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MATCH

INTERNATIONAL

Annual Report

April 2012 - March 2013

## A Letter from the Executive Director



As we release this report, I am in the fortunate position of having been the Executive Director at MATCH International for exactly one year and one month. It has been a time of significant reflection, learning and transformation- for myself, for the Board of Directors, for our loyal donors and for the organization as a whole.

I would like to first begin by thanking the Board for giving me the opportunity to carry out a deep level of research and reflection in order to determine how MATCH should move forward. During the early months of 2012, we spoke with former MATCH partners from around the world, international development organizations in Canada (large and small), international women's rights organizations, women's funds, social innovators, governance experts, and Canadian and international thought leaders. Everyone was asked the same question-

in light of how much has changed for women since MATCH's inception in 1976- does it still make sense for a Canadian international organization which exclusively focuses on women and girls to exist? We never heard 'no,' not even once. There was unanimous support for MATCH to continue to exist within the Canadian and international context.

We have learned so much, connected to so many, and had such an impact in the last 37 years. Now MATCH begins a new chapter, the international women's fund. This fund will prioritize getting resources in the hands of women's organizations working at the grassroots level. We continue to believe that these women harness the most potential for meaningful and durable social change.

We are deeply honoured to have the support that we do, and we thank you for being alongside us in this journey.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Tomlin'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'J'.

Jess Tomlin  
Executive Director, MATCH International

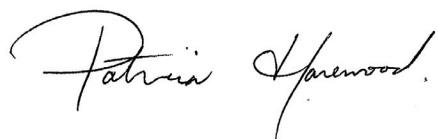
## A Letter from the Chair of the Board

As I look back on the numerous accomplishments of MATCH International this past year, I am reminded of what my Antiguan grandmother used to say as she sent me and my sister to the public tap to collect water: “Many hands make light work”. With the steadfast dedication of the MATCH Board, staff and volunteers, MATCH has renewed its commitment to work with women in the global South on the issues that matter most to them.

As this annual report shows, we have gone through a rigorous process of reflection and renewal. Still, we remain true to our mission. MATCH continues to work in collaboration with our Southern partners. We are supporting women and girls in the Democratic Republic of Congo who have been victims of sexual violence. We are working with Afro-Peruvian women who want to increase their understanding and participation in the political process. We have re-engaged with our Canadian partners in a variety of activities aimed at raising awareness and inspiring action. In the coming year, we will boldly launch the first international women’s fund of its kind in Canada.

Special thanks must go to our Executive Director, Jessica Tomlin, for her vision, skill and infectious passion for advancing women’s rights globally. In addition, we are so grateful to our loyal donors, including those who have included MATCH in their estate planning. They have made it possible for us to do the work we describe in this annual report and to take these bold and exciting steps. We hope you will enjoy reading about this year’s activities and engage with us online, by e-mail, phone or in person in the year ahead.

Sincerely,



Patricia Harewood  
Chair of the Board, MATCH International



# Table of Contents


Introduction .....	5
Here's the Story We Need to Tell You .....	7
MATCH International: A Year in Review .....	12
Assembly .....	14
Innovation .....	20
Exchange .....	26
Conclusion .....	30
Financial Statements.....	33

## Introduction

MATCH International has a story to tell. It is a story of resilience, determination and hard work.

Our story begins in Ottawa, Ontario, in 1975, following the return of Dr. Norma E. Walmsley and Ms. Suzanne Johnson-Harver from the United Nations first World Conference on Women, held in Mexico City. This conference kicked off what has been called the “UN Decade for Women” and inspired the two Canadian activists to launch an international organization in Canada that would exclusively work to support women in poverty thereby MATCHing the needs and resources of Canadian women with the needs and resources of women in the South<sup>1</sup>.

Since then MATCH has been faced with many challenges, but as an organization that has been driven by the power, resilience, and collective leadership of women around the world we continue to surmount these obstacles and feel stronger than ever. 2012 was an exciting year for women internationally, and we were proud to be part of the ever-growing momentum and demand for gender equality. We are still living our story and looking forward to contributing to this movement for many years to come.



OUR ORGANIZATION WAS CREATED TO MATCH THE NEEDS AND RESOURCES OF CANADIAN WOMEN WITH THE NEEDS AND RESOURCES OF WOMEN IN THE SOUTH.

<sup>1</sup>The terms “South” and “Southern” are those preferred by MATCH to describe those parts of the world that are also called “Third World”, “underdeveloped”, “developing” and so forth.

# MATCH VALUES

Woven within the MATCH story are threads of feminisms, courage, collaboration and partnership, innovation, and excellence. These are the main values that strengthen the fabric of our history and our organization as a whole. As you read our story, look for how these values align with our work and enforce our commitment to achieving a more just and equal world for women.



## FEMINISMS

We believe in the universality of women's human rights. We recognize that there are multiple feminisms and will foster opportunities for expressing those principles in our work.



## COURAGE

We believe that trying new things, talking about and learning from failure, taking risks and standing up for our beliefs will help us grow, innovate and be transformational.



## COLLABORATION & PARTNERSHIPS

We believe that working in collaboration and partnership with a range of actors provides us the opportunity to produce truly dynamic results. By consolidating our talents, skills and resources, we will broaden the reach of our work and deepen the impact.



## INNOVATION

We believe that women's ideas need to be nurtured, tested and supported as they are foundational to the meaningful improvement of women's rights, access and equality in the global South.



## EXCELLENCE

We will always strive for quality, respect and excellence in our work – with the people and organizations we work with, the initiatives we undertake and the results we demonstrate.

