



Women's
Learning
Partnership

Resilience & Renewal

ANNUAL REPORT FY21
JUNE 2020- JULY 2021



**Women's Learning Partnership
for Rights, Development, and Peace (WLP)**

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By Women's Learning Partnership for Rights,
Development, and Peace (WLP)

Women's Learning Partnership is a partnership of autonomous women's rights organizations located throughout the Global South that promote women's leadership, civic engagement, and human rights. Information about each organization's priorities and programs is available on our website: learningpartnership.org.

OUR PARTNERS

BRAZIL
Citizenship, Study, Research, Information, and Action

EGYPT
Forum for Women in Development

INDONESIA
Women and Youth Development Insitute of Indonesia

IRAN
Activist and Scholars

JORDAN
Solidarity is Global Insitute-Jordan

KAZAKHSTAN
Shymkent Women's Resource Center

KYRGYZSTAN
Bir Duino - Kyrgyzstan

MALAYSIA
All Women's Action Society

MOROCCO
Democratic Association of Moroccan Women

MOZAMBIQUE
Fórum Mulher

NIGERIA
Center for the Advancement of Development Rights

PAKISTAN
Aurat Foundation

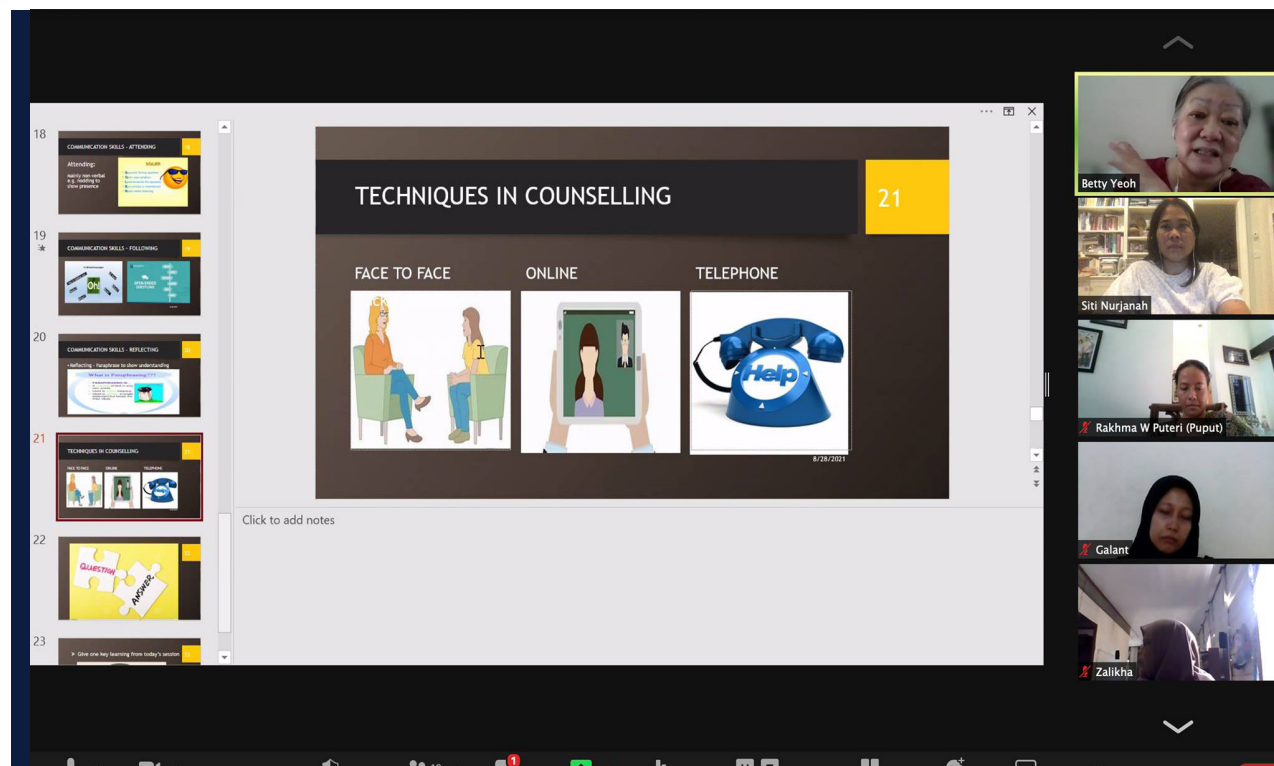
SENEGAL
Groupe d'Initiatives pour le Progrès Social/West Africa Region

