













Advocating for peace, justice & equality



Supporting our work for peace, justice and equality

The Nobel Women's Initiative would like to thank the following people and organizations whose generous support in 2013 fuelled our progress towards a world of peace, justice and equality:

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All of the Nobel Peace Laureates of the Nobel Women's Initiative in 2013:

Shirin Ebadi Mairead Maguire Rigoberta Menchú Tum Leymah Gbowee Tawakkol Karman Jody Williams

And many other generous individuals.



We must continue to unite in sisterhood to turn our tears into triumph.

Leymah Gbowee



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Message from the Nobel Women

If I am encouraged by anything, it is by the women working at the grassroots level. In the last few years I have observed our collective power building steam and momentum: Women are rising up and demanding accountability for crimes not only against them, but also against society at large.

Shirin Ebadi

Every year, we are touched and inspired by the stories of the courageous activists we meet in our work with the Nobel Women's Initiative. In 2013, at our conference held in Belfast and in our various delegations, we connected with women from Liberia, Burma, Colombia, Haiti, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan, Sri Lanka and dozens of other countries. They shared with us stories of horror, of struggle and of hope.

Many of these women have been beaten, jailed, raped, tortured or intimidated. For some, these violations were committed as reprisals for the work they were doing to defend human rights. More than anyone, these women understand the magnitude of the challenges we face. They know that overcoming violence and patriarchy will be a long and difficult process. Despite this, they are rising up in ever-greater numbers, demanding to be heard.

The past year has seen a groundswell of grassroots action among women. They marched and danced in tens of thousands of events on February 14 for "One Billion Rising," a global day of action against gender violence. In Egypt and elsewhere, women flooded the streets calling for regime change. In Guatemala, survivors of the civil war stood up to testify against a former dictator accused of genocide. Sexual violence survivors joined with us under the banner of the International Campaign to Stop Rape & Gender Violence in Conflict, confronting politicians at international gatherings and demanding justice.

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Indeed, women's voices are being heard by those in the halls of power. We saw signs of a real shift in attitude among political leaders in 2013, particularly towards sexual violence. South Africa began an investigation into mass rapes allegedly orchestrated by Zimbabwe's ruling political party. The G8 made ending sexual violence linked to war an international priority, and a landmark Declaration of Commitment to End Sexual Violence in Conflict was signed by over 140 member states of the United Nations.

We celebrate these groundbreaking international commitments. With millions of women and men rising up to challenge violence in our streets, our schools and our homes, we see unstoppable momentum towards a future where governments have no choice but to act on the promises they have made.

As Nobel peace laureates, we share a vision of a world transformed—a world of security and dignity for all. We witnessed a seismic shift in direction towards that world in 2013, led by women at the grassroots. In the year to come, we will keep moving forward, alongside our sisters relentlessly pushing for peace, justice and equality worldwide.

In hope and solidarity,

Mairead Maguire Rigoberta Menchú Tum Jody Williams Shirin Ebadi Leymah Gbowee Tawakkol Karman

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Message from the Executive Director

Advocating for peace, justice and equality

Activists around the world—from South Africa to Guatemala, Haiti to Syria, Colombia to the Democratic Republic of Congo—have made incredible breakthroughs for women's rights in 2013. It has been a year of women demanding to be heard, and our voices will only grow stronger.

Our year began with a delegation to Liberia, hosted by one of our newest laureates, Leymah Gbowee. She introduced us to community leaders who are tackling the complex challenges facing women and girls in the aftermath of civil war. We found an atmosphere of hope among these grassroots activists as they rebuild their communities and we took their demands for legal reform to ensure justice and lasting peace to policymakers at gathering for the African Union Summit in Ethiopia.

In May, Mairead Maguire hosted us in Belfast, Northern Ireland for our fourth biennial conference, "Moving Beyond Militarism & War: Womendriven solutions for a nonviolent world." We were delighted at this conference to have all six laureates of the Nobel Women's Initiative together in the same place, for the first time ever. More than 100 fellow activists and peace-makers joined us to share strategies and build networks. We emerged from the conference with powerful new ideas and connections, which we will use to work together globally to tackle militarism and war.

Our collaboration with grassroots activists and leading advocacy organizations in the International Campaign to Stop Rape & Gender Violence in Conflict made remarkable strides in 2013, with member states of the United Nations and the G8 adopting landmark declarations on sexual violence related to armed conflict.



We will continue to push for concrete action by political leaders to fulfill these commitments. As the reversal of former Guatemalan dictator Efraín Ríos Montt's genocide conviction shows, we still have far to go in the fight to end impunity for mass rape and other crimes against humanity.

Throughout the year, our laureates spoke out to political leaders, calling for measures to halt the growth of the destructive tar sands industry, for an end to violence in Egypt and Burma and for the inclusion of women in Syrian peace negotiations. They also urged leaders to strengthen international justice mechanisms and to create robust international treaties regulating the weapons trade and banning killer robots.

In 2013, we released three groundbreaking reports that bring to light women's stories we gathered in previous years during fact-finding missions to Israel and Palestine, Sudan and Canada's tar sands region. The peacemakers we met during our delegation to Israel and Palestine were also profiled in *Partners for Peace*, a feature-length film released in September.

The Nobel Women's Initiative team is proud to have amplified the voices of the many women's rights and peace activists we encountered in 2013. We will continue to stand in solidarity with our partners around the globe as they blaze the trails of peace, justice and equality.

Sincerely,

Glat

Liz Bernstein



Who We Are

We are a group of Nobel peace laureates who came together in 2006 to support women activists and to work for peace, justice and equality worldwide.

We want to disarm human hearts and human beings, one by one, country by country.

Mairead Maguire

Our Vision

The Nobel Women's Initiative uses the prestige of the Nobel Peace Prize and courageous women peace laureates to increase the power and visibility of women's groups working globally for peace, justice and equality.

How We Work

Our advocacy is organized around three main pillars:

■ Women forging peace.

We promote the inclusion of women in peace-making and in supporting nonviolence and other alternatives to war and militarism.

■ Women achieving justice.

We demand accountability for crimes committed against women and an end to widespread impunity.

Women advancing equality and human rights.

We support human rights defenders, those working for women's equality and those on the frontlines of civil society, including those addressing climate change.

We use three main strategies in our advocacy:

Convening.

