coordination at national, regional and global levels. Create regular peer-learning spaces and regional exchanges, including cross-regional convenings, solidarity platforms and communities of practice. Clarify governance roles and enhance transparency to maintain political and financial commitment. And keep Generation Equality principles embedded in broader global frameworks.



KEEP GENERATION EQUALITY PRINCIPLES EMBEDDED IN BROADER GLOBAL FRAMEWORKS, AND CLARIFY ITS POST-2026 ROAD MAP

Define a clear vision and strategic direction for Generation Equality beyond 2026, including in SDG follow-up and multilateral reforms. Adopt mandatory reporting standards across Commitment Makers to simplify reporting. And align commitments with national priorities and domestic financing systems through localization plans.

1. INTRODUCTION

Six years before the 2030 deadline for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), progress on gender equality is slowing at a moment of intensifying global need.

The [Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development](#) (OECD DAC) is projecting a 9 to 17 per cent drop in official development assistance (ODA) in 2025. This comes on top of a 9 per cent drop in 2024. [ODA to women's rights organizations](#), movements and government institutions in particular dropped to USD 499.1 million in 2022-2023, down from USD 625.5 million in 2020-2021, and only 2.5 per cent of 'other official flows' were dedicated to programmes with gender equality as a significant objective in 2022-2023, down from 4 per cent in 2020-2021.

In this context, Generation Equality has emerged as a powerful platform to mobilize resources, accelerate implementation and sustain political attention to gender equality. Bringing together more than 1,000 actors from Governments, civil society organizations (CSOs), youth-led groups, the private sector, philanthropies, multilateral and supranational organizations, the initiative has demonstrated the impact of collective and multigenerational engagement. The 2024 Accountability Report confirms its momentum, with financial commitments reaching USD 50.3 billion and thousands of policies, programmes and advocacy initiatives reported. Nearly five years after its launch, Ge-

neration Equality is functioning as a tried and tested mechanism translating the SDGs, Pact for the Future and Beijing+30 Action Agenda into results for women and girls.

Central to this progress is a strong accountability architecture. The Generation Equality Accountability Framework, and in particular its annual reporting, has anchored the 2022, 2023 and 2024 Accountability Reports, and the Case Studies, including a Financial Commitments Case Study. Building on this foundation, at the outset it is important to clarify that this 2026 Generation Equality Commitments Financial Analysis examines the initiative's financing dimension based exclusively on self-reported information provided by Generation Equality Commitment Makers. It triangulates findings from the 2025 Financial Survey with quantitative and qualitative information from previous reporting cycles, covering a total of USD 50.3 billion in pledges declared by partners and more than USD 21 billion reported by partners as spent in 2024 towards their pledged commitments. *These funds were not formally pledged or provided to UN Women, nor were they received, managed, or verified by UN Women; the figures reflect partners' own declarations regarding resources they control or expect to mobilize.*

The 2025 Financial Survey provides a more granular view of financial flows. While significant portions of commitments are yielding expenditures, disbursement remains uneven across stakeholder groups and regions, reflecting broader fiscal and political constraints. The financial accountability process also reveals how feminist financing models operate in practice by showing who invests, how funds are mobilized and disbursed, and who the primary recipients are across regions and thematic areas. Evidence from the 2024 reporting shows that Governments largely rely on public budgets and grants, philanthropies contribute significant in-kind support and grants, and civil society and youth-led organizations function both as direct recipients and re-granters.

The analysis highlights that many of feminist financing models are being shaped by the design of Generation Equality itself. Through its multi-stakeholder structure, shared accountability mechanisms and em-

phasis on leadership by civil society and youth, the initiative has encouraged more flexible, participatory and movement-driven financing practices that are influencing wider gender equality funding ecosystems. The analysis offers **practical lessons for expanding fiscal space for gender equality and aligning financial decisions with transformative results.**

Finally, **the analysis examines how the actions of Commitment Makers align with global frameworks**, including the outcome of the Financing for Development process, Pact for the Future, SDGs (especially indicator 5.c.1 on tracking and publishing public allocations for gender equality) and Beijing+30 Review. By analysing how USD 50.3 billion in pledges are being secured, spent and directed, this report contributes to the evidence base **informing the next phase of Generation Equality and supports the wider system in strengthening financing for gender equality.**

BOX I. GENERATION EQUALITY MANDATE

Generation Equality's accountability framework defines what must be reported and how progress should be assessed. This ensures that annual financial reporting remains anchored in the same targets established in 2021, with no shift in scope or methodology.

According to the Generation Equality Monitoring and Accountability Framework² and the Action Coalition Global Acceleration Plan,³ all reporting must track pledged, secured and spent amounts; demonstrate alignment with the Action Coalition (AC) blueprints⁴ and WPS-HA Compact Framework,⁵ and show how commitments (Action Coalitions) and Actions (Compact) support existing global gender equality frameworks.

Linking Generation Equality results to established global frameworks is not an "additional" or optional exercise. It is explicitly mandated in Generation Equality's founding documents to ensure delivery gender equality commitments made by all constituencies.⁶ In other words, the alignment presented in this report is not an expansion of the framework, it is a continuation of Generation Equality's original mandate.

2 <https://forum.generationequality.org/sites/default/files/2021-11/EN-Summary%20Report-%20An%20Accountability%20Framework%20for%20the%20Generation%20Equality%20Forum.pdf>

3 <https://commitments.generationequality.org/sites/default/files/2022-09/UNW-GAP-Report-EN-web.pdf>

4 <https://forum.generationequality.org/action-coalitions>

5 https://wpshcompact.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/WPS-HA-Compact_Framework-EN-Web.pdf

6 <https://commitments.generationequality.org/sites/default/files/2022-09/UNW-GAP-Report-EN-web.pdf>

2. IN-DEPTH FINANCIAL ANALYSIS, BY STAKEHOLDER GROUP

This section draws on two complementary data sources: the comprehensive 2024 accountability data set and the more granular 2025 Financial Survey. **The 2024 data set remains the most complete baseline, capturing 1,386 commitments, more than 70 per cent of all commitments to Generation Equality** and providing a robust picture of global financing patterns across stakeholder groups. **The 2025 survey, while smaller in scale - with 20 participating Commitment Makers accounting for 57 financial commitments - adds analytical depth by examining how financing models, allocation strategies and disbursement practices operate in practice.** These actors represent a diverse mix of regions, Action Coalitions and institutional profiles, accounting for a significant share of

overall pledges and disbursements. Their participation provides insight into the financial behaviour of institutions with high leverage, policy influence and operational scale.

As such, the 2025 data complement the 2024 baseline by illuminating the mechanisms, challenges and emerging feminist financing models that shape how commitments are mobilized and spent.



UN Women Executive Director Sima Bahous meets with Robinah Nabbanja, Prime Minister of Uganda during the 77th session of the United Nations General Assembly on 20 September 2022 at UN Women Headquarters in New York. Photo: UN Women/Ryan Brown

2.1 GOVERNMENT

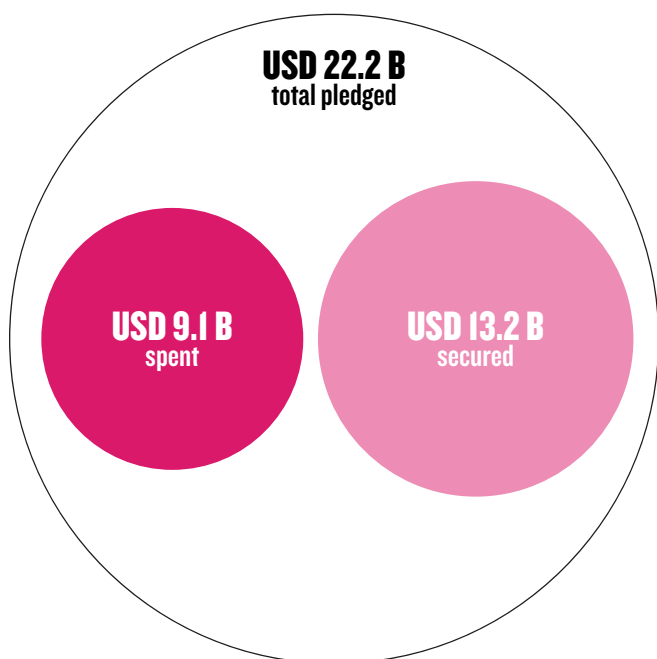
2.1.1. FINANCING LANDSCAPE IN 2024: SCALE, COMPOSITION AND COMMITMENT TYPES

In 2024, 33 Governments reported on **148 financial commitments**, compared to 29 Governments reporting on 150 commitments in 2023. The 2024 financial commitments total **USD 22.2 billion pledged, representing a 39 per cent increase from 2023.**⁷ Of this

amount, USD 13.2 billion has been secured and **USD 9.1 billion has been spent** to date. Governments reported USD 697 million pledged to CSOs and USD 820 million secured specifically for youth- and adolescent-led organizations, indicating growing recognition of the role that civil society and youth-led initiatives play in advancing gender equality.

⁷ This reported increase is driven largely by shifts in national budget allocations, and by broader reporting coverage compared to 2023, and should therefore be interpreted considering these factors.

FINANCIAL PLEDGES BY GOVERNMENT



Public budget allocations⁸ remain the dominant instrument through which Governments secure and deliver their Generation Equality financial commitments. In 2024, USD 10.4 billion of the USD 13.2 billion secured by Governments, representing 78 per cent of all secured funds, was channeled through public budget allocations. These resources supported domestic gender equality programmes and policies,⁹ including evidence-driven gender-based violence (GBV) prevention programming¹⁰ and reforms aimed at strengthening the care economy to expand women’s economic empowerment.¹¹

The remaining Government financing took the form of grants (USD 3 billion pledged, of which 84 per cent has been secured) and in-kind contributions (USD 1.4 billion pledged, with only 19 per cent secured). Grants were primarily directed to CSOs (USD 1.3 billion) and

multilateral organizations (USD 1 billion). While most Government financing is domestically targeted (USD 16.2 billion), USD 6 billion in pledges are regional or international in scope.

This distribution shows a strong reliance on public budget allocations, signalling Governments’ emphasis on embedding gender equality within national institutions and systems. However, it also highlights a persistent gap in flexible and direct financing for civil society and youth- and adolescent-led organizations, which are essential for driving community-level transformation and sustaining long-term feminist movements.

2.1.2. MAPPING THE GAPS: REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION PATTERNS

The most popular regions of implementation, by number of commitments, are sub-Saharan Africa and Central and Southern Asia (with USD 911 million spent from 86 commitments and USD 370 million from 57 commitments implemented in whole or part in each region, respectively). Twenty-nine of the commitments implemented in whole or part in sub-Saharan Africa¹² also originate with Governments based in the region, and account for USD 253 million in pledges. For instance, against its multi-year commitment of “Investing USD 23 million in GBV prevention and response” (with delivery expected beyond 2026), the Government of Kenya, since 2021, allocated KES 758.9 million (approximately USD 5.8 million) to the State Department for Gender and Affirmative Action for the Elimination of GBV and female genital mutilation (FGM). Of this, the Anti-FGM Board received KES 476.0 million (USD 3.7 million). These incremental increases, including higher budget allocations for the Anti-FGM Board and expanded GBV programming, illustrate how several

8 Despite that all Government spending ultimately comes from the national budget, it is not all categorized as “public budget allocations” for reporting purposes. Grants to CSOs or multilaterals and in-kind contributions remain separate instruments with their own characteristics and are therefore reported accordingly.

9 Programmatic commitments are the most common, with 83 such commitments representing USD 18.1 billion in pledged funds. Governments also reported 72 policy commitments totalling USD 12.2 billion and 55 advocacy commitments totalling USD 6.7 billion. Thirty-eight commitments are financial only, amounting to USD 1.6 billion, while 33 commitments are multipurpose and total USD 3.4 billion in pledged funds.

10 GBV - Thematic Area 2: Adapt and scale up evidence-driven prevention programming for the elimination of GBV against women and girls in all their diversity.

11 EJR - Thematic Area 1: Increase women’s economic empowerment by transforming the care economy.

12 Regional allocation is based on a multi-select survey question allowing Commitment Makers to indicate more than one region per financial commitment. As a result, amounts reported for each region represent totals for commitments that include that region, not exclusively allocated amounts. An additional “exclusive allocation” estimate is provided based only on commitments that selected a single region.

Governments in sub-Saharan Africa are progressively scaling up domestic financing to strengthen prevention and response systems.

However, **the region of implementation with the largest sum of funding pledged to it, in whole or part, is North America, by far.** A total of USD 12.5 billion in pledges are being implemented in whole or part in North America, with USD 8.5 billion of this total directed only to North America – of which 66 per cent is being spent mainly by the USA and Government of Canada. On the contrary, a total of USD 9.7 billion in funding is pledged towards implementation regions other than North America but only USD 1.5 billion (15 per cent of this) has been spent, indicating that not only are pledges larger in volume in North America, but **the funds are actually mobilized for spending with greater frequency.** The Government of Canada has spent over 50 per cent of the pledged USD 3.9 billion that is implemented in whole or in part in North America.

2.1.3. PARTNERSHIP AND COLLECTIVE FINANCING OF COMMITMENTS

In 2024, **112 of the 148 financial commitments reported by Governments were implemented in partnership** with at least one other organization (implementing USD 8.8 billion in total), a core element of Generation Equality. **The most frequent partners were CSOs** (63 commitments) and other Governments (58 commitments). The nature of these new and expanded partnerships shows a clear pattern: collaborations with CSOs, multilateral or supranational organizations and philanthropies tend to have a more global orientation, while partnerships with other Governments, the private sector and youth-led organizations are predominantly national in scope.

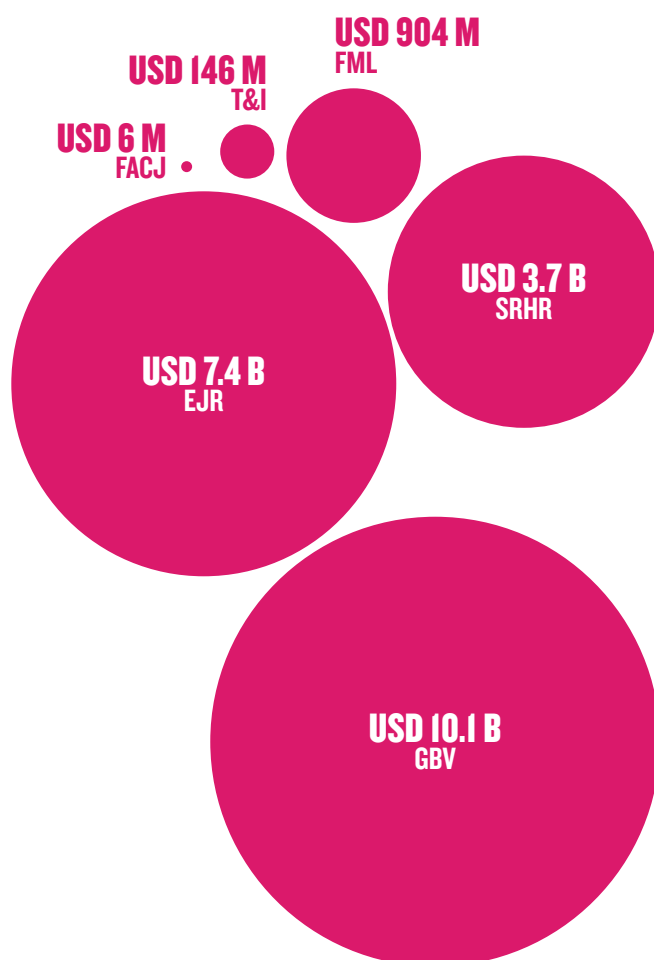
There are 36 Government commitments that modelled systematic, multi-stakeholder collaboration through formalized collective commitments, which garnered about USD 4.6 billion in pledges, indicating strong interest in financing this approach. Yet implementation is falling short: only USD 253 million (18 per cent) has been spent. The largest collective commitment in financial terms is the Global Alliance for Care, which

accounts for USD 3.8 billion in pledges. However, the most commonly selected collective commitment among Governments is “Increasing Access to Essential Services for Survivors of Gender-Based Violence”.

2.1.4. FINANCING PRIORITIES ACROSS ACTION COALITIONS AND THE BEIJING+30 AGENDA

The largest number of financial commitments from Governments fall under the Action Coalition on Gender-Based Violence (**GBV AC**) and contribute to the ‘Zero Violence’ component of the Beijing+30 Action Agenda (68 commitments, amounting to about USD 10.1 billion in pledges). **The highest-funded Action Area under the GBV AC is Action Area 2,¹³ with USD 7.7 billion pledged.** Second to the GBV AC is the USD 7.4 billion pledged under the Action Coalition on Economic Justice and Rights (**EJR AC**).

GOVERNMENT PLEDGES, BY AC



13 Action Area 2: Adapt and scale-up evidence-driven prevention programming for the prevention of GBV.

Nigeria provides an illustrative example of how Generation Equality commitments can be analytically mapped to the Beijing+30 Action Agenda. Within the GBV AC, the Government of Nigeria pledged USD 500,000 to address early marriage and harmful traditional practices, building on national measures such as the Child Rights Act, education initiatives and coordinated

advocacy with civil society. This commitment **contributes to Nigeria's Beijing+30 priorities**, under the 'Full and Equal Decision-Making Power' Priority Action Area, which also impacts 'Zero Violence'. These commitments include passing comprehensive gender equality legislation, institutionalizing parity targets, expanding leadership training and addressing discriminatory laws.

BOX 2.1. SPOTLIGHT ON 2024 GOOD PRACTICES

Government of Ecuador: Investing in preventing and eradicating gender-based violence in Ecuador

The **Ministerio de la Mujer y Derechos Humanos (Ministry of Women and Human Rights) of Ecuador** invested **USD 23 million** (83 per cent of the total pledge) towards their GBV commitment¹⁴ to prevent and eradicate violence against women across the life course. Implementation is guided by national strategies coordinating multiple levels of government and community actors.

Impact to date:

- A **national plan to prevent and address GBV (2020-2030)** supported by a monitoring framework for prevention, protection, care, reparation and institutional strengthening.
- An **inter-institutional coordination mechanism engaging 24 agencies** across the Sistema Nacional Integral (Comprehensive National System), involving men and boys in challenging patriarchal attitudes and fostering gender equality.
- A **national investment programme** that promotes women's and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex and other (LGBTQI+) populations' access to employment and income-generation. The budget allocated is USD 12 million for 2022-2025.
- The construction of **24 Centros Violetas (Violet Centres)** providing support for women survivors of violence - eight of which are operational. The budget allocated for this initiative is **USD 17.56 million for 2022-2025**.
- **Awareness and prevention campaigns** paired with skills-development to support long-term autonomy and resilience.

WHY IT MATTERS

The Government of Ecuador's approach shows how well-orchestrated and adequately funded national strategies, coupled with monitoring systems, can support GBV prevention, expand services for survivors, improve their coordination and strengthen long-term protection frameworks.

14 Commitment title (English / Spanish): *Prevention and eradication of violence against women in all their diversity and throughout their life cycle. Work with perpetrators and potential perpetrators / Prevención y erradicación de la violencia contra las mujeres en toda su diversidad y en todo su ciclo de vida. Trabajo con agresores y potenciales agresores.*

Government of Finland: Using a gender lens to close the digital divide in sub-Saharan Africa and beyond

The **Government of Finland, through Finnfund, spent over USD 60 million** (over 100 per cent of the pledge) to expand gender-responsive investment in the technology and innovation (T&I) sector under their commitment *“Increasing the use of gender lens in investing in T&I”*. Since 2021, Finnfund has invested in companies that enhance women’s access to digital tools, economic participation, and market connectivity.

Impact to date includes:

- A **distribution platform** connecting informal retailers (kiosk owners) and small shopkeepers in Nigeria with manufacturers and distributors. About 80 per cent of these informal traders are women and two-thirds are low income living. The service connects shopkeepers with manufacturers and distributors, enhancing efficiency in the value chain, decreasing delivery time, and reducing out-of-stock situations.
- **Digital literacy skills and mobile services** to connect underserved women-led micro-enterprises with affordable capital in Indonesia and Pakistan. In 2024, Finnfund with partners invested to drive financial inclusion for women entrepreneurs in Indonesia by connecting underserved micro-enterprises with affordable capital, leveraging technology to address the MSME financing gap and support women, particularly outside Java. Finnfund has also invested in microfinance and microinsurance in Pakistan, strengthening safety nets for underserved women in a country with low financial inclusion, where most households lack access to formal financial services and remain highly vulnerable to shocks.
- An **e-commerce platform** improving women’s access to health, hygiene and self-care products in East Africa. The company sells a range of menstrual care products, contraceptives and pharmaceuticals via its platform and aims to act as a trusted source of information about women’s products and operates in close cooperation with selected health partners.
- Through the Africa Connected Programme, launched with the European Union, more than EUR 1 billion has been additionally mobilized to expand **digital infrastructure** in sub-Saharan Africa. The programme targets a 50 per cent gender investment threshold and is working towards G1 status under the OECD DAC gender equality policy marker.
- Finnfund introduced a new **Digital Access Impact Fund I**, focused on digital services and infrastructure in developing countries, aiming to promote gender equality and financial inclusiveness by expanding access to digital connectivity.

WHY IT MATTERS

This model demonstrates how gender-responsive investment strategies can expand women’s digital participation and economic agency, especially in regions where digital access gaps reinforce economic inequality.

2.1.5. 2025 FINANCIAL FOOTPRINT: HOW GOVERNMENTS ARE POWERING GENDER EQUALITY

Government financing under Generation Equality continues to prioritize domestic investment and programme delivery. In 2024, Governments pledged USD 22.2 billion, with more than 70 per cent secured and directed towards national policies, services and institutional reforms. This strong domestic orientation reflects the principle of country ownership embedded in global frameworks, including the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (BPfA), the SDGs, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (FfD3) and the Seville Commitment (FfD4). At the same time, spending patterns remain uneven: large-scale investments are concen-

trated in a few regions, while disbursement gaps persist elsewhere. Understanding who funds what, where and how is therefore essential to identifying the systemic shifts needed to close the financing gap.

This section synthesizes findings from the 2025 Financial Survey, examining how Governments are resourcing their Generation Equality commitments, including allocation strategies, good practices, implementation barriers and adaptive responses to a changing global context. It focuses in particular on **five Government Commitment Makers: Canada, France, Kazakhstan, Spain and Uganda**, which together account for over USD 6.8 billion pledged and represent one of the largest combined shares of reported pledges and disbursements.¹⁵

Table 2.1.I Snapshot of reported Governments' commitment portfolios and financial progress¹⁶

Organization	Primary AC	Commitment type	Time frame	Financials, disaggregated ^{17*}
Government of Canada Address GBV for a Safer Canadian Society	GBV	Financial; Policy; Programmatic; Advocacy	Beyond 2026	Pledge: USD 3.2 billion Secured: USD 3.2 billion Spent: USD 3.1 billion
Government of France France's commitment to SRHR	SRHR	Financial; Policy; Programmatic	Beyond 2026 ¹⁸	Pledge: USD 467 million Secured: USD 474 million Spent: USD 474 million
Government of Kazakhstan Increased childcare payments until the age of 18 months	EJR	Financial	Completed	Pledge: USD 796 million Secured: USD 1.5 billion Spent: USD 1.5 billion
Government of Spain Promote the participation of women and girls in STEAM fields	T&I	Financial; Policy; Programmatic	Beyond 2026	Pledge: USD 116.9 million Secured: Not available Spent: Not available
Government of Uganda Uganda's commitments	GBV	Financial; Policy; Programmatic; Advocacy	Beyond 2026	Pledge: USD 257.8 million Secured: USD 257.7 thousand Spent: Not available

(*Figures for pledged, secured and spent amounts are self-reported by Governments and may reflect different national financial and reporting cycles.)