# Here's the Story We Need to Tell You

## The Past Two Years Have Been Tough

Here's what happened: In 2010, in the midst of cuts to official development assistance in Canada, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) withdrew its support to MATCH. This support had over the years come to account for 75 percent of our total funding. We were left with no choice but to abandon our partnerships with the more than 20 women's organizations we had been working with. We were forced to let go of all of our dedicated staff. We packed up our office and moved any evidence of our 35 year existence into a dark, cramped storage locker in Ottawa, Ontario. After 35 years of supporting grassroots women's organizations in the global South, we were faced with the very real possibility of closing the MATCH doors forever.

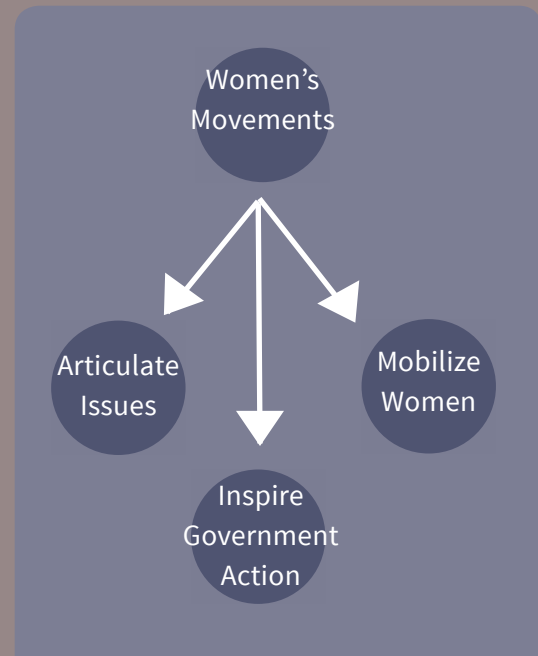
## Your Support Kept Us Going

The response we received from you was far beyond our wildest hopes. We experienced an outpouring of support in the form of letters from donors, dedicated supporters, peers and partners all with a unanimous affirmation encouraging us to keep going. You wrote op-eds that raised awareness about our situation. You wrote to your MPs to request that our funding be reinstated. You continued to support us financially, even while our future continued to look unclear.



## WHY WOMEN? FACT #1

Evidence shows that women-led organizations are the most successful in creating lasting, positive change for women's rights and gender equality around the world<sup>1</sup>.



<sup>1</sup>Gtun, M. & Weldon, L. S. (2012). The civic origins of progressive policy change: Combating violence against women in global perspective, 1975–2005. *American Political Science Review*, 106(03), 548-569.


In 2011, World University Service of Canada (WUSC) reached out to us to offer their support. An international development organization with a focus on working with youth, WUSC offered us the opportunity to regain our footing. Although MATCH remains an independent organization with its own Board of Directors, by-laws, and governance structure, WUSC has provided us with administrative and corporate support for a reasonable service fee. This has enabled us to work in a cost effective manner while ensuring that our governance, financial, and administrative standards are not compromised.

A year later, in 2012, a long-time donor of MATCH left their legacy when we received what turned out to be a game-changing bequest. This extraordinary gift has been instrumental in ensuring that the MATCH doors stay open.

While we were grateful for your support, we knew we had to respond with the utmost respect and care. After two very challenging years, we took a step back to seriously reflect on whether MATCH, Canada's only feminist international organization, was still needed 37 years in.

## We Faced A Difficult Question

Although we were deeply moved by your support, we knew we had to be honest with ourselves and with you. Much had changed since MATCH was first created. Many international organizations have realized the important role women play in development. At the same time, funding for women's rights organizations has been shrinking. Closer to home, over 35 women's rights organizations in Canada have lost their funding in the past four years. We have also witnessed a shifting of priorities at local, national, and international levels that have impacted women in new and life-changing ways. The truth was we were prepared to walk away if we felt that our mission to support grassroots women's movements in the global South had truly been integrated into mainstream development practice. We were prepared to walk away if our partners in the global South told us that we were no longer needed.



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MATCH WAS FIRST CREATED.  
MANY INTERNATIONAL  
ORGANIZATIONS HAVE REALIZED  
THE IMPORTANT ROLE WOMEN  
PLAY IN DEVELOPMENT.



## So Here's What We Did

We asked our partners what they thought. We engaged in consultations with over 50 organizations and individuals to see if people believed that our work remained as important today as it was 37 years ago. We spoke to prominent individuals in Canadian international development to learn if our mission and vision were being realized elsewhere. We asked Canadian women working to further the women's rights agenda both at home and abroad for their input. We surveyed past partners in the global South and braced ourselves for what they had to say about MATCH. We asked everyone that we could, "Is there still a demand for MATCH to exist?"

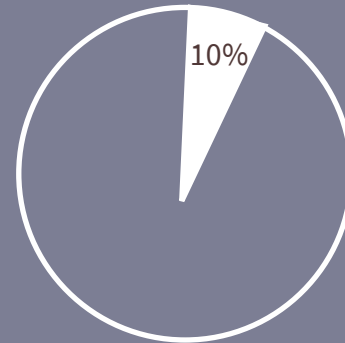
## Here's What We Found

We never heard 'no,' not even once. There is no doubt that MATCH must continue its important work. Our target beneficiaries, grassroots women's organizations in the global South, continue to receive an inadequate amount of support. In 2011, 90 percent of local women's organizations were unable to access funding from UN Women, national governments, and international non-governmental organizations. Canadian funding for women's rights work, both abroad and domestically, is shrinking. What we found is that there remains a gap in the work being done for women's rights internationally and we are convinced that MATCH remains one of the only organizations in Canada that can fill that gap.



