

Global Giving

Making a World of Difference



The Philanthropic Initiative

The Philanthropic Initiative (TPI) is a nonprofit advisory firm that helps companies, foundations, families and individuals find innovative ways to maximize the impact of their giving. Working around the globe, we partner with clients to create, implement and evaluate customized philanthropic strategies. Since 1989, we've directed more than one billion philanthropic dollars and influenced billions more on behalf of our clients.

TPI is also committed to actively promoting and advancing strategic philanthropy. We conduct cutting edge research and train individuals, organizations, and advisors in best practices. Through TPI's Center for Global Philanthropy, we partner with experts, government and nonprofit leaders to build cultures and systems that embrace and support effective social investing. Our promotional work informs our advising work – to the benefit of our clients and the global philanthropic community.

Overview

“The global agenda has never been so varied, so pressing, or so complex. It demands of the international community new approaches, new resources, and new commitments of political will.”

– KOFI ANNAN UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY GENERAL

A growing number of donors are seeking ways to address issues and problems beyond their borders. Why? What motivates them? How can these donors have the maximum impact on issues they care about overseas? What institutions are out there to help them? What are the legal and tax constraints on their giving? This primer attempts to answer these and other questions. The stories that follow are composites that illustrate possibilities for giving globally. While some of them illustrate concepts applicable to global giving in general, the specific issues and consequences discussed are based on U.S. tax laws and will vary depending on applicable law or the specific charitable mechanisms used. Readers, therefore, should consult with their legal and/or tax advisors concerning their particular circumstances.

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What Exactly is “Global Philanthropy”?

“Global philanthropy” refers to the investment of private philanthropic resources without regard to national boundaries. Often, it refers to strategic investments that address issues of world poverty and social injustice. These philanthropic investments target the interrelated set of issues implicated in poverty and social injustice, e.g., health, education, the environment, human security, and human rights. While such investments can support U.S. organizations, international giving increasingly provides support to NGOs (non-governmental organizations) in other countries.

In recent years, an infrastructure has emerged to promote and respond to donors’ global interests and facilitate global giving. Resources to support the global giver include a wide range of giving mechanisms, as well as internationally focused educational and networking opportunities.

Why Might I Be Interested in Giving Globally?

As in all philanthropy, the motivations for global giving are many. Such motivations and social concerns include:

- **Global crises.** Historically, much international giving has been triggered by global calamities that include natural disasters and civil conflicts and which result in the displacement and increased vulnerability of large numbers of people. Natural disasters such as the Asian tsunami in 2004 and the Haiti earthquake of 2010 produced enormous philanthropic responses. Ethnic conflicts such as that in Afghanistan also generated high levels of private humanitarian assistance. Even donors who normally confine giving to the U.S. will often make emergency donations in such situations. And while humanitarian and disaster relief assistance is often limited to a specific crisis, many donors develop longer-term interests in international issues and challenges.
- **Global inequity.** Increasingly, many donors are driven by the strong desire to address the vast inequities that exist in a resource-rich world. Imagine if our world were shrunk to a village of 100 people: 34 would earn less than one dollar a day; 70 would be unable to read; 56 would lack access to basic sanitation. Conversely: one would have a college education; seven would have access to the Internet. For many, such disparities represent unacceptable levels of inequality and constitute a moral imperative that drives their philanthropy.
- **Global community.** The greatest portion of philanthropic giving has historically supported issues and organizations with which the donor has a personal connection, knowledge and understanding. But globalization has blurred the distinction of what is local, domestic or international. Business and personal travel have introduced many people directly to other countries, cultures and world issues. The number of transnational citizens with homes—and giving priorities—in both the United States and their home county is rapidly increasing. The Internet and multiple communication channels have connected us to the rest of the world in an unprecedented way. Such connections are changing many donors' sense of "community" as they consider their philanthropic investments.

A MODEST GRANT
CAN HAVE A
TREMENDOUS IMPACT,
PARTICULARLY IN
A SMALL COMMUNITY
EXISTING ON THE EDGE
OF POVERTY.