We bring together key decision makers with women's rights activists. We promote collaboration between diverse women's groups, academics, policy makers and the media. We empower women leaders and expand global movements for peace, justice and equality.

Shaping the conversation.

We articulate a broadly accessible analysis of the impact of conflict, violence and inequity on women. We emphasize solutions proposed by women's movements. We share a vision of a nonviolent, just and equal world.

Spotlighting and promoting.

We create media and public awareness of the powerful work being done by women's activists and movements, and help bring women's messages to the world.

Committed Staff

Based in Ottawa, Canada, the Nobel Women's Initiative has a small but dedicated team of women with broad international experience in women's rights and advocacy working to support the Nobel women's vision.

Mentoring a New Generation

The Nobel Women's Initiative creates remarkable opportunities for young women to work side by side with international advocacy professionals through our internships and our Sister-to-Sister Mentorship Program.

Meet the Laureates

"Using our influence for change"



Mairead Maguire (1976),

for her work to help end the conflict in Northern Ireland



Rigoberta Menchú Tum (1992),

for her promotion of indigenous peoples' rights in Guatemala



Jody Williams (1997),

for her work to ban landmines through the International Campaign to Ban Landmines 2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Our internship program is open to young women who are in university or have recently completed their studies. Eleven interns joined us in the Ottawa office in 2013, each contributing their passion and talents to our work while gaining practical experience in communications, advocacy, event planning and logistics, and online media outreach.

We were also joined by three participants in the Sister-to-Sister Mentorship Program, which entered its second year. Designed to support young women's rights activists in their international advocacy work, the program brings three women between the ages of 20 and 30 to Ottawa for a

six-week residency at the Nobel Women's Initiative office.

This year's participants were Gabriela Rivera, a human rights lawyer from Guatemala, Josephine Gekpelee, a community radio producer from Liberia and Su Thet San, a children's literacy promoter from Burma/Myanmar.

We worked closely with each of these women to build on her skills in advocacy, political organizing, strategy development, messaging, relationship building, event planning, finance and new media. We look forward to working closely with them as they continue promoting a better future for women and girls in their home countries.



Shirin Ebadi (2003)

for her efforts to promote human rights—in particular, the rights of women, children and political prisoners in Iran



Leymah Gbowee (2011),

for her work in leading a women's peace movement that brought an end to the Second Liberian Civil War in 2003



Tawakkol Karman (2011).

for her nonviolent struggle to promote women's safety and women's participation in peace-building in Yemen

Highlights of the Year

Women Forging Peace

We advocate building long-term peace, supporting women who are engaged in nonviolence and other alternatives to war and militarism, and we promote the inclusion of women in peace negotiations and other peace-building efforts.

Supporting women peace-builders in Liberia

Although Liberia's fourteen-year civil war finally came to an end in 2003, violence is still a daily reality for many Liberian women. In communities struggling to rebuild, women and girls continue to face shockingly high rates of rape, female genital mutilation and sexual exploitation. Lack of access to education and basic services such as clean drinking water only add to women's insecurity.

Yet across the country, women are working to improve safety within their communities, support survivors and challenge the sexist attitudes, government neglect and flawed legal system that allow gender violence to persist.

From January 19 to 24, the Nobel Women's Initiative led a delegation to Liberia to learn from and support the country's women peace-builders. Our delegation was hosted by Leymah Gbowee, whose work as a leader of the Liberian

2013 at a Glance

January **19-24**

Nobel Women's Initiative delegation visits Liberia

21-28

Members of International Campaign to Stop Rape & Gender Violence in Conflict demand political action from leaders at 20th Summit of the African Union 29

Jody Williams writes editorial for *The Boston Globe* urging Canadian and U.S. governments to reject pipeline project that would carry bitumen from Canada's tar sands to Maine



Over the last few years, we've realized that while we've been able to fight and bring peace to Liberia, we've been unable to fight the demon of rape and abuse in this country.

Leymah Gbowee

women's peace movement has been credited with helping end the war. Her sister laureates Shirin Ebadi, Jody Williams and Mairead Maguire led the delegation, which included journalists, businesswomen, activists and philanthropists from the United States and Canada.

In the capital city of Monrovia and in outlying villages like Totota and Walea, we held meetings with activists, community leaders, trauma counsellors, and women's and youth groups. We met dozens of inspiring women who told us of their challenges and successes in combatting violence. Nearly all of them called for the government to

support women-led alternative justice mechanisms, to provide resources for community-based response and investigation efforts, and to reform the judicial system so that rape cases can be effectively prosecuted.



February 7

Nobel Women's Initiative with the International Campaign to Stop Rape & Gender Violence in Conflict co-sponsors a workshop in Port-au-Prince on securing legal reform to end rape in Haiti

14

Women and men in 207 countries raise their voices against gender violence, in tens of thousands of public gatherings for the "One Billion Rising" day of action

March **4-8**

Members of International Campaign to Stop Rape & Gender Violence in Conflict gather in New York ahead of 57th session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women, meeting with UN officials and member state delegations 10

We carried these women's concerns and demands to Liberia's leaders, meeting with high-level government officials including President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, who expressed her support for advancing women's rights and promised to visit the women peace-makers of Totota.

A press conference we held in Monrovia on January 24 garnered national and regional media coverage, bringing the story of Liberian women's struggle to audiences throughout the country and beyond.

Strategizing globally for an end to war and militarism

From ever-escalating military budgets to a looming arms race based on robotic weapon technologies, relentless militarization is a grave concern for all those who seek peace. The last two decades have seen a steady rise in military spending in many countries even as funding for critical social services such as healthcare and education has been cut.

From May 28 to 30, women working to counter the global march towards militarization came together for the Nobel Women's

Our world has been ravaged by conflict, time and time again. And yet, instead of investing in our women, children and future generations, our states continue to spend more on our militaries—a solution that has failed to increase the human security of those at risk.

Mairead Maguire

2013 at a Glance

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Laureates of Nobel Women's Initiative and 12 fellow laureates ask American President Barack Obama to support a rigorous, comprehensive Arms Trade Treaty at upcoming UN negotiations 19

Genocide trial of former military dictator Efraín Ríos Montt begins in Guatemala 21

Laureates of Nobel Women's Initiative urge members of the Organization of American States to strengthen and fully fund Inter-American Human Rights System I commit to not giving up when my heart begs to, not shutting up when people want me to, not letting my heart turn to stone because of the things I have seen and known. I cannot give up because we will not fail.

