



**Mediterranean
Women's Fund**

2024 Annual Report

Contents

I. Strengthening the feminist movement in the Mediterranean region: our four focus areas

FOCUS AREA 1 | Supporting associations on the ground 05

A financial support adapted to realities 06

Strengthening feminist networks 12

Visiting associations..... 14

FOCUS AREA 2 | Creating spaces to exchange and reflect 16

Face-to-face meetings..... 17

Online exchanges 18

FOCUS AREA 3 | Training to transmit and consolidate 19

Feminist Trainings 20

in Collective Intelligence

FOCUS AREA 4 | Strategic advocacy: mobilizing institutions and donors 22

In France..... 23

Internationally..... 24

II. Levers to amplify our impact

Carrying our voices: our communications actions 26

Making our action visible and feminist voices heard 26

Creating collective moments 27

Building sustainable financial solidarity 30

In France: a solid and diverse base 30

Internationally: decisive and committed support..... 31

A strong organization to face the future 32

Conclusion – opening

Our 2024 finances: key points 34

Acknowledgements 35

Editorial

A year of continued resistance

The year 2024 has been a year of striking contrasts, where women's struggles have intensified, carrying powerful voices of resistance but where, at the same time, forces of regression have seemed intent on engulfing all that has been hard won.

It has been the scene of relentless violence: wars devastating peoples, and hopes and rights regressing. Every day, we have seen a worrying democratic retreat.

At the same time, women have continued to wage battles, not only for their rights but for those of all humanity: they have embodied resistance. They have made their voices heard, often at the cost of their safety, demanding equality, freedom and peace.

This year has once again revealed the greatness of those who, through their struggles, redefine the meaning of freedom and dignity. It has also brought us face to face with the urgent need to protect democratic gains, to defend justice.

For the Mediterranean Women's Fund, above all, it marked a symbolic milestone in its history: we passed the threshold of 1,000 grants awarded since our creation. This is not just a figure, but the concrete reflection of a long-term commitment to the region's feminist movements. A thousand stories of struggle, hope and resistance, in 21 countries around the Mediterranean.

And we laid the foundations for the first change in management in the life of the organization, with the year-long training of the new co-direction.

We continued our networking work by bringing together women involved in the feminist movement in Turkey and on the southern shores of the Mediterranean.

1,000 grants awarded since our creation.

And, even more than in previous years, we visited our partners in several countries: Morocco, Greece, Cyprus, France, Spain, Algeria and Turkey. These encounters are essential to anchor our action in local realities, to listen and build together.

It was also the urgency of the situation that prompted us to step up our advocacy efforts with public and private donors, in order to mobilize more resources for women's organizations, to address the urgent situation in which our partners in Palestine and Lebanon find themselves, and, more generally, the urgency of the cuts in budgets allocated to gender equality.

We also innovated: by adapting our feminist training in collective intelligence to the needs of Croatian feminist activists of all generations, by facilitating the presentation of the Susan Treadwell Memorial Awards to 16 European feminists for their unwavering commitment and by sending six of us to the big AWID Forum, to give them a better understanding of the strength of the international feminist movement.

Another source of pride: all these initiatives were carried out with a budget that increased by more than a third compared to the previous year!

Beyond the figures and data, it is a shared culture that drives us one of inclusive, rooted, and solidarity-based feminism.

And this year more than ever, we assert with conviction that supporting feminist movements is essential to building a more united, just, free, and equal Mediterranean.

Amina Izarouken,
Caroline Brac de la Perrière,
Marion Duquesne

Thanks to Samia Allalou,
Christelle Assaf, Fawzia Baba Aissa,
Lamia Batata, Amy Elshaarawy, Noémie Friedli
for their contribution to the writing of this report.

Strengthening the feminist movement in the Mediterranean region: our four focus areas

- 05** **FOCUS AREA 1**
Supporting associations on the ground
- 16** **FOCUS AREA 2**
Creating spaces to exchange and reflect
- 19** **FOCUS AREA 3**
Training to transmit and consolidate
- 22** **FOCUS AREA 4**
Strategic advocacy: mobilizing institutions and donors

FOCUS AREA

01

SUPPORTING ASSOCIATIONS ON THE GROUND

Women's associations across the Mediterranean face many challenges. In addition to the difficulties resulting from the reduction - or even elimination - of funding for gender equality and the resulting work overload for their shrinking teams, they also have to cope, depending on their context, with government repression and/or the aggressiveness of fundamentalist and masculinist movements.

In 2024, the war in Palestine and Lebanon added to the economic and political crises underway in many countries on the southern shore.

A financial support adapted to realities

Amounts granted

€ 1,852,406

allocated, of which:

€ 302,964
for emergencies

€ 1,549,442
for 203 initiatives

€ 59,147
as fiscal sponsor

In 2024

238

GRANTS

including 97 above
the average of €7,699
(vs. €7,101 in 2023)

Grants ranging
from €500 to €30,000,
with a €5,000 median

Emergency support

16.22%

of the initiatives supported
in 2024 concern
emergency support.

Total amount:

€ 302,964

36 specific allocations
including 25 in Palestine and Lebanon.

Geographical distribution

254 applications submitted to the selection
committees, from 19 countries around
the Mediterranean.

nearly 94% of these applications
were accepted

Strong presence in France to support feminist and anti-racist
associations in lower-income neighborhoods, mainly in the
Paris region, thanks in particular to dedicated funding.



Use of grants by associations

238

initiatives supported, of which 50% for operating costs.

A structural support to help associations maintain their existence.

