

OAK FOUNDATION



Annual Report 2016

Our mission

Oak Foundation commits its resources to address issues of global, social and environmental concern, particularly those that have a major impact on the lives of the disadvantaged.

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Our history



Since its establishment, Oak Foundation has made about

4,000

grants to not-for-profit organisations across the globe.

The resources of Oak Foundation originated from an interest in the Duty Free Shoppers business which Alan Parker helped to build. Today, the Foundation comprises a group of philanthropic organisations based in various countries around the world.

Oak Foundation was formally established in 1983. Early grants were made in Denmark to organisations supporting single mothers and torture victims (1983) and in Zimbabwe to groups supporting vulnerable children and families, primarily at community levels (1984). Grants continued to be made annually in several countries until a new phase for Oak Foundation began in the early 1990s, when annual grant-making increased and staff were hired to run substantive programmes.

The first two programmes to get underway were Environment and Child Abuse, followed by four other programmes – Housing and Homelessness, International Human Rights, Issues Affecting Women and Learning Differences.

There is also a Special Interest Programme, which funds efforts identified by the Trustees that do not fall into the other programme areas, and two national programmes in Denmark and Zimbabwe. Five of Oak's programmes also fund initiatives in India, and in 2012, Oak Foundation joined this work under the banner of the Joint India Programme.

In 2016, Oak started the Joint Brazil Programme, which focuses on promoting citizen security and civic participation, protecting urban spaces and improving mobility among disadvantaged communities in the Recife Metropolitan area in Brazil.

Since its establishment, Oak Foundation has made almost 4,000 grants to not-for-profit organisations across the globe. Oak Foundation has its main administrative office in Geneva, Switzerland and a presence in seven other countries: Bulgaria, Denmark, India, Tanzania, the United Kingdom, the United States and Zimbabwe.

Letter from the Trustees

2016 was a tumultuous year for the world – and for the issues on which we work. Political change, social upheaval, conflict among peoples and ideologies, brutal wars, continued migration flows – we saw it all. Like all organisations, Oak Foundation struggled to understand and to adjust its strategies in response to external events. We provided well over USD 217 million in grant-making. This included USD 20 million in a special initiative grant to form the Climate Justice Resilience Fund. We also: formalised a new area of grant-making – illegal wildlife trade; launched a new programme – the Joint Brazil Programme; and responded to feedback from our grantees through our second Grantee Perception Survey.

This report highlights this grant-making and some of the most significant challenges our partners faced. They include:

- **Putting children on the agenda of the world's most powerful institutions.** Our partners have succeeded in getting the World Bank to add the needs and concerns of vulnerable groups to its new economic and social standards. This resulted in swift action in the wake of a report of sexual abuse and exploitation in a World Bank road construction project in Africa. Similar efforts are underway with mega-sporting institutions.
- **Ridding our oceans of plastics.** Without dramatic action, there will be one kilogram of plastics for every kilogram of fish in the world's oceans by 2050. We are working with a broad coalition of partners to: redesign plastic for multiple rather than single-use purposes; encourage companies to find alternatives to plastic packaging that support rather than destroy the environment; and promote zero-waste disposal facilities. We remain committed to joining the global movement to change society's perception and use of plastics.
- **Protecting migrants from destitution.** In the UK, we are helping partners to reach out to the most vulnerable newcomers in big cities and to advocate for approaches that prioritise access to shelter and basic services. In Denmark, our partners offer safe spaces to migrant sex-workers trapped in exploitative situations who lack access to basic healthcare. In other countries, we support groups that: protect migrants' rights to due process and freedom from arbitrary detention; adopt rights-based approaches to helping victims of trafficking; and promote the rights of internal migrants fleeing destitution and injustice.
- **Improving the lives of women.** We continue to support efforts to address the root causes of inequality and to ensure that women across the world are safe from violence and free to exercise their human rights. This year our programmes worked with: a network of shelters that protect victims of domestic violence in Mexico; two global coalitions that improve responses to trafficking and severe forms of exploitation; groups that help women escape abusive marriages and work conditions in India; and organisations that support the upgrading of women's skills – as construction workers in India and as care-givers in Zimbabwe.
- **Ending impunity for gross violators of human rights.** Supporting organisations to hold perpetrators to account for gross violations of human rights and provide victims with the redress to which they are entitled continues to be a priority. This year saw a number of unprecedented human rights victories including: the guilty verdict for high-level Argentinean officials involved in mass torture, killings and the abduction of children; the imprisonment of President Hissène Habré of Chad for the deaths of over 40,000 people in the 1980s; and the victory for the

Sepuro Zarco women who were subjected to sexual slavery by the Guatemalan military in the 1980s. We hope that these victories send a strong message of hope to those who continue to live in fear and deprivation.

- **Helping all students reach their potential.** We supported partners to use personalised learning. If used well, it can: build the skills and understanding of teachers of a wider spectrum of learners; empower students to advocate for their needs; and create environments that bring these two together. We will be making major investments in this area in 2017. In addition, we are supporting an innovative, online university that aims to transform higher education from a privilege for the few to a basic right, affordable and accessible to all. Thousands of students – whose income or circumstances made higher education a distant dream – are now earning university degrees.

All these efforts are works in progress and we are not naïve about the tasks ahead. But we remain optimistic, inspired by our partners' determination and the progress described in this report.

The Trustees of Oak Foundation:

Caroline Turner, Kristian Parker, Natalie Shipton, Jette Parker, Alan Parker, Christopher Parker

Our grant-making in 2016

All amounts provided represent US dollars in millions.

We made

354

programme grants to

334

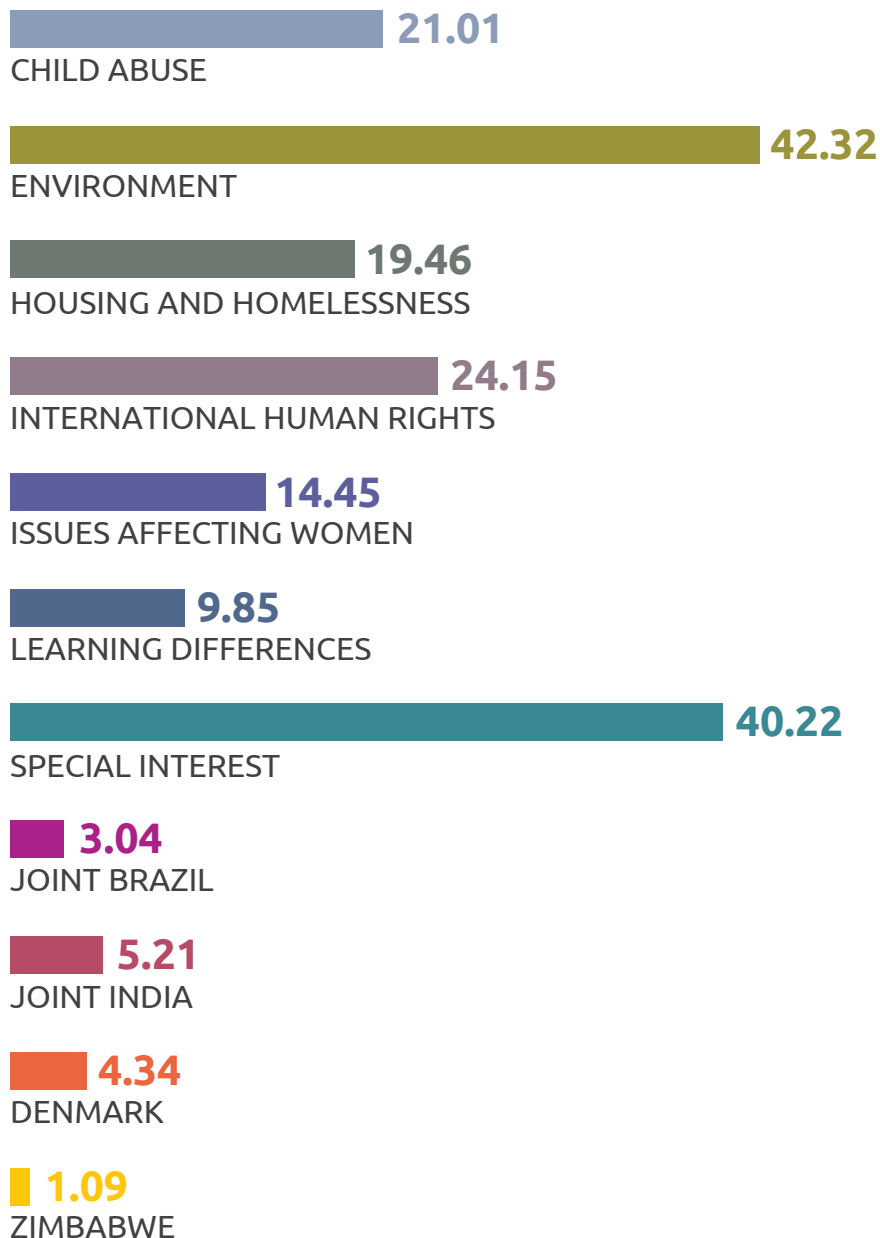
organisations in

37

countries.

During the 2016 calendar year, Oak Foundation made 353 programme grants for a total of USD 185.14 million. In addition, a Special Initiative grant was made for a total of USD 20 million. These grants supported 334 organisations based in 37 countries. The work of these organisations is carried out throughout the world. Not including the Special Initiative grant, the size of grants varied from approximately USD 25,000 to USD 6.4 million, with an average of USD 524,000.

Total programme and discretionary grant-making in 2016

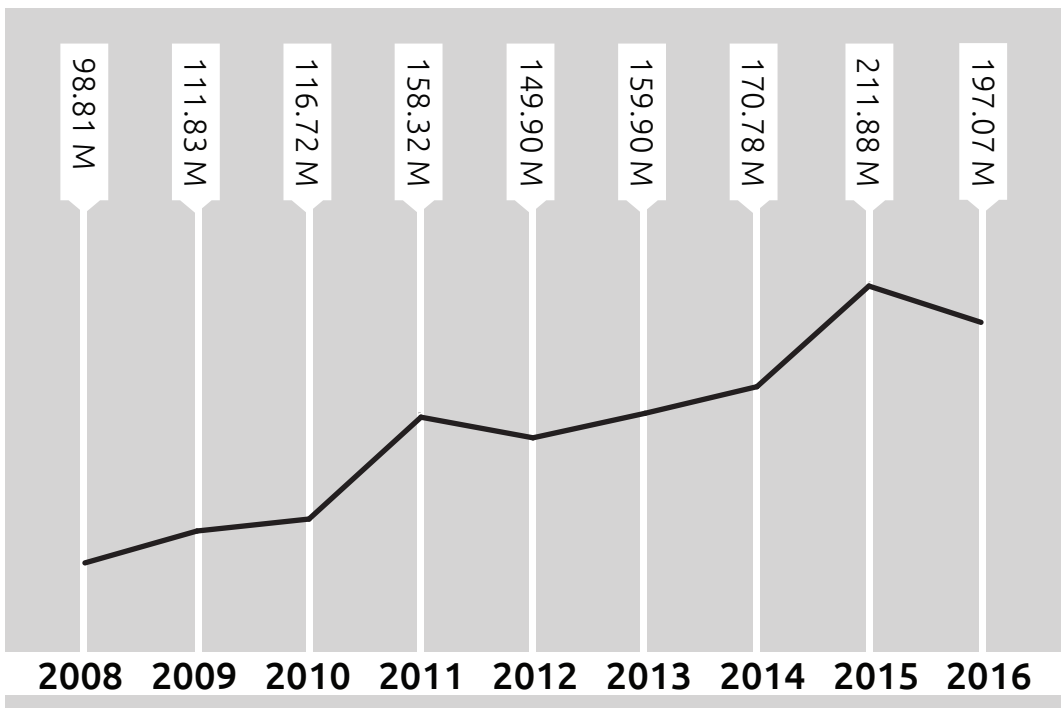


185.14 M	Total programme grants
11.99 M	Discretionary grants
(0.06 M)	Refunds and cancellations
197.07 M	TOTAL REGULAR GRANT-MAKING
20.00 M	Special Initiative*
217.07 M	NET AMOUNT GRANTED

In 2016, Oak's grant-making included a USD 20 million Special Initiative grant.

This contribution to climate justice was made in the hope that the resilience of communities most impacted by climate change will be reinforced.

Total regular grant-making 2008-2016



*The above chart does not include Special Initiative grants.



A searchable grant database containing grants approved in previous years, grant-making criteria and application information is available on Oak Foundation's website (www.oakfnd.org/grants).

Capacity building

Capacity development is all about people and their ability to capitalise on their skills and environment.

A values-based approach

Oak Foundation supports initiatives that develop the capacity of its partners to carry out their work more effectively. This year we have focused on our values-based approach to capacity building and organisational development.

“Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime.” This oft-quoted saying is particularly apt when considering the values behind capacity building at Oak. Through **participatory, collaborative** and **empowering** capacity building, Oak helps organisations identify areas of strength and weakness and provides tools and advisory support to build up these areas. This is done with the aim of supporting our partners to make the greatest possible impact for many years to come.


By focusing on participatory, collaborative and empowering capacity building, Oak supports its partners to shape their own paths. “This means that rather than presenting our partners with solutions and telling them how it should be, we encourage them to find the answers through participatory processes such as self-assessment and co-designing intervention actions,” said Adriana Craciun, senior adviser on organisational development and capacity building at Oak.

Trag

Trag Foundation, a Serbian organisation working to strengthen the sustainability of women’s organisations in the Balkans, is an Oak partner that exemplifies the participatory, collaborative and empowering approach to capacity building among its own partners. “Our process involves personal visits, where the whole team, including board members if they wish, get together and participate in workshops to discuss key issues and priorities,” said Tanja Bjelanovic, development director at Trag. On a recent meeting with some of its partners she said, “they appreciated that we didn’t impose the issues. While at first some of them were a bit stressed knowing we were donors, they soon felt

relieved when they realised there was no judgement.”

The participatory approach is very successful, not least because it gives partners much-needed space for self-reflection. Oak makes sure that the grantees have the necessary support i.e., funds, good consultants and facilitators who use appropriate tools and strategies.

 **“The participatory approach helps ensure ownership of problems and their solutions. Change is then transformative from within and not just on the surface for the donor’s benefit.”**

– Adriana Craciun,
Oak’s senior adviser on
organisational development and
capacity building

Facilitating inter-connectedness and collaboration is a vital element of capacity building. “Our partners see a lot of value, not only in the content, but in the opportunity to exchange information among themselves,” said Natalija Simovic, manager of the Regional Issues Affecting Women Programme at Trag.

Semillas

Semillas is a Women’s Fund in Mexico dedicated to protecting and empowering women. This year Semillas launched its new strategic plan for 2016-2021. Oak has been not only the funder of the process but also a trusted adviser along the way. The ambitious plan, carried out in collaboration with Semillas’ staff, board of directors, current and former grantees, consultants and strategic allies, seeks to strengthen further its connection to the feminist movement in Mexico. This plan is an example of Oak’s value-based approach in practice.

“We believe that the collective power generated by organised women who are building momentum in local communities throughout Mexico will lead to broader structural changes,” said Jenny Barry, head of development at Semillas.

The ultimate goal of capacity building is to empower organisations. Capacity

Accessing other forms of funding

development should, therefore, be delivered through practitioners or providers who have the right values, attitudes and behaviour, as well as the appropriate techniques. Providers should be:

- respectful towards and inclusive of participants;
- truthful while encouraging authenticity among clients;
- collaborative; and
- client-centred.

Atina

We believe that capacity building works best when organisations take ownership and responsibility – and are committed to ongoing efforts during and after the grant.

Oak is committed to empowering its partners to access other forms of funding. Atina, a Serbian women’s rights organisation that set up a small catering business called Bagel Бејрл (or Bagel Bagel), provides a good example of this in action. Organisations like Atina often struggle to be flexible in how they carry out their work, as much of the funding they receive is project-specific.

However, the income that Bagel Бејрл brings can be spent whichever way Atina sees best, without restriction. At the same time Bagel Бејрл hires women who are migrants or survivors of human trafficking, providing them with a secure place to work and earn money. This win-win arrangement is helping Atina to grow and become stronger and more financially independent. Atina is now scaling up this social enterprise with the help of Oak funding.

Creating lasting change

For Adriana Craciun “it’s the way you do capacity building that is the most important”. In other words, the core values embedded in Oak’s capacity building – participation, collaboration and empowerment – shape its success. By extension these same values have a wide-reaching impact on the work of the organisation. Successful value-based capacity building produces long lasting structural changes, rather than band-aid solutions.

Project-specific funding received by many social justice organisations can sometimes cause constraints in how they carry out their work. To get around this, Oak supported Atina, a Serbian women’s rights organisation, to set up a small catering business called Bagel Бејрл. The income that Bagel Бејрл generates can be spent as Atina sees best, without restriction.



Bagel Бејрл hires women who are migrants or survivors of human trafficking, providing them with a secure place to work and earn money. This win-win situation illustrates how women’s rights organisations can create revenue while carrying out their work.

BEJRL	60	KAVA ZA PNETH	60
INTEGRALNI BEJRL	80	CAJ FAIRTRADE	60
SLATKI BEJRL	70	LIMUNADA	140
BEJRL 6-PACK	300	VODA GAZIRANA	50



Child Abuse



Violence, abuse and exploitation of children are unfortunately not new. Forms of physical, sexual and emotional abuse of children have come to be recognised as crimes against children. The devastating consequences that violence has on children's development and on societies as a whole are coming to light.

In the Child Abuse Programme, we envision a world in which all children are protected from sexual abuse and sexual exploitation. We support initiatives that: eliminate the sexual exploitation of children; engage men and boys in combating the sexual abuse of children; and promote the prevention of violence against children.



Reflections

Ending the sexual abuse and exploitation of children is at the core of the Programme's work. At our team meeting in London this year a panel of three experts on child sexual abuse prevention confirmed our direction to focus on prevention.

Oak's aim to prevent the sexual abuse of children and adolescents will only be successful if it addresses the drivers of these crimes: power imbalances (men/women, adults/children); norms around gender, sexuality and sexual entitlement; lack of agency and voice in children; poverty and unequal life chances; and denial or collusion of those meant to protect children. While legal norms are fundamental to driving change at societal levels, it is often social norms and power dynamics within communities that are the biggest barriers to change.

Here we highlight three grants made to target the root causes of children selling sex to survive, pay for school fees, or to bring food and supplies into their mother's home:

In Tanzania, with **UNICEF**, Oak is testing whether a cluster of programmes combining and delivering livelihoods and economic support, sexual and reproductive health knowledge, and a cash transfer programme to families with out-of-school adolescents will have greater impact on reducing violence and sexual violence in these adolescents than single programmes would have. A second grant will implement new research findings by the **London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine** on

social and gender norms around the sexual exploitation of young adolescents. Through a cluster of projects in one region – most likely combining financial support, norms, agency and masculinities – it hopes to improve outcomes for adolescents at risk.

A third grant in Switzerland explores the agency of adolescents through a school survey of students' perceptions of sexual transactions, carried out by the **University of Fribourg**. More than 8,000 adolescents responded, providing new knowledge for agencies on preventing peer sexual transactions, while at the same time empowering young people to be part of the solution.

Now for some good news! The World Bank has finally put children's rights before the economic interests of a government. During a major Bank-funded road construction project in Uganda, many adolescents were sexually abused and exploited. The World Bank, armed with its new standards to protect vulnerable populations, was spurred into action by Ugandan communities. Government loans have been frozen and the needs of children and families are being addressed.

Aligning children's rights with the agenda of high-level institutions such as the World Bank and mega-sporting bodies like FIFA and the International Olympic Committee is an important strategy. It demonstrates that global institutions must respect the rights of the child – taking action to end sexual abuse and exploitation is part of that agenda.

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grants were made by the Child Abuse Programme in 2016, totalling USD 21.01 million.



Find out more at www.oakfnd.org



Why work with men and boys?

Hailu is a father of three living in the northern city of Bahir Dar in Ethiopia. During a discussion on fatherhood and what it means to be a father, he opened up about his own experiences. "One thing I remember about my father is that he provided for his family and made sure that all our needs were met," he said. "My father was a hardworking farmer and he wanted to make sure that his children have a better future. He raised us up to be respectable and was proud of our achievements."

However, sadly, Hailu is not able to remember any warm moments with his father where he felt connected with him.

“My father was always emotionally distant. I would like to have a close relationship with my children starting from a young age, but I find it hard to relate to my children as I do not really know how to do it.”

- Hailu
Father, Ethiopia

In many societies around the world, being a man is often equated with strength, dominance, discipline and being the breadwinner. There is a limited focus on men's involvement in the day-to-day care of children or being connected to them. Social expectations of what it means to be a man and how a father relates to his children, or fails to do so, can have far-reaching consequences on children, both positive and negative.

A number of studies show the benefits of male involvement in parenting. There is increasing evidence that in contexts where men have little engagement in child-rearing, increasing their involvement as parents leads to a change in men's behaviour and attitudes more generally. Research shows that fathers' involvement in children's upbringing often results in

improvements in children's educational performance. In addition, children are less likely to be violent or to become pregnant when teenagers. Their self-esteem grows and they have healthier relationships with the opposite sex.

Like Hailu, mentioned above, fathers in many communities around the world are increasingly showing a desire to be less distant and more involved in their children's lives. However, they often lack the confidence or the skills to engage with children, especially when they are young.

It's an art to be a father

Oak Foundation is funding programmes in several countries that aim to increase fathers' confidence. Here are two examples:

A study conducted by **Center Dardedze** in Latvia in 2014 showed that men do not consider themselves as equal partners to women in parenting and raising children but rather as assistants to mothers. However, more than two-thirds of the fathers involved in the study admitted they want to spend more time with their children and develop non-violent skills to discipline their children. Interestingly, the fathers mentioned their partners as the main barrier to being more closely engaged with their children. Despite the increasing number of men who are interested in becoming more active in their children's lives, there are still many men and women who believe that a man's role is to earn an income for the family and that a woman's role is to care for the children.

Based on the findings from the research in Latvia, Centre Dardedze and its partners developed a national media campaign entitled "It's an art to be a father", aimed at supporting men's caregiving and parenting roles. The campaign is currently implemented through television, radio, electronic media and the press and is estimated to have been viewed by about 82 per cent of the Latvian population.

In Uganda, the Responsible, Engaged and Loving (REAL) Fathers project, implemented by the **Georgetown University Institute of Reproductive**

Health and Save the Children, brought fathers together to participate in regular mentoring sessions. The fathers began to spend more time with their children, laughing, playing and enjoying them and their children showed less fear toward them. Despite these benefits, this behaviour change among the men was often criticised by family members, peers and neighbours.

Often, when the men took on more caregiving responsibilities in the household, they were ridiculed by their peers and in-laws and referred to as being "ruled over by the wife" or "becoming more of a woman and less of a man". While some men chose to ignore these pressures, others found it difficult and reverted to their usual ways of relating to their children by keeping distance and becoming less involved. One father in Uganda expressed the neighbour's reaction to his actions: "My neighbours were stunned seeing an adult man play with a child; I was being booed down but I ignored them. Spending time with my child is very important to me and I cherish it all the time."¹

Supporting fathers to be dads

Families, communities and governments need to reinforce the idea that fathers have a key role in raising children and also support fathers to play their role in full. In many countries around the world, policies tend to reinforce the perception of fathers as income earners with limited days available when a child is born. Providing paternity leave for fathers is one way in which governments can support men to get involved in caregiving early on, and also help challenge the societal view that men do not need to be around during and after the birth of their children.



The photographs throughout the Child Abuse Programme section of the report have been provided by our partners and illustrate the importance of the role that fathers play in the lives of their children.

Research shows that a father's involvement in children's upbringing often results in improvements in children's educational performance.

More than
2/3
of fathers
said they want
to develop
non-violent skills
to discipline
their children.

According to the State of the World's Fathers report², "92 countries offer leave that can be taken by new fathers", but millions working in the informal economy and on temporary contracts do not benefit from these leave arrangements. In addition, for those entitled to parental leave, the leave is less than three weeks in half of these 92 countries. This denies millions of children the benefits of building a relationship with their fathers from an early age.