15 The full list of reported commitments is available in the Annex.

16 This table presents one commitment per organization, representing 4 out of the 27 commitments reported by Governments. The selection is illustrative and aims to highlight key trends, financing models and implementation approaches.

17 In several Government commitments, the reported expenditure exceeds the pledged amount. This reflects the structure of public-sector financing, where Generation Equality commitments sit within broad, multi-year national budget lines that cannot be fully disaggregated at commitment level. Therefore, the 'spent' figure often represents the total public expenditure in the relevant sector rather than only the portion originally pledged under Generation Equality. All financial values have been converted to USD for comparability. For full details of the conversion methodology, please refer to the Technical note.

18 While France had indicated in 2024 that its commitment would conclude in 2025, the 2025 submission clarifies that the commitment has been extended and is now embedded within France's 2023-2027 international SRHR strategy and its 2025-2030 feminist diplomacy strategy.

Table 2.1.2. Financing and implementation strategies of Government Commitment Makers¹⁹

Organization	Source	How funds were mobilized or secured	Financial instruments or mechanisms used to disburse funds	Level of implementation	Recipients
Government of Canada Address GBV for a Safer Canadian Society	Internal	New legislative appropriations or government decrees or domestic budget	Project-specific grants (funds tied to specific projects, outcomes or deliverables)	National (country-wide programmes) in Canada	CSOs; Governments; academia & research organizations
Government of France France's commitment to SRHR	Internal	New legislative appropriations or government decrees or domestic budget	Project-specific grants (funds tied to specific projects, outcomes or deliverables)	National; regional (Europe) and global	CSOs; Governments; private sector; international organizations
Government of Kazakhstan Increased childcare payments until the age of 18 months	Internal	New legislative appropriations or government decrees or domestic budget	Budget support to governments (social protection transfer/ cash benefit)	National (country-wide programmes) in Kazakhstan	Households
Government of Spain Promote the participation of women and girls in STEAM fields	Co-financed (public-private)	Reallocation of existing funds from other internal programmes/priorities	Project-specific grants; equity investments (e.g., impact investing aligned with gender equality)	National & regional (Europe)	All types of organizations
Government of Uganda Uganda commitments	Co-financed	New legislative appropriations or government decrees or domestic budget	Unrestricted and project-specific grants; budget support to Governments	National and subnational (country-wide programmes), in Uganda	Government agencies

The information presented in Tables 2.1.1 and 2.1.2 shows that Governments are financing their Generation Equality commitments primarily through domestic public budgets, new legislative appropriations and government decrees. This strong reliance on internal resource mobilization demonstrates Governments' commitments to embedding gender equality priorities within national financing systems. These approaches help ensure that **funding is aligned with national priorities, supports multi-year implementation and strengthens institutional systems for sustained delivery**. Compared to 2024, the value of some commitments increased slightly, as Governments adjusted

allocations to reflect rising implementation costs, but there was no significant change in the overall level of investments reported.

Together, these strategies show how Governments use a mix of public budgets, legislative instruments, grants and social protection mechanisms to secure and disburse their commitments. They also illustrate that **when gender equality objectives are integrated into public finance processes through national budgets, legal reforms and programmatic financing, Governments are better able to deliver predictable, system-strengthening and transformative results**. This

19 This table presents one commitment per organization, representing 4 out of the 27 commitments reported by Governments. The selection is illustrative and aims to highlight key trends, financing models and implementation approaches.

approach is also consistent with FfD3 and FfD4, which emphasize domestic resource mobilization, effective public policy and gender-responsive budgeting as foundations for sustainable development financing.

2.1.6. 2025 FINANCIAL GOOD PRACTICES AND LESSONS LEARNED

Governments participating in the 2025 financial survey reported a wide range of good financial practices. The examples highlighted below show what can be achieved through adequate and sustained investments and underscore that **closing gender gaps requires resources that match ambition**, as highlighted by UN Women and the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA).²⁰ The impact goes beyond the short-term, including strengthening systems, expanding services, and improving outcomes for women and girls, as the examples offer replicable and scalable models across different countries, regions and sectors. Notably, when financing is aligned with policy priorities and global commitments, including the SDGs and the BPfA, it can accelerate systemic change and drive sustainable progress.

Large-scale investments by the Government of Canada advance housing security and safety for populations at risk of violence

As of 30 June 2025, **Canada's National Housing Strategy committed CAD 20.68 billion (USD 15.1 billion) towards the housing needs of women and their children and supported the construction of 3,472 new units and repair of 2,760 units for survivors of GBV.** Through *Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy*, communities are scaling up evidence-driven prevention of GBV, supported by strengthened data that enable Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA Plus)²¹ informed decisions. Since 2019, people fleeing intimate partner violence have been included as a tar-

get population for over 1,500 projects. The National Housing Strategy also recognizes the distinct housing barriers faced by marginalized populations, including through the *Urban, Rural and Northern Indigenous Housing Strategy*, which will provide CAD 4 billion (USD 2.9 billion). Complementing these efforts, the National Action Plan to End Gender-Based Violence and related federal investments, such as CAD 300 million (USD 217.8) in emergency funding to support shelters, sexual assault centres and other organizations during the COVID-19 pandemic, CAD 30 million (USD 21.8) for crisis hotlines and CAD 55 million (USD 40 million) over 5 years for Indigenous organizations, ensure survivors have access to safe spaces, resources and support across Canada.

Government of Canada supports inclusive legislatures for gender-responsive policies in Ghana, Kenya and Togo

The Government of Canada pledged CAD 9.25 million (USD 6.7 million) and spent CAD 6.3 million (USD 4.6 million) for the commitment "Inclusive Legislatures for Gender-Responsive Policies", which advanced gender equality reforms and strengthened the capacity of 605 elected and nominated officials, namely Members of Parliament (MPs) in Ghana, Kenya and Togo to scrutinize and champion inclusive, gender-responsive laws, policies and budgets. Legislative milestones include Ghana's historic *Affirmative Action (Gender Equity) Act, 2024* and Kenya's *Persons with Disabilities Act, 2025*. This Feminist Movements and Leadership Action Coalition (FML AC) commitment supported MPs and citizen-led campaigns that drove stronger legal actions and social-change programmes addressing GBV and FGM in Kenya. In Togo, ongoing constitutional reforms are fostering a more gender-sensitive and inclusive budget process. These policies have also strengthened CSO and Gender Desk Forum understanding of parliamentary

20 UN Women and UN DESA. 2025. Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals: The Gender Snapshot 2025.

21 Gender-based Analysis Plus (GBA Plus) is an analytical tool used to support the development of responsive and inclusive policies, programmes and other initiatives. GBA Plus is a process for understanding who is impacted by the issue or opportunity being addressed by the initiative; identifying how the initiative could be tailored to meet diverse needs of the people most impacted; and anticipating and mitigating any barriers to accessing or benefiting from the initiative. GBA Plus is an intersectional analysis that goes beyond biological (sex) and sociocultural (gender) differences to consider other factors, such as age, disability, education, ethnicity, economic status, geography (including rurality), language, race, religion and sexual orientation. Using GBA Plus involves taking a gender- and diversity-sensitive approach to the work. Considering all intersecting identity factors as part of GBA Plus, not only sex and gender, is a Government of Canada commitment.

work, leading to new memoranda of understanding and joint initiatives with parliaments. Training in gender equality, GBA Plus and gender-responsive budgeting deepened MPs' application of these principles in legislation. Empirical data gathered across countries highlighted gender gaps and informed new tools and models, while strategic partnerships ensured women's priorities were represented and parliamentary effectiveness was enhanced.

Government of France champions sexual and reproductive health and rights

As co-leader of the Action Coalition on Bodily Autonomy and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR AC), **France reaffirmed its 2021 commitment and dedicated EUR 400 million to advancing SRHR over the five-year period.** This investment is being implemented through France's International SRHR Strategy (2023-2027) and its International Strategy for a Feminist Foreign Policy (2025-2030) which establishes SRHR as its cornerstone. Funding channels include major international programmes such as UNFPA Supplies and regional initiatives such as the Muskoka Fund on sexual, reproductive, maternal, neonatal, child and adolescent health issues in six West and Central African countries as well as the *Organisation pour le Dialogue pour l'Avortement Sécurisé* (Organization for Dialogue around Safe Abortion), supporting access to modern contraception, safe abortion and life-saving reproductive health services. An increased mobilization of operators such as the French Agency for Development (AFD) and Expertise France made it possible to exceed the initial target at the end of 2024. AFD had committed to invest EUR 250 million (USD 299 million) for projects related to SRHR over the period 2021-2025, and by the end of 2025 had reached a total investment of EUR 326.5 million (USD 391 million). Among these, EUR 75.8 million (USD 90.8 million) were dedicated to projects supporting feminist civil society working to defend SRHR. French embassies have also been mobilized through the financing of local projects in partnership with CSOs. France was also active in the Team Europe Initiative on SRHR, to coordinate its programming with other European Member States. Together, these efforts demonstrate France's continued leadership and sustained financial commitment to advance bodily autonomy and SRHR globally.

Government of Kazakhstan extends childcare allowance payments to 18 months of age

Under the EJR AC, the **Government of Kazakhstan's USD 1.5 billion investment has produced clear and measurable outcomes for families across the country.** In 2023, more than 300,000 families received benefits totalling approximately USD 630 million, and in 2024, over 270,000 families received about USD 860 million, with **over 580,000 families benefiting from nearly USD 1.5 billion in total.** By covering a longer period of parental leave, the reform improved household income security during a critical stage of child development. Following President Tokayev's 2022 order, the reform was adopted through legislative amendments and enshrined in the Social Code of Kazakhstan in 2023. This strengthened systemic social protection and advanced gender equality by enabling women to extend parental leave without economic penalty and encouraging men's involvement in caregiving. Over time, this systemic change is expected to strengthen women's economic resilience, social protection coverage and equitable workplace participation, while recognizing the value of unpaid care work at the national level.

Government of Spain advances gender equality commitments through the STEAM Alliance

Under the T&I AC, the **Government of Spain pledged EUR 100 million (USD 116.9 million) to the EU-wide STEAM Alliance to advance girls' participation in science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics.** The initiative has established a national public-private strategy, built broad political consensus and created international collaboration networks following the International Conference on the Future of Girls in STEAM. Through the Alliance, partners have promoted gender-bias reduction in schools, expanded communication and outreach to the education community, and strengthened academic and statistical research on the STEAM gender gap.

Key initiatives include national fairs celebrating girls in science, annual STEAM Alliance Awards, and the operation of a Statistical Observatory that regularly upda-



Scenes from the CSW69 High-level interactive dialogue: “Beijing@30: A dialogue with youth representatives.” Photo: UN Women/Ryan Brown

tes data on gender disparities in STEAM pathways. These efforts are helping to improve visibility, foster young women’s scientific and technological aspirations, and support long-term progress towards narrowing the gender gap in STEAM fields.

Government of Uganda’s fiscal strategy delivers gender parity and legal reforms

Through its commitment on GBV, the **Government of Uganda mobilized UGX 911 billion (USD 258 million) to advance gender equality through several institutional actions, including training 176 local governments on gender and equity, strengthening male involvement in GBV prevention and response, and supporting amendments to the succession law.** The Federal Government also reported several national-level outcomes, including: increased awareness on gen-

der equality; reduced gender inequalities; an increase in women’s participation in decision-making; 34 per cent female legislators in parliament; gender parity in primary school enrolment; increased female graduation in humanities; and 24 per cent of land titles held by women.

Across reporting Governments, lessons learned highlight that **financial investments are most effective when combined with coordinated, participatory and integrated approaches.** Key insights include:

- **Funding alone is insufficient.** Governments noted that financial resources generate stronger and more sustainable results when **paired with meaningful engagement** with feminist organizations, community-based actors and local stakeholders, ensuring initiatives respond to real needs.

- **Integrated approaches yield more tangible outcomes.** Governments emphasized that combining **legal reform, social programmes, service-delivery and public awareness efforts** leads to more measurable improvements in women’s rights, safety and access to services.
- **Inclusive coordination platforms strengthen delivery.** Multi-stakeholder mechanisms, such as inter-ministerial working groups and partnerships with UN agencies and civil society, were highlighted as essential for **regular dialogue, joint review of progress and shared problem-solving**. At the same time, reporting highlighted that engagement and follow-through vary significantly across actors, reinforcing the importance of robust accountability frameworks, clearer governance arrangements and systematic follow-up to sustain progress.
- **Role models and intersectoral collaboration matter.** Some Governments stressed that expanding women’s and girls’ participation in public life, STEAM and entrepreneurship requires **visible female leadership**, targeted outreach and collaboration across sectors.

Takeaway: Reporting Governments agree that **sustained commitment, coordinated and integrated approaches, and meaningful engagement with feminist and local actors are essential for transformative and lasting gender equality outcomes.**

2.1.7. INSIGHTS INTO BARRIERS AND INSTITUTIONAL ENABLERS

Several Governments reported common challenges in translating allocated budgets into timely and impactful actions. Bureaucratic hurdles and difficulties in identifying suitable implementation partners often slow down disbursement processes. In some cases, ensuring accountability and transparency throughout implementation, and tracking measurable impact, proved complex, requiring stronger monitoring systems. Other Governments noted additional operational issues but did not provide specifics, highlighting the need for clearer reporting and adaptive mechanisms. These barriers underscore the importance of streamli-

ned procedures, robust partnerships and transparent frameworks to ensure that resources reach beneficiaries efficiently and deliver sustained results.

Despite these challenges, **key enablers** were critical in addressing bureaucratic hurdles²² and ensuring disbursement:

- **Streamlined processes and innovation in decision-making.** The Government of Canada is applying a continuous improvement approach to simplify decision and approval processes and is exploring the use of artificial intelligence (AI) to interpret impact data and support more timely disbursement.
- **Enhanced transparency and financial oversight.** The Government of Canada reported using comprehensive financial audits to identify risks and inefficiencies, ensure adherence to accounting and regulatory standards, and strengthen financial sustainability.
- **Better data and results tracking.** Canadian initiatives include supporting communities to improve data on homelessness, advancing research on community-level indicators and strengthening reporting tools so that funding can be more closely aligned with needs.
- **Reform of grants and contributions systems.** The Government of Canada is transforming its grants and contributions system to reduce administrative burden, improve risk assessment, and make performance data more timely and easier to share, while maintaining accountability and legislative standards.
- **Strengthened monitoring.** The Government of France highlights that closely tracking financed initiatives has helped maintain progress and ensure that funding was aligned with evolving needs and strategic priorities.
- **Reinforced public-private and inter-institutional coordination.** The Government of Spain underscores the importance of reinforcing public-private collaboration instruments and mechanisms for cooperation and coordination across different levels of public administration.
- **Legislative and regulatory reforms.** The Government of Uganda reports that enacting financial laws

²² The Government of Kazakhstan has not yet reported on current challenges or measures related to effective fund disbursement, as this section of their reporting is still in progress.

and regulations and establishing memoranda of understanding between central and local governments has helped ease some bureaucratic bottlenecks and clarify roles in implementing grants.

2.1.8. NAVIGATING TODAY'S CONTEXT: CHALLENGES AND ADAPTIVE STRATEGIES

Across reporting Governments, **implementation was strongly shaped by social norms, financing conditions and broader political and economic contexts.**

The Government of Canada reported challenges related to hidden homelessness among women and gender-diverse populations, **persistent data gaps, reductions in donor funding for global education**, and logistical and cost barriers that affect work with remote and northern communities. The Government emphasized that sustained application of GBA Plus, stronger local data systems and culturally appropriate, low-barrier services help mitigate these constraints and ensure that interventions reach priority populations.

The Government of France noted that **evolving fiscal pressures affected its ability to fully meet certain international financing** commitments in 2025. While broader SRHR funding continues through the implementation of France's international strategies, temporary budgetary constraints required adjustments in disbursement, underscoring the need for close monitoring and adaptive planning to maintain progress across priority areas. For example, althou-

gh the last year of contribution to UNFPA Supplies has been delayed, the Government of France has been able to support the UNFPA Humanitarian Response Operational Plan in Gaza, to restore and enhance maternal and newborn emergency care services in Northern Gaza.

The Government of Kazakhstan reported that its childcare allowance reform was enabled by strong political will, post-pandemic social protection priorities and high public demand for early childhood education. However, **regional disparities and limited financing continued to affect implementation**, and for women's entrepreneurship and sexual and gender-based violence initiatives, funding cuts and economic pressures restricted the ability of CSOs to sustain outreach and services. At the same time, **regional cooperation and increased public awareness created momentum for reforms and peer learning**, including through virtual knowledge-sharing platforms.

The Government of Spain noted that **limited funding for women-led projects continues to shape financing applications.** It also clarified that commitments linked to the mandated [Gender Impact Report](#) remain unaffected by external economic or social shifts, as the publication is required by law.

Meanwhile, the Government of Uganda highlighted that **negative social and cultural norms, combined with dwindling donor support, continue to constrain progress** and weaken the sustainability of programmes.

Overall, these experiences show that progress depends not only on financial resources but also on enabling environments, stable partnerships, data systems able to capture hard-to-measure populations, and the capacity to reach communities facing structural barriers.



Indigenous women of Guatemala's Polochic valley are feeding their families, growing their businesses and saving more money than ever before, with the help of a joint UN programme that's empowering rural women. Photo: UN Women/Ryan Brown

2.2. PHILANTHROPY

2.2.1. FINANCING LANDSCAPE IN 2024: SCALE, COMPOSITION AND COMMITMENT TYPES

In 2024, 11 philanthropic organizations reported on 19 financial commitments, compared to 12 of these organizations reporting on 27 commitments in 2023. The 2024 commitments total **USD 3.5 billion pledged** (approximately USD 300 million less than in 2023) and **USD 1.8 billion spent**. The decrease is largely due to

one major philanthropy that reported in 2023 but did not report in 2024.

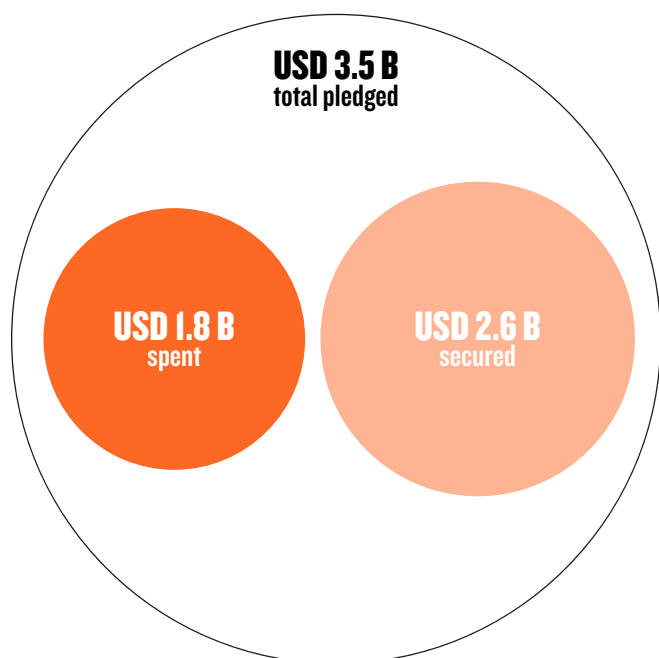
Philanthropies reported USD 537 million pledged to CSOs, which confirms their central role as implementation partners within Generation Equality. However, only USD 2.2 million²³ was reported as being allocated specifically to youth- and adolescent-led organizations, indicating a very limited

²³ This figure comprises approximately USD 211,000 reported as pledged funding and around USD 2 million reported as secured funding. Amounts are presented as reported by Commitment Makers.

level of **explicitly reported** direct financial support to young feminist groups, which play an important role in shaping gender equality outcomes. Notably, while **18 out of 19 commitments reported investments in CSOs**, only **three commitments reported investments explicitly directed towards youth- and adolescent-led organizations**.²⁴

In 2024, philanthropies disbursed the largest share of their commitments through **project-specific grants, totalling almost USD 3.2 billion**, although only about one third of this amount, USD 1.15 billion, was secured. These contributions were largely multipurpose,²⁵ supporting broader programmatic, financial, policy and advocacy strategies rather than stand-alone financial transfers. A substantial portion of philanthropic financing focused on **SRHR**, including efforts to improve access to comprehensive abortion and contraception services. Of the overall resources, USD 1.1 billion was provided as grants, mostly to CSOs, with the largest commitments targeting regional initiatives rather than national ones.

FINANCIAL PLEDGES BY PHILANTHROPIES



These patterns show that while philanthropies provide substantial resources and play a critical role in advancing SRHR and broader multisectoral strategies, their financing remains **highly concentrated** within the Generation Equality ecosystem. On the one hand, philanthropies channel **substantial resources to CSOs**, confirming their role as central to implementation. On the other hand, the **very limited funding reaching youth- and adolescent-led organizations** underscores a persistent gap in empowering young feminist actors. Combined with the heavy use of in-kind and regional investments, this pattern points to the need for more **accessible, flexible and youth-inclusive financing models** to ensure that philanthropic contributions translate into sustained, community-driven progress on gender equality.

2.2.2. MAPPING THE GAPS: REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION PATTERNS

Sub-Saharan Africa accounts for the largest share of philanthropic financing under Generation Equality, reflecting both the scale of need and the concentration of large, multi-country investments in the region. Nearly the entire USD 3.5 billion pledged in 2024 is associated with commitments implemented in whole or in part in the region, and USD 1.7 billion has been spent to date. Many of these commitments are global or multi-regional in scope and originate from organizations based in Europe and North America. This underscores the continued reliance on external capital to finance feminist movements, service-delivery and systems-strengthening in sub-Saharan Africa, while also highlighting the importance of aligning global financing with national priorities and domestic resource mobilization pathways.

A significant share of philanthropic financing in sub-Saharan Africa is committed by the Gates Foundation, which has spent nearly USD 417 million of its USD 2.2 billion in commitments in the region across three Action Coalitions (EJR, SRHR and FML). These

24 This discrepancy may reflect differences in how Commitment Makers track and report funding allocations, including the level of disaggregation applied to recipient types. As a result, funding benefiting youth- and adolescent-led organizations may not always be reported as such when embedded within broader civil society investments.

25 Seven of the 18 commitments are multipurpose across financial, programmatic, policy and advocacy components, and eight are financial only. Policy commitments account for USD 2.9 billion in pledges, followed by USD 2.7 billion for programmatic commitments and USD 2.5 billion for advocacy commitments. Financial-only commitments represent USD 532 million.

investments focus on scaling proven solutions, strengthening national systems and catalysing sustainable financing for women’s economic empowerment, feminist leadership, and sexual and reproductive health. By combining service-delivery with market-shaping, policy reform and domestic resource mobilization, the Foundation’s approach is designed to expand durable solutions and impact at scale.

Sub-Saharan Africa also hosts a growing base of regionally-anchored philanthropies. Seven of the 18 commitments implemented in sub-Saharan Africa are exclusively implemented in the region and originate from **Kenyan organizations**, including Urgent Action Fund Africa and Jumuiya Women Fund. These seven commitments total approximately USD 3.3 million and demonstrate the **increasing visibility and influence of African feminist funds resourcing movement from within the region.**

2.2.3. PARTNERSHIP AND COLLECTIVE FINANCING COMMITMENTS

In total, 18 of the 19 philanthropic financial commitments were implemented in partnership with CSOs, confirming them as the most frequent partners for philanthropies. About 90 per cent of these partnerships operated at the national level, with philanthropies pledging USD 3.2 billion, although only a little more than USD 350 million of this amount has been spent to date.²⁶ Philanthropies also reported partnerships with Governments (12 commitments), other philanthropic actors (10 commitments) and academia (9 commitments), reflecting broad cross-sector collaboration in both the design and implementation of their commitments.