Why Might I Be Interested in Giving Globally?

continued

- **Global threats.** Global philanthropy is also driven by the realization that many of the world's problems threaten the health and security of all people and nations, regardless of location or economy. Environmental degradation—e.g., acid rain and global warming—first may appear as a local condition, only later revealing their global consequences. Epidemics such as HIV/AIDS, and infectious diseases—tuberculosis and malaria, for instance—travel swiftly. Escalating ethnic conflicts threaten world peace. Increasingly, donors understand that global problems require global solutions and resources.
- **Global interdependence.** Many donors believe that global interdependence demands global social responsibility. Globalization of the economy has affected individuals in all countries and in every economic stratum. For a fortunate minority, the globalization of commerce has produced enormous wealth. But a vast percentage of the world's population has either been left out of the process or has been adversely affected by it. A growing number of concerned world citizens are espousing the view that globalization must be matched by a commensurate social imperative, the imperative to invest internationally.
- **Global opportunity.** Some large foundations have been investing globally for many years. But smaller foundations and individual donors without organizational support have found this frontier more challenging. In the last decade, there has been substantial development of the infrastructure to support and effectively use international resources. In the United States, many new organizations have emerged to facilitate giving to specific issues and geographical areas. Moreover, the last 20 years have witnessed enormous growth in the global nonprofit sector. Changes in government policy and cutbacks in government services, as well as the external effects of globalization and technical aid, have led to the establishment of thousands of new nonprofit organizations. This global infrastructure is making international giving easier, more effective, and more cost efficient.
- **Global leverage.** It is a simple fact that the charitable dollar goes much further in most countries—especially countries in the developing world—than it does in the United States. A modest grant can have a tremendous impact, particularly in a small community existing on the edge of poverty. A grant to an organization with few sources of local funding can make a critical difference. The personal connection with individuals in other countries and cultures also can be very fulfilling and edifying. Thus, for donors who seek the maximum impact, developing countries offer an excellent opportunity to practice their philanthropy.

What are My Giving Options? How Can I Get Involved in Global Philanthropy?

As interest in international giving has increased, the number and variety of global giving mechanisms have multiplied, with traditional “giving vehicles” augmented by new approaches, models and structures. There are now dozens of mechanisms through which donors can legally and effectively practice international philanthropy.

THE RANGE OF MECHANISMS INCLUDE:

- U.S.-based NGOs operating their own programs overseas
- Funding intermediaries
- “Friends-of” organizations
- Private foundations
- Donor-advised funds
- E-philanthropy sites
- Community foundations
- Direct gifts to overseas NGOs through private foundations

Of note, an increasing number of organizations—often referred to as “funding” or “umbrella” intermediaries—have been established specifically to facilitate funding of overseas organizations. These mechanisms are discussed in the questions that follow, with examples included.

WHY MIGHT I WISH TO GIVE THROUGH A U.S.-BASED NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION OR NGO?

Many U.S.-based organizations operate their own international programs, most often in partnership with nonprofit organizations in other countries. Established organizations with admirable track records are addressing such issues as poverty reduction, health, education, children, and the environment. This type of international giving may appeal to the donor who wants to support a particular issue, regardless of whether the money supports a domestic or foreign organization.

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What are My Giving Options? How Can I get Involved in Global Philanthropy?

continued

TYPICALLY,
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AND EXPERTISE
ON ISSUES AND /OR
GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS,
AS WELL AS GUIDING
THE DONOR THROUGH
INTERNATIONAL
GRANTMAKING.

WHEN SHOULD I CONSIDER USING A “FRIENDS-OF” ORGANIZATION TO MAKE A CROSS-BORDER GIFT?

If a U.S. donor wants to support a particular overseas institution, the “friends-of” organization is a recognized vehicle for doing so. Such organizations are domestic 501(c)(3) entities established to provide a means through which the donor can support a specific foreign organization and still receive a U.S. tax deduction. Over the last decade there has been enormous growth in the number of “friends-of” organizations; currently, there are over 350 such groups in the United States. Many of these organizations support leading universities, hospitals, and arts and cultural institutions. However, as individual nonprofits outside the U.S. develop positive reputations, the range of issues that can be supported in this way is growing.

WHAT IS A “FUNDING INTERMEDIARY,” AND WHY MIGHT I WISH TO USE ONE?