Involving men in violence prevention

Globally, about one in ten girls under the age of 20 have experienced forced intercourse or other sexual acts, and one in three adolescent girls aged 15 to 19 have been victims of emotional, physical or sexual violence committed by their husbands or partners.³ Statistics repeatedly show that a large proportion of sexual violence against children is perpetrated by men. This does not mean that the vast majority of men are sexually abusing children nor supporting this action. However, while many men find these acts horrific, they rarely speak out against it.

Men and boys make up half of the population and play a significant role in shaping societal beliefs and views in private and public spaces. Men hold influential positions in society such as in business, the government, community and the media. They have a strong voice in shaping local and national discourse in the development and implementation of policies, in challenging social norms and perceptions towards children and in influencing decision-making both privately and in public.

Preventing the sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children requires the active involvement of men, boys, women and girls. To break the cycle of violence across generations, men and boys need to be mobilised and supported to develop gender-equitable attitudes; take part in non-violent parenting; and be positive role models for the younger generation.

Through a group of partners in Switzerland, the Child Abuse Programme is supporting work that

targets parents, young people (including army recruits) and school-aged children to develop positive gender attitudes and to challenge the socially accepted norm of violence against children. For example, **manner.ch** promotes gender equality through the "MenCare" programme in Switzerland; **Fondation Santé Sexuelle Suisse** promotes gender equality by teaching comprehensive sexuality education in schools and through an awareness and prevention campaign for young recruits in military training centres. In addition, the **Association Education Familiale** is strengthening the skills of early childhood professionals and parents of small children in sexuality education as a means to address and promote gender equality in childhood.

Oak Foundation's Child Abuse Programme recognises men and boys as strong allies to address all forms of violence against children. It believes that engaging men more deliberately and consciously will help create non-violent and safe environments for children. Indeed, any vision of a world where children can develop a healthy sense of belonging, form positive and trusting relationships and grow in a safe and empowering environment must consider the place and role of both fathers and men.

References

1. REAL Fathers Initiative, End Line Report, November 2015, Institute for Reproductive Health, Georgetown University; Save the Children.
2. Africa report: Van den Berg (ed.), (2015). State of Africa's Fathers: A MenCare Advocacy Publication. Adapted from Levkov R, van der Gaag N, Greene M, Kaufman M, and Barker G (2015). State of the World's fathers: a MenCare advocacy Publication. Washington, DC: Promundo, Rutgers, Save the Children, Sonke Gender Justice, and the MenEngage alliance.
3. United Nations Children's Fund, Hidden in Plain Sight: A statistical analysis of violence against children, UNICEF, New York, 2014, https://www.unicef.org/publications/index_74865.html (accessed 25 January 2017).

Grants



Ending the sexual exploitation of children

ECPAT International
USD 796,425 (24 months)
 To ensure that the issue of sexual exploitation of children is integrated into the Sustainable Development Goals implementation and monitoring plans.

Human Rights Watch
USD 250,000 (18 months)
 To provide core support to Human Rights Watch.

Institute for Human Rights and Business
USD 644,916 (33 months)
 To integrate human rights into all major sporting events, from bidding through to delivery and legacy.

London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
USD 1,435,286 (36 months)
 To prevent the sexual exploitation of children by promoting innovative programming based on social norm theory.

Promundo US
USD 321,761 (30 months)
 To conduct research to explore the role that social norms play in influencing the sexual exploitation of children and adolescents, with a view to improving programme and policy work in Brazil and around the world.

UNICEF - UK
USD 385,343 (28 months)
 To protect the rights of children in and around mega sporting events.

UNICEF Office of Research – Innocenti
USD 98,453 (10 months)
 To plan the design, pilot and evaluation of a "cash plus" intervention within the context of Tanzania's Productive Social Safety Net Programme.

UNICEF Office of Research – Innocenti
USD 1,929,089 (36 months)
 To mitigate the risk of violence to youth aged 15-24 in Tanzanian households.

University of Bedfordshire
USD 765,472 (36 months)
 To raise the profile of children's participation at European level in challenging and preventing sexual violence.

University of Oxford - Oxford Internet Institute
USD 236,452 (18 months)
 To find ways to work with the private sector to adopt and enforce protective standards to mitigate risks of online sexual abuse and exploitation of children.

Engaging men and boys in ending sexual abuse

Education Familiale
USD 247,503 (60 months)
 To strengthen the educational skills of parents and early childhood professionals in the French-speaking part of Switzerland on educating small children on sexuality.

Fondation Pro Juventute
USD 404,610 (36 months)
 To support Pro Juventute to develop Swiss national standards for child safeguarding for the leisure and sport associations.

International Institute of Social Studies of Erasmus University Rotterdam
USD 445,170 (24 months)
 To undertake a participatory research project among adolescents in Tanzania and Bulgaria exploring adolescents' perceptions of healthy relationships.

RADIX Fondation Suisse pour la promotion de la santé
USD 89,626 (10 months)
 To assess the conditions and needs for national implementation of the prevention project "Sortir Ensemble Et Se Respecter" on intimate partner violence among adolescents in Switzerland.

Santé Sexuelle Suisse
USD 737,602 (36 months)
 To advocate, promote and implement comprehensive sexuality education for children and adolescents in Switzerland.

Stop It Now!
USD 500,000 (60 months)
 To provide core support to Stop It Now! to prevent the sexual abuse of children by mobilising adults, families and communities in the United States to take actions that protect children before they are harmed.

Together for Girls
USD 499,029 (36 months)
 To increase understanding of boys' experiences of violence, including sexual abuse, and to strengthen their inclusion in global and country-level policy and programmes.

Women's Law Center
USD 86,690 (12 months)
 To develop an overall strategy to implement the findings of the IMAGES survey in Moldova and to build the capacity of stakeholders to support its implementation.



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© Petar Vutchev/MenCare Bulgaria

Preventing violence, protecting children

Action for Self Reliance Organization

USD 107,869 (36 months)

To strengthen the protective environment around children and promote their wellbeing in Hawassa city in Ethiopia.

African Child Policy Forum

USD 840,000 (36 months)

To prevent violence against children in Africa by gathering evidence and documenting existing work in Tanzania, Uganda and Ethiopia.

Association for Child and Family Empowerment "Ave Copiii"

USD 25,382 (6 months)

To conduct a survey on the risks that adolescents face in Chisinau, Moldova and, based on the results, facilitate services to fill the identified gaps and meet the needs.

Bulgarian School of Politics 'Dimitry Panitza'

USD 219,339 (36 months)

To increase the level of knowledge and skills of the leadership group in Bulgaria regarding child rights and the implications they have on policies for children.

Child Development Training and Research Centre

USD 200,859 (36 months)

To support churches in Ethiopia in protecting children and young people from abuse.

Child Welfare Network

USD 50,000 (12 months)

To strengthen the organisational capacity of the newly-established Latvian Child Welfare Network.

ChildFund Uganda

USD 420,000 (36 months)

To develop evidence-based interventions to prevent and respond to violence against children in Uganda with a specific focus on child sexual abuse and sexual exploitation.

Child-to-Child Trust

USD 659,679 (30 months)

To improve outcomes for children and to ensure accountability to children and their families through the operationalisation and full realisation of the Child Abuse Programme's six principles.

Columbia Group for Children in Adversity

USD 245,000 (36 months)

To improve children's wellbeing in Kenya through community-led child protection mechanisms and bottom-up approaches to strengthening national child protection systems.

For Our Children Foundation

USD 489,210 (36 months)

To reduce the vulnerability of young children to violence and abuse within the family and in care settings that make up part of the public healthcare system in Bulgaria.

FXB USA

USD 100,000 (12 months)

To support Know Violence in Childhood, an initiative that is bringing together the most credible evidence from around the world and across disciplines on what works to prevent violence against children.

International Social Service

USD 249,314 (24 months)

To promote global and national care reform by piloting a tool to track the implementation of the UN Alternative Care Guidelines in five countries, and to design a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on alternative care.

Medical Research Council of South Africa

USD 602,680 (36 months)

To promote active and ethical engagement of children in generating evidence to better understand the impact of sexual violence in their lives and to gather evidence of what works (in the context of families) to prevent maltreatment and violence against children.

National Coalition Building Institute (NCBI)

USD 213,542 (36 months)

To support Youth Voices for Safe Homes of NCBI Switzerland to prevent various forms of domestic violence against children and youth in Switzerland.

National Network for Children Association

USD 1,150,178 (48 months)

To provide core support to the National Network for Children in Bulgaria to implement its 2015-2020 strategy.

Network of European Foundations

USD 500,000 (11 months)

To establish a functional global partnership to end violence against children and a multi-donor collaborative to prevent all forms of violence against children within the Sustainable Development Goal framework.

Network of European Foundations

USD 300,000 (36 months)

To contribute to the EPIM sub-fund on the longterm prospects and protection of Children on the Move in Europe.

New Venture Fund

USD 2,000,000 (24 months)

To increase momentum for ending violence against children worldwide.



RADIX Fondation Suisse pour la promotion de la santé

USD 318,182 (36 months)

To update the website feel-ok.ch, which provides health advice to adolescents in the German-speaking part of Switzerland, and to develop a version suitable for smartphones and tablets.

Social Activities and Practice Institute

USD 500,973 (60 months)

To increase and improve efforts at responding to and preventing violence against children by supporting the integration of the "Resilience Approach" into professional practice in Eastern Europe.

Terre des Hommes International Federation

USD 72,558 (9 months)

To support the development of a set of common principles for those working on the protection, rights and development of children on the move.

Tides Foundation

USD 1,014,560 (18 months)

To set up a Children on the Move fund to form sustainable development goal partnerships and alliances.

Tulip Foundation

USD 60,000 (12 months)

To bring together health, education and welfare services for young, pre-school children in Bulgaria.

Tulip Foundation

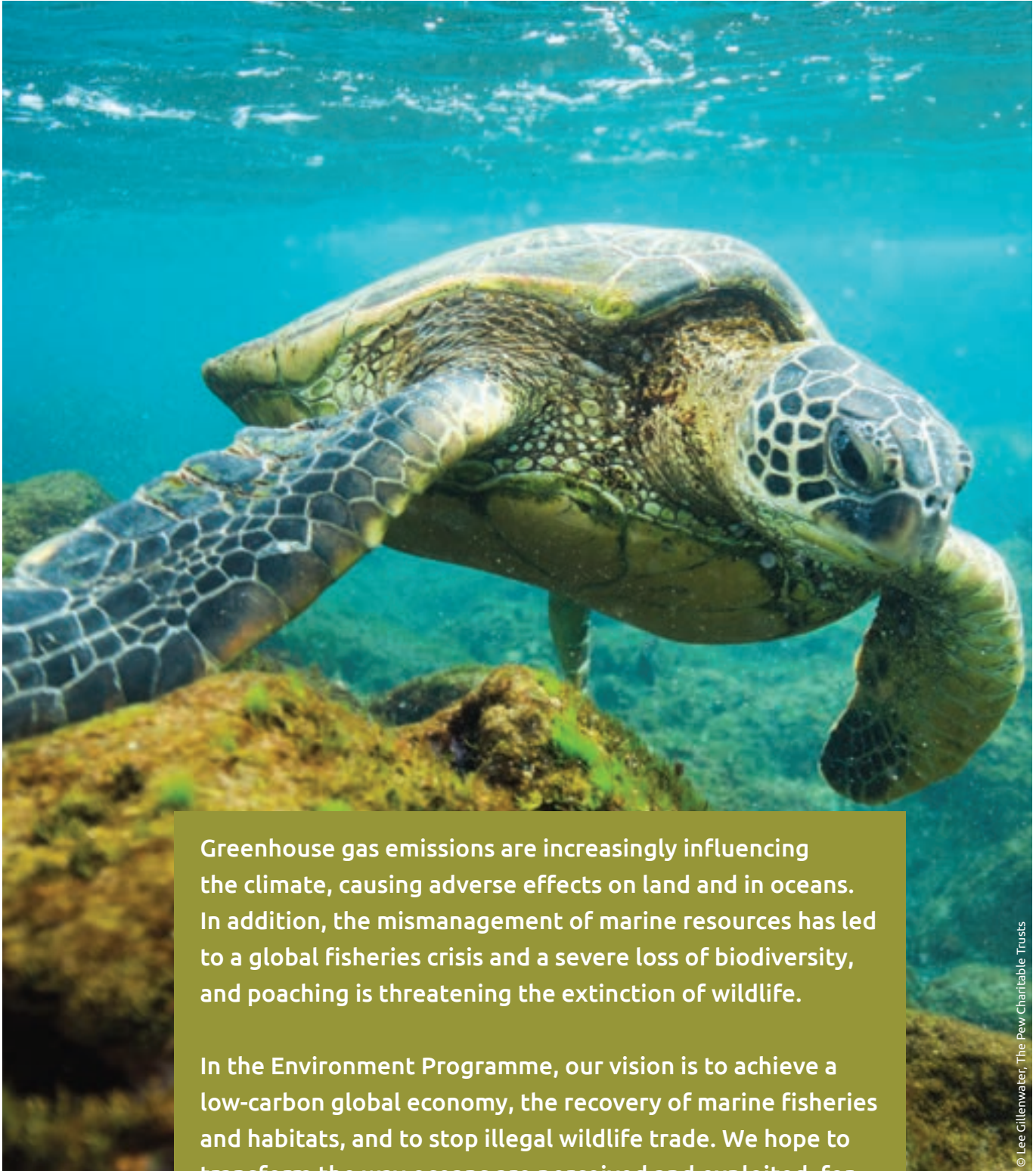
USD 800,000 (60 months)

To prevent the negative effects of poverty on the welfare, safety and educational development of children in communities in Bulgaria.



This is a list of our grants approved in 2016. For a comprehensive list and full descriptions, please visit our grant database at www.oakfnd.org/grants

Environment



Greenhouse gas emissions are increasingly influencing the climate, causing adverse effects on land and in oceans. In addition, the mismanagement of marine resources has led to a global fisheries crisis and a severe loss of biodiversity, and poaching is threatening the extinction of wildlife.

In the Environment Programme, our vision is to achieve a low-carbon global economy, the recovery of marine fisheries and habitats, and to stop illegal wildlife trade. We hope to transform the way oceans are perceived and exploited, for more socially and environmentally sustainable societies, and for the protection of endangered species. Our grant-making focuses on three main areas: climate change mitigation, marine resource conservation and illegal wildlife trade, which is a recent addition to the Environment Programme's grant-making.



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Reflections

In 2016 we put in place a new sub-programme to address the issue of the illegal wildlife trade. Ten grants were made, focusing on East Africa, China and Vietnam.

Important progress was also made in the marine conservation domain. Overfishing, particularly by industrial fisheries, is a key threat to marine life. Our partner **Oceana** co-developed a new online interactive tool, called Global Fishing Watch. It gives researchers, advocates, regulators, enforcers, consumers and the industry a simple, online platform to share vital information about how fishing industries interact with ocean resources. In addition, to reduce plastic pollution in the oceans, Oak gathered more than 40 non-governmental organisations from 30 countries together to agree on a shared global vision and strategy.

Through the leadership of **Oceans Five** and the **Antarctica Ocean Alliance**, the world's largest marine protected area in international waters was created in the Ross Sea, in Antarctica, spanning 1.55 million square kilometres. Thanks to the work of Pew's Ocean Legacy and the coalition "Expand Papahānaumokuākea" a Marine National Monument off the coast of Hawaii was also expanded, creating the single largest marine protected area in US waters. In addition, responding to appeals from **Kawerak Inc.** and the **Bering Sea Elders Group**, former President Barack Obama made two large regions of the Bering Sea off-limits to oil exploration.

Against a backdrop of record-breaking temperatures, reductions in Arctic sea ice and increases in CO₂ concentrations in the atmosphere, significant progress was also made with respect to climate change in 2016. The Paris Agreement entered into force on 4 November and by year's end, 117 out of the 197 signatories of the Convention had already ratified the Parties Agreement.

In addition, more than 190 countries gathered in Kigali, Rwanda in October to adopt an amendment to the 1989 Montreal Protocol to eliminate HFC gases. This was the second major international agreement to fight climate change. The amendment will allow for the phasing-out of HFCs, extensively used in the air-conditioning and refrigeration industry. It is hoped that this will reduce expected global warming by as much as 0.5 degrees Celsius by the end of this century.

The recent news on Brexit and its potential weakening of the EU project as well as the election of President Trump in the USA have increased the uncertainties around global climate leadership. The role of China will be critical in the years ahead, in terms of its continued domestic and international commitments and also how it deploys its massive foreign investment plan "One Belt, One Road". We have been discussing with peers and grantees about how to respond quickly to this rapidly changing environment to safeguard achievements already made and further strengthen processes.

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grants were made by the Environment Programme in 2016, totalling USD 42.32 million.



Find out more at www.oakfnd.org



Plastics in the world's oceans

The world's oceans are choking. Plastic rubbish washes up on beaches all around the world. Regularly it is found in the stomachs of fish, sea birds and other wildlife, ultimately killing them if it does not first compromise their fertility, or else it moves up the food chain till it arrives on our plates. By 2025 it is estimated that the world's oceans will hold one kilogram of plastic for every three kilograms of fish. As bad as it sounds, if we continue as we are, the ratio will be one to one by the year 2050.

“More has to be done to face this problem. If we don't act now, plastic won't just be in the ecosystem, it will become an increasingly dominant feature of the ecosystem. We need to find ways to protect the oceans as soon as we can.”

- Kristian Parker
Trustee of the Environment
Programme at Oak Foundation

In the past 50 years, the use of plastic has increased twentyfold, and according to a study¹ from the World Economic Forum and the **Ellen MacArthur Foundation**, it is expected to double again within the next 20 years. Anyone of us can see how ubiquitous plastic use has become. Glass milk bottles have been replaced with disposable plastic containers. Soft drinks and water are sold in PET bottles, readily available in every shop, supermarket and petrol station. Plastic plates and cutlery replace porcelain and metal at fast food restaurants. We use plastic to make office equipment, home furniture, technology, footwear and clothing. Supermarket food is wrapped in it, building materials and office supplies are covered in it, and much of it, sadly, is designed to be disposed of after just one use.

This amounted to 311 million tonnes of plastic being produced in 2014 alone, fuelling a massive industry. In 2013 the European plastics industry had a turnover of EUR 320 billion. Only 14 per cent of all plastic is being put into a place where it can be recycled or reused, and of that percentage, only 78 per cent actually ends up being recovered. So in reality, most of the plastic being produced each year is thrown away. This does not make any sense, including financially: according to the Ellen MacArthur Foundation, between USD 70 and 120 billion is lost each year when plastic is simply discarded. And, although the usefulness of plastic wrapping expires as soon as it is removed, the material itself lives on for centuries in landfills and oceans, leaching harmful toxins into the environment, or else is burned in incinerators, further polluting the atmosphere.

“This is not sustainable,” says Stephen Campbell, programme officer of the Environment Programme. “What is needed is radical transformation – and the implementation of deep systemic change at all levels.”

It is clear that the system is not working, and indeed, is causing an environmental catastrophe. Without doubt, a continued increase in the use of plastic will become an overwhelming ecological problem for ecosystems, coastal communities, cities, fishermen and the tourism industry. But what will it take to implement change in a way that the economy remains strong, and at the same time our health and the environment are protected?

The good news is that the start of widespread, systemic change is in sight. From the banning of Styrofoam, plastic bottles and bags in some cities, to the adoption of organic, compostable materials for packaging, we are seeing the dawn of a disruptive shift. Oak believes passionately in supporting this new momentum.

Circular economy

Unlike the current economic model, which is based on a “consume-and-throw-away” pattern, a circular economy is based on sharing, leasing, reusing, repairing, refurbishing and recycling. It sees all materials as valuable and

recoverable, with waste reduced to a minimum. Oak is investing in the Ellen MacArthur’s New Plastics Economy, which works to apply circular economy principles to global plastic packaging supply chains. It aims to create an effective after-use plastics economy and to drastically reduce the leakage of plastics into natural systems.

In December 2015, the European Commission presented a new circular economy package. The package contains an action plan for the circular economy and four legislative proposals on waste pertaining to landfill, reuse and recycling to be met by 2030. If our European politicians march bravely forward with this action plan, this measure could become the international gold standard for meeting the plastics crisis.

Designing for recovery

There are calls to better design plastic in intelligent ways that incentivise its reuse so that plastic will never again end up in rivers, oceans, incinerators or landfills. Dr Martin Stuchtey from the McKinsey Center for Business and Environment is confident that putting systems in place that reuse plastic on a large scale could “spark a major wave of innovation with benefits for the entire supply chain.”

For one thing it would create jobs, with people hired to collect, sort and redistribute the reusable packaging. “Packaging can be done in such a way that it is not just immediately taken off and disposed of,” says Leonardo Lacerda, director of Oak’s Environment Programme. “It can be made of standardised and less toxic materials, which means that it lasts for years and can be repeatedly reused.”

Plastic is also an environmental justice issue. Much of the volume and impacts of plastic leakage into the environment occurs in the global south, while the decisions about design, branding, materials and recovery are made in board rooms and legislatures in the global north. It is not just a problem of ‘litter’. It is a problem where major multi-national corporations are privatising the profits of the system while externalising the costs of the waste.

50/50

By 2050 the world’s oceans will contain as much plastic as fish, unless we take action.

References

1. ‘The New Plastics Economy: Rethinking the future of plastics’, World Economic Forum, <https://www.weforum.org/reports/the-new-plastics-economy-rethinking-the-future-of-plastics> (accessed 25 January 2017).

The Story of Stuff was a key player in the work to ban microbeads – tiny toxic plastic pieces widely used in cosmetics that end up poisoning our waterways.

Banning microbeads

Resistance to the misuse of plastics is starting to increase worldwide. People are campaigning against it and searching for alternatives. In many countries today, a fee is imposed on plastic bags in shops and many consumers have embraced the initiative to reuse bags they have at home instead.

In addition, some not-for-profit organisations are putting pressure on western brands to be more accountable for the products they sell. For example, the **Story of Stuff** (an Oak-supported organisation based in San Francisco, the United States) was one of the key players working to ban microbeads. Microbeads are widely used in cosmetics such as facial scrubs, toothpastes and shampoos. Being so tiny, they are designed to slip easily down drains. They head straight to our rivers and oceans, absorbing toxins in the water as they go.

Thanks to the work of the Story of Stuff and others, the US has agreed to ban the production of personal care products and cosmetics containing plastic microbeads from July 2017. "This is one example of a great success story," says Stiv Wilson, campaign director at the Story of Stuff. "Indeed, companies have a huge role to play in finding alternatives to plastic that are benign to the environment. They need to be held responsible."

Zero waste

A successful example of a zero waste city is San Fernando in the Philippines, where many of the beaches were full of plastic waste. **Mother Earth Foundation** was instrumental in supporting the government to implement the Republic Waste Act 9003 in the city.

Up till the enactment of the Waste Act, there was so much rubbish in San Fernando City that vacant lots were being turned into dumpsites. However, today household waste is properly separated and organics, which make up almost half of San Fernando's waste, are returned to the soil. Recyclables like bottles, plastics, carton, metal and paper are sold to junk shops, adding to the city's income. What is left over makes up only

10 per cent of the city's total generated rubbish, massively reducing the need for landfill.

"San Fernando City has proven that for proper ecological waste management, local government units do not need expensive, high-tech and harmful waste disposal facilities like landfills and incinerators," says Sonia Mendoza, chairman of Mother Earth Foundation Philippines.

Is it impossible to imagine that a zero-waste disposal system could be implemented in every city around the world? "Not at all," says Leonardo Lacerda. "If it can be done in one of the most polluted cities in the world, it proves that it can be done anywhere."

However if a new plastics economy is to work, businesses, policymakers, students, educators, academics, designers, citizens and industries need to get on board towards transitioning to a new system. "There is a lot to be done," says Leonardo. "Change on a systemic scale is not going to happen overnight."

"Zero-waste cities need to make corporate organisations responsible for the damage they are causing to our environment," says Stephen Campbell. "They need to start redesigning products so that they're not toxic for people and simultaneously reduce the amount they produce."

