

Mexico

The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation is a private, independent grant-making institution based in Chicago, Illinois, with offices in India, Mexico, Nigeria, and Russia. One of the nation's ten largest private philanthropic foundations, MacArthur has awarded more than \$3 billion in grants since it began operations in 1978. The Foundation is dedicated to helping groups and individuals foster lasting improvement in the human condition. Through the support it provides, the Foundation fosters the development of knowledge, nurtures individual creativity, strengthens institutions, helps improve public policy, and provides information to the public, primarily through support for public interest media.

In Mexico, the Foundation's work focuses on population and reproductive health, and human rights. Last year, \$4.1 million in grants were made.

Human Rights and International Justice

MacArthur's support for human rights organizations in Mexico began in 1993 and has been followed by \$6.3 million in grant support for 31 organizations.

The MacArthur Foundation has been a leading funder in the area of human rights for over 25 years. Grants seek to strengthen the global infrastructure for human rights through support for organizations that hold countries accountable to their constitutions and international agreements that monitor the practice of international institutions and non-state actors, and that seek to insert human rights concerns in national and international policy-making. Within this global focus, the Foundation also encourages activities that further the growth of the international justice system, particularly the regional human rights mechanisms and the International Criminal Court. At the national level, MacArthur initiatives in Mexico, Nigeria, and Russia encourage the promotion of human rights protections through support of locally based human rights organizations and institutions.

Since the democratic transition in Mexico, grantmaking has sought to take advantage of new opportunities for engaging constructively with government to strengthen laws and institutions that can enhance human rights protection, while at the same time encouraging work by nongovernmental organizations that call government to account and propose reform. In 2002, with the assistance of the Mexican government, MacArthur, and human rights groups throughout Mexico, the United Nations undertook a diagnostic of the human rights situation in Mexico that has paved the way for a coordinated national human rights action plan.

The Foundation's human rights program in Mexico has three complementary and overlapping objectives:

- to build up leading human rights organizations and encourage interactions among them and with their international counterparts. Groups may work on a range of human rights laid out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and are encouraged to seek redress of violations through Mexico's courts and institutions and through the InterAmerican Commission and Court;
- to strengthen the system of public human rights commissions or ombudsmen through technical assistance, research, and monitoring by civil society; and
- to promote work in the area of police reform through partnerships among human rights advocates, academics, and law enforcement institutions.

Grants are focused at the national level and in the states of Guerrero and Jalisco where there is an emphasis on implementing model reforms and programs and redressing local human rights problems.

Population and Reproductive Health

The Foundation began offering support to nongovernmental organizations working in the area of population and reproductive health in Mexico in 1986, and has since provided approximately \$40 million in grant support for these organizations. Last year, MacArthur provided more than \$3 million in grants to 16 organizations.

Since the Foundation began its work in Mexico, philosophical and demographic changes have reshaped the prevailing approach to population issues. Where concerns about population pressures once led principally to policies focused narrowly on incentives for the acceptance of fertility control technologies, typical strategies today reflect a comprehensive approach to reproductive and sexual health and rights. The Foundation was an early supporter of this framework. It was adopted by 180 countries at the International Conference on Population and Development in Cairo in 1994, and it continues to shape the Foundation's work. This approach places women's well-being at the center of population policy and emphasizes the rights of individuals to determine and plan family size. Central to this approach is the belief that people make wise individual choices when they have information and access to adequate health care and when women are equal partners with men in making sexual and reproductive decisions. Two themes form the core of the area's grantmaking:

- Reducing maternal mortality and morbidity; and
- Advancing the sexual and reproductive health and rights of young people.

For Mexico, specific areas within these larger themes were identified by Foundation staff based on consultation with Mexican experts who provided essential insight on how the Foundation could best facilitate changes that would foster improvements for Mexicans in the area of reproductive and sexual rights and health. Based largely on this guidance, the Foundation supports work by civil society organizations and networks that strive to reduce the highest maternal mortality ratios, concentrated among rural and indigenous women in three states (Chiapas, Guerrero, and Oaxaca), and to reduce abortion-related maternal death. In the area of advancing young people’s reproductive and sexual rights and health, the Foundation focuses grantmaking on initiatives in the area of sexuality education and improving government services for youth reproductive and sexual health.

