The Red Umbrella Fund is a global participatory fund created and operated by and for sex workers. Launched in 2012, the fund is hosted by Mama Cash.

In 2019, over 70% of the Red Umbrella Fund’s annual budget was disbursed through flexible, core funding grants to sex worker-led groups and networks active at local, national and international levels. Sex workers themselves made the decisions about what to prioritise and which groups to fund. Their decisions reflected a diversity of tactics. Some groups and networks benefited from strategic, long-term support. Other nascent groups received first-time funding. Just over half of the grants were made to new grantee-partners.

Globally, art has been a common advocacy tool used by sex worker activists. In Mauritius, the sex worker-led organisation Parapli Rouz received its third grant in 2019 to design a comic to sensitize law enforcement and address unlawful arrest procedures. Parapli Rouz’s approach of “co-irty” - a mix of “collaboration” and “solidarity” reflects increased diversity within sex worker activism, increasing visibility of trans and migrant sex workers and diverse alliances with other movements including LGBTQIA+ movements.

The Red Umbrella Fund positively influences funding for sex workers’ rights activism. Alongside Mama Cash, Red Umbrella Fund collaborates with philanthropic peers in the Sex Work Donor Collaborative and has organised sessions featuring sex workers at two Funders Concerned About AIDS conferences, the Ariadne Policy Briefing and the UN Commission on the Status of Women as part of the Count Me In! consortium and in partnership with the Dutch government.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of grants</th>
<th>Total amount granted</th>
<th>Average amount per grant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>€835,000</td>
<td>€27,833</td>
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A street performance by the Red Edition in Austria.
Regional: East, South and Southeast Asia, and Oceania

International Women’s Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific - IWRAW Asia Pacific
€5,000

IWRAW Asia Pacific organised a global convening on trafficking in women and girls in the context of global migration in January 2019 in Bangkok, Thailand. The convening brought together a diverse group of civil society representatives from the women’s rights, labour rights and migrant rights movements as well as representatives from the UN human rights system. The aim of the convening was to agree on a set of recommendations to the CEDAW Committee regarding the provisions of the general recommendation that reflects an intersectional analysis of gender, labour, trafficking, development and migration.

International

International Committee on the Rights of Sex Workers in Europe (ICRSE)
€10,000

This network of sex worker organisations and their allies work together to support the development of national and international law, policy and practice, which respects and upholds the human and labour rights of sex workers throughout Europe and Central Asia.

Internet Freedom Festival
€5,000

The Internet Freedom Festival (IFF) is an yearly event taking place in Valencia, Spain, since 2015. In these five years, the IFF has grown into one of the largest, most diverse and inclusive gatherings in the Internet Freedom community. The IFF showcases the efforts of this community to support online freedom of expression, protection from digital threats and expanded access to online spaces. This Opportunity Fund grant contributed to the Internet Freedom Festival Diversity and Inclusion Fund to support two to three participants who are working on building feminist technologies and applying feminist approaches to the internet.

Anonymous group
€12,000

This sex worker-led group created in 2016 unites sex workers of all genders and different nationalities across ten different cities. The group promotes sex workers’ rights and documents the human rights violations experienced by its community. The group aims to give voice and visibility to sex workers and regularly participates in international spaces, but requires anonymity at this moment for safety and security reasons.

Anonymous group
€20,000

This first ever sex worker-led organisation in the country unites sex workers of all genders. The group works with local service providers and reaches out to the Ministry of Health to improve sex workers’ access to health services. Sex workers are trained as paralegals
and members distribute ‘know your rights’ cards during their peer outreach. With this grant the group will create a safe space for sex workers to meet.

**Anonymous group**
€35,000
This national sex worker-led organisation documents cases of violence and discrimination against sex workers in health centres. The group trains sex workers to provide legal support to their peers. To prevent violence and harassment of sex workers by law enforcement, the group trains police and prison officers on human rights of sex workers and violence prevention. The group collaborates with other organisations to address the intersections of sex workers’ rights, migration and LGBT rights.