TURKEY
Foundation for the Support of Women's Work



OUR PARTICIPATORY LEADERSHIP METHODOLOGY

In WLP trainings, women from all backgrounds discover and develop their leadership capacity. In our workshops and afterwards, we support participants' locally-led solutions to the pressing needs in their communities.



TRAINING | INDONESIA

WLP's partners use each other's expertise to strengthen their programming and services for women and girls in their communities. In early 2021, WLP's partner in Indonesia, WYDII, launched a hotline for parents, especially mothers, coping with the increased financial strain caused by COVID-19. In May 2021, WYDII invited WLP Global Facilitator Betty Yeoh and former project director of WLP Malaysia/AWAM to conduct a training on hotline counseling techniques. Participants in the joint training became the first advice counselors when the hotline officially opened in September 2021. As part of WYDII's advocacy to end child marriage, the hotline's counselors are increasing awareness among parents about the government's decision to raise the age of marriage from 16 to 19 for girls and boys. One training participant shared how the training improved her counseling skills. "WYDII's training has fundamentally changed the way I see and do counseling. I feel much more able to empower parents to assess their problems and to find their own solutions."

WLP's partnership model prioritizes local expertise and the engagement of women from the Global South, and creates spaces for women leaders to come together to exchange knowledge and experiences.



CAPACITY BUILDING | MOZAMBIQUE AND MOROCCO

In June 2021, WLP workshop participants in Mozambique met with the Ministry of Land and Environment to demand the inclusion of rural women in decision-making and governance on the use of land and natural resources. In addition to participating in the WLP training, the southern African land rights advocates consulted with WLP Morocco/ADFM and used ADFM's training module on land rights campaigning to develop their advocacy plans.

WLP collects and preserves documents of historical relevance to the global women's movement. We make available research and training materials on women's human rights that are free to anyone, downloadable from our online Learning Center. These include our manuals, documentaries, recordings of interviews, oral histories, and copies of legislation from around the world addressing women's rights. We translate and adapt our own publications to make them relevant to larger audiences throughout the Global South.



CURRICULUM | PAKISTAN

In FY21, WLP adapted our toolkit Leading to a Culture of Democracy into Urdu for WLP Pakistan/Aurat Foundation. The toolkit is used in training workshops on engaging in inclusive democracy and participatory decision-making in government, the workplace, the community, and on the homefront. In April 2021, the Aurat Foundation used the toolkit in a democracy training workshop with young students at the public university in Rawalpindi that led to half of the participants registering to vote for the first time.

TRAINING

WLP partners conduct interactive and dialogue-based leadership workshops, which draw on the participatory methodology explored in our foundational curriculum *Leading to Choices*. Our workshops engage emerging and experienced women leaders and youth in participatory leadership, civic engagement, democracy, women's rights, reforming family law, refugee empowerment, and climate justice. In FY21, after participating in their first WLP training, **90 percent** of local, grassroots women reported viewing themselves as leaders or agents of change for the first time.

4218 PEOPLE TRAINED
BY WLP PARTNERS
IN 34 COUNTRIES.

As part of WLP's training programs, participants develop action-plans for conducting their own leadership trainings and human rights advocacy activities. In FY21, participants carried out 220 of the activities they proposed in WLP trainings.