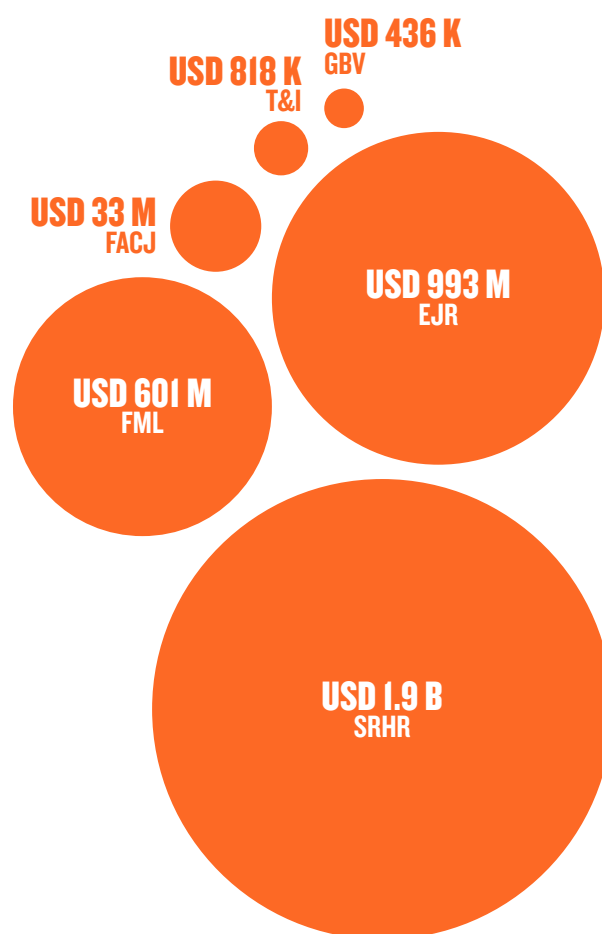
There are eight financial commitments from philanthropies that are towards collective commitments, totalling USD 3.9 million in pledges: USD 2 million of this has been secured and USD 1.5 million has been spent so far, all by Urgent Action Fund Africa. Seven out of eight commitments by philanthropies – accounting for USD 3.3 million in pledges – come from organiza-

tions headquartered in Kenya. In total, the collective commitment with the highest financial value among philanthropies is **‘Mobilizing resources for Feminist Action for Climate Justice (FACJ)’**, at USD 2.2 million pledged. This reflects the central role of region-based feminist funds in sustaining activist networks, supporting front-line organizations and coordinating shared strategies across movements.

2.2.4. FINANCING PRIORITIES ACROSS ACTION COALITIONS AND THE BEIJING+30 ACTION AGENDA

Philanthropic financing is **highly concentrated within the SRHR AC.** Of the total philanthropic pledges reported, USD 1.9 billion are pledged under SRHR, particularly under Action Area 2 (Increase availability and accessibility of abortion and contraceptive services).

PHILANTHROPIC PLEDGES, BY AC



26 The discrepancy is largely explained by the one philanthropic organization that did not report any partnership. The Women’s Funding Network alone invested over USD 1 billion in organizations advancing economic rights and justice globally, surpassing its original five-year goal of USD 300 million, which significantly increases the total pledge volume while not being associated with any specific partnership record.

This reflects the focus among philanthropies on increasing access to crucial reproductive care for women and improving bodily autonomy.

In contrast, very limited philanthropic financing has been pledged under the T&I (USD 818,000) and GBV (USD 436,000) ACs.

Jumuiya Women Fund (JWF) in Kenya provides an illustrative example of how Generation Equality commitments can contribute to the [Freedom from Poverty area of work of the Beijing+30 Action Agenda](#). Under its commitment within the EJR AC, JWF pledged KES 30 million (approximately USD 218,182). Through targeted interventions and partnerships in Kenya and South Sudan,

JWF facilitated access to financial resources for marginalized women, empowering them to start and grow businesses, secure employment and achieve economic independence. Key results include increased income levels, improved access to education and healthcare, and greater participation in decision-making processes at all levels. This work can contribute to Kenya's commitment to the Freedom from Poverty area of work of the Beijing+30 Action Agenda. Recognizing that poverty and violence are deeply interconnected, and that addressing them requires a comprehensive, multisectoral approach that provides women with resources and opportunities, Kenya committed to reduce women's vulnerability to exploitation and abuse, while strengthening their resilience and independence by 2030.

BOX. 2.2. SPOTLIGHT ON 2024 GOOD PRACTICES

Fondation RAJA-Danièle Marcovici: Advancing climate justice efforts through advocacy and action

The Fondation RAJA-Danièle Marcovici secured EUR 1.4 million (USD 1.5 million) as an FACJ commitment through its "Programme Femmes & Environnement" (Women and Environment Programme) commitment supporting grass-roots action at the intersection of women's empowerment and environmental sustainability.

Impact to date:

- **162 associative projects were supported** between 2015–2025, with a total of EUR 5.055 million disbursed.
- **Feminist leadership** in climate advocacy was strengthened through Gender and Climate roundtables.
- A **10th-anniversary celebration of the Women and Environment programme** in 2025 shined a spotlight on the people, stories and convictions that bring this programme to life.
- Content was created to contribute to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) on equal gender participation within climate-related decision-making bodies.
- A **Gender and Climate Observatory** was launched in partnership with the *Institut de Relations Internationales et Stratégiques* (IRIS) to monitor and inform public debate.
- Knowledge on feminist agroecology networks was amplified through **research and student engagement campaigns**.

WHY IT MATTERS

This approach demonstrates how philanthropic funding can link grass-roots resource-mobilization, research and advocacy to shift the discourse and decision-making in climate action spaces.

Jumuiya Women Fund: Bolstering feminist crisis response and climate justice in conflict-affected communities

JWF demonstrates a feminist response to crises by prioritizing the needs and empowerment of women and vulnerable households, pledging KES 29 million (approximately USD 211,000) under its FACJ commitment “Feminist Response to crisis”.

Impact to date:

- **310 households received cash transfers** to meet urgent needs and reduce economic vulnerability.
- More than **500 women and community members have been trained** in climate-smart agriculture to improve adaptive capacity.
- **Facilitated access to seeds and agricultural inputs** enabled households to initiate or expand food production activities, strengthening food security and livelihood resilience.

WHY IT MATTERS

This model illustrates how flexible, community-rooted feminist funds can sustain livelihoods, support resilience, and reinforce women’s decision-making power in crisis settings.

2.2.5. 2025 FINANCIAL FOOTPRINT: HOW PHILANTHROPY IS POWERING GENDER EQUALITY

This section examines how philanthropic organizations are deploying capital, partnerships and influence to deliver results towards their Generation Equality commitments in a shifting global context, drawing on findings from the 2025 Financial Survey. It focuses on

the allocation strategies of three major philanthropic Commitment Makers – the Children’s Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF), Co-Impact Philanthropic Funds Inc., and the Gates Foundation – which together account for more than 3.1 billion in pledges (nearly 90 per cent of the total reported in 2024) and represent a significant share of reported disbursements.²⁷



Scene from the Generation Equality Media Forum. Photo: UN Women

²⁷ The full list of reported commitments is available in the Annex.

Table 2.2.1. Snapshot of reported philanthropies' commitment portfolios and financial progress²⁸

Organization	Primary AC	Commitment type	Time frame	Financials, disaggregated ²⁹
CIFF Advancing SRHR	SRHR	Financial; policy; programmatic	By 2026	Pledge: USD 460 million Secured: USD 542.8 million Spent: USD 313.5 million
Co-Impact Philanthropic Funds Inc. Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Leadership	FML	Financial	Beyond 2026	Pledge: USD 500 million Secured: USD 481 million Spent: USD 169.5 million
The Gates Foundation Expanding Family Planning Options	SRHR	Financial; policy; programmatic; advocacy	By 2026	Pledge: USD 1.4 billion Secured: USD 800 million Spent: USD 800 million

Table 2.2.2. Financing and implementation strategies of philanthropic Commitment Makers³⁰

Organization	Source	How funds were mobilized or secured	Financial instruments or mechanisms used to disburse funds	Level of implementation	Recipients
CIFF Advancing SRHR	Internal	Investment returns / endowment drawdowns	Unrestricted and Project-specific grants; blended finance (e.g., combining their funding with private or public capital); budget support to Governments	Global reach at the regional, national and subnational level	Women and adolescent girls in underserved areas; system-level benefits to public health systems.
Co-Impact Philanthropic Funds Inc. Advancing Gender Equality and Women's leadership	Co-financed philanthropic funds pool)	Specific fundraising campaigns or initiatives	Restricted/project-specific grants (funds tied to specific projects, outcomes, or deliverables)	National (country-wide programmes)	CSOs; multilateral; private sector; academia and research organizations
The Gates Foundation Expanding Family Planning Options	Internal	General revenues; Investment returns / endowment drawdowns	Project-specific grants; blended finance (e.g., combining their funding with private or public capital)	Global reach at the regional, national and subnational level	CSOs, government agencies, multilateral organizations, private sector, academia and research organizations

28 This table presents one commitment per organization, representing 3 out of the 6 commitments reported by Philanthropy. The selection is illustrative and aims to highlight key trends, financing models and implementation approaches.

29 In several commitments, the reported expenditure exceeds the pledged amount. This reflects the structure of public-sector financing, where Generation Equality commitments sit within broad, multi-year national budget lines that cannot be fully disaggregated at the commitment level. Therefore, the 'spent' figure often represents the total public expenditure in the relevant sector rather than only the portion originally pledged under Generation Equality. All financial values have been converted to USD for comparability. For full details of the conversion methodology, please refer to the Technical note.

30 This table presents one commitment per organization, representing 3 out of the 6 commitments reported by Philanthropy. The selection is illustrative and aims to highlight key trends, financing models and implementation approaches.

The information presented in Tables 2.2.1 and 2.2.2 shows that philanthropic organizations are financing their Generation Equality commitments primarily through investment returns and endowment draw-downs, followed by general revenues and targeted fundraising campaigns. Unlike Governments, whose financing is anchored in public budgets, **philanthropic actors rely on flexible and diversified resource bases** that enable earlier and more predictable disbursement, facilitate implementation within initial timelines, and allow grant-making cycles to be adjusted in response to evidence, including the renovation or expansion of commitments. This flexibility enables philanthropic organizations to respond quickly to emerging priorities while sustaining long-term programming.

Philanthropic actors predominantly disburse resources through **project-specific grants**, which remain the main financial instrument across the sector. Several organizations complement this approach with blended finance mechanisms and budget support to Governments, particularly to strengthen social protection and health systems. These modalities are often deployed through global and multi-country initiatives, enabling foundations to deliver impact at scale while aligning their resources with national priorities. This model is consistent with the FfD4 agenda, which advocates leveraging private philanthropic capital to de-risk investments, catalyse co-financing and mobilize additional public and private resources in support of gender equality.

Taken together, these strategies show how philanthropic organizations combine **flexible funding, diversified capital sources** and **innovative financing tools** to advance gender equality. At the same time, the strong reliance on project-specific grants and global initiatives **underscores the need to expand direct and flexible financing**, particularly for youth-led groups, to ensure that community-level actors can fully participate in and influence these investments.

2.2.6. 2025 FINANCIAL GOOD PRACTICES AND LESSONS LEARNED

Philanthropic organizations that participated in the 2025 Financial Survey reported a **range of effective financing practices, demonstrating what can be achieved when investments are sustained, intentional**

and aligned with clear outcomes. Importantly, these approaches extend beyond direct service-delivery, offering practical models for driving systemic, market and policy-level shifts. For example, through the Gates Foundation's FML commitments, evidence-generation was prioritized through publications such as *Women in the Workplace* country reports, *What Women Want* insights and the *Reykjavik Index for Leadership*. These reports created comparable benchmarks to track progress over time and exposed new data, shifting the Foundation's funding strategy to focus on strengthening organizational accountability and transparency, leadership pipelines and policy implementation. In parallel, the Foundation positioned women's leadership within high-level policy and decision-making forums, from the United Nations General Assembly to Davos, while investing in durable platforms that sustain agenda-setting beyond individual events or funding cycles. The following examples illustrate how financing that is aligned with policy priorities and global frameworks, including the SDGs and the BPfA, can translate evidence and advocacy into systemic change and drive sustainable progress.

Children's Investment Fund Foundation galvanizes the expansion of SRHR

Since 2021, **CIFF has disbursed USD 313.5 million to expand comprehensive SRHR through last-mile service-delivery, commodity security and adolescent-responsive approaches.** This investment helped contribute to the following outcomes, implemented by CIFF's partners. In Burkina Faso, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Mali, Niger, Nigeria and Senegal, 4.6 million women and girls, including 1 million adolescents, were able to access their preferred choice of contraceptive, as delivery was strengthened in underserved areas. In Kenya, communication and protection programming equipped 105,020 children with GBV-prevention skills, while the Agonyora initiative generated 161,563 additional family planning adopters and 835,150 couple years of protection in Migori County. In Ethiopia, partnerships with government ministries and health systems enabled 372,465 people to access family planning services, and Tiko's *In Their Hands* programme supported 811,000 adolescent girls' access to SRHR across four countries, with 44,000 menstrual pads distributed and 7,000 mental health services de-

livered. In India, CIFF supports national and state-level governments in expanding contraceptive access and choice for couples. Under the Delivering Innovation in Self-Care (DISC) project, more than 1 million women in 15 African countries chose self-injection by 2023, and CIFF's HIV Prevention Fund supported over 500,000 pre-exposure prophylaxis initiations in Kenya, Mozambique, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda and Zambia. These investments have contributed to sustainable financing and domestic ownership, for instance through a USD 100 million CIFF collaboration with the Global Financing Facility and UNFPA Supplies, helping to shift commodity financing to durable country-led models.

Co-Impact Philanthropic Funds Inc. celebrates system-level wins through the Gender Fund portfolio

Since the launch of the Gender Fund, as part of its commitment to advance gender equality and women's leadership under the FML AC, **Co-Impact Philanthropic Funds Inc. has spent USD 169.5 million supporting 118 programme partners across health, education, economic opportunity and women's leadership.** Collectively, partners are projected to reach 127.5 million people through improved systems. In health, in India, ARMMAN has enabled 43.56 million women to enrol in health programmes and is projected to reach 65 million. In Brazil, *Mapa* has reached over 14,000 volunteers, providing greater access to services for domestic violence survivors. In education, Breakthrough has introduced gender-informed curriculum reforms in public schools in India, reaching over 840,000 students, with 87.8 per cent of girls enrolling for higher education post-grade 12. In economic opportunity, PRADAN is working within systems to: support a 30-50 per cent income increase for 48,694 women; support 76,322 women to become shareholders in farmer-producer companies; and has unlocked USD 208 million for water resource development. These investments have **contributed to systemic and policy-level changes**, including PRADAN's partnerships with two Indian states, Gender Mobile Initiative's co-creation of Nigeria's National Model Policy on Sexual Harassment adopted across all 36 states, and the Centre for Girls' Education embedding Safe Space methodologies into Kaduna State's public education system, suppor-

ted by gender-responsive state budgeting and institutionalization within government systems.

Gates Foundation family planning contributes to systemic and policy-level shifts

The **Gates Foundation has invested USD 800 million to date towards its Generation Equality commitment to expand family planning options under the SRHR AC, resulting in millions of women and girls gaining access to modern contraception since 2021.** Through a strategy that pairs service-delivery with market-shaping, domestic resource mobilization and policy reform, the **Foundation's investments have generated outcomes that not only expand access, but improve quality and drive sustainable financing in high-need geographies.** In Ethiopia, EngenderHealth supported facilities reached over 21,000 women with immediate post-partum family planning in 2.5 months, exceeding early implementation targets and raising post-partum family planning uptake from 15 to 29 per cent. In Nigeria, MSI Reproductive Choices served more than 237,000 clients, while Population Services International's Smart Start programme reached 300,000 new and 585,000 repeat adolescent and youth users. These efforts address persistent access gaps and demonstrate how proven solutions can accelerate results within routine service-delivery models. Private sector delivery channels were strengthened at scale in Nigeria, through investments with DKT International and Society for Family Health, a critical component for meeting future demand, expanding choice and absorbing shocks caused by fiscal pressure or donor volatility. More than 5,400 community pharmacies were mobilized, providing counselling to 860,000+ women and generating more than 300,000 new family planning acceptors. The **Foundation's investments have also contributed to systemic, financing and policy-level shifts**, critically protecting access in volatile contexts and decreasing reliance on funding cycles. Ethiopia's Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn and Child Health Compact successfully linked domestic resources with donor funding, resulting in an increase of family planning commodity funding from under USD 0.5 million to over USD 9 million annually, closing nearly 70 per cent of the financing gap. In Nigeria, the Government is domesticating family planning procu-

rement guidelines and advancing task-shifting policies to allow lower-cadre health workers to provide contraception. To bolster and re-enforce policy and financing, the Foundation invested in data, evidence and narrative change. Tools such as FPSim and Surgo Health analyses improved targeting by user segment and geography, increasing cost-effectiveness and identifying new levers to expand contraceptive uptake. Family Planning 2030 (FP2030) broadened engagement to link SRHR to wider democracy and health agendas, and through their Made Possible campaign, repositioned family planning as a driver of women's agency, opportunity and leadership. Guttmacher's evidence base has also been central in highlighting the consequences of ODA cuts.

Gates Foundation Generation Equality investments catalyse system-level economic inclusion

Since 2021, as part of its commitment to scale solutions and increase economic empowerment under the EJR AC, the **Gates Foundation has invested USD 437 million to expand access to economic opportunities for low-income women across India, Nigeria and East Africa (Kenya, the United Republic of Tanzania³¹ and Uganda)**. These investments target structural barriers, such as a lack of data and gender-blind delivery systems, driving institutional and market shifts in how governments and markets support women's economic participation and durable change beyond the direct reach of programming. Through this approach, investments have strengthened governmental and private sector platforms to reach women where markets fall short. Through partnerships with India's National Rural Livelihoods Mission, the Nigeria for Women Project and Kenya's One Million Farmer Programme, investments supported over 13 million women to join self-help groups, enabling group-based savings, access to inclusive credit products and market linkages. Investments in digital public infrastructure are addressing core constraints that women face in accessing finance. In India, the LokOS platform digitized individual credit histories for about 100 million women. In East Africa, the Foundation is piloting more inclusive, tailored credit products to expand

access to nearly 1 million women entrepreneurs and developing, alongside financial institutions and fintech partners, interoperable data systems that improve women's creditworthiness and unlock pathways to affordable, growth-oriented capital. The Foundation's investments have strengthened the evidence base, leading to scaling of successful models and influencing how governments and financial institutions design for women. The Nigeria for Women Project has reached over 450,000 women to date and secured a policy commitment to expand to 4.3 million women across 24 states. Evidence has informed the design of cost-effective graduation models, through India's *Satat Jeevikoparjan Yojana* programme in Bihar and Village Enterprise in Kenya, demonstrating 2-3x income gains and improving maternal and child health, providing governments with viable pathways to scale.

Across philanthropy actors, **lessons learned** emphasized the importance of internal accountability, locally rooted partnership models, and governance approaches that protect feminist and youth leadership. Key insights include:

- Participation in **Generation Equality strengthened internal accountability and elevated the visibility of gender equality**. The initiative demonstrated the **value of multi-stakeholder intergenerational and intersectional partnerships**. Future opportunities to fund similar initiatives will draw on learnings from Generation Equality, incorporating the need for clear vision, coordination and communication mechanisms, robust accountability and governance structures, and dedicated leadership and resourcing for long-term systemic change.
- **Backing locally-rooted partners strengthens resilience**, and systems-oriented approaches can advance multiple Generation Equality objectives simultaneously. A global portfolio can enable strategic timing and faster learning. Future priorities include increasing capital flexibility, resourcing cross-regional learning from the outset, institutionalizing peer learning and technical assistance, and planning for volatility.
- **Inclusive multilateralism requires governance and financing structures that protect feminist and**

31 Henceforth Tanzania.

youth voices. Lessons highlighted the importance of advocating earlier for accountability frameworks, funding ACs and youth-led organizations early, investing in capacity-building for all actors, and embedding localization strategies into every commitment so that global ambition is grounded in national systems and financing.

Takeaway: Across philanthropy actors, lessons emphasized that **internal accountability, locally-rooted partnership models and governance approaches that protect feminist and youth leadership** are essential to advance resilient, systems-oriented and inclusive progress.

2.2.7. INSIGHTS INTO BARRIERS AND INSTITUTIONAL ENABLERS

Among the key challenges reported by the three philanthropies in disbursing funds effectively are systemic and contextual factors that can affect the pace and sustainability of implementation. These include complex administrative and regulatory processes across delivery environments, as well as uncertain operating environments in some countries where investments are made, which can constrain programme continuity and long-term impact. The Gates Foundation also highlighted broader ecosystem challenges, such as declining aid flows that reduce overall sector capacity, and wider economic headwinds that affect governments' fiscal space and ability to prioritize domestic co-financing. In addition, ensuring consistent accountability and transparency across multi-partner implementation arrangements, and tracking results where data systems and accountability mechanisms vary, remain ongoing challenges for effective delivery.

Despite these challenges, **key enablers** were essential in addressing barriers and ensuring disbursement and delivery:

- **Employing a proactive strategy centred on horizon-scanning to mitigate risk and ensure compliance,** ensuring compliance with local legal framework-

ks, and strengthening focus on domestic resource mobilization as a pathway to long-term sustainability and country ownership, as adopted by CIFF.

- **Taking a multi-pronged, adaptive and programme-partner-centred approach,** as championed by Co-Impact Philanthropic Funds Inc., mitigates risk, improves operational efficiency, and strengthens local systems and leadership, as well as monitoring backlash and enabling rapid response by their partners to sustain progress.³²
- **Ensuring accountability and transparency through implementation.** Externally, the Gates Foundation invests in initiatives that enhance oversight of government commitments, increase visibility into resource allocation and engage decision-makers through structured advocacy. To create clearer accountability pathways with partners, the Foundation ties funding to explicit goals, milestones and results, working closely with partners to align on theories of change and expectations and allowing for flexibility to pivot throughout the partnership.
- **Building stronger evidence and impact tracking.** To address persistent gaps in measuring results, the Gates Foundation prioritizes data, learning and analytical capacity. Investments support robust data platforms, analysis of funding trends, gender-disaggregated indicators and partner monitoring, evaluation and learning systems, enabling clearer links between funding, outcomes and impact. This evidence base allows for real-time course correction, strengthens confidence among partners and co-funders, and informs policy and programme design at scale.
- **Responding to evolving political and economic context.** Given the volatility of funding environments and operating contexts, the Gates Foundation balances short-term responsiveness with long-term resilience. Diversification across geographies and partners, sequenced disbursements tied to clear milestones and the use of contingency lines help manage disruptions, while flexible tranches and targeted technical assistance support partners to adapt and protect progress.

32 Co-Impact mentioned that "Our commitment to gender equality and systemic transformation means that some partners may face resistance. We are fully supportive of our partners as they monitor for signs of backlash in their crafting of protective measures, communication strategies, and resilience planning to sustain progress, and pivoting their strategies as needed to navigate these dynamics."

2.2.8. NAVIGATING TODAY'S CONTEXT: CHALLENGES AND ADAPTIVE STRATEGIES

In an increasingly volatile global landscape, leading philanthropies employed a range of adaptive strategies to safeguard impact, sustain reform momentum, and reinforce the resilience of their partnerships and programmes.

CIFF scaled funding with a focus on domestic resource mobilization, strengthening local health systems, mobilizing private capital, and working with multilateral organizations, underscoring a moral imperative to step up for vulnerable populations, especially children. This approach is rooted in the charitable objective to create a world where children can flourish.