For information about the work of **The Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives** please visit our website www.oakfnd.org/resources/publications

Going forward

The plastic crisis in the oceans is just a symptom of a global illness – the unsustainable machinery of the current system of getting goods to market. By working with partners around the world, Oak is hopeful that the social licence of corporations to use nature as a waste dump is withdrawn. In addition, we hope that the current ways of managing waste will start to be seen as culturally unacceptable, and eventually become obsolete. Collectively speaking, we cannot build a sustainable and happy world for future generations unless we find ways for our economy to live in harmony with the environment.

Grants



Climate Change

The Center for Auto Safety

USD 250,000 (36 months)
To fight global warming by holding the US Government to account on climate law; to push car-makers to make clean cars and embrace sensible environmental policies; and to urge consumers to make cleaner, healthier transport choices.

Chinadialogue

USD 537,361 (36 months)
To create an environment in China that is conducive to reaching key climate goals and transitioning to a green economy.

Clean Air Asia

USD 200,000 (36 months)
To develop communication tools, research and applications to build awareness of air pollution risks and potential solutions in India and broader Asia.

Climate Bonds Initiative

USD 749,519 (36 months)
To grow the green bonds markets in China, India and Brazil and to develop a global "Green City Bonds" market in developed and developing countries.

ClimateWorks Foundation, USA

USD 500,000 (24 months)
To dramatically increase philanthropic investment in climate mitigation.

DeSmog Canada

USD 162,127 (36 months)
To provide core support to DeSmogBlog in Canada.

The Energy Foundation

USD 999,999 (36 months)
To reduce carbon and air pollution emissions in China by improving urban planning and air quality management.

The Energy Resources Institute

USD 100,000 (3 months)
To analyse the HFC phase-down in India by reviewing the efficacy of methods and instruments currently put in place to curb GHG emissions.

European Climate Foundation

USD 85,000 (18 months)
To expand and improve the public discourse on climate change and energy issues in India.

European Climate Foundation (ECF)

USD 1,750,000 (36 months)
To provide core support to the ECF, which works to develop a low-carbon society and mitigate the effects of climate change.

European Climate Foundation

USD 650,000 (24 months)
To support civil society to produce concrete plans to ensure their countries meet climate obligations and help achieve overall global climate goals.

Fundação Getulio Vargas - Centro de Estudos em Sustentabilidade

USD 193,794 (17 months)
To develop a framework for the development of urban mobility in Brazil.

Global Call for Climate Action

USD 1,000,000 (36 months)
To design and launch targeted public campaign actions.

Global Environmental Institute

USD 662,640 (36 months)
To assist and accelerate China's economic transition towards a low-carbon development path and to guide the 'One Belt, One Road' Initiative in a green and sustainable direction.

Institute for Climate and Sustainable Cities

USD 50,000 (12 months)
To build a cleaner, safer and healthier economy in the Philippines.

Instituto Clima e Sociedade

USD 199,330 (12 months)
To keep low-carbon and inclusive urban mobility issues as major topics for public engagement in major cities in Brazil.

Oil Change International

USD 1,000,000 (36 months)
To advance international commitments for the phase-out of subsidies and public finance to fossil fuels.

Renew Canada

USD 450,000 (24 months)
To continue the good work around climate change mitigation in Canada.

Rocky Mountain Institute

USD 1,400,000 (36 months)
To create and support a group of Chinese cities to achieve goals of peaking CO2 emission in advance of the 2030 national goal, with some before 2022.

Securing America's Future Energy

USD 500,000 (24 months)
To reduce America's dependence on oil through safer, cleaner transportation.

SELCO Foundation

USD 221,217 (36 months)
To develop affordable, innovative and long-term financing tools for energy services for those living in poverty and outside the "energy net" in India.

Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation

USD 3,000,000 (36 months)
To facilitate India's transition to a sustainable energy future by promoting policies that encourage energy efficiency and an increased uptake of renewable energy sources.

Silicon Valley Community Foundation

USD 2,000,000 (24 months)
To identify and pursue scalable breakthrough strategies to achieve decarbonisation and tackle climate challenge.



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Smart Freight Centre**USD 500,000 (36 months)**

To significantly reduce CO₂ and air pollutants from road freight in China.

West Coast Environmental Law Association**USD 292,250 (35 months)**

To support strategic actions to uphold indigenous, federal and international law to cap the expansion of the tar sands in Alberta, Canada.

World Resources Institute (WRI)**USD 100,000 (12 months)**

To provide support to WRI India to help two cities draft proposals that incorporate best practices and initiatives to make public transport safer and more equitable for women.

Marine**Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)****USD 279,000 (36 months)**

To support the CSIRO to use field sampling to document the distribution of plastic in the ocean generated by 6-8 major urban centres in Asia.

Duke University**USD 149,992 (12 months)**

To conduct a comprehensive global assessment of the status, trends and investment needs of small-scale fisheries over the next decade.

Ellen MacArthur Foundation**USD 1,125,497 (36 months)**

To provide support to the Ellen MacArthur Foundation to deliver the New Plastics Economy initiative.

Environmental Justice Foundation CT (EJF)**USD 500,000 (36 months)**

To provide core support to the EJF, based in the UK in building up its organisational, investigative and communications capacity internationally.

First Alaskans Institute**USD 750,000 (48 months)**

To provide core support for the leadership development programme in the First Alaskans Institute.

Foraker Group**USD 300,000 (36 months)**

To provide capacity building support for Alaska Native Organisations by offering organisational development tools and strategies.

Friends of the Earth USA**USD 160,000 (24 months)**

To improve vessel safety and environmental protection in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands by advocating for shipping mitigation measures.

Global Anti-Incinerator Alliance (GAIA)**USD 800,000 (24 months)**

To support GAIA to confront the international plastics pollution problem by: building global pressure for product redesign; strengthening and sharing model city-level zero waste systems in the Asia Pacific region; and engaging with leading city networks.

Greenpeace South East Asia**USD 615,957 (35 months)**

To support the Greenpeace oceans campaign to investigate the world's fishing fleets in regard to human and labour rights, shark finning, corruption, overfishing and by-catch.

International Funders for Indigenous Peoples (IFIP)**USD 90,000 (36 months)**

To provide core support to IFIP.

Inuit Circumpolar Council Canada**USD 350,000 (36 months)**

To support and enable the Inuit to guide and direct the future management of critical marine habitats in the North-water polynya, an ice-free region between Greenland and Nunavut.

Oceana Inc**USD 200,000 (26 months)**

To provide core support to Oceana, the world's largest international policy advocacy organisation dedicated to ocean conservation.

Oceana Inc**USD 6,410,000 (36 months)**

To provide core support to Oceana, the world's largest international policy advocacy organisation dedicated to ocean conservation.

Pew Charitable Trusts**USD 500,000 (21 months)**

To establish the world's first generation of great marine parks by designating 15 large-scale, fully protected ocean reserves by the end of 2022.

Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, Inc.**USD 3,000,000 (36 months)**

To support Oceans Five – an international funders' collaborative – which supports projects to constrain overfishing and establish marine reserves.

The Story of Stuff Project**USD 700,000 (36 months)**

To support the Story of Stuff Project to partner with a small group of organisations in North America, Europe and Asia to align the plastic pollution movement and to build its power.

Tides Canada Foundation**USD 1,050,500 (36 months)**

To enable Inuit leaders, institutions and coastal communities to express their priorities in fostering marine stewardship and resilience to climate change in the Canadian Arctic.

Tides Canada Foundation**USD 1,000,000 (36 months)**

To advance a new approach to oceans governance in British Columbia that integrates and fosters environmental, social and economic wellbeing and resilience.

Upstream**USD 100,000 (24 months)**

To support Upstream and a collaborative of US-based groups to build a broader and more effective North American movement to solve plastic pollution.



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Mesoamerica

NESsT

USD 50,000 (12 months)

To provide tailored and strategic interventions that will help Oak grantees to grow and replicate successful, scalable, sustainable programmes.

Hispanics in Philanthropy

USD 95,000 (12 months)

To improve the organisational stability of marine conservation groups in Belize, including Oak Foundation grantees, to prepare them to provide greater leadership.

Mesoamerican Reef Fund

USD 2,000,000 (54 months)

To re-grant to seven of Oak's key conservation partners working in the Meso-American Reef region.

University of Belize

USD 855,000 (48 months)

To further protect Belize's marine protected areas by implementing strategies that link them to livelihoods and by building the resilience of the ecosystem.

Other

Consultative Group on Biological Diversity Inc. (CGBD)

USD 100,000 (24 months)

To provide core support to CGBD, based in the US, which seeks to create a strong and effective funding community committed to combating climate change and building a clean energy economy.

Graduate Institute Geneva

USD 159,406 (36 months)

To establish a merit-based internship programme within Oak's Environment Programme.

Illegal Wildlife Trade

Chem Chem Foundation

USD 200,000 (24 months)

To secure the wildlife corridor between the two eco-systems of Tarangire and Manyar in Tanzania and to protect the last big herds of bull elephants.

Education for Nature (ENV)

USD 499,840 (46 months)

To provide core support to ENV to implement its strategic plan.

Elephant Action League

USD 80,000 (10 months)

To investigate rhino horn trafficking in China and key transit countries.

Environmental Investigation Agency (UK)

USD 447,761 (36 months)

To assist in the disruption of major criminal syndicates trafficking ivory and encourage a more effective criminal justice response to the illegal ivory trade.

Inyuat e MAA Organization

USD 100,000 (24 months)

To improve biodiversity conservation and community livelihoods in the Masai Steppe landscape in Tanzania.

PAMS Foundation

USD 800,000 (36 months)

To provide conservation support and develop solutions which help sustain biodiversity, wilderness habitats and ecological processes through actions that benefit nature and communities.

The Zoological Society of London

USD 74,627 (6 months)

To support a campaign calling on the UK government to support a global ban on domestic ivory markets and take the necessary steps to close the UK market.

The Zoological Society of London

USD 931,290 (58 months)

To realise the potential for growth of both black rhino and elephant populations in the Tsavo Conservation Area in Kenya.



The photographs and illustrations throughout the Environment Programme section of the report have been provided by our partners and demonstrate the importance of minimising plastic waste to protect the environment and the world's oceans.

Housing and Homelessness



In the Housing and Homelessness Programme, we focus on preventing homelessness by funding sustainable solutions that improve the economic and social wellbeing of marginalised youth, adults and families. We have three priorities: promoting economic self-sufficiency; increasing the availability and supply of affordable housing; and preventing homelessness.

Grants within the programme are wide-ranging in size. We partner with organisations working both nationally and locally in Boston, New York and Philadelphia in the United States and in Belfast, Birmingham, Bristol, Edinburgh, Glasgow, London and South Wales in the United Kingdom. Within each location, we aim to fund projects relevant to the three priorities mentioned above. In addition, we have adopted specific objectives that recognise particular issues in some of the localities where we make grants.



Reflections

This year the issue of migration has once more been the focus of political and public debate. As a nation, the United Kingdom has shown itself to be compassionate in volunteering to help migrants in Greece and Calais and in offering its homes to those who have reached the UK. However, the door has nevertheless been closed on migration, to the point that this was one of the factors underpinning the country's decision to leave the European Union in 2016.

This conflict is reflected in the way that homeless migrants are responded to. There is an obvious explanation for the growing link between migration and homelessness – those who do not have the right to live and work in the UK cannot access many of the supports and benefits that protect people from homelessness. While true, this simple explanation does not tell the whole story. Street Legal, a project managed by **Praxis Community Projects**, offers free legal advice to people who are on the streets. Through this project we learned that while significant numbers of homeless migrants do in fact have valid reasons to be in the UK, they do not have the necessary knowledge, support or documentation to be able to demonstrate this.

To understand more about this phenomenon, we asked Vaughan Jones, an expert in migration and homelessness, to tell us his thoughts on the issue. Vaughan has been active in migration-related international, national and local forums for more than 30 years and was

the founding chief executive of Praxis Community Projects. Read on over the page to hear Vaughan tell the story of the migrant experience – with all its twists, turns and barriers.

If the problem of homelessness is to be addressed, the overarching arguments for and against migration must be set aside and the specific needs of homeless migrants must be carefully looked at. In recent years, Oak's Housing and Homelessness Programme has funded a cluster of initiatives that support recent migrants, particularly those who find themselves homeless.

Together with stories provided by people with direct experience, you will find some of these projects featured here.



The photos and illustrations throughout the Housing and Homelessness Programme (HHP) section of the report show examples of foreign immigrants who have adapted into life in the United Kingdom, as well as those who have struggled with the system. Their struggles include, but are not limited to, bureaucratic blocks and a lack of the knowledge and necessary documentation to support their valid reasons to be in the country.

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grants were made by the Housing and Homelessness Programme in 2016, totalling USD 19.46 million.



Find out more at
www.oakfnd.org

ONE TYPICAL ASYLUM SEEKER'S JOURNEY



Migration and homelessness in the United Kingdom

Over recent years, advice workers have found it increasingly difficult to resolve problems for migrant individuals and families who are destitute. Working with refugees and vulnerable migrants was never easy but, for the first time, the well-worn routes out of homelessness, so carefully crafted by progressive legislation and homelessness agencies, seemed to be closed to them. We are observing a trend backed up by homelessness statistics of an emerging group of homeless people. They were born outside of the UK, with uncertain immigration status and limited entitlement to state support.

“‘Destitution’ has re-entered the lexicography of homelessness. The traditional tools of the advice worker leave them powerless to intervene. New solutions are required.”
 - Vaughan Jones
 Expert on homelessness and migration

Someone who experiences homelessness after crossing a border shares much with those in the same situation, who were born there. However, there are differences arising from the nature of their movement into the country, and the social policy which applies to them. We must start with the same question we would ask anyone who is homeless ‘how did you get into this situation?’ The route into homelessness is the key to finding the way out.

We are in an era of mass migration with well-documented causes – the nature of the global economy, and ease of communications and transport. But there are also disturbing factors, which contribute to displacement. Climate change, war, internal conflict and

human rights abuses, alongside income inequalities are forcing people out of their homes and countries.

Journey

Journeys into the UK vary. Refugees escape bombs by fleeing to camps where they wait patiently for either the war to end or the processing by international bodies to finish so that they can be resettled into another country. Patience runs thin as months turn to years, so they choose the risky route of migrating through their own devices, often using the maps on their phones, to find a way into Europe.

Some will take a more considered route. They may visit family in Europe by entering the country legally, hoping that when their visa expires another option will come up. Usually it does not. Others pay agents to bring them to the UK. Many families make huge sacrifices to raise money for a young member of their family to have a better life.

Others are tricked with promises of employment and are coerced into what amounts to modern day slavery. There is a lucrative trade in the exploitation of desperate people.

Arrival

If someone enters the country by clandestine means, they have committed a breach of immigration law and are open to prosecution. However, the UN Convention recognises that desperate people may have no alternative but to resort to desperate measures, so if their intention is to seek asylum, it is not considered a crime.

Once in the UK, the newcomer must navigate the systems in order to settle and integrate into their new country. Step one is to have their presence recognised legitimately. He or she needs to have the necessary documentation – the right to be in the country, the right to work and the right to contribute to the common good. Documentation of immigration status is the passport to accommodation, to an income and to access essential services.

Some remain 'undocumented'. Even if they have come from a troubled country like Eritrea, it is not automatic that their

refugee status will be granted. If they have some money or relatives who are willing to help them pay for a lawyer, they cannot assume that the legal profession will serve them well in representing them to the Home Office. Even if everything is done correctly, their application may still be held up in a long queue or fall foul of the UK's inefficient and over-bureaucratized immigration processes. A child who travelled alone and was taken into care on arrival will not automatically be allowed to stay once he or she becomes an adult, no matter how traumatic their early experiences in life may have been nor how strong their roots are in the UK.

Destitution and homelessness

Vulnerable refugees and migrants are not alone in experiencing destitution and homelessness but they are affected by some areas of policy which exacerbate their predicament. Here are some examples:

- a European Economic Area migrant who loses their job will have restricted access to Housing Benefit;
- an asylum seeker who is granted refugee status has only 28 days to find accommodation and employment or sort out benefits;
- a refugee who receives newly-granted status is entitled to reunite with family, but they must all manage on a single person's income;
- a person who enters through the visa of a spouse and finds themselves in an abusive relationship has no automatic right to stay in the UK; and
- an asylum seeker has an income of GBP 36.95 per week with a likelihood of poor standard accommodation provided and is not permitted to work.

Those living in tough circumstances such as these are extremely vulnerable to becoming homeless. The rules are complex and pressures to make ends meet are huge. It is easy to imagine how much more difficult the experience of homelessness will be for people who have been forced out of frightening situations bearing physical and mental scars. They have lost family, language, status and dignity. Without the correct

Climate change, war, internal conflict, human rights abuses and income inequalities are forcing people out of their homes and countries.

An asylum seeker has an income of

**GBP
36.95**

per week with a poor standard of accommodation and is not permitted to work.

papers employment is impossible or exploitative. There is insufficient money to pay rent and landlords are now required to check immigration status. We should not, therefore, be surprised at the increased visibility of migrants and refugees on the streets. Neither should we be astonished that once they are destitute, routes out are difficult to find.

Many do have the support of family (frequently with limited resources of their own), a faith community or other people of goodwill. We often forget how much unrecorded and unaccounted assistance is given within communities. But many are without strong social networks and others find that, over time, they have exhausted the generosity of others.

Civil society response

Regardless of the complexity, we have a responsibility to help the vulnerable. Each case needs to be examined carefully without judgement or prejudice.

Advisers need to know that there are grounds to respond to some of the problems faced by destitute migrants. To utilise these opportunities, advice workers require a new combination of knowledge and experience from the legal, homelessness, refugee and migrant sectors. It is testimony to the resilience of the voluntary sector that a combination of research, philanthropic investment and ground level experience is bearing fruit in new provision and better understanding.

Individuals and families find themselves tied up in the knots of bureaucracy and the daily struggle of surviving on inadequate resources. Without underestimating their resilience in the face of overwhelming odds, there is a need for stronger intervention by immigration lawyers, and agencies working in migration or homelessness. Best practice in working with people who are homeless provides choices and routes out of homelessness. Equally, best practice in migration provides safe and legal routes out of danger within a framework of protection. This is a basic human right enshrined in international conventions, which needs to be provided for in law

and in the practicalities of reception, legal representation, transition into citizenship and full participation in the new society. At present, despite the valiant efforts of some, we often fall short of this ideal.

Here are some examples of HHP grant-making in the area of migration and homelessness:

Praxis Community Projects is based in east London and has been supporting refugees and migrants since 1983. Using HHP funding, Praxis established housing options for destitute migrants who have no recourse to public funds. A second grant supports Praxis to strengthen links between refugee and migrant organisations and the homelessness sector. It also helps to expand 'Street Legal', a project that works on the longterm issues of immigration status.

"When I came to Praxis I was so disorientated and confused," said Florence, who escaped detention in her homeland, where same-sex relationships are illegal. "I didn't have a solicitor – I didn't have accommodation," she said. Her partner had been killed while in prison. "Now I am settled, I know I am safe and I won't be killed for who I am."

Refugee Survival Trust is a partnership of organisations established through a HHP grant that provides a range of services to homeless migrants in Glasgow.

The partnership enables coordinated assessment and responses to each individual's accommodation and legal needs. "I am grateful to be able to stay in the flat while I wait for my fresh (asylum) claim to be made," said one beneficiary. "I still have to sign at the Home Office every two weeks and this is a worry for me because I know that until my fresh claim is in, my situation is not sure. But at least I have a roof over my head and the GBP 10 a week and the bus tickets help me because I do not get any support from the Home Office at this time."



The **New Beginnings Fund** pools funds from foundations and trusts to support small grassroots organisations working with refugees. The fund is administered by the network of UK Community Foundations and will make grants in the region of GBP 10,000.

Project 17 ensures that local authorities comply with their duties under Section 17 of the Children Act 1989 to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in need. Section 17 requires councils to provide accommodation and financial support to avoid children being taken into care. This power exists even if a family has no right to work, no access to benefits and no leave to remain.

“Being hosted is everything for me; it’s a big deal. I’m secure and feel good because I’m here. Everything has changed – I eat and sleep properly, I still worry, but less than before.”

- Refugee receiving support from Housing Justice

Housing Justice brings together church-based advocacy groups concerned with homelessness. Social justice oriented churches have a long history of sheltering and protecting migrants.

They are experiencing an upsurge of congregants offering to host destitute migrants. A grant to Housing Justice supports a hosting scheme for London that will vet, coordinate and support people willing to provide a home to recent migrants.

"I have now been able to begin voluntary work in two places," said one refugee. "A charity shop for the blind and also a charity for immigrant women, where I look after their children when they have to go to appointments."

The **Cardinal Hume Centre** provides a range of services to street homeless people in London. The Centre has taken a lead position in responding to the needs of homeless migrants. The HHP supported the Centre to develop an accredited immigration advice service targeting homeless people. This is delivered in conjunction with housing and employment services and is now being expanded so that it can be accessed through other homelessness service providers.

Bureaucracy and the daily struggle of surviving on inadequate resources takes its toll on migrants.

The support given by churches, members of the community and organisations such as Oak's partners is often a life-saving help for many.

A special thanks...

The HHP would like to thank Vaughan Jones for his contribution, the Migration museum and the British Red Cross for helping with photographs, and the people who kindly shared their personal stories.

Grants



Economic self-sufficiency

Bryson Charitable Group (Bryson Energy)

USD 447,284 (36 months)

To assist some of the poorest households in Northern Ireland by reducing the poverty premium on food and fuel experienced by low-income families.

Carnegie UK Trust

USD 223,881 (24 months)

To expand the provision of affordable credit in Scotland for low-income households and advance progress towards meeting the demand for access to good forms of low-cost lending.

Child Poverty Action Group

USD 499,307 (48 months)

To collate findings on the efficacy of the UK social security system and establish an 'Early Warning System'.

City Life/Vida Urbana

USD 397,476 (24 months)

To develop an alternative economic and social eco-system called 'The Ujima Project' to address inequality and disadvantage in neighbourhoods in Boston.

Justice in Aging (formerly National Senior Citizens Law Center)

USD 718,602 (36 months)

To improve the appeal process of the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) in the US, which is a key safety net welfare benefit claimed by 8,300,000 people claiming SSI.

Responsible Finance

USD 195,604 (12 months)

To support a strong network of responsible finance providers to increase access to fair finance across the UK.

Scotcash

USD 837,069 (36 months)

To increase access to affordable credit by establishing Scotcash, a community lending service, in Edinburgh.

Turn2us

USD 497,015 (36 months)

To expand the Turn2us help-line to prevent and reduce homelessness, poverty and destitution by providing specialist, targeted and timely information and guidance.

Utility Emergency Services Fund

USD 96,000 (12 months)

To enable Utility Emergency Services Fund, a not-for-profit organisation based in Philadelphia, the US, to implement an Evaluation and Impact Project.

Homelessness prevention

Bassuk Center (Center for Social Innovation)

USD 100,000 (12 months)

To research the reasons for racial discrimination that increases the risk of homelessness in the US.

Butler Family Fund

USD 75,000 (6 months)

To strengthen the links between criminal justice and the affordable housing and homelessness sectors in the United States.

Central England Law Centre

USD 447,761 (36 months)

To prevent and reduce homelessness, poverty and destitution by providing specialist, targeted and timely legal and social welfare advice for Birmingham residents.

Community Legal Services Inc.

USD 2,000,000 (48 months)

To provide core support to Community Legal Services of Philadelphia, a legal services agency providing free legal advocacy and representation to low-income people to prevent homelessness.

Greater Boston Legal Services (GBLS)

USD 2,000,000 (48 months)

To provide core funding to support GBLS to provide free civil legal aid to help individuals and families in Boston, the United States.

London Pathway

USD 1,865,672 (60 months)

To provide core support to London Pathway, a UK-wide non-governmental organisation which provides healthcare to homeless patients during and after hospital stays at University College Hospital.

