

► Venezuelan young woman leaving a contraceptive counseling session at a clinic in Colombia, located at the border with Venezuela. Photo: Esperança Dias, Fòs Feminista, 2023

WE ARE FÒS FEMINISTA CANADA

An affiliate of Fòs Feminista and part of an international alliance of 189 sexual and reproductive health rights and justice organizations in 39 countries.

The Fòs Feminista alliance builds on more than 70 years of experience and unites diverse ecosystem partners - local health care providers, community-based caregivers, rights-based educators, young leaders and grassroots activists - and harmonizes their multifaceted work towards a shared goal of ensuring that all women, girls, and gender-diverse people have the resources, power, and safety to exercise the spectrum of their sexual and reproductive health and rights.

FÒS FEMINISTA



The Fòs Feminista Alliance

A New Model to Advance Sexual and Reproductive Health, Rights and Justice

Fòs Feminista's model stands out by favoring ecosystem-wide impact over organizational growth.

We strategically infuse capital where it is most needed across the Alliance, and enable the network of relationships across the ecosystem to flourish by connecting, coordinating and strengthening across actors. By working as a collective, our work bridges service delivery and advocacy, promoting improved policies and programs while also meeting the immediate health needs of marginalized groups through clinics, digital health, community-based models,

and self-care. Our interventions act as a lever, amplifying the collective impact and lifting the entire movement.

In the face of limited budgets and restrictive legal frameworks, Alliance members employ impactful methods to ensure access to essential information, services, and care related to contraception, abortion, and sexual and gender-based violence. They are dedicated to serving the most marginalized communities, including Afro-descendants, LGBTQI+ individuals, Indigenous peoples, migrants and refugees, persons with disabilities, and those living with HIV/AIDS.

▲ Team members of Mano Vuelta, an Indigenous and Afro-Mexican-led organization focused on equity and rights for women and girls in Oaxaca's rural areas. Mano Vuelta is named after an Oaxacan tradition of collective work, collaboration, and mutual help based on give and take for the common good. Photo: Grissel Lorenzo, Mano Vuelta, 2024.

VISION

All women, girls, and gender-diverse people have the resources, power, and safety to exercise their sexual and reproductive health and rights and to fulfill their life projects.

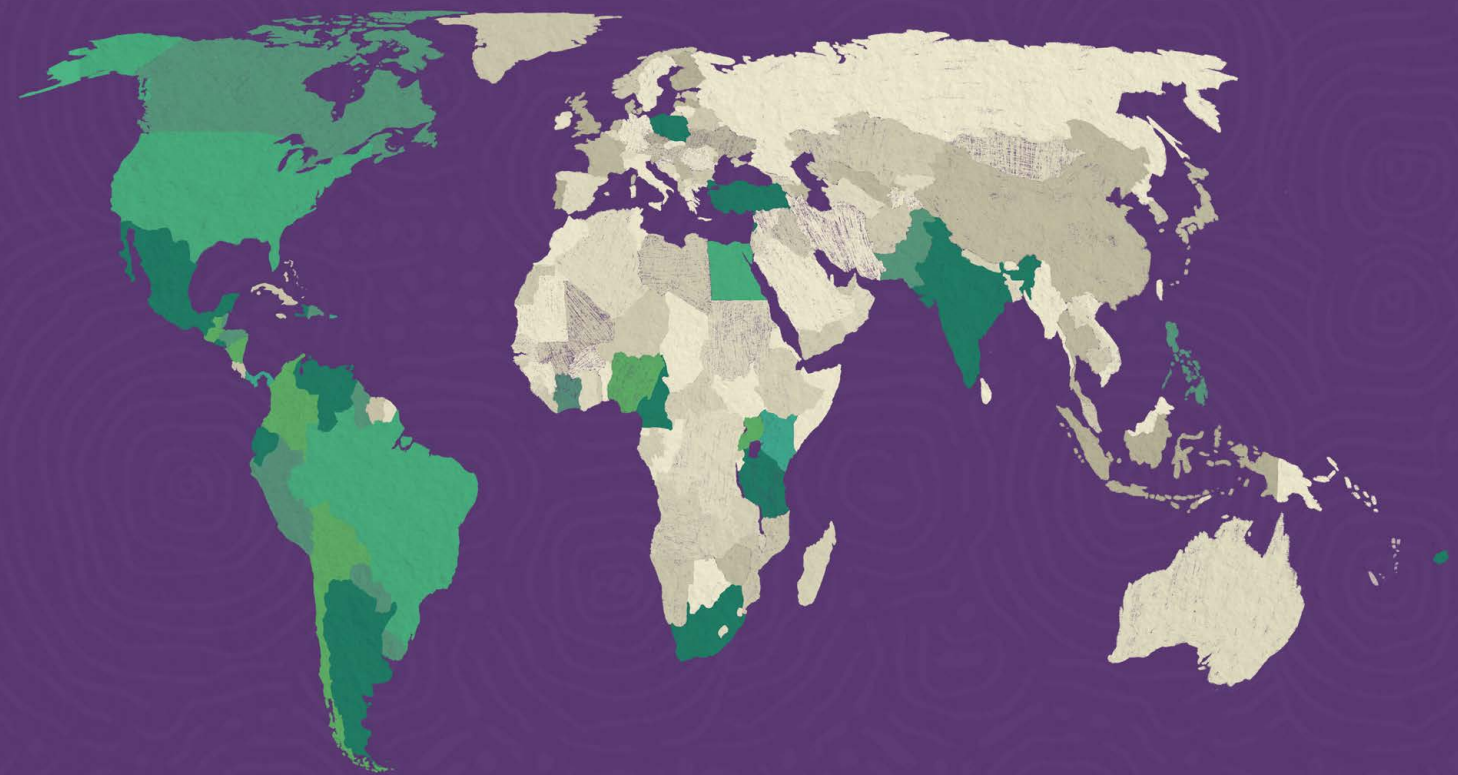
MISSION

To ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health care, including abortion care, particularly for the most marginalized women, girls, and gender-diverse people, to advance comprehensive sexuality education, and to advocate for sexual and reproductive rights and justice, in partnership and solidarity with feminist organizations and movements worldwide.

