

Ipas Partners for
Reproductive Justice

Impact Report 2023

BUILDING THE WORLD WE WANT



BUILDING THE WORLD WE WANT

Ipas's 2023 Impact Report shares results from Fiscal Year 2023: July 2022–June 2023.

Ipas works to advance reproductive justice by expanding access to abortion and contraception, using a comprehensive approach that addresses health, legal and social systems. We believe every person should have the right to bodily autonomy and be able to determine their own future. Across Africa, Asia and the Americas, we work with partners to ensure that reproductive health care, including abortion and contraception, are available and accessible to all.

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Ipas Partners for
Reproductive Justice

Cover photos from left to right: Leonel Estêvão for Ipas Moçambique;
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Building the world we want

We're living in a world with escalating conflicts and climate disasters, while efforts to undermine human rights and democracy are on the rise. In the United States, we're seeing the devastating impact of abortion bans on people's health and lives—while the ripple effect of Roe's repeal continues to embolden anti-rights actors around the world.

Yet despite all of this, I remain optimistic that together, we can build the world we want. The truth is that much of the world has embraced a vision of reproductive freedom for all—and a global movement of advocates is working hard to make that a reality. Ipas is a part of that movement, and we're uniquely positioned to help lead the way in these tumultuous times because of both our approach and the way we work.

Our approach: To build the world we want, Ipas has developed a comprehensive approach to expanding abortion access. We are so grateful to you as an Ipas supporter for joining us in partnership to make this work possible. In our 50 years as an organization, we've seen that solely focusing on one or two efforts like changing laws and training health workers doesn't guarantee abortion access for all. Instead, we need to think holistically. We consider what happens when an individual needs an abortion, and we follow them on every step of their path to uncover all the potential barriers standing in their way. Then we tackle each barrier with systemic solutions that expand abortion access for everyone.

For example, does a high level of abortion stigma in a community mean individuals face discrimination from family members or health workers? Then we'll work to reduce abortion stigma in multiple levels of society. Does a community lack information about reproductive health and abortion, causing individuals to feel unsure of their options or where to turn? Then we'll work to ensure education and accurate information are readily available and incorporated into school curricula. Our multi-faceted approach builds strong, sustainable support for abortion access throughout society and has proven to have lasting impact.

The way we work: We know we can only achieve a more just world by operating in a way that upholds our values. So, Ipas has evolved into a locally-led, globally connected network. We pay attention to equity, power and accountability in all aspects of how we work. And we practice shared leadership—an organizational philosophy that broadly distributes authority and responsibility and moves decisionmaking closer to where our work is done. This ensures we're harnessing the full power of our vast global network of experts and advocates.

I'm proud to share some of our key accomplishments and high-impact work from 2023. I feel confident that, together, we are building the world we want.

In solidarity,

Anu



Anu Kumar
Ipas President and CEO



How Ipas creates pathways to abortion access

In the world we want, when someone needs an abortion:

- ✓ Abortion is legal and available upon demand with no restrictions.
- ✓ No abortion stigma exists.
- ✓ Communities have learned the importance of reproductive rights and support everyone's right to reproductive freedom.
- ✓ Clinics and community groups offer sexual and reproductive health information.
- ✓ Health providers have training in abortion care and clinics have needed supplies.
- ✓ Abortion pills are readily available along with information on how to use them.
- ✓ Governments have made abortion services free or affordable.

So many barriers can block a person's access to abortion. Ipas works across all sectors of society to ensure individuals have what they need to access an abortion every step of the way.

ABORTION IN CRISIS SETTINGS



In a crisis, people still need access to reproductive health care

Armed conflict and natural disasters are on the rise. During and after a crisis, people's sexual and reproductive health needs are acute—but often go unrecognized by response efforts. Ipas steps in to ensure that doesn't happen.

