

FORD FOUNDATION 320 East 43rd Street New York, NY 10017



FORDFOUNDATION

Working with Visionaries on the Frontlines of Social Change Worldwide

SOUTHERN AFRICA





We believe in the inherent dignity of all people. For 60 years, that belief has shaped our support for visionary leaders and social justice organizations in Southern Africa. From the struggle to end apartheid and colonialism to the dawn of a new era of democracy, the work of these visionaries not only has transformed our region but also has inspired the world. We are proud to reaffirm our long-term commitment to Southern Africa's continuing struggle for fairness and equality.

The Ford Foundation works with visionary leaders and organizations worldwide to change social structures and institutions so that all people have the opportunity to reach their full potential, contribute to society, have a voice in the decisions that affect them, and live and work in dignity.

This commitment to social justice is carried out through programs that strengthen democratic values, reduce poverty and injustice, promote international cooperation, and advance human knowledge, creativity and achievement.

We believe that the same determination and innovation that fueled Southern Africa's enormous advances in the past can be harnessed to tackle the next generation of challenges.







FULFILLING THE PROMISE OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

At the beginning of the 21st century, Southern Africa stands transformed. A new generation has emerged with greater opportunities and expectations for the future. These young Southern Africans are building on past victories—including progressive laws, sustained economic growth and a strong network of civil society organizations—to improve human rights, broaden people's access to increased prosperity and bring hope to disadvantaged communities.

Yet even in the face of these promising advances, poverty and inequality remain widespread and deeply entrenched. Vast disparities in access to education, housing, land and economic opportunity, coupled with the world's highest prevalence of HIV, limit the region's continued progress and threaten the fabric of its communities. Without a shared commitment to making the promise of democracy a reality, Southern Africa risks moving backward, squandering the potential of a new generation to create stronger, more equitable societies and continue this region's inspiring march forward.

WHAT FORD IS DOING

We believe that social transformation is best achieved by investing in people. Since making our very first grants in Southern Africa in the 1950s, we have helped strengthen the ability of local communities to advance their own aspirations for dignity, justice and equality.

By leveraging our local and international presence, Ford has served not only as a grant-maker but also as a resource for knowledge, new ideas and connection to social change makers in Southern Africa and across the Global South.

From our office in Johannesburg, we focus our modest resources on supporting organizations that are addressing long-term, systemic social challenges within four areas: Human Rights and Governance; Livelihoods and Assets; Higher Education for Social Justice; and Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights/HIV. Nearly all of these organizations are based in South Africa; we believe that with South Africa as a hub, the entire region can benefit from the fresh ideas and dedicated efforts of our grantees. Working in local villages, with national governments and on the international stage, our partners are developing innovative ways to stem the rising tide of poverty and inequality, and while their approaches vary, they all share a common element: empowering people to participate fully in the social, political and economic institutions that shape their lives. Recognizing that the causes of poverty and inequality are complex and interconnected, we hope that our grantees' work can model the kind of holistic practices that lasting social change demands.

A LONG-TERM COMMITMENT

When our work in the region started in 1953, five years of apartheid had already isolated South Africa from the rest of the world. We

began by providing fellowships for scholars, funding research that rigorously documented and exposed the devastating impact of South Africa's racial policies, and supporting meetings and other forms of exchange that gave progressive South Africans the space to discuss the future of their country.

In the 1960s, as South Africa's isolation deepened, our grantees kept a spotlight on repressive policies and enabled dissenting voices to be heard. As part of these efforts, we invested in ensuring substantive contact between Americans and South Africans and, within South Africa, between diverse communities.

During the 1970s, the foundation broadened the scope of its activity. Ford was instrumental in setting up Southern Africa's first public interest law centers. Our grantees provided legal defense for South Africans detained on political charges and helped set groundbreaking legal precedent on industrial health; access to unemployment insurance; and restrictions on blacks under the repressive "pass law" system, which was used to limit the movement and tenure of black people. Ford also worked throughout this period to improve educational opportunities for black South Africans and participated in major, collaborative efforts to strengthen universities across Southern Africa and the wider continent.