**Anonymous group**
€10,000
Created in 2007, this group promotes the rights of women sex workers in the country by building skills and expertise for political activism among sex workers. Some of its members are officially accredited judicial facilitators who provide legal accompaniment to sex workers in cases of human rights violations. This group conducts regular peer outreach about human rights, protection and violence and provides workshops for sex workers to build self-esteem.

**Argentina**

**Asociación de Mujeres Meretrices de la República Argentina (AMMARA)**
€20,000
This network advocates at national level and through its provincial branches for the human rights of sex workers in Argentina. With nearly 25 years of experience, the network has a strong presence in the sex work community and relatively high visibility among the general public. AMMARA was a founding member of RedTraSex, the Latin American and Caribbean Female Sex Workers Network. With this grant the network will hold an international convening of sex worker-led labour unions.

**Austria**

**The Red Edition**
€45,000
Established in 2015, The Red Edition unites sex workers of all genders, identities and ethnic backgrounds with a particular focus on migrant sex workers. The group conducts regular community meetings and outreach activities. The Red Edition advocates for the recognition of sex work as work among policy makers and the labour union in Austria. With this grant The Red Edition will explore social entrepreneurship opportunities to enhance the sustainability of the group in the future.

**Brazil**

**Centro Informativo de Prevenção Mobilização e Aconselhamento aos Profissionais do Sexo de Campina Grande (CIPMAC)**
€15,000
This sex worker-led group in the State of Paraiba in the Northeast of Brazil was set up in 1987. CIPMAC speaks out on the right to self-organise, sex workers’ rights and social justice. With this grant the group is building sex workers’ understanding of politics and human rights and will organise meetings to influence government representatives at municipal and state levels.

**Bangladesh**

**HIV/AIDS Research and Welfare Centre (HARC)**
€45,000
HARC represents over 5,000 women sex workers mainly in the capital city Dhaka. The group works to improve sex workers’ health by conducting peer outreach and condom distribution, building sex workers’ knowledge on HIV and STIs and by providing referrals to services. The group builds sex workers’ skills in human rights advocacy and collaborates with the National Human Rights Commission and other allies to lobby for changes in laws and policies that negatively impact on sex workers’ lives.

**Canada**

**SafeSpace London**
€20,000
This community drop-in centre is run by and for women – including trans - and non-binary sex workers and allies. SafeSpace focuses on improving the living conditions of sex workers in their community. The group provides harm reduction supplies, hygiene products, educational resources and peer support. Through their ‘Not Your Rescue Project’ theatre production, SafeSpace educates students at colleges and universities about sex workers’ human rights. At national level, the group participates in the Canadian Alliance for Sex Work Law Reform.

**Argentina**

**Organización de Trabajadoras Nocturnas de Bolivia (OTN-B)**
€45,000
With over 17,000 members across the nine departments of Bolivia, this sex worker-led organisation works to end stigma and discrimination against sex workers. Created in 2000, this group unites diverse sex workers of all genders and sexual orientations and includes indigenous sex workers. With this grant, OTN-B will set up a telephone hotline to support sex workers facing violence. The group will organise departmental and national convenings of sex workers to strengthen community engagement and build advocacy capacity in support of a new law to regulate sex work in Bolivia.

**India**

**All India Network of Sex Workers (AINSW)**
€50,000
This national network represents 93 sex worker organisations in 18 different states. AINSW includes sex workers from all genders and identities. The network mentors and trains its members.
and supports the development of new sex workers’ collectives in the country. AINSW campaigns for the recognition of sex work as work in laws, policies and practices at state and federal levels.

**Ashraya**
€35,000

This organisation was established in 2007 to support and represent sex workers living with HIV in India. Most of its members and activities are in the state of Karnataka. The group builds human rights awareness among its community and works with sex workers, health care providers and government officials to improve sex workers’ access to HIV and other health and social services. Ashraya works with the Ministry of Women and Child Development to improve access to housing and income supplements.