Neighbors Together

USD 499,450 (36 months)

To build Neighbors Together's capacity to end hunger and poverty through its community action programme, Supportive Housing Advocacy Services

Project 17

USD 89,552 (24 months)

To reduce destitution among migrant children in the UK whose parents have no access to welfare benefits because of their immigration status.

Simon Community Scotland

USD 645,790 (36 months)

To develop a multi-agency team with a shared vision and approach to support rough sleepers in Glasgow to engage with services.

The Queen's Nursing Institute

USD 298,507 (48 months)

To develop a homeless health programme to support community nurses based in the UK to develop knowledge, skills, resources and services to improve care for people who are homeless or vulnerably housed.

UK Community Foundations

USD 447,761 (24 months)

To support local groups in specified locations in the UK who welcome and support refugees and asylum seekers into their local communities, through existing or new services.

University Settlement Society of New York, Inc
USD 802,161 (36 months)

To expand University Settlement's proactive eviction prevention model for public housing tenants and to institutionalise the approach on a broader scale in New York City Housing Authority.

Increasing the supply of low-income housing

Gateway Demonstration Assistance Corporation
USD 420,000 (36 months)

To develop alternative models for homeless shelters in New York City to improve both the physical environment and the programme effectiveness of transitional housing.

Housing Justice (HJ)
USD 198,240 (36 months)

To establish a London hosting scheme, coordinated by HJ, which will provide short-term accommodation for migrants and support to help resolve their immigration issues.

New York City Joint Ownership Entity
USD 907,000 (36 months)

To provide a platform for the long-term preservation of affordable housing in New York City that will influence capital and pool resources to strengthen and support the not-for-profit housing sector.

Pine Street Inn
USD 1,200,000 (36 months)

To support 340 homeless people to move on from shelters into independent accommodation.

Policy Link
USD 125,000 (12 months)

To support the operation and strategic development of a funders collaborative called 'Funders for Housing and Opportunity' which works to improve life outcomes for the 11 million low income households in the US with high housing costs.

Research Foundation of the City University of New York
USD 499,869 (36 months)

To create alternatives to New York City Housing Authority's permanent exclusion practices for residents who have been involved with the criminal justice system.

Supportive Housing Network of New York
USD 1,000,000 (48 months)

To provide core support to the Supportive Housing Network of New York, a membership organisation representing over 200 supportive housing providers across New York State.

Learning

Heriot-Watt University
USD 696,676 (36 months)

To enhance the quality of the evaluation and research elements of projects funded by Oak's Housing and Homelessness Programme.

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
USD 171,823 (36 months)

To conduct an evaluation of the Moving On initiative in New York City.

The Plural Forum for Interdisciplinary Studies
USD 30,000 (12 months)

To support research on the breadth, drivers and impact of homelessness in Moldova.

Other

Cymorth Cymru
USD 29,590 (6 months)

To provide expert support to Cymorth Cymru, in Wales, to identify policy and advocacy priorities.

Public Law Project (PLP)
USD 915,770 (48 months)

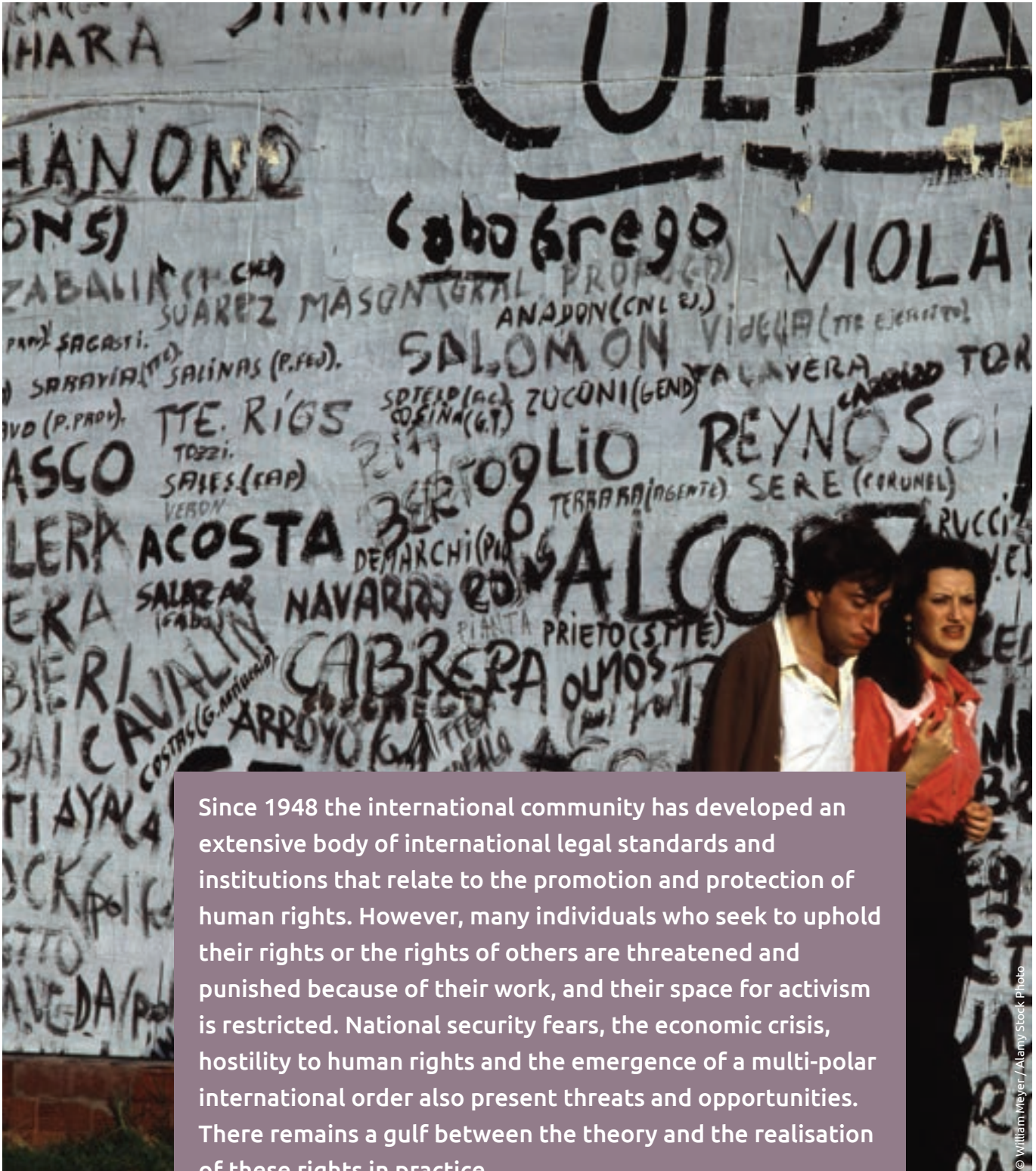
To support PLP in its mission to improve access to public law remedies for those whose access to justice is restricted by poverty or some other form of disadvantage in the UK.

SIFA Fireside
USD 77,537 (12 months)

To enable SIFA Fireside, a key organisation working in Birmingham's homelessness sector, to become more sustainable, by implementing a strategic business plan to enhance and expand its training function.



International Human Rights



Since 1948 the international community has developed an extensive body of international legal standards and institutions that relate to the promotion and protection of human rights. However, many individuals who seek to uphold their rights or the rights of others are threatened and punished because of their work, and their space for activism is restricted. National security fears, the economic crisis, hostility to human rights and the emergence of a multi-polar international order also present threats and opportunities. There remains a gulf between the theory and the realisation of these rights in practice.

In the International Human Rights Programme (IHRP), we work with partners to: end impunity for the gross violations of human rights; uphold prohibitions on arbitrary detention and torture; protect human rights defenders at risk; and multiply and amplify influential voices on IHRP global priorities.



Reflections

2016 proved a challenging year. The tide of populism which swept across Europe and the US prompted divisive debate about the future direction of many democracies. Against this backdrop, the human rights movement must remain alert to one imperative: the protection of rights for all.

Immigration will be at the frontline of this battle. Within that context, our work is guided by a single aim: to ensure that fundamental guarantees of dignity, due process and freedom from arbitrary detention are respected. All individuals, by virtue of their humanity, are entitled to these rights, irrespective of whether they are citizens or non-citizens, documented or undocumented.

Across Europe and the US, our partners battled to ensure that these rights were respected. Their efforts delivered incremental improvements in the oversight, incidence and duration of immigration detention. Over the next year we will make additional investments to resist ever more punitive and unlawful measures to manage migration flows.

The past years also saw sustained attacks on many forms of civic activism. From Russia to Hungary to India, governments limited the capacity of civil society to participate in the policy process; to organise and mobilise; to receive foreign funding; and to pursue legitimate watchdog functions. Many grantees were forced into a defensive posture but there were also gains.

Grantees proved remarkably resilient to restriction, demonisation and even proscription. Through our long term

and flexible funding, activists are exploring new vehicles and tools for action. We invested in their digital and physical security to permit them to work effectively and safely. And we encouraged philanthropic peers to use our collective strength to protect civic space.

In other positive developments and after decades of repression in Myanmar, we fostered a nascent network of activist lawyers to empower grassroots communities to assert their rights. That effort is embedding the rule of law in the country's emerging democratic fabric. Over the next year we will grow that initiative to ensure that it is locally owned, driven and managed.

Notwithstanding increasing hostility to international justice, particularly the International Criminal Court, grantees made headway in the struggle to end impunity for gross abuses. Cumulatively, their efforts resulted in the successful prosecution of genocidaires and torturers across national jurisdictions in Europe, the US and Africa (their inspiring work is showcased in the next section).

Looking ahead, 2017 is unlikely to see a more benign environment for human rights. Critics will likely demonise minorities (and their advocates) and urge the dismantling of our rules-based system. We will support activists to protect human rights for all – not just the popular, the “deserving” or the likeable – and to hold violators to account.

We look forward to working with our partners on this urgent mission.

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grants were made by the International Human Rights Programme in 2016, totalling USD 24.15 million.



Find out more at
www.oakfnd.org



Supporting our partners in the search for justice

At the end of World War II, allied powers prosecuted those most responsible for Nazi atrocities. That effort was borne from a simple truth articulated by judges of the Nuremburg Tribunal when they commented, “Crimes are committed by men, not by abstract entities. It is only by punishing individuals who commit such crimes can international law be enforced”. More than 70 years later, the international human rights movement works to give meaning to that dictum – to hold perpetrators to account and provide victims with the redress to which they are entitled.

“Crimes are committed by men, not by abstract entities. It is only by punishing individuals who commit such crimes can international law be enforced.”
- Judges of the Nuremburg Tribunal

Oak supports those efforts. The road to justice can, however, be long and strewn with obstacles. This is especially the case when prosecuting international crimes. Here the legacy of past abuses, compounded by weak local capacity, renders justice elusive.

Too often, a threshold difficulty lies in simply deciding where to prosecute. While national courts are generally preferable, they are not always possible. For this reason, international courts, hybrid tribunals (i.e., a mix of national and international) and foreign courts exercising universal jurisdiction all play a role in closing the impunity gap.

The cases highlighted below illustrate that crucial mix: the national, regional and international dimensions to the search for justice.

National Court (Argentina)

In May 2016, a court in Argentina found that throughout the 1970s and 1980s, governments in Argentina, Uruguay, Bolivia, Chile and Paraguay conspired to hunt down, kidnap and kill political opponents. That criminal conspiracy, known as Operation Condor, resulted in the murder of thousands.

The Center for Legal and Social Studies (CELS) in Buenos Aires represented the families of some of its victims.

After years of legal battles, 14 defendants, including the last Argentine dictator, high and mid-ranking Argentine military officials and a Uruguayan army colonel, were found guilty of criminal association, kidnapping and torture and sentenced to prison terms of up to 25 years.

The trial, which spanned over three years and examined the cases of over 100 victims, exposed the scale and brutality of the (previously denied) conspiracy. It also proved instructive in terms of prosecuting cross-border crimes, taking into account the sheer number of evidentiary documents involved, the hundreds of witness testimonies given in diverse and scattered locations and the vast group of people targeted by the conspiracy. This included students, as well as political and trade union activists from five different countries.

Forty years after Operation Condor was formally founded and 16 years after the judicial investigation began, this trial delivered closure to grieving relatives and truth for posterity.

Hybrid Tribunal (Senegal)

In May 2016, the former President of Chad, Hissène Habré was sentenced by the Extraordinary African Court (a mixed tribunal established by both the Government of Senegal and the African Union) to life in prison. Guilty of crimes against humanity, war crimes and torture (including sexual violence

and rape), Habré's eight-year rule (1982-1990) resulted in the deaths of more than 40,000 people and in the kidnapping, rape and torture of many more. His sentence marked the end of a 16-year legal battle to secure his arrest and conviction.

This is a landmark case that represents a number of firsts for international criminal justice. It is the first time a former head of state has been convicted of crimes against humanity by the court of another country based on the principle of universal jurisdiction. This is a significant blow to the defence of "immunity", which had previously shielded many perpetrators from being held to account. The conviction, moreover, of a former African leader by an African court is all the more significant, given the trenchant criticisms levelled by the African Union against the International Criminal Court for an alleged anti-African bias in its caseload. The Habré decision will be vital in stimulating greater discussion about the potential for international criminal justice on the continent.

Oak provided support to over half a dozen organisations engaged in the pursuit of justice for Habré's victims. **The Human Rights Data Analysis Group**, the **Argentine Forensic Anthropology Team**, and the **Human Rights Centre at the University of California Berkeley** helped construct the evidential basis for prosecution through forensic evidence (identifying places of execution and burial) and statistical techniques to understand the scale of killing. **Agir Ensemble pour les droits de l'homme** galvanised the voices of victims, while **Human Rights Watch** conducted the advocacy critical to Habré's arrest and prosecution in Senegal.

Habré's conviction is a testament to the dedication and tireless persistence of victims and advocates alike. It signals that across the African continent there is local support to hold to account those responsible for international crimes.

121

cases of stolen children in Argentina have been resolved.

In May 2016, Habré Hissène, Former President of Chad was found guilty of crimes against humanity and convicted to life in prison.

International Criminal Court (The Hague)

In an unprecedented move, the International Criminal Court (ICC) in The Hague, the Netherlands used its war crimes jurisdiction to prosecute Ahmed Al Mahdi (an Al-Qaida affiliated rebel), charged with the intentional destruction of nine mausoleums and a mosque in 2012 in the ancient city of Timbuktu, Mali. Militants destroyed shrines and tombs of Sufi saints, all of which had been designated as UNESCO world heritage sites. Around 4,000 ancient manuscripts were also lost, burnt or stolen.

In framing its groundbreaking case, the ICC relied on a new digital tool developed by Situ Research. The

interactive digital platform – which was developed in collaboration with the ICC over a four-month period – organises, analyses and presents evidence in visual and compelling ways. Combining geospatial information, historic satellite imagery, photographs, open-source videos and other forms of site documentation, it integrates spatial and visual technologies to exhibit the process of the site's destruction. At his trial (and presumably in recognition of the incontrovertible nature of the evidence against him), Al Mahdi pleaded guilty on all counts and was later sentenced to nine years in prison.

Situ Research's tool has transformed the way in which spatial evidence is presented in a courtroom. More broadly, the case will develop the legal frame-

Justice beyond the courtroom

In one of the most traumatic chapters of Argentina's military dictatorship, an estimated 500 babies were taken away from young parents who were made "to disappear" by the authorities. These children were adopted by families sympathetic to the regime, or even taken in by their parents' killers. One of these babies is Guillermo Perez Roisinblit, who grew up as the son of Air Force intelligence officer Francisco Gómez and his wife Teodora. They were, in fact, his abductors. It took him 22 years to find out that his biological parents were dead, and that he had been born in the notorious ESMA camp, the Navy School of Mechanics in Buenos Aires where 5,000 people were killed. In 2005, Gómez – the man who he believed to be his father – was sentenced to 12 years in prison for his role in the kidnapping.

To date 121 cases of stolen children have been resolved, mostly through the tireless work of human rights groups such as the **Argentine Forensic Anthropology Team (EAAF)** – a non-governmental organisation that applies forensic

methods to investigating human rights violations. The organisation manages a genetic database containing DNA data from family members of the disappeared, which is preserved to assist judicial authorities in prosecutions and truth-seeking initiatives. This painstaking process requires the location and identification of the remains of the victims, attributing the cause of death and restitution of remains to grieving relatives. But it serves an equally important role – it confirms the identities of kidnapped children, making forensic genetics an indispensable human rights tool.

The legacy of the 'Dirty War' is still being felt by many. While the recent trials are a part of Argentina's attempt to reconcile with the past and live with its consequences, the search for truth remains focused on the several hundred stolen babies that have yet to be accounted for. EAAF assists families in this painful process and, in doing so, informs the public memory and builds a collective consciousness which guards against future abuse.

work for the global protection of cultural patrimony. In presenting the case, the ICC Chief Prosecutor noted the serious threat to cultural heritage from extremist groups, including ISIS. "History," she warned, "will not be generous to our failure to care."

Thank you

Oak Foundation would like to thank these outstanding organisations for their extraordinary contribution to justice. Their efforts have helped uncover the truth, hold individuals to account and develop the legal framework for the prosecution of international crimes.

As all these grantees will concede, the pursuit of justice is often slow, long and arduous. We are proud to have accompanied them on their inspirational and momentous journeys.



The photos throughout the International Human Rights Programme section of the report illustrate the struggle of the South American peoples against the injustices carried out against many of them and their families during the 1970s and 1980s. In May 2016, an Argentinean court found governments in Argentina, Uruguay, Bolivia, Chile and Paraguay guilty of conspiring to hunt down, kidnap and kill political opponents. Known as Operation Condor, this resulted in the murder of thousands.

Years of legal battles have resulted in the sentencing of the last Argentine dictator, high and mid-ranking Argentine military officials and an Uruguayan army colonel to prison terms of up to 25 years.



Grants

Ending impunity for gross human rights violations

Center for Civilians in Conflict

USD 495,000 (36 months)
To influence governments, international organisations and armed actors in conflict around the world to implement effective harm mitigation policies for civilians.

Center for Justice and International Law

USD 1,000,064 (36 months)
To contribute to the full enjoyment of human rights in the Americas through the effective use of the tools of the Inter-American System of Human Rights.

Center for Public Health & Human Rights, John Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

USD 240,000 (24 months)
To end attacks on health workers, health facilities, transport systems and those seeking care during periods of political violence.

Centre for Research Architecture, Goldsmiths College

USD 413,194 (36 months)
To support the development of forensic architecture techniques and their application to a range of human rights violations.

Collectif Parties Civiles Rwanda

USD 100,000 (12 months)
To remove safe havens for suspected Rwandan genocidaires currently residing in France.

Columbia University

USD 250,000 (24 months)
To increase the transparency and accountability of security forces globally by using publicly-available data to monitor abuses and provide information for international criminal cases and advocacy.

European Implementation Network

USD 100,000 (12 months)
To strengthen the role of civil society in the implementation of judgements of the European Court of Human Rights through the establishment of the European Implementation Network in Strasbourg.

European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights

USD 691,489 (36 months)
To hold perpetrators of serious human abuses to account through conventional or innovative legal means with a view to deterring future abuse, providing justice and redress to those affected and developing the international legal framework against impunity.

Nucleo de Preservacao da Memoria Politica

USD 250,000 (24 months)
To establish a functioning, sustainable human rights museum and education centre in a former military court in central São Paulo in Brazil.

Public Verdict Foundation

USD 600,000 (36 months)
To conduct independent investigations and engage in domestic and international litigation on cases of abuse and torture by law enforcement officers, as well as cases of violation of the rights to freedom of assembly, association and opinion in Russia.

Redress

USD 238,806 (18 months)
To conduct strategic litigation and advocacy to uphold and strengthen the prohibition on torture internationally.

Search for Common Ground

USD 240,000 (12 months)
To support the development of strategic and financial planning initiatives for Search for Common Ground.

Southern Africa Litigation Centre

USD 240,000 (36 months)
To fight impunity for gross human rights violation in Africa and worldwide through strategic litigation.

The Norwegian Helsinki Committee

USD 380,000 (36 months)
To facilitate accountability, truth seeking, preservation of accurate historical memory and reconciliation in the North Caucasus.

Videre

USD 1,074,627 (48 months)
To document and expose human rights violations and other systemic abuses in some of the world's most oppressive and violent regimes.

Freedom from arbitrary detention and torture

Anti-Discrimination Memorial Brussels

USD 300,000 (36 months)
To protect migrants and stateless people in Russia from arbitrary arrest, detention and other threats to their liberty and security.

Asia Justice and Rights

USD 240,000 (36 months)
To support victims of torture in Burma to develop strategies for healing and recovery and empower them to gain justice and reparations.

Bail for Immigration Detainees

USD 320,896 (36 months)
To challenge immigration detention in the UK through the provision of legal advice, information and representation to people held in immigration detention.

Blue Earth Alliance

USD 110,000 (24 months)
To raise awareness of the impact that immigration detention and flaws in detention procedures has on individuals.

Brazil Fund for Human Rights

USD 2,488,173 (36 months)
To support the work of the Brazil Fund for Human Rights in its efforts to promote respect for human rights in Brazil, in particular to assist the Fund in strengthening its communications capacity and to support civil society organisations working in the area of criminal justice in Brazil.

Bulgarian Helsinki Committee (BHC)

USD 447,737 (36 months)
To provide core support to the BHC in support of its efforts to improve respect for human rights in Bulgaria, with a particular focus upon the rights of individuals in closed institutions.

Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative

USD 608,221 (36 months)
To support the policing and prisons programmes with a focus on improving relevant legal and procedural rights, and improving detention oversight mechanisms with a view to reducing undue and prolonged pre-trial detention.

Death Penalty Project Ltd

USD 447,761 (60 months)
To promote and protect the human rights of people sentenced to the death penalty, in particular by challenging the arbitrary imposition of the death penalty resulting from the violation of due process guarantees.

European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE)

USD 414,894 (36 months)
To support the work of the ECRE, a network of over 90 non-governmental organisations in 38 European countries working to protect and advance the rights of refugees, asylum seekers and displaced persons.

Fund For Global Human Rights

USD 832,500 (24 months)
To provide grants to three organisations – Border Network of Human Rights, Colibri Centre for Human Rights and Detention Watch Network – working on human rights issues in the context of harsh immigration enforcement and detention in the US.

Global Dialogue

USD 499,940 (24 months)
To establish a UK Communications Hub, linked to embedded communication officers, to support a coalition of CSOs to shape and participate in national and regional conversations on migration, integration and related debates.

Heartland Alliance

USD 900,000 (36 months)
To promote the human rights of immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers, particularly those deprived of their liberty in immigration detention.

Human Rights First

USD 375,000 (12 months)
To advocate for reform of the US immigration system to end arbitrary or abusive detention and reduce the asylum backlog.

International Rehabilitation Council of Torture Victims

USD 1,394,681 (36 months)
To provide financial assistance to rehabilitation centres in low- and middle-income countries and in acute financial need.

NEO Philanthropy

USD 1,500,000 (36 months)
To support the work of the Four Freedoms Fund donor collaboratives, including grant-making, convening and strategising to build a more effective and connected US immigrant rights field.

Proteus Action League

USD 250,000 (12 months)
To support the grant-making of the Security and Rights Collaborative, a Proteus Action League fund seeking to restore a balance between human rights and national security interests in the United States.

Washington Office on Latin America

USD 100,000 (12 months)
To encourage Latin American governments to resettle Guantánamo prisoners cleared for release.

Women's Refugee Commission

USD 500,000 (36 months)
To ensure that every migrant in the US, particularly women, children and families, have full access to legal protection and safety as provided by the Refugee Convention and international human rights standards.

Supporting and protecting human rights defenders

Access Now

USD 100,000 (12 months)
To develop a new business model maximising alternative revenue streams and reducing reliance on philanthropic sources.

Civic Assistance Committee for refugees and forced migrants

USD 240,000 (24 months)
To provide comprehensive support to asylum seekers, refugees, forced migrants and internally displaced people in Moscow and the Moscow region.

