



SIGRID RAUSING TRUST

Investing in women's rights



Jessica Horn, Sigrid Rausing Trust. OECD
GENDERNET Meeting



SIGRID RAUSING TRUST

Who we are

- o **Vision:** A world where the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights are implemented and respected and where all people can enjoy their rights in harmony with each other and with the environment.
- o **Mission:** We support and strengthen effective advocates, organisations and movements who defend human rights, equality and environmental justice for all.
- o **Granting:** £85m since 1996; £21m to women's rights organisations & programs.
- o **Who we fund:** registered not-for-profits. Can't fund trade unions, political parties, individuals

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Why we invest in women's rights

“Gender disparities hit women and girls directly, and frequently the price is not just paid by them but by society as a whole. The reverse is also true, remove the disparities and society benefits disproportionately”

– Jo Andrews, Former Director, Sigrid Rausing Trust



Funding women's rights

- Peace & security
- Sexual & reproductive rights
- Developing legal norms & access to justice
- Ending violence against women
- Cross-cutting activism

Other portfolios:

- Right to asylum
- Social & economic rights
- Ethnic minorities & “multiple discrimination”



How do we do it?

- **Core grants-** to support sustainability, encourage **innovation**
- **Advancement grants-** catalysing growth
- **Small grants** – building social movements
- **Simplified application process-** reduce administrative burden for groups; keep rigorous due diligence
- Range of **risk** and **grant sizes**



Role of private philanthropy

- Part of the civil society response
- Reinforcing the **accountability mechanism (citizens)**
- Encouraging **innovation** & new thinking
- Piloting models that can be taken to scale



Challenges

- Size of response vs. scale of issues
- Volume of requests
- Breadth vs. depth
- Evaluating complex change processes
- “Subsidising” state responsibility

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