Grantmaking in Mexico

The following is a list of representative grants made in support of work in Mexico.

HUMAN RIGHTS

ACADEMIA MEXICANA DE DERECHOS HUMANOS,
México City, México

\$30,000 in support of activities to promote freedom of information and the protection of journalists.

\$210,000 in support of producing human rights shadow reports in eight Mexican states (over three years).

CENTRO DE DERECHOS HUMANOS DE LA MONTANA,
TLACHINOLLAN A.C., *Tlapa de Comonfort, Guerrero*

\$265,000 in support of the defense and promotion of human rights in the state of Guerrero (over three years).

\$320,000 in support for the defense of the human rights of the indigenous people of the Mountain and Costa Chica regions of Guerrero (over three years).

CENTRO DE DERECHOS HUMANOS MIGUEL AGUSTÍN
PRO JUÁREZ, *México City, México*

\$270,000 to document and monitor human rights in Mexico (over three years).

CENTRO DE DERECHOS HUMANOS FRAY FRANCISCO
DE VITORIA, *México City, México*

\$120,000 in support of legal assistance and the development and monitoring of the National Human Rights Program (over three years).

COMISIÓN MEXICANA DE DEFENSA Y PROMOCIÓN DE
LOS DERECHOS HUMANOS, *México City, México*

\$120,000 to promote international human rights standards in Mexican law and institutions (over two years).

\$190,000 for activities to strengthen human rights in Mexico (over three years).

COMISIÓN NACIONAL DE LOS DERECHOS HUMANOS,
México City, México

\$75,000 in support of increased dialogue with non-governmental human rights organizations.

EL COLEGIO DE MÉXICO, *México City, México*

\$20,000 in support of a conference on the United Nations human rights report “The Responsibility to Protect.”

FEDERAL DISTRICT HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION,
México City, México

\$260,000 to build capacity and networking among human rights ombudsmen in Mexico (over two years).

FUNDAR, CENTRO DE ANÁLISIS E INVESTIGACIÓN,
México City, México

\$240,000 to document and monitor Mexico’s human rights ombudsman system (over three years).

\$450,000 in support of strengthening the public human rights commissions (over three years).

GUERRERO HUMAN RIGHTS NETWORK,
Chilpancingo, Guerrero

\$120,000 to advance the human rights of rural and indigenous people in Guerrero State (over two years).

INSTITUTO PARA LA SEGURIDAD Y LA DEMOCRACIA,
México City, México

\$320,000 in support of building models for police accountability and civil society capacity building (over two years).

INSTITUTO TECNOLÓGICO AUTÓNOMO DE MÉXICO CENTRO DE ESTUDIOS DE DERECHO PÚBLICO, *México City, México*

\$280,000 for work to improve the performance of the national ombudsman system through monitoring and evaluation (over three years).

RED NACIONAL DE ORGANISMOS CIVILES DE DERECHOS HUMANOS “TODOS LOS DERECHOS PARA TODOS,”
México City, México

\$340,000 in support of activities to improve human rights in 20 Mexican states (over three years).

SIN FRONTERAS I.A.P., *México City, México*

\$300,000 in support of activities to strengthen human rights protection for migrants and refugees in Mexico (over three years).

UNITED NATIONS OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, *Geneva, Switzerland*

\$250,000 in support of technical cooperation with the government of Mexico to strengthen human rights.

UNIVERSIDAD IBERO, *México City, México*

\$300,000 in support of general operations (over three years).

EL COLEGIO DE MÉXICO, A.C., *México City, México*

\$50,000 in support of the project Designing an Alternative Development Strategy for Mexico.

POPULATION AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

AFLUENTES, *México City, México*

\$100,000 for a program to improve young people's reproductive and sexual health and rights in rural Mexico (over two years).