EngageMedia Collective Inc

USD 100,000 (12 months)
To complete and roll out the Video4Change Impact Cookbook, a toolkit to improve the effectiveness of using video for social change.

Front Line

USD 638,298 (36 months)
To provide direct assistance to human rights defenders at risk worldwide.

Heartland Alliance

USD 475,000 (36 months)
To provide small grants and technical assistance to grassroots LGBTI groups in West Africa.

International Civil Society Centre

USD 55,000 (12 months)
To support the International Civil Society Centre's efforts to counter global trends of shrinking civil space by facilitating a consultative process to develop a Charter of Civic Participation.

Open Briefing

USD 231,343 (36 months)
To provide core support for Open Briefing; to establish new business areas including a security unit, a training unit, and the development and expansion of the existing intelligence unit; to provide up to eight subsidised assignments to IHRP grantees addressing security training and threat assessments.

OutRight Action International

USD 660,000 (36 months)
To advance development of LGBTI rights at the UN; to domesticate those gains at the national level; to pursue comprehensive capacity building of LGBTI groups in the Caribbean; to minimise violence directed towards those same Caribbean groups through training of police and law enforcement officials.

P&B Group

USD 100,000 (12 months)
To provide up to 12 international-standard financial audits of International Human Rights Programme grantees in Russia.

Parliamentarians for Global Action

USD 450,000 (36 months)
To mobilise and amplify influential parliamentary voices supporting the enactment of anti-discrimination legislation and the repeal of laws criminalising same-sex relationships.

Broadening human rights constituencies

Center for Strategic and International Studies

USD 600,000 (24 months)
To establish a leading cohort of international specialists to influence key policy makers and public discourse in support of civil society.

Crisis Action

USD 750,000 (36 months)
To provide core support to Crisis Action to continue its work in increasing the impact of joint civil society responses to armed conflict.

Global Dialogue

USD 238,806 (12 months)
To support the Thomas Paine Initiative, a donor collaborative that works to increase public support for human rights and to prevent attacks on human rights legislation in the United Kingdom.

Issues Affecting Women



In the Issues Affecting Women Programme, we seek to contribute to a world in which women are safe from violence and are free to exercise their full and equal human rights. We seek to build a strong and vibrant movement of women who are empowered individually and collectively to challenge patriarchal norms and tackle the root causes of inequality.

We support organisations that work to end patterns of violence and exploitation that disrupt women's lives by ensuring that rights-based laws and policies guarantee an environment free from violence, and by transforming harmful social norms. This is complemented by support to a range of comprehensive services that empower women to recover from the trauma of violence and rebuild their lives. We particularly recognise the vital importance of giving marginalised groups of women a chance to exercise their influence and have their voices heard.



Reflections

Many Issues Affecting Women Programme (IAWP) grantees struggle to communicate the impact of the changes they are helping to create. Most available monitoring and evaluation tools fail to reflect the complex realities of social change. The tools themselves can be too intricate to implement without external expertise. Often, they don't reflect an organisation's learning needs. They can also drown out qualitative evidence that is informed by women's voices and real-world experience, in favour of hard numbers that only tell part of the story.

With this in mind, since 2009, the IAWP has been supporting the development of tools, research and expertise to strengthen grantees' abilities to measure effectiveness and impact. Starting with a grant to **Prospera – International Network of Women's Funds**, the IAWP has supported a process to help women's funds build new approaches to learning, monitoring and evaluation (LM&E) that reflect shared priorities, roles and feminist perspectives. The process included a participatory process to define a common set of indicators. Women's funds can use these indicators to demonstrate collective impact.

This project has increased understanding and capacities of the women's funds' sector to measure and communicate the impact of their work. It has also been significant for the broader human rights field – enabling a re-think of LM&E methodologies appropriate for capturing social change which can be difficult to measure. For example, the number of people supported by a given

domestic violence service provider does not capture how social norms and societal tolerance for domestic violence have shifted due to advocacy and awareness-raising work. Yet, understanding how and if these shifts are happening is critical to our understanding of what is happening in the field.

One of the tools developed as a result of this process was the Impact Mapper¹, an online platform that provides technological solutions to capture trends and shifts that enable social transformation. In addition to supporting grantees to use this tool, the IAWP is in the process of adopting Impact Mapper to capture the impact of our own grant-making. We believe that this tool will enable us to analyse the data we receive from our grantees and help us test our assumptions, systematise our learning and better tell the story of how our funding is making a difference to women's lives.



1. & 3. The Women Deliver 2016 Global Conference brought more than 5,700 policymakers, researchers, advocates, journalists and young people from 169 countries to Copenhagen, with the goal of increasing investments in girls and women.
2. **Red Nacional de Refugios** is a network of shelters which provide security, protection and specialised care for women and their children.

30

grants were made by the Issues Affecting Women Programme in 2016, totalling USD 14.45 million.



Find out more at www.oakfnd.org

1. <http://www.impactmapper.com/>




Networks help women join forces around the world, raising their **collective voice**.

© Mia Moore / Oak Foundation

Mobilising women through networks and coalitions

Organisations working towards a shared vision – such as ending domestic violence – are a more powerful and legitimate force when they speak with one voice. This is how coalitions, in particular those working at national or domestic levels, advance a shared advocacy agenda.

A groundbreaking study¹ which looked at policies to prevent violence against women in 70 countries over four decades, has found that movements have a significant enduring impact on progressive policies – more than strong left-wing political parties, women in government or even national wealth.

 **"The mobilisation of women in civil society is in fact the critical factor accounting for positive policy changes."**

- Florence Tercier Holst-Roness
Director of the Issues Affecting Women Programme

"This fascinating study reinforced a major underlying belief of the Issues Affecting Women Programme," says Florence, "namely that many voices working towards a common goal are louder and more impactful than a single organisation working on one issue."

Networks are extremely important in helping change social norms and raise public consciousness, especially around complex and nuanced issues such as domestic violence or human trafficking. By creating alliances with other social sectors and non-traditional actors such as the private sector, networks help to reinforce and amplify impact. Because of their diverse members, they often have more credibility and reach than a single organisation or activist. In addition, they are usually the best

placed to respond to emerging needs to build and strengthen the field.

Oak Foundation funds various national, regional and international networks and coalitions working on diverse subjects through its Issues Affecting Women Programme. Oak's aim is to gather voices at all levels and to gain momentum on achieving equality for women around the world. In this year's Annual Report, the IAWP highlights a number of these networks – **Red Nacional de Refugios**, the **Freedom Network** and the **Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women**.

Red Nacional de Refugios

Some 68 out of every 100 women in Mexico between 30 and 39 years old say they have been victims of violence.² It is against this extreme backdrop that the Red Nacional de Refugios (RNR), a network of 44 domestic abuse shelters, carries out its work.

By striving to improve the national standard of holistic care for women and children who have been victims of violence, the RNR plays a vital role. It works to strengthen the capacities of its member shelters and advocates for better government policy to prevent and address violence against women.

The RNR brings together nearly three quarters of all domestic violence shelters in the country. This enables good communications among the shelters, facilitating RNR's strategic work at state levels as well as nationally and internationally. "This translates into rapid and safe responses to women in situations of violence," says Wendy Figueroa, RNR's National Director.

In addition, the RNR has been able to make impressive gains for the women's right movement in Mexico. For example, in Mexico's Congress, the RNR is now a point of reference when it comes to its General Law on Women's Access to a Life Free of Violence. Following RNR's many years of tireless advocacy, the law was reformed, mandating the government to provide funding for emergency and transition homes for women victims of violence. Now, women are guaran-

teed more holistic responses before and after they enter shelters.

These kinds of wins are made possible in part thanks to the RNR's national data collection system (SILGE), which generates relevant statistics concerning violence against women – locally, regionally and nationally. "With one unified voice, the reality of life for women in Mexico is backed up with numbers," says Wendy Figueroa, RNR's National Director.

In late 2016, RNR opened its first of five centres for women's empowerment and leadership in Mexico. What began as a dream of building the first centre is now a reality and a testament to the power of working collectively. "Without the network, we could never coordinate the efforts or interests of the shelters, nor of the women and children they serve," says Wendy.

The Freedom Network

Freedom Network is the largest national coalition of advocates in the US providing direct services to survivors of human trafficking. The Network's 38 individual and organisational members work with thousands of clients each year – providing many social and legal services to ensure survivors have safe housing, legal immigration status, education, employment and medical and mental healthcare.

Its core belief is that the crime of trafficking is a violation of an individual's basic human rights and personal freedom. A human rights-based approach focuses on the empowerment and autonomy of each survivor. Successful prevention depends on addressing root causes.

"Unfortunately, the dominant public narrative around trafficking in the US is ill-informed," says Medina Haeri, Programme Officer for Oak's Issues Affecting Women Programme. "Programmes and politicians continue to respond to sensationalised stories of sex trafficking that stereotype those who have been victimised. Much of the focus is on ending demand for prostitution, which will never eradicate this crime."

68 %

of women in Mexico between 30 and 39 years old say they have been victims of violence. The Red Nacional de Refugios supports these women through its network of 44 domestic abuse centres.

References

1. 'Mala HTUN and S Laurel Weldon, The Civic origins of Progressive Policy Change: Combating Violence against women in Global Perspective, 1975 – 2005, American Political Science Review, Vol 106, No3, August 2012

2. OECD (2017) 'Building an Inclusive Mexico: Policies and Good Governance for Gender Equality', OECD, Paris



Freedom Network is the largest national coalition in the United States providing direct services to survivors of human trafficking.

Freedom Network is strongly committed to decriminalising the consensual sex trade. It enthusiastically supported Amnesty International's recent policy decision to advocate for the decriminalisation of all aspects of consensual adult sex – sex work that does not involve coercion, exploitation or abuse.

Freedom Network works to create an informed and unified narrative on trafficking that is grounded in the human rights of trafficking victims. It seeks to expand the definition of trafficking to include labour exploitation, rather than focusing only on sex trafficking. Its members are on the frontlines of innovative prevention efforts. These include the Coalition of Immokalee Workers' Fair Food Program and the Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking – a crucial voice in the Supply Chain Transparency Act in California.

These efforts by Freedom Network and its members are slowly changing how the crime of trafficking is understood and addressed. As well as the White House's 2014 Federal Strategic Action Plan, former President Barack Obama also pioneered a new US Advisory Council on Human Trafficking. It is comprised exclusively of trafficking survivors and provides them a formal avenue for providing input on federal anti-trafficking policies. Many of the survivors serving on the Council have been supported by Freedom Network members to overcome their trauma and become advocates in their own right.

Ima Matul, a member of the US Advisory Council, believes that there is a growing commitment to finding innovative solutions to make sure that this generation of survivors will be the last.

"There is a growing awareness about the devastating impact of human trafficking. There is a growing embrace of survivors – in our communities and businesses and churches."

**- Ima Matul
Leader of National Survivor Network
speaking at the Domestic National
Committee convention in 2016**

GAATW

The Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women (GAATW) is a network of over 100 non-governmental organisations from all around the world, who share a deep concern for the women, children and men whose human rights have been violated as a result of human trafficking. The International Secretariat is based in Bangkok, Thailand, and coordinates the activities of the Alliance, collects and disseminates information, and advocates on behalf of GAATW at regional and international levels.

GAATW was among the first actors to draw attention to the fact that anti-trafficking initiatives can often do more harm than good. Its landmark 2007 report "Collateral Damage" highlighted instances where initiatives have not only failed to protect the rights of trafficked persons and migrating people, but in



some instances have also justified stringent border control, deportation of undocumented migrants and atrocities against certain groups of migrants. This work reinforced one of GAATW's core principles of inclusivity and participation, advocating strongly for the self-representation and organisation of those directly affected by trafficking into anti-trafficking discussions.

As the majority of GAATW's members provide direct support services to victims of trafficking, GAATW has also worked toward ensuring that its members' assistance programmes are likewise informed by the insights and analysis of trafficked persons. From 2013-2015, with support from Oak, GAATW piloted a new model of participatory monitoring for anti-trafficking initiatives among 17 of its members across Latin America, Europe and Asia, increasing their capacity to "listen" to the post-trafficking experiences and insights of trafficking survivors to inform and improve their services.

After interviewing 121 women, men and girls who lived through trafficking to find out about their experiences, the participating organisations were better able to see the impact of their work from a survivor's perspective. They gained many new insights about ways to improve their services or mobilisation and awareness-building interventions.

Many have already begun applying these insights through concrete programmes or approaches. "The research enabled us to understand the strengths and weaknesses of both our own interventions and those of others," said one

GAATW member. "Previously, we had always taken our clients' need for security, food and transport into account. But thanks to the interviews we realised that we'd concentrated on their basic needs, and had only occasionally gone further, mainly because of our limited capacity to respond to additional demands."

With Oak support, GAATW will continue sharing the research results and methodologies with its broader membership. Its aim is to transform how its members engage with their beneficiaries, recognising the rich insight and feedback that trafficking survivors can provide to improve services and policies.

Survivors of trafficking provide rich insight and feedback that improve services and inform policies.



1. The US Advisory Council on Human Trafficking comprises diverse human trafficking survivors, shown here.
2. The **GAATW** is a network of non-governmental organisations from all regions of the world, who share a deep concern for the women, children and men whose human rights have been violated by the criminal practice of human trafficking.
3. Leymah Gbowee, winner of the 2011 Nobel Peace Prize, is part of the **Nobel Women's Initiative** which works to strengthen and expand feminist efforts to promote non-violent solutions to war, violence and militarism.
4. Participants at the **Association for Women's Rights in Development** 2016 Forum.

Grants



Ashiana Network

USD 430,000 (36 months)

To provide core support to the Ashiana Network, so that it can provide support services to South Asian, Turkish and Iranian women in the UK who are experiencing domestic violence or sexual violence.

Association against Violence "Casa Marioarei"

USD 300,000 (36 months)

To provide core support to Casa Marioarei enabling it to provide quality legal, psychological, medical and shelter services for women and children victims of domestic violence in Moldova.

Bulgarian Fund for Women

USD 210,000 (36 months)

To provide core support to the Bulgarian Fund for Women, enabling it to advance its mission of empowering women and girls.

Cepia Citizenship, Study, Research, Information and Action (CEPIA)

USD 300,000 (36 months)

To support CEPIA's mission to promote human and citizenship rights especially among groups historically excluded from exercising their full citizenship in Brazil.

Cepia Citizenship, Study, Research, Information and Action (CEPIA)

USD 54,230 (12 months)

To provide a small grant to CEPIA, enabling it to strengthen the link between the Zika virus and the sexual and reproductive rights of women in Brazil.

Equipo de Estudios Comunitarios y Acción Psicosocial

USD 100,000 (8 months)

To support the Alianza Rompiendo el Silencio to follow up on the guilty verdict of the Sepur Zarco case, a landmark trial, charging two former military officers with sexual slavery inflicted during Guatemala's civil war.

European Network for the Work with Perpetrators of Domestic Violence

USD 300,000 (38 months)

To provide core support to the European Network for the Work with Perpetrators of Domestic Violence to improve the safety of women and their children at risk from violence.

Focus on Labour Exploitation

USD 225,000 (36 months)

To provide core support to FLEX, based in the UK, to enable it to make progress on its core mission of ending human trafficking for labour exploitation.

Fondo Centroamericano de Mujeres (FCAM)

USD 630,000 (36 months)

To provide FCAM with core support, strengthening its recognition as a leading feminist fund that builds women's and feminist movements in Central America.

Fonds pour les Femmes Congolaises (FFC)

USD 600,000 (36 months)

To provide core support to FFC to enable it to offer technical and financial assistance to grassroots organisations promoting and protecting the rights of women and girls in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

FRIDA – The Young Feminist Fund

USD 300,000 (36 months)

To provide core support to FRIDA – The Young Feminist Fund, based in Canada.

Geneva University Hospitals, (Hôpitaux Universitaires de Genève)

USD 450,000 (36 months)

To carry out a collaborative, community-based study to meet the needs of women experiencing ongoing psychological intimate partner violence.

Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women (GAATW)

USD 320,000 (36 months)

To provide GAATW with core support, enabling it to make progress on its key strategic objectives.

Hispanics in Philanthropy

USD 2,810,270 (36 months)

To administer and expand the Issues Affecting Women Programme's Mexico portfolio of grants working on migration, exploitation, trafficking and violence against women.

Impact Mapper, PBC

USD 185,290 (12 months)

To further develop the Impact Mapper online tool for tracking trends in social change.

International Centre for Women's Rights Protection and Promotion "La Strada"

USD 600,000 (36 months)

To provide core support to La Strada based in the Republic of Moldova, to enable it to continue working with women and children affected by domestic violence and human trafficking, and with children survivors of sexual exploitation and abuse.

MADRE

USD 800,000 (24 months)

To enable MADRE to provide financial and capacity-building support to the Organization of Women's Freedom in Iraq.

Mama Cash

USD 900,000 (36 months)

To provide core support to Mama Cash, enabling it to strengthen emerging and self-led feminist groups through its grant-making and accompaniment support.

Manifesta

USD 100,000 (12 months)

To create and build an internationally recognised and respected digital platform within global feminist movements.



Nobel Women's Initiative (NWI)

USD 330,000 (36 months)

To provide core support to the NWI to enable it to strengthen and support women's rights organisations around the world.

openDemocracy

USD 180,000 (36 months)

To support the 50.50 platform to raise awareness of critical women's rights issues, to provide tools that improve implementation of women's rights and to inform and influence global policy.

Prospera International Network of Women's Funds

USD 600,000 (36 months)

To provide core support to Prospera International Network of Women's Funds, enabling it to continue strengthening the work of women's funds.

Solidarité Féminine pour la Paix et le Développement Intégral

USD 600,000 (36 months)

To support women and girl victims of sexual violence in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo by providing medical and psycho-social aid and legal and economic support.

Terre des Femmes Switzerland

USD 150,000 (36 months)

To support Terre des Femmes to provide comprehensive and culturally sensitive counselling services and assistance specifically designed for migrant women who are victims of domestic violence living in Bern, Switzerland.

TRAG Foundation

USD 1,283,000 (24 months)

To strengthen women's movements and civil society organisations in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro.

Urgent Action Fund for Women's Human Rights

USD 650,000 (36 months)

To provide core support to the Consortium of Urgent Action Funds in their efforts to strengthen the resilience and impact of women's movements around the world.

Women@TheTable

USD 100,000 (12 months)

To strengthen the organisational development of Women@TheTable, based in Switzerland, so it becomes a solid communications and advocacy resource to women activists and women's movements.

Women in Dialogue (formerly Women Against Rape - WAR)

USD 240,000 (36 months)

To provide core support to WAR, enabling it to empower victims to be better informed, stronger and more confident advocates.

Women Win

USD 400,000 (24 months)

To empower women in the global South by building cross-sector partnerships using an integrated, rights-based approach.

Women's Law Center (WLC)

USD 300,000 (36 months)

To provide core support to WLC to continue its work to ensure the protection of women's rights and help reduce violence against women in Moldova.

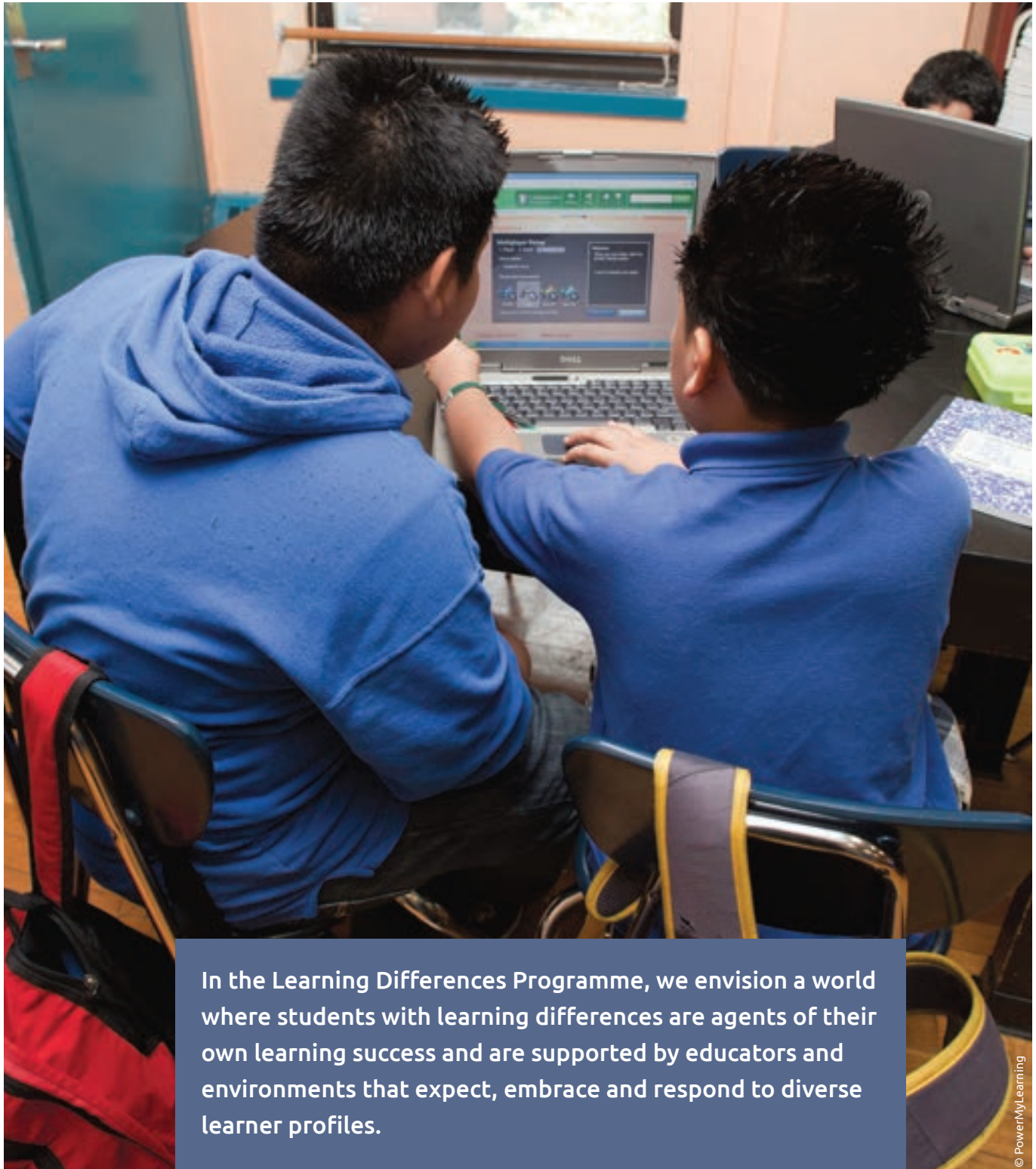


1. The 2016 **AWID Forum** took place in Brazil, looking at the future of the feminist movement.
2. **Prospera** works to support women's funds around the world with the goals of equality and prosperity.
3. The **WAVE Network** is comprised of European women's organisations working to combat violence against women and children.
4. Sister Nobel Peace Laureates Leymah Gbowee, Mairead Maguire and Jody Williams speaking at a recent **Nobel Women's Initiative** conference.



This is a list of grants approved in 2016. For a comprehensive list and full descriptions, please visit our grant database at www.oakfnd.org/grants

Learning Differences



In the Learning Differences Programme, we envision a world where students with learning differences are agents of their own learning success and are supported by educators and environments that expect, embrace and respond to diverse learner profiles.

We support teacher development, student engagement and parental understanding to enable students to follow their own individual paths to lifelong learning success. We seek partners who design and create learning environments that are informed by student voices, neuroscience, personalised learning best practices and universal design concepts.



Reflections

In 2016, the Learning Differences Programme (LDP) continued to implement its strategy to better serve students with a wide range of learning profiles to achieve success in public schools and during the transition to and through college and other post-secondary opportunities. The LDP strategy is based on a set of core beliefs:

1. **Each learner** possesses a diverse set of cognitive, social and emotional assets, knowledge, skills, interests and preferences. These characteristics interact to form a unique learner profile that changes over time.
2. **Students**, particularly those with learning differences, can achieve greater academic success when they understand how they learn and use that knowledge to plan for, and adapt to, learning environments.
3. **Educators** should be prepared for, and have the tools to respond to diverse learner profiles in order to better serve students with learning differences in general education environments.
4. **Parents** should have the knowledge to understand their child's unique learner profile and the tools to advocate for him/her.
5. **Education systems** should define student success, using accountability frameworks with multiple indicators of academic performance as well as measures of social and emotional wellbeing, persistence and engagement.

