

Olga Alexeeva Memorial Prize 2015

The shortlist

Olga Alexeeva died in July 2011 – an irreplaceable loss to the field of global philanthropy to which she devoted herself. This is the third time we have held the Olga Alexeeva Memorial Prize in her honour.

The Olga Prize is for an individual ‘who has demonstrated remarkable leadership, creativity and results in developing philanthropy for progressive social change in an emerging market country or countries’. In 2013, the first Olga Prize was awarded to Jane Weru and Kingsley Mucheke for their



innovative work to build assets among landless slum dwellers in Kenya. In 2014, the prize went to He Daofeng for his ‘significant, creative, far-reaching and, at times, courageous contributions to expanding the field of Chinese philanthropy’.

As in previous years, we were struck by the high quality of the nominations and the inspiring examples they presented

to us. With 37 nominations from 15 countries, creating a shortlist was not easy. The last page of this supplement provides a brief survey of some outstanding individuals who were not included.

This year’s shortlist is extremely diverse both geographically – finalists come from Brazil, China,

India, Romania, Russia and the US – and in terms of the variety of approaches to building philanthropy.

Both Nina Samarina and Alina Porumb have focused on community philanthropy. Samarina has pioneered a form of rural development philanthropy that was completely new in Russia, while Porumb has worked for ten years to help create an active community foundations movement in Romania.

Xu Yongguang has long championed transparency in China’s philanthropy sector, and in 2007 he set up the Narada Foundation, the first Chinese foundation to provide operating grants to grassroots NGOs. Rohini Nilekani is founder of water and sanitation foundation Arghyam and of Pratham Books. She actively promotes philanthropy in India, writing and speaking regularly about it.

Celso Grecco is creator of the world’s first social stock exchange (SSE) in Brazil. So far the model has been replicated only in Portugal, but his aim is to take the model worldwide. Marta Cabrera is a founding member of US-based EMpower, which aims to tap into the resources of emerging market finance sector professionals to invest in local solutions for at-risk youth in emerging market countries.

Maria Chertok, Caroline Hartnell and Jenny Hodgson

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

The final winner will be selected by a distinguished panel of six judges:

Akwasi Aidoo, Humanity United, Africa

Andre Degenszajn, GIFE, Brazil

Christopher Harris, USA (chair)

Alice Lau, chair and founding donor of Guangdong Harmony Community Foundation, China

Kavita Ramdas, Ford Foundation India

Larisa Zelkova, Potanin Foundation

The judges’ decision will be announced at the beginning of October, and the prize will be presented at the second Emerging Markets, Emerging Philanthropies Forum. Co-hosted by the China Foundation Center and WINGS, it will be held in Beijing on 23–24 November. All shortlisted candidates are funded to attend the Forum.

CAF Charities Aid Foundation

Olga Alexeeva understood the philanthropic potential of new wealth emerging in fast-growing economies. CAF shared this vision with Olga, who was a highly valued member of the CAF team for many years. She first led CAF Russia before moving to London to head up our global philanthropy services. CAF has been supporting the development of philanthropy and civil society in emerging economies for the past 20 years. We are delighted to support this supplement, which celebrates Olga’s legacy and showcases the significant achievements of the shortlisted candidates.

John Low, chief executive, Charities Aid Foundation

Marta Cabrera

President, EMpower – The Emerging Markets Foundation, USA



Marta Cabrera was one of the founding members of EMpower in 2000. EMpower invests in local solutions for at-risk youth in emerging market (EM) countries by tapping into the resources and energy of EM finance sector professionals.

EMpower started out as a simple idea: wouldn't it be great if EM professionals who had made their substantial careers in the finance sector in turn redeployed their resources to EM countries in a direct, targeted way?

Fifteen years later, it is clear that EMpower's model has unleashed an interest in philanthropy driven for and by EM professionals,

wherever they live. These professionals are actively involved in making decisions about where the funding is directed and participate in EMpower's strategic vision and growth. In addition, all supporters are encouraged to visit grantee partners in the field, meet them when they travel to EMpower offices around the world, give their opinions on grants pipeline and strategic portfolio, and lend their unique skills to benefit its grantee partners.

Marta Cabrera has led EMpower since 2004. She has expanded its activities to the point where it has staff in five countries and boards of directors in three: US, UK and Hong Kong. It also has a wide network of supporters who live and/or work in their countries of origin, as well as in global hubs and other EM countries.