Photo by Unforgettable moments for IpasDRC

Mobile clinics and youth volunteers form a powerful partnership

As a devastating armed conflict rages in Democratic Republic of Congo, Ipas has teamed up with local partners and government to establish mobile health clinics in camps for people displaced by fighting. These one-stop health centers offer treatment for sexual violence and sexually transmitted infections, abortion care and contraception—and a youth-led network of Ipas-trained community outreach volunteers works to educate people on where to access care.

“We're not just here to provide information on sexual and reproductive health rights; we're here to listen to these women and girls who were silenced and had no one who could understand them.” —**PATIENT RWAMIGABO**, member of the Ipas-trained Masujaa Network of health outreach volunteers in Democratic Republic of Congo

After yet another cyclone in Malawi, Ipas springs into action

In spring 2023, Cyclone Freddy displaced more than 650,000 people in southern Malawi. Ipas drew on established programs, expertise and strong relationships across the health system and communities to quickly deploy assistance to women and girls living in temporary camps.

SUPPORTING GRASSROOTS WORK

Ipas partners with grassroots groups to advance reproductive justice

Through the Ipas Collaborative Fund—our flexible, no-strings-attached grant program—we’re supporting local groups that are experts on the needs of their communities and have innovative ideas for how to improve reproductive health and expand abortion access.

Our grant recipients get much more than funding: They become our partners for reproductive justice. We support them with whatever they need, including things like program design, community engagement, and strengthening their operations to ensure lasting impact. We’ve announced 16 new grantees for 2024 and they’re already hard at work making a difference.



MUNIRA SALEH, program officer of the Joint National Association of Persons with Disabilities in Nigeria. Her organization received training on the importance of abortion access for people with disabilities.

Nigeria photos by Nelson Aochi Owoicho for Ipas



Collaborative Fund recipient in Nigeria leads the way for inclusive abortion care

For women living with disabilities in Nigeria, it can be nearly impossible to access safe abortion care. That’s why locally based SAIF Advocacy Foundation, a two-time recipient of Ipas Collaborative Fund grants, is training community health organizations on reproductive rights and the unique needs of people with disabilities.

“As a result of this training, I have been able to share information on issues that need to be supported so that we can save lives. It increased my knowledge greatly.”

—**YELWE ABDUWLAHI**, who attended a SAIF Advocacy Foundation training for the Federation of Muslim Women Associations in Nigeria, a faith-based organization working with the government on issues such as gender-based violence



CHRISTINE LEKAMARIO and her youth group in Kenya learned skills to help them adapt to climate change from Ipas’s local partner PACIDA.

Kenyan photos by Esther Sweeney for Ipas

What do family planning, vegetable gardens, and tree planting have in common?

They’re all solutions developed by women and girls in northern Kenya to address the harmful impacts of prolonged drought caused by climate change in their communities.

When Ipas-supported community groups partnered with local women, they knew what they wanted: information to help them manage their own reproductive lives, the ability to grow their own food close to home, and to plant trees to improve the local environment.

This work was led by Pastoralist Community Initiative and Development Assistance (PACIDA), a local Kenyan group that received an Ipas Collaborative Fund grant.

“With the help of PACIDA we started a kitchen garden project to grow vegetables to replace milk because cattle are dying due to drought. Through this work, PACIDA is helping bring positive change in this community.”

—**JOHN JAMAICA LEDIPO**, environmental officer, Samburu County, Kenya



“PACIDA has educated us about sexual and reproductive health and I have seen my peers incorporating the lessons that we have been taught like planting kitchen gardens and use of reusable sanitary pads. This has also opened our eyes with regard to climate change.”

—**NANCY RUORO**, member of the Environmental Justice Youth Group who helped PACIDA develop the project



“Most people did not know that there was a link between climate change and sexual reproductive health, and this project has enabled us to educate the community.

With the help of Ipas, we have been able to start real change on environmental sustainability.”

