

## GRANTMAKING IN INDIA

*The MacArthur Foundation's grantmaking in India primarily supports programs to reduce maternal mortality and morbidity and advance the sexual and reproductive health and rights of young people. A new initiative seeks to improve participation by marginalized girls in quality secondary education. Additional grantmaking focused on peace and security aims to strengthen stability in the Asia-Pacific region.*

### AT A GLANCE

- MacArthur's grantmaking in India began with support for work in the population field in 1986; the Foundation opened an office in New Delhi in 1994.
- To date, MacArthur has awarded 305 grants totaling nearly \$44.4 million to individuals and groups in India.
- MacArthur's population and reproductive health grantmaking seeks to reduce maternal mortality and morbidity and advance the sexual and reproductive health and rights of young people.
- A new MacArthur initiative seeks to improve participation by marginalized girls in quality secondary education.
- Additional grantmaking focused on peace and security aims to strengthen stability in the Asia-Pacific region.
- MacArthur's presence in India reflects the nation's importance as the world's largest democracy and a critical participant in regional and global development and security issues.



## WHAT IS A PRIVATE FOUNDATION?

In the United States, private foundations are charitable organizations that provide grants to organizations or individuals, helping those in need or working to solve social problems. Foundations can operate locally, nationally, or internationally and enjoy considerable flexibility in choosing where to work and what to support. Private foundations act independently of any private business and of the United States government; they receive no government support. Many private foundations, including MacArthur, have endowments that are the sole source of funds for the grants they make.



## POPULATION AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

MacArthur's population and reproductive health grantmaking reflects a comprehensive approach to reproductive and sexual health that places women's well-being at the center of population policy and emphasizes the rights of individuals to determine and plan family size. With almost 50 percent of girls in India married before the legal age of 18, the risk of maternal mortality and morbidity at a young age is high.

### Reducing Maternal Mortality and Morbidity

The Foundation supports efforts to increase the chances that women will have safer pregnancies and deliveries. Reducing maternal mortality is an important indicator of much larger trends in the area of reproductive and sexual rights and health.

MacArthur has three objectives in its work in this area:

- Develop and test innovative community-based models for reducing maternal mortality and morbidity;

- Enhance the skills of health professionals, such as efforts to train skilled birth attendants; and
- Support evidence-based policies on critical issues related to maternal mortality and morbidity, such as the need to improve the quality and coverage of health services.

### Advancing the Reproductive and Sexual Health of Young People

The Foundation also seeks to increase the chances that young people will make responsible decisions about their sexual and reproductive health, and slow down the momentum of population growth, by supporting initiatives that:

- Increase the availability of high quality sexuality education for youth, including the development of curriculum for use in and out of school;
- Improve young people's access to confidential health services; and
- Promote a favorable policy environment for issues such as sexuality education, and delaying the age of marriage and of first pregnancy.

MacArthur supports nationwide research, training and advocacy to help inform sound national policy. The Foundation has previously focused its initiatives primarily in three states—Rajasthan, Maharashtra, and Gujarat. These contiguous states are also home to several local NGOs that share MacArthur's priorities and have impressive organizational and technical capacity. MacArthur has also supported a limited number of projects in other states where there are opportunities for implementing innovative pilots and for scaling up.

## REPRESENTATIVE GRANTS

### ACTION RESEARCH AND TRAINING FOR HEALTH

\$375,000 (over three years) to test a rural primary care model for the continuum of maternal-newborn health and to carry out evidence based advocacy on maternal-newborn health across districts of Rajasthan.

### CENTER FOR DEVELOPMENT AND POPULATION ACTIVITIES/INDIA

\$290,000 (over three years) to support the White Ribbon Alliance for Safe

Motherhood, India, a national network of civil society advocates, to implement social accountability for maternal health.

**INSTITUTE OF HEALTH MANAGEMENT PACHOD**  
\$330,000 (over three years) to increase access to maternal and reproductive health information and services among married adolescents in Maharashtra.

**INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR RESEARCH ON WOMEN**  
\$380,000 (over three years) to scale up a project to implement a gender and sexual and reproductive health program in schools in Mumbai, India.

**IPAS**  
\$250,000 (over three years) to demonstrate a scalable model of comprehensive safe abortion care for serving the urban slums in a pilot project in the states of Maharashtra and Gujarat.

**MAMTA-INSTITUTE FOR MOTHER AND CHILD**  
\$325,000 (over three years) to implement training, research and intervention programs on young people's sexual and reproductive health.

**SANGATH**  
\$500,000 (over four years) to implement training, research and intervention programs on young people's sexual and reproductive health in India.

**SOCIETY FOR EDUCATION, ACTION AND RESEARCH IN COMMUNITY HEALTH**  
\$300,000 (over three years) to support a research and demonstration program on reducing maternal mortality and morbidity, and to expand work on youth reproductive health.



## **GIRLS' SECONDARY EDUCATION**

More education for girls brings well demonstrated benefits for them and related benefits for the whole society. MacArthur's funding aims to improve participation and learning outcomes for marginalized girls in formal lower and upper secondary education and the non-formal equivalents of those educational levels.

Grantmaking focuses on quality, relevant learning opportunities for adolescent girls, especially those in underserved

areas, with the expectation that advances will have positive implications for both girls and boys. The Foundation supports innovative pilots, research, and advocacy.

## **REPRESENTATIVE GRANTS**

**PRATHAM USA**  
\$380,000 (over 18 months) for two studies on the quality of post-primary education in India, including assessing learning outcomes and the capacity of teachers.

## **PEACE AND SECURITY**

MacArthur's peace and security grantmaking aims to strengthen stability in the Asia-Pacific region. Grantmaking in this area is currently under review and the Foundation is not considering new proposals at this time.



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### About the MacArthur Foundation

The MacArthur Foundation supports creative people and effective institutions committed to building a more just, verdant, and peaceful world. In addition to selecting the MacArthur Fellows, the Foundation works to defend human rights, advance global conservation and security, make cities better places, and understand how technology is affecting children and society. India is one of four countries where MacArthur focuses its international grantmaking and maintains offices, including Russia, Mexico, and Nigeria.

For more information or to sign-up for news and event updates, please visit [www.macfound.org](http://www.macfound.org).

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