

# GAGGGA

GLOBAL ALLIANCE  
FOR GREEN AND  
GENDER ACTION



## PROGRAMME SUMMARY

The Global Alliance for Green and Gender Action (GAGGA) aims to catalyse the collective power of women's rights and environmental justice movements towards realising a world in which women can and do exercise their rights to water, food security, and a clean, healthy, and safe environment. **GAGGA's vision** is summed up in the phrase:

*Strengthening and unifying the women's rights and environmental justice agendas – now is the time!*



GAGGA Workshop, Cameroon © CENDEP

**GAGGA was launched in 2016** by three organisations: *Fondo Centroamericano de Mujeres* or FCAM (the Central American Women's Fund – the Nicaragua-based, lead coordinating organisation), *Mama Cash* (an international women's fund headquartered in the Netherlands), and *Both ENDS* (an independent, Dutch environmental justice NGO). The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands supports GAGGA with a five-year grant.

In recognition of existing expertise, GAGGA includes several strategic partners:<sup>1</sup> the *Global Greengrants Fund (GGF)* and *Prospera (International Network of Women's Funds)*. The alliance also works directly with, and provides funding support to national, regional and global funds<sup>2</sup> and a wide range of grassroots women's rights and environmental justice organisations in more than 30 countries across Latin America, Africa, Asia and Europe. As such, GAGGA brings together decades of grassroots knowledge and practice as well as a gender lens to decision-making processes related to water, food security, and climate change from local to international levels.

1. GAGGA Strategic Partners are organisations with experience in creating networks between women's and environmental justice movements; these strategic partners have previously worked on issues relevant to GAGGA and have long-term relationships with FCAM, Both ENDS and/or Mama Cash.
2. Latin America: Fondo de Acción Urgente, Fondo Apathapi Jopueti, Fondo de Mujeres del Sur, CASA, MAR Fund, and Fundación Tierra Viva. Africa: Fonds pour les Femmes Congolaises, Women Fund Tanzania, Urgent Action Fund Africa, and Global Greengrants Fund. Asia: MONES, South Asia Women's Fund, TEWA, Keystone Foundation and Non-Timber Forest Products Exchange Program. Europe and Global: Foro Internacional de Mujeres Indígenas, Women's Fund Georgia, and FRIDA - Young Feminist Fund. Mama Cash and FCAM, as Women Funds, and Both ENDS also provide funding to groups and NGO involved in the alliance.

## GAGGA addresses global and interconnected challenges.

Around the world, women and girls encounter violations of their right to water, food security, and a clean, healthy, and safe environment. GAGGA recognises that the underlying causes of this violation of basic rights are the unequal gender-based power relations that exist across the globe, which are often accompanied by multiple intersecting forms of oppression and discrimination. For example, women are disproportionately affected when they are displaced from their lands as a consequence of large-scale infrastructure, mining, or land conversion projects. Moreover, the risk of losing their livelihoods, their homes, and their very lives substantially increases if they are part of indigenous communities and/or any other socially or politically marginalised group.

All over the world, women play a vital role in managing natural resources and mobilising efforts to preserve access to said resources for themselves, their families, and broader communities. Women are key experts in analysing the contexts and problems they face and in coming up with viable and sustainable alternatives, yet they are often ignored and marginalised in decision-making processes. Furthermore, many women-led grassroots groups that support women's rights and advocacy are being bypassed by the growing funding streams available for work on environmental sustainability, disaster mitigation, and climate change.

**GAGGA's theory of change** is that grassroots women's rights and environmental justice groups and their movements are the best positioned to advance women's rights to water, food, and a clean, healthy, and safe environment. GAGGA has concluded that they are best able to do this when they are **strengthened** and **united**, ensuring that:

- ☛ They have the support, the means, and capacities to achieve the political agendas they have defined as priorities, and;
- ☛ Their work is aligned and builds on each other's strengths.



Rice and corn harvest, Savegre, Costa Rica  
© International Analog Forestry Network (IAFN)

**GAGGA's five-year strategic goal** is to generate structural change in social and institutional spheres to guarantee that:

1. Women's rights are respected and sustained by communities, individuals, and local and central governments;
2. Policies and legal frameworks that respect, protect, and fulfil these women's rights are in place;
3. Policy implementation meets the needs and priorities of women to exercise their rights;
4. International institutions actively promote women's rights to water, food security, and a clean, healthy, and safe environment while allocating financial resources accordingly.

In order to achieve its goals, the alliance provides financial and non-financial support to grassroots organisations and to women's and environmental funds. The alliance prioritises organizing by those who have little access to funding and are operating with smaller budgets, often working with a more local scope. GAGGA supports these local and national groups so that they strengthen their capacity for lobbying and advocacy on all levels and deepen understanding of the diverse intersections of women's rights and environmental justice.

GAGGA also re-grants to, and partners with, national, regional and global women's and environmental funds that provide financial and tailored capacity support to grassroots groups working in these areas. As with grassroots groups, these funds have emerged from social movements locally or globally, and have an expert understanding of the needs and opportunities of the communities they serve. In addition, the funds play a strategic role in mobilising more and better resources from other local, national, and international sources to further advance women's rights and environmental justice in their respective contexts.

GAGGA partners with others to develop and offer insights into funding support for grassroots women's rights and environmental justice organisations. The alliance also works to connect and foster learning and action among the funding community by sharing best practices and know-how; including facilitating exchanges between funds and amplifying their expertise in the broader funding community.



Summer camp organised by WFG grantee partner from the Shida Kartli Region ©Tetrtskaro Youth Center - Project: Strong Woman for Saving the Earth

For more information on GAGGA, please contact Maite Smet, GAGGA Programme Coordinator at [maite@fcmujeres.org](mailto:maite@fcmujeres.org) or visit our websites: [www.fcmujeres.org](http://www.fcmujeres.org), [www.bothends.org](http://www.bothends.org), and [www.mamacash.org](http://www.mamacash.org).