TRAINING | NIGERIA

Participants from WLP Nigeria/CEADER's Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) program launched new initiatives and workshops for women displaced by the violence perpetrated by the Islamist militant organization Boko Haram. Workshop alumni now work with local radio stations to raise public awareness about the breadth and depth of the harm to communities and are promoting policies and services for survivors. One issue they focused on was the increasing absenteeism and low school enrollment in northern Nigeria, which is a result of students being afraid leave their homes because of Boko Haram's kidnappings, sexual assaults, and murder.

ADVOCACY

WLP and our partners are engaged in dozens of women's rights and social justice campaigns around the world. Our partners organize national coalitions for gender equality and share their expertise with other women's rights organizations in regional and global networks. In this fiscal year, our Partnership engaged with international institutions **58 times**, including contributing to global studies on gender equality, hosting events at international conferences, and attending expert group meetings.



Intergenerational Dialogue on Feminist Climate Justice

 MARY ROBINSON Keynote Speaker	 MUSIMBI KANYORO Moderator	 MAHNAZ AFKHAMI Opening Remarks	 ASMA KHADER Opening Remarks
<i>Panel</i>			
 ELLEN ACIOLI	 BRIDGET BURNS	 SARAH COSTA	 LEELA HAZZAH
 NADA AL AHDAL	 SAFA' AL JAYOUSSI	 AMANI ARURI	

March 31, 2021 | 9:30 AM EDT |
Register at rebrand.ly/wlpevents

WLP

EXPERT MEETING

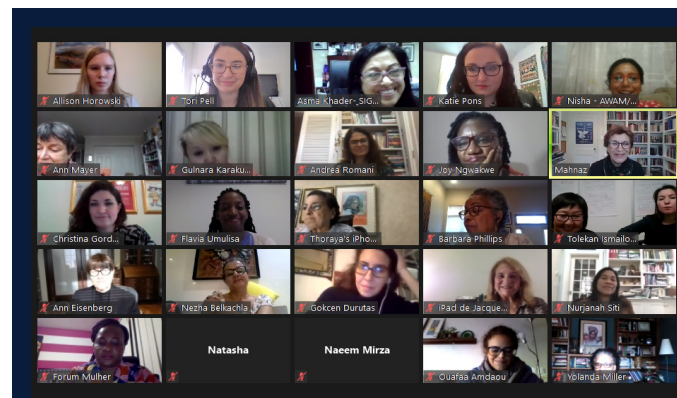
In March 2022, former President of Ireland Mary Robinson and a panel of climate and gender activists discussed how to create synergy between different groups working for climate justice. Young climate activists, indigenous leaders, and gender equality advocates shared ways to establish inclusive and holistic policies to address climate change.

ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING

In FY21, the COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated how local women's rights organizations fill critical gaps in government aid programs and crisis response. Despite the fundamental role these organizations play in their communities, there is little investment in strengthening their resilience and organizational capacity. WLP works with our partners and their networks to develop targeted organizational development tools and trainings on topics such as financial management, grant writing, and monitoring and evaluation. In FY21, **78 civil society organizations** used WLP's learning tools to strengthen their work.

Strengthening Regional Collaboration | Lusophone Africa

In March and April of 2022, WLP Mozambique/Fórum Mulher hosted a regional training for activists from Lusophone countries in Africa, including Angola, Cape Verde, and Mozambique. The training topic focused on addressing issues related to human security including violent conflict, threats to democracy, and gender-based violence. Training participants quickly related the training topics to the violence in Cabo Delgado and focused their attention on addressing violence against women in situations of conflict. Participants made plans to work together on several advocacy projects, which included an anti-violence video and multiple podcasts on human security and sexual and reproductive rights



WLP's Transnational Partners Convening

To adapt our Partnership to pandemic realities, we converted our annual Partnership-wide meeting, the Transnational Partners Convening (TPC), to a series of virtual events. At the online covenings held in July 2020, November 2020, and April 2021, we provided education and training, and partners shared the changes they had made to their programming to address the challenges facing their communities. In response to the programmatic and organizational needs expressed by our partners at the TPC, WLP provided funds for additional online software and technology, translated our Zoom tutorial curriculum into multiple languages, and shared new ways to implement their programming through e-learning, digital advocacy, and online training.