\$160,000 for work to strengthen reproductive and sexual health services for young people through two existing government health programs (over three years).

ARTICLE 19, *London, United Kingdom*

\$30,000 in support of improving access to government information related to youth sexual and reproductive health services in Mexico.

ASESORIA, CAPACITACIÓN Y ASISTENCIA EN SALUD,
San Cristóbal de las Casas, Chiapas

\$180,000 for efforts to decrease maternal mortality and morbidity ratios in Chiapas (over three years).

CATÓLICAS POR EL DERECHO DE DECIDIR,
México City, México

\$250,000 for an outreach program promoting sexuality education among young Catholics in Chiapas, Guerrero, and Oaxaca (over three years).

CENTRO DE INVESTIGACIONES EN SALUD DE COMITÁN,
Comitán, Chiapas

\$190,000 for activities to reduce maternal mortality and morbidity in the southern border region of Chiapas State (over three years).

CENTRO MUJERES, *La Paz, Baja California Sur*

\$70,000 for activities to improve sexual and reproductive health and rights among young people.

\$130,000 in support of improving young people's sexual and reproductive health and rights in the state of Baja California Sur (over two years).

CENTRO PARA LOS ADOLESCENTES DE SAN MIGUEL DE ALLENDE, *San Miguel de Allende, Guanajuato*

\$70,000 to disseminate a peer education model for young people's sexual and reproductive health and rights (over two years).

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- CHILTAK, *San Cristóbal de las Casas, Chiapas*
 \$110,000 for programs to improve the sexual and reproductive health of indigenous youth in Chiapas (over three years).
- COLECTIVO DE HOMBRES POR RELACIONES IGUALITARIAS, *México City, México*
 \$75,000 for an education program to prevent sexual violence and improve the reproductive and sexual rights and health of young people (over two years).
- COMITÉ PROMOTOR POR UNA MATERNIDAD SIN RIESGOS EN MÉXICO, *México City, México*
 \$180,000 in support of an initiative to promote safe motherhood by improving public sector maternal health care services (over three years).
 \$30,000 to translate a radio program on maternal mortality and morbidity into three indigenous languages of Oaxaca.
- COMUNICACIÓN E INFORMACIÓN DE LA MUJER, *México City, México*
 \$150,000 for activities to increase media coverage of maternal mortality and morbidity (over three years).
- CONSORCIO PARA EL DIALOGO PARLAMENTARIO Y LA EQUIDAD, ASOCIACIÓN CIVIL, *México City, México*
 \$150,000 in support of a program to strengthen advocacy for improved access to legal abortion services in three states (over three years).
- COORDINACIÓN NACIONAL DE MUJERES DE ORGANIZACIONES CIVILES POR UN MILENIO FEMINISTA, *Irapuato, Guanajuato*
 \$160,000 for efforts to improve access to legal abortion in six central states in Mexico (over three years).
- DEMOCRACIA Y SEXUALIDAD, *México City, México*
 \$240,000 in support of in-school sexuality education (over three years).
- EL COLEGIO DE MÉXICO, *México City, México*
 \$75,000 in support of research on the structures of Catholic lay organizations and their activities related to reproductive health and rights (over two years).
- ELIGE, RED DE JÓVENES POR LOS DERECHOS SEXUALES Y REPRODUCTIVOS, *México City, México*
 \$120,000 for activities to increase the use of services related to sexual and reproductive health and rights in Mexico City (over three years).
- EQUIDAD DE GENERO CIUDADANÍA, TRABAJO Y FAMILIA, *México City, México*
 \$190,000 in support of a project to improve access to legal abortion rights in Chiapas, Oaxaca, and Guerrero (over three years).
- FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION FUND, *San Francisco, California*
 \$250,000 for a model program in Mexico to reduce maternal mortality and morbidity caused by domestic abuse during pregnancy (over three years).
- FEDERACIÓN MEXICANA DE GINECOLOGÍA Y OBSTETRICIA, *México City, México*
 \$90,000 in support of work to improve sexual and reproductive health services for adolescents and women (over two years).
- FORO NACIONAL DE MUJERES Y POLÍTICAS DE POBLACIÓN CAPITULO DISTRITO FEDERAL, *México City, México*
 \$150,000 in support of improving federal public policy for maternal mortality and morbidity reduction and increasing visibility of the issue among policymakers (over three years).
- FORO NACIONAL DE MUJERES Y POLÍTICAS DE POBLACIÓN CAPITULO OAXACA, *Oaxaca, Oaxaca*
 \$190,000 in support of increasing access to emergency obstetric care in the Southern Sierra region of Oaxaca state (over three years).
- FUNDACIÓN MEXICANA PARA LA PLANEACION FAMILIAR, *México City, México*
 \$255,000 in support of a model program to promote the sexual rights and health of rural and indigenous young people and to implement the program in 80 communities in Oaxaca and Guerrero (over three years).
- FUNDAR, CENTRO DE ANÁLISIS E INVESTIGACIÓN, *México City, México*
 \$195,000 to analyze the budget of Mexico's Arranque Parejo en la Vida program, in order to improve the use of public funds to reduce maternal mortality in Chiapas, Guerrero, and Oaxaca (over three years).

