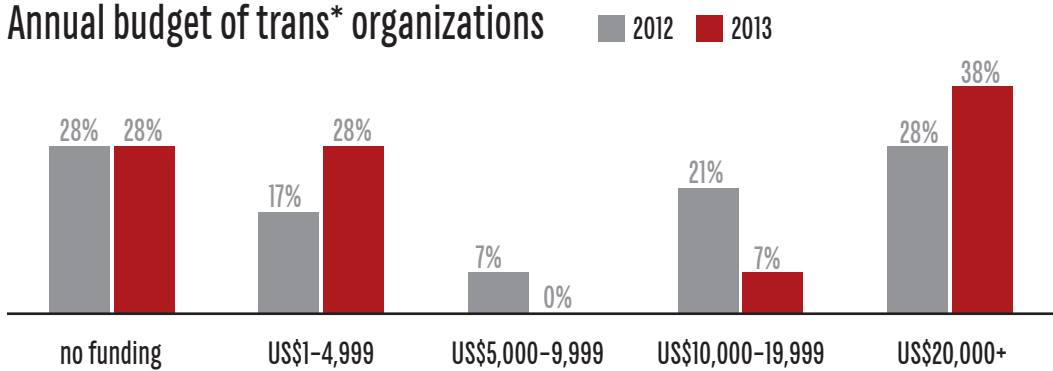


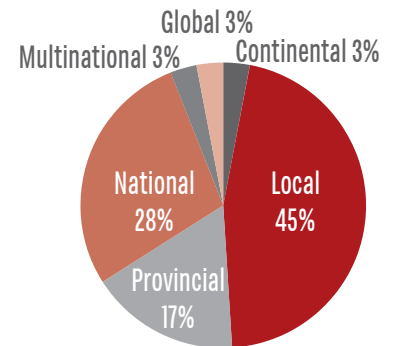
TRANS* ORGANIZATIONS AND FUNDING IN SOUTH AMERICA

A global survey of trans* organizations and funding was conducted in 2013. Twenty seven organizations from South America responded to the survey. This fact sheet details not only their funding situations but also their organizational characteristics, leadership, areas of work and areas of growth as well as opportunities for what donors funding in this region can support. More than half (56%) of organizations in South America reported budgets under US\$5,000 in 2013, while 38 percent had budgets of US\$20,000 or more.

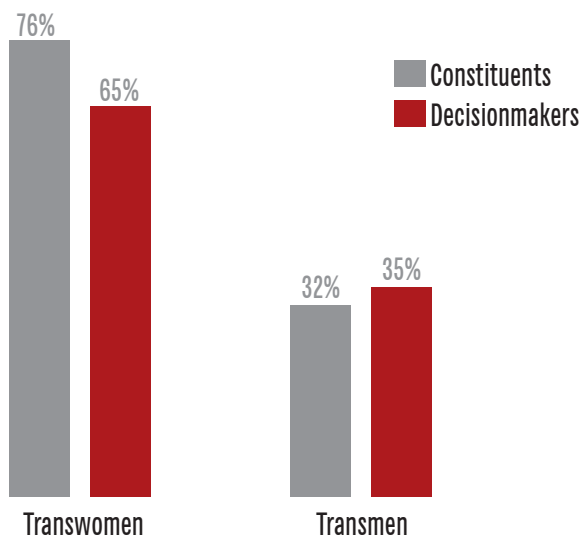
Annual budget of trans* organizations



Levels of work



Trans* leadership: Constituents and decision makers



Trans* organizations in South America¹



¹ Organizations responding to this survey do not necessarily represent all organizations working in the region

Trans* Organizations in South America

About one third (35%) of trans* organizations in South America are programs of another organization. Thirty eight percent have at least one paid staff member and about four in five (79%) are registered as a nonprofit. Slightly under half have external funding (46%), with a further one third (34%) having sought external funding unsuccessfully.