Conference participant

Initiative conference "Moving Beyond Militarism & War: Womendriven Solutions for a Nonviolent World." Hosted by Nobel Peace Laureate Mairead Maguire in Belfast, Northern Ireland, this was our fourth biennial conference. It marked the first time ever that all six of our laureates came together in the same place.

They were joined by more than 100 grassroots activists, academics, journalists, government officials and philanthropists. Our conference speakers came from some of the world's most warravaged regions, including the Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, Palestine, Israel, Sudan, Liberia, Colombia, Afghanistan, Yemen and Syria.

Through plenary speeches, panels and thematic table discussions, we explored the root causes and the effects of militarism and war, as well as the nonviolent strategies women are using to bring about change.

The conference not only gave participants a chance to learn from each other's work, it also planted the seeds for collaboration between peace activists working in disparate regions of the world. After three days of learning and strategizing together, participants went home with renewed determination and a network of new allies in the struggle to bring about a world of nonviolence and peace.

April 2

UN General Assembly adopts Arms Trade Treaty

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G8 foreign ministers adopt Declaration on Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict 25

Rigoberta Menchú Tum and other activists hold press conference urging Guatemala's criminal court to carry on with genocide trial of Ríos Montt

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Each time peace has been promised over the years and decades, the situation has only worsened. And yet, even in the face of this, hundreds—probably thousands—of women on this little stamp of ancient, embattled land get up every day and work for peace.

Jaclyn Friedman, member of the 2010 Nobel Women's Initiative delegation to Israel and Palestine

Highlighting partnerships for peace in Israel-Palestine

With the Israeli occupation of the Gaza Strip and West Bank now having lasted nearly half a decade, prospects for peace in the region seem remote. Every new outbreak of violence demonstrates the inability or unwillingness of political leaders to bring the conflict to an end. Yet a movement for peace here is steadily growing.

This movement is documented in *Partners for Peace*, a featurelength film following the Nobel Women's Initiative delegation to Israel and Palestine in 2010. The film portrays the journey of American and Canadian women as they meet courageous Israeli and Palestinian women activists doing the hard, often invisible work of building peace.

Produced by Kublacom Pictures in association with the Nobel Women's Initiative, *Partners for Peace* premiered on September 26 at the One World Film Festival in Ottawa. It has since been included as an official selection in several other film festivals, including in Washington, D.C. and Chicago,

2013 at a Glance

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International coalition of NGOs launch Campaign to Stop Killer Robots May 10

Ríos Montt is convicted of genocide and crimes against humanity by Guatemalan trial court 20

Guatemala's Constitutional Court annuls Ríos Montt's conviction of genocide and crimes against humanity bringing to the world a powerful cinematic narrative of Israeli and Palestinian women working together to end the occupation.

The same day as the film premiere, we released an accompanying report, *Partners for Peace: Women in Israel and Palestine Working for an End to the Conflict and Lasting Reconciliation*. The report profiles a dozen remarkable activists and organizations we met with during our 2010 delegation.

By telling these stories through film and in writing, we provided audiences with a glimpse at what is happening on the ground in Israel and Palestine, building a more complete understanding of the conflict and what the international community must do bring about its resolution.

Calling for a pre-emptive ban on killer robots

Over the past decade, many have been horrified by civilian deaths caused by American military drone strikes in Pakistan and elsewhere. Yet drones are only the first step in a race among nationstates to develop and deploy fully autonomous weapons. These weapons—also known as killer robots—are already being developed by some countries and could be deployed within 20 years. These robotic weapons would be able to choose and fire on targets on their own, without any human intervention, giving machines the power to decide who lives and dies on the battlefield.

In April, the Nobel Women's Initiative joined a coalition of non-governmental organizations

28-30

More than 100 peace activists, academics and philanthropists gather in Belfast, Northern Ireland for Nobel Women's Initiative conference, "Moving Beyond Militarism & War: Women-driven Solutions for a Nonviolent World"

June 17

Laureates of Nobel Women's Initiative and four fellow laureates call on American President Barack Obama to reject Keystone XL pipeline

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Laureates of Nobel Women's Initiative and six fellow laureates release statement calling for immediate end to violence against ethnic minorities in Burma





Killer robots loom over our future if we do not take action to ban them now... I know we can stop them before they hit the battlefield.

Jody Williams

to launch the Campaign to Stop Killer Robots. As members of the campaign steering committee, we are taking a lead in raising awareness and pushing for a global ban on fully autonomous lethal weapons.

One week after the campaign launch, the UN Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions issued a report that called for all nations to put a halt to the development and testing of such weapons.

In October, Jody Williams and other campaign members presented to a UN General Assembly committee, making

the case for a ban. One month later, the 117 states that are party to the international Convention on Conventional Weapons agreed to begin discussions in 2014 on the legal and ethical challenges posed by autonomous robot weapons.

It was a remarkable year of success for the campaign, which put the issue of killer robot weapons firmly on the international political agenda for the first time.

Pushing for an effective arms trade treaty

Hundreds of thousands of women, men and children are gunned down each year, with millions left maimed and

2013 at a Glance

August

Nobel Women's Initiative calls for immediate end to political violence in Egypt, where thousands were killed or injured since August 14th crackdown

Three young women's rights activists arrive in Ottawa to begin six-week Sister-to-Sister Mentorship program with the Nobel Women's Initiative

September

Iranian lawyer and human rights activist is Nasrin Sotoudeh released from prison, along with ten other political prisoners

2013 ANNUAL REPORT



traumatized, in both the midst and the aftermath of warfare. The shocking scale of such carnage would scarcely be possible were it not for the poorly regulated multi-billion-dollar arms trade.

Nobel peace laureates have been lobbying since the 1990s for a comprehensive international treaty to regulate the arms trade. UN member states finally resolved to develop such a treaty in 2006.

In March, as the final round of negotiations on the content of the treaty approached, 18 Nobel peace laureates including the laureates of the Nobel Women's Initiative wrote to American President Barack Obama asking him to support a rigorous, comprehensive treaty. The draft treaty had significant loopholes, and a number of states were pushing for watered-down language.

