



Summary of First Cohort of Grantees (2024)

This year the Colmena Fund started its grantmaking journey by launching the call for proposals Strengthening Support for Women Political Leaders in the 2024 Super Election Year. This limited call for proposals supports organisations experienced in working directly with women political leaders in context in which there has been gains though electoral processes in 2024. Six proposals were selected after a competitive process. The projects selected seek to secure gains made in terms of advancing democracies and the political representation of women in all their diversity. The projects cover a wide range of geographical areas: Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Jordan, Kenya, Mexico, South Africa, Thailand, Tunisia and West Africa with a focus on Senegal. Some projects seek to combat tech enabled violence against women in politics, while others are supporting those at the beginning of their political careers or already in elected positions. Projects emphasize supporting diverse and historically marginalised communities such as LGBT+ and afro descendant women; and employ a number of interventions including coalition building, training programs or development of tech tools. This call for proposals also sought to develop alternative narratives that build on hope. Such narratives show that despite the many challenges that the world faces, gains are being made and that in many contexts women in all their diversity are a pro-democratic force.

Associacao Mais LGBT (VoteLGBT) - Brazil: The project will focus on combating gendered political violence against LGBT women active in politics across **Brazil, Argentina, and Mexico**. They aim to secure and expand the gains of elected LGBT women by addressing the continuum of violence they face, both online and offline. One of the activities will include using an innovative AI Sentinela tool, which will be central to monitoring incidents of violence against LGBT+ women in politics.

Progressive Movement Foundation - Thailand: Project will create a Women's Leader Academy to nurture and empower a new generation of young women leaders at both local and national levels of politics. It will include interdisciplinary training and mentoring programs to equip women with the necessary skills, knowledge, and confidence to design gender responsive policies, influence public policy and drive social change, while also offering practical fieldwork opportunities to apply learned concepts in real-world scenarios with support to ensure their access to the program.

Karama Network - Jordan and Tunisia: The project will facilitate alliances between women parliamentarians and young parliamentarians. Building the capacity of parliamentarians on women's rights and human rights principles and approaches. This will include, for example: a) training and establishing committees with women parliamentarians and civil society for knowledge-exchange and collaboration. b) Facilitating dialogues between men and women parliamentarians on women's rights and human rights principles and opportunities for collaboration. c) Supporting youth outreach around political engagement – and women's political leadership in particular, and women's rights and human rights. d) Building informed, engaged constituencies, including representatives of marginalized groups.





Colmena fund

for Women's Political Power

POLLICY - West Africa: The proposed project aims to advance women's political leadership by creating safe and empowering spaces for women politicians to share their experiences, strategize against the unique challenges they face, and thrive in their roles. It will advance collaboration and community engagement to end online violence against women in politics (OVAW-P) in its many manifestations including gendered disinformation, misinformation and hate speech, which are significant barriers to women's political participation and leadership. It will involve a set of interventions, including: a) evidence based learning using social media analytics, establishing community led infrastructure for elected and aspiring women leaders to support women facing online violence. b) Develop Interactive technology resilience products c) creative advocacy campaigns to foster cultural narrative change.

FutureElect - South Africa, Kenya: The project - African Women in Public Office - will strengthen and amplify the voices of women and non-binary individuals in political leadership across Southern and East Africa by preparing them to seek political office or to join the public service as political appointees. It shall focus on non-partisan interdisciplinary leadership development and training to equip 200 young women and non-binary individuals intending to run for political office with the necessary gender-responsive skills, knowledge, information and networks to maneuver their political systems and environment.

Center of Afro Costa-Rican Women in partnership with Afro Caracolas - Costa Rica, Mexico and Dominican Republic: This project aims to strengthen the political leadership of Afro-feminist women through three fundamental axes: political communication, discourse development and the strengthening of strategic alliances. These axes seek to empower Afro-feminist leaders, providing them with the necessary tools for their political and social development.