Co-Impact Philanthropic Funds Inc. adapted by investing in locally-rooted organizations and integrating strategies that combine policy, technical and narrative

work. Political windows were leveraged, notably in Latin America and Nigeria, to advance care reforms and women's leadership.

The Gates Foundation deployed a number of adaptive strategies to maintain momentum and impact amid ODA volatility, fiscal tightening, narrowed policy windows, election-related uncertainty and growing anti-gender sentiment. In response, the Foundation strengthened advocacy partnerships, provided targeted technical assistance, and elevated evidence-driven, scalable approaches to protect delivery and policy gains. The Foundation also pursued alternative financing pathways, including greater domestic resource mobilization, innovative financing mechanisms, diversifying the donor base and strengthening cost-efficient delivery programme models. These adaptations supported continuity and resilience across programmes despite persistent sociopolitical headwinds.

Overall, philanthropies adapted to a challenging global context by strengthening locally-rooted partnerships, exploring flexible and innovative financing models, leveraging political windows and prioritizing systems-level and advocacy strategies to sustain impact.



A scene from the Generation Equality Dialogue and Networking Event, held at UN Women Headquarters in New York on 23 September 2025.
Photo: UN Women/Jennifer Graylock

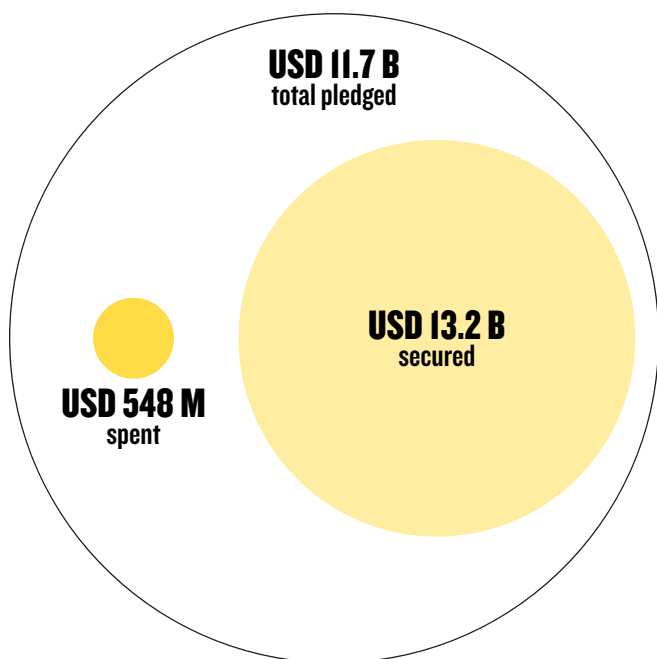
2.3. MULTILATERAL AND SUPRANATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

2.3.1. FINANCING LANDSCAPE IN 2024: SCALE, COMPOSITION AND COMMITMENT TYPES

In 2024, 12 multilateral and/or supranational organizations reported on 24 financial commitments, compared to 11 such organizations reporting on 22 commitments in 2023. The 2024 commitments total **USD 11.7**

billion pledged (similarly to 2023), while reported **secured financing reached USD 13.2 billion** – meaning multilaterals collectively secured more than their original pledges. However, only **USD 548 million** has been spent to date, representing less than 5 per cent of pledged funds and only 4 per cent of secured funds. This gap is largely due to one organization that secured

FINANCIAL PLEDGES BY MULTILATERAL ORGANIZATIONS



USD 12 billion but did not disclose its disbursements. Pledges included USD 40 million directed to CSOs and USD 19 million to youth- and adolescent-led groups. This gap reflects the **systemic complexity of tracking spending across large, multi-country portfolios**, where activities are embedded in diverse sectoral programmes, trust funds and country operations.

Multilateral efforts in 2024 were predominantly regional in scope, reflecting mandates to support cross-country coordination and multi-country programmes. Almost all disbursements were delivered through **project-specific grants**, which link resources to defined outputs and deliverables. Compared with other stakeholder groups, multilaterals exhibited lower use of multipurpose financing,³³ with only about half of commitments allowing flexible allocation across programme components. The main recipients of multilateral funding were CSOs and government institutions, demonstrating a dual focus on community-level engagement and the strengthening of public systems.

The distribution highlights the multilateral system's role in mobilizing large-scale resources, coordinating

regional initiatives, and supporting both institutional and civil society partners. Yet the limited share of funds actually disbursed underscores a **need for strengthened spending pipelines, greater transparency and more predictable support to front-line actors**.

2.3.2. MAPPING THE GAPS: REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION PATTERNS

The region of implementation with the largest sum of funding pledged to it in whole or part is South-Eastern Asia, with over 99.9 per cent of multilateral pledged funds implemented in whole or part there (USD 11.7 billion). Sub-Saharan Africa is a close second, with a difference of only USD 1 million. Other regions have far less pledged funding, largely because of the USD 10 billion World Bank commitment, which is only pledged towards implementation in East and South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa. The next two highest pledges, from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and UNFPA, totalling USD 1.5 billion, are being implemented across five regions.

In terms of the number of financial commitments, 21 (the largest share) are implemented in whole or part in East and South-East Asia and sub-Saharan Africa. However, these commitments all originate from organizations headquartered in Europe and North America.

2.3.3. PARTNERSHIP AND COLLECTIVE FINANCING COMMITMENTS

In total, 18 out of 24 financial commitments from multilateral organizations were implemented in partnership with other actors, representing more than USD 1.2 billion in pledged resources. The most frequent partners were Governments (14 commitments) and academia (14 commitments), followed by CSOs and other multilaterals (13 commitments each). Unlike other stakeholder groups, there was no major shift in the nature of partnerships, as most collaborations continued to involve global and regional actors, reflecting the structural role of multilaterals in coordinating broad, cross-country initiatives.

³³ Financial commitments coming from multilateral organizations are relatively evenly spread across programmatic (17), advocacy (17) and policy (15) work. Half of the multilateral commitments are actually multipurpose across all commitment types, and only four are solely financial in nature. Of the financial commitments, those that also have a programmatic component account for the highest pledges (USD 11.8 billion). The four commitments that are only financial account for USD 265,000 in pledges.

There are six financial commitments from multilateral organizations that are towards collective commitments, totalling just under USD 20 million in pledges – a very small percentage of the total pledges from multilaterals. USD 24 million has been secured and USD 4.5 million spent through collective commitments. The-matically, 50 per cent of multilateral commitments are directed towards GBV-related collective commitments.

2.3.4. FINANCING PRIORITIES ACROSS ACTION COALITIONS AND THE BEIJING+30 AGENDA

The largest number of financial commitments from multilaterals fall under the **GBV AC** and align with the Zero Violence component of the Beijing+30 Action Agenda (11 commitments, amounting to about USD 172 million in pledges). However, the largest share of pledged finances is under the **EJR AC**, the majority of

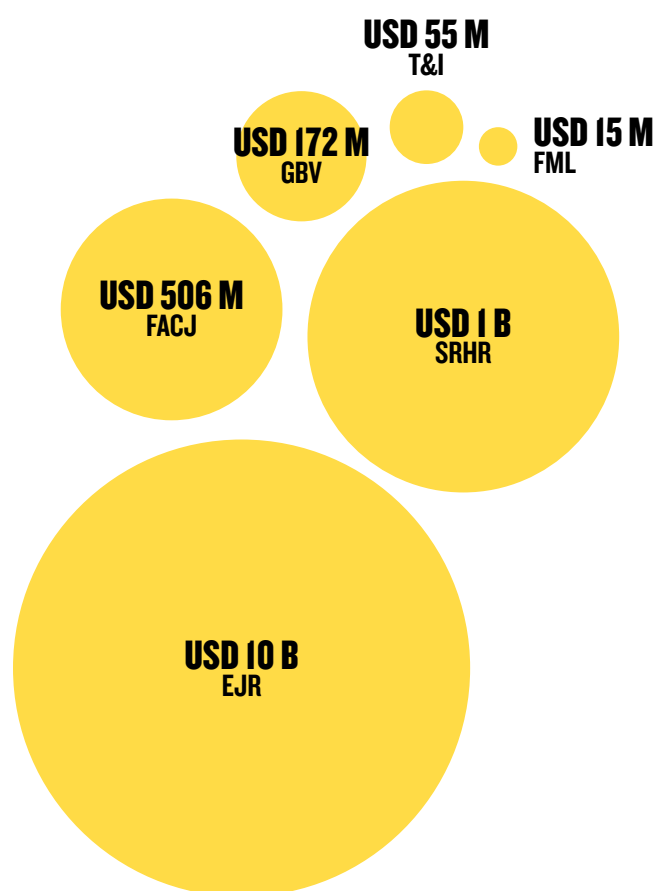
which is the World Bank’s USD 10 billion pledge. The World Bank’s commitment focuses on three Action Areas of the EJR AC: Action Area 1: Transforming the care economy; Action Area 2: Expanding employment in both formal and informal economies; and Action Area 3: Increasing women and girls’ access to and control over productive resources.

The Action Coalitions with the lowest pledges from private sector companies are T&I (USD 55 million) and FML (USD 15 million). These ACs align with the Beijing+30 Actions on the Digital Revolution and Equal Decision-Making Power.

The International Labour Organization (ILO) provides an illustrative example of how Generation Equality commitments can be mapped to the Freedom from Poverty area of work of the Beijing+30 Action Agenda. Under the EJR AC, the ILO spent USD 700,000 and pledged USD 1 million towards its commitment on care work and care jobs. As part of this commitment, the ILO launched and disseminated the Global Care Policy Portal and Investment Simulator in three languages, presenting over 60 legal and statistical indicators on maternity protection and care policies across more than 180 countries, and offering a global care policy modelling tool covering 118 countries. In addition, 23 country and regional briefs were developed to support advocacy on care policies and services.

Moreover, In Indonesia, the ILO supported engagement with the Ministry of Women’s Empowerment and Child Protection, which committed to develop a road map on the care economy. This result contributed to Indonesia’s commitment under the *Freedom from Poverty* area of work of the Beijing+30 Action Agenda, including the launch of a National Roadmap on the Care Economy to recognize, reduce, redistribute, reward and represent care work.

MULTILATERAL PLEDGES, BY AC



BOX. 2.3. SPOTLIGHT ON 2024 GOOD PRACTICES

Investing in change: How the European Union champions gender equality and fights GBV

The European Commission (EC)'s GBV commitment "*Funding for gender equality*", through internal European Union funding, has prioritized gender equality and gender-based violence prevention under the Daphne strand of the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV) programme, supporting both institutional strengthening and grass-roots action.

Impact to date:

- **13 projects received nearly EUR 30 million (USD 35.8 million) in 2023**, with funds re-granted to local and community-based organizations through simplified access mechanisms.
- A traditional (i.e. without regranting) Daphne call published in 2024 allocated an additional **EUR 25 million** (USD 30 million) to 33 projects to support organizations addressing GBV directly.
- **Also in 2024, EUR 10 million** (USD 12 million) was allocated to the gender equality call for proposals under the Equality and Rights strand (it enabled funding 25 projects), and EUR 16.4 million (USD 19.5 million) under the Union Values strand for three projects to support grass-roots women's-rights-CSOs facing backlash through re-granting.

WHY IT MATTERS

This approach demonstrates how supranational funding combined with awareness efforts can strengthen prevention systems, expand support to grass-roots organizations and shift social norms.

UN Women: Driving systemic change to end GBV through measurable impact

UN Women pledged **an initial USD 37 million** under its GBV commitment "*Lead Transformative Action to EVAWG/HP*" to catalyse transformative action on ending violence against women (EVAW), while **leveraging additional resources across its broader EVAW portfolio** to support programme delivery, policy reform and advocacy in multiple regions.

Impact to date³⁴:

Between 2022 and 2024, UN Women invested USD 278.23 million in the EVAW impact area, achieving systemic progress:

- **Strengthened Legal Protections:** *1.36 billion women and girls* now live in countries where laws were adopted, revised, or repealed to strengthen protection and accountability.
- **Shifted Norms:** *1.99 billion women and girls* are in countries implementing programmes that challenge harmful social and gender norms at community and organizational levels, using evidence-based and practice-based approaches.
- **Improved Access to Services:** *1.6 billion women and girls* live in countries that reported an increase in women accessing essential services after experiencing violence or discrimination.

34 Impact to date reflects progress and resources mobilized across UN Women's EVAW portfolio that are aligned with, and have been accelerated by, the Generation Equality commitment, and are not limited to the initial pledge amount.

- **Empowered Civil Society:** USD 155.7 million was disbursed to CSOs, especially women’s rights organizations, through UN Women programmes and grant-making. Under the EU-UN Women ACT programme alone, 757+ WROs were reached and 60 partners funded.
- **Allocated UN Trust Fund Grants:** Since 2021, the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women and Girls allocated USD 69.89 million in grants to 153 CSOs and women’s rights organizations to enable the exercise of their expertise in ending violence against women and girls.

WHY IT MATTERS

These results demonstrate how multilateral organizations can mobilize financing, technical expertise, and partnerships to drive systemic change, strengthen survivor-centred services, and reinforce legal and policy protections.



Indigenous women’s groups perform a Tlalmancalli opening ceremony to kick off the Generation Equality Forum in Mexico. The ceremony was held at the Complejo Cultural Los Pinos in Mexico City on 29 March 2021. Photo: UN Women/Paola Garcia

2.3.5. 2025 FINANCIAL FOOTPRINT: HOW MULTILATERALISM IS POWERING GENDER EQUALITY

This section synthesizes findings from the 2025 Financial Survey, examining how multilateral and supranational organizations are resourcing their Generation Equality commitments, including allocation strategies, good practices, implementation barriers and adaptive responses to a changing global context. It focuses in particular on four major multilateral Commitment Makers: **IFAD; UNFPA, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); and the World Health Organization (WHO)**,³⁵ which together account for more than **USD 2.6 billion**, or **nearly 99 per cent** of multilateral pledges (when excluding the World Bank – the single or-

ganization that pledged USD 10 billion of the overall USD 11.7 billion reported in 2024). Their combined pledges represent an increase of approximately 45 per cent compared to 2024, driven largely by UNFPA’s strengthened commitment to “End FGM by Scaling Up What Works.”

Despite the global funding crunch, coupled with mounting backlash against gender equality and human rights ideals, UNFPA increased both secured and spent resources in 2024, largely due to its strong programme results. These results enabled the organization to pursue innovative funding diversification, including by attracting new private sector partners. This momentum shows how demonstrated impact can open alternative financing channels and sustain delivery, even as traditional aid budgets decline.

Table 2.3.1. Snapshot of reported multilateral organizations’ commitment portfolios and financial progress³⁶

Organization	Primary AC	Commitment type	Time frame	Financials, disaggregated ³⁷
IFAD Gender-just climate change action	FACJ	Financial; programmatic	By 2024	Pledge: USD 500 million Secured: USD 92 million Spent: Not available
UNESCO Reach 28 million learners in 80 countries with quality gender-transformative teaching & learning that promotes gender equality	T&I	Financial; programmatic; advocacy	By 2026	Pledge: USD 30 million Secured: USD 30 million Spent: USD 25.3 million
UNFPA End FGM by Scaling Up What Works	GBV	Financial; policy programmatic; advocacy	Completed	Pledge: USD 200 million Secured: USD 113 million Spent: USD 99.9 million
WHO Eradicating polio through a gender lens	FML	Financial; policy programmatic; advocacy	By 2026	Pledge: USD 14 million Secured: USD 5.6 million Spent: USD 996,000

35 The full list of reported commitments is available in the Annex.

36 This table presents one commitment per organization, representing 4 out of the 12 commitments reported by Multilateral Organizations. The selection is illustrative and aims to highlight key trends, financing models and implementation approaches.

37 All financial values have been converted to USD for comparability. For full details of the conversion methodology, please refer to the Technical note.

Table 2.3.2. Financing and implementation strategies of multilateral Commitment Makers³⁸

Organization	Source	How funds were mobilized or secured	Financial instruments or mechanisms used to disburse funds	Level of implementation	Recipients
IFAD Gender-just climate change action	Co-financed (100% external funding)	Receipt of grants or contributions from other external entities	Project-specific grants; blended finance	National (country-wide programmes)	Government agencies; women involved in livelihood and household economic empowerment programmes;
UNESCO Reach 28 million learners in 80 countries with quality gender-transformative teaching & learning that promotes gender equality	Internal	General revenues; contributions from other external entities	Project-specific grants	Global reach at the regional and national level	Learners in formal education, alongside broader learner populations
UNFPA End FGM by Scaling Up What Works	Co-financed	Receipt of grants or contributions from other external entities ³⁹	Project-specific grants; budget support to Governments	Global reach at the regional, national and subnational level	CSO and youth-led organizations; Governments
WHO Eradicating polio through a gender lens	Co-financed (public-private partnership)	Receipt of grants or contributions from other external entities ⁴⁰	Project-specific grants	National (country-wide programmes)	Women and adolescent health workers and caregivers

The information presented in Tables 2.3.1 and 2.3.2 shows that multilateral organizations are financing their Generation Equality commitments primarily through **externally funded pooled resources**, including grants, contributions from bilateral donors and public-private partnerships. Unlike Governments, whose financing is rooted in domestic public budgets, multilateral organizations rely on **collective financing mechanisms** and multi-donor trust funds that pool contributions to support large-scale, cross-country programmes. This approach reflects their institutional mandates and aligns closely with the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the FfD4 emphasis on burden-sharing and coordinated development financing.

Multilateral organizations predominantly disburse their commitments through project-specific grants, often complemented by blended finance instruments and, in some cases, budget support to Governments. These instruments are designed to deliver targeted outcomes, scale proven interventions and support national systems in areas such as education, health, climate resilience and harmful-practices prevention. Because multilateral operations are embedded in broader sectoral programmes, their commitments frequently span regional and global levels, enabling cross-country policy coherence and the diffusion of gender-transformative approaches.

38 This table presents one commitment per organization, representing 4 out of the 12 commitments reported by Multilateral Organizations. The selection is illustrative and aims to highlight key trends, financing models and implementation approaches.

39 UNFPA's work under this commitment is funded through the Trust Fund, supported by eight Government donors and a private-sector contribution.

40 The Global Polio Eradication Initiative is a multi-donor pooled financing mechanism.

Together, these strategies illustrate how multilateral organizations **leverage pooled financing, multi-stakeholder partnerships and programmatic grants to mobilize and disburse large resources at scale**. They also highlight the advantages and challenges inherent in multilateral financing: while this model enables **wide geographic reach, standardized programming and collective impact**, it also **complicates the tracking and transparent reporting of gender-specific expenditures across extensive portfolios**. Strengthening expenditure reporting and accelerating disbursement pipelines will be essential to ensuring that multilateral financing translates into timely, measurable progress for women and girls.

2.3.6. 2025 FINANCIAL GOOD PRACTICES AND LESSONS LEARNED

Multilateral and supranational organizations that participated in the 2025 Financial Survey reported on good financial practices. A selection of those featured below demonstrates what can be achieved through adequate and sustained investments. Their impact goes beyond the short-term, as it offers sustainable models that can transform systems, empower women-led solutions and ensure digital ecosystems that advance gender equality, safety and human rights worldwide. For instance, **UNFPA, through the Equalizer Accelerator Fund**, recognizes the centrality of innovation and transformative potential of technology in ending GBV and harmful practices while ensuring technology is safe, inclusive and free from harm, including technology-facilitated GBV.

The following examples provide concrete evidence of how financing aligned with policy priorities and global commitments, including the SDGs and the BPfA, can accelerate systemic change and drive sustainable progress:

IFAD investments measurably increase women's empowerment

As part of its commitment to gender-just climate change action under the FACJ AC, **IFAD pledged USD 500 million and stands ready to offer its knowledge, financing and partnership to support local and global gender-just climate change action**. Externally, IFAD

envisioned the Enhanced Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Programme as the largest fund dedicated to channelling climate finance to small-scale producers, aiming to benefit more than 10 million people and ensure rural women's and girls' engagement. Internally, IFAD is strengthening multidisciplinary teams, expanding women's leadership to a minimum of 40 per cent, and implementing the UN System-Wide Action Plan (UN-SWAP) 2.0 to advance gender-transformative action. Notable outcomes reported through the 2025 Financial Survey include an increase in women's empowerment as measured by the project-level Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (Pro-WEAI) metric, particularly in the domains of income autonomy, self-efficacy and respect within households. However, challenges remain in women's access to decision-making over financial services.

UNESCO expands access to equitable, gender-responsive education

As part of its commitment under the T&I AC, to reach 28 million learners in 80 countries with quality gender-transformative teaching and learning, **UNESCO spent approximately USD 25 million and equipped the international community with the latest evidence on promoting gender-equitable education**, through the production of ground-breaking research (e.g. *Price of Inaction/2024*) and information-sharing opportunities, such as the Transforming Education Summit and Global Education Meeting. Legal frameworks and education systems were enhanced with a focus on equal access, participation and achievement. Gender considerations in data collection were reinforced through tools such as the Global Accountability Dashboard and the World Inequality Database on Education, highlighting gender disparities and barriers to learning faced by girls and boys, and informing targeted interventions. These investments contributed to measurable impact: 27 million learners (13.5 million women) were supported to have access to quality gender-transformative education, as well as to accessed life skills-based HIV and sexuality education; 10 countries (9 in Africa) improved laws, policies, plans or monitoring systems to advance gender equality; and 19 countries (7 in Africa) widened access to quality, equitable, gender-responsive higher education.

The UNFPA Supplies partnership transforms health, equity and empowerment interventions

The world's largest provider of donated reproductive health commodities, **UNFPA Supplies spent USD 141 million in 2024 to procure supplies and deliver 43 million couple-years of protection, ensuring reliable contraception for informed family planning as part of its commitment under the SRHR AC.** Through the effective implementation of the UNFPA Family Planning Strategy 2022-2030 and its Acceleration Plan (2022-2025), the partnership is driving progress towards achieving zero unmet needs for family planning across the humanitarian-development-peace continuum. The Strategy stands as a cornerstone, shaping Country Programme Documents and aligning national and regional efforts with UNFPA's goals through human rights-based and gender-transformative approaches. In 2024 alone, about 25 million women and girls in the lowest-income countries accessed modern contraception and essential reproductive health services, preventing 10 million unintended pregnancies and averting over 204,000 maternal and newborn deaths. These efforts generated an estimated USD 708 million in savings, an eight-times return on investment, demonstrating UNFPA's transformative impact on health, equity and empowerment.

WHO SDG 5.2 monitoring support helps boost uptake of GBV prevention guidelines, protocols and policy priorities

In 2021, as part of its commitment to provide essential services for EAW under the GBV AC, the **WHO published estimates on intimate partner violence and non-partner sexual violence to facilitate SDG 5.2 monitoring, providing a baseline for tracking progress.** For this area of work, WHO reported pledging USD 11.5 million and spending USD 9 million. A new round of estimates is planned for 2025, alongside updated evidence on EAW through RESPECT 2.0, to be published by the end of 2025. In terms of impact, a 2023 survey of countries on their policies related to violence against women showed that, from 2021 to 2023, **the percentage of countries with national guidelines and protocols aligned with WHO guidelines increased from 48 to 52 per cent.** The same survey showed an increase in countries including violence against women prevention and

response as a strategic priority in health policies: from 34 per cent in 2021 to 38 per cent in 2023.

Across multilateral organizations, **lessons learned** underscored the importance of strategic leadership, strengthened national and local capacity, and promoted financing models that enable sustainability, flexibility and impact. Key insights include:

- **Global leadership can amplify impact through strategic thought leadership**, global convenings and flagship publications. Strengthening national and local capacity is essential to sustain gender-responsive education strategies, while decentralizing and scaling grass-roots initiatives, maintaining flexibility in the face of crises, and enhancing partnerships and communication mechanisms can further reduce coordination silos.
- **Diversified funding streams and selecting high-impact, gender-responsive interventions** for programmes like polio vaccination are important.
- **Sustainable and transformative results require flexible and predictable financing, agile and digitally adaptive programming**, integration into national systems, intersectional and context-sensitive approaches, and early investment in coordination and accountability mechanisms to support resilience, inclusivity and long-term impact.