CURRICULUM & NEW RESOURCES

WLP develops manuals for women's rights training and makes these freely available in multiple languages on our website. Also on our website in our online Learning Center, are thousands of resources on gender equality, democracy, and the history of the global women's movement. Over the fiscal year, we added to this content two translated and adapted leadership manuals, and one capacity building toolkit.

Leading to a Culture of Democracy in Urdu (May) and Portuguese (June)

Leading to a Culture of Democracy builds the capacity of activists to defend and advance women's rights during periods of social and political transition. It highlights how women's rights and gender equality are central to realizing inclusive democracy.

Leading to
a Culture of
Democracy

A Handbook for Women in Transitioning Societies



Best Practices for Building Organizational Capacity

- Budgeting and Financial Systems
- Principles of Monitoring and Evaluation
- Grant Management from A to Z



FOR RIGHTS, DEVELOPMENT, AND PEACE

WLP's Peer-Facilitated Capacity Building Toolkit and Best Practices for Building Organizational Capacity in French and Arabic (December).

WLP's *Peer-Facilitated Capacity Building Toolkit* helps CSOs increase their effectiveness in budgeting and financial systems, monitoring and evaluation, and grant management.

[Click to Explore Our Other Curricula Offerings](#)

In FY21, WLP added **39 examples of women's rights-related legislation, from Global South**, to our Corpus of Laws. WLP's online Corpus of Laws makes available copies of constitutions, international and national laws, and penal codes that govern women's status in the family, women's rights, and human security around the world. The content, accessible on our website, is provided for research and women's rights advocacy.

CLIMATE JUSTICE

In FY21, WLP promoted climate justice in multiple forums, including facilitating an intergenerational dialogue and several high-level meetings with government ministers of land and agriculture. WLP partners trained **191 women** on climate justice initiatives. The partners conducted workshops on sustainable farming, community gardens, upcycling, and climate justice advocacy, among other topics.



ADVOCACY | SENEGAL

After years of advocacy by WLP Senegal/GIPS-WAR, the African Union pledged to adopt 15 demands of rural women into the AU's land policies, including the inclusion of women in land governance processes.

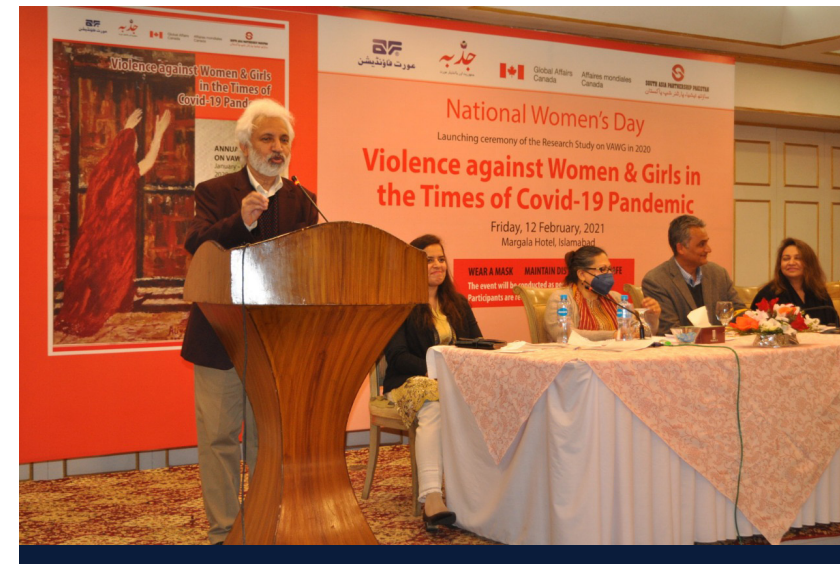


TRAINING | MOROCCO

For over a decade WLP Morocco/ADFM has provided leadership training to Soulaliyate tribal women and has joined them in their advocacy for their land rights. Beginning in December 2020, ADFM and the Soulaliyates campaigned for discriminatory language to be removed from a government decree that would have limited the rights of women to communal lands. ADFM and the Soulaliyates submitted to the Moroccan government the signatures of over 20,000 people calling for the removal of the discriminatory provision. On June 28, 2021, the Moroccan government agreed to remove the language after receiving the petition circulated by the Soulaliyate women.