A growing number of highly regarded U.S.-based organizations help global investors support issues and organizations in other countries by regrating philanthropic funds to overseas NGOs. Because the gift to an intermediary is first directed to a domestic charity, donors’ gifts are tax deductible.

Many intermediaries focus on a specific global issue, e.g., children-at-risk, the environment, or micro-enterprise. Others focus on a particular geographical area. Typically, intermediaries offer knowledge and expertise on issues and/or geographical areas, as well as guiding the donor through international grantmaking. They usually have their own “on-the-ground” infrastructure and/or international networks and provide donors with the assurance that funds are regranted to reliable organizations.

While funding intermediaries share a common role, their approaches differ widely. Questions that donors might wish to consider before utilizing an intermediary include:

- To what extent are individual donors involved in determining how funds are regranted?
- What is the relationship between the donor and the ultimate grant recipient? Does the intermediary encourage or facilitate direct contact and significant partnerships?
- How are organizations and projects identified?
- What kind of due diligence is undertaken?
- What investment model is used?
- How are grants monitored and evaluated?

FUNDING INTERMEDIARIES: **Global Fund For Children**

Half of the world's population is less than 25 years old, and far too many of these young people live in poverty. In the next ten years, one billion children will be born, the vast majority of them in the developing world. How their fundamental needs will be met is very much in question. Shelter, food, and health aside, many of these children will be vulnerable to illiteracy, violence, drug use, and economic exploitation. The situation is dire.

In 1994, the Global Fund for Children (www.globalfundforchildren.org) was founded as a grant-making intermediary, seeking to advance the dignity of children and youth around the world. The Global Fund for Children (GFC) focuses its grantmaking on four strategic areas: learning, safety enterprise, and healthy minds and bodies. As a registered US nonprofit organization, gifts to the Global Fund for Children (GFC) are fully tax deductible to US donors. GFC employs a rigorous grantee selection process, working to ensure that donors' contributions fund innovative and well-managed community-based programs.

An example of one of the programs GFC has supported is "escuelas deporte y vida", or sports and life schools (<http://www.escuelasdeporteyvida.org>), a program in the poor squatter settlement of villa El Salvador, Peru, that serves students between the ages of 6 and 15. The program attracts children with the chance to play soccer, and in addition provides them with after-school tutoring, a library, and music, theater and crafts classes to help develop teamwork, self-esteem, and important life skills. "deporte y vida" has become a model for replication for sports and social development programs in communities around the world.

What are My Giving Options? How Can I Get Involved in Global Philanthropy?

continued

SEVERAL
COMMUNITY
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HAVE RECENTLY
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PARTNERSHIPS
WITH INTERNATIONAL
ORGANIZATIONS.

IS IT TRUE THAT DONOR-ADVISED FUNDS AT CERTAIN PUBLIC CHARITIES CAN BE USED AS VEHICLES FOR MAKING GRANTS ABROAD?

Yes. Donor advised funds—essentially, dedicated funds attached to a public charity—are increasingly being employed for international giving. While donor advised funds are still most commonly found at community foundations, in the last 20 years a number of other public charities have begun creating and offering such funds. They include: funds associated with major mutual fund companies (e.g., Fidelity, Vanguard, Schwab), universities, United Ways, Combined Jewish Philanthropies, and women’s funds. In addition, a number of U.S. non profit organizations and intermediaries offer donor advised funds to support activities related to their principal area of programmatic focus.

Donor advised funds are attractive to many donors because of (1) the immediate tax-deductibility of the gift to the fund, and (2) their administrative convenience—the public charity that is home to the fund assumes all the administrative responsibilities that would fall, e.g., to the family or staff of a private foundation. Gifts to donor advised funds are irrevocable and their investment is controlled by the public charity’s own money managers. Legally, the donor can recommend—but not require—that the charity make a grant to a specific grantee. In practice, most public charities almost always accede to the donor’s recommendations.

One potential advantage of a donor-advised fund over an “intermediary” (see above) in making global grants is that the former allows the donor to make substantial gifts today and then to recommend grants out of income and principal for many years thereafter.

