



CATÓLICAS
POR EL DERECHO
A DECIDIR
MÉXICO



TRANSFORMING WITH RELIGIOUS AND FEMINIST STRIDES



2023
REPORT



CATÓLICAS
POR EL DERECHO
A DECIDIR
MÉXICO

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Thank you!



Opening Words

2023 was a transformative year for Catholics for the Right to Decide Mexico (CDD Mexico). Making great strides, based on our religious and feminist approach, we continue advancing our political and social commitment. We imagine a just society, where all individuals can decide about their lives and bodies, according to freedom of conscience, with joy, and in harmony with our faith, spirituality, and religions free from discrimination and violence.

Through creating this report, we came to realize the many steps we have taken, the paths we have covered, the constant movement that inspires us and the recognition that, in our strides, we are not alone. As such, this report not only summarizes our activities and achievements, but also reflects our gratitude toward all those who form part and make possible CDD Mexico's work and dreams.



Transforming with Liberating Viewpoints

A fundamental pillar of CDD Mexico's work is to advance the voices of believers who recognize freedom of conscience and moral authority to make ethical decisions over our own lives.

During 2023, we developed and implemented communication campaigns, created innovative narratives to counter fundamentalist discourse, offered spiritual accompaniment for abortion and LGBT+ rights, and we raised awareness and generated reflection to question social norms that perpetuate prejudice.



1.

We launched the 12th season of our animated series, *Catolicadas*, which contains three special episodes that contribute to the transformation of harmful norms related to gender-based violence, through progressive, intersectional theological arguments. *Catolicadas* was transmitted through our social media and on network television.



2.

We implemented the campaign *¡Que el amor sea contigo! En libertad y sin culpas*,¹ based on lessons learned from the *Heartwired* methodology. This campaign seeks to promote bodily autonomy, with the central message that each person has the right and capacity to make informed and autonomous decisions about their own body, including decisions related to reproductive justice, abortion, and sexuality.

¡Que el amor sea contigo!
En libertad y sin culpas

¹ May love be with you! In freedom and without guilt

3.

In collaboration with the *Fondo María de Aborto para la Justicia Social*,² we promoted the campaign *40 Días x Justicia Reproductiva*³



Diversity is also divine creation

4.

We shared that love is a divine creation, promoting openness and respect toward the diversity of sexual orientations and gender identities and expressions.



² Maria Abortion Fund for Social Justice
³ 40 days for Reproductive Justice



5. In addition to our campaigns, through our continuous communication and outreach strategies we inform about desired motherhood; sexual freedoms; diverse sexual orientations and gender identities and expressions; lives free from violence and the secular State and religious pluralism.

6. We developed and implemented pedagogical methodologies to generate training of trainers with community leaders to identify and question harmful gender norms in Guerrero, Oaxaca, and Quintana Roo.

7. Our Spiritual Accompaniment Group has generated a respectful space for dialogue, reflection and accompaniment for women who decide about and/or their families, and who have religious or ethical conflicts on this decision, as well as for sexual and gender diverse individuals.

8.

Our voice's reach

+10 million
INDIVIDUALS REACHED
THROUGH OUR MESSAGES ON DIGITAL
SOCIAL NETWORKS

+28,000
INDIVIDUALS REACHED THROUGH
OUR PRINTED
INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

+340,000
INDIVIDUALS REACHED
THROUGH OUR
EDUCATIONAL, INFORMATION
AND AWARENESS
RAISING ACTIVITIES

+600
PUBLIC SERVANTS
AND HEALTH PROFESSIONALS
SENSITIZED TO TOPICS
ON OUR AGENDA

Transforming with Secularism, Rights, and Freedoms



With the goal of generating changes in public policies to guarantee and respect all individuals' right to decide about their lives and bodies, in accordance with the secular State, we have promoted and carried out advocacy on sexual and reproductive rights and gender-based violence; as well as awareness raising and training processes for decision makers and public servants. In 2023, we celebrated, with the Green Wave, the decriminalization of abortion in Aguascalientes and the Mexican Supreme Court's sentence on abortion decriminalization at the federal level.

1.

We offered support and technical assistance within public debates on abortion decriminalization in Aguascalientes, Chiapas, Michoacan, Mexico City, Morelos, Puebla, Jalisco, and San Luis Potosi. In addition, we offered arguments and progressive religious and ethical arguments on the secular State to local allies, while we accompanied them on other needs that arose during state-level decriminalization debates, particularly in Puebla and Michoacan.

2.

In states where abortion had already been decriminalized, we accompanied allies in outreach efforts and demands for access to health services, particularly in Colima, Hidalgo, Baja California, Baja California Sur, Veracruz and Guerrero.