We envision a world where students with learning differences are agents of their own learning success and are supported by educators and environments that expect, embrace and respond to diverse learner profiles. We support partners who:

1. **strengthen** teacher capacity;
2. **engage** students;
3. **enhance** parents' knowledge and support;
4. **personalise** learning environments;
5. **build** demand; and
6. **explore** learner profiles.

Through these strategies, we will continue our efforts to improve the lives of those with learning differences globally.



The photographs throughout the LDP section of this report have mostly been provided by LDP partners and illustrate diverse teaching practices and learning environments around the world.

20

grants were made by the Learning Differences Programme in 2016, totalling USD 9.85 million.



Find out more at www.oakfnd.org



Personalising learning for students who learn differently

“Despite some hopeful early evidence, personalised learning approaches are not yet delivering on the promise of moving all students toward reaching their full potential,” says Stacy Parker-Fisher, director of Oak Foundation’s Learning Differences Programme. “And if designers fail to consider the variety of learners in a classroom, including those who learn differently, then personalised learning tools and approaches will only further marginalise these students,” she says.

“Personalised learning” is a term that describes teaching approaches and technology solutions that tailor the learning experience to an individual’s learning needs, skills and interests. Personalisation can involve students working on the same content as their peers, but at different paces, or working on different content altogether. In most cases, technology helps make personalisation possible – it is nearly impossible for a teacher to personalise each child’s learning in a large classroom.

As Oak considers how best to support personalised learning for children with learning differences, we consider the following critical questions: What must educators know about learners to personalise their learning? How can systems and technology support teachers in the implementation of personalised learning? And how can the field come to a shared definition of high-quality personalised learning that includes all students, including those who learn differently?

We must answer these questions to solve the challenges around personalisation. Today’s students are a diverse group of learners with a multitude of experiences, strengths, weaknesses and interests that they bring into the classroom each day. In addition to the challenge of gathering and analysing data about academic performance,

educators must also consider other factors that impact learning – including health, social-emotional development, motivation and trauma exposure.

Many have turned to technology to do the heavy lifting of personalising learning experiences, but Aylon Samouha, co-founder of Transcend, recognises that “Personalisation, at its most extreme, would look like the movie “The Matrix”, with individual students plugged into their own system moving along at their own pace all the time, and that’s not what we want.” He believes that technology should support learning, not be the centre of attention.

Oak Foundation is committed to supporting partners who will help realise the promise of personalised education – Oak believes that the true test of whether learning is personalised is if it promotes the academic and social-emotional development of all students, especially those who learn differently. We believe that personalisation can occur only when:

- teachers understand their students as individual learners, where they are on their pathways to mastery, and what learning opportunities and supports each student needs to progress;
- students understand their own learning strengths and challenges, know where they are and where they are going on their learning paths, have learning strategies they can deploy, and are empowered to make choices about their learning experiences; and
- learning environments, including the use of technology, support teacher and student efforts to personalise learning experiences.

The following paragraphs highlight several Oak partners that are supporting personalised learning in ways that help all students achieve.

Branching Minds

“There have been over three million articles published in the field of learning sciences,” says former teacher Maya Gat, “and very little of this research has been translated into teacher practice. It’s like scientists discovered the cure for cancer, but forgot to tell the doctors.”

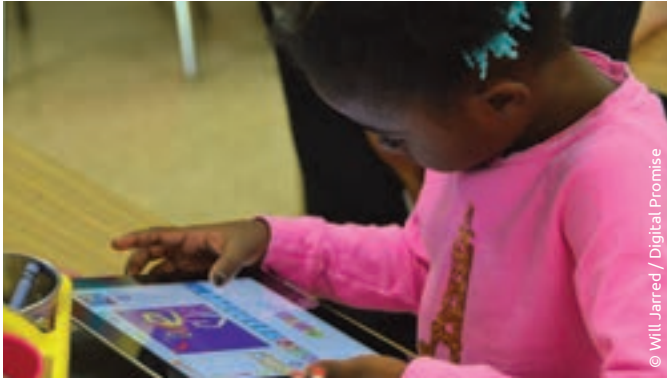
When she was a classroom teacher, Ms Gat saw how challenging it was to support all students’ learning needs. “My job was to do the best I could to troubleshoot why a student had a specific difficulty and to figure out what I could do to help,” she says. But this approach meant that she and her peers had to guess the next steps, based on their experiences or what they had time to research on their own. This is why Ms Gat founded **Branching Minds** – to help translate science-informed approaches to learning into teacher practice in targeted and efficient ways.

Branching Minds has since developed a tool that guides educators in creating student-learning profiles, based on their observations of students in the classroom. Branching Minds then builds a student learning profile of strengths and areas of challenge. It maps this profile to a bank of resources and interventions that are the right fit for that particular student’s learning needs.

Today, Branching Minds is used in over 300 schools serving more than 50,000 students in the US. It plans to expand further, both in the US and beyond.

50,000

students in over
300 schools across
the US are using
Branching Minds
tool today.



Personalised learning environments support the academic and social-emotional development of children.

Transcend

“In most classrooms, the teacher is the hardest-working person in the room,” observes Aylon Samouha, co-founder of **Transcend**. “Teachers instruct, monitor, encourage, redirect and try to keep all children engaged in learning. Just adding technology does not make a teacher’s job easier, nor will it automatically personalise learning for every student,” he says.

“Learning environments need to nurture students’ creativity and hone their abilities to communicate and collaborate effectively with their peers.”

- Dr Jeff Wetzler,
Co-founder Transcend

Mr Samouha and Dr Jeff Wetzler co-founded Transcend in 2015 to design new learning environments that leverage advances in the science of learning and educational technology. This helps prepare children to lead in this fast-changing, increasingly complex world. Transcend designs new school models which create personalised learning environments to support the academic and social-emotional development of students, while preparing them to guide their own learning.

Although using technology to personalise learning will be an aspect of Transcend’s new models, it knows that truly great learning happens when there is a mix of approaches. These in-

clude children working together on a shared topic and talking to each other about what they are learning.

Transcend’s leaders recognise that good grades are not enough to prepare children for their futures. “Students need to develop mindsets as lifelong learners,” says Dr Wetzler. “Learning environments must be designed from the beginning to support the learning of all students, including those who learn differently.”

“Learning environments need to nurture students’ creativity and hone their abilities to communicate and collaborate effectively with their peers.”

Washington University Center for Game Science

Most current education technology does not provide much flexibility to respond to learner variability. The programmes provide limited problem sets or strict time limits, which result in poor outcomes for children who need more practice. “We have found that if we design our math programmes to respond to the learner variability that exists, then the vast majority of students can master math concepts,” says Dr Zoran Popovic, who leads the Center for Game Science (CGS) at the **University of Washington**.

“The student who takes the longest to master a particular algebraic construct may need to practise solving six times as many math problems and might take



ten times the amount of time as their fastest peer," he says. "But if given that opportunity, they can learn these skills, too. There is no reason for them to fail." In response, CGS has developed math games that provide unlimited practice and builds in opportunities for students to help one another within the game.

Much work has been directed towards providing personalised and individualised learning experiences directly to each student. Far less is known about the ways in which teachers can be supported to deliver classroom learning experiences that promote individualised learning. Most personalised learning technologies attempt to replace student/teacher interaction with online practice, assessment and support. However, teacher and student interaction is still critical to learning and cannot be replaced by technology. CGS is working to make it possible for teachers to deliver personalised instruction to all the students in classrooms in real time.

Dr Popovic's team has developed a programme called the Teacher Co-Pilot, which analyses data, including information on students' performances, reading levels and the time of day. The goal is to learn from these interactions and recommend new learning paths for each student. As students learn, the Teacher Co-Pilot makes recommendations about what to do next in order to optimise learning. "The programme can tell a teacher when to give a particular student a high five because he just made a breakthrough in his learning," says Dr Popovic. Teacher Co-Pilot also lets teachers know when multiple students are making mistakes based

on the same misunderstanding and offers the teacher guidance on how to review a specific concept with the group. The Teacher Co-Pilot has been designed to be easy to use for teachers, with minimal need for prior knowledge or time to operate.

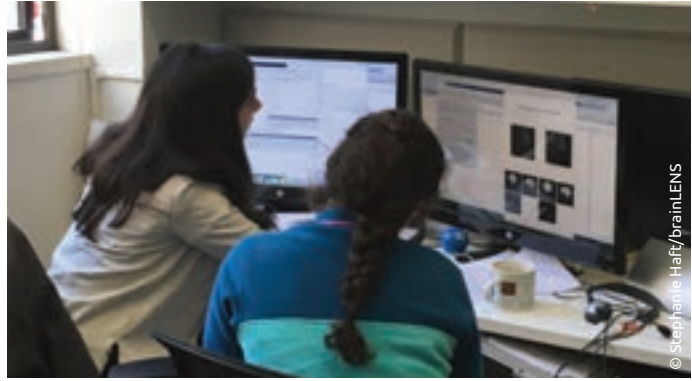
Georgia State University – personalising classes for dyslexic students

Despite significant field-wide advances in understanding brain development over the last 20 years, we still do not understand why some students with dyslexia do not respond to reading interventions that work for their dyslexic peers.

"Estimates are that between 5 and 20 per cent of children with dyslexia will not make strong progress with their reading fluency, even with our best-designed interventions," says Dr Robin Morris at **Georgia State University**, a developmental neuropsychologist. Despite having nearly four decades of experience researching dyslexia, he does "not yet know why".

Our lack of understanding comes from the fact that research to date has not developed good descriptions of the types of learners with dyslexia who do not respond to treatment. "Often students have multiple learning differences – such as attention deficits and specific language impairments," says Dr Robin Morris, "and researchers typically

Environments need to be designed from the beginning to support the learning of all students, including those who learn differently.



The Friday Institute for Educational Innovation at North Carolina State University is providing a free online course, available in 2017.

exclude children who also have these differences from dyslexia studies to make the analysis of the condition of dyslexia more "pure".

Unfortunately, that also means that the findings may fail to apply to the majority of students with dyslexia."

In addition, research designs have not typically included the assessment of multiple types of intervention on literacy development in those children with dyslexia who are treatment resisters. "Those are the answers we're seeking," he says, "and our current studies funded by the National Institutes of Health and Oak Foundation will help us get there." The goal is to identify simple, in-school tests to accurately predict which reading interventions will work for individual students with dyslexia. This personalised approach will avoid many wasted hours and discouraging results using the wrong intervention, potentially helping struggling readers avoid loss of confidence as learners.

Going forward

We believe that personalised learning can serve all students well, by increasing educators' understanding of: individual learners; students' ability to make choices on their own education; and the use of technology. However, schools are still struggling to make the vision of a personalised learning environment for all students a reality.

In the coming year, Oak partners featured here, as well as others, including **Digital Promise**, the **Center for Individual Opportunity** and **Education Reimagined**, will build

demand for personalised learning that responds to a more comprehensive learner profile. This will incentivise the development of tools, systems and approaches that make this response to learners an achievable goal for classrooms across the US and around the globe.

Friday Institute for Educational Innovation

To help students with learning differences understand their own learner profiles and adapt their strengths to personalise their own learning experiences, the Friday Institute for Educational Innovation at North Carolina State University is providing a free online course, available in 2017.

Grants

CAST Resources Inc. **USD 100,000 (12 months)**

To support CAST to partner with the New Teachers Center, based in North Carolina, the US, to create learning environments which support the participation and success of diverse learners.

CAST Resources Inc. **USD 500,000 (16 months)**

To support CAST, a US-based centre, in partnership with the UDL - Implementation Research Network, to create an online system for training and certification in Universal Design for Learning.

Center for Creative Leadership (CCL)

USD 170,000 (6 months)

To support the design, testing and prototyping of two digital leadership development resources that will incorporate existing tools from CCL's early leadership curriculum.

Center for Individual Opportunity (CIO)

USD 500,000 (24 months)

To provide core support to the CIO, a not-for-profit, US-based organisation committed to maximising individual opportunity through deeper scientific understanding.

Convergence

USD 250,000 (12 months)

To provide a one-year planning grant for Education Reimagined to: (1) design a convening in partnership with the Center for Individual Opportunity; (2) hold a convening of students; and (3) support a new staff member to identify and define learner-centred environments.

Education First

USD 200,000 (12 months)

To design and execute a consortium for Learning Differences Programme grantees in early 2017 in the US, and to support the programme in broadening its work around communications, evaluation and network building.

EDUCAUSE

USD 100,000 (12 months)

To support educators to redesign US schools around the principles of Next Generation Learning, which support student-centred, personalised and competency-based learning aligned to new definitions of student success.

Fana Association for Individuals with Learning and Communication Difficulties (FAILCD)

USD 275,000 (36 months)

To provide core support to FAILCD, an organisation based in Ethiopia that provides training to educators and clinical services to children with learning differences such as dyslexia.

Friday Institute for Educational Innovation

USD 698,477 (24 months)

To develop and evaluate the Massive Open Online Course (MOOC-ed) in its support of teachers and administrators serving students with learning differences in all educational settings.

Georgia State University

USD 900,000 (36 months)

To identify differentiating characteristics of people with dyslexia who show treatment resistance to existing evidence-based interventions.

Iredell-Statesville Schools

USD 350,000 (24 months)

To strengthen structures in the Iredell-Statesville School System in North Carolina and provide sustained professional development for coaches and teachers.

New Profit Inc.

USD 500,000 (18 months)

To support students with learning differences through policy change, convening and network engagement activities.

New Teacher Center (NTC)

USD 1,150,000 (36 months)

To support NTC in identifying, piloting and evaluating the impact of teacher practices that support the academic and social-emotional success of students with learning differences.

Ontario College of Art and Design University (OCAD)

USD 1,000,000 (36 months)

To support OCAD's Inclusive Design Research Centre to design a "Social Justice Repair Kit", which will include online open-source, free-of-charge tools for youth organisations to create events.

PowerMyLearning

USD 1,000,000 (36 months)

To support the development of an online platform and the provision of technology-enabled professional development for teachers seeking to create blended learning environments that support the learning success of all students, especially those who learn differently.

President & Fellows of Harvard College

USD 299,058 (36 months)

To document the process and outcomes in six US cities in moving towards customised public education systems that address the needs of diverse learners.

The Aspen Institute

USD 300,000 (24 months)

To support the Aspen Institute in developing the Aspen Young Leaders Fellowship.

Transcend

USD 450,000 (24 months)

To provide core support to Transcend to design and scale up new school models in the US that better contribute to strong academic and social-emotional outcomes for all learners, especially students who learn differently.

University of California San Francisco

USD 350,000 (36 months)

To support the University of California, San Francisco's brainLENS laboratory in assessing the impact of a mentoring programme on the socio-emotional, resilience and academic outcomes of young people with learning differences.

University of Washington Center for Game Science

USD 760,000 (36 months)

To modify and test an internationally available technology platform to provide teachers with proven strategies and interventions in math.



Special Interest



1

The Special Interest Programme reflects the Trustees' interest in making dynamic, diverse, large, innovative and challenging grants. We are committed to remaining flexible and to seizing opportunities as they arise.

Special Interest grants cover a wide range of fields, including health, humanitarian relief, education and the arts. They are made to organisations whose activities the Trustees wish to support, irrespective of country or region.



Stories

The stories within this section represent the diverse range of grants within the Special Interest Programme.

Birmingham Royal Ballet

If the word ballet makes you think of Swan Lake and dancing girls in tutus, think again. **Birmingham Royal Ballet**, based in the United Kingdom, is establishing a programme to support choreographers, composers and designers to create new and contemporary ballets for audiences all around the world to enjoy.

Kit Holder is a dancer and choreographer at Birmingham Royal Ballet. In 2007 he created his first work for the company as a choreographer, and has since made three more. He believes that there are many people with great ideas who lack the connections and opportunities to excel. "As an industry we are missing out on all of those talents," he says.

Contemporary ballet allows for a beautiful expression of our modern times through dance, music and costumes. In a world increasingly driven by profit-making and budget cuts, art in all its forms is being pushed to the outer margins of our communities and lives. Contemporary ballet is no different and has remained in the background, not being as lucrative as well-known big-name classic shows.

Oak Foundation has provided a grant of GBP 1.1 million over five years to

fund an exciting new project at Birmingham Royal Ballet called 'Ballet Now'. The project will support ballet choreographers, composers and designers to create new work. It will give participants the creative freedom, artistic opportunity and career-enhancing knowledge of creating new ballets within a large dance company, for people around the world to enjoy.

"We are passionate about art and this particular art form's profound impact in the community," said Geoff Sweeney, development director of Birmingham Royal Ballet. "We believe that art is essential for communities – it is the glue that binds people together."

Birmingham Royal Ballet performed to more than 150,000 people in 2015, and to a further 15,000 people through its community outreach projects. As a company it is committed to developing talents at all levels. It reaches out to disadvantaged young people who benefit from the structure and teamwork the dance requires. >>



1. Ruth Brill, one of the dancers at the **Birmingham Royal Ballet** in rehearsal.
2. *Le Baiser de la fée*, Jenna Roberts as the Fairy with Tom Rogers and Aonghus Hoole as Sprites, Birmingham Royal Ballet.
3. *The Prince of the Pagodas*, Tyrone Singleton as the King of the South, Birmingham Royal Ballet.

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grants were made by the Special Interest Programme in 2016, totalling USD 40.22 million.



Find out more at www.oakfnd.org



The University of the People offers an affordable, scalable alternative to the current education system.

Pearl Chesterman, director of engagement and participation at Birmingham Royal Ballet says, "By developing the art form it gives us the opportunity to collectively change people's lives. Together, we can offer opportunities to step out of the ordinary and into something special. This has untold and far reaching benefits for all those communities we can reach out to and support, and it leaves a magical touch in their lives."

The University of the People

"Look at the world," says Shai Reshef, President of the **University of the People**. "Pick a place and focus on it. You will find humans chasing higher education."

Shai set up the University of the People following the realisation that higher education had stopped being a right for all, and instead, had become a privilege for the few. He decided to provide an affordable, scalable alternative to the current education system.

"I wanted to open the gates of higher education for every qualified student, regardless of what they earn, where they live, or what society says about them."

- Shai Reshef,
President of the
University of the People

Students of the University of the People include Patrick, born in Liberia to a family of 20 children. During the

civil war, he and his family were forced to flee to Nigeria. There, despite his situation, he graduated high school with nearly perfect grades. However, he was obliged to go to South Africa to work and send back money to his family – having a higher education was a dream. Another student – Debbie from Florida, US – came from a family where nobody else had been to college. Debbie had worked all her life, but did not have the savings for higher education and could not afford to stop working to study.

It was for people like these that Shai set up the University of the People in 2009, a not-for-profit, tuition-free, accredited, online American university. This university is not built of bricks and mortar and, as everything is online, there is no need for hardcopy books either. "Why should we put that extra cost on the backs of our students?" says Shai.

Anybody with a high school diploma, a sufficient level of English and an internet connection can study with the University of the People. Tuition is free, with students having to pay only for the exams, which cost USD 100 each. This means that an entire degree costs USD 4,000. "And for those who cannot afford even this," says Shai, "we offer a variety of scholarships. It is our mission that nobody will be left behind for financial reasons."

At first, the university offered degrees in Business Administration and Computer Science. Since the University of the People became fully accredited, it has grown substantially, with students enrolled from nearly 200 countries. It now offers a health science degree and an MBA.



© PAMS Foundation

"This is a new model of higher education," says Shai. "Once expanded, it can enhance the collective intelligence of millions of creative and motivated individuals who otherwise would be left behind."

The University of the People will continue to scale up. Shai believes that a new era is coming, "an era that will witness the disruption of the higher education model as we know it today, from being a privilege for the few to becoming a basic right, affordable and accessible for all."

Giving orphaned baby elephants a chance in life

In February 2016 a newborn elephant was rescued and brought to the **Hoedspruit Endangered Species Centre (HESC)** in South Africa. Sadly, Amanzi, as he was named, died shortly afterwards from malnutrition. When his mother was killed by poachers for her tusks, he no longer had his protector, nor her milk.

To prevent this from happening again, HESC will work with Elephants Alive and several veterinarians to develop a milk formula for baby elephants. This will be done by biochemically analysing elephant milk samples and developing an organic synthesis of a milk product. The product will then be patented so that the commercial sale of the product will cover the manufacturing costs.

It is becoming increasingly important to have a suitable formula to nourish baby elephants. Sadly, because the illegal ivory trade is growing year on

year, the number of elephants slaughtered for their tusks keeps growing. It is becoming quite common to find baby elephants left alone in the wild.

"It is an abomination that these majestic animals are hunted down and slaughtered, often leaving behind orphaned animals in a state of distress," said Christopher Parker, Oak Trustee. "This project complements the goal of the Illegal Wildlife Trade Programme well, as it will help to save the lives of orphaned elephants. I commend HESC for taking the initiative to solve this problem and ensure both rhino and elephant orphans are helped to survive. At this point, the life of every elephant counts."

In September 2016, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature announced in its recent African Elephant Status report that elephant populations have seen the worst decline in more than 25 years. The population has declined throughout Africa by a third – more than 100,000 elephants – since 2007.

HESC ensures the treatment and rehabilitation of wild animals in need and has successfully reared a number of orphaned rhino. It has also surgically treated adult rhino whose horns had been removed.

"We hope that by developing a milk product full of the nutrients a baby elephant needs, we will give hope to a new generation of elephants and rhino in this era of intensive poaching," says Adine Roode from HESC. "Poaching is bringing these species ever closer to the brink of extinction, but at least we can give a chance to their orphaned, abandoned offspring."



Since 2007, elephant populations in continental Africa have declined by

1/3

which makes more than

100,000

elephants.



Fear of being
deported forces
as many as

76,000

illegal immigrants
in Switzerland
into hiding,
making them
a vulnerable
population.

Entraide Protestante Suisse

A recent study¹ by the Swiss state secretariat for migrants estimates that there are 76,000 illegal immigrants (known as *sans-papiers*) living in Switzerland, of whom 43 per cent come from South and Central America.

Other sources² estimate that there are as many as between 90,000 and 300,000 illegal immigrants living in Switzerland. Most live and work in the urban centres, and 70 per cent are women, primarily working in domestic service to support their families in their countries of origin and to cover their own survival needs in Switzerland.

The fear of being reported to the authorities and deported forces them to live in hiding. It is difficult to obtain information about this group of people or to provide them with information. Many factors make them fragile, both in terms of their health and their social position. These include a lack of job security, low wages, psychological pressure, culture shock and general feelings of vulnerability.

In Switzerland illegal immigrants nonetheless have rights. These include the right to health insurance and the right for their children to attend school. They also have the legal right to be defended by a lawyer if they are being exploited by their employer.

Entraide Protestante Suisse (EPER) is an organisation that, through its project Permanences Volantes, works to raise awareness among immigrant communities of their rights as *sans-papiers* and to connect them to existing

services. Do-qui from Mongolia has lived in Geneva for 11 years with her two children. She works in domestic service full-time for a family. For her, the services offered by EPER were a lifeline. As well as providing support when she had more than CHF 1,000 stolen by a rogue landlord, it has allowed her to meet other people and take part in fun and interesting cultural and leisure activities.

“Before I never did sport,” she said. “Now I run regularly with my friends at Permanences Volantes. I am so happy to have been able to access this support and help.”



P 58.1: The **University of the People** provides an affordable, scalable alternative to the current education system.

P 58.2, P 59, 60.1: **Hoedspruit Endangered Species Centre** in South Africa ensures the treatment and rehabilitation of wild animals in need.

P 60.2: Illegal immigrants still have rights. Activities organised by the **Entraide Protestante Suisse** include cultural, sport and leisure events. Above, the team trains and competes in “Fête de l’Escalade”, an annual fun-run that takes place in Geneva’s Old Town every December.