While donor advised funds are appealing vehicles for global giving, they also have some limitations. Many public charities that are home to donor-advised funds do not allow grants to non-U.S. charities. Moreover, with some notable exceptions, many of the host charities have little or no experience with international grantmaking. Few have subject area expertise in issues affecting developing countries.

And virtually none have overseas staff or networks to identify high-quality and suitable NGOs outside the United States, or to provide much in the way of due diligence or program evaluation. That said, more and more public charities that host donor advised funds are forging partnerships with intermediaries expert in global giving. The landscape of global giving intermediaries is changing.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS AND GLOBAL GIVING: **The Seattle Foundation**

Both by practice and purpose, and sometimes by limitation in their articles of incorporation, community foundations have historically supported issues and organizations in a locally defined geographical area. But many donors have an increasingly broad definition of the concept of “community”. In cities with significant diaspora populations, for instance, many donors wish to “give back” to their home country/communities. For others, business relationships, personal and professional travel, and multiple and rapid global communication channels have strengthened connections to the rest of the world. And for some, growing global interdependence simply demands greater global responsibility.

A growing number of community foundations are creating innovative ways to assist donors with their International philanthropy. By way of example, The Seattle Foundation (TSF) (www.seattlefoundation.org) has revised its articles of incorporation to allow the foundation to make grants around the world. The impetus for this change was increased donor interest in global giving. One donor family created a “supporting organization” (a hybrid organization that resembles a cross between a private foundation and a donor advised fund) at TSF focused on raising the profile of local organizations working globally. It is also funding leadership and capacity development projects in Central America (see Seattle International Foundation: www.seaif.org). The Seattle Foundation still maintains its primary focus on the local community, but it also offers advice on international giving, due diligence, grantmaking support, and a donor interest group that meets quarterly to discuss various international topics. TSF recently initiated a partnership with six other U.S. community foundations to explore the potential of creating a global giving network that would support community foundations with their international giving. The Philanthropic Initiative, Inc. is serving as the lead consultant on the project, which is supported by funding from a Council on Foundations’ CFLT Idea Lab grant and the Seattle International Foundation.

What are My Giving Options? How Can I Get Involved in Global Philanthropy?

continued

I HEARD THAT E-PHILANTHROPY – USING THE WEB AND THE NET TO MAKE CHARITABLE GIFTS – IS A USEFUL TOOL FOR GLOBAL GIVING. HOW DOES THAT WORK?

For donors who wish to be closely involved with a project but cannot make international site visits, the “linking” opportunities provided by global e-philanthropy are appealing.

The Internet is a powerful medium, linking people around the globe at little or no cost and building “communities” based on shared ideals and interests. This broad reach positions the Internet as a tool with enormous potential for global philanthropy.

Several e-philanthropy sites allow donors to identify, review, and select specific projects to fund. These sites often provide considerable detail about the project’s leadership, budget requirements, and expected outcomes. Some sites also offer opportunities for direct contact between the donor and grantee.

E-PHILANTHROPY: GlobalGiving

GlobalGiving (www.globalgiving.org) is an online marketplace that connects donors directly to social, economic development, and environmental projects around the world. To facilitate the connection between these giving opportunities and interested donors, GlobalGiving pre-screens projects and conducts extensive due diligence reviews before inviting them to participate in an “open challenge” event, in which they must meet a certain number and amount of donations to earn a permanent space on the website. Using searches by topic or location, donors can browse over 700 grassroots charity projects around the world and choose projects that match their particular interests.

GlobalGiving guarantees that at least 85% of every donation is in use within 60 days, and therefore has an immediate and direct impact. All donations are for specific projects only, and not for general support of an organization, and can be refunded by globalgiving if for any reason the donor is dissatisfied with their donation. Once donors make their contribution, they receive regular updates on the effects of their gift through progress reports posted on the GlobalGiving website every 3-4 months.

An example of GlobalGiving’s work includes “education scholarships for child laborers” in india (www.globalgiving.org/projects/endchildlabor/), a project run by Lotus Outreach that provides migrant child laborers in rural india with enrollment kits so that they can begin attending public school. The project provides families with the uniforms, fees, and school supplies they are unable to afford, and that are needed in order to enroll their children in school. GlobalGiving has connected the project with hundreds of donors worldwide to help reach their funding goal.