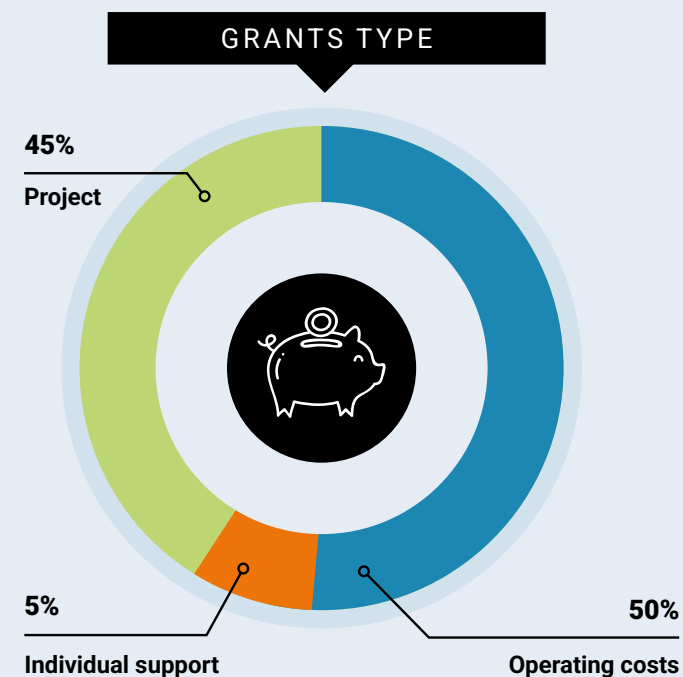
4

mobilizers awarded in 2024, notably Moroccan activists fighting against underage marriage in the rural areas of the Middle Atlas.

16

activists awarded by the Susan Treadwell Memorial awards.

An online ceremony showcased their commitments throughout Europe.



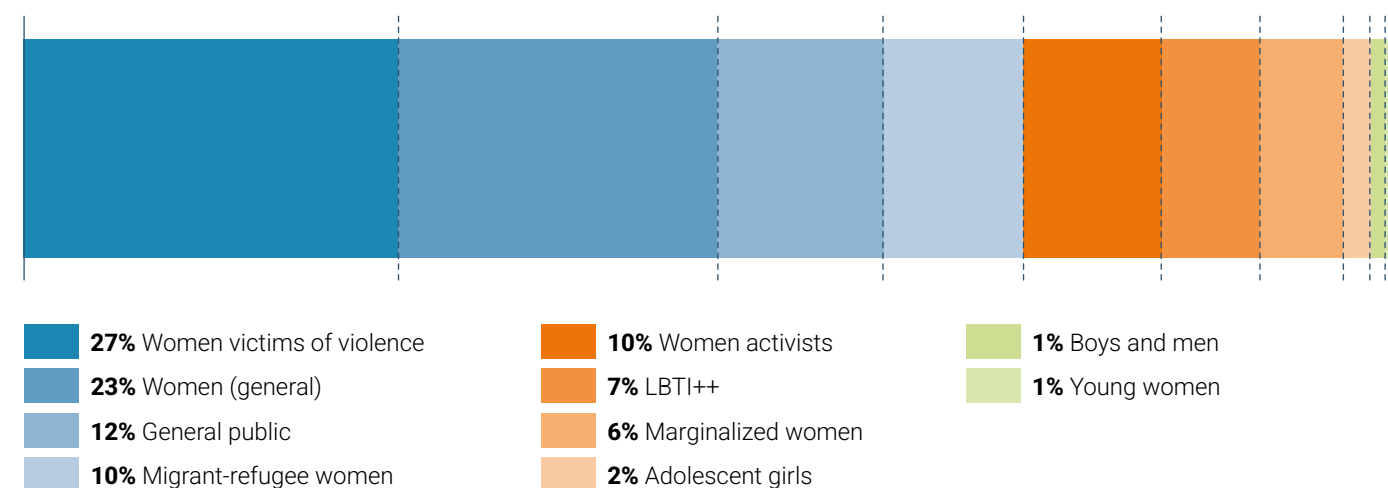
Supported audiences and causes

Populations supported

Most of the initiatives we support are aimed at all women, regardless of age, economic or social status, disability or sexual orientation.

Our priority is to support the associations that are most marginalized and furthest removed from funding circuits. To date, however, we still receive few requests from women's associations with disabilities, often in small numbers depending on the national context.

Populations supported



Issues funded

The fields of action of the associations are most frequently the fight against violence against women, the fight for gender equality and sexual and reproductive health and rights.