## WHY WOMEN? FACT #2

Many women's organizations do not have the support required for success. They lack core funding, rely heavily on unpaid work and do not have access to the startup capital required to scale-up innovations for women.



Only 10% of women's organizations around the world were able to access funding from UN Women, national governments, and international non-governmental organizations in 2011<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>2</sup>AWID Global Survey (2011). Where is the Money for Women's Rights, Association of Women's Rights and Development

## Here's What We're Doing About It

MATCH is back. We are not only back, but we have undergone an important process of renewal in order to adapt to the rapidly changing world around us. The global atmosphere surrounding women's rights is evolving in a very positive way and we are eager to continue to be a part of it. Feminist movements around the world are now able to connect with one another in ways that could never have been imagined previously forming meaningful partnerships despite the oceans in between them. Women's rights are being discussed worldwide on a daily basis, and this is an opportunity not to be missed. We feel our work is more relevant than ever, and you, our loyal and committed supporters, are the reason why we are moving forward.

This past year has been full of busy activity and optimism for the future of MATCH International. We have begun to implement our 2013 - 2016 Renewal Strategy which rests upon three strategic pillars: assembly, innovation and exchange. We are entering into new and exciting partnerships with other individuals and organizations, joining international activism campaigns, and organizing many interesting knowledge sharing sessions and discussions. Read more about our work in these three areas over the past year on page 12.

This fall, we will be launching The MATCH Women's Fund for Social Innovation. This Fund is our commitment to ensuring that the women's organizations that continue to exist on the margins are more fully supported. It is our commitment to



Women's rights are being discussed worldwide on a daily basis, and this is an opportunity not to be missed. We feel our work is more relevant than ever.

you, our supporters, who have insisted that a feminist international organization be part of the Canadian landscape for social good. It is our commitment to staying true to our roots, recognizing the power and potential of women's organizations working at the grassroots level. This past year, we have been extremely fortunate to reconnect with Ms. Suzanne Johnson-Harver, co-founder of MATCH International. During these conversations, Ms. Johnson-Harver has indicated her strong support for our Renewal Strategy and the MATCH Women's Fund for Social Innovation. Her support has reaffirmed our belief that we are remaining true to our roots while proving ourselves flexible and adaptable to the changing world around us. We are certain that The Fund is the most effective way to support women: our fund will ensure that money and resources are placed directly into the hands of women in the global South who are addressing women's rights in new and innovative ways. Read more about The MATCH Women's Fund for Social Innovation on page 20.

Yes, these past two years have been tough. But thanks to all of our hard work and dedication: on the part of our Board, our staff, our donors, and our partners, we continue to work towards a vision of a more equal world for women. 37 years ago, MATCH was a leader in Canada and around the world in its work to promote the rights of women. This year, once again, we will assume a leadership role committing ourselves to getting money and resources to the women we believe are changing the world.



## WHY WOMEN? FACT #3

We are at a global tipping point for women's rights around the world and for that we must thank the efforts of grassroots women's movements.



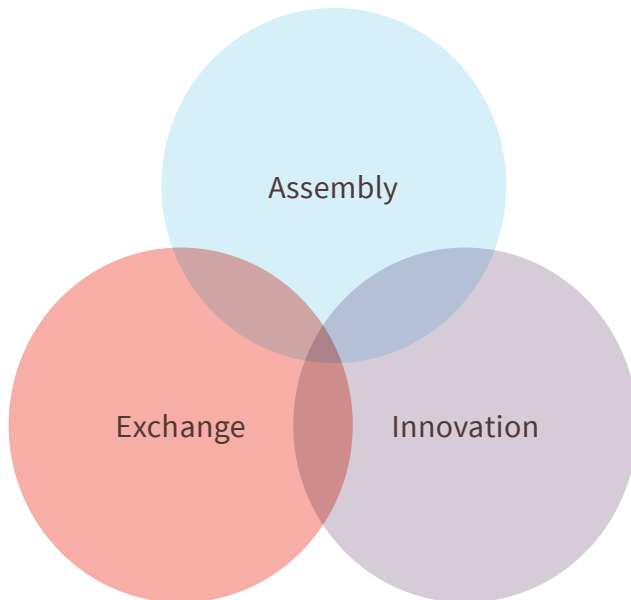
Will you join us in our efforts to push this moment for women's rights over the tipping point and make the world a better place for women?



# MATCH International: A Year in Review

## How We Work

Our work is built upon three strategic pillars: assembly, innovation, and exchange. We **ASSEMBLE** members of the women's rights and international development communities to convene important conversations. We support women's social **INNOVATION** in the global South through the MATCH Women's Fund for Social Innovation, the only Canadian fund of its kind. We **EXCHANGE** information with fellow Canadians to generate awareness and build understanding about women's rights issues around the world. Throughout 2012, MATCH has engaged in numerous activities that reflect our three strategic areas of focus. Continue reading to learn how.



## 2012 IN NUMBERS: MATCH IS BACK

- 1 New Executive Director
- 2 New Board members
- 3 New staff members at the MATCH office
- 12 New volunteers, interns and co-op students
- 80 Wonderful new friends at WUSC

# Assembly

As a Canadian organization, we at MATCH are committed to playing a role here at home to ensure Canadians both understand and engage in the critical issues that impact women's lives around the world. In discussions with our partners, it has become increasingly clear that there is a lack of space for coordinated dialogue on global women's rights issues within Canada. In particular, we are dedicated to identifying and creating inclusive opportunities for Canadian women's organizations to assemble on issues that affect women globally. 2012 provided many such opportunities, and MATCH has been identified as a leader and feminist voice amongst Canadian civil society actors.