In the post-apartheid era, the foundation continued to fund projects that advanced education and public interest law while also expanding into other areas, including gender rights, community development and public policy research. To support this broadened

scope of work, we opened an office in Johannesburg in April 1993. Since then, we have helped the new democracy grow by supporting rural development, arts and expression, and comprehensive responses to the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Today, our grantees continue to strengthen decades of work on economic fairness, democracy, human rights, education, and sexual and reproductive health to create effective, far-reaching solutions to the problems facing Southern Africa's people.

EQUALITY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL

We believe that addressing endemic poverty and inequality is the most important priority in South Africa and the wider region today. Deeply embedded problems like these demand boldness in the face of corruption; active collaboration among civil society groups as well as government and the private sector; and equal measures of creativity and commitment to develop fresh models and sustain long-term efforts.

We are profoundly optimistic about the future of Southern Africa. Our work is anchored in the belief, already proved many times over, that the people of this region have the ability to advance equality and justice, even in the face of daunting challenges. Only by unlocking the vast potential of these communities can the full promise of democracy become a reality for all.

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Our work in Southern Africa reflects our long-standing commitment to social justice and economic opportunity for all. The following pages show a small sample of our efforts and those of our extraordinary partners.



















1950s-60s

1970s-80s

1990s

RESEARCHING SOCIAL PROBLEMS

Early grants in the region helped build knowledge about the devastating impact of apartheid in South Africa. Rigorous research documented policies, practices and attitudes resulting from a racially segregated society.

FOSTERING LEADERSHIP

Believing that open dialogue would help build bridges and turn the tide of official repression, we provided fellowships for scholars and supported activities that brought together leaders of all races from academia, business, government and religious organizations.

DEFENDING HUMAN RIGHTS

As the democracy movement grew, Ford and other foundations established the first public interest law centers in the region, helping to build an area of law that would serve all people. Our grantees trained black lawyers, provided legal aid to indigent defendants and won landmark cases challenging apartheid policies.

EXPANDING EDUCATIONAL EQUITY

Under apartheid, educational opportunities at all levels were severely limited for black South Africans. Ford and other funders supported models and policies that made schooling more widely available to nonwhite students. We also worked to improve teaching at black colleges and to strengthen higher education and libraries across Southern Africa and the wider continent.

SUPPORTING **AGRICULTURE**

With famine decimating communities across Southern Africa, our grantees pursued agro-forestry, water management and advanced education in the rural social sciences, helping develop sustainable agriculture in the region and ensuring all people would have access to food.

STRENGTHENING **DEMOCRACY**

In the years immediately before the transition to democracy in South Africa, several of our grantees played crucial roles in envisioning, and then contributing to drafting, the country's new constitution and establishing the founding principles of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. After 1994, we gave continuing assistance to those groups as they redefined themselves for a democratic society.

ADVANCING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

Responding to high unemployment and poverty rates, we helped implement microenterprise and small-business development programs in urban and rural communities. Our grantees also led important efforts to advance land reform and rural development.

BUILDING COMMUNITY

The Market Theatre, the District Six Museum, the Robben Island Museum and other grantees played an important part in defining South Africa's emerging national identity. To reach previously marginalized communities, our partners helped expand access to radio and supported broadcasts in long-repressed African languages.



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2000s

HELLO, KAMI!

In 2000, "Takalani Sesame"—based on the U.S. children's television program "Sesame Street" came to South Africa. A few years later the show introduced Kami, the first HIV-positive Muppet, to build understanding and awareness of HIV/AIDS.

PROMOTING JUSTICE

The foundation marked the 10th anniversary of South Africa's democracy by supporting several projects, including an international conference on justice with the region's leading legal thinkers, held at Constitution Hill, a heritage site and seat of the Constitutional Court.