Proportion of funded issues



Operating methods

Strategies

31%
Awareness-raising

28%
Service providing

20%
Capacity building

9%
Advocacy

7%
Information/documentation

3%
Research

3%
Networking-building and collaboration

Means

32%
Trainings/Workshops

29%
Awareness-raising campaigns

19%
Housing

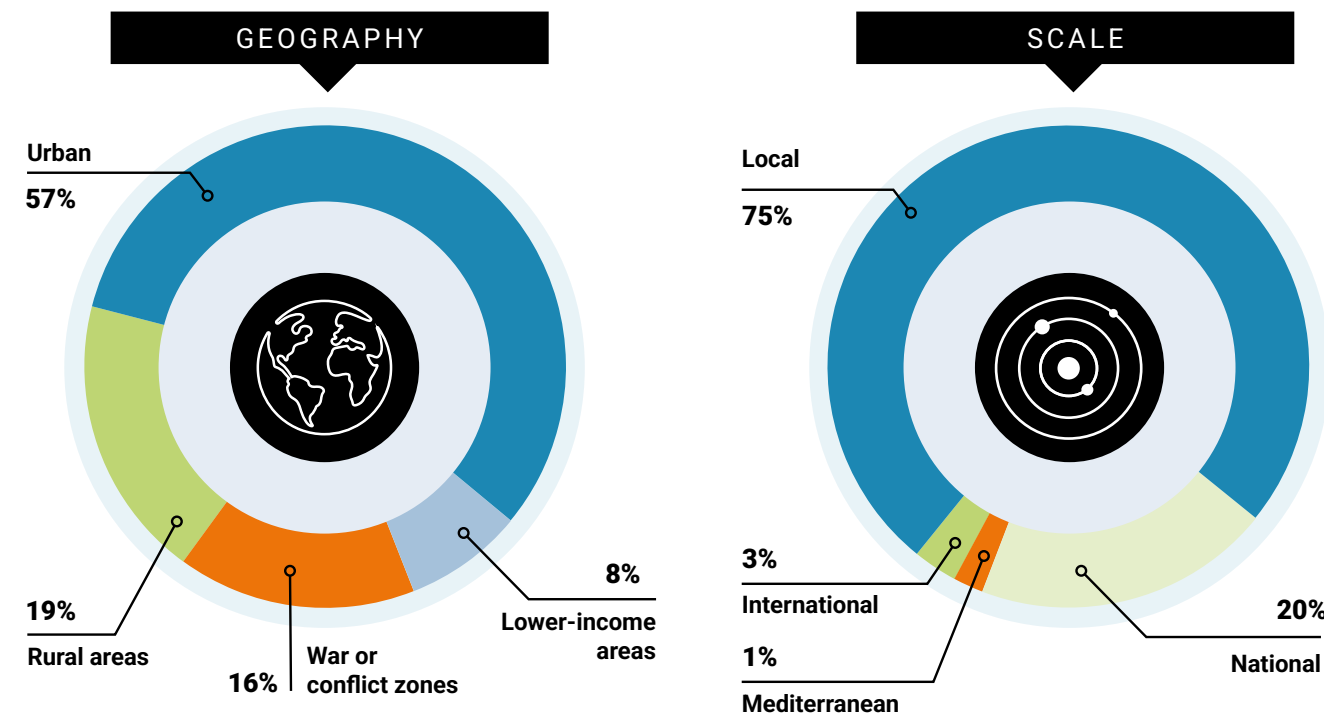
13%
Culture and arts

6%
Events

1%
Caravans

To fulfill their missions, associations mobilize a variety of means: they organize training courses, run awareness-raising campaigns, create safe spaces and use cultural or artistic expression as a tool for mobilization and social transformation.

Locations and scales



While most of our grantee-partners are located in urban areas, we give priority wherever possible to the associations that are the furthest away from funding, whether in lower-income neighborhoods, rural areas, or conflict or war zones. This is also reflected in the fact that 75% of the groups we support are local in scope.

Beyond funding

When we cannot fund an organization directly, we put them in touch with other potential donors.

In 2024, for example, we recommended 16 associations - all of which obtained funding - and introduced some twenty organizations to our partners. Our expertise is increasingly sought by funders to identify and understand how best to support associations.

We also accompanied 44 associations, mainly by phone and videoconference, on demand.

Our support covered a wide range of topics, from project management and fundraising to monitoring their needs in different contexts.



Strengthening feminist networks

Since its creation, the Mediterranean Women's Fund has made it one of its priorities to support networks formed by women's associations or individuals committed to women's rights.

These spaces, which bring together multiple energies and shared governance, play an essential role in the construction of a strong, structured feminist movement.

Women's Network of Croatia

While we are sometimes involved in the emergence of certain networks, we are also keen to support existing ones, such as the Women's Network of Croatia. Again, this year, our support took various forms:

- Travel grants to send several members of the network to the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW 68) in New York.
- Award of three grants to member associations of the network and to the network itself, as part of our EU-supported program, "SEE Change".
- Organization of a meeting for an initiation to our feminist training in collective intelligence, in November, with a strategic reflection component.
- Regular grants to member associations of the network.



Network of lower-income neighborhoods associations in France

This network, concentrated for the moment in the Île-de-France region, aims to strengthen the women's movement in its feminist anti-racist reflection and action. Initially facilitated by the MedWF and Citoyenneté Possible, its coordination was consolidated this year when Adjera Lakehal from the Association des Femmes de Franc-Moisins joined.

- **Regular monthly meetings:** more than in the past, these have provided an opportunity to discuss the fight against racism, the actions of the associations and the difficulties encountered, particularly by women facing precarious living conditions.
- **A two-day face-to-face meeting led to the drafting of a relational charter.**
- **The establishment of common communication rules.** Face-to-face gathering at the MedWF's office to further develop collective projects.
- **Joint events organized by the MedWF and the network's associations:** moments to meet, create links and cooperate.
- **A first public statement on November 25:** "For a comprehensive law against sexist and sexual violence", posted on our Mediapart blog and other platforms.
- **Dedicated grants to network member associations.**

Medfeminiswiya, the network of feminist journalists from the Mediterranean

Created in 2018 with the full support of the Mediterranean Women's Fund, the Medfeminiswiya network brings together 70 journalists from all around the Mediterranean.

As we believe its existence is of the utmost importance, we are actively supporting this network, both financially and organizationally.

- Compensation of the editorial team.
- Interpretation services at meetings.
- Translations.
- Other expenses linked to the publication of the online magazine.

This support also took the form of increased support for network governance.



Feminist collaborations

We often work with our sisters from other feminist funds, to enhance our work supporting feminist movements, through several collaborations:

"On the Right Track" project:

first collaboration between the European and Latin American chapters of Prospera - International Network of Women's Funds to combat the rise of fundamentalisms and of the extreme right. A meeting was held from March 11 to 14 in Belgrade, Serbia, bringing together feminist funds and partner associations. We attended discussions on the daily difficulties for women and gender minorities in Latin America and Europe, panels on the rise of the extreme right and their strategies and took part in working groups to develop tactics to counter fundamentalisms and anti-rights movements.

"Feminist Alchemy" working group:

a place for reflection and exchange between women's funds aimed at improving our response to crises. In 2024, a guide was published and exchange sessions between funds helped strengthen common strategies. The MedWF also participated in the selection committee for the program's scholarships.

Pooling funds:

with Calala - Fondo de Mujeres, to fund feminist associations in Spain, and with Ecumenical Women's Initiative, in Croatia, to support the leadership transition of a Bosnian association.

Feminist leadership project with Calala:

how to implement a feminist work organization that embodies our values, while developing processes to best support our partners.



Visiting associations

As our resources increased, we were able to visit more associations. This is an opportunity for team members to gain a better understanding of the work of the associations we support and the conditions in which they have to carry it out, as well as strengthening links that have often been formed only virtually.

Spain

During a trip to Barcelona, we met with four associations: Mujeres Pa'lante, MIKA, La Creatura and Sindihogar. This visit was an opportunity to renew and strengthen ties with our partners in Spain. It also enabled us to gain a better understanding of the Spanish context, which is particularly encouraging when compared with the situation in other Mediterranean countries: associations benefit from public funding and the government adopts progressive policies that concretely advance human rights. An inspiring example for the region.

Morocco

At the end of October, our team travelled to Morocco, to visit several associations supported by the MedWF. Between Casablanca, Rabat, Marrakech, Ait Ourir, Ouarzazate and Zagora, we met a dozen associations and discussed their different contexts of intervention and the problems encountered by each, notably following the destructive earthquake of September 2023 and the devastating floods a year later, in September 2024. This enables us to strengthen our links with our local partners, enrich our knowledge of the field and better adapt our support to their concrete needs.