—**ABDIA LALAIKIPIA**, PACIDA project coordinator



BUILDING THE WORLD WE WANT

DIGITAL INNOVATIONS

Digital innovations for reproductive health access

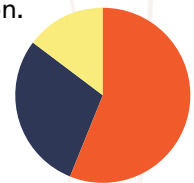
With the rapid advancement of artificial intelligence (AI) and a global pandemic that pushed digital solutions, Ipas is harnessing cutting-edge advancements in digital technology to share accurate information about and expand access to sexual and reproductive health and rights, including abortion.

From mobile phone apps that put information and community resources in the palm of your hand to educational videos and podcasts streamed through popular media-sharing websites, we're using and creating digital tools to reach more people with the support and information they need.

Nurse Nisa chatbot answers abortion questions and more

Nurse Nisa is a chatbot—an AI program designed to simulate a text chat between a trained health provider and person seeking information about contraception and self-management of abortion with pills. Launched in Kenya and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) in 2021, the chatbot is free to use and available on WhatsApp, with language options English, French and Swahili.

The Ipas DRC team has also introduced Nurse Nisa in refugee camps for people displaced by an escalating armed conflict in the country. In 2023, Ipas DRC recorded 16,513 new users of the Nurse Nisa chatbot, which produced 13,856 messages on sexual and gender-based violence, 7,185 on abortion, and 3,607 on contraception.



- **13,856** messages on sexual and gender-based violence
- **7,185** messages on abortion
- **3,607** messages on contraception



EXPANDING IMPACT IN THE U.S.

Bringing the power of a global network of experts and activists to the U.S.

The United States is violating human rights by denying people legal access to abortion—and should take immediate action to end the criminalization of abortion at the federal, state and local levels. This was the conclusion of the United Nations Human Rights Committee in late 2023 in response to testimony from Ipas and partners.

Now Ipas is working to make those recommendations a reality. We've teamed up with State Innovation Exchange and other partners to support state legislators who want to develop and introduce bills that make abortion legal and accessible. Ipas brings to the table our extensive global experience advocating for abortion law reform at the national, state and local levels.

“Hearing firsthand from advocates from around the world gives us important perspectives and ideas for how we can continue to battle against abortion restrictions here in the U.S.”
—North Carolina **State Representative Julie von Haefen**, shown below at center with colleagues who participated in educational events for legislators convened by Ipas and partners.

Photo by Sari Soffer, courtesy of State Innovation Exchange



Learning from the Green Wave

Early in 2023, Ipas and partners brought together abortion rights activists from Latin America and the U.S. for the first-ever Green Wave Gathering. Latin America's "Green Wave" feminist movement has been sweeping away restrictive abortion laws and inspiring activists the world over. This historic event convened over 140 abortion-rights leaders in Washington, D.C., to share experiences and ideas for advancing reproductive justice.

Photo by Dee Dwyer

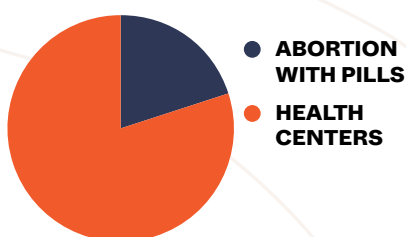
BUILDING THE WORLD WE WANT

Our global impact

We helped health systems expand abortion access

9,242 access points supported by Ipas

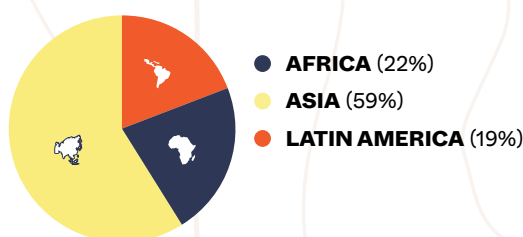
1,853 access points supported for self-managed abortion with pills



At Ipas-supported health facilities:

1,644,293 people received contraception

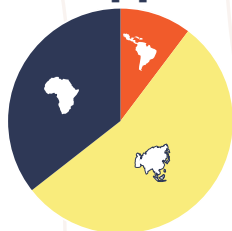
456,917 people received abortion services across 25 countries