Working in emerging market finance, and travelling as a banker, despite going from limousine to four star hotel, you can't help seeing what these countries are really like. Among my colleagues and me, there grew a real understanding that we had to give back. That was the seed of the idea and it still applies.

At first we thought we could do everything but we found out very quickly we couldn't. The Millennium Development Goals had a big influence on the development agenda at this time and a lot of attention was going to primary education and microfinance. There was a gaping hole in adolescence and transition to adulthood, which is where we thought we should go. From day one, we wanted to be grantmakers to community-based organizations that were already doing really good work, and we wanted to have a direct link to those organizations rather than going through intermediaries.

A very simple idea and a very simple vehicle have resonated across countries and over the years. That, and the fact that the people involved, whether running

or supporting the organization, refer to EMpower as 'we' and 'our', gives me my greatest satisfaction. Supporters are taking ownership in our work, making it the vehicle for their philanthropy, recognizing that EMpower was created to get them directly involved in countries and on issues they deeply care about. Through substantive presentations with grantees (usually the first time finance professionals have come face to face with a leader in the social sector), events to convene like-minded supporters, and other forums to include family and friends, EMpower creates an environment where people are driven to get involved.

There's still so much that can be done in terms of bringing together the needs of our grantee partners with the resources, networks and knowledge of our stakeholder base. Except on an ad hoc basis, though, we've not been able to do that. If we had resources to do this type of donor engagement systematically, EMpower's impact would really explode.

We are changing the way we do things. Instead of just looking at our grantee

partners organization by organization, we are now looking at the needs of the communities in which they work and live, and assessing our impact in those communities.

Our biggest challenge was the financial crisis. Since our constituency is finance sector professionals, it hit us very hard. In fact, we didn't know if we were going to survive. But by making drastic cuts, we did, and we were able to meet all our existing commitments.

In many of the 15 countries where we work, it's a challenge to keep up with changes in the regulatory regime and to stay clear of any constraints. One of the challenges for the EM sector is that many countries have had authoritarian governments where social issues are the province of the state so there is no robust social sector to take on these challenges.

We want to extend our reach. We want, for example, Indians to support EMpower in India, and to give them the experience of direct engagement with the organizations they support that others in our network talk about.

Celso Grecco

Social entrepreneur, Ashoka Fellow
and Synergos Senior Fellow



In 2003 Celso Grecco created what is acknowledged to be the world's first social stock exchange (SSE) in Brazil, encouraging both the stock exchange and its companies and individual donors to support NGOs and social entrepreneurs through investment in or donations to their projects.

The contribution of the stock exchange was key in promoting philanthropy and engaging companies in Brazil not only as donors but also as strategic partners of NGOs and social entrepreneurs.

I began my career in communications and marketing in 1982, but I was also happily doing pro bono work with social organizations at the same time. Then, at the end of the 1990s, when the idea of CSR was catching on among Brazilian companies, I started an agency called Attitude, one of the first CSR consultancies in Brazil.

In 2002, the Brazilian Stock Exchange approached me to help find a way for them to get involved in social issues and I came up with the idea of a social stock exchange. For social investors, the social stock exchange is a great endorsement of the NGO they are investing in, because of its insistence on good governance and transparency.

I believe my biggest achievement was to see my idea giving rise to discussions all over the world about the feasibility of creating social stock exchanges – no matter the level of the culture of giving and social investment of each particular country. We got a lot of publicity. Kofi Annan backed the idea and there was a UN case study. The president of Brazil recommended the idea to other Latin American leaders and I got requests for similar initiatives from several countries – Kenya, Mexico, Australia,

Ireland, Argentina, Chile, South Korea and the US – and was involved in advising them on implementing the idea. I also believe that the model was a kind of seed for the impact investing and crowdfunding models. It's disappointing, though, that despite the favourable publicity and the many conversations I had with other stock exchanges, it took six years for a second stock exchange to adopt the programme. This was in Portugal, when I was invited by Euronext Lisbon to replicate the model as a pilot for the Euronext network. Apart from that, no other stock exchange has done so. Many others could adopt the idea as a way of fostering a culture of giving among corporations and wealthy individuals, simply because they're used to the stock exchange environment and trust in it.

The basic concept of how stock exchanges work, putting together investors and investments, is a perfect fit for the social sector, and this goes way beyond just adding the word 'social'. There is no financial instrument more appropriate to the social sector. Despite this, stock exchanges have not yet understood how important their role can be in the development of the social sector.