## International Campaign to Stop Rape and Gender Violence in Conflict

Thousands of organizations and individuals have signed on in support of the International Campaign to Stop Rape and Gender Violence in Conflict, the first ever global collaboration of its kind. The campaign urges governments all over the world to finally put a stop to gender based violence in conflict by preventing the use of rape as a weapon in war, protecting those who have been victims, and demanding the prosecution of those who use sexual violence as a strategy of war. This campaign is particularly significant to Canadians; the motion to reaffirm Canada's commitment to implement the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Resolutions on Women, Peace and Security was introduced to the House of Commons last year. This motion calls upon Canada to become a global leader in the fight against sexual violence in conflict. We believe that this is Canada's opportunity to become a leader on issues concerning the rights of women and girls. In conjunction with our Canadian partners, MATCH is currently implementing a strategy to mobilize more concrete commitments toward ending rape and sexual violence in conflict.



### 2012 IN NUMBERS: MATCH IS TALKING

1

Triumphant return of our print newsletter

6

E-newsletters sent to get information to you faster

107

Tweets to keep you informed

116

New friends on Facebook

3,000

Envelopes lovingly sealed by hand

## 16 Days of Activism

Women's rights are human rights. This is emphasized in the celebration of 16 days at the end of every year that bridge November 25<sup>th</sup>, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, and December 10<sup>th</sup>, International Human Rights Day. Each of the 16 days is a reinforcing piece, contributing to the collective goal of mobilizing work and awareness around violence against women and women's rights in general.

This year, we shared facts, figures, and quotes about violence against women both in Canada and abroad. We reached out to our followers to communicate the gravity of these human rights violations and convey the hardships women in the South are faced with every day. We included links to articles and videos about the Democratic Republic of Congo, which has been dubbed the "rape capital of the world"; the contraction of HIV/AIDS through rape in conflict situations such as the genocide of Rwanda; dowry-related deaths in India, and facts on women living

in emergency shelters here in Canada. Not all of our messages were somber, however; we used this time to speak about concrete commitments Canadians can make to put an end to gender based violence in Canada and around the world.

## Civil Society Gender Policy Group

In 2013, MATCH will continue to focus on international collaboration and partnerships, but we are also committed to intensifying our role as a leader in the women's rights community in Canada. We teamed up with the Canadian Council for International Cooperation (CCIC) and Oxfam Canada to convene more than 35 international organizations working in Canada to discuss international women's rights issues. In spite of funding challenges amongst civil society actors, we believe that we can work together to collectively take action to advance women's rights, both in Canada and in the global South. Emerging priorities for this collaboration include funding for women's rights and women's bodily autonomy.



WOMEN'S RIGHTS ARE HUMAN RIGHTS AND EQUALITY FOR  
WOMEN AROUND THE WORLD IS AN END UNTO ITSELF.



## One Billion Rising

This past year, MATCH International participated in the first ever One Billion Rising. The movement, a single day of “dance strikes” worldwide mobilizing those interested in furthering the rights of women, is supported by many global organizations and high profile leaders. This year, men, women, and children danced all over the world to protest violence against women. We staged our very own dance strike in our office in Ottawa and we are proud of all of our participants, both men and women who donated some of their time. We recruited some of our most enthusiastic friends from WUSC and Farm Radio International (with whom we share our office) as dancers. Photos of the event can be viewed here:

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10151453100769695.514885.149004639694&type=3>



## 2012 IN NUMBERS: MATCH IS READY

50

Partners consulted on the future direction of MATCH

52

Team meetings and brainstorming sessions

1

Unanimous decision: Yes, MATCH must continue its work

3

New areas of focus: assembly, innovation, and exchange


500

Staff, Board members, donors, and supporters ready to go

## International Women's Day

This year, MATCH honoured International Women's Day with a mass e-card campaign. We invited our supporters to send as many e-cards as they could to thank the women who have been making a difference for women's rights and gender equality around the world. Together, we acknowledged women in Canada, the US, Afghanistan, Sudan, Colombia, Iraq, and London. This means that hundreds of women were recognized for their hard work and determined efforts to improve the lives of women here at home and around the world.

International Women's Day is a unique opportunity to raise awareness and gain traction around women's rights. This year, our Executive Director, Jess Tomlin,



“WHERE I AM MOST ENCOURAGED IS THE EVER-GROWING MOMENTUM THAT IS BUILDING AMONG WOMEN AND MEN AT THE GRASSROOTS LEVEL.”

-JESS TOMLIN

released an op-ed on the state of the world's women. The article recognized the progress that has been made at all levels to protect women's rights, such as the United Nation's global ban on female genital mutilation introduced last year. However, it also pointed to instances where it is clear that more work needs to be done. For example, in South Kivu, it has been reported that 60% of rape victims are gang-raped by armed men.

The article continues to say that amongst these successes and failures, what is most inspiring is the evidence for a growing grassroots women's rights movement taking place around the world. The op-ed concludes with an important question for all Canadians to ask ourselves as we stand at this global tipping point for women's rights: on which side will Canadians find themselves once this moment has passed? Read the full op-ed here:

<http://www.ottawacitizen.com/life/kind+women+movement/8064852/story.html>

and our related press release here:

<http://matchinternational.org/docs/press-release/match-iwd-press-release.pdf>



THANK YOU  
*for*  
MAKING THE WORLD  
A BETTER PLACE FOR WOMEN

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2013

[www.matchinternational.org](http://www.matchinternational.org)

One of the e-cards available to send on International Women's Day in the recognition of women who are working hard for gender equality.

