Women’s organisations and mobilisation
Supporting the foundational drivers of gender equality

Much of what is now considered ‘normal’ in terms of women’s rights is the result of decades of activism.

Women’s movements improve the situation for all by resisting gender inequality and injustice. They challenge gendered expectations and roles, and demand an end to sexist oppression.

What have women’s movements achieved?
- Women’s right to vote
- Equal pay legislation and workforce rights
- Legal frameworks to address men’s violence against women

What issues do women’s movements work on today?
- Sexual and reproductive health and rights
- Women’s right to a life free from violence
- Economic empowerment – fair pay and decent work; asset ownership (property and land rights); access to financial and childcare services

By employing the following strategies
- Lobbying governments
- Occupying the street
- Creating activist art
- Running workshops
- Raising awareness

Women’s movements are underfunded – they receive less than 1% of ODA

Women’s organisations and movements work across multiple spaces, enabling changes to take root and last.

How can funders better support women’s movements?
- Build alliances and solidarity with diverse groups and funders to maximise impact.
- Go beyond finance to support networking and collaboration.
- Be participatory and seek input from women’s groups on their needs and experiences.
- Enable longer-term, more flexible and core funds to support administrative costs, rather than project-based funding.
- Support greater connections with women’s funds and work to influence other donors.
- Support different forms of women’s mobilisation, including women’s participation in broader social and environmental movements.