Over the last 12 years, BVSA Brazil has raised R\$13 million for over a hundred projects, benefiting hundreds of thousands of people. In 2009, the model was replicated in Portugal within Euronext Lisbon. Celso Grecco is co-author of the book *Financing the Future: Innovative funding mechanisms at work*. In 2008 he was awarded the Vision Award.

I want to carry on, though, and take the model worldwide. I want to partner with local organizations in countries in Asia, Africa, Latin America and Central America, countries where a culture of giving still has to be built.

Maybe the biggest difficulty is to convince governments, corporations and individuals that social organizations, however innovative, will not solve our main social issues. They are too small to be anything but laboratories where remedies for the most pressing social and environmental issues can be tested. However, governments should be responsible for adapting and distributing those remedies widely, through public policies. The social stock exchange helps. Once a solution is identified and proven, the visibility that the social stock exchange gives draws government's attention to it and puts pressure on them to adopt it.

Brazil still lacks a culture of giving and tax incentives to encourage companies and individuals to donate – maybe one thing is rooted in the other. There are a few initiatives regarding tax benefits, basically for corporations, but most of them are either very specific or very complicated or both.

Rohini Nilekani

Founder and chairperson, Arghyam



Rohini Nilekani is one of the leading figures of Indian philanthropy. In 2001, she endowed Arghyam, a foundation that funds initiatives in 'safe, sustainable water for all', the first Indian foundation focused on water and sanitation. She also has a strong interest in education.

In 2004, she co-founded and funded Pratham Books, a non-profit children's publisher, to democratize the joy of reading. From 2002 to 2009, she served as chairperson of Akshara Foundation, which works to ensure 'every child in school and learning well'. Currently, she is in the process of setting up, with her husband Nandan, an initiative called EkStep, a technology platform to

improve applied literacy and numeracy, focused on children aged 5 to 10.

In addition, she is active in promoting philanthropy in India. She champions causes, reaches out to philanthropists across the country and engages them in giving back. She also networks actively with international foundations, including the Ford and Gates Foundations and the Omidyar Network, on ways to engage Indian philanthropists more effectively.

She writes and speaks passionately about philanthropy. In 2008, she persuaded one of India's leading financial newspapers, *The Mint*, to carry a series of articles on philanthropy, which was path-breaking at the time. She is interviewed regularly on TV and has played an active role in engaging global and local philanthropists to inspire potential Indian givers.

I always say I'm an accidental philanthropist, in the same way my husband, Nandan, describes himself as an accidental entrepreneur. We neither of us expected to be so wealthy. I've always felt acutely that the society we live in is unjust. I can't be happy living in a society in which so many people are left so far behind. If we can, we must do something about it. I got a chance to put that into practice.

I don't think of achievements. I happened to be in a good space and many people in my circumstances would do the same. And I enjoy it. It's not false modesty that makes me say this. There has to be genuine humility because the more you do, the more you realize how hard it is to make any change at all and how little it has to do with you and your money. I always think, surely one could have done more and better. The pace of change is so slow and things are becoming increasingly complex. After 15 years in education you find that 200 million children are still left so far behind, and you say, 'good god, what does it really take?'

I'm also working on the philanthropic ecosystem in India, which is at an exciting stage. Even young people who are just making their money are curious to learn more, do more and share more. They now have the international elite as their peers and they are learning fast. From day one, they are asking 'how can I give smartly?' I am part of the core group of the India Philanthropy Initiative, which runs thematic workshops and asks the wealthy, 'what would you like to do and how can we help?' People are now willing to look outside the traditional funding areas like education. There is so much more to do in India!

But there is a long way to go. The wealthy need to give more, there needs to be a lot more public pressure on them to do so. We cannot rely on their generosity! Wealth must accrue societal benefit at least as much as it would have if taxed.

Also, today's wealthy have 'can do' mindsets; my concern, especially since foreign funds are receding, is whether areas that need desperate support, such as human rights, rule of law, access to justice,

environmental issues, homelessness and hunger, will get enough attention from new donors.

But there is hope. For example, we have seen in India the erosion of certain kinds of journalism, so some of us have got together to set up a foundation to support independent, public-spirited media. It might be risky work, but as Indian philanthropists we should take those risks. After all what kind of society do we want to build? I am also hopeful because new NGOs, new leaders with innovative ideas and no fear of new technology, are addressing some of these issues in a completely different way.

