

SUMMER 2026

IMPACT REPORT



"I've learned that women and girls, including those of us with disabilities, can achieve anything when given equal opportunity. We must show younger girls that leadership is for everyone." -- Project participant.



CROSSROADS
INTERNATIONAL

INVESTING IN A GREENER FUTURE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN SENEGAL



In Senegal, thousands of young people – especially young women – face barriers to stable employment, economic opportunity, and climate resilience. With your support, Crossroads International is helping change that.

In partnership with the Fondation Paul Gérin-Lajoie and Développement International Desjardins, Crossroads launched the **Multisectoral Initiative for the Future of Youth in the Green Economy** (IMAJE), a five-year initiative supporting young people in the Tambacounda and Kédougou regions of Senegal. Backed by Global Affairs Canada, the project will help more than 43,000 young people, nearly half of them women, build brighter and more sustainable futures.



IMAJE is helping youth gain practical green-economy skills, access technical training, and strengthen climate-resilient businesses and entrepreneurship opportunities.

The initiative also works to remove barriers that prevent young women from fully participating in economic life, creating safer, more inclusive pathways to success.

By investing in young people today, we are helping build stronger communities, more resilient local economies, and a greener future for generations to come.

Thank you for making this impact possible!



VOLUNTEER EXCELLENCE

Crossroads International proudly celebrates Brenda Okorogba on her appointment to the **Order of Canada**, one of the country's highest civilian honours – recognizing extraordinary leadership, service, and impact. Brenda's work exemplifies these values.



Her contribution to Crossroads:

Through her partnership with Crossroads International, Brenda played a key role in advancing Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy across multiple countries, including Ghana, Eswatini, and Ethiopia.

She contributed to the design and mobilization of gender-transformative initiatives focused on:

- Women's economic empowerment
- Inclusive education
- Sexual and reproductive health and rights
- Access to livelihoods for smallholder women farmers



Nigerian-born Canadian social impact leader, Brenda has built a career advancing equity, education, and economic opportunity for communities in Canada and around the world.

Her work helped secure funding from major global partners and strengthened programs that continue to support women and communities to this day. ***Congratulations, Brenda!***



CHARITY CHALLENGE 2028

Join us in 2028 for a life-changing
adventure in Eswatini!

Contact: donorrelations@cintl.org

WOMEN EQUIPPED FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE

In rural Senegal, climate change is transforming agriculture – and women farmers are leading the response. In the Fatick region, the gender-responsive **Farmer Field School (CEP-G) project** is equipping women with the skills, resources, and confidence to adapt and thrive. After two years, the impact is already clear.

Through hands-on training and inclusive learning approaches, women are strengthening their agricultural practices and stepping into leadership roles within their communities. New techniques in agroecology are already being applied, from soil restoration to climate-resilient crop production, helping farmers respond to changing conditions with practical, sustainable solutions. At the same time, investments in tools and water infrastructure are enabling women to put this knowledge into practice, increasing both productivity and resilience.

Impact at a glance:

- 29 facilitators trained – mostly women – who can now teach others
- 24 communities reached
- 95% of participants are using improved, sustainable farming practices
- 98% are protecting soil, water, and local ecosystems through better techniques
- 12 new climate-resilient crops introduced, helping farmers adapt to changing weather



As climate pressures intensify, this project is demonstrating a powerful truth: when women farmers are supported as leaders and innovators, entire communities become more resilient, sustainable, and prepared for the future.



THE ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL BREAKFAST



Each year, Crossroads brings together supporters, partners, and changemakers to celebrate the **International Day of the Girl** – a global moment to recognize both the challenges girls face and the transformative power of investing in their leadership.

We invite you to join our **Annual International Day of the Girl Breakfast**, an inspiring flagship event that raises awareness and mobilizes action to ensure girls everywhere can learn, lead, and thrive! This year, we are proud to host events in two cities:

- Toronto's 15th anniversary event – Tuesday, October 6, 2026
- **Edmonton** – Thursday, October 8, 2026



Guests will hear from inspiring speakers, including leading voices in women's rights and global development, and learn firsthand how Crossroads' partnerships are creating opportunities for girls and young women across Africa.

Together, we can continue to support programs that expand access to education, protect rights, and empower girls to shape their own futures.