Algeria

Several trips to Algeria were made by MedWF members: each time, they are an opportunity to meet with Algerian feminist associations to find out about their work and support their initiatives, link them to other associations in the region doing the same work or help them to take part in international feminist meetings which could open up new perspectives.

Greece

We travelled to Greece to meet two organizations involved in the SEE Change project - Genderhood in Athens and Irida Women's Center in Thessaloniki - with whom we exchanged on the progress of their funded actions. We also met up with long-standing partners, such as Amurtel and Diotima and established new links with emerging structures such as Os Aido. They all pointed to the sharp drop in public funding and a significant decline in support from local foundations.

Turkey

In mid-December, we went to meet our partners in Turkey, in Istanbul, Ankara and Diyarbakir. During our exchanges, the ten associations we met shared their concerns and the challenges they face: inflation, the withdrawal of major historical donors from the region, the government's constant control over their activities and the setback to women's rights in the country in recent years. This trip was crucial in enabling us to better understand the issues and the socio-economic context facing the Turkish feminist movement. It also allowed us to measure the importance of the support we bring to our local partners.

Cyprus

We went to Cyprus to meet MIGS (Mediterranean Institute of Gender Studies) and Kayad, supported through the SEE change project. These associations insisted on the crucial importance of their projects, in a context marked by persistent under-representation of women in the two Cypriot governments, an increase in violence against women, without an adequate legislative framework, and structural inequalities such as wage gaps or the reproduction of gender stereotypes from childhood onwards. We also exchanged views with two other organizations: Project Season and Cyprus' Family Planning, which work in the same context.

02

FOCUS AREA

02

CREATING SPACES
TO EXCHANGE
AND REFLECT

Since 2011, we have been organizing strategic reflection meetings between feminist associations in the Mediterranean. Conceived as a time to step back from the urgency of the situation, they enable participants to exchange views on their contexts, their priorities and their strengths, in order to build common strategies. The MedWF takes care of logistics, facilitating exchanges within a benevolent framework and without injunction of result, to encourage a free and egalitarian speech, often hindered by local power relations.

01

Face-to-face
meetingsStrategic Reflection
Turkey

In May, we organized a strategic reflection meeting in Istanbul, bringing together 17 Turkish feminist associations to discuss their challenges in a repressive political context. They identified several priorities, notably promoting gender equality, strengthening existing networks and platforms, accessing appropriate funding and including young people to prepare the next feminist generation. They also want to strengthen solidarity between activists by organizing regular meetings and setting up psychological support solutions.

Networking
Turkey

Following the strategic reflection meeting in Turkey, we organized a networking event with 27 feminist associations from the Middle East and North Africa region. This was an opportunity to exchange on their respective national contexts and strengthen regional links. They addressed the challenges linked to the growing oppression of women, the difficulty of finding funding and the need for transnational collaborations. Time was devoted to the situation in Palestine, culminating in the drafting of a statement of support signed by over thirty associations. Discussions also focused on support for women victims of violence, the fight against gender-based violence and the creation of a regional feminist coalition. Finally, a focus was placed on the well-being of activists, protection against cyberviolence and the need to create safe spaces and rest areas for activists.

Capitalization
Morocco

At the end of October, the MedWF organized a capitalization workshop in Casablanca, bringing together seven partners from North Africa to analyze the funding and support practices put in place as part of the Feminists in Action project. The associations gave us invaluable feedback on what they appreciated, such as easy access to funding, flexibility of funds, support in setting up projects and networking. They also expressed concerns about the end of the project, a need for greater support in the search for funding, and a preference for more face-to-face meetings.

Network of lower-income
neighborhoods associations
France

In April, we were able to bring together the 11 members of the network of lower-income neighborhoods associations in Vaires-sur-Marne, with a rich program: context and evolution of each association, visions and ambitions of the network, how to mobilize for and what will be the impact of the European elections. In addition to formalizing the foundations of the network, this meeting was an opportunity to consolidate the links between the participants, by combining workshops and informal moments.

Online exchanges

02

Discussion groups

Two "Discussion Groups" meetings, to discuss well-being and stress management among activists, were organized in March and December, for Algerian, Moroccan, Libyan, Tunisian and Lebanese associations. Moderated by our director, who is also a psychologist, these meetings enabled participants to talk about their day-to-day experiences, about the stress they suffer, how they manage it and exchange ideas on how to remedy it. A time dedicated to talking about oneself, for oneself.

Follow-up to the Istanbul networking encounter

Two meetings followed the regional networking meeting in Turkey, bringing together a dozen representatives of associations. The first, in July, provided an opportunity to discuss the follow-up to the statement in support of Palestinian women and the relevance of creating a new coalition. At the second, in November, the coordinator of WHRD MENA presented the coalition, arousing the interest of several associations, which took steps to join.

Network of Lebanese associations

Two meetings were held to continue the work initiated with Lebanese feminist associations at the Beirut meeting in May 2023. These exchanges enabled the link to be maintained, despite the impossibility of a face-to-face workshop, and to deepen reflection on the creation of a structured network of associations. At the end of the second meeting, a consensus emerged on the need for a flexible network with rotating coordination and online communications tools, as well as gradual support towards a more formal structure. In addition, in September we organized a meeting bringing together a dozen or so women's associations from Lebanon to take stock of the situation, following the escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hezbollah and the intensification of bombings across the country. This enabled us to gain a better understanding of the urgent need of the associations, in order to respond to them and mobilize our donor partners to come to their aid.

Susan Treadwell Memorial Awards

A virtual Susan Treadwell Memorial Awards ceremony was held, during which the 16 winners and their nominators gathered, spoke and celebrated this prestigious recognition award.

Network of French associations from lower-income neighborhoods

We have set up a regular series of monthly meetings bringing together members of the network around key themes: the fight against racism, female genital mutilation, the difficulties encountered in a context of growing impoverishment, police violence... and many other subjects.