# Innovation

At MATCH International we believe women's ideas are the starting point for change. We are proud of the work that we have accomplished in 2012: the partnerships we have strengthened and the support we have vocalized to international advocacy campaigns and women's rights around the world. However, in 2013, we are determined to take the next step in supporting the advancement of women's economic and social empowerment. This is why, this year, the MATCH Board of Directors adopted a motion for the creation of a Women's Fund.



## The MATCH Women's Fund for Social Innovation

The first and only Canadian fund of its kind, The MATCH Women's Fund for Social Innovation will focus specifically on giving women in the global South the power to explore their ideas for meaningful and long-lasting social transformation. This Fund will be operated on the premise that women in the South are the experts of their own lives and they are the ones who know what is most needed to make positive changes in their lives and their communities. The Fund will provide an opportunity for women's organizations working in the global South to receive financial support to test their ideas and explore context-specific programming and replication possibilities for social change in their communities, regions, and countries. This concept is based on the principle of local ownership and sustainability: if projects and programming are grounded in local ideas and are kept alive by local efforts, they have a greater chance of succeeding.

The MATCH Women's Fund for Social Innovation will focus on women who are working to support some of the most marginalized populations in the world. It will support projects that aim to amplify the voices of often unheard groups by improving their chances for increased political participation. It will support women who are driving unstoppable social movements in their communities. It will support projects that utilize new technologies in innovative ways to increase women's mobilization around issues of rights, equality and justice.



## WHO WILL THE FUND SUPPORT?

Organizations working at the grassroots level

Organizations led by women

Organizations that serve women and girls

## African Women's Development Fund

The African Women's Development Fund (AWDF) is a woman led non-profit foundation that seeks to support the efforts to advance the rights of women in Africa through grant-making and capacity building to African women's NGOs and community-based organizations. It is the first continent-wide fund in Africa providing grants to women's organizations at a national, sub-regional, and regional level.

MATCH International provided seed funding to AWDF when it first began operations out of Accra, Ghana in 2001. Since then, the organization has funded over 1000 women's organizations in 42 African countries. The organization has supported many innovative women-led solutions since its inception and is an example of women's social innovation itself.

In early 2013, we were thrilled to partner once again with AWDF, providing a small grant to support their organizational capacity.

## The Road to Recovery in the Congo

In the Congo, 48 women are raped every hour. South Kivu is a province in the Congo which borders alongside Rwanda, Burundi and Tanzania. South Kivu is also the place with the very unfortunate designation of being the worst place in the world to be a woman. Sexual violence against women at the hands of rebel groups, armed forces, and the national police is rampant here. When not killed in the process, many victims of rape suffer serious psychological and physical impacts. Some of them are impregnated.

In South Kivu, midwives play a prominent role in supporting a woman through her pregnancy and delivery. All too often, they accompany rape victims along a very painful path of healing. Midwives have unique access to these victims and have identified a need to be more equipped to support their patients. MATCH is supporting midwives in South Kivu to better serve the women who need them. We are investing in the range of skills midwives need to manage this very complex reality, and ultimately, support the all too many victims of rape and sexual violence in their recovery from the trauma.

## Research

Our efforts to push innovation in the pursuit of gender equality will also be concentrated on expanding knowledge and research, laying important groundwork and building evidence for future action. We have partnered with Sarah Saska, a doctoral student in Gender Studies at the University of Western Ontario whose research will support the MATCH Women's Fund for Social Innovation. Sarah's research focuses on methods of social innovation used by women in the global South, and how these methods create opportunities for change. The research will delve into how women are uniquely innovating in their own communities to bring about social change. The study will not only be critical for our work but will also fill a research gap, as social innovation and women's empowerment are rarely connected. Projects using social innovation to advance women's rights will be focused on as case studies, particularly in the fields of technology, social norm change, economic resilience and political participation. Though MATCH will benefit directly from this research, we are also happy to be supporting the widening of a knowledge base shedding light on what women in particular are doing to challenge and change social norms and inequalities. In particular, the research will uncover the necessary conditions required for social innovation to have a positive impact on women's rights and lasting social change.



## EXAMPLES OF WOMEN'S SOCIAL INNOVATION

In situations of tribal conflict, it is often the women who cross enemy lines to negotiate the terms of peace and reconciliation.

Women are harnessing new technologies to map, name and draw attention to the issue of rape and harassment in the rise of religious fundamentalism in the global South.

Young women are using online global platforms to generate awareness and demand changes to legislations that challenge their rights.