The final version of the Arms
Trade Treaty adopted by the
UN General Assembly on April 2
forbids states from selling arms
to countries where there is risk
of them being used for violence,
including gender-based violence,
against civilians. This historic
treaty will enter into force once it
has been ratified by 50 states.

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Over 140 United Nations member states sign Declaration of Commitment to End Sexual Violence in Conflict 26

Partners for Peace, a documentary film about the Nobel Women's Initiative delegation to Israel and Palestine in 2010, premieres at One World Film Festival; Nobel Women's Initiative releases accompanying report October

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Laureates of Nobel Women's Initiative join 21 Nobel Peace and Science laureates in urging European Commission to implement EU Fuel Quality Directive without delay



We add our voices to the multitudes of war-affected people worldwide who understand that there can be no legitimate or sustainable peace process unless women who advocate for women's rights and peace are at the table.

Statement endorsed by participants at the Nobel Women's Initiative's 2013 conference

Demanding women's inclusion in peaceful resolution to Syrian crisis

Women's rights advocates have long argued that, for peace agreements to succeed, women must play a direct role in negotiation and implementation. This link has been acknowledged by the UN Security Council, which well over a decade ago adopted Resolution 1325, urging greater involvement of women in all peace and security processes. Yet for the most part, women are still largely excluded from these processes.

Throughout 2013, as global leaders made plans for the Geneva II peace talks on Syria to be held in early 2014, Syrian women were being left out. We ioined with dozens of other civil society groups in calling for Syrian women's full inclusion in the negotiations. We collaborated in actions with the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, CodePink and MADRE, to amplify the voices of the Syrian women demanding space at the peace table, including through an op-ed and

2013 at a Glance

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Members of International Campaign to Stop Rape & Gender Violence in Conflict call on African leaders to maintain support for International Criminal Court ahead of African Union meeting 21

Members of Campaign to Stop Killer Robots present to UN General Assembly committee, making the case for a comprehensive ban on fully autonomous lethal weapons 23

Jody Williams visits
Ottawa to release report
Breaking Ground: Women,
Oil and Climate Change
in Alberta and British
Columbia and to join
discussions on sustainable energy practices

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live-chat on Huffington Post.
As preparations began for the Geneva II negotiations, the Nobel Women's Initiative supported Syrian women's participation by sending letters to the Foreign Ministers of 11 countries as

well as the Syrian President and National Coalition of Opposition Forces. We also actively petitioned UN Special Envoy to Syria, Lakhdar Brahimi, to include Syrian women in the peace process.



November **15**

States party to Convention on Conventional Weapons agree to begin international discussions on killer robot weapons

25

"16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence" campaign begins; from November 25 to December 10, Nobel Women's Initiative profiles sixteen activists working on the frontlines to defend women's rights

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UN General Assembly approves resolution on the protection of women human rights defenders



Women Achieving Justice

We support work to achieve justice for women, including accountability for crimes committed against women and an end to widespread impunity.

We Maya have a memory that stretches back millennia and we do not forget our history. For this reason, we will fight tirelessly to protect the evidence of genocide, since there is technical, scientific and juridical proof that genocide and crimes against humanity occurred in our country.

Supporting Guatemalan genocide survivors in their quest for justice

Rigoberta Menchú Tum

On March 19, the criminal trial began against former Guatemalan military dictator Efraín Ríos Montt and former chief of military intelligence Jose Mauricio Rodriguez Sanchez, both accused of genocide. This trial marked the first time a former head of state has

been prosecuted for genocide in a national court. It had been long awaited by those who survived the massacres, forcible displacement, sexual assaults and torture unleashed by the military on the indigenous population in the Quiche region in 1982 and 1983.

The court case met with much political resistance, including

2013 at a Glance

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Shirin Ebadi's article "Women Rising" is published in *The New York Times'* year-in-review magazine December c

Nobel Women's
Initiative and International
Campaign to Stop Rape
& Gender Violence in
Conflict release report
Survivors Speak Out:
Sexual Violence in Sudan

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Laureates of Nobel Women's Initiative join dozens of civil society groups in calling for full inclusion of women in Geneva II peace talks on Syria attempts to suspend the trial. Testifying survivors, human rights activists and judges involved in the case were threatened and harassed throughout the trial proceedings.

In late April, when the trial came close to being suspended, Rigoberta Menchú Tum and other activists delivered a televised press conference, speaking of the need for justice and reconciliation in Guatemala. Rigoberta's fellow laureates joined her in releasing a statement calling for a legitimate, independent and transparent judicial process.

The trial went ahead, and on May 10, Ríos Montt was convicted of genocide and crimes against humanity. He was sentenced to 80 years in prison. But later that month, following vigorous lobbying by powerful interests protesting the verdict, Guatemala's Constitutional Court overturned the conviction on procedural grounds. The trial is scheduled to resume in 2015.

The Nobel Women's Initiative joined human rights groups across the world in applauding the precedent set by the trial court's conviction of Ríos Montt. Following the Constitutional Court's ruling, we ran ads in two Guatemalan newspapers, calling on the state to preserve

an ethical, sound justice system that honours victims' rights and promotes democratic values.

We will continue to support the courageous women of Guatemala as they fight to bring military leaders to justice for their crimes.



Strengthening justice through international courts

International justice mechanisms have played a critical role in defending the rights of people in countries where corruption, discrimination and state complicity in violence stand in the way of justice, such as in the case of Guatemala. In states where governments fail to be accountable to their citizens, they are turning to international systems such as the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and the International Criminal Court to end impunity.

In March, members of the Organization of American States (OAS) gathered to consider

reforms to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, which together form the regional justice system that oversees compliance with the American Convention on Human Rights. Concerned that some countries were moving to weaken the system, our Nobel laureates wrote to OAS leaders ahead of the meeting, urging them to strengthen and fully fund the system. On March 23, OAS states re-affirmed their commitment to strengthen the system and voted to pursue full funding for its functions, although discussions on potential reforms continue.

Later in the year, we were alarmed by news that some African states were considering withdrawing support for the International Criminal Court (ICC). Several African leaders at the time faced charges or trial at the ICC for involvement in organized campaigns of violence and rape, including the sitting presidents of Sudan and Kenya.

In advance of an African Union meeting held in October to discuss the ICC, our laureates and partners in the International Campaign to End Rape & Gender Violence in Conflict sent a letter to African leaders urging them to keep supporting this critical tool of international justice.

