

## About Connective Paths

### Who we are and what we do

The Connective Paths Foundation (CPF) is a nonprofit, non-stock, non-governmental organisation (NGO) registered in the Netherlands. **We aim to share the power with our partners working closest to the communities.**

We envision an international development sector wherein **NGOs and community-based organisations (CBOs) from the global south have access to more equitable grant partnerships that support community-led change**, and wherein they also have greater freedom and capacity to choose their development partners. This means that Connective Paths provides an alternative to current practices that have led to short-term, donor-driven and project-based funding.

Therefore, our Mission is to facilitate the use of international development assistance for community-led change that:

- ⇒ **increases aid effectiveness and relevance;**
- ⇒ **is rooted in listening and learning, and;**
- ⇒ **shifts and shares the power and decision-making to the communities in the global south.**

Connective Paths is a resource and grant facility that models participatory grantmaking through long-term and flexible partnerships with grassroots organisations

It also provides advisory and organisation development services to international NGOs (INGOs), donor agencies and United Nations (UN) offices on how to implement more equitable partnerships through 5 dimensions of equity:

- collaborative **roles and responsibilities** between global south and global north NGOs
- equitable access to **resources**
- shared **decision-making**
- **prevention of exploitation, abuse and violence** in the aid sector, including violence against local women by international staff
- advancing the **strategic interests of global south** NGOs, CBOs and communities



We have developed and are currently testing specific approaches, tools and methods to truly co-design, co-implement and co-evaluate with our partners and the communities.

## Our core activities

CPF's work is focused on catalysing Community-led Change. We do this through:

- ✎ **Participatory Grantmaking**—we are modelling an approach that shares the power with our partners by ‘walking the talk’, sharing decision-making, resources as well as the recognition with the grassroots partners and communities we serve
- ✎ **Organisation Development**—we have a long-term capacity development plan for our grassroots partners that is based on their priorities and is focused on how they can sustain their organisation and build CSO movements to sustain empowerment
- ✎ **Action Research and Advocacy**—we are merging global evidence with grassroots experience to **operationalise equitable partnerships**, documenting the challenges we face in putting community-led change into practice, and innovating to strengthen our empowerment approach and influence other donors. **We also advocate and provide advice on how international NGOs (INGOs), UN Agencies and donor partners can support the decolonisation of aid, beyond just research and rhetoric.**

Central to our approach is operationalising the principles of co-design, modeling co-implementation and pioneering co-evaluation approaches throughout the grantmaking process. What this means in practice is CPF ensures that the women's NGOs and CBOs receiving grants have the best chance of success with their initiatives. Through long-term partnerships that include systematic organisation development approaches, the grantees are supported to gain measurable institutional capacities in order to sustain their work towards their mission and serving the communities.

## 1. Strengthen Institutional Capacities

With a focus on women's rights organisations and community-based organisations (CBOs) in the global south, we aim to strengthen institutional capacities in **5 skill areas**:



Project management, financial management and increasing organisation effectiveness



Resource mobilisation and fundraising



Gender analysis, mainstreaming and inclusion strategy development



Using and generating research and data for evidence-based social norm change



Advocacy, local governance and community mobilising

CPF funds co-created solutions to accelerate progress towards gender equality and the [SDG 2030 Agenda](#) together with women's NGOs and CBOs—with a focus on reaching the most under-resourced and underrepresented grassroots women and community-based organisations in lower middle-income countries.

## 2. Support Community-led Solutions

Addressing the most important development priorities identified by and with the NGOs, CBOs and communities in the global south, we work in 5 issue areas:



Women's health, rights and empowerment



Community well-being and poverty alleviation



Violence-free households and communities



Healthy and participatory democracy



Community philanthropy and volunteerism

### Our core values

- 💡 **Community Empowerment:** We believe in the power of local voices and capacities, and we focus on strategies for communities to lead and shape their own future.
- 💛 **Equitable Partnership:** Partnership is at the heart of everything we do, ensuring shared resources and decision-making, shared recognition, and shared success!
- 🌍 **Sustainability:** We are dedicated to fostering long-term solutions with long-term partners that benefit people and the planet.
- 🗣️ **Inclusivity:** Every voice matters. We champion equity and ensure diverse perspectives are heard.
- 🌟 **Trust-Based:** We nurture have trust-based relationships, prioritising open and honest discussions and processes that guide our actions and decision-making.