**Kenya**

**Kenya Sex Workers Alliance (KESWA)**
€40,000

This national network unites and represents sex worker-led organisations in all 47 counties of Kenya. KESWA organises media boot camps and builds leadership skills of its members. The network trains sex workers as paralegals and human rights defenders to improve sex workers’ access to justice. KESWA is working towards a strategic litigation case to decriminalise sex work in the country and is developing a security plan to address violence against sex workers.

**Mauritius**

**Parapli Rouz**
€25,000

This group builds sex workers’ knowledge and skills on human rights and advocacy with the aim to have sex work recognised as work in Mauritius. Parapli Rouz provides legal support to sex workers to protect their right to carry condoms and to be able to maintain custody of their children. The group also offers peer education and HIV testing among sex workers across the island with their outreach caravan.

**Mexico**

**Alianza Mexicana de Trabajadoras Sexuales (AMETS)**
€20,000

Founded in 2017, this self-led group in Mexico City unites diverse women sex workers, including trans women and women working on the streets, in their fight against stigma and discrimination and for the recognition of sex work as work. With this grant, AMETS is organising workshops for sex workers on human rights, public health from a political perspective, access to justice and safety and leadership. The group distributes condoms and conducts peer outreach to promote HIV prevention and sexual and reproductive health and rights among sex workers.

**Nepal**

**Mahila Sahayogi Samuha (MSS)**
€20,000

This local self-led organisation in the east of the country was set up in 2008 to address the specific needs of female sex workers. The group includes sex workers living with HIV and people who use drugs and the majority of its more than 300 members are illiterate. MSS works to build sex workers’ understanding of human rights. The group is connected to other sex worker groups and allies and reaches out to the local government to end stigma and violence against sex workers and increase the recognition of sex work as work among service providers and government.

**Nicaragua**

**Asociación de Mujeres ‘Las Golondrinas’**
€20,000

This sex worker group in the north of Nicaragua was founded in 2004. Golondrinas promotes the recognition of sex work as work through public campaigns and by building human rights knowledge and skills of women and trans sex workers. Considering the effects of the political crisis and high levels of violence against human rights defenders in the country, the group is prioritising building self care and peer support mechanisms.

**Peru**

**Asociación de Trabajadoras Sexuales ‘Miluska Vida y Dignidad’**
€20,000

This sex worker-led group has been working without previous funding for over 15 years for the recognition of sex work as work. Miluska Vida y Dignidad collaborates with a legal advisor to denounce police violence against sex workers and respond to arrests. The group collaborates with other activists in the country and the region to share experiences and conduct joint advocacy for the human rights of sex workers. By setting up a transit house, the group will provide direct support to women sex workers who have experienced violence.

**Senegal**

**Femmes de Diamant (FDD)**
€15,000

In Senegal, sex work is legalised and regulated with a mandatory registration for sex workers. FDD consists of local sex worker-led groups in the capital city of Dakar who work to improve the circumstances of unregistered sex workers as well as challenge the registration laws. The group conducts regular peer outreach to sex workers. FDD runs public education campaigns based on research implemented in collaboration with a UK-based university. This grant will support literacy classes and trainings for sex workers to learn how to run human rights workshops.
Spain

Colectivo de Prostitutas de Sevilla (CPS)
€8,000
This self-led group of sex workers was created in 2017 to challenge the restrictive municipal law on sex work in the province of Seville. CPS gives training on human rights and health and rights. The group provides workshops on sexual and reproductive health and rights. The group conducts peer outreach and holds themed bi-weekly dialogues with sex workers to foster solidarity among the diverse sex workers that it brings together.

Suriname

Suriname Coalition of Sex Workers (SUCOS)
€30,000
Created in 2015, this group unites diverse sex workers including trans people, migrant workers and people living with HIV. SUCOS promotes the human rights of sex workers by pursuing decriminalisation of sex work and combating stigma against sex workers in Suriname. The group educates community members, law enforcement officers and religious leaders about sex workers’ rights. By training its members in how to engage with media, the group aims to raise visibility for their messages.