## Challenging Barriers of Afro-Peruvian Women in Political Space

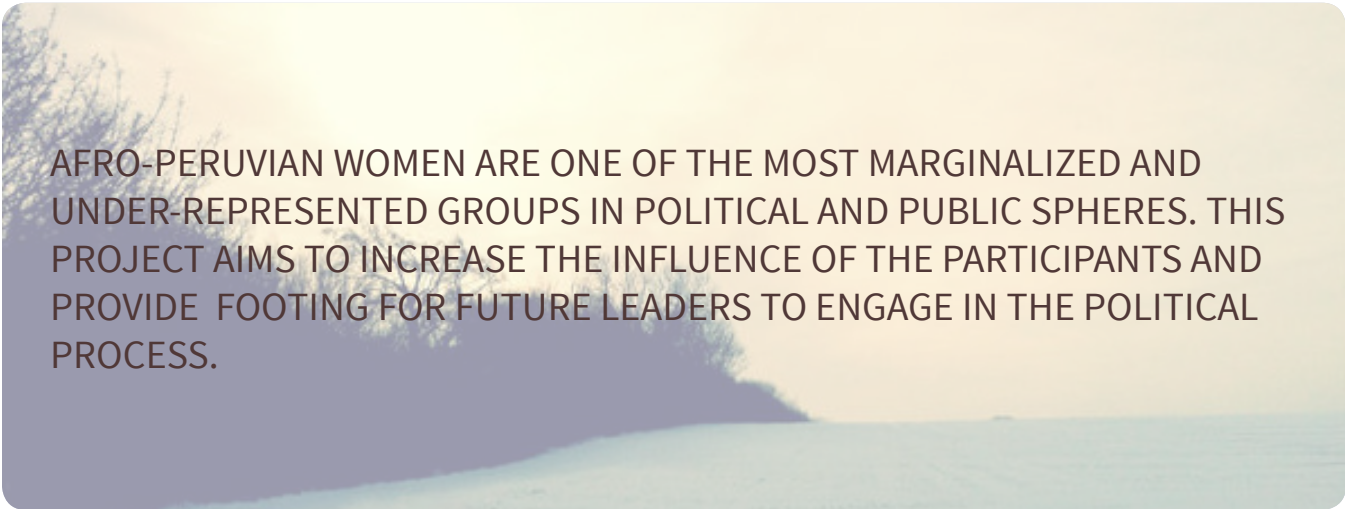
One project that MATCH supported this year was deeply aligned with underlying principles of women's social innovation, in particular the inextricable link between women's political leadership and social change for women.

Partnership has been a key element in a special project launched by MATCH in partnership with WUSC and the Centro Desarrollo De La Mujer Negra Peruana (CEDEMUNEP) in the Afro-Peruvian communities in Lima and the Ica Region.

This project seeks to increase women's political agency in Peru by expanding their knowledge on the country's political process. Women in Afro-Peruvian communities are the focus of these efforts since they generally have the lowest degrees of education

at the primary, secondary, and tertiary levels, and are usually living under the national measures of poverty. They are one of the most marginalized and under-represented groups in political and public spheres. The project, through developing leadership and improving knowledge on issues like citizen rights, consultation mechanisms, and functions of local government, aims to increase the influence of the participants and provide footing for future leaders to engage in the political process.

In 2012, Board member Maxine Ifill spent her annual holiday travelling to Lima, Peru to meet with leaders at CEDEMUNEP, learn about their challenges in working to support the Afro-Peruvian community, and to understand how we can better support the civil and political empowerment of Afro-Peruvian women.



AFRO-PERUVIAN WOMEN ARE ONE OF THE MOST MARGINALIZED AND UNDER-REPRESENTED GROUPS IN POLITICAL AND PUBLIC SPHERES. THIS PROJECT AIMS TO INCREASE THE INFLUENCE OF THE PARTICIPANTS AND PROVIDE FOOTING FOR FUTURE LEADERS TO ENGAGE IN THE POLITICAL PROCESS.





Participants of a leadership training workshop in July display their action plan for increasing their participation in political processes.

# Exchange

The fall of 2012 was an exciting time for MATCH International in terms of building strong networks and partnerships especially in reaching out to young women both in the South and in Canada.

## The Sister-to-Sister Mentorship Program

One of MATCH's Canadian partners, the Nobel Women's Initiative (NWI), launched the Sister-to-Sister Mentorship Program last year, which brought three young women's rights activists working at the grassroots level in their own countries to Canada for six weeks. The mentorship program's aim was twofold: to give the activists the resources to build on their existing advocacy and leadership skills while simultaneously providing them with a chance to communicate their human rights concerns with an international audience.

MATCH collaborated with NWI to coordinate a three city speaking tour entitled Young Women's Rights Activists- Conversations in Canada. Maria Luisa Aguilar Rodriguez of Mexico; Aghssan Barghouthi of Palestine; and Walaa Salah Mohamed Abdelrhman of Sudan bravely spoke about their individual battles for justice in their respective corners of the world to audiences in Ottawa, Regina, and Winnipeg. These speaking engagements forged unique connections between the activists and those working to advance women's rights here in Canada in addition to academics, students, members of civil society and community members.



### INSPIRING QUOTES FROM YOUNG WOMEN'S RIGHTS ACTIVISTS

"A free country means free women; women's rights are human rights."

-Aghssan Barghouthi

"We are trying to do our best, documenting what is happening to women on the ground."

-Walaa Salah Mohamed  
Abdelrhman

"We are a tool for people that cannot raise their voices."

-Maria Luisa Aguilar  
Rodriguez



## #MATCHFMB

Feminist Movement Building was live broadcasted online and the event was live tweeted. Below are some of our favourite tweets from the event. Thanks to everyone who participated!

[@courtney1212](#): It's discussions like the one today that reinforces my love for the women's development field. It reminds me what I want #MATCHFMB #future

[@nellybassily](#): @mernathomas graffiti penetrates the consciousness at another level, think creative, let go of the older ways #feminism #MATCHFMB

[@TesniEllis](#): Men: Call out other men on violence against women and understand the feminist movement benefits men as much as women #MATCHFMB #wuscforum

[@courtney1212](#): inter generational conflict is one of the biggest barriers in the Canadian women's movement today #wuscforum #MATCHFMB

[@FRIDAFund](#): @MATCHIntCentre young feminists are here! we're doing things! We're using art, graffiti, social media, advocacy via #MATCHFMB #youngfem

[@nellybassily](#): @mernathomas talks about women's space being more confined post-revolution #Egypt #MATCHFMB

## Feminist Movement Building

This year, MATCH had the pleasure of hosting a discussion on young women's activism both in Canada and internationally. The discussion included topics on grassroots approaches to international activism, unique challenges facing young women activists, and ways to globally collaborate and strengthen efforts.