P 61.1: Two children play at the **North Carolina Museum of Life and Science**.

P 61.2: The Nutcracker artists of **Birmingham Royal Ballet** as snowflakes.

References

1. ‘Environ 76’000 sans-papiers vivent en Suisse’, swissinfo.ch, <http://www.swissinfo.ch/fre/environ-76-000-sans-papiers-vivent-en-suisse/42111472> (accessed 24 January 2017).

2. ‘Sans-papiers ont des droits!’, Unia Suisse, <http://www.unia.ch/fr/monde-du-travail/de-a-a-z/migrant-e-s/sans-papiers/> (accessed 24 January 2017).

Grants



Ace Africa UK

USD 236,336 (38 months)

To empower children and their communities in Kisumu and Migori, Kenya to improve and sustain their own health, wellbeing and development.

Birmingham Royal Ballet

USD 1,641,791 (60 months)

To establish a programme called 'Ballet Now' which will support ballet choreographers, composers and designers to create new work.

Boomerang

USD 300,000 (36 months)

To help young people suspended from school (ages 11-21) in Orange County to cultivate skills for personal growth and success in a supportive environment.

Bridge II Sports (BIIS)

USD 400,000 (48 months)

To provide core support to BIIS, which works to help children and adults with physical disabilities discover and build their confidence, self-esteem and tenacity through sports.

dZi Foundation

USD 300,000 (36 months)

To increase economic resilience for 4,000 households in extremely remote communities in eastern Nepal.

Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation

USD 1,500,000 (36 months)

To work towards the elimination of mother-to-child transmission of HIV.

Elon University

USD 1,015,100 (48 months)

To use a two-generation approach to support literacy and English language development among parents and children in a school district and university partnership.

Fondation des Fondateurs (FFT)

USD 500,000 (12 months)

To continue support to FFT, a collaboration between foundations interested in achieving the best possible outcome on the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership negotiations and the EU-Canada trade deal ratification process.

Fondation MalleyPrairie

USD 404,040 (24 months)

To support women victims of domestic violence in the Canton de Vaud, Switzerland through the Fondation MalleyPrairie.

Fondation Résonance

USD 303,030 (36 months)

To provide core support to Fondation Résonance in Switzerland (founded by pianist Elizabeth Sombart) to offer piano lessons and master classes to people of all ages using the Résonance pedagogy.

Foundation for Global Sustainability (FFGS)

USD 219,697 (5 months)

To provide core support to FFGS to support the transition of the Swiss business association 'swisscleantech' into an independent organisation.

Global Investigative Journalism Network (GIJN)

USD 600,000 (36 months)

To provide core support to the GIJN to expand its services.

Graduate Institute Geneva

USD 355,303 (36 months)

To support the Global Commission on Drug Policy.

Habitat for Humanity NC

USD 450,000 (24 months)

To facilitate increased housing production and neighbourhood revitalisation efforts by leveraging resources across the state of North Carolina.

Harlem Children's Zone

USD 5,000,000 (36 months)

To provide core support to the Harlem Children's Zone in New York City, whose programmes offer education, social and wellness services to more than 12,000 children and their families each year.

Head Talks

USD 336,466 (24 months)

To provide core support to enable Head Talks to create and host online and offline content that informs and inspires those affected by mental health issues.

Maggie Keswick Jencks Cancer Caring Centres Trust

USD 1,119,403 (36 months)

To support Maggie's organisational and programmatic developments, so that it fulfils its ambition to increase the number of Maggie's Centres in the UK, from the current 18 to 21, by 2019.

Miracle Feet

USD 453,139 (36 months)

To work with local implementing partner, the Zimbabwe Sustainable Clubfoot Programme, to establish an effective and sustainable countrywide clubfoot treatment programme in Zimbabwe.

Modrehjaelpen (Mothers' Aid)

USD 1,418,440 (3 months)

To purchase a new building for Mothers' Aid in Copenhagen, which will create a solid basis for the organisation's work to help vulnerable families with professional counselling and volunteer activities.

Moorfields Eye Charity

USD 2,229,179 (36 months)

To support Moorfields Eye Hospital and its research partner, the University College London Institute of Ophthalmology, to develop new treatments for eye diseases.

National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC)

USD 1,499,729 (36 months)

To support NCMEC's capabilities to better respond to the massive volume and increasing caseload of online sexual exploitation of children.

New Philanthropy Capital

USD 895,522 (48 months)

To support New Philanthropy Capital's work to improve the effectiveness of the charitable sector, particularly in the UK, so that it can have the greatest possible impact on people's lives and society.

Oak Hill School Foundation**USD 2,272,727 (60 months)**

To provide core support to Oak Hill School so that it can continue to offer a half-day programme to students with diagnosed learning differences such as dyslexia and/or attention deficit disorders, who are struggling in mainstream classrooms in and around Geneva, Switzerland.

Oxfam**USD 1,000,000 (12 months)**

To provide core support to Oxfam UK for its humanitarian emergency operations worldwide.

Oxford Policy Management Limited**USD 157,700 (12 months)**

The goal of this project is to work with Oak Foundation actors to build and execute the pilot for a Policy Learning Programme, to generate enthusiasm for and engagement in the pilot, and adapt and adjust the pilot based on regular feedback.

Pennies Foundation**USD 1,343,284 (60 months)**

To provide Pennies with core support to help it continue to grow and provide an increasing amount of donations to the UK charity sector.

Playworks Education Energized**USD 225,000 (36 months)**

To improve the health and wellbeing of children by increasing opportunities for physical activity and safe, meaningful play.

Public Impact, LLC**USD 170,000 (12 months)**

To conduct research to learn about closing and narrowing achievement gaps in low-poverty school districts in the US, with the eventual aim to implement a model in certain districts.

Rainbow Trust Children's Charity**USD 895,522 (36 months)**

To help Rainbow Trust Children's Charity raise its profile and increase the number of families it cares for in northeast London and Essex in England.

St Katharines the Danish Church in London**USD 1,000,000 (36 months)**

To support the renovation of the Danish Church in London, which is the only Danish church in London.

Stiftung Stapferhaus Lenzburg**USD 912,325 (24 months)**

To create an interactive exhibition to encourage dialogue on the issues of national identity, migration and borders in Switzerland.

swisscleantech**USD 2,161,616 (43 months)**

To provide core support to swisscleantech to conduct business advocacy in Switzerland focused on sustainable development.

The African Wildlife Foundation**USD 299,372 (36 months)**

To help protect elephant populations in Mana Pools National Park and the Lower Zambezi Valley in Zimbabwe, Africa by strengthening ranger capacity, supporting park management, investing in core infrastructure and establishing robust monitoring systems.

The Carlos Acosta International Dance Foundation**USD 1,000,000 (36 months)**

To establish an international dance school in Cuba for underprivileged gifted and talented dancers from across the globe.

The Dr. Robert C. Cantu Concussion Center at Emerson Hospital**USD 1,025,000 (36 months)**

To help launch the Dr. Robert Cantu Concussion Center to conduct research in the science of concussion management, return to play and inter-professional treatment protocols.

The Foundling Museum**USD 143,312 (36 months)**

To support the Foundling Museum in London to train young adults who grew up in institutional care to develop and deliver creative workshops at the Museum for children in care.

The Sutton Trust**USD 2,000,000 (60 months)**

To support Sutton Trust's UK summer school programme and an expansion of the programme into Wales.

The Walking Classroom Institute (TWC)**USD 550,000 (65 months)**

To provide core support to the TWC, an organisation based in North Carolina, the US, that provides resources to educators to engage students physically, mentally and academically.

Tides Center**USD 440,000 (36 months)**

To create a continuum of sustainable and effective services for all Chapel Hill and Carrboro youth.

Tides Center**USD 495,841 (24 months)**

To reduce the demand for orphanage volunteering and increase the demand for alternatives which do not harm children.

Triangle Community Foundation**USD 500,000 (24 months)**

To build effective organisations based in the Triangle area of North Carolina by providing grant-making support for organisational assessments as well as designing and implementing organisational strengthening measures.

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**USD 500,000 (60 months)**

To develop an inpatient and outpatient programme to serve teenage burn survivors.

University of the People**USD 1,000,000 (24 months)**

To provide core support and scholarship support for University of the People, which is the first non-profit, tuition-free, accredited online university.

Wildlife Conservation Trust**USD 500,644 (36 months)**

To establish a sanctuary for elephants and rhinos orphaned in the wild or in need of care at the Hoedspruit Endangered Species Centre.

WonderWork**USD 450,000 (36 months)**

To support local implementing partners in Zimbabwe to provide 4,500 cataract and 300 burn reconstructive surgeries to adults and children across the country over a three year period.

Special Initiative

New Venture Fund**USD 20,000,000 (72 months)**

To invest in communities most impacted by climate change so that they can manage the shocks, rebound and continue on a progressive pathway to sustainable development.

Joint Brazil Programme



ActionAid Netherlands

USD 249,852 (30 months)

To initiate a movement of concerned citizens in Recife, Brazil to interact with local governments to transform the city into a caring, enabling and safe environment.

Centro das Mulheres do Cabo (CMC)

USD 249,163 (36 months)

To provide core support to CMC to advance its objectives, which include empowering women to confront violence and to defend human rights in the area of the Industrial Port Complex of Suape, Brazil.

Centro Popular de Direitos Humanos

USD 65,000 (12 months)

To secure the rights of Recife's disadvantaged communities with respect to urban development, housing, employment and participation.

Conectas

USD 70,000 (6 months)

To assist a broad-based civil society coalition in Brazil to conduct legal research, with a view to filing a complaint in the Supreme court challenging the government's response to its climate change obligations.

ELAS Social Investment Fund

USD 150,000 (14 months)

To support a process to integrate a gender perspective into ongoing discussions in Brazil around mobility and the right to the city.

Federação de Órgãos para Assistência Social e Educacional (FASE)

USD 300,000 (36 months)

To support FASE to develop policies and support for participation of youth at the Youth Policy Forum and to participate, develop and implement 'rights to the city' policies in Brazil.

Fundo Socioambiental CASA

USD 400,000 (29 months)

To support 150 projects working on issues related to land management, urban rights, the right to the city, urban mobility, social participation and food security in Recife.

Gabinete de Assessoria Jurídica as Organizações Populares (GAJOP)

USD 600,000 (36 months)

To provide core support to improve citizen security in both the public and private sphere, as well as to implement a revised five-year strategic plan.

Graduate Institute Geneva

USD 106,271 (24 months)

To establish a merit-based internship programme within the Joint Brazil Programme.

Institute for Transportation and Development Policy

USD 87,502 (12 months)

To develop urban mobility and mass transportation guidelines to support the expansion of 'Minha Casa Minha Vida' in the Recife Metropolitan area in Brazil.

Movimento de Pimpadores

USD 95,003 (17 months)

To support the establishment of the organisation Movimento dos Pimpadores in Brazil, which aims to bring recognition and value to independent waste collectors by involving artists and volunteers.

Núcleo de Apoio à Pesquisa e Educação Continuada

USD 116,760 (12 months)

To provide management support to Oak Foundation and its Joint Brazil Programme.

SOS CORPO Instituto Feminista para a Democracia

USD 450,000 (36 months)

To provide core support to the mission of SOS CORPO in Recife, Brazil to promote women's rights and gender equality.

WWF Brazil

USD 100,000 (12 months)

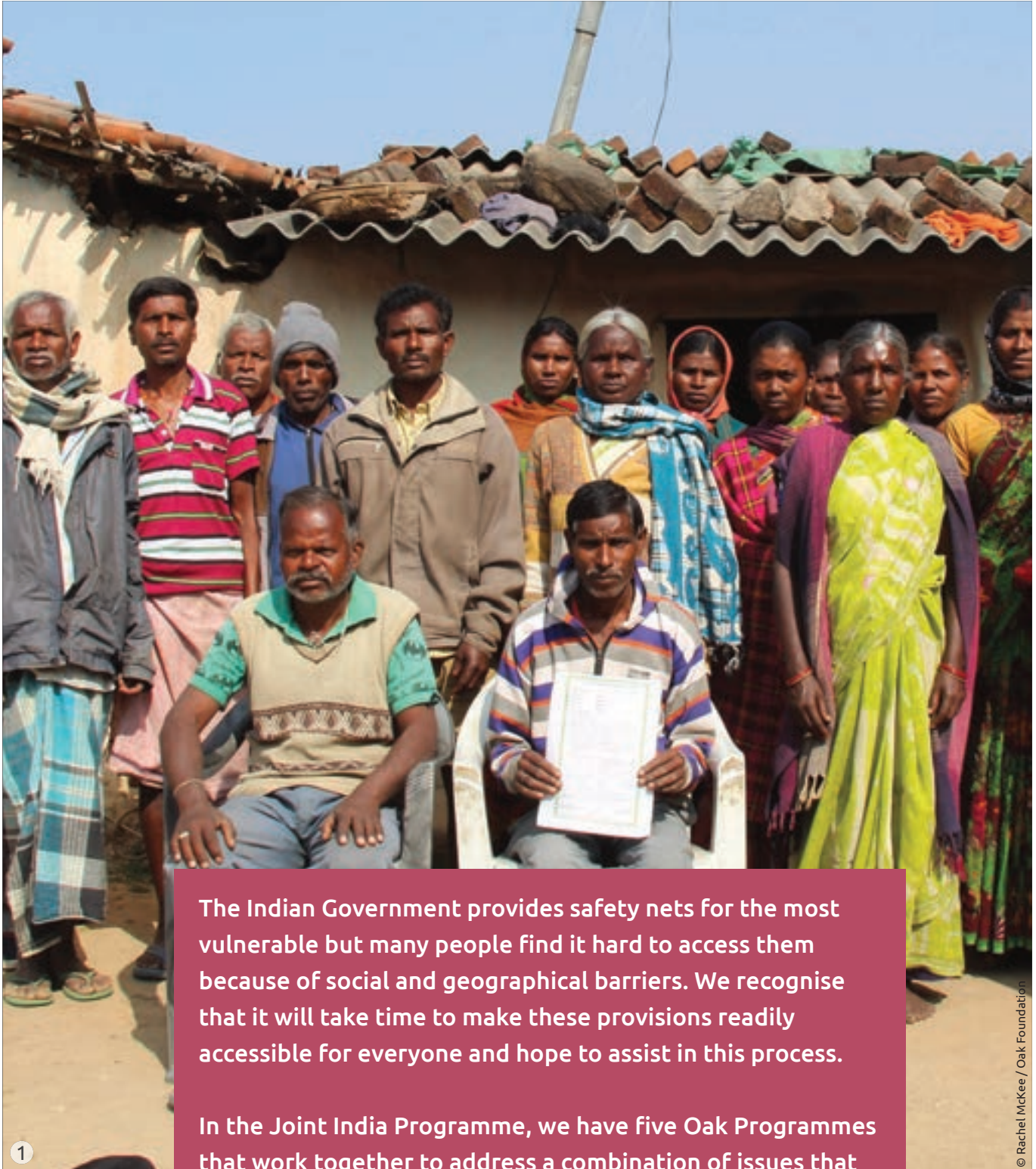
To support the development of a mobile app in Brazil to monitor the Aedes Aegypti mosquito, which transmits Dengue fever and the Chikungunya and Zika virus.

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grants were made by the Joint Brazil Programme in 2016, totalling USD 3.04 million.

Oak launched the Joint Brazil Programme in 2016, which focuses on promoting citizen security and civic participation, protecting urban spaces and improving mobility among disadvantaged communities in the Recife Metropolitan area in Brazil. More details on the strategy will be provided on our website in 2017.

Joint India Programme



The Indian Government provides safety nets for the most vulnerable but many people find it hard to access them because of social and geographical barriers. We recognise that it will take time to make these provisions readily accessible for everyone and hope to assist in this process.

In the Joint India Programme, we have five Oak Programmes that work together to address a combination of issues that affect populations with limited access to resources in Jharkhand and West Bengal, located in east India. Ultimately, we aim to: improve the lives of the most marginalised groups; institutionalise practices that address poverty and social injustice; support people to assert their rights to identity and dignity; and build strong organisations at the grassroots.



Stories

The stories within this section represent the diverse range of grants within the Joint India Programme.

Claiming back the forest for the people

At one time, much of Jharkhand, east India, was covered by thick forests, but this has changed over the last century and a half.

"Satellite imagery suggests that forest land in India has decreased to just 11 per cent of what it once was," says Sanjay Mullick, Director of the **Bindrai Institute for Research, Study and Action (BIRSA)**. "The consequences of this widespread destruction in terms of the climate, flora, fauna and people in the region are profound."

The impact of deforestation on the lives of the Adivasi peoples, who have lived in and off the forest for millennia cannot be underestimated. Many have been thrown out of their homes as lumbering and mining companies have moved in. Forced to move penniless to nearby towns and cities, they have had to find ways to eke out a living. Those who protested were imprisoned.

During the 1980s and 1990s, there was a growing awareness around this issue in Indian civil society. This, coupled with international pressure, led to the formation of the Forest Act 2006, making it possible for indigenous people to legally own and manage the forests. Since then, with the support of organisations such as BIRSA, the Adivasi peoples have been fighting for its full

implementation, although this has not been easy. The Forest Act clashes with the business interests of mining and logging companies, still interested in this region rich in natural resources.

Suryamani Bhagat is an indigenous grassroots environmental activist and leader. She organises forest protection committees, youth groups and women's cooperatives and launched the Jharkhand Save the Forest Movement. "The people are waking up," says Suryamani. "We are now very strongly mobilised all around these villages."

Together the people have so far managed to stop large-scale dams, deforestation, mono-cropping, oil and gas development and mining and polluting industries. Instead, they have been promoting organic agriculture on the forest land. "We know that if we want to protect the water, environment and forests, we have to recognise the rights of the living creatures in the forest, from the smallest insect to the biggest animals," said Suryamani.

As a result, forests in the surrounding villages are steadily being rejuvenated. While waiting for their forest claim forms to be officially recognised, the Adivasi tribes have launched the "Erect the Billboard Campaign", which declares their rights over the land and imposes penalties on those infringing on it. In addition, they have begun to list the species of plants in need of protection.

"We are the stewards of this land," said Suryamani, "and we take our responsibility seriously."

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grants were made by the Joint India Programme in 2016, totalling USD 5.21 million.





Religious and customary laws supersede the country's laws in India when it comes to the legal age of marriage for girls.

Girls are often married at 14 or 15 years old, including to much older men.

Reaching survivors of sexual violence in Kolkata

Sanchita* from Kolkata married, like many young Indian girls, very young. She moved with her new husband into his parents' house and then later to another apartment belonging to his family. Together they had one son. However, very soon Sanchita found herself trapped in a loveless, abusive marriage. What then unfolded in the coming decades can only be described as a living nightmare.

Her husband's parents did not like her and she was repeatedly mistreated and abused by the whole family. On several occasions she was beaten so badly that she was hospitalised. She was tortured, kicked in the face by her husband's booted feet, starved, forced to sleep on the floor, sexually abused and all of her belongings were taken from her and confiscated.

“For six months I only had the clothes I was wearing. All my sarees - he took them and confiscated them from me.”

**- Sanchita,
survivor of domestic violence**

In India, the legal age of marriage for girls is 18, but religious and customary laws supersede the laws of the country among some communities, where girls are often seen as a financial burden on impoverished families. There is pressure on families to marry off their daughters, sometimes only 14 or 15

*Not her real name

years old and it is socially acceptable to sanction marriages to much older men, sometimes three times the girl's age. Once married, the girls are completely financially dependent on their husbands for food, clothing and other basic necessities.

In Sanchita's case, the relationship between her and her in-laws worsened to such an extent that they tried to forcibly evict her from the apartment. Finding herself in an absolutely desperate situation with nowhere else to go, Sanchita sought help – and she found it at **SWAYAM**, a women's rights organisation based in Kolkata, West Bengal.

“Cases of husbands wanting out of their marriages and the wives being financially disadvantaged are not unusual,” said Anuradha Kapoor, the Founding Director of SWAYAM. “However, Sanchita's case was particularly serious.”

In India, a marriage is considered dissolved on the grounds of insanity, after which the “insane” person is left with no entitlements. Sanchita's husband had bribed some psychiatrists who worked at a mental hospital some three hours' drive away. At midnight on 26 July 2016 she was abducted from her apartment and driven by ambulance to the hospital. She says that enroute she was sexually abused by the three men in the ambulance. When they arrived at the mental hospital she was told by staff that she was mentally unwell and was force-fed medication.

Despite this horrifying experience, Sanchita managed to keep her presence of mind. As often as she could avoid taking the medication being thrust



upon her, she did, hiding it instead. She found some sheets of newspaper hidden beneath the mattress of the neighbouring patient's bed in the hospital dormitory and tore off strips. She wrote down her sister's telephone number requesting that someone call it to say that she was being kept in the hospital against her will. Surreptitiously and whenever she could she dropped the scribbled notes out of the window and down onto the sunny street below.

By some miracle, it took only three days for a passerby to find the note and take action. Once informed, her sister immediately contacted Anuradha at SWAYAM, who got in touch with Ratnaboli Ray, the founder and director of **ANJALI**, an organisation working to ensure that accessible and good quality mental health services are available in India. They called the hospital that very day demanding the release of Sanchita. At first the hospital refused, but then the staff became scared when they realised the full weight of the law was behind the two ladies' organisations. "We are coming," said Anuradha. "We want her released." They drove that same evening to the hospital.

When they arrived, Sanchita was waiting in the front lobby for them. "You should have seen her," said Anuradha. "The state she was in! She could not even walk." They took Sanchita to another hospital where she received proper care. After 11 days she was discharged and returned to her apartment. In the meantime, SWAYAM had contacted the police and Sanchita's husband was imprisoned for this offence for 28 days.

"What we have observed in our line of work is that many of the reception

orders issued by the judiciary are done by family members who have petitioned that a man's wife or sister is insane," says Ratnaboli Roy. "Many are actually forced admissions, where there is a nexus between the family members and the private psychiatrist. This is done when the men are having relationships outside the marriage or else they want to usurp the woman's property. Therefore it's very convenient and easy to render a woman insane and put her in a mental hospital."

Sanchita's case will be escalated and court hearings will take place throughout 2017. Her story is only one of many. It serves to illustrate the need in India for organisations such as SWAYAM and ANJALI, as they work to support women and men who have been abused and/or are suffering from physical and mental illness and who fall through the cracks in the system.



P 64 & 65: Following the formation of the Forest Act 2006, the indigenous Adivasi peoples can legally own and manage their forest land.

P 66.1 & P 67.2: **SWAYAM** core committee members work to share information on women's entitlements in efforts to empower other women in their communities.

P 66.2: It is not uncommon for women in India to find themselves trapped in abusive, loveless marriages.

P 67.1: **ANJALI** staff and community workers help reduce the stigma surrounding mental illness in Kolkata.

SWAYAM supports women survivors of domestic and sexual violence to become independent of their marriages.

ANJALI supports women and men experiencing mental illness, and their families.



USD 3.70

is the typical daily wage for a female construction worker in Jharkhand, east India.

Training female construction workers

It is a common sight to see women construction workers on many building sites in Asia. They help with the heavy lifting of bricks, cement, buckets of water and stones. Typically, men do the more skilled work, such as brick-laying, plastering or plumbing. In India female construction workers can expect to earn a daily wage of 250 Rupees, which is about USD 3.70.

The **Mahila Housing SEWA Trust (MHT)** works to upgrade the skills of women construction workers in Ranchi, Jharkhand and to improve their quality of life. By creating an enabling environment, it is hoped that women with enhanced skills will be able to find better work opportunities and conditions and enjoy higher and more stable wages. At MHT's training at the Karmika project in Ranchi, women learn how to do brick-laying, plastering, toilet unit construction and hand-pump repair.

“The men said we could not do it ... but we thought, if we can do the heavy lifting, we can also build a wall.”

- Women construction workers, Karmika training centre

An obvious advantage of being able to do more skilled work is that the women can demand higher wages. The training MHT provides gives them the opportunity to obtain employment in the open market for skilled construction

work. For example, as brick-layers they can expect to earn 400 Rupees a day, really making a difference to their lives, both in terms of earning capacity and also in how much they can save.