COMBATING **HIV/AIDS**

Ford launched its Global Initiative on HIV/AIDS in 2006, aimed at ensuring that the new investments in medicine and technologies were matched by an equally significant focus on the social, political and cultural factors of the disease. In Southern Africa, our grants supported the mobilization of a powerful popular movement demanding effective government policies, including HIV prevention and access to treatment.

STRENGTHENING REGIONAL PHILANTHROPY

In 2006, several donors, including Ford, established TrustAfrica, an independent African philanthropic foundation that addresses the most difficult challenges confronting the continent. In the first six years of its operation, TrustAfrica made grants worth about \$4.5 million in Southern Africa.

SUPPORTING **ECONOMIC FAIRNESS**

2010s

Today, our partners are working to bring poor families into the financial mainstream. These efforts focus on expanding access to essential financial services and supporting rural development projects that open up markets and financing to small producers.

EXPANDING DEMOCRACY

Our grantees are developing new ways to protect rights, hold government and the private sector accountable for progress, and deepen public engagement in the democratic process. And our long-term support for the public interest law sector continues, helping organizations advance human rights and seek justice for victims of rights abuses.

EDUCATING THE NEXT GENERATION

Today's education reformers are striving to open the doors to higher education to millions more young South Africans. Our partners are engaged in a cross-national discussion of Africa's educational needs while also working to strengthen graduate education in South Africa so that a new generation is well-equipped to shape the future of the country, the region and the wider continent.

ADVANCING SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH RIGHTS

Reducing the disastrous impact of HIV is a core priority of our current efforts in Southern Africa. We support advocacy for sound policy, encompassing full implementation of the 2006 Maputo Plan of Action, and effective prevention and treatment. Our partners are also addressing the alarmingly high rates of sexual and gender-based violence in the region.

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Human Rights and Governance

BY DEFENDING HUMAN RIGHTS and strengthening democracy, our grantees are helping to fulfill the promise embodied in South Africa's constitution.

The South African constitution, enacted in 1996, is one of the great democratic achievements of our era. With provisions explicitly written to reverse decades of repression and relieve the plight of the nation's poor and disadvantaged, it stands as a model for transformative social and political change. Longtime Ford grantees, such as the Community Law Centre and the Centre for Applied Legal Studies, made key contributions to the development of the constitution a source of profound, enduring pride for the foundation.

Yet the aspirations enshrined in the constitution have not turned into living realities for many people, especially among South Africa's most disadvantaged communities. Many inner-city residents, for instance, have been forcefully evicted because of rapid urban development, and upholding constitutional housing rights remains a significant challenge. Rising dissatisfaction—a result of not only land and housing issues but also corruption and human rights abuses—has sparked powerful protests, as was seen particularly after the Marikana massacre in August 2012, when dozens of striking miners were killed.

Our partners are addressing these issues through programs that help strengthen human rights and promote government and private sector accountability. For example, one grantee brings together decision-makers from different sectors-including lawyers, activists, academics and town planners—to define what the right to housing encompasses and how to make it a reality for all. Others are empowering people on the ground to expose corruption; ensure that communities' rights are recognized; and hold government and businesses accountable, particularly within extractive industries. Together, these efforts are helping South Africa shift from a culture of authority and abuse to one of respect for the rule of law, human rights, transparency and accountability.