3.

We concluded our collaboration with the *Observatorio Ciudadano Nacional del Femicidio*, the *Instituto Nacional de Derechos Humanos y Democracia*, and *Justicia Pro Persona*, through which progress was made in monitoring the mechanisms of gender violence alerts, and support was provided in 48 cases of femicidal violence.

4.

We have actively participated in the public debate at the federal level to provide arguments to regulate conscientious objection (CO), according to the 2021 Supreme Court decision, to ensure that CO does not hinder access to abortion services.

5.

We worked toward advances in other states, like Michoacan and Sonora, where we provided decision makers with arguments on CO, secular ethics, and public service.

6.

We developed awareness raising and training programs with health personnel to analyze CO and reduce criminalization and criminal charges against women and others who abort. In addition, we provided information on secular public ethics and training in Baja California Sur, Guerrero, Hidalgo, Mexico City, Puebla, and Quintana Roo and with the National Network of Midwives.



Transforming from a Social Fabric of Diverse Networks with a Common Goal

During 2023, we have woven ties with various networks and collective groups in favor of individuals' right to decide about their lives and bodies. Under this pillar, we have constructed and consolidated strategic alliances with various actors; we have participated in social mobilization efforts toward collective demands and public visibility; we have developed and provided tools as well as resources to strengthen allies; and we have promoted dialogue, reflection, and agreements for the construction of a common agenda.





1.

CDD Mexico has participated in high-level national and regional processes and events to continue monitoring and taking advantage of opportunities to advance abortion rights. We were part of Mexico's Official Delegations to the Commission on the Status of Women and the Commission on Population and Development.

2.

We catalyzed a strategic planning process with the group that makes up the *Mira Que Te Miro* coalition to define short-term priorities, under the framework of the tenth anniversary of the Montevideo Consensus, and the opportunities it brought to make the sexual and reproductive rights agenda more visible; in this sense, we renewed commitments from various actors, including governments.



3.

We celebrated the tenth anniversary of the Montevideo Consensus where, together with regional organizations, we reviewed the context of sexual and reproductive rights and challenges for implementation. In this process, Mexico played a leadership role, openly declaring its support for the decriminalization of abortion across the region and advances in comprehensive sexuality education, from an intersectional perspective.

4.

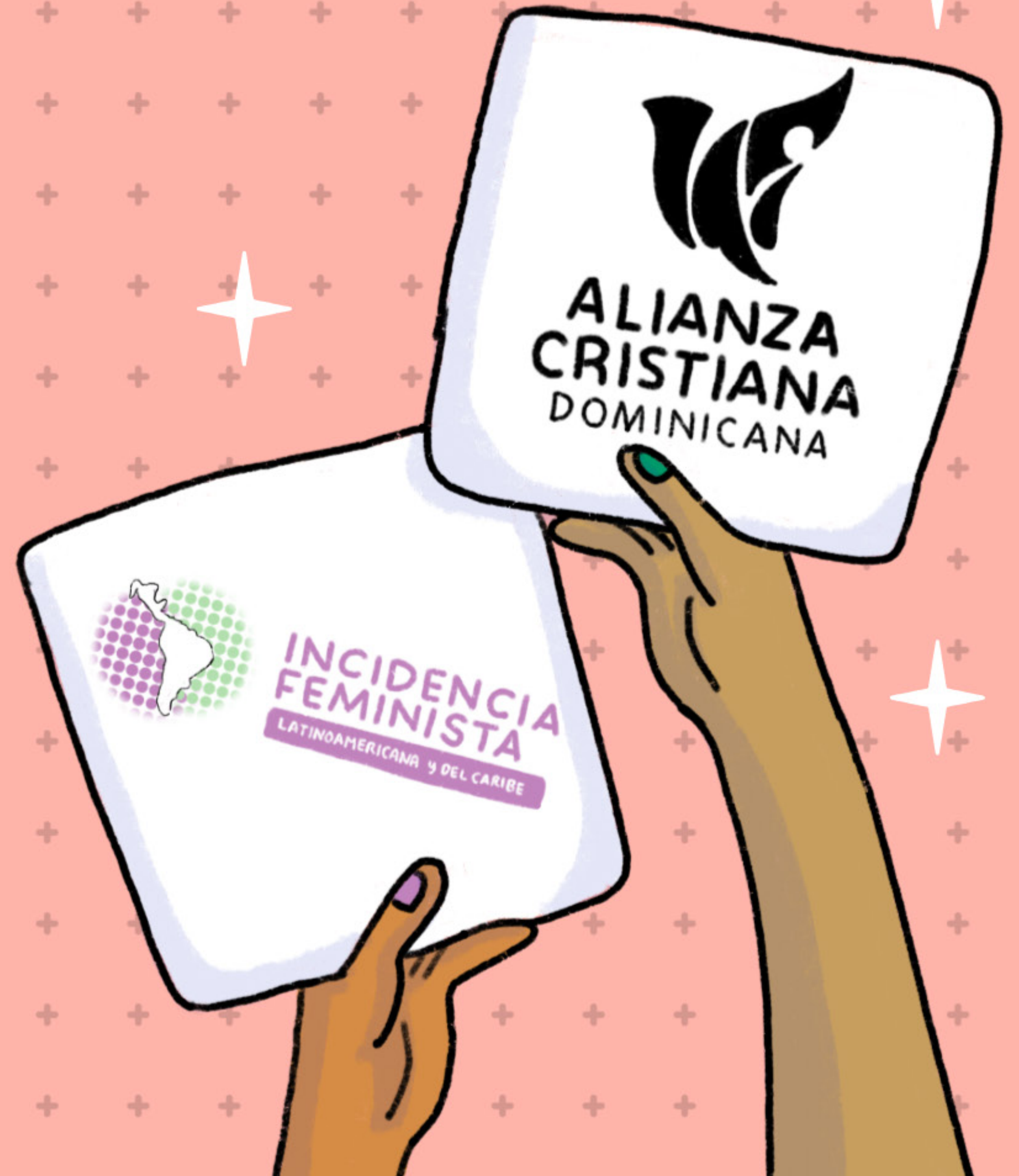
As members of the *Centro de Incidencia Basada en Evidencia (CEBA)*⁴ and the *Fòs Feminista* ecosystem, we developed strategies that have contributed to developing capacities on evidence-based political advocacy on health and sexual and reproductive rights.