03

FOCUS AREA

03

TRAINING TO TRANSMIT AND CONSOLIDATE

Since 2013, The MedWF has set up the Feminist Training in Collective Intelligence (FTIC), which was born out of an observation shared in feminist movements: despite their dynamism and skills, many activists and organizations encounter obstacles linked to a lack of self-confidence, conflict management, communication or cooperation.

18



19

FTIC

The Feminist Training in Collective Intelligence

SOME FIGURES

14
training
sessions

COUNTRIES:
*France, Tunisia,
Morocco, Algeria,
Croatia.*

212

feminist activists trained.

Following the training, some participants set up their own associations or collectives, while others replicated the training in their country, as was the case with the feminist school in Algeria.

The FTIC offers a space for individual and collective resourcing and strengthening, to get to know each other better, support each other and create lasting links between activists. It aims to strengthen individuals, organizations and the feminist movement as a whole. This training was initially mainly aimed at the younger generation of feminists, although we invited a few older activists to the last session held in Morocco in 2023.

In 2024, our trainers contributed to the Feminist School launched in Algiers, and ran several workshops in France and Algeria, notably on self-esteem, the inner emotional weather forecast and the relational charter.



Focus



Training of Trainers in Croatia

We wanted to adapt the FTIC to the realities and needs of the Croatian context and, for the first time, the training was open to several generations of activists.

Thus, in November, 24 women from various Croatian feminist associations came together for two days of exchanges and training. The project arose from a need expressed at a meeting in Zagreb in 2023: the need to create a feminist school to strengthen the commitment of young women in Croatia. The meeting took the form of a training course for trainers, focusing on collective intelligence. Participants shared experiences, discussed tools for strengthening feminist leadership, and worked on themes such as self-esteem, the strength of the collective, and how to manage relationships within a group.

At the end, participants hailed this collective breath of energy. In a context that is often heavy, they appreciated the opportunity to reconnect with core feminist values. They now plan to repeat these workshops among themselves, to strengthen cooperation between the 40+ member associations, resolve internal tensions and perhaps even lay the foundations for a future summer university.

Trainings follow-up

Since 2013, the Feminist Trainings in Collective Intelligence aim to strengthen young women's power to act by offering them a space to get to know themselves, consolidate and anchor themselves in the feminist movement. Individualized follow-up is set up after each training course: sharing of opportunities, networking, recommendations, custom support and reminders of the tools transmitted. This support extends the impact of training over time and supports activist trajectories.



04

FOCUS AREA

04

STRATEGIC ADVOCACY: MOBILIZING INSTITUTIONS AND DONORS

Against a backdrop of rising anti-gender movements and budget cuts, the MedWF has continued to advocate towards the major French and European institutions to increase the proportion of their budgets allocated to gender equality and to ensure that organizations working for women's rights, directly or via feminist funds which support them most closely, receive more funding and that this funding is more accessible, flexible, non-binding and sustainable.



01

France

Towards major institutions

Once again, this year, the MedWF continued to advocate that French institutional funding should target the priorities decided by feminist groups, that it should be flexible and that accountability mechanisms should be as light as possible. This work is carried out at various levels: alongside members of the "Feminists in Action" Consortium, funded by the Support Fund for Feminist Organizations (SFFO), and on the SFFO Steering Committee, since one of our members has been invited to join. Her mission is to provide expertise on the transformative aspects of the SFFO, on its overall operation and on its orientations.

In parallel, and as part of the renewal of France's international strategy for feminist diplomacy, the MedWF was asked this year, by the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (MEFA), to participate in a working group on "feminist activists". The aim was to contribute, along with other civil society organizations, to identifying priorities and specific objectives to ensure full, equal and meaningful participation by French-speaking women and feminist activists in international decision-making processes, and to reflect on the different types of support to be provided to them, particularly in situations of crises and the rise of anti-gender movements in the world. This work has led to the MedWF's participation in a new consortium, funded by the SFFO, alongside Equipop and the International Federation for Human Rights. The aim of this consortium is to strengthen the structuring, participation, influence, networking and funding of French-speaking feminist organizations in multilateral forums, in particular to combat "anti-rights" movements internationally. This work could lead to the creation and consolidation of a Francophone Feminist Alliance.

In addition, as part of the Feminists in Action project supported by the French Development Agency (FDA), consortium members organized a new advocacy week in Paris, in April. The aim of this campaign was, in particular, to engage in dialogue with French political decision-makers about the operation and sustainability of the SFFO, as well as to feed the French government's reflections on its feminist diplomacy.

A delegation of some fifteen representatives of feminist associations supported under the project was invited to Paris and met with representatives of the MEFA, the FDA and members of parliament.

AMONG THE RECOMMENDATIONS MADE:

- 01 Perpetuate sufficient resources for feminist organizations, targeting local organizations, which are the actors of change.
- 02 Set up flexible, tailored funding (based on priorities defined by feminist organizations themselves).
- 03 Streamline administrative management and accountability procedures.

A second trip took place, from October 30 to November 4, as part of the Francophonie Festival, with a round-table discussion on the careers of feminist activists. On each of these occasions, the MedWF organized meetings between the delegations and private funders and French feminist partners.

With private donors

The Coalition for a Feminist Philanthropy (CFP), of which the MedWF is a founding member, has had the mission, since its creation, of advocating towards private funds and foundations in France with the aim of succeeding in increasing resources to support gender equality in the face of the rise of anti-rights movements, among other things.

To date, more than 13 foundations have joined the coalition. In order to refine its strategy and, ultimately, mobilize better and more resources, the CFP has launched a wide-ranging study designed to take stock of the place gender equality occupies in the funding strategy of private funds and foundations in France in all their diversity. The results are expected in March 2025.

At

02

international level

Feminist funds play a key role in developing advocacy campaigns aimed at convincing major institutions and various philanthropic entities (foundations, companies, patrons, institutions, etc.) to give greater support to the women's movement worldwide, work to which the MedWF actively contributes within Prospera – the International Network of Women's Funds.

We have thus continued our efforts with the European Union (EU), further developing the "Knocking on EU's Door" project, aimed at convincing the European Commission of the importance of funding women's funds and feminist organizations, and facilitating access to funding dedicated to gender equality. For several years now, the European Union has been pursuing two major strategic orientations concerning gender equality: in internal politics, the European Gender Equality Strategy and, in external politics, the Gender Action Plan III (GAP III), the results of which have fallen short of expectations.