ON THE FRONTLINES

Our grantees are working to advance human rights and good governance in Southern Africa. Their work includes:

Challenging inequality and providing legal services to the victims of human rights violations

GRANTEE: Centre for Applied Legal Studies, Univesity of Witwatersrand

Protecting housing rights and promoting access to basic services through public interest litigation,

advocacy and research

GRANTEE: Socio-Economic Rights Institute of South Africa

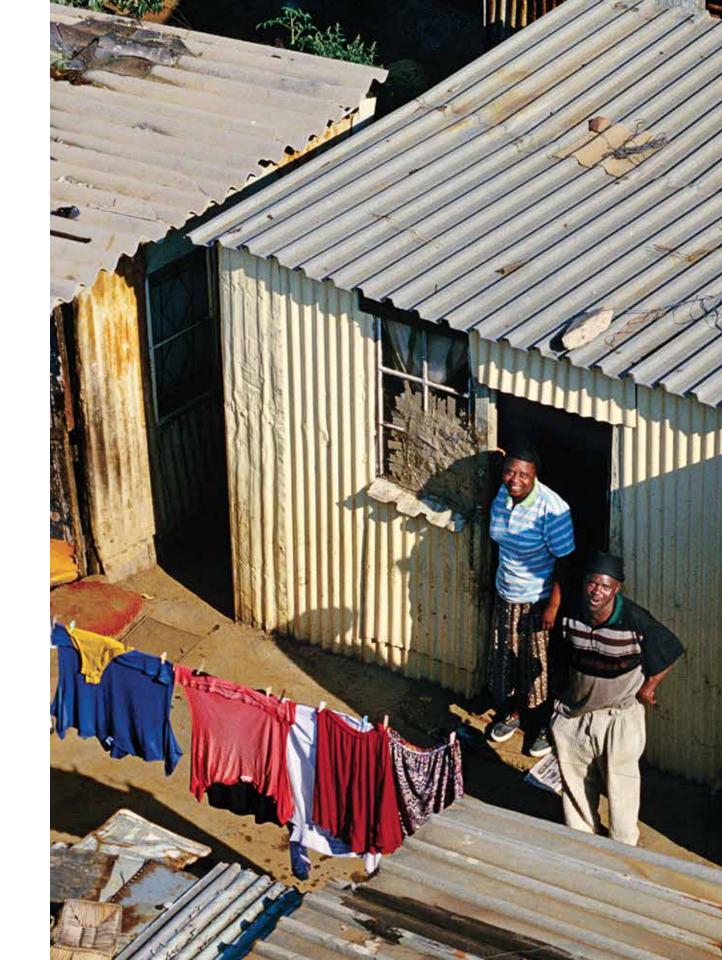
Addressing rights issues in extractive industries through research and advocacy on land rights, revenue flows, transparency and accountability GRANTEE: International Alliance on Natural Resources in Africa

Promoting engagement between government and civil society in advancing socioeconomic rights **GRANTEE: Studies in Poverty and** Inequality Institute

Countering corruption by encouraging citizens to report corrupt acts through a mass media communications and advocacy campaign

For a full list of grantees, go to fordfoundation.org

GRANTEE: Corruption Watch







Livelihoods and Assets

OUR GRANTEES are increasing the economic stability of poor households by expanding job opportunities and building pathways to financial security.

The dire economic conditions that afflict many communities in Southern Africa are stark evidence that many millions of people remain left out of the region's newfound prosperity. More than a third of working-age adults (36 percent) are unemployed; of those, more than 85 percent are black and more than half are 15–34 years of age. The majority of these young adults are unskilled, trapped in informal sectors of the economy that offer few chances for stability and advancement. In rural areas, low productivity and inefficient markets mean that more than half the population lives on less than \$2 a day.

Some governments in the region have responded with social protection programs designed to reduce the vulnerability of their citizens to extreme poverty. In general, however, these programs offer recipients a minimal safety net, not real opportunities to gain skills, accumulate assets or make lasting improvements in the economic well-being of their families. More than protection alone, poor communities need programs and services that help people build productive and secure livelihoods and open pathways toward economic opportunity.

Across Southern Africa, our grantees are designing and implementing innovative financial services that are aimed at meeting the needs of the poor and helping break the cycle of poverty. The Southern Africa Trust, for example, is working with the member governments of the Southern Africa Development Community to craft new mechanisms to pay social security benefits to migrant workers and facilitate cash transfers for this vulnerable population. Other organizations are testing initiatives to bring the poor into the financial mainstream, using strategies such as savings programs for poor families, asset building for young people and lending for small entrepreneurs.

