

# INVESTMENT PROSPECTUS

## Building Permanent Feminist Infrastructure Across Africa

2026–2030 Strategic Investment Plan

**450**

Member Organizations

**55**

African Countries

**2.9M**

Women Reached Annually

**156K**

Beneficiaries → Leaders

**\$15,000,000**

Five-Year Investment | 2026–2030

# Table of Contents

---

<b>Executive Summary</b> .....	3
<b>The Opportunity</b> .....	4
<b>Who We Are</b> .....	5
<b>Investment Overview: \$15 Million</b> .....	6
<b>Detailed Budget Allocation</b> .....	7
<b>Our Strategic Framework: 7 Pillars</b> .....	8
<b>Proven Track Record</b> .....	9
<b>Theory of Change</b> .....	10
<b>Impact Projections 2026–2030</b> .....	11
<b>Next Steps &amp; Contact Information</b> .....	12

## About This Document

This Investment Prospectus outlines RFLD's strategic plan for 2026–2030 and the transformative impact of a \$15 million investment in permanent feminist infrastructure across Africa. We present a unique opportunity to scale proven models, multiply impact through sub-granting, and create sustainable systems change affecting 100+ million women across 55 countries.

# Executive Summary

## The Investment Ask

**\$15,000,000 over five years (2026–2030)**

To build permanent feminist infrastructure that transforms how gender justice is funded, coordinated, and won across 55 African countries.

## Why This Matters Now

African feminist movements are at an inflection point. For decades, they have been fragmented, under-resourced, and dependent on northern donors. RFLD has spent 12 years building the connective tissue—and we're ready to scale.

With Observer Status at the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR), a validated sub-granting model through the West Africa Francophone Feminist Fund (WAFFF), and a Data Center cited by 12 African governments, RFLD is uniquely positioned to become the **operating system for African feminist movements**.

## What \$15 Million Will Do

**600+**

Organizations Funded Annually

**1.5M**

Beneficiaries → Leaders

**40**

Countries with Law Reforms

## The Multiplier Effect

- **Your \$15M investment becomes \$75M+ in total ecosystem value**
- Direct sub-grants: \$45M to 600+ grassroots organizations over 5 years
- Technical assistance & capacity building: \$20M+ in value
- Policy changes: Affecting 100M+ women across Africa
- Leadership pipeline: 1.5 million women transition from beneficiaries to leaders

## Why RFLD?

**Track Record:** 23 laws reformed affecting 8.2M women; 156,000 former beneficiaries now leading programs; 10,000+ women secured land titles in Senegal alone.

**Credibility:** ACHPR Observer Status; US 501(c)(3) equivalent via NGOsource; cited by 12 African governments; zero compliance violations in 12 years.

**Reach:** 450 member organizations across 55 countries; 8,965 individual members; reaching 2.9 million women and girls annually.

**Innovation:** First Pan-African feminist sub-granting fund; real-time data infrastructure; Digital Safety Compendium covering 55 countries.

# The Opportunity

## The Problem: A Funding Crisis for African Feminism

African women's organizations receive **less than 1% of global gender equality funding**—and almost none of it goes directly to grassroots groups. The result is a continent where feminist movements are fragmented, under-resourced, and unable to coordinate at the scale needed to win systemic change.



## The Solution: Infrastructure, Not Just Programs

Most philanthropy funds *activities*. We're building *infrastructure*—the permanent systems that allow African feminists to coordinate, fund each other, access real-time data, and engage decision-makers at continental scale.

### What Infrastructure Looks Like

- **Sub-Granting:** WAFFF and 3 new regional feminist funds providing flexible, rapid funding directly to grassroots organizations
- **Data Systems:** Dònùèsè Data Center providing real-time legislative tracking, threat monitoring, and policy research for 55 countries
- **Coordination:** Regional hubs connecting 450+ organizations for cross-border advocacy and mutual support
- **Policy Access:** Direct engagement with African Union, ACHPR, and national governments through Observer Status

## The Market Gap

No other organization operates at this intersection of **continental reach, feminist values, and infrastructure development**. While some groups focus on advocacy and others on service delivery, RFLD is the only Pan-African feminist network providing the connective tissue—funding, data, coordination—that transforms fragmented efforts into a coordinated movement.