For the future of Indian philanthropy, I believe we need to open up the sector. A number of policy issues need to be thought about, like inheritance tax. The Foreign Contribution Regulation Act needs modernizing and we need a uniform national voluntary sector policy. A lot more giving is going to happen and regulation should pave the way, not get in the way.

Alina Porumb

Strategic philanthropy programme director,
Association for Community Relations (ARC), Romania



The core of Alina Porumb's work in the last ten years has been helping to create an active community foundations movement in Romania, offering a model of self-reliance and mutual support to communities at a time when they were accustomed to look outside for resources and assistance. The Association for Community Relations (ARC) is a national support organization for advancing philanthropy in Romania.

There are now 13 Romanian community foundations serving 37 per cent of the population and investing a total of \$560,000 in local communities, with three more in the process of setting up. 'Simply put,' says Alina Kasprovschi, director of the Bucharest Community

Working in community development in the NGO sector, I knew that the main issue was that funds came from outside the communities. Local people wanted to do things, but without flexible resources they felt they weren't in control of their own fate.

I learned about community foundations in 2003 through the Mott Foundation. Two years later, with ARC, we decided to test out whether they might work in Romania. Community foundations were closer to the initiatives, to communities; they could work at the grassroots level and inspire local citizens to take action and find the space for their generosity to respond to challenges and build solidarity.

We now have a network of community foundations in Romania, and I think the biggest achievement is that it operates independently and has momentum. It has its own dynamic of people who are building something because they are motivated, because they have ideas and ways to support them. With colleagues and donors, we have created a framework of leadership

and self-development at both local and national level.

At first, we wanted things to go fast, but now we see how important it is to give time to each stage in the set-up and consolidation of community foundations. Romania is still a challenging environment. Individual giving is growing, but time is needed to build trust. Trust is the thing that is most necessary for sustainability and we need to invest a lot in work and good communications to build it and maintain it.

I am slowly changing my focus from community foundations in Romania to the broader framework of INSPIRE. INSPIRE is helping philanthropy practitioners engage donors in understanding better the needs of the community and the impact they can have. The vision for INSPIRE is to create a community of philanthropy practitioners, learning and stimulating more money for social change initiatives in the region.

Both in my work with community foundations and in INSPIRE, the biggest

Foundation, 'the community foundations network wouldn't have existed in Romania without the vision and personal belief of Alina. What Alina has helped build is not just a number of local initiatives and foundations, but a system of learning and mutual support between foundations for the long term.'

Her work with the Initiative for Strategic Philanthropy in Central and Eastern Europe (INSPIRE), which she set up in 2012, has helped to spread knowledge of philanthropy advice and donor engagement to countries of the region including Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Turkey and Ukraine.

She is also involved in international philanthropy initiatives such as WINGS, the Global Fund for Community Foundations, YouthBank International and Bolder Giving.

challenge is to find people who have the interest and commitment for philanthropy infrastructure work. It's the biggest leap of faith – you wonder to yourself, 'will it work? Will people respond?' We have found that these people are always there, but you have to find the right way to discover them and communicate with them.

Nina Samarina

Chair, Perm Region Community Foundations Alliance



In 2005, Nina Samarina founded the 'Sodeystviye' Foundation, the Social Initiatives Support Fund, Russia's first rural community foundation, which is focused on developing civic initiatives in the rural areas of Perm; she manages it to this day.

Seven years later, in 2012, she founded the Perm Region Community Foundations Alliance, the first regional alliance of community foundations in Russia. Its main object is to support and promote the region's community foundations and to encourage and develop volunteering and philanthropy in the region. However, its influence extends beyond the Perm region, serving as an

exemplar and source of information for community foundations in other parts of Russia.

Through both of these initiatives, Nina Samarina has pioneered a form of rural development philanthropy that was completely new in Russia. Moreover, Sodeystviye is implementing an international project, 'Joining the Effort', which collects, analyses and disseminates the experience and best practices of community foundations in developing civic initiatives in rural areas. The foreign partners of this project include community foundations from Bulgaria, Romania and Albania.

She also chairs the Commission on Social Organizations in the region's Civic Chamber.

Before starting Sodeystviye in 2005, a team of us had developed forms of cooperation with people in the rural areas of the Perm region: training local people in social project planning and computer and information technology, and helping them to seek funding for interesting initiatives. It was Larisa Avrorina, director of the community foundations development programme at CAF Russia, who gave us the idea of setting up a community foundation.