We built political support and leadership for abortion rights

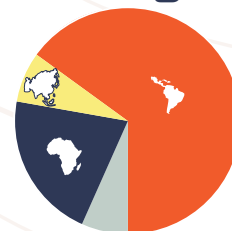
48 policy changes to expand abortion access in 11 countries

- AFRICA (17)
- ASIA (26)
- LATIN AMERICA (5)



167 public statements and commitments in support of abortion access in 20 countries

- AFRICA (35)
- ASIA (12)
- LATIN AMERICA (109)
- OTHER (Global, U.S. and Europe 11)



We reached millions across the world with information on reproductive health

In **Bolivia, Nepal, Nigeria, Myanmar** and **South Africa**, our teams and Ipas-trained peer educators and volunteers **reached 14,420 individuals** with information on sexual and reproductive health and rights, including abortion.

Across **Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC)**, **9,341,172 people were reached with information** through Ipas LAC and Ipas Mexico Facebook pages and 1,854,724 through the Ipas LAC Instagram page.

In the **Democratic Republic of Congo**, Ipas teams **reached 300,000 people** through online campaigns and **engaged over 1,300 participants** in webinars. An Ipas-developed chatbot called Nurse Nisa **attracted 16,513 new users**, sharing information on gender-based violence, abortion and contraception.

Statement of financial position: (AS OF JUNE 30, 2023)

ASSETS

Current assets	(in thousands)
Cash and investments	\$73,311
Advances and prepaid expenses	\$3,230
Grants receivable	\$3,196
Contracts receivable	\$1,435
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	\$81,172
Fixed assets	\$469
Grants receivable, non-current	\$58,388
TOTAL ASSETS	\$140,029

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

	(in thousands)
Current and Non-Current liabilities	\$6,050
Net assets	
Unrestricted	\$50,778
Temporarily restricted	\$83,200
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$133,978
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$140,029

Statement of activities: (YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023)

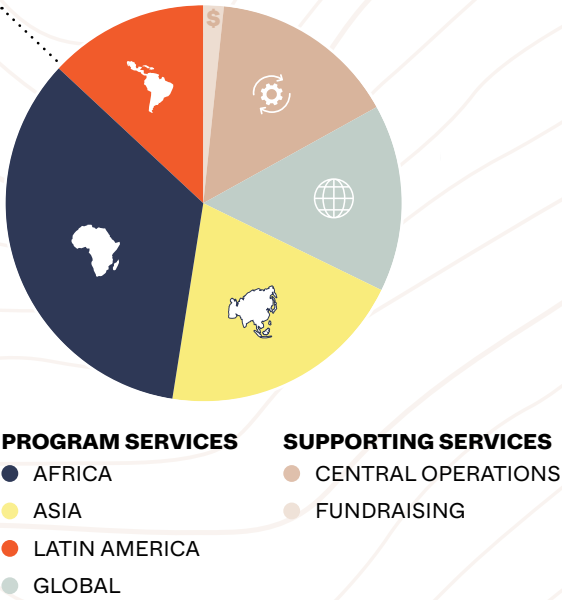
REVENUE

	(in thousands)
Contributions and grants	\$54,469
Contracts	\$4,919
Other revenue / expense	\$2,689
TOTAL REVENUE	\$62,077



EXPENSES

Program services	(in thousands)
Latin America	\$7,921
Africa	\$20,995
Asia	\$12,336
Global	\$9,221
TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES	\$50,473
Supporting services	
Central operations	\$9,334
Fundraising	\$847
TOTAL SUPPORTING SERVICES	\$10,180
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$60,653



Thank you for supporting reproductive justice globally.

Access to abortion and contraception puts people in control of their reproductive health. When you contribute to Ipas, you give women and girls everywhere the opportunity to determine their own futures.

There are many ways to give

Learn more: www.ipas.org/donate

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