CAN I MAKE DIRECT CROSS-BORDER GIFTS? WHAT ARE THE LEGAL AND TAX CONSIDERATIONS INVOLVED IN DOING SO?

Whether one is an individual donor or the trustee of a private foundation, the simplest vehicle for practicing philanthropy across international borders is through a U.S. charity, a U.S. intermediary organization, or a U.S. donor-advised fund. That said, individuals and private foundations may also make direct gifts to overseas NGOs, although such gifts are not tax deductible for individuals.

- **Anti-terrorism guidelines.** First a word of caution for both individual donors and private foundations. In the years since the terrorist events of September 11, 2001, U.S. law has barred both individuals and other entities (e.g., foundations) from engaging in transactions with domestic or foreign entities considered to be terrorists. While this prohibition should not deter direct international gifts, it should prompt donors to assess risk, conduct adequate due diligence, and to be aware of the voluntary anti-terrorism guidelines set out by the U.S. government. Before making a gift across international borders it is strongly recommended that both individuals and private foundations do the following:

- Ensure that there are no sanctions against the country where the gift or grant will be made.

Visit: www.ustreas.gov/offices/enforcement/ofac/programs/

- Ensure that the recipient organization is not on the U.S. Government's main terrorism list.

Visit: www.treas.gov/offices/enforcement/ofac/sdn/t11sdn.pdf

In addition, private foundations especially should consider whether additional due diligence steps are prudent. See the Council on Foundation's (www.cof.org) or the Association of Small Foundation's (www.smallfoundations.org) on-line materials regarding potential additional anti-terror steps.

Can I Make Direct Cross-Border Gifts? What Are the Legal and Tax Considerations Involved in Doing So?

continued

- **Gifts by individuals.** Under U.S. tax law, individuals may take tax deductions for gifts to U.S. charities only. Despite this limitation, many individuals still choose to make gifts to overseas NGOs directly, forgoing the tax deduction because they believe strongly in the recipient's mission and/or in order to enjoy the disproportionately high impact of small gifts outside the United States.
- **Grants by private foundations.** If a private foundation chooses to make grants directly to non-U.S. organizations that are doing charitable work there are several things to keep in mind. As is the case with any 501(c)(3) tax-exempt entity, private foundations' international grantmaking activities must be in furtherance of their exempt purpose. This fundamental requirement can be thought of as having three basic components: (i) the organization's grants must be made for an exempt—i.e., charitable—purpose; (ii) reasonable care must be taken to ensure that the grantee can be trusted to use the funds for the intended charitable purpose and will be required to do so; and (iii) reasonable assurance must be obtained that in fact the grantee uses the funds for the intended charitable purpose.

In deciding whether and how to make a grant to a non-U.S. entity with a charitable purpose, a private foundation has the following options:

- (1) If the foreign grantee is large and well-established, determine whether the grantee has already obtained recognition by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) "public charity" (i.e., not a private foundation). If so, obtain a copy of the IRS letter.
- (2) If not an IRS-recognized public charity, does the foreign entity have a U.S.-based 501(c)(3) "Friends" organization that is not a private foundation? If so, a grant to the Friends organization will be a "qualifying distribution," i.e., it will be counted against the foundation's minimum annual distributable amount.

- (3) If the foreign entity does not have a Friends organization inquire whether the foreign entity already has an “Equivalency Determination” opinion or affidavit. If so, this document should be reviewed by counsel. If sufficient, this can be a basis for a determination by the foundation that the foreign entity is the equivalent of a 501(c)(3) public charity.
- (4) If the foundation believes that it will be making a continuing series of grants to a foreign entity that is not IRS-recognized, does not have a Friends organization, and does not have an Equivalency Determination opinion or affidavit, the foundation can follow the Equivalency Determination process with respect to the grantee entity. However, the Equivalency Determination process can be very difficult and time consuming, and it may also be the case that the foreign organization is not exclusively charitable in purpose, or that it more closely resembles a private foundation than a public charity.
- (5) In the circumstances described immediately above, private foundation funders often choose to exercise “Expenditure Responsibility.” To do so the donor must assume responsibility for ensuring that the grant is allocated to charitable purposes. The foundation should make a pre-grant inquiry to ensure that the grantee can fulfill the charitable purpose of the grant and then execute a grant agreement that commits the grantee to spend the funds for charitable purposes. Once the grant has been made, the donor should require that the funds be kept in a separate account, request one or more reports from the grantee on the use of the grant, and report the grant as an expenditure responsibility grant on Form 990-PF.