The MedWF and Ecumenical Women's Initiative were joined in 2024 by two other women's funds, from Armenia and Bulgaria, to strengthen the group coordinating this project led by all European women's funds. The latter continued its intensive work with the advocacy expert who has been accompanying them for several years to establish communication and connections with key institutions, working groups and advisory committees, both at the European Commission and among the members of the European Parliament.

THE GENERAL OBJECTIVE IS TO DRIVE ADVOCACY WITH THE EU FOR:

- 01 More funding for women's rights/gender equality.
- 02 More flexible support women's and feminist funds and grassroots organizations.

THIS ADVOCACY ACTIVITY IS NOW YIELDING RESULTS:

- An opening towards securing a long-term policy, partnerships and funding from EU institutions, in order to maximize the visibility and impact of Prospera's Women's Funds Europe (WFE) network.
- The successful preparation and development of a dialogue with stakeholders by WFE on mobilizing funds for the women's movement, within the framework of GAP III.
- The definition of financial interventions for GAP III for the duration of the program up to 2025.
- The definition of a clear role for the involvement of European women's funds in GAP III - the EU's external strategy covering all countries outside the EU (neighboring countries, Africa, Asia and the Americas) and the European Strategy for equality between men and women.

THIS HAS BEEN REALIZED DURING 2024, BY:

- An event at the European Union Parliament in Brussels, in March, with the organization of a panel on mobilizing funds for feminist movements through the European Monetary Fund. The panel discussed how to strengthen the voice of feminist movements in Europe ahead of the new European elections in July, whose results raised fears of a major setback for human rights in general and women's rights in particular. With over 60 participants, the event cemented impact and the women's funds publicized their "Manifesto for change – EU Elections 2024" and issued a strong call to action for long-term funding of women's funds in Europe.
- Participation in the online session of the European Commission's Directorate-General for International Partnerships, in collaboration with the Development Policy Forum, on July 9. This session was part of the structured dialogue on the implementation of the EU's GAP III in favor of gender equality. It was a platform for discussion on how to foster strategic engagement of EU delegations with civil society organizations and local authorities on gender equality and women's empowerment in the implementation of GAP III/ Implementation Plans at national level. This was an opportunity to present the feminist funds model.
- The CERV Program ("Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values"), on which the feminist funds advocacy had some action: the information meetings, with the special advisor teams of three Commissioners and the directorates responsible, on the feminist funds funding model made it possible to open up funding possibilities to women's civil society organizations, within the framework of the CERV program.

Levers to amplify our impact

26

Carrying our voices:
our communications actions

30

Building sustainable financial
solidarity

32

A strong organization
to face the future

33

Conclusion – opening

34

Our 2024 finances:
key points

Carrying our voices: our communications actions

01

Making our action visible and feminist voices heard

Website

→ <https://www.medwomensfund.org/>

+265% page views and 59% more visits

Key content: associations supported, letters appealing for donations

Objective: making our impact visible and facilitating access to our resources

Biannual newsletter

2 newsletters / year (FR + EN)

+3,300 recipients





Opening rate: 44%

Format: web + paper

Objective: maintaining links with individual donors and partners

Social media

Overall objective: *informing, promoting associations, mobilizing support*

	FOLLOWERS	FREQUENCY / OBJECTIVE	PARTICULARITY
	4,800+	1-2 posts / week	81% women, Maghreb/Europe audience
	1,597	Growth +38 %	Visual focus: groundwork, updates, activists
	2,558	Professional, job offers	Frequent shares from partners
	Account closed at the end of 2024		Ethical positioning assumed

02

Creating collective moments

2024 Photo competition

As part of our awareness-raising initiatives, we launched a photo competition on the theme: "The street belongs to us too!". In a world where the street is dominated and thought of by and for men, this competition aimed to highlight the diversity of women's experiences of imposing themselves on it, and to reaffirm that the street is a place where everyone should feel legitimate, free and safe. Around one hundred photos were received from all around the Mediterranean.

A jury made up of professionals and representatives of associations met to select the three winners of the competition. Moved by the quality and strength of some of the entries, the jury was keen to award a special "favorite" prize, in addition to the other prizes.

→ Find out more about the entries at: <https://bit.ly/3ZTRs2s>



Meetings with Friends of the Fund

In Paris and Montpellier, we regularly organize gatherings to which we invite those we call the Friends of the Fund (supporters, volunteers, donors, associations, young women trained...) to present our areas of work, training courses and strategic reflection meetings, and to inform about developments in fundraising: they are an opportunity to exchange opinions and ideas that feed the team's reflection. These meetings are essential. On the one hand, they help to strengthen our ties with our growing number of supporters and, on the other, to enable them to become more involved in our activities.

→ **In Montpellier**, where the Friends of Funds have formed a collective, we met on February 14. It gave us the opportunity to explain the impact of the earthquake in Morocco and the war in Palestine on our partners on the ground, how they have coped with these crises, what were their needs, how the MedWF has helped them as well as what role we can play in reconstruction. We also explained how we proceed when a crisis arises because, as time goes by, we have developed and fine-tuned emergency procedures. We also presented Medfeminiswiya.

→ **In Paris**, on July 9, we had the pleasure of organizing a Friends of the Funds gathering, attended by around thirty participants, including members of partner associations, donors, funders, and other MedWF friends. This event was an opportunity for us to introduce the new members of our team and to present our projects, past and future activities, as well as the objectives for the current year, while strengthening the ties that unite our network of supporters.



"News from their home" evening

On March 9, the "News from their home" evening brought together many people in Montpellier to celebrate women's struggles in the Mediterranean.

Feminist testimonials, music and a buffet set the pace for this festive event of solidarity. The funds raised from this evening organized by three associations (Identités et Partage, AVA and MedWF) were donated to the MedWF for redistribution to our grantee-partners.

"Feminist struggles in the Mediterranean" conference

On March 7, the conference "Feminist struggles in the Mediterranean" was held at La Carmagnole in Montpellier. Caroline Brac de la Perrière took stock of feminist struggles, seven years after #MeToo and more than ten years after the Arab Spring. Discussions highlighted common struggles, local specificities and the circulation of feminist ideas across the Mediterranean region.