GRUPO DE INFORMACIÓN EN REPRODUCCIÓN ELEGIDA,
México City, México

\$270,000 in support of work to increase knowledge of legal abortion and availability of legal abortion services in Mexico (over three years).

INSTITUTO DE LIDERAZGO SIMONE DE BEAUVOIR,
México City, México

\$75,000 for a program to strengthen young leadership in the field of reproductive and sexual rights and health (over two years).

\$150,000 to implement a distance training program for individuals working in the field of young people's sexual and reproductive health and rights (over three years).

INSTITUTO PROMUNDO, *Río De Janeiro, RJ*

\$495,000 in support of pilot tests in Mexico and India of a sexual and reproductive health initiative for young people (over three years).

INTERNATIONAL PLANNED PARENTHOOD FEDERATION
WESTERN HEMISPHERE REGION, *New York, New York*

\$450,000 in support of strengthening sexual and reproductive health programs for youth in Mexico (over three years).

INVESTIGACIÓN EN SALUD Y DEMOGRAFÍA,
México City, México

\$50,000 to assist Mexican nongovernmental organizations in the development of monitoring and evaluation plans.

\$150,000 to strengthen the monitoring and evaluation capacity of nongovernment organizations working in the fields of maternal mortality and morbidity and young people's sexual and reproductive health and rights (over two years).

\$167,500 for a survey of the sexual and reproductive health of young people in rural Oaxacan communities.

\$255,000 in support of strengthening NGO skills in monitoring and evaluation of work to advance youth sexual and reproductive health and rights and decrease maternal mortality (over three years).

IPAS, *Chapel Hill, North Carolina*

\$295,000 for efforts to increase access to legal abortion services in Mexico (over three years).

K'INAL ANTSETIK, *México City, México*

\$100,000 for a program to decrease maternal mortality and morbidity and promote reproductive and sexual rights and health in indigenous communities (over two years).

LETRA S, SIDA, CULTURA Y VIDA COTIDIANA,
México City, México

\$250,000 to increase media coverage of young peoples' sexual and reproductive health and rights (over three years).

MARIE STOPES MÉXICO, *San Cristóbal de las Casas, Chiapas*

\$150,000 in support of in-school and community programs to improve the reproductive and sexual health of young people (over three years).

MUJERES INDÍGENAS EN LUCHA, COPALILLO, GUERRERO

\$50,000 for a project to decrease maternal mortality and morbidity in four indigenous regions in Guerrero (over two years).

NUEVE LUNAS, *Oaxaca, Oaxaca*

\$150,000 for a project to reduce maternal deaths in Oaxaca State (over three years).

POPULATION COUNCIL, *New York, New York*

\$775,000 in support of research, technical assistance, and policy advocacy on safe motherhood and other reproductive health issues, with a special focus on Mexico (over three years).

\$75,000 for a project to share international expertise on maternal mortality reduction with relevant Mexican government officials.