Takeaway: Across multilateral and supranational organizations, lessons underscored that strategic leadership, strengthened national and local capacity, and financing models that enable sustainability, flexibility and impact are essential for delivering sustainable and transformative results.

2.3.7. INSIGHTS INTO BARRIERS AND INSTITUTIONAL ENABLERS

Almost all multilateral organizations identified bureaucratic hurdles as among the biggest challenges in disbursing funds effectively. In addition, some reported that economic instability in countries in which funds are being invested impedes an effective and sustainable impact. Ensuring accountability and transparency throughout the entire implementation process, along with difficulties in finding suitable implementation partners and tracking impact, were also reported as key barriers.

Despite these challenges, **key enablers** were critical in ensuring disbursement and delivery, such as:

- **Ongoing support from country offices, engagement in milestone tracking** and, when needed, mobilization of high-level political support. IFAD reported that implementation support and technical advisory services were also provided to streamline processes and enhance efficiency.
- **Strengthened internal coordination to streamline administrative and financial processes**, as adopted by UNESCO.
- **Regular HQ-CO coordination meetings, detailed workplans for monitoring purposes, robust baseline data collection and implementing a comprehensive Performance Management Framework** led by a dedicated M&E expert, as promoted by UNFPA.
- **Emphasizing programme ownership**. WHO reported that Global Advisory Bodies members undertake advocacy visits to countries and meet with Government representatives, emphasizing ownership of programmes and commitments.
- **Providing technical support, capacity-strengthening and convening for exchanges among countries**, as championed by WHO, to inspire, learn and share good practices.

2.3.8. NAVIGATING TODAY'S CONTEXT: CHALLENGES AND ADAPTIVE STRATEGIES

Across multilateral organizations, a shifting financial landscape, inflation, economic downturns, political instability, rising anti-gender movements, and shrinking civic space have created significant challenges requiring adaptive strategies to sustain gender-equality

commitments and essential service-delivery.

IFAD noted that complex country-level procedures required to approve investments and authorize start-up activities, combined with political instability and security concerns in certain regions, have slowed implementation of its commitments.

UNESCO has benefited from strong donor support for gender-transformative education, which has helped sustain awareness and action on gender equality in and through education. However, anticipated membership changes in 2025 have resulted in financial restrictions on assessed contributions.

UNFPA highlighted that its commitments have been affected by the current global economic and social context, including political instability, humanitarian crises, rising anti-gender movements, shrinking civic space and reductions in ODA. These pressures have affected programming on GBV, FGM, SRHR and comprehensive sexuality education, with women-led and grass-roots organizations scaling back operations. In response, UNFPA has leveraged digital platforms, community and youth-led groups, multi-donor coordination and private sector partnerships, and strengthened national systems and flexible financing to sustain delivery.

WHO reported a reduction in its overall funding envelope, which has affected allocations for gender-specific activities. The loss of key donor contributions, particularly in humanitarian contexts, included a USD 2 million annual decrease for a GBV in emergencies initiative, leading to the closure of a programme that supported service-delivery in up to 29 crisis-affected countries.

Overall, these experiences highlight the importance of sustained and flexible financing, simplified administrative procedures, and support for local actors to ensure continuity of services and progress towards gender equality goals in volatile environments.



Scene from the Ajloun Oasis Center, Jordan. Photo: UN Women/Bashar Al-Jabari

2.4. PRIVATE SECTOR

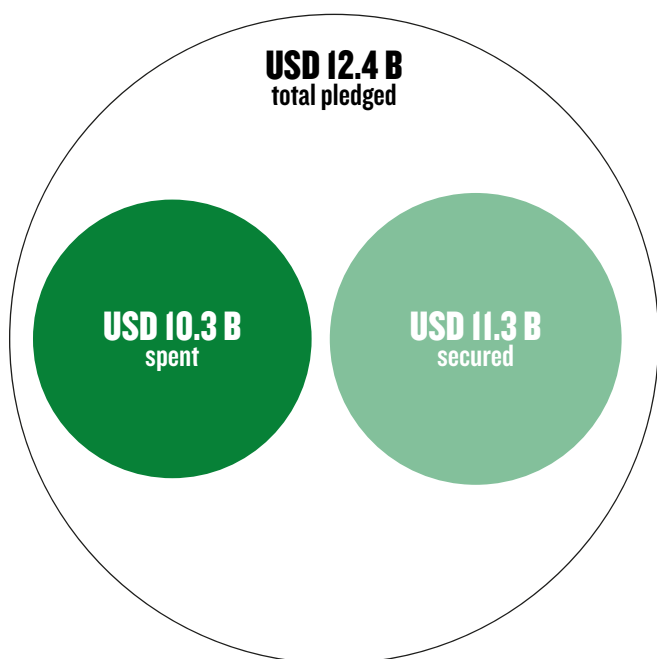
2.4.1. FINANCING LANDSCAPE IN 2024: SCALE, COMPOSITION AND COMMITMENT TYPES

In 2024, 12 private sector companies reported on 20 financial commitments (compared to 13 companies reporting on 34 financial commitments in 2023). The 2024 financial commitments from private sector companies total USD 12.4 billion pledged, of which USD 11.3 billion was reported as secured, and USD 10.3 billion spent. **A total of USD 8.7 million was pledged towards CSOs, while only USD 200,000 in funding was reported as directly pledged to youth- or adole-**

scent-led organizations. In 2023, private sector companies reported on nearly USD 15 billion pledged. The difference of approximately USD 2 billion is primarily due to the absence of reporting in 2024 from Unilever, which reported a large multi-year gender-responsive procurement commitment in 2023.

Of the total pledged amount in 2024, USD 12.3 billion (99 per cent) originates from two companies: **Procter & Gamble (P&G)** at USD 10 billion, and **Amartha** at USD 2.3 billion. P&G's contribution reflects gender-responsive corporate spending across its global supply

FINANCIAL PLEDGES BY PRIVATE SECTOR



chains, delivered through extensive programmatic and advocacy components. In contrast, Amarthā's commitment is made up of unrestricted and project-specific grants, concessional loans and equity investments, which are channelled primarily through programmatic work to support women-led micro and small enterprises. Overall, of the financial commitments, those that also have a programmatic component account for the highest pledges (USD 12.3 billion). Only four financial commitments are purely financial, and they account for USD 112 million in pledges.

2.4.2. MAPPING THE GAPS: REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION PATTERNS

Private sector financing under Generation Equality spans all global regions, but its scale and geographic flow vary significantly. The region with the **largest total volume of funding pledged to it (fully or partially)** is **East and South-East Asia**, with USD 12.4 billion pledged. Much of this value reflects commitments that are global or multi-regional in scope; however, East and South-East Asia also saw the strongest intra-regional financing, driven largely by Amarthā's USD 2.3 billion pledge, which is pledged and spent domestically within Indonesia. This makes the region an important site of local private sector reinvestment, rather than solely external funding flows.

In contrast, **sub-Saharan Africa is the region with the largest number of private sector commitments being implemented**, spanning USD 10.1 billion pledged and USD 9 billion already spent. Yet, unlike East and South-East Asia, most of this financing originates from organizations headquartered outside the region. Only USD 432,000 was pledged by companies based in sub-Saharan Africa, although these locally-generated funds were fully implemented domestically. This indicates strong alignment between regional investment and delivery where local financing does exist, even if the scale is comparatively smaller.

Finally, most private sector financing is global or multi-regional in nature, especially among companies headquartered in Europe and North America. Together, these actors account for USD 10.1 billion in pledges, driven primarily by P&G's USD 10 billion global commitment, which spans supply chains and procurement systems across all regions. This reinforces the role of multinational corporations as global distribution hubs of gender-responsive financing, while also highlighting the importance of ensuring that multi-regional pledges translate into localized, measurable impact.

2.4.3. PARTNERSHIP AND COLLECTIVE FINANCING COMMITMENTS

Private sector actors are largely engaging through partnership-based financial commitments rather than acting independently. Nineteen out of 20 private sector financial commitments are implemented in collaboration with other organizations, totalling USD 1.3 billion. **Partnerships with CSOs are the most prevalent** (14 commitments), reflecting the role of feminist and community-based groups as core implementation partners. Nine commitments involve collaboration with Governments, including national and subnational authorities, indicating the importance of public-private cooperation in scaling gender equality initiatives.

Despite this high degree of partnership-based implementation, collective financing models remain limited. Only one private sector financial commitment is formally a contribution to a collective commitment: Yıldız Holding's contribution to the Gender and Environment Data Alliance, valued at USD 4 million. Notably, this commitment has been fully secured and disbursed, reflecting a

high degree of financial execution and demonstrating the potential of collective, pooled financing when institutional coordination mechanisms are in place.

2.4.4. FINANCING PRIORITIES ACROSS ACTION COALITIONS AND THE BEIJING+30 AGENDA

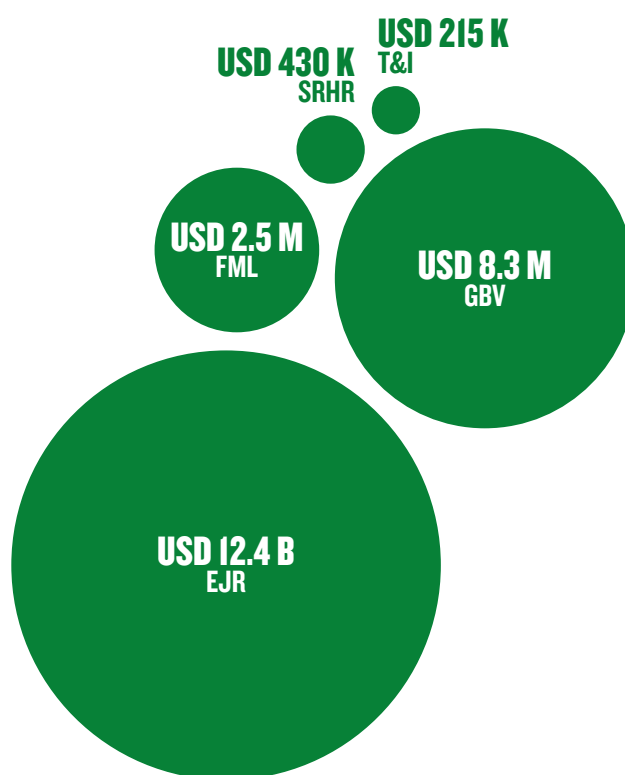
Private sector financing is **highly concentrated** within the **EJR AC**. Of the total private sector pledges reported, USD 12.4 billion are pledged under EJER, representing 10 commitments and 99.9 per cent of all private sector financial resources pledged across the Action Coalitions. Most of this financing is directed towards: Action Area 2: Expanding employment in formal and informal economies; and Action Area 3: Increasing women’s and girls’ access to and control over productive resources. These reflect the private sector’s focus on economic inclusion, financial participation and women’s agency within labour and market systems.

In contrast, very limited private sector financing has been pledged under the T&I AC (USD 215,000) and SRHR AC (USD 430,000).

NBC Bank Limited in Tanzania provides an illustrative example of how Generation Equality commitments support the Full and Equal Decision-Making Power area of work of the Beijing+30 Action Agenda. As part of its commitment under the Action Coalition on bodily autonomy and sexual and reproductive health and rights, the bank spent TZS 500 million (USD 215,100) to expand access to SRHR for less-privileged populations

in Tanzania. This work contributes to Tanzania’s commitment to the *Full and Equal Decision-Making Power* area of work of the Beijing+30 Action Agenda. Tanzania’s commitment will, by 2030, increase women’s representation in political, economic and public sectors, moving towards gender parity in leadership. It will promote inclusive, evidence-based policymaking, expand participation in peace and digital economies, and reduce care burdens. These structural changes will foster social justice, peacebuilding and sustainable economic development, strengthening democratic governance and equitable policy outcomes for all.

PRIVATE SECTOR PLEDGES, BY AC



BOX 2.4. SPOTLIGHT ON 2024 GOOD PRACTICES

BNP Paribas: Advancing women’s digital inclusion and leadership pathways

BNP Paribas invested EUR 200,000 (USD 215,054) under its AC T&I commitment “BNP Paribas: innovation for inclusion” for more than 6,000 rural women through technology in Senegal who gained access to digital tools that enhance productivity and climate resilience. The Bank is also committed to advance gender inclusion in the digital and technology sectors through investments in skills-development and employment. Through partnerships such as Women & Girls in Tech, in collaboration with SIMPLON and Digital Ladies & Allies, as well as a EUR 1.1 million (USD 1.29 million) fund over three years dedicated to associations promoting gender parity in the digital sector, BNP Paribas supports the increased participation of women and girls in digital and technology-related fields.

Impact to date:

- **More than 50 per cent women's participation** in B-School's M2I Lead Developer training programmes (2023 and 2024)
- **1,000+ staff trained** through the Digital Data Agile Academy in 2024, with women's participation reaching 43 per cent (vs. 26 per cent when the Academy was launched in 2018).
- **Mentoring initiatives through international programmes**, such as Lucine by BNP Paribas Personal Finance and STRONG'HER by BNP Paribas CIB have strengthened women's leadership and career advancement.

WHY IT MATTERS

This illustrates how private sector actors can help reshape gender gaps in the digital economy by combining training, mentorship and inclusive recruitment pipelines, while also extending digital innovation to rural women producers.

NBC Dodoma Marathon: Scaling access to SRHR services in Tanzania

NBC Bank Limited spent TZS 500 million (USD 215,100) through its SRHR commitment "Help the less privileged" to expand access to sexual and reproductive health and rights in Tanzania. Through the annual NBC Dodoma Marathon, this amount has been mobilized over four years to support cervical cancer screening and midwifery training.

Impact to date:

- **50,000+ women** have been screened.
- **4,000+ patients** have received treatment.
- **500 midwifery scholarships** have been awarded in three years.

Participation in the marathon has grown from 2,000 to 7,000 people, transforming the event into a national awareness platform. Guided by its corporate Gender Policy, NBC Bank demonstrates how private sector investment can produce tangible improvements in women's health outcomes, while strengthening the national health workforce.

WHY IT MATTERS

This model shows that sustained, locally-anchored private sector financing can expand life-saving SRHR services in contexts where access is limited.

2.4.5. 2025 FINANCIAL FOOTPRINT: HOW PRIVATE SECTOR ORGANIZATIONS ARE POWERING GENDER EQUALITY

This section synthesizes findings from the 2025 Financial Survey, examining how private sector organizations are resourcing their Generation Equality commitments, including allocation strategies, good practices, implementation barriers and adaptive responses to a changing global context. The analysis focuses in particular on three major private sector

Commitment Makers, selected based on their impact and scale of financial disbursements: **Amartha**, **Kering Foundation** and **Yıldız Holding**, which together exceed USD 2.3 billion.

Compared with 2024, the three organizations maintained their investment levels in 2025, confirming their continued commitment despite the challenging global environment. Amid rising anti-rights rhetoric and reduced external funding for feminist and women's rights organizations, the Kering Foundation reported

a notable increase in financing, particularly for its commitment to support women’s associations. This expansion aims to counteract shrinking support from Government donors and to help grass-roots organizations

sustain their work. Across these actors, **a continued emphasis on flexible and responsive funding was observed, enabling partners to remain operational and resilient in increasingly unstable contexts.**

Table 2.4.1. Snapshot of reported private sector commitment portfolios and financial progress⁴¹

Organization	Primary AC	Commitment type	Time frame	Financials, disaggregated ⁴²
Amartha Prosperity for 5 million rural women	EJR	Financial; programmatic	By 2026	Pledge: USD 2.3 billion Secured: USD 2.1 billion Spent: USD 2.1 billion
Kering Foundation Support to women’s associations	GBV	Financial; programmatic	Completed	Pledge: USD 10.8 million Secured: USD 10.8 million Spent: USD 10.4 million
Yıldız Holding Strategic partnership with UN Women	EJR	Financial	By 2026	Pledge: USD 4 million Secured: USD 10 million Spent: USD 10 million

Table 2.4.2. Financing and implementation strategies of private sector Commitment Makers⁴³

Organization	Source	How funds were mobilized or secured	Financial instruments or mechanisms used to disburse funds	Level of implementation	Recipients
Amartha Prosperity for 5 million rural women	Co-financed	Issuance of bonds or other debt instruments (e.g., green bonds, social bonds, gender bonds); loan channelling from national banks and foreign lenders	Unrestricted and project-specific grants; concessional loans; equity investments; blended finance	National (country-wide programmes) in South-East Asia	Private sector (micro and small enterprises led by women)
Kering Foundation Support to women’s associations	Internal	General revenues	Unrestricted and project-specific grants	National & subnational (France, Italy, Mexico, Republic of Korea, UK, USA)	Civil society organizations
Yıldız Holding Strategic partnership with UN Women	Internal	General revenues	Equity investments (e.g., impact investing aligned with gender equality)	Global & national (West Africa and Europe)	Private sector (women-led enterprises, cooperatives, and farmers)

41 This table presents one commitment per organization, representing 3 out of the 5 commitments reported by the private sector. The selection is illustrative and aims to highlight key trends, financing models and implementation approaches.

42 In some private sector commitments, reported expenditure exceeds the originally pledged amount. This may reflect differences in corporate reporting practices, where expenditures are tracked at programme or portfolio level rather than at individual commitment level. Reported ‘spent’ amounts may therefore include additional co-financing, in-kind contributions, or resources mobilized beyond the initial pledge in support of the same objectives.

43 This table presents one commitment per organization, representing 3 out of the 5 commitments reported by the private sector. The selection is illustrative and aims to highlight key trends, financing models and implementation approaches.

The information presented in Tables 2.4.1 and 2.4.2 shows that private-sector organizations are financing their Generation Equality commitments primarily through general revenues, followed by the issuance of bonds and other debt instruments, including green, social and gender bonds. Some companies also mobilize resources through loan channelling from national banks and foreign lenders, reflecting the growing role of private financial markets in advancing gender equality priorities.

Private sector actors primarily disburse resources through equity investments, often directed towards women-led and women-owned enterprises at the national level. These investments are complemented in some cases by concessional loans, blended finance instruments and project-specific grants, which support value chains, cooperatives, micro and small enterprises. This approach aligns with the FfD4 agenda, which encourages the mobilization of private capital for sustainable development, the strengthening of women's entrepreneurship ecosystems and expanded access to inclusive financial markets.

Multi-stakeholder platforms such as Generation Equality play an important role in making these private-sector contributions visible, providing a platform that elevates corporate action on gender equality and encourages companies to adopt more intentional, measurable and accountable financing practices. By offering a shared global framework and a space for peer learning, Generation Equality has helped create a more supportive environment for private-sector innovation, partnership and investment in women's economic empowerment.

2.4.6. 2025 FINANCIAL GOOD PRACTICES AND LESSONS LEARNED

Private sector entities that participated in the 2025 financial survey reported a range of strong financial practices. The selected examples below illustrate what can be achieved through adequate and sustained investments. Their impact extends beyond the short term, highlighting how sustained, business-integrated approaches can generate measurable and scalable outcomes for women workers, consumers, entrepreneurs and communities.

Amartha investments in women microentrepreneurs lead to policy shifts in lending systems

As part of its commitment to ensure prosperity for 5 million rural women under the EJR AC, by mid-2025, **Amartha had disbursed IDR 35 trillion (USD 2.05 billion) in working capital to 3.3 million women microentrepreneurs across 55,000 villages in Indonesia.** Forty per cent of these women were first-time entrepreneurs, and beneficiaries reported an average 69 per cent increase in income within a year. The initiative **contributed to the creation of 156,298 new jobs in 2024 alone.** Beyond direct livelihood outcomes, success at this scale demonstrates the importance of productive lending for women-led enterprises and reflects a broader policy shift underway in Indonesia's peer-to-peer lending system.

Kering Foundation invests in three strategic priorities to combat gender-based violence

In 2025, the Kering Foundation reinforced its commitment to combating GBV through interventions at systemic, corporate and community levels. With a **total investment of EUR 3.4 million (approximately USD 4 million), the Foundation focused on three strategic priorities: expanding access to integrated support services for survivors; reaching younger and wider audiences through violence prevention and education initiatives; and strengthening the ecosystem of anti-violence actors.** Through its flagship Re#Start programme, the Foundation is supporting the replication of *Maisons des Femmes* (Women's Homes) across France, enabling GBV survivors to access comprehensive, specialized care. Today, eight Women's Homes funded by the Foundation operate within the Re#Start Network, offering integrated medical, psychological and legal assistance. This model has been designated as a priority by the French Government. To ensure long-term impact, an evaluation process was launched assessing the change of people's well-being, organizational and professional capacity, and outreach. The Foundation continued to mobilize the private sector to address GBV. As a founding member of the One in Three Women network, it helped expand the coalition to 56 companies committed to tackling GBV in the workplace and beyond. In parallel, the Foundation

contributed to the **PARI** network, which grew to 53 members in 2025, fostering international collaboration and expertise exchange to improve GBV prevention and response strategies. Moreover, the Foundation allocated EUR 1.5 million (approximately USD 1.8 million) to strengthen grass-roots feminist movements and organizations. Flexible funding to women's funds enhanced the autonomy of local organizations in the UK, USA, France, Italy, Mexico and Korea. This included support for 25 grass-roots organizations in Italy through the newly created Semia Fondo delle Donne, amplifying their capacity to deliver survivor-centred services and advocacy. In France, the Foundation leverages technology by partnering with En Avant Toutes, which offers a free, professional, anonymous and secure chat service to reach young people and ensure that those who face GBV have access to timely and tailored assistance.

Yildiz Holding adopts a holistic gender equality strategy

Since its commitment to strategic partnerships with UN Women under the EJRA AC, **Yildiz Holding has spent USD 10 million and achieved significant and measurable outcomes through financial investments advancing gender equality and women's empowerment across its value chain.** The Yildiz Holding Women's Platform, established in 2021, enabled the increase of women employees from 37 to 49 per cent over five years, as well as female representation in leadership positions. Its commitment to equal pay was internationally recognized, becoming the first company in the food and retail sector to receive the EQUAL-SALARY certification. Through its partnership with UN Women and participation in the Women's Entrepreneurship Accelerator, the company generated over USD 10 million in economic value by supporting women-led initiatives and making direct investments in inclusive procurement and sustainable agriculture. Projects like "Tarımın Kadın Yıldızları" (Women Stars of Agriculture) increased the share of women farmers from 6 to 30 per cent; the "Şok'ta Bende Varım" (Count Me In) initiative empowered women artisans and cooperatives; the SEÇ Market's "Gücünle Gülümse" (Smile With Your Strength) project continues to expand the number of women franchisees; and Ülker's "Fındıktan Fazlası" (Beyond Hazelnut) and "Kakaodan Fazlası" (Beyond

Cocoa) projects promote sustainable farming with a strong focus on women's participation. Yildiz Ventures invested approximately USD 5.5 million in over 90 women-founded or co-founded start-ups, fostering innovation and entrepreneurship. The impact of these initiatives has been amplified through global advocacy and recognition: Yildiz Holding's Women's Platform was showcased at the UN General Assembly, the UN Global Compact Leaders' Summit and the Harvard Club of New York, and selected as a case study by London Business School, **demonstrating its value as a replicable model of private sector-led transformation.** These global engagements reinforced Yildiz Holding's reputation as a pioneer in advancing equality in business, while **numerous awards have validated the effectiveness of its work.**

Across the private sector, **lessons learned** highlighted the importance of integrated, long-term approaches to advancing gender equality in business systems and value chains. Key insights include:

- **Mission-aligned business models attract and sustain resources**, particularly from blended finance and impact investment streams.
- **Multi-level strategies are necessary to address GBV effectively**, combining survivor services, workplace accountability, donor coordination and social norms change.
- **Embedding gender equality across internal governance, supply chains and community partnerships** enables durable cultural and structural change.