In spite of widespread urbanization, many Southern Africans continue to live in poor rural areas and survive on subsistence agriculture. Our grantees are providing small farmers with new forms of financing, offering technical assistance and opening access to markets that have traditionally been available only to large producers. We also encourage national, regional and international dialogue on how investments in land and agriculture affect woman and what we can do to protect their assets and food security.

ON THE FRONTLINES

Our grantees are promoting economic inclusion and opportunity for the urban and rural poor across Southern Africa. Their work includes:

Piloting savings accounts for very poor households receiving Child Support Grants GRANTEE: Economic Policy and Research Institute

Promoting asset building and financial inclusion to help young people make successful transitions to adulthood GRANTEE: Centre for Social Development in Africa, University of Johannesburg

Expanding a public poverty reduction program by the government of Mozambique to integrate savings and asset transfers

GRANTEE: World Food Programme

Exploring ways to link small farmers to markets, increasing incomes and assets for rural households in South Africa GRANTEE: Southern Africa Food Lab, University of Stellenbosch

Fostering collaboration with other rural development efforts in the Global South to build capacity in Southern Africa GRANTEE: International Institute of Rural Reconstruction

For a full list of grantees, go to fordfoundation.org

Higher Education for Social Justice

RECOGNIZING THAT higher education can be a powerful engine for social and economic justice, our grantees are working to make postsecondary education more accessible to disadvantaged students.

The current South African government inherited a system of higher education that served apartheid and was profoundly shaped by its injustices. Recent surveys show that racial divisions and inequality continue to compromise university life. Changing that system has been slow and difficult, in part because management expertise and resources have been in short supply.

Moreover, despite enormous effort, the nation's primary and secondary schools have not improved substantially over the past two decades. As a result, literacy and numeracy rates remain disturbingly low, and universities must cope with large numbers of underprepared learners. In particular, students from poor rural communities struggle to succeed and graduate.

Our grantees are helping to cultivate a new, far more diverse generation of scholars, teachers and university leaders by designing policies and programs to lower the barriers to college for disadvantaged youth, increase their chances of thriving there, and ensure that they gain skills that lead to careers and higher earnings. We also prioritize efforts to train tomorrow's policy leaders, who can further strengthen educational institutions and make the college environment more responsive to the needs of all learners.

Through Higher Education for Social Justice, we selectively support pilot initiatives of promising new models—programs, for example, that connect students with employment opportunities, incorporate e-learning technologies or encourage talented students to pursue graduate degrees. If successful, these approaches could spread widely to reach many communities across South Africa and beyond its borders.

ON THE FRONTLINES

Our grantees are making higher education more accessible to disadvantaged students, strengthening faculties and improving education policy. Their work includes:

Addressing systemic barriers to higher education through litigation, advocacy and research

GRANTEE: Equal Education Law Centre

Opening pathways to employment

through a pilot project that helps young people transition to high-demand, entry-level jobs

GRANTEE: Harambee Youth Employment Accelerator

Diversifying academia through fellowships for young, black, and female master's and doctoral candidates

GRANTEE: Next Generation Scholars, University of Johannesburg

Expanding e-learning in African universities to improve teaching, learning and research

GRANTEE: University of Cape Town

Improving institutional effectiveness by providing technical assistance to universities

GRANTEE: Centre for Higher Education
Transformation Trust

For a full list of grantees, go to fordfoundation.org







Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights/HIV

WE SUPPORT comprehensive responses to counter the severe impact of HIV; reduce gender violence; and advance sexual and reproductive health and rights, particularly for young people and disadvantaged groups.