## Our results in 2022 and 2023

### 2022 Results

The leadership and achievements of the women and their communities (results in numbers)

#### **IPG Voter's Education**

##### A. Educators Training for Voters Education

A two (2) day Educators Training was held on May 4 and 5, 2022 at the UP Hotel in Diliman, Quezon City. The Voters Educators Training was attended by 18 youth leaders (5-female and 13-male), from PINASAMA (Parents Initiative for Social Awareness Mainstreaming Advocacy) from Barangays Commonwealth, Batasan Hills in Quezon City and Brgy. Merville, Parañaque City,

The Training aimed to:

- Discuss and deliberate the future of democracy work after the May 9, 2022;
- Consolidate best practices in voter education and vote conversion;
- Provide tips and materials for get-out the vote (GOTV) strategies/facilitate GOTV plan Develop post-election action plan.

B. Knowledge Material: Comics on Disinformation - A knowledge material in comics form was produced for online and on the ground campaign. The comics focused on how to counter disinformation. For the online material, IPG partnered with Center for Youth Advocacy and Networking (CYAN) and First Time Voters Campaign via their social media platforms for distribution. For the printed material, given the limited quantity, it was distributed to different organizations with instructions that the comics will be passed around and the contents be re-echoed in their community campaign

## SiSTER Programme

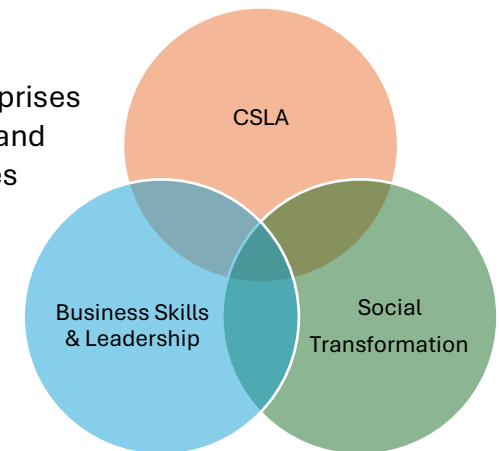


The SiSTER Programme ultimately aims to improve the wellbeing of women and their families by:

1. increasing family income and savings to improve their resilience during socio-economic shocks;
2. increasing women's participation in household decision-making; and
3. preventing violence against women and children (VAWC) and HIV and AIDS.

## Our Triple Approach

1. CSLA DEVELOPMENT - *community savings and loans associations* (CSLA)\* in urban poor communities
2. WOMEN'S BUSINESS SKILLS TRAINING for women to develop and manage small grassroots business enterprises
3. SOCIAL EMPOWERMENT to transform harmful gender and social norms that perpetuate gender inequality and violence against women and children (VAWC), and increase risk for HIV and AIDS in urban poor communities



#### A. Submission of accreditation documents to local development council or LGU (presentation, courtesy introduction, women and DRR)

There are six organizations were chosen based on their geographical areas and they are all active members of SOFP. They are now connected with their Local Disaster Risk Reduction Management Office (LDRRMO) to be able to get the accreditation and be part of the City or Municipality interventions on disasters and other programs addressing climate crises.

- |   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| 1. Abante Kababayenan Han Maslog                  | – Samar              |
| 2. Aktibong Samahan ng Kababaihan sa Pabahay 2000 | – SJDM, Bulacan      |
| 3. Camire Papular Association                     | – Leyte              |
| 4. Dampa Southville Kababaihan Organisasyon       | – Laguna             |
| 5. MGT Federation                                 | – Quezon City        |
| 6. Settling Neighborhood Association              | – Norzagaray Bulacan |

#### B. Training of Trainers (TOT) on Strengthening Grassroots Women’s Leadership in Disaster Resilience Through Savings and Food Banking December 10-13, 2022

#### C. Development of CSLA Training Programme

## 2023 Results

### SISTER Programme

#### Q1 2023

- A. Conducted CSLA capacity building training for grassroots women members last 24 January 2023
- B. Round Table Discussion University Hotel UP Diliman Quezon City 21st February 2023

**Q2 2023** - Monitoring of CSLA groups - COs conducted visits to the CSLA, monitored group chats and conducted online meetings with the CSLAs; mentoring as the groups are just starting on their CSLA.

**Q3 2023** - Monitoring of CSLA groups - COs conducted visits to the CSLA, monitored group chats and conducted online meetings with the CSLAs; mentoring as the groups are just starting on their CSLA.

**Q4 2023** - Provided G-Best Community Training for 6 CSLAs. There is a realization that G-BEST training manual needs to be revised and be presented to member communities in a light manner;

## Our financial position

Financial statements (see separate documents)