We are the first community foundation working in rural Russia. Our aim is to make local people aware that there is no need to rely on someone else. Everything depends on them. On our side, we offer advice or financial support to them to help them discover their own potential. Our example has spread and there are now 13 foundations in the Perm region, eight of whom have formed the Perm Regional Alliance of Community Foundations. Other, similar funds have also been established in the Kirov, Novosibirsk, Irkutsk, Tyumen and Krasnoyarsk regions, based on our experience, and the model is attracting interest in other regions.

We are particularly proud of the community social passport project, which we created ourselves. There was nothing comparable in Russia at the time. First, we use opinion polls to map existing problems, then we create a 'map of potential' from available local financial and non-financial assets. The two maps are put together into a small-format passport designed with infographics that are easy to understand. The passport has been adopted by other non-profits and government officials in many regions of Russia and also at international level, supported by the Global Fund for Community Foundations.

We still face a number of challenges. Social activity in Russia, especially in remote areas, is still new. Non-profits are tackling the most crucial problems of our society because they are close to public opinion, and with limited resources are often able to achieve better results than costly government programmes. But the government doesn't consider this and sometimes it's disappointing that the state doesn't understand and doesn't use the instruments that non-profits can provide.

It is crucial for us to share and exchange experience with our colleagues from other countries, but nowadays that's more difficult because of the foreign agents law.

Citizens are poorly informed about the activities of non-profit organizations so we need to make them understand our role. We are well known and respected for our work, but the majority of people know us as a donor and we see our mission as much wider than this. Mostly we'd like to provide informational and methodological support to local communities to help them solve their own problems.

We want to start programmes to raise donations from local residents. We haven't been active enough in this area so far, so we've got a lot to learn. We would also like to see groups of local residents who have joined together for a specific programme continue when the project is over. It is very important to see the growth of the activity of community leaders and to nurture new non-profit organizations in rural communities. That is where we are going to put our efforts in the future.

Xu Yongguang

President, Narada Foundation, China;
emeritus chairman of China Foundation Center



Xu Yongguang has championed transparency in China's philanthropy sector since his days at the China Youth Development Foundation in the 1990s. Under his leadership, the foundation provided a model of openness unique among government-organized NGOs at the time. Project Hope, set up under the auspices of the Youth Development Foundation during these years, was a seminal initiative in Chinese philanthropy, successfully channelling private giving to rural education.

Xu went on to set up the Narada Foundation in 2007, the first private foundation in China to provide operating grants to grassroots NGOs. The foundation has supported nearly 600 programmes run by grassroots NGOs; through its Gingko Fellowship Programme, it has supported

68 young leaders of innovative NGOs and provided a platform for them to share their experiences.

In 2009, Xu co-founded the China Foundation Center, the first initiative to provide fair, objective and independent third-party assessment and benchmarking for China's 4,264 foundations. In 2014, he was appointed to lead the newly formed Social Enterprise and Social Impact Investment Fund. All of these initiatives have had, and will continue to have, far-reaching importance. They have been instrumental in advancing the cause of Chinese philanthropy, ushering in a new spirit of openness and doing much to disarm public suspicion of philanthropic institutions.

Through his work, Xu has become a key figure in public debate on philanthropy in China. In June 2011, for instance, he mobilized joint action by the sector over the China Red Cross scandal, and he advised the government on donations to local governments during the Yushu earthquake in 2010.

It was the voice from my heart that guided me to get into the philanthropic sector. At the end of the 1980s, I was a government official with a very promising future. The Chinese believe that being a government official is the best way to fulfil personal values and make a social impact. However, in return, people need to sacrifice some of their personal freedom. In order to try some new ideas and to make a bigger social impact, I resigned.

I am lucky that the initiatives I really care about and have devoted myself to have come to pass, including Project Hope and the China Foundation Center. In the past 25 years, Project Hope has raised nearly US\$2 billion from the general public; it has provided scholarships for over 5 million poor students and built over 18,000 schools in rural China. The China Foundation Center has totally changed the transparency landscape in China's foundation sector, paving the way for a

new era. The Narada Foundation is also at the forefront of new developments in the foundation sector. My aim now is to promote social enterprise and social investment and to enhance the integration between philanthropy and business for greater social innovation.