The bid for united regional withdrawal of African states from the ICC failed. However, the African Union passed a resolution calling on the ICC to defer prosecution of sitting heads of state until they leave office.



Women Advancing Equality and Human Rights

We support human rights defenders, including those working for women's equality and those dealing with the challenges posed by climate change.



Women are frustrated that very real concerns about potential oils spills, their families' health and well-being—as well as climate change—are being ignored. So they are organizing and demanding to be heard.

Jody Williams

Opposing tar sands industry harm to people and the planet

In October, Jody Williams visited Ottawa to launch the report Breaking Ground: Women, Oil and Climate Change in Alberta and British Columbia. It documents the testimony we heard from women we met during our 2012 fact-finding mission to Alberta's tar sands region and along the proposed route of the Northern Gateway pipeline through British Columbia.

Tar sands lie deeply buried under previously undeveloped pristine forests and protected First Nations lands. The extraction from the tar sands deposits has constituted one of the world's largest industrial undertakings-and the process to turn the tar-like substance into synthetic crude oil is a resource-intensive and expensive process that

consumes huge quantities of water and energy.

The report brought to an international audience the testimony of women who are directly affected by the rapid growth of Canada's tar sands industry. These women voiced concerns about a wide range of economic, health, environmental and social impacts-from spiraling inflation, breathing problems, undrinkable water and climate change to domestic violence and violations of First Nations' treaty rights.

Throughout 2013, our laureates campaigned for political action to reign in the reckless expansion of the tar sands industry, which is the fastest-growing source of greenhouse gas emissions in Canada. Jody Williams joined with other women leaders at the Women Climate Earth Summit in New York in September.

Jody Williams wrote an editorial for *The Boston Globe* in January, urging regulators to reject oil companies' bid to re-fit a pipeline to carry bitumen from Canada's tar sands to Maine. She also took part in a roundtable discussion about TransCanada's proposed Energy East pipeline during her trip to Ottawa, meeting with local community activists who are organizing to stop the conversion of the existing pipeline which would carry tar sands oil through the city.

Our laureates joined other Nobel laureates in calling for American leaders to reject the TransCanada Keystone XL pipeline and urging the European Commission to stop delaying the implementation of the European Union Fuel Quality Directive—a law that would reduce consumption of high-carbon fuels, such as oil from the tar sands.

Supporting legal reform in Haiti to combat violence against women

Women activists living in the displacement camps set up after Haiti's devastating 2010 earthquake have had remarkable success in combatting an epidemic of rape that broke out in the camps, organizing their own security systems and empowering victims to report attacks. But in their quest to secure protection

and justice for survivors through Haiti's legal system, they face massive barriers.

Following years of tireless campaigning by Haitian activists, the government recently released a New Draft Penal Code that would represent a huge step forward for gender equality in Haiti. Among other crucial measures, it would prohibit and punish all forms of sexual assault, including marital rape.

In February, as Haitian women geared up for a concerted push to see these reforms passed into law, the Nobel Women's Initiative joined with MADRE and Haitian organization KOFAVIV, in collaboration with the International Campaign to Stop Rape & Gender Violence in Conflict, to co-sponsor an interactive workshop in Port-au-Prince to raise awareness and rally support for the cause. The event brought together local activists and international experts such as Rashida Manjoo, the UN Special Rapporteur on violence against women.

We also had the chance to capture the inspiring stories of several Haitian women's rights activists on film. The short films, shared with audiences worldwide during our "16 Days of Activism"

Women who stand up for human rights are a threat to the status quo. These women are a threat in societies that view women has second-class citizens.

Jody Williams

campaign, provided a powerful tool for building global support for the struggle to end gender violence in Haiti.

Defending women who defend human rights

Death threats, rape, smear campaigns, murder, criminalization and harassment by state authorities are just some of the threats faced daily by women working to defend human rights. Although male activists also face repression and assaults, the rates of retaliatory violence against women doing this work are much higher.

Over the years, we have met many of these women and heard first-hand about the abuses they endure.

In 2012, we met indigenous land rights activists in Honduras whose work has made them targets for rape by soldiers and assassination by mining officials. Haitian activists who we supported this year have been held at gunpoint, threatened and shot at. Women who testified against former Guatemalan

dictator Efraín Ríos Montt during his genocide trial were threatened and harassed throughout the trial proceedings.

The UN tabled a draft resolution on the protection of women human rights defenders in November. Only 65 member states initially showed support for the resolution, and some tried to make changes to the text that would weaken its integrity and scope.

Our laureates mobilized to secure full support for the resolution, writing a letter to the foreign ministers of every member country. Jody Williams penned an opinion piece on the topic for The Huffington Post, asking readers to put pressure on their national leaders to support the resolution in its entirety.

In the end, the third committee of the UN General Assembly approved the resolution. We applauded this important development, which occurred just two days before the 8th annual International Women Human Rights Defenders Day on November 29



War is not just a conflict between states. There is another type of war, which is far more bitter, that is the war of despotic leaders who oppress their own people.

Tawakkol Karman

Speaking out for human rights in Burma and Egypt

We were deeply alarmed by reports emerging in early 2013 of escalating violence against civilians and particularly women in Burma. Activists in Burma reported ongoing military assaults on ethnic minority populations in the country's north, while suspected campaigns of ethnic cleansing against Muslim Rohingyas in the west prompted the UN Commissioner for Human Rights to appeal to the Burmese government to allow her office a full mandate in the country to investigate. Women are disproportionately impacted by the attacks, with sexual violence widespread against women of ethnic minorities.

The UN Commissioner's call was echoed by the laureates of the Nobel Women's Initiative, who along with six other Nobel laureates released a statement calling for an immediate end to violence and rape against ethnic minorities

in Burma and an independent investigation into the killings.

We also spoke out against military violations of human rights in Eavpt, which entered a state of emergency in mid-August when security forces began clearing protest camps that had emerged in solidarity with the country's deposed president. Within less than two weeks, the dead and injured numbered in the thousands. Women and girls who had been taking part in protests or reporting on the situation were significantly impacted, with a serious rise in assault and rape throughout 2013.

The Nobel Women's Initiative responded by calling for an immediate end to the violence, urging all parties to respect the rights of the people of Egypt, including freedom of expression and assembly. We also called for the release of all political prisoners and for negotiations to resolve the political crisis.