Takeaway: Private sector impact is strongest when gender equality is treated as a strategy, governance architecture and cultural commitment. Sustained progress relies on long-term, partnership-based investments that redistribute power, expand agency and strengthen the ecosystems in which women and girls live and work.

2.4.7. INSIGHTS INTO BARRIERS TO DISBURSEMENT AND INSTITUTIONAL ENABLERS

Bureaucratic hurdles were identified as challenges in disbursing funds effectively. Other barriers included the difficulty in finding suitable implementation partners and in tracking impact due to lack of accountabi-

lity mechanisms, as well as the economic instability in countries in which funds are being invested that impedes effective and sustainable impact.

Despite these challenges, organizations highlighted several key enablers that supported adaptive funding strategies and sustained delivery:

- **Working with associations and regulators**, as adopted by Amarthia.
- Maintaining **flexibility and responsiveness to partners' needs** through a trust-based approach, to uphold commitments to communities, as per the Kering Foundation's good practice.
- Providing **flexible, long-term funding**, as the Kering Foundation does, to strengthen resilience and continuity.
- Designing a **Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning framework**. The Kering Foundation adopts this approach to define outcome indicators jointly with partners, enabling better measurement of impact and strategic learning.
- **Implementing a multi-faceted strategy** that combines global partnerships, certification, transparency and direct economic empowerment, as championed by Yıldız Holding.
- **Collaborating strategically with UN Women**. Yıldız Holding does so to ensure the quality and integrity of initiatives, and alignment with international standards.
- **Monitoring progress** through annual reports that measure key performance indicators aligned with gender equality goals, as per Yıldız Holding's good practice.

- **Supporting women's economic participation**. Yıldız Holding works on direct procurement contracts with women farmers and producers, fostering inclusive growth and sustainable development.

2.4.8. NAVIGATING TODAY'S CONTEXT: CHALLENGES AND ADAPTIVE STRATEGIES

In a period marked by crisis and shifting social needs, private sector actors confronted operational challenges that demanded adaptive, context-responsive strategies to sustain and deepen their impact for women and girls.

The **Kering Foundation** maintained commitments aligning with the evolving partners' needs enabling women's funds to adapt to national contexts.

The results of **Yıldız Holding** investments have been critical in times of crisis. After the 2023 earthquake in Türkiye, the company directed resources to women-focused recovery programmes, confirming the importance of women-centred strategies in building sustainable economies. The outcomes of its financial commitments show tangible improvements in women's lives and systemic institutional change: nearly half the workforce is now women, women entrepreneurs and farmers are integrated into value chains, girls have gained access to sports and leadership, and thousands of families benefit from health, education and social protection.

Overall, the private sector demonstrated that sustained, context-responsive investments in women and girls can drive tangible social and economic improvements, while adaptive partnerships and targeted programme design are essential to maintain impact in crisis and shifting environments.



Scenes from the CSW69 Global Youth Dialogue: Influencing the Implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and Beijing+30 Action Agenda held at the Bohemian Hall in New York on 9 March 2025. Photo: UN Women/Ryan Brown

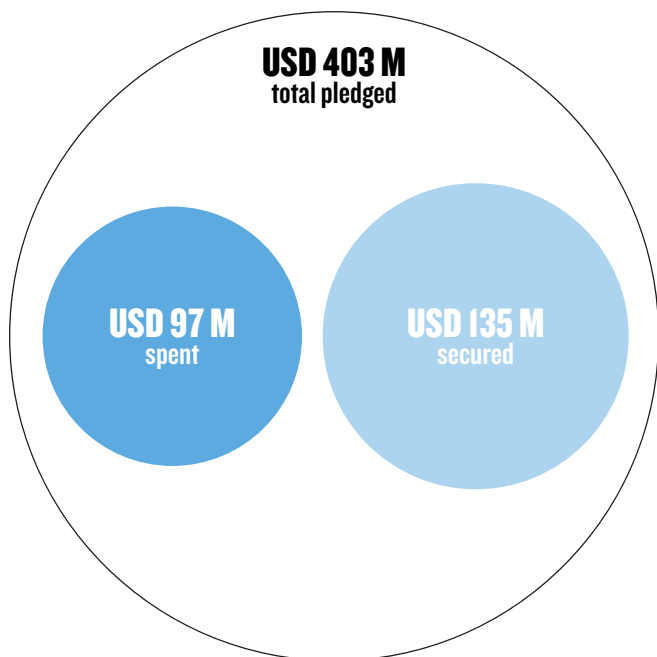
2.5. CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS

2.5.1. FINANCING LANDSCAPE IN 2024: SCALE, COMPOSITION AND COMMITMENT TYPES

In 2024, 74 civil society organizations reported on 146 financial commitments (compared to 59 organizations reporting on 95 financial commitments in 2023). The 2024 financial commitments from civil society total **USD 403 million pledged**. Of this pledge, only **USD 135 million** was reported **secured**, and less than a quarter has been **spent (USD 97 million)**. USD 134 million was pled-

ged towards other CSOs, with USD 6 million specifically to youth and adolescent-led organizations. In 2023, CSOs reported on USD 475 million pledged in total, indicating an over USD 70 million drop in 2024. This gap can largely be attributed to a few Commitment Makers who reported in 2023 but not in 2024. CARE International, The More Than Brides Alliance, and the Malala Fund each have a relatively large financial commitment that was reported on in 2023, totalling USD 30 million, EUR 29 million and USD 20 million, respectively.

FINANCIAL PLEDGES BY CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS



The highest pledges from civil society were investigated in greater detail to identify what financial tools are being used. Of the total pledges by CSOs in 2024, **nearly USD 200 million** (almost 50 per cent of the total CSO pledges) were pledged by two organizations alone: **Equality Fund** and **Engender Health**. This total includes USD 117 million of in-kind contributions, and USD 82 million in external grants. These pledges are all international in nature.

Most financial commitments coming from CSOs are **programmatic** in nature (105); 85 of these are also advocacy commitments; and 71 out of the 146 total financial commitments are multipurpose across all four commitment types: financial, programmatic, policy and advocacy. Of the financial commitments, those that also have an advocacy component account for the highest pledges (USD 371 million). Only 19 financial commitments are only financial, and they account for USD 25 million in pledges.

2.5.2. MAPPING THE GAPS: REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION PATTERNS

The largest share of civil society pledges in 2024 was directed towards **Central and Southern Asia**, which received USD 340 million across 51 commitments, including USD 96 million for projects implemented

exclusively within the region. This reflects a pattern of fewer commitments but significantly higher average investment per commitment, suggesting more concentrated, large-scale programming.

Sub-Saharan Africa, by contrast, reported 83 commitments – the highest number of any region – yet received a smaller total of USD 287 million, with USD 59 million spent. This indicates a **landscape characterized by more commitments but lower funding per initiative**, which may disperse resources across a wide range of actors and limit the depth of investment. Of the Sub-Saharan Africa total, only USD 25 million originated from organizations within the region, while USD 262 million came from multi-regional or global funding streams, primarily headquartered in Europe and North America. To address this imbalance, strengthening regional and domestic financing ecosystems will be essential to ensure more predictable, locally anchored and sustainable civil society leadership in advancing gender equality.

2.5.3. PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLECTIVE FINANCING COMMITMENTS

A total of 144 of 146 financial commitments were reportedly in partnership with another organization, with CSOs securing USD 134 million and spending more than 70 per cent of the total secured. The most common partnerships are with other members of civil society (95 commitments), Governments (60 commitments) or academia (58 commitments), mainly at the national level.

Beyond partnerships, there are 104 financial commitments from civil society that contribute to collective commitments, out of 146 total – one of the highest figures across different stakeholders. These 104 commitments with partners total only USD 52 million in pledges, around one-eighth of the total financial pledges from civil society, spread across nearly three-quarters of CSO commitments. Of the USD 52 million, USD 20 million has been secured and USD 12 million spent in total so far. The most popular collective commitments among civil society are “Accelerating global action to end harmful practices against women and girls in all their diversity” (23 commitments, USD 7.5 million pledged) and “Scaling up evi-

dence-driven prevention of GBV” (15 commitments, USD 722,000 pledged).

The highest pledges from civil society towards collective commitments fall under “Funding for Feminist Movements and Leadership” (USD 13.6 million, 7 total commitments) and the “Gender and environment data alliance” (USD 13.5 million, 2 commitments).

2.5.4. FINANCING PRIORITIES ACROSS ACTION COALITIONS AND THE BEIJING+30 ACTION AGENDA

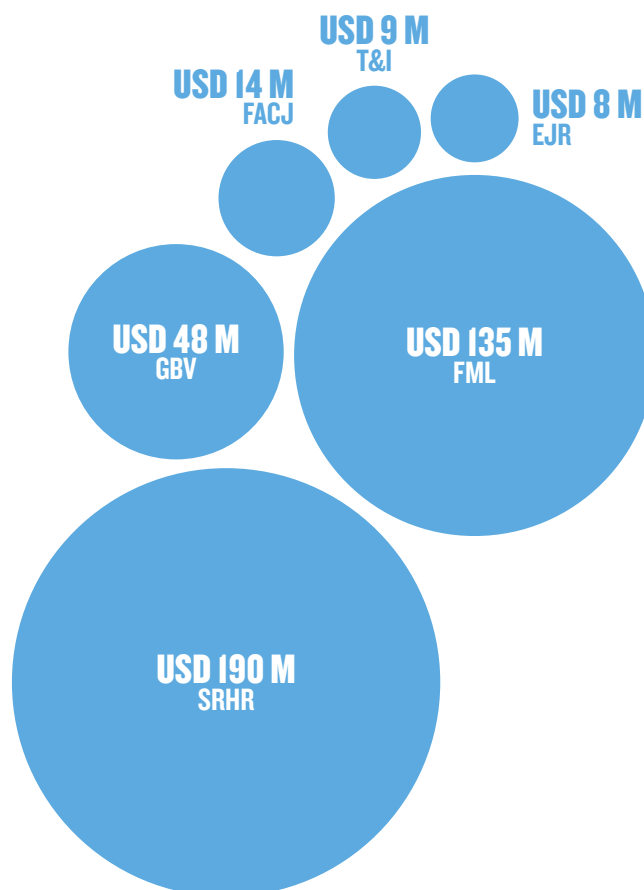
As Generation Equality marks five years of implementation, the Agenda’s six pillars and youth-focused cross-cutting lever remain closely aligned with the Generation Equality ACs and the WPS-HA Compact, ensuring coherence between political commitments and financing flows.

Over this first cycle of implementation, CSOs channelled the largest share of resources, USD 190 million, to the SRHR AC, advancing bodily autonomy and access to services, thus contributing to the “Zero Violence” and “Equal Decision-Making Power” actions of the Beijing +30 Action Agenda. The FML AC followed, with USD 135 million, illustrating the centrality of movement-building and leadership investments to sustaining feminist ecosystems. By contrast, the EJR AC received only USD 8 million in civil society pledges, even as it remains the most heavily financed AC overall when public sector and private sector funding are included.

These patterns underscore how, five years in, **CSO financing has strengthened advocacy-driven and service-delivery areas while leaving structural economic empowerment and policy reform work largely dependent on other constituencies.** Closing these thematic gaps and sustaining balanced investment across all ACs will be vital to consolidating Generation Equality’s results and ensuring that its multi-stakeholder partnerships model continues to drive inclusive, long-term financing for gender equality.

As part of EngenderHealth commitment to multisectoral GBV prevention and response, under the GBV AC, **EngenderHealth** committed USD 7.6 million to support services for survivors of 127,000 GBV incidents. Most (86 per cent) of GBV incidents were reported

CIVIL SOCIETY PLEDGES, BY AC



by female clients, including 23 per cent from female clients under the age of 20. Through its Ensemble Initiative, the organization developed formal relationships with 12 local partners in five West African countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d’Ivoire, Guinea and Mali) to establish joint commitments in prevention and response to GBV, holding workshops with representatives from Governments, law enforcement, justice systems and feminist organizations to develop country-specific action plans.

Notably, EngenderHealth’s work contributes to different countries’ commitments to the Beijing+30 Action Agenda from Benin, Burkina Faso, Guinea and Mali, and to Freedom from Poverty (from the latter three countries).

BOX 2.5. SPOTLIGHT ON 2024 GOOD PRACTICES

CORDEM A.B.P.: Strengthening women's economic autonomy through competency-based training

Under its EJR AC commitment, "*Educación de calidad para mujeres en contextos y realidades de vulnerabilidad / Quality education for women in contexts and realities of vulnerability*," and in response to the post-COVID-19 context, CORDEM A.B.P. spent MXN 434,000 (USD 25,306) of its pledged MXN 2.35 million (USD 137,259) to redesign its Comprehensive Scholarship workshops into a competency-based model with measurable learning outcomes, aimed at strengthening women's economic empowerment in vulnerable contexts.

Impact to date:

- Since 2021, the organization has reactivated new scholarship calls and adapted its **Comprehensive Scholarship Programme** to a hybrid delivery model, supporting women aged 14 and above and resulting in more than 20 graduations and over **20 new scholarship-holders** across the region served.
- The programme provides academic scholarships, covering up to 90 per cent of the total cost of secondary, technical or university education, and in **2024 developed a complementary project submitted to an allied foundation to cover degree and identification document costs** for graduates who are otherwise unable to afford certification despite completing their studies.

WHY IT MATTERS

By addressing both access to education and remaining financial barriers to formal certification, the programme helps prevent post-pandemic education drop-outs and ensures that women's learning outcomes translate into recognized qualifications, employability and long-term economic empowerment.

SVRI: Shifting power in GBV research to low- and middle-income countries

Over five years, the Sexual Violence Research Initiative (SVRI) has pledged USD 1 million under its GBV commitment "*Decolonising knowledge on VAW*" to decolonize knowledge production on violence against women by ensuring that research agendas are set and led by experts in low- and middle-income countries.

Impact to date:

- **Over USD 2 million disbursed** to support research on violence against women and violence against children prevention and response in low- and middle-income countries.
- Over the past two years (2024–2025), **SVRI funded 17 low- and middle-income-country-led studies** addressing priority issues, including digital safety for women with disabilities in South Africa, testing intimate partner violence reduction programmes with male perpetrators in Mexico, and unpacking image-based sexual abuse in Sri Lanka.
- It supported the development, launch and resourcing of the following research priority agendas:
 - African Shared Research Agenda (2023)
 - Technology-Facilitated Gender-Based Violence Research Agenda (2024)
 - Child Sexual Violence Research Agenda (2025)
 - GBV in Higher Education Institutions Research Agenda (2025)
- The integration of lived experience and practitioner expertise was done through the Safe Futures Hub, contributing to shifts in how evidence is defined and whose knowledge is recognized.
- **The largest global gathering on violence against women and violence against children research and practice to date was convened:** the SVRI Forum 2024, bringing together 1,502 participants from 112 countries.

WHY IT MATTERS

SVRI demonstrates that when Global South researchers lead research design and funding, the resulting evidence is more relevant, ethical and actionable – contributing to structural change in how the world understands and responds to GBV.

2.5.5. 2025 FINANCIAL FOOTPRINT: HOW CSOS ARE POWERING GENDER EQUALITY

Civil society organizations continue to play a pivotal role in advancing the Generation Equality agenda. Based on the 2024 Financial Survey, CSO commitments total USD 403 million pledged, although only USD 93 million has been disbursed to date. While a significant share of financing originates from two large organizations, the survey also shows that locally-rooted CSOs continue to deliver substantial impact, demonstrating the value of community-based leadership and context-specific solutions.

This section synthesizes findings from the 2025 Financial Survey, examining the allocation strategies of four

major civil society Commitment Makers: Dasra (Impact Foundation India), Equality Fund, Plan International and Purposeful,⁴⁴ which together account for USD 174 million, representing almost 40 per cent of the total pledge and one of the largest combined shares of reported pledges and disbursements.

The survey also reveals a divergence in how CSOs are navigating the current global backlash. **Organizations that rely solely on internal funding have had to scale back their ambitions** as they seek new partners and revenue sources. By contrast, **CSOs with co-financing mechanisms or diversified funding models have been better able to sustain and even expand their efforts, demonstrating greater resilience to funding volatility and geopolitical shifts.**

Table 2.5.1. Snapshot of reported Civil society organizations' commitment portfolios and financial progress⁴⁵

Organization	Primary AC	Commitment type	Time frame	Financials, disaggregated ⁴⁶
Dasra (Impact Foundation [India]) USD 50 million to boost youth leadership in SRHR	SRHR	Financial; advocacy	Beyond 2026	Pledge: USD 50 million Secured: USD 34.5 million Spent: USD 28.1 million
Equality Fund Support to feminist movements	FML	Financial; programmatic; policy; advocacy	By 2026	Pledge: USD 79.7 million Secured: USD 79.3 million Spent: USD 63.5 million
Plan International Girls' leadership, access & influence	FML	Financial; programmatic; advocacy	By 2026	Pledge: USD 22.2 million Secured: USD 22.2 million Spent: USD 22.2 million
Purposeful Girls Fund	FACJ	Financial; programmatic; policy; advocacy	By 2026	Pledge: USD 2.2 million Secured: USD 222,000 Spent: USD 222,000

44 The commitment to Girls Fund is a Joint Commitment by Purposeful and Plan International. Purposeful submitted the information regarding Girls Fund's commitment for the 2025 Financial Survey.

45 This table presents one Commitment per organization, representing 4 out of the 5 Commitments reported by Civil Society Organizations. The selection is illustrative and aims to highlight key trends, financing models and implementation approaches.

46 All financial values have been converted to USD for comparability. For full details of the conversion methodology, please refer to the Technical note.

Table 2.5.2. Financing and implementation strategies of civil society Commitment Makers⁴⁷

Organization	Source	How funds were mobilized or secured	Financial instruments or mechanisms used to disburse funds	Level of implementation	Recipients
Dasra (Impact Foundation [India]) USD 50 million to boost youth leadership in SRHR	Internal	External grants/ contributions; fundraising campaigns or initiatives	Unrestricted grants; project-specific grants	Global	CSOs
Equality Fund Support to feminist movements	Co-financed	External grants/ contributions; endowment drawdowns	Unrestricted grants	Global	CSOs; youth-led organizations
Plan International Girls' leadership, access & influence	Internal	External grants/ contributions	Unrestricted grants; Project-specific grants	National	CSOs; youth & adolescent-led organizations
Purposeful Girls Fund	Co-financed	General revenues; fundraising initiatives	Unrestricted grants	Subnational	CSOs; youth-led organizations

The information presented in Tables 2.5.1 and 2.5.2 shows that CSOs are financing their Generation Equality commitments primarily through a mix of internal resources, external grants and co-financing mechanisms. This creates a diversified but uneven funding landscape across the cohort. Organizations that use co-financed and pooled models reported stronger resilience to funding volatility. By contrast, organizations relying mostly on internally mobilized resources maintained steady progress but reported greater pressure to identify new partners and expand fundraising efforts in response to rising operational costs and a tightening global funding environment.

Civil society organizations predominantly disburse resources through unrestricted grants and project-specific grants, which together represent the two main financial instruments across the cohort. Unrestricted grants allow for flexible, long-term support to feminist movements and youth-led organizations, while project-specific grants are used to deliver structured

programmes on SRHR, feminist leadership and girls' rights. In practice, these instruments ensure that financing flows directly to local actors, including grass-roots CSOs, youth-led groups and adolescent-led organizations at global, national and subnational levels. This approach aligns with the FfD4 agenda on strengthening sustainable and predictable civil society financing, and reinforces the principle that local feminist organizations are best-positioned to drive implementation and accountability.

At the same time, the variation in funding models underscores the need to **expand flexible and multi-year resources**, especially for organizations that rely solely on internal funds and face growing constraints from the global backlash against gender equality. Strengthening co-financing mechanisms and deploying more unrestricted support will be essential to ensure that civil society leadership remains robust, sustainable and locally rooted.

⁴⁷ This table presents one Commitment per organization, representing 4 out of the 5 Commitments reported by Civil Society Organizations. The selection is illustrative and aims to highlight key trends, financing models and implementation approaches.

2.5.6. 2025 FINANCIAL GOOD PRACTICES AND LESSONS LEARNED

Across civil society organizations that participated to the 2025 Financial Survey, four entities demonstrated particularly strong approaches to feminist funding and movement support. Their experiences illustrate how flexible, movement-led and trust-based financing models can remain resilient despite shrinking civic space, funding contraction and gender equality pushback.

Dasra unlocks public resources to build a large youth leadership ecosystem in India

Under the SRHR AC, **Dasra spent approximately USD 28 million to build a youth leadership ecosystem in India, scaling youth-designed SRHR solutions and unlocking public resources.** Key outcomes include: Adolescent Health & Wellness Day runs in 220+ districts, unlocking USD 1.8 million in public funding; through Youth Ke Bol, 1 million young people advocate for SRHR, while Youth Ke Bole/Ab Meri Baari amplifies youth-designed solutions; and eight youth champions (aged 19–24) designed pilot solutions in mental health, education and employability. Dasra pioneered a component-based programming approach, accelerating 20+ interventions across climate, gender, employability and leadership. Seven youth- and women-led organizations received Catalytic Grants with mentorship, peer learning and technical assistance. The NextGen Data Initiative advances youth-led AI and evidence use in policymaking. The For Youth Leadership Fund provides grants up to USD 50,000 in India, Nepal and Bangladesh. Dasra hosts a Community of Practice of 100+ organizations and nurtures 85+ networks collectively reaching 8.5 million young people, unlocking USD 30 million in funding and influencing USD 68 million in philanthropic and Government capital. In terms of impact, Adolescent Health and Wellness Day was integrated into national programmes reaching 7 million adolescents in Jharkhand. Youth voices informed national processes (Beijing+30, Feminist Youth Charter) and were represented on global platforms (WHO, UNFPA, World Economic Forum). Grass-roots women leaders in climate contexts are driving sustainable farming, natural resource management and resilience strategies. Through the NextGen Data Initiative, young pe-

ople are shaping how AI and evidence are applied to policymaking, embedding principles of inclusion, equity and accountability.

Equality Fund demonstrates how gender-lens investing generates strong financial returns

The Equality Fund's gender-lens investment funds generated a 9.8 per cent annual net return, supporting above-market returns from value-aligned investments. **The Equality Fund, as part of its commitment to support feminist movements under the FML AC, disbursed approximately CAD 87.6 million (USD 63.5 million) since 2021, demonstrating the effectiveness of feminist financing even amid global funding contractions.** In 2024, 92 per cent of grantee partners reported increased capacity to advance gender equality and empower women and girls. Moreover, the supported organizations are training the next generation of community leaders, responding to crises with coordinated strategies and creating enabling environments through policy wins. **Partners reported 10 legal and policy changes in 2024, contributing to a cumulative 35 since 2020. Broader partnerships increased access for women and marginalized populations to power and decision-making tables.** Women's and feminist funds in the Equality Fund portfolio and the Prospera network increased disbursements by 53 per cent compared to the 2019 baseline, prioritizing swift allocations and resource mobilization. Additionally, 68 per cent of grantees reported improved ability to design and deliver social change programmes and advocacy, with over 25 per cent maintaining programming despite funding cuts and backlash.

