The OECD has recognized that a robust growth economy depends on gender equality. Countries are simply more likely to prosper if they enable women to live and work on a level playing field.

Ending violence and discrimination against women will also have a significant impact on defusing conflict around the world. There is a direct connection between gender equality and global peace – peace agreements are 20% more likely to last two years when women are part of the peace process. However, many peace negotiations have no women at the table at all.

The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action is the most progressive blueprint ever for gender equality, but as the United Nations itself has recognized in reviewing its implementation, progress has been unacceptably slow and recognition of gender equality as a global priority has not translated to real change in the lives of women and girls.

Donor Direct Action connects front line women's rights activists to donors around the world, capitalizing on the new power of collective fundraising, media and internet outreach to mobilize international solidarity and support. Using its well-established global networks and expertise based on decades of experience, Donor Direct Action selects partners on the basis of their strong leadership and greater potential systemic impact. These front line leaders have vision and courage but lack access to the resources they need to effect change for women in their country.

After five years, Donor Direct Action has thirteen partners in Afghanistan, DR Congo, Kenya, Latvia, Libya, Nepal, Nigeria, Palestine, Somalia, South Africa and Syria. Each partner is vetted in accordance with applicable U.S. laws, and provides annual financial reports and regular program updates.

Grants are generally unrestricted to enable groups to identify and pursue their own program planning priorities and organizational development. This approach puts the power directly in the hands of the group, which is where it has the greatest impact.

As of December 2015, Donor Direct Action had raised ***$1,190,395*** from ***943*** donors in ***41*** countries for our partners. Each year, as more people learn about Donor Direct Action, the amount of incoming funds and outgoing grants increases. In August 2015, DDA crossed the ***$1 million threshold***. Amounts donated, tax-deductible for US-based donors, range from a few dollars to tens of thousands of dollars. ***90% of these funds*** - and in some cases 100% - ***were directly re-granted*** to our partners, trusted local women's groups around the world.