EQUALITY IN THE FAMILY

WLP launched the global campaign "Equality Starts in the Family" in 2017 to transform discriminatory family laws and cultural practices. We made available training materials in multiple languages on women's rights in the family, and produced the documentary *Equality: It's All in the Family*, that is used in WLP workshops. Since the launch, WLP partners have helped reform dozens of laws. In FY21, WLP partners coordinated **10 projects** across the Global South addressing discriminatory family laws and gender discrimination in the family.



ADVOCACY | PAKISTAN

WLP Pakistan/Aurat and gender equality activists celebrated the passage of a new law on ending domestic violence in the Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa province after nearly a decade of advocacy.

ADVOCACY | WLP SECRETARIAT

At the 65th Commission on the Status of Women in March 2021, WLP submitted to the Commission a statement on family law reform, and hosted an international panel on how to reform family laws that diminish women's financial stability and independence.



YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

Over 1100 youth participated in WLP leadership trainings in FY21. WLP partners hosted workshops for youth leaders to enhance their advocacy skills, strengthen their knowledge of human rights, and increase their use of technology to promote gender equality and a culture of democracy.

YOUNG LEADER PROFILE | KEZIA SAMPPIO

Kezia Sampoio works with WLP Brazil/CEPIA's youth advocacy team and helped facilitate the 2021 Youth Festival for Critical Thinking and Action. In July, she shared with us her work advocating for gender equality and her advice for other young leaders. You can read the full interview with Sampoio [here](#).



TRAINING | REGIONAL

WLP's partners in Brazil, Jordan, and Kazakhstan hosted 250 youth from over 25 countries at regional training institutes to help young leaders develop digital tools and strategies to advocate for gender equality, democracy, and human rights.

"One of the most valuable things at this institute was hearing the opinions and perspectives of people from different countries. We all have different personalities, interests, and ideas, but we have the common desire to change society for the better!"

-Cantaria, Central Asia Youth Institute Participant

"I learned that as much as it seems like we are fighting alone for a specific cause, there are other people all over the world who think and fight like us. I learned to believe in the strength of collective initiatives."

-Latin America Youth Institute Participant

"My wish is that other young people could also be part of collectives and organizations that not only work on human rights, gender inequalities, and power relations, but also help them to be young protagonists and to advocate for causes that they believe in."

-Kezia Sampoio

DEMOCRACY AND PEACE

In FY21, seven past participants in WLP trainings were elected or appointed WLP partners are training women leaders to build stable and inclusive democracies that prioritize human rights and equality. In FY21, seven former WLP workshop participants were elected to public office in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Mozambique, and partners included WLP workshop participants in educational and advocacy events with **188 policymakers**.



TRAINING | GLOBAL

In Kyrgyzstan, our partner Bir Duino trained over 100 local community leaders, activists, journalists, and politicians about election procedures in the run-up to local elections. WLP Jordan/SIGI-J and WLP Indonesia/WYDII trained thousands of women and young people to monitor elections. The trainings included tactics for identifying and documenting voter intimidation and other underhanded practices that hinder the participation of women.

TRAINING | CENTRAL ASIA

Several WLP workshop participants from Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan were elected to serve in local assemblies and in the lower houses of parliament. In January 2021, Aliya Absemetova was elected to the lower house of parliament in Kazakhstan where she serves on the committee for social and cultural development. In March 2021, Absemetova appointed Lyazat Askarova, a fellow WLP training alumni and WLP trainer, as public advisor to the lower house on gender issues and the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.