The theme was an attempt to share and understand the challenges and complexities of feminist work for young women: we profiled three panelists from a variety of different backgrounds, bringing Canadian and international perspectives together. This included Canadian women's rights activist and social justice advocate, Julie Lalonde, who works with many women's rights organizations on issues such as sexual violence, reproductive justice, poverty, and media literacy; Rachel Arinii Judhistari of Indonesia, a Programme Officer at the Asian Pacific Research and Resource Center for Women (ARROW) and recently appointed as the Asia and Pacific Regional Focal Point for the Global Youth Coalition on AIDS for her commitment and contribution toward young people's issues; and finally, Egyptian activist Merna Thomas, the founder of NooNeswa, a feminist street art project in Cairo, who also works in the field of education and development. The participants engaged with not only the Ottawa audience on a range of issues, but also with the online community through a live broadcast and live tweeting of the event.



Panelists from our discussion on feminist movement building (from left to right): Rachel Arinii Judhistari, Julie Lalonde and Merna Thomas



Conclusion

## Conclusion

The past twelve months have been a busy and productive year for MATCH International, and we are even more excited about the years to come. We look forward to strengthening our partnerships both at home and abroad, and exploring new ways of expending our time and energy where it matters most. Our past challenges have provided us with endless growth opportunities and we are forever grateful to those who have helped us in our greatest time of need. We have found success in our attempts to remain a small and nimble organization and we plan on playing an important role in the global movement to advance the rights of women and girls in the years to come. MATCH will continue to support research, projects, initiatives, and organizations that strive to have the greatest impact on the daily lives of women. We welcome you to join us.



A SPECIAL THANK YOU  
TO THE MATCH DONORS

The donors of MATCH are a remarkable group- they have shown us an incredible amount of loyalty and support in this process of renewal and transformation. Board members, staff and volunteers have been in touch with many of you, and all of us have been deeply encouraged by your expressions of support. It is safe to say we would not be where we are today without you. Your support has grounded us in our core values, given us the strength to carry on and allowed us to be brave in charting our course. Thank you for standing beside us.

# Acknowledgements

## **Board Members**

Patricia Harewood

Nancy Gordon

Maxine Ifill

Katharine Im-Jenkins

Colleen Ford

Jo Wright

Lise Martin

Joanna Kerr

## **Staff**

Nuala Nazarko

Stephanie Needham

Jess Tomlin

## **Volunteers & Supporters**

Rachelle Antcil

Selena Bateman

Natalie Claireaux

Soula Dimitrey

Laura Dyck

Ken Fraser

Tatiana Fraser

Elizabeth Frederick

Chris Grumm

Katherine Im-Jenkins

Elena Inurrategui

Julia Keast

Mark Leclair

Stefanie Lomatski

Tina Mbala-Sarr

Stephanie McBride

Stephanie Needham

Kaleigh Newson

Anish Parmar

Carolyn Rumsey

Sarah Saska

Naomi Seminega

Lisane Thirsk

Courtney Young





# Financial Statements

# INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Directors of Match International

## **Report on Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Match International, which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2013, the statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes, comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

### *Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements*

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### *Auditors' Responsibility*

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on our judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, we consider internal control relevant to the Organization's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Organization's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained in our audit is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### *Opinion*

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Match International as at March 31, 2013, and its results of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

### *Comparative Information*

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial statements which describes that Match International adopted Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations on April 1, 2012 with a transition date of April 1, 2011. These standards were applied retrospectively by management to the comparative information in these financial statements, including the statements of financial position as at March 31, 2012 and April 1, 2011, and the statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year ended March 31, 2012 and related disclosures. We were not engaged to report on the restated comparative information, and as such, it is unaudited.

### **Report on Other Legal Requirements**

As required by the Canada Corporations Act, we report that, in our opinion, the accounting principles in Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations have been applied on a consistent basis.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "KPMG LLP". The letters are slanted and connected, with a horizontal line underneath the text.

Chartered Accountants, Licensed Public Accountants

May 28, 2013

Ottawa, Canada

# MATCH INTERNATIONAL

## Statement of Financial Position

March 31, 2013, with comparative figures for March 31, 2012 and April 1, 2011

	March 31, 2013	March 31, 2012	April 1, 2011
		(unaudited)	(unaudited)
<b>Assets</b>			
Current assets:			
Cash	\$ 419,670	\$ 333,945	\$ 64,557
Accounts receivable	-	4,510	-
Advances to projects	501	20,461	-
Prepaid expenses	22,500	-	-
	<u>\$ 442,671</u>	<u>\$ 358,916</u>	<u>\$ 64,557</u>
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>			
Current liabilities:			
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (note 2)	\$ 110,878	\$ 92,752	\$ 15,261
Deferred revenue	9,791	23,185	-
	<u>120,669</u>	<u>115,937</u>	<u>15,261</u>
Unrestricted net assets	322,002	242,979	49,296
	<u>\$ 442,671</u>	<u>\$ 358,916</u>	<u>\$ 64,557</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

# MATCH INTERNATIONAL

## Statement of Operations

Year ended March 31, 2013, with comparative figures for 2012

	2013	2012
		(unaudited)
Revenue:		
Donations	\$ 79,088	\$ 69,076
Bequests	205,000	200,000
Grants	24,460	-
Other	-	17
	<u>308,548</u>	<u>269,093</u>
Expenses:		
Administration (schedule 1)	175,344	53,129
Fundraising	11,289	10,281
Governance	5,329	-
Program expenses	37,563	12,000
	<u>229,525</u>	<u>75,410</u>
Excess of revenue over expenses	<u>\$ 79,023</u>	<u>\$ 193,683</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