It's disappointing that few people really understand what I'm doing or share common values and vision. The greatest challenge I've had was going through a very strict investigation on foundation asset management by the government's supervisory organization. Project Hope is the biggest and most famous charitable project supported by the general public and I had increased the value of public donations through legal asset management. The government supervising organization suspected that some of that investment was for my personal benefit, so I had to undergo several rounds of investigations. In the end it was concluded

that there had been no wrongdoing on my part.

I see two major challenges for the future of Chinese philanthropy. On the one hand, the sector needs better regulation and the removal of current obstacles to its development. On the other, Chinese philanthropic culture is not healthy. Society still expects that all the staff of a philanthropic organization should be volunteers who do not make any salary, which hinders the sector's professional development.

A wealth of outstanding individuals

The purpose of the Olga Alexeeva Memorial Prize is to highlight outstanding efforts to promote philanthropy in emerging economies. In previous years, Alliance has only featured those shortlisted for the prize. This year, we present a brief survey of some of the other pioneering individuals who we were unable to include in the shortlist. Their stories provide a snapshot of some of the great work being done to promote philanthropy in emerging markets.

This year's nominations include many who are working with the most vulnerable groups. Disadvantaged women feature in several nominations. Muhammad Akbar of Pakistan's Child Rights Committee, for instance, set up training and employment schemes for women in remote rural areas of Pakistan that were badly affected by the 2009 conflict, and subsequently established savings schemes for them.

In Nepal Lily Thapa established Women for Human Rights (WHR) to advocate for women's rights. WHR has been successful in changing the lives of vulnerable single mothers, raising local funds to create safe spaces for the victims of violence, and forcing the issue of widowhood on to the government's agenda. In Brazil Amalia Fischer helped set up Fundo Elas, the country's first women's fund. It has granted around US\$1 million to 200 groups of women and girls to promote gender equality and social justice.

Children and young people also feature in several nominations. Santanu Mishra's Smile Foundation in India works with poor children, youth and women. Using a social venture philanthropy model, it identifies good grassroots initiatives and builds their capacity. It now operates in more than 730 villages and directly benefits an estimated 300,000 children and their families every year. Also in India, Shweta Chari set up Toybank to provide disadvantaged children with toys in order to give them back their childhood, with the support of 2,000 Toybankers from across six cities. The dropout rate of children in schools where Toybank operates has been greatly reduced.

In 1994, Ana Lucia de Mattos Barreto Villela established the Alana Institute in Brazil, which

works with the poor and vulnerable. Her approach to doing this is innovative – establishing an endowment, investing in social impact funds and working through advocacy. In 2006, she set up the Child and Consumption Project, to draw attention to the problem of child consumerism and advertising targeting children.

Ustun Ezer of LOSEV (Foundation for Children with Leukaemia) in Turkey has set up a hospital to provide free treatment for children with leukaemia from poor families. Partly funded through enterprises also set up by LOSEV, it has over 1 million volunteers. Nelly Radeva of Bulgaria's I Can Too Foundation has mobilized diaspora support and corporate contributions for children with learning difficulties.

Many of the nominees are also strengthening civil society. Anant Nevatia set up Rural Health Care Foundation's first primary healthcare centre in West Bengal, India. Realizing the lack of support for NGOs, he founded Kolkata Gives, which brings together donors and credible NGOs from West Bengal and allows NGOs to pitch for funds. So far it has raised Rs50 million for 50 NGOs. Sandrine Ramboux's C@rma in Turkey performs a similar function, connecting Turkish NGOs with professionals through an integrated programme of fundraising and pro bono work. One stumbling block to philanthropy in Turkey is lack of trust. Ramboux devised a standard profile, explaining quickly and easily what NGOs do.

Amina Ben Fadih works with Fikra, the Joint Collaborative Fund for Tunisia, whose mission is to support citizen/community-led initiatives to address pressing social or economic needs in the most disadvantaged parts of the country. She plays a key role in contacting groups who are often not formally registered and have no other access to resources.

Two more Brazilians round off this survey. First, Andrés Thompson, who has supported the development of philanthropy in Latin America for several decades, first as long-time Latin America representative of the W K Kellogg Foundation, and subsequently as an independent consultant, most recently co-founding the Women and Philanthropy project based at CEDES in Argentina. Finally, Maria Antonia Civita, a member of one of Brazil's most prominent philanthropic families, who has devoted herself to environmental causes for many years. In 2005 she founded Instituto Verdescola, which supports environmental education in public and private schools in São Paulo and São Sebastiao. ☎