



Ipas announced as new grantee in the Audacious Project's 2025 Cohort Preventing unsafe abortion is highlighted as a key priority

CHAPEL HILL, NC (February 24, 2026) – Today, Ipas was announced as one of the newest grantees selected by The Audacious Project, the collaborative funding platform within TED. This selection recognizes Ipas's bold vision addressing some of humanity's biggest challenges through their mission to expand access to abortion and contraception globally.

Every year, 35 million people end pregnancies using unsafe methods, amounting to one unsafe abortion every second of every day, with life-altering and often fatal consequences for women, girls, and their families. These are not inevitable deaths and injuries; they are the result of systemic, legal and social barriers that keep care out of reach. This is why Ipas has, for more than 50 years, focused on breaking down those barriers, so that abortion and contraception are accessible—and everyone can determine their own future.

With support from The Audacious Project, Ipas will accelerate our work globally. Our vision is to prevent 16.3 million unsafe abortions and 22.6 million unintended pregnancies and to avert 39,000 maternal deaths by 2032, reducing unsafe abortion by 30 percent in 10 high need countries across Sub-Saharan Africa, Asia and Latin America by 2040.

This work directly advances global gender equality goals by ensuring women and girls can control their own bodies and futures, remain in school, and participate fully in economic and civic life.

“We are honored to be part of this inspiring Audacious Project 2025 cohort. Ipas works to make sustainable, systemic change in the world. We know access to abortion and contraception leads to immense benefits to individuals, families, communities, and even countries. We want every woman and girl, no matter where they live, to have healthy, prosperous lives,” said **Anu Kumar, President and CEO of Ipas.**

The Audacious donor community committed a total of \$1.03 billion to this year's grantees, the largest raise to date, and a significant infusion of capital into visionary ideas to shift systems and sectors. The 2025 cohort will advance medical breakthroughs and

reproductive care, improve climate health, spur economic growth, and strengthen education systems around the world.

“This year’s cohort represents what happens when humanity’s toughest problems are met with courage. At such a time as this, it is also a declaration of what they imagine *is* still entirely possible. Whether they are charting paths to plastic-free oceans, unlocking access to life-saving health services for women and girls globally, or harnessing AI to prevent disease, the breadth and depth of these interventions is awe-inducing,” said **Anna Verghese, Executive Director of The Audacious Project**. “We’re humbled yet again by what the Audacious community makes possible, free oceans, unlocking access to life-saving health services for women and girls globally, or harnessing AI to prevent disease, the breadth and depth of these interventions is awe-inducing,” said -free oceans, unlocking access to life-saving health services for women and girls globally, or harnessing AI to prevent disease, the breadth and depth of these interventions is awe-inducing,” said

With support from The Audacious Project, past cohort members have redefined what is achievable in our world. Ipas is excited to be part of this legacy.

About Ipas

Ipas is an international reproductive justice organization that works to expand 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 services, including abortion and contraception, are available and accessible to all.

To learn more about Ipas visit <https://www.ipas.org/>

ABOUT THE AUDACIOUS PROJECT

Launched in 2018, [The Audacious Project](#) is a collaborative funding initiative dedicated to supporting bold ideas with the potential to change the world. Housed at TED and powered by the belief that ideas change everything, Audacious leverages a global network of visionary social entrepreneurs and funders to support bold solutions to the world’s most urgent challenges. Audacious is issue-agnostic and supports grantees to balance audacity and achievability for lasting, systemic impact. Since 2018, Audacious has catalyzed over \$7 billion for 70 projects, demonstrating what’s possible when we dream bigger and act together. The funding community includes respected donors and philanthropists including ELMA Philanthropies, Emerson Collective, MacKenzie Scott, Pivotal Ventures, Reed Hastings and Patty Quillin, Skoll Foundation, Valhalla Foundation [and more](#).

To learn more about each grantee and their Audacious idea, please visit www.audaciousproject.org.

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