While direct grants may at first blush appear complicated, they need not be unduly burdensome. For additional information check with legal counsel or one of the associations of foundations referenced above.

Resources and Networking Opportunities

WHAT EDUCATIONAL AND NETWORKING RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE TO HELP ME IN BECOMING KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT GLOBAL GIVING?

The number of opportunities for education and networking is growing annually. Several “affinity groups”—groups of donors with similar philanthropic interests or focuses—provide access for donors with shared international interests to exchange knowledge and experience. Affinity groups also offer an opportunity for new donors to explore philanthropic investments in specific regions or on discrete issues. A handful of structured educational opportunities exist and increasingly, local and regional groups, including community foundations and grantmaker associations, are offering short seminars on international grantmaking. In addition, many new publications offer information and guidance on global philanthropy. Selected resources are listed on the following pages.

EDUCATIONAL AND NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

- **Council on Foundations, International Programs.** www.cof.org
Provides technical assistance, referrals, publications, and networking opportunities to donors interested in international giving.
- **Global Philanthropists Circle.** www.synergos.org
An initiative of the Synergos Institute, the GPC brings together families from around the world to investigate approaches to global poverty and inequity. GPC offers a space for members to exchange ideas, learn about successful initiatives, and meet leaders from government, business and civil society. Synergos also organizes workshops, seminars and trips.
- **Global Philanthropy Forum.** www.philanthropyforum.org
A project of the World Affairs Council of Northern California, the GPF aims to inform, enable, and expand the community of donors committed to international causes. Through its annual conferences, networking and learning opportunities, and website, the GPF introduces donors to one another, to intermediaries, to foundation executives with tested strategies, and to other agents of change.
- **Grantmakers without Borders.** www.gwob.net
This funders’ network promotes international social change philanthropy. Members include trustees and staff of private and public foundations, individual donors, and donor-activists. The network offers peer-to-peer guidance on international grantmaking, network opportunities with other international donors, and travel seminars to introduce donors to grassroots social change efforts and global investment opportunities.
- **Hispanics in Philanthropy.** www.hiponline.org
This group, formed in collaboration with the Rockefeller Foundation, offers training and networking opportunities to donors interested in strategic philanthropy within the U.S. Hispanic community and Latin America.
- **Regional and local global giving forums.** Several cities have networks and giving circles for donors interested in global giving, offering opportunities for interaction with peers and global experts. Examples include the New England International Donors (NEID), the Chicago Global Donors Network, and the Pacific Northwest Global Donors group.