**JOIN US AND BE PART
OF THE MOVEMENT
FOR EQUALITY.**

**REGISTER AT
[CINTL.ORG/IDG2026](https://cintl.org/idg2026)**



FIDA UGANDA SUCCESS STORY

In northern Uganda, women and girls with disabilities face persistent barriers to justice, dignity, and inclusion. In Arua, limited access to legal services – combined with stigma – means many rights violations go unaddressed. Through FIDA Uganda's **Lifelong Learning for Community Legal Volunteers** project, that reality is beginning to change. Twenty women with disabilities were trained as Community Legal Volunteers (CLVs), gaining skills in legal literacy, mediation, advocacy, and leadership. With new confidence and knowledge, they are now supporting cases, raising awareness, and challenging harmful norms in their communities.

Impact at a glance:

- 20 women trained as Community Legal Volunteers
- 150+ people reached through legal support and advocacy
- Greater participation of women with disabilities in local decision-making
- Improved accessibility and dignity in public spaces



The change is already visible. **Tabu Rebecca**, one of the volunteers, identified unsafe sanitation facilities in her local church and successfully advocated for improvements, ensuring women with disabilities can use them safely and with dignity.

Today, she is recognized as a community leader, representing women with disabilities in local forums. In just months, these women have created a ripple effect; supporting others, influencing decisions, and shifting attitudes.

This project shows that **when women with lived experience are equipped to lead, they don't just access justice – they make it possible for others too.**



SCHOLARS FOR SOCIAL CHANGE

Building Leaders, Strengthening Systems

As the Scholars for Social Change (SSC) project enters its final year, its impact is being felt at multiple levels – from individual careers to the strength of local institutions across Uganda. Launched in 2023, the project connects Mastercard Foundation Scholar alumni with two-year placements in 26 partner organizations, equipping young professionals with hands-on experience while advancing community development.



Today, over **57 scholars** (primarily women) have participated in the program, stepping into roles in fields such as legal services, monitoring and evaluation, communications, and resource mobilization. The results go beyond employment. **88% of scholars** report gaining new skills, with most applying them directly in their work; strengthening systems, improving service delivery, and contributing to evidence-based decision-making within host organizations.

Partners are also seeing tangible improvements in the development of policies, strengthened monitoring systems, improved digital capacity, and successful funding proposals – enhancing both efficiency and long-term sustainability. Beyond the workplace, scholars are driving change in their communities – leading health outreach initiatives, advocating for gender equality, and increasing awareness on issues such as youth wellbeing and access to services.

By bridging the gap between education and meaningful employment, the SSC Project is helping build a new generation of leaders, equipped not only with skills, but with the confidence and commitment to drive lasting social change.

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

1. **Volunteer with Crossroads.**
2. **Become a monthly donor.**
3. **Make a one-time gift.**

Please consider a gift to Crossroads International today. Every dollar makes a difference.

Visit cintl.org/donate or contact donorrelations@cintl.org





HONOURING A LEGACY OF COMMITMENT AND CARE



Joan Fair



Maureen Mark

We honour two extraordinary supporters whose lifelong commitment has helped build Crossroads' impact across generations.

We were deeply saddened by the passing of **Joan Fair** in January. A former Board member, dedicated monthly donor, and volunteer in Grenada (1981), Joan's legacy is one of quiet leadership and lasting contribution. Her commitment helped strengthen programs that continue to support women and communities today.

We also celebrate **Maureen Mark** of Edmonton, whose involvement spans more than 50 years. Since volunteering in Sierra Leone in 1974, she has remained a steadfast advocate, co-founding the Victoria-Taiama Partnership and advancing access to education and healthcare for communities in Sierra Leone. Her enduring leadership reflects the power of long-term partnership and solidarity.

Together, their stories remind us that meaningful change is not built overnight – it is carried forward by individuals who choose to act, give, and lead over a lifetime. A legacy gift is one way to ensure that impact continues. By supporting Crossroads through your will, you can help extend this work, empowering future generations and sustaining the kind of change Joan and Maureen championed.



In partnership with

Canada

1-877-967-1611

donorrelations@cintl.org

Charitable registration number: 12981 4570 RR0001