
What are the strategies used by the Global Fund to address access to education in Afghanistan?

In response to the tense political situation in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iran, and the surrounding countries of Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and Tajikistan, the Global Fund for Women is providing \$1 million over three years to continue its long-term commitment to women's rights groups in the region, in order to strengthen and stabilize civil societies, peace, democracy, equality, and education. Since the Global Fund's inception, it has awarded over \$900,000 in the region to organizations that are addressing women's rights issues.

The Global Fund's Girls' Education Initiative provides critical funding to organizations operating innovative programs to close the gender gap in school enrollment, retention and achievement, particularly in Africa and Asia. In Afghanistan, these programs have focused on primary education, often because secondary and college education was simply unavailable to women under the rule of the Taliban. As the priorities of Afghan women change to include support for higher education, the Global Fund will respond accordingly.

One example is the Afghan Institute of Learning, in Peshawar, Pakistan. AIL's programs take place not only in the refugee camps surrounding Peshawar, but also in the Northwest Frontier Province of Pakistan, and in Herat, Kabul, Jalalabad, and Logar in Afghanistan. AIL runs formal schools as well as informal home schools, utilizing a unique curriculum it designed for primary-age girls. The home schools are run by women the group describes as "social entrepreneurs" who provide schooling to girls that would otherwise have no education. AIL has trained 3,000 teachers to impart their interactive and integrated methods of teaching. AIL's current educational programs include nine refugee schools where 75 percent of the students are girls; 21 pre-schools with 350 boys and girls, the only preschools for Afghan children; 71 home schools and one regular school in Afghanistan for 2,400 girls.

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Join us for inspiring speeches,
delicious buffet, cocktails and wines.

CELEBRATE

peace
through
education

Thursday, October 24, 2002
New York Palace Hotel
455 Madison Avenue, New York

6:30 to 9:30 pm
Festive Dress

MORGANAE and 85 BROADS
cordially invite you to attend the

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FUND RAISING EVENT

To be held on October 24, 2002,
at the New York Palace.

We are organizing, on behalf of the Global Fund for Women, a party to raise funds to benefit schools and women's education in Afghanistan. The proceeds from the event will be administered by the Global Fund for Women.

The evening will include a keynote speech by Mrs. Sadako Ogata, the former UN High Commissioner for Refugees, and remarks from Ms. Kavita Ramdas, President and CEO of the Global Fund for Women.

THE GLOBAL FUND FOR WOMEN

As a non-endowed foundation, the Global Fund for Women raises all the funds it gives away each year. The Global Fund makes those funds available to grassroots women's groups around the world who are organizing around issues such as increasing girl's access to education, improving economic opportunity, and preventing violence. The Global Fund's flexible grants may be used for both program and operating support, helping to seed, strengthen, and link women's rights groups and networks worldwide.

The Global Fund for Women makes grants only to non-governmental organizations that are independent of state and religious entities. All grants are made with the advice and input of expert Advisors who are locally based in many countries where grants are given.

In 2001-2002, the Global Fund for Women awarded over \$4.5 million to 407 women's groups. A total of 77% of total expenses was spent on grants and program services during the fiscal year.

MRS. SADAKO OGATA

Former United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, 1991-2000

Mrs. Ogata visited Afghanistan and neighboring countries several times over recent years as the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. Afghans are the largest group of refugees in the world, totaling close to 6.3 million when she took office in 1991. At the end of 2000 when Mrs. Ogata left her post they were still the major refugee group numbering some 2.5 million.

Japan's Prime Minister's Special Representative for Afghanistan assistance

In November 2001, Mrs. Ogata was appointed by Prime Minister Koizumi of Japan to serve as his Special Representative to lead Japan's efforts in Afghanistan's reconstruction.