# MATCH INTERNATIONAL

## Statement of Changes in Net Assets

Year ended March 31, 2013, with comparative figures for 2012

	2013	2012
		(unaudited)
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 242,979	\$ 49,296
Excess of revenue over expenses	79,023	193,683
Balance, end of year	\$ 322,002	\$ 242,979

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

# MATCH INTERNATIONAL

## Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended March 31, 2013, with comparative figures for 2012

	2013	2012
		(unaudited)
Cash provided by (used in):		
Operating activities:		
Excess of revenue over expenses	\$ 79,023	\$ 193,683
Change in non-cash operating working capital:		
Accounts receivable	4,510	(4,510)
Advances to projects	19,960	(20,461)
Prepaid expenses	(22,500)	-
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	18,126	77,491
Deferred revenue	(13,394)	23,185
Increase in cash	85,725	269,388
Cash, beginning of year	333,945	64,557
Cash, end of year	\$ 419,670	\$ 333,945

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

# MATCH INTERNATIONAL

Notes to Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2013

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Match International (the “Organization”) was incorporated under the Canada Corporations Act in 1976. It is a registered charity under section 149 1(f) of the Income Tax Act and as such, is exempt from income tax.

Match International provides support to programs and organizations that work to address women’s equality issues by addressing systematic barriers, policy gaps, programming initiatives and providing individual support to women, children and families.

On April 1, 2012, the Organization adopted Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations in Part III of the CICA Handbook. These are the first financial statements prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

In accordance with the transitional provisions in not-for-profit organizations, the Organization has adopted the changes retrospectively, subject to certain exemptions allowed under these standards. The transition date is April 1, 2011 and all comparative information provided has been presented by applying not-for-profit standards.

There were no adjustments to net assets as at April 1, 2011 or excess of revenue over expenses for the year ended March 31, 2012 as a result of the transition to the not-for-profit standards.

## **1. Significant accounting policies:**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations and include the following significant accounting policies:

### (a) Basis of presentation:

The Organization follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions for not-for-profit organizations.

### (b) Revenue recognition:

#### *Unrestricted:*

Other revenue are recognized as revenue when received.

Registration fees, grants and sponsorship revenue are recognized in the period of the event.

#### *Restricted:*

Restricted contributions are deferred and recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred.



# MATCH INTERNATIONAL

Notes to Financial Statements, page 2

Year ended March 31, 2013

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## **1. Significant accounting policies (continued):**

### (c) Expenses:

In the statement of operations, the Organization presents its expenses by function.

Expenses are recognized in the year incurred and are recorded in the function to which they are directly related.

The Organization does not allocate expenses between functions after initial recognition.

### (d) Contributed services:

A substantial number of volunteers contribute a significant amount of their time each year. Because of the difficulty of determining the fair value, contributed services are not recognized in the financial statements.

### (e) Financial instruments

Financial instruments are recorded at fair value on initial recognition and are subsequently measured at cost or amortized cost, unless management has elected to carry the instruments at fair value. The Organization has not elected to carry any such financial instruments at fair value.

Financial instruments are adjusted by transaction costs incurred on acquisition and financing costs. These costs are amortized using the straight line method.

Financial assets are assessed for indicators of impairment on an annual basis at the end of the fiscal year. Where an indicator of impairment is present, the Organization determines if there is a significant adverse change in the expected amount or timing of future cash flows from the financial asset. If there is a significant adverse change in the expected cash flows, the carrying value of the financial asset is reduced to the highest of the present value of the expected cash flows, the amount that could be realized from selling the financial asset or the amount the Organization expects to realize by exercising its right to any collateral. If events and circumstances reverse in a future period, an impairment loss will be reversed to the extent of the improvement, not exceeding the initial impairment charge.

# MATCH INTERNATIONAL

Notes to Financial Statements, page 3

Year ended March 31, 2013

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## **1. Significant accounting policies (continued):**

(f) Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from these estimates. These estimates are reviewed annually and as adjustments become necessary, they are recognized in the financial statements in the period they become known.

## **2. Accounts payable and accrued liabilities:**

As at year end, the Organization had no amounts payable for government remittances.

## **3. Net assets:**

The Organization considers its capital to consist of its net assets. The objective of the organization with respect to its net assets is to provide funds for operating cash flow requirements and continuing the Organizations mandate.

The Organization is not subject to externally imposed capital requirements or restrictions and its overall strategy with respect to capital remains unchanged from prior years.

## **4. Financial risks:**

The Organization believes it is not subject to significant foreign currency, market, interest rate or credit risks arising from its financial instruments.

# MATCH INTERNATIONAL

## Schedule 1 – Administration Expenses

Year ended March 31, 2013, with comparative figures for 2012

	2013	2012
Salaries and benefits	\$ 117,302	\$ 34,775
Management fee	29,117	-
Administration travel	4,772	156
Professional fees	4,625	3,548
Bad debts (note)	4,510	-
Insurance	3,132	313
Staff training	2,402	350
Meetings	1,718	599
Other	1,543	4,196
Bank charge	1,354	4,250
Postage	1,288	1,279
Printing	1,092	-
Storage	1,076	672
Annual report	1,000	322
Office supplies	413	2,669
	\$ 175,344	\$ 53,129

Note: The bad debt expense relates to an amount recorded in 2010 for government remittances which has been determined to not be collectable.