Cocktail reception

On March 26, at the Cité Audacieuse in Paris, we brought together over sixty people - associations and donors - for an event dedicated to discovering the specificities of a women's fund. Through the testimonies of six partner associations, we illustrated the impact of funding that is truly adapted to their needs: flexible, accessible and designed to reinforce their autonomy. Whether in the form of loans or grants, this model meets actual needs from the field.

Online meetings between individual donors and associations

For the third year, we organized virtual meetings between individual donors and associations, with the aim of forging links between activists on both shores of the Mediterranean. By inviting grantee-partners to come and introduce themselves and exchange ideas, these meetings enable us to strengthen our links and to make them known to our donors. They are designed to be participative, and the public is invited to take part, after the description of the context in which the associations carry out their actions, as well as their many struggles.

The first, on February 15, addressed the crucial role of women's organizations in the face of natural disasters. Guzide Diker, from Mesopotamia Women Journalist Platform in Turkey, and Najat Ikchich, from the Ytto Foundation in Morocco, shared their experiences on the actions carried out after the devastating earthquakes of 2023. These crises highlighted the need for women's associations to adapt quickly to meet the specific needs of women and girls, often overlooked in humanitarian

emergencies. This exchange enabled us to better understand their strategies and the challenges encountered on the ground and how the MedWF has been able to support them during disasters and reconstruction.

The second, on October 23, focused on the consequences of the rise of the extreme right on women's organizations in the Mediterranean. Marta Luceno Moreno, from the Beity association in Tunisia, who now lives in Spain, and Rada Boric, from the Center for Women Studies in Croatia, shared their experiences of the challenges faced by feminist associations in Tunisia, Spain and Croatia.

The discussion highlighted the growing threats to women's rights and the need for a relentless struggle to preserve our gains. The exchange provided a better understanding of the strategies put in place by feminist associations in the face of the rise of extremist movements, as well as the need for donors to continue supporting them.

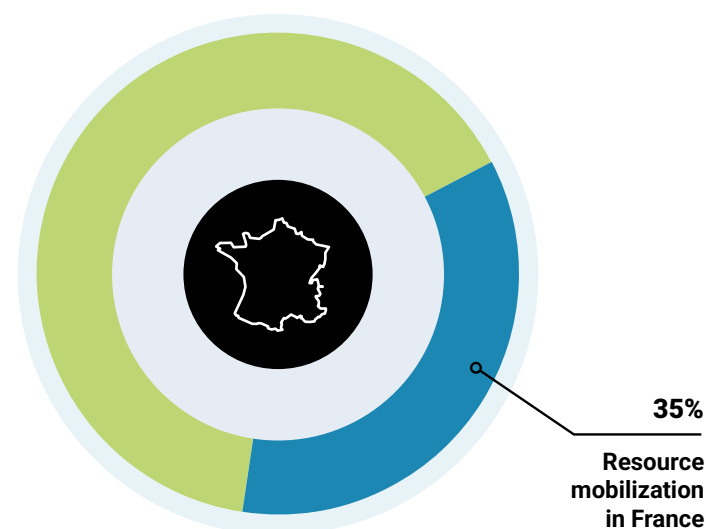


Building sustainable financial solidarity

In France: a solid and diverse base

Fundraising in France represents around 35% of our resources in 2024. It relies on three types of funders: public institutions, private foundations and individual donors.

OUR RESOURCES IN 2024



01

Public authorities and institutions

The MedWF continues to work with public partners, notably via the French Development Agency's Support Fund for Feminist Organizations.

In 2024, the Feminists in Action project came to an end, having supported ten associations in North Africa and the Middle East.

We also joined the Francophone Feminist Alliance, a new project launched in partnership with Equipop and the FIDH, which aims to strengthen the voice of French-speaking feminists in multilateral spaces. It is due to start in January 2025.

02

Private foundations

Although few in France support women's rights, some partner foundations provide us with loyal support, both for general operations and for specific projects, such as collective intelligence training. Their flexibility, particularly in times of crisis, is invaluable in enabling us to adapt our actions to urgent needs on the ground.

03

Individual donors

Individual solidarity remains an essential pillar of our funding. This year, the generosity of our donors reached an unprecedented level (54% more than in 2023). Many of them increased their regular donations and responded particularly well to our two appeals for donations.

Internationally: decisive and committed support

International funding makes up the majority of our resources, with regular and strategic support.

01

Private foundations and women's funds

We benefit from multi-year grants from several major international donors and women's funds.

These often non-earmarked funds enable us to reinforce our autonomy, structure our team and carry out our activities over the long term.

In addition, several partners have renewed their commitment to support specific projects:

- Knocking on EU's door, in partnership with the European women's funds.
- Susan Treadwell Memorial Awards, for European activists.
- Feminist leadership and organizational development, with Calala women's funds.

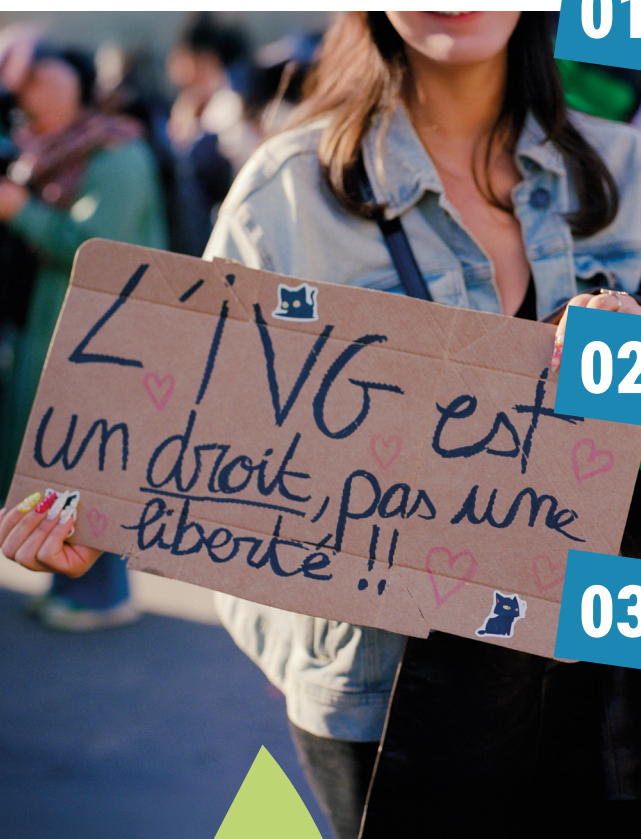
02

European funds

We obtained our first funding from the European Union for the SEE Change project, which began at the start of the year, with our partners Calala (Spain) and Ecumenical Women's Initiative (Croatia). It has enabled to award 22 grants to associations in six countries (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Greece, France and Italy) to combat violence against women.