In Focus:

Gains Made in the Push to Stop Sexual Violence in Conflict

This is a crime with a long and infamous history, but after listening and speaking here today, and seeing all of you in the audience, I know that we can break the back of this plague and make it a thing of the past.

Zainab Bangura, UN Special Representative on sexual violence in conflict, addressing delegates from International Campaign to Stop Rape & Gender Violence in Conflict, January 2013

Launched in 2012, the International Campaign to Stop Rape & Gender Violence in Conflict is led by the laureates of the Nobel Women's Initiative and an advisory committee representing 25 organizations working at the global, regional and local levels to stop rape.





In Focus (cont'd)

Nearly 5,000 members—including over 700 organizations—have signed on to the campaign call, which demands political leadership to prevent rape in conflict, to protect civilians and survivors, and to prosecute those responsible.

Throughout 2013, member organizations built global awareness and momentum for decisive political change with the following actions:

- Gathering at international political events, such as the 20th Summit of the African Union and the 57th session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women, to call for political action. The delegation to the African Union Summit, led by Jody Williams, brought 25 activists and survivors of sexual violence face-to-face with political leaders.
- Inspiring women and men in 207 countries to raise their voices against gender violence on February 14, with the "One Billion Rising" campaign. Led by the organization V-Day, this day of action inspired tens of thousands of events, with people gathering to march, strike and dance in city streets, schools, town halls and other public places.
- Leading a delegation to Liberia to hear testimony from women ending sexual violence in their communities. Three Nobel peace laureates participated in the delegation hosted by their sister Laureate Leymah Gbowee, meeting with grassroots activists and

- carrying their messages to national and international policymakers.
- Organizing to prevent sexual violence in Kenya in the lead-up to the March 4 elections. The Greenbelt Movement participated in peace negotiations and established a toll-free number for Kenyans to report violence during this tense period.
- Breaking the silence on systemic gender violence in Sri Lanka,
 Canada and Sudan. In February,
 Human Rights Watch released reports exposing sexual assaults carried out by security forces in Sri Lanka and abusive treatment of indigenous women by police officers in Canada. In December, the Nobel Women's Initiative released a report documenting systemic rape and gender violence in Sudan's conflict-torn regions.
- Demanding that political leaders accused of orchestrating sexual violence be brought to justice. Campaign members called for the speedy transfer of indicted Congolese warlord Bosco Ntaganda to the International Criminal Court, and for a fair trial in Guatamelan courts of former dictator Efraín Ríos Montt. Tireless campaigning by AIDS-Free

World and partners prompted South Africa to launch an investigation into crimes against humanity, including systematic rape, by Zimbabwe's ruling political party.

The fruits of our labour

The concerted global push for action to prevent and prosecute sexual violence resulted in two landmark commitments from political leaders in 2013:

UN Declaration of Commitment to End Sexual Violence in Conflict.

This declaration, signed by over 140 member states of the UN, calls for the participation of women in all peace negotiations, the exclusion of amnesty for crimes of sexual violence from peace deals, legal reform to ramp up prosecution of rape cases and full funding for prevention, response and survivor assistance.

■ G8 Declaration on Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict, in which foreign ministers of the world's eight wealthiest nations pledged to strengthen rape prevention, response, investigation and prosecution efforts in conflict areas, with an immediate pledge of close to \$36 million.

These breakthrough declarations, combined with an unprecedented global uprising of women demanding change, signal very strong momentum towards a world where all states recognize their duty to prevent sexual violence and secure healing and justice for survivors.



Women in Action

Activist Profiles

At the Nobel Women's Initiative, one of our key strategies for change is to bring the crucial work being done by grassroots women's activists to the attention of media and audiences worldwide. Every year we meet and work with dozens of women engaged in remarkable efforts to establish a future free of violence and oppression.

We invite you to meet some of the inspiring women who we partnered with in 2013.



Sister-to-Sister Mentorship Participants

These three young women's rights activists, who joined the Nobel Women's Initiative for the six-week Sister-to-Sister Mentorship Program in our Ottawa office, have worked tirelessly within their communities to improve the lives of women and girls.

Gabriela RiveraSupporting survivors of gender violence in Guatemala

"I frequently witness amazing transformations in the women we work with, in their daughters and sons, in their whole families."



Gabriela is a human rights lawyer who works for Alas de Mariposas, a Guatemalan organization that promotes women's rights and gives legal advice, counselling and medical support to survivors of gender-based violence.

Gabriela says her mother instilled in her a deep commitment to justice. After going to university, she felt compelled to do something to give back to her country. She is so committed to her work that she struggled with the decision to leave Guatemala for six weeks to participate in the mentorship program.

Guatemala has one of the highest levels of violence against women and girls in the world, says Gabriela. But in her work with Alas de Mariposas, she sees ample reasons for hope. There she has witnessed the positive transformations that can take place in women's lives once they escape abuse and seek help.

Josephine Gekpelee Bringing the voices of marginalized women to radio

"I know how it feels to be in the shoes of those whose situation I want to highlight... I can provide moral support and create space for their voices to be heard."



Josephine lives in a rural county in Liberia, where she works for Radio Gbarnga as a radio reporter, producer and sales agent. She produces and hosts two radio shows that focus on sharing the voices of the most marginalized within her society: people with disabilities, single mothers and children working as street vendors.

Most of the women she interviews live on less than \$1.25 a day. Many are the breadwinners in their family, and some are forced to be sex workers. She sees violence, rape and teenage pregnancy as growing problems in Liberia.

Josephine plans to keep working to bring the voices of marginalized women to a wider audience, and is preparing to lead discussions with local girls to teach them the value of staying in school.

Su Thet San Promoting literacy among children living in poverty

"International solidarity, investment and capacity-building are key in giving girls the tools and skills they need to improve their lives."



Su Thet San works for EduNet, a community-based organization that improves educational opportunities for children of poor families in Burma. As the field coordinator of post-literacy activities, she works within schools to promote reading, develop school libraries and teach children literacy and critical thinking skills.

She also conducts research into the barriers keeping girls from attending school in rural areas. Although basic education is provided for free in Buddhist monastic schools, many families cannot afford to buy school uniforms or books, and girls are often sent to work to help support the family or pay off debts.