Plan International scales up youth-led organization resourcing through the Equality Accelerator

Plan International received funding for the strengthening of girl- and young-women-led advocacy (She Leads Programme) through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands. From the amount received, **Plan International pledged EUR 19 million (USD 22.7 million) to the FML AC, to strengthen youth-led advocacy.** Part of this amount supported the Equality Accelerator (EA), a youth-led digital platform created

in 2020 with over 200 youth from 43 countries. The EA is designed to fund, support and amplify youth-led activism for gender justice, particularly for girls and marginalized young people. Through a fast, flexible and participatory approach, youth-led organizations gain access to simplified funding processes, peer-reviewed grant decisions and tailored support, breaking barriers in traditional donor systems. Since the start in 2020 EA has delivered nine funds (three are currently live), distributing over EUR 1 million (USD 1.17 million) directly to youth-led organizations, supporting more than 240 groups across 41 countries. Over 3,500 youth-led organizations and 5,500 individual activists are registered on the platform, demonstrating both demand and potential. In terms of impact, **in the 2025 fiscal year, the EA scaled education-focused resourcing via USD 50,000 in grants, funding six groups in six countries.** In India, Pratisandhi Foundation reached 25 schools and over 3,000 students with school-based sexuality education. EA also supported the Youth Climate Action Accelerator in Kenya and Uganda (EUR 50,000), Brazil's Beat the Clock Fund (EUR 50,000 to 25 groups) and the pooled She Leads Fund (EUR 60,000) for 15 participants across nine countries.

Purposeful contributes to learning and practice shifts towards more flexible and participatory funding approaches

Since the start of its commitment under the FACJ AC, Purposeful's financial investments in Generation Equality have generated tangible outcomes for movements and the broader feminist funding ecosystem. **Purposeful spent EUR 190,000 (USD 222,093), channelling flexible funding to hundreds of young women, girls and LGBTQI+ groups in the Global South, many receiving international resources for the first time.** These groups sustained core operations, responded to crises and expanded work on SRHR, climate justice, education, digital rights and protection. Through pooled funds and accompaniment models, Purposeful strengthened long-term movement infrastructure. Convenings, storytelling and advocacy amplified activist voices in global arenas, while participatory, trust-based grant-making influenced donor peers and multilateral partners. Cross-regional exchanges fostered solidarity across

feminist struggles, from resisting authoritarianism to advancing climate and digital justice. Purposeful's investment contributed to systemic shifts in how gender justice work is resourced and recognized. **Its impact lies not only in financial commitments fulfilled but in the redistribution of power and resources from global institutions to grass-roots movements, building long-term infrastructure for systemic gender justice.**

Across CSOs, **lessons learned** highlighted the importance of embedded, long-term approaches to feminist funding. Key insights include:

- **Diverse financing strategies increase resilience** amid volatile funding environments.
- **Clear ecosystem positioning and strategic partnerships** enable youth-led platforms to scale.
- **Financing must be paired with accompaniment and translation** to ensure movements can use resources effectively.
- **Global platforms provide** essential visibility, credibility and convening power to support scale and collective voice.

Takeaway: Flexible, multi-year and movement-led financing models are the most resilient to backlash and resource volatility. However, this resilience depends on sustained and predictable resources and on platforms that elevate progress and pressure points through accountability, strengthening collective advocacy to protect and expand feminist funding ecosystems, especially those led by youth, grass-roots organizations and Global South actors.

2.5.7. INSIGHTS INTO BARRIERS AND INSTITUTIONAL ENABLERS

Across all four CSOs, several shared challenges slowed disbursement and implementation progress. These included bureaucratic hurdles in grant-processing, economic instability in countries where funds were allocated, and challenges in identifying and supporting suitable grass-roots implementation partners. In addition, limited institutional capacity for monitoring and reporting, especially among small and community-based groups, made it difficult to track progress and demonstrate impact in ways donors could recognize.

Despite these challenges, organizations highlighted several **key enablers** that supported adaptive funding strategies and sustained delivery:

- **Standardized operating procedures and strengthened accountability architecture**, championed by Dasra, supported more consistent delivery.
- **Peer fund partnerships**, as in the Equality Fund's model, helped diversify risk and mobilize resources.
- **Simplified small-grant procedures**, used by Plan International's Equality Accelerator, enabled faster, more youth-friendly resourcing of youth-led groups.
- **Flexible and rapid-response disbursement mechanisms**, adopted by Purposeful, allowed movements to respond to crises and windows of opportunity.

Importantly, these insights were surfaced through Generation Equality's accountability processes, which make visible both the structural barriers facing feminist and youth-led movements and the institutional conditions that enable sustained impact. **This evidence can inform future resource-mobilization and the design of more accessible, flexible and movement-responsive financing modalities.**

2.5.8. NAVIGATING TODAY'S CONTEXT: CHALLENGES AND ADAPTIVE STRATEGIES

Across all civil society Commitment Makers, the implementation of Generation Equality pledges has been shaped by an increasingly volatile global context. Compounding crises, including armed conflict, rising authoritarianism, economic instability, inflation and climate-related disasters have constrained civic space and intensified risks for feminist movements, particularly youth-, girl- and LGBTQI-led organizations. Escalating repression, surveillance and anti-rights backlash have forced some partners to limit public visibility or in some cases suspend activities altogether. Within this landscape, organizations have adapted through flexible approaches to funding, crisis-response mechanisms and strengthened collective care practices.

Dasra redirected efforts to unlock domestic philanthropy to ensure sustainability; Equality Fund expanded core and rapid-response funding to protect human rights defenders and live out their commitment to robustly resourcing feminist organizations and movements; Plan International restructured programmes in conflict and economic hardship contexts while reinforcing youth leadership; and Purposeful deepened long-term solidarity financing to sustain activism amid shrinking resources.

Overall, these experiences highlight the need for financing models that are flexible, long-term and politically informed, capable of sustaining feminist movements under pressure rather than expecting them to absorb crisis shocks alone.



Scenes from the UN Secretary-General's annual consultation with women's and feminist civil society on the margins of the 69th session of the Commission on the Status of Women. Photo: UN Women/Ryan Brown

BOX 2.5.2. FOCUS ON YOUTH-LED ORGANIZATIONS: FINANCING FEMINIST FUTURES

Youth-led organizations are an integral part of the civil society ecosystem under Generation Equality, yet their financing footprint remains comparatively small. In 2024, CSOs with a financial component reported pledges totaling USD 403 million. By contrast, youth- and adolescent-led commitment makers with financial commitments reported pledges of USD 7.48 million. Although reported through separate data collections, this contrast highlights the limited scale of financing mobilized by youth- and adolescent-led actors relative to overall CSO commitments. At the same time, youth-led and adolescent-led organizations stated that they **would require USD 731 million to advance their commitments but have secured only USD 154 million to date.**⁴⁸ This significant shortfall highlights the urgency of expanding direct, flexible and multi-year funding for youth feminist movements, which continue to drive innovation, community mobilization and intergenerational leadership despite systemic barriers and shrinking civic space.

Youth-led organizations often deliver high-impact results with relatively modest financial resources, as the table below describes in detail, demonstrating strong leadership in advancing gender equality, especially through directly supporting young women, strengthening movement-building and advocacy, expanding stakeholders' engagement and embracing innovative cross-cutting approaches.

48 Other Commitment Makers reported securing approximately USD 820 million directed at youth- and adolescent-focused interventions. The relationship between these two figures cannot be fully established based on available data. These investments may support youth-led and adolescent-led work through organizations outside the Generation Equality initiative, or they may relate to Generation Equality youth-led organizations that were not reported in 2024. As such, the reported financing gap for youth- and adolescent-led organizations may underrepresent the total resources benefiting this constituency.

Area of work	Impact	Examples
1. Expansion of direct support and skills-building	Delivered wide-scale, low-cost capacity-building programmes that reached tens of thousands of young women and girls, often leveraging small but efficiently used financial resources.	Youth-led and youth-serving groups in Kenya and India used relatively small budgets (typically USD 20,000–30,000 spent) to train women and girls on SRHR, GBV leadership and community organizing. Several organizations mobilized volunteer networks or in-kind partnerships to expand reach without major expenditures, demonstrating cost-efficient action.
2. Strengthened movement-building and collective advocacy	Increasingly shaping national and regional advocacy, anchoring social movements and influencing public narratives.	YWLI (Kenya), under the “#MyDearBody campaign” GBV commitment, with up to USD 30,000 spent, catalysed national awareness on femicide through research, media interventions, and the #MyDearBody/ #EndFemicideKe movement, now engaging over 1,000 activists. Organizations across West and East Africa mobilized feminist movements, engaged local leaders and coordinated cross-country advocacy on issues such as GBV, SRHR and safe abortion rights.
3. Expanded engagement with policymakers and local institutions	Gaining recognition as policy influencers and implementation partners, collaborating with Governments, UN agencies, donors and national coalitions, often at low or no cost.	In South Sudan, Wider Aid & Development Agency used limited resources (USD 50,000 secured) to strengthen GBV prevention through training programmes with local authorities and community structures. In Benin, youth-led initiatives worked with agricultural cooperatives and community groups to support sustainable livelihoods and climate resilience, reaching hundreds of beneficiaries through low-cost training models.
4. Innovation in feminist financing and resource mobilization	Pioneering innovative feminist financing models (sub-granting mechanisms, partnerships, volunteer-driven mobilization and others) while maintaining a clear thematic focus aligned with Generation Equality priorities.	Innovations focused on GBV prevention and anti-femicide activism, SRHR education and youth-friendly services, and leadership development for girls and young women, with additional emphasis on climate resilience and women’s economic empowerment in several contexts. The blend of financial creativity and thematic consistency underscore the adaptability and strategic focus of youth-led commitments.

Main challenges within Generation Equality: Youth-led organizations continue to face major constraints in advancing their commitments, primarily due to **limited access to flexible and sustainable funding**, heavy reporting burdens and the fact that resources pledged within ACs rarely reach smaller youth- or adolescent-led groups. These funding gaps are compounded by weak coordination and limited engagement from AC leaders, leaving many youth organizations without the technical support, visibility or institutional access needed to deliver on their commitments. Connectivity barriers, language limitations and uneven participation further restrict their ability to access opportunities and financing flows within Generation Equality.

WHY IT MATTERS

Youth-led organizations remain essential drivers of gender equality, converting modest financial commitments into powerful community action, national advocacy and institutional engagement. Their collective work demonstrates strong alignment with Generation Equality’s goals and a growing capacity to deliver transformative, sustainable impact.

BOX. 2.5.3. SPOTLIGHT ON 2025 FINANCIAL GOOD PRACTICE:

High-impact youth leadership - Nala Feminist Collective's contribution to Generation Equality

Nala Feminist Collective (Nalafem), the youth-led Commitment Maker with the largest financial pledge under Generation Equality, committed **USD 5 million** under the EJR AC and has spent **USD 2 million** to date. Financing was mobilized through grants, in-kind contributions, subsidized training access and fundraising campaigns, disbursed via project-based grants linked to clear outcomes.

Despite their central role in feminist mobilization, youth-led and adolescent-led groups reported a USD 577 million funding gap. Nalafem's pledge illustrates both ambition and funding gaps within the Generation Equality ecosystem. Implementation faced **challenges** common to youth-led groups: bureaucratic delays, limited accountability systems and political instability. These reflect **systemic barriers**: weak coordination, lack of transparent funding pathways and limited institutional support. However, **Nalafem responded** by engaging fiscal partners, creating an accountability toolkit and building long-term relationships with Governments.



Scenes from the UN Secretary-General's annual consultation with women's and feminist civil society on the margins of the 69th session of the Commission on the Status of Women. Photo: UN Women/Ryan Brown

Impact: Since 2021, Nalafem Academy and Nalafem Summits reached **50,000 young women across Africa** with training in feminist leadership, digital safety and political participation; **72 per cent reporting improved confidence and knowledge to influence decision-making spaces**. Summits in Abuja (2022), Nairobi (2023), Windhoek (2024) and Freetown (2025) produced the **Freetown Declaration with 100 commitments for women’s political leadership and feminist economic justice**.

Sub-grants achieved national policy outcomes:

- Prevented the repeal of FGM legislation in The Gambia Advanced FGM abolition policies in Malawi through policy briefs to decision-makers
- Strengthened women’s political rights in Kenya through advocacy and policy briefs
- Strengthened disability rights advocacy in Rwanda
- Mobilized women leaders via the Sudan Taskforce Initiative to influence ceasefire negotiations.

Regional-level influence: Nalafem’s advocacy contributed to key African Union policy documents, including the Convention on Ending Violence against Women and Girls, demonstrating impact beyond national borders.

Institutional change: The Nalafem App pilot enabled feminist organizations to access secure communication channels, reducing exposure to online violence.

Sustainable partnerships and leadership access: A cross-continental coalition of over 1,000 women-led organizations has established itself as a trusted convener, recognized by UN, AU, and G20 platforms. To date, over 2,000 women and girls have directly accessed decision-making and leadership spaces, and four governments have endorsed Nalafem-led recommendations on peace and gender equality. These impacts represent durable shifts in both structures and norms, beyond project cycles.

Lessons and recommendations: Contextual crises disrupted work in Sudan and the Sahel, increasing demand for digital safety. Nalafem adapted through regional hubs, hybrid delivery, and reframing peacebuilding and economic justice as crisis resilience. Nalafem learned that intergenerational co-leadership accelerates impact, pooled funding is essential and digital tools are core for accountability and protection. It recommends that Generation Equality should scale direct, flexible funding for youth-led and conflict-affected feminist movements, expand participatory accountability, invest in safe digital infrastructure and link accountability to FfD4 and Beijing+30. Multi-stakeholder co-financing should be incentivized for sustainability.

WHY IT MATTERS

Harnessing intergenerational leadership to accelerate impact, pooled funding mechanisms, and building long-term relationships with Governments can all be powerful tools to surmount systemic barriers facing youth-led groups Project-based grants and sub-grants linked to clear outcomes may be an effective means of effectively channeling funding to youth-led organizations, whose work can fuel important national and regional-level changes and lasting systemic shifts in norms.

3. ALIGNMENT WITH GLOBAL GENDER EQUALITY FRAMEWORKS



Scenes from the panel discussion “Rewriting a Gender-Equal Future: Data, Tech and the 2030 Deadline” held in the SDG Media Zone during the 80th session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York on 24 September 2025. Photo: UN Women/Ryan Brown

Achieving gender equality is both a stand-alone objective and a systemic enabler of sustainable development, reaffirmed across the global policy landscape.

Insights from the 2025 Financial Survey reflect alignment with three principal frameworks that shape today's gender-responsive financing agenda. First, the Pact for the Future and SDG Indicator 5.c.1 reinforce gender-responsive public financing as a core requirement for accountability, calling for transparent, adequately resourced and institutionally grounded financing for gender equality. Second, the Financing for Development process, most recently consolidated in the FfD4 outcome document, highlights the need for expanded fiscal space, care economy investments, strengthened integrated national financing frameworks and reforms to ensure public and private financing flows advance equity. Finally, the BPfA provides the foundational normative blueprint, outlining commitments across 12 critical areas of concern that remain central to contemporary financing priorities.

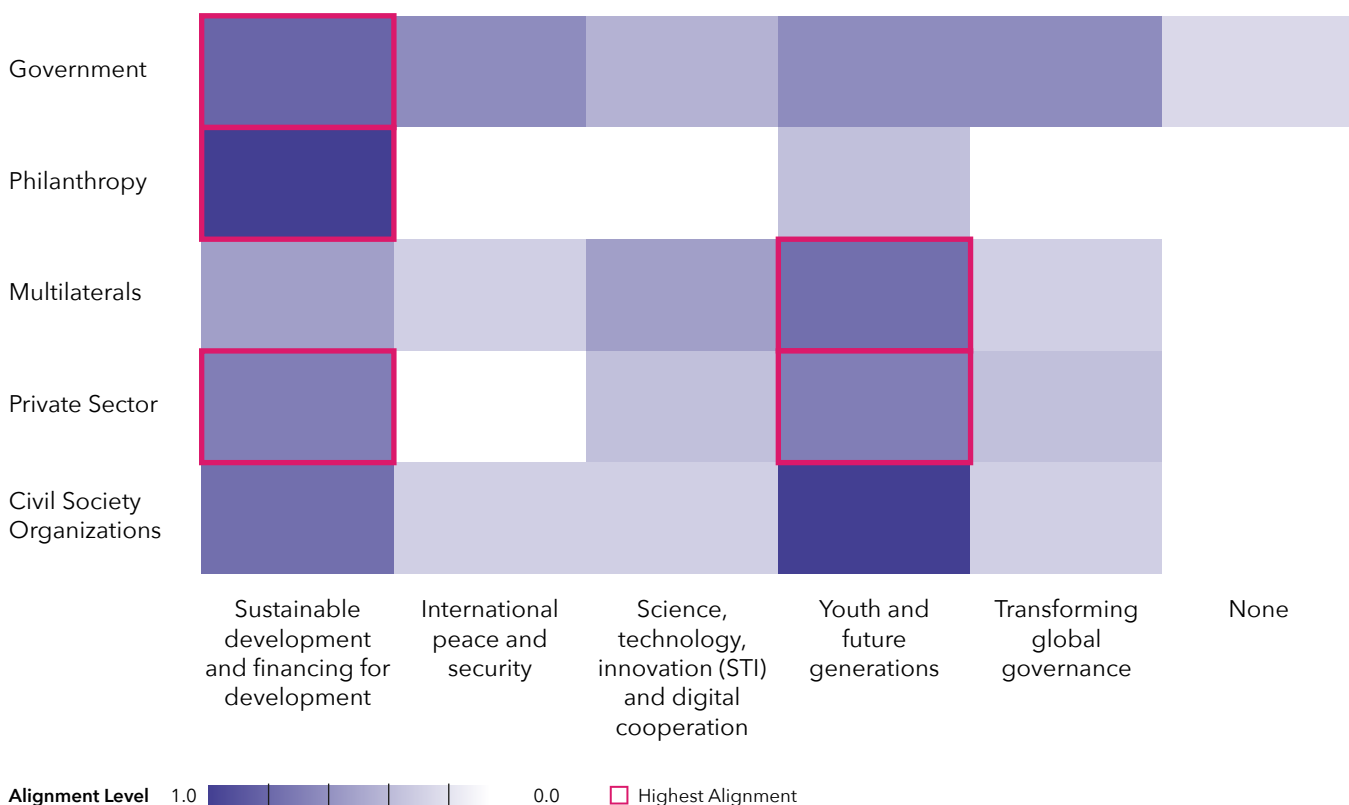
The alignment presented below draws specifically on the inputs of major Commitment Makers who responded to the 2025 Financial Survey. It should therefore be understood as indicative of trends among major financial contributors rather than a comprehensive reflection of all Generation Equality initiatives.

3.1. ALIGNMENT WITH THE PACT FOR THE FUTURE AND SDG INDICATOR 5.C.1

Generation Equality financial commitments are strongly aligned with the **Pact for the Future**, the UN's new forward-looking framework adopted in 2024 to accelerate progress on the SDGs, strengthen global cooperation and enhance intergenerational justice. Most commitments align with the Pact's pillars on "Sustainable Development and Financing for Development" and "Youth and Future Generations", reflecting the centrality of resourcing the SDGs and advancing intergenerational equity to gender equality delivery. Weaker alignment around "International Peace and Security" and "Science, Technology and Innovation" points to underleveraged areas where gender equality financing and policy could be further integrated, despite their recognized importance in the BPfA and 2030 Agenda.

The alignment with the Pact for the Future mirrors a broader shift towards strengthening the public finance systems needed to deliver gender equality commitments. This is where **SDG Indicator 5.c.1** ("Proportion of countries with systems to track and make public al-

Figure 3.1. Areas aligned with the Pact for the Future



locations for gender equality and women’s empowerment”) becomes particularly relevant. As the global benchmark for assessing whether countries track and make public their allocations for gender equality, 5.c.1 provides a concrete measure of how Governments translate high-level political commitments into budgetary action. In other words, while the Pact for the Future outlines *what* the global community must collectively prioritize, SDG 5.c.1 assesses *how* well Governments are putting in place the institutional and financing mechanisms required for implementation.

SDG Indicator 5.c.1 is a central benchmark for assessing how Governments translate gender equality commitments into public financing. The indicator measures progress towards Target 5.c, which calls for strengthening policies and legislation for gender equality and ensuring that these commitments are supported by transparent and accountable budget systems. By linking policy frameworks with resource allocations, 5.c.1 highlights the importance of institutionalizing gender-responsive budgeting within national planning and fiscal processes. Among the 44 Generation Equality Governments that reported in 2024,

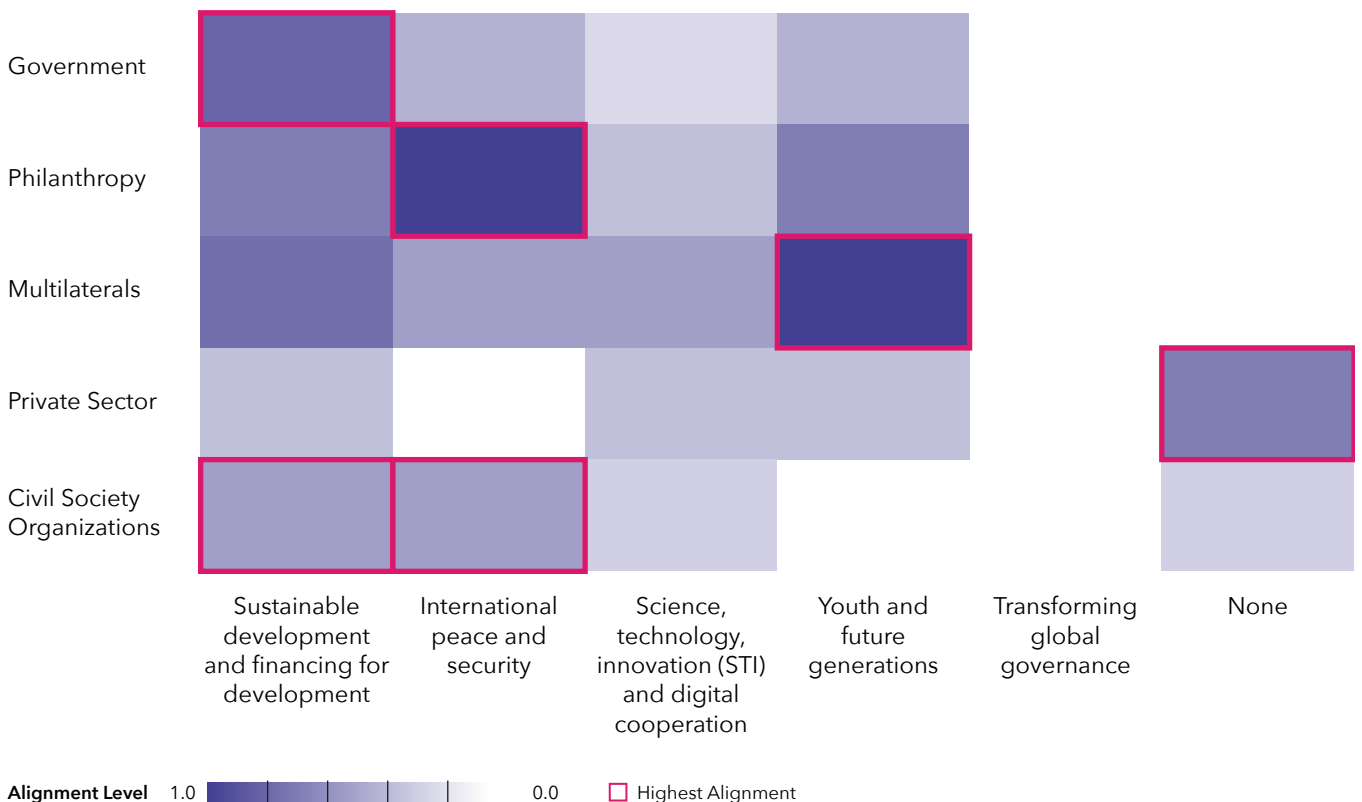
30 had available data on 5.c.1 in the global SDG reporting platform. Out of these 30 countries:

- **7 fully meet the requirements**
- **22 are assessed as “approaches requirement” and**
- **1 does not meet the requirements.**

This distribution demonstrates strong engagement with gender-responsive public finance across the Generation Equality cohort, although the maturity of national systems still varies significantly.