Southern Africa is the epicenter of the global HIV epidemic. The region also has high rates of sexual and gender-based violence, maternal mortality, unintended adolescent pregnancy, unsafe abortion and early marriage—all closely related to the underlying problems of poverty, unemployment and inequality.

The governments of Southern Africa have taken steps to address these conditions by enacting progressive national and regional policies, including through the African Union's Maputo Plan of Action, a continent-wide policy framework for promoting universal access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services. In recent years, some countries have made considerable progress, providing better access to treatment and subsequently reporting lower rates of HIV among young people. Yet immense gaps remain between forward-looking policies and their actual implementation. A scarcity of resources and limited capacity for taking effective programs to scale are part of the problem, but so are the lack of sustained political commitment and weak systems for holding governments accountable.

The growing population of young people bear the brunt of these problems; they are also the best source for meaningful, lasting solutions. To harness the potential of youth and foster progress, our grantees are strengthening the capacity and participation of a new generation of leaders, especially young women, in developing and implementing strategies to address HIV and promote sexual and reproductive health. We also support the work of organizations that are raising the voices of disadvantaged groups—HIV-positive people, LGBT populations, sex workers and others—to take a stand against sexual and gender-based violence, discrimination and stigmatization.

To succeed, these efforts require increased government accountability and cross-sector partnerships. We therefore support strategies that bring together national and regional institutions—including civil society and private sector organizations, governments and international bodies—to achieve better outcomes.

ON THE FRONTLINES

Our grantees are improving the sexual and reproductive health and HIV outcomes for disadvantaged people and ensuring that their rights are protected. This work includes:

Strengthening government accountability through monitoring, capacity building and advocacy to promote implementation of the Maputo Plan of Action and other key commitments

GRANTEE: AIDS Accountability International

Preventing discrimination and rights violations against disadvantaged people by countering unfair laws and policies targeting lesbian, gay, bisexual and transexual populations

GRANTEE: African Men for Sexual Health and Rights

Enhancing the health and well-being of young people by promoting the African Youth Charter and its provisions on sexual and reproductive health and rights

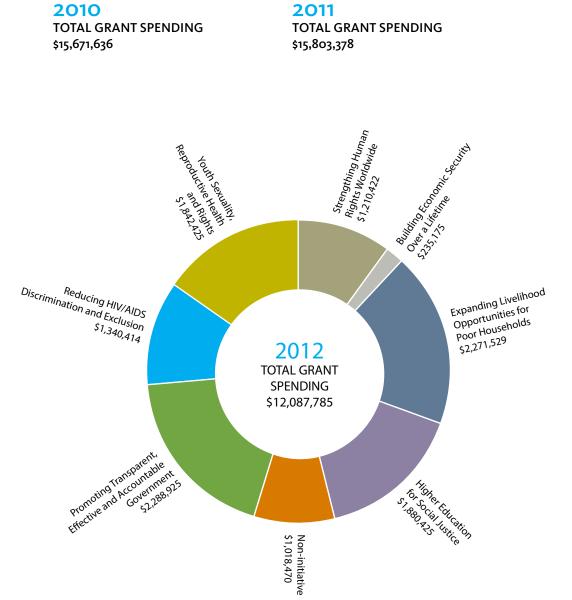
GRANTEE: African Union

Mobilizing resources to address sexual and reproductive health and rights, HIV and gender-based violence, and to enhance the socioeconomic rights of the most affected groups

GRANTEE: Joint Gender Fund (with Hivos)

For a full list of grantees, go to fordfoundation.org

| FOCUS | INITIATIVES | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| Human Rights and Governance | • Promoting Transparent, Effective and Accountable Government | | |
| | • Strengthening Human Rights Worldwide | | |
| Livelihoods and Assets | • Building Economic Security Over a Lifetime | | |
| | Expanding Livelihood Opportunities for Poor Households | | |
| Higher Education for Social Justice | • Higher Education for Social Justice | | |
| Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights/HIV | • Reducing HIV/AIDS Discrimination and Exclusion | | |
| | • Youth Sexuality, Reproductive Health and Rights | | |









What is the Ford Foundation and what does it do?