Su Thet San returned home with plans to organize training sessions for grassroots women's organizations in Burma so she can pass on the knowledge and skills she learned in the Sister-to-Sister Mentorship Program.

16 Days of Activism

We joined once more with organizations around the world for the "16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence" campaign, which ran from November 25 to December 10. Through online promotion and media outreach, we profiled the work of sixteen brave activists who are working on the front-lines to defend women's rights.

Eramithe Delva

Meeting the needs of rape survivors in some of Haiti's poorest communities



"We're starting a revolution.

We're saying things must change.

Women must have justice, and
this violence must stop."

Eramithe is a co-founder of KOFAVIV (Commission of Women Victims for Victims), an organization that since 2004 has provided counselling as well as legal and medical support to rape survivors in Haiti's capital city.

When epidemic levels of sexual violence arose in the camps for displaced people set up in the wake of the 2010 earthquake, Eramithe and her colleagues set up a whistle-based security system. Armed with their whistles, women saw the number of rapes in one of the camps drop from about 40 cases per month to just two.



Annie Nushann Empowering Liberian women to prevent violence and build peace



"We women can do anything if we put our mind to it. If we are empowered and supported equally with men, we can make a big difference; we too are leaders."

Annie, also known as "Ma Annie," is the catalyst behind Peace Hut, a community led-initiative in rural Liberia that educates women on their rights and trains them in violence prevention and peace-building.

Annie became a peace activist during the Liberian Civil War. Her commanding presence and ability to calm rebel soldiers earned her a powerful reputation. Rural women would request a visit from "Ma Annie" following a surge of fighting. She now works to rebuild trust and accountability within communities, meeting with women to discuss their concerns and mediating with community leaders.

Hania Moheeb Exposing politically motivated sexual violence in Egypt



"As soon as they put me in that ambulance, I decided that I am going to be back on my feet, and I will fight back."

Hania is an Egyptian journalist and a survivor of a brutal sexual assault—an experience that catapulted her into the role of outspoken activist.

In 2013, during a peaceful demonstration in Tahrir Square, Hania was raped by a group of men in a well-planned attack that prevented bystanders from intervening. Nineteen other women reported very similar assaults in Tahrir Square that day.

Convinced that the rapes were planned and carried out to discourage women from becoming politically active, Hania went public with her story. Her bravery has encouraged many other Egyptian women to speak out about rape.

Nobel Women's Initiative

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Visaka Dharmadasa Fostering a lasting peace in Sri Lanka



"I believe that women across the divide can come together... to achieve sustainable peace in my country."

Visaka played a key role in ending Sri Lanka's civil war and has emerged as one of the country's most powerful women leaders.

After her son, a military officer, was reported missing, Visaka established Parents of Servicemen Missing in Action. She also founded the Association of War Affected Women, which brought women together across ethnic divides in the pursuit of peace. She has initiated and been included in peace dialogues with senior government and civil society leaders, and is credited with helping bring the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam to the table for peace talks.

Apuk Mayen Bringing women into South Sudan's Deace Drocess



"Although [women] suffer disproportionately from the violence, they also are taking upon themselves the role of transforming society."

For most of her youth, Apuk lived as a refugee during Sudan's civil war. Having been spared the horrific suffering that she saw strike so many people around her, she felt compelled to work for peace and justice.

Apuk now works as a senior diplomat in South Sudan, where she promotes women's participation in formal peace processes between Sudan and South Sudan. She is committed to bringing the much-needed perspective of women to the table to resolve deep-seated conflicts that persist in her country.



Staying Connected: Online and Media Activity

The Nobel Women's Initiative uses traditional media outreach and new media to connect with women around the world, share stories of extraordinary activists and provide opportunities to take action. Using our website, blogs, video clips, Facebook updates and tweets, we are better able to connect, interact and inspire people to act.

Online Action

Over the past year, social and new media has proved to be highly effective in connecting with new audiences and amplifying the work of women worldwide.

During our activities throughout 2013, including the delegation and conference, social media proved essential in connecting us globally as our website, Facebook, Twitter and YouTube engagement grew. On Facebook, we passed a threshold of over 26,000 followers and on Twitter—32,000.

We continued to use the online sphere to contribute to

public discourse on ending violence against women through the International Campaign to Stop Rape & Gender Violence in Conflict, passing over 4,000 followers on the Campaign's Facebook and Twitter.

The Nobel Women's Initiative was excited to expand our creative multimedia production in 2013, producing and starting development on a number of short and full length videos. We worked with creative filmmakers to capture the work of women's grassroots activists working to bring peace to their communities in Haiti, and Israel and Palestine.



Nobel Women's Initiative



Blowing the Whistle on Sexual Violence

Blowing the Whistle on Sexual Violence is a 20-minute documentary in Haitian Kreyol with English and French subtitles, developed in collaboration with the International Campaign to Stop Rape & Gender Violence in Conflict.

When the earthquake struck Haiti in 2010, women and girls across the country found themselves at increased risk of rape. As institutions that offered protection and justice fell around them-the women mobilized within displacement camps to protect women and support survivors. The film follows the story of a young rape survivor in Port-au-Prince in her search for support and justice after her attack. It also introduces us to the dynamic women activists of Haiti who have formed a successful movement to create a brighter future for sexual violence survivors.

To view the film: http://www.stoprapeinconflict.org

Partners for Peace

Partners for Peace is a full-length documentary film that follows a delegation of American and Canadian women on a journey to Israel and Palestine. Their quest is to learn about the decades-long conflict and to reach out in solidarity to women activists striving amidst the turmoil. Confronted by the complex and brutal depth of the conflict, they are inspired by the commitment and sacrifices of the women they meet, and are challenged to ask difficult questions of themselves—and of us all.

For more information and to view the trailer: www.partnersforpeacefilm.com



Media Coverage

The Nobel Women's Initiative continued to provide journalists with resources, story ideas and expertise on a wide range of issues in 2013. We kept them



abreast of the work of women's rights activists and our laureates through news releases, statements, op-eds and editorials.

We garnered extensive media coverage throughout the year, with more than 300 articles, interviews and news pieces published or aired by local, national and global media outlets.

Below are some highlights of this media coverage.