Paromita Chowdhury, the Programme Officer for Oak's Joint India Programme expressed some concerns, given that there is a poor implementation of the minimum wage in India. “I hope that more support will be given to the women once they are fully trained to make sure that they can access their entitlement to higher wages for this more skilled work,” she said. “It would be a pity if they were refused a correct salary just because they are women and perceived to be capable only of unskilled construction work.”

Priti Oraon is a mother of five children and a widow. She has been a construction worker all her life. After completing a nine-month course with MHT, she was skilled enough to be able to build her own house. She saved enough money to buy the materials and set out to do it.

“My children didn't believe me,” she said. “But I knew I could do it.” She hired a stone mason to help and together, with her as the chief mason, they built the house she now lives in and owns. “It feels good,” she said. “It saved me a lot of money as otherwise I would have had to hire builders to do the work. I feel proud that I could do it by myself, and I am happy because it is inspiring others.”

This project illustrates the work of only one of Oak's partners in India, who together with others are working to improve slum infrastructure and secure the socio-economic entitlements of workers in the informal economy.

Grants



Association for Advocacy and Legal Initiatives USD 485,701 (36 months)

To promote and protect women, especially their physical integrity and ability to enjoy lives free of violence.

Basic Foundation USD 25,000 (12 months)

To conduct a study on the feasibility of setting up an SOS hotline for women and girl victims of violence in Jharkhand.

Bindrai Institute for Research Study and Action

USD 396,696 (36 months)
To support tribal and other forest-dependent dwellers in Jharkhand in forest protection and regeneration, and to help them, in particular women and small farmers, develop sustainable forest produce-based livelihoods.

**Ekjut
USD 625,000 (48 months)**
To empower communities with less access to socio-economic resources to enjoy legal entitlements and services that relate to food and nutrition security.

**Hope and Homes for Children
USD 100,000 (12 months)**
To create the conditions for the development of alternative care for children in the state of Jharkhand.

Indian Association for Women's Studies USD 131,909

To establish a base for women's studies and strengthen the women's movement through research and capacity building in Jharkhand.

International Center for Research on Women USD 399,279 (24 months)

To generate understanding on issues related to violence in childhood and strategies to address them in Jharkhand and Haryana.

**Jagori
USD 439,915 (60 months)**
To enable women and girls from diverse communities and backgrounds to access public services and move freely and safely in Ranchi and Hazaribagh, Jharkhand.

**Jana Sanghati Kendra
USD 99,974 (36 months)**
To support a network of organisations working to enable poor urban and rural communities to become food secure in West Bengal.

**Kamonohashi
USD 420,000 (36 months)**
To support the social welfare system in West Bengal to provide access to health, education, welfare, protection, poverty alleviation and livelihood services to survivors of trafficking.



**Léger Foundation
USD 550,000 (36 months)**
To empower women, girls, men and youth in rural and urban locations to ensure freedom from all forms of violence against women and promote gender equality.

**NIRMANA
USD 339,763 (36 months)**
To improve the lives of Domestic Workers in India through advocacy, legislative reform and social services.

**Plan India
USD 94,500 (12 months)**
To enable communities to identify risks and protective factors relating to children and access child protection support structures at community and district levels in India.

**Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, Inc.
USD 100,000 (24 months)**
To promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls by supporting the launch and implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals philanthropy platform in India.

**SEWA Bharat
USD 318,860 (48 months)**
To improve the socio-economic position of 5,000 women engaged as workers in the informal economy in Jharkhand, India.

**Society for Direct Initiative for Social and Health Action
USD 164,775 (36 months)**
To support marine and inland small fishing communities to practice sustainable fish-based livelihoods and protect fish resources.

Society for Participatory Research in Asia USD 25,603 (6 months)

To assess the external and internal environment in which civil society operates in Jharkhand and recommend capacity building strategies to enhance its effectiveness.

**Terre des hommes Lausanne
USD 497,367 (48 months)**
To ensure that children and young people at risk of sexual exploitation and trafficking have access to appropriate psychosocial and economic reintegration opportunities.



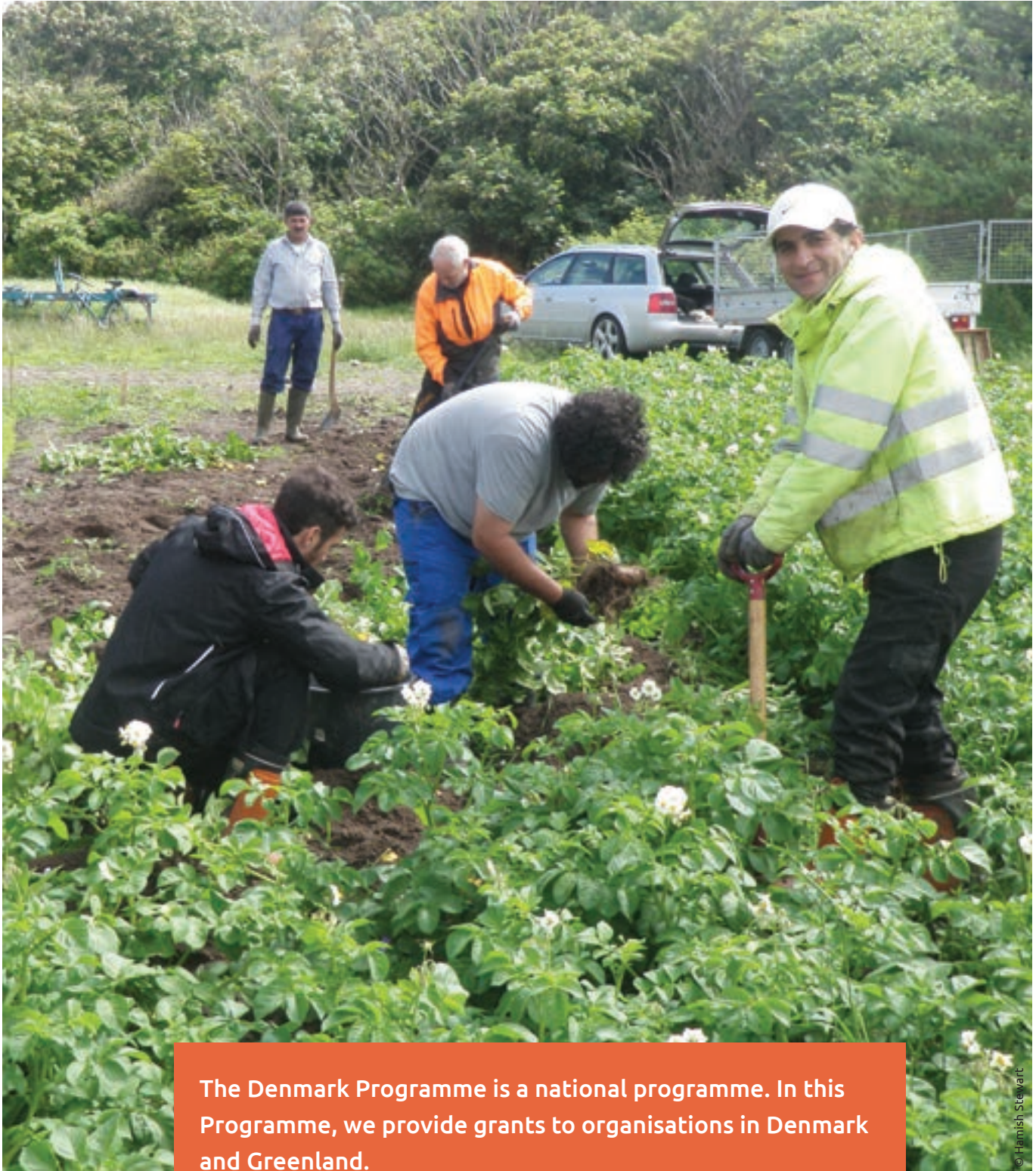
1 & 2: The **Mahila Housing SEWA Trust** works to upgrade the skills of women construction workers in Ranchi, Jharkhand and to improve their quality of life.

3 & 4: The **Bindrai Institute for Research, Study and Action** supports the Adivasi peoples in Jharkhand, east India to claim their entitlements to the full implementation of the Forest Act 2006.



This is a list of grants approved in 2016. For a comprehensive list and full descriptions, please visit our grant database at www.oakfnd.org/grants

Denmark Programme



The Denmark Programme is a national programme. In this Programme, we provide grants to organisations in Denmark and Greenland.

We seek innovative solutions that improve the daily lives and future prospects of socially vulnerable and marginalised groups. In particular, we focus on initiatives that target ethnic minority women, homeless people, mothers, children, immigrants and refugees.



Stories

The stories within this section represent the diverse range of grants within the Denmark Programme.

Bringing joy to hospital patients through music

Very sick children and relatives can spend a long time in hospital, or be hospitalised repeatedly. In the beginning, games like PlayStation or watching videos can be fun. But after a while, hospital life becomes boring as well as full of pain, uncertainty and anxiety. Children and young people spend most of their time in bed.

That is why the Denmark Programme has been supporting Lisbeth Sagen and her fellow musicians who visit different hospitals to play music, in particular for children and young people. They play music at bedsides and in hospital wards, and often give impromptu violin lessons.

Lisbeth, a professional musician, plays in concert halls in and outside of Denmark. Bringing music to the hospitals is what interests her most. "The experience of happiness and the feelings we have when we play at hospitals is not at all the same as when we play at ordinary concerts," she says. "Music gives relatives, staff and patients a chance to get away from sickness, pain and death and to open up to other kinds of feelings." She explains how children are able to forget about their situations and it frees them to think about other things and to dream. In addition, when the musicians play, patients need less medication and the days run more smoothly.

A young woman explains how she has been in and out of hospital for years. Because of this, a lot of her social life is connected to the hospital, where she has built up friendships. Of course friendships are more often best built on enjoyable events shared with others, rather than on bad experiences like pain and the fear of dying. Through musical events, friendships with other patients come to life, and this is important when times are difficult.

“Music gives relatives, staff and patients a chance to get away from sickness, pain and death and open up to other kinds of feelings.”

- Lisbeth Sagen,
Professional musician

Daily, Lisbeth receives letters from parents thanking her for the concerts she gives in the hospitals. Parents who



P 70: Asylum seekers pick potatoes in Denmark at **Hanstholm Asylcenters Vener** in the north of the country.

P 71.1: Lisbeth Sagen and her fellow musicians play music for children and young people in hospitals.

P 71.2: Participants take part in a cycle race in Aarhus in support of **Café Exit**, which works to reintegrate ex-prisoners into society.

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grants were made by the Denmark Programme in 2016, totalling USD 4.34 million.



Find out more at
www.oakfnd.org



Reden International has become an important advocate for sex-workers in Copenhagen.



p 72.1 & 72.2: **Reden International** runs a Night Café in Copenhagen where female sex-workers can come for information, medical care and support.

p 73.1: Learning about beekeeping: **Kafé Kolind**, based in the east of the country, provides training to marginalised people.

p 73.2: The **ICDA** provides Vietnamese elderly people in Denmark with a place to socialise and network.

listened to the music just before their child died wrote that listening to the group play was the happiest moment they had spent together. Often, families mention how important music is when trying to pick out good memories from long hospital stays. In addition, young people express how the music gave them energy and made them less passive.

Clearly music is a beautiful addition to the lives of those in hospital. Oak is delighted to support Lisbeth in her endeavours.

Hope for women at the Night Café

The Night Café in Istedgade – which is the Red Light district in Copenhagen – had more than 6,300 visitors in 2015, despite being open only two or three nights a week from midnight till 5 am. On average 65 women visited the café in 2015 each night; at busier times there were more than 100.

The Night Café is not a regular café. It was opened by Reden International to give female sex-workers a place to come for coffee, warmth, information, medical care and support. While the café is supported by the state, it tends to be on an irregular basis. Oak support has enabled the café to stay open between two and three nights a week, from Thursday to Saturday.

For the last couple of years Reden International has intensified its work on the streets at night to reach women, in particular from Eastern Europe and

Nigeria. Often these women work for criminals and are not aware of their rights. Nigerian sex-workers are often in Denmark illegally so they have particularly limited access to the public healthcare system and other services, in comparison with European women.

Staff from Reden International have been able to reach the women through the Night Café and provide them with advice, including on how to access healthcare.

One of Reden International's staff members speaks Romanian, one of the languages of these hard-to-reach groups of women, and has managed to win their trust. Having this direct contact is quite unusual – either there is no common language, or else sex-workers are prevented from speaking to street-workers by their pimps, usually an older woman who "owns" them. The café has made it easier for staff to speak more freely with the women, telling them about their rights and the services available to them.

In addition, this has meant that Reden International's Night Café has become a genuine centre of information on the reality for sex-workers in Copenhagen. This knowledge is used to inform legislation put in place to support and protect these groups of women, for whom Reden International has become an important advocate.

Next year the Night Café intends to open more often, and it will hire an additional street-worker to reach out to Nigerian women in their mother tongue.

Grants



Bogforlaget Frydenlund **USD 20,567 (12 months)**

To provide support to author and social worker Susanne Fabricius to write a book about honour-related conflicts.

Børns Vilkår **USD 268,395 (36 months)**

To hire a lawyer to work at Børns Vilkår – a private, not-for-profit organisation that helps children.

Café Exit **USD 680,851 (24 months)**

To support Café Exit in its efforts to help ex-prisoners and prisoners.

Café Venligbo **USD 56,738 (12 months)**

To provide support to Café Venligbo in Copenhagen, which inspires refugees and Danish people to run a café together.

Concura **USD 21,277 (12 months)**

To help reconstruct the existing premises of Concura in Tveje Merløse, Zealand, a residence for young people with special needs.

Dansk Flygtningehjælp **USD 709,220 (24 months)**

To improve the integration of children and young people from refugee families in Denmark by providing access to leisure activities.

Det Kgl. Vajsenhus **USD 340,426 (36 months)**

To provide core support to Det Kgl. Vajsenhus, the Royal School for Orphans in Copenhagen.

Foreningen **Cancerramte Børn** **USD 66,667 (12 months)**

To support Foreningen Cancerramte Børn to continue to provide psychological help to families.

Frivilligcenter Langeland **USD 106,369 (24 months)**

To provide support to the Voluntary Centre in Langeland in Denmark, which supports children and young people who are going through difficult times.

Hanstholm **Asylcenters Venner** **USD 34,043 (12 months)**

To provide support to Hanstholm Asylcenter, which offers asylum seekers training in landscaping and gardening.

ICDA **USD 68,085 (24 months)**

To set up a café for elderly Vietnamese people in Aarhus.

Julemærkefonden **USD 22,394 (12 months)**

To provide meals and increase understanding of nutrition in Julemærkefonden in Zealand, which takes care of overweight children.

Kafé Kolind **USD 85,089 (24 months)**

To finance the salary of a social worker in Kafé Kolind, a social café in the Syddjurs municipality.

Mændenes Hjem **USD 39,135 (12 months)**

To support a pilot project to find out more about the illegal drugs that circulate at Mændenes Hjem.

MusikBeriget **USD 262,298 (36 months)**

To support Lisbeth Sagens' classical band of musicians who visit seriously ill children and their families in hospital and give concerts.

Orpigaq **USD 137,872 (36 months)**

To provide support to Orpigaq – a placement institution for young people in Kangerlussuaq in Greenland.

Parat til Start **USD 35,479 (36 months)**

To support the establishment of a club "Ready to start" in Aarhus, Jutland for young people with social and educational challenges.

Reden Aalborg - **KFUK Sociale Arbejde** **USD 47,433 (24 months)**

To support Reden Aalborg a part of KFUK's social work with sex-workers.

Reden International **USD 734,280 (36 months)**

To support Reden International so that it can keep its night café open in Vesterbro, Copenhagen and prolong the engagement of a social worker working directly with eastern European and Nigerian sex-workers.

Skt. Lukas Stiftelsen **USD 248,558 (12 months)**

To support Sankt Lukas Stiftelsen to extend the capacity of its shelter to support more women and children from minority groups who have suffered honour-related violence.

Tandrødderne **USD 188,511 (36 months)**

To provide materials to the dental clinic Tandlødderne in Copenhagen.

THE WHY **USD 54,610 (12 months)**

To support the creation of a website for the non-governmental organisation THE WHY in order to post movies, documents and other information on women's rights, following a conference held in Copenhagen in 2016.

TUBA **USD 35,461 (12 months)**

To produce two short films focusing on how children are easily neglected in families with alcohol abuse problems.

WeShelter **USD 76,652 (24 months)**

To support a new green sustainable garden project at Bispebjerg Hospital in Copenhagen, made by homeless people for patients in the psychiatry ward, their relatives, staff and locals.



This is a list of grants approved in 2016. For a comprehensive list and full descriptions, please visit our grant database at www.oakfnd.org/grants

Zimbabwe Programme



The Zimbabwe Programme is a national programme through which we fund local organisations involved in caring and providing for the most disadvantaged and vulnerable people in Zimbabwean society.

We support organisations operating in the following priority areas: healthcare, including HIV/AIDS; rural water supplies; special needs education; and services that help vulnerable women, children and elderly persons.



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Fighting HIV/AIDS in Zimbabwe

Every day, about 5,753 people contract HIV – this equates to roughly 240 every hour.¹ A vital need to raise money, increase awareness, fight prejudice and improve education remains.

The Zimbabwe Programme supports a number of initiatives aimed directly at what UNAIDS has dubbed “the prevention gap” – that is, hard-to-reach demographics and regions where HIV/AIDS is more entrenched. These groups, which desperately need more outreach, support, education and care, include girls and women in economically disadvantaged countries, men who have sex with men, people who inject drugs, transgender people, prisoners and sex-workers.



“Poverty is the biggest ally of this disease.”

- Wonder Zindoga Maisiri,
Programme Officer,
Oak Zimbabwe Programme

Wonder Zindoga Maisiri, programme officer of the Zimbabwe Programme says that poverty continues to be one of the biggest allies of this disease.

Medical appointments are often unaffordable – many people cannot pay USD 5 for a consultation at city health clinics, or the USD 12 – USD 15 fee at major hospitals. In addition, proper nutrition may also be out of reach financially, allowing the disease to really take hold.

Because poverty and HIV/AIDS are so interlinked, the Zimbabwe Programme is supporting vocational training and income-generating activities such as small-scale agricultural development. It also works to raise awareness and provide critical health support. The **Bethany Project**, an Oak partner working in the Zvishavane District of Zimbabwe’s Midlands Province, focuses on practical ways to help children who are living with HIV and/or are orphaned as a result of the disease. For example, a project to distribute chickens, pigs and goats for children to raise has been bringing in a stream of income to pay for school fees, uniforms and shoes, medical care and other basic needs. The project also supervises 140 people in tending vegetable plots.

To raise awareness, **Family AIDS Caring Trust** runs school programmes to inform young people about child abuse and the transmission of HIV. Practically, these programmes provide training in carpentry, cosmetology and other vocations to help break people out of the poverty cycle so that they can care for themselves and their families.

Reference

1 UNAIDS Fact Sheet 2016: 2030—Ending the AIDS Epidemic; 2015 Global Statistics, <http://www.amfar.org/worldwide-aids-stats/> (accessed 25 January 2017)

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grants were made by the Zimbabwe Programme in 2016, totalling USD 1.09 million.



Find out more at
www.oakfnd.org



Family AIDS Caring Trust runs school programmes to inform young people about child abuse and HIV transmission.

For those who can no longer work, Oak partner **Mashambanzou Care Trust** provides in-home care for the sick, counselling for patients and their families, outreach work and day care for orphans and training for caregivers. Its care centre in Waterfalls, Harare, houses 30 patients and provides nutritious meals and life-prolonging antiretroviral drugs.

Traditional relations between men and women and attitudes towards sexuality have also been factors in the spread of the disease. "For example," says Merciful Machuwe Tizvioni, programme assistant at the Zimbabwe Programme, "in Africa the traditional imbalance of power between men and women has in some instances been fuelled by poverty and women's dependence on men." Often men ignore the call from clinics and hospitals to get tested along with their pregnant wives.

To win their trust, Oak's partners have found ways of working with the local people on this matter. "One of our partners buys presents for the husbands who accompany their pregnant partners for HIV testing," says Merciful. "This encourages the couple to attend a counselling session so they can be taught methods of preventing infection to the unborn child."

Oak commends the work of its partners in Zimbabwe as they work to support people facing this disease.



The photographs in the Zimbabwe section of this report have been provided by our partners and illustrate diverse types of work being carried out in Zimbabwe.

Grants



HIV/AIDS

Bethany Project

USD 73,267 (12 months)

To mobilise communities to participate in promoting the wellbeing of children in Zimbabwe who are affected by HIV and AIDS or living with a disability.

Family AIDS Caring Trust, Chiredzi

USD 29,855 (12 months)

To reduce the prevalence of HIV/AIDS and mitigate its impact through the empowerment of communities to better respond to the pandemic.

Family AIDS Caring Trust, Rusape

USD 53,000 (12 months)

To work with the community to implement sustainable holistic health programmes that improve the quality of life of people with HIV in Zimbabwe.

Family AIDS Caring Trust Mashonaland West

USD 54,942 (12 months)

To improve the quality of life of vulnerable and marginalised people through sustainable development initiatives and integrating the services into the health system in Zimbabwe.

Island Hospice and Bereavement Services

USD 80,005 (12 months)

To provide palliative care and to serve as a comprehensive bereavement service, through capacity building, networking with likeminded organisations, partnering with community-focused organisations and offering services to those in need.

Kubatana Vocational Training Centre

USD 64,364 (12 months)

To promote the early treatment of cancer and to encourage adherence to anti-retroviral treatment for HIV through information dissemination and skills training.

Mashambanzou Care Trust

USD 63,954 (12 months)

To provide quality care for people living with HIV and to empower local communities to deal effectively with the disease.

Midlands AIDS Service Organization

USD 38,550 (12 months)

To provide prevention and management programmes that address issues around HIV/AIDS in the Midlands province in Zimbabwe.

National St Johns Council for the Republic of Zimbabwe

USD 61,799 (1 month)

To continue to strengthen the care-giving skills of communities, families and young people in healthcare in order to help people infected with and affected by HIV/AIDS.

Salvation Army, The Masiye Camp

USD 39,940 (12 months)

To create an enabling environment where children grow to their full potential through the provision of psycho-social support, life-skills, training activities and coping mechanisms.

Special needs and education

Dance Trust of Zimbabwe

USD 33,001 (12 months)

To promote the art of dance by awarding grants and bursaries to students and teachers of dance at the Dance Trust of Zimbabwe.

Isheanesu Multi-purpose Centre for Disabled Children

USD 19,200 (12 months)

To provide support to children with serious disabilities and their families.

J.F. Kapnek Trust

USD 50,159 (3 months)

To improve family health, reduce child mortality and create educational opportunities for the children of Zimbabwe.

Kidzcan

USD 25,000 (6 months)

To increase the survival rate of children with cancer and related blood disorders and ensure the quality of life of children with cancer in a loving and caring environment.

NZEVE Deaf Children's Centre

USD 46,420 (12 months)

To provide core support to Nzeve, which provides holistic services for deaf children, youth and their families.

Sir Humphrey Gibbs Training Center

USD 17,369 (12 months)

To promote and facilitate the provision of high quality special needs education and care for 14 adults with intellectual disabilities at Sir Humphrey Gibbs Training Centre.

Zimcare Trust

USD 306,644 (12 months)

To promote the early treatment of cancer and to encourage adherence to anti-retroviral treatment for HIV through information dissemination and skills training.

Women, children and elderly at risk

Simukai Child Protection Program

USD 35,000 (12 months)

To provide for the social, physical, psychological and spiritual needs and rights of vulnerable children and youths through relationship-building, care and support.



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Comments

Please email commdept@oakfnd.org if you would like to provide feedback on this Annual Report.

Disclaimer

The editors have tried to ensure the accuracy of this report but cannot accept responsibility for any errors or omissions. The names of all children mentioned in this publication have been changed. In addition, a few grants are not listed in this Annual Report.