We are an independent, charitable foundation that helps people improve their lives and strengthen their communities. We support visionary leaders and organizations on the frontlines of social change worldwide. Our mission is to strengthen democratic values, reduce poverty and injustice, promote international cooperation, and advance human achievement.

In every region in which we work, we help people realize their own aspirations for freedom, opportunity, dignity and achievement. In addition to making grants, we act as a resource for new ideas, knowledge and connection to others. We believe partnerships are essential to advancing lasting social change.

What is your relationship with the Ford Motor Company?

We are entirely separate from the Ford Motor Company. While the foundation once owned stock in the company, it sold all its shares 40 years ago and has been fully divested ever since.

Who runs the Ford Foundation?

The foundation is governed by a board of trustees, which includes our president. Our trustees come from around the world and have extensive experience in higher education, business, law, government, nonprofit management and the civic

sector. Our grantmaking program is led by vice presidents, regional representatives and directors, working with an expert cadre of program officers.

Are you an American organization? What is your relationship with the U.S. government?

We are chartered and headquartered in the United States, but have operated as a global organization for more than 60 years. We are completely independent from the United States government, and our work is guided solely by our mission.

Our international presence is fundamental to who we are and the way we work; we have always believed that the best way to achieve our mission is to encourage initiatives by those living and working closest to where problems are located.

Where does the Ford Foundation get its money from?

The foundation's money was donated by Henry and Edsel Ford in the 1930s and '40s. Over the years, through smart financial management, we have grown those original gifts into our current endowment. We have had no other donors since and do not receive any outside funds.

Why does the Ford Foundation work in Southern Africa?

Southern Africa is filled with visionary leaders who are building a better future for the continent and we are eager to support their work.

Foundations have a unique and important role to play. By providing risk capital for innovation, we can help build bridges among civil society, government and the private sector to advance lasting solutions.

This region is incredibly influential in shaping Africa's development, and we believe that success here can be replicated to reach many others.

How long have you made grants in Southern Africa?

We have worked to advance justice and democracy in the region for more than 60 years. For many decades, this work was led out of our New York office, but in 1993, we established an office in Johannesburg, at the beginning of South Africa's transition to democracy.

Where is your grantmaking focused?

We focus on South Africa—Southern Africa's migration hub and gateway for foreign investment—believing that progress in this country is important for the stability and development of the entire region. We also strive to ensure that all grants have the potential for long-term impact on a region whose nations face many common problems.

What is your strategy for the region?

All our work is designed to address a central challenge: Even in the face of economic growth, abundant natural resources and progressive constitutional government, inequality in Southern Africa is on the rise. This is compounded by the fact that the region has the highest prevalence of HIV in the world.

To help bridge this gap between Southern Africa's enormous potential and the everyday reality of its citizens, we are working to test solutions to poverty and injustice that can be implemented in the region's communities and improve real lives. The most promising models can then be replicated to reach millions more.

We've selected the areas in which we work— Human Rights and Governance, Livelihoods and Assets, Higher Education for Social Justice, and Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights/HIV because they are fundamental to fulfilling South Africa's potential and to ensuring that every person who calls this region home has the opportunity to participate fully in building its future.

To learn more about the Ford Foundation and our grantmaking, visit fordfoundation.org.

FORD FOUNDATION | SOUTHERN AFRICA 21

TO LEARN MORE about the Ford Foundation and our grantmaking, visit *fordfoundation.org.*

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visit fordfoundation.org/ grants/grant-inquiry/ southern-africa, where you will find a Grant Application Guide that describes our process and an online form you may use to submit a grant inquiry.

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22 FORD FOUNDATION | SOUTHERN AFRICA



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PUBLISHED FEBRUARY 2014