

2014 Civil Society Exchange Program

Grant Type: Dollar

Grant Amount: For 20 exchanges, a total of \$128,121; average exchange grant is \$6,406

Organization: The Nexus Fund

What was the objective of your grant or initiative?

The mission of The Nexus Fund is to support the global community to end mass atrocities by providing resources to strengthen civil society and by facilitating meaningful connections.

The Civil Society Exchange Program allows practitioners to spend up to 2 months embedded in other organizations around the world. There, they can share knowledge, build and strengthen skills, and work on joint projects to prevent mass atrocities.

What was your approach?

With this program, we aim to empower individuals with much-needed skills and experiences to improve their efforts at preventing mass atrocities in their communities, and build a thriving global community of practice by connecting practitioners—with diverse backgrounds and experiences—around the world.

The Civil Society Exchange Program encourages collaboration and coordination from the start. The participant, home organization, and host organization work together to identify needs and goals, and to craft a work plan for the exchange.

What were the outsized results?

The Civil Society Exchange Program has yielded overwhelmingly positive outcomes, such as allowing participants to build meaningful relationships, and it has continued the process of creating a true global community for atrocity prevention.

Some outcomes include:

- Participants in 29 countries on five continents
- Improved reintegration practices for ex-child soldiers in Liberia
- Citizen reporters in Burundi taught to effectively share early warning information

Many exchanges have catalyzed even larger projects, such as:

- Formation of a civil society network between women in Darfur and Iraqi Kurdistan
- Creation of an atrocity prevention toolkit for members of the Coalition for the International Criminal Court
- Building of a Latin American network and road map to prevent mass atrocities

The dissemination of these outcomes within the larger atrocity prevention community further outsizes the impact of the Civil Society Exchange Program.