In South America, nearly two thirds (65%) of organizations reported that most or all of their decision makers are transwomen; however, more reported that most or all of their constituents are transwomen (76%). This reflects a disparity in trans* leadership that does not exist for transmen. Thirty five percent of organizations say that most or all of their decision makers identify as transmen, while 32 percent say that most or all of their constituents are transmen.

Fewer than one quarter (24%) of trans* organizations in South America say that most or all of their constituents are living with HIV and fewer than half (48%) say most or all of their constituents are sex workers.

Most common areas of work



Trans* Funding

Trans* organizations in South America that have external funding are most likely to be supported by foundation donors (29%), international organizations (e.g. United Nations, Global Fund) (18%) or donations from individuals or businesses or community fundraisers and membership fees (11% each). They experience common barriers such as not knowing where to look for applicable funding (67%), long and complicated funding applications (50%) and not having staff or volunteers who know how to fundraise or write grants (42%). Half (50%) spent most or all of their money on HIV-related activities.

Trans* Areas of Work

The most common types of work trans* organizations do are working to improve attitudes (95%) and doing policy and legal advocacy (85%). Many (79%) also hold support groups and work on HIV/AIDS prevention (77%).

Among work they are not yet doing, the largest number of organizations would like to expand to provide social services (45%) and do safety and antiviolen work (42%), while a further 41 percent would like to do arts and culture work.

Capacity Building for Trans* Organizations

When choosing among options for capacity building, trans* organizations in South America were most likely to say they would appreciate opportunities for skills training (83%), mentoring (66%) and networking (52%). Among options for skills training, organizations most want help with fundraising (62%), budgeting and financial management and political advocacy (48% each).

Most common areas to expand



Grantmaker Interests and Opportunities

- Donors interested in supporting independent trans* focused organizations and trans* led organizations could consider funding in South America given the predominance of independent organizations and better representation of trans* people as decision makers. However, leadership development and capacity building efforts could be focused on transwomen, given the gap between transwomen constituents and decision makers.
- Donors that need to fund registered organizations could consider funding in South America given the large proportion of registered organizations; particularly since only a moderate number of organizations have external funding yet there is a demand for external funding.
- South American trans* organizations would benefit from better outreach efforts from donors about funding opportunities and efforts to simplify and provide technical assistance in application processes as these were significant barriers to accessing external funding.
- Donors could better align with the needs and interests of trans* organizations in this region by supporting community building work related to providing social services, arts and culture work and safety and antiviolen efforts.
- Trans* organizations in South America wanted skills training more than any other type of capacity building support, particularly in the areas of fundraising, budgeting and financial management and political advocacy. They were also interested in mentoring and networking activities.

Methodology This fact sheet is part of a larger project to track the funding of trans* organizations globally. It is a collaboration of Arcus Foundation, Open Society Foundations, Global Philanthropy Project's Trans* Working Group and Strength in Numbers Consulting Group, Inc. GATE (Global Action for Trans* Equality) and AJWS (American Jewish World Service) collected 340 surveys from trans* organizations asked to report their information, experience and opinions in November 2013. GATE and AJWS distributed the survey through an open call in English, Spanish and French. The data appear in several reports, some of which can be found on the GATE website (www.transactivists.org). Due to differing categorization, data presented here may not match exactly match other analyses from the same data set. SurveyMonkey was used for data collection and SPSS and Stata were used for data analysis. The United Nations regional country categorizations were used to categorize countries into regions. Regions with fewer than 20 responses were not analyzed separately due to privacy concerns. Fact sheets are available on the following world regions: Central America, South America, East Africa, South Asia and Southeast Asia and the following topics: sex work, HIV/AIDS, transwomen and transmen. Organizations selected (1) current and potential areas of work (2) areas of capacity building and (3) barriers to funding from discrete lists created by staff from GATE and AJWS. External funding refers to funding acquired through means other than community fundraisers and membership fees. For more information on methodology, please see *The State of Trans* and Intersex Organizing* at www.transactivists.org or contact Strength in Numbers at info@StrengthInNumbersConsulting.com