Additional leverage: in-kind support

Volunteer involvement and material donations also represent significant support. In 2024, these contributions were estimated at nearly 40,000 euros.





32

A strong organization to face the future

The MedWF team includes paid staff and members of the Board of Directors, whose role is central to the Fund's strategy, management and outreach.

This collective governance, rich in complementary backgrounds, strengthens the MedWF's capacity for action.

We also rely on our network of advisors, our pillars, present in all the Mediterranean countries, who actively contribute to bringing our mission to life and growing across the Mediterranean.

Forging feminist paths in a world in crisis

Regressive context and need for adaptation

Throughout the year, the Mediterranean Women's Fund had to operate in an increasingly regressive context, having to demonstrate adaptation and flexibility and thus facing a significant workload, while juggling its own internal evolutions.

2024, a year of transition and transmission

In fact, 2024 was a year of transition and transmission, with preparations for a change in management in 2025. Amina Izarouken and Marion Duquesne, co-Deputy Directors, assisted Caroline Brac de la Perrière, co-Founder and Director since the creation of the MedWF, throughout the year, to learn about the various duties and responsibilities of their future co-directorship.

Overall, the emphasis was placed on transmission, both for the paid staff and for the Board of Directors, who have been getting younger for several years, as well as in the MedWF's activities.

Towards a co-Direction

We were thus able to lay the foundations for a new mode of shared management, based on a feminist organization of work that we have been constantly reflecting on and improving since our creation.

Implementing the values we stand for

More than ever, in the face of the brutality of the world, we have found it fundamental to continue implementing the world we want within our organization, defining processes and working methods respectful of human beings, a task that is not easy when we are increasingly working under pressure and our team is directly affected by the situation in the world and, particularly, in our region.

This is why strengthening our operating methods and the practice of collective and individual care in our work will be at the heart of our priorities for 2025.

Faced with conservative offensives, strengthening the women's movement

Faced with conservative and anti-rights movements from all sides, ever stronger and better organized, we owe it to ourselves to work even more to strengthen the women's movement, by equipping those who fight to defend our rights, by seeking out and giving them the financial means to do so, by consolidating networks, by forging links that know no borders and by seeking to ensure the survival of associations and groups that are on the front line, in every way possible.

An assertive strategy for the future

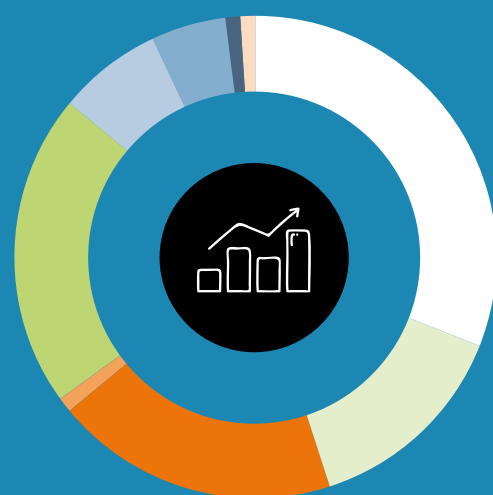
These are the guidelines we have set ourselves with our new strategic plan, which we began implementing in 2024 and which will be at the heart of our action in 2025.

33



OUR 2024 FINANCES: KEY POINTS

INCOME

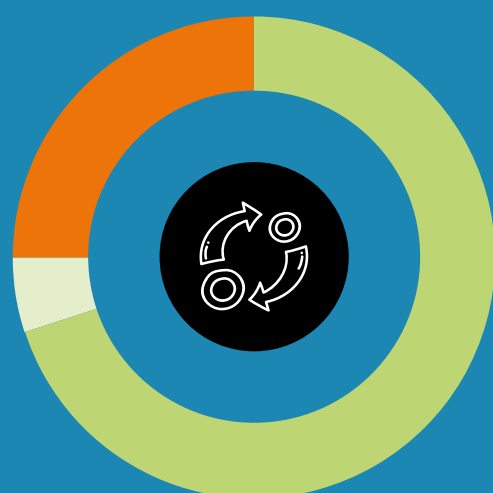


The majority of the MedWF funding comes from international actors, such as private foundations, multilateral donors and women's funds.

French corporate foundations account for the bulk of resources raised locally.

- 32% International private foundations
- 14% International women's funds
- 19% International multilateral donors
- 0.3% French private foundations
- 21% French corporate foundations
- 7% French bilateral donor
- 5% Individual donors/Lilo
- 1.3% Miscellaneous (Events, bank, etc.)
- 0.5% In-kind contributions

EXPENSES



The MedWF's expenses are mainly directed towards strengthening the women's movement. A portion is also devoted to communications and resource mobilization, as well as to the operating costs of the Fund.

- 70% Strengthening the women's movement
- 5% Communications and resource mobilization
- 25% Operating costs

Thank you

To the friends who are with us, to our advisors,
to the loyal donors who support us,

**FOR YOUR TRUST,
YOUR COMMITMENT
AND YOUR GENEROSITY!**

**AGAINST DEMOCRATIC SETBACKS,
LET'S STRENGTHEN OUR SOLIDARITY.
FIGHT, SUPPORT, RESIST.**

Design and layout: Agence Intrépide

Photos: Saad Ali, Castelanne Aurèle, Lucia D'Apote, Hadjara Kahina, Ophélie Delmas, Cheinet Manon, Hildegard Leloué, Toni Perez, Abdualrhman Adriano, Juliette Dupuis Carle, Fouad Maazouz, X-rights reserved




Fonds pour les Femmes en Méditerranée

5, rue Marceau
34000 Montpellier
France

info@medwomensfund.org
www.medwomensfund.org