5.

We accompanied the work of *Alianza Cristiana Dominicana*⁵ and *Ecuménicas por el Derecho a Decidir*⁶ to increase awareness and support for the importance of three exceptions for legal abortion in the Dominican Republic, as well as promote access and implementation of emergency contraception in Honduras, respectively.

6.

We formed part of the *Incidencia Feminista Latinoamericana*⁷ alliance, that brings together various organizations from the region to promote a comprehensive feminist agenda. As part of these efforts, we supported the visibility and review of the emblematic case of Beatriz before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights.



⁵ Dominican Republic Christian Alliance

⁶ Ecumenicals for the Right to Decide

⁷ Latin American Feminist Advocacy

7.

We developed a workshop on feminisms in action and fundamentalisms with our Network of Ambassadors for Secularism during which collective dialogue, sharing of experiences and relationships were generated on possible action strategies. In this meeting, we also set the basis for continuing collective networks in the future.

9.

Bringing together allies, we organized the Abortion Meeting of Puebla to generate a context and opportunities analysis to advance the abortion agenda.

8.

We participated in the Pride March as part of the trans and non-binary contingent to revindicate the rights of all.



10.

We marched on September 28th as part of the Green Wave contingent, to place the demand for access to safe and legal abortion from an inclusive perspective and with narratives that contribute to social decriminalization in the center of global action.



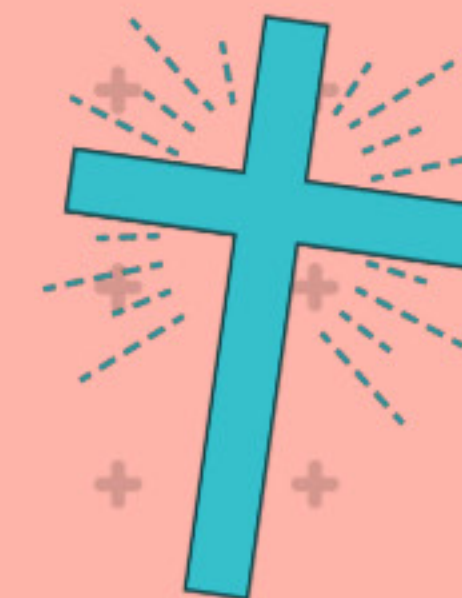
11.

Together with allies, we co-organized the National Meeting on Safe and Legal Abortion. Over 100 participants from 28 Mexican states participated in this event which culminated in the publication of a collective position statement and the generation of communication mechanisms that will allow participants to keep in contact, share efforts and local demands and generate support.



12.

We joined activities to expand the *Vivas y Libres*⁸ campaign at the national and regional level, such as the November 25th altar for the International Day to Eliminate Violence against Women, to position the right to decide and the right to a life free from violence.