EXAMPLES OF FUNDING INTERMEDIARIES

- **Acumen Fund.** www.acumenfund.org
Established by independent philanthropists in collaboration with the Rockefeller and Cisco foundations, the Acumen Fund is pioneering a portfolio approach to philanthropy. Donors invest in issue-based portfolios that target root causes of global problems. Donors are linked with other social investors, experts, and innovators through Acumen's website. Acumen also measures and reports on investment results. Acumen's first two "portfolios" are in health technologies and global civil society.
- **American India Foundation.** www.aifoundation.org
AIF works with philanthropists in the United States and with NGOs to help accelerate social and economic change in India. AIF was founded in 2001, following the devastating earthquake in Gujarat, India. AIF now has chapters in several American cities.
- **Brazil Foundation.** www.brazilfoundation.org
The foundation mobilizes resources and talent to improve social conditions in Brazil. The Brazil Foundation encourages donations from individuals and socially responsible corporations in the United States and transfers them to social programs throughout Brazil in the areas of education, public health, human rights, citizenship and culture.
- **Charities Aid Foundation.** www.cafonline.org
CAF is a nonprofit organization dedicated to increasing the substance of philanthropy around the world. CAF offers a variety of resources to assist donors in the United States with opportunities to give directly to projects and NGOs in other countries.
- **GlobalGiving.** www.globalgiving.com
GlobalGiving aims to help people find grassroots development projects that meet their own or their company's strategic philanthropy objectives through a virtual marketplace. Started by two former World Bank staff members, GlobalGiving hopes to become what The New York Times calls "a bureaucracy-free 'perfect marketplace' – a bit like eBay, but with international development projects."
- **Give2Asia.** www.Give2Asia.org
This organization facilitates giving in Asia through a wide array of charitable strategies, including donor-advised funds, custom program design, issue or country funds, and support of evaluated and approved Asian NGOs.
- **Global Fund for Children.** www.globalfundforchildren.org
Founded in 1994, the Global Fund for Children makes grants to small, community-based organizations around the world, supporting initiatives such as informal education programs for street children, AIDS orphans and child laborers.
- **Global Fund for Women.** www.globalfundforwomen.org
The GFW raises and redistributes funds to seed, support, and strengthen women's rights groups around the world, addressing such critical issues as girls' access to education, violence prevention, and women's economic independence.
- **Global Greengrants Fund.** www.greengrants.org
The Fund strengthens the grassroots environmental movement in developing regions by making small grants to groups striving for environmental sustainability. Many grants support programs in impoverished areas where other funding sources are unavailable.
- **Virtual Foundation.** www.virtualfoundation.org
This foundation is an Internet-based philanthropy vehicle that allows donors to become actively involved with worldwide grassroots initiatives. Partners in Eastern Europe and Latin America identify community projects in the fields of health, the environment, and sustainable development. Donors can contribute to approved projects posted on the Web site, which also posts progress reports and offers mechanisms for donors to communicate with project representatives.

Resources and Networking Opportunities

continued

AFFINITY GROUPS
PROVIDE AN
OPPORTUNITY FOR
DONORS TO EXPLORE
PHILANTHROPIC
INVESTMENTS IN
SPECIFIC REGIONS OR
ON DISCRETE ISSUES.

AFFINITY GROUPS

Affinity groups provide a venue for donors with shared interests to gather together, share knowledge, learn collaboratively, and explore joint ventures. Many affinity groups are associated with the Council on Foundations. Affinity groups with an international focus include:

- **Africa Grantmakers Affinity Group** – www.africagrantmakers.org
- **Asian/Pacific Islanders in Philanthropy** – www.aapip.org
- **Environmental Grantmakers Association** – www.ega.org
- **Funders Network on Trade and Globalization** – www.fntg.org
- **Grantmakers in Health** – www.gih.org
- **International Funders for Indigenous Peoples** – www.firstpeoples.org
- **International Human Rights Funders Groups** – www.hrfunders.org
- **Peace and Security Funders Group** – www.peaceandsecurity.org
- **Women and Philanthropy** – www.womenphil.org
- **Women's Funding Network** – www.wfnet.org

RESOURCES FOR INTERNATIONAL GIVING

- ***Beyond Our Borders: A Guide to Making Grants Outside of the United States.*** John A. Edie and Jane C. Nobler. Published by the Council on Foundations (COF). www.cof.org
- ***International Dateline.*** Quarterly publication of COF covering a range of international and grantmaking issues. www.cof.org
- ***Global Giving Matters.*** A newsletter on innovative approaches to individual and family philanthropy. Produced jointly by Synergos and the World Economic Forum. www.synergos.org
- ***Global Social Investing: A Preliminary Overview.*** Paula Johnson, author. Published by The Philanthropic Initiative, Inc. www.tpi.org
- ***Grantmaking for the Global Village.*** Emmet Carson. www.cof.org

The Philanthropic Initiative (TPI) is a nonprofit advisory firm that helps companies, foundations, families and individuals find innovative ways to maximize the impact of their philanthropy.

Hired by clients to plan, implement and evaluate customized philanthropic strategies, TPI has invested in the advancement of strategic philanthropy – in the U.S. and across the globe – since 1989.

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Take a step towards more strategic philanthropy.
Leave a lasting mark.

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Together, we'll take your giving further.