ROSARIO CASTELLANOS - GRUPO DE ESTUDIOS SOBRE
LA MUJER, *Oaxaca, Oaxaca*

\$210,000 in support of a model program to decrease maternal mortality rates among indigenous women in Oaxaca (over three years).

SALUD INTEGRAL PARA LA MUJER, *México City, México*

\$150,000 in support of efforts to increase the number of and improve the quality of reproductive health services for youth offered by the Mexico City Ministry of Health (over three years).

SALUD Y GÉNERO, *Xalapa, Veracruz*

\$300,000 to expand a reproductive and sexual health and rights model for young people (over three years).

SISTEMA NACIONAL DE PROMOCIÓN Y CAPACITACIÓN EN SALUD SEXUAL, *México City, México*

\$9,000 to convene a meeting of 40 women living with HIV/AIDS from 16 of Mexico's 32 states, and create working groups in 10 states to better understand HIV/AIDS and its social impact.

\$300,000 for projects promoting the reproductive and sexual health and rights of young people (over three years).

SOCIEDAD MEXICANA PRO DERECHOS DE LA MUJER, *México City, México*

\$660,000 in support of leadership development among individuals working in reproductive and sexual health and rights, especially in areas related to young people and maternal mortality and morbidity (over three years).

THAIS, CONSULTORÍA EN DESARROLLO SOCIAL, *México City, México*

\$225,000 for activities to increase adolescent use of reproductive and sexual health services in Chiapas and Oaxaca (over three years).

UNIDAD DE ATENCIÓN PSICOLÓGICA, SEXOLÓGICA Y EDUCATIVA PARA EL CRECIMIENTO PERSONAL, *Mérida, Yucatan*

\$135,000 to provide training in sexuality education for junior high school teachers in Yucatán (over three years).

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN POPULATION RESEARCH CENTER, *Austin, Texas*

\$250,000 in support of research and policy analysis to help Mexico and Brazil take advantage of the potential demographic dividend inherent in their current age structure (over 30 months).

WORKING GROUP FOR SAFE MOTHERHOOD IN CHIAPAS, *San Cristóbal de las Casas, Chiapas*

\$370,000 in support of a pilot model to reduce maternal mortality in Chiapas (over three years).

About the Foundation

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The Foundation makes grants through four programs and by making program-related investments.

- *The Program on Global Security and Sustainability* focuses on international issues, including peace and security, conservation and sustainable development, population and reproductive health, and human rights and international justice. International offices are located in India, Mexico, Nigeria, and Russia.
- *The Program on Human and Community Development* operates primarily within the United States. Issues of interest to the program include community development; regional policy; affordable housing, with a particular emphasis on the preservation of rental housing; and system reform in education, juvenile justice, and mental health. In addition to grants, the program makes program-related investments, primarily for affordable housing and to U.S.-based community development financial institutions.
- *The General Program* supports public interest media, including public radio and the production of independent documentary film. Grants are made to arts and cultural institutions in the Chicago area and for special initiatives, currently including intellectual property rights in a digital environment.
- *The MacArthur Fellows Program* awards five-year, unrestricted fellowships to individuals across all ages and fields who show exceptional merit and promise of continued creative work. It is limited to U.S. citizens and other residents of the United States.

One of the nation's ten largest private philanthropic foundations, MacArthur has awarded more than \$3 billion in grants since it began operations in 1978, with assets, as of December 31, 2004, of about \$5 billion. The annual grantmaking budget is approximately \$180 million. The Foundation believes its grantmaking is most effective when focused upon a relatively few areas of work, combined with sufficient resources over a long enough period of time to make a measurable difference.

John D. MacArthur (1897–1978) developed and owned Bankers Life and Casualty Company and other businesses, as well as considerable property in Florida and New York. His wife Catherine (1909–1981) held positions in many of these companies and served as a director of the Foundation.

The Foundation benefits in its work from diversity at all levels of its operations. In working with other organizations and individuals, the Foundation values those who understand and share its commitment to diversity.

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