- "10 Questions with Jody Williams," TIME Magazine, 25 March 2013
- "These Celebs Have Really Good Taste in Friends,"
 Glamour Magazine, April 2013
- "Leymah Gbowee: five words for the men of Libya," OpenDemocracy, 10 June 2013
- "Laureate says Manning deserves Nobel Peace Prize," Interview with

- Mairead Maguire, "Q," CBC Radio, 21 August 2013
- Interview with Jody Williams on Syria, "The House," CBC Radio, 7 September 2013
- "Nobel Laureates Speak Out Against the Keystone XL Tar Sands Pipeline," The Washington Post, 16 July 2013
- "Women Rising" by Shirin Ebadi, The New York Times, 27 November 2013

Delegation to Liberia

- "Leymah Gbowee Hosts Women Advocates," The Analyst, 20 January 2013
- "Liberia: Women Peace Delegation in Town," AllAfrica.com, 21 January 2013
- "Nobel Laureates Identify With Women of Rock Hill Community," Heritage Liberia, 21 January 2013



- "Saluting Women Activists On Visit to Liberia," The Liberian Times, 22 January 2013
- "Liberia: 'Women Cry Less Important' – Nobel Women Initiative Delegate Voice Out," AllAfrica.com, 28 January 2013

Belfast Conference

- "Six Nobel laureates attend Belfast peace conference," BBC, 27 May 2013
- "Nobel Winners to Discuss Peace," Belfast Telegraph, 27 May 2013
- "Nobel peace laureates in north to say women can help end war," The Irish News, 28 May 2013
- "Laureates at women's conference," Herald Scotland, 28 May 2013
- "Women and the Language of Peace Protest," The Huffington Post, 29 May 2013

Ríos Montt Trial

- "Nobel laureates issue joint statement for genocide trial against Rios Montt to proceed," News Hour 24, 24 April 2013
- "Premios Nobel piden transparencia en juicio contra Rios Montt," ABC, 24 April 2013

- "Nobel Laureates Urge Guatemala to Restart Genocide Trial," Bloomberg, 25 April 2013
- "Premios Nobel pedem julgamento justo e transparente para antigo Presidente du Guatemala," RTP Noticias, 25 April 2013
- "Guatemala Genocide Trial Must Resume, Say Human Rights Leaders," Truth Out, 29 April 2013
- "Nobeles de la Paz llaman a respetar derechos de víctimas de massacres," El Prensa, 5 June 2013
- "Lamentan premios Nobel caso Ríos Montt," La Jornada, 6 June 2013
- "Piden mujeres Nobel impedir impunidad en Guatemala," El Occidental, 9 June 2013

"16 Days of Activism" Campaign

- "Who Is Protecting Women Human Right Defenders?"
 The Huffington Post, 25 November 2013
- "Egypt Must Be Held Accountable for Sexual Assault," The Huffington Post, 29 November 2013



- "These Brave Activists Won't Rest Until Violence Against Women is History," PolicyMic, 3 December 2013
- "New Political Page, Same Story: Burmese Military Still Raping Ethnic Women," The Huffington Post,
 5 December 2013
- "Women of Sudan Speak Out on Sexual Violence,"

- The Huffington Post, 6 December 2013
- "Women Need to Be Included in Syria's Peace Process,"
 The Huffington Post, 10 December 2013
- "'Atrocity is not something that can be ignored': Stopping gender-based violence in war," Women News Network, 12 December 2013



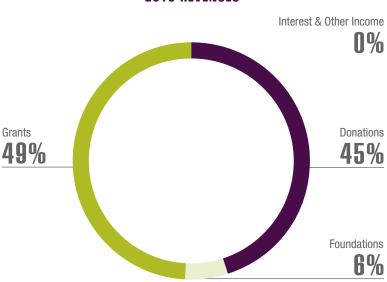


Financial Summary

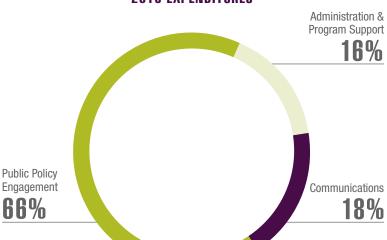
Ray Folkins, CPA, CA completed the 2013 Nobel Women's Initiative independent audit. The following excerpts are modified and summarized from his audit report dated March 12, 2014. A complete copy of the audited financial statements is available from the office upon request.

		2013		2012
ASSETS				
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash	\$	\$439,181	\$	118,106
Accounts Receivable		15,313		-
Prepaid Expenses & Deposits		2,783		35,369
	\$	457,277	\$	153,475
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS				
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Accounts Payable & Accrued Liabilities	\$	46,502	\$	25,630
DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS		131,096		48,726
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS BEGINNING		79,119		803
Net Revenue		200,560		78,316
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS ENDING		279,679		79,119
	\$	457,277	\$	153,475
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS				
REVENUE				
Donations	\$	825,786	\$	681,748
Foundations		115,250		10,000
Grants		909,111		1,001,382
In Kind Contributions		-		14,513
Interest & Other Income		5,474		1,243
		1,855,621		1,708,886
EXPENDITURES				
Administration & Program Support		264,685		293,716
Communications		305,393		351,677
Public Policy Engagement	_	1,084,983		985,177
NET DEVENUE		1,655,061		1,630,570
NET REVENUE	Φ.	200 500	•	70.010
	\$	200,560	\$	78,316









Acknowledgements

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We extend our gratitude to the dedicated professionals who helped further our work in 2013. This includes fundraiser and strategist Lynne Twist; finance manager Julie Jenkins; design team at Green Communication Design, Alain Cote and Jenny Walker; filmmakers Ed Kucerak, Jane Gurr, Jith Paul, and the Artefact Haiti team, Jon Bougher and Kohl Threlkeld; writers Lori Waller and Mary O'Neil; social media consultant Bonnie Thornbury, website advisor Andrew Chisolm; web developer Taras Mankovski; network and server technologists Alastair Warwick and Ian Ward; Nancy Ingram and Christa McMillan of Foot in the Door Consulting; and several other valuable consultants.

We would also like to thank the many activists we met throughout the year. They inspire and motivate us with their strength.

Concept and Design: Green Communication Design inc: www.greencom.ca



- Find us on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube,
- and Delicious @NobelWomen.
- Visit our website at http://nobelwomensinitiative.org
- Nobel Women's Initiative is registered in Canada as a not-for-profit corporation.



Advocates for peace, justice & equality



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