Uganda

Uganda Network of Sex Worker-led Organisations (UNESCO)
€40,000
This network was established in 2015 to develop a common vision and mission among sex worker-led organisations across Uganda. It creates safe spaces where sex workers can convene in a country with high levels of violence against sex workers and LGBTQ people. UNESCO maps sex worker organisations in rural areas and provides leadership, fundraising and financial management training for sex workers. By arranging meetings with government officials, UNESCO works to ensure national policies align with the UN campaign to “Leave No One Behind”.

USA

Whose Corner Is It Anyway (WCIIA)
€20,000
This local weekly community initiative has been self-funded through a crowdfunding campaign since 2017. Members are current or former low-income sex workers who either use drugs, have experienced homelessness, or have engaged in street-based work. WCIIA offers transportation assistance, a stipend, childcare, toiletry items, clothing, access to harm reduction supplies and bail emergency response. Meetings include workshops addressing members’ self-determined needs.

Vietnam

Strong Ladies
€30,000
This organisation of young trans women sex workers was established in 2013 as a local self-help group. Strong Ladies is the only organisation formed by and for trans women sex workers in Ho Chi Minh City. The group provides HIV prevention information and services to sex workers and collaborates with the Vietnam Network of Sex Workers (VNSW) to promote the human rights of sex workers. The group is expanding their health interventions for transgender sex workers and will provide consultation on sexual health via live-streams.

Zambia

Zambia Sex Workers Alliance (ZASWA)
€20,000
This sex worker-led organisation works with trained community champions in six districts to improve the quality of life of sex workers in Zambia. ZASWA provides local community saving schemes and workshops on sexual and reproductive health and rights. The group provides trainings on human rights and community organising for sex workers and awareness raising workshops on human rights of sex workers for police in Lusaka. By organising events around international sex worker days, ZASWA aims to increase visibility of sex workers.

Zimbabwe

Pow Wow
€20,000
This local group of sex workers of all genders was created in 2014. It is a founding member of the national network of sex workers in the country and a member of the regional network, the African Sex Workers Alliance. Pow Wow led the successful effort to outlaw solicitation arrests of female sex workers and aims to expand the ruling to apply to all genders. The group conducts peer outreach and holds themed bi-weekly dialogues with sex workers to foster solidarity among the diverse sex workers that it brings together.

Regional: Africa

Coalition Afrique de l’Ouest et du Centre pour le Travail du Sexe (CAFOC-TS)
€20,000
Formed in 2015, this network of 21 sex worker-led organisations in 14 countries in West and Central Africa focuses on building the leadership of sex workers in Francophone Africa. CAFOC-TS works to harmonise sex workers’ rights advocacy in the region and to document and share the successes of its members. The network collaborates with the African Sex Workers Alliance (ASWA) and Global Network of Sex Work Projects (NSWP) to better address the specific needs of Francophone sex workers.

Regional: Asia and the Pacific

Asia Pacific Network of Sex Workers (APNSW)
€80,000
This regional network unites 44 sex worker groups in 23 countries that work to promote the human rights of sex workers of all genders in Asia and the
Pacific. The network provides networking opportunities, information, technical support and trainings and individual coaching to its member organisations. APNSW actively engages with regional intergovernmental bodies and the United Nations to educate them about sex workers’ lived reality and promote the human rights of sex workers. This grant will enable the network to improve its website, hold board meetings and support members in four countries to conduct a baseline survey on violence against sex workers.

Regional: Europe

European Network for the Promotion of Rights and Health among Migrant Sex Workers (TAMPEP) €45,000

This self-led European network promotes the human rights of migrant sex workers at local, national and regional levels in Europe. To support its advocacy, the network documents and shares the stories, good practices and needs of its members, develops position papers and supports sex workers’ presence in key advocacy spaces. TAMPEP actively reaches out to other migrants’ rights organisations to build alliances and collaborate for migrants’ rights in Europe.