THE POWER BEHIND OUR NAME

Fòs means strength in Haitian Creole. Feminista means feminist in many of the countries where we operate.

Fòs equals positive energy, resilience and dynamism - while Feminista conveys that our focus remains centered on woman, girls, and families.



● Fòs Feminista Alliance

39
countries

44
allies

145
partners



HIGH-IMPACT APPROACHES

How the Alliance’s collaborative power accelerates progress



Uganda Youth and Adolescent Health Forum

HEALTH CARE DELIVERY | UGANDA & TANZANIA

Reducing maternal deaths where there are restrictions to legal abortion.

Nine alliance partners are working together to reduce the harm of unsafe abortions where women have limited pregnancy termination options. Using a safety-focused approach developed by an Alliance partner in Uruguay, alliance partners trained public and community health workers and directly implemented a model that provides information on safe self-managed abortion and offers counseling and care.

This work – spanning 9 years – has paved the way for expanding access to legal abortion and developing clinical guidelines for legal abortion care in Uganda.

MOVEMENT BUILDING | LATIN AMERICA

Building momentum for the Causa Justa (“Just Cause”) abortion rights movement.

In 2022, Causa Justa, a coalition of over 100 organizations advocating for reproductive rights and justice in Latin America, achieved a monumental victory by filing a lawsuit to decriminalize abortion, which led to the legalization of abortion up to 24 weeks gestation.

To celebrate and leverage the strategies employed more broadly, Fòs Feminista Canada financially supported the ‘Freedom is Unstoppable’ gathering. This pivotal event provided a platform for local and regional organizations to exchange insights and strategies, advocating for accessible abortion across Latin America.



Causa Justa | Colombia

SOCIAL ENTERPRISE | GLOBAL

Social enterprise to improve supplychain efficiency for SRHR products.

Fòs Feminista is one of six partner investors and the lead of INNOVA Health Supplies – a social enterprise improving the efficiency of delivery, cost and quality of women’s health commodities throughout the Latin American and Caribbean region.

Products sold to Alliance members and other organizations include condoms, injectable and oral contraceptive methods, medical abortion medications, intrauterine devices, and menstrual cups.



EVA | Nigeria

Canadian Solidarity for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights

Fòs Feminista Canada’s catalytic grants will focus on the most critical needs to empower our partners to drive gender equality and health equity now and into the future.

Our priorities are:



PRIORITY 1

Reproductive Justice

Expand care and services for contraception, abortion, sexual and gender-based violence, and comprehensive sexuality education for the most marginalized women, girls, and gender-diverse people, including in humanitarian settings.

Providing
access to sexual and reproductive healthcare- including contraception, abortion and care for victims of gender-based violence.

Responding
to humanitarian emergencies when women and girls face greater health risks, unsafe abortion, and gender-based violence.

Encouraging
men to play a positive role in sexual and reproductive health, offering a healthy alternative to harmful gender norms.



PRIORITY 2

Youth Action & Women’s Leadership

Increase support for action on young people’s sexual and reproductive health and rights and elevate diverse feminist and youth voices and leadership to bolster future movements.

Equipping
young people with the real facts about reproductive health through comprehensive sexuality education programs.

Recognizing
the ability of all people to make free and informed choices about their sexual and reproductive lives.

Advancing
gender equality by changing laws and policies.



Photo: Delia Martinez | Mexico

The Urgency of this Moment

WOMEN’S RIGHTS IN PERIL

The field of sexual and reproductive health has been on the defensive, under attack, and stunted by dependence on limited and unreliable philanthropic funding.

The rapid spread of authoritarianism – linked to anti-choice, anti-gender and homophobic organizing – is well resourced and mobilizing at an alarming rate, fueling attacks on bodily autonomy and the rights of women, girls, and gender-diverse people. The disturbing trend of normalizing sexual and reproductive health restrictions spans from the repealing of Roe v. Wade in the United States and newly contested abortion laws in Argentina, to near or total abortion bans in Poland, the Philippines, and the Dominican Republic, alongside the persistent anti-homosexuality laws in Iran and Uganda. The effect is rolling back decades of gains with the biggest impact felt by those who already face the greatest challenges in accessing sexual and reproductive health information and care.

Women’s rights groups receive less than 1% of total official development assistance. while opposing forces driven by conservative religious

and political groups are becoming increasingly sophisticated, influential, and well-resourced.

Women’s organizations play a crucial role in advancing gender equality and sexual and reproductive rights, achieving outsized impact with limited resources, yet they remain chronically underfunded.

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Photo: Esperança Dias Dominican Republic



Fòs Feminista Canada invites you to join us in this pivotal moment.

We seek canadian support to respond to alliance partners’ priority needs.

Your support will empower partners at the forefront of advancing women’s sexual and reproductive health, will foster new dimensions of feminist partnership within Canada, and will create lasting change that upholds gender equality and health equity for our current times and for future generations.

For more information or to schedule a discussion, please contact Natasha Cassinath, Executive Director.

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