



GLOBAL SURVIVORS FUND

A GLOBAL FUND FOR SURVIVORS OF
CONFLICT-RELATED SEXUAL VIOLENCE



PROVIDING SURVIVORS OF CONFLICT-RELATED
SEXUAL VIOLENCE ACCESS TO REPARATIONS AND
OTHER FORMS OF REDRESS GLOBALLY

Situational Analysis

Conflict-related sexual violence occurs with haunting frequency and is systematically used to destroy and terrorize not only individuals but entire communities.

Survivors live with the double burden of the violence and of being shunned by their communities.

Only a tiny minority of survivors of sexual violence worldwide ever receive reparations awarded by a formal justice mechanism.

Access to reparations and other forms of redress for survivors of sexual violence has not been a high priority on the policy agenda at the international, national or local level.

The lack of formal acknowledgment and justice contribute greatly to survivors being unable to reintegrate into society.



These realities make the formation of the **Global Survivors Fund** a moral imperative. With appropriate support and recognition survivors can reintegrate into their communities and contribute to the economic landscape. Without support victims are shunned from their communities and left destitute.



SEMA Network members advocating for reparations in the Hague in 2018.

Our Approach

The **Fund** approaches its work from a survivor perspective – reparations and other forms of redress are a “right” as noted by international law. The needs of survivors is the focal point of our efforts.

The **Fund** is a mechanism to raise and allocate resources for reparations programs and other forms of redress including where states or other parties responsible for the violence are unwilling or unable to provide reparations. The **Fund** will contribute to the development of those programs, provide technical advice, collect and disseminate good practices, and advocate for duty-bearers to assume responsibility.

WHAT MAKES THE FUND UNIQUE?

- Bridges humanitarian and development work
- Uses the comparative strength of multiple, diverse stakeholders
- Creates a link between prevention and response
- Utilizes a co-creative process with survivors and recognizes the importance of a localized, community-driven approach

By engaging multiple stakeholders, the Fund hopes to transform the international policy agenda to prioritize reparations and encourage national governments and the international community, collectively, to accept a responsibility to act.



Survivors from the SEMA network come together to lobby for reparations at the Human Rights Council in Geneva.



Survivors work together to identify their advocacy goals, listing reparations as their #1 priority.

Our History

Dr. Denis Mukwege has long envisioned the importance of a *Global Survivors Fund*. In a historic moment on December 10, 2018, Denis Mukwege and Nadia Murad received the Nobel Peace Prize for their efforts to fight sexual violence as a weapon of war. Recognizing the importance of providing survivors of conflict-related sexual violence with reparations and other forms of redress, they joined together to help realize a vision long held by survivors.

Beginning in 2019, Dr. Mukwege and Ms. Murad spearheaded the effort to develop the *Global Survivors Fund*. The **Fund** builds on the long-standing advocacy efforts of the Office of the SRSB-CRSV and is a direct response to the priorities established by survivors worldwide.

SEMA, a leading global survivors network supported by the *Mukwege Foundation*, has been advocating for reparations for over two years. The **Fund** draws its mission and vision from the work of the network. To this end, the **Fund** is an innovative, survivor-centric mechanism whose purpose is to foster collaboration amongst multiple stakeholders to respond to the needs, and rights, of survivors of conflict-related sexual violence.

The **Fund** was endorsed by the UN Secretary-General in his statement to the Security Council on conflict-related sexual violence in April 2019 and language referencing the **Fund** was included in Security Council Resolution 2467. The G7 also confirmed its support for the **Fund** in its August 2019 Declaration on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment.

The Fund hopes to help transform the lives of thousands of survivors and their families through access to reparations and other forms of redress.