Several Governments that did not report to the global 5.c.1 platform nonetheless showed strong alignment and substantial investments through their Generation Equality commitments. For example, France dedicated EUR 405,6 million to sexual and reproductive health and rights over five years, channelled through programmes such as UNFPA Supplies and the *Organisation pour le Dialogue pour l’Avortement Sécurisé*. This illustrates that non-reporting to the SDG indicator does not always reflect a lack of progress, but may instead indicate reporting gaps or timing misalignment between national systems and global data cycles.

Figure 3.2. Areas aligned with the FfD4 agenda





Scenes from the Generation Equality Midpoint Moment held at United Nations headquarters in New York on 17 September 2023. Photo: UN Women/Ryan Brown

SDG Indicator 5.c.1 also provides an important accountability lens for CSOs working to influence and monitor public finance for gender equality. By requiring Governments to track and publish allocations for gender equality the indicator creates conditions for civil society to examine budget data, identify gaps, advocate for improvements, and ensure that resources reach women and girls. Public disclosure reinforces transparency and strengthens civil society’s capacity to monitor Government commitments.

Within Generation Equality, **CSOs play a critical role in advancing the principles behind 5.c.1** by reinforcing accountability and linking financing with transformative change. Strengthening the capacity of CSOs to engage with public budgeting processes and with the 5.c.1 framework remains essential for sustained progress towards Target 5.c and for ensuring that gender equality financing leads to measurable and inclusive outcomes.

3.2. ALIGNMENT WITH THE FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

Generation Equality operationalizes the Financing for Development Agenda, drawing on FfD4 and FfD3 priorities, by: (i) strengthening gender-responsive pu-

blic finance and budgeting; (ii) leveraging integrated, multi-source financing (domestic budgets, ODA, philanthropy, blended and private capital); (iii) investing in social infrastructure, including care systems; and (iv) enhancing data, monitoring and accountability for gender-responsive results.

Across FfD4 themes, alignment is highest on ‘international development cooperation’ and ‘international financial architecture & systemic issues’ – areas where Governments and multilaterals drive reforms (debt, fiscal space, cost of capital). Engagement is more uneven on ‘STI/capacity-building’ and ‘data/monitoring’, with multilaterals and philanthropy leaning in, but civil society and the private sector are less engaged, highlighting the need to finance data and capacity as core enablers of gender-responsive financing.

Survivor-centred funds, safe housing and integrated services, funded by the Government of Canada, translate Beijing’s ‘Zero Violence’ into tangible infrastructure and accountability systems for the achievement of the SDGs. These are social investments aligned with FfD4 priorities to expand and protect financing for essential services, including through international cooperation that sustains delivery during shocks.

Core, rapid-response and participatory grants to feminist organizations, adopted by Purposeful, strengthen leadership and civic space outlined in the BPfA and the SDGs, and reflect FfD4's calls to finance civil society capabilities and gender data so that financing translates into accountable results.

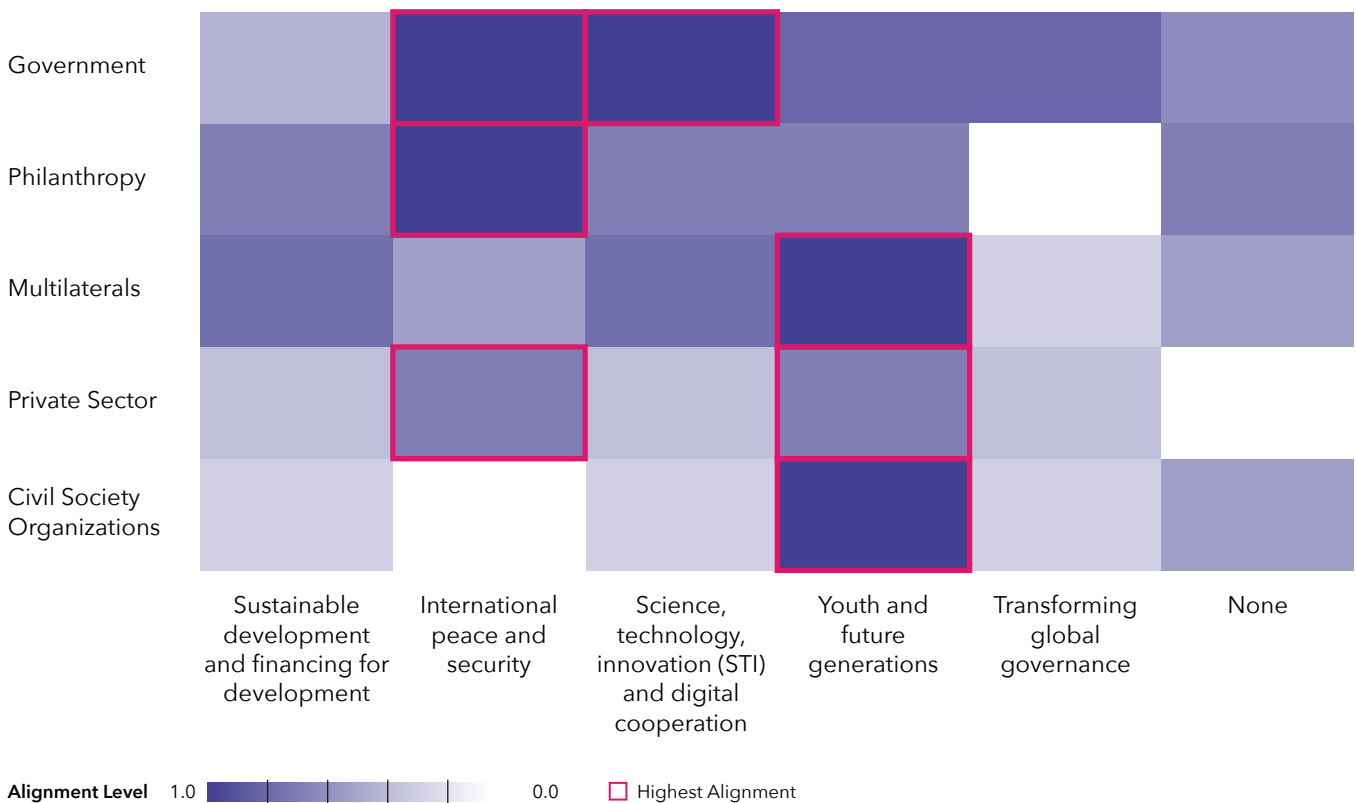
3.3. ALIGNMENT WITH THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION AND BEIJING+30 ACTION AGENDA

Convergence of Generation Equality financial commitments and the most recent Beijing+30 Action Agenda,⁴⁹ aimed at fast-tracking implementation of the BPfA, is most pronounced around 'decision-making power' and 'freedom from poverty', underscoring

a shared recognition that income security, voice and inclusion are pivotal to gender equality and achieving the SDGs. By contrast, alignment remains weakest on 'peace and security' and 'climate justice', where only subsets of financial commitments demonstrate a strong focus, despite political declarations reiterating commitments to finance women's leadership in peacebuilding and crisis response.

The examples illustrated throughout this report show how diverse constituencies translate commitments into concrete and measurable action, reinforcing the momentum needed to advance the Beijing+30 Action Agenda and sustain progress for women and girls worldwide.

Figure 3.3. Areas aligned with the Beijing+30 Action Agenda



49 [Beijing+30 Action Agenda](#) renews global commitments to gender equality, emphasizing financing, accountability and systemic reforms for sustainable development. Launched during the 80th Session of the UN General Assembly, Governments announced commitments across the Action Agenda's six action areas.

4. WPS-HA FINANCIAL FOCUS

Since its launch, the Compact has enabled transformative progress through decisive action taken by signatories to address the gaps and challenges on women, peace and security and gender-responsive humanitarian action.

The Compact on Women, Peace and Security and Humanitarian Action was launched during the Generation Equality Forum in July 2021 as an intergenerational, inclusive movement for bold action on gender equality and to advance the leadership and protection of women and girls in crisis- and conflict- affected situations. Since its launch, the Compact has enabled transformative progress through decisive action taken by signatories to address the gaps and challenges on women, peace and security and gender-responsive humanitarian action.

Since 2021, the number of signatories to the Compact has increased by over 100 per cent, providing a platform for more than 244 signatories. These include Member States, United Nations entities, regional organizations, private sector actors and civil society, including women-led and youth organizations, and academic institutions, all working together to take concerted action on WPS and HA.

The [Compact Framework](#) covers five key thematic areas that place women at the heart of peace and security and humanitarian processes: financing, participation, economic security, leadership and protection. Upon joining, Signatories select one or more specific actions from the Framework to implement. Results and achievements are self-reported annually, and financial commitments are measured against actual expenditures rather than pledged amounts.

Building on existing commitments and guided by an innovative self-reporting mechanism, the annual WPS-HA Compact Accountability Report documents the progress of signatories working to advocate for, empower, promote and protect women and girls in conflict and crisis settings. To date, the Compact has tracked signatory investments totaling USD 4.6 billion, reaching more than 52 million women and girls, thereby strengthening accountability in fragile and conflict-affected contexts.



Displaced families head from the Al Zeitoun neighborhood in Gaza City to the south of Gaza. Photo: UN Women/Samar Abu Elouf

The [2025 WPS-HA Compact Accountability Report](#) highlights the work of signatories amid escalating global needs - 676 million women and girls live within 50 kilometers of armed conflict and over 60 million forcibly displaced and stateless women and girls faced elevated risks of gender-based violence.⁵⁰ Despite this urgent need, bilateral aid for women's rights organizations and movements in high- and extreme- fragility contexts averaged only USD 186 million per year in 2022-2023.⁵¹ Meanwhile, total global military spending reached USD 2.7 trillion in 2024, with more than 100 countries increasing their military expenditures.⁵²

In 2024, the total spending reported by Signatories increased from \$1.56 billion in 2023 to \$2.12 billion - a 35.9 per cent rise - driven primarily by increased

reporting from UN entities. However, more than half of signatories reported budget reductions. Investments from the top three stakeholder groups accounted for US\$ 1.1 billion from member states, followed by UN entities at US\$ 911 million, and civil society organizations contributing US\$ 104 million.

While only 30 per cent of Compact signatories indicated allocations per thematic pillar, financing WPS and gender-responsive humanitarian action received the highest allocation of approximately US\$ 486.3 million, followed by economic security with approximately US\$ 146.9 million, participation (US\$ 60 million), protection (US\$ 57.9 million), and leadership (US\$ 16.2 million).

50 UN Women. 2025. Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals: The Gender Snapshot 2025.

51 OECD (Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development). 2025. "Cuts in official development assistance: OECD projections for 2025 and the near term." OECD Policy Briefs. No. 26, Paris: OECD.

52 SIPRI (Stockholm International Peace Research Institute). 2025. "SIPRI Fact Sheet: Trends in World Military Expenditure, 2024."

Looking ahead, it is critical to de-risk women's organizations through sustained investment in long-term institutional capacity and to safeguard WPS and gender-responsive humanitarian funding in volatile contexts. Signatories must urgently expand core, multi-year funding streams to support post-conflict transitions, establish contingency reserves and flexible emergency financing mechanisms that are responsive to emergent armed conflicts, economic downturns and climate-induced shocks. This includes scaling up direct financing to local women-led organizations and Global South-based research institutions.

Given the current funding landscape and the anticipated declines in official development assistance, mobilizing national and private sector financing will be essential to complement international funding and ensure sustainable domestic ownership of the WPS agenda. Governments should integrate gender

equality and WPS priorities into national budgeting frameworks and domestic resource mobilization strategies, including recognizing remittances as an important source of informal finance.

In line with the Compact's principle on sustainable financing, it is necessary to strengthen financial data collection, analysis and dissemination processes for knowledge mobilization and advocacy. Data on WPS and gender-responsive humanitarian financing remains fragmented and subject to the voluntary reporting of Compact signatories. Further efforts are needed to strengthen and systematize the collection and analysis of national data sets on contributions by source of financing (Government, bilateral, multilateral/supranational, CSOs and private sector), gaps in financing WPS NAPs by phase (development vs. implementation), and support for localization.

WOMEN'S PEACE AND HUMANITARIAN FUND (WPHF): SCALING UP PARTICIPATION AND PROTECTION FOR WOMEN IN CONFLICT AND CRISIS SETTINGS

In 2024, Compact Signatory, the WPHF, led a record year of resource mobilization, securing **USD 63.5 million from 19 government donors and the private sector**, exceeding its annual target by USD 28.5 million and marking a **38.6 per cent increase** (USD 17.7 million) from 2023. This represents the highest amount mobilized in a single year since WPHF's launch in 2016.

Impact to date:

- **737,000+ people directly benefited**, 79 per cent women and girls.
- **344 Women Human Rights Defenders (WHRDs) from 25 countries were supported**, 40 per cent of whom were young women (18-29 years).
- **1,123 dependents** of WHRDs received assistance in crisis and conflict settings.

Through its **Window for WHRDs**, launched in 2022, WPHF provided protection and participation support via its Advocacy Support and Safety Net streams. **Cumulatively, 775 WHRDs and 2,344 dependents** have been supported to date.

WHY IT MATTERS

WPHF demonstrates how flexible, targeted financing can rapidly strengthen women's leadership, protection, and resilience, particularly local women human rights defenders and local women-led organizations, in the world's most fragile contexts.

5. CROSS-STAKEHOLDER INSIGHTS: PRIORITIES FOR ENHANCING IMPACT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

This section consolidates key recommendations gathered from the 18 organizations that participated in the 2025 Financial Survey, as well as insights from the analysis of 2024 financial data. Its aim is to provide actionable guidance for sustaining the results achieved through the Generation Equality initiative, strengthening inclusivity and measurable impact across all areas of work, and maintaining momentum through effective multi-stakeholder partnerships. These recommendations reflect shared priorities and are intended to inform strategic planning and implementation of multi-stakeholder partnerships on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls at the global, regional and national levels beyond 2026.

The overall recommendations and way forward are:

1. Increase direct, flexible and predictable financing

- Expand **core, flexible, multi-year** funding for feminist, youth-led and grass-roots organizations.
- Simplify access and reduce administrative barriers for youth and adolescent-led movements.
- Increase **direct funding to local actors**, reducing reliance on intermediaries.

- Strengthen **co-financing models**, pooled funds and domestic resource mobilization.
- Ring-fence long-term investments for **prevention**, social norms change and feminist organizing.

2. Shift power to feminist movements and local actors

- Ensure movements, youth-led groups, Indigenous women and Global South actors **shape priorities and decision-making**.
- Institutionalize **movement-led accountability** (e.g., scorecards, community monitoring).
- Invest in **political education**, organizing support, translation and accompaniment.
- Reduce tokenism by embedding young activists and grass-roots leaders in governance structures.
- Support **grass-roots sustainability** rather than short-term projectization.

3. Strengthen governance, coordination and multi-stakeholder architecture

- Institutionalize **multi-stakeholder coordination** at national, regional and global levels.
- Create regular **peer-learning spaces**, regional exchanges and short “policy window” convenings.

- Clarify governance roles and **enhance transparency** to maintain political and financial commitment.
- Increase embedding Generation Equality principles into broader global frameworks (Beijing+30, Pact for the Future, FfD4).

4. Reinforce data, monitoring and accountability systems

- Establish standardized **monitoring and evaluation frameworks** across Commitment Makers.
- Expand **intersectional, sex-disaggregated data systems**, including Education Management Information Systems and 'Leave No One Behind' indicators.
- Support **independent verification** and third-party evaluation mechanisms.
- Include **qualitative measures** (social norms change, safety, inclusion, trust-building).

5. Build resilience to anti-rights backlash

- Develop **proactive strategies** to counter anti-gender movements and shrinking civic space.
- Support **legal protection** and vigilance against rollbacks (e.g., FGM law repeal attempts).
- Strengthen **collaboration with religious and traditional leaders** for social norms change.

- Scale **safe digital infrastructure**, including "safety by design" for tech-related investments.
- Provide **long-term support** for activists and grass-roots organizations in hostile contexts.

6. Elevate cross-movement solidarity and learning

- Invest in **cross-regional convenings and solidarity platforms** for feminist and youth movements.
- Document and share **"field notes"** and actionable insights to encourage replication.
- Build **communities of practice** to enhance collective power and learning.

7. Clarify the vision, strategy and post-2026 road map

- Define a clear **strategic direction** for Generation Equality beyond 2026.
- Ensure commitments remain integrated into **SDG follow-up and multilateral reform processes**.
- Adopt **mandatory reporting standards** across Commitment Makers (pledged/secured/disbursed/results).
- Establish a global results framework and annual scorecards with **comply-or-explain mechanisms**.
- Align commitments with national priorities and domestic financing systems through **localization plans**.



The Asia-Pacific preparatory meeting jointly convened on 29-30 January 2026 in Bangkok, Thailand, by UN Women Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), in collaboration with the United Nations Development Program Bangkok Regional Hub, the United Nations Population Fund Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, and the United Nations Children's Fund East Asia and Pacific Regional Office. Photo: UN Women/Pathumporn Thongking

6. CONCLUSIONS

Nearly five years after its launch, Generation Equality has demonstrated that a global, multi-stakeholder platform can mobilize unprecedented resources, strengthen accountability and catalyse action for gender equality at scale. The 2026 Financial Analysis shows that Commitment Makers continue to channel significant volumes of financing, with USD 50.3 billion in pledges and more than USD 21 billion spent as reported in 2024, while adapting their financial strategies to a complex and fast-changing global context. Across Governments, philanthropy, multilateral organizations, the private sector and civil society, financial behaviour is increasingly shaped by the principles embedded in Generation Equality: **feminist leadership, intersectionality and transformation.**

The data reveal clear progress. **Governments continue to anchor gender equality financing in domestic budgets and legislative processes**, aligning national reforms with the Beijing+30 Action Agenda and Financing for Development commitments. Philanthropic actors are leveraging flexible capital, evidence-generation and innovative financing to influence policies, expand access to SRHR and shift social norms. **Multilateral organizations are deploying large-scale, multi-country investments and accelerating knowledge-generation**, while the **private sector is spurring women's increased employment and entrepreneurship, mobilizing global value chains**, and emphasizing gender-responsive funding and procurement systems. **Civil society and youth-led organizations remain central across all stakeholder groups** as direct implementers, re-granters, movement-builders and key partners in accountability. Their leadership continues to ensure that Generation Equality financing is grounded in community priorities, human rights and lived experience.

The analysis also underscores persistent challenges that threaten the pace and equity of implementation. **Disbursement gaps remain significant**, particularly outside North America and beyond large global initiatives, while structural barriers such as **bureaucratic hurdles,**

limited financing for youth-led groups, shrinking civic space and declining ODA continue to restrict access to predictable and flexible funding. Across all groups, the **need to streamline administrative processes, strengthen expenditure-tracking, expand co-financing and fortify local systems** emerge as a shared priority.

Looking ahead, the findings of this analysis point to several implications for a next phase of Generation Equality. First, **expanding fiscal space for gender equality through domestic resource mobilization, gender-responsive budgeting and innovative financing will be critical to sustaining gains as global economic pressures intensify.** Second, **closing the financing gap for feminist civil society and youth-led movements** must remain a central objective, given their role as engines of accountability, norms change and community-level impact. Third, **more predictable and flexible financing models are needed to ensure that commitments translate into timely implementation**, especially in crisis-affected settings. Finally, strengthening alignment with global frameworks, including the Financing for Development process, the Pact for the Future and SDG indicator 5.c.1 and the Beijing+30 Action Agenda, will help embed Generation Equality within the broader architecture of UN accountability and gender-responsive financing.

This analysis provides the most comprehensive picture to date of how financial commitments under Generation Equality are mobilized, secured and spent. Its findings offer concrete evidence to guide Governments, multilateral partners, private sector actors and feminist organizations as they shape the next phase of the platform. Realizing the ambition of a more equal, sustainable and inclusive world requires financing that matches commitments, systems that support scale and sustained investment in the people and movements driving change.

Generation Equality has laid the foundation: the coming years will determine how far and how fast that collective promise can be delivered.

TECHNICAL NOTE

METHODOLOGY

The 2025 Financial Commitments Analysis uses a mixed-methods design that combines quantitative and qualitative approaches. A total of **20 organizations** responded to the 2025 Financial Survey. Their submissions have undergone internal review and are currently being processed through standard clearance procedures.

1. In-depth quantitative and qualitative analysis

This analysis presents a dedicated analysis for each stakeholder group: Governments; the private sector; philanthropic organizations; multilateral and supra-national organizations; civil society, youth and adolescent-led organizations. It integrates in-depth analysis of 2024 financial data, drawing on 2024 Commitment Survey results and key findings from the 2024 and 2023 Accountability Reports.

Each subsection includes:

- Disaggregated data by **financial instrument**,⁵³ **source**, **geographic scope** and **trend analysis from previous years**.
- Spotlight on **good practices** from each stakeholder category, including highlights of financial contributions and strategies that demonstrate alignment with Generation Equality goals.
- Assessment of **alignment with global gender equality frameworks**, such as Beijing+30.

The 2024 data set forms the official basis for Generation Equality financial reporting and covers approximately **70 per cent of all financial commitments** made under the initiative. It therefore provides the most comprehensive picture of financial flows across stakeholder groups.

2. Analysis of results from the 2025 targeted Financial Survey

This analysis unpacks the **USD 50 billion** pledged financial commitments reported in 2024 through the 2025 Financial Breakdown Survey. The survey focused on a **small, purposively selected sample of high-pledge Commitment Makers** in order to:

- capture perspectives from actors responsible for the **largest share of global financial flows**
- ensure regional and stakeholder diversity, despite financial constraints that limited the total sample size, and
- provide qualitative depth on institutional motivations, bottlenecks and enablers of disbursement.

The analysis includes:

- a. An overview of **commitments** with a focus on the instrument of **sourcing vs. disbursement**
- b. Geographic and investment-level breakdowns, including sectoral priorities
- c. Summary of **good practices**, lessons learned and forward-looking recommendations
- d. Qualitative insights on enablers, barriers and institutional constraints
- e. Assessment of alignment with global gender equality frameworks.

3. Currency conversion

Currency conversions for 2024 financial data use the rates applied during the 2024 reporting cycle to ensure comparability across the official data set. Conversions for 2025 survey data follow the average exchange rates for the August–December 2025 reporting period, reflecting the methodology used for this year's analysis.

53 Some Government Commitment Makers reported expenditure amounts higher than their pledged values. This occurs because Generation Equality pledges generally represent only a segment of much larger State budget allocations, while the reported 'spent' amounts reflect broader, multi-year expenditures in the sector that are not easily separable. This is a common pattern in government reporting and should be interpreted accordingly.

UN WOMEN EXISTS TO ADVANCE WOMEN'S RIGHTS, GENDER EQUALITY AND THE EMPOWERMENT OF ALL WOMEN AND GIRLS.

As the lead United Nations entity on gender equality and secretariat of the UN Commission on the Status of Women, we shift laws, institutions, social norms and services to close the gender gap and build an equal world for all women and girls. Our partnerships with governments, women's movements and the private sector, coupled with our coordination of the broader United Nations, deliver lasting changes. We make strides in four areas: leadership, economic empowerment, freedom from violence, and peace, security and humanitarian action.

UN Women keeps the rights of women and girls at the centre of global progress – always, everywhere. Because gender equality is not just what we do. It is who we are.



220 E 42nd Street
New York, NY 10017
United States of America

www.unwomen.org