Lyazat Askarova holds a gift for participants at the conclusion of a 2019 regional training in Kazakhstan.

ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

In FY21, WLP partners advocated for women's right to live free from violence and provide legal, financial, and psychological services to survivors of violence. In FY21, partners in four countries: **Brazil, Pakistan, Malaysia and Morocco**, celebrated legal progress toward ending gender-based violence.

ADVOCACY | MALAYSIA

WLP Malaysia successfully pressured the Ministry of Education to better support and protect students from sexual harassment. In a win for rights advocates, in June 2021, the Malaysian Ministry of Education announced it would be revising its complaint procedure for sexual harassment in schools, and that it would hold training sessions with teachers and counsellors on sexual harassment. The policy changes were announced after appeals from civil society, including WLP Malaysia/AWAM's advocacy campaign #MakeSchoolASaferPlace, calling for the Malaysian government to respond to sexual violence in schools.



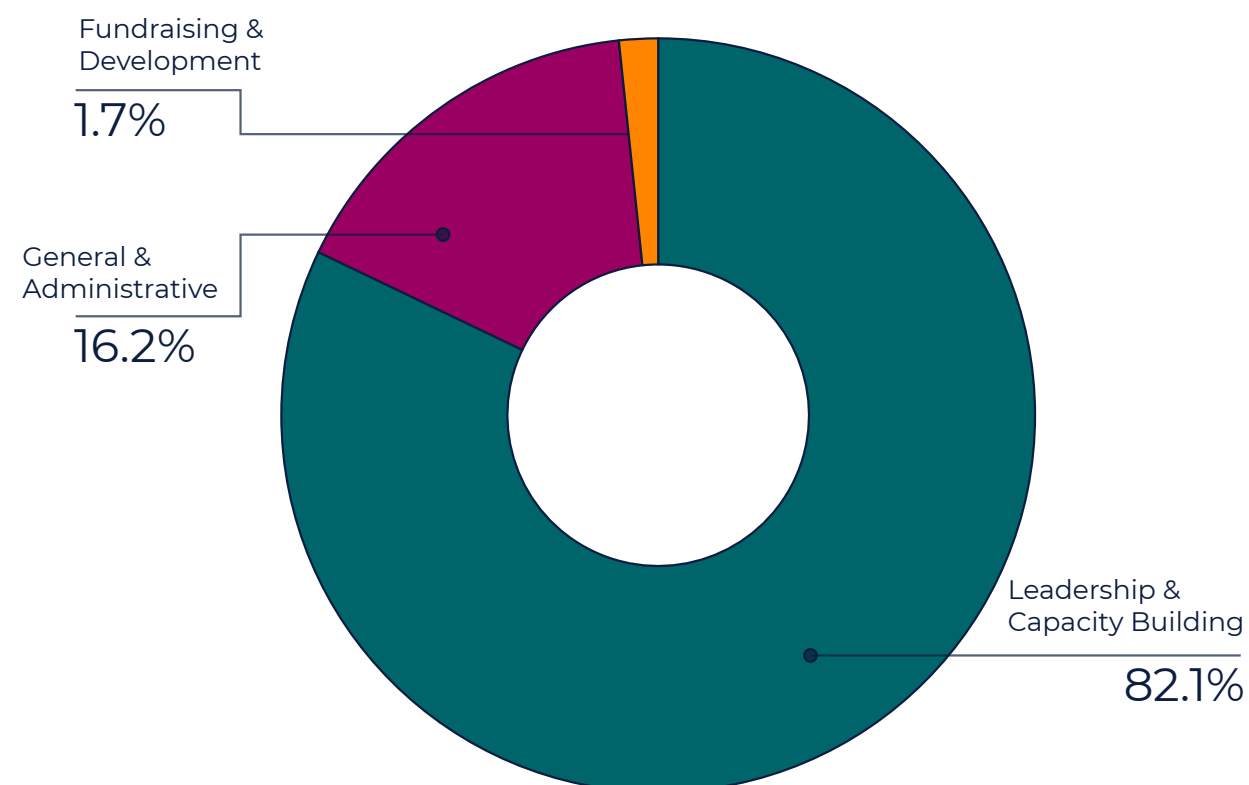
ADVOCACY | BRAZIL

WLP Brazil/CEPIA carried out a successful campaign to educate the members of the Supreme Federal Court about the rights at risk when a government censors what educators can teach about gender and sexuality. In the capacity of amicus curiae, CEPIA provided briefs to the Court condemning legislation that violated freedom of speech and of thought relating to sex and sexuality. In March 2021, CEPIA's advocacy campaign contributed to the Court's finding that such legislation is unconstitutional.

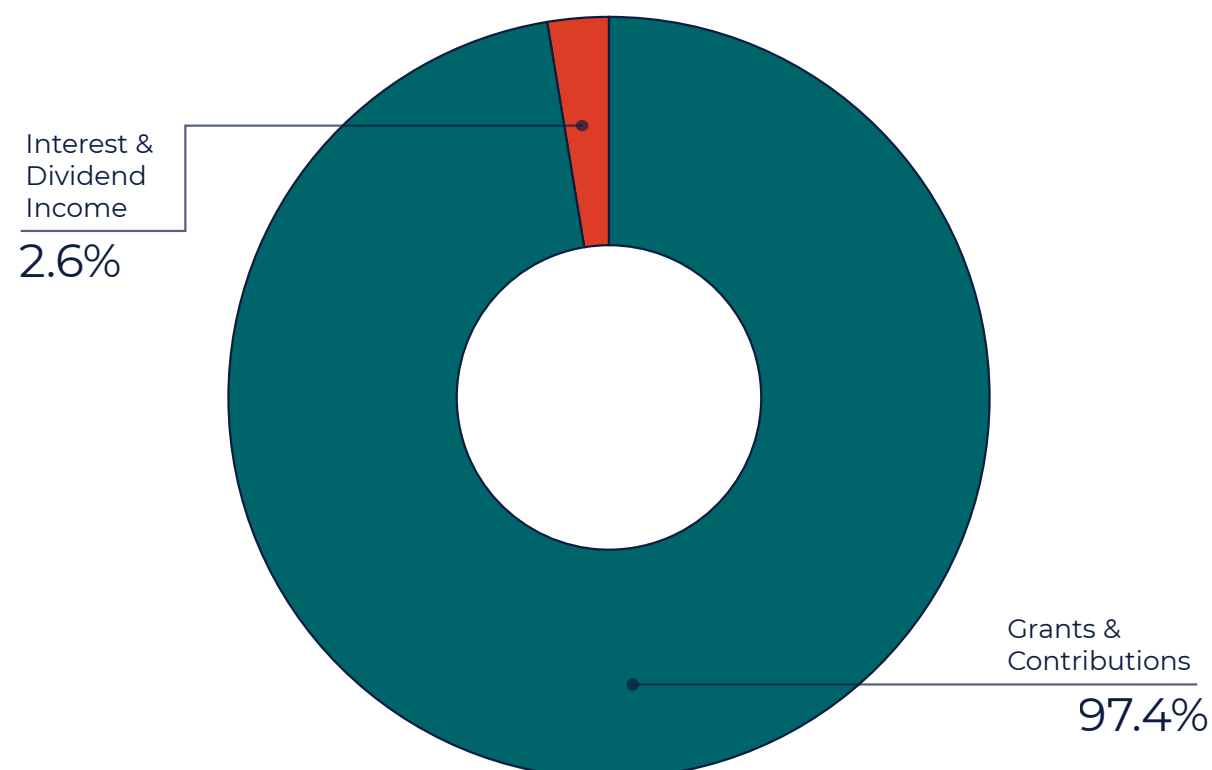
FISCAL YEAR 2021 Finances

July 1, 2020–June 30, 2021

FY2021 Expenses Total | \$1,302,767.00



FY2021 Revenues Total | \$1,484,178.00



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