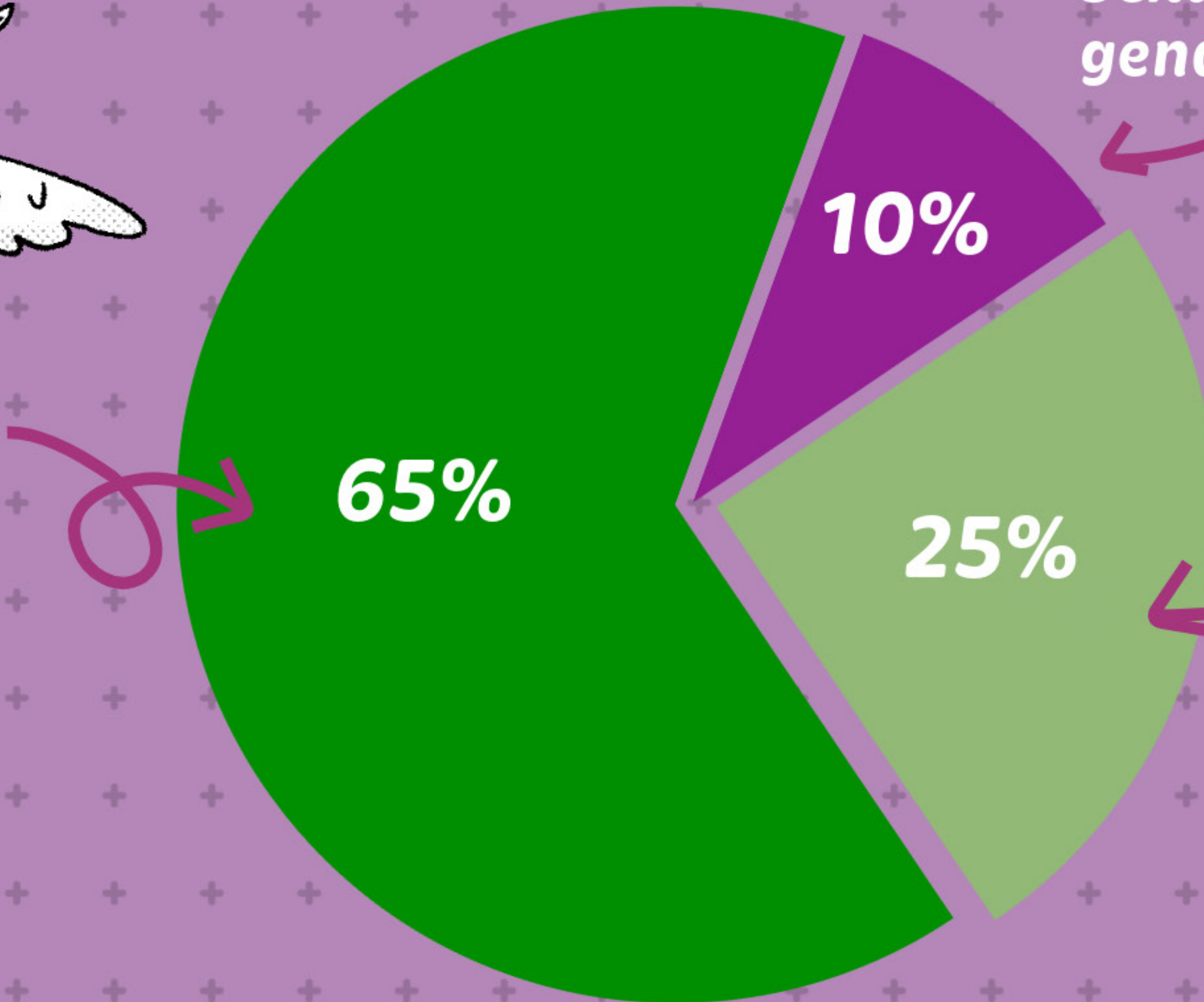


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Our Resources, by Issue



Sexual and reproductive justice and rights



Sexual and gender diversity

Gender-based violence



Thank you!

We conclude another year filled with challenges and achievements.

Thank you to CDD Mexico's team for your dedication and commitment. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to our cause, to our Board of Directors, and to all the allied organizations and collectives. Your support and confidence are the strength behind our actions.

With gratitude and hope, we look toward a feminist future, confident in that, together, from our struggle and from the recognition of our rights, we will continue transforming our reality.

Thank you as well to our donors who believe in who we are and what we do:



- Anonymous donor
- Arcus Foundation
- European Union
- Fondo de Mujeres del Sur
- Fondo Semillas
- Fòs Feminista
- Global Affairs Canada
- RFSU: Swedish Association for Sexuality Education
- UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women
- Wellspring Philanthropic Fund
- Women's Equality Center



**To all of those who follow us and trust in our work, thank you.
We continue transforming with religious and feminist strides.**





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