# The Timing

## 2024–2025 created unprecedented momentum:

- ACHPR Observer Status granted (2024)
- WAFFF validated: 50 organizations funded with 1:1.4 ROI on capacity building
- Data Center cited by 12 governments in policy decisions
- 156,000-strong leadership pipeline demonstrated
- Francophone Africa Feminist Convention launching April 2026

**Infrastructure is built. Governance is tested. Impact is proven. Capital is the missing piece.**

# Who We Are

---

## Réseau des Femmes Leaders pour le Développement (RFLD)

### Network of Women Leaders for Development

**Founded:** 2012 | **Registered:** Benin, Ghana, The Gambia | **Status:** US 501(c)(3) Equivalent (NGOsource), ACHPR Observer



## Our Mission

To build permanent feminist infrastructure that enables African women and girls to claim their rights, lead their communities, and transform the systems that shape their lives.

## Our Vision

A continent where feminist movements have the resources, coordination, and political power to win systemic change—and where African women are not beneficiaries but architects of their own futures.

## What Makes Us Different

### 1. Continental Scale with Local Roots

We operate in 55 countries through 450 member organizations—from Senegal to Somalia, from Egypt to South Africa. Our members are locally-led feminist groups who know their communities and drive change from the ground up.

### 2. Infrastructure, Not Just Programs

We don't just run projects. We build the systems—funding mechanisms, data platforms, coordination networks—that enable the entire ecosystem to function and scale.

### 3. Feminist Funding Feminist Movements

Through WAFFF and emerging regional funds, we are African feminists funding African feminists—with flexible, rapid grants and capacity building that respects local expertise.

### 4. Data-Driven Advocacy

Our Dònuèsè Data Center provides real-time tracking of legislation, violence against women, and civic space—cited by 12 governments and used by hundreds of advocates.

### 5. Direct Access to Decision-Makers

As an ACHPR Observer, we have a seat at the table where continental human rights policy is made—and we bring the voices of 450 organizations with us.

## Leadership

### Gloria Sekonou, Executive Director & Founder

12 years leading RFLD from a coalition of 50 organizations to a 450-member Pan-African network with continental influence.

**Governance:** 7-member Board of Directors with expertise in human rights, feminist organizing, finance, and governance across West, East, and Southern Africa.

# Investment Overview: \$15 Million

## 2026–2030 Strategic Investment Plan

**Total Investment Ask: \$15,000,000 USD**

Five-year deployment period: 2026–2030

### Investment Allocation by Pillar

Investment Pillar	Amount (USD)	% of Total
<b>1. Sub-Granting Infrastructure</b> Scale WAFFF; establish 3 new regional feminist funds	\$6,000,000	40%
<b>2. Data &amp; Research Infrastructure</b> Expand Dònuèsè Data Center; real-time legislative tracking	\$4,500,000	30%
<b>3. Network Coordination</b> Regional hubs; Pan-African Feminist Conventions; digital platform	\$3,000,000	20%
<b>4. Sustainability Mechanisms</b> Earned revenue models; endowment seed; donor circle	\$1,000,000	6.7%
<b>5. Organizational Excellence</b> Leadership development; systems strengthening; compliance	\$500,000	3.3%
<b>TOTAL INVESTMENT</b>	<b>\$15,000,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

### The Multiplier Effect: \$15M → \$75M+

Your \$15 million investment will catalyze **over \$75 million in total ecosystem value**:

- **\$15M** — Your investment in infrastructure
- **\$45M** — Additional capital mobilized and deployed as sub-grants to 600+ grassroots organizations
- **\$10M+** — Value of technical assistance, capacity building, and strategic support provided to members
- **\$5M+** — Earned revenue and endowment growth establishing long-term sustainability

## Investment Returns

This is not traditional philanthropy—this is **infrastructure investment** with measurable returns:

- 600+ organizations funded and strengthened annually by 2030
- 1.5 million women transition from beneficiaries to leaders
- 40 countries achieve feminist-driven law reforms
- 100+ million women's lives improved through policy change
- Permanent, self-sustaining feminist funding ecosystem established across Africa

# Detailed Budget Allocation

---

## Pillar 1: Sub-Granting Infrastructure — \$6,000,000 (40%)

### Building Feminist-Led Funding Mechanisms

- **Scale WAFFF (West Africa Francophone Feminist Fund):** \$2.5M
  - Increase from 50 to 200 organizations funded annually
  - Grants: \$5K–\$30K per organization
  - Capacity building: financial management, fundraising, digital security
- **Establish East African Feminist Fund:** \$1.5M
  - Launch 2027; serve Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, Ethiopia, Somalia
- **Establish Central African Feminist Fund:** \$1M
  - Launch 2028; serve DRC, CAR, Chad, Cameroon, Gabon, Congo-Brazzaville
- **Establish Southern African Feminist Fund:** \$1M
  - Launch 2029; serve South Africa, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Botswana

**Impact:** 600+ organizations funded annually by 2030; \$45M+ deployed to grassroots by 2030.

## Pillar 2: Data & Research Infrastructure — \$4,500,000 (30%)

### Expanding the Dònusè Data Center

- **Real-Time Legislative Tracking:** \$1.5M — Monitor gender-related legislation across 55 countries with AI-powered alerts
- **Policy Research & Briefs:** \$1M — Quarterly policy briefs for all 55 countries; shadow reports for ACHPR/CEDAW
- **Digital Safety Compendium:** \$750K — Expand from 150 to 500+ resources; add 20 languages
- **Data Partnerships:** \$500K — Collaborate with 10 African universities for feminist research
- **Annual State of African Feminism Report:** \$500K — Flagship publication cited by governments, donors, and UN agencies
- **Technology & Systems:** \$250K — Infrastructure, security, and platform maintenance

**Impact:** 50 governments citing RFLD data by 2030; 2,000+ advocates using Data Center tools.

## Pillar 3: Network Coordination — \$3,000,000 (20%)

### Strengthening Pan-African Feminist Coordination

- **Regional Coordinators:** \$1.2M — 4 full-time coordinators (East, Central, Southern, North Africa)
- **Pan-African Feminist Conventions:** \$1M — Biennial convenings (2026, 2028, 2030) with 500+ participants
- **Digital Collaboration Platform:** \$400K — Secure platform for 450+ organizations to coordinate campaigns
- **Communications & Narrative:** \$300K — Multimedia storytelling; website; social media
- **Regional Convenings:** \$100K — 5 regional meetings annually

## Pillar 4: Sustainability Mechanisms — \$1,000,000 (6.7%)

- **Endowment Seed Capital:** \$400K
- **Earned Revenue Development:** \$300K — Consulting services for governments/multilaterals
- **African Feminist Donor Circle:** \$200K — Cultivate African philanthropists and diaspora
- **Fundraising Capacity:** \$100K

## Pillar 5: Organizational Excellence — \$500,000 (3.3%)

- **Leadership Development:** \$200K
- **Systems Strengthening:** \$200K — Finance, HR, IT, compliance
- **External Audits & Legal:** \$100K

# Our Strategic Framework: 7 Pillars

RFLD's work is guided by **7 Strategic Pillars** that span the full spectrum of feminist organizing—from rights and representation to ending harmful practices. These pillars inform our funding, advocacy, and capacity-building across 55 countries.

## 01 Rights & Representation

Advocate for Maputo Protocol ratification, SRHR access, bodily autonomy, and women's leadership in governance.

## 02 Civic Space & Democracy

Defend civil liberties, monitor threats to women activists, and promote inclusive electoral processes.

## 03 Economic Power & Climate Justice

Drive economic empowerment, secure land rights for women, and advance gender-responsive climate policies.

## 04 Participatory Governance & Media

Strengthen civil society capacity for budget monitoring, policy engagement, and gender-sensitive journalism.

## 05 Human Rights Protection

Monitor and document violations, provide emergency legal aid and shelter for Women Human Rights Defenders (WHRDs).

## 06 Peace & Security

Advance the Women, Peace & Security agenda; support women mediators; address gender-based violence in conflict.

## 7 Elimination of Harmful Practices

End FGM, child marriage, and widowhood rites through community campaigns and survivor support services.

## Feminist Values at Our Core

These pillars are animated by **feminist values** that guide how we work:

- **Centering Lived Expertise:** Women affected by injustice lead the solutions
- **Deep Embodiment:** Integrating care, healing, and holistic well-being into organizing
- **Radical Imagination:** Envisioning futures beyond patriarchal structures
- **Joy as Resistance:** Celebrating culture, creativity, and community as acts of defiance
- **Power in Diversity:** Honoring multiple identities, languages, and ways of knowing

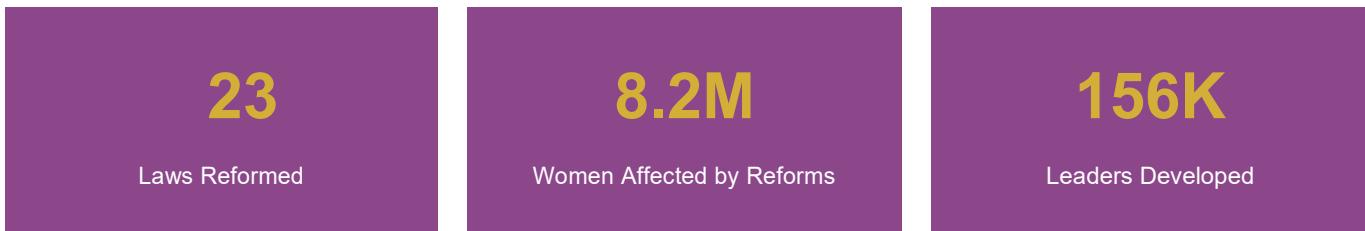
- **Rooted in Sisterhood:** Building trust, solidarity, and mutual support across borders

## From Gloria Sekonou, Executive Director

*"We are not just asking for a seat at the table. We are building a new table entirely—one where African women are the architects of their own future, the guardians of their own peace, and the owners of their own prosperity."*

# Proven Track Record

## 12 Years of Impact (2012–2025)



## Signature Achievements

### Policy & Advocacy Wins

- **Senegal Land Rights Victory:** Secured land titles for 10,000+ women through coordinated advocacy with member organizations
- **23 Gender Laws Reformed:** Across West Africa, affecting 8.2 million women in areas including inheritance, marriage, and economic rights
- **ACHPR Observer Status:** One of the few feminist networks with direct access to continental human rights mechanisms (granted 2024)
- **12 Governments Citing RFLD Data:** Our Dònùèssè Data Center is referenced in national policy documents and legislative debates

### Movement Building

- **450 Member Organizations:** Grown from 50 founding members in 2012 to a Pan-African network spanning 55 countries
- **156,000 Leaders Pipeline:** Former program beneficiaries who now lead community programs, advocacy campaigns, and policy initiatives
- **WAFF Model Validated:** 50 organizations funded in Year 1 with 1:1.4 ROI on capacity building
- **Digital Safety Compendium:** 150+ resources across 55 countries used by thousands of WHRDs to navigate online threats

### Reach & Scale

- **2.9 Million Women & Girls Reached Annually:** Through member organizations' programs in maternal health, economic empowerment, SRHR, and land rights
- **55 Countries:** Active presence from North Africa to Southern Africa, including fragile and conflict-affected states

- **8,965 Individual Members:** Feminist organizers, WHRDs, researchers, and advocates across the continent

## Credibility & Governance

- **NGOsource Equivalency Determination:** US 501(c)(3) equivalent status enabling direct funding from US foundations
- **ACHPR Observer Status:** Official recognition and access to African Union human rights mechanisms
- **Zero Compliance Violations:** 12 years of audited financials with no findings
- **Registered in 3 Countries:** Legal status in Benin, Ghana, and The Gambia
- **60+ Strategic Partnerships:** Including UN Women, Sida, Black Feminist Fund, and national governments

### What Funders Say

*"RFLD's model is exactly what African feminism needs—infrastructure that enables movements to coordinate, fund each other, and engage power at scale. They're not running programs; they're building an operating system."*

— Strategic Partner

# Theory of Change

---

## How \$15M Becomes Systems Change

RFLD's theory of change is built on a simple premise: **infrastructure multiplies impact**. By investing in the connective tissue—funding mechanisms, data systems, coordination—you enable an entire ecosystem to function at higher capacity.

### Stage 1: Infrastructure Investment (\$15M)

Your investment builds permanent systems:

- 4 regional feminist funds providing flexible, rapid grants
- Data Center offering real-time legislative tracking and threat monitoring
- Coordination hubs connecting 450+ organizations across 55 countries
- Policy access through ACHPR Observer Status

### Stage 2: Ecosystem Activation (\$45M in Sub-Grants)

Infrastructure enables RFLD to mobilize and deploy additional capital:

- 600+ grassroots organizations receive \$5K–\$30K grants annually
- Organizations strengthen capacity: financial management, fundraising, digital security
- Feminist groups coordinate across borders using shared data and platforms

### Stage 3: Movement Power (1.5M Leaders)

Funded, coordinated organizations build leadership at scale:

- 1.5 million women transition from beneficiaries to leaders
- 156,000 existing leaders mentor next generation
- Leadership pipeline ensures sustainability beyond any single organization

### Stage 4: Policy Wins (40 Countries)

Coordinated movements engage decision-makers with data and collective power:

- 40 countries achieve feminist-driven law reforms by 2030
- 50 governments cite RFLD data in policy development
- ACHPR and AU mechanisms advance women's rights commitments

## Stage 5: Systems Change (100M+ Women)

Policy changes ripple across society:

- 100+ million women's lives improved through reformed laws
- Girls inherit land; women access reproductive healthcare; survivors find justice
- Gender norms shift; patriarchal structures weaken; new futures become possible

### The Multiplier Equation

#### \$15M investment

- Enables **\$45M** in sub-grants to 600+ organizations
- Builds capacity of **1.5M leaders**
- Achieves policy change in **40 countries**
- Improves lives of **100M+ women**
- Creates **permanent, self-sustaining infrastructure**

**Total Ecosystem Value: \$75M+ over 5 years**

# Impact Projections 2026–2030

## What Will Be Different by 2030?

Impact Metric	Baseline (2025)	Target (2030)
Organizations Funded Annually	50	600+
Women & Girls Reached Annually	2.9 million	20 million
Beneficiaries → Leaders Pipeline	156,000	1.5 million
Countries with Law Reforms	10	40
Laws Reformed (Cumulative)	23	75+
Governments Citing RFLD Data	12	50
Women Affected by Reforms	8.2 million	100+ million
Sub-Grants Deployed (Cumulative)	\$2M	\$45M+
Regional Feminist Funds Operating	1 (WAFFF)	4 (West, East, Central, Southern)
Data Center Languages	3 (English, French, Arabic)	23 (adding Swahili, Hausa, Portuguese, local languages)

## 5-Year Milestones

### Year 1 (2026): Foundation & Expansion

- WAFFF scales to 120 organizations funded
- East African Feminist Fund launches
- Data Center adds real-time legislative tracking for 20 countries
- First Pan-African Feminist Convention (April 2026) with 500 participants

## Year 2 (2027): Regional Growth

- Central African Feminist Fund launches
- 300 organizations funded across 3 regional funds
- 25 governments citing RFLD data
- Leadership pipeline: 500,000 beneficiaries → leaders

## Year 3 (2028): Continental Coordination

- Southern African Feminist Fund launches
- 450 organizations funded annually across 4 funds
- Second Pan-African Feminist Convention
- 50+ laws reformed cumulatively

## Year 4 (2029): Scale & Sustainability

- 600 organizations funded annually
- 40 countries with feminist-driven law reforms
- Endowment reaches \$2M; earned revenue models operational
- Leadership pipeline: 1.2 million beneficiaries → leaders

## Year 5 (2030): Permanent Infrastructure

- 4 regional feminist funds fully operational and self-sustaining
- 50 governments citing RFLD data in policy development
- 100+ million women affected by policy wins
- 1.5 million women leading programs, campaigns, and initiatives
- RFLD recognized as the operating system for African feminist movements

# Next Steps & Contact Information

## Investment Opportunities

RFLD welcomes transformative investments at multiple levels:

Investment Level	Amount	Focus Area
Transformative Partner	\$15,000,000	Full 5-year strategic plan
Pillar Investor	\$3M – \$6M	Fund one investment pillar (e.g., Sub-Granting Infrastructure)
Regional Fund Founder	\$1M – \$1.5M	Establish one regional feminist fund
Strategic Contributor	\$500K – \$1M	Support Data Center, Conventions, or Leadership Development

## Due Diligence & Resources

We are ready to provide comprehensive due diligence materials, including:

- Audited financial statements (2021–2024)
- 2024 Annual Impact Report
- Strategic Plan 2023–2028
- RFLD Capacity Statement
- NGOsource Equivalency Determination documentation
- ACHPR Observer Status certificate
- Governance documents (bylaws, board roster, policies)
- Sample sub-grant agreements and compliance processes
- Data Center methodology and sample reports

All materials available at: [www.rflgd.org](http://www.rflgd.org)

## Contact Us

### For Investment Inquiries:

Emmanuelle Vlavonou  
Gender Regional Lead

## For Partnerships:

**Gloria Sekonou**

Executive Director

Email: [agueh.dossi@rflgd.org](mailto:agueh.dossi@rflgd.org)

## We're Ready to Build

RFLD has spent 12 years building the foundation—450 organizations, 55 countries, proven models, and continental credibility. Now we're ready to scale. This is not an ask for charity. This is an invitation to invest in permanent infrastructure that will transform how feminist movements operate, fund each other, and win systemic change across Africa.

**The infrastructure is built. The momentum is here. The opportunity is now.**

## Réseau des Femmes Leaders pour le Développement (RFLD)

Network of Women Leaders for Development

[www.rflgd.org](http://www.rflgd.org) • [admin@rflgd.org](mailto:admin@rflgd.org)

US 501(c)(3) Equivalent (NGOsource) • ACHPR Observer Status

Offices